



School Board Report

Previously Eligible Students



Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013

Board: Simcoe Muskoka Catholic DSB (67091)

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.

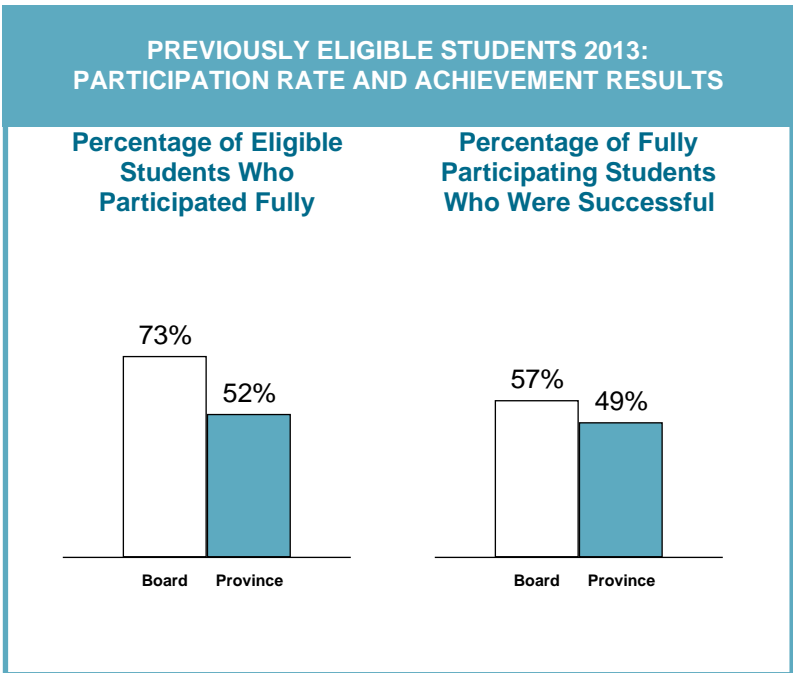
At EQAO we are pleased to partner with parents and educators who are working hard to help students develop essential skills and reach their full potential. I trust you will find our reports to be a helpful tool as you turn knowledge into action for the benefit of your students and community.

Sincerely,

Bruce Rodrigues
 Chief Executive Officer
 Education Quality and Accountability Office

September 25, 2013

WHERE TO FIND . . .	PAGE
Summary of results: 2013.....	1
Tips for using this report.....	2
Contextual information: 2013.....	3
Detailed achievement results: 2013	
All students.....	4
Students by gender.....	5, 6
English language learners.....	7
Students with special education needs.....	8
Students with special education needs receiving accommodations.....	9, 10
Student questionnaire results	11–13
Explanation of terms	14



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 as differences may look exaggerated. For example, in a group of 30 students, a difference of 10% represents only three students.



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 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, Previously Eligible Students

Contextual Information

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

	Board		Province	
Enrolment				
Number of previously eligible students	535		59 080	
Number of schools with previously eligible students	9		823	
Number of students who were exempted	39		2 309	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Participation in the Test				
Of all previously eligible students, those who participated fully in the assessment	390	73%	30 626	52%
Of all previously eligible students, those who were absent	34	6%	4 344	7%
Of all previously eligible students, those who were deferred	41	8%	6 848	12%
Of all previously eligible students, those who are completing the literacy requirement through the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OSSLC)	70	13%	17 262	29%
Gender[†] Based on number of previously eligible students				
Female	222	41%	23 342	40%
Male	313	59%	35 738	60%
Gender not specified	0	0%	0	0%
Student Status[†] Based on number of previously eligible students				
English language learners*	2	<1%	9 756	17%
English language learners receiving special provisions**	2	1%	4 889	16%
Students with special education needs (excluding gifted)*	210	39%	21 851	37%
Students with special education needs receiving accommodations (excluding gifted)**	119	31%	9 576	31%
Language^{††} Based on Student Questionnaire data				
	Number of Respondents:		359	29 436
First language learned at home was other than English	33	9%	10 265	35%
Speak only or mostly English at home	308	86%	17 709	60%
Speak another language (or other languages) as often as English at home	36	10%	6 463	22%
Speak only or mostly another language (or other languages) at home	13	4%	4 925	17%

[†] 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.

