

Background of PISA 2018

The Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2018 was conducted under the auspices of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), with 79 countries/economies participating in the study. The international study aims to assess the reading, mathematical and scientific literacy of 15-year-old students, collect data on factors that can help to explain differences in performance, and evaluate the effectiveness of the education system in participating countries/economies.

PISA has been conducted in three-year cycles since 2000. PISA 2018 is the seventh cycle. The main study of Hong Kong PISA 2018 was conducted from April to May 2018. A total of 6 037 students aged 15 from 152 secondary schools participated in the study.

Ranking of Students' Reading Literacy

Reading Literacy			
PISA 2018		PISA 2015	
Country/Economy	Mean Score	Country/Economy	Mean Score
China (B-S-J-Z) (Note 1)	555	Singapore	535
Singapore	549	Hong Kong-China	527
Macao-China	525	Canada	527
Hong Kong-China	524	Finland	526
Estonia	523	Ireland	521
Canada	520	Estonia	519
Finland	520	Korea	517
Ireland	518	Japan	516
Korea	514	Norway	513
Poland	512	New Zealand	509
Sweden	506	Germany	509
New Zealand	506	Macao-China	509
United States	505	Poland	506
United Kingdom	504	Slovenia	505
Japan	504	Netherlands	503
Australia	503	Australia	503
Chinese Taipei	503	Sweden	500
Denmark	501	Denmark	500
Norway	499	France	499
Germany	498	Belgium	499
Slovenia	495	Portugal	498
Belgium	493	United Kingdom	498
France	493	Chinese Taipei	497
Portugal	492	United States	497
Czech Republic	490	Spain	496
OECD Average	487	Russian Federation	495
Netherlands	485	China (B-S-J-G) (Note 2)	494
Austria	484	OECD Average	493
Switzerland	484	Switzerland	492
Croatia	479	Latvia	488
Latvia	479	Czech Republic	487
Russia	479	Croatia	487
Italy	476	Viet Nam	487
Hungary	476	Austria	485
Lithuania	476	Italy	485
Iceland	474	Iceland	482
Belarus	474	Luxembourg	481

Reading Literacy			
PISA 2018		PISA 2015	
Country/Economy	Mean Score	Country/Economy	Mean Score
Israel	470	Israel	479
Luxembourg	470	Lithuania	472
Ukraine	466	Hungary	470
Turkey	466	Greece	467
Slovak Republic	458	Chile	459
Greece	457	Slovak Republic	453
Chile	452	Malta	447
Malta	448	Cyprus	443
Serbia	439	Uruguay	437
United Arab Emirates	432	Romania	434
Romania	428	United Arab Emirates	434
Uruguay	427	Bulgaria	432
Costa Rica	426	Malaysia	431
Cyprus	424	Turkey	428
Moldova	424	Costa Rica	427
Montenegro	421	Trinidad and Tobago	427
Mexico	420	Kazakhstan	427
Bulgaria	420	Montenegro	427
Jordan	419	Argentina	425
Malaysia	415	Colombia	425
Brazil	413	Mexico	423
Colombia	412	Moldova	416
Brunei Darussalam	408	Thailand	409
Qatar	407	Jordan	408
Albania	405	Brazil	407
Bosnia and Herzegovina	403	Albania	405
Argentina	402	Qatar	402
Peru	401	Georgia	401
Saudi Arabia	399	Peru	398
Thailand	393	Indonesia	397
North Macedonia	393	Tunisia	361
Baku (Azerbaijan)	389	Dominican Republic	358
Kazakhstan	387	Republic of Macedonia	352
Georgia	380	Algeria	350
Panama	377	Kosovo	347
Indonesia	371	Lebanon	347
Morocco	359		
Lebanon	353		
Kosovo	353		

Reading Literacy			
PISA 2018		PISA 2015	
Country/Economy	Mean Score	Country/Economy	Mean Score
Dominican Republic	342		
Philippines	340		
Spain	/		
Viet Nam	/		

Note 1: The four participating regions of Mainland China are Beijing, Shanghai, Jiangsu, and Zhejiang.

Note 2: The four participating regions of Mainland China are Beijing, Shanghai, Jiangsu, and Guangdong.

Ranking of Students' Mathematical Literacy

Mathematical Literacy			
PISA 2018		PISA 2015	
Country/Economy	Mean Score	Country/Economy	Mean Score
China (B-S-J-Z) (Note 1)	591	Singapore	564
Singapore	569	Hong Kong-China	548
Macao-China	558	Macao-China	544
Hong Kong-China	551	Chinese Taipei	542
Chinese Taipei	531	Japan	532
Japan	527	China (B-S-J-G) (Note 2)	531
Korea	526	Korea	524
Estonia	523	Switzerland	521
Netherlands	519	Estonia	520
Poland	516	Canada	516
Switzerland	515	Netherlands	512
Canada	512	Denmark	511
Denmark	509	Finland	511
Slovenia	509	Slovenia	510
Belgium	508	Belgium	507
Finland	507	Germany	506
Sweden	502	Poland	504
United Kingdom	502	Ireland	504
Norway	501	Norway	502
Germany	500	Austria	497
Ireland	500	New Zealand	495
Czech Republic	499	Viet Nam	495
Austria	499	Russian Federation	494
Latvia	496	Sweden	494
France	495	Australia	494
Iceland	495	France	493
New Zealand	494	United Kingdom	492
Portugal	492	Czech Republic	492
Australia	491	Portugal	492
OECD Average	489	Italy	490
Russia	488	OECD Average	490
Italy	487	Iceland	488
Slovak Republic	486	Spain	486
Luxembourg	483	Luxembourg	486
Spain	481	Latvia	482
Lithuania	481	Malta	479
Hungary	481	Lithuania	478
United States	478	Hungary	477

