

Education at a Glance 2025

Highlights for Finland

Bernardo Mayorga

Directorate for Education and Skills

9 September 2025

1

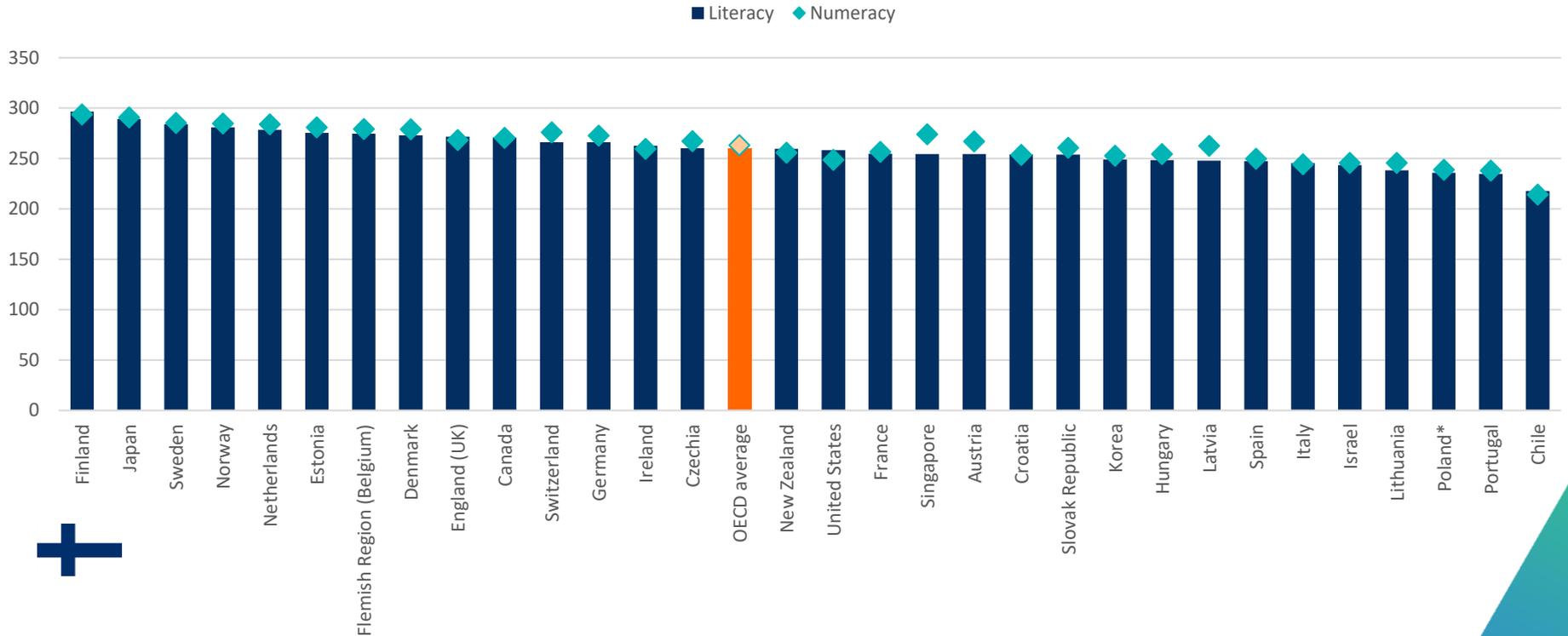
Adult skills are high in Finland





Adult skills are high in Finland

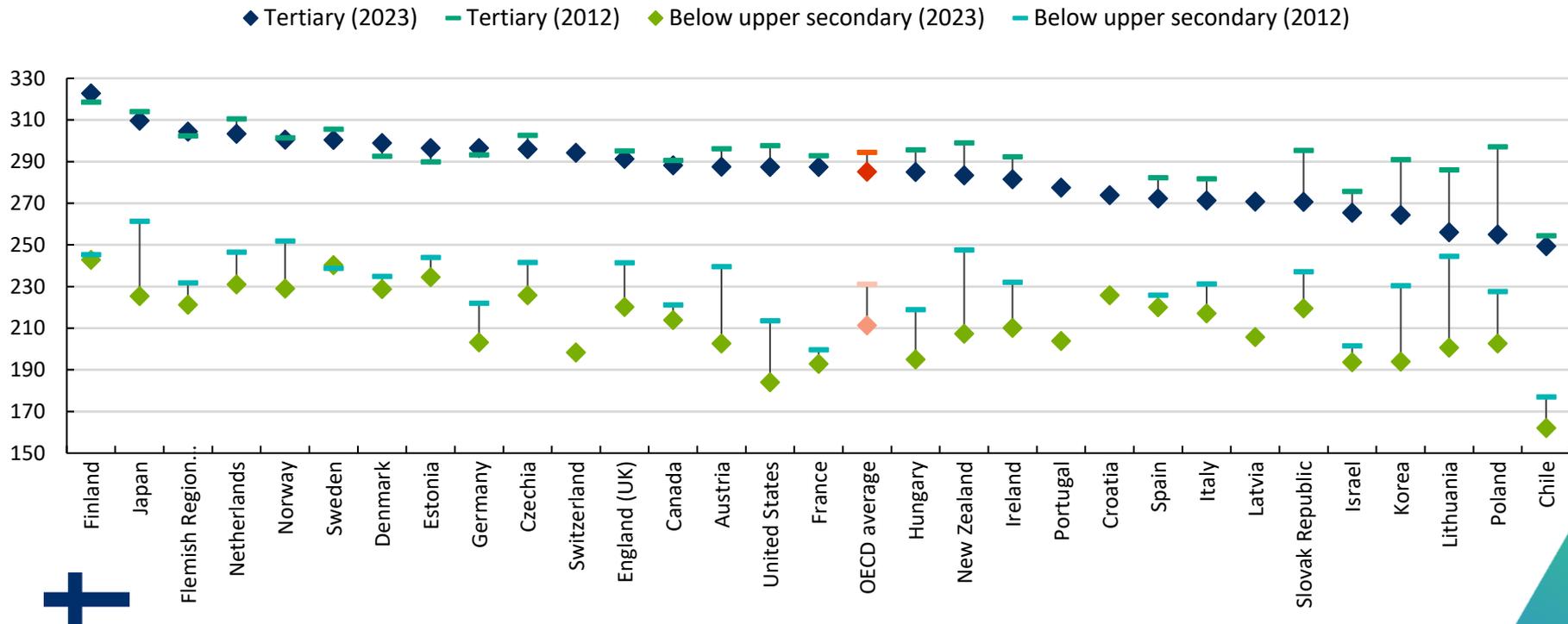
Average proficiency among adults





Finland is one of the few countries where skills have not declined at any attainment level

Trends in adults' mean literacy proficiency, by educational attainment (2012 and 2023)

