

Liège, 2 Mai 2018



# TENDANCES ET DEFIS DANS L'ENSEIGNEMENT SUPÉRIEUR

Stéphan Vincent-Lancrin

Deputy Head, Senior Analyst and Project Lead,  
OECD Centre for Educational Research and  
Innovation



# Outline

---

- Overview of major trends
- A few figures
- Focus on digitalisation
- Focus on the improvement of teaching and learning



trends and issues



# Trends and issues in OECD countries

---

- Expansion of tertiary education
  - Quality and relevance of education
  - Quality and productivity of research
- Private provision and funding in higher education
  - Cost-sharing arrangements (public authorities, households, business sector)
  - Call on the public purse of the expansion in a context of competing priorities (ageing, public debt, etc.)
- Globalisation
  - Increased competition between institutions and systems
  - Increased collaboration as well
  - Importance of being in international knowledge flows



# Trends and issues in OECD countries

---

- Governance
  - Trend towards more institutional autonomy
  - Policy instruments to steer at a distance (indicators, etc.)
- Openness of higher education
  - Inclusiveness of higher education systems (low SES, minorities, lifelong learning)
- Digitalisation of societies
  - Taking advantage of new technologies
  - Preparing students for a new digital economy
- Teaching and learning
  - Equipping students with skills for innovation-driven societies
  - Teaching effectively a diversity of students



a few trends

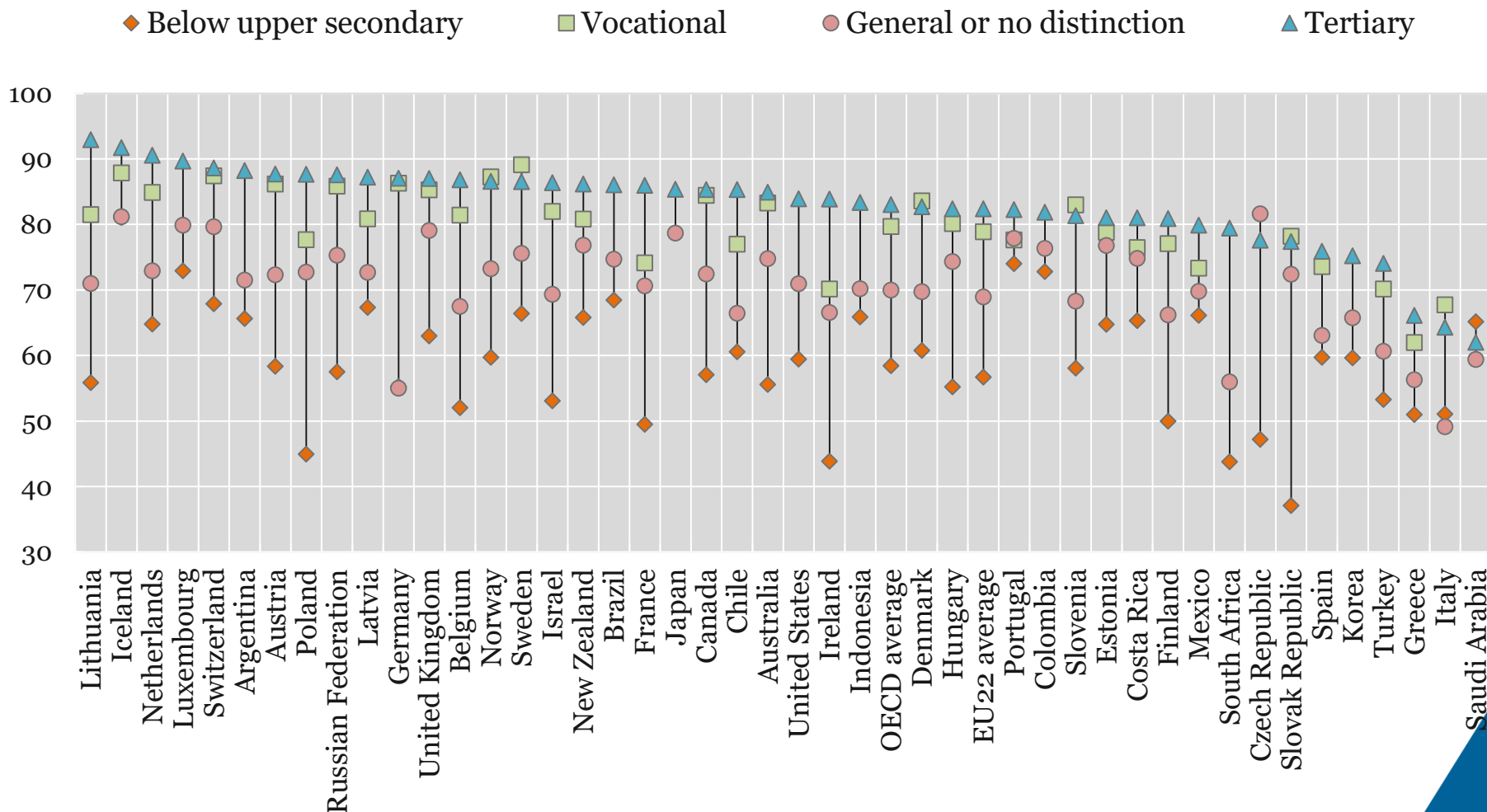


incentives



# Those with tertiary education are still more likely to be employed...

Employment rates of 25-34 year-olds, by educational attainment and programme orientation (2016)



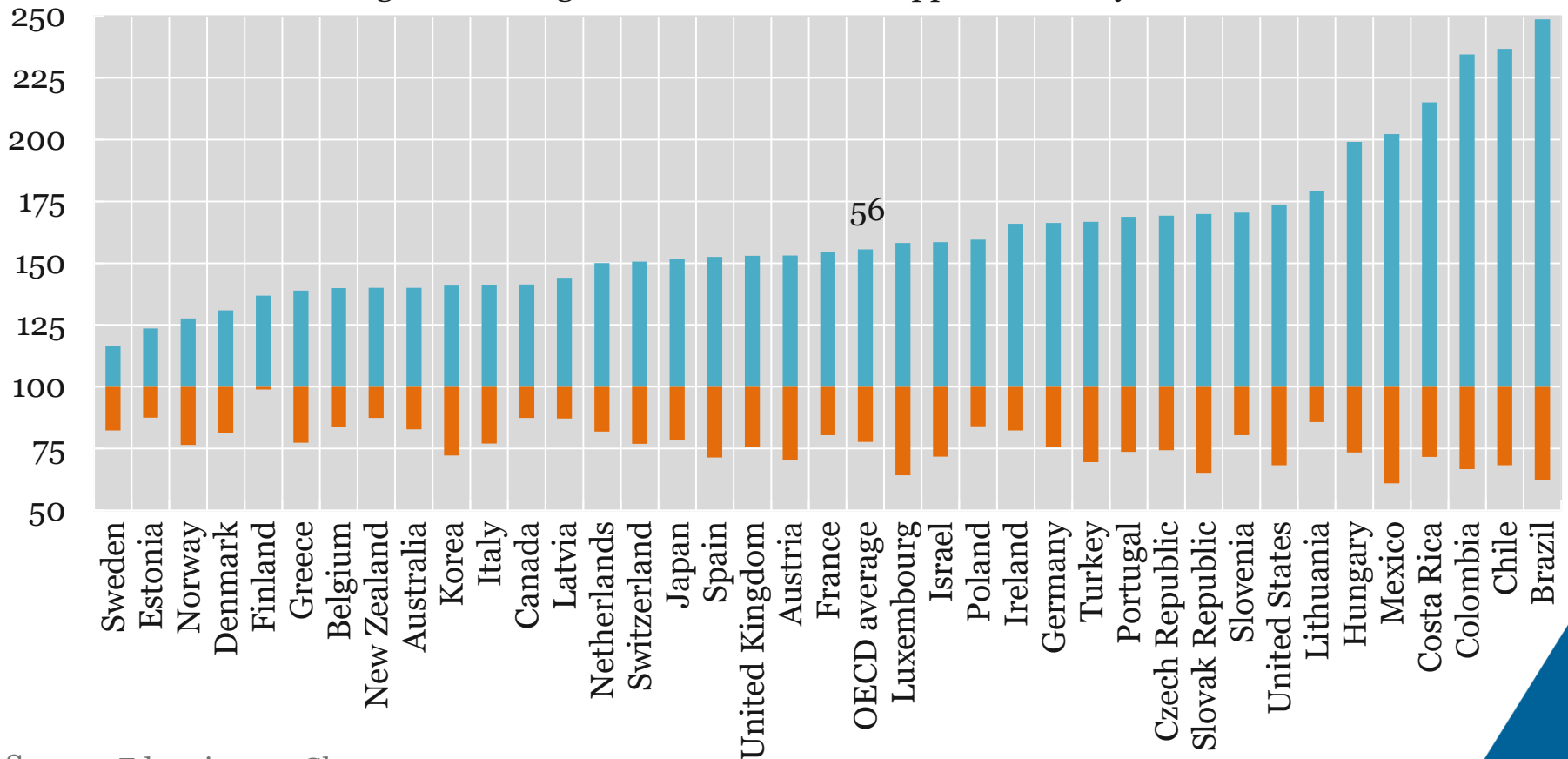




# ...and earn on average 56% more than those with upper secondary level attainment

Relative earnings of adults, by educational attainment. Upper secondary education = 100 (2015)

- Earning advantage of adults with tertiary education
- Earning disadvantage of adults with below upper secondary education



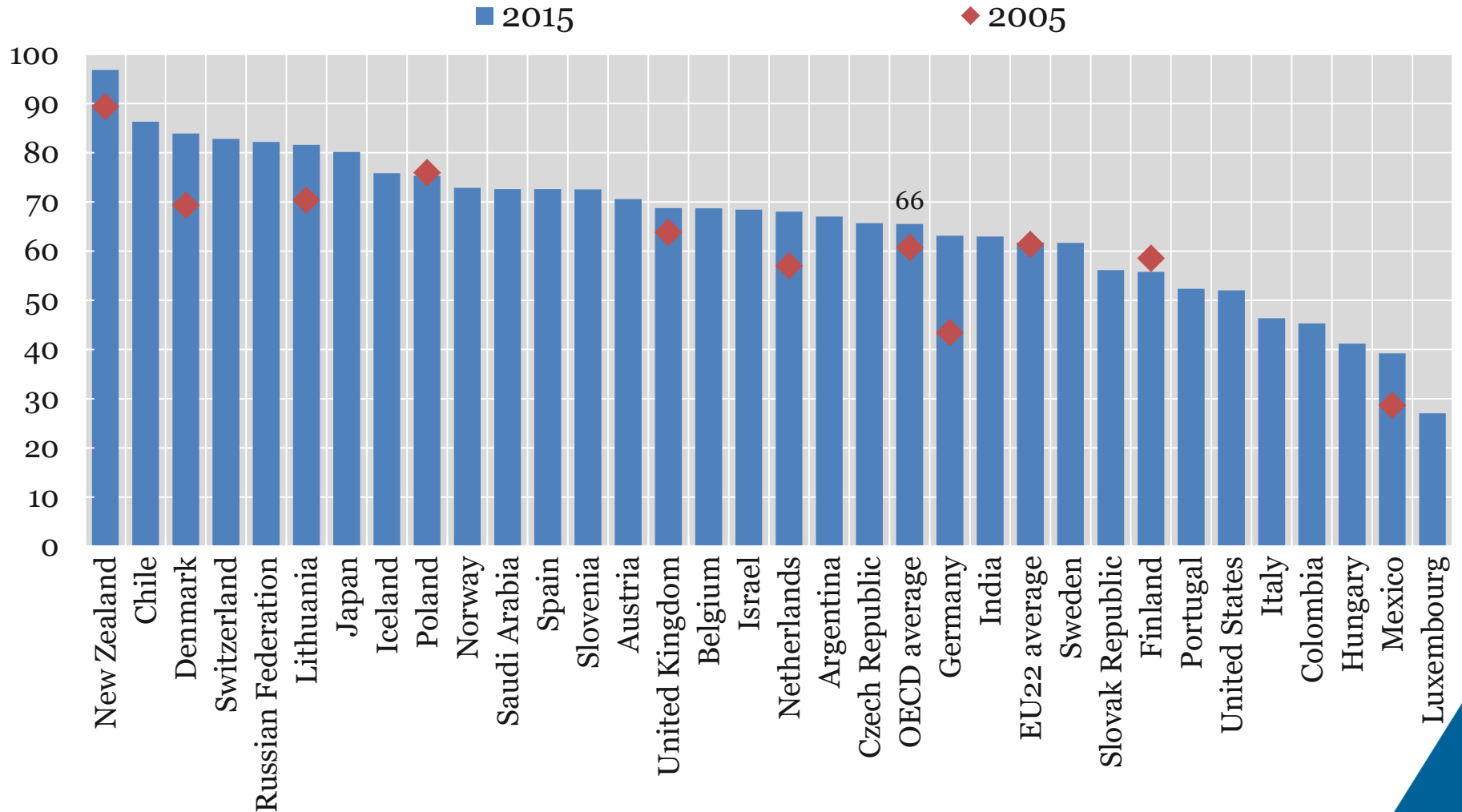


expanding participation



# 66% of adults were expected to enter tertiary education for the first time in 2015

First-time tertiary entry rates (2005, 2015)

