

# School Report

## Previously Eligible Students



### Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013

**School: Holy Cross Catholic Academy HS (720488)**

**Board: York Catholic DSB (67075)**

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,

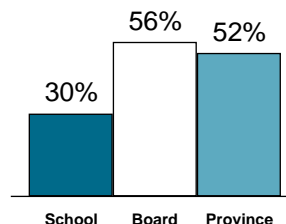
*Bruce Rodrigues*  
Chief Executive Officer  
Education Quality and Accountability Office

September 25, 2013

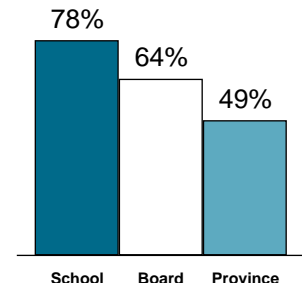
WHERE TO FIND . . .	PAGE
Summary of results: 2013.....	1
Tips for using this report.....	2
Contextual information: 2013.....	3
Detailed achievement results: 2013	
All students.....	4
Students by gender.....	5–7
English language learners.....	8
Students with special education needs.....	9
Students with special education needs receiving accommodations.....	10–12
Student questionnaire results .....	13–15
Explanation of terms .....	16

### PREVIOUSLY ELIGIBLE STUDENTS 2013: PARTICIPATION RATE AND ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS

**Percentage of Eligible Students Who Participated Fully**



**Percentage of Fully Participating Students Who Were Successful**



## TIPS

Each school is unique. To appreciate the distinctive character of a school, 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 schools 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 at this school 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 school compared to the board and province;
- ◆ 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 among this school, the board and the province. Consider the challenges that any differences might present.
- ◆ Examine the school 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 school principal or the school council 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](http://www.eqao.com).

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

### Contextual Information

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

	School		Board		Province	
<b>Enrolment</b>						
Number of previously eligible students	76		1 013		59 080	
Number of schools with previously eligible students	n/a		16		823	
Number of students who were exempted	13		126		2 309	
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
<b>Participation in the Test</b>						
Of all previously eligible students, those who participated fully in the assessment	23	30%	565	56%	30 626	52%
Of all previously eligible students, those who were absent	0	0%	35	3%	4 344	7%
Of all previously eligible students, those who were deferred	0	0%	52	5%	6 848	12%
Of all previously eligible students, those who are completing the literacy requirement through the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OSSLC)	53	70%	361	36%	17 262	29%
<b>Gender<sup>†</sup> Based on number of previously eligible students</b>						
Female	29	38%	410	40%	23 342	40%
Male	47	62%	603	60%	35 738	60%
Gender not specified	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
<b>Student Status<sup>†</sup> Based on number of previously eligible students</b>						
English language learners*	0	0%	101	10%	9 756	17%
English language learners receiving special provisions**	0	0%	92	16%	4 889	16%
Students with special education needs (excluding gifted)*	43	57%	430	42%	21 851	37%
Students with special education needs receiving accommodations (excluding gifted)**	8	35%	188	33%	9 576	31%
<b>Language<sup>††</sup> Based on Student Questionnaire data</b>						
	Number of Respondents:		22	543	29 436	
First language learned at home was other than English	4	18%	203	37%	10 265	35%
Speak only or mostly English at home	14	64%	277	51%	17 709	60%
Speak another language (or other languages) as often as English at home	6	27%	165	30%	6 463	22%
Speak only or mostly another language (or other languages) at home	1	5%	97	18%	4 925	17%

<sup>†</sup> 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.

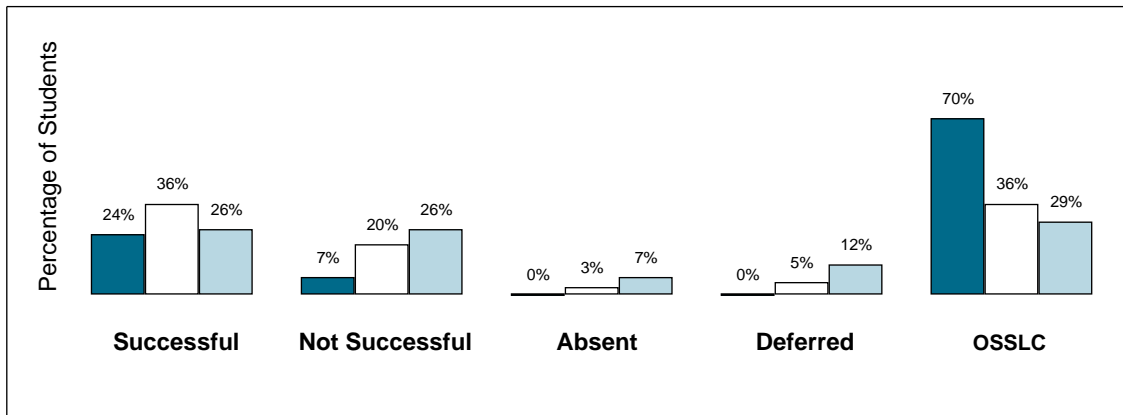
<sup>††</sup> Contextual data pertaining to "language" are gathered from the Student Questionnaire completed by students. Some data may be missing because they were not provided by students.

