Appendix F

The Test-Curriculum Matching Analysis—Science



TIMSS went to great lengths to ensure that comparisons of student achievement across countries would be as fair and equitable as possible. The *TIMSS 2011 Assessment Frameworks* were designed to specify the important aspects of science that participating countries agreed should be the focus of an international assessment of science achievement, and the assessment items were developed through a collaborative process with national representatives to faithfully represent the specifications in the frameworks and field tested extensively in participating countries. Finalizing the TIMSS 2011 assessments involved a series of reviews by representatives of the participating countries, experts in science, and testing specialists. At the end of this process, the National Research Coordinators (NRCs) from each country formally approved the TIMSS 2011 assessments, thus accepting them as being sufficiently fair to compare their students' science achievement with that of students from other countries.

Although the assessments were developed to represent an agreed-upon framework and were intended to have as much in common across countries as possible, it was unavoidable that the match between the TIMSS 2011 assessment (or test) and the science curriculum would not be the same in all countries. To restrict test items to just those topics included in the curricula of all participating countries and covered in the same sequence would severely limit test coverage and restrict the research questions that the study is designed to address. The tests, therefore, inevitably have some items measuring topics unfamiliar to some students in some countries.

The Test-Curriculum Matching Analysis (TCMA) was conducted to investigate the extent to which the TIMSS 2011 science assessment was relevant to each country's curriculum. The TCMA also investigates the impact on a country's performance of including only achievement items that were judged to be relevant to its own curriculum.¹

To gather data about the extent to which the TIMSS 2011 tests were relevant to the curricula of the TIMSS countries and benchmarking participants, NRCs were asked to examine each achievement item and indicate whether the item was in their country's intended curriculum at the grade tested (fourth or eighth grade). The NRCs were asked to choose persons very familiar with the curriculum at these grades to make this determination. In some countries, the curriculum was prescribed for a range of grades and was not explicit about what was to be covered by the end of the fourth or eighth grades. For example, in Sweden the curriculum specifies the curricular goals to be achieved by the end of the fifth and ninth grades, but does not provide a grade-by-grade specification.

Because there also may be curriculum areas covered in some countries that are not covered by the TIMSS 2011 tests, the TCMA does not provide complete information about how well the tests cover the curricula of the countries.



In such situations, coordinators were asked to make the best judgment possible.² Since an item might be in the curriculum for some but not all students in a country, coordinators were asked to consider an item included if it was in the intended curriculum for more than 50 percent of the students. All TIMSS 2011 participants took part in the TCMA analysis except Bahrain, Georgia, Saudi Arabia, Honduras (sixth grade participant), and the US benchmarking states at the fourth grade, and Bahrain, Georgia, Ghana, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Honduras (ninth grade participant), and the US benchmarking states at the eighth grade.

Exhibits F.1 through F.4 present the TCMA results for the TIMSS 2011 science test at the fourth and eighth grades. Exhibits F.1 and F.2 show the average percent correct on the science items judged appropriate by each country at the fourth and eighth grades, respectively. Exhibits F.3 and F.4 show the standard errors corresponding to the percentages presented in Exhibits F.1 and F.2.

In Exhibit F.1, the bottom row of the exhibit shows the number of items, in terms of score points, identified as appropriate in each country. At the fourth grade, the maximum number of score points in the assessment was 181 points.³ Reading along the bottom row, it can be seen that only eight participants—Singapore, Korea, Japan, Chinese Taipei, the Russian Federation, Chile, Tunisia, and Yemen—judged less than half of the science items to be included in their curricula, although interestingly, five of the eight were among the highest performers on the TIMSS 2011 assessment. Two countries, Thailand and Armenia, judged 100 percent of the items (all 181 score points) to be included in their curricula. A further 29 countries, including one sixth grade participant, and two benchmarking participants, judged 75 percent or more (136 score points) to be appropriate.

At the eighth grade, the percentage of items judged appropriate was somewhat higher; five countries and one benchmarking participant accepted 100 percent of the items (all 233 score points), and a further 23 countries, two ninth grade participants, and two benchmarking participants judged 75 percent or more (175 score points) to be appropriate. Only Morocco, with 116 score points, judged less than half of the score points to be appropriate.

Because most countries indicated that some items were not included in their intended curriculum at the grade tested, the data were analyzed

The TIMSS 2011 fourth grade science assessment contained 172 items, yielding 184 score points. However, following item review, three items were deleted, resulting in data for reporting on 169 items and 181 score points. Similarly, following item review, the 217 items and 234 score points in the eighth grade assessment were reduced to 216 items and 233 score points.



² Exhibit 6 of the *TIMSS 2011 Encyclopedia* provides information on the grade-to-grade structure of the science curriculum for each TIMSS 2011 participant.

Appendix F.1: Average Percent Correct for the Test-Curriculum Matching Analysis



Based on a subset of items specifically identified by each country as addressing its curriculum

