

Pacific Islands Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (PILNA) and Pacific Assessment of Lower Secondary (PALS)

Educational Quality and Assessment Programme (EQAP)
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Overview

1. Background to PILNA and PALS
2. Changes to PILNA in Cycle 4
3. Using PILNA data
4. PALS progress
5. 2024 and beyond

Background to PILNA and PALS

PILNA

- End of 4 and 6 years of formal education
- Reading, Writing, Numeracy, Questionnaires
- 3-year cycles since 2012
- 15 countries, 10 languages, 40,000 students
- Manually coded

PALS

- Part of Pacific Regional Education Framework
- Builds on PILNA and extends

Changes to PILNA in Cycle 4

- Separation of literacy scale into reading scale and writing scale
- Adoption of a rotated booklet design
- Shift from traditional (print, PDF) reports to interactive digital reporting

Using PILNA data

- Dissemination visits to all PILNA participating countries
- Workshops to dig into PILNA datasets for policy and planning

PALS progress

- Consultations
- Decisions on domains, year level, and format
- Development of pilot items including practical science
- Soft pilot to test practical concept
- First pilot in 4 schools
- Data analysis
- Review of results and additional item development
- multi-country pilot in 2024

2024 and beyond

PILNA

- Instrument development for cycle 5 field trials underway
- Field trials in October 2024
- Main study October 2025

PALS

- Full field trial in 2025
- Main study in 2026

Key Resources

PILNA Technical Report (found near bottom of page)

<https://eqap.spc.int/reports-publications>

PILNA Reporting site

<https://pilna.eqap.spc.int/>

PacREF information, including PALS

<https://eqap.spc.int/pacref>