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

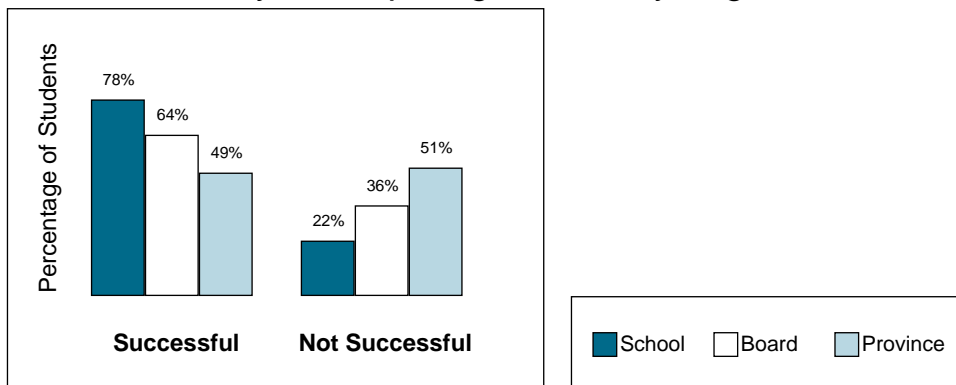
### Results for All Students\*

	Previously Eligible Students						
	All			Fully Participating			
	School # = 76	Board # = 1 013	Province # = 59 080	School # = 23	Board # = 565	Province # = 30 626	
Successful	18	24%	36%	26%	78%	64%	49%
Not Successful	5	7%	20%	26%	22%	36%	51%
<b>Fully Participating</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>52%</b>			
Absent	0	0%	3%	7%			
Deferred	0	0%	5%	12%			
OSSLC	53	70%	36%	29%			

### Results for All Previously Eligible Students



### Results for Fully Participating Previously Eligible Students



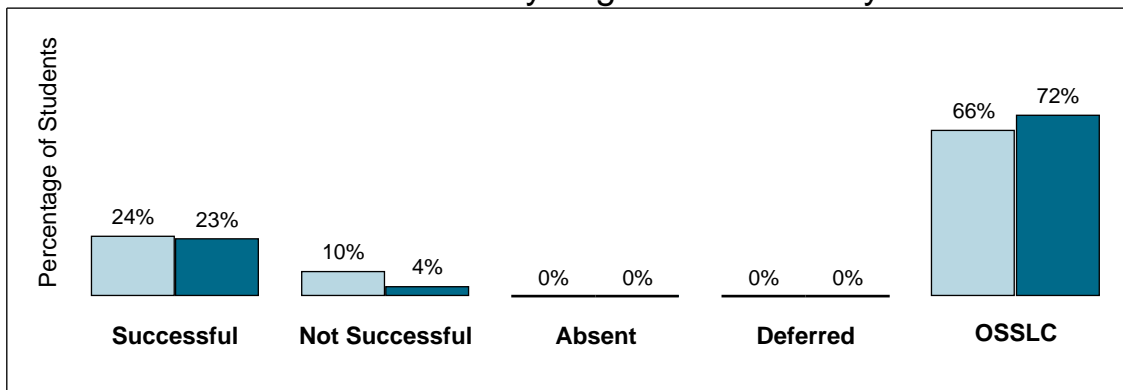
\* Percentages in tables and bar graphs may not add up to 100, due to rounding.

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

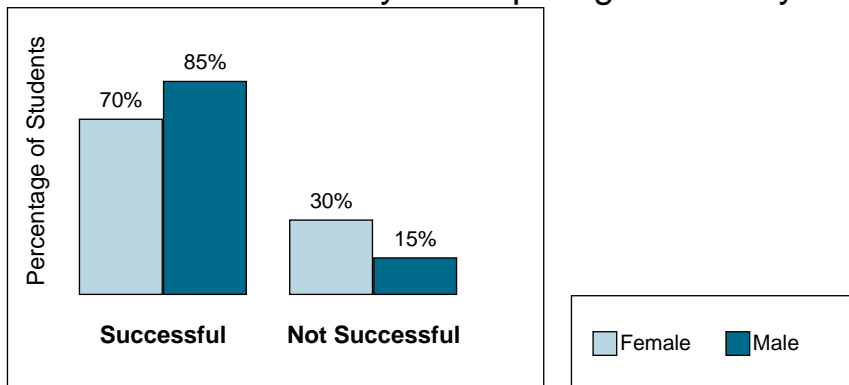
### School Results by Gender\*†

School Results by Gender Previously Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	Female # = 29		Male # = 47		Female # = 10	Male # = 13
Successful	7	24%	11	23%	70%	85%
Not Successful	3	10%	2	4%	30%	15%
<b>Fully Participating</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>28%</b>		
Absent	0	0%	0	0%		
Deferred	0	0%	0	0%		
OSSLC	19	66%	34	72%		

