

Improving educational policy and practice through research



# Catching Up with the Joneses: How Other Countries Closed the Education Gap with the US

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August 13, 2008

San Diego

epi

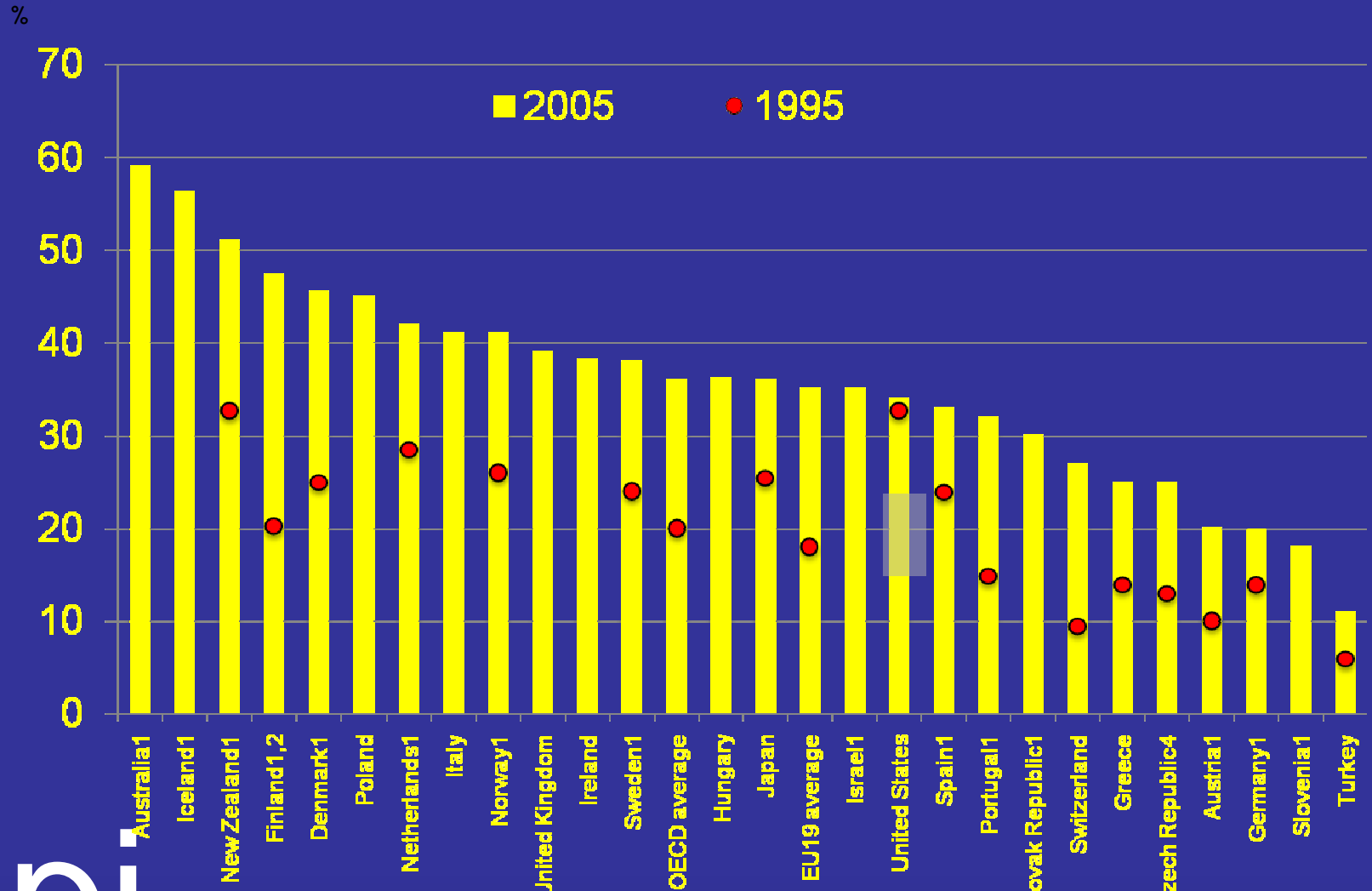
[www.educationalpolicy.org](http://www.educationalpolicy.org)

## The Standard Caveats

- International comparative data is messy
  - HE Systems and Pathways are different
  - Data collection abilities differ, and force the use of abstract constructions
  - No double-checking

