What is ICCS?

ICCS is a comparative research program of the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA). It is designed to investigate the ways in which young people are prepared to undertake their roles as citizens. ICCS reports on students’ knowledge and understanding of concepts and issues related to civics and citizenship, as well as their value beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors.

In addition, ICCS collects and analyzes a rich array of contextual data from policy makers, teachers, school principals, and the students themselves about the organization and content of civic and citizenship education in the curriculum, teacher qualifications and experiences, school environment and climate, and home and community support.

ICCS was built on two pioneer studies conducted by IEA in 1971 in nine countries and 18 years later in 1999 in 28 countries. In acknowledgement of the need for continuing research on civic and citizenship education, ICCS was established in 2009 as a baseline study for future assessments in this area, with 38 countries participating from around the world. Modules for Asia, Europe, and Latin America supplemented the international survey by investigating specific regional aspects of civic and citizenship education. The ICCS studies are based on a comprehensive assessment framework developed and brought up to date in a collaborative process with the participating countries.

ICCS 2016 will be linked directly to ICCS 2009, allowing countries that participate in both studies to monitor trends in civic knowledge and engagement over seven years.

Why participate in ICCS 2016?

Countries around the world face persisting and new challenges in educating their young people for citizenship, amidst changing contexts of democracy and civic participation. Participating in ICCS 2016 will provide countries with reliable, comparative data in this critical learning area to help them evaluate and guide educational policies with evidence-based decisions.
ICCS 2016 will enable countries to:

- Investigate the ways in which young people are prepared for citizenship, providing internationally comparable indicators of civic knowledge and engagement to inform policies and practices.

- Monitor changes in students’ civic knowledge and engagement over time, for countries that participated in a previous cycle.

- Follow new challenges in civic and citizenship education, to improve countries’ understanding of issues such as students’ role in the peaceful functioning of school communities, how to help students become effective participants in the complex world of economics, and the role of new social media in students’ civic engagement.

- Explore specific topics of common interest, through the establishment of optional regional or thematic modules.

**Participation options**

Students: The target population of ICCS 2016 is eighth grade students. If there is sufficient interest, an option might be offered for countries to assess students in the final year of secondary school.

Teachers: The target population is eighth grade teachers of all subjects. An option to assess teachers of civic-related subjects as a separate group might also be offered.

**International coordination**

International Study Center: Australian Council for Educational Research

Conceptual development, student instruments development, analysis and reporting

Associated Research Center: LPS, Roma Tre University

Teacher and school instruments development, European module coordination

Project Coordination Center: IEA Data Processing and Research Center

Overall study coordination, sampling, weighting, field procedures, data management and processing, scaling

IEA Secretariat

Translation verification, quality monitoring

For country enrollment, contact:

IEA Secretariat

www.iea.nl
department@iea.nl