

Benchmarking year 6 writing performance: Are standards being met?

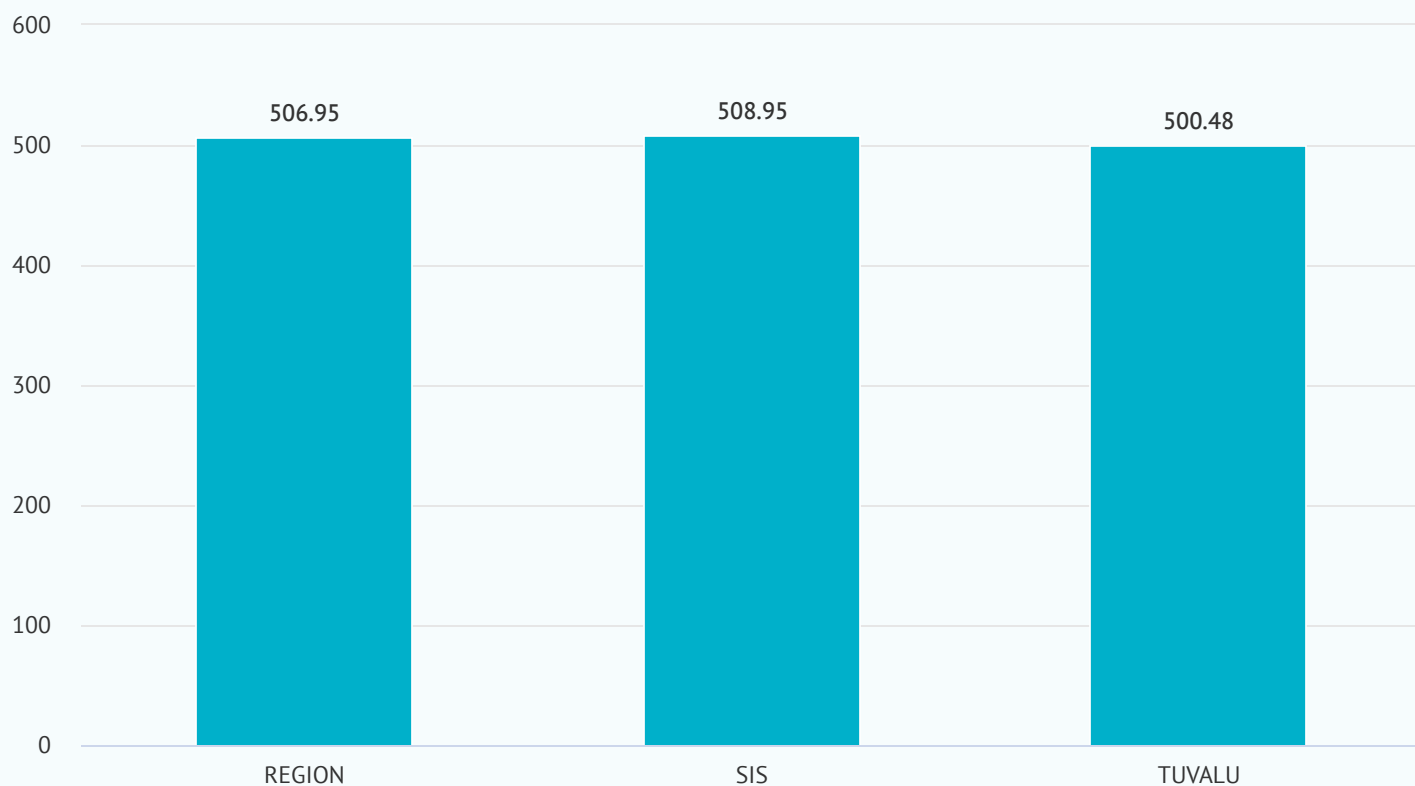
The numeracy and reading sections compare student performance to proficiency scales that describe expected student performance based on the number of years of schooling. A proficiency scale for writing ability is not currently available, although one will be created and the PILNA 2021 writing results 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 (Figure CWF6.2), the average writing score for year six students in Tuvalu in 2021 was higher than in all previous PILNA cycles. The score for a year six student in 2015 was 443.49 (SD = 102.50), in 2018 it was 456.81 (SD = 88.86), and in 2021 it was 500.48 (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 CWF6.3).

Figure CWF6.9

Writing scores relative to the region



Year	WRITING YEAR 6
REGION	506.95
SIS	508.95
TUVALU	500.48

Mean performance of Year 6 students in writing relative to the region and SIS, Tuvalu, PILNA 2021

Tuvalu performed at a slightly lower level in writing compared to the region and Small Island States. On average, year six students scored 500 in Tuvalu, 507 in the region and 509 in Small Island States (Figure CWF6.9).