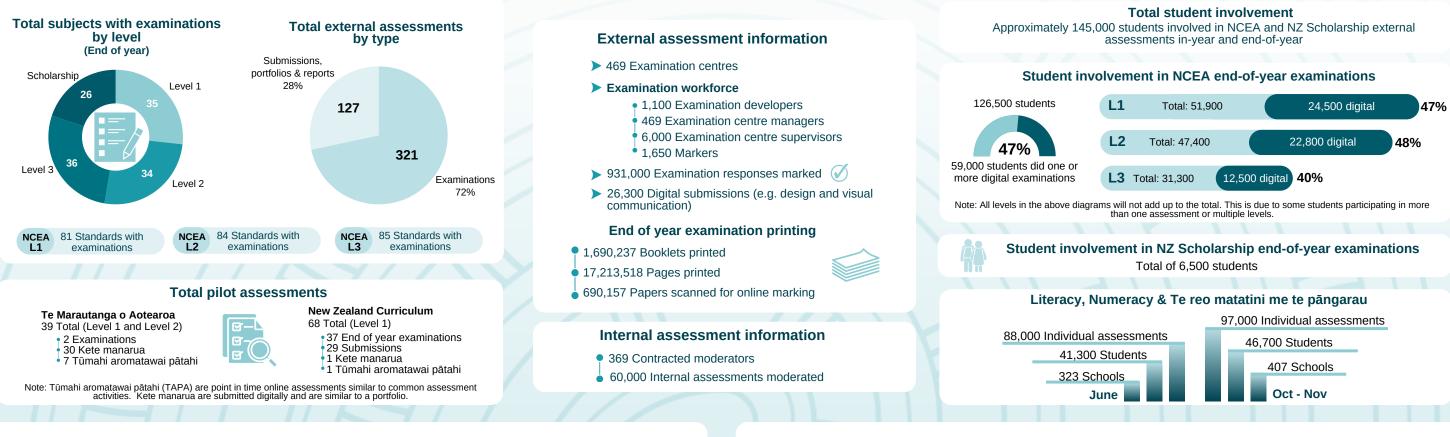
# **2023 Assessment Round Summary**



# Issues / lessons learned from the 2023 exam round



Note: NZOA conducts an

## Capacity / load performance:

Closer monitoring will be undertaken to ensure platform capacity accomodates student entries. Options include:

- allocating specific timeslots to kura/schools for Literacy and Numeracy via a booking system
- staggering the start of large point-in-time exams, and a range of other interventions under active consideration



### Unmarked scripts:

Mislabelling at examination centres, and mis-sorting at the vendor's reception area resulted in incorrect 'Standard Not Attempted' results for 885 students

A thorough improvement-focused review is underway, expected to be completed in April, to understand root causes so that remedial action can be taken to prevent reoccurrences

### annual thorough continuous improvement focused review A This ensures that the root causes of any issues are

understood and remedial action can be taken to prevent reoccurrences.

## Security risk:

Working with assessment platform vendor on security risk identified in quarterly penetration testing.

 NZQA has an internal controls to mitigate security risks. The team has conducted a thorough review of the remaining penetration test risks and classified each based on the effectiveness of internal controls. This has left NZOA with five high priority risks that need to be remediated, planned for delivery in April

# Improvements applied to the 2023 exam round

- For most subjects, when a student sits an NCEA examination on paper, the responses are now scanned and uploaded for marking online, creating efficiencies, saving time and avoiding expensive courier use
- A pilot of similar scanning and online marking for some NZ Scholarship paper responses was successfully trialled
- Return of student scripts digitally most paper responses for NCEA and NZ Scholarship are now scanned postmarking and returned to students digitally. They were previously couriered
- Use of a new internal Reconciliation Tool enabled more rapid identification and resolution of marking issues
- A trial enabling students to use their own text-to-speech assistive technology was run in the Literacy and Numeracy NCEA co-requisite assessments
- In the end-of-year literacy writing and numeracy assessments, students had the option to use 'Polly', an English language text-to-speech tool built into the digital assessment platform

# Digital assessment highlights in 2023

- There was a large increase in participation in digital assessment. 31 schools participated in digital assessment for the first time in 2023 and there was a 39% increase in digital entries (59,132 v 42,619 in 2022)
- Around 400 schools took part in at least one of the 72 subjects being offered digitally across NCEA Levels 1, 2 and 3
- Around two-thirds of NCEA subjects were available for digital assessment
- 🖕 66,511 'unique' students completed Literacy and Numeracy | Te Reo Matatini me te Pāngarau assessments digitally

