

# School Profile 2006-2007



OTTAWA-CARLETON  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## Cairine Wilson Secondary School

Grades 9 to 12 (semestered)



### Address

975 Orléans Blvd.  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1C 2Z5

Phone: 613-824-4411  
Fax: 613-824-5679

### Hours

8:10 a.m.-2:10 p.m.

[www.ocdsb.ca/CWILweb/](http://www.ocdsb.ca/CWILweb/)

### Principal

Bruce Whitehead

### Vice Principal

Debbie Millett  
Frank Boyer

### Office Administrator

Blanche Stanzell

### Chief Custodian

Andre Vinette

### School Council Chair

Debra Wyatt  
Sandra Baker-Gregory

### Superintendent of Instruction

Larry Archibald

### School Trustee

John Shea

### Chair of the Board

Rob Campbell

### Director of Education/ Secretary of the Board

Lorne M. Rachlis

### General Board Information

613-721-1820

[www.ocdsb.ca](http://www.ocdsb.ca)

## Our School

Nestled on the banks of the Ottawa River, Cairine Wilson Secondary School, commonly known as the "Jewel of the East," is a community school thoroughly reflecting its mission statement. Cairine Wilson demonstrates the qualities of commitment, pride, and respect in the true spirit of Canada's first female senator. This continues to serve as a model for effective leadership within the school today.

Cairine Wilson's caring and dynamic staff are committed to fostering a stimulating and enriching learning environment while delivering a rich core studies program in addition to providing many additional co-curricular opportunities. Specialty programs such as Peer Helpers, French Immersion, Environmental Studies, Food & Nutrition, Transportation Technology, and Construction Technology (in partnership with Sir Wilfred Laurier), and Leadership are a few examples of these additional curriculum opportunities.

## Our Students

Cairine Wilson SS has a rich combination of urban and rural students.

The school has an enrolment of approximately 700 students.

Enriching our student population are 20 students in two Developmentally Delayed classrooms. These classrooms assist students in acquiring important life skills in a regular school setting as they transition to life in the community after high school.

Our students are committed to academic and personal success while exhibiting a high level of participation, initiative, and motivation. After graduation, a large majority of our students attend university or college with many gaining entrance scholarships. In June 2006, Cairine's graduates were offered scholarships in excess of \$300,000

## Our Staff

Cairine Wilson's teaching staff includes 50 dedicated teachers. Collectively they boast a wealth of professional qualifications including Bachelors and Masters degrees in Physical Education, Guidance, Math and Science, as well as additional qualifications in Business, Special Education, Dramatic and Visual Arts, Guidance, Cooperative Education and Computers in Education to serve students. They guide students as they strive for personal and academic success while preparing them for future endeavours. In addition to a strong academic focus, our staff also places strong emphasis on co-curricular activities that include an extensive interscholastic program, many opportunities for student leadership training and development, and an active partnership with Mafube Junior High School in South Africa.

*The Ottawa-Carleton District School Board challenges all students to achieve personal excellence in learning and responsible citizenship within a safe, equitable, diverse and caring environment.*

# Our Community

## Parents and Community

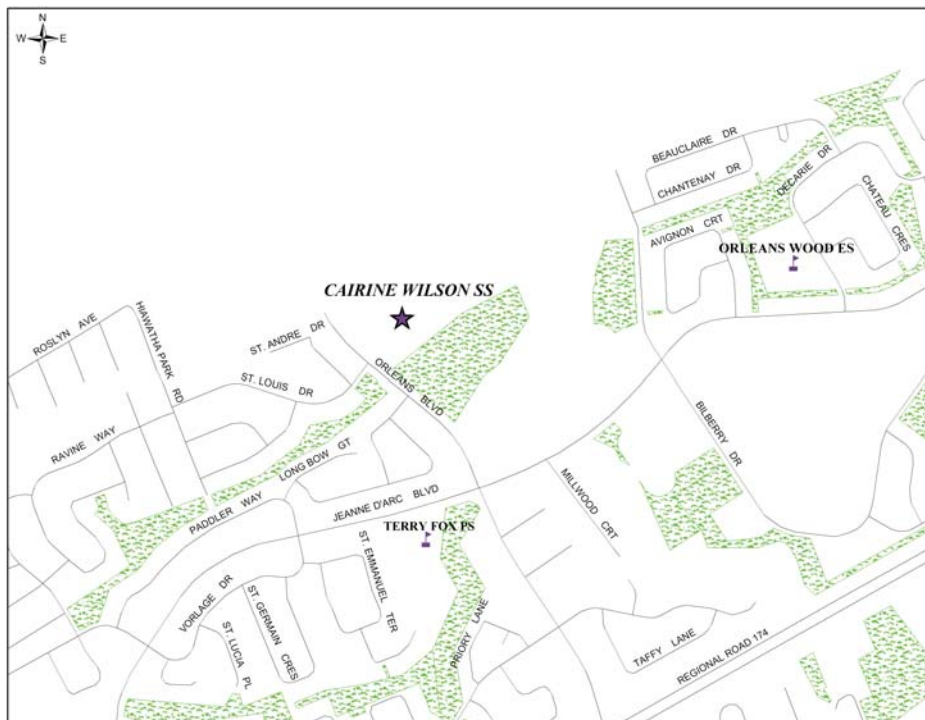
Students, staff, and members of the community treat each other with respect. A rationale of commitment, pride, and respect welcomes full community involvement.

