

School Report

Previously Eligible Students



Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test, April 2010

School: Sherwood SS (941328)

Board: Hamilton-Wentworth DSB (66141)

I am pleased to provide you with this report, which shows the achievement of students on the April 2010 OSSLT.

EQAO’s assessments measure the achievement of all students in Ontario’s schools at important stages in their education. One of the assessments’ key strengths is the fact that they assess every student against the learning expectations outlined in *The Ontario Curriculum*. After an exhaustive review of the provincial testing program in 2009, the Auditor General of Ontario confirmed that EQAO assessments reflect these expectations fairly and accurately, are consistent in difficulty from one year to the next and are administered and marked so as to ensure that their results are valid, consistent and reliable indicators of student achievement. The Auditor General’s conclusions highlight how EQAO test results help teachers and administrators to identify large-scale challenges and focus their attention where it’s needed most.

Literacy is a gift for life. The OSSLT provides parents, guardians and educators with transparent information about the reading and writing skills students are expected to have acquired in all subjects up to the end of Grade 9. Successful completion of the OSSLT or the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course is one of the 32 requirements for a high-school diploma.

When used together with classroom assessment results and school-level and contextual information, EQAO assessment data have proven to be a catalyst for positive outcomes for thousands of students in the province and for Ontario’s education system as a whole. I trust that this report will help school communities as they continue to support student literacy.

Sincerely,

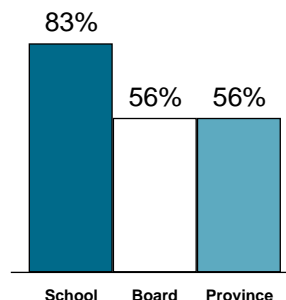
Marguerite Jackson
Chief Executive Officer
Education Quality and Accountability Office

June 15, 2010

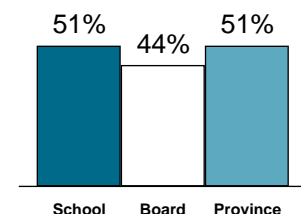
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PREVIOUSLY ELIGIBLE STUDENTS, APRIL 2010: PARTICIPATION RATE AND ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS

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 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;
- ◆ 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.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test, April 2010, Previously Eligible Students

Contextual Information

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

	School		Board		Province	
Enrolment						
Number of previously eligible students	66		1 509		51 669	
Number of schools with previously eligible students	n/a		22		821	
Number of students who were exempted	2		9		2 336	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Participation in the Test						
Of all previously eligible students, those who participated fully in the assessment	55	83%	849	56%	28 694	56%
Of all previously eligible students, those who were absent	9	14%	190	13%	6 061	12%
Of all previously eligible students, those who were deferred	2	3%	104	7%	6 493	13%
Of all previously eligible students, those who are completing the literacy requirement through the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OSSLC)	0	0%	366	24%	10 421	20%
Gender[†] Based on number of previously eligible students						
Female	28	42%	589	39%	20 961	41%
Male	38	58%	920	61%	30 707	59%
Gender not specified	0	0%	0	0%	1	<1%
Student Status[†] Based on number of previously eligible students						
English language learners*	1	2%	92	6%	7 417	14%
English language learners receiving special provisions**	1	2%	49	6%	3 136	11%
Students with special education needs (excluding gifted)*	15	23%	515	34%	17 610	34%
Students with special education needs receiving accommodations (excluding gifted)**	13	24%	257	30%	8 695	30%
Language^{††} Based on Student Questionnaire data						
	Number of Respondents:		54		833	
					28 080	
First language learned at home was other than English	5	9%	180	22%	9 234	33%
Speak only or mostly English at home	45	83%	618	74%	17 816	63%
Speak another language (or other languages) as often as English at home	7	13%	121	15%	5 767	21%
Speak only or mostly another language (or other languages) at home	2	4%	80	10%	4 241	15%

[†] 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.

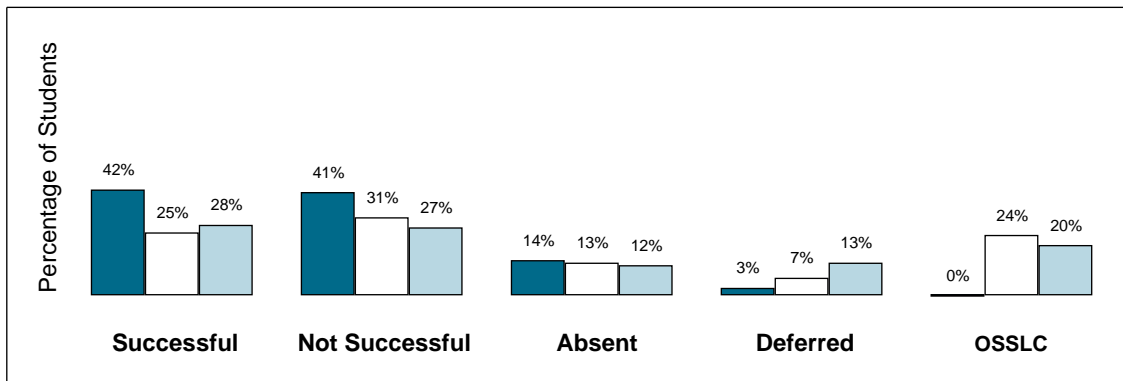
^{††} Contextual data pertaining to "language" are gathered from the Student Questionnaire completed by students. Some data may be missing because they were not provided by students.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test, April 2010, Previously Eligible Students

