

## Benchmarking Year 4 reading performance: Are standards being met?

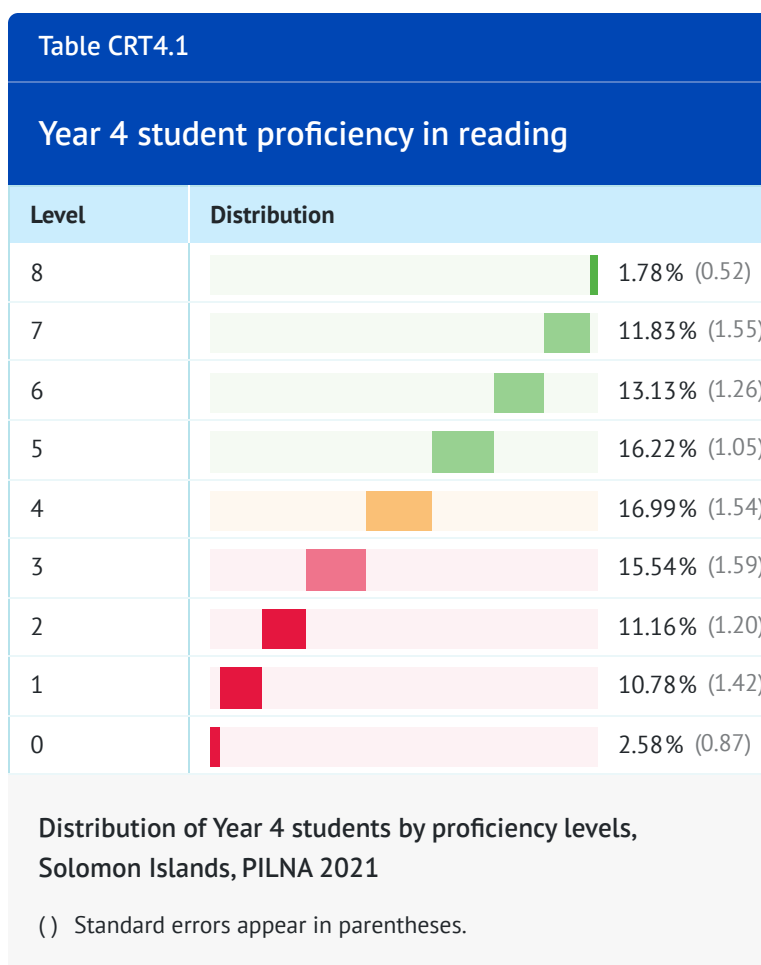
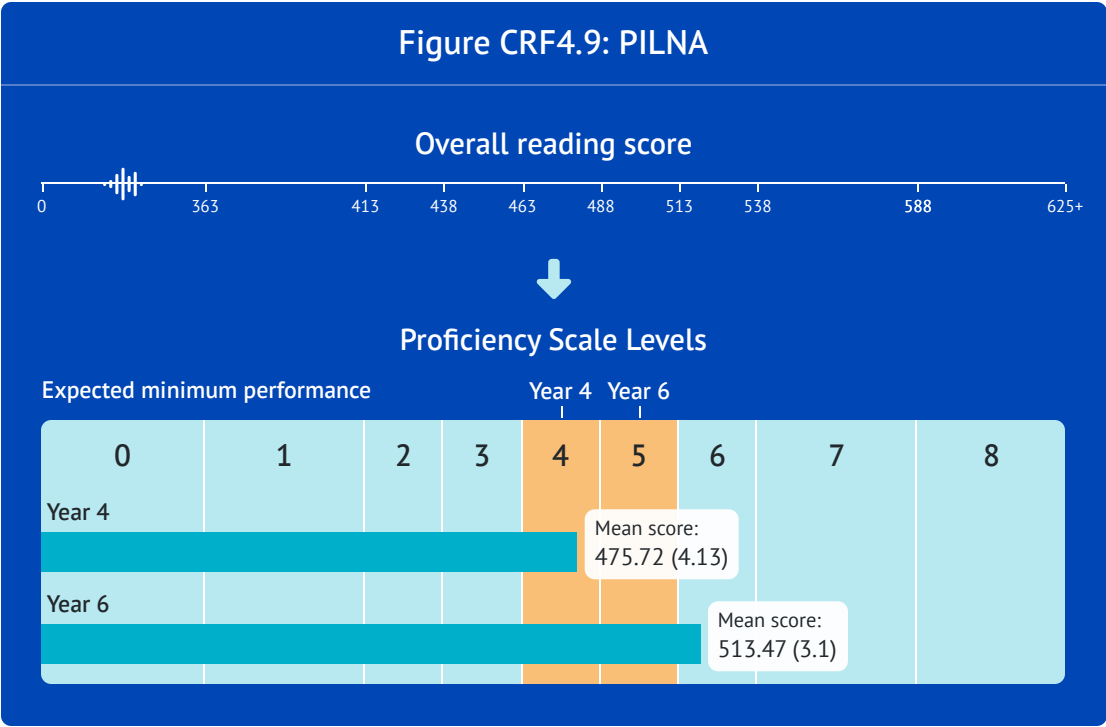


