



# School Board Report

## First-Time Eligible Students



### Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014

#### Board: Greater Essex County DSB (66028)

On behalf of EQAO, I am pleased to provide you with the results of the 2014 Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT).

This report includes the 2014 results as well as results for previous years, so you can track progress over time. You'll also find demographic and attitudinal information, which provides context for interpreting the achievement results.

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

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

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

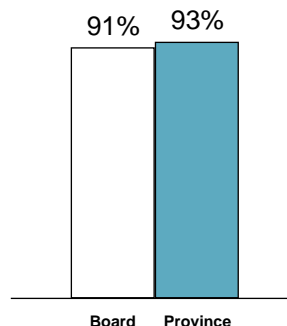
Sincerely,

Bruce Rodrigues  
 Chief Executive Officer  
 Education Quality and Accountability Office

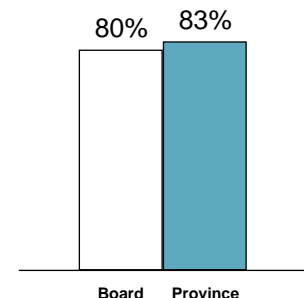
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#### FIRST-TIME ELIGIBLE STUDENTS 2014: PARTICIPATION RATE AND ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS

**Percentage of Eligible Students Who Participated Fully**



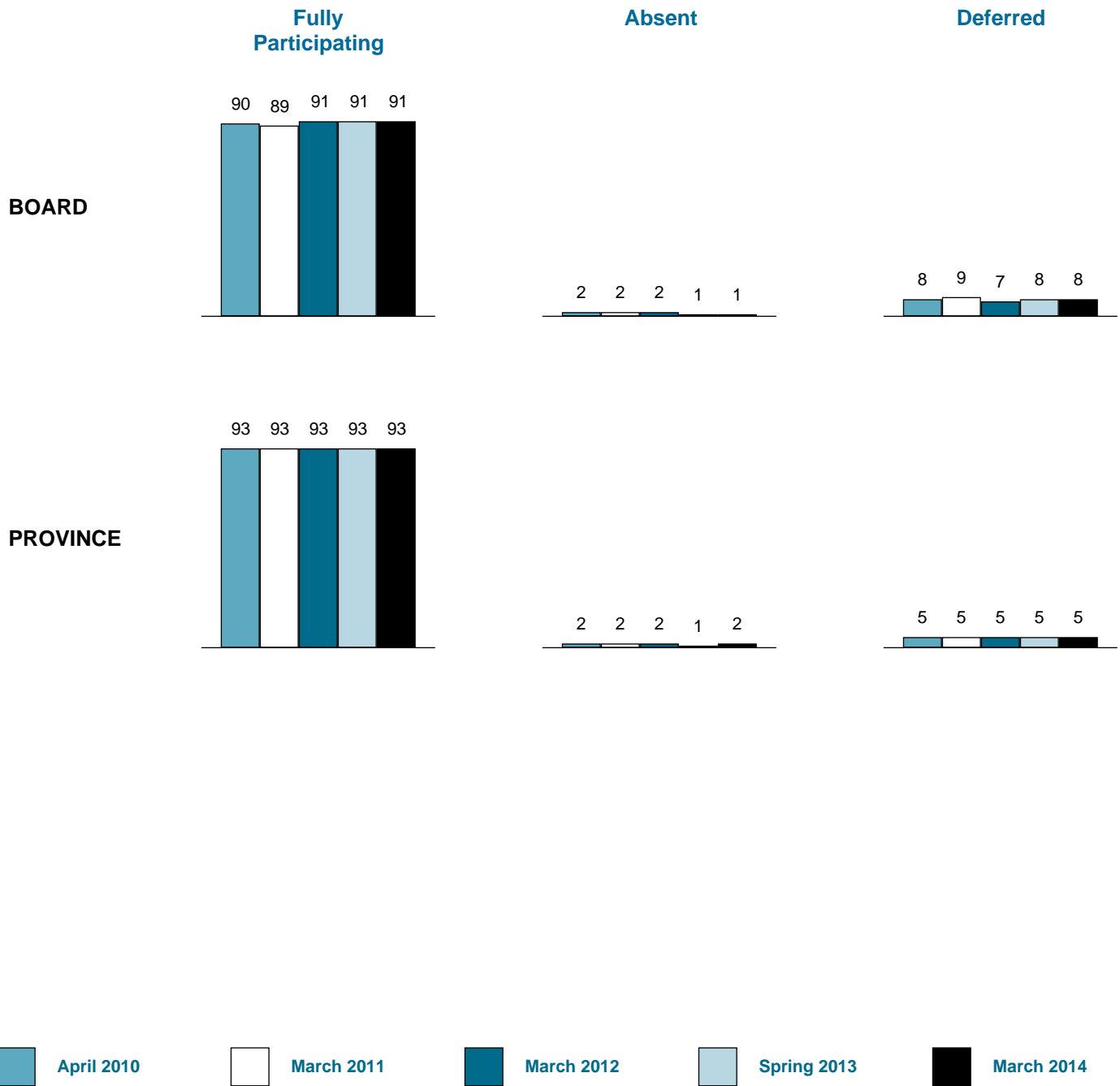
**Percentage of Fully Participating Students Who Were Successful**



# Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014

## PARTICIPATION RATES FOR ALL FIRST-TIME ELIGIBLE STUDENTS OVER TIME

### PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS\*



	<u>April 2010</u>	<u>March 2011</u>	<u>March 2012</u>	<u>Spring 2013</u>	<u>March 2014</u>
Board	3 117	3 027	2 928	2 815	2 848
Province	153 490	153 635	147 306	143 358	141 815

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

# Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014

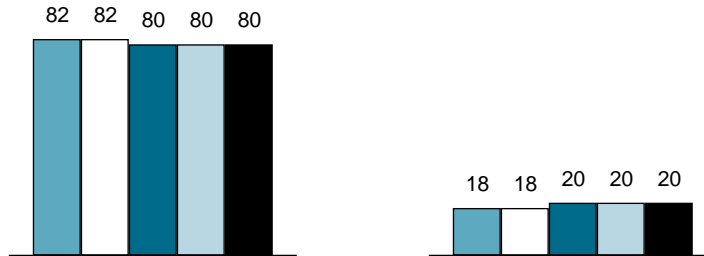
## ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR FULLY PARTICIPATING FIRST-TIME ELIGIBLE STUDENTS OVER TIME

### PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS\*

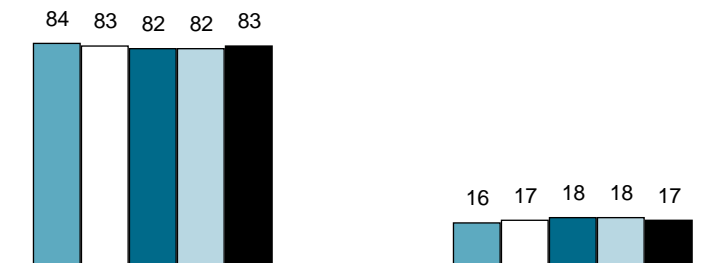
#### Successful

#### Not Successful

**BOARD**



**PROVINCE**



April 2010



March 2011



March 2012



Spring 2013



March 2014

### Number of Fully Participating First-Time Eligible Students

	<u>April 2010</u>	<u>March 2011</u>	<u>March 2012</u>	<u>Spring 2013</u>	<u>March 2014</u>
Board	2 814	2 705	2 665	2 572	2 605
Province	142 955	143 246	137 002	134 033	131 712

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

## TIPS

Each board is unique. To appreciate the distinctive character of a board, look at the contextual information to understand the features and characteristics of the community it serves.



This test captures the performance of students at one point in time each year. Consider the results along with other information about students' performance.



Exercise caution when interpreting results for small boards. Results may vary considerably from year to year, and differences may look exaggerated. For example, in a board of 100 students, a difference of 10% represents only ten students.



Trends may be difficult to identify or to interpret. This is especially true in small boards or in schools where there is a high turnover in the student population.



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

## WHAT IS IN THIS REPORT?

This report shows how well students in this board have met the minimum standard for literacy to the end of Grade 9 as set out in *The Ontario Curriculum*.

