

## Guide to Indicators and Pull-out Pages



- School level indicators appear in a series of pull-out pages found at the end of the report.
- Each school is grouped into a school type based on grades offered:


## Kindergarten - 12 All grades

Primary Any combination of grades between Kindergarten to Grade 3, 4 or 5 with no higher grades present

Elementary K-6 to K-9 or any combination in this range

Intermediate Often includes Grades 7-9 but can include 1 or 2 grades above or below (e.g., Grades 6-9)

Secondary Any combination of grades between Grade 7 to Grade 10, 11 or 12

Senior High Grades 9-12 or 10-12
Private, First Nations and Other Includes private schools, First Nations schools as well as the NL School for the Deaf, and the NL Youth Center.

- Each pull-out contains a core group of indicators for each school. Depending on the grade configurations of each pull-out and space limitations, each pull-out may consist of different indicators. This document and the entire set of indicators can be viewed and/or downloaded at


## www.gov.nl. ca/edu/publications

- All data are based on the 2007/08 school year, unless otherwise noted. In addition to school level indicators, the provincial level results are presented as the last row in each pull-out.
- Unless otherwise noted, provincial data are based on information provided in the annual Education Statistics report published by the Department of Education.
- Data are not reported in cases where scores are based on five or fewer students.
- For new schools, data are displayed only if the test or survey was administered after the school was opened.
- In the tables included at the end of the report, the percentages may not total $100 \%$ due to rounding error.


## Foreword

Public interest in school-level data, particularly student achievement data, is very high and increasing all the time. People want to know how their children and their schools are performing - and where there is room for improvement.

In an effort to assist this school improvement process, and to make our education system open and accountable to the public it serves, the Department of Education is releasing the third installment of Indicators: Indicators 2008-A Report on Schools. While this report does not contain every indicator which influences a school's success, it does provide a broad range of statistical information designed to inform administrators, educators, students and a school community where their schools are succeeding at this moment in time, and where they can work together to improve.

The report groups schools by type (e.g., K-12, primary, senior high). It shows, for example, how students at schools of a similar structure performed on public exams and other provincial assessments in $2007 / 08$. Many factors contribute to the success of a school and its students. The report provides information on a variety of these factors, including pupil-teacher ratios, class sizes, and the average years' experience of the teaching staff.

It is important to note that Indicators 2008 does not rank schools. Rather, this report presents indicators showing trends over time. These indicators are presented without any discussion of possible underlying reasons behind these trends and there are no implications or recommendations made based on the information provided. Instead, it is the purpose of this document to provide a wide range of information about the province's educational system.

While Indicators 2008 provides information on a provincial and district level, school-level information and historical data is available through the Department of Education's K-12 School Profile System, accessible online at:

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## Chapter 1: Introduction

Change... If there was one word to describe the transformation of the educational system in Newfoundland and Labrador, this would be it. The profile of today's schools is quite different than just ten years ago with fewer students, teachers and schools in the province. However, the budget of the Department of Education has steadily grown in recent years. In 2007/08, it surpassed the one billion dollar mark for the first time in the province's history. This increased funding has allowed the department to develop and implement many new policies and initiatives, such as the expansion of the high school skills trade program and the implementation of class size maximums in Kindergarten to Grade 9.

However, focusing on the major changes occurring at the program and policy level only provides half the picture. To complete the picture, it is important to focus on the experiences and progress of the consumers and backbone of the educational system - the students and the teachers. It is the purpose of this report to do just that. It builds on the information provided in the previous reports, Indicators 2004 and Indicators 2005: A report on schools, published by the department. This report has expanded the format created in these documents to provide a broader sense of how students in the province are faring. Its goal is to highlight trends and accomplishments made by students over the past six years. To meet this goal, the report is divided into four separate sections. As a starting point, the first section will focus on describing the key players of the education system the students, teachers and schools. Part II explores various aspects of the educational system including topics such as distance education in the province and school development. Part III focuses on the high school years and explores performance on public examination courses, graduation rates and drop-out rates. The final section examines student performance in a range of different subject areas based on information derived from the province's criterion referenced tests (CRTs), the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) and the Pan-Canadian Assessment Program (PCAP).


## PART I: The Educational System

## Chapter 2: The Province's Student Population

The province's school age population is declining. In fact, enrolment has steadily declined since peaking at 162,818 students in 1972/73. Looking back over the previous six years (i.e., between 2002/03 and 2007/08), the student population shrank by $14.5 \%$, from 84,268 students in 2002/03 to 72,084 in 2007/08. Before focusing on characteristics of the province's student
population, it is important to explore the factors attributing to this decline.

## Population dynamics

While the Canadian population increased between 2002 and 2007, this growth did not occur across the country. Newfoundland and Labrador was one of three provinces where the population declined. As shown in figure 2.1, Newfoundland and Labrador

Figure 2.1: Population change (2002-2007)

(Source: Table 2.1)
experienced the sharpest decline with a decrease of $2.5 \%$. The other two provinces, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, experienced declines of less than $0.1 \%$. Alberta and Nunavut reported the greatest gains where the population grew by $11.5 \%$ and 8.3\%, respectively.

Figure 2.2: Population of Newfoundland and Labrador by age group (2002-2007)


The age profile of the province's population has also changed during this time. During 2002, more of the province's population was younger than 40 years of age. By 2007, this had reversed with more people in the province over the age of 50 (see figure 2.2).

To examine which segments of the population experienced the greatest change, it is helpful to regroup the age categories reported in figure 2.2. As
shown in figure 2.3, the number of infants, school-aged children and adults under the age of 45 declined, with the largest decrease seen in the number of school aged children and young adults between the ages of 18 and 24 . It was only the number of older adults living in the province where a positive change occurred. This aging trend is reflected in the change in the median age of residents from 38.8 years in 2002 to 42.0 years in 2007 (Statistics Canada, 2007a).



## Number of births

As one might expect in light of the decreasing number of young families living in the province, the number of births has been declining. In fact, between 2002/03 and 2006/07, there were $5.9 \%$ fewer births in the province (dropping from 4,596 in 2002/03 to 4,326 in 2006/07, see figure 2.4).

The province's declining population and birth rate has and will continue to impact the student population. The remainder of this chapter will explore enrolment trends and other student specific characteristics, such as class size and pupil-teacher ratios.


NOTE: A one year period runs from July $1^{\text {st }}$ of one year to June $30^{\text {th }}$ of the next year.
(Source: Table 2.4)

However, recent statistics released by the Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information show this declining trend has ended. There were more babies born in the province in 2008 than in any year since 1999. In 2008, there were 300 more babies born than the previous year (an increase of 3\%) (Centre for Health Information, 2009).

## Provincial enrolment

Over the past six years, provincial enrolment shrank by approximately $3.0 \%$ each year and this decline is projected to continue into the near future (see figure 2.5). However, with the provincial population appearing to be entering a period of growth and expansion, these enrolment projections may change.

Figure 2.5: Enrolment trends (1998/99-2015/16)


At the district level, Labrador experienced the sharpest decline, with enrolment dropping by $25.2 \%$ between 2002/03 and 2007/08. The only increase seen in the province occurred in the Francophone school district, the Conseil scolaire francophone. During this time, enrolment grew by $9.1 \%$ (from 230 in 2002/03 to 251 in 2007/08, see figure 2.6).

## Average class size

Provincially, the average K-9 class size has steadily declined since 2005/06 with the lowest average class size ( 19.5 students) seen in 2007/08. On a district level, the average K-9 class size decreased each year in three of the five school districts. It is only the largest school district in the province, the Eastern district, that consistently recorded average class sizes higher than the provincial average (see figure 2.7).


This decrease can be attributed to both the declining enrolment and government's investment of resources to set class size maximums in Kindergarten to Grade 9. Provincially, the maximum class size was limited to 20 students in Kindergarten, 25 for Grades 1 to 4 and 27 students in Grade 7 in 2008/09. These maximum limits will be


Figure 2.7: Average K-9 class size ${ }^{1}$ (2005/06-2007/08)

${ }^{1}$ Average K-9 class size for the 2002/03 and 2003/04 school year was unavailable
(Source: Table 2.7)
extended to 25 students in Grades 5 \& 6, and 27 students in Grades 8 \& 9 over the next two school years.

## Pupil-teacher ratio

The pupil-teacher ratio (PTR) is a measure of human resources to the system. It is a national indicator developed by Statistics Canada to enable comparisons to be made across provincial jurisdictions. The PTR is calculated by dividing the total enrolment of all public school students
by all school-based educators, including principals, assistant principals and learning resource teachers (many of whom also teach in classrooms). However, this is not meant to represent an average or ideal class size.

Provincially, the PTR has been declining over the past ten years with the only exception occurring between 2001/02 and 2004/05. The ratio of students to teachers has decreased from one teacher for every 14.7 students (or 1:14.7) in 1997/98, to 1:12.7 in 2007/08 (see figure 2.8).

Figure 2.8: Pupil-Teacher Ratio (1997/98-2007/08)


## Chapter 3: The Province's Teachers

As a result of declining student enrolment, fewer teachers are needed in the province. A gradual decline in the number of full-time equivalent ${ }^{2}$ (FTE) teachers has continued over the past six years, decreasing from 6,065 in 2002/03, to 5,4983 in 2007/08 (see

## The 2007/08 teaching workforce

During 2007/08, 5,498 full-time equivalent educators were working in the province's schools. The majority ( $62.2 \%$ ) were classroom teachers with an additional $15.5 \%$ as special education teachers (see figure 3.2a). The

figure 3.1). In fact, this decline has been seen since 1983/84 when the number of FTE teachers peaked at 8,191. However, recent initiatives, such as setting class size maximums in the younger grades, have resulted in an increase in the number of teachers in the province.
'other' category in the following figure includes positions such as itinerant teachers, guidance counsellors and English as second language (ESL) teachers. These positions account for less than $10 \%$ of all teaching positions. Along gender lines, women make up a larger proportion of the province's teachers. For example, in 2007/08, over two-thirds (68.6\%)


| $\square$ Administrative | $13.3 \%$ |
| :--- | ---: |
| Classroom | $62.2 \%$ |
| Special Education | $15.5 \%$ |
| Other | $9.0 \%$ |

(Source: Table 3.2)

[^0]
of the total number of teachers were women. It is only the administrative positions (i.e., principal, assistant principal and departmental head) where a higher percentage of males was present (see figure 3.2b).

## The changing profile of the province's teachers

Throughout the years, the composition of the teacher workforce has been changing. As shown in the following sections, increasing numbers of the province's teachers are younger and are more likely women.

## Gender

The gender composition of the province's teachers has changed. The percentage of female teachers has steadily increased during the past six years. In 2002/03, 62.3\% of the province's 6,065 teachers were women. By 2007/08, this percentage had increased to over two-thirds (68.7\%) of the 5,498 teachers (see figure 3.3).

Figure 3.3: Gender composition of teachers (\%) (2002/03-2007/08)


## Age

Since 2002/03, the majority of teachers have been between 40 and 49 years of age. During this time, only the percentage of teachers under 30 years of age steadily increased from 8.2\% in 2002/03, to 12.1\% in 2007/08. The other age groups have remained somewhat stable or declined during this time (see figure 3.4).

## New teachers

With the increase in the number of younger teachers, there has been an increase in the number of first-time teachers (i.e., those
with less than one year of teaching experience). The number of new teachers has grown by 32.6\% from 187 in 2002/03 to 248 in 2007/08. The percentage of new teachers has also steadily increased over the past six years growing from $3.1 \%$ in 2002/03, to $4.5 \%$ in 2007/08.

Along gender lines, the majority of new teachers are women. Overall, about threequarters of the new teachers are female compared to approximately one quarter male. This gender difference is consistent over the past several years (see figure 3.5).

Figure 3.4: Teacher's age (2002/03-2007/08)


Figure 3.5: Gender composition of new teachers (2002/03-2007/08)




$\qquad$

## Retirements

Between 2002/03 and 2006/07, 1,843 teachers retired from the teaching profession. During this time, fewer teachers had been retiring each year, dropping from 456 in 2002/03 to 280 in 2006/07. With the exception of 2005/06, the percentage of male and female teachers retiring each year was virtually equal (see figure 3.6).

During the same time frame, the average retirement age of teachers increased by over three years, from 52.6 years to 56.0 years. Along gender lines, male teachers are typically older than female teachers when they retire (see figure 3.7).


Figure 3.7: Gender difference in average retirement age (2002/03-2006/07)


## Chapter 4: The Province's Schools

In 2007/08, 292 schools operated in Newfoundland and Labrador. Of these, virtually all (95.9\%, or 280 of the 292 schools) were public schools. The remaining schools include the Newfoundland and Labrador School for the Deaf, the Newfoundland and Labrador Youth Centre, three First Nation schools, and seven private schools in the province. Unless otherwise noted, this report will focus on the 280 public schools.

## School districts

The Department of Education is the foundation of the province's school system. It is charged with the responsibility of providing education to approximately 70,000 students living in the province. On a local level, five regional districts oversee the day-to-day operations of schools. Each district is managed by a regional school board responsible for a wide range of duties including staffing and distributing resources; evaluating, acquiring, distributing and maintaining technological resources and buildings; transporting students; and developing instructional policies and practices.

These five districts include four Anglophone (Labrador, Western, Nova Central and Eastern) and one Francophone district, the Conseil scolaire francophone (CSF). The CSF was created to meet the needs of students whose first language was French. It is responsible for five schools located in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Labrador City, De Grau, La Grand'Terre and St. John's. The Eastern district is the largest in the province with the highest
percentage of students, teachers and schools situated within its boundaries. The profile of the Nova Central and Western districts is quite similar with both having virtually the same percentage of students, teachers and schools (see figure 4.1). The following map illustrates the geographic distribution of these districts.


Figure 4.1 District profile (2007/08)


## Public schools

The number of schools in the province has steadily declined since peaking at 1,253 in 1960 . During the past six years, the number of schools declined by $11.7 \%$ from 317 in 2002/03, to 280 in 2007/08 (see figure 4.2). The most pronounced change occurred in the

Labrador district where 21.1\% of the schools closed since 2002/03. The Eastern district experienced the smallest decline (a $6.2 \%$ reduction in the number of schools). There was no change within the CSF district (see figure 4.3).

Figure 4.2: Number of public schools (2002/03-2007/08)



## School configuration

Schools can be grouped based on the grade level configuration. There are six different school configurations in the province. They include:

Kindergarten - 12 All grades
Primary Any combination of grades between Kindergarten to Grade 3, 4 or 5 with no higher grades present

Elementary K-6 to K-9 or any combination in this range

Intermediate Often includes Grades 7-9 but can include 1 or 2 grades above or below (e.g., Grades 6-9)

Secondary Any combination of grades between Grade 7 to Grade 10, 11 or 12

Senior High Grades 9-12 or 10-12

In 2007/08, the majority of the 280 schools in the province were either elementary or K-12. Combined these two school types accounted for over two-thirds of all schools. Primary schools made up 5.0\% of the province's schools (see figure 4.4),

Figure 4.4: School configurations (2007/08)


| $\square$ Primary | $50.0 \%$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\square$ Elementary | $38.6 \%$ |
| $\square$ Intermediate | $7.5 \%$ |
| Secondary | $9.6 \%$ |
| Senior High | $8.9 \%$ |
| K-12 | $30.4 \%$ |

## A district perspective

The composition of schools within each district varies. For example, in 2007/08, nearly half of the schools in the Eastern district were elementary. The Labrador district, on the other hand, was made
up of a higher percentage of $\mathrm{K}-12$ schools. The composition of schools within the Western and Nova Central districts was quite similar with both having a majority of either K-12 or elementary schools (see figure 4.5).

Figure 4.5: District school configurations (2007/08)

(Source: Table 4.5)

## School size

The size of the province's schools has remained fairly consistent over the past six years with the majority having an enrolment of less than 300 students. Approximately $17 \%$ of schools have 450 or more students enrolled (see figure 4.6).

In 2007/08, the majority of schools in the Labrador, Western and Nova Central districts were smaller with enrolments of less than 150. The highest percentage of large schools (i.e., those with enrolments of 450 students or more) was found in the Eastern district (see figure 4.7). All five schools within the CSF district had less than 150 students enrolled.

Figure 4.6: Provincial school size (2002/03-2007/08)


Figure 4.7: District school size (2007/08)



## PART II:

Selected Aspects of the Educational System

## PART II: Selected Aspects of the Educational System

## Chapter 5: Educational Opportunities in Rural Newfoundland and Labrador

The majority of schools are located in rural ${ }^{4}$ Newfoundland and Labrador. In 2007/08, close to two-thirds (63.9\%) of the province's 280 schools were located in rural areas. While declines in the number of schools can be seen throughout the province, rural regions are experiencing the largest decrease. Since 2002/03, rural regions have experienced a $14.4 \%$ decrease in the number of schools, compared to a $6.5 \%$ decrease in urban regions (see figure 5.1).

Figure 5.1: Percent change in the number of urban and rural schools (2002/03-2007/08)


## Small5 schools in Newfoundland and Labrador

In 2007/08, 64 (or $22.9 \%$ ) of the province's schools had less than 100 students enrolled. This includes 37 schools with less than 50 students attending. The majority ( $90.6 \%$ ) of these 64 small schools were located in rural regions. The percentage of small schools in the province has remained fairly constant over the past six years (see figure 5.2). This reflects the fact that the enrolment in some medium sized schools has declined to make them small schools. The same trend can also be seen in some larger schools which have turned into medium sized schools because of the shrinking student population.

4 Includes communities with a population of less than 5,000 residents
${ }^{5}$ Refers to schools with an enrolment of less than 100 students.
 less than 100 students.


## The multi-grade classroom, K-9

Multi-grade classrooms are still present in some schools in the province and are expected to continue into the future.
The merging of different grades into one classroom only occurs as a last resort when there are no other viable options available. As the Minister of Education at the time stated, "There will be times when some schools, based on numbers, will not offer certain grades because there are no students coming in. There will be times when the numbers are to a point that there

will be an introduction of multi-grades." (Burke, 2008, May 7). More small schools in rural regions may be faced with the reality of merging several different grades in a single classroom. In 2007/08, 37.3\% (or 98/263) of the schools in the province had multi-grade classrooms, with the Eastern district recording the lowest percentage (see figure 5.3).

## Distance education in Newfoundland and Labrador

Distance education started in the province in 1988 with the intent to provide students the opportunity to enrol in courses important for post-secondary admission, but difficult to offer in rural schools due to low levels of student enrolment. Throughout the years, this program continued to expand by offering increasing numbers of courses to students. At the same time, advancements in computer technology and the telecommunications industry changed the face of distance education. These new technologies required a new way to oversee its continuing development and expansion.

This led to the creation of the Centre for Distance Learning and Innovation (CDLI) during the 2001/02 school year, with the intent to expand the range of the distance education program and offer students in small schools a broader range of course options.

## The expansion

 of distance educationAfter successfully field testing ten courses in 2001/02, CDLI expanded its course offerings so that students from across the province could access any course offered. Figure 5.4 tracks the growth of the CDLI program since 2002/03 when courses were first offered.

In summary, since 2002/03, CDLI has experienced a:

- $100 \%$ growth in the number of courses offered;
- $69 \%$ increase in course enrolments;
- $55 \%$ increase in the number of teachers; and,
- $49 \%$ increase in the number of schools providing distance education courses.


## Future trends

In light of the current government's commitment to promote and expand the role of distance education in the province's schools, distance education can be expected to continue growing. For example, in its 2007 policy


blueprint, the provincial government stated its intention to:

- Expand distance education opportunities, increase distance education support to schools and enhance broadband connectivity to rural and remote schools, and,
- Further expand the Information, Communication and Learning Technologies (ICLT) project to enable more students to apply the internet to learning in the classroom.

[^1] 2007, p.36)

This commitment can be seen in recent government initiatives. For example, in January 2008, the provincial government announced $\$ 1.3$ million in funding to provide a common e-learning technology system in the public education system. Memorial University of Newfoundland, College of the North Atlantic and the public school system will provide the same learning management system for distance education courses. Previously, senior high school students familiar with e-learning would have to learn and adapt to a new learning system when taking post-secondary distance education courses. Other recent initiatives include an increase in the number of distance education courses at all levels of the education system (Department of Education, 2008, January 23).

## Chapter 6: The School Development Process

Schools in the province engage in a regular school-level planning process designed to guide and focus a school towards the achievement of its ultimate goal - to enhance student learning. The school development process is cyclical with schools repeating the process every three or four years. This process sets out to ensure students receive the best educational services possible.

An important component of this planning process is gathering the thoughts and opinions of parents, teachers and students. Each group completes a survey which covers a wide variety of topics including school safety, physical activity and dietary habits, and participation in school activities. For each statement, participants are asked to select one response on a five-point Likert scale: strongly disagree; disagree; don't know; agree; and strongly agree. As an example, the survey students in Grades 4 to 6 completed is provided in appendix $A$ at the end of the report.

Figure 6.1: Percentage of respondents by grade level



This chapter will explore student responses on selected questions from the school development surveys. Unless otherwise noted, the percentages reported are based on the number of participants who agreed or strongly agreed with a particular statement. A slightly different, although more age-appropriate response scale, was used in the primary grades, therefore their responses are not included in the analysis.

## Student participation

Between September 2006 and April 2008, 11,081 students in 86 schools across the province completed the school development survey. As shown in figure 6.1, the sample included similar percentages of students from the three grade groups. The percentage of male and female respondents was virtually identical. This was also true within each grade grouping.

## Survey results

The statements within the surveys can be grouped along six themes: the school environment; healthy living; attitudes about school; opportunities for learning; available opportunities to reinforce learning; and teacher support. Each of these themes will be expanded in the following sections.

