



SCHOOL AUTONOMY AND STUDENT PERFORMANCE

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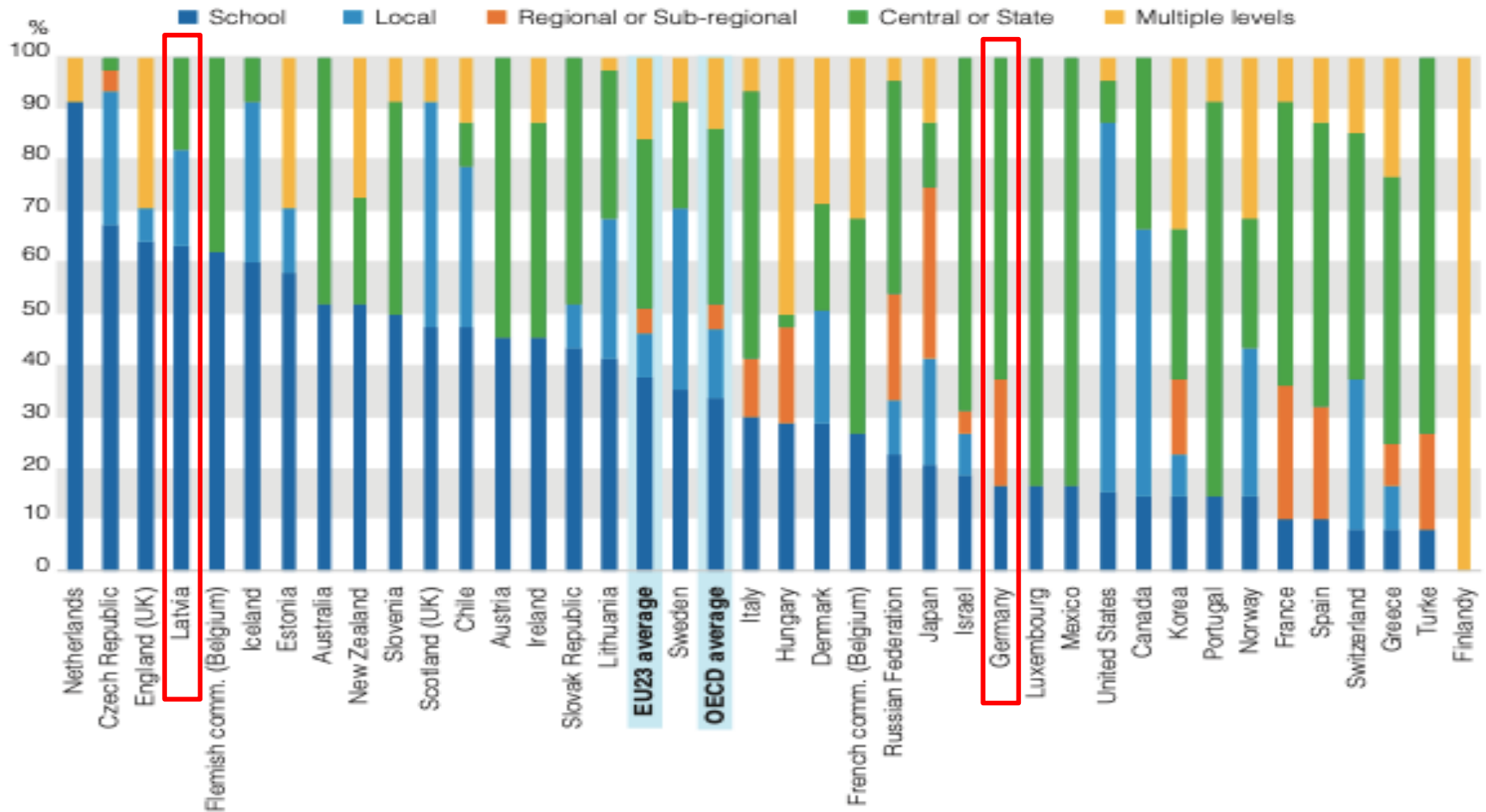


SCHOOL AUTONOMY A BRIEF OVERVIEW



School in Latvia enjoy a high degree of autonomy

FIGURE 1 / Percentage of decisions taken at each level of government in public lower secondary education (2017)



