

My School, Your School, or Our Schools

# SCHOOLS WE NEED IN AUSTRALIA

A Sociology of Education Summit

Sydney, NSW

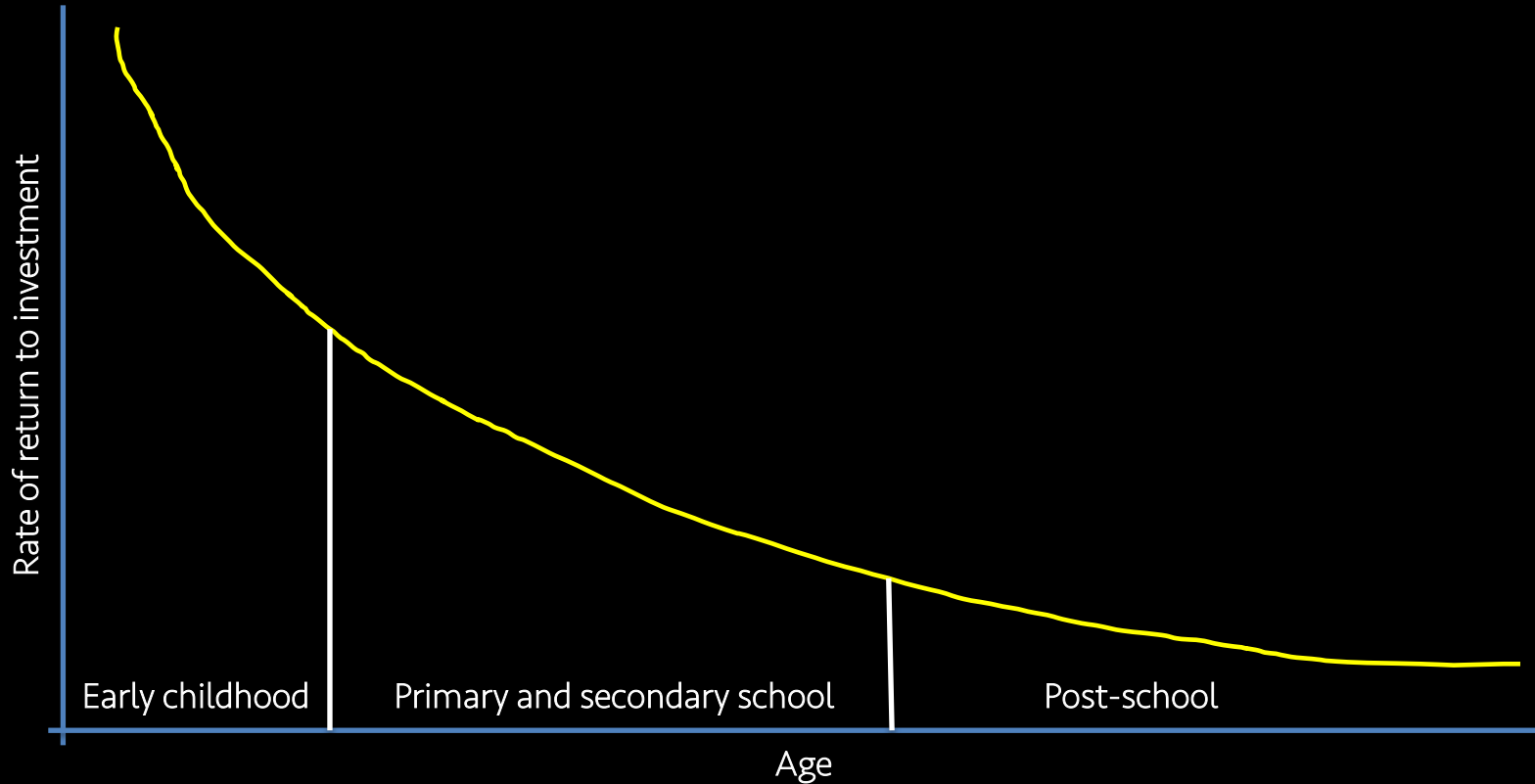
12<sup>th</sup> September 2019



