



# The Structural Reforms that Matter: *Going for Growth* with the OECD

NIPFP-DEA Meetings  
New Delhi, India  
1 September 2010

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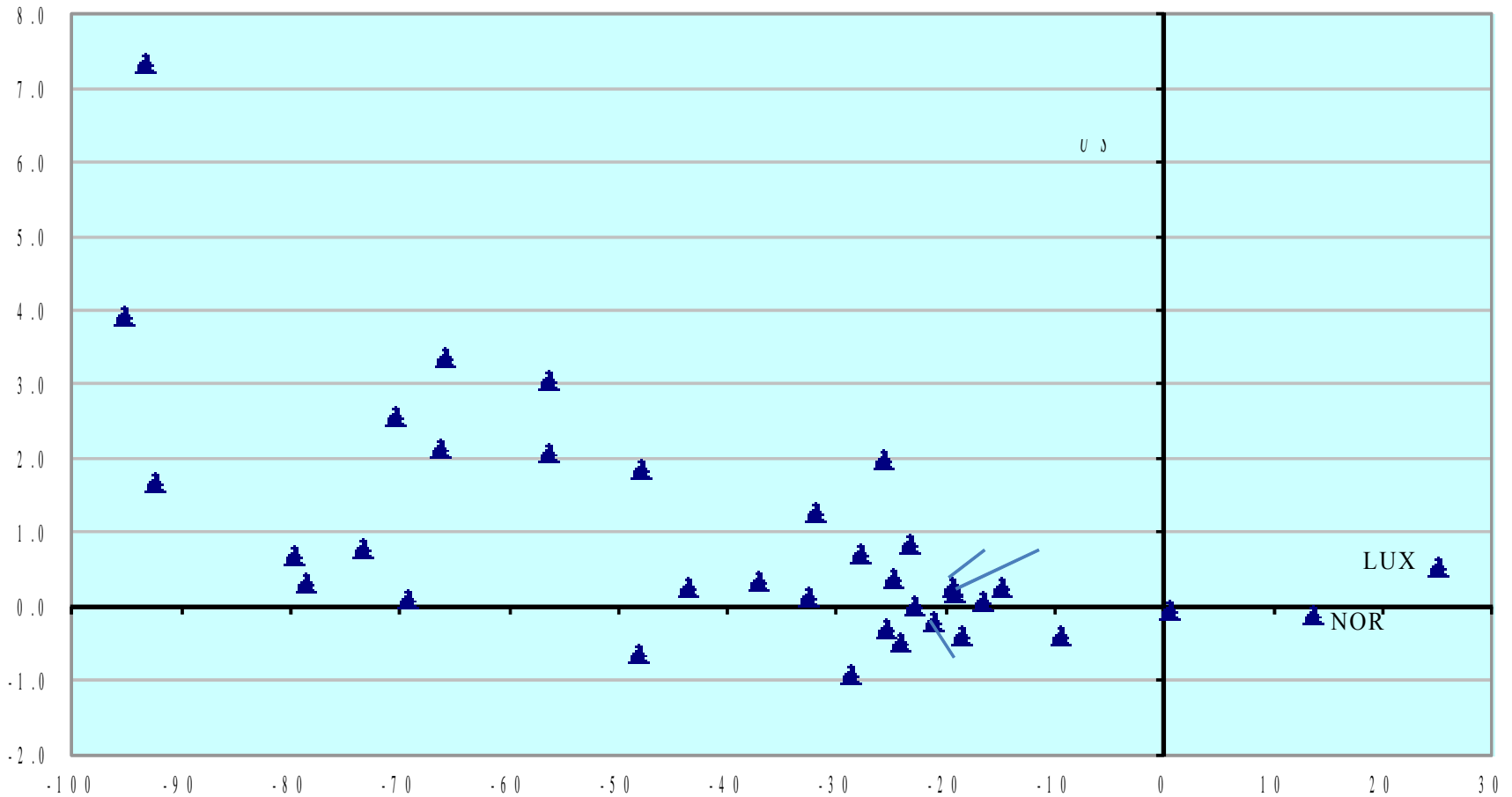
OECD Economics Department

## *Promoting structural reforms*

- Encouraging countries to undertake structural reforms is the OECD's mandate
- Main vehicle is *Going for Growth*, plus country surveys and thematic work
- *Going for Growth* is being extended to major non-members, including India
- Inputs into the G-20's Framework for Stronger, Sustainable and Balanced Growth