Mathematical Literacy			
PISA 2018		PISA 2015	
Country/Economy	Mean Score	Country/Economy	Mean Score
Belarus	472	Slovak Republic	475
Malta	472	Israel	470
Croatia	464	United States	470
Israel	463	Croatia	464
Turkey	454	Kazakhstan	460
Ukraine	453	Greece	454
Greece	451	Malaysia	446
Cyprus	451	Romania	444
Serbia	448	Bulgaria	441
Malaysia	440	Cyprus	437
Albania	437	United Arab Emirates	427
Bulgaria	436	Chile	423
United Arab Emirates	435	Turkey	420
Brunei Darussalam	430	Moldova	420
Romania	430	Uruguay	418
Montenegro	430	Montenegro	418
Kazakhstan	423	Trinidad and Tobago	417
Moldova	421	Thailand	415
Baku (Azerbaijan)	420	Albania	413
Thailand	419	Argentina	409
Uruguay	418	Mexico	408
Chile	417	Georgia	404
Qatar	414	Qatar	402
Mexico	409	Costa Rica	400
Bosnia and Herzegovina	406	Lebanon	396
Costa Rica	402	Colombia	390
Peru	400	Peru	387
Jordan	400	Indonesia	386
Georgia	398	Jordan	380
North Macedonia	394	Brazil	377
Lebanon	393	Republic of Macedonia	371
Colombia	391	Tunisia	367
Brazil	384	Kosovo	362
Argentina	379	Algeria	360
Indonesia	379	Dominican Republic	328
Saudi Arabia	373		
Morocco	368		
Kosovo	366		
Panama	353		

Mathematical Literacy			
PISA 2018		PISA 2015	
Country/Economy	Mean Score	Country/Economy	Mean Score
Philippines	353		
Dominican Republic	325		
Viet Nam	/		

Note 1: The four participating regions of Mainland China are Beijing, Shanghai, Jiangsu, and Zhejiang.

Note 2: The four participating regions of Mainland China are Beijing, Shanghai, Jiangsu, and Guangdong.

Ranking of Students' Scientific Literacy

Scientific Literacy			
PISA 2018		PISA 2015	
Country/Economy	Mean Score	Country/Economy	Mean Score
China (B-S-J-Z) (Note 1)	590	Singapore	556
Singapore	551	Japan	538
Macao-China	544	Estonia	534
Estonia	530	Chinese Taipei	532
Japan	529	Finland	531
Finland	522	Macao-China	529
Korea	519	Canada	528
Canada	518	Viet Nam	525
Hong Kong-China	517	Hong Kong-China	523
Chinese Taipei	516	China (B-S-J-G) (Note 2)	518
Poland	511	Korea	516
New Zealand	508	New Zealand	513
Slovenia	507	Slovenia	513
United Kingdom	505	Australia	510
Netherlands	503	United Kingdom	509
Germany	503	Germany	509
Australia	503	Netherlands	509
United States	502	Switzerland	506
Sweden	499	Ireland	503
Belgium	499	Belgium	502
Czech Republic	497	Denmark	502
Ireland	496	Poland	501
Switzerland	495	Portugal	501
France	493	Norway	498
Denmark	493	United States	496
Portugal	492	Austria	495
Norway	490	France	495
Austria	490	Sweden	493
OECD Average	489	Czech Republic	493
Latvia	487	Spain	493
Spain	483	OECD Average	493
Lithuania	482	Latvia	490
Hungary	481	Russian Federation	487
Russia	478	Luxembourg	483
Luxembourg	477	Italy	481
Iceland	475	Hungary	477
Croatia	472	Lithuania	475
Belarus	471	Croatia	475

Scientific Literacy			
PISA 2018		PISA 2015	
Country/Economy	Mean Score	Country/Economy	Mean Score
Ukraine	469	Iceland	473
Turkey	468	Israel	467
Italy	468	Malta	465
Slovak Republic	464	Slovak Republic	461
Israel	462	Kazakhstan	456
Malta	457	Greece	455
Greece	452	Chile	447
Chile	444	Bulgaria	446
Serbia	440	Malaysia	443
Cyprus	439	United Arab Emirates	437
Malaysia	438	Uruguay	435
United Arab Emirates	434	Romania	435
Brunei Darussalam	431	Cyprus	433
Jordan	429	Argentina	432
Moldova	428	Moldova	428
Thailand	426	Albania	427
Uruguay	426	Turkey	425
Romania	426	Trinidad and Tobago	425
Bulgaria	424	Thailand	421
Mexico	419	Costa Rica	420
Qatar	419	Qatar	418
Albania	417	Colombia	416
Costa Rica	416	Mexico	416
Montenegro	415	Montenegro	411
Colombia	413	Georgia	411
North Macedonia	413	Jordan	409
Peru	404	Indonesia	403
Argentina	404	Brazil	401
Brazil	404	Peru	397
Bosnia and Herzegovina	398	Lebanon	386
Baku (Azerbaijan)	398	Tunisia	386
Kazakhstan	397	Republic of Macedonia	384
Indonesia	396	Kosovo	378
Saudi Arabia	386	Algeria	376
Lebanon	384	Dominican Republic	332
Georgia	383		
Morocco	377		
Kosovo	365		
Panama	365		

Scientific Literacy			
PISA 2018		PISA 2015	
Country/Economy	Mean Score	Country/Economy	Mean Score
Philippines	357		
Dominican Republic	336		
Viet Nam	/		

Note 1: The four participating regions of Mainland China are Beijing, Shanghai, Jiangsu, and Zhejiang.

Note 2: The four participating regions of Mainland China are Beijing, Shanghai, Jiangsu, and Guangdong.