

Participation Fees for PIRLS 2026

March 2023

PIRLS, the Progress in International Reading Literacy Study, is one of the core studies of IEA. Directed by the TIMSS and PIRLS International Study Center at Boston College and conducted every five years since 2001, PIRLS is recognized as the global standard for assessing trends in reading achievement at the fourth grade.

Basic Fee:

The fee per country participating in PIRLS 2026 is 430,000 ICUs (IEA's International Currency Unit) being US\$ 215,000 and €215,000.

Payment Distribution:

Due to the high inflation in 2022, which is expected to continue in 2023, IEA decreased the fee distribution in the first year of the cycle to accommodate participating countries.

Year	Amount
2023	15%
2024	25%
2025	20%
2026	20%
2027	20%

Countries paying the full five-year fee in the first year (2023) are granted a discount of 5%.

Benchmarking Fees:

A benchmark participant in terms of applicable fees is a sub-entity of a country that already participates in the study or the second sub-entity of a non-participating country. The sub-entity must be clearly defined and unambiguously described. In the case of a sub-entity of a country that is not participating and where no other sub-entity is participating, the full participation fees apply. For sub-entities of countries already participating, 20% of the basic fee (as per above) applies. All benchmark participants will be reported in a separate table of the international report.

Oversampling Fees:

For up to 150% of the minimum sample size, no additional fee is applied. For each 20% (schools or students, whichever is greater) above the 150% of the minimum sample size, an additional 10% fee is applied.

PIRLS Longitudinal:

Preparation of the longitudinal option will begin in parallel to the 2026 cycle of the study, PIRLS 2026. For countries interested in opting into the longitudinal option, the international fees for this option would be an additional 100,000 ICUs.

National Comparison Study:

As a national option, countries transitioning to the digital format in PIRLS 2026 can conduct an additional National Comparison Study between the digital and paper formats. For countries interested in opting into the National Comparison Study, the international fees for this option would be an additional 100,000 ICUs.