



Backgrounder

NWT Releases 2010 Student Assessment Results

The Northwest Territories' (NWT) 2010 results for the Alberta Achievement Tests (AAT) and Functional Grade Levels (FGL) were released today.

This is the sixth year students have written the AATs, the FGLs have been tracked and the results for both assessments released for the NWT. Reporting FGL and AAT results provide us with an indication of NWT student performance.

AATs are based on the NWT curriculum in the areas of Language Arts and Mathematics. Students in grades 3, 6 and 9 wrote the tests in May and June, 2010. The AATs provide a picture of a student's performance on one particular day, while FGLs show aspects of student performance over the full year.

The FGL is the curriculum level at which a student is working, in Language Arts and Mathematics, for the majority of the school year. Reporting is based on a variety of classroom assessment methods used by teachers over the course of the year. FGL reporting was initiated in steps in the NWT, starting with grades 1-3 in 2004-2005, and expanding to grade 9 in 2006-2007. This is the fourth year of full reporting.

The 2010 AAT results for Mathematics are not available, as a new curricula for Mathematics was implemented. The 2009/10 school year was the pilot year for Grades 3, 6 and 9 Mathematics Achievement Tests that reflect the new 2007 Program of Studies. Standards will be set for the 2010 AATs after the June 2011 administration, and the 2010 Mathematics AAT results will then be available.

The summary of 2010 results for the NWT is attached.

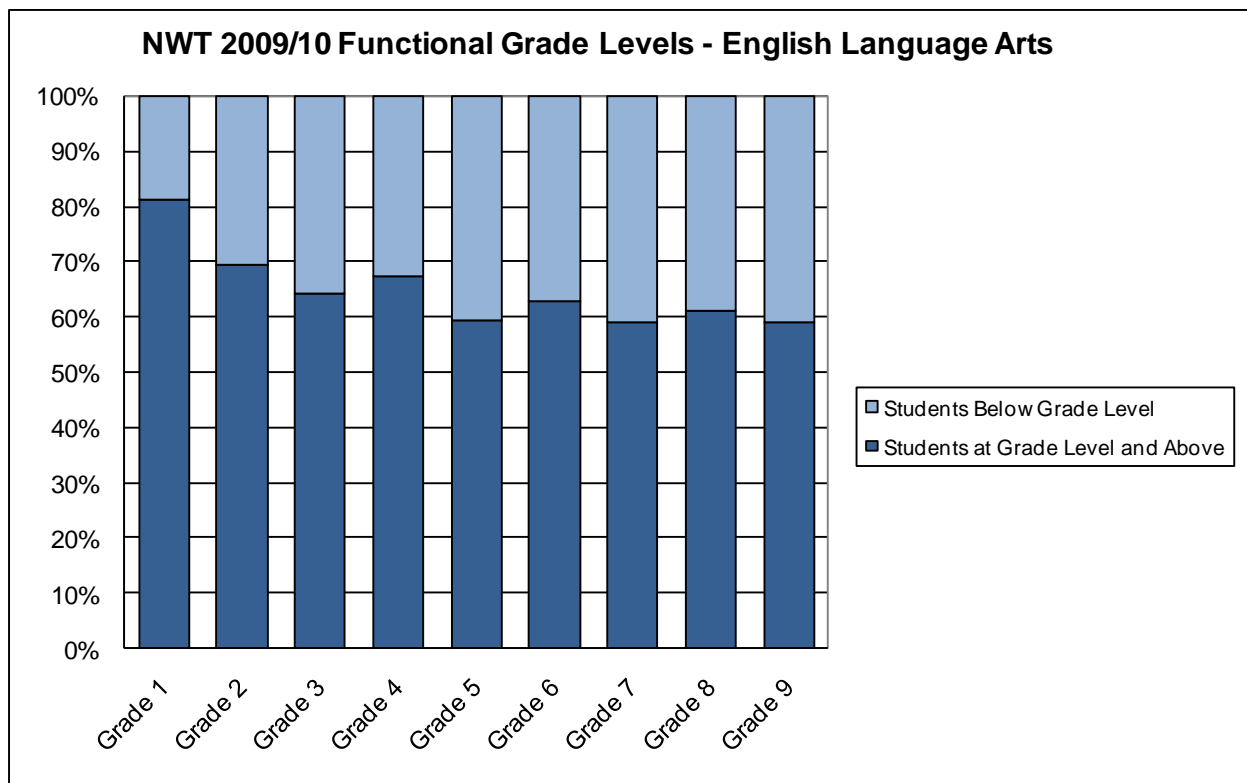
Also released, for the third year, is information regarding student attendance. Regular attendance is a critical factor in a student's successful education. Only if students are regularly present in the classroom, will they have the real ability to learn and provide themselves with a good future.

