



# Preparing students for their future, not our past

Insights from OECD's review of Japan's education system

Andreas Schleicher, Director, OECD – Directorate for Education and Skills







# Trends in science performance

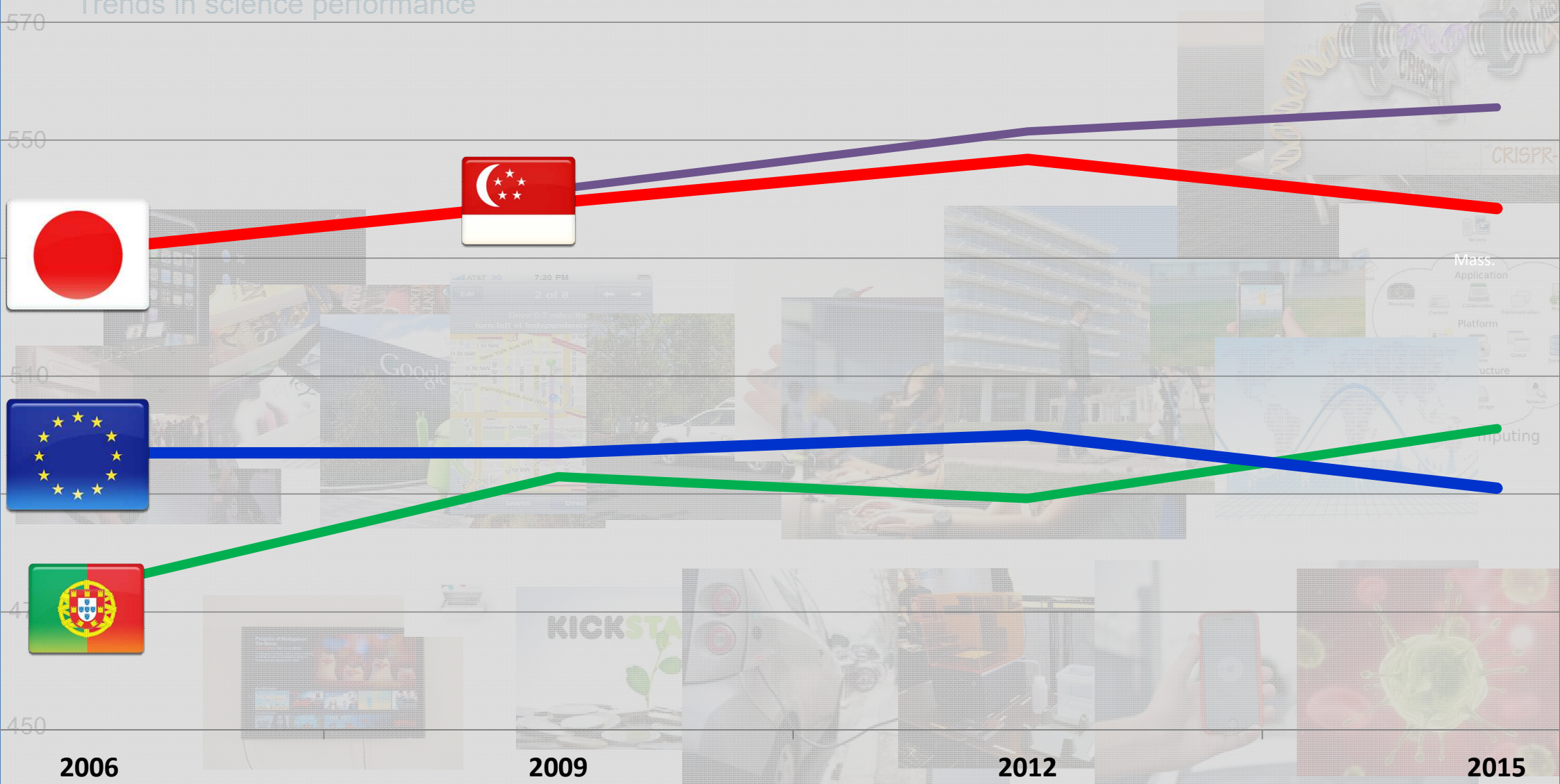
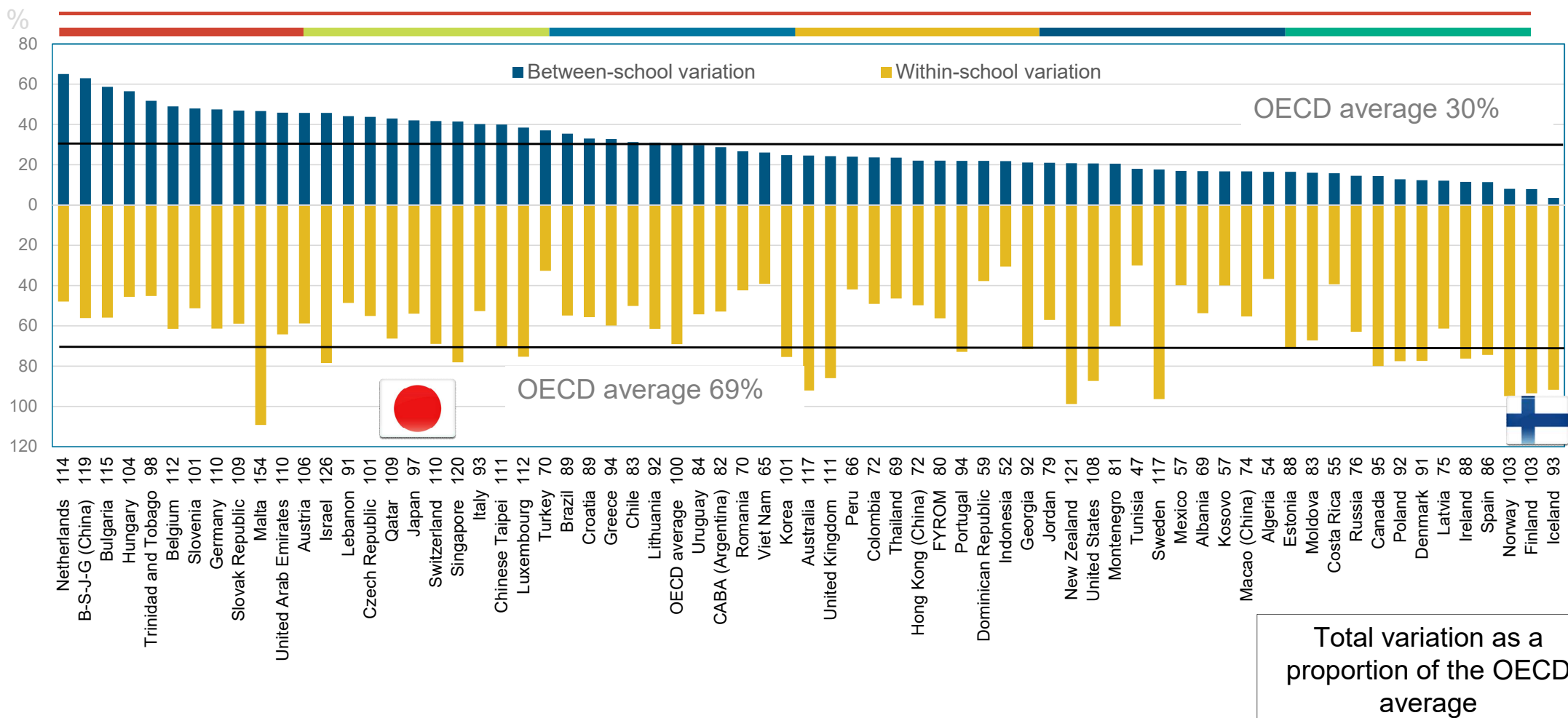


Figure I.6.11

# Variation in performance between and within schools

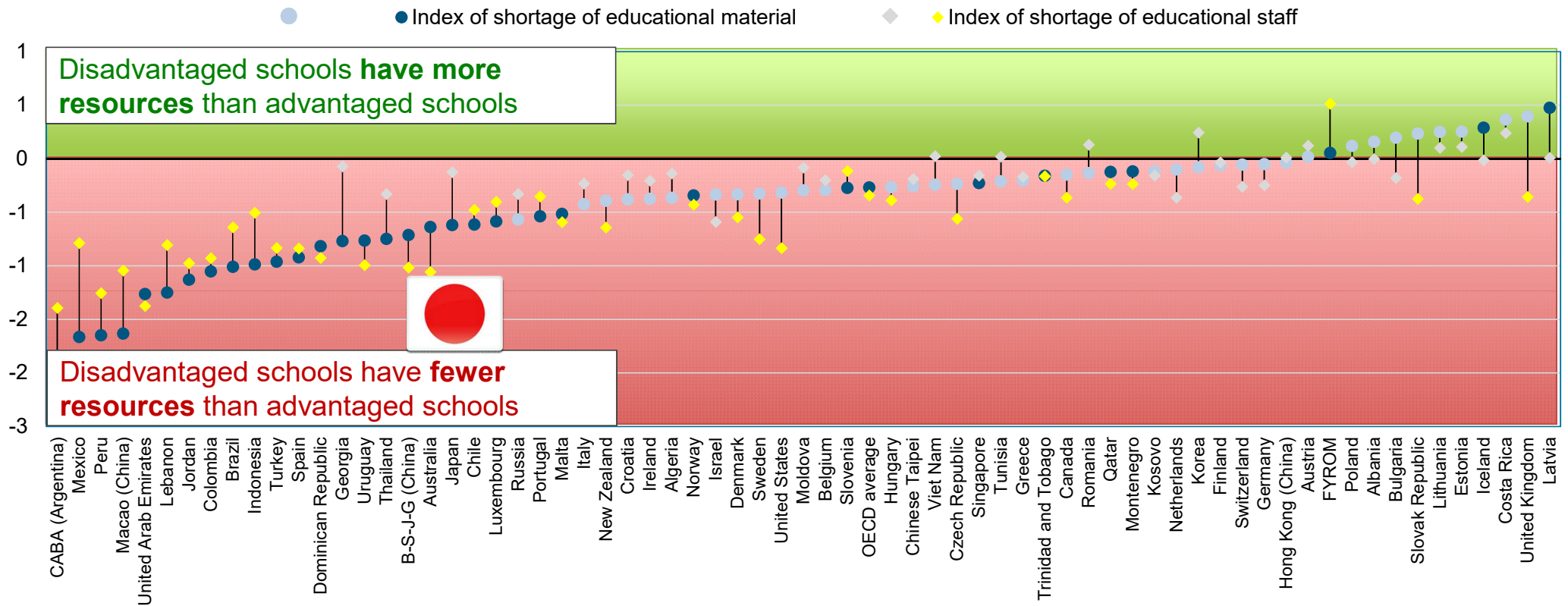


Total variation as a proportion of the OECD average

Figure I.6.14

# Differences in educational resources between advantaged and disadvantaged schools

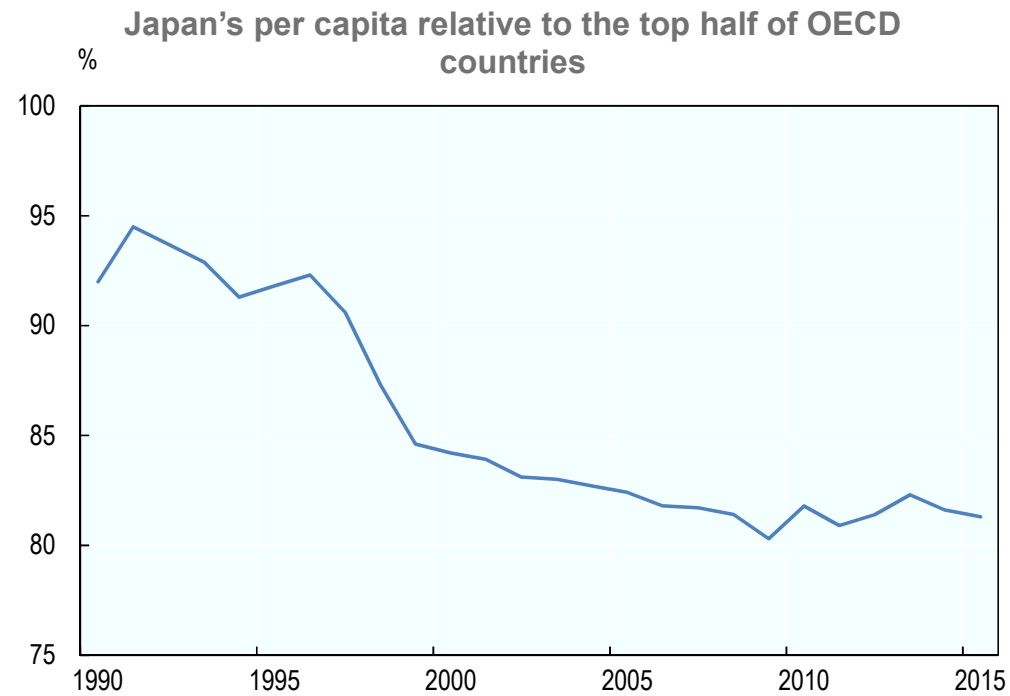
Mean index difference between advantaged and disadvantaged schools



## Japan's context: some concerning facts

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### Economy:

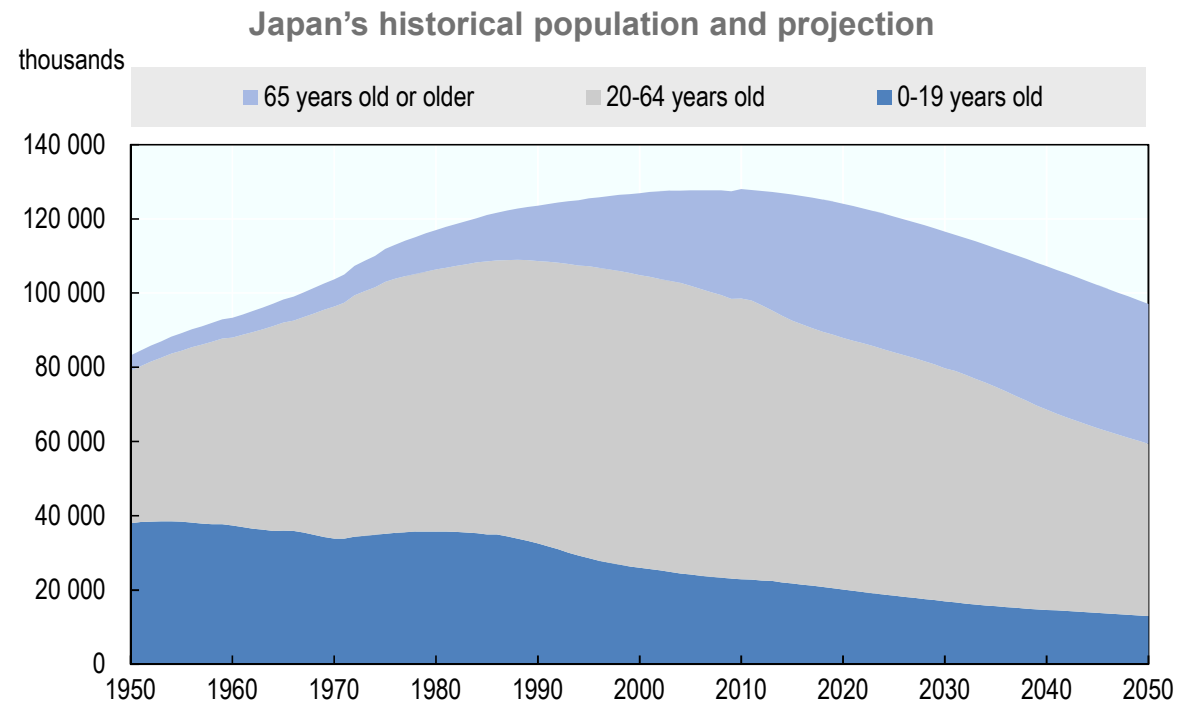


Source: OECD Eco Database

## Japan's context: some concerning facts

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### Demography:

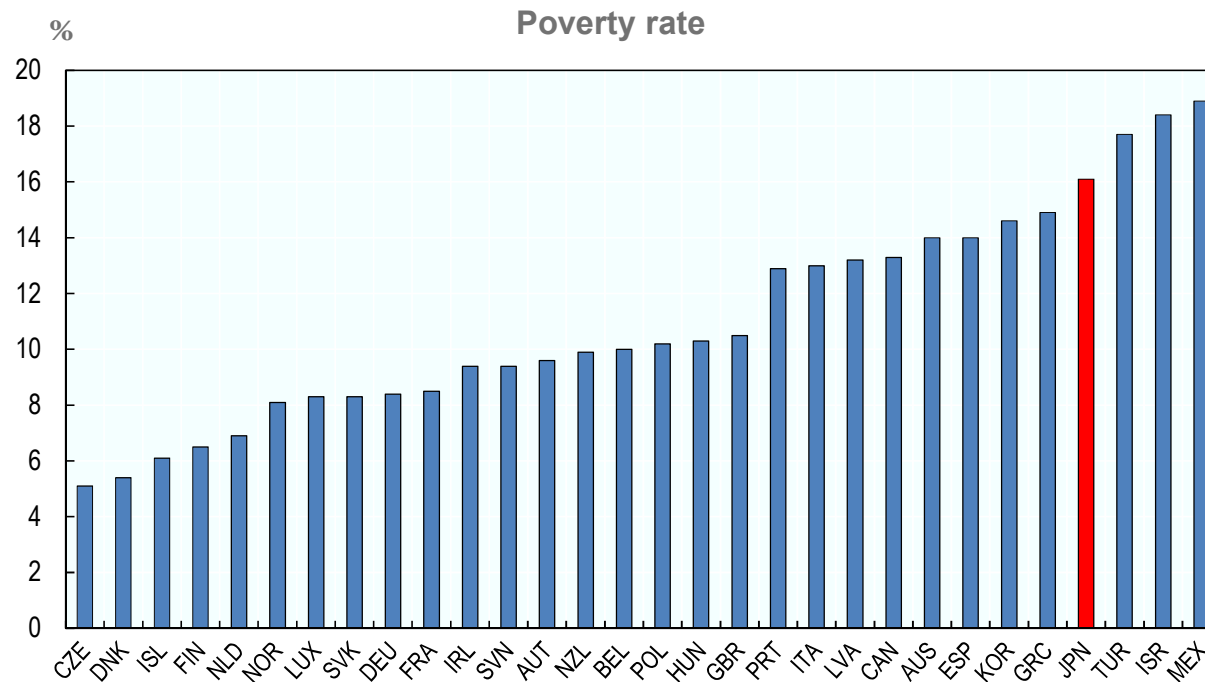


Source: OECD Eco Database

## Japan's context: some concerning facts

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### Social inequality:



Source: OECD Eco Database



# Digitalisation



Democratizing



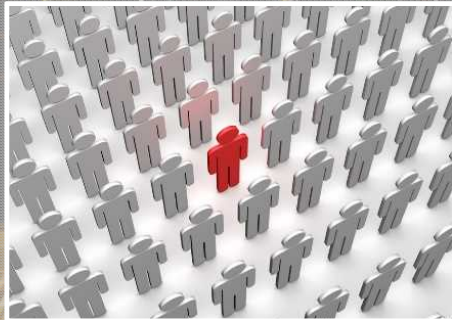
Particularizing



Empowering



Concentrating



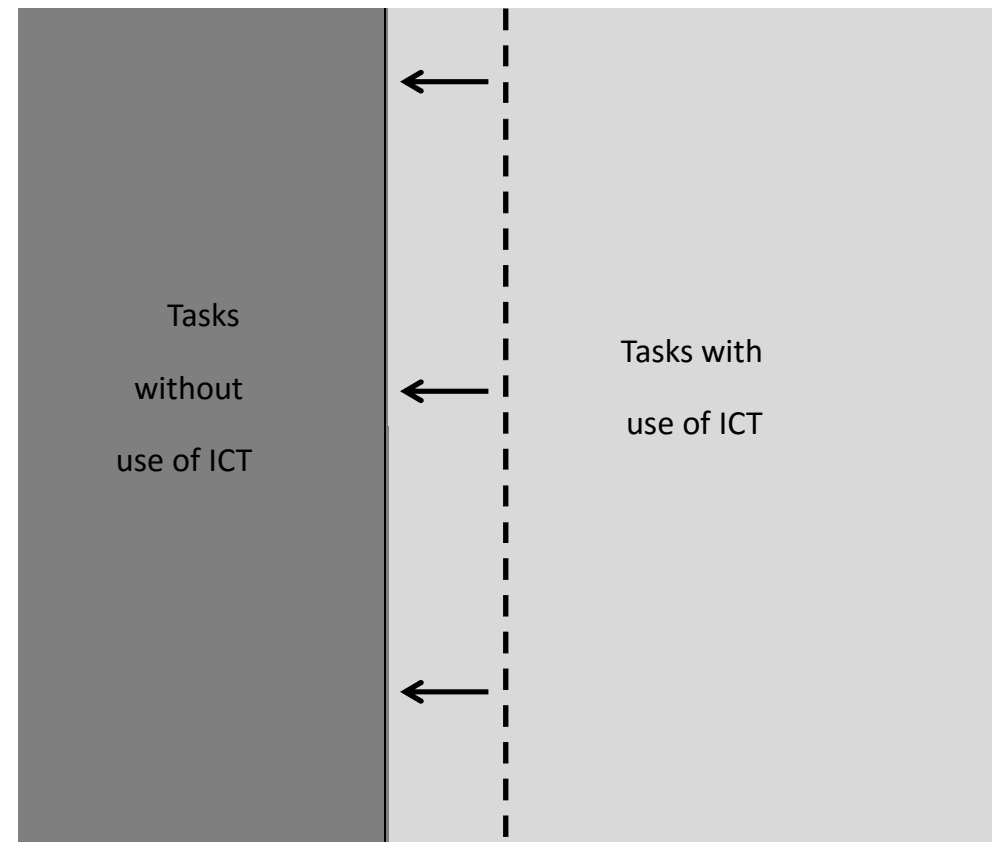
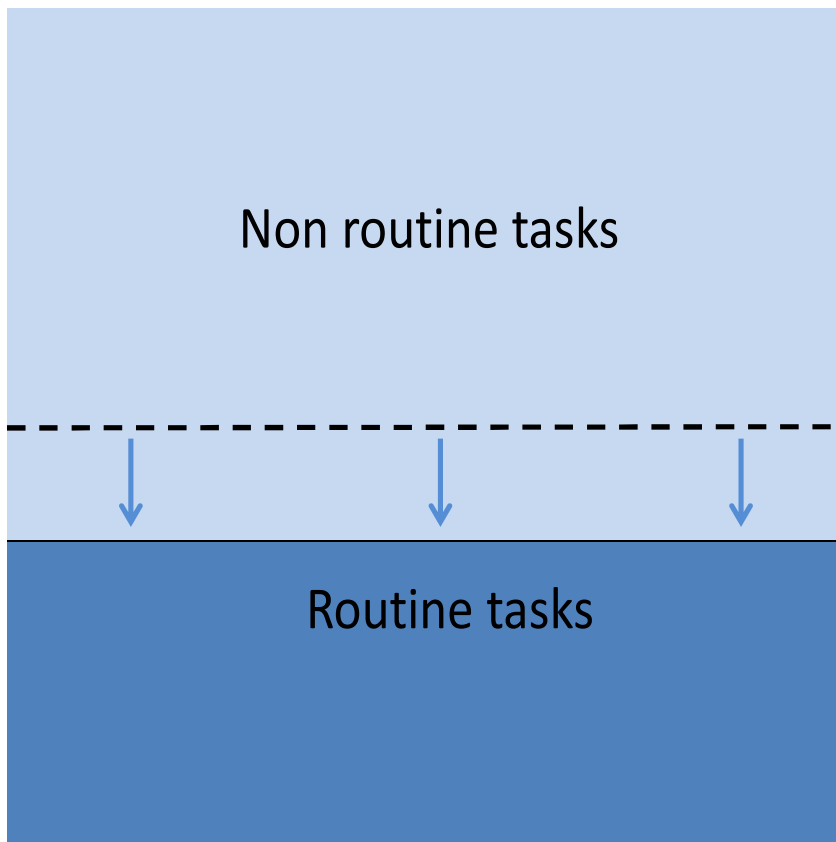
Homogenizing



Disempowering

# TWO EFFECTS OF DIGITALISATION

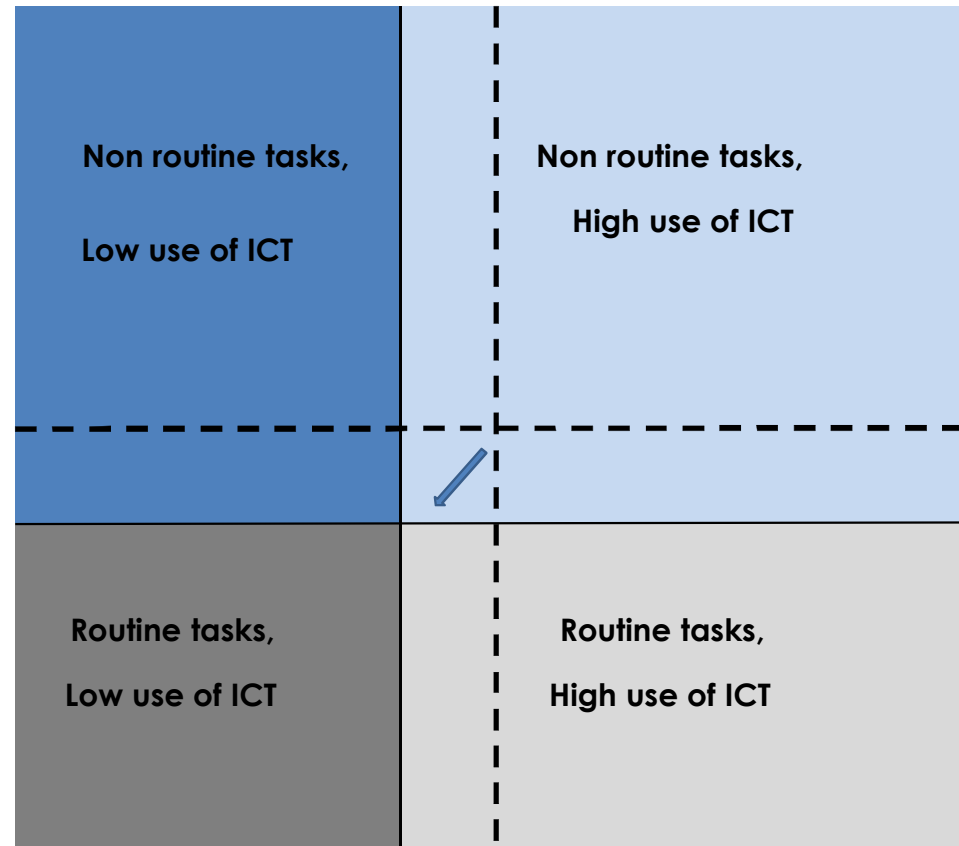
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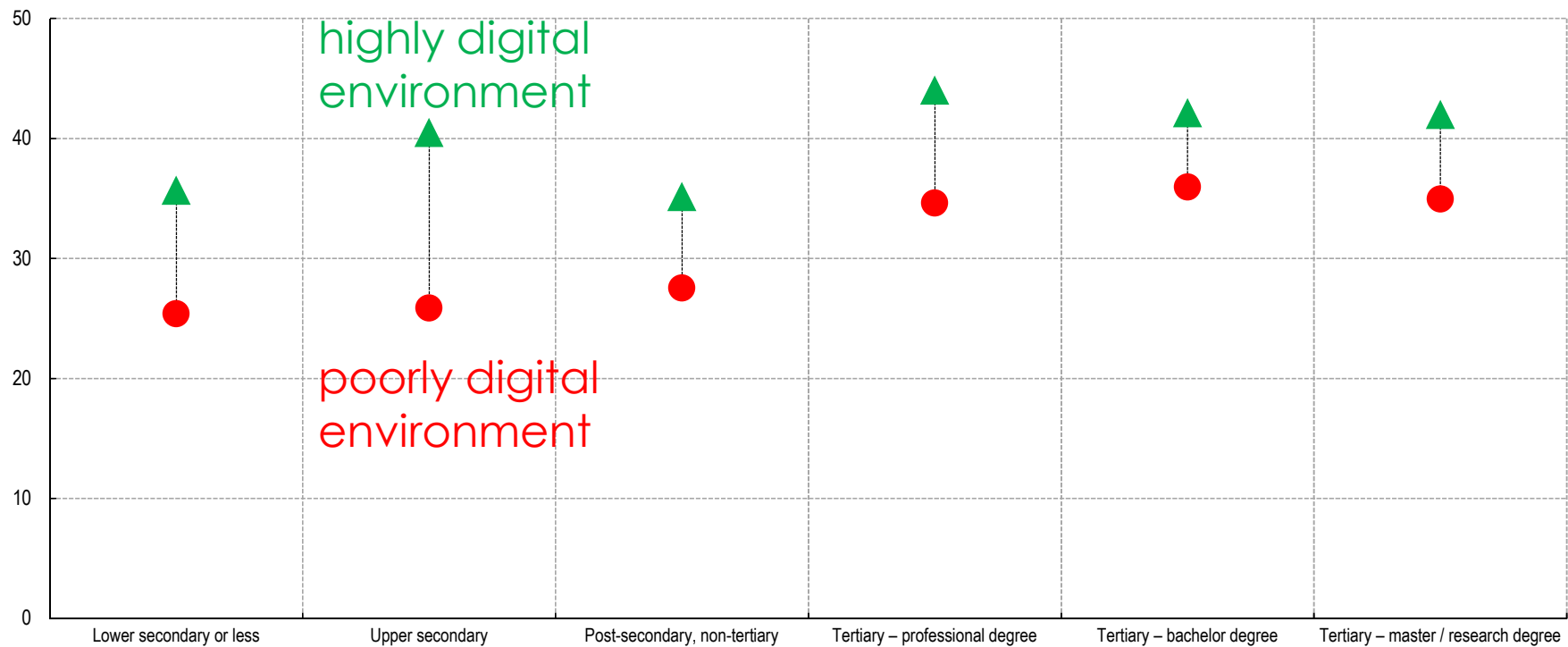
# TWO EFFECTS OF DIGITALISATION

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# DIGITALISATION RAISES NEEDS FOR TRAINING

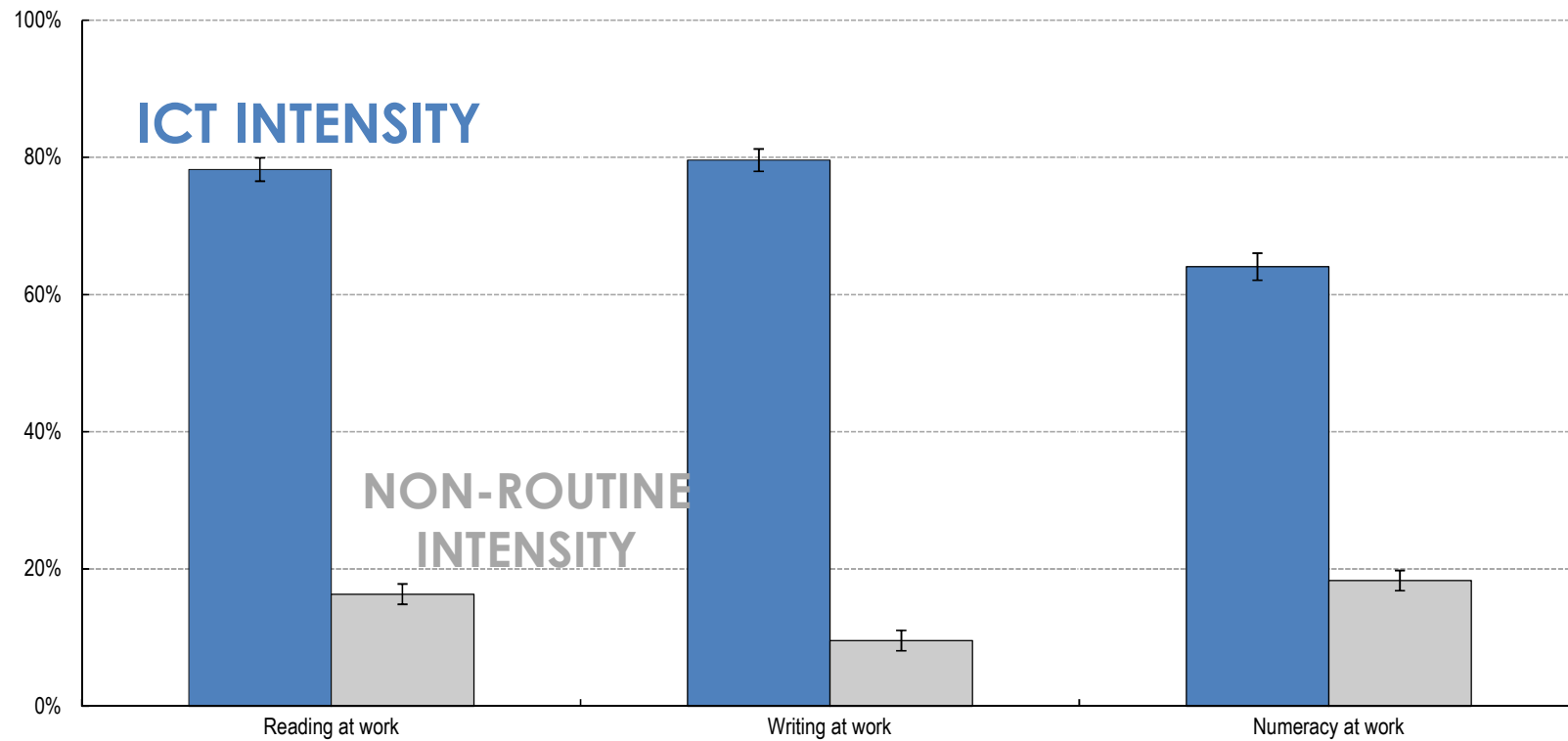
SHARE OF WORKERS REPORTING NEEDING FURTHER TRAINING FOR THEIR JOB BY EDUCATION LEVEL (%)





