

Table SK12-7

Average scores of 15-year-old students on the PISA science literacy scales, by OECD education system: 2012, 2015, and 2018

(Average score)

OECD education system	Average score in 2012		Average score in 2015		Average score in 2018	
Estonia	541	*	534	*	530	*
Japan	547	*	538	*	529	*
Finland	545	*	531	*	522	*
South Korea	538	*	516	*	519	*
Canada	525	*	528	*	518	*
Poland	526	*	501		511	*
New Zealand	516	*	513	*	508	
Slovenia	514	*	513	*	507	
United Kingdom	514	*	509	*	505	
Netherlands	522	*	509	*	503	
Germany	524	*	509	*	503	
Australia	521	*	510	*	503	
United States	497		496		502	
Sweden	485	*	493		499	
Belgium	505		502		499	
Czechia	508	*	493		497	
Ireland	522	*	503		496	
Switzerland	515	*	506	*	495	
France	499		495		493	*
Denmark	498		502		493	*
Portugal	489		501		492	*
Norway	495		498		490	*
Austria	506		495		490	*
Latvia	502		490		487	*
Spain	496		493		483	*
Lithuania	496		475	*	482	*
Hungary	494		477	*	481	*
Luxembourg	491		483	*	477	*
Iceland	478	*	473	*	475	*
Turkey	463	*	425	*	468	*
Italy	494		481	*	468	*
Slovakia	471	*	461	*	464	*
Israel	470	*	467	*	462	*
Greece	467	*	455	*	452	*
Chile	445	*	447	*	444	*
Mexico	415	*	416	*	419	*
Colombia	399	*	416	*	413	*

* $p < 0.05$. Significantly different from the U.S. estimate at the 0.05 level of statistical significance.

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

Note(s):

The scale of science scores is 0–1,000. Education systems are ordered by each year's average score from highest to lowest.

Source(s):OECD, PISA, 2018. <https://nces.ed.gov/surveys/pisa/pisa2018/index.asp#/math/intlcompare>.*Science and Engineering Indicators*