

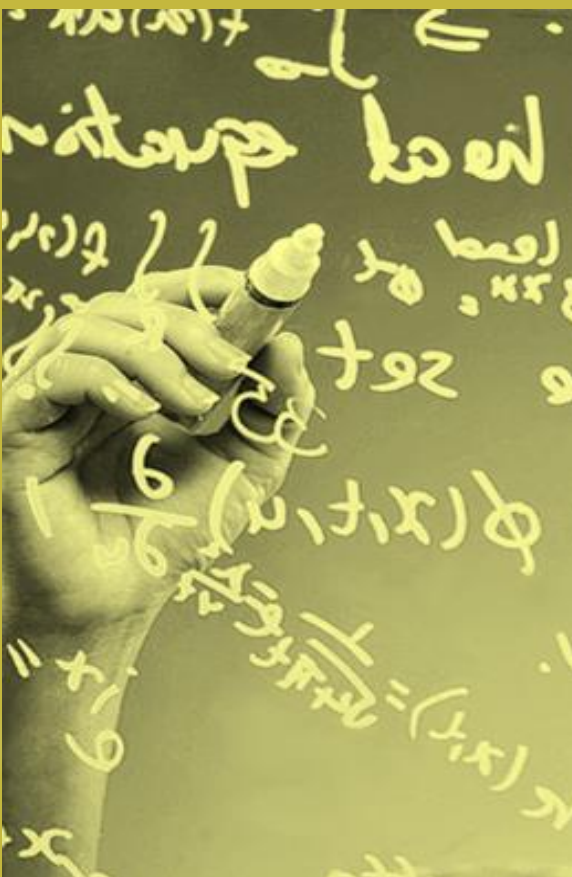


Skilled for Life?

KEY FINDINGS FROM THE SURVEY OF ADULT SKILLS

Equipping adults for the 21st Century Joining Forces for Action on Skills and Competences

9 Dec 2013



Survey of Adult Skills in brief



166 thousand adults...

Representing 724 million 16-65 year-olds in 24* countries/economies

Took an internationally agreed assessment...



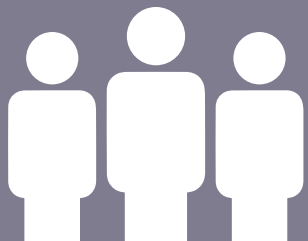
in literacy, numeracy and problem solving in technology-rich environments.



The assessment was administered either in computer-based or paper-based versions.



Survey of Adult Skills in brief



Sample sizes ranged from..
a minimum of approximately 4 500 to a
maximum of nearly 27 300.

The survey collected background
information of adults for about 40 minutes.



Respondents with very low literacy
skills were directed to a test of basic
“reading component” skills.



The survey also collects a range of generic skills
such as collaborating with others and organising
one’s time, required of individuals in their work.



Survey of Adult Skills

Skills assessed

“Key information-processing skills”

Literacy

The ability to...

Understand, evaluate, use and engage with written texts.

In order to..

Achieve one's goals, and to develop one's knowledge and potential.

Literacy encompasses a range of skills from..

The decoding of written words and sentences

The comprehension, interpretation and evaluation of complex texts.

Numeracy

The ability to...

Access, use, interpret and communicate mathematical information and ideas

In order to..

Engage in and manage the mathematical demands of a range of situations in adults.

Numeracy involves

Managing a situation or solving a problem in a real context, by responding to mathematical content/information/ideas represented in multiple ways.

Problem Solving in Technology Rich Environments

The ability to...

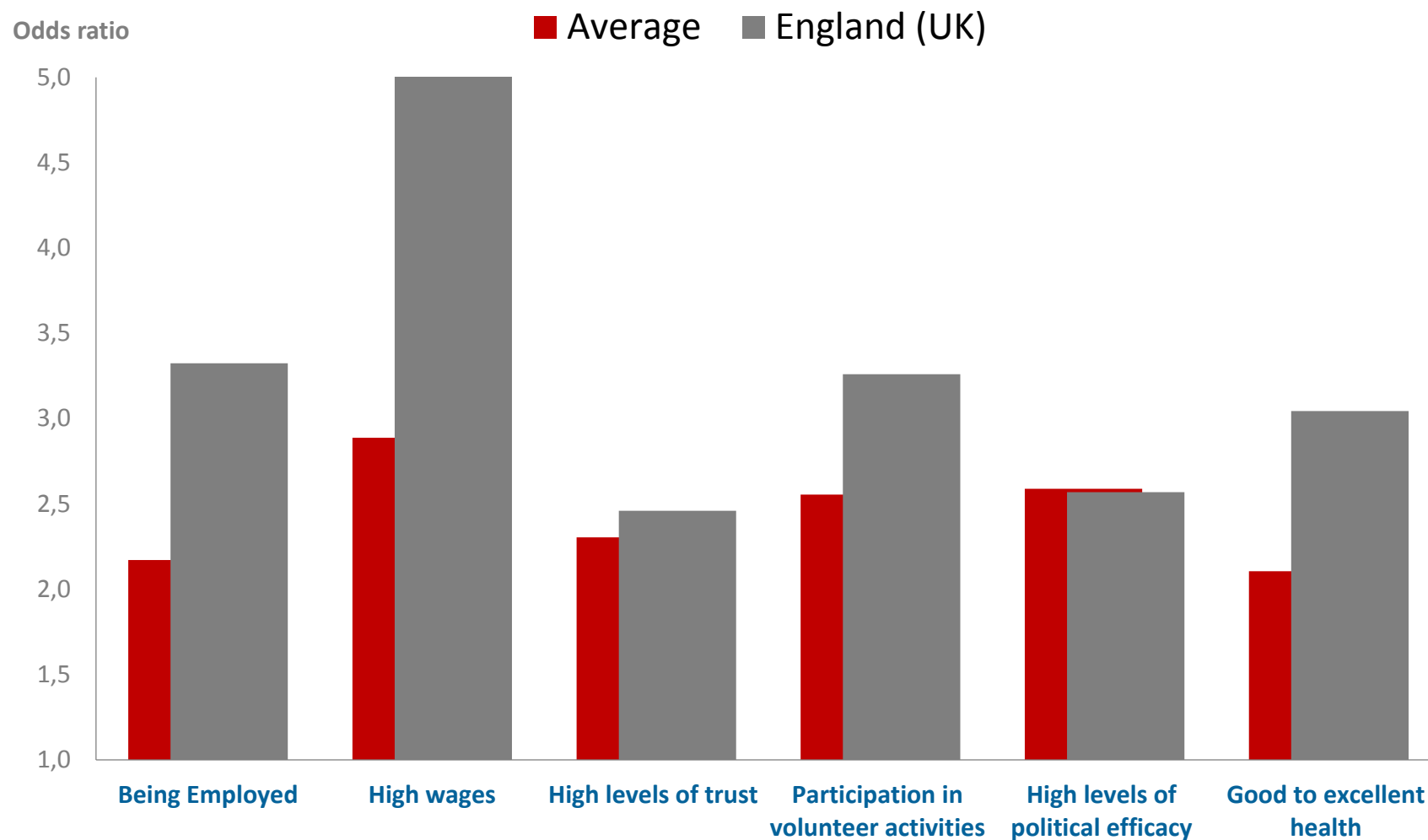
Use digital technology communication tools and networks to acquire and evaluate information, communicate with others and perform practical tasks.

The assessment focuses on the abilities to...

Solve problems for personal, work and civic purposes by setting up appropriate goals and plans, and accessing and making use of information through computers and computer networks.

Likelihood of positive social and economic outcomes among highly literate adults

(scoring at Level 4/5 compared with those scoring at Level 1 or below)