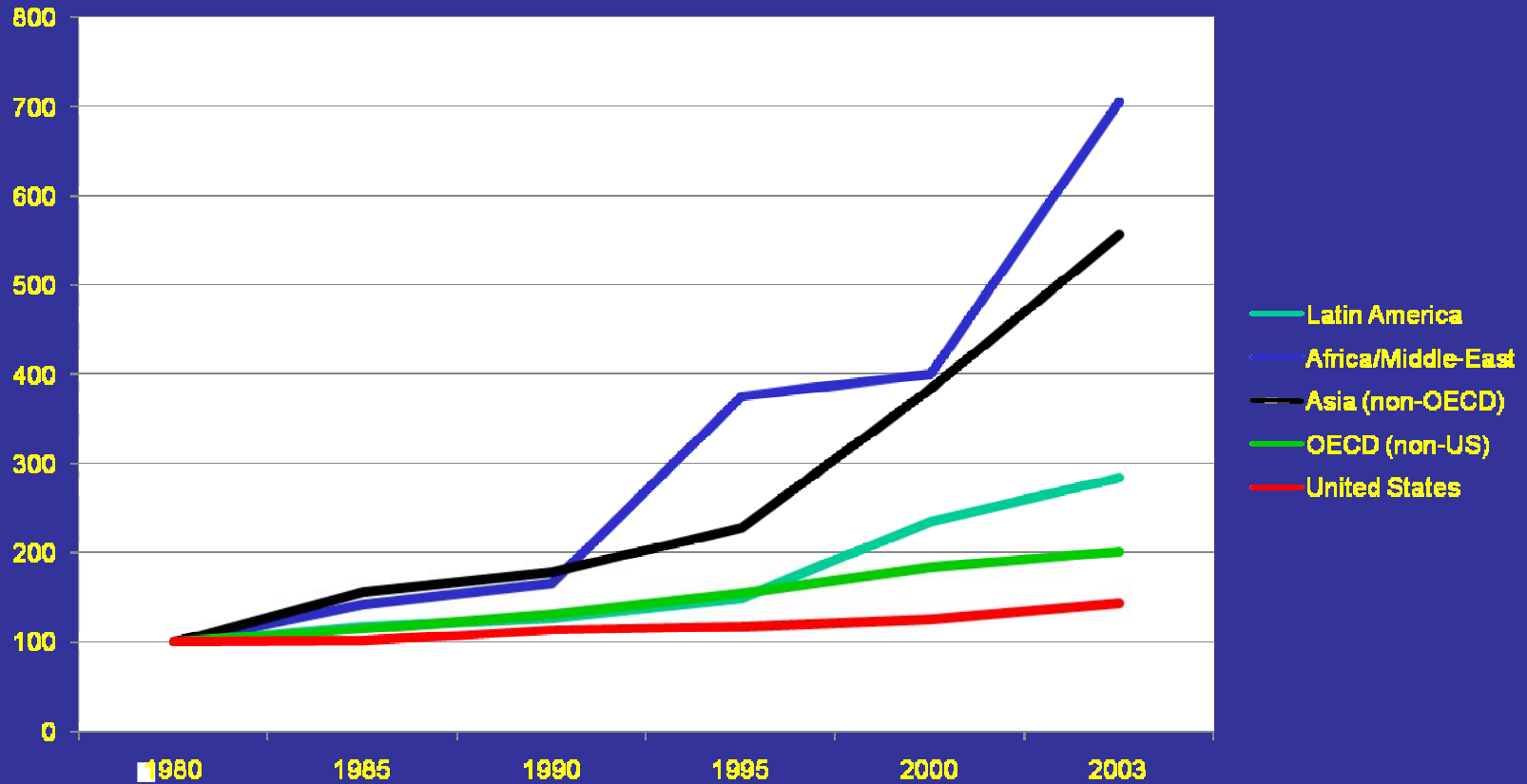
# College-level graduation rates

Percentage of tertiary type A graduates to the population at the typical age of graduation

