

**Education Update
for
DN Between the Bridges**

October 2018

(This version as of October 5, 2018)

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Blank pages in this report are for two-sided printing purposes, if you print it. Think of the environment.

Acknowledgements: ??

About Dennis Pilkey:

For nearly four decades, Dennis Pilkey has provided leadership in the application of a broad range of statistics to inform local, provincial, and national projects and initiatives. Dennis focuses on the use of qualitative and quantitative evidence to support policy development and strategic planning. His work has been presented at local, regional and national conferences and workshops. Many of his projects and reports have had a direct impact on policy, planning, and decision-making, whether for charitable organizations or for government departments.

Dennis's work experience includes eighteen years with the Nova Scotia Department of Education where he was responsible for management of data and information systems as well as the oversight and introduction of technology in the department. For ten years he was at the Department of Finance as the Director of the Nova Scotia Statistics Agency and led the development of Nova Scotia Community Counts.

Dennis Pilkey, as part of his volunteer activities, led the work to establish the Dartmouth Housing Help (DHH) office. In this and related endeavours, he has worked closely with many Dartmouth-based groups and projects that involved both housing and education.

Examples of recent and historical work can be found at [DWPilkey Consulting](#).

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Executive Summary

Keep it to one page

1. Introduction

Between the Bridges is a growing network of residents, not-for-profit organizations, departments of government and businesses making a commitment to working together in new ways, to tackle priority



complex social and population issues that have and continue to challenge the community of Dartmouth North (located geographically between the MacKay and Macdonald Bridges). The approach that is being taken is called “Collective Impact”; intended for issues that are so complex that not one organization, government, group of residents or business can identify and implement solutions by working in isolation or alone. Collective Impact demands the involvement of experience, insights of the people who are being impacted by the systems, working equitably with the

three sectors. Key to the early phases of Collective Impact is to understand the priority area(s) that the community identifies as important to focus energy and resources. The area of focus is called the Shared Agenda. Through a series of processes, including using data, qualitative interviews and community consultations, the Between the Bridges Network has identified four priority areas of focus including:

- Access to Health Services
- Community Fabric - Social Inclusion, Neighbourhood Safety & Community Pride
- Housing - Quality and Affordable
- Student Success

Each of the priority areas is taking a unique approach to recruiting cross-sectoral leaders and residents with lived experience to organize as a collective “table” and, through a series of processes, identify what specific topic or area they want to prioritize for systems level change. Integral to all the processes is the use of data, both qualitative and quantitative, to support the collective team in setting goals and measuring progress over time.

Through this report, the Student Success Alignment Team is seeking quantitative data to help create a shared context, including updates of the original* education indicators reported in 2012 and other relevant data. The Province of Nova Scotia and Halifax Regional Education Centre are committed and willing partners in providing this data.

*One of the contributing factors to initiation of the Between the Bridges project was concern over student achievement in Dartmouth North schools geographically located between the MacDonal and MacKay bridges. DWPilkey Consulting was engaged in the fall of 2011, under a United Way Knowledge grant, to determine the drop-out rate for schools in Dartmouth North¹.

¹ Over the last 10 years DWPilkey Consulting has been involved in researching and writing several reports about or including “Dartmouth North”. Each of the reports had a slightly different definition of Dartmouth North. The education work used the then current Dartmouth North Provincial Electoral District (P.E.D.). The current DN Between the Bridges, as pictured on this page is the geography used for this update.

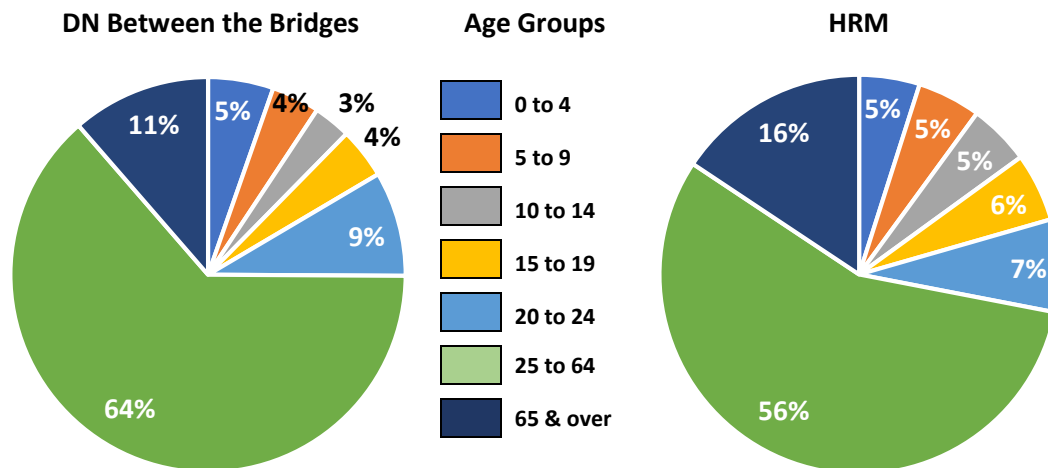
2. Demographic Context

The 2016 Census of Population is the first set of reliable data to provide a neighbourhood level perspective since 2006. Comparative age groups, household and family composition as well as population mobility provide key information about the education context. For a fuller demographic picture of DN Between the Bridges see [Dartmouth North Highlights](#).

