



School Board Report

Previously Eligible Students



Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014

Board: Simcoe Muskoka Catholic DSB (67091)

On behalf of EQAO, I am pleased to provide you with the results of the 2014 Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT). This report also includes demographic and attitudinal information, which provides context for interpreting the achievement results.

Reading and writing skills are critical to success both in and out of school in the 21st century. It is important for students to make sense of what they read and communicate clearly when they write. The OSSLT assesses whether Ontario students have acquired these fundamental reading and writing skills across all subjects up to the end of Grade 9.

By assessing all students in our education system at key stages in their schooling, EQAO is able to provide reliable and objective data at the individual student, school and board levels. EQAO results alongside board and classroom assessment data have proven effective for monitoring progress and allowing school communities to make evidence-based decisions in their planning.

At EQAO, we strongly believe that reliable evidence empowers and guides the judgment and actions of professional educators and school communities. We are pleased to continue our partnership with you as we all work toward helping students reach their full potential. I hope you will find this report to be a rich source of information as you turn knowledge into action for the benefit of your students and community.

Sincerely,

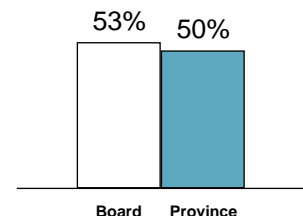
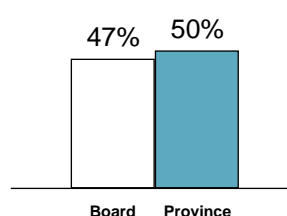
Bruce Rodrigues
 Chief Executive Officer
 Education Quality and Accountability Office

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PREVIOUSLY ELIGIBLE STUDENTS 2014: PARTICIPATION RATE AND ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS

Percentage of Eligible Students Who Participated Fully

Percentage of Fully Participating Students Who Were Successful



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. Beginning in 2012-2013, results are not reported publicly for schools where fewer than 10 students fully participated because it might be possible to identify individual students. Prior to 2012-2013, results were not reported publicly for schools where fewer than 15 students fully participated.

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 2014, Previously Eligible Students

Contextual Information

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

	Board		Province	
Enrolment				
Number of previously eligible students	587		56 941	
Number of schools with previously eligible students	9		829	
Number of students who were exempted	45		1 989	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Participation in the Test				
Of all previously eligible students, those who participated fully in the assessment	277	47%	28 312	50%
Of all previously eligible students, those who were absent	25	4%	4 628	8%
Of all previously eligible students, those who were deferred	76	13%	6 490	11%
Of all previously eligible students, those who are completing the literacy requirement through the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OSSLC)	209	36%	17 511	31%
Gender[†] Based on number of previously eligible students				
Female	222	38%	22 412	39%
Male	365	62%	34 528	61%
Gender not specified	0	0%	1	<1%
Student Status[†] Based on number of previously eligible students				
English language learners*	3	1%	9 756	17%
English language learners receiving special provisions**	2	1%	4 916	17%
Students with special education needs (excluding gifted)*	305	52%	21 563	38%
Students with special education needs receiving accommodations (excluding gifted)**	118	43%	9 224	33%
Language^{††} Based on Student Questionnaire data				
	Number of Respondents:		261	27 389
First language learned at home was other than English	25	10%	9 650	35%
Speak only or mostly English at home	217	83%	16 261	59%
Speak another language (or other languages) as often as English at home	35	13%	6 082	22%
Speak only or mostly another language (or other languages) at home	8	3%	4 699	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.