# The OECD as a convergence club

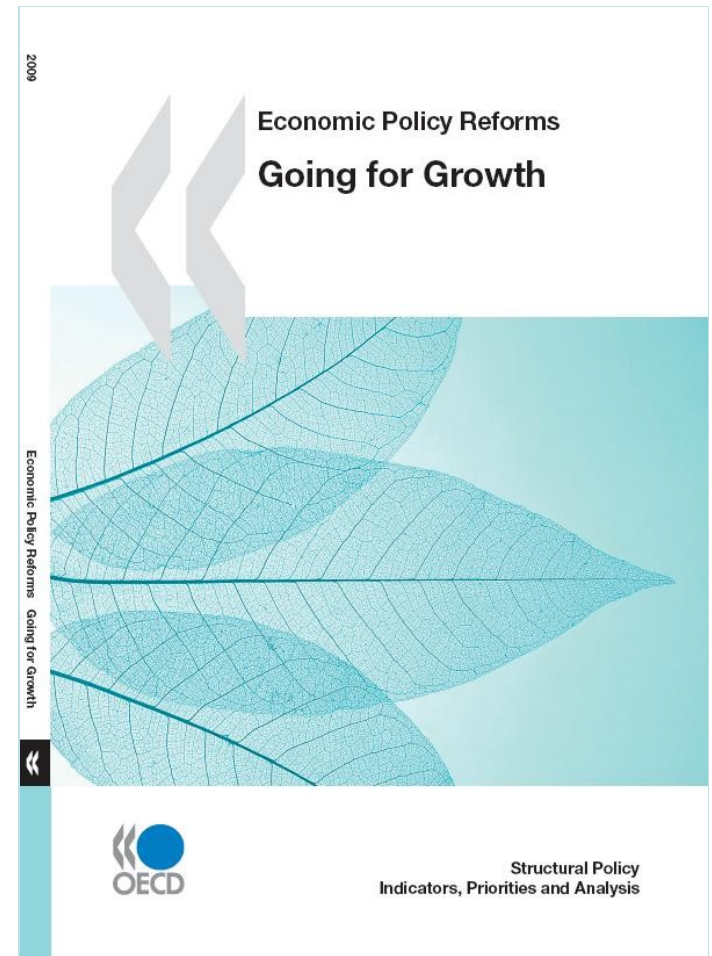
Gap in the average growth rate 1998-2008, per cent<sup>2</sup>



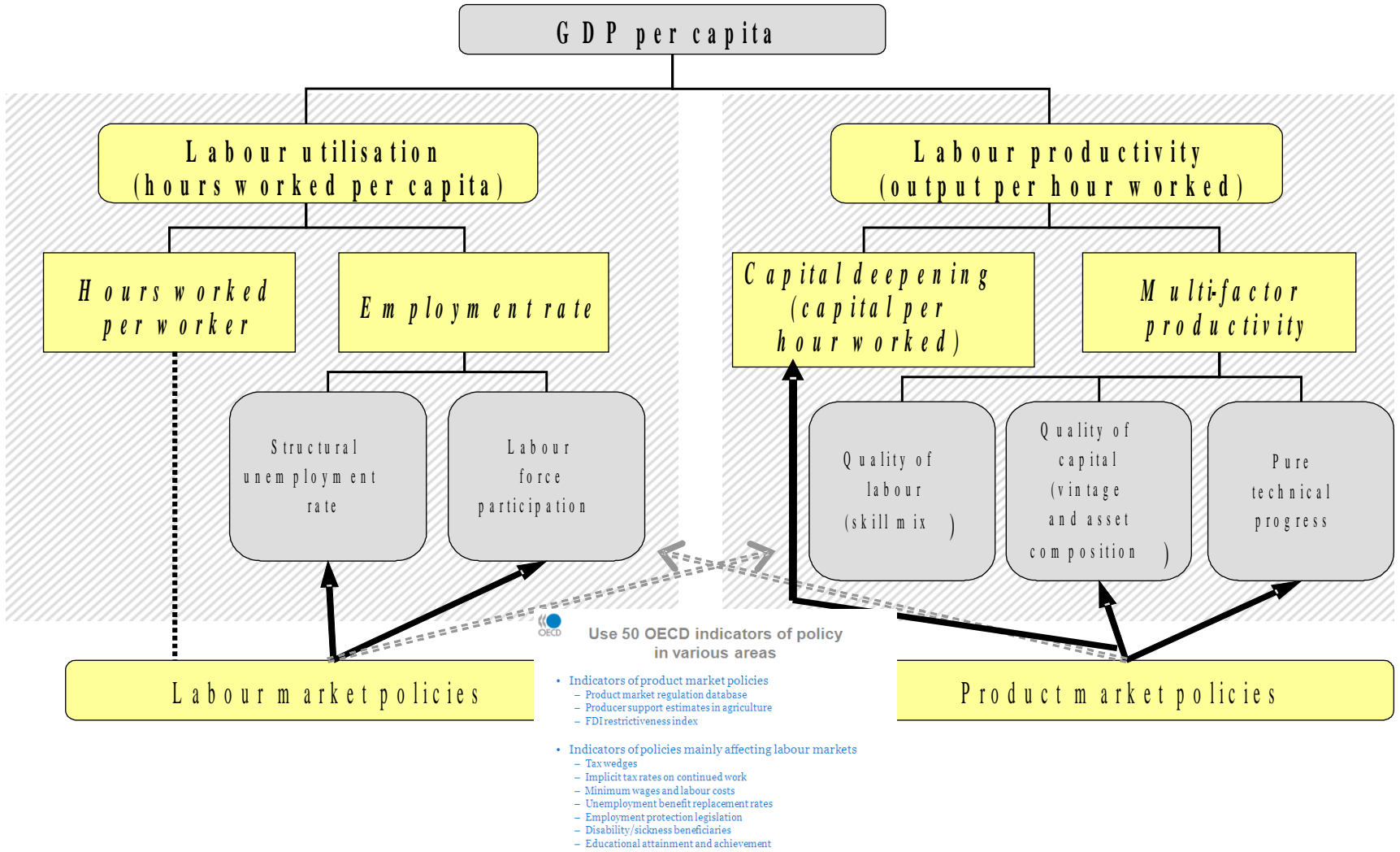
Gap in GDP per capita relative to the US in 1998, per cent<sup>2</sup>

