



Prince Edward Island

Population – 140,402
 Total Area – 5,684 km²
 Population Density – 24.7 people/km²
 Capital (Population) – Charlottetown (58,625)
 Number of K-12 Schools – 64 (2007-08)
 Number of K-12 Students – 20,813 (2007-08)

Prince Edward Island is the smallest province in Canada, joined to the mainland portion of the country by the Confederation Bridge (a 13 km long span from Borden-Carleton, Prince Edward Island to Cape Jourimain, New Brunswick).

K-12 Online Learning

Category	Yes/No	Comments
Province-led programme	Yes	Video conferencing
Other online programmes	Yes	Programmes from other provinces
Provincial-level policy	Yes	

Online Programmes

Prince Edward Island does have a video conferencing system that is available for use for distance education, although it appears that this system receives little use for this purpose. In addition to the provincial video conferencing system, students in Prince Edward Island have the ability to access some online courses offered by the New Brunswick Ministry of Education. During the 2009-10 school year there were 11 French-language students and 23 English-language students enrolled in eight online courses.

Governance and Regulation

There is no mention of distance education in the provincial *Schools Act*. However, in 2001 the Ministry of Education issued Ministerial Directive No. MD 2001-05 establishing guidelines for the use of distance education within the K-12 system. These provisions were superseded in August 2008 by Ministerial Directive No. MD 2008-05, which applies only to courses delivered during the regular school day, broadly defines distance education, and outlines a series of beliefs about the nature of distance education instruction. For example, personal interaction between teachers and students is fundamental to the teaching and learning process, that teacher education programmes should include instruction in distance education policies, programmes, and instructional strategies. Additionally, it states that teachers must be Canadian certified, students must be supervised at their local school while engaged in distance education, and distance education and supervisory teachers should have those duties considered as part of their regular load.