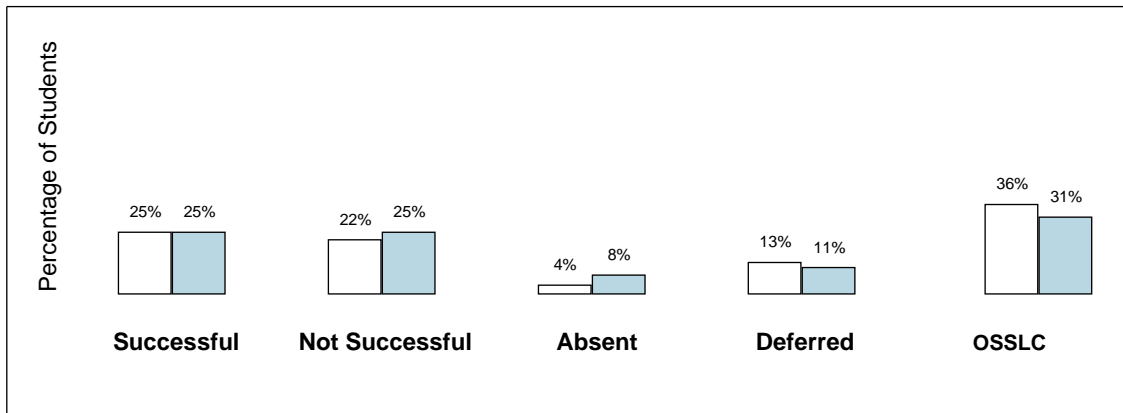
^{††} Contextual data pertaining to "language" are gathered from the Student Questionnaire completed by students. Some data may be missing because they were not provided by students.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, Previously Eligible Students

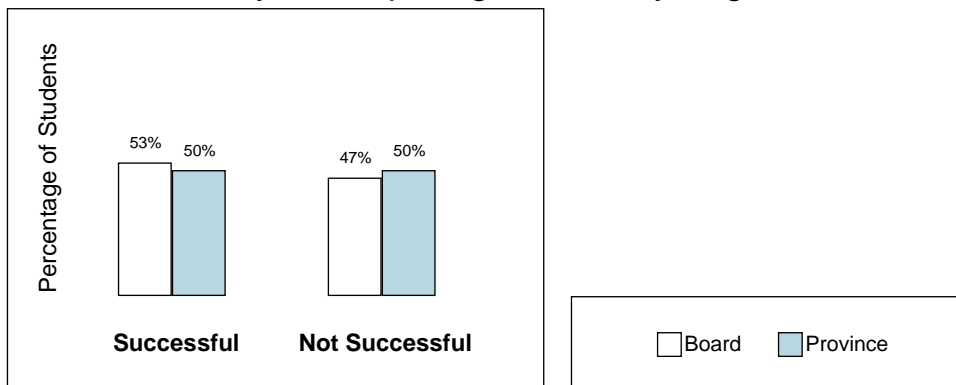
Results for All Students*

	Previously Eligible Students			
	All		Fully Participating	
	Board # = 587	Province # = 56 941	Board # = 277	Province # = 28 312
Successful	148	25%	53%	50%
Not Successful	129	22%	47%	50%
Fully Participating	277	47%	50%	
Absent	25	4%		8%
Deferred	76	13%		11%
OSSLC	209	36%		31%

Results for All Previously Eligible Students



Results for Fully Participating Previously Eligible Students



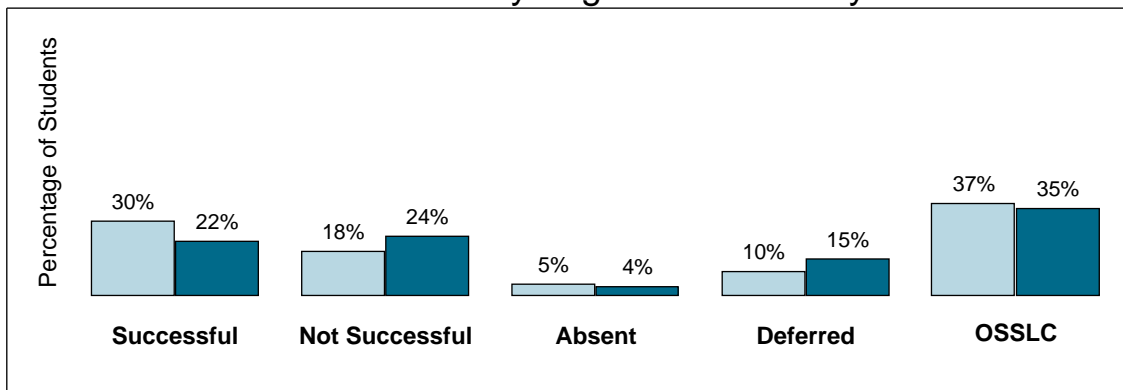
* Percentages in tables and bar graphs may not add up to 100, due to rounding.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, Previously Eligible Students

