



# LOCATING INFORMATION ABOUT PISA

Information about PISA is located on the study website at the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) and on the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) web site.

PISA on the web at NCES is located at: <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/pisa>

The NCES website provides a variety of information about PISA.

Click on these links to find general information about results and reports from previous rounds, sample items, and a link to the international site at OECD.

The screenshot shows the PISA USA website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the IES logo and 'NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS'. Below this is a search bar and a menu with categories like 'Publications & Products', 'Surveys & Programs', 'Data Tools', 'Tables & Figures', 'Fast Facts', 'School, College, & Library Search', 'Annual Reports', and 'What's New?'. The main content area is titled 'Program for International Student Assessment (PISA)'. On the left, there is a vertical menu with links: 'Overview', 'Frequently Asked Questions', 'Countries', 'Sample Items', 'Released Items', 'Data Files', 'PISA 2006 Summary', 'PISA 2003 Summary', 'PISA International Site', 'International Indicators', and 'Join NewsFlash'. The main text area contains an 'Overview' section with a paragraph describing PISA. On the right, there is a 'HIGHLIGHTS' section with a date 'December 4, 2007:' and a link to 'Highlights from PISA 2006: Performance of U.S. 15-Year-Old Students in Science and Mathematics Literacy in an International Context (NCES 2008-016)'. Below this, there is a '2003:' section with a link to 'PISA 2003 U.S. datafile' and a note that it is now available for downloading. At the bottom of the highlights, there is a 'View Publications:' section with a link to 'Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2000 Data File'.

Click on the links under **Highlights** to see the most current data and reporting.

To view sample items from PISA:

The screenshot shows the PISA website home page. At the top, there is a header for the Institute of Education Sciences and U.S. Department of Education, with the logo for the National Center for Education Statistics. A search bar is located in the top right. Below the header is a navigation menu with links for Publications & Products, Surveys & Programs, Data Tools, Tables & Figures, Fast Facts, School, College, & Library Search, Annual Reports, and What's New? There is also a KIDSZONE logo. The main content area features the PISA logo and the title 'Program for International Student Assessment (PISA)'. Below this is a sub-navigation menu with links for Publications & Products, Staff, and International Comparisons in Education. On the left side, there is a vertical navigation menu with links for Overview, Frequently Asked Questions, Countries, Sample Items, Released Items, Data Files, PISA 2006 Summary, PISA 2003 Summary, PISA International Site, International Indicators, and Join NewsFlash. A callout box with a pointer indicates that the user should click on the 'Sample Items' link. The main content area contains an 'Overview' section with a paragraph describing the PISA program. To the right of the overview is a 'HIGHLIGHTS' section with dates and links to specific reports.

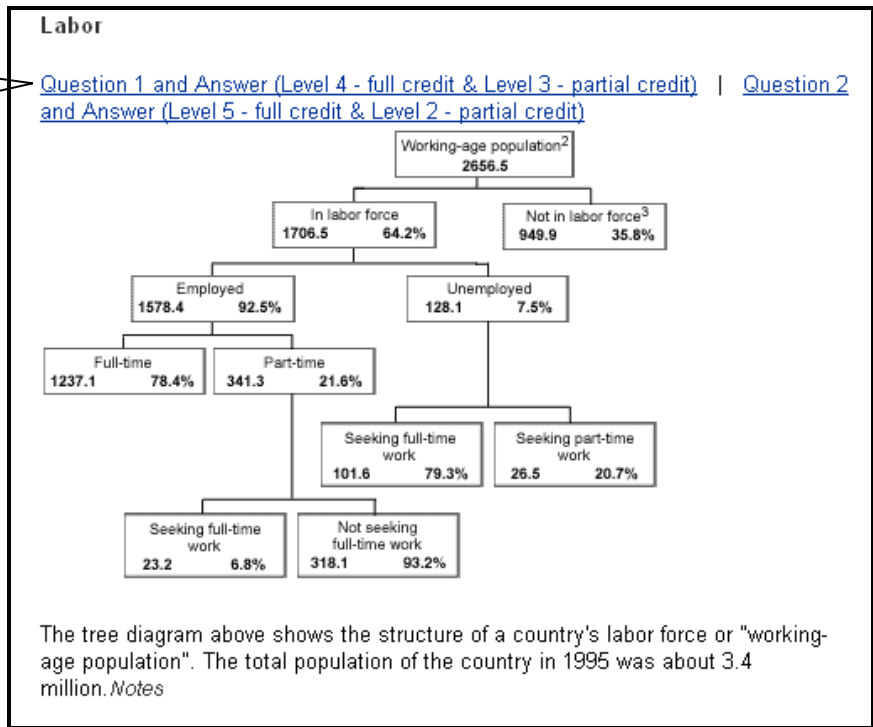
Click on the sample items link.

