



■ Table V.A ■  
**SNAPSHOT OF PERFORMANCE IN PROBLEM SOLVING**

Countries/economies with mean score/share of top performers/relative performance/solution rate above the OECD average Countries/economies with share of low achievers below the OECD average
Countries/economies with mean score/share of top performers/relative performance/share of low achievers/solution rate not statistically different from the OECD average
Countries/economies with mean score/share of top performers/relative performance/solution rate below the OECD average Countries/economies with a share of low achievers above the OECD average


	Performance in problem solving				Relative performance in problem solving, compared with students around the world with similar performance in mathematics, reading and science	Performance in problem solving, by process		Performance in problem solving, by nature of the problem situation	
	Mean score in PISA 2012	Share of low achievers (below Level 2)	Share of top performers (Level 5 or 6)	Gender difference (boys - girls)		Solution rate on tasks measuring acquisition of knowledge	Solution rate on tasks measuring utilisation of knowledge	Solution rate on items referring to a static problem situation	Solution rate on items referring to an interactive problem situation
<b>OECD average</b>	500	21.4	11.4	7	-7	45.5	46.4	47.1	43.8
<b>Singapore</b>	562	8.0	29.3	<b>9</b>	2	62.0	55.4	59.8	57.5
<b>Korea</b>	561	6.9	27.6	<b>13</b>	14	62.8	54.5	58.9	57.7
<b>Japan</b>	552	7.1	22.3	<b>19</b>	11	59.1	56.3	58.7	55.9
<b>Macao-China</b>	540	7.5	16.6	<b>10</b>	8	58.3	51.3	57.0	51.7
<b>Hong Kong-China</b>	540	10.4	19.3	<b>13</b>	-16	57.7	51.1	56.1	52.2
<b>Shanghai-China</b>	536	10.6	18.3	<b>25</b>	-51	56.9	49.8	56.7	50.3
<b>Chinese Taipei</b>	534	11.6	18.3	12	-9	56.9	50.1	56.3	50.1
<b>Canada</b>	526	14.7	17.5	5	0	52.6	52.1	52.7	50.5
<b>Australia</b>	523	15.5	16.7	2	7	52.3	51.5	52.8	49.9
<b>Finland</b>	523	14.3	15.0	<b>-6</b>	-8	50.2	51.0	52.1	47.7
<b>England (United Kingdom)</b>	517	16.4	14.3	6	8	49.6	49.1	49.5	47.9
<b>Estonia</b>	515	15.1	11.8	5	-15	46.8	49.5	49.7	45.6
<b>France</b>	511	16.5	12.0	5	5	49.6	49.4	50.3	47.6
<b>Netherlands</b>	511	18.5	13.6	5	-16	48.2	49.7	50.4	46.5
<b>Italy</b>	510	16.4	10.8	<b>18</b>	10	49.5	48.0	49.5	46.8
<b>Czech Republic</b>	509	18.4	11.9	8	1	45.0	46.9	46.2	44.4
<b>Germany</b>	509	19.2	12.8	7	-12	47.5	49.5	49.4	46.3
<b>United States</b>	508	18.2	11.6	3	10	46.5	47.1	46.6	45.9
<b>Belgium</b>	508	20.8	14.4	<b>8</b>	-10	47.0	47.5	48.3	45.4
<b>Austria</b>	506	18.4	10.9	<b>12</b>	-5	45.7	47.4	48.3	43.0
<b>Norway</b>	503	21.3	13.1	-3	1	47.7	48.1	49.4	44.5
<b>Ireland</b>	498	20.3	9.4	5	-18	44.6	45.5	44.4	44.6
<b>Denmark</b>	497	20.4	8.7	<b>10</b>	-11	44.2	48.1	47.9	42.3
<b>Portugal</b>	494	20.6	7.4	<b>16</b>	-3	41.6	45.7	44.0	42.0
<b>Sweden</b>	491	23.5	8.8	-4	-1	45.2	44.6	47.7	41.6
<b>Russian Federation</b>	489	22.1	7.3	<b>8</b>	-4	40.4	43.8	43.8	39.7
<b>Slovak Republic</b>	483	26.1	7.8	<b>22</b>	-5	40.5	43.2	44.2	38.8
<b>Poland</b>	481	25.7	6.9	0	-44	41.3	43.7	44.1	39.7
<b>Spain</b>	477	28.5	7.8	2	-20	40.0	42.3	42.3	39.8
<b>Slovenia</b>	476	28.5	6.6	-4	-34	37.8	42.3	42.9	36.7
<b>Serbia</b>	473	28.5	4.7	<b>15</b>	11	37.7	40.7	40.3	36.8
<b>Croatia</b>	466	32.3	4.7	<b>15</b>	-22	35.2	40.5	39.3	35.6
<b>Hungary</b>	459	35.0	5.6	3	-34	35.2	37.6	38.2	33.9
<b>Turkey</b>	454	35.8	2.2	<b>15</b>	-14	32.8	36.0	35.8	32.7
<b>Israel</b>	454	38.9	8.8	6	-28	38.7	37.0	39.7	35.6
<b>Chile</b>	448	38.3	2.1	<b>13</b>	1	30.9	35.2	34.9	31.8
<b>Cyprus*</b>	445	40.4	3.6	<b>-9</b>	-12	33.6	34.8	37.0	31.4
<b>Brazil</b>	428	47.3	1.8	<b>22</b>	7	28.0	32.0	29.8	29.1
<b>Malaysia</b>	422	50.5	0.9	<b>8</b>	-14	29.1	29.3	30.1	27.4
<b>United Arab Emirates</b>	411	54.8	2.5	<b>-26</b>	-43	28.4	29.0	29.9	27.1
<b>Montenegro</b>	407	56.8	0.8	<b>-6</b>	-24	25.6	30.0	30.3	25.1
<b>Uruguay</b>	403	57.9	1.2	<b>11</b>	-27	24.8	27.9	27.5	24.8
<b>Bulgaria</b>	402	56.7	1.6	<b>-17</b>	-54	23.7	26.7	28.4	22.3
<b>Colombia</b>	399	61.5	1.2	<b>31</b>	-7	21.8	27.7	26.3	23.7

Note: Countries/economies in which the performance difference between boys and girls is statistically significant are marked in bold.

Countries and economies are ranked in descending order of the mean score in problem solving in PISA 2012.

\* See notes in the Reader's Guide.

Source: OECD, PISA 2012 Database, Tables V.2.1, V.2.2, V.2.6, V.3.1, V.3.6 and V.4.7.

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933003649>