



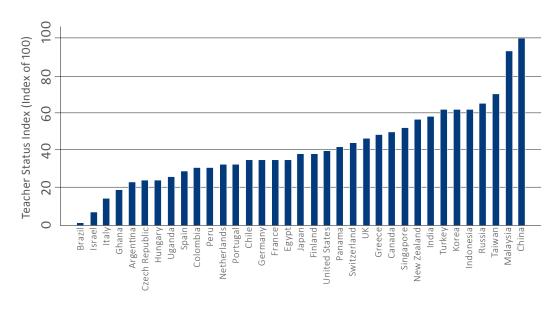
TEACHER STATUS IN
FINLAND RANKS
17TH OUT OF 35
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IN THE NEW GLOBAL
TEACHER STATUS
INDEX 2018, JUST
BEHIND THE US AND
JUST AHEAD OF
JAPAN

# FINLAND ONLY IN MIDDLE OF NEW GLOBAL TEACHER RESPECT RANKING, DESPITE HAVING ONE OF THE WORLD'S BEST EDUCATION SYSTEMS

#### **KEY FINDINGS - FINLAND:**

- The Global Teacher Status Index 2018 shows for the very first time that there is a direct link between teacher status and pupil performance as measured by PISA scores. Countries which have higher teacher status are more likely to record higher PISA scores. This new finding for the 2018 Index shows that high teacher status is not just a nice to have increasing it is likely, all things being equal, to lead to greater student outcomes in that country.
- > Finland ranks 17th out of 35 countries in the Global Teacher Status Index 2018, just behind the US and just ahead of Japan. The country's middling rank in the GTSI is sharply at odds with its high PISA ranking of fifth out of the surveyed countries by average PISA scores, bucking a global trend in which, generally, countries with higher teacher status also saw higher pupil attainment.

The Varkey Foundation Global Teacher Status Index 2018 (GTSI 2018)



35 survey countries indexed on a relative scale 1-100

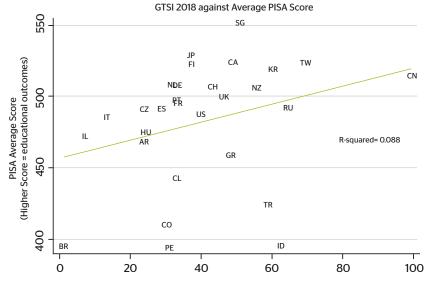




TEACHER STATUS
HAS INCREASED IN
FINLAND RELATIVE
TO OTHER
COUNTRIES POLLED
SINCE THE SURVEY
WAS LAST
CONDUCTED IN 2013

- Only a quarter (25%) of Finns would encourage their child to become a teacher, the 14th lowest of all the countries surveyed but a slight increase from 2013 when 20% of Finnish people would encourage their child to become a teacher. By sharp contrast, over half (54%) of Indians would encourage their child to become a teacher, more than any other country surveyed. The country in which the lowest proportion of respondents would encourage their child to become a teacher was Russia (6%).
- Despite achieving some of the best pupil results in the world according to PISA, Finnish teachers report they are working fewer hours than many European countries surveyed at 38.6 hours a week. German teachers by comparison report they are working 44.65 hours a week, while British teachers say they are working 51 hours a week. Finland is one of only six countries surveyed in which the general public estimates teachers work more hours than teachers report they actually work, with the Finnish public estimating teachers work 40.83 hours a week.
- The number of Finnish people who support performance related pay has fallen dramatically from 80% in 2013 to 21% today. In 2013, Finnish people were the sixth most supportive of all the countries surveyed of teachers being paid according to the results of their pupils. Today, Finnish people are the least supportive of all

Scatter Plot of GTSI 2018 against 2015 PISA Score by Country.



GTSI 2018 AR:Argentina, BR:Brazil, CA:Canada, CL:Chile. CN:China CO:Colombia CZ:Czech, FI:Finland. FR:France. DE:Germany. GR:Greece, HU:Hungary, IN:India, ID:Indonesia. IL:Israel, IT:Italy, JP:Japan, KR:S.Korea, NL:Netherlands NZ:New Zealand, PE:Peru, PT:Portugal, RU:Russia. SG:Singapore, ES:Spain, CH:Switzerland, TW·Taiwan TR:Turkey,

UK:United Kingdom,

**US:United States** 



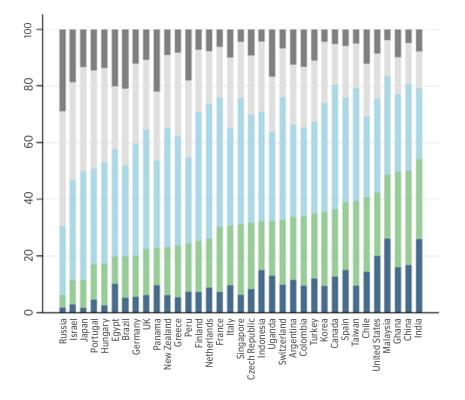
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those surveyed of performance related pay. By comparison, 79% of people in Egypt support performance related pay in 2018, more than in any other country surveyed.