### School Results for All Previously Eligible Students by Gender



### School Results for Fully Participating Previously Eligible Students by Gender



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

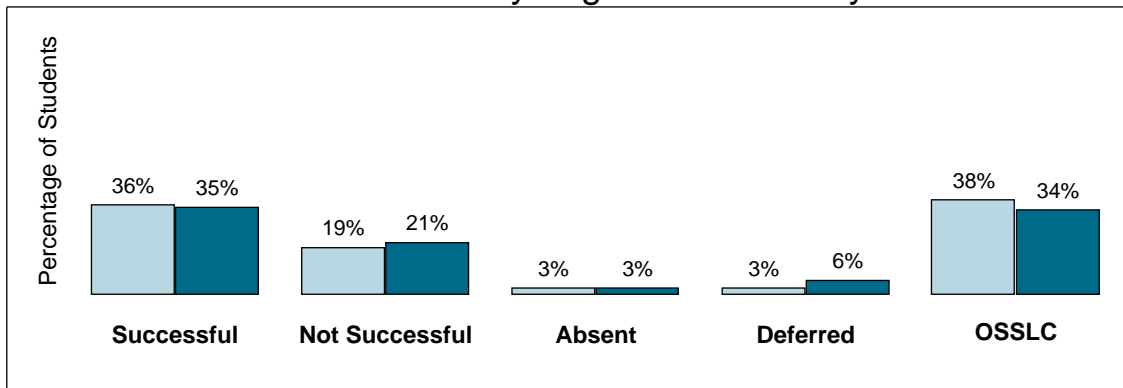
† Includes only students for whom gender data were available.

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

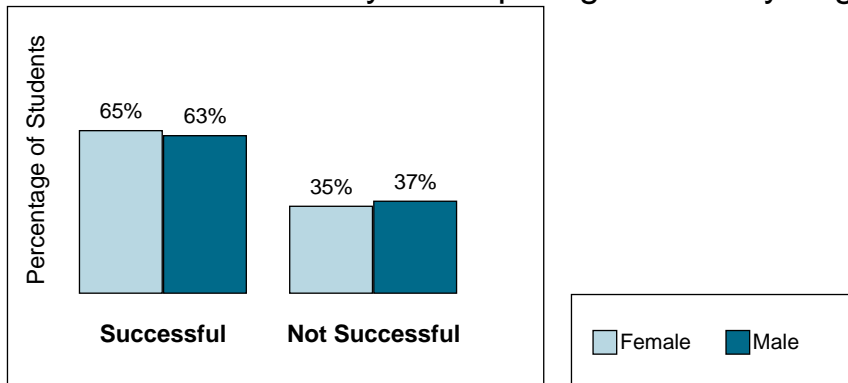
### Board Results by Gender\*†

Board Results by Gender Previously Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	Female # = 410		Male # = 603		Female # = 227	Male # = 338
Successful	148	36%	213	35%	65%	63%
Not Successful	79	19%	125	21%	35%	37%
<b>Fully Participating</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>56%</b>		
Absent	14	3%	21	3%		
Deferred	13	3%	39	6%		
OSSLC	156	38%	205	34%		

### 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.

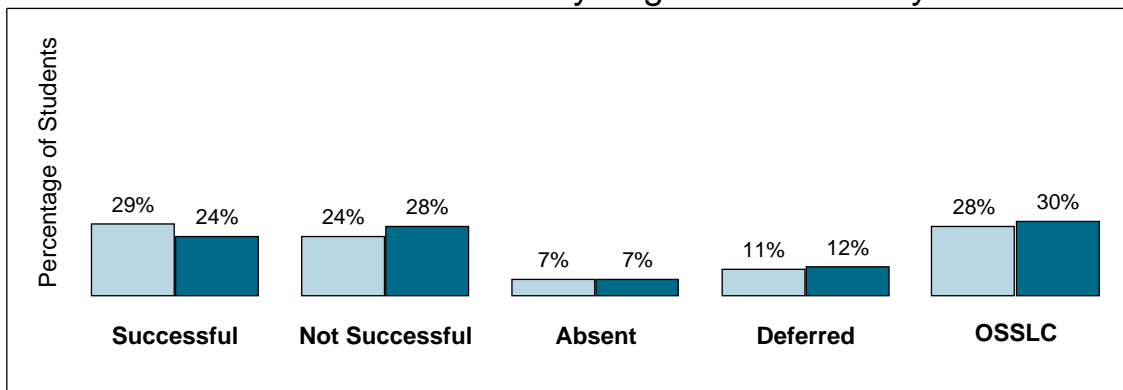
† Includes only students for whom gender data were available.

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

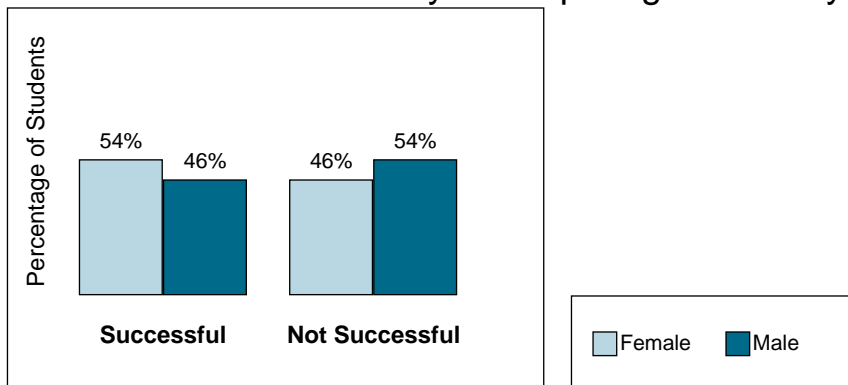
### Provincial Results by Gender\*†

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%	54%	46%
Not Successful	5 649	24%	9 856	28%	46%	54%
<b>Fully Participating</b>	<b>12 358</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>18 268</b>	<b>51%</b>		
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.

