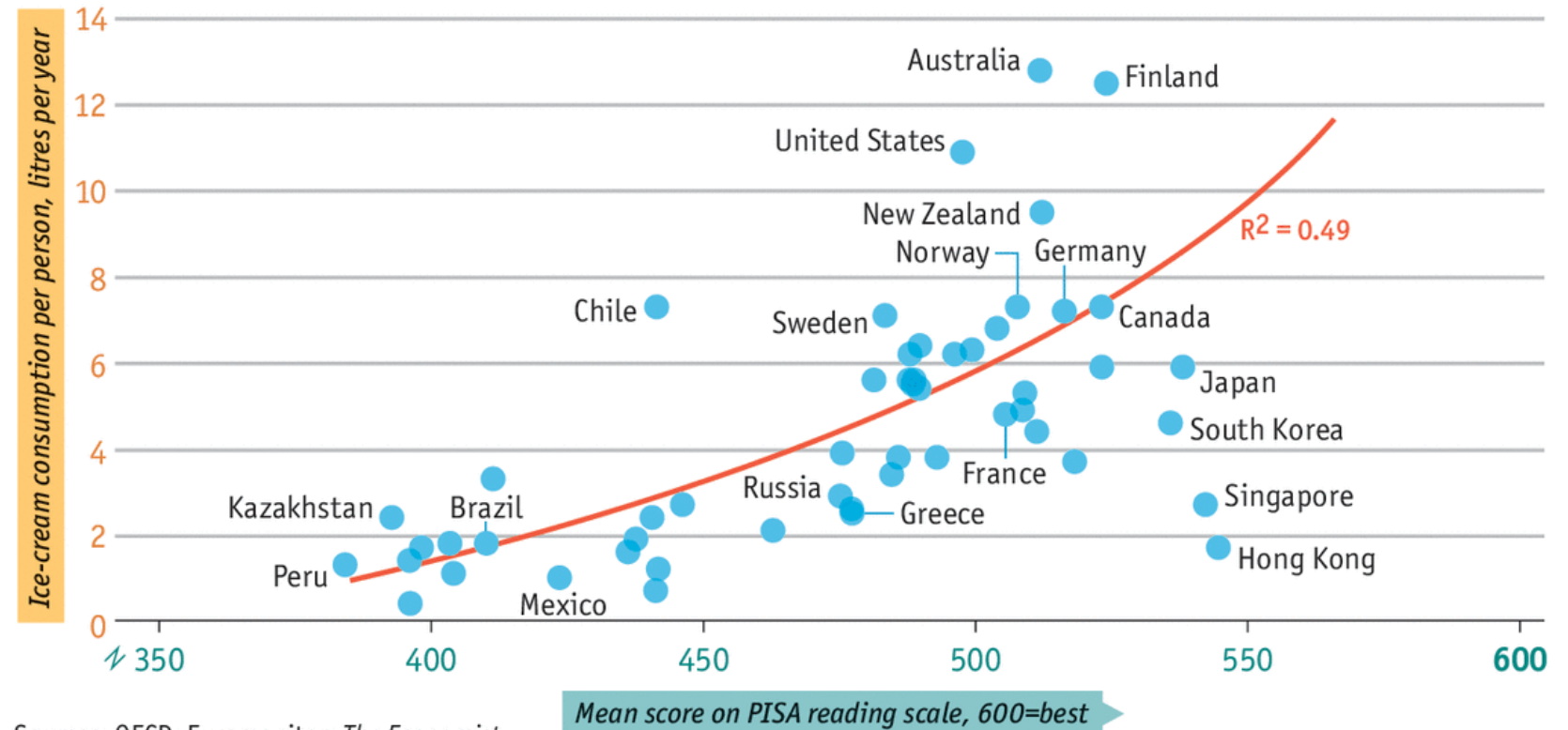


# John Oliver on Scientific Research



## Ice-cream consumption and PISA educational performance scores

2012



Sources: OECD; Euromonitor; *The Economist*

Economist.com

April 1, 2016. WITH school-exam season just around the corner, parents will be increasingly preoccupied with how to make their children sit down, keep quiet and study. Some will purchase hefty revision guides while others will turn to tutors for help. However number-crunching from *The Economist* might offer a rather sweeter solution. **Ice cream consumption, it seems, has a strong relationship with reading ability, based on the OECD's PISA educational performance scores.**

## Top Test Scores From Shanghai Stun Educators

By [SAM DILLON](#)

DEC. 7, 2010

With China's debut in international standardized testing, students in Shanghai have surprised experts by outscoring their counterparts in dozens of other countries, in reading as well as in math and science, according to [the results](#) of a respected exam.



