



School Board Report

First-Time Eligible Students



Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013

Board: Peel District School Board (66125)

On behalf of EQAO, I am pleased to provide you with the results of the 2013 Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT).

This report provides the 2013 school and board results as well as results for previous years, so you can track progress over time. You'll also find demographic and attitudinal information about schools, which provides context for a deeper analysis of the achievement results.

Given that a large number of students were unable to write the test scheduled for April 11, 2013, due to inclement weather, an alternative test date was provided on May 14. The alternative test ensured all students who were not able to attend school on April 11 were provided with another opportunity to write the OSSLT this year. Since successful completion of the OSSLT is one of the 32 requirements for obtaining an Ontario Secondary School Diploma, this is of particular importance to students in Grade 12.

The alternative test was designed following the same technical guidelines as the version administered on April 11. Just like EQAO tests are comparable from one year to the next, these two versions of the OSSLT are entirely comparable as well. Both measure whether or not students are demonstrating the required level of reading and writing literacy.

Reading and writing skills are critical to success both in and out of school in the 21st century. It is important for students to become readers who can actively construct meaning from what is read and communicate in a clear and coherent manner when they write. The OSSLT assesses whether Ontario students have acquired these fundamental reading and writing skills across all subjects and up to the end of Grade 9.

We continue to advocate the use of EQAO data in combination with classroom-generated results and other information sources to develop strategies and action plans that will make a measurable difference in learning outcomes.

At EQAO we are pleased to partner with parents and educators who are working hard to help students develop essential skills and reach their full potential. I trust you will find our reports to be a helpful tool as you turn knowledge into action for the benefit of your students and community.

Sincerely,

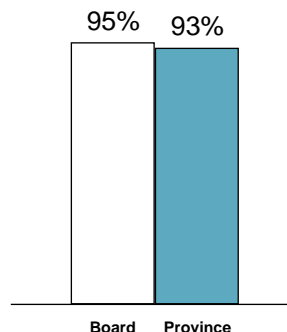
Bruce Rodrigues
 Chief Executive Officer
 Education Quality and Accountability Office

September 25, 2013

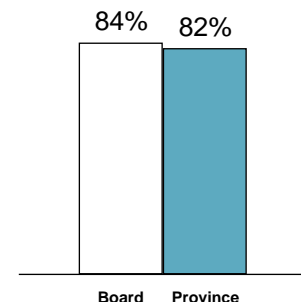
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FIRST-TIME ELIGIBLE STUDENTS 2013: PARTICIPATION RATE AND ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS

Percentage of Eligible Students Who Participated Fully



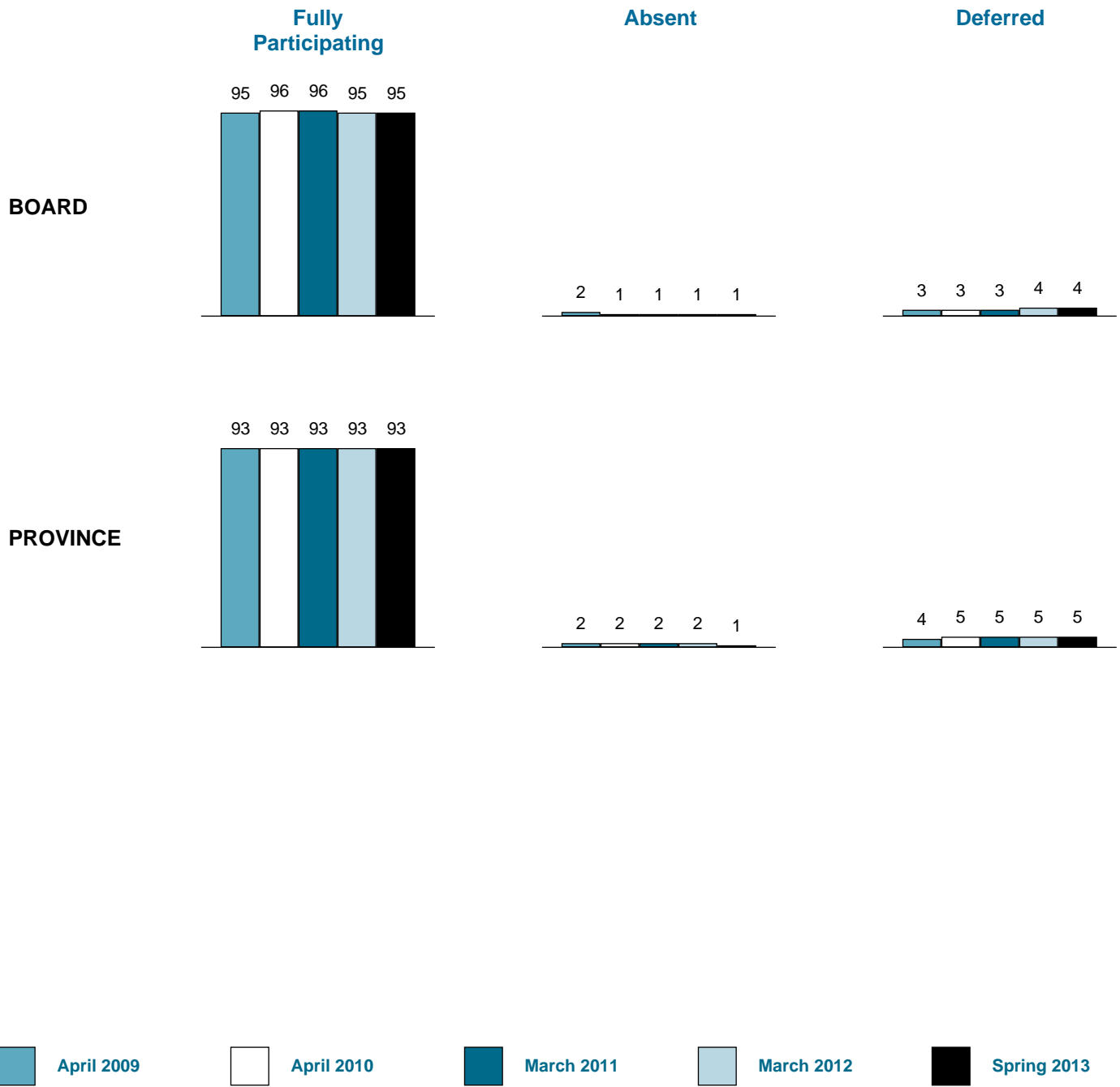
Percentage of Fully Participating Students Who Were Successful



Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013

PARTICIPATION RATES FOR ALL FIRST-TIME ELIGIBLE STUDENTS OVER TIME

PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS*



Number of First-Time Eligible Students

	<u>April 2009</u>	<u>April 2010</u>	<u>March 2011</u>	<u>March 2012</u>	<u>Spring 2013</u>
Board	10 010	10 293	10 060	10 118	10 195
Province	152 830	153 490	153 635	147 306	143 358

* Percentages in graphs may not add up to 100, due to rounding.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013

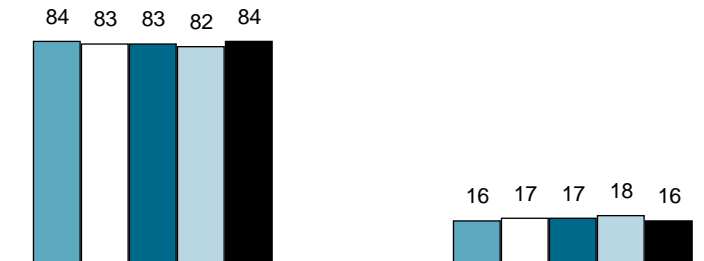
ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR FULLY PARTICIPATING FIRST-TIME ELIGIBLE STUDENTS OVER TIME

PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS*

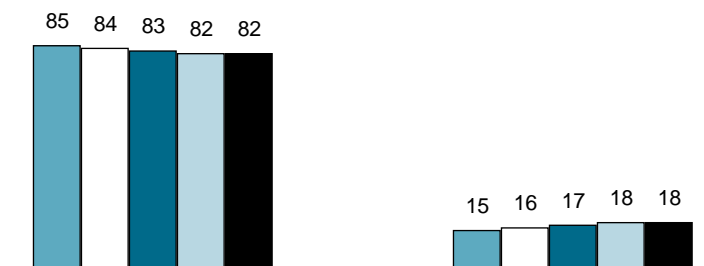
Successful

Not Successful

BOARD



PROVINCE



April 2009



April 2010



March 2011



March 2012



Spring 2013

Number of Fully Participating First-Time Eligible Students

	<u>April 2009</u>	<u>April 2010</u>	<u>March 2011</u>	<u>March 2012</u>	<u>Spring 2013</u>
Board	9 497	9 857	9 627	9 594	9 639
Province	142 394	142 955	143 246	137 002	134 033

* Percentages in graphs may not add up to 100, due to rounding.