# The Going for Growth process

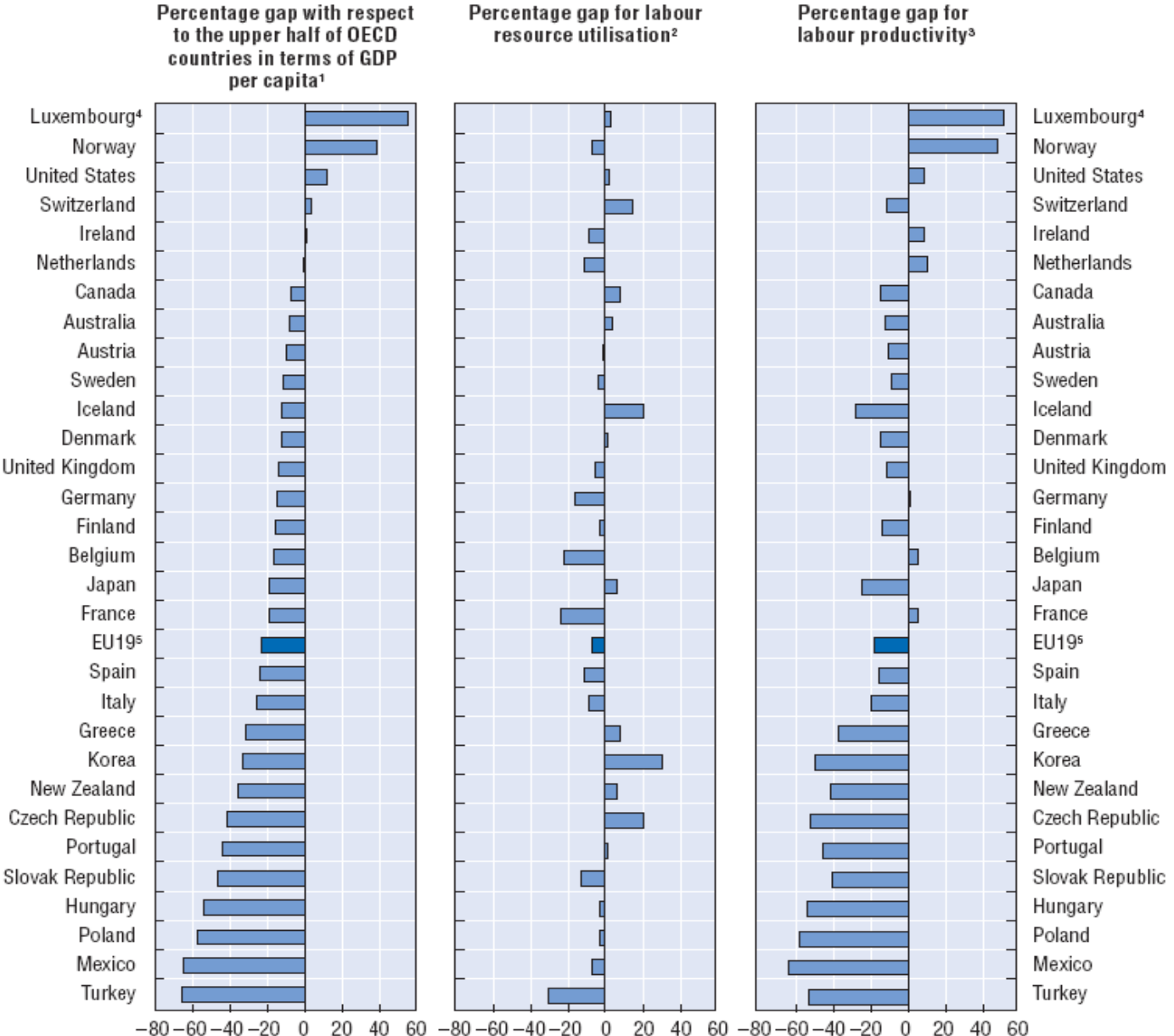
- Systematic policy and performance benchmarking using indicators
  - Identifies five priorities per country
  - Follow-up and review
- ⇒ *To promote long-run economic growth*