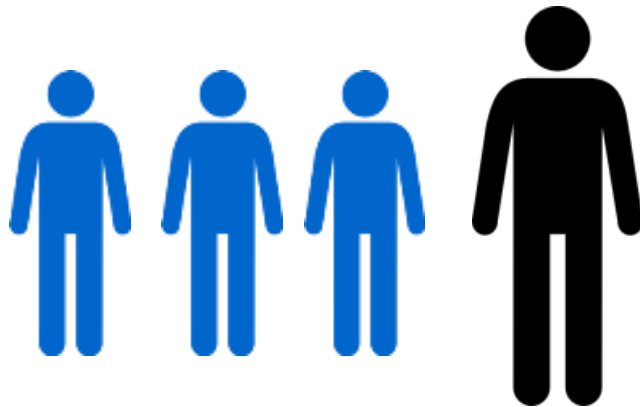


Adults with low skills (Level 1 or below) in Europe



Literacy

57 million adults

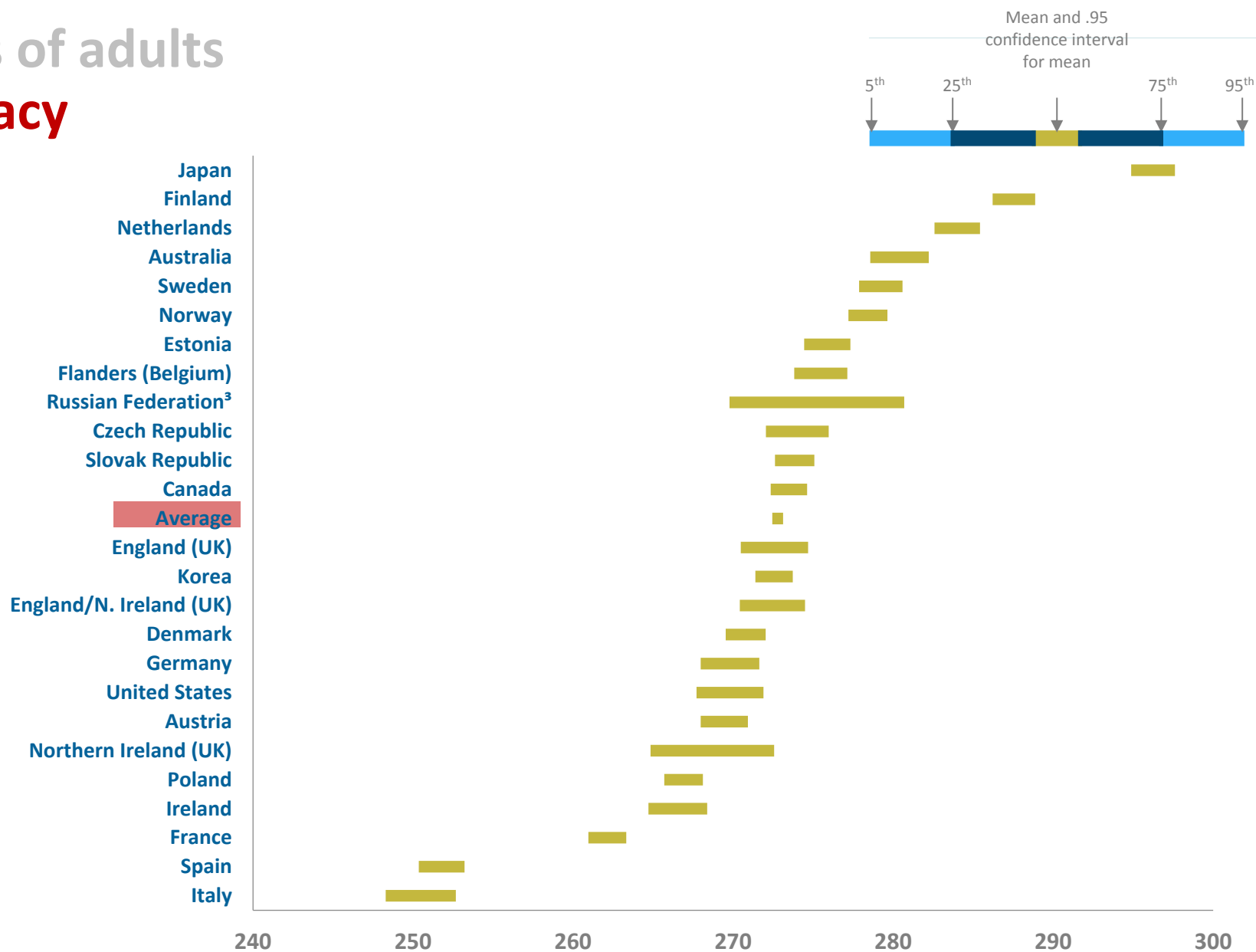


Numeracy

68 million adults

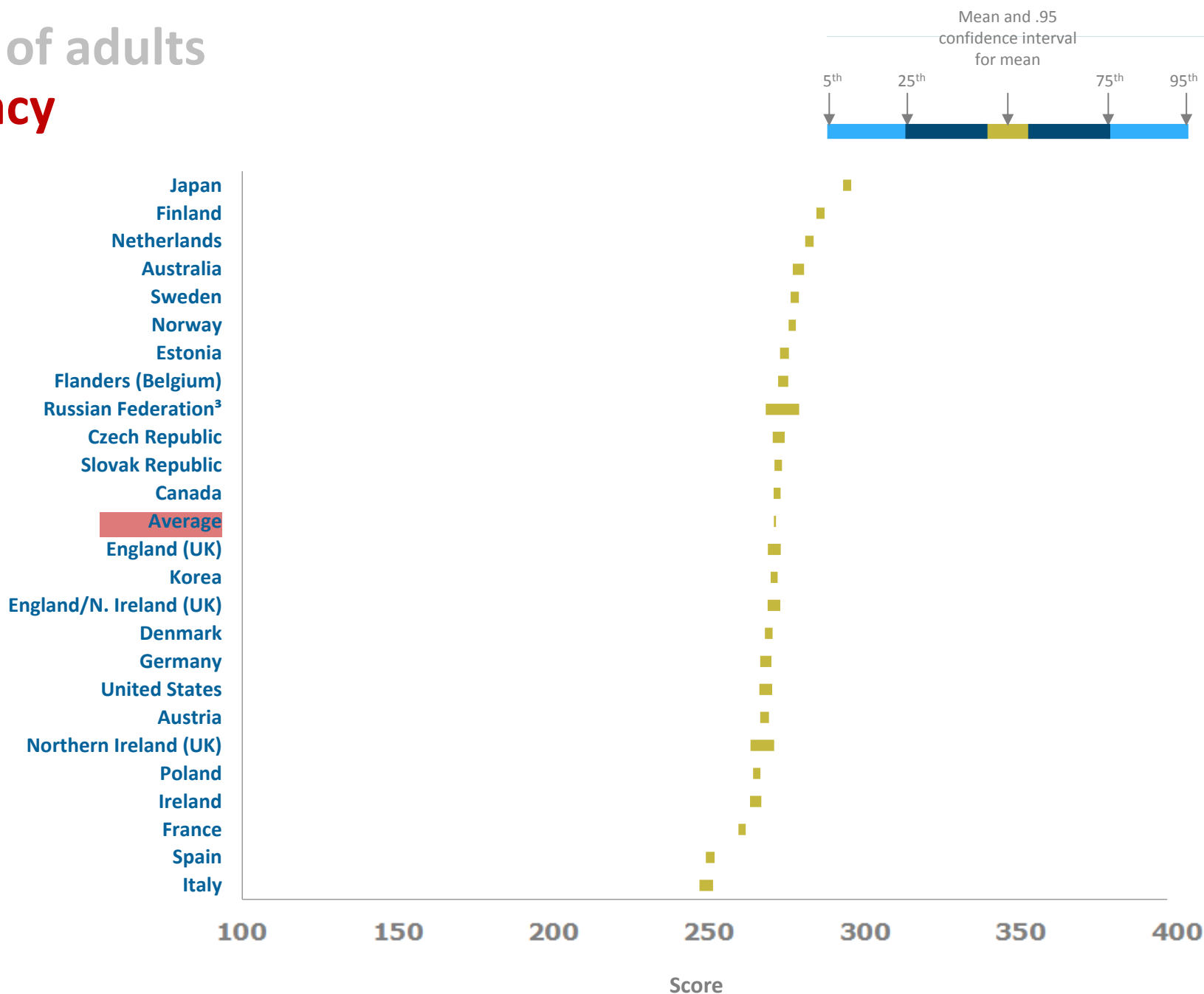
Skills of adults

Literacy



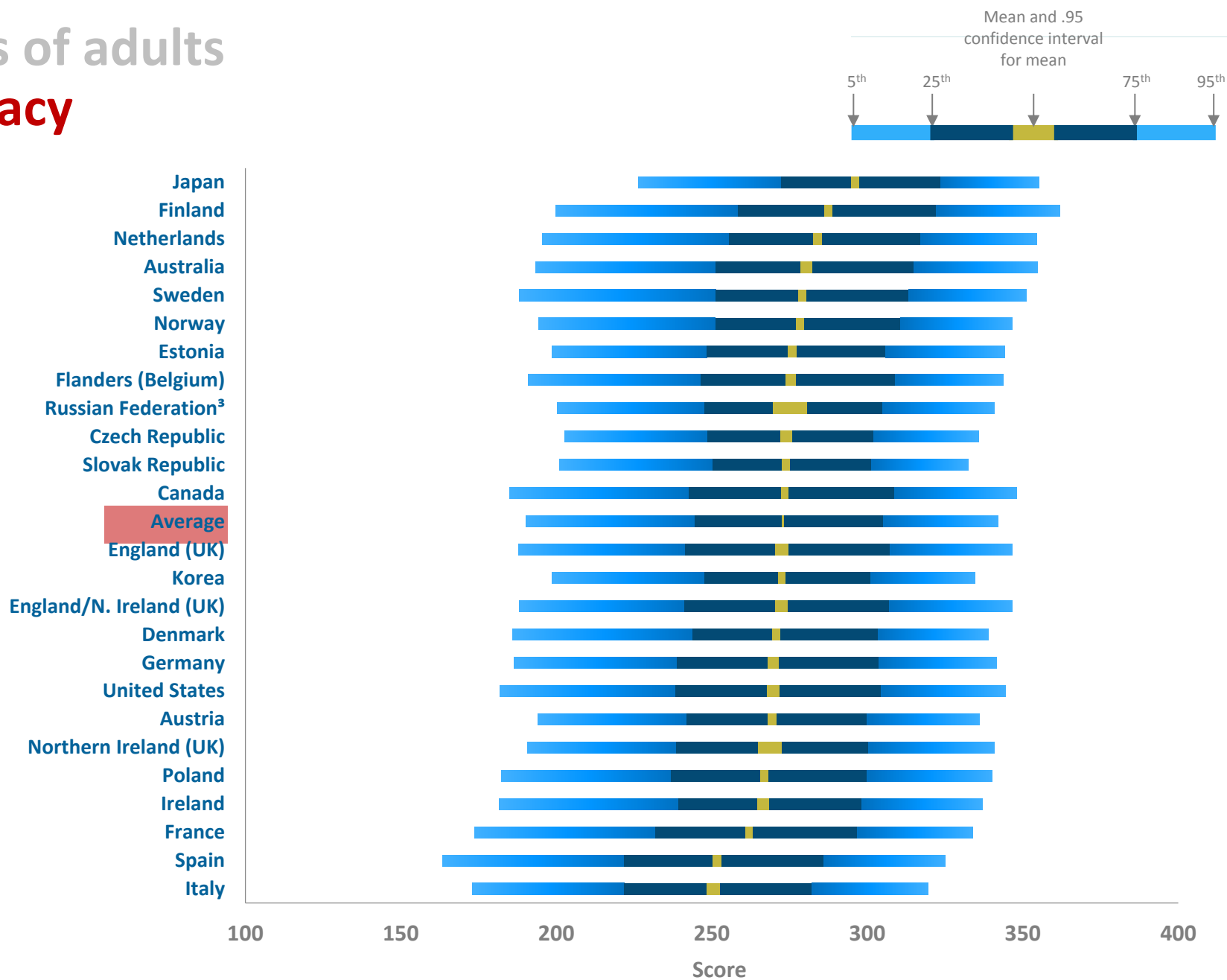
Skills of adults

Literacy

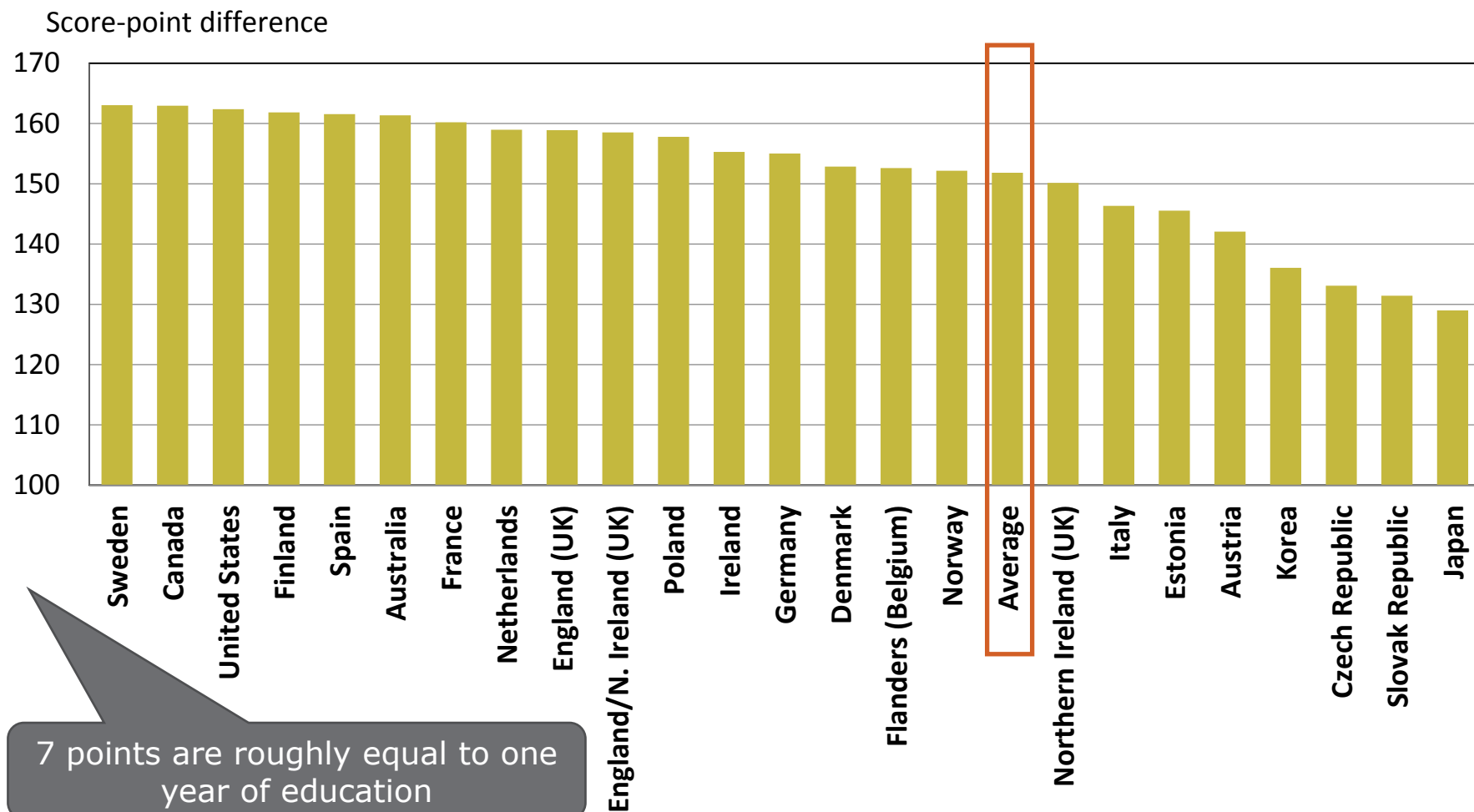


Skills of adults

Literacy

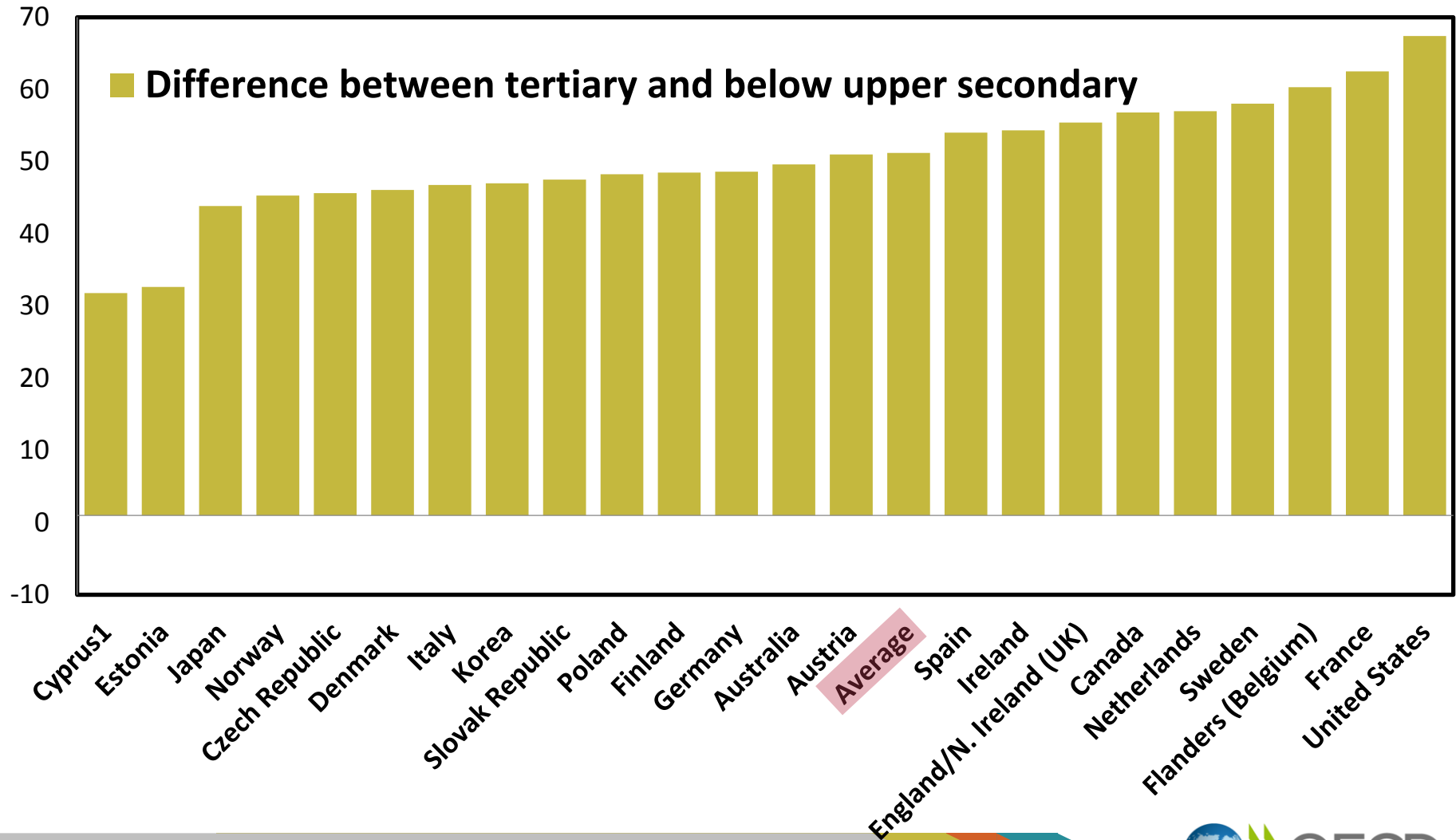


