

***What is the evidence from PISA about how Australian students are performing internationally and nationally?***



***Sue Thomson – Deputy CEO Australian Council for Educational Research.***

***Abstract***

The bald headlines tell us that in the past 20 years there has been a slow decline in Australian students' PISA scores, taking Australia from equal second in 2000 to equal 11th in 2018 in reading literacy. What does this mean internationally? What about nationally? Have our scores really declined that much? Is the decline across all students or is it particular to some? Do we have a long tail of underachievement? Answers to these questions and more will be explored using the most up-to-date PISA data.



## ***Biography***

Dr Sue Thomson was appointed as ACER's Deputy CEO (Research) in 2017. She provides senior leadership to staff in several research programs including *Surveys and International Assessments*, on reading, mathematical and scientific literacy, civics and citizenship education and ICT literacy. She is an associate Editor of the Australian Journal of Education, and a regular columnist for ACER's Teacher magazine.

Dr Thomson has managed Australia's participation in the IEA *Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study* (TIMSS) since 2001, the OECD *Programme for International Student Assessment* (PISA) since 2003 and the IEA *Progress in International Reading Literacy Study* (PIRLS) since Australia joined the study in 2011. This has involved extensive reporting on all studies.

