

Enrolment Estimate Checklist, February 2026

This is a checklist tool that lists factors that may influence school enrolment. Please consider these in developing your revised 3-year forecast.

Of special note, districts overall typically underestimate their inclusive education categories when providing estimates to the ministry. Please pay extra attention to the patterns in your districts for these categories, for the relevant enrolment counts.

Did you consider?

- Proportional inclusive education enrolment typically experienced by the district
- Student movement to/from other districts; did you contact neighbouring districts to gather more information if there are typically significant student inter-district movements.
- Movement to/from other provinces
- Movement to/from independent schools
- Kindergarten registrations; summer new registrations for the autumn
- Birthrate in your area (especially when considering out-years)
- Graduate departures or students staying on longer than normal, even beyond graduation
- New school openings/ or school closures in your district or in a nearby district, including independent school openings/closings
- Refugee student influx; and general immigration
- New nearby real estate developments attracting new families, either to/from the district (i.e., did you proactively check local development permits and their progress toward completion and occupancy?)
- Major new businesses coming into operation attracting new residents or shutting down and causing departures
- Change or enhancement in policy/programs (e.g., mandatory Online Learning course registrations; enhanced Youth Train in Trades programs, new programs such as French Immersion or Academy schools)
- Other regional or local sensitivities
- Natural disasters impacts (e.g., fires, floods)

Other Resources

You may also wish to consider reviewing the following economic and population information when developing your revised forecasts:

- The Government of Canada's [plans](#) for immigration levels for 2026 through 2028
- BC Stats Quarterly Highlights, [November 2025](#). *As of July 1, 2025, the population of British Columbia reached an estimated 5,697,536, a net decrease of 2,154 individuals compared*

to the previous quarter. In the previous 12 months, the population of B.C. grew by 26,422, an annual growth rate of 0.5%. The sharp slowdown in population growth seen in the last quarter continues to be driven by lower levels of international migration. In the second quarter of 2025, 4,642 net migrants left B.C. for international destinations. Immigration by permanent residents increased the province's population by 12,740.

- BC Stats Sub-Provincial Population Projections [Application](#) by school district
- BC government's [Major Projects Inventory](#) for information on private and public construction projects across the province.
- Employment/unemployment [rates](#) by province, based on Labour Force Survey
- Building [permits](#) by province
- Other possible sources of information may include local municipal permitting departments, BC Real Estate Association reports, BC Business Council reports