

Table 400. Average reading, mathematics, and science literacy scores of 15-year-olds, by sex and country: 2000

| Country | Reading literacy | | | Mathematics literacy | | | Science literacy | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | Total | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| OECD total¹ | 499 (2.0) | 485 (2.3) | 514 (2.0) | 498 (2.1) | 504 (2.6) | 493 (2.3) | 502 (2.0) | 502 (2.5) | 503 (2.0) |
| OECD average² | 500 (0.6) | 485 (0.8) | 517 (0.7) | 500 (0.7) | 506 (1.0) | 495 (0.9) | 500 (0.7) | 501 (0.9) | 501 (0.8) |
| Australia | 528 (3.5) | 513 (4.0) | 546 (4.7) | 533 (3.5) | 539 (4.1) | 527 (5.1) | 528 (3.5) | 526 (3.9) | 529 (4.8) |
| Austria | 507 (2.4) | 495 (3.2) | 520 (3.6) | 515 (2.5) | 530 (4.0) | 503 (3.7) | 519 (2.6) | 526 (3.8) | 514 (4.3) |
| Belgium | 507 (3.6) | 492 (4.2) | 525 (4.9) | 520 (3.9) | 524 (4.6) | 518 (5.2) | 496 (4.3) | 496 (5.2) | 498 (5.6) |
| Canada | 534 (1.6) | 519 (1.8) | 551 (1.7) | 533 (1.4) | 539 (1.8) | 529 (1.6) | 529 (1.6) | 529 (1.9) | 531 (1.7) |
| Czech Republic | 492 (2.4) | 473 (4.1) | 510 (2.5) | 498 (2.8) | 504 (4.4) | 492 (3.0) | 511 (2.4) | 512 (3.8) | 511 (3.2) |
| Denmark | 497 (2.4) | 485 (3.0) | 510 (2.9) | 514 (2.4) | 522 (3.1) | 507 (3.0) | 481 (2.8) | 488 (3.9) | 476 (3.5) |
| Finland | 546 (2.6) | 520 (3.0) | 571 (2.8) | 536 (2.2) | 537 (2.8) | 536 (2.6) | 538 (2.5) | 534 (3.5) | 541 (2.7) |
| France | 505 (2.7) | 490 (3.5) | 519 (2.7) | 517 (2.7) | 525 (4.1) | 511 (2.8) | 500 (3.2) | 504 (4.2) | 498 (3.8) |
| Germany | 484 (2.5) | 468 (3.2) | 502 (3.9) | 490 (2.5) | 498 (3.1) | 483 (4.0) | 487 (2.4) | 489 (3.4) | 487 (3.4) |
| Greece | 474 (5.0) | 456 (6.1) | 493 (4.6) | 447 (5.6) | 451 (7.7) | 444 (5.4) | 461 (4.9) | 457 (6.1) | 464 (5.2) |
| Hungary | 480 (4.0) | 465 (5.3) | 496 (4.3) | 488 (4.0) | 492 (5.2) | 485 (4.9) | 496 (4.2) | 496 (5.8) | 497 (5.0) |
| Iceland | 507 (1.5) | 488 (2.1) | 528 (2.1) | 514 (2.3) | 513 (3.1) | 518 (2.9) | 496 (2.2) | 495 (3.4) | 499 (3.0) |
| Ireland | 527 (3.2) | 513 (4.2) | 542 (3.6) | 503 (2.7) | 510 (4.0) | 497 (3.4) | 513 (3.2) | 511 (4.2) | 517 (4.2) |
| Italy | 487 (2.9) | 469 (5.1) | 507 (3.6) | 457 (2.9) | 462 (5.3) | 454 (3.8) | 478 (3.1) | 474 (5.6) | 483 (3.9) |
| Japan | 522 (5.2) | 507 (6.7) | 537 (5.4) | 557 (5.5) | 561 (7.3) | 553 (5.9) | 550 (5.5) | 547 (7.2) | 554 (5.9) |
| Korea, Republic of | 525 (2.4) | 519 (3.8) | 533 (3.7) | 547 (2.8) | 559 (4.6) | 532 (5.1) | 552 (2.7) | 561 (4.3) | 541 (5.1) |
| Luxembourg | 441 (1.6) | 429 (2.6) | 456 (2.3) | 446 (2.0) | 454 (3.0) | 439 (3.2) | 443 (2.3) | 441 (3.6) | 448 (3.2) |