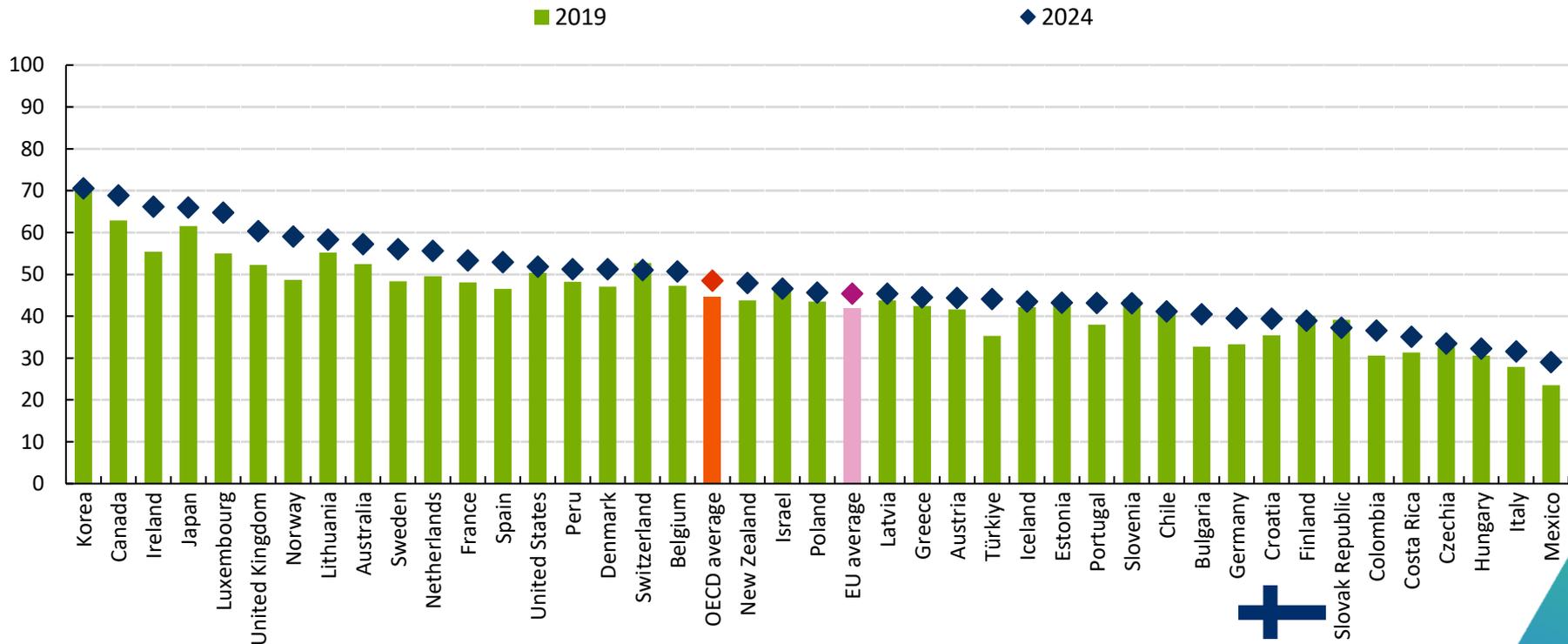


Tertiary attainment is declining in Finland



Finland is one of the few countries with declining tertiary attainment

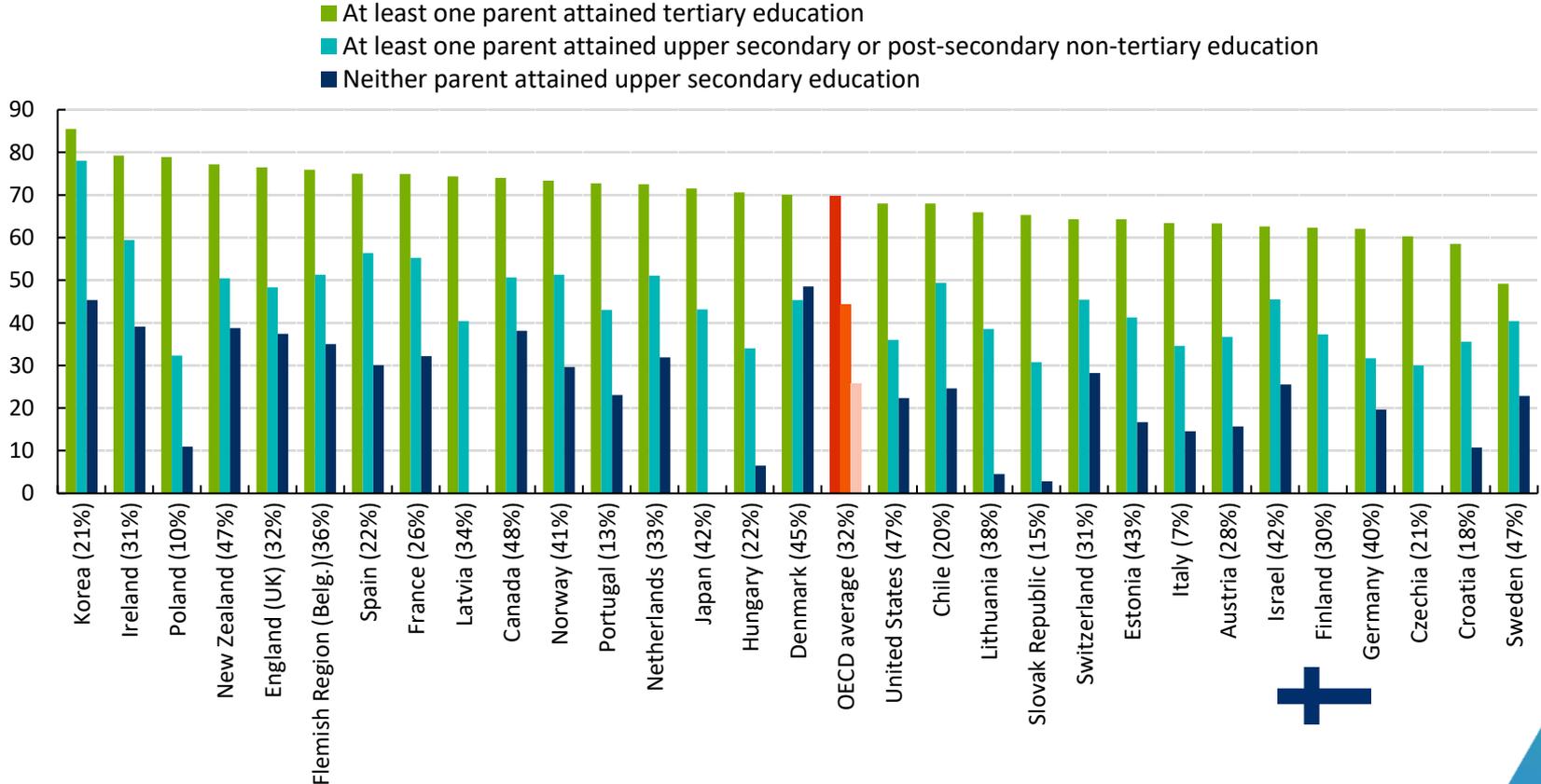
Trends in the share of 25-34 year-olds with tertiary attainment (2019 and 2024)