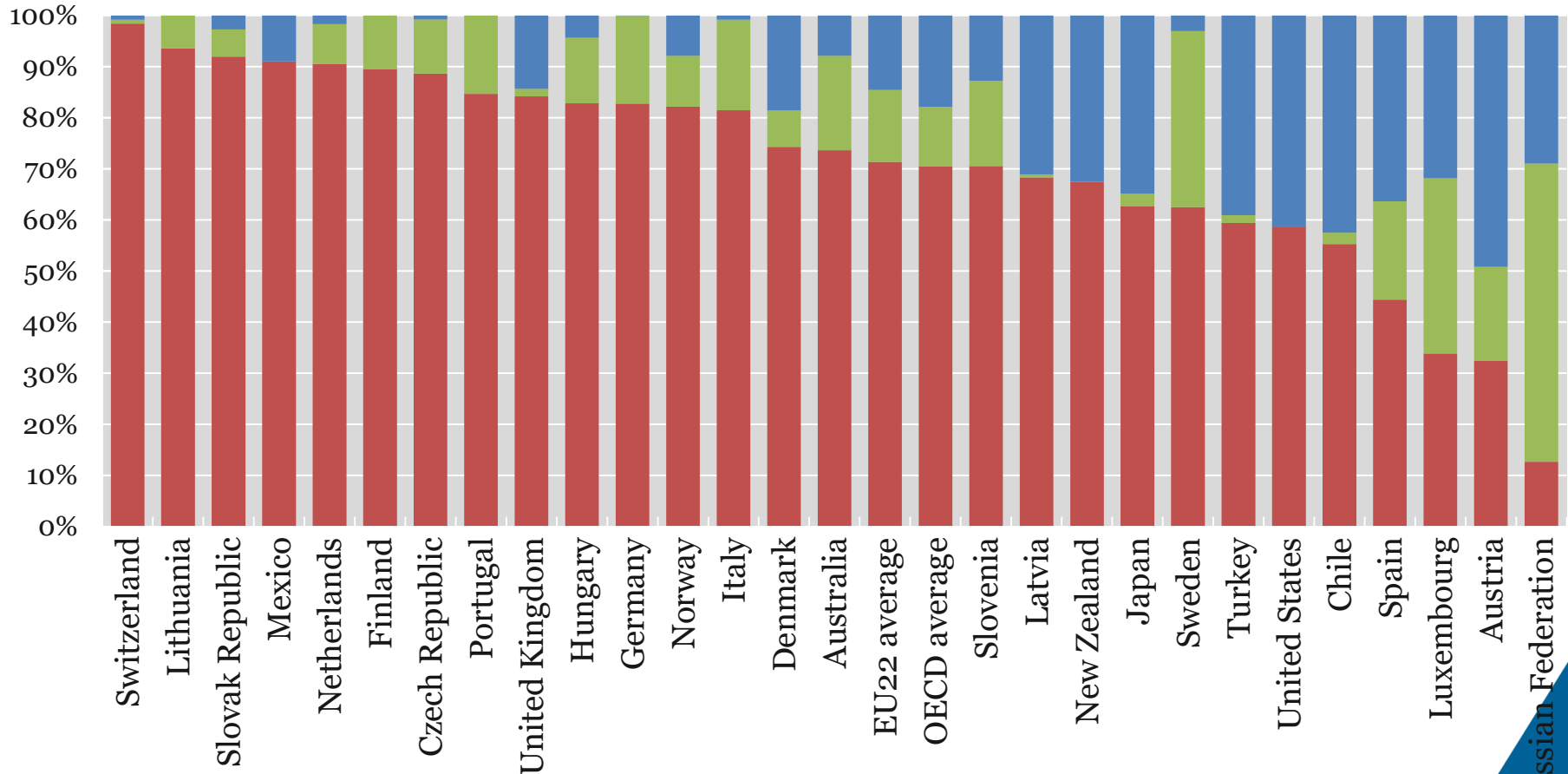




# Most will graduate with a bachelor's degree

Distribution of first-time tertiary graduates by level of education (2015)

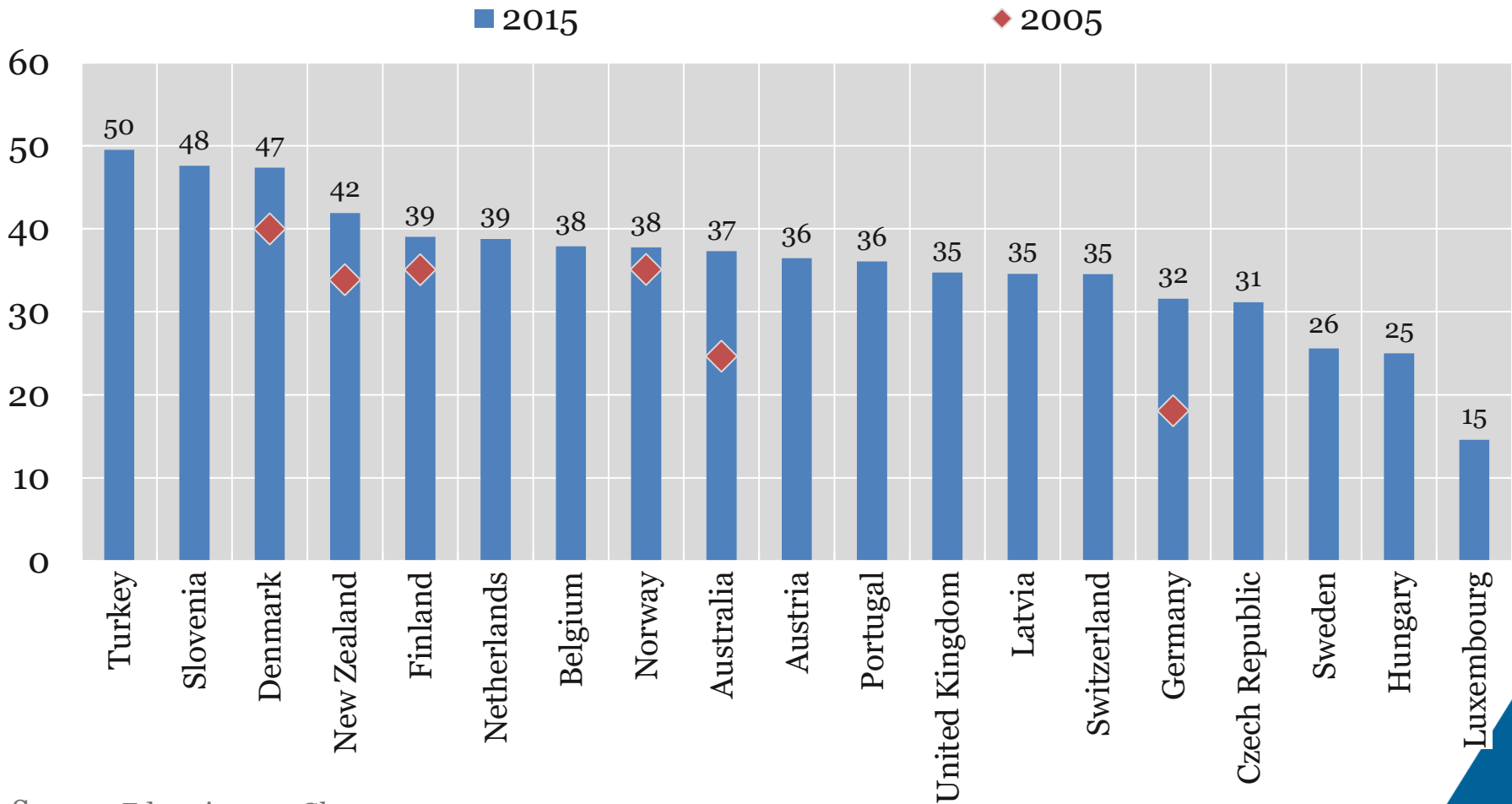
■ Bachelor's or equivalent    ■ Master's or equivalent    ■ Short-cycle tertiary (2-3 years)





# More young adults are getting higher education degrees

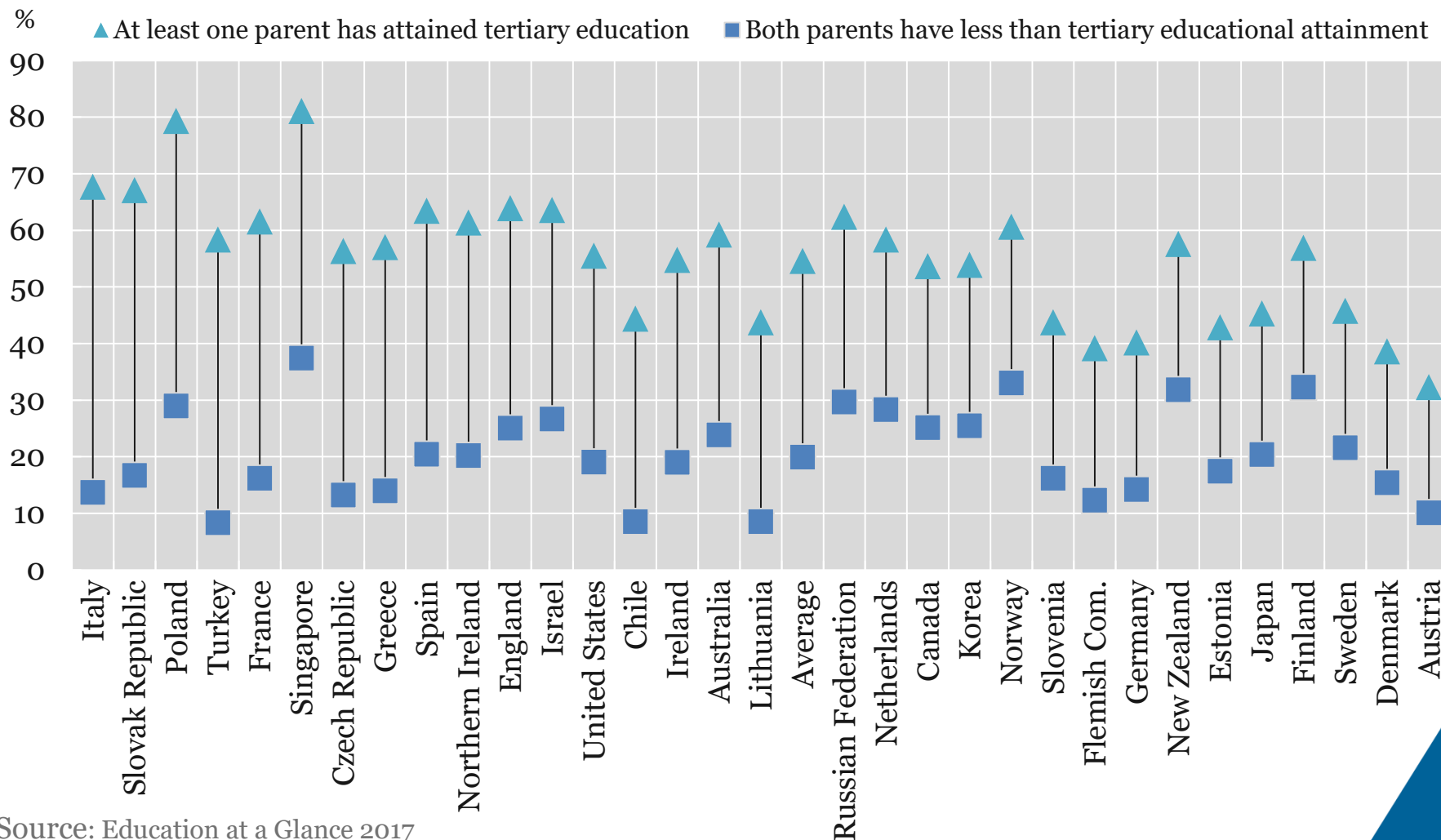
- First-time tertiary graduation rates for national students younger than 30 (2005, 2015)