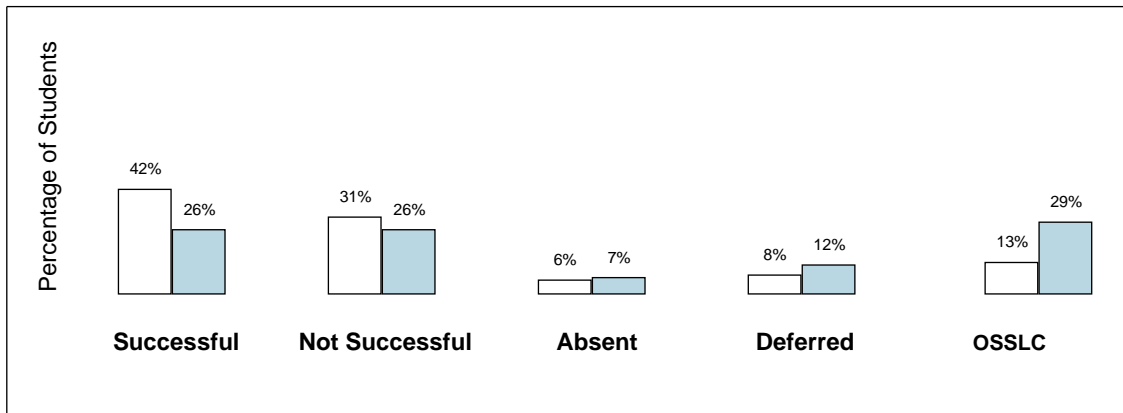
^{††} Contextual data pertaining to "language" are gathered from the Student Questionnaire completed by students. Some data may be missing because they were not provided by students.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, Previously Eligible Students

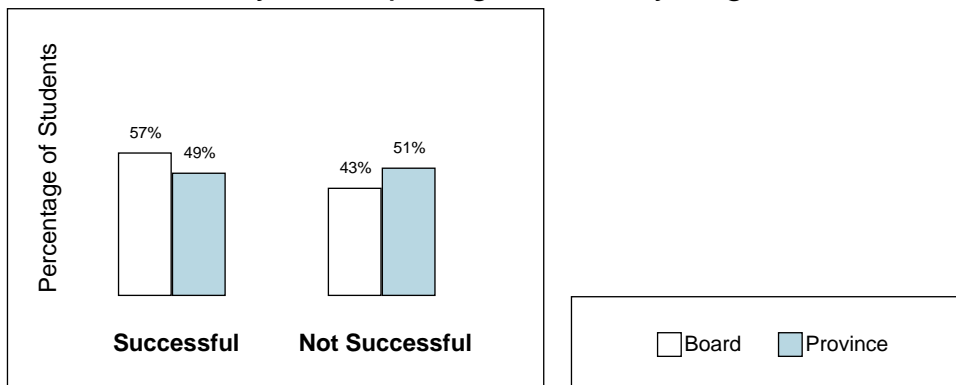
Results for All Students*

	Previously Eligible Students			
	All		Fully Participating	
	Board # = 535	Province # = 59 080	Board # = 390	Province # = 30 626
Successful	224	42%	26%	49%
Not Successful	166	31%	26%	51%
Fully Participating	390	73%	52%	
Absent	34	6%	7%	
Deferred	41	8%	12%	
OSSLC	70	13%	29%	

Results for All Previously Eligible Students



Results for Fully Participating Previously Eligible Students



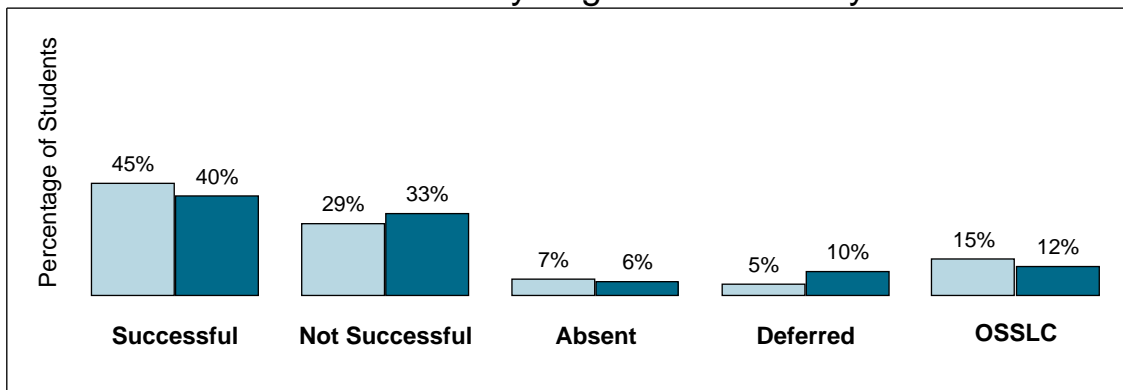
* Percentages in tables and bar graphs may not add up to 100, due to rounding.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, Previously Eligible Students