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Functional Grade Level

A Functional Grade Level is the grade level of the curricular outcomes a student worked on for the majority of the school year. A student's FGL indicates that the student has mastered or achieved the curricular outcomes for the preceding grade level. Mastery means that the student has accomplished the curricular outcomes to a level where the student has a strong enough foundation to be successful in subsequent grade levels. In grade one, approximately 81% of students are able to work on grade one curriculum. Overall, an average of about 64% of students are working at the appropriate grade level for their age in English Language Arts. Results are slightly higher, in Mathematics where approximately 82% of grade one students are able to work on grade one curriculum in Mathematics and approximately 67% of students are working at the appropriate grade level of curriculum for their age.



English Language Arts 2009/10

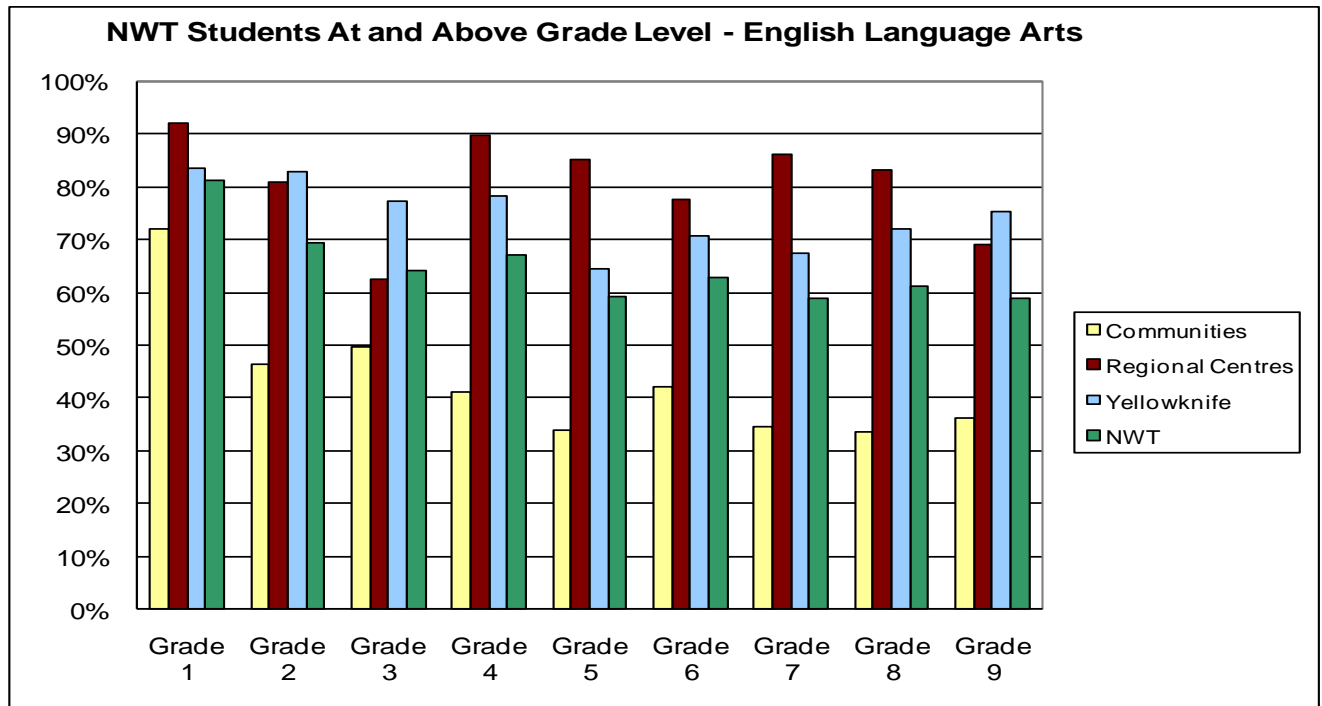
	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9
Students at Grade Level and Above Grade level	81%	69%	64%	67%	59%	63%	59%	61%	59%
Students Below Grade Level	19%	31%	36%	33%	41%	37%	41%	39%	41%

