

# Measuring Digital Self-Efficacy in International Large-Scale Assessments: An International Comparison Between ICILS and PISA

Daniel Miranda, Ismael Aguayo, Juan Carlos Castillo, Nicolas Tobar y Tomás Urzúa

**University of Chile y Millennium Nucleus on Digital Inequalities and Opportunities.**

X Seminar “Data from and for the educational system: tools for research and teaching”, Ostia, Rome, 19 - 20 - 21 November 2025

# NUDOS

[Inicio](#)[Sobre  
NUDOS](#)[Investigación  
NUDOS](#)[Vinculación  
social](#)[Noticias](#)[Índice  
Digitalización](#)[Eng](#) · [Esp](#)

# La digitalización abre oportunidades y presenta desafíos

evidencia + diálogo = mejores políticas

More information: [nudos.cl](http://nudos.cl)





núcleo milenio de  
**desigualdades y oportunidades digitales**

**Líneas de investigación:**

**Ámbito social**

Los antecedentes y consecuencias de las tecnologías digitales en la formación de redes sociales, de apoyo y ciudadanía digital en distintos sistemas sociales como escuelas, comunidades rurales u organizaciones de migrantes.



**Ámbito político**

Las motivaciones, actitudes y comportamientos de los ciudadanos en su relación con el gobierno, las instituciones políticas y el sistema democrático en general.



**Ámbito informativo**

La producción y difusión de conocimientos relativos a los asuntos públicos, la información de actualidad y la ciencia.

