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CANADIAN
EDUCATION
STATISTICS
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Handbook
of Education
Terminology
Elementary and
Secondary
Level



Statistics
Canada

Statistique
Canada



Council of Ministers
of Education, Canada

Conseil des ministres
de l'Éducation (Canada)



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Introduction

Precision of Statistics

Statistical tabulations, whether they are generated from administrative records, universe surveys or sample surveys, are subject to a certain lack of precision caused by reporting inaccuracies, processing errors or sampling error. Most of these errors cannot be quantified except through complete repetition of a survey or complete verification of data input. Nevertheless, sufficient quality control mechanisms are in place (such as accuracy and consistency data edits, and sample verification) to ensure that the data produced are of sufficient accuracy to be useful in policy analysis. Users are cautioned to accept statistical tabulations and derived measures not as absolute, precise measures of a particular phenomenon, but as portrayal of a picture which is "close enough for all practical purposes".

Reconciliation with Provincial Data

From time to time users will observe that statistics on education published by Statistics Canada are not in absolute agreement with data published by provincial authorities (in the Annual Reports of Departments of Education, for example). Such "data discrepancies" result from the fact that Statistics Canada often has to make adjustments to provincial figures to ensure consistency and comparability of the data presented.

Compulsory School Attendance Ages

Each province and territory defines in legislation and regulations the ages at which students must attend an elementary-secondary school unless granted specific exemption by the Minister of Education.

While the starting age of compulsory school attendance is the age at which children are obligated to be registered in school, the age at which students may attend is generally one year younger.

Provincial regulations on the minimum school leaving age specify whether the student may leave upon attaining that birthday or whether he/she must stay in school until the end of the school year or the end of the school term in which the birthday occurs. Similar regulations specify the reference date for determining the beginning age of compulsory school attendance.

Data Sources - Enrolment and Educators

Public Schools

All statistical information on enrolment and educators in public schools originate with the provincial ministries of education. These data arise either from administrative data maintained by the province or from statistical surveys conducted by the province for its own purposes.

In some cases, provincial data are modified to fit standard definitions and classifications, and to ensure consistency and comparability of published data.

Private Schools

Statistics Canada surveys directly all private schools in Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and the Yukon. For Manitoba and British Columbia, the federations of independent schools in those provinces survey the schools and provide the data (at the level of the individual school) to Statistics Canada. In all other provinces, the provincial departments of education survey the private schools in their jurisdictions and provide data (again at the level of the individual school) to Statistics Canada. Statistics Canada conducts a survey of Official Minority Language and Second Language Education directly for private schools in Ontario.

Federal Schools

All federal and band-operated schools that fall under the jurisdiction of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada are surveyed by that Department and individual school data are provided to Statistics Canada.

Statistics Canada surveys Department of National Defence schools overseas through that Department which distributes the collection documents and provides the completed reports to Statistics Canada.

DND schools in Canada are surveyed by the provincial department of education in which the schools are located and reported to Statistics Canada along with the reports on public schools. The only exception to this procedure is Quebec where Statistics Canada surveys DND schools directly.

Schools for the Blind and Deaf

Statistics Canada surveys directly Schools for the Blind and Deaf where such schools are operated by the province. In cases where Schools for the Blind and Deaf are operated by local school boards, statistics for these schools are included with the data for the "regular" schools.

Data Sources - Education Finance

School Board Data

Data on revenues and expenditures of school boards (provincial aggregations) are provided to Statistics Canada annually by the provincial departments of education. These data originate from the provinces' financial management systems and normally are based on the audited financial statements of the boards. Because each province has its own unique financial reporting system, Statistics Canada reclassifies both revenue and expenditure data into a uniform classification of accounts.

Departmental Data

Expenditures of provincial departments of education are extracted from published provincial Public Accounts.

Expenditures of provincial departments other than education providing direct service or funding to elementary-secondary education are also extracted from Public Accounts.

Data from Public Accounts are sometimes augmented by supplementary information provided by the departments.

Federal Schools and Programs

Statistics Canada conducts an annual survey of federal departments to determine their expenditures on education and training.

Private Schools

For all provinces except Quebec, Statistics Canada conducts a survey of the revenues and expenditures of private schools every three or four years. For intermediate years, Statistics Canada estimates the values.

Financial data for private schools in Quebec that receive provincial funding are extracted from *Statistiques de l'éducation*, an annual publication of the Quebec Ministry of Education. Statistics Canada estimates revenue and expenditure data for schools not receiving provincial funding.

Reform Schools

Statistics Canada conducts an annual survey of the expenditures of provincial reform schools.

Government Correspondence Programs

Data on expenditures of provincial departments of education operating correspondence programs are extracted from the published provincial Public Accounts.

Programs for the Handicapped Outside Public School Systems

Expenditure data on programs outside public school systems for school-aged children with physical or learning disabilities are extracted from published Public Accounts.

Editing/Verification Procedures

Data on elementary-secondary education received by Statistics Canada from provincial/territorial authorities are normally the "official" statistics on education in the respective jurisdictions and are accepted by Statistics Canada as such. The data are subjected to normal consistency and mathematical accuracy edits and trend analysis, and sometimes adjusted to fit standard definitions and classifications, but otherwise they are accepted as provided. Any apparent anomalies in the data are referred back to the province for resolution or verification/explanation.

In cases where provincial data from a department of education have been modified by Statistics Canada in consultation with the province, the "new" tabulations thus produced are normally returned to the province for verification and acceptance before publication. Whether this technique is employed is dependent on the significance of the changes or the sensitivity of the resultant figures. Alterations of provincial data to fit standard definitions and classifications are not referred back to the province.

Data collected by Statistics Canada directly from educational institutions and data collected by a department specifically for Statistics Canada use are subjected to more rigorous and detailed editing procedures than that accorded to official provincial figures. For example, internal relationships in the data are investigated, year-to-year changes analyzed, and comparisons with other source data made. Follow-up with reporting institutions occurs to resolve anomalies, inconsistencies or inaccuracies.

Basic Definitions

Elementary-Secondary Education

Definition

This level of education is defined as the composite of provincial definitions, which may vary slightly, but which generally encompass education for school-aged children from kindergarten to the end of secondary school.

In practical terms, provinces normally equate public elementary-secondary education to schooling provided by school boards plus programs administered by the province for special groups of children of school-age.

Private schools and federal schools also provide elementary-secondary education.

Exclusions

1. In enrolment and educator statistics, adult education programs of school boards, normally offered during after-school hours for students not in regular day school attendance, are excluded. In finance statistics, however, expenditures on elementary-secondary education include adult education unless otherwise specified.
2. Private kindergarten and nursery schools are not included in any statistical tabulations.

Historical continuity

While the basic definition of elementary-secondary education has remained constant over time, i.e., provincial definitions have been used to determine this level of education, provinces have, from time to time, reorganized their public school systems and this has sometimes resulted in changes in the programs provided by school boards. Users of historical enrolment data for elementary-secondary education should therefore be aware of the major changes that have taken place in the provinces in recent years. Some such changes that have had an impact on enrolment trends include (but are not restricted to):

- the introduction of compulsory kindergarten
- the introduction of four-year-old kindergarten
- the addition or deletion of grades in the secondary school curriculum (for example, Newfoundland, Quebec and Ontario)

- the transfer of some school board responsibilities in some provinces (vocational training programs in the high schools, for example) from the boards to community colleges or regional centres.

Kindergarten

Definition

This term is used, regardless of provincial or local usage, to refer to school programs for pupils of pre-compulsory ages, i.e., for pre-Grade 1 classes. Provincial variations in terminology include: Primary (Nova Scotia); Junior and Senior Kindergarten (Ontario); Nursery (for four-year-olds, Manitoba); Early Childhood Services (Alberta); First Year of Primary (classes for four- and five-year-olds, British Columbia).

Other terms used

Pre-elementary, pre-primary, pre-school and pre-Grade 1 are used synonymously with Kindergarten.

Public Schools

Definition

Public schools are elementary-secondary schools established and funded under the authority of provincial education acts (sometimes known as The Public Schools Act in provincial legislation) and operated by local education authorities (school boards) under delegated authority from the province. Protestant and Roman Catholic Separate Schools where such exist are a part of a province's public school system.

Other terms used

The term "publicly funded schools" is sometimes used as a synonym for public schools, but in such cases private schools receiving public funding have not been included in the statistical tabulations unless specified.

Caution

1. In popular terminology, "public school" is sometimes used as an equivalent for elementary education. In provinces which have Roman Catholic and Protestant Separate schools, "public" may also refer to the non-denominational public school system.

2. In finance statistics, the term "*public school*" (as used in "*Public School Expenditures*", for example) is not based on a categorization of schools, but rather is an aggregation of all school board and certain provincial expenditures. (Please see separate definition).

Private Schools

Definition

Private schools are elementary-secondary schools that operate outside a province's public school system. These schools may be operated by, or in association with, a private society or corporation, an individual, or a church or religious order.

