

Exhibit 10.3: Students Confident in Reading

Exhibit 10.3 presents the results for the PIRLS 2016 *Students Confident in Reading* scale. Internationally, on average, 45 percent of the fourth grade students reported being **Very Confident** in their reading, 35 percent reported being **Somewhat Confident**, and 21 percent reported they were **Not Confident**.

There was a large difference in average reading achievement—90 points—between the students that expressed a high degree of confidence and those who were not confident. The results on the *Students Confident in Reading* scale show some of the largest achievement differences in PIRLS 2016 between groups of students. The **Very Confident** students had higher average achievement than the **Somewhat Confident** students (545 vs. 503 for a difference of 42 points) and, similarly, the **Somewhat Confident** students had higher average achievement than the **Not Confident** students (503 vs. 455 for a difference of 48 points).

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Students' Reports

Students were scored according to their degree of agreement with six statements on the *Students Confident in Reading* scale. Students **Very Confident** in reading had a score on the scale of at least 10.3, which corresponds to their “agreeing a lot” with three of the six statements and “agreeing a little” with the other three, on average. Students who were **Not Confident** had a score no higher than 8.2, which corresponds to their “disagreeing a little” with three of the six statements and “agreeing a little” with the other three, on average. All other students were **Somewhat Confident** in reading.

