

# MEDIA ADVISORY

Thursday 2 December 2004

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## *Release of findings from OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)*

The Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) will release the Australian findings from the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) at **10.00am Australian Eastern Daylight Saving Time on Tuesday 7 December**.

PISA is a survey of the knowledge and skills of 15-year-olds in the principal industrialised countries. The survey was conducted first in 2000 and is being repeated every three years.

PISA assesses literacy in reading, mathematics and science. In 2000 reading was the major assessment domain, while in 2003 the major domain was mathematics and in 2006 the major domain will be science. In these areas PISA assesses young people's capacity to use their knowledge and skills in order to meet real-life challenges, rather than merely looking at how well they have mastered a specific school curriculum. Students have to understand key concepts, master certain processes and apply knowledge and skills in different situations.

ACER heads the consortium that implements PISA internationally. ACER also conducts the survey within Australia.

Background information on PISA is now available at the OECD website <http://www.pisa.oecd.org/> and on the ACER website at [www.acer.edu.au](http://www.acer.edu.au). Media releases and the full report will be available for download from the ACER website at 10.00am on 7 December.

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