

# PIRLS 2021

## Ireland: Results

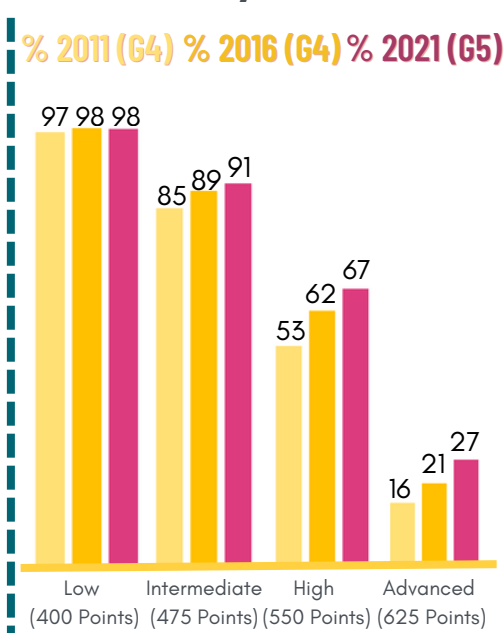
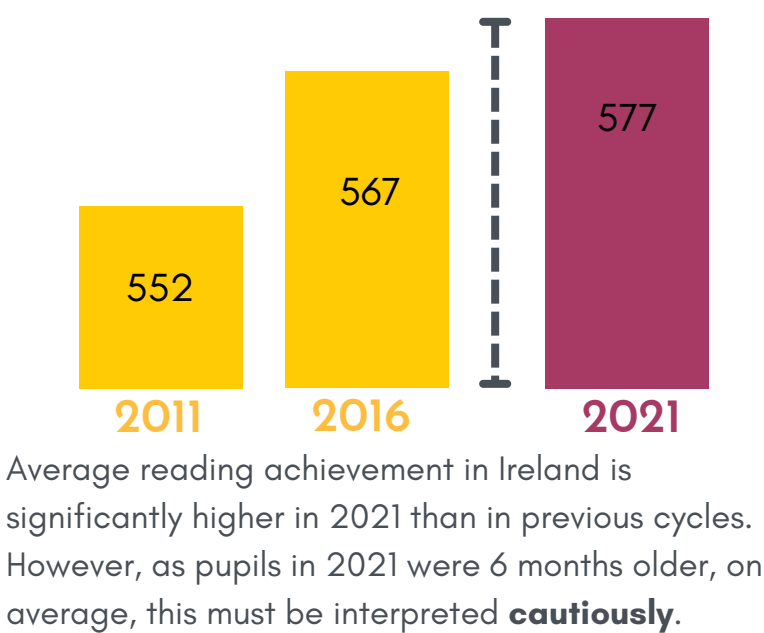
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The Progress in International Reading Literacy Study assesses the reading of pupils around the world. In Ireland, testing was delayed to autumn 2021 due to COVID-19. Therefore, pupils in Ireland (and 13 other countries) tested at the **start of 5th Grade**, while the remaining (43) PIRLS countries tested at the **end of 4th Grade**.

End of Grade 4

Start of Grade 5

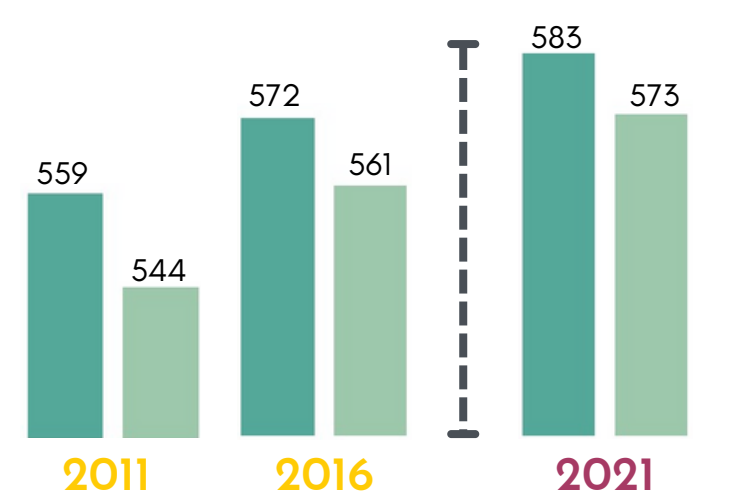
### Ireland's achievement across cycles



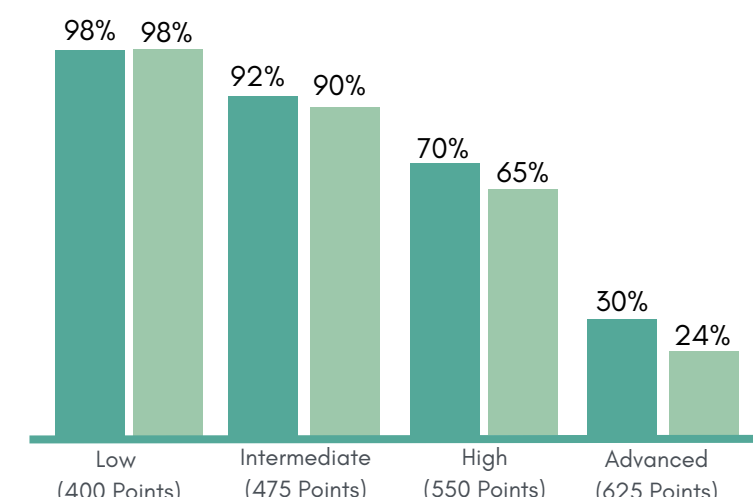
The proportion of pupils in Ireland reaching the High and Advanced Benchmarks has increased since 2016, although this may be at least partly due to Start G5 testing.

