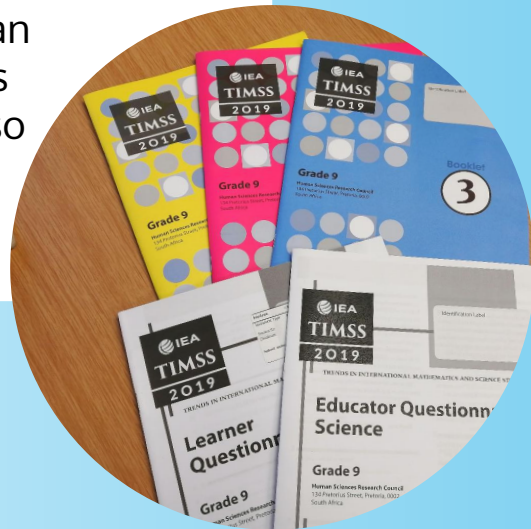


Developing appropriate instruments for our context

TIMSS 2019 kicked off with the team working on national adaptations to the international instruments (maths and science achievement booklets, learner background questionnaires, educator questionnaires, and school questionnaires).

These adaptations are done to ensure that South African terminology is used, and to allow for consistency with previous South African TIMSS instruments. Additional questions relevant to the country's context were also added to allow for further insight into schooling in the country.



TIMSS 2019 in South Africa: Where are we?

Collecting data across the country

The Grade 5 test administration was conducted in 291 schools, with 11 955 learners, across all 9 provinces in October 2018. The Grade 9 data collection took place in September 2019. For the first time, two provincial studies were added. We boosted the number of schools in Gauteng and the Western Cape from 30 to 150, to provide more accurate estimates. Data collection therefore occurred in approximately 524 schools across the country.



Quality assurance was conducted at 10% of the schools. These visits allowed team members to gain further insights into what is happening inside our schools.

Assessing how our learners answered questions

Following the collection of the achievement data, we scored (marked) the mathematics and science open-ended items.

Scorers were responsible for assigning codes to the learners' answers based on a scoring guide developed by the IEA for each subject.



National
524 schools
20 880 learners

Gauteng
150 schools
5640 learners

Western Cape
149 schools
5370 learners

What's next?

Capturing of the achievement and contextual data for Grade 5 was completed in 2018, data capturing for Grade 9 is currently underway.

Following data capturing, the data will be cleaned and sent to the IEA in Amsterdam for verification, scaling, conditioning and weighting.

The TIMSS results will be released in December 2020. Watch this space!