## The school environment

This theme deals with how students feel while they are at school. These factors all have a role to play in promoting a healthy, positive school environment that encourages student learning. Overall, more than two-thirds of respondents felt safe while at school and could go to an adult with a concern ( $67.7 \%$ and $69.4 \%$ respectively). Just over half (52.9\%) of respondents felt people at school cared about them.

## Grade level differences

Figure 6.2 summarizes the responses for each of the three grade levels. The percentage of respondents who feel safe at school drops from approximately threequarters of the elementary students, to 62.3\% of intermediate students. At the high school level, the percentage increases slightly to approximately two-thirds of the respondents.

Students were asked if they could approach an adult with a problem or concern. Over two-thirds of the students agreed with this statement. When focusing on the different grade levels, a dramatic drop is seen between elementary students and the other levels. For example, while $86.9 \%$ of elementary students reported they could go to an adult with a concern, only $58.6 \%$ of senior high students stated they could do this. A little more than half of the students felt that people at their school cared about them. Again, higher percentages of younger students (i.e., elementary level), felt this was the case.


## Healthy living

This section deals with the two components of ensuring a healthy lifestyle: diet and physical activity. Overall, a little more than half ( $55.2 \%$ ) of the students reported making healthy food choices every day. While over three-quarters (76.4\%) of students reported having the opportunity to take part in activities promoting healthy living at school, only $61.4 \%$ actually engaged in some form of physical activity every day.

## Grade level differences

The percentage of students making healthy food choices peaks during the elementary years, at 78.6\%, and then steadily declines to $43.3 \%$ for senior high students. Also, as students progress through the grade levels, they become less physically active. For example, 79.0\% of the elementary students reported engaging in some form of physical activity on a daily basis. This drops to $54.1 \%$ for senior high students. A similar trend is seen
in the percentage of students at each grade level who have the opportunity to take part in activities promoting active living while at school (see figure 6.3).

## Attitudes about school

To succeed at school, students must feel motivated to learn and see the importance and value in learning. Overall, students have a positive attitude about school. The majority of students believed they were able to learn while at school ( $84.2 \%$ ), saw the importance of completing assigned work on time (90.7\%), and being prepared for class (89.4\%). A little over three-quarters (77.5\%) of students reported treating everyone at their school with respect. Less than half the students (47.2\%) felt that their school provided them with opportunities to be a leader.

## Grade level differences

The percentage of students in agreement with these statements declined as they grew older, however this change is not as evident as in previous sections. Higher percentages of elementary students felt they could

Figure 6.3: Healthy living

learn in class, saw the importance of being prepared for class and completing assigned work, and treating others with respect. With the exception of treating others with respect, the percentage declines as the grade level increases. The lowest percentage of students who treated their peers and teachers with respect was seen at the intermediate level. Approximately the same percentage of students in each grade level believed their school provided them with opportunities to be a leader (see figure 6.4).
counters and base ten blocks. Older students may complete experiments in the classroom or the science lab. A little more than half of the students reported going on field trips or having a guest speaker visit their classroom.

## Grade level differences

As students progress though the grades, they are less likely to take part in these types of learning activities. As shown in figure 6.5, while $83.5 \%$ of elementary students take part in group activities, this drops to $67.0 \%$ for high school students. Similar trends are seen in the other activities. The most dramatic change is seen in the percentage of students who take part in field trips. There were 83.4\% of


## Opportunities for learning

Teachers may use a variety of methods to promote learning in the classroom. The school development survey highlighted two different ways to promote learning: engaging in group work; and using additional learning resources (e.g., inviting guest speakers to the class, taking part in field trips).

Over three-quarters of students reported taking part in group work and close to two-thirds reported engaging in hand's-on activities to promote learning. In the younger grades this may involve using
elementary students who agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, "Teaching and learning takes place outside, as well as inside the classroom". At high school, this percentage drops to $28.4 \%$.

## Opportunities to reinforce learning

An important way to encourage learning is to provide activities that reinforce classroom learning. These hands on activities provide students with the opportunity to apply the abstract skills and theories learned in the classroom in a real world setting. For example, some schools in the province have cultural

exchange trips with Saint-Pierre and Miquelon, or Quebec. This provides a great opportunity for students to practice their French language skills by becoming immersed within the French culture.

The survey results show that overall, higher percentages of students have the opportunity to take part in English language arts (62.8\%) and fine arts programs and activities ( $72.5 \%$ ) while at school, rather than science ( $49.2 \%$ ), technology (39.4\%) or mathematics (38.8\%) activities.

## Grade level differences

Senior high students are less likely to report having the opportunity to take part in these additional activities when compared to elementary students. The percentage of students with the opportunity to take part in French related activities remained low across all three grade levels. Intermediate students reported having the most opportunities to take part in science activities as compared to the other grade levels (see figure 6.6).

Figure 6.6: Extra learning activities


## Teacher support

Students believe their teachers provided support in the classroom and helped them maximize their learning experience. For example, $80.6 \%$ of students reported their teachers provided them with course outlines for each subject. Also, approximately $80 \%$ of students reported their teacher used a variety of methods to assess their learning in the classroom. Finally, $75.4 \%$ of students felt their teacher was there to provide feedback on how they could improve their work either through written or verbal comments.

## Grade level differences

As the grade level increased, the percentage of students who felt their teachers used a variety of assessment methods declined from 86.3\% of elementary students to $74.0 \%$ of senior high students. The largest difference was seen in the percentage of students who felt their teacher showed them how to improve their work. There was a difference of approximately 25 percentage points between elementary ( $88.8 \%$ ) and high school students ( $64.7 \%$ ) who agreed or strongly agreed with this statement. There was little variability in the percentage of students who felt their teachers provided course outlines between the elementary and high school students. The percentage of intermediate students who agreed or strongly agreed with this was slightly lower than the other two levels (see figure 6.7).

Figure 6.7: Teacher support


## Chapter 7: French as a Second Language



It is the school environment where the majority of English speaking children start learning French as a second language. In Newfoundland and Labrador, students will follow one of four French education programs: core French, expanded core French, intensive core French and French immersion. The following sections will provide a brief overview of each of these program options.

## Core French

The majority of students studying French as a second language will take part in the core French program. It is compulsory during the elementary and intermediate grades (i.e., Grades 4-9) and optional at the high school level. The aim of core French is to provide students with the opportunity to develop basic communication skills, knowledge of the language and an appreciation of French culture in both Canada and the world (Turnbull, 2000).

## Intensive and expanded core French

The intensive core French program is for Grade 6 students. Students receive up to four times the number of hours of instruction normally devoted to French, that is, they will experience French language training between $60 \%$ and $80 \%$ of the school day. This provides students with additional opportunities to meet and surpass the outcomes of elementary core French.

The expanded core French program is for senior high school students who want to build upon the learning outcomes achieved in the core French program. Students complete courses in accelerated French as well as courses taught in French from other subject areas.

## French immersion

The French immersion program provides students an opportunity to be completely immersed within the French language. French is the language of instruction and, as much as possible, the means of communication in the classroom. This intensive exposure to French is important because it allows students to quickly reach the level of Frenchlanguage ability required to study other subjects in French (Canadian Parents for French, 2006, p.85).

Currently, students have two options for French immersion: early and late immersion. As the names suggest, the difference between these two programs is when students start the program: Kindergarten for early French immersion; and Grade 7 for late French immersion. Once in senior high, students in both programs complete 3 two credit courses in Français and 3 other two credit courses in another subject area taught in French. Upon graduation, students who successfully complete the graduation requirements will receive a French immersion designation on their transcript and diploma.

## Enrolment in French programs

In line with decreasing provincial enrolment, it is not surprising the number of students enrolled in the different French programs is declining. Between 2002/03 and 2007/08, enrolment in these programs declined from 49,420 to 43,868 (an 11.2\% decrease). However, during the same time, overall student enrolment declined by $14.5 \%$ (from 84,268 in 2002/03, to 72,084 in 2007/08). Clearly, other factors are affecting enrolments in French programming besides the declining provincial enrolment. The following sections will explore the trends present for the past five years to provide some insight into why enrolment in French programs is not declining as fast as overall student enrolment.


The percentages reported in the following sections must be interpreted with caution. While the core French program is offered in virtually all schools across the province, the other programs are not. For example, in 2007/08:

- 262 schools provided core French,
- 64 offered French immersion,
- 38 offered intensive core French, and
- 3 schools provided expanded core French.


## What French program are students choosing?

While the majority of students follow the core French program, enrolment in the other French programs has changed (see figure 7.1). Between 2002/03 and 2007/08, the percentage of students in:

- Core French declined from 86.3\% in 2002/03, to 79.6\% in 2007/08. A similar decline can be found in virtually all provinces across Canada (Canadian Parents for French, 2006, p.88).
- French immersion and intensive core French increased.
- Expanded core French remained essentially the same.


## Early and late French immersion

 As previously stated, there are two program options for students entering the French immersion program - early and late. While higher percentages of students enrolled in early French immersion rather than late French immersion, a gradual decline occurred between 2005/06 and 2007/08. With the exception of 2005/06, the percentage of students starting late French immersion has been increasing since 2002/03 (see figure 7.2). While the number of students enrolled in both French immersion programs has increased by $31.8 \%$, the late French immersion program experienced the largest growth, with a $58.0 \%$ increase in the number of students between 2002/03 and 2007/08.Figure 7.1: French program enrolment ${ }^{6}$ (2002/03-2007/08)


[^2]Figure 7.2: Enrolment ${ }^{7}$ in Early and Late French Immersion (2002/03-2007/08)


[^3] in late French immersion.


PART III:
The End of the Journey

## PART III: The End of the Journey

## Chapter 8: Public Exams

This chapter will examine how students fared in public examination courses over the past six years. Public examinations are required in selected academic/advanced Level III courses in mathematics, sciences, social studies and languages. These public exams differ from school-based exams in that all students registered in the course write the same exam. Once completed, exams are returned to the Department of Education for grading by a panel of teachers.

Figure 8.1: Public examinations (2002/03-2007/08)

## Overall student performance

Provincially, both the average course mark and student success rate ${ }^{8}$ in all public examination courses gradually increased between 2002/03 and 2007/08 (see figure 8.1). Girls consistently demonstrate higher success rates and achieve higher average marks in public examination courses. While this difference is small, girls continually perform at a higher level (see figure 8.2).

8 The student success rate in provincial public examination is calculated by dividing the total number of public examinations written in a given year into the number of students who scored 50 or above in the course.



## June 2008 public examinations in focus

In June 2008, 21,755 public examinations in 14 courses were written by senior high school students. These public exam courses can be grouped into four categories - languages, mathematics, sciences and social studies. There were two courses only offered in the province's Francophone school district mathématiques 3231 and biologie 3231. The results of these two courses are not included in the following sections due to the small number of students (nine in each course) who completed these examinations.


## Social studies

Student performance has remained fairly consistent in the three social studies courses during 2007/08 with very little variation occurring across the districts. Overall, students achieved slightly higher
grades in Histoire mondiale 3231 (see figure 8.3a). Along gender lines, boys achieved slightly higher grades in World History 3201 and Histoire mondiale 3231. There was virtually no difference in performance in World Geography 3202 (see figure 8.3b).

Figure 8.3: Student performance in social studies courses (2007/08)


## Languages

Three language courses have public examinations - French 3200 (Core), Français 3202 (Immersion) and English 3201. Provincially, student performance ranged between approximately $67 \%$ and $72 \%$. On a district level, little variation was evident in the English 3201 average course mark, but the results in the two French courses were

(Source: Table 8.3)

Figure 8.4: Student performance in language courses (2007/08)


## Mathematics

Two mathematics courses have public examinations - Mathematics 3204 (Academic) and Mathematics 3205 (Advanced). Provincially, the average course marks were 61.1\% in Mathematics 3204 (Academic) and $79.6 \%$ in Mathematics 3205 (Advanced). The average course marks in the two mathematics courses were similar in the four districts (see figure 8.5a). Girls achieved slightly higher course marks in both mathematics courses scoring 3.2\%
higher in Mathematics 3204 (Academic), and $1.6 \%$ higher in Mathematics 3205 (Advanced) (see figure 8.5b).

Differences in achievement for these two courses must be interpreted with caution. Students who excel in mathematics or who plan on studying mathematics at the postsecondary level are typically encouraged to select advanced mathematics courses in high school rather than the academic mathematics courses. This attributes to the higher course average seen in Mathematics 3205 (Advanced).

Figure 8.5: Student performance in mathematics courses (2007/08)



## Sciences

There were four science courses with public examinations - Biology 3201, Chemistry 3202, Physics 3204 and Earth Systems 3209. Overall, student performance ranged from $62.8 \%$ to $71.3 \%$ with higher course averages seen
in chemistry and physics. This trend is also seen at the district level (see figure 8.6a). Along gender lines, it is only in Earth Systems 3209 where boys achieved a higher average course grade compared to girls. In the other three sciences, girls performed slightly better than boys (see figure 8.6b).

Figure 8.6: Student performance in science courses (2007/08)


(Source: Table 8.6)

## Comparison to June 2007

There was little variation in student performance in public examination courses from the previous year. Seven courses experienced slight
gains (between 0.4 and 3.0 percentage points) and slight declines were seen in five courses (ranging from -0.3 and -2.8 percentage points, see figure 8.7).


## Chapter 9: Graduation

Each year, thousands of students begin their final year of studies. This chapter will examine this group of students by exploring the provincial pass and graduation rate, and the type of diploma earned. For a description of the regulations high school students must meet to graduate in the 2007/08 school year, refer to page 3 of the Handbook for Grade 9 Students and Parents. This document is available on the Department of Education's website, www.gov.nl.ca/edu/K12/handbook.htm.

## Pass rate versus graduation rate

There are typically two ratios used to describe the number of students graduating from high school - the pass rate and the graduation rate. The pass rate is a provincial measure useful for exploring differences among the province's schools. It is calculated by dividing the actual number of graduates by the number of eligible graduates in a given school.

The graduation rate, as defined by Statistics Canada, is useful when drawing comparisons to other Canadian provinces. The annual Pan-Canadian Educational Indicators Program (PCEIP) report, published by the Canadian Education Statistics Council, provides the graduation rates across the country.

The graduation rate is calculated by dividing the number of graduates with the average of the 17 and 18 year old population (Blouin, 2008, p.56). This includes individuals who may not attend school. In other words:

Graduation Rate =
Total number of secondary graduates
[(17 year old population +18 year old population)/2]

The following example is provided to illustrate the difference in how the pass rate and graduation rate is calculated. In a hypothetical school, there are 35 Level III students. Thirty students pass their courses and graduate from high school. The pass rate would be calculated by dividing 30 actual graduates by the 35 eligible graduates in the school. This gives a pass rate of $85.7 \%$ (or $30 / 35$ ). Including eligible graduates, there are 40 young people living in Fog Bay who are the same age as the graduates. For one reason or another, these additional five young people do not attend school. The graduation rate would be calculated by dividing the 30 graduates by the 40 residents. This gives a graduation rate of $75 \%$ (30/40) in the community.

With the difference between these two rates clarified, the pass rates seen in the province's schools will be discussed. Comparisons of graduation rates will be further explored in a later section.


When viewing the pass rates in the CSF, it must be remembered that these schools have low enrolments. This results in only a small number of students who are eligible to graduate each year. For example, between 2002/03 and 2007/08, there were a total of 36 students who were eligible to graduate. Of these 36 , 31 actually graduated. The low number of eligible graduates accounts for the 100\% pass rate seen during the previous three years (from 2005/06 to 2007/08) when all 14 eligible students graduated.


Figure 9.2: District pass rate (2002/03-2007/08)

(c) Nova Central


- District Pass Rate
- Provincial Pass Rate
(Source: Table 9.2)



## Gender and pass rates

The pass rate of girls is consistently higher than boys. However, this gap is gradually closing from a difference of 6.0 percentage points in 2003/04, to 1.9 percentage points in 2007/08 (see figure 9.3).

## Graduation rate

As previously stated, the graduation rate is a ratio used by Statistics Canada, that is useful when drawing
comparisons to other Canadian provinces. It is calculated by dividing the number of graduates by the average of all 17 and 18 year olds. This includes individuals who may not attend school. In 2005/06, Newfoundland and Labrador was among the top five provinces in terms of graduation rate and was above the Canadian rate. It was only in the Maritime Provinces and Saskatchewan where a higher graduation rate was found (see figure 9.4).


Figure 9.4: Graduation rates across Canada (2005/06 ${ }^{9}$ )


[^4]
## Gender and graduation rate

As expected, based on provincial pass rates, girls consistently have a higher graduation rate than boys. This trend is also seen both nationally and internationally in reports published by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. The 2008 Education at a Glance report (based on information from 30 countries including Canada) states that with the exception of two countries, females consistently have higher graduation rates than males (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), 2008, p.52).

## Graduation with honours

Students earn an honours diploma upon graduation if they achieve an overall average of $80 \%$ in five subject areas (English, mathematics, science, social studies and an elective). Provincially, the percentage of students earning an honours diploma has increased by approximately five percentage points between 2002/03 and 2007/08 with a continual increase between 2005/06 and 2007/08. In June 2008, the highest percentage of students ( $25.0 \%$ of the 5,284 graduates) during the past six years earned this type of diploma With the exception of 2003/04, the

Figure 9.5: Gender difference in provincial graduation rates (2002/03-2006/07)


Provincially, the graduation rate of boys has gradually increased between 2002/03 and 2006/07 but has consistently remained below that of girls. During the same time, the increase in the female graduation rate was interrupted in 2005/06 with a drop of 3.3 percentage points. However, it rebounded the following year to reach the same level achieved in 2004/05. The female graduation rate was consistently above the provincial rate during these six years and the male rate was below (see figure 9.5).

Eastern district reported the highest percentage of students with an honours diploma (see figure 9.6).


Figure 9.6: Percentage of students graduating with honours (2002/03-2007/08)


## Gender differences

Higher percentages of girls than boys earn honours diplomas each year. In June 2008, 20.3\% of the 2,579 diplomas earned by boys were honours compared to $29.6 \%$ of the 2,705 earned
by girls. The same trend is seen between 2002/03 and 2007/08 with the gender gap ranging from 6.9\% to $12.0 \%$ (see figure 9.7).

Figure 9.7: Gender and diploma type (2002/03-2007/08)


## Chapter 10: Early School Leavers

While the majority of students who start school continue on to graduate, some do not. Without a high school diploma, a student's post-secondary options will be limited because universities and many college programs require a high school diploma to gain admission. Secondly, high school drop-outs tend to have a much higher unemployment rate, earn less and are more dissatisfied with their job compared to the rest of the population (Hango \& de Broucker, 2007, pp. 12-13). This chapter will look at this group of young people. The following sections will explore provincial drop-out rates in relation to the rest of Canada. Over the past ten years, dramatic changes have occurred in the number of Newfoundland and Labrador residents without a high school diploma.

It should be noted that many drop-outs return to school at a later date. A Canadian study reported that about $29 \%$ of high school dropouts between the ages of 20 and 24 later returned to school. Young women were more likely to return to school at a later date. This was the case for approximately $35 \%$ of women as compared to $26 \%$ of men (Raymond, 2008).

## Drop out rates defined

Statistics Canada collects information about the high school drop-out rate through its monthly Labour Force Survey. The drop-out rate is calculated by dividing the number of young people between 20 and 24 years of age without a high school diploma and not attending school, by the total number of all 20 and 24 year olds. In other words:

The number of young people (20-24 years old) without

$$
\text { Drop-out rate }=\frac{\text { a high school diploma and are not attending school }}{\text { All young people between } 20 \text { and } 24 \text { years of age }}
$$

The drop-out rates provided in the following section are primarily based upon data obtained by the 2006 Labour Force Survey and recorded in the Indicators of Well-Being in Canada report published by the Human Resources and Social Development Canada in 2008.

## Canadian and provincial drop-out rates

Between 1996 and 2006, the drop-out rate has been declining in all provinces across the country. During this time, Newfoundland and Labrador experienced the largest decline in drop-out rates, from 16.7\% (the highest in the country) in 1996, to 8.9\% in 2006. This decrease of 7.8 percentage points is the largest decline in the country (see figure 10.1). Only British Columbia, Ontario and Nova Scotia had lower drop-out rates in 2006.


The steady decline in the provincial drop-out rate can be clearly seen with the largest decrease occurring between 2000 and 2002. During the late 1990s, the provincial drop-out rate was consistently higher than the Canadian rate. However, by the first few years of the new century, it had dipped below the Canadian rate. This continuing decline ended in 2005 with a one percent increase in 2006 (see figure 10.2).

## Urban vs. rural

Higher percentages of students in rural regions are more likely to drop out of high school as compared to their urban counterparts. This trend is seen in all provinces across the country. Between 2002/03 and 2005/06, the Canadian drop-out rate for urban areas was $8.8 \%$ as compared to $16.8 \%$ in rural areas. Across the country, Newfoundland and Labrador had the lowest drop-out rate in urban areas and the third lowest in rural areas. Alberta, Manitoba and Quebec recorded the highest drop-out rates in Canada for both urban and rural students (see figure 10.3).

Figure 10.2: Drop out rate in Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador (1996-2006)

## Early school leavers

Increasing numbers of students are staying in school until graduation. This is reflected in the province's calculation of early school leavers. The Department of Education uses a slightly different method to calculate this rate. Once a school registers a student for a high school course, that student is captured in the high school certification system. The student is then tracked until he/she either (i) graduates, or (ii) does not show up in a subsequent year on the high school certification system. A list of those students in category (ii) is sent to each school and the principal is asked to identify those who have dropped out. (Rate = \# dropouts/high school population for the school year in question $\times 100 \%$ ). Between 2003/04 and 2005/06, the drop-out rate has averaged about 6.0\%. This is slightly lower than that reported by Statistics Canada.