Partnerships are important at Cairine Wilson. Partners such as the Ottawa-Carleton Regional Police, CHEO, OPHA, Junior Achievement of Ottawa, Aramark, the City of Ottawa, and Public Health provide input and resources to our schools many programs. In the true spirit of partnership, our students willfully give back to the community. Our student leaders provide leadership training to local businesses in addition to adopting streets and parks in our community showing our strong sense of environmental awareness. Our School Council is very active in its advisory role. It fundraises in support of curriculum initiatives and responds to issues raised by the principal.



## Mission Statement

*Cairine Wilson Secondary School provides a learning environment that fosters the pursuit of academic and personal excellence through commitment, pride, and respect. Our staff, students and parents are committed to offering a safe, healthy, and nurturing school community that provides equal opportunity for all.*



# Programs and Services

## Academic Programs

Cairine Wilson prides itself on its academic program. Our core departments of Science, Mathematics, English, and Social Science are further buoyed by opportunities for students in the areas of French Immersion, Cooperative Education, Environmental studies, Outdoor Education, and Fine Arts (Drama, Fine Arts, Music). Additional curriculum foci at Cairine Wilson include the integration of technology into the curriculum by providing opportunities for students that include direct, hands-on experiences in courses such as Food & Nutrition, Transportation Technology, Computer Technology, and Entrepreneurial studies. Proposed to continue next year is a partnership with Sir Wilfred Laurier Secondary School in the area of Construction Technology and House Building.

## Classroom Organization

Cairine Wilson Secondary School is a semestered grade 9 to 12 community school offering both applied and academic level courses at the grade nine and ten levels as well as college and university classes at the grade 11 and 12 levels. Open courses are offered at all grade levels. Locally developed courses in mathematics at the grade 9 and 10 levels provide the foundation for workplace courses at the grade 11 and 12 levels. Number of classes:

Grade 9	21
Grade 10	30
Grade 11	28
Grade 12	27

## Special Education and ESL Programs

Grade 9 locally developed programs combining Mathematics and Learning Strategies  
Remedial support and educational assessments with our Learning Support Team  
Pyramid of interventions for all students in support of student success.  
Student Success Teacher with responsibilities in the areas of credit recovery, guidance, and learning support for students.



## Facilities and Resources

- A Library Resource Center with technology facilities including computers with Internet access
- 3 computer labs with dual platform capability
- An opportunity room for students featuring four student computers with support from teachers and educational assistants.
- Environmental Center equipped for outdoor education activities (including 10 canoes)
- Large double gym with change room/shower facilities
- Music facilities
- Cafetorium with stage for special events, equipped with the most up-to-date multimedia equipment
- Lecture Theatre equipped for multimedia presentations
- Excellent drama facilities
- A beautiful campus bordering the Ottawa River

## Safe Schools Initiatives

### Code of Behaviour

Cairine Wilson SS has a code of behaviour that was collegially developed by students, staff, and school council. This code of behaviour is printed in the student planner and is available from the school office.

