



School Report

First-Time Eligible Students



Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test, March 2008

School: Dante Alighieri Academy Sep S (702935)

Board: Toronto Catholic District School Board (67059)

I am pleased to provide you with this report which shows the achievement of students on the March 2008 OSSLT and the previous four administrations.

Designed in close collaboration with Ontario educators, EQAO assessments ensure that the achievement of all students in publicly funded schools across the province is measured against a common benchmark at key stages in their education. By providing this snapshot of how well Ontario students are learning the expectations of *The Ontario Curriculum*, EQAO's large-scale testing results have become an important tool to support student achievement.

Literacy is a gift for life. That is why EQAO strives to provide objective and reliable information that helps identify and address learning needs so that students may reach their full potential.

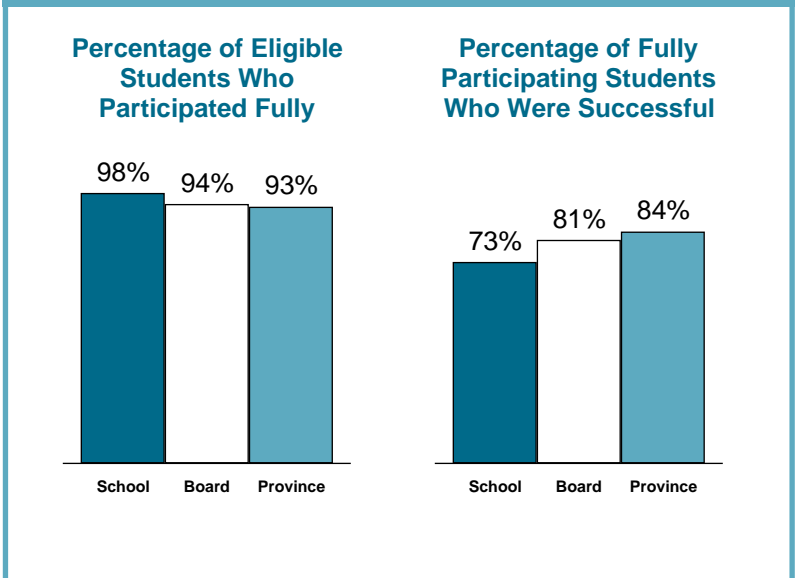
EQAO's literacy test results are to be used in conjunction with school-based data, such as that from regular classroom assessments. When used together, these sources provide a more complete picture of student knowledge and skills than they would separately. I trust this report will contribute to building strong literacy skills—skills that are so essential to living a fulfilling life.

Sincerely,

Marguerite Jackson
 Chief Executive Officer
 Education Quality and Accountability Office

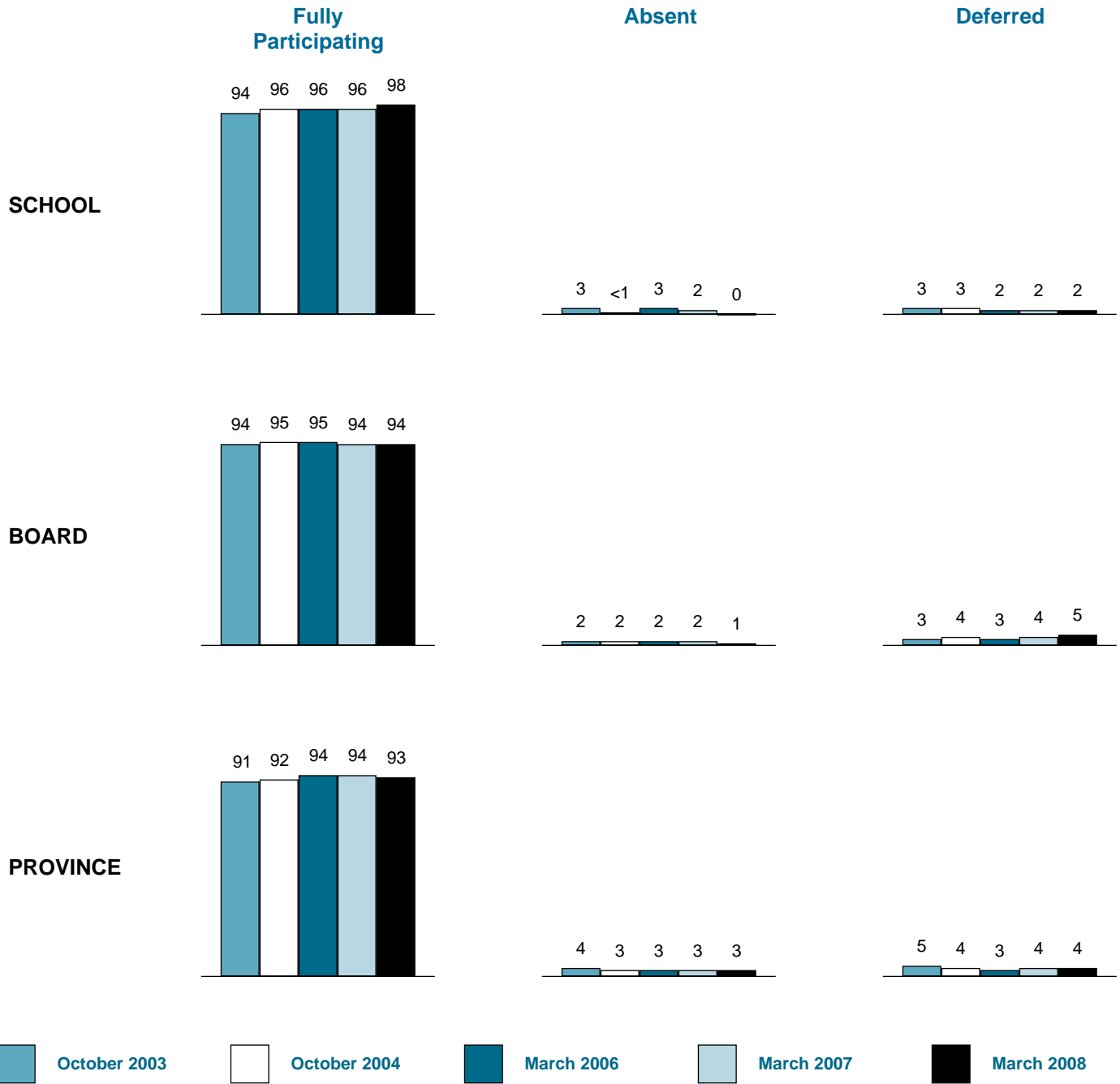
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FIRST-TIME ELIGIBLE STUDENTS, MARCH 2008: PARTICIPATION RATE AND ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS



PARTICIPATION RATES FOR ALL FIRST-TIME ELIGIBLE STUDENTS OVER TIME

PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS*



Number of First-Time Eligible Students

	<u>October 2003</u>	<u>October 2004</u>	<u>March 2006</u>	<u>March 2007</u>	<u>March 2008</u>
School	377	320	312	340	362
Board	6 484	6 911	6 819	6 804	6 897
Province	157 464	160 088	158 817	155 906	156 151

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

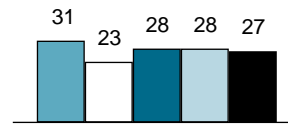
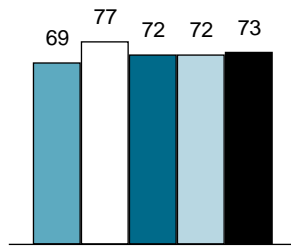
ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR FULLY PARTICIPATING FIRST-TIME ELIGIBLE STUDENTS OVER TIME

PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS*

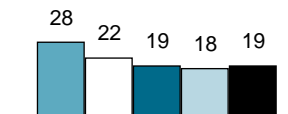
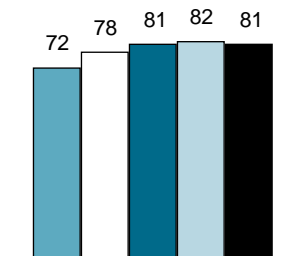
Successful

Not Successful

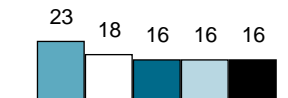
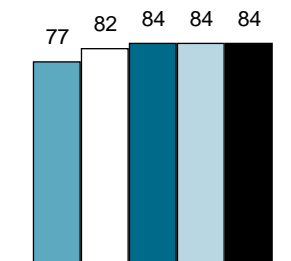
SCHOOL



BOARD



PROVINCE



Number of Fully Participating First-Time Eligible Students

	<u>October 2003</u>	<u>October 2004</u>	<u>March 2006</u>	<u>March 2007</u>	<u>March 2008</u>
School	355	308	299	327	355
Board	6 113	6 533	6 480	6 415	6 472
Province	143 025	147 781	149 098	146 173	145 603

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

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. Results may vary considerably from year to year, and differences may look exaggerated. For example, in a group of 30 students, a difference of 10% represents only three students.



Trends may be difficult to identify or to interpret. This is especially true in small schools 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 15 students fully participated, 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;
- ◆ a comparison of results over the past five 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 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.

