



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 about its availability. At the bottom right, there is a 'View Publications:' section with a link to 'Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2000 Data File'. Two callout boxes are present: one on the left pointing to the navigation menu, and one at the bottom pointing to the 'HIGHLIGHTS' section.

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

To view sample items from PISA:

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Publications & Products Surveys & Programs Data Tools Tables & Figures Fast Facts School, College, & Library Search Annual Reports What's New? KIDSZONE

Program for International Student Assessment (PISA)

PISA USA Publications & Products Staff International Comparisons in Education

Overview

Frequently Asked Questions

Countries

Sample Items

Released Items

Data Files

PISA 2006 Summary

PISA 2003 Summary

PISA International Site

International Indicators

Join NewsFlash

Overview

The **Program for International Student Assessment (PISA)** is a system of international assessments that focus on 15-year-olds' capabilities in reading literacy, mathematics literacy, and science literacy. PISA also includes measures of general or cross-curricular competencies such as learning strategies. PISA emphasizes functional skills that students have acquired as they near the end of mandatory schooling. PISA is organized by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), an intergovernmental organization of industrialized countries. Begun in 2000, PISA is administered every 3 years. Each administration includes assessments of all three subjects, but assesses one of the subjects in depth. The most recent administration was in 2006 and focused on science literacy. [Results are now available.](#)

HIGHLIGHTS

December 4, 2007:

[Highlights from PISA 2006: Performance of U.S. 15-Year-Old Students in Science and Mathematics Literacy in an International Context \(NCES 2008-018\)](#)

2003:

[PISA 2003 U.S. datafile](#)

Now available for downloading. The datafile includes variables unique to the U.S. context that are not available in the international dataset. Go to the Data Files page for more information.

View Publications:

[Characteristics of U.S. 15-Year-Old Low Achievers in an International Context: Findings From PISA 2000](#)

Click on the sample items link.

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Program for International Student Assessment (PISA)

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Sample Items

The items below are examples of questions 15-year-olds were asked to answer for PISA. When you click an item in one of the four subject categories, you will see the item image and links to the item questions. Click on these links and a new window will open with a question, its answer, and the percent of students in the United States and other OECD countries who answered correctly.

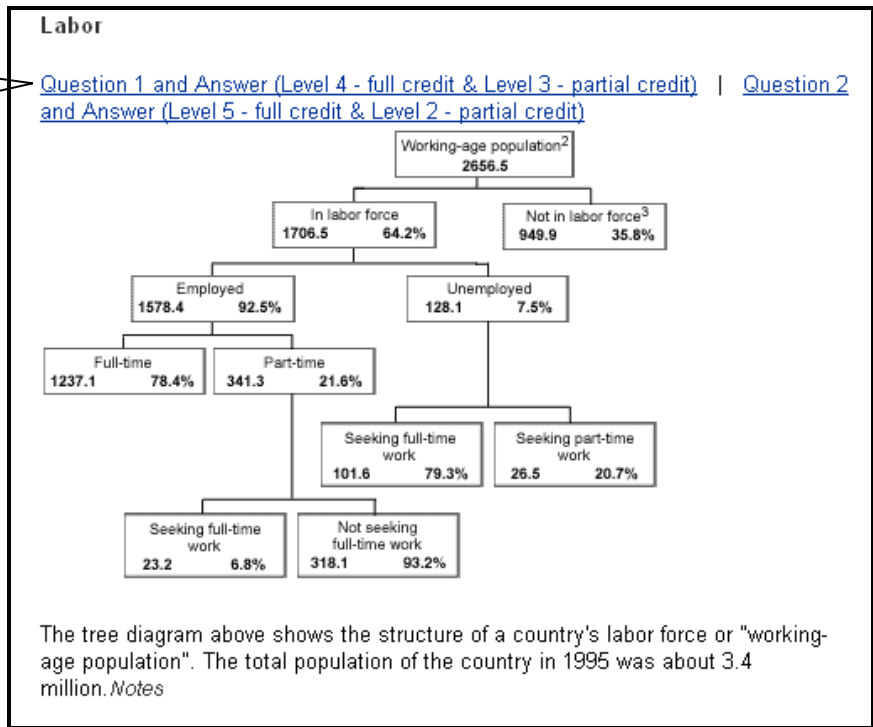
Reading Literacy Sample Items	Mathematics Literacy Sample Items	Science Literacy Sample Items	Problem Solving Sample Items
Runners	Continents	Ozone	Energy
Flu	Triangles		Movie
Labor	Walking		Transit
	Carpenter		
	Internet Relay Chat		

[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.

