

Halifax Regional School Board

Focus on Learning: Provincial Assessment Results for Grades 3, 4 and 6

Purpose

To provide the Governing Board members with an analysis of grade 3, 4 and 6 2016-2017 provincial assessment results in Mathematics and Literacy.

Background

Nova Scotia Assessments are administered to elementary students in the fall of each school year.

Program assessments are developed and administered to determine the effectiveness of curriculum delivery and to assist students in achieving the outcomes. They provide government and school boards with student achievement information for education decision making.

Nova Scotia teachers worked with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) to build these assessments and to set the assessment expectations, which is what students should know and be able to do on their own at key stages.

Content

The following provincial assessment results will be shared:

- Reading and Writing in Grade 3
- Mathematics in Grade 4
- Reading, Writing and Mathematics in Grade 6

Overall results in reading and writing for students in grade 3 indicate that the Halifax Regional School Board (HRSB) performed above the provincial result on all areas assessed. In relation to trends over time, both reading and writing results for HRSB in grade 3 have remained consistent with 69 percent of students scoring at the expectation in reading and 75 percent and 60 percent scoring at or above the expectation for the writing categories of ideas and organization respectively.

When examining the data by Ancestry, there remains a significant gap in results for students of African Ancestry compared to the board overall result with 47 percent of students scoring at or above the expectation. Results in reading have been consistent over the last three years, however there were small improvements in the writing categories of ideas (3 percent improvement) and organization (4 percent improvement).

Results for students of Aboriginal Identity in grade 3 reading are almost the same as the HRSB overall result with 68 percent of students scoring at the expectation. This represents a notable improvement of 9 percent more students scoring at the expectation compared to the previous year. There were also 7 percent fewer students who performed at the lowest level on the assessment this year. Results for the writing categories of ideas and organization show a 2 percent increase and 5 percent increase respectively in the percentage of students at or above the expectation.

Results for the Grade 4 Mathematics assessment show that HRSB has improved over the last three years. The percentage of students performing at the lowest level of the assessment has decreased to 6 percent this year while the percentage of students performing at or above the expectation has increased over the last three years to 79 percent. HRSB grade 4 students also performed above the provincial result on this assessment.

When examining the data by Ancestry, results show that 21 percent fewer students of African Ancestry performed at or above the expectation than the HRSB overall. Although this represents a 3 percent increase in the percentage of students meeting, this continues to represent a significant gap compared to the HRSB overall result. Eight percent fewer students of Aboriginal Identity were at or above the expectation compared to the HRSB overall result in the Grade 4 Mathematics assessment. The results also show that 5 percent fewer students of Aboriginal Identity performed at the lowest level of the assessment over the last three years.

Overall results in reading, writing and mathematics for students in grade 6 indicate that HRSB performed above the provincial result in all areas assessed. In relation to trends over time, both the reading and writing results have remained quite consistent with 75 percent of students scoring at or above the expectation in reading and 76 percent and 61 percent scoring at or above the expectation for the writing categories of ideas and organization respectively. Overall mathematics results show that 74 percent of students scored at or above the expectation which represents a 2 percent improvement from the previous year.

Results for students of African Ancestry at the grade 6 level continue to show a significant gap compared to the board overall results. Results in reading have been consistent over the last three years with 60 percent of students performing at or above the expectation. However, 4 percent fewer students performed at the lowest level on the assessment compared to last year. Results for the writing categories of ideas and organization shows 63 percent and 46 percent of students scored at or above the expectation respectively. Mathematics results for students of African Ancestry show a modest improvement of 2 percent compared to last year. When examining the results for the last three years we see the gap is beginning to close with an almost 10 percent improvement over this period.

Results for grade 6 students of Aboriginal Identity are much closer to the board overall results. In reading there were 6 percent fewer students performing at or above the expectation compared to the board overall result. For the writing categories of ideas and organization, 70 percent and 52 percent of students scored at or above the expectation respectively. Similar to the board overall result and the results for students of African Ancestry, this was a decrease compared to the previous year. Mathematics results for students of Aboriginal Identity also showed an increase this year with 69 percent of students performing at or above the expectation which is a 7 percent improvement compared to last year.

Funding Details

N/A

Timeline

N/A

Appendices

Appendix A: Provincial Elementary Assessment Results 2016-2017

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Governing Board members receive the report for information.

Communications

AUDIENCE	RESPONSIBLE	TIMELINE
Committee of the Whole	Alison King	April 12, 2017

Contact

For further information please contact Alison King, Director of Program and Student Services
aking@hrsb.ca 902-464-2000 ext 2567

