

# PISA Field Trial in 2021



## Information for Students, Parents and Guardians

### What is PISA?

PISA is the **P**rogramme for **I**nternational **S**tudent **A**ssessment. Internationally it is the world's largest student assessment with around half a million participating students from around 85 different countries and economies. Nationally, PISA is one of the international sample assessments of the National Assessment Program (NAP), which encompasses all tests endorsed by the Education Council. Under the Education Act 2013 (Cth), participation in PISA is an obligation for all selected schools.

PISA runs every three years and looks at students' ability to apply their knowledge and skills and to analyse, reason and communicate effectively as they examine, interpret and solve real life problems. Through Australia's participation in PISA students help demonstrate areas in which the Australian education system is doing well, and areas which need to improve.

PISA assists education authorities across Australia to not only understand, but also to enhance, the effectiveness of their educational systems and to learn from other countries' practices.

### Who will be involved in the PISA field trial?

In 2021, your school will be participating in the PISA field trial, taking place between **Monday 24 May and Friday 18 June 2021**. The PISA Main Study will take place in 2022.

At your school, 75 students, aged about 15 years (with students mostly from Years 10 and 11) will be randomly selected to participate in PISA.

### What will students need to do?

The assessment will be administered by an ACER Test Administrator, who will come to your school. Selected students will complete:

- a **computer-based test (2 hours)** - the test includes questions in mathematical, scientific and reading literacy, and in creative thinking. Questions will be a mixture of multiple choice, short written responses and some questions will involve simulated activities.
- a **questionnaire (55 minutes)** - the questionnaire will ask students about their attitudes to school, their motivations, self-beliefs and their learning strategies and outside of school activities.

There is no need to do any special study to prepare for the assessment. You can have a look at examples of the type of assessment tasks included in PISA at:

<http://www.oecd.org/pisa/test/>

All students will receive a Certificate of Participation and a small gift for participating in PISA.

### What happens after the PISA field trial?

Once the PISA assessment has been completed at your school, all student test responses and answers to the questionnaire will be analysed alongside the answers of other students in Australia and around the world. Your responses will help to refine the PISA test for administration in 2022 in around 800 schools across Australia.

#### In 2018, Australian 15 year-olds compared to their peers in other countries reported

I agree, I can deal with unusual situations.

<b>Australia</b>	<b>France</b>
61%	54%

Yes, I reduce the energy I use at home to protect the environment.

<b>Australia</b>	<b>Turkey</b>
69%	87%

I am informed about the issue of global health including epidemics.

<b>Australia</b>	<b>Canada</b>
65%	71%

I agree, I enjoy working in situations involving competition with others.

<b>Australia</b>	<b>Japan</b>
73%	51%

I agree, I forget about time when I'm using digital devices.

<b>Australia</b>	<b>United Kingdom</b>
66%	73%

I agree, I feel like I belong at school.

<b>Australia</b>	<b>Singapore</b>
68%	73%

Almost every day or every day, outside of school, I play online collaborative games.

<b>Australia</b>	<b>Macao (China)</b>
30%	46%

## Privacy Statement

The Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) follows the Australian Privacy Principles as set out in the Privacy Act (1988) (Cth).

### What data is collected and why?

In conducting PISA, ACER collects some personal information about each student for administrative purposes only, this includes their name, date of birth and year level. A student's name is used **only** to include their name when printing the *PISA Certificate of Participation*. All names are then securely removed from our database.

As part of PISA each student also completes a Student Questionnaire. The Questionnaire asks students where they and their parents/guardians were born and what language is mainly spoken in the home. If a student prefers not to respond to the question about country of birth or language spoken at home there are no consequences for students or their parents.

### How is student confidentiality maintained?

Each student participating in PISA has their name converted into an identification number so students becomes anonymous, the same happens to the name of their school so it becomes anonymous. The identification numbers are generated by sampling software. It is not possible to convert the identification number back to a student's name or their schools name. The use of an anonymous identification number ensures ACER maintains the confidentiality of all students and their school. Student data is only used for PISA. ACER follows Privacy Principle 11 – Security of personal information to maintain confidentiality.

### What happens with the data collected?

Student test responses and questionnaire responses are provided to the PISA International Contractors, who oversee the conduct of PISA, an off-shore third party located in the USA. The International PISA team combines all the anonymised PISA student assessment and questionnaire data collected in all countries into one very large database to analyse.

The data analysts look at differences between countries in performance on the PISA assessment and how students in different countries respond to the questions in the Student Questionnaire. No student or their school can be identified and analysis of the data is at the country level only and **not** at the individual student level. If you look at <http://www.acer.org/pisa> you can see a copy the Australian National PISA report to see how Australia reports on PISA data.

### What if I have any questions?

If you have any questions about this statement you can contact the Manager Legal and Corporate Services at ACER by email [david.noga@acer.org](mailto:david.noga@acer.org) or by phone +61 3 9277 5555.

In Australia, PISA is managed by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) on behalf of the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Training (DESE) and the State and Territory Departments of Education.

If you have any questions or would like more information about PISA please contact the Australian PISA Team.

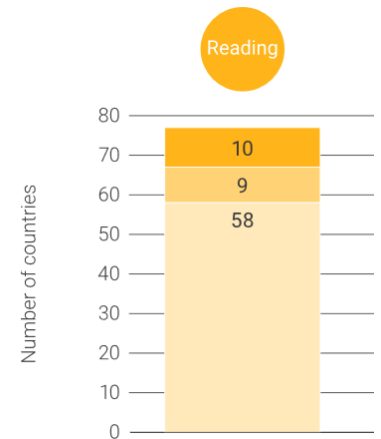
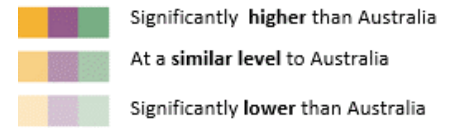
Email: [pisa@acer.org](mailto:pisa@acer.org)

Visit: <http://www.acer.org/pisa> to view PISA reports

ACERs Privacy Policy: <http://www.acer.org/privacy>

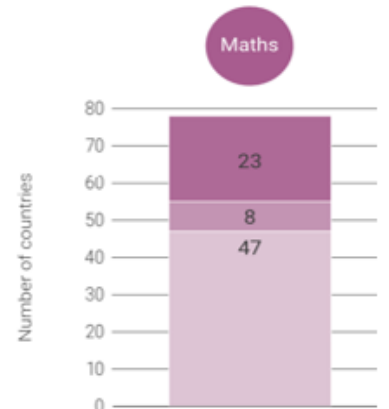
## In 2018 this is how 15 year olds in Australia performed compared to 77 other countries

Number of countries

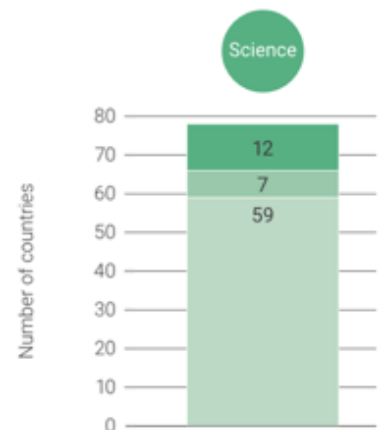


The highest performing country in reading was China\*

\*China was represented by the regions of Beijing, Shanghai, Jiangsu and Zhejiang only



The highest performing country in mathematics was Singapore



The highest performing country in science was Macao (China)