TIPS

Each board is unique. To appreciate the distinctive character of a board, look at the contextual information to understand the features and characteristics of the community it serves.



This test captures the performance of students at one point in time each year. Consider the results along with other information about students' performance.



Exercise caution when interpreting results for small boards. Results may vary considerably from year to year, and differences may look exaggerated. For example, in a board of 100 students, a difference of 10% represents only ten students.



Trends may be difficult to identify or to interpret. This is especially true in small boards or in schools where there is a high turnover in the student population.



EQAO values students' privacy. Results are not reported publicly for schools where fewer than 10 students fully participated in 2012-2013, or fewer than 15 students fully participated prior to 2012-2013 because it might be possible to identify individual students.

WHAT IS IN THIS REPORT?

This report shows how well students in this board have met the minimum standard for literacy to the end of Grade 9 as set out in *The Ontario Curriculum*.

This report includes

- ◆ results for this board compared to the province;
- ◆ a comparison of results of the current and previous administrations of the test to aid in monitoring improvement and
- ◆ information about the characteristics of the students who participated.

Specifically, you will find

- ◆ summary graphs showing participation and success rates;
- ◆ detailed tables and graphs showing results for various groups of students, e.g., by gender, English language learners;
- ◆ student questionnaire results and
- ◆ an explanation of all terms used in this report.

HOW TO USE THIS REPORT

- ◆ Examine the contextual information to understand the similarities and differences between the board and the province. Consider the challenges that any differences might present.
- ◆ Examine the board results.
 - Are these results consistent with what you would expect?
 - How do these results compare to the provincial results?
 - How do these results compare over time?
 - What influence might students' attitudes have on student performance (refer to the questionnaire results)?
- ◆ Speak to the board chair about the goals for improving student performance.

The Education Quality and Accountability Office is an independent agency that gathers information about student achievement through province-wide assessments.

Learn more about us at www.eqao.com.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, First-Time Eligible Students

Contextual Information

This information provides a context for interpreting the board's results.

	Board		Province	
Enrolment				
Number of first-time eligible students	10 195		143 358	
Number of schools with first-time eligible students	40		792	
Number of students who were exempted	45		1 670	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Participation in the Test				
Of all first-time eligible students, those who participated fully in the assessment	9 639	95%	134 033	93%
Of all first-time eligible students, those who were absent	151	1%	2 059	1%
Of all first-time eligible students, those who were deferred	405	4%	7 266	5%
Gender[†] Based on number of first-time eligible students				
Female	4 811	47%	70 092	49%
Male	5 384	53%	73 260	51%
Gender not specified	0	0%	6	<1%
Student Status[†] Based on number of first-time eligible students				
English language learners*	1 155	11%	8 051	6%
English language learners receiving special provisions**	1 088	11%	4 294	3%
Students with special education needs (excluding gifted)*	1 194	12%	25 390	18%
Students with special education needs receiving accommodations (excluding gifted)**	1 057	11%	20 580	15%
Course Type in English[†] Based on number of first-time eligible students				
Academic	8 075	79%	102 260	71%
Applied	1 504	15%	31 172	22%
Locally developed	332	3%	4 791	3%
ESL/ELD	262	3%	3 348	2%
Other	22	<1%	1 749	1%
Language^{††} Based on Student Questionnaire data				
	Number of Respondents:		9 530	
			130 397	
First language learned at home was other than English	4 098	43%	29 916	23%
Speak only or mostly English at home	5 280	55%	96 271	74%
Speak another language (or other languages) as often as English at home	3 283	34%	24 467	19%
Speak only or mostly another language (or other languages) at home	893	9%	8 587	7%

[†] Contextual data are provided by schools and/or boards through the Student Data Collection process. Some data may be missing because they were not provided by schools or boards.

* See Explanation of Terms.

** Percentages are based on fully participating students.

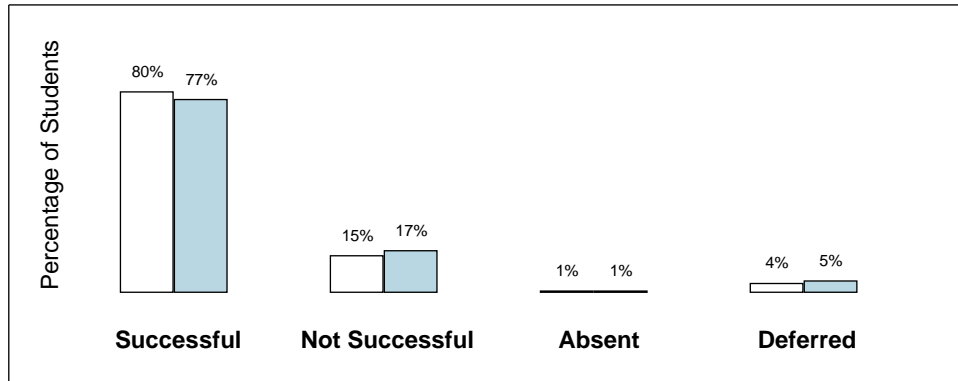
^{††} Contextual data pertaining to "language" are gathered from the Student Questionnaire completed by students. Some data may be missing because they were not provided by students.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, First-Time Eligible Students

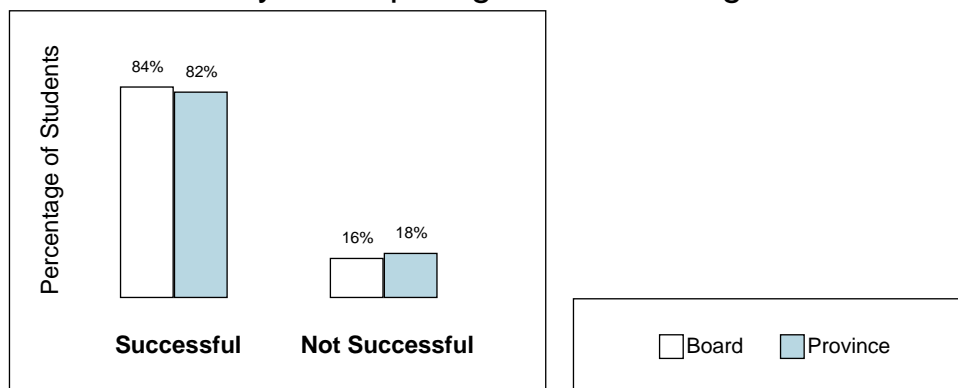
Results for All Students*

	First-Time Eligible Students				
	All		Fully Participating		
	Board # = 10 195	Province # = 143 358	Board # = 9 639	Province # = 134 033	
Successful	8 114	80%	77%	84%	82%
Not Successful	1 525	15%	17%	16%	18%
Fully Participating	9 639	95%	93%		
Absent	151	1%	1%		
Deferred	405	4%	5%		

Results for All First-Time Eligible Students



Results for Fully Participating First-Time Eligible Students



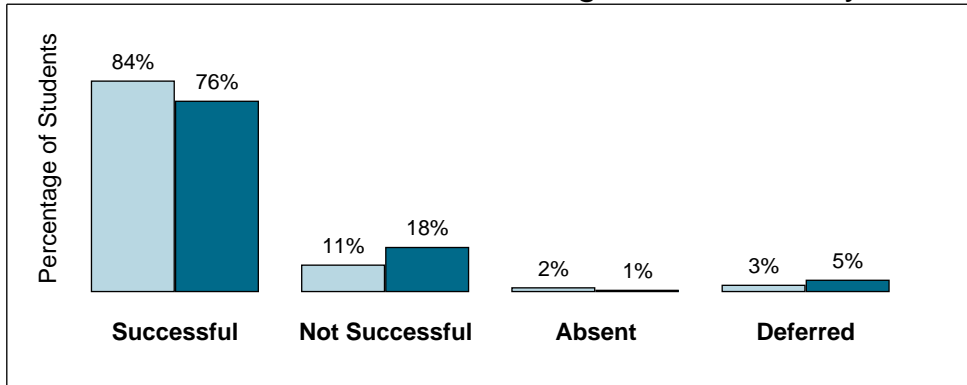
* Percentages in tables and bar graphs may not add up to 100, due to rounding.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, First-Time Eligible Students

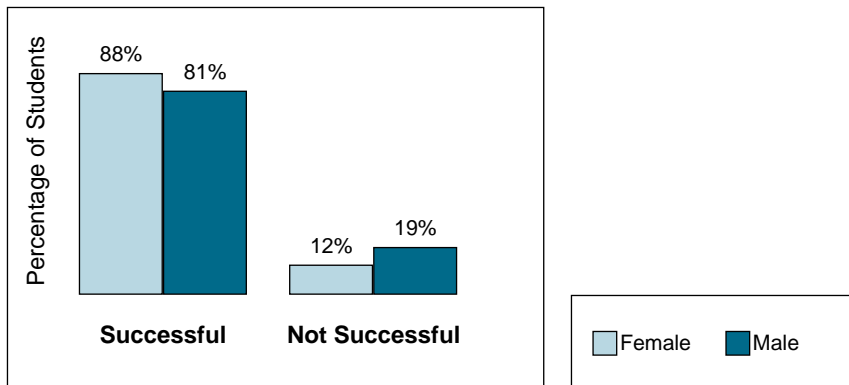
Board Results by Gender*†

Board Results by Gender First-Time Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	Female # = 4 811		Male # = 5 384		Female # = 4 577	Male # = 5 062
Successful	4 039	84%	4 075	76%	88%	81%
Not Successful	538	11%	987	18%	12%	19%
Fully Participating	4 577	95%	5 062	94%		
Absent	77	2%	74	1%		
Deferred	157	3%	248	5%		

Board Results for All First-Time Eligible Students by Gender



Board Results for Fully Participating First-Time Eligible Students by Gender



* Percentages in tables and bar graphs may not add up to 100, due to rounding.

