CHAPTER 6

TIMSS International Quality Assurance Program

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Introduction

The International Quality Assurance Program is essential to the TIMSS Survey Operations Procedures. The goal of the quality assurance program is to document data collection activities and verify the implementation of the standardized procedures across countries. The documentation provides evidence of the quality of data collection and information that might aid in interpreting the TIMSS results. The program also provides feedback to all those involved in the data collection procedures to improve future administrations. This chapter provides an overview of the TIMSS International Quality Assurance Program and reports on the data collected through the program for the 2023 cycle.

In each TIMSS assessment cycle, standardized assessment materials and survey operations procedures are developed and adapted from previous cycles so that the data collection meets the highest standards. As part of the quality assurance program, International Quality Control Monitors (IQCMs) are selected and appointed in each TIMSS country to implement the program by visiting a sample of participating schools to observe the TIMSS administration.

Role and Responsibilities of the TIMSS International Quality Control Monitors

An important aspect of the International Quality Assurance Program is that the IQCMs are hired independently from the national centers responsible for implementing TIMSS in the participating countries. IQCMs are selected mostly from among individuals who had served in this position in previous IEA studies. For new countries and in cases where previous individuals are unavailable, the National Research Coordinators (NRCs) may assist in nominating new candidates. However, the IQCMs cannot be members of the national center staff, family members, or personal friends of the NRC. Those nominated often have prior experience as a retired schoolteacher, school inspector, or ministry official. The qualifications for the position include fluency in English and the national language(s).

Prior to the start of the data collection for each TIMSS cycle, all IQCMs attend a training session to learn about their role and responsibilities as well as the TIMSS Survey Operations Procedures. In addition to attending the mandatory training session, IQCMs receive a video recording of the training session, a manual describing their duties and responsibilities, and all necessary documents and forms to complete their tasks.

The main task of the IQCMs is to conduct site visits during the data collection process and record their observations. The IQCMs in each country visit a sample of 15 participating schools per grade during the assessment administration. When one or more benchmarking entities from the same country participate, and a single centrally-organized national center is responsible for all aspects of the data collection, the IQCM visits five additional schools in each benchmarking region to the schools visited for the country as a whole. IQCMs can recruit assistants to help cover their country's geographic territory and maintain the necessary testing timeline.

The responsibilities of the TIMSS IQCMs include the following:

- Collect from the national center copies of the national School Coordinator and Test Administrator manuals, tracking forms for the selected classes, and, in case of any paper instruments, a copy of each instrument.
- Review the survey operations procedures manuals and test administration scripts, comparing the national and international versions and documenting any substantial differences.
- Prepare a list of eligible schools, select the ones to be visited, and contact the School Coordinator for each school to arrange the visit.
- Observe the TIMSS testing session in each school visited and record observations in the online Classroom Observation Record, noting any deviations from the standardized administration script, timing, and procedures.
- Interview the School Coordinator and the Test Administrator in each school visited.
- Submit all required documentation, including manuals and observation records, to IEA for review.

Quality Control Observations of the TIMSS 2023 Data Collection

In TIMSS 2023, IQCMs visited and observed digital test administrations in 812 fourth-grade sessions and 596 eighth-grade sessions. In addition, paper-based test administrations were observed in 122 fourth-grade sessions and 62 eighth-grade sessions. Altogether, IQCMs observed 1,592 testing sessions for TIMSS 2023.

Mandatory training for IQCMs took place in January 2023 for Northern Hemisphere countries and in July 2023 for Southern Hemisphere countries. Then, IQCMs conducted site

visits to a sample of participating schools during the data collection period to document the test administration procedures. IQCMs conducted interviews with the School Coordinator and Test Administrator during the school visits to gather their feedback on the TIMSS 2023 assessment materials and procedures. They also completed a Classroom Observation Record for each visit, detailing their findings and submitting their observations online via the digital platform SoSci Survey.

The records submitted by IQCMs were organized into the following sections for each school visited:

- Section A: Preliminary Activities
- Section B: Administration Process
- Section C: Summary Observations
- Section D: Interview with the School Coordinator and Test Administrator

Section A addressed activities that took place just prior to and during the testing sessions, and Section B addressed all activities during the testing session, including the achievement test and student questionnaire administration. The assessments were administered in two parts with a break of up to 30 minutes between each part. During test administration, IQCMs were asked to observe the activities of the Test Administrator, such as distributing, collecting, and securing the testing materials; following the assessment administration script; and timing the testing sessions. In Section C, IQCMs summarized observations on overall student cooperation and compliance with instructions during the assessment administration. Finally, in Section D, IQCMs reported on the interviews with the School Coordinator and Test Administrator. The interview addressed issues such as the following:

- shipment of assessment materials
- arrangements for test administration
- responsiveness of the national center to queries
- necessity for make-up sessions
- organization of classes in the school (to validate the within-school sampling procedure)

The results of the TIMSS 2023 International Quality Assurance Program are reported in the subsections below according to this organization of the online record, with percentages of IQCM responses on all activities presented in exhibits. A "Not applicable" code was assigned to responses in cases for which a question was not shown due to logical filtering. Because of rounding, some results may appear inconsistent. Results for paper-based testing sessions are reported separately because the observation record was different.

Preliminary Activities

Overall, IQCMs reported that the TIMSS 2023 assessments were conducted in accordance with the international procedures. The IQCM responses on the preliminary activities for TIMSS 2023 are reported in Exhibit 6.1 for fourth-grade sessions, and in Exhibit 6.2 for eighth-grade

sessions. Exhibits 6.3 and 6.4 report results for paper-based sessions for fourth grade and eighth grade, respectively.

IQCMs reported that 78% of fourth-grade and 82% of eighth-grade testing sessions had the School Coordinator in the room, and that 65% of fourth-grade and 75% of eighth-grade testing sessions had an Information Technology (IT) specialist in the room prior to testing. For both digital and paper administration, other people who had access to the classrooms in advance of the testing session included school principals, classroom teachers, and members of the national centers.

Approximately 80% of Test Administrators set up the devices with the initial login credentials for testing prepared for students before their arrival. In the other instances, students received the login credentials from the Test Administrator as they entered the room and were required to log in to their own device or one assigned to them. Almost all IQCMs observed that Test Administrators ensured that students were sitting at the appropriate computers.

With regards to the types of devices used for administering TIMSS to students, it was noted that when the primary device was desktop computers, approximately 26% of fourth-grade and 16% of eighth-grade classrooms also used portable computers. When the primary device was portable computers, approximately 16% of fourth-grade and 18% of eighth-grade classrooms also used desktop computers. In classrooms where the primary device was tablets, there were very few cases of portable or desktop computers also being used.

