

## EDUCATION IN SASKATCHEWAN FACTS AND STATISTICS

### Enrolment

- The total number of students increased from 186,084 in 2021-22 to 189,924 in 2022-23, representing an increase of 3,840 or 2.1 percent.<sup>1</sup>
- Over five years, the total number of students increased from 182,173 in 2017-18 to 186,084 in 2021-22, representing an increase of 3,911 or 2.2 percent.<sup>2</sup>
- Over six years, the total number of students increased from 182,173 in 2017-18 to 189,924 in 2022-23, representing an increase of 7,751 or 4.3 percent.<sup>3</sup>

### Educators

- The total number of full-time equivalent (FTE) educators decreased from 12,606 in 2020-21 to 12,276 in 2021-22, a decline of 330 educators (2.7 percent).<sup>4</sup>

### Enrolment and Education Trends

- The number of students in Saskatchewan has steadily increased, while the number of teachers has essentially remained flat since 2013-14, except for 2020-21 due to COVID-19.
  - From 2013-14 to 2022-23, the total number of students grew from 170,582 to 189,924, representing an increase of 11.3 percent, while the total number of full-time equivalent (FTE) educators increased by only 1.1 percent (or 130 FTEs) between 2013-14 and 2021-22.
- The number of English as an Additional Language (EAL)<sup>5</sup> students increased from 11,678 in 2012-13 to 17,696 in 2018-19, representing an increase of 51.5 percent or over 6,000 more students in less than a decade, while the number of EAL teachers increased by only 16.7 percent.
- The total number of students that require intensive<sup>6</sup> supports has increased significantly, from 6,742 in 2007-08 to 9,309 in 2018-19, a growth of 38.1 percent, while the numbers of specialist (such as psychologists) has decreased since 2013-14. The number of psychologists has declined from 62 in 2013 to 54 in 2021, representing a decrease of 13.5 percent.

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<sup>1</sup> Saskatchewan Ministry of Education, Provincial K-12 Student Headcount Enrolment Summary (accessed December 14, 2021). Retrieved from <https://publications.saskatchewan.ca/api/v1/products/77115/formats/86428/download>

<sup>2</sup> Data from the Saskatchewan Ministry of Education.

<sup>3</sup> Data from the Saskatchewan Ministry of Education.

<sup>4</sup> Saskatchewan Ministry of Education, Education Sector Staffing Profile (accessed December 2021). Retrieved from <https://publications.saskatchewan.ca/api/v1/products/79711/formats/90049/download>

<sup>5</sup> Data provided by Gerry Craswell, Assistant Deputy Minister of Education.

<sup>6</sup> Data provided by Gerry Craswell, Assistant Deputy Minister of Education.

## Students to Educator Ratio

- The ratio of students to regular classroom teachers has increased from 18.6 in 2013-14 to 19.9 in 2021-22, representing an increase of 6.7 percent. This implies that a classroom that had 30 students in 2013-14 would have 32.1 students in 2021-22. Specifically, the increase in the number of teachers did not keep pace with student enrolment growth.
- Students to FTEs ratio up from 14.0 in 2013-14 to 15.2 in 2021-22, representing an increase of 7.9 percent.
- Students to Psychologist ratio up from 2,738.1 in 2012-13 to 3,452.4 in 2021-22, representing an increase of 26.1 percent.
- EAL students to EAL teacher ratio has increased from 92.5 in 2012-13 to 120.1 in 2018-19, representing an increase of 29.8 percent. This means that an EAL classroom that had 30 students in 2012-13 would have grown to 39.0 students in just less than a decade.
- From 2017-18 to 2021-22<sup>7</sup>(in the last five years for which data is available):
  - 13.5 percent reduction in EAL teachers (145.7 to 126)
  - 16.2 percent reduction in teacher-counsellors
  - 64.5 percent reduction in teacher-librarians
  - 5 percent reduction in school psychologists
  - 6 percent reduction in teacher-coordinators
  - 2.1 percent increase in speech language pathologists (there are 141.2 FTE SLPs in the province as of 2021-22; however, only about 1 in 4 have a teaching certificate)
- For the following data, 2022-23 enrolments were used with 2021-22 staffing profile data; however, it is very likely the overall figures will be very close.<sup>8</sup>
  - 0.06 percent increase in classroom teachers (approximately 6 new teachers added for 7,751 new students)
  - 1 social worker per 2,900 students
  - 1 psychologist per 2,822 students
  - 1 speech language pathologist per 1,345 students

## Provincial Funding

- According to the Government of Saskatchewan Estimates<sup>9</sup> for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2019, K-12 School Operating<sup>10</sup> expense represented 13.5 percent of total government Budgetary Expense in 2018-19, but in 2022-23 it only made up of 10.5 percent<sup>11</sup>, and 10.2 percent in 2023-24 even though student population is growing, and needs are more diverse.

<sup>7</sup> Saskatchewan Ministry of Education, *Education Sector Staffing Profile*. Retrieved from <https://publications.saskatchewan.ca/api/v1/products/79711/formats/90049/download>

<sup>8</sup> Saskatchewan Ministry of Education, *Education Sector Staffing Profile*. Retrieved from <https://publications.saskatchewan.ca/api/v1/products/79711/formats/90049/download>

<sup>9</sup> Estimates represent the Government's detailed financial plan for the General Revenue Fund (GRF) presented to the Legislative Assembly for the fiscal year commencing April 1 and ending March 31. The Financial Administration Act, 1993 requires that the Estimates contain any expenditures the Government plans or is committed to make from the GRF in the fiscal year.

<sup>10</sup> Commencing January 2018, education property tax is redirected from school divisions to the GRF. The school operating allocation includes appropriation to reflect the transfer of education property tax amounts to the GRF. Therefore, school operating grants in 2018-19 may not be comparable to prior years.

<sup>11</sup> K-12 School operating as percent of total government expense for the 2022-23 and 2023-24 based on the Government of Saskatchewan 2023-24 Estimated.