

Report on Citizenship Test Results August 2013

For MINO

Prepared by Citizenship and Multiculturalism Branch

Notes:

1. This report and the data presented are intended for internal CIC use only, and not for distribution outside the Department. Permission must be received prior to releasing any data into the public domain.
2. Information reflected in this report is derived from distinct data sources: a) *Global Case Management System* (GCMS) and *Field Operations Support System* (FOSS) provide demographic data; and b), *local office test reports* provide data on test versions.

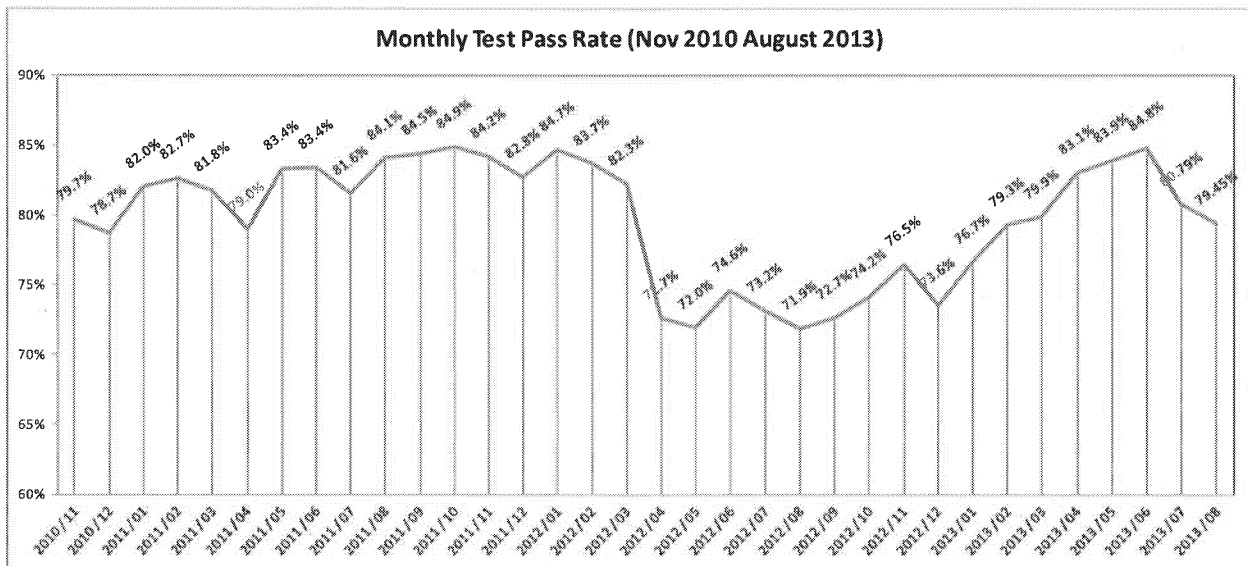
A. Report Summary and Highlights:

- The monthly test pass rate across the country in [redacted] was 79.4%, which is a slight drop from the [redacted] pass rate of 80.8%.
- Before the introduction of the new citizenship test [redacted] the pass rate was 96%. Since the introduction of the new citizenship test the overall pass rate has averaged 81%
- As part of regular scrambling of test versions and questions, [redacted] test versions were introduced [redacted] As is usually the case, the difficulty of the test questions and subject matter content have been balanced and calibrated.
- As of June 3, 2013, if applicants fail the written test, they are given a second opportunity to take the written test before being referred to a judge.
- Analysis of citizenship applicant demographic information collected through administrative databases consistently demonstrate that applicants' education level is the most influential factor behind test pass rates.

Note: The data presented is aggregated and therefore does not take into account the variables that explain the differences in pass rates between groups.

B. Historical Monthly Pass Rates

Data taken from CIC's Global Case Management System (GCMS) & Field Operations Support System (FOSS)



- Due to regulatory changes as of October 14th 2010, mandatory questions were removed from the citizenship test, and a new test was implemented [redacted] Since that time, the monthly pass rate has been monitored and adjusted where necessary, to ensure the test is neither too easy nor too difficult as seen above. New questions were introduced [redacted] and [redacted] On [redacted] test versions (versions [redacted] and [redacted] i [redacted])
- [redacted] seven [redacted] test versions were introduced. [redacted] new versions of the test were introduced. The most recent introduction of new questions and scramble of test questions were [redacted]

Test Pass Rates By Test Version

- New written test versions were introduced [redacted] As new test versions include a scrambling of questions based on level of difficulty as well as new or re-formulated questions, monitoring of new versions is critical.
- This data on versions is collected manually from local CIC offices in Canada. This currently is the only data collection method available for pass rates by test version and may therefore produce slightly different data than in GCMS.
- **Note:** Pass rates by version are preliminary and not statistically significant as the sample size does not satisfy the 95% confidence level and +/-5% margin of error due to frequent scrambling in a short period of time.

