



MEASURING ADULTS' SKILLS IN AN INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT: SOME RESULTS FROM PIAAC AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

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Objectives

- To provide an overview of the OECD's Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC)
 - What has been done so far, including some findings
 - What the future holds



Objectives of PIAAC

- Provide high quality comparable information on the level and distribution of key information processing skills in the adult population
- Show the relationship of these skills to individual and social 'outcomes'
- Better understand the processes through which skills are gained, maintained and lost over the lifecycle



Design features: content

- Direct assessment of key information processing skills
 - Literacy, numeracy, problem solving
- Information on literacy, numeracy and problem solving activities at work and elsewhere
- Information on other generic skills and attributes
 - interaction, organisation, communication
- Information on antecedents and outcomes
 - Educational participation and attainment
 - Socio-demographic characteristics
 - Labour force participation, salary, health, social trust



Design features

- Target population – 16-65 year olds resident in national territory
- Representative sample of the target population
 - Minimum sample size = 5000
- Household survey
- Computer-based delivery



PIAAC – the 1st cycle

- Round 1 (24 countries/regions)
 - Data collected 2011-12
 - Report released October 2013
- Round 2 (9 countries/regions)
 - Data collected 2014-15
 - Report released June 2016
- Round 3 (6 countries)
 - Data collected 2017-18
 - Report to be released late 2019



Participating countries

PIAAC Round 1	PIAAC Round 2	PIAAC Round 3
1 Australia*	1 Chile*	1 Ecuador
2 Austria*	2 Greece*	2 Hungary*
3 Belgium*	3 Indonesia*	3 Kazakhstan
4 Canada*	4 Israel*	4 Mexico*
5 Czech Republic*	5 Lithuania*	5 Peru*
6 Cyprus (direct contract with ETS)	6 New Zealand*	6 United States*
7 Denmark*	7 Singapore*	
8 Estonia*	8 Slovenia*	
9 Finland*	9 Turkey*	
10 France*		
11 Germany*		
12 Ireland*		
13 Italy*		
14 Japan*		
15 Korea*		
16 Netherlands*		
17 Norway*		
18 Poland*		
19 Russian Federation*		
20 Slovak Republic*		
21 Spain*		
22 Sweden*		
23 United Kingdom*		
24 United States*		