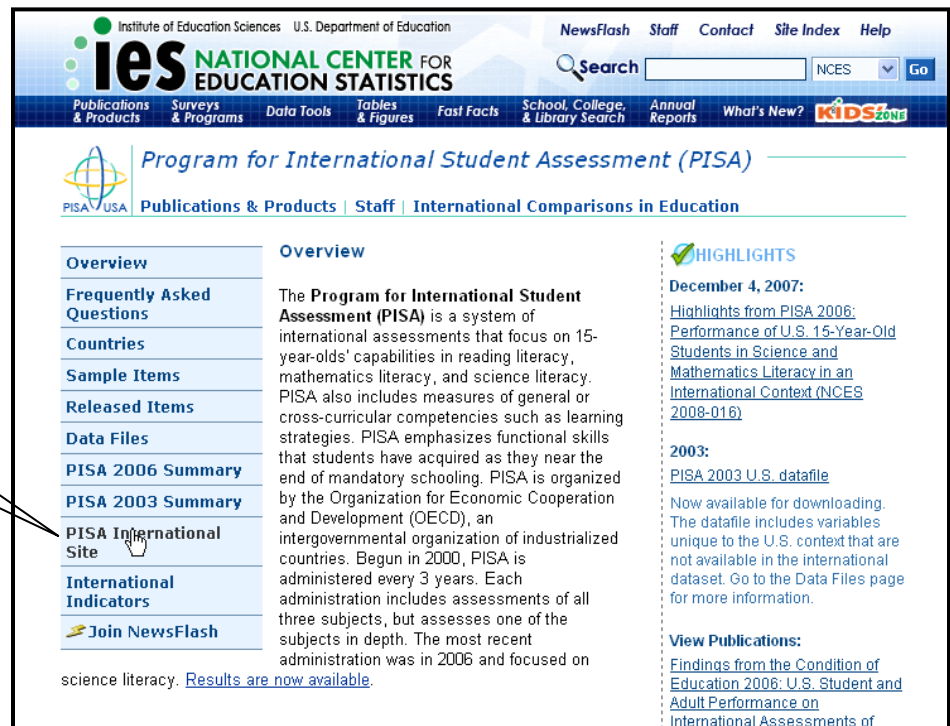
United States percent full credit: 24%
OECD percent full credit: 31%

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.



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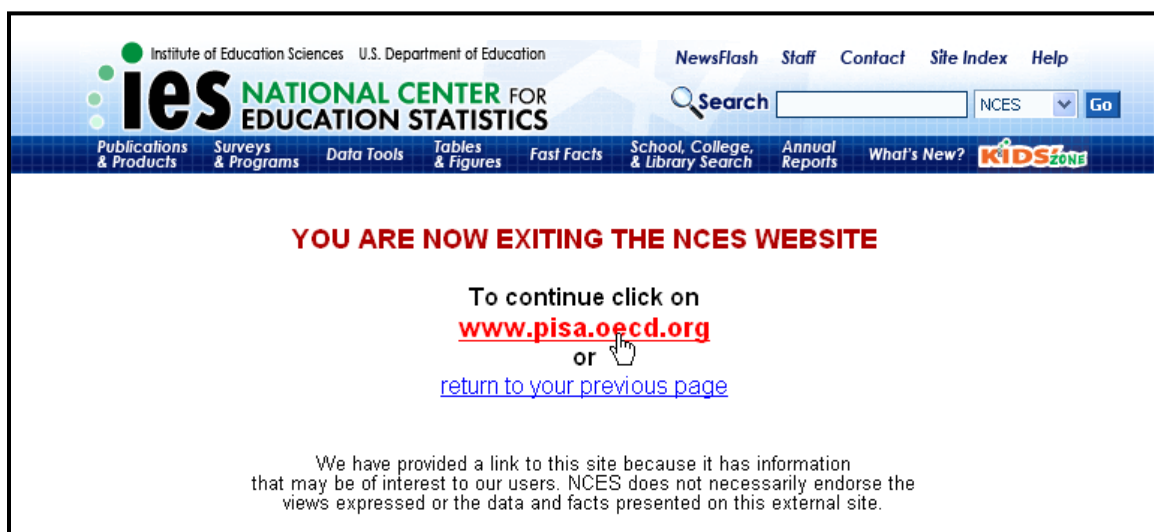
Program for International Student Assessment (PISA)