INDICATORS 2008

PART IV:
Assessments

## Chapter 11: Provincial Assessments

To what degree is the provincial curriculum meeting the needs of students? To what extent are students achieving the outcomes described in the curriculum guide in mathematics, English language arts and science? To answer these questions, students in Grades 3, 6 and 9 complete criterionreferenced tests (CRTs) every spring. These assessments are not used to determine a student's final grade. Rather, the results enable teachers, administrators, district personnel and the Department of Education to:

- determine student achievement in relation to curriculum outcomes;
- use the information gathered to improve both student learning and teaching effectiveness;
- chart student progress over time; and,
- offer a comprehensive data set and analysis supporting school development.

In other words, the ultimate goal of these assessments is to improve student achievement.

## Chapter 12: The English Language Arts (ELA) Assessment

In Grades 3 and 6, the CRT assessed student performance in reading, writing, listening and speaking. To assess reading comprehension, students read a passage and answered questions to demonstrate their level of understanding. Listening skills were assessed in a similar fashion but students listened to a recording and then answered questions. In both the writing and speaking components, students were given a topic and asked to both write about it and develop a short presentation discussing it. Grade 9 students were assessed in two areas of English language arts - reading and writing.

## Primary level (Grade 3)

By the end of Grade 3, students are expected to have developed the foundational skills needed for language arts. They should be able to demonstrate a basic proficiency in speaking, listening, reading and writing. In general, students should be able to:

- describe, share, and discuss their thoughts, feelings and experiences, and consider other people's ideas;
- choose reading material appropriate to their interests and learning needs; and,
- experiment with a range of pre-writing, drafting, editing, proofreading and presentation strategies.

Student performance in 2006/07 and 2007/08:
A provincial perspective
Provincially, the majority of students performed at level 3 or above. These students demonstrated at least an appropriate understanding of the content area assessed in each of the language learning strands (i.e., reading, writing, listening and speaking). Overall, little variation existed in student performance between 2006/07 and 2007/08 in three of the four areas assessed (see figure 12.1). The exception was in the listening subtest where the percentage of students at or above level 3 increased by 6.2 percentage points. This increase was primarily a result of the increase in the percentage of students assessed at level 3.

In the multiple choice sections, assessing reading and listening skills, student performance declined. The average scores in the 2007/08 assessment were 1.1 and 6.6 percentage points lower in the reading and listening sections respectively compared to the previous year (see figure 12.2).

Figure 12.1: Proficiency in ELA: Primary level (2006/07-2007/08)



The 2007/08 ELA assessment:
District results and gender differences
The percentage of students at or above level 3 was similar to the provincial percentage in three of the four districts. However, student performance in the Labrador district was below the provincial level in each of the four areas. The Western district achieved the greatest success with the percentage of students at or above level 3 equal to or slightly higher than the other districts and the province in each of the areas assessed (see figure 12.3).

Girls performed better than boys in the English language arts assessment with higher percentages achieving a rating of level 3 or above. This gender gap was most evident in the reading and listening sections where the percentage of girls was approximately 16 percentage points higher. This gap was not as evident in the speaking section where only four percentage points separated girls and boys (see figure 12.4).

Figure 12.4: Proficiency in ELA: Gender differences (2007/08)


## Multiple choice questions

Students performed well on both the reading and listening multiple choice questions, answering on average 85\% correctly. Performance in the multiple choice section was somewhat consistent among the districts and between boys and girls. At the district level, the exception lies in the Labrador district where the average scores in the reading questions was slightly lower compared to the other districts and the province. Girls performed slightly better than boys on the reading multiple choice questions but remained
 virtually the same on the listening questions (see figure 12.5).

Figure 12.5: Performance on multiple choice questions (2007/08)


## Elementary level (Grade 6)

The elementary years are a time to build on and expand the foundational language skills learned during the primary years. By the end of Grade 6, students are expected to be able to:

- contribute thoughts, ideas, and questions to the group discussion and have the ability to support their opinions with evidence;
- independently choose books and reading material appropriate to their range of interests and learning needs;
- develop effective pieces of writing by using a range of pre-writing, drafting, revising, editing, proofreading, and presentation strategies; and,
- use technology with increasing proficiency to create, revise, edit and publish texts.

Student performance in 2006/07 and 2007/08: A provincial perspective An improvement occurred in the language arts skills of elementary students from the 2006/07 assessment (see figure 12.6). The largest gain occurred in the reading subtest where the percentage of students at or above level 3 increased by 18.5 percentage points. This increase can be partially attributed to the increase in the percentage of students at level 3 . In the other three subtests, increases in the percentage of students at or above level three were between four and nine percentage points. There were two areas assessed with multiple choice questions - reading and listening. Student performance improved (by 6.9 percentage points) on the reading section but declined slightly (by 1.3 percentage points) on the listening section from the previous year (see figure 12.7).



## The 2007/08 ELA assessment:

District results and gender differences
Focusing on the four districts, the percentage of students at or above level 3 in the Nova Central district was below the provincial percentage in each of the four areas. It was only students in the Eastern district where the percentages were slightly higher than the provincial percentage in each of the areas assessed (see figure 12.8).

Along gender lines, higher percentages of girls were assessed at or above level 3 than boys. The gender gap ranged between approximately 12 and 14 percentage points
in the reading, writing and speaking subtests. The largest gender difference is found in the listening subtest where the percentage of girls at or above level three was 18.5 percentage points higher than the boys (see figure 12.9).

## Multiple choice questions

There were two areas assessed in the multiple choice section - reading and listening. Little variation existed in the average scores among the districts and between genders. In both cases, students, on average, answered over $85 \%$ of the questions correctly. Along gender lines, girls recorded a slightly higher average score in both the reading and listening sections (see figure 12.10).

Figure 12.8: Proficiency in ELA: District performance (2007/08)



Figure 12.10: Performance on multiple choice questions (2007/08)


## Intermediate students (Grade 9)

Students continue to build upon and deepen their skills in language arts as they progress through the intermediate grades (i.e., Grades 7 to 9 ). By this stage, students are expected to have developed a good understanding of the skills needed for effective communication in both the written word and verbally. At the end of Grade 9 , students are expected to be able to:

- examine other peoples' ideas and actively take part in small and large group discussions and debate;
- demonstrate active listening and respect for the needs, rights, and feelings of others. In other words, students must be able to go beyond simply listening to the words that are being said, to actually hearing and understanding the message being presented;
- critically evaluate and question information;
- adapt their writing style to meet the needs of specific audiences; and,
- integrate information gathered from several sources to create and communicate meaning.


## Student performance in 2006/07 and 2007/08:

 A provincial perspectiveProvincially, the percentage of students at or above level 3 increased slightly in both reading and writing from the previous year (by 1.9 and 2.7 percentage points respectively, see figure 12.11). The largest gain was seen in the percentage of students assessed at level 3 where an increase of 2.6 and 4.9 percentage points occurred in the reading and writing sections respectively.

Students completed multiple choice questions in two aspects of reading informational and poetic reading. There was only a small change in scores between the two years with a slight improvement ( 3.6 percentage points) in informational reading and a slight decline ( 2.2 percentage points) in poetic reading (see figure 12.12).

## Results of the 2007/08 assessment

Intermediate students achieved the most success in the writing section where over $86 \%$ of the students were assessed at level 3 or above. This was approximately 11 percentage points higher than seen in the reading section, where $75.0 \%$ of students were assessed at or above level 3. On the multiple choice questions, students on average answered approximately $78 \%$ of the questions correctly in the informational and poetic reading sections.

## District performance and gender differences

Student performance across the districts was somewhat varied, with the percentage of students at or above level 3 in the Labrador and Nova Central districts below the provincial percentage in both areas.

The percentage of students in the Eastern district was slightly above the provincial level in both the reading and writing sections (see figure 12.13a).

Girls outperformed boys with higher percentages assessed at or above level 3. This gap ranged from 14.3 to 16.3 percentage points in the reading and writing subtests respectively (see figure 12.13b).



## Multiple choice questions

There was little variation in the performance of students across the districts in both the informational and poetic reading multiple choice questions. In both areas, average scores ranged between 74.1\% and 79.8\% (see figure 12.14a). Along
gender lines, the average scores for girls were virtually the same in the informational reading section but slightly higher (3.1 percentage points) than boys in the poetic reading section (see figure 12.14b).

Figure 12.13: Proficiency in ELA: District performance and gender differences (2007/08)


Figure 12.14: Performance on multiple choice questions:
District performance and gender differences (2007/08)


## Chapter 13: The Mathematics Assessment

This chapter will focus on the performance of Grade 3, 6 and 9 students on the provincial mathematics assessment.

## Primary students (Grade 3)

During the primary grades, children begin to develop specific skills and strategies necessary for mathematical problem solving. These skills form the foundation which older students build upon as they learn about numbers, mathematical operations, geometric concepts, spatial relations, measurement processes, and basic statistical techniques.
estimate the size of numbers to the nearest ten or hundred, etc.; and,

- Shape and space - knowledge in measurement and geometry.

The final section is timed and consists of a series of facts. Students have two minutes to complete a series of addition and subtraction facts and one minute to complete multiplication. The following sections will discuss how the province's primary students performed in the each of these areas.


The primary level mathematics CRT is made up of three sections. In the first section, students complete open constructed response questions to assess their ability to reason, communicate and solve problems. The second section assesses three strands of mathematics:

- Number operations - the ability of students to add, subtract, multiply and divide, as well as create and solve problems with these four operations;
- Number concepts - knowledge of number sense and place value. For example, a student's ability to compare and order whole numbers to thousands,

Student performance in 2006/07 and 2007/08:

## A provincial perspective

Four categories of questions assessed student ability in number operations reasoning, communication, connections and representations, and problem solving. Provincially, student performance improved in each of these areas from 2006/07 with increases in the percentage of students at or above level 3 ranging from a low of 9.5 points in the connections and representations section to a high of 28.1 percentage points in the reasoning section (see figure 13.1). These increases were primarily a result of more students performing at level 3 as opposed to level 2.

On the multiple choice questions, the average percent correct declined in both the number operations and shape and space sections (by 1.2 and 7.6 percentage points respectively) but improved in the number concepts section. The timed section assessed student ability in addition and subtraction. ${ }^{11}$ In both areas, slight declines occurred in average scores between 2006/07 and 2007/08 (see figure 13.2).

## Results of the 2007/08 assessment

Provincially, students achieved the most success in the problem solving section, where over three-quarters of students were assessed at or above level 3. In the other three areas, this percentage ranged from between approximately $60 \%$ and $66 \%$. In the multiple choice questions, students, on average, answered approximately three-quarters of the questions correctly. For the
timed questions, students performed better on the addition questions as compared to the subtraction and multiplication questions. Students, on average, answered approximately 91\% of the addition questions correctly as compared to $81 \%$ of the subtraction and multiplication questions.

## District performance and gender differences

Student performance across the four districts was somewhat varied in the open constructed response questions. The percentage of students at or above level 3 in both the Labrador and Eastern districts was below the provincial average in each of the subtests. Students in the Western district were consistently above the provincial average, and achieved the highest percentage in the province, in each area (see figure 13.3a).


[^5]
(Source: Table 13.3)

Girls outperformed boys in the open constructed response questions, with higher percentages of girls assessed at or above level 3 in each of the subtests. This difference ranged from a low of 6.8 percentage points on the problem solving section to a high of 11.1 percentage points in the communication section (see figure 13.3b).

## The multiple choice and timed questions

The multiple choice questions assessed student ability in number operations, number concepts, and shape and space. A similar pattern to the open constructed response questions emerged with the average scores of students in Labrador lower than the other districts and the province. Students in the Western district
achieved the highest average scores in all three areas (see figure 13.4a). The gender differences were not as apparent in this section, with boys and girls achieving similar average scores (see figure 13.4b).

In the timed section, all students performed better on the addition questions compared to the subtraction and multiplication questions. Little variation existed across the districts in the average scores on the addition and subtraction questions. On the multiplication questions, students in the Labrador district performed slightly better compared to the other districts, and the students in Nova Central performed slightly lower (see figure 13.4a). The average scores of boys and girls were virtually the same in all three areas (see figure 13.4b).

(Source: Table 13.4)

## Elementary students (Grade 6)

During the elementary years, the mathematics curriculum is designed to help students further develop and strengthen specific skills and strategies for mathematical problem solving. These skills and strategies are applied as part of the development of basic geometric concepts, spatial relations, measurement processes, and basic statistical techniques.

In the elementary CRT, students complete multiple-choice, and closed and open-constructed response questions in four strands of mathematics - number concepts, number operations, shape and space, and mental mathematics.

Student performance in 2006/07 and 2007/08: A provincial perspective Between 2006/07 and 2007/08, an increase occurred in the percentage of students at or above level 3 in each of the four process strands assessed (i.e., reasoning, communication, connections and representations, and problem solving). The largest gains occurred in the reasoning and communication process strands where increases of 15.2 and 11.3 percentage points respectively were seen. In the remaining two process strands, smaller gains occurred (see figure 13.5). However, in all areas assessed the percentage of students at levels 4 and 5 increased from the 2006/07 assessment.

Figure 13.5: Proficiency in mathematics: Elementary level (2006/07-2007/08)


In the multiple choice sections, student ability was assessed in number operations, number concepts, and shape and space. Overall, student performance improved in both the number operations and number concepts process strands from the 2006/07 assessment but declined by 11.9 percentage points in shape and space. In the mental mathematics section, student performance also declined slightly, with the average score dropping by 3.8 percentage points from 73.3\% in 2006/07 to 69.5\% in 2007/08 (see figure 13.6).


## Results of the 2007/08 assessment

 In the open constructed responses, students experienced the greatest success in problem solving where the percentage of students with at least an adequate knowledge (i.e., at or above level 3) of mathematics was the highest. In the multiple choice section, average scores ranged from a low of 59\% in the shape and space section, to a high of $78 \%$ in number operations. For the mental math questions, the average score was approximately $70 \%$.
## District performance and gender differences

Among the districts, the percentage of students at or above level 3 in the Labrador, Western and Nova Central districts was equal to or slightly above
the provincial percentage in each of the four process strands. Students in the Eastern district, however, were slightly below the provincial level in each of the four mathematical strands (see figure 13.7a).

The proportion of girls at or above level 3 once again surpassed both their male counterparts and the provincial percentage. The largest gender gap occurred in the communication strand, where the difference between the percentage of girls and boys at or above level 3 was 13.8 percentage points. In the other three areas, the difference ranged from between 9.9 and 11.9 percentage points (see figure 13.7b).

Figure 13.7: Proficiency in mathematics: District performance and gender differences (2007/08)


## The multiple choice and mental math questions

Students experienced the most success in number operations where the average score ranged between 76.5\% and 81.6\% correct. With the exception of the mental math questions, little variation existed among average scores seen in the four districts (see figure 13.8a). Along gender lines, boys generally performed slightly higher in the multiple choice questions and the mental math section. The only exception was seen in the number operations questions (see figure 13.8b).

## Intermediate students (Grade 9)

During the intermediate years, students continue to develop and practice the specific skills and strategies necessary for mathematical problem solving. These skills and strategies are applied as part of the consolidation of the concepts and skills of the real number system and measurement, and the development of introductory algebra, informal geometry and basic descriptive statistics.

During the intermediate CRT, students complete a series of multiple choice and close constructed response questions assessing their proficiency in number operations and concepts, patterns and relationships, shape and space as well as in data management and probability.


## Comparison to 2006/07:

## A provincial perspective

Overall, the performance of intermediate students improved between the 2006/07 and 2007/08 assessments. The only exception was found in shape and space where the average score decreased by 7.9 percentage points (from 63.0\% in 2006/07 to $55.1 \%$ in 2007/08). The largest increase occurred in number concepts where the average score increased by approximately 22 percentage points. In the other three areas, increases ranging between 7.2 and 14.6 percentage points occurred (see figure 13.9).

## Results of the 2007/08 assessment

Provincially, students experienced the most success with the questions assessing their skill in number concepts. The average score of students on these questions was approximately 70\%. In the other four areas, average scores ranged between $55 \%$ and $63 \%$.

## District results and gender differences

A similar pattern was seen in student performance in the four districts. In the five areas assessed, the average scores of students in the Labrador and Western districts were above the other districts and the province. In the Eastern district, average scores were similar to the provincial average score. Finally, average scores of students in Nova Central were below the other districts and the province (see figure 13.10a)

Along gender lines, there was little variation between the average scores of boys and girls. Girls earned slightly higher average scores in number operations, patterns and relations, and number concepts (see figure 13.10b).


## Chapter 14: The Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)

In 2006, approximately 400,000 15-year old students from 57 countries and economies around the world took part in the triennial (i.e., occurring once every three years) PISA assessment to determine their proficiency in reading, mathematics and science. This included approximately 22,000 Canadian students from about 1,000 schools spread across the ten provinces. In Newfoundland and Labrador, 1,741 students from 75 schools participated. This chapter will highlight the performance of this province's students.

## What is PISA?

In 2000, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) initiated PISA with the intent to answer the following questions:

- How well are young adults prepared to meet the challenges of the future?
- Are they able to analyse reason and communicate their ideas effectively?
- Do they have the capacity to continue learning throughout life?
- Are some kinds of teaching and school organization more effective than others?
(Council of Ministers of Education, 2008a)


This international assessment occurs ever three years to measure student ability in reading literacy, mathematics literacy, and scientific literacy. During each testing cycle, one of the three subject areas is considered a main domain and the other two are minor domains. The subject area identified as the major domain for that year involves a more intensive assessment. This allows information to be provided on several sub-domains. For example, in the last assessment conducted in 2006, science was the major domain. This produced results describing overall (or combined) scientific literacy and three scientific sub-domains (identifying scientific issues, explaining phenomena scientifically, and using scientific evidence).

There are two scores that can be derived from the PISA data - mean (or average) score and proficiency level. Since the assessment scales were developed according to levels of difficulty, student performance can be ranked according to proficiency. Each successive level is associated with tasks of increased difficulty (OECD, 2005, p.112). In other words, a student achieving a proficiency of 5 is more knowledgeable in a subject matter compared to a student achieving a level of 2. In general, a proficiency level of 1 means a student demonstrates a limited knowledge of the subject and a level of 5 or 6 means a student can identify more complex concepts and knowledge. Based on their performance, each student is assigned to the highest proficiency level for which s/he would be expected to answer the majority of the assessment questions correctly.


Confidence intervals were used to determine if differences among the provinces were significantly different. PISA uses a 95\% confidence interval to represent the actual high and low end points where the actual mean score should fall $95 \%$ of the time. Differences were determined to be significantly different if the respective confidence intervals do not overlap. If the confidence intervals overlap then the differences are not considered to be significant.

## How do Canadian students fare?

Canadian students are among the best in the world in reading, mathematics and science ranking within the top four countries during the 2003 and 2006 assessments. Only countries such as Korea, Finland and Hong Kong-China achieved significantly higher scores. Canadian students consistently achieved significantly higher average scores than other OECD countries in each of the subjects assessed. While some variation was present between the average scores of Canadian students between the two assessments, these differences were not statistically significant (see figure 14.1).


## Student performance in Newfoundland and Labrador on PISA (2003-2006)

In Newfoundland and Labrador, slight decreases (i.e., less than ten points) occurred in the average scores on the reading and mathematics assessments. There was a slight improvement in performance on the science assessment. The average score increased by 11.7 points from 513.8 in 2007 to 525.5 in 2008.

These changes were not significantly different (see figure 14.2).

## PISA 2006 in focus

The remainder of the chapter will focus on the performance of students in Newfoundland and Labrador on the 2006 PISA assessment. For each of the areas assessed, the two measures of student performance (i.e., average scores and proficiency levels) will be provided and comparisons made to other Canadian jurisdictions.


## Reading

The reading section of the assessment focuses on determining the ability of students to use written information in situations they will encounter in life. Specifically, PISA defines reading literacy as the ability to, "understand, use and reflect on written texts to achieve one's goals, develop one's knowledge and potential and to participate in society," (OECD, 2007, p.284).

## Mean reading scores

In the 2006 assessment, the average score of this province's students was 513.7 with only students in Alberta, British Columbia, and Ontario achieving significantly higher scores. Students in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island scored significantly lower average scores (see figure 14.3).

## Proficiency levels

The performance of students in reading can be divided into five proficiency levels ranging from one to five. A student assessed with a proficiency level of 1 will have a limited understanding of reading comprehension. The highest level is 5 where students can read and understand a very complex reading passage.

Overall, 15.3\% of the province's students achieved the lowest level of proficiency (i.e., level 1 or below) in reading. There were three provinces where this percentage was higher. This included Prince Edward Island (18.7\%), Saskatchewan (16.5\%) and New Brunswick (16.4\%). However, 13.5\% demonstrated the highest level of proficiency (i.e., level 5) with only Ontario, Quebec, Alberta and British Columbia having a higher percentage of students at this level. The majority of the province's students (51.6\%) were assessed at level 3 or 4 . Similar percentages of students within these levels can be found across Canada (see figure 14.4).


Figure 14.4: Reading proficiency levels (PISA 2006)

(Source: Table 14.4)

## Mathematics

To assess proficiency in mathematics, PISA uses the concept of mathematical literacy. This is defined as, "the capacity of students to analyse, reason and communicate effectively as they pose, solve and interpret mathematical problems in a variety of situations involving quantitative, spatial, probabilistic or other mathematical concepts," (OECD, 2007, p.304).

## Mean mathematical scores

Across Canada, students in the province achieved the sixth highest average score in mathematics. There was a significant difference between the Canadian and provincial average scores ( 527.0 and 507.0 points respectively). There were no significant differences among Newfoundland and Labrador and the other Atlantic Canadian provinces and Saskatchewan (see figure 14.5).

Figure 14.5: Mean mathematics scores across Canada (PISA 2006)


## Proficiency levels

There are six proficiency levels in the mathematics assessment with level 1 the lowest and 6 the highest. At level 1, students are able to answer clearly defined questions involving familiar concepts with all the relevant information provided. A student with a proficiency level of 6 can solve mathematically complex problems.