Differences in literacy proficiency between 5th and 95th percentile



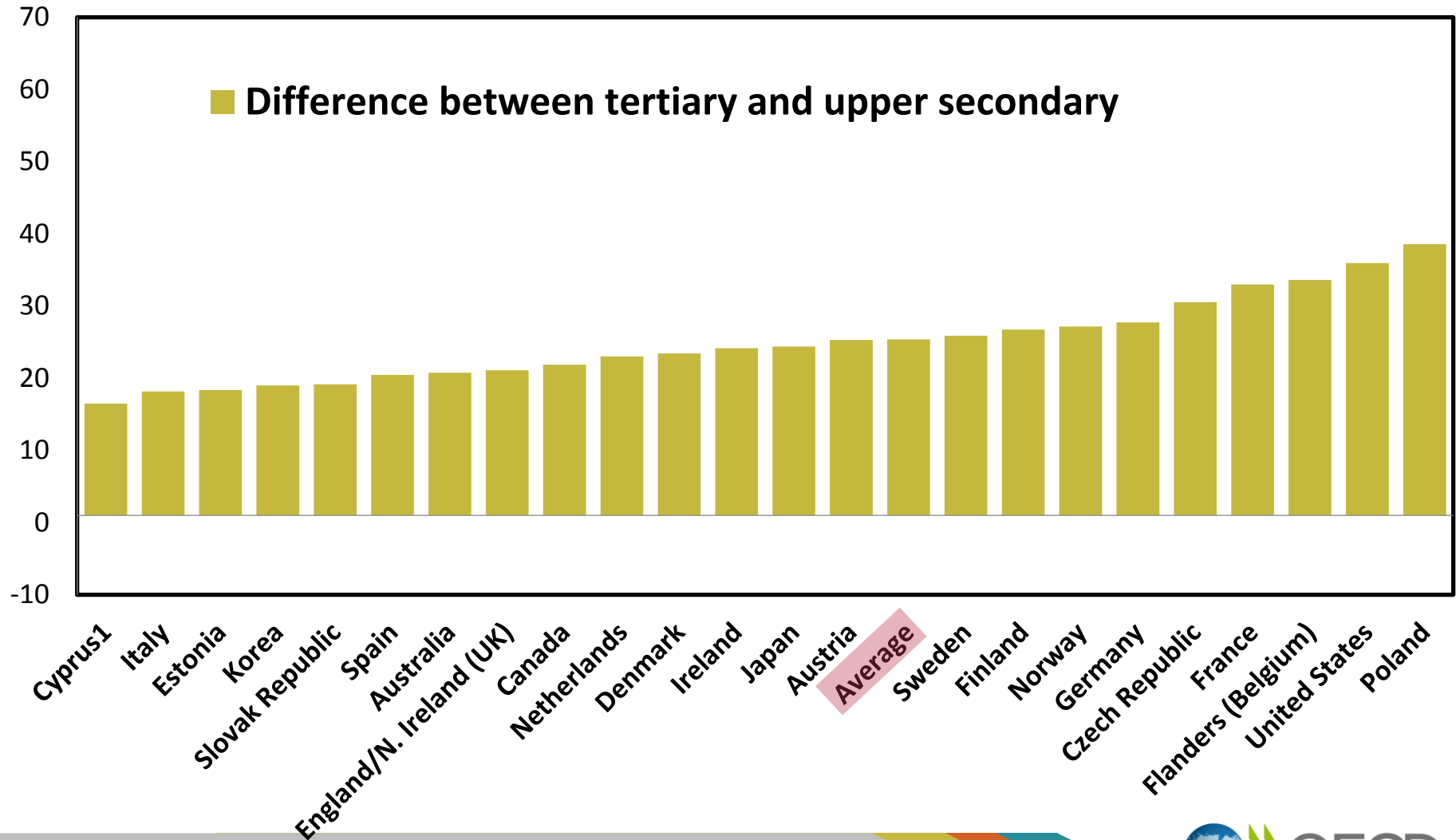
Literacy proficiency: score differences by educational attainment

Score point difference

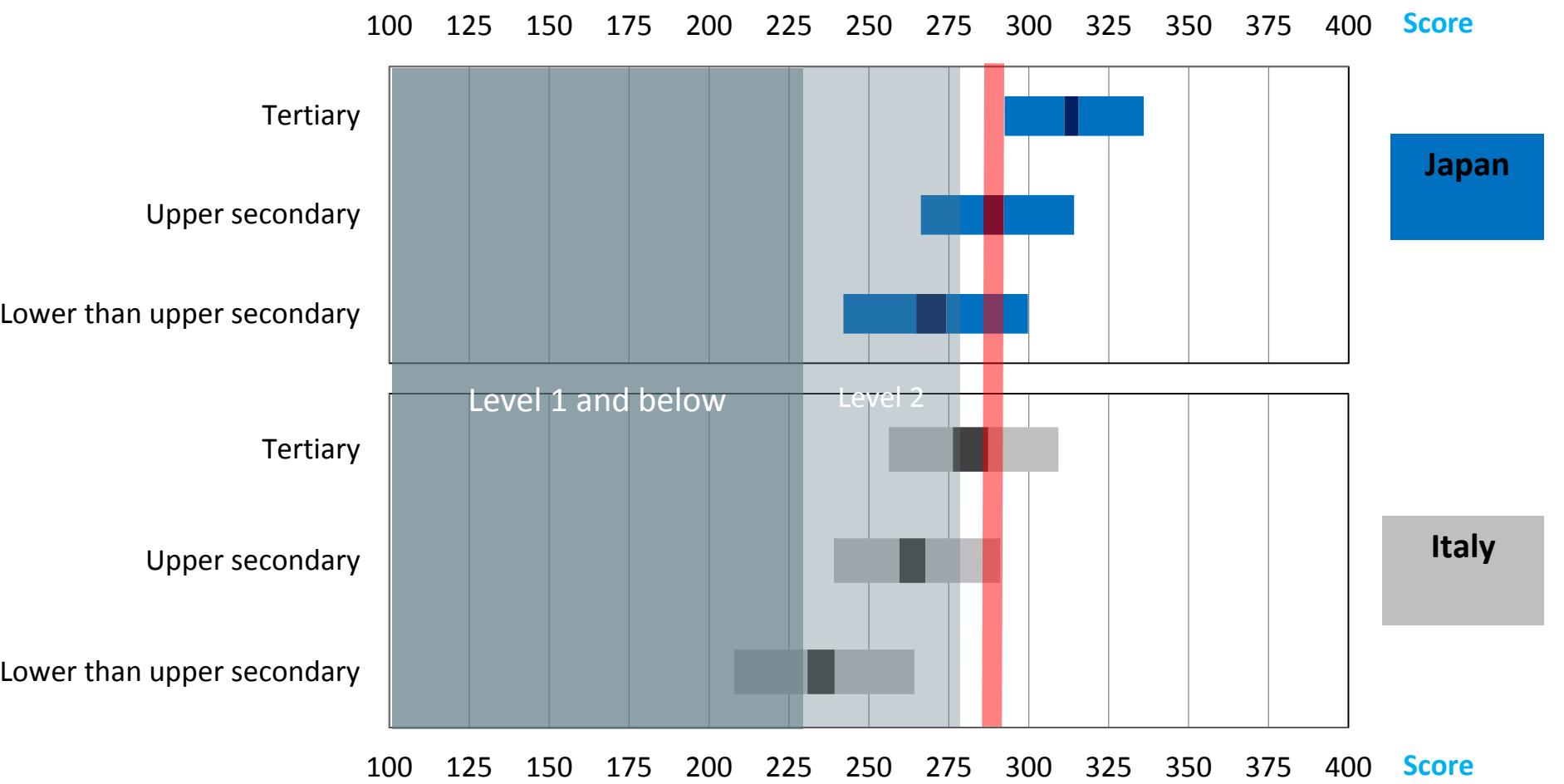
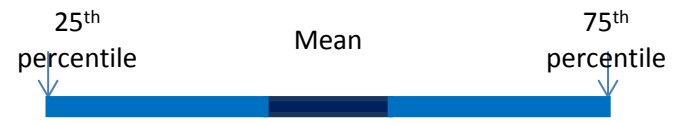


Literacy proficiency: score differences by educational attainment

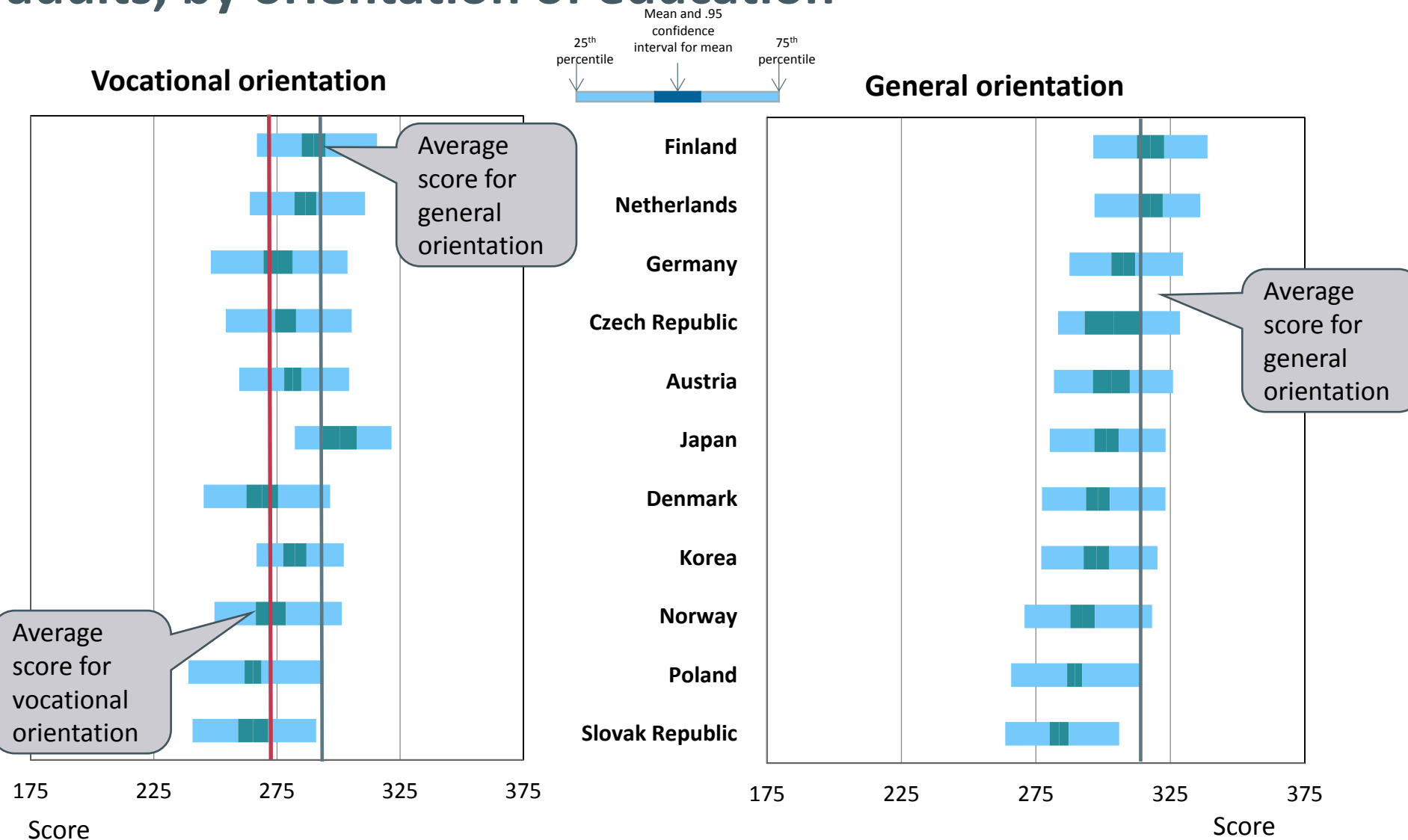
Score point difference



Mean literacy proficiency and distribution of literacy scores, by educational attainment

