

PIRLS

Appendix B

B

Appendix B

Percentiles and Standard
Deviations of Reading
Achievement

Exhibit B.1: Percentiles of Achievement in Reading Overall


2001					
Countries	5th Percentile	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile	95th Percentile
Greece	346 (21.8)	451 (6.1)	512 (6.4)	569 (5.5)	648 (7.5)
Hungary	305 (5.7)	410 (4.5)	481 (4.8)	546 (3.8)	622 (3.7)
Iceland	346 (15.3)	455 (5.1)	521 (4.8)	578 (2.2)	656 (5.2)
Italy	355 (9.2)	450 (5.0)	517 (4.5)	578 (5.4)	657 (4.4)
New Zealand	305 (15.3)	428 (7.1)	513 (6.3)	579 (6.6)	672 (8.1)
Singapore	305 (11.1)	418 (10.8)	493 (8.9)	565 (9.8)	653 (8.5)
Slovenia	339 (9.3)	432 (4.6)	495 (4.6)	557 (5.0)	641 (9.3)
Sweden	294 (3.7)	424 (4.2)	506 (4.0)	578 (2.4)	673 (4.1)
United States	354 (19.9)	448 (6.1)	514 (5.7)	579 (6.2)	656 (6.2)

1991					
Countries	5th Percentile	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile	95th Percentile
Greece	305 (9.3)	408 (5.5)	472 (4.9)	527 (2.7)	614 (13.0)
Hungary	297 (8.5)	397 (5.9)	464 (5.0)	526 (3.3)	603 (3.4)
Iceland	291 (9.2)	425 (3.0)	497 (1.8)	558 (2.4)	635 (3.2)
Italy	324 (10.6)	438 (7.2)	505 (5.4)	566 (5.9)	660 (9.2)
New Zealand	296 (9.1)	434 (5.8)	507 (3.8)	575 (3.4)	664 (3.3)
Singapore	327 (4.6)	425 (3.6)	485 (3.0)	540 (3.5)	620 (5.9)
Slovenia	297 (7.3)	391 (5.2)	459 (3.4)	525 (4.4)	612 (3.9)
Sweden	297 (15.2)	445 (4.4)	524 (4.1)	592 (4.5)	687 (4.7)
United States	371 (4.9)	459 (3.8)	524 (3.3)	585 (3.6)	663 (3.4)

SOURCE: Trends in IEA's Reading Literacy Study 1991-2001

() Standard errors appear in parentheses. Because results are rounded to the nearest whole number, some totals may appear inconsistent.

Exhibit B.2: Percentiles of Achievement in Narrative Reading

ISC
RLS Trend
1991–2001

2001					
Countries	5th Percentile	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile	95th Percentile
Greece	369 (6.9)	455 (4.6)	514 (5.4)	571 (5.5)	656 (7.2)
Hungary	337 (4.8)	418 (3.9)	484 (4.2)	542 (2.8)	611 (4.1)
Iceland	352 (5.6)	457 (6.2)	529 (4.9)	594 (5.0)	681 (9.4)
Italy	370 (10.2)	455 (5.7)	519 (5.4)	580 (3.7)	659 (10.9)
New Zealand	296 (1.7)	418 (7.0)	504 (6.2)	578 (6.0)	672 (10.0)
Singapore	296 (7.2)	408 (8.6)	491 (11.5)	570 (11.1)	667 (8.2)
Slovenia	342 (5.8)	429 (3.3)	491 (3.2)	553 (6.1)	632 (5.2)
Sweden	317 (9.7)	425 (5.4)	503 (4.5)	570 (3.8)	656 (3.4)
United States	329 (10.6)	425 (7.7)	496 (5.9)	575 (7.6)	665 (9.4)

