

LESS COULD BE BETTER

Connect·ED 2019

Hunter Valley, NSW

15th May 2019



pasi_sahlberg

From RE·FORM to RE·DUCE

Issue #1:

TIME

FACT OR MYTH?

“Australian children spend more time in school and doing homework than most of their peers around the world.”

Fact

Time spent in school around the world

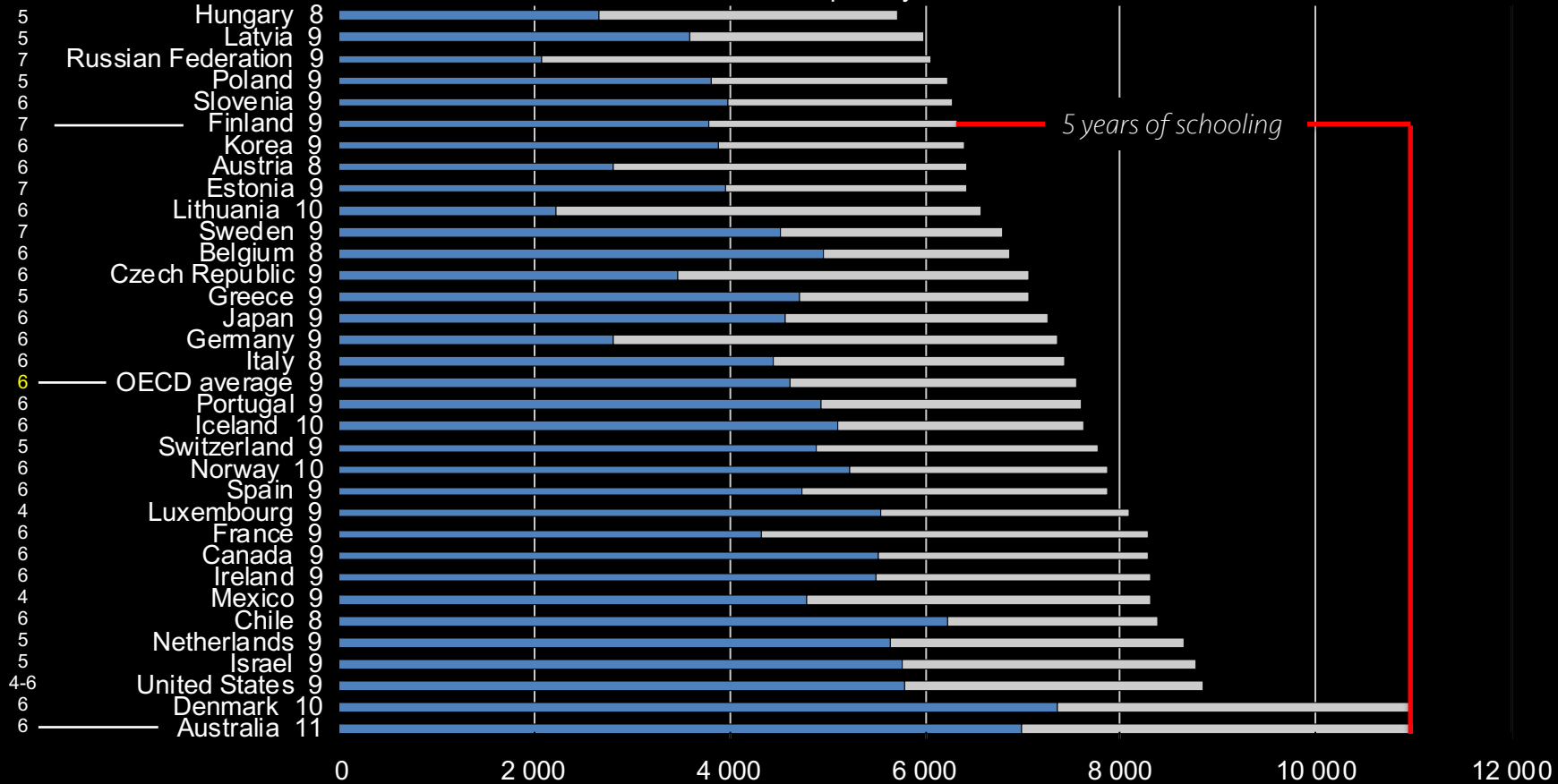
Starting age of compulsory education

Duration of primary and lower secondary education, in years