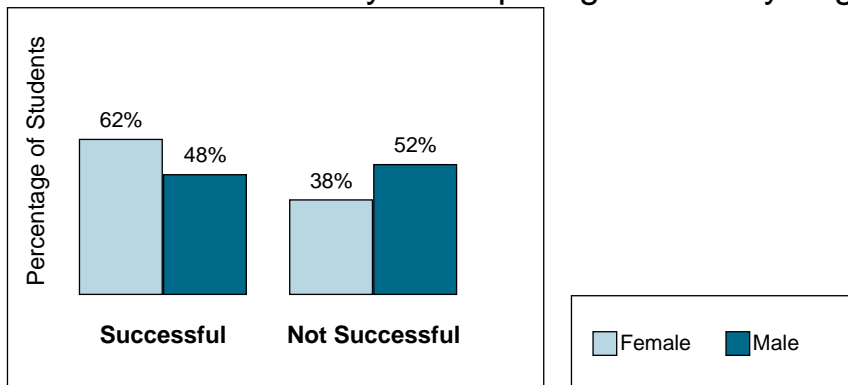
Board Results by Gender*†

Board Results by Gender Previously Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	Female # = 222		Male # = 365		Female # = 106	Male # = 171
Successful	66	30%	82	22%	62%	48%
Not Successful	40	18%	89	24%	38%	52%
Fully Participating	106	48%	171	47%		
Absent	12	5%	13	4%		
Deferred	22	10%	54	15%		
OSSLC	82	37%	127	35%		

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.

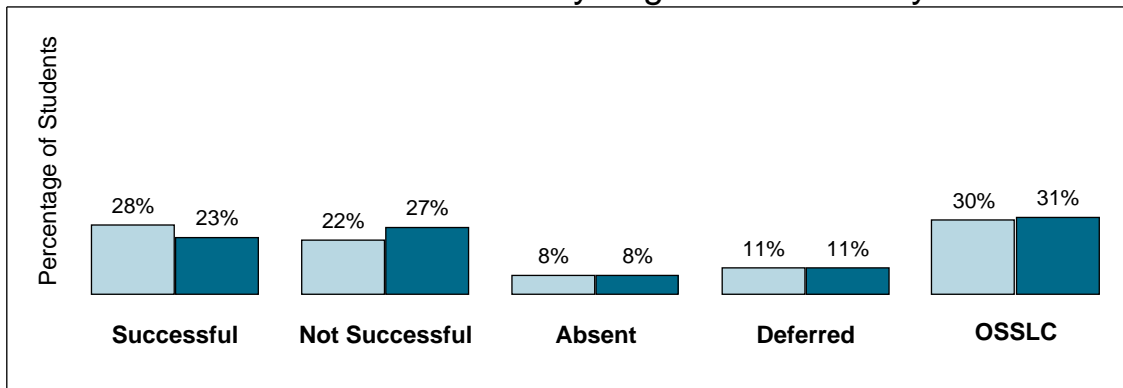
† Includes only students for whom gender data were available.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, Previously Eligible Students

