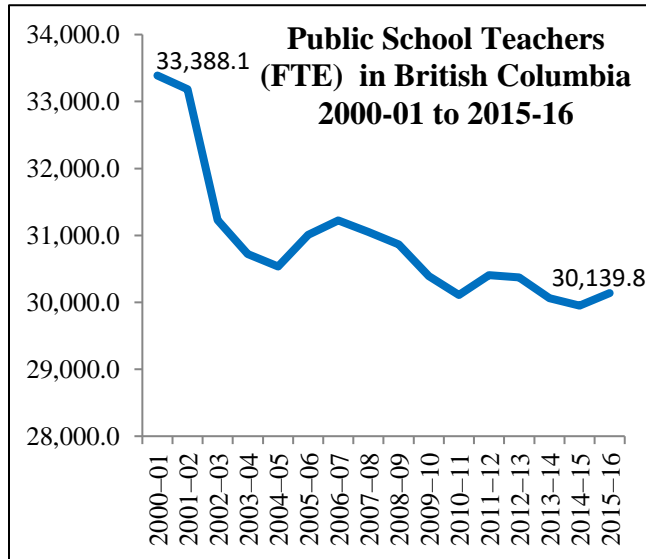


Enrolling and Non-Enrolling Teaching Positions in British Columbia

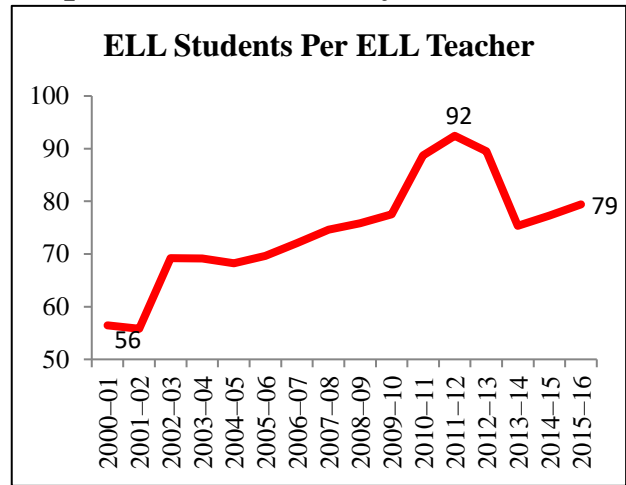
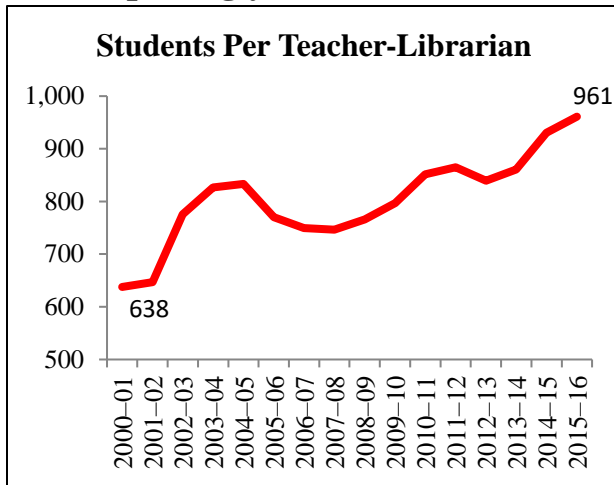


Over the past 15 years, BC has lost over 3200 teaching positions.¹

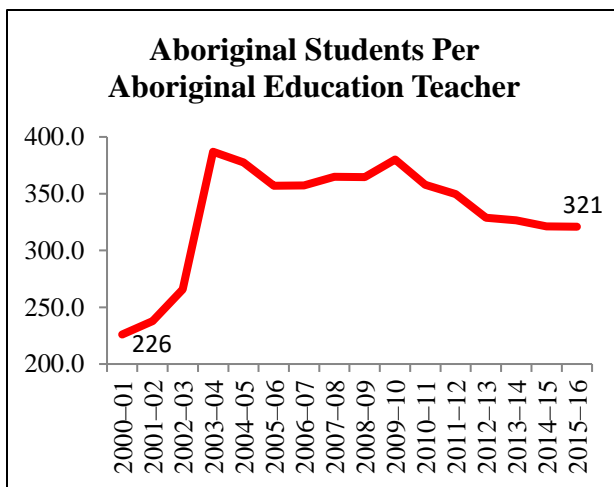
Of the over 3200 teaching positions lost, nearly 1700 of those positions were specialist teaching positions, including nearly 1000 special education teachers and 357 teacher librarians.²

| FTE specialist teachers | 2001-02 | 2015-16 | Change 2001-02 to 2015-16 | |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| | | | Full-time Equivalent (FTE) | Percentage |
| Library services | 922 | 565 | -357 | -39% |
| Counselling | 990 | 868 | -122 | -12% |
| Special education | 4052 | 3064 | -987 | -24% |
| English language learning | 1016 | 797 | -219 | -22% |
| Aboriginal education | 207 | 198 | -9 | -4% |
| Totals | 7186 | 5492 | 1694 | -24% |

Not surprisingly, therefore, the workload of specialist teachers skyrocketed.³



Between 2000–01 and 2015–16, the number of students per teacher-librarian increased by 34%, and the number of English Language Learner (ELL) students per teacher increased by 41%.



The number of Aboriginal students per Aboriginal education teacher declined from a high reached in 2003–04, but overall there is a 42% increase in the number of Aboriginal students per Aboriginal education teacher since 2000-01.

On November 10, 2016, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that the stripping of collective agreement provisions around class size, composition, and specialist teaching ratios by the Government of British Columbia in 2002 was illegal and unconstitutional. This decision represented the culmination of a 15-year struggle by the BCTF to restore working and learning conditions in BC’s public schools. We expect and look forward to reporting improved data on teaching positions in the very near future.

References:

¹ BC Ministry of Education. (2004–16). *Student Statistics – (Various Years) Province - Public and Independent Schools Combined*. Victoria: Government of British Columbia.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

BC Ministry of Education. (2016). *Staff by Year, 1997/1998 - 2015/16 (source: Form 1530)*. Victoria: Government of British Columbia, Data BC Operations. (2016). *BC Schools – Teacher Statistics*.

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