OSSLT Results for First-Time Eligible Students, March 2008

Contextual Information

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

	School		Board		Province	
Enrolment						
Number of first-time eligible students	362		6 897		156 151	
Number of schools with first-time eligible students	n/a		36		782	
Number of students who were exempted	1		47		1 759	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Participation in the Test						
Of all first-time eligible students, those who participated fully in the assessment	355	98%	6 472	94%	145 603	93%
Of all first-time eligible students, those who were absent	0	0%	84	1%	4 357	3%
Of all first-time eligible students, those who were deferred	7	2%	341	5%	6 191	4%
Gender[†] Based on number of first-time eligible students						
Female	152	42%	3 529	51%	76 226	49%
Male	210	58%	3 364	49%	79 904	51%
Gender not specified	0	0%	4	<1%	21	<1%
Student Status[†] Based on number of first-time eligible students						
English language learners*	14	4%	298	4%	6 121	4%
English language learners receiving special provisions**	11	3%	103	2%	2 558	2%
Students with special needs (excluding gifted)*	74	20%	1 010	15%	23 322	15%
Students with special needs receiving accommodations (excluding gifted)**	72	20%	844	13%	17 719	12%
Level of Study for English[†] Based on number of first-time eligible students						
Academic	237	65%	4 779	69%	103 774	66%
Applied	95	26%	1 575	23%	38 834	25%
Locally developed	19	5%	227	3%	5 838	4%
ESL/ELD	9	2%	256	4%	4 283	3%
Other	2	1%	56	1%	3 351	2%
Language^{††} Based on Student Questionnaire data						
	Number of Respondents:		352		6 379	
					143 535	
First language learned at home was other than English	147	42%	2 384	37%	30 991	22%
Speak only or mostly English at home	162	46%	3 705	58%	110 122	77%
Speak another language (or languages) as often as English at home	139	39%	1 898	30%	23 038	16%
Speak only or mostly another language (or other languages) at home	46	13%	736	12%	9 636	7%

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

* See Explanation of Terms.

** Percentages are based on fully participating students.

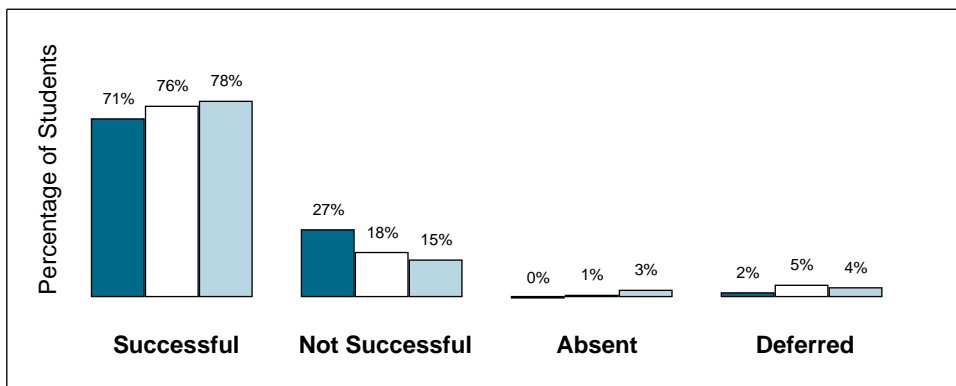
^{††} Demographic information pertaining to "language" is gathered from the Student Questionnaire completed by students. Some data may be missing because they were not provided by students.

OSSLT Results for First-Time Eligible Students, March 2008

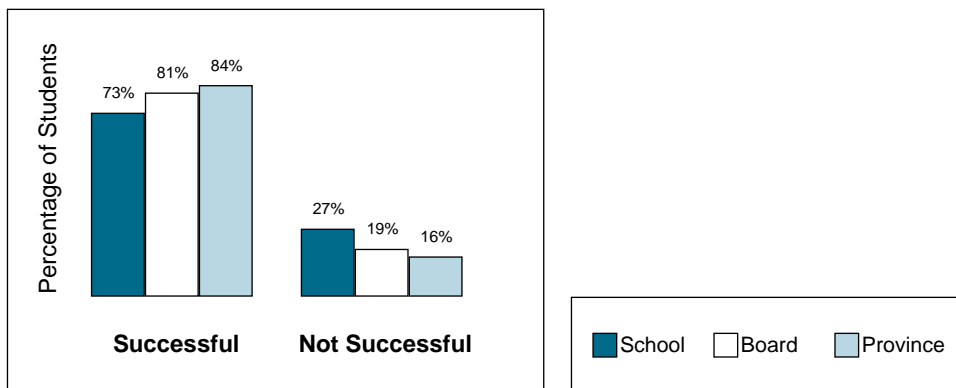
Results for All First-Time Eligible Students*

	First-Time Eligible Students						
	All			Fully Participating			
	School # = 362	Board # = 6 897	Province # = 156 151	School # = 355	Board # = 6 472	Province # = 145 603	
Successful	258	71%	76%	78%	73%	81%	84%
Not Successful	97	27%	18%	15%	27%	19%	16%
Fully Participating	355	98%	94%	93%			
Absent	0	0%	1%	3%			
Deferred	7	2%	5%	4%			

Results for All First-Time Eligible Students



Results for Fully Participating First-Time Eligible Students



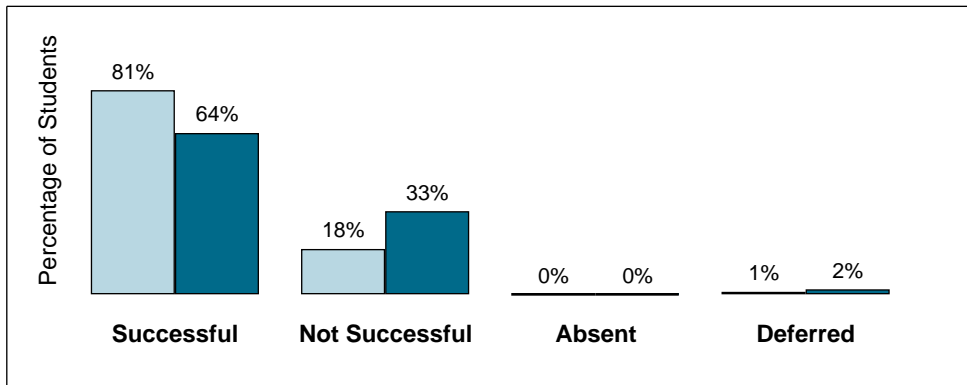
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OSSLT Results for First-Time Eligible Students, March 2008

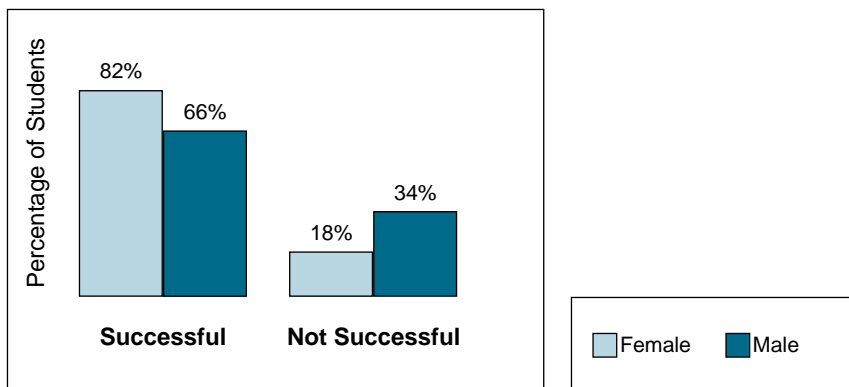
School Results by Gender^{*†}

School Results by Gender First-Time Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	Female # = 152		Male # = 210		Female # = 150	Male # = 205
Successful	123	81%	135	64%	82%	66%
Not Successful	27	18%	70	33%	18%	34%
Fully Participating	150	99%	205	98%		
Absent	0	0%	0	0%		
Deferred	2	1%	5	2%		

School Results for All First-Time Eligible Students by Gender



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



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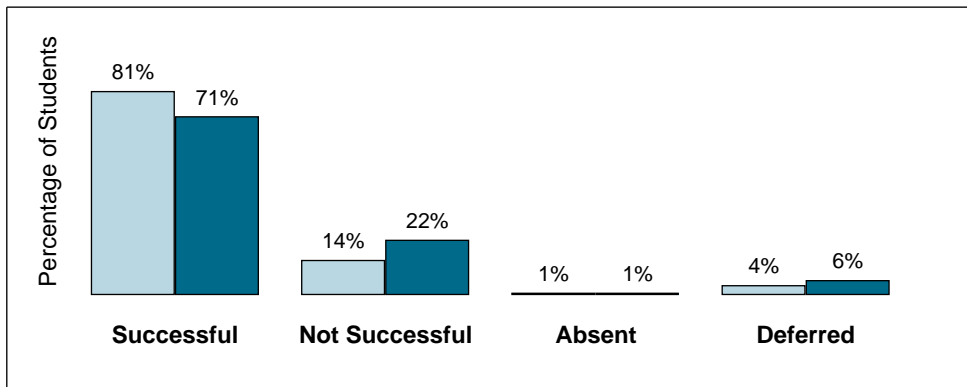
† Based on information provided by schools through the Student Data Collection process. Includes only students for whom gender data were available.