The majority of students in Newfoundland and Labrador were assessed at a proficiency level of between 2 and 4. With the exception of Quebec, a similar trend is seen across the country. Quebec led the country with the highest percentage (24.2\%) of students assessed at levels 5 and 6 . There were $15.3 \%$ of this province's students assessed at the lowest level (i.e., level 1 or below) and $11.8 \%$ at the highest level. Both Nova Scotia and New Brunswick recorded similar percentages of students at these levels (see figure 14.6).


Figure 14.6: Mathematical proficiency levels (PISA 2006)




## Combined science proficiency levels

The majority (74.5\%) of students in Newfoundland and Labrador had a proficiency level of between 2 and 4 in combined science. An additional $13.5 \%$ demonstrated the highest level of proficiency (i.e., level 5 or 6). This was the highest percentage among the four Atlantic Canadian provinces and close to the Canadian percentage. Only Alberta recorded a significantly higher percentage of students at this level. The remaining $12.0 \%$ of students were assessed at level 1 or below. This was at the Canadian average and only significantly behind the percentages of students in Alberta, British Columbia and Ontario (see figure 14.8).

## Sub-domains

The province's students performed quite well in the three science sub-domains assessed. Newfoundland and Labrador was on par with the Canadian average on the identifying scientific issues sub-domain but was significantly below in the explaining phenomena scientifically and the using scientific evidence sub-domains (see figure 14.9). Table 14.9, found at the end of the document, provides the average scores for the other provinces in each of the sub-domains.


Gender differences: A provincial perspective Girls, once again, appear to hold an advantage over boys. In the reading and science assessments, girls achieved significantly higher scores with the largest gap occurring in the reading section. There was no significant difference between boys and girls in their performance in mathematics (see figure 14.10a).

In the science sub-domains, girls outperformed boys in the identifying scientific issues and using scientific evidence sections. No significant difference existed in the exploring phenomena scientifically sub-domain (see figure 14.10b). There was no area where boys significantly outperformed girls.

These gender differences were not uniformly seen in other Canadian jurisdictions. In several areas Newfoundland and Labrador was the exception to the trend. For example, in the combined science assessment, Newfoundland and Labrador was the only province where girls significantly outperformed boys. In the rest of the country, no gender difference was present. In mathematics, the province was one of the only three where no gender differences were present. In the other provinces, boys significantly outperformed girls. Table 14.11 at the end of the report outlines the gender differences seen across Canada.


## Summary

The province's adolescent students are consistently doing well in the areas of reading, mathematics and science with no significant changes from the previous assessment in 2003. Within Canada, Newfoundland and Labrador is leading
the way in Atlantic Canada achieving significantly higher scores than New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island and similar average scores to Nova Scotia. Alberta, Ontario and British Columbia continue to obtain the highest average scores in Canada (see Table A).

Table A: Performance of Newfoundland and
Labrador students in relation to Canada (PISA 2006)

|  | Significantly lower | No significant difference | Significantly higher |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Reading | New Brunswick Prince Edward Island | Nova Scotia <br> Quebec <br> Manitoba <br> Saskatchewan | Ontario <br> Alberta <br> British Columbia <br> Canada |
| Mathematics |  | Nova Scotia <br> New Brunswick <br> Prince Edward Island <br> Saskatchewan | Quebec <br> Ontario <br> Manitoba <br> Alberta <br> British Columbia <br> Canada |
| Science | New Brunswick Prince Edward Island Saskatchewan | Nova Scotia <br> Quebec <br> Manitoba | Ontario <br> Alberta <br> British Columbia <br> Canada |

$\left.\begin{array}{llll}\hline & & \text { Sub-domains } & \\ & & \text { Nova Scotia } \\ \text { Quebec }\end{array}\right)$

## Chapter 15: The Pan-Canadian Assessment Program (PCAP)

In 2007, over 30,000 students took part in the Pan-Canadian Assessment Program. This included 1,971 students from Newfoundland and Labrador. This chapter will provide an overview of how this province's students are performing in the three areas assessed - reading, mathematics and science.

## What is PCAP?

PCAP was created by the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC) to assess the performance of 13 year old students in three core subjects - reading, mathematics and science. This new assessment tool replaced the previous School Achievement Indicators Program. Similar to PISA, PCAP is administered once every three years with each cycle testing one major domain and two minor domains. In its first cycle in 2007, reading was the major domain. In the next two assessments in 2010 and 2013, mathematics and science, respectively, will be the major domains assessed.

The difference between the major and minor domains involves the number of students assessed with a larger number of students assessed for the major domain. For example, in 2007, the PCAP was administered to approximately 30,000 13 year old students. Of these, approximately 20,000 students wrote the reading segment (the major domain) while 10,000 wrote the mathematics and science section (the minor domains) (CMEC, 2008b, p.4).

Two performance measures can be derived from the assessment results - mean (or average) scores and proficiency level. In PCAP, the Canadian average score was set at 500 points with a standard deviation of 100. In other words, about two-thirds of all the Canadian students scored between 400 and 600 points in the assessments. This standardization of the Canadian mean allows comparisons to be made across provincial jurisdictions. The second measure allows student performance to be ranked into three proficiency levels of increasing difficulty. A student with a proficiency level of 3 would demonstrate a greater depth of understanding of the subject than a student at level 1. Level 2 is set as the acceptable level of performance for 13-year old students. Since mathematics and science were the minor domains in the 2007 assessment proficiency levels were not reported. Also, gender differences at the provincial level were not available in the mathematics and science assessments.

## The reading assessment

In the reading assessment, the province's student's scored significantly lower than the Canadian average. This trend was also seen in the three reading sub-domains assessed (i.e., comprehension, interpretation and response to text) (see figure 15.1). Information for the other provinces is provided in Table 15.1 at the end of the report.

Scores on the reading assessment were grouped into three proficiency levels ranging from level 1 (ability to demonstrate a partial understanding of a text) to level 3 (ability to understand more complex texts). In the province, $81 \%$ of the students achieved a proficiency level of 2 or 3 . Similar percentages were seen in many of the provinces across the country (see figure 15.2).


Figure 15.2: Reading proficiency levels
across Ganada (PCAP 2007)


Level 1 Level 2 Level 3
(Source: Table 15.2)


Along gender lines, girls performed better than boys. In Newfoundland and Labrador, girls achieved significantly higher scores in reading compared to boys. This trend is seen across Canada. However, the scores of girls and boys in the province were significantly lower than their Canadian counterparts (see figure 15.3).

## The mathematical assessment

Students in Newfoundland and Labrador performed significantly higher than those in other Atlantic Canadian provinces. In the 2007 assessment, students achieved an average score of 478 . There were three provinces (Quebec, Ontario and Alberta) and Canada as a whole where a significantly higher score was achieved (see figure 15.4).

Figure 15.4: Average scores in the mathematics assessment (PCAP 2007)

(Source: Table 15.4)


## Summary

Overall, the province's students scored significantly lower than their Canadian peers in the areas assessed by PCAP. However, the province performed at the
same level, or significantly better than the other provinces in Atlantic Canada. Students in Ontario, Quebec and Alberta achieved the highest scores in Canada (see Table B).

Table B: Performance of Newfoundland and
Labrador students in relation to Canada (PCAP 2007)

|  | Average score in relation to Newfoundland and Labrador |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Significantly lower | No significant difference | Significantly higher |
| Reading overall |  | Nova Scotia <br> New Brunswick <br> Prince Edward Island <br> Manitoba <br> Saskatchewan | Quebec <br> Ontario <br> Alberta <br> British Columbia <br> Canada |
| Comprehension |  | New Brunswick Prince Edward Island | Nova Scotia <br> Quebec <br> Ontario <br> Manitoba <br> Saskatchewan <br> Alberta <br> British Columbia <br> Canada |
| Interpretation | Prince Edward Island | Nova Scotia <br> New Brunswick <br> Manitoba <br> Saskatchewan | Quebec <br> Ontario <br> Alberta <br> British Columbia <br> Canada |
| Response to text | Prince Edward Island | Nova Scotia <br> New Brunswick <br> Manitoba <br> Saskatchewan | Quebec <br> Ontario <br> Alberta <br> British Columbia <br> Canada |
| Mathematics | Nova Scotia <br> New Brunswick <br> Prince Edward Island <br> Saskatchewan | Manitoba <br> British Columbia | Quebec <br> Ontario <br> Alberta <br> Canada |
| Science | New Brunswick Prince Edward Island | Nova Scotia <br> Ontario <br> Manitoba <br> Saskatchewan <br> British Columbia | Quebec Alberta Canada |



## PART V: Final Thoughts

## Chapter 16: Summary

It was the intention of this document to highlight trends and provide a snapshot of the province's K-12 educational system. Over the past six years, several historical milestones have been reached. For example in 2007/08:

- the Department of Education's budget surpassed the $\$ 1$ billion mark
- the average K-9 class size reached its lowest point ever at 19.5 students
- the pupil-teacher ratio reached its lowest point at 12.7 or one educator for every 12.7 students.

This report presented several indicators of student performance demonstrating the progress of the province's students. The results of provincial assessments conducted in Grades 3, 6 and 9 shows an overall improvement from the previous year. In the provincial English language arts assessment, the greatest gains were seen in the performance of elementary students on the open constructed response items, where the percentage of students at or above grade level increased by between 4.1 and 18.5 percentage points. Similarly, students performed better in many areas of mathematics as assessed by the CRTs. Some of the largest gains in the mathematics assessments can be found in the performance of primary and elementary students. The percentage of students with at least an adequate understanding of the material increased by over 16 percentage points in their ability to communicate mathematical ideas, demonstrate mathematical reasoning and problem solve. On international and national assessments (i.e., PISA and PCAP), the
province's students are performing quite well, at either the same level or significantly better than the other Atlantic Canadian provinces.

At the high school level, students achieved greater success in public examination courses, as demonstrated through the increases seen in the overall success rate and average course grade since 2002/03. Along with this, the percentage of students graduating from high school and those earning an honours diploma upon graduation also increased during this time.

However, there are some concerning trends that continue to be present in the province. The most notable is the gender gap in student performance. Overall, girls clearly have an educational advantage. They continually outperform boys in public exam courses, have higher pass and graduation rates, as well as graduation status. Higher percentages of boys, on the other hand, have been identified as having special needs and in receipt of student support services. Boys also have higher dropout rates and have a greater tendency to receive a general diploma upon graduation.

Returning to the theme of change mentioned in the opening pages of this report, the system has changed and continues to evolve. While fewer children and young people are living in the province and enrolling in the schools, they are faring much better than in previous generations. This is the good news story captured within this report.


## Appendices

## School Development Student Survey (Grates 4-6)

Likert Scale: (OL) disagree a lot (D) disagriee $\begin{array}{lllll}\text { (U) unsurefdon't know } & \text { (A) agree } & \text { (AL) agree a lot }\end{array}$

1. I feel l am able to learn in my class.
DL D $\quad$ U A $\quad$ AL
2. At school, I go to different rooms to learn (for example: learning resource center, gym, music room).

| DL | D | A | AL |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

3. At school, I feel people listen to what I say.
$D \mathrm{D} \square \quad \mathrm{C} \square \mathrm{A} \square \mathrm{AL}$
4. At school, I know the rules.

| DL | D | U | A | AL |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

5. At school, I have very few opportunities to be a leader (for example: class helper, school teams and clubs, bus monitor).
DL $\quad \mathrm{D} \square \mathrm{U} \square \mathrm{A} \square \mathrm{AL}$
6. At school, my teacher tells us at the beginning of each lesson what we will be learning.
DL
D
$\cup \quad$ A
AL
7. At school the principal/assistant principal visits my classroom to see what we are learning.

| DL | D | U | A | AL |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

8. At school, we do "hands-on" activities (for example: base ten blocks, tangram puzzles, science experiments).

| DL | D | $\mathrm{U} \square$ | $\mathrm{A} \square$ | AL |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

9. At school, we don't work in groups.
$D \quad D \quad U \square A L \square$
10. At school, we have guest presenters/speakers.

| DL | D | $\mathrm{U} \square$ | AL |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

11. At school, we learn when we go on field trips (for example: environmental centers, parks, grocery stores).
DL $\quad \mathrm{D} \quad \mathrm{U} \square \mathrm{A} \square$
12. At school, my teacher uses different ways to check what I have learned (for example: written tests, journals, projects, assignments).
DL $\square \quad \mathrm{D} \square \quad \mathrm{A} \square$
13. At school, my teacher shows me how to improve my work.
DL $\quad \mathrm{D} \square \quad \mathrm{U}$ A
14. I am able to show my parents what I have learned (for example: parent/ teacher/student conferences, homework assignments).

| DL | D | U | A |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

15. At school, I can take part in Mathematics activities (for example: fairs, contests, and clubs).

| DL | D | U | A | AL |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

16. At school, I can take part in Science activities (for example: fairs, contests, and clubs).

| DL | D | U | A | AL |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

17. At school, I don't take part in activities that help me learn about my community and the world (for example: heritage fairs, recycling, and disaster relief).
DL $\quad \mathrm{D} \quad \mathrm{U}$ a A
18. At school, we learn to respect other cultures and religious beliefs.
DL $\quad \mathrm{D} \quad \mathrm{U} \square \mathrm{A}$ AL
19. At school, we have English Language Arts-related activities (for example: assemblies, public speaking, contests).
DL $\quad \mathrm{D} \quad \mathrm{U} \square \mathrm{A} \square \mathrm{AL}$
20. At school, we have French-related activities (for example: French trips, French public speaking, French Clubs).

| DL | D | A |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

21. At school, my teacher uses Music and Art to help me learn.
DL $\quad \mathrm{D} \quad \mathrm{U}$ a A A
22. At school, I can take part in Music and Art activities/programs (choir, band).
DL $\quad \mathrm{D} \quad \mathrm{U} \square \mathrm{A} \quad \mathrm{AL}$
23. At school, I participate actively in my gym classes.
DL $\quad \mathrm{D} \quad \mathrm{U}$ ■ A $\quad \mathrm{AL}$
24. At school, I have the opportunity to take part in activities that help me be active and healthy (for example: intramural sports, clubs).

| DL | D | U | A | AL |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

25. I participate in a physical fitness activity every day (for example: sports, biking, etc.).
DL $\quad \mathrm{D} \quad \mathrm{U}$ A
26. I regularly participate in an activity, hobby or club (for example: Beavers, Brownies, playing games).

| $D L \square$ | $D$ | $A L$ |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

27. I eat healthy foods every day.

| DL | D | U | A | AL |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

28. At school, I don't have the opportunity to participate in technology-related activities (for example: e-pals, computer club, fairs).

| DL | D | U | A |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

29. At school, my teachers use a variety of technologies to help me learn (for example: internet, electronic presentations, and video).

| DL | D | $\mathrm{U} \square$ | A | AL |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

30. At school, I use a variety of technologies to learn (for example: internet, art tools, video).
$D \quad D \quad U \square A L$
31. At school, my teachers expect me to do my best.
$\mathrm{DL} \quad \mathrm{D} \square \mathrm{U} \square \mathrm{A} \square \mathrm{AL}$
32. At school, it is important to complete my assigned work.

| DL | D | U | A |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

33. At school, it is important to be prepared for class.
$D \quad D \quad U \square A L \square$
34. At school, I feel safe.

| DL | D | $\mathrm{U} \square \mathrm{A} \square$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

35. At school, I am treated unfairly.

| DL | D | U | $\mathrm{A} \square$ | AL |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

36. At school, I treat everyone with respect.

| DL | D | U | $\mathrm{A} \square$ | AL |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

37. At school, people care about me.

| DL | D | U | A | AL |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

38. My school is clean.
$D L \square \quad \mathrm{D} \square \mathrm{A} \square$
39. At school, I can go to an adult for help when I have a problem.
DL $\quad \mathrm{D} \quad \mathrm{U}$ A $\quad \mathrm{AL}$



School Name - Community
ammunity

| 4 | 265 | $Y$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 4 | 278 | $Y$ |
| 4 | 237 | $Y$ |
|  |  |  |


| 4 | 237 | $Y$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 3 | 398 |  |
| 3 | 399 | $Y$ |
|  | 243 |  |


| 4 | 243 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 4 | 320 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |


| 4 | 325 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 4 | 326 |  |
| 2 | 060 |  |
| 4 | 444 | Y |
|  |  |  |






| Senior HighSchools＇07－＇08 |  |  |  | School Demographics＇07－＇08 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Criterion Referenced } \\ & \text { Tests '07-08 } \end{aligned}$ |  |  | High SchoolPerformance＇07－08 |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Graduates } \\ & \text { '07-'08 } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | fual | Stholl lane．Commuity | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Cinites } \\ & \text { Offeded } \end{aligned}$ | Emoment | $\begin{gathered} \text { Sctool } \\ \text { Site } \end{gathered}$ | $\left\lvert\, \begin{array}{\|l\|l\|l\|l\|l\|l\|cr} \text { furation } \end{array}\right.$ | $\begin{array}{\|c\|} \text { French } \\ \text { Immersion } \end{array}$ | 望这远 |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Average } \\ \text { Years } \\ \text { Teacher } \\ \text { Experience } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Alaye |  |  | Pass hate | Ganalues． <br> Hatusus | Canduluses <br> halumic | Garalues |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10 | Stiool 10 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Reading | Winimy |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 | 116 | r | Appalachia ligh School－St George＇s | 9.12 | 260 | 200.299 |  |  | 65.0 | 18.0 | 14.4 | 13.7 | 72.2 | 59.7 | 68.4 | 63.0 | ${ }_{58}$ | 65.0 | 60.4 | 64.5 | 34.3 | 83.0 | 90.7 | 10.3 | 46.2 | 43.6 |
| 4 | 249 |  | Ascension Collegite－Bay Poberts | 10.12 | 681 | 400＋ |  | Y | 227.0 | 42.5 | 16.0 | 16.2 | 79.1 | ． | － | ． | 78 | 71.3 | 65.8 | 69.0 | 29.3 | 85.1 | 91.1 | 26.5 | 36.3 | 37.3 |
| 4 | 327 |  | Bishops College High ．St John＇s | 10.12 | 582 | $400+$ |  | Y | 1940 | 34.3 | 17.0 | 14.8 | 82.9 |  |  |  | 77 | 68.6 | 61.0 | 66.8 | 22.8 | 76.1 | 85.2 | 24.6 | 42.8 | 32.6 |
| 4 | 328 |  | Booth Memoral ligh School－St．John＇s | 10．12 | 545 | 400＋ |  | r | 181.7 | 32.0 | 17.0 | 14.8 | 78.8 | － |  | － | 82 | 70.2 | 63.5 | 66.2 | 25.7 | 79.4 | 85.7 | 31.4 | 38.2 | 30.4 |
| 4 | 253 | Y | Carbonear Collegite－Carbonear | 10.12 | 499 | 400＋ |  | Y | 16.3 | 33.0 | 16.1 | 17.2 | 80.6 |  |  |  | ${ }^{64}$ | 69.6 | 66.7 | 67.9 | 38.0 | 85.1 | 88.2 | 35.0 | 36.7 | 28.3 |
| 4 | 235 |  | Carenvile High School－Clarenile | 9.12 | 384 | 300．399 | Y |  | 96.0 | 24.5 | 15.7 | 17.3 | 76.0 | 70.9 | 81.7 | 57.6 | 61 | 68.7 | 67.2 | 66.8 | 30.2 | 80.8 | 92.9 | 32.3 | 38.5 | 29.2 |
| 2 | 485 |  | Comer Brook Regiona High－Comere Brook | 10.12 | 989 | $400+$ |  | Y | 329.7 | 59.5 | 16.6 | 14.6 | 71.7 |  |  |  | 87 | 70.8 | 68.7 | 70.7 | 44.2 | 81.8 | 89.8 | 33.8 | 31.6 | 34.6 |
| 4 | 231 | Y | Discover Collegiate－－onavista | 9.12 | 323 | 300－399 |  |  | 80.8 | 23.5 | 13.7 | 13.6 | 70.8 | 76.7 | 91.8 | 57.5 | ${ }_{5} 5$ | 66.8 | 63.8 | 60.3 | 37.5 | 77.4 | 9.5 | 20.4 | 27.8 | 51.9 |
| 2 | 330 | r | Ewood High School－Deer lake | 10.12 | 309 | 300.399 | r |  | 103.0 | 20.0 | 15.5 | 15.4 | 90.0 |  |  |  | 56 | 70.9 | 66.7 | 67.4 | 32.8 | 80.9 | 87.5 | 32.5 | 29.9 | 37.7 |
| 3 | 480 |  | Explois valley High－Giand Fall－Windor | 10.12 | 574 | $400+$ | Y | r | 191.3 | 37.0 | 15.5 | 15.2 | 78.4 | － |  | － | 79 | 69.0 | 64.6 | 68.1 | 37.7 | 76.4 | 92.5 | 28.6 | 36.1 | 35.4 |
| 3 | 418 |  | Gander Collegite－Gander | 10.12 | 383 | 30－399 |  | r | 127.7 | 24.5 | 15.6 | 17.1 | 80.0 |  |  |  | 65 | 71.9 | 64.4 | 67.3 | 26.7 | 79.9 | 90.2 | 38.2 | 37.3 | 24.5 |
| 4 | 336 |  | Gorraga Regional ligh－St．John＇s | 10：12 | 772 | 400＋ |  | Y | 257.3 | 43.5 | 17.8 | 16.9 | 88.6 |  |  |  | 80 | 72.7 | 70.3 | 70.0 | 45.4 | 83.8 | 93.3 | 41.4 | 45.5 | 13.1 |
| 4 | 340 |  | Hoy Heart of May Regional High－St．Joh＇s | 10.12 | 967 | 400＋ | $r$ | r | 322.3 | 59.0 | 16.4 | 14.0 | 75.0 |  |  |  | 110 | 69.2 | 65.8 | 65.8 | 27.7 | 84.4 | 91.1 | 42.1 | 38.7 | 19.1 |
| 4 | 304 |  | Hoy Spirit tigh－Conception Bay South（Manuels） | 9.12 | 704 | 400＋ | r | r | 176.0 | 43.5 | 16.2 | 13.9 | 81.8 | 85.7 | 91.0 | 62.0 | 72 | 69.0 | 62.2 | 65.2 | 21.3 | 82.2 | 97.5 | 25.0 | 34.6 | 40.4 |
| 3 | 187 | r | Jane Colins Academy－Hare Bay | 9.12 | 148 | 100－199 | r |  | 37.0 | 12.8 | 11.6 | 11.8 | 38.5 | 100.0 | 80.0 | 55.6 | 50 | 70.7 | 59.2 | 65.7 | 13.6 |  | 86.8 | 15.2 | 33.3 | 51.5 |
| 4 | 280 | r | Laval ligh School－Pacentia | 9.12 | 220 | 200－299 | r |  | 55.0 | 17.5 | 12.6 | 10.6 | 72.2 | 82.2 | 91.3 | 55.5 | 52 | 74.1 | 66.6 | 69.2 | 51.2 | 79.7 | 95.0 | 36.8 | 28.1 | 35.1 |
| 3 | 190 | r | Lewisporte Colegaite－Lewispore | 10.12 | 308 | 300399 |  |  | 1027 | 21.0 | 14.7 | 17.5 | 81.0 |  |  |  | 66 | 71.5 | 68.3 | 67.1 | 28.8 | 81.6 | 93.3 | 21.7 | 39.8 | 38.6 |
| 4 | 219 |  | Marstown Central High School－Manssown | 10.12 | 433 | 400＋ |  | Y | 144.3 | 31.5 | 13.8 | 15.6 | 62.5 |  |  |  | 65 | 70.6 | 64.4 | 67.6 | 24.4 | 76.2 | 90.5 | 27.2 | 28.1 | 44.7 |
| 4 | 311 |  | Mount Parl Senior tigh－Mount Pear | 10.12 | 700 | 400＋ | r | Y | 233.3 | 38.3 | 18.3 | 13.3 | 84.6 |  |  |  | 81 | 67.7 | 64.4 | 67.9 | 21.1 | 86.3 | 84.5 | 28.1 | 43.1 | 28.8 |
| 4 | 313 |  | O＇Donel ligh School－Munt Pearl | 10：12 | 684 | 400＋ | y | y | 228.0 | 38.5 | 17.8 | 13.9 | 74.4 |  |  | － | 80 | 71.1 | 67.8 | 67.7 | 18.2 | 87.9 | 93.6 | 27.2 | 45.0 | 27.7 |
| 2 | 110 | r | Piccadily Central ligh－Piccadily | 9－12 | 213 | 200－299 |  |  | 53.3 | 17.0 | 12.5 | 9.7 | 58.8 | 75.2 | 77.5 | 55.2 | ${ }^{43}$ | 73.0 | 66.4 | 67.2 | 0.0 |  | 96.2 | 18.0 | 12.0 | 70.0 |
| 4 | 347 |  | Prince of Wales Collegite－St．John＇s | 10.12 | 822 | $400+$ | Y | Y | 274.0 | 44.5 | 18.5 | 14.4 | 77.8 |  |  |  | 81 | 69.3 | 61.8 | 67.7 | 34.0 | 71.0 | 91.4 | 21.6 | 41.2 | 37.2 |
| 4 | 302 |  | Oueen Elizabeth Regiona High－CBS（Foxtrap） | 10.12 | 610 | 400＋ | r | Y | 203.3 | 36.8 | 16.6 | 15.2 | 83.8 | ． | ． | ． | 77 | 64.8 | 62.3 | 60.7 | 31.9 | 78.4 | 82.5 | 18.1 | 40.2 | 41.7 |
| 4 | 354 |  | St．Kevin＇s High－St．John＇s（Goudss） | 10．12 | 379 | 30－399 | r | r | 126.3 | 24.0 | 15.8 | 17.3 | 83.3 |  |  | ． | 72 | 70.2 | 63.7 | 69.0 | 26.8 | 83.8 | 89.5 | 30.6 | 40.5 | 28.8 |
| 2 | 119 |  | Stephenville High－Stephenville Province | 9.12 | 616 72084 | $400+$ |  | Y | 154.0 5.544 .9 | 37.8 | 16.3 12.7 | 16.5 14.2 | 73.7 <br> 65.5 | $\begin{aligned} & 69.0 \\ & 75.3 \end{aligned}$ | 74.3 86.2 | 62.5 | 68 174 | 67.4 69.9 | 61.0 64.6 | 63.4 66.8 | 30.1 31.1 | 79.0 79.6 | 91.8 91.0 |  | 41.5 35.7 | 41.5 |