According to the 2016 Census of Population, there were 12,700 people living in DN Between the Bridges².

The [2012 Education report](#) was based on the Dartmouth North Provincial Electoral District. The demographic data in that report used the 2006 Census and showed a population of 19,000. Further references to 2006 data included in this report are based on the current DN Between the Bridges geography, unless otherwise noted.

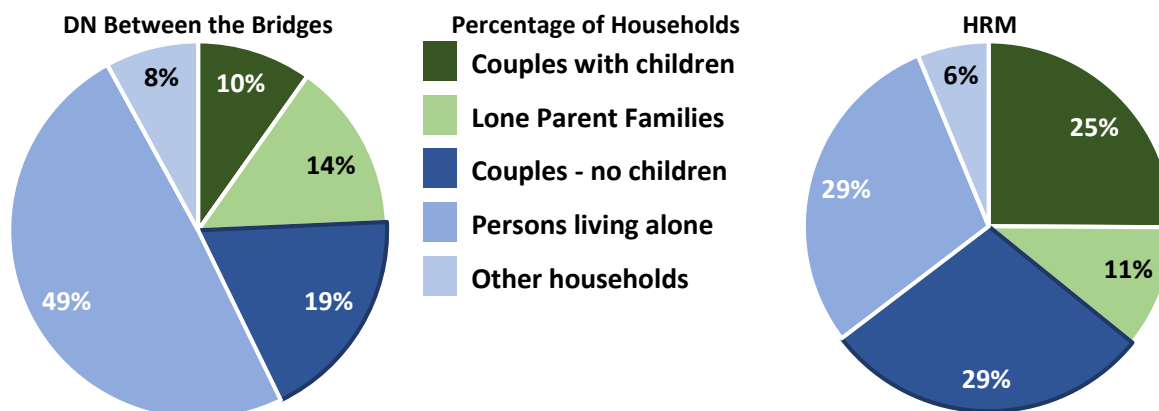
2.1 Population



DN Between the Bridges had 25% of its population in the 0 to 24 age range compared to 28% for HRM. Pre-school (ages 0 to 4) were 5.4%, public school age (5 to 19) were 11.1% and transition age (20 to 24) were 8.6% of the population. These compare to HRM at 4.9%, 15.6% and 6.1% respectively. The transition age group are likely moving from the public education system (grades primary to 12) into post-secondary education or the labour force.

² Census data for DN Between the Bridges has been modelled by DWPilkey Consulting from Statistics Canada Census of Population for 2006 and 2016.

2.2 Households with Children



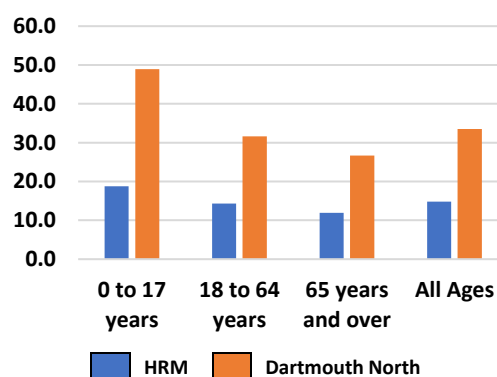
In DN Between the Bridges there were 25% of the households with children compared to 36% for HRM. The following table shows additional detail about the share of households by number of children in each household.

Percentage of Households	Dartmouth North		HRM	
	Couples	Lone parent families	Couples	Lone parent families
1 child	5.6	9.7	11.1	6.8
2 children	3.0	3.7	10.2	3.0
3 or more children	1.3	1.2	3.7	0.9
No children	18.5		28.8	
Other households	57.2		35.4	

2.3 Low income Measure (After Tax)

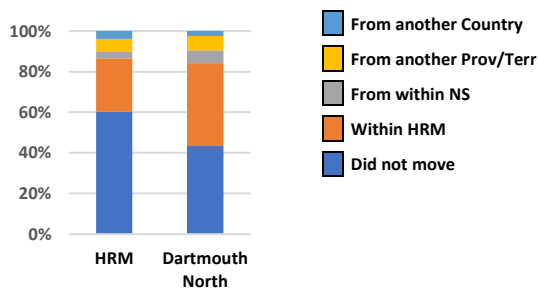
The After Tax Low Income Measure³ (LIM-AT) is a well recognized widely accepted measure of poverty.

- 49% of children live in households with low income compared to 19% for HRM.



³ LIM(AT) is a relative measure of poverty that is set at 50% of the median Canadian Income adjusted for family size and composition. 2016 Census income data is based on 2015 income.