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Proportion of NWT Students At and Above Grade Level in English Language Arts 2009/10

	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9
Communities	72%	46%	50%	41%	34%	42%	35%	33%	36%
Regional Centres	92%	81%	63%	90%	85%	78%	86%	83%	69%
Yellowknife	83%	83%	77%	78%	65%	71%	67%	72%	75%
NWT	81%	69%	64%	67%	59%	63%	59%	61%	59%

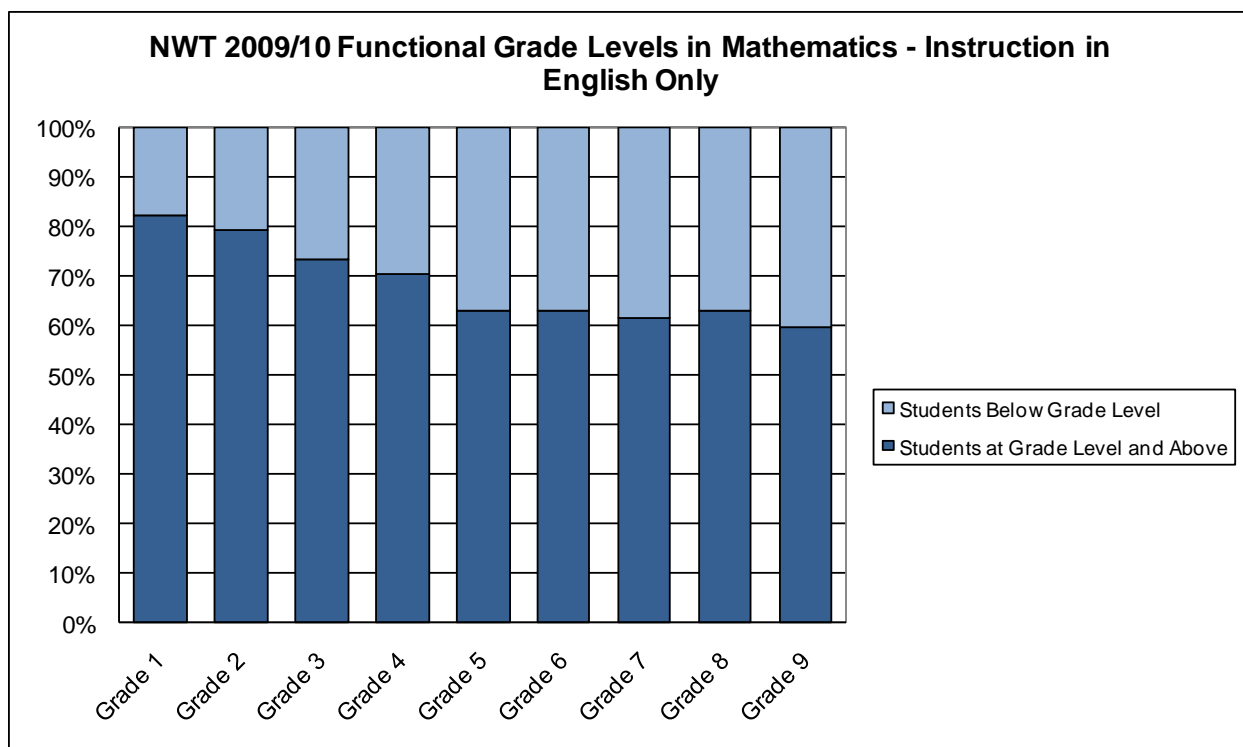


Historical FGL Information – Proportion of NWT Students At and Above Grade Level in English Language Arts

	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9