Educational attainment is closely linked to socio-economic background

Share of 25-34 year-olds with tertiary education, by parental educational attainment (2023)



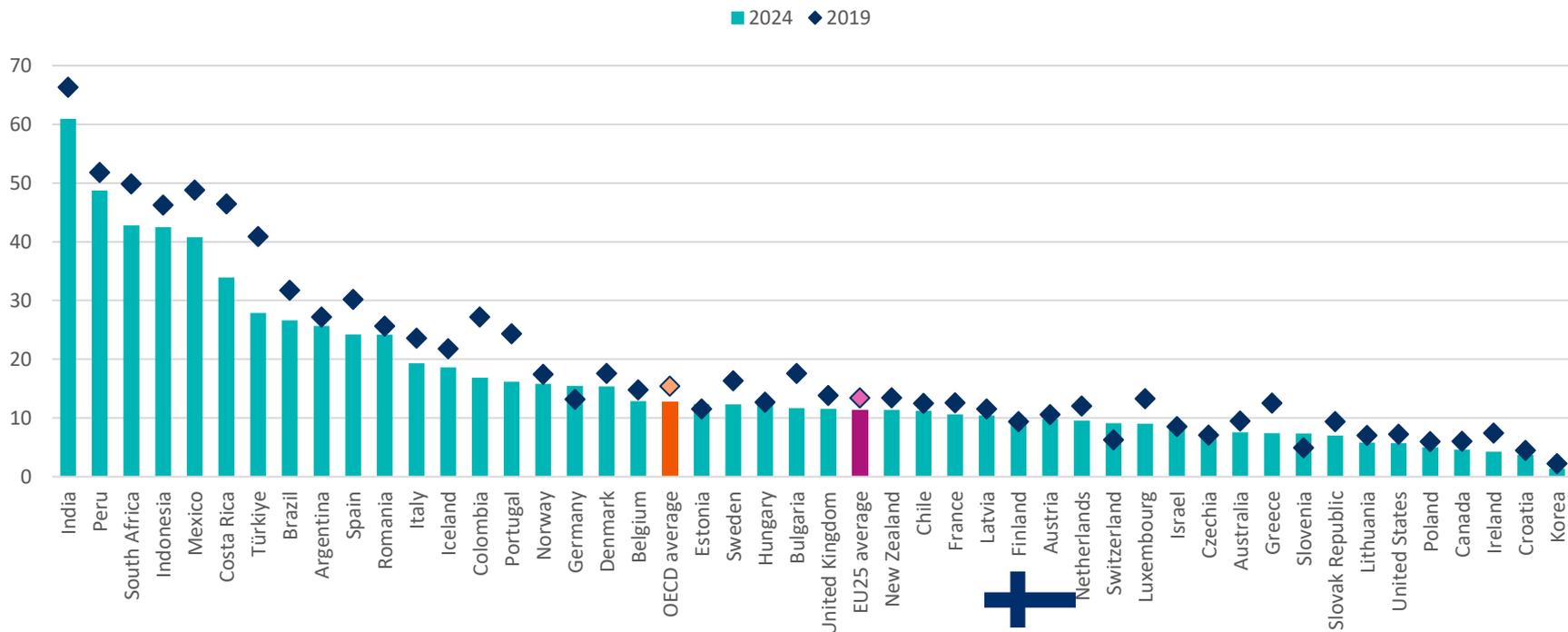
3

Declining labour market outcomes among lower-educated young adults



One in ten adults aged 25–34 lack an upper secondary qualification...

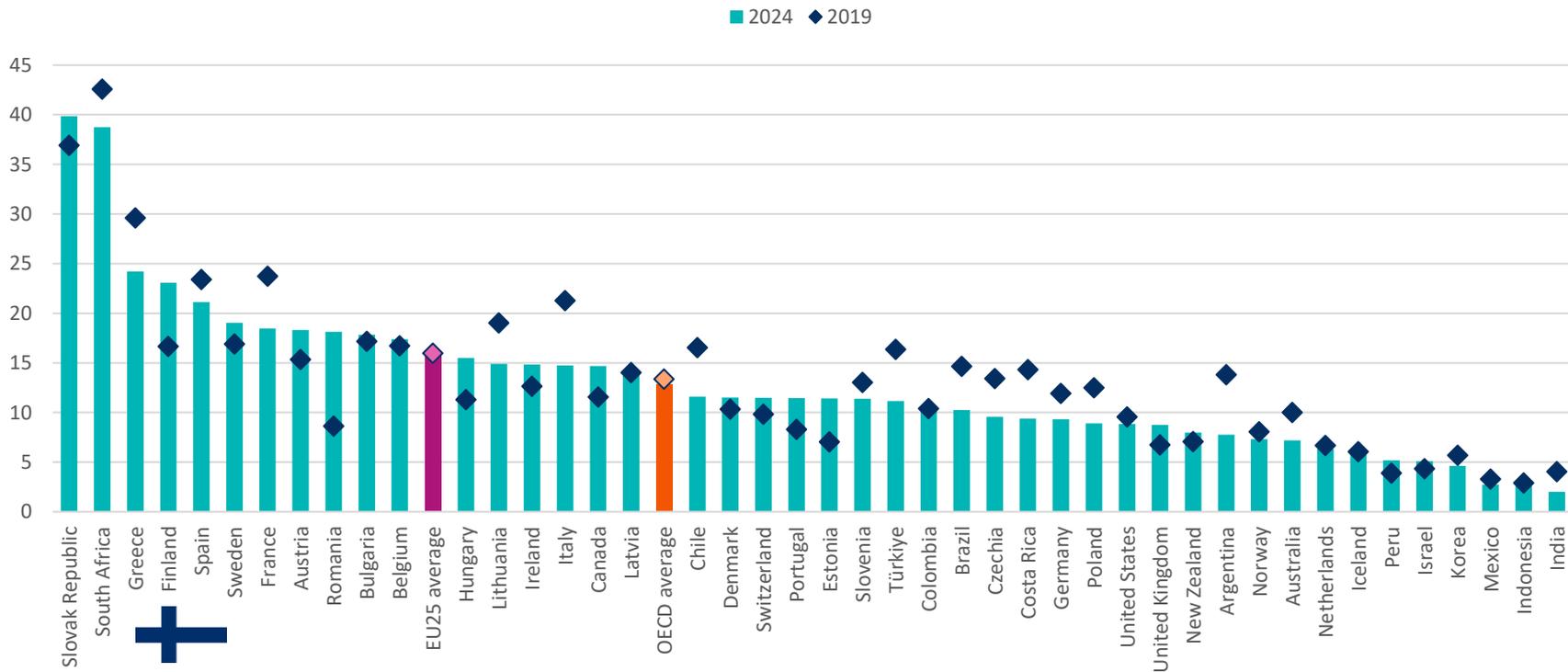
Trends in the educational attainment of 25-34 year-olds without upper secondary attainment in Finland (2019 and 2024)





...and they face increasing difficulties in finding employment.

