

Benchmarking year 6 writing performance: Are standards being met?

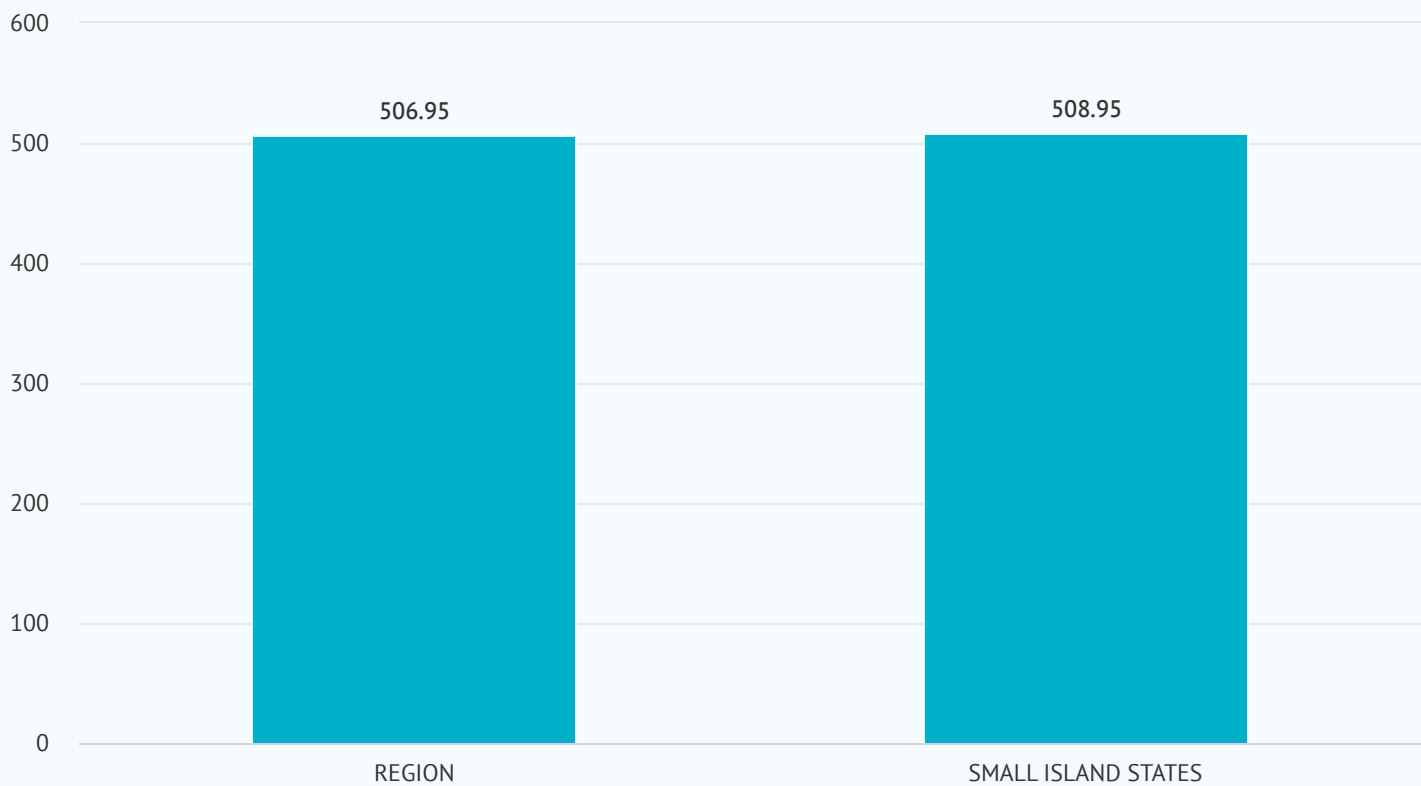
The numeracy and reading sections compare student performance to proficiency scales that describe expected student performance based on the number of years of schooling. A proficiency scale for writing ability is not currently available, although one will be created and the PILNA 2021 writing results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

For now, the 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 six writing performance** section, the average writing score for a year six student in 2015 was 502.48 (SD = 96.19), in 2018 it was 511.22 (SD = 99.98), and in 2021 it was 508.95 (SD = 42.40). With year six girls scoring higher on average than year six boys in writing performance in 2015, 2018 and 2021, girls are more likely to be meeting writing expectations than boys.

Figure CWF6.5

Writing scores relative to the region



Year	WRITING Year 6
REGION	506.95
SMALL ISLAND STATES	508.95

Average writing scores of Year 6 small island states against the region, SIS, PILNA 2021.

Year six students in Small Island States are performing similarly in writing to year six students across the region. The average writing score in Small Island States was 509 while the regional average was 507.