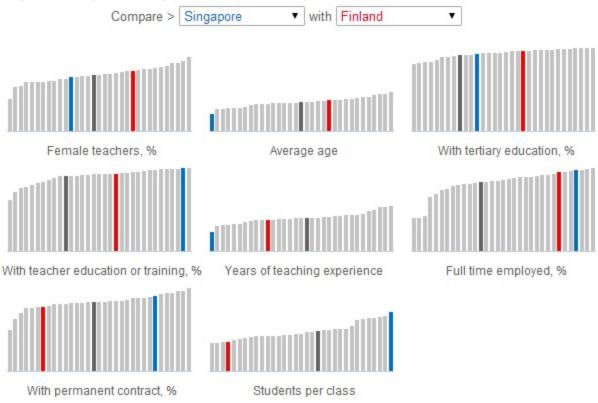
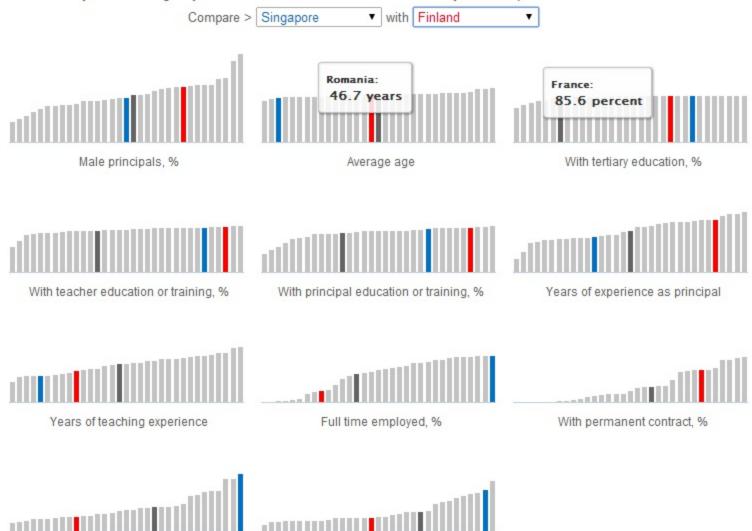


Teachers are the front-line workers of the education system. They are responsible for engaging students and promoting their learning. The OECD Teaching and Learning International Survey (TALIS) provides basic information about the teaching workforce and the school environment. In almost all the participating countries and economies the majority of teachers are women. The average age of teachers ranges from 36 years in Singapore to 49 years in Italy.



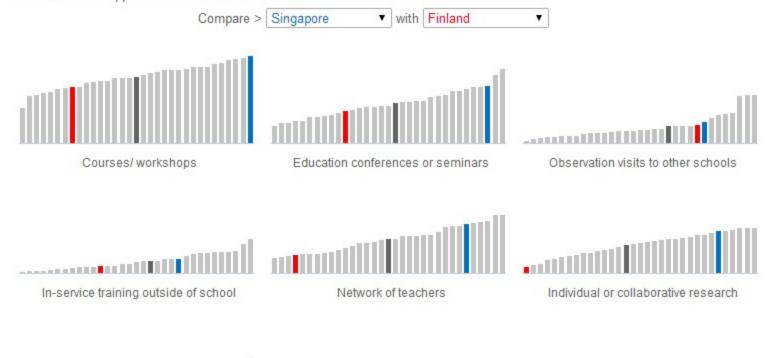
Number of students at school

School principals are the connection between teachers, students and parents/guardians. They are also linking the school to the education system and the wider community in which a school exists. Although principals have always occupied this intersection, the profession has become increasingly challenging over time. TALIS data reveal that principals are more likely to be men than teachers. They are on average 9 years older than teachers and cumulate nine years of experience in their role.



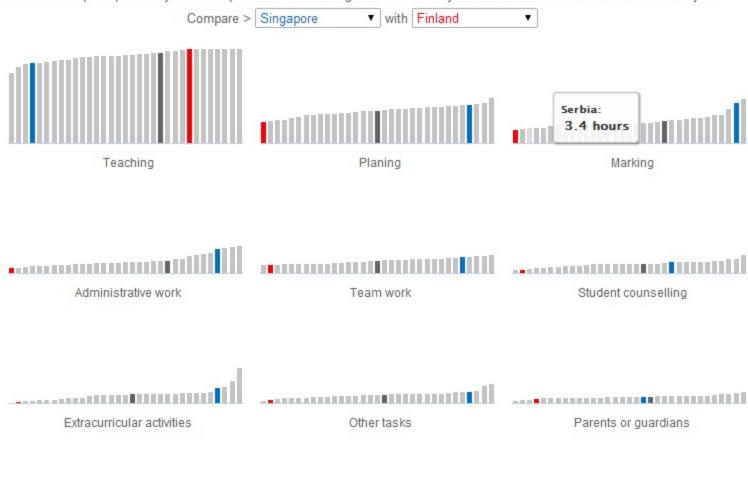
Number of teachers at school

To be effective in the classroom, teachers need adequate opportunities for training and professional development. TALIS data reveal that in general, teachers are more likely to participate in professional development in countries where they receive better financial support for these activities.



Qualification programme

Teachers' work is composed of a multitude of often competing responsibilities. TALIS data shows, for example, that teachers in Japan spend only 18 hours per week on teaching and substantially more time on other tasks related to their job.



School management