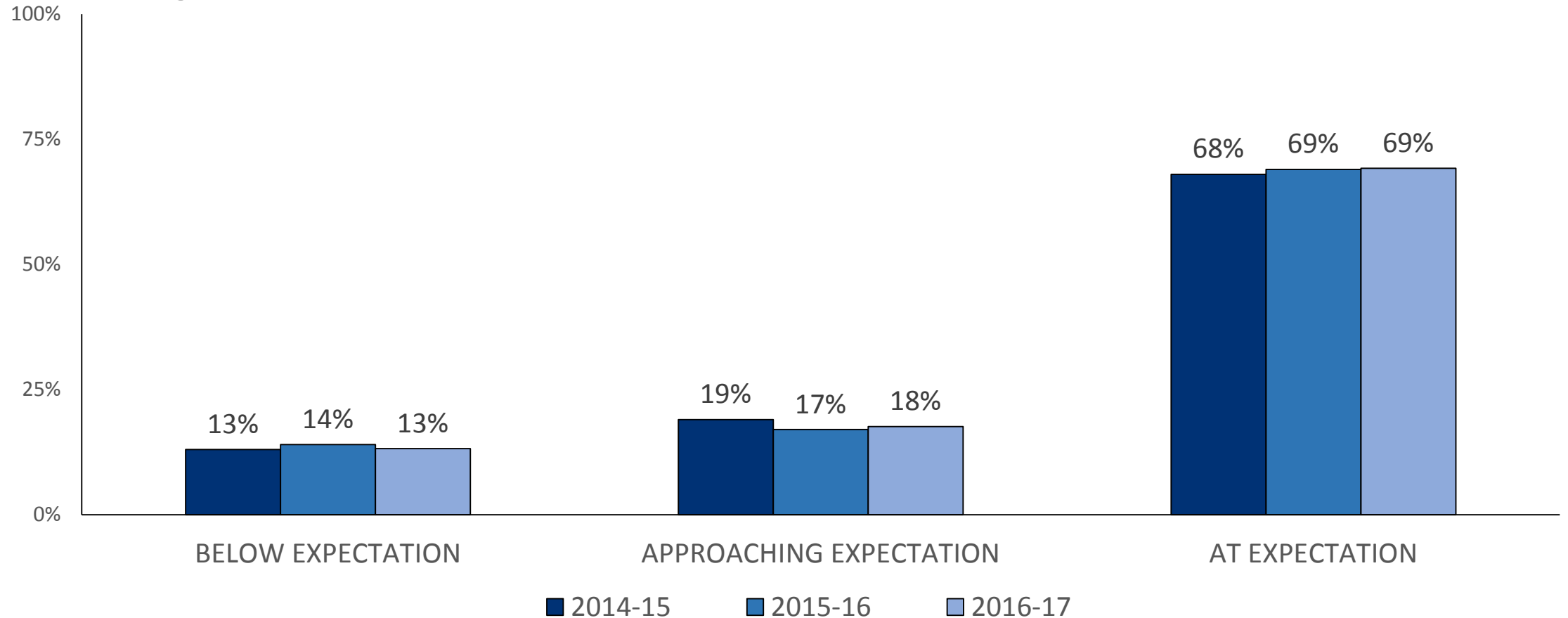
Appendix A

Provincial Elementary Assessment Results

2016-17

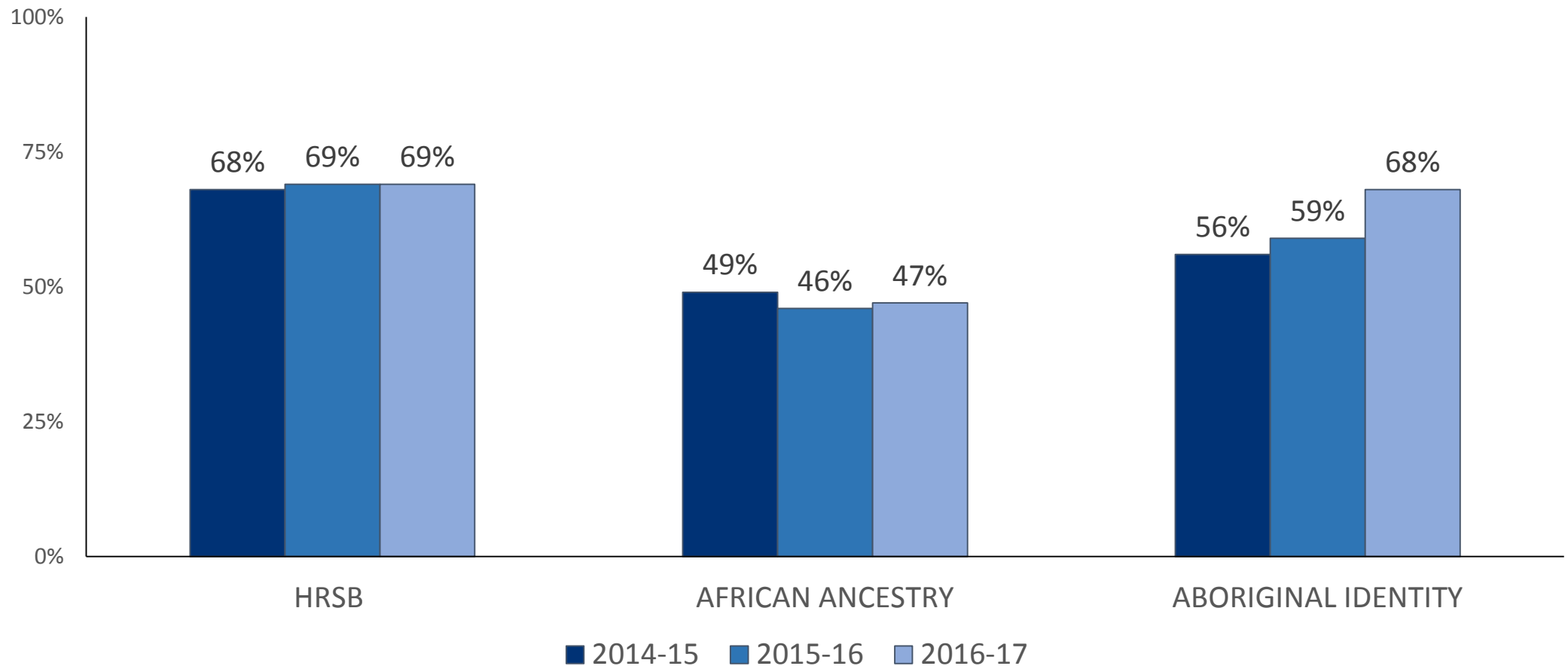
Gr. 3 READING COMPREHENSION

Percentage of Students



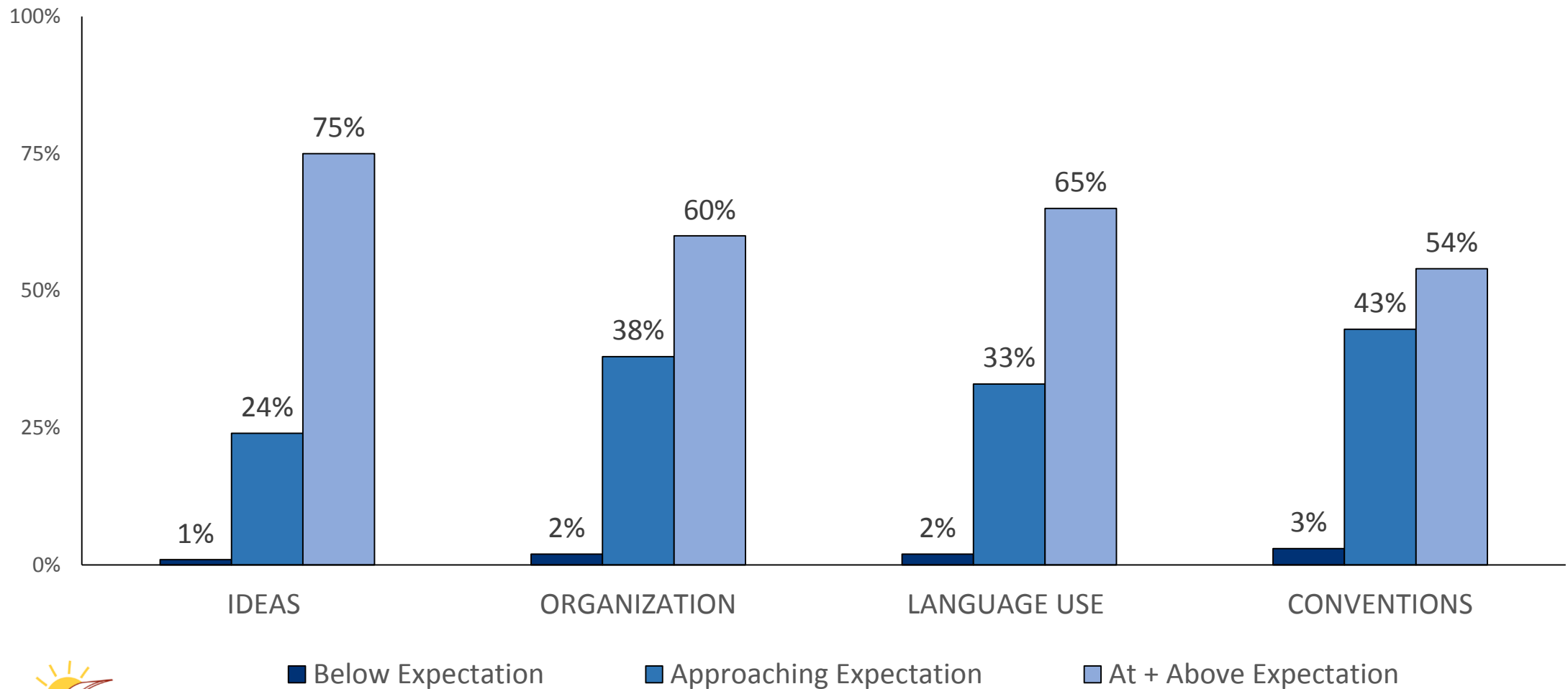
Gr. 3 READING COMPREHENSION

Students At Expectation



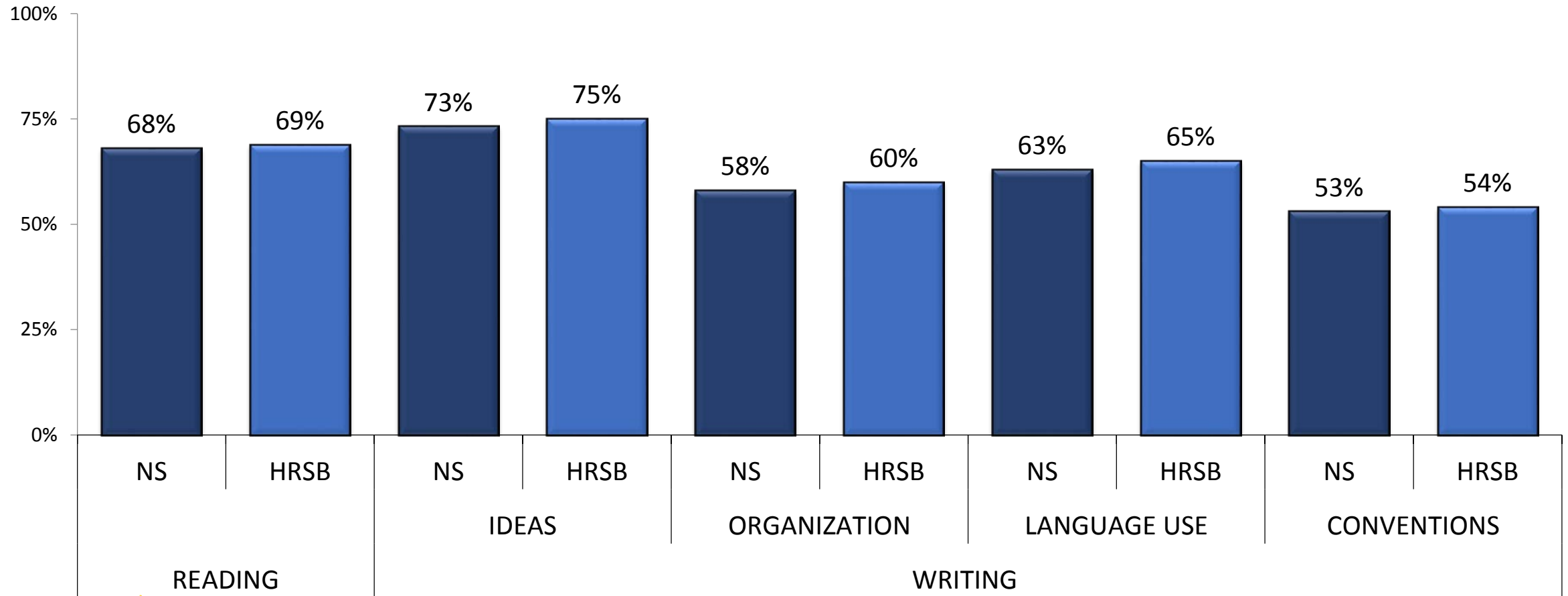
Gr. 3 WRITING 2016-17

Percentage of Students



Gr. 3 READING & WRITING 2016-17

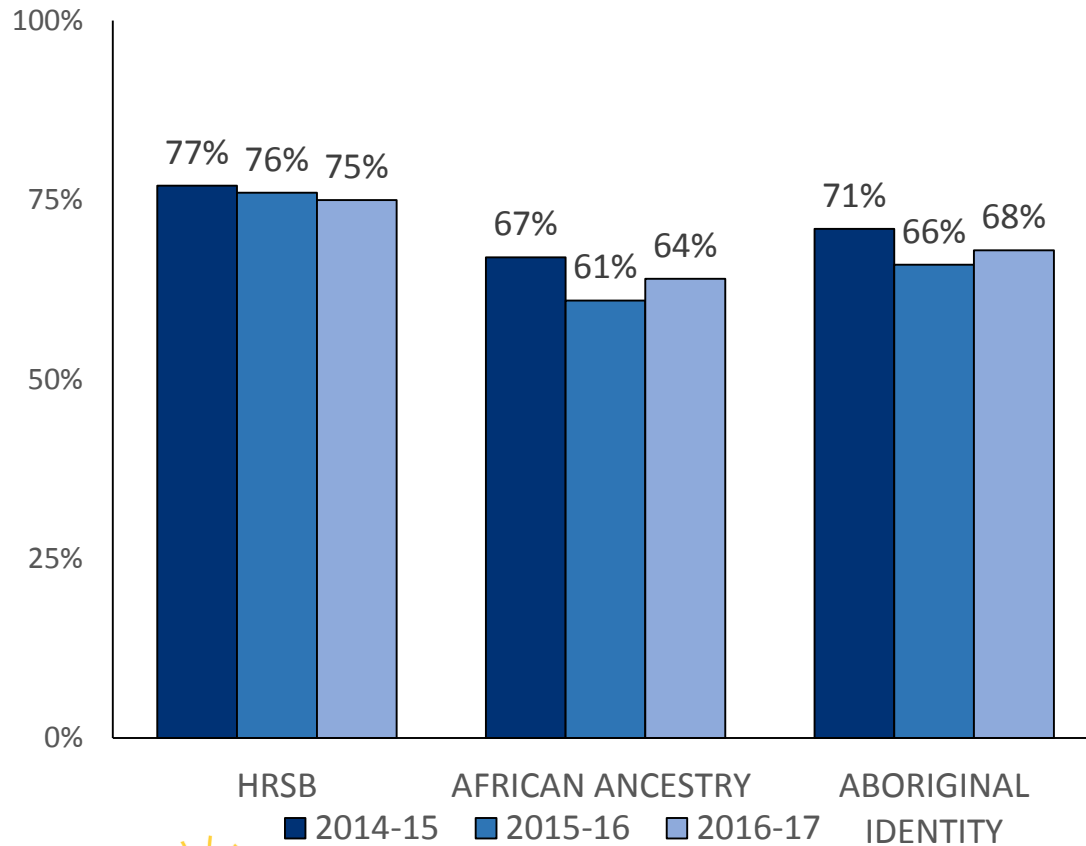
Students Scoring At and Above Expectation