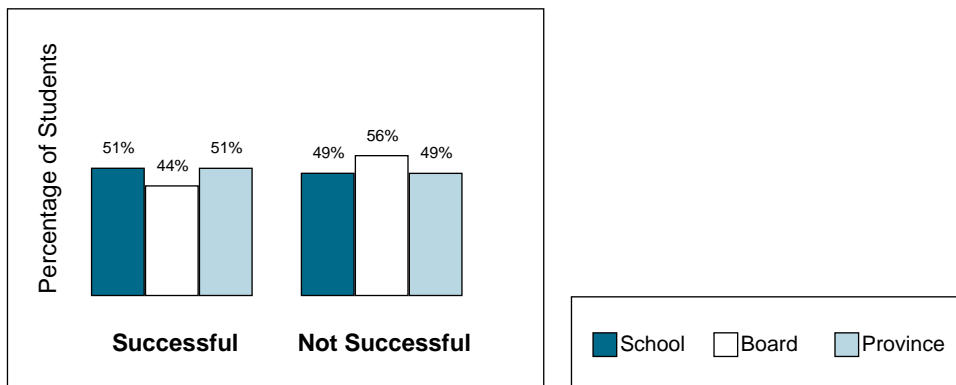
Results for All Students*

	Previously Eligible Students						
	All			Fully Participating			
	School # = 66	Board # = 1 509	Province # = 51 669	School # = 55	Board # = 849	Province # = 28 694	
Successful	28	42%	25%	28%	51%	44%	51%
Not Successful	27	41%	31%	27%	49%	56%	49%
Fully Participating	55	83%	56%	56%			
Absent	9	14%	13%	12%			
Deferred	2	3%	7%	13%			
OSSLC	0	0%	24%	20%			

Results for All Previously Eligible Students



Results for Fully Participating Previously Eligible Students



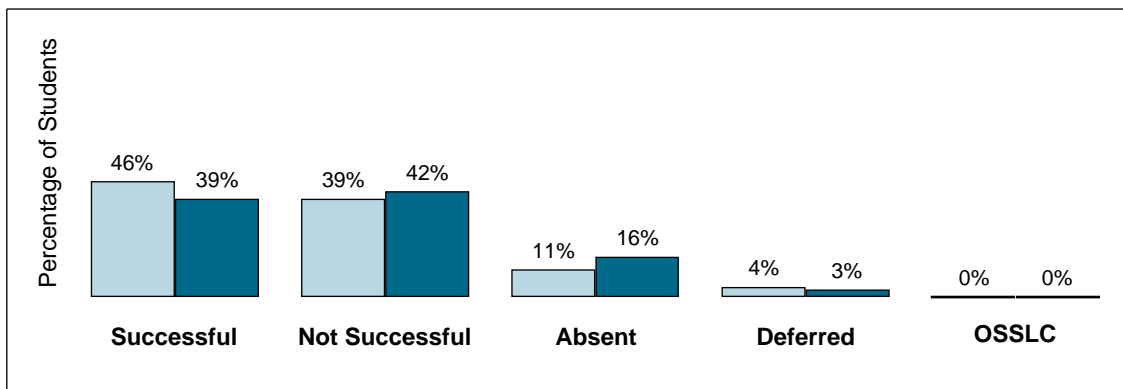
* Percentages in tables and bar graphs may not add up to 100, due to rounding.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test, April 2010, Previously Eligible Students

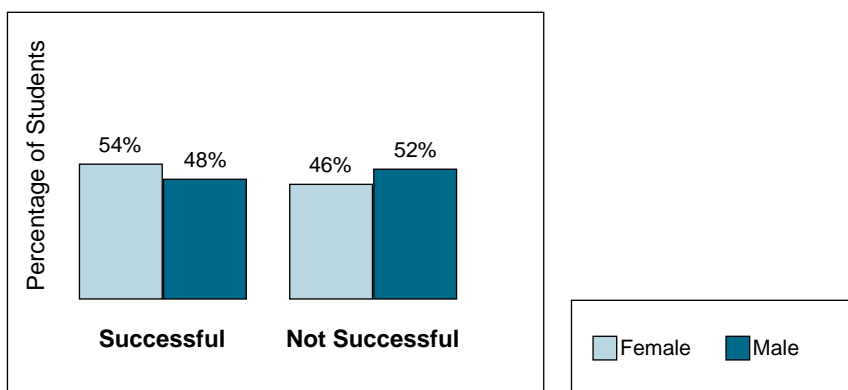
School Results by Gender*†

School Results by Gender Previously Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	Female # = 28		Male # = 38		Female # = 24	Male # = 31
Successful	13	46%	15	39%	54%	48%
Not Successful	11	39%	16	42%	46%	52%
Fully Participating	24	86%	31	82%		
Absent	3	11%	6	16%		
Deferred	1	4%	1	3%		
OSSLC	0	0%	0	0%		

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.

