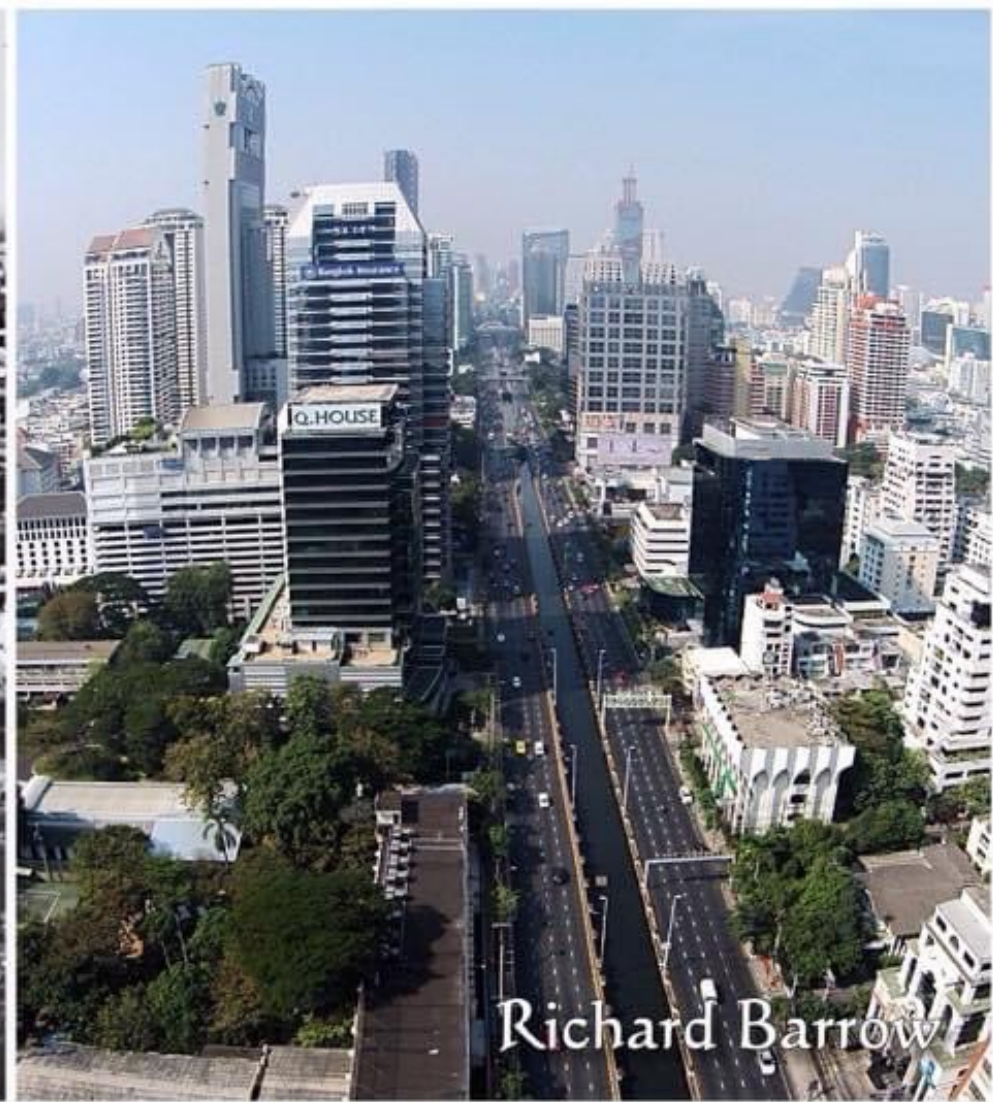




Fixing the Foundation: Teachers and Basic Education in East Asia and Pacific

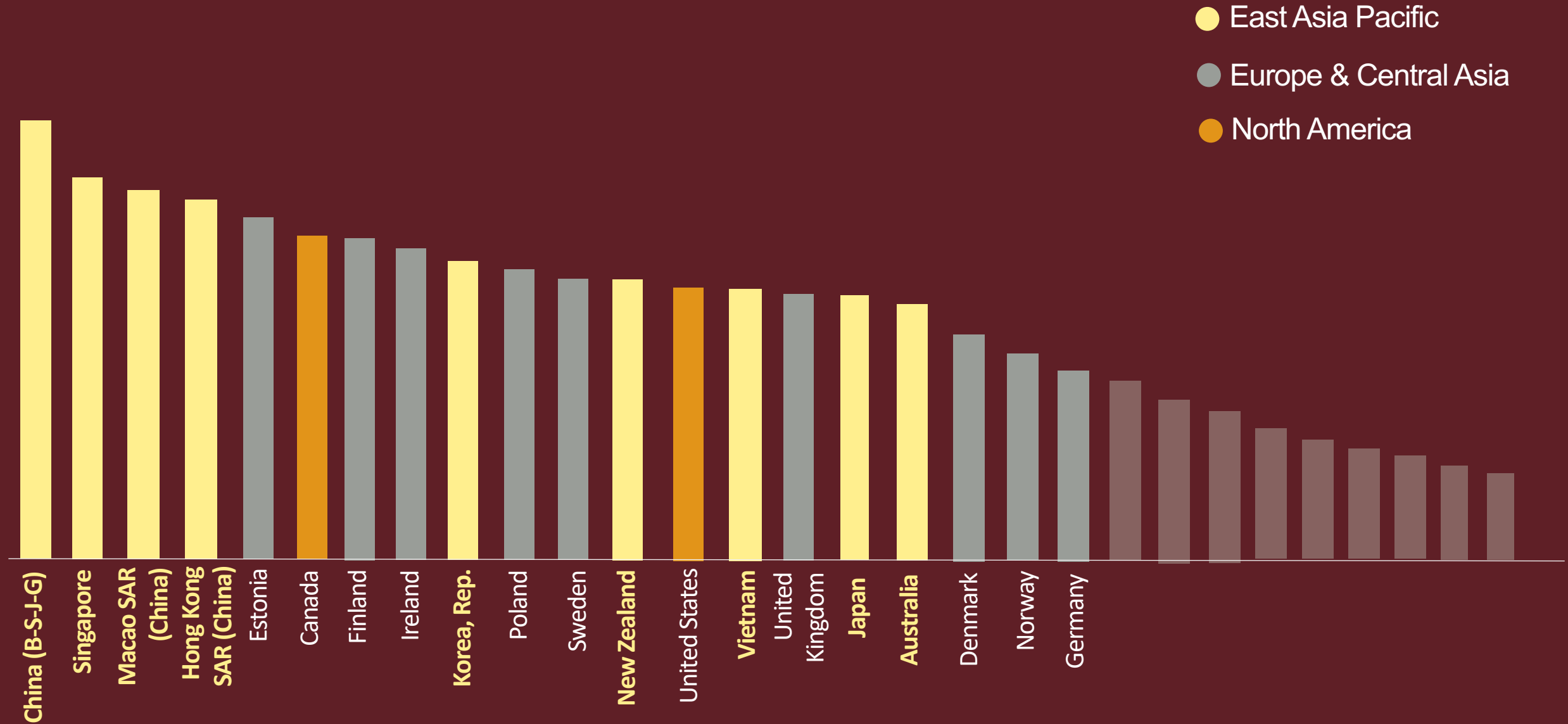
World Bank Regional Flagship Report, 2023