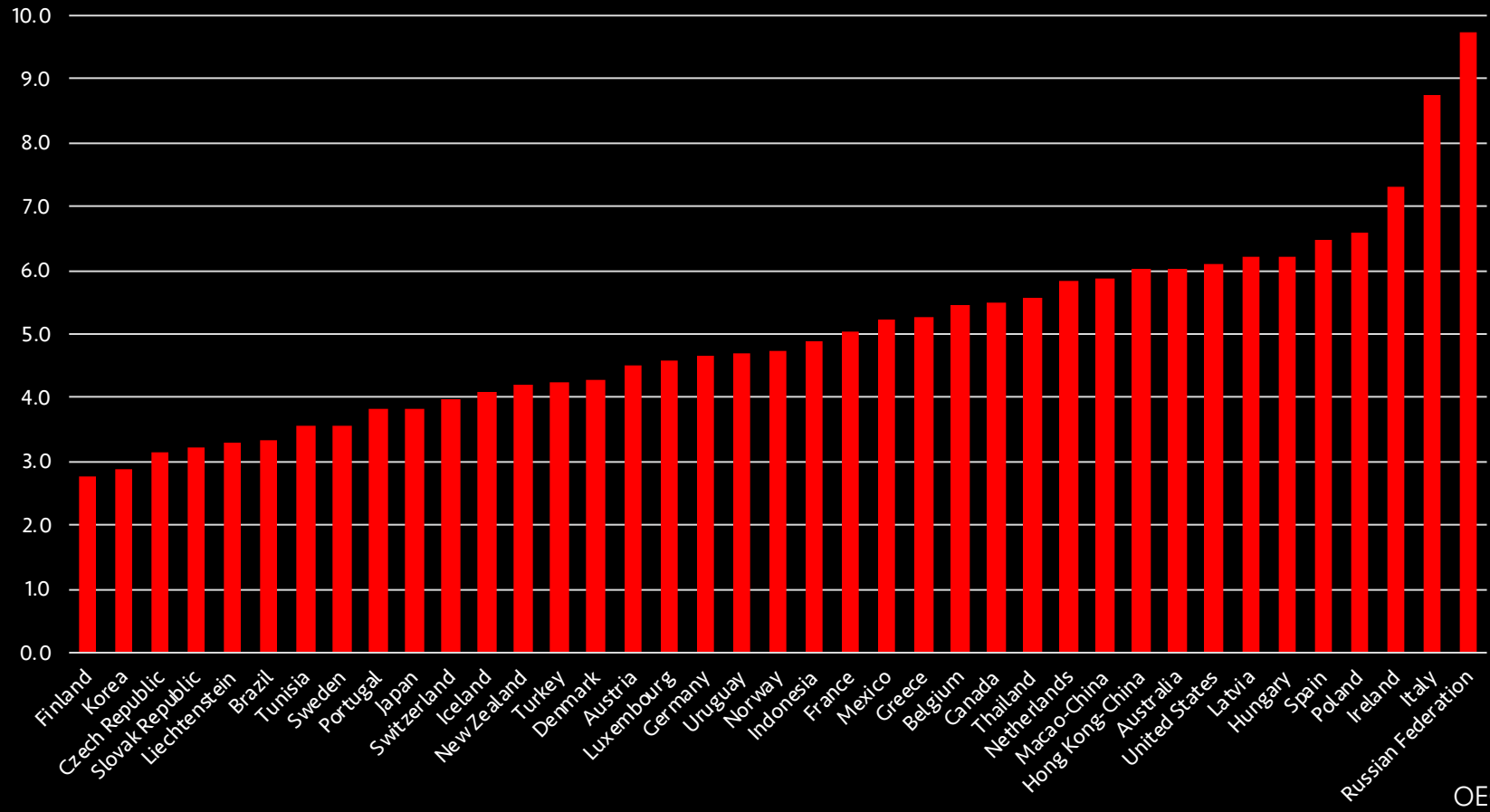
■ Primary

■ Lower secondary

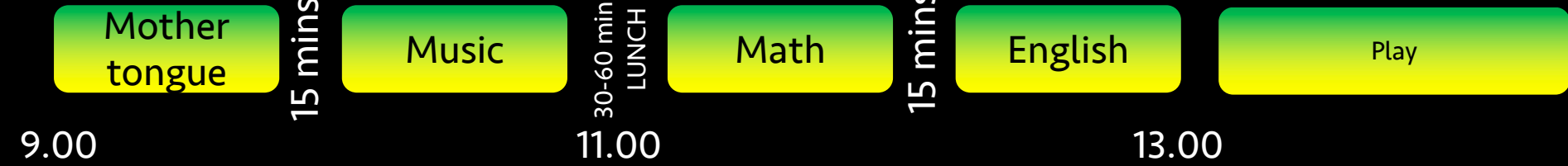
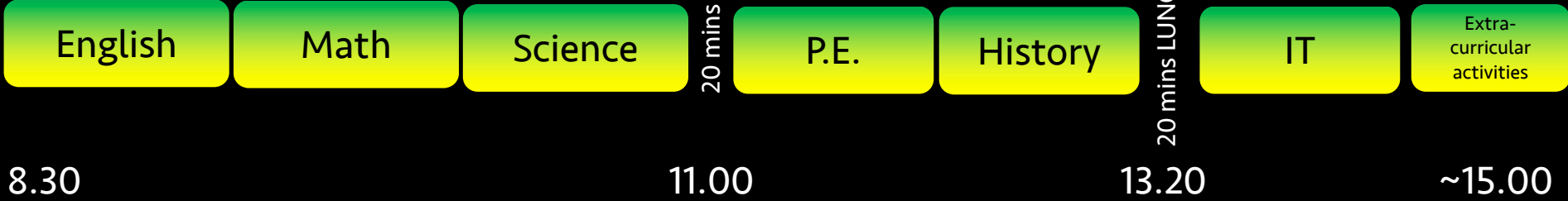
Total number of compulsory instruction hours



Homework or other study set by teachers per week (hours)



A typical 1st grade school day



Best-performing school systems allocate significant amount of teachers' working time to collaborative activities in school.

