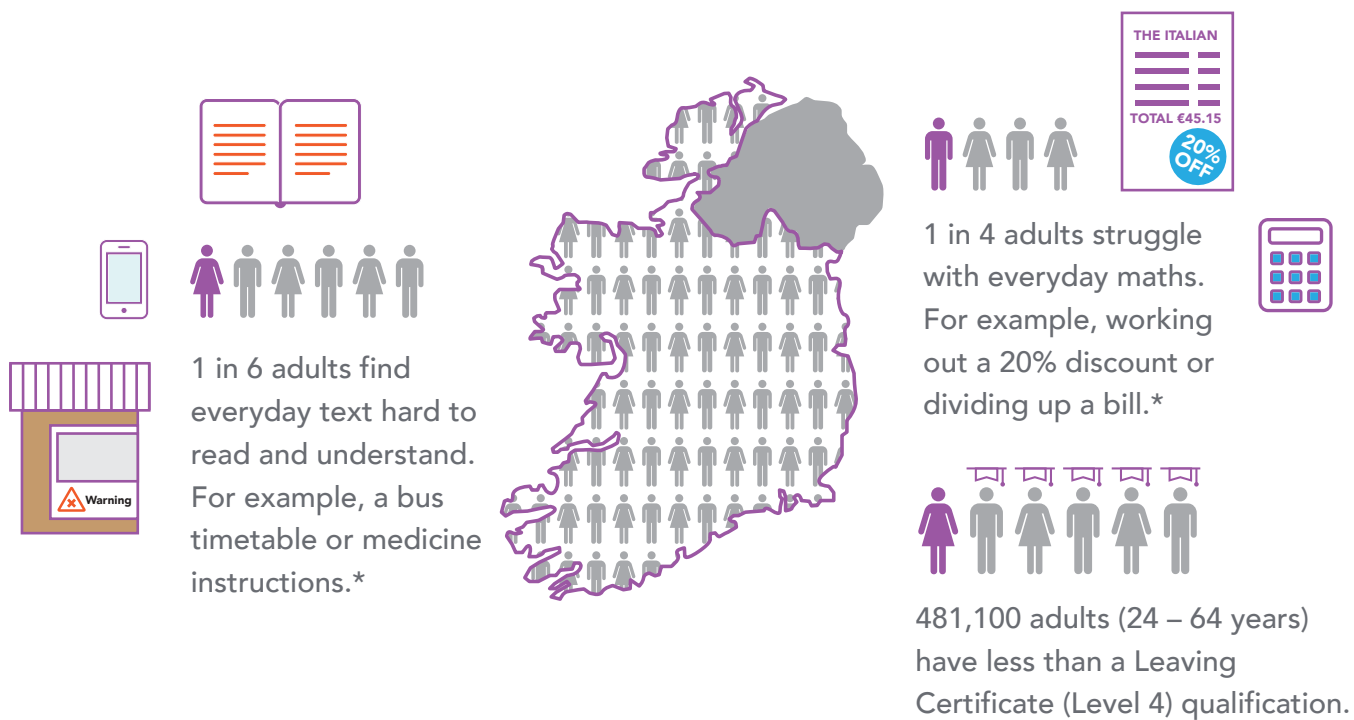


Adult literacy and numeracy: How are we doing?



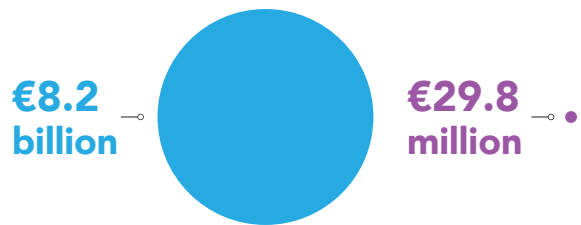
1 in 6 adults find everyday text hard to read and understand. For example, a bus timetable or medicine instructions.*

1 in 4 adults struggle with everyday maths. For example, working out a 20% discount or dividing up a bill.*

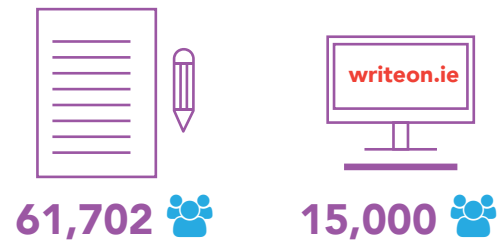
481,100 adults (24 – 64 years) have less than a Leaving Certificate (Level 4) qualification.

* Central Statistics Office (CSO), 2012

Funding and participation



€29.8 million was allocated for adult literacy provision in 2016. This is **0.3%** of the total education budget of €8.2 billion.



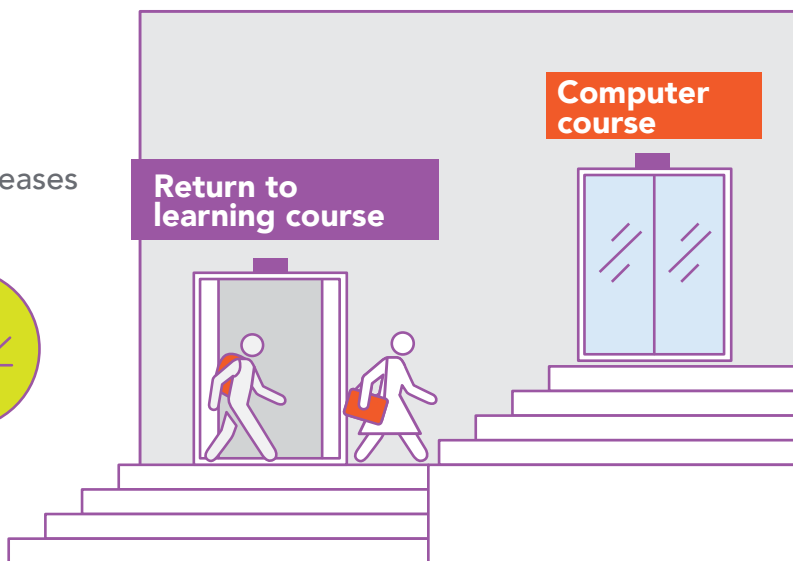
61,702 adults attended adult literacy classes throughout Ireland in 2015, delivered through the 16 Education and Training Boards. 15,000 people used NALA's Distance Learning Service where they learn over the telephone and online. **This means only 15% of people who have literacy needs are getting support.**

Ireland can do better.

Adult literacy and numeracy: How can we do better?

Every citizen has a right to literacy and numeracy.

Research shows that better literacy and numeracy gives people more choices, increases their income and improves their health.



No adult left behind

All adults with literacy, numeracy and digital needs and less than a Leaving Certificate (Level 4) qualification should be **guaranteed** a learning programme with a local education and training provider.

This would include:

- intensive and flexible options
- appropriate supports as required (income, transport, child and elder care)
- progression opportunities



Better literacy and numeracy is better for everyone.



National Adult Literacy Agency
Áisíneacht Náisiúnta Litearthachta do Aosaigh

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