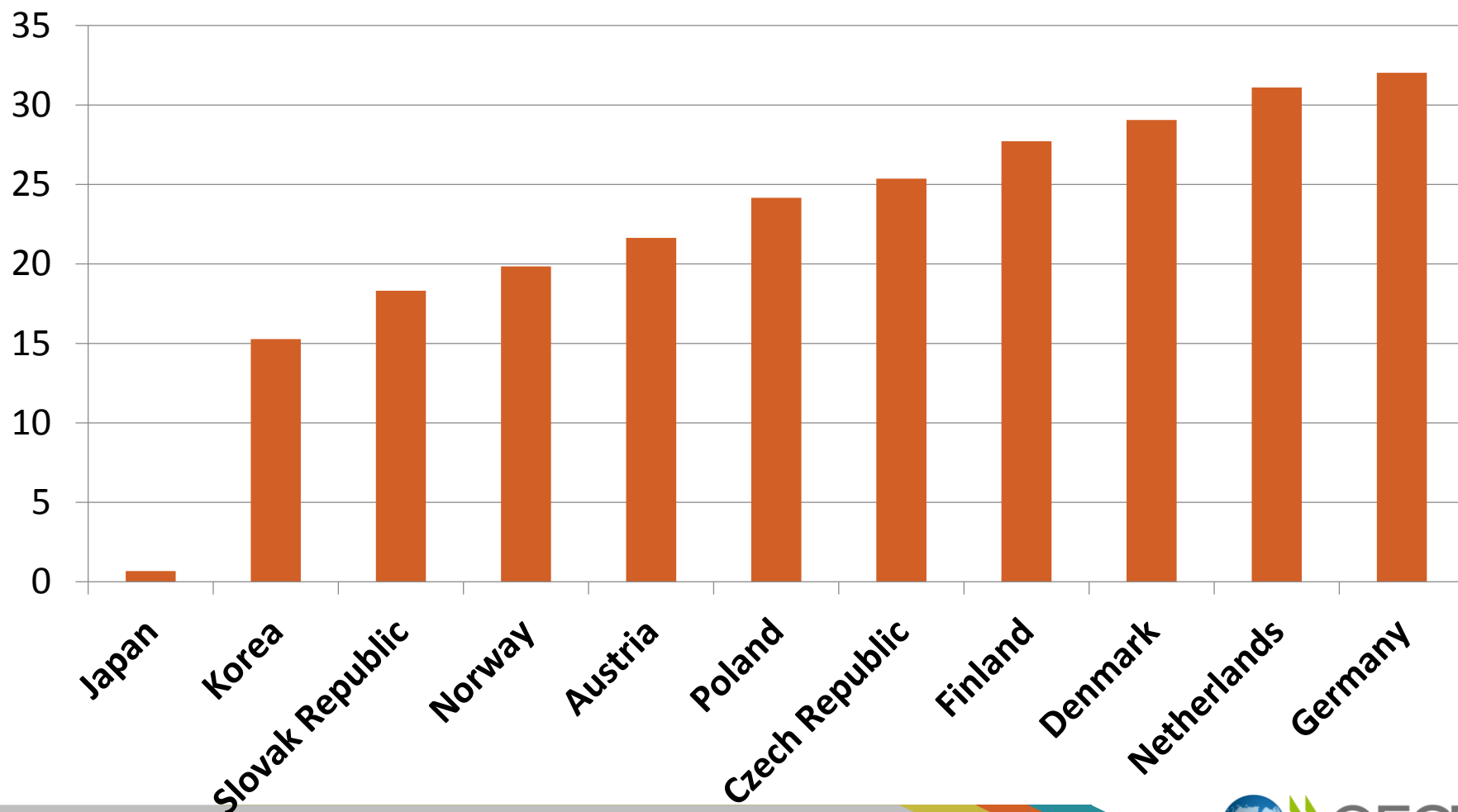


Literacy proficiency among young adults, by orientation of education

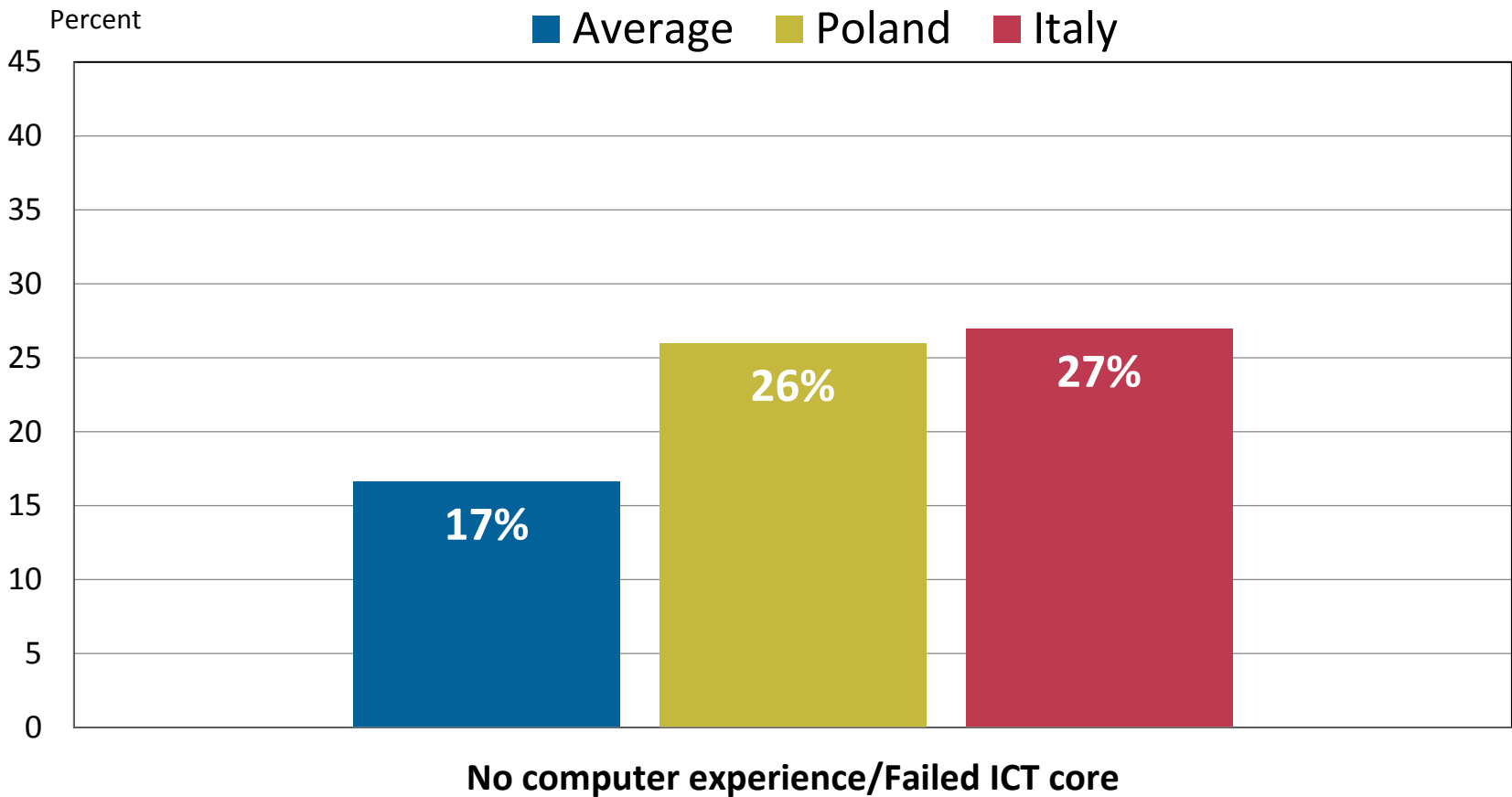


Differences in literacy proficiency between VET and general programmes

Score-point difference



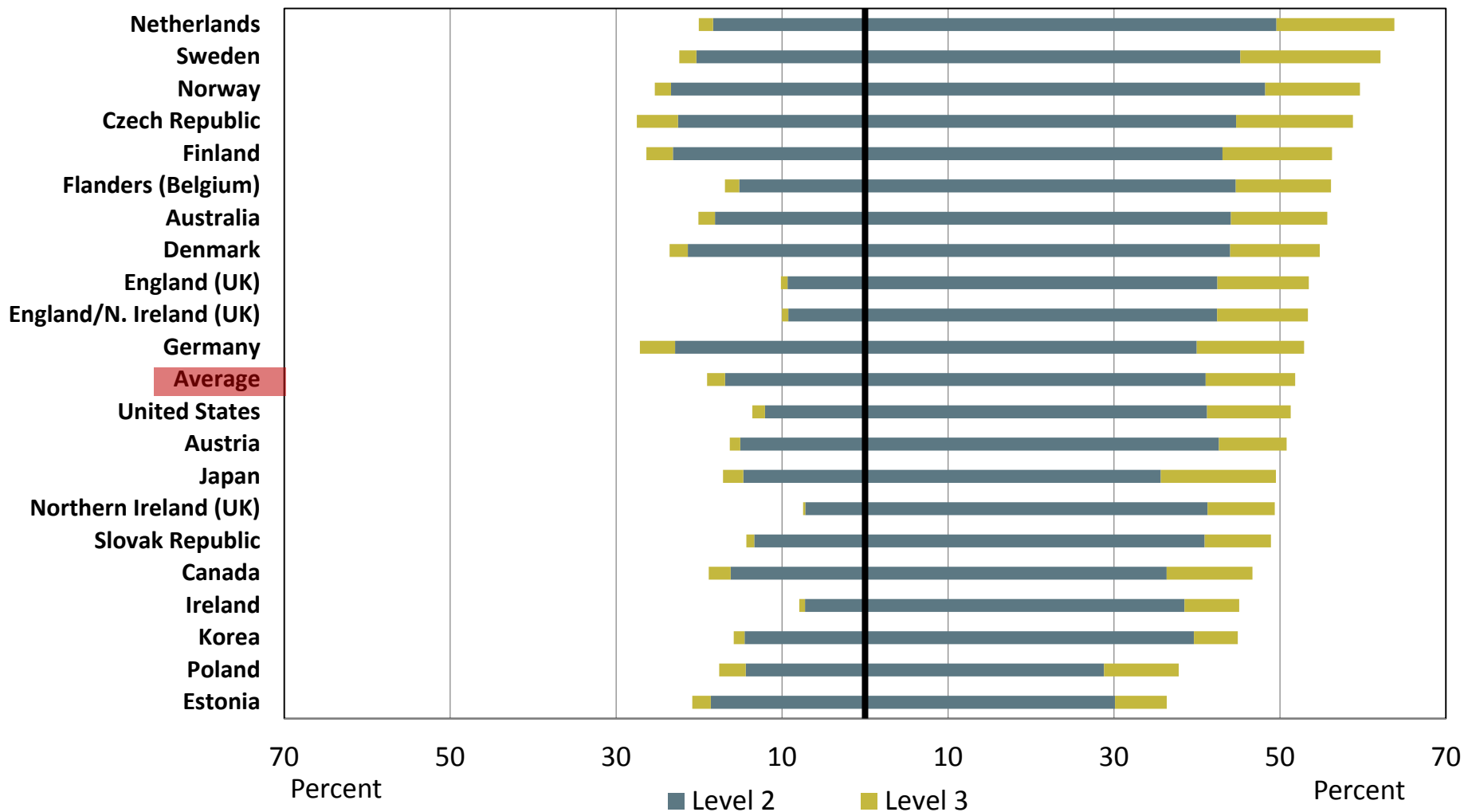
Proficiency in problem solving in technology-rich environments among adults