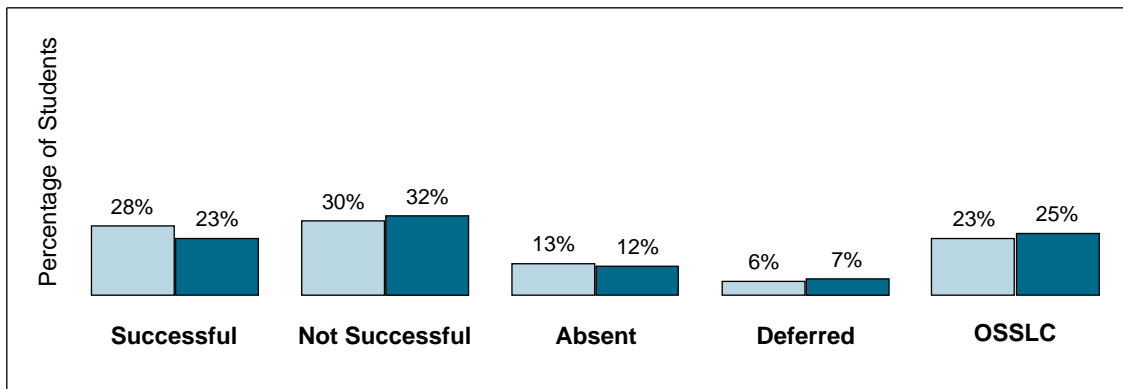
† Includes only students for whom gender data were available.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test, April 2010, Previously Eligible Students

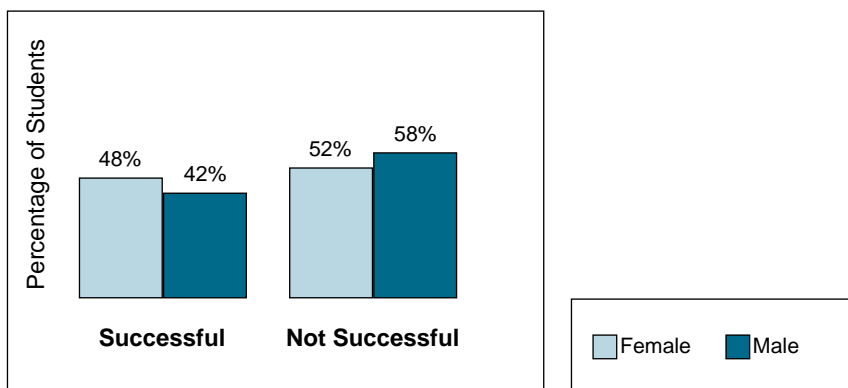
Board Results by Gender^{*†}

Board Results by Gender Previously Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	Female # = 589		Male # = 920		Female # = 340	Male # = 509
Successful	162	28%	212	23%	48%	42%
Not Successful	178	30%	297	32%	52%	58%
Fully Participating	340	58%	509	55%		
Absent	75	13%	115	12%		
Deferred	37	6%	67	7%		
OSSLC	137	23%	229	25%		

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.

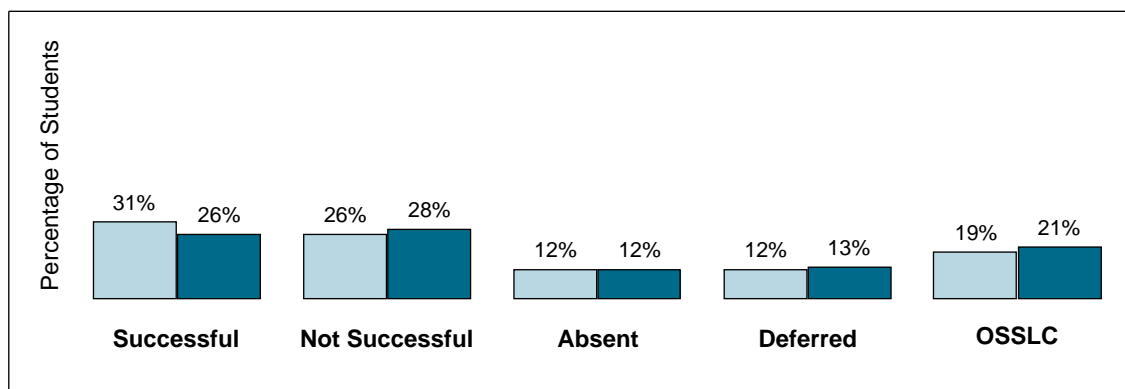
† Includes only students for whom gender data were available.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test, April 2010, Previously Eligible Students

