

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 regional centres/school board 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.

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.

Self ID numbers are based on the data in Powerschool as of November in the given year. NS Public School Enrolment is the official published number as of September 30th in the given year.

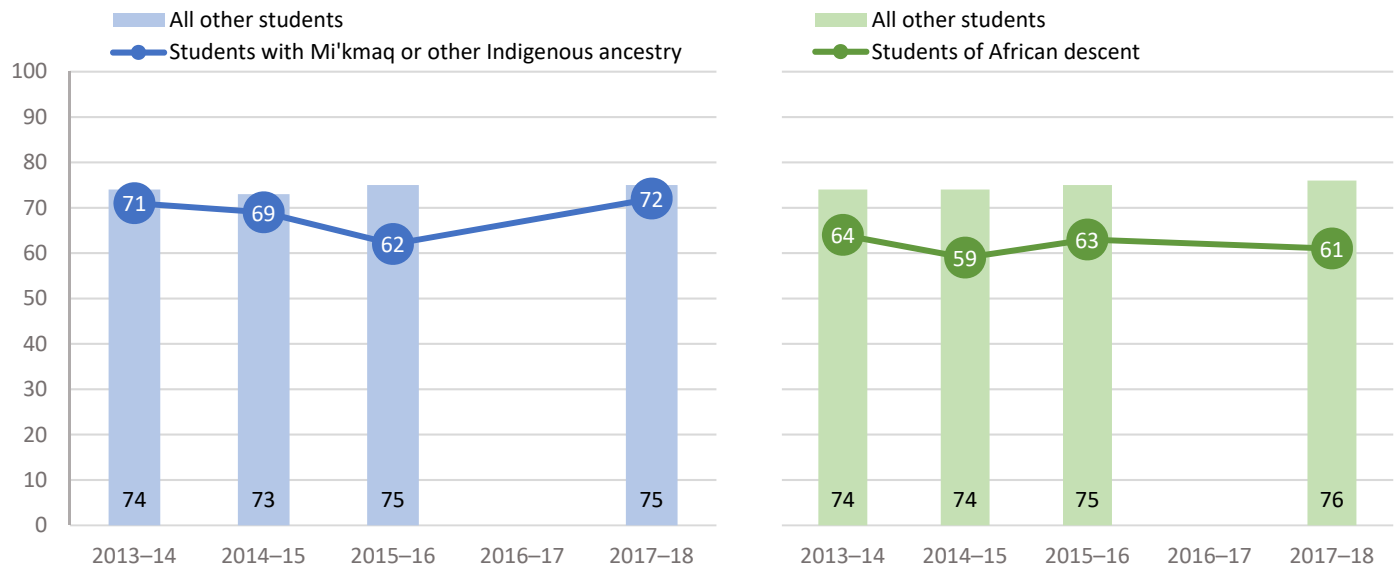
Reading, Writing and Mathematics in Grade 8

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	388	13	42	86%
	2014–15	381	18	35	86%
	2015–16	409	10	30	90%
	2016–17	Assessment was not administered			
	2017–18	474	17	35	89%
All other students (did not self-identify as having Mi'kmaq or other Indigenous ancestry)	2013–14	8717	185	433	93%
	2014–15	8467	203	471	92%
	2015–16	8233	245	381	92%
	2016–17	Assessment was not administered			
	2017–18	8315	209	408	93%
Students of African Descent (self-identified)	2013–14	345	11	33	87%
	2014–15	398	12	38	87%
	2015–16	384	8	30	90%
	2016–17	Assessment was not administered			
	2017–18	481	14	30	91%
All other students (did not self-identify as being of African descent)	2013–14	8760	187	442	93%
	2014–15	8450	209	468	92%
	2015–16	8258	247	381	92%
	2016–17	Assessment was not administered			
	2017–18	8308	212	413	92%

