

NCES International Studies

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Publication of the National Center for Education Statistics at IES



NCES International Studies

PIRLS



Progress in International Reading Literacy Study

In partnership with IEA

Who's surveyed

4th-graders

How often

Every 5 years

Next data collection

2021

Trends back to

2001

Number of participating education systems from last data collection (2016)

58

Subject

Reading

PIRLS is a study of fourth-grade students' reading literacy achievement.

nces.ed.gov/surveys/PIRLS

TIMSS



Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study

In partnership with IEA

Who's surveyed

TIMSS: 4th- and 8th-graders
TIMSS Advanced: Final year of secondary school (12th-graders in the U.S.)

How often

TIMSS: Every 4 years
TIMSS Advanced: Periodically

Next data collection

2023

Trends back to

1995

Number of participating education systems from last data collection (2019)

Grade 4: 64

Grade 8: 46

Subjects

Mathematics and science

TIMSS is a study of fourth- and eighth-grade mathematics and science achievement. Also, TIMSS Advanced measures advanced mathematics and physics at the end of secondary school.

nces.ed.gov/TIMSS

ICILS



International Computer and Information Literacy Study

In partnership with IEA

Who's surveyed

8th-graders

How often

Every 5 years

Next data collection

2023

Trends back to

2013

Number of participating education systems from last data collection (2018)

14

Subjects

Computer and information literacy and computational thinking

ICILS is a study that measures eighth-grade students' computer-based skills and their access to and use of different information technologies. The U.S. participated for the first time in 2018.

nces.ed.gov/surveys/ICILS



Program for International Student Assessment

In partnership with OECD

Who's surveyed

15-year-olds

How often

Every 3 years

Next data collection

2022

Trends back to

2000

Number of participating education systems from last data collection (2018)

79

Subjects

Reading literacy, mathematics literacy, science literacy, problem solving, and financial literacy

PISA is an assessment that aims to measure 15-year-old students' literacy in reading, mathematics, and science. In addition, PISA sometimes offers optional assessments, such as financial literacy (2012, 2015, 2018) and collaborative problem solving (2015 and 2018).

nces.ed.gov/surveys/PISA



Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies

In partnership with OECD

Who's surveyed

Adults ages 16–65 (16–74 in U.S.)

How often

Every 10 years, with additional data collections in the U.S.

Next data collection

International: 2022/2023

Trends back to

2011/2012

Number of participating education systems from last data collection (2012, 2014, 2017)

39

Subjects

Literacy, numeracy, and digital problem solving

PIAAC is an assessment of adult basic and workplace skills, including literacy, numeracy, and digital problem solving. The initial PIAAC was conducted in 2011/2012, followed by the U.S. supplemental data collection in 2014, and another national household data collection in 2017.

The U.S. **PIAAC Skills Map** is an interactive data tool that provides state- and county-level data on the literacy and numeracy proficiency of adults ages 16–74 in all 50 states, all 3,141 counties, and the District of Columbia.

nces.ed.gov/surveys/PIAAC



Teaching and Learning International Survey

In partnership with OECD

Who's surveyed

Teachers and principals of grades 7, 8, and 9

How often

Every 6 years

Next data collection

2024

Number of participating education systems from last data collection (2018)

49

TALIS is a survey of teachers and principals that provides data on teaching and learning environments.

nces.ed.gov/surveys/TALIS



International Early Learning Study

In partnership with OECD

Who's surveyed

5-year-olds

First data collection

2018—**Pilot study**

Number of participating education systems (2018)

3

Subjects

Emergent literacy, emergent numeracy, self-regulation, and social and emotional skills

nces.ed.gov/surveys/IELS

For more information about NCES's international studies, please visit nces.ed.gov/surveys/international/



Website Resources

- Data files for each international study
- NCES reports with results and technical documentation
- Data tables and charts with international comparisons
- Questionnaires administered to students, teachers, schools, and adults
- Released assessment items
- Lists of all participating countries
- Study schedules
- Blog posts featuring content related to international studies
- Frequently asked questions (FAQs)

For more specific questions about international data or information not readily available on the NCES website, please contact NCESInternational@ed.gov

Conduct Your Own Analyses Using a Simple Online Tool



Explore international studies using NCES's International Data Explorer (IDE), available at nces.ed.gov/surveys/international/ide. The IDE contains data for PIRLS, TIMSS, ICILS, PISA, PIAAC, and TALIS.

With the IDE, you can

- Find and compare data for the United States and more than 80 other national and subnational education systems
- Explore student and adult performance on international studies
- Create tables, charts, and maps comparing international data from selected studies
- Run statistical tests, run regression analyses, and test for statistically significant gaps
- Export your analyses in Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Word, or HTML or PDF formats

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