

Increased student attendance

80% of students to be present for more than 90% of the term.


LEAD MINISTER

Hon David Seymour, Associate Minister of Education

LEAD AGENCY

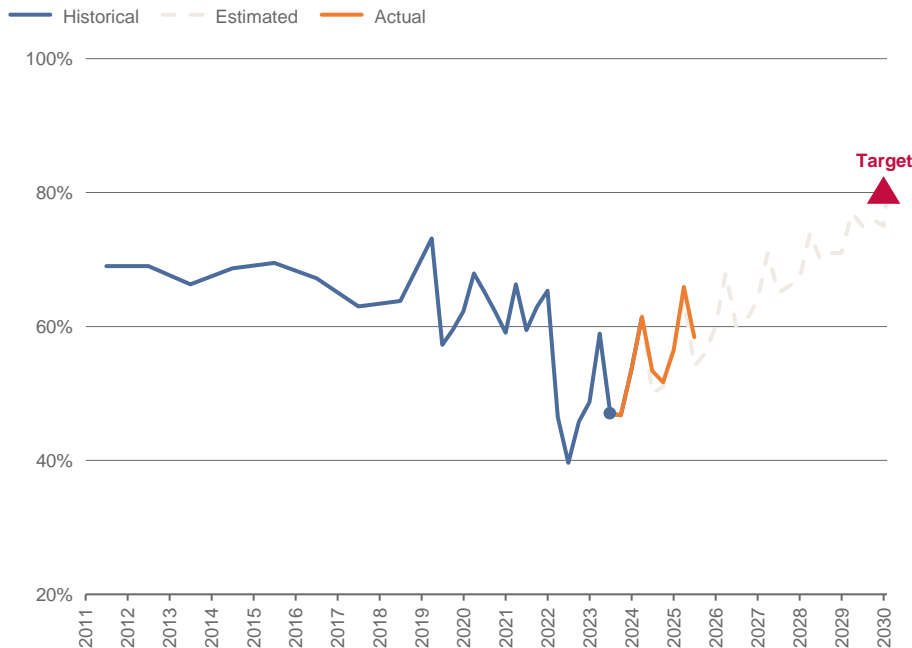
Ministry of Education, Secretary for Education, Ellen MacGregor-Reid

TARGET DELIVERY PERFORMANCE - QUARTER ENDING SEPTEMBER 2025

Target	Baseline (Term 2, 2023)	Current (Term 2, 2025)	Status
80%	47.0%	58.4%	 Probable

PROGRESS TOWARDS TARGET

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



TARGET DELIVERY ACTIONS

The second phase of initiatives under the Government’s attendance action plan are underway, including mandating school attendance management plans as part of clarifying the role that every student, parent, teacher and school has to play in raising attendance, and reforming attendance service provision.

In Term 2 of 2025, 58.4 percent of students attended school regularly, an increase of 5.0 percentage points from 53.4 percent in Term 2 of 2024.

The Government is focused on:

- **Strengthening accountability.** Updated Stepped Attendance Response (STAR) framework and resources were published following the Term 2 trial. Legislation has been passed which makes attendance management plans mandatory from Term 1 next year. Accountability for parents and guardians is also critical with several cases formally notified through the Ministry of Education led prosecutions process.
- **Supports and services.** The new Attendance Service contracts have been awarded, with providers preparing to go live in Term 1 2026. A new case management system is being implemented, to allow for better monitoring of outcomes for referred students.
- **Promoting the importance of regular attendance.** The ongoing public information campaign has been expanded to use a wider range of channels to reach a wider audience. Evidence from Education Review Office’s research show parent and student attitudes towards school attendance are improving.
- **Improving data and building the knowledge base.** Webinars have been run with school leaders and administrators to support consistent application of attendance codes. Student Management System vendors are building functionality to support schools in responding to student absence in line with their attendance management plans from the start of Term 1 2026.

The Term 3, 2025 results were published on 13 November 2025.

HOW TO FIND OUT MORE

The Ministry of Education will continue to publish attendance information and data on <https://www.educationcounts.gov.nz/statistics/attendance>

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