Private schools charge tuition fees, but in some provinces those that satisfy provincial criteria receive limited provincial support.

Exceptions

Private kindergarten and nursery schools are not surveyed by Statistics Canada or the provinces as part of elementary-secondary education.

Private non-academic schools (business, trade and vocational schools, driving schools, etc.) are likewise not included.

Other terms used

In several provinces, the term "independent schools" is used almost as widely as private schools. In definitional terms, they are synonymous.

Federal Schools

Definition

Federal schools are elementary-secondary schools for which the Government of Canada assumes responsibility for funding and/or operation. These comprise schools for dependents of Canadian Forces personnel on bases in Canada and abroad, and schools for native peoples operated by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada or by local band councils.

Other Schools

Definition

"Other schools" are schools operated by the provinces for special needs students – such as schools for the blind and the deaf, hospital schools and schools for children with certain learning disabilities.

Where such schools are funded by the province but operated by a local school board, the statistics for the schools are included with the figures for public schools.

In finance statistics, the broader category "Special Education" is used, and is defined to include provincially-operated schools for special needs students, government correspondence education and provincial reform schools.

Day School Regular Program

Definition

This function consists of those activities dealing with the provision of instruction through the school's regular educational program for school-age children. It includes special education for students with special learning needs, but does not include "Special Courses" (see separate definition) and Adult Education (see separate definition)

Special Courses

Definition

This categorization represents school programs which operate outside the regular educational program of the school (excluding Adult Education which is categorized separately) and include such activities as driver education provided after school hours and summer schools.

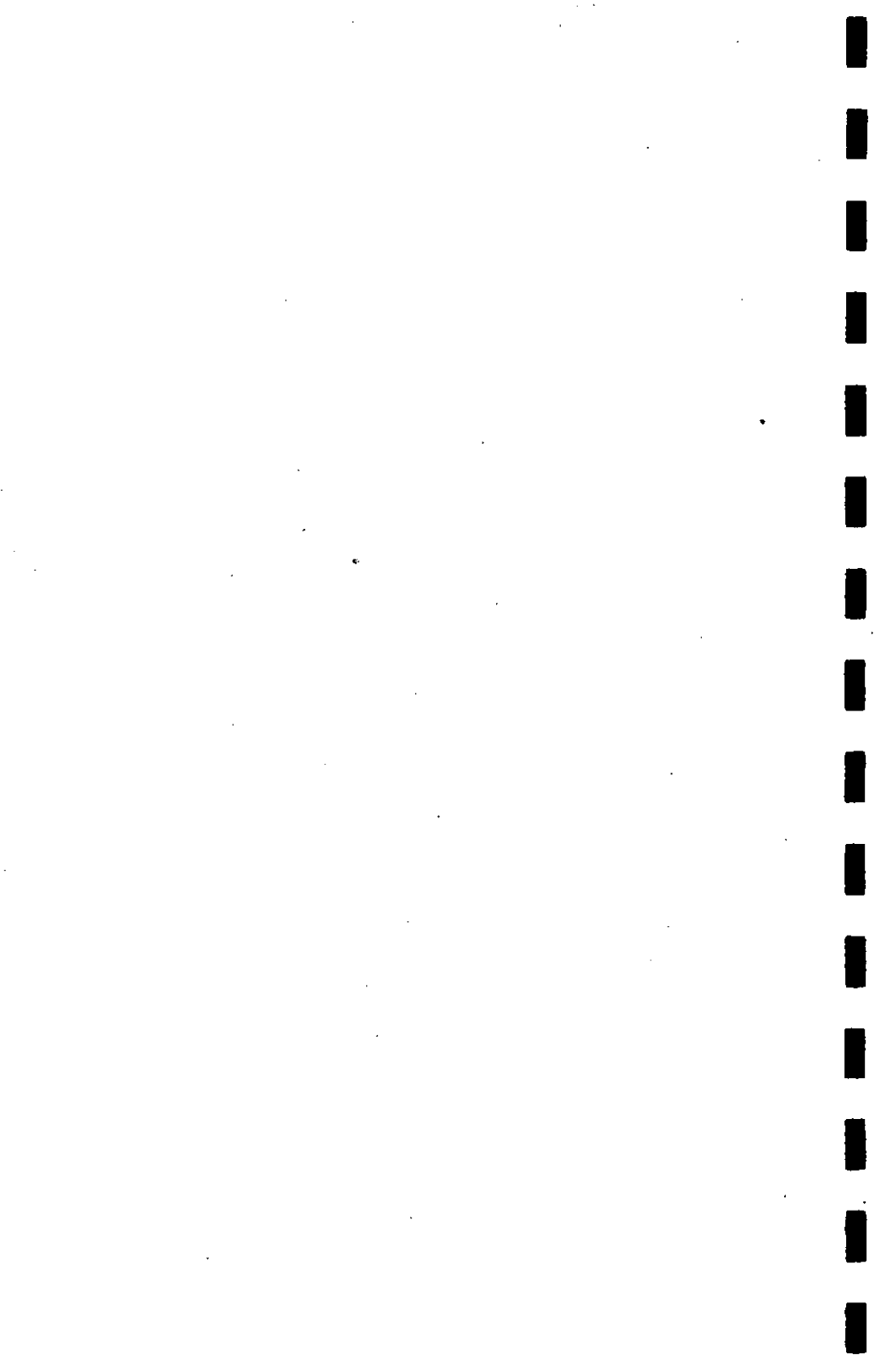
Adult Education

Definition

This program consists of educational offerings provided during after-school hours to out-of-school adults. The courses offered may be oriented towards academic upgrading leading to secondary school graduation, job preparation or skills upgrading, or general interest.

Caution

In many statistical reports on elementary-secondary education in Canada, adult education programs are excluded. Users should consult the definitions associated with specific reports or with notes to specific tables to determine if the programs are included or excluded.



Variables and Derived Measures - Enrolment

Variable:

Enrolment

Definition

Enrolment is defined as the headcount of students enrolled in school as of September 30 of the school year.

Universe

All elementary-secondary schools - public schools, private schools, federal schools (including DND schools overseas) and schools for the blind and deaf operated by provincial governments.

Foreign students in Canada with student authorizations who attend elementary-secondary schools are included in the universe.

Special care facilities (for the severely handicapped, for example), prison, penitentiary and reform schools are not included.

Coverage

For public schools operated by local school boards and for federal schools, the coverage is 100%. For private schools and some special programs such as approved home study, there might be slight undercoverage in particular cases. This undercoverage would arise from the fact that the existence of some such schools or programs may not have been confirmed by the province before the reference date for recording enrolment counts.

It is estimated that the number of elementary-secondary students not enumerated in the published enrolment figures is not more than 1%. This results from non-reporting for schools identified in the survey universe and those not surveyed.

Historical continuity

Since the late 1950s, the end of September has been consistently used as the reference date for enrolment reporting. In earlier years, some provinces recorded "net enrolment for the school year", i.e., opening enrolment plus late enrolment less out transfers and other withdrawals. In such cases, Statistics Canada has estimated enrolment detail based on the global September enrolment and the detailed classifications of net enrolment.

Estimations for non-response

For known institutions in the survey universe which do not file enrolment reports (normally a small number of private schools), Statistics Canada searches for secondary source data to estimate current enrolment distributions. Failing that, telephone follow-up with the institution could result in global data which would be used in estimating detail. As a last resort, current data are estimated from previous years' statistical reports.

Analytical applications

Trend analysis of enrolment change constitutes an important study of the status of education in Canada, the provinces and territories. Used in conjunction with other measures such as population, expenditures on education, number of educators employed, for example, enrolment becomes a key variable in analyzing participation rates, educational outcomes and educational costs, and in making international comparisons of educational systems.

Derived measures incorporating this variable

- Full-time Equivalent Enrolment (FTE)
- Ratio of Enrolment to Educators
- Participation rates
- Expenditures per student

Derived measure:

Full-time Equivalent Enrolment

Definition

Full-Time Equivalent enrolment is defined as the headcount of enrolment in Grades 1 to 12, special classes and full-day kindergartens, plus one-half of the enrolment in half-day kindergartens.

Limitation

Not all students in senior secondary grades attend school for the complete school cycle. The data on time spent in school for these students are not available on a consistent basis (most provinces do not record the information in their statistical calculations), so that all secondary enrolment are classified as full-time rather than being equated to FTE.

Derived measure:

Ratio of Enrolment to Educators

Definition

This measure is defined as enrolment in full-time equivalencies divided by the number of educators in full-time equivalences. (For definitions of full-time equivalencies for enrolment and educators, see separate entries).

Universe

Public schools

Other term used

Pupil-Teacher Ratio. This term is in fact a synonym of the ratio described above, but its use in statistical reporting is diminishing due to the ambiguity of the term "teacher" used in the calculation (see entry under "educator")

Caution

The ratio of enrolment to educators should not be equated with class size. Included in the calculation are a number of non-teaching school positions resulting in a lower measure than the actual average class size.