Issue #2:

MONEY

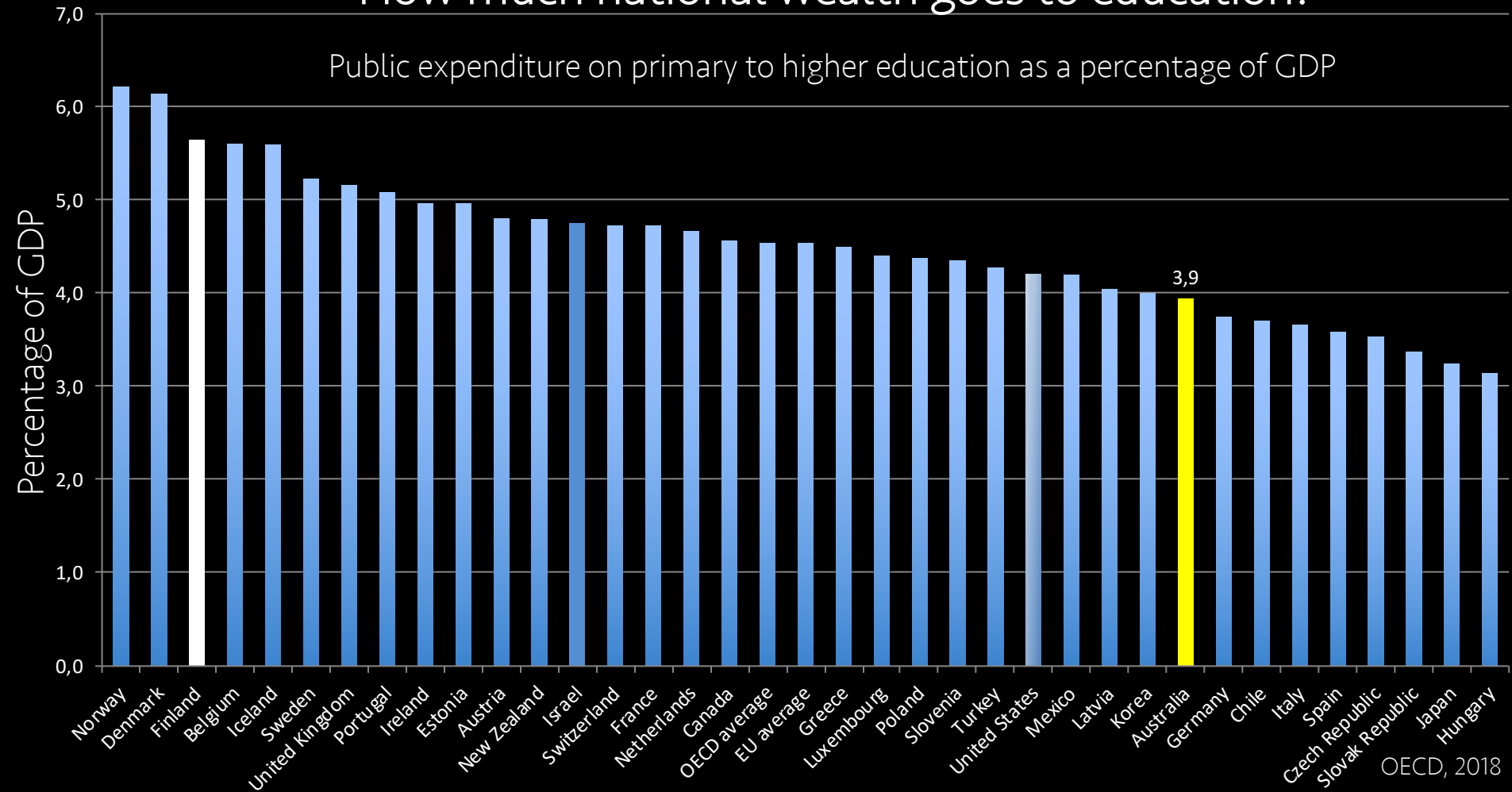
FACT OR MYTH?

“Australia invests more of its national wealth in educating its young ones than most other rich countries.”