Early investments were key to East Asia's remarkable development



East Asia Pacific is a region of education overachievers

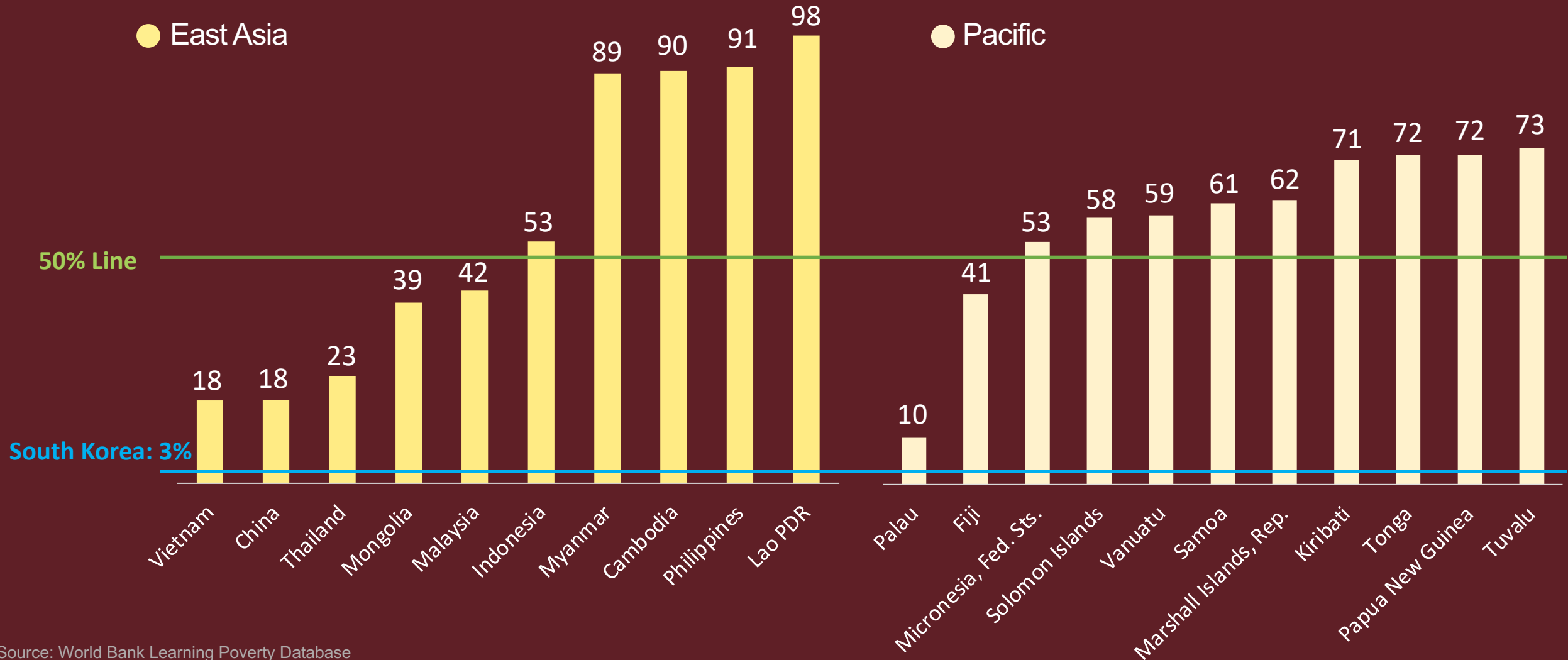
PISA Reading Scores (2018)



The Problem

In 14 out of 22 countries, more than half of 10-year-olds can't read with understanding

Share of 10-year-olds who *cannot* read and understand an age-appropriate text

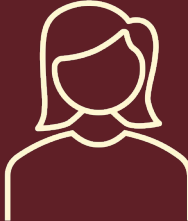


Strong skills must be built on strong foundations: the importance of foundational learning