pasi\_sahlberg

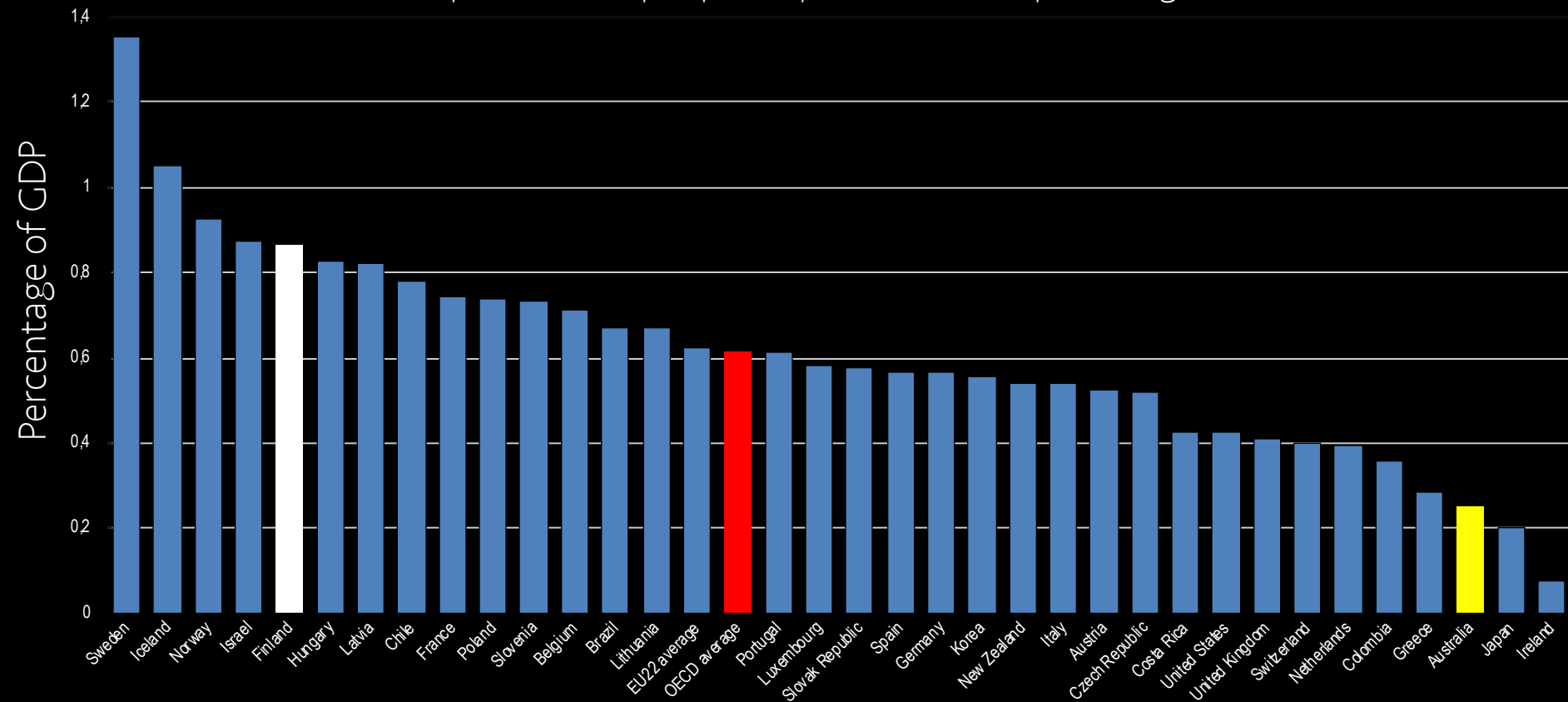
**NOAH**

# Does money matter?



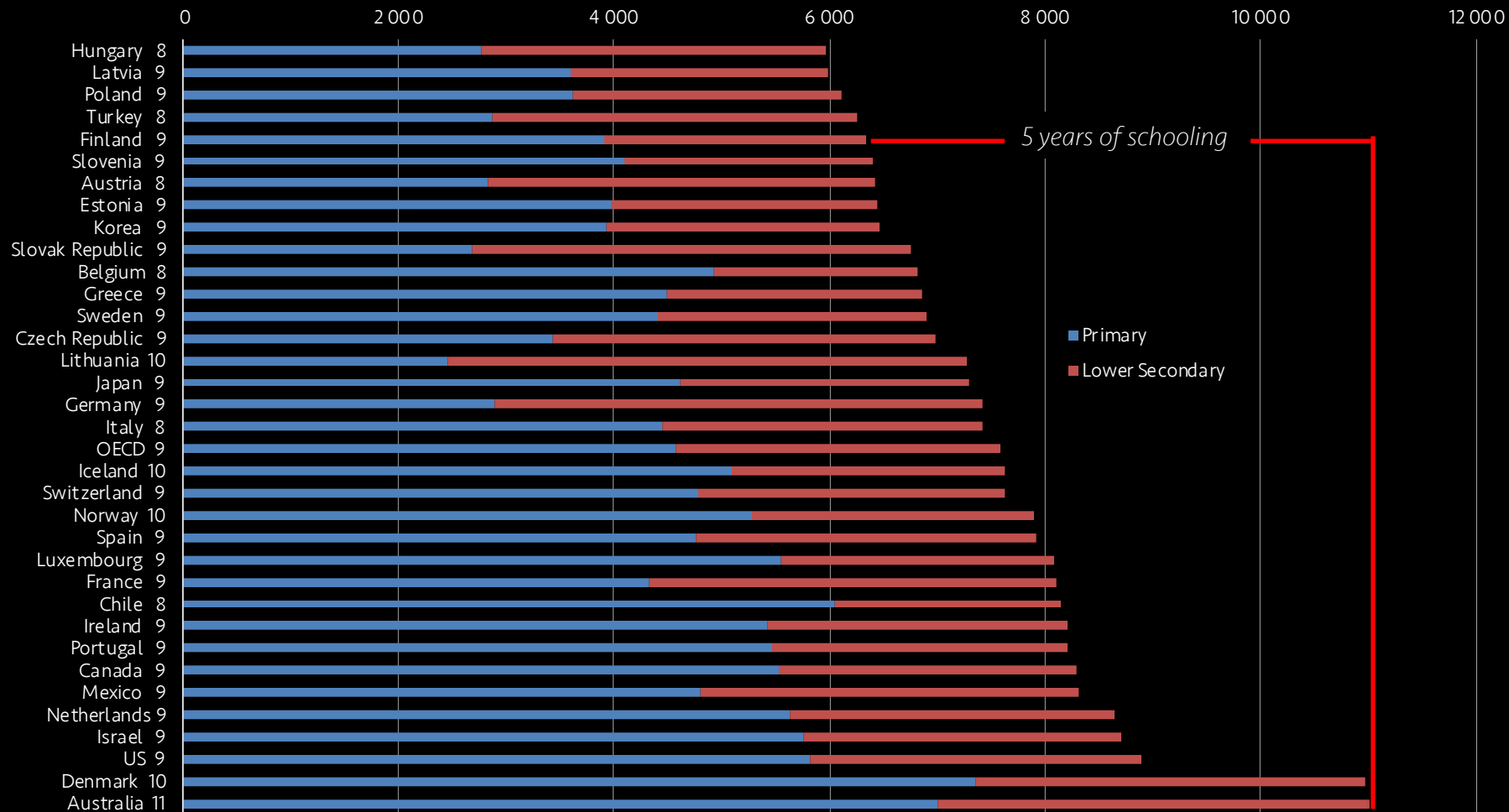
# How much national wealth goes to early childhood education?