Trends in unemployment rates of 25-34 year-olds without upper secondary attainment in Finland, (2019 to 2024)



Private funding in tertiary education is low

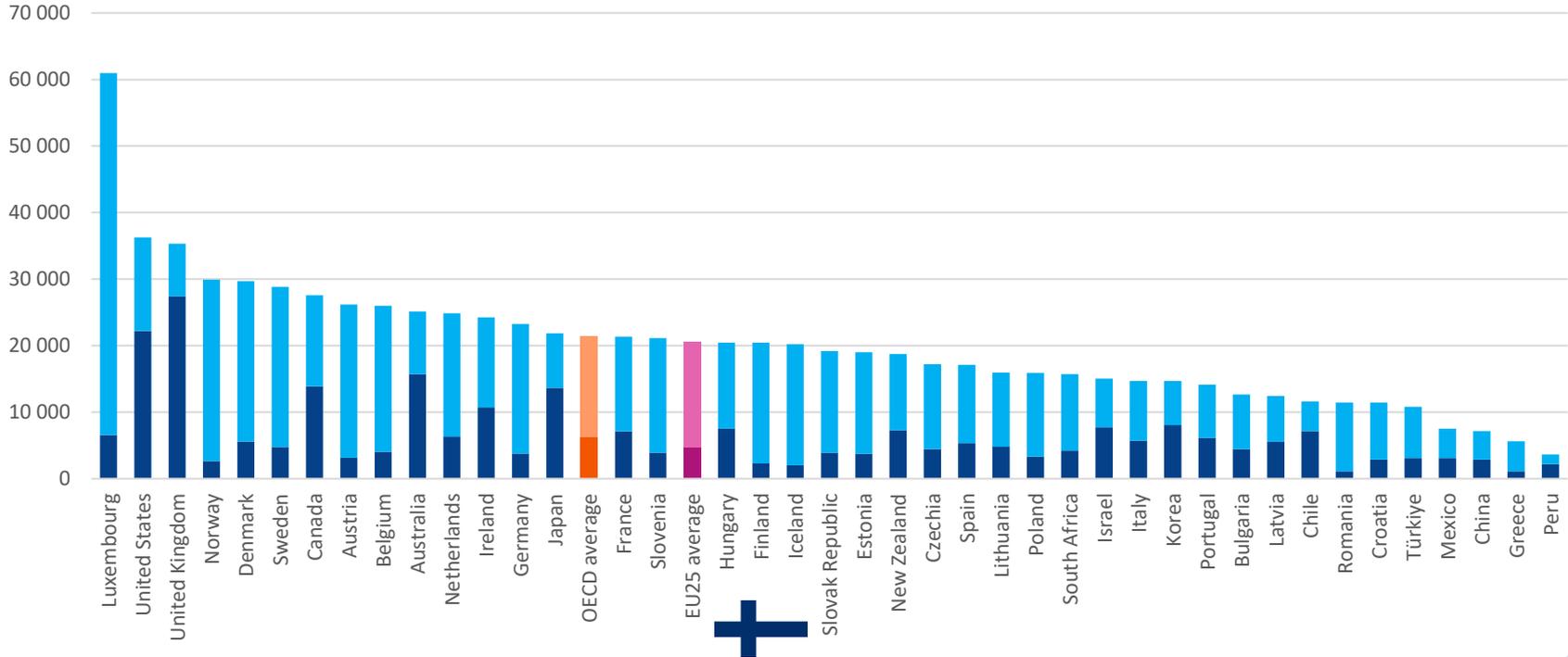


Expenditure per student in Finland comes mostly from public sources

Expenditure per full-time equivalent student in tertiary education, by source of income (2022)

USD converted
using PPPs

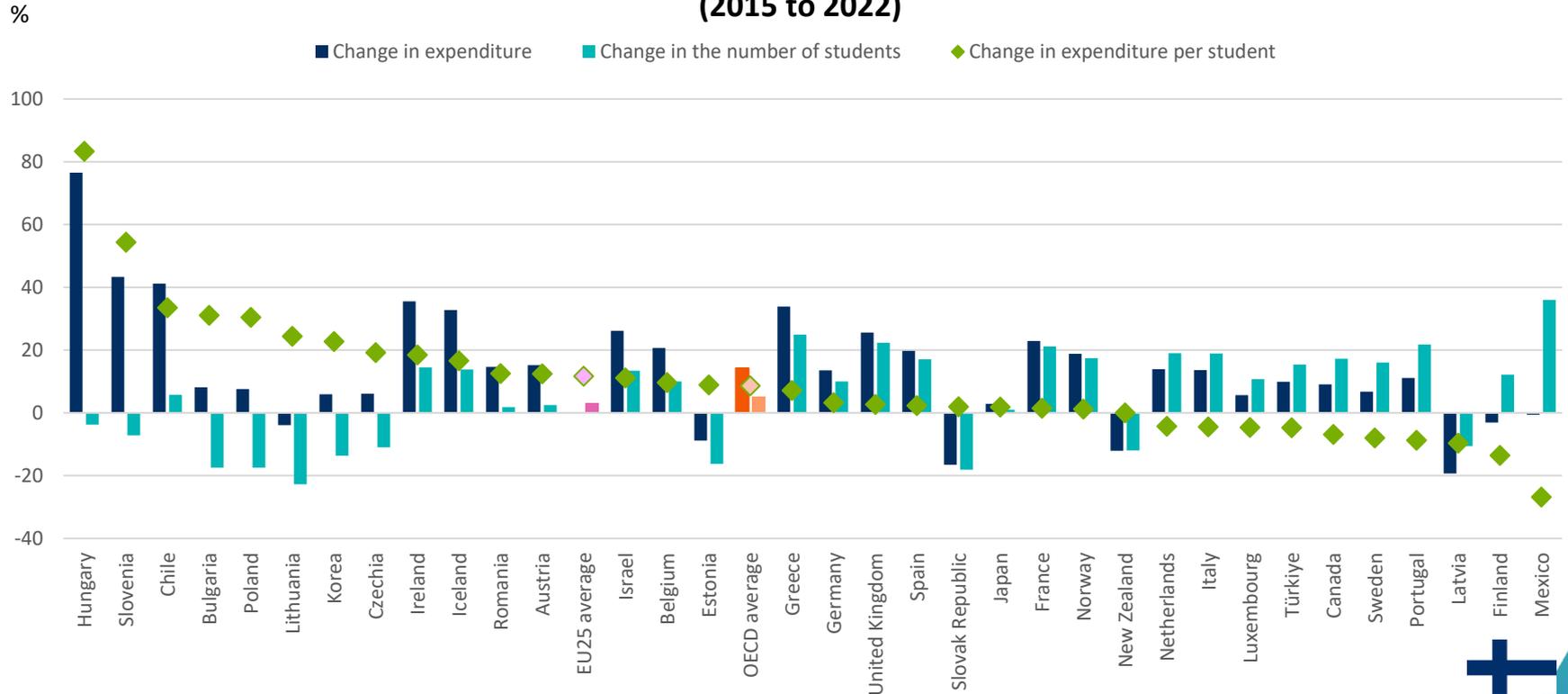
■ Private and non-domestic expenditure ■ Government expenditure (ISCED 5-8)