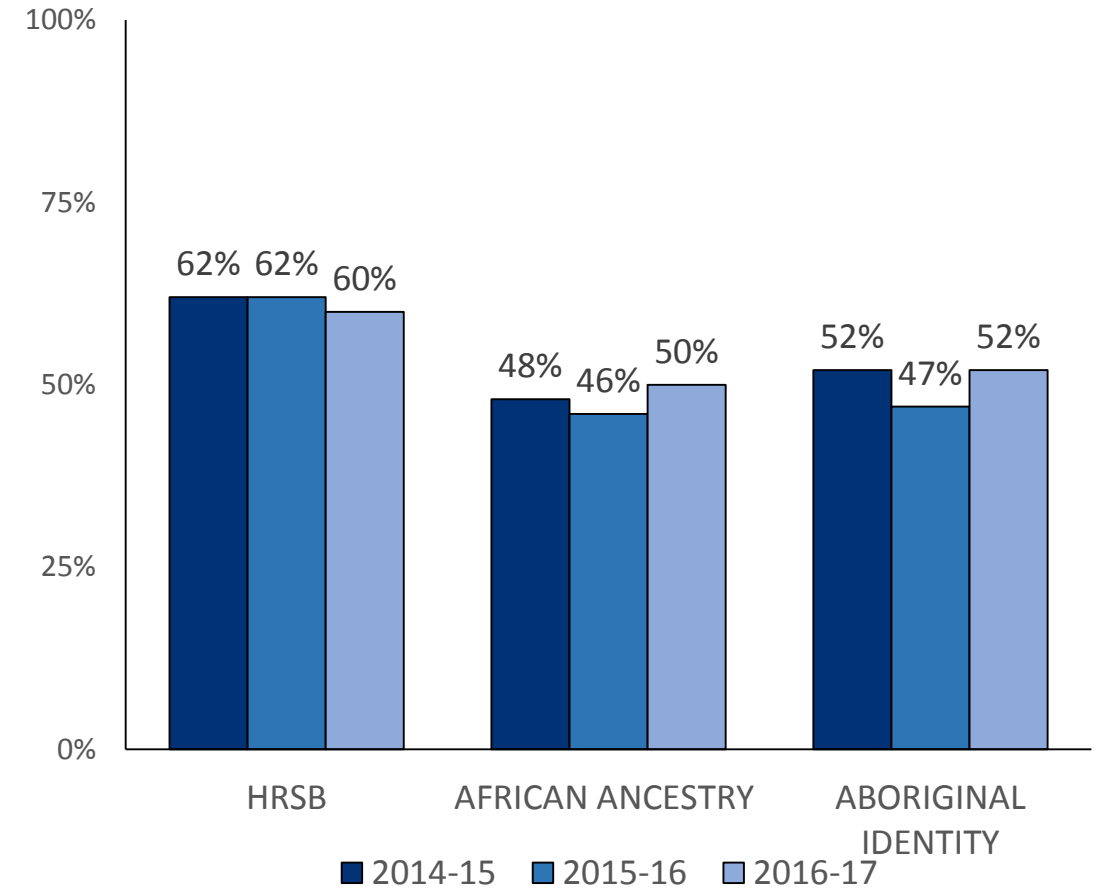
Gr. 3 WRITING

Students At and Above Expectation

IDEAS



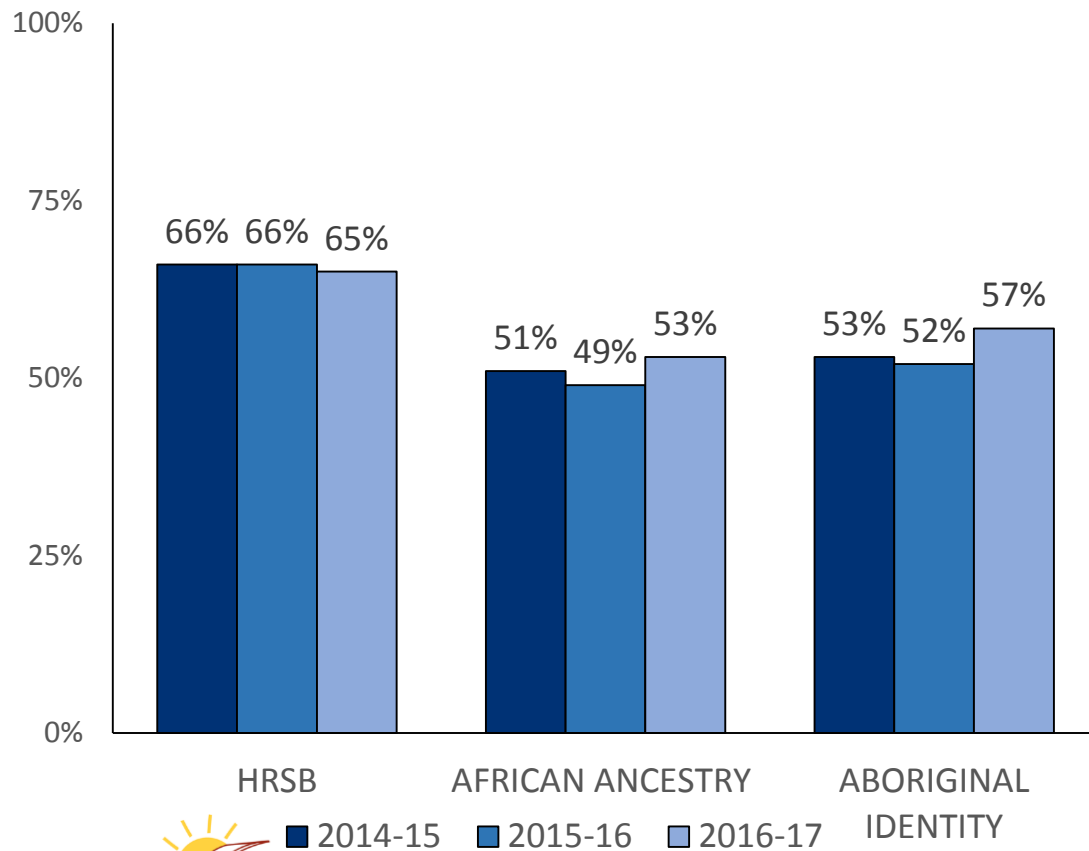
ORGANIZATION



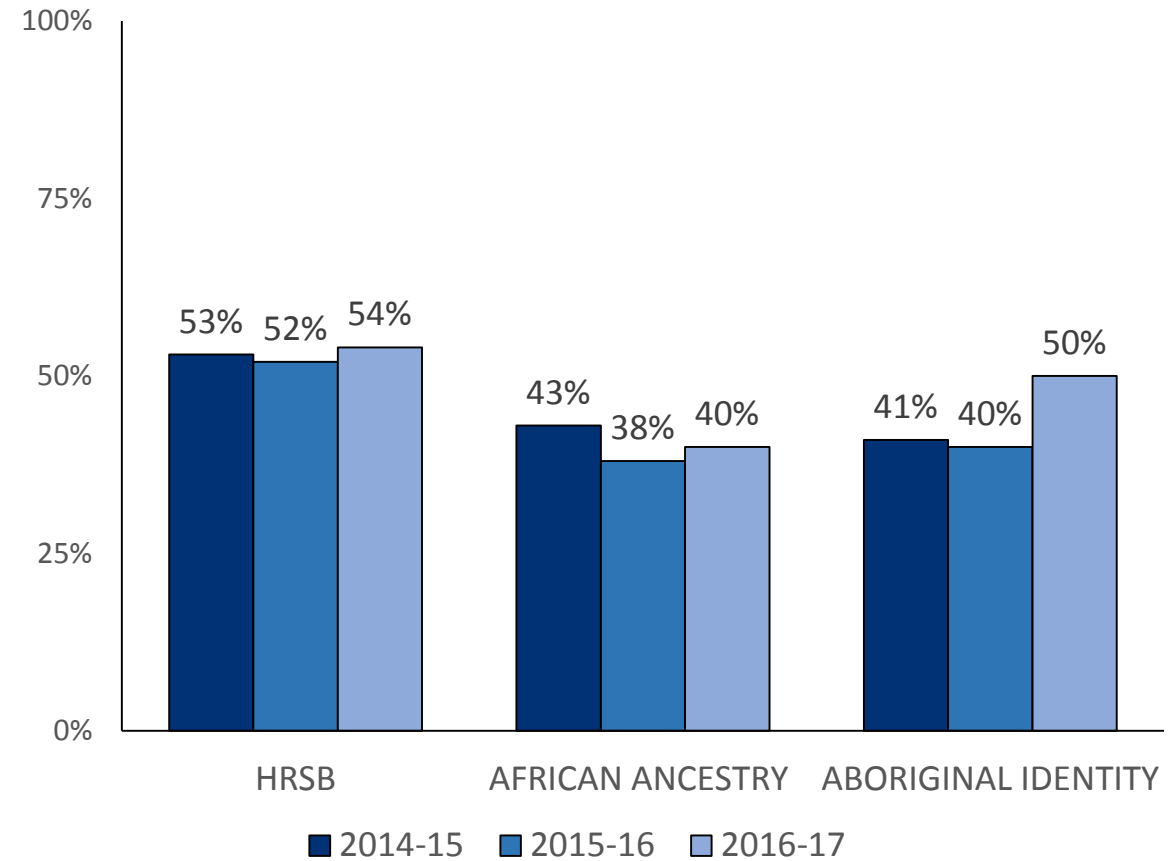
Gr. 3 WRITING

Students At and Above Expectation