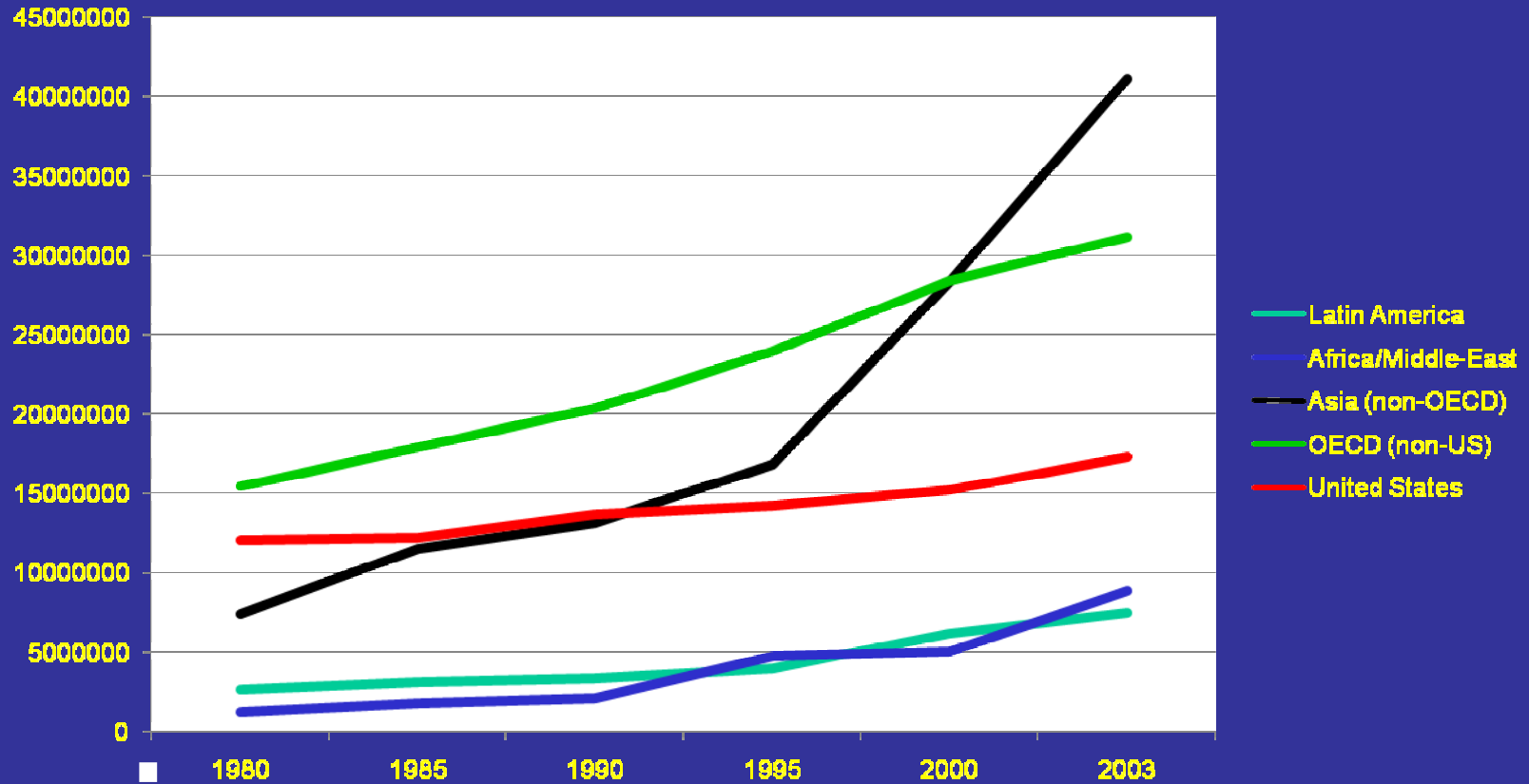


1. Net graduation rate is calculated by summing the graduation rates by single year of age in 2005.

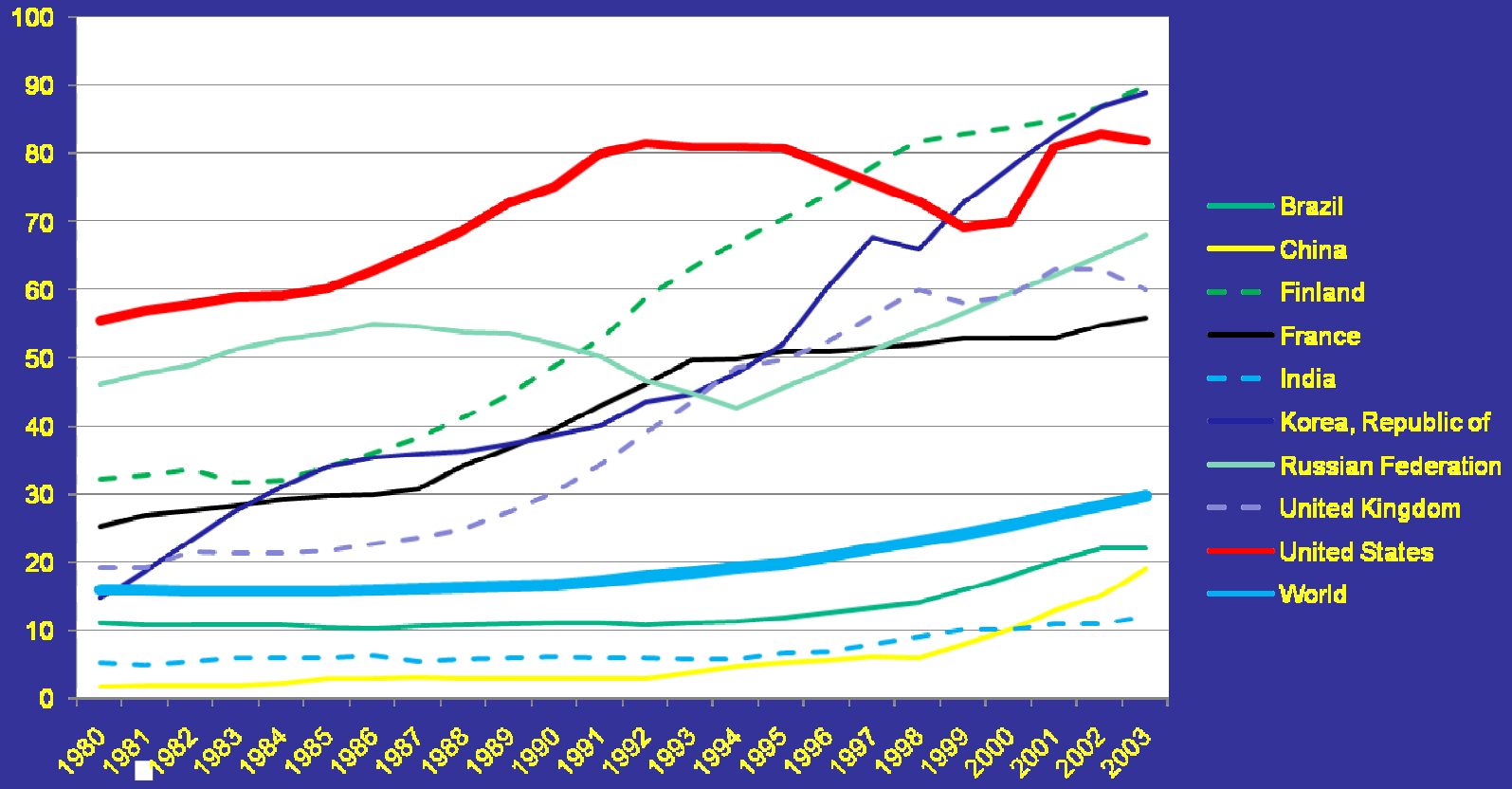
# Growth in Enrolments



# Enrolments



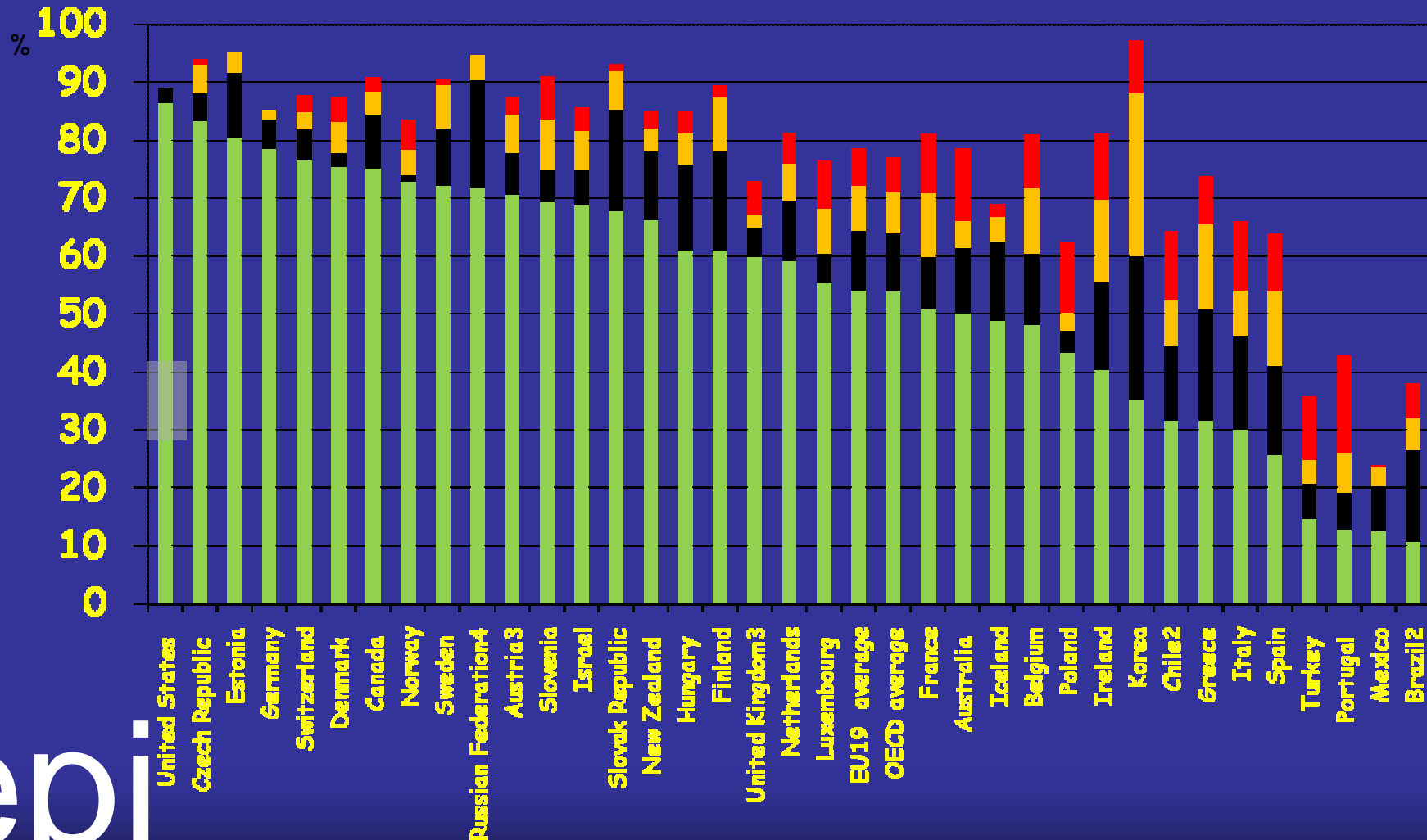
# Gross Enrolment Ratios



# Growth in secondary graduation

Approximated by percentage of persons with high school or equivalent qualifications in the age groups 55-64, 45-55, 45-44 und 25-34 years