Reading Performance

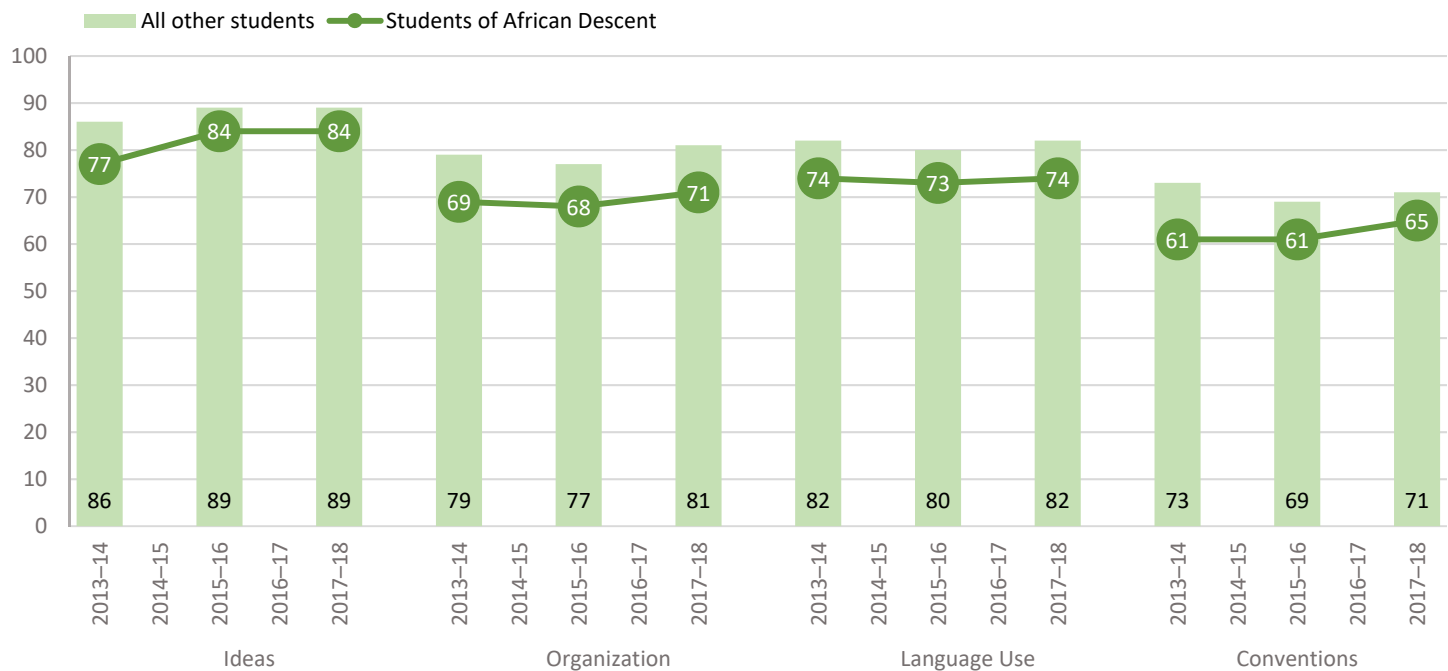
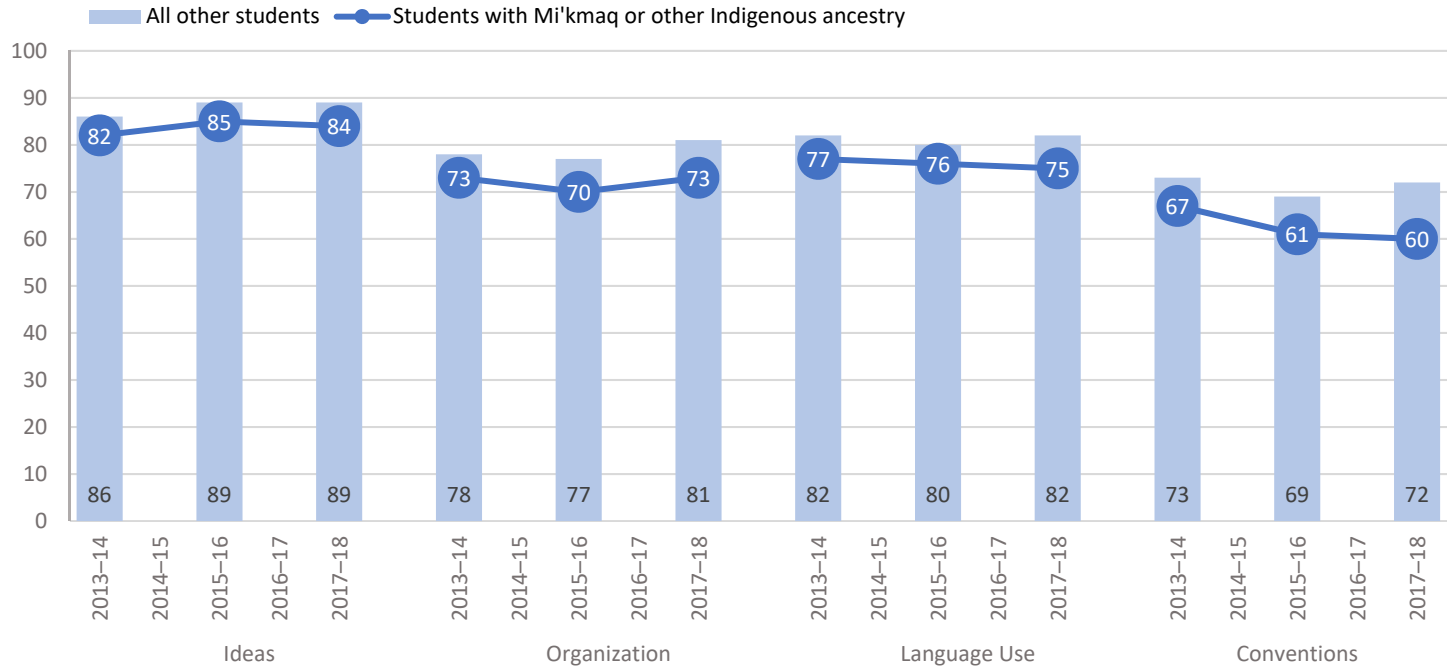
Percentage of students at or above the expectation by self-identified group and year



Reading, Writing and Mathematics in Grade 8

Writing Performance

Percentage of students at or above the expectation by self-identified group and year¹



¹ Note: Writing in Grade 8 was not administered in 2014-15

Reading, Writing and Mathematics in Grade 8

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	386	16	53	82%
	2014–15	376	18	47	83%
	2015–16	409	12	43	87%
	2016–17	Assessment was not administered			
	2017–18	474	17	42	88%
All other students (did not self-identify as having Mi'kmaq or other Indigenous ancestry)	2013–14	8388	242	578	90%
	2014–15	8147	208	635	90%
	2015–16	8233	283	518	90%
	2016–17	Assessment was not administered			
	2017–18	8315	239	551	90%
Students of African Descent (self-identified)	2013–14	341	11	50	82%
	2014–15	398	10	52	84%
	2015–16	384	11	35	88%
	2016–17	Assessment was not administered			
	2017–18	481	12	47	88%
All other students (did not self-identify as being of African descent)	2013–14	8433	247	581	90%
	2014–15	8125	216	630	90%
	2015–16	8258	284	526	90%
	2016–17	Assessment was not administered			
	2017–18	8308	244	546	90%

Mathematics Performance

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

