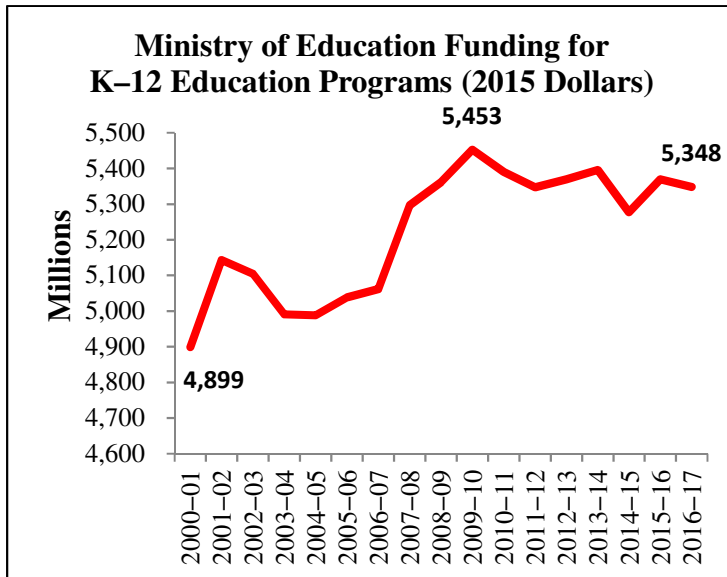


## Education Funding in British Columbia

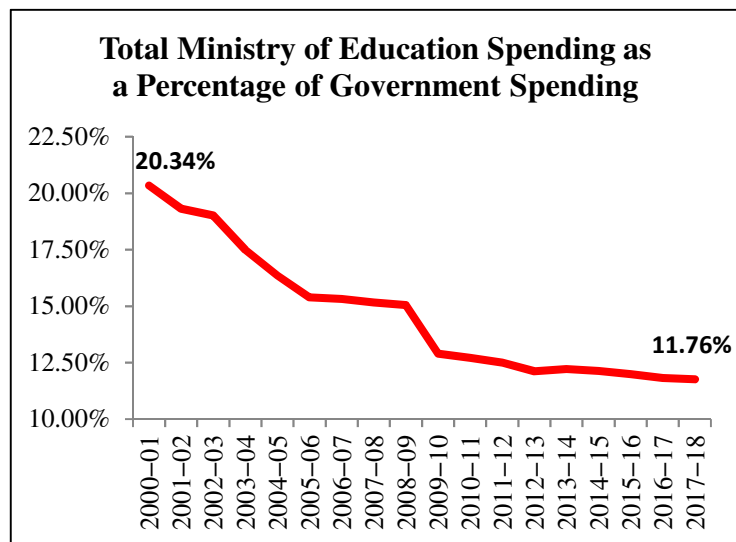
Funding for public education has increased slightly since 2001–02, but has been in decline since 2009–10.<sup>1</sup>



After adjusting for inflation, funding for public education has increased from \$4.90 billion to 2001–02 to \$5.45 billion in 2009–10, before declining by over \$100 million.

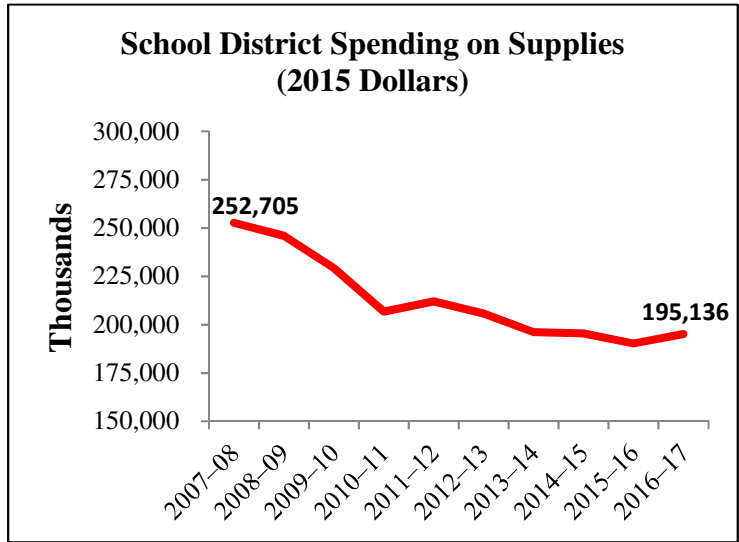
Government spending on K–12 education as a proportion of total public spending has been consistently in decline since 2000–01.<sup>2</sup>

In 2000–01, spending on K–12 education made up one-fifth (20%) of total government spending. In 2016–17, spending on K–12 education made up less than 12% of BC government funding.

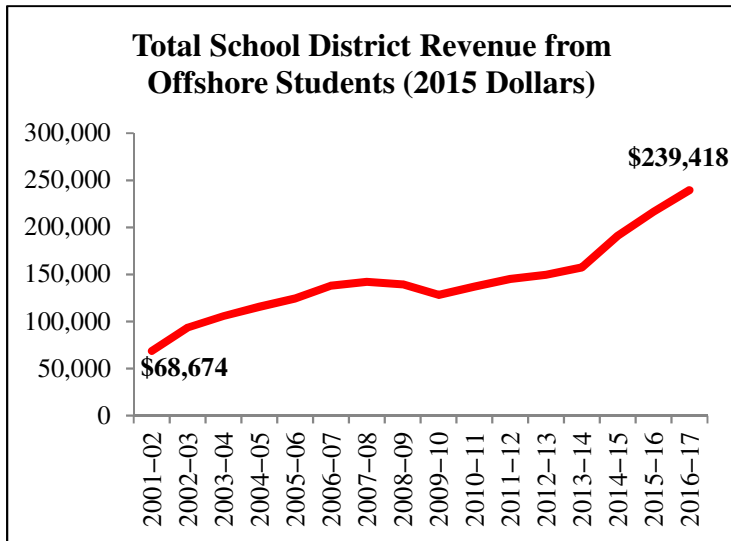


**For public schools, costs have grown far beyond funding increases, resulting in cuts to many critical areas.<sup>3</sup>**

For example, the money school districts spend on supplies has fallen by \$57.6 million between 2007–08 and 2016–17. This is a decrease of 22.9%.



**The lack of money has forced districts to look for other sources of funding.<sup>4</sup>**



For example, the school districts have tried to attract offshore students, who would pay tuition. After adjusting for inflation, the total revenue from offshore students have increased by \$170,744 between 2001–02 to 2016–17. This is an increase of nearly 250%.

**References:**

- <sup>1</sup> Ministry of Education. (2001/02-2016/17). *Service Plan*. Victoria: Government of British Columbia.
- Statistics Canada. (2017). *Table 326-0021 Consumer Price Index—annual (2002=100)*. Ottawa: CANSIM.
- <sup>2</sup> Ministry of Education. (2001/02-2016/17). *Service Plan*. Victoria: Government of British Columbia.
- Ministry of Finance. (2001/02-2016/17). *Budget Estimates*. Victoria: Government of British Columbia.
- <sup>3</sup> BC Ministry of Education. (2008–2016). *BC School District Revenue and Expenditure Tables*. Victoria: Government of British Columbia.
- Statistics Canada. (2017). *Table 326-0021 Consumer Price Index—annual (2002=100)*. Ottawa: CANSIM.
- <sup>4</sup> BCTF research table compiled from school districts’ Audited Financial Statements.