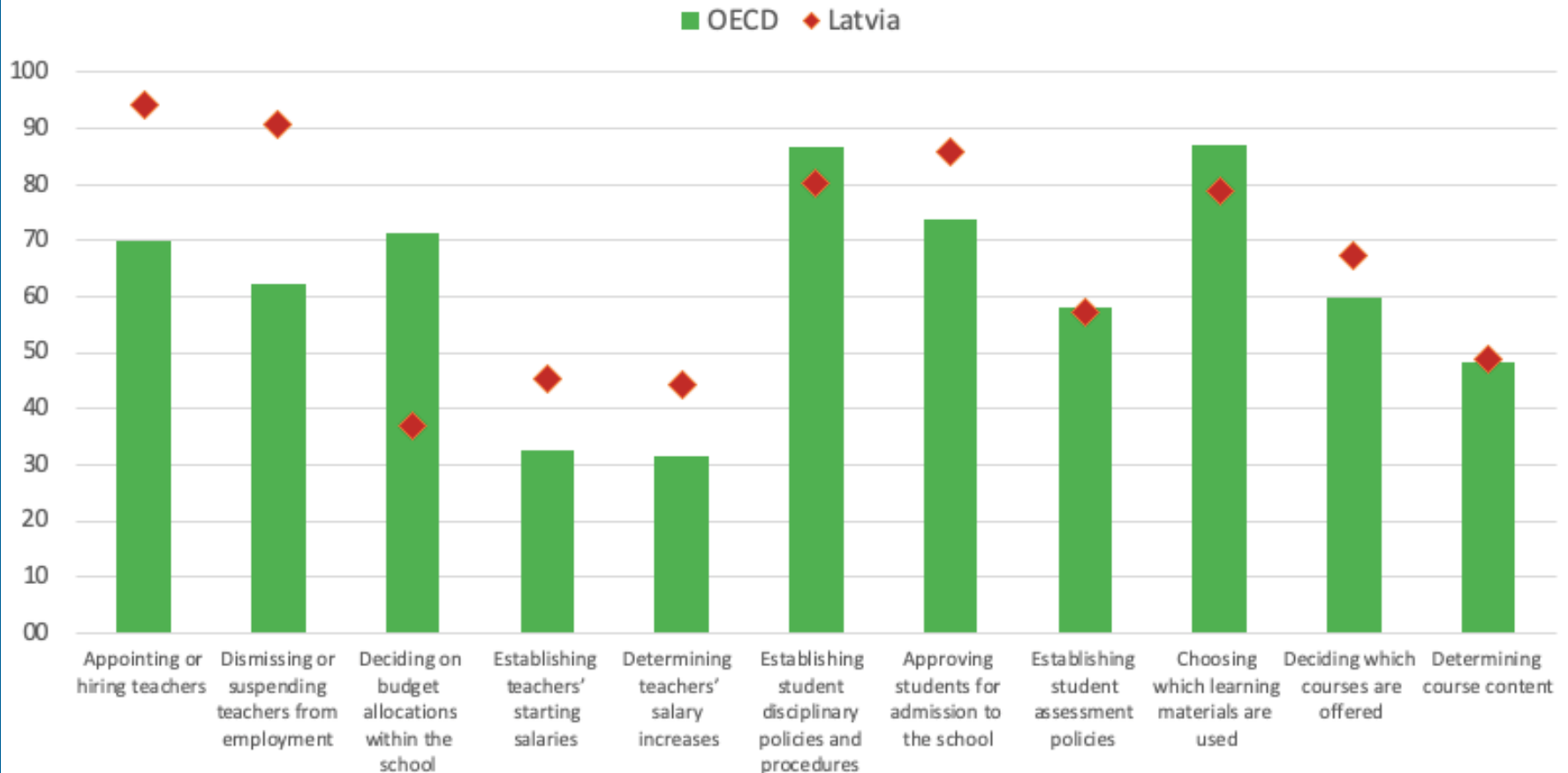


School in Latvia enjoy a high degree of autonomy

Figure II.5.1. **School autonomy**

Results based on responses of lower secondary principals (OECD average-30)

