



The Facts on Education Funding in BC

- 1. In funding support provided for education as a percentage of Gross Provincial Product, BC now ranks 2nd from the bottom among all the provinces and territories.**

| Jurisdiction | All primary and secondary education |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Northwest Territories | 6.5 |
| Nunavut | 5.3 |
| Yukon | 5.0 |
| Manitoba | 4.9 |
| Nova Scotia | 4.4 |
| Saskatchewan | 4.2 |
| Prince Edward Island | 4.2 |
| Quebec | 4.1 |
| New Brunswick | 4.0 |
| Ontario | 3.8 |
| Alberta | 3.3 |
| British Columbia | 3.0 |
| Newfoundland & Labrador | 2.9 |
| Canada | 3.8 |

Source: Statistics Canada 2021 data (most recent)

The statistics above combine public and private school spending.

- 2. BC Independent (private) Schools continue to receive new funding -- up \$72 million or 14.5 per cent to more than \$570 million in the most recent budget.**

| Summary (\$ millions) | 2023/24 Revised Estimate | 2024/25 Estimate | 2025/26 Plan |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Public Schools | \$ 7,391,494 M | \$ 8,023,617 M | \$ 8,071,422 M |
| Independent Schools | 977 M | \$ 571,217 M | \$ 575,523 M |

Source: Ministry of Education Service Plan 2024/25

- 3. BC's relative contribution to public school budgets has fallen significantly over the period from year 2000 to the present from the perspective of what the province can afford. For the 2023/24 school financial year, BC reports spending grants of \$6,754 million across the province's 60 school districts. If BC were to spend at the "% of GDP" rate found for the year 2000, this budgetary allocation would increase by \$3.8 billion to \$10.552 billion.**

| Year | Operating grants to school districts as % of BC GDP |
|-----------|---|
| 2000 | 2.7 % |
| 2005 | 2.2 % |
| 2010 | 2.2 % |
| 2015 | 1.9 % |
| 2020 | 1.8 % |
| 2024 est. | 1.6 % |

Source: BC Ministry of Education and BC Ministry of Finance