

To provide a complete picture of the context in which education takes place, a system of educational indicators would also consider **characteristics of the provincial economy and social environment** that have an effect on educational processes. These are numerous but might include:

- **Employment levels and labour market conditions**
- **Housing supply and conditions**
- **Educational attainment of parents of school children**
- **Child poverty rates**
- **Public safety and many others**

These are just a few examples of the kinds of indicators that could be chosen to provide information about the context for the educational system, the educational processes that go on inside the system, and the educational outcomes or results of the system. The Manitoba Teachers' Society will be involved in this process so that we can help make decisions about what will be measured, how it will be measured, and how information will be reported and used.

● **How good is the Manitoba public school system?**

● **Do students in Manitoba get the best education possible?**

○ **Do schools make the best use of resources?**

● **How do we know?**



What are educational indicators?

Context

Processes

Outcomes

The Educational System



The public school system in Manitoba is a major social investment in the present and future well-being of this society. We want this system to be effective, to provide the best possible education for our children. We also want the system to be efficient, to make the best use of resources. Measuring various aspects of the public school system to see how well it is doing would go a long way toward answering these accountability questions. It would also provide a basis for change and improvement.

The Manitoba Teachers' Society is working with the provincial government and other stakeholders in education to design a system of educational indicators for Manitoba.

Student assessment has been the primary way educational systems have been held accountable. It continues to be one important indicator of student achievement but there are other ways to measure how an educational system performs.

A comprehensive look at the performance of the public school system would be concerned with students achievement but would also help us to measure **other educational outcomes such as:**

- Student completion rates
- Participation in on-going education
- Attitudes toward citizenship issues
- Basic, technological, and media literacy
- Employability, attitudes, community involvement and many others.

A comprehensive set of indicators would examine not just how well students perform, but how well programs and divisions perform. It would also look at the educational process that go on within the system and what goes into those processes. **Among many other issues, it would look at:**

- Parental and community involvement and expectations
- Enrolment in special programs
- Student-educator ratios and class size
- Course availability
- Number of Internet connections or other technology measures
- Wait times for clinician services