

Table SK12-4

Average scores and 10th and 90th percentile scores of 15-year-old students on the PISA science literacy scale and 90th–10th percentile score gaps, by education system: 2018

(Average score and percentile score)

Education system	Average score	Percentile ^a			OECD country and education system
		10th percentile score	90th percentile score	90th–10th percentile score gap	
OECD average	489 *	365	609	244 *	na
B-S-J-Z (China)	590 *	482	695	213 *	No
Singapore	551 *	416	670	254	No
Macau (China)	544 *	434	648	214 *	No
Estonia	530 *	417	644	227 *	Yes
Japan	529 *	405	646	241 *	Yes
Finland	522 *	393	643	250	Yes
South Korea	519 *	388	642	254	Yes
Canada	518 *	393	640	247	Yes
Hong Kong (China)	517 *	401	623	223 *	No
Chinese Taipei	516 *	382	641	259	No
Poland	511 *	392	630	238 *	Yes
New Zealand	508	371	640	269	Yes
Slovenia	507	390	621	231 *	Yes
United Kingdom	505	374	632	258	Yes
Netherlands	503	364	636	272	Yes
Germany	503	363	633	270	Yes
Australia	503	369	631	262	Yes
United States	502	371	629	259	Yes
Sweden	499	368	624	256	Yes
Belgium	499	363	624	261	Yes
Czechia	497	373	620	247	Yes
Ireland	496	380	610	230 *	Yes
Switzerland	495	367	622	255	Yes
France	493 *	364	615	251	Yes
Denmark	493 *	372	609	237 *	Yes
Portugal	492 *	368	609	240 *	Yes
Norway	490 *	357	616	259	Yes
Austria	490 *	361	614	252	Yes
Latvia	487 *	377	595	219 *	Yes
Spain	483 *	365	598	233 *	Yes
Lithuania	482 *	364	599	235 *	Yes
Hungary	481 *	356	602	246	Yes
Russia	478 *	369	586	217 *	No
Luxembourg	477 *	347	606	258	Yes
Iceland	475 *	354	594	240 *	Yes
Croatia	472 *	356	590	235 *	Yes
Belarus	471 *	361	581	221 *	No
Ukraine	469 *	351	588	237 *	No
Turkey ^b	468 *	361	579	218 *	Yes
Italy	468 *	348	583	235 *	Yes
Slovakia	464 *	338	589	251	Yes
Israel	462 *	314	607	293 *	Yes
Malta	457 *	314	594	280 *	No
Greece	452 *	338	561	223 *	Yes

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		10th percentile score	90th percentile score	90th–10th percentile score gap	
Chile	444 *	336	553	218 *	Yes
Serbia	440 *	322	562	240 *	No
Cyprus	439 *	319	562	244 *	No
Malaysia ^b	438 *	339	538	199 *	No
United Arab Emirates	434 *	302	572	270	No
Brunei Darussalam	431 *	315	566	252	No
Jordan ^b	429 *	316	541	225 *	No
Moldova, Republic of	428 *	314	546	232 *	No
Thailand ^b	426 *	324	535	211 *	No
Uruguay	426 *	314	540	226 *	No
Romania ^b	426 *	312	545	233 *	No
Bulgaria ^b	424 *	305	552	247	No
Mexico ^b	419 *	326	518	192 *	Yes
Qatar	419 *	290	557	268	No
Albania	417 *	323	514	190 *	No
Costa Rica ^b	416 *	324	512	188 *	No
Montenegro, Republic of	415 *	311	523	212 *	No
Colombia ^b	413 *	311	524	213 *	Yes
North Macedonia	413 *	296	533	238 *	No
Peru ^b	404 *	304	511	207 *	No
Argentina	404 *	291	523	232 *	No
Brazil ^b	404 *	292	527	234 *	No
Bosnia and Herzegovina	398 *	302	499	197 *	No
Baku (Azerbaijan) ^c	398 *	305	494	189 *	No
Kazakhstan	397 *	307	498	191 *	No
Indonesia	396 *	312	488	176 *	No
Saudi Arabia	386 *	287	489	203 *	No
Lebanon	384 *	265	513	248	No
Georgia	383 *	281	491	209 *	No
Morocco ^b	377 *	293	468	175 *	No
Kosovo	365 *	285	450	165 *	No
Panama ^b	365 *	259	478	219 *	No
Philippines ^b	357 *	269	461	192 *	No
Dominican Republic ^b	336 *	250	431	181 *	No

* $p < 0.05$. Significantly different from the U.S. estimate at the 0.05 level of statistical significance. na = not applicable.

OECD = Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; PISA = Program for International Student Assessment.

^a These columns show the threshold (or cut) scores for the 10th percentile (the bottom 10% of students) and 90th percentile (the top 10% of students). The 90th–10th percentile score gap for each education system is the difference between its 90th and 10th percentile scores. The percentile ranges are specific to each education system's distribution of scores, enabling users to compare scores across education systems.^b At least 50% but less than 75% of the 15-year-old population is covered by the PISA sample.^c Less than 50% of the 15-year-old population is covered by the PISA sample.

Note(s):

The scale of mathematics and science scores is 0–1,000. Education systems are ordered by 2018 average score from highest to lowest. The OECD average is the average of the national averages of the OECD member countries, with each country weighted equally. B-S-J-Z (China) refers to the four PISA-participating China provinces: Beijing, Shanghai, Jiangsu, and Zhejiang.

Source(s):

OECD, PISA, 2018. <https://nces.ed.gov/surveys/pisa/pisa2018/index.asp#/science/intlcompare>.

Science and Engineering Indicators