Tertiary Education



Secondary Education

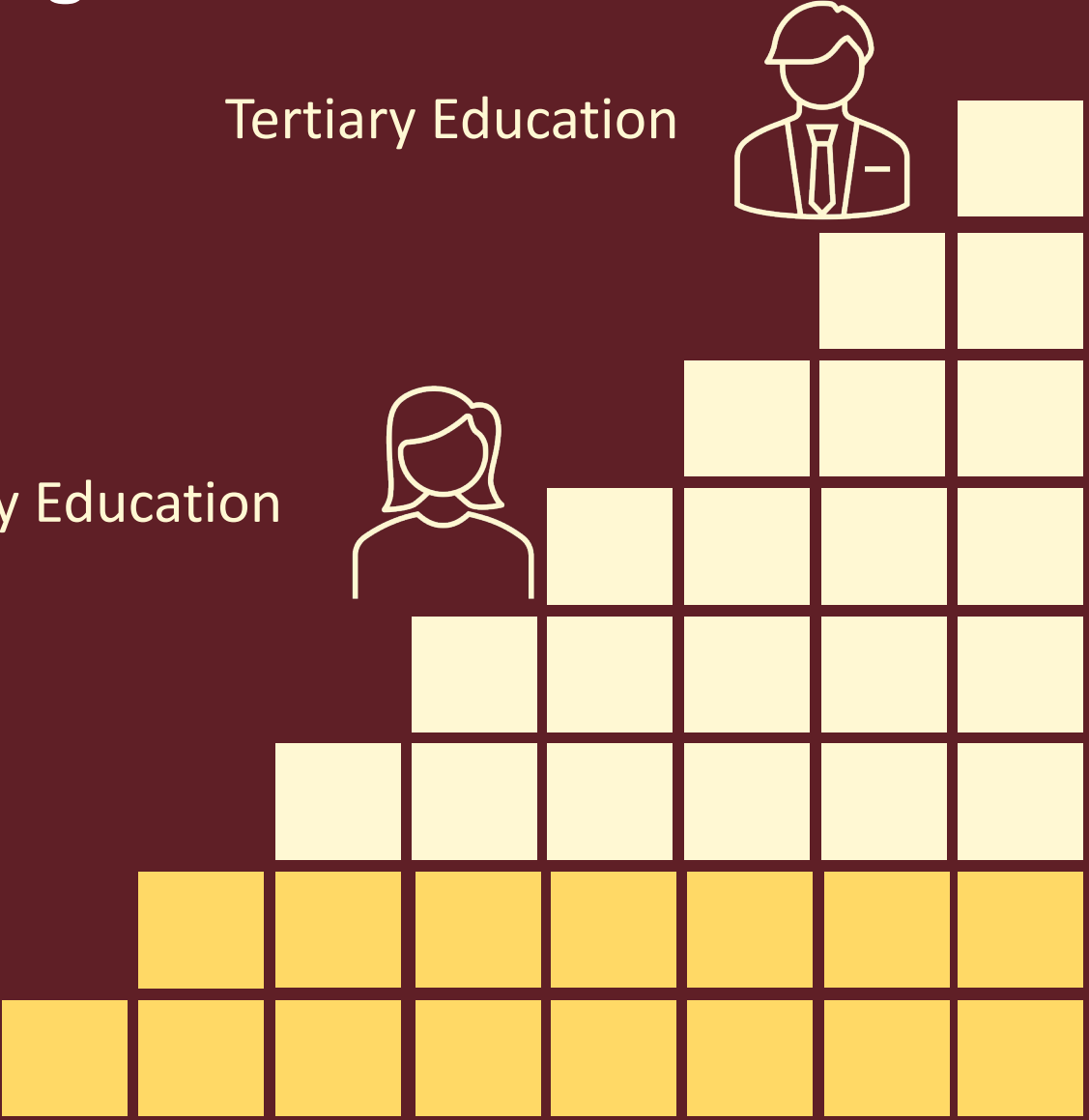


Basic Education



- ▶ Literacy
- ▶ Numeracy

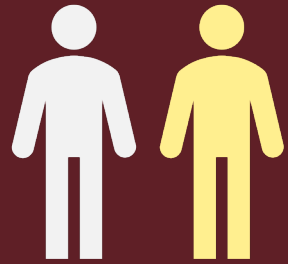
- Problem solving
- Communication
- Digital skills



The Diagnosis

Teachers matter the most for learning in school

Impact of teacher quality on learning performance of Vietnamese primary-school students