### An International Education Test

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development has released the results of its 2009 PISA (Program for International Student Assessment) test of 15-year-old students in 65 countries.

In the Math and Science tests, all participating regions of China outperformed the United States.

| SCIENCE              | PISA SCORE | READING              | PISA SCORE | MATH                 | PISA SCORE |
|----------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|
| Shanghai, China*     | 575        | Shanghai, China      | 556        | Shanghai, China      | 600        |
| Finland              | 554        | Korea                | 539        | Singapore            | 562        |
| Hong Kong, China     | 549        | Finland              | 536        | Hong Kong, China     | 555        |
| Singapore            | 542        | Hong Kong, China     | 533        | Korea                | 546        |
| Japan                | 539        | Singapore            | 526        | Taiwan               | 543        |
| Korea                | 538        | Canada               | 524        | Finland              | 541        |
| New Zealand          | 532        | New Zealand          | 521        | Liechtenstein        | 536        |
| Canada               | 529        | Japan                | 520        | Switzerland          | 534        |
| Estonia              | 528        | Australia            | 515        | Japan                | 529        |
| Australia            | 527        | Netherlands          | 508        | Canada               | 527        |
| Netherlands          | 522        | Belgium              | 506        | Netherlands          | 526        |
| Taiwan               | 520        | Norway               | 503        | Macao, China         | 525        |
| Germany              | 520        | Estonia              | 501        | New Zealand          | 519        |
| Liechtenstein        | 520        | Switzerland          | 501        | Belgium              | 515        |
| Switzerland          | 517        | Poland               | 500        | Australia            | 514        |
| Britain              | 514        | Iceland              | 500        | Germany              | 513        |
| Slovenia             | 512        | <b>United States</b> | <b>500</b> | Estonia              | 512        |
| Macao, China         | 511        | Liechtenstein        | 499        | Iceland              | 507        |
| Poland               | 508        | Sweden               | 497        | Denmark              | 503        |
| Ireland              | 508        | Germany              | 497        | Slovenia             | 501        |
| Belgium              | 507        | Ireland              | 496        | Norway               | 498        |
| Hungary              | 503        | France               | 496        | France               | 497        |
| <b>United States</b> | <b>502</b> | Taiwan               | 495        | Slovakia             | 497        |
| AVERAGE SCORE        | 501        | Denmark              | 495        | AVERAGE SCORE        | 497        |
| Czech Republic       | 500        | Britain              | 494        | Austria              | 496        |
| Norway               | 500        | Hungary              | 494        | Poland               | 495        |
| Denmark              | 499        | AVERAGE SCORE        | 494        | Sweden               | 494        |
| France               | 498        | Portugal             | 489        | Czech Republic       | 493        |
| Iceland              | 496        | Macao, China         | 487        | Britain              | 492        |
| Sweden               | 495        | Italy                | 486        | Hungary              | 490        |
| Austria              | 494        | Latvia               | 484        | Luxembourg           | 489        |
| Latvia               | 494        | Slovenia             | 483        | <b>United States</b> | <b>487</b> |
| Portugal             | 493        | Greece               | 483        | Ireland              | 487        |

\*In the study, China was represented by the city Shanghai and by the administrative regions Hong Kong and Macao.

Compare those PISA graphics with Tuesday's articles on changing incomes in the US



## Economic Trends

### How to View a Richer Year for the Poor and Middle Class

Quoctrung Bui [@qdbui](#)

SEPT. 14, 2016

The income and poverty [report released on Tuesday](#) by the Census Bureau was such a blockbuster that you'd think the bureau had just issued Beyoncé's next [secret](#) album the night before.