


More students at expected curriculum levels

80% of Year 8 students at or above the expected curriculum level for their age in reading, writing and maths by December 2030.

LEAD MINISTER
Hon Erica Stanford, Minister of Education

LEAD AGENCY
Ministry of Education, Acting Secretary for Education,
Ellen MacGregor-Reid

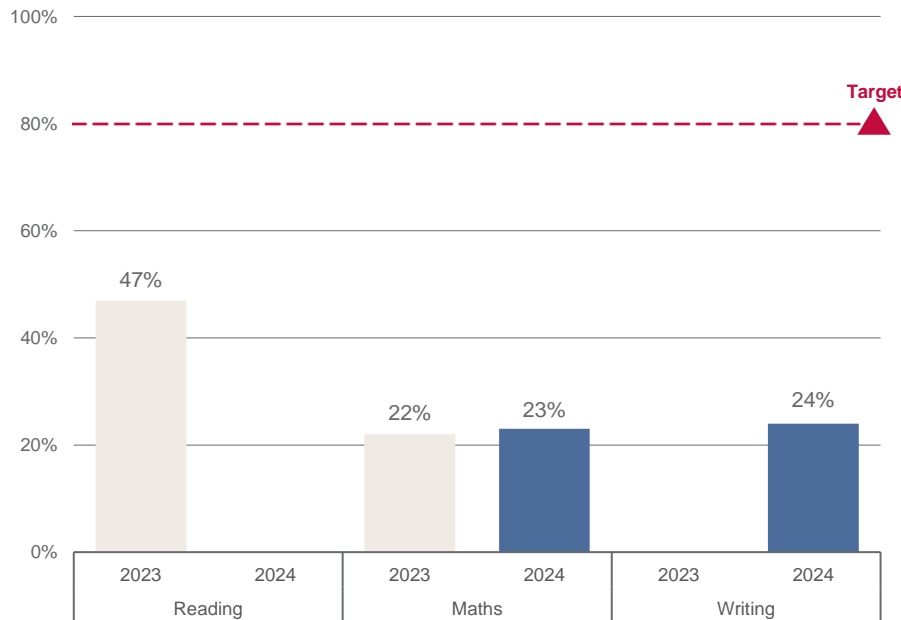
TARGET DELIVERY PERFORMANCE - QUARTER ENDING JUNE 2025

Target	Baseline	Current	Status
80%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 22% Maths (T4, 23) 47% Reading (T4, 23) 24% Writing (T4, 24) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 23% Maths (T4, 24) 47% Reading (T4, 23) 24% Writing (T4, 24) 	 At Risk

PROGRESS TOWARDS TARGET

Percentage of students at or above the expected curriculum level, by subject*

* Curriculum Insights and Progress Study: Maths is benchmarked against the 2023 draft curriculum; Writing is benchmarked against April 2025 draft curriculum. Results reflect the redesign to a more specified and rigorous curriculum.



TARGET DELIVERY ACTIONS

The Government is committed to students receiving a world-leading education with six priorities focused on lifting progress and achievement for all students. The 2024 Curriculum Insights data includes the first sample of student writing, and the second sample of maths achievement against the refreshed curriculum. Alongside 2023 reading data, it offers a baseline snapshot of achievement prior to the 2025 introduction of the refreshed curriculum and rollout of structured literacy and maths, supporting resources, and interventions.

The Government is focused on:

- Clearer curriculum.** Consultation is complete on NZ Curriculum English (Y7-13) and Te Reo Rangatira & Maths/Pāngarau (Y9-13). The Ministry of Education launched the Parent Portal, updated handwriting guidance, and began financial education planning.
- Better approach to literacy and numeracy.** Curriculum Insights data shows that writing achievement has remained the same between 2019 and 2024. In response the Ministry has launched a Writing Action Plan, to work alongside the Maths Action Plan to raise achievement and close the equity gap.
- Smarter assessment and reporting.** 72% of schools have started to implement the Phonics Checks to help teachers monitor student progress after 20 and 40 weeks at school. The SMART Assessment Tool contract was awarded to Janison Solutions in July 2025 for twice yearly assessments in reading, writing and maths for Y3-8 students from 2026.
- Develop Workforce of the Future.** 171 teachers are participating in targeted structured literacy intervention PLD. Planning has begun for the "Go Rural: Isolated Placements Fund" to support student teacher placements in a rural or isolated schools and for \$140m in Budget 25 investments benefitting aspiring principals, teacher aides and teacher proficiency in te reo Māori and tikanga.
- Stronger and earlier learning support.** Phase 1 of the Maths Acceleration Pilot is complete, involving 145 English and Māori-medium schools aiming to lift maths achievement for approximately 3,000 Y7-8 students. Planning for nationwide rollout has commenced.
- Greater use of data.** Published an updated toolkit to support schools with their School Planning and Reporting processes and documentation.

HOW TO FIND OUT MORE

Curriculum Insights and Progress (CIPS) study results will be published on:

- Ministry's Education Counts website:
educationcounts.govt.nz/publications/series/curriculum-insights-and-progress-study

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