

Your School's

2009 PISA Report

Reading, Mathematics, and Science Literacy Achievement of 15-Year-Olds in Your School

Principal: <Principal's Name>

School: <Name of High School>

Test Date: Fall 2009

XXXX, XX, 2010

Dear <place school name here>,

Thank you for participating in the 2009 administration of the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA). Your school was among 165 schools representing the United States in this important international comparison of the knowledge and skills that 15-year-old students apply to real-world problems. Your students were among more than 400,000 students from 66 countries and jurisdictions that participated in PISA in 2009. We wanted to share with you your school's results, based on comparisons with other participating U.S. schools and other countries around the world.

This report presents comparisons of your school's average scores with the average scores of 66 participating countries and jurisdictions, including the United States, as well as the average for students in U.S. schools that are similar to yours in terms of the percentage of students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch.

We recommend that you interpret these results with caution and within the context of other indicators about your students' performance. These findings are based on a sample of students from your school and are therefore associated with a degree of uncertainty. The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), which was responsible for the administration of PISA in the United States, will continue to maintain the confidentiality of your school's and students' results and participation.

Thank you again for your contribution to U.S. participation in PISA and your professional support of quality education in the United States. If you have any questions about this report or about PISA more generally, please contact us at pisausa@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

Holly Xie and Dana Kelly
U.S. PISA National Program Managers
National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)
Institute of Education Sciences (IES)
U.S. Department of Education

What is in this report?

- ▶ A brief description of PISA.
- ▶ Your school's overall results in reading.
- ▶ Your school's results on the reading subscales.
- ▶ Your school's overall results in mathematics and science.
- ▶ Comparisons of your school's results to the United States, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries, and countries around the world.

The Program for International Student Assessment (PISA)

What is PISA's Focus?

PISA focuses on skills that 15-year-olds have acquired both inside and outside of the classroom, not only assessing what students know, but also how well they are able to reflect on and apply their knowledge to real-life situations. In this sense, PISA emphasizes students' *literacy* in reading, mathematics, and science rather than students' performance on specific tasks taught in a school curriculum.

PISA was administered in the United States between September and November 2009. Students completed a two-hour paper-and-pencil test that included both multiple-choice and open-ended questions. The assessment framework and test questions were developed by experts from participating countries.

PISA 2009 Overview

What was the main subject area assessed?

Reading literacy

What other subject areas were assessed?

Mathematics literacy and science literacy

Who took the assessment?

<Insert number> 15-year-olds around the world

How many countries participated?

66 (including the United States)

Interpreting Your PISA 2009 Results

- ▶ Because relatively few students are asked to represent each school in PISA, your school's average scores are reported as a confidence band. Statistically speaking, we can say with 95 percent confidence that your school's average PISA 2009 score is within the band reported.
- ▶ All comparisons reported are based on statistical analyses. Your school's average performance is reported as higher or lower than the average score of a given comparison group if there is a 95 percent level of confidence that this is the case. Otherwise, your school's average performance is reported as not grouped different than the average score of the comparison group.
- ▶ PISA is coordinated by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), an intergovernmental organization of 34 highly industrialized countries in which the United States participates with its closest economic peers and competitors. The OECD average is the average of the scores from these 34 countries.
- ▶ "Schools like yours" are U.S. schools with a similar proportion of students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch through the National School Lunch Program.

Countries in the OECD

Australia	Korea
Austria	Japan
Belgium	Luxembourg
Canada	Mexico
Chile	Netherlands
Czech Republic	New Zealand
Denmark	Norway
Estonia	Poland
Finland	Portugal
France	Slovak Republic
Germany	Slovenia
Greece	Spain
Hungary	Sweden
Iceland	Switzerland
Ireland	Turkey
Israel	United Kingdom
Italy	United States

Reading Literacy Results

Reading Literacy

How your school compares with:

The United States:

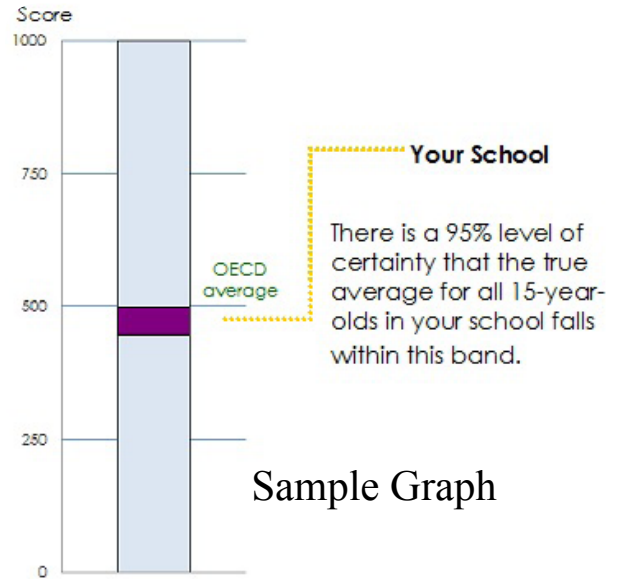
The OECD Countries:

U.S. Schools Like Yours:

- Your school's average score is higher
- Your school's average score is not different
- Your school's average score is lower

SOURCE: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Program for International Student Assessment (PISA), 2009.

Your School's Overall Results in Reading: 2009



SOURCE: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Program for International Student Assessment (PISA), 2009.

Reading Literacy Subscales

How your school's average scores compare with:

	Retrieving Information	Interpreting Texts	Reflection and Evaluation
The United States:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The OECD Countries:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
U.S. Schools Like Yours:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

- Your school's average score is higher
- Your school's average score is not different
- Your school's average score is lower

SOURCE: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Program for International Student Assessment (PISA), 2009.

