

Nova Scotia Assessments and Examinations

Results for Students with Mi'kmaq or other Indigenous Ancestry and Students of African Descent



About assessments and examinations

Nova Scotia teachers work with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to develop, score and set the expectation on assessments and examinations. The expectation is what students should know and do independently at the time of year of administration. All items and texts on assessments and exams are based on the Nova Scotia curriculum.

Students in Grade 6 write Nova Scotia Assessments in September/October. Students in Grade 3 and 8 write in May/June. Students in English 10 write Nova Scotia Examinations in January or June. Students in Mathematics 10 write the Nova Scotia Examination in June.

The assessment and examination results provide:

- teachers with information to inform instructional planning;
- parents and guardians with information on their child's performance;
- the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and school boards with information to inform educational decisions.

These results should be used in combination with other reliable measures of school and classroom achievement. For more information, visit <https://plans.ednet.ns.ca>.

About self-identification for students with Mi'kmaq or other Indigenous ancestry and students of African descent

Self-identification for ancestry or heritage is a voluntary part of the school registration process in Nova Scotia. As of 2017–18, 70% of the student population has some self-identification information recorded. Of the total enrolled population, about 5% self-identified as having Mi'kmaq or other Indigenous ancestry and about 6% self-identified as being of African descent. This is higher representation for both groups than we would predict based on the last National Household Survey (2011) and we will cross-reference with census 2016 when these datasets are released.

Year	NS Public School Enrolment	Students with any response in self-identification section		Self-identified Mi'kmaq or other Indigenous ancestry		Self-identified African descent	
		#	% of enrolment	#	% of enrolment	#	% of enrolment
2013–14	120882	46400	38%	4252	4%	4790	4%
2014–15	119243	53023	44%	4666	4%	5143	4%
2015–16	118152	65237	55%	5491	5%	5855	5%
2016–17	118569	75834	64%	5978	5%	6201	5%
2017–18	118962	83700	70%	6346	5%	6559	6%

Note: self-identified students with Mi'kmaq or other Indigenous ancestry and students of African descent are compared to a reference group that includes all students who have not self-identified as the specified group.

Did you know?

Nova Scotia Assessments and Examinations are developed and scored in Nova Scotia by our teachers working with department staff.

Students write Nova Scotia Assessments in grade 3, grade 6, and grade 8.

Students write Nova Scotia Examinations in grade 10 English, Français and Mathematics courses.

Assessment results do not affect report card grades or decisions about promotion or retention.

Examination results contribute 20% to a student's final course mark.

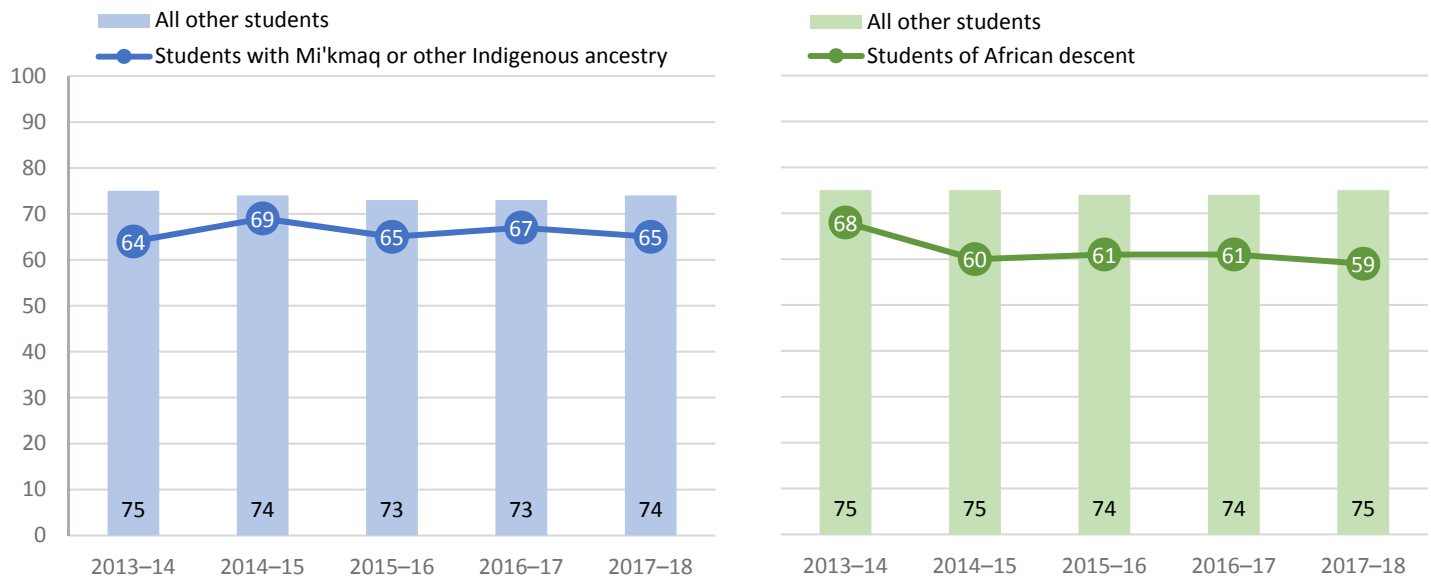
Reading, Writing and Mathematics in Grade 6

