

Table 401.—Instructional practices and time spent teaching science in eighth grade, by country: 1999

Country	Percent of students reporting almost always or pretty often					Number of hours science is taught weekly							
	We discuss our complete homework	Teacher shows us how to do science	We work on worksheets or textbooks on our own	We work on science projects	We begin our homework	Less than 2 hours		At least 2, but less than 3.5 hours		At least 3.5, but less than 5 hours		5 hours or more	
						Percent	Mean score	Percent	Mean score	Percent	Mean score	Percent	Mean score
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Australia ¹	48 (1.6)	73 (1.4)	75 (1.2)	51 (1.6)	40 (1.5)	6 (1.8)	523 (15.2)	64 (3.9)	535 (5.5)	28 (3.5)	555 (8.2)	3 (1.2)	526 (16.0)
Canada ²	56 (1.4)	74 (1.2)	76 (1.1)	62 (1.5)	68 (1.8)	7 (1.6)	501 (9.0)	71 (3.5)	536 (3.3)	17 (3.2)	549 (6.6)	5 (1.5)	520 (8.7)
Chile	50 (1.1)	84 (0.9)	51 (1.0)	72 (1.2)	57 (1.1)	4 (1.5)	419 (9.9)	93 (1.9)	422 (4.2)	2 (1.2)	—	0 (0.0)	394 —
Chinese Taipei ³	50 (1.4)	88 (0.7)	61 (1.3)	52 (1.3)	29 (0.9)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cyprus ²	76 (0.9)	86 (0.9)	66 (1.0)	52 (1.1)	47 (1.2)	72 (3.7)	462 (3.3)	28 (3.7)	463 (5.5)	0 (0.0)	—	0 (0.0)	—
England ²	53 (1.6)	87 (0.9)	63 (2.1)	55 (1.6)	28 (1.3)	7 2.1	582 (19.4)	72 (4.3)	532 (6.2)	17 (4.0)	568 (16.9)	4 (1.6)	668 (21.8)
Hong Kong, SAR	33 (1.0)	86 (0.8)	54 (1.1)	43 (1.1)	34 (1.1)	4 (1.7)	525 (22.7)	79 (3.9)	532 (4.3)	7 (2.3)	551 (9.4)	10 (2.8)	514 (14.2)
Indonesia ⁴	46 (1.1)	87 (0.8)	48 (1.7)	76 (1.1)	11 (0.8)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iran, Islamic Republic	49 (1.0)	89 (0.7)	43 (1.1)	38 (1.3)	33 (1.1)	29 (4.3)	455 (6.8)	54 (4.6)	445 (6.4)	9 (2.5)	458 (11.5)	8 (2.3)	454 (9.9)
Israel ¹	63 (1.2)	62 (1.3)	67 (1.5)	49 (1.5)	55 (1.5)	23 (3.2)	460 (11.6)	68 (3.7)	472 (6.9)	9 (2.5)	467 (23.8)	0 (0.0)	—
Italy	49 (1.4)	56 (1.5)	38 (1.3)	35 (1.7)	30 (1.6)	27 (3.5)	498 (5.8)	71 (3.7)	490 (5.0)	1 (0.9)	—	1 (0.8)	—
Japan	10 (0.8)	74 (1.1)	29 (1.3)	21 (0.8)	7 (0.6)	4 (1.3)	599 (14.2)	96 (1.3)	547 (2.4)	0 (0.0)	—	0 (0.0)	—
Jordan	71 (1.2)	91 (0.8)	50 (1.2)	55 (1.4)	57 (1.0)	1 (0.0)	—	25 (3.6)	458 (9.4)	63 (4.1)	449 (4.8)	11 (2.8)	441 (15.2)
Korea, Republic of	14 (0.8)	73 (1.1)	27 (0.8)	36 (1.0)	12 (0.6)	10 (1.9)	546 (4.7)	84 (2.6)	550 (2.8)	4 (1.7)	531 (8.6)	1 (0.8)	—
Malaysia	51 (1.0)	89 (0.6)	56 (1.2)	41 (1.5)	45 (1.3)	1 (0.9)	—	96 (1.8)	493 (4.6)	3 (1.5)	497 (26.7)	0 (0.0)	—
New Zealand	53 (1.4)	81 (1.0)	70 (1.6)	57 (1.6)	35 (1.8)	2 (1.0)	—	55 (4.1)	508 (6.5)	41 (4.0)	516 (8.9)	2 (1.0)	—
Philippines	77 (0.7)	86 (0.8)	64 (0.8)	64 (1.1)	51 (1.0)	4 (1.4)	368 (35.3)	2 (1.3)	—	2 (1.3)	—	92 (2.4)	347 (7.8)
Singapore	58 (0.9)	85 (0.9)	75 (0.9)	39 (1.5)	44 (1.6)	5 (1.9)	497 (38.7)	42 (4.2)	550 (14.1)	50 (4.2)	586 (8.6)	4 (1.4)	608 (28.0)
South Africa	71 (0.7)	84 (1.1)	68 (0.9)	66 (1.4)	67 (1.1)	26 (3.9)	235 (15.5)	33 (4.3)	256 (17.4)	33 (4.2)	251 (18.9)	8 (2.4)	259 (31.6)
Thailand ¹	36 (1.2)	75 (1.2)	56 (1.1)	42 (1.7)	81 (0.8)	1 (1.0)	—	76 (4.2)	491 (5.5)	0 (0.0)	—	23 (4.1)	461 (10.8)
Tunisia	54 (1.2)	79 (0.8)	44 (1.2)	69 (0.9)	29 (1.0)	63 (4.1)	432 (4.2)	36 (4.1)	425 (4.3)	1 (0.0)	—	0 (0.0)	—
Turkey	32 (1.0)	90 (0.7)	38 (1.0)	29 (1.0)	22 (1.2)	12 (2.8)	439 (12.4)	82 (3.0)	432 (4.3)	1 (0.7)	—	4 (1.4)	416 (17.8)
United States ¹	63 (1.9)	69 (1.4)	76 (1.5)	59 (1.3)	57 (2.0)	11 (2.3)	521 (18.3)	16 (2.3)	533 (11.4)	61 (3.0)	523 (5.0)	13 (2.0)	490 (8.0)

—Not available.

¹ Teacher response data on hours taught weekly available for 70 to 84 percent of students.

² Teacher response data on hours taught weekly available for 50 to 69 percent of students.

³ Students were asked about "natural science;" data pertain to grade 8 physics/chemistry.

⁴ Students were asked about "IPA science;" data pertain to the composite course taught by biology and physics teachers

SAR=Special Administrative Region.

NOTE: Data are for 8th grade or equivalent in most countries. Standard errors appear in parentheses. In the 23 countries shown science is taught as a single subject. In other countries separate courses are offered in the different science subjects (earth science, biology, physics, and chemistry). Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding.

SOURCE: International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement, Third International Mathematics and Science Study 1999, *International Science Report*, by Michael O. Martin et al. Copyright © 2000 International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA). (This table was prepared July 2001.)