

BASIC FACTS ABOUT PISA

By Elena Arias Ortiz, Soledad Bos, Cecilia Giambruno, and Pablo Zoido

What is PISA?

- PISA is the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment. It evaluates the knowledge and skills in reading, mathematics and science of 15-year-old students that have completed at least six years of education.
- It assesses whether students have the knowledge and can extrapolate from what they have learned and apply their knowledge in new situations.
- It began in 2000 and is implemented every three years. The eighth round of the PISA assessment was postponed from 2021 to 2022 because of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Mathematics is the main assessment domain in PISA 2022, as it was in 2003 and 2012. This round also assesses students’ skills in an innovative domain: creative thinking.

Who participated in 2022?

- **81 countries** and economies participated in PISA 2022, which assessed 690,000 students, amounting to approximately **29 million 15-year-olds**.
- The number of participating countries and economies has doubled since its first edition in 2000.
- Latin America and the Caribbean had **14 participating countries**: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay.



81 countries
around the world

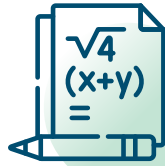
14 countries
in Latin America
and the Caribbean

What does PISA measure in 2022?

- **MATHEMATICS**

- **Main Domain**

- Capacity to reason mathematically and to formulate, employ and interpret mathematics to solve problems in a variety of real-world contexts. It includes concepts, procedures, facts, and tools to describe, explain, and predict phenomena. It helps individuals make well-founded judgments and decisions and become constructive, engaged, and reflective 21st century citizens.



- **SCIENCE**

- **Secondary Domain**

- Students' ability to engage with science related issues, and with the ideas of science, as a reflective citizen. A scientifically literate person is willing to engage in reasoned discourse about science and technology, which requires the competencies to explain phenomena scientifically, evaluate and design scientific enquiry, and interpret data and evidence scientifically.



- **READING**

- **Secondary Domain**

- Students' capacity to understand, use, evaluate, reflect on and engage with texts to achieve one's goals, develop one's knowledge and potential, and participate in society.



- **CREATIVE THINKING**

- **Innovative Domain**

- Students' ability to engage productively in the generation, evaluation and improvement of ideas that can result in original and effective solutions, advances in knowledge and impactful expressions of imagination.



What is PISA used for?

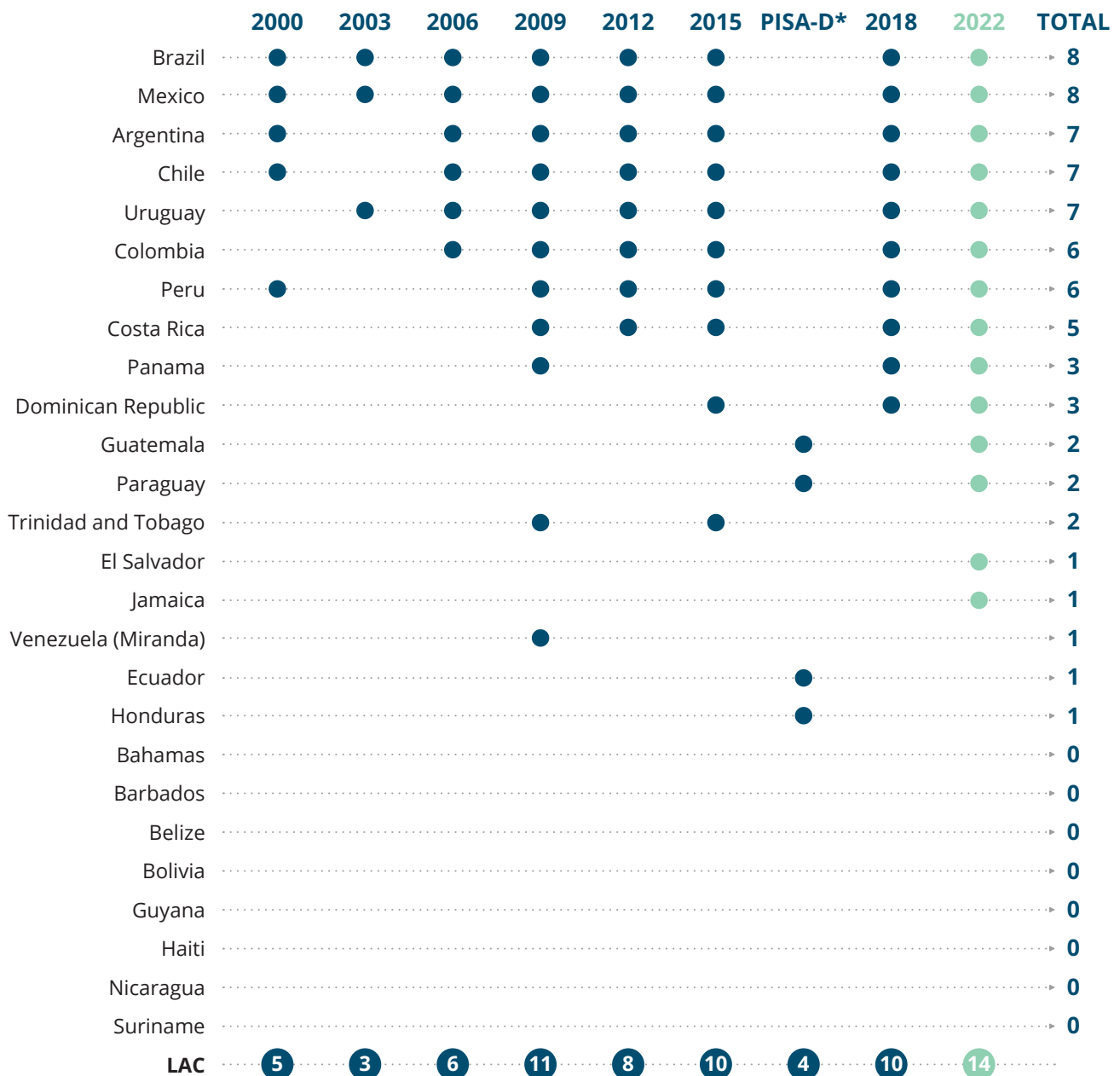
- PISA allows education policymakers to compare the knowledge and skills of their country's young people with those of other countries and to understand the strengths and weaknesses of their education systems, and establish benchmarks for improved learning.
- A measures knowledge and skills and collects information on the characteristics of young people, schools and education systems, allowing stakeholders to analyze factors and characteristics associated with better learning.
- Many countries use PISA to set education policy objectives, research best practices, and learn about learning processes in similar countries.