### This report includes

- ◆ results for this board compared to the province;
- ◆ a comparison of results of the current and previous 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 between the board and the province. Consider the challenges that any differences might present.
- ◆ Examine the board results.
  - Are these results consistent with what you would expect?
  - How do these results compare to the provincial results?
  - How do these results compare over time?
  - What influence might students' attitudes have on student performance (refer to the questionnaire results)?
- ◆ Speak to the board chair about the goals for improving student performance.

The Education Quality and Accountability Office is an independent agency that gathers information about student achievement through province-wide assessments.

Learn more about us at [www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com).

# Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, First-Time Eligible Students

## Contextual Information

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

	Board		Province	
<b>Enrolment</b>				
Number of first-time eligible students	2 848		141 815	
Number of schools with first-time eligible students	18		789	
Number of students who were exempted	2		1 500	
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
<b>Participation in the Test</b>				
Of all first-time eligible students, those who participated fully in the assessment	2 605	91%	131 712	93%
Of all first-time eligible students, those who were absent	26	1%	2 521	2%
Of all first-time eligible students, those who were deferred	217	8%	7 582	5%
<b>Gender<sup>†</sup> Based on number of first-time eligible students</b>				
Female	1 349	47%	69 290	49%
Male	1 499	53%	72 521	51%
Gender not specified	0	0%	4	<1%
<b>Student Status<sup>†</sup> Based on number of first-time eligible students</b>				
English language learners*	132	5%	8 465	6%
English language learners receiving special provisions**	49	2%	4 667	4%
Students with special education needs (excluding gifted)*	406	14%	25 686	18%
Students with special education needs receiving accommodations (excluding gifted)**	316	12%	20 823	16%
<b>Course Type in English<sup>†</sup> Based on number of first-time eligible students</b>				
Academic	1 821	64%	102 020	72%
Applied	752	26%	30 331	21%
Locally developed	171	6%	4 744	3%
ESL/ELD	102	4%	3 201	2%
Other	2	<1%	1 504	1%
<b>Language<sup>††</sup> Based on Student Questionnaire data</b>				
	Number of Respondents:		2 574	
			128 649	
First language learned at home was other than English	500	19%	29 032	23%
Speak only or mostly English at home	1 990	77%	94 954	74%
Speak another language (or other languages) as often as English at home	430	17%	23 944	19%
Speak only or mostly another language (or other languages) at home	134	5%	8 649	7%

<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.

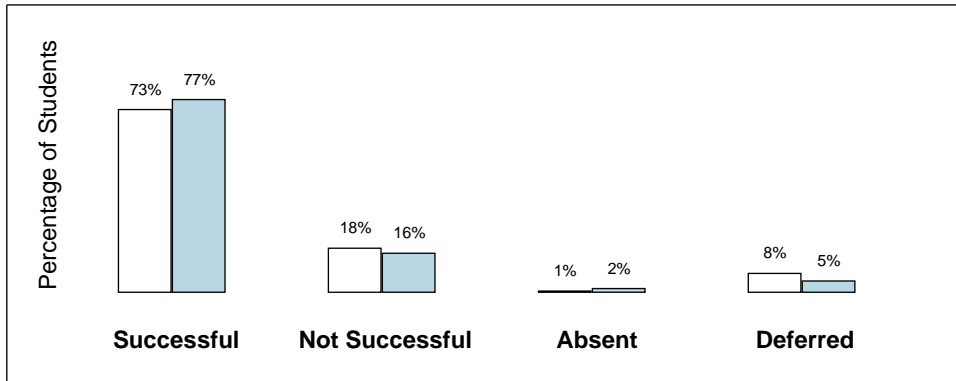
<sup>††</sup> Contextual data pertaining to "language" are gathered from the Student Questionnaire completed by students. Some data may be missing because they were not provided by students.

## Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, First-Time Eligible Students

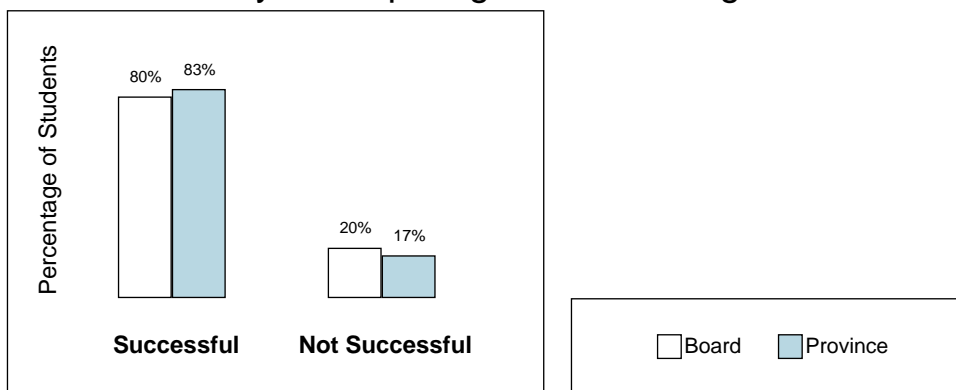
### Results for All Students\*

	First-Time Eligible Students			
	All		Fully Participating	
	Board # = 2 848	Province # = 141 815	Board # = 2 605	Province # = 131 712
Successful	2 089	73%	77%	80%
Not Successful	516	18%	16%	20%
<b>Fully Participating</b>	<b>2 605</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>93%</b>	
Absent	26	1%	2%	
Deferred	217	8%	5%	

### Results for All First-Time Eligible Students



### Results for Fully Participating First-Time Eligible Students



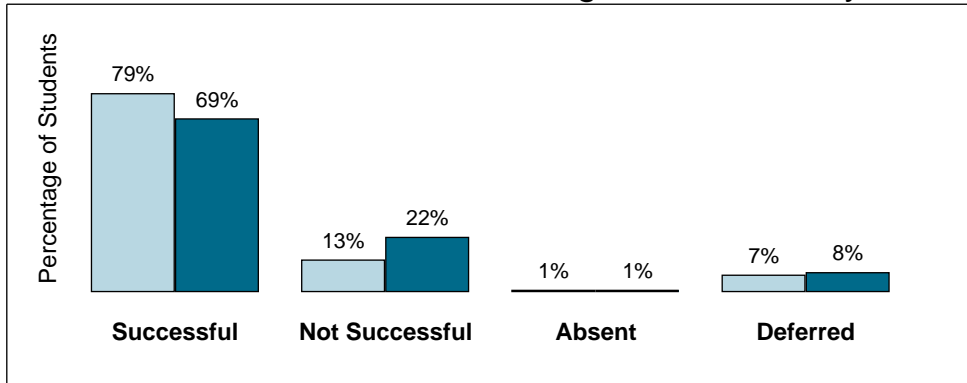
\* Percentages in tables and bar graphs may not add up to 100, due to rounding.

## Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, First-Time Eligible Students

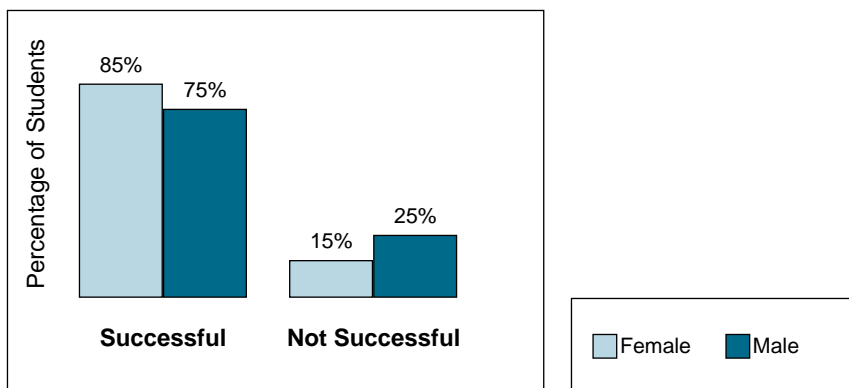
### Board Results by Gender\*†

Board Results by Gender First-Time Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	Female # = 1 349		Male # = 1 499		Female # = 1 243	Male # = 1 362
Successful	1 061	79%	1 028	69%	85%	75%
Not Successful	182	13%	334	22%	15%	25%
<b>Fully Participating</b>	<b>1 243</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>1 362</b>	<b>91%</b>		
Absent	12	1%	14	1%		
Deferred	94	7%	123	8%		

