The OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) measures how well 15-year-olds are prepared to use their skills and knowledge to meet real-life challenges. The 2018 data show Australian student performance in all three assessment domains is in long-term decline. Below are the percentages of low and high performers by jurisdiction.

**Reading literacy assessment domain**

- **ACT**: Low performers 13, High performers 21
- **NSW**: Low performers 22, High performers 11
- **VIC**: Low performers 17, High performers 14
- **QLD**: Low performers 20, High performers 14
- **SA**: Low performers 20, High performers 11
- **WA**: Low performers 17, High performers 14
- **TAS**: Low performers 28, High performers 10
- **NT**: Low performers 30, High performers 12

**Performance of students**
- In the ACT, WA, VIC, QLD and SA higher than the OECD average
- Performance of students in NSW, the NT and TAS on par with the OECD average
- Difference in the mean performance between highest and lowest performing jurisdictions equivalent of more than 15 years of schooling

**Mathematical literacy assessment domain**

- **ACT**: Low performers 15, High performers 15
- **NSW**: Low performers 24, High performers 11
- **VIC**: Low performers 21, High performers 11
- **QLD**: Low performers 23, High performers 10
- **SA**: Low performers 24, High performers 7
- **WA**: Low performers 20, High performers 12
- **TAS**: Low performers 32, High performers 6
- **NT**: Low performers 33, High performers 6

**Performance of students**
- In the ACT and WA higher than the OECD average
- Performance of students in VIC, QLD and NSW on par with OECD average
- Performance of students in SA, TAS and the NT lower than OECD average

**Scientific literacy assessment domain**

- **ACT**: Low performers 11, High performers 15
- **NSW**: Low performers 21, High performers 9
- **VIC**: Low performers 18, High performers 10
- **QLD**: Low performers 18, High performers 9
- **SA**: Low performers 19, High performers 8
- **WA**: Low performers 16, High performers 12
- **TAS**: Low performers 25, High performers 6
- **NT**: Low performers 28, High performers 8

**Performance of students**
- In the ACT, WA, VIC, QLD, SA and NSW higher than the OECD average
- Performance of students in TAS and the NT similar to OECD average