# Adults with tertiary-educated parents are twice more likely to reach that level themselves than those without

Share of 30-44 year-olds who completed tertiary-type A or an advanced research programme, by parents' educational attainment (2012 or 2015)





# funding and expenditure

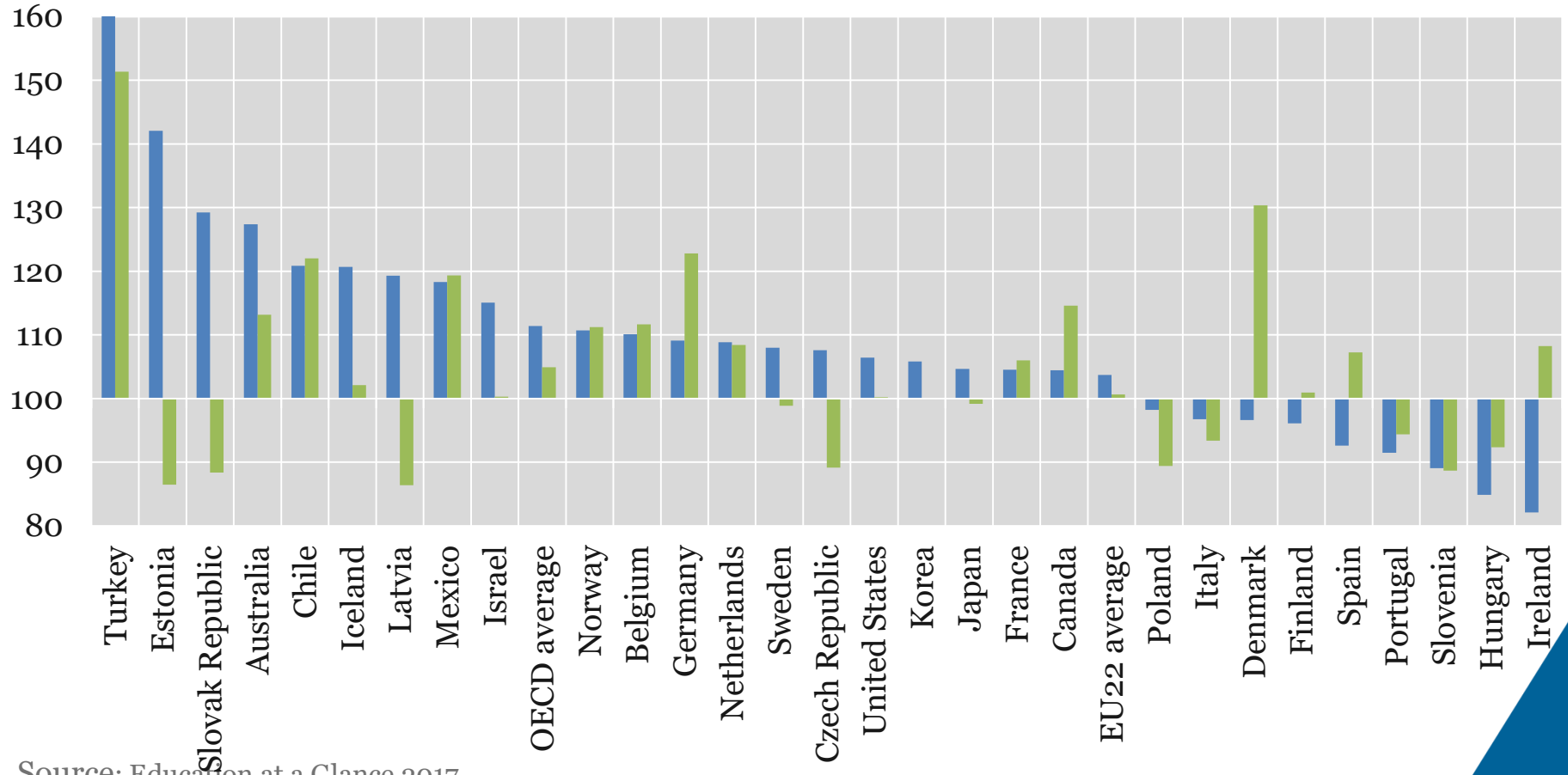


# Between 2010 and 2014, expenditure on tertiary institutions increased twice as fast as enrolments...

Index of change in expenditure (current prices) and number of students in tertiary institutions for all services (2010 to 2014)

GDP deflator 2010  
= 100

■ Change in expenditure    ■ Change in the number of students

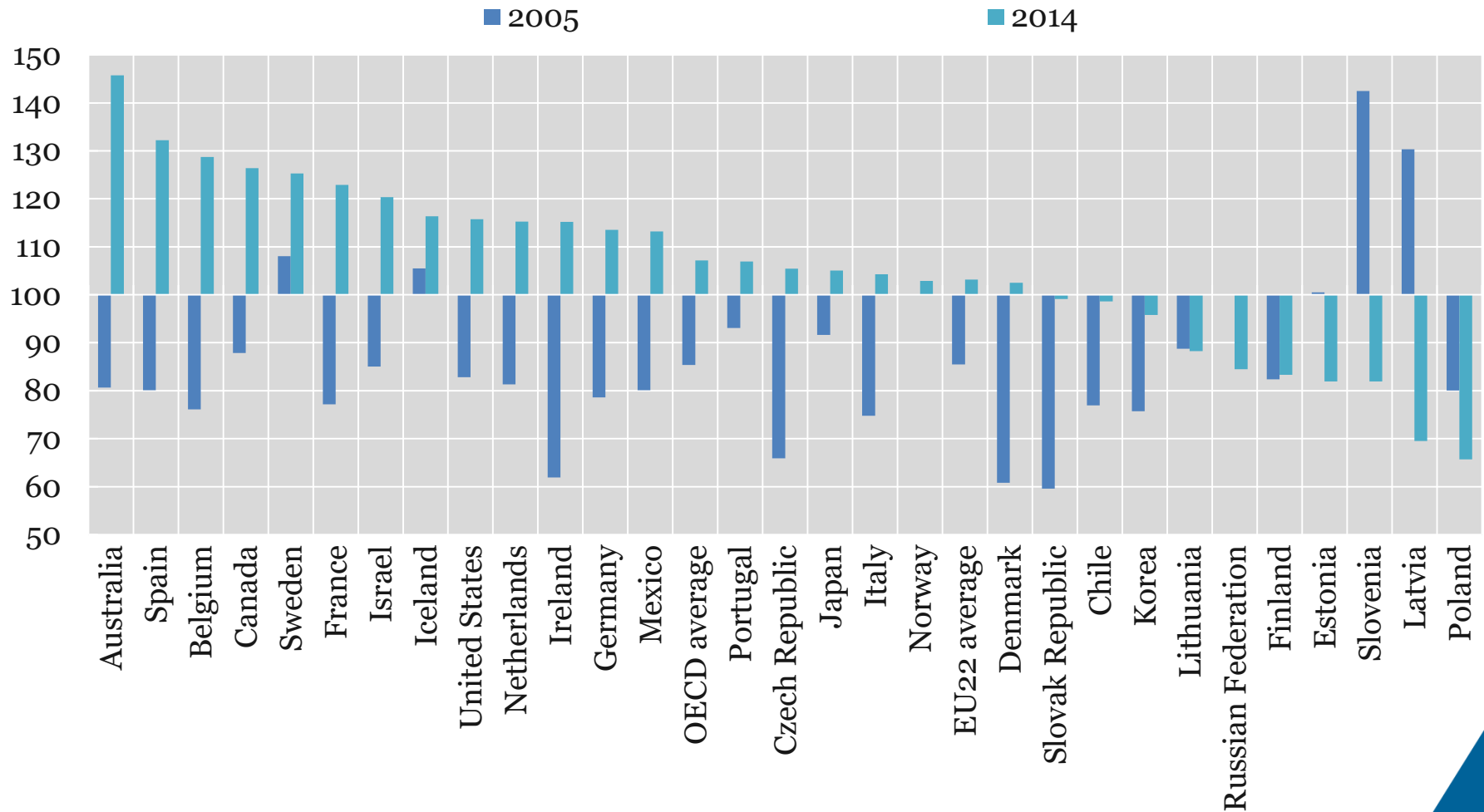






# Private expenditure on tertiary education has been increasing

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

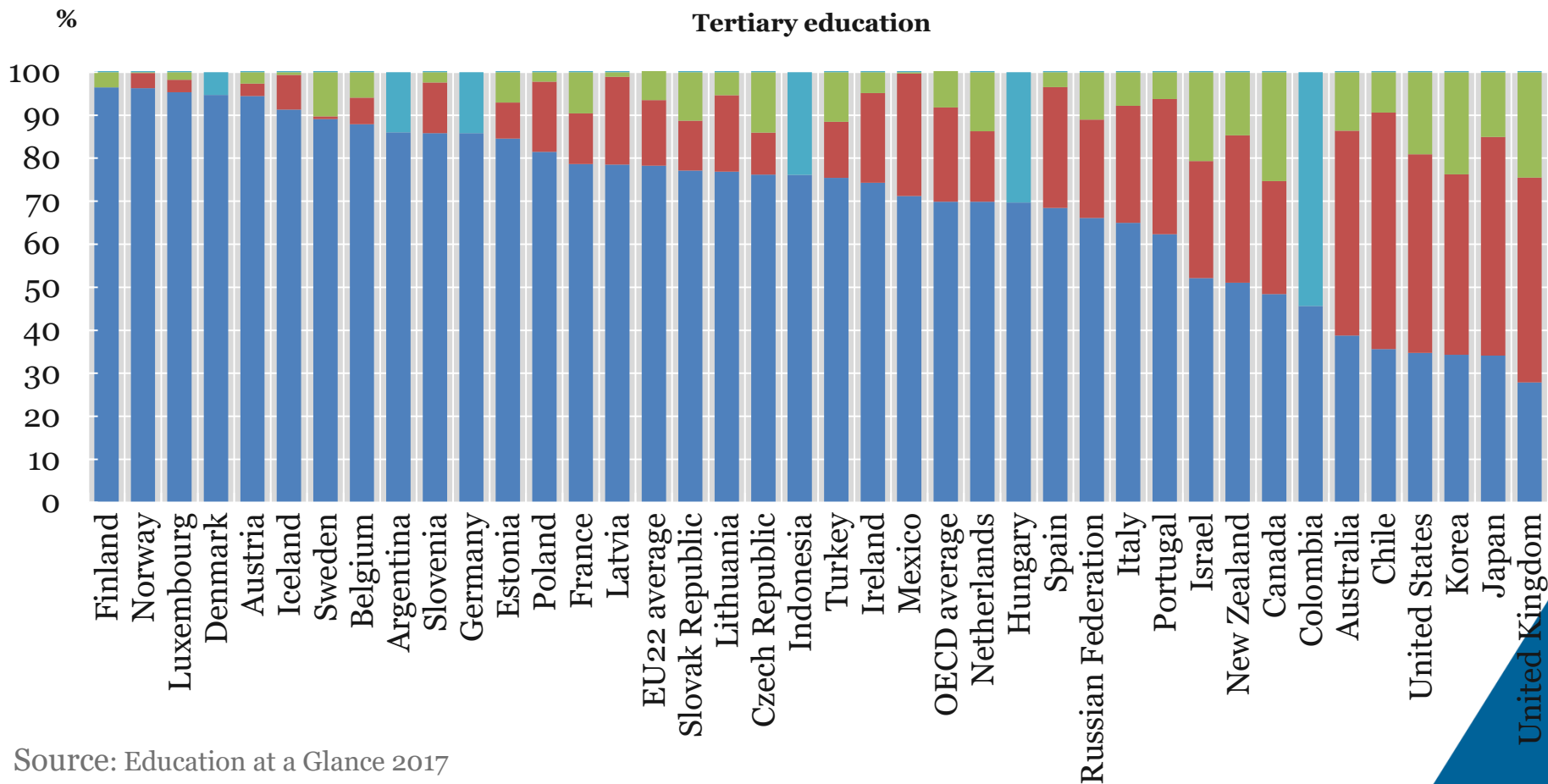




# And now funds 30% of total expenditure on tertiary institutions on average across OECD

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

- Public expenditure on educational institutions
- Household expenditure
- Expenditure of other private entities
- All private sources