OSSLT Results for First-Time Eligible Students, March 2008

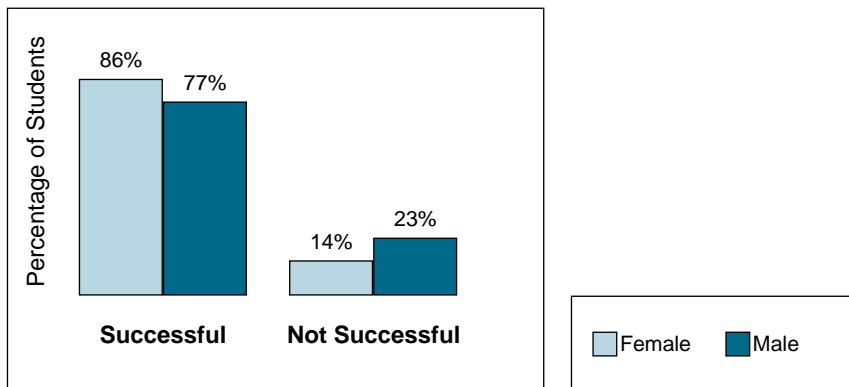
Board Results by Gender*†

Board Results by Gender First-Time Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	Female # = 3 529		Male # = 3 364		Female # = 3 335	Male # = 3 133
Successful	2 858	81%	2 403	71%	86%	77%
Not Successful	477	14%	730	22%	14%	23%
Fully Participating	3 335	95%	3 133	93%		
Absent	45	1%	39	1%		
Deferred	149	4%	192	6%		

Board Results for All First-Time Eligible Students by Gender



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



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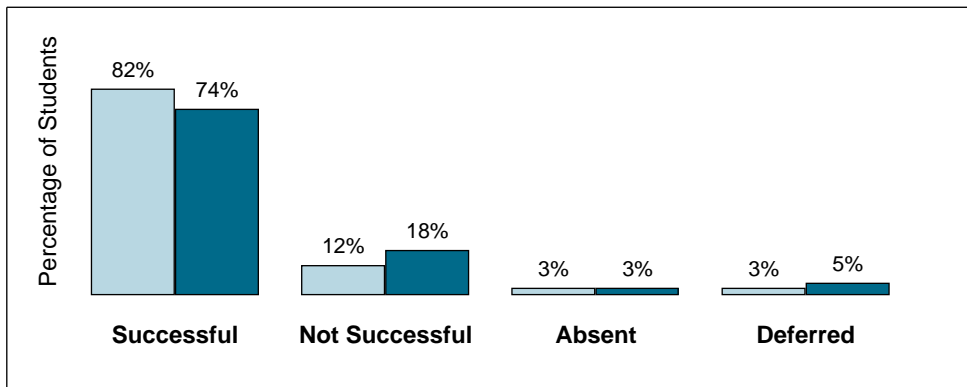
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OSSLT Results for First-Time Eligible Students, March 2008

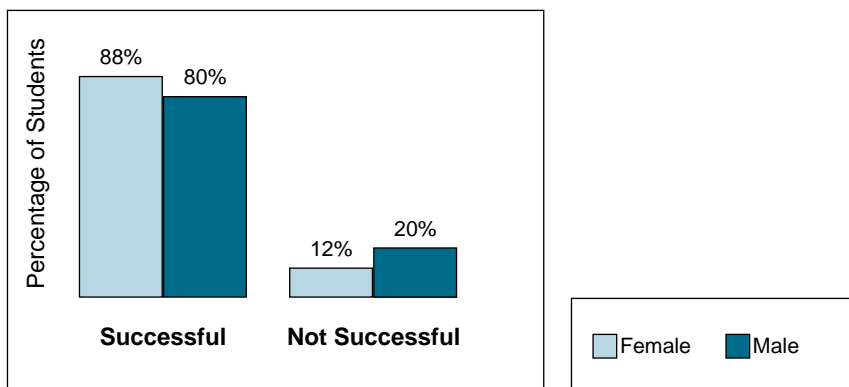
Provincial Results by Gender*†

Provincial Results by Gender First-Time Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	Female # = 76 226		Male # = 79 904		Female # = 71 615	Male # = 73 969
Successful	62 806	82%	59 503	74%	88%	80%
Not Successful	8 809	12%	14 466	18%	12%	20%
Fully Participating	71 615	94%	73 969	93%		
Absent	2 131	3%	2 224	3%		
Deferred	2 480	3%	3 711	5%		

Provincial Results for All First-Time Eligible Students by Gender



Provincial 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.

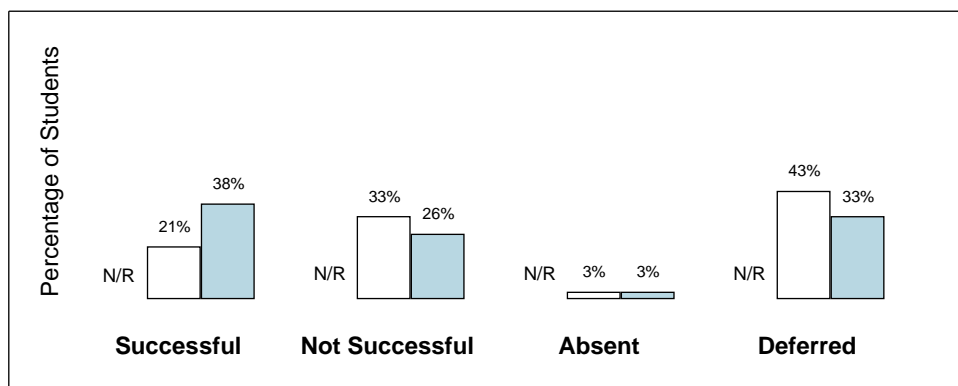
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OSSLT Results for First-Time Eligible Students, March 2008

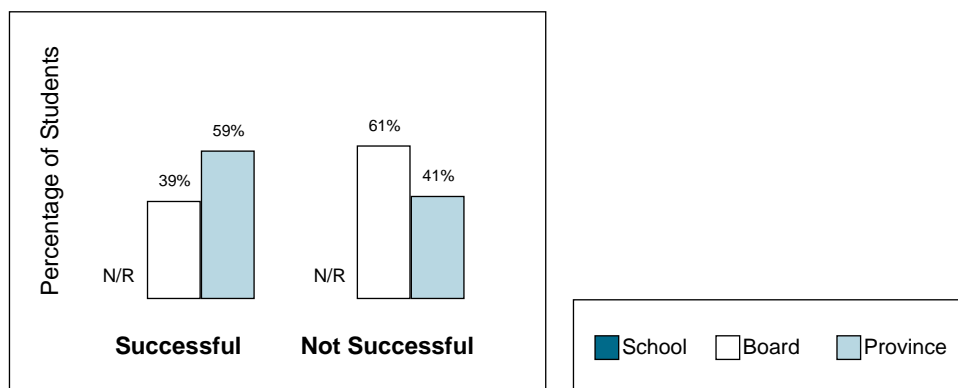
Results for English Language Learners*†

Results for English Language Learners First-Time Eligible Students						
	All			Fully Participating		
	School # = N/R	Board # = 298	Province # = 6 121	School # = N/R	Board # = 162	Province # = 3 918
Successful	N/R	N/R	21%	38%	N/R	39%
Not Successful	N/R	N/R	33%	26%	N/R	61%
Fully Participating	N/R	N/R	54%	64%		
Absent	N/R	N/R	3%	3%		
Deferred	N/R	N/R	43%	33%		

Results for All First-Time Eligible English Language Learners



Results for Fully Participating First-Time Eligible English Language Learners



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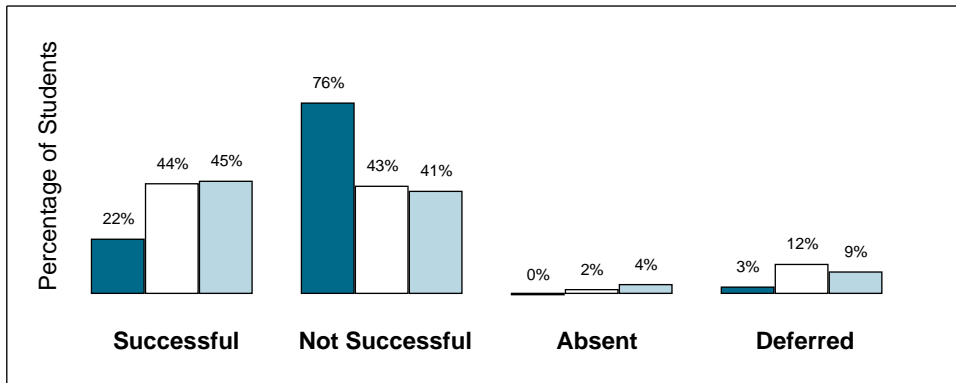
†Based on information provided by schools through the Student Data Collection process.