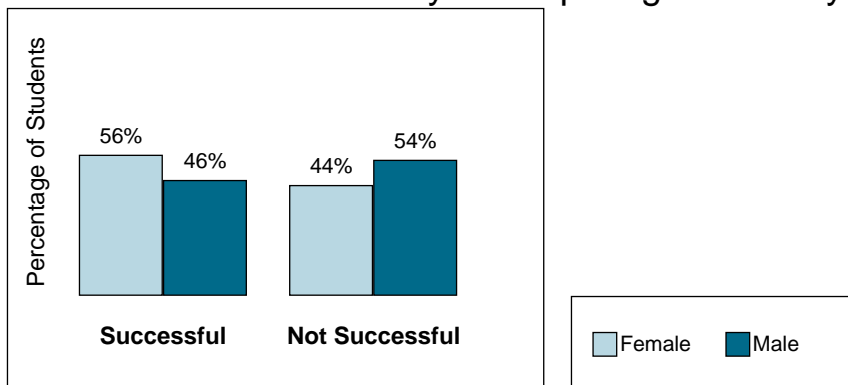
Provincial Results by Gender*†

	Provincial Results by Gender Previously Eligible Students			
	All		Fully Participating	
	Female # = 22 412	Male # = 34 528	Female # = 11 332	Male # = 16 979
Successful	6 300	28%	7 802	23%
Not Successful	5 032	22%	9 177	27%
Fully Participating	11 332	51%	16 979	49%
Absent	1 878	8%	2 750	8%
Deferred	2 523	11%	3 967	11%
OSSLC	6 679	30%	10 832	31%

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.

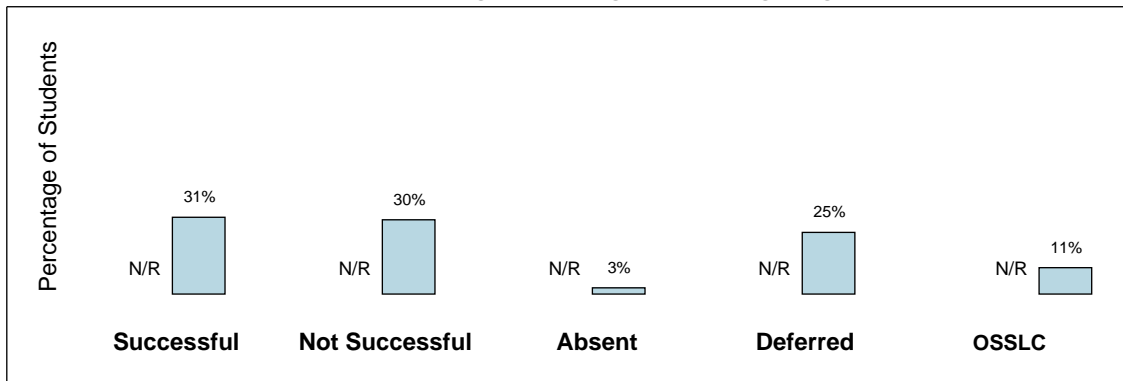
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Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, Previously Eligible Students

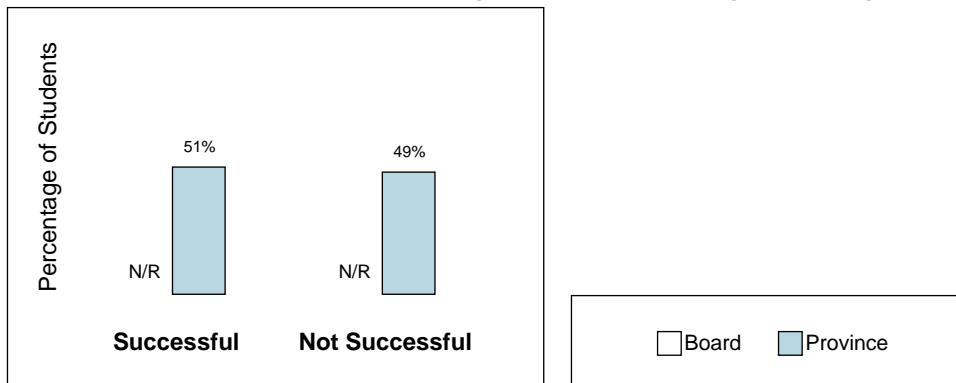
Results for English Language Learners*

Results for English Language Learners Previously Eligible Students					
	All			Fully Participating	
	Board # = N/R	N/R	Province # = 9 756	Board # = N/R	Province # = 5 883
Successful	N/R	N/R	31%	N/R	51%
Not Successful	N/R	N/R	30%	N/R	49%
Fully Participating	N/R	N/R	60%		
Absent	N/R	N/R	3%		
Deferred	N/R	N/R	25%		
OSSLC	N/R	N/R	11%		