The screenshot shows the 'Sample Items' page on the PISA website. The header and navigation menu are identical to the previous screenshot. The left navigation menu is also the same. The main content area is titled 'Sample Items' and contains a paragraph explaining that the items below are examples of questions 15-year-olds were asked to answer for PISA. Below this paragraph is a grid of sample items categorized by subject: Reading Literacy, Mathematics Literacy, Science Literacy, and Problem Solving. Each category has a list of sample item links. A callout box with a pointer indicates that the user should click on the 'Labor' link under the Reading Literacy category. Below the grid of items is a link for 'PISA's definition of literacy'.

Click the item you wish to view.

The item will load in the lower portion of the window.

Click the question you wish to view and see the scoring guide and results.



A new window will appear containing the question text, the scoring guide, and the percentage of U.S. students who received full credit along with the OECD average.

Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) - Sample It...

**Reading Literacy Sample Items**

**Labor - Aspect: Retrieving Information**

**Question:**

How many people of working age were not in the labor force?  
(Write the number of people, not the percentage.)

**Answer:**

To receive full credit, responses should indicate that the number in the tree diagram and the "000s" in the title/footnote have been integrated to produce the number 949,000. Approximations between 949,000 and 950,000, in numbers or words, were accepted. In addition, 900,000 or one million (in words or numbers) were accepted if accompanied by a qualifier such as "almost" or "about."

Correctly indicating the number in the tree diagram, but failing to integrate the "000s" in the title/footnote can achieve partial credit. In this situation, students would answer 949.9 in words or numbers.

United States percent full credit: 24%  
OECD percent full credit: 31%

United States percent partial credit: 54%  
OECD percent partial credit: 41%

[Close Window](#)

## How to access interactive PISA items from the international website

The PISA site at NCES links with the international site at OECD. The OECD site provides the international reports and interactive items and data.

Click on the PISA International Site link.

The screenshot shows the IES National Center for Education Statistics website. The header includes the IES logo and navigation links like NewsFlash, Staff, Contact, Site Index, and Help. A search bar is present with 'NCES' entered. The main content area is titled 'Program for International Student Assessment (PISA)' and features a left-hand navigation menu with links such as Overview, Frequently Asked Questions, Countries, Sample Items, Released Items, Data Files, PISA 2006 Summary, PISA 2003 Summary, PISA International Site, International Indicators, and Join NewsFlash. The 'PISA International Site' link is highlighted with a mouse cursor. The main text area provides an overview of the PISA program, and a 'HIGHLIGHTS' section on the right lists recent updates, including a December 4, 2007 highlight about PISA 2006 performance and a 2003 datafile update.

You will be directed to the link for the PISA site at OECD. Click this link.

The screenshot shows an exit page from the NCES website. At the top, it says 'YOU ARE NOW EXITING THE NCES WEBSITE' in red. Below this, it instructs the user to 'To continue click on [www.pisa.oecd.org](http://www.pisa.oecd.org) or [return to your previous page](#)'. At the bottom, a disclaimer states: 'We have provided a link to this site because it has information that may be of interest to our users. NCES does not necessarily endorse the views expressed or the data and facts presented on this external site.'

ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
OECD

Search :

## OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)

**PISA (Home)**

- > What PISA Is
- > What PISA Assesses
- > **What PISA Produces**
- > Participating Countries
- Contacts

Are students well prepared for future challenges? Can they analyse, reason and communicate effectively? Do they have the capacity to continue learning throughout life? The OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) answers these questions and more, through its surveys of 15-year-olds in the principal industrialised countries. Every three years, it assesses how far students near the end of compulsory education have acquired some of the knowledge and skills essential for full participation in society.

**What's new**

**PISA 2006 results**  
04-Dec-2007  
Learn about the most comprehensive international picture of science learning today. For all data and a comprehensive analysis click [here](#).

**PISA brochure**  
23-Feb-2007  
This brochure on the OECD's Programme for International Students Assessment describes what the programme has achieved so far and sets out plans for the project up until 2015.

**Don't Miss**

- > FAQ: OECD PISA
- > PISA brochure
- > Who's Who in PISA
- > PISA auf Deutsch
- > PISA en français
- > PISA en español
- > Directorate for Education

How are students faring in science today?

**PISA 2006**  
OECD PROGRAMME FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ASSESSMENT  
RESULTS & ANALYSIS

Click on link for **What PISA Produces**.

Select the PISA year for which you want to view items, and then select Test questions.

ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
OECD

Search :

## OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)

**PISA (Home)**

- What PISA Produces**
  - PISA 2000
  - PISA 2003**
  - PISA 2006
- > What PISA Is
- > What PISA Assesses
- Participating Countries
- Contacts

**PISA 2003**

Select from the following document categories:

- Publications
- Database
- Information by country
- **Test questions**
- Newsletters / Brochures
- Events/Conferences/Meetings
- Manuals, Sources and Methods
- Further reading

**Don't Miss**

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How are students faring in science today?

**PISA 2006**  
OECD PROGRAMME FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ASSESSMENT  
RESULTS & ANALYSIS

Click on the link for the PISA year you want.

Click on the link for **Test questions**.

All years have released items available to view in PDF form. Only 2000 and 2003 have interactive items available.

The screenshot shows the OECD PISA website. At the top left is the OECD logo and the text 'ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT'. At the top right is a search bar. Below the logo is a blue banner with the text 'OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)'. On the left side, there is a navigation menu under 'PISA (Home)' with sub-sections: 'What PISA Produces' (PISA 2000, PISA 2003, PISA 2006), 'What PISA Is', 'What PISA Assesses', 'Participating Countries', and 'Contacts'. The main content area is titled 'Test questions - PISA 2003' and contains the following text: 'Download sample test questions from PISA 2003: **Mathematics:** English (zip file 347 KB), French (zip file 913 KB); **Problem solving:** English (zip file 130 KB), French (zip file 142 KB); and **Science:** English (zip file 158 KB), French (zip file 302 KB) **Reading:** No sample questions were publicly released from PISA 2003; however, samples of PISA reading questions were published in the report *Sample Tasks from the PISA 2000 Assessment*. Below this text, there is a link for 'interactive version' which is circled in blue. To the right of the main content is a 'Don't Miss' sidebar with links to 'FAQ: OECD PISA', 'PISA brochure', 'Who's Who in PISA', 'PISA auf Deutsch', 'PISA en français', 'PISA en español', and 'Directorate for Education'. At the bottom right of the sidebar is a section titled 'How are students faring in science today?' with a small graphic.

Click on the link for **interactive version**. A new window will open.

A new window will open containing the interactive PISA questions.