Country	Very Confident		Somewhat Confident		Not Confident		Average Scale Score
	Percent of Students	Average Achievement	Percent of Students	Average Achievement	Percent of Students	Average Achievement	
Sweden	65 (0.8)	575 (2.3)	28 (0.8)	532 (3.2)	8 (0.5)	488 (5.2)	10.8 (0.04)
Finland	60 (0.9)	586 (1.9)	31 (0.9)	549 (2.2)	10 (0.5)	503 (4.5)	10.6 (0.04)
Poland	59 (0.8)	587 (2.3)	29 (0.9)	551 (3.1)	12 (0.6)	490 (4.1)	10.7 (0.04)
Bulgaria	58 (1.6)	579 (3.8)	28 (1.0)	536 (4.9)	14 (1.1)	477 (7.9)	10.4 (0.08)
Austria	56 (1.0)	562 (2.1)	29 (0.9)	526 (3.1)	14 (0.7)	493 (3.5)	10.5 (0.04)
Ireland	55 (1.0)	593 (2.6)	31 (0.8)	550 (2.7)	14 (0.8)	505 (4.2)	10.4 (0.04)
Germany	55 (1.0)	569 (2.4)	30 (0.9)	529 (3.6)	15 (0.7)	487 (4.7)	10.5 (0.04)
Israel	55 (1.1)	567 (2.6)	28 (0.7)	511 (3.1)	18 (0.8)	454 (4.7)	10.3 (0.05)
Kazakhstan	55 (1.4)	549 (2.5)	27 (1.0)	534 (3.0)	18 (0.9)	503 (3.8)	10.5 (0.07)
England	53 (0.9)	591 (1.9)	31 (0.8)	541 (2.6)	16 (0.5)	488 (3.1)	10.3 (0.03)
Norway (5)	53 (0.9)	584 (2.2)	33 (0.8)	545 (2.7)	14 (0.8)	505 (3.6)	10.4 (0.04)
Iran, Islamic Rep. of	51 (1.6)	470 (5.2)	30 (1.3)	407 (6.0)	19 (0.8)	351 (6.1)	10.3 (0.06)
Canada	51 (0.6)	574 (1.6)	32 (0.5)	530 (2.4)	17 (0.6)	482 (3.2)	10.2 (0.03)
Denmark	51 (0.8)	577 (2.3)	36 (0.8)	532 (2.7)	14 (0.6)	486 (4.4)	10.3 (0.04)
Northern Ireland	50 (1.1)	598 (2.2)	33 (1.0)	553 (3.0)	17 (0.7)	493 (4.1)	10.2 (0.04)
United States	50 (1.3)	583 (2.6)	32 (0.9)	540 (3.4)	19 (0.9)	496 (4.1)	10.2 (0.05)
Netherlands	49 (1.1)	565 (1.9)	30 (0.8)	536 (2.2)	21 (0.9)	511 (2.8)	10.0 (0.05)
Australia	49 (1.0)	585 (2.4)	34 (0.8)	526 (2.9)	16 (0.7)	465 (3.7)	10.2 (0.04)
Singapore	48 (0.9)	612 (2.6)	36 (0.6)	562 (3.1)	16 (0.7)	503 (4.8)	10.1 (0.04)
Hungary	48 (1.2)	586 (3.0)	33 (0.9)	542 (3.5)	19 (0.9)	495 (3.9)	10.1 (0.05)
Belgium (Flemish)	46 (1.0)	544 (2.3)	34 (0.8)	519 (2.5)	19 (0.7)	493 (2.6)	10.0 (0.04)
Lithuania	46 (1.1)	578 (2.6)	35 (1.0)	538 (3.6)	19 (0.8)	496 (3.8)	10.0 (0.04)
Italy	46 (1.0)	567 (2.2)	38 (1.0)	545 (2.7)	16 (0.5)	505 (4.3)	10.1 (0.04)
Trinidad and Tobago	46 (1.3)	529 (2.7)	31 (0.9)	465 (3.6)	23 (0.9)	400 (4.1)	10.0 (0.05)
Slovenia	46 (1.0)	571 (2.3)	37 (0.9)	538 (2.3)	17 (0.7)	481 (4.5)	10.1 (0.04)
Qatar	45 (0.8)	494 (2.1)	32 (0.7)	434 (2.6)	23 (0.7)	371 (3.6)	10.0 (0.03)
Czech Republic	45 (0.8)	569 (2.2)	39 (0.7)	537 (2.3)	16 (0.6)	490 (4.2)	9.9 (0.03)
France	44 (1.1)	539 (2.6)	39 (1.1)	506 (2.6)	17 (0.7)	455 (3.7)	10.0 (0.04)
Slovak Republic	44 (1.0)	567 (2.8)	34 (0.8)	533 (3.2)	22 (0.9)	475 (6.1)	9.9 (0.04)
Bahrain	44 (0.9)	494 (2.3)	33 (0.9)	436 (3.3)	23 (0.8)	381 (3.7)	9.9 (0.04)
Russian Federation	43 (1.0)	609 (2.3)	38 (0.9)	575 (2.4)	19 (0.9)	532 (3.4)	9.9 (0.04)
Belgium (French)	41 (0.9)	528 (2.8)	37 (0.8)	493 (2.8)	22 (0.7)	450 (3.4)	9.8 (0.04)
Georgia	41 (1.3)	523 (3.2)	31 (1.0)	489 (3.0)	27 (1.1)	448 (4.3)	9.7 (0.05)
Oman	41 (1.2)	468 (3.7)	34 (0.9)	413 (3.7)	24 (0.8)	352 (3.7)	9.8 (0.05)
Kuwait	41 (1.6)	437 (4.6)	39 (1.5)	386 (4.8)	20 (0.9)	334 (7.7)	9.8 (0.05)
United Arab Emirates	41 (0.8)	511 (3.6)	36 (0.6)	439 (3.1)	23 (0.7)	372 (3.6)	9.8 (0.03)
Malta	41 (0.8)	495 (2.1)	37 (0.8)	447 (2.3)	22 (0.6)	387 (4.2)	9.7 (0.03)
Spain	40 (0.7)	554 (1.8)	40 (0.6)	525 (2.1)	20 (0.6)	483 (2.7)	9.7 (0.03)
Portugal	38 (1.3)	555 (2.7)	40 (1.0)	526 (2.7)	22 (0.9)	483 (3.0)	9.7 (0.04)
Chile	37 (0.9)	532 (2.8)	36 (0.8)	494 (3.3)	27 (0.8)	451 (3.0)	9.6 (0.04)
Hong Kong SAR	36 (1.2)	596 (2.5)	38 (0.9)	568 (3.4)	26 (1.1)	534 (3.2)	9.6 (0.05)
Azerbaijan	36 (1.0)	508 (3.4)	34 (1.1)	475 (3.4)	31 (1.3)	439 (5.9)	9.5 (0.04)
Chinese Taipei	35 (1.2)	589 (2.3)	40 (0.9)	557 (2.0)	24 (0.9)	519 (2.7)	9.5 (0.05)
New Zealand	35 (0.8)	577 (2.5)	41 (0.8)	520 (2.7)	24 (0.7)	457 (3.8)	9.6 (0.03)
Egypt	33 (1.9)	390 (6.1)	36 (1.6)	333 (5.7)	31 (1.8)	268 (7.2)	9.4 (0.09)
Morocco	31 (1.1)	416 (3.9)	42 (1.0)	358 (4.0)	27 (1.1)	296 (5.6)	9.4 (0.05)
Latvia	30 (1.0)	588 (2.4)	42 (1.1)	562 (2.1)	28 (1.1)	520 (3.0)	9.3 (0.04)
Saudi Arabia	29 (1.5)	473 (4.2)	43 (1.2)	439 (5.0)	28 (1.4)	385 (6.0)	9.3 (0.05)
Macao SAR	21 (0.7)	582 (2.6)	41 (0.8)	551 (1.5)	38 (0.7)	519 (1.6)	8.9 (0.03)
South Africa	20 (1.0)	398 (7.3)	33 (0.7)	326 (4.5)	47 (1.0)	288 (4.0)	8.8 (0.04)
International Avg.	45 (0.2)	545 (0.4)	35 (0.1)	503 (0.5)	21 (0.1)	455 (0.6)	

