

Information Update: Results for Co-Requisite Event 1 2025: Literacy – Writing, Numeracy, and Te Reo Matatini

To:	Hon Erica Stanford, Minister of Education		
Cc:			
Date:	10 July 2025	Priority:	High
Security Level:	Unclassified	OC No:	OC01818
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Request

This information update provides you with the results from the first 2025 NCEA co-requisite assessment event covering:

- Literacy – Writing;
- Numeracy;
- Te Reo Matatini Torohū; and
- Te Reo Matatini Whakaputa

These results are shared with you ahead of their release to students and schools on Monday 14 July in the afternoon.

Results for Pāngarau were still being finalised at the time of writing this briefing. 460 students attempted this assessment. We will provide you with an update on these results on Monday 14 July in the morning.

Overall results will also be published on our website on 14 July.

This update also includes information on overall NCEA co-requisite attainment now that we are halfway through the 2025 academic year.

Background

The first NCEA co-requisite assessment event was held between 19 and 30 May 2025¹.

The results for Literacy – Reading were released to schools and students on 25 June. Information updates on the results for Literacy – Reading were provided to you on 23 June (OC01785 refers) and 2 July (OC01805 refers).

¹ For Literacy - Writing and Numeracy, separate assessment activities were provided in weeks 1 and 2 to protect the integrity of the assessments. For Te Reo Matatini Whakaputa, the assessment was a Kete Manarua (digital submission) due 30 May 2025.

Marking Process Overview

For assessment event 1, we have used a combination of automated machine marking, automated text scoring and human marking to reduce the time it takes to mark assessments and return results. For the first time, automated text scoring has been used on all digitally submitted Literacy - Writing assessments. For these, we also used a human check-marking process where students were on the boundary of achieving or not achieving.

More information on our marking processes for the co-requisites is available here [How we mark co-requisite assessments - NZQA](#).

Information

This report includes a section summarising achievement rates, and then sections providing more detail about the results for each of the assessments. Finally, there is a section about how many students have met the NCEA co-requisite.

Summary of achievement rates

Achievement rates for five of the six co-requisite assessments for assessment event 1 of 2025 are summarised below, alongside results from 2024 event 1 and event 2 for comparison.

Assessment	2025 (Event 1)	2024 (Event 1)	2024 (Event 2)
Literacy - Reading	61.2%	58.7%	56.0%
Literacy - Writing	55.3%	55.7%	52.5%
Numeracy	57.0%	45.6%	40.0%
Te Reo Matatini - Torohū	83.9%	84.8%	80.0%
Te Reo Matatini Whakaputa	77.4%	71.3%	66.4%

For Reading, results showed an improvement on 2024 results. For Writing, results are similar to 2024 event 1 and event 2 results.

For Numeracy, results show a strong improvement. This is an indication that students are becoming more comfortable with how numeracy is assessed, and that they were better prepared. The literacy demand on students was reduced through clearer and simpler use of language without changing the context, meaning or numeracy demand of the assessment items. This increased the accessibility of the assessment for students.

Students achieved very well in Te Reo Matatini - Whakaputa and Te Reo Matatini - Torohū. These assessments are targeted at students who are learning predominantly in Te Reo Māori.

Literacy – Writing

55,419 students attempted the writing assessment up from 51,566 students in the first 2024 event (and 50,229 in the second event).

Across all year levels, 55.3% of students achieved the assessment. In 2024:

- 55.7% achieved in event 1
- 52.5% achieved in event 2.

Just under half of the participants (**26,060 students**) are in Year 10.

- **66.2% of Year 10 students** achieved the assessment.
- Over 98% of Year 10 students were first-time candidates.

Students in Years 11 and 12 made up 48% of the participants. Their achievement was much lower than Year 10s (Year 11: **48.2%** and Year 12: **36.5%**).

16,204 students had previously attempted but not achieved the assessment in 2024 or earlier.

- **37.9%** of these students achieved the standard in 2025 - an indication that students who resit do achieve, but at a lower rate than students attempting the assessments for the first time.
- Resits are more common in the second assessment event of each year:
 - In event 1 (2025), just under one third of students were resitting
 - In event 2 (2024), just over half were resitting.
- This pattern helps explain why achievement rates are generally higher in the first event of each year.