Expenditure on pre-primary education as a percentage of GDP



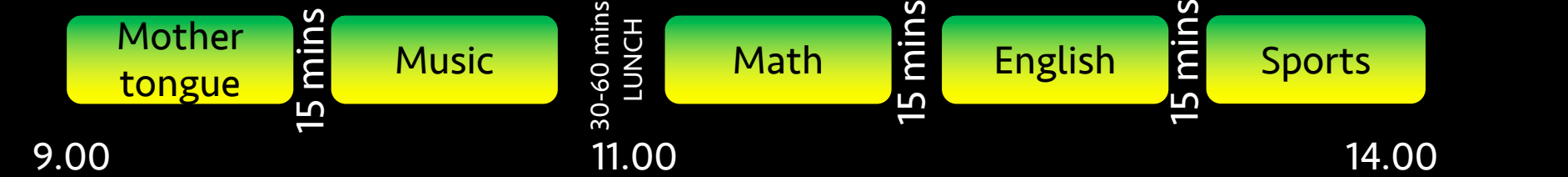
**OTTO**

# Total number of compulsory instruction hours in primary and lower secondary schools





# A typical primary school day



It's estimated that around one in seven Australian kids experience mental health issues and about half of all serious mental health issues in adulthood begin before the age of 14.



**PETRA**

**Lunch box**

A majority of Australian parents think children today spend less time playing compared to when they were young.



**ME**

Australia has one of the best school systems in the world...for some of its children.

The schools we need are here already.

“The highest-performing education systems are those that combine quality with equity.”



# Equity vs. Quality in OECD countries

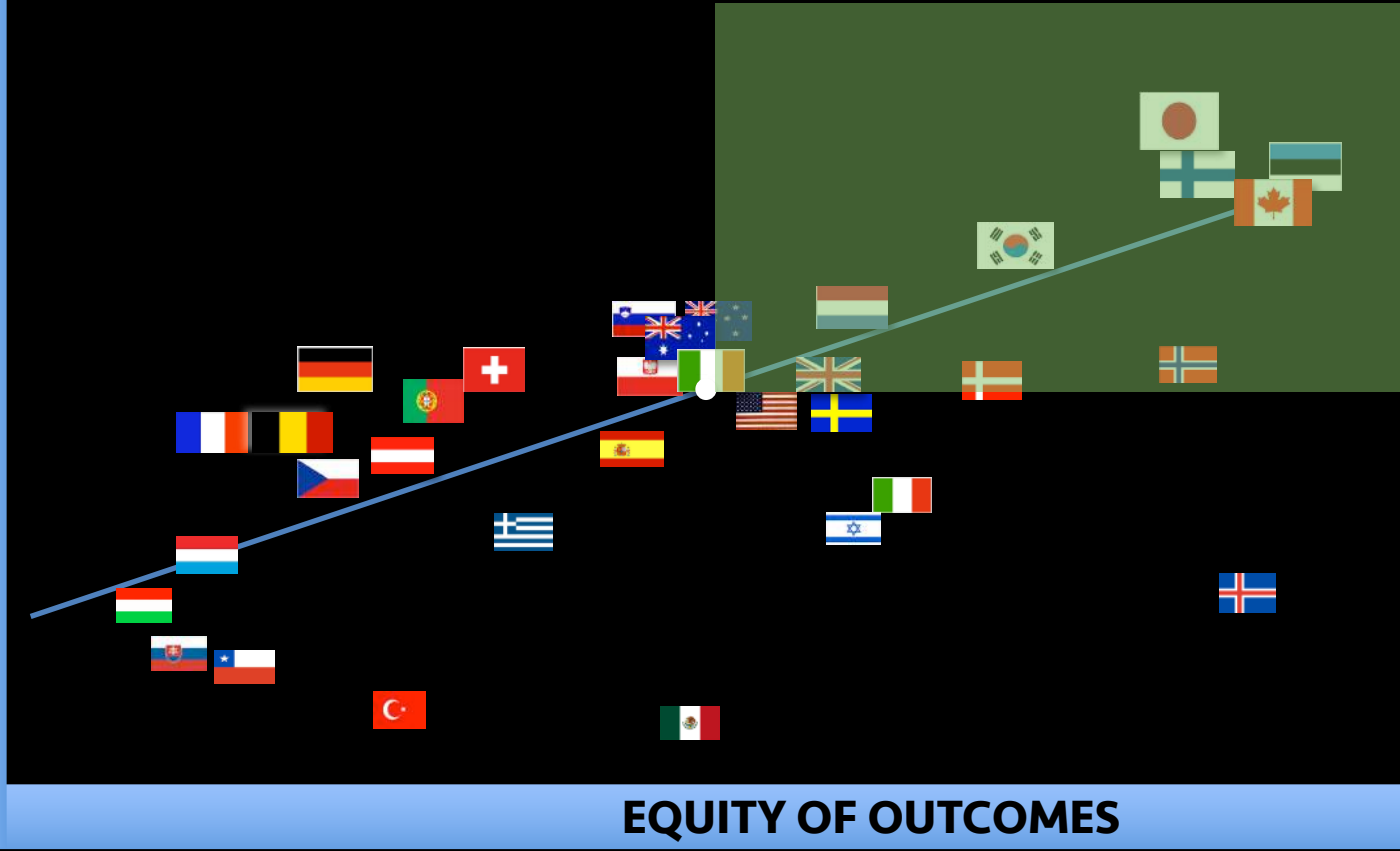
Student achievement in reading, mathematics and science (PISA)