2.4 Mobility

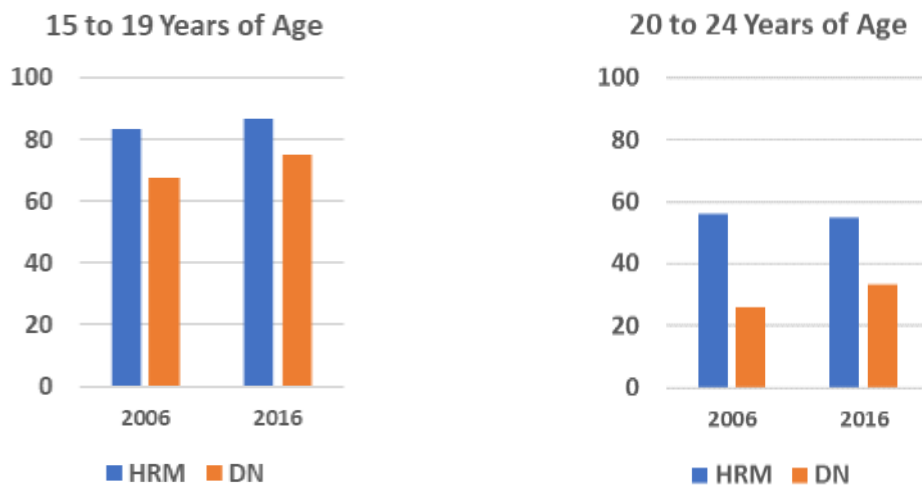


DN Between the Bridges' population was more mobile than HRM with 57% of its population having moved in the last five years compared to HRM at 40%. There were 41% that moved from within HRM while 2.5% came from another country. This compares to 26% and 4% respectively for HRM.

2.5 Education

2.5.1 Attendance at School

For HRM, almost 69% percentage of people in the 15 to 24 age range were attending school. This was close to the national average of just over 69%. For the 20 to 24 age range, 51% of males and 59% of females were attending school. Both were slightly higher than the national rate of 50% and 58% respectively.

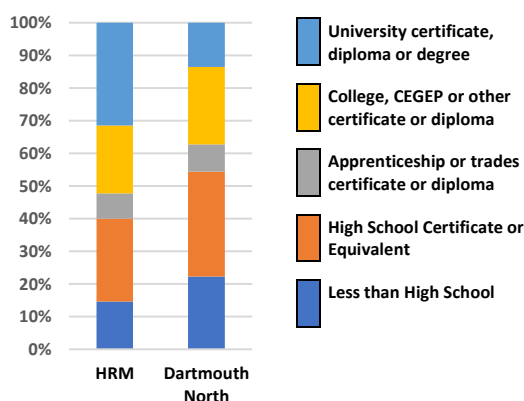


For DN Between the Bridges, 75% of people ages 15 to 19 and 33% of people ages 20 to 24 were still attending school in 2016. For HRM the corresponding figures are 87% and 55% respectively. For 2006, it is estimated that 68% of people ages 15 to 19 and 26% of people ages 20 to 24 were attending school. For HRM the corresponding figures were 83% and 56% respectively.

2.5.2 Education Attainment

Education Attainment measures the highest level of education received by an individual.

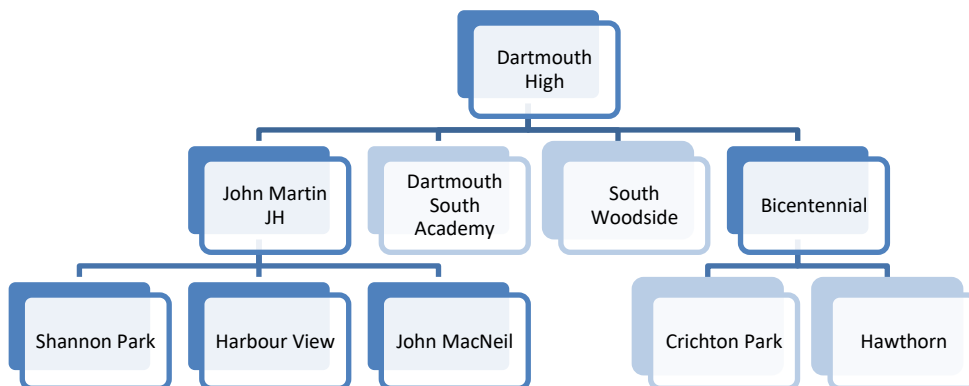
In DN Between the Bridges, in 2016, almost 46% of the population 15 years and older had a post-secondary certificate, diploma or degree and 22% a High School Certificate or equivalent compared to 60% and 15% respectively for Halifax. The table below shows that in the last ten years, the overall education attainment has improved slightly. The percentage population with less than a High School Certificate has decreased by 6.2 percentage points compared to only 0.7 percentage points improvement in HRM.



Education Attainment for Population Ages 15 and over				
	DN Between the Bridges		HRM	
	2006	2016	2006	2016
Population – 15 & over for education	10,800	10,950	284,940	337,205
Less than HS Certificate	28.4%	22.2%	15.4%	14.7%
HS Certificate or equivalent	28.3%	32.2%	22.9%	25.3%
Post-secondary certificate, diploma, degree	42.8%	45.6%	61.7%	60.0%

3. Dartmouth North Schools

The Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE) has a system of families of schools. The Dartmouth Family is centred on Dartmouth High School.



The DN Between the Bridges is primarily interested in the students that are or have been part of the John Martin JH branch as shown above as well as those students from Dartmouth North that are attending Bicentennial Elementary and Junior High and Dartmouth High. See Appendix A -Catchment Areas for the standard school boundaries of these schools. Since 2012, Prince Arthur Junior High was replaced with Dartmouth South Academy as a Primary to Grade 8 school. Dartmouth High now covers grades 9 to 12.

