

# Working with the Student Learning Survey extract from Data BC

(Last Updated: October 2023)

<b>Understanding Student Learning Survey data extract</b>	Read the following documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Student Learning Survey field definitions</i></li><li>• <a href="#">Ministry of Education data masking policy</a></li></ul>
<b>How can I work with this data set in Microsoft Excel?</b>	The following tutorials may be helpful: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Importing text (.txt or .csv) files into Excel</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Auto-filtering in Excel</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Keeping leading zeros and large numbers in Excel</a></li></ul>

## Conventions in this document

<b>BOLDED_WITH_UNDERSCORES</b>	Indicates a column name (for example, <b>SUB_POPULATION</b> )
'Text within single quotation marks'	Indicates a column value (for example, 'Disabilities or Diverse Abilities')

## Instructions

1. Open your local copy of the file.
2. Apply auto-filtering to the heading row. (This is not essential, but it makes it easier to work with the data when you have more than a screen's worth of rows.)
3. Use the auto-filter on the **SCHOOL\_YEAR** column to select the relevant year(s) based on your data requirement.
4. Use the auto-filter on the **DATA\_LEVEL** column to select either 'District Level' or 'Province Level'.
5. Based on the selection made in step 4, users can select between 'Public School' or 'Province-Total' in the **PUBLIC\_OR\_INDEPENDENT** column. If 'District Level' was selected in step 4, then the **PUBLIC\_OR\_INDEPENDENT** column is automatically set to 'Public School'. There is no data included for independent schools in this dataset.
6. The next column (**DISTRICT\_NUMBER**) to work with depends on which value you selected in step 4:
  - If you selected 'Province Level', the results will be for all BC public schools and the column (as well as **DISTRICT\_NAME**) will be blank.
  - If you selected 'District Level', use the auto-filter on either **DISTRICT\_NUMBER** or **DISTRICT\_NAME** to select the district whose results you want to see.

7. The **SUB\_POPULATION** column will allow users to observe data for different sub-groups, either at the 'District Level' or 'Province Level' choice made in Step 4 above. The values include:

'All Students'

'Disabilities or Diverse Abilities'

'Indigenous'

'Non Disabilities or Diverse Abilities'

'Non Indigenous'

8. Use the auto-filter on **SURVEY\_TOPIC** if you want to find data on a specific topic.
9. Use **SURVEY\_QUESTION** to select the question(s) you are interested in. This will automatically update the **SURVEY\_TOPIC** column corresponding to the question selected.
10. Use the **GRADE** column to filter by student grade.
11. Columns K through R represent response categories. These columns show the count of respondents that were reported in the respective categories based on the selections made in the above steps.

To understand the conversion of actual survey responses to responding categories from columns K through R, you may refer to the file "Mapping of Response Options to Response Categories".

12. To remove all masked data ('Msk'), use the auto-filter to deselect 'Msk' from columns K through R.

## Sample Questions

### Question:

What percentage of Grade 7 students in BC responded they were bullied, teased, or picked on at school in 2023/2024?

Path to answer (please note: the word 'filter' below implies using auto-filter option in the header row):

1. Filter **SCHOOL\_YEAR** to '2023/2024'
2. Filter **DATA\_LEVEL** to 'Province Level'
3. Filter **PUBLIC\_OR\_INDEPENDENT** to 'Province-Total'
4. Filter **SUB\_POPULATION** to 'All Students'
5. Filter **SURVEY\_QUESTION** to 'Have you ever felt bullied at school?' (Tip: Search the list of filters for the word bullied.)
6. Filter **GRADE** to '7'
7. By now, you should be left with one row of data (if not, please repeat the above steps). Take the summation of all the numbers from columns K through R. This should give a total of 33,850.
8. Refer to the count of respondents in the **NEGATIVE\_CNT** column (for the bully question, **NEGATIVE\_CNT** refers to those students who reported being bullied in school. Please use the file "Mapping of Response Options to Response Categories" to understand which survey responses are grouped as 'Negative'). The count is 3,739.
9. Finally, to calculate the percentage, simply divide 3,739 by the total respondent count of 33,850 (sum of positive, neutral, and negative). **The answer is 11%.**

Question:

In 2024/2025 in Surrey school district, how many Indigenous Grade 12 students responded 'positively' to the question "I am satisfied that in school I am learning basic reasoning skills that I need for the future." compared to the Non-Indigenous Grade 12 students?

Path to answer (please note: the word 'filter' below implies using auto-filter option in the header row):

1. Filter **SCHOOL\_YEAR** to '2024/2025'
2. Filter **DATA\_LEVEL** to 'District Level'
3. Filter **DISTRICT\_NAME** to 'Surrey'
4. Filter **GRADE** to '12'
5. Filter **SUB\_POPULATION** to 'Indigenous' and 'Non Indigenous'
6. Filter **SURVEY\_QUESTION** to 'I am satisfied that in school I am learning basic reasoning skills that I need for the future.'
7. By now, you should be left with two rows of data only (if not, please repeat the above steps). Refer to the column **POSITIVE\_CNT**. It tells us only 27 Indigenous students in Grade 12 answered positively compared to 1117 Non Indigenous students.