OECD Test for Schools:

January 2017

How Three School Systems Are Improving Student Achievement

Granger Independent School District (TX) • University Academy (MO) • Gwinnett County Public Schools (GA)

CASE STUDY

ALLIANCE FOR
EXCELLENT EDUCATION

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Institute for Education Policy

What is the PISA?

Assessment established by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Every three years since 2000, more than 500,000 15-year-old students around the world

Test in ELA, math, and science

Thirty-minute student survey

Why is the PISA important?

National standing in a global economy

U.S.: mediocre results, historically

Predictive of adult skills and wellbeing

AND YET

Only provides country-level, not state- or school-level information

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Quick Facts

The power
of
partnership

OECD Test
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in the Media

Discover
insights that
drive school
improvement

Register for
a webinar

Next steps

See how well your school is preparing students for the global economy

Get unique insight into how your students perform in math, reading, and science compared to other schools throughout the nation—and the world—with the OECD Test for Schools.

Based on the renowned Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), the OECD Test for Schools provides you with actionable school-level information and rare insight into student perceptions of learning to help inform program- and system-level improvements. Learn more about key findings from PISA 2015 for the United States.

OECD Test for Schools

- Every year
- All three subjects
- Student survey
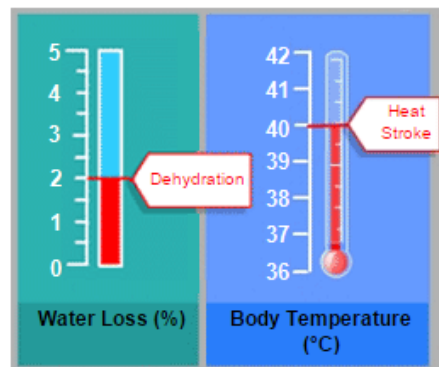
Running in Hot Weather
Introduction

Read the introduction. Then click on the NEXT arrow.

RUNNING IN HOT WEATHER

During long-distance running, body temperature rises and sweating occurs.

If runners do not drink enough to replace the water they lose through sweating, they can experience dehydration. Water loss of 2% of body mass and above is considered to be a state of dehydration. This percentage is labelled on the water loss meter shown below.

If the body temperature rises to 40°C and above, runners can experience a life-threatening condition called heat stroke. This temperature is labelled on the body temperature thermometer shown below.

Running in Hot Weather
Introduction

This simulation is based on a model that calculates the volume of sweat, water loss, and body temperature of a runner after a one-hour run.

To see how all the controls in this simulation work, follow these steps:

1. Move the slider for **Air Temperature.**

2. Move the slider for **Air Humidity.**

3. Click on either "Yes" or "No" for **Drinking Water.**

4. Click on the "Run" button to see the results. Notice that a water loss of 2% and above causes dehydration, and that a body temperature of 40°C and above causes heat stroke. The results will also display in the table.

Note: The results shown in the simulation are based on a simplified mathematical model of how the body functions for a particular individual after running for one hour in different conditions.

Sweat Volume (Litres)

Water Loss (%)

Dehydration

Body Temperature (°C)

Heat Stroke

Air Temperature (°C)	Air Humidity (%)	Drinking Water	Sweat Volume (Litres)	Water Loss (%)	Body Temperature (°C)

Air Temperature (°C)   20 25 30 35 40

Air Humidity (%)   20   40   60

Drinking Water   ● Yes   ○ No

Run

How Your School Compares Internationally

OECD TEST FOR SCHOOLS (BASED ON PISA)