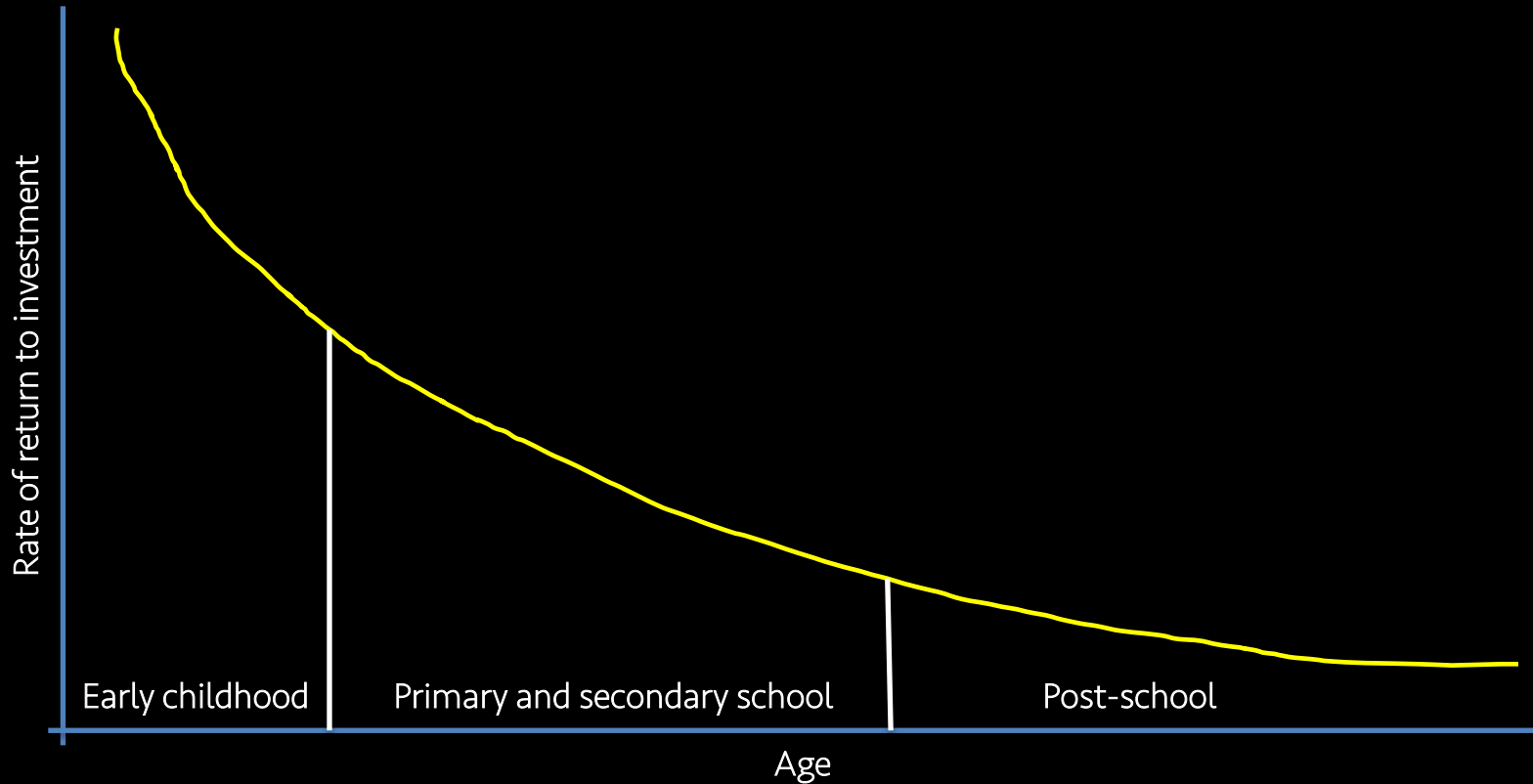
MYTH

How much national wealth goes to education?

Public expenditure on primary to higher education as a percentage of GDP

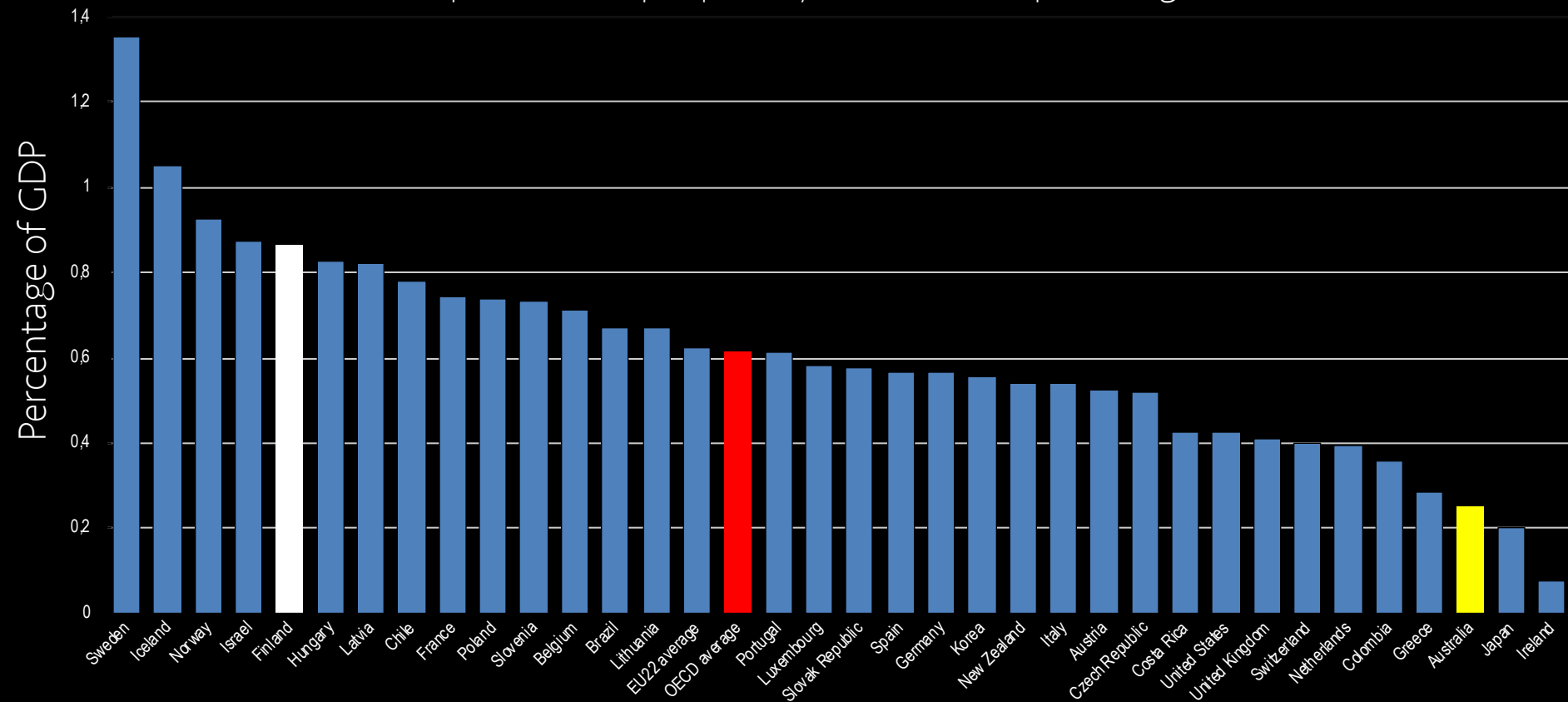


Is there a smart way to invest in people?



