



# Literacy & Numeracy Assessment



PAPUA NEW GUINEA: CENTRAL, MADANG, AND MOROBE PROVINCES

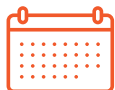
## Survey Statistics



The primary purpose was to **identify children's current literacy and numeracy skills**



**Schools were selected** through a process involving project staff, provincial and district administration, education officials, and other stakeholders



Surveys were conducted between **November 2017 – April 2018**



Surveys were completed by **1,154 children** (567 girls and 587 boys) from the 2017 Elementary 1 (E1) cohort



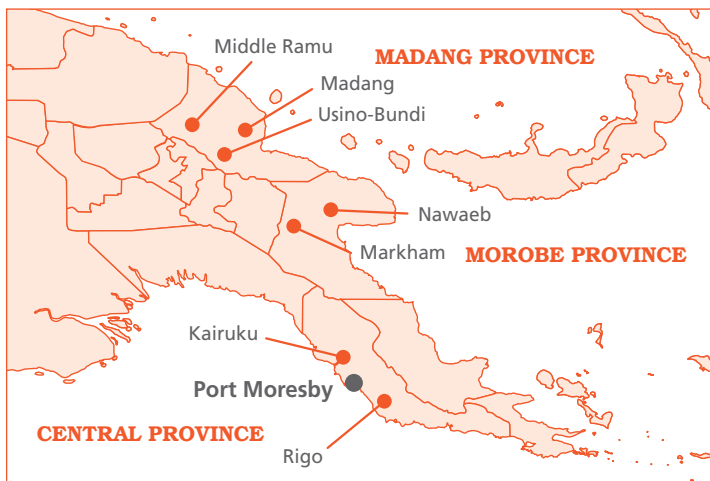
The proportion of children who had attended preschool **22% in Central, 52% in Madang** and **41% in Morobe**



Surveys were taken from **79 schools** in Central, Madang and Morobe



Surveys involved **20 randomly selected children** which were assessed at each school



## Findings: Children's self-reports



The average age of children was **9 in Central, 11 in Madang** and **10 in Morobe**. The official age for E1 is 7



**33%**  
Of children reported having **repeated first grade (E1)**



**33%**  
Of children reported **missing school in the previous week** with illness being the most frequent reason given



## Findings: Literacy



Children's literacy skills **do not meet the expectations** of the PNG E1 English Standards Based Curriculum



**26%**  
Of children could **correctly identify all the letters** of the alphabet



**3%**  
Of children could **correctly read 22 of the most frequently used words** in English



**Attendance at preschool** had a positive effect on knowledge of letters and words in English and Tok Pisen.



**4%**  
Of children could **correctly read all 20 most frequently used words** in Tok Pisen



**LESS THAN 2%**  
Of children could **correctly answer 8 comprehension** problems after reading a passage in English



**LESS THAN 2%**  
Of children could **correctly answer 7 comprehension** problems after reading a passage in Tok Pisen

## Findings: Numeracy



Children **performed better in the numeracy assessment than the literacy assessment** but still did not meet the expectations of the PNG E1 Mathematics Standards Based Curriculum



**54%**  
Of children could **correctly identify 12 numbers shown** (numbers between 1 and 50)



**Attendance at preschool** had a positive effect on knowledge of numbers, addition and subtraction.



**37%**  
Of children could **correctly answer 10 simple addition** problems



**14%**  
Of children could **correctly answer 10 subtraction** problems



**30%**  
Of children could **correctly answer three word problems and passages in English.**