### Other safe school initiatives

- Commitment, Pride, Respect
- Peer Mediation
- Conflict Resolution
- Anti-Bullying Workshops

## Clubs and Activities

- Field Hockey
- Hockey (males, females)
- Nordic Skiing
- Peer Helpers/Mediators
- Rugby
- Ski Club
- Soccer
- S.O.L.E. (Leadership)
- Flag Football (girls)
- Golf
- Grad Committee
- Wrestling
- Multi-Media Club
- Literacy Partners
- Math Club
- Athletic Association
- Band (Jazz, Concert); Choir
- Badminton/Baseball
- Basketball
- Book/Multicultural Club
- Junior Achievers
- Chess
- Cross-Country Running
- Drama/Improv
- Touch Football
- Track & Field
- Voices
- Tennis
- Yearbook
- Volleyball

# Achievement and School Improvement Planning

## Measures of Student Achievement and Success

Cairine Wilson SS promotes excellence in all aspects of school life – academics, citizenship, and co-curricular activities. We are proud of the many accomplishments of our students. Some of these include:

- Student's enrolled in grade nine academic and applied mathematics classes are assessed at the end of their grade 8 year on a diagnostic test of Mathematics to aid in curriculum planning. In addition, each level is also evaluated on the EQAO standardized test of mathematics once per semester.
- Grade 10 students are assessed on the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test. In the 2005-2006 school year, 90% of our first-time eligible students were successful in meeting this very important mandatory graduation requirement.
- All students participate in the district-wide examination process in English 4U and English 4C, as well as in Functions and Relations 3U and Functions 3M.
- In 2005-2006, 52 of our students made the Honour role (final average in excess of 80%) and 51 were Ontario scholars (final average of 80% in their best 6 grade 12 courses). In addition, 11 of our students received OCDSB Silver Medals (final averages in excess of 90%). Forty-one students earned French Immersion Certificates. Eight of our students earned Triple-A awards/certificates.
- In excess of 70% of our graduates enter post-secondary institutions; two-thirds of these enter universities, one-third of these enter colleges
- 33% of our graduates were Ontario scholars.
- Public accolades for our leadership program continue with its renewed focus on "Making Poverty History" in support of eradicating poverty in South Africa.

## School Improvement Plans and Initiatives

Cairine Wilson's School Improvement Plan and Initiatives focus on three areas:

### Student Achievement

Areas for improvement in student achievement (based upon District-wide assessment) include:

In grade nine mathematics in both academic and applied classrooms, our goal is to continue to focus on the percentage of students achieving overall scores of level three and four on EQAO tests

In the area of English, our focus is to facilitate further development of skill sets related to short story analysis and essay writing

### School Focus

- Curriculum review, development, and implementation to be embedded in each department. This process will include aspects of assessment and evaluation including rich performance tasks as well as balanced literacy; providing sufficient staff PD as much as possible.
- Technology focus: we will continue to consult with students, staff, and school council to identify needs for more practical, hands-on courses.

### System Focus

- Literacy – through establishing a cross-curricular literacy committee who will facilitate staff PD, imbedding this important aspect of student development in all classrooms to the same degree.
- Numeracy – Continued focus on connections with feeder schools looking at curriculum delivery and highlighting important aspects of the curriculum; facilitating staff PD between elementary and secondary colleagues and the sharing of best practices to improve student achievement.

# Leadership Recognition

**"Leadership in the OCDSB is the demonstration of personal initiative to achieve a positive outcome."**

## **Students:**

- One of the most innovative features of Cairine Wilson is our student leadership initiatives run by Student's Council and S.O.L.E. (Student's on the Leading Edge). Each of these student groups assumes an active role in creating a spirited, inviting school atmosphere. We acknowledge their contributions on a regular basis in our classrooms, school announcements, representation on School Council, and staff appreciation. Our most recent community fundraisers saw students raise in excess of \$1200 for our annual Terry Fox run. For the third consecutive year students in our Leadership program have successfully orchestrated a 'Relay for Life' activity. This venture has raised more than \$75,000 in support of cancer research and hosted such special guests as Max Keeping. Other fundraising activities also included raising \$3500 for our annual Christie Lake Camp Cleanup in support of marginalized youth.

## **Staff:**

- Cairine Wilson's staff members are a very collaborative group. Together staff has actively participated in numerous Board-wide professional development activities in literacy and numeracy and contribute routinely at the system level. We also recognize staff leadership via personal interactions with one another, letters of thanks, school newsletters, performance appraisals, and our Principal's report to school council.

## **Parents/Guardians/Volunteers:**

- Our dedicated School Council meets monthly. As in past years, our School Council members successfully ran a weekend Craft Fair in November. Over 65 vendors participated in what proved to be a profitable venture in support of students in the classroom. This one weekend allowed our council to raise approximately \$6,000 to support student programs and classroom initiatives including facilitating field trips, purchasing cameras for our yearbook team, and purchasing heavy equipment for our custodial staff to aid in school repairs to name only a few. As invaluable partners, we thank our parents, guardians and volunteers for their continued support.

