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PISA: Against the Odds: Disadvantaged Students Who Succeed in School

9789264089952 | July 2011 | 198 pp

PISA, the OECD’s Program for International Student Assessment, focuses on young people’s ability to use their knowledge and skills to meet real-life challenges. Many socio-economically disadvantaged students excel in PISA. Students who succeed at school despite a disadvantaged background — resilient students — are the focus of Against the Odds. The report shows that overcoming barriers to achievement is possible, and provides students, parents, policy makers and other education stakeholders’ insights into what enables socio-economically disadvantaged students to fulfil their potential. Resilient students are characterized by positive approaches to learning, for example, having more interest in science or having more self-confidence. The evidence in PISA shows that positive approaches to learning tend to boost the performance of advantaged students more than that of disadvantaged ones. From an equity perspective, therefore, policies aimed at fostering positive approaches to learning ought to target disadvantaged students more than others.

The Space Economy at a Glance 2011

9789264084643 | July 2011 | 123 pp

Weather forecasting, air traffic control, global communications and broadcasting, disaster management — these and many other key activities would be almost unthinkable today without satellite technology. This book assembles information on the space economy from a wide range of official and non-official sources. Together these paint a richly detailed picture of the space industry, its downstream services activities, and its wider economic and social impacts. Who are the main space-faring nations? How large are revenues and how much employment is there in the sector? How much R&D goes on, and where? What is the value of spin-offs from space spending? Answers to these and other questions are provided in this second OECD statistical overview of the emerging space economy. A dynamic link (StatLink) is provided for graphs, which directs the user to a web page where the corresponding data are available in Excel® format.

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