1991					
Countries	5th Percentile	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile	95th Percentile
Greece	335 (8.8)	423 (5.7)	481 (2.7)	535 (2.8)	616 (10.6)
Hungary	332 (4.2)	410 (3.5)	473 (4.4)	525 (2.5)	591 (5.2)
Iceland	317 (4.2)	432 (4.6)	503 (2.9)	560 (2.2)	639 (2.7)
Italy	352 (7.5)	447 (5.2)	512 (4.3)	570 (3.1)	648 (7.1)
New Zealand	305 (13.2)	431 (5.3)	506 (4.2)	577 (5.7)	672 (4.8)
Singapore	325 (4.3)	426 (3.7)	490 (3.0)	549 (4.0)	638 (6.2)
Slovenia	319 (4.7)	401 (3.4)	464 (4.0)	529 (3.5)	613 (3.8)
Sweden	338 (7.1)	451 (3.8)	521 (4.6)	582 (2.8)	666 (7.3)
United States	351 (3.8)	447 (3.2)	520 (4.8)	589 (3.4)	678 (2.4)

SOURCE: IEA Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) 2001.

() Standard errors appear in parentheses. Because results are rounded to the nearest whole number, some totals may appear inconsistent.

Exhibit B.3: Percentiles of Achievement in Expository Reading


2001					
Countries	5th Percentile	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile	95th Percentile
Greece	356 (9.1)	450 (4.6)	510 (5.9)	570 (3.9)	657 (14.3)
Hungary	281 (9.0)	386 (5.5)	470 (6.5)	543 (4.9)	638 (3.5)
Iceland	327 (6.5)	441 (5.3)	508 (3.5)	569 (4.6)	651 (3.6)
Italy	349 (8.2)	444 (6.0)	516 (4.7)	585 (5.0)	669 (6.9)
New Zealand	334 (19.4)	446 (8.5)	518 (6.0)	580 (9.3)	665 (10.2)
Singapore	341 (9.3)	434 (5.8)	499 (10.2)	560 (8.7)	639 (8.6)
Slovenia	330 (11.5)	426 (4.8)	492 (3.9)	554 (3.2)	634 (4.3)
Sweden	283 (8.5)	416 (8.0)	506 (4.4)	582 (3.7)	682 (5.8)
United States	383 (8.9)	469 (7.8)	523 (5.3)	578 (3.9)	646 (5.7)

1991					
Countries	5th Percentile	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile	95th Percentile
Greece	320 (6.3)	416 (4.8)	479 (4.6)	537 (3.9)	626 (14.0)
Hungary	254 (9.0)	358 (5.5)	450 (6.2)	525 (5.3)	625 (7.0)
Iceland	271 (4.7)	413 (3.1)	497 (3.5)	563 (2.8)	655 (8.6)
Italy	328 (11.4)	441 (8.1)	510 (4.9)	578 (5.9)	670 (7.7)
New Zealand	320 (17.3)	440 (4.4)	508 (4.9)	573 (3.7)	660 (6.2)
Singapore	357 (4.7)	440 (2.6)	492 (3.2)	541 (4.1)	614 (4.3)
Slovenia	287 (7.9)	383 (6.1)	458 (3.9)	526 (3.3)	619 (8.3)
Sweden	281 (5.4)	443 (7.2)	533 (4.3)	607 (6.0)	712 (7.6)
United States	378 (7.2)	460 (3.3)	517 (3.7)	573 (2.8)	648 (4.3)

SOURCE: Trends in IEA's Reading Literacy Study 1991-2001

() Standard errors appear in parentheses. Because results are rounded to the nearest whole number, some totals may appear inconsistent.

Exhibit B.4: Percentiles of Achievement in Document Reading

ISC
RLS Trend
1991–2001

2001					
Countries	5th Percentile	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile	95th Percentile
Greece	328 (9.9)	433 (6.5)	495 (7.9)	552 (5.9)	634 (8.3)
Hungary	303 (7.0)	422 (4.6)	493 (3.1)	557 (2.0)	643 (2.8)
Iceland	350 (6.4)	450 (5.5)	510 (3.9)	567 (6.0)	644 (5.9)
Italy	342 (7.4)	436 (6.8)	502 (4.5)	563 (7.4)	648 (4.0)
New Zealand	309 (10.6)	435 (9.3)	511 (7.7)	585 (5.1)	682 (10.5)
Singapore	313 (11.8)	423 (7.5)	489 (6.2)	551 (10.5)	631 (6.2)
Slovenia	348 (12.8)	441 (4.7)	502 (2.7)	564 (4.7)	655 (5.8)
Sweden	286 (10.9)	429 (6.9)	513 (4.2)	589 (6.2)	697 (5.5)
United States	359 (6.3)	465 (10.2)	525 (6.4)	582 (5.0)	659 (10.8)