Test Version	[redacted]			[redacted]			[redacted]		
	English	French	Average	English	French	Average	English	French	Average
Version [redacted]	81.5%	83.9%	82.0%	78.3%	86.0%	81.0%	78.4%	89.7%	80.4%
Version [redacted]	78.3%	84.0%	79.2%	81.0%	87.1%	82.4%	83.6%	89.2%	85.0%
Version [redacted]	83.7%	86.9%	84.1%	86.1%	87.7%	86.5%	86.0%	89.0%	86.1%
Version [redacted]	83.2%	79.3%	82.5%	85.0%	89.6%	86.1%	83.1%	91.0%	84.2%
Version [redacted]	84.9%	76.2%	83.6%	85.0%	86.3%	85.1%	85.0%	86.2%	85.0%
Variance	6.6%	10.7%	4.9%	7.8%	3.6%	5.5%	7.6%	4.8%	5.7%

- Between [redacted], there were 2,229 tests administered (1,854 in English and 375 in French). By comparison, between [redacted], there were 9,799 tests administered (8,347 in English and 1,452 in French).
- The English and French tests are the same by version, and as such, the variance (the difference between the lowest test version and highest test version) can be compared on average. Of the tests administered from [redacted] the variance has slightly declined to 4.9%, suggesting that the level of difficulty has remained relatively consistent. On average, [redacted] of the current versions could be considered to be performing poorly.

Re-Testing Pass Rate

- Data is collected manually from local CIC offices in Canada. This currently is the only data collection method available for pass rates for re-testing and may therefore produce slightly different data than in GCMS.

Note: Re-test version [redacted] was pulled. [redacted] and [redacted] new re-test versions were issued

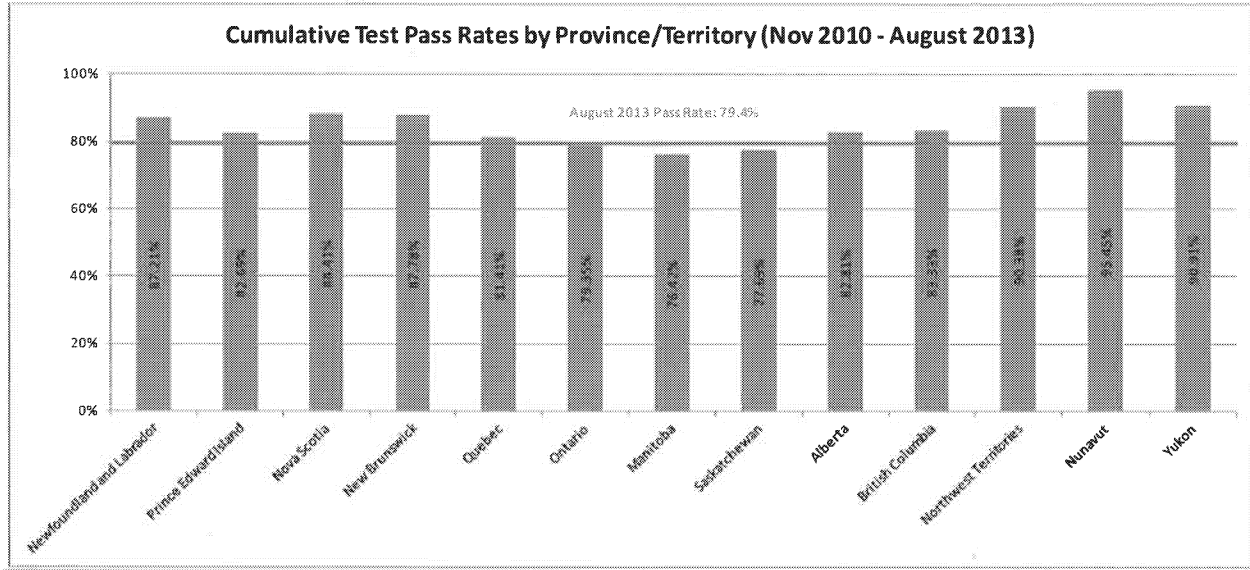
Re-Test Introduced	[redacted]	[redacted]
Re-test Pass Rate	70% (944 tests)	70% (833 tests)