# The basic growth accounting framework



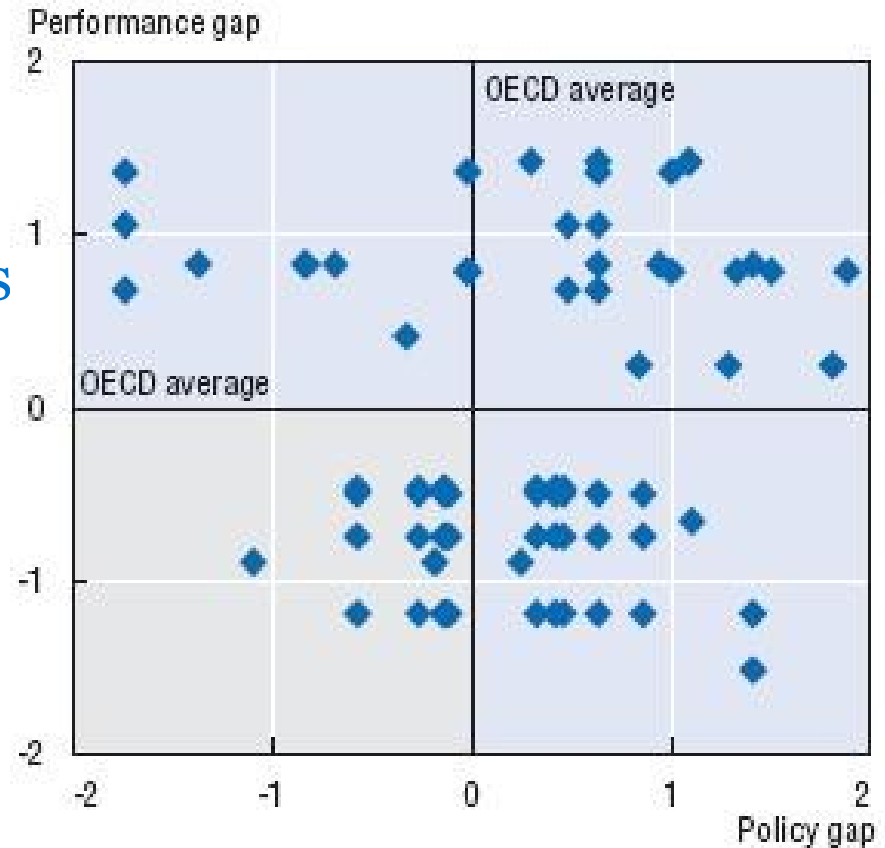
# Sources of differences in living standards



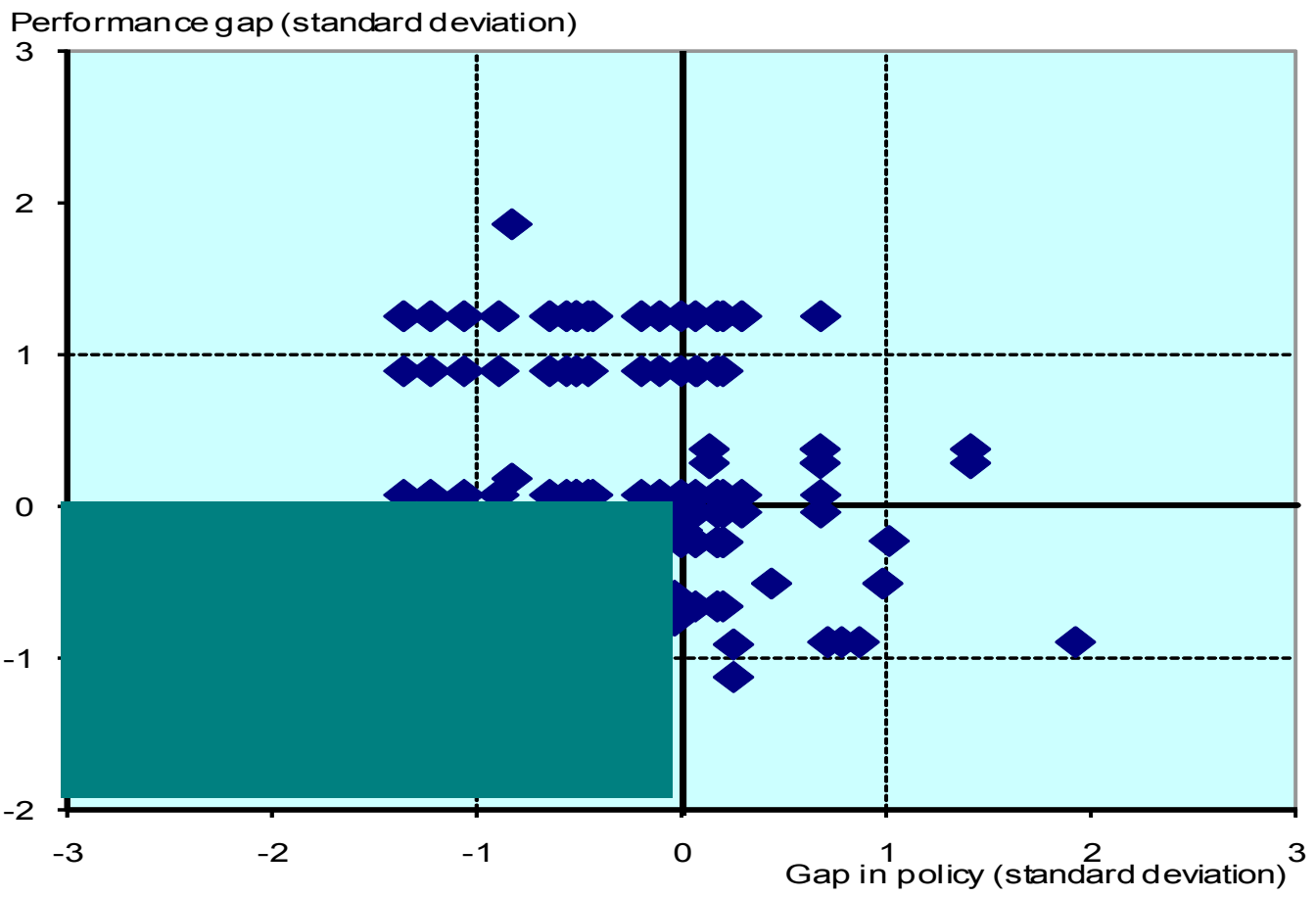
# Going for Growth methodology

## Three steps:

- Identify performance weaknesses associated with GDP/capita
- Identify policy weaknesses based on policy indicators and analysis establishing links between policy and performance
- 3 of the 5 based primarily on indicators
- Select most important policy weaknesses as priorities for reform