QUALITY OF OUTCOMES

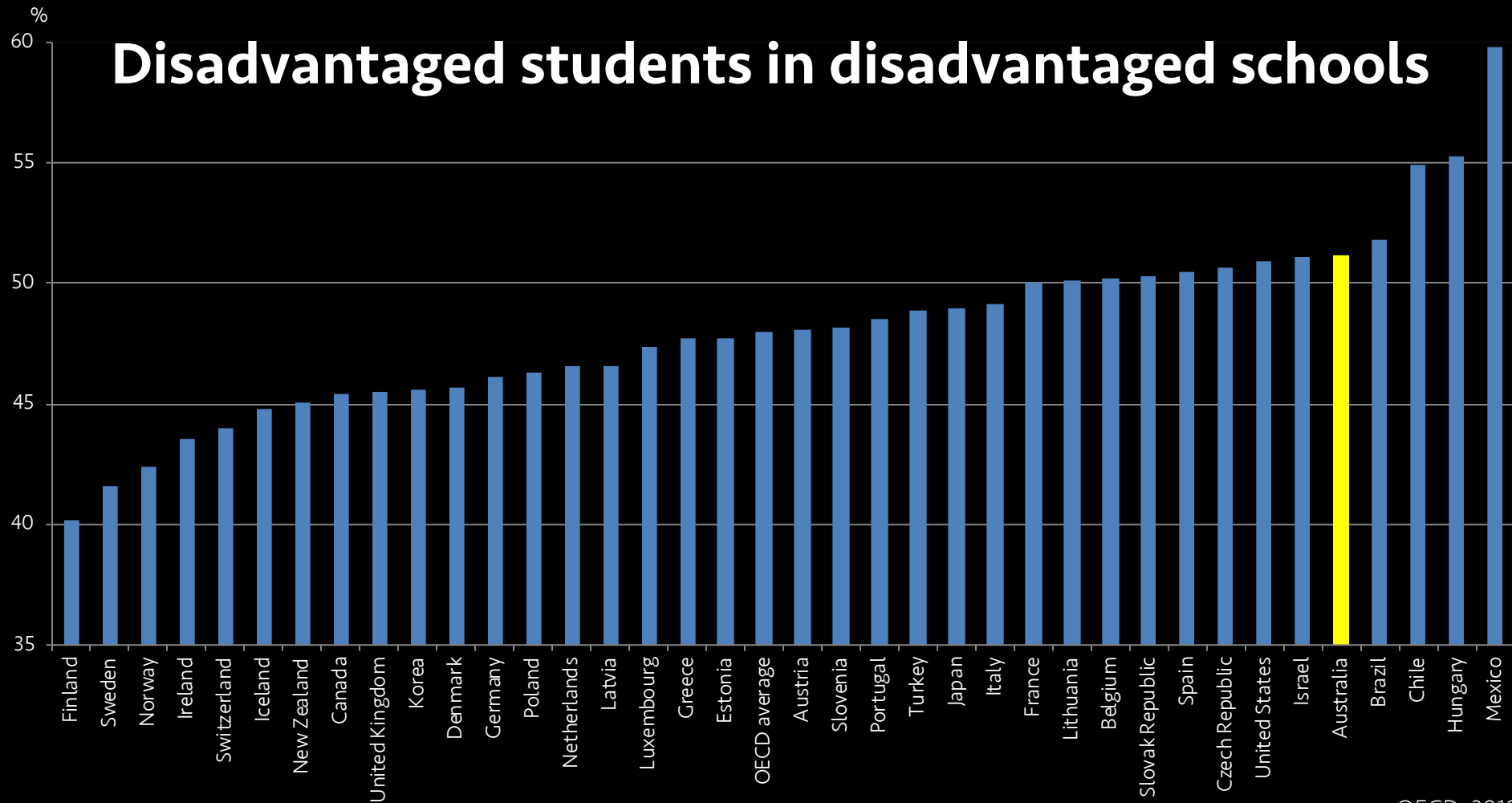
EQUITY OF OUTCOMES

Weakness of the relationship between student achievement and family background (ESCS Index)