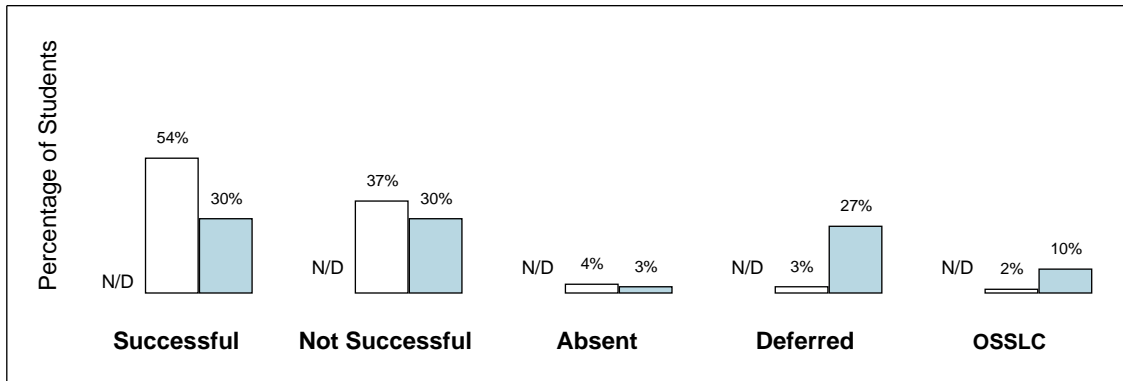
† Includes only students for whom gender data were available.

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

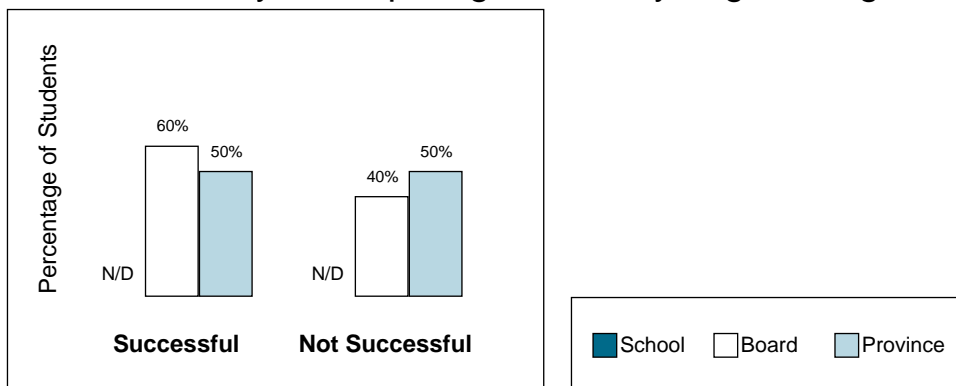
### Results for English Language Learners\*

Results for English Language Learners Previously Eligible Students						
	All			Fully Participating		
	School # = N/D	Board # = 101	Province # = 9 756	School # = N/D	Board # = 92	Province # = 5 865
Successful	N/D	N/D	54%	30%	N/D	60%
Not Successful	N/D	N/D	37%	30%	N/D	40%
<b>Fully Participating</b>	N/D	N/D	<b>91%</b>	<b>60%</b>		
Absent	N/D	N/D	4%	3%		
Deferred	N/D	N/D	3%	27%		
OSSLC	N/D	N/D	2%	10%		

### Results for All Previously Eligible English Language Learners



### Results for Fully Participating Previously Eligible English Language Learners



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

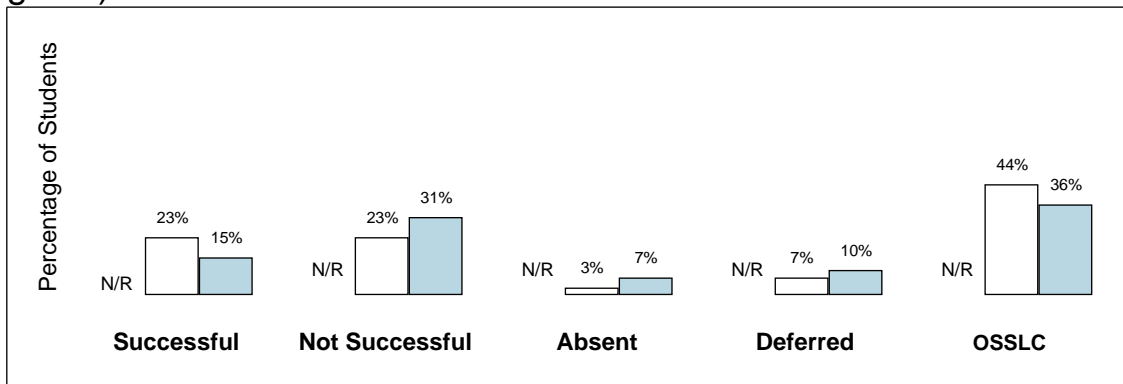


## Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013, Previously Eligible Students