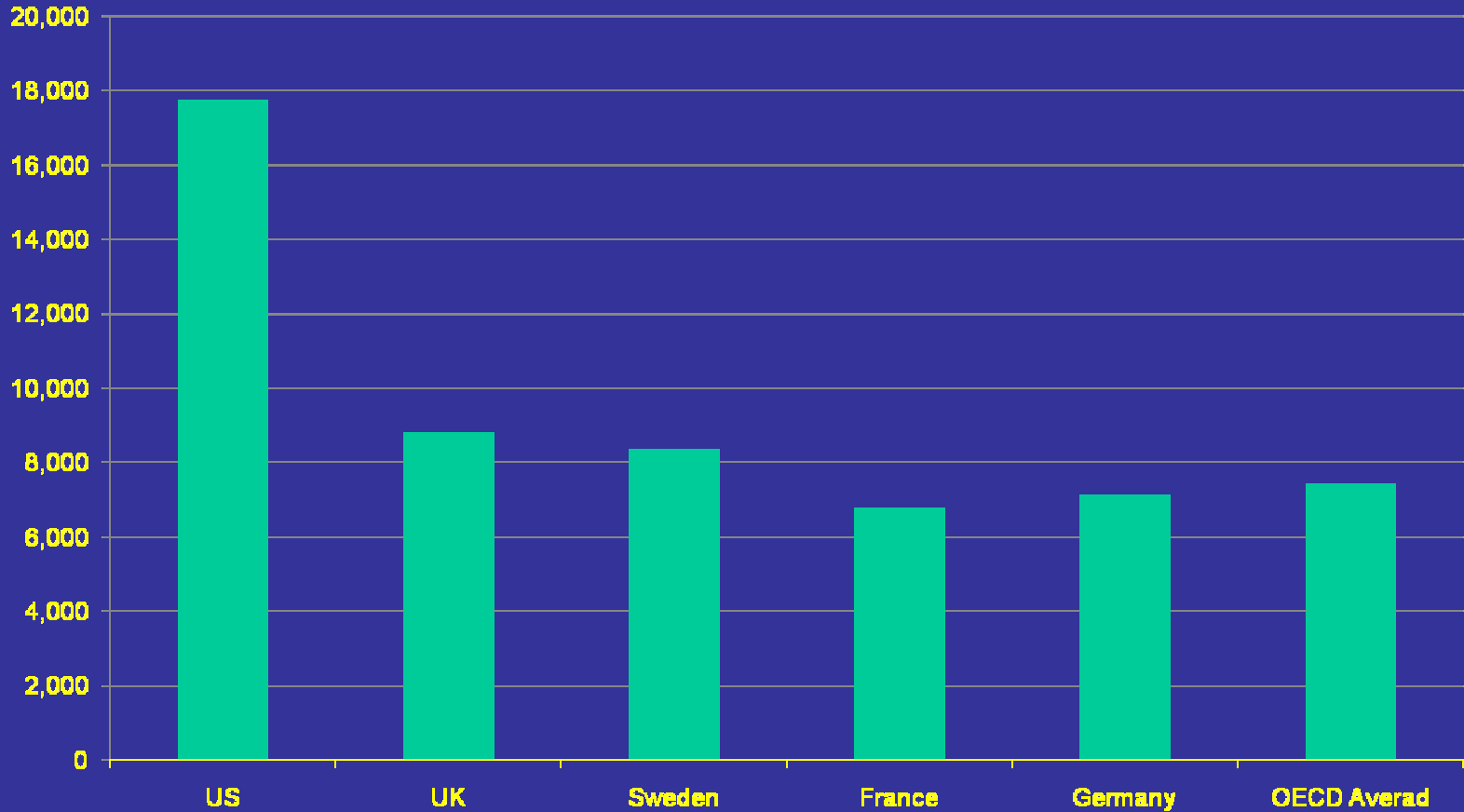
■ 1990s ■ 1980s ■ 1970s ■ 1960s



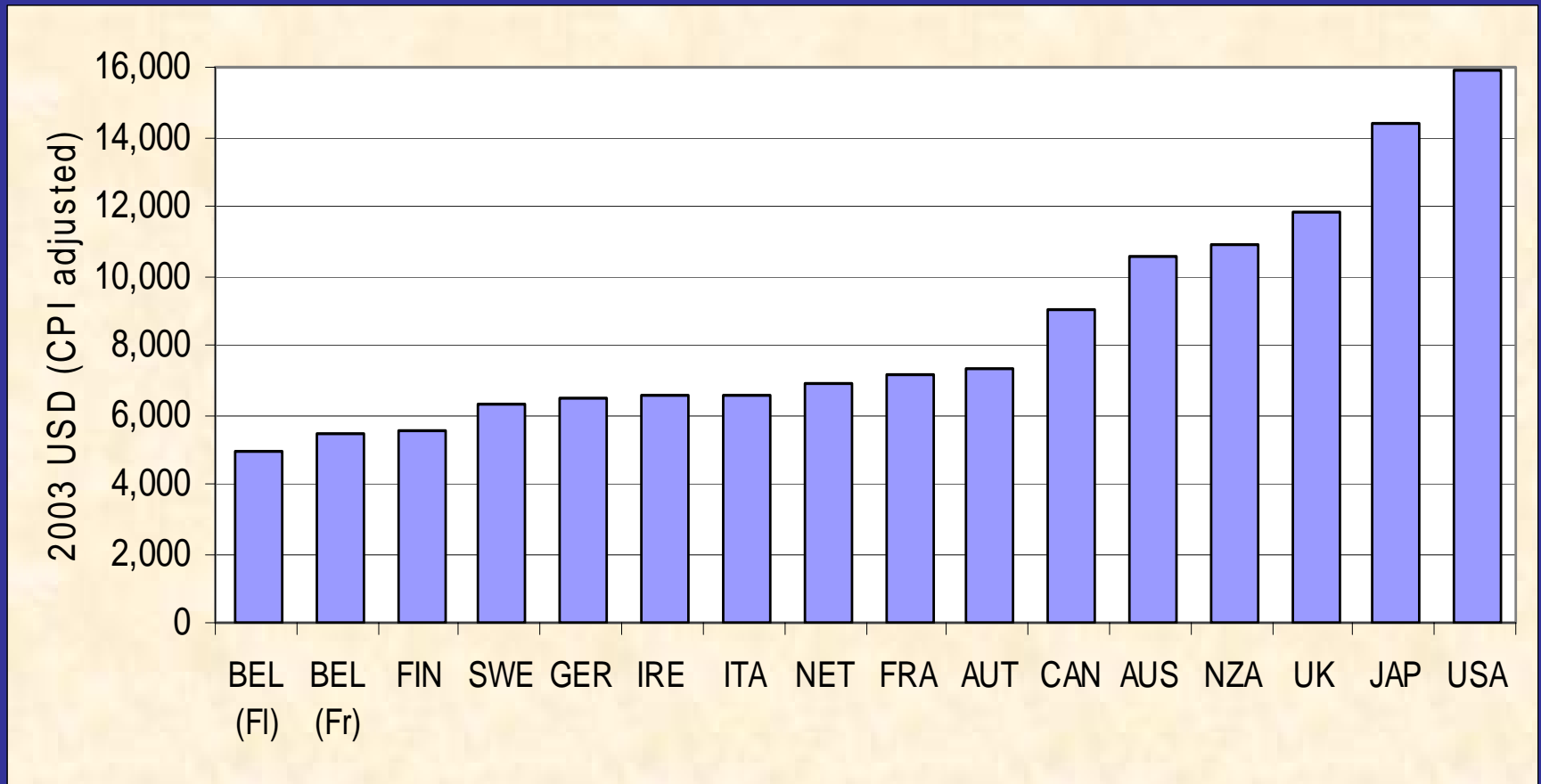
1. Excluding ISCED 3C short programmes  
3. Including some ISCED 3C short programmes