How much national wealth goes to early childhood education?

Expenditure on pre-primary education as a percentage of GDP





Private schools soak up funding

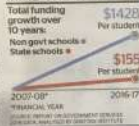
EXCLUSIVE
Jordan Baker
Education editor

Government funding boosts to private schools outstripped increases to public schools in the 10 years to 2017 despite the Coalition reforms and a national consensus on the importance of needs-based funding.

Public school funding grew by just \$15 a student over the decade after accounting for student numbers and growth in teacher wages, while private school students each received \$428, an analysis of Productivity Commission data by the Grattan Institute found.

The shortfall has been blamed on a reluctance by the states to contribute enough, putting pressure on the winner of Saturday's

MIND THE GAP



federal election to ensure states do not shirk their obligations.

Opposition education spokeswoman Tanya Plibersek said Labor would increase funding but would expect the states to also increase theirs. "No excuses, no

Continued Page 4

Ring Tones in Warringah



Tony Abbott in Hemingway's Manly cafe. Photo: Nick Mui

When Tony Abbott picked up the *Herald* and read of a doctor in his electorate saying he'd voted Liberal for 35 years but now wanted Abbott out, he thought: "Bugger it. I'll call him." The surgeon's not the only voter to be left Mr Abbott's number. **EXCLUSIVE PAGE 5**

First home scheme: warnings on debt

Shane Wright
Senior economics correspondent

First home buyers who use the Coalition's controversial deposit scheme will pay less of thousands of dollars in extra interest and face larger monthly repayments in a major world-of-loans and other lenders.

As Finance Minister Scott Morrison conceded the policy would have

AUSTRALIA VOTES 2019

This time, voting really matters

ROSS GRITTS
Columnist PAGE 24

a "blowing" effect on falling house prices, experts warned that a key element of the plan would leave first-time buyers in debt for much longer.

But former Reserve Bank governor Derrick Fisher gave tentative backing to the policy, saying that it should help people "at the margin" enter the property market, and that caution among banks would prevent borrowers taking on excessive debt.

Under the Coalition's election-eve proposal - which was swiftly eschewed by Labor - real home **Continued Page 5**

Penniless plea

Belle Gibson claims to be penniless and unable to pay a \$400,000 fine for deceiving thousands of Australians over her cancer cure claims.

NEWS PAGE 16



Stokes targets developers' rezoning tactics

EXCLUSIVE
Jacob Sadwillik
Megan Gerrry

The system of "spot rezoning" used by developers and landowners to remake large swathes of Sydney would disappear under changes to be pushed by Planning Minister Rob Stokes.

Mr Stokes wants to implement extensive changes to the planning

system in his second stint in the job. But he says such changes will not require reform of the state's planning laws as the system has "stuck the test of time" and could be improved without a legislative overhaul.

Outlining his approach after returning to planning from two years as education minister, Mr Stokes indicated he was open to reviewing the boundaries of so-called plan-

and products of an elective development, would push for more medium-density housing throughout Sydney and could review the thresholds at which the state government takes development approval away from councils.

Changes already passed through Parliament require councils to update their planning laws, known as local environment plans (LEPs), every five years.

The controversial practice of "spot rezoning" occurs when developers, landowners or other parties apply to remove an area through individual applications that would significantly breach the local LEP.

Much of the high-rise development across Sydney in recent years - for example, in central Parramatta - has occurred **Continued Page 7**

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Best-performing school systems invest heavily on early childhood education and care of every child.

Issue 3:

EQUITY

FACT OR MYTH?

