



Main Study



OECD Programme for
International Student Assessment



cmecc

Council of
Ministers
of Education,
Canada

What is PISA?

PISA stands for Programme for International Student Assessment. It is an important international study that measures the competencies of 15-year-olds from over 80 different countries in reading, mathematics, and science. PISA 2018 is the seventh PISA study that has been conducted since 2000. Reading will be the major assessment domain this PISA cycle and the assessment will be entirely computer-based.

The field test for PISA 2018 was conducted in spring 2017. The main study will take place between April 23 and May 31, 2018 in selected schools across Canada.



What will students be asked to do?

In April and May, about 25,000 students from 1,000 schools across Canada will be participating in the PISA 2018 main study.

- Up to 53 students from each sampled school have been randomly selected to participate in a computer-based assessment in reading, mathematics, science, and global competencies, as well as financial literacy in some provinces.
- Students will also be asked to complete a 35-minute Student Questionnaire.

All the information collected will be kept strictly confidential. No results will be published at the individual student or school level.

Do students need to prepare for the test session?

No. Students do **not** need to prepare for the assessment. During the test session, they will be asked to answer all the questions to the best of their ability. They will not have access to external resources or reference materials.

Will the results affect the student's academic record?

No. Students' results will **not** affect their academic record as the results will be used for research purposes only.

Who is interested by this information?

The students' results are critical in shaping the profile of Canadian 15-year-olds. Parents, students, the Canadian public, and those responsible for education want to know whether youth are acquiring the necessary skills and knowledge to meet the challenges of the future. Information obtained from provincial, national, and international measures helps us understand the achievement of students.

The results of PISA 2015 were released on December 6, 2016 (www.cmecc.ca).

How were the students chosen?

Around 1,000 schools were randomly selected to represent Canada. Within these schools, a sample of students aged 15 has been randomly selected to take part in the assessment.

Who is conducting the study?

PISA is being directed by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). In Canada, PISA is carried out through a partnership between the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC) and Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC).

For more information, visit our Web site at <https://www.cmecc.ca/251/Overview.html>

You may also refer to the OECD Web site at <https://www.oecd.org/pisa/aboutpisa/>