2. Year of reference 2004  
3. Year of reference 2003.

# Per-student Spending

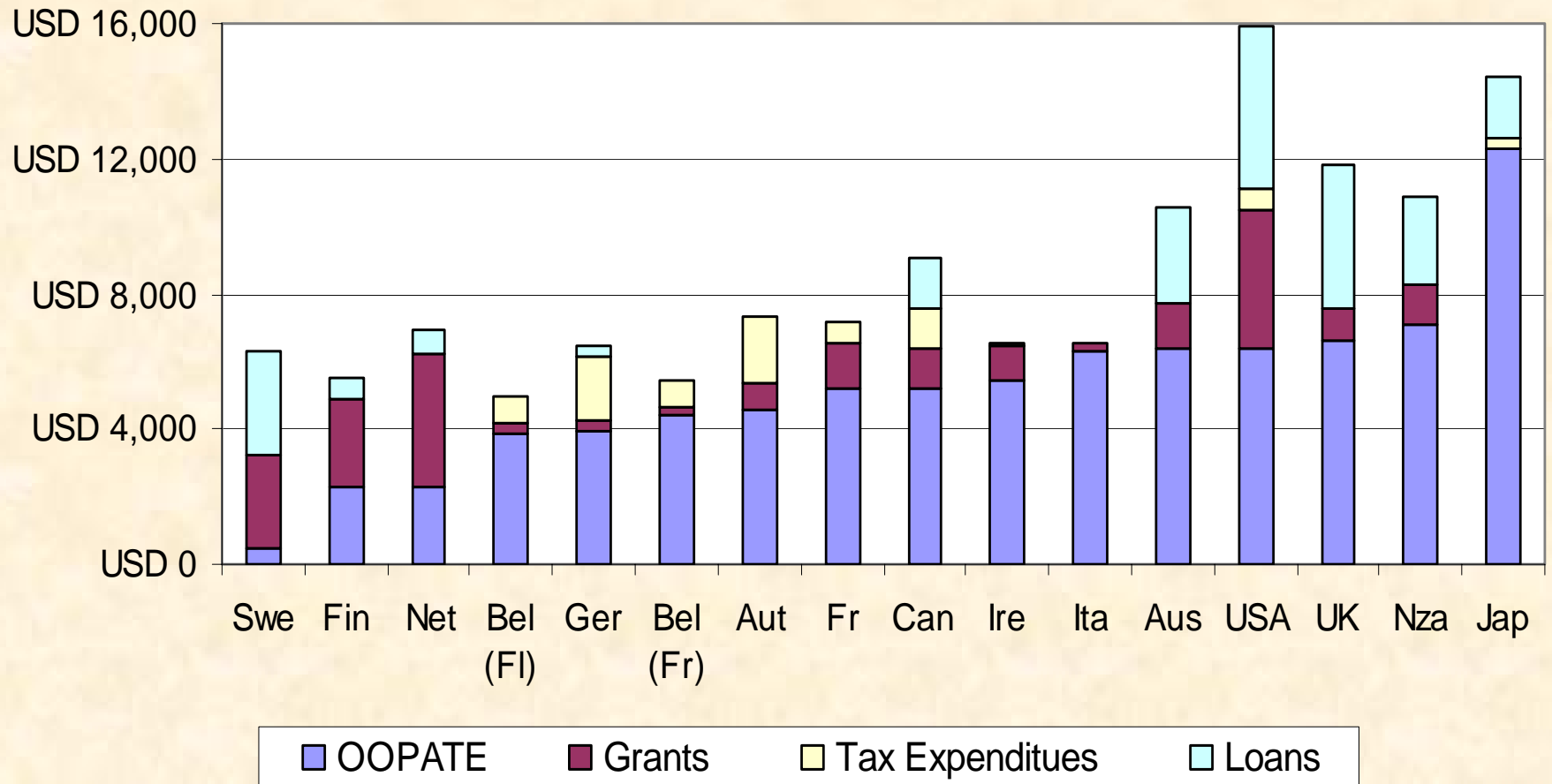


# Total Cost