Variable:

Age of Students

Definition

Age of students in elementary-secondary schools is computed as of September 30 of the school year, with the following exceptions: Newfoundland uses December 31 as the reference date, Prince Edward Island uses October 31, and Alberta September 1. The age data for these provinces are not adjusted to correspond with the reference date used in other jurisdictions.

In reporting enrolment data by age, the age displayed is "age last birthday", not the rounded age. For example, enrolment at age 9 is a count of those students who had reached their 9th birthday but not their 10th on the reference date.

Estimations

For the survey years 1987-88 to 1990-91 inclusive, Statistics Canada has estimated the age distribution of enrolment for Prince Edward Island. From 1991-92, enrolment by age has been provided by the PEI Department of Education.

Ontario has not collected enrolment by age in the province's public secondary schools since 1989-90. Statistics Canada estimates the age distributions for Grades 9 and up.

British Columbia has not collected enrolment by age for its public schools since 1983-84. Statistics Canada estimates these distributions.

Variable:

Grade in which Student is Registered

Definition

Students are classified according to the grade in which registered as of September 30 of the school year.

Students in special ungraded classes (for students with learning disabilities, for example) are categorized as ungraded or special classes.

Students who are taking subjects at more than one grade level are allocated by the school to the most appropriate grade based on the profile of subjects studied.

Quebec's education system provides for a "transition year" between elementary and secondary for students who have been in elementary school for six years but have not met the requirements for entry to the secondary level. This transition year enrolment is combined with the recorded Grade 6 enrolment.

At the secondary level, Quebec designates the first year as Secondary 1, the second year as Secondary 2, etc., up to Secondary 5. In enrolment reports displaying data for all provinces, Secondary 1 is shown as Grade 7, Secondary 2 as Grade 8, etc.

In Nova Scotia, Pre-Grade 1 is known as Primary; in Manitoba, it includes Nursery for four-year-olds; in Alberta, it is known as Early Childhood Services; and in British Columbia as First Year of Primary.

Estimations

Starting in 1989-90, British Columbia modified its enrolment collection procedures to reflect a new organization of education programs covering Kindergarten to Grade 3. Only three separate enrolment groups are identified: first year of primary, half-day classes; first year of primary, full-day classes; second and subsequent years of primary.

Statistics Canada allocates the first two of the above groups to Kindergarten, and estimates the Grades 1, 2 and 3 enrolment distributions from the aggregation of "second and subsequent years of primary".

Derived measure:

Participation Rate for Non-graduates

Definition

A participation rate for non-graduates is the ratio of enrolment for an age-specific group to the population for that group that has not already graduated from school. The rate is calculated using enrolment and population estimates as of the end of September for a given year.

Limitations

1. The rate has been calculated since 1989-90 only.
2. Because of problems associated with the acquisition of data to determine the numerator of the ratio, the rate is not available for all provinces for all years.

Analytical applications

This measure constitutes a reasonable and useful proxy for the holding power of school systems, eliminating the effects of provincial organizational structures and graduation rates. If the rate increases from one year to the next, the indication is that larger proportions of students who have not graduated are staying in school after attaining post compulsory attendance ages.

The converse of the participation rate for non-graduates is a measure of the extent to which students leave school before graduation. It serves, therefore, as an indicator of school withdrawals - drop-outs and stop-outs.



Variables and Derived Measures - Educational Demography

Variable:

Total Population

Definition

As used in the 1991 Census of Canada, Total Population is defined as the count of persons residing in Canada (excluding visitors and foreign residents) as measured through the Census of Canada conducted at five-year intervals. The reference date for the Census is around June 1.

Universe

The population universe includes the following groups:

1. Canadian citizens and landed immigrants with usual place of residence in Canada
2. Canadian citizens and landed immigrants who were abroad on military service or attached to a diplomatic mission, or at sea or in port aboard merchant vessels under Canadian registry
3. Persons in Canada claiming refugee status
4. Persons in Canada holding student authorizations (foreign students)
5. Persons in Canada holding employment authorizations
6. Persons in Canada holding Minister's Permits
7. All non-Canadian born dependents of persons identified in #3 through #6 above residing in Canada

Excluded from the population universe are the following groups:

1. Government representatives of another country on diplomatic service in Canada and their dependents
2. Members of the Armed Forces of another country stationed in Canada and their dependents
3. Residents of another country visiting in Canada temporarily

Historical continuity

The above definition began with the 1991 Census. In previous censuses, non-permanent residents (refugee claimants, foreign students, temporary workers, ministerial permits) were not included in the count of total population.

Statistics Canada has re-issued population figures for previous censuses to reflect the new definition.

Estimations

Statistics Canada estimates the population by age and sex for Canada, the provinces and territories quarterly (January 1, April 1, etc.) and annually on June 1. Estimates are revised on a regular basis.

Following a census, quarterly and annual estimates are known as "postcensal" estimates. Following the succeeding census, the postcensal estimates of the previous five years are revised using the data from the recent census, and these estimates are known as "intercensal" estimates.

Projections

Statistics Canada prepares and publishes population projections (currently to 2011) by age group and sex for Canada, the provinces and territories. Four projections are published using varying assumptions on natural growth (fertility and mortality rates), immigration and, for provincial estimates, internal migration. Quinquennial projections by age group and sex for Canada, 2011-2036, are also currently published.

For more information on population projections, consult *Population Projections* (Statistics Canada Catalogue 91-520) prepared by the Population Projections Section, Demography Division.

Analytical applications

Population growth for Canada, the provinces and territories as the major determinant of school enrolment change.

Population profiles for both school-age and non school-age groups and their implications for school curriculum and services and for the "supporting" segment of the population.

Variable:

School Age Population

Definition

This is a term used when grouping population data relevant to various levels of schooling. There is no universally accepted standard for which ages to group; use depends on the administrative structures of education existing in different jurisdictions and the particular analytical need.

In the Statistical Portrait, Third Edition, school age population is defined as comprising ages 19 and under.

Source

Census of Canada for Census years; postcensal and intercensal estimates for other years from the Population Estimates Section, Statistics Canada.

Variable:

Adult Population

Definition

This variable is an enumeration of the population 25 to 54 years of age.

Source

Data for Canada from the Census of Canada; data for other countries from the OECD publication *Education at a Glance, second edition*.

Variable:

Immigrants

Definition

An immigrant is a person from another country admitted to Canada as a "Permanent Resident" (also called a "Landed Immigrant") under one or other of the Government of Canada's immigration programs and falls into one of the following classes: Sponsored Refugee; Family class (family reunification program); Independent class (Assisted Relatives, Business Immigrants, etc.)

Source

Employment and Immigration Canada, immigration records.

Notes

1. "Refugee Claimants", i.e., those coming to Canada unsponsored and applying for refugee status after arrival, have no legal status under the Immigration Act and are therefore not included in any immigration data until the Refugee Determination process for them is completed.
2. Foreign students in Canada under student authorizations and persons with employment authorizations are not included in counts of immigrants.
3. Immigration records provide "Province/territory of intended destination" in Canada. Once an immigrant actually arrives, he/she has the same freedom of movement as do other Canadians.
4. Immigration data for a reference year reflect the number of immigration authorizations granted by the Government of Canada during that time period. For Refugee Claimants, this means that a person may be in Canada for an extended period before showing up in the reported number of immigrants.

Analytical applications

Immigration to Canada of school age children as a significant component of school enrolment change and composition.

Immigration patterns to specific regions of the country (it is essentially concentrated in three provinces and in the major urban centres therein), and its impact on the provision of particular services such as second language training, orientation counselling, etc.

Variable:

Language of Immigrants

Definition

This is the official language(s) of Canada spoken by the immigrant at the time of immigration approval as assessed by the interviewing Immigration Officer.

Caution

In statistical tabulations on immigrants' language competence, "bilingual" means English and French, not English or French and a non-official language.

Source

Employment and Immigration Canada, immigration records.

Analytical applications

Analysis of concentrations of immigrant children in need of second language training programs.

Variable:

Interprovincial Migration of School-age Children

Definition

This element enumerates the movement of persons under age 18 from one province/territory to another within Canada. Movement within a province of residence is not included.

Source

Population Estimates Section, Demography Division, Statistics Canada using Family Allowance transfer data from Health and Welfare Canada records and/or Revenue Canada Taxation records.

Analytical applications

Interprovincial migration as a component of school enrolment change.

Variable:

Educational Attainment (Canadian comparisons)

Definition

Educational attainment classifies the total population and sub-groups according to the number of years of schooling (not including kindergarten and nursery) irrespective of where that education was received in Canada or in other countries.

Source

Census of Canada for Census years and Labour Force surveys taken monthly.

Historical continuity

Educational attainment of the population has been recorded by the Census at ten-year intervals since 1941 and at five-year intervals since 1971.