	Enrolment as of September 30				
	Grades Taught	Capacity	2007	2012	2017
Dartmouth High	9 to 12	1428	1103	787	953
Bicentennial	Pr to 9	498	317	283	314
John Martin	7 to 9	438	219	175	167
Shannon Park	Pr to 6	600	484	527	585
Harbourview	Pr to 6	600	226	210	208
John MacNeil	Pr to 9	269	205	196	238

4. School Indicators

4.1 Nova Scotia Student Assessments





The Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development carry out a regular Program of Learning Assessment for Nova Scotia. Assessments have been carried out annually for Grades 3, 6, and 8 for:

- Reading
- Writing IDEAS
- Writing ORGANIZATION
- Writing LANGUAGE USE
- Writing CONVENTION

Mathematics assessments have been done for grades 4, 6 and 8. As of 2018- 19, Mathematics will be combined with the above assessments and administered in the spring of 2019.

Examinations for the above subjects are administered for Grade 10.

The following pages compare the results⁴ of Dartmouth North schools with overall HREC results. The following can be used when reviewing the charts.

Below expectation	
Approaching expectation	
Meets expectation	
Above expectation	

Dart	Dartmouth High
HRCE	Halifax Regional Centre for Education
HV	Harbour View Elementary
JMacN	John MacNeil Elementary
JMart	John Martin Junior High
SP	Shannon Park Elementary
Bic	Bicentennial

% Not Included shown in the tables is the percentage of students who either did not write or there was not enough evidence to assign a value for the student. This is the percentage of those shown as total students for each of the assessments.

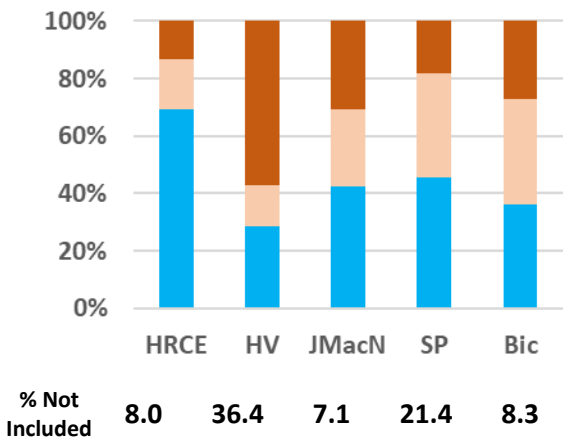
For Shannon Park, results are from students in both English & French Immersion programs

Reading, Writing and Mathematics are not yet available for 2017-18.

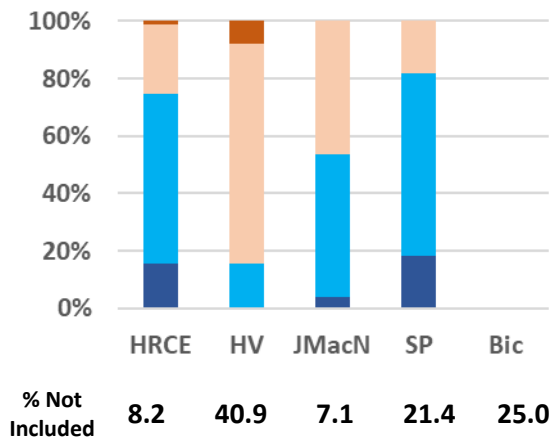
⁴ Data for the charts was provided by the Halifax Regional Centre for Education.

