

TARGET

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Increased student attendance

LEAD MINISTER

Hon David Seymour, Associate Minister of Education

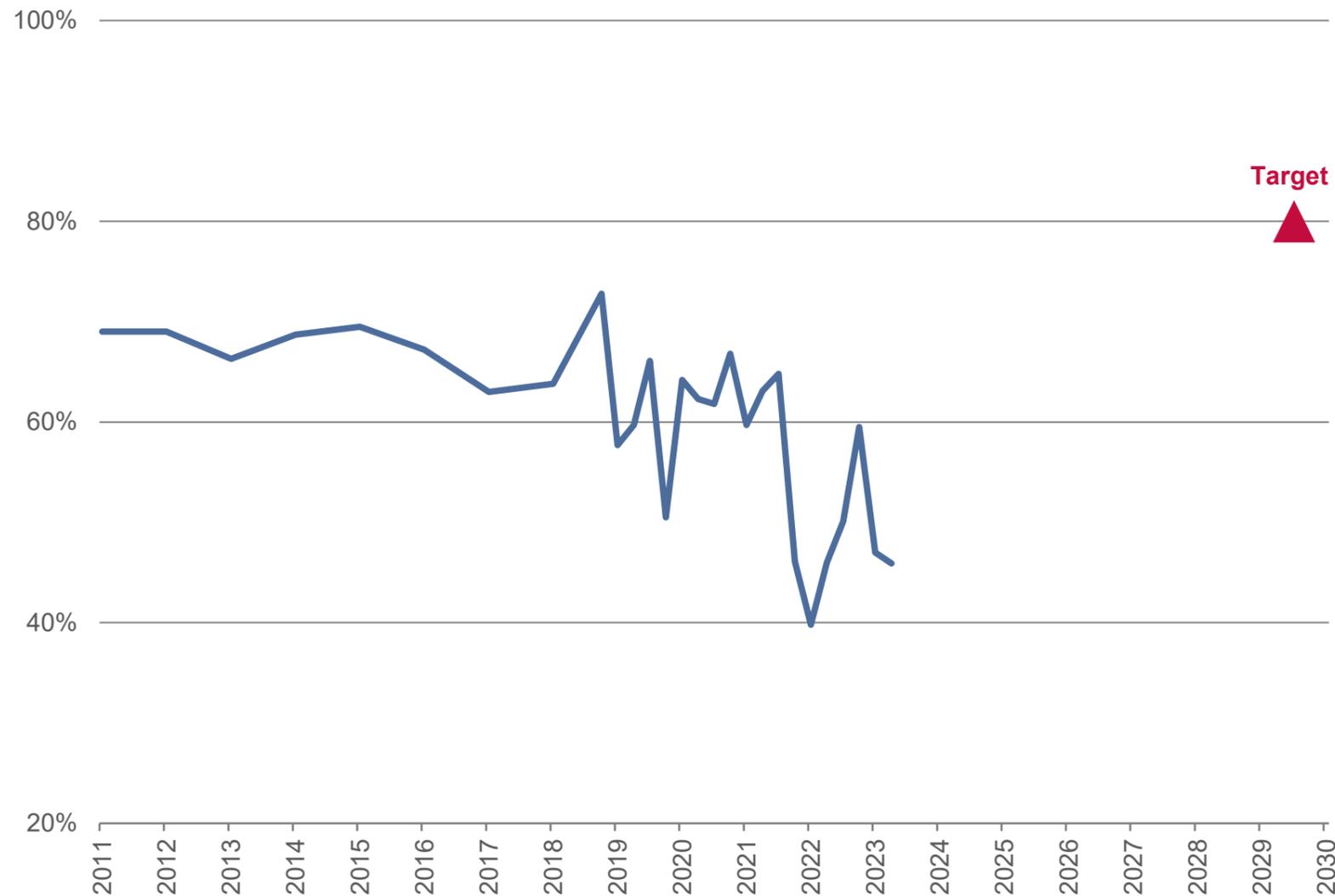
LEAD AGENCY

Ministry of Education, Secretary for Education, Iona Holsted

WHAT IS THE TARGET?

Eighty per cent of students to be present for more than 90 per cent of the term.

Proportion of students who are present for more than 90% of the term



WHY IS IT NEEDED AND WHAT WILL BE DIFFERENT?

Attendance is the first step in accessing learning, achieving education success and improving wellbeing and lifelong outcomes.

For too long, the number of students attending school regularly has not been good enough.

New Zealand has lower school attendance rates than other similar countries such as the United States, United Kingdom and Australia.

Currently just 45.9 per cent of students are attending school regularly (September 2023).

Attendance rates are lower for learners in secondary year levels, different locations, Māori and Pacific learners and those facing socioeconomic barriers.

We need students to be in school, learning.

More students attending regularly will mean more leaving school with the qualifications to succeed in higher education, in the workforce, in their communities and in the world.

We want parents, whānau, students, schools and school boards and communities to take more responsibility for students' attendance.

Schools will be welcoming places for learners to be and parents will have ready access to the support needed to help their children attend regularly.

Through **frequent attendance reporting** schools will quickly identify students at risk of disengaging and **work with their parents and whānau to get them back on track.**

HOW WILL WE KEEP TRACK?

The Ministry of Education will **publish attendance data more regularly** on its website to monitor progress.

The Education Review Office will conduct an **in-depth evaluation of the education systems, services and school practices** designed to get the most chronically absent students back into school.

The Social Wellbeing Agency will use the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI) to understand school attendance, **producing a stream of insights to support research, evaluation and service design** work being undertaken at Ministry of Education and Education Review Office.

HOW TO FIND OUT MORE

The Ministry of Education will continue to publish attendance information and data on educationcounts.govt.nz.

For information on the Government Targets go to www.dpmc.govt.nz