# ICT USE AND NON-ROUTINE INTENSITY INCREASE COGNITIVE SKILL USE

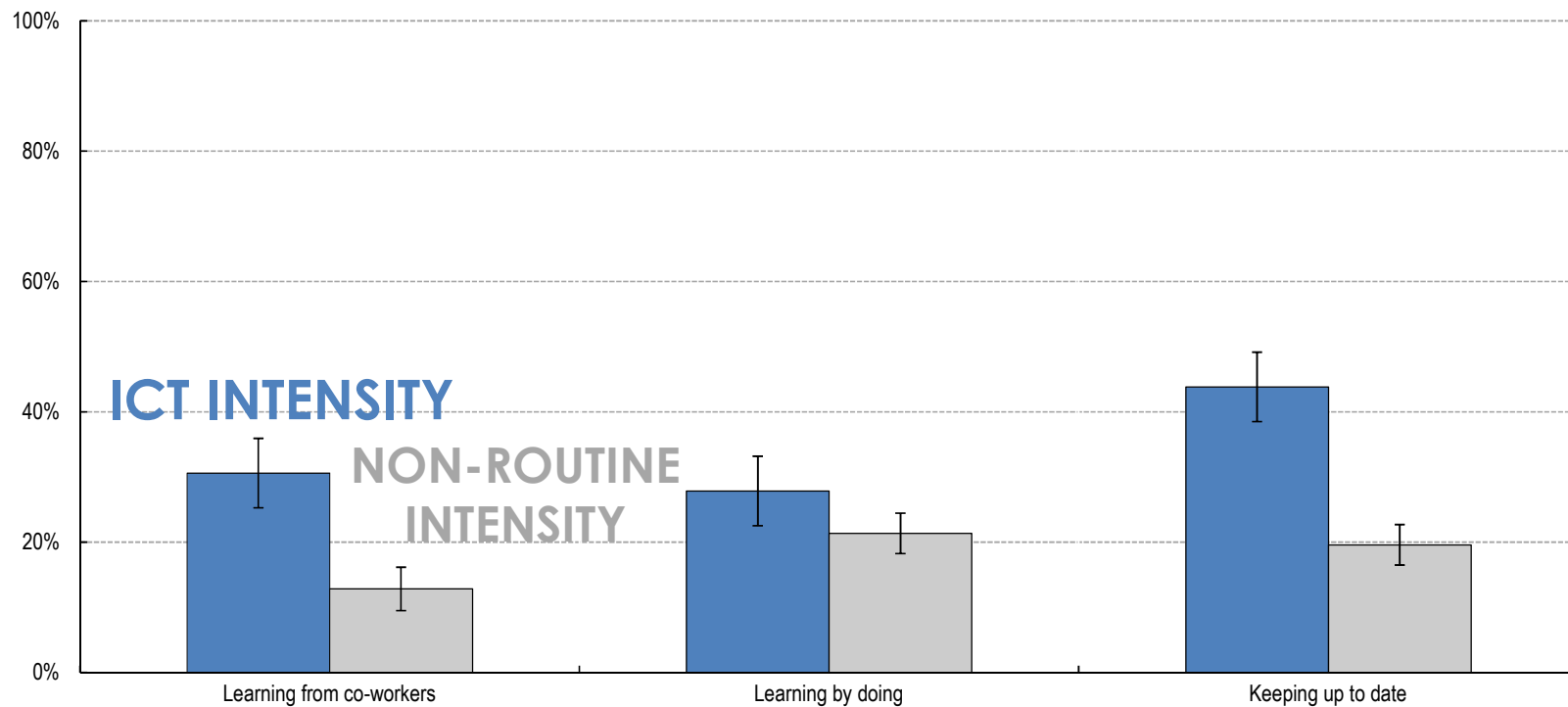
EXPECTED EFFECT OF INCREASE FROM 50<sup>TH</sup> TO 75<sup>TH</sup> PCTILE OF DIGITAL EXPOSURE ON  
COGNITIVE SKILL INTENSITY



Source: Survey of Adult Skills (2012, 2015)

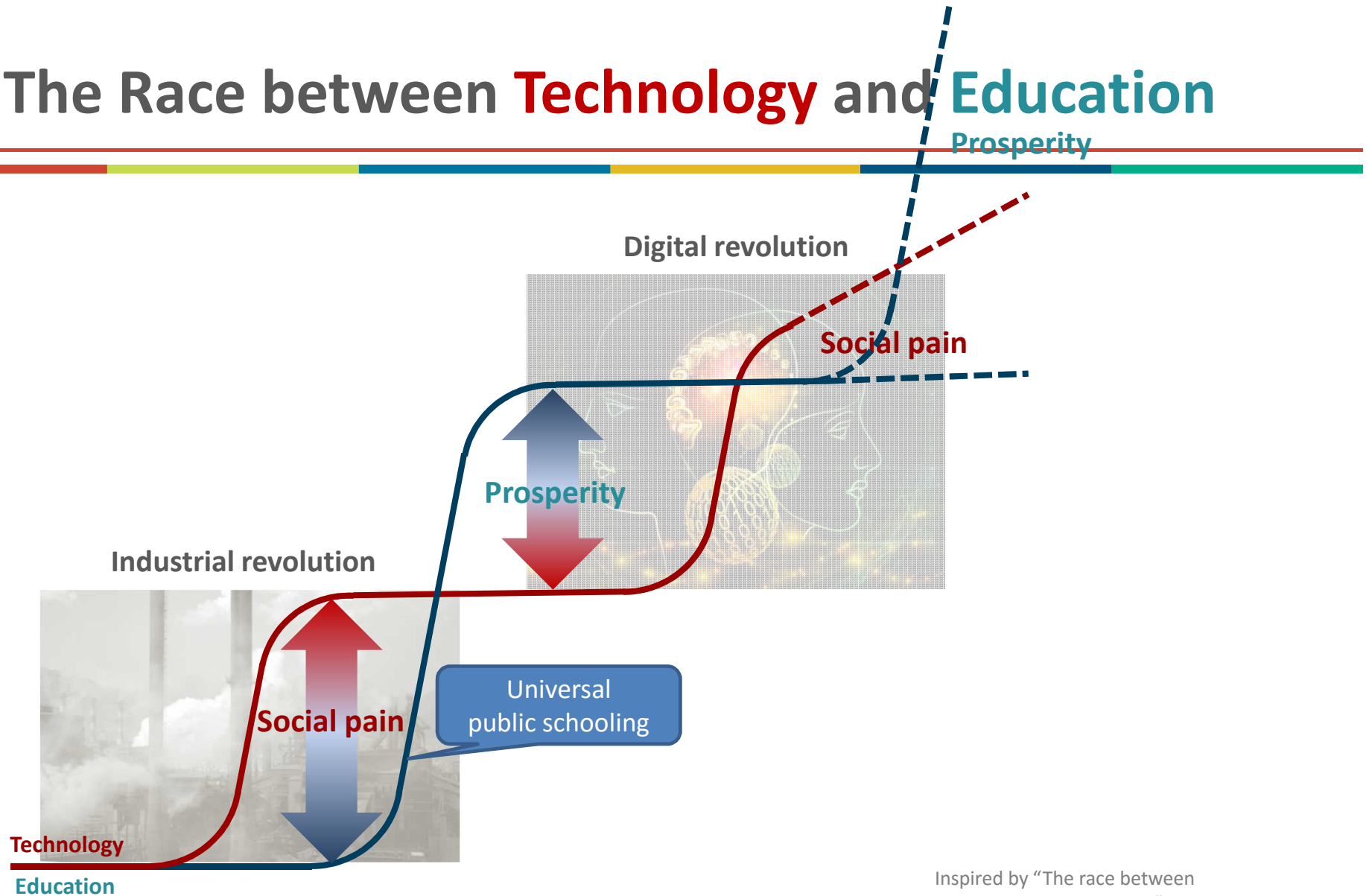
# ICT USE AND NON-ROUTINE INTENSITY ENHANCE FORMS OF LEARNING

EXPECTED EFFECT OF INCREASE FROM 50<sup>TH</sup> TO 75<sup>TH</sup> PCTILE OF DIGITAL EXPOSURE ON  
PROBABILITY OF LEARNING AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK



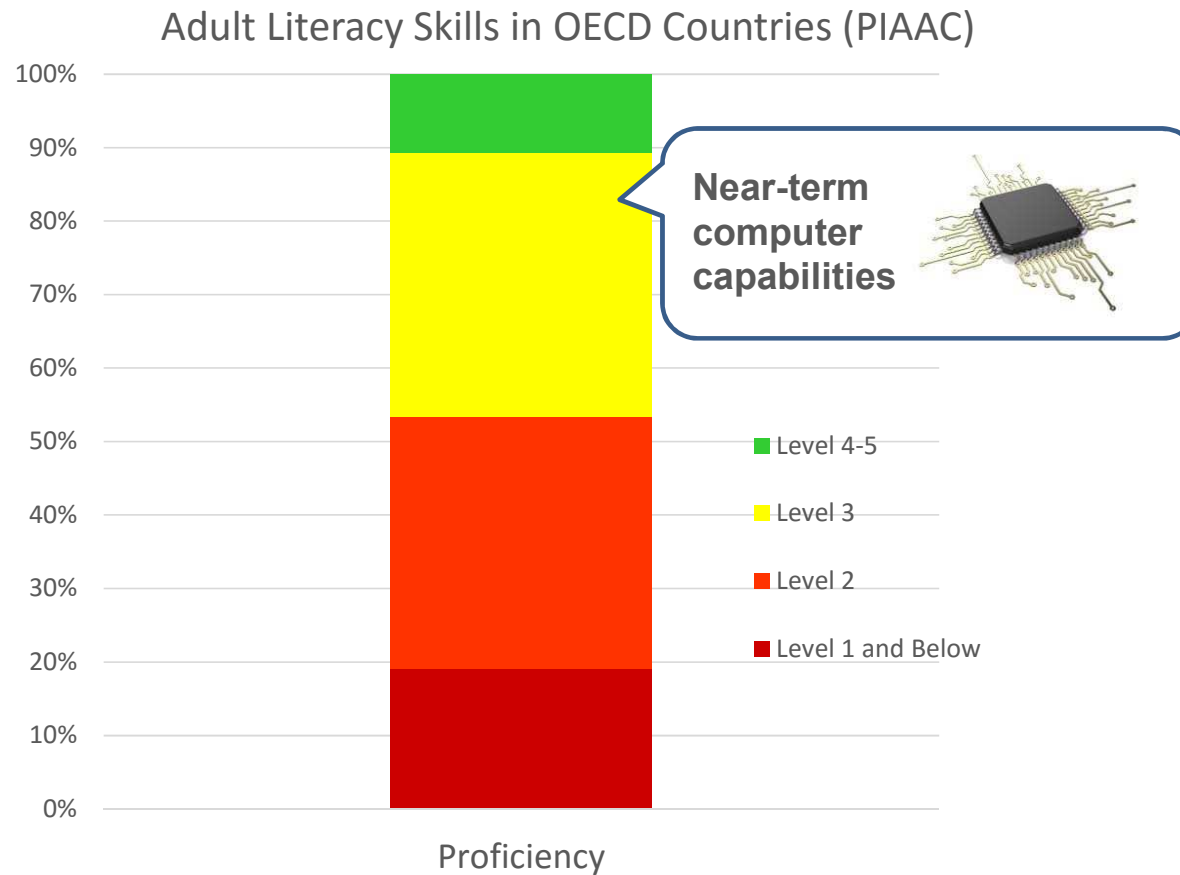
Source: Survey of Adult Skills (2012, 2015)

# The Race between **Technology** and **Education**



Inspired by "The race between technology and education"  
Pr. Goldin & Katz (Harvard)

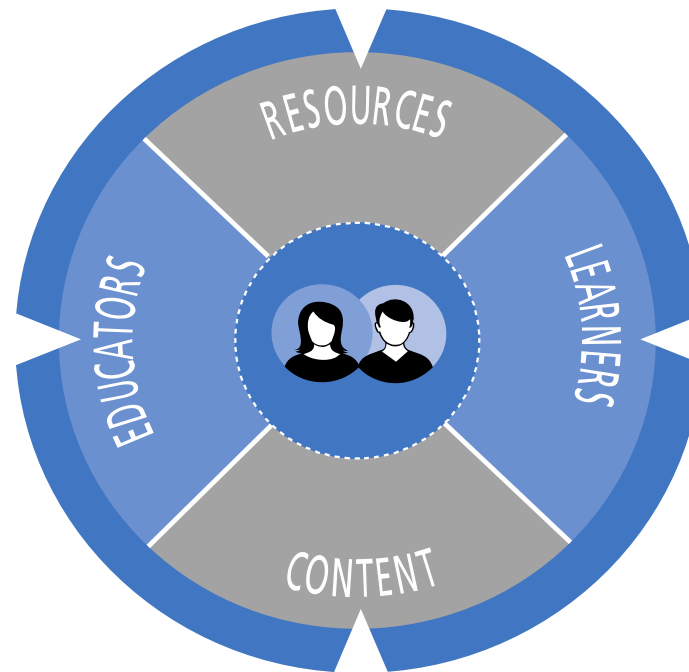
# The biggest risk to education today isn't its inefficiency, but that our way of education is losing its purpose and relevance





**When fast gets really fast, being slow to adapt makes you really slow**

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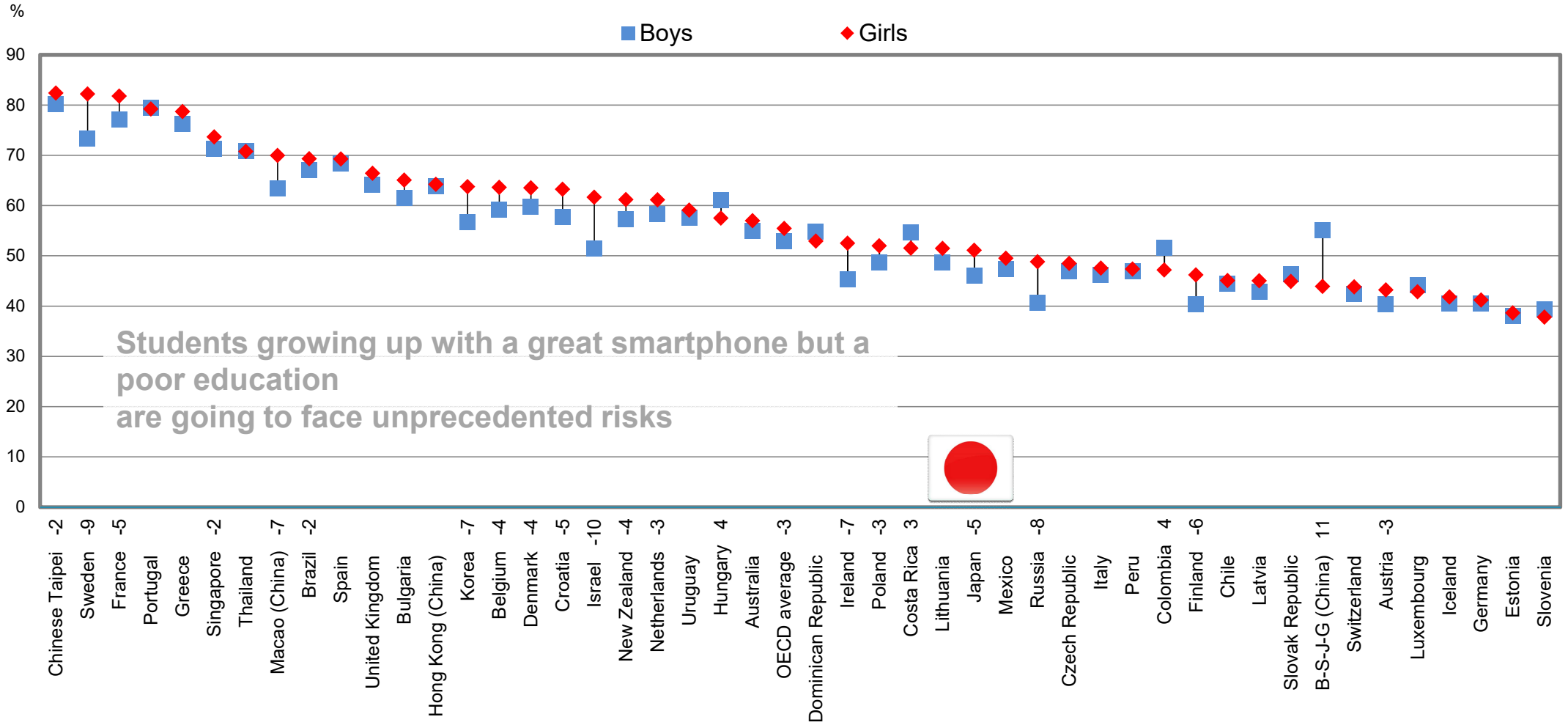
## **The post-truth world where reality becomes fungible**

- Virality seems privileged over quality in the distribution of information
- Truth and fact are losing currency