 | 803 | 479 | Y | Holy Coos Communtity School lhc. St. Alban's |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 803 |  |  |  |
| 159 |  |  |  | 803 Im9 Imaculate Hearut of Mar School - Conner Brook



 | 903 | 378 | Y | $\begin{array}{l}\text { NL \& lab Y Yuth Centre }- \text { Whitboume } \\ 902\end{array}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 377 |  | NL School for the Doaf- St John's |  |



 | 803 | 450 | St. Bonaventurés College - St. John's |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |




 | Mutipe |
| :---: | :---: |
| Clioie |





## Tables

Table 2.1: Population change (2002-2007)

| Province/Territory | Population Count |  | \% change |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2002 | 2007 |  |
| Canada | 31,372,587 | 32,976,026 | 5.11 |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 519,449 | 506,275 | -2.54 |
| Prince Edward Island | 136,934 | 138,627 | 1.24 |
| Nova Scotia | 934,507 | 934,147 | -0.04 |
| New Brunswick | 750,327 | 749,782 | -0.07 |
| Quebec | 7,445,745 | 7,700,807 | 3.43 |
| Ontario | 12,102,045 | 12,803,861 | 5.80 |
| Manitoba | 1,155,584 | 1,186,679 | 2.69 |
| Saskatchewan | 995,886 | 996,869 | 0.10 |
| Alberta | 3,116,332 | 3,473,984 | 11.48 |
| British Columbia | 4,115,413 | 4,380,256 | 6.44 |
| Yukon Territory | 30,137 | 30,989 | 2.83 |
| Northwest Territories | 41,489 | 42,637 | 2.77 |
| Nunavut | 28,739 | 31,113 | 8.26 |

(Source: Statistics Canada, 2007a)
Table 2.2: Population of Newfoundland and
Labrador by age group (2002-2007)

| Age group (yrs) | Population Count |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2002 | 2007 |
| $0-9$ | 52,846 | 47,910 |
| $10-19$ | 72,523 | 61,301 |
| $20-29$ | 66,992 | 62,120 |
| $30-39$ | 77,962 | 66,160 |
| $40-49$ | 87,581 | 84,611 |
| $50-59$ | 73,374 | 81,799 |
| $60-69$ | 43,314 | 54,087 |
| $70-79$ | 29,224 | 31,034 |
| $80+$ | 15,633 | 17,253 |

(Source: Statistics Canada, 2007a)
Table 2.3: Demographic change in Newfoundland and Labrador (2002-2007)

| Category | Population Count |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2002 | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7}$ | \% change |
| Infants and preschoolers (0-4 yrs) | 24,530 | 22,882 | -6.7 |
| School-age (5-17 yrs) | 84,861 | 73,515 | -13.4 |
| Young adults (18-24 yrs) | 51,609 | 44,711 | -13.4 |
| Adults (25-44 yrs) | 153,319 | 137,783 | -10.1 |
| Older adults (45-64 yrs) | 140,769 | 156,815 | 11.4 |
| Seniors (65 yrs or older) | 64,361 | 70,569 | 9.6 |



Note: A one year period runs from July 1st of one year to June 30th of the next year.

Table 2.5: Enrolment trend (1998/99-2015/16)

| School year | Enrolment | \% change from <br> previous year |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 1998/99 | 97,401 | -4.1 |
| 1999/00 | 93,957 | -3.5 |
| $2000 / 01$ | 90,167 | -4.0 |
| $2001 / 02$ | 86,898 | -3.6 |
| $2002 / 03$ | 84,268 | -3.0 |
| $2003 / 04$ | 81,458 | -3.3 |
| $2004 / 05$ | 79,439 | -2.5 |
| $2005 / 06$ | 76,763 | -3.4 |
| $2006 / 07$ | 74,304 | -3.2 |
| $2007 / 08$ | 72,084 | -3.0 |
| $2008 / 09$ | 70,631 | -2.0 |
|  | Projected |  |
| $2009 / 10$ | 68,951 | -2.4 |
| $2010 / 11$ | 67,560 | -2.0 |
| $2011 / 12$ | 66,609 | -1.4 |
| $2012 / 13$ | 65,729 | -1.3 |
| $2013 / 14$ | 65,034 | -1.1 |
| $2014 / 15$ | 64,416 | -1.0 |
| $2015 / 16$ | 63,925 | -0.8 |

## Tables

Table 2.6: Percent change in student enrolment
(2002/03-2007/08)

| District | Enrolment |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
|  | $2002 / 03$ | $2007 / 08$ |
| Labrador | 4,970 | 3,720 |
| Western | 15,951 | 13,285 |
| Nova Central | 15,763 | 12,998 |
| Eastern | 47,354 | 41,830 |
| CSF | 230 | 251 |
| Province | 84,268 | 72,084 |

Table 2.7: Average K-9 class size
(2004/05-2007/08)

| District | 2004/05 | 2005/06 | 2006/07 | 2007/08 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Labrador | 18.5 | 19.4 | 18.6 | 17.8 |
| Western | 18.4 | 18.5 | 18.3 | 17.8 |
| Nova Central | 19.2 | 19.4 | 18.4 | 18.7 |
| Eastern | 22.7 | 22.0 | 21.4 | 20.8 |
| CSF | 8.9 | 9.2 | 10.1 | 8.3 |
| Province | 20.7 | 20.5 | 19.9 | 19.5 |

Note: Average K-9 class size unavailable for 2002/03 and 2003/04

Table 2.8: Pupil-Teacher Ratio (1997/98-2007/08)

| School year | FTE pupils (a) | FTE teachers (b) | PTR (a/b) |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1997/98 | 98,379 | 6,705 | 14.7 |
| $1998 / 99$ | 94,493 | 6,453 | 14.6 |
| $1999 / 00$ | 91,053 | 6,372 | 14.3 |
| $2000 / 01$ | 87,438 | 6,283 | 13.9 |
| $2001 / 02$ | 84,173 | 6,264 | 13.4 |
| $2002 / 03$ | 81,651 | 6,065 | 13.5 |
| $2003 / 04$ | 78,920 | 5,865 | 13.5 |
| $2004 / 05$ | 76,871 | 5,634 | 13.6 |
| $2005 / 06$ | 74,315 | 5,485 | 13.5 |
| $2006 / 07$ | 71,933 | 5,443 | 13.2 |
| $2007 / 08$ | 69,741 | 5,498 | 12.7 |

Table 3.1: FTE ${ }^{1}$ teachers in Newfoundland
and Labrador (2002/03-2007/08) and Labrador (2002/03-2007/08)

| School year | Number of FTE teachers | \% change from <br> previous year |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| $2002 / 03$ | 6,065 | $-3.2 \%$ |
| $2003 / 04$ | 5,865 | $-3.3 \%$ |
| $2004 / 05$ | 5,634 | $-3.9 \%$ |
| $2005 / 06$ | 5,485 | $-2.6 \%$ |
| $2006 / 07$ | 5,443 | $-0.8 \%$ |
| $2007 / 08$ | 5,498 | $1.0 \%$ |

${ }^{1}$ The number of FTE teachers may differ from the actual number of allocated teaching units due to such factors as teacher vacancies at the time of publication.

Table 3.2: The 2007/08 teacher workforce (a) Teaching positions

| Position | Number of FTE teachers | \% of teaching workforce |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Administrative ${ }^{1}$ | 728 | 13.2 |
| Classroom teacher | 3,421 | 62.2 |
| Special Education teacher $^{2}$ | 853 | 15.5 |
| Other $^{3}$ | 496 | 9.0 |
| Total | 5,498 | 100.0 |

Table 3.2: The 2007/08 teacher workforce (b) Gender breakdown (\%)

| Gender | Administrative ${ }^{1}$ <br> $(n=728)$ | Classroom <br> $(n=3,421)$ | Special Education ${ }^{2}$ <br> $(n=853)$ | Other <br> $(n=496)$ | Total <br> $(n=5,498)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Male | 54.8 | 29.5 | 16.6 | 35.5 | 31.4 |
| Female | 45.2 | 70.5 | 83.4 | 64.5 | 68.6 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

${ }^{1}$ Includes principals, assistant principals and department heads. In many cases, these positions include classroom teaching.
${ }^{2}$ Includes special education teachers devoted to working with students with mental and/or physical disabilities.
${ }^{3}$ Includes itinerant teachers, guidance counsellors, English as a Second Language (ESL) teachers, etc.

Table 3.3: Gender composition of teachers (\%) (2002/03-2007/08)

| Gender | 2002/03 <br> $(\mathbf{n}=6,065)$ | 2003/04 <br> $(\mathrm{n}=5,865)$ | 2004/05 <br> $(\mathrm{n}=5,634)$ | $2005 / 06$ <br> $(\mathrm{n}=5,485)$ | 2006/07 <br> $(\mathrm{n}=5,443)$ | 2007/08 <br> $(\mathrm{n}=5,498)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Male | 37.6 | 36.4 | 35.2 | 33.7 | 32.8 | 31.3 |
| Female | 62.3 | 63.6 | 64.8 | 66.3 | 67.2 | 68.7 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

Table 3.4: Teacher's age (\%) (2002/03-2007/08)

| Age group | 2002/03 <br> $(n=6,065)$ | 2003/04 <br> $(n=5,865)$ | 2004/05 <br> $(n=5,633)$ | $2005 / 06$ <br> $(n=5,486)$ | $2006 / 07$ <br> $(n=5,443)$ | $2007 / 08$ <br> $(n=5,498)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Younger than 30 | 8.2 | 8.6 | 9.6 | 10.2 | 10.9 | 12.1 |
| 30-39 | 31.4 | 31.8 | 30.9 | 29.8 | 28.6 | 27.8 |
| $40-49$ | 39.6 | 38.1 | 39.0 | 40.1 | 41.0 | 40.3 |
| 50 years or older | 20.8 | 21.4 | 20.5 | 19.9 | 19.5 | 19.8 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

Table 3.5: Gender composition of new teachers (\%) (2002/03-2007/08)

| Gender | $2002 / 03$ <br> $(n=187)$ | $2003 / 04$ <br> $(\mathrm{n}=210)$ | $2004 / 05$ <br> $(\mathrm{n}=201)$ | $2005 / 06$ <br> $(\mathrm{n}=195)$ | $2006 / 07$ <br> $(\mathrm{n}=252)$ | $2007 / 08$ <br> $(\mathrm{n}=248)$ |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Male | 22.5 | 28.6 | 23.9 | 20.0 | 23.8 | 18.5 |
| Female | 77.5 | 71.4 | 76.1 | 80.0 | 76.2 | 81.5 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

Table 3.6: Gender composition of retirees (\%) (2002/03-2007/08)

| Gender | $2002 / 03$ <br> $(\mathrm{n}=456)$ | $2003 / 04$ <br> $(\mathrm{n}=457)$ | $2004 / 05$ <br> $(\mathrm{n}=345)$ | $2005 / 06$ <br> $(\mathrm{n}=305)$ | $2006 / 07$ <br> $(\mathrm{n}=280)$ |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Male | 47.6 | 47.5 | 49.3 | 38.7 | 50.4 |
| Female | 52.4 | 52.5 | 50.7 | 61.3 | 49.6 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

Table 3.7: Gender difference in average retirement age (2002/03-2006/07)

| School year | Male | Female | Province |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $2002 / 03$ | 53.0 | 52.8 | 52.6 |
| $2003 / 04$ | 54.0 | 53.2 | 53.6 |
| $2004 / 05$ | 54.7 | 53.6 | 54.1 |
| $2005 / 06$ | 54.3 | 54.7 | 54.5 |
| $2006 / 07$ | 56.2 | 55.7 | 56.0 |

Table 4.1: District profile (2007/08)
$\left.\begin{array}{|l|c|cc|}\hline & & \text { Percentage of }\end{array}\right]$

Table 4.2: Number of public schools (2002/03-2007/08)

| School year | Number of schools |
| :--- | :---: |
| $2002 / 03$ | 317 |
| $2003 / 04$ | 305 |
| $2004 / 05$ | 303 |
| $2005 / 06$ | 294 |
| $2006 / 07$ | 285 |
| $2007 / 08$ | 280 |



Table 4.3: Percent change in the number of schools per district (2002/03-2007/08)

| District | 2002/03 | 2007/08 | \% change |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Labrador | 19 | 15 | -21.1 |
| Western | 85 | 72 | -15.3 |
| Nova Central | 79 | 67 | -15.2 |
| Eastern | 129 | 121 | -6.2 |
| CSF | 5 | 5 | 0.0 |
| Province | 317 | 280 | -11.7 |

Table 4.4: School configurations (2007/08)

| Configuration | Number of schools |
| :--- | :---: |
| Primary | 14 |
| Elementary | 108 |
| Intermediate | 21 |
| Secondary | 27 |
| Senior High | 38.0 |
| K-12 | 85 |
| Total | 280 |

Table 4.5: District school configurations (2007/08)

| Configuration | Percentage of schools in each district with the following configurations |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Labrador } \\ (\mathrm{n}=15) \end{gathered}$ | Western $\text { ( } \mathrm{n}=72 \text { ) }$ | Nova Central $(\mathrm{n}=67)$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Eastern } \\ & (\mathrm{n}=121) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { CSF } \\ & (\mathrm{n}=5) \end{aligned}$ |
| Primary | 13.3 | 1.4 | 10.4 | 3.3 | 0.0 |
| Elementary | 20.0 | 33.3 | 29.9 | 48.8 | 40.0 |
| Intermediate | 0.0 | 5.6 | 3.0 | 12.4 | 0.0 |
| Secondary | 13.3 | 9.7 | 13.4 | 7.4 | 0.0 |
| Senior High | 0.0 | 6.9 | 6.0 | 13.2 | 0.0 |
| K-12 | 53.3 | 43.1 | 37.3 | 14.9 | 60.0 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

Table 4.6: Provincial school size (\%) (2002/03-2007/08)

| Enrolment | $\begin{aligned} & 2002 / 03 \\ & (\mathrm{n}=317) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2003 / 04 \\ & (\mathrm{n}=305) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2004 / 05 \\ & (n=303) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2005 / 06 \\ & (\mathrm{n}=294) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2006 / 07 \\ & (\mathrm{n}=285) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2007 / 08 \\ & (\mathrm{n}=280) \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Less than 150 students | 32.2 | 31.5 | 33.0 | 32.7 | 34.4 | 35.4 |
| 150-299 students | 31.2 | 33.4 | 32.7 | 32.7 | 30.5 | 30.0 |
| 300-449 students | 19.6 | 18.4 | 17.8 | 17.7 | 18.2 | 18.6 |
| 450 or more students | 17.0 | 16.7 | 16.5 | 17.0 | 16.8 | 16.1 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

Table 4.7: District school size (\%) (2007/08)

| Enrolment | Labrador <br> $(\mathrm{n}=15)$ | Western <br> $(\mathrm{n}=72)$ | Nova Central <br> $(\mathrm{n}=67)$ | Eastern <br> $(\mathrm{n}=121)$ | CSF <br> $(\mathrm{n}=5)$ | Province <br> $(\mathrm{n}=280)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Less than 150 students | 46.7 | 48.6 | 47.8 | 16.5 | 100.0 | 35.4 |
| $150-299$ students | 13.3 | 30.6 | 29.9 | 33.1 | 0.0 | 30.0 |
| $300-449$ students | 20.0 | 15.3 | 16.4 | 22.3 | 0.0 | 18.6 |
| 450 or more students | 20.0 | 5.6 | 6.0 | 28.1 | 0.0 | 16.1 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

## MARY SCHOOL <br> THAPPY VALLEY - GOOSE B

Table 5.1: Percent change in the number of urban and rural schools (2002/03-2007/08)

| Region | Number of schools |  | \% change |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $2002 / 03$ | $2007 / 08$ |  |
| Urban | 108 | 101 | -6.5 |
| Rural | 209 | 179 | -14.4 |
| Total | 317 | 280 | -11.7 |

Table 5.2: Percentage of small schools in the province (2002/03-2007/08)

| School size | $2002 / 03$ <br> $(n=317)$ | $2003 / 04$ <br> $(n=305)$ | $2004 / 05$ <br> $(n=303)$ | $2005 / 06$ <br> $(n=294)$ | $2006 / 07$ <br> $(n=285)$ | $2007 / 08$ <br> $(n=280)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Less than 50 students | 12.3 | 14.1 | 14.2 | 15.0 | 13.3 | 13.2 |
| $50-99$ students | 9.8 | 7.9 | 9.9 | 10.5 | 10.2 | 9.6 |
| Less than 100 students | 22.1 | 22.0 | 24.1 | 25.5 | 23.5 | 22.9 |

Table 5.3: Percentage of schools with multi-grade classrooms, K-9 (2007/08)

| District | Number of schools <br> with multi-grade <br> classrooms | Total number <br> of schools | \% of schools <br> with multi-grade <br> classrooms |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Labrador | 7 | 15 | 46.7 |
| Western | 38 | 70 | 54.3 |
| Nova Central | 30 | 64 | 46.9 |
| Eastern | 18 | 109 | 16.5 |
| CSF | 5 | 5 | 100.0 |
| Total | 98 | 263 | 37.3 |