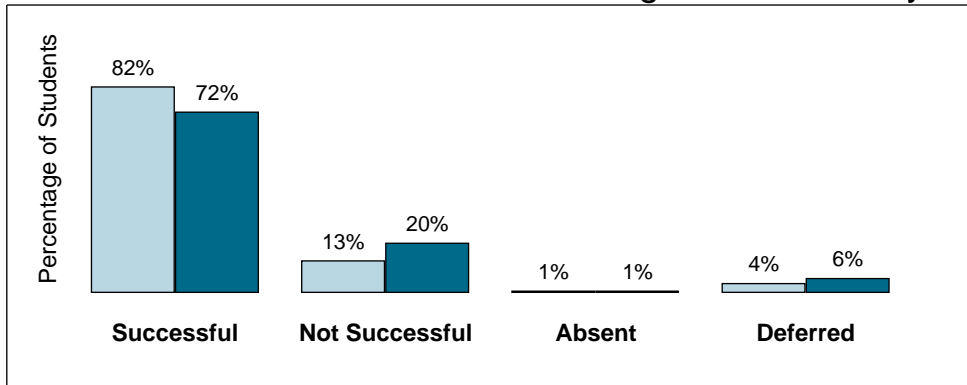
† Includes only students for whom gender data were available.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, First-Time Eligible Students

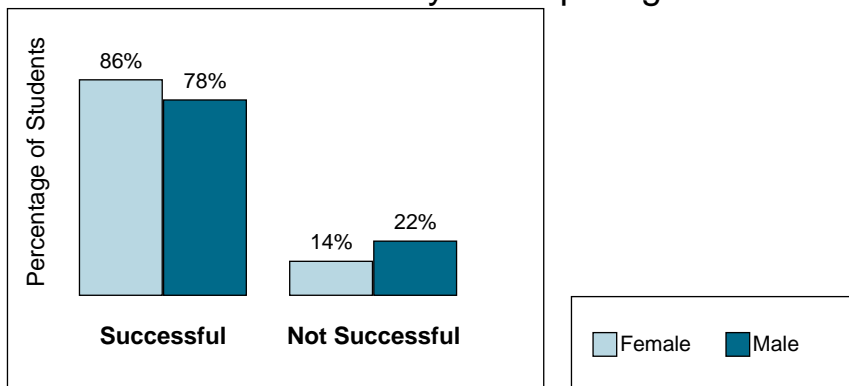
Provincial Results by Gender*†

	Provincial Results by Gender First-Time Eligible Students			
	All		Fully Participating	
	Female # = 70 092	Male # = 73 260	Female # = 66 262	Male # = 67 765
Successful	57 204	82%	52 952	72%
Not Successful	9 058	13%	14 813	20%
Fully Participating	66 262	95%	67 765	92%
Absent	996	1%	1 063	1%
Deferred	2 834	4%	4 432	6%

Provincial Results for All First-Time Eligible Students by Gender



Provincial Results for Fully Participating First-Time Eligible Students by Gender



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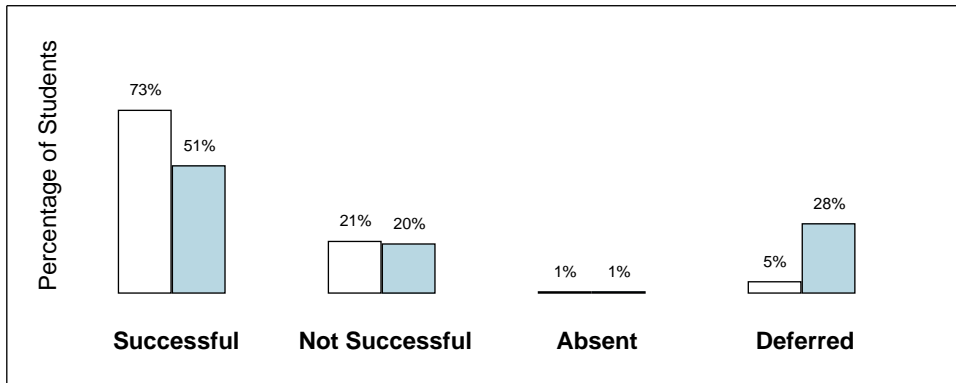
† Includes only students for whom gender data were available.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, First-Time Eligible Students

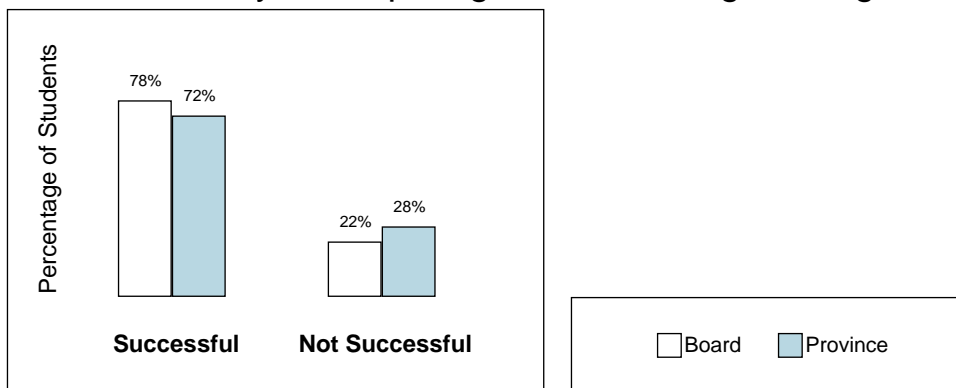
Results for English Language Learners*

Results for English Language Learners First-Time Eligible Students					
	All			Fully Participating	
	Board # = 1 155	Province # = 8 051		Board # = 1 089	Province # = 5 727
Successful	847	73%	51%	78%	72%
Not Successful	242	21%	20%	22%	28%
Fully Participating	1 089	94%	71%		
Absent	9	1%	1%		
Deferred	57	5%	28%		

Results for All First-Time Eligible English Language Learners



Results for Fully Participating First-Time Eligible English Language Learners



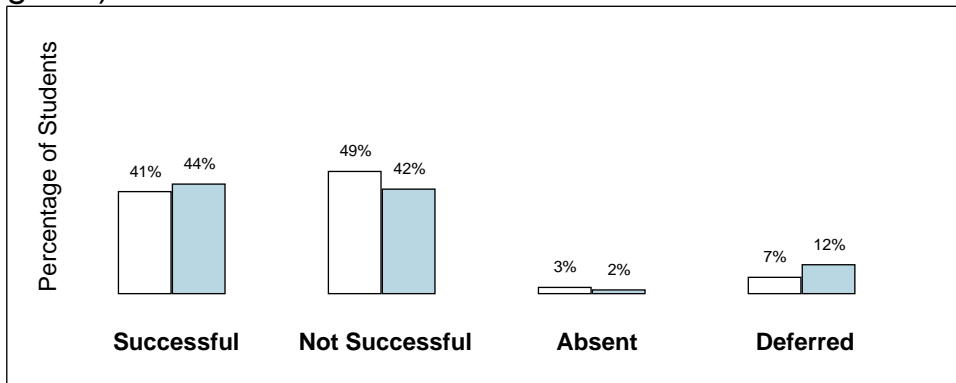
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Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, First-Time Eligible Students

