

# Results for Québec Students in the Pan-Canadian Assessment Program (PCAP): Highlights

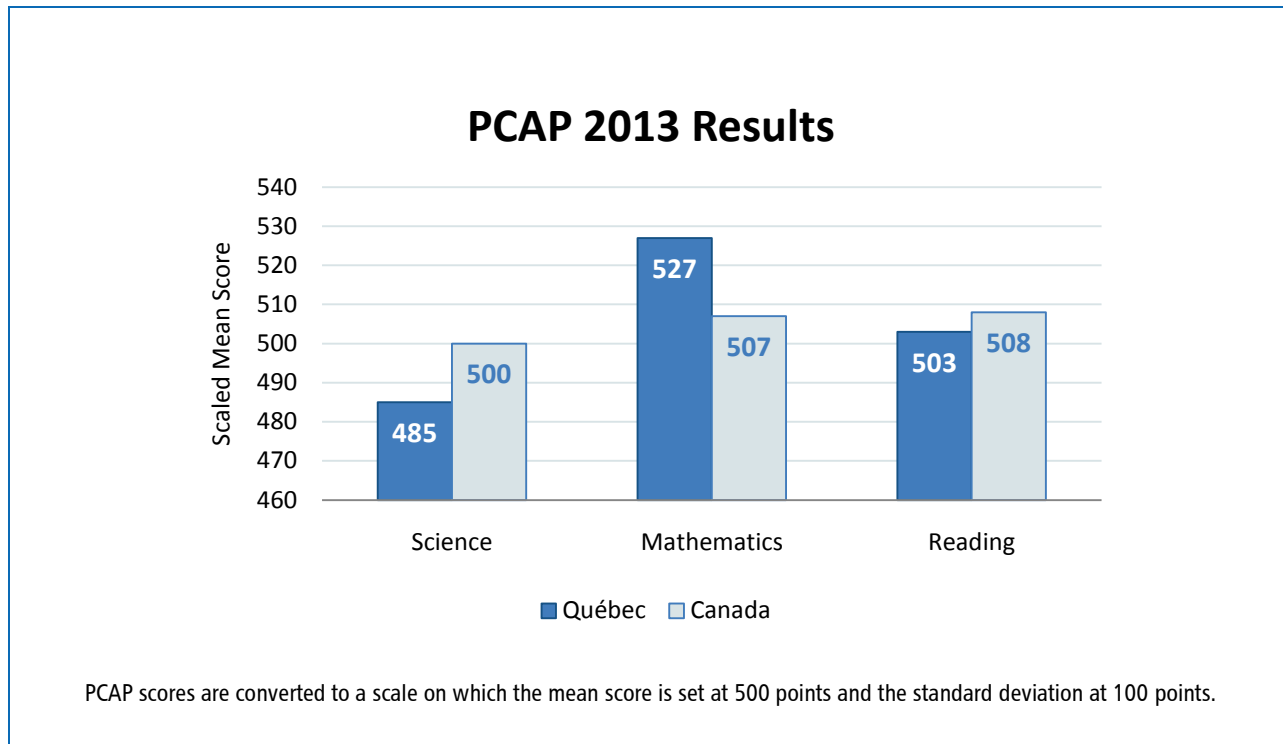
## What is the PCAP?

- ▶ The PCAP is an assessment that measures the knowledge and competencies of Canadian Secondary II (Grade 8) students in three domains: science, mathematics and reading.
- ▶ The implementation of the PCAP by the Council of Ministers of Education (Canada) follows a three-year cycle, which began in 2007. Every three years, more detailed results are presented for one of these domains.
- ▶ PCAP 2013 focused on science.

## Who participated in the PCAP?

- ▶ In 2013, 10 provinces participated in the PCAP.
- ▶ Each province provided a sample that was large enough for its results to be analyzed separately.
- ▶ Québec's sample consisted of 5 430 students from 232 schools.

