

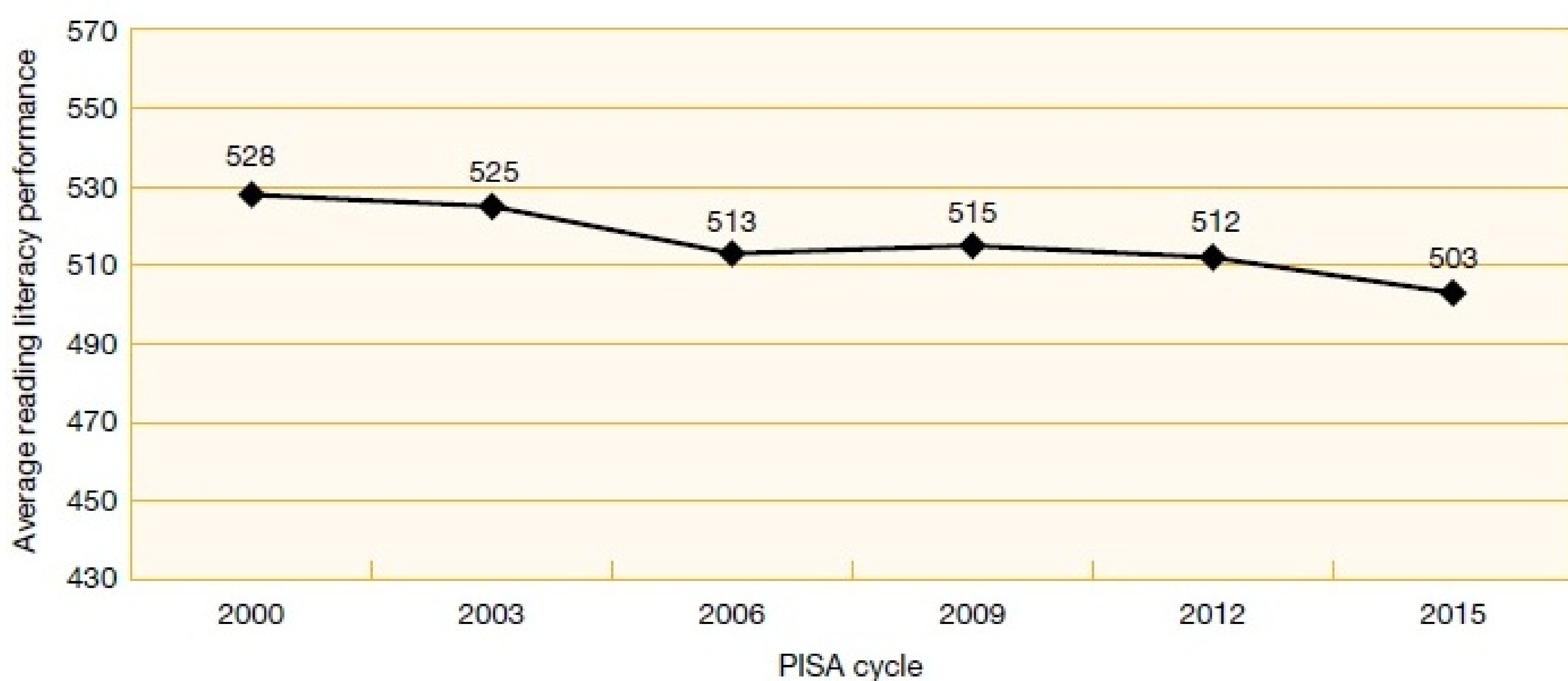
Australia's PISA test performance over time

The Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) is an international comparative study of 15-year-olds, conducted every three years. Since the first test cycle in 2000, more than 80 countries and partner economies have participated. A report on the 2015 results, released by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER), examines trends in Australia's average performance and the change in the percentages of students considered 'high' and 'low' performers*.

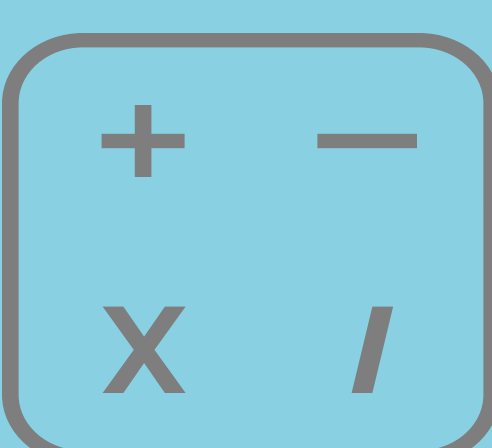


READING LITERACY

Between the first PISA test cycle in 2000 and the latest cycle in 2015, Australia's average performance has fallen by 25 points.