### Board Results for All First-Time Eligible Students by Gender



### Board 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.

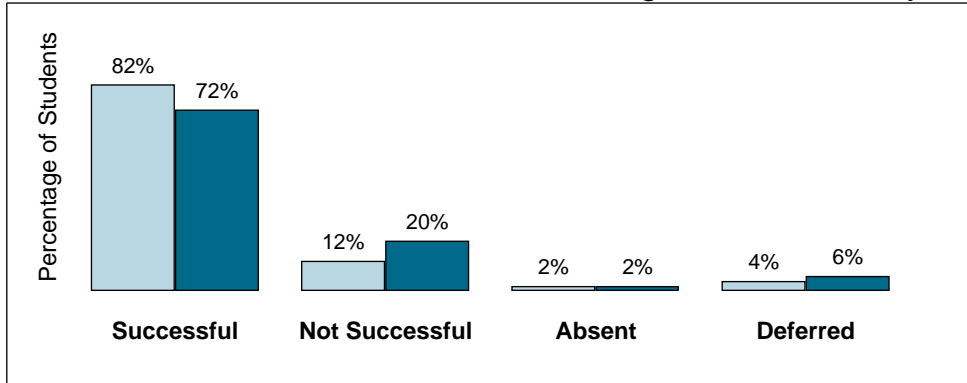
† Includes only students for whom gender data were available.

## Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, First-Time Eligible Students

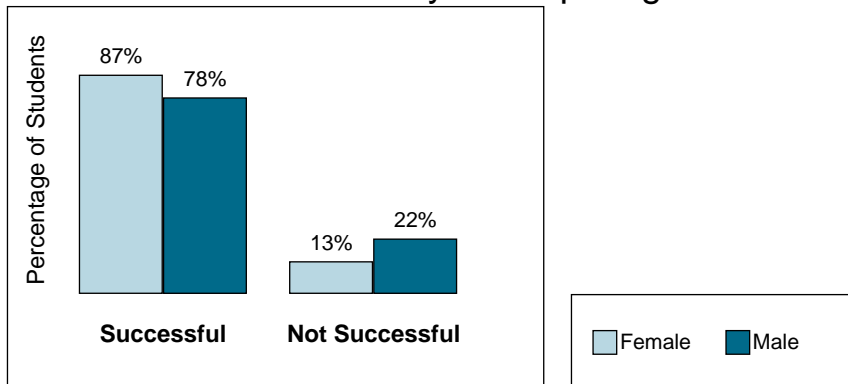
### Provincial Results by Gender\*†

	Provincial Results by Gender First-Time Eligible Students			
	All		Fully Participating	
	Female # = 69 290	Male # = 72 521	Female # = 65 018	Male # = 66 692
Successful	56 661	82%	52 252	72%
Not Successful	8 357	12%	14 440	20%
<b>Fully Participating</b>	<b>65 018</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>66 692</b>	<b>92%</b>
Absent	1 263	2%	1 256	2%
Deferred	3 009	4%	4 573	6%

### 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.

† Includes only students for whom gender data were available.

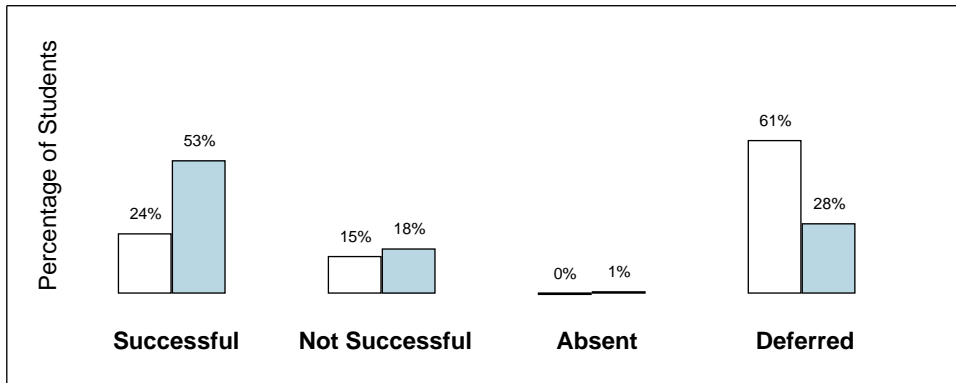


## Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, First-Time Eligible Students

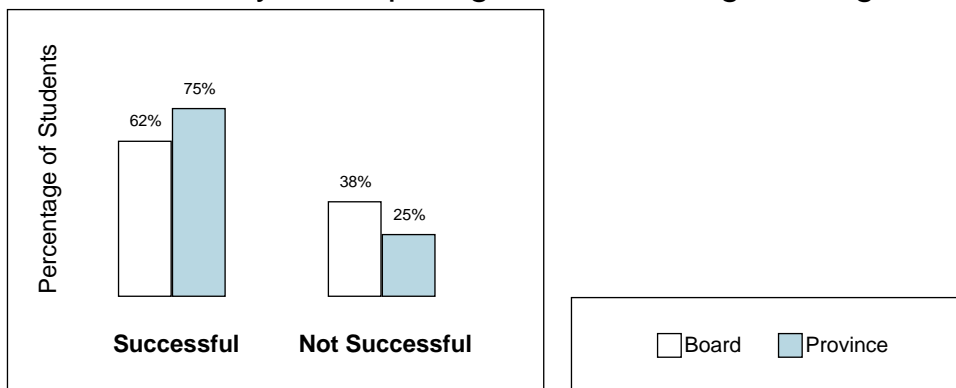
### Results for English Language Learners\*

Results for English Language Learners First-Time Eligible Students					
	All			Fully Participating	
	Board # = 132	Province # = 8 465		Board # = 52	Province # = 6 009
Successful	32	24%	53%	62%	75%
Not Successful	20	15%	18%	38%	25%
<b>Fully Participating</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>71%</b>		
Absent	0	0%	1%		
Deferred	80	61%	28%		

### Results for All First-Time Eligible English Language Learners



### Results for Fully Participating First-Time Eligible English Language Learners



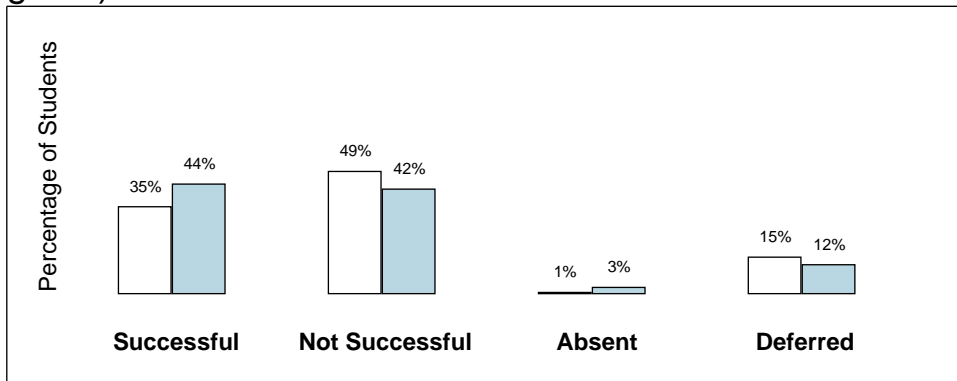
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## Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, First-Time Eligible Students

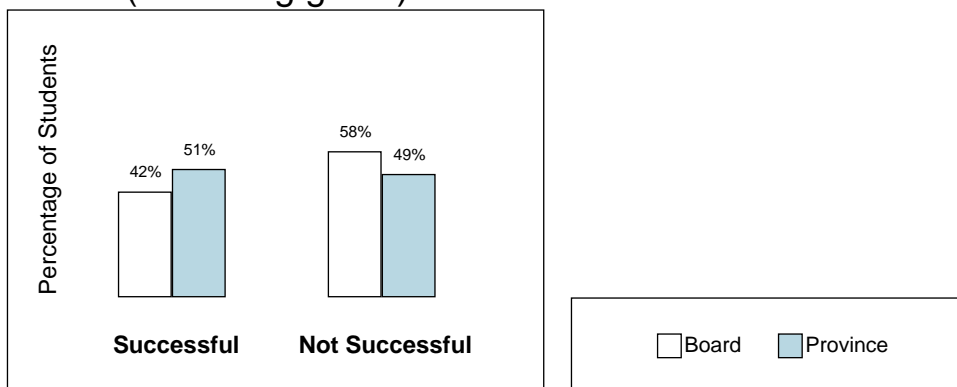
### Results for Students with Special Education Needs (excluding gifted)\*