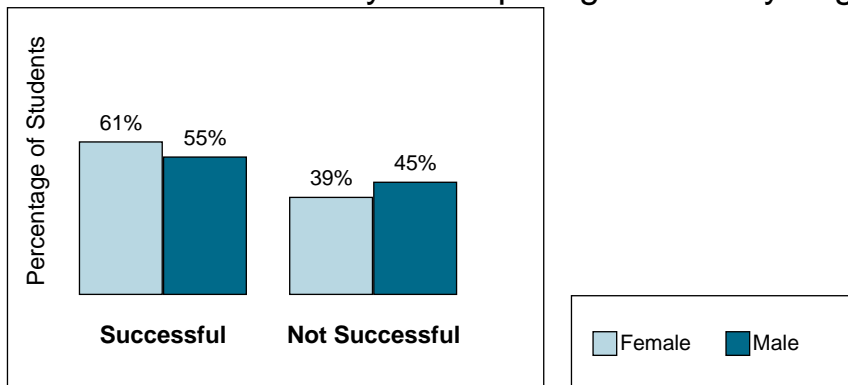
Board Results by Gender*†

Board Results by Gender Previously Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	Female # = 222		Male # = 313		Female # = 163	Male # = 227
Successful	99	45%	125	40%	61%	55%
Not Successful	64	29%	102	33%	39%	45%
Fully Participating	163	73%	227	73%		
Absent	15	7%	19	6%		
Deferred	11	5%	30	10%		
OSSLC	33	15%	37	12%		

Board Results for All Previously Eligible Students by Gender



Board Results for Fully Participating Previously Eligible Students by Gender



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

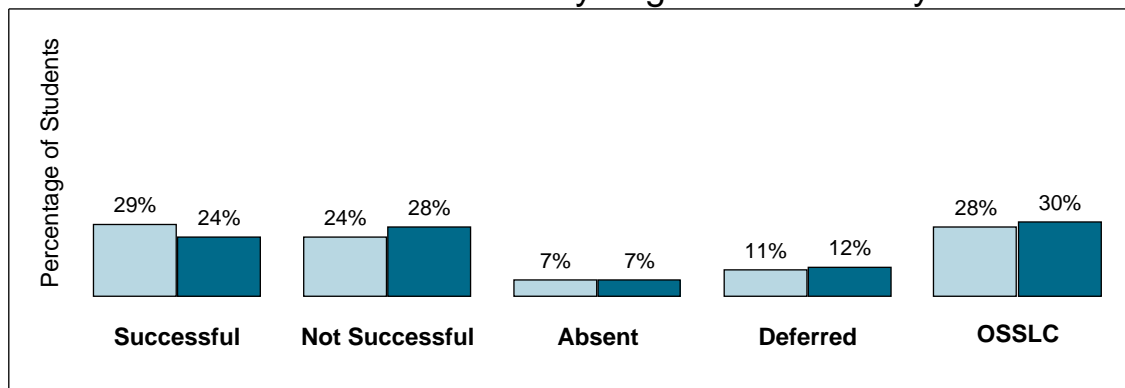
† Includes only students for whom gender data were available.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, Previously Eligible Students

