PIRLS 2011

Meeting PIRLS 2011 Standards for Sampling Participation

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PIRLS 2011 participants understood that the goal for sampling participation was 100 percent for all sampled schools, classrooms, and students. Guidelines for reporting achievement data for participants securing less than full participation were modeled after IEA's previous TIMSS and PIRLS assessment cycles. As summarized below, countries were assigned to one of three categories on the basis of their sampling participation. Countries in Category 1 were considered to have met the PIRLS 2011 sampling requirement and to have an acceptable participation rate. Countries in Category 2 met the participation requirements only after including replacement schools. Countries that failed to meet the participation requirements even with the use of replacement schools were assigned to Category 3. One of the main goals for quality data in PIRLS 2011 was to have as many countries as possible achieve Category 1 status.

Exhibit 1: Categories of Sampling Participation

Category 1	Acceptable sampling participation rate **without** the use of replacement schools. In order to be placed in this category, a country had to have: ◆ An **unweighted** school response rate **without** replacement of at least 85% (after rounding to nearest whole percent) AND an **unweighted** student response rate (after rounding) of at least 85% OR ◆ A **weighted** school response rate **without** replacement of at least 85% (after rounding to nearest whole percent) AND a **weighted** student response rate (after rounding) of at least 85% OR ◆ The product of the (unrounded) **weighted** school response rate **without** replacement and the (unrounded) **weighted** student response rate of at least 75% (after rounding to the nearest whole percent). Countries in this category would appear in the tables and figures in international reports without annotation, and will be ordered by achievement as appropriate.
Category 2	Acceptable sampling participation rate **only when replacement schools are included**. A country would be placed in this category 2 if: ◆ It failed to meet the requirements for Category 1 but had a weighted school response rate **without** replacement of at least 50% (after rounding to the nearest percent) AND HAD EITHER ◆ A **weighted** school response rate **with** replacement of at least 85% (after rounding to nearest whole percent) AND a **weighted** student response rate (after rounding) of at least 85% OR ◆ The product of the (unrounded) **weighted** school response rate **with** replacement and the (unrounded) **weighted** student response rate of at least 75% (after rounding to the nearest whole percent). Countries in this category would be annotated with a "dagger" in the tables and figures in international reports, and ordered by achievement as appropriate.
Category 3	Unacceptable sampling response rate even when replacement schools are included. Countries that could provide documentation to show that they complied with PIRLS sampling procedures and requirements but did not meet the requirements for Category 1 or Category 2 would be placed in Category 3. Countries in this category would appear in a separate section of the achievement tables, below the other countries, in international reports. These countries would be presented in alphabetical order.

Exhibit 2 and Exhibit 3 present the school, classroom, student, and overall participation rates and achieved sample sizes for each of the PIRLS 2011 participants. Almost all participants had excellent participation rates and belonged in Category 1. Belgium (French), England, The Netherlands and Northern Ireland achieved the minimum acceptable participation rate only after including replacement schools, and therefore their results were annotated with an obelisk (†) in the achievement exhibits in the international reports (Category 2). Despite efforts to secure full participation, Kuwait's overall participation at 72 percent, and Norway's overall participation at 71 percent fell below the minimum requirement of 75 percent after using replacements. Results for Kuwait and Norway in the international reports were annotated with a double-obelisk (‡), indicating that they nearly satisfied the guidelines for sample participation.

Exhibit 2: Weighted School, Class, and Student Participation Rates - PIRLS 2011 - Fourth Grade

