

Why Assessment? Why Chile?

Presentation outline

Overview of Chile & its education system

Chile's large-scale assessment program (SIMCE)

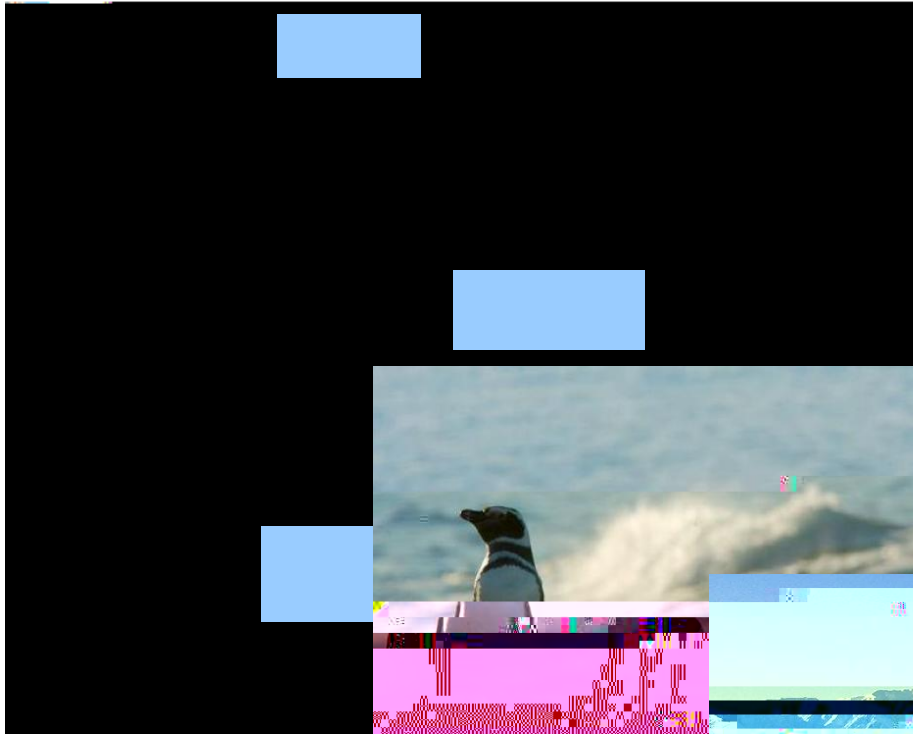
Purposes and uses of the assessment

Changes in the uses of assessment information

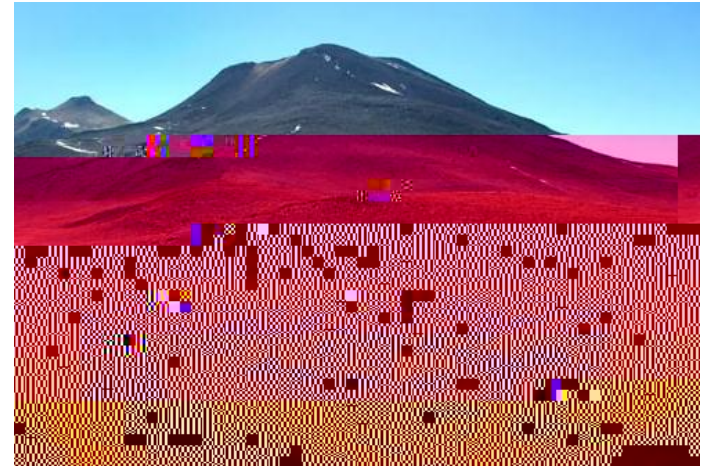
Conditions that allowed for those changes

