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

	Percent of Students by Number of Weeks Affected					
Country	School Operations Not Affected	Less than 2 Weeks of Instruction	2–4 Weeks of Instruction	5–8 Weeks of Instruction	More than 8 Weeks of Instruction	
Albania	25 (3.8)	52 (4.3)	9 (2.8)	1 ~	13 (2.9)	
Australia 🖂	8 (1.5)	22 (1.8)	12 (2.1)	10 (2.0)	48 (2.4)	
Austria	0~	1~	6 (2.3)	24 (3.7)	69 (3.9)	
Azerbaijan	17 (3.0)	11 (2.7)	10 (2.0)	6 (1.8) 5 (1.0)	55 (3.9)	
Bahrain Belgium (Flemish)	52 (2.9) 3 (1.9)	13 (1.8) 21 (4.0)	<u>9 (1.1)</u> 29 (4.4)	12 (2.6)	23 (2.4) 34 (4.3)	
Belgium (French)	4 (1.9)	14 (3.0)	58 (3.7)	13 (2.7)	10 (2.5)	
Brazil M	19 (3.3)	6 (1.8)	6 (2.4)	3 (1.5)	65 (3.7)	
Bulgaria	23 (3.6)	4 (1.8)	40 (4.5)	30 (3.9)	3 (1.3)	
Chinese Taipei	77 (3.0)	19 (2.8)	3 (1.4)	1~	1~	
Croatia	2 ~	5 (2.0)	26 (3.9)	33 (4.4)	35 (4.4)	
Cyprus	2 ~	5 (1.6)	51 (3.8)	34 (4.2)	8 (2.4)	
Czech Republic	0 ~	0 ~	0 ~	0 ~	100 (0.0)	
Denmark	0 ~	1 ~	1 ~	8 (2.3)	91 (2.5)	
Egypt	9 (1.9)	5 (1.9)	9 (2.5)	22 (3.4)	55 (3.7)	
England 🛛 r		11 (2.6)	6 (2.0)	16 (2.8)	42 (4.5)	
Finland	17 (2.7)	11 (2.5)	10 (2.4)	14 (3.4)	47 (3.6)	
France	3 (1.4)	50 (3.9)	20 (3.2)	9 (2.5)	18 (3.1)	
Georgia	14 (2.4)	17 (2.7)	15 (2.9)	16 (2.9)	38 (3.3)	
Germany r		1 ~	0 ~	8 (2.0)	91 (2.0)	
Hong Kong SAR	5 (1.9)	8 (2.3)	17 (3.3)	13 (2.7)	57 (4.0)	
Hungary	0 ~	0~	3 (1.5)	36 (4.1)	61 (4.1)	
Iran, Islamic Rep. of ⋈	8 (2.2)	6 (1.7)	8 (1.8)	15 (3.4)	62 (4.0)	
Ireland	0~	0 ~	0~	0 ~	100 (0.0)	
Israel M r		5 (1.8)	14 (2.8)	34 (3.7)	41 (4.2)	
ltaly Jordan	<u> </u>	6 (2.0) 7 (1.9)	44 (3.8)	21 (3.4) 7 (2.0)	23 (3.1)	
		. ,	13 (3.1)		63 (4.1)	
Kazakhstan Kosovo	35 (3.3) 9 (2.3)	8 (2.2) 39 (4.0)	9 (2.0) 38 (4.1)	15 (2.8) 4 (1.8)	<u>32 (3.6)</u> 10 (2.7)	
Latvia	9 (2.3)	1~	3 (1.7)	4 (1.6)	93 (2.0)	
Lithuania s	-	1~	1~	7 (2.3)	90 (2.7)	
Macao SAR	36 (0.1)	3 (0.0)	3 (0.0)	11 (0.0)	46 (0.1)	
Malta	8 (4.4)	14 (4.9)	61 (7.6)	9 (3.5)	8 (3.6)	
Montenegro	2~	6 (0.9)	14 (0.3)	40 (0.7)	38 (0.5)	
Morocco	22 (3.2)	6 (1.9)	5 (1.9)	5 (1.5)	62 (3.8)	
Netherlands r		2 ~	7 (2.4)	35 (5.7)	53 (6.1)	
New Zealand r	0 ~	0 ~	0 ~	0 ~	100 (0.0)	
North Macedonia	34 (3.5)	9 (2.4)	28 (4.6)	3 (1.7)	26 (4.1)	
Northern Ireland	1 ~	0 ~	0 ~	8 (2.5)	92 (2.6)	
Norway (5)	12 (2.6)	11 (2.6)	13 (3.0)	13 (2.9)	51 (4.1)	
Oman	15 (2.5)	13 (2.4)	24 (3.1)	15 (2.3)	34 (3.5)	
Poland	1 ~	1 ~	0 ~	0 ~	98 (1.2)	
Portugal	6 (1.8)	4 (1.5)	8 (2.0)	44 (3.8)	37 (3.7)	
Qatar	24 (3.5)	13 (2.9)	14 (2.7)	7 (1.8)	41 (3.4)	
Russian Federation	61 (3.8)	14 (2.3)	20 (3.1)	2~	3 (1.1)	
Saudi Arabia	22 (3.7)	13 (3.1)	12 (2.8)	12 (2.6)	40 (4.6)	
Serbia	29 (3.9)	4 (1.6)	19 (3.0)	15 (2.8)	33 (4.2)	
Slovak Republic	0~	3 (1.3) 4 (1.5)	12 (2.7)	37 (3.5)	48 (4.1) 83 (3.4)	
Slovenia r South Africa ⋈	3 (2.0) 16 (3.0)	15 (2.6)	2 ~ 28 (4.0)	8 (2.5) 14 (2.6)	28 (3.3)	
Spain	34 (2.9)	18 (2.4)	18 (2.4)	13 (2.2)	17 (2.1)	
Sweden r		12 (3.3)	10 (2.9)	10 (2.6)	34 (5.0)	
Turkiye	3 (1.2)	3 (1.3)	3 (1.3)	8 (2.1)	83 (2.9)	
United Arab Emirates s		15 (1.3)	8 (0.2)	6 (1.7)	26 (2.1)	
United States	3 (1.9)	4 (2.1)	13 (3.8)	8 (3.2)	72 (5.6)	
Uzbekistan	14 (3.2)	23 (3.9)	28 (3.3)	10 (2.2)	25 (3.7)	
International Average * Singapore	14 (0.3)	10 (0.3)	15 (0.4)	13 (0.4)	47 (0.4)	
Benchmarking Participants						
Alberta, Canada r	0 ~	14 (3.8)	37 (5.2)	13 (3.7)	37 (5.0)	
British Columbia, Canada r		10 (2.8)	14 (3.3)	2~	31 (3.9)	
Newfoundland & Labrador, Canada r		1~	59 (7.7)	27 (5.5)	13 (6.0)	
Quebec, Canada	14 (4.2)	24 (4.5)	23 (4.8)	21 (4.4)	18 (4.5)	
Moscow City, Russian Federation	46 (3.5)	25 (3.2)	22 (3.1)	5 (1.8)	2 ~	
South Africa (6) 🖂	21 (3.9)	13 (2.7)	25 (3.3)	14 (3.0)	28 (3.5)	
Abu Dhabi, UAE r		12 (1.1)	7 (0.3)	3 (1.0)	29 (2.6)	
Dubai, UAE s	38 (0.4)	15 (0.2)	13 (0.3)	6 (0.3)	28 (0.3)	