Table 5.4: The expansion of CDLI (2002/03-2007/08)

| School year | Number of |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Teachers | Schools offering <br> CDLI courses | CDLI courses <br> offered | CDLI course <br> registrations |  |
| $2002 / 03$ | 24.5 | 76 | 18 | 1,000 |
| $2003 / 04$ | 29.5 | 93 | 25 | 1,200 |
| $2004 / 05$ | 33.0 | 100 | 33 | 1,600 |
| $2005 / 06$ | 36.0 | 107 | 33 | 1,665 |
| $2006 / 07$ | 37.5 | 110 | 34 | 1,685 |
| $2007 / 08$ | 38.0 | 113 | 36 | 1,690 |

## Tables

Table 6.1: Respondents by grade level

| Grade Level | Number of <br> respondents | $\%$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Elementary level (Grades 4-6) | 3,501 | 31.6 |
| Intermediate level (Grades 7-9) | 3,238 | 29.2 |
| Senior high (Levels I - III) | 4,342 | 39.2 |
| Total sample | 11,081 | 100.0 |

Table 6.2: Feelings of safety and security

| Percentage of <br> students who: | Elementary <br> $(n=3,501)$ | Intermediate <br> $(n=3,238)$ | High school <br> $(n=4,342)$ | Total <br> $(n=11,081)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Feel safe at school | 75.2 | 62.3 | 65.6 | 67.7 |
| Can go to an adult with a concern | 86.9 | 65.1 | 58.6 | 69.4 |
| Feel that people in their school <br> care about them | 68.0 | 48.1 | 44.4 | 52.9 |

Table 6.3: Healthy living

| Percentage of <br> students who: | Elementary <br> $(\mathrm{n}=3,501)$ | Intermediate <br> $(\mathrm{n}=3,238)$ | High school <br> $(\mathrm{n}=4,342)$ | Total <br> $(\mathrm{n}=11,081)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Make healthy food choices <br> every day | 77.2 | 49.1 | 42.1 | 55.2 |
| Participate in a physical fitness <br> activity on a daily basis | 77.7 | 55.5 | 52.8 | 61.4 |
| Have the opportunity to participate in <br> activities that promote wellness and <br> active healthy living while at school | 88.6 | 71.4 | 70.2 | 76.4 |

Table 6.4: Attitudes about school

| Percentage of <br> students who: | Elementary <br> $(\mathrm{n}=3,501)$ | Intermediate <br> $(\mathrm{n}=3,238)$ | High school <br> $(\mathrm{n}=4,342)$ | Total <br> $(\mathrm{n}=11,081)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Feel they are able to learn in class | 91.7 | 81.3 | 80.3 | 84.2 |
| Believe it is important to complete <br> assigned work | 96.5 | 90.0 | 86.5 | 90.7 |
| Believe it is important to be <br> prepared for class | 95.5 | 88.9 | 85.3 | 89.6 |
| Treat everyone in school with respect | 84.7 | 72.2 | 75.6 | 77.5 |
| Feel that school provides them with <br> opportunities to be a leader | 45.5 | 48.6 | 47.6 | 47.2 |

Table 6.5: Opportunities for learning

| Percentage of <br> students who: | Elementary <br> $(\mathrm{n}=3,501)$ | Intermediate <br> $(\mathrm{n}=3,238)$ | High school <br> $(\mathrm{n}=4,342)$ | Total <br> $(\mathrm{n}=11,081)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Complete group work in class | 83.5 | 78.5 | 67.0 | 75.6 |
| Have guest speakers/presenters <br> visit the classroom | 77.3 | 37.7 | 41.2 | 51.6 |
| Complete "hands-on" activities <br> (e.g., use manipulative materials in <br> mathematics, scientific experiments) | 87.1 | 67.9 | 48.2 | 66.3 |
| Feel teaching and learning takes <br> place outside, as well as inside, the <br> classroom (e.g., science outings, <br> visits to community sites, field trips) | 83.4 | 47.8 | 28.4 | 51.4 |

Table 6.6: Extra learning activities

| Percentage of students with <br> the opportunity to take part in: | Elementary <br> $(\mathrm{n}=3,501)$ | Intermediate <br> $(\mathrm{n}=3,238)$ | High school <br> $(\mathrm{n}=4,342)$ | Total <br> $(\mathrm{n}=11,081)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Language arts activities | 83.8 | 58.4 | 49.2 | 62.8 |
| French-related activities | 37.4 | 35.5 | 32.6 | 35.0 |
| Fine arts activities | 84.5 | 68.3 | 66.0 | 72.5 |
| Mathematics activities | 41.7 | 37.5 | 37.5 | 38.8 |
| Science activities | 48.6 | 61.7 | 40.3 | 49.2 |
| Technology activities | 49.4 | 37.1 | 33.0 | 39.4 |

Table 6.7: Teacher support

| Percentage of students | Elementary <br> $(\mathrm{n}=3,501)$ | Intermediate <br> $(\mathrm{n}=3,238)$ | High school <br> $(\mathrm{n}=4,342)$ | Total <br> $(\mathrm{n}=11,081)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| whose teachers: | 84.4 | 76.0 | 81.0 | 80.6 |
| Provide them with course <br> outines for each subject/course | 86.3 | 80.5 | 74.0 | 79.8 |
| Use a variety of ways to assess <br> learning (e.g., projects, tests, <br> portfolios, rubrics, self and peer <br> assessment) | 88.8 | 75.2 | 64.7 | 75.4 |
| Tells/shows them how to <br> improve their work | 8 |  |  |  |

Table 7.1: French program enrolment
(2002/03-2007/08)

| School <br> year | Total enrolment in <br> French programs | Core French | Intensive <br> Core French | Expanded <br> Core French | French <br> Immersion |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2002/03 | 49,152 | 86.3 | 1.5 | 0.6 | 11.6 |
| 2003/04 | 49,420 | 85.3 | 2.1 | 0.3 | 12.3 |
| $2004 / 05$ | 48,394 | 84.3 | 2.0 | 0.3 | 13.4 |
| $2005 / 06$ | 47,274 | 83.0 | 2.3 | 0.3 | 14.4 |
| $2006 / 07$ | 44,639 | 80.7 | 2.8 | 0.3 | 16.2 |
| $2007 / 08$ | 43,868 | 79.6 | 3.0 | 0.3 | 17.1 |

## Tables

Table 7.2: Enrolment in Early and Late
French Immersion (2002/03-2007/08)

| School year | Total enrolment in French Immersion | Early French Immersion |  | Late French Immersion |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | n | \% | n | \% |
| 2002/03 | 5,690 | 3,980 | 69.9 | 1,710 | 30.1 |
| 2003/04 | 6,068 | 4,060 | 66.9 | 2,008 | 33.1 |
| 2004/05 | 6,477 | 4,258 | 65.7 | 2,219 | 34.3 |
| 2005/06 | 6,823 | 4,683 | 68.6 | 2,140 | 31.4 |
| 2006/07 | 7,222 | 4,697 | 65.0 | 2,525 | 35.0 |
| 2007/08 | 7,501 | 4,800 | 64.0 | 2,701 | 36.0 |
| \% change in enrolment (2002/03-2007/08) | 31.8 | 20.6 |  | 58.0 |  |

Table 8.1: Public examinations
(2002/03-2007/08)

| School year | Subjects with <br> public exams | Success <br> rate $^{1}(\%)$ | Average course <br> grade (\%) |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $2002 / 03$ | 12 | 85.4 | 64.2 |
| $2003 / 04$ | 13 | 88.2 | 65.6 |
| $2004 / 05$ | 13 | 90.2 | 66.1 |
| $2005 / 06$ | 14 | 89.7 | 65.9 |
| $2006 / 07$ | 13 | 90.2 | 66.8 |
| $2007 / 08$ | 14 | 90.3 | 67.1 |

${ }^{1}$ Percentage of students achieving at least $50 \%$ in public exam courses.

Table 8.2: Gender differences in public exam
courses (2002/03-2007/08)

|  | Success rate $^{\mathbf{1}}(\%)$ |  | Average course grade (\%) |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| School year | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| $2002 / 03$ | 83.0 | 87.4 | 63.0 | 65.3 |
| $2003 / 04$ | 86.1 | 89.9 | 64.1 | 66.8 |
| $2004 / 05$ | 88.9 | 91.3 | 65.0 | 67.0 |
| $2005 / 06$ | 87.9 | 91.3 | 64.6 | 66.9 |
| $2006 / 07$ | 88.1 | 91.9 | 65.3 | 68.1 |
| $2007 / 08$ | 88.9 | 91.4 | 66.1 | 68.0 |

[^6]Table 8.3: Student performance in social studies
courses (2007/08) - (a) District results

| District | Average course grade (\%) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | World History 3201 $(n=1,273)$ | World Geography 3202 $(n=2,998)$ | Histoire mondiale 3231 ( $\mathrm{n}=397$ ) |
| Labrador | 66.1 | 64.3 | 66.6 |
| Western | 65.2 | 67.8 | 69.1 |
| Nova Central | 66.8 | 68.1 | 67.3 |
| Eastern | 67.6 | 67.0 | 72.5 |
| Province | 67.3 | 67.3 | 72.1 |

Table 8.3: Student performance in social studies
courses (2007/08) - (b) Gender differences

\left.| Gender | Average course grade (\%) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |$\right]$

Table 8.4: Student performance in language
courses (2007/08) - (a) District results

| District | Average course grade (\%) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | French 3200 (Core) | Français 3202 (Immersion) ( $\mathrm{n}=448$ ) | $\begin{gathered} \text { English } 3201 \\ (n=4,454) \end{gathered}$ |
| Labrador | 72.3 | 68.8 | 64.8 |
| Western | 70.5 | 72.9 | 66.7 |
| Nova Central | 66.5 | 76.7 | 67.0 |
| Eastern | 70.8 | 71.8 | 66.9 |
| Province | 70.1 | 72.1 | 66.8 |

Table 8.4: Student performance in language courses (2007/08) - (b) Gender differences

\left.| Gender | Average course grade (\%) |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |$\right]$

## Tables

Table 8.5: Student performance in mathematics courses (2007/08) - (a) District results

|  | Average course grade (\%) |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |

Table 8.5: Student performance in mathematics
courses (2007/08) - (b) Gender differences

| Gender | Average course grade (\%) |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  | Mathematics 3204 (Academic) <br> $(\mathrm{n}=2,916)$ | Mathematics 3205 (Advanced) <br> $(\mathrm{n}=1,314)$ |
| Male | 59.4 | 78.7 |
| Female | 62.6 | 80.3 |

Table 8.6: Student performance in science
courses (2007/08) - (a) District results

| District | Average course grade (\%) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Biology } 3201 \\ (\mathrm{n}=3,248) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Chemistry } 3202 \\ (\mathrm{n}=1,959) \end{gathered}$ | Physics 3204 $(n=1,023)$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Earth Systems } 3209 \\ & \quad(\mathrm{n}=873) \end{aligned}$ |
| Labrador | 63.9 | 67.2 | 70.7 | - |
| Western | 63.4 | 67.6 | 73.0 | 60.9 |
| Nova Central | 66.4 | 70.1 | 71.4 | 60.1 |
| Eastern | 63.9 | 69.2 | 70.7 | 63.4 |
| Province | 64.3 | 69.0 | 71.3 | 62.8 |

Table 8.6: Student performance in science
courses (2007/08) - (b) Gender differences

| Gender | Average course grade (\%) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Biology } 3201 \\ (\mathrm{n}=3,248) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Chemistry } 3202 \\ (\mathrm{n}=1,959) \end{gathered}$ | Physics 3204 $(n=1,023)$ | Earth Systems 3209 ( $\mathrm{n}=873$ ) |
| Male | 62.3 | 68.7 | 70.0 | 63.7 |
| Female | 65.4 | 69.3 | 73.7 | 61.9 |

Table 8.7: Comparing student performance in
public examination courses (2006/07-2007/08)

| Course | 2006/07 |  | 2007/08 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | n | \% | n | \% |
| World History 3201 | 1,338 | 70.1 | 1,273 | 67.3 |
| World Geography 3202 | 3,147 | 66.9 | 2,998 | 67.3 |
| Histoire mondiale 3231 | 398 | 70.5 | 397 | 72.1 |
| French 3200 (Core) | 974 | 72.4 | 852 | 70.1 |
| Français 3202 (Immersion) | 443 | 70.6 | 448 | 72.1 |
| English 3201 | 4,544 | 64.2 | 4,454 | 66.8 |
| Mathematics 3204 (Academic) | 3,254 | 63.9 | 2,916 | 61.1 |
| Mathematics 3205 (Advanced) | 1,290 | 76.6 | 1,314 | 79.6 |
| Biology 3201 | 3,425 | 64.6 | 3,248 | 64.3 |
| Chemistry 3202 | 2,084 | 67.4 | 1,959 | 69.0 |
| Physics 3204 | 1,156 | 70.3 | 1,023 | 71.3 |
| Earth Systems 3209 | 797 | 63.5 | 873 | 62.8 |

Table 9.1: Provincial pass rate (2002/03-2006/07)

| School year | Pass Rate (\%) |
| :--- | :---: |
| $2002 / 03$ | 85.1 |
| $2003 / 04$ | 87.4 |
| $2004 / 05$ | 88.9 |
| $2005 / 06$ | 88.1 |
| $2006 / 07$ | 89.1 |
| $2007 / 08$ | 91.0 |



Table 9.2: District pass rate (2002/03-2007/08)

| School year | Labrador (\%) | Western (\%) | Nova Central (\%) | Eastern (\%) |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2002/03 | 79.6 | 85.6 | 86.3 | 85.4 |
| 2003/04 | 81.5 | 89.8 | 87.3 | 87.2 |
| 2004/05 | 85.7 | 90.1 | 88.3 | 89.3 |
| $2005 / 06$ | 81.6 | 87.1 | 89.9 | 88.3 |
| $2006 / 07$ | 84.4 | 88.3 | 90.8 | 88.8 |
| $2007 / 08$ | 87.6 | 91.8 | 92.0 | 90.5 |

Table 9.3: Gender and pass rate (2002/03-2007/08)

| School year | Male (\%) | Female (\%) | Difference (\%) |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $2002 / 03$ | 82.6 | 87.7 | -5.1 |
| $2003 / 04$ | 84.4 | 90.4 | -6.0 |
| $2004 / 05$ | 86.8 | 91.0 | -4.2 |
| $2005 / 06$ | 86.7 | 89.6 | -2.9 |
| $2006 / 07$ | 86.7 | 91.4 | -4.7 |
| $2007 / 08$ | 90.0 | 91.9 | -1.9 |


| Table 9.4: Graduation rates across <br> Canada (2005/06) |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Province | Graduation rate ${ }^{1}$ (\%) |
| Prince Edward Island | 86.0 |
| New Brunswick | 85.7 |
| Saskatchewan | 83.9 |
| Nova Scotia | 82.3 |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 79.4 |
| Quebec | 76.4 |
| Manitoba² | 74.6 |
| British Columbia |  |
| Canada | 73.9 |
| Ontario | 72.1 |
| Alberta | 70.4 |
| Yukon | 67.9 |
| Northwest Territories | 66.8 |
| Nunavut | 62.2 |

(Source: Blouin, 2008, p.27)

[^7]

Table 9.5: Gender difference in provincial graduation rate (2002/03-2006/07)

| School year | Male (\%) | Female (\%) | Province (\%) |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $2002 / 03$ | 72.6 | 81.0 | 76.7 |
| $2003 / 04$ | 72.7 | 82.7 | 77.6 |
| $2004 / 05$ | 74.0 | 84.6 | 79.2 |
| $2005 / 06$ | 75.3 | 81.3 | 78.2 |
| $2006 / 07$ | 76.7 | 84.4 | 80.5 |

Table 9.6: Percentage of students graduating with honours (2002/03-2007/08)

| District | 2002/03 | $2003 / 04$ | $2004 / 05$ | $2005 / 06$ | $2006 / 07$ | $2007 / 08$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Labrador | 19.9 | 25.5 | 15.2 | 16.5 | 14.5 | 20.0 |
| Western | 20.7 | 20.0 | 18.1 | 21.1 | 21.9 | 22.9 |
| Nova Central | 19.7 | 20.1 | 18.4 | 17.4 | 18.4 | 21.9 |
| Eastern | 20.8 | 24.1 | 24.8 | 24.0 | 25.9 | 27.6 |
| Province | 20.4 | 22.4 | 21.8 | 21.6 | 22.9 | 25.0 |

Table 9.7: Gender and diploma type
(2002/03-2007/08)

| School year | Boys |  | Girls |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | Number of diplomas | Honours (\%) | Number of diplomas | Honours (\%) |
| 2002/03 | 2,837 | 14.2 | 3,027 | 26.2 |
| $2003 / 04$ | 2,655 | 18.2 | 2,905 | 26.2 |
| $2004 / 05$ | 2,578 | 18.1 | 2,845 | 25.1 |
| $2005 / 06$ | 2,531 | 18.1 | 2,637 | 25.0 |
| $2006 / 07$ | 2,586 | 17.6 | 2,771 | 27.9 |
| $2007 / 08$ | 2,579 | 20.3 | 2,705 | 29.6 |


| Table 10.1: Difference in national and provincial drop out rates (1996 and 2006) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Province | Drop out rate (\%) |  | Difference between 2006 and 1996 |
|  | 1996 | 2006 |  |
| Canada | 13.4 | 9.5 | -3.9 |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 16.7 | 8.9 | -7.8 |
| Prince Edward Island | 14.4 | 8.9 | -5.5 |
| Nova Scotia | 15.4 | 8.5 | -6.9 |
| New Brunswick | 12.9 | 9.5 | -3.4 |
| Quebec | 16.5 | 11.4 | -5.1 |
| Ontario | 11.1 | 8.4 | -2.7 |
| Manitoba | 15.6 | 12.6 | -3.0 |
| Saskatchewan | 13.9 | 10.2 | -3.7 |
| Alberta | 13.8 | 11.3 | -2.5 |
| British Columbia | 12.2 | 7.4 | -4.8 |

(Source: Human Resources and Social Development Canada, 2008)
Note: Figures are based on a three-year moving average. Academic years are from September to April and are recorded to reflect the end of the academic period under examination (e.g., the average for 1993-1994 to 1995-1996 is recorded under 1996).

Table 10.2: Drop out rate in Ganada and Newfoundland and Labrador (1996-2006)

| Year | Canada (\%) | Newfoundland <br> \& Labrador (\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1996 | 13.4 | 16.7 |
| 1997 | 12.7 | 15.2 |
| 1998 | 12.3 | 15.4 |
| 1999 | 11.9 | 14.6 |
| 2000 | 11.7 | 14.2 |
| 2001 | 11.3 | 11.3 |
| 2002 | 11.1 | 9.5 |
| 2003 | 10.9 | 8.6 |
| 2004 | 10.4 | 8.3 |
| 2005 | 10.1 | 7.9 |
| 2006 | 9.5 | 8.9 |

(Source: Human Resources and Social Development Canada, 2008)
Note: Figures are based on a three-year moving average. Academic years are from September to April and are recorded to reflect the end of the academic period under examination (e.g., the average for 1993-1994 to 1995 -1996 is recorded under 1996).

Table 10.3: Urban and rural drop-out rates
(2005/06)

| Province | Urban (\%) |
| :--- | :---: |
| Canada | 8.8 |
| Rural (\%) |  |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 6.2 |
| Prince Edward Island | 8.2 |
| Nova Scotia | 7.0 |
| New Brunswick | 7.3 |
| Quebec | 10.5 |
| Ontario | 8.3 |
| Manitoba | 10.4 |
| Saskatchewan | 9.2 |
| Alberta | 10.0 |
| British Columbia | 6.9 |

(Source: Human Resources and Social Development Canada, 2008)
Note: Data are based on a four-year average for the academic years 2002/03 to 2005/06.

