

# Trend Task:

Approach: One to one  
 Focus: Understanding fractions  
 Resources: 3 fraction cards

Year: 8

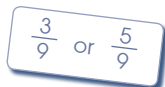


# Which is Bigger? (Y8)

## Questions / instructions:

I'm going to show you some cards with two fractions written on them. Try to work out which fraction is bigger and why.

**Hand student card 1.**  
**Read card to student.**



- Which fraction is bigger?  $\frac{5}{9}$
- Why is that fraction bigger?  
 $\frac{5}{9}$  has more ninths than  $\frac{3}{9}$   
any other valid reason

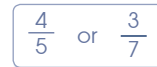
**Hand student card 2.**  
**Read card to student.**



- Which fraction is bigger?  $\frac{3}{8}$
- Why is that fraction bigger?

eighths are bigger than tenths  
 any other valid response

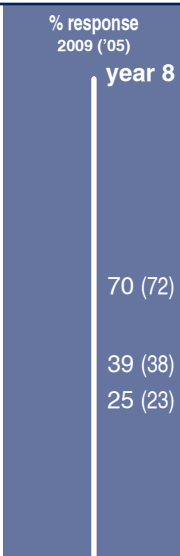
**Hand student card 3.**  
**Read card to student.**



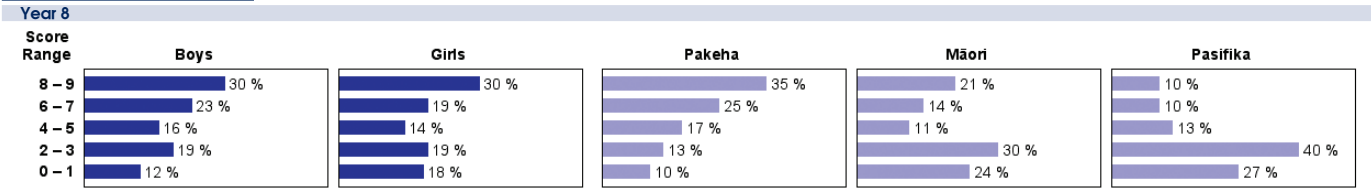
- Which fraction is bigger?  $\frac{4}{5}$
- Why is that fraction bigger?

$\frac{4}{5}$  is almost a whole (or more than half)  
 and  $\frac{3}{7}$  is less than half  
 any other valid response

**Total Score:**  
 8–9  
 6–7  
 4–5  
 2–3  
 0–1



## Subgroup Analyses:



## Commentary:

Students were no better in 2009 than in 2005 at choosing which fraction in each pair was bigger, but more 2009 students gave good explanations for a correct choice. On average, Pakeha students scored substantially higher than Māori and Pasifika students.