### Spotlight on gender

Girls Boys

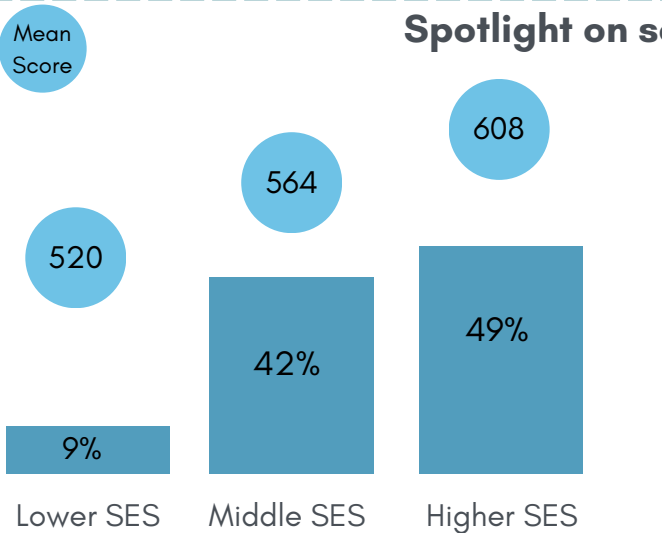


The size of Ireland's gender gap in achievement was similar in 2021 to 2016 (and was smaller than in 2011).

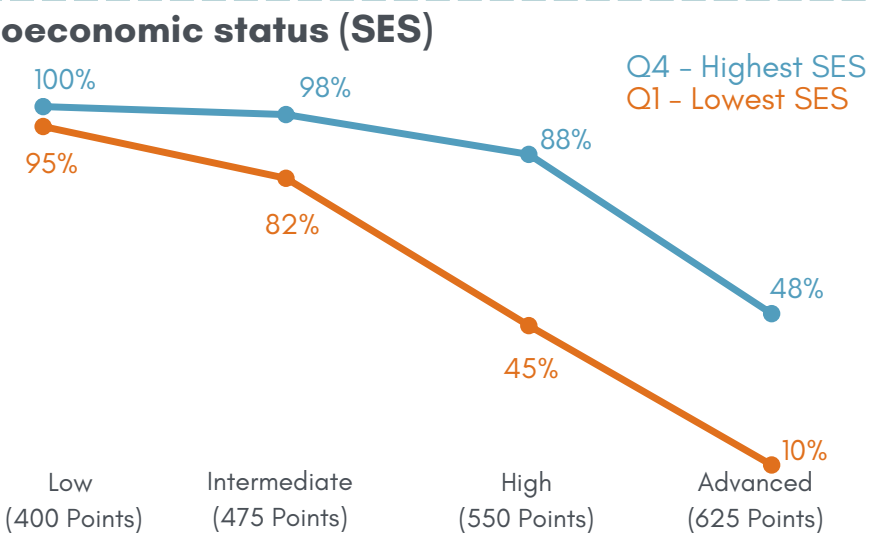


In Ireland, girls were significantly more likely than boys to reach the High and Advanced Benchmarks, although there was no notable gender gap at the lower benchmarks.

### Spotlight on socioeconomic status (SES)

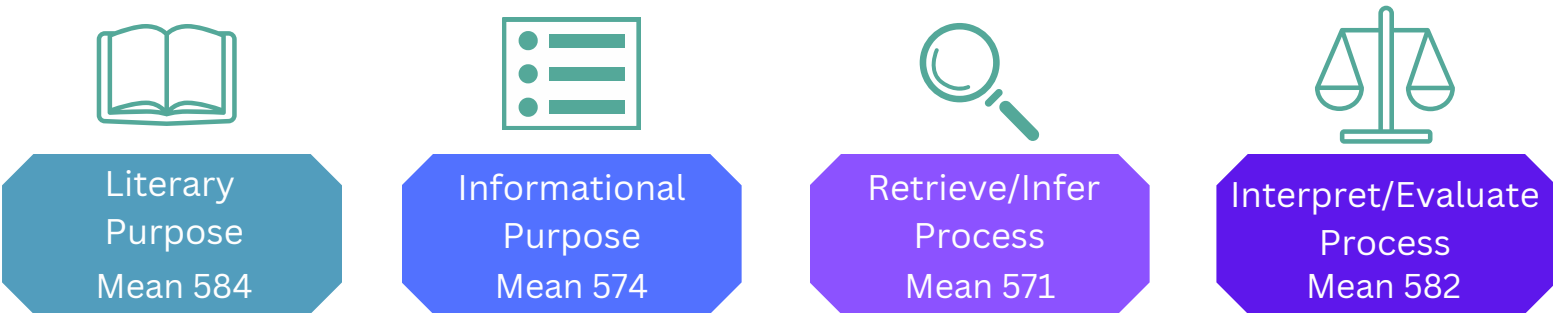


The overall level of SES was relatively high in Ireland with most pupils having "Middle" or "Higher" SES (as defined internationally).



Within Ireland, pupils with lowest SES were less likely than peers with highest SES to reach all four benchmarks. At the High and Advanced Benchmarks, these gaps were very pronounced.

### Reading purposes & processes in Ireland



Relative to their own overall mean score (577), pupils in Ireland performed particularly strongly when reading Literary texts and using Interpret/Evaluate processes.