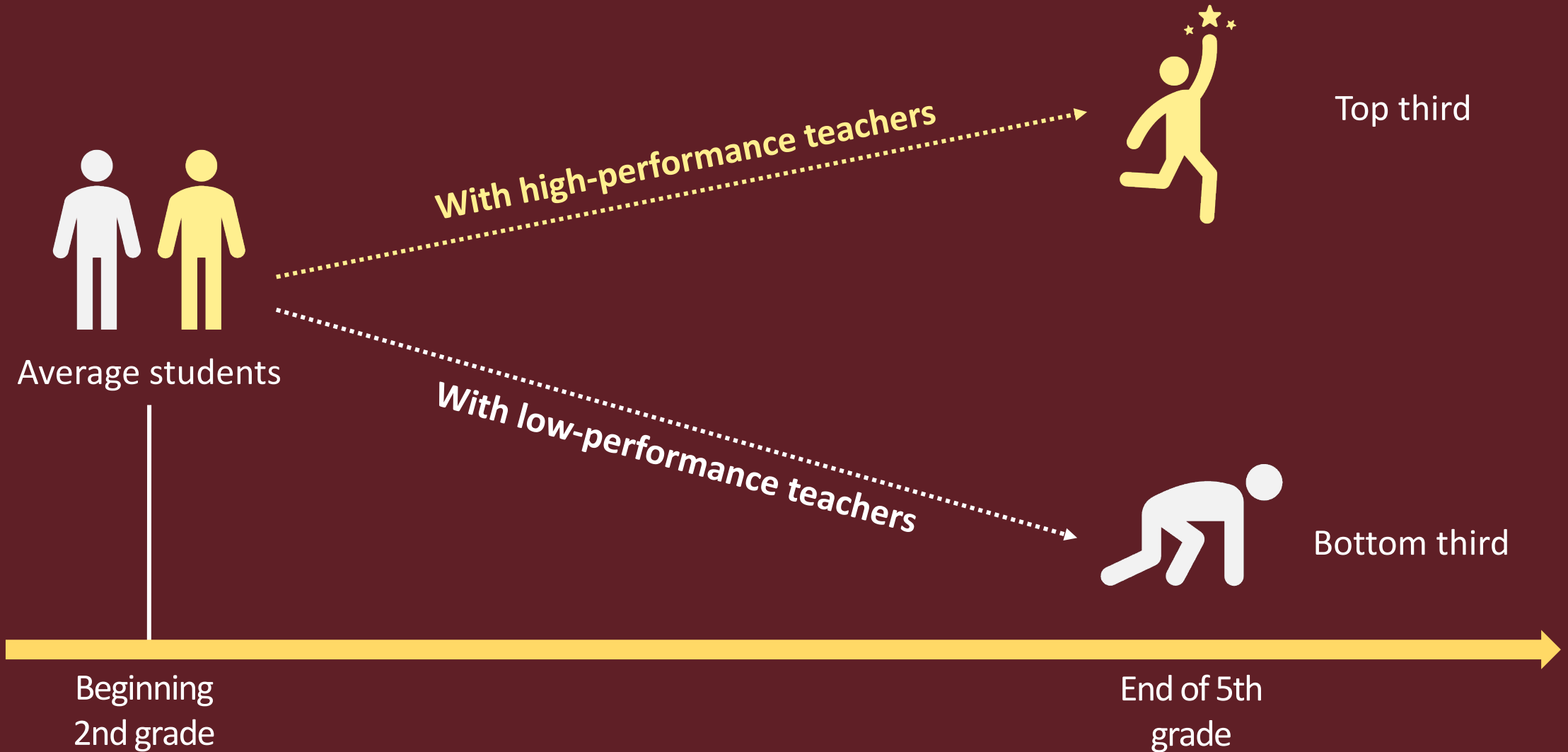
Average students



Beginning
2nd grade

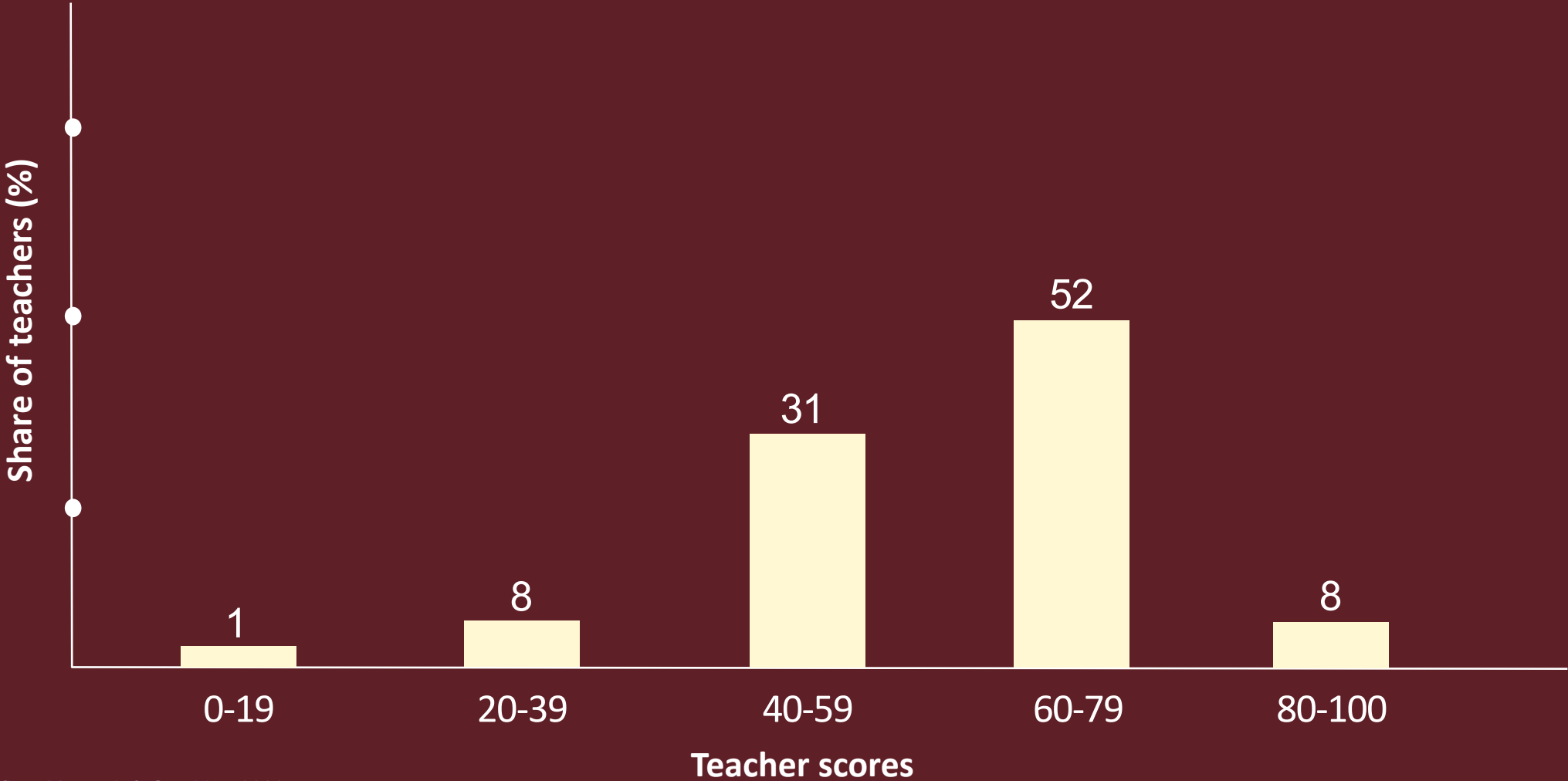
Teachers matter the most for learning in school