For the countries administering TIMSS 2023 on paper, almost all IQCMs reported that test administrators distributed the test booklets according to the booklet assignment on the Student Tracking Form and the booklet labels.

Exhibit 6.1: Observations of Preliminary Activities – TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 812 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Were the assessment materials (e.g., USB sticks) safely and securely stored?	72	0	28
Besides the Test Administrator, did any of the following people have access to the assessment room prior to the testing session?			
School Coordinator	78	21	1
IT support person	65	35	0
Other	35	65	0
What kind of devices were used for the assessment?			
Desktop Computers	39	61	0
Portable computers (e.g., laptops)	63	37	0
Tablets	9	91	0

Exhibit 6.1: Observations of Preliminary Activities – TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 812 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses) (Continued)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did the Test Administrator set up all workstations (i.e., desktop computers, laptops and/or tablets) in a way that the welcome screen is displayed on each of them prior to the students' arrival?	82	18	0
Did the Test Administrator ensure that each student was sitting in front of the computer/tablet specially prepared for him or her?	96	4	0

Exhibit 6.2: Observations of Preliminary Activities – TIMSS 2023 Grade 8 – 596 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Were the assessment materials (e.g., USB sticks) safely and securely stored?	66	0	34
Besides the Test Administrator, did any of the following people have access to the assessment room prior to the testing session?			
School Coordinator	82	17	1
IT support person	75	24	1
Other	37	62	1
What kind of devices were used for the assessment?			
Desktop Computers	55	44	1
Portable computers (e.g., laptops)	49	50	1
Tablets	4	95	1
Did the Test Administrator set up all workstations (i.e., desktop computers, laptops and/or tablets) in a way that the welcome screen is displayed on each of them prior to the students' arrival?	80	19	1
Did the Test Administrator ensure that each student was sitting in front of the computer/tablet specially prepared for him or her?	96	3	1

Exhibit 6.3: Observations of Preliminary Activities – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 122 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Were the assessment materials (e.g., paper booklets) safely and securely stored?	93	0	7
Besides the Test Administrator, did any of the following people have access to the assessment room prior to the testing session?			
School Coordinator	75	19	6
Other	26	67	7

Exhibit 6.3: Observations of Preliminary Activities – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 122 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses) (Continued)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did the Test Administrator use a device (e.g., watch, mobile phone, or clock in the classroom) to keep track of time while the testing session is in progress?	94	0	6
Did the Test Administrator distribute the test booklets according to the booklet assignment on the Student Tracking Form and booklet labels?	91	3	6

Exhibit 6.4: Observations of Preliminary Activities – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 8 – 62 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Were the assessment materials (e.g., paper booklets) safely and securely stored?	98	0	2
Besides the Test Administrator, did any of the following people have access to the assessment room prior to the testing session?			
School Coordinator	68	30	2
Other	35	65	0
Did the Test Administrator use a device (e.g., watch, mobile phone, or clock in the classroom) to keep track of time while the testing session is in progress?	100	0	0
Did the Test Administrator distribute the test booklets according to the booklet assignment on the Student Tracking Form and booklet labels?	100	0	0

Administration Process

Exhibits 6.5 through 6.8 report on the activities conducted during the testing sessions.

To standardize test administration, all Test Administrators were instructed to read the script in the Test Administrator Manual to the students. IQCMs reported that in more than 70% of the TIMSS 2023 observations, the Test Administrators followed the script exactly. The deviations from the script were mostly minor. Examples of the deviations included the repetition of instructions, simplification of instructions, adaptation of written language used in the instructions to the spoken language, answering and clarifying student questions about instructions, providing more explanation of the examples, and adding instructions of what students should do if they finished early. Examples of the deviations that were viewed as "major" included the Test Administrator not reading the script word for word, paraphrasing of instructions, adding explanations and clarifications of instructions, or omitting some text from the text (e.g., instructions that the students could read for themselves within the test materials).

In accordance with the procedure at the end of the digital testing session for TIMSS 2023, Test Administrators were asked to secure the testing devices and USB sticks. The IQCMs

reported that this instruction was distinctly followed in 88% of the fourth-grade testing sessions and in 87% of the eighth-grade sessions. After each paper-based session, Test Administrators were asked to collect and secure the test booklets. The international monitors reported that this occurred in 88% of the paper-based fourth-grade and 90% of the paper-based eighth-grade sessions.

Exhibit 6.5: Observations of Test Administration – TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 812 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses)

Question	One testing session (%)	Multiple testing sessions (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Were all students in the participating class tested together in one testing session or in groups (i.e., multiple testing sessions for example due to the number of computers/ tablets available)?	86	14	0

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did the Test Administrator record each student's participation status on the Student Tracking Form?	99	1	0

Question	Yes, no changes (%)	No, some minor changes (%)	No, major changes (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did the Test Administrator follow the test administration script in the TIMSS 2023 Test Administrator Manual?	72	23	5	0

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
If the Test Administrator made changes to the script, how would you describe them?			
Additions	19	7	74
Revisions	14	12	74
Omissions	9	16	75
Did any students finish Part 1 of the achievement test early (before the time allowed was up)?	94	6	0
Did any students finish Part 2 of the achievement test early (before the time allowed was up)?	94	5	1
Were the computers/tablets and USB sticks (if applicable) secured after the test administration, for example, during the break?	88	4	8

Exhibit 6.6: Observations of Test Administration – TIMSS 2023 Grade 8 – 596 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses)

Question	One testing session (%)	Multiple testing sessions (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Were all students in the participating class tested together in one testing session or in groups (i.e., multiple testing sessions for example due to the number of computers/tablets available)?	80	19	1

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did the Test Administrator record each student's participation status on the Student Tracking Form?	96	3	1

Question	Yes, no changes (%)	No, some minor changes (%)	No, major changes (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did the Test Administrator follow the test administration script in the TIMSS 2023 Test Administrator Manual?	73	21	6	0

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
If the Test Administrator made changes to the script, how would you describe them?			
Additions	15	10	75
Revisions	10	13	77
Omissions	11	13	76
Did any students finish Part 1 of the achievement test early (before the time allowed was up)?	94	5	1
Did any students finish Part 2 of the achievement test early (before the time allowed was up)?	96	4	0
Were the computers/tablets and USB sticks (if applicable) secured after the test administration, for example, during the break?	87	4	9

Exhibit 6.7: Observations of Test Administration – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 122 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses)

Question	One testing session (%)	Multiple testing sessions (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Were all students in the participating class tested together in one testing session or in groups?	93	1	6

Exhibit 6.7: Observations of Test Administration – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 122 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses) (Continued)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did the Test Administrator record each student's participation status on the Student Tracking Form?	91	3	6

