

Understanding the School Jurisdiction Information Sheets

Field(s)	Explanation
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION	
Urban	The school jurisdiction has the same boundaries as a city with a population of 35,000 or more.
Rurban	The school jurisdiction geographically includes a city with a population of 35,000 or more and extends to include a surrounding non-urbanized area.
Rural	The school jurisdiction does not geographically include a town or city with a population of 35,000 or more, but is within 100 km of one.
Rural Distant	The school jurisdiction is more than 100 km away from the closest urban centre with a population of 35,000 or more.
GENERAL	
School Jurisdiction	A school jurisdiction is a public, separate or Francophone grouping of schools governed by an elected school board and operated under the guidance of an administrative team led by a superintendent.
Schools	Alberta Education determines the number of schools by counting school codes, which are provided for various learning programs (e.g., regular, online home education). School jurisdictions may count their school numbers by the number of buildings so the numbers are not always the same.
Funded Students	A funded student is an individual who generates base instruction funding for the school authority.
Certificated Staff	Certificated staff is all staff within a school authority employed in positions that require teaching qualifications. Teaching qualification types include permanent professional certificates, interim professional certificates and letters of authority.
FINANCES	
Estimated Operational Funding	This is an estimate of the amount of funding a school jurisdiction receives in a given school year to carry out its day-to-day operations. The estimate is based on a projected student count. It does not include funding for the maintenance or restoration of school buildings. The actual amount that the board receives may differ from the estimate based on its actual funded student count.
Accumulated Operating Surplus	Accumulated operating surplus is a result of the current and prior years' operating surpluses. School jurisdictions may decide to set aside a portion of the funds as operating reserves for use in the future. The amount is the balance at the school jurisdictions' year end (August 31).
% of Total Expenses	The percentage of accumulated operating surplus compared to total expenses of the school year. Total expenses include salaries and benefits, contracts and services and amortization expense of capital assets.

Field(s)	Explanation
STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS	
% of Provincial Funded Students	The percentage of all funded students in Alberta who are in this school jurisdiction.
ESL Funded Students	A funded student who also generates the English as a Second Language (ESL) grant for the school jurisdiction.
FNMI Funded Students	A funded student who also generates the First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) grant for the school jurisdiction.
SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF THE JURISDICTION	A number, within a seven point range, that is assigned to the school authority based on publicly available information including family income, the level of parental education, family home ownership, the frequency with which students change schools and whether or not families are headed by a lone parent.
STUDENT ENROLMENT TREND	Student enrolment trend data demonstrates both historical and projected student populations. The historical student enrolments are based on the actual number of students that were reported by the jurisdiction. The projected student population trend is based on moderate assumptions of births, migration and student participation trends.
ACCOUNTABILITY PILLAR	
Achievement Evaluation	<p>The achievement evaluation (first column) is based on comparing the current jurisdiction result against provincial standards for each measure. Achievement levels are categorized as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very high (blue) • High (green) • Intermediate (yellow) • Low (orange) • Very low (red)
Improvement Evaluation	<p>The improvement evaluation (second column) compares the current jurisdiction results with the prior three-year average jurisdiction result. Improvement is categorized as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved significantly (blue) • Improved (green) • Maintained (yellow) • Declined (orange) • Declined significantly (red) <p>For example, a jurisdiction with a green achievement evaluation for education quality and blue evaluation for improvement means that the jurisdiction has a high educational quality in the current reporting period and that educational quality has significantly improved over the past three years.</p> <p>There are 16 performance measures in the Accountability Pillar.</p>