Impact of teacher quality on learning performance of Vietnamese primary-school students



Where data exist, they indicate that teachers have not mastered the curriculum they teach – example from Indonesia

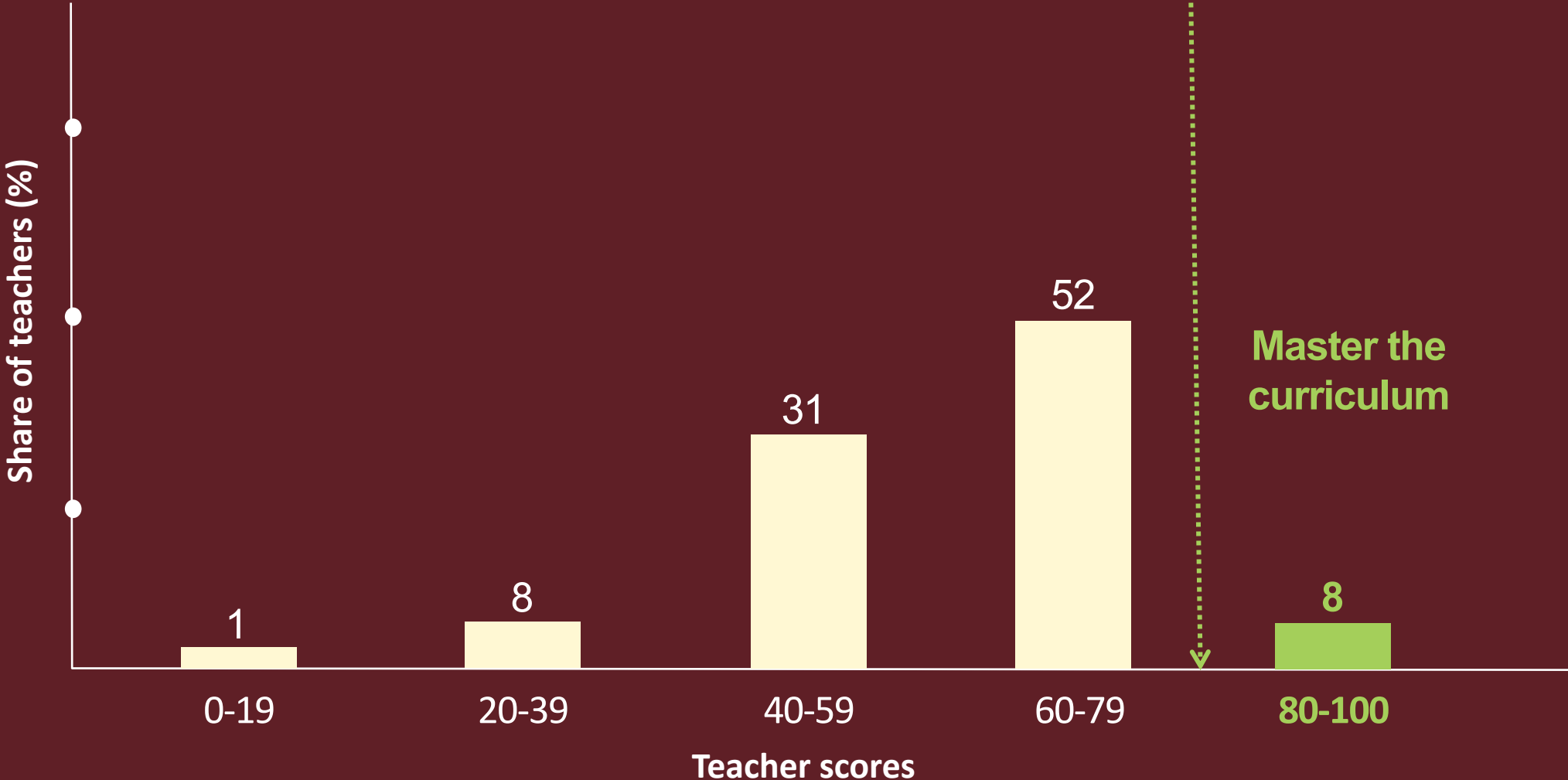
Distribution of teacher scores in an assessment of the 4th-grade language content knowledge



Source: Yarrow N. B., Afkar, Masood, & Gauthier, 2020

Where data exist, they indicate that teachers have not mastered the curriculum they teach – example from Indonesia