1991					
Countries	5th Percentile	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile	95th Percentile
Greece	283 (7.1)	384 (5.4)	443 (4.6)	502 (5.0)	596 (13.5)
Hungary	305 (7.4)	404 (5.5)	468 (4.9)	534 (5.8)	624 (7.9)
Iceland	305 (5.6)	422 (2.1)	486 (3.0)	545 (2.4)	622 (5.5)
Italy	308 (9.0)	414 (10.0)	481 (4.3)	549 (9.3)	656 (15.3)
New Zealand	303 (14.9)	431 (3.4)	498 (4.6)	560 (4.9)	645 (6.2)
Singapore	334 (3.4)	418 (3.6)	467 (2.4)	516 (4.2)	587 (5.5)
Slovenia	302 (4.6)	392 (4.0)	455 (4.2)	520 (3.6)	610 (5.0)
Sweden	290 (10.1)	430 (5.0)	511 (5.0)	586 (3.1)	689 (9.0)
United States	388 (2.9)	472 (4.0)	529 (3.7)	584 (3.2)	657 (4.6)

SOURCE: IEA Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) 2001.

() Standard errors appear in parentheses. Because results are rounded to the nearest whole number, some totals may appear inconsistent.

Exhibit B.5: Standard Deviations of Achievement in Reading Overall

ISC
RLS Trend
1991–2001

2001						
Countries	Overall		Girls		Boys	
	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation
Greece	507 (5.9)	91 (2.6)	516 (7.3)	90 (3.7)	499 (6.0)	91 (3.6)
Hungary	475 (3.9)	97 (2.1)	481 (4.2)	95 (2.8)	469 (4.2)	98 (2.3)
Iceland	513 (3.5)	94 (1.9)	517 (3.2)	91 (2.9)	508 (5.1)	96 (2.1)
Italy	513 (4.4)	92 (2.4)	514 (5.2)	90 (3.1)	511 (5.3)	93 (2.7)
New Zealand	502 (5.3)	111 (3.0)	520 (7.0)	105 (4.2)	485 (6.6)	115 (3.6)
Singapore	489 (7.9)	106 (3.2)	504 (7.9)	100 (3.3)	475 (8.5)	109 (3.9)
Slovenia	493 (3.7)	91 (2.0)	508 (5.2)	88 (2.6)	480 (4.1)	93 (3.0)
Sweden	498 (3.9)	115 (1.9)	509 (4.3)	111 (3.0)	486 (4.4)	118 (2.0)
United States	511 (6.3)	94 (3.1)	517 (6.7)	91 (3.7)	504 (7.1)	96 (3.8)

SOURCE: Trends in IEA's Reading Literacy Study 1991–2001

1991						
Countries	Overall		Girls		Boys	
	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation
Greece	466 (4.5)	96 (4.2)	476 (5.7)	95 (5.5)	457 (4.4)	97 (3.9)
Hungary	459 (4.0)	93 (1.7)	467 (4.4)	90 (2.6)	453 (4.7)	96 (2.2)
Iceland	486 (1.5)	104 (1.3)	501 (2.1)	96 (1.8)	473 (2.6)	109 (2.0)
Italy	500 (5.4)	101 (3.7)	512 (5.6)	96 (5.1)	495 (6.4)	101 (3.7)
New Zealand	498 (4.1)	110 (2.7)	514 (5.0)	101 (3.2)	485 (5.4)	115 (3.3)
Singapore	481 (3.6)	88 (1.7)	489 (3.9)	85 (2.6)	473 (4.5)	90 (1.7)
Slovenia	458 (3.2)	96 (1.9)	469 (3.5)	95 (2.3)	447 (3.8)	96 (2.4)
Sweden	513 (4.2)	116 (2.5)	523 (4.9)	113 (2.8)	505 (4.8)	119 (3.2)
United States	521 (3.2)	90 (1.5)	529 (3.3)	86 (1.9)	513 (4.0)	93 (1.8)

() Standard errors appear in parentheses. Because results are rounded to the nearest whole number, some totals may appear inconsistent.

