

NZ Independent Schools Top World Rankings – PISA 2012

The New Zealand independent schools sector has been ranked amongst the best in the world in the recently released Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2012 Report.

Over half a million students from 65 countries took part in PISA 2012, the triennial report which assesses students in three key areas of knowledge and skills – reading, mathematical and scientific literacy.

The results of this assessment has placed New Zealand's independent schools sector unequivocally among the top secondary systems worldwide.

When comparing all independent schools in the report, New Zealand is ranked second in Reading and Science, sitting only behind Shanghai-China. In Maths the sector ranked third behind Korea and Shanghai-China.

When compared to the world's state schools, New Zealand's independent schools top the results in Reading and Science, and rank third in Maths.

Deborah James, Executive Director of Independent Schools New Zealand, believes there is much to celebrate about these figures. "To be ranked in the top three countries across all categories is a clear demonstration of the quality education offered by independent schools in New Zealand.

"This is something to be incredibly proud of, not only for the independent schools sector, but as a nation. This report provides powerful data in the interest of growing international education in this country, and initiative supported by the government and wider education system. To say that New Zealand's independent schools are ranked higher than such big players as the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Canada and Australia must surely have some influence on the decision-making process when choosing an education destination."

The data presented in the report also provides comparison between New Zealand's public and independent schools. Analysis of the percentage difference in mean scores between the two sectors showed New Zealand's independent schools to be 17.6% higher than public schools in Maths, 16.5% higher in Reading and 15.7% higher in Science.

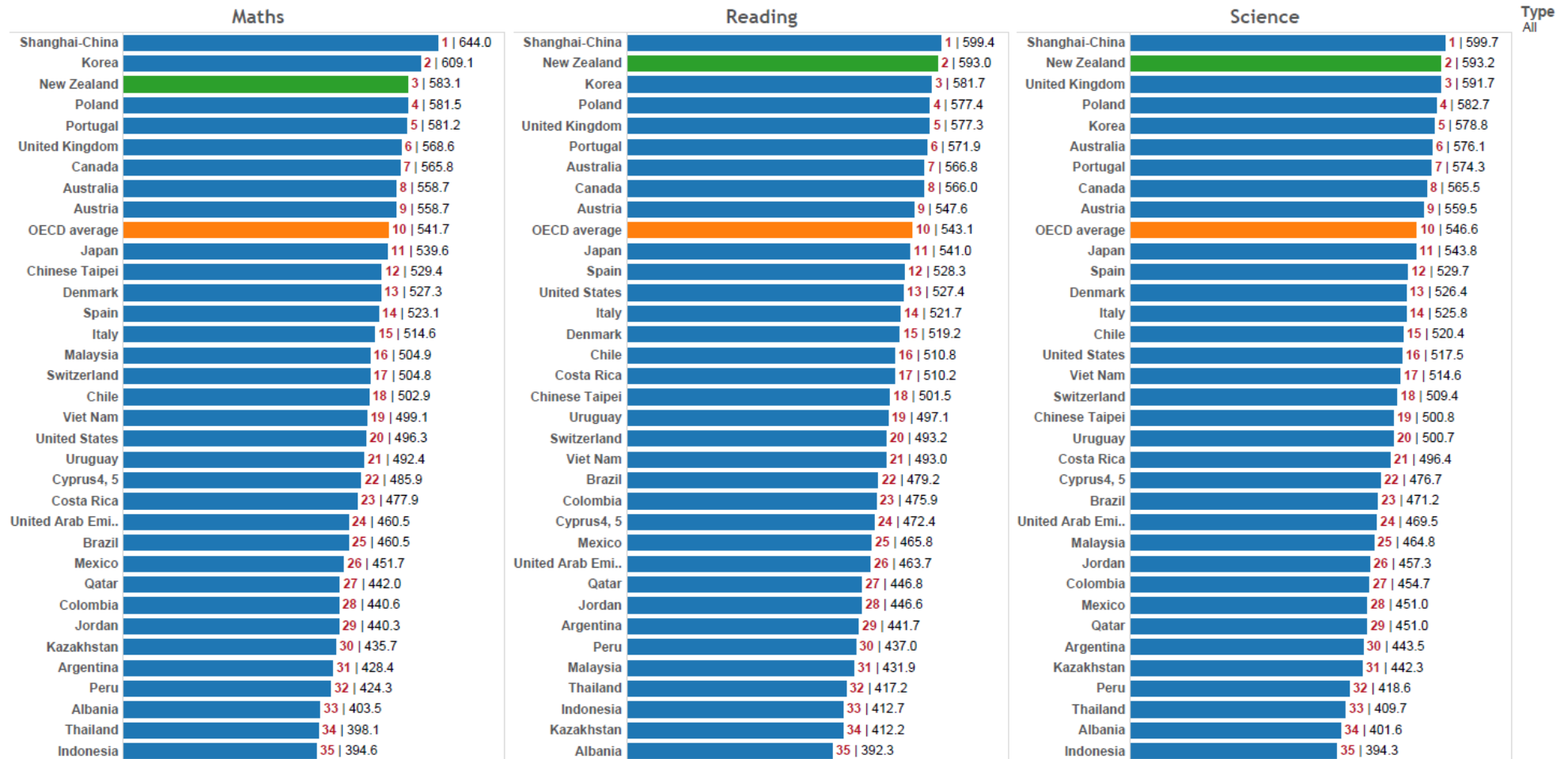
The full PISA 2012 report is available from the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) website, www.oecd.org.

Peter Clague
Executive Principal
Kristin School

PISA Mean Scores – Independent Schools*

(PISA 2012 - OECD Members & Partners)

*Excludes countries with too few independent schools to provide reliable estimates
(*Schools which receive less than 50% of core funding from government agencies)*



INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS
OF NEW ZEALAND

Representing the nation's leading private schools