der a country name to comp compare performance for ea																			ntry	list	ed o	n th	e to	p. R	ead		the ng tl		liago	onal	
Country	Average Percent Correct on All Items	Singapore	of.	Finland		Chinese Taipei	Russian Federation	United States	Czech Republic	Hungary	Hong Kong SAR	ıblic	Sweden	Austria	England	Netherlands	Denmark	Germany	>	Portugal	Slovenia	Serbia	Ireland	Northern Ireland	Australia	Lithuania	Croatia	Romania	in	Belgium (Flemish)	Poland
ingaporo	66 (0.7)				H Japan				67		면 66					Net 67			99 Italy		S So		<u>ə</u>	8 68	W Aus	主 67	65	80 66	99 Spain		
ingapore orea, Rep. of	65 (0.3)	77 64	_	70 68	75 70	71 69	71 70	67 67	67	66					68 67	67	66 66				69	67 67	65	68	67	65	65	66			
inland	63 (0.4)	60	_	66	63	62	68	64	65	_	62				63	65				_	66	62	63	65	64	63	62	63	63	64	67
apan	60 (0.3)	62	_	64	69	67	62		62	60					62	61					63	61		63		59		60		60	62
Thinese Taipei	59 (0.4)	58	_	63	65	64	63	61	61	60					60	61	60				62	60		62	60	60	57		59	59	63
ussian Federation	59 (0.7)	58		63	61	58	68	61	62	59					59	60	60	59			63	59	59	61	60	60	59	59	60	60	64
Inited States	57 (0.4)	55	57	60	58	58	65	59	60		56	61	57	58	58	59	58	57	57	58	60	57	57	61	59	59	56	57	58	58	62
zech Republic	56 (0.5)	55	52	60	56	54	64	57	60	56	55	61		57	55	59	57			56	60	55	56	59		58	56	56	57	57	61
lungary	56 (0.7)	54	53	60	56	55	65		59	56	55	61			55	58	57	56		57		55		59	57	57	56	56	57	57	62
long Kong SAR	56 (0.7)	56	_	60	59	56	60	_			54				56	57				56				58	57			56	_		60
lovak Republic	55 (0.7)	_	52	60	57	53		57		56						57	56			56		54	56	58	_	57		56	-	56	60
weden	55 (0.5)	_	54	58	56	54	63	56	58		54				56	57	56				59	54	55	58	56	56		55	55	_	61
ustria	55 (0.6)	_	54			53		56		55							55			55			55		56	_		55		_	_
ngland letherlands	54 (0.6) 54 (0.4)	52	54 52	58	56	55 53	60	56 55		55 54	53				55	56	55 55				58	54 E4	55 54	58	56 56	56		54 54		54 55	
Penmark	54 (0.4)	51	_	57	54	52	60	_		54			54		53	56		55		54		53	54	56				54		55	_
ermany	54 (0.5)	50	_	57		52	60			54			53		54	56			53			53			55	55		54		_	_
aly	53 (0.5)	52	_	57	53	51	62	54	57	54			52		53	56	54				57	53	53	57	55	55	_	54	_	55	_
ortugal	53 (0.8)	51	_	_	_	53	61			54				54			54			54			54		56			53			-
lovenia	53 (0.4)	52		56	56	53	60			53			53		54	55		54		53		53			54			53			-
erbia	52 (0.6)	53	_	56	54	53	60		54	52					52	54		53	52	52		53	52	55		53	51			53	_
eland	52 (0.6)	49	51	55	51	51	59	53	54		51	55			52	53	52	53	51	52	54	51	52	55	53	53	50	52	53	52	57
Iorthern Ireland	52 (0.5)	48	51	55	50	51	59	53		52				53	52	54		53	51	52		51	52	55	53		50	51	53	52	
ustralia	52 (0.5)	50	_	55	50	50	59			52				52		53		52		52				_		53	_	51			_
ithuania	51 (0.5)	49	_	55	51	50	59				49					53	_	52		52		51	_	54	53		_	51		_	_
roatia	51 (0.4)	_	52		51	51	62			52	_			_		54	52	_		52	_			_	53	54		52	_	_	_
omania	51 (1.0)	49	49	54	51	50 49	57	51	_	51	49	54			51	52					54	50	51	54	52		50	51	_	51	_
pain elgium (Flemish)	50 (0.5) 49 (0.4)	46	_	54 53	47 49	49	57	50 51	-	50 50	_	54 54	_		49 50	52 52	50 50			50 50		40	50 50	53	51 51	_	49	49	51 50	50 51	_
oland	49 (0.4)	45	_	52	46	47	57	50		49			48			51		50		49					50			49			
lew Zealand	48 (0.5)	45	_	51	47	47	55	49	51		46	52		48	48	50		49	48	48		47	48	52	50	49	47	48	49	49	53
azakhstan	48 (1.0)	49		51		50				48					47	50	48			49		47		50				48		49	_
lorway	47 (0.4)	43	_	50	44	44	55	48	49		45	51			46	48	48			47		45	47	49	48	48	46	47	48	48	-
hile	45 (0.4)	43		49	43	44				45					44	46	46			46		44	45			47		45		45	
hailand	44 (0.9)	44	41	47	45	46	51	45	47	44		48			43	46	45				47	43	44	47		46			45	44	-
urkey	43 (0.7)	45	43	46	43	43	49	44	45	43		46			44	44	43	44			46	42	43	46	44	45	42			44	4.
an, Islamic Rep. of	41 (0.6)	40	40	46	43	43	49	42	43	42	39	46	41	42	42	43	42	42	40	42	44	41	42	44	43	44	40	42	43	41	45
zerbaijan	40 (0.9)	40	38	44	40	36	46	41		40		43				41		40		40		38	40	42			39	40	41	40	42
/lalta	40 (0.3)	38	_	43	42	41		_		40				39		41		40		40		39	40	_	41	_		40		_	_
Inited Arab Emirates	38 (0.3)		36		40		44			38		41				39		38		38		37		40		40		38		_	_
rmenia	34 (0.6)	_	32	_	_	32	41			35				35				35		35					_	36	_	35	_	_	_
(atar	34 (0.6)		34		37	35	38	36		34					35	35	35				36	33				36	33				
)man uwait	32 (0.5) 28 (0.5)	_	29 27		30		31		33 29	28		31		32 28		28	28		31 27	28		27			33 29	29	27		32 29		
unisia	26 (0.5)		25	31		26				26			27	27	29				26						27				27		
Morocco	20 (0.0)	_	22		23	20	23	22			20				21	22					22	20	21	22	22		21				_
emen	17 (0.4)		17		18	15	18			17				16			17			17					17		_	17	_	_	_
nternational Avg.	48 (0.1)			52					51				48			50		49		49					50			49	49	49	
otswana (6)	31 (0.7)					33	34	32	33	31	30		31	32	31	37	32	32	30	32	33	31	31	33	32	32			32		
emen (6)	28 (0.7)	28	26	31	29	27	31	29	29	28	26	31	27	28	28	28	28	27	27						29						
nchmarking Participants	20 (311)			- 1			٠,													_5										,	
lberta, Canada	57 (0.5)	55	58	59	57	57	64	58	59	57	56	60	56	57	57	59	57	57	57	57	60	56	57	60	58	58	55	56	57	57	6
Intario, Canada	54 (0.6)		53		54	54	62	_		54				55		57		54		54		54			56			_		_	_
Quebec, Canada	52 (0.5)	48		55				53	55	52	50	57	51	53	51	54	52	52	51	52	55	51	52	55	53	54			53		
Oubai, UAE	44 (0.3)	44	43	47	45	45	50	45	45	44	42	47	43	43	45	45	44	43	43	44	46	43	44	46	45	46	42	44	45	44	47
bu Dhabi, UAE	36 (0.7)	36								36	33	39	35	35	36		36	35	35	36						37			36	35	38
lumber of Items	101		(1	133	F4	C 0	0.4	150	1.40	170	122	12.4	152	122	120	1 / 1	177	120	120	160	152	111	175	120	140	1.41	154	170	100	155	10
Score Points) Identified*	181	n5	nl	1155	- N I	nu	×/I	11511	1/10	1 / X								1 K X	1 /X	ınx	17/	14h	1/5	1 4 4	1/	141	1174	11/h			

^{*} Of the 172 items in the Science test, some extended-response items were scored on a two-point scale, resulting in 184 score points. Following item review, three items were deleted, resulting in 169 items and 181 score points.



 $^{() \ \} Standard\ errors\ appear\ in\ parentheses.\ Because\ of\ rounding\ some\ results\ may\ appear\ inconsistent.$

Appendix F.1: Average Percent Correct for the Test-Curriculum Matching Analysis (Continued)