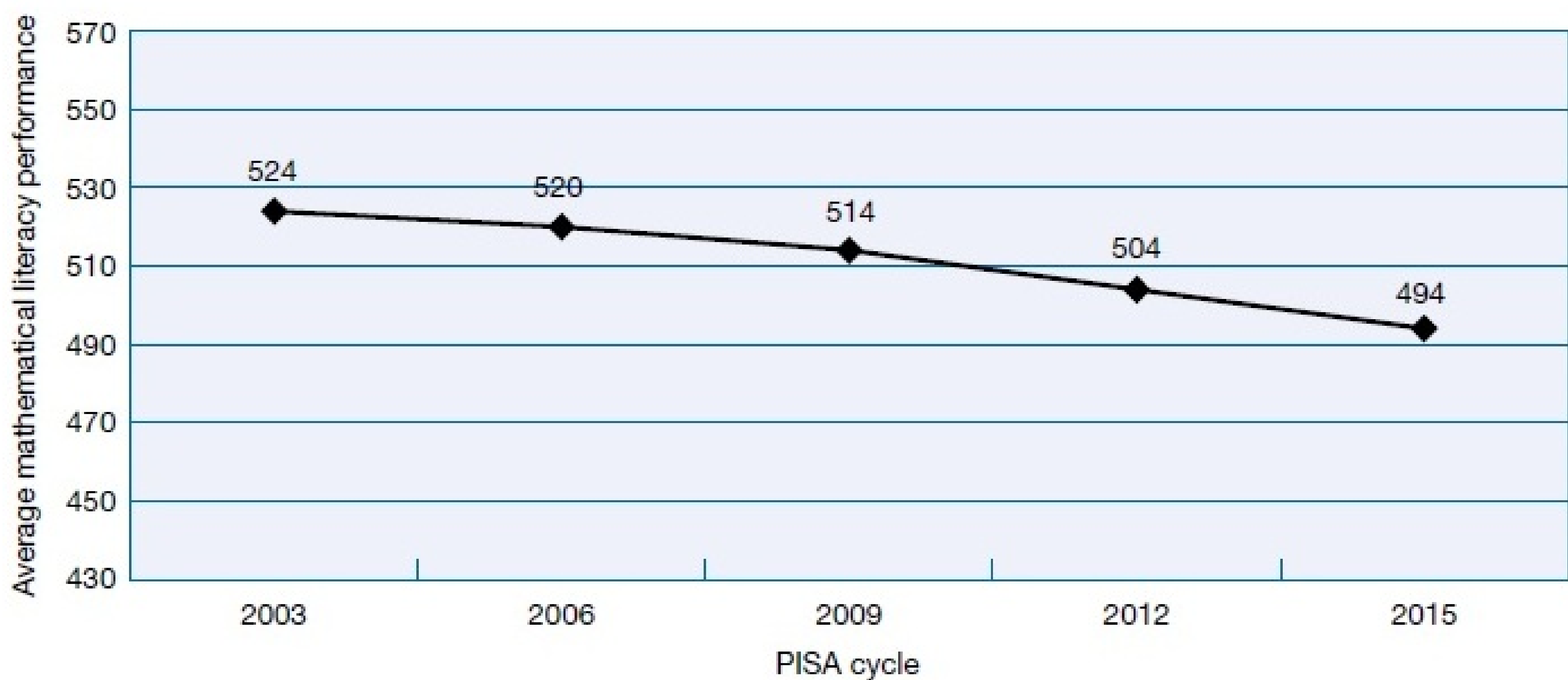


Analysis of Australian student performance showed that, between 2000 and 2015, the proportion of low performers increased from 12% to 18%, while the proportion of high performers decreased from 17% to 11%.

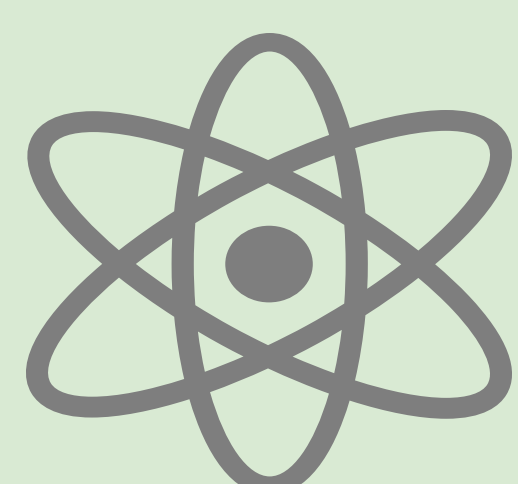


MATHEMATICAL LITERACY

Between the 2003 PISA test cycle and the latest cycle in 2015, Australia's average performance has fallen by 30 points.