Expenditure in tertiary education fell since 2015

Change in the number of students, expenditure on tertiary educational institutions and expenditure per student (2015 to 2022)



5

Other results on tertiary education

5.1

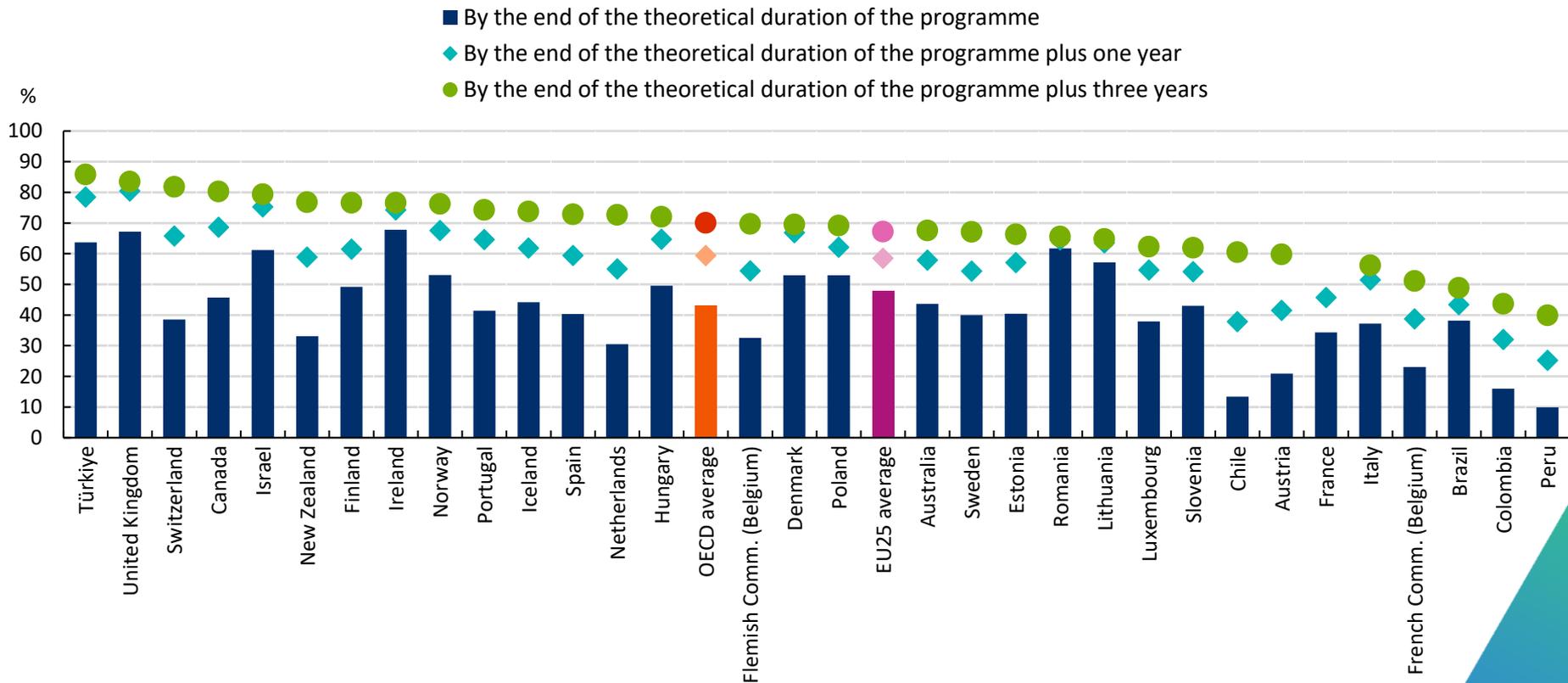
Positive results in tertiary completion rates





Completion rates for new entrants to bachelor's programmes are high

Completion rates of new entrants to bachelor's programmes, by timeframe (2023)

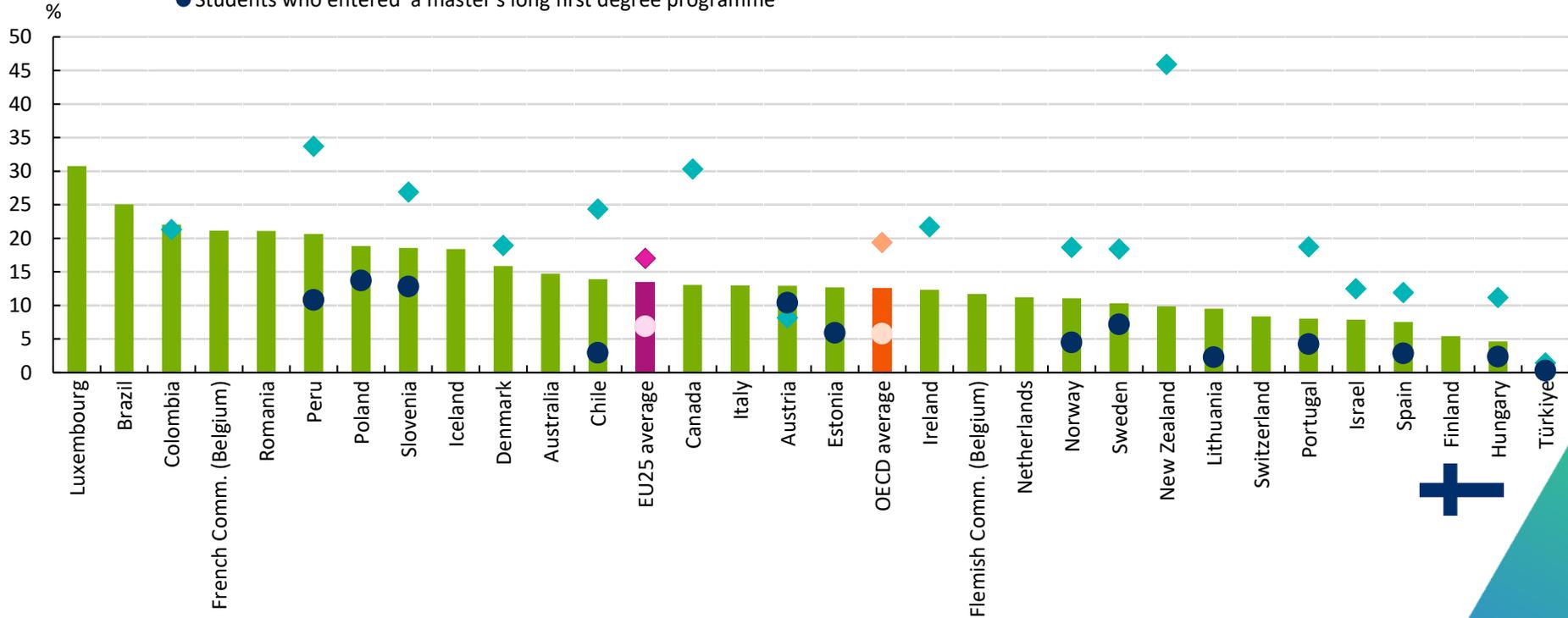




Low drop out rate within their first year of tertiary studies

Drop out rates after the first year of tertiary education, by level of education entered (2023)