Fig. 66 Gi	Ref 66 67 63 63 65 66 67 67 65 66 66 62 65 65 65 65	New Zealand Kazakhstan Norway Chile Thailand Turkey Iran, Islamic Rep. of	Azerbaijan Malta United Arab Emirates Armenia Qatar Oman Kuwait Tunisia Morocco Yemen Botswana (6)	Alberta, Canada Alberta, Canada Ouebec, Canada Dubai, UAE Abu Dhabi, UAE Average Percent Correct on All Items	Country Country - 11MSS 2011
77 54 54 54 54 54 55 56 56 56 54 54 53 53 54 54 57 54 53 54 55 56 56 54 54 56 53 54 55 55 54 54 55 55 54 54 55 55 54 54	St St St St St St St St	68 66 65 63 65 65 66 65 63 62 61 63 63 63 62 60 60 55 60 60 61 63 59 58 56 59 59 60 61 60 60 61 59 59 60 60 58 57 60 57 57 58 58 57 57 56 56 56 56	67 65 66 65 65 65 65 66 66 62 65 65 65 65 65 63 63 63 64 64 66 62 65 65 65 65 65 65 62 63 63 64 64 61 62 61 60 59 60 60 63 61 56 61 62 61 60 60 59 59 59 59 61 60 58 59 62 61 60 60 59 59 59 59 59 61 60 58 59 62 59 59 59 59 59 60 59 61 59 62 59 59 59 59 58 57 57 57 58 60 57 57 57 59 58 58 58 56 56 54 56 56 59 55 59 56 58	69 67 66 65 62 65 (0.3) 65 62 63 63 62 63 (0.4) 61 57 60 60 58 60 (0.3) 62 58 59 59 56 59 (0.4) 61 59 59 59 59 59 59 (0.7) 61 59 58 57 56 57 (0.4) 59 57 56 56 57 56 (0.5)	Singapore Korea, Rep. of Finland Japan Chinese Taipei Russian Federation United States Czech Republic
56 55 54 53 52 54 55 54 55 55 54 54 55 55 54 54 55 55	Second Process Seco	60 56 55 54 56 56 57 58 56 56 55 55 56 57 56 55 54 55 55 56 57 55 54 52 55 55 55 57 54 54 55 54 54 55 57 54 54 54 54 54 55	58 56 57 56 55 55 56 58 56 55 58 58 57 56 55 54 55 55 59 55 60 56 59 57 55 55 55 55 57 55 56 55 57 56 55 55 53 54 54 58 54 56 54 57 56 56 55 54 54 54 59 54 54 57 56 56 54 54 53 57 54 53 54 54 57 54 54 57	58 55 56 56 53 56 (0.7) 57 55 56 56 55 (0.7) 57 54 55 55 55 (0.5) 56 53 55 55 54 55 (0.6) 57 55 54 53 54 (0.6) 57 54 54 54 53 54 (0.4)	Netherlands Denmark
54 52 52 52 51 51 52 53 53 52 51 51 52 53 53 52 51 51 51 52 54 53 53 51 51 52 54 53 52 51 54 51 53 5	Section 1	56 55 54 53 53 54 54 54 54 54 54 54 54 54 54 54 54 54 54 54 54 54 53<	56 55 54 54 52 54 53 58 54 53 56 56 55 54 53 53 53 56 52 56 52 54 54 54 54 54 54 53 52 56 52 56 52 54 54 54 54 </td <td>57 56 54 53 55 53 (0.5) 55 54 53 53 54 53 (0.8) 55 52 53 53 53 (0.4) 54 53 52 52 52 (0.6) 54 52 52 51 52 (0.6) 54 52 52 51 52 (0.5)</td> <td>Germany Italy Portugal Slovenia Serbia Ireland Northern Ireland</td>	57 56 54 53 55 53 (0.5) 55 54 53 53 54 53 (0.8) 55 52 53 53 53 (0.4) 54 53 52 52 52 (0.6) 54 52 52 51 52 (0.6) 54 52 52 51 52 (0.5)	Germany Italy Portugal Slovenia Serbia Ireland Northern Ireland
48 46 46 48 45 45 46 47 47 46 46 45 45 45 45 49 45 48 45 49 47 47 46 46 45 47 47 46 46 45 47 47 46 48 45 49 45 48 45 48 45 49 47 47 46 48 48 45 49 47 47 47 48 48 48 48 48 48 48 48 48 48 48 48 48	48 46 46 48 45 45 46 46 47 47 48 49 47 47 48 48 48 45 45 45 45 45 45 45 45 45 45 45 45 45	54 54 53 51 51 51 52 53 51 51 51 51 52 52 53 51 50 51 50 50 50 52 50 49 49 49 50 50 52 50 50 50 49 49 49 51 48 48 49 48 48 49	54 53 52 51 49 51 51 55 51 54 51 52 53 53 51 51 50 51 51 53 51 53 51 53 52 51 50 50 49 50 50 54 49 53 50 52 51 51 50 49 49 49 49 48 49 49 53 49 48 49 50 51 50 50 49 48 49 49 52 49 49 49 50 50 49 48 47 48 48 52 48 48 48 51	53 50 52 51 52 51 (0.5) 54 52 52 51 54 51 (0.4) 53 51 51 51 52 51 (1.0) 52 52 50 50 50 (0.5) 52 50 50 49 49 (0.4) 51 49 50 49 49 (0.5) 51 49 48 48 48 (0.5)	Lithuania Croatia Romania Spain Belgium (Flemish) Poland New Zealand
37 35 35 35 34 35 35 36 36 35 34 35 35 36 36 35 34 35 35	37 35 35 35 36 36 36 35 34 35 35 36 36 35 34 35 35 36 36 35 34 35 38 35 37 35 35 35 35 35 35 35 35	49 48 47 46 47 47 48 48 46 46 48 45 45 46 48 45 44 44 44 45 45 43 43 44 43 43 44 45 42 41 43 41 42 43 42 40 40 41 40 40 41 42 40 40 41 40 40 40	49 47 47 46 46 47 50 46 50 46 48 47 47 46 45 45 45 49 45 48 45 49 46 46 45 44 44 44 5 49 45 48 45 48 45 44 44 43 42 43 43 48 43 47 43 46 43 43 42 41 41 41 42 45 42 48 42 46 43 41 41 40 40 39 40 44 40 40 42 41 42 41 40 40 39 40 42 40 40 40 42	48 46 47 47 47 47 0.4 47 47 45 45 46 45 0.4 47 46 44 44 44 0.9 44 44 43 43 44 43 0.7 43 43 42 41 42 41 0.6 41 40 40 40 41 40 0.9 42 40 40 40 39 40 0.3	Chile Thailand Turkey Iran, Islamic Rep. of Azerbaijan Malta
	34 31 31 31 31 31 31 31 31 31 31 31 31 31	37 35 35 34 35 35 37 34 34 35 34 35 35 35 32 31 32 32 32 33 30 28 28 28 28 28 29 28 27 26 25 26 26 27 23 21 21 20 21 21 22 19 17 17 17 17 17 17 17	36 36 35 34 35 37 35 38 35 37 36 36 35 34 35 38 34 36 34 38 34 34 33 32 31 32 35 32 33 32 37 30 30 29 28 27 28 28 31 28 30 28 32 28 27 27 26 26 30 26 27 26 29 23 22 22 21 21 21 24 21 21 21 23 19 18 18 17 17 17 17 19 17 18 17 20	35 33 35 34 36 34 (0.6) 36 34 35 34 34 34 34 (0.6) 34 32 32 32 32 32 (0.5) 30 28 28 28 28 28 (0.5) 28 26 26 26 27 26 (0.6) 23 20 21 21 21 21 (0.4) 18 16 17 17 17 17 (0.4)	Armenia Qatar Oman Kuwait Tunisia Morocco



Appendix F.2: Average Percent Correct for the Test-Curriculum Matching Analysis



Based on a subset of items specifically identified by each country as addressing its curriculum