### **Scarcity of attention and abundance of information**

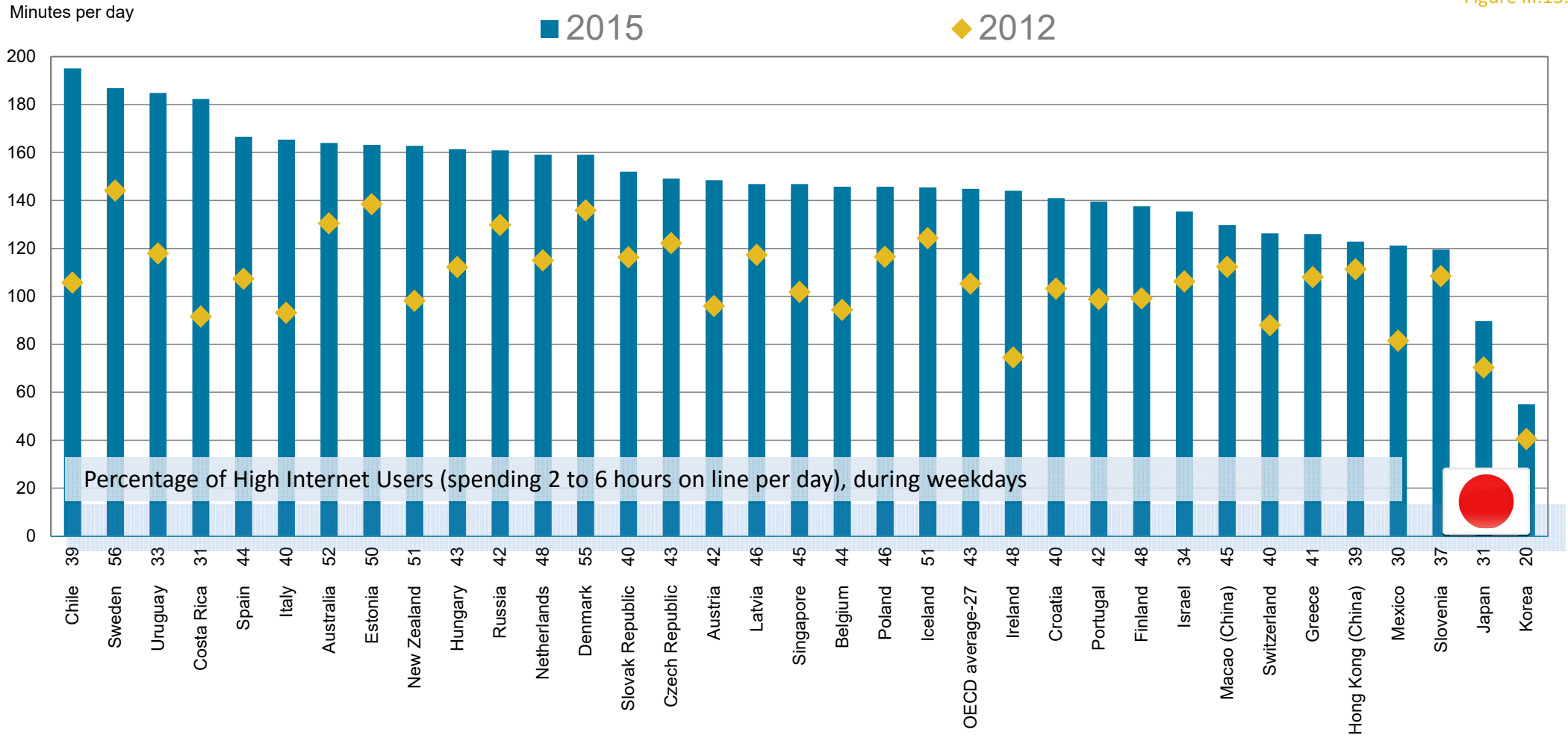
- Algorithms sort us into groups of like-minded individuals create echo chambers that amplify our views, leave us uninformed of opposing arguments, and polarise our societies

# 15-year-olds feeling bad if not connected to the Internet (PISA)



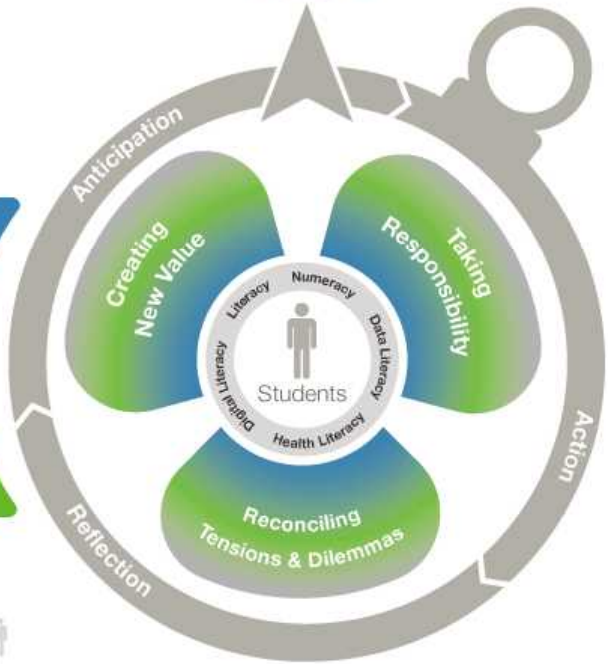
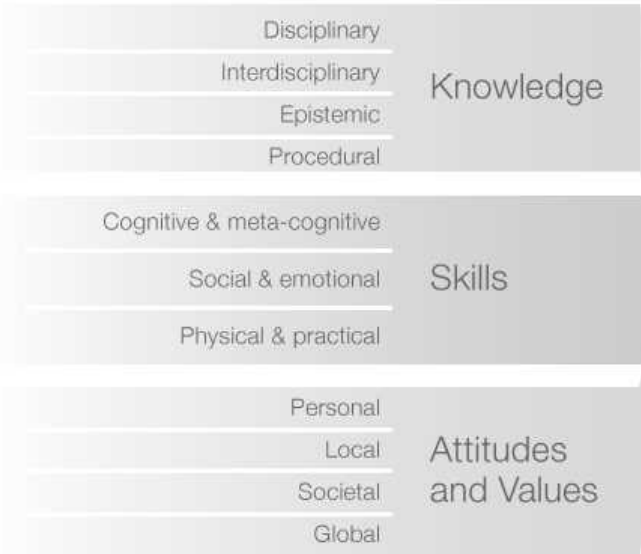
# Students are using more time online outside school on a typical school day (PISA)

Figure III.13.3





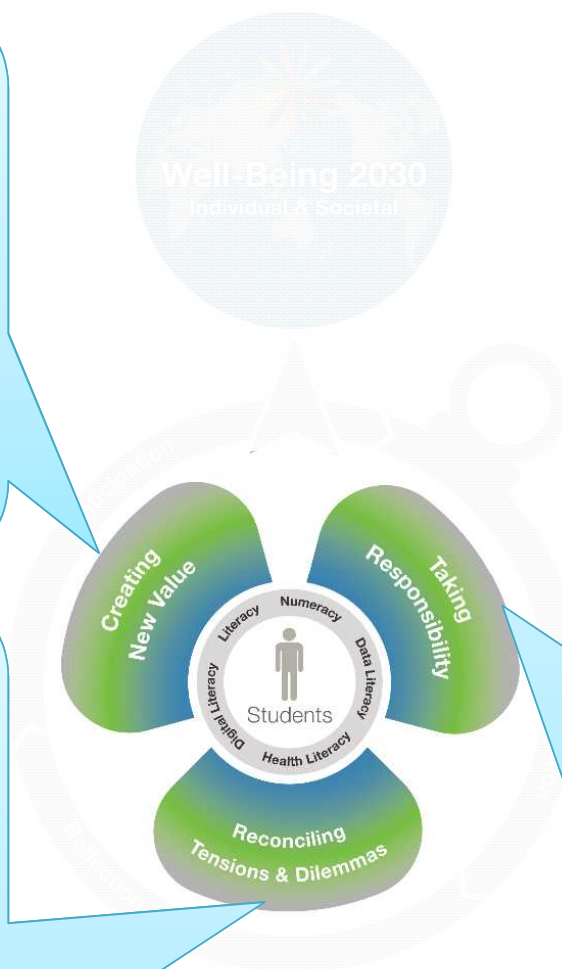
# The **OECD** Learning Framework 2030



Creating new value connotes processes of creating, making, bringing into being and formulating; and outcomes that are innovative, fresh and original, contributing something of intrinsic positive worth.

The constructs that underpin the competence are creativity/ creative thinking/ inventive thinking, curiosity, global mind-set, ...

In a structurally imbalanced world, the imperative of reconciling diverse perspectives and interests, in local settings with sometimes global implications, will require young people to become adept in handling tensions, dilemmas and trade-offs. Underlying constructs are empathy, resilience/stress resistance trust, ...



Dealing with novelty, change, diversity and ambiguity assumes that individuals can think for themselves and work with others. This suggests a sense of responsibility, and moral and intellectual maturity, with which a person can reflect upon and evaluate their actions in the light of their experiences and personal and societal goals; what they have been taught and told; and what is right or wrong. Underlying constructs include critical thinking skills, meta-learning skills (including learning to learn skills), mindfulness, problem solving skills, responsibility, ...

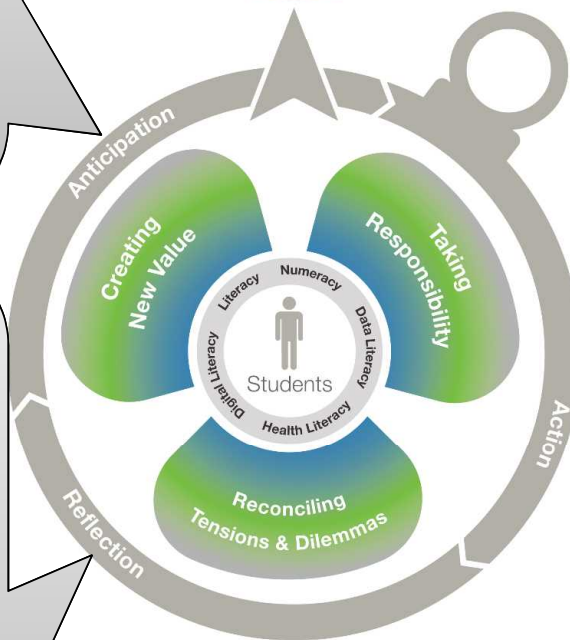
Anticipation mobilises cognitive skills, such as analytical or critical thinking, to foresee what may be needed in the future or how actions taken today might have consequences for the future

Reflective practice is the ability to take a critical stance when deciding, choosing and acting, by stepping back from what is known or assumed and looking at a situation from other, different perspectives



## Implications for pedagogy

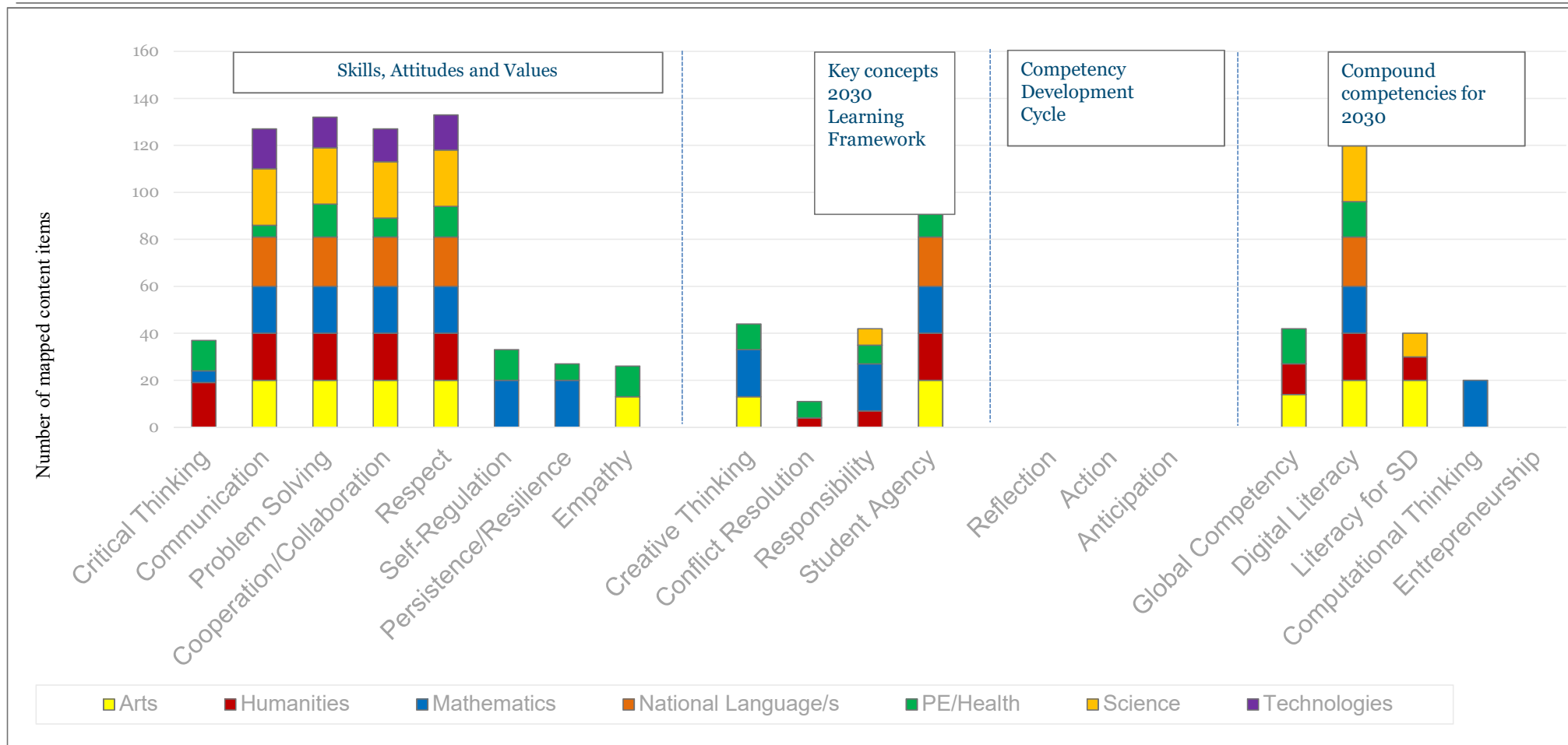
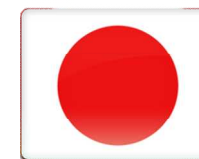
Both reflective practice and anticipation contribute to the willingness to take responsible actions



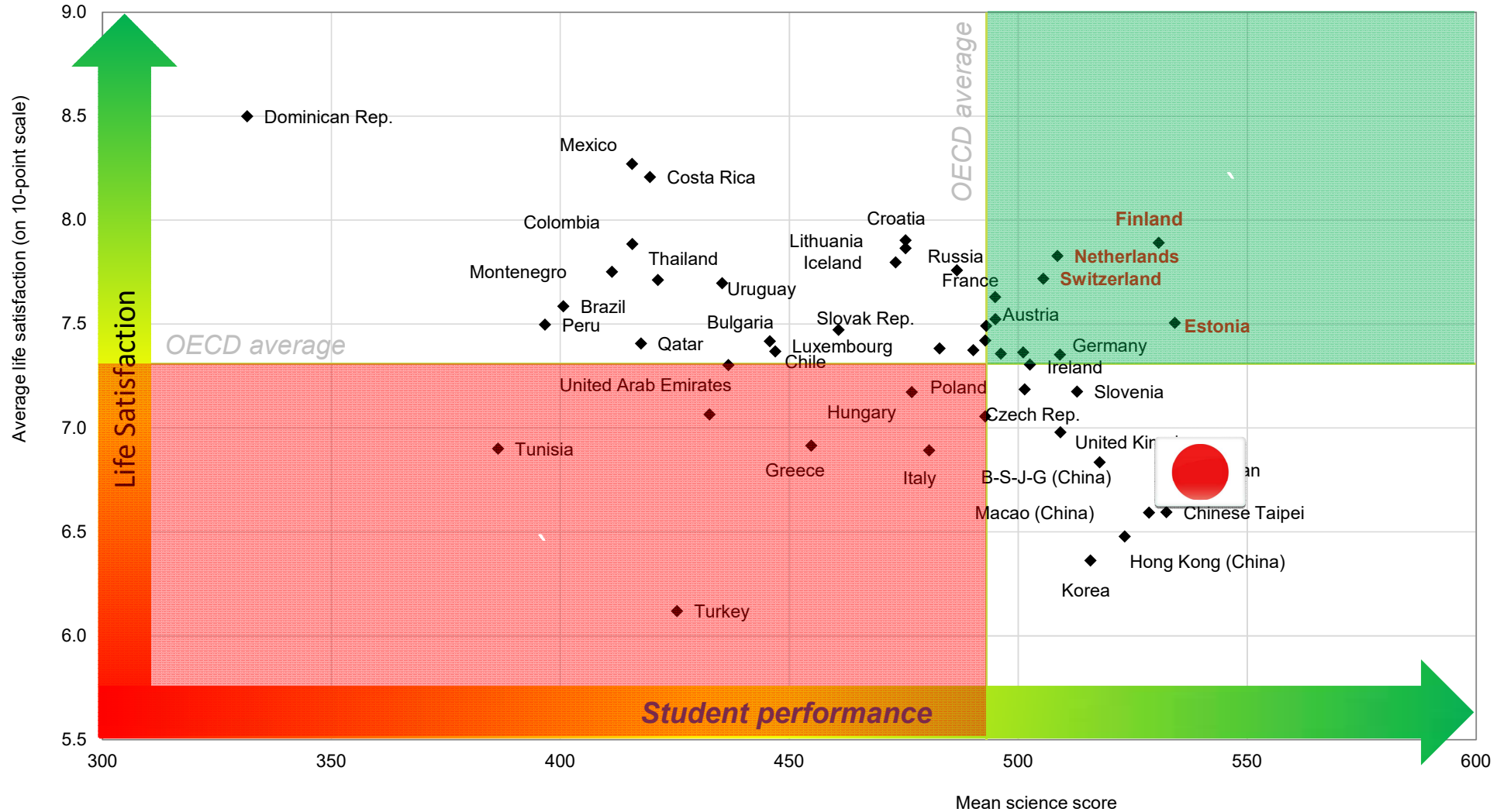
Peers

# Current curricula and 2030 aspirations

Preliminary findings of curriculum content mapping (lower secondary; Japan)



# Life satisfaction and student performance can go together





# At the hight of its strength, Japan can prepare for the future

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## Strengths

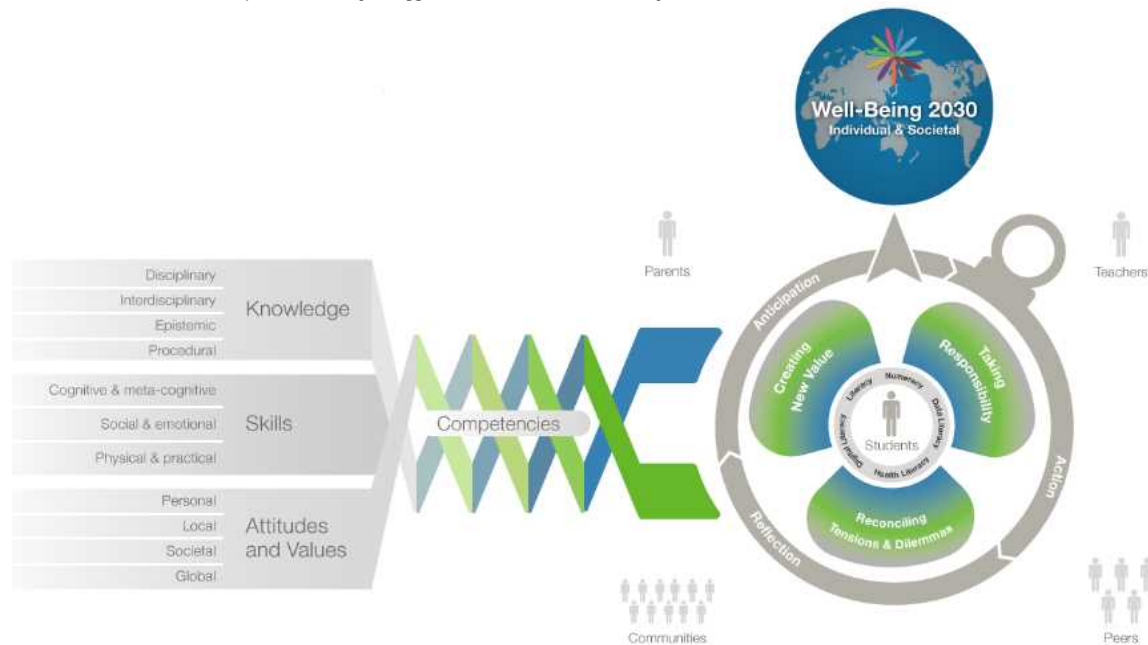
1. Education is a priority: shared commitment to education, high private investment and high enrollments. Government has prioritized education.
2. A recognised need to go beyond traditional concepts to develop skills for the 21st century as drivers of the future.
3. Partnership that works in delivering holistic education for children: conscientious teachers, engaged students, supportive parents and community.
4. Existence of lifelong learning high performing institutions and recognition of the need to develop lifelong learning.