OSSLT Results for First-Time Eligible Students, March 2008

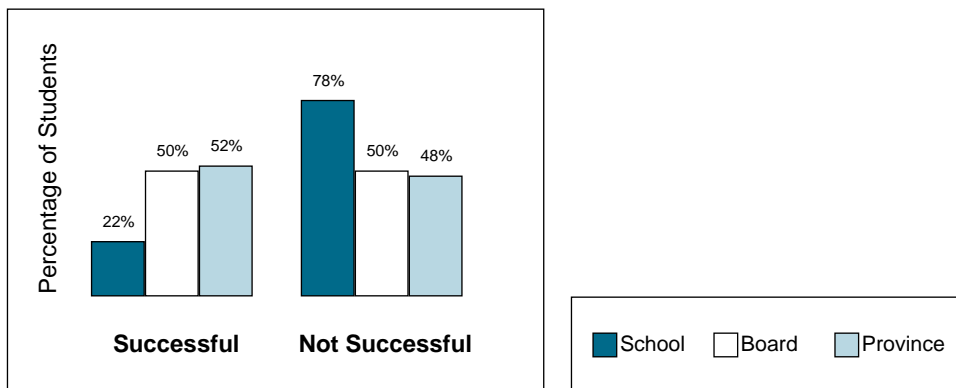
Results for Students with Special Needs (excluding gifted)^{*†}

Results for Students with Special Needs (excluding gifted) First-Time Eligible Students							
	All			Fully Participating			
	School # = 74	Board # = 1 010	Province # = 23 322	School # = 72	Board # = 872	Province # = 20 240	
Successful	16	22%	44%	45%	22%	50%	52%
Not Successful	56	76%	43%	41%	78%	50%	48%
Fully Participating	72	97%	86%	87%			
Absent	0	0%	2%	4%			
Deferred	2	3%	12%	9%			

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



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



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

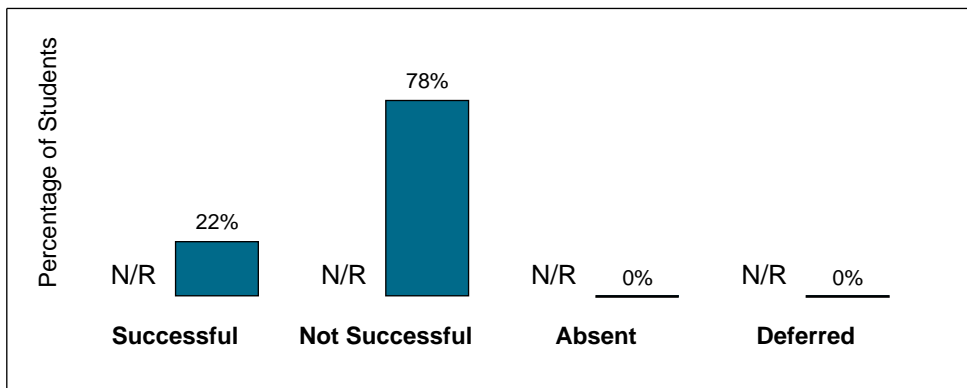
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OSSLT Results for First-Time Eligible Students, March 2008

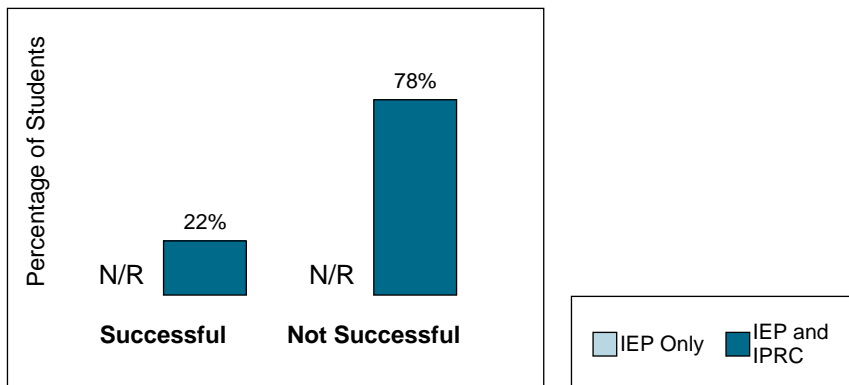
School Results for Students with Special Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)*†

School Results for Students with Special Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted) First-Time Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	IEP Only # = N/R		IEP and IPRC # = 65		IEP Only # = N/R	IEP and IPRC # = 65
Successful	N/R	N/R	14	22%	N/R	22%
Not Successful	N/R	N/R	51	78%	N/R	78%
Fully Participating	N/R	N/R	65	100%		
Absent	N/R	N/R	0	0%		
Deferred	N/R	N/R	0	0%		

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



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



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

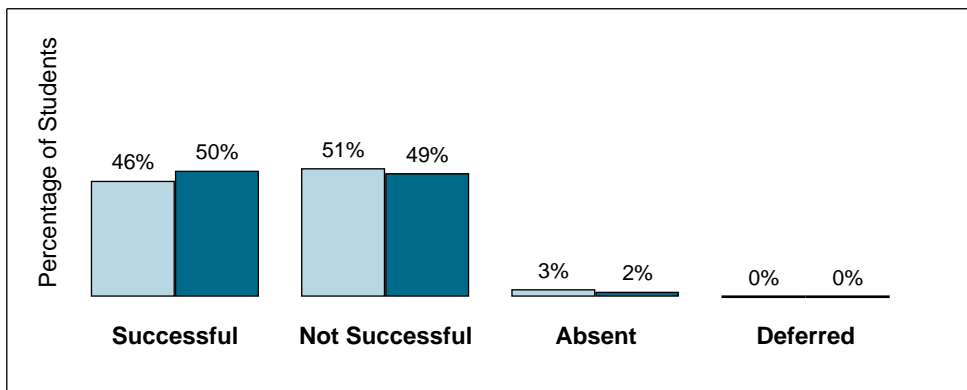
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OSSLT Results for First-Time Eligible Students, March 2008

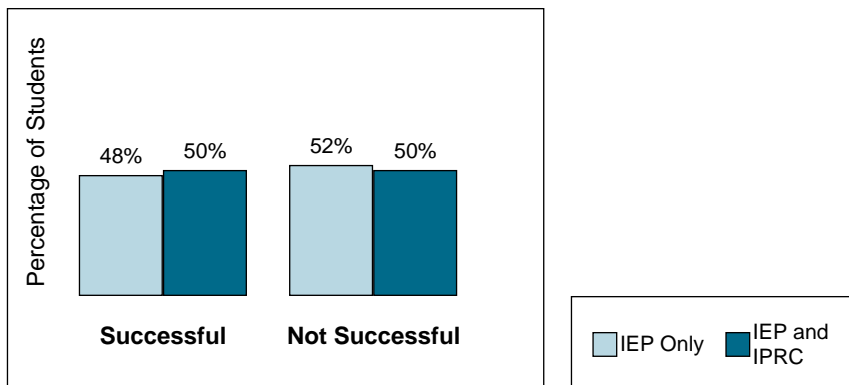
Board Results for Students with Special Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)*†

Board Results for Students with Special Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted) First-Time Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	IEP Only # = 104		IEP and IPRC # = 757		IEP Only # = 101	IEP and IPRC # = 743
Successful	48	46%	375	50%	48%	50%
Not Successful	53	51%	368	49%	52%	50%
Fully Participating	101	97%	743	98%		
Absent	3	3%	14	2%		
Deferred	0	0%	0	0%		

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



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



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

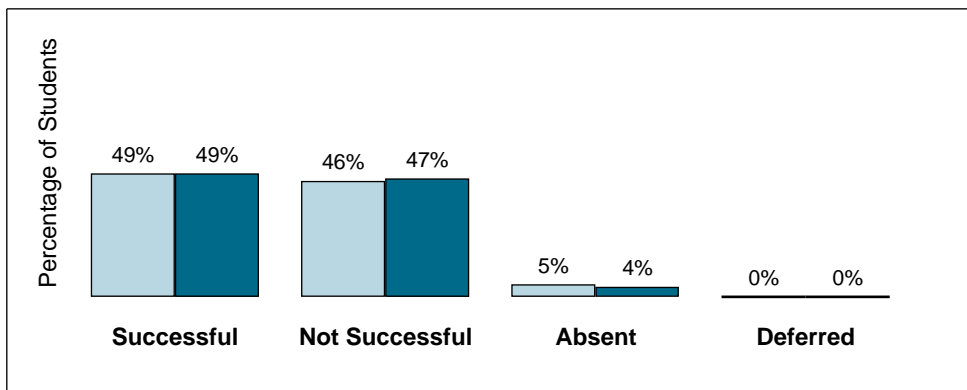
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OSSLT Results for First-Time Eligible Students, March 2008

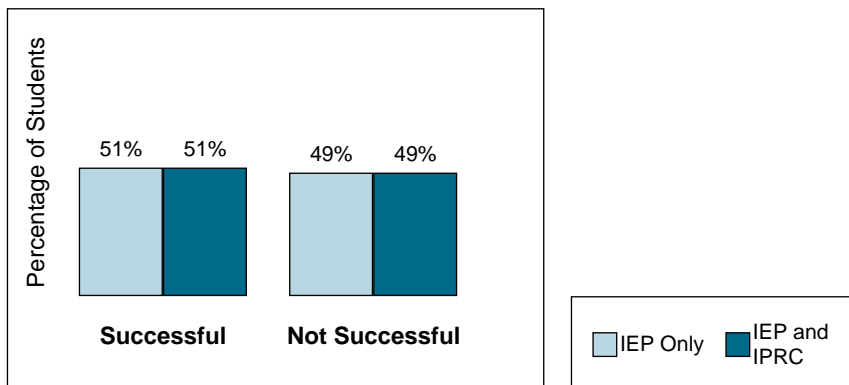
Provincial Results for Students with Special Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)*†