Read across the row to compare under a country name to compare to compare performance for each	are the perfor	mance o	f the	coun	try do	own	the l	eft o	n th	ne it	ems	incl	ude	d by	the	cou	tries Intry	list	oss t ed c	the t	op. ie to	Read pp. R	d do ead	wn alo	the ng th	colu ne d	ımn iago	onal	,	TIMSS 2011
Country	Average Percent Correct on All Items	Singapore Chinese Taipei	Korea, Rep. of	Japan	Finland Russian Federation	Slovenia	Hong Kong SAR	England	United States	Hungary	Israel	Australia	Lithuania	New Zealand	Sweden	Italy	Ukraine	Norway	Turkey	Kazakhstan	Iran, Islamic Rep. of	United Arab Emirates	Romania	Chile	Jordan	Thailand	Armenia	Qatar	Oman	IEA's Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study – TIMSS 2011
Singapore	64 (0.9)	65 64	65	64 6	4 65	65	65	65	64	64	65	64	64	65	64	65	64	64	64	64	64	64	64	65	67	64	64	65	64	nal
Chinese Taipei	59 (0.5)	57 59	59	60 6	0 60	61	59	59	59	59	58	59	59	59	59	60	58	59	59	59	58	59	59	58	61	59	59	59	59	atio
Korea, Rep. of	58 (0.4)	55 58	61	59 6	0 59	59	58	59	58	58	56	58	58	58	58	60	57	58	58	58	57	58	59	57	60	58	58	58	58	ern
Japan	57 (0.5)	55 57			9 58		_	57	57	57			57	57					57	57	57	57	58	57		57	57	56	57	ᆵ
Finland	56 (0.5)	53 56	57	56 5		58										57					55		56	55		56	56	_		ds in
Russian Federation	54 (0.7)	52 54	_	55 5	6 57	_	_		54		_	54	54	54	54	56			54	55	54	54	55	53	57	54	54	54	55	renc
Slovenia	54 (0.5)	53 54	_		6 56			54											54	55			54	54	56	54		54		1/s T
Hong Kong SAR	52 (0.7)	51 52	_		4 53			53	52					53		53			52				53	52						.: E
England	52 (1.0)	50 52	53	53 5	3 53	54	52	53	52					53		53			52				52	52		52		52	53	SOURCE:
United States	50 (0.5)	48 50	50	50 5	1 52	52	49		50	50	50			51					50	50	50		50	51	53	50	50	50	51	9
Hungary	50 (0.6)	48 50	51	50 5	2 51	52	50	50	50	50	49	50	50	51	50	52	49	51	50	50	50	50	51	50	53	50	50	49	50	S
Israel	49 (0.8)	49 49	49	49 5	0 51	50	50	50	49	49	49	50	49	50	50	50	48	50	49	49	49	50	49	51	52	49	49	49	50	
Australia	49 (1.0)	46 49	49	49 5	0 50	50	48	49	49	49	49	49	50	50	49	50	48	49	49	49	48	49	49	49	51	49	49	48	49	
Lithuania	48 (0.5)	45 48	49	48 4	9 49	50	47	47	48	48	47	48	48	48	48	49	47	48	48	48	47	48	48	47	50	48	48	47	48	
New Zealand	48 (0.9)	46 48	48	48 4	9 49	49	47	48	48	48	47	48	48	49	48	49	47	48	48	48	47	48	48	48	50	48	48	47	48	
Sweden	47 (0.5)	44 47	48	47 4	.9 49		47	47	47	47		47	47	47	47	49	46		47	48	47	47	47	47	49	47	47	46	47	
Italy	45 (0.4)	42 45			7 48		45	45	45	45		46	46	46	45	47	45		45	46	45	46	46	46	48	45	45	44	46	
Ukraine	45 (0.7)	43 45			7 47	_	46	46	45	45		46	45	46	45	47	45		45	46	45	46	46	45	_	45	45	45	47	
Norway	43 (0.5)	40 43			5 45			43	43	43		44	44	44		45	43		43	44	43	44	44	43	46		43	42	44	
Turkey	43 (0.7)	42 43			4 44			43	43	43		44	43	43				43			43		43	43		43		44	_	
Kazakhstan	43 (0.9)	41 43			4 45	_		43	42	43		43	43	43		44			43	43	43	43	43	42	44		43	43	43	
Iran, Islamic Rep. of	41 (0.7)	38 41	41		2 43		41		40	40		41	41	41	41			42		41	40	41	41	40	43		41	42	_	
United Arab Emirates	39 (0.4)	39 39			0 42	_			39	39		40	40	40					39	40	39	40	40	40	42	39	39	40		
Romania	38 (0.7)	36 38	_		0 41	_	_		38			39		39				39			38		39	39		_		38	_	
Chile	37 (0.4)	34 37	_		9 40				37	37		37	38	38					37		37		38	38	40	37	37	37		
Jordan	37 (0.6)	36 37	_		8 39		37	38	37	37		38	37	38	38	39	37		37	37	37	37	38	37	41	37	37	38	38	
Thailand	36 (0.7)	33 36			7 38		36	36	36	36		36	36	36					36	36	35	36	36	36	39	36	36	36		
Armenia	35 (0.5)	32 35	_		6 37 5 36			35 35	35 34			35	35	35					35 34	35 34	35	36	35 34	35	37 37	35 34		36 35	_	
Qatar	34 (0.5) 33 (0.4)	33 34 32 33	_		4 35	_	_	34	33					35 34		35 35			33		33	34 34	34	34	36	33		35		
Oman Malaysia		32 33			4 34	_	_		33					34		-			33	-	33	_	34	34		33		34	_	
Malaysia Palestinian Nat'l Auth.	33 (0.9) 33 (0.5)	32 33			4 34	_	_		33				33	34					33	33	33	34	34	33	36	33		34	34	
Tunisia	33 (0.3)	32 33			4 34	_						33				34				33			33	33		33		33	-	
Macedonia, Rep. of	32 (0.4)	30 32			3 34	_		32								33		32			32			32	34			32	_	
Lebanon	29 (0.7)	29 29	_		1 32	_										31			29			30		30	32			31	_	
Morocco	25 (0.7)	24 25	_		5 27	_	_				24											25		_	27		25		_	
International Avg.	44 (0.1)	42 44																							_	_	_	-	45	
Botswana (9)	30 (0.4)	29 30			$\overline{}$					_			_			-	-			$\overline{}$								_	_	
South Africa (9)	22 (0.3)	29 30																												
	22 (0.3)	21 22	22	21 2	J Z7	23	2.5	23	22	22	22	22	22	23	22	23	21	22	22	22	22	23	22	23	27	22	22	23	22	
Benchmarking Participants	E4 (0.5)	F2 5:	F.	F4 -	c c-		F 1	F.	F 4	Ler	F.1			F.	F.4	F.	F.1		F.4		F 1				F .	F.4	F 1	F2		
Alberta, Canada	54 (0.5)	52 54	56	54 5	5 56	56	54	54	54	54	54	55	55	56	54	56	54	55	54		54	55	55	55	56	54	54		55	
Ontario, Canada	49 (0.5)	47 49		48 4	9 50	50	49	49	49	49	49	49	20	20	49	50	48	49	49	49	48	49	49	50	51	49	49	47		
Quebec, Canada	48 (0.6)	46 48			0 50	50	48	48	48	48	48	49	49	49	49)U	48 42	49	48 42			49		49	51					
Dubai, UAE	43 (0.4)	43 43	44	44 4	4 46	44	44	44	44	43	20	44	44	44	20	45	43	44	43	20	43	44	44	44	46	43	43	44	44	
Abu Dhabi, UAE	38 (0.7)	38 38	39	39 3	9 41	39	39	39	39	38	39	39	39	39	აგ	40	Эŏ	39	эŏ	39	ΣŎ	39	39	39	41	οŏ	Þδ	40	39	
Number of Items (Score Points) Identified*	233	160 233	177	126 2	03 170	200	163	192	216	232	187	214	217	200	218	210	199	193	233	220	228	223	226	176	198	233	233	166	176	

^{*} Of the 217 items in the Science test, some extended-response items were scored on a two-point scale, resulting in 234 score points. Following item review, one item was deleted, resulting in 216 items and 233 score points.

 $^{() \ \} Standard\ errors\ appear\ in\ parentheses.\ Because\ of\ rounding\ some\ results\ may\ appear\ inconsistent.$

Appendix F.2: Average Percent Correct for the Test-Curriculum Matching Analysis (Continued)



Malaysia	Palestinian Nat'l Auth.	Tunisia	Macedonia, Rep. of	Lebanon	Morocco	Botswana (9)	South Africa (9)	Benchmarking Participants	Alberta, Canada	Ontario, Canada	Quebec, Canada	Dubai, UAE	Abu Dhabi, UAE	Average Percent Correct on All Items	Country Singapore Chinese Taipei Korea, Rep. of Japan Finland Russian Federation Slovenia Hong Kong SAR England United States Hungary Israel Australia Lithuania New Zealand	and Science Study – TIMSS 2011
64	65	65	64	65	65	64	64	en	66	64	64	64	65	64 (0.9)	Singapore	tics
59	60	58	59	58	58	59	58	ш	60	59	59	59	59	59 (0.5)	Chinasa Tainai	ma
58	60	59	58	57	58	58	58		61	59	58	58	58	58 (0.4)	Koroa Pop of	athe
58	57	57	57	56	57	57	57		58	55	57	57	57	57 (0.5)	lanan	Σ
56	56	54	56	55	52	56	56		57	56	56	56	56	56 (0.5)	Finland	ona
54	55	54	54	54	54	54	54		55	54	54	54	54	54 (0.7)	Pussian Fodoration	nati
54	55	55	54	55	54	54	54		55	54	54	54	54	54 (0.5)	Clavania	nter
52	53	51	52	52	51	53	52		54	52	52	52	52	52 (0.7)	Hong Kong CAD	<u>=</u>
52	52	50	52	52	50	52	52		54	52	52	52	52		Fooload	ρp
50	50	49	50	50	49	50	50		52	50	50	50	50	52 (1.0)	England	Tel
		-			_				_			_	_	50 (0.5)	United States	. A's
50	51	50	50	50	49	50	50		51	50	50	50	50	50 (0.6)	Hungary	<u>=</u>
50	50	48	49	50	49	49	49		51	49	49	49	50	49 (0.8)	Israel	JRCI
49	48	46	49	48	47	49	49		51	49	49	49	49	49 (1.0)	Australia	SOL
48	48	46	48	47	45	47	48		49	48	48	48	48	48 (0.5)	Lithuania	
48	47	46	48	48	47	47	48		49	48	48	48	48	48 (0.9)		
47	48	45	47	46	44	47	47		49	46	47	47	47	47 (0.5)	Sweden	
45	47	43	45	45	43	45	45		47	45	46	45	46	45 (0.4)	Italy	
46	46	45	45	45	45	45	45		46	45	46	45	46	45 (0.7)	Ukraine	
43	44	42	43	43	42	43	43		46	44	44	43	44	43 (0.5)	Norway	
43	45	44	43	43	42	43	42		44	43	42	43	44	43 (0.7)	Turkey	
43	44	44	43	43	44	42	43		43	43	43	43	43	43 (0.9)	Kazakhstan	
40	42	41	41	41	40	40	40		41	40	41	41	40	41 (0.7)	Iran, Islamic Rep. of	
39	40	39	39	40	40	39	39		40	39	40	39	39	39 (0.4)	United Arab Emirates	
39	39	38	38	39	38	38	38		39	38	39	38	39	38 (0.7)	Romania	
37	38	36	37	37	36	37	37		39	37	37	37	38	37 (0.4)	Chile	
37	38	37	37	38	37	37	37		37	37	37	37	38	37 (0.6)	Jordan	
36	37	35	36	36	34	36	35		38	36	36	36	36	36 (0.7)	Thailand	
35	37	36	35	37	34	35	34		35	34	35	35	35	35 (0.5)	Armenia	
34	35	34	34	35	33	34	33		35	32	34	34	34	34 (0.5)	Qatar	
33	35	33	33	34	33	33	33		35	33	33	33	33	33 (0.4)	Oman	
33	34	34	33	34	33	33	33		34	34	33	33	34	33 (0.9)	Malaysia	
34	35	34	33	35	33	33	33		33	32	33	33	34	33 (0.5)	Malaysia Palestinian Nat'l Auth.	
33	34	33	33	33	33	33	32		34	32	33	33	33	33 (0.4)	Tunisia	
32	34	31	32	33	30	32	32		33	31	32	32	33	32 (0.8)	Macedonia, Rep. of	
30	31	31	29	31	30	29	29		30	28	29	29	30	29 (0.7)	Lebanon	
25	25	24	25	26	25	25	25		25	23	25	25	25	25 (0.2)	Morocco	
44	45	44	44	44	43	44	44		45	44	44	44	44	44 (0.1)	International Avg.	
									_	_				. ,		
31	32	31	30	31	29	31	30		31	31	30	30	31	30 (0.4)	Botswana (9)	
22	23	22	22	23	22	22	22		23	21	22	22	23	22 (0.3)	South Africa (9)	
															Benchmarking Participants	
54	54	51	54	53	53	54	54		59	56	54	54	54	54 (0.5)	Alberta, Canada	
49		46		48	47	49	48		52	50	49		49	49 (0.5)	Ontario, Canada	
48		47		48	47	48			51		48		48	48 (0.6)	Quebec, Canada	
44		43	43	44	43	44	43		45	43	43	43	44	43 (0.4)	Dubai, UAE	
39		38	38	39	39	38			40	38	39	38	39	38 (0.7)	Abu Dhabi, UAE	
3,		50	50			50	50							(0,7)		
220	181	124	233	162	116	219	212		154	146	205	233	200	233	Number of Items (Score Points) Identified*	



