**Takeaways**

- The upward trends observed between 2000 and 2012 in science, reading, and mathematics have leveled off.
- Latvia’s performance in science is now on par with the EU and OECD averages.
- Fewer students are scoring below basic proficiency levels in reading than in 2006. Trends in science and mathematics remain stable.
- The science performance gap between the top and bottom income groups exceeds the equivalent of two years of schooling. Girls slightly outperform boys.
- Students who were enrolled in preschool at a younger age scored more than 1 year of schooling than those who were enrolled later.

**Score Over Time**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Science</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Math</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>458</td>
<td>463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>489</td>
<td>491</td>
<td>483</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>479</td>
<td>486</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>494</td>
<td>484</td>
<td>482</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>502</td>
<td>489</td>
<td>491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>488</td>
<td>482</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Science Trends**

Science score points are comparable for PISA 2006, 2009, 2012, and 2015 only [OECD, 2016].

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**WB Education Engagement**

**Financing** – None

**Analytical** – Internal Higher Education Financing [RAS]

**Saber** – None

**About PISA:**

PISA is the OECD’s benchmarking tool to assess achievement and application of key knowledge and skills of 15-year-olds. PISA tests proficiency in mathematics, reading, science, and problem-solving. In 2015, 72 countries and economies (22 ECA client countries and economies) participated in PISA. PISA was launched in 2000 and is conducted every three years. Roughly, 30 points in the PISA scales are considered equivalent to one year of schooling.

Note: In 2015, the OECD introduced several improvements to the design, administration, and scaling of PISA. For the most part, these changes did not affect the comparability of the 2015 results with those for previous assessments. For further information and implications for analyses of PISA data, please consult the PISA 2015 international report.
Europe and Central Asia

**Latvia**

**PISA 2015**

**Student Performance**

- **Science**
  - Basic Proficiency: 17% (2006), 17% (2015)

- **Reading**
  - Below Basic Proficiency: 18% (2006), 18% (2015)

- **Mathematics**
  - Basic Proficiency: 18% (2006), 21% (2015)

**Equity Profile**

- **Top 20% ESCS**
  - Science: 525
  - Science: 540

- **Bottom 20% ESCS**
  - Science: 457
  - Science: 475

- **Rural**
  - Science: 504

- **Urban**
  - Science: 485

- **Males**
  - Science: 496

- **Females**
  - Science: 493

- **Preschool [Age 0-3]**
  - Science: 477

- **Preschool [Age 4-6]**
  - Science: 510

30 points in PISA scale = 1 year of schooling

ESCS: Economic, Social and Cultural Status

**PISA Performance and GDP Per Capita**

- **Europe and Central Asia**
  - Latvia
  - Estonia
  - Poland
  - Czech Republic
  - Hungary
  - Russian Federation
  - Croatia
  - Portugal
  - Slovenia
  - Lithuania

- **Latin America & Caribbean**
  - Dominican Republic
  - Mexico
  - Brazil
  - Colombia
  - Ecuador
  - Peru

- **Middle East & North Africa**
  - Tunisia
  - Morocco
  - Algeria
  - Lebanon
  - Jordan

**Source:** OECD, 2016. *PISA 2015 Results [Volume I]: Excellence and Equity in Education* Paris: OECD.