Participation (reading and writing)

Student group	Year	Total # of students identified	Exempt - # (did not participate)	IPP - # (did not participate)	Participation Rate
Students with Mi'kmaq or other Indigenous ancestry (self-identified)	2013–14	305	1	17	94%
	2014–15	407	1	24	94%
	2015–16	377	2	29	92%
	2016–17	444	13	40	88%
	2017–18	443	7	42	89%
All other students (did not self-identify as having Mi'kmaq or other Indigenous ancestry)	2013–14	8291	43	425	94%
	2014–15	9448	80	514	94%
	2015–16	8210	59	425	94%
	2016–17	7955	114	443	93%
	2017–18	7946	102	353	94%
Students of African Descent (self-identified)	2013–14	316	2	20	93%
	2014–15	455	5	38	90%
	2015–16	438	3	30	92%
	2016–17	461	12	39	89%
	2017–18	498	6	47	89%
All other students (did not self-identify as being of African descent)	2013–14	8280	42	422	94%
	2014–15	9400	76	500	94%
	2015–16	8149	58	424	94%
	2016–17	7938	115	444	93%
	2017–18	7891	103	348	94%

Reading Performance

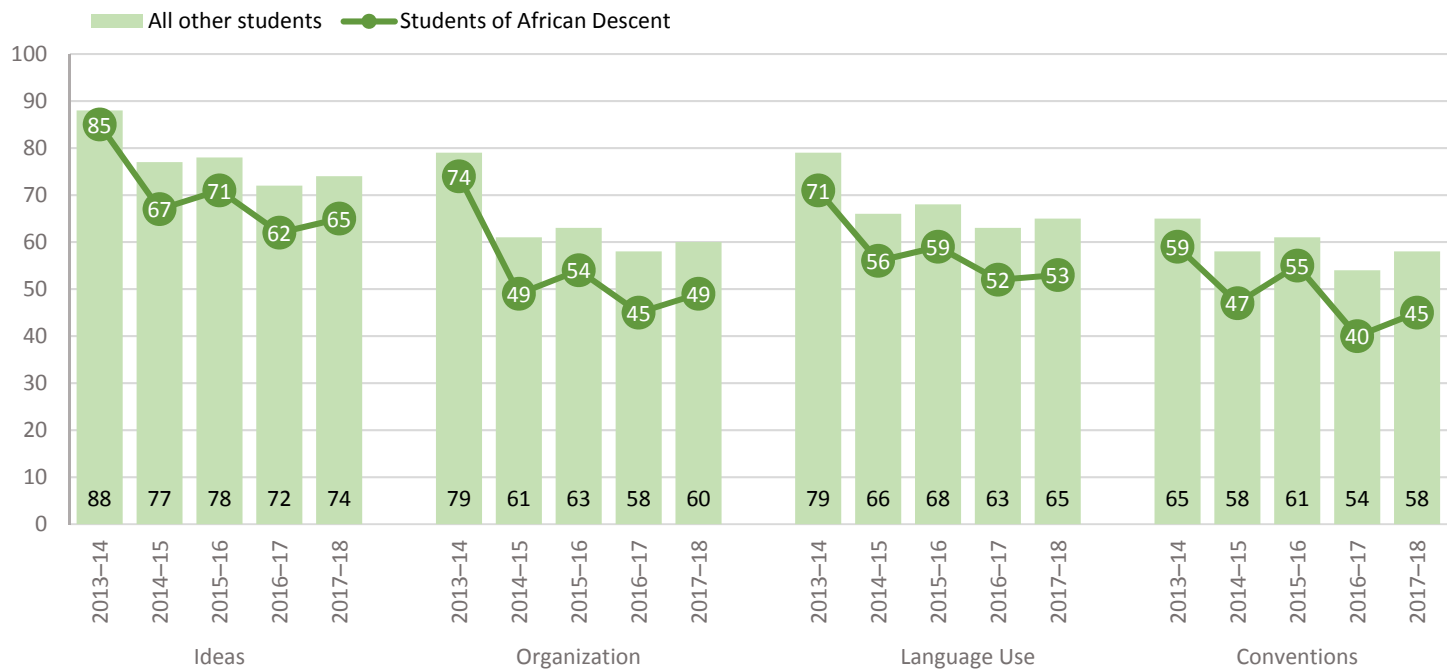
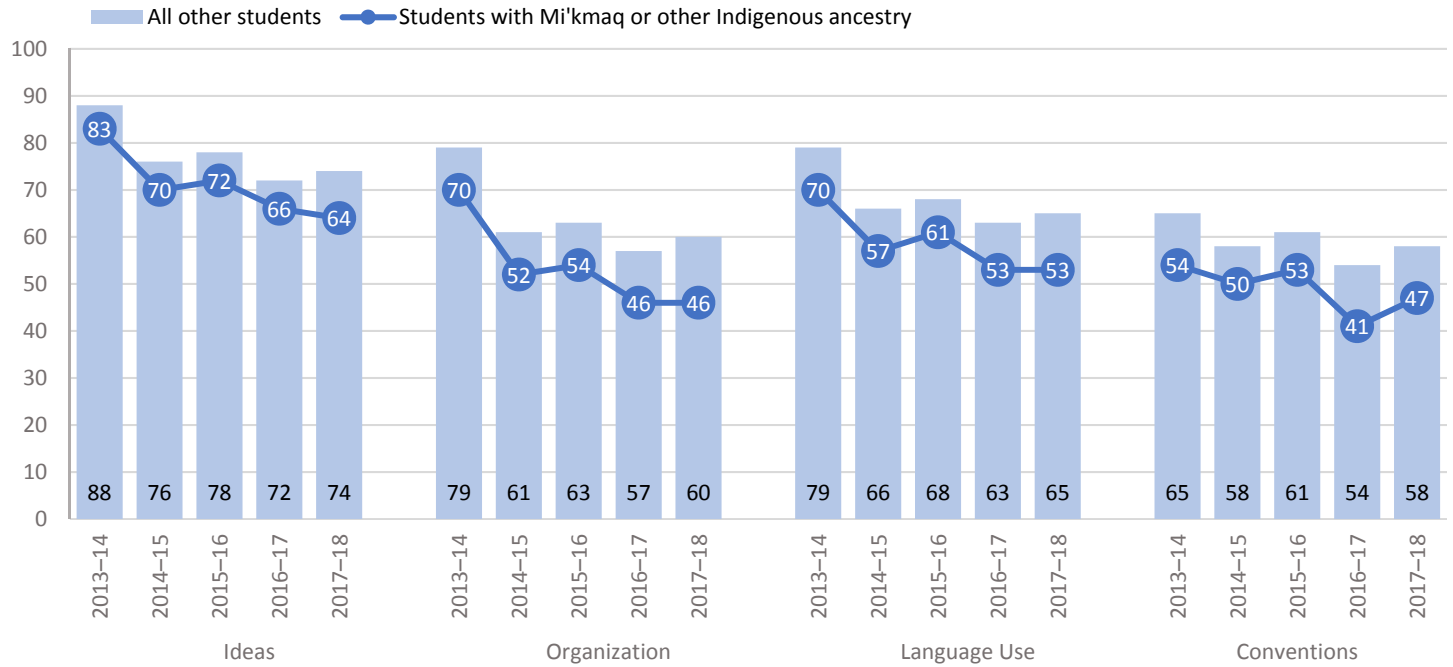
Percentage of students at or above the expectation by self-identified group and year



Reading, Writing and Mathematics in Grade 6