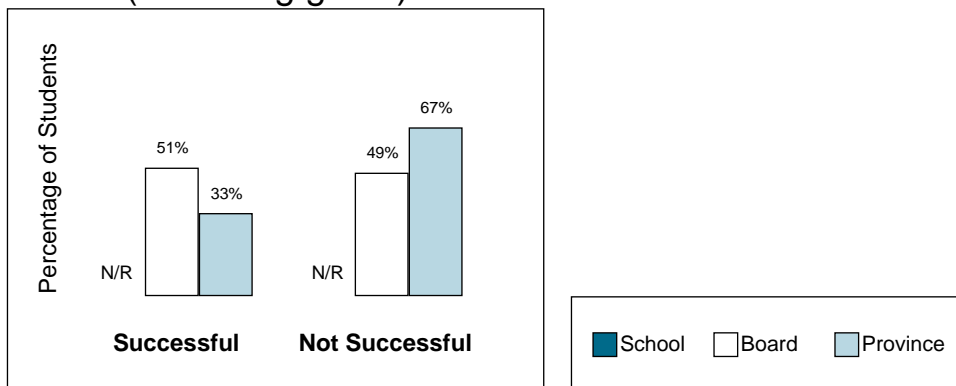
### Results for Students with Special Education Needs (excluding gifted)\*

	Results for Students with Special Education Needs (excluding gifted) Previously Eligible Students					
	All			Fully Participating		
	School # = N/R	Board # = 430	Province # = 21 851	School # = N/R	Board # = 198	Province # = 10 196
Successful	N/R	N/R	23%	15%	N/R	33%
Not Successful	N/R	N/R	23%	31%	N/R	67%
<b>Fully Participating</b>	N/R	N/R	46%	47%		
Absent	N/R	N/R	3%	7%		
Deferred	N/R	N/R	7%	10%		
OSSLC	N/R	N/R	44%	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)



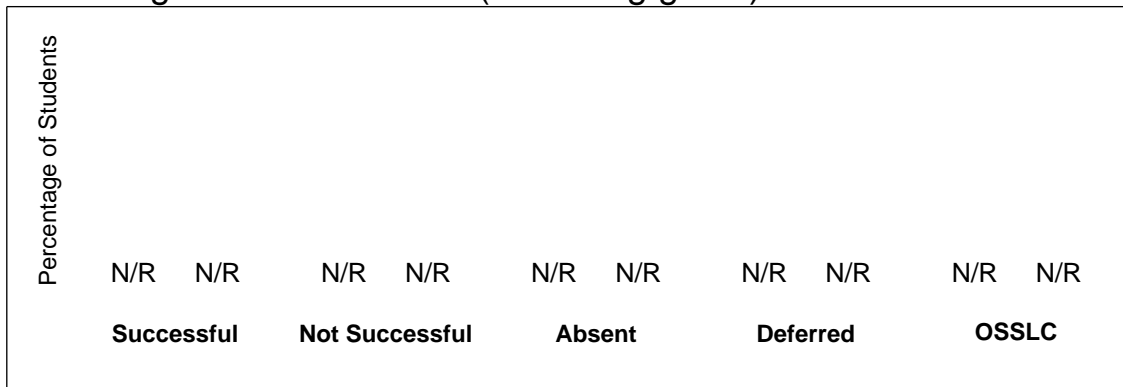
\* Percentages in tables and bar graphs may not add up to 100, due to rounding.

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

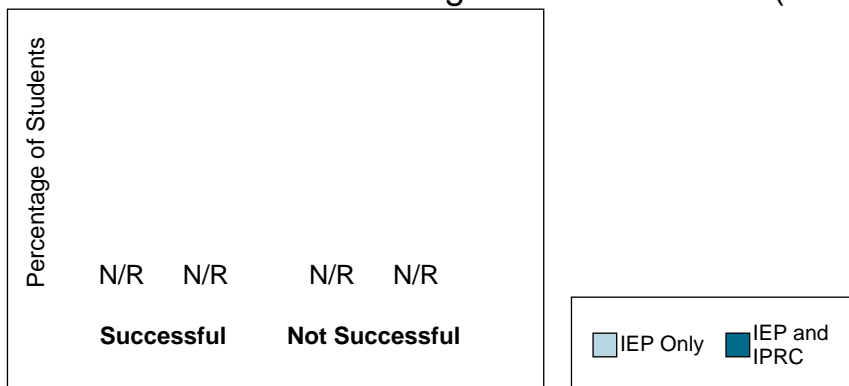
### School Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)\*

	School Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted) Previously Eligible Students							
	All				Fully Participating			
	IEP Only # = N/R		IEP and IPRC # = N/R		IEP Only # = N/R		IEP and IPRC # = N/R	
Successful	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R
Not Successful	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R
<b>Fully Participating</b>	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R
Absent	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R
Deferred	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R
OSSLC	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R