LANGUAGE USE

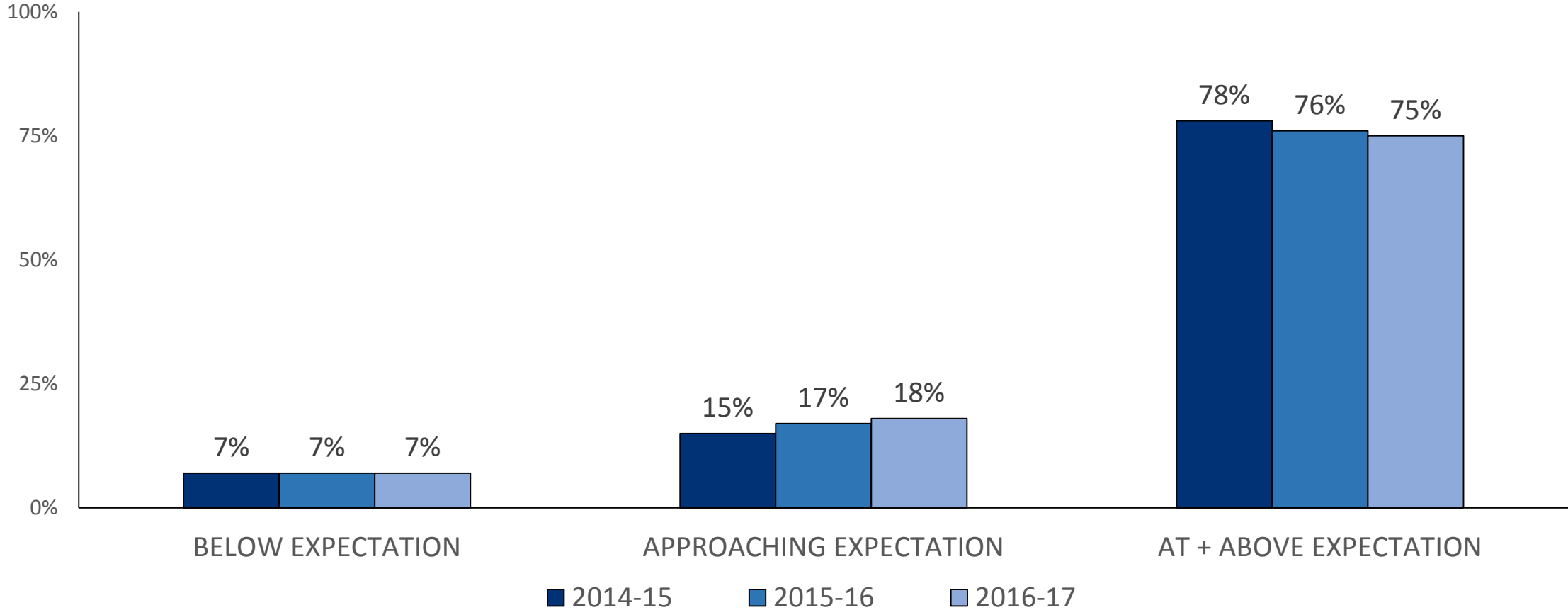


CONVENTIONS



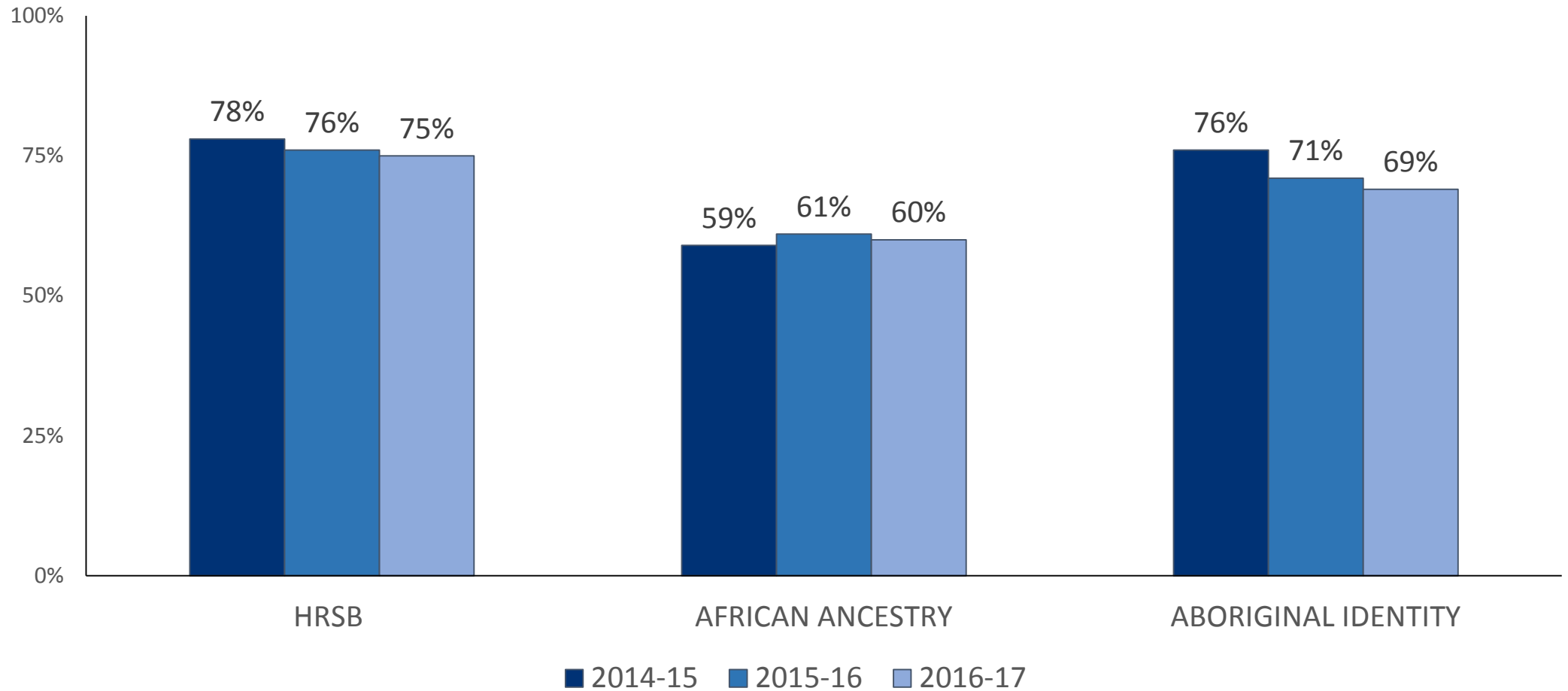
Gr. 6 READING COMPREHENSION

Percentage of Students



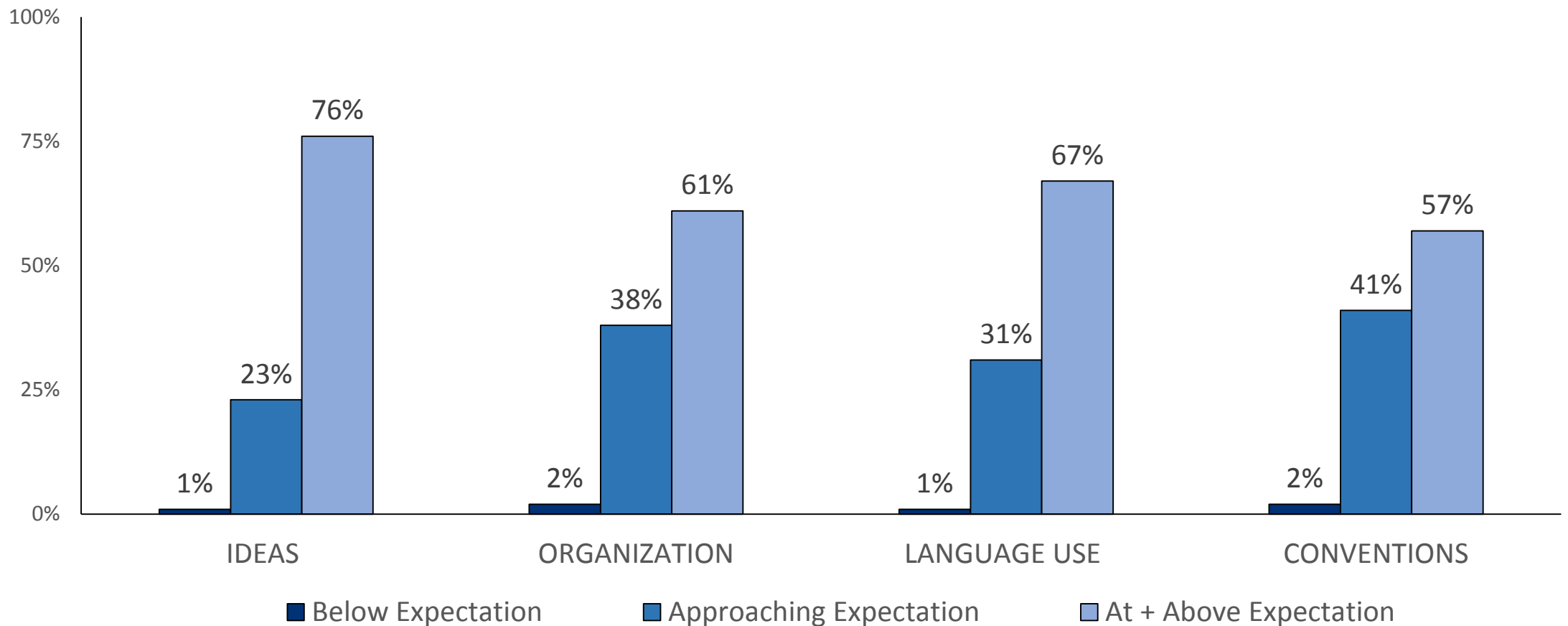
Gr. 6 READING COMPREHENSION