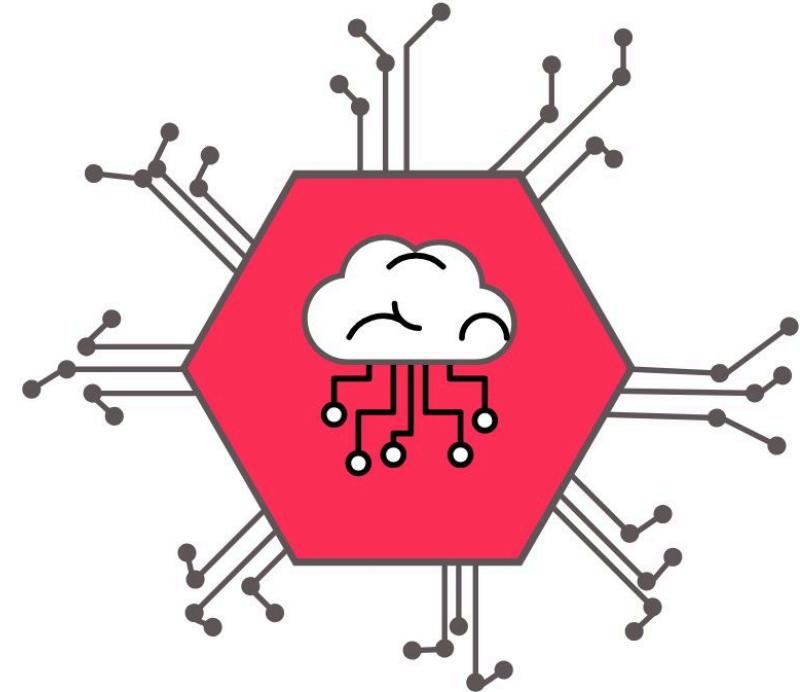


# Starting point

The digital dimension

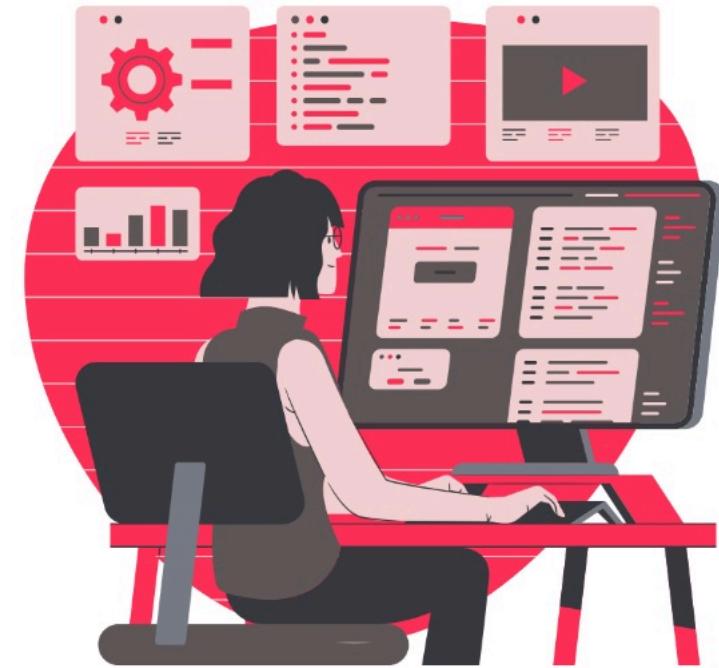
Multidimensional phenomenon

Digital divides



# Digital self-efficacy and gender

*“... expectations about one’s capabilities to learn and accomplish tasks in digital technologies and digital environments, is one of the principal components to promote the formation of digital competences”*  
*(Ulffert-Blank & Schmidt, 2022).*

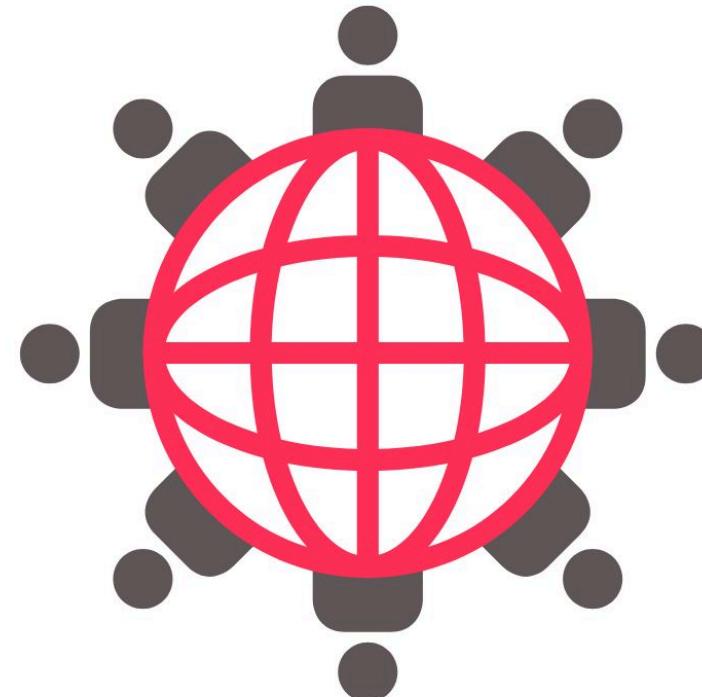


# Bidimensional digital self-efficacy?

- A changing concept: Computacional -> Internet -> TICs -> Digital (DigComp)
- In the last years it has been proposed a distinction between two types of self-efficacy: general and specialized.
- Cross-country studies operationalize digital self-efficacy in a one-dimensional and two-dimensional manner

# Country differences?

Structural  
conditions



Digital  
diversity

*It is possible to identify two dimensions on  
PISA Digital Self-efficacy measurement?*

*Is the bidimensional model of Digital Self-  
efficacy equivalent by gender and across  
countries?*

*Which gender differences exist on Digital  
Self-efficacy across countries?*

# Data

- Programme for International Student Assessment 2022 ( $n \approx 183.000$ ).
- International Computer and Information Literacy Study 2023 ( $n \approx 90.000$ ).
- 22 shared countries.



# Baterías de Autoeficacia digital

PISA: ¿To what extent *are you able to do* the following tasks when using ?

ICILS: How well you can do...?

## General Self\_Efficacy

PISA: 8 ítems, ICILS: 10 ítems

- Search for and evaluate information online.
- Share content online.
- Write or edit text.
- Create or edit images.

## Specialized Self-Efficacy

PISA: 6 ítems, ICILS: 3 ítems

- Website development.
- Programming.
- Computational reasoning.

# Methods

- Conformatory Factor Analyses and re-specification
- Stability among countries and gender (Multigroup CFA)
- Country and gender differences