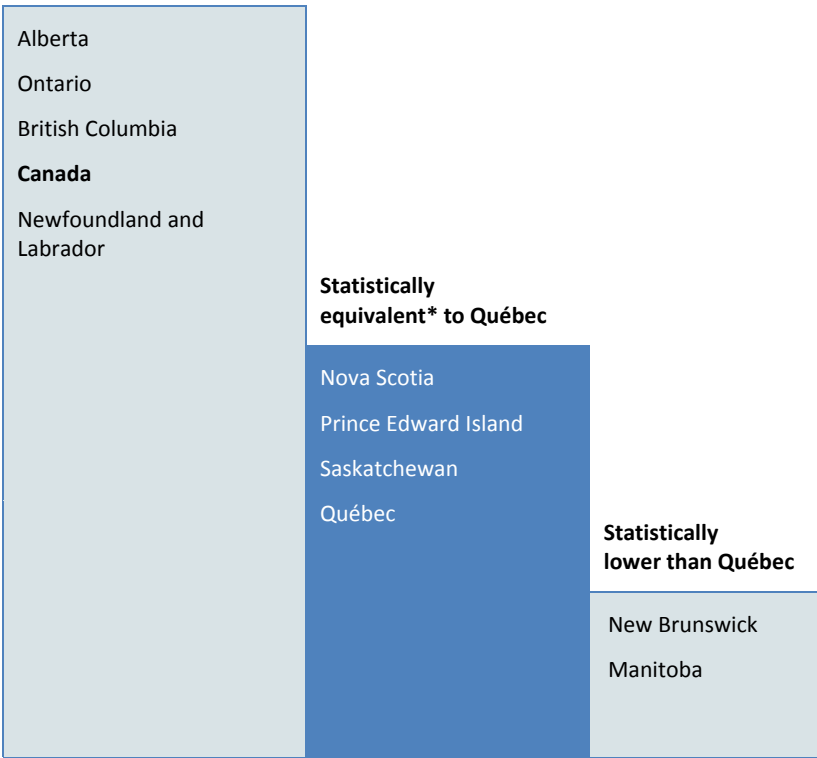
The results for Québec students in mathematics were higher than the Canadian mean.



## Overall Performance in Science

A total of 91% of Québec students performed at a level meeting or exceeding that expected of Canadian Secondary II/Grade 8 students.

### Statistically higher than Québec



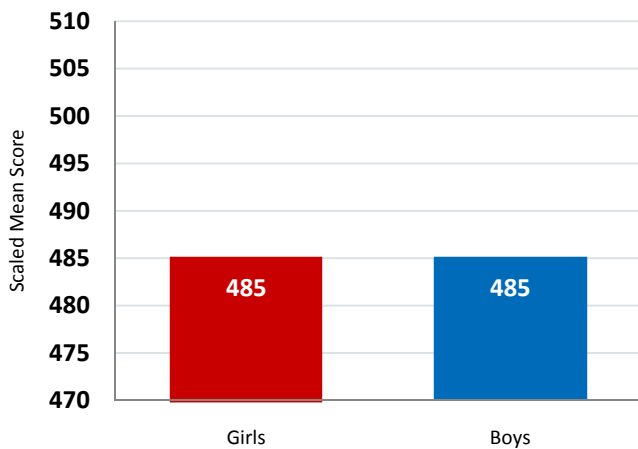
For each level, the provinces are ranked according to their absolute results.

\* Statistically equivalent means the same level of performance when taking into account the standard error resulting from the fact that only one sample of students was assessed.

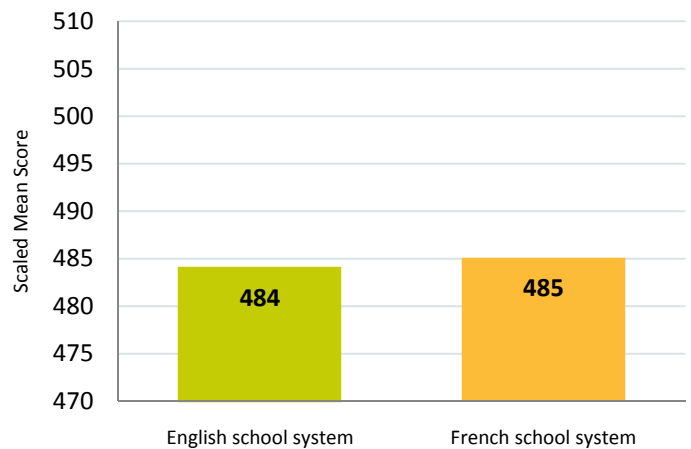
### Results for Québec Students: Highlights

- The performance of Québec students was below the Canadian mean in the four sub-domains (*Nature of science, Life science, Physical science, Earth science*) and the three competencies (*Science inquiry, Problem solving, Scientific reasoning*).
- Students in the French school system performed as well as students in the English school system, but performed better in the sub-domain of *Earth science*.
- The overall performance of boys was equal to that of girls. However, boys performed better in the sub-domain of *Physical science* and in the competency of *Problem solving*; girls performed better in the competency of *Science inquiry*.