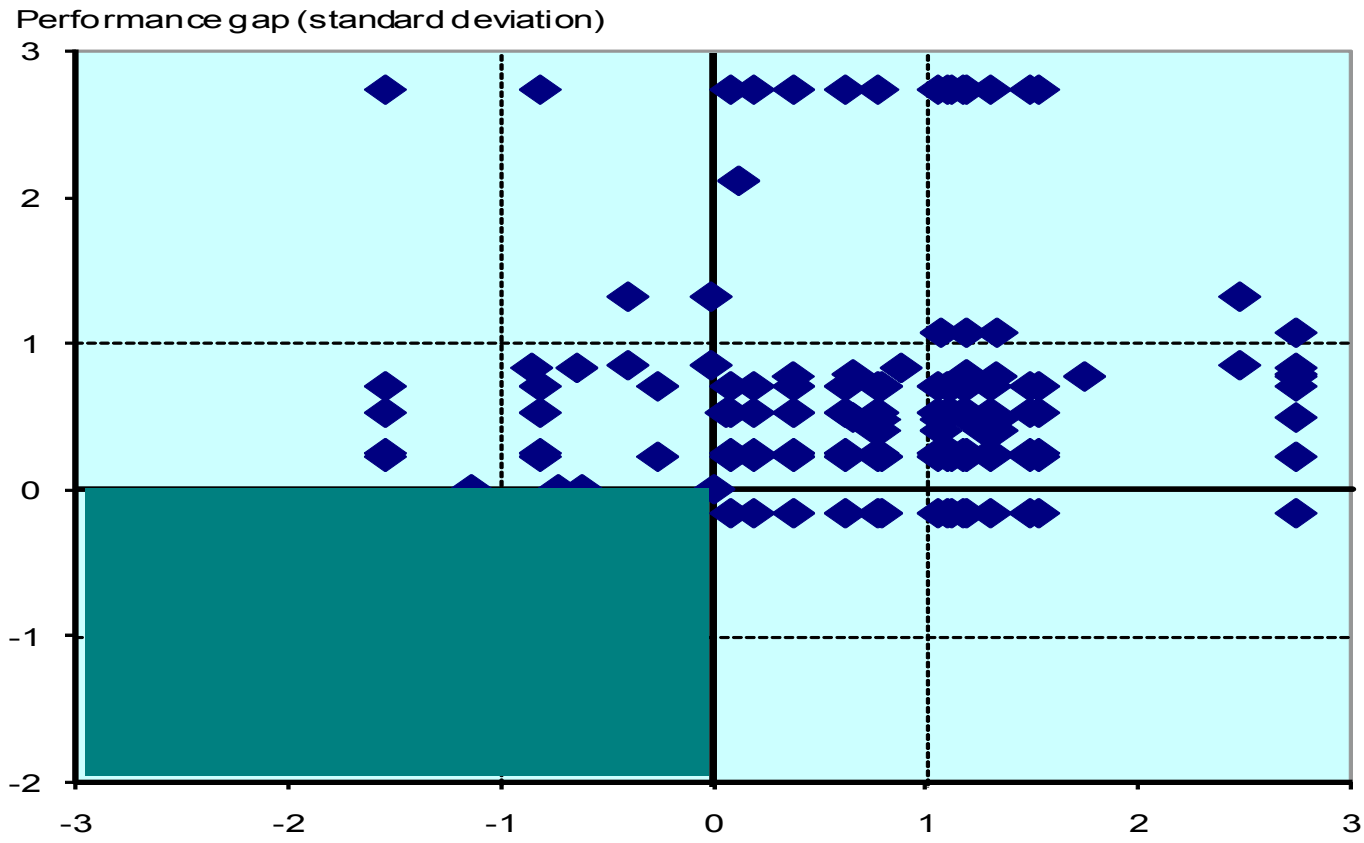
# Matching of performance and policy for France



