

A comparison of the frameworks and items of the ALLS numeracy surveys and the PISA mathematical literacy surveys

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The evolution of the adult numeracy assessment frameworks and items of the IALS, ALLS and proposed PIAAC surveys reflects a trend towards a broader and more integrative view of numeracy. The recent PISA surveys of mathematical literacy in schools used a framework and items that focus on how well students can deal with realistic mathematical problems, and represents a significant departure from those of TIMSS and other international surveys of school mathematics which focus on assessing commonalities of school mathematics curricula across countries. This development suggests a convergence in the concepts of numeracy and adult mathematics and those of mathematical literacy as developed in schools. This presentation explores this convergence by comparing the ALLS numeracy framework and items and PISA mathematical literacy framework and items