The screenshot shows the 'PISA Sample Questions' page. At the top left is the OECD logo. Below it is a dark blue header with the text 'PISA Sample Questions'. The main content area has a sub-header 'Sample Questions' and the text 'The following questions are available:'. Below this text is a list of links: 'PISA Mathematics >>', 'PISA Mathematics with marking guide >>', 'PISA Reading >>', 'PISA Reading with marking guide >>', 'PISA Science >>', and 'PISA Science with marking guide >>'. To the right of this list is a 'General Information' section with a vertical scrollbar and the text 'This is a set of sample test items from PISA.' A callout box with a pointer indicates the 'PISA Reading with marking guide >>' link.

Click on link of the subject area items in which you are interested.

Take some PISA items and see how you do!

Sample Questions : PISA Reading with marking guide

Home >> Instructions >> Toggle Marking Guide >>

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

Question 1: In Poor Taste Next >>

Read the text and answer the questions which follow.

**IN POOR TASTE**

from Arnold Jago

Did you know that in 1996 we spent almost the same amount on chocolate as our Government spent on overseas aid to help the poor?

Could there be something wrong with our priorities?

What are you going to do about it?

Yes, you.

Use the controls to move to different items, view instructions, and move through the marking guide.

### How to access PISA reports from the international website

ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

OECD

Search :

OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)

**PISA (Home)**

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How are students faring in science today?

PISA 2006  
OECD PROGRAMME FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ASSESSMENT  
RESULTS & ANALYSIS

Click on link for **What PISA Produces**.

Look under *What's new*, or in the margin, for the latest releases.

ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
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### PISA 2003

Select from the following document categories:

- Publications**
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- Information by country
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How are students faring in science today?

PISA 2006  
OECD PROGRAMME FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ASSESSMENT

Click on the link for the PISA year you want.

Click on the link for the Publications.

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### Publications - PISA 2003

Send  Print

**Where immigrant students succeed - A comparative review of performance and engagement in PISA 2003**

This report examines the performance of students with immigrant backgrounds and compares it to that of their native counterparts. As well as providing information on countries' approaches to the integration of immigrants, it looks at other factors that could influence immigrant students' performance - such as their attitudes to school, their motivation and learning strategies as well as their social background and the language spoken at home - giving valuable implications for educational policy.

**Are Students Ready for a Technology-Rich World? What PISA Studies Tell Us**

Drawing on PISA data, *Are Students Ready for a Technology-Rich World? What PISA Studies Tell Us* examines whether access to computers for students is equitable across countries and student groups; how students use ICT and what their attitudes are towards ICT; the relationship between students' access to and use of ICT and their performance in PISA 2003; and the implications for educational policy.

**PISA 2003 Technical Report**

The PISA 2003 Technical Report describes the complex methodology underlying PISA 2003, along with additional features related to the interpretation of the results.

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How are students faring in science today?

PISA 2006  
OECD PROGRAMME FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ASSESSMENT

Available publications are listed by title. Access the report by clicking on the title.



Each publication has a page with a brief summary of the report content, table of contents, and ordering information.

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Scroll the page to find out how to obtain the publication and other information.

This screenshot shows the 'How to obtain this publication' section. It begins with the heading 'How to obtain this publication' followed by a paragraph: 'Readers can access the full version of **Are Students Ready for a Technology-Rich World?: What PISA Studies Tell Us** choosing from the following options:'. Below this are five bullet points: 'Subscribers and readers at subscribing institutions can access the online edition via [SourceOECD](#), our online library.', 'Download a [pdf version for free](#)', 'Non-subscribers can purchase the PDF e-book and/or paper copy via our [Online Bookshop](#).', 'Government officials can go to [OLISnet's Publication Locator](#).', and 'Access by password for accredited journalists'. The section is followed by a horizontal line and the heading 'PowerPoint Presentation', with a bullet point linking to 'Are Students Ready for a Technology-Rich World?: What PISA Studies Tell Us'. Another horizontal line leads to the heading 'Briefing Notes', with a bullet point for 'Germany' and a sub-bullet point 'in German', followed by a bullet point for 'Japan'. A final horizontal line leads to the heading 'Press Release', with bullet points for 'English' and 'French'.