2006/07	79%	65%	65%	58%	60%	61%	58%	62%	58%
2007/08	79%	68%	57%	58%	56%	57%	62%	59%	61%
2008/09	83%	68%	65%	58%	58%	60%	60%	64%	62%
2009/10	81%	69%	64%	67%	59%	63%	59%	61%	59%

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Proportion of NWT Students At and Above Grade Level in Mathematics 2009/10

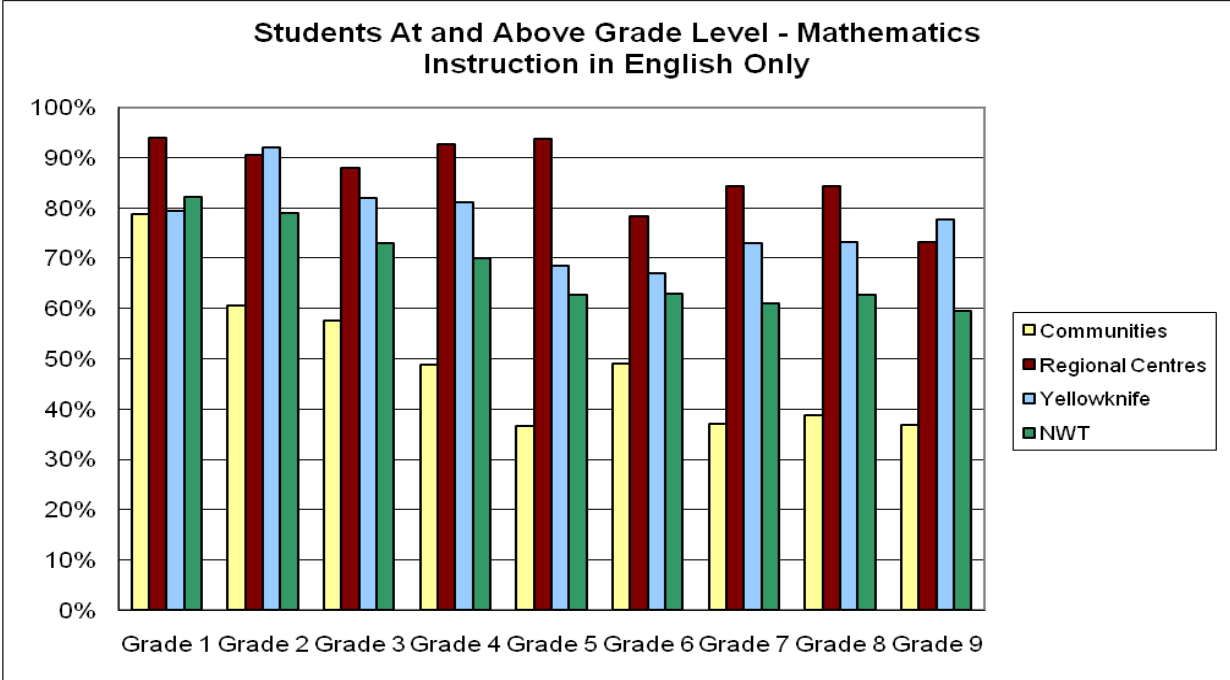
	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9
Students at Grade Level and Above	82%	79%	73%	70%	63%	63%	61%	63%	60%
Students Below Grade Level	18%	21%	27%	30%	37%	37%	39%	37%	40%