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



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



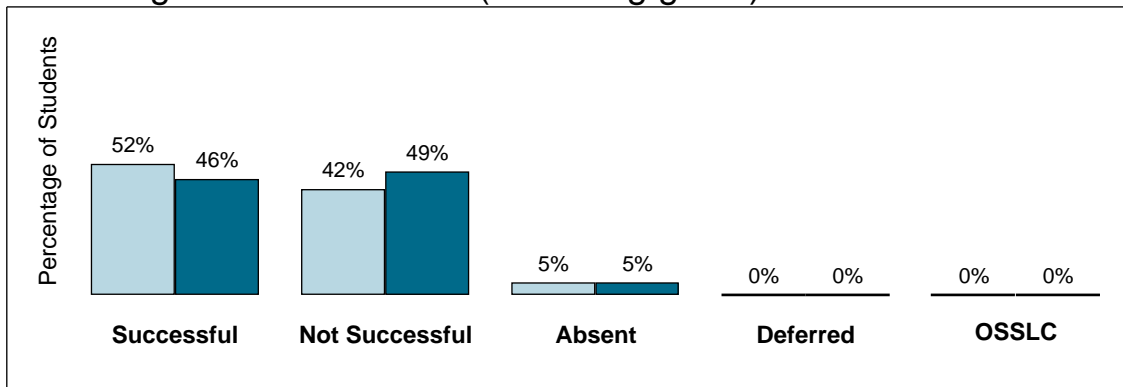
\* Percentages in tables and bar graphs may not add up to 100, due to rounding.

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

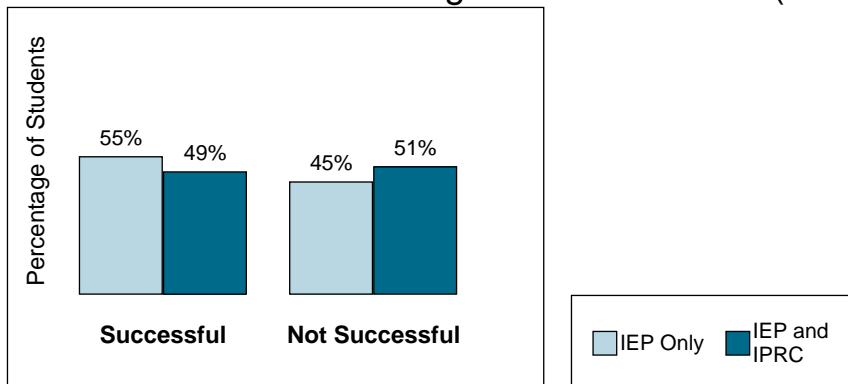
### Board Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)\*

Board Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted) Previously Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	IEP Only # = 40		IEP and IPRC # = 158		IEP Only # = 38	IEP and IPRC # = 150
Successful	21	52%	73	46%	55%	49%
Not Successful	17	42%	77	49%	45%	51%
<b>Fully Participating</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>95%</b>		
Absent	2	5%	8	5%		
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)



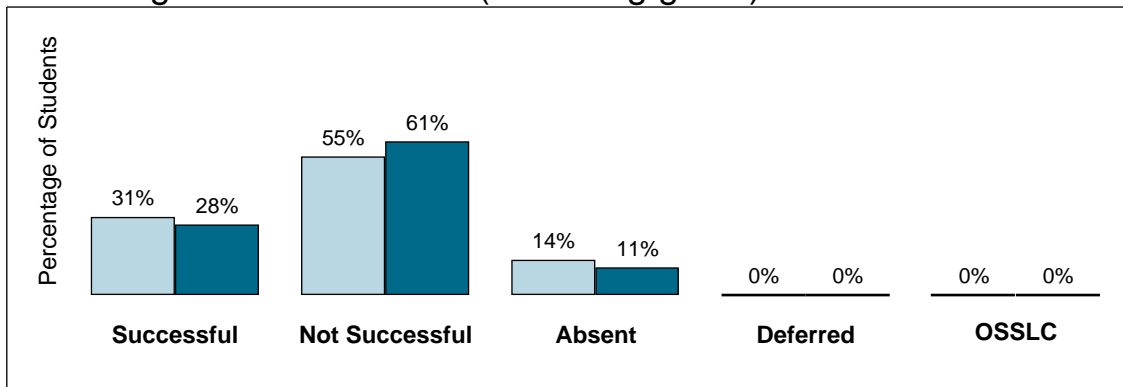
\* Percentages in tables and bar graphs may not add up to 100, due to rounding.