Provincial Results for Students with Special Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted) First-Time Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	IEP Only # = 5 752		IEP and IPRC # = 12 720		IEP Only # = 5 462	IEP and IPRC # = 12 257
Successful	2 794	49%	6 222	49%	51%	51%
Not Successful	2 668	46%	6 035	47%	49%	49%
Fully Participating	5 462	95%	12 257	96%		
Absent	290	5%	463	4%		
Deferred	0	0%	0	0%		

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



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



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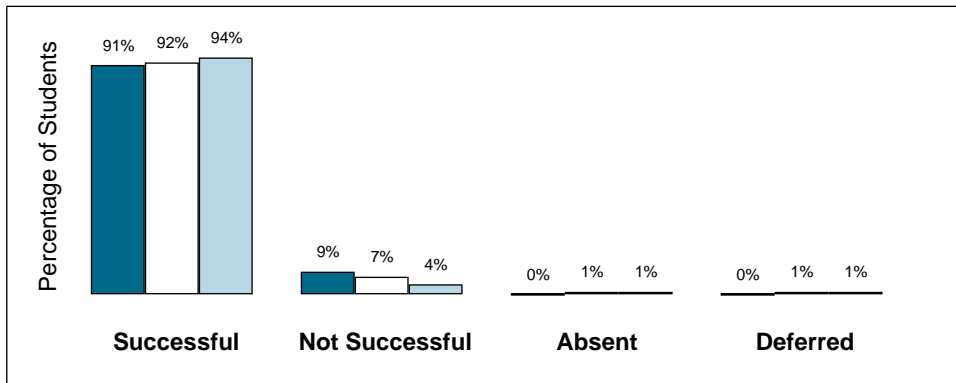
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OSSLT Results for First-Time Eligible Students, March 2008

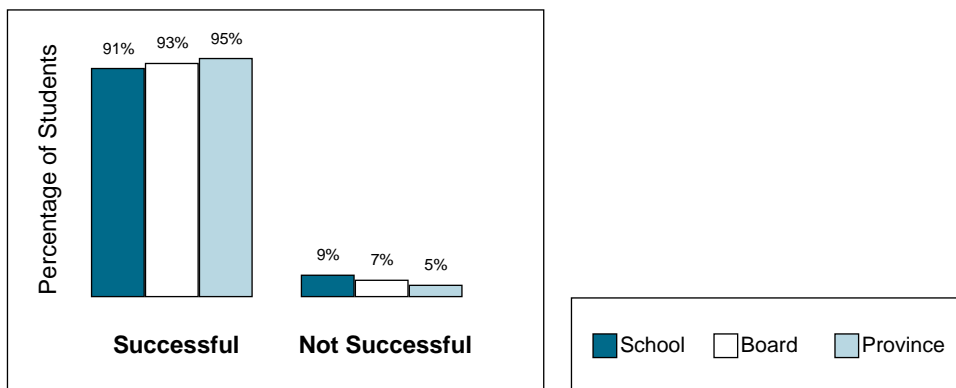
Results for Students Taking Academic English Course*†

Results for Students Taking Academic English Course First-Time Eligible Students							
	All			Fully Participating			
	School # = 237	Board # = 4 779	Province # = 103 774	School # = 237	Board # = 4 716	Province # = 101 698	
Successful	216	91%	92%	91%	93%	95%	
Not Successful	21	9%	7%	9%	7%	5%	
Fully Participating	237	100%	99%	98%			
Absent	0	0%	1%	1%			
Deferred	0	0%	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



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

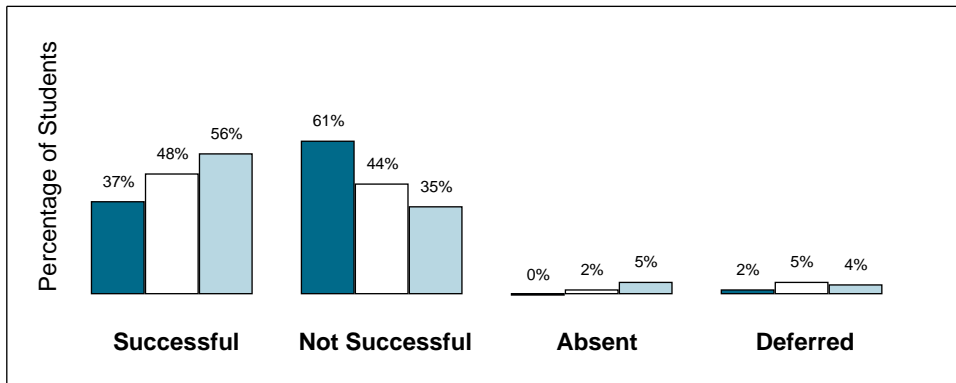
†Based on information regarding level of study in English provided by schools through the Student Data Collection process.

OSSLT Results for First-Time Eligible Students, March 2008

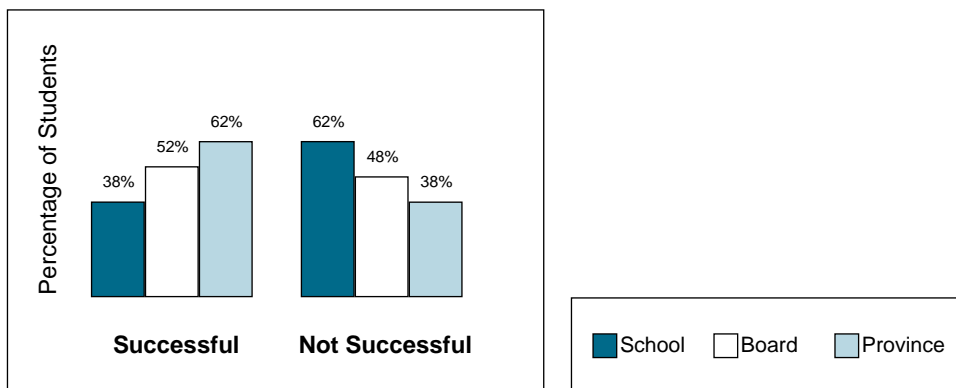
Results for Students Taking Applied English Course*†

Results for Students Taking Applied English Course First-Time Eligible Students							
	All			Fully Participating			
	School # = 95	Board # = 1 575	Province # = 38 834	School # = 93	Board # = 1 451	Province # = 35 515	
Successful	35	37%	48%	56%	38%	52%	62%
Not Successful	58	61%	44%	35%	62%	48%	38%
Fully Participating	93	98%	92%	91%			
Absent	0	0%	2%	5%			
Deferred	2	2%	5%	4%			

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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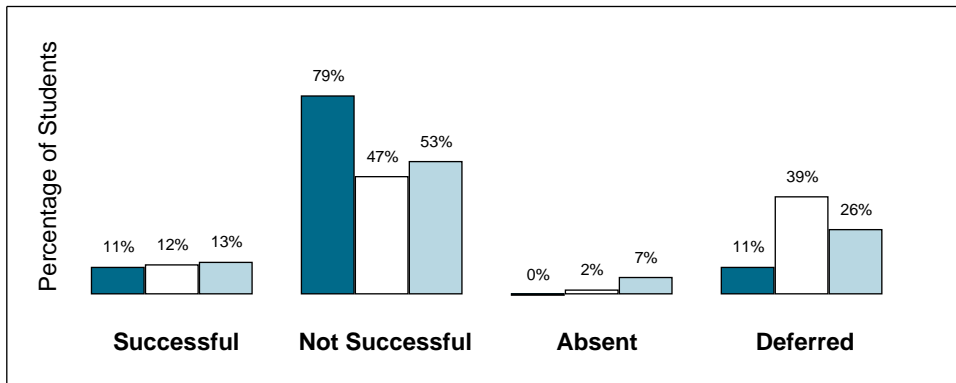
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OSSLT Results for First-Time Eligible Students, March 2008

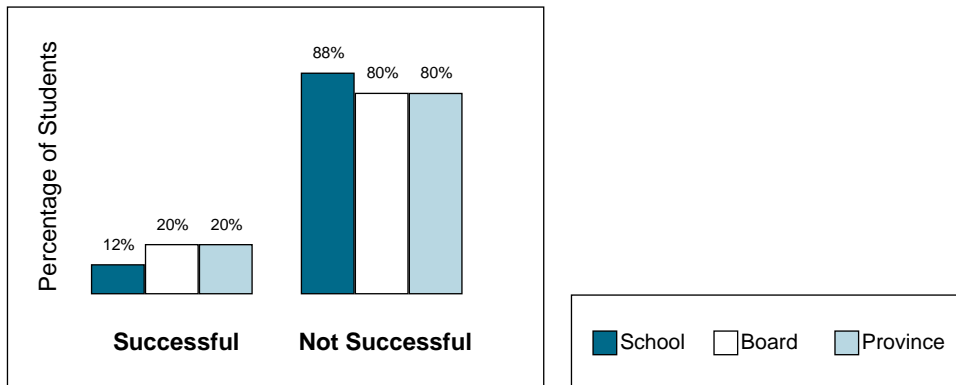
Results for Students Taking Locally Developed English Course*†

