

The German Education System

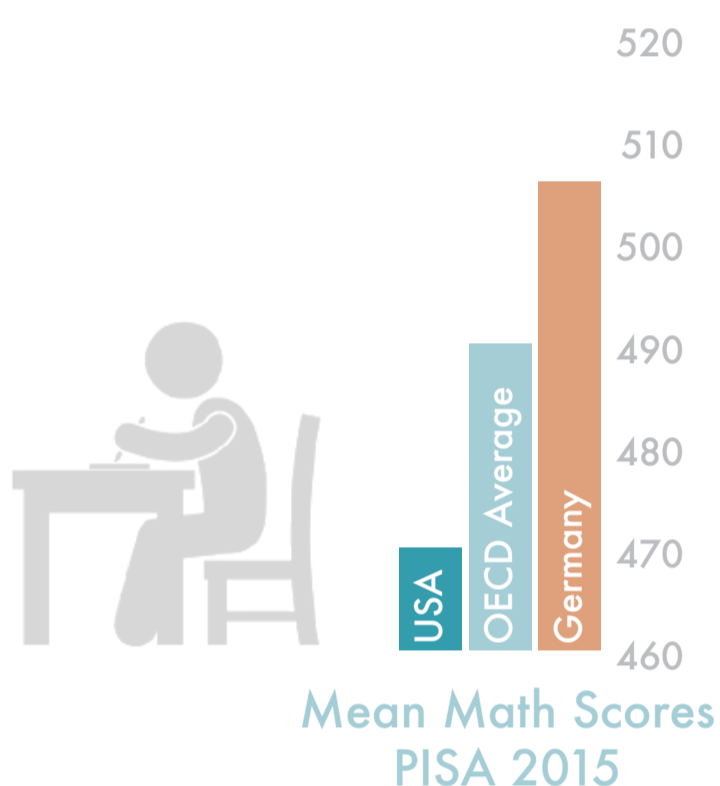
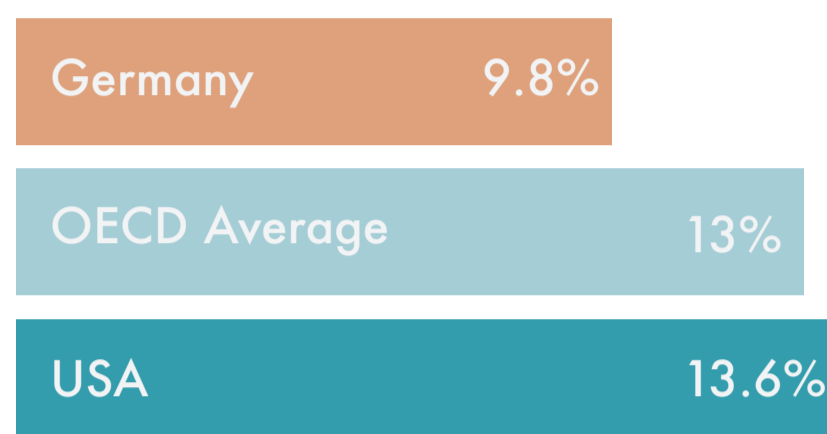
Where Successful, State Level Reforms Have Led to Improved Student Performance Nationally

Top-Performing Students

In response to its unexpectedly poor performance on PISA 2000, Germany has worked hard to improve its students' performance. As a result, on PISA 2015 Germany's average scores made it one of the top-performing education systems among the 72 participating countries and economies.

In particular, Germany has managed to reduce its proportion of low-performing students.

Percent of Low-Performing Students on PISA 2015 in Math, Reading and Science



In mathematics, 15-year-olds in Germany are a full year ahead of their U.S. counterparts

Demographic Data

10.9 million students in Germany's Primary and Secondary Schools



Germany is comprised of 16 Länder or states, the largest with a student population similar to that of Florida and the smallest with a student population similar to that of D.C.

Germany's student to teacher ratio in lower secondary schools is lower than the U.S. ratio of 16:1



13:1 Students to Teachers

\$10,554 per student per year

Germany's yearly spending per lower secondary student, is less than the U.S.'s \$12,261 per student per year

Follow CIEB for further analysis and profiling of this high-performing education system during the coming year. For more on Germany's most successful recent reforms, see our interview with Andreas Schleicher in this month's [Global Perspectives](#).

Source: [OECD PISA 2015](#) and [OECD Education at a Glance 2017](#)