- Students who entered a bachelor's (or equivalent) programme
- ◆ Students who entered a short-cycle tertiary programme
- Students who entered a master's long first degree programme



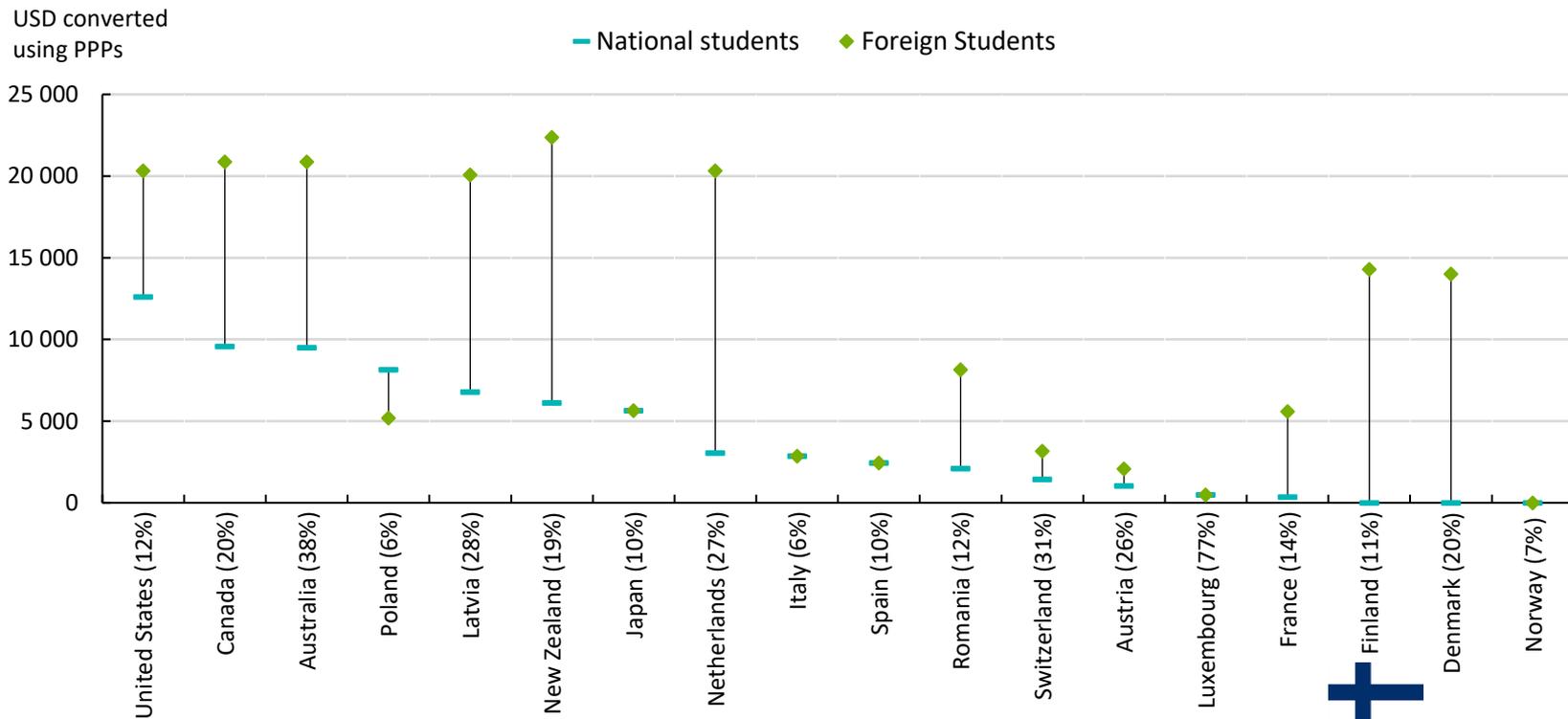
5.2

Tuition rates are moderate for foreign students



Tuition fees for foreign students are high in Finland

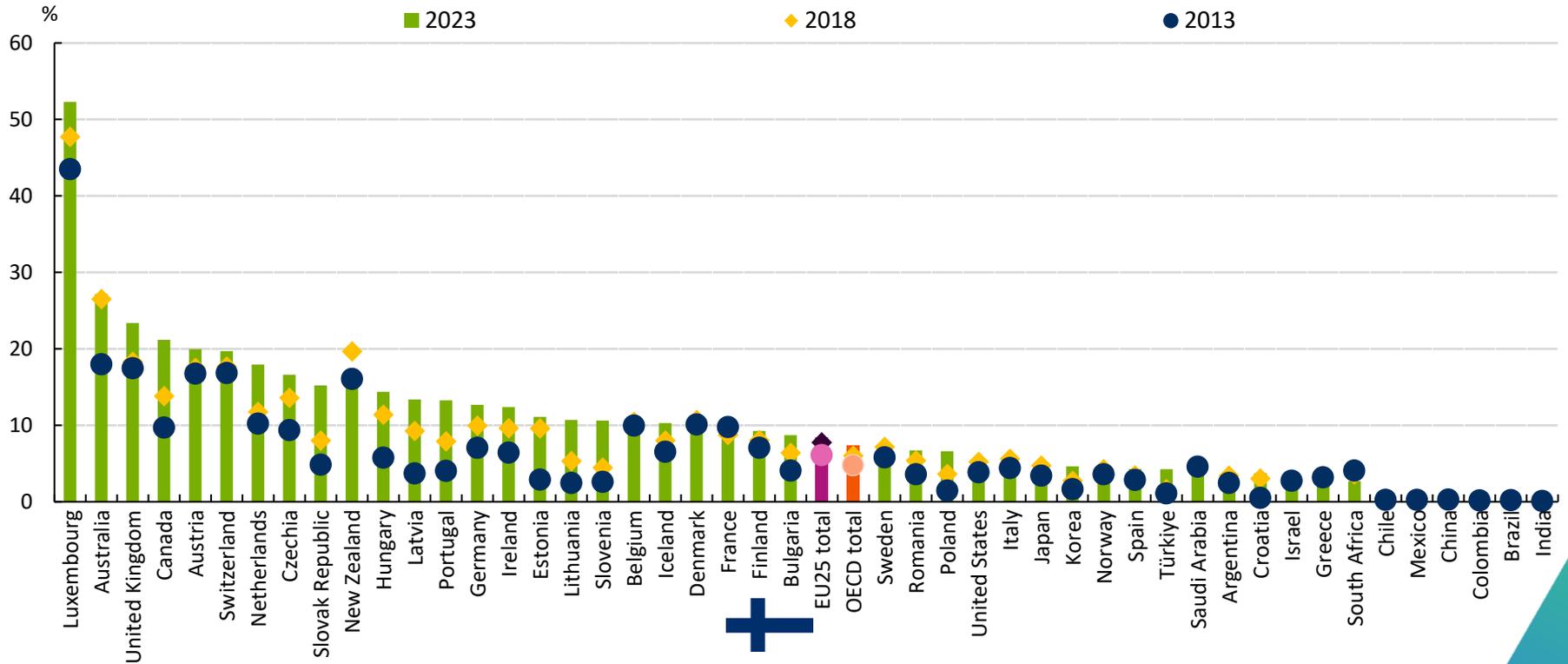
Annual average tuition fees charged by public institutions to national and foreign students for master's or equivalent programmes (2022/23)