Figure CRT4.1 shows Solomon Islands' distribution of year four reading scores against the PILNA reading proficiency scale. This scale converts a student's reading performance into a level ranking from zero to eight. The expected minimum reading performance for year four students is **proficiency level four**. Pacific stakeholders expect these students to reach or exceed this proficiency level.

The average performance of year four students in Solomon Islands in reading was 475.72 (SD = 56.41). This corresponds to proficiency level four on the PILNA reading proficiency scale (level four is assigned to scores 462.5–487.5). On average, year four students in Solomon Islands are meeting the minimum expected standard in reading (Figure CRF4.9).



The average reading score does not tell us the whole story. The proportion of students who are meeting the minimum expected standard is also important, as this statistic shows how many students are performing at or above the minimum expected level. This is shown in Figure CRT4.1. Approximately 60% of year four students in Solomon Islands were performing at or above the minimum expected level in reading (levels 4–8) but a substantial minority (40%) are yet to meet the minimum expected level (levels 0–3).

Table CRT4.2

## Year 4 student reading proficiency relative to the region

Solomon islands_percent	Solomon Islands_se	Solomon Islands_cumulative	Level	Region
1.78	0.52	98.23	8	 3.54% (0.39)
11.83	1.55	86.40	7	 8.54% (0.50)
13.13	1.26	73.27	6	 7.92% (0.33)
16.22	1.05	57.05	5	 10.74% (0.33)
16.99	1.54	40.06	4	 12.49% (0.38)
15.54	1.59	24.52	3	 12.23% (0.31)
11.16	1.20	13.36	2	 11.00% (0.38)
10.78	1.42	2.58	1	 17.01% (0.55)
2.58	0.87	0.00	0	 16.54% (0.78)

### Distribution of Year 4 student reading proficiency relative to the Region, and Solomon Islands, PILNA 2021

( ) Standard errors appear in parentheses.

On average, year four students in Solomon Islands (476) are scoring higher in reading than year four students in the region (444) (Figure CRT4.2). Likewise, more students (60%) are also meeting the minimum expected proficiency level than the regional average (43%).

Table CRT4.3

### Year 4 reading distribution by proficiency scores and gender

Level	Girls	Boys
8	1.79% (0.53)	1.60% (0.67)
7	12.85% (1.77)	10.92% (1.95)
6	14.16% (1.54)	12.27% (1.51)
5	16.97% (1.67)	15.45% (1.41)
4	17.58% (1.58)	16.41% (2.10)
3	15.63% (2.36)	15.61% (1.71)
2	10.67% (1.53)	11.72% (1.59)
1	8.83% (1.53)	12.50% (1.78)
0	1.52% (0.73)	3.52% (1.16)

Distribution of Year 4 students' proficiency in reading by gender, Solomon Islands, PILNA 2021

( ) Standard errors appear in parentheses.

When looking at the distribution of year four reading proficiency scores in 2021 by gender (Table CRT4.3), we can see small differences. Approximately 63% of year four girls performed at or above the expected minimum proficiency level compared with about 57% of boys. Slightly more girls are meeting the minimum expected proficiency level in reading than are boys.