

Change in Library Services FTE employees by category between 2007–08 and 2009–10

Each budget year, the BC Ministry of Education publishes detailed tables on revenues and expenditures for public education. One such table provides a provincial summary of the number of FTE (full-time equivalent) employees by type of employee and program based on the annual operating budget for that year. A comparison of changes in staffing for Library Services for the years 2007–08 and 2009–10 shows that:

- There has been a significant loss of FTE employees in the Library Services program between 2007–08 and 2009–10, with a total of 84.684 FTE positions eliminated.
- More than half of the positions eliminated were for Teacher-librarians. There are 51.931 fewer FTE teacher-librarians in 2009–10 compared to two years ago.
- Library Services also experienced a significant loss of Educational Assistants who provide technical and library support. Almost one-third of these positions were eliminated since 2007–08, resulting in a loss of 30.422 FTE Educational Assistants.
- The data also suggests there is a decline in the tendency to use administrative staff to perform teacher-librarian duties. The number of principals or vice-principals providing library services declined by 4.889 positions over the two-year period.
- Other professionals who provide professional expertise to school libraries make up a small proportion of Library Services staff. The majority of these FTE positions (70%) have been eliminated since 2007–08, leaving only 1.15 FTE positions province-wide in 2009–10.

This comparison may underestimate the overall loss of Library Services positions. The Revenue and Expenditures tables do not capture the impact of the loss of the \$110 million Annual Facility Grant to districts that was announced by the ministry in September 2009. This left many districts with a budget shortfall, setting off another round of cuts to education programs and services.

Library Services: Change in FTE staffing by category between 2007–08 and 2009–10

	Teachers	Principals Vice-principals	Educational Assistants	Support staff	Other professionals	Total
2007–08	740.937	28.702	99.553	332.898	3.850	1,205.940
2009–10 (est.)	689.006	23.813	69.131	338.157	1.150	1,121.256
Change	-51.931	-4.889	-30.422	+5.259	-2.700	-84.684
% change	-7%	-17%	-31%	+2%	-70%	-7%

BCTF Research table, with data from the Ministry of Education revenue and expenditure tables: *Table 11, Provincial summary of FTE employees based on the 2007/08 annual operating budgets by program and type of employee*, and *Table 10, 2009/10 annual budgeted provincial summary of FTE employees by type of employee and program*. Located at: <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/accountability/district/revenue/>.

The figures quoted from Table 10 for 2009–10 are from the 2009–10 Annual Budget (adopted on or before June 30, 2009), and are based on projected enrolment. The Amended Annual Budget, with actual figures, will be available in spring 2010.

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