### Achievement in science by gender



### Achievement in science by language



# Overall Performance in Mathematics

Statistically higher than Québec

Statistically equivalent\* to Québec

Québec

Statistically lower than Québec

- Ontario
- Canada
- Alberta
- Prince Edward Island
- British Columbia
- Saskatchewan
- Nova Scotia
- Newfoundland and Labrador
- New Brunswick
- Manitoba

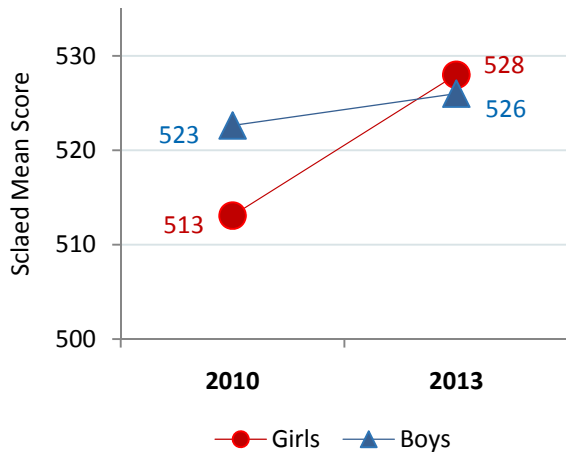
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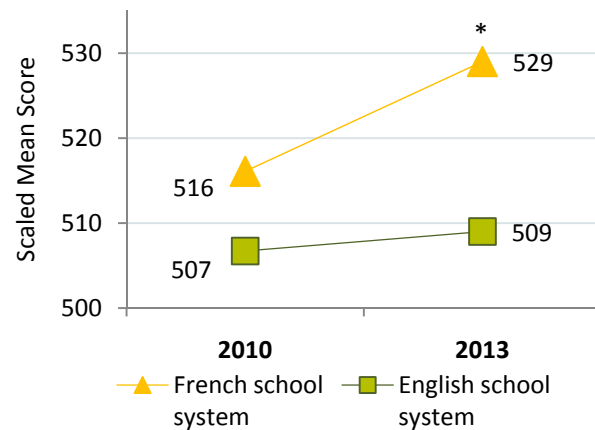
## Results for Québec Students: Highlights

- The overall results for Québec students were higher than the Canadian mean. Québec ranked first, as in 2010.
- Unlike PCAP 2010, in which boys performed better than girls, there was no gender gap in PCAP 2013.
- Students in the French school system performed better than students in the English school system.

Changes over time in mathematics achievement by gender



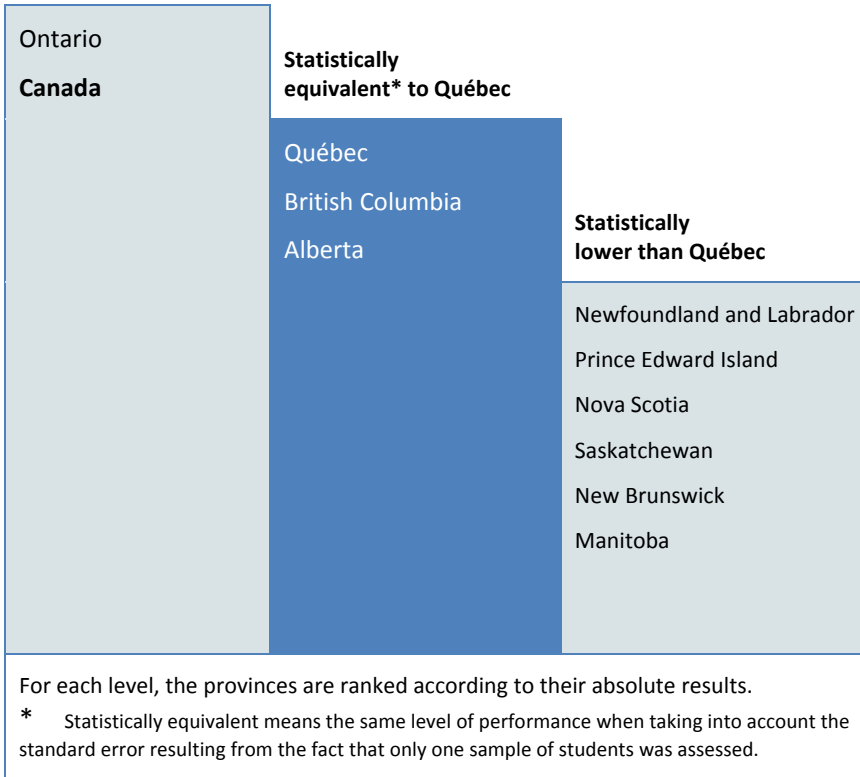
Changes over time in mathematics achievement by language