## Potential challenges

1. Current education funding can lead to inequities.
2. Curricular reform may not be as simple as it may seem from the ministry.
3. Holistic education may be at risk in future. Need to preserve this unique model.
4. Lifelong learning is not responding to labour market needs, leaving some behind.

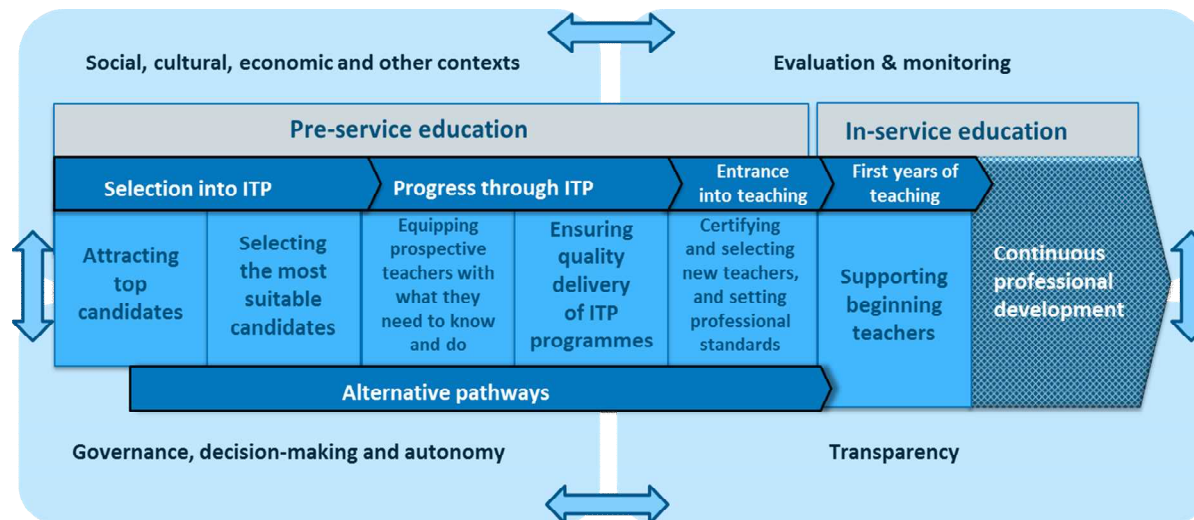
# Bold reforms underway

- A new National Curriculum Reform to enhance active learning and focus on fostering student competencies related to the three pillars of the reform:
  1. motivation to learn and apply learning to life;
  2. acquisition of knowledge and technical skills;
  3. skills to think, make judgements and express oneself.



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- Reforming the teaching career to improve teaching skills, including a revised selection process, comprehensive career training and reorganisation of teachers' schedules to allow time for training.



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- Reforming the teaching career to improve teaching skills, including a revised selection process, comprehensive career training and reorganisation of teachers' schedules to allow time for training.
- Strengthening school-community partnerships by involving communities in children's education and reforming school management (the *Team Gakkou* [school as a team] programme).
- Ensuring financial support for those in need, including a reduction of the financial burden on low-income families for education in non-mandatory levels (early childhood education and care and tertiary education).
- Improving access to tertiary education and adult learning through the promotion of new programmes to foster lifelong learning in an ageing society.

# Implementing the new curriculum

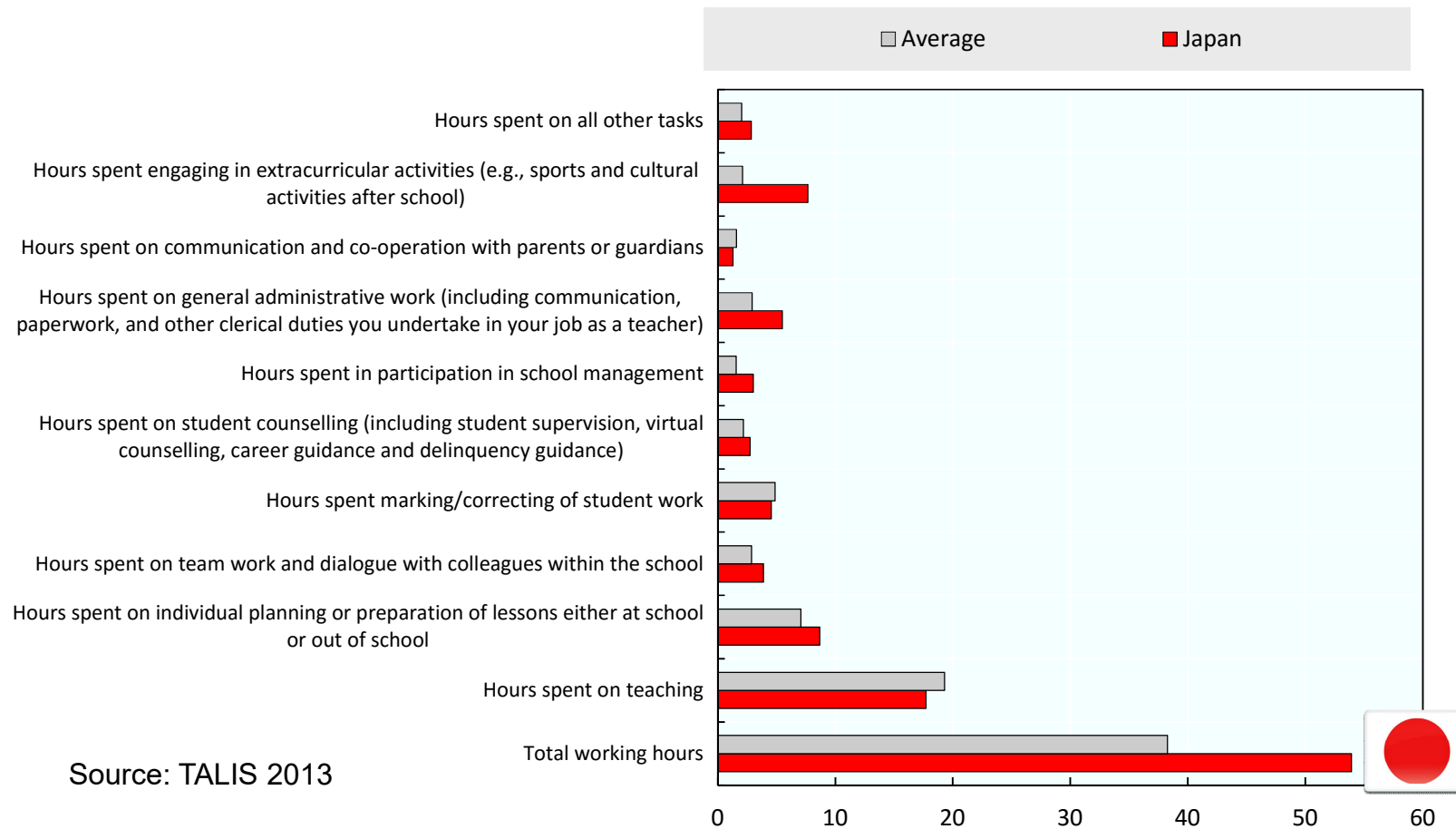
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And preserving the holistic approach to education



# Busy teachers

Teachers' working hours

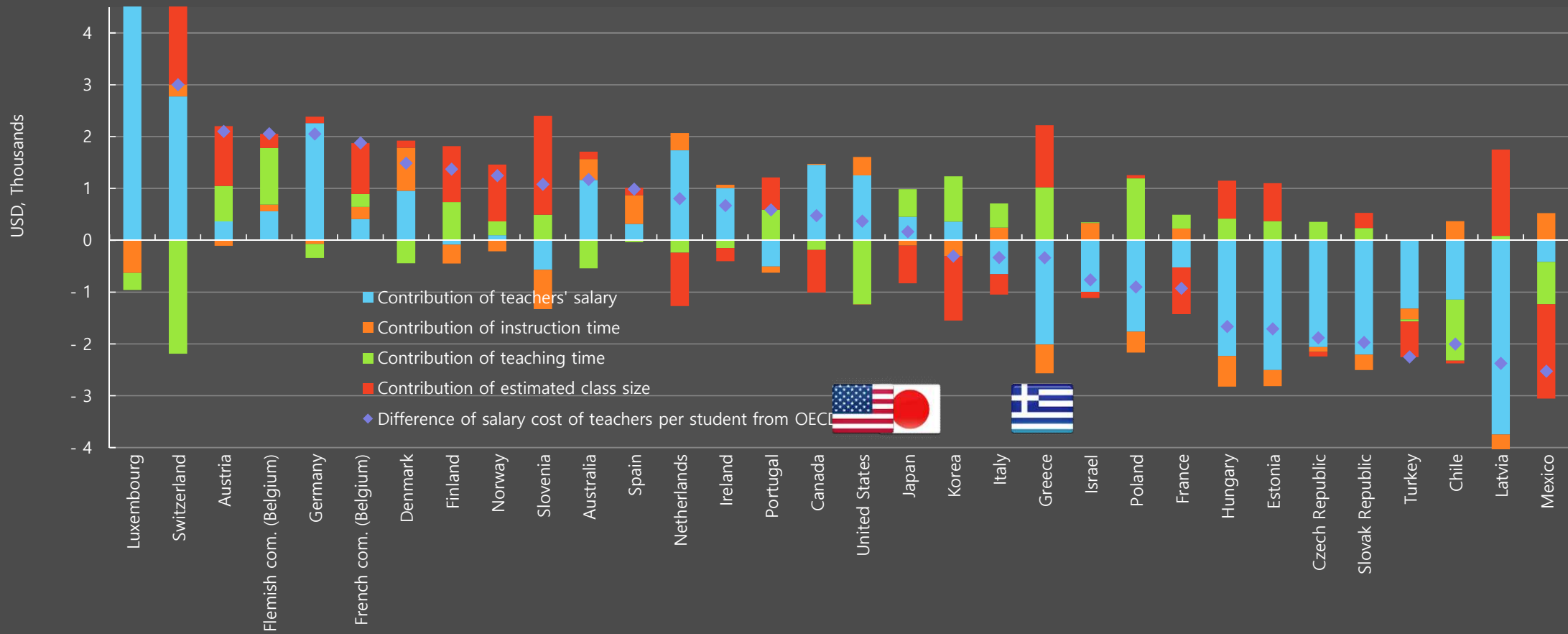


Source: TALIS 2013

# Different cost drivers

Figure B7.3

Contribution of various factors to salary cost of teachers per student in public institutions, lower secondary education (2015)



**Figure B7.2. Change in the salary cost of teachers per student, teachers' salaries and estimated class size in primary and lower secondary education (2010 and 2015)**

*Percentage change between 2010 and 2015, public institutions*

■ Change in teachers' salary    ■ Change in estimated class size    ◆ Change in teachers' salary cost per student

