

Pan-Canadian Assessment Program (PCAP) 2010 British Columbia's Performance

Background

- ▶ The Pan-Canadian Assessment Program (PCAP) is a national assessment that measures student achievement in mathematics, reading, and science. In 2010, the major domain was mathematics, while reading and science were minor domains.
- ▶ The first PCAP assessment was administered to 13 year old students in the spring of 2007. The second administration, in the spring of 2010, moved to a model of assessing Grade 8 student performance.
- ▶ Approximately 32,000 students across Canada participated in PCAP 2010. In BC, about 3,500 students from 162 schools participated.
- ▶ Questionnaires were administered alongside PCAP to students, teachers, and school administrators in order to provide contextual information that contributes to the interpretation of performance results. Results will be released in the coming months and will be available on the Ministry of Education website at: www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/nat_int_pubs.htm

BC's Performance at a Glance

	Mathematics	Reading	Science
Above BC	Alberta, Canada, Ontario, Quebec	Ontario	Alberta, Ontario
In BC's range	British Columbia , New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan	Alberta, British Columbia , Canada	British Columbia , Canada, Prince Edward Island
Below BC	Manitoba, Newfoundland & Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Yukon	Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland & Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Saskatchewan, Yukon	Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland & Labrador, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Saskatchewan, Yukon

Note: Jurisdictions are listed in alphabetical order within ranges.

BC's Performance in Mathematics (Major Domain)

- ▶ BC students performed below the Canadian average in mathematics. Three provinces or territories performed above BC's range, three were within BC's range and four performed below BC's range.
- ▶ In mathematics, 89% of BC students and 91% of Canadian students reached or exceeded the level of achievement expected of Grade 8 students.

- ▶ BC students performed below the Canadian average on all four of the mathematics subdomains: Numbers and operations, geometry and measurement, patterns and relationships, and data management and probability.
- ▶ Results were also analyzed by language group. BC students who wrote the assessment in English performed below the Canadian mean for students who wrote in English; similarly, BC students who wrote the assessment in French performed below the Canadian mean for students who wrote in French.
- ▶ In BC, male students outperformed female students in mathematics. In Canada overall, there was no difference between the performance of male and female students.

BC's Performance in Reading

- ▶ BC students performed in the same range as the Canadian average in reading. One province or territory performed above BC's range, one was within BC's range and eight performed below BC's range.
- ▶ BC students who wrote the assessment in English performed below the Canadian mean for students who wrote in English. In contrast, BC students who wrote the assessment in French performed at the Canadian mean for students who wrote in French.
- ▶ In BC, as well as Canada as a whole, female students outperformed male students in reading.

BC's Performance in Science

- ▶ BC students performed in the same range as the Canadian average in science. Two provinces or territories performed above BC's range, one was within BC's range and seven performed below BC's range.
- ▶ BC students who wrote the assessment in English performed at the Canadian mean for students who wrote in English; similarly, BC students who wrote the assessment in French performed at the Canadian mean for students who wrote in French.
- ▶ In BC, there was no difference between the performance of male and female students in science. In Canada overall, female students outperformed male students.

Further Information

For further information, visit the BC Ministry of Education Website:
www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/nat_int_pubs.htm