2009 Comparisons Around the World

Average reading score is higher than your school:

Austria
Canada
Chinese Taipei
Estonia
Finland
Hong Kong-China
Japan
Netherlands
New Zealand
Shanghai-China
Singapore

Average reading score is not different than your school:

Austria	Liechtenstein
Belgium	Lithuania
Croatia	Luxembourg
Czech Republic	Macao-China
Denmark	Norway
France	Poland
Germany	Portugal
Greece	Russian Federation
Hungary	Slovak Republic
Iceland	Slovenia
Ireland	Spain
Italy	Sweden
Kazakhstan	Switzerland
Korea	United Kingdom
Latvia	

Average reading score is lower than your school:

Austria
Canada
Chinese Taipei
Estonia
Finland
Hong Kong-China
Japan
Netherlands
New Zealand
Shanghai-China
Singapore

Your School's Results on Reading Subscales: 2009

Sample Graph

Your School

There is a 95% level of certainty that the true average for all 15-year-olds in your school falls within this band.



Your School's

Mathematics Literacy Results

Mathematics Literacy

How your school compares with:

The United States:

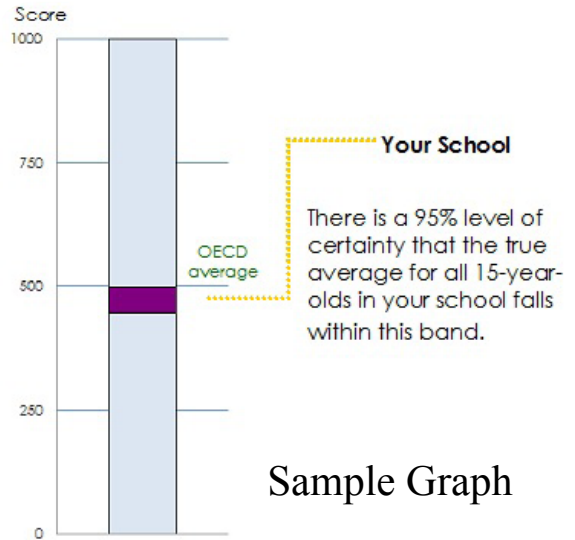
The OECD Countries:

U.S. Schools Like Yours:

- Your school's average score is higher
- Your school's average score is not different
- Your school's average score is lower

SOURCE: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Program for International Student Assessment (PISA), 2009.

Your School's Results in Mathematics: 2009

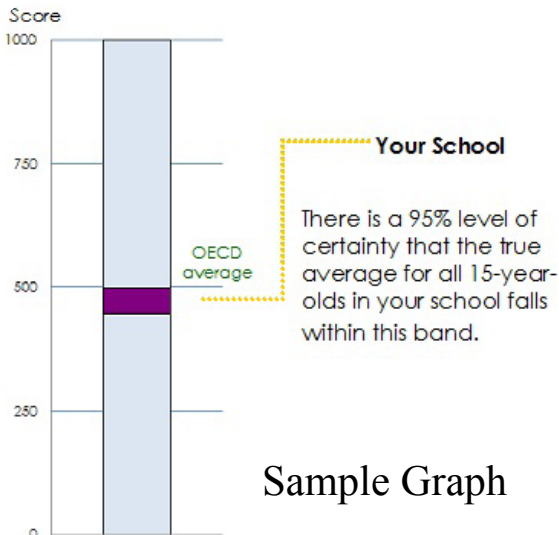


SOURCE: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Program for International Student Assessment (PISA), 2009.

Your School's

Science Literacy Results

Your School's Results in Science: 2009



SOURCE: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Program for International Student Assessment (PISA), 2009.

Science Literacy

How your school compares with:

The United States:

The OECD Countries:

U.S. Schools Like Yours:

- Your school's average score is higher
- Your school's average score is not different
- Your school's average score is lower

SOURCE: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Program for International Student Assessment (PISA), 2009.

How the United States Compares to Other Countries in PISA 2009 Reading Literacy

OECD Countries.

Country	Score
Finland	563
Canada	534
Japan	531
New Zealand	530
Australia	527
Netherlands	525
Korea	522
Germany	516
United Kingdom	515
Czech Republic	513
Switzerland	512
Austria	511
Belgium	510
Ireland	508
Hungary	504
Sweden	503
Poland	498
Denmark	496
France	495
Iceland	491
United States	489
Slovak Republic	488
Spain	488
Norway	487
Luxembourg	486
Italy	475
Portugal	474
Greece	473
Turkey	424
Mexico	410

Non-OECD Countries.

Country	Score
Hong Kong-China	542
Chinese Taipei	532
Estonia	531
Lechtenstein	522
Slovenia	519
Macao-China	511
Croatia	493
Latvia	490
Lithuania	488
Russian Federation	479
Israel	454
Chile	438
Serbia	436
Bulgaria	434
Uruguay	428
Jordan	422
Thailand	421
Romania	418
Montenegro	412
Indonesia	393
Argentina	391
Brazil	390
Colombia	388
Tunisia	386
Azerbaijan	382
Qatar	349
Kyrgyzstan	322

SOURCE: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Program for International Student Assessment (PISA), 2009.

Higher than U.S. average
 Not different from U.S. average
 Lower than U.S. average

For more information about PISA 2009:

The United States report, *Highlights from PISA 2009: Performance of U.S. 15-Year-Old Students in Reading, Mathematics, and Science Literacy in an International Context*, can be found at <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/pisa/>.

The OECD report, *PISA 2009: Reading Competencies for Tomorrow's World (Vol. 1 and 2)*, can be found at <http://www.pisa.oecd.org>.

Sample test questions from PISA 2009 can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/PISA2009items>.