Field(s)	Explanation
Safe and Caring	Measures teacher, parent and student agreement that students are safe at school, students are learning the importance of caring for others, students are learning respect for others and students are treated fairly at school. (Data source: Annual Accountability Pillar surveys of teachers, students and parents)
Program of Studies	Measures teacher, parent and student satisfactions with the opportunity for students to receive a broad program of studies, including fine arts, career, technology, and health and physical education. (Data source: Annual Accountability Pillar surveys of teachers, students and parents)
Education Quality	Measures teacher, parent and student satisfaction with the overall quality of basic education. (Data source: Annual Accountability Pillar surveys of teachers, students and parents)
Drop Out Rate	Measures the annual percentage of students aged 14 to 18 who drop out of school. (Data source: Alberta Education and Advanced Education and Technology student information systems)
High School Completion Rate (3 yr)	Measures the percentage of students who complete high school within three years of entering grade 10. (Data source: Alberta Education and Advanced Education and Technology student information systems)
PAT: Acceptable	Measures the overall percentage of students enrolled in grades 3, 6 and 9 who achieved the acceptable standard on Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs). (Data source: Achievement Testing Program)
PAT: Excellence	Measures the overall percentage of students enrolled in grades 3, 6 and 9 who achieved the standard of excellence on Provincial Achievement Tests. (Data source: Achievement Testing Program)
Diploma: Acceptable	Measures the overall percentage of students who achieved the acceptable standard on diploma examinations. (Data source: Grade 12 Diploma Examinations Program)
Diploma: Excellence	Measures the overall percentage of students who achieved the standard of excellence on diploma examinations. (Data source: Grade 12 Diploma Examinations Program)
Diploma Exam Participation Rate (4+ Exams)	Measures the percentage of students writing four or more diploma exams within three years of entering grade 10. (Data source: Alberta Education and Advanced Education and Technology student information systems)
Rutherford Scholarship Eligibility Rate (Revised)	Measures the percentage of grade 12 students eligible for a Rutherford Scholarship. (Data source: Alberta Education and Advanced Education and Technology student information systems)

Field(s)	Explanation
Transition Rate (6 yr)	Measures the high school to post-secondary transition rate of students within six years of entering grade 10. (Data source: Alberta Education and Advanced Education and Technology student information systems)
Work Preparation	Measures teacher and parent agreement that students are taught the attitudes and behaviours to be successful at work when they finish school. (Data source: Annual Accountability Pillar surveys of teachers, students and parents)
Citizenship	Measures teacher, parent and student satisfaction that students model the characteristics of active citizenship. (Data source: Annual Accountability Pillar surveys of teachers, students and parents)
Parental Involvement	Measures teacher and parent satisfaction with parental involvement in decisions about their child's education. (Data source: Annual Accountability Pillar surveys of teachers, students and parents)
School Improvement	Measures teacher, student and parent perceptions that their school and schools in their jurisdiction have improved or stayed the same in the last three years. (Data source: Annual Accountability Pillar surveys of teachers, students and parents)
ANNUAL EDUCATION RESULTS REPORT AND THREE-YEAR EDUCATION PLAN	<p>The report includes the results obtained from implementing the plan. School authorities are required to release their plans and reports by the end of November each year.</p> <p>The plan sets out what needs to be done, including determining priorities, strategies and targets using the most recent results.</p>
CLASS SIZE INITIATIVE	The Class Size Initiative funding was introduced in the 2004/2005 school year to assist school jurisdictions in reducing average class sizes.
School Year Averages	Averages are based on information provided by school jurisdictions and include every class taught in every school by grade, the number of students in each class and the number of certificated teachers serving those classes.
CAPITAL	
Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal Funding	Funding provided to the school jurisdiction to make upgrades and maintain school buildings to ensure students have safe and healthy learning environments.
Approved Modulars	Refers to new modular units that have been approved for a jurisdiction in the school year indicated.
Approved Projects Section	Refers to approved, active capital projects that are funded in full or in part through the Alberta Education budget. Projects remain in this section from the date of announcement until the project is completed.

Field(s)	Explanation
Projects Completed in the Past Five Fiscal Years	Includes the approved capital projects that were funded in full or in part through the Alberta Education budget that have been completed within the past five fiscal years. As projects are completed, they will be moved from Approved Projects Section to this section and those no longer within the five year time frame will be removed.
Capacity Forecasts	Based on a formula, Alberta Education monitors school jurisdiction capacity issues and projects future enrolment in jurisdictions to help determine the need for additional student spaces.