



## Prince Edward Island

Population – 140,402  
 Total Area – 5,684 km<sup>2</sup>  
 Population Density – 24.7 people/km<sup>2</sup>  
 Capital (Population) – Charlottetown (58,625)  
 Number of K–12 Schools – 63 (2010-11)  
 Number of K–12 Students – 21,126 (2010-11)  
 Number of K–12 Distance Education Programmes – 1  
 Number of K–12 Distance Education Students – 66

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

### Distance Programmes

The majority of K–12 distance education in Prince Edward Island is provided through an inter-provincial agreement that provides students the ability to access online courses offered by the New Brunswick Ministry of Education. During the 2010–11 school year, there were 21 French-language students and 43 English-language students enrolled in 12 online courses. The Ministry also supports a videoconferencing distance education programme that is currently used by the province-wide French-language school board. The videoconferencing programme has been declining in recent years, in favour of the online option described above. For example, during the 2010–11 school year, there were only two students enrolled in a single course offered through this system.

### 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, which established 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 These provisions were superseded in August 2008 by Ministerial Directive No. MD 2008-05, which applies only to courses delivered during the regular school day, broadly defines distance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, and that teacher education programs should include instruction in distance education policies, programs, 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.