Country	School Participation		Class Participation	Student Participation	Overall Participation	
	Before Replacement	After Replacement			Before Replacement	After Replacement
Australia	96%	98%	100%	95%	91%	93%
Austria	100%	100%	100%	98%	98%	98%
Azerbaijan	84%	100%	100%	100%	84%	100%
† Belgium (French)	77%	85%	99%	97%	74%	82%
Bulgaria	97%	100%	100%	95%	92%	95%
Canada	98%	98%	100%	96%	94%	94%
Chinese Taipei	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%
Colombia	89%	99%	100%	97%	86%	95%
Croatia	99%	100%	100%	95%	94%	95%
Czech Republic	90%	99%	100%	94%	85%	94%
Denmark	87%	98%	100%	97%	84%	95%
† England	73%	87%	100%	94%	69%	82%
Finland	97%	99%	100%	96%	93%	95%
France	98%	100%	100%	98%	96%	97%
Georgia	97%	98%	100%	98%	95%	96%
Germany	96%	99%	100%	96%	92%	95%
Hong Kong SAR	86%	88%	100%	94%	81%	83%
Hungary	98%	99%	100%	97%	94%	96%
Indonesia	100%	100%	100%	97%	97%	97%
Iran, Islamic Rep. Of	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%
Ireland	98%	100%	100%	95%	93%	95%
Israel	98%	99%	100%	94%	92%	93%
Italy	81%	98%	100%	96%	78%	95%
Lithuania	94%	100%	100%	94%	89%	94%
Malta	100%	100%	100%	95%	95%	95%
Morocco	99%	99%	100%	96%	95%	95%
† Netherlands	68%	92%	100%	97%	66%	89%
New Zealand	93%	99%	100%	94%	87%	93%
† Northern Ireland	62%	85%	100%	93%	58%	79%
‡ Norway	57%	83%	100%	86%	49%	71%
Oman	98%	98%	100%	98%	96%	96%
Poland	100%	100%	100%	96%	96%	96%
Portugal	87%	99%	100%	95%	83%	93%
Qatar	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%
Romania	99%	100%	100%	97%	96%	97%
Russian Federation	100%	100%	100%	98%	98%	98%
Saudi Arabia	95%	100%	100%	98%	94%	98%
Singapore	100%	100%	100%	96%	96%	96%
Slovak Republic	95%	99%	100%	97%	92%	96%
Slovenia	96%	97%	100%	97%	94%	95%
Spain	96%	99%	100%	97%	93%	96%
Sweden	97%	99%	100%	92%	88%	91%
Trinidad and Tobago	99%	99%	100%	96%	95%	95%
United Arab Emirates	100%	100%	100%	97%	97%	97%
United States	80%	85%	100%	96%	77%	81%

PIRLS guidelines for sampling participation: The minimum acceptable participation rates were 85% of both schools and students, or a combined rate (the product of school and student participation) of 75%. Participants not meeting these guidelines were annotated as follows:
† Met guidelines for sample participation rates only after replacement schools were included.
‡ Nearly satisfied guidelines for sample participation rates after replacement schools were included.
‡ Did not satisfy guidelines for sample participation rates.

Exhibit 2: Weighted School, Class, and Student Participation Rates - PIRLS 2011 - Fourth Grade (Continued)

Country	School Participation		Class Participation	Student Participation	Overall Participation	
	Before Replacement	After Replacement			Before Replacement	After Replacement
Sixth Grade Participants						
Botswana	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%
Honduras	91%	100%	100%	97%	88%	97%
‡ Kuwait	88%	88%	99%	82%	72%	72%
Morocco	99%	99%	100%	95%	94%	94%
Benchmarking Participants◊						
Alberta, Canada	97%	99%	100%	95%	93%	94%
Ontario, Canada	99%	99%	100%	96%	95%	95%
Quebec, Canada	95%	96%	100%	96%	90%	92%
Maltese - Malta	100%	100%	100%	94%	94%	94%
Eng/Afr (5) - RSA	98%	100%	100%	94%	92%	94%
Andalusia, Spain	99%	99%	100%	97%	96%	96%
Abu Dhabi, UAE	99%	99%	100%	97%	96%	96%
Dubai, UAE	99%	99%	100%	96%	94%	94%
Florida, US	96%	96%	99%	95%	91%	91%

◊ Republic of South Africa (RSA) tested 5th grade students receiving instruction in English (ENG) or Afrikaans (AFR).