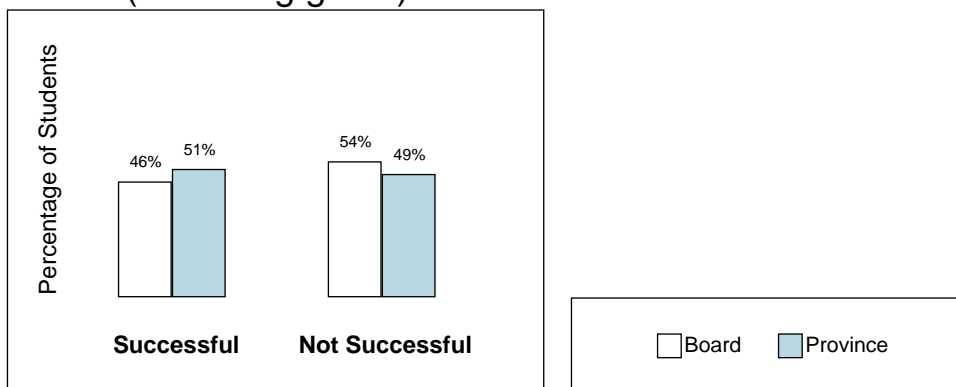
Results for Students with Special Education Needs (excluding gifted)*

Results for Students with Special Education Needs (excluding gifted) First-Time Eligible Students					
	All			Fully Participating	
	Board # = 1 194	Province # = 25 390		Board # = 1 072	Province # = 21 831
Successful	488	41%	44%	46%	51%
Not Successful	584	49%	42%	54%	49%
Fully Participating	1 072	90%	86%		
Absent	33	3%	2%		
Deferred	89	7%	12%		

Results for All First-Time Eligible Students with Special Education Needs (excluding gifted)



Results for Fully Participating First-Time Eligible Students with Special Education Needs (excluding gifted)



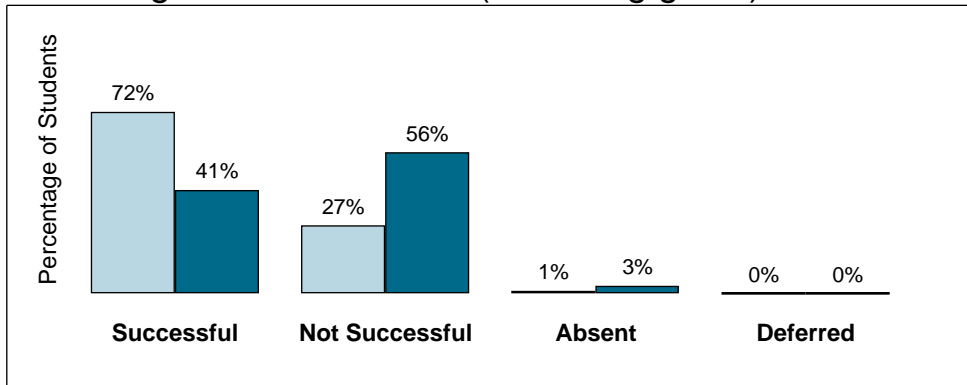
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Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, First-Time Eligible Students

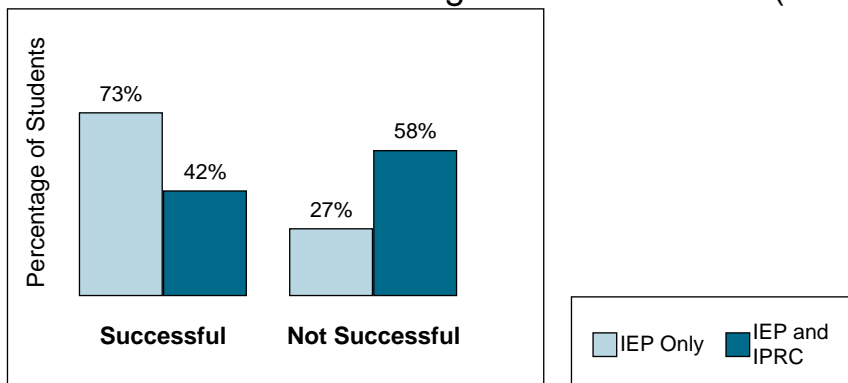
Board Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)*

Board Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted) First-Time Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	IEP Only # = 101		IEP and IPRC # = 989		IEP Only # = 100	IEP and IPRC # = 957
Successful	73	72%	405	41%	73%	42%
Not Successful	27	27%	552	56%	27%	58%
Fully Participating	100	99%	957	97%		
Absent	1	1%	32	3%		
Deferred	0	0%	0	0%		

Board Results for All First-Time Eligible Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)



Board Results for Fully Participating First-Time Eligible Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)



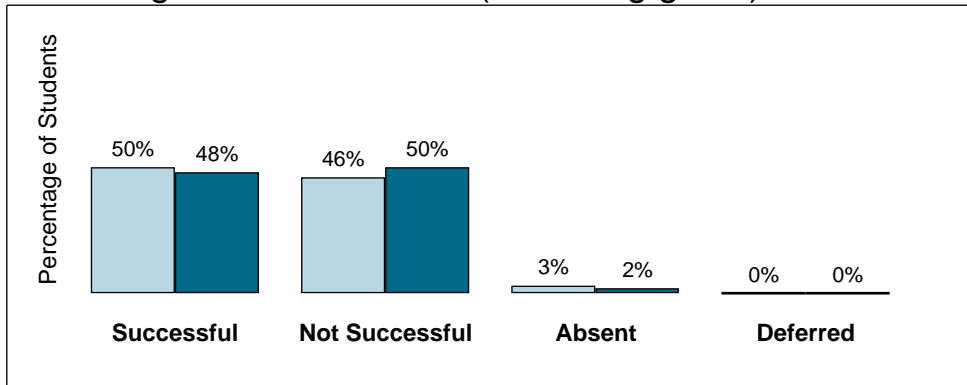
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Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, First-Time Eligible Students

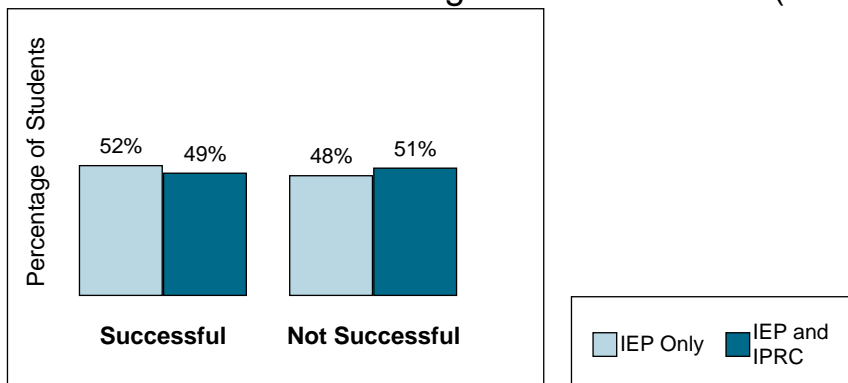
Provincial Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)*

Provincial Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted) First-Time Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	IEP Only # = 8 204		IEP and IPRC # = 12 931		IEP Only # = 7 927	IEP and IPRC # = 12 653
Successful	4 115	50%	6 213	48%	52%	49%
Not Successful	3 812	46%	6 440	50%	48%	51%
Fully Participating	7 927	97%	12 653	98%		
Absent	277	3%	278	2%		
Deferred	0	0%	0	0%		

Provincial Results for All First-Time Eligible Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)



Provincial Results for Fully Participating First-Time Eligible Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)



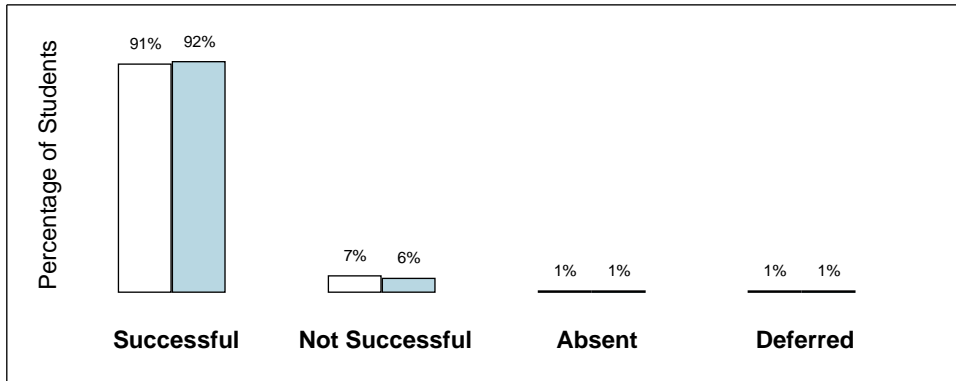
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Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, First-Time Eligible Students