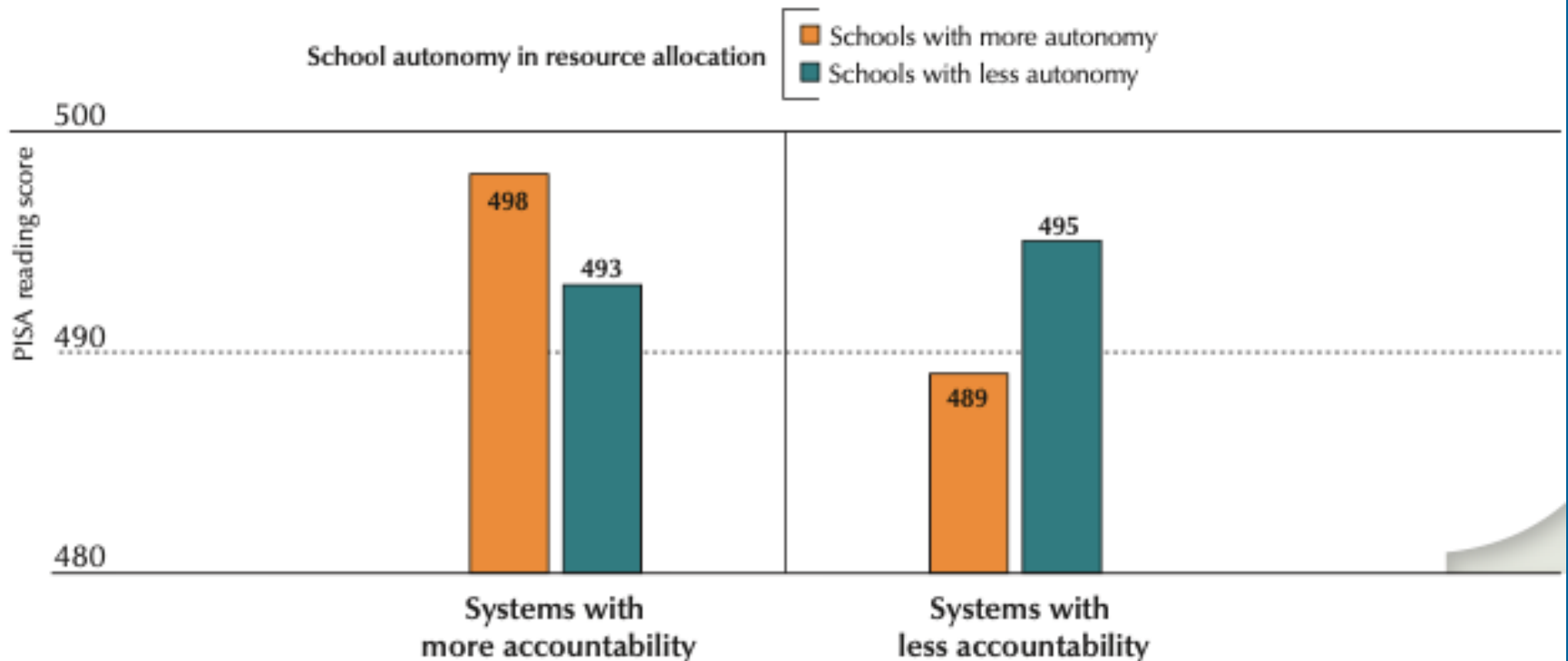
Percentage of principals who report that their school has an autonomous status¹ for the following tasks





Autonomy can improve performance if combined with accountability

The complex relationship between policies and performance





SCHOOL GOVERNANCE AND STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN GERMANY



Responsibility for schools shared between state and local level

- State level is responsible for curriculum and personnel (teaching and administrative staff)
- Local level is responsible for school buildings, equipment, teaching material and maintenance staff
- Schools have some room for manoeuvre



Internal governance at school level

- At school level, the school principle is the main actor but management is shared with senior teaching staff
- Students and parents participate in class level meetings subject related meetings at school level
- Basic decisions at school level are taken by the school board, where teachers parents and students are represented



“DigitalPakt” Schule

- Multiannual programme to improve the digital infrastructure in schools
- Funded by the federal level, managed at state level
- Schools are expected to develop media plans which should set out a pedagogical concept and list the hardware and staff training required for the implementation of this plan
- Funding is granted based on school level media plans



Programme to implement full day schooling

- Schools were expected to move to full day schooling and add additional activities to their curriculum
- Concept is developed at school level with the support of experts from the school authority and is approved by the school governing board
- Based on the school concept funding is provided which the school can use to sign cooperation agreements with external partners



Discretionary funds (Berlin)

- Funds available at school level which can be spend on training, school projects or equipment
- Amount is based on school size with minimum and maximum level
- Spent at discretion of the principal with participation from school bodies



SOME TAKEAWAYS



Student participation

- Representation in school bodies is a prerequisite but not sufficient for participatory decision-making
- Students need to be well prepared to participate in structural decisions at school level
- Make sure that participatory process work for disadvantaged schools and disadvantaged students



School autonomy

- More autonomy for schools will increase demand for better results
- School leaders and teacher need to be prepared for this new situation
- If ill prepared for the new role, decentralisation and school autonomy may have negative effects on student performance



THANK YOU!

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