Estimations

Census data on educational attainment are based on a 20% sample of the population. Labour Force estimates arise from monthly sample surveys of the population. (See separate entry under Labour Force).

Variable:

Educational Attainment (International comparisons)

Definition

Educational attainment for international comparisons is expressed as the percentage of the adult population (please see separate definition) that has completed a certain highest level of education as defined in Unesco's ISCED system.

Source

OECD publication *Education at a Glance, second edition*

Variable:

The Labour Force

Definition

The Labour Force is defined as the civilian, non-institutionalized population 15 years of age and over who during the reference week of the survey were classified as employed or unemployed. (See separate entries for these terms).

Universe

Not included in the Labour Force survey are

- residents of the Yukon and Northwest Territories
- persons living on Indian reservations in Canada
- members of the Canadian armed forces
- persons living in institutions (e.g., inmates of penal institutions, patients in hospitals and nursing homes who have resided in the institution for more than six months)

Estimation

The size and composition of the Labour Force are estimated monthly through a sample survey currently of 58,000 households. The response rates for the survey vary but are generally in the order of 95%.

Sampling and non-sampling error

For detailed information on this topic, consult *The Labour Force* (Statistics Canada catalogue 71-001).

Variable:

Employed Labour Force

Definition

A member of the Labour Force who during the reference week

- did any work for pay or profit, i.e., paid work in the context of an employer/employee relationship, or self employment, or unpaid family work which contributed directly to the operation of a farm, business or professional practice owned or operated by a related member of the household
- had a job but was not at work due to illness, personal/family responsibilities, weather, labour disputes or vacation

Other term used

Employed population

Variable:

Unemployed Labour Force

Definition

A member of the Labour Force who, during the reference week

- was without work, but actively looked for work in the previous four weeks, and was available for work.
- had not actively looked for work but was on lay-off and was available for work.
- had not actively looked for work but had a job to start in four weeks or less and was available for work.

Variable:

Official Minority Language Population

Definition

Based on Mother Tongue (see separate entry), English in Quebec and French elsewhere in Canada.

Source

Census of Canada

Analytical Applications

Concentrations in Canada at the provincial and sub-provincial level of the official minority linguistic group and implications for the provision of educational programs and services.

Variable:

Mother Tongue

Definition

As used in the 1991 Census of Canada, Mother Tongue is defined as the language first learned in the home in childhood and is still understood.

Historical continuity

Mother Tongue has been a question on the census since 1971. The wording of the definition has changed slightly over the years: in 1971, it was "language first spoken and still understood"; in 1981, "language first learned and still understood"; in 1986, "language first learned in childhood and still understood".

Variable:

Language Spoken in the Home

Definition

As used in the 1991 Census of Canada, Language Spoken in the Home is the *language spoken* most often in the home.

In the Statistical Portrait, Third Edition, only respondents identifying one language have been used. That is, respondents reporting two or more languages with comparable use in the home have been excluded.

Historical continuity

In the censuses of 1981 and 1986, the definition used was "language *usually* spoken in the home" with a follow-up question "If more than one language, which is spoken most often?" The accompanying question was not used in 1991.



Variables and Derived Measures – Language Education

Variable:

Minority Language Education

Definition

Minority language education is defined as school programs for the official minority linguistic group in a province, i.e., French schools for francophone students outside Quebec; English schools in Quebec.

Caution

1. Not all students enrolled in minority language schools come from the minority linguistic group. This was particularly true for a number of years (and still is, but to a lesser degree) in Quebec where immigrants and children of immigrants whose Mother Tongue was not English or French tended to enrol in English schools.
2. While official minority language education in Canada is guaranteed under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, provincial implementation of this guarantee varies. Users of enrolment statistics on minority language education are advised to consult provincial authorities to determine actual implementation by a given province.

Universe

Data on minority language education are for public school systems only. While non-public schools operating in the official minority language are surveyed for purposes of federal funding under Secretary of State's Official Languages in Education program, the enrolments recorded in this activity are not separately published.

Analytical applications

Used in conjunction with Official Minority Language Population, this element can give a reading of the extent to which the official minority linguistic group are being educated in their own language.

Variable:

Second Language Education

Definition

Second language education (more correctly "official second language") programs are designed to offer students of the majority linguistic group (French in Quebec, English elsewhere) the opportunity to receive instruction in or learn the language of the minority language group.

Two separate second language programs are identifiable in Canadian education: immersion programs and regular second language programs (see separate entries for these terms).

Universe

Public schools (see entry for Minority Language Education)

Historical continuity

Prior to 1980-81, second language education statistics did not include French immersion. The latter program was included in a category "Minority Language as Language of Instruction" which was used as a synonym for Minority Language Education. Since 1980-81, immersion has been included with second language.

Caution

Second language education refers to "Official Languages" only.

Analytical applications

Study of enrolment trends in second language education related to overall enrolment change.

Variable:

Second Language Immersion

Definition

This is a program whereby students of the official majority language group learn the second official language by receiving some or all of their normal school instruction in that language. French immersion programs exist in all provinces; there are no English immersion programs in Quebec.

To be classified as an immersion program, the program must devote at least 25% of the school week to curriculum in which the language of instruction is French. In practice, immersion programs for elementary students are primarily full-time (the average in 1990-91 was 93%) but half-day immersion is not uncommon. At the secondary level and in "late immersion", the proportion of the week where French is the language of instruction declines considerably.

Universe

Public schools (see entry for Minority Language Education)

Historical continuity

Prior to 1980-81, French immersion was included with minority language education in a category labelled "Minority Language Education as Language of Instruction". Beginning with 1980-81, statistics on immersion have been displayed separately and included in second language programs.

Data on French immersion programs in Ontario public schools prior to 1980-81 are not comparable with those of other provinces. Up to that year, Ontario designated as immersion only those programs where the length was 75% or more at the elementary level or 60% or more at the secondary level. For other provinces, programs at the 25% level or higher were categorized as immersion. Since 40% and 50% immersion programs in Ontario were significant during that period, users should make historical comparisons with caution.

Statistics on enrolment in French immersion programs in Alberta have been available only for 1983-84 and subsequent years. Prior to 1983-84, the province had combined immersion enrolment with minority language education.

Enrolment statistics for French immersion programs in British Columbia first became available in 1979-80. Prior to that, as with Alberta, immersion and minority language programs had been combined.

Analytical applications

Trend analysis of immersion in relation to changes in other areas of elementary-secondary education.

Derived measure:

Participation Rate for French Immersion

Definition

This is the ratio of enrolment in French immersion programs (see separate entry) to total school enrolment less enrolment on Minority Language Education programs (see separate entry).

Variables and Derived Measures - Outcomes (Graduates, leavers and transition)

Variable:
Graduates

Definition

A graduate is one who has received a secondary school graduation certificate awarded by a provincial Department of Education upon completion of a program of studies at the Grade 12 level (Secondary V or Grade 11 in Quebec).

Statistics presented on the number of graduates relate to the academic year and include "late graduations" for that year.

Universe

Graduation certification awarded by provincial departments of education. Students in non-public schools are eligible to receive such certificates in most jurisdictions.

Caution

Graduation requirements vary considerably from province to province. Interprovincial comparisons should be made with caution.

Historical continuity

1. Prior to 1983-84, Newfoundland students graduated at the Grade 11 level.
2. Changes to high school graduation requirements implemented in Ontario in 1987-88 make graduation data for prior years not comparable with 1987-88 and later.

Estimation

Prior to 1986-87, the number of graduates for Manitoba was estimated by Statistics Canada. Since 1986-87, the data have been generated by the provincial Department of Education.

Analytical applications

Used in conjunction with other variables such as school enrolment and population, the number of graduates can serve as an indicator of the output of school systems and of input to postsecondary institutions and the labour market.

Derived measure:

Graduation Rate

Definition

This measure is the sum of age-specific ratios of number of graduates to population for an academic year. The ratios are calculated using population as of June 1 of the school year and number of graduates by age as of the same date. "Late graduates" are included in the calculations.

The ratios are calculated for each specific age and summed across all ages.

Estimates

Statistics Canada, in consultation with the respective provincial Department of Education, has estimated age distributions of graduates where such data were not available.

Caution

1. Graduation rates are based on "youth" only. That is, graduates from upgrading programs for out-of-school adults, sometimes leading to "equivalency" certification but in other cases leading to regular high school graduation certification, are not included. If adult graduates were included, the graduation rates would be higher in all jurisdictions.
2. The graduation rate for a province is affected by interprovincial migration, immigration and labour force participation. These factors are included in population counts, but are not necessarily reflected in graduation figures.

For example, a number of non-graduates could migrate to a particular region from elsewhere in Canada or from abroad and directly enter the labour force. This would have the effect of artificially lowering the graduation rate for that jurisdiction since the in-coming population would have increased the denominator of the ratio.

Conversely, provinces losing a significant number of non-graduates to interprovincial migration could produce a higher graduation rate as a result of migration.

Limitation:

Graduation rates have been calculated only since 1988-89.