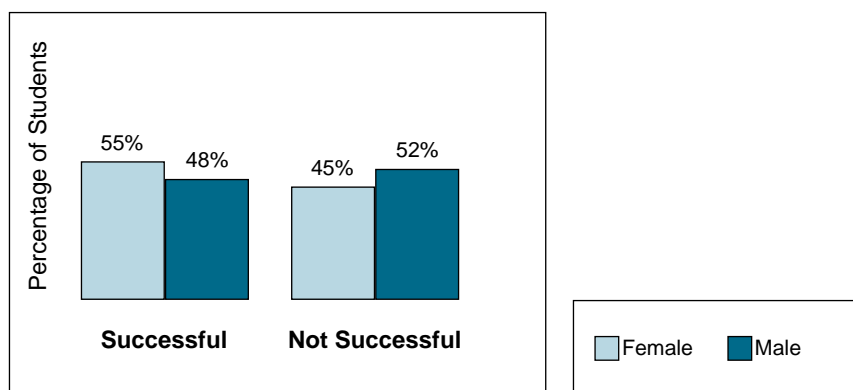
Provincial Results by Gender*†

Provincial Results by Gender Previously Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	Female # = 20 961		Male # = 30 707		Female # = 12 003	Male # = 16 690
Successful	6 590	31%	7 993	26%	55%	48%
Not Successful	5 413	26%	8 697	28%	45%	52%
Fully Participating	12 003	57%	16 690	54%		
Absent	2 494	12%	3 567	12%		
Deferred	2 430	12%	4 063	13%		
OSSLC	4 034	19%	6 387	21%		

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.

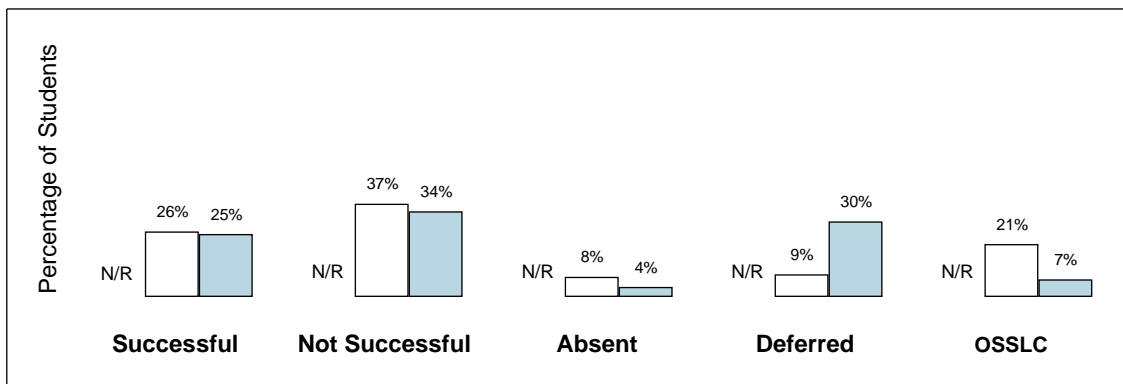
† Includes only students for whom gender data were available.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test, April 2010, Previously Eligible Students

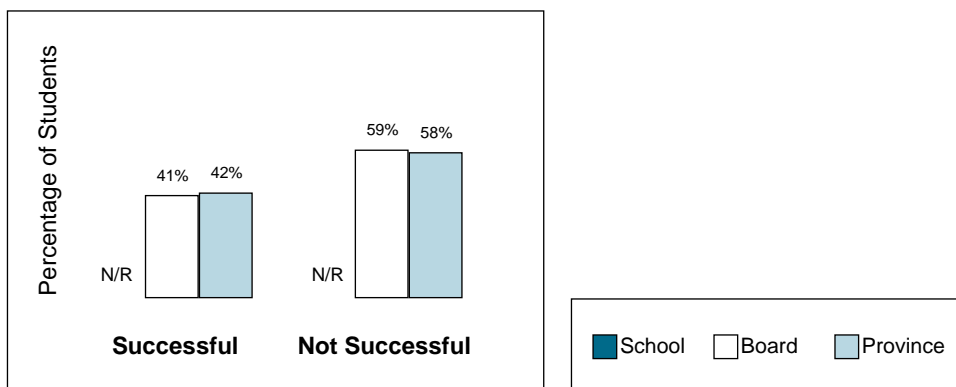
Results for English Language Learners*

Results for English Language Learners Previously Eligible Students							
	All			Fully Participating			
	School # = N/R	Board # = 92	Province # = 7 417	School # = N/R	Board # = 58	Province # = 4 351	
Successful	N/R	N/R	26%	25%	N/R	41%	42%
Not Successful	N/R	N/R	37%	34%	N/R	59%	58%
Fully Participating	N/R	N/R	63%	59%			
Absent	N/R	N/R	8%	4%			
Deferred	N/R	N/R	9%	30%			
OSSLC	N/R	N/R	21%	7%			