## **Community:**

- Community partnerships are integral to fostering successful student programs and activities. A strong community base with support from local community organizations including the City of Ottawa and Public Health provide curriculum enrichment activities for our students. Through these partnerships, we are fortunate to have guest speakers interested in coming to our school to speak on topics that include business, politics, science, sports, health & leisure, Food & Nutrition, the Holocaust and the World Wars. We recognize our community partners through our school announcements, school newsletters, principal's report to school council, and thank you cards..

# Results of EQAO Grade 9 Assessment

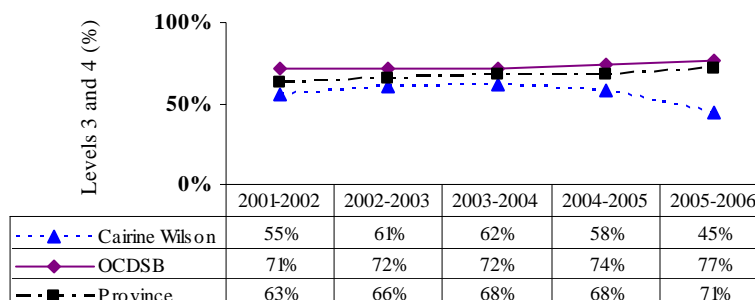
Each year, students participate in the province-wide assessment of mathematics. This assessment by the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) is based on the Ontario Curriculum and is one way in which student achievement is measured. It is given at the end of the academic and applied courses in January and/or June, depending on whether or not a school is semestered. Results from these assessments should be viewed with caution since the achievement of a few students, particularly in small schools, can have a large impact on overall results. Further, it is important to view student achievement in the context of other available information, some of which is contained in this profile.

The following table describes grade 9 students in this school for 2005-2006 testing:

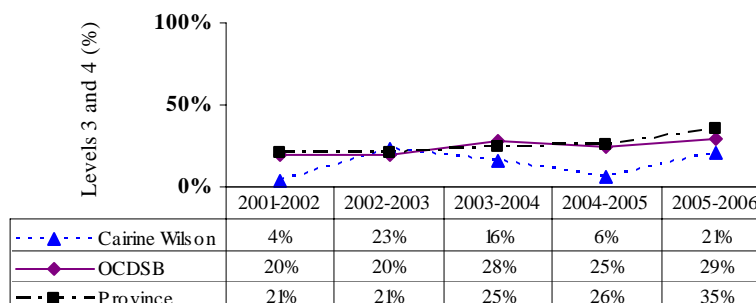
	Number of Students	Exempt	No data	Receiving Special Education support (excluding gifted)	ESL	Only/mostly speak language other than English at home	Speaks as often in English as another language at home
Academic	108	0%	4%	9%	0%	4%	5%
Applied	48	0%	6%	31%	0%	2%	8%

Results for *all grade 9* students in this school, compared to those for the district and province, are presented below. More detailed information about student performance on these assessments can be found at [www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com).

**Grade 9 Academic Mathematics:  
Percentage of All Students at Levels 3 and 4**



**Grade 9 Applied Mathematics:  
Percentage of All Students at Levels 3 and 4**



# Results of the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test

Each year, students participate in the Ministry mandated Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT). This assessment by the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) is given to Grade 10 students to determine if they can successfully demonstrate the reading and writing skills that apply to all subject areas in the provincial curriculum up to the end of Grade 9. Receiving a secondary school diploma depends on passing the OSSLT – i.e., this is a “credentialling test”. Exemptions and deferrals are given only under certain circumstances and in accordance with policies and procedures established by EQAO. Students who are not successful on the test are able to attempt it again in a future administration, or enroll in the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OSSLC).

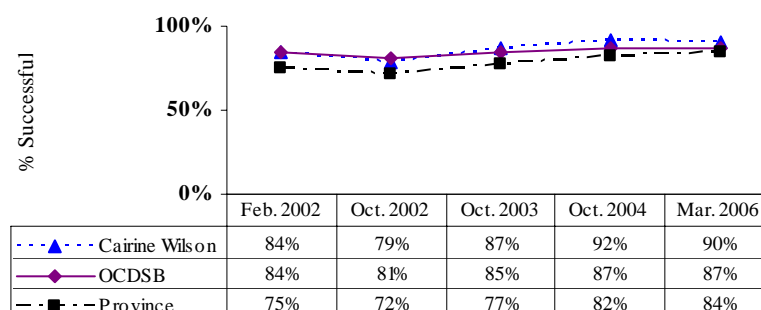
EQAO reports results only in terms of whether or not a student passed/was successful on the test, rather than levels of student performance.