Weighted School, Class, and Student Participation Rates - prePIRLS 2011

Country	School Participation		Class Participation	Student Participation	Overall Participation	
	Before Replacement	After Replacement			Before Replacement	After Replacement
Botswana	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%
Colombia	89%	99%	100%	97%	86%	96%
South Africa	98%	99%	100%	95%	93%	95%

Exhibit 3: Unweighted School, Class, and Student Participation Rates - PIRLS 2011 - Fourth Grade

Country	School Participation Before Replacement	School Participation After Replacement	Class Participation	Student Participation	Overall Participation Before Replacement	Overall Participation After Replacement
Australia	97%	99%	100%	94%	91%	93%
Austria	100%	100%	100%	98%	98%	98%
Azerbaijan	84%	100%	100%	100%	84%	100%
Belgium (French)	77%	85%	99%	97%	74%	82%
Bulgaria	97%	100%	100%	95%	92%	95%
Canada	98%	99%	100%	95%	94%	94%
Chinese Taipei	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%
Colombia	86%	99%	100%	97%	84%	96%
Croatia	99%	100%	100%	95%	93%	95%
Czech Republic	90%	99%	100%	94%	85%	94%
Denmark	88%	98%	100%	97%	85%	95%
England	74%	87%	100%	94%	69%	82%
Finland	97%	99%	100%	96%	92%	95%
France	97%	99%	100%	98%	94%	97%
Georgia	97%	98%	100%	98%	96%	96%
Germany	95%	99%	100%	96%	92%	95%
Hong Kong SAR	87%	88%	100%	94%	82%	83%
Hungary	97%	99%	100%	97%	94%	96%
Indonesia	100%	100%	100%	97%	97%	97%

Exhibit 3: Unweighted School, Class, and Student Participation Rates - PIRLS 2011 - Fourth Grade (Continued)

Country	School Participation Before Replacement	School Participation After Replacement	Class Participation	Student Participation	Overall Participation Before Replacement	Overall Participation After Replacement
Iran, Islamic Rep. Of	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%
Ireland	98%	100%	100%	95%	93%	95%
Israel	98%	99%	100%	94%	92%	93%
Italy	81%	99%	100%	96%	78%	95%
Lithuania	94%	100%	100%	94%	88%	94%
Malta	100%	100%	100%	95%	95%	95%
Morocco	99%	99%	100%	96%	95%	95%
Netherlands	64%	91%	100%	97%	62%	88%
New Zealand	90%	96%	100%	94%	85%	90%
Northern Ireland	63%	85%	100%	93%	58%	79%
Norway	59%	83%	100%	84%	50%	70%
Oman	98%	98%	100%	98%	96%	96%
Poland	100%	100%	100%	96%	96%	96%
Portugal	89%	99%	100%	94%	83%	92%
Qatar	99%	99%	100%	99%	99%	99%
Romania	99%	100%	100%	98%	97%	97%
Russian Federation	100%	100%	100%	98%	98%	98%
Saudi Arabia	95%	100%	100%	98%	94%	98%
Singapore	100%	100%	100%	96%	96%	96%
Slovak Republic	94%	99%	100%	96%	91%	96%
Slovenia	96%	97%	100%	97%	93%	94%
Spain	98%	99%	100%	97%	95%	96%
Sweden	97%	99%	100%	92%	88%	91%
Trinidad and Tobago	99%	99%	100%	96%	95%	95%
United Arab Emirates	100%	100%	100%	97%	96%	96%
United States	80%	85%	100%	96%	77%	81%
Sixth Grade Participants						
Botswana	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%
Honduras	90%	100%	100%	96%	87%	96%
Kuwait	89%	89%	98%	82%	72%	72%
Morocco	99%	99%	100%	95%	94%	94%
Benchmarking Participants						
Alberta Province, Canada	97%	99%	100%	95%	92%	94%
Ontario Province, Canada	98%	99%	100%	97%	95%	96%
Quebec Province, Canada	96%	96%	100%	95%	92%	92%
Maltese - Malta	100%	100%	100%	94%	94%	94%
Eng/Afr(5) - South Africa	98%	100%	100%	94%	92%	94%
Andalusia Province, Spain	99%	99%	100%	97%	96%	96%
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates	99%	99%	100%	97%	97%	97%
Dubai, United Arab Emirates	99%	99%	100%	95%	94%	94%
Florida, United States	96%	96%	99%	95%	91%	91%

Unweighted school, Class, and Student Participation Rates - prePIRLS 2011 - Fourth Grade

Country	School Participation Before Replacement	School Participation After Replacement	Class Participation	Student Participation	Overall Participation Before Replacement	Overall Participation After Replacement
Botswana	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%
Colombia	86%	99%	100%	97%	83%	96%
South Africa	98%	100%	99%	95%	93%	94%