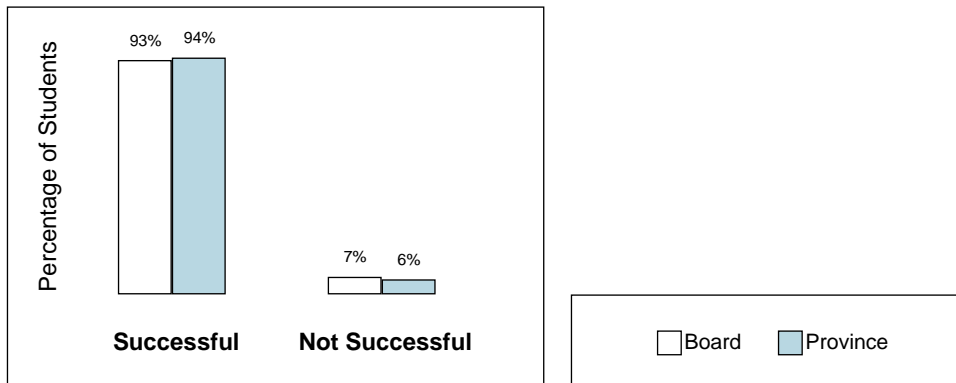
Results for Students Taking Academic English Course*

Results for Students Taking Academic English Course First-Time Eligible Students					
	All		Fully Participating		
	Board # = 8 075	Province # = 102 260	Board # = 7 922	Province # = 100 711	
Successful	7 359	91%	92%	93%	94%
Not Successful	563	7%	6%	7%	6%
Fully Participating	7 922	98%	98%		
Absent	81	1%	1%		
Deferred	72	1%	1%		

Results for All First-Time Eligible Students Taking Academic English Course



Results for Fully Participating First-Time Eligible Students Taking Academic English Course



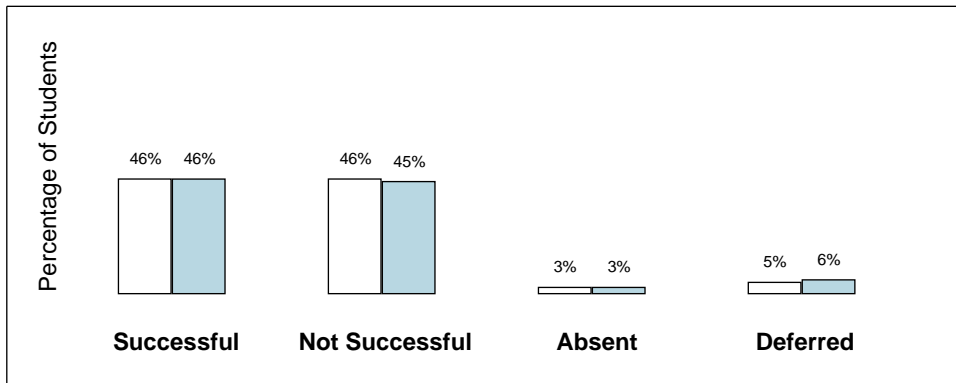
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Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, First-Time Eligible Students

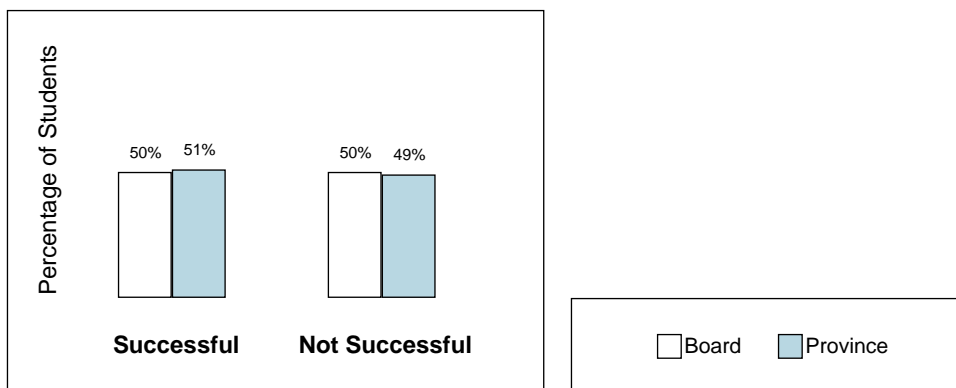
Results for Students Taking Applied English Course*

Results for Students Taking Applied English Course First-Time Eligible Students					
	All			Fully Participating	
	Board # = 1 504	Province # = 31 172		Board # = 1 384	Province # = 28 252
Successful	691	46%	46%	50%	51%
Not Successful	693	46%	45%	50%	49%
Fully Participating	1 384	92%	91%		
Absent	50	3%	3%		
Deferred	70	5%	6%		

Results for All First-Time Eligible Students Taking Applied English Course



Results for Fully Participating First-Time Eligible Students Taking Applied English Course



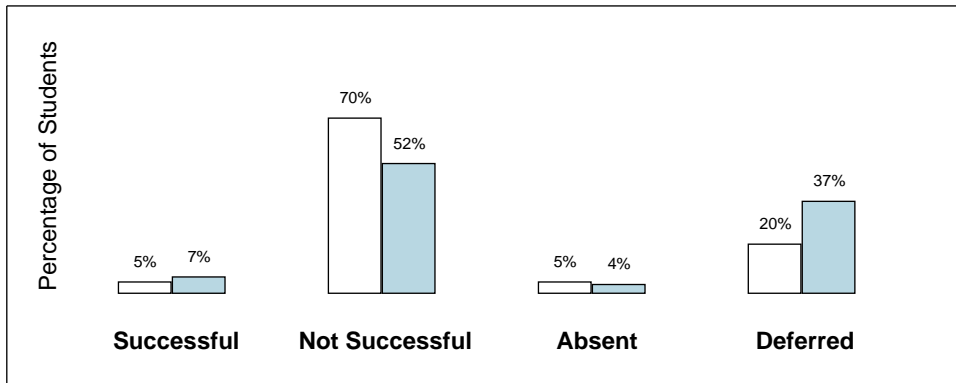
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Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, First-Time Eligible Students

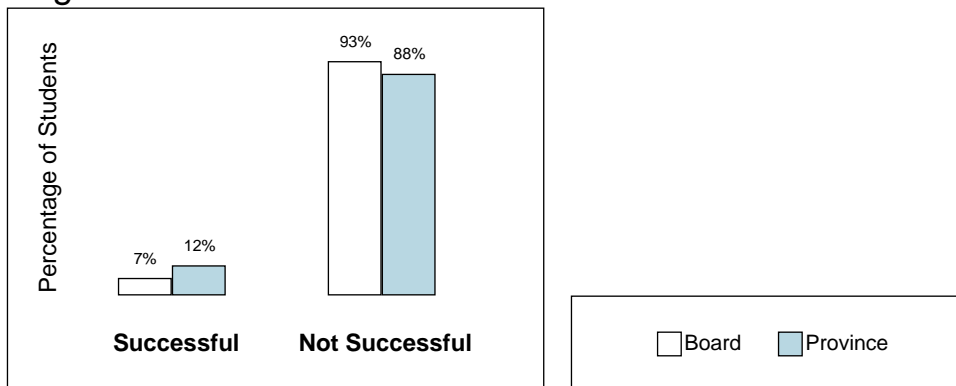
Results for Students Taking Locally Developed English Course*

Results for Students Taking Locally Developed English Course First-Time Eligible Students					
	All			Fully Participating	
	Board # = 332		Province # = 4 791	Board # = 249	Province # = 2 814
Successful	18	5%	7%	7%	12%
Not Successful	231	70%	52%	93%	88%
Fully Participating	249	75%	59%		
Absent	15	5%	4%		
Deferred	68	20%	37%		

Results for All First-Time Eligible Students Taking Locally Developed English Course



Results for Fully Participating First-Time Eligible Students Taking Locally Developed English Course



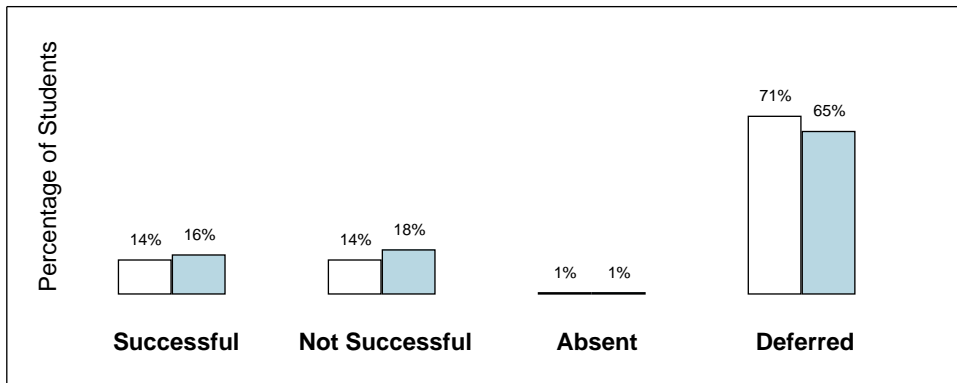
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Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, First-Time Eligible Students