Writing Performance

Percentage of students at or above the expectation by self-identified group and year



Reading, Writing and Mathematics in Grade 6

Participation (mathematics)

Student group	Year	Total # of students identified	Exempt - # (did not participate)	IPP - # (did not participate)	Participation Rate
Students with Mi'kmaq or other Indigenous ancestry (self-identified)	2013–14	299	1	22	92%
	2014–15	407	4	25	93%
	2015–16	377	4	32	90%
	2016–17	444	11	44	88%
	2017–18	443	5	42	89%
All other students (did not self-identify as having Mi'kmaq or other Indigenous ancestry)	2013–14	7958	65	446	94%
	2014–15	9055	95	554	93%
	2015–16	8210	74	475	93%
	2016–17	7955	131	463	93%
	2017–18	7946	107	366	94%
Students of African Descent (self-identified)	2013–14	311	3	23	92%
	2014–15	455	4	49	87%
	2015–16	438	1	39	90%
	2016–17	461	10	38	90%
	2017–18	498	8	47	89%
All other students (did not self-identify as being of African descent)	2013–14	7946	63	445	94%
	2014–15	9007	95	530	93%
	2015–16	8149	77	468	93%
	2016–17	7938	132	469	92%
	2017–18	7891	104	361	94%

Mathematics Performance

Percentage of students at or above the expectation by self-identified group and year