Question	Yes, no changes (%)	No, some minor changes (%)	No, major changes (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did the Test Administrator follow the test administration script in the TIMSS 2023 Test Administrator Manual?	75	18	1	6

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
If the Test Administrator made changes to the script, how would you describe them?			
Additions	12	7	81
Revisions	8	11	81
Omissions	8	12	80
Did the Test Administrator announce "You have 10 minutes left" prior to the end of Part 1 of the testing session?	73	21	6
Did any students finish Part 1 of the achievement test early (before the time allowed was up)?	82	12	6
Did the Test Administrator announce, "You have 5 minutes left" prior to the end of Part 2 of the testing session?	73	21	6
Did any students finish Part 2 of the achievement test early (before the time allowed was up)?	83	11	6
Were the paper booklets collected and secured after the test administration, for example, during the break?	88	6	6

Exhibit 6.8: Observations of Test Administration – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 8 – 62 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses)

Question	One testing session (%)	Multiple testing sessions (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Were all students in the participating class tested together in one testing session or in groups?	85	15	0

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did the Test Administrator record each student's participation status on the Student Tracking Form?	98	2	0

Exhibit 6.8: Observations of Test Administration – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 8 – 62 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses) (Continued)

Question	Yes, no changes (%)	No, some minor changes (%)	No, major changes (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did the Test Administrator follow the test administration script in the TIMSS 2023 Test Administrator Manual?	93	5	2	0

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
If the Test Administrator made changes to the script, how would you describe them?			
Additions	3	3	94
Revisions	3	3	94
Omissions	2	5	93
Did the Test Administrator announce "You have 10 minutes left" prior to the end of Part 1 of the testing session?	87	13	0
Did any students finish Part 1 of the achievement test early (before the time allowed was up)?	76	24	0
Did the Test Administrator announce, "You have 5 minutes left" prior to the end of Part 2 of the testing session?	90	10	0
Did any students finish Part 2 of the achievement test early (before the time allowed was up)?	81	19	0
Were the paper booklets collected and secured after the test administration, for example, during the break?	90	8	2

The mode of administration for the TIMSS 2023 Student Questionnaire was identical to that of the assessment (e.g., students that were administered the assessment digitally were also administered the student questionnaire digitally). Exhibits 6.9, 6.10, 6.11, and 6.12 summarize the IQCMs' observations of the student questionnaire administration for fourth grade and eighth grade, for digital and paper instruments, respectively.

A number of classes did not have a break between the achievement testing sessions and the start of the student questionnaire administration (20% for fourth-grade TIMSS, 23% for eighth-grade TIMSS, 9% for fourth-grade paper-based TIMSS, and 18% for eighth-grade paper-based TIMSS). In other classes, students had a longer break between the two, had a few moments for a quick snack and bathroom break, or took a much longer break for lunch.

Most IQCMs reported that the Test Administrators followed the administration script for the student questionnaire. In cases where the Test Administrator deviated from the script, most of the modifications were reported to be "minor." As with the directions for the achievement instruments, examples of the deviations from the script included the repetition of instructions, clarifying instructions, simplifying and rephrasing the instructions, adapting the written language

of the instructions to the spoken language, and asking students to read the example questions themselves rather than reading them aloud.

Exhibit 6.9: Observations of Student Questionnaire Administration – TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 812 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Was there a break between the end of the testing session and the start of the Student Questionnaire administration?	79	20	1
Did the Test Administrator record each student's participation status on the Student Tracking Form?	95	4	1

Question	Yes, no changes (%)	No, some minor changes (%)	No, major changes (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did the Test Administrator follow the test administration script in the TIMSS 2023 Test Administrator Manual?	76	16	7	1

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
If the Test Administrator made changes to the script, how would you describe them?			
Additions	11	11	78
Revisions	12	10	78
Omissions	11	11	78
Were the computers/tablets and USB sticks (if applicable) secured at the end of the questionnaire administration?	97	2	1

Exhibit 6.10: Observations of Student Questionnaire Administration – TIMSS 2023 Grade 8 – 596 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Was there a break between the end of the testing session and the start of the Student Questionnaire administration?	76	23	1
Did the Test Administrator record each student's participation status on the Student Tracking Form?	95	4	1

Question	Yes, no changes (%)	No, some minor changes (%)	No, major changes (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did the Test Administrator follow the test administration script in the TIMSS 2023 Test Administrator Manual?	78	12	9	1

Exhibit 6.10: Observations of Student Questionnaire Administration – TIMSS 2023 Grade 8 – 596 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses (Continued)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
If the Test Administrator made changes to the script, how would you describe them?			
Additions	8	13	79
Revisions	6	13	81
Omissions	16	6	78
Were the computers/tablets and USB sticks (if applicable) secured at the end of the questionnaire administration?	95	4	1

Exhibit 6.11: Observations of Student Questionnaire Administration – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 122 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Was there a break between the end of the testing session and the start of the Student Questionnaire administration?	84	9	7
Did the Test Administrator record each student's participation status on the Student Tracking Form?	80	12	8

Question	Yes, no changes (%)	No, some minor changes (%)	No, major changes (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did the Test Administrator follow the test administration script in the TIMSS 2023 Test Administrator Manual?	79	11	1	9

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
If the Test Administrator made changes to the script, how would you describe them?			
Additions	9	3	88
Revisions	5	6	89
Omissions	3	8	89
Were the questionnaire booklets secured at the end of the questionnaire administration?	84	7	9

Exhibit 6.12: Observations of Student Questionnaire Administration – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 8 – 62 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Was there a break between the end of the testing session and the start of the Student Questionnaire administration?	82	18	0
Did the Test Administrator record each student's participation status on the Student Tracking Form?	89	9	2

Question	Yes, no changes (%)	No, some minor changes (%)	No, major changes (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did the Test Administrator follow the test administration script in the TIMSS 2023 Test Administrator Manual?	89	6	5	0

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
If the Test Administrator made changes to the script, how would you describe them?			
Additions	7	3	90
Revisions	8	3	89
Omissions	2	8	90
Were the questionnaire booklets secured at the end of the questionnaire administration?	89	11	0

Summary Observations

Exhibits 6.13 through 6.16 summarize observations on overall student cooperation and compliance with instructions during the assessment administration. In only 2% of fourth-grade and 3% of eighth-grade observations did a student refuse to take the test. For paper-based observations, only 1–2% of students at each grade level refused to take the test. In all cases, the proper procedure was followed for excusing the student.