Analytical applications

Graduation rates indicate the extent to which students are leaving secondary school with graduation credentials. Used in conjunction with transition rates to postsecondary education and to the labour force, the rates provide an indicator of the entry of new graduates to the labour force.

Historical analysis of graduation rates indicate the holding power of school systems.

Derived measure:

Transition Rates of Secondary School Graduates

Definition

This measure is a calculation of the percentage of graduates who continue their education in a postsecondary institution immediately after graduation or who go on to other activities such as entry to the labour market. Rates are calculated from the number of secondary school graduates for an academic year and the first year enrolment at universities, colleges and other postsecondary institutions.

Universe

Rates are calculated from statistics or estimates of graduates for all elementary-secondary schools, public and non-public.

Limitation

The measure is calculated for Canada only. Data on high school graduates from one province who continue their education in another are not sufficiently precise for all postsecondary institutions to permit the calculation of reliable estimates at the provincial level.

Historical continuity

Transition rates can be calculated on a consistent basis since 1970-71.

Analytical applications

The incidence of entry to the labour market with no postsecondary education is of major significance to study of the nation's labour force composition. Transition rates to postsecondary education provide quantitative measures of improvement in the education level of labour force entrants.

Derived measure:

Transition of Secondary School Graduates and Non-graduates to the Labour Market

For information on the definitions and methodology for construction of this measure, please refer to Statistics Canada's uncatalogued publication *School Leavers* giving the results from a national survey comparing school leavers and high school graduates 18 to 20 years of age.

Variable:

School Leavers

Definition

A School Leaver is defined as one who has left school before obtaining a secondary school graduation certificate.

Source

A survey of 9,460 youths from 18 to 20 years of age conducted by Statistics Canada in 1991.

Variable:

Literacy and Numeracy Skills

Definition

This concept is defined as "the information processing skills necessary to use printed material commonly encountered at work, at home and in the community".

Source

A survey conducted by Statistics Canada in 1989 of Canadians from 16 to 69 years of age.

Note

In the survey, numeracy tasks were embedded in the reading tasks, rather than constituting an identifiable segment of the testing.



Variables and Derived Measures - Educators

Variable:

Number of Educators

Definition

This element represents a count of all school based teaching and non-teaching academic/administrative staff (principals, vice-principals and department heads), and school board based instructional staff employed in September of a school year.

Supply teachers, usually utilized at the school board level to replace temporarily absent teachers, are included.

Staff on leave are excluded; their replacements are included.

Teacher aides are not included.

Universe

Public schools

Historical continuity

While the definition of educator has been consistently used for several years, the terminology used has changed. The term "teacher" used to be frequently used (and still is in some instances) to include all school based professional staff including non-teaching principals and vice-principals unless otherwise specified.

Analytical applications

The number of educators, their characteristics and their remuneration as a major component of elementary-secondary education.

Variable:

Age of Educators

Definition

The age of educators displayed is age in years last birthday as of December 31 of the school year. For example, the number for age 30 is a count of educators in September of the school year who, on the following December 31, would have attained their 30th but not their 31st birthday.

Universe

Public schools.

Analytical applications

Analysis of the age structure of educators is significant to a study of the number of new employment opportunities for teachers, the number nearing retirement age, etc. These and other factors have special significance in analyzing current and future expenditures on education.

Derived measure:

Full-time Equivalent Educators

Definition

Full-time equivalent educators is the sum of the number of full-time educators and the number of part-time educators expressed in full-time equivalencies.

Part-time educators are converted to full-time equivalents on the basis of the percentage of the school week for which the educator is employed. For example, a teacher employed to teach half-time has an FTE of 0.5, one teaching for one-quarter of the week has an FTE of 0.25.

Universe

Public schools.

Analytical applications

Use of FTE educators is important in any analysis of the ratios of enrolment to educators, expenditures per educator, etc.

Variable:

Full-time Educator

Definition

A full-time educator is one whose employment with the school or school board in September of the school year covered the complete school week.

Full-time short-term appointments in effect in September are counted as full-time under this definition.

Variable:

Part-time Educator

Definition

A part-time educator is one whose employment with a school or school board in September of the school year covered less than the complete school week.

Variable:

School Administration

Definition

School staff who are identified as principals or vice-principals.

Universe

Public schools

Analytical applications

Analysis of gender differences.



Variables and Derived Measures - Finance

Variable:

Total Provincial/Local Expenditures on Elementary-Secondary Education

Definition

This variable represents an aggregation of operating and capital expenditures for elementary and secondary education by provincial departments of education and by local governments or school boards operating public school boards.

Expenditures of provincial departments other than education are included in provincial totals in those cases where direct services are provided to elementary-secondary education by these departments. Some examples of such expenditures are: the financing of debt charges for school construction through a Department of Public Works; a school milk program by a Department of Agriculture; health services to schools provided by a Department of Health. For a complete listing of provincial expenditures on elementary-secondary education by departments other than education, please see Appendix A.

In provinces where one provincial department of education is responsible for all levels of education (elementary-secondary and postsecondary), expenditures of divisions providing direct service to elementary-secondary education are captured, plus a portion of administration expenditures on such functions as personnel, information, office of the Deputy Minister, etc. Normally, departmental administration is allocated to the different levels of education according to the proportion of non-administration expenditures identified with each individual level. For detail on the specifics of allocation of provincial administration expenditures to elementary-secondary education, please see Appendix B.

Local expenditures on elementary-secondary education are comprised mainly of the expenditures of public school boards where they are funded through local taxation.

The total of expenditures at the provincial and local levels is presented on a "consolidated" basis. That is, intergovernmental transfers and transfers between boards are netted out of the calculations. For example, provincial grants to school boards are counted only once, even though they appear in the revenue and expenditure statements of both levels. Similarly, federal reimbursements to provincial governments or to school boards for the salaries of teachers on loan to teach in DND schools overseas are netted out of the expenditures.

All other expenditures of provincial departments and school boards are included in the totals as gross expenditures, not net expenditures. That is, expenditures are not reduced by the amount of revenue produced by ancillary services.

Provincial expenditures on non-public education such as funding provided to private schools are included in the totals.

Caution

In the second edition of the *Statistical Portrait*, the term "Expenditure on Education" is used to designate provincial/local expenditures on elementary-secondary education.

Analytical applications

Used in relation to total provincial/local expenditures, this variable provides a useful measure of the extent to which education consumes government budgets. Reference to government expenditures on other major programs such as health care and social programs provides a comparative analysis of the position of education in total government spending relative to other program areas.

International comparisons can be made using this variable related to school-aged population, school enrolment, government expenditures, Gross Domestic Product, etc.

Derived measures incorporating this variable

Expenditures on education as a percentage of total provincial/local expenditures

Expenditures on education per capita

Variable:

Total Provincial/Local Expenditures

Definition

This variable is an aggregation of operating and capital expenditures for all:

- departments/ministries of provincial governments

- bodies or agencies established by provincial governments which may themselves be governments or function as such. Included in this category are municipal governments, regional governments, school boards and special purpose boards and commissions such as those involved in providing health and welfare services, justice and protection services, etc.

Government business enterprises, i.e., those organizations engaged in commercial operations similar to private business enterprises but controlled by government, are not included in provincial/local government expenditures. An example of such an enterprise would be provincial and local hydro facilities.

For information on inclusions and exclusions in the definition of government expenditures and the allocation of expenditures to sectors such as health, social services, etc., users are referred to the following publications of the Public Institutions Division of Statistics Canada: *Consolidated Government Finance* (Catalogue 68-202); *Local Government Finance* (Catalogue 68-204); *Provincial Government Finance* (Catalogue 88-207); *Federal Government Finance* (Catalogue 68-211)

For more details on the allocation of provincial expenditures by sectors, users should contact the Public Finance Division of Statistics Canada.

The total of expenditures at the provincial and local levels is presented on a "consolidated" basis. That is, data are adjusted to eliminate inter-governmental transfers. The result, therefore, is the aggregation of all unduplicated transactions. For example, provincial grants to school boards are counted only once, even though they appear in the revenue and expenditure statements of both levels. Similarly, federal reimbursements to provincial governments or to school boards for the salaries of teachers on loan to teach in DND schools overseas are netted out of the expenditures and transfers between school boards are unduplicated.

All unduplicated expenditures are included in the totals as gross expenditures, not net expenditures. That is, expenditures are not reduced by the amount of revenue produced by ancillary services.

Derived Measure:

Provincial/Local Expenditures on Elementary and Secondary Education per Capita

Definition

The total of operating and capital expenditures for elementary and secondary education by provincial government departments and local municipalities and agencies divided by the total population.

Caution

In the publication *Statistical Portrait, Second Edition*, the term "Expenditure on Education" is used to designate provincial/local expenditures on elementary-secondary education.

Analytical applications

Expenditures on elementary and secondary education per capita provide a means for analyzing growth in expenditures relative to changes in the total population. Users should recognize that the total population includes both the consumers of elementary-secondary education (school enrolment) and non-users of the system (pre-school and post-school ages).