Results for Students with Special Education Needs (excluding gifted) First-Time Eligible Students					
	All			Fully Participating	
	Board # = 406	Province # = 25 686		Board # = 339	Province # = 21 914
Successful	141	35%	44%	42%	51%
Not Successful	198	49%	42%	58%	49%
<b>Fully Participating</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>85%</b>		
Absent	6	1%	3%		
Deferred	61	15%	12%		

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



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



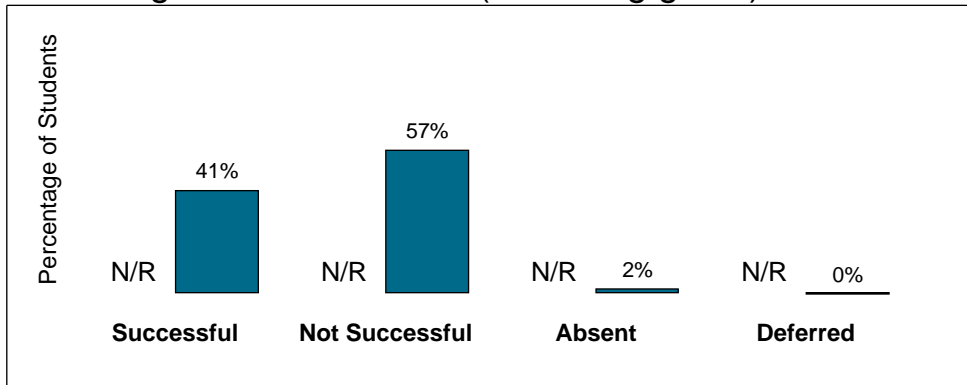
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## Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, First-Time Eligible Students

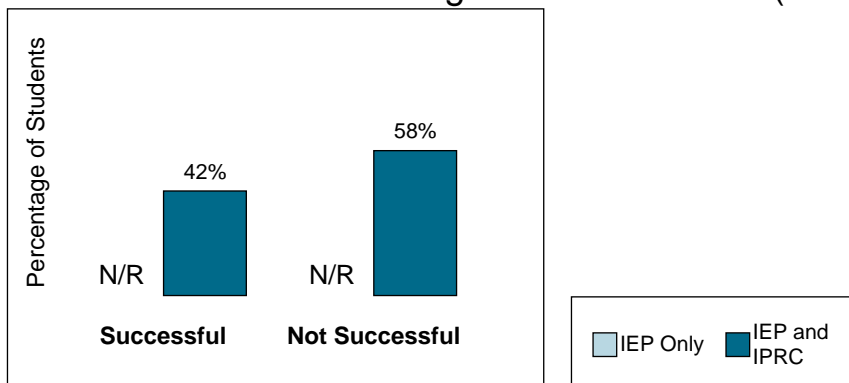
### Board Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)\*

Board Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted) First-Time Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	IEP Only # = N/R		IEP and IPRC # = 320		IEP Only # = N/R	IEP and IPRC # = 315
Successful	N/R	N/R	132	41%	N/R	42%
Not Successful	N/R	N/R	183	57%	N/R	58%
<b>Fully Participating</b>	N/R	N/R	315	98%		
Absent	N/R	N/R	5	2%		
Deferred	N/R	N/R	0	0%		

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



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



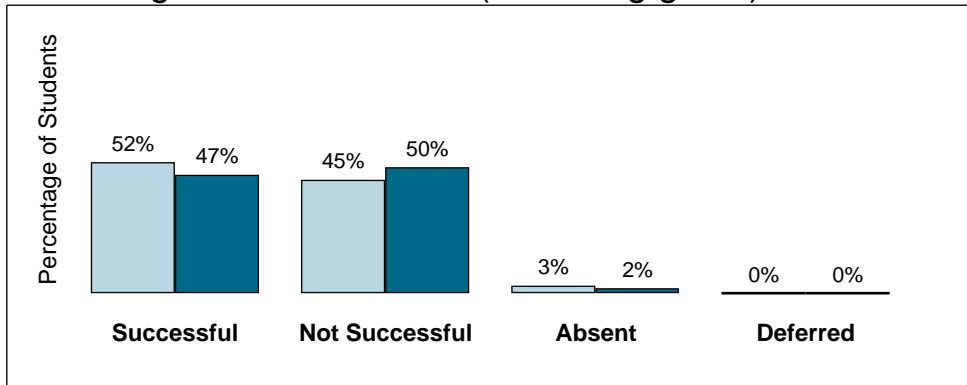
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## Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, First-Time Eligible Students

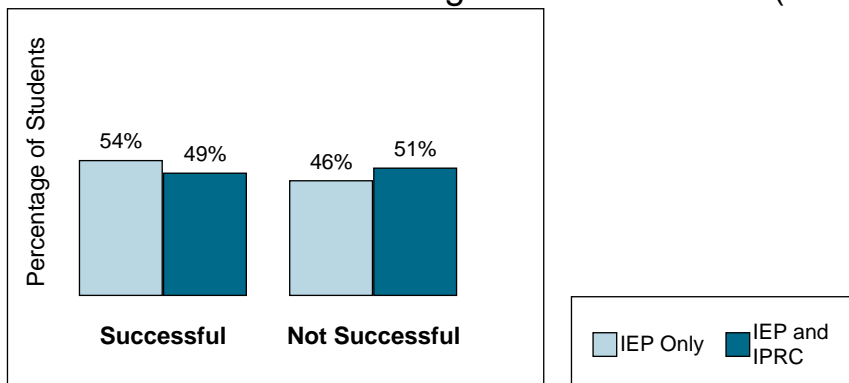
### Provincial Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted)\*

Provincial Results for Students with Special Education Needs Receiving Accommodations (excluding gifted) First-Time Eligible Students						
	All				Fully Participating	
	IEP Only # = 8 667		IEP and IPRC # = 12 765		IEP Only # = 8 371	IEP and IPRC # = 12 452
Successful	4 512	52%	6 050	47%	54%	49%
Not Successful	3 859	45%	6 402	50%	46%	51%
<b>Fully Participating</b>	<b>8 371</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>12 452</b>	<b>98%</b>		
Absent	296	3%	313	2%		
Deferred	0	0%	0	0%		

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



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



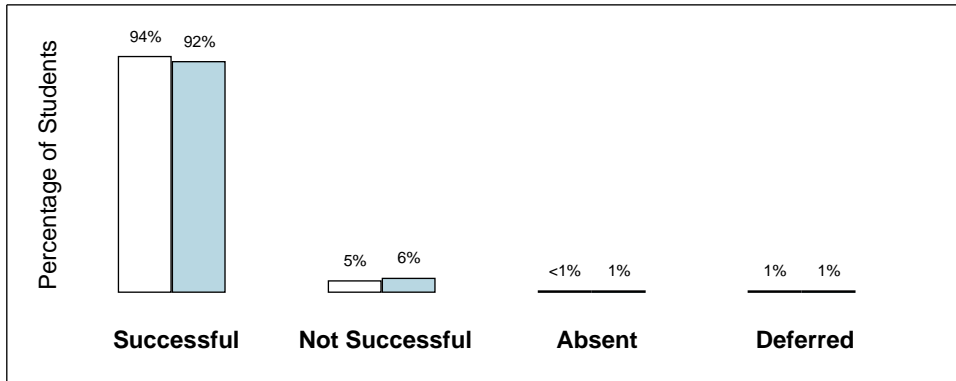
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## Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, First-Time Eligible Students