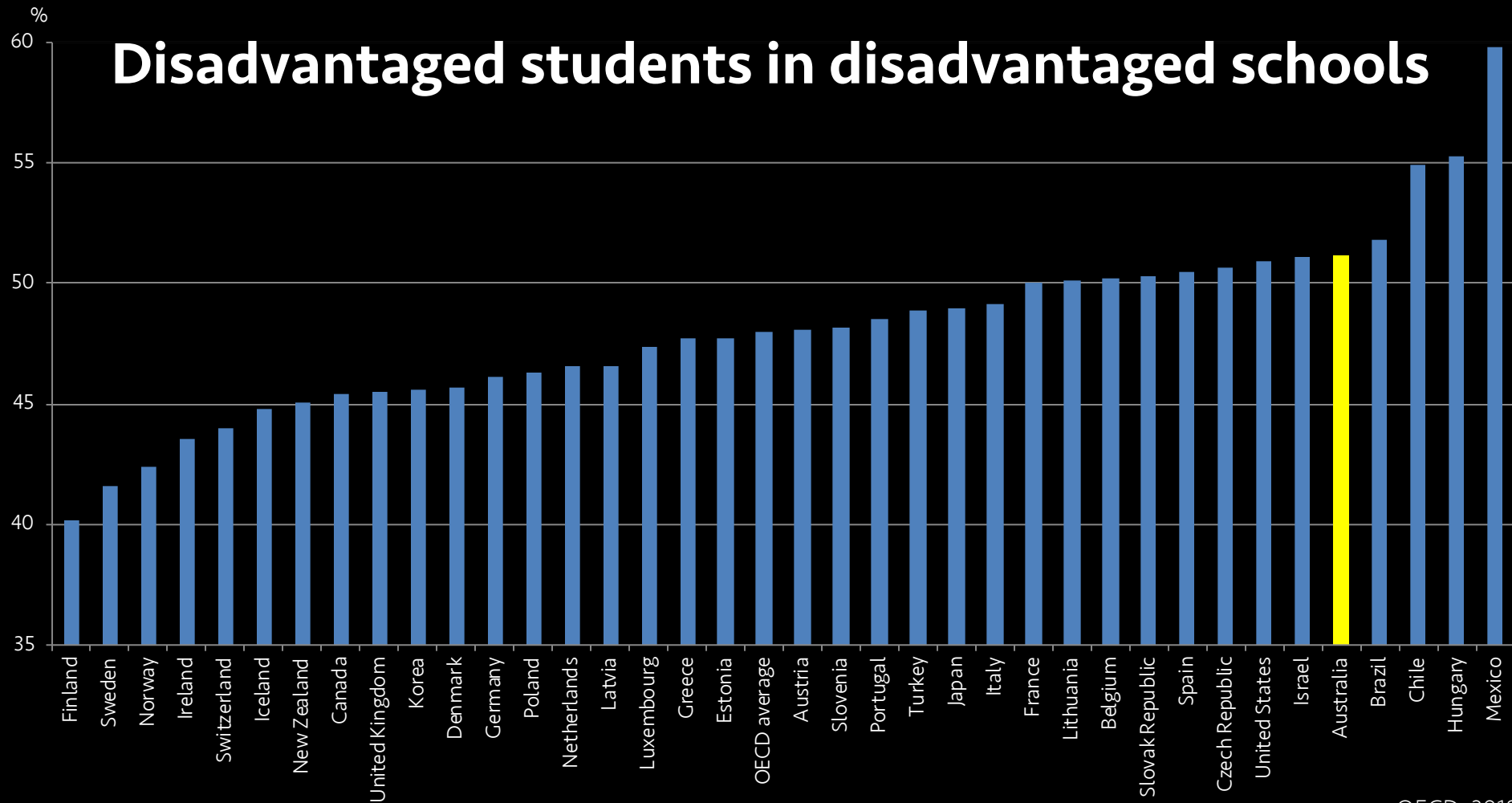
“The most important single factor in improving quality of education is teachers.”

MYTH

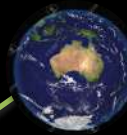
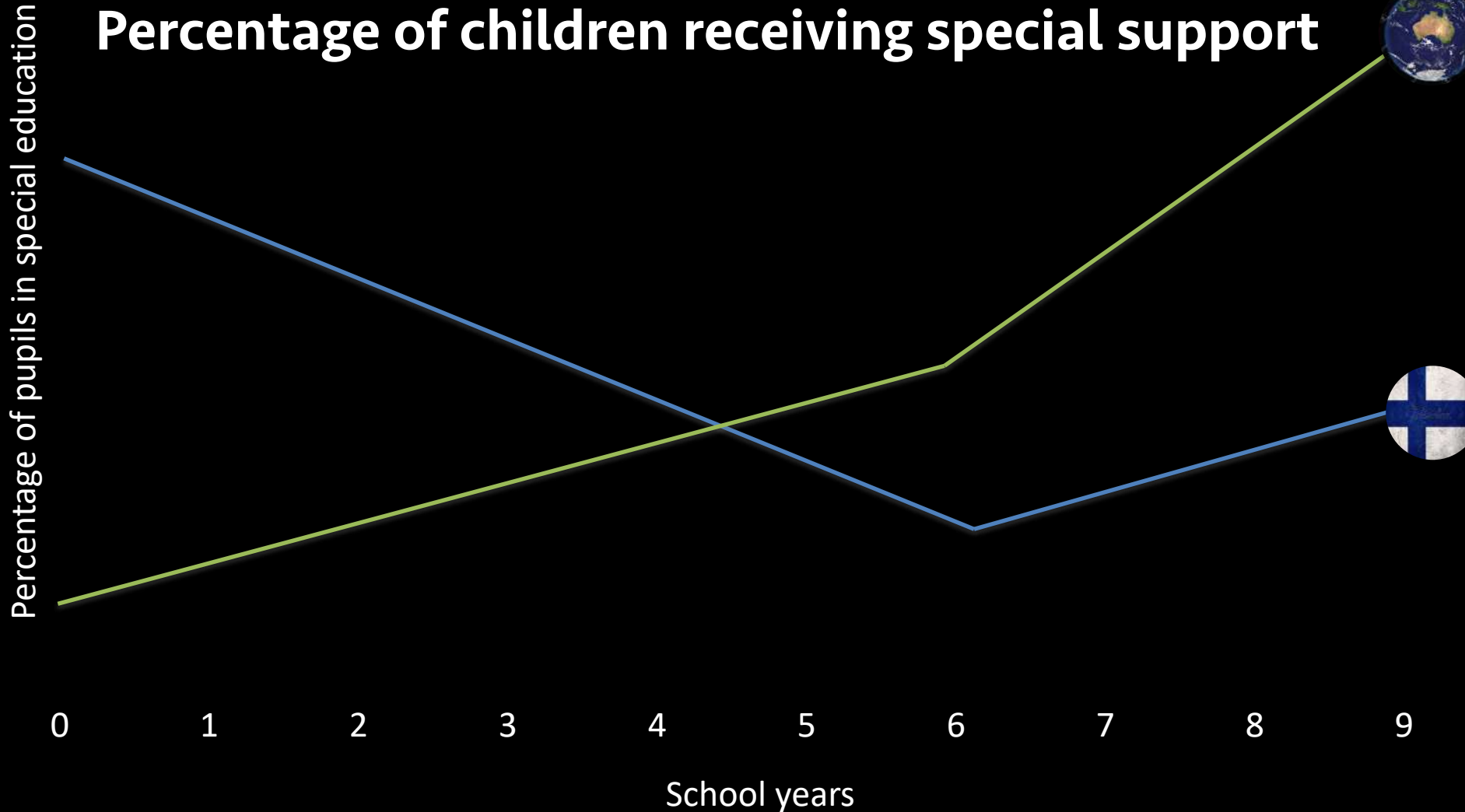
“Teachers account for about 1% to 14% of the variability in test scores, therefore the majority of opportunities for quality improvement are found in the system-level conditions.”