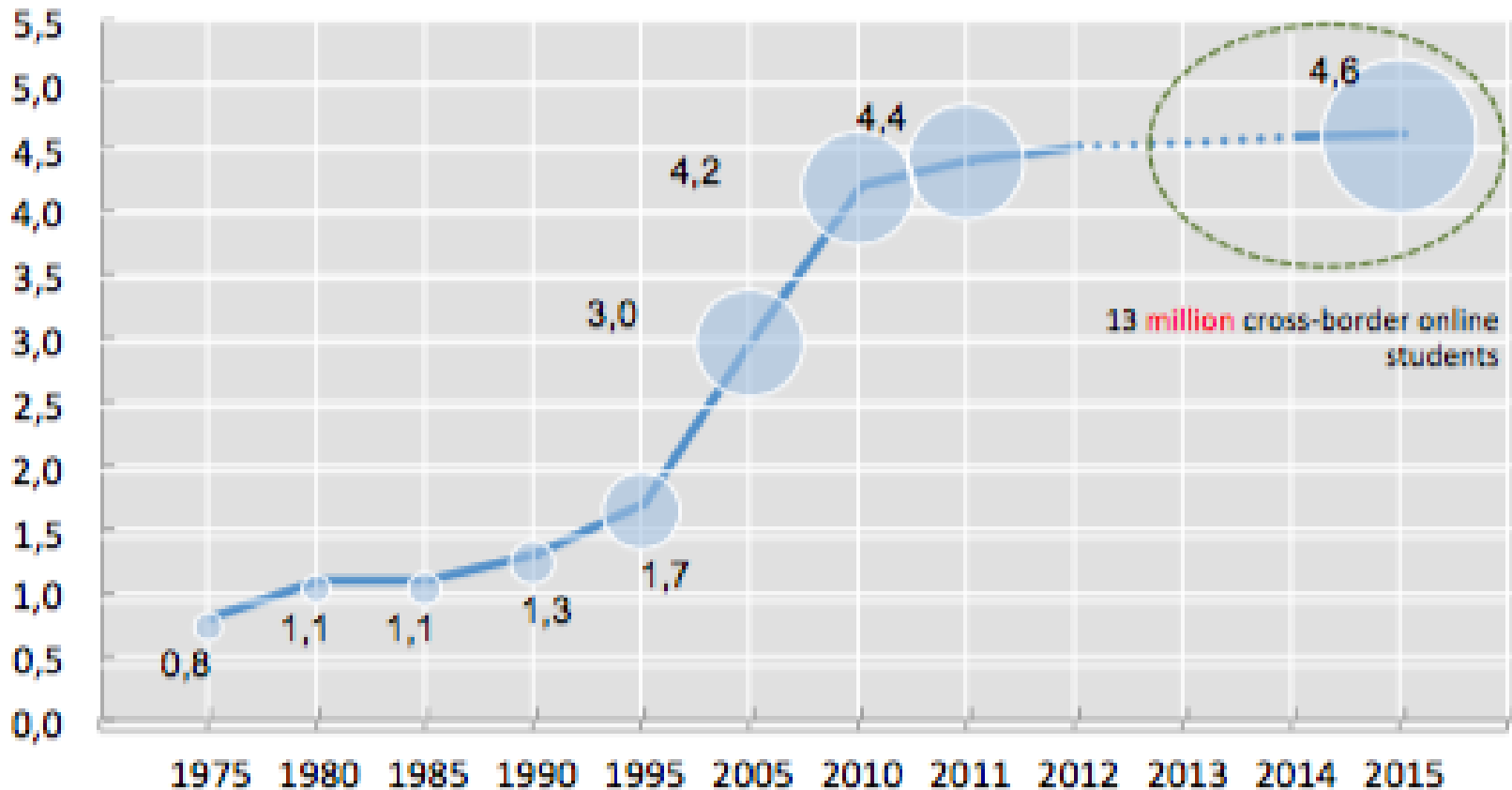


globalisation



# International student mobility now increases at a slower pace

Total foreign students enrolled in tertiary programmes, whole world (millions)





## EXPORT strategies

## IMPORT strategies

Intensity of economic rationales

### Revenue generation

Ex: Australia, New Zealand, UK (non-EU), US (undergraduates), Malaysia

### Skilled migration

Ex: Germany, France, UK (EU), US (postgraduates)

### Capacity building

Ex: Malaysia, Singapore, Honk Kong-China, China, Indonesia, Oman, Dubai

Mutual understanding



# Globalisation

---

- Convergence of governance practices?
  - Harmonisation, recognition, Quality Assurance
  - The raise of international standards and accreditation (AACSB, EQUIS, AMBA for business schools, a few in other areas)
  - Private and competitive funding, accountability
  - Withdrawal of the nation state?
- Global area of higher education
  - International rankings
  - International actors: EU, WTO, etc.



# Globalisation

---

- People mobility
  - Increasing migration
  - Increasing highly skilled migration
  - Student and academic mobility
  - Mobility of programmes and institutions
- Liberalisation and competition
  - Trade in higher education, GATS
  - Economic competition for students and for first mover advantage
  - Economic competition for talented staff (research)



digitalisation





# Digitalisation and technology

---

- E-learning: an impact on the student experience
  - More flexibility of access
  - Access to university services (library, etc.) at a distance
  - Blended learning still to be invented, but some changes in higher education pedagogy (e-portfolios, problem-based learning, etc.)
- Longitudinal information systems and use of learning analytics
  - To improve the study experience and outcomes
  - To deal with admissions
  - Blockchain technology for digital degrees
- Potential huge impact on research and science
  - Cyber-infrastructures are revolutionising science
  - E-journals, e-books, e-resources are revolutionising research and access to knowledge



# digitalisation and new business models



# Open universities

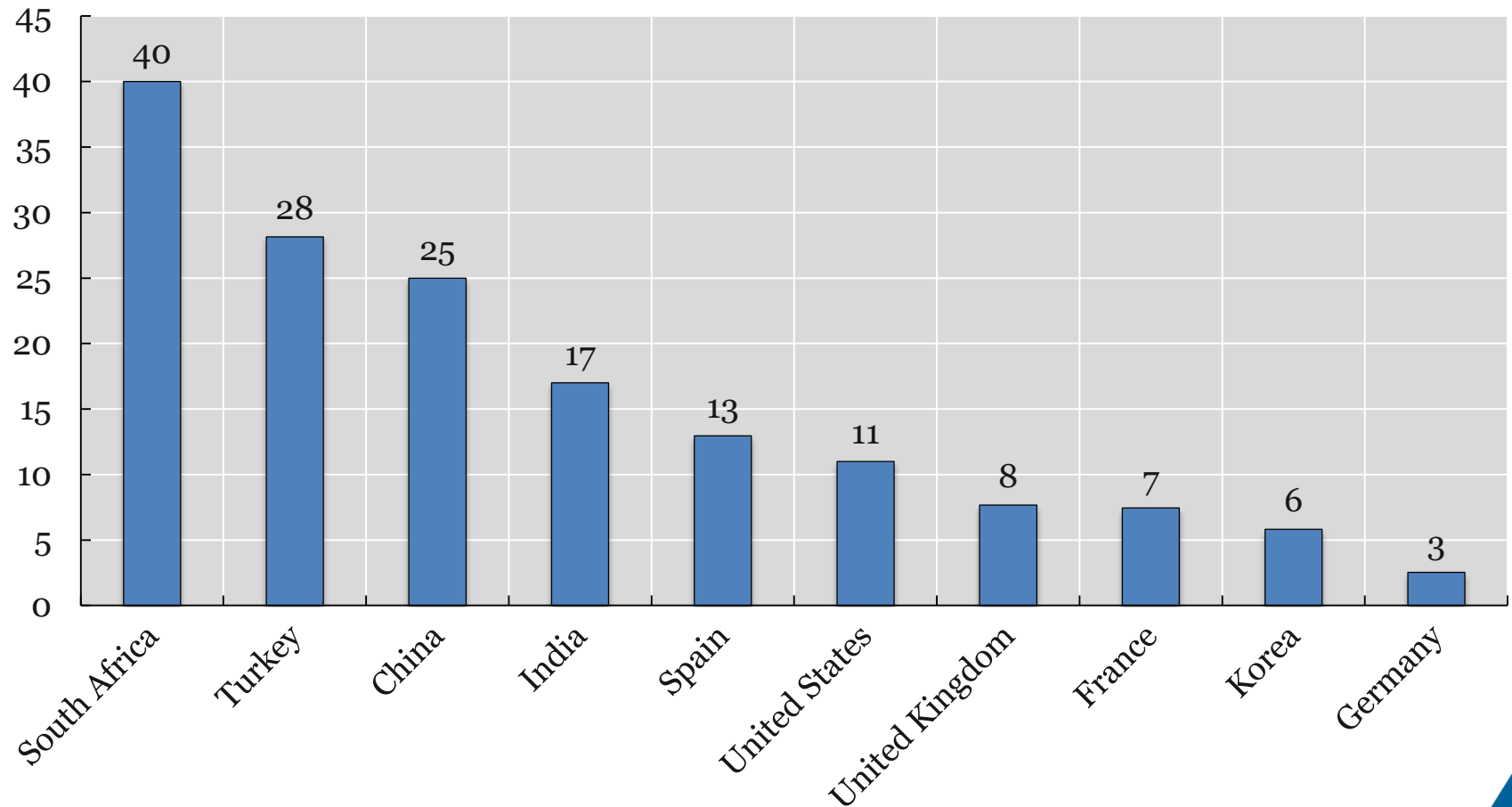
---

- Distance learning institutions with different business models and levels of openness
  - Usually open to older students with no school degree
  - Degree-granting, but provide non-degree courses and other informal credentials
  - Mainly and increasingly based on online education
  - Often a role of open knowledge dissemination – through MOOCs and other means



