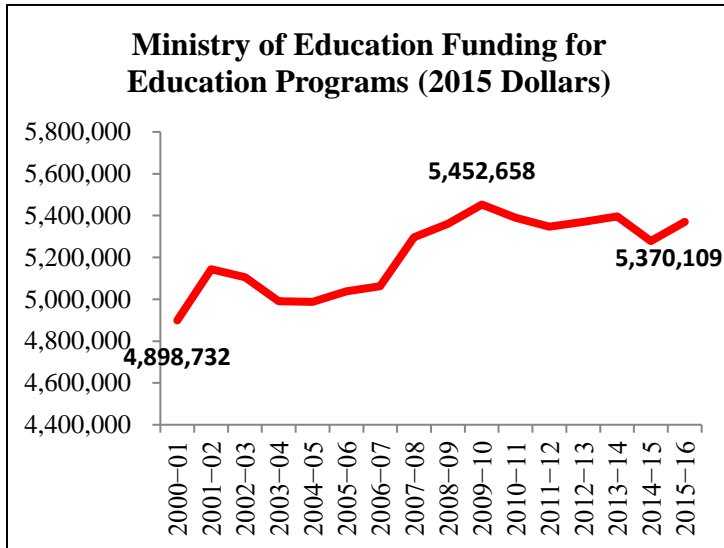


## Education Funding in British Columbia

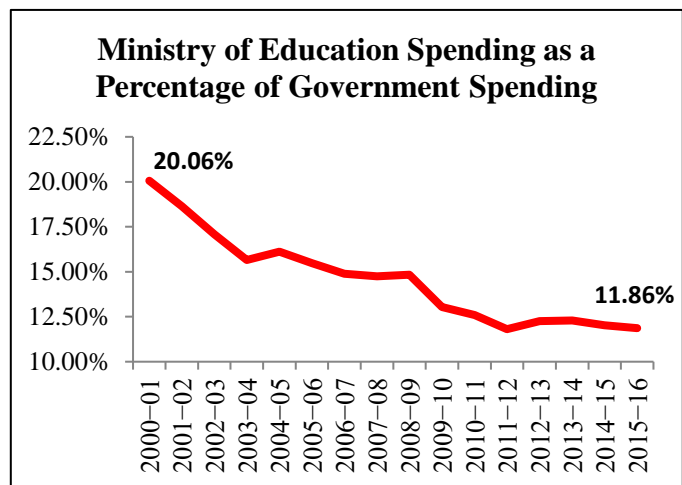
Over the past 15 years, funding for public education has changed little, and has begun to decline as more funding is given to independent (private) schools.<sup>1</sup>



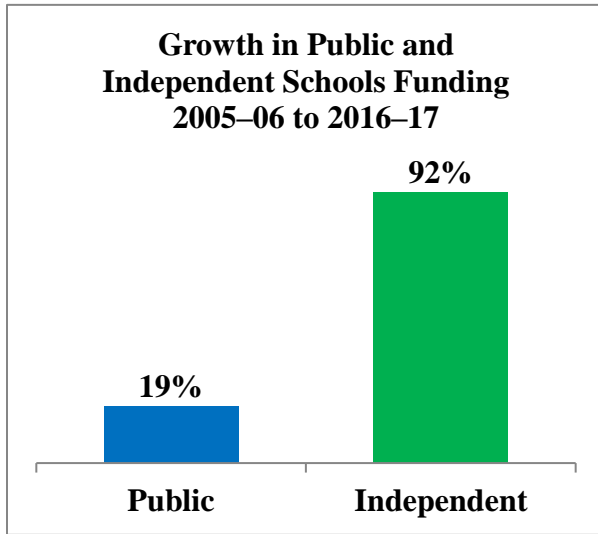
After adjusting for inflation, funding for public education has increased slightly since 2001-02, but has been in decline since 2009-10.

Government spending on public education as a proportion of total public spending has been consistently in decline since 2000-2001.<sup>2</sup>

In 2000-01, spending on K-12 Education made up one-fifth (20%) of total 20% government spending. By 2015-16, spending on K-12 Education comprised less than 12% of BC government funding.



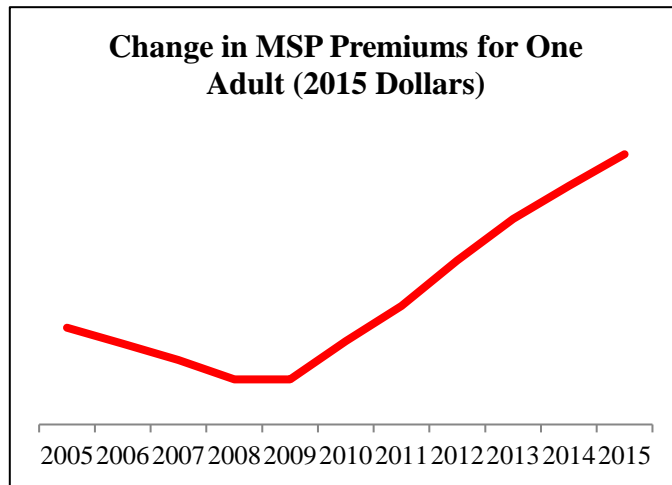
**Funding for public schools has barely changed, while funding for independent schools has skyrocketed.<sup>3</sup>**



Between 2005-06 and 2016-17, total funding for public schools increased by just over 19%. In comparison, total funding for independent schools increased by 92%.

**Ministry of Education-announced increases in funding disguise the fact that school districts’ operating costs have gone up significantly.<sup>4</sup>**

For example, Medical Services Plan (MSP) premiums have increased by 18% between 2005 and 2015. These increases are borne by school districts, along with many other downloaded costs.



**References:**

- <sup>1</sup> Ministry of Education. (2001/02-2015/16). *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. (2001/02-2015/16). *Service Plan*. Victoria: Government of British Columbia.
- Ministry of Finance. (2001/02-2015/16). *Budget Estimates*. Victoria: Government of British Columbia.
- <sup>3</sup> Ministry of Education. (2001/02-2015/16). *Service Plan*. Victoria: Government of British Columbia.
- Statistics Canada. (2017). *Table 326-0021 Consumer Price Index—annual (2002=100)*. Ottawa: CANSIM.
- <sup>4</sup> Boat Harbour Investments Ltd. (2016, December 22). *BC Medical Services Plan (MSP)*. Retrieved from TaxTips.ca: [www.taxtips.ca/bctax/msp.htm](http://www.taxtips.ca/bctax/msp.htm)
- Statistics Canada. (2017). *Table 326-0021 Consumer Price Index—annual (2002=100)*. Ottawa: CANSIM.

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