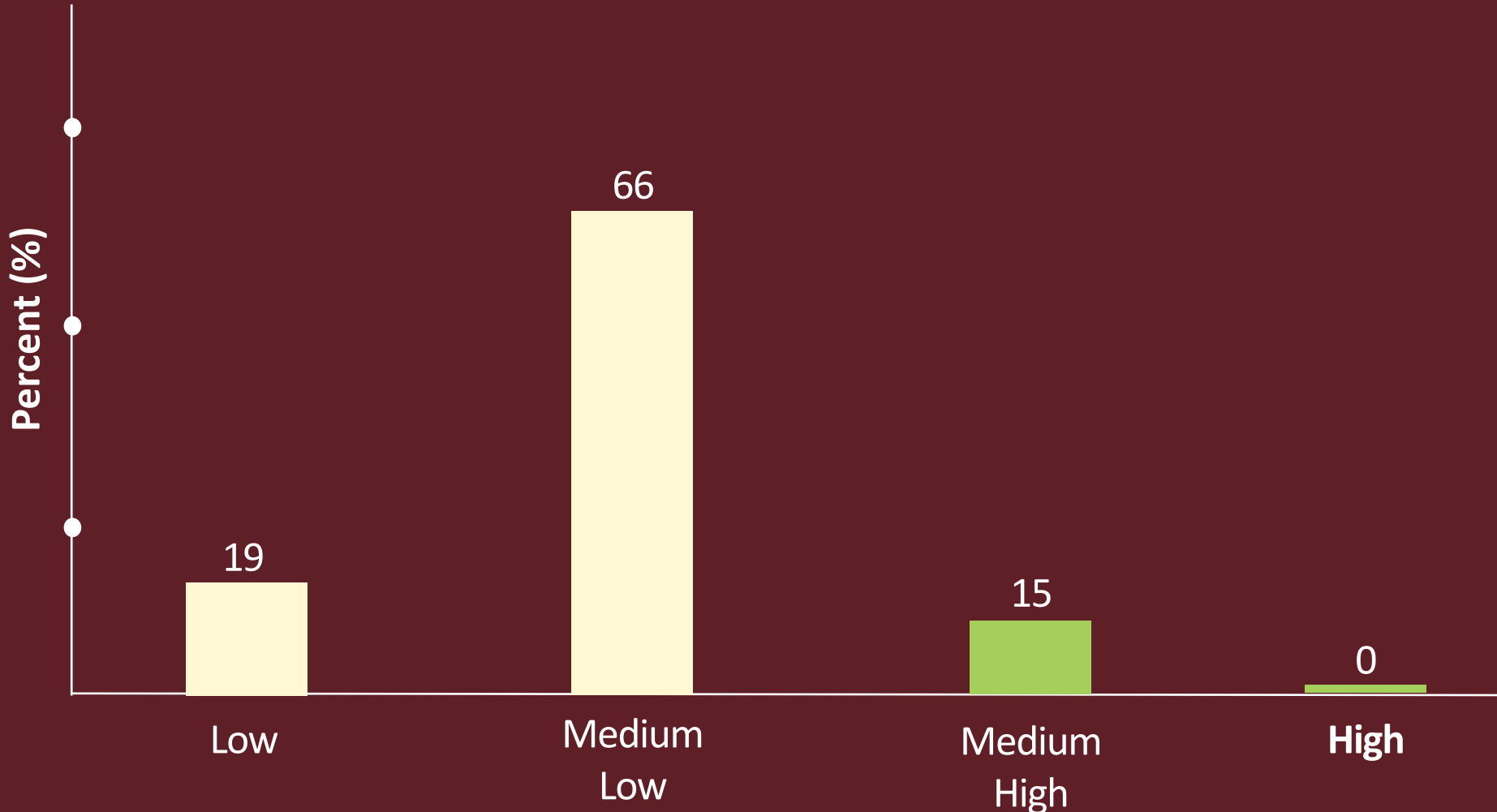
Distribution of teacher scores in an assessment of the 4th-grade language content knowledge



Source: Yarrow N. B., Afkar, Masood, & Gauthier, 2020

Classroom observation indicates that teachers often employ ineffective teaching practices – example from the Philippines

Distribution of scores for effective teaching practices



Source: Molina et al. 2018

The Solutions

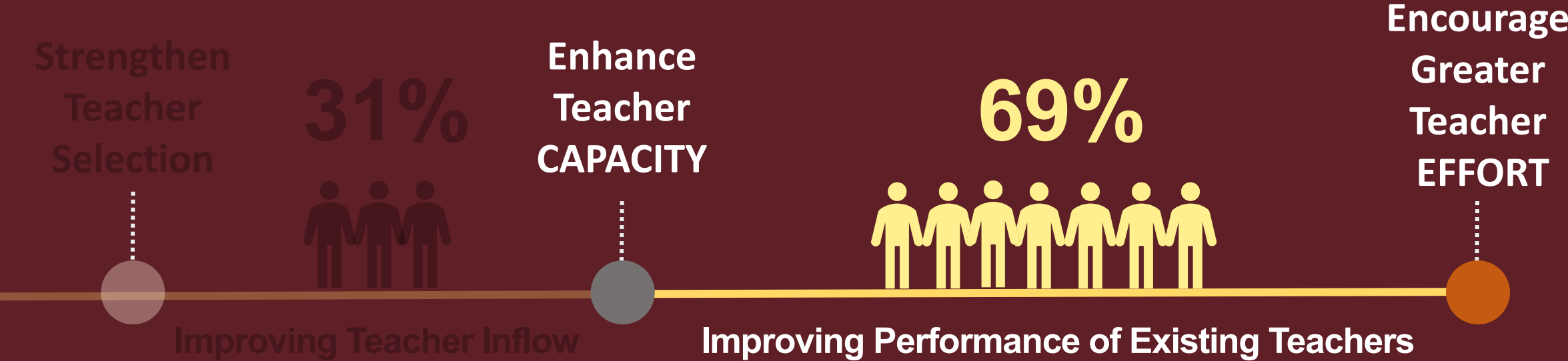
In principle, three ways to improve teacher quality



But most of tomorrow's teachers have already been recruited

 Incoming teachers
in 2030

 Existing teachers
in 2030



Therefore, enhancing teacher capacity is the priority

Strengthen
Teacher
Selection



Enhance
Teacher
Capacity



Encourage
Greater
Teacher Effort

Attract strong candidates
(salaries, career paths)

