

Equity related to gender

- In all countries and economies that participated in PISA 2018, girls significantly outperformed boys in reading – by 30 score points on average across OECD countries. In the United States, the gender gap in reading (24 score points) was not significantly different from the average gap. The gap was similar to that observed in 2009 (25 score points), and both boys' and girls' performance remained stable over the period.
- In the United States, boys outperformed girls in mathematics by nine score points. Across OECD countries, boys outperformed girls by five score points. While girls slightly outperformed boys in science (by two score points) on average across OECD countries in PISA 2018, in the United States girls and boys performed similarly in science.
- Amongst high-performing students in mathematics or science, about three in ten boys in the United States expect to work as an engineer or science professional at the age of 30, while only one in ten girls expects to do so. About two in five high-performing girls expect to work in health-related professions, while only about one in seven high-performing boys expects to do so. Some 7% of boys and 1% of girls in the United States expect to work in ICT-related professions.