In the majority of the observed classrooms, IQCMs did not observe evidence of cheating (95% for fourth-grade TIMSS, 90% for eighth-grade TIMSS, 96% for fourth-grade paper-based TIMSS, and 100% for eighth-grade paper-based TIMSS). In the classrooms where IQCMs thought that cheating was observed (e.g., by students attempting to look or looking at other students' screens, talking to other students, or trying to use their mobile phones), IQCMs noted that the Test Administrators worked quickly to intervene and stop the students from sharing work or answers.

The large majority of students (98% for fourth-grade TIMSS, 96% for eighth-grade TIMSS, 93% for fourth-grade paper-based TIMSS, and 95% for eighth-grade paper-based TIMSS) followed the direction to store away everything, including electronic devices, for the duration of test administration.

In over 90% of the classrooms, students were described as extremely or moderately orderly and cooperative (95% for fourth-grade TIMSS, 93% for eighth-grade TIMSS, 94% for fourth-grade paper-based TIMSS and 96% for eighth-grade paper-based TIMSS). In the classrooms where the students were not listed as extremely orderly and cooperative, IQCMs were asked to document whether the Test Administrators made an effort to control the situation. For these cases, the Test Administrator made at least some effort to control the situation in 94% of the fourth-grade TIMSS, 95% of the eighth-grade TIMSS, 97% of the fourth-grade paper-based TIMSS, and 85% of the eighth-grade paper-based TIMSS classrooms.

Exhibit 6.13: Observations of Student Participation and Cooperation – TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 812 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did any students refuse to take the test either prior to the testing or during the testing? (Do not include students who did not have parental consent to participate in the assessment.)	2	98	0
If a student refused, did the Test Administrator accurately follow the instructions for excusing the student (i.e., record the incident on the Student Tracking Form)?	2	0	98
Did you see any evidence of students attempting to cheat on the test (e.g., by copying from a neighbor)?	5	95	0
Did students store away everything, including all electronic devices, such as mobile phones, portable computers, and photo or video cameras, for the duration of the assessment session?	98	2	0

Question	Extremely orderly and cooperative (%)	Moderately orderly and cooperative (%)	Somewhat orderly and cooperative (%)	Disorderly and hardly cooperative at all (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
To what extent would you describe the students as orderly and cooperative?	70	25	5	0	0

Question	Definitely yes (%)	Some effort was made (%)	Hardly any or no effort was made (%)	Not Answered (%)
If the students were not orderly, did the Test Administrator make an effort to control the situation?	82	12	3	3

Exhibit 6.14: Observations of Student Participation and Cooperation – TIMSS 2023 Grade 8 – 596 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did any students refuse to take the test either prior to the testing or during the testing? (Do not include students who did not have parental consent to participate in the assessment.)	3	96	1
If a student refused, did the Test Administrator accurately follow the instructions for excusing the student (i.e., record the incident on the Student Tracking Form)?	3	0	97
Did you see any evidence of students attempting to cheat on the test (e.g., by copying from a neighbor)?	9	90	1
Did students store away everything, including all electronic devices, such as mobile phones, portable computers, and photo or video cameras, for the duration of the assessment session?	96	4	0

Question	Extremely orderly and cooperative (%)	Moderately orderly and cooperative (%)	Somewhat orderly and cooperative (%)	Disorderly and hardly cooperative at all (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
To what extent would you describe the students as orderly and cooperative?	65	28	5	1	1

Question	Definitely yes (%)	Some effort was made (%)	Hardly any or no effort was made (%)	Not Answered (%)
If the students were not orderly, did the Test Administrator make an effort to control the situation?	78	17	3	2

Exhibit 6.15: Observations of Student Participation and Cooperation – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 122 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did any students refuse to take the test either prior to the testing or during the testing? (Do not include students who did not have parental consent to participate in the assessment.)	1	93	6
If a student refused, did the Test Administrator accurately follow the instructions for excusing the student (i.e., record the incident on the Student Tracking Form)?	1	0	99
Did you see any evidence of students attempting to cheat on the test (e.g., by copying from a neighbor)?	4	96	0

Exhibit 6.15: Observations of Student Participation and Cooperation – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 122 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses) (Continued)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did students store away everything, including all electronic devices, such as mobile phones, portable computers, and photo or video cameras, for the duration of the assessment session?	93	7	0

Question	Very well, all students stop work (%)	Well, almost all students stop work (%)	Not well at all, many students do not stop (%)	Not applicable, all students were finished (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
When the Test Administrator ended Part 1 of the testing session, how well did the students comply with the instruction to stop work?	71	24	0	0	6
When the Test Administrator ended Part 2 of the testing session, how well did the students comply with the instruction to stop work?	74	19	0	1	6

Question	Extremely orderly and cooperative (%)	Moderately orderly and cooperative (%)	Somewhat orderly and cooperative (%)	Disorderly and hardly cooperative at all (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
To what extent would you describe the students as orderly and cooperative?	69	25	3	3	0

Question	Definitely yes (%)	Some effort was made (%)	Hardly any or no effort was made (%)	Not Answered (%)
If the students were not orderly, did the Test Administrator make an effort to control the situation?	87	10	0	3

Exhibit 6.16: Observations of Student Participation and Cooperation – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 8 – 62 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did any students refuse to take the test either prior to the testing or during the testing? (Do not include students who did not have parental consent to participate in the assessment.)	2	98	0
If a student refused, did the Test Administrator accurately follow the instructions for excusing the student (i.e., record the incident on the Student Tracking Form)?	2	0	98

Exhibit 6.16: Observations of Student Participation and Cooperation – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 8 – 62 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses) (Continued)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did you see any evidence of students attempting to cheat on the test (e.g., by copying from a neighbor)?	0	100	0
Did students store away everything, including all electronic devices, such as mobile phones, portable computers, and photo or video cameras, for the duration of the assessment session?	95	5	0

Question	Very well, all students stop work (%)	Well, almost all students stop work (%)	Not well at all, many students do not stop (%)	Not applicable, all students were finished (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
When the Test Administrator ended Part 1 of the testing session, how well did the students comply with the instruction to stop work?	76	13	10	1	0
When the Test Administrator ended Part 2 of the testing session, how well did the students comply with the instruction to stop work?	79	16	3	2	0

Question	Extremely orderly and cooperative (%)	Moderately orderly and cooperative (%)	Somewhat orderly and cooperative (%)	Disorderly and hardly cooperative at all (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
To what extent would you describe the students as orderly and cooperative?	79	17	2	2	0

Question	Definitely yes (%)	Some effort was made (%)	Hardly any or no effort was made (%)	Not Answered (%)
If the students were not orderly, did the Test Administrator make an effort to control the situation?	77	8	8	7

Exhibits 6.17 and 6.18 report on the IQCMs' general observations of the TIMSS 2023 fourth- and eighth-grade assessment administrations, and Exhibits 6.19 and 6.20 report on the IQCMs' general observations of the paper-based administrations.

