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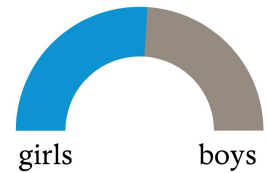
SCHOOL YEAR: 2020-2021 GRADES: 3 and 9

SUBJECTS: mathematics, mother tongue, English, Finnish

# Assessment results

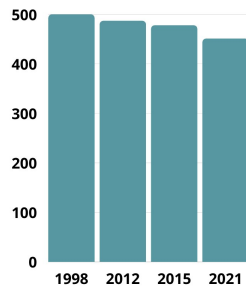
## GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON COMPETENCE

In most subjects, pupils' competence is at the same level in different parts of the country. The pupil's **gender**, the language of instruction of the educational institution and **the municipal category** explain only a small part of the competence differences at the beginning of grade 3 and at the end of grade 9. However, there is great **individual variation** in pupils' competence.



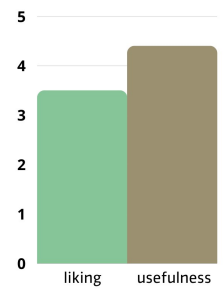
## MATHEMATICS, GRADE 9

The level of competence in mathematics in grade 9 has been **declining** since the first national assessment of learning outcomes in 1998. The grades received by pupils do not always correspond to their level of competence.



## ENGLISH, GRADE 9

Since 2013, the level of competence in English seems to have **declined** somewhat in some areas of language, such as listening comprehension. Pupils like studying English and find the subject useful. They learn English a lot outside school.

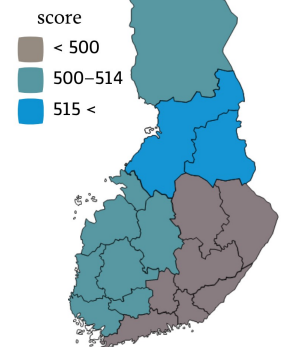


## MATHEMATICS AND MOTHER TONGUE GRADE 3

There are **great differences between individuals** in pupils' competence. The skills of some of the pupils are extremely poor when they start grade 3. There were already great differences in the competence of the same pupils at the beginning of grade 1. There were also great individual differences in the previous assessment conducted on grade 3 in 2005.



The skills of pupils learning Finnish or Swedish as a second language (L2) are **at a clearly lower level** than those of other pupils. The number of pupils learning L2 affects the outcomes especially in the areas of the Regional State Administrative Agencies for Southern and Southwestern Finland. The situation has not changed from the beginning of grade 1.



## FINNISH, GRADE 9

Pupils' **skills in Finnish (A syllabus)** are **good**: in the bilingual syllabus, the majority of the pupils reach the good achievement level (numerical grade 8) in all areas of language. In the syllabus of Finnish as a second official language, skills vary by area of language. Competence is best in listening comprehension and oral production. Pupils of both syllabuses found studying Finnish useful.

## OBSERVATIONS REGARDING COVID-19

During the school year 2020-2021, distance learning and contact learning periods as well as isolations and quarantines of individual pupils varied in different parts of Finland. **Some of the pupils participated in the assessment of learning outcomes while in contact teaching at school and some through distance learning.** More detailed analyses on the impacts of the pandemic based on the background factors will be conducted.