| Mexico | 422 (3.3) | 411 (4.2) | 432 (3.8) | 387 (3.4) | 393 (4.5) | 382 (3.8) | 422 (3.2) | 423 (4.2) | 419 (3.9) |
| Netherlands ³ | — (—) | 517 (4.8) | 547 (3.8) | — (—) | 569 (4.9) | 558 (4.6) | — (—) | 529 (6.3) | 529 (5.1) |
| New Zealand | 529 (2.8) | 507 (4.2) | 553 (3.8) | 537 (3.1) | 536 (5.0) | 539 (4.1) | 528 (2.4) | 523 (4.6) | 535 (3.8) |
| Norway | 505 (2.8) | 486 (3.8) | 529 (2.9) | 499 (2.8) | 506 (3.8) | 495 (2.9) | 500 (2.8) | 499 (4.1) | 505 (3.3) |
| Poland | 479 (4.5) | 461 (6.0) | 498 (5.5) | 470 (5.5) | 472 (7.5) | 468 (6.3) | 483 (5.1) | 486 (6.1) | 480 (6.5) |
| Portugal | 470 (4.5) | 458 (5.0) | 482 (4.6) | 454 (4.1) | 464 (4.7) | 446 (4.7) | 459 (4.0) | 456 (4.8) | 462 (4.2) |
| Spain | 493 (2.7) | 481 (3.4) | 505 (2.8) | 476 (3.1) | 487 (4.3) | 469 (3.3) | 491 (3.0) | 492 (3.5) | 491 (3.6) |
| Sweden | 516 (2.2) | 499 (2.6) | 536 (2.5) | 510 (2.5) | 514 (3.2) | 507 (3.0) | 512 (2.5) | 512 (3.5) | 513 (2.9) |
| Switzerland | 494 (4.3) | 480 (4.9) | 510 (4.5) | 529 (4.4) | 537 (5.3) | 523 (4.8) | 496 (4.4) | 500 (5.7) | 493 (4.7) |
| United Kingdom | 523 (2.6) | 512 (3.0) | 537 (3.4) | 529 (2.5) | 534 (3.5) | 526 (3.7) | 532 (2.7) | 535 (3.4) | 531 (4.0) |
| United States | 504 (7.1) | 490 (8.4) | 518 (6.2) | 493 (7.6) | 497 (8.9) | 490 (7.3) | 499 (7.3) | 497 (8.9) | 502 (6.5) |
| Non-OECD countries | | | | | | | | | |
| Brazil | 396 (3.1) | 388 (3.9) | 404 (3.4) | 334 (3.7) | 349 (4.7) | 322 (4.7) | 375 (3.3) | 376 (4.8) | 376 (3.8) |
| Latvia | 458 (5.3) | 432 (5.5) | 485 (5.4) | 463 (4.5) | 467 (5.3) | 460 (5.6) | 460 (5.6) | 449 (6.4) | 472 (5.8) |
| Liechtenstein | 483 (4.1) | 468 (7.3) | 500 (6.8) | 514 (7.0) | 521 (11.5) | 510 (11.1) | 476 (7.1) | 484 (10.9) | 468 (9.3) |
| Russian Federation | 462 (4.2) | 443 (4.5) | 481 (4.1) | 478 (5.5) | 478 (5.7) | 479 (6.2) | 460 (4.7) | 453 (5.4) | 467 (5.2) |

—Not available.

¹ Refers to the mean of the data values for all OECD countries, to which each country contributes equally, regardless of the absolute size of the student population of each country.

² Refers to the average for OECD countries as a single entity, to which each country contributes in proportion to the number of 15-year-olds enrolled in its schools.

³ Response rate is too low to ensure comparability with other countries.

NOTE: Scales were designed to have an average score of 500 points, and standard deviation of 100. Standard errors appear in parentheses.

SOURCE: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), *Program for International Student Assessment (PISA), Knowledge and Skills for Life, 2000*. (This table was prepared August 2002.)