

# TIMSS SA Newsletter



**Inclusive Economic  
Development Research  
Division**

**Human Sciences  
Research Council**

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## TIMSS 2019 South African Results

### Building Achievement and Bridging Achievement Gaps

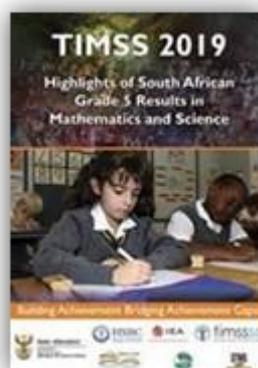
The Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) is an assessment of the mathematics and science knowledge of fourth (or fifth) and eighth (or ninth) grade learners around the world. TIMSS is designed to allow participating nations to monitor their educational achievements and how their achievements change over time, as well as to compare achievement across borders in the key subjects of mathematics and science. In addition to achievement data, TIMSS collects contextual information about the home, school and classroom to explain learner achievement.

Since 1995, the Human Sciences Research Council has conducted TIMSS in South Africa. South Africa participated in the 2019 TIMSS at the grade 5 and grade 9 levels.

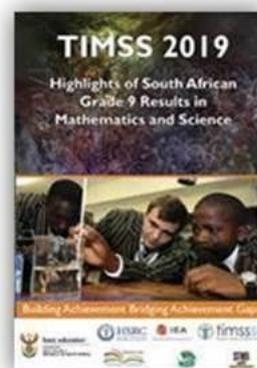
The international results were released on the 8 December 2020. The launch of the South African results was held on the same day and live streamed via various social media platforms. A further event was held by the Western Cape Education Department to present their provincial results.



### Highlights of South African Grade 5 and 9 Results



[Grade 5 Highlights](#)



[Grade 9 Highlights](#)

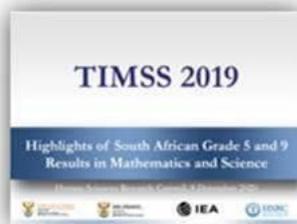
### Highlights of Western Cape Grade 9 Results

In TIMSS 2019, provincial studies were conducted for the first time in South Africa. Western Cape and Gauteng participated as benchmarking entities, with samples in each of these provinces being boosted from 30 to 150 schools to provide more precise estimates. These studies provide a more nuanced understanding of mathematics and science achievement of Grade 9 learners in these provinces, as well as the contextual factors that have an impact on learner achievement.



[Western Cape Grade 9 Highlights](#)

## TIMSS Release Presentations



[National Grade 5 and 9 Results Presentation](#)



[Western Cape Grade 9 Results Presentation](#)

## Media Statements on Results Release

[National Grade 5 Results Media Statement](#)

[National Grade 9 Results Media Statement](#)

[Western Cape Results Media Statement](#)

## Interested in using TIMSS data for research?

If you are interested in working with us on publications based on the TIMSS data, please [contact us](#).

[www.timss-sa.org.za](http://www.timss-sa.org.za)