The following table describes the students in this school who were eligible to write this test for the first time in 2005-2006:

	Number of first-time eligible students	% Deferred	% Absent	Receiving Special Education support (excluding gifted)	ESL/ELD	Only/mostly speak language other than English at home	Speaks as often in English as another language at home
Cairine Wilson SS	174	0%	5%	22%	0%	1%	12%

Results for *first-time eligible students who fully participated* in the testing (i.e., not deferred or absent) compared to those for the district and province, are presented below. More detailed information about student performance on this assessment can be found at [www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com).

(OSSLT):  
% of First-Time Eligible Students Who Were Successful  
(Fully Participating)



## Next Steps

- Student achievement will be improved and monitored through the Student Success initiative, providing supports to students across the District, and at the school level supported by the school literacy team.
- Students who are not successful on the OSSLT have been, and will continue to be, provided with appropriate remedial help. Such remediation will be guided by individual student diagnostic feedback provided by EQAO. Each school will continue with its own school improvement plans concerning literacy.
- Students who have been unsuccessful on the OSSLT may obtain their literacy graduation requirement by successfully completing the OSSLC (Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course)
- The District and schools will continue to provide a variety of strategies to assist in supporting students, including:
  - Workshops and resources for grades 7, 8, and 9 teachers to help students with low literacy skills
  - School-based preparation for students taking the OSSLT
  - Workshops for teachers to promote best practices in reading and writing instruction, balanced literacy, and literacy across the curriculum
  - Workshops for teachers of grades 7-10 to introduce the requirements of the OSSLT

# Results of District-wide Assessments

In 2005-2006, all schools fully participated in testing for the ENG4U, ENG4C, MCR3U and MCF3M District-wide evaluation projects.

These projects aim to create consistent evaluation of student performance by providing:

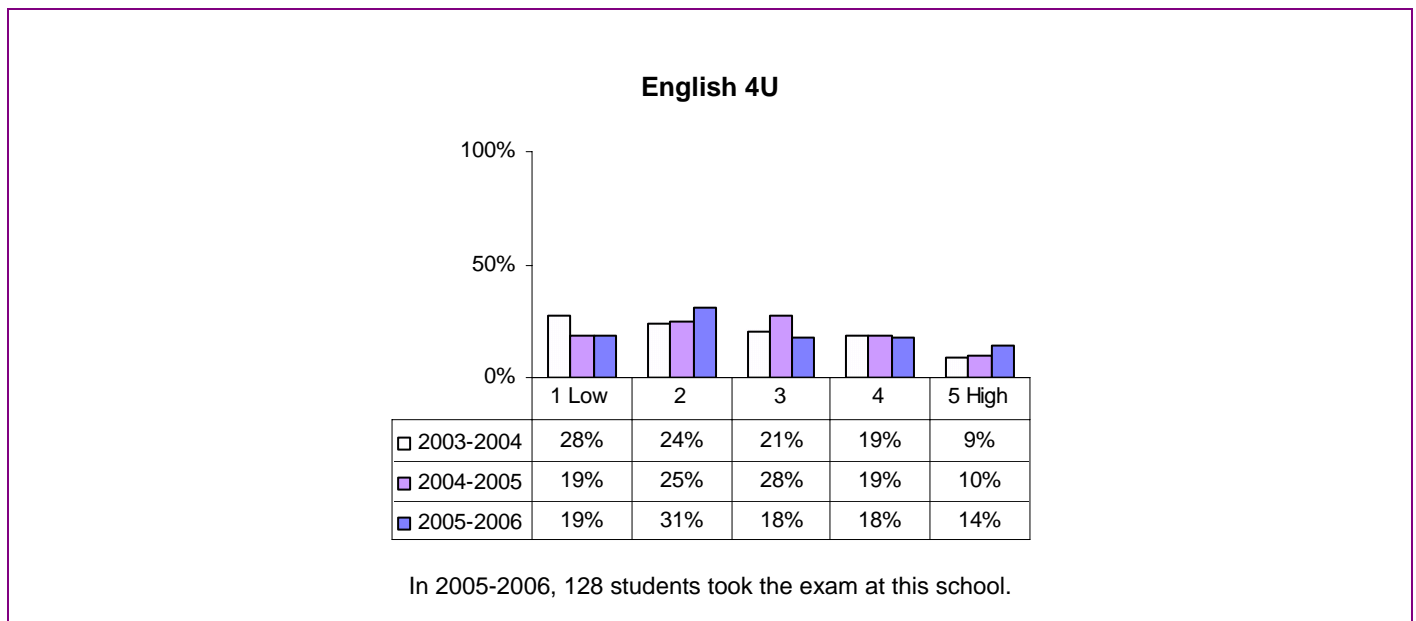
- a common examination;
- a detailed marking scheme for the examination;
- conference marking;
- exemplar booklets to show students and teachers the criteria for, and examples of, successful performance;
- workshops for teachers; and
- reports of school and Board results.

