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fluc·tu·ate  (flŭk ch -āt')

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intr.v. **fluc·tu·at·ed**, **fluc·tu·at·ing**, **fluc·tu·ates**

To vary irregularly, especially in amount: *School enrollment has fluctuated from year to year.*

[Latin *flūctuāre*, *flūctuāt-*, from *flūctus*, a flowing, from past participle of *fluere*, to flow; see **bhleu-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

fluc'tu-a tion *n.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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