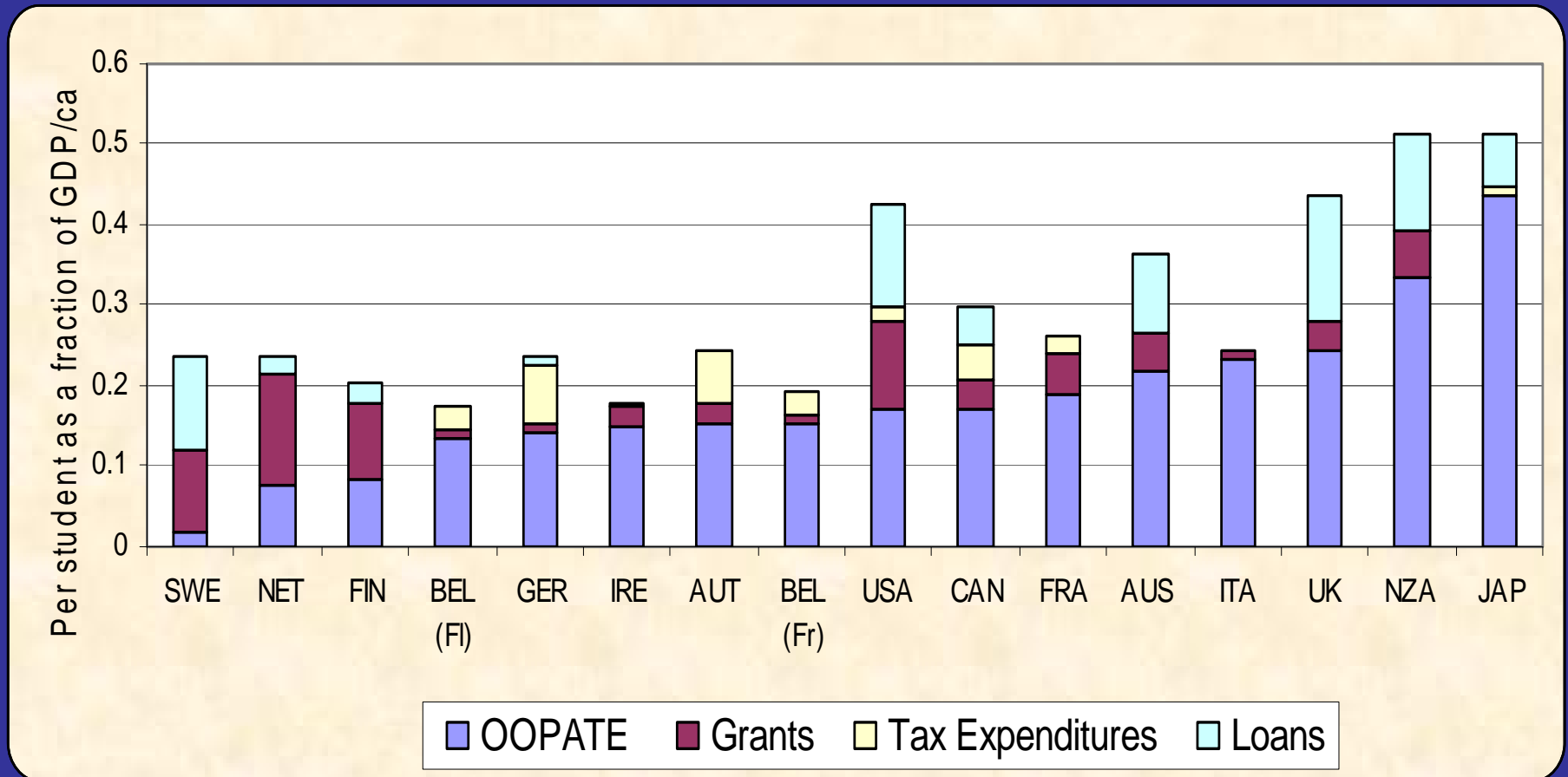


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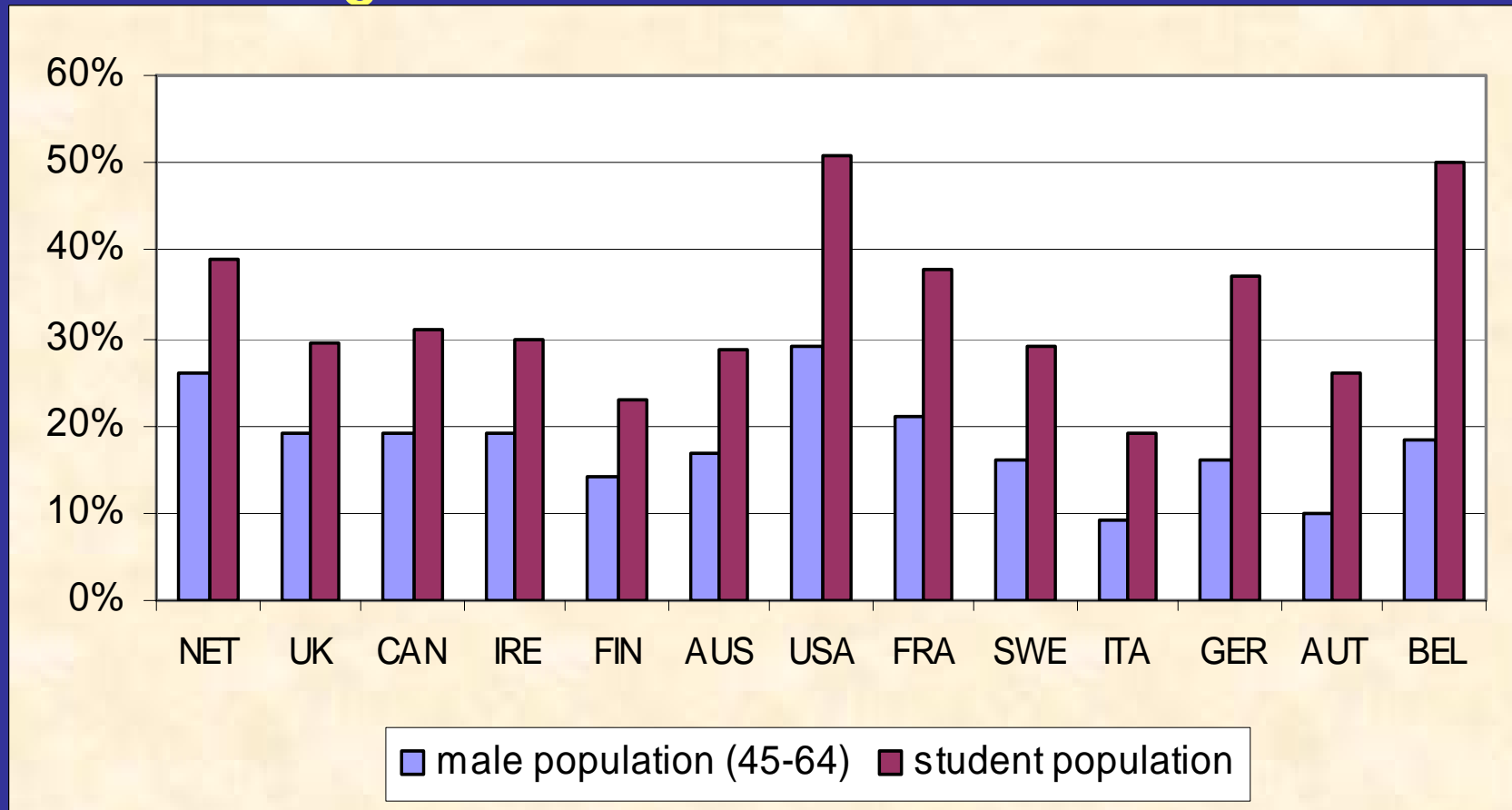
# Out-of-pocket Cost Perspective



