

Benchmarking Year 6 reading performance: Are standards being met?

Table CRT6.1

Year 6 student proficiency in reading

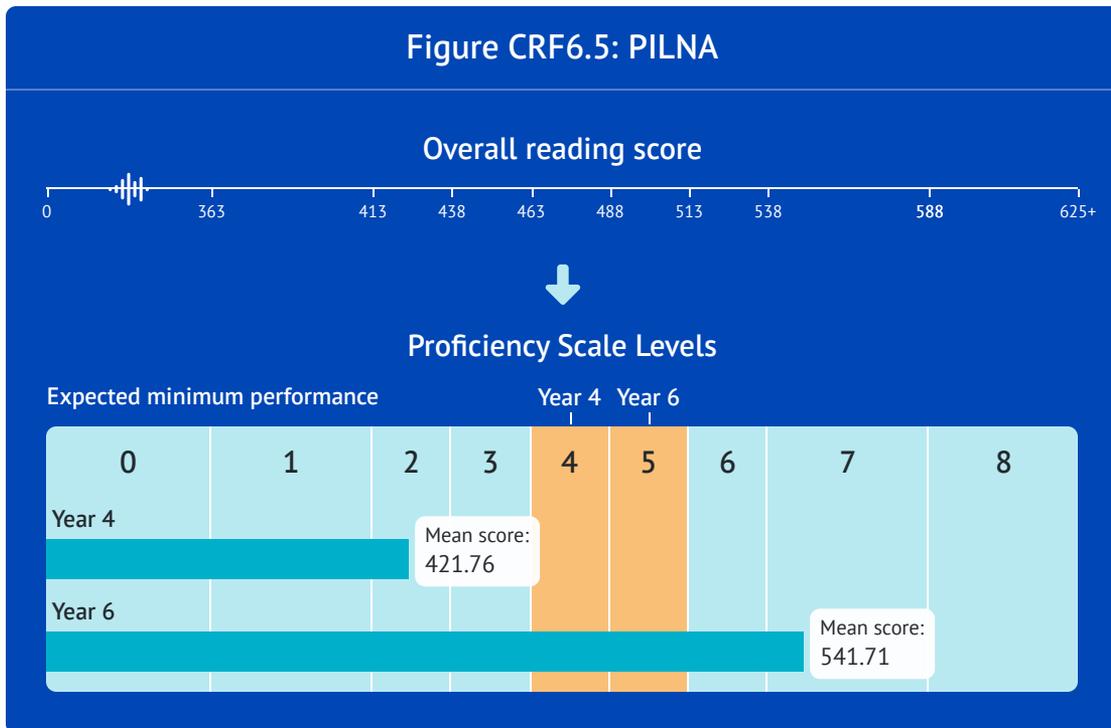
level	Distribution	
8		17.81% (9.27)
7		39.06% (7.78)
6		14.92% (7.02)
5		13.44% (8.93)
4		7.11% (6.97)
3		6.41% (5.62)
2		1.25% (2.72)
1		0.00% (0.00)
0		0.00% (0.00)

Distribution of Year 6 students by proficiency levels, Tokelau, PILNA 2021

() Standard errors appear in parentheses.

Table CRT6.1 shows the Tokelau distribution of year six 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 six students is **proficiency level five**. Pacific stakeholders expect these students to reach or exceed this proficiency level.

The average performance of year six students in Tokelau in reading was 541.71 (SD = 51.41). This corresponds to proficiency level seven on the PILNA reading proficiency scale (level seven is assigned to scores 537.5-587.5). On average, year six students in Tokelau are exceeding the minimum expected standard in reading.



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. This is shown in Table CRT6.2. Approximately 85% of year six students in Tokelau were performing at or above the minimum expected level in reading (levels 5–8) and about 15% of year six students in Tokelau did not meet this level (levels 0–4). Also shown in Table CRT6.2, is the significant proportion of year six students who scored at level seven (39%), the second highest level on the reading scale.

Table CRT6.2

Year 6 student reading proficiency relative to the region

level	Region	SIS	Tokelau
8	10.98% (0.73)	35.29% (3.74)	17.81% (9.27)
7	16.92% (0.55)	20.97% (1.85)	39.06% (7.78)
6	12.51% (0.53)	8.84% (1.61)	14.92% (7.02)
5	12.72% (0.37)	7.97% (1.23)	13.44% (8.93)
4	12.03% (0.30)	6.10% (1.08)	7.11% (6.97)
3	10.74% (0.43)	5.15% (1.13)	6.41% (5.62)
2	8.19% (0.29)	4.21% (1.04)	1.25% (2.72)
1	10.76% (0.46)	7.37% (1.93)	0.00% (0.00)
0	5.16% (0.39)	4.10% (1.33)	0.00% (0.00)

Distribution of Year 6 student reading proficiency relative to the Region, SIS and Tokelau, PILNA 2021

() Standard errors appear in parentheses.

On average, year six students in Tokelau (542) are scoring higher in reading than year six students in the region (492). Also, about 85% of year six students met or exceeded the expected minimum reading proficiency levels in Tokelau compared with 53% across the region and 73% in Small Island States.

Table CRT6.3

Year 6 Reading distribution by proficiency scores and gender

level	Girls	Boys
8	25.57% (14.54)	10.75% (9.12)
7	42.95% (19.13)	35.52% (13.33)
6	10.49% (9.22)	18.96% (9.74)
5	11.80% (12.61)	14.93% (11.64)
4	2.62% (5.74)	11.19% (10.84)
3	3.93% (6.46)	8.66% (11.11)
2	2.62% (5.74)	0.00% (0.00)
1	0.00% (0.00)	0.00% (0.00)
0	0.00% (0.00)	0.00% (0.00)

Distribution of Year 6 students' proficiency in reading by gender, Tokelau, PILNA 2021

() Standard errors appear in parentheses.

When looking at the Tokelau distribution of year six reading proficiency scores in 2021 by gender (Table CRT6.3), we can see differences in the scores. Approximately 91% of year six girls performed at or above the expected minimum proficiency level, but only about 80% of year six boys did so.