Employ meritocratic,
learning-focused selection

Support and incentivize
improvement



Training



Tools

- EdTech
- Structured lesson plans
- Targeted instruction

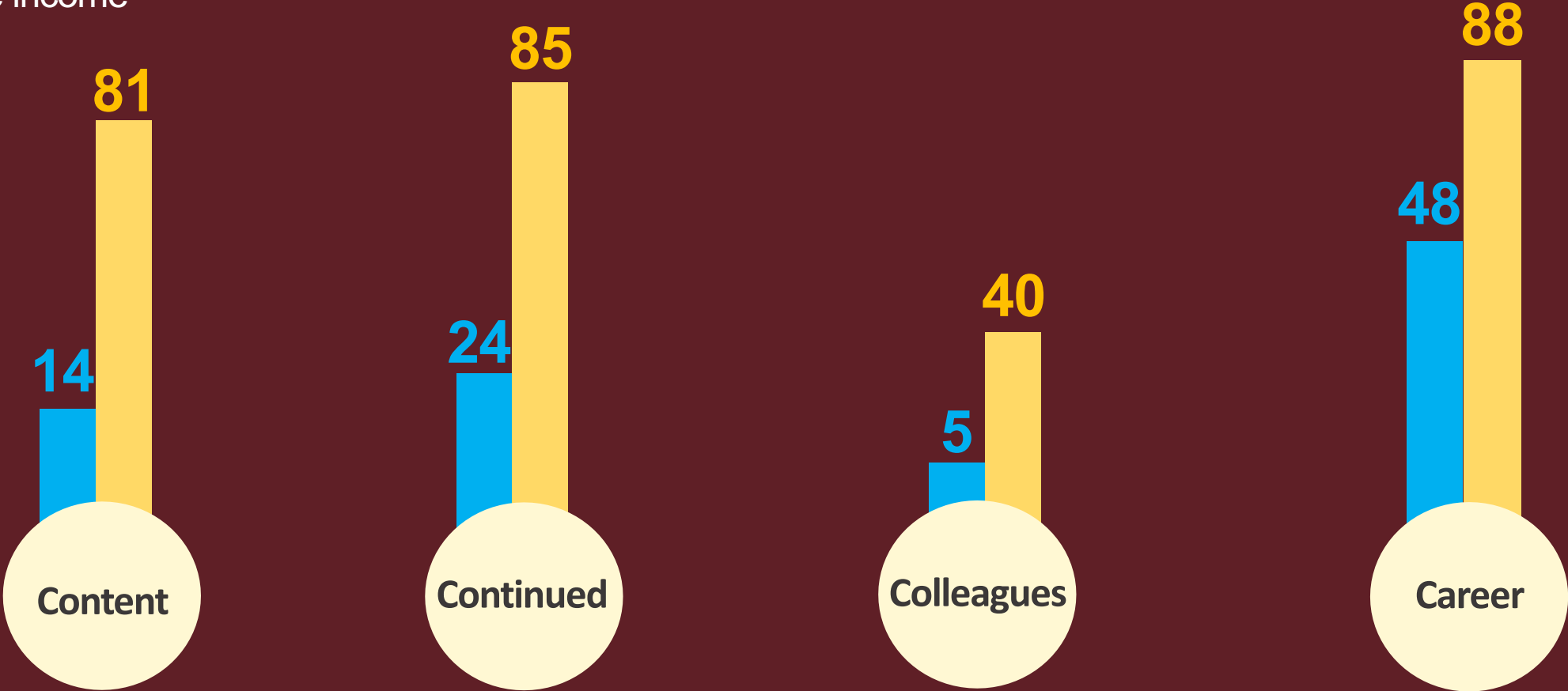
Incentivize teacher effort

- Promotion
- Salary
- Accountability
- Exit

Many training programs in nine countries surveyed were not well designed and, hence, likely not effective

The percentage of teacher training programs that involve the "four C's"

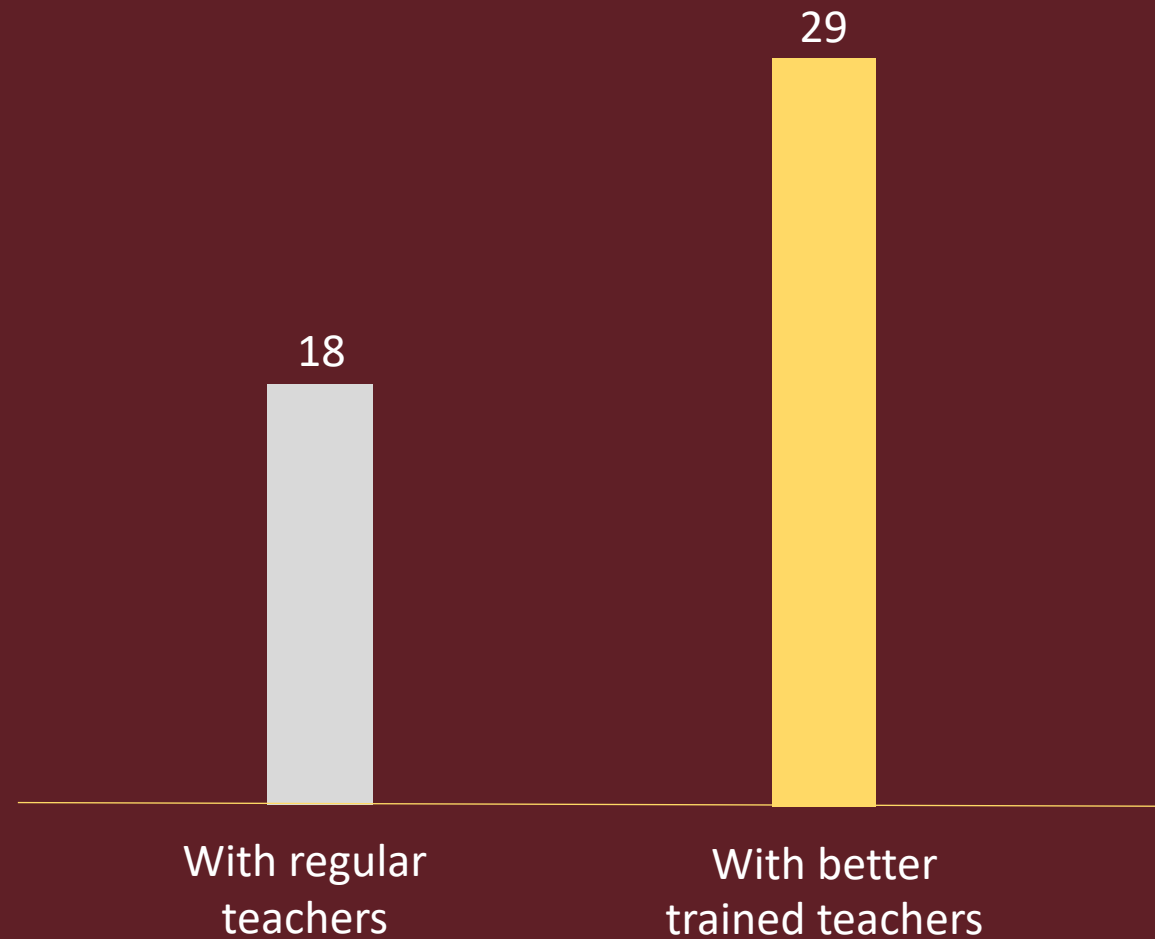
● East Asia Pacific Middle income ● Top global performers