Appendix 1 provides more detail on participation and achievement rates by year level for those students making a first attempt and those students resitting the assessments.

By socio-economic barriers to attainment (School EQI Group), the achievement rates show a difference of at least 14 percentage points (pp) between each School EQI group. Table 1 presents the achievement rates for Event 1 2025, and Event 1 and 2 of 2024, by School EQI group.

Table 1

School EQI Group	Event 1 2025	Event 1 2024	Event 2 2024
Fewer	68.1%	65.5%	66.8%
Moderate	54.0%	55.4%	50.1%
More	35.0%	34.6%	34.8%
Unassigned	83.5%	71.5%	62.7%

Numeracy

63,626 students attempted the numeracy assessment up from 55,468 students in the first 2024 assessment event (56,328 in the second event).

Across all year levels, 57.0% of students achieved the assessment in May 2025. This is an increase on 2024 achievement:

- 45.6% achieved in event 1
- 40.0% achieved in event 2.

Just under half of the participants (**30,539 students**) are in Year 10.

- **68.8% of Year 10 students** achieved the assessment.
- Over 95% of Year 10 students were first-time candidates.

Students in Years 11 and 12 made up 46% of the participants. Their achievement was much lower than Year 10s (Year 11: **46.3%** and Year 12: **39.4%**).

22,238 students had previously attempted but not achieved the assessment in 2024 or earlier.

- **42.2%** of these students achieved the standard in 2025 - an indication that students who resit do achieve, but at a lower rate than students attempting the assessments for the first time.
- Resits are more common in the second assessment event of each year:
 - In event 1 (2025) 35.2% were resitting
 - In event 2 (2024) 55.7% were resitting.
- This is one of the reasons the achievement rates in the first event are generally higher than achievement rates in the second event in any given year.

Appendix 1 provides more detail on participation and achievement rates by year level for those students making a first attempt and those students resitting the assessments.

By socio-economic barriers to attainment (School EQI Group), the achievement rates show a difference of at least 16 pp between each School EQI group. Table 2 presents the achievement rates for Event 1 2025, and Event 1 and 2 of 2024, by School EQI group.

Table 2

School EQI Group	Event 1 2025	Event 1 2024	Event 2 2024
Fewer	72.6%	62.2%	61.9%
Moderate	56.1%	42.9%	35.9%
More	34.1%	19.8%	21.7%
Unassigned	83.2%	70.3%	51.9%

Te Reo Matatini - Torohū

702 students attempted the Te Reo Matatini - Torohū assessment up from 296 students in the first 2024 assessment event (426 in the second event.) Just under half of participating students are in Year 10.

83.9% (589) achieved the assessment. There was not a large difference in achievement across the year levels.

Te Reo Matatini - Whakaputa

177 students attempted the Te Reo Matatini - Whakaputa assessment. Just over half of participating students are in Year 10. Te Reo Matatini - Whakaputa assesses oral and written language skills.

77.4% (137) achieved the assessment. There was not a large difference in achievement across the year levels.

Achievement of the NCEA co-requisite requirement

The NCEA co-requisite requirement requires students to achieve 10 credits of literacy and 10 credits of numeracy. The requirement can be met using three different ways:

- the dedicated co-requisite Literacy and Numeracy | Te Reo Matatini me te Pāngarau unit standards, with assessments set and marked by NZQA;
- an approved list of literacy or numeracy-rich achievement standards (mainly drawn from English/Te Reo Māori and mathematics/pāngarau subject areas); or
- for a limited group of eligible students, the package of '266' series of unit standards.

The analysis below provides an update on achievement of the full NCEA co-requisite requirement by mid-2025 for students for whom NZQA holds assessment records.

Table 3 shows the proportion of students by year level who have achieved the NCEA co-requisite requirement. For example, 25.4% of Year 10s have already met the full co-requisite requirement halfway through the 2025 year.

Table 3

Year level	Enrolled in 2025	Achieved co-requisite (by mid-2025)	Percentage (%)
Year 10	50,934	12,951	25.4%
Year 11	64,382	35,134	54.6%
Year 12	61,346	49,295	80.4%
Year 13 and above	52,606	48,098	91.4%

We also looked at those students who were in Year 11 or Year 12 in 2024 but did not meet the NCEA co-requisite requirement, and who have returned to school in 2025.