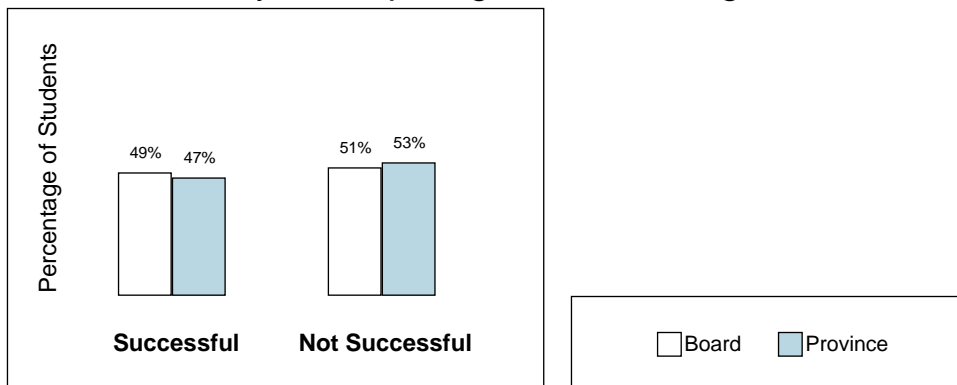
Results for Students Taking ESL/ELD Course*

Results for Students Taking ESL/ELD Course First-Time Eligible Students					
	All			Fully Participating	
	Board # = 262	Province # = 3 348		Board # = 73	Province # = 1 137
Successful	36	14%	16%	49%	47%
Not Successful	37	14%	18%	51%	53%
Fully Participating	73	28%	34%		
Absent	2	1%	1%		
Deferred	187	71%	65%		

Results for All First-Time Eligible Students Taking ESL/ELD Course



Results for Fully Participating First-Time Eligible Students Taking ESL/ELD Course



*Percentages in tables and bar graphs may not add up to 100, due to rounding.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, First-Time Eligible Students

Contextual Information over Time

This information provides a context for interpreting the board's results of the current and previous administrations.

	Apr. 2009	Apr. 2010	Mar. 2011	Mar. 2012	Spr. 2013
Enrolment					
Number of first-time eligible students	10 010	10 293	10 060	10 118	10 195
Number of schools with first-time eligible students	44	37	38	38	40
Number of students who were exempted	104	81	90	38	45
Participation in the Test					
Of all first-time eligible students, those who participated fully in the assessment	95%	96%	96%	95%	95%
Of all first-time eligible students, those who were absent	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Of all first-time eligible students, those who were deferred	3%	3%	3%	4%	4%
Gender[†] Based on number of first-time eligible students					
Female	47%	48%	48%	48%	47%
Male	53%	52%	52%	52%	53%
Gender not specified	<1%	0%	0%	<1%	0%
Student Status[†] Based on number of first-time eligible students					
English language learners*	3%	4%	4%	9%	11%
English language learners receiving special provisions**	2%	2%	2%	7%	11%
Students with special education needs (excluding gifted)*	12%	12%	13%	12%	12%
Students with special education needs receiving accommodations (excluding gifted)**	11%	11%	12%	11%	11%
Course Type in English[†] Based on number of first-time eligible students					
Academic	74%	77%	77%	78%	79%
Applied	17%	17%	17%	16%	15%
Locally developed	4%	3%	3%	3%	3%
ESL/ELD	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%
Other	1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
Language^{††} Based on Student Questionnaire data					
	Number of Respondents:				
	9 367	9 767	9 467	9 470	9 530
First language learned at home was other than English	41%	43%	43%	43%	43%
Speak only or mostly English at home	59%	57%	57%	55%	55%
Speak another language (or other languages) as often as English at home	31%	32%	33%	34%	34%
Speak only or mostly another language (or other languages) at home	10%	10%	10%	10%	9%

[†] Contextual data are provided by schools and/or boards through the Student Data Collection process. Some data may be missing because they were not provided by schools or boards.

* See Explanation of Terms.

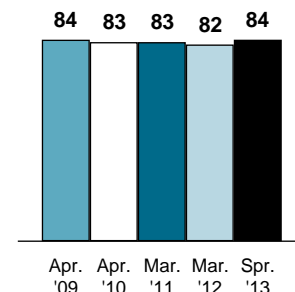
** Percentages are based on fully participating students.

^{††} Contextual data pertaining to "language" are gathered from the Student Questionnaire completed by students. Some data may be missing because they were not provided by students.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, First-Time Eligible Students Results over Time, April 2009–Spring 2013

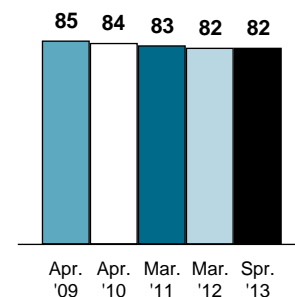
Board Results over Time*										
	April '09		April '10		March '11		March '12		Spring '13	
<i>All Students</i>	10 010		10 293		10 060		10 118		10 195	
Successful (all)	7 999	80%	8 152	79%	7 977	79%	7 855	78%	8 114	80%
Not Successful	1 498	15%	1 705	17%	1 650	16%	1 739	17%	1 525	15%
Fully Participating	9 497	95%	9 857	96%	9 627	96%	9 594	95%	9 639	95%
Absent	205	2%	144	1%	149	1%	127	1%	151	1%
Deferred	308	3%	292	3%	284	3%	397	4%	405	4%
Fully Participating Successful	7 999	84%	8 152	83%	7 977	83%	7 855	82%	8 114	84%

**Board Results over Time:
Percentage of Fully Participating
Successful Students**



Provincial Results over Time*										
	April '09		April '10		March '11		March '12		Spring '13	
<i>All Students</i>	152 830		153 490		153 635		147 306		143 358	
Successful (all)	120 776	79%	120 218	78%	118 961	77%	112 717	77%	110 162	77%
Not Successful	21 618	14%	22 737	15%	24 285	16%	24 285	16%	23 871	17%
Fully Participating	142 394	93%	142 955	93%	143 246	93%	137 002	93%	134 033	93%
Absent	3 707	2%	3 479	2%	3 237	2%	2 966	2%	2 059	1%
Deferred	6 729	4%	7 056	5%	7 152	5%	7 338	5%	7 266	5%
Fully Participating Successful	120 776	85%	120 218	84%	118 961	83%	112 717	82%	110 162	82%

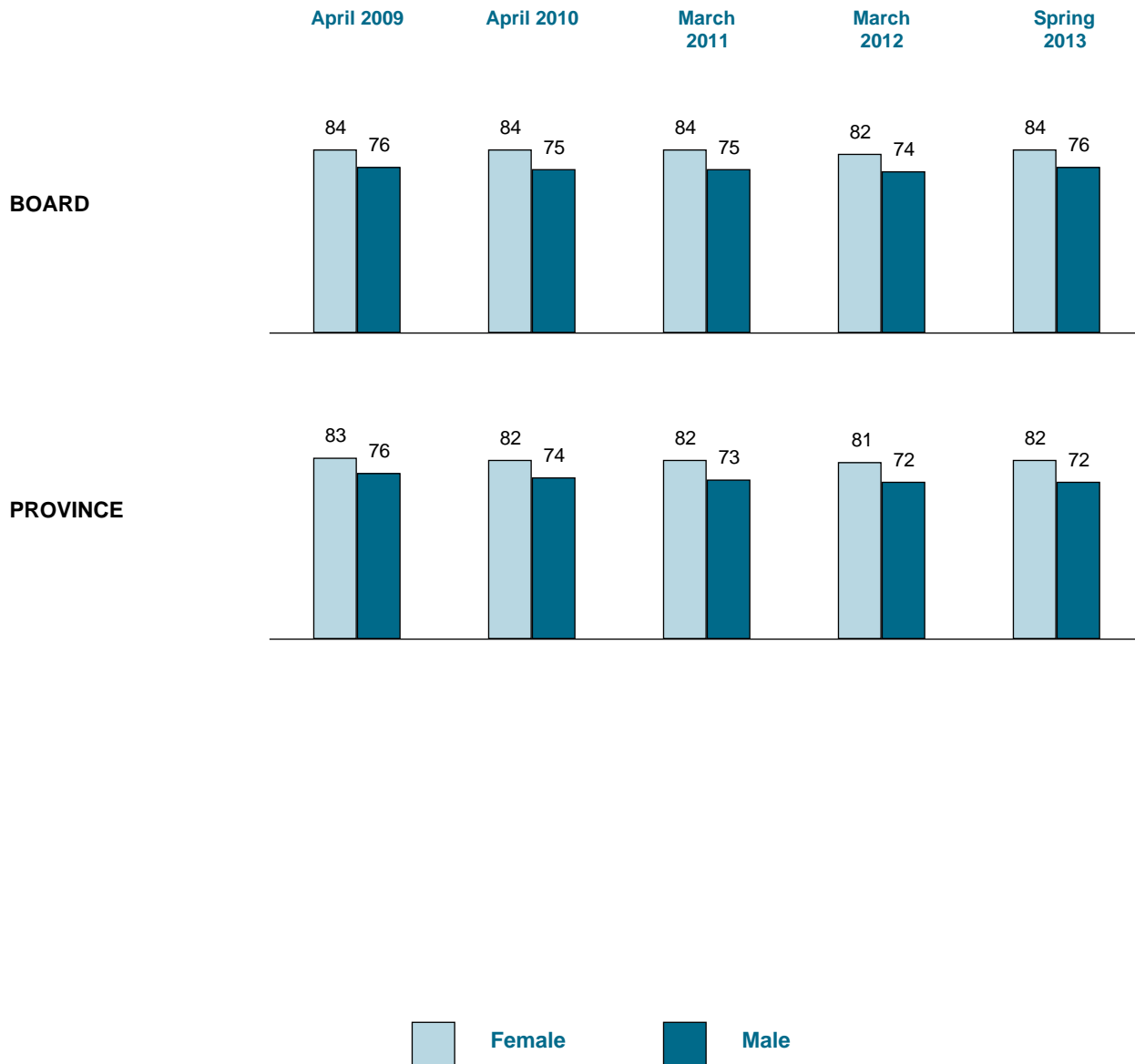
**Provincial Results over Time:
Percentage of Fully Participating
Successful Students**



