

Benchmarking year 4 writing performance: Are standards being met?

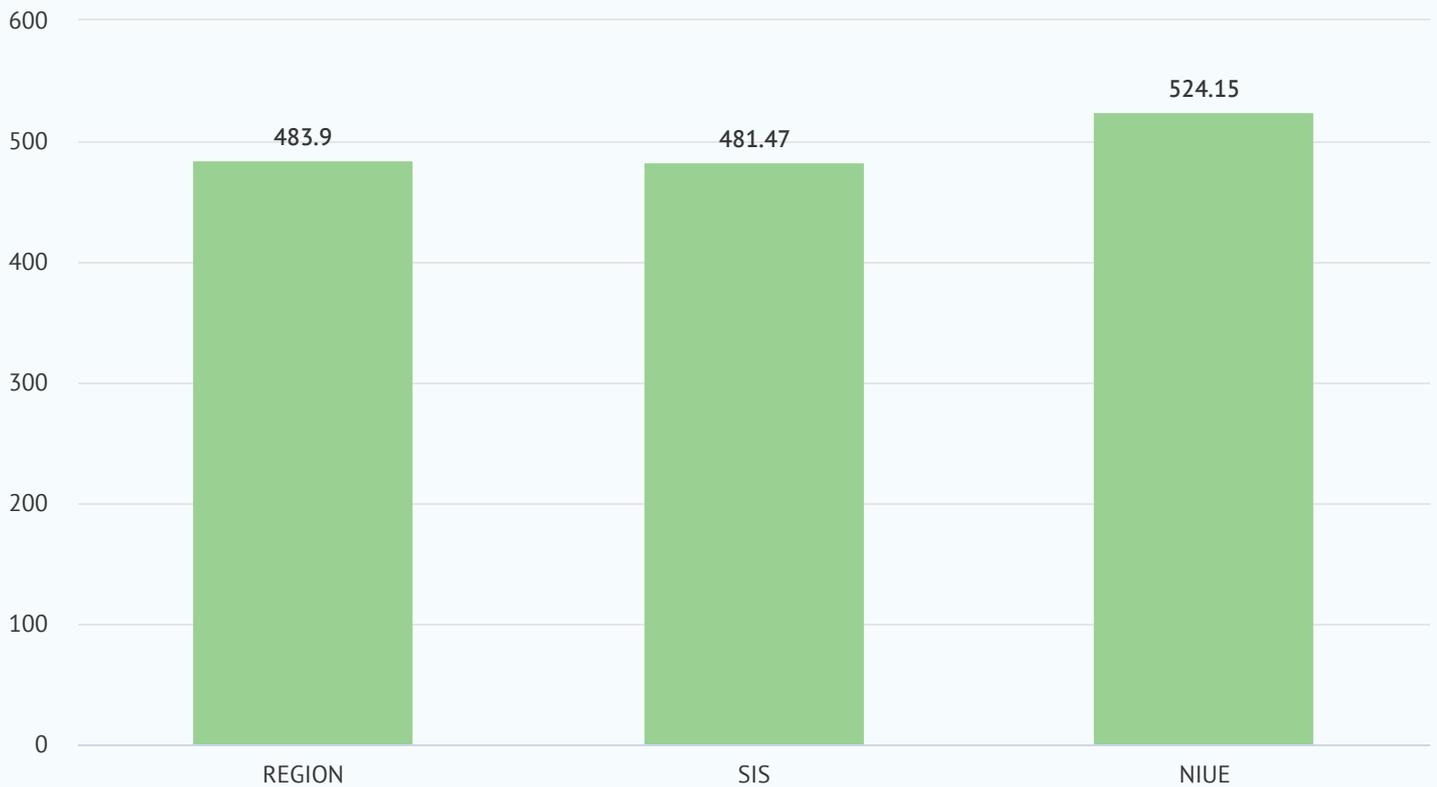
The numeracy and reading sections compare student performance to proficiency scales that describe expected student performance, based on the number of years of schooling. A proficiency scale for writing ability is not, however, currently available, although one will be created and the PILNA 2021 writing results will be compared to it.

For now, average writing performance in PILNA 2021 is compared to writing performance over previous PILNA cycles. This gives an indication of how writing performance is trending over time, but it does not show whether writing performance is at the level Pacific stakeholders expect it to be.

As shown in the [year four writing performance](#) section (Figure CWF4.2), the average writing score for year four students in Niue appears to be increasing. The average writing score for a year four student in 2015 was 439.94 (SD = 62.38), in 2018 it was 469.86 (SD = 97.70), and in 2021 it was 524.15 (SD = 38.46). With year four girls scoring higher on average than year four boys in writing performance in 2015, 2018 and 2021, girls are more likely to be meeting writing performance expectations than are boys.

Figure CWF4.5

Year 4 writing scores relative to the region and SIS



Year	Writing Year 4
REGION	483.9
SIS	481.47
NIUE	524.15

Mean performance of Year 4 students in writing relative to the region and SIS, Niue, PILNA 2021

Niue is performing well against the regional and Small Island States writing performance in PILNA 2021 (Figure CWF4.5). On average, year four students in Niue (524) are scoring higher in writing than year four students in the region (484) and in Small Island States (481).