

TUNISIA
PISA 2015

TAKEAWAYS

Student performance in Tunisia has deteriorated in all subjects, with a sharp decline in Reading.

- Scores in every subject are below the MENA average. Student performance is more than 3 years of schooling¹ below the OECD average.
- For all three subjects, proficiency levels have declined in the last decade. Over two thirds of the students do not meet the basic proficiency level, which places them at risk of exclusion.

What may be driving poor performance?

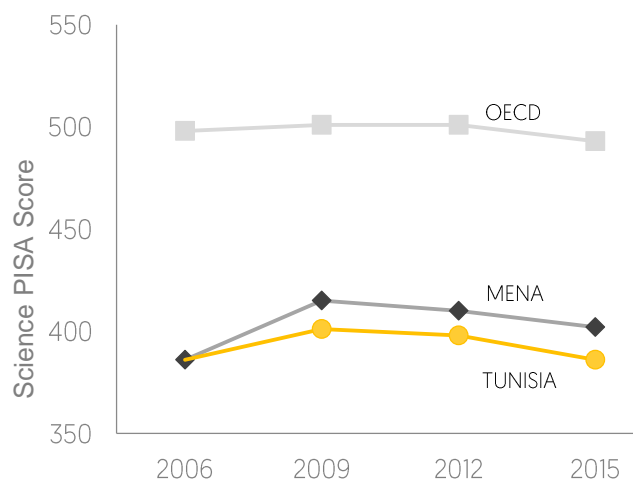
- **Socioeconomic background:** There are differences equivalent to 2 years of schooling between students at the top and low income quintiles.
- **School location:** Performance of students in urban schools is roughly one year of schooling ahead of those in rural schools.
- **School & Classroom:** Tunisia's Disciplinary Climate Index² is the lowest amongst all participating countries, indicating important classroom disruptions due to noise, disorder and other factors. Students in the top and bottom quintiles in this index do not score very differently though, suggesting potential floor effects.
- **Teachers:** Teacher-Directed Instruction² is associated with better student performance (15 points difference in Science between the top and bottom quintiles in this Index).

¹ 30 points in PISA scale ≈ 1 year of schoolingNote: Unless specified, student performance in the *Takeaways Section* refers to Science scores.SCORES
OVER TIME

	MATHE- MATICS	READING	SCIENCE
2003	359	375	385
2006	365	380	386
2009	371	404	401
2012	388	404	398
2015	367*	361*	386*

* Statistically significant difference from 2012 to 2015.

No statistically significant difference in Science from 2006 to 2015 (focus years on Science).

SCIENCE
TRENDS

TUNISIA

PISA 2015



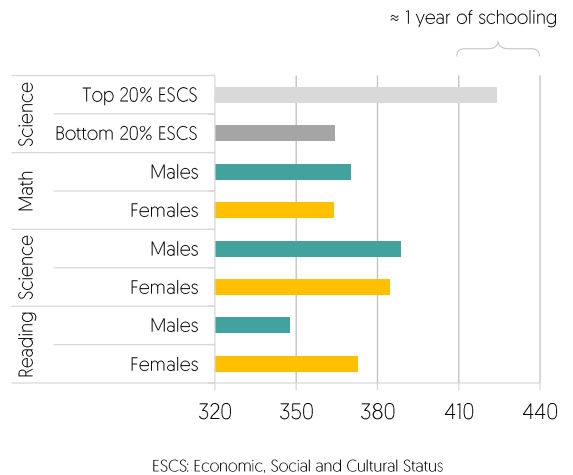
STUDENT PERFORMANCE



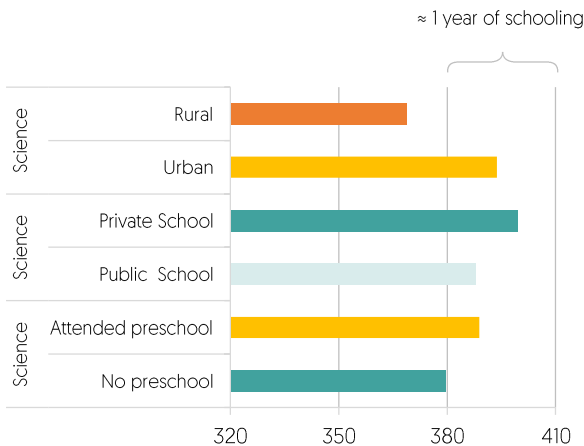
Functionally illiterate and innumerate students are those who do not meet the basic proficiency levels.



