

# Math Challengers Report to the BCcupms – 2024

Math Challengers (MC) is a competition for Grade 8, 9 and Grade 10 students who love math and excel in doing it.

This year about **1190** students participated at the Regional level, which was up significantly from 2023. Grade 8 teams registered from **51** different schools, Grade 9, from **44** schools and Grade 10, from **38** schools. Students are also permitted to register as individual competitors—their schools are not included in the count.

| Registration Data for Math Challengers Regional Competitions |                |             |                  |             |             |             |               |             |             |             |
|--|----------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|  | Lower Mainland |             | Vancouver Island |             | Okanagan    |             | Fraser Valley |             | Online      |             |
| <b>Grade 8</b>   | <b>2023</b>    | <b>2024</b> | <b>2023</b>      | <b>2024</b> | <b>2023</b> | <b>2024</b> | <b>2023</b>   | <b>2024</b> | <b>2023</b> | <b>2024</b> |
| Schools  | 20             | 25          | 7                | 9           | 3           | 4           | 2             | 2           | 8           | 11          |
| Teams  | 30             | 71          | 17               | 23          | 4           | 6           | 4             | 8           | 13          | 14          |
| Competitors  | 150            | 282         | 85               | 103         | 20          | 24          | 20            | 32          | 65          | 61          |
| <b>Grade 9</b>   |                |             |                  |             |             |             |               |             |             |             |
| Schools  | 21             | 25          | 4                | 4           | 1           | 6           | 0             | 0           | 10          | 9           |
| Teams  | 35             | 56          | 8                | 9           | 3           | 11          | 0             | 0           | 18          | 16          |
| Competitors  | 165            | 221         | 40               | 41          | 15          | 44          | 0             | 1           | 90          | 65          |
| <b>Grade 10</b>  |                |             |                  |             |             |             |               |             |             |             |
| Schools  | 20             | 22          | 2                | 3           | 4           | 4           | 0             | 0           | 12          | 9           |
| Teams  | 32             | 53          | 6                | 7           | 4           | 4           | 0             | 0           | 19          | 13          |
| Competitors  | 160            | 208         | 30               | 35          | 20          | 16          | 0             | 0           | 95          | 54          |

**In-person**, the competition has 4 stages: two individual written stages, one team session and the final (Face-off) one-on-one stage for the top 10 students. **Online**, the Face-off Stage is run first and is open to all registered students. The other three stages are run in participating schools. The top schools from each grade level are then invited to the Provincial Finals competition, which was held at UBC (Vancouver) on April 13<sup>th</sup> this year. A travel subsidy is offered for schools in the outlying regions.

This year plaques were awarded to top individuals and schools. Medals for Finalists, the top ten students in each pool, were awarded. On Vancouver Island, we also present the PIMS Medal which recognizes the top student in each grade from a participating school.

Competition planning for 2025 is already underway. Preparation for and delivery of the Online competition is work-intensive. However, this mode of delivering MC was continued after Covid to provide access to schools not in a designated Region. So far, despite a province-wide appeal, it has attracted only schools already in a designated Region.

MC is sustained by dedicated volunteers and committed teacher coaches, as well as by financial assistance from organizations like PIMS, BCHydro, IBM and EGBC. UBC, SFU, BCIT, Camosun College, Okanagan College and UFV provide generous competition-site hosting.

Regions, besides the main competition site on the Lower Mainland, are Lower Vancouver Island, the Okanagan and the Fraser Valley. Regional organizers are **Satoshi Tomoda** (Okanagan) and **Ian Affleck** (UFV). Colleges and universities within a Region are ideal sites for hosting MC.

I challenge you in, say, Central or Northern Vancouver Island, Kamloops, Cranbrook, Creston or other localities, to inform teachers in your area of the opportunity to run the competition right in their own school. All the needed information is on the Math Challengers website.

MC website: <http://mathchallengers.ca/>

Leo Neufeld: [leoneufeld@shaw.ca](mailto:leoneufeld@shaw.ca)

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