During the digital testing sessions observed by IQCMs, some technical problems did occur. They ranged from internet connectivity issues and software issues (e.g., being logged out, having difficulty or inability to scroll) to hardware issues (non-functioning external keyboard or mouse, corrupted USB stick). When technical issues were reported, most Test Administrators were able to resolve the problem effectively. Most classrooms where TIMSS was administered digitally also had an IT staff member present to provide support (71% for fourth-grade TIMSS and 79% for eighth-grade TIMSS).

In most of the observed testing sessions, IQCMs found the condition of the test rooms to be suitable (93% for fourth-grade TIMSS, 93% for eighth-grade TIMSS, 88% for fourth-grade paper-based TIMSS, and 89% for eighth-grade paper-based TIMSS). Issues noted with the condition of the test rooms included temperature control (mostly too warm), noise from outside the classrooms, and lack of space. Overall, IQCMs reported the quality of testing sessions as good, very good, or excellent (96% for fourth-grade TIMSS, 94% for eighth-grade TIMSS, 96% for fourth-grade paper-based TIMSS, and 95% for eighth-grade paper-based TIMSS).

Exhibit 6.17: General Observations of the Testing Sessions – TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 812 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Were there any technical problems with the procedures or devices below?			
Using computers/tablets	25	75	0
Using USB sticks	2	34	64
Logging into the assessment player	14	85	1
Timer function	1	97	2
Other malfunctions when using the assessment player	14	83	2
If there were any technical problems, did the Test Administrator solve them effectively?	37	4	59
Did the Test Administrator submit the data from each USB stick used for the testing session directly after the testing session? (This only applies to individual USB delivery method. "Not Applicable" if online or local server delivery method was used.)	25	4	71
Was an IT staff member available to provide support throughout the TIMSS administration process?	71	28	0
Did any students leave the room for an "emergency" during the testing session?	18	82	0
If students left the room for an "emergency", did the Test Administrator address the situation appropriately (e.g., secure the computer)?	16	3	82
Did any students receive special accommodations to participate in the assessment (e.g., students with visual or hearing impairment, Dyslexia)?	12	88	0
In your opinion, were the conditions in the testing room suitable (lighting, temperature, noise, etc.) for the students to work without distractions?	93	7	0
Did the seating arrangement provide adequate space for students to work and not be distracted by each other?	92	8	0
During the administration sessions, did the Test Administrator walk around the room to be sure students were completing the test or the questionnaires and/or behaving properly?	97	3	0
In your opinion, did the Test Administrator address students' questions appropriately?	98	1	1

Exhibit 6.17: General Observations of the Testing Sessions – TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 812 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses) (Continued)

Question	Most likely yes (%)	Most likely no (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
In your opinion, did the Test Administrator familiarize himself or herself with the scripts prior to the administration of the assessment instruments?	96	4	0

Question	No, there were no late students (%)	No, they were not admitted (%)	Yes, but before the assessment began (%)	Yes, after the assessment began (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Were any late students admitted to the room?	94	0	3	3	0

Question	Excellent (%)	Very Good (%)	Good (%)	Fair (%)	Poor (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
In general, how would you describe the overall quality of the administration session of TIMSS 2023?	54	32	10	2	2	0

Exhibit 6.18: General Observations of the Testing Sessions – TIMSS 2023 Grade 8 – 596 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Were there any technical problems with the procedures or devices below?			
Using computers/tablets	20	79	1
Using USB sticks	3	24	73
Logging into the assessment player	11	87	2
Timer function	2	97	1
Other malfunctions when using the assessment player	15	83	2
If there were any technical problems, did the Test Administrator solve them effectively?	33	4	63
Did the Test Administrator submit the data from each USB stick used for the testing session directly after the testing session? (This only applies to individual USB delivery method. "Not Applicable" if online or local server delivery method was used.)	17	2	81
Was an IT staff member available to provide support throughout the TIMSS administration process?	79	20	1
Did any students leave the room for an "emergency" during the testing session?	18	82	0

Exhibit 6.18: General Observations of the Testing Sessions – TIMSS 2023 Grade 8 – 596 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses) (Continued)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
If students left the room for an "emergency", did the Test Administrator address the situation appropriately (e.g., secure the computer)?	15	3	82
Did any students receive special accommodations to participate in the assessment (e.g., students with visual or hearing impairment, Dyslexia)?	8	92	0
In your opinion, were the conditions in the testing room suitable (lighting, temperature, noise, etc.) for the students to work without distractions?	93	7	0
Did the seating arrangement provide adequate space for students to work and not be distracted by each other?	90	9	1
During the administration sessions, did the Test Administrator walk around the room to be sure students were completing the test or the questionnaires and/or behaving properly?	95	5	0
In your opinion, did the Test Administrator address students' questions appropriately?	93	2	5

Question	Most likely yes (%)	Most likely no (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
In your opinion, did the Test Administrator familiarize himself or herself with the scripts prior to the administration of the assessment instruments?	95	5	0

Question	No, there were no late students (%)	No, they were not admitted (%)	Yes, but before the assessment began (%)	Yes, after the assessment began (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Were any late students admitted to the room?	88	1	6	4	1

Question	Excellent (%)	Very Good (%)	Good (%)	Fair (%)	Poor (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
In general, how would you describe the overall quality of the administration session of TIMSS 2023?	53	32	9	4	1	1

Exhibit 6.19: General Observations of the Testing Sessions – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 122 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses)

Question	Yes, before the testing began (%)	Yes, after the testing began (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Were any defective test booklets detected and replaced before or after the testing began?	2	3	89	6

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
If any defective test booklets were replaced, did the Test Administrator replace them appropriately, following instructions in the Test Administrator Manual?	3	2	95
Did any students leave the room for an "emergency" during the testing session?	10	84	6
If students left the room for an "emergency", did the Test Administrator address the situation appropriately (e.g., secure the computer)?	10	0	90
Did any students receive special accommodations to participate in the assessment (e.g., students with visual or hearing impairment, Dyslexia)?	2	92	6
In your opinion, were the conditions in the testing room suitable (lighting, temperature, noise, etc.) for the students to work without distractions?	88	6	6
Did the seating arrangement provide adequate space for students to work and not be distracted by each other?	93	1	6
During the administration sessions, did the Test Administrator walk around the room to be sure students were completing the test or the questionnaires and/or behaving properly?	90	4	6
In your opinion, did the Test Administrator address students' questions appropriately?	88	4	8

Question	Most likely yes (%)	Most likely no (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
In your opinion, did the Test Administrator familiarize himself or herself with the scripts prior to the administration of the assessment instruments?	88	6	6