Students At and Above Expectation



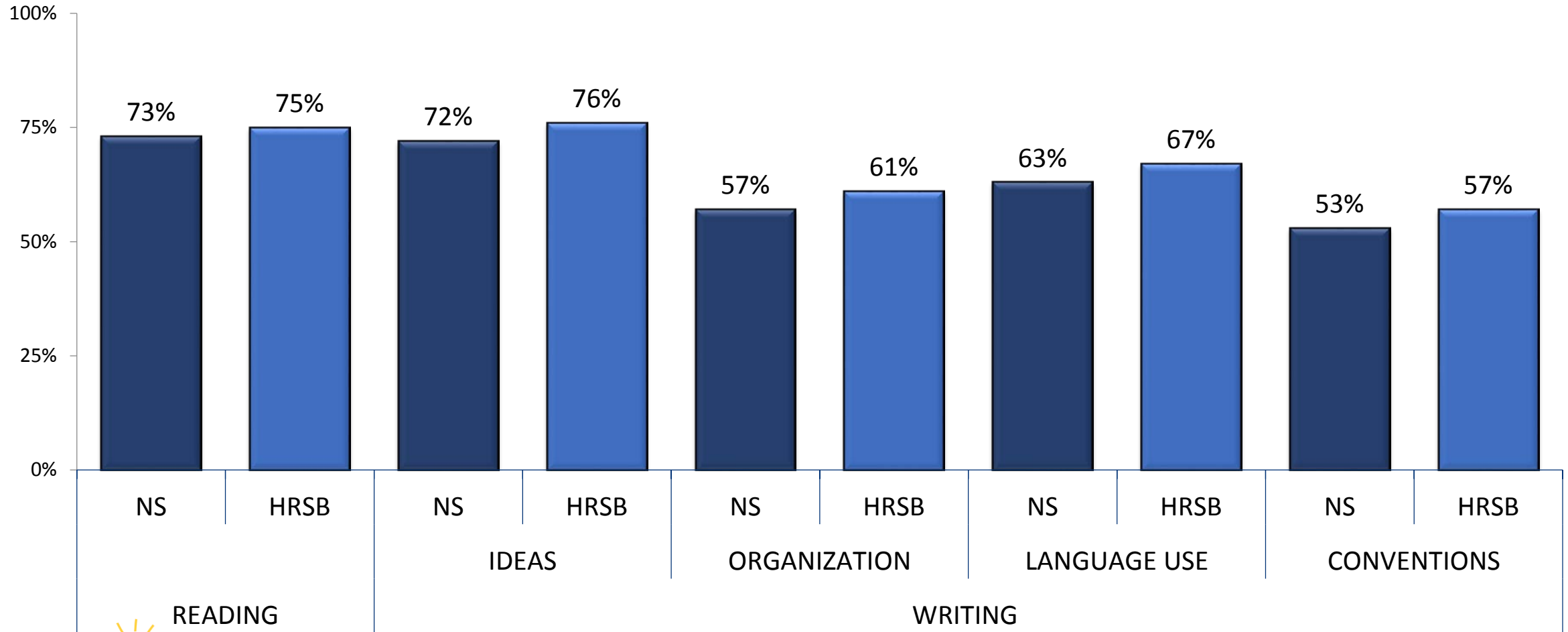
Gr. 6 WRITING 2016-17

Percentage of Students



Gr. 6 READING & WRITING 2016-17

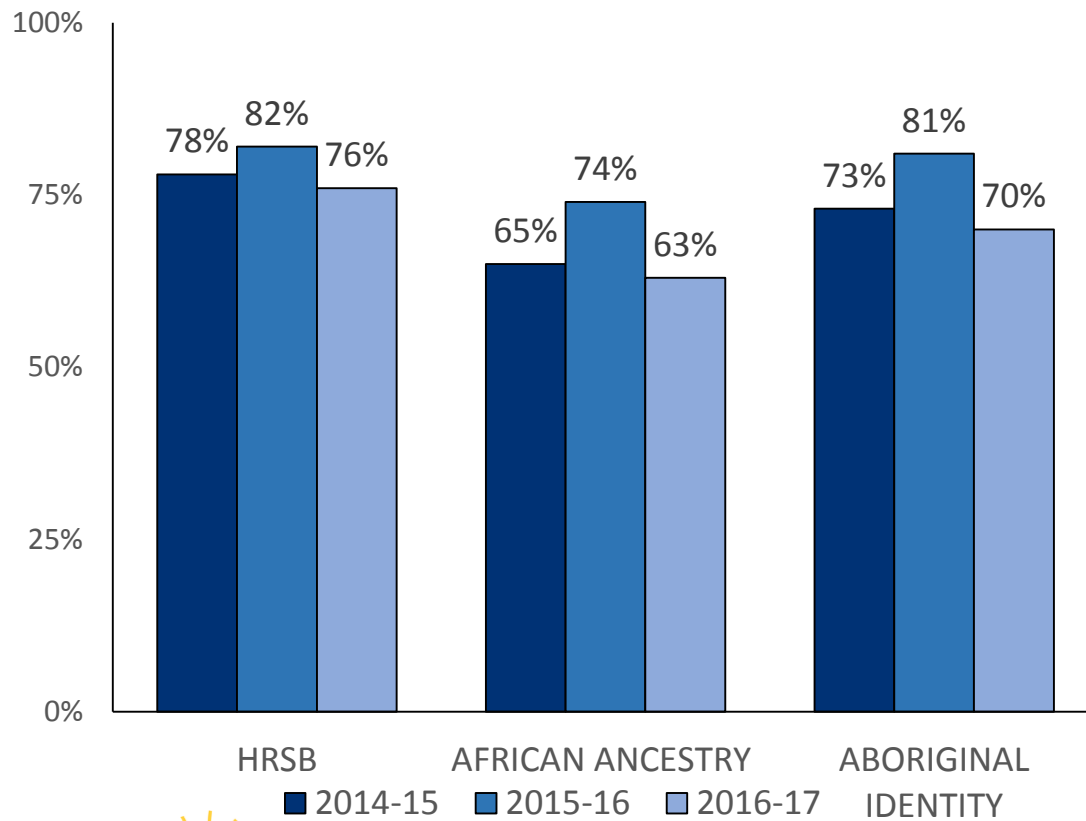
Students Scoring At and Above Expectation