Results for Students Taking Locally Developed English Course First-Time Eligible Students						
	All			Fully Participating		
	School # = 19	Board # = 227	Province # = 5 838	School # = 17	Board # = 133	Province # = 3 905
Successful	2	11%	12%	13%	12%	20%
Not Successful	15	79%	47%	53%	88%	80%
Fully Participating	17	89%	59%	67%		
Absent	0	0%	2%	7%		
Deferred	2	11%	39%	26%		

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



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

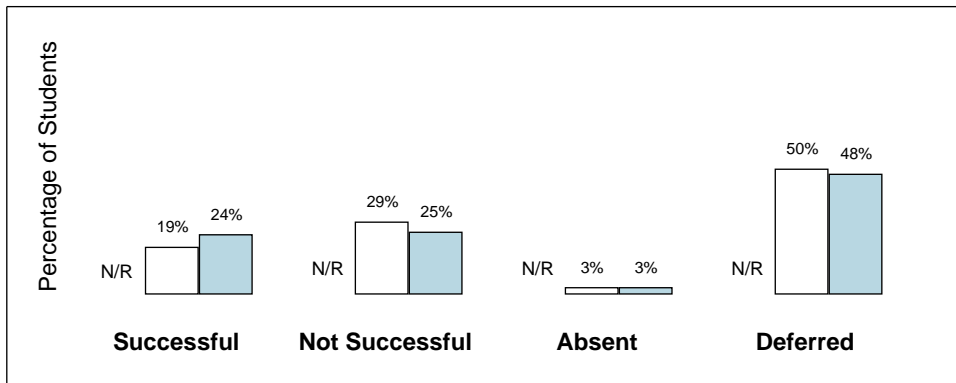
†Based on information regarding level of study in English provided by schools through the Student Data Collection process.

OSSLT Results for First-Time Eligible Students, March 2008

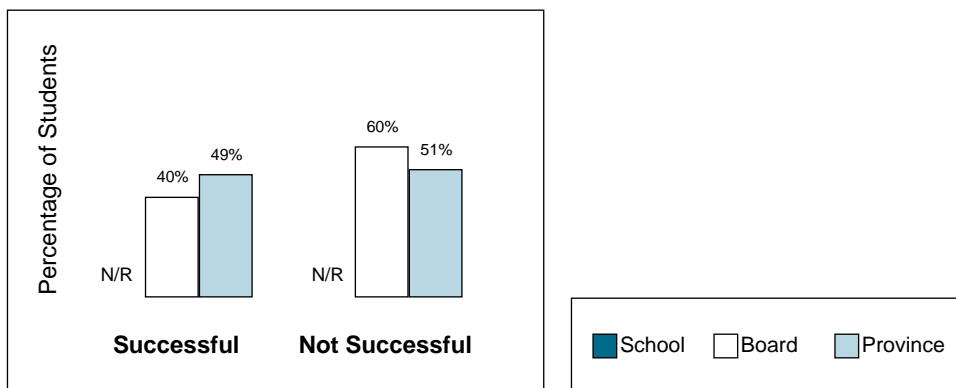
Results for Students Taking ESL/ELD Course*†

Results for Students Taking ESL/ELD Course First-Time Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	School # = N/R	Board # = 256	Province # = 4 283	School # = N/R	Board # = 121	Province # = 2 114
Successful	N/R	N/R	19%	24%	N/R	49%
Not Successful	N/R	N/R	29%	25%	N/R	51%
Fully Participating	N/R	N/R	47%	49%		
Absent	N/R	N/R	3%	3%		
Deferred	N/R	N/R	50%	48%		

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.

†Based on information regarding level of study in English provided by schools through the Student Data Collection process.

OSSLT Results over Time, October 2003–March 2008

Contextual Information for School

This information provides a context for interpreting the school's results over the past five administrations.

	Oct. 2003	Oct. 2004	Mar. 2006	Mar. 2007	Mar. 2008
Enrolment					
Number of first-time eligible students	377	320	312	340	362
Number of students who were exempted	39	11	0	2	1
Participation in the Test					
Of all first-time eligible students, those who participated fully in the assessment	94%	96%	96%	96%	98%
Of all first-time eligible students, those who were absent	3%	<1%	3%	2%	0%
Of all first-time eligible students, those who were deferred	3%	3%	2%	2%	2%
Gender[†] Based on number of first-time eligible students					
Female	38%	48%	40%	44%	42%
Male	54%	52%	60%	56%	58%
Gender not specified	8%	<1%	0%	0%	0%
Student Status[†] Based on number of first-time eligible students					
English language learners*	8% [‡]	9%	4%	4%	4%
English language learners receiving special provisions**	n/a	7%	3%	3%	3%
Students with special needs (excluding gifted)*	16%	17%	28%	27%	20%
Students with special needs receiving accommodations (excluding gifted)**	15%	17%	24%	20%	20%
Level of Study for English[†] Based on number of first-time eligible students					
Academic	49%	59%	55%	57%	65%
Applied	47%	33%	32%	34%	26%
Locally developed	2%	1%	3%	5%	5%
ESL/ELD	n/a	7%	4%	4%	2%
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	0%	1%
Language^{††} Based on Student Questionnaire data					
Number of Respondents:	354	307	239	325	352
First language learned at home was other than English	51%	54%	46%	47%	42%
Speak only or mostly English at home	40%	40%	44%	43%	46%
Speak another language (or languages) as often as English at home	40%	39%	37%	36%	39%
Speak only or mostly another language (or other languages) at home	18%	20%	18%	21%	13%

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

* See Explanation of Terms.

** Percentages are based on fully participating students.

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

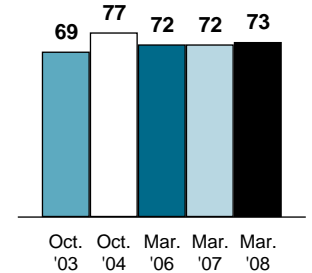
[‡] The percentage of students in October 2003 may not be comparable with those of later years as the definition for the ESL/ELD group changed in 2004 from "students enrolled in an ESL/ELD program" to "students designated as ESL/ELD learners".

n/a Information not available.

OSSLT Results over Time, October 2003–March 2008

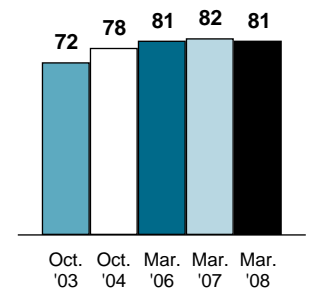
School Results: All First-Time Eligible Students*										
	October 2003		October 2004		March 2006		March 2007		March 2008	
<i>Number of Students</i>	377		320		312		340		362	
Successful	245	65%	236	74%	215	69%	236	69%	258	71%
Not Successful	110	29%	72	22%	84	27%	91	27%	97	27%
Fully Participating	355	94%	308	96%	299	96%	327	96%	355	98%
Absent	11	3%	1	<1%	8	3%	6	2%	0	0%
Deferred	11	3%	11	3%	5	2%	7	2%	7	2%
Fully Participating Successful	245	69%	236	77%	215	72%	236	72%	258	73%

School Results over Time: Percentage of Fully Participating Successful Students



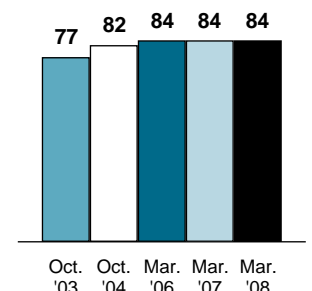
Board Results: All First-Time Eligible Students*										
	October 2003		October 2004		March 2006		March 2007		March 2008	
<i>Number of Students</i>	6 484		6 911		6 819		6 804		6 897	
Successful	4 425	68%	5 087	74%	5 238	77%	5 250	77%	5 265	76%
Not Successful	1 688	26%	1 446	21%	1 242	18%	1 165	17%	1 207	18%
Fully Participating	6 113	94%	6 533	95%	6 480	95%	6 415	94%	6 472	94%
Absent	162	2%	133	2%	117	2%	104	2%	84	1%
Deferred	209	3%	245	4%	222	3%	285	4%	341	5%
Fully Participating Successful	4 425	72%	5 087	78%	5 238	81%	5 250	82%	5 265	81%

Board Results over Time: Percentage of Fully Participating Successful Students



Provincial Results: All First-Time Eligible Students*										
	October 2003		October 2004		March 2006		March 2007		March 2008	
<i>Number of Students</i>	157 464		160 088		158 817		155 906		156 151	
Successful	109 609	70%	121 855	76%	125 830	79%	122 475	79%	122 324	78%
Not Successful	33 416	21%	25 926	16%	23 268	15%	23 698	15%	23 279	15%
Fully Participating	143 025	91%	147 781	92%	149 098	94%	146 173	94%	145 603	93%
Absent	6 612	4%	5 435	3%	4 715	3%	3 932	3%	4 357	3%
Deferred	7 827	5%	6 872	4%	5 004	3%	5 801	4%	6 191	4%
Fully Participating Successful	109 609	77%	121 855	82%	125 830	84%	122 475	84%	122 324	84%