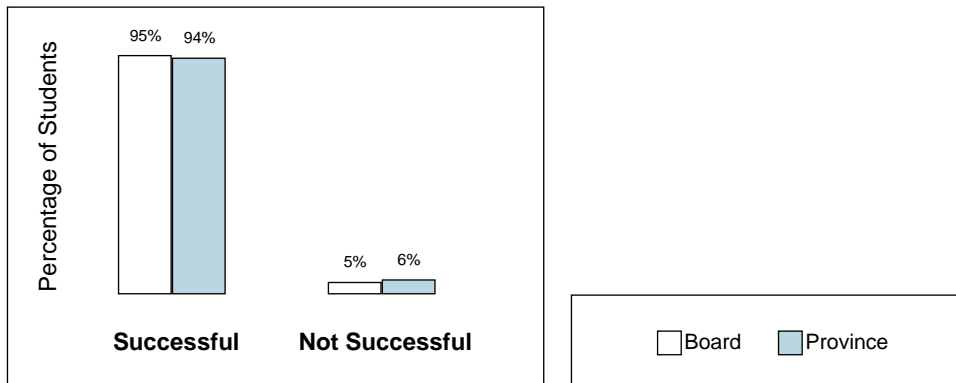
### Results for Students Taking Academic English Course\*

Results for Students Taking Academic English Course First-Time Eligible Students					
	All			Fully Participating	
	Board # = 1 821	Province # = 102 020		Board # = 1 804	Province # = 99 943
Successful	1 720	94%	92%	95%	94%
Not Successful	84	5%	6%	5%	6%
<b>Fully Participating</b>	<b>1 804</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>98%</b>		
Absent	6	<1%	1%		
Deferred	11	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



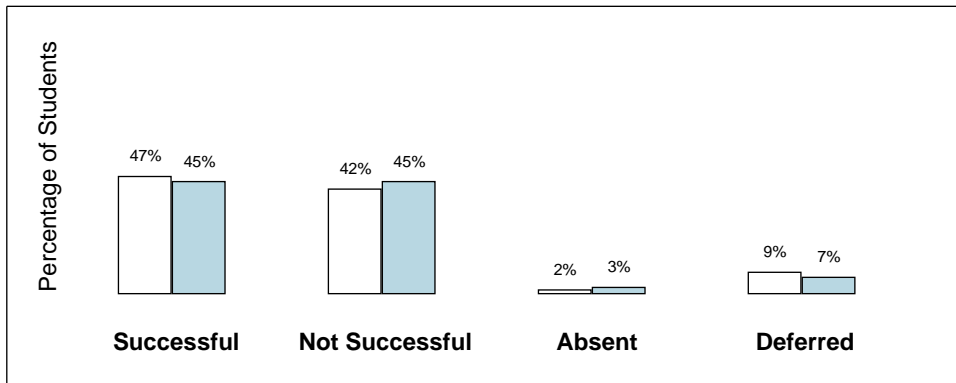
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## Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, First-Time Eligible Students

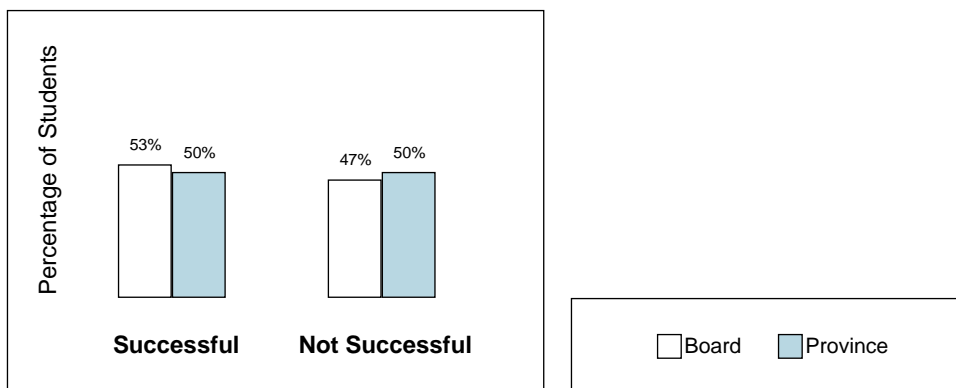
### Results for Students Taking Applied English Course\*

Results for Students Taking Applied English Course First-Time Eligible Students					
	All			Fully Participating	
	Board # = 752	Province # = 30 331		Board # = 668	Province # = 27 272
Successful	354	47%	45%	53%	50%
Not Successful	314	42%	45%	47%	50%
<b>Fully Participating</b>	<b>668</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>90%</b>		
Absent	17	2%	3%		
Deferred	67	9%	7%		

### Results for All First-Time Eligible Students Taking Applied English Course



### Results for Fully Participating First-Time Eligible Students Taking Applied English Course



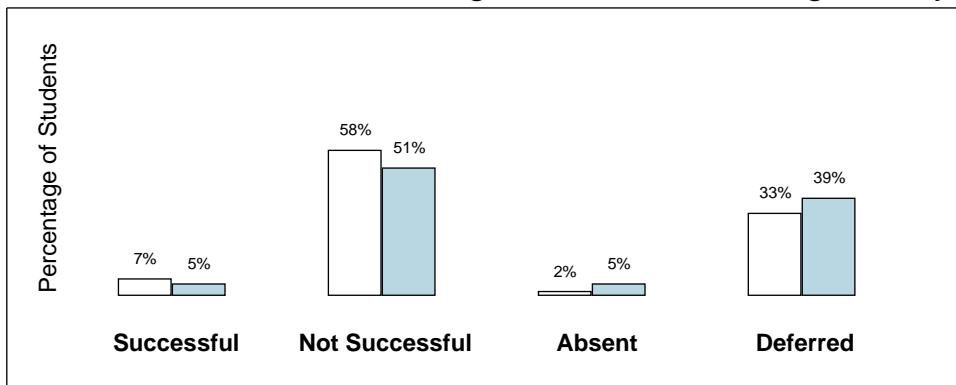
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## Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, First-Time Eligible Students

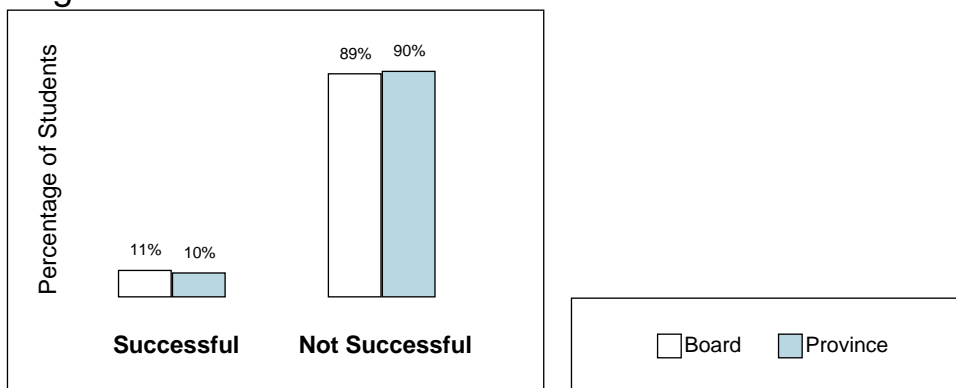
### Results for Students Taking Locally Developed English Course\*

Results for Students Taking Locally Developed English Course First-Time Eligible Students					
	All			Fully Participating	
	Board # = 171	Province # = 4 744		Board # = 112	Province # = 2 662
Successful	12	7%	5%	11%	10%
Not Successful	100	58%	51%	89%	90%
<b>Fully Participating</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>56%</b>		
Absent	3	2%	5%		
Deferred	56	33%	39%		

### 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



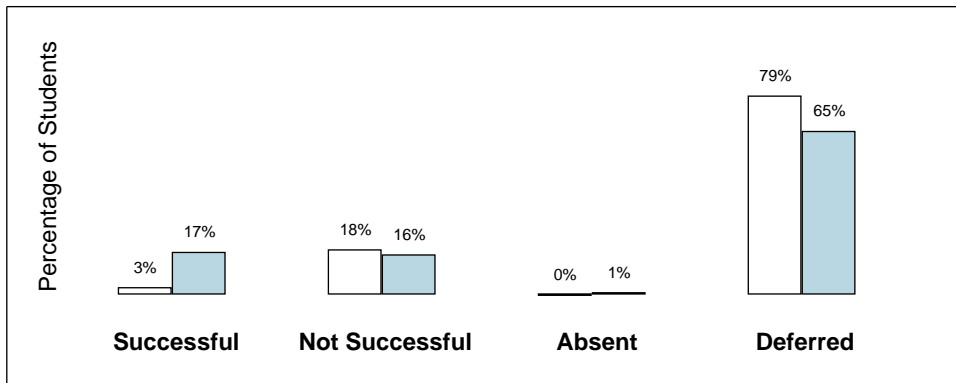
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## Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, First-Time Eligible Students