SOURCE: IEA's Progress in International Reading Literacy Study – PIRLS 2016

This PIRLS questionnaire scale was established in 2016 based on the combined response distribution of all countries that participated in PIRLS 2016. To provide a point of reference for country comparisons, the scale centerpoint of 10 was located at the mean of the combined distribution. The units of the scale were chosen so that 2 scale score points corresponded to the standard deviation of the distribution.

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

Exhibit 10.3: Students Confident in Reading (Continued)

Country	Very Confident		Somewhat Confident		Not Confident		Average Scale Score
	Percent of Students	Average Achievement	Percent of Students	Average Achievement	Percent of Students	Average Achievement	
Benchmarking Participants							
Ontario, Canada	52 (1.2)	575 (3.0)	31 (1.1)	529 (4.4)	17 (1.3)	485 (5.3)	10.2 (0.06)
Norway (4)	51 (1.0)	546 (2.2)	34 (0.8)	503 (2.7)	15 (0.6)	462 (3.2)	10.3 (0.04)
Dubai, UAE	50 (0.6)	557 (2.0)	33 (0.7)	500 (2.8)	17 (0.6)	434 (3.5)	10.2 (0.03)
Denmark (3)	48 (0.9)	537 (3.1)	37 (1.0)	486 (3.6)	15 (0.7)	428 (4.7)	10.1 (0.03)
Moscow City, Russian Fed.	48 (1.1)	634 (2.2)	38 (1.0)	605 (2.5)	14 (0.7)	560 (3.2)	10.1 (0.04)
Quebec, Canada	45 (1.4)	575 (2.9)	36 (1.3)	541 (3.5)	19 (1.1)	499 (4.4)	10.0 (0.06)
Madrid, Spain	44 (1.0)	571 (2.1)	40 (0.9)	542 (2.2)	16 (0.8)	507 (3.0)	9.9 (0.04)
Andalusia, Spain	43 (1.2)	552 (2.1)	37 (1.1)	521 (2.1)	19 (1.0)	475 (3.8)	9.8 (0.05)
Buenos Aires, Argentina	41 (1.0)	521 (3.3)	39 (0.9)	480 (3.0)	20 (0.9)	427 (4.5)	9.8 (0.04)
Abu Dhabi, UAE	35 (1.3)	486 (5.2)	38 (1.0)	409 (5.1)	27 (1.2)	345 (4.9)	9.6 (0.06)
Eng/Afr/Zulu - RSA (5)	29 (1.5)	470 (7.3)	35 (1.0)	407 (6.2)	36 (1.4)	360 (5.3)	9.3 (0.06)

SOURCE: IEA's Progress in International Reading Literacy Study – PIRLS 2016