OECD, 2016



# Disadvantaged students in disadvantaged schools

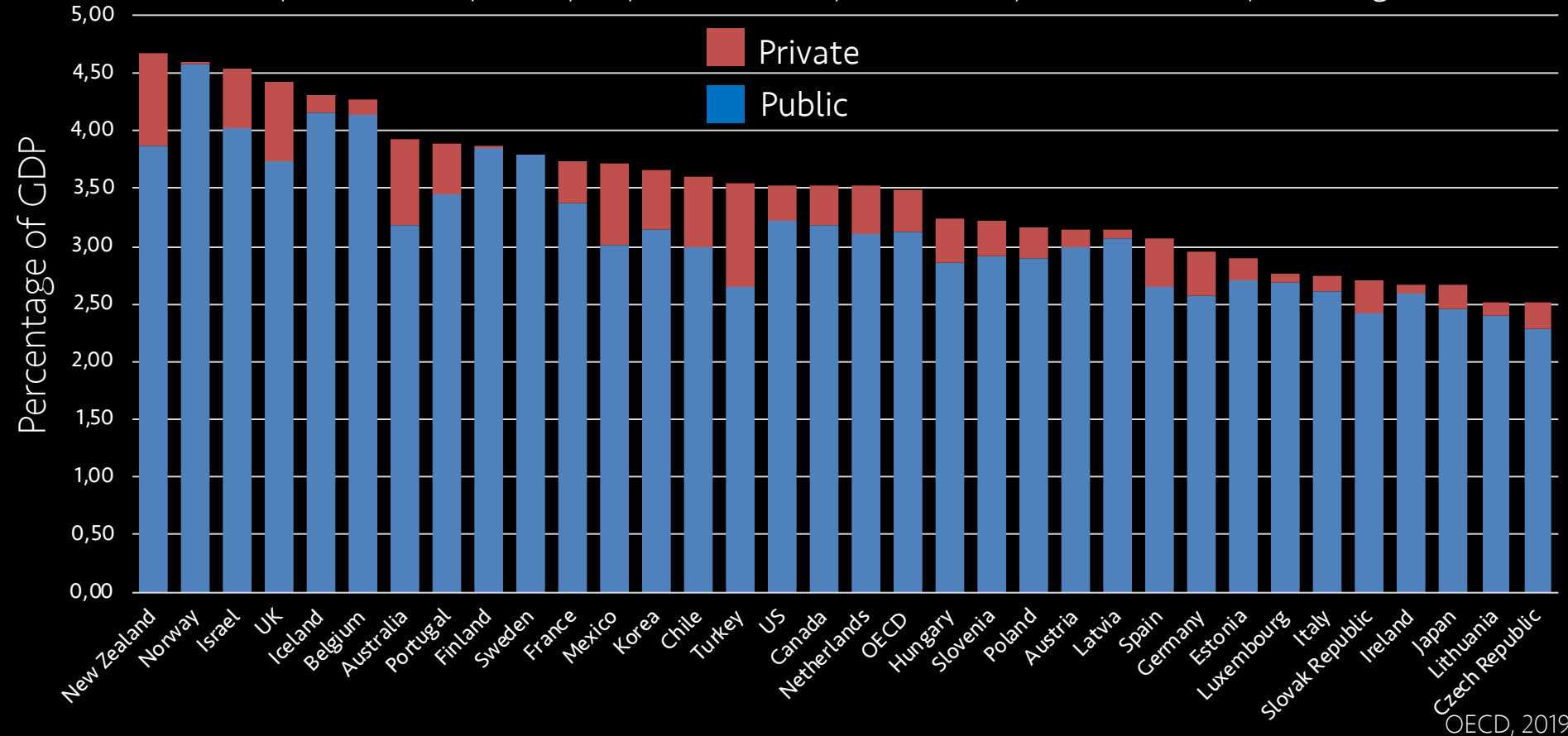


“Disadvantaged students attending advantaged ... schools score 78 points ... points higher than those attending disadvantaged schools.”

