

## **OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**

**The entity that has organized the survey and is responsible for data collection – as well as key data on the entity's membership, governance arrangements, source of funding etc.**

PISA is organized by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the PISA Governing Board, consisting of representatives of OECD members and PISA associates. It is funded by direct contributions from the participating countries' governments, normally the Education ministries.

### **A historical sketch of the initiation and origin of the survey**

PISA was launched by the OECD in 1997. The goal was and still is to evaluate education systems worldwide by testing the skills and knowledge of 15-year-old students. The first PISA survey was conducted in 2000.

### **Internet links to the website of the responsible organization**

[The website of the OECD](#)

[The website of PISA](#)

### **The frequency or repetitions of the survey. Possible explanation of this.**

PISA is conducted every third year and has been since the first survey in year 2000.

[PISA I: 2000](#)

[PISA II: 2003](#)

[PISA III: 2006](#)

[PISA IV: 2009](#)

PISA V: 2012

PISA VI: 2015

### **A description of the survey's content, i.e. both focused rotational and / or core modules of the survey**

The survey focuses on several different aspects. First of all, the students are tested in reading, mathematics and science. Second, the students and the principal (and, in some countries, the

parents) fill in background questionnaires to provide information on the students' family background and the way the schools are run.

### **An outline of the type of sample and the main data collection methods used**

Schools in each country are randomly selected, and the test is given to students between 15 years 3 months of age and 16 years 2 months of age, rather than to a specific year. For country- and round-specific information, please refer to the links under "frequency or repetitions of the survey".

The test and questionnaires are filled out using pen and paper. Some countries have been experimenting with computer-based tests.

### **An account of the availability of the data to researchers, restrictions on access, etc.**

All data is freely available in [the PISA Databases](#) (see the tab "PISA products" on the left side), both for online analysis and for download. This includes the results of every participant's performance in PISA, given that the methodological standards have been met.

### **Questionnaires, English version**

Please note that the questions from the test that are still in use are not included in the questionnaire file. However, a large group of sample questions are [available here](#). On [the PISA Products Page](#) the test questions which are no longer in use are listed. In addition to the test itself, the context questionnaires are available.

[Database PISA 2000](#) – includes the student questionnaire, the school questionnaire, the computer familiarity questionnaire and the cross-curricular competencies questionnaire.

[Database PISA 2003](#) – includes the student questionnaire, the school questionnaire, the information communication technology questionnaire, and the educational career questionnaire.

[Database PISA 2006](#) – includes the student questionnaire, the school questionnaire, the parent questionnaire, and the information communication technology questionnaire.

[Database PISA 2009](#) – includes the student questionnaire, the school questionnaire, the parent questionnaire, the information communication technology questionnaire, the education career questionnaire, and the reading for school questionnaire.

**The countries included in the different rounds**

This has differed between rounds. For a full list, please see [participating countries/economies](#). At the bottom of the list just referred to, there are also links to participation round by round.

**Cumulative file of the various rounds**

There is no cumulative file.

**Publications based on the data**

There is no list of publications based on the data from the PISA studies. However, there is a list of the [PISA in Focus](#), a series of monthly notes designed to describe a PISA-topic in depth.

**Analytical summary...****Sources**

Unless otherwise noted, all information is extracted from the website of the OECD and PISA.