# Results

1. Measurement model
2. Invariance testing
3. Mean distributions across countries
4. Gender differences across countries

# Original model: pooled

## PISA 2022

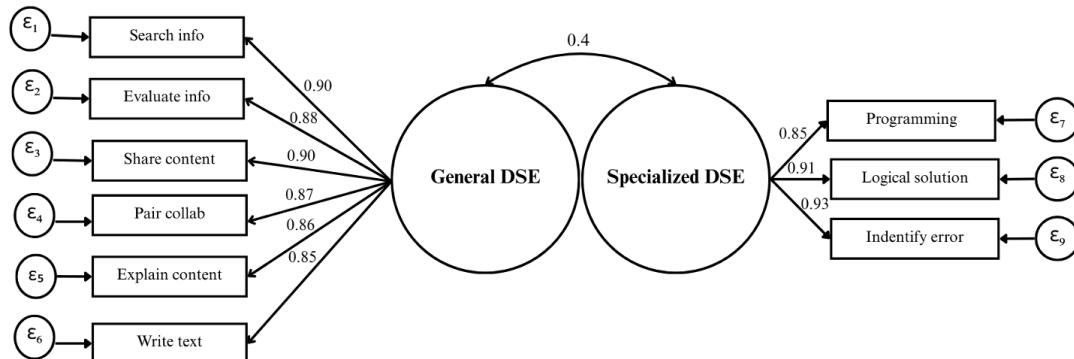
CFI = 0.98; TLI = 0.97; RMSEA = 0.15, exceeding the maximum acceptable RMSEA threshold of 0.08

## ICILS 2023

CFI = 0.97; TLI = 0.96; RMSEA = 0.10, exceeding the maximum acceptable RMSEA threshold of 0.08