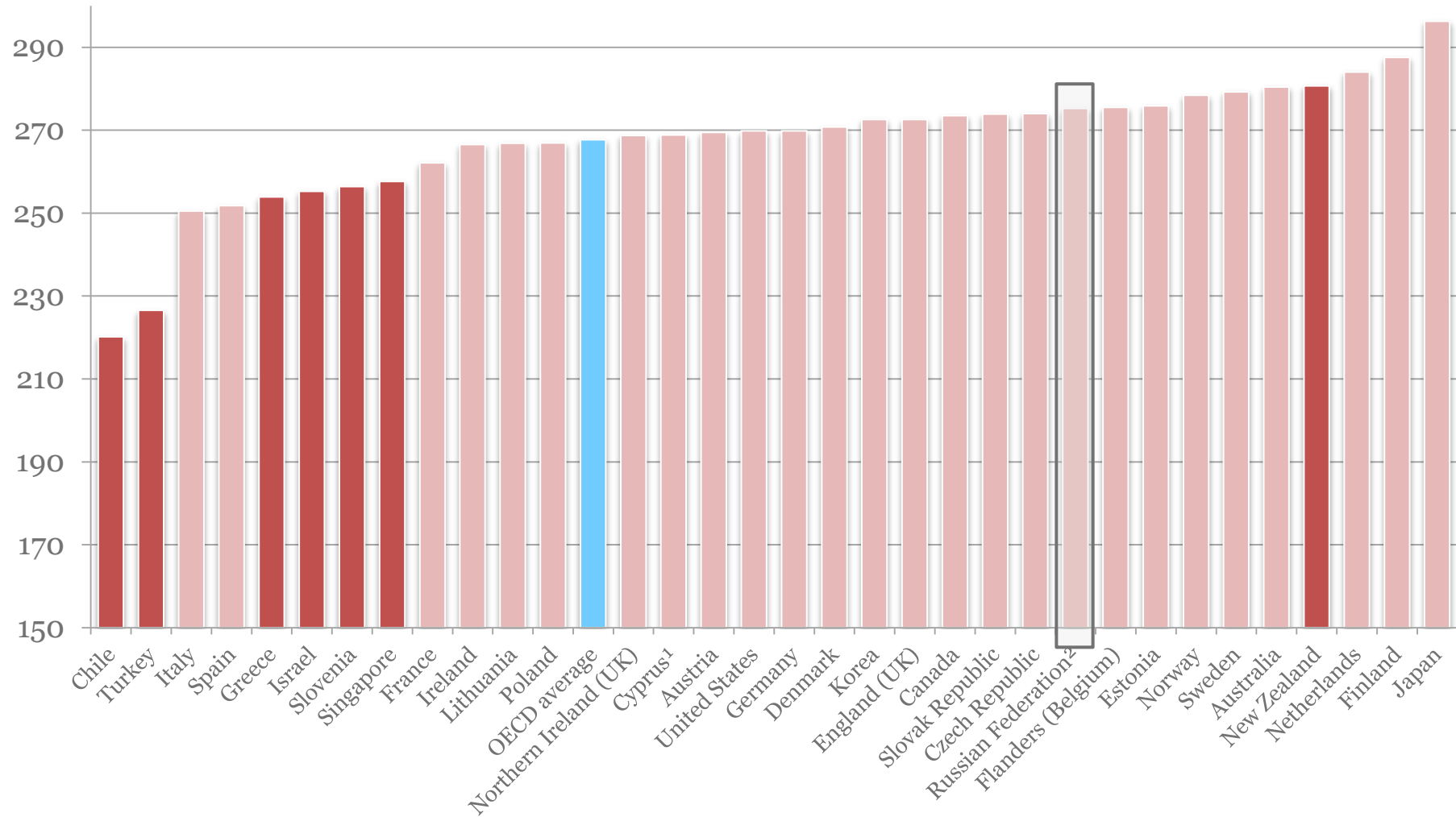
Analysis of data from PIAAC

- Over 350 publications related to PIAAC have been released across world.
- Following the release of the first international report, the OECD has released a number of analyses using PIAAC data.