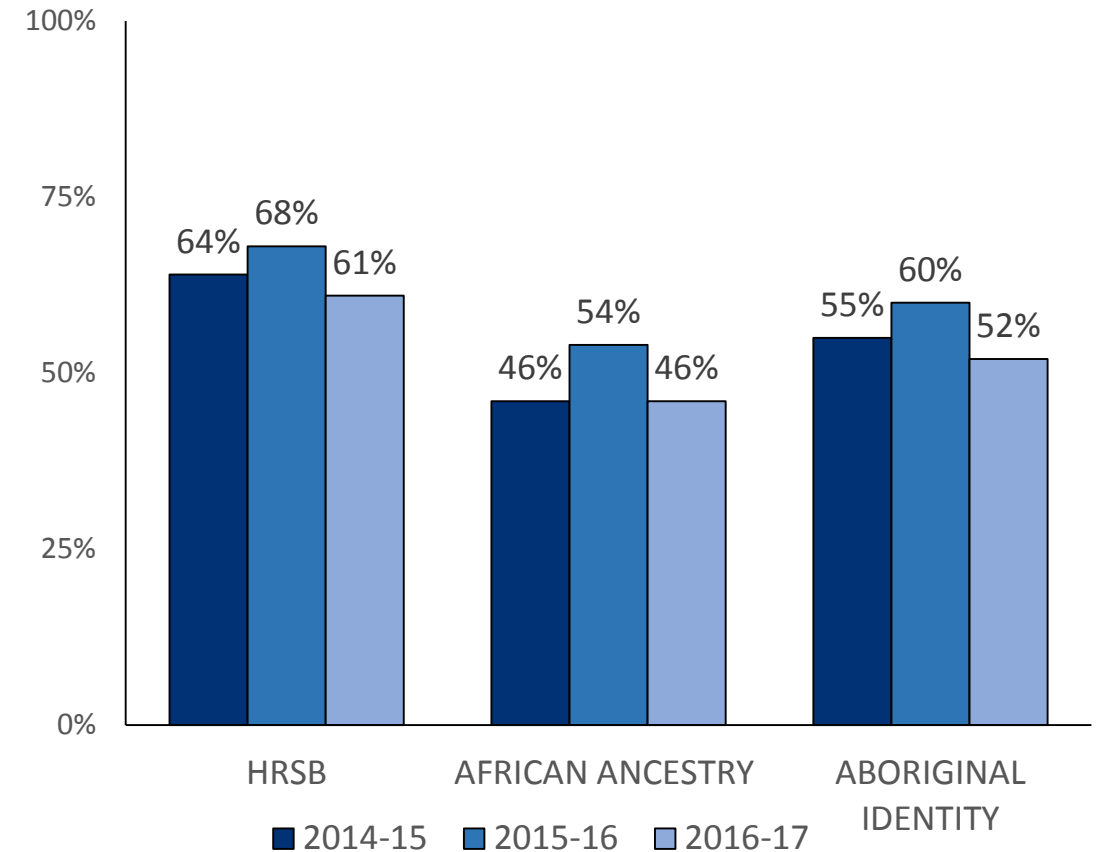
Gr. 6 WRITING

Students At and Above Expectation

IDEAS



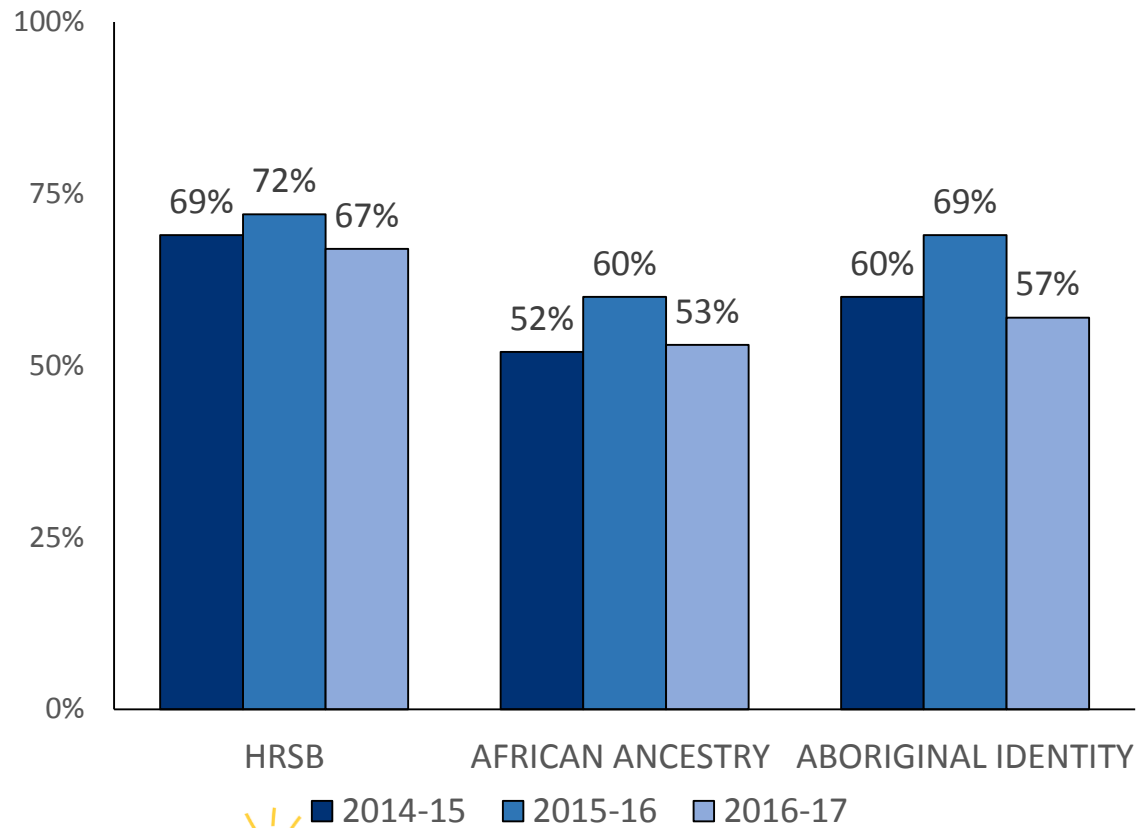
ORGANIZATION



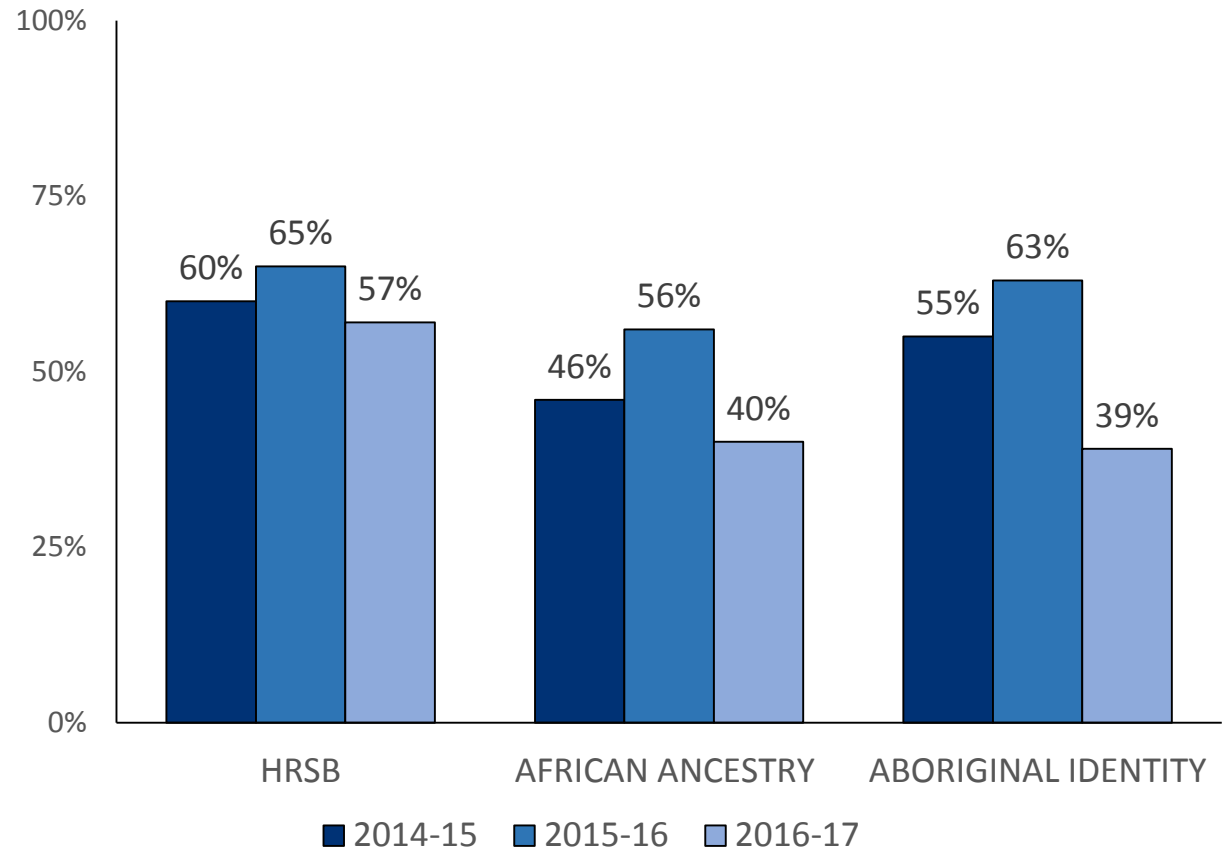
Gr. 6 WRITING

Students At and Above Expectation

LANGUAGE USE