Question	No, there were no late students (%)	No, they were not admitted (%)	Yes, but before the assessment began (%)	Yes, after the assessment began (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Were any late students admitted to the room?	85	3	3	3	6

Exhibit 6.19: General Observations of the Testing Sessions – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 122 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses) (Continued)

Question	Excellent (%)	Very Good (%)	Good (%)	Fair (%)	Poor (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
In general, how would you describe the overall quality of the administration session of TIMSS 2023?	43	45	8	3	1	0

Exhibit 6.20: General Observations of the Testing Sessions – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 8 – 62 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses)

Question	Yes, before the testing began (%)	Yes, after the testing began (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Were any defective test booklets detected and replaced before or after the testing began?	3	10	87	0

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
If any defective test booklets were replaced, did the Test Administrator replace them appropriately, following instructions in the Test Administrator Manual?	14	2	84
Did any students leave the room for an "emergency" during the testing session?	13	87	0
If students left the room for an "emergency", did the Test Administrator address the situation appropriately (e.g., secure the computer)?	11	2	87
Did any students receive special accommodations to participate in the assessment (e.g., students with visual or hearing impairment, Dyslexia)?	3	97	0
In your opinion, were the conditions in the testing room suitable (lighting, temperature, noise, etc.) for the students to work without distractions?	89	11	0
Did the seating arrangement provide adequate space for students to work and not be distracted by each other?	98	2	0
During the administration sessions, did the Test Administrator walk around the room to be sure students were completing the test or the questionnaires and/or behaving properly?	97	3	0
In your opinion, did the Test Administrator address students' questions appropriately?	92	2	6

Exhibit 6.20: General Observations of the Testing Sessions – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 8 – 62 Records (Percentage of IQCM Responses) (Continued)

Question	Most likely yes (%)	Most likely no (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
In your opinion, did the Test Administrator familiarize himself or herself with the scripts prior to the administration of the assessment instruments?	94	6	0

Question	No, there were no late students (%)	No, they were not admitted (%)	Yes, but before the assessment began (%)	Yes, after the assessment began (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Were any late students admitted to the room?	89	0	6	5	0

Question	Excellent (%)	Very Good (%)	Good (%)	Fair (%)	Poor (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
In general, how would you describe the overall quality of the administration session of TIMSS 2023?	53	32	10	3	2	0

Interview with the School Coordinator and Test Administrator

Exhibits 6.21, 6.22, 6.23, and 6.24 show the overall ratings by School Coordinators for TIMSS 2023 fourth-grade, eighth-grade, paper-based fourth-grade, and paper-based eighth-grade sessions, respectively. Almost all School Coordinators reported that the TIMSS 2023 administration in their school went "very well" or "satisfactorily" overall (97% for fourth-grade TIMSS, 98% for eighth-grade TIMSS, 91% for fourth-grade TIMSS administered on paper, and 100% for eighth-grade TIMSS administered on paper). In addition, the School Coordinators noted that the School Coordinator Manual worked well for them, and most other school staff members had positive attitudes toward TIMSS testing.

Exhibit 6.21: Interview with the School Coordinator – TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 812 Records (Percentage of School Coordinator Responses)

Question	Very well, no problems (%)	Satisfactorily, few problems (%)	Unsatisfactorily, many problems (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Overall, how would you say the assessment administration went?	79	18	2	1

Exhibit 6.21: Interview with the School Coordinator – TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 812 Records (Percentage of School Coordinator Responses) (Continued)

Question	Positive (%)	Neutral (%)	Negative (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Overall, how would you rate the attitude of the school staff members towards TIMSS 2023?	76	22	2	1

Question	Worked well (%)	Needs improvement (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Overall, do you feel the TIMSS 2023 School Coordinator Manual worked well or does it need improvement?	90	9	1

Exhibit 6.22: Interview with the School Coordinator – TIMSS 2023 Grade 8 – 596 Records (Percentage of School Coordinator Responses)

Question	Very well, no problems (%)	Satisfactorily, few problems (%)	Unsatisfactorily, many problems (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Overall, how would you say the assessment administration went?	83	15	0	2

Question	Positive (%)	Neutral (%)	Negative (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Overall, how would you rate the attitude of the school staff members towards TIMSS 2023?	74	22	4	0

Question	Worked well (%)	Needs improvement (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Overall, do you feel the TIMSS 2023 School Coordinator Manual worked well or does it need improvement?	92	8	0

Exhibit 6.23: Interview with the School Coordinator – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 122 Records (Percentage of School Coordinator Responses)

Question	Very well, no problems (%)	Satisfactorily, few problems (%)	Unsatisfactorily, many problems (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Overall, how would you say the assessment administration went?	78	13	2	7

Question	Positive (%)	Neutral (%)	Negative (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Overall, how would you rate the attitude of the school staff members towards TIMSS 2023?	93	7	0	0

Question	Worked well (%)	Needs improvement (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Overall, do you feel the TIMSS 2023 School Coordinator Manual worked well or does it need improvement?	91	9	0

Exhibit 6.24: Interview with the School Coordinator – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 8 – 62 Records (Percentage of School Coordinator Responses)

Question	Very well, no problems (%)	Satisfactorily, few problems (%)	Unsatisfactorily, many problems (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Overall, how would you say the assessment administration went?	87	13	0	0

Question	Positive (%)	Neutral (%)	Negative (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Overall, how would you rate the attitude of the school staff members towards TIMSS 2023?	95	5	0	0

Question	Worked well (%)	Needs improvement (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Overall, do you feel the TIMSS 2023 School Coordinator Manual worked well or does it need improvement?	90	10	0

Exhibits 6.25 through 6.28 present the details of the School Coordinator interviews for TIMSS 2023. Prior to the testing day, most School Coordinators were able to check the shipment of materials from their national centers. More than 80% of the School Coordinators across the digital and paper-based administrations reported that the national centers were responsive to the school's questions and concerns.

When IQCMs asked if the System Check Program was run by the School Coordinator, 76% of the fourth-grade and 85% of eighth-grade School Coordinators reported that they ran the program on some or all of the devices. In the cases where the School Coordinators did not run the System Check Program, they reported that this was because the program was run by the Test Administrator, IT staff, or NRC.

IQCMs were instructed to ask School Coordinators how many classes of the tested grade were in the school, how many were selected to participate, and whether the School Coordinator provided the list of classes to the national center. Over 90% of TIMSS 2023 School Coordinators confirmed that they sent a complete list of classes to the national center. When IQCMs asked School Coordinators whether all students participating were listed on the Student-Teacher Linkage Form, a majority replied yes. When the School Coordinators replied no, in most cases this was related to students that left the school or new students that arrived after the Student-Teacher Linkage Form had been completed.