Results for All Previously Eligible English Language Learners



Results for Fully Participating Previously Eligible English Language Learners



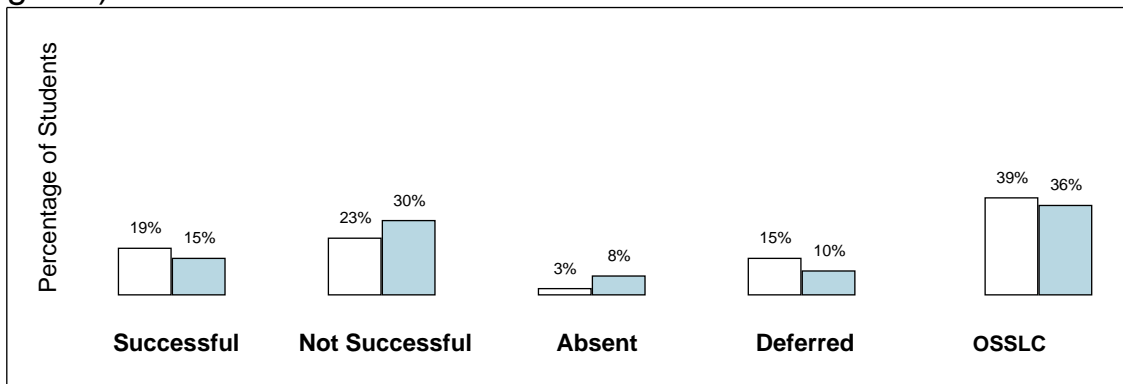
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Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, Previously Eligible Students

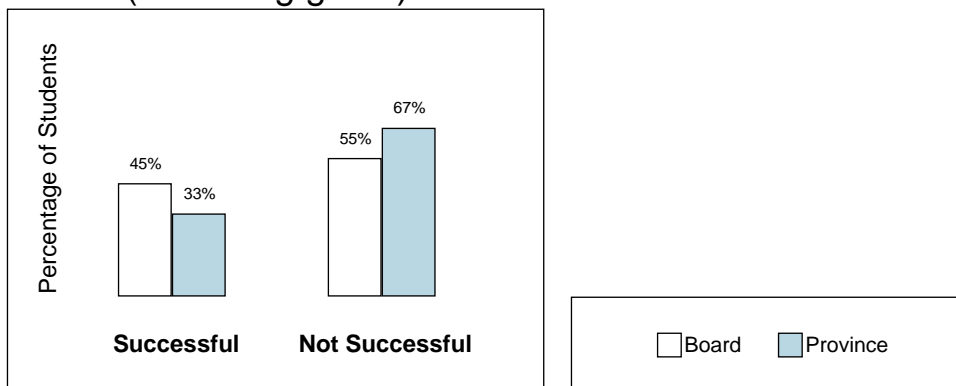
Results for Students with Special Education Needs (excluding gifted)*

Results for Students with Special Education Needs (excluding gifted) Previously Eligible Students					
	All			Fully Participating	
	Board # = 305	Province # = 21 563		Board # = 130	Province # = 9 746
Successful	59	19%	15%	45%	33%
Not Successful	71	23%	30%	55%	67%
Fully Participating	130	43%	45%		
Absent	10	3%	8%		
Deferred	47	15%	10%		
OSSLC	118	39%	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)



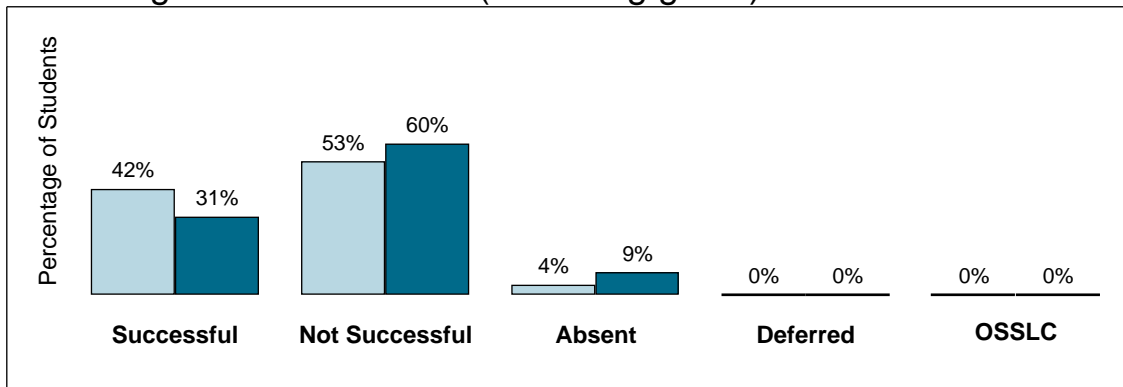
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Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, Previously Eligible Students