Quintiles divide the marks of all students who took an examination into five equal groups. This means that one-fifth (20%) of all students who took an examination scored in each quintile. For semestered schools, results in the January and June exams have been combined for reporting purposes.

The following charts show the percentages of our participating students whose marks fall within each of the five quintiles. The closer to 20% of students a school has in each quintile, the closer the school's results are to the results for all students in the Board. Please note that in small schools, the achievement of a few students can have a large effect on the percentages reported in each quintile.

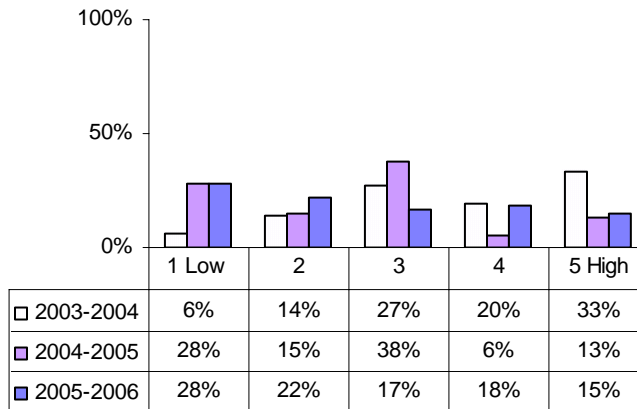
Heads of English and Mathematics would be pleased to discuss examination preparation, procedures, and marking with those who are interested. Please contact the school for further information.

Results by quintiles for participating students are shown below:



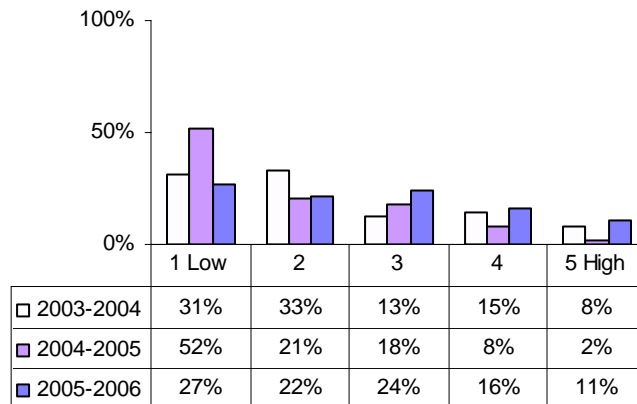


### English 4C



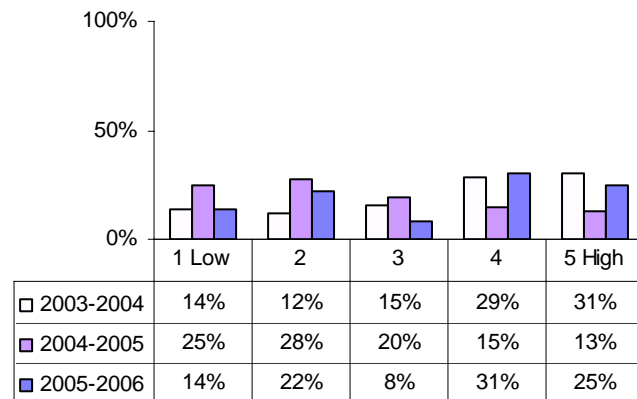
In 2005-2006, 60 students took the exam at this school.

### Mathematics MCR3U



In 2005-2006, 37 students took the exam at this school.

### Mathematics MCF3M



In 2005-2006, 36 students took the exam at this school.