## PISA <br> Excellence and equity

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## PISA in brief - 2015

## In 2015, over half a million students...

- representing 28 million 15-year-olds in 72 countries/economies


## ... took an internationally agreed $\mathbf{2 - h o u r ~ t e s t . . . ~}$

- Goes beyond testing whether students can reproduce what they were taught to assess students' capacity to extrapolate from what they know and creatively apply their knowledge in novel situations
- Total of 390 minutes of assessment material
... and responded to questions on...
- their personal background, their schools, their well-being and their motivation


## Parents, principals, teachers and system leaders provided data on:

- school policies, practices, resources and institutional factors that help explain performance differences
- 89,000 parents, 93,000 teachers and 17,500 principals responded




The researchers need to decide in which tank each organism should be placed. Drag and drop each of the organisms below to the appropriate tank above to ensure that the Common Sole is fed and that salt water is returned to the ocean unchanged. The microalgae are already in the correct tank.


## Drag Ragworms and Common Sole into Tank 2 and Marsh Grass and Shellfish into Tank 3

This question requires students to understand a system and the role of several organisms within that system. In order to answer correctly, students must understand the goal of the fish farm, the function of each of the three tanks therein, and which organisms will best fulfill each function. Students must use information provided in the stimulus and the diagram, including a footnote under the diagram



Science performance in PISA (2015)


## Science performance and equity in PISA (2015)



## Science performance and equity in PISA (2006-2015)



Science performance and equity in PISA (2006-2015)


Science performance and equity in PISA (2006-2015)


## Greater equity



## Poverty is not destiny - Science performance

by international deciles of the PISA index of economic, social and cultural status (ESCS)


## Percentage of resilient students



Excellence and baseline performance

The global pool of top performers: A PISA perspective


## Share of top performers among 15-year-old students:

Less than 1\%
1 to $2.5 \%$
2.5 to $5 \%$

5\% to 7.5\% $7.5 \%$ to $10 \%$ $10 \%$ to $12.5 \%$
$12.5 \%$ to $15 \%$
More than 15\%

## Science and careers

## Expectations of a science career

## by gender



## Students expecting a career in science



## Students expecting a career in science

## by performance and enjoyment of learning



## Students' enjoyment of learning science






High impact on outcomes

## Must haves

## Quick wins

## Commitment to universal achievement

Resources
A commitment to education and the belief that where they yield most competencies can be learned and therefore all children can achieve

- Universal educational standards and personalization as the approach to engage with diversity...
... as opposed to a belief that students have different destinations to be met with different expectations, and selection/stratification as the approach to heterogeneity
- Clear articulation who is responsible for ensuring student success and to whom

Money pits

Figure II.5.8

## Horizontal stratification: ability grouping

Percentage of students in schools where students are grouped by ability into different classes:



## Spending per student from the age of 6 to 15 and science performance



## Differences in educational resources

between advantaged and disadvantaged schools

- Index of shortage of educational material $\bullet$ Index of shortage of educational staff



## Integrating immigrants

Student performance in science
by immigrant background


## Percentage of immigrant students and education systems' average performance in science



## Percentage of resilient students

## by immigrant background



## Starting strong

Attendance at pre-primary school
by schools' socio-economic profile


## Student-teacher ratios and class size



High impact on outcomes

## Must haves

Quick wins
Commitment to universal achievement

Resources where they yield most

Capacity at point of delivery

Coherence
Clear ambitious goals that are shared across the system and aligned with high stakes gateways and instructional systems

- Well established delivery chain through which curricular goals translate into instructional systems, instructional practices and student learning (intended, implemented and achieved)
- High level of metacognitive content of instruction


## The 'productivity' puzzle

Making learning time productive so that students can build their academic, social and emotional
skills in a balanced way

## Learning time and science performance



## Learning time and science performance

Hours $\quad$ Intended learning time at school (hours) Study time after school (hours) $\quad$ Score points in science per hour of total learning time


## Effective teaching

A well-structured, clear and informative lesson on a topic including teachers' explanations, classroom debates and students' questions pays
off, as does adaptive instruction
Inquiry-based science instruction (e.g. experimentation and hands-on activities) tends to relate negatively to performance but positively to student engagement and career expectations

## Looking forward

## Some key questions for social cohesion and sustainable development

- How well are students prepared for life, citizenship and employment in multicultural societies and in a globalised world?
- To what degree are students able to examine contemporary issues?
- Are students able to understand and appreciate multiple cultural perspectives (including their own) and manage differences and conflicts?
- To what degree are students prepared to interact with others with respect for the inviolable rights and dignity of every individual?

- To what degree do students care about the world and take action to make a difference?


## PISA definition of Global Competence

Global Competence is the capacity
to examine global and intercultural issues, to take multiple perspectives, to engage in open, appropriate and effective interactions with people from different cultures and to act for collective well-being and sustainable development.


## The instruments

## Cognitive test

- A test of « global and intercultural understanding » that covers the cognitive components of global competence (e.g. critical reasoning with evidence, perspective taking)


## Self-reported information

- Self-reported data from students on the other components of global competence (e.g. openness, adaptability), and self-reported data from principals and teachers on activities related to global and intercultural education

Average school systems
Some students learn at high levels

Uniformity

Curriculum-centred

Learning a place

Prescription

Delivered wisdom

High performers in PISA
$\rightarrow \quad \begin{aligned} & \text { All students learn } \\ & \text { at high levels }\end{aligned}$
$\rightarrow \quad$ Embracing diversity
$\rightarrow$ Learner-centred
$\rightarrow \quad$ Learning an activity
$\rightarrow$ Informed profession
$\rightarrow$ User-generated wisdom

## Thank you

Find out more about our work at www.oecd.org/pisa

- All publications
- The complete micro-level database

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