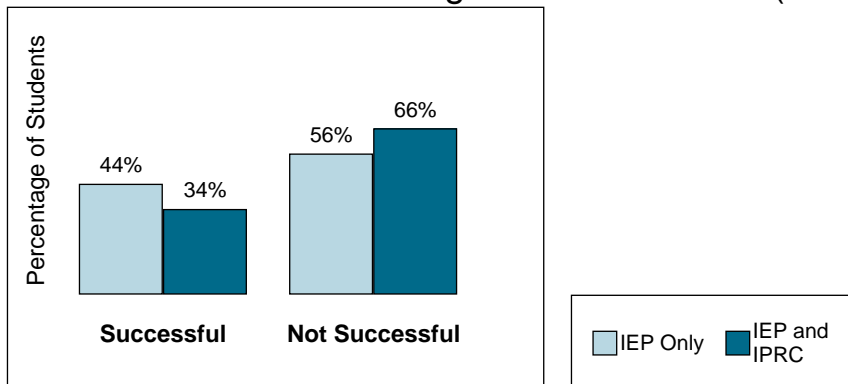
Board Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)*

Board Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted) Previously Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	IEP Only # = 90		IEP and IPRC # = 35		IEP Only # = 86	IEP and IPRC # = 32
Successful	38	42%	11	31%	44%	34%
Not Successful	48	53%	21	60%	56%	66%
Fully Participating	86	96%	32	91%		
Absent	4	4%	3	9%		
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)



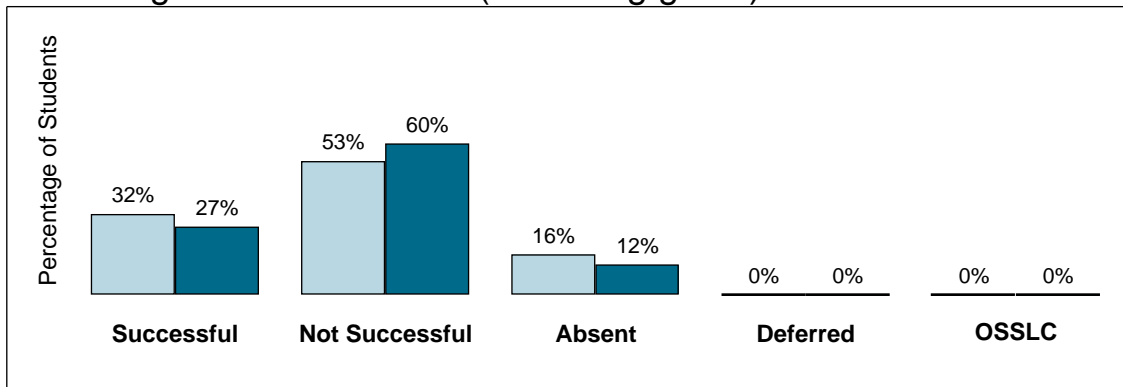
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Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, Previously Eligible Students

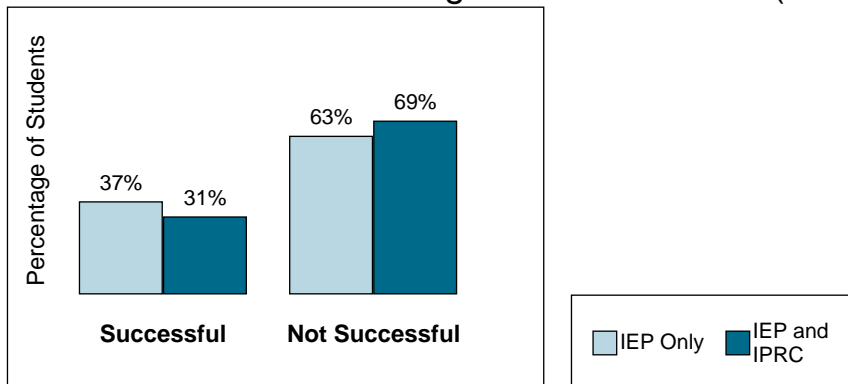
Provincial Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)*