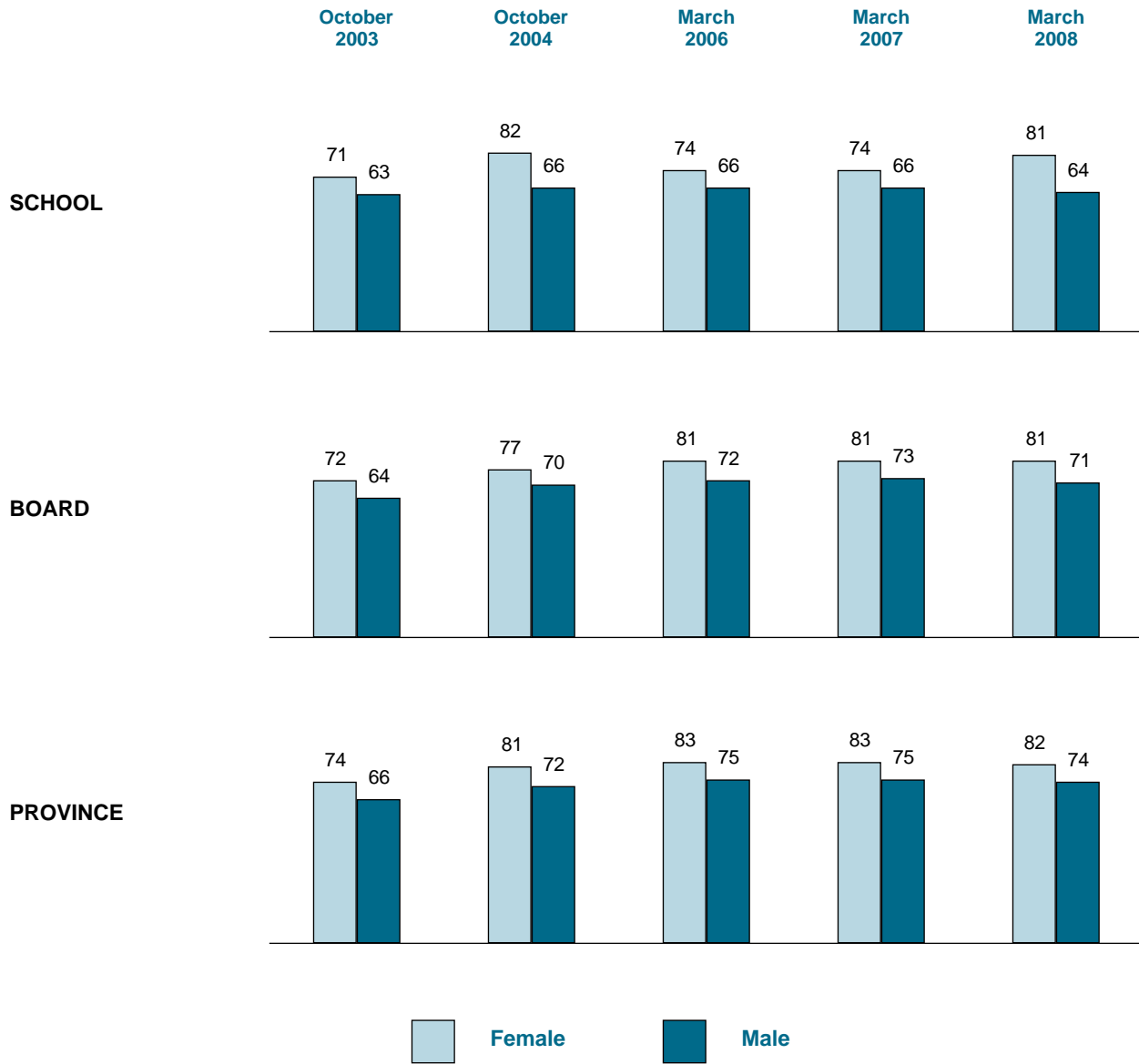
Provincial Results over Time: Percentage of Fully Participating Successful Students



* 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



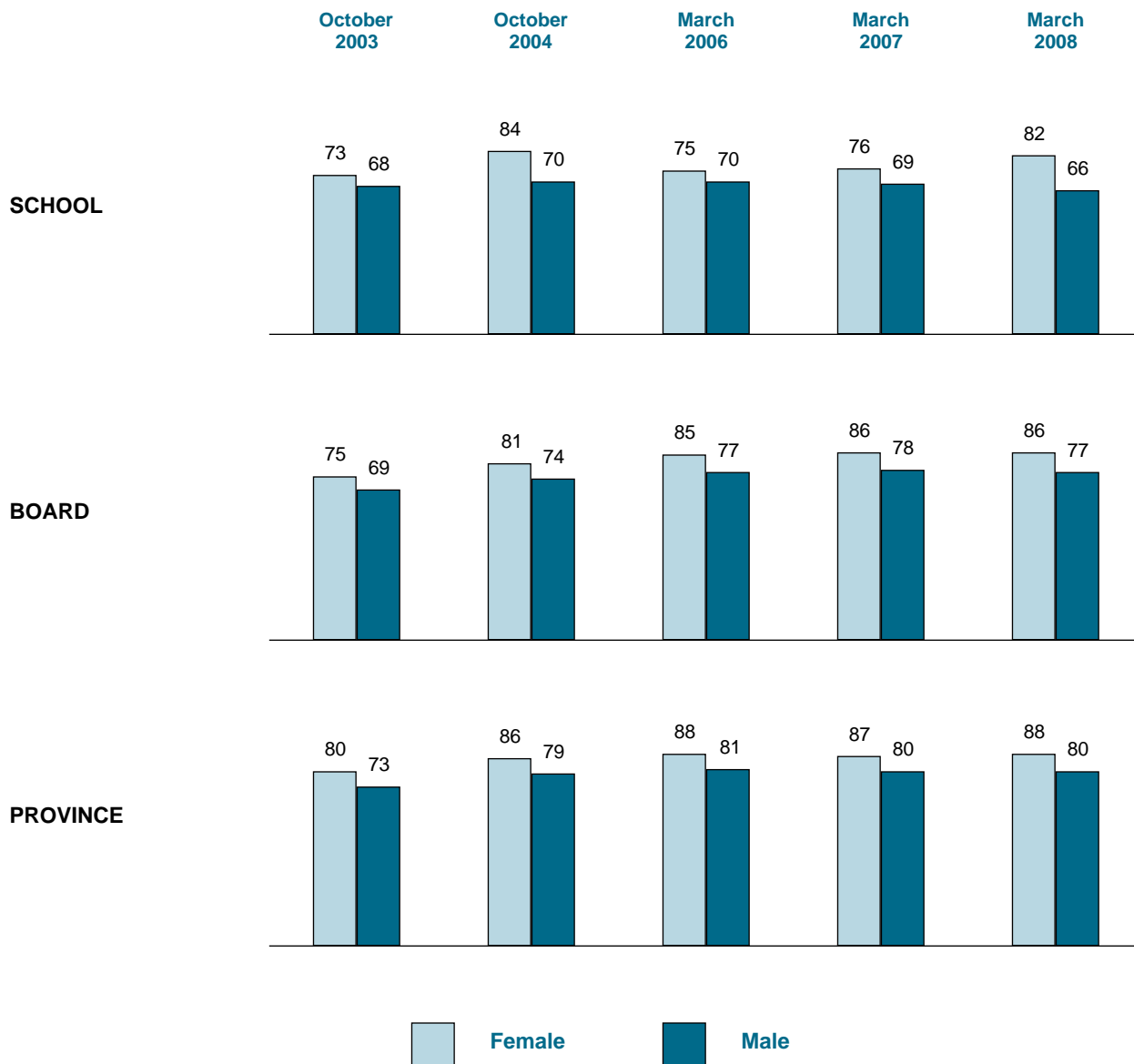
Number of First-Time Eligible Students†

	<u>October 2003</u>		<u>October 2004</u>		<u>March 2006</u>		<u>March 2007</u>		<u>March 2008</u>	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
School	143	203	152	167	125	187	148	192	152	210
Board	3 163	3 067	3 565	3 310	3 577	3 239	3 434	3 370	3 529	3 364
Province	75 023	79 904	77 110	81 469	77 358	81 402	76 252	79 638	76 226	79 904

