Detailed school results

How to read the tables

Use the sample table and the explanation of each line below to help you interpret the individual school results. Families choosing a school for their students should seek to confirm the *Report Card*'s findings by visiting the school and interviewing teachers, school administrators, and other parents. And, of course, a sound academic program should be complemented by effective programs in areas of school activity not measured by the *Report Card*.

A→ : Each of the schools in the *Report Card* has been assigned to a Geographic Area based on the city or town in which the school is located. Grouping schools in these Geographic Areas makes it easier to compare them. Within each Geographic Area, the schools are listed in order of their 2001 provincial ranking. Where schools are tied, they are listed in order of their provincial ranking for the past five years.

B→ : The school name and its affiliation—public, separate, private, or francophone.

C→ : The average number of years of education of the most educated parent (or lone parent in a single parent family). Higher values of this statistic are commonly thought to be associated with better student performance. Use this statistic to identify schools at which the students share similar family backgrounds.

D→ (left): The percentage of the school's students in the relevant grades who did not write the examination due to absence; because they were excused from writing the examination by the superintendent; or whose results were withheld because, for instance, they retired during the examination due to illness or were found to have cheated. School officials should be able to explain the reasons for a high percentage of non-writers.

D→ (right): The school's overall academic rank in the province for 2000-01 and for the last five years. The rankings show how the school has done academically compared to the other schools in the province. A high ranking over five years indicates consistently strong results at the school.

E→ : The average mark (%) achieved by the students on the grade-3 language arts achievement test. Note that all the academic performance indicators—except the *3-year Value added* indicators and the *Overall rating out of 10*—are expressed as percentage points.

F→ : The average mark (%) achieved by the students on the grade-3 mathematics achievement test.

G→ : The average mark (%) achieved by the students on the grade-6 language arts achievement test.

Sample table

P↓

A→ **GEOGRAPHIC AREA**						
B→ **School name [Affiliation]**					Gr 6 Enrolment: 45	
C→ Parents' average education (yrs): 14.5				2000-01	Last 5 Years	
D→ Non-writers (%): 1.9		Rank:		77 / 757	116 / 605	
Academic Performance	**1997**	**1998**	**1999**	**2000**	**2001**	**Trend**
E→ Gr 3 Avg exam mark: Lang. Arts	66.3	73.9	73.2	79.3	73.3	—
F→ Mathematics	69.6	71.3	75.8	80.6	83.7	up
G→ Gr 6 Avg exam mark: Lang. Arts	72.5	72.6	72.0	70.6	74.5	—
H→ Mathematics	72.2	71.7	75.5	72.3	77.4	—
I→ Gr 6 gender gap: Lang. Arts	F 1.5	F 0.4	F 3.5	F 4.6	F 7.0	down
J→ Mathematics	M 3.6	E	M 2.4	F 6.0	M 0.5	—
K→ Percentage of exams failed	9.2	8.7	5.4	4.3	3.0	up
L→ 3-year Value added: Lang. Arts	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.3	0.2	n/a
M→ Mathematics	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.8	0.7	n/a
N→ **Overall rating out of 10**	**6.6**	**7.8**	**7.5**	**7.4**	**7.9**	—

O↑

H→ : The average mark (%) achieved by the students on the grade-6 mathematics achievement test.

I→ & J→ : The difference (in percentage points) between boys and girls in their average marks on the grade-6 language arts and mathematics achievement tests. Where the difference favours the girls the value is preceded by an **F**. Where boys are favoured, the value is preceded by an **M**. An **E** means that there is no difference between the girls and the boys on this measure. Smaller differences indicate that the school is doing a good job for all its students.

K→ : The percentage of all the grade-3 and grade-6 achievement tests in language arts and mathematics written by students at the school that were below the acceptable standard. Note that tests that were found to be only partially complete are included in this percentage.

L→ & M→ : The difference (in standard deviations) between the average mark achieved by the students on the grade-6 language arts and mathematics achievement tests and the corresponding average marks achieved by the students on the grade-3 achievement tests written three years earlier. These indicators measure the extent to which the students' results have improved or deteriorated (compared to the average for all schools) from grade 3 to grade 6. Higher positive values mean that the students have enjoyed relatively greater improvement in their results compared to average. Higher negative values mean that the students have suffered relatively greater decline in their results compared to average. Schools where these statistics are positive have done a better job of improving their students' results over time. Note that this measure of the school's effect on its students is not used in the calculation of the *Overall rating out of 10*.

N→ : The *Overall rating out of 10* takes into account the seven indicators described in **E** through **K** above to answer the question, "In general, how is the school doing academically?"

O→ : "Up" at the end of an indicator row means that the school is probably improving on that indicator. "Down" means that the school is probably getting worse. The researchers had to be at least 90% sure that the changes were not just random before indicating a trend. A dash indicates that there is no significant change. Where insufficient data were available, "n/a" appears in the column. Note that for *Percentage of exams failed* and the two *Gender gap* indicators, a downward trend in the data will lead to an "up" in the trend column. For example, a decreasing *Percentage of exams failed* indicates improvement and so "up" is displayed.

