

Exhibit A.1: Information About the Students Assessed in PIRLS 2021

Assessed Fourth Grade Students at the End of the School Year

☞ Assessed one year later than originally scheduled

☐ Delayed Assessment of Fourth Grade Cohort at the Beginning of Fifth Grade

The PIRLS target population is the grade that represents four years of schooling counting from the first year of ISCED Level 1. In 6 countries, delayed test administration due to COVID-19 occurred a full year later at the end of the fourth year of schooling for the next cohort (☞). In 14 Northern Hemisphere countries, delayed test administration occurred half a year later at the beginning of the fifth year of schooling (☐).

IEA has a policy that students do not fall under the minimum average age of 9.5 years old at the time of testing, so England, Malta, and New Zealand assessed students in their fifth year of formal schooling. Norway chose to assess students in the fifth year of schooling so students would be compared with similar age students in Sweden, Denmark, and Finland.

Average age at the time of testing can vary across countries by just over a year (e.g., from 9.8 to 10.9 years) depending on a country's policy on age of entry to school and dates of test administration. For information on age of entry policy and practice, see Exhibit 2 of the *PIRLS 2021 Encyclopedia*.

Country	Country's Name for Fourth Year of Schooling*	Data Collection Period	Average Age at Time of Testing (Years)
Albania	Grade 4	March–April 2021	10.0
Australia ☞	Year 4	September–December 2021	10.0
Austria	Grade 4	April–May 2021	10.3
Azerbaijan	Grade 4	April–June 2021	10.1
Bahrain	Grade 4 or Year 5	May–June 2021 September–October 2021	10.3
Belgium (Flemish)	Grade 4	April–June 2021	10.0
Belgium (French)	Grade 4	April–May 2021	10.0
Brazil ☞	Grade 4	November–December 2021	10.2
Bulgaria	Grade 4	March–April 2021	10.7
Chinese Taipei	Grade 4	March–May 2021	10.1
Croatia	Grade 4	October–November 2021	11.2
Cyprus	Grade 4	March–June 2021	9.8
Czech Republic	Grade 4	May–June 2021	10.4
Denmark	Grade 4	March–June 2021	10.9
Egypt	Grade 4	April 2021	10.0
England ☞	Year 5	May–July 2022	10.3
Finland	Grade 4	March–June 2021	10.8
France	Third Cycle Year 1 (CM1)	May–June 2021	9.9
Georgia	Grade 4	October–December 2021	10.6
Germany	Grade 4	April–July 2021	10.4
Hong Kong SAR	Primary 4	April–July 2021	10.1
Hungary	Grade 4	October–November 2021	11.2
Iran, Islamic Rep. of ☞	Grade 4	April–May 2022	10.2
Ireland	Fourth Class	September–October 2021	11.0
Israel ☞	Grade 4	May–June 2022	10.0
Italy	Primary Grade 4	March–May 2021	9.8
Jordan	Grade 4	May 2021	10.0
Kazakhstan	Grade 4	September–October 2021	10.8
Kosovo	Grade 4	June 2021	10.1
Latvia	Grade 4	September–November 2021	11.3
Lithuania	Grade 4	September–November 2021	11.3

* Countries' names for the fourth year of formal schooling were reported by National Research Coordinators.

Exhibit A.1: Information About the Students Assessed in PIRLS 2021
Assessed Fourth Grade Students at the End of the School Year

☞ Assessed one year later than originally scheduled

 ■ **Delayed Assessment of Fourth Grade Cohort at the Beginning of Fifth Grade**
(Continued)

Country	Country's Name for Fourth Year of Schooling*	Data Collection Period	Average Age at Time of Testing (Years)
Macao SAR	Primary 4	March–May 2021	9.9
Malta	Year 5	April–May 2021	9.9
Montenegro	Grade 4	April–May 2021	9.9
Morocco	Grade 4	October 2021	10.5
Netherlands	Group 6	March–June 2021 October–November 2021	10.1
New Zealand	Year 5	October–December 2020	10.0
North Macedonia	Grade 4	May 2021	9.9
Northern Ireland	Year 6	September–October 2021	10.8
Norway (5)	Grade 5	April–June 2021	10.8
Oman	Grade 4	February–May 2021	9.8
Poland	Grade 4	May–June 2021	10.9
Portugal	Grade 4	April–July 2021	10.1
Qatar	Grade 4	March–April 2021 September 2021	10.1
Russian Federation	Grade 4	April 2021	10.8
Saudi Arabia	Grade 4	November 2021	10.4
Serbia	Grade 4	March–April 2021	10.6
Singapore	Primary 4	October–November 2020	10.4
Slovak Republic	Grade 4	May–June 2021	10.5
Slovenia	Grade 4	March–June 2021	10.0
South Africa ☞	Grade 4	August–November 2021	10.2
Spain	Grade 4	April–June 2021	9.9
Sweden	Grade 4	March–April 2021	10.7
Turkiye	Grade 4	June 2021	9.9
United Arab Emirates	Grade 4	February–March 2021 October–November 2021	10.4
United States	Grade 4	October–November 2021	10.7
Uzbekistan	Grade 4	April 2021	10.6
Benchmarking Participants			
Alberta, Canada	Grade 4	April–June 2021	9.9
British Columbia, Canada	Grade 4	April–May 2021	9.8
Newfoundland & Labrador, Canada	Grade 4	May–June 2021	9.9
Quebec, Canada	Grade 4	October–December 2021	10.7
Moscow City, Russian Federation	Grade 4	April–May 2021	10.7
South Africa (6) ☞	Grade 6	August–October 2021	12.3
Abu Dhabi, UAE	Grade 4	October–November 2021	10.4
Dubai, UAE	Grade 4 or Year 5	February–March 2021 October–November 2021	10.2

* Countries' names for the fourth year of formal schooling were reported by National Research Coordinators.