

## Students Struggle to Reach the TIMSS Advanced International Benchmarks

TIMSS Advanced describes achievement at three International Benchmarks along the scale: Advanced, High, and Intermediate. There was a range of results across countries, but on average the majority of students found the TIMSS Advanced physics assessment very difficult.

### Percentage of Students Reaching Benchmarks (averaged across countries)

**Advanced  
Benchmark  
(625)**

In Slovenia, the Russian Federation, and Norway 11-17% reached the Advanced Benchmark, but no more than 6% did in the other countries.

**5%**

Students communicate their understanding of laws of physics to solve problems in practical and abstract contexts.

**High  
Benchmark  
(550)**

**18%**

Students apply basic laws of physics in solving problems in a variety of situations.

**Intermediate  
Benchmark  
(475)**

**46%**

The surprisingly low percentages of students reaching the Intermediate Benchmark reflected substantial declines in 4 countries compared to 1995.

Students demonstrate some basic knowledge of the physics underlying a range of phenomena.