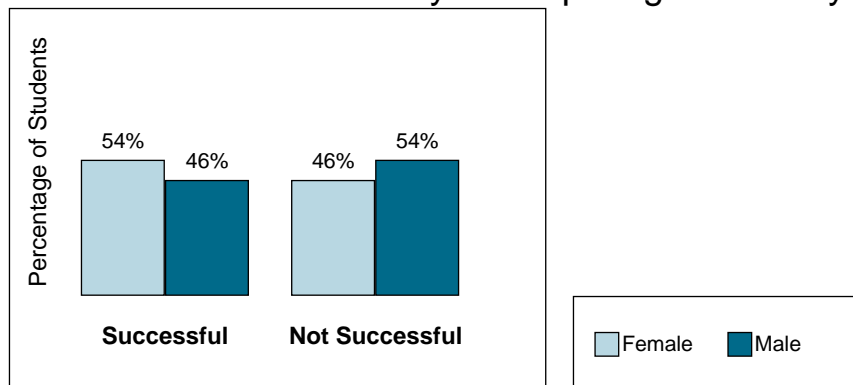
Provincial Results by Gender*†

	Provincial Results by Gender Previously Eligible Students			
	All		Fully Participating	
	Female # = 23 342	Male # = 35 738	Female # = 12 358	Male # = 18 268
Successful	6 709	29%	8 412	24%
Not Successful	5 649	24%	9 856	28%
Fully Participating	12 358	53%	18 268	51%
Absent	1 748	7%	2 596	7%
Deferred	2 647	11%	4 201	12%
OSSLC	6 589	28%	10 673	30%

Provincial Results for All Previously Eligible Students by Gender



Provincial Results for Fully Participating Previously Eligible Students by Gender



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

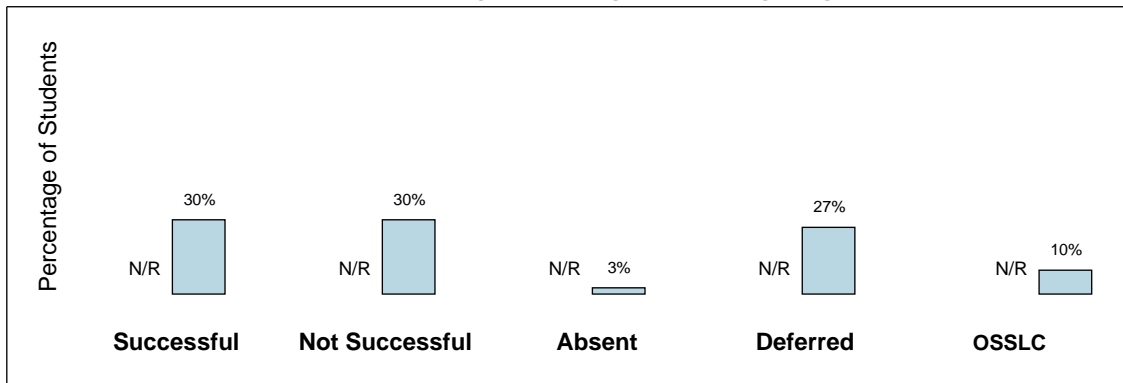
† Includes only students for whom gender data were available.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, Previously Eligible Students

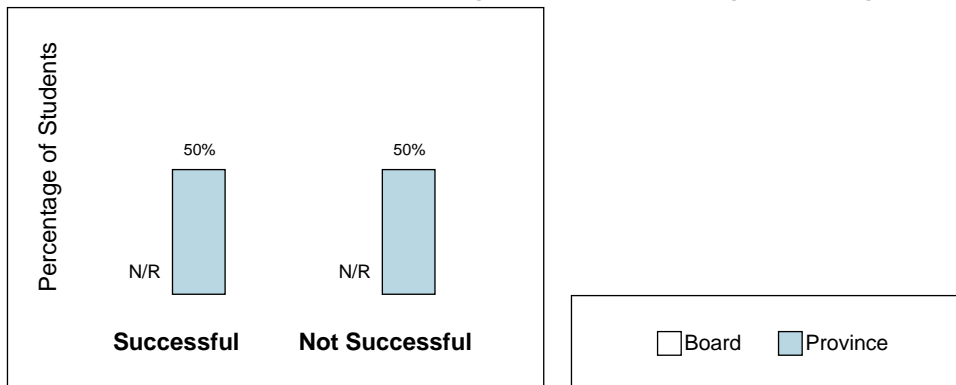
Results for English Language Learners*

Results for English Language Learners Previously Eligible Students					
	All			Fully Participating	
	Board # = <i>N/R</i>		Province # = 9 756	Board # = <i>N/R</i>	Province # = 5 865
Successful	<i>N/R</i>	N/R	30%	<i>N/R</i>	50%
Not Successful	<i>N/R</i>	N/R	30%	<i>N/R</i>	50%
Fully Participating	<i>N/R</i>	<i>N/R</i>	60%		
Absent	<i>N/R</i>	N/R	3%		
Deferred	<i>N/R</i>	N/R	27%		
OSSLC	<i>N/R</i>	N/R	10%		