As a reflection of the successful planning and implementation of TIMSS 2023, approximately 90% of the interviewed School Coordinators said that they would be willing to serve as a School Coordinator in future international assessments.

Exhibit 6.25: Interview with the School Coordinator, Details – TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 812 Records (Percentage of School Coordinator Responses)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Prior to the testing day, did you have time to check the shipment of materials from the national center?	93	7	0
Was the national center responsive to your questions or concerns?	87	2	11

Question	Yes, for all computers/ tablets (%)	Yes, for some computers/ tablets (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did you run the System Check Program and mini-player on the computers/tablets prior to the TIMSS assessment	67	9	23	0

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did you provide the list of classes in the tested grade to the national center?	91	8	1

Exhibit 6.25: Interview with the School Coordinator, Details – TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 812 Records (Percentage of School Coordinator Responses) (Continued)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
To the best of your knowledge, were there any students in this grade level enrolled in more than one of the Grade 4 or Grade 8 classes that you listed?	0	99	1
Were all students participating in the TIMSS assessment listed on the Student-Teacher Linkage Form?	81	18	1
Did the Student-Teacher Linkage Form include all teachers teaching mathematics and/or science to the students in the selected class?	89	10	1
Would you be willing to serve as a School Coordinator again?	90	9	1

Exhibit 6.26: Interview with the School Coordinator, Details – TIMSS 2023 Grade 8 – 596 Records (Percentage of School Coordinator Responses)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Prior to the testing day, did you have time to check the shipment of materials from the national center?	87	13	0
Was the national center responsive to your questions or concerns?	85	2	13

Question	Yes, for all computers/ tablets (%)	Yes, for some computers/ tablets (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did you run the System Check Program and mini-player on the computers/tablets prior to the TIMSS assessment	74	11	15	0

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did you provide the list of classes in the tested grade to the national center?	94	6	0
To the best of your knowledge, were there any students in this grade level enrolled in more than one of the Grade 4 or Grade 8 classes that you listed?	0	99	0
Were all students participating in the TIMSS assessment listed on the Student-Teacher Linkage Form?	84	15	1
Did the Student-Teacher Linkage Form include all teachers teaching mathematics and/or science to the students in the selected class?	91	8	1
Would you be willing to serve as a School Coordinator again?	89	11	0

Exhibit 6.27: Interview with the School Coordinator, Details – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 122 Records (Percentage of School Coordinator Responses)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Was the national center responsive to your questions or concerns?	88	1	11
Did you provide the list of classes in the tested grade to the national center?	92	6	2
To the best of your knowledge, were there any students in this grade level enrolled in more than one of the Grade 4 or Grade 8 classes that you listed?	2	98	0
Were all students participating in the TIMSS assessment listed on the Student-Teacher Linkage Form?	79	21	0
Did the Student-Teacher Linkage Form include all teachers teaching mathematics and/or science to the students in the selected class?	78	22	0
Would you be willing to serve as a School Coordinator again?	95	5	0

Exhibit 6.28: Interview with the School Coordinator, Details – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 8 – 62 Records (Percentage of School Coordinator Responses)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Was the national center responsive to your questions or concerns?	90	5	5
Did you provide the list of classes in the tested grade to the national center?	97	3	0
To the best of your knowledge, were there any students in this grade level enrolled in more than one of the Grade 4 or Grade 8 classes that you listed?	0	100	0
Were all students participating in the TIMSS assessment listed on the Student-Teacher Linkage Form?	81	19	0
Did the Student-Teacher Linkage Form include all teachers teaching mathematics and/or science to the students in the selected class?	76	24	0
Would you be willing to serve as a School Coordinator again?	95	3	2

Exhibits 6.29, 6.30, 6.31, and 6.32 present the details from the School Coordinator interviews on whether participants were provided with information about TIMSS prior to the administration and if any incentives were given.

Prior to administering the TIMSS 2023 Student Questionnaire and Home Questionnaire, 93%of fourth-grade, 91% of eighth-grade, 88% of paper-based fourth-grade, and 79% of paper-based eighth-grade students and/or their parents were informed about the collection of their personal data for use by the NRC and IEA for research purposes. The methods for informing

the students and/or their parents included phone calls, text messages, emails, letters from the NRC, letters from the Ministry or Department of Education, classroom announcements, postings on school platforms, and online or in-person meetings with school officials.

Prior to administering the TIMSS 2023 Teacher and School Questionnaires, 90% of fourth-grade, 87% of eighth-grade, 88% of paper-based fourth-grade, and 79% of paper-based eighth-grade teachers and principals were informed about the collection of their personal data for use by the NRC and IEA for research purposes. The methods for informing the teachers and principals included emails, text messages, letters from the Ministry or Department of Education, staff newsletters, staff meetings, and personal conversations with the School Coordinator and/or principal.

In 34% of the TIMSS fourth-grade, 48% of the TIMSS eighth-grade, 28% of the paper-based TIMSS fourth-grade, and 42% of the paper-based TIMSS eighth-grade observed sessions, School Coordinators reported that students received incentives. Examples of the incentives provided to students included certificates of participation, stickers, pens, sunglasses, coupons, and food.

In addition, in 21% of the TIMSS fourth-grade, 30% of the TIMSS eighth-grade, 6% of the paper-based TIMSS fourth-grade, and 6% of the paper-based TIMSS eighth-grade observed sessions, School Coordinators reported that teachers and/or school principals received incentives. Examples of the incentives provided to teachers and school principals included a letter of appreciation, certificates, and gift cards.

Exhibit 6.29: Interview with the School Coordinator, Personal Data and Incentives – TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 812 Records (Percentage of School Coordinator Responses)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Prior to the testing day, were students and/or their parents informed that the students' personal information (e.g., month and year of birth, gender) and other data collected for TIMSS 2023 will be used and stored indefinitely by the NRC and IEA for research purposes?	93	7	0
Prior to the testing day, were school staff (i.e., teachers and school heads) informed that their personal information (e.g., age, gender) and other data collected for TIMSS 2023 will be used and stored indefinitely by the NRC and IEA for research purposes?	90	9	1
Prior to the testing day, did the students receive any special instructional material related to the content of the achievement test (e.g., practice questions based on or taken from TIMSS)?	27	73	0
Were there any special incentives that the students received or will receive for participating in the TIMSS 2023 assessment (e.g., food, small gifts, certificates, awards)?	34	65	1

Exhibit 6.29: Interview with the School Coordinator, Personal Data and Incentives – TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 812 Records (Percentage of School Coordinator Responses) (Continued)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did teachers and/or the school principal receive any special incentives for participating in TIMSS 2023 (e.g., food, small gifts, certificates, awards)?	21	78	1