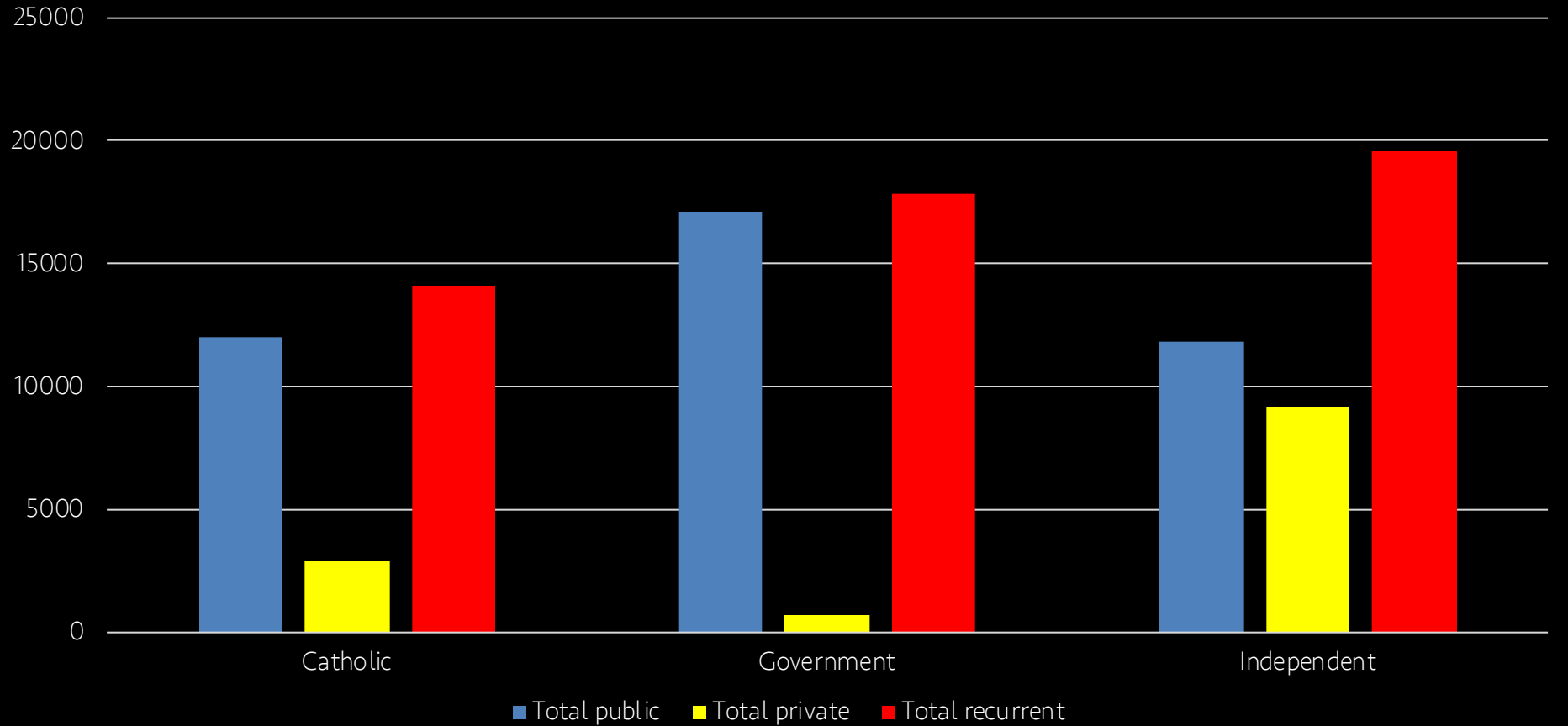
- OECD, 2018

# How much national wealth goes to education?

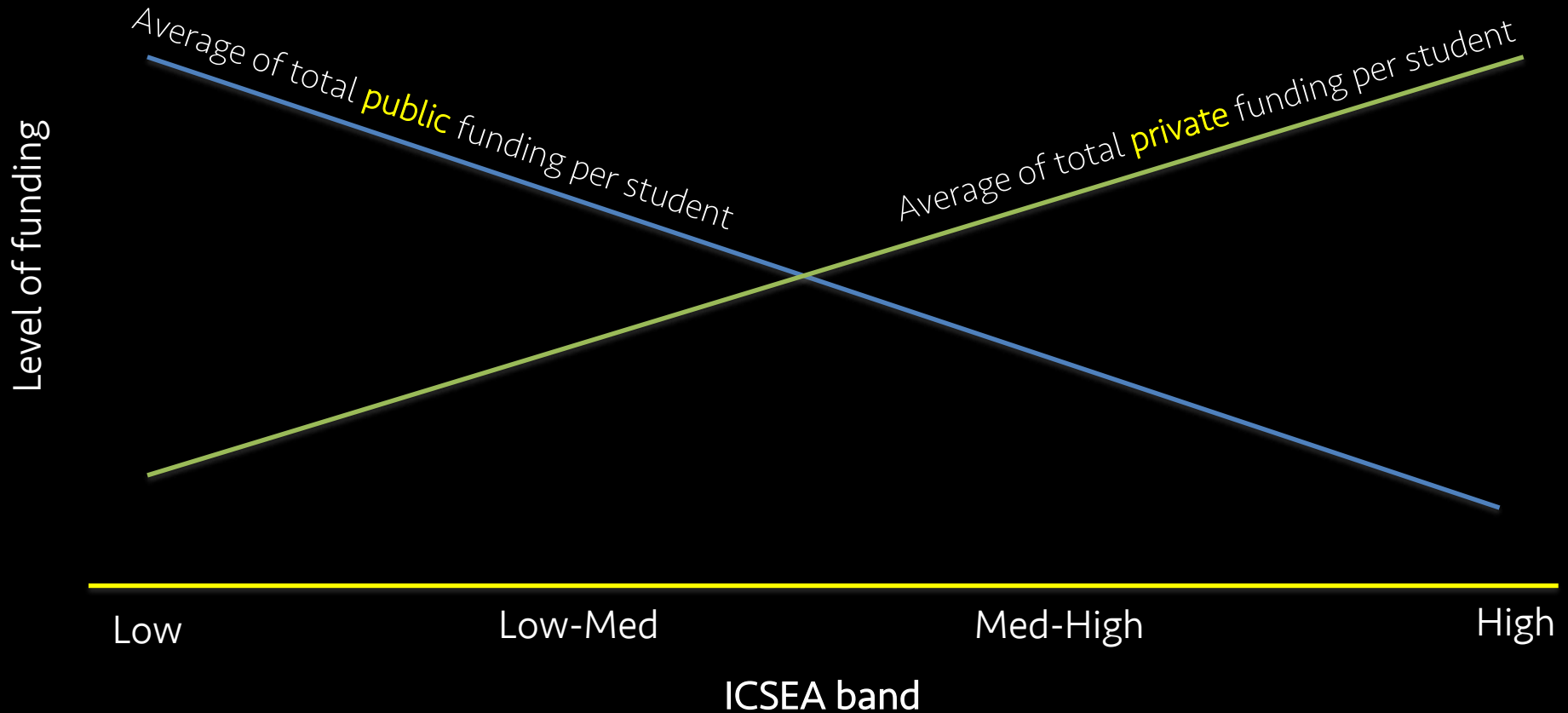
Total expenditure on primary to post-secondary non-tertiary education as a percentage of GDP



# Average funding per student mediated by school sector (2015)



# Average total public and private funding per student in government schools in different ICSEA bands (2015)



**“Change is coming whether  
you like it or not.”**

*Greta Thunberg, 16-year-old climate justice activist*



## SWEDEN

Redesigning the voucher system, investing in equity and elevating the status of teaching profession.