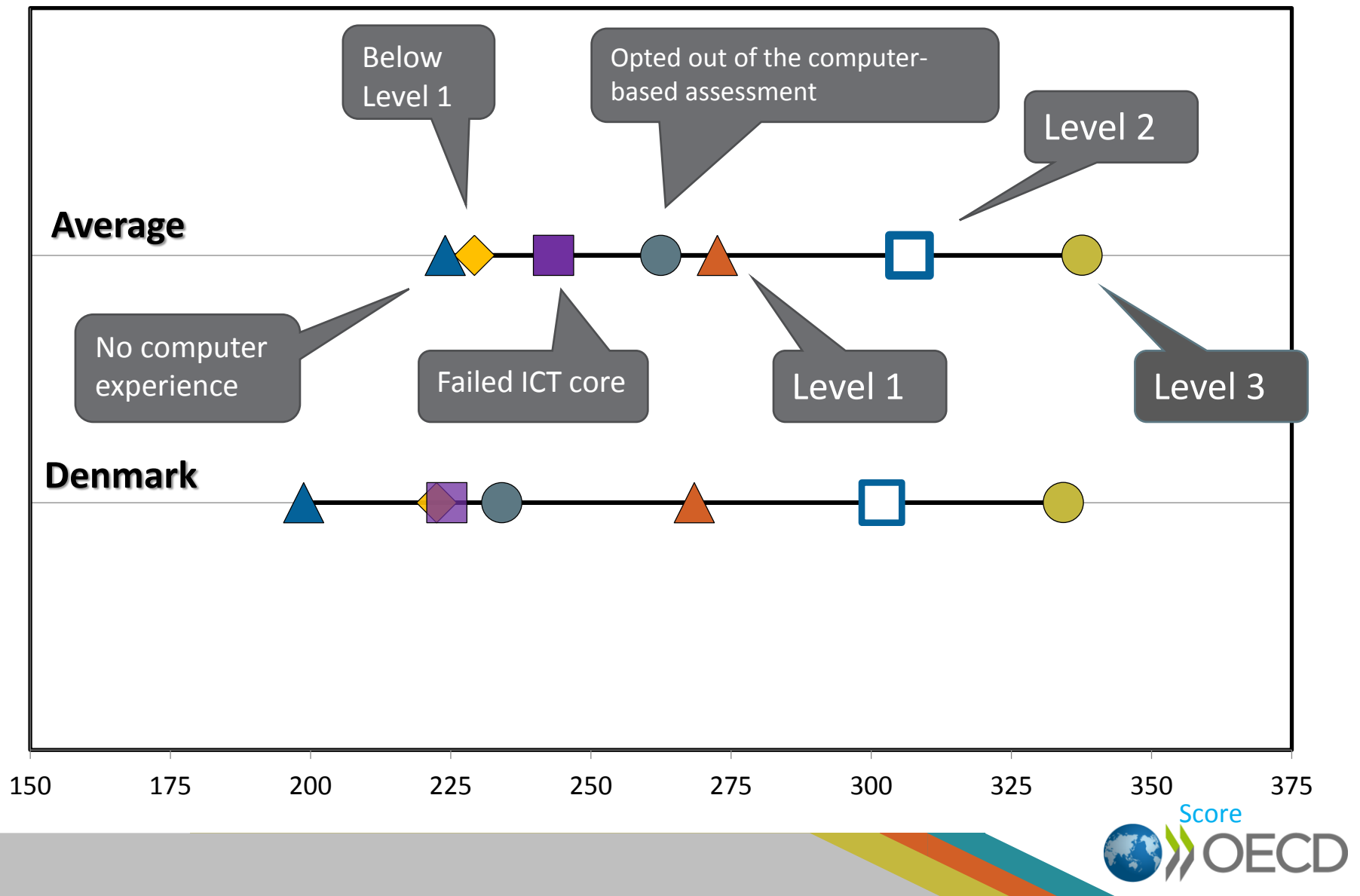
Problem solving proficiency by educational attainment

Below upper secondary

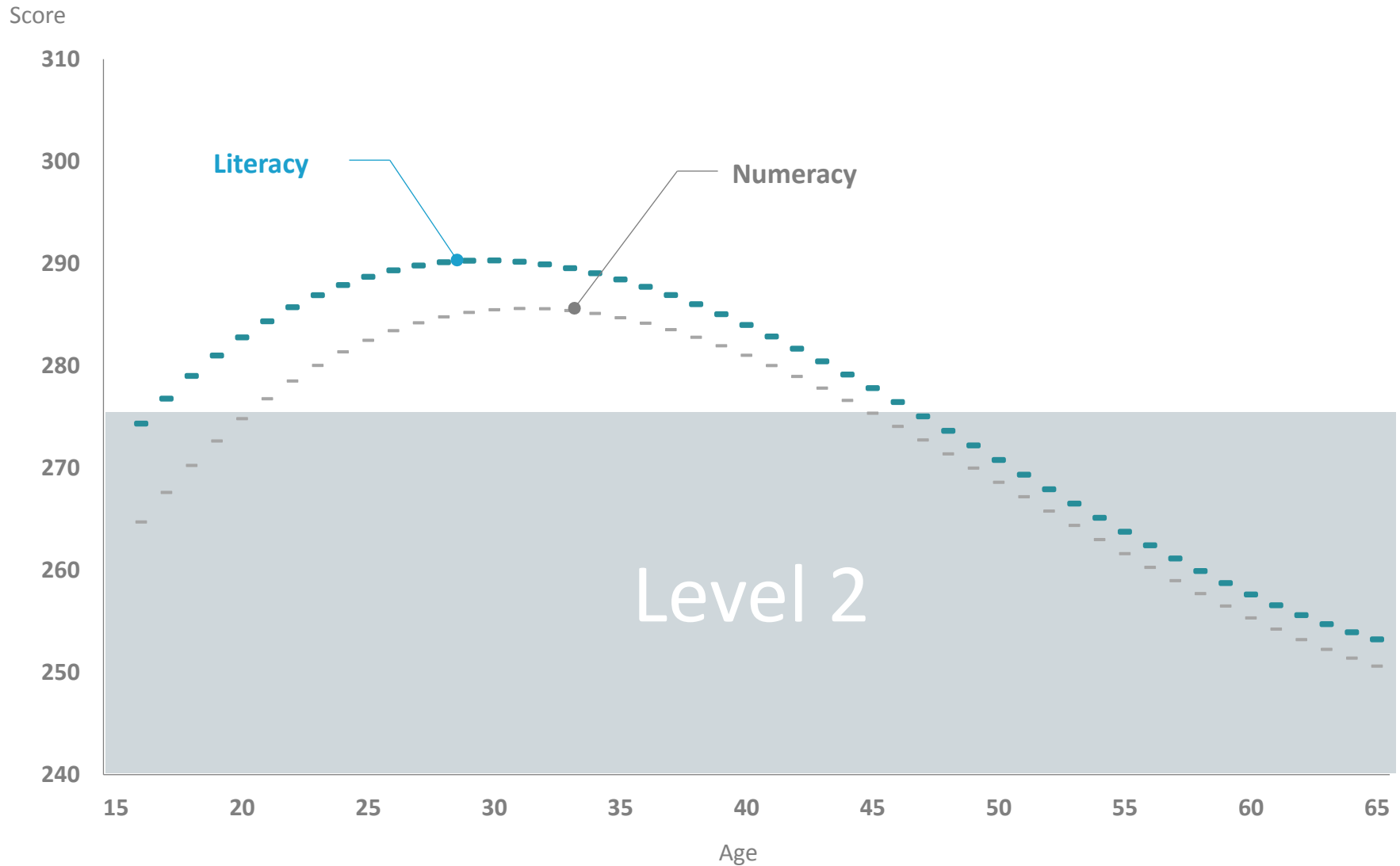
Tertiary



Relationship between problem solving in technology-rich environments and literacy