Results for All Previously Eligible English Language Learners



Results for Fully Participating Previously Eligible English Language Learners



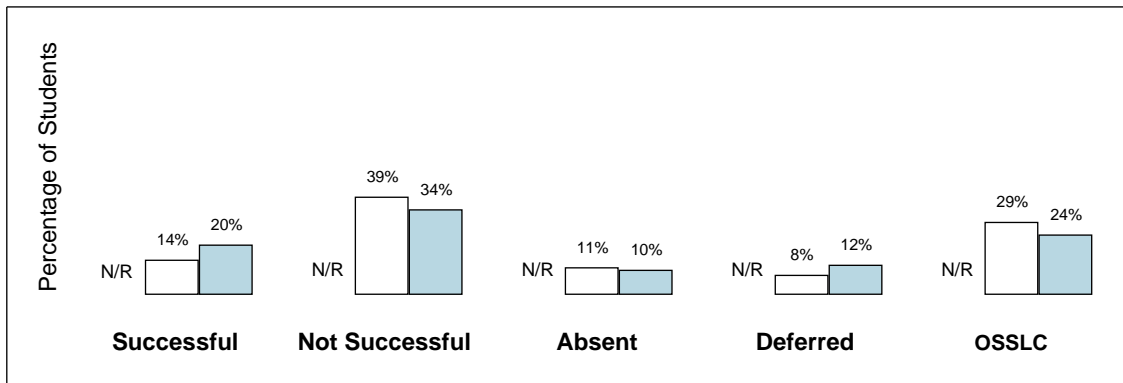
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Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test, April 2010, Previously Eligible Students

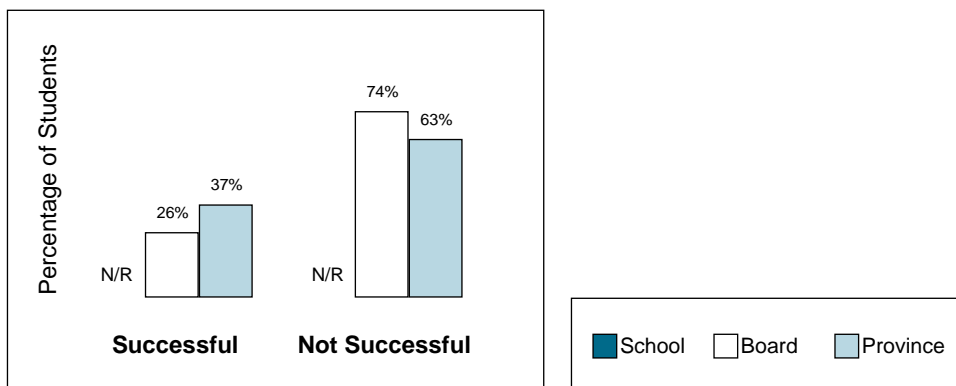
Results for Students with Special Education Needs (excluding gifted)*

Results for Students with Special Education Needs (excluding gifted) Previously Eligible Students						
	All			Fully Participating		
	School # = N/R	Board # = 515	Province # = 17 610	School # = N/R	Board # = 274	Province # = 9 498
Successful	N/R	N/R	14%	20%	N/R	37%
Not Successful	N/R	N/R	39%	34%	N/R	63%
Fully Participating	N/R	N/R	53%	54%		
Absent	N/R	N/R	11%	10%		
Deferred	N/R	N/R	8%	12%		
OSSLC	N/R	N/R	29%	24%		

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)



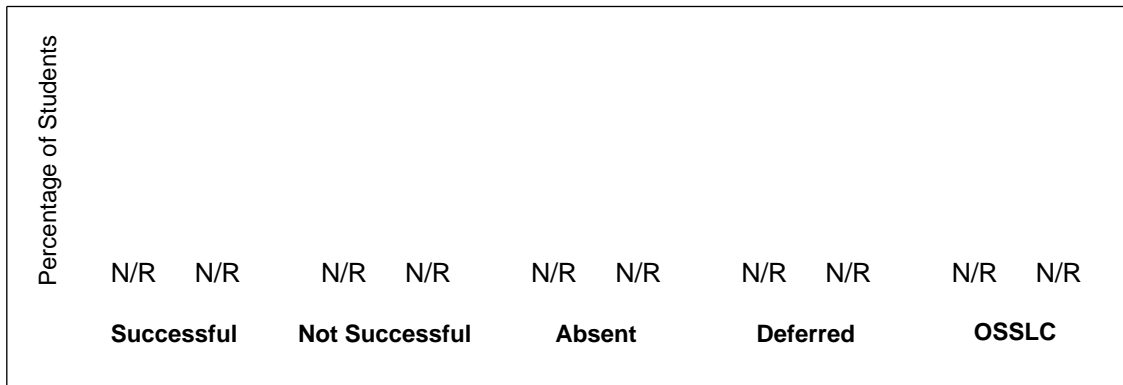
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Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test, April 2010, Previously Eligible Students