## SCOTLAND

Whole-child curriculum, focus on equity, strengthening the role of play.

## CHILE

Abolishing the school selection, banning for-profit schools and investing in the teaching profession.

## LIBERIA

Resistance to privatization, for-profit foreign operators and de-professionalism.

## SINGAPORE

Less testing, less rankings, and more whole-child education.

## NEW ZEALAND

Removing National Standards, less testing, abolishing charter schools, and more teacher & student voice.

## AUSTRALIA

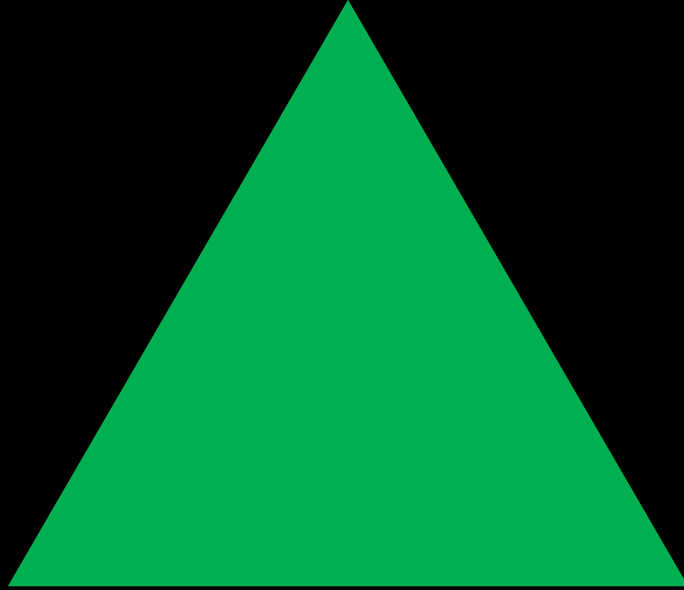
Reviewing NAPLAN, focus on equity, well-being & early childhood education.





Food for thought

Health



Pedagogy

Enviroment

2

Educate parents

“Standardized tests can’t  
measure educational quality!”

“Ask not what your school can do  
for you, ask what you can do for  
your school.”

“Ask not how good is my child in school, ask how is my child good in school.”

3

Time to play

*“Recess is fundamental to the school experience and develops lifelong skills of communication, negotiation, cooperation, sharing, and problem-solving.”*

- Let the Children Play, 2019





“If you ain’t the lead dog,  
the scenery never changes.” |

Thank you!