# Open and distance learning institutions: can be major or niche providers

(Minimal) Share (%) of HE enrolments in open and distance learning around 2015





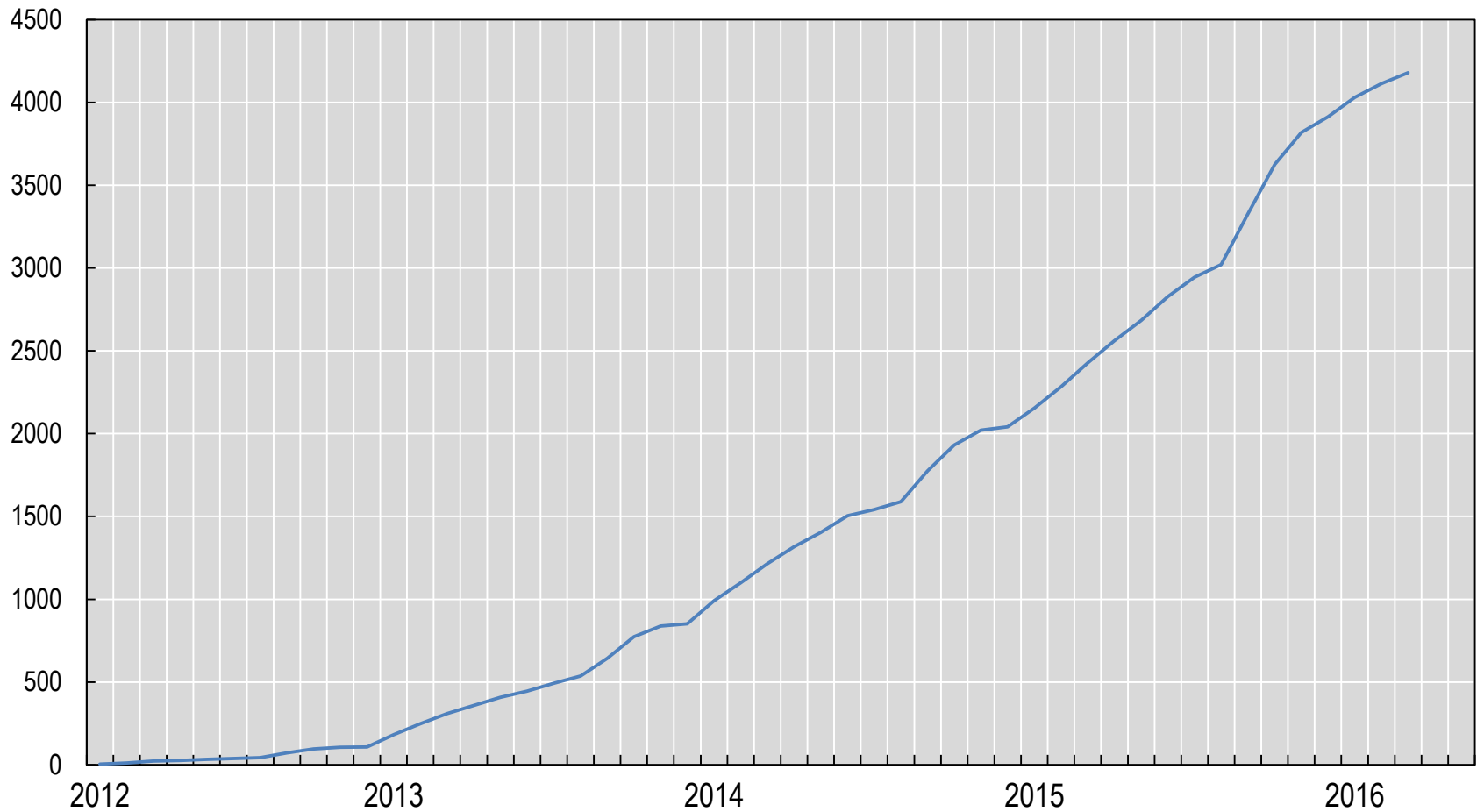
# Open and distance learning institutions face some challenges

---

- Decrease of enrolments in open and distance learning institutions in the US and the UK
- What is changing (in the OECD)?
  - Bricks and mortars increasingly provide an offering of distance and learning courses
  - Insufficient marketing and ability of OUs to show their competitive advantage in delivering online courses?
  - Competition from informal providers?



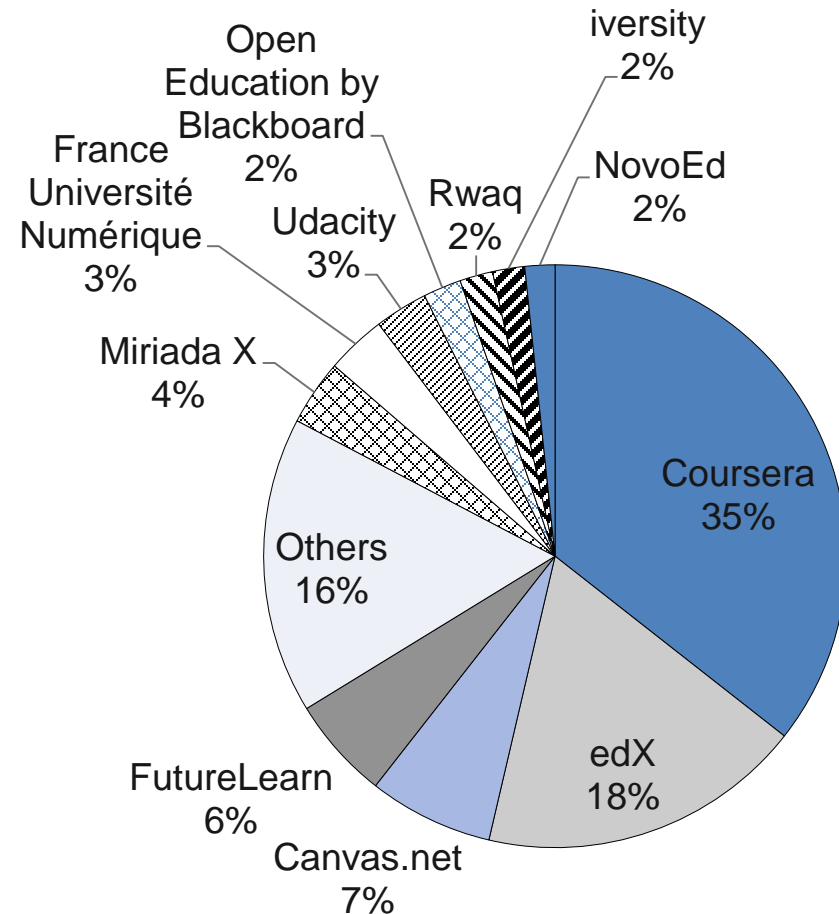
# Number of MOOCs, 2012-2016





# An expanding, but still relatively concentrated offer

Course distribution by provider, 2015

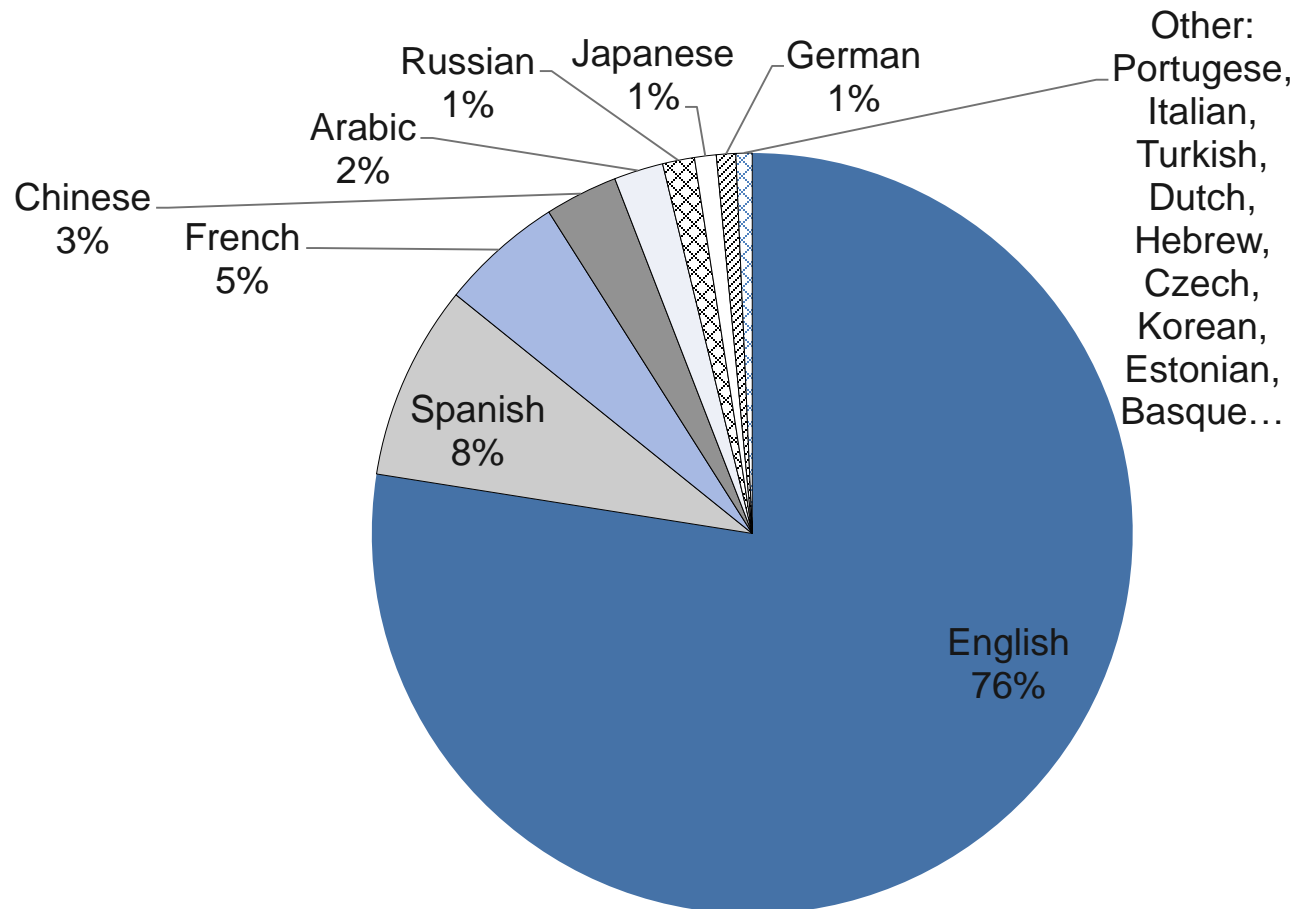


- Coursera and edX represent over 50% of the offer
- Most courses are offered by prestigious institutions, but not only
- Usually free of charge, no qualification requirement, and possibility to get a “certificate of completion” for a fee