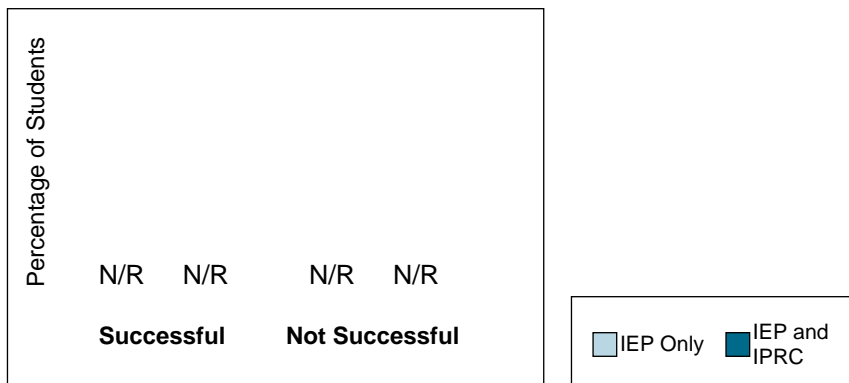
School Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)*

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
Not Successful	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R
Fully Participating	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R		
Absent	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R		
Deferred	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R		
OSSLC	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)



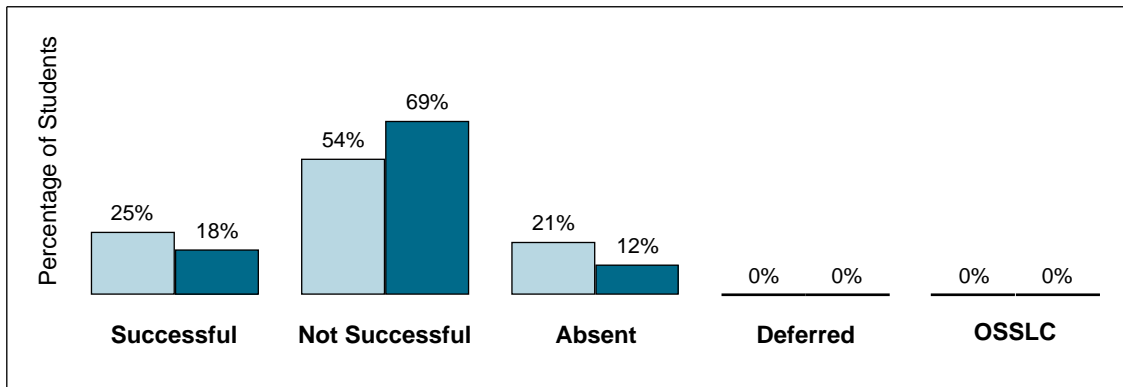
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Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test, April 2010, Previously Eligible Students

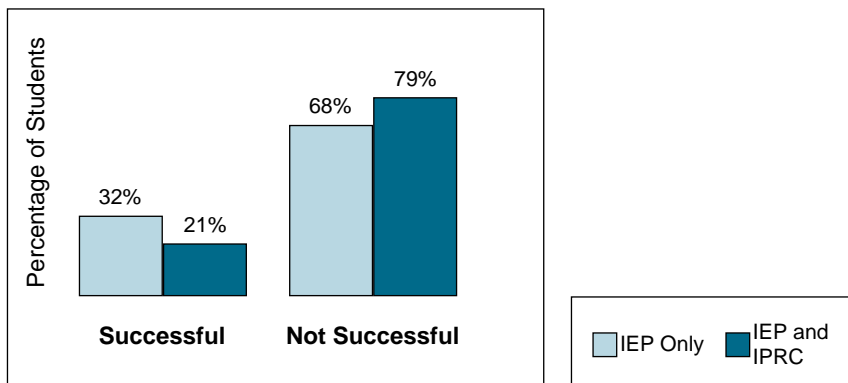
Board Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)*

Board Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted) Previously Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	IEP Only # = 151		IEP and IPRC # = 157		IEP Only # = 119	IEP and IPRC # = 138
Successful	38	25%	29	18%	32%	21%
Not Successful	81	54%	109	69%	68%	79%
Fully Participating	119	79%	138	88%		
Absent	32	21%	19	12%		
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)



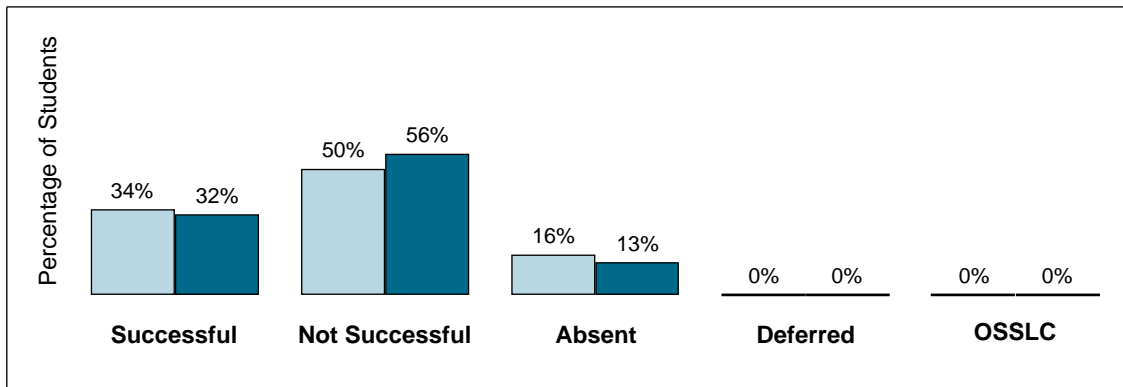
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Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test, April 2010, Previously Eligible Students