Grade 3 Assessments 2016-17

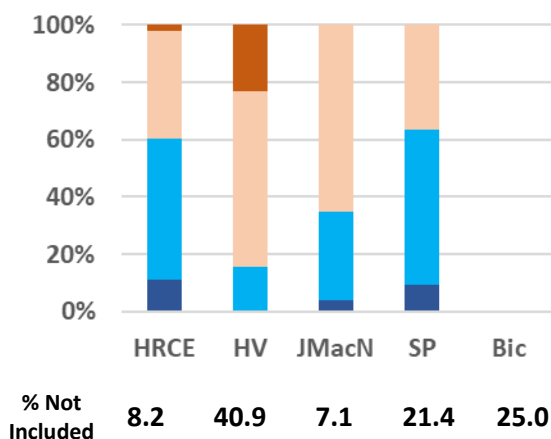
Reading



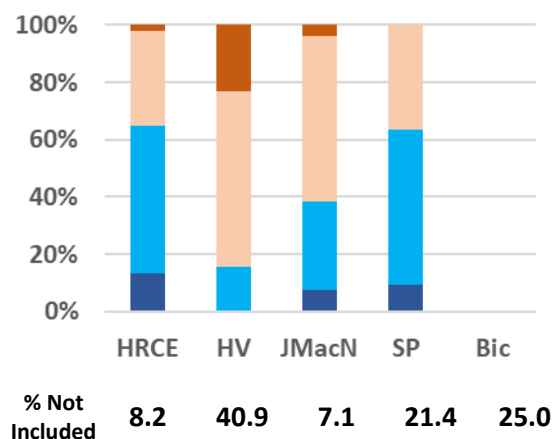
Writing IDEAS



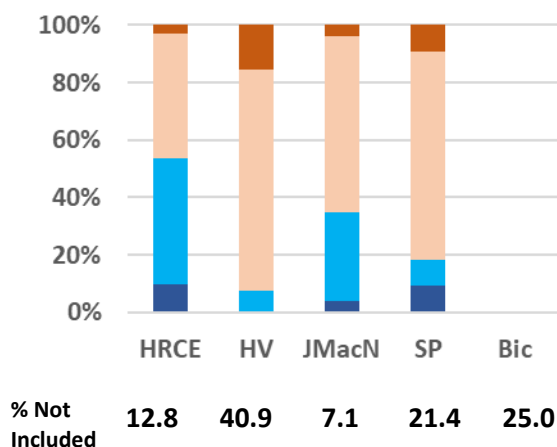
Writing ORGANIZATION



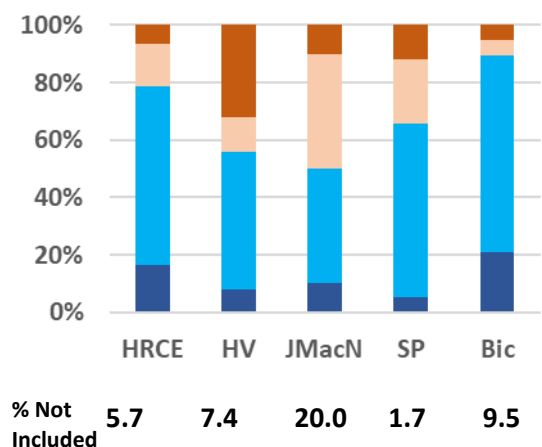
Writing LANGUAGE USE



Writing CONVENTIONS

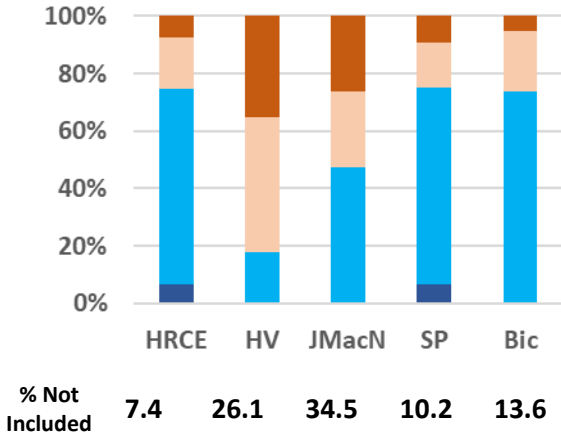


Mathematics – Grade 4

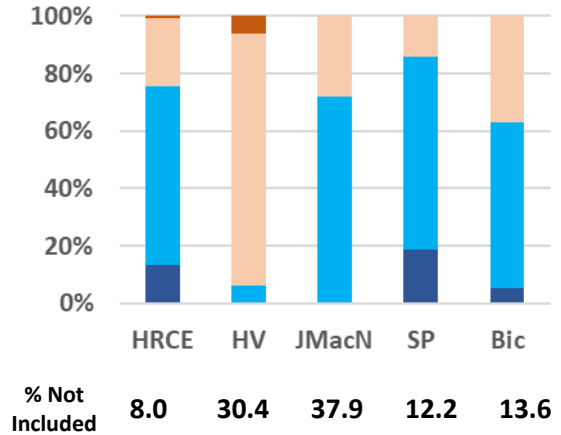


Grade 6 Assessments 2016-17

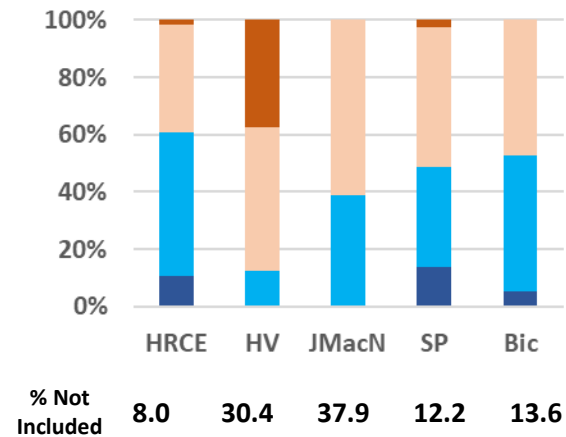
Reading



