

# How well are students prepared for study, work, and life in the digital age?



*ICILS is an international assessment of how young people develop computer and information literacy to participate effectively in the digital age*



### WHAT IS ICILS?

ICILS is an international comparative study of the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA). It uses an innovative, computer-based assessment to evaluate students' *computer and information literacy* (CIL)—their ability to use computers to investigate, create, and communicate in order to participate effectively at home, at school, in the workplace, and in the community.

ICILS reports on students' abilities to collect, manage, evaluate, and share digital information, as well as their understanding of issues related to the safe and responsible use of electronic information. It also collects a rich array of data to investigate the factors that influence this suite of complex abilities in students.

First established as a baseline study in 2013 with 21 participating education systems

around the world, ICILS 2018 will be linked directly to ICILS 2013, allowing countries that participated in the previous cycle to monitor overtime changes in CIL achievement and its teaching and learning contexts.

*Computer and information literacy combines information literacy, critical thinking, technical skills, and communication skills applied across a range of contexts and purposes*



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*ICILS sheds light on the contexts and outcomes of ICT-related education programs, and the role of schools and teachers in supporting students' computer and information literacy achievement*

#### WHY PARTICIPATE IN ICILS 2018?

ICILS is a response to the increasing use of information and communication technology (ICT) and the need for citizens to become independent and critical users of these technologies in a digital world. The study provides policy-makers and education systems with an important data source on the contexts and outcomes of ICT-related education programs.

ICILS 2018 includes a **computer-based assessment of real world information literacy, management, and communication tasks**. Administered to students in their eighth year, the assessment will measure how well students can:

- demonstrate basic knowledge and understanding of computer use;
- search for and judge the relevance and reliability of digital information;
- manage digital information so that it can be stored, accessed, reused, and interpreted efficiently;
- edit and create information products to suit a specific audience and purpose;

- understand how computers can be used for communication and for information sharing; and
- understand the implications surrounding the safe and ethical use of digital information.

The assessment is organized into modules, each containing a series of small discrete tasks (typically taking less than a minute to complete) followed by a large task of 15–20 minutes. The large tasks ask students to create an information product, such as a poster,

presentation, or website. For instance, students might be asked to use a simple website builder to plan and create a webpage, or to use online database tools to select and adapt information in order to create an information sheet for their peers.

**A full complement of student, teacher, school, and national context questionnaires** will collect information on the policies, curriculum, resources, and practices related to ICT education across countries, as well as students' use of computer technologies in and out of school, and the use of ICT in teaching.

*ICILS examines teachers' experiences, attitudes, and confidence in using computers for teaching*

#### MANAGEMENT

The Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) serves as the international study center for ICILS 2018. ACER is responsible for designing and implementing the study in close cooperation with the IEA Secretariat, the IEA Data Processing and Research Center, and the national centers of participating countries.

#### TIMELINE

##### 2015

Framework revision and instrument development

##### 2016

Establishment of testing platform, finalization of framework and instruments

##### 2017

Field trial

##### 2018

Main survey data collection

##### 2019

Reporting