P→ : The number of students enrolled in grade 6 as of September 30, 2000. Indicator results for small schools tend to be more variable than do those for larger schools and caution should be used in interpreting the results for smaller schools.

Other notes

Note 1

Not all the province's elementary schools are included in the tables or the ranking. Of all the schools in the province reporting achievement-test results, 757 are included in this *Report Card*. Excluded are schools at which fewer than 15 students were enrolled in grade 3 and grade 6. Also excluded are schools that did not generate a sufficiently large set of student data to enable the calculation of an *Overall rating out of 10* for the school year 2000-01.

The exclusion of a school from the *Report Card* should not be considered a judgement of the school's effectiveness.

Note 2

In accordance with its regulations regarding the privacy of personal information, where school results involved less than six students, Alberta Learning provided no data.

Note 3

Where there were insufficient data available with which to calculate an indicator or where a school was not in operation during a specific year, "n/a" appears in the tables.

Note 4

You can compare a school's results with these all-schools average results.

Average values for all schools 2000/2001

Parents' average education (yrs): 14.1
Non-writers (%): 4.7

Academic Performance	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	Trend
Gr 3 Avg exam mark: Lang. Arts	68.2	66.9	68.6	71.6	70.2	—
Mathematics	74.1	71.1	74.2	74.8	74.3	up
Gr 6 Avg exam mark: Lang. Arts	68.6	67.8	67.6	68.2	66.7	—
Mathematics	69.2	69.5	70.1	68.0	72.0	—
Gr 6 gender gap: Lang. Arts*	5.3	5.5	6.0	5.6	5.3	down
Mathematics*	5.1	5.2	5.0	4.8	5.3	—
Percentage of exams failed	12.1	17.4	15.1	13	13.5	up
3-year Value added: Lang. Arts				0	0	n/a
Mathematics				0	0	n/a
Overall rating out of 10	**6.1**	**6.1**	**6.1**	**6.1**	**6.0**	**—**

  * These results reflect the average size of the gender gaps. In 2000-2001, at 81.1% of schools, the gender gap in English favoured female students. In Math, the gender gap favoured male students at 58.4% of the schools.

Note 5

If you have questions about the *Report Card*, contact Peter Cowley, Director of School Performance Studies at the Fraser Institute at 604-714-4556 or by e-mail at reportcards@fraserinstitute.ca.

List of Cities and Geographic Areas

City	Geographic Area
Acme	Acme
Airdrie	Airdrie
Alberta Beach	St. Albert/Stony Plain
Alder Flats	Wetaskiwin/Drayton Valley
Alix	Stettler
Andrew	Vegreville/Fort Saskatchewan
Ardmore	St. Paul/Bonnyville
Ardrossan	Vegreville/Fort Saskatchewan
Ashmont	Athabasca/Smoky Lake
Banff	Banff
Barnwell	Taber/Medicine Hat
Barrhead	Barrhead/Westlock
Bassano	Brooks
Bawlf	Camrose
Beaverlodge	Grande Prairie
Bentley	Rocky Mountain House
Big Valley	Stettler
Black Diamond	Okotoks
Blackfalds	Lacombe/Ponoka
Blackie	High River
Bowden	Olds/Didsbury
Boyle	Athabasca/Smoky Lake
Bragg Creek	Cochrane/Bragg Creek
Breton	Wetaskiwin/Drayton Valley
Brooks	Brooks
Bruderheim	Vegreville/Fort Saskatchewan
Buffalo Head Prairie	High Level/Fort Vermilion
Calgary	Calgary
Calmar	Leduc
Camrose	Camrose
Carbon	Drumheller/Three Hills
Cardston	Lethbridge
Caroline	Rocky Mountain House
Carseland	Strathmore
Carstairs	Acme
Caslan	Athabasca/Smoky Lake
Cayley	High River
Chipman	Vegreville/Fort Saskatchewan
Clive	Lacombe/Ponoka
Clyde	Barrhead/Westlock
Coaldale	Lethbridge
Coalhurst	Lethbridge
Cochrane	Cochrane/Bragg Creek
Cold Lake	St. Paul/Bonnyville
College Heights	Lacombe/Ponoka
Condor	Rocky Mountain House
Consort	Stettler