Many cases of below average performance and policy



# Matching of performance and policy for United States

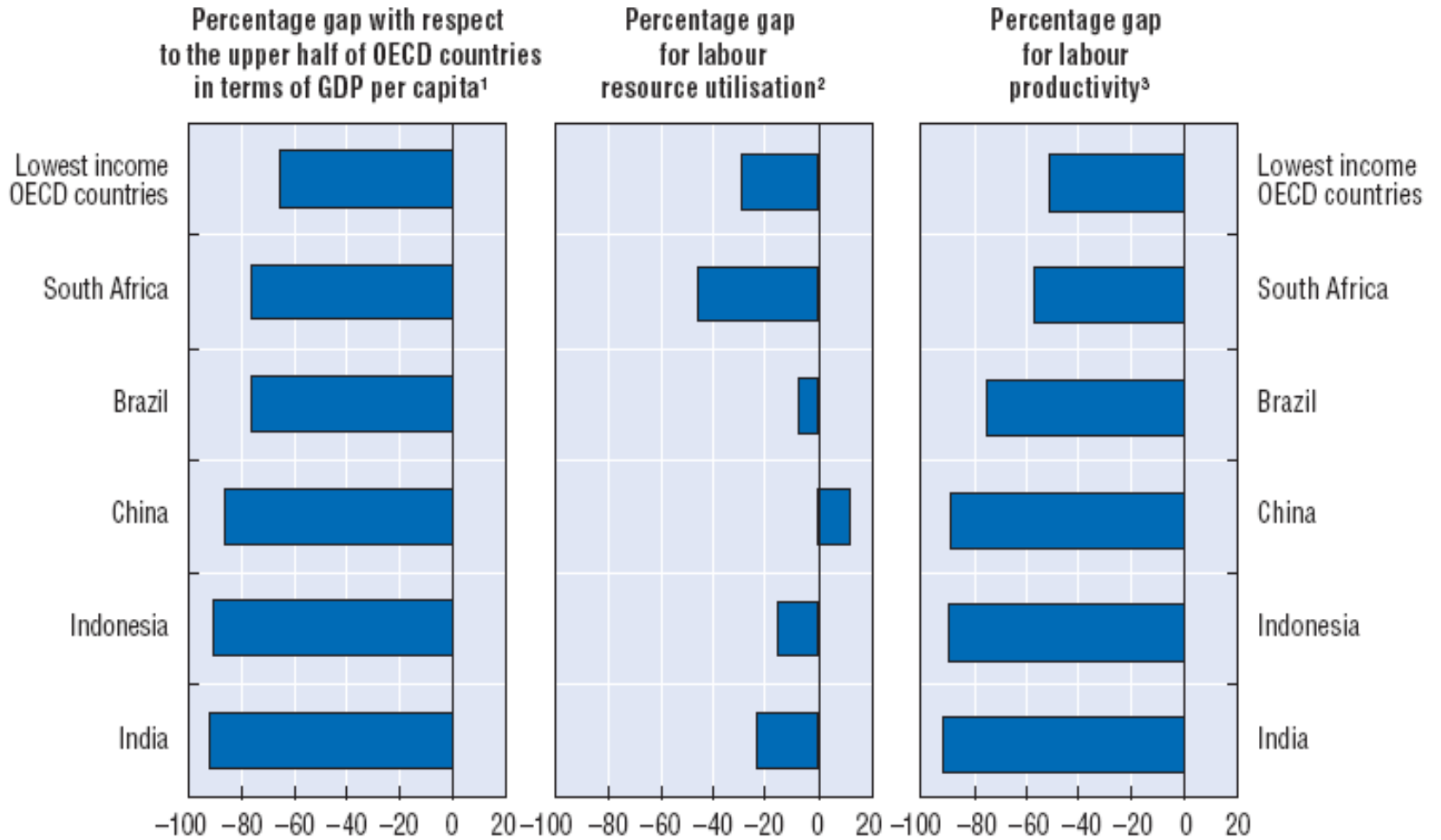


Fewer cases of below -average policy and performance

# Going for Growth policy recommendations evolve over time

Going for Growth edition	2005	2007	2009	2011	2011	
	Pre-enlargement OECD				OECD in 2011	BRIICS
<b>Productivity</b>						
Product market regulation	30	25	25	24	26	33
Agriculture	5	5	5	5	4	0
Human capital	10	14	15	15	15	17
Other policy areas	17	15	14	17	16	33
<i>Total</i>	63	59	58	61	61	83
<b>Labour utilisation</b>						
Average and marginal taxation on labour income	8	7	8	8	7	0
Social benefits	17	20	17	16	17	7
Labour market regulation and collective wage agreements	10	12	13	11	11	10
Other policy areas	2	2	3	5	5	0
<i>Total</i>	37	41	42	39	39	17
<b>Overall</b>	100	100	100	100	100	100
<b>Overall (number of priorities)</b>	155	155	155	155	175	30

