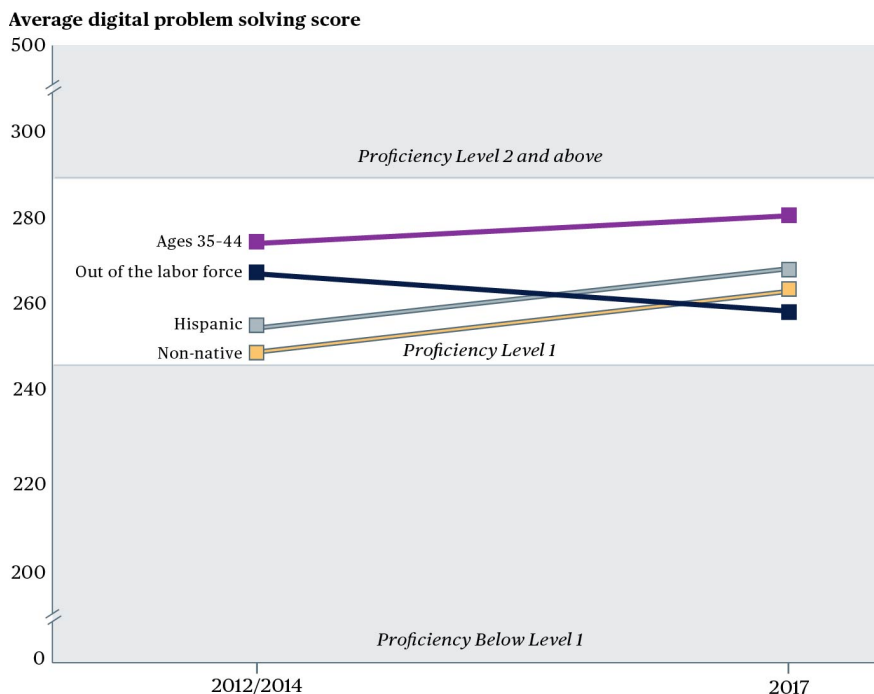


Latest Digital Problem Solving Results from the Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC)

A Publication of the National Center for Education Statistics at IES

Digital problem solving is the ability to access and interpret information in digital environments to perform practical tasks.

Figure D. Average scores on PIAAC digital problem solving for U.S. adults ages 16 to 65, by selected population groups: 2012/14 and 2017



NOTE: The PIAAC digital problem-solving scale range from 0 to 500. There are four levels in digital problem solving (from below Level 1 to Level 3). At problem solving proficiency level 1 adults can be considered nearing proficiency but still struggling to solve problems in technology-rich environments. All differences highlighted in this brochure are average score differences between 2012/2014 and 2017, are based on unrounded estimates, and are statistically significant at the $p < .05$ level. Adults who are out of the labor force are those that are not working and not looking for work. Non-native refers to adults who were not born in the United States.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC), U.S. PIAAC 2017, U.S. PIAAC 2012/2014.

↑ Scores increased for:

- Adults ages 35-44 from 275 to 281: 6 points
- Hispanic adults from 256 to 269: 14 points
- Non-native-born adults from 250 to 264: 14 points

↓ Scores decreased for:

- Adults who are out of the labor force from 268 to 259: 9 points

↔ No measurable difference for:

- Overall for U.S. adults (ages 16-65), and by sex, education, and health

Learn More

PIAAC National Center:
nces.ed.gov/surveys/piaac

PIAAC International Center:
oecd.org/skills/piaac

PIAAC Gateway: piaacgateway.com

The Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC) is an international, large-scale study of adults' skills in literacy, numeracy, and digital problem solving. This publication highlights several key results for U.S. adults ages 16-65 from the U.S. PIAAC 2017 data collection in comparison to the combined U.S. PIAAC 2012/2014 results. For more detailed results, see the U.S. PIAAC 2017 Web Report: nces.ed.gov/surveys/piaac/national_results.asp