Provincial Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted) Previously Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	IEP Only # = 4 197		IEP and IPRC # = 6 478		IEP Only # = 3 541	IEP and IPRC # = 5 683
Successful	1 325	32%	1 775	27%	37%	31%
Not Successful	2 216	53%	3 908	60%	63%	69%
Fully Participating	3 541	84%	5 683	88%		
Absent	656	16%	795	12%		
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)

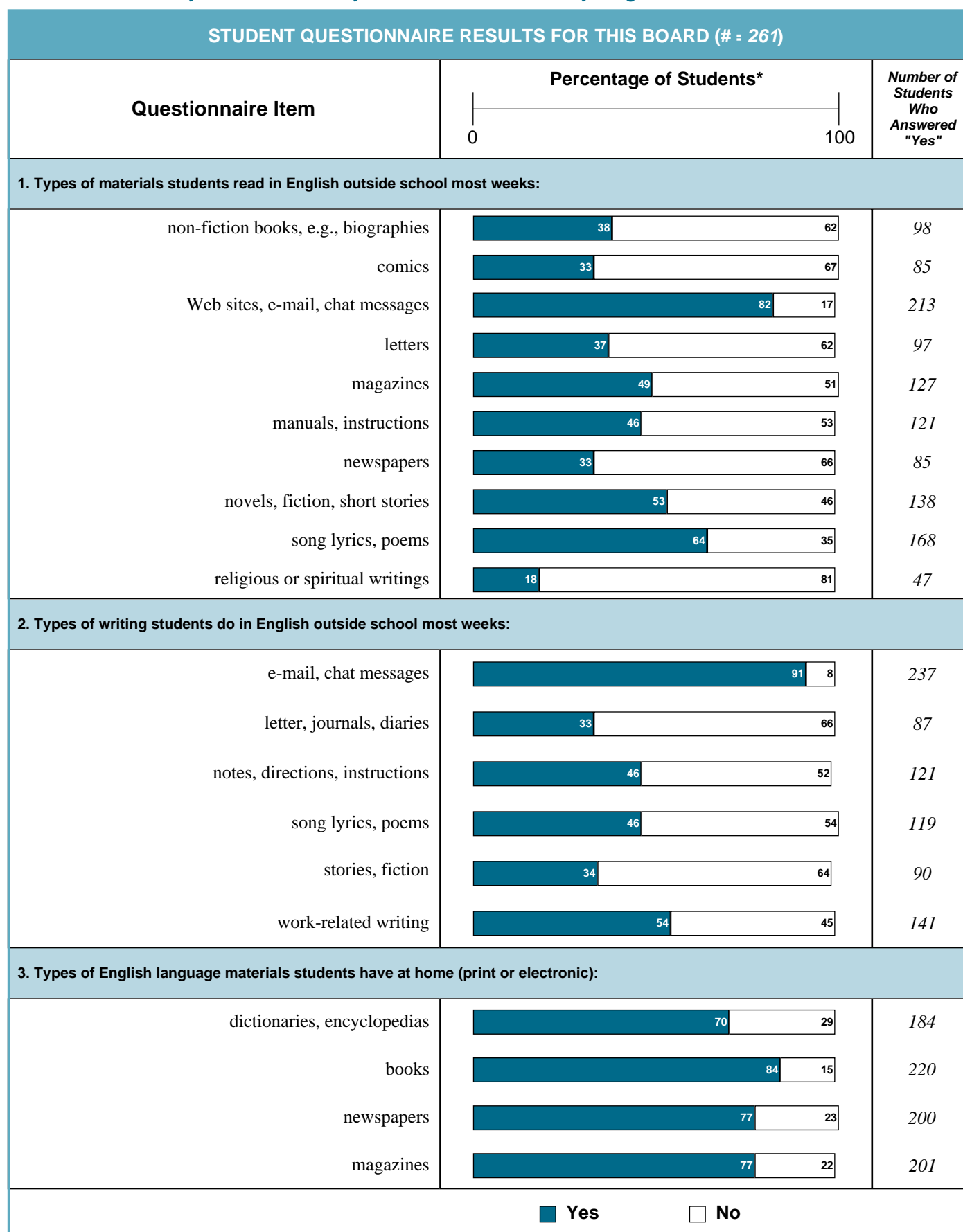


Provincial Results for Fully Participating Previously Eligible Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)