# Income differentials reflect sizeable productivity gaps in major non-OECD countries

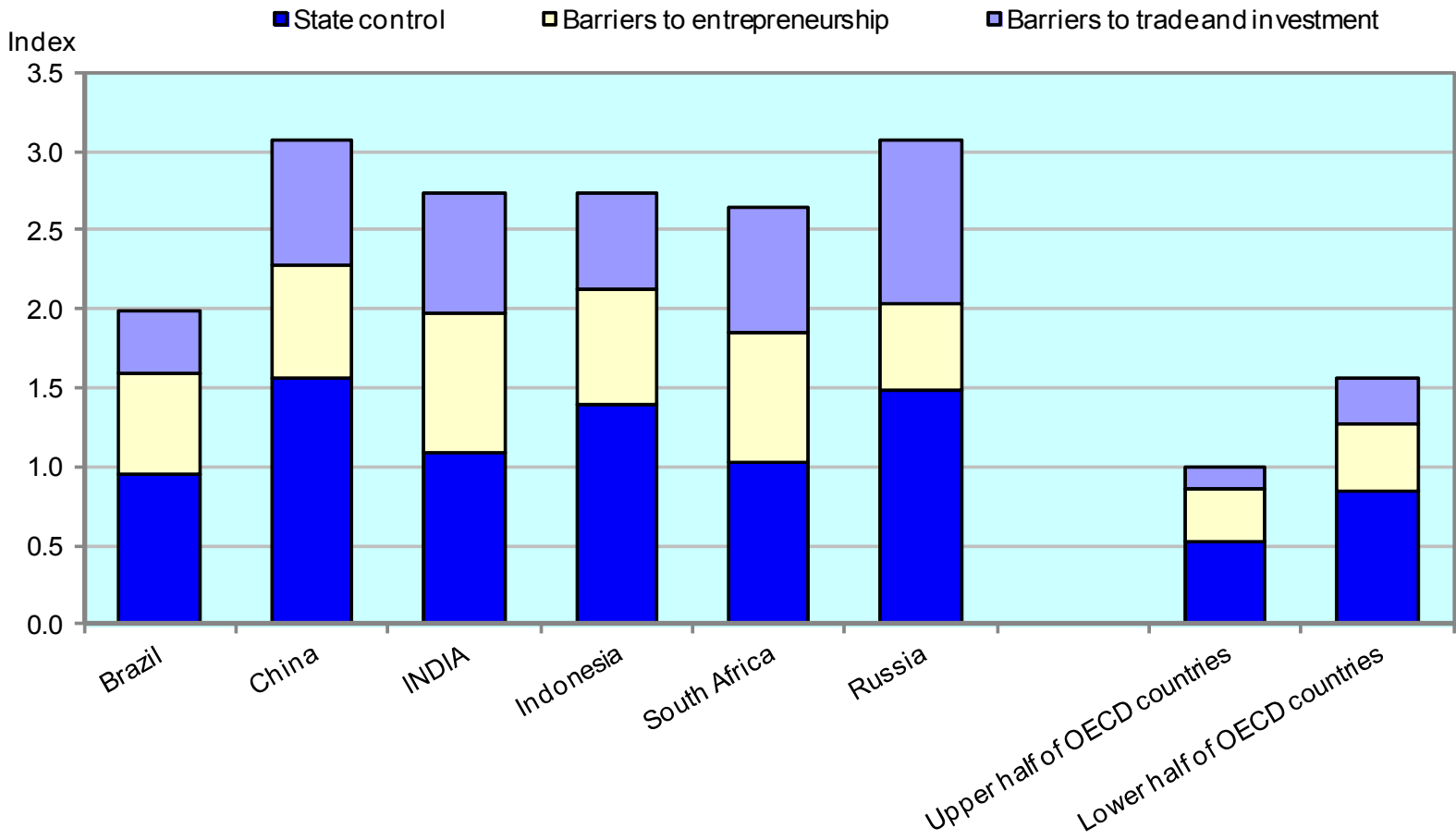


# Going for Growth preliminary policy recommendations for India

- *Reduce trade and FDI barriers as well as administrative burdens*
- *Improve educational attainment*
- *Improve labour market flexibility in the formal sector*
- *Enhance infrastructure provision*
- *Undertake wide-ranging financial sector reforms*

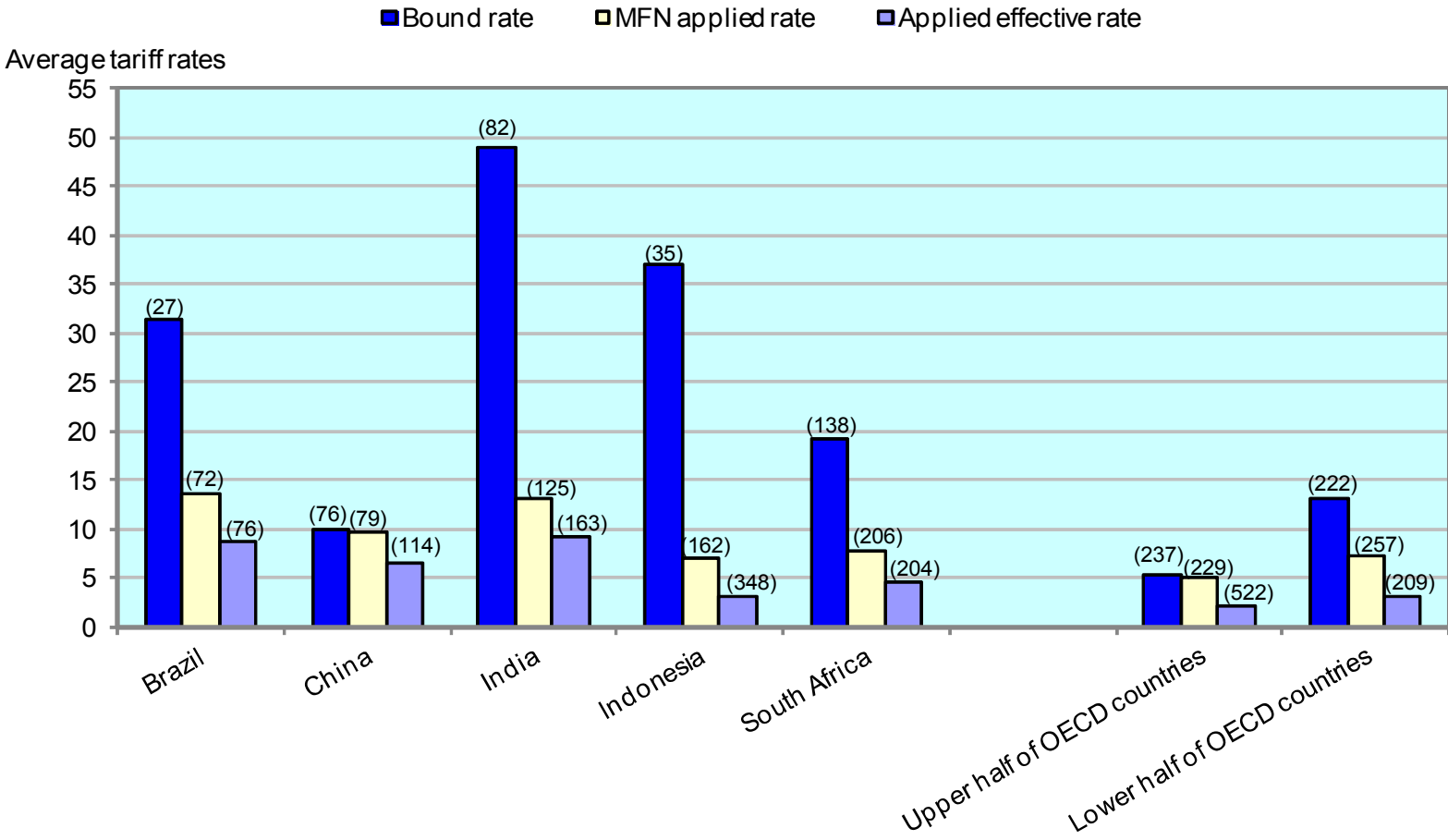
# The stance of product market regulation is highly restrictive (stringency in 2008)