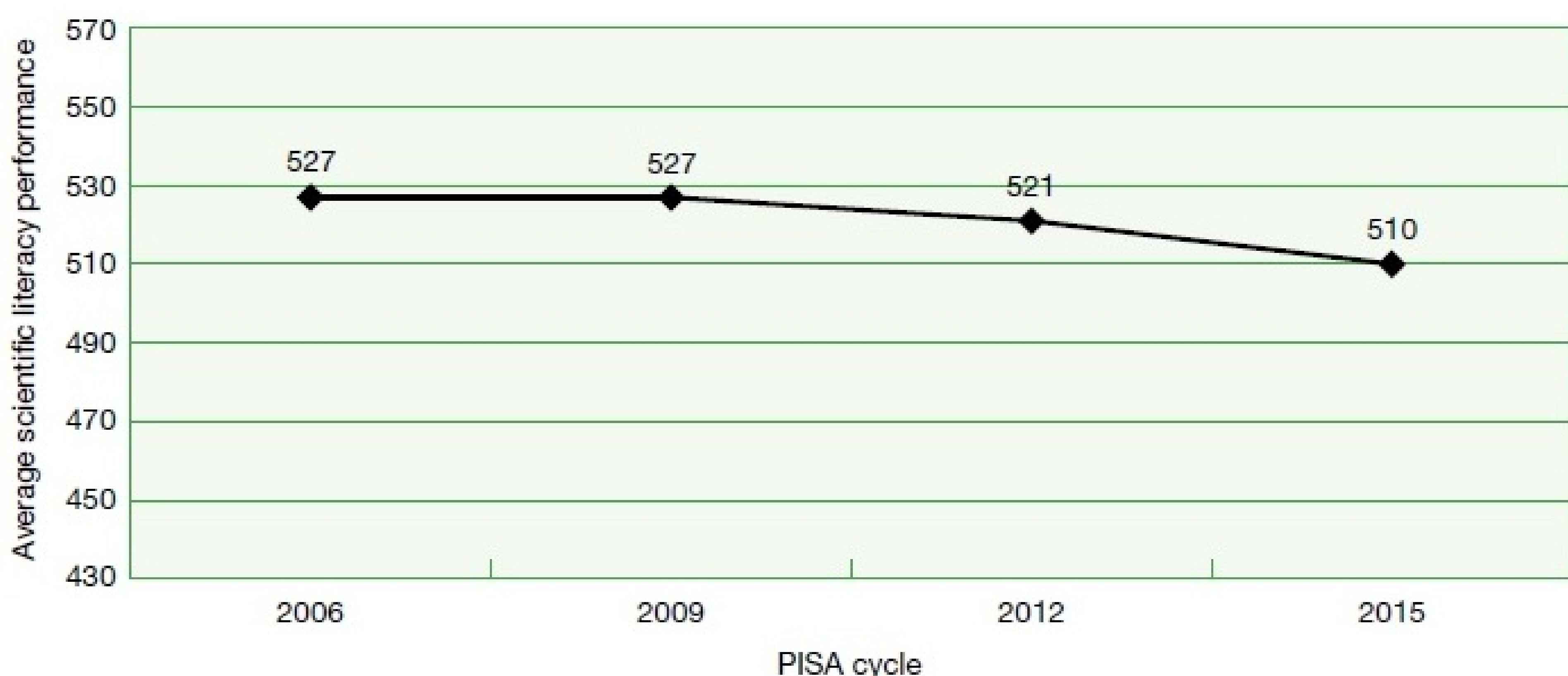


Analysis of Australian student performance showed that, between 2003 and 2015, the proportion of low performers increased from 14% to 22%, while the proportion of high performers decreased from 20% to 11%.



SCIENTIFIC LITERACY

Between the 2006 PISA test cycle and the latest cycle in 2015, Australia's average performance has fallen by 17 points.



Analysis of Australian student performance showed that, between 2006 and 2015, the proportion of low performers increased from 13% to 18%, while the proportion of high performers decreased from 15% to 11%.

* PISA proficiency scales

High performers: Students proficient at Level 5 or Level 6 on the PISA performance scales (high levels of skill and knowledge).

Middle performers: Students proficient at Level 2 (the international baseline), Level 3 or Level 4.

Low performers: Students below Level 2 (proficiency considered 'too low to enable them to participate effectively and productively in life').