International student mobility slightly increased in Finland

Trends in the share of international or foreign students in tertiary education (2013, 2018 and 2023)



6

Other remarks

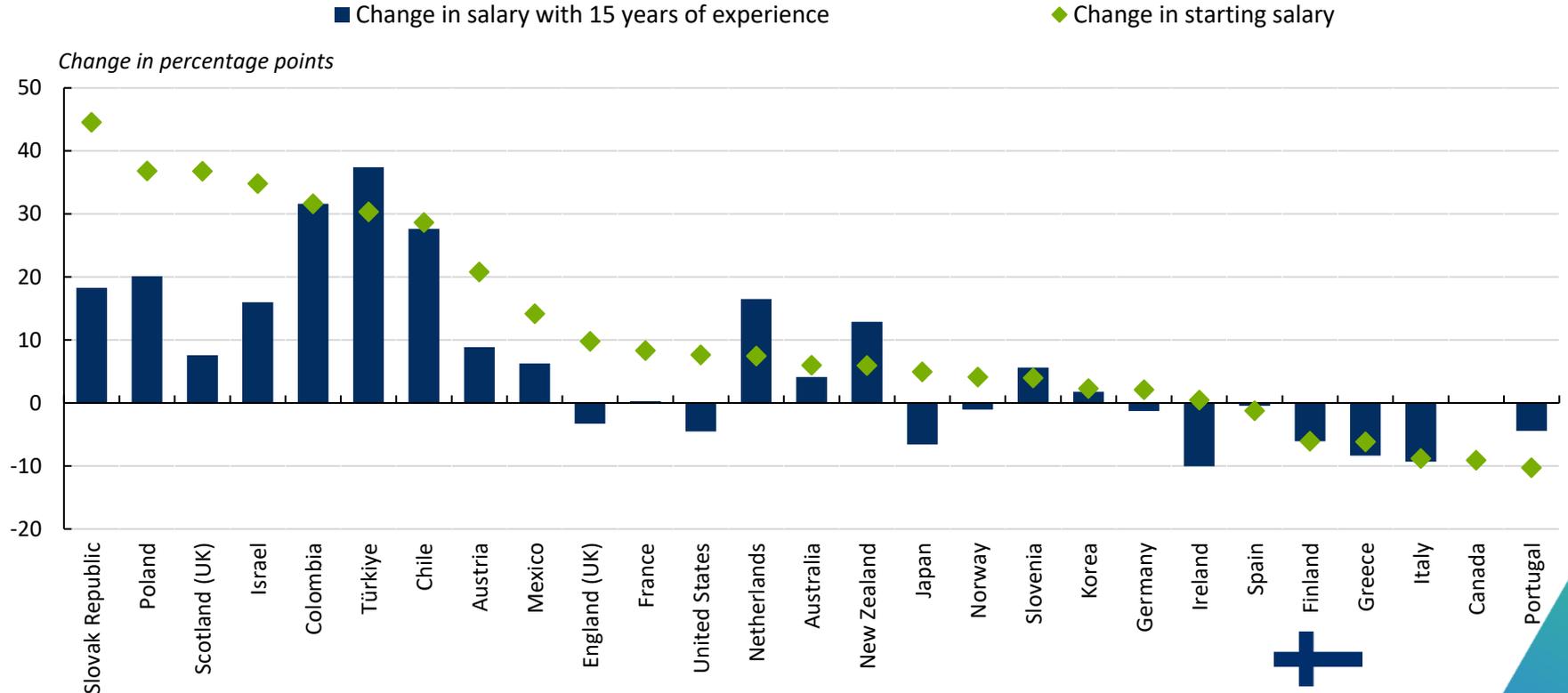
6.1

Teachers salaries in primary education
decreased



Teacher salaries decreased in the last 10 years in Finland

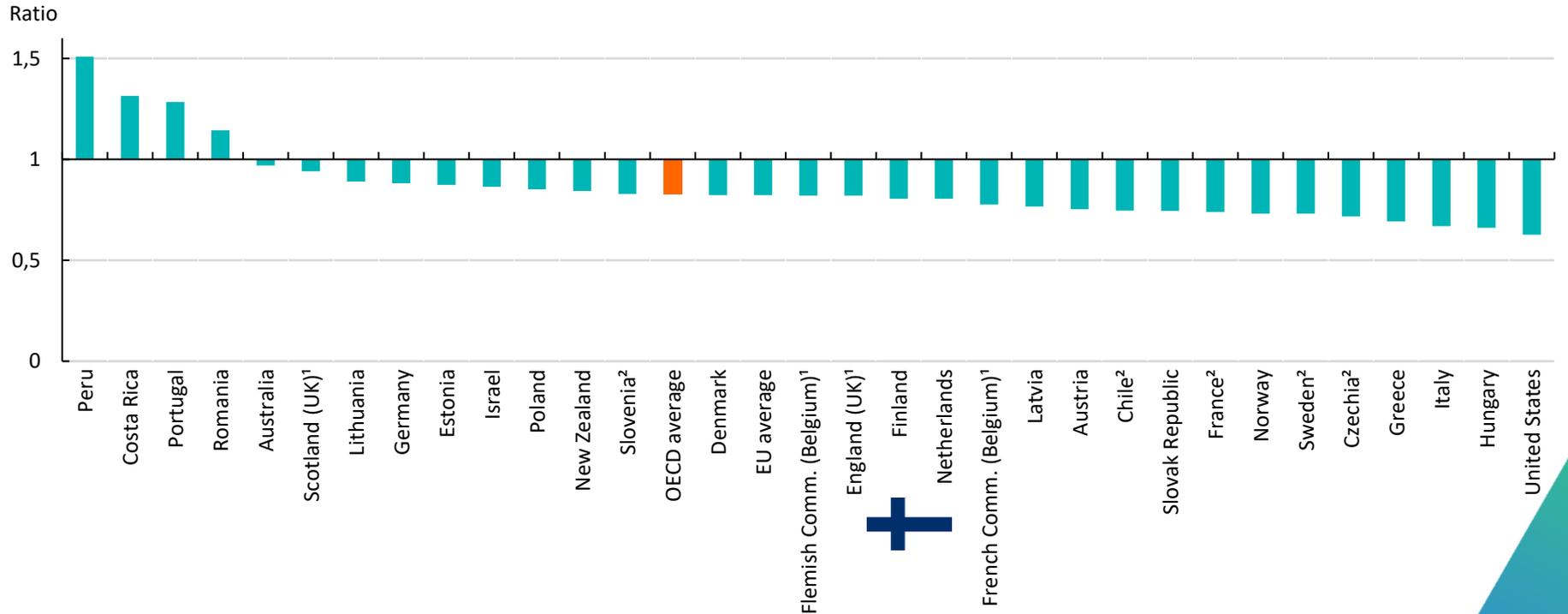
Change in primary teachers' statutory salaries between 2015 and 2024 (most prevalent qualifications after 15 years)