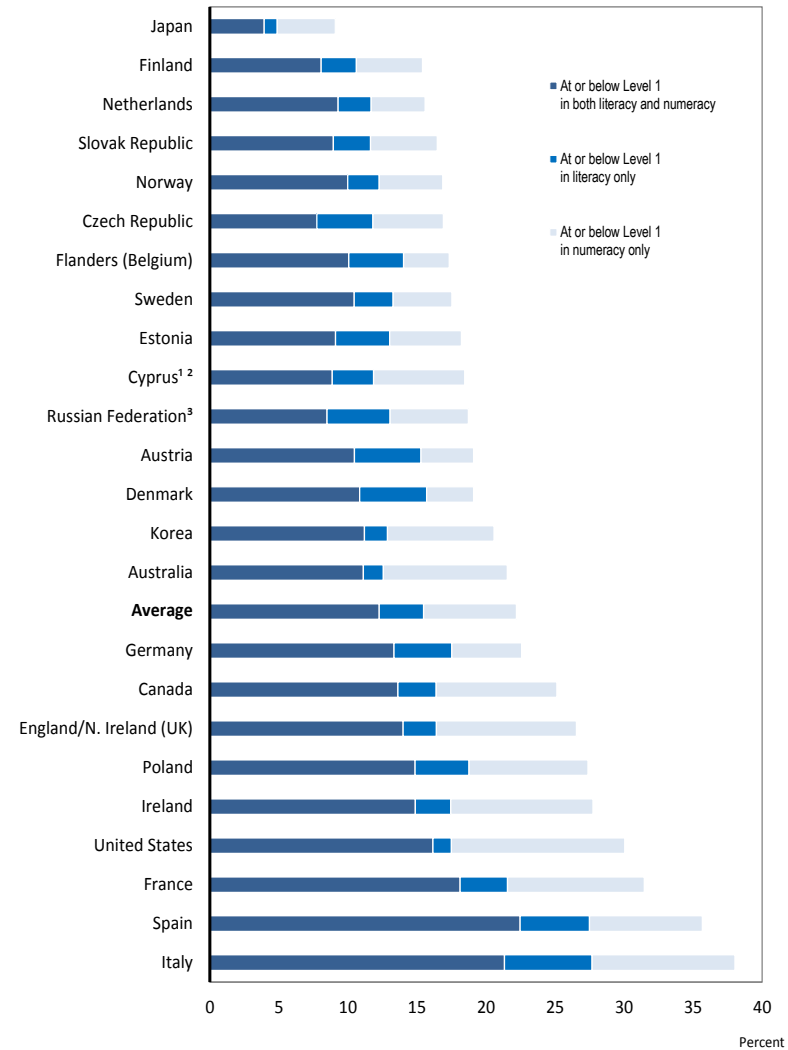
Literacy proficiency of adults

Literacy score



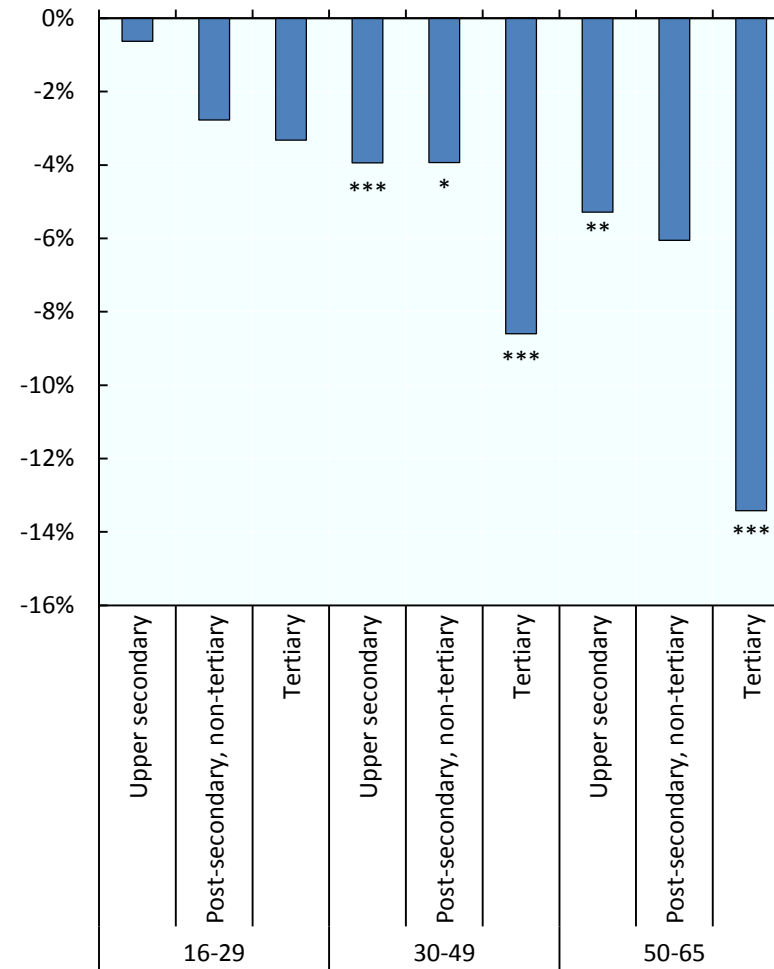
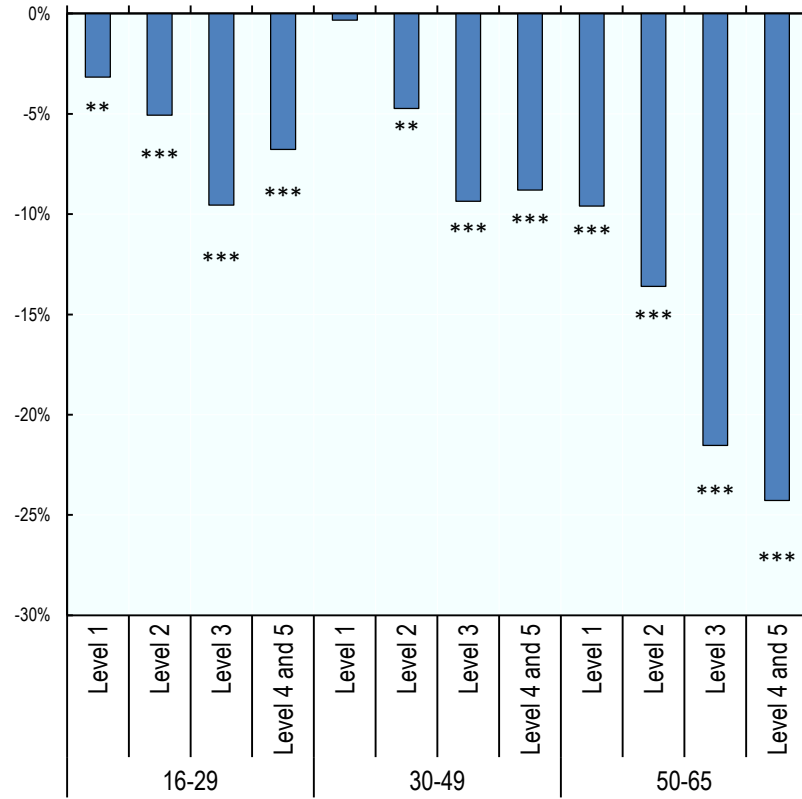


