

2021 Federated State of Micronesia Report / Get to know / Teachers / Student difficulties perceived by teacher / Student difficulties identified by teachers

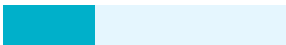
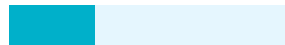
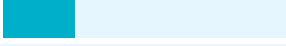
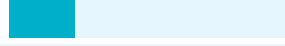


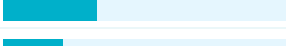
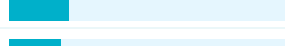
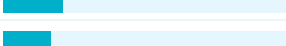
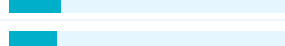
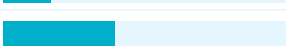
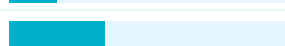
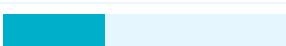
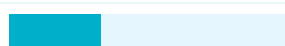


## Student difficulties identified by teachers

Teachers were asked to indicate the proportion of their students they believed were experiencing specific difficulties. The response choices were percentage brackets: '0%–20%', '21%–40%', '41%–60%', '61%–80%', or '81%–100%'. Percentage brackets were used so that teachers could more easily report how many students were experiencing difficulties, but they are broad groups. All responses in these percentage brackets were combined and used to calculate averages that could show more detail than, for example, '0-20%'.

These average proportions of students that teachers considered were showing signs of these difficulties by year level are shown in Table TT2.5.

Table TT2.5

### Average percentage of students affected by various difficulties as identified by teachers

Difficulty	Grade 5	Grade 7
Lack of basic knowledge or skills	 32% (2.9)	 30% (2.2)
Reading impaired	 25% (3.2)	 23% (2.6)
Poor health	 18% (2.2)	 18% (2.4)
Absenteeism	 33% (3.6)	 21% (2.5)
Hunger	 21% (2.4)	 18% (2.8)
Lack of sleep	 17% (2.3)	 17% (2.0)
Behavioral issues	 39% (3.9)	 33% (3.2)
Difficulty focusing attention and concentrating	 36% (3.5)	 32% (2.8)

( ) Standard errors appear in parentheses.

The two most common difficulties identified by teachers for both year levels were behavioural issues (grade five, 39%; grade seven, 33%), difficulty focusing attention and concentrating (grade five, 36%; grade seven, 32%), and lack of basic knowledge or skills (grade five, 32%; grade seven, 30%). On average, teachers reported about one out of three students across both year levels experiencing these difficulties.

Teachers also reported that, on average, about one out of four of their students demonstrated reading impairment such as dyslexia (Grade five, 25%; grade seven, 23%). Absenteeism was another area where teachers commonly reported difficulty,

particularly with grade five students. Teachers reported that on average, about 33% of grade five students and 21% of grade seven students had difficulty with absenteeism.

The least reported difficulties were related to well-being – poor health, hunger and lack of sleep – with between 17% and 21% of students showing signs of these issues across both year levels. This is between approximately one and two out of ten students.