\* Significant difference

# Overall Performance in Reading

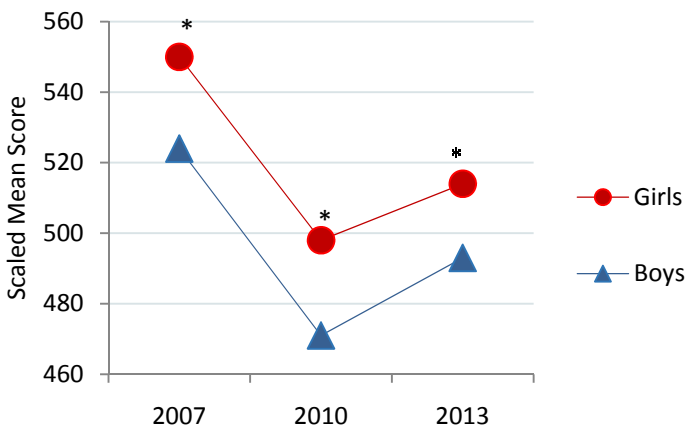
Statistically higher than Québec



## Results for Québec Students: Highlights

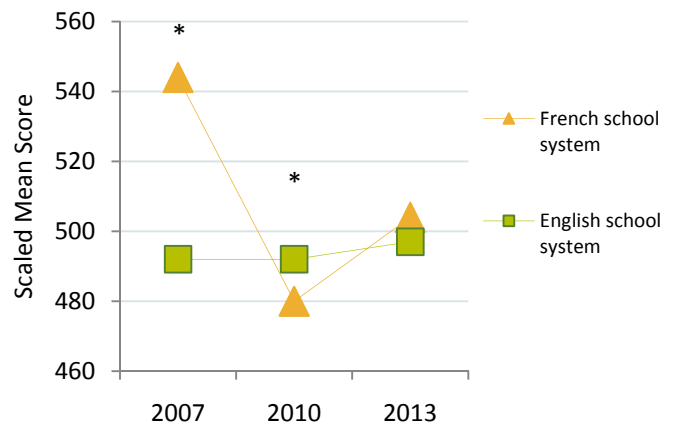
- The overall results for Québec students were below the Canadian mean. Only Ontario performed better than Québec in 2013, whereas 5 provinces were ranked ahead of Québec in 2010.
- Girls continued to perform significantly better than boys, and the gender gap has persisted since 2007.
- Students in the French school system performed as well as students in the English school system.

Changes over time in reading achievement by gender



\* Significant difference

Changes over time in reading achievement by language



\* Significant difference

Québec students achieved low results in science, ranked first in mathematics and have improved their results in reading since 2010.

	Province	2013	
<b>Science</b>	Alberta	521	Science became the major domain only in 2013. Given the differences between the assessment of science competencies in 2013 and in previous years, it is inappropriate to include PCAP 2007 and PCAP 2010 in the analysis of changes over time.
	British Columbia	501	
	Prince Edward Island	491	
	Manitoba	465	
	New Brunswick	469	
	Nova Scotia	492	
	Ontario	511	
	<b>Québec</b>	<b>485</b>	
	Saskatchewan	486	
	Newfoundland and Labrador	500	

	Province	2013	2010	Change	
<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>Québec</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>12*</b>	Mathematics was the major domain in 2010. Given the differences between the assessment of mathematics competencies in 2010/2013 and in 2007, it is inappropriate to include PCAP 2007 in the analysis of changes over time.
	Ontario	512	507	5	
	Alberta	502	495	7*	
	Prince Edward Island	492	460	32*	
	British Columbia	489	481	8*	
	Nova Scotia	488	474	14*	
	Saskatchewan	488	474	14*	
	Newfoundland and Labrador	487	472	15*	
	New Brunswick	480	478	2	
	Manitoba	471	468	3	

\* Significant difference

	Province	2013	2010	2007	Change (2013-2007)
<b>Reading</b>	Ontario	524	515	515	9
	<b>Québec</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>538</b>	<b>-35*</b>
	Alberta	502	506	502	0
	British Columbia	502	499	495	7
	Newfoundland and Labrador	495	486	478	17*
	Prince Edward Island	494	481	471	23*
	Nova Scotia	488	489	483	5
	Saskatchewan	487	491	482	5
	New Brunswick	471	479	471	0
	Manitoba	469	478	477	8

\* Significant difference

More information is available on the Web site of the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport: [http://www.mels.gouv.qc.ca/references/publications/resultats-de-la-recherche/detail/article/pan-canadian-assessment-program-8722-council-of-ministers-of-education-canada-8722-pcap-2010/?tx\\_ttnews\[lang\]=1](http://www.mels.gouv.qc.ca/references/publications/resultats-de-la-recherche/detail/article/pan-canadian-assessment-program-8722-council-of-ministers-of-education-canada-8722-pcap-2010/?tx_ttnews[lang]=1)