to determine whether the inclusion of these items had any effect on the international performance comparisons.⁴

The first column of data in Exhibits F.1 and F.2 show the average percent correct on all test items for each participant, together with its standard error. Subsequent columns show the performance of each participant on those items judged appropriate by the participant listed at the head of the column. Participants are presented in order of their performance based on average percent correct on all items, from highest to lowest. To interpret these exhibits, choosing a country and reading across its row provides the average percent correct for the students in that country on the items selected by each of the countries listed along the top of the exhibit. For example, at the fourth grade, Singapore, where the average percent correct was 77 percent on its own set of items, had 67 percent correct on the items selected by Korea, 70 percent on the items selected by Finland, 75 percent on the items selected by Japan, and so forth. The column for a country listed at the top shows how each of the other participants performed on the set of items selected as appropriate for that country's students. Using the set of items selected by the Russian Federation as an example, 58 percent of these items, on average, were answered correctly by students in Singapore, 57 percent by students in Korea, 63 percent by students in Finland, 61 percent by students in Japan, 58 percent by those in Chinese Taipei, and so forth. The shaded diagonal element in the exhibit shows how each country performed on the set of items that it selected based on its own curriculum. Thus, Russian students averaged 68 percent correct on the set of items identified by the Russian Federation for the analysis.

For each country's selected items, the international averages across participating countries are presented in the lower part of the exhibit. These show that the selection of items by the participating countries varied somewhat in average difficulty, ranging at the fourth grade from 47 percent correct for those chosen by Singapore, Korea, Hong Kong SAR, and Croatia to 55 percent correct for those chosen by the Russian Federation. Similarly at the eighth grade, the average percent correct ranged from 42 percent for those items chosen by Singapore to 47 percent for those chosen by Jordan.

Comparing the diagonal element for a country with the overall average percent correct shows the difference between performance on the set of items chosen as appropriate for that country and performance on the test as a whole. In general, countries performed better on their own item sets than on the

⁴ It should be noted that the science achievement presented in Exhibits F.1 and F.2 is based on average percent correct (the percentage of students in a country, averaged across all items), which is different from the average scale scores that are presented in Chapter 1.



items overall, although usually not by much. Singapore had one of the greatest differences. The average percent correct for Singapore across all fourth grade science items was 66 percent. The diagonal element shows that Singaporean students had a greater average percent correct (77 percent) across the set of items selected as appropriate for Singapore than they did overall. However, most participants had a difference of one or two percentage points between the two performance measures. In addition to Singapore, with a difference of eleven percentage points, other exceptions included Korea (a difference of 10 points), Japan and the Russian Federation (9 points), the Slovak Republic (6 points), and Chinese Taipei and Poland (5 points). At the eighth grade, the differences were generally less; the largest being in province of Alberta (5 points) and Japan, Slovenia, and Jordan (4 percentage points).

It is clear that the selection of items does not have a major effect on the relative performance among TIMSS participants. Participants that had relatively high or low performance across all the science items also had relatively high or low performance on each of the various sets of items selected for the TCMA. For example, at the fourth grade, Singapore had the highest average percent correct not only on the test as a whole, but also on all of the different item selections, with Korea, Finland, and Japan next in order of performance on practically all selections of items. Although there are some changes in the ordering of countries based on the items selected for the TCMA, most of these differences are within the boundaries of sampling error.⁵

Even when countries performed better on the items judged by them to be included in their curriculum than they did overall, their performance relative to other participants was changed little. As an example, consider the 200 score points selected by Slovenia at the eighth grade. The students in Slovenia did better on these items (58% correct) than on the test as a whole (54% correct). However, most other countries also did better on these particular items, with an international average of 46 percent correct compared with 44 percent correct overall. In general, the TIMSS participants that performed as well or better than Slovenia on the overall test also performed as well or better on the items selected by Slovenia.

The TCMA results provide evidence that the TIMSS 2011 science assessment provides a reasonable basis for comparing achievement of the participating countries and benchmarking entities. This result is not unexpected; making the assessment as fair as possible was a major consideration in test

⁵ Small differences in performance between adjacent countries shown in this exhibit usually are not statistically significant. The standard errors for the average percent correct statistics based on the TIMSS 2011 sample are provided in Exhibits F.3 and F.4. For any sample average shown in Exhibits F.1 and F.2, it can be said with 95 percent confidence that the corresponding value in the population falls between the sample estimate plus or minus two standard errors.



