PIRLS/prePIRLS 2011 Field Tests of Reading Comprehension Items

PIRLS and prePIRLS 2011 field tests were conducted in March–April 2010. Most of the countries that participated in the PIRLS and prePIRLS field tests were also field-testing TIMSS items as part of a joint TIMSS-PIRLS 2011 initiative, allowing them the opportunity to practice the necessary data collection procedures for administering both assessments to the same students. Based on the number of participating countries and 200 student responses to each item per country, approximately 14,500 student responses for PIRLS and approximately 500 student responses for prePIRLS were used to evaluate the measurement properties of each item field tested. The following exhibits provide the number of items field tested by format, purpose, and process.

Overview of PIRLS 2011 Field Test

Participants		
Countries	45	
Benchmarking Entities	8	
Students	57,197	
Teachers	2,875	
Schools	1,706	

PIRLS 2011 Number of Field Test Items by Purpose and Item Format

Reading Purpose	Number of		Number of Constructed-response Items			- Total Number	Total Number	Percentage
	of Blocks	Multiple- choice Items	1 Point	2 Points	3 Points	of Items	of Score Points	of Score Points
Literary	4	31	22	10	4	67	85	51%
Informational	4	29	11	13	5	58	81	49%
Total	8	60	33	23	9	125	166	

PIRLS 2011 Number of Field Test Items by Process and Item Format

Reading Comprehension Process	Number of Multiple- choice Items	Number of Constructed-response Items			Total Number	Total Number	Percentage
		1 Point	2 Points	3 Points	of Items	of Score Points	of Score Points
Focus on and retrieve explicitly stated information	14	12	3	0	29	32	19%
Make straightforward inferences	24	10	8	1	43	53	32%
Interpret and integrate ideas and information	8	5	9	8	30	55	33%
Examine and evaluate content, language, and textual elements	14	6	3	0	23	26	16%
Total	60	33	23	9	125	166	

Overview of prePIRLS 2011 Field Test

Participants	
Countries	2
Students	2,432
Teachers	83
Schools	71

prePIRLS 2011 Number of Field Test Items by Purpose and Item Format

Reading Purpose	Number	Number of		Number of Constructed-response Items			Total Number	Percentage
	of Blocks	Multiple- choice Items	1 Point	2 Points	3 Points	Total Number of Items	of Score Points	of Score Points
Literary	5	38	32	8	0	78	86	51%
Informational	5	29	38	6	1	74	82	49%
Total	10	67	70	14	1	152	168	

prePIRLS 2011 Number of Field Test Items by Process and Item Format

Reading Comprehension Process	Number of	Number of Constructed-response Items			- Total Number	Total Number	Percentage
	Multiple- choice Items	1 Point	2 Points	3 Points	of Items	of Score Points	of Score Points
Focus on and retrieve explicitly stated information	29	40	3	0	72	75	45%
Make straightforward inferences	25	16	3	0	44	47	28%
Interpret and integrate ideas and information	6	8	6	0	20	26	16%
Examine and evaluate content, language, and textual elements	7	6	3	0	16	19	11%
Total	67	70	15	0	152	167	