Proportion of adults with 'low' skills in literacy and numeracy (level 1 or below)



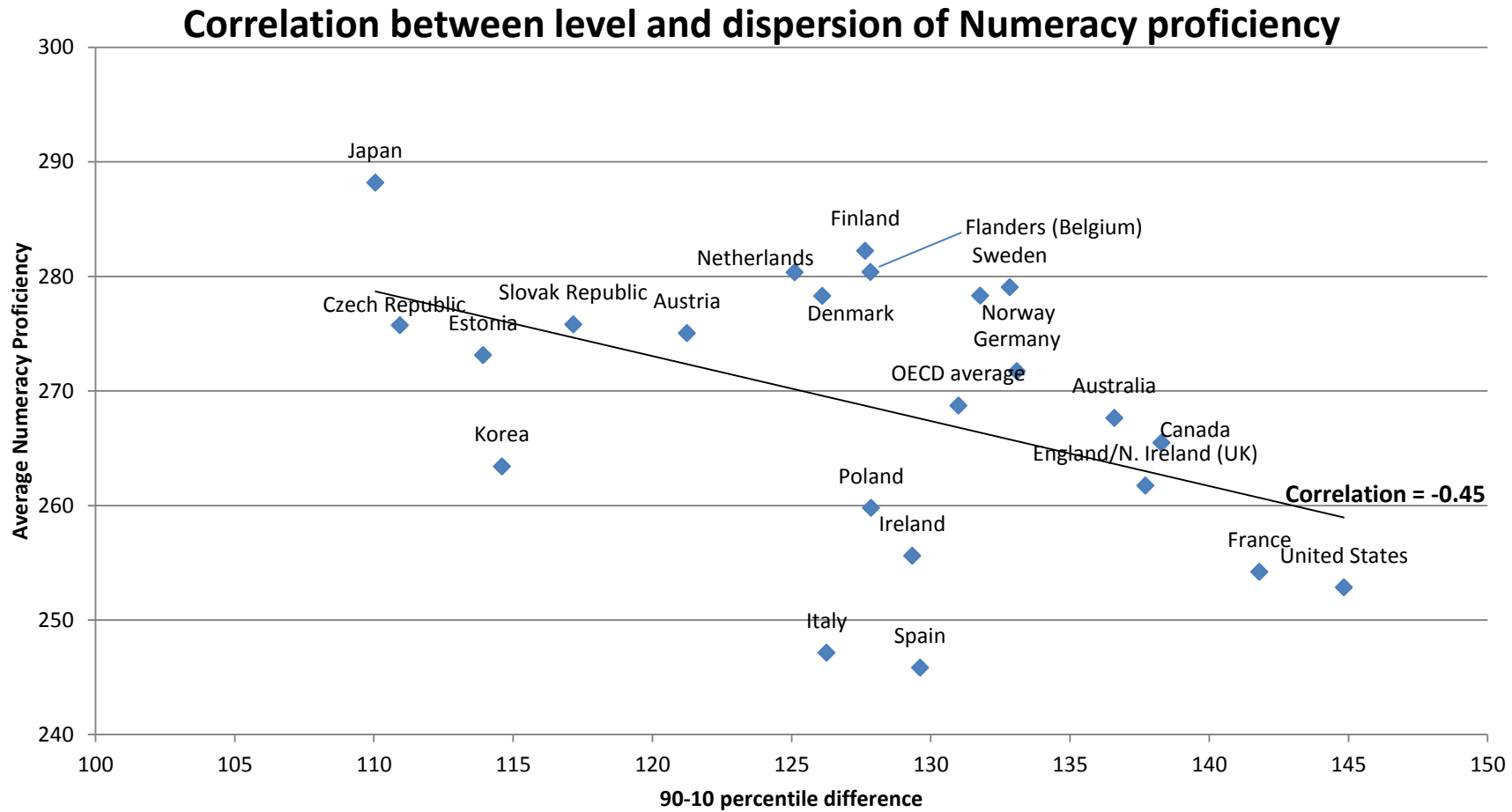


