Frequency and enjoyment of writing and reading

The National Literacy Trust (UK) annual literacy survey asks eight- to 18-year-olds* about writing frequency and their enjoyment of writing. Here are some of the results and comparisons with the Trust’s data on reading.

### Writing vs. Reading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Writing</th>
<th>Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*2015 survey conducted November/December 2015 and involved 32,569 participants.

#### Daily reading and writing

- **2015**
  - Writing: 20.7%
  - Reading: 43%

Percentage of participants who write something daily outside of class that isn’t for school, compared to percentage who read something daily outside of class not for school.

#### Enjoyment of reading and writing

- **2015**
  - Writing: 44.8%
  - Reading: 54.8%

Percentage of participants who enjoy writing, compared to percentage who enjoy reading.

#### How are these findings linked to student achievement?

Of the 2015 survey participants:

- Those who write outside school daily were 5 times more likely to be writing above the expected level for their age, compared with participants who never write outside school. 30.9% vs. 5.8%.
- Those who enjoy writing very much were 7 times more likely to be writing above the expected level for their age, compared with participants who did not enjoy writing at all. 50.3% vs. 7.2%.