Academic Standing

Figure 5.7 ▪ **How your school compares with schools in other countries and economies in mathematics in PISA 2012**
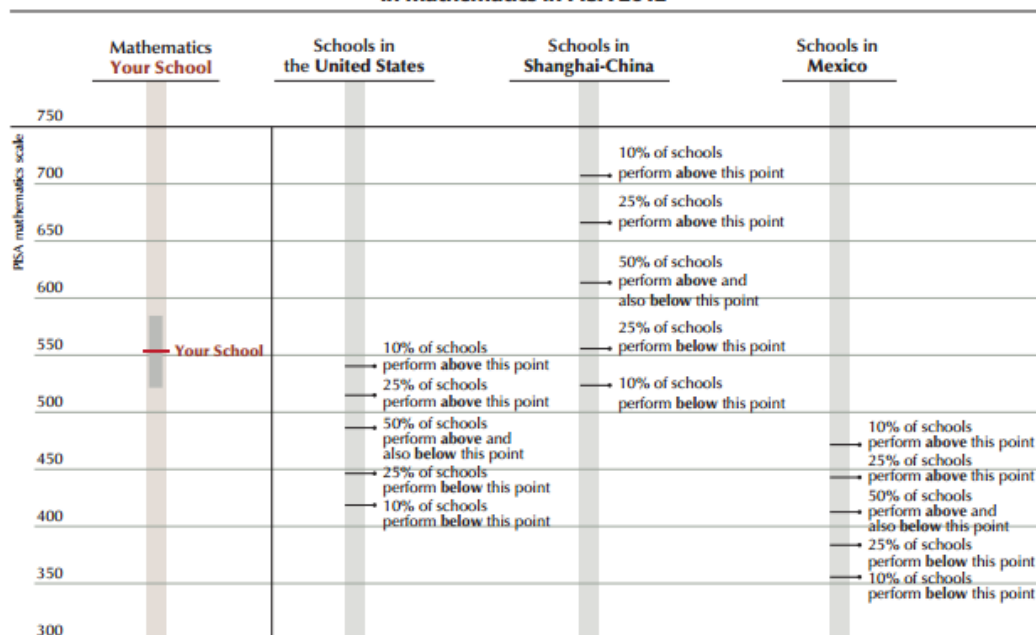
Notes: Shaded bars above and below the mean scores represent the 95% confidence interval. In other words, in the case of the results for your school, we are 95% confident that if your school were to administer the test several times, your mean performance score would fall within this confidence interval. Schools are weighted by the number of students enrolled. For example, the legend "10% of schools perform **above** this point" refers to the highest-performing schools that account for 10% of the total number of students in the country.
Source: OECD.

This figure allows you to compare your school's results in mathematics with those of groups of schools in your country and with those of different groups of schools in the highest and lowest performers in PISA 2012. Given the large differences in student performance between Shanghai-China and Mexico, your school's mean performance estimates will correspond to very different percentiles within these economies.

Continuing with the same idea of comparing your school's performance with that of schools in other countries and economies, Figures 5.8 and 5.9 show your school's performance results in mathematics in the context of the highest-performing economy – Shanghai-China – and of the lowest-performing OECD country – Mexico – in PISA 2012.

Type of Reader

	Surface	**Deep**
Wide	**Surface and wide readers** These students have low levels of awareness about effective strategies to understand, summarize and remember information, but they read a wide variety of materials regularly, including fiction and non-fiction books. In the United States, 7% of 15-year-old students are surface and wide readers.	**Deep and wide readers** These students are those who have high levels of awareness about effective learning strategies and who also read all sorts of materials, including fiction and non-fiction books for enjoyment. In the United States, 19% of students are deep and wide readers.
Narrow	**Surface and narrow readers** Students with this reader profile have low levels of awareness about effective learning strategies and their reading habits are narrow in the sense that they do not read a wide variety of materials, but they do read some materials regularly for enjoyment. This profile accounts for 6% of students in the United States.	**Deep and narrow readers** Students in this group also have high levels of awareness about effective learning strategies, but their reading habits are more *narrow* than those of *deep and wide readers*. This reader profile accounts for 11% of students.
Highly restricted	**Surface and highly restricted readers** Students in this group have low levels of awareness about effective learning strategies and they spend little time reading any type of printed material for enjoyment. In the United States, 20% of students are surface and highly restricted readers.	**Deep and highly restricted readers** These students are aware of effective learning strategies, but they do not regularly read any printed material for enjoyment. With 37% of students being deep and highly restricted readers, this profile accounts for the largest number of students in the United States.

What does it look like on the ground?

Gwinnett County Public Schools

Largest district in Georgia

21 high schools, 55,000 students

69% students of color

48% qualify for free or reduced-price lunch