# Out-of-pocket Affordability Perspective

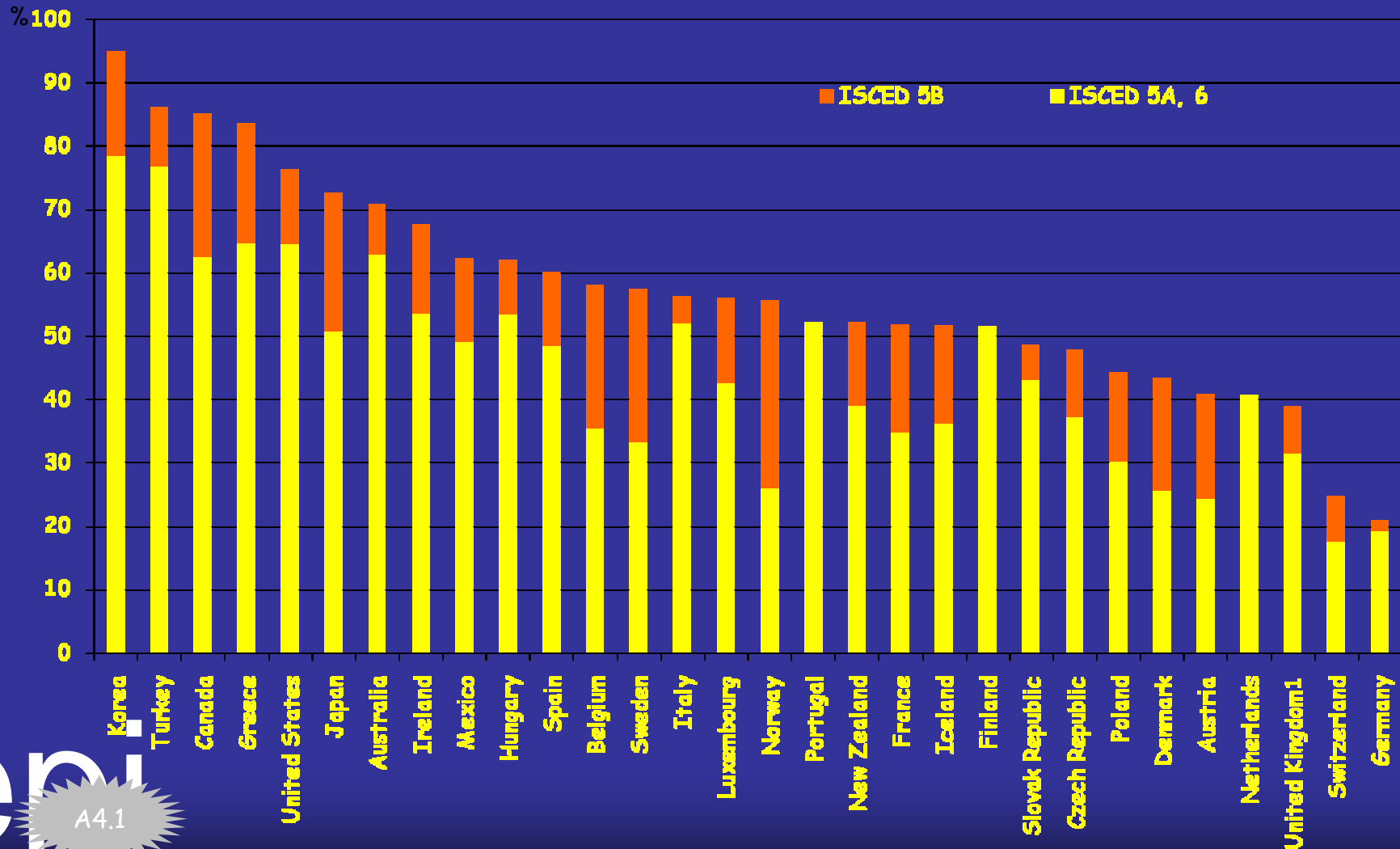


# Social Stratification of HE by Father's Highest Level of Education



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# Percentage of 15-year-olds expecting to complete a college degree (2003)

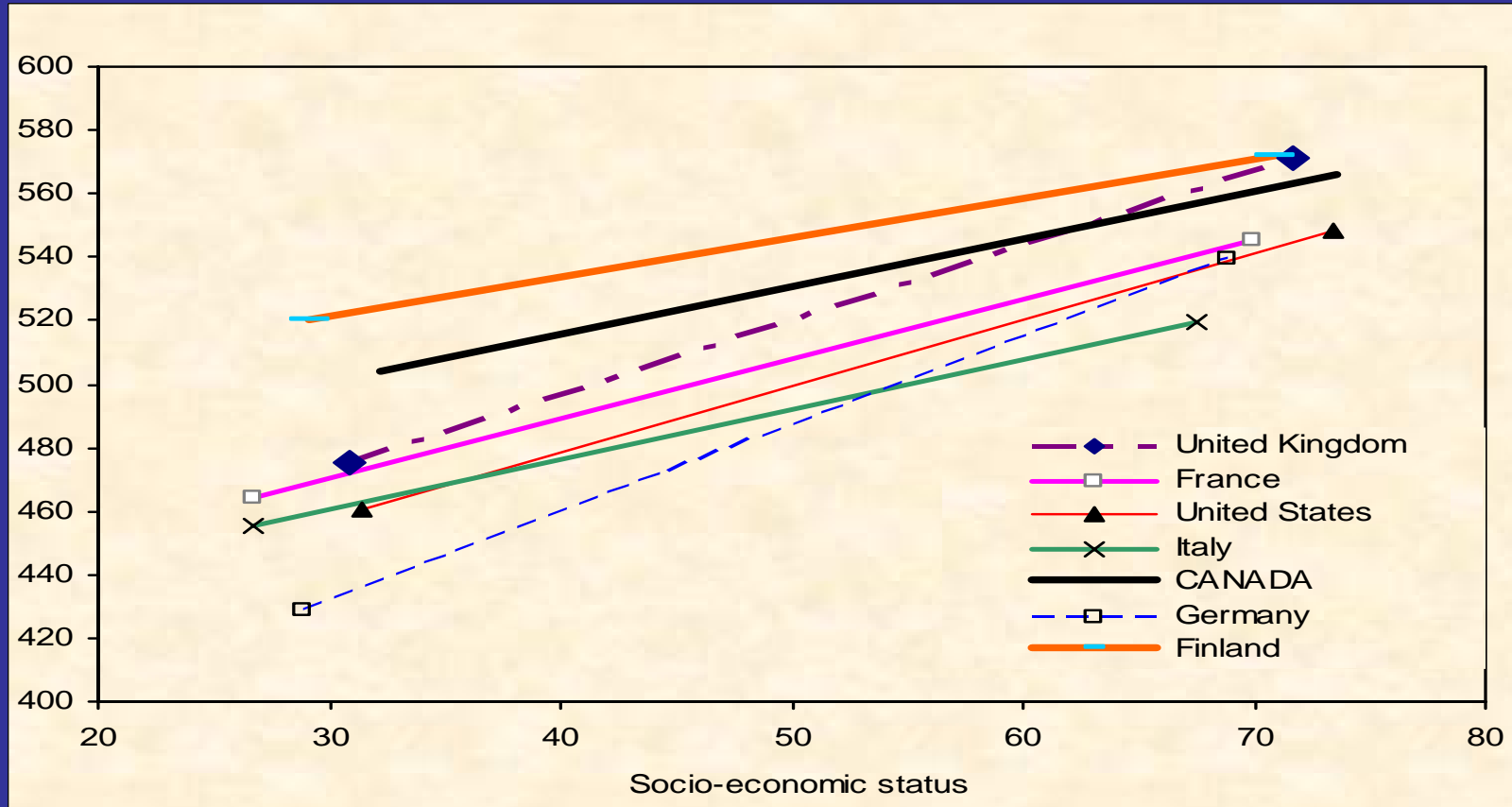


1. Response rate too low to ensure comparability.

# Rates of Attrition and Completion

	Time to Completion	Time of Observations	Completion Rate	Continuation Rate	Attrition Rate
Canada	4	5	69	20	10
Australia	3	6	66	19	16
S. Africa	4	5	50	12	38
USA	4	6	61	19	17
NZ	4	5	46	7	47
England	3	4	77	8	15
Sweden	5	5	68	9	23
France	3	5	75	5	20

# Literacy scores by socio-economic status



source: PISA 2000

## Special Considerations for the US

- The extreme poverty of the bottom quartile
- The 2-year college system
- Research Expenditures

## Academic Ranking of World Universities

	Top 20	Top 100	Top 200	Top 500
USA	17	54	90	159
UK	2	11	22	42
Japan	1	4	9	31
Germany		6	14	40
Canada		4	6	21
Sweden		4	4	11
France		3	7	23
Israel (12 <sup>th</sup> )		1	4	6
China (18 <sup>th</sup> )			1	30

For further information...

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