* Percentages in tables may not add up to 100, due to rounding.

ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS OVER TIME BY GENDER†

**PERCENTAGE OF ALL FIRST-TIME ELIGIBLE STUDENTS WHO WERE SUCCESSFUL:
ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL LITERACY TEST**



Female Male

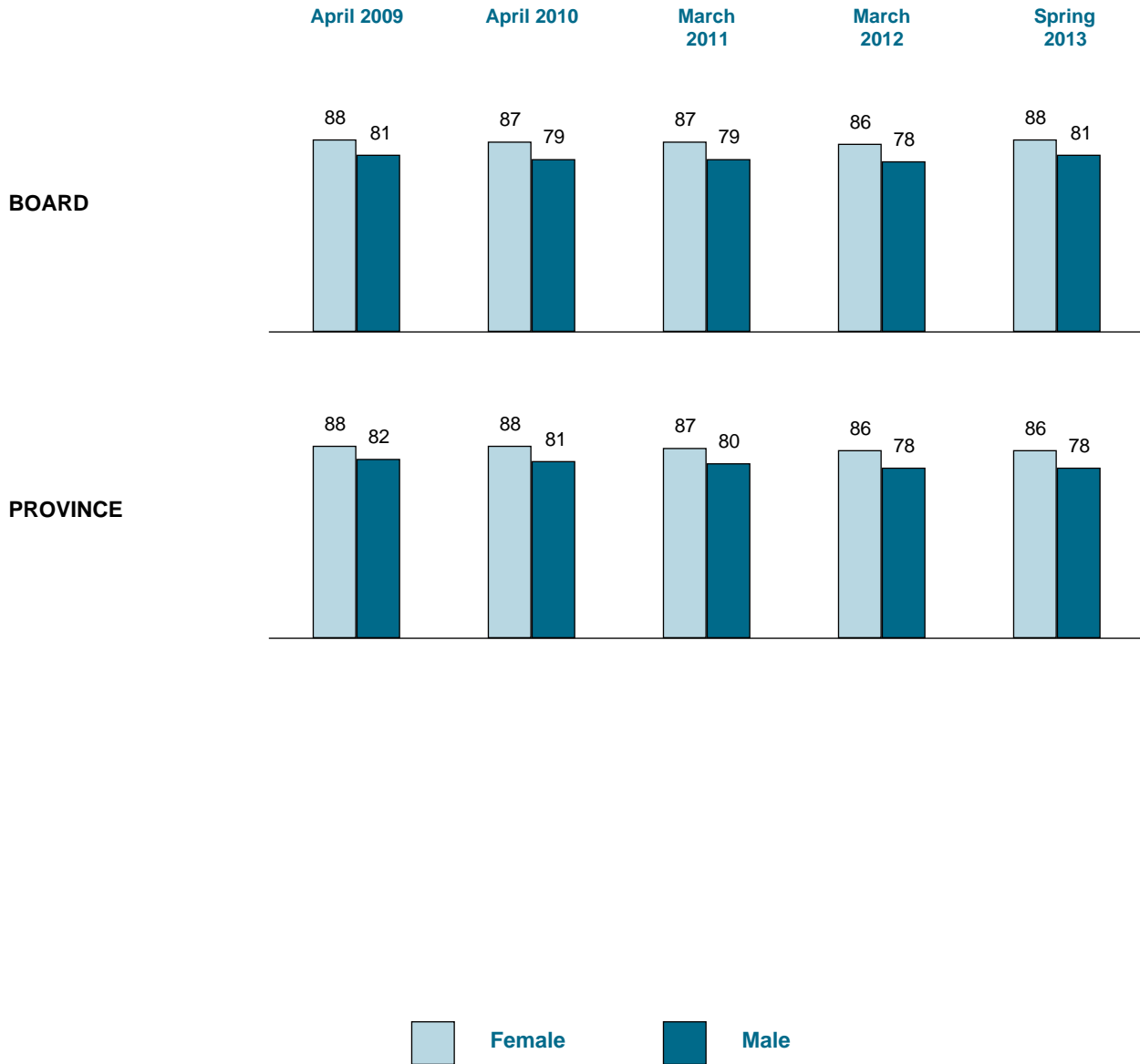
Number of First-Time Eligible Students†

	April 2009		April 2010		March 2011		March 2012		Spring 2013	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
Board	4 694	5 315	4 916	5 377	4 866	5 194	4 824	5 293	4 811	5 384
Province	74 355	78 459	74 545	78 940	74 954	78 681	71 934	75 370	70 092	73 260

† Includes only students for whom gender data were available.

ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS OVER TIME BY GENDER†

**PERCENTAGE OF FULLY PARTICIPATING FIRST-TIME ELIGIBLE STUDENTS WHO WERE SUCCESSFUL:
ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL LITERACY TEST**