Appendix F.3: Standard Errors for the Test-Curriculum Matching Analysis



to compare performance for ea	:	: :	Dase:	u on	:	vviic	: :		abu	ut t	ne t	est i	iteii	וז נט	illici	luue			,						,					
Country	Average Percent Correct on All Items		Korea, Rep. of	riilialiu Japan	Chinese Taipei	Russian Federation	United States	Czech Republic	Hungary	Hong Kong SAR	Slovak Republic	Sweden	Austria	England	Netherlands	Denmark	Germany	Italy	Portugal	Slovenia	Serbia	Ireland	Northern Ireland	Australia	Lithuania	Croatia	Romania	Spain	Belgium (Flemish)	Poland
Singapore	66 (0.7)	0.7	0.7 0	6 0.6	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7 ().7	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7 0.	.7
Korea, Rep. of	65 (0.3)	0.4 (0.3 0	3 0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3 (0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3 0.	.3
Finland	63 (0.4)	0.4 (0.5 0	5 0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4 ().5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4 0.	.5
Japan	60 (0.3)																												0.3 0.	
Chinese Taipei	59 (0.4)																												0.4 0.	
Russian Federation	59 (0.7)			7 0.8					0.7 (0.7				0.7							0.7 0.	
United States	57 (0.4)																												0.4 0.	_
Czech Republic	56 (0.5)	0.5 (5 0.6					0.5 (0.5 0.	
Hungary	56 (0.7)			7 0.7																									0.7 0.	
Hong Kong SAR	56 (0.7)	0.7 (7 0.7	_	_	_		0.7 (-	0.7					_		0.6	_		_	0.7		_	_	0.7			0.7 0.	_
Slovak Republic	55 (0.7)			7 0.8	_	_	_			_	$\overline{}$	_	_	_		_	_	0.7	_		_	_	_	_	_				0.7 0.	_
Sweden	55 (0.5)																												0.7 0.	
Austria	55 (0.5)																												0.5 0.	
England	54 (0.6)																												0.5 0.	
Nothorlands	54 (0.0)																												0.4 0.	
Netherlands	54 (0.4)																												0.4 0.	
Denmark Germany	54 (0.5)																													
																													0.5 0.	
Italy	53 (0.5)			5 0.6																									0.5 0.	
Portugal	53 (0.8)																												0.9 0.	
Slovenia	53 (0.4)																												0.5 0.	
Serbia	52 (0.6)																												0.6 0.	
Ireland	52 (0.6)																												0.6 0.	
Northern Ireland	52 (0.5)																												0.5 0.	
Australia	52 (0.5)	_			_	_			_	-	_								_		_	_							0.5 0.	_
Lithuania	51 (0.5)			_		-	_	_	_	-	_	_	_	_		_	-	_	_		_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	0.5 0.	_
Croatia	51 (0.4)	_			_				_	_																			0.4 0.	_
Romania	51 (1.0)	_	1.0 1		_	_	_		1.0 1	_	_	_				_		1.0	_		_	_	_	_	_	1.1		_	1.1 1.	_
Spain	50 (0.5)																												0.6 0.	
Belgium (Flemish)	49 (0.4)	_	_																										0.4 0.	
Poland	49 (0.5)			.5 0.5																									0.5 0.	
New Zealand	48 (0.5)			.5 0.5																		_	_	_	_	_	_	_	0.5 0.	
Kazakhstan	48 (1.0)			.0 1.0																						1.0			1.0 1.	
Norway	47 (0.4)																												0.4 0.	
Chile	45 (0.4)	0.4 (0.4 0	4 0.4	_	_			_	_	_	_							_		_	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4 0.	.4
Thailand	44 (0.9)			.9 0.9					0.9 (1.0	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0							_	_	_	_	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0 1.	.0
Turkey	43 (0.7)			7 0.7					0.7 (0.7		0.7					0.7				0.7				0.7			0.7 0.	
Iran, Islamic Rep. of	41 (0.6)																												0.6 0.	
Azerbaijan	40 (0.9)																												0.9 1.	
Malta	40 (0.3)																												0.3 0.	
United Arab Emirates	38 (0.3)																												0.3 0.	
Armenia	34 (0.6)																												0.6 0.	
Qatar	34 (0.6)																												0.6 0.	
Oman	32 (0.5)																												0.5 0.	
Kuwait	28 (0.5)																												0.5 0.	
Tunisia	26 (0.6)	0.6	0.6 0	6 0.7	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6 0.	.6
Morocco	21 (0.4)	0.4 (0.5 0	4 0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4 ().4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4 0.	.4
Yemen	17 (0.4)	0.5 (0.4 0	.5 0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4 ().4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4 0.	.5
International Avg.	48 (0.1)	0.1 (0.1 0	1 0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1 (0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1 0.	.1
Botswana (6)	31 (0.7)																												0.8 0.	
Yemen (6)	28 (0.7)	0.7	0.6 0	7 0.8	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.7).7	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.3	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7 0.	8
Benchmarking Participants	20 (0.7)	0.7	0		0.,	, 0.0	0.,	0.,	2.7	[2.0	0.,	٠.,	0.,	0.,	0.7	0.7	J.,		,		0.,	0.,	0.,	0.,	0.7	0.,	,	J., J.	
	F7 (2 F)	0.7	0.6	F	0.5	0.5	0.7	0	0.5) E ¹	0	0 -	0 -	0 -	0	0 -	0 -	0	0 =		0.5	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.7	0 -	0 -	0	0.5	
Alberta, Canada	57 (0.5)																												0.5 0.	
Ontario, Canada	54 (0.6)	0.6 (U./ 0	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6 (J.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6 0.	.6
Quebec, Canada	52 (0.5)																												0.5 0.	
Dubai, UAE	44 (0.3)																												0.3 0.	
Abu Dhabi, UAE	36 (0.7)	0.7 (U./ 0	8.0 8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7 ()./	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7 0.	.8
Number of Items	181	65	61 1	22 51	60	QΛ	150	1//0	170 1	27	13/	152	122	120	1/11	177	120	120	160	157	1/16	175	120	1/16	1/11	15/	176	165	155 10	01
(Score Points) Identified*	101	0.0	υ i I.	ונוני	UJ	04	130	177	170 1	J2	1,54	IJŹ	ננו	130	1+1	1//	130	120	100	132	140	1/3	ינו	140	1+1	134	170	נטו	ון ככו	71

^{*} Of the 172 items in the Science test, some extended-response items were scored on a two-point scale, resulting in 184 score points. Following item review, three items were deleted, resulting in 169 items and 181 score points.



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

Appendix F.3: Standard Errors for the Test-Curriculum Matching Analysis (Continued)



το	cor	mpar	e pe	rtori	man	ce to	or ea	ach (diffe	rent	cou	untry	/ bas	sed	on it	is or	wn c	lecis	ions	abo	out t	he t	est i	items	s to includ	e.	
New Zealand	Kazakhstan	Norway	Chile	Thailand	Turkey	Iran, Islamic Rep. of	Azerbaijan	Malta	United Arab Emirates		Qatar	Oman	Kuwait	Tunisia	Morocco	Yemen	Botswana (6)	Yemen (6)	Benchmarking Participants	Alberta, Canada	Ontario, Canada	Quebec, Canada	Dubai, UAE	Abu Dhabi, UAE	Average Percent Correct on All Items		Country Singapore Korea, Rep. of Finland Japan
	_	7 0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7		0.6	0.6	0.6		0.7				0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	ĕ	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	66 (0.7)		Singapore
		3 0.3			0.3																0.3				65 (0.3)		Korea, Rep. of
		5 0.5																		_	0.5			_	63 (0.4)		Finland
		3 0.3 4 0.4																			0.3				60 (0.3) 59 (0.4)		Japan :
		7 0.7			0.7																0.7				59 (0.4)		Russian Federation
		4 0.4																			0.4				57 (0.4)		United States
0.5	0.5	5 0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5		0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	56 (0.5)		Czech Republic
		7 0.7																		_	0.7				56 (0.7)		Hungary
		7 0.6																		_	0.7		_		56 (0.7)	_	Hong Kong SAR
		7 0.7 5 0.5																			0.8				55 (0.7) 55 (0.5)		Swodon i
		5 0.5																		_	0.5		_	_	55 (0.6)		Japan Chinese Taipei Russian Federation United States Czech Republic Hungary Hong Kong SAR Slovak Republic Sweden Austria England
		6 0.6																			0.6				54 (0.6)		England
0.4	0.4	4 0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5		0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	54 (0.4)		Netherlands
		5 0.5																		_	0.5			_	54 (0.5)		Denmark
		5 0.5																			0.5				54 (0.5)		Germany
0.5	0.5	5 0.5 8 0.8	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5		_	0.5			_	53 (0.5) 53 (0.8)		Italy Portugal
		4 0.5																			0.6				53 (0.8)		Slovenia
		5 0.6																			0.6				52 (0.6)		Serbia
		6 0.6																			0.7				52 (0.6)		
		6 0.6																			0.6				52 (0.5)		Ireland Northern Ireland
		5 0.5																			0.6				52 (0.5)		Australia
		5 0.5																			0.5				51 (0.5)	_	Lithuania
		4 0.4 1 1.0																		_	0.4 1.0			_	51 (0.4) 51 (1.0)		Croatia
		5 0.5																		_	0.6				50 (0.5)		Romania Spain
		4 0.4																			0.4				49 (0.4)		Spain Belgium (Flemish)
		5 0.5																		_	0.5		_	_	49 (0.5)		Poland
		5 0.5																		_	0.5		_	_	48 (0.5)		New Zealand
		0 1.0																			1.0				48 (1.0)		Kazakhstan
		4 0.4																			0.4				47 (0.4)		Norway
		4 0.4 9 0.9																			0.4 1.0				45 (0.4) 44 (0.9)		Chile Thailand
		7 0.7			0.7			0.7			0.7						0.7				0.7				43 (0.7)		
		6 0.6																			0.6				41 (0.6)		Turkey Iran, Islamic Rep. of
1.0	0.9	9 0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.1	0.9	1.1			0.9				40 (0.9)		Azerbaijan
		3 0.3																			0.3				40 (0.3)		Malta
		3 0.3																			0.3				38 (0.3) 34 (0.6)		United Arab Emirates
		5 0.5 6 0.6																			0.6				34 (0.6)		Armenia
0.6	0.4	5 0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6			0.6				32 (0.5)		Qatar Oman
		5 0.5																			0.5				28 (0.5)		Kuwait
		6 0.6																			0.6				26 (0.6)		Tunisia
		4 0.4																			0.4				21 (0.4)		Morocco
		4 0.4																		_	0.4			_	17 (0.4)		Terrieri
		1 0.1																		_	0.1				48 (0.1)		International Avg.
		7 0.7 7 0.7																			0.8				31 (0.7) 28 (0.7)		Botswana (6) Yemen (6)
υ./	U./	, _{U./}	U./	U./	υ./	U./	U./	U./	U./	U./	U./	U./	U./	υ.0	U./	U.7	U./	0.0	1 1	U./	U./	v./	U./	U./	20 (0.7)		Renchmarking Participants
٥٢	0.4	5 0.5	0.5	0 5	0.5	٥ ٦	0.5	0 5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0 5	0 5	0.5	٥.4	0.5	0.5	1	ΛĒ	0.5	٥٢	0.5	0.5	57 (0.5)		Alberta, Canada
		6 0.6																			0.5				54 (0.6)		Ontario, Canada
0.5	0.5	5 0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5		0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	52 (0.5)		Quebec, Canada
0.3	0.3	3 0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4		0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	44 (0.3)		Dubai, UAE
0.8	0.7	7 0.7	8.0	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.8		0.7	8.0	0.7	0.7	0.7	36 (0.7)		Abu Dhabi, UAE
137	14	1 149	74	181	175	166	159	126	164	181	106	165	162	73	158	53	166	85		109	93	174	180	113	181		Number of Items (Score Points) Identified*