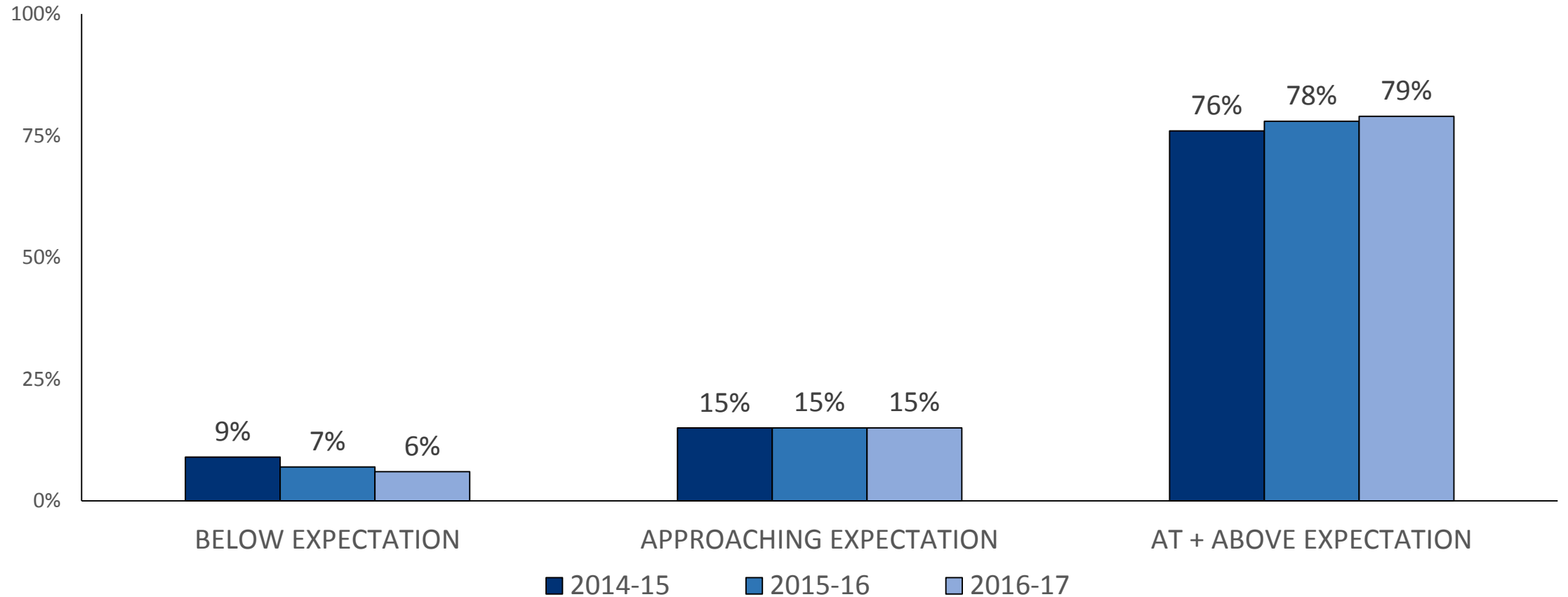


CONVENTIONS



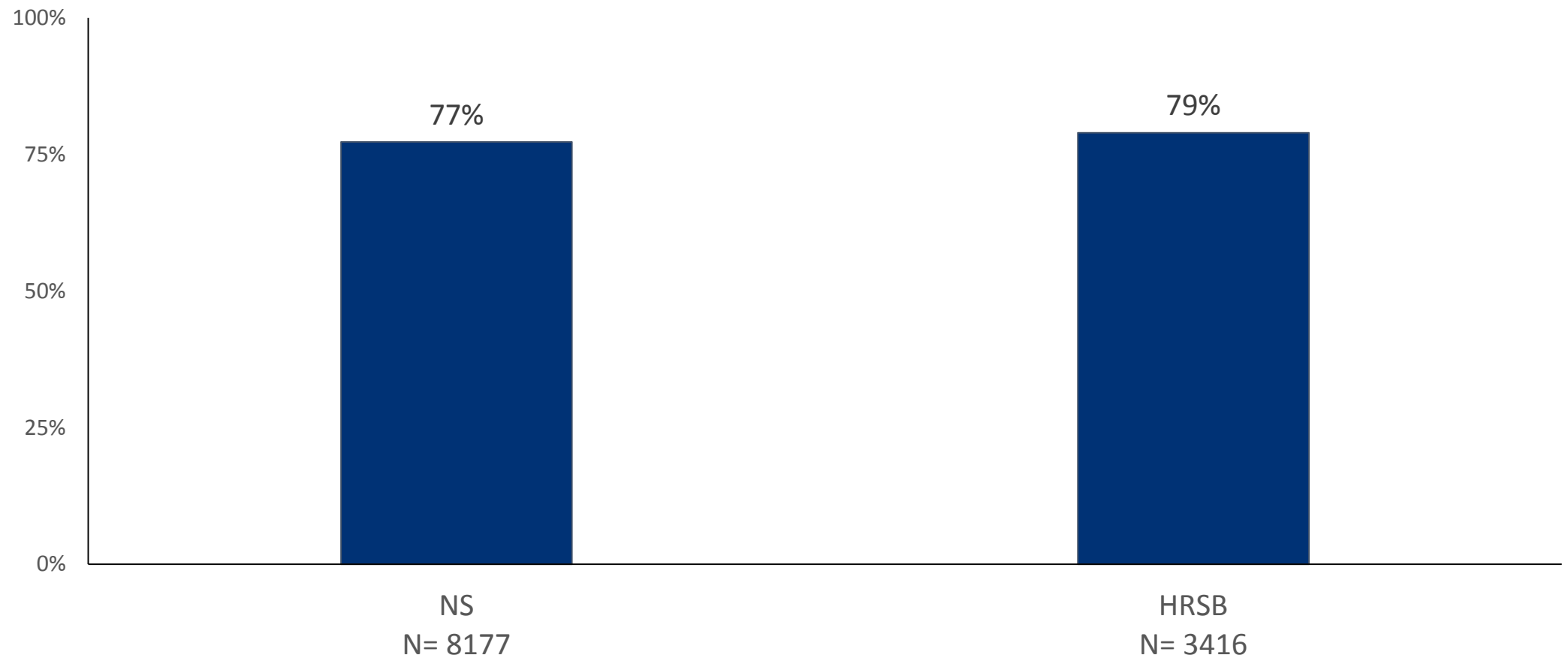
Gr. 4 MATHEMATICS

Percentage of Students



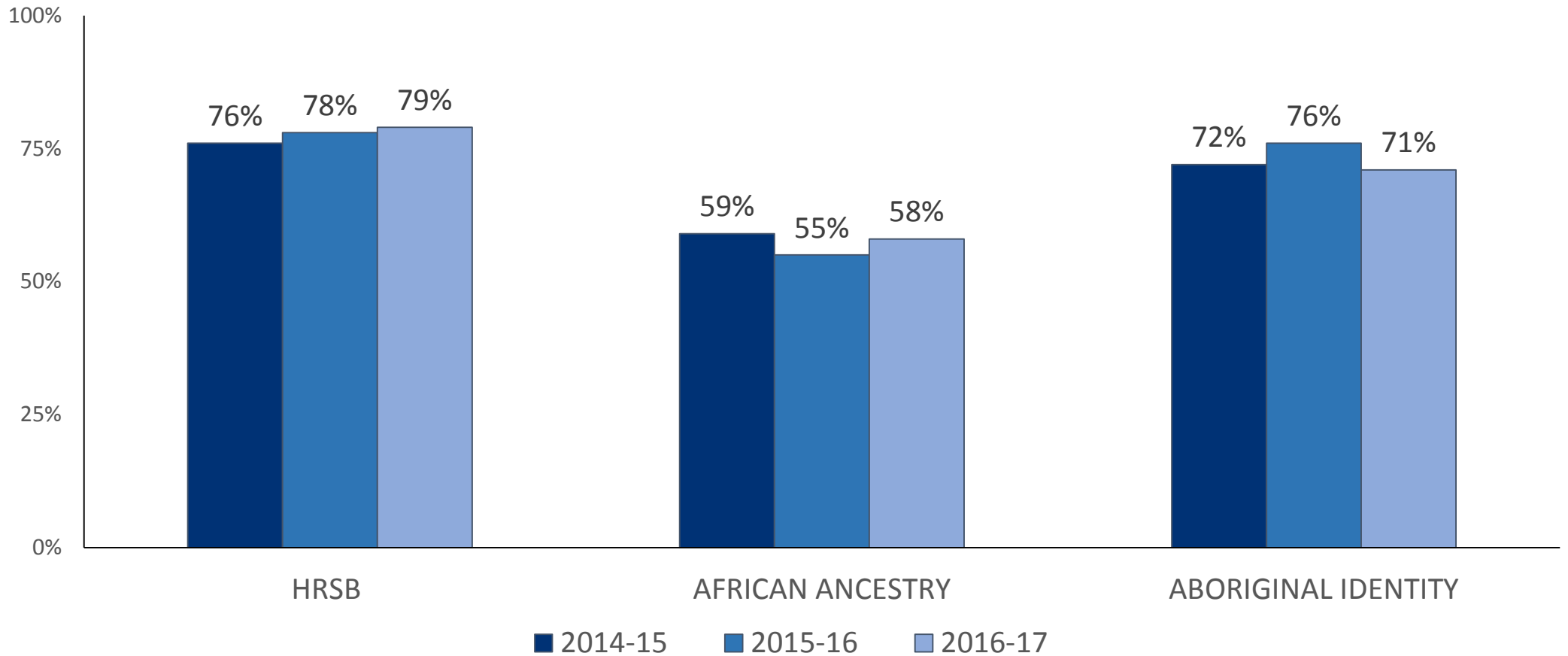
Gr. 4 MATHEMATICS 2016-17

Students At and Above Expectation



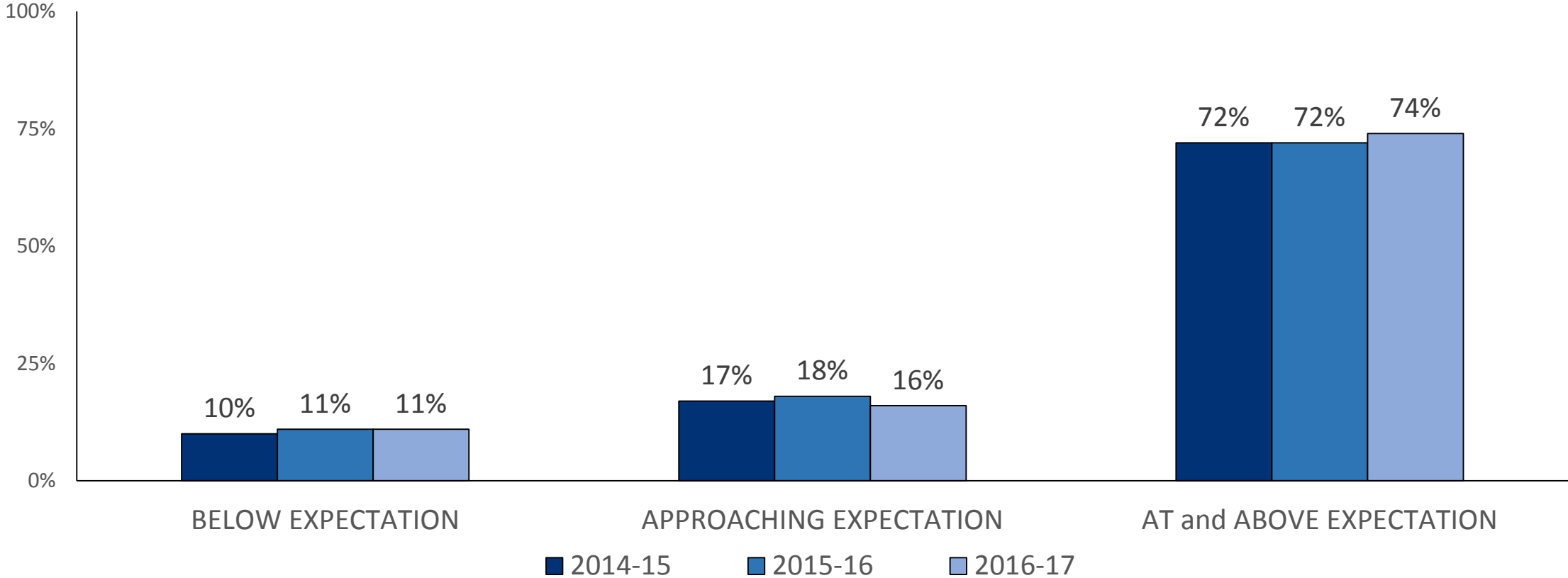