Proportion of NWT Students At and Above Grade Level in Mathematics 2009/10

	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9
Communities	79%	61%	58%	49%	37%	49%	37%	39%	37%
Regional Centres	94%	91%	88%	93%	94%	78%	84%	84%	73%
Yellowknife	79%	92%	82%	81%	68%	67%	73%	73%	78%
NWT	82%	79%	73%	70%	63%	63%	61%	63%	60%

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Historical FGL Information – Proportion of NWT Students At and Above Grade Level in Mathematics

	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9
2006/07	86%	78%	76%	67%	65%	65%	68%	69%	57%
2007/08	85%	79%	67%	67%	66%	62%	65%	60%	56%
2008/09	90%	80%	76%	65%	63%	69%	67%	64%	62%
2009/10	82%	79%	73%	70%	63%	63%	61%	63%	60%

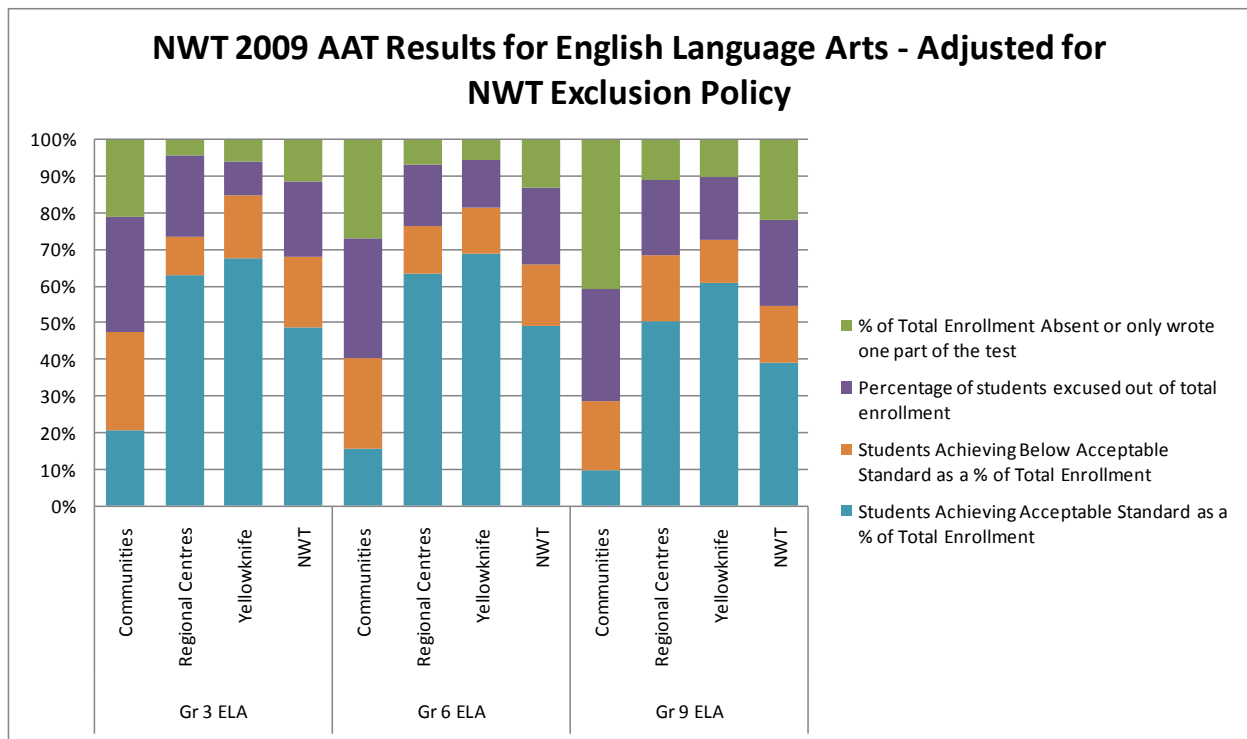
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Alberta Achievement Test Results