How has the region's participation evolved?

- The ten countries from the region that participated in 2018 participate again in 2022. Brazil and Mexico have participated in all PISA rounds.
- Jamaica and El Salvador participate in PISA for the first time.
- Paraguay and Guatemala join PISA after having participated in PISA for Development (2017).
- Since 2000, the participation of countries from the region has tripled, from 5 to 14 countries.

Latin America and the Caribbean in PISA, 2000–2022



Note: Only the 26 IADB member countries are included.

**PISA for Development (PISA-D) was conducted in 2017 with the participation of seven countries from Africa, Latin America and Asia.*

What's new in PISA 2022?

● GLOBAL CRISES MODULE



This module collects information on COVID-19 related disruptions and their effects on the learning and well-being of students.

● EXTENSION OF PROFICIENCY LEVELS IN MATHEMATICS



It expands the six proficiency levels in mathematics by disaggregating Level 1 into three sublevels (1a, 1b and 1c), providing greater granularity for analyzing low-performing students.

● INTEGRATING ICT IN TEACHING AND LEARNING



It includes a new computer familiarity survey focusing on availability and use of ICTs, ability to perform tasks, and attitudes towards computer use.

● MATHEMATICAL THINKING AND COMPUTATIONAL THINKING



It includes computational thinking practices (abstraction, algorithmic thinking, automation, decomposition and generalization) fundamental to mathematical reasoning and problem solving.

Learn more about PISA in LAC [here](#)

Contact: education@iadb.org

References: OECD (2023), PISA 2022 Assessment and Analytical Framework, PISA, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/dfe0bf9c-en>.

Copyright © 2023 Inter-American Development Bank ("IDB"). This work is subject to a Creative Commons license CC BY 3.0 IGO (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/igo/legalcode>). The terms and conditions indicated in the URL link must be met and the respective recognition must be granted to the IDB. Further to section 8 of the above license, any mediation relating to disputes arising under such license shall be conducted in accordance with the WIPO Mediation Rules. Any dispute related to the use of the works of the IDB that cannot be settled amicably shall be submitted to arbitration pursuant to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) rules. The use of the IDB's name for any purpose other than for attribution, and the use of IDB's logo shall be subject to a separate written license agreement between the IDB and the user and is not authorized as part of this license.

Note that the URL link includes terms and conditions that are an integral part of this license. The opinions expressed in this work are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Inter-American Development Bank, its Board of Directors, or the countries they represent