Results for All Previously Eligible English Language Learners



Results for Fully Participating Previously Eligible English Language Learners



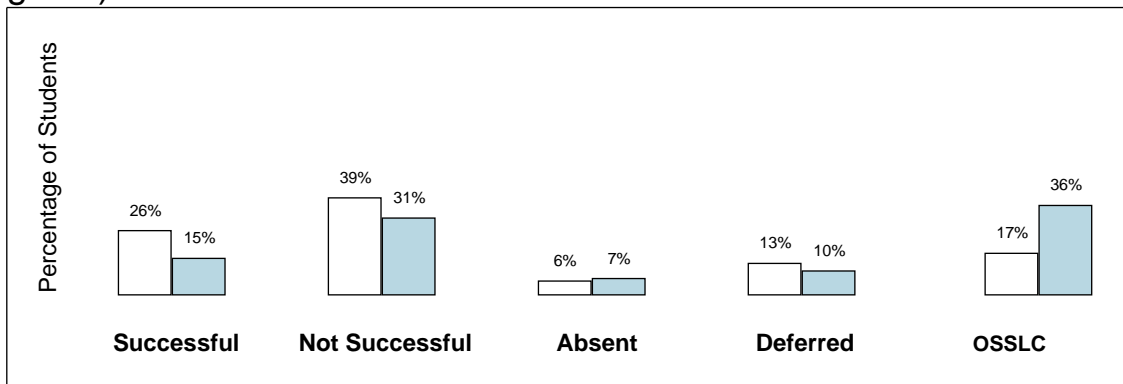
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Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, Previously Eligible Students

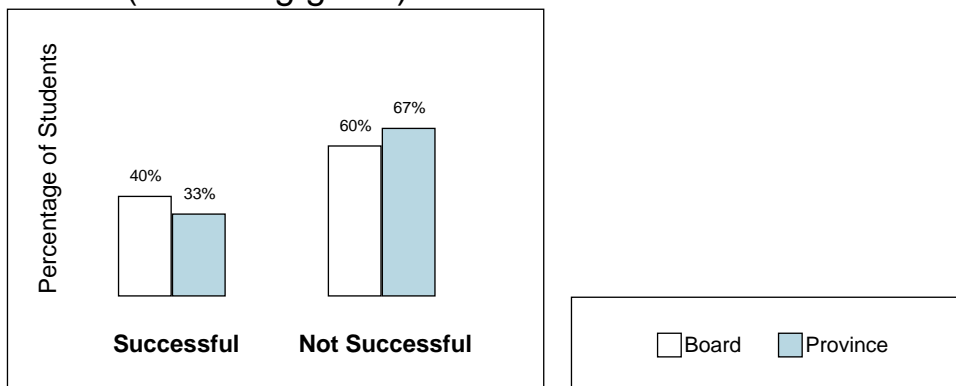
Results for Students with Special Education Needs (excluding gifted)*

Results for Students with Special Education Needs (excluding gifted) Previously Eligible Students					
	All			Fully Participating	
	Board # = 210	Province # = 21 851		Board # = 136	Province # = 10 196
Successful	55	26%	15%	40%	33%
Not Successful	81	39%	31%	60%	67%
Fully Participating	136	65%	47%		
Absent	12	6%	7%		
Deferred	27	13%	10%		
OSSLC	35	17%	36%		

Results for All Previously Eligible Students with Special Education Needs (excluding gifted)



Results for Fully Participating Previously Eligible Students with Special Education Needs (excluding gifted)