Exhibit B.6: Standard Deviations of Achievement in Narrative Reading

ISC
RLS Trend
1991–2001

2001						
Countries	Overall		Girls		Boys	
	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation
Greece	513 (4.8)	88 (3.1)	526 (6.3)	89 (4.5)	501 (5.1)	85 (3.3)
Hungary	479 (3.1)	85 (1.9)	489 (3.6)	84 (2.6)	469 (3.4)	85 (1.9)
Iceland	524 (3.3)	100 (2.3)	531 (3.3)	98 (4.1)	517 (5.2)	102 (2.2)
Italy	517 (4.1)	88 (2.7)	522 (4.5)	88 (2.7)	512 (5.3)	89 (3.7)
New Zealand	496 (5.3)	114 (3.1)	518 (7.0)	108 (4.2)	474 (6.5)	116 (4.0)
Singapore	487 (8.6)	113 (3.5)	507 (8.8)	109 (3.7)	469 (8.9)	114 (4.0)
Slovenia	490 (3.7)	88 (1.9)	506 (4.8)	86 (2.5)	476 (4.1)	88 (2.7)
Sweden	496 (3.6)	104 (1.7)	511 (3.7)	100 (2.1)	482 (4.5)	105 (2.1)
United States	498 (6.8)	105 (3.6)	510 (7.4)	104 (4.8)	486 (7.5)	104 (3.8)

SOURCE: IEA Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) 2001.

1991						
Countries	Overall		Girls		Boys	
	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation
Greece	479 (3.7)	87 (3.2)	492 (4.5)	84 (3.8)	467 (3.9)	87 (3.2)
Hungary	467 (3.2)	81 (1.5)	477 (3.7)	77 (2.1)	458 (4.0)	83 (2.0)
Iceland	493 (1.6)	98 (1.6)	509 (2.1)	91 (1.7)	478 (2.6)	102 (2.1)
Italy	507 (4.7)	91 (2.7)	520 (5.0)	87 (3.8)	500 (5.5)	91 (2.8)
New Zealand	500 (4.3)	111 (2.9)	521 (5.1)	104 (2.5)	483 (5.5)	113 (4.1)
Singapore	486 (3.5)	94 (1.9)	502 (4.1)	91 (2.9)	472 (4.5)	95 (1.7)
Slovenia	465 (3.0)	90 (1.7)	478 (3.4)	89 (1.9)	453 (3.5)	89 (2.2)
Sweden	513 (3.4)	100 (2.2)	527 (3.9)	97 (2.1)	501 (4.0)	101 (3.0)
United States	518 (3.3)	101 (1.4)	531 (3.5)	98 (1.9)	505 (4.1)	102 (2.1)

() Standard errors appear in parentheses. Because results are rounded to the nearest whole number, some totals may appear inconsistent.

Exhibit B.7: Standard Deviations of Achievement in Expository Reading

ISC
RLS Trend
1991–2001

2001						
Countries	Overall		Girls		Boys	
	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation
Greece	509 (5.2)	91 (3.1)	517 (7.0)	90 (4.5)	502 (5.6)	91 (4.2)
Hungary	464 (4.4)	111 (2.0)	467 (4.9)	110 (2.5)	462 (4.7)	111 (2.6)
Iceland	502 (3.3)	97 (2.2)	508 (3.2)	95 (3.8)	495 (5.0)	99 (2.3)
Italy	513 (4.5)	99 (2.7)	513 (5.4)	97 (3.4)	514 (5.6)	100 (3.1)
New Zealand	510 (5.3)	101 (3.1)	524 (7.0)	96 (3.7)	497 (6.6)	104 (3.9)
Singapore	495 (6.6)	91 (2.7)	505 (6.8)	87 (2.8)	487 (6.9)	93 (3.2)
Slovenia	489 (3.3)	92 (2.0)	502 (5.3)	90 (2.8)	477 (3.7)	92 (2.7)
Sweden	496 (4.1)	121 (2.6)	505 (4.6)	118 (3.1)	488 (4.9)	124 (3.0)
United States	521 (5.4)	80 (2.8)	527 (6.0)	79 (3.1)	514 (6.2)	81 (3.7)

