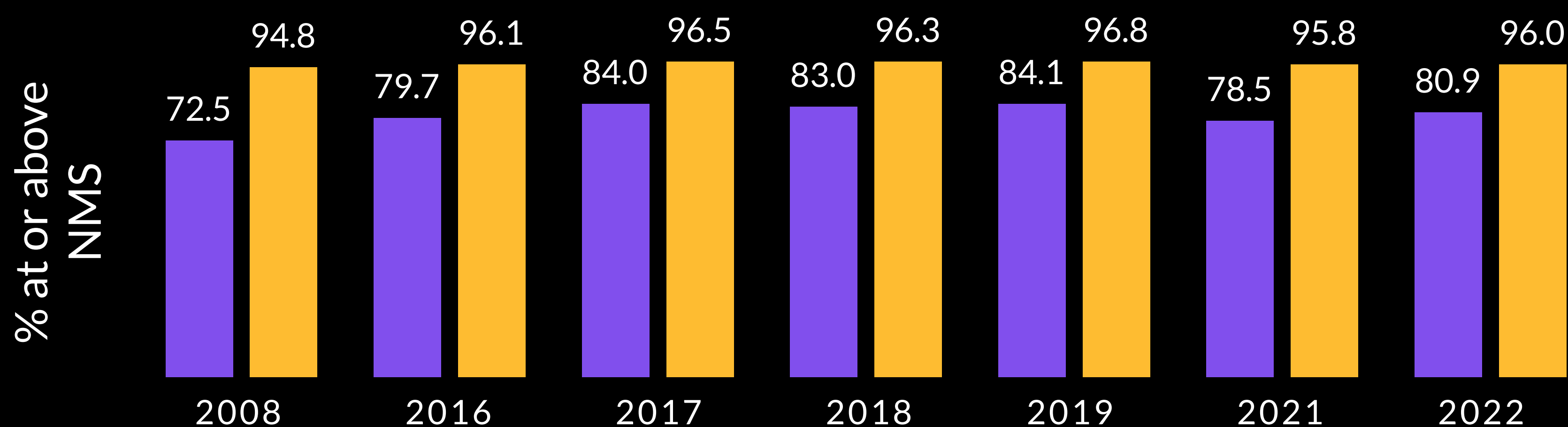


Basic skills and the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous students by Year 9

The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests have been conducted across Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in Australia since 2008. The national minimum standard (NMS) is the 'agreed minimum acceptable standard of knowledge and skills without which a student will have difficulty making sufficient progress at school'. Here we look at the percentage of Indigenous and non-Indigenous Year 9 students at or above the NMS, over time.

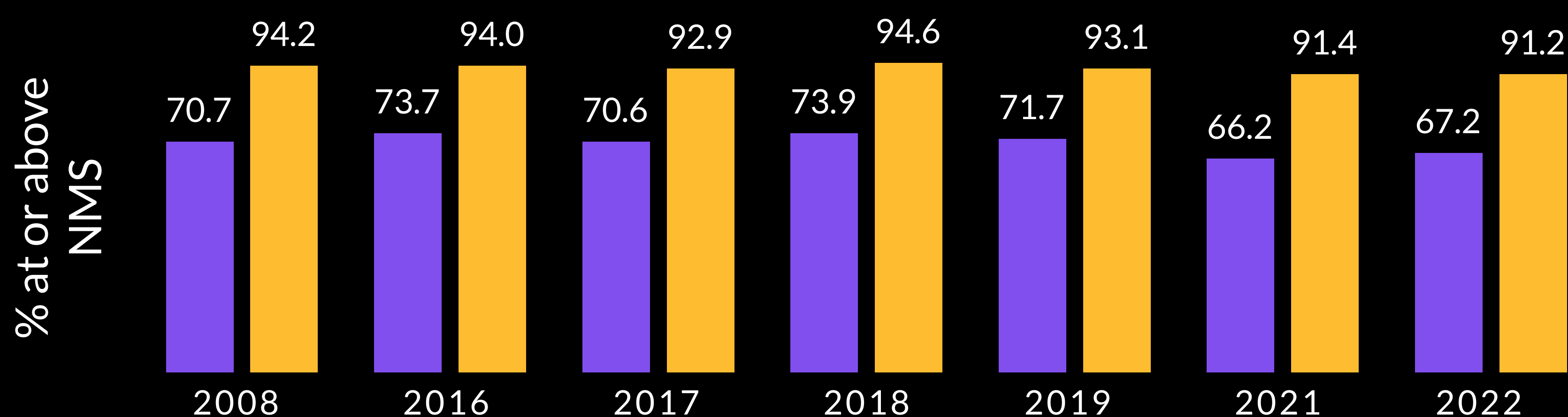
Key Indigenous students ● Non-Indigenous students ●

Numeracy



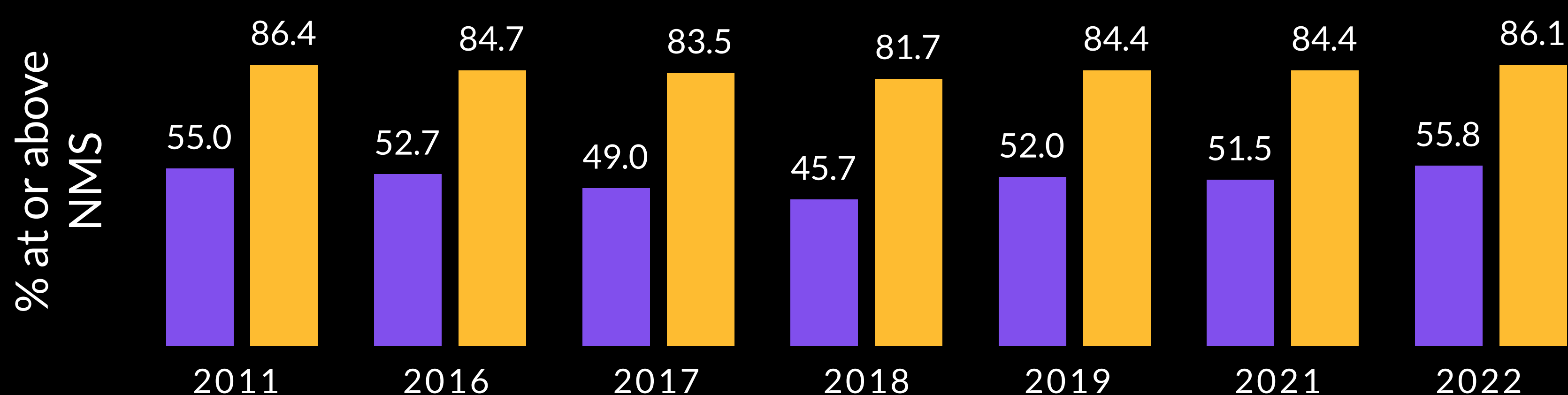
Latest data for Numeracy show 8 out of 10 Indigenous students achieved NMS in 2022; there was a 15% gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous students, down from 22% in 2008.

Reading



The performance of Indigenous students in Literacy is more concerning. In the 2022 test, only two-thirds of Indigenous students achieved NMS in Reading and just over half hit the Writing benchmark. In 2022 the gap to non-Indigenous students achieving NMS was 24% in Reading and 30% in Writing. In Reading, it has narrowed after a dip in 2017/18.

Writing



Source: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority [ACARA]. (2022). *National Assessment Program, Literacy and Numeracy, achievement in reading, writing and numeracy: National Report for 2022*. ACARA.