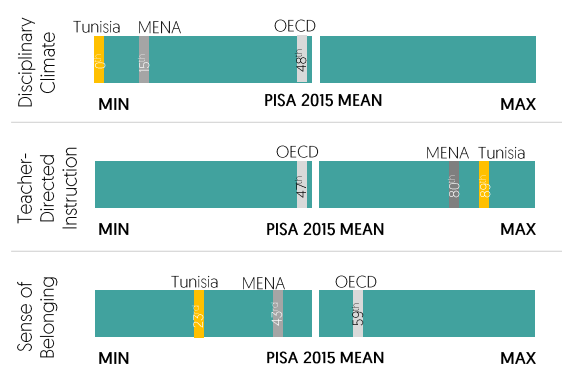
EQUITY PROFILE



SCHOOL PROFILE & PRESCHOOL



SCHOOL, CLASSROOM & TEACHER



Note: Numbers indicate percentiles.

2 Key to Indices:

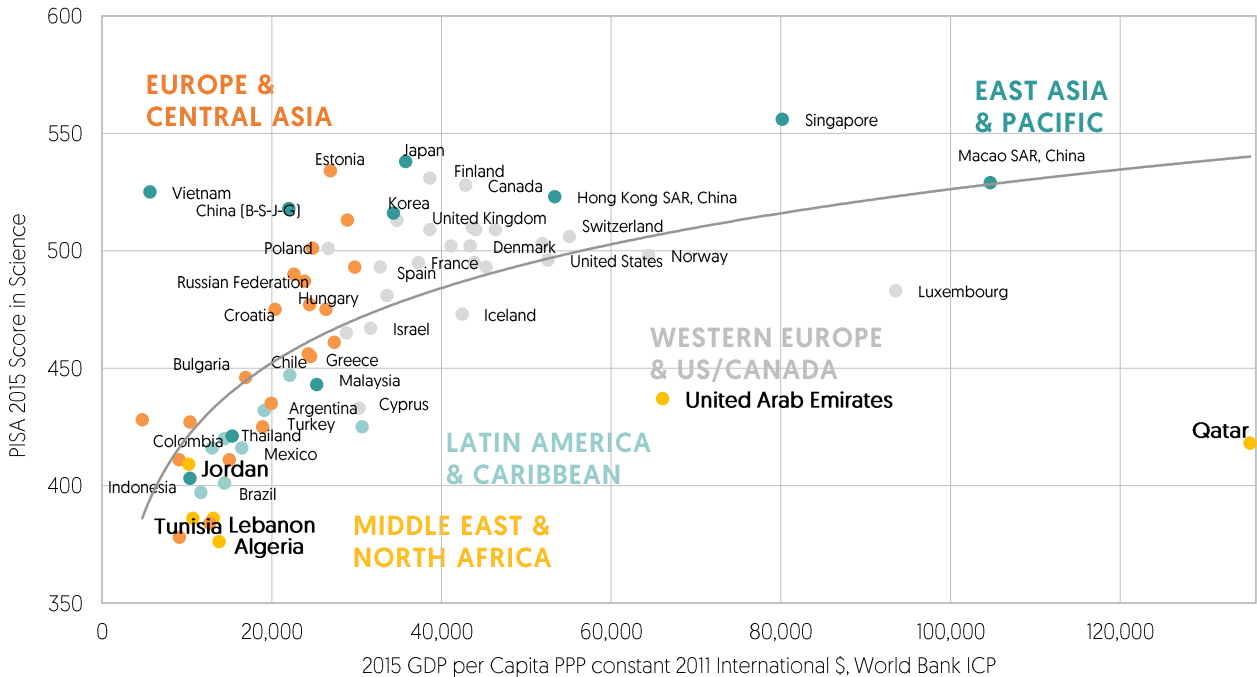
Disciplinary Climate Index measures the extent of classroom disruptions due to noise, disorder and other factors. **Teacher-Directed Instruction** Index measures the quality of instruction including how often the teacher explains scientific ideas, demonstrates ideas, discusses students' questions, and promotes classroom discussions. **Sense of Belonging** Index measures the extent to which students feel they belong to their school, make friends easily at school, etc. All indices are constructed using student responses. Top and Bottom 20% indicate percentiles in the corresponding indices.

TUNISIA

PISA 2015



PISA PERFORMANCE & GDP PER CAPITA



WB EDUCATION ENGAGEMENT

FINANCING:

- Tunisia Tertiary Education for Employability
- Accelerating High-Speed Internet Access

ANALYTICAL:

- ECD Strategy Development TA

SABER³:

- SABER-ECD (2015)
- SABER-Student Assessment (2013)
- SABER-School Health and School Feeding (2015)
- SABER-Teachers (2011)

³ Systems Approach for Better Education Results

ABOUT PISA

PISA: Program for International Student Assessment

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. It was launched in 2000 and is conducted every three years, with a focus on one of the subjects in each round. In 2015, the focus is on Science. The test was taken by representative samples from 72 countries, including nearly 540,000 students. Six MENA countries participated in this PISA round: Algeria, Jordan, Lebanon, Qatar, Tunisia and the United Arab Emirates.