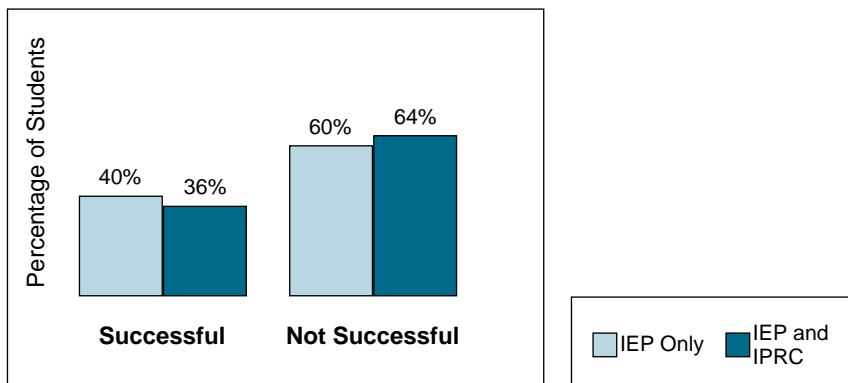
Provincial Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)*

Provincial Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted) Previously Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	IEP Only # = 3 259		IEP and IPRC # = 6 820		IEP Only # = 2 739	IEP and IPRC # = 5 956
Successful	1 098	34%	2 167	32%	40%	36%
Not Successful	1 641	50%	3 789	56%	60%	64%
Fully Participating	2 739	84%	5 956	87%		
Absent	520	16%	864	13%		
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)

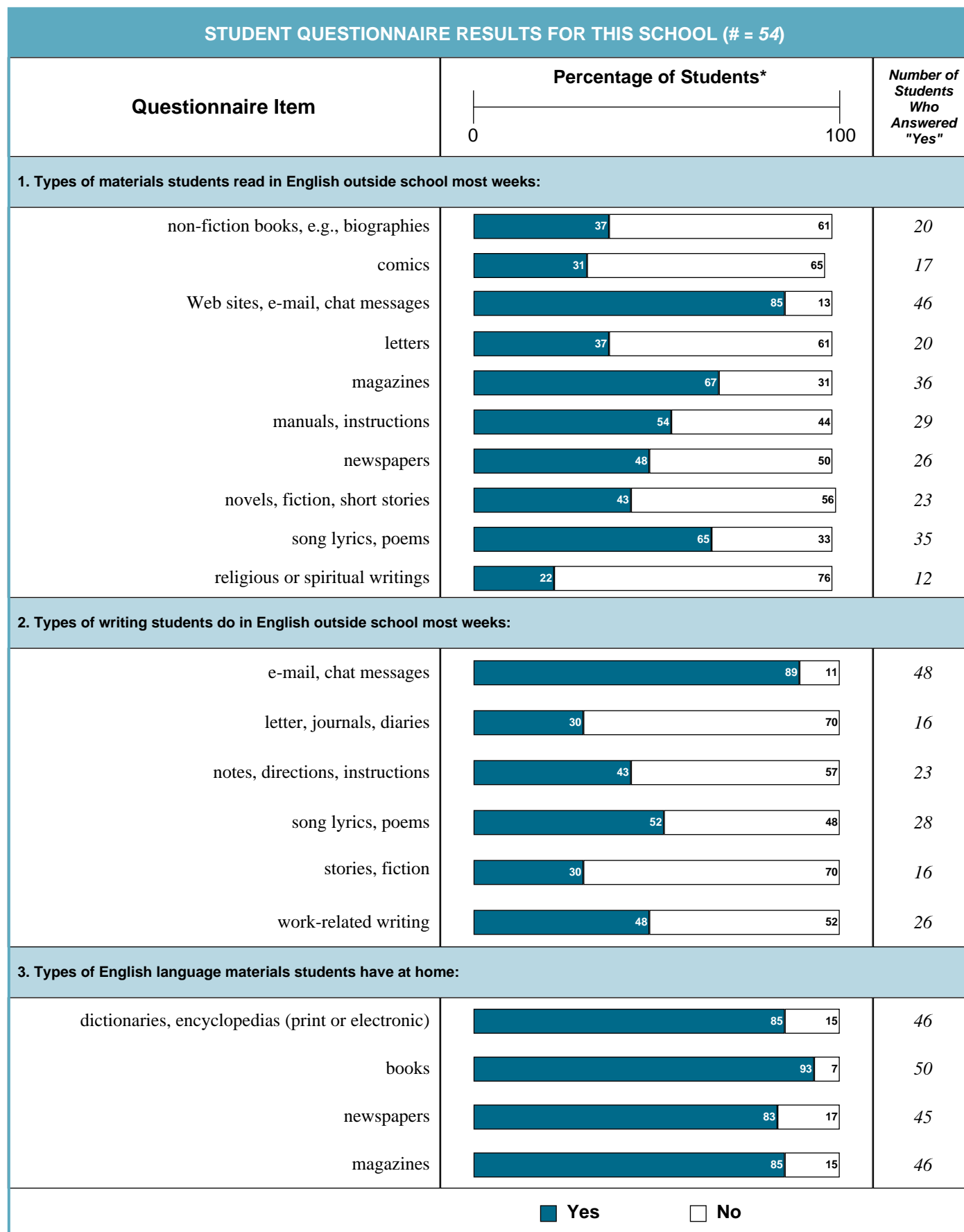


Provincial Results for Fully Participating Previously Eligible Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)