Appendix F.4: Standard Errors for the Test-Curriculum Matching Analysis



Read across the row to compare under a country name to comp o compare performance for ea	are the perfor	mance of t	he coun	try do	wn th	ne left	t on th	he it	ems	inclu	ided	l by	the o													al	
Country	Average Percent Correct on All Items	ore e Tai _l	Korea, Rep. of Japan	Finland Russian Federation	Slovenia	Hong Kong SAR	England United States	Hungary	Israel	Australia	Lithuania	New Zealand	Sweden	Italy	Ukraine	Norway T. J.	lurkey	Kazakhstan	II all, islaillic nep. Ol	United Arab Emirates	Komania	Cnile	Joinaii I : -	Inailand	Alliellia	Qatar	Oman
Singapore	64 (0.9)	1.0 0.9 0	0.9 0.9 0	0.9			.9 0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9 (0.9 0	.9 0	9 0	.9 0.	9 0	.9 0	.9 0	.9 0	9 0	.9 0.	9 0	.9 0).9
Chinese Taipei	59 (0.5)	0.6 0.5 0	0.5 0.6 0	0.5	0.5	0.5 0.	.5 0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5 (0.5 0	.5 0	.5 0	.5 0.	5 0	.5 0	.5 0	.5 0.	5 0	.5 0.	5 0	.5 0	.5
Korea, Rep. of	58 (0.4)	0.5 0.4 0	0.5 0.5 0	0.4	0.4	0.4 0.	.4 0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4 (0.4 0	.4 0	4 0	.4 0.	4 0	.4 0	.4 0	.4 0	4 0	.4 0.	4 0	.4 0).4
Japan	57 (0.5)	0.5 0.5 0	0.5 0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5 0.	.5 0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5 0	.5 0	.5 0	.5 0.	5 0	.5 0	.5 0	.5 0	.5 0	.5 0.	5 0	.5 0	.5
Finland	56 (0.5)	0.6 0.5 0	0.6 0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6 0.	.6 0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5 (0.5 0	.5 0	.5 0	.5 0.	5 0	.5 0	.5 0	.6 0.	6 0	.5 0.	5 0	.6 0	1.6
Russian Federation	54 (0.7)	0.8 0.7 0																						.7 0.			
Slovenia	54 (0.5)	0.6 0.5 0		_				_	_		_	_	_	_			_	_	_	_	_	_	_		_	_	
Hong Kong SAR	52 (0.7)	0.7 0.7 0	0.7 0.7 0	0.7	0.7	0.7 0.	7 0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7 0	.7 0	7 0	.7 0.	7 0	.7 0	.7 0	.7 0	7 0	.7 0.	7 0	.7 0	.7
England	52 (1.0)	0.7 0.7 0 1.1 1.0 1 0.5 0.5 0	.0 1.1 1	.0 1.0	1.0	1.0 1.	.0 1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0 1	.0 1	.0 1	.0 1.	0 1	.0 1	.0 1	.0 1.	0 1	.0 1.	0 1	.0 1	.0
United States	50 (0.5)	0.5 0.5 0	0.5 0.5 0	0.5	0.5	0.5 0.	.5 0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5 (0.5 (0.5 0	.5 0	5 0	.5 0.	5 0	.5 0	.5 0.	.5 0	5 0	0.5	5 0	.5 0	.5
Hungary	50 (0.6)	0.6 0.6 0																									
Israel	49 (0.8)	0.8 0.8 0																	-								
Australia	49 (1.0)	1.1 1.0 1		_	_		_	_	_			_	_	_			_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	
Lithuania Now Zoolond	48 (0.5)	0.5 0.5 0																									
New Zealand Sweden	48 (0.9) 47 (0.5)	1.0 0.9 0		_	_	_	_	_	_		_	_	_	_	_	_	-	_	_	_	_	$\overline{}$	_	_	_	.9 U	
Italy	47 (0.3)	0.6 0.5 0		_	_	_	_	_	_		_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	-	
Ukraine	45 (0.4)	0.7 0.7 0		_			_	_	_		_	_		_		_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	1.7 0.	_	_	
Norway	43 (0.5)	0.5 0.5 0		_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_		_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_		_	_	
Turkey	43 (0.7)	0.7 0.7 0		_				_	_		_	_	_	_				_	_		_	_	_	_	_		
Kazakhstan	43 (0.9)	0.9 0.9 0		-	_		_	-	_		_	_	_	_		_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	
Iran, Islamic Rep. of	41 (0.7)	0.7 0.7 0	0.7 0.7 0).7 0.7	0.7	0.7 0.	.7 0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7 (0.7 0	.7 0	7 0	.7 0.	7 0	.7 0	.7 0	.7 0.	7 0	.7 0.	7 0	.7 0	.7
United Arab Emirates	39 (0.4)	0.4 0.4 0	0.4 0.4 0	0.4	0.4	0.4 0.	.4 0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4 (0.4 0	.4 0	4 0	.4 0.	4 0	.4 0	.4 0	.4 0	4 0	.4 0.	4 0	.4 0	.4
Romania	38 (0.7)	0.7 0.7 0	0.7 0.7 0).7 0.7	0.7	0.6 0.	.7 0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7 (0.7 0	.7 0	.7 0	.7 0.	7 0	.7 0	.7 0	.7 0	7 0	.7 0.	7 0	.7 0	.7
Chile	37 (0.4)	0.4 0.4 0	0.4 0.4 0	0.5	0.4	0.4 0.	.4 0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4 (0.4 0	.4 0	4 0	.4 0.	4 0	.4 0	.4 0	.4 0	4 0	.4 0.	4 0	.4 0	1.4
Jordan	37 (0.6)	0.6 0.6 0	_	_	_		_	_	_		_	_	_	_			_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	
Thailand	36 (0.7)	0.7 0.7 0																									
Armenia	35 (0.5)	0.5 0.5 0		_			_	_	_		_	_	_	_			_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	
Qatar	34 (0.5)	0.6 0.5 0		_	_	_	_	-	_		_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	
Oman	33 (0.4)	0.4 0.4 0		_	_	_	_	_	_		_	-	_	_	_	_	-	_	_	_	_	$\overline{}$	_	_	_		
Malaysia Palestinian Nat'l Auth.	33 (0.9)	1.0 0.9 1		_	_		_	_	_		_	_	_	_		_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	0.5		.0 1	-
Tunisia	33 (0.5) 33 (0.4)	0.5 0.5 0		_				_	_		_	_	_	_			_	_	_		_	_	_	_	_		
Macedonia, Rep. of	32 (0.4)	0.8 0.8 0		_	_	_		_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	
Lebanon	29 (0.7)	0.7 0.7 0		_				_	_		_	_	_	_			_	_	_		_	_	_	_	_		
Morocco	25 (0.2)	0.2 0.2 0																									
International Avg.	44 (0.1)	0.1 0.1 0																									
		0.4 0.4 0																									
Botswana (9) South Africa (9)	30 (0.4) 22 (0.3)	0.4 0.4 0																									
. ,	22 (0.3)	0.0 0.0	v.+ U.4 L	0.4 د.،	0.4	v. + 0.	.+ 0.4	ر.ں _ا	0.4	0.5	v. +	v. +	ין כ.ט	۱ د.ی	0 د.ن	∪ ر.	0 د.	.٥ د.	J U	∪ ر.	.) اد.	. - U.	-T U	.ں ر	JU	0 ر.	ر.
enchmarking Participants	F4 (0 F)	0600		l	0.5	0.6	F 2.5	۱۵	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	F 6	e la		F .	F C	F .	-1-	<u> </u>	E .	F -	F 1 0	_
Alberta, Canada	54 (0.5)	0.6 0.5 0	0.5 0.5 (0.5	0.5	0.6 0.	.5 0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5 0	.5 0	5 0	.5 0.	5 0	.5 0	.5 0	.5 0	5 0	1.5 0.	5 0	.5 0	.5
Ontario, Canada	49 (0.5)	0.5 0.5 0																									
Quebec, Canada	48 (0.6)	0.6 0.6 0	1.0 U.6 (0.0	0.6	U.D U.	0.0	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0 0	.0 0	0 0.	.0 0.	0 0	.0 0	.0 0.	.0 0.	0 0	1.0 U.	0 0	.0 U	.0
Dubai, UAE	43 (0.4)	0.4 0.4 0 0.7 0.7 0	1.4 U.4 (1.4 0.4	0.4	0.4 0.	4 0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4 0	.4 0	4 0	.4 U.	4 0	.4 U	.4 U	4 0	4 0	1.4 0.	4 0	.4 U	.4
Abu Dhabi, UAE	38 (0.7)	U./ U./ (ı./ U./ (ı./ U./	U./	υ./ U.	./ 0./	U./	U./	U./	U./	U./	U./ (v./ (u./ U	./ 0	./ 0	./ U.	/ U	./ 0	./ U	./ U	./ U	ı./ U.	/ U	./ 0	./
Number of Items (Score Points) Identified*	233	160 233 1	77 126 2	03 170	200	163 19	216	232	187	214	217	200 2	218 2	210 1	199 1	93 23	33 2	20 22	8 22	23 22	26 17	76 19	98 2	33 23	3 16	56 1	76