Literacy level and education and the probability of being NEET





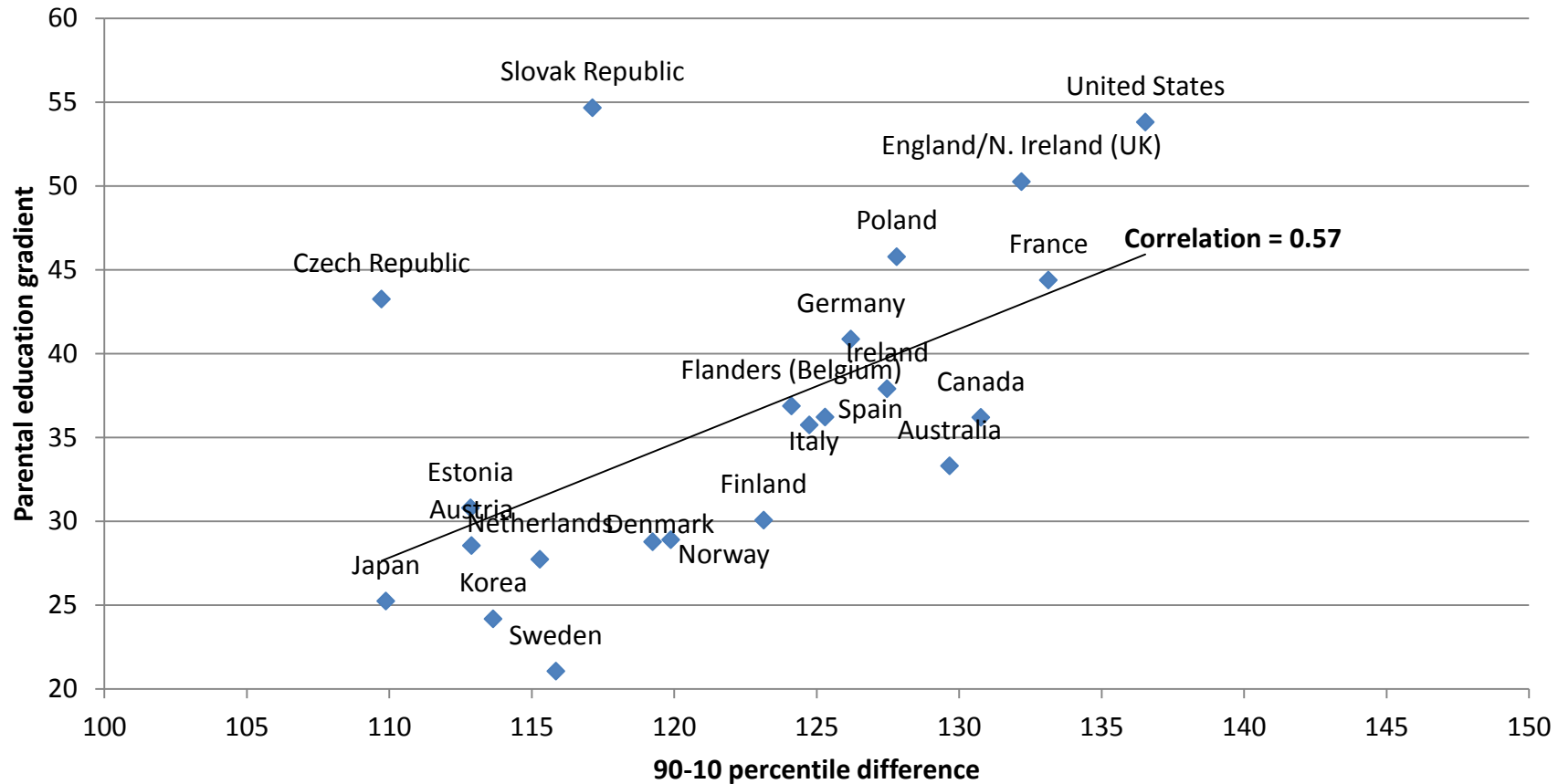
Less inequality in countries with better proficiency