Newfoundland & Labrador, Canada r	0 ~	1~	59 (7.7)	27 (5.5)	13 (6.0)
Quebec, Canada	14 (4.2)	24 (4.5)	23 (4.8)	21 (4.4)	18 (4.5)
Moscow City, Russian Federation	46 (3.5)	25 (3.2)	22 (3.1)	5 (1.8)	2 ~
South Africa (6) ⋈	21 (3.9)	13 (2.7)	25 (3.3)	14 (3.0)	28 (3.5)
Abu Dhabi, UAE r	49 (3.0)	12 (1.1)	7 (0.3)	3 (1.0)	29 (2.6)
Dubai, UAE s	38 (0.4)	15 (0.2)	13 (0.3)	6 (0.3)	28 (0.3)

() Standard errors appear in parentheses. Because of rounding some results may appear inconsistent.

An "r" indicates data are available for at least 70% but less than 85% of the students. An "s" indicates data are available for at least 50% but less than 70% of the students. A tide (~) indicates insufficient data to report result. A dash (-) indicates comparable data not available.

* In Singapore, all primary schools were closed for a total of 4 weeks, during which all students shifted to full home-based learning, followed by fourth grade students alternating

between home-based learning and returning to school for lessons on a weekly basis for 4 weeks. See PIRLS 2021 Encyclopedia for more details.





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Please estimate the number of weeks during the current academic year where normal primary school operations have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

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Two to four weeks of instruction	0
Five weeks to eight weeks of instruction	0
More than eight weeks of instruction	0

SOURCE: IEA's Progress in International Reading Literacy Study - PIRLS 2021 Downloaded from https://pirls2021.org/results