SOURCE: Trends in IEA's Reading Literacy Study 1991–2001

1991						
Countries	Overall		Girls		Boys	
	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation
Greece	476 (4.3)	95 (3.8)	483 (5.2)	94 (4.8)	471 (4.6)	96 (3.7)
Hungary	443 (4.8)	115 (2.2)	452 (5.1)	111 (2.9)	436 (5.8)	118 (2.8)
Iceland	483 (1.9)	116 (1.8)	500 (2.7)	108 (2.3)	469 (3.5)	121 (2.5)
Italy	507 (5.5)	103 (3.2)	518 (6.3)	98 (4.1)	502 (6.2)	104 (3.4)
New Zealand	502 (3.9)	102 (2.6)	515 (4.9)	96 (3.0)	492 (5.2)	106 (3.5)
Singapore	489 (3.1)	78 (1.5)	494 (3.5)	76 (2.3)	485 (3.8)	79 (1.5)
Slovenia	455 (3.6)	101 (2.4)	466 (3.9)	100 (2.8)	445 (4.4)	101 (2.7)
Sweden	519 (4.4)	130 (2.4)	528 (5.1)	126 (2.8)	511 (5.4)	132 (3.0)
United States	516 (3.2)	82 (1.4)	521 (3.4)	80 (1.8)	511 (3.8)	84 (1.7)

() Standard errors appear in parentheses. Because results are rounded to the nearest whole number, some totals may appear inconsistent.

Exhibit B.8: Standard Deviations of Achievement in Document Reading

ISC
RLS Trend
1991–2001

2001						
Countries	Overall		Girls		Boys	
	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation
Greece	490 (5.2)	92 (2.7)	491 (6.6)	92 (4.6)	490 (5.6)	92 (3.6)
Hungary	486 (3.7)	102 (1.9)	487 (4.1)	99 (2.5)	485 (4.2)	105 (2.0)
Iceland	506 (3.4)	89 (1.7)	507 (2.8)	86 (2.8)	505 (4.9)	91 (2.2)
Italy	499 (4.5)	93 (2.4)	496 (5.1)	90 (3.0)	501 (5.5)	95 (3.2)
New Zealand	506 (5.2)	113 (3.3)	520 (7.3)	106 (5.2)	493 (6.5)	118 (3.7)
Singapore	484 (6.8)	96 (2.9)	495 (6.8)	89 (3.1)	473 (7.3)	101 (3.5)
Slovenia	502 (3.8)	92 (2.5)	512 (4.8)	87 (2.7)	493 (5.1)	95 (3.7)
Sweden	506 (4.4)	122 (2.2)	512 (5.2)	117 (3.3)	501 (4.8)	127 (2.5)
United States	520 (6.1)	90 (3.1)	518 (6.5)	87 (3.3)	521 (7.2)	94 (4.7)

SOURCE: IEA Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) 2001.

1991						
Countries	Overall		Girls		Boys	
	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation
Greece	443 (4.9)	95 (4.1)	448 (5.9)	93 (5.5)	438 (5.1)	97 (4.1)
Hungary	468 (4.3)	97 (2.8)	469 (4.9)	93 (3.2)	467 (4.9)	100 (2.9)
Iceland	479 (1.7)	96 (1.3)	486 (2.1)	88 (1.8)	472 (2.9)	101 (1.9)
Italy	482 (5.4)	104 (4.1)	488 (6.1)	101 (5.4)	481 (6.8)	105 (4.1)
New Zealand	491 (4.0)	102 (3.0)	499 (4.7)	95 (3.7)	484 (5.5)	108 (3.6)
Singapore	465 (3.1)	76 (1.5)	467 (3.4)	73 (2.2)	464 (3.7)	79 (1.6)
Slovenia	456 (3.0)	94 (1.7)	462 (3.5)	91 (2.3)	450 (3.6)	96 (2.2)
Sweden	504 (4.5)	120 (2.9)	507 (5.1)	117 (3.2)	502 (5.3)	123 (4.0)
United States	527 (3.2)	82 (1.2)	529 (3.4)	78 (1.7)	526 (3.8)	85 (1.7)

() Standard errors appear in parentheses. Because results are rounded to the nearest whole number, some totals may appear inconsistent.