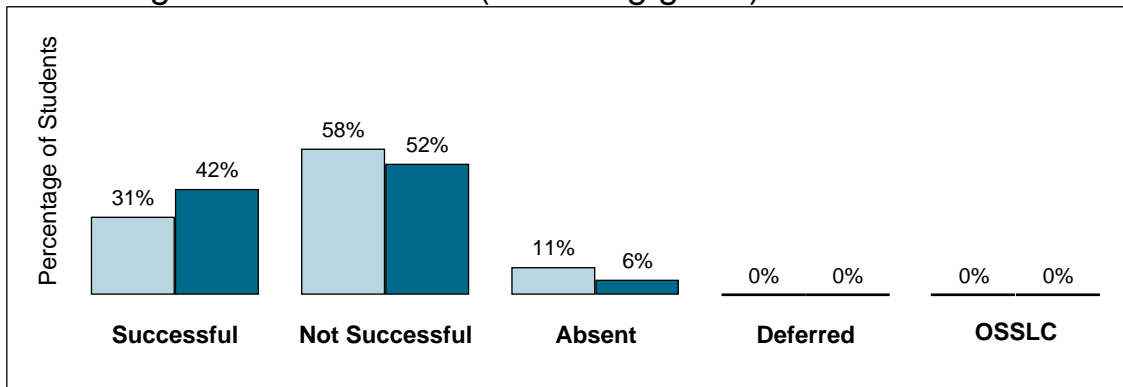
* Percentages in tables and bar graphs may not add up to 100, due to rounding.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, Previously Eligible Students

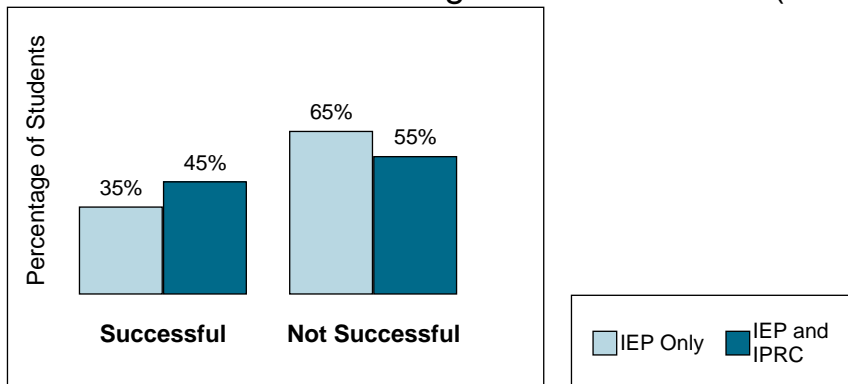
Board Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)*

Board Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted) Previously Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	IEP Only # = 64		IEP and IPRC # = 66		IEP Only # = 57	IEP and IPRC # = 62
Successful	20	31%	28	42%	35%	45%
Not Successful	37	58%	34	52%	65%	55%
Fully Participating	57	89%	62	94%		
Absent	7	11%	4	6%		
Deferred	0	0%	0	0%		
OSSLC	0	0%	0	0%		

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



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



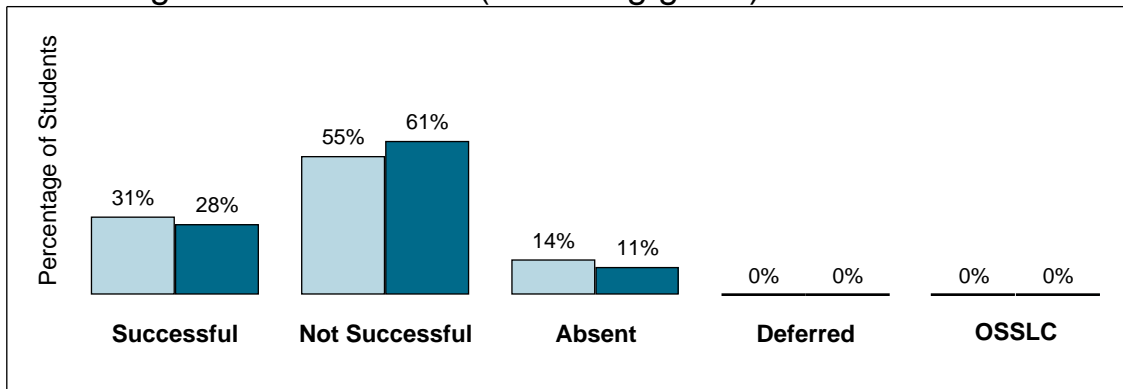
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Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, Previously Eligible Students