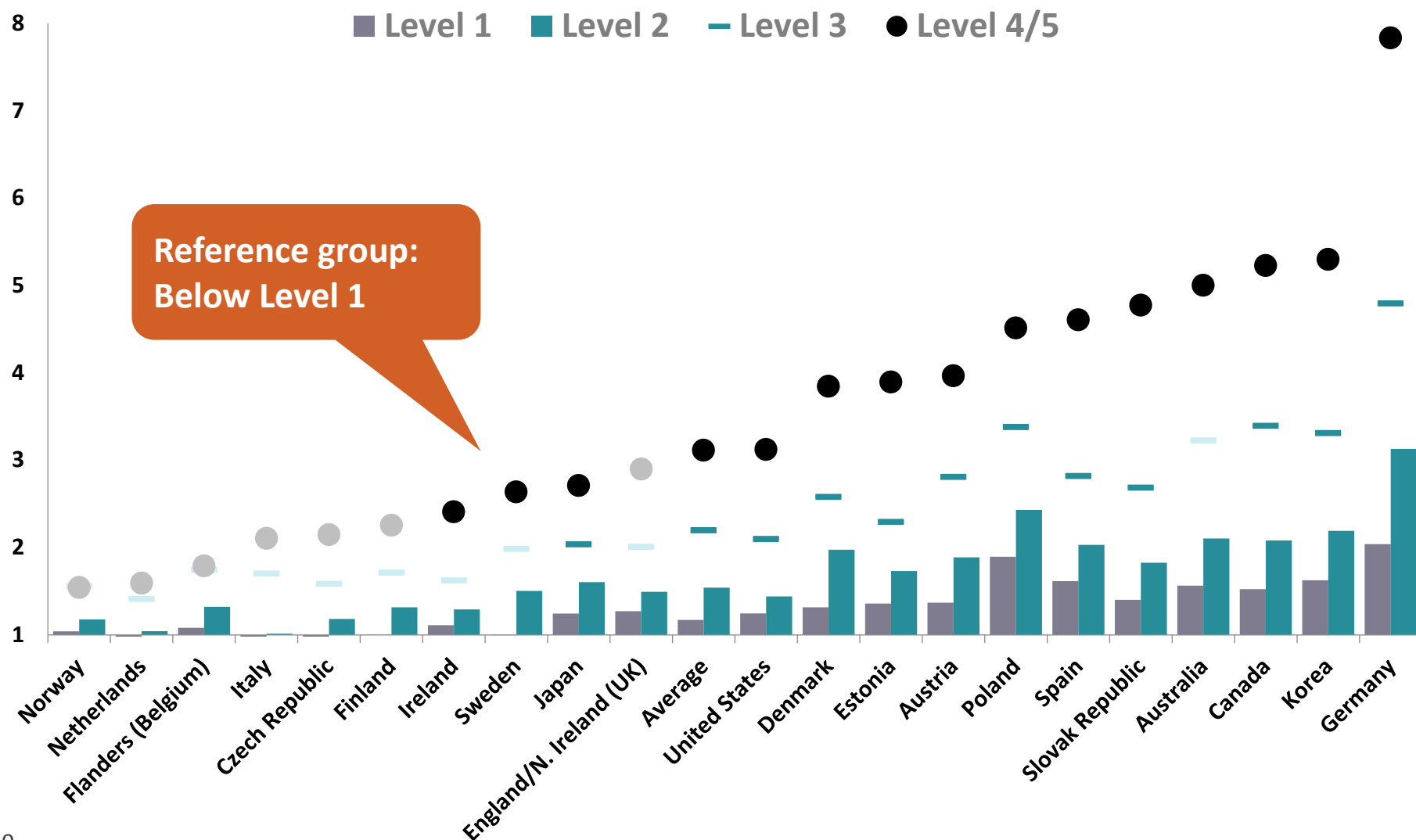


Literacy skills and age

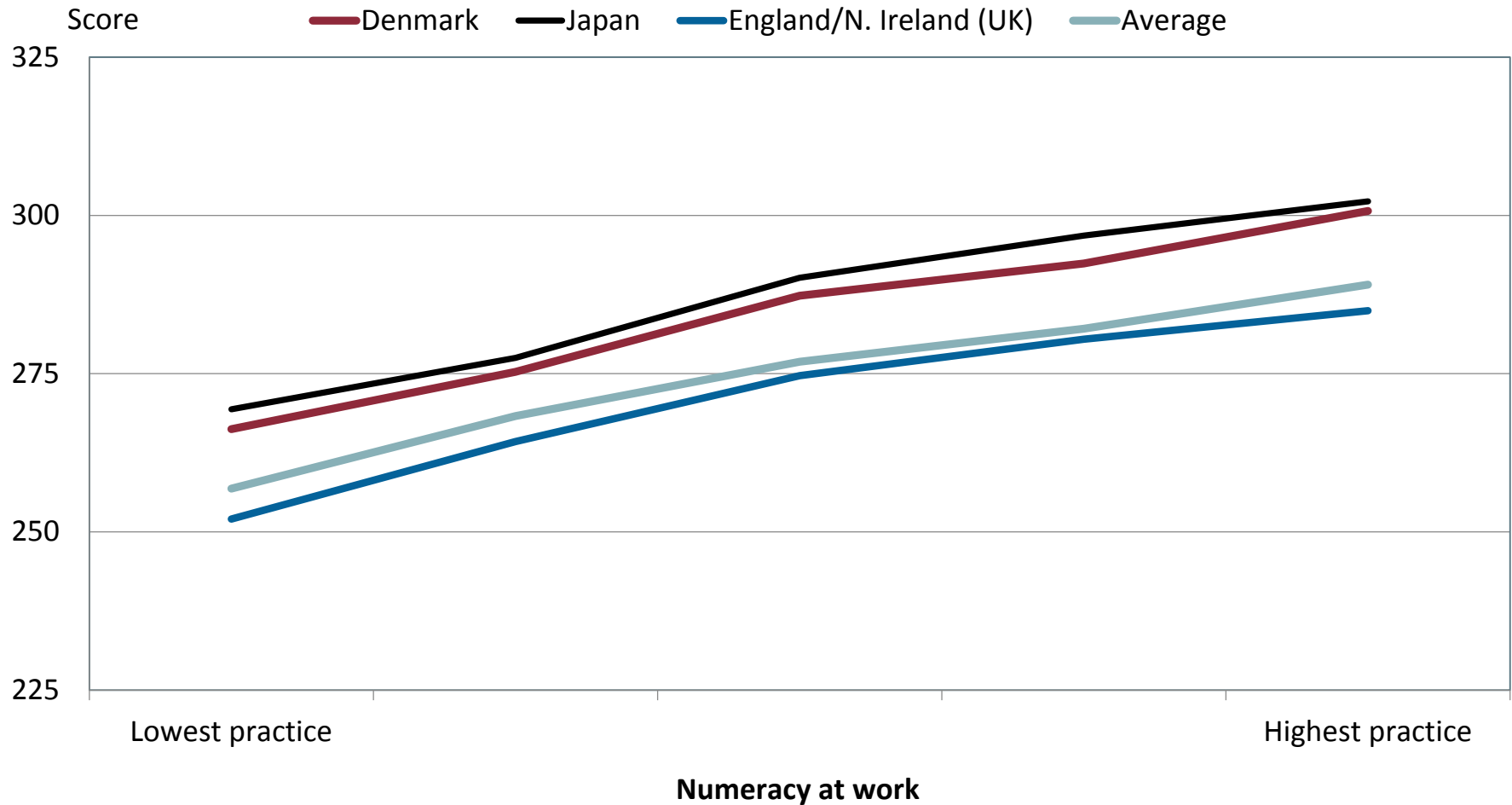


Likelihood of participating in adult education and training, by level of literacy proficiency

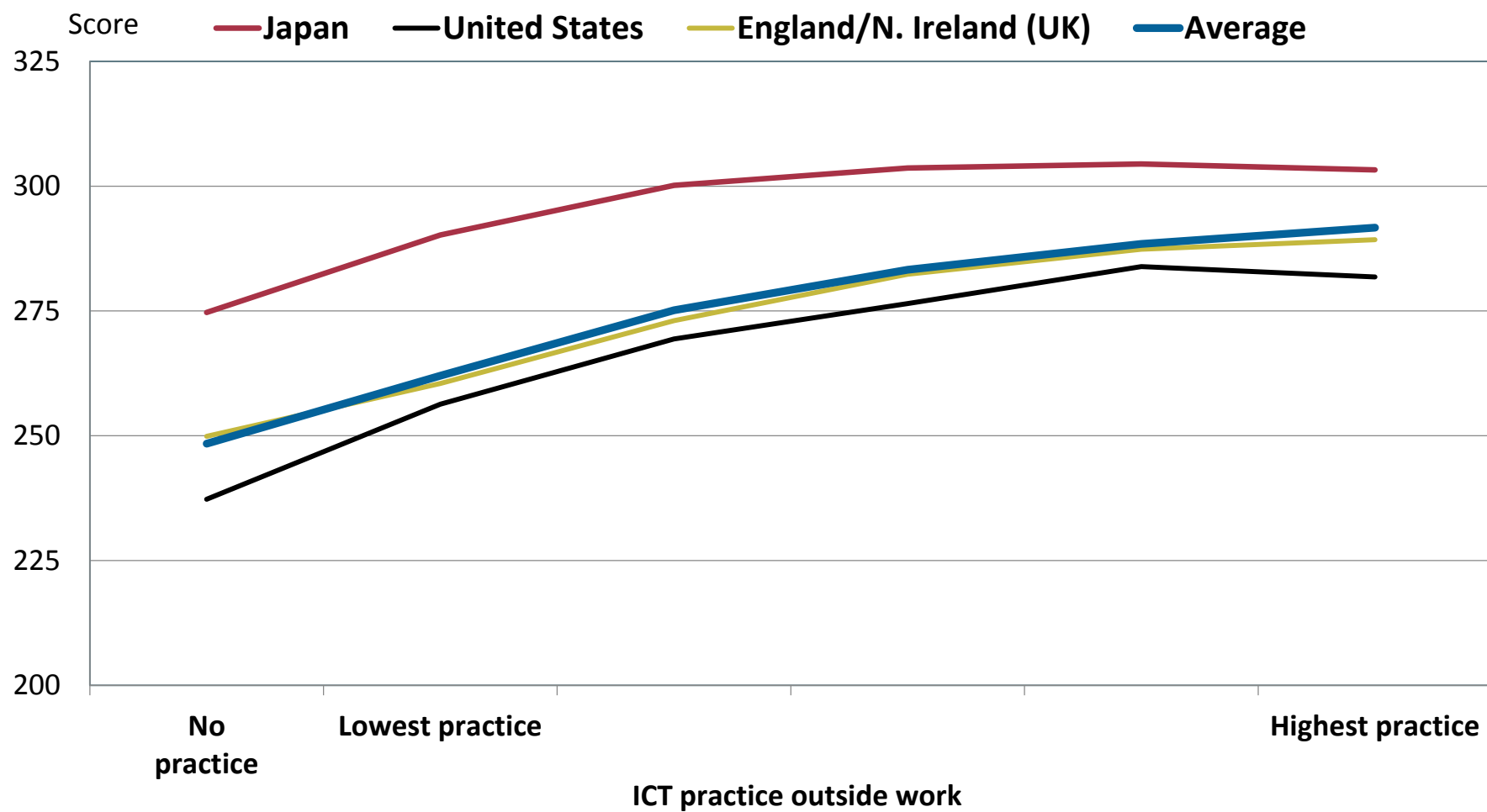
Odds Ratio



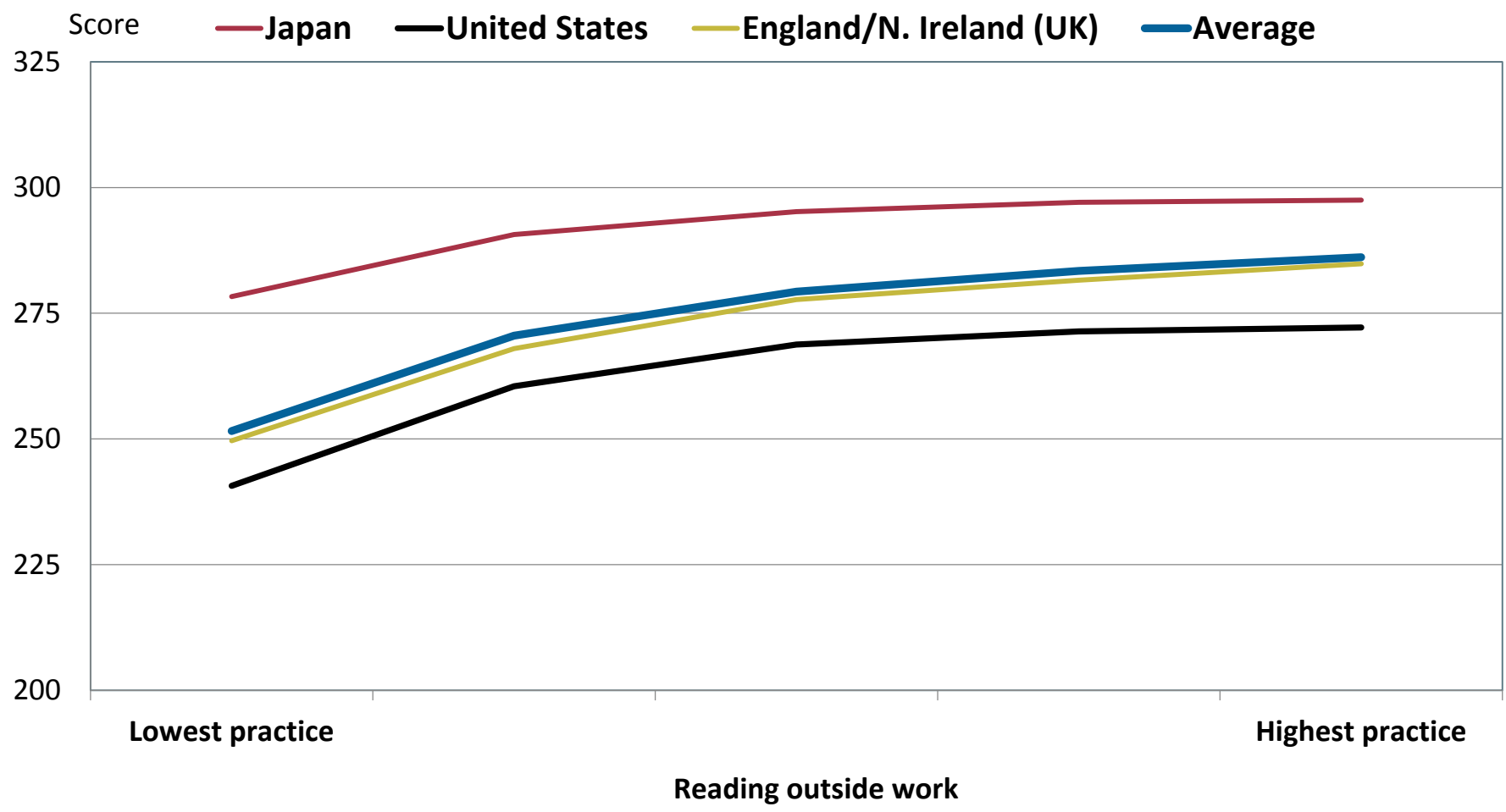
Numeracy practice at work and numeracy proficiency