C. Summary graphs of cumulative test pass rates from November 2010-August 2013

Data from CIC's Global Case Management System (GCMS) & Field Operations Support System (FOSS)

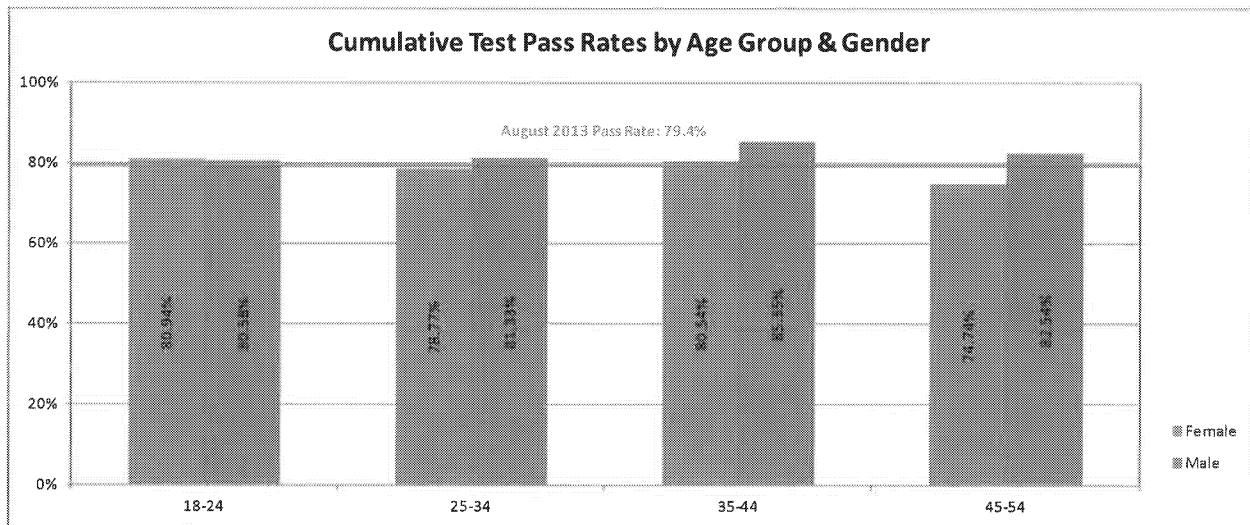
Cumulative Test Pass Rates By Province / Territory

- **Note:** Test pass rates for the applicants residing in the three Territories (Northwest Territories, Nunavut, and Yukon) need to be interpreted with caution as there are generally very few applicants (about 0.1% of the cumulative total of applicants) resulting in a sample size which is too small to be reliable.



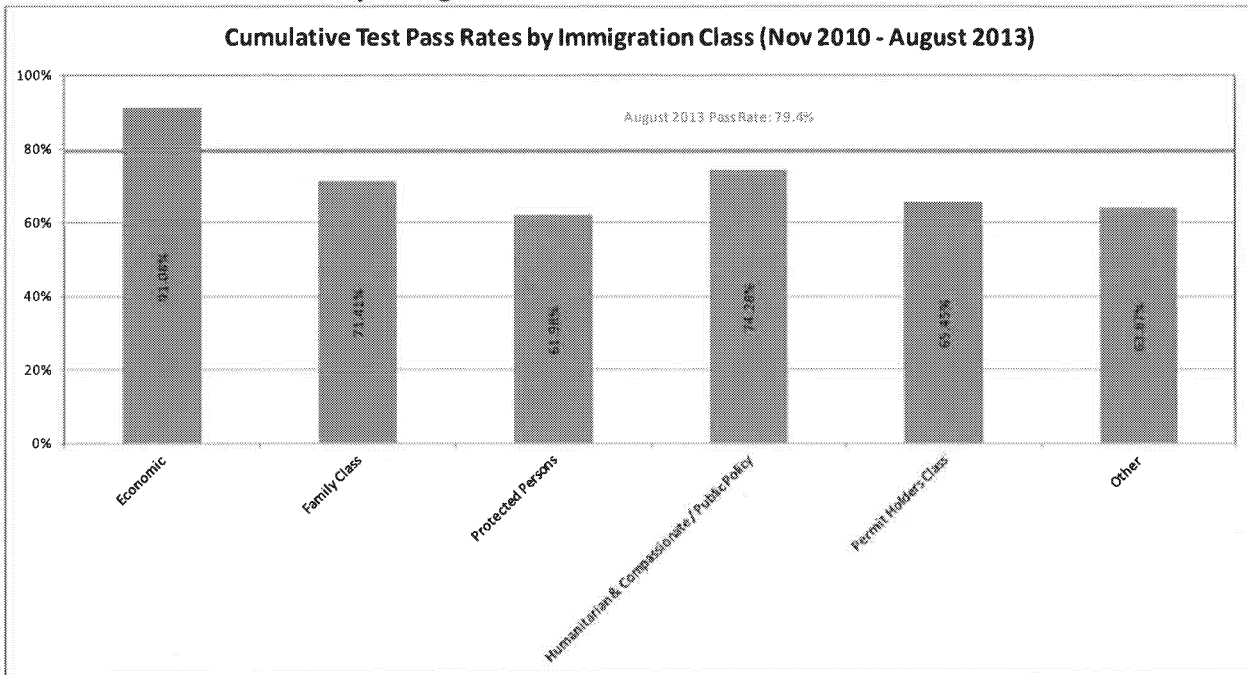
- Applicants residing in the Province of Manitoba, representing about 2% of all tests administered, have consistently shown the lowest test pass rates (cumulative is currently 76.4%).
- Conversely, applicants residing in the four Atlantic Provinces (New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador), representing about 1.5% of all tests administered, consistently have the highest test pass rates.