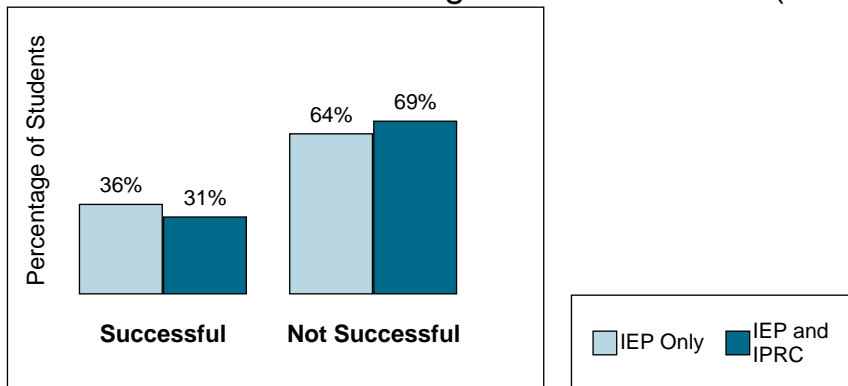
Provincial Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)*

Provincial Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted) Previously Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	IEP Only # = 3 994		IEP and IPRC # = 6 952		IEP Only # = 3 423	IEP and IPRC # = 6 153
Successful	1 227	31%	1 933	28%	36%	31%
Not Successful	2 196	55%	4 220	61%	64%	69%
Fully Participating	3 423	86%	6 153	89%		
Absent	571	14%	799	11%		
Deferred	0	0%	0	0%		
OSSLC	0	0%	0	0%		