List of Cities and Geographic Areas

City	Geographic Area
Coronation	Stettler
Cremona	Olds/Didsbury
Crooked Creek	Grande Prairie
Dapp	Barrhead/Westlock
Darwell	St. Albert/Stony Plain
Daysland	Camrose
Delburne	Stettler
Drayton Valley	Wetaskiwin/Drayton Valley
Drumheller	Drumheller/Three Hills
Duchess	Brooks
Duffield	St. Albert/Stony Plain
Eckville	Rocky Mountain House
Edmonton	Edmonton
Edson	Edson/Whitecourt
Elk Point	St. Paul/Bonnyville
Erskine	Stettler
Evansburg	St. Albert/Stony Plain
Exshaw	Banff
Fairview	Peace River
Falher	Peace River
Falun	Wetaskiwin/Drayton Valley
Foremost	Taber/Medicine Hat
Forestburg	Stettler
Fort Chipewyan	Fort McMurray
Fort McMurray	Fort McMurray
Fort Saskatchewan	Vegreville/Fort Saskatchewan
Fort Vermilion	High Level/Fort Vermilion
Fox Creek	Edson/Whitecourt
Gift Lake	Peace River
Gleichen	Strathmore
Glendon	St. Paul/Bonnyville
Grande Prairie	Grande Prairie
Granum	Fort MacLeod
Grimshaw	Peace River
Grovedale	Grande Prairie
Hay Lakes	Camrose
High Prairie	Grande Prairie
High River	High River
Hinton	Jasper/Hinton
Hythe	Grande Prairie
Innisfail	Olds/Didsbury
Irvine	Taber/Medicine Hat
Jasper	Jasper/Hinton
Kathyrn	Airdrie
Kikino	Athabasca/Smoky Lake
Killam	Camrose
Kinuso	Athabasca/Smoky Lake

List of Cities and Geographic Areas

City	Geographic Area
Kitscoty	Wainwright/Vermilion
La Crete	High Level/Fort Vermilion
Lacombe	Lacombe/Ponoka
Lamont	Vegreville/Fort Saskatchewan
Lancaster Park	St. Albert/Stony Plain
Leduc	Leduc
Legal	Barrhead/Westlock
Leslieville	Rocky Mountain House
Lethbridge	Lethbridge
Linden	Acme
Longview	High River
Magrath	Lethbridge
Mallaig	St. Paul/Bonnyville
Manning	High Level/Fort Vermilion
Mannville	Wainwright/Vermilion
Marwayne	Wainwright/Vermilion
Mayerthorpe	Edson/Whitecourt
Medicine Hat	Taber/Medicine Hat
Millarville	Okotoks
Millet	Wetaskiwin/Drayton Valley
Monarch	Picture Butte
Morrin	Drumheller/Three Hills
Namao	Barrhead/Westlock
Nanton	High River
Neerlandia	Barrhead/Westlock
New Norway	Camrose
New Sarepta	Sherwood Park
Niton Junction	Edson/Whitecourt
Nobleford	Picture Butte
Okotoks	Okotoks
Olds	Olds/Didsbury
Onoway	St. Albert/Stony Plain
Peace River	Peace River
Picture Butte	Picture Butte
Pincher Creek	Fort MacLeod
Plamondon	Athabasca/Smoky Lake
Ponoka	Lacombe/Ponoka
Provost	Wainwright/Vermilion
Rainbow Lake	High Level/Fort Vermilion
Ralston	Taber/Medicine Hat
Red Deer	Red Deer
Rimbey	Lacombe/Ponoka
Riviere Qui Barre	Barrhead/Westlock
Rocky Mountain House	Rocky Mountain House
Rycroft	Peace River
Sangudo	Edson/Whitecourt
Seba Beach	St. Albert/Stony Plain

List of Cities and Geographic Areas

City	Geographic Area
Sedgewick	Wainwright/Vermilion
Seven Persons	Taber/Medicine Hat
Sexsmith	Grande Prairie
Sherwood Park	Sherwood Park
Slave Lake	Athabasca/Smoky Lake
Smoky Lake	Athabasca/Smoky Lake
Spirit River	Grande Prairie
Spruce Grove	St. Albert/Stony Plain
Spruce View	Olds/Didsbury
St. Albert	St. Albert/Stony Plain
St. Paul	St. Paul/Bonnyville
Stirling	Lethbridge
Stony Plain	St. Albert/Stony Plain
Sundre	Olds/Didsbury
Swan Hills	Edson/Whitecourt
Sylvan Lake	Rocky Mountain House
Thorsby	Leduc
Three Hills	Drumheller/Three Hills
Turner Valley	Okotoks
Two Hills	Vegreville/Fort Saskatchewan
Vauxhall	Taber/Medicine Hat
Vegreville	Vegreville/Fort Saskatchewan
Vermilion	Wainwright/Vermilion
Viking	Wainwright/Vermilion
Vilna	Athabasca/Smoky Lake
Vulcan	High River
Wainwright	Wainwright/Vermilion
Warburg	Wetaskiwin/Drayton Valley
Wembley	Grande Prairie
Westlock	Barrhead/Westlock
Wetaskiwin	Wetaskiwin/Drayton Valley
Winfield	Wetaskiwin/Drayton Valley

Index of Geographic Areas