

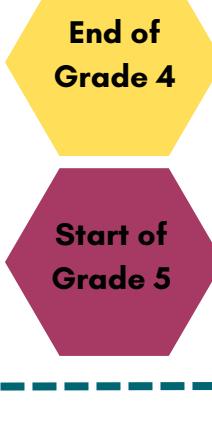
PIRLS 2021

Ireland: Results

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The Progress in International Reading Literacy Study assesses the reading of pupils around the world.

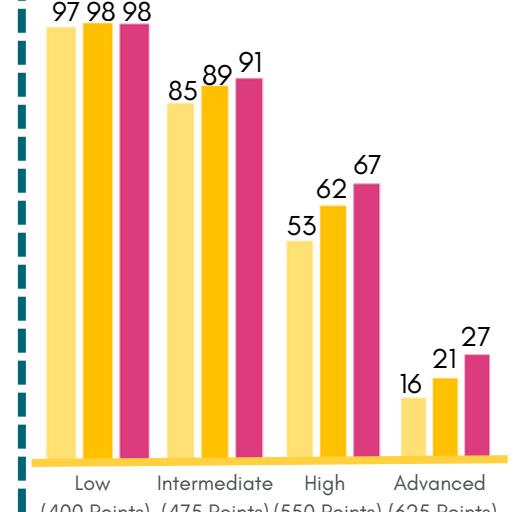
In Ireland, testing was delayed to autumn 2021 due to COVID-19. Therefore, pupils in Ireland (and 13 other countries) tested at the **start of 5th Grade**, while the remaining (43) PIRLS countries tested at the **end of 4th Grade**.



Ireland's achievement across cycles

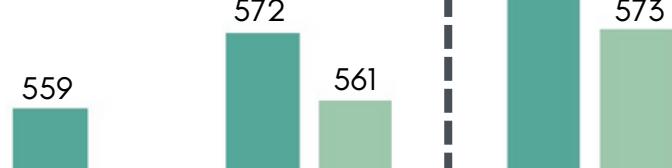


Average reading achievement in Ireland is significantly higher in 2021 than in previous cycles. However, as pupils in 2021 were 6 months older, on average, this must be interpreted **cautiously**.

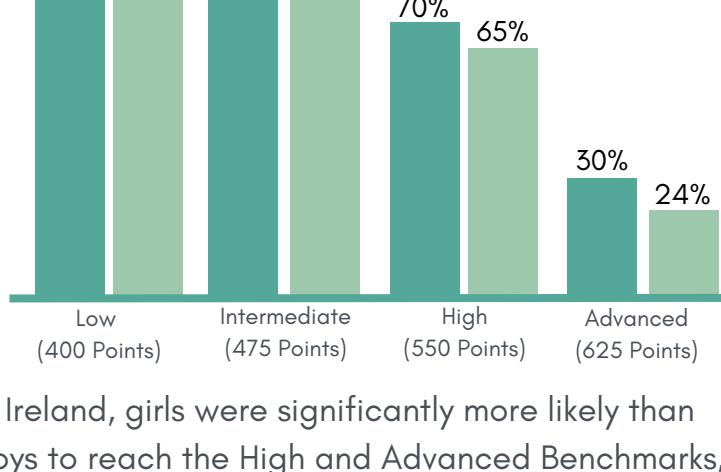


The proportion of pupils in Ireland reaching the High and Advanced Benchmarks has increased since 2016, although this may be at least partly due to Start G5 testing.

Spotlight on gender



Girls Boys



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



Literary Purpose
Mean 584



Informational Purpose
Mean 574



Retrieve/Infer Process
Mean 571



Interpret/Evaluate Process
Mean 582

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

Produced by the Educational Research Centre, Dublin, 2023.

To find out more about PIRLS 2021, visit:

www.erc.ie/pirls/reports