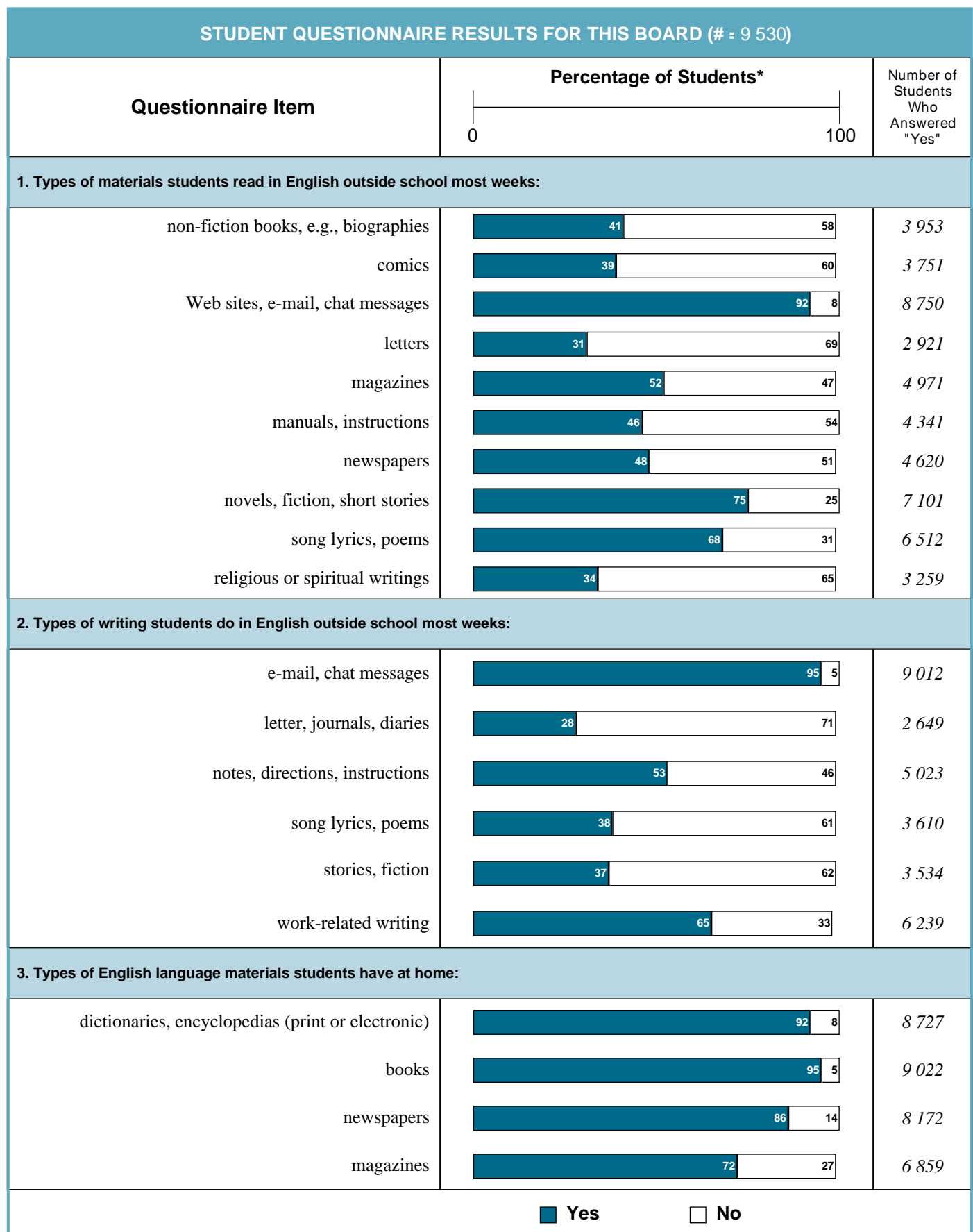


Number of Fully Participating First-Time Eligible Students†

	April 2009		April 2010		March 2011		March 2012		Spring 2013	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
Board	4 498	4 998	4 742	5 115	4 711	4 916	4 616	4 977	4 577	5 062
Province	69 954	72 432	70 055	72 896	70 606	72 640	67 631	69 369	66 262	67 765

† Includes only students for whom gender data were available.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, First-Time Eligible Students



* Percentages may not add to 100, due to a lack of or ambiguous responses. Where there is no number in a bar, the percentage of responses is smaller than four.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, First-Time Eligible Students

STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS FOR THIS BOARD (# = 9 530)		
Questionnaire Item	Percentage of Students*	
Number of Students		
4. Number of hours a week students read materials written in English outside school, not including homework:		
one hour or less	26	2 497
more than one hour but less than three hours	32	3 085
more than three hours but less than five hours	20	1 946
five hours or more	20	1 950
5. Number of hours a week students write in English outside school, not including homework:		
one hour or less	37	3 500
more than one hour but less than three hours	34	3 203
more than three hours but less than five hours	16	1 546
five hours or more	13	1 213
6. How often students use a computer at home for homework:		
don't have a computer at home	1	132
never or hardly ever use a computer for homework	5	433
use a computer once or twice a month for homework	9	883
use a computer once or twice a week for homework	31	2 987
use a computer almost every day for homework	53	5 073
7. First language students learned at home was English:		
yes	57	5 417
no	43	4 098
8. Language(s) students speak at home:		
only or mostly English	55	5 280
another language (or other languages) as often as English	34	3 283
only or mostly another language (or other languages)	9	893

* Percentages may not add to 100, due to a lack of or ambiguous responses.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, First-Time Eligible Students

STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS FOR BOARD AND PROVINCE (all students, female, male)	Board			Province		
	All (#= 9 530)	Female* (#= 4 540)	Male* (#= 4 990)	All (#= 130 397)	Female* (#= 64 707)	Male* (#= 65 684)
Percentage of students indicating that they						
have a computer at home	98%	99%	98%	97%	98%	97%
use the computer almost every day for homework	53%	56%	51%	34%	36%	32%
Percentage of students indicating that they read the following types of materials in English outside school most weeks:						
non-fiction books, e.g., biographies	41%	37%	45%	36%	33%	40%
comics	39%	30%	48%	33%	25%	41%
Web sites, e-mail, chat messages	92%	94%	90%	90%	92%	88%
letters	31%	33%	29%	28%	30%	26%
magazines	52%	64%	41%	55%	66%	44%
manuals, instructions	46%	39%	52%	39%	29%	48%
newspapers	48%	47%	50%	41%	38%	43%
novels, fiction, short stories	75%	84%	65%	70%	81%	59%
song lyrics, poems	68%	81%	57%	65%	77%	53%
religious or spiritual writings	34%	35%	33%	23%	24%	22%
Percentage of students indicating that they read materials written in English outside school, not including homework, for						
more than three hours a week.	41%	47%	35%	37%	43%	32%
Percentage of students indicating that they have the following English language materials at home:						
dictionaries, encyclopedias (print or electronic)	92%	93%	90%	87%	89%	85%
books	95%	97%	93%	93%	96%	91%
newspapers	86%	87%	85%	79%	80%	78%
magazines	72%	78%	67%	78%	82%	73%
Percentage of students indicating that they do the following types of writing in English outside school most weeks:						
e-mail, chat messages	95%	96%	94%	93%	95%	91%
letters, journals, diaries	28%	41%	16%	27%	40%	14%
notes, directions, instructions	53%	56%	50%	46%	49%	44%
song lyrics, poems	38%	44%	32%	36%	43%	29%
stories, fiction	37%	43%	32%	32%	38%	27%
work-related writing	65%	66%	65%	55%	55%	55%
Percentage of students indicating that they write in English outside school, not including homework, for						
more than three hours a week.	29%	31%	27%	25%	28%	22%
Percentage of students indicating that the first language they learned at home was						
other than English.	43%	43%	43%	23%	23%	23%
Percentage of students indicating that they speak the following language(s) at home:**						
only or mostly English	55%	57%	54%	74%	74%	74%
another language (or other languages) as often as English	34%	35%	34%	19%	19%	18%
only or mostly another language (or other languages)	9%	8%	11%	7%	6%	7%

* Includes only students for whom gender data were available.

** Percentages may not add to 100, due to a lack of or ambiguous responses.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

First-Time Eligible Students	First-time eligible students are working toward an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) and typically entered Grade 9 during the 2011–2012 school year or entered Grade 10 in the 2012–2013 school year from out of province. These students were required to write the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) for the first time in 2013.
Previously Eligible Students	Previously eligible includes all students who were absent or deferred, or were unsuccessful during one or more previous administrations; were previously exempted but now working toward an OSSD; entered Grade 11 or 12 in the 2012–2013 school year from out of province or enrolled in an adult education program and began Grade 9 in or after the 2000–2001 school year.
All Eligible Students	This method of reporting provides percentages based on all students in the cohort who are working toward an OSSD. The only students excluded are those who are not working toward an OSSD (exempt students).
Fully Participating Students	This method of reporting provides percentages based on students for whom there is work for both sessions of the administration of the OSSLT and who were assigned an achievement result (successful, not successful). Students who are not working toward an OSSD, those who were absent and those who were deferred are excluded.
Successful	Students who fully participated in the OSSLT and received a score that met the expected standard.
Not Successful	Students who fully participated in the OSSLT and received a score that did not meet the expected standard.
Absent	Students who did not submit work for one or both sessions due to absence or for other reasons.
Deferred	Students' participation in the OSSLT can be deferred under several circumstances, as outlined in EQAO's <i>Guide for Accommodations, Special Provisions, Deferrals and Exemptions</i> . A student is categorized as deferred only if the school indicates a deferral. If a student completed any portion of the OSSLT, he or she is not categorized as deferred.
OSSLC	Students are placed in this category of reporting if the school indicated that the students would be fulfilling the literacy requirement through the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OSSLC). For details about the OSSLC, see the Ministry of Education Web site (www.edu.gov.on.ca). If a student completed any portion of the OSSLT, he or she is not categorized as OSSLC.
Exempted	Students can be exempted from the OSSLT only if they are not working toward an OSSD. A student is categorized as exempted only if the school indicates that the student is exempted. If a student completed any portion of the OSSLT, he or she is not categorized as exempted.
English Language Learners	Students who have been identified by the school in accordance with <i>English Language Learners: ESL and ELD Programs and Services: Policies and Procedures for Ontario Elementary and Secondary Schools, Kindergarten to Grade 12</i> (2007).
English Language Learners Receiving Special Provisions	English language learners identified by the school as receiving special provisions. Detailed information about special provisions is available in EQAO's <i>Guide for Accommodations, Special Provisions, Deferrals and Exemptions</i> .
Students with Special Education Needs (excluding gifted)	Students who have been formally identified by an Identification, Placement and Review Committee (IPRC), as well as students who have an Individual Education Plan (IEP). Students identified solely as gifted are not included.
Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations excluding gifted)	Students with special education needs identified by the school as receiving test accommodations. Students identified solely as gifted are not included. Detailed information about accommodations is available in the Ministry of Education <i>Ontario Schools, Kindergarten to Grade 12: Policy and Program Requirements</i> (2011) and in EQAO's <i>Guide for Accommodations, Special Provisions, Deferrals and Exemptions</i> .
N/R	"Not reported" indicates that the number of students participating (fewer than 10 in a group) or responding to the Student Questionnaire is so small (fewer than six in a group) that identification of individual student results might be possible; therefore results are not reported.
N/D	"No data available" is used to indicate that there were no students in the group or year specified.
W	Results for some or all students are being withheld by EQAO. For further information, please contact personnel at the board.