Variable:

Total Provincial and Local Expenditures by Sector

Definition

This variable represents an aggregation of all operating and capital expenditures made by provincial and local governments and agencies.

Source

Public Institutions Division of Statistics Canada.

Caution

The expenditures displayed for education are the expenditures for all levels of education, not just for elementary-secondary. Further, since the Public Institutions Division classifies expenditures on a different basis than does the Education Statistics Program, users will note that the figures from both sources are usually not in agreement.

For information on Public Finance Division's classification of expenditures, please refer to the definition for the variable "Total provincial/local expenditures".

Variable:

Public School Expenditures

Definition

This item consists of the operating and capital expenditures (and includes expenditures on adult education unless otherwise specified) of local public school boards plus expenditures of provincial departments of education (except expenditures for departmental administration) and expenditures of other provincial departments providing direct service to elementary- secondary education.

- Public school expenditures include:
- Instruction (See separate definition)
- Superannuation (See separate definition)
- Transportation (See separate definition)
- Plant operation (See separate definition)
- Capital expenditures (See separate definition)
- Other (See separate definition)

Caution

1. Expenditures reported in this variable are gross expenditures, not net of revenues from ancillary enterprises or the sale of goods and services.
2. Expenditures of school boards include expenditures of funds received from other levels of governments. Provincial grants and federal reimbursement for salaries of teachers on loan to teach in DND schools overseas are netted out of the totals when combining school board and departmental expenditures.

Derived measures incorporating this variable

Public School Expenditures per Student

Public School Expenditures per Student as a Percentage of GDP per capita

Derived measure:

Public School Expenditures per Student

Definition

Total operating and capital expenditures as defined under "Public School Expenditures" divided by the enrolment in full-time equivalencies of schools operated by the boards (See separate entry for "full-time equivalent enrolment"). Both expenditures and enrolment exclude adult education programs.

Caution

In the second edition of the *Statistical Portrait*, enrolment data include DND schools in Canada; expenditure data do not.

Variable:

Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

Definition

This is a measure of the unduplicated value of production originating within the geographical boundaries of a region (province/territory, the country), regardless of whether the factors of production are resident or non-resident.

Analytical applications

As a measure of the size of the national and provincial economies, GDP constitutes a useful base measure against which expenditures on program areas such as elementary and secondary education can be evaluated. For example, changes in education spending can be compared with changes in GDP.

International comparisons of education expenditures versus the "ability to pay" (as measured through the size of national economies) can be made with the use of GDP.

Derived measure:

GDP per Capita

Definition

Gross Domestic Product (see separate definition) divided by the total population.

Variable:

Public School Operating Expenditures

Definition

All Public School Expenditures (see separate definition) that are not classified as Capital Expenditures (see separate definition). In general, operating expenditures consist of expenditures made for services and materials for which consumption within one year is considered normal.

Variable:

Public School Capital Expenditures

Definition

All Public School Expenditures (see separate definition) which result in the acquisition of an asset of a fixed or permanent nature or to improve or extend the original useful life of an asset. Capital expenditures include both capital outlay and debt charges.

Variable:

Education Price Index (EPI)

Definition

The Education Price Index is a measure of the percentage change through time in the cost of purchasing a constant set of goods and services by school boards.

Caution

The EPI is an input price index and is not a cost index. That is, it measures the change in the cost to school boards of purchasing a fixed "basket" of goods and services. The content of the basket is revised from time to time to reflect changing pattern of school board expenditures, but the index itself does not measure changes in expenditure levels.

Limitation

The Education Price Index is not available for the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

Analytical applications

The EPI provides a statistical technique for the analysis of changes in expenditures over time net of the effect of changes in the cost of purchasing educational goods and services. The EPI is a more suitable indicator of inflation for school boards than is the Consumer Price Index (CPI) which is based on changes in costs of goods and services by an average consumer.

Variable:

Source of School Board Revenue - Province

Definition

This is the revenue accruing to school boards directly from provincial governments for the provision of educational services by the boards.

Provincial revenues to boards take the form of grants (including grants for debt charges and capital expenditures from current funds), reimbursement for the cost of education for children on crown lands and cost recovery revenue for the use of school facilities.

Caution

In some instances, this item identifies "direct" source of funds, which may be different from "original" source. For example, the Federal Government makes annual contributions to provincial governments under the Official Languages in Education program. Where these funds are subsequently distributed to the school boards, they are identified in school board accounts as revenue from provincial source.

Conversely, where provinces levy and collect local property taxes for elementary and secondary education and subsequently distribute them to the boards, these funds are categorized as "local source" rather than provincial.

Variable:

Source of School Board Revenue - School Taxes

Definition

This categorization consists of residential and non-residential property taxes levied by school boards or by municipal governments on behalf of school boards. Local levies set and collected by the province for subsequent distribution to boards are also included as school tax revenue to school boards, as are grants/subscriptions in lieu of taxes.

Variable:

Source of School Board Revenue - Other

Definition

This is a categorization of school board revenue from sources other than provincial governments and local taxation.

Included in the category are

- Tuition fees from the Federal Government for pupils attending public schools who are the responsibility of the Government of Canada
- Reimbursement by the Government of Canada of salaries and other expenses for teachers on loan to the Department of National Defense for teaching service outside Canada
- Transportation cost recovery for providing transportation to pupils who are the responsibility of the Government of Canada
- Tuition fees from individuals
- Revenues from other boards for the provision of educational services or facilities
- Sale or rental of equipment, services, sites or buildings
- Gross revenues from ancillary services

Variable:

Public School Expenditures - Plant Operation

Definition

This function consists of all expenditures for salaries, materials and supplies related to the maintenance of schools, grounds and equipment. Included in the category are such expenditures as utilities' costs, snow clearance, lawn maintenance, insurance premiums related to school buildings and contents, and vehicles owned by the board, etc.

Other terms used

School Facilities Services

Variable:

Public School Expenditures - Superannuation

Definition

This variable represents employer contributions to teachers' superannuation plans, including periodic contributions to the plans to rectify actuarial deficiencies. Contributions made by school boards as employers to superannuation plans for non-teaching staff are categorized as fringe benefits (see separate definition) and are not included in the reported amounts for superannuation.

Contributions to teachers' superannuation plans are normally made by provincial departments.

Payments to retired teachers are not counted as superannuation expenditures.

Variable:

Public School Expenditures - Transportation

Definition

This categorization consists of all costs (salaries, wages, equipment costs, repair, maintenance and insurance costs) of conveying pupils to and from school, either between home and school, between schools or on trips sanctioned by the board as part of its educational program (field trips, for example, and transportation to extra-curricular activities).

Included in transportation costs are the costs of board-owned school transportation facilities, contracted services for school transportation, the provision of fares to students for the use of local public transportation and any other payments or expenses incurred in providing services in lieu of transportation.

Other terms used

Conveyance

Variable:

Public School Expenditures - Instruction

Definition

This function comprises all expenditures directly related to instruction. It consists, therefore, of the expenditures for school-based educational staff and teaching staffs of school boards, (see separate listing under "Educators"), instructional supplies and services, fees and contractual services and other instructional operating expenditures. Expenditures associated with "Special Courses" (see separate definition) and adult education are also included unless otherwise specified.

Expenditures included in the category consist of salaries and benefits for personnel; supplies, desks and equipment used in instruction; computer services for timetabling and academic record keeping; and student related expenses such as awards and special events.

Not included in this categorization are expenditures on instructional administration at the school board level and educational services whether provided at the school or board level for such activities as audio-visual services, school libraries, guidance and counselling. In the latter cases, however, the salaries and benefits of staff who hold valid teacher certification are included in instruction; other expenditures are captured under educational services.

Variable:

Public School Expenditures - Other

Definition

This categorization includes all expenditures of school boards not identified in one or other of the categories previously defined. Such expenditures included educational services such as audio-visual, library and counselling, ancillary services, extra-curricular activities, community activities, etc. Also included in this category are non-administration expenditures of provincial departments of

education and of other provincial departments providing direct support to elementary-secondary education.

Variable:

Fringe Benefits

Definition

Fringe benefits consist of payments - in the form of cash, goods or services - made to or on behalf of employees by employers, not directly for services rendered but in respect of a statutory or contractual benefit, for the purpose of upgrading or as an added voluntary service to the employee.

To be categorized as fringe benefits, expenditures must meet three requirements: they must provide a specific benefit to the employee; they must represent a cost to the employer; and they must not be in respect of any direct service rendered by the employee.

For a listing of employer expense items which Statistics Canada would classify as fringe benefits, please see Appendix C.

Financial statements of school boards normally identify the following entries under benefits:

Statutory employer contributions such as for Canada/Quebec Pension Plan, Unemployment Insurance and Workers' Compensation Plans.

Contributions to medical, dental and group life insurance plans.