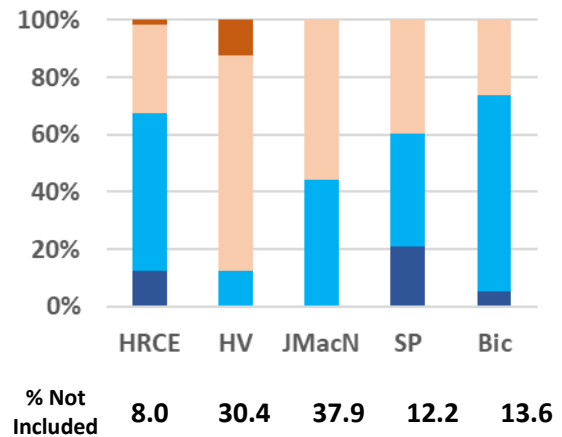
Writing IDEAS



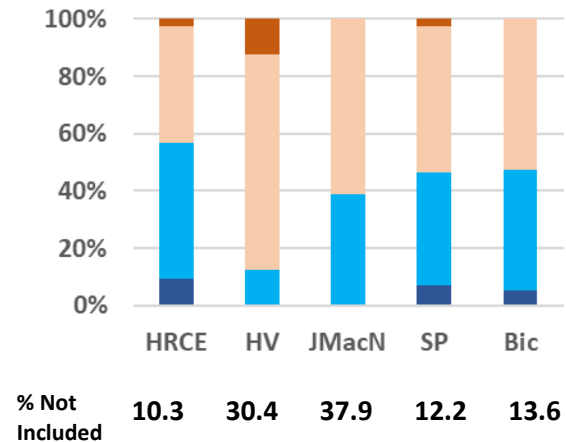
Writing ORGANIZATION



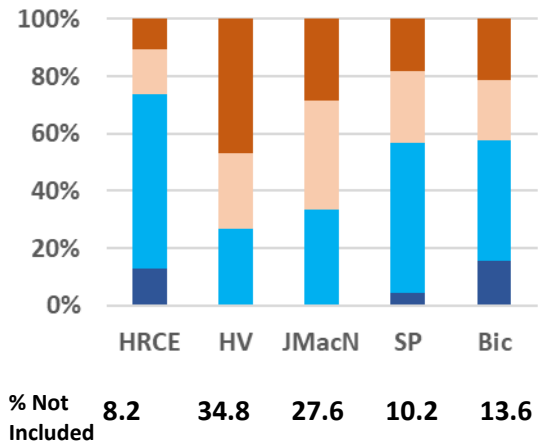
Writing LANGUAGE USE



Writing CONVENTIONS

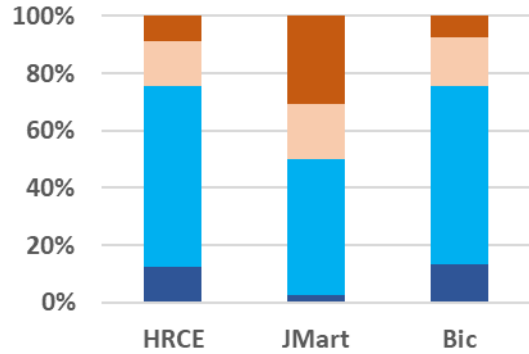


Mathematics

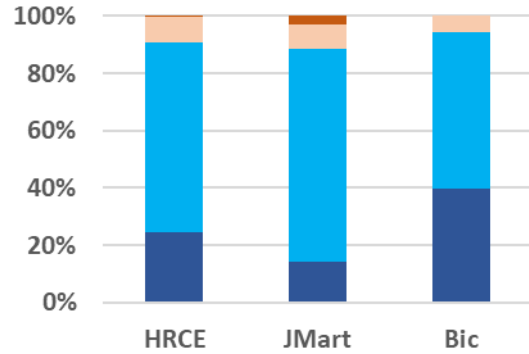


Grade 8 Assessments 2015-16

Reading



Writing IDEAS



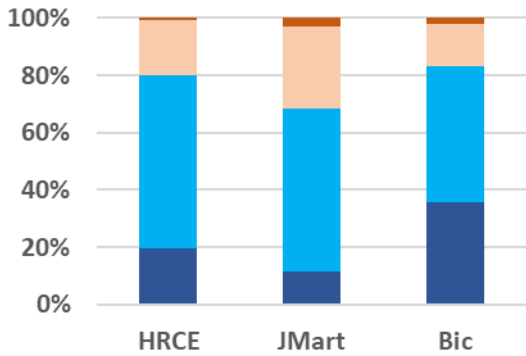
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7.7 36.8 3.6

