TABLE 1-11

Average scores of U.S. 15-year-old students on the PISA mathematics and science literacy scales, by selected student characteristics: 2015

(Average score)

Student characteristic	Mathematics	Science
OECD average	490	493
All U.S. students	470	496
Sex		
Male	474	500
Female	465	493
Race or ethnicity		
White	499	531
Black	419	433
Hispanic	446	470
Asian or Pacific Islander	498	525
More than one race	475	503
Socioeconomic status		
Bottom quarter	431	457
Second quarter	453	478
Third quarter	480	508
Top quarter	517	546
Percentiles		
10th percentile	355	368
25th percentile	408	425
75th percentile	532	567
90th percentile	585	626

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

Note(s)

Reporting standards were not met for American Indian or Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. Black includes African American, and Hispanic includes Latino. Students who identified themselves as being of Hispanic origin were classified as Hispanic, regardless of their race. Although data for some races or ethnicities were not shown separately because the reporting standards were not met, they are included in the U.S. totals. The PISA index of economic, social, and cultural status was created using student reports on parental occupation, the highest level of parental education, and an index of home possessions related to family wealth, home educational resources, and possessions related to "classical" culture in the family home. The home possessions relating to classical culture in the family home included possessions such as works of classical literature, books of poetry, and works of art (e.g., paintings). The OECD average is the average of the national averages of the OECD member countries, with each country weighted equally.

Source(s)

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).

Science and Engineering Indicators 2018