Commencing in 2007 with changes to the NWT AAT Exclusion Policy, Superintendents were given the authority to excuse students from Alberta Achievement Testing if the students were on a documented Individual Education Plan (IEP) or if they were working on curriculum two or more grade levels below their grade of enrolment and had a documented Modified Education Plan (MEP). Should a student fulfill the above criteria and participate in the testing, for NWT reporting purposes, their results have been removed from the NWT results and the students have been considered excused from writing the tests. The numbers of students excused from the testing are still included in calculation of Students Achieving Acceptable Standard as a percentage of the total enrolment.

The 2010 AAT results for Math are not available due to the implementation of new curricula for Math. The 2009/10 school year was the pilot year for of Grades 3, 6 and 9 Mathematics Achievement Tests that reflect the new 2007 Program of Studies. Standards will not be set for the 2010 AATs until after the June 2011 administration. After this is done, 2010 Math AAT results will be available.



- Available Test Results: results for students writing all parts of the test.

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- Reportable Results: results for students with Individual Education Plans and students with Modified Education Plans and a Functional Grade Level two or more grade levels below the grade of enrolment are not included.
- French Language Arts Results have been NWT generated.
- NWT enrolments for the tests include students excused from testing.
- Students achieving the Standard of Excellence are also included in the percentage of students achieving an Acceptable standard.

Alberta Achievement Test	Board	% of Total enrolment where test results are available	% of Total Enrolment Absent or only wrote one part of the test	Percentage of students excused out of total enrolment	Students Achieving Acceptable Standard as a % of Available Test Results	Students Achieving Acceptable Standard as a % of Total Enrolment	Students Achieving Standard of Excellence as a % of Available Test Results	Students Achieving Standard of Excellence as a % of Total Enrolment
Grade 3 ELA*	Communities	47.4%	20.9%	31.6%	43.0%	20.4%	0.0%	0.0%
	Regional Centres	73.7%	4.4%	21.9%	85.7%	63.2%	10.7%	7.9%
	Yellowknife	84.8%	5.9%	9.3%	79.8%	67.6%	10.4%	8.8%
	NWT	68.1%	11.3%	20.6%	71.4%	48.6%	7.7%	5.3%
Grade 6 ELA*	Communities	40.3%	26.7%	33.0%	39.0%	15.7%	0.0%	0.0%
	Regional Centres	76.5%	6.8%	16.7%	83.2%	63.6%	10.9%	8.3%
	Yellowknife	81.4%	5.6%	13.0%	84.6%	68.8%	9.0%	7.4%
	NWT	66.1%	13.2%	20.8%	74.6%	49.3%	13.7%	9.0%
Grade 9 ELA*	Communities	27.3%	39.1%	29.8%	34.2%	9.3%	6.3%	1.7%
	Regional Centres	68.4%	11.0%	20.6%	73.6%	50.3%	9.4%	6.5%
	Yellowknife	72.8%	10.0%	17.2%	83.9%	61.0%	11.8%	8.6%
	NWT	54.0%	21.7%	22.9%	71.2%	38.4%	10.1%	5.4%

Note: 2010 AAT results for Math will not be available until the 2011 assessments are written

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Historical Alberta Achievement Test Information