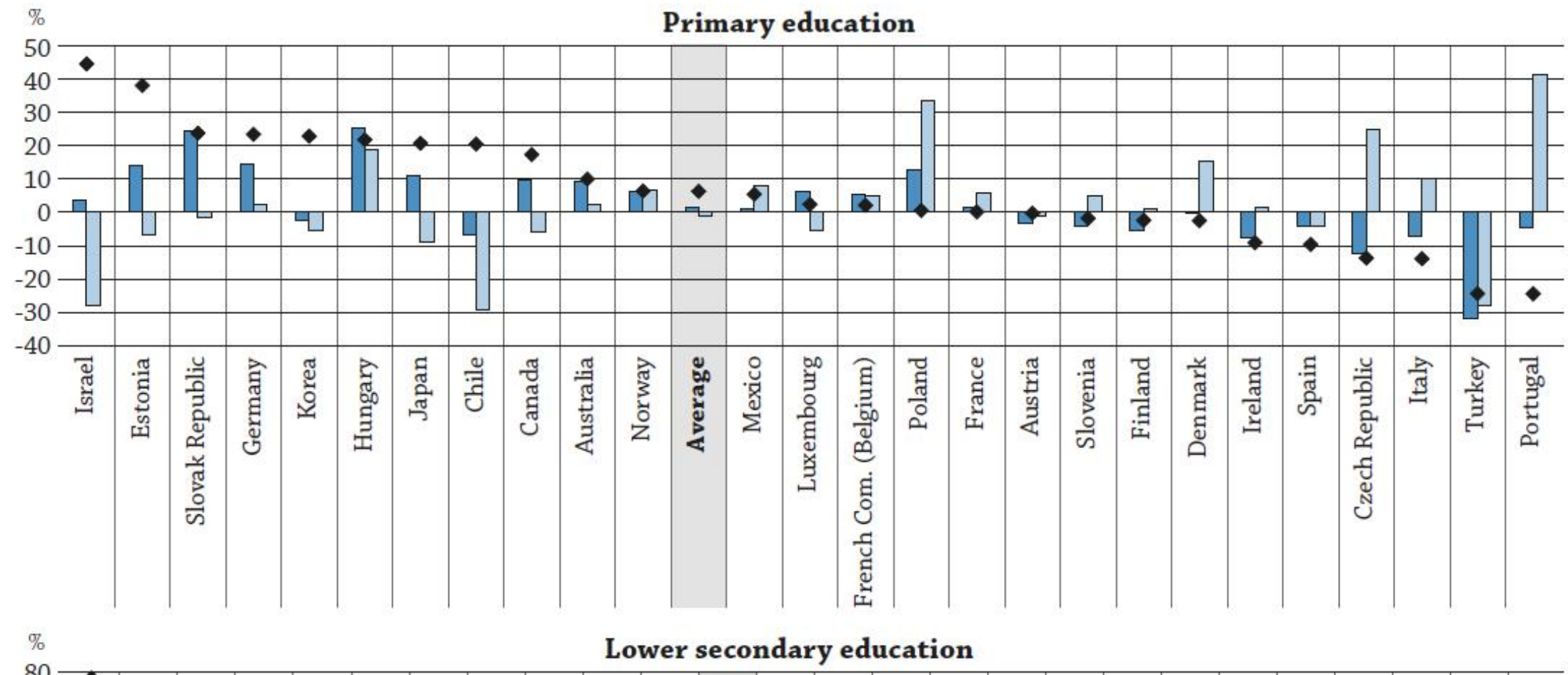
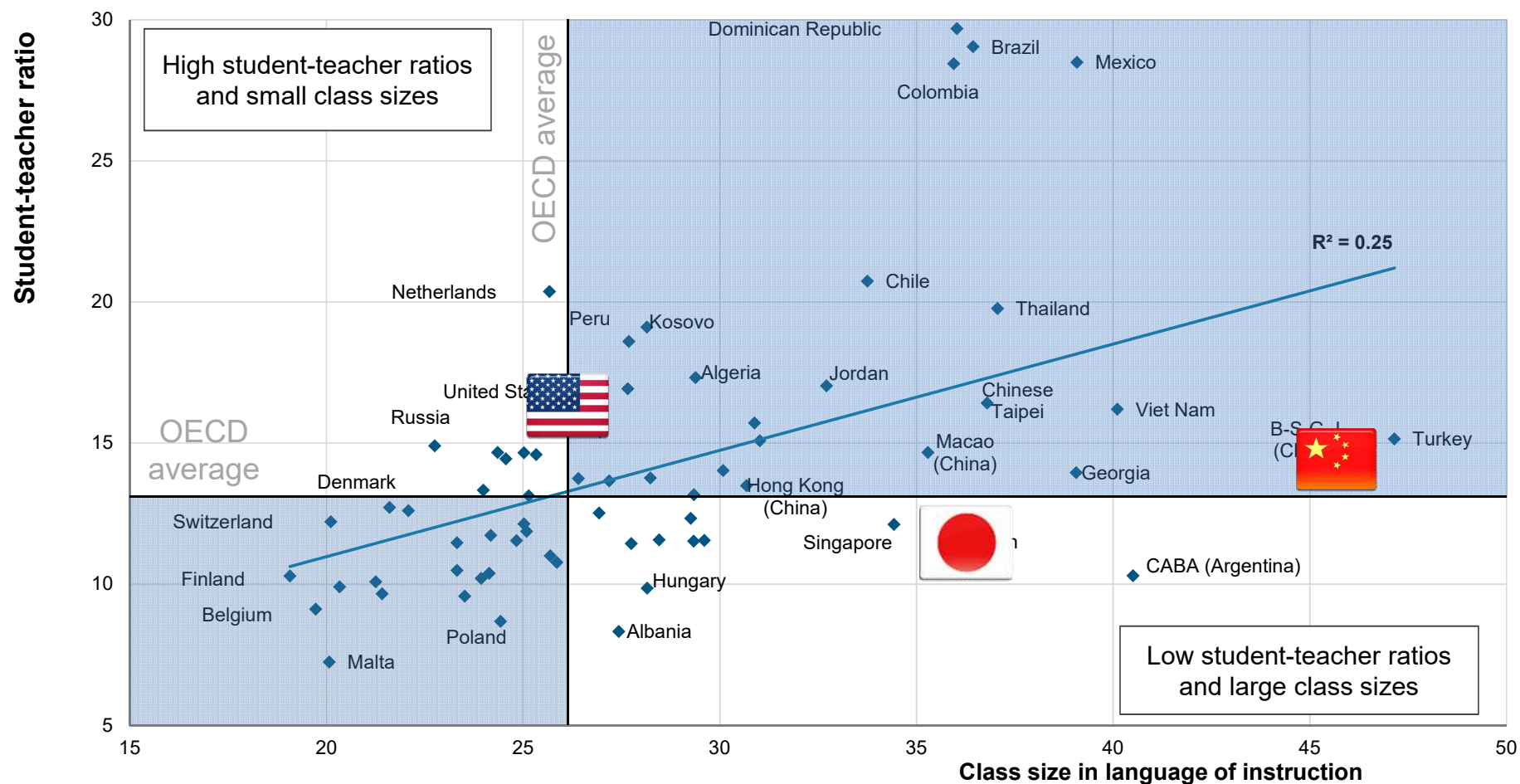
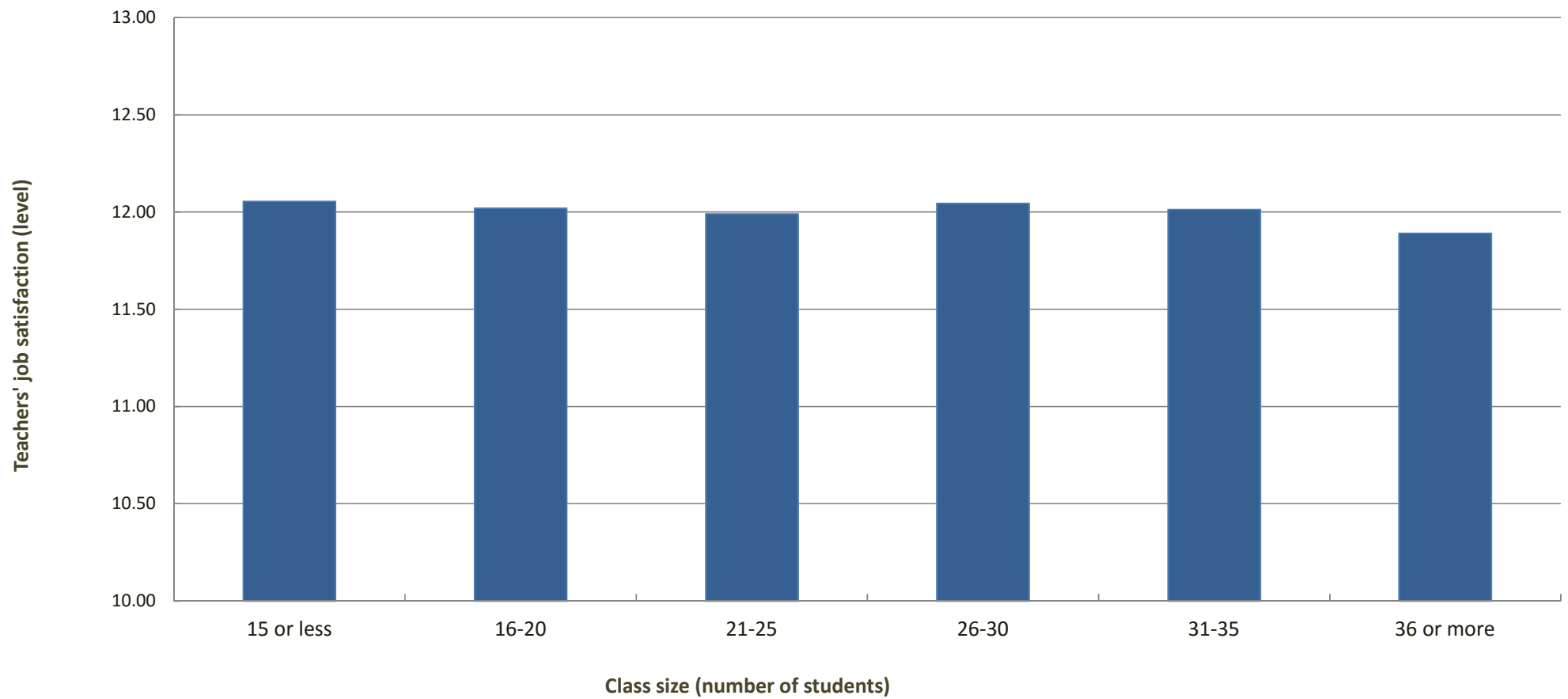


Figure II.6.14

# Student-teacher ratios and class size

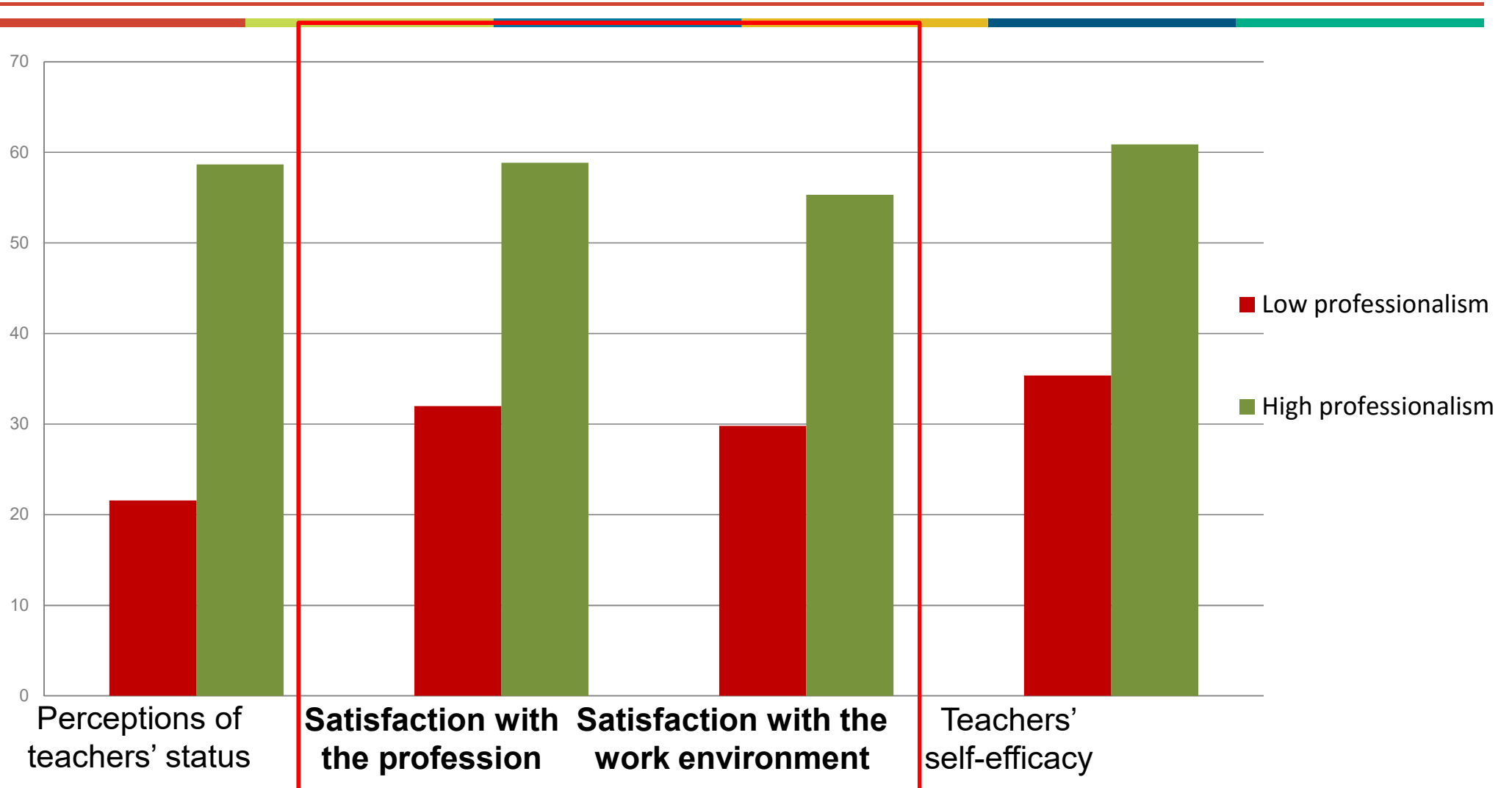


# Teachers' job satisfaction and class size





# Teacher job satisfaction and professionalism



# Professionalism

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# Policy levers to teacher professionalism

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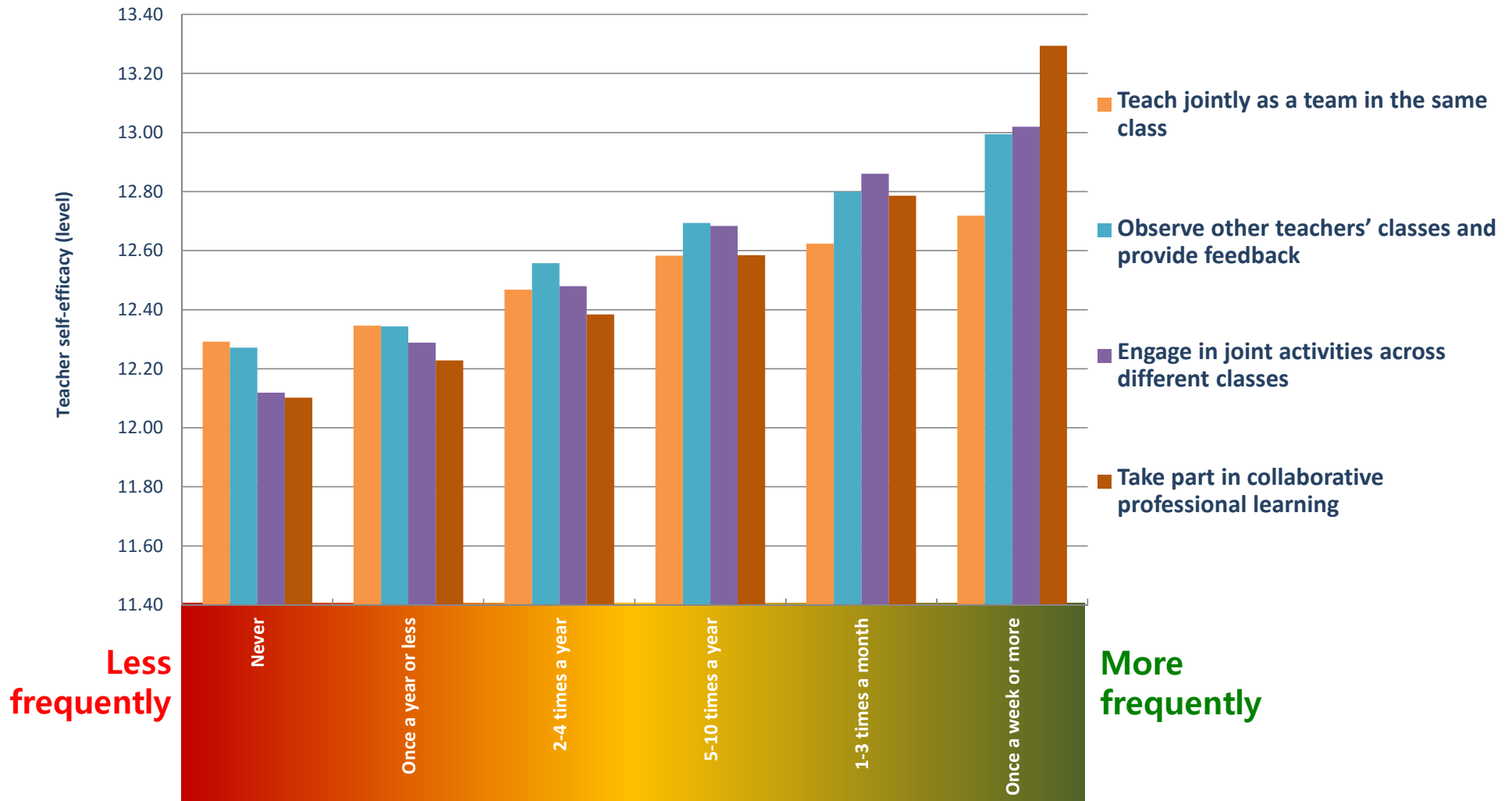
Autonomy: Teachers' decision-making power over their work (teaching content, course offerings, discipline practices)

**Teacher  
professionalism**

Peer networks: Opportunities for exchange and support needed to maintain high standards of teaching (participation in induction, mentoring, networks, feedback from direct observations)

Knowledge base for teaching (initial education and incentives for professional development)

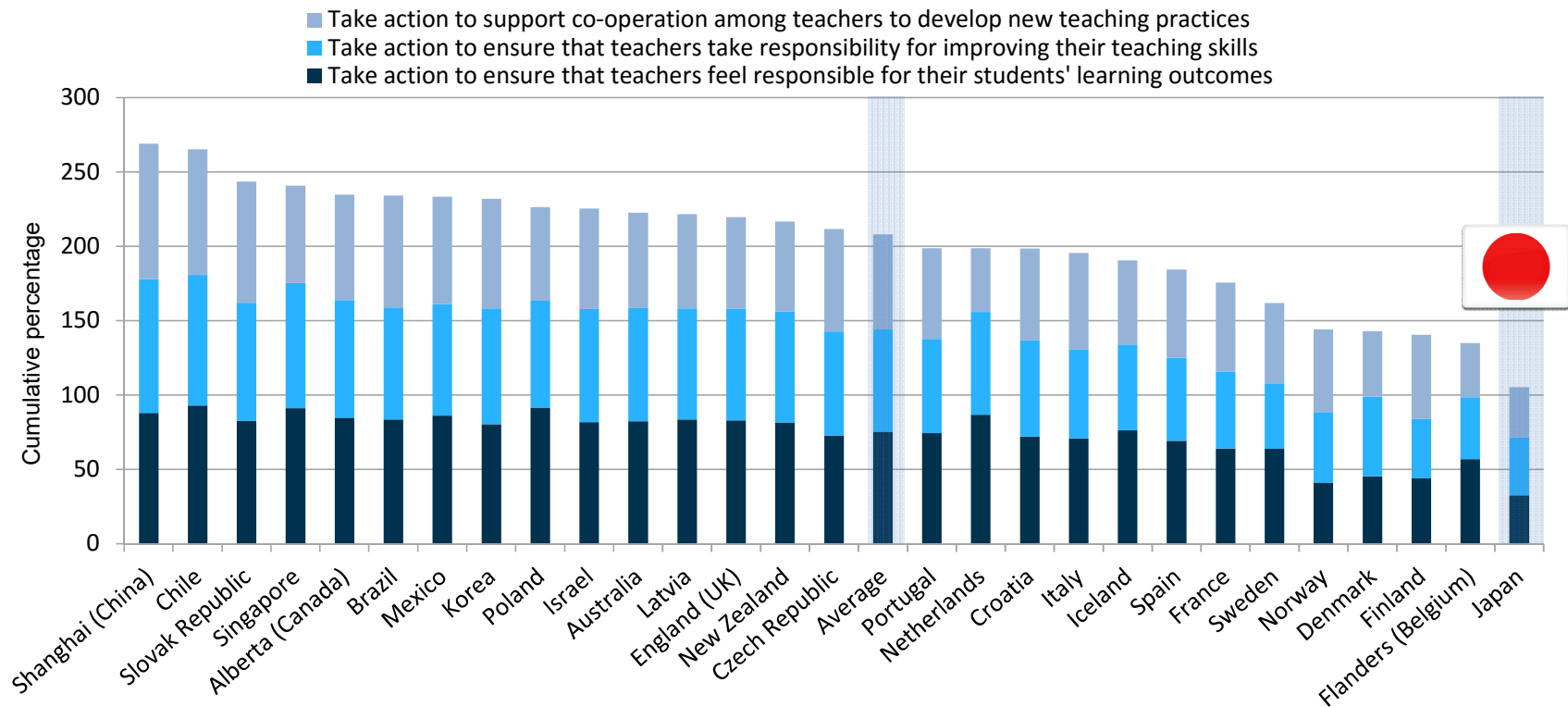
# Teachers' self-efficacy and professional collaboration



# Low levels of pedagogical leadership

## Engagement in instructional leadership in lower secondary education

Percentage of lower secondary education principals who report having engaged "often" or "very often" in the following instructional leadership activities during the 12 months prior to the study:

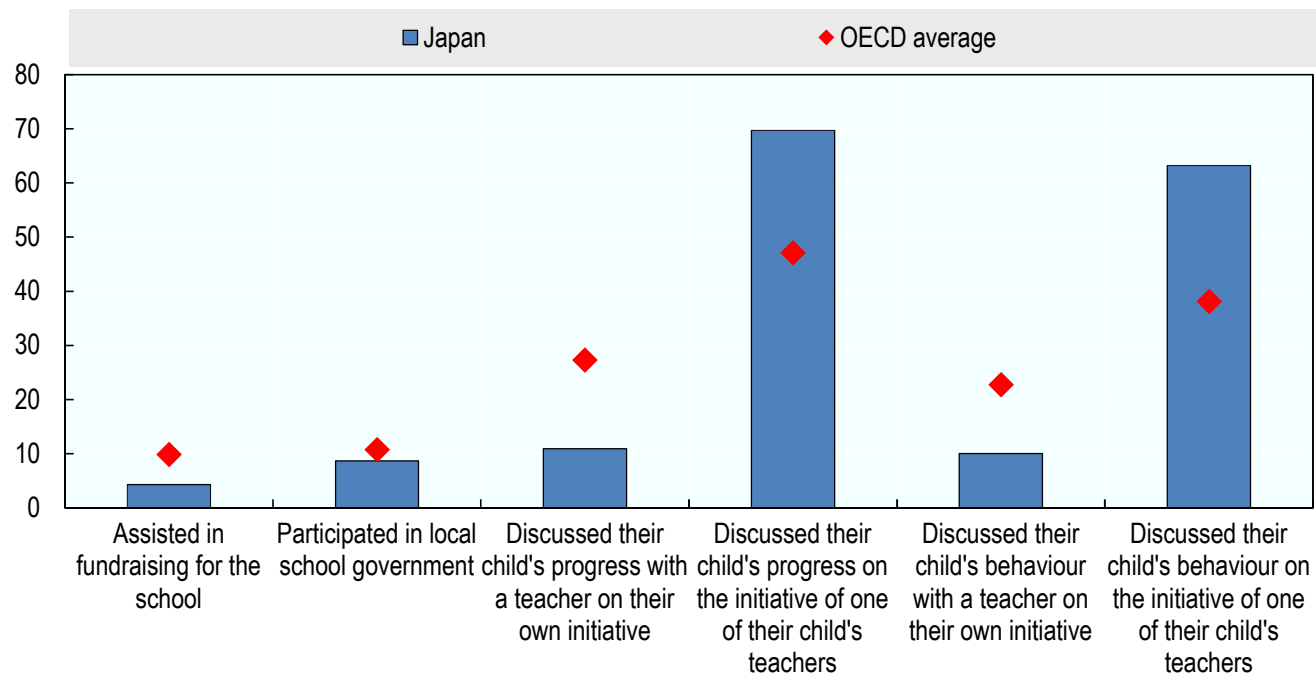


Source: School Leadership for Learning, 2016

# Involved parents

Parental involvement  
*Based on school principals' reports*

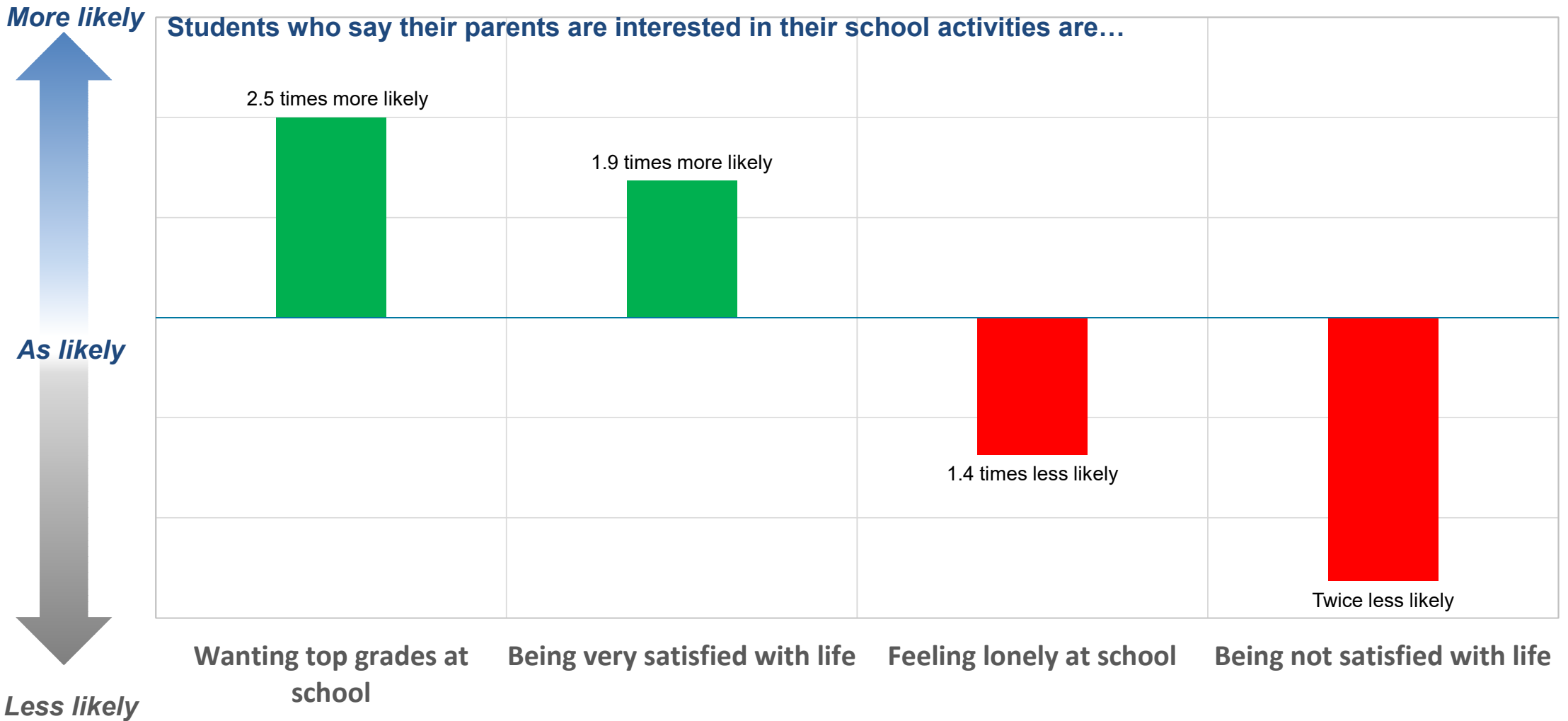
**Percentage of students' parents who participated in the following school-related activities during the previous academic year:**



Source: PISA 2012



## Parents' interest in their child's activities at school and well-being (average)



# Creating meaningful ways for community relationships

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Schools can become partners in serving the needs of local communities, especially in disadvantaged communities

**Successful schools draw on the resources and support of their communities**

Schools engage parents and families in learning, and also draw on resources of local enterprises, community organisations, social services, and sports and cultural institutions, such as museums, theatres or libraries



Extracurricular activities that enrich communities in sports, social care and volunteering

Service learning

**Schools are vital to the social health of their local communities**

Research projects offer innovative answers to the needs of local enterprises, while enhancing entrepreneurialism among students and providing real-world experiences.

# Making lifelong learning a reality

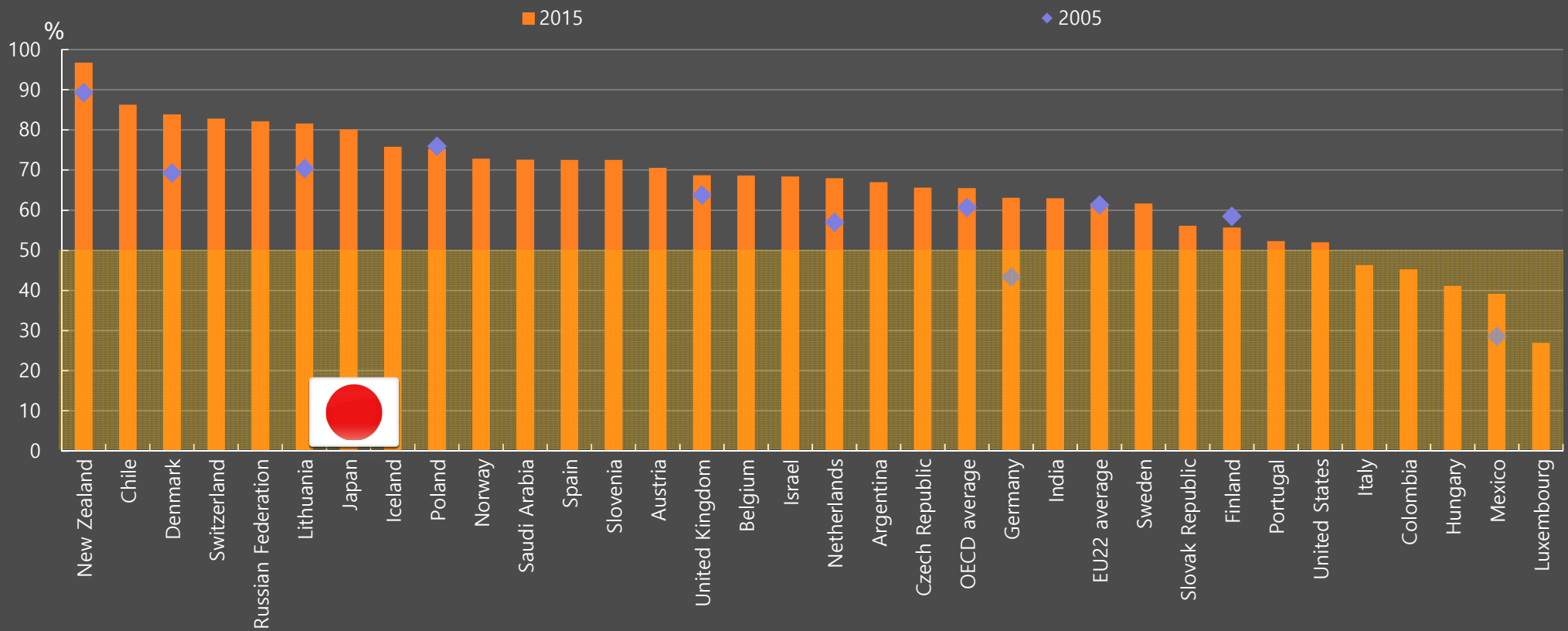
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# 65% of adults are expected to enter tertiary education for the first time in 2015

Figure C3.3

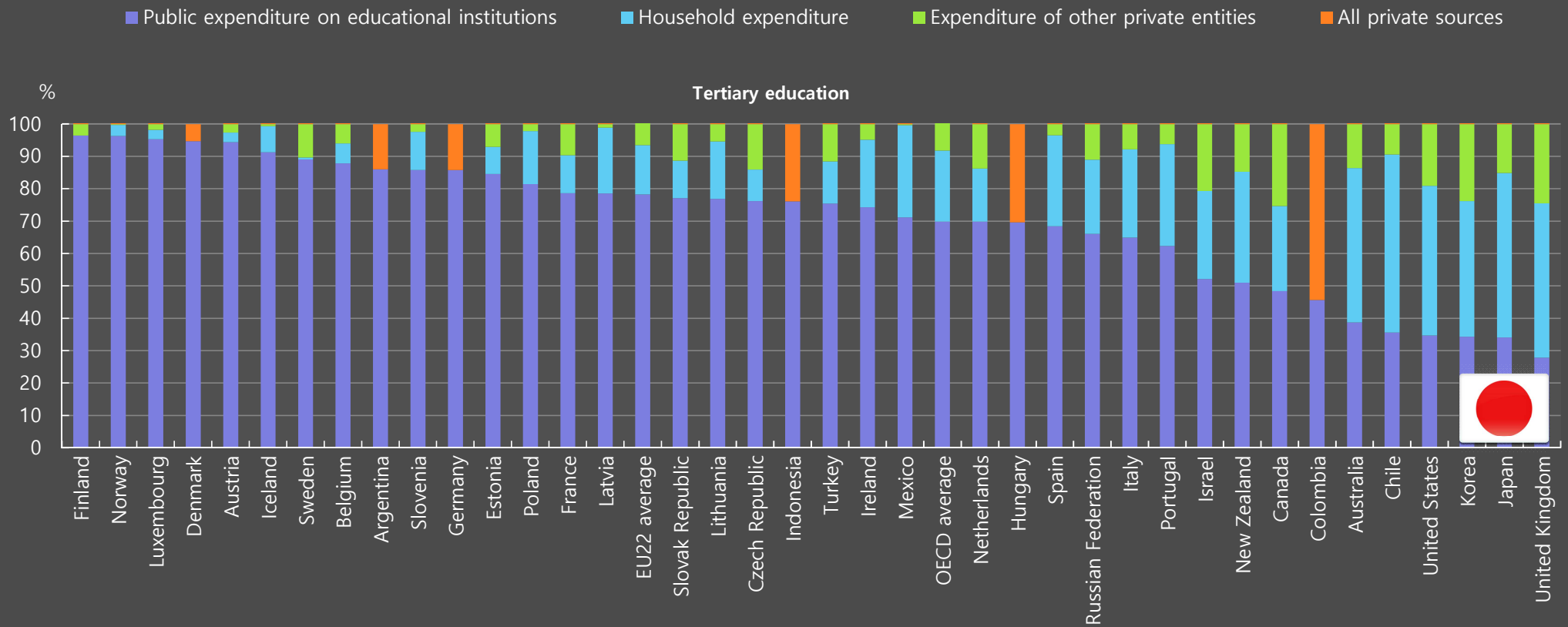
First-time tertiary entry rates (2005, 2015)



# Share of private expenditure on tertiary institutions

Figure B3.2

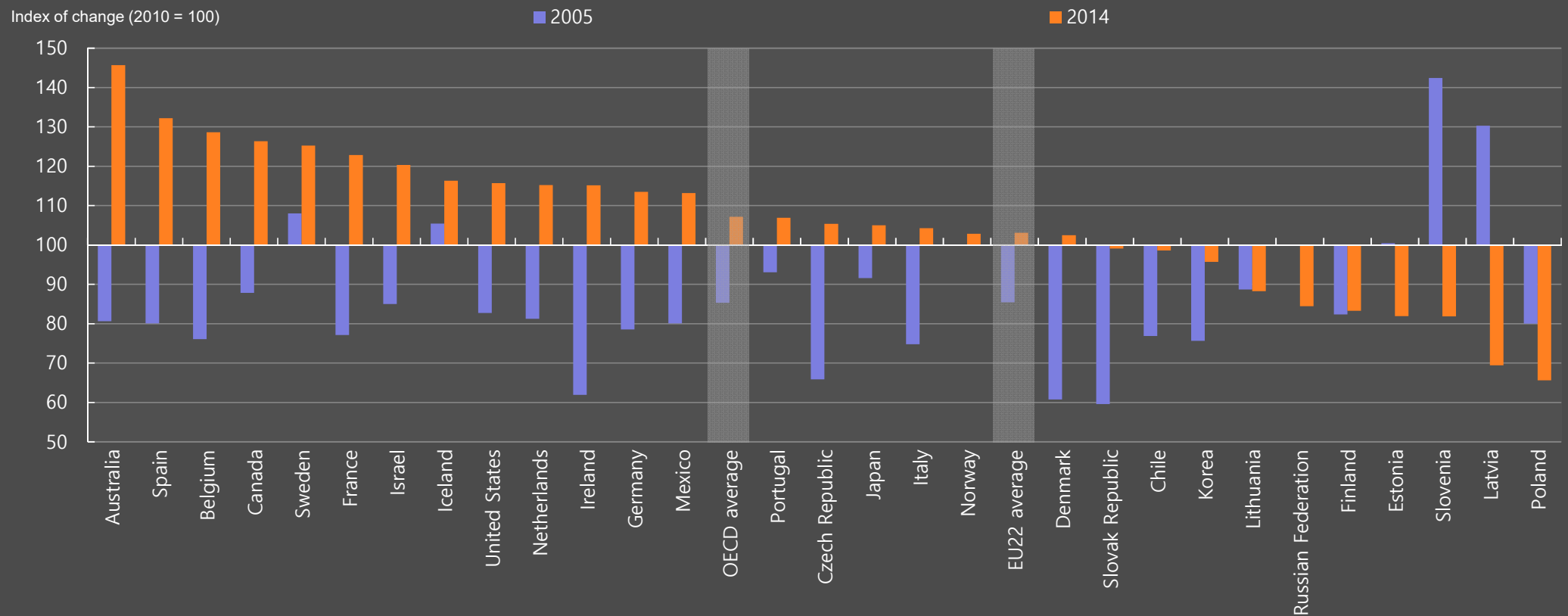
Distribution of public and private expenditure on educational institutions (2014)



# Private expenditure on tertiary education increased

Figure B3.3

Change in private expenditure on tertiary educational institutions, 2010 = 100 (2005 and 2014)