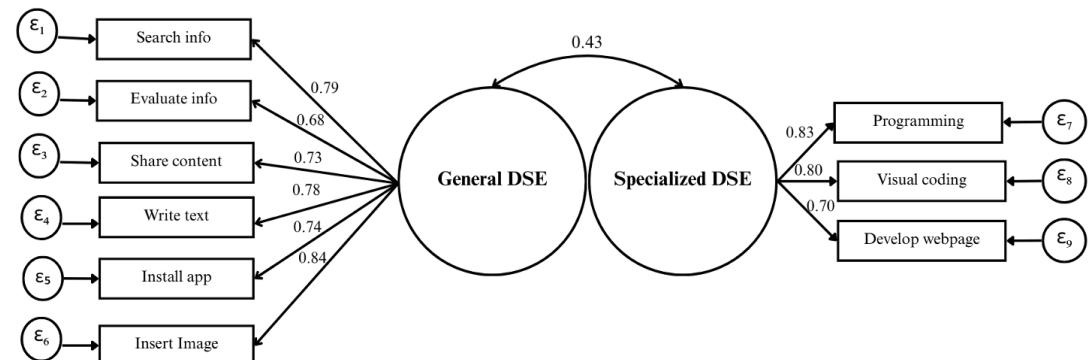
# Adjusted Modelo: pooled

PISA 2022



$CFI = 0.997, TLI = 0.996, RMSEA = 0.067, \chi^2 = 17757.739, df$

ICILS 2023



$CFI = 0.986, TLI = 0.980, RMSEA = 0.079, \chi^2 = 13667.347, df = 2$

# AFC and Invariance

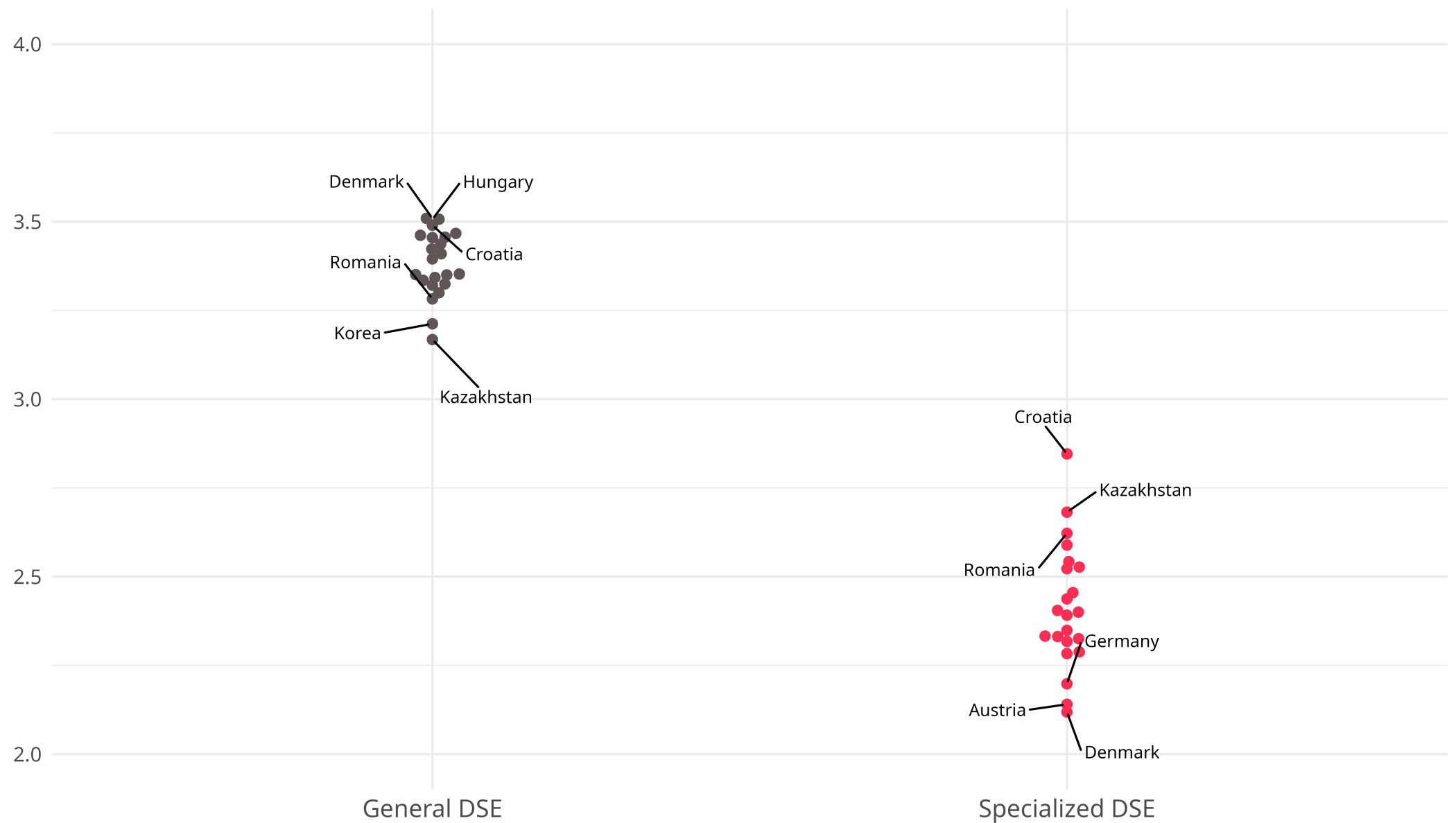
## Across countries

<b>Study</b>	<b>Model</b>	$\chi^2$	<b>df</b>	<b>CFI</b>	<b>TLI</b>	<b>RMSEA</b>	<b>SRMR</b>	$\Delta\chi^2$	$\Delta df$	$\Delta CFI$	$\Delta RMSEA$	<b>p</b>	<b>Decision</b>
PISA	1. Configural	14,965	572	0.998	0.997	0.067	0.045						
PISA	2. Metric	16,696	719	0.998	0.998	0.063	0.046	1,731	147	< -0.004	< 0.05	< 0.01	Yes
PISA	3. Scalar	19,817	1,055	0.998	0.998	0.056	0.045	3,121	336	< -0.004	< 0.01	< 0.01	Yes
ICILS	1. Configural	15,273	572	0.987	0.982	0.086	0.066						
ICILS	2. Metric	17,690	719	0.985	0.983	0.082	0.069	2,417	147	< -0.004	< 0.05	< 0.01	Yes
ICILS	3. Scalar	26,254	1,055	0.977	0.983	0.083	0.067	8,564	336	-0.007	< 0.01	< 0.01	No

