


TABLE 1-13 

### Average science literacy assessment scores for 15-year-old students participating in PISA, by education system: 2015

(Average score)

Education system	Score	OECD member
Score higher than U.S. score of 496		
Singapore	556	N
Japan	538	Y
Estonia	534	Y
Taiwan (China)	532	N
Finland	531	Y
Macau (China)	529	N
Canada	528	Y
Vietnam	525	N
Hong Kong (China)	523	N
Beijing, Shanghai, Jiangsu, and Guangdong (China)	518	N
South Korea	516	Y
New Zealand	513	Y
Slovenia	513	Y
Australia	510	Y
United Kingdom	509	Y
Germany	509	Y
Netherlands	509	Y
Switzerland	506	Y
Score not statistically different from U.S. score of 496		
Ireland	503	Y
Belgium	502	Y
Denmark	502	Y
Poland	501	Y



Education system	Score	OECD member
Portugal	501	Y
Norway	498	Y
United States	496	Y
Austria	495	Y
France	495	Y
OECD average	493	-
Sweden	493	Y
Czech Republic	493	Y
Spain	493	Y
Latvia	490	Y
Score lower than U.S. score of 496 (selected education systems)		
Russia	487	N
Luxembourg	483	Y
Italy	481	Y
Hungary	477	Y
Lithuania	475	N
Croatia	475	N
Buenos Aires (Argentina)	475	N
Iceland	473	Y
Israel	467	Y
Malta	465	N

N = no; Y = yes.

OECD = Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; PISA = Program for International Student Assessment.

**Note(s)**

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Education systems are ordered by 2015 average score. The OECD average is the average of the national averages of the OECD member countries, with each country weighted equally. Scores are reported on a scale from 0 to 1,000. All average scores reported as higher or lower than the U.S. average score are different at the .05 level of statistical significance. Although Argentina, Malaysia, and Kazakhstan participated in PISA 2015, technical problems with their samples prevent results from being discussed in this report. The countries shown in the Score lower than U.S. score section are the 10 with the highest average scores below that of the United States.

**Source(s)**

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Kastberg D, Chan JY, Murray G, *Performance of U.S. 15-Year-Old Students in Science, Reading, and Mathematics Literacy in an International Context: First Look at PISA 2015*, NCES 2017-048 (2016). See Appendix Table 1-21.

*Science and Engineering Indicators 2018*