

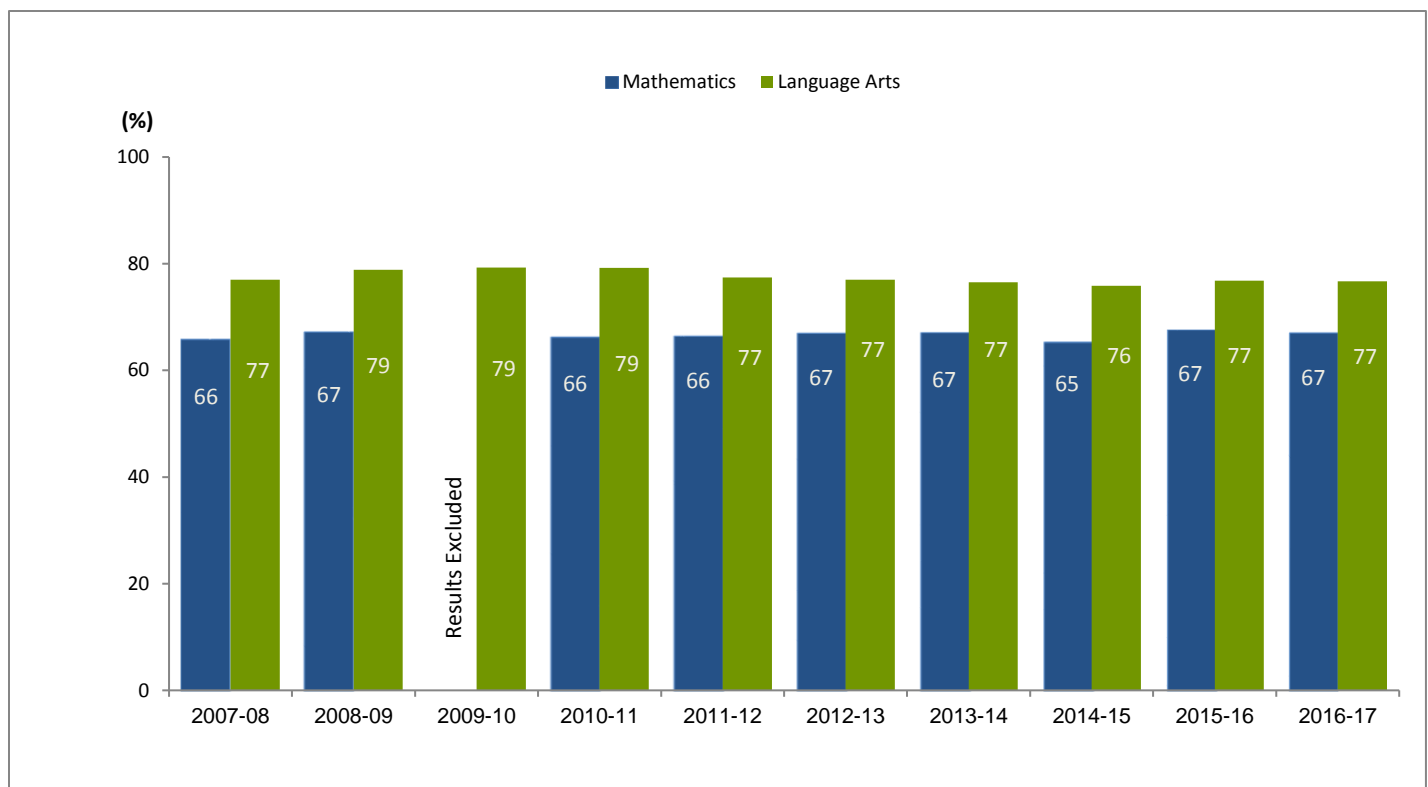
Literacy and Numeracy of Grade 9 Students, Alberta

- Grade 9 Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs) in language arts and mathematics are used as proxy measures of literacy and numeracy because adult literacy assessments are undertaken infrequently.
- Achieving the acceptable standard on the language arts and mathematics achievement tests in Grade 9 indicates that the students have the fundamental skills they need for understanding and using written and numeric materials as adults. Results have been relatively stable over time with some fluctuation.
- The PATs are based on the Alberta Education [Programs of Study](#) and assess how well students are learning what they are expected to learn. PAT results inform Albertans about students' achievement relative to provincial standards, and assist schools, school authorities, and the province in monitoring and improving student learning.
- PATs are administered annually in language arts and mathematics in Grades 6 and 9.
- Language Arts courses include English Language Arts, French Language Arts and Français.
- Knowledge and Employability courses are now included in the literacy and numeracy measures. English Language Arts 9 (Knowledge and Employability) is included in the literacy measure from 2009-10 onwards; Mathematics 9 (Knowledge and Employability) is included in the numeracy measure from 2010-11 onwards.
- Participation in PATs was impacted by the flooding in southern Alberta in June 2013 and by the fire in Fort McMurray in May to June 2016. Caution should be exercised when interpreting the results over time.

Note: Mathematics results reported for 2010-2011 to 2017-2018 are based on the test that reflects the 2007 Program of Studies. Results reported for 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 are based on the test that reflects the 1996 Program of Studies. Therefore, discretion must be used when comparing results over time. Mathematics results for 2009-2010 are excluded as the new test was in the process of being implemented during that year.

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Alberta



Sources: Alberta Education, Accountability Pillar Online Report Initiative (APORI) database