Exhibit 6.30: Interview with the School Coordinator, Prior Information and Incentives – TIMSS 2023 Grade 8 – 596 Records (Percentage of School Coordinator Responses)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Prior to the testing day, were students and/or their parents informed that the students' personal information (e.g., month and year of birth, gender) and other data collected for TIMSS 2023 will be used and stored indefinitely by the NRC and IEA for research purposes?	91	9	0
Prior to the testing day, were school staff (i.e., teachers and school heads) informed that their personal information (e.g., age, gender) and other data collected for TIMSS 2023 will be used and stored indefinitely by the NRC and IEA for research purposes?	87	13	0
Prior to the testing day, did the students receive any special instructional material related to the content of the achievement test (e.g., practice questions based on or taken from TIMSS)?	29	71	0
Were there any special incentives that the students received or will receive for participating in the TIMSS 2023 assessment (e.g., food, small gifts, certificates, awards)?	48	52	0
Did teachers and/or the school principal receive any special incentives for participating in TIMSS 2023 (e.g., food, small gifts, certificates, awards)?	30	70	0

Exhibit 6.31: Interview with the School Coordinator, Prior Information and Incentives – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 122 Records (Percentage of School Coordinator Responses)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Prior to the testing day, were students and/or their parents informed that the students' personal information (e.g., month and year of birth, gender) and other data collected for TIMSS 2023 will be used and stored indefinitely by the NRC and IEA for research purposes?	88	12	0

Exhibit 6.31: Interview with the School Coordinator, Prior Information and Incentives – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 122 Records (Percentage of School Coordinator Responses) (Continued)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Prior to the testing day, were school staff (i.e., teachers and school heads) informed that their personal information (e.g., age, gender) and other data collected for TIMSS 2023 will be used and stored indefinitely by the NRC and IEA for research purposes?	88	12	0
Prior to the testing day, did the students receive any special instructional material related to the content of the achievement test (e.g., practice questions based on or taken from TIMSS)?	49	51	0
Were there any special incentives that the students received or will receive for participating in the TIMSS 2023 assessment (e.g., food, small gifts, certificates, awards)?	28	72	0
Did teachers and/or the school principal receive any special incentives for participating in TIMSS 2023 (e.g., food, small gifts, certificates, awards)?	6	94	0

Exhibit 6.32: Interview with the School Coordinator, Prior Information and Incentives – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 8 – 62 Records (Percentage of School Coordinator Responses)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Prior to the testing day, were students and/or their parents informed that the students' personal information (e.g., month and year of birth, gender) and other data collected for TIMSS 2023 will be used and stored indefinitely by the NRC and IEA for research purposes?	79	21	0
Prior to the testing day, were school staff (i.e., teachers and school heads) informed that their personal information (e.g., age, gender) and other data collected for TIMSS 2023 will be used and stored indefinitely by the NRC and IEA for research purposes?	79	21	0
Prior to the testing day, did the students receive any special instructional material related to the content of the achievement test (e.g., practice questions based on or taken from TIMSS)?	37	63	0
Were there any special incentives that the students received or will receive for participating in the TIMSS 2023 assessment (e.g., food, small gifts, certificates, awards)?	42	58	0
Did teachers and/or the school principal receive any special incentives for participating in TIMSS 2023 (e.g., food, small gifts, certificates, awards)?	6	94	0

Exhibits 6.33, 6.34, 6.35, and 6.36 show the overall ratings by Test Administrators for TIMSS fourth-grade, TIMSS eighth-grade, paper-based TIMSS fourth-grade, and paper-based TIMSS eighth-grade sessions, respectively. Over 70% of the interviewed Test Administrators did not report experiencing any problems during the administration. Those that did experience issues reported that most were related to technology or software issues.

As a reflection of the successful planning and implementation of TIMSS 2023, over 90% of the interviewed Test Administrators for both digital and paper-based TIMSS said that they would be willing to serve as Test Administrators in future international assessments.

Exhibit 6.33: Interview with the Test Administrator – TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 812 Records (Percentage of Test Administrator Responses)

Question	Very well, no problems (%)	Satisfactorily, few problems (%)	Unsatisfactorily, many problems (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Overall, how would you say the assessment administration went?	59	21	2	18

Question	Worked well (%)	Needs improvement (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Overall, do you feel the TIMSS 2023 School Coordinator Manual worked well or does it need improvement?	87	13	0

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	There were no problems (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did you list any problems encountered during the TIMSS administration on the Test Administration Form?	27	26	47	0

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Would you be willing to serve as a Test Administrator again?	94	6	0

Exhibit 6.34: Interview with the Test Administrator – TIMSS 2023 Grade 8 – 596 Records (Percentage of Test Administrator Responses)

Question	Very well, no problems (%)	Satisfactorily, few problems (%)	Unsatisfactorily, many problems (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Overall, how would you say the assessment administration went?	60	17	1	22

Question	Worked well (%)	Needs improvement (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Overall, do you feel the TIMSS 2023 School Coordinator Manual worked well or does it need improvement?	88	12	0

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	There were no problems (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did you list any problems encountered during the TIMSS administration on the Test Administration Form?	25	24	51	0

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Would you be willing to serve as a Test Administrator again?	92	7	1

Exhibit 6.35: Interview with the Test Administrator – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 122 Records (Percentage of Test Administrator Responses)

Question	Very well, no problems (%)	Satisfactorily, few problems (%)	Unsatisfactorily, many problems (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Overall, how would you say the assessment administration went?	78	13	2	7

Question	Worked well (%)	Needs improvement (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Overall, do you feel the TIMSS 2023 School Coordinator Manual worked well or does it need improvement?	95	5	0

Exhibit 6.35: Interview with the Test Administrator – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 4 – 122 Records (Percentage of Test Administrator Responses) (Continued)

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	There were no problems (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did you list any problems encountered during the TIMSS administration on the Test Administration Form?	8	20	72	0

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Would you be willing to serve as a Test Administrator again?	95	5	0

Exhibit 6.36: Interview with the Test Administrator – Paper TIMSS 2023 Grade 8 – 62 Records (Percentage of Test Administrator Responses)

Question	Very well, no problems (%)	Satisfactorily, few problems (%)	Unsatisfactorily, many problems (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Overall, how would you say the assessment administration went?	69	26	2	3

Question	Worked well (%)	Needs improvement (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Overall, do you feel the TIMSS 2023 School Coordinator Manual worked well or does it need improvement?	89	11	0

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	There were no problems (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Did you list any problems encountered during the TIMSS administration on the Test Administration Form?	8	40	52	0

Question	Yes (%)	No (%)	Not Answered or Not Applicable (%)
Would you be willing to serve as a Test Administrator again?	94	6	0