American Statistical Association, 2014

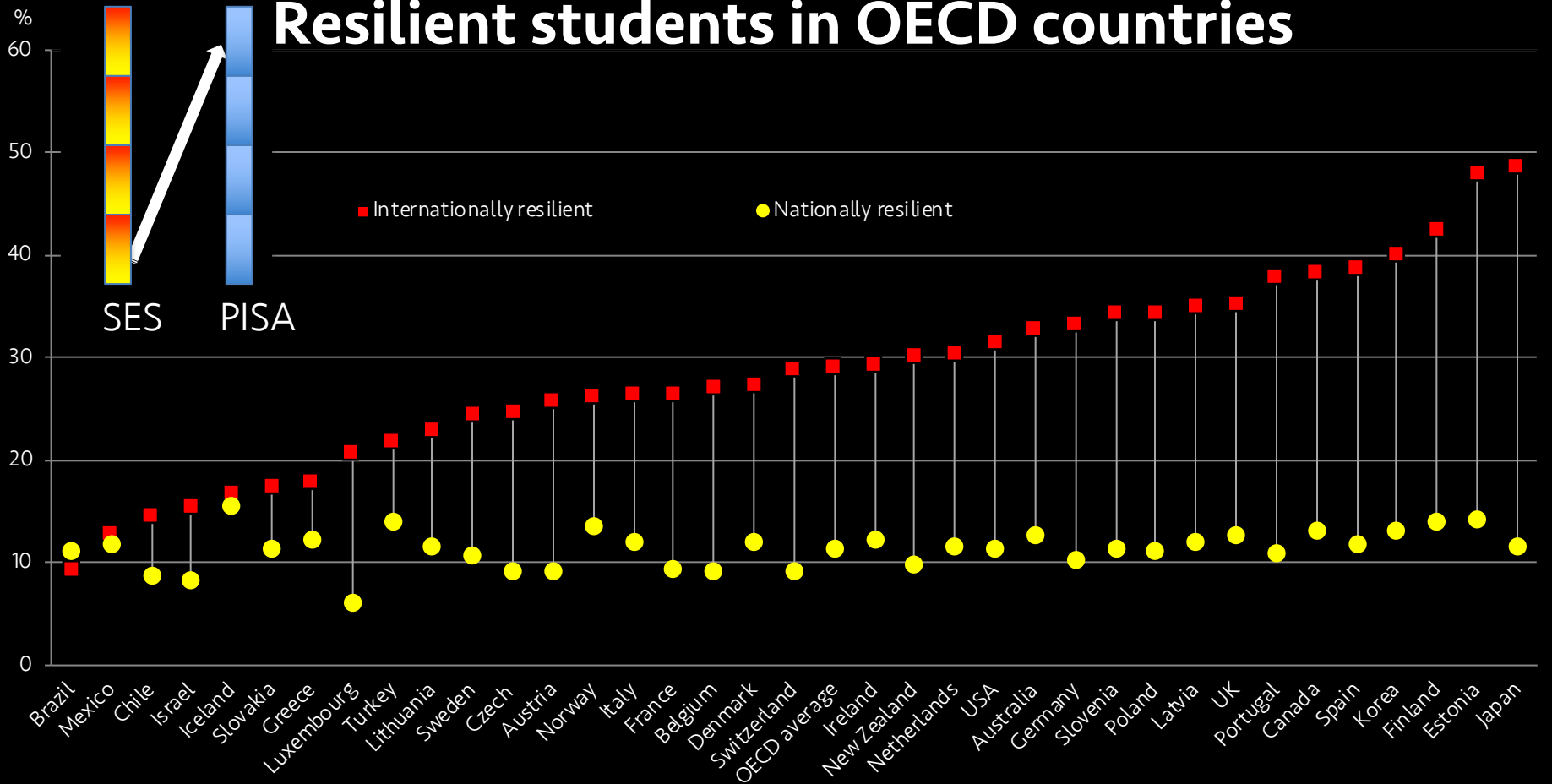
Disadvantaged students in disadvantaged schools



Percentage of children receiving special support



Resilient students in OECD countries



Testing inequity

"Non-educators often assume that standardised tests are accurate and objective. Wrong. The same student can take the same test on different points of time and get different results."

"All standardised tests accurately reflect family income and parents' education."

- Diane Ravitch, 2019

Best-performing school systems are those that combine equity and quality in policy and practice.

NEXT: SLOW EDUCATION

Thank you!