ICT use outside work and literacy proficiency

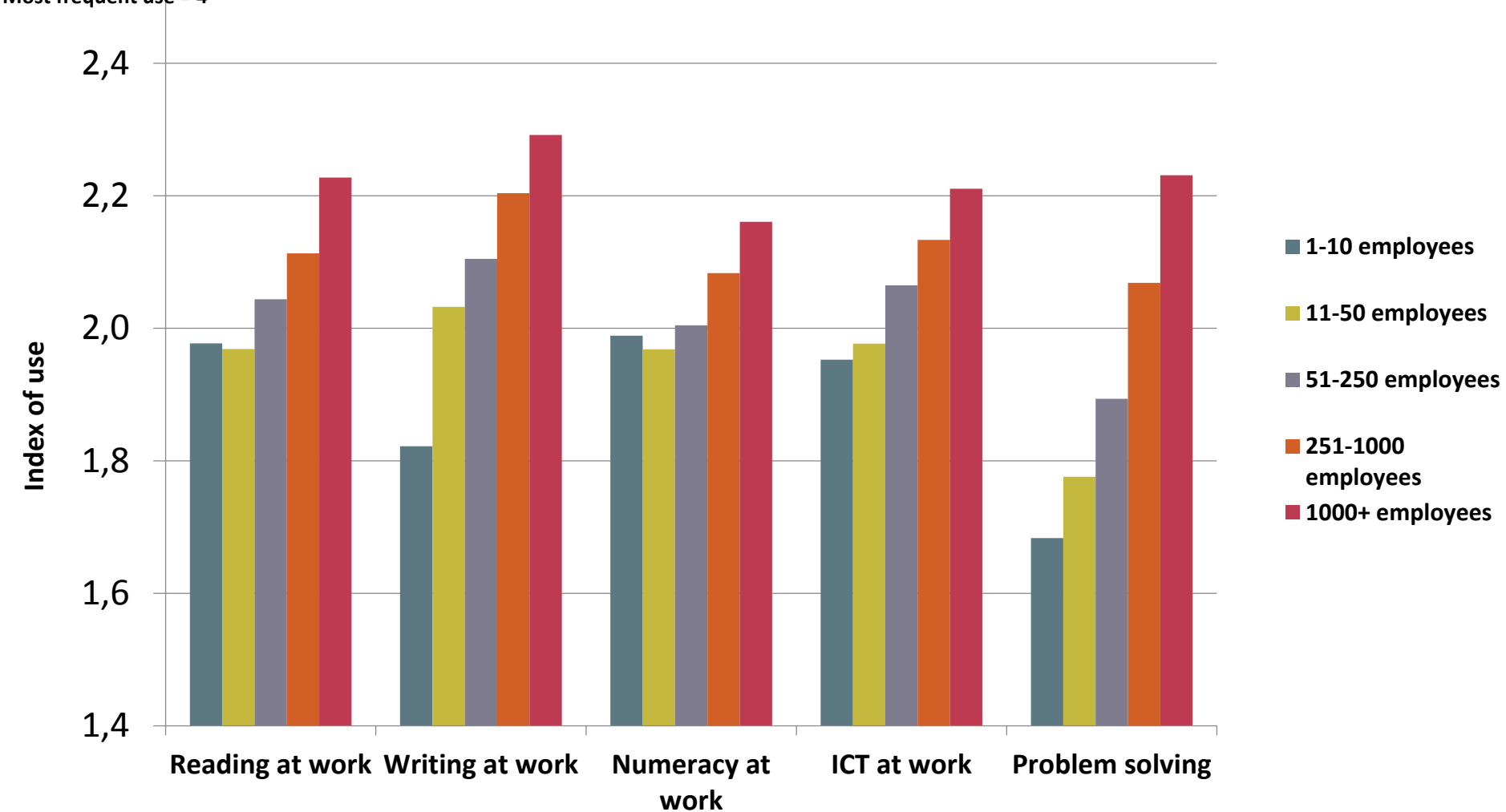


Reading outside work and literacy proficiency



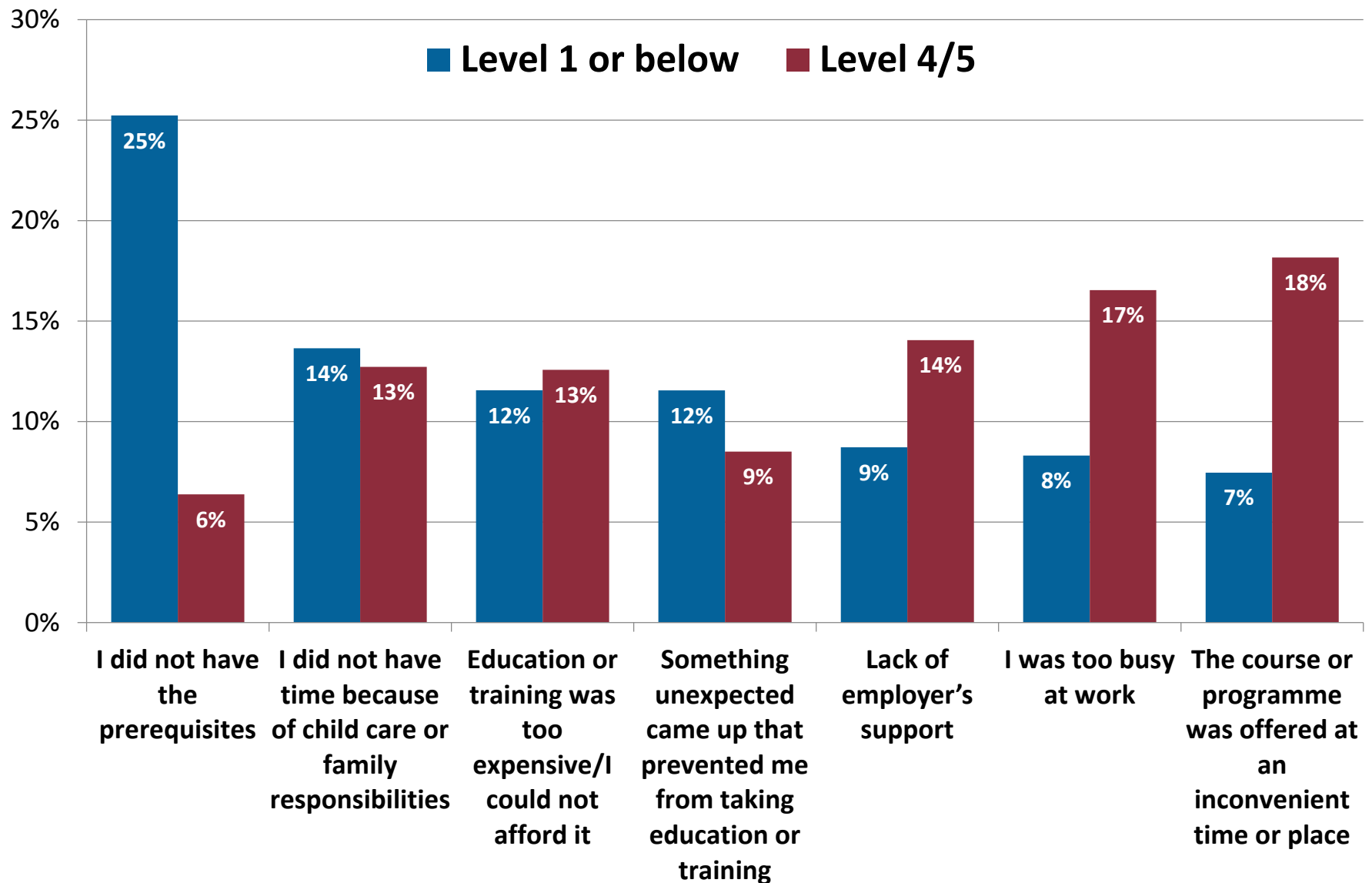
The use of information-processing skills at work, by establishment size

Most frequent use = 4

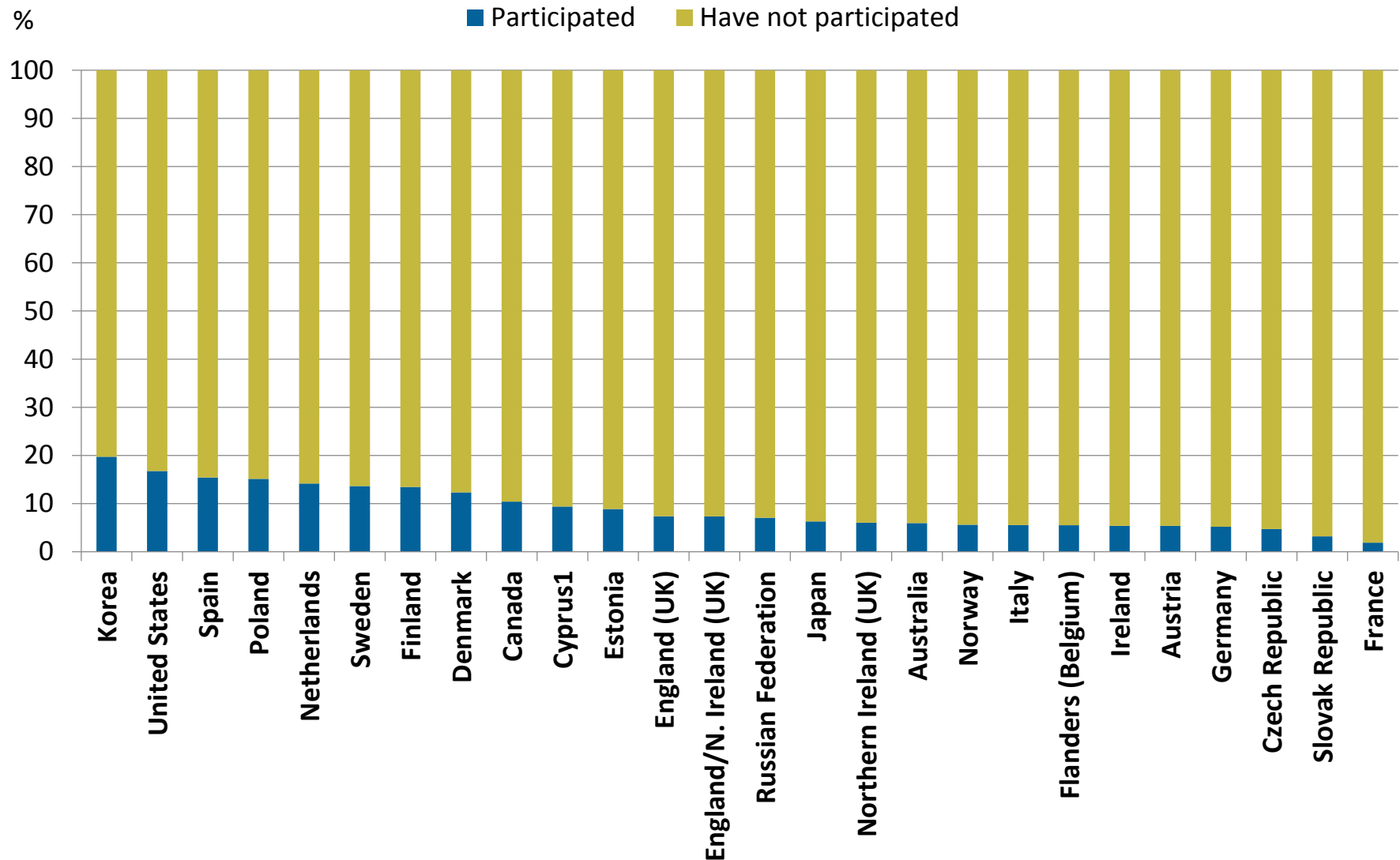


Least frequent use = 0

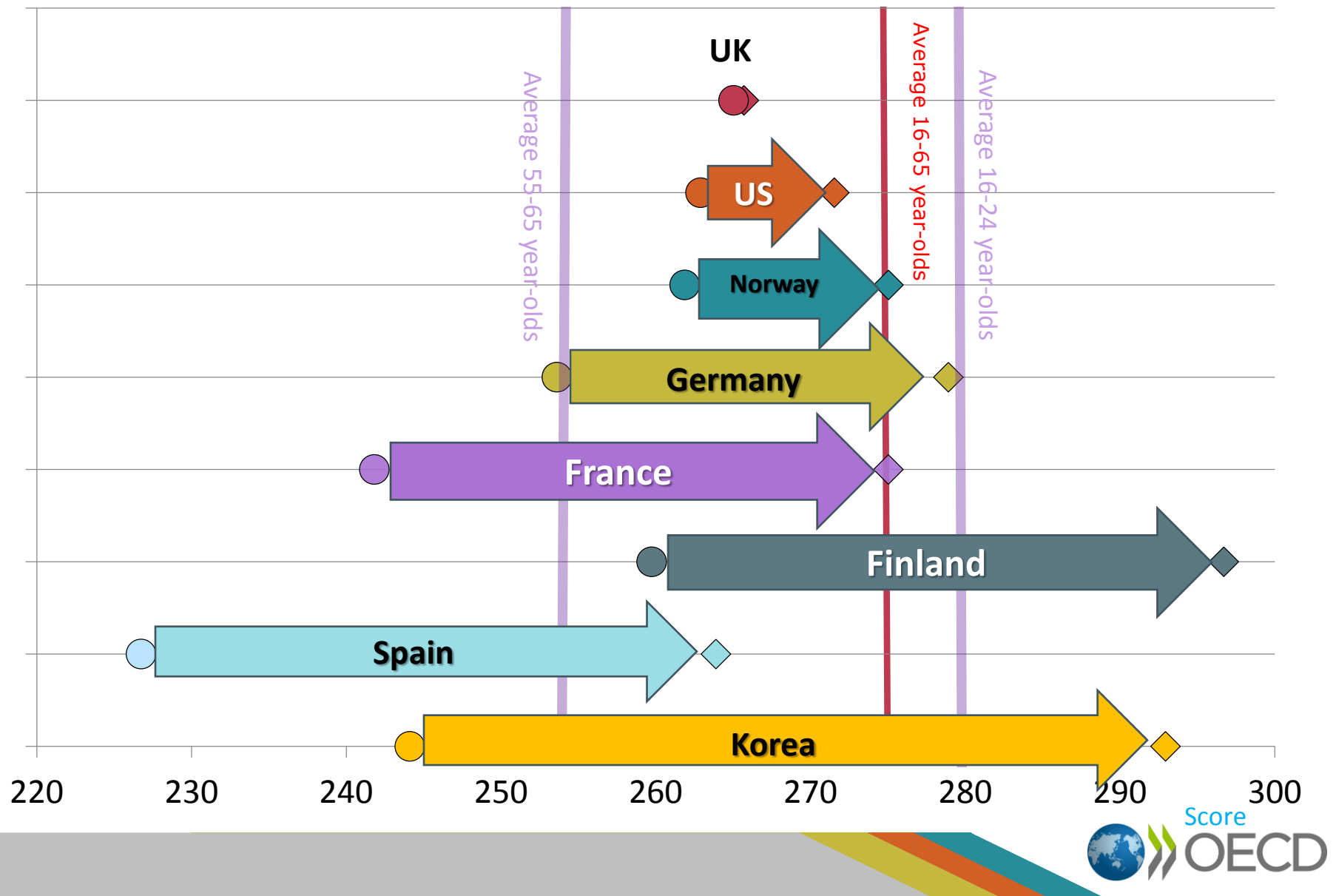
Reasons preventing from the participation in adult education and training