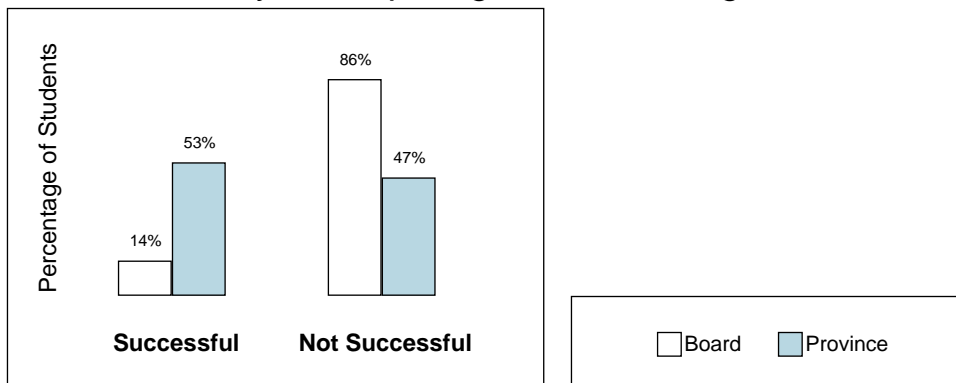
### Results for Students Taking ESL/ELD Course\*

Results for Students Taking ESL/ELD Course First-Time Eligible Students					
	All			Fully Participating	
	Board # = 102	Province # = 3 201		Board # = 21	Province # = 1 058
Successful	3	3%	17%	14%	53%
Not Successful	18	18%	16%	86%	47%
<b>Fully Participating</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>33%</b>		
Absent	0	0%	1%		
Deferred	81	79%	65%		

### 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.



## Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, First-Time Eligible Students

### Contextual Information over Time

This information provides a context for interpreting the board's results of the current and previous administrations.

	Apr. 2010	Mar. 2011	Mar. 2012	Spr. 2013	Mar. 2014	
<b>Enrolment</b>						
Number of first-time eligible students	3 117	3 027	2 928	2 815	2 848	
Number of schools with first-time eligible students	17	16	16	17	18	
Number of students who were exempted	18	35	43	8	2	
<b>Participation in the Test</b>						
Of all first-time eligible students, those who participated fully in the assessment	90%	89%	91%	91%	91%	
Of all first-time eligible students, those who were absent	2%	2%	2%	1%	1%	
Of all first-time eligible students, those who were deferred	8%	9%	7%	8%	8%	
<b>Gender<sup>†</sup> Based on number of first-time eligible students</b>						
Female	46%	47%	48%	46%	47%	
Male	54%	53%	52%	54%	53%	
Gender not specified	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
<b>Student Status<sup>†</sup> Based on number of first-time eligible students</b>						
English language learners*	3%	5%	6%	4%	5%	
English language learners receiving special provisions**	1%	1%	3%	2%	2%	
Students with special education needs (excluding gifted)*	16%	14%	13%	15%	14%	
Students with special education needs receiving accommodations (excluding gifted)**	12%	10%	10%	13%	12%	
<b>Course Type in English<sup>†</sup> Based on number of first-time eligible students</b>						
Academic	58%	61%	65%	63%	64%	
Applied	33%	29%	25%	27%	26%	
Locally developed	6%	6%	6%	7%	6%	
ESL/ELD	3%	4%	4%	3%	4%	
Other	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	
<b>Language<sup>††</sup> Based on Student Questionnaire data</b>						
	Number of Respondents:	2 753	2 637	2 584	2 515	2 574
First language learned at home was other than English		19%	19%	19%	20%	19%
Speak only or mostly English at home		80%	79%	77%	78%	77%
Speak another language (or other languages) as often as English at home		15%	15%	16%	16%	17%
Speak only or mostly another language (or other languages) at home		5%	5%	6%	5%	5%

<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.

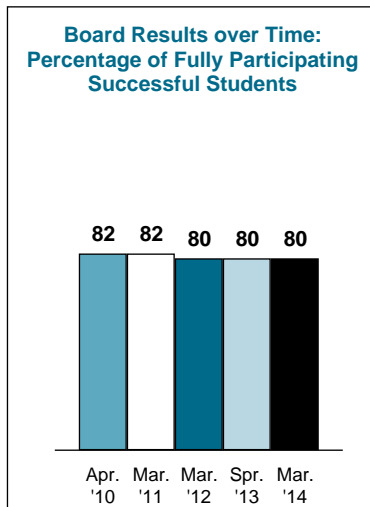
\* See Explanation of Terms.

\*\* Percentages are based on fully participating students.

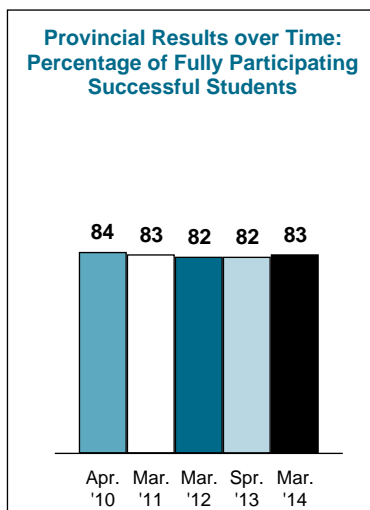
<sup>††</sup> Contextual data pertaining to "language" are gathered from the Student Questionnaire completed by students. Some data may be missing because they were not provided by students.

## Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, First-Time Eligible Students Results over Time, April 2010–March 2014

Board Results over Time*										
	April '10		March '11		March '12		Spring '13		March '14	
<i>All Students</i>	3 117		3 027		2 928		2 815		2 848	
<b>Successful (all)</b>	2 299	74%	2 229	74%	2 128	73%	2 048	73%	2 089	73%
Not Successful	515	17%	476	16%	537	18%	524	19%	516	18%
<b>Fully Participating</b>	2 814	90%	2 705	89%	2 665	91%	2 572	91%	2 605	91%
Absent	56	2%	48	2%	44	2%	25	1%	26	1%
Deferred	247	8%	274	9%	219	7%	218	8%	217	8%
<b>Fully Participating Successful</b>	2 299	82%	2 229	82%	2 128	80%	2 048	80%	2 089	80%