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WORKSHOP

EQUITY

WELLBEING

TIME

MONEY



KIDS ARE NOT ALRIGHT

In Australia:

- 10% don't feel safe at home
- 47% sleep with smartphone every night
- 40% have sleeping problems
- 10% have abnormal social and emotional wellbeing
- 26% are overweight or obese
- 50% feel pressure from schoolwork
- Suicide rate of 15 to 24-year-olds increased from 10.3 per 100,000 in 2007 to 12.7 in 2016

KIDS ARE NOT ALRIGHT

In the United States:

“70% of Teenagers Say Depression and Anxiety Are Major Issues Among Their Peers”

-New York Times, 20 Feb 2019

What parents think?

A majority of parents (88%) believe that children are under pressure to grow up too quickly.

Fewer parents are playing outdoors with their children.

Parenting paradigms are shifting to overprotecting children from risk-taking.

Parents believe that their children will benefit more from structured activities as opposed to unstructured free play.

Growing Up Digital

(Alberta Teachers Association &

Harvard Medical School)

DISCONNECTING

Alberta teachers have observed dramatic changes in their student populations over the past three to five years.

EMOTIONAL AND SOCIAL CHALLENGES



of teachers say that the number of students with emotional challenges has increased.



of teachers say that the number of students with social challenges has increased.

85%

of teachers say that the number of students who need behaviour support has increased.



“ Is a student’s increasing online presence decreasing real-world satisfaction and positive peer-to-peer interaction? ”

— Elementary school teacher

MOOD DISORDERS

3 out of 4 teachers say that the number of students with cognitive challenges has increased.

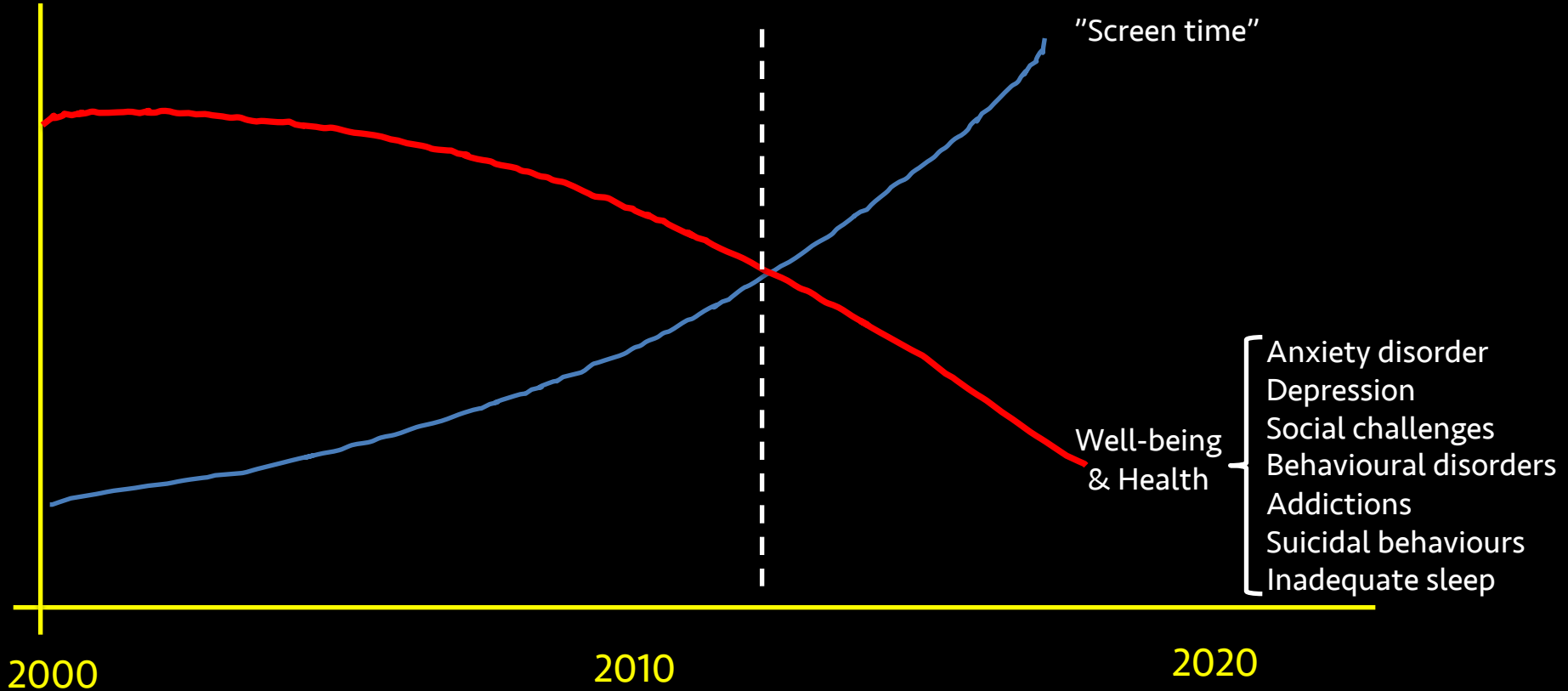


STUDENT CHALLENGES

ANXIETY DISORDER **85%**

DEPRESSION **73%**

THE BIG PICTURE



“More hours of screen time are associated with lower well-being in ages 2 to 17.”

- Twenge and Campbell, 2018

“High users show less curiosity, self-control, and emotional stability.”

- Twenge and Campbell, 2018

“There is directional association between screen time and poor performance on development screening tests among very young children.”

- Madigan, Browne, Racine, Mori, & Tough, 2019

WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

Thank you!



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