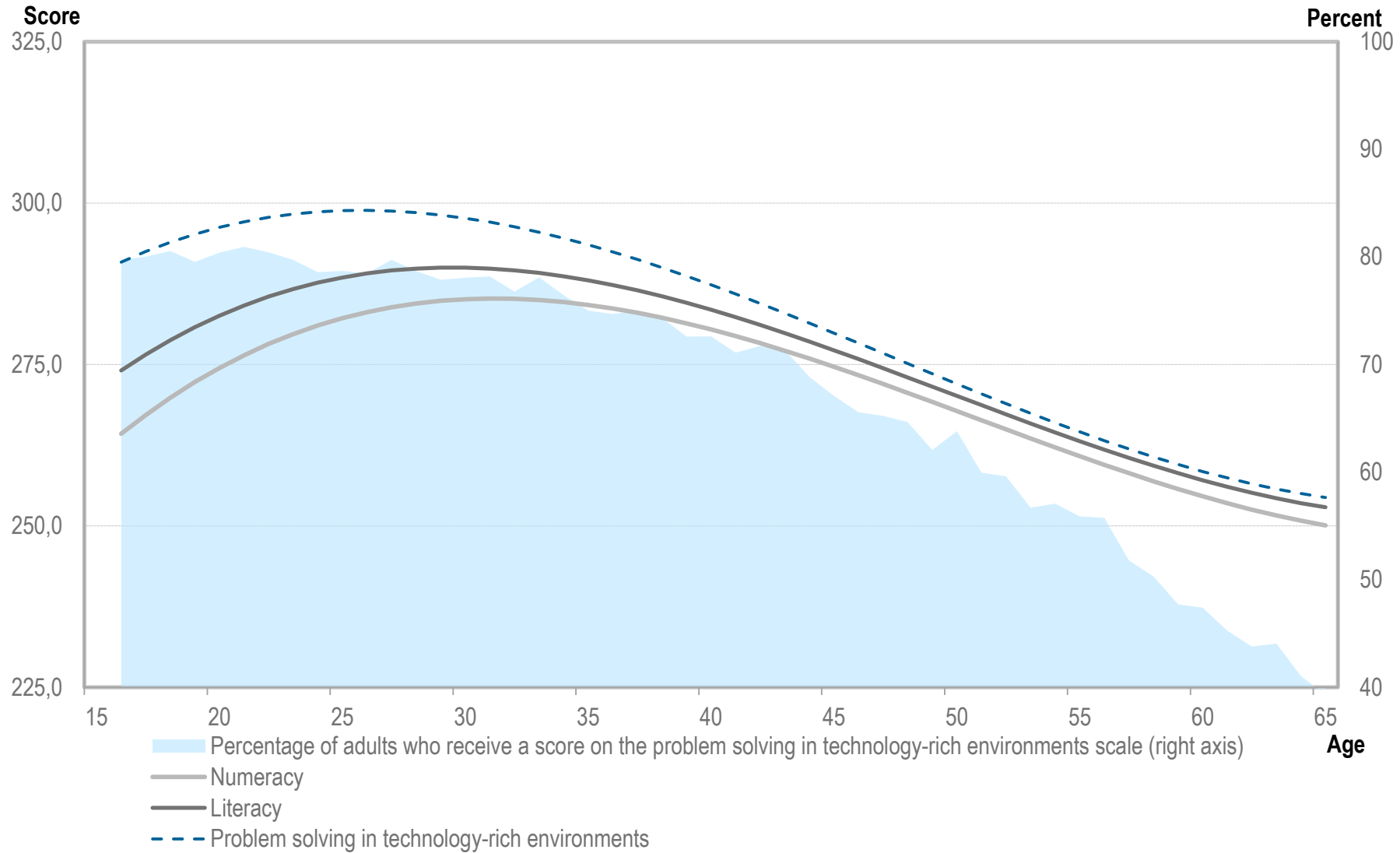
Less social mobility in more unequal countries