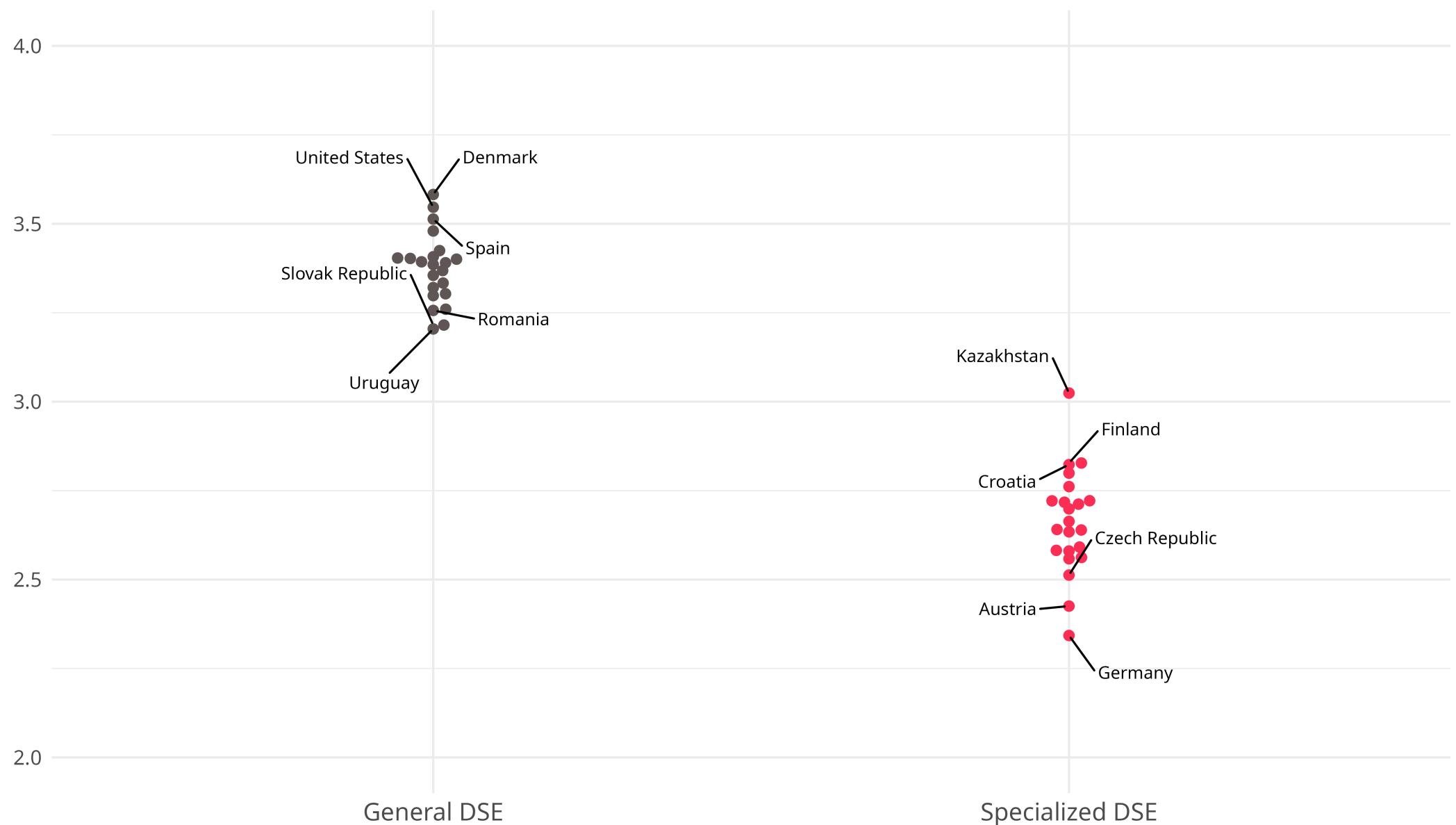
## By gender

<b>Study</b>	<b>Model</b>	$\chi^2$	df	CFI	TLI	RMSEA	SRMR	$\Delta\chi^2$	$\Delta df$	$\Delta CFI$	$\Delta RMSEA$	p	Decision
PISA	1. Configural	12,233	52	0.998	0.998	0.061	0.041						
PISA	2. Metric	12,801	59	0.998	0.998	0.059	0.041	568	7	< -0.004	< 0.05	< 0.01	Yes
PISA	3. Scalar	13,225	75	0.998	0.998	0.053	0.041	424	16	< -0.004	< 0.01	< 0.01	Yes
ICILS	1. Configural	12,002	52	0.987	0.982	0.078	0.059						
ICILS	2. Metric	12,739	59	0.986	0.984	0.075	0.060	737	7	< -0.004	< 0.05	< 0.01	Yes
ICILS	3. Scalar	13,741	75	0.985	0.986	0.069	0.059	1,003	16	< -0.004	< 0.01	< 0.01	Yes

