

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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Age calculations	Unless otherwise cited, age is as of December 31 of the reporting year: for students, the age is truncated (e.g. 5.4 becomes 5); for teachers, the age is not truncated (e.g., for 1989, i.e. the school year 1989-90, a teacher born on June 2, 1961 would be 28.6 years old. This figure is then rounded to the nearest integer, in this case, 29. However, when computing median age and average age, no rounding is done).
Allocations	The number of staffing units allocated to school districts in accordance with <i>The Schools Act (Teachers' Staffing) Regulations</i> .
Canadian Tests of Basic Skills (CTBS)	A norm-referenced, standardized test that measures student performance in several basic skill areas.
Certificate of grade	Certificate of grade, or license issued under the authority of <i>The Education (Teacher Training) Act</i> .
Composite Score	The average score calculated based on a number of subtest scores.
French Programs	<p>Core French Program - program of instruction in which students study the various aspects of French Language during a regularly scheduled time slot for other subject areas.</p> <p>Expanded Core French Program - program of instruction in which students study the Core French program, plus at least one other complete subject where content and instruction are given entirely in French.</p> <p>French First Language Program - program for children of Francophone parents in which French is the language of instruction in the classroom for all or most of the subject areas, and the means of communication in the school environment.</p> <p>French Immersion Program - program designed for English-speaking students in which French is the language of instruction in the classroom for all or some of the subject areas, and as much as possible, the means of communication in the school environment.</p> <p>Early French Immersion Program - program from Kindergarten to Grade 12, beginning at the Kindergarten level with approximately 100 percent of instruction in French. With the introduction of Language Arts and other subjects in English, the percentage of instructional time in French decreases as students progress through the various grades.</p> <p>Late French Immersion Program - program from Grade 7 to 12 with approximately 70 percent instruction in French in Grades 7 and 8. The percentage of instructional time in French decreases as students progress through the varying grade levels.</p>
Full-time equivalent enrolment	Kindergarten at 50%; headcount for all other grades and programs.
Full-time equivalent teacher	Headcount of full-time teachers, plus part-time teachers according to the percent of allocated unit.
Full-time teacher	Teacher assigned 100% of an allocated unit.
Grade equivalent (GE)	A description of student performance on the Canadian Tests of Basic Skills in terms of the approximate grade level at which the performance would be average.
Graduate	A student who has satisfied graduation requirements (The attainment of 36 credits in a three year Senior High School Program).
Graduation	The attainment of 8 credits in Language Arts, 12 credits in Mathematics/Science/Technology, 4 credits in Social Studies, 2 credits in Enterprise/Economic Education, 4 credits in personal development and an overall 36 credits; at least 20 of the total credits obtained must be beyond Level 1 and at least 9 of the obtained credits must be beyond Level 2 and be attained in the Newfoundland Senior High School

Program.

Graduation rate	The number of graduates for a given age group compared to the total population for that same age group. The graduation rate is calculated by taking the sum of age-specific ratios ([number of graduates aged 15 divided by the population aged 15] + [number of graduates aged 16 divided by the population aged 16] .. + [number of graduates aged 19 to 24 divided by the population aged 19]).
License	Similar to Permit . However a licence is issued for one year only.
Percentile rank (PR)	Term used to describe student performance on standardized tests relative to a nation-wide norming group. The PR refers to the percentage of the norming group that scored lower on the test (sometimes referred to as national percentile rank - NPR).
Norm-referenced test	A test that produces a score that defines performance in terms of an individual's standing relative to a norming group (e.g., CTBS).
Norming group	A large representative group of individuals who complete a test and on whose scores the test is standardized. Performance of students or groups of students is expressed relative to the performance of this norming group. For example, the 50th percentile means that 50% of students in the norming group scored lower on the test.
Part-time teacher	Teacher assigned less than 100% of an allocated unit.
Participation rate	Ratio, for a given year, of secondary school enrolment of a specific age group to the population of the same age group that has not already graduated from school. (Note: This rate is based on enrolment as of September 30 for a given year.)
Permit	Restricted certificate issued to teachers who have not completed a teacher training program but who have at least four years of university study in certain approved subject areas.
Point on salary scale	Years of service approved for teacher salary purposes in accordance with the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers Association Collective Agreement.
Private candidate	Candidate registered in the Senior High School Program and for school level examinations in regular level 3 courses who is not attending any regular school.
Private school	An institution, that is not a public school, at which instruction is provided during the school day for students who are of or over the compulsory school age in the courses of study approved by the Minister.
Public school	School operated by a School Board and receiving grants from public funds of the Province provided for education.
Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) (Provincial)	This measure is defined as enrolment (full-time equivalencies) divided by the number of teachers (full-time equivalencies). The term teacher represents all school-based and district-based educators: classroom teachers, vice principals, principals, guidance counsellors, special education teachers, itinerant teachers, education psychologists, speech pathologists and other specialist teachers. Directors, assistant directors, program specialists and other district administrative personnel are excluded.
School	The body of public school students that is organized as a unit for educational purposes under the jurisdiction of a School Board and includes the teachers and other staff members associated with the unit and the lands and premises used in connection with the unit.
School District	School district created or constituted by the provisions of <i>The Schools Act</i> , or a school district created by the provisions of this Act, whether as originally created or after an alteration of its boundaries. (Note: New legislation, introduced in 1996, reduced the number of school districts to 10 from 27. The new Schools Act and Education Act came into effect January 3, 1997. In addition, amendments were made to the Schools Act in May, 1997 to establish a Conseil scolaire francophone provincial de Terre-Neuve et du Labrador, increasing the number of school districts to 11.)

Senior high school program	Final three years of study in a thirteen-year, Kindergarten to Grade 12 education. The program is structured on a course credit basis entailing the accumulation of three or more years culminating in the acquisition of the Senior High School Graduation Diploma.
Special Education	<p>Change in reporting - Prior to 1989-90, all students receiving special education services were reported under the category "Special Education" and not under their grade levels. Since 1989-90, most students are reported in their home-based classroom even if they are receiving special education services. Students who are severely mentally/physically/visually/hearing impaired are reported separately even when they are assigned to grade/subject classrooms.</p> <p>Policy - The Special Education Policy Manual encourages school districts to offer a wide range of services in a variety of settings determined to be appropriate to meet student needs. The model of service delivery proposed by the Department of Education encourages the provision of specialized instruction in all appropriate settings. The view is that most students should begin their formal education in grade level classroom settings with support services provided when necessary (see Special Education Policy Manual, Policy 2.A.4).</p>
Standardized testing	The process of using uniform tests to compare achievement.
Student	A person enrolled in a school.
Student assistant	A person who provides support services including personal care, portering, lifting, and behaviour management to students. Work involves assisting the teacher in providing the student with access to educational activities as indicated in the individual program plan.
Subtest	One of several smaller tests on specific areas subsumed under the Canadian Tests of Basic Skills.
Teacher	A professional employed by a school district who holds a teaching certificate/licence and delivers educational, administrative and/or special services to students, excluding directors, assistant directors, and program specialists.
Teacher-Pupil Ratio (TPR)	Ratio of full-time equivalent teachers/educators to 1000 pupils.
Urban	See Appendix.