PISA USA Publications & Products | Staff | International Comparisons in Education

Overview	Overview	HIGHLIGHTS
Frequently Asked Questions	The Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) is a system of international assessments that focus on 15-year-olds' capabilities in reading literacy, mathematics literacy, and science literacy. PISA also includes measures of general or cross-curricular competencies such as learning strategies. PISA emphasizes functional skills that students have acquired as they near the end of mandatory schooling. PISA is organized by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), an intergovernmental organization of industrialized countries. Begun in 2000, PISA is administered every 3 years. Each administration includes assessments of all three subjects, but assesses one of the subjects in depth. The most recent administration was in 2006 and focused on science literacy. Results are now available.	December 4, 2007: Highlights from PISA 2006: Performance of U.S. 15-Year-Old Students in Science and Mathematics Literacy in an International Context (NCES 2008-016)
Countries		2003: PISA 2003 U.S. datafile Now available for downloading. The datafile includes variables unique to the U.S. context that are not available in the international dataset. Go to the Data Files page for more information.
Sample Items		View Publications: Findings from the Condition of Education 2006: U.S. Student and Adult Performance on International Assessments of
Released Items		
Data Files		
PISA 2006 Summary		
PISA 2003 Summary		
PISA International Site		
International Indicators		
Join NewsFlash		

Click on the PISA International Site link.

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



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YOU ARE NOW EXITING THE NCES WEBSITE

To continue click on www.pisa.oecd.org
or [return to your previous page](#)

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


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

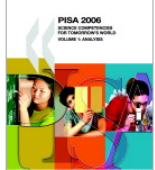
PISA 2006 results
 04-Dec-2007
 Learn about the most comprehensive international picture of science learning today. For all data and a comprehensive analysis click [here](#).

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?



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


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

- > FAQ: OECD PISA
- > PISA brochure
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How are students faring in science today?



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 is a navigation menu with 'PISA (Home)' and sub-items: '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, a link for 'interactive version' is circled in blue. To the right is a 'Don't Miss' sidebar with links to FAQ, brochures, and reports. A callout box on the left points to the 'interactive version' link with the text: '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 the text: 'PISA provides sample questions for Mathematics, Reading and Science, along with marking guides for these questions.' Below this is a section titled 'Sample Questions' with the text: 'The following questions are available:'. A list of links follows: '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 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 on the left points to the 'PISA Reading with marking guide >>' link with the text: '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

OECD

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)

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

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](#).

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23-Feb-2007
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Don't Miss

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- 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**.

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

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:

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- Databases 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.

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

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.

Don't Miss

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- PISA brochure
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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.

The screenshot shows the OECD website interface. At the top left is the OECD logo and name. A search bar is on the top right. Below the navigation bar, the main heading reads "OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)". On the left, a sidebar menu lists "PISA (Home)" with sub-items: "What PISA Produces" (PISA 2000, PISA 2003, PISA 2006), "What PISA Is", "What PISA Assesses", "Participating Countries", and "Contacts". The main content area features the title "Are Students Ready for a Technology-Rich World? What PISA Studies Tell Us" with a "Send" and "Print" icon. Below the title are links for "Table of contents", "How to obtain this publication", "PowerPoint presentation", "Briefing notes", and "Press release". A small image of the book cover is shown on the left. To the right, a text block begins with "Information and communication technology (ICT) is associated with unprecedented global flows of information, products, people, capital and ideas...". A "Don't Miss" sidebar on the right lists various resources like "FAQ: OECD PISA", "PISA brochure", and "Who's Who in PISA".

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

This section provides detailed information on how to access the publication. It is titled "How to obtain this publication" and lists several options:

- 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](#).
- [Access by password for accredited journalists](#)

 Below this, there are three sub-sections:

- PowerPoint Presentation**:
 - [Are Students Ready for a Technology-Rich World?: What PISA Studies Tell Us](#)
- Briefing Notes**:
 - [Germany](#)
 - [in German](#)
 - [Japan](#)
- Press Release**:
 - [English](#)
 - [French](#)