# An offer mainly in English

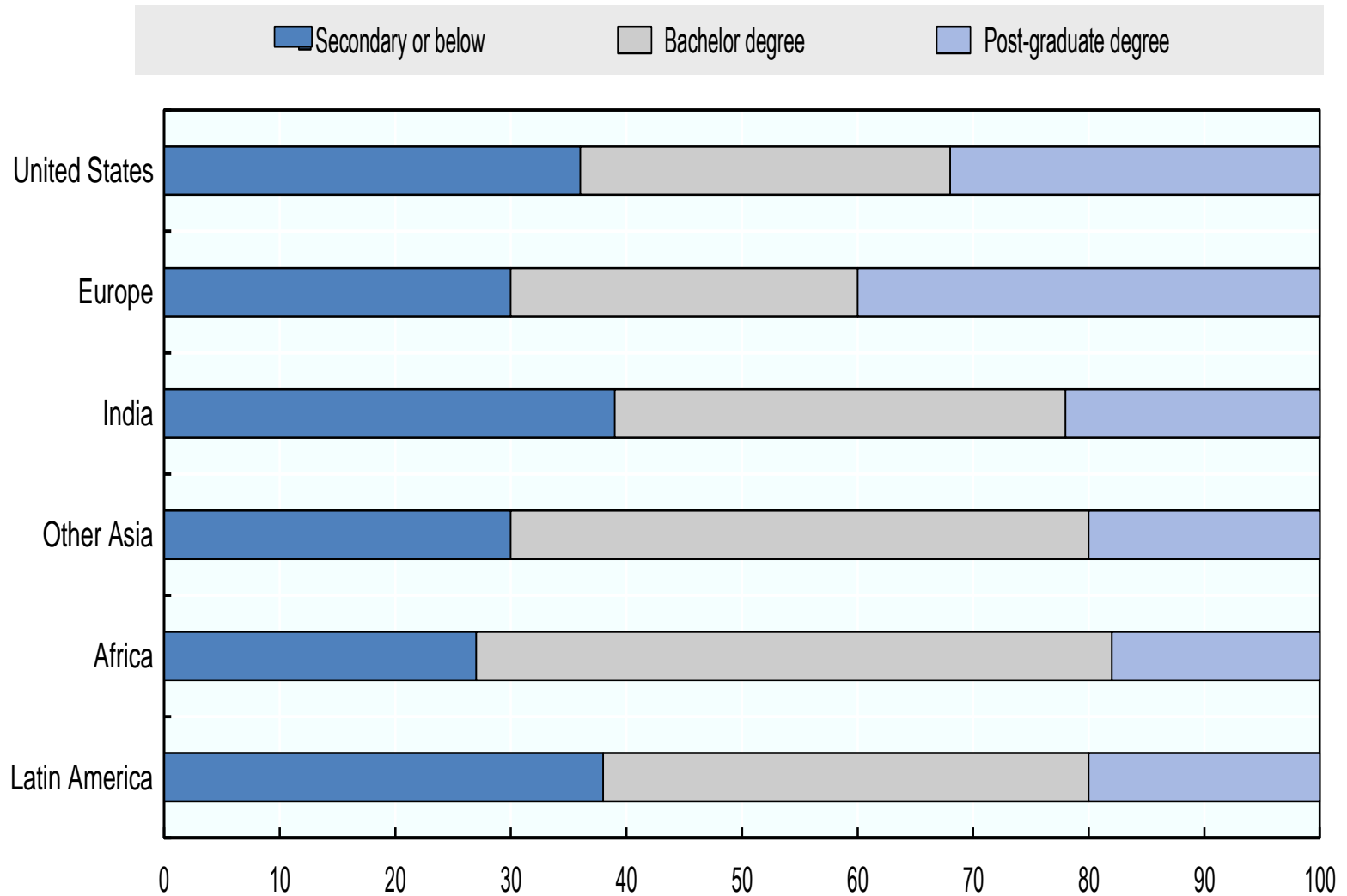
Course distribution by language, 2015





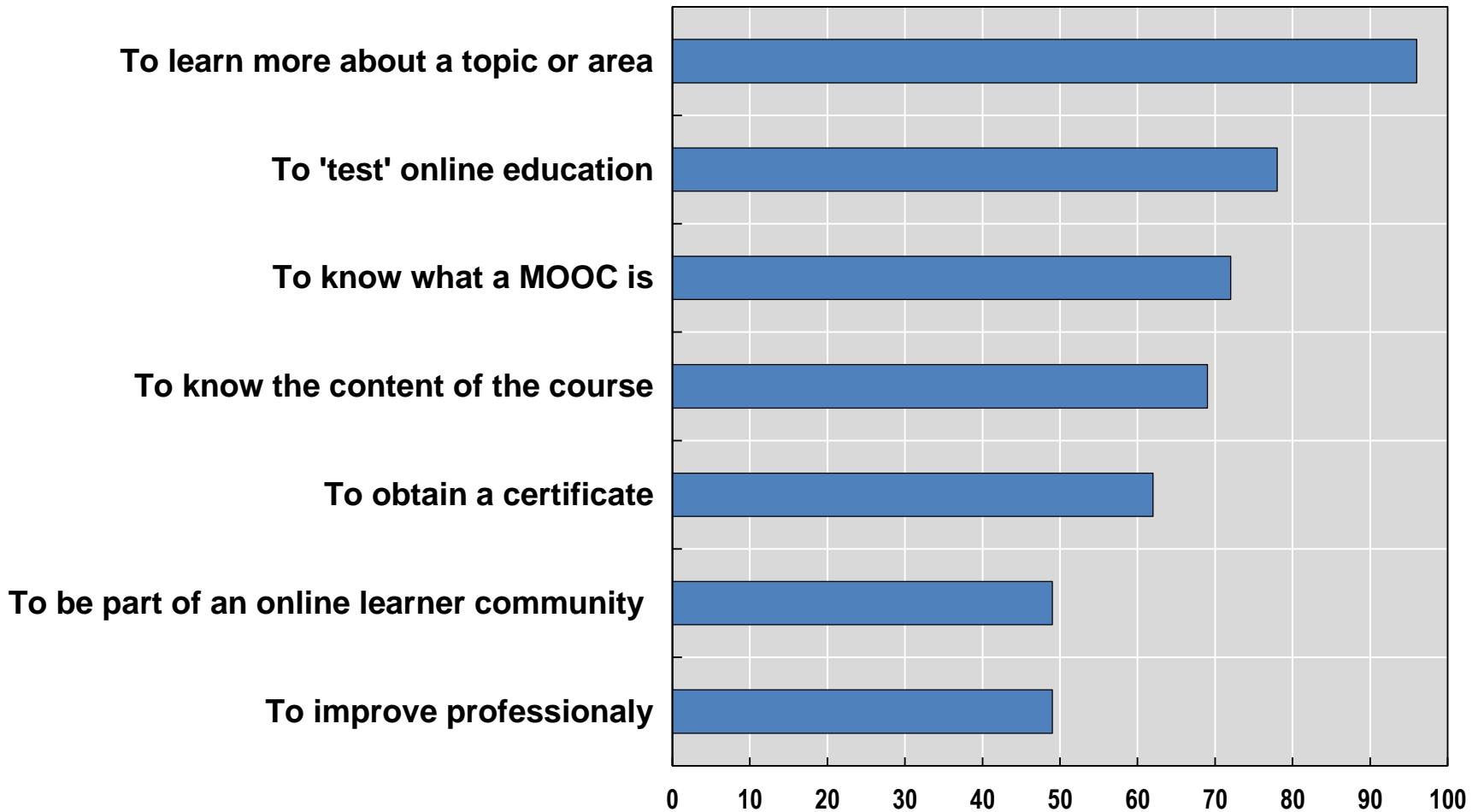


# edX MOOC users' by education level, 2012-2013





# Learners' motivation to enrol in a MOOC, 2015





# The exploration of new business models mixing formal and informal HE

---

- From MOOC to formal degrees:
  - edX MicroMasters -> Master's degrees
  - Kiron (Germany) for refugees
  - India: up to 20% of MOOC in undergraduate education
- Competency-based education
  - Western Governors University
- Towards an informal higher education?
  - 42 (France): open enrolment (with other selection criteria), no teaching, no degrees

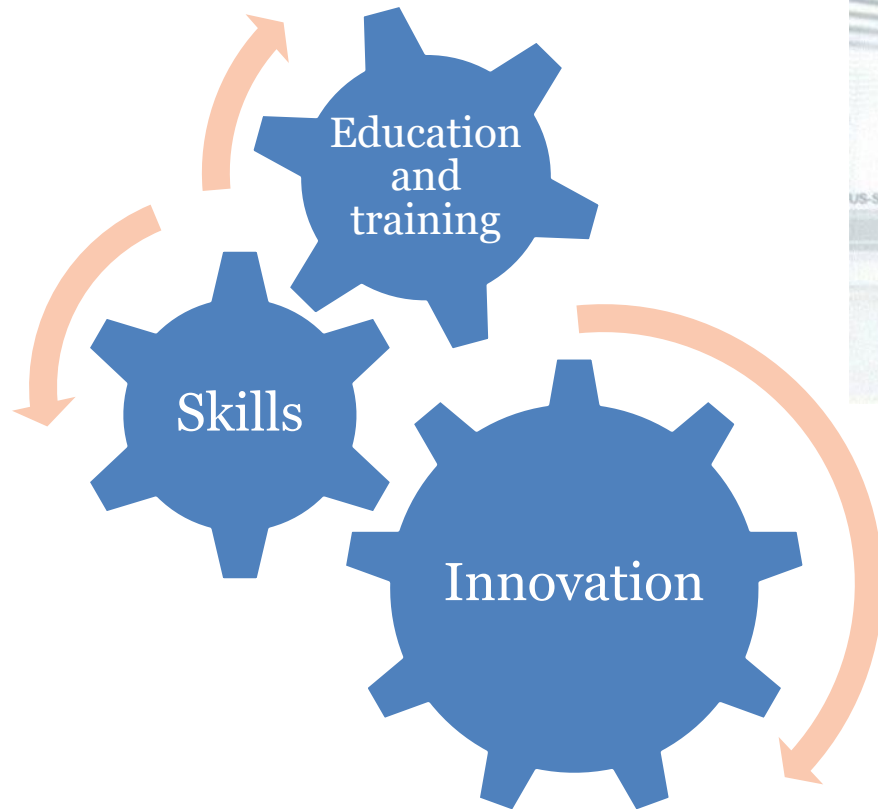


teaching and learning



# Skills and education for innovation

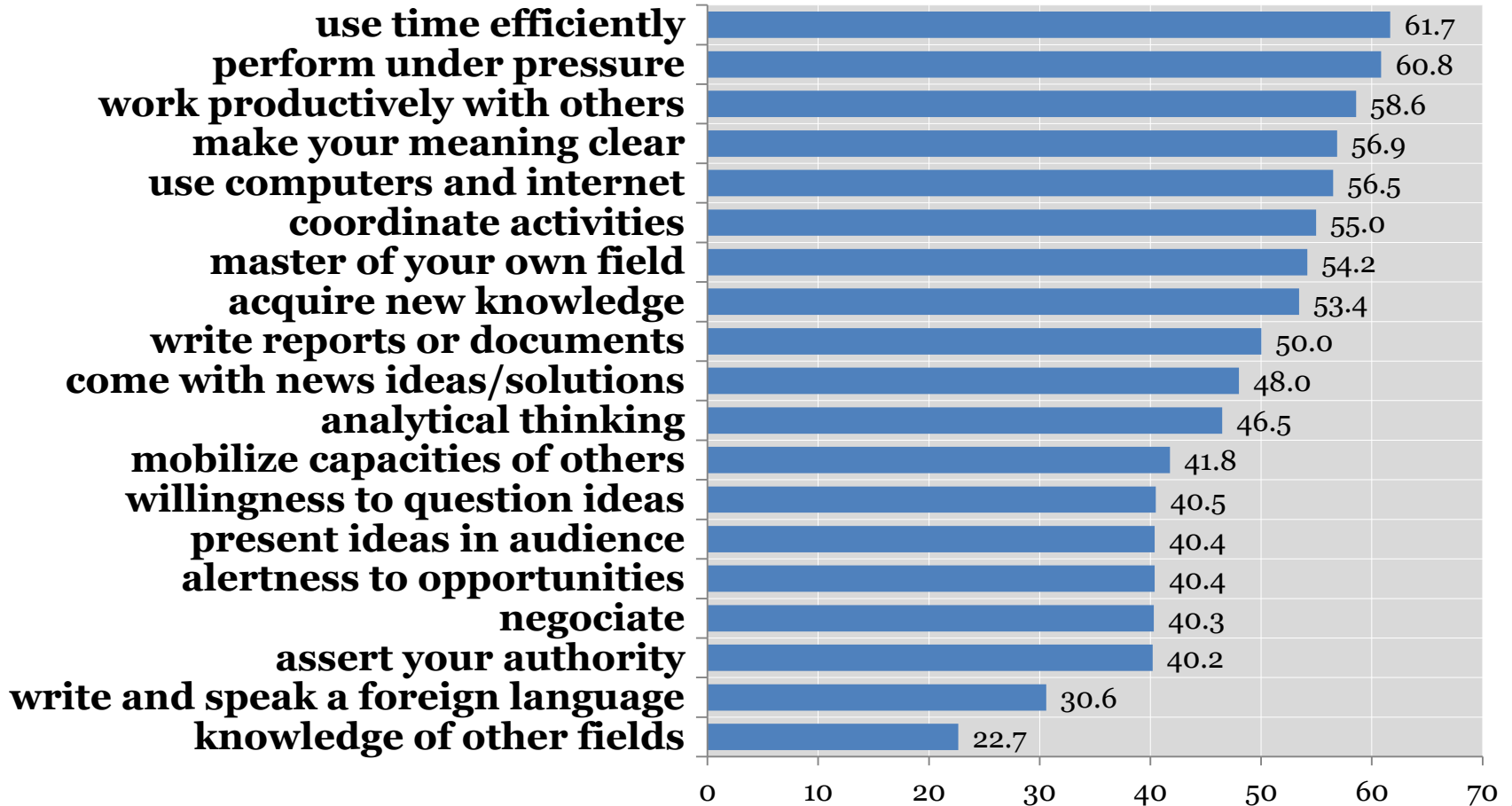
« 21st Century Skills »