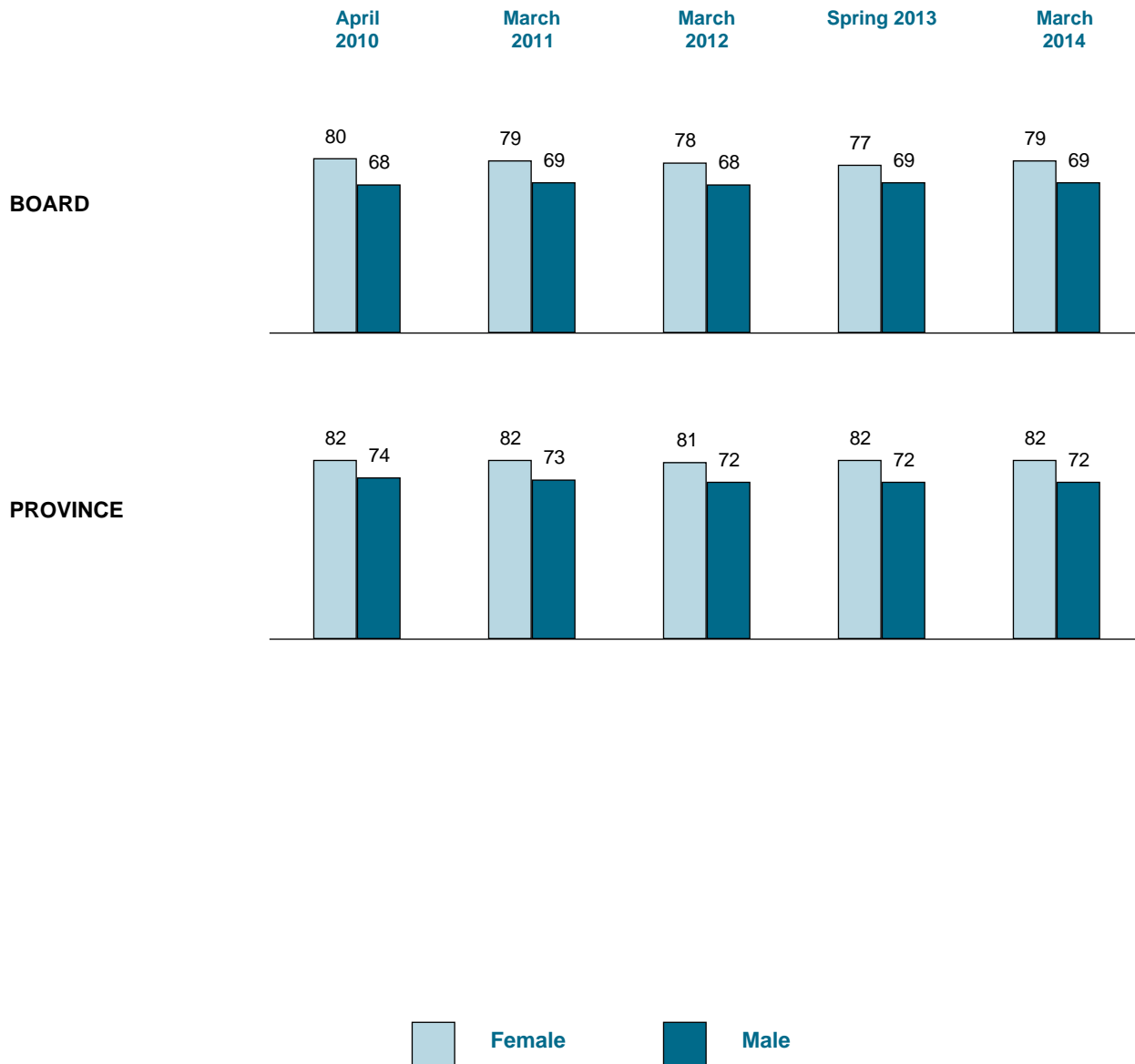
Provincial Results over Time*										
	April '10		March '11		March '12		Spring '13		March '14	
<i>All Students</i>	153 490		153 635		147 306		143 358		141 815	
<b>Successful (all)</b>	120 218	78%	118 961	77%	112 717	77%	110 162	77%	108 914	77%
Not Successful	22 737	15%	24 285	16%	24 285	16%	23 871	17%	22 798	16%
<b>Fully Participating</b>	142 955	93%	143 246	93%	137 002	93%	134 033	93%	131 712	93%
Absent	3 479	2%	3 237	2%	2 966	2%	2 059	1%	2 521	2%
Deferred	7 056	5%	7 152	5%	7 338	5%	7 266	5%	7 582	5%
<b>Fully Participating Successful</b>	120 218	84%	118 961	83%	112 717	82%	110 162	82%	108 914	83%



\* 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:  
ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL LITERACY TEST**



Female
  Male

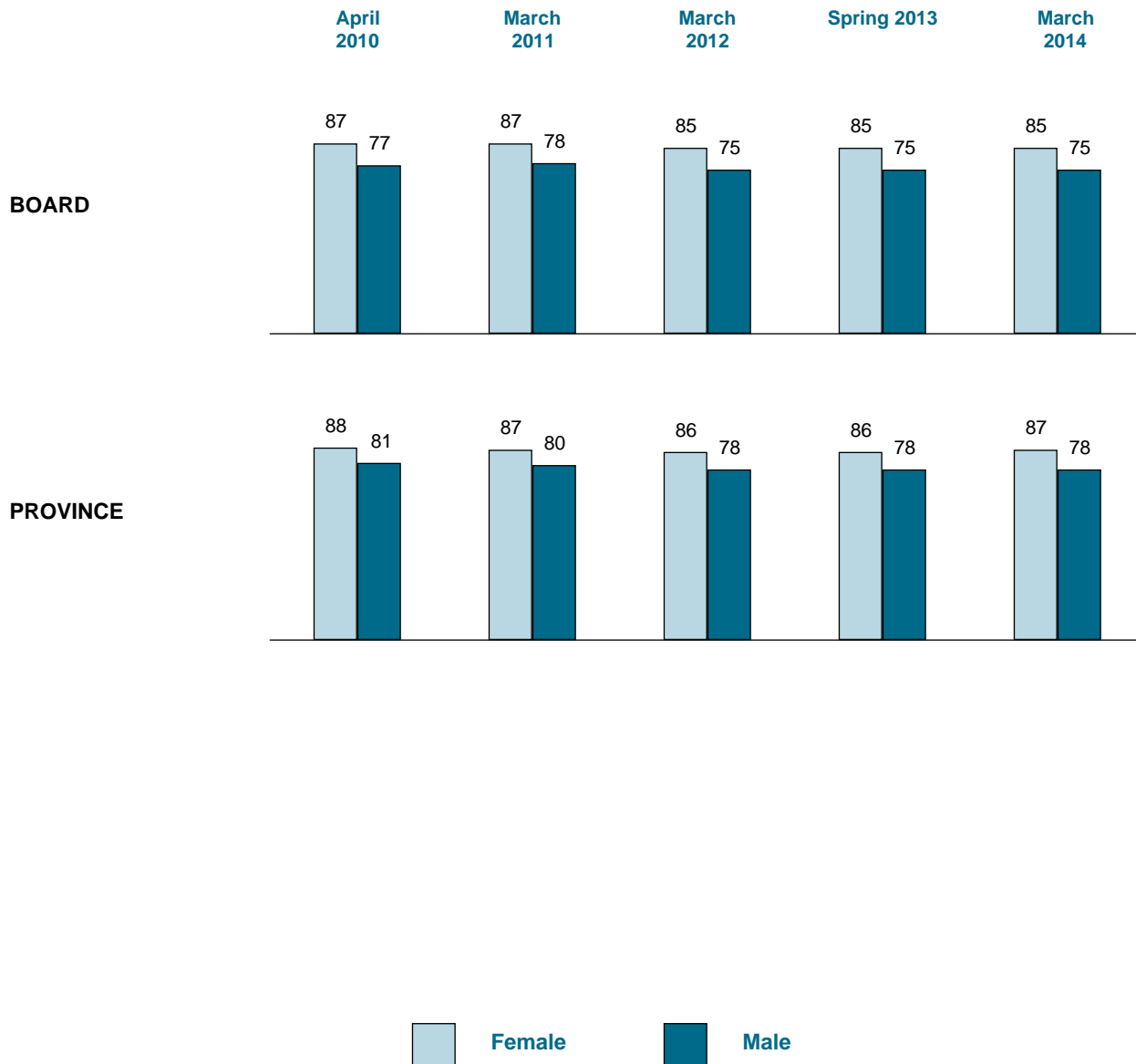
**Number of First-Time Eligible Students†**

	<u>April 2010</u>		<u>March 2011</u>		<u>March 2012</u>		<u>Spring 2013</u>		<u>March 2014</u>	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
Board	1 447	1 670	1 425	1 602	1 407	1 521	1 304	1 511	1 349	1 499
Province	74 545	78 940	74 954	78 681	71 934	75 370	70 092	73 260	69 290	72 521

† 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:  
ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL LITERACY TEST**