^{*} Of the 217 items in the Science test, some extended-response items were scored on a two-point scale, resulting in 234 score points. Following item review, one item was deleted, resulting in 216 items and 233 score points.



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





Malaysia Palestinian Nat'l Auth. Tunisia Macedonia, Rep. of Lebanon Morocco Botswana (9) South Africa (9)	Benchmarking Participants Alberta, Canada Canada Canada Caubbec, Canada Cabubai, UAE Cabu Dhabi, UAE	Country Singapore Chinese Taipei Korea, Rep. of Japan Finland Russian Federation Slovenia Hong Kong SAR England United States Hungary Israel Australia Lithuania New Zealand
0.9 0.9 0.9 0.9 0.9 1.0 0.9 0.9	1.0 0.9 0.9 0.9 0.9 64 (0.9)	Sin name and
		Singapore
0.5 0.5 0.6 0.5 0.5 0.6 0.5 0.5	0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 59 (0.5)	Chinese Taipei
0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.5 0.4 0.4	0.5 0.5 0.4 0.4 0.4 58 (0.4)	Korea, Rep. of
0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5	0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 57 (0.5)	Japan 👨
0.5 0.6 0.6 0.5 0.6 0.6 0.5 0.5	0.6 0.6 0.5 0.5 0.5 56 (0.5)	Finland 🖁
0.7 0.8 0.8 0.7 0.8 0.7 0.7 0.7	0.7 0.8 0.7 0.7 0.7 54 (0.7)	Russian Federation
0.5 0.6 0.6 0.5 0.6 0.6 0.5 0.5	0.6 0.6 0.5 0.5 0.5 54 (0.5)	Slovenia
0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7	0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 52 (0.7)	Hong Kong SAR
1.0 1.0 1.1 1.0 1.0 1.1 1.0 1.0	1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 52 (1.0)	Fngland 5
0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5	0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 50 (0.5)	United States
		United States 5
		Hungary =
0.8 0.8 0.8 0.8 0.8 0.8 0.8 0.8	0.8 0.8 0.8 0.8 49 (0.8)	Israel 2
1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0	1.1 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 49 (1.0)	Australia
0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5	0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 48 (0.5)	Lithuania
0.9 0.9 0.9 0.9 0.9 0.9 0.9 0.9	0.9 0.9 0.9 0.9 0.9 48 (0.9)	New Zealana
0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.6 0.5 0.5	0.5 0.6 0.5 0.5 0.5 47 (0.5)	Sweden
0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4	0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 45 (0.4)	Italy
0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7	0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 45 (0.7)	Ukraine
0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5	0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 43 (0.5)	Norway
0.6 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.6	0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.6 43 (0.7)	Norway
		Turkey
0.9 0.9 0.9 0.9 0.9 0.9 0.9 0.9	0.9 0.9 0.9 0.9 0.9 43 (0.9)	Kazakhstan
0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7	0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 41 (0.7)	Iran, Islamic Rep. of
0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4	0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 39 (0.4)	United Arab Emirates
0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.6 0.7 0.7	0.6 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.6 38 (0.7)	Romania
0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.5 0.4 0.4	0.5 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 37 (0.4)	Chile
0.6 0.6 0.6 0.6 0.6 0.6 0.6 0.6	0.6 0.6 0.6 0.6 0.6 37 (0.6)	Jordan
0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.8 0.7 0.7	0.8 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 36 (0.7)	Thailand
0.5 0.6 0.6 0.5 0.6 0.5 0.5 0.5	0.5 0.6 0.5 0.5 0.5 35 (0.5)	Armenia
0.6 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.6 0.6 0.5	0.6 0.6 0.6 0.5 0.6 34 (0.5)	Oatar
0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4	0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 33 (0.4)	Qatar
		Oman
		Malaysia Palestinian Nat'l Auth.
		Palestinian Nat'l Auth.
0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.5 0.4 0.4	0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 33 (0.4)	Tunisia Macedonia, Rep. of
0.8 0.8 0.7 0.8 0.8 0.8 0.8 0.7	0.8 0.8 0.8 0.8 0.8 32 (0.8)	Macedonia, Rep. of
0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.8 0.7 0.7	0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 29 (0.7)	Lebanon
0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2	0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 25 (0.2)	Morocco
0.1 0.1 0.1 0.1 0.1 0.1 0.1 0.1 0.1	0.1 0.1 0.1 0.1 0.1 44 (0.1)	International Avg.
0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4	0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.3 0.3 0.3 0.3 0.3	Botswana (9)
0.3 0.3 0.4 0.3 0.4 0.4 0.3 0.3	0.4 0.4 0.4 0.3 0.3 22 (0.3)	South Africa (9)
		Benchmarking Participants
0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5	0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 54 (0.5)	Alberta, Canada
0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5	0.6 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 49 (0.5)	Ontario, Canada
0.6 0.6 0.6 0.6 0.6 0.6 0.6 0.6 0.6	0.6 0.6 0.6 0.6 0.6 48 (0.6)	Quebec, Canada
0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4		
		Dubai, UAE
0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7	0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 38 (0.7)	Abu Dhabi, UAE
220 181 124 233 162 116 219 212	154 146 205 233 200 233	Number of Items (Score Points) Identified*

development. The fact that the majority of countries indicated that most items were appropriate for their students means that the different average percent correct estimates were based on many of the same items. Insofar as countries rejected items that would be difficult for their students, these items tended to be difficult for students in other countries as well. The analysis shows that omitting such items tends to improve the results for that country, but also tends to improve the results for all other countries, so that the overall pattern of relative performance is largely unaffected.