% Not Included

8.7 38.6 3.6

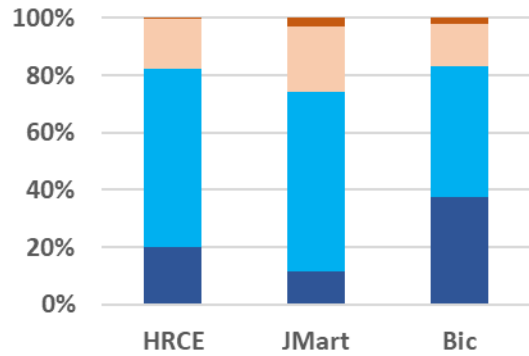
Writing ORGANIZATION



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8.7 38.6 3.6

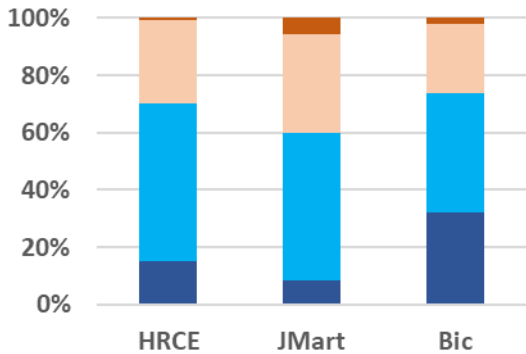
Writing LANGUAGE USE



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8.7 38.6 3.6

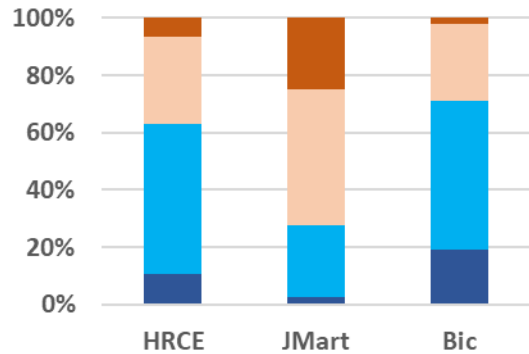
Writing CONVENTIONS



% Not Included

9.3 38.6 3.6

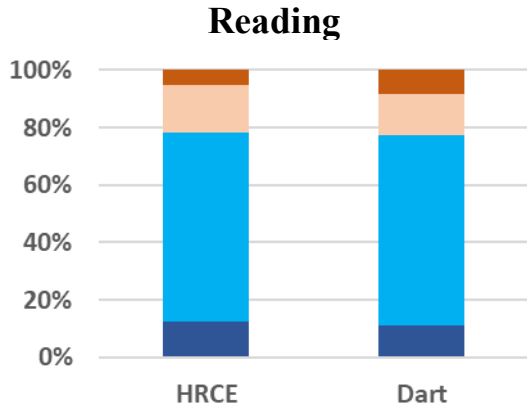
Mathematics



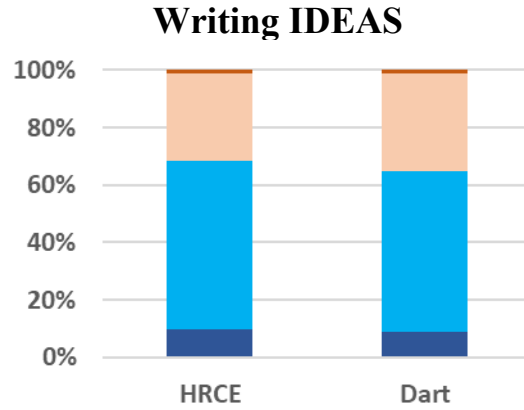
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10.0 36.8 5.5

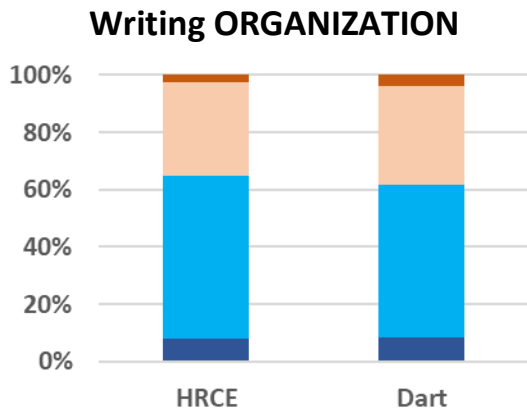
Grade 10 Assessments 2015-16



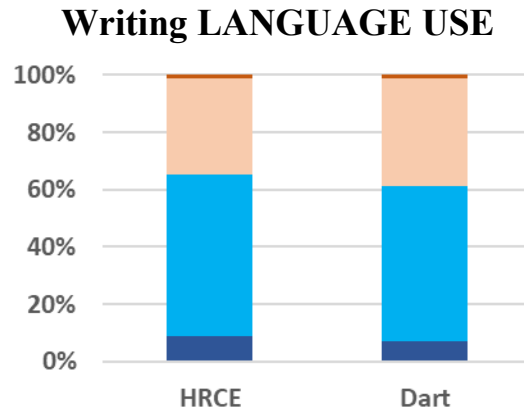
% Not Included **5.6** **8.3**



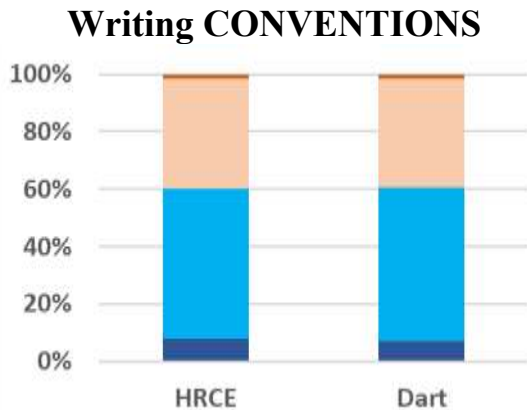
% Not Included **8.3** **11.7**



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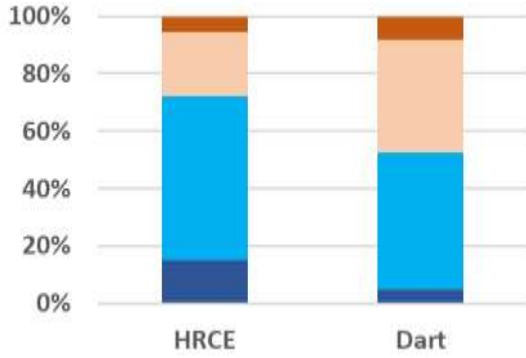
% Not Included **8.3** **11.7**



Grade 10 Assessments 2015-16

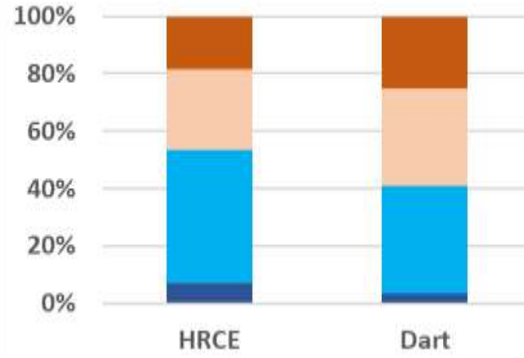
% Not Included 9.0 11.7

Mathematics



% Not Included 2.3 1.1

Mathematics at Work



% Not Included 9.5 20.0

4.2 Student Withdrawals

4.3 Attendance

4.4 Individual Program (IP) Participation

4.5 Graduation

The above sections as well as those shown below will depend on the data and its results when received from HRCE.