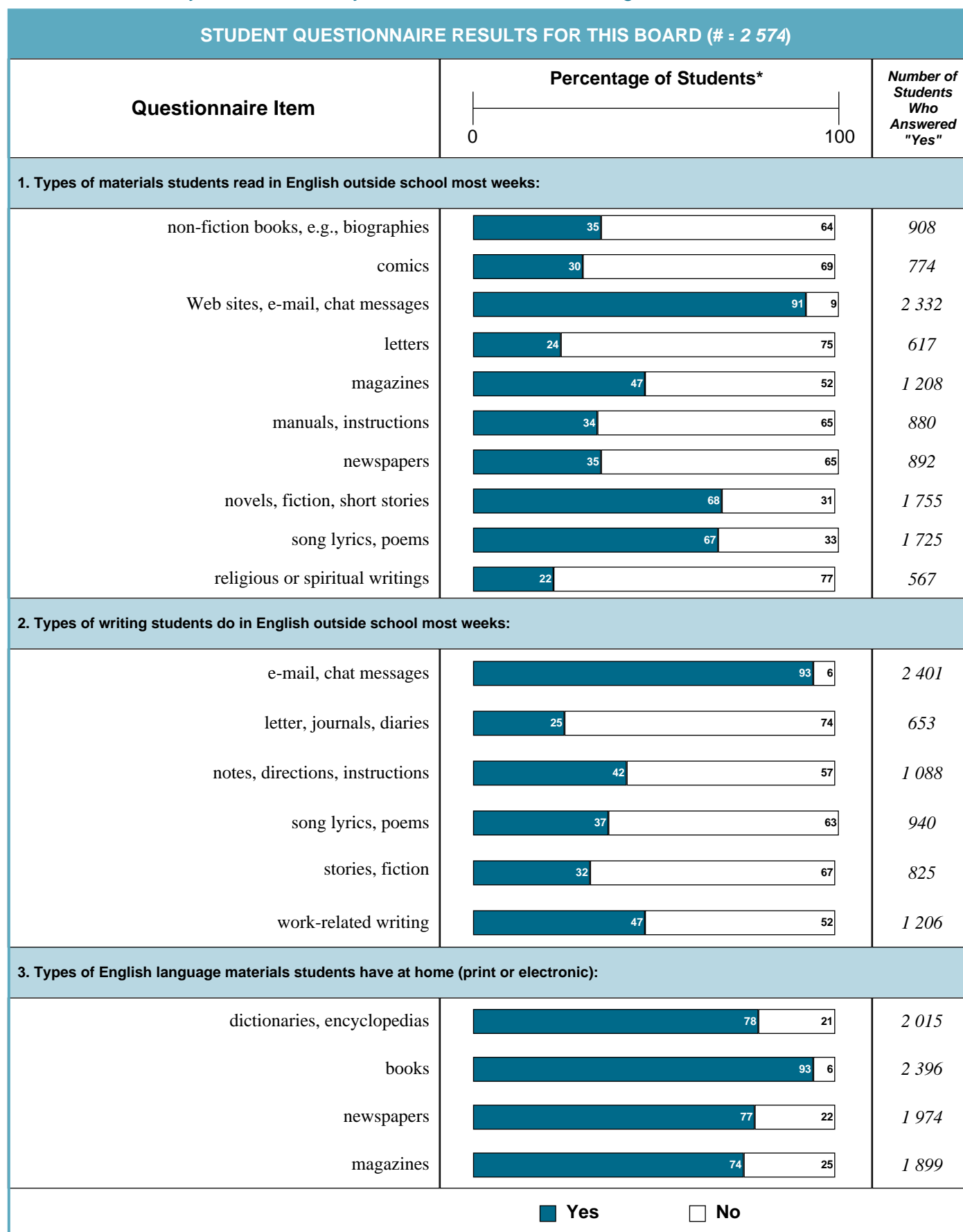


**Number of Fully Participating First-Time Eligible Students†**

	<u>April 2010</u>		<u>March 2011</u>		<u>March 2012</u>		<u>Spring 2013</u>		<u>March 2014</u>	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
Board	1 332	1 482	1 285	1 420	1 283	1 382	1 189	1 383	1 243	1 362
Province	70 055	72 896	70 606	72 640	67 631	69 369	66 262	67 765	65 018	66 692

† Includes only students for whom gender data were available.

## Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, First-Time Eligible Students



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

## Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, First-Time Eligible Students

STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS FOR THIS BOARD (# = 2 574)		
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	31	789
more than one hour but less than three hours	30	772
more than three hours but less than five hours	18	459
five hours or more	21	542
<b>5. Number of hours a week students write in English outside school, not including homework:</b>		
one hour or less	44	1 133
more than one hour but less than three hours	31	788
more than three hours but less than five hours	13	347
five hours or more	11	282
<b>6. How often students use a computer at home for homework:</b>		
don't have a computer at home	4	94
never or hardly ever use a computer for homework	13	336
use a computer once or twice a month for homework	21	546
use a computer once or twice a week for homework	35	913
use a computer almost every day for homework	26	682
<b>7. First language students learned at home was English:</b>		
yes	81	2 073
no	19	500
<b>8. Language(s) students speak at home:</b>		
only or mostly English	77	1 990
another language (or other languages) as often as English	17	430
only or mostly another language (or other languages)	5	134

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

## Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014, First-Time Eligible Students

STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS FOR BOARD AND PROVINCE (all students, female, male)	Board			Province		
	All (#= 2 574)	Female* (#= 1 233)	Male* (#= 1 341)	All (#= 128 649)	Female* (#= 63 748)	Male* (#= 64 900)
<b>Percentage of students indicating that they</b>						
have a computer at home.	<b>96%</b>	97%	96%	<b>97%</b>	97%	96%
use the computer almost every day for homework.	<b>26%</b>	27%	26%	<b>32%</b>	34%	30%
<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	<b>35%</b>	33%	38%	<b>35%</b>	31%	38%
comics	<b>30%</b>	24%	36%	<b>31%</b>	23%	39%
Web sites, e-mail, chat messages	<b>91%</b>	92%	89%	<b>90%</b>	92%	88%
letters	<b>24%</b>	27%	21%	<b>25%</b>	27%	23%
magazines	<b>47%</b>	55%	39%	<b>49%</b>	59%	39%
manuals, instructions	<b>34%</b>	24%	44%	<b>36%</b>	26%	46%
newspapers	<b>35%</b>	33%	36%	<b>36%</b>	33%	38%
novels, fiction, short stories	<b>68%</b>	82%	56%	<b>72%</b>	82%	61%
song lyrics, poems	<b>67%</b>	81%	54%	<b>65%</b>	77%	53%
religious or spiritual writings	<b>22%</b>	24%	20%	<b>22%</b>	23%	21%
<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.	<b>39%</b>	48%	30%	<b>38%</b>	44%	33%
<b>Percentage of students indicating that they have the following English language materials at home (print or electronic):</b>						
dictionaries, encyclopedias	<b>78%</b>	81%	76%	<b>82%</b>	84%	80%
books	<b>93%</b>	97%	90%	<b>94%</b>	96%	92%
newspapers	<b>77%</b>	77%	76%	<b>77%</b>	78%	77%
magazines	<b>74%</b>	77%	71%	<b>75%</b>	79%	72%
<b>Percentage of students indicating that they do the following types of writing in English outside school most weeks:</b>						
e-mail, chat messages	<b>93%</b>	95%	92%	<b>94%</b>	95%	92%
letters, journals, diaries	<b>25%</b>	40%	12%	<b>26%</b>	39%	13%
notes, directions, instructions	<b>42%</b>	47%	38%	<b>45%</b>	47%	43%
song lyrics, poems	<b>37%</b>	45%	29%	<b>35%</b>	42%	28%
stories, fiction	<b>32%</b>	41%	24%	<b>33%</b>	39%	27%
work-related writing	<b>47%</b>	46%	48%	<b>54%</b>	54%	54%
<b>Percentage of students indicating that they write in English outside school, not including homework, for</b>						
more than three hours a week.	<b>24%</b>	28%	21%	<b>25%</b>	28%	23%
<b>Percentage of students indicating that the first language they learned at home was</b>						
other than English.	<b>19%</b>	19%	20%	<b>23%</b>	23%	22%
<b>Percentage of students indicating that they speak the following language(s) at home:**</b>						
only or mostly English	<b>77%</b>	79%	76%	<b>74%</b>	74%	74%
another language (or other languages) as often as English	<b>17%</b>	16%	17%	<b>19%</b>	19%	18%
only or mostly another language (or other languages)	<b>5%</b>	4%	6%	<b>7%</b>	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.

## Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2014

## EXPLANATION OF TERMS

<b>First-Time Eligible Students</b>	First-time eligible students are working toward an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). These students are expected to write the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) for the first time in the spring of their second year of secondary school; this also applies to students who entered Grade 10 from out of province.
<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 are now working toward an OSSD; entered Grade 11 or 12 from out of province or enrolled in an adult education program and began Grade 9 in or after the 2000-2001 school year.
<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 <b>one or both</b> 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/R</b>	"Not reported" indicates that the number of students participating (fewer than 10 in a group) or responding to the Student Questionnaire is so small (fewer than six in a group) that identification of individual student results might be possible; therefore results are not reported.
<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 personnel at the board.