Working with the Class Size extract from Data BC

Understanding the Class Size data extract	Read the following documents: • *Class Size definitions* • Ministry of Education data masking policy
How can I work with this data set in Microsoft Excel?	The following tutorials may be helpful: • Importing text (.txt or .csv) files into Excel • Auto-filtering in Excel • Keeping leading zeros and large numbers in Excel

Conventions in this document

BOLDED_WITH_UNDERSCORES	Indicates a column name (for example, **DISTRICT_NAME**)
'Text within single quotation marks'	Indicates a column value (for example, 'Langley')

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 **DATA_LEVEL** column to select either 'Province Level', 'District Level', or 'School Level'.
4. The **PUBLIC_OR_INDEPENDENT** column is limited to 'Public School'.
5. Use either **DISTRICT_NUMBER** or **DISTRICT_NAME** to select the district whose data you want to see.
6. Use either **SCHOOL_NUMBER** or **SCHOOL_NAME** to select the school whose data you want to see.
7. You may wish to sort one of the columns from H to P by smallest to largest or vice versa.

Sample Questions

Question:
Which school in BC had the most classes with over 30 students in 2024/2025?

Path to answer:

1. Filter **DATA_LEVEL** to 'School Level'
2. Filter **SCHOOL_YEAR** to '2024/2025'
3. Sort the values in **TOTAL_CLASSES_GREATER_30** (column K) by largest to smallest.
4. Largest value in column K = 86
5. Column G (**SCHOOL_NAME**) = New Westminster Secondary

Question:
What was the average class size for grades 4 to 7 in BC in 2025/2026?

Path to answer:

1. Filter **DATA_LEVEL** to 'Province Level'
2. Filter **SCHOOL_YEAR** to '2025/2026'
3. Column O (**AVG_CLASS_SIZE_4_7**) = 24.6