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

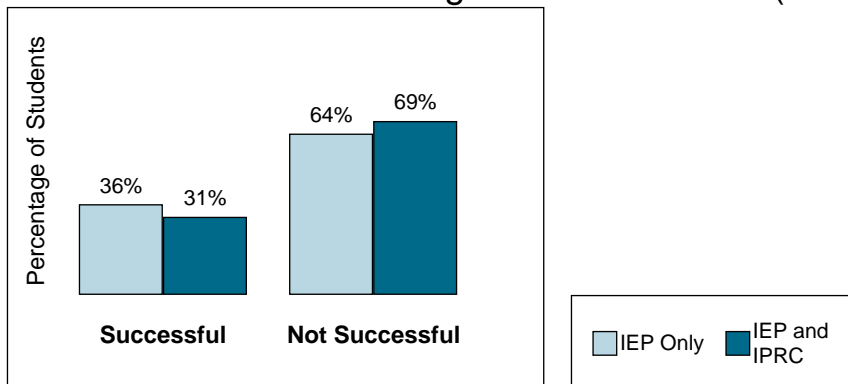
### Provincial Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)\*

	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%
<b>Fully Participating</b>	<b>3 423</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>6 153</b>	<b>89%</b>		
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)

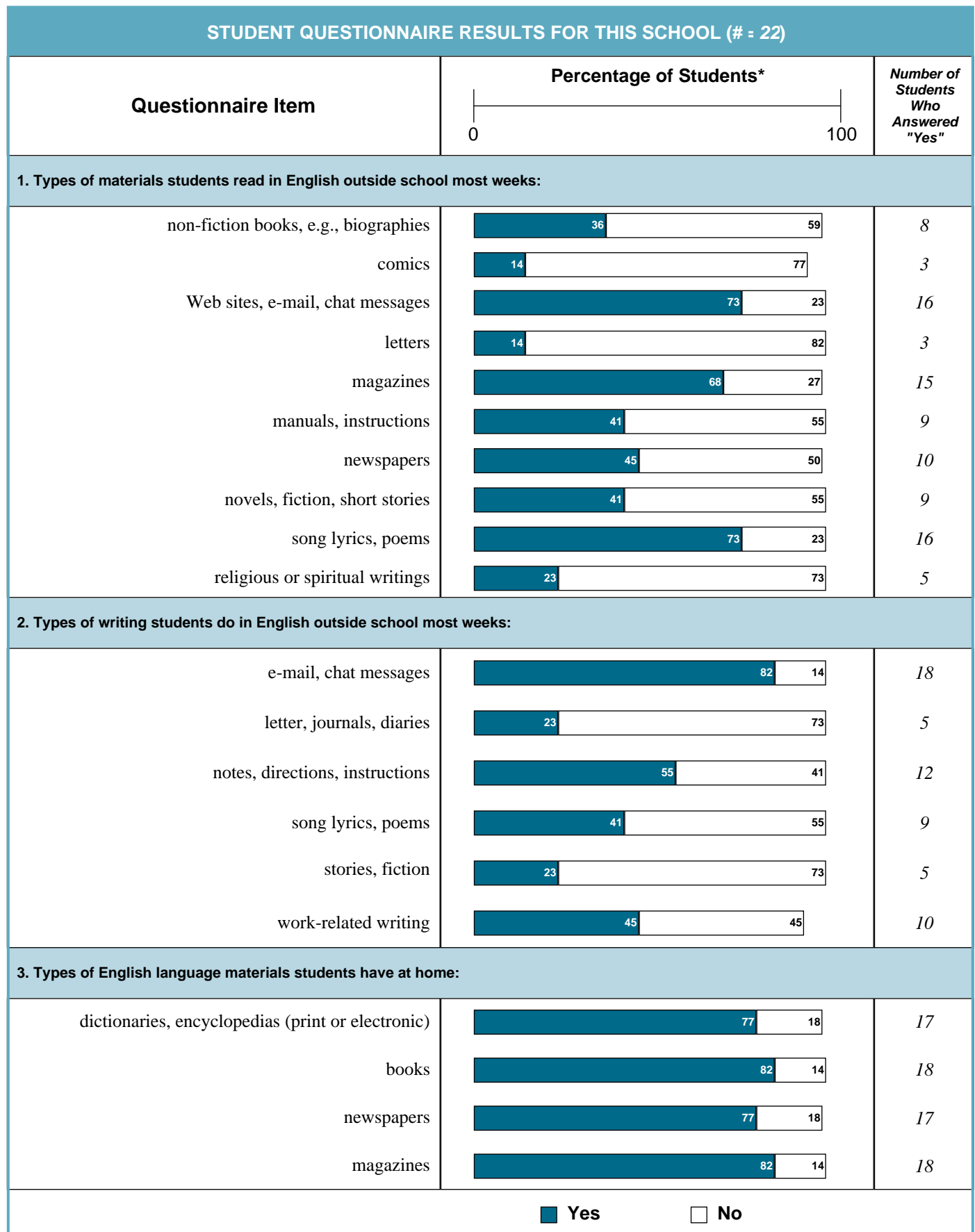


### Provincial Results for Fully Participating Previously Eligible Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)



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



















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



Yes       No

\* 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 SCHOOL (# = 22)		
Questionnaire Item	Percentage of Students*	Number of Students
<b>4. Number of hours a week students read materials written in English outside school, not including homework:</b>		
one hour or less	 59	13
more than one hour but less than three hours	 14	3
more than three hours but less than five hours	 18	4
five hours or more	 5	1
<b>5. Number of hours a week students write in English outside school, not including homework:</b>		
one hour or less	 64	14
more than one hour but less than three hours	 5	1
more than three hours but less than five hours	 18	4
five hours or more	 9	2
<b>6. How often students use a computer at home for homework:</b>		
don't have a computer at home	 0	0
never or hardly ever use a computer for homework	 18	4
use a computer once or twice a month for homework	 18	4
use a computer once or twice a week for homework	 14	3
use a computer almost every day for homework	 45	10
<b>7. First language students learned at home was English:</b>		
yes	 82	18
no	 18	4
<b>8. Language(s) students speak at home:</b>		
only or mostly English	 64	14
another language (or other languages) as often as English	 27	6
only or mostly another language (or other languages)	 5	1