# Skills that tertiary-educated professionals report as very important in their job

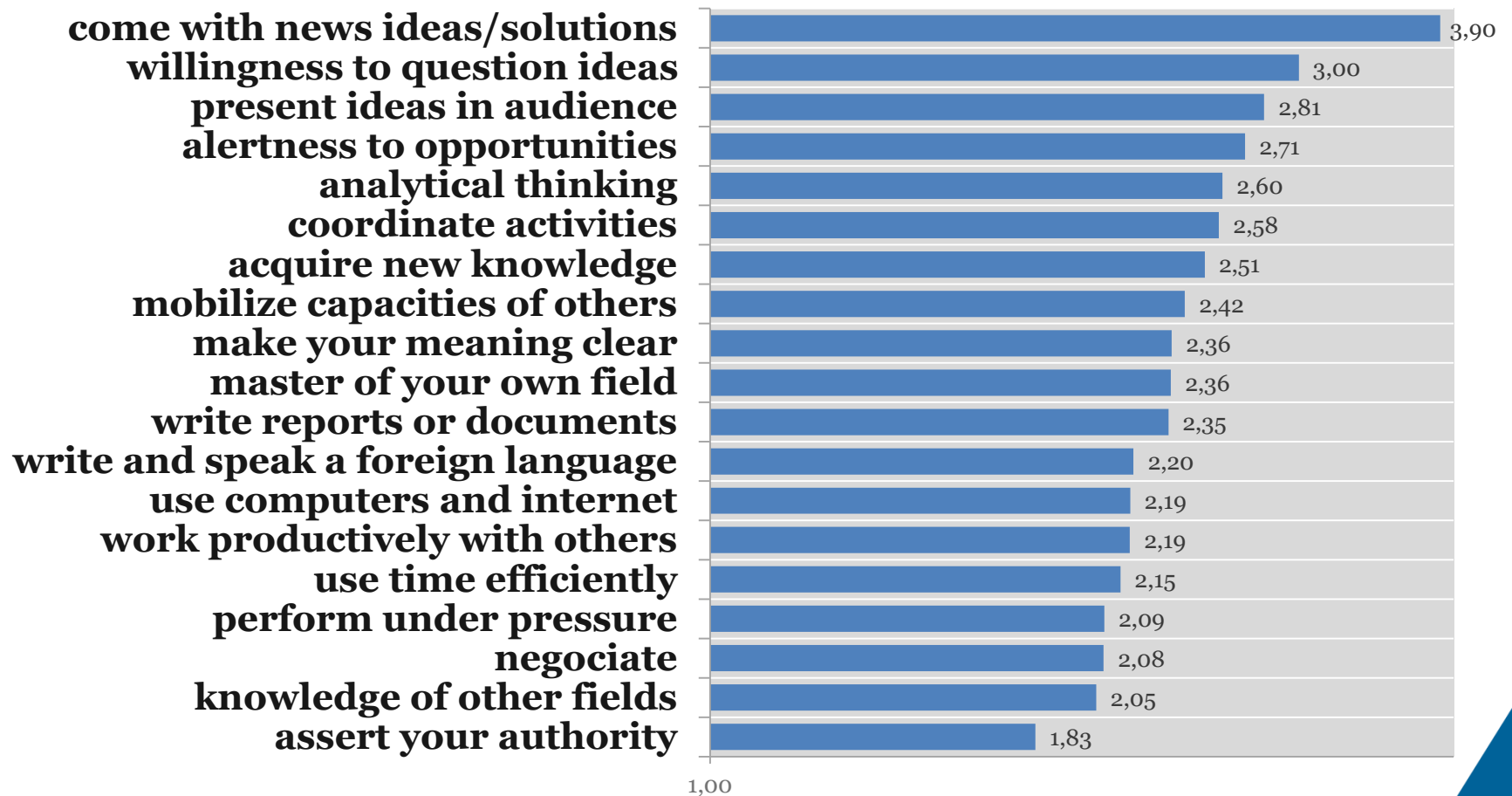
Percentage of employees reporting the following skills as very important in their job





# Critical skills for the most innovative jobs (according to tertiary-educated workers)

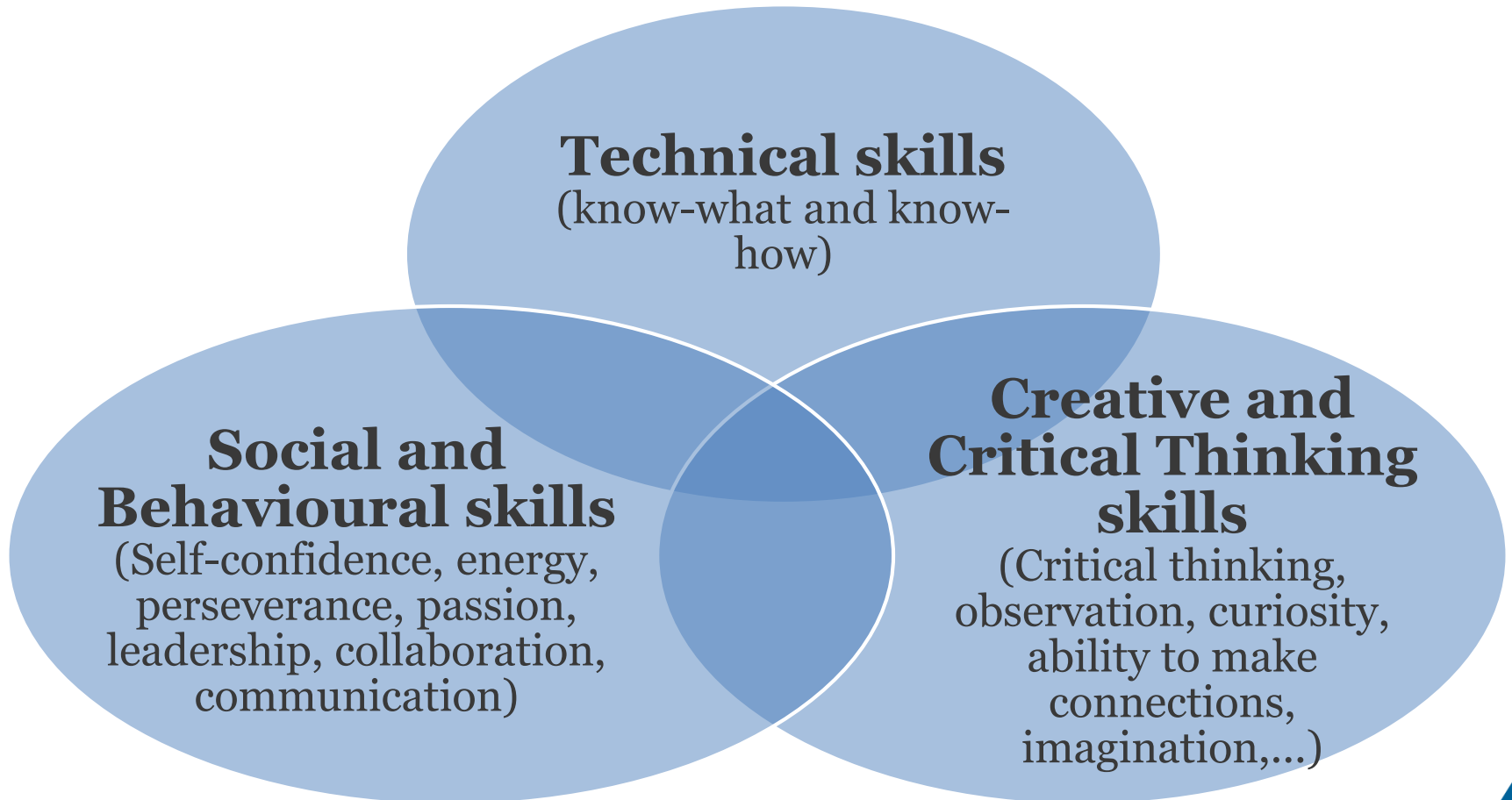
Likelihood (odds ratios) of reporting the following skills: people  
in the most innovative jobs vs. least innovative jobs