Lessons learned for other countries

Overview of Chile



Pacific Ocean



Atacama desert



Capital city Santiago

Overview of Chile

Political and economic stability

Middle income country

GDP per capita = US\$ 12,000

Annual growth rate: 5%

Unemployment: 7%

Poverty: 15%

Strong economic inequalities

Life expectancy: 79 years

Adult literacy rate: 99%

Education in Chile

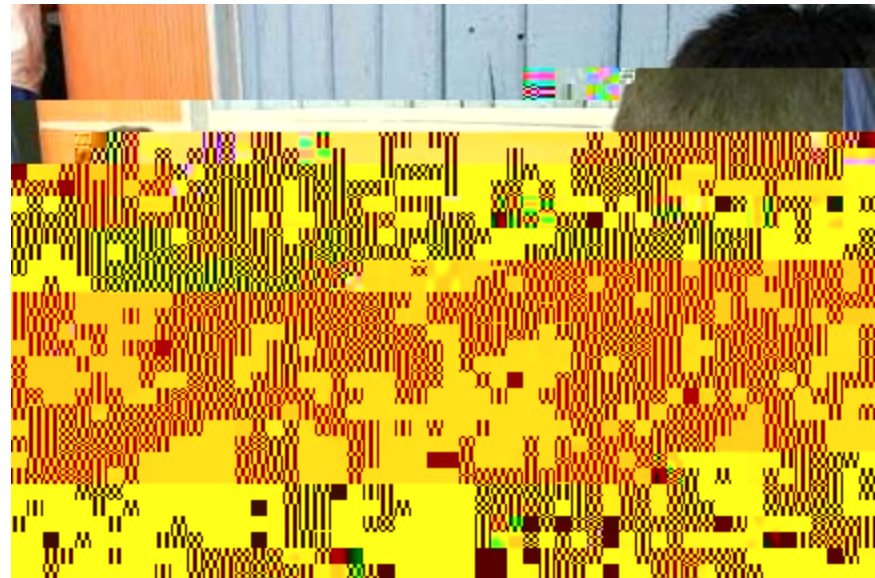
3.5 million students in near 9,000 schools

Universal coverage in primary and secondary education

Tertiary education enrollment: 55%

57% of students attend in private schools

Public expenditure in education: 4% of GDP



Education Quality

Chile's performance is

Among the highest compared to Latin American countries

Among the lowest compared to richer OECD countries

Important improvements in the last 10 years

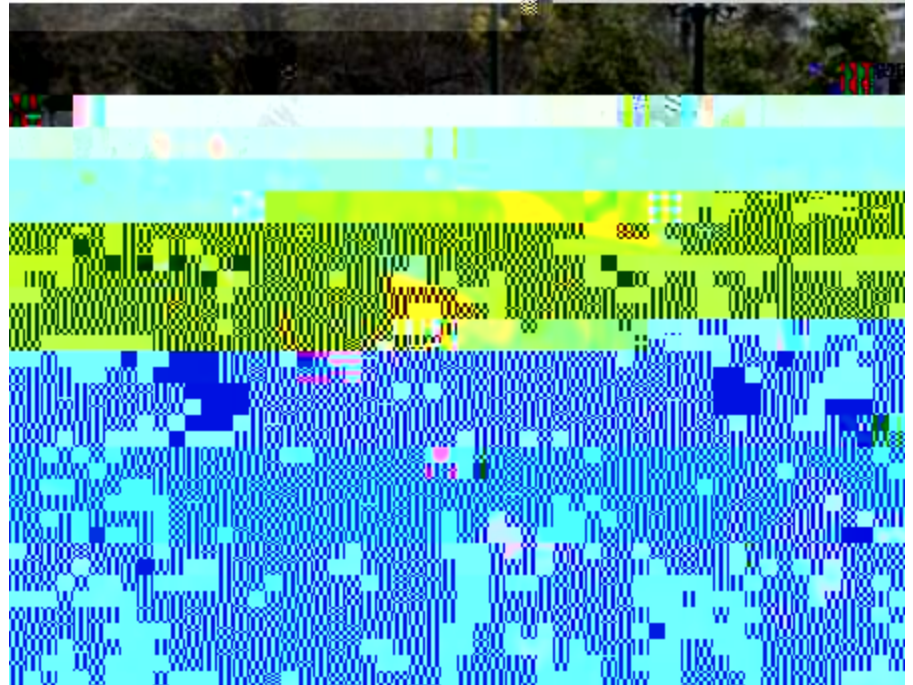
Strong inequalities



CHILE

Education in crisis

Students are on strike!