NWT Students Achieving Acceptable Standard as a % of Total Enrolment - AFTER Adjustments for NWT Exclusion Policy				
	2007	2008	2009	2010
Grade 3 ELA	53.5%	47.6%	46.0%	48.6%
Grade 6 ELA	48.1%	44.5%	46.5%	49.3%
Grade 9 ELA	36.4%	35.5%	36.5%	38.4%
Grade 3 Math	56.8%	48.4%	49.1%	
Grade 6 Math	38.4%	36.0%	40.9%	
Grade 9 Math	28.9%	25.7%	23.0%	

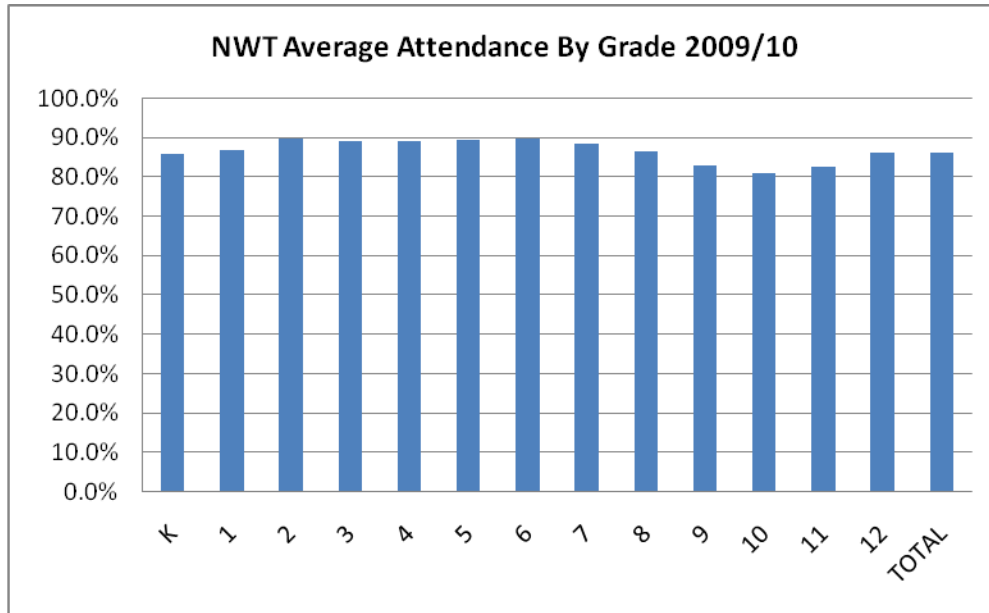
2010 AAT Results for French Immersion

	Grade 3 French Language Arts	Grade 6 French Language Arts	Grade 9 French Language Arts	Grade 3 Math (French)	Grade 6 Math (French)	Grade 9 Math (French)
Students Achieving Acceptable Standard as a % of Available & Reportable Test Results	100.0%	83.7%	68.2%	81.6%	68.2%	89.5%
Students Achieving Acceptable Standard as a % of Total Enrolment	85.7%	73.5%	63.8%	80.0%	63.8%	89.5%

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Attendance 2009/10



	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	TOTAL
Communities	79.2%	79.3%	83.8%	82.9%	82.2%	84.1%	84.2%	84.0%	78.6%	75.9%	77.7%	81.0%	81.7%	80.7%
Regional Centres	89.0%	89.3%	91.2%	91.9%	92.5%	91.2%	92.6%	90.2%	91.1%	84.7%	84.0%	85.2%	90.9%	88.7%
Yellowknife	90.3%	91.8%	93.5%	93.1%	93.2%	92.8%	92.3%	91.6%	91.0%	88.7%	81.5%	81.9%	85.6%	89.0%
NWT	85.8%	86.8%	89.5%	89.0%	88.8%	89.4%	89.7%	88.3%	86.5%	82.8%	80.9%	82.6%	86.1%	86.1%

For the 2009/10 school year, the average attendance for students enrolled in the NWT was 86.1%. This average is equivalent to students missing one and a half days of school every two weeks. The 2009/10 average is slightly above the average for the 2008/2009 school year which was 85.5%.

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