5. About the Students

5.1 Student Records

Update this with current contextual information about provincial student records.

Add process and steps taken to get data. Actual headings to be used will depend on data received and the results.

5.2 Highlights

5.3 Source of Students

5.4 Last Year Attended

5.5 Drop-out Rates

5.6 Transferred Students

5.7 Education Outcomes

5.8 After Graduation

6. Appendix A – Catchment Areas

Harbourview Elementary

Shannon Park Elementary



John MacNeil Elementary



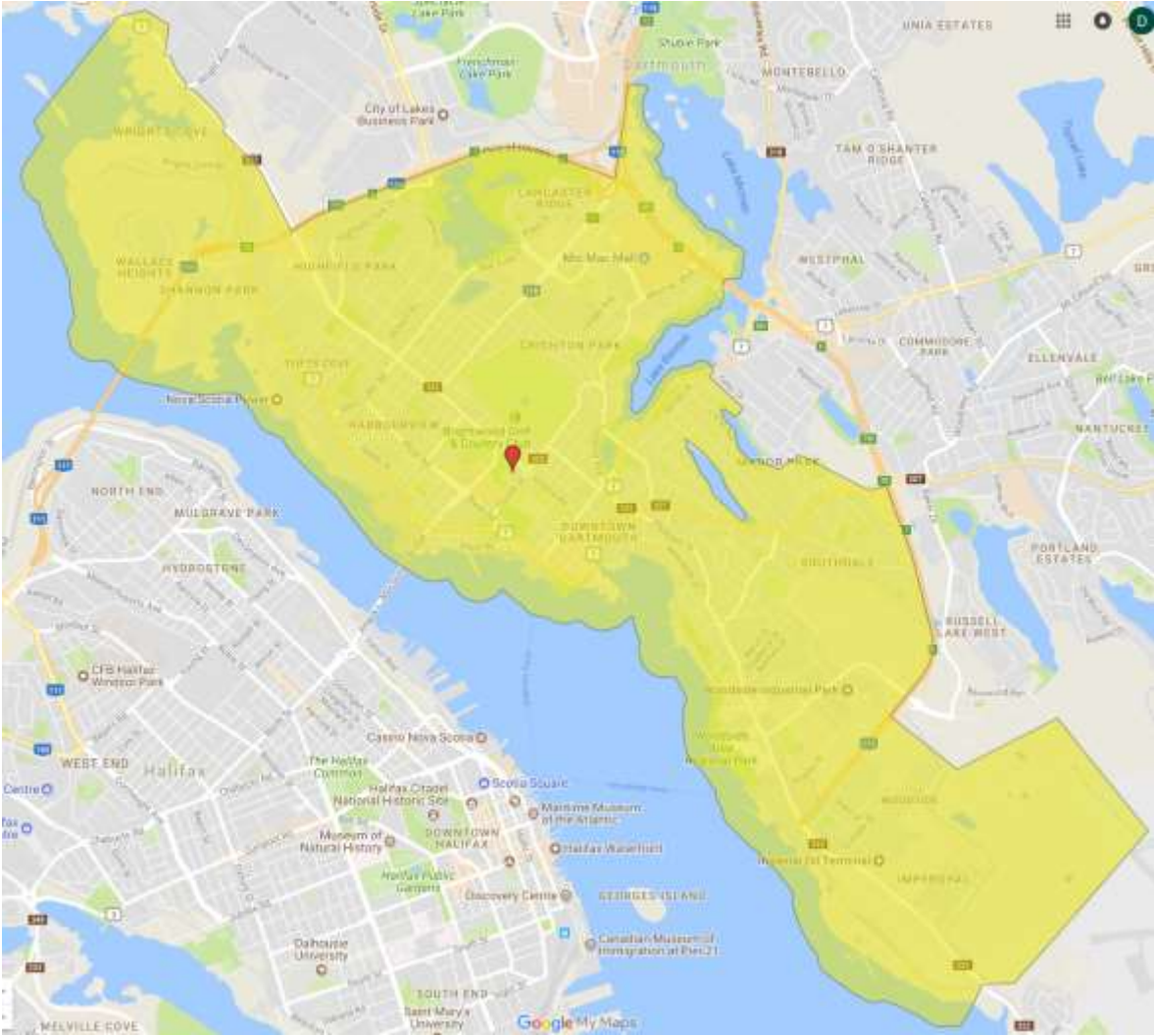
John Martin Junior High



Bicentennial



Dartmouth High



7. Appendices under development

7.1 Appendix B - Sources of Data

Statistics Canada

Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE)

7.2 Appendix C – Glossary of Selected Terms

Attendance at School

Attendance Rate

Dropout Rate

Education Attainment

Graduation Rate

Individual Program