- Finnish people rate their education system higher than any other country surveyed, on average giving it a rating of 8.06 out of 10. This bears out international PISA rankings that place the Finnish education system as among the best performing in the world. In stark contrast, Egyptians, rated their country's education system lower than any other surveyed at 3.8. Finnish people think their education system has improved in the last five years, rating it 7.7 out of 10 in 2013 but 8.06 today.
- Almost nine in 10 Finnish people (89%) instinctively view teachers as being caring, more than in any other country polled. Nine in 10 Finnish people (90%) see teachers as intelligent, the second highest of all the countries polled after Ghana.
- > Finnish people have among the highest respect of any surveyed country for headteachers. When asked to rank 14 professions including doctors, nurses, librarians and social workers in order of respect Finland ranked headteachers the fifth highest of all the countries surveyed after Malaysia, Indonesia, China, and India. The country with the least respect for headteachers in the survey was Brazil.

Would You Encourage Your Child to Become a Teacher by Country (2018).

- Definitely not encourage
- Probably not encourage
- Maybe encourage
- Probably encourage
- Definitely encourage



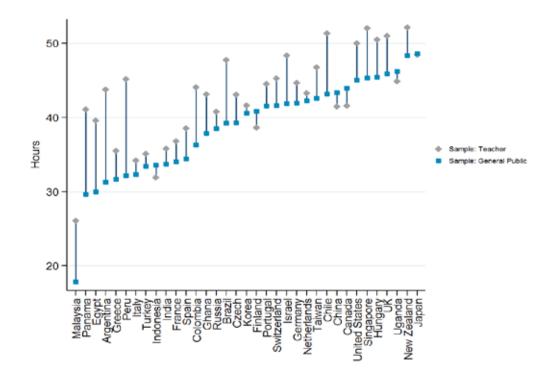




FINNISH TEACHERS
REPORT THEY ARE
WORKING FEWER
HOURS THAN MANY
EUROPEAN
COUNTRIES
SURVEYED AT 38.6
HOURS A WEEK

- > Two in five Finns (40%) think pupils respect their teachers, more than any other EU country surveyed and a marked increase from 2013 when only a quarter (25%) of Finnish people thought pupils respected their teachers.
- > Finnish people considerably underestimate the amount teachers are paid, putting the starting salary of a secondary school teacher at around \$24,000 (adjusted for purchasing power parity) when it is actually \$40,500, the eighth highest of all the countries surveyed. Finnish people believe a fair wage for a starting secondary school teacher is around \$29,000 making Finland one of only seven countries surveyed in which teachers are paid more than what the general public consider to be a fair wage, the others being Italy, Portugal, Germany, Switzerland, Spain and Singapore. Unusually in Finland, teachers consider a fair wage to be lower than the general public do, placing it at \$25.000.
- 11) Wages for starting secondary teachers in Finland have risen markedly since 2013, from just over \$28,500 (PPP adjusted) five years ago to over \$40,500 now. This contrasts sharply with the UK and the US where wages have stagnated. What Finnish people consider to be a fair wage for starting secondary school teachers has fallen from over \$34,500 in 2013 to around \$29,000 now.

Perceptions of Teacher working hours (Teacher vs Public perceptions) by Country.







WHILE TEACHER
RESPECT IN FINLAND
IS AVERAGE, FINNISH
PEOPLE RATE THEIR
EDUCATION SYSTEM
HIGHER THAN ANY
OTHER COUNTRY
SURVEYED

- > Teacher status has increased in Finland relative to other countries polled since the survey was last conducted in 2013. In 2013 it ranked at number 13 out of 21 countries surveyed then, and of those 21 countries it has risen to number 10, overtaking countries such as Spain (12 out of 21 in 2013 but 17 out of 21 in 2018).
- ➤ Teachers in Finland hold themselves in considerably higher regard than the Finnish public do. When only polling teachers, Finland's status score rises from 44.32 out of 100 to 62.57 out of 100. This is the second biggest gap between the general public and teachers' perceptions of teacher status of all the countries surveyed after Panama.
- Almost a quarter of Finnish respondents (23%) said the most comparable profession to teachers are social workers, followed by 15% who said nurses. This puts Finland in line with the majority of countries surveyed 18 of which said teachers were most similar to social workers. By comparison, only three countries China, Russia and Malaysia said teachers were most like doctors, a view shared by just 3% of Finns. The Finnish view on which profession is most comparable to teachers has not changed since 2013.

Responses to 'Should teachers be rewarded in pay according to their pupils' results?' By Country. (As percentages of respondents) For the general public sample



Neither agree nor disagree

Tend to agree

Strongly agree