† 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

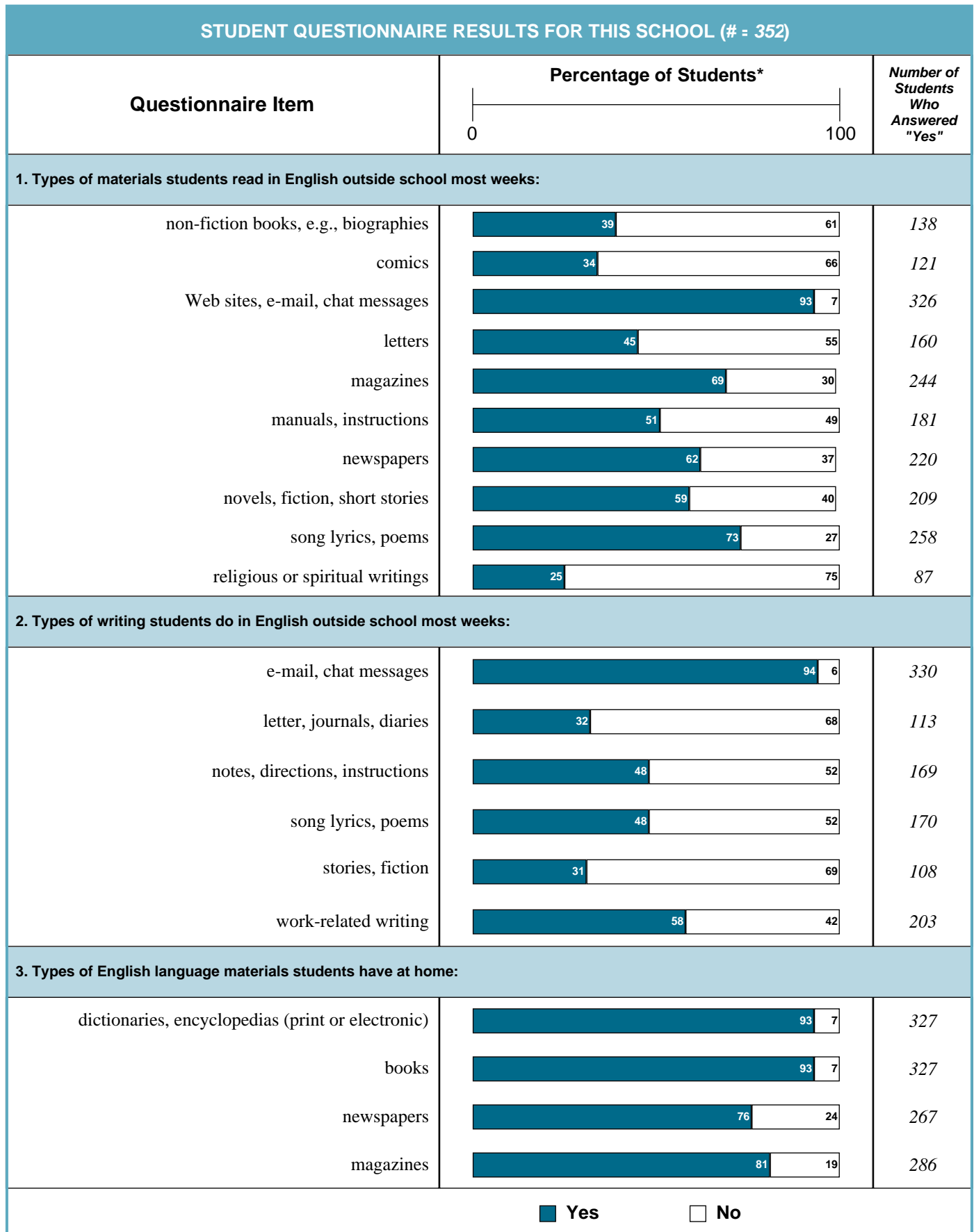


Number of Fully Participating First-Time Eligible Students†

	<u>October 2003</u>		<u>October 2004</u>		<u>March 2006</u>		<u>March 2007</u>		<u>March 2008</u>	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
School	139	186	148	159	123	176	144	183	150	205
Board	3 019	2 854	3 394	3 111	3 413	3 064	3 260	3 155	3 335	3 133
Province	69 529	71 961	72 296	74 659	73 081	75 966	72 031	74 129	71 615	73 969

† Includes only students for whom gender data were available.

OSSLT Results for First-Time Eligible Students, March 2008



* Percentages may not add to 100, due to a lack of or ambiguous responses. Where there is no number in a box, the percentage of responses is smaller than 4.

OSSLT Results for First-Time Eligible Students, March 2008

STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS FOR THIS SCHOOL (# = 352)			
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	36	125	
more than one hour but less than three hours	35	122	
more than three hours but less than five hours	16	56	
five hours or more	14	48	
5. Number of hours a week students write in English outside school, not including homework:			
one hour or less	38	134	
more than one hour but less than three hours	36	125	
more than three hours but less than five hours	14	50	
five hours or more	12	42	
6. How often students use a computer at home for homework:			
don't have a computer at home	2	8	
never or hardly ever use a computer for homework	7	24	
use a computer once or twice a month for homework	18	62	
use a computer once or twice a week for homework	40	141	
use a computer almost every day for homework	33	117	
7. First language students learned at home was English:			
yes	58	205	
no	42	147	
8. Language(s) students speak at home:			
only or mostly English	46	162	
another language (or languages) as often as English	39	139	
only or mostly another language (or other languages)	13	46	

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

OSSLT Results for First-Time Eligible Students, March 2008

STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS FOR SCHOOL, BOARD AND PROVINCE (all students, female, male)	School			Board			Province		
	All (#= 352)	Female* (#= 150)	Male* (#= 202)	All (#= 6 379)	Female* (#= 3 305)	Male* (#= 3 070)	All (#= 143 535)	Female* (#= 70 815)	Male* (#= 72 701)
Percentage of students indicating that they									
have a computer at home.	98%	99%	97%	98%	98%	97%	98%	98%	97%
use the computer almost every day for homework.	33%	43%	26%	31%	34%	28%	30%	32%	28%
Percentage of students indicating that they read the following types of materials in English outside school most weeks:									
non-fiction books, e.g., biographies	39%	39%	39%	39%	40%	39%	34%	34%	35%
comics	34%	30%	38%	40%	35%	45%	36%	31%	41%
Web sites, e-mail, chat messages	93%	94%	92%	93%	95%	91%	92%	95%	90%
letters	45%	56%	38%	45%	51%	39%	41%	47%	36%
magazines	69%	85%	57%	72%	83%	60%	73%	84%	63%
manuals, instructions	51%	45%	56%	49%	41%	57%	43%	34%	52%
newspapers	62%	65%	60%	61%	61%	61%	53%	51%	55%
novels, fiction, short stories	59%	74%	49%	69%	82%	55%	67%	79%	55%
song lyrics, poems	73%	89%	62%	71%	82%	60%	63%	76%	50%
religious or spiritual writings	25%	33%	18%	29%	31%	26%	21%	23%	20%
Percentage of students indicating that they read materials written in English outside school, not including homework, for									
more than three hours a week.	30%	37%	24%	36%	43%	29%	39%	45%	33%
Percentage of students indicating that they have the following English language materials at home:									
dictionaries, encyclopedias (print or electronic)	93%	94%	92%	92%	94%	91%	92%	93%	90%
books	93%	95%	91%	93%	95%	91%	94%	97%	92%
newspapers	76%	81%	72%	81%	83%	79%	86%	87%	86%
magazines	81%	91%	74%	84%	89%	78%	87%	91%	83%
Percentage of students indicating that they do the following types of writing in English outside school most weeks:									
e-mail, chat messages	94%	95%	93%	94%	96%	92%	94%	96%	91%
letters, journals, diaries	32%	54%	16%	34%	50%	18%	30%	46%	14%
notes, directions, instructions	48%	53%	45%	50%	52%	47%	45%	49%	41%
song lyrics, poems	48%	62%	38%	45%	52%	39%	37%	45%	30%
stories, fiction	31%	39%	24%	32%	37%	27%	28%	32%	24%
work-related writing	58%	61%	55%	57%	59%	56%	49%	49%	48%
Percentage of students indicating that they write in English outside school, not including homework, for									
more than three hours a week.	26%	33%	21%	30%	35%	25%	30%	35%	26%
Percentage of students indicating that the first language they learned at home was									
other than English.	42%	43%	41%	37%	39%	36%	22%	22%	21%
Percentage of students indicating that they speak the following language(s) at home:**									
only or mostly English	46%	48%	45%	58%	59%	58%	77%	77%	77%
another language (or languages) as often as English	39%	39%	40%	30%	30%	29%	16%	17%	15%
only or mostly another language (or other languages)	13%	12%	14%	12%	11%	12%	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.

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

First-Time Eligible Students	First-time eligible students typically entered Grade 9 during the 2006–2007 school year. These students (and any others who were placed in this cohort) were required to write the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) for the first time in March 2008. First-time eligible includes all students in the first-time eligible cohort who are working toward an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).
Previously Eligible Students	Previously eligible includes all students who were not successful during a previous administration, or who were absent or deferred, and who were eligible to write the OSSLT in March 2008 (i.e., those working toward an OSSD).
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 are deemed to be absent if there is no work for one or both sessions of the administration.
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	These are 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 were formerly called English as a second language (ESL)/English literacy development (ELD) learners.
English Language Learners Receiving Special Provisions	These are 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 Needs (excluding gifted)	These are 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 as gifted are not included.
Students with Special Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)	These are students with special needs identified by the school as receiving test accommodations. Students identified as gifted are not included. Detailed information about accommodations is available in the Ministry of Education Policy/Program Memorandum No. 127 and in EQAO's <i>Guide for Accommodations, Special Provisions, Deferrals and Exemptions</i> .
N/R	"Not reported" indicates that the number of students fully participating (fewer than 15 in a group) or responding to the Student Questionnaire (fewer than six in a group) is so small 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.