

Definitions for Open Data - Student Headcount by Home Language

| Column | Definition |
|-------------------------|---|
| [Definition of extract] | <p>This extract contains student headcount by home language. The top ten home languages are available at the province, district and school levels, and are based upon the Ministry of Education’s September K-12 student level data collections (Form 1701).</p> <p>The data in this table begins with the school year 1991/1992.</p> |
| [Technical Notes] | <p>Although students can register at more than one school, headcount reports are constructed by assigning each individual to only one school – often referred to as the ‘authority school’. This is done to avoid counting a student more than once.</p> <p>From 2006/2007 onwards, an authority school is primarily determined by the September enrolment collection record where the Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) count for a student is highest (e.g., the student takes most of their classes at that school). Prior to 2006/2007, facility type was the key factor used to determine ‘authority school’ (e.g., standard school enrolments are given priority over distance learning school enrolments).</p> <p>Homeschooled Children Homeschooled children are required to register with a public, francophone, distributed learning or independent school. However, they are not enrolled at a school and so are excluded from student statistics. Instead, see Headcount of Homeschooled Children in the catalogue.</p> <p>School Age and Adult Students School Age student enrolments, those students who are between the age of 5 by December 31st and 19 on or after July 1st of the current school year, are included in this dataset. Adult students (i.e., over the age of 19) are also included.</p> |
| [Key References] | <p>Ministry of Education: Reporting on K-12 Glossary of Terms</p> <p>Ministry of Education: September K-12 Data Collection <i>The Instructions for Form 1701 (PDF) documents are a particularly helpful resource for understanding this data.</i></p> <p>Public Independent/Offshore</p> |
| SCHOOL_YEAR | <p>The school year that commences on July 1 and ends the following June 30.</p> <p>For this data set, the earliest school year is ‘1991/1992’.</p> |

| Column | Definition |
|-----------------------|---|
| DATA_LEVEL | <p>Use this column to select results at the province-, district-, or school-level.</p> <p>Values: Values: 'Province Level' 'District Level' 'School Level'</p> |
| PUBLIC_OR_INDEPENDENT | <p>Use this column to select only public schools, independent schools, or both school types.</p> <p>Values: 'BC Independent School' 'BC Public School' 'Province-Total' (= a rollup of both school types)</p> |
| DISTRICT_NUMBER | <p>The number of the school district. This does not include independent school authorities.</p> <p>This value is a 3-digit string (e.g. 005, 023). However, leading zeros may be automatically removed when opening the file in Excel. See <i>Working with the Student Headcount by Home Language extract</i> guide for tips on how to prevent this from happening.</p> <p>For the actual name of the district, please see the column DISTRICT_NAME.</p> |
| DISTRICT_NAME | <p>The name of the school district or independent school authority.</p> <p>For the number of the district, please see the column DISTRICT_NUMBER.</p> |
| SCHOOL_NUMBER | <p>The eight-digit numerical identifier assigned to the school by the Ministry of Education. This is also known as the MINCODE ("Ministry Code"). The first three digits are often the district number (geographic district number). However, leading zeros may be automatically removed when opening the file in Excel. See <i>Working with the Student Headcount by Home Language extract from Data BC</i> guide for tips on how to prevent this from happening.</p> <p>For the actual name of the school, please see the column SCHOOL_NAME.</p> |
| SCHOOL_NAME | <p>The name of the school.</p> <p>For the number of the school, please see the column SCHOOL_NUMBER.</p> |

| Column | Definition |
|--------------------|--|
| HOME_LANGUAGE | <p>The primary language that is normally spoken in the home. If more than one language is normally spoken in the home, only the language that is spoken most often is reported.</p> <p>Values: There are over 200 values in this column (e.g., English, Chinese, Punjabi, Spanish, Haida). At each DATA_LEVEL, only the top ten home languages are reported.</p> |
| NUMBER_OF_STUDENTS | <p>The number of students who reported that particular language as their primary language normally spoken in the home.</p> |
| TOP_10_RANK | <p>The ranking within the top ten home languages, based on the number of students who indicated it at the DATA_LEVEL.</p> |