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

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test, April 2010, Previously Eligible Students



* 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.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test, April 2010, Previously Eligible Students

STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS FOR THIS SCHOOL (# = 54)		
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	25
more than one hour but less than three hours	28	15
more than three hours but less than five hours	20	11
five hours or more	6	3
5. Number of hours a week students write in English outside school, not including homework:		
one hour or less	37	20
more than one hour but less than three hours	43	23
more than three hours but less than five hours	13	7
five hours or more	7	4
6. How often students use a computer at home for homework:		
don't have a computer at home	7	4
never or hardly ever use a computer for homework	17	9
use a computer once or twice a month for homework	24	13
use a computer once or twice a week for homework	33	18
use a computer almost every day for homework	19	10
7. First language students learned at home was English:		
yes	91	49
no	9	5
8. Language(s) students speak at home:		
only or mostly English	83	45
another language (or other languages) as often as English	13	7
only or mostly another language (or other languages)	4	2

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

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test, April 2010, Previously Eligible Students

STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS FOR SCHOOL, BOARD AND PROVINCE (all students, female, male)	School			Board			Province		
	All (#= 54)	Female* (#= 24)	Male* (#= 30)	All (#= 833)	Female* (#= 335)	Male* (#= 498)	All (#= 28 080)	Female* (#= 11 833)	Male* (#= 16 246)
Percentage of students indicating that they									
have a computer at home.	93%	96%	90%	92%	92%	92%	94%	95%	93%
use the computer almost every day for homework.	19%	29%	10%	25%	27%	23%	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	37%	33%	40%	38%	36%	39%	38%	39%	38%
comics	31%	38%	27%	34%	29%	37%	38%	32%	43%
Web sites, e-mail, chat messages	85%	88%	83%	91%	93%	89%	90%	93%	87%
letters	37%	33%	40%	49%	53%	46%	50%	56%	45%
magazines	67%	71%	63%	68%	81%	59%	69%	78%	61%
manuals, instructions	54%	54%	53%	54%	44%	61%	51%	41%	57%
newspapers	48%	33%	60%	49%	46%	51%	56%	55%	57%
novels, fiction, short stories	43%	62%	27%	55%	71%	44%	61%	75%	50%
song lyrics, poems	65%	67%	63%	70%	81%	62%	68%	79%	59%
religious or spiritual writings	22%	29%	17%	21%	21%	21%	26%	28%	25%
Percentage of students indicating that they read materials written in English outside school, not including homework, for									
more than three hours a week.	26%	25%	27%	29%	33%	27%	29%	34%	26%
Percentage of students indicating that they have the following English language materials at home:									
dictionaries, encyclopedias (print or electronic)	85%	83%	87%	80%	82%	79%	83%	85%	82%
books	93%	96%	90%	89%	94%	85%	89%	93%	86%
newspapers	83%	75%	90%	76%	76%	75%	78%	78%	78%
magazines	85%	83%	87%	78%	85%	73%	78%	82%	75%
Percentage of students indicating that they do the following types of writing in English outside school most weeks:									
e-mail, chat messages	89%	96%	83%	92%	95%	89%	92%	94%	90%
letters, journals, diaries	30%	42%	20%	35%	53%	23%	35%	52%	23%
notes, directions, instructions	43%	42%	43%	54%	57%	52%	51%	54%	49%
song lyrics, poems	52%	71%	37%	49%	61%	41%	47%	55%	41%
stories, fiction	30%	38%	23%	30%	36%	26%	32%	37%	28%
work-related writing	48%	38%	57%	48%	45%	50%	53%	54%	52%
Percentage of students indicating that they write in English outside school, not including homework, for									
more than three hours a week.	20%	33%	10%	29%	34%	25%	27%	30%	25%
Percentage of students indicating that the first language they learned at home was									
other than English.	9%	12%	7%	22%	19%	23%	33%	35%	31%
Percentage of students indicating that they speak the following language(s) at home:**									
only or mostly English	83%	79%	87%	74%	76%	73%	63%	61%	65%
another language (or other languages) as often as English	13%	17%	10%	15%	15%	14%	21%	22%	20%
only or mostly another language (or other languages)	4%	4%	3%	10%	8%	11%	15%	16%	14%

* 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, April 2010

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

First-Time Eligible Students	First-time eligible students typically entered Grade 9 during the 2008–2009 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 April 2010. 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 absent, deferred or not successful during a previous administration, and who are 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	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). Prior to 2007, English language learners were called English as a second language (ESL)/English literacy development (ELD) learners.
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 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 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 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 the school principal.