Correlation between skill inequality and parental education gradient



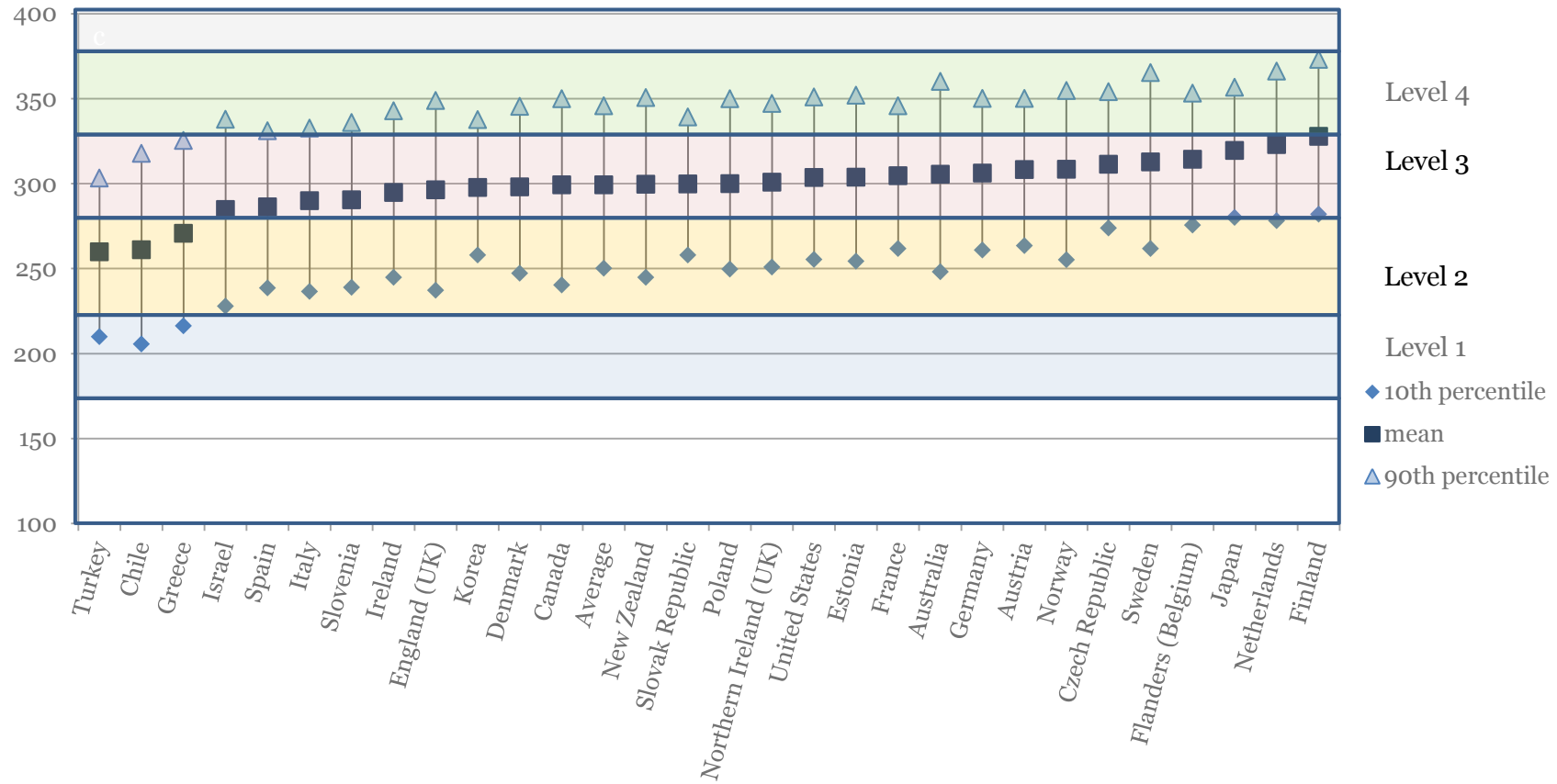


Age and proficiency in PIAAC





Literacy score distribution: 25-34 year old tertiary graduates





PIAAC: where to next?

- Next cycle has started.
 - Data collection 2021-22
 - Data released 2023
 - 34 countries including Russia
- What will be measured?
 - literacy, numeracy and problem solving
 - Non-cognitive skills
 - wider range of non-economic outcomes/indicators of well-being



Find Out More About PIAAC at:



www.oecd.org/skills/piaac/

All national and international
publications

The complete micro-level database



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Thank you