CHILE

National Large-Scale Assessment Program (SIMCE)

Operating on a yearly base since 1988

Standardized tests in math, language, science

Based on the national curriculum

Target grades: 4, 8 and 10

All students and schools participate

CHILE

National Large-Scale Assessment Program (SIMCE)

Highly institutionalized

Mandated by law

Managed by the Ministry of Education

Part of the educational landscape

SIMCE

Different Purposes & Emphases

Under the authoritarian regime (1973-1990)

1. Support pedagogy
2. Monitor the effectiveness of policies
3. Inform the "education market"

Under the democratic regime (1990 until now)

1. Support pedagogy
2. Monitor quality and equity
3. Hold schools accountable

1. Uses to support pedagogy

BEFORE THE ASSESSMENT

Assessment guidelines for educators

1. Uses to support pedagogy

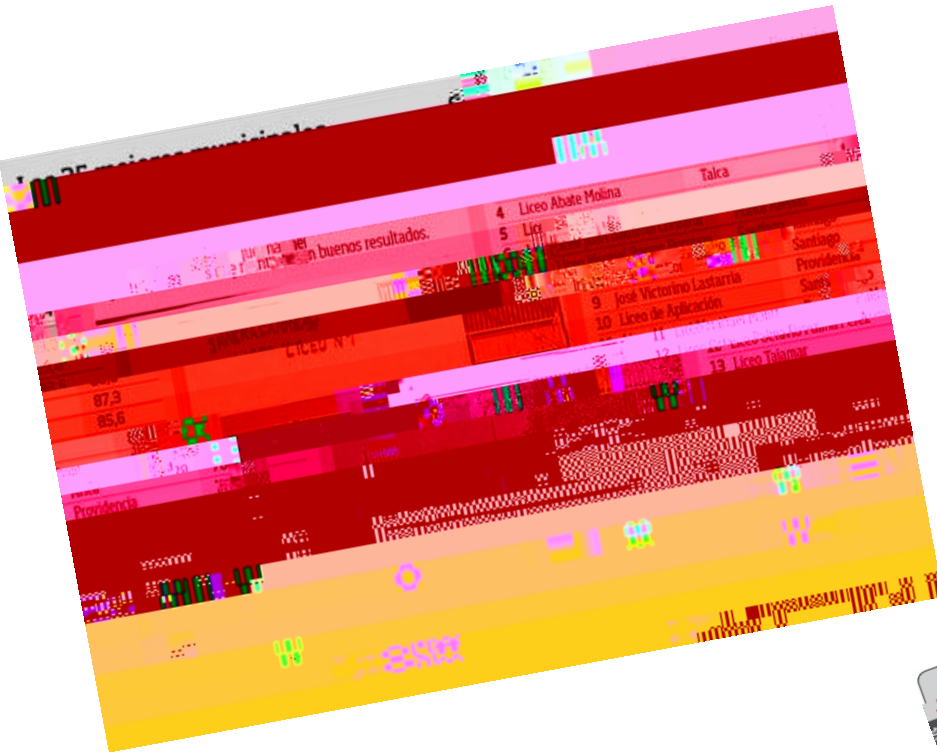
Online item bank (since 2007)





3. Uses to promote accountability

Public school results and rankings published in the newspapers (since 1995)



Parent report (since 2005)

3. Uses to promote accountability

What conditions allowed for the current uses of assessment?

Education as a national priority

Leadership

Consensus building

Legal framework

More budget and human resources

Access to databases

Capacity to do statistical analyses

International assessments



