

PISA - Programme for International Student Assessment 2021

PISA is the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Programme for International Student Assessment. It measures 15-year-old students' ability to use their reading, mathematics and science knowledge and skills to meet real-life challenges.

The survey for PISA is conducted every 3 years and over 90 countries shall participate in the upcoming assessment. It was in 2018 that the Ministry of Human Resource Development decided that India will become a participant in Programme for International Students Assessment for the 2021 programme.

PISA - A Brief Background

- The first survey under the Programme for International Student Assessment was conducted in 2000
- The major domain of study rotates between reading, mathematics, and science in each cycle
- It assesses students who have attained 15 years of age and emphasizes on functional skills they have acquired as they near the end of compulsory schooling
- PISA is conducted after every three years. The last assessment was held in 2018 and the next will take place in 2022 (postponed from 2021 due to pandemic)
- Since 2000, more than 90 countries (members and non-members of OECD) have participated in the assessment, with the involvement of over 30,00,000 students

Objectives of Upcoming Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)

PISA 2022

It will focus on mathematics, with an additional test of creative thinking. Preparations for this test are underway with participants from 38 OECD members and likely 50+ non-members involved.

PISA 2025

It will focus on science and include a new assessment of foreign languages. The innovative domain of Learning in the Digital World that aims to measure students' ability to engage in self-regulated learning while using digital tools will also be assessed.

PISA 2025 will also assess foreign language learning as an optional component.

India & PISA 2021

- Before the upcoming PISA 2022, the last time India had participated in this survey was in 2009, and now, after more than a decade, India will be participating again in the assessment

- In 2009, students from Himachal Pradesh and Tamil Nadu had participated in PISA and India stood at the 72nd position among the 73 participating countries. It had only outranked Kyrgyzstan
- For the upcoming test, students from government schools of Chandigarh will be participating in the test
- Approximately 1.75 lakh students from government schools in Chandigarh, along with 600 Navodaya Vidyalayas and 3,000 Kendra Vidyalayas will take the three-hour-long PISA test in 2022
- Learnings from participation in PISA will help to introduce competency-based examination reforms in the school system and help move away from rote learning. The CBSE and NCERT will be part of the process and activities leading to the actual test

Result of PISA 2018

The assessment of students under PISA is not done to analyse the learning skills of a student but to analyse the logical and analytical skills of the students.

In PISA 2018, the major domain was reading literacy, although mathematics and science literacy were also assessed and the result was released in May 2020. Given below are the key findings as per the result of PISA 2018:

- **PISA 2018 – Average Score of Mathematics, Science and Reading:**
 - China ranked 1st with 578.7 scores
 - The Dominican Republic ranked last with 334.3 scores
- **PISA 2018 Mathematics Results:**
 - China scored 591 which was the highest
 - The Dominican Republic came last with 325 points
- **PISA 2018 Science Results by Country:**
 - China scored the highest of 590 points
 - The Dominican Republic scored last with 336 scores
- **PISA 2018 Reading Results:**
 - China with the highest points 555
 - The Philippines scored the least scores of 340