India

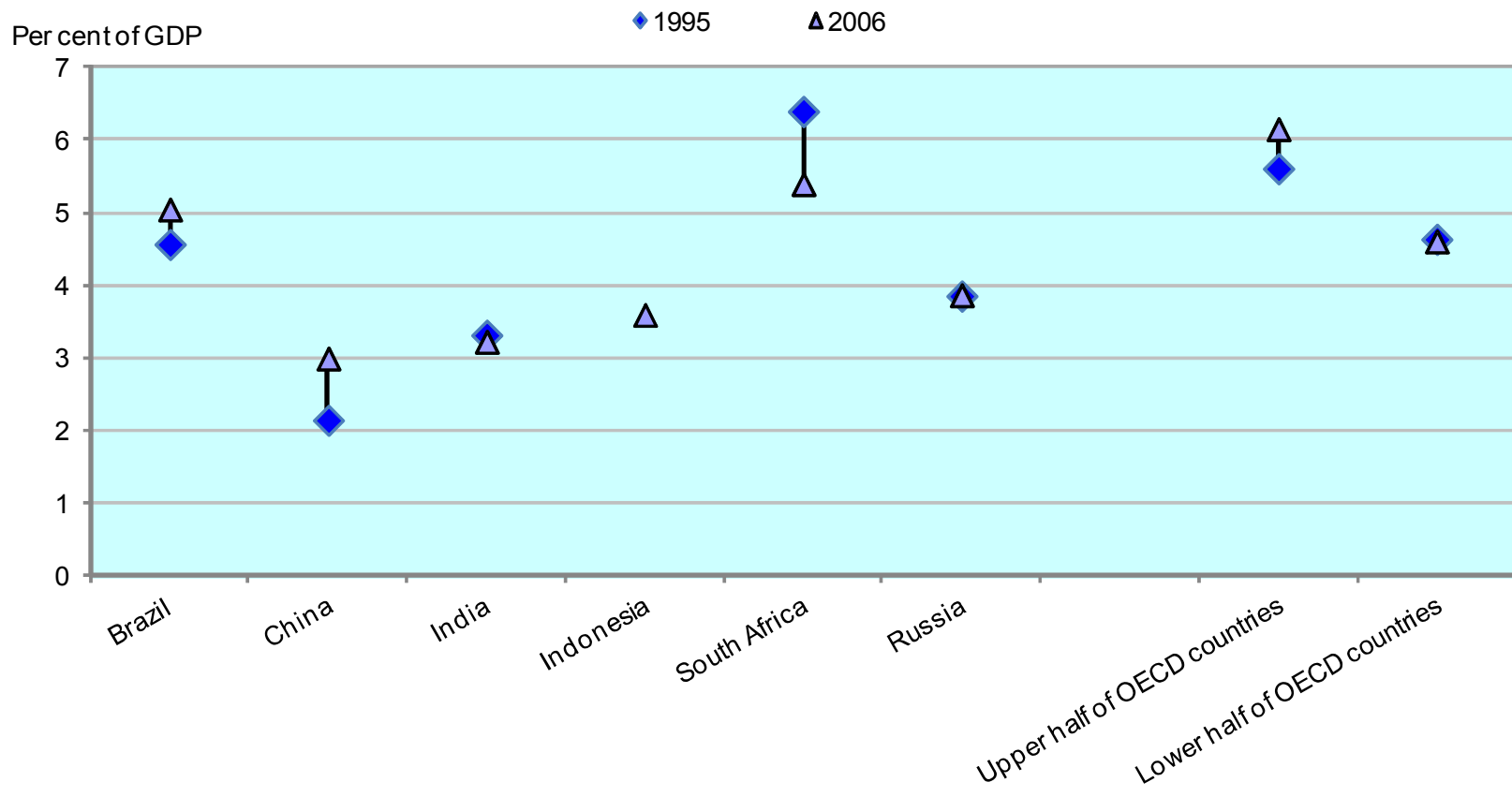


# Tariff rates are still relatively high (rate in 2008)

India



