# Manitoba Child Health Atlas 2004 

July 2004

Manitoba Centre for Health Policy

Department of Community Health Sciences
Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba
The entire report is available on this WWW site:
http://www.umanitoba.ca/centres/mchp/reports/child_inequalities

## Education Indicators: Grade 3 Standards Tests by Winnipeg SES Group

When do children from lower SES areas start falling behind? To try to answer this question, we looked at Grade 3 standards test results for Winnipeg children. As can be seen in the graphs presented here, already by Grade 3, children from Low SES neighbourhoods are much less likely to be performing well-passing the Grade 3 standards test at an age appropriate time. When we look only at the performance of those who wrote the test (pass_fail_grade3), the differences across SES areas do not seem very large-they go from 83\% passing in the Low SES areas to $94 \%$ passing in the High SES areas. But this does not tell the whole story. To see the complete picture, we identified all children born in Manitoba in 1990, and living in Winnipeg in the 1998/99 school year, who should have been writing the Grade 3 standards test that year. As can be seen in the second graph (8yr_should_write), only 50\% of those living in Low SES neighbourhoods passed the test on schedule, compared with $84 \%$ of those living in Winnipeg's High SES neighbourhoods (a difference of over one-and-a-half-times). Fifteen per cent of students living in Low SES neighbourhoods were enrolled in Grade 2 or lower, and compared with other neighbourhoods, more children from the Low SES neighbourhoods failed the test, did not complete it, were exempt, or were absent on the day (or days) the test was written.
Left Side of Graph: Grade 3 Language Arts Standards Test Performance by Winnipeg SES

Right Side of Graph: Grade 3 Language Arts Standards Test Performance by Winnipeg SES


These definitions can be found in the Child Health Atlas Glossary:
http://www.umanitoba.ca/centres/mchp/reports/child inequalities/glossary.shtml
Standards Tests
Socioeconomic Status (SES)