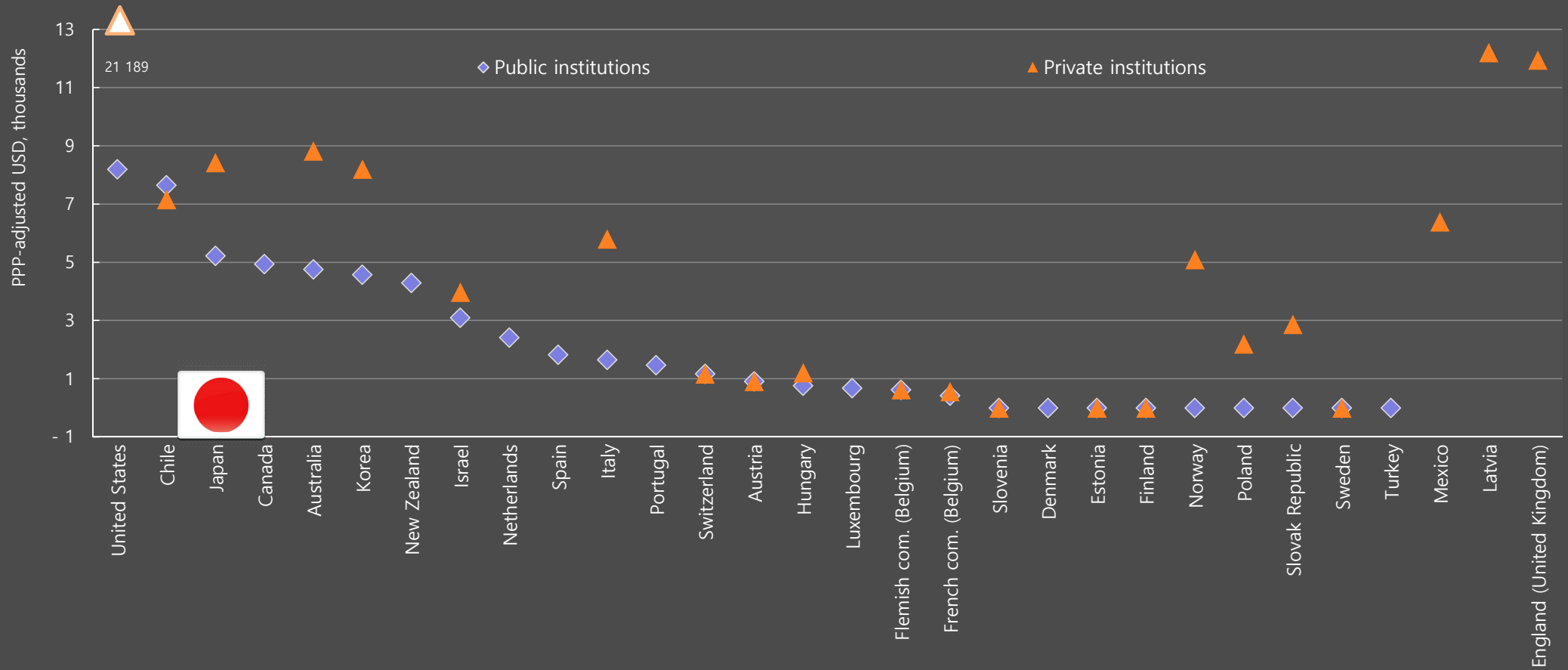




# High tuition fees

Figure B5.1

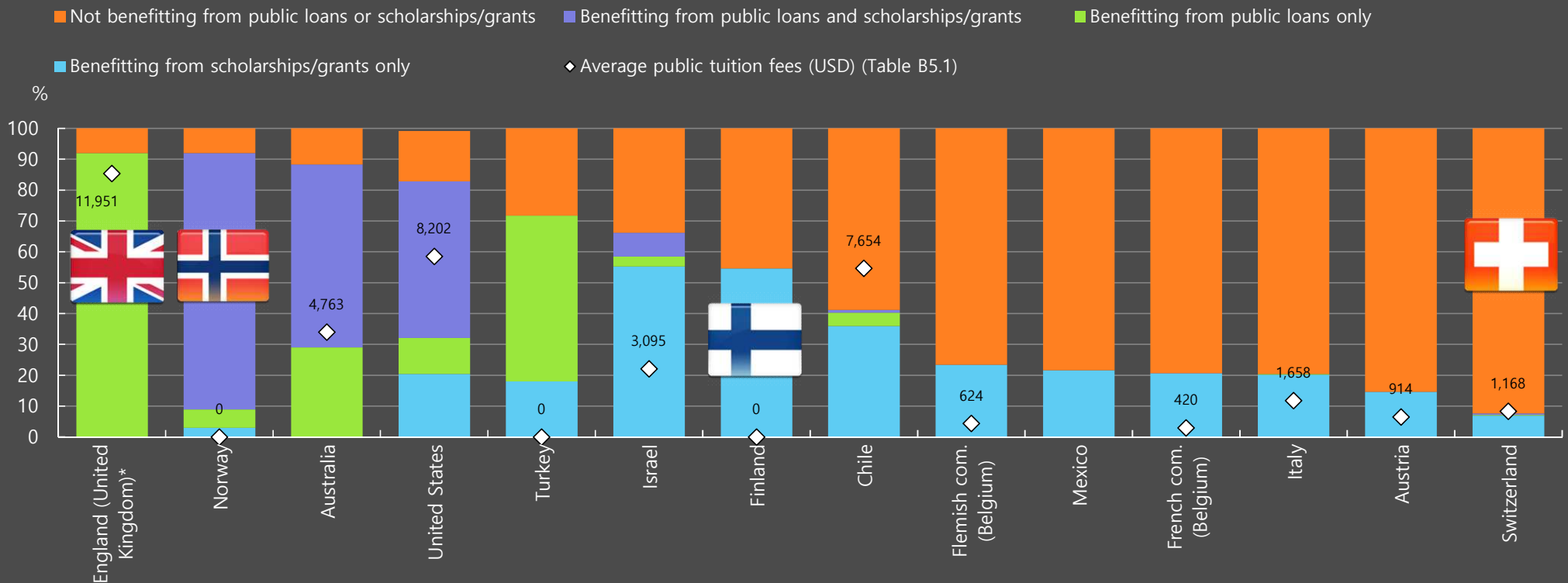
Tuition fees charged by public and private institutions at bachelor's or equivalent level (2015/16)



# Flexible funding mechanisms help students

Figure B5.3

Distribution of financial support to students at bachelor's or equivalent level (2015/16)

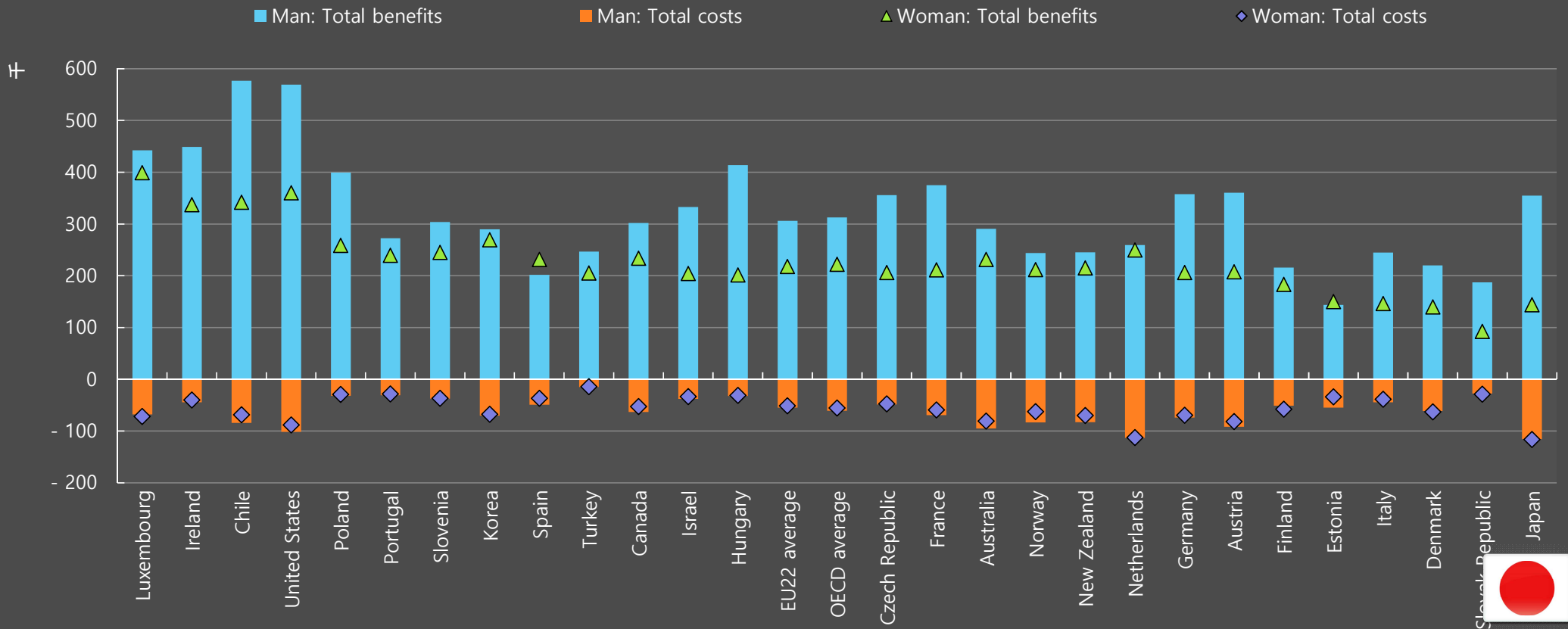


\*All tertiary institutions are government-dependent private institutions in England (United Kingdom).

# The returns are still worth it for individuals

Figure A7.2

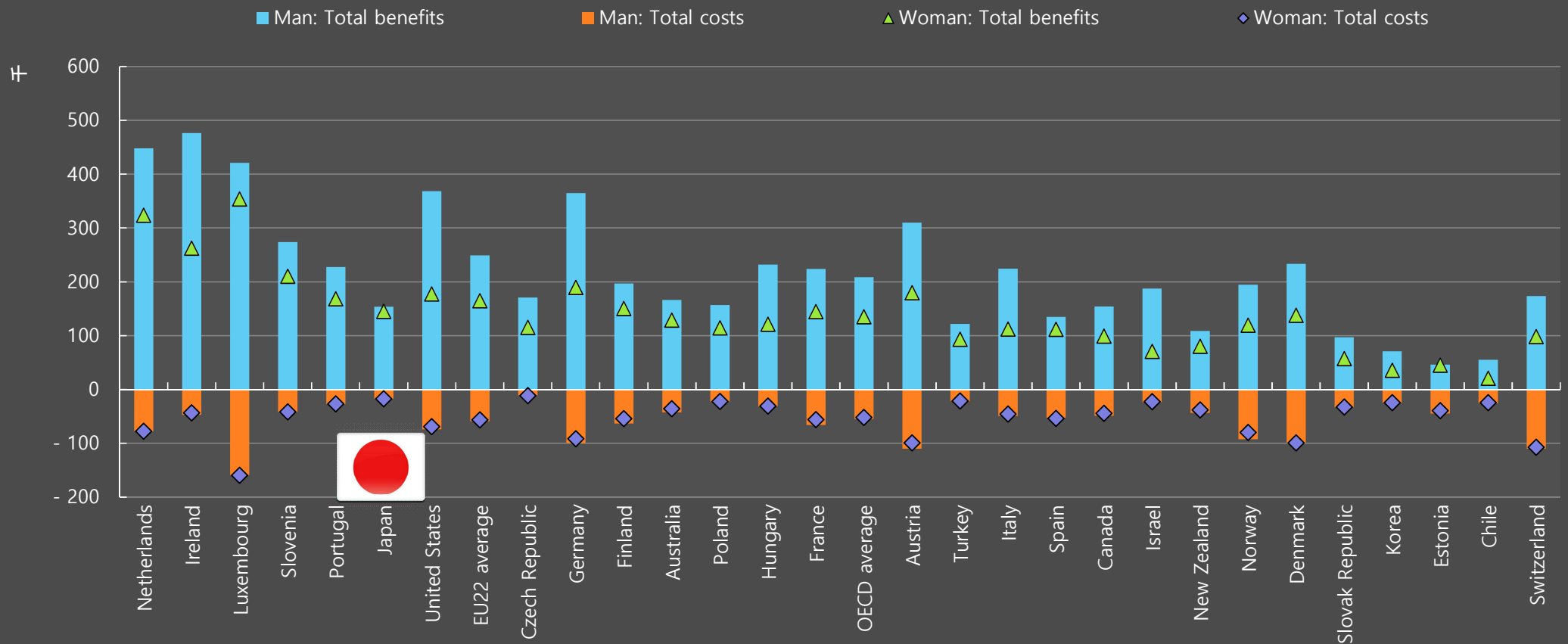
Private costs and benefits of education for a man or a woman attaining tertiary education (2013)



# ...and also for taxpayers

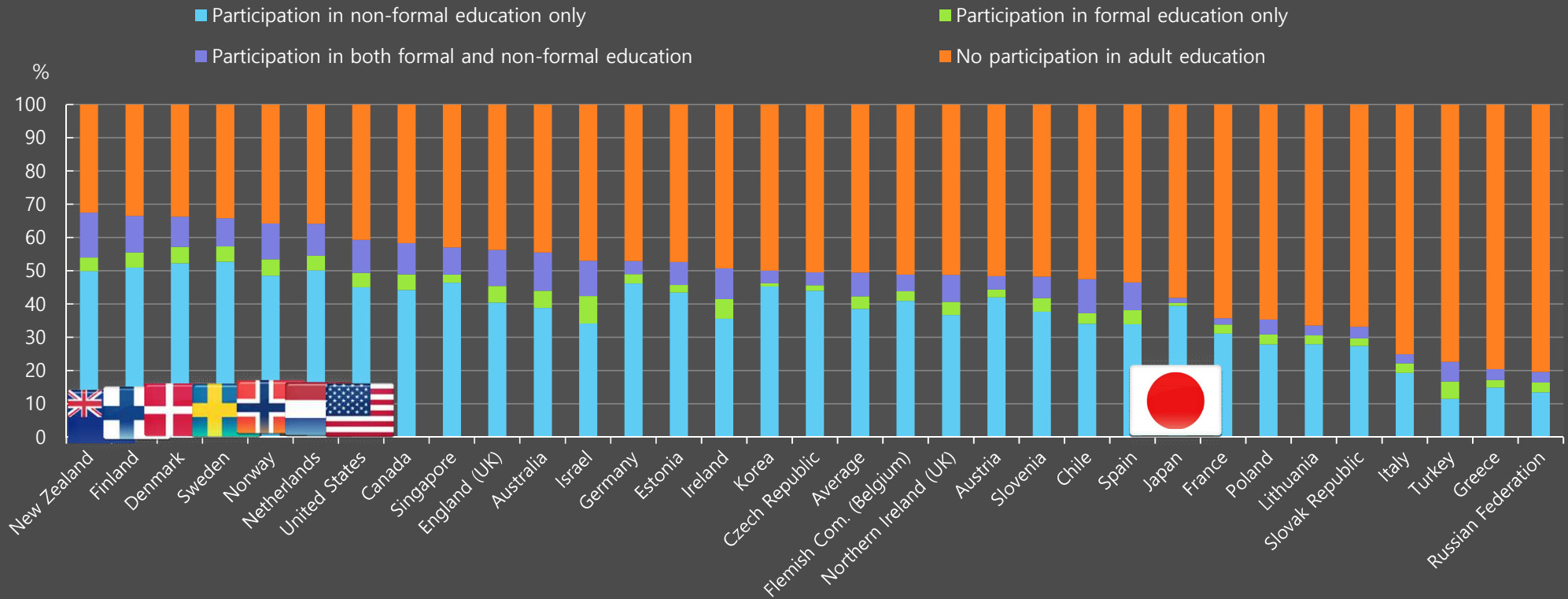
Figure A7.3

Private costs and benefits of education for a man or a woman attaining tertiary education (2013)



# Making lifelong learning a reality

Adults' participation in formal and/or non-formal education, by type (2012 or 2015)



# In conclusion

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## OECD policy options

## Japan's goals for education policy according to the Third Basic Plan

### Prioritise implementation of the curriculum reform

- Promotion of learning to improve the lives of people and continually develop society.
- Preparation of foundation for utilisation of ICT.
- Preparation of sustainable school teaching system for education in the new era.

### Preserve the provision of well-rounded holistic education by enhancing school organisation and school-community partnerships

- Enhancing educational abilities in home, community, promoting collaboration, cooperation with schools.
- Consideration of household's financial situation and geographical conditions.
- Preparation of sustainable school teaching system for education in the new era.

### Strengthen lifelong learning and financial arrangements for non-mandatory education to support equity

- Promotion of lifelong learning in anticipation of age of "100-year-life".
- Promotion of recurrent education for adults in order to acquire necessary skills and knowledge for work throughout life.
- Promotion of lifelong learning for persons with disabilities.
- Consideration of household's financial situation and geographical conditions.
- Providing educational opportunities responding to various needs.

## **Prioritise the implementation of the curriculum reform**

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- **Ensure curriculum reform also encompasses new priorities (foreign language, ICT, global competencies).**
- **Align both formative and summative assessments to the new curriculum.**
- **Ensure that professional development for teachers and resources for teaching and learning are an integral part of the implementation strategy.**



## Preserve the provision of well-rounded holistic education

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- **Reform management practices to alleviate teachers' workload and invest in leadership.**
- **Focus partnerships with local communities on supporting the introduction of the new curriculum.**
- **Consider establishing specific structures and sparing resources to mitigate the risk of increased inequalities that could result from school-community partnerships.**

# Strengthen lifelong learning

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- **Foster relevance with:**
  - Dialogue between employer groups, workers and LLL providers – facilitated by government
  - Innovative approaches – for instance, shifting from full qualifications to micro-credentials.
- **Manage cost with:**
  - Mechanisms that allocate costs between employees, employers and the government to create incentives that will boost the use of LLL to improve the performance of the economy
  - Innovative approaches – for instance, shifting from full qualifications to micro-credentials.
- **Address time constraints by:**
  - Innovative approaches – for instance, shifting from full qualifications to micro-credentials
  - .... With flexible scheduling.



ありがとうございます

*Arigato Gozaimasu*