

Table 1. Average literacy and numeracy scores of 16- to 65-year-olds, by country: 2003

Country	Literacy		Numeracy	
	Average	s.e.	Average	s.e.
Bermuda	284.9	1.26	269.7	1.54
Canada	280.7	0.64	272.3	0.75
Italy	227.5	1.62	233.3	1.34
Norway	292.6	0.76	284.9	0.98
Switzerland	274.4	1.25	289.8	1.04
United States	269.2	1.41	260.9	1.59

NOTE: Participants were scored on a 500-point scale. s.e. means standard error.

SOURCE: Statistics Canada and Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Adult Literacy and Lifeskills Survey (ALL), 2003.

Table 2. Literacy and numeracy scores of 16- to 65-year-olds, by selected percentiles and country: 2003

Country	10 th percentile		25 th percentile		50 th percentile		75 th percentile		90 th percentile	
	Score	s.e.	Score	s.e.	Score	s.e.	Score	s.e.	Score	s.e.
Literacy										
Bermuda	212.7	2.24	251.0	1.88	287.2	1.73	322.6	1.88	353.0	2.49
Canada	209.0	1.70	250.2	1.11	286.1	0.81	318.0	0.92	343.8	1.01
Italy	154.8	2.90	191.3	2.33	228.6	2.15	265.4	2.11	297.8	2.00
Norway	233.3	2.01	264.5	1.31	296.6	1.10	324.3	1.03	347.7	1.16
Switzerland	215.7	1.57	244.6	1.86	275.1	1.79	305.7	1.87	331.7	2.18
United States	200.7	2.67	236.4	1.75	272.6	1.79	306.5	2.06	332.9	1.96
Numeracy										
Bermuda	197.7	2.34	233.2	2.44	270.0	2.50	308.5	2.14	341.7	1.91
Canada	197.8	1.96	237.2	1.23	276.4	0.92	311.9	1.25	340.7	1.86
Italy	168.1	3.01	200.3	1.68	234.3	1.55	267.1	1.79	296.8	1.83
Norway	224.5	2.02	255.2	1.67	287.4	1.17	316.2	1.36	342.6	1.95
Switzerland	229.5	1.96	257.7	1.70	289.0	1.36	322.2	1.89	351.9	2.17
United States	184.6	3.07	222.4	2.01	263.2	2.00	302.2	2.28	333.2	2.35

NOTE: Participants were scored on a 500-point scale. s.e. means standard error.

SOURCE: Statistics Canada and Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Adult Literacy and Lifeskills Survey (ALL), 2003.

Table 3. Average literacy and numeracy scores of 16- to 65-year-olds, by sex, subject, and country: 2003

Country	Total		Male		Female	
	Average	s.e.	Average	s.e.	Average	s.e.
Literacy						
Bermuda	284.9	1.26	282.6	1.62	287.0	1.92
Canada	280.7	0.64	280.0	1.23	281.4	0.93
Italy	227.5	1.62	229.6	2.07	225.3	1.69
Norway	292.6	0.76	292.7	1.10	292.5	1.24
Switzerland	274.4	1.25	277.7	1.24	271.0	1.83
United States	269.2	1.41	269.0	1.92	269.5	1.64
Numeracy						
Bermuda	269.7	1.54	275.7	1.58	264.1	2.38
Canada	272.3	0.75	279.6	1.53	265.0	0.86
Italy	233.3	1.34	239.0	1.68	227.6	1.75
Norway	284.9	0.98	292.4	1.41	277.1	1.32
Switzerland	289.8	1.04	297.8	1.21	281.8	1.47
United States	260.9	1.59	268.6	2.14	253.5	1.90

NOTE: Participants were scored on a 500-point scale. s.e. means standard error.

SOURCE: Statistics Canada and Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Adult Literacy and Lifeskills Survey (ALL), 2003.

Table 4. Average U.S. literacy and numeracy scores, by race/ethnicity: 2003

Race/ethnicity	Literacy		Numeracy	
	Average	s.e.	Average	s.e.
Total	269.2	1.41	260.9	1.59
White	282.0	1.90	274.1	1.99
Black	241.5	4.60	226.0	5.39
Hispanic	232.7	4.35	224.6	3.92
Other	262.4	4.36	261.5	5.66

NOTE: "White" refers to non-Hispanic White adults, "Black" to non-Hispanic Black adults, and "Hispanic" to Hispanic respondents of any race. "Other" includes adults who selected more than one race and groups (such as American Indian or Alaska Native) for which sample sizes are too small to reliably estimate scores. Participants were scored on a 500-point scale. s.e. means standard error.

SOURCE: Statistics Canada and Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Adult Literacy and Lifeskills Survey (ALL), 2003.