Participation in courses conducted through open or distance education during the last 12 months

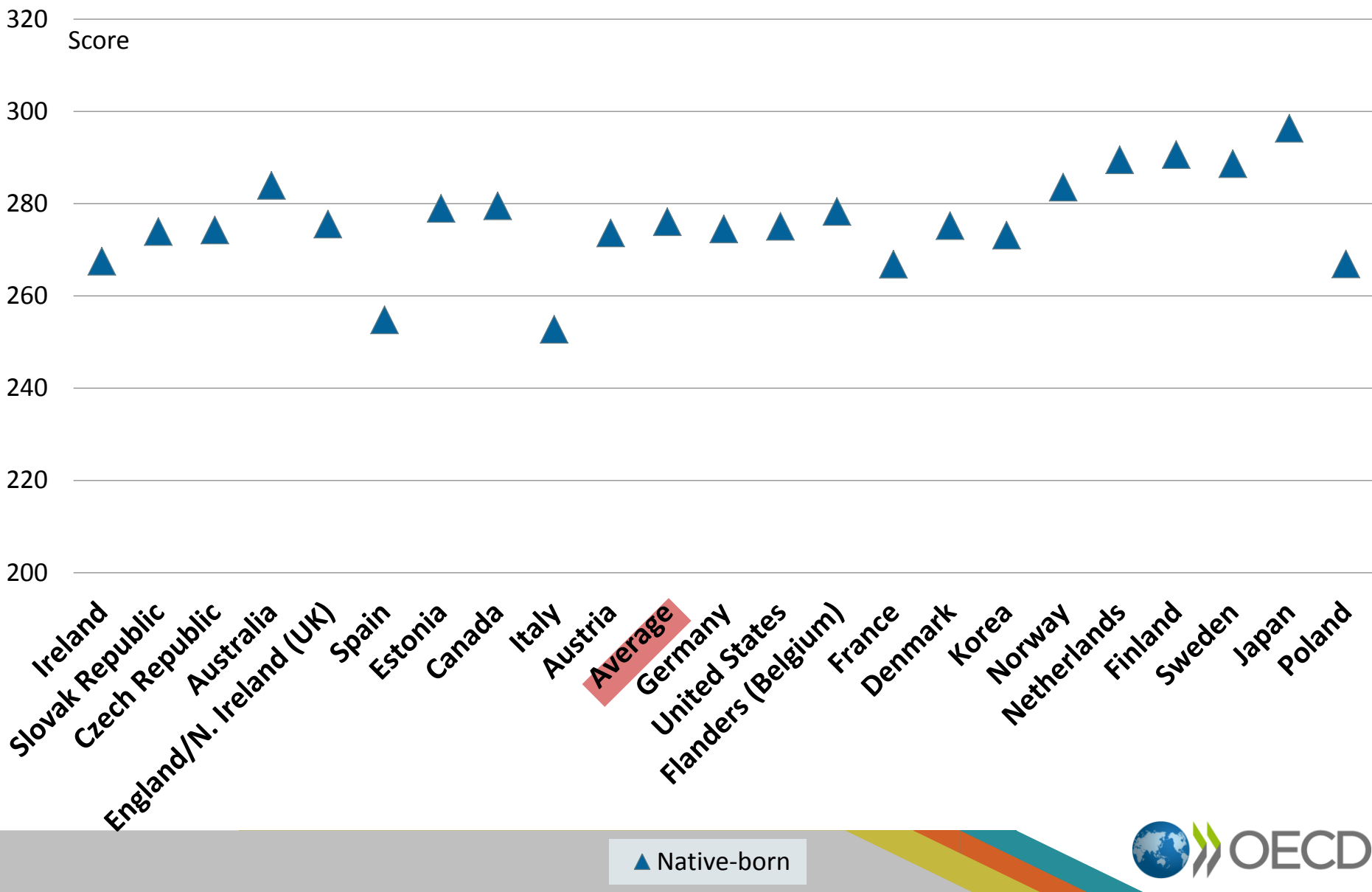


Literacy skills in younger and older generations



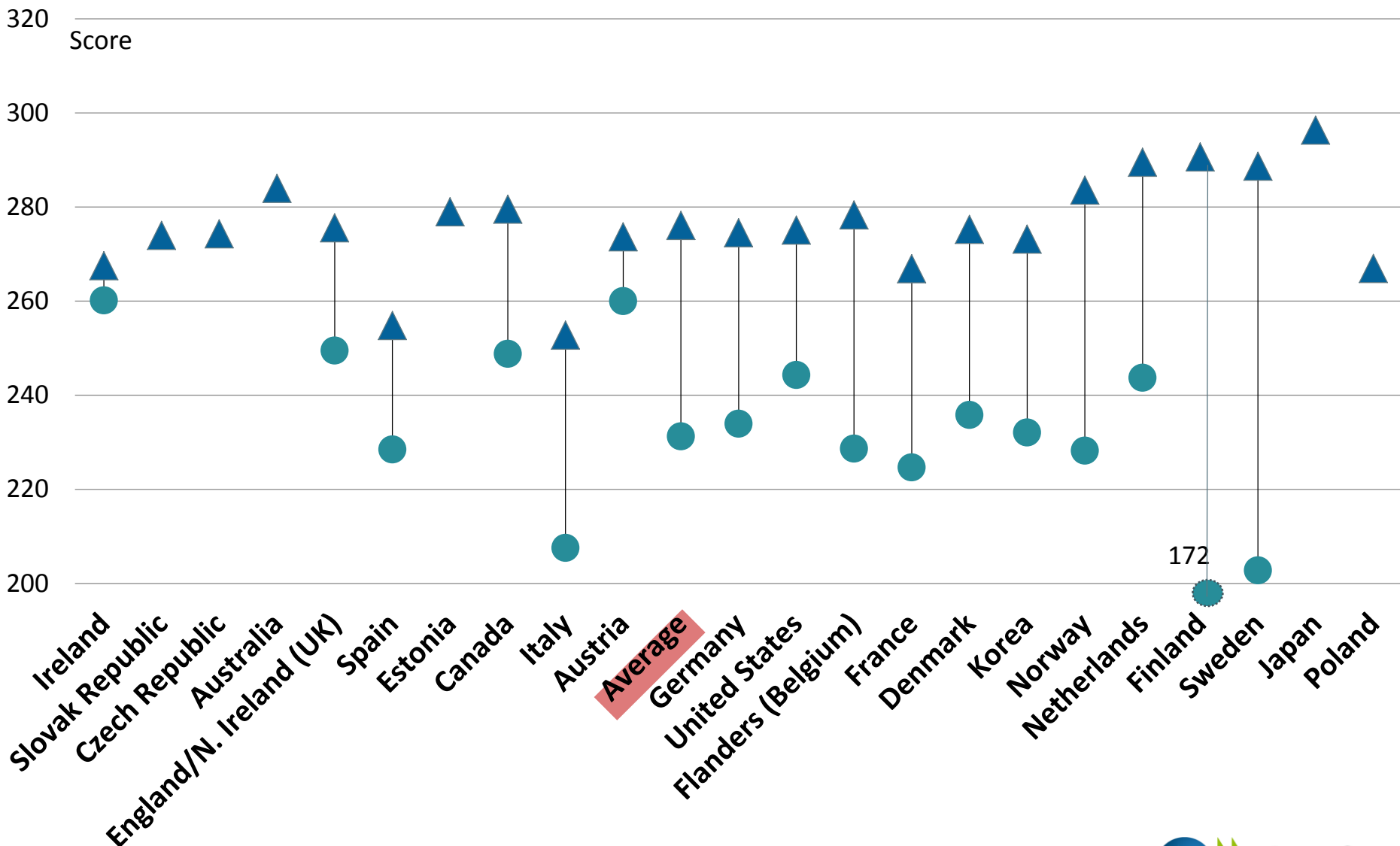
Literacy proficiency

by immigration background



Literacy proficiency

by immigration background

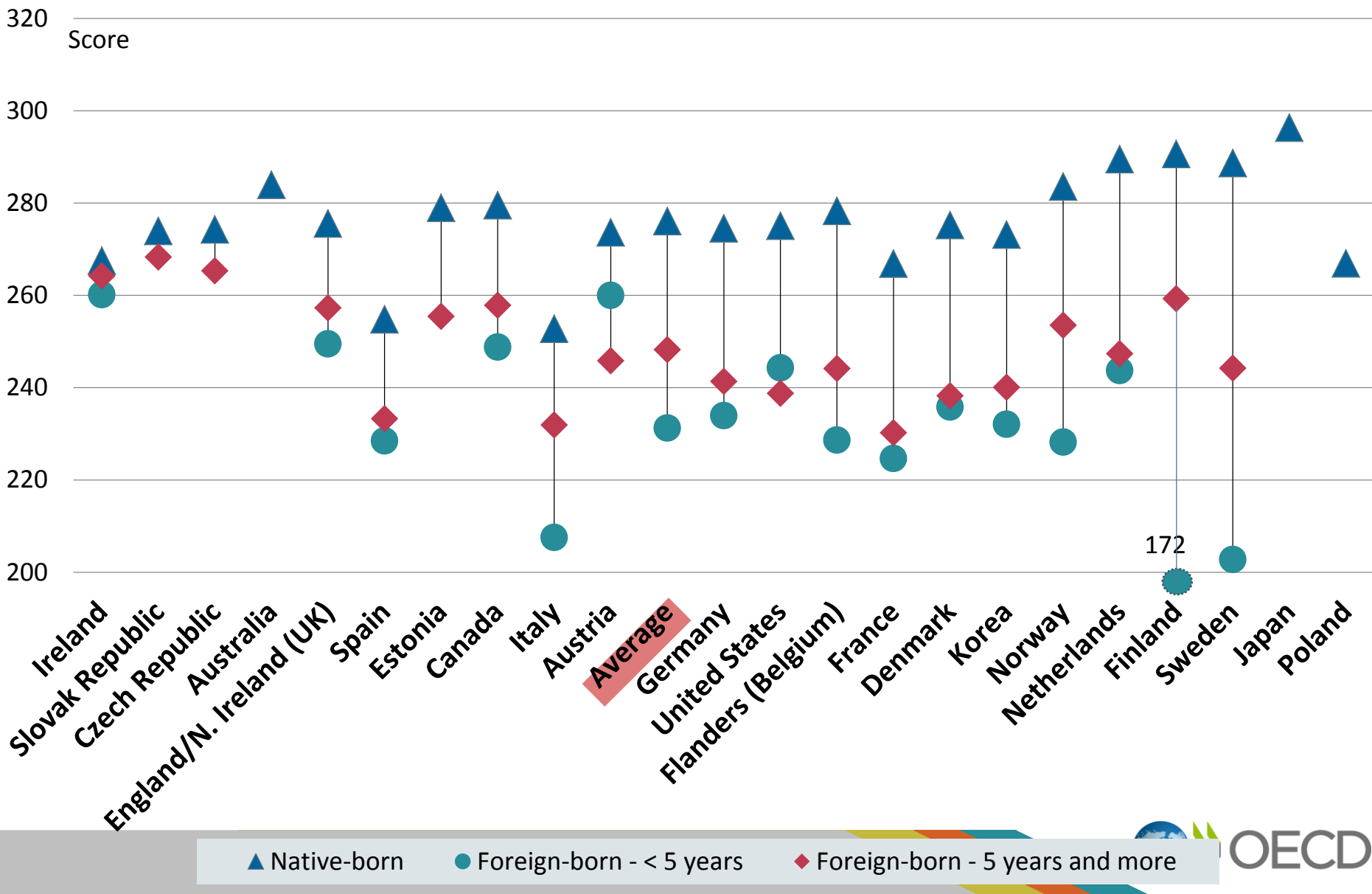


▲ Native-born

● Foreign-born - < 5 years

Literacy proficiency

by immigration background



Data products

PIAAC micro-data files

- OECD file (complete micro-data file)
- PUF (some countries have suppressed or coarsened data)

Background Questionnaire

Codebook

SAS and STATA tools

IEA Data Analyser

Technical Report

Find Out More About PIAAC at:



www.oecd.org/site/piaac

All national and international
publications

The complete micro-level database



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Thank you