\* 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 SCHOOL, BOARD AND PROVINCE (all students, female, male)	School			Board			Province		
	All (#= 22)	Female* (#= 10)	Male* (#= 12)	All (#= 543)	Female* (#= 216)	Male* (#= 327)	All (#= 29 436)	Female* (#= 11 965)	Male* (#= 17 471)
<b>Percentage of students indicating that they</b>									
have a computer at home	95%	100%	92%	96%	96%	95%	93%	95%	92%
use the computer almost every day for homework	45%	40%	50%	35%	38%	34%	28%	32%	26%
<b>Percentage of students indicating that they read the following types of materials in English outside school most weeks:</b>									
non-fiction books, e.g., biographies	36%	30%	42%	37%	32%	40%	38%	39%	38%
comics	14%	10%	17%	33%	25%	38%	37%	30%	42%
Web sites, e-mail, chat messages	73%	90%	58%	87%	90%	86%	88%	91%	86%
letters	14%	20%	8%	38%	43%	35%	42%	46%	40%
magazines	68%	90%	50%	58%	72%	49%	57%	67%	50%
manuals, instructions	41%	40%	42%	50%	45%	53%	48%	40%	54%
newspapers	45%	30%	58%	42%	39%	44%	46%	45%	47%
novels, fiction, short stories	41%	40%	42%	56%	69%	48%	61%	73%	52%
song lyrics, poems	73%	80%	67%	74%	85%	66%	69%	80%	60%
religious or spiritual writings	23%	40%	8%	28%	33%	25%	27%	28%	26%
<b>Percentage of students indicating that they read materials written in English outside school, not including homework, for</b>									
more than three hours a week.	23%	20%	25%	24%	26%	23%	28%	32%	25%
<b>Percentage of students indicating that they have the following English language materials at home:</b>									
dictionaries, encyclopedias (print or electronic)	77%	80%	75%	83%	86%	80%	79%	81%	78%
books	82%	90%	75%	86%	90%	83%	86%	91%	84%
newspapers	77%	70%	83%	75%	78%	73%	72%	72%	72%
magazines	82%	80%	83%	76%	81%	72%	71%	76%	68%
<b>Percentage of students indicating that they do the following types of writing in English outside school most weeks:</b>									
e-mail, chat messages	82%	90%	75%	89%	91%	87%	91%	94%	90%
letters, journals, diaries	23%	50%	0%	29%	40%	21%	33%	48%	23%
notes, directions, instructions	55%	60%	50%	49%	50%	48%	52%	56%	50%
song lyrics, poems	41%	30%	50%	44%	49%	41%	45%	52%	40%
stories, fiction	23%	50%	0%	33%	33%	32%	32%	36%	30%
work-related writing	45%	60%	33%	60%	65%	57%	55%	56%	55%
<b>Percentage of students indicating that they write in English outside school, not including homework, for</b>									
more than three hours a week.	27%	30%	25%	22%	26%	20%	25%	28%	24%
<b>Percentage of students indicating that the first language they learned at home was</b>									
other than English.	18%	30%	8%	37%	38%	37%	35%	38%	33%
<b>Percentage of students indicating that they speak the following language(s) at home:**</b>									
only or mostly English	64%	70%	58%	51%	50%	51%	60%	58%	62%
another language (or other languages) as often as English	27%	30%	25%	30%	32%	29%	22%	23%	21%
only or mostly another language (or other languages)	5%	0%	8%	18%	17%	19%	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

<b>First-Time Eligible Students</b>	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.
<b>Previously Eligible Students</b>	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.
<b>All Eligible Students</b>	This method of reporting provides percentages based on <b>all</b> 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).
<b>Fully Participating Students</b>	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.
<b>Successful</b>	Students who fully participated in the OSSLT and received a score that met the expected standard.
<b>Not Successful</b>	Students who fully participated in the OSSLT and received a score that did not meet the expected standard.
<b>Absent</b>	Students who did not submit work for one or both sessions due to absence or for other reasons.
<b>Deferred</b>	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.
<b>OSSLC</b>	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 ( <a href="http://www.edu.gov.on.ca">www.edu.gov.on.ca</a> ). If a student completed any portion of the OSSLT, he or she is not categorized as OSSLC.
<b>Exempted</b>	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.
<b>English Language Learners</b>	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).
<b>English Language Learners Receiving Special Provisions</b>	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> .
<b>Students with Special Education Needs(excluding gifted)</b>	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.
<b>Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)</b>	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> .
<b>N/D</b>	"No data available" is used to indicate that there were no students in the group or year specified.
<b>W</b>	Results are being withheld by EQAO. For further information, please contact the school principal.