Contributions to superannuation plans for non-educational staff. (Contributions to teachers' superannuation plans are paid directly by the provincial government).

In addition to the above, some boards identify vacation pay, retirement gratuities (severance pay), accumulated sick-leave payments, in-service training and study leave (sabbaticals) as fringe benefits. All provinces utilize a category under benefits labelled "Other" which is generally not defined.

For a description of the itemization of fringe benefits in school board financial reports to Statistics Canada, please see Appendix D.

Data Limitations

School board administrative data provided by provincial departments of education to Statistics Canada do not consistently itemize fringe benefits. For some jurisdictions, inclusions and exclusions are inconsistent with definitions generally used.

Analytical applications

Fringe benefits, when added to salaries and wages, complete the total picture of personnel costs in elementary-secondary education and permit an analysis of these costs in relation to other expenditure items. As an independent expenditure item, fringe benefit expenditures can likewise be analyzed on a current or time series basis. Comparative analysis with other major public employers or with the private sector can also be made.

Variable:

Salaries and Wages

Definition

This category represents the salary bill of school boards for employees on the board's payroll, exclusive of those who are on the payroll but whose services are not available to the board. In accounting terms, salary usually refers to the payroll for employees who are paid on the basis of an annual rate and wages refers to those paid on an hourly rate. In practice, however, these distinctions are not normally made in school board accounts. The school board finance data which Statistics Canada receives from provincial departments of education display salaries and wages as one total (with sub-divisions for business administration, instructional administration, day school regular instruction, day school special courses, adult education, audio-visual services, library services, other educational services, food services, school facilities services, transportation and other operating services).

The monetary value of fringe benefits is not included with salaries and wages.

Data Limitations

Not all school boards apply the above definition consistently. In a few cases, salaries for personnel on leave are included, rather than being categorized under benefits; in some other cases, vacation pay is included in the salary bill.

Caution

The salary bill for the various categories of personnel include both the salary of the regular employee plus any replacement costs for temporary absences. Users should recognize this feature when computing averages. They in fact represent averages of costs rather than reflecting average salaries paid. (see note under "Average Educators' Salary").

Analytical applications

Salaries and wages, when combined with fringe benefits, complete the total picture of personnel costs in elementary-secondary education and permit an analysis of these costs in relation to other expenditure items. As an independent expenditure item, salaries and wages can likewise be analyzed on a current or time series basis. Comparative analysis with other major occupational groups in the public and private sectors can also be made.

Variable:

Educators' Salaries

Definition

This variable represents the total salary bill (see Salaries and Wages) of school boards for the categorization of personnel identified in school board accounts under the headings Day School Regular Instruction and Day School Special Courses.

Fringe benefits paid to or on behalf of educators by school boards or provincial departments of education are not included.

Derived measure:

Average Educators' Salaries

Definition

This measure divides total school board salary bill for instruction (see definition for Educators' Salaries) by the number of educators in full-time equivalencies (see separate definition).

Data limitations

The school board salary bill for instruction and the number of educators come from different administrative record systems of the provinces and the boards. Strict adherence to consistency of definition is therefore difficult to ascertain.

For example, Statistics Canada codes teaching position for school-based staff and applies a standard definition to arrive at the number of educators. In the cases of school board finance, Statistics Canada receives financial summaries already grouped into reporting categories.

Further, the count of educators is taken at the beginning of the school year, while financial data are compiled at the end of the year and are therefore reflective of changes occurring throughout the year.

Caution

Average educators' salaries represent the average cost of salaries for educators employed in schools but do not reflect the average salary paid to teachers. This apparent anomaly results from the fact that a salary bill for a school board will include the salaries of the regular teachers plus the replacement salaries and wages paid to replacement staff for periods of temporary absence of regular staff. In the count of educators, however, only the regular employee, full-time or part-time, is counted. Further, the salary bill will account for any educators' salaries associated with the Special Courses function (see separate definition) while the count of educators will not.

Derived measure:

Public School Expenditures per Student as a Percentage of GDP per Capita

Definition

This "ratio of ratios", expressed as a percentage, divides Public School Expenditures per Student (see separate definition) by GDP per capita (see separate definition). Expenditure data and FTE students exclude adult education.

Analytical applications

This measure provides a global tool for analysis of the financial costs of elementary-secondary education (as measured by expenditures per student) in relation to the size of the economy (as measured by GDP).



Appendix A

Expenditures on Education of Provincial Departments Other than Education

Note

Dollar amounts shown are from provincial Public Accounts 1991-92, rounded

Newfoundland

No expenditures for "Other Departments" identified.

Prince Edward Island

Agriculture: School Milk Program (\$96,900)

Community and Cultural Affairs, Heritage Resources: Community Schools (\$49,800)

Health and Social Services: PEI Education Coalition (\$4,400)

Transportation and Public Works: Portable classroom maintenance, material and supplies (\$55,510)

General Government: Schools, administration, materials and supplies, professional and contractual services (\$105,489)

Nova Scotia

Agriculture and Marketing: School Milk Program (\$929,700)

From Supplementary Volume to Public Accounts, not available for 1991-92. Last published for 1990-91 received at Statistics Canada April 1993.

New Brunswick

Province contribution to Teachers' Pension Fund (\$73,538,000)

Health and Community Services

Payments to CNIB (\$505,000)

Payments to School Districts (\$73,500)

Payments to Grove School (\$41,800)

Income Assistance: Payments to Fredericton High School (\$40,200)

Supply and Services:

Capital expenditures (\$46,813,200)

Payments to School Districts (\$1,295,000)

Tourism, Recreation and Heritage: Payments to
Samuel-de-Champlain Community School Centre (\$361,315)
Carrefour Beausoleil Community School Centre (\$361,700)

Quebec

Municipal Affairs :

Compensation in lieu of taxes on buildings of education networks (supplementary information to Public Accounts provided by the province, \$44,395,000)

Agriculture, Fisheries and Food :

Contributions to municipal and school taxes on farms (\$42,443,000)

School milk (\$11,658,700)

Cultural Communities and Immigration :

Professional, administrative and other services to school boards (\$1,123,000)

Cultural community programs, Jewish Education Council of Greater Montreal (\$22,546)

Executive Council :

Transfer payments to various school boards (\$286,000)

Recreation, Hunting and Fishing :

Transfers to school boards and education institutions, promotion of sports and other (\$403,000); to Découvreurs School Board (\$55,100)

Quebec Planning and Development Office :

Transfer payment to Moissons School Board (\$90,000)

Administrative Board for Pensions and Insurance :

Government's contribution

Pension Plan of Certain Teachers (\$29,500)

Teachers Pension Plan

Present Service (\$72,182,000, prorated)

Past Service (\$300,105,000)

Health and Social Services :

Operating costs of social service centres (\$12,444,000 prorated)

Transportation :

Assistance for school transportation

Regional and local school boards (\$380,112,000)

Private Educational Institutions (\$4,898,000)

Kativik School Board (\$69,400)

Public Safety : Catholic School Board of Montreal (\$67,700)

Ontario

Environment:

Scarborough Board of Education (\$151,000 - capital)

Peel Board of Education (\$152,000 - capital)

Municipal Affairs: Lakehead Board of Education (\$247,000)

Manitoba

Environment:

Frontier School Division (\$5,000)

Gimli School Environment Council (\$5,000)

Family Services:

CNIB (\$1,225,000)

Various School Divisions (\$45,000)

Various in-school programs (\$273,000)

Crestview School Children Centre (\$88,000)

Finance: Various School Divisions (\$29,590)

Government Services: Various School Divisions (\$127,000)

Health: Winnipeg School Division No. 1 (\$45,000)

Saskatchewan

Health:

CNIB (\$196,000)

Meadow Lake School District (\$24,000)

Social Services:

CNIB (342,000)

Various School Divisions and Districts (\$189,000)

Alberta

Public Works, Supply and Services: Portable classroom facilities
(\$420,000)

Grants from various departments:

Various School Districts and Divisions (\$940,000)

Private schools (\$75,000)

Horizon School for the Mentally Handicapped (\$21,000)

CNIB (\$977,000)

Supply and Services: Purchase of fixed assets, operating and capital grants

Various School Districts and Divisions (\$697,000)

Horizon School for the Mentally Handicapped (\$74,000)

CNIB (\$148,000)

British Columbia

Grants from various departments

to School Districts (\$9,527,000)

to private schools (\$99,000)

Yukon

No expenditures for "Other Departments" identified

Northwest Territories

No expenditures for "Other Departments" identified



Appendix B

Calculation of Departmental Administration Expenditures

(Based on data from provincial Public Accounts for the fiscal year 1991-92)

Newfoundland

1. Expenditures under the heading "Executive and Support Services" which consists of:
 - Minister's Office
 - General Administration
 - Executive Support
 - Administrative Support
 - Education Finance
 - Teachers' Pension Administration
 - Assistance to Educational Agencies
 - Human Resources
 - Systems Support

2. The portion of administration expenditures allocated to elementary-secondary education, based on non-administration expenditures on elementary-secondary as proportion of total departmental non-administration expenditures, amounted to 69.99% in 1991-92.

