

Exhibit 3. Number of mathematics topics added and dropped. After grade 2, the composite U.S. mathematics curriculum does not indicate an intention to add comparatively more topics. The U.S. is within the middle 50 percent of TIMSS countries and at or below the median in almost every case. However, the U.S. does not show any topics as dropped until grade 7 and drops many more than other countries only in grades 9 and 11. Topics introduced in the early grades remain until junior high school and comparatively large numbers of topics are dropped only with specialization in high school. [The gray bars on the right show how many mathematics topics were intended to be added at each grade in the TIMSS countries. The bars extend from the 25th percentile (nearest the center line) to the 75th percentile among countries in the number of topics at each grade. The gray bars on the left show how many mathematics topics were intended to be dropped from coverage at each grade in the TIMSS countries. The bars extend from the 25th percentile (nearest the center line) to the 75th percentile among countries in the number of topics at each grade. The black line at each grade indicates the median number of topics. The U.S., Germany, and Japan are marked individually. Missing symbols for the U.S., Germany and Japan indicate no topics for the category (added, dropped, or both).]