Cumulative Test Pass Rates by Age Group and Gender (November 2010 – August 2013)



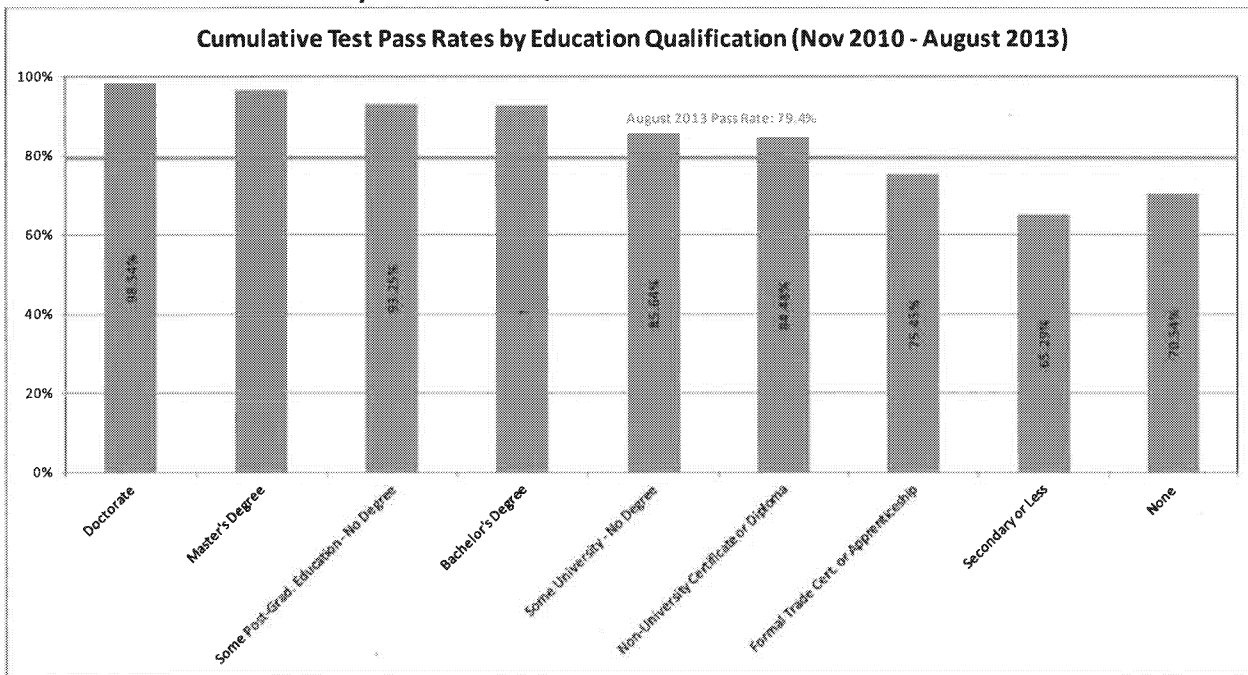
- Generally, male pass rates continue to be slightly higher than female pass rates.

Cumulative Test Pass Rates by Immigration Class



- Applicants of the economic immigration categories, representing over 50% of tests administered, consistently show the highest test pass rates.

Cumulative Test Pass Rates by Educational Qualification



- This reiterates findings from a CIC regression analysis which estimated the effect of applicant characteristics and identified which characteristics are associated with failing the written citizenship knowledge test. Generally, regression analysis findings show that pass rate would increase with the educational attainment.