Prince Edward Island

1. Expenditures for
 - Administrative Services
 - General Administration
 - Systems and Information
 - Financial Services - General
 - Senior Management

2. 80% of total administration expenditures are allocated to elementary-secondary education, based on advice from the PEI Department of Finance and Tourism

Nova Scotia

1. Expenditures for
 - Senior Management
 - Project Management
 - Grant Administration
 - Special Committees and Projects
 - Learning Disabilities
 - Finance and Budgeting
 - Research (administration and operations)
 - Financial Management
 - Financial Services
 - Personnel
 - School Book Bureau (administration)
 - Education Grants Administration
 - School Planning and Conveyance
 - Administration
 - School Planning
 - Curriculum Development (administration)
 - Inspection Services (administration)
 - Publications and Reference
 - Administration
 - Publications, editing and word processing
 - Teachers' Pension Administration
2. Since the Nova Scotia Department of Education does not have responsibility for postsecondary education, all expenditures for the items listed above are captured.

New Brunswick

1. Expenditures under the heading "Operational Services - Finance and Support Services".
2. Since the New Brunswick Department of Education does not have responsibility for postsecondary education, all expenditures for the item listed above are captured as departmental administration.

Quebec

1. Expenditures for the following items:
 - Administration
 - Permanent
 - Academic Planning and Development

- Internal Administration
 - Administration of Networks
 - Labour Relations
 - Assistance to Agencies Working in Education
2. Ministry of Transportation; School Transportation- Administrative support.
 3. Public Accounts of Quebec do not identify administration in the items listed. Based on advice received from the province for earlier years, Statistics Canada allocates 44.4% of the total expenditures to departmental administration and 55.6% to other services.
 4. Since the Quebec Ministry of Education does not have responsibility for postsecondary education, all apportioned expenditures for the item listed above are captured as departmental administration.

Ontario

1. Expenditures identified under
 - Minister's Office (salaries)
 - Main Office
 - Financial and Administrative Services
 - Human Resources
 - Communications Services
 - Analysis and Planning
 - Legal Services
 - Audit Services
 - Information Systems
2. Since the Ontario Ministry of Education does not have responsibility for postsecondary education, all expenditures for the item listed above are captured as departmental administration.

Manitoba

1. Expenditures identified under
 - Administration and Finance Division
 - Statutory Boards and Commissions
 - Program Development Support Services (administration)
 - Office for French Education (administration)

2. Expenditures for the Administration and Finance Division are prorated to elementary-secondary and postsecondary levels according to non-administrative expenditures by level. In 1990-91, elementary-secondary was allocated 66.35%; in 1991-92, 67.35%.
3. Expenditures for the three remaining expenditures identified are allocated in total to elementary-secondary.

Saskatchewan

1. Expenditures under
 - Administration
 - Field Services
 - Official Minority Language Office (Total expenditures less grants)
2. Expenditures identified under Administration are prorated to elementary-secondary and postsecondary levels according to non-administrative expenditures by level. In 1990-91, elementary-secondary was allocated 59.54%; in 1991-92, 58.74%.
3. Expenditures for the two remaining expenditures identified are allocated in total to elementary-secondary.

Alberta

1. Expenditures identified as "Departmental Support Services"
 - Minister's Office
 - Deputy Minister's Office
 - Office of ADM Finance
 - School Business Administration Services
 - Human Resources Services
 - Legislative Services
 - Information Services
 - Communications
 - Policy and Planning
 - Administrative Services
 - ADM Student Programs and Evaluation
 - ADM Regional Services
2. Since the Alberta Department of Education does not have responsibility for postsecondary education, all expenditures for the item listed above are captured as departmental administration.

British Columbia

1. Public Accounts for the Province of British Columbia do not display expenditure categories in sufficient detail to permit identification of departmental administration. However, the Comptroller's Office for the province provides Statistics Canada with expenditure figures for the Ministry of Education which identify
 - Minister's Office
 - Deputy Minister's Office
 - Policy and Evaluation (administration)
 - Policy, Planning and Legislative Services
 - Finance and administration
 - Independent, National and International Education (administration)
 - Educational Programs (administration)
2. Since the B.C. Ministry of Education does not have responsibility for postsecondary education, all expenditures for the item listed above are captured as departmental administration.

Yukon

1. Expenditures identified under the heading "Operation and Maintenance - Finance and Administration"
2. 73.85% of the above expenditures were allocated to elementary-secondary in 1991-92 based on the proportion of non-administration expenditures appropriate to that level.

Northwest Territories

1. Expenditures identified as "directorates and administration"
2. 74.1% of the above expenditures were allocated to elementary-secondary in 1991-92 based on the proportion of non-administration expenditures appropriate to that level.



Appendix C

Fringe Benefits

A listing of expenditures, goods or services which Statistics Canada would classify as fringe benefits

Note

Contributions to teachers' superannuation plans are categorized by Statistics Canada separately and are not included with fringe benefits.

- Canada/Quebec Pension Plan premiums
- Unemployment Insurance premiums
- Workers' Compensation Plan premiums
- Payments to government or private pension plans
- Payments to public or private disability insurance plans
- Payments to health plans (medical, hospital, drug, dental, vision)
- Payments to employee life insurance plans
- Retirement gratuities and severance pay
- Payments for vacation credits and vacation pay
- Payments for sick leave credits
- Payments for maternity/paternity leave
- Payments for adoption leave
- Payment for bereavement leave
- Payment for other family obligation leave
- Jury duty pay
- Union duty leave
- Professional fees related to professional development
- Education, training and sabbatical leave
- Employee counselling services
- Moving fees
- Subsidized school services or programs for employees' dependents
- Paid housing, board and lodging
- Paid holiday trips, other prizes and incentives
- Non-business related travel expenses for employees and dependents
- Food services at discounted prices
- Free or subsidized employee parking
- Employer sponsored recreation programs or paid memberships
- Private use of institute's facilities, goods or services



Appendix D

Fringe Benefits and Allowances Identified in School Board Accounts

Newfoundland

- Canada Pension Plan premiums
- Unemployment Insurance premiums
- Other pension plan premiums (non-teaching staff)
- Group insurance
- Workers' Compensation Plan premiums
- Severance pay

Prince Edward Island

Fringe benefits are not identified as separate items in the financial statements of the School Units; they are included with salary. Statistics Canada prorates fringe benefits out of this total using different rates for different Units and for educator/non-educator staff.

Nova Scotia

- Statutory benefits (unspecified)
- Service awards (unspecified)
- Insurance
- Other benefits

New Brunswick

- Canada Pension Plan premiums
- Unemployment Insurance premiums
- Group insurance
- Pension benefits
- Pension contributions
- Vacation pay
- Maritime Blue Cross - Health and Dental
- Workers' Compensation replacement salaries
- Dry cleaning allowances
- Other

Quebec

Employer contributions for the following items:

- Unemployment Insurance
- Group life insurance
- Quebec Pension Plan
- Medical insurance
- Board of Health and Safety at Work
- Quebec Health Insurance Plan
- Private or group pension plan
- Other contributions

Ontario

- Pension plan contributions (non-teaching staff)
- Canada Pension Plan premiums
- Unemployment Insurance premiums
- Group life insurance
- Medical/health insurance plans
- Dental insurance
- Long term disability insurance
- Workers' Compensation Plan premiums
- Retirement gratuities
- Other

Note: Ontario categorizes sabbatical leave payments in "personnel training".

Manitoba

- Pension plans (non-teaching staff)
- Canada Pension Plan premiums
- Unemployment Insurance premiums
- Workers' Compensation Plan premiums
- Group health and life insurance plans
- Retirement gratuities
- Other (includes subsidized housing)

Saskatchewan

Canada Pension Plan premiums
Unemployment Insurance premiums
Workers' Compensation Plan premiums
Superannuation plans (non-teaching staff)
Medical/dental insurance
Retirement gratuities

Alberta

Canada Pension Plan premiums
Unemployment Insurance premiums
Group health/life insurance plans
Retirement plans (non-teaching staff)
Retirement gratuities
Subsidized housing and board
Advanced study (including sabbatical leave) and bursaries
In-service training

British Columbia

Canada Pension Plan premiums
Unemployment Insurance premiums
Workers' Compensation Plan contributions
Pension plans (non-teaching staff)
Group medical insurance
Extended Health Insurance
Group life insurance
Long term disability insurance
Accumulated sick-leave payments
Employee retraining
Advanced study (including sabbatical leave)
Isolation allowances
Car allowances
Relocation allowances

Note: *British Columbia categorizes vacation pay and termination pay with salaries, not with benefits and allowances.*

Yukon

No detail provided beyond the general category "Employer's share of cost-shared benefits".

Northwest Territories

No detail provided beyond the general category "Employee Benefits".

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