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

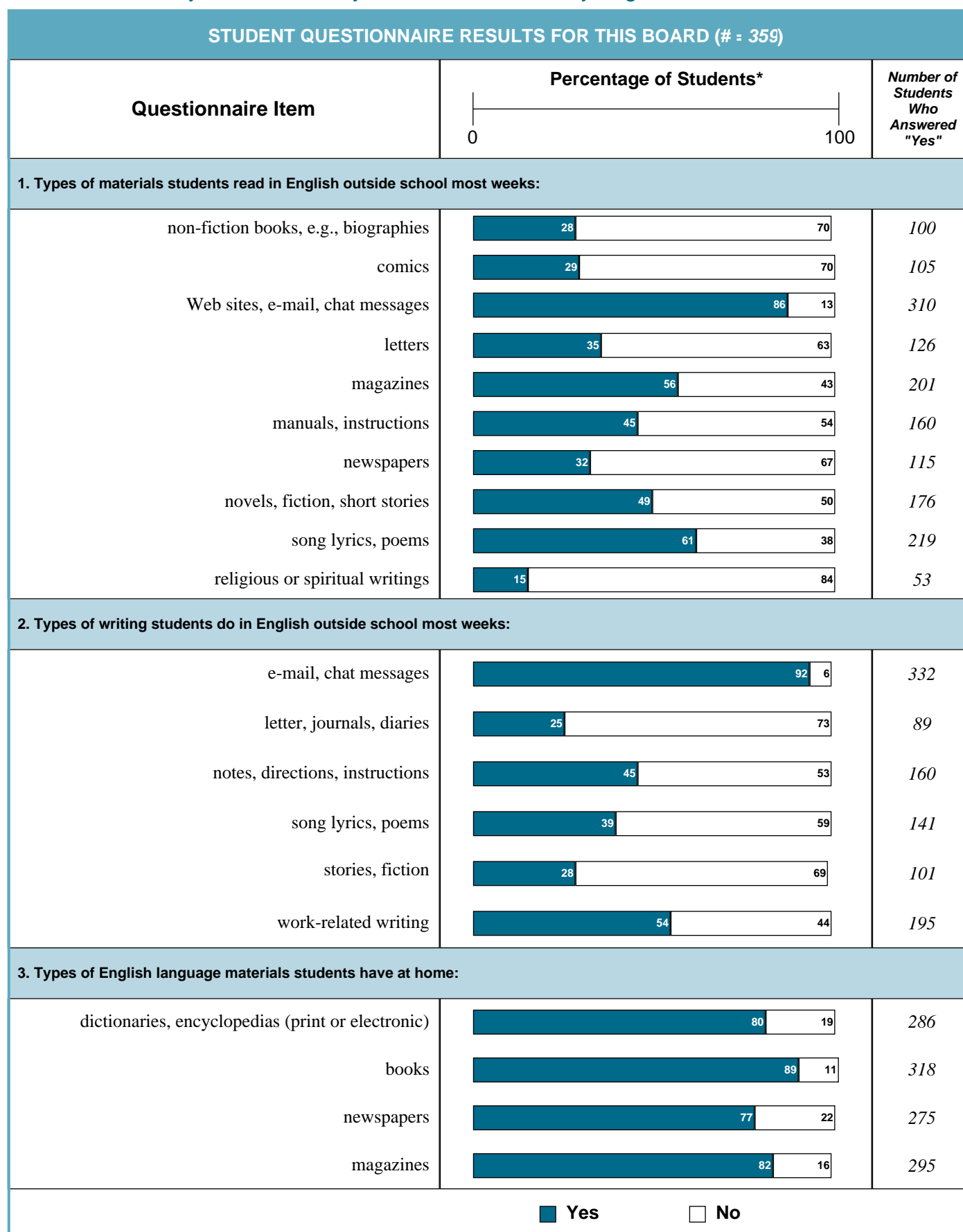


Provincial Results for Fully Participating Previously Eligible Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)



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

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, Previously 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, Previously Eligible Students

STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS FOR THIS BOARD (# = 359)		
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	46	165
more than one hour but less than three hours	27	98
more than three hours but less than five hours	14	50
five hours or more	12	43
5. Number of hours a week students write in English outside school, not including homework:		
one hour or less	47	168
more than one hour but less than three hours	24	86
more than three hours but less than five hours	17	61
five hours or more	11	38
6. How often students use a computer at home for homework:		
don't have a computer at home	7	26
never or hardly ever use a computer for homework	18	63
use a computer once or twice a month for homework	23	82
use a computer once or twice a week for homework	28	99
use a computer almost every day for homework	24	87
7. First language students learned at home was English:		
yes	91	326
no	9	33
8. Language(s) students speak at home:		
only or mostly English	86	308
another language (or other languages) as often as English	10	36
only or mostly another language (or other languages)	4	13

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

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, Previously Eligible Students

STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS FOR BOARD AND PROVINCE (all students, female, male)	Board			Province		
	All (#= 359)	Female* (#= 151)	Male* (#= 208)	All (#= 29 436)	Female* (#= 11 965)	Male* (#= 17 471)
Percentage of students indicating that they						
have a computer at home	92%	94%	91%	93%	95%	92%
use the computer almost every day for homework	24%	28%	22%	28%	32%	26%
Percentage of students indicating that they read the following types of materials in English outside school most weeks:						
non-fiction books, e.g., biographies	28%	30%	26%	38%	39%	38%
comics	29%	23%	34%	37%	30%	42%
Web sites, e-mail, chat messages	86%	90%	84%	88%	91%	86%
letters	35%	40%	32%	42%	46%	40%
magazines	56%	70%	46%	57%	67%	50%
manuals, instructions	45%	37%	50%	48%	40%	54%
newspapers	32%	33%	31%	46%	45%	47%
novels, fiction, short stories	49%	63%	39%	61%	73%	52%
song lyrics, poems	61%	80%	47%	69%	80%	60%
religious or spiritual writings	15%	13%	16%	27%	28%	26%
Percentage of students indicating that they read materials written in English outside school, not including homework, for						
more than three hours a week.	26%	31%	22%	28%	32%	25%
Percentage of students indicating that they have the following English language materials at home:						
dictionaries, encyclopedias (print or electronic)	80%	84%	76%	79%	81%	78%
books	89%	94%	85%	86%	91%	84%
newspapers	77%	77%	76%	72%	72%	72%
magazines	82%	87%	79%	71%	76%	68%
Percentage of students indicating that they do the following types of writing in English outside school most weeks:						
e-mail, chat messages	92%	95%	91%	91%	94%	90%
letters, journals, diaries	25%	42%	12%	33%	48%	23%
notes, directions, instructions	45%	48%	42%	52%	56%	50%
song lyrics, poems	39%	51%	31%	45%	52%	40%
stories, fiction	28%	36%	23%	32%	36%	30%
work-related writing	54%	54%	54%	55%	56%	55%
Percentage of students indicating that they write in English outside school, not including homework, for						
more than three hours a week.	28%	32%	25%	25%	28%	24%
Percentage of students indicating that the first language they learned at home was						
other than English.	9%	9%	9%	35%	38%	33%
Percentage of students indicating that they speak the following language(s) at home:**						
only or mostly English	86%	90%	83%	60%	58%	62%
another language (or other languages) as often as English	10%	9%	11%	22%	23%	21%
only or mostly another language (or other languages)	4%	1%	5%	17%	18%	16%

* 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.