Student Level Variables

Edudata holds BC Ministry of Education data from 1995 onwards, and helps researchers, educators, and policy makers to access, analyze, and make use of that information.

For more information regarding any of the variables or the process, please feel free to contact us either by phone (604 822 2338) or email: edudata.canada@ubc.ca

Variable	Definition
Birthdate	Student's birthday.
Gender	Student's gender.
Student Postal Code	Student's home postal code.
Aboriginal Student in Year	Whether a student has self-identified as being of Aboriginal ancestry (First Nations: status and non-status, Metis and Inuit) in a particular year.
Aboriginal Student Ever	Whether a student has ever self-identified as being of Aboriginal ancestry (First Nations: status and non-status, Metis and Inuit).
Band Residency Status in Year	Whether a student has self-identified as being a part of an organizational structure that represents a particular body of First Nations people (as defined in the Indian Act) in a particular year.
Band Residency Status Ever	Whether a student has ever self-identified as being a part of an organizational structure that represents a particular body of First Nations people (as defined in the Indian Act).
Band name	If the student is part of an organizational structure that represents a particular body of First Nations people (as defined in the Indian Act), what is its name?
Band number	If the student is part of an Aboriginal organizational structure that represents a particular body of First Nations people (as defined in the Indian Act), what is its number?
Canadian Resident	Was the student a Canadian resident?
Canadian Resident Ever	Has the student ever been, or not been, a Canadian resident?
ESL in Year	Whether the student registered as an English as a Second Language (ESL) student in a particular year. ESL is a program provided to students whose English language proficiency is assessed as being sufficiently different from standard English that they are identified as requiring specialized services to develop intellectually, to develop as a citizen and to achieve the expected learning outcomes of the provincial curriculum.
ESL Ever	Whether the student was ever registered as an English as a Second Language (ESL) student. ESL is a program provided to students whose English language proficiency is assessed as being sufficiently different from standard English that they are identified as requiring specialized services to develop intellectually, to develop as a citizen and to achieve the expected learning outcomes of the provincial curriculum.

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French Immersion Program	Whether the student was registered in a French Immersion program in a particular year. French Immersion is more ambitious second-language program than Core French and is designed to produce functionally bilingual students by using French as the language of instruction. Upon graduation, students will have acquired sufficient language skills to be able to pursue post-secondary studies or work in either official language. The program generally begins in Kindergarten (Early Immersion) or Grade 6 (Late Immersion), starting with 100% French instruction during the beginning years, gradually diminishing to 2 courses in Grade 12.
French Immersion Program Ever	Whether the student was ever registered in a French Immersion program. French Immersion is more ambitious second-language program than Core French and is designed to produce functionally bilingual students by using French as the language of instruction. Upon graduation, students will have acquired sufficient language skills to be able to pursue post-secondary studies or work in either official language. The program generally begins in Kindergarten (Early Immersion) or Grade 6 (Late Immersion), starting with 100% French instruction during the beginning years, gradually diminishing to 2 courses in Grade 12.
Graduation Courses	How many courses towards graduation did the student take? (How many in grade 10, how many in grade 11 etc.)
Non College or Graduation Courses	How many courses the student took which neither contributed towards graduation, nor as college credit.
Feb Enrollment	What school was the student registered in on Feb 01?
Sept Enrollment	What school was the student registered in on Sept 30?
Special Needs Performance Reporting Groups	When reporting the performance of students with special needs, they are divided into groups. These are: Sensory Disabilities, Mild Intellectual Disabilities, Learning Disabilities, Behaviour Disabilities, Gifted or Other Special needs.
Special Need in Year	Students who, in a particular year, were identified as having a disability of an intellectual, physical or sensory nature, having a learning disability, having exceptional gifts or talents, having a disability of an emotional or behavioural nature or another special need.
Special Needs Funding Group	The categories into which special needs student are grouped for funding allocation purposes.
Special Needs Ever	Students who were ever identified as having a disability of an intellectual, physical or sensory nature, having a learning disability, having exceptional gifts or talents, or having a disability emotional or behavioural nature. (Upon request, this variable can be refined to a specific special needs group.)

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Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Student	A measure indicating the proportion of full-time participation (full day, full week) in the education system, calculated by adding the FTE values of the enrolments. A half-day Kindergarten enrolment is considered a 0.5 FTE; full-day Kindergarten enrolments are recognized as full FTEs. A school-age enrolment in Grades 1-12, enrolled full-time, is considered one FTE. One FTE for an adult enrolment is equal to eight courses. One FTE for a secondary school-age enrolment is equal to four courses.
Graduation Program	Currently, British Columbia's secondary school students begin working on their graduation requirements in Grade 10. In order to graduate, they must complete specified courses and write at least five provincial exams under the specific graduation program in which they enrolled when entering Grade 10. Students have choice and flexibility in how they meet the remaining requirements.
College Course	How many courses the student took which were worth college credit.
Home Language	The home language identifies what primary language 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.