

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

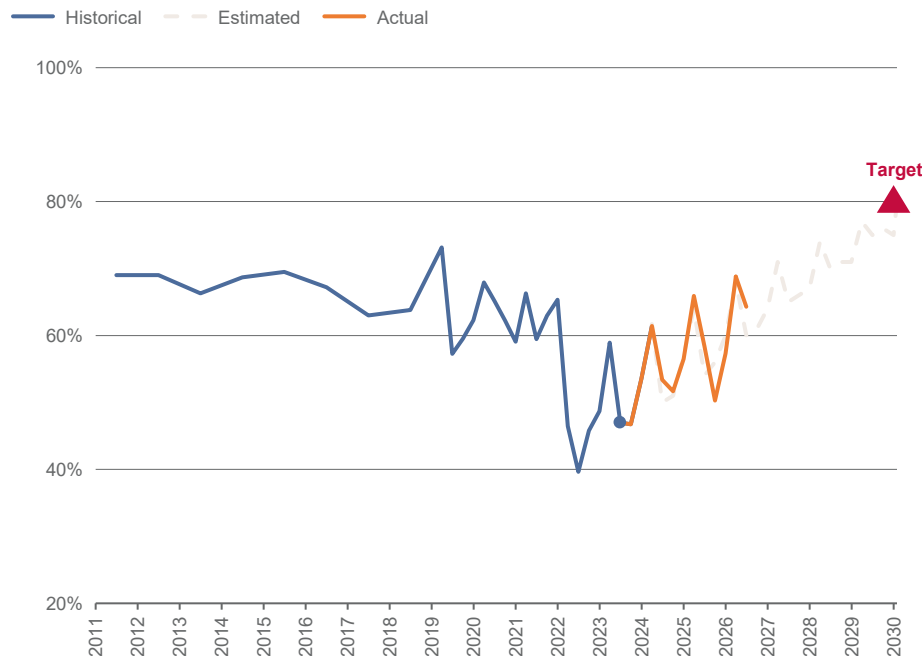
Ministry of Education, Secretary for Education,
Ellen MacGregor-Reid

TARGET DELIVERY PERFORMANCE - QUARTER ENDING JUNE 2026

Target	Baseline (Term 2, 2023)	Current (Term 2, 2026)	Status
80%	47.0%	64.3%	 Probable

PROGRESS TOWARDS TARGET

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



TARGET DELIVERY ACTIONS

The Government's attendance action plan continues to progress. This includes schools continuing to implement their attendance management plans (AMPs) as part of clarifying the role that every student, parent, teacher and school must play in raising attendance, and embedding the reformed Attendance Service which commenced in Term 1 of 2026.

In Term 2 of 2026, 64.3 percent of students attended school regularly, an increase of 5.9 percentage points from 58.4 percent in Term 2 of 2025. The prior result for Term 1 of 2026 was 68.8 percent, a 2.9 percentage point increase compared to Term 1 of 2025.

The Government is focused on:

- **Strengthening accountability.** Almost all schools now have a published AMP in place, which communicates to their communities how they will apply escalating responses to absences and investigate underlying causes and barriers to attendance. Accountability for parents and guardians is also critical, with the Ministry of Education continuing to receive and assess notifications for prosecution and progress investigations, which has led to students being re-enrolled at school.
- **Supports and services.** The new Attendance Service went live in Term 1 of 2026, supported by Budget 2025 investment and aiming to reduce chronic absenteeism and non-enrolled students. Thousands of students have received support across two terms, with a number of students successfully reintegrated back into school or other education pathways.
- **Promoting the importance of regular attendance.** The public information campaign is ongoing, focusing strongly on reducing irregular absence and avoidable illness. The Ministry of Education has partnered with Health NZ to produce accessible guidance to support parental decision-making when children are unwell, alongside a suite of resources aimed at promoting regular school attendance through good health practices.

HOW TO FIND OUT MORE

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

For the new resources on good health practices and guidance on knowing if a child is well enough to be at school, go to [Healthy habits for learning - Ministry of Education](#)

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