## ICILS countries DSE scores comparison



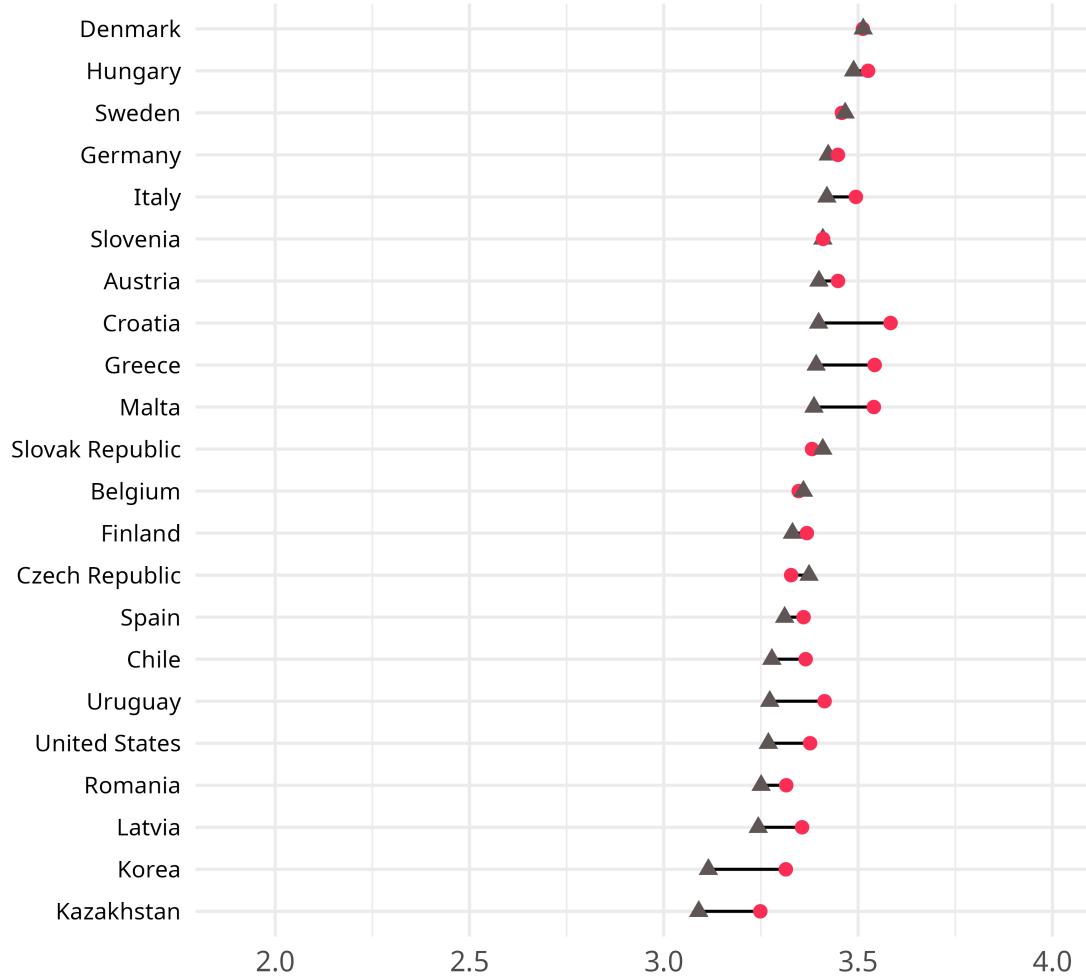
## PISA countries DSE scores comparison



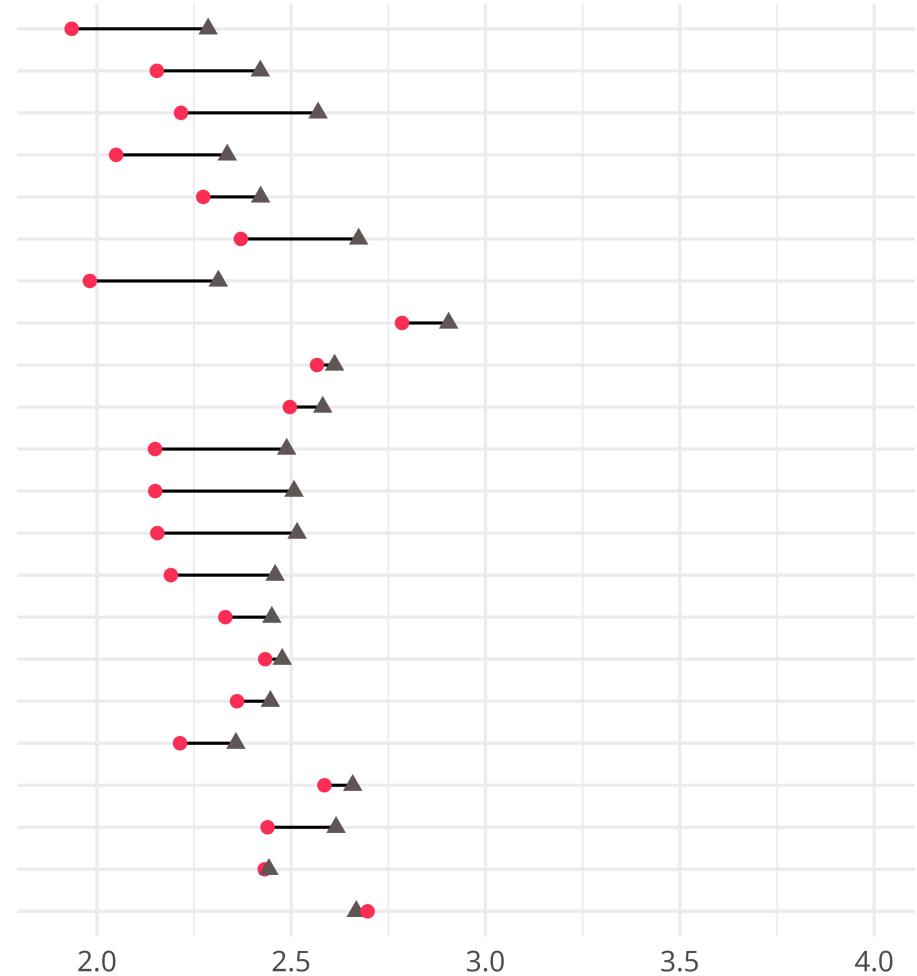
## ICILS gender DSE gaps by country

Gender • Female ▲ Male

General DSE

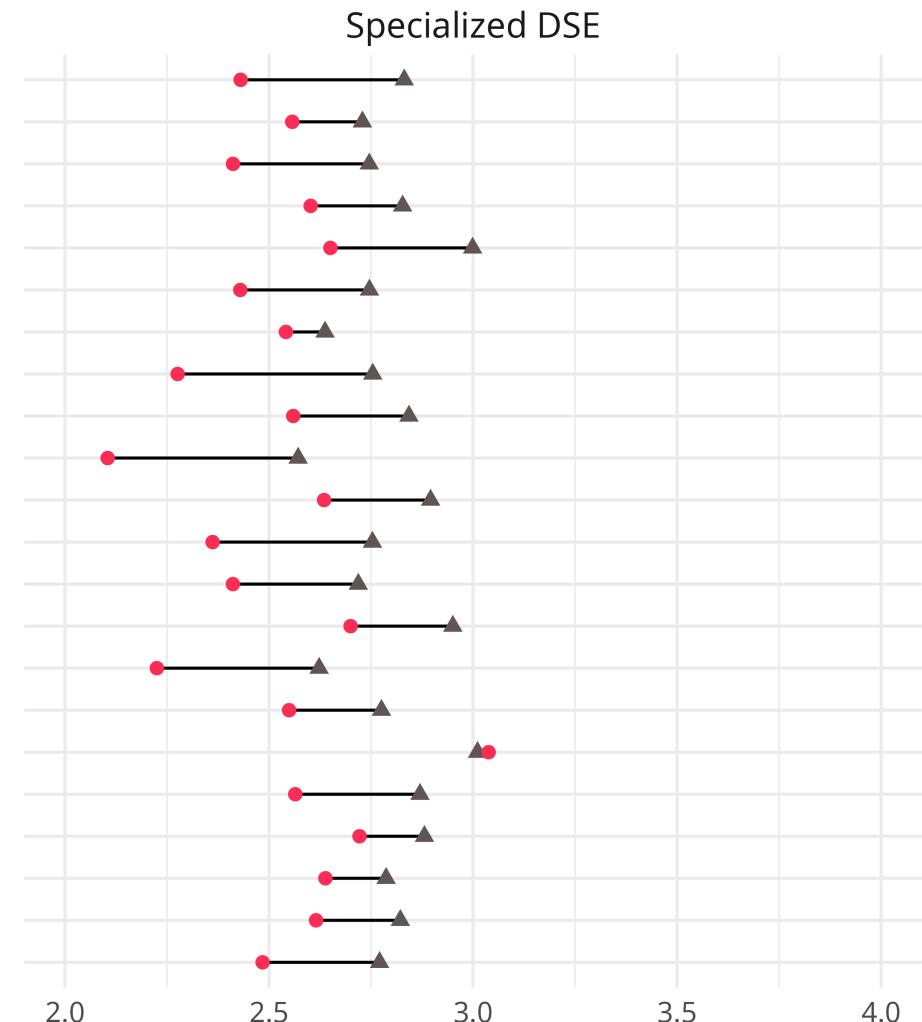
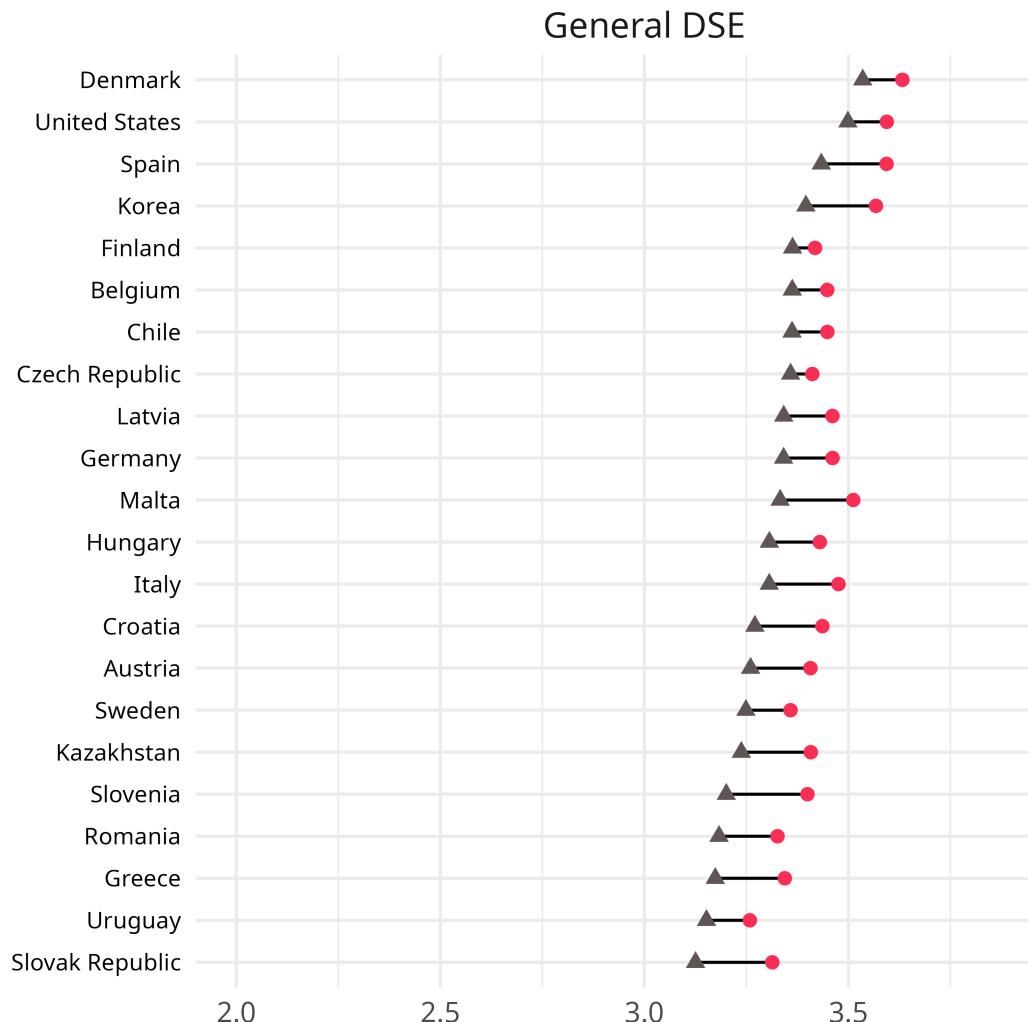


Specialized DSE



## PISA gender DSE gaps by country

Gender • Female ▲ Male



# Conclusion

- Is it possible to identify two dimensions in PISA and ICILS?
  - Yes, but with fewer items than those proposed by both studies.
- Is the two-dimensional model of digital self-efficacy equivalent across genders and countries?
  - In PISA, yes; in ICILS, only at the metric level.
- What gender differences exist in digital self-efficacy across countries?
  - Women have an advantage in general self-efficacy, and men in specialized self-efficacy.

# Discussion

- The evolution of measurements: ICTSE vs. DSE and the DigComp framework
- Are there two or more dimensions?
- The counterintuitive relationship between countries' development and the gender gap

# Next steps

- What macro-level factors can explain the differences in digital self-efficacy and the gender gap?
- What is happening in developed/developing countries?

# Thank you!

- **Sitio web NUDOS:** [www.nudos.cl](http://www.nudos.cl)
- **Repository Github of the project:** [https://github.com/milenio-nudos/picils\\_dse](https://github.com/milenio-nudos/picils_dse)

# Anex

# Eliminated items

- Multimedia manipulation
- Searching for information sources
- Privacy settings
- App selection.