# What individual skills should education systems foster?

---

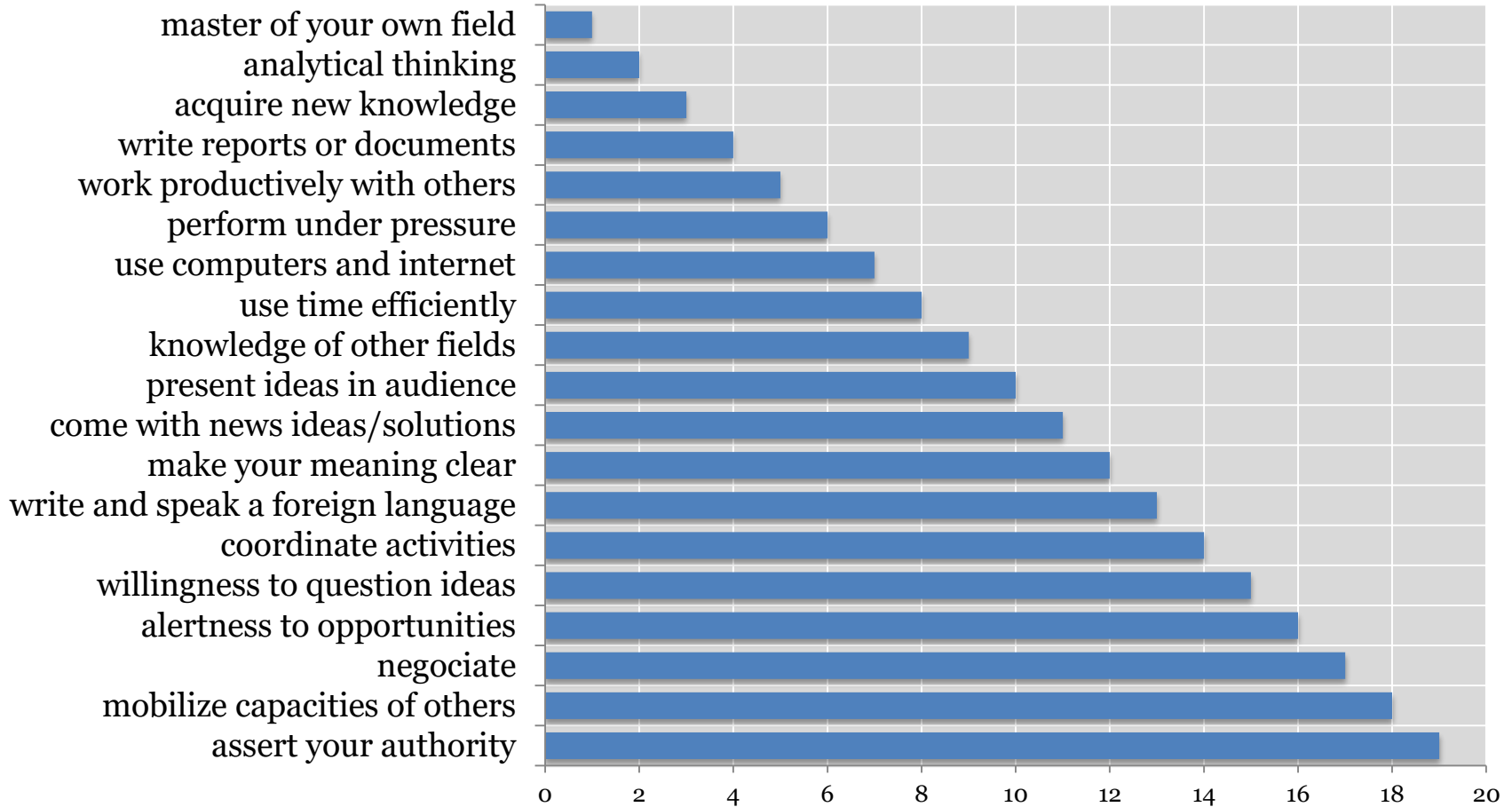






# Strong points of higher education

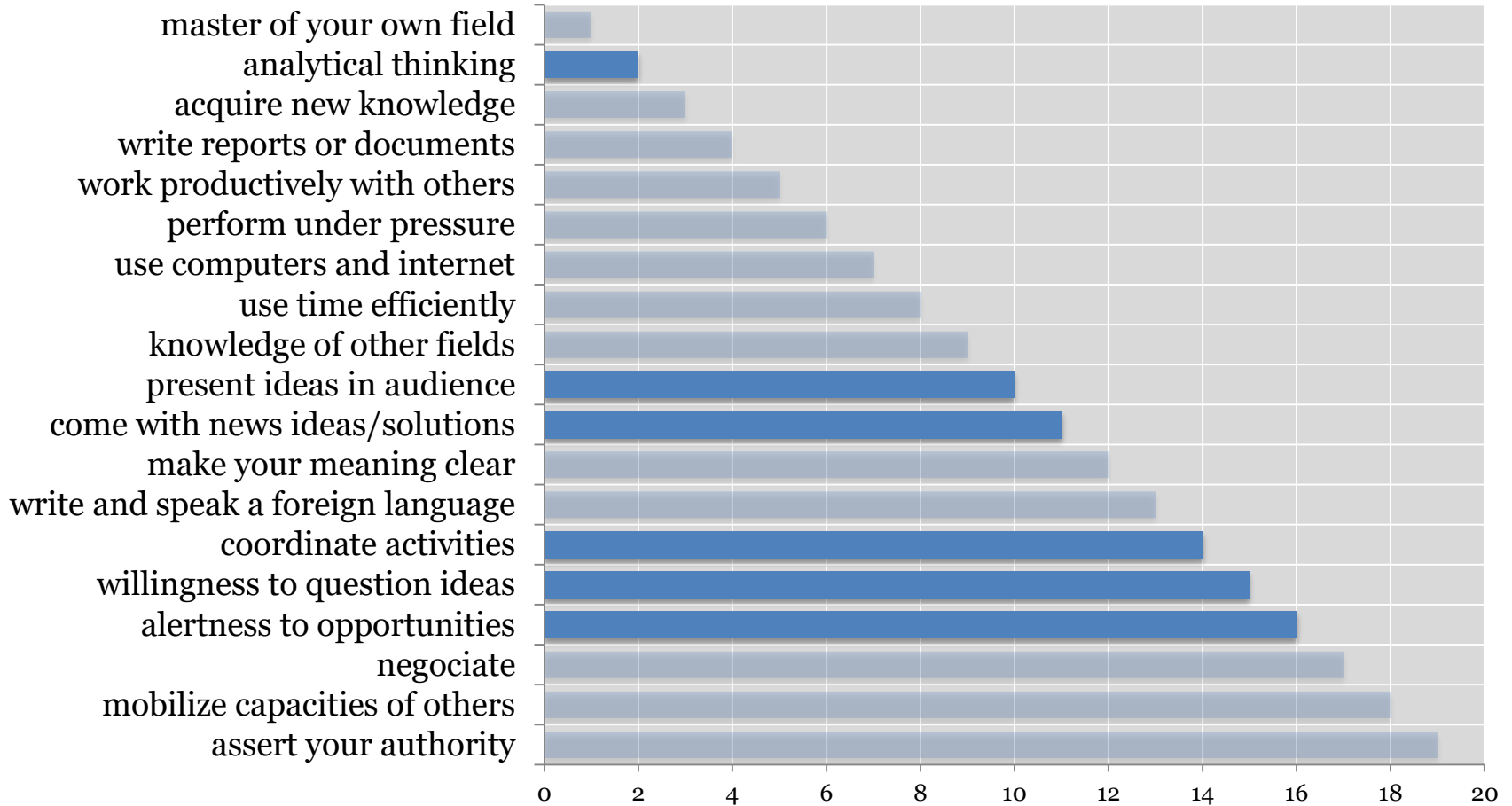
Ranking of 3 top strong skills by graduates





# Strong points of higher education

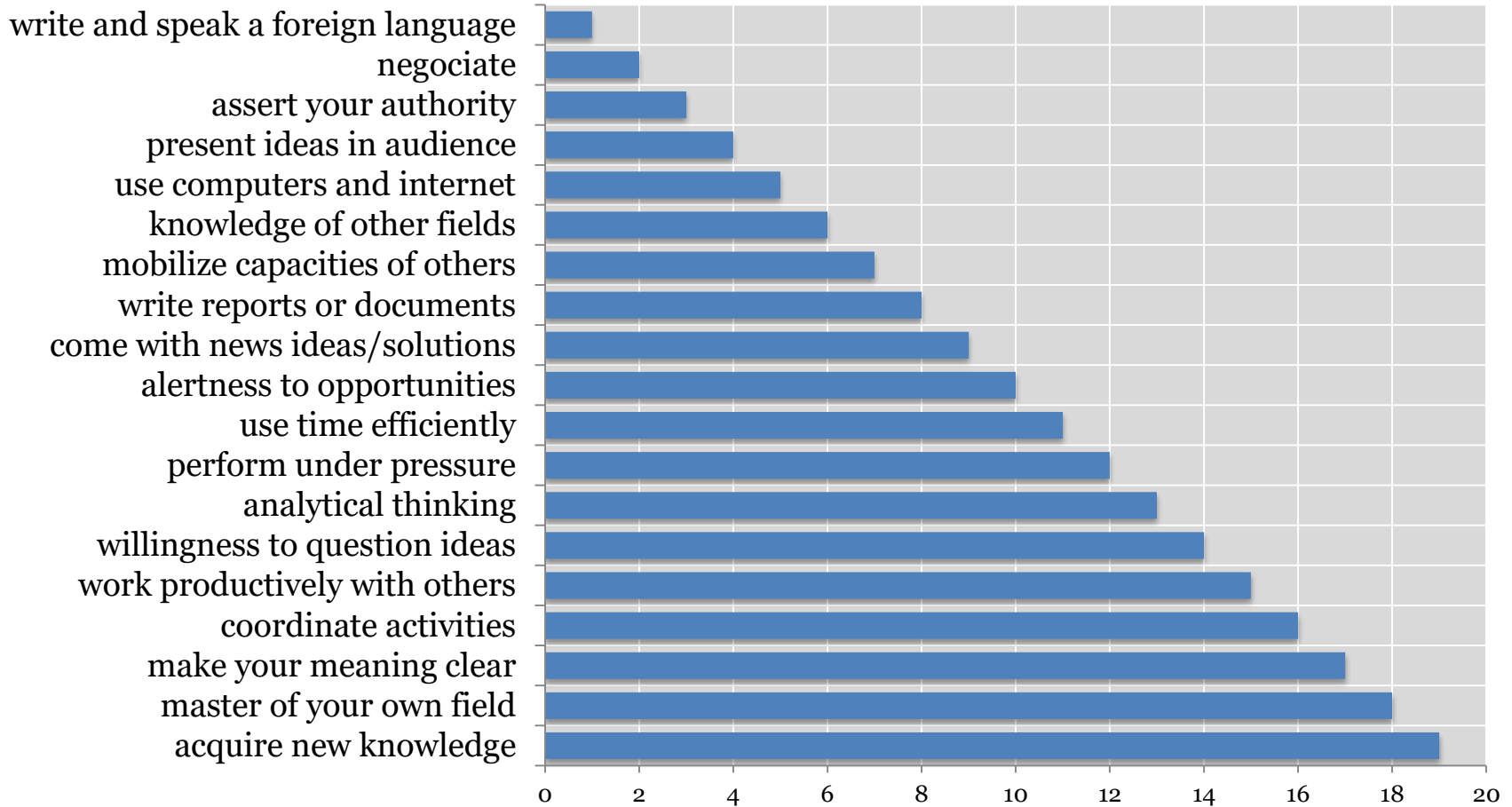
Ranking of 3 top strong skills by graduates





# Weak points of higher education

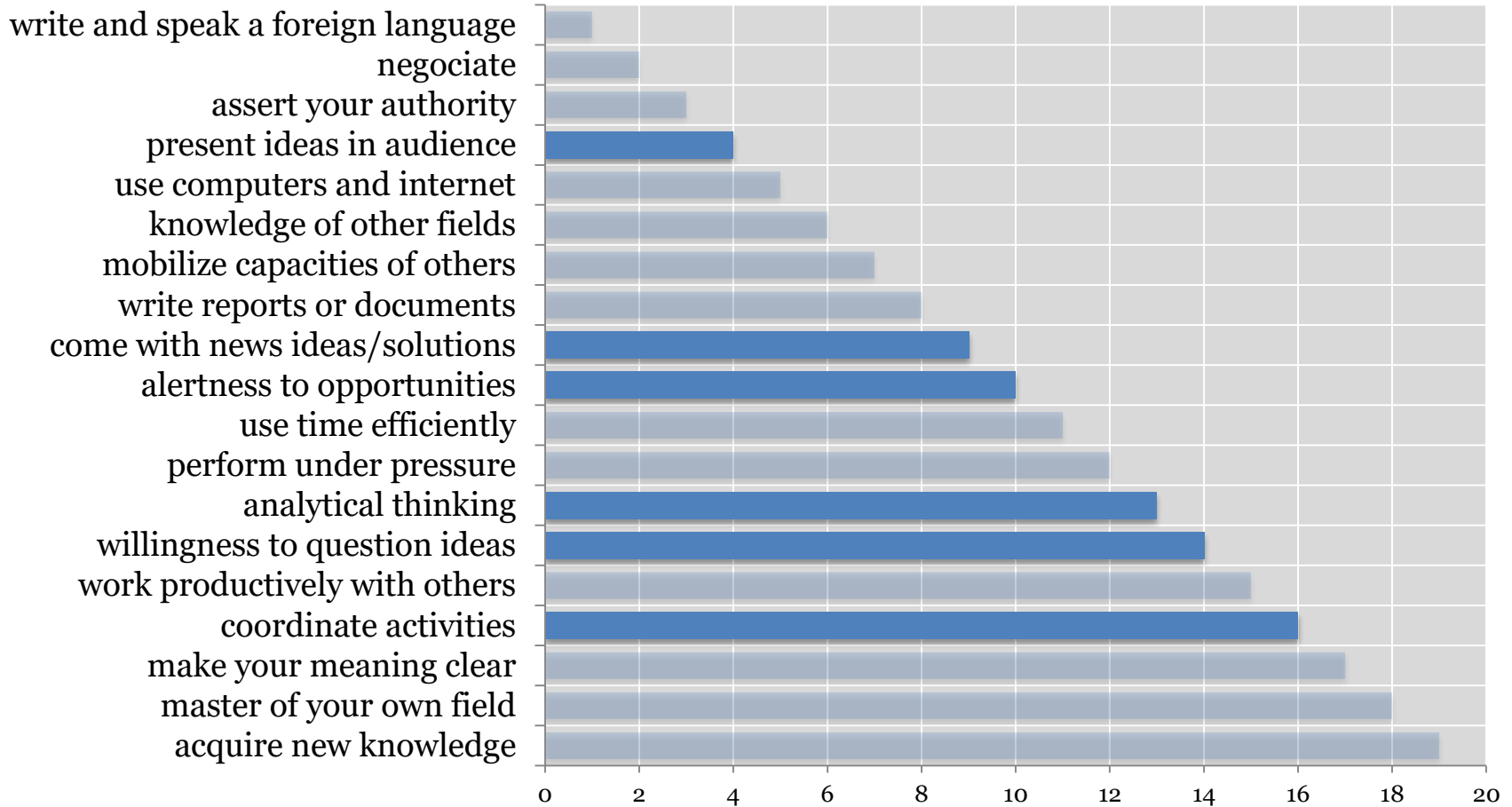
Ranking of 3 top weak skills by graduates





# Weak points of higher education

Ranking of 3 top weak skills by graduates





# Taking teaching and learning more seriously?

---

- Most higher education institutions have no systematic professional development (or training) for their faculty
- Teaching centres to support faculty tend to be very small (when they exist)
- Budget to improve teaching and learning seems difficult to mobilise within institutions
- Will there be more accountability on that front?



# New OECD project on improving teaching and learning in HE

---

- Network of higher education institutions internationally to:
  - Articulate a common language on creativity and critical thinking
  - Freely develop and document pedagogies to improve students' creativity and critical thinking
  - Develop professional development for faculty
  - Evaluate the effects of their pedagogies on a variety of outcomes
- Contact me if interested



conclusion



# Concluding remarks

---

- A few opportunities for administering universities:
  - Take advantage of the opportunities of the digitalisation (diagnostics, seamlessness of administrative processes, access to resources)
  - Take advantage of the slowdown of international mobility to improve the quality of services
  
- A few challenges:
  - Ensure the main mission of HEIs, teaching and learning, is met while the sector is likely to continue its expansion
  - Increase of funding with little visibility of the increase in the quality of the service
  - Redefine what the benefits of a face to face education is compared to a mere digital certificate of competence





---

[Stephan.Vincent-Lancrin@oecd.org](mailto:Stephan.Vincent-Lancrin@oecd.org)

**THANK YOU**

[www.oecd.org/edu/innovation](http://www.oecd.org/edu/innovation)

[www.oecd.org/edu/internationalisation](http://www.oecd.org/edu/internationalisation)

[www.oecd.org/edu/universityfutures](http://www.oecd.org/edu/universityfutures)