Gr. 4 MATHEMATICS

Students At and Above Expectation



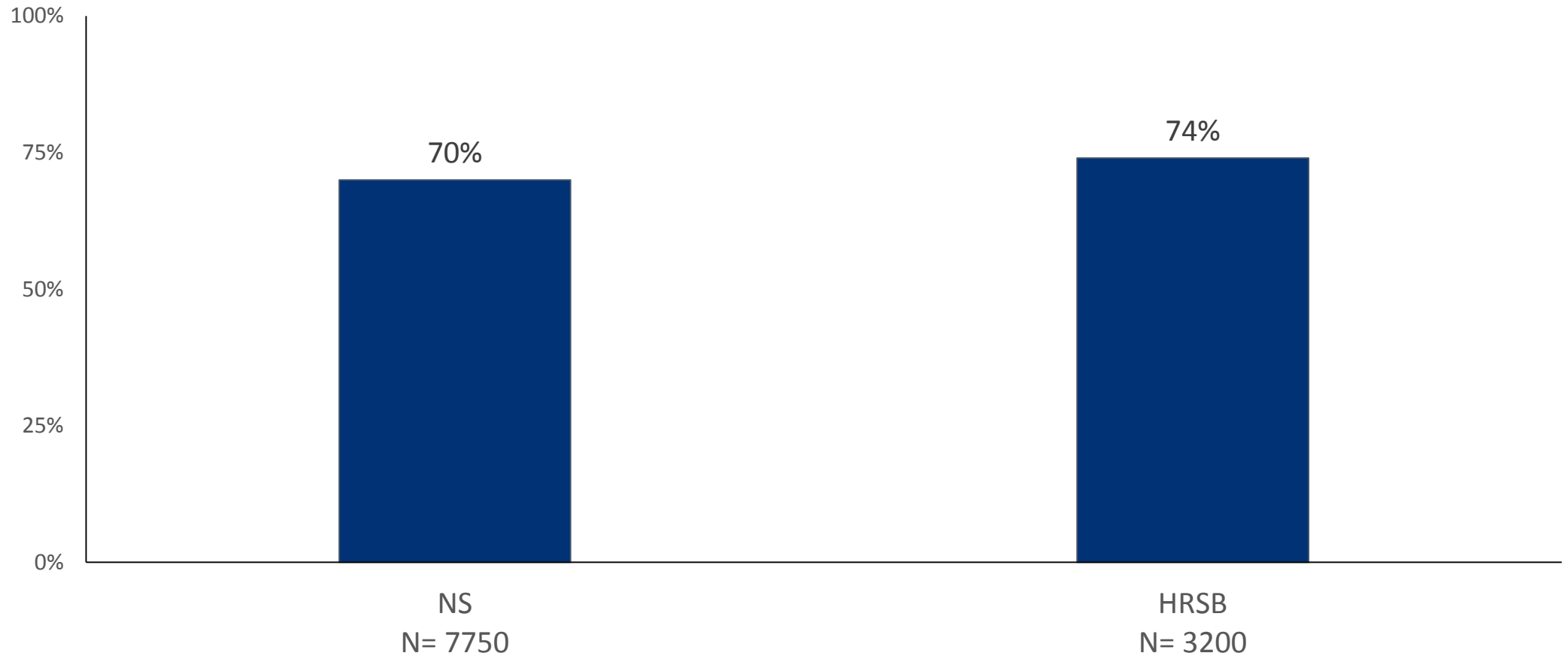
Gr. 6 MATHEMATICS

Percentage of Students



Gr. 6 MATHEMATICS 2016-17

Students At and Above Expectation



Gr. 6 MATHEMATICS

Student At and Above Expectation