Teacher salaries in Finland lag behind tertiary-educated workers

Actual salaries of primary teachers relative to earnings of tertiary-educated workers (2024)



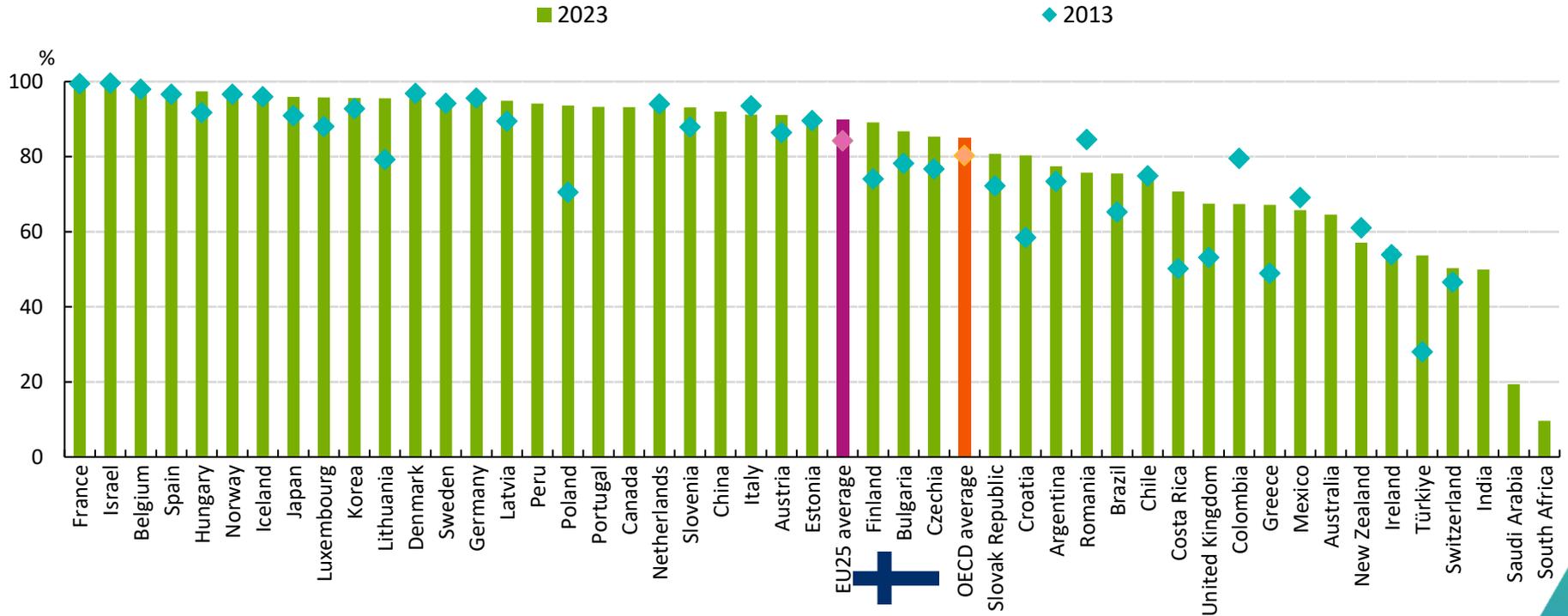
6.2

Finland has made progress in early childhood education



Finland made important progress in increasing enrolment in ECEC

Trends in enrolment rates of 3-5 year-olds in early childhood education (ISCED 0) (2013 and 2023)

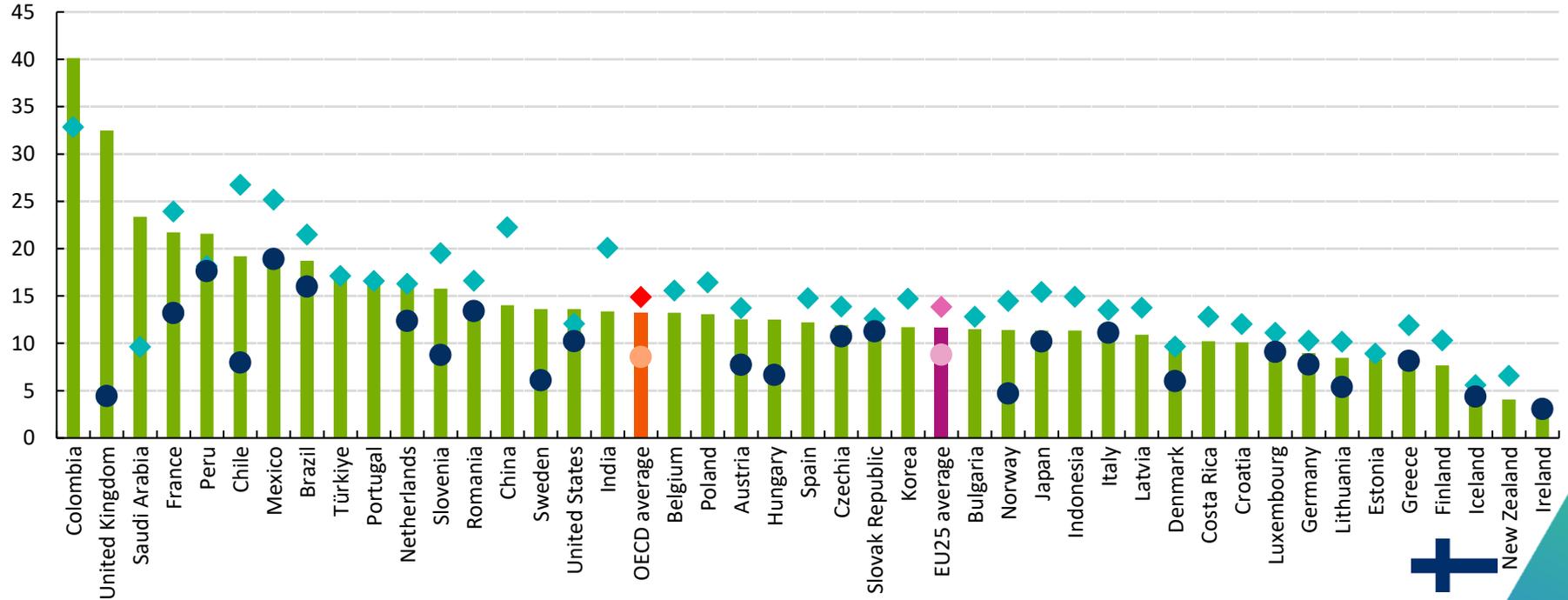




Children to staff ratios remained low

Trends in the ratio of children to staff in pre-primary education (2013 and 2023)

■ Children to teaching staff - 2023 ◆ Children to teaching staff - 2013 ● Children to contact staff (teachers and teachers' aides) - 2023





Download Education at a Glance 2025



https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/education-at-a-glance-2025_1c0d9c79-en.html

 EDUCATION
& SKILLS

Thank you