# Let the Children Play

HOW MORE PLAY WILL  
SAVE OUR SCHOOLS AND  
HELP CHILDREN THRIVE

**PASI SAHLBERG & WILLIAM DOYLE**

foreword by **SIR KEN ROBINSON**

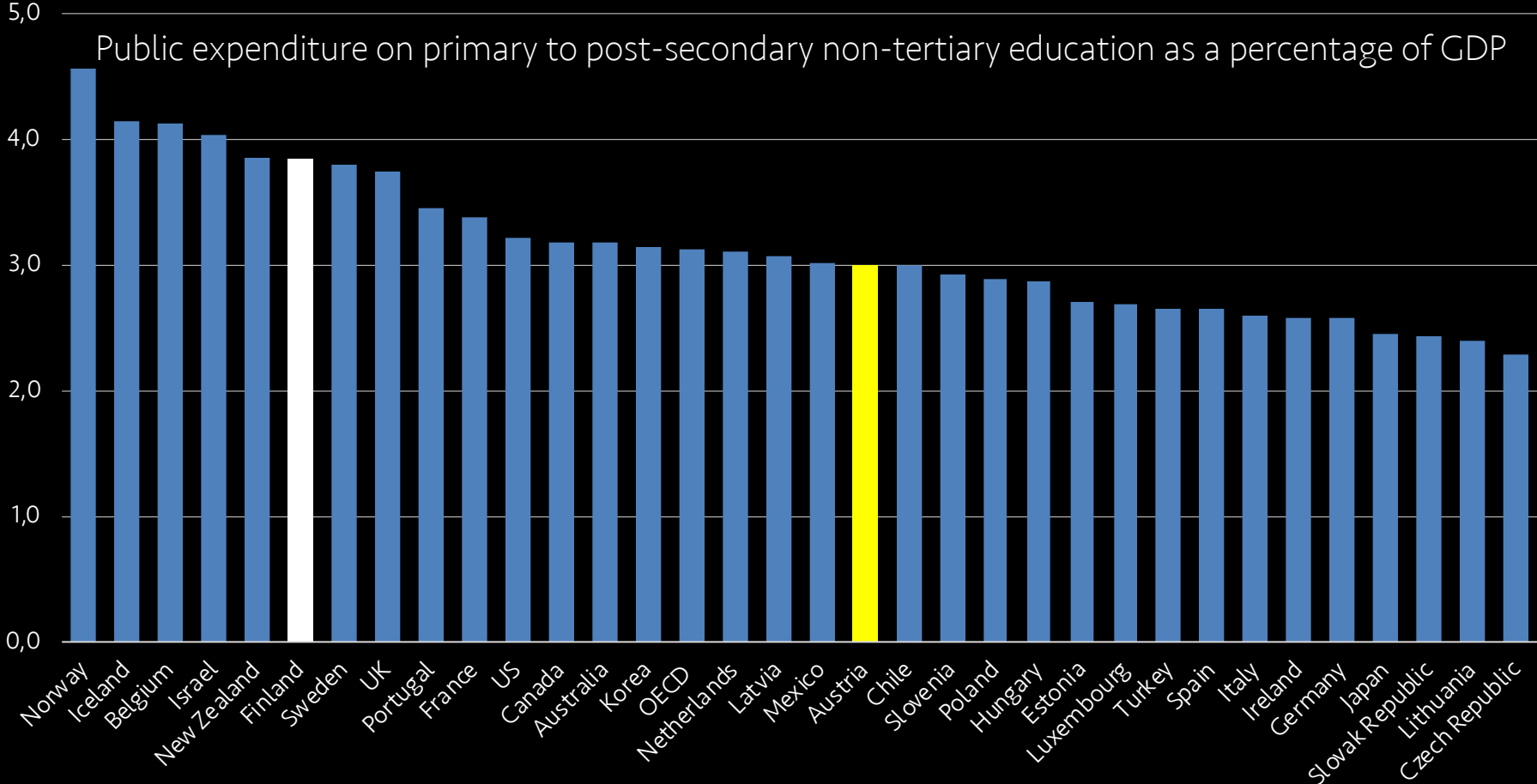


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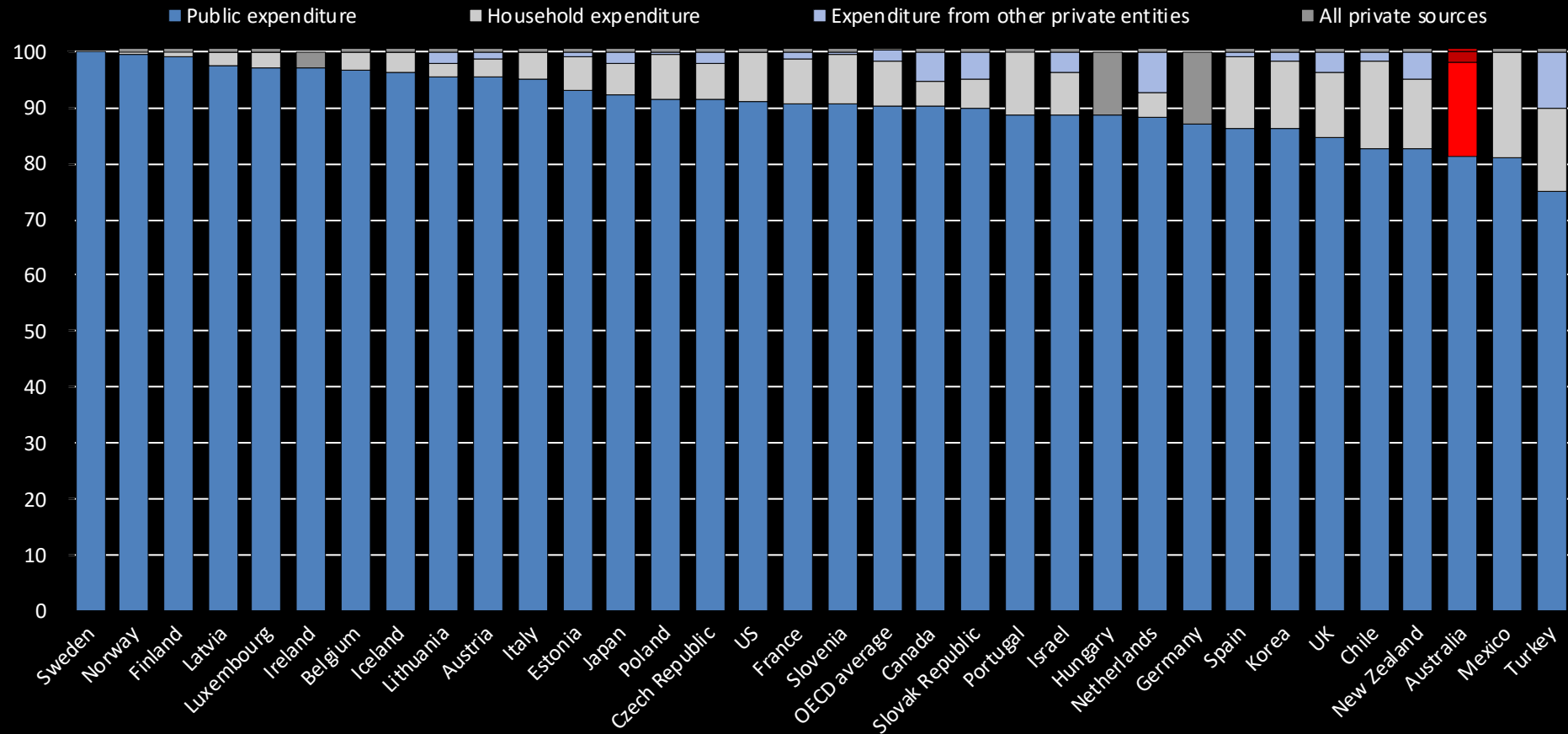
# How much national wealth goes to education?

Public expenditure on primary to post-secondary non-tertiary education as a percentage of GDP

Percentage of GDP



# Primary, secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education



*“Play for children exposed to poverty or unsafe neighborhoods is a crucial antidote to the toxic stress which often accompanies adversity. Play does this by facilitating engagement with nurturing adult caregivers, by encouraging self regulation, executive function skills, improving language and cognition, and decreasing anxiety and disruptive behavior. School playgrounds often provide the only safe space for outdoor play and physical activity for children who live in unsafe neighborhoods.”*

- Michael Yogman, Harvard Medical School