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

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, 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 2014, Previously Eligible Students

STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS FOR THIS BOARD (# = 261)		
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	41	108
more than one hour but less than three hours	30	77
more than three hours but less than five hours	13	34
five hours or more	15	40
5. Number of hours a week students write in English outside school, not including homework:		
one hour or less	44	114
more than one hour but less than three hours	29	75
more than three hours but less than five hours	15	39
five hours or more	11	30
6. How often students use a computer at home for homework:		
don't have a computer at home	10	25
never or hardly ever use a computer for homework	18	46
use a computer once or twice a month for homework	22	57
use a computer once or twice a week for homework	29	75
use a computer almost every day for homework	21	56
7. First language students learned at home was English:		
yes	90	236
no	10	25
8. Language(s) students speak at home:		
only or mostly English	83	217
another language (or other languages) as often as English	13	35
only or mostly another language (or other languages)	3	8

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

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, Previously Eligible Students

STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS FOR BOARD AND PROVINCE (all students, female, male)	Board			Province		
	All (#= 261)	Female* (#= 102)	Male* (#= 159)	All (#= 27 389)	Female* (#= 11 041)	Male* (#= 16 348)
Percentage of students indicating that they						
have a computer at home.	90%	89%	90%	92%	93%	91%
use the computer almost every day for homework.	21%	25%	19%	28%	30%	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	38%	30%	42%	38%	38%	38%
comics	33%	18%	42%	37%	30%	42%
Web sites, e-mail, chat messages	82%	83%	81%	88%	91%	85%
letters	37%	39%	36%	40%	44%	38%
magazines	49%	61%	41%	52%	61%	46%
manuals, instructions	46%	30%	57%	47%	37%	53%
newspapers	33%	24%	38%	42%	40%	44%
novels, fiction, short stories	53%	63%	47%	62%	75%	54%
song lyrics, poems	64%	70%	61%	70%	80%	62%
religious or spiritual writings	18%	13%	21%	27%	29%	26%
Percentage of students indicating that they read materials written in English outside school, not including homework, for						
more than three hours a week.	28%	30%	27%	30%	34%	27%
Percentage of students indicating that they have the following English language materials at home (print or electronic):						
dictionaries, encyclopedias	70%	72%	70%	74%	76%	72%
books	84%	93%	79%	87%	91%	85%
newspapers	77%	79%	75%	70%	70%	70%
magazines	77%	81%	74%	69%	72%	66%
Percentage of students indicating that they do the following types of writing in English outside school most weeks:						
e-mail, chat messages	91%	89%	92%	92%	94%	90%
letters, journals, diaries	33%	47%	25%	33%	47%	23%
notes, directions, instructions	46%	42%	49%	53%	55%	51%
song lyrics, poems	46%	53%	41%	45%	52%	40%
stories, fiction	34%	39%	31%	34%	38%	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.	26%	26%	26%	26%	29%	24%
Percentage of students indicating that the first language they learned at home was						
other than English.	10%	15%	6%	35%	39%	33%
Percentage of students indicating that they speak the following language(s) at home:**						
only or mostly English	83%	76%	87%	59%	56%	61%
another language (or other languages) as often as English	13%	19%	10%	22%	23%	22%
only or mostly another language (or other languages)	3%	4%	3%	17%	19%	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 2014

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

First-Time Eligible Students	First-time eligible students are working toward an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). These students are expected to write the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) for the first time in the spring of their second year of secondary school; this also applies to students who entered Grade 10 from out of province.
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 are now working toward an OSSD; entered Grade 11 or 12 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 are being withheld by EQAO. For further information, please contact personnel at the board.