Table 12.1: Proficiency in ELA: Primary level (2006/071-2007/08²)

| Proficiency level |  | Reading |  | Writing |  | Listening |  | Speaking |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 2006/07 | 2007/08 | 2006/07 | 2007/08 | 2006/07 | 2007/08 | 2006/07 | 2007/08 |
|  | Level 1 | 10.1 | 6.8 | 2.5 | 2.3 | 5.9 | 5.8 | 1.8 | 0.8 |
|  | Level 2 | 29.1 | 30.9 | 22.9 | 25.0 | 30.1 | 23.9 | 12.6 | 14.9 |
|  | Level 3 | 47.6 | 48.5 | 56.3 | 56.5 | 40.6 | 53.7 | 56.5 | 55.4 |
|  | Level 4 | 12.0 | 12.3 | 15.6 | 14.1 | 20.5 | 14.3 | 23.7 | 22.7 |
|  | Level 5 | 1.3 | 1.7 | 2.6 | 2.2 | 3.0 | 2.3 | 5.5 | 6.2 |
|  | Levels 3-5 | 60.9 | 62.5 | 74.5 | 72.8 | 64.1 | 70.3 | 85.7 | 84.3 |

${ }^{1} n=4,975{ }^{2} \mathrm{n}=4,509$

Table 12.2: Performance on multiple choice questions: Primary level (2006/07-2007/08)

|  | Average percent correct |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Subtest | $2006 / 07$ <br> $(n=4,975)$ | $2007 / 08$ <br> $(n=4,509)$ |
| Reading | 89.7 | 88.6 |
| Listening | 92.1 | 85.5 |

## Tables

Table 12.3: Proficiency in ELA: District performance
(2007/08)

| Subtest | Percentage of students at or above level 3 proficiency |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

Table 12.4: Proficiency in ELA: Gender differences
(2007/08)

| Subtest | Percentage of students at or above level 3 proficiency |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |

Table 12.5: Performance on multiple choice questions
(2007/08) - (a) District results

| Subtest | Average percent correct |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Labrador <br> $(\mathrm{n}=224)$ | Western <br> $(\mathrm{n}=778)$ | Nova Central <br> $(\mathrm{n}=857)$ | Eastern <br> $(\mathrm{n}=2,583)$ | Province <br> $(\mathrm{n}=4,509)$ |
| Reading | 84.1 | 88.9 | 87.5 | 89.1 | 88.6 |
| Writing | 85.1 | 84.3 | 84.5 | 86.1 | 85.5 |

Table 12.5: Performance on multiple choice questions
(2007/08) - (b) Gender differences

| Subtest | Average percent correct |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Male | Female <br> $(\mathrm{n}=2,218)$ | Province <br> $(\mathrm{n}=4,509)$ |  |
| Reading | 86.7 | 90.4 | 88.6 |
| Listening | 85.2 | 85.7 | 85.5 |

Table 12.6: Proficiency in ELA: Elementary Ievel
(2006/071-2007/08²)

| Proficiency level |  | Reading |  | Writing |  | Listening |  | Speaking |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 2006/07 | 2007/08 | 2006/07 | 2007/08 | 2006/07 | 2007/08 | 2006/07 | 2007/08 |
|  | Level 1 | 6.2 | 2.3 | 1.8 | 0.8 | 12.4 | 7.5 | 1.5 | 1.2 |
|  | Level 2 | 31.6 | 17.0 | 22.1 | 14.2 | 29.1 | 29.9 | 18.6 | 12.2 |
|  | Level 3 | 52.1 | 66.3 | 64.8 | 70.2 | 49.3 | 53.8 | 52.0 | 58.4 |
|  | Level 4 | 9.0 | 13.4 | 10.6 | 13.6 | 8.2 | 8.2 | 22.6 | 24.4 |
|  | Level 5 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 0.7 | 1.3 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 5.4 | 3.8 |
|  | Levels 3-5 | 62.2 | 80.7 | 76.1 | 85.1 | 58.4 | 62.6 | 79.9 | 86.6 |

${ }^{1} n=5,326{ }^{2} n=5,274$

Table 12.7: Performance on multiple choice questions: Elementary level (2006/07-2007/08)

| Subtest | Average percent correct |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2006/07 <br> $(n=5,326)$ | $2007 / 08$ <br> $(n=5,274)$ |
| Reading | 78.0 | 84.9 |
| Listening | 92.3 | 91.0 |

Table 12.8: Proficiency in ELA: District performance
(2007/08)

| Subtest | Percentage of students at or above level 3 proficiency |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Labrador $(\mathrm{n}=272)$ | Western $(\mathrm{n}=935)$ | Nova Central ( $\mathrm{n}=929$ ) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Eastern } \\ & (\mathrm{n}=3,067) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Province } \\ & (\mathrm{n}=5,274) \end{aligned}$ |
| Reading | 79.8 | 78.9 | 78.1 | 81.9 | 80.7 |
| Writing | 78.6 | 80.5 | 80.5 | 88.1 | 85.1 |
| Listening | 56.8 | 65.7 | 56.1 | 63.7 | 62.6 |
| Speaking | 75.9 | 91.2 | 81.3 | 87.6 | 86.6 |

Table 12.9: Proficiency in ELA: Gender differences (2007/08)

| Subtest | Percentage of students at or above level 3 proficiency |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |

## Tables

Table 12.10: Performance on multiple choice questions (2007/08) - (a) District results

| Subtest | Average percent correct |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Labrador } \\ & (\mathrm{n}=272) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Western } \\ & (\mathrm{n}=935) \end{aligned}$ | Nova Central $(\mathrm{n}=929)$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Eastern } \\ & (\mathrm{n}=3,067) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Province } \\ & (\mathrm{n}=5,274) \end{aligned}$ |
| Reading | 83.2 | 83.9 | 84.1 | 85.4 | 84.9 |
| Listening | 87.3 | 90.7 | 90.0 | 91.6 | 91.0 |

Table 12.10: Performance on multiple choice
questions (2007/08) - (b) Gender differences

\left.| Subtest | Average percent correct |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |$\right]$


| Proficiency level |  | Reading |  | Writing |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 2006/07 | 2007/08 | 2006/07 | 2007/08 |
|  | Level 1 | 4.3 | 2.9 | 1.7 | 0.4 |
|  | Level 2 | 22.2 | 21.8 | 14.8 | 13.4 |
|  | Level 3 | 54.6 | 57.2 | 61.5 | 66.4 |
|  | Level 4 | 16.4 | 16.1 | 19.1 | 17.7 |
|  | Level 5 | 2.4 | 2.0 | 2.9 | 2.0 |
|  | Levels 3-5 | 73.4 | 75.3 | 83.5 | 86.2 |

${ }^{1} n=5,879^{2} n=5,352$


Table 12.12: Performance on multiple choice questions: Intermediate level (2006/07-2007/08)

| Subtest | Average percent correct |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  | $2006 / 07$ <br> $(n=5,879)$ | 2007/08 <br> $(\mathrm{n}=5,352)$ |
| Informational reading | 74.5 | 78.1 |
| Poetic reading | 79.4 | 77.2 |

Table 12.13: Proficiency in ELA: District performance and gender differences (2007/08) - (a) District results

\left.| Subtest | Percentage of students at or above level 3 proficiency |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |$\right]$

Table 12.13: Proficiency in ELA: District performance
and gender differences (2007/08) - (b) Gender differences

| Subtest | Percentage of students at or above level 3 proficiency |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Male <br> $(\mathbf{n}=2,637)$ | Female <br> $(n=2,715)$ | Province <br> $(n=5,352)$ |
| Reading | 67.0 | 83.3 | 75.3 |
| Listening | 78.9 | 93.2 | 86.2 |

Table 12.14: Performance on multiple choice questions: District
performance and gender differences (2007/08) - (a) District results

| Subtest | Average percent correct |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Labrador } \\ & (\mathrm{n}=236) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Western } \\ & (n=1,072) \end{aligned}$ | Nova Central $(\mathrm{n}=972)$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Eastern } \\ & (\mathrm{n}=3,002) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Province } \\ & (\mathrm{n}=5,352) \end{aligned}$ |
| Informational reading | 76.5 | 76.7 | 74.2 | 79.8 | 78.1 |
| Poetic reading | 76.6 | 77.4 | 74.1 | 78.0 | 77.2 |

Table 12.14: Performance on multiple choice questions: District performance and gender differences (2007/08) - (b) Gender differences

| Subtest | Average percent correct |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Male <br> $(\mathrm{n}=2,637)$ | Female <br> $(\mathrm{n}=2,715)$ | Province <br> $(\mathrm{n}=5,352)$ |
| Informational reading | 78.0 | 78.2 | 78.1 |
| Poetic reading | 75.6 | 78.7 | 77.2 |

Table 13.1: Proficiency in mathematics: Primary level (2006/071-2007/08²)

| Proficiency level |  | Reasoning |  | Communication |  | Connections \& Representations |  | Problem Solving |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 2006/07 | 2007/08 | 2006/07 | 2007/08 | 2006/07 | 2007/08 | 2006/07 | 2007/08 |
|  | Level 1 | 23.4 | 10.2 | 24.5 | 10.9 | 15.9 | 9.8 | 15.3 | 6.7 |
|  | Level 2 | 39.0 | 24.1 | 39.2 | 29.2 | 33.3 | 28.9 | 30.7 | 17.2 |
|  | Level 3 | 28.5 | 58.6 | 27.4 | 53.1 | 37.2 | 55.0 | 39.3 | 67.7 |
|  | Level 4 | 7.8 | 6.5 | 7.4 | 6.1 | 12.1 | 5.7 | 12.5 | 7.7 |
|  | Level 5 | 1.3 | 0.6 | 1.5 | 0.7 | 2.6 | 0.6 | 2.1 | 0.8 |
|  | Levels 3-5 | 37.6 | 65.7 | 36.3 | 59.9 | 51.8 | 61.3 | 54.0 | 76.1 |

${ }^{1} \mathrm{n}=4,975^{2} \mathrm{n}=4,987$

Table 13.2: Performance on multiple choice and
timed questions: Primary level (2006/07-2007/08)

| Type | Subtest | Average percent correct |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\begin{gathered} 2006 / 07 \\ (\mathrm{n}=4,975) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 2007 / 08 \\ (\mathrm{n}=4,987) \end{gathered}$ |
| Multiple Choice | Number Operations | 76.9 | 75.8 |
|  | Number Concepts | 70.8 | 75.6 |
|  | Shape and Space | 84.4 | 76.8 |
| Timed | Addition | 91.8 | 91.0 |
|  | Subtraction | 83.6 | 81.4 |

Table 13.3: Proficiency in mathematics: District performance and gender differences (2007/08) - (a) District performance

| Subtest | Percentage of students at or above level 3 proficiency |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Labrador <br> $(\mathrm{n}=273)$ | Western <br> $(\mathrm{n}=827)$ | Nova Central <br> $(\mathrm{n}=928)$ | Eastern <br> $(\mathrm{n}=2,893)$ | Province <br> $(\mathrm{n}=4,987)$ |
| Reasoning | 57.4 | 75.4 | 67.6 | 63.2 | 65.7 |
| Communication | 49.1 | 66.0 | 57.4 | 59.7 | 59.9 |
|  <br> Representations | 56.4 | 67.2 | 59.3 | 60.8 | 61.3 |
| Problem Solving | 73.2 | 84.3 | 77.6 | 73.3 | 76.1 |

Table 13.3: Proficiency in mathematics: District performance and gender differences (2007/08) - (b) Gender differences

| Subtest | Percentage of students at or above level 3 proficiency |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Male <br> $(\mathrm{n}=2,475)$ | Female <br> $(\mathrm{n}=2,512)$ | Province <br> $(\mathrm{n}=4,987)$ |
| Reasoning | 60.8 | 70.4 | 65.7 |
| Communication | 54.3 | 65.4 | 59.9 |
|  <br> Representations | 57.1 | 65.5 | 61.3 |
| Problem Solving | 72.7 | 79.5 | 76.1 |

Table 13.4: Performance on multiple choice and timed questions (2007/08) - (a) District results

| Type | Subtest | Average percent correct |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Labrador } \\ & (\mathrm{n}=273) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Western } \\ & (\mathrm{n}=827) \end{aligned}$ | Nova Central $(\mathrm{n}=928)$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Eastern } \\ & (\mathrm{n}=2,893) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Province } \\ & (\mathrm{n}=4,987) \end{aligned}$ |
| Multiple Choice | Number Operations | 71.7 | 79.3 | 74.2 | 75.5 | 75.8 |
|  | Number Concepts | 70.4 | 77.1 | 73.9 | 76.0 | 75.6 |
|  | Shape and Space | 73.9 | 80.4 | 75.1 | 76.6 | 76.9 |
| Timed | Addition | 91.3 | 91.9 | 89.2 | 91.2 | 90.9 |
|  | Subtraction | 81.2 | 80.5 | 79.6 | 81.6 | 81.1 |
|  | Multiplication | 85.7 | 81.8 | 76.8 | 82.4 | 81.4 |

Table 13.4: Performance on multiple choice and
timed questions (2007/08) - (b) Gender differences

\left.| Type |  | Average percent correct |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |$\right]$

Table 13.5: Proficiency in mathematics: Elementary level (2006/071-2007/082)

| Proficiency level |  | Reasoning |  | Communication |  | Connections \& Representations |  | Problem Solving |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 2006/07 | 2007/08 | 2006/07 | 2007/08 | 2006/07 | 2007/08 | 2006/07 | 2007/08 |
|  | Level 1 | 25.0 | 20.8 | 27.6 | 25.7 | 19.1 | 26.5 | 16.3 | 19.5 |
|  | Level 2 | 41.8 | 30.8 | 41.7 | 32.3 | 40.7 | 32.3 | 33.1 | 25.2 |
|  | Level 3 | 25.2 | 31.8 | 23.7 | 27.6 | 31.0 | 26.6 | 36.5 | 32.2 |
|  | Level 4 | 6.7 | 13.6 | 5.6 | 10.5 | 7.6 | 10.7 | 12.0 | 15.5 |
|  | Level 5 | 1.3 | 3.0 | 1.4 | 3.9 | 1.6 | 4.1 | 2.1 | 7.7 |
|  | Levels 3-5 | 33.2 | 48.4 | 30.7 | 42.0 | 40.2 | 41.4 | 50.6 | 55.4 |

[^8]| Table 13.6: Performance on multiple choice and mental <br> math questions: Elementary level (2006/07-2007/08) |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Subtest | Average percent correct |  | | 2006/07 |
| :---: |
| $(\mathrm{n}=5,327)$ |$\quad$| 2007/08 |
| :---: |
| $(\mathrm{n}=5,197)$ |

Table 13.7: Proficiency in mathematics: District performance and gender differences (2007/08) - (a) District results

| Subtest | Percentage of students at or above level 3 proficiency |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Labrador } \\ & (\mathrm{n}=267) \end{aligned}$ | Western $(\mathrm{n}=911)$ | Nova Central $\text { ( } \mathrm{n}=923 \text { ) }$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Eastern } \\ & (\mathrm{n}=3,024) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Province } \\ & (n=5,197) \end{aligned}$ |
| Reasoning | 47.9 | 48.9 | 53.3 | 46.5 | 48.4 |
| Communication | 46.0 | 45.3 | 45.8 | 39.4 | 42.0 |
| Connections \& Representations | 43.0 | 44.8 | 45.3 | 38.7 | 41.4 |
| Problem Solving | 63.4 | 58.4 | 56.8 | 52.9 | 55.4 |

Table 13.7: Proficiency in mathematics: District performance and gender differences (2007/08) - (b) Gender differences

| Subtest | Percentage of students at or above level 3 proficiency |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Male | Female <br> $(\mathrm{n}=2,535)$ | Province <br> $(\mathrm{n}=5,197)$ |  |
| Reasoning | 43.6 | 53.5 | 48.4 |
| Communication | 35.2 | 49.0 | 42.0 |
|  <br> Representations | 35.5 | 47.4 | 41.4 |
| Problem Solving | 50.0 | 60.8 | 55.4 |

Table 13.8: Performance on multiple choice and mental math questions (2007/08) - (a) District results

| Subtest | Average percent correct |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Labrador <br> $(\mathrm{n}=267)$ | Western <br> $(\mathrm{n}=267)$ | Nova Central <br> $(\mathrm{n}=923)$ | Eastern <br> $(\mathrm{n}=3,024)$ | Province <br> $(\mathrm{n}=5,197)$ |
| Number Operations | 81.6 | 79.6 | 76.5 | 77.2 | 77.8 |
| Number Concepts | 68.5 | 70.0 | 69.3 | 69.8 | 69.8 |
| Shape and Space | 60.0 | 59.6 | 61.0 | 58.3 | 59.2 |
| Mental Math | 61.7 | 70.2 | 73.7 | 68.1 | 69.5 |

Table 13.8: Performance on multiple choice and mental
math questions (2007/08) - (b) Gender differences

| Subtest | Average percent correct |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Male <br> $(\mathrm{n}=2,662)$ | Female <br> $(\mathrm{n}=2,535)$ | Province <br> $(\mathrm{n}=5,197)$ |
| Number Operations | 76.7 | 79.0 | 77.8 |
| Number Concepts | 70.4 | 69.3 | 69.8 |
| Shape and Space | 60.4 | 58.0 | 59.2 |
| Mental Math | 71.3 | 67.7 | 69.5 |

Table 13.9: Proficiency in mathematics: Intermediate
level (2006/07-2007/08)

| Subtest | Average percent correct |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{gathered} 2006 / 07 \\ (\mathrm{n}=5,705) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 2007 / 08 \\ (\mathrm{n}=5,055) \end{gathered}$ |
| Number Operations | 52.2 | 59.4 |
| Patterns and Relations | 49.8 | 60.3 |
| Number Concepts | 47.1 | 68.9 |
| Shape and Space | 63.0 | 55.1 |
| Data Management | 48.6 | 63.2 |

Table 13.10: Performance on the intermediate mathematics
assessment (2007/08) - (a) District results

| Subtest | Average percent correct |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Labrador <br> $(\mathrm{n}=\mathbf{2 2 8})$ | Western <br> $(\mathrm{n}=994)$ | Nova Central <br> $(\mathrm{n}=940)$ | Eastern <br> $(\mathrm{n}=2,822)$ | Province <br> $(\mathrm{n}=5,055)$ |
| Number Operations | 60.8 | 62.3 | 54.6 | 59.7 | 59.4 |
| Patterns and Relations | 59.9 | 63.4 | 56.6 | 60.3 | 60.3 |
| Number Concepts | 73.6 | 70.8 | 64.9 | 69.1 | 68.9 |
| Shape and Space | 56.8 | 57.7 | 53.5 | 54.6 | 55.1 |
| Data Management | 65.5 | 64.3 | 60.0 | 63.8 | 63.2 |

Table 13.10: Performance on the intermediate mathematics assessment (2007/08) - (b) Gender differences
$\left.\begin{array}{|l|c|c|c|}\hline \text { Subtest } & & \text { Average percent correct }\end{array}\right]$

## Tables

Table 14.1: Performance of Ganadian students in PISA (2003-2006)

|  | Reading |  | Mathematics |  | Science |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2003 | 2006 | 2003 | 2006 | 2003 | 2006 |
| Canadian average score | 528 | 527 | 532 | 527 | 519 | 534 |
| OECD average score | 494 | 491 | 500 | 498 | 500 | 500 |
| Countries performing significantly higher than Canada | Finland | Korea | Hong KongChina | Chinese Taipei | Finland | Finland |
|  | Korea | Finland | Finland | Finland | Japan | Hong KongChina |
|  |  | Hong KongChina |  | Hong KongChina | Hong KongChina |  |
|  |  |  |  | Korea | Korea |  |

Table 14.2: Performance of Newfoundland and
Labrador students in PISA (2003-2006)

| Subject | Assessment year | Average score | Standard error | 95\% Confidence Interval |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | Lower limit | Upper limit |
| Reading | 2003 | 520.9 | 3.2 | 514.6 | 527.2 |
|  | 2006 | 513.7 | 3.2 | 507.4 | 520.0 |
| Mathematics | 2003 | 516.6 | 2.5 | 511.7 | 521.5 |
|  | 2006 | 507.0 | 2.5 | 502.1 | 511.9 |
| Science | 2003 | 513.8 | 2.9 | 508.1 | 519.5 |
|  | 2006 | 525.5 | 2.5 | 520.6 | 530.4 |

Table 14.3: Mean reading scores across Canada
(PISA 2006)

|  |  | Average score | Standard error | 95\% Confidence Interval |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Lower limit |  | Upper limit |
| Significantly higher than NL | Alberta |  | 534.9 | 4.2 | 526.7 | 543.1 |
|  | Ontario | 534.3 | 4.6 | 525.3 | 543.3 |
|  | British Columbia | 527.9 | 5.7 | 516.7 | 539.1 |
| No significant difference | Canada | 527.0 | 2.4 | 522.3 | 531.7 |
|  | Quebec | 522.0 | 5.0 | 512.2 | 531.8 |
|  | Manitoba | 516.4 | 3.5 | 509.5 | 523.3 |
|  | Newfoundland and Labrador | 513.7 | 3.2 | 507.4 | 520.0 |
|  | Saskatchewan | 506.8 | 4.2 | 498.6 | 515.0 |
|  | Nova Scotia | 504.9 | 3.5 | 498.0 | 511.8 |
| Significantly lower than NL | New Brunswick | 497.2 | 2.3 | 492.7 | 501.7 |
|  | Prince Edward Island | 497.0 | 2.8 | 491.5 | 502.5 |

Table 14.4: Reading proficiency levels (PISA 2006)

| Province | Proficiency Level |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Below <br> Level 1 | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Level 4 | Level 5 |  |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 5.1 | 10.2 | 19.7 | 27.6 | 24.0 | 13.5 |  |
| Nova Scotia | 3.3 | 11.9 | 23.4 | 29.9 | 22.8 | 8.7 |  |
| New Brunswick | 5.1 | 11.3 | 24.8 | 30.5 | 21.2 | 7.1 |  |
| Prince Edward Island | 7.0 | 11.7 | 23.1 | 27.1 | 20.9 | 10.1 |  |
| Quebec | 4.7 | 8.6 | 17.6 | 28.0 | 25.9 | 15.1 |  |
| Ontario | 2.3 | 6.1 | 17.1 | 30.6 | 29.3 | 14.7 |  |
| Manitoba | 3.7 | 9.2 | 20.6 | 30.1 | 24.7 | 11.6 |  |
| Saskatchewan | 5.8 | 10.7 | 20.4 | 29.3 | 22.1 | 11.8 |  |
| Alberta | 1.7 | 6.6 | 18.1 | 29.7 | 28.2 | 15.6 |  |
| British Columbia | 4.1 | 8.0 | 17.3 | 27.8 | 26.6 | 16.2 |  |
| Canada | 3.4 | 7.6 | 18.0 | 29.4 | 27.2 | 14.5 |  |

Table 14.5: Mean mathematics scores
across Canada (PISA 2006)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |



## Tables

Table 14.6: Mathematical proficiency
levels (PISA 2006)

| Province | Proficiency Level |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Below <br> Level 1 | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Level 4 | Level 5 | Level 6 |  |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 3.4 | 11.9 | 23.6 | 27.3 | 22.0 | 9.8 | 2.0 |  |
| Nova Scotia | 3.4 | 12.0 | 22.9 | 28.8 | 22.0 | 8.8 | 2.2 |  |
| New Brunswick | 3.8 | 11.2 | 23.8 | 28.6 | 21.4 | 9.3 | 1.9 |  |
| Prince Edward Island | 4.5 | 12.8 | 24.0 | 27.6 | 20.7 | 8.6 | 1.8 |  |
| Quebec | 3.4 | 7.0 | 14.9 | 25.4 | 25.1 | 16.4 | 7.9 |  |
| Ontario | 2.3 | 7.9 | 19.1 | 27.8 | 26.0 | 13.4 | 3.3 |  |
| Manitoba | 3.5 | 9.5 | 18.5 | 28.0 | 25.2 | 11.7 | 3.7 |  |
| Saskatchewan | 4.9 | 10.1 | 22.1 | 28.3 | 23.0 | 9.7 | 1.9 |  |
| Alberta | 2.3 | 7.0 | 19.0 | 28.3 | 25.3 | 13.7 | 4.4 |  |
| British Columbia | 2.3 | 8.6 | 20.6 | 27.9 | 24.6 | 12.7 | 3.3 |  |
| Canada | 2.8 | 8.1 | 18.7 | 27.4 | 25.1 | 13.6 | 4.4 |  |

Table 14.7: Mean science scores across Canada
(PISA 2006)

|  |  | Average score | Standard error | 95\% Confidence Interval |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Lower limit |  | Upper limit |
| Significantly higher than NL | Alberta |  | 550.3 | 3.8 | 542.9 | 557.7 |
|  | Ontario | 537.0 | 4.2 | 528.8 | 545.2 |
|  | British Columbia | 538.6 | 4.7 | 529.4 | 547.8 |
|  | Canada | 534.5 | 2.0 | 530.6 | 538.4 |
| No significant difference | Quebec | 530.6 | 4.2 | 522.4 | 538.8 |
|  | Newfoundland and Labrador | 525.5 | 2.5 | 520.6 | 530.4 |
|  | Manitoba | 523.4 | 3.2 | 517.1 | 529.7 |
|  | Nova Scotia | 520.1 | 2.5 | 515.2 | 525.0 |
| Significantly lower than NL | Saskatchewan | 516.5 | 3.6 | 509.4 | 523.6 |
|  | Prince Edward Island | 508.8 | 2.7 | 503.5 | 514.1 |
|  | New Brunswick | 506.1 | 2.3 | 501.6 | 510.6 |

Table 14.8: Proficiency in science across
Canada (PISA 2006)

| Province | Proficiency Level |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Below <br> Level 1 | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Level 4 | Level 5 | Level 6 |  |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 2.2 | 9.8 | 21.3 | 28.9 | 24.3 | 11.6 | 1.9 |  |
| Nova Scotia | 2.0 | 9.9 | 22.6 | 30.9 | 24.5 | 8.6 | 1.6 |  |
| New Brunswick | 3.3 | 12.0 | 26.0 | 29.2 | 21.5 | 6.7 | 1.2 |  |
| Prince Edward Island | 3.9 | 12.1 | 23.8 | 29.1 | 21.3 | 8.1 | 1.6 |  |
| Quebec | 3.2 | 8.1 | 19.3 | 28.8 | 26.3 | 11.9 | 2.4 |  |
| Ontario | 1.9 | 7.6 | 18.5 | 28.5 | 29.3 | 11.8 | 2.4 |  |
| Manitoba | 2.8 | 9.7 | 19.3 | 32.0 | 23.8 | 10.5 | 1.9 |  |
| Saskatchewan | 2.2 | 7.8 | 19.1 | 28.8 | 27.7 | 12.0 | 2.4 |  |
| Alberta | 0.8 | 5.4 | 17.3 | 29.2 | 29.0 | 14.8 | 3.5 |  |
| British Columbia | 1.0 | 7.2 | 18.6 | 28.1 | 28.3 | 13.7 | 2.3 |  |
| Canada | 2.2 | 7.8 | 19.1 | 28.8 | 27.7 | 12.0 | 2.4 |  |

Table 14.9: Mean scores on the science sub-domains
(PISA 2006) - (a) Identifying scientific issues

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

Table 14.9: Mean scores on the science sub-domains
(PISA 2006) - (b) Explaining phenomena scientifically

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

Table 14.9: Mean scores on the science sub-domains
(PISA 2006) - (c) Using scientific evidence

|  |  | Average score | Standard error | 95\% Confidence Interval |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Lower limit |  | Upper limit |
| Significantly higher than NL | Alberta |  | 552.3 | 4.1 | 544.3 | 560.3 |
|  | Ontario | 545.6 | 4.4 | 537.0 | 554.2 |
|  | Canada | 541.5 | 2.2 | 537.2 | 545.8 |
| No significant difference | Quebec | 541.6 | 4.7 | 532.4 | 550.8 |
|  | British Columbia | 540.7 | 5.1 | 530.7 | 550.7 |
|  | Newfoundland and Labrador | 532.5 | 2.9 | 526.8 | 538.2 |
|  | Manitoba | 530.0 | 3.4 | 523.3 | 536.7 |
| Significantly lower than NL | Nova Scotia | 524.0 | 2.4 | 519.3 | 528.7 |
|  | Saskatchewan | 517.0 | 3.7 | 509.7 | 524.3 |
|  | New Brunswick | 511.1 | 2.4 | 506.4 | 515.8 |
|  | Prince Edward Island | 508.8 | 2.7 | 503.5 | 514.1 |

Table 14.10: Gender differences in Newfoundland
and Labrador (PISA 2006) - (a) Major domains

|  |  | Gender | Average score | Standard error | 95\% Confidence Interval |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Lower limit |  |  | Upper limit |
| Girls outperformed boys | Reading |  | Boys | 482.8 | 4.4 | 474.2 | 491.4 |
|  |  | Girls | 541.6 | 3.6 | 534.5 | 548.7 |
|  | Science | Boys | 519.1 | 3.8 | 511.7 | 526.5 |
|  |  | Girls | 531.3 | 3.1 | 525.2 | 537.4 |
| Boys outperformed girls | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| No gender difference | Mathematics | Boys | 508.9 | 3.8 | 501.5 | 516.3 |
|  |  | Girls | 505.3 | 3.1 | 499.2 | 511.4 |

## Tables

Table 14.10: Gender differences in Newfoundland
and Labrador (PISA 2006) - (b) Science sub-domains

|  |  | Gender | Average score | Standard error | 95\% Confidence Interval |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Lower limit |  |  | Upper limit |
| Girls outperformed boys | Identifying scientific issues |  | Boys | 508.0 | 4.0 | 500.2 | 515.8 |
|  |  | Girls | 541.0 | 3.8 | 533.6 | 548.4 |
|  | Using scientific evidence | Boys | 524.0 | 4.4 | 515.4 | 532.6 |
|  |  | Girls | 540.0 | 3.5 | 533.1 | 546.9 |
| Boys outperformed girls | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| No gender difference | Explaining phenomena scientifically | Boys | 520.0 | 4.4 | 511.4 | 528.6 |
|  |  | Girls | 517.0 | 3.7 | 509.7 | 524.3 |

Table 14.11: Gender differences across Ganada
(PISA 2006) - (a) Major domains

|  | Girls outperformed boys | Boys outperformed girls | No gender difference |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Reading | Canada and all <br> other provinces |  |  |
| Science | Newfoundland <br> and Labrador | Canada and all <br> other provinces |  |
| Mathematics | Nova Scotia |  |  |
|  | New Brunswick <br> Quebec | Newfoundland and Labrador |  |
| Ontario |  |  |  |
| Manitoba | Prince Edward Island |  |  |
| Alberta | Saskatchewan |  |  |

Table 14.11: Gender differences across Canada
(PISA 2006) - (b) Science sub-domains

|  | Girls outperformed boys | Boys outperformed girls | No gender difference |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Identifying <br> scientific issues | Newfoundland and Labrador <br> Saskatchewan | Canada and all <br> other provinces |  |
| Using scientific <br> evidence | Canada and all <br> 0ther provinces |  |  |


|  | Prince Edward Island |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | Nova Scotia |  |
|  | New Brunswick |  |
| Explaining | Quebec | Newfoundland and Labrador |
| phenomena | Ontario | Saskatchewan |
| scientifically | Manitoba |  |
|  | Alberta |  |
|  | British Columbia |  |
|  | Canada |  |

Table 15.1: Average scores in the reading assessment
(PCAP 2007) - (a) Reading

|  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

## Tables

Table 15.1: Average scores in the reading assessment
(PCAP 2007) - (b) Comprehension

|  |  | Average score | 95\% Confidence Interval |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Lower limit | Upper limit |
| Significantly higher than NL | Quebec |  | 525.0 | 519.4 | 530.6 |
|  | Canada | 500.0 | 497.7 | 502.3 |
|  | Ontario | 498.0 | 493.4 | 502.6 |
|  | Alberta | 493.0 | 489.0 | 497.0 |
|  | British Columbia | 489.0 | 484.4 | 493.6 |
|  | Nova Scotia | 481.0 | 476.6 | 485.4 |
|  | Manitoba | 480.0 | 475.7 | 484.3 |
|  | Saskatchewan | 480.0 | 475.6 | 484.4 |
| No significant difference | New Brunswick | 474.0 | 470.8 | 477.2 |
|  | Prince Edward Island | 474.0 | 469.8 | 478.2 |
|  | Newfoundland and Labrador | 465.0 | 460.8 | 469.2 |

Table 15.1: Average scores in the reading assessment
(PCAP 2007) - (c) Interpretation

|  |  | Average score | 95\% Confidence Interval |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Lower limit | Upper limit |
| Significantly higher than NL | Quebec |  | 526.0 | 520.6 | 531.4 |
|  | Ontario | 503.0 | 498.3 | 507.7 |
|  | Canada | 500.0 | 497.7 | 502.3 |
|  | Alberta | 491.0 | 486.9 | 495.1 |
|  | British Columbia | 486.0 | 481.0 | 491.0 |
| No significant difference | Manitoba | 472.0 | 467.8 | 476.2 |
|  | Newfoundland and Labrador | 469.0 | 464.4 | 473.6 |
|  | Saskatchewan | 469.0 | 465.0 | 473.0 |
|  | Nova Scotia | 468.0 | 463.9 | 472.1 |
|  | New Brunswick | 462.0 | 459.0 | 465.0 |
| Significantly lower than NL | Prince Edward Island | 458.0 | 454.0 | 462.0 |

Table 15.1: Average scores in the reading assessment
(PCAP 2007) - (d) Response to text

|  |  | Average score | 95\% Confidence Interval |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Lower limit | Upper limit |
| Significantly higher than NL | Quebec |  | 517.0 | 511.6 | 522.4 |
|  | Ontario | 505.0 | 500.5 | 509.5 |
|  | Canada | 500.0 | 497.7 | 502.3 |
|  | Alberta | 494.0 | 489.7 | 498.3 |
|  | British Columbia | 489.0 | 484.1 | 493.9 |
| No significant difference | Manitoba | 473.0 | 468.4 | 477.6 |
|  | Saskatchewan | 471.0 | 467.3 | 474.7 |
|  | Newfoundland and Labrador | 470.0 | 464.8 | 475.2 |
|  | Nova Scotia | 470.0 | 466.0 | 474.0 |
|  | New Brunswick | 466.0 | 463.0 | 469.0 |
| Significantly lower than NL | Prince Edward Island | 459.0 | 455.1 | 462.9 |

Table 15.2: Reading proficiency levels across Canada
(PCAP 2007)

| Province/Territory | \% of students at each proficiency level |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Level 1 | Level 2 |  |
| British Columbia | 12.9 | 71.0 |  |
| Alberta | 11.1 | 72.4 |  |
| Saskatchewan | 14.4 | 76.5 |  |
| Manitoba | 16.5 | 70.5 |  |
| Ontario | 10.6 | 67.1 |  |
| Quebec | 10.0 | 55.6 |  |
| New Brunswick | 18.8 | 69.4 |  |
| Nova Scotia | 16.4 | 71.9 |  |
| Prince Edward Island | 19.0 | 70.2 |  |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 19.3 | 68.4 |  |
| Yukon | 17.9 | 63.8 |  |
| Canada | 11.6 | 66.1 |  |

## Tables

Table 15.3: Gender difference in the reading
assessment (PCAP 2007)

| Province/Territory | Gender | Average score | 95\% Confidence Interval |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Lower limit | Upper limit |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | Male | 451.0 | 445.0 | 457.0 |
|  | Female | 485.0 | 477.6 | 492.4 |
| Nova Scotia | Male | 463.0 | 456.4 | 469.6 |
|  | Female | 484.0 | 478.3 | 489.7 |
| New Brunswick | Male | 450.0 | 445.8 | 454.2 |
|  | Female | 478.0 | 473.7 | 482.3 |
| Prince Edward Island | Male | 458.0 | 452.3 | 463.7 |
|  | Female | 481.0 | 475.8 | 486.2 |
| Quebec | Male | 512.0 | 503.9 | 520.1 |
|  | Female | 544.0 | 536.3 | 551.7 |
| Ontario | Male | 492.0 | 486.3 | 497.7 |
|  | Female | 513.0 | 506.4 | 519.6 |
| Manitoba | Male | 465.0 | 459.9 | 470.1 |
|  | Female | 482.0 | 476.3 | 487.7 |
| Saskatchewan | Male | 465.0 | 460.3 | 469.7 |
|  | Female | 481.0 | 475.5 | 486.5 |
| Alberta | Male | 482.0 | 476.4 | 487.6 |
|  | Female | 502.0 | 496.2 | 507.8 |
| British Columbia | Male | 481.0 | 481.0 | 487.1 |
|  | Female | 496.0 | 496.0 | 501.8 |
| Yukon | Male | 473.0 | 473.0 | 486.0 |
|  | Female | 499.0 | 499.0 | 512.2 |
| Canada | Male | 490.0 | 490.0 | 490.0 |
|  | Female | 513.0 | 513.0 | 516.1 |

Table 15.4: Average scores in the mathematics
assessment (PCAP 2007)

|  |  | Average score | 95\% Confidence Interval |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Lower limit | Upper limit |
| Significantly higher than NL | Quebec |  | 517.0 | 509.7 | 524.3 |
|  | Ontario | 506.0 | 500.3 | 511.7 |
|  | Canada | 500.0 | 496.6 | 503.4 |
|  | Alberta | 499.0 | 492.3 | 505.7 |
| No significant difference | British Columbia | 484.0 | 477.5 | 490.5 |
|  | Manitoba | 479.0 | 472.8 | 485.2 |
| Significantly lower than NL | Newfoundland and Labrador | 478.0 | 470.1 | 485.9 |
|  | New Brunswick | 461.0 | 455.7 | 466.3 |
|  | Saskatchewan | 461.0 | 454.6 | 467.4 |
|  | Nova Scotia | 457.0 | 450.8 | 463.2 |
|  | Prince Edward Island | 450.0 | 443.4 | 456.6 |



Table 15.5: Average scores in the science assessment (PCAP 2007)

|  |  | Average score | 95\% Confidence Interval |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Lower limit | Upper limit |
| Significantly higher than NL | Alberta |  | 524.0 | 517.5 | 530.5 |
|  | Quebec | 511.0 | 503.9 | 518.1 |
|  | Canada | 500.0 | 496.9 | 503.1 |
|  | Ontario | 499.0 | 493.6 | 504.4 |
| No significant difference | British Columbia | 488.0 | 481.7 | 494.3 |
|  | Newfoundland and Labrador | 485.0 | 477.4 | 492.6 |
| Significantly lower than NL | Nova Scotia | 480.0 | 474.5 | 485.5 |
|  | Saskatchewan | 480.0 | 473.5 | 486.5 |
|  | Manitoba | 476.0 | 470.3 | 481.7 |
|  | New Brunswick | 465.0 | 460.1 | 469.9 |
|  | Prince Edward Island | 464.0 | 456.2 | 471.8 |

## Description of Indicators

District ID identifies the school district.
1 Labrador
2 Western
3 Nova Central
4 Eastern
5 Conseil scolaire francophone provincial

803 Private schools
804 First Nations schools
902 NL School for the Deaf
903 NL Youth Centre
School ID is a 3-digit unique identifier for each school.

Rural identifies schools located in rural communities (i.e., those with a population of less than 5,000 residents).

School/community is the name of the school and the community in which it is located.

Grades offered is the grades in which students are enrolled in the school.

Enrolment is the headcount enrolment in the school.

School size groups schools based on total school enrolment. Schools are grouped into one of six categories (less than 50 students, 50-99, 100-199, 200299, 300-399 or 400 or more students).
$\mathrm{K}-9$ average class size is the average size of all homeroom classes in K-6 and the Language Arts classes in Grades 7-9.

Distance education indicates whether a school offers high school courses using distance education.

French Immersion indicates if a school offers a French immersion program, either early or late immersion.

Average students per grade is the enrolment divided by the number of grades. This indicator is one measure of school size.

## Full-time equivalent (FTE) teachers

is the headcount of full-time teachers, plus part-time teachers according to the percent of allocated unit. Teacher is a generic term used in this document to refer to regular classroom teachers, principals, vice-principals, guidance counsellors, special services personnel, itinerant teachers, and other schoolbased educators.

## Average years teaching experience

is the average number of years that teachers have been teaching in the school system.

## Percentage of teachers above

 Level 5 certificate is the percentage of teachers that have Level 6 or more on a 7 level scale.Primary Language Arts is the percentage of grade 3 students achieving at or above the provincial standard in the reading and writing assessment.

## Elementary Language Arts

 is the percentage of grade 6 students achieving at or above the provincial standard in the reading and writing assessment.
## Intermediate Language Arts

 is the percentage of grade 9 students achieving at or above the provincial standard in the reading and writing assessment.Primary Mathematics is the average score achieved by grade 3 students in the mathematics assessment on the multiple choice questions and those achieving at or above the provincial standard (rubric).

- Multiple choice includes Number Operations (10 items), Number Concepts (8 items), and Shape \& Space (6 items)
- Rubric includes Reasoning, Communication, Connections \& Representations, and Problem Solving

Elementary Mathematics is the average score achieved by grade 6 students in the mathematics assessment on the multiple choice questions and those achieving at or above the provincial standard (rubric).

- Multiple choice includes Number Operations (10 items), Number Concepts (7 items), and Shape \& Space (6 items)
- Rubric includes Reasoning, Communication, Connections \& Representations, and Problem Solving

Intermediate Mathematics is the overall multiple choice average score for grade 9 students on the mathematics assessment. This includes Number Concepts (4 items), Number Operations (9 items), Patterns \& Relations (4 items), Shape \& Space (10 items), and Data Management \& Probability (4 items).

## Number of high school (HS) courses offered

 is the total number of high school courses (i.e., Levels I-IV) offered by each school.
## Average school mark on public exam

 courses is the average mark awarded by the school before adjustment, on all public examination courses.
## Average public exam mark on public

 examinations is the public examination average mark on all public examination courses.Average final mark in English 3201 is the final mark average where the final mark is a 50-50 blend between the school mark (after adjustment) and the public exam mark.

## Percent taking Mathematics 3205 (Advanced)

is the ratio of students taking Level III advanced mathematics to the total students taking all Level III mathematics courses in June 2008.

## Average final mark in Mathematics 3205

(Advanced) is the final mark average where the final mark is a $50-50$ blend between the school mark (after adjustment) and the public exam mark.

Pass rate is defined by the ratio of total graduates to the total of students who are eligible to graduate in June 2008. A graduate is a student who has satisfied the graduation requirements, and includes those who passed supplementary examinations. An eligible graduate is defined as a student who is attempting sufficient and appropriate credits to graduate.

Graduates - Honours is the percentage of students attaining the minimum average of $80 \%$ using 10 credits in Level III academic and/or advanced courses. At least two credits must be selected from each of English, mathematics, science, and social studies or French.

Graduates - Academic is the percentage of students attaining the same course criteria as for honours status but with a minimum of $50 \%$ in each of the required courses.

Graduates - General is the percentage of students attaining the minimum graduation requirements, but did not meet the requirements for either honours or academic status.

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## INDICATORS 2008

A REPORT ON SCHOOLS

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[^0]:    2 This refers to the head count of full-time teachers, that is, those employed as $100 \%$ of an allocated unit, plus part-time teachers according to the percent of an allocated unit. Teachers who are employed less than full-time are counted in accordance with the percentage employed. In other words, a teacher who is employed in a $75 \%$ position is counted as 0.75 of a full-time equivalent teacher.

    3 The number of FTE positions may differ from the number of allocated units due to such factors as teacher vacancies

[^1]:    (Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

[^2]:    ${ }^{6}$ The percentages are based on the total number of students in a French program in a given year. For example, in 2002/03, 49,152 students were studying French. Of these, $86.3 \%$ were following the core French program, $11.6 \%$ were in French immersion (early or late), $1.5 \%$ in intensive core French and $0.6 \%$ in expanded core French.

[^3]:    7 The percentages are based on the total number of French immersion students in a given year. For example, in 2002/03, there were 5,690 French immersion students. Of these, approximately $70 \%$ were in the early French immersion program and 30\%

[^4]:    ${ }^{9}$ This is the most recent information released by Statistics Canada.

[^5]:    11 The 2007/08 CRT included a section assessing student ability in multiplication. However, this was not included in the 2006/07 CRT.

[^6]:    ${ }^{1}$ Percentage of students achieving at least $50 \%$ in public exam courses.

[^7]:    ${ }^{1}$ The number of graduates is as of the end of a school year while the population estimates are as of July 1 of the corresponding school year. Late graduates are included in the calculations while graduates from private schools, are not.
    ${ }^{2}$ Historical revisions have been made to this table to exclude students that graduated from adult learning centres registered under the Adult Learning Centres Act, effective July 2001.
    ${ }^{3}$ The graduation rate in the final year is slightly understated because some schools have not submitted course information before the data collection cutoff for this report.
    ${ }^{4}$ Data exclude publicly funded hospital and provincial schools, care, treatment and correctional facilities.

[^8]:    $n=5,327^{2} n=5,197$