Source: World Bank staff calculations, based on new 2022 ITTSI data

Well-designed teacher training programs, based on the four C's, enhance student learning

Proportion of 2nd grade students who can read with understanding



And money spent on effective training is a best buy



Present value of per pupil program cost



Present value of per pupil program benefit

-\$116



+\$1,425



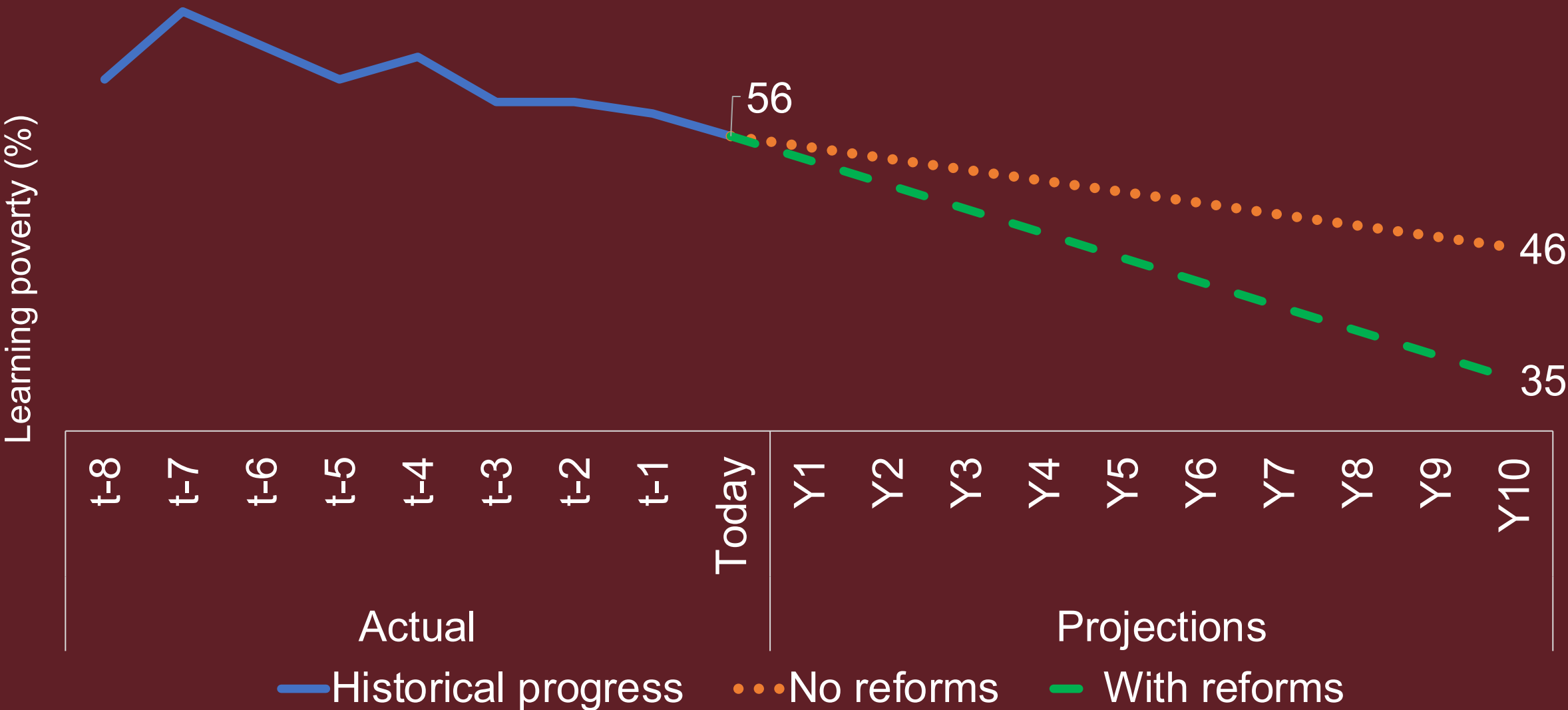
Tonga (CLRW)

EdTech has the potential to improve both teaching quality and learning



The Way Forward

Reforms to support teachers and strengthen teaching are needed to accelerate learning



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Why Vietnamese children outperform the British at school

Vietnam's education system is remarkably effective – what lessons can other developing countries learn?

By Sarah Newey, GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY CORRESPONDENT, IN BANGKOK

29 August 2023 • 2:08pm



Viet Nam



- Efficient public spending on basic education
- Strong teacher selection and training
- Engagement of all stakeholders

Thank you for your attention!

Please visit the “Fixing the Foundation” website for more insights:

<https://www.worldbank.org/en/events/2023/09/20/fixing-the-foundation>