Students’ Attitudes Toward Science

The majority of students (61%) were very confident or confident in science, but 40% were not confident. Students studying separate science subjects were equally positive about their instructors.

Most students study science as a general/integrated subject (83%), were positive about their instruction—47% reported very engaging teaching and 36% engaging teaching. Students studying separate science subjects were equally positive about their instructors.

The majority of students (81%) very much liked or liked learning science. Students studying separate science subjects liked learning physics less than the other science subjects.

The majority of students (61%) were very confident or confident in science, but 40% were not confident. Students studying separate science subjects were less confident about physics.


Between 2011 and 2015, there were more increases than decreases in students’ attitudes.

- The scale average for Students Value Science increased in 10 countries and decreased in 1 country.
- The scale average for Students Like Learning Science increased in 10 countries and decreased in 1 country.
- The scale average for Students Confident in Science increased in 6 countries and decreased in 3 countries.