There are 20,636 of these students in Year 12 in 2025, and 3,741 in Year 13 in 2025.

Table 4 shows that just over half of these Year 12s (11,145 – 54.0%) have now achieved the co-requisite, and just over a quarter of these Year 13s (962 of 3,741) have.

Table 4

Year level	Students with 2025 enrolments who had not met the co-requisite by the end of 2024	Achieved co-requisite (by mid-2025)	Percentage (%)
Year 12	20,636	11,145	54.0%
Year 13	3,741	962	25.7%

Of the 11,145 students in Year 12 who have now met the co-requisite, approximately a third (3,645) have also met the requirements to be awarded NCEA Level 1 as at 9 July 2025².

If we were to add their additional 2025 credit achievement to the number of Year 11s who achieved the qualification by the end of 2024, the 2024 achievement rate would increase from 71.5% to 79.6% $((32,218 + 3,645)/45,069)$ ³.

² This number will change throughout the year as schools report additional results for these students.

³ In 2024, 45,069 Year 11 students participated in NCEA Level 1. Of those, 32,218 achieved the qualification by the end of Year 11, an achievement rate of 71.5%. This achievement rate was 10.4 percentage points lower the 2023 Year 11 NCEA Level 1 rate of 81.9% (OC 01583 refers).

Our tracked Year 11 cohort measure we publish in our annual statistics report⁴ will reflect this progressive attainment for the Year 11 2024 cohort in 2026.

⁴ [2024-Annual-Report-on-NCEA-New-Zealand-Scholarship-Data-and-Statistics.pdf](#), p.23

Appendix 1

Participation and achievement rates by year level for those students making a first attempt and those students resitting the assessments.

Literacy - Writing

Participation

Table A presents the number of students who participated in the writing assessment by year level and whether they were sitting the assessment for the first time or repeating the assessment.

Table A

Year level	First attempt	Resit	Total participants
Year 9 and below	1,108	6	1,114
Year 10	25,604	456	26,060
Year 11	10,137	10,962	21,099
Year 12	1,535	3,736	5,271
Year 13 and above	828	1,047	1,875

Achievement

Table B presents achievement by year level (first attempt and resit).

Table B

Year level	First attempt	Resit	Overall year level achievement rate
Year 9 and below	52.1%	16.7%	51.9%
Year 10	66.7%	37.9%	66.2%
Year 11	56.4%	40.5%	48.2%
Year 12	46.0%	32.6%	36.5%
Year 13 and above	53.0%	28.5%	39.3%

Non-Achievement

Table C presents the numbers of students not achieving (first attempt and resit).

Table C

Year level	First attempt students not achieving	Resit students not achieving	Total not achieving
Year 9 and below	531	5	536
Year 10	8,525	283	8,808
Year 11	4,415	6,518	10,933
Year 12	829	2,518	3,347
Year 13 and above	389	749	1,138

Numeracy

Participation

Table D presents the number of students who participated in the numeracy assessment by year level and whether they were sitting the assessment for the first time or repeating the assessment.

Table D

Year level	First attempt	Resit	Total participants
Year 9 and below	2,188	11	2,199
Year 10	29,369	1,170	30,539
Year 11	7,483	15,347	22,830
Year 12	1,439	4,947	6,386
Year 13 and above	709	963	1,672

Achievement

Table E presents achievement by year level (first attempt and resit).

Table E

Year level	First attempt	Resit	Overall year level achievement rate
Year 9 and below	64.1%	27.3%	63.9%
Year 10	69.6%	50.2%	68.8%
Year 11	49.3%	45.0%	46.3%
Year 12	58.1%	34.0%	39.4%
Year 13 and above	64.3%	32.4%	45.9%

Non-Achievement

Table F presents the numbers of students not achieving (first attempt and resit).

Table F

Year level	First attempt students not achieving	Resit students not achieving	Total not achieving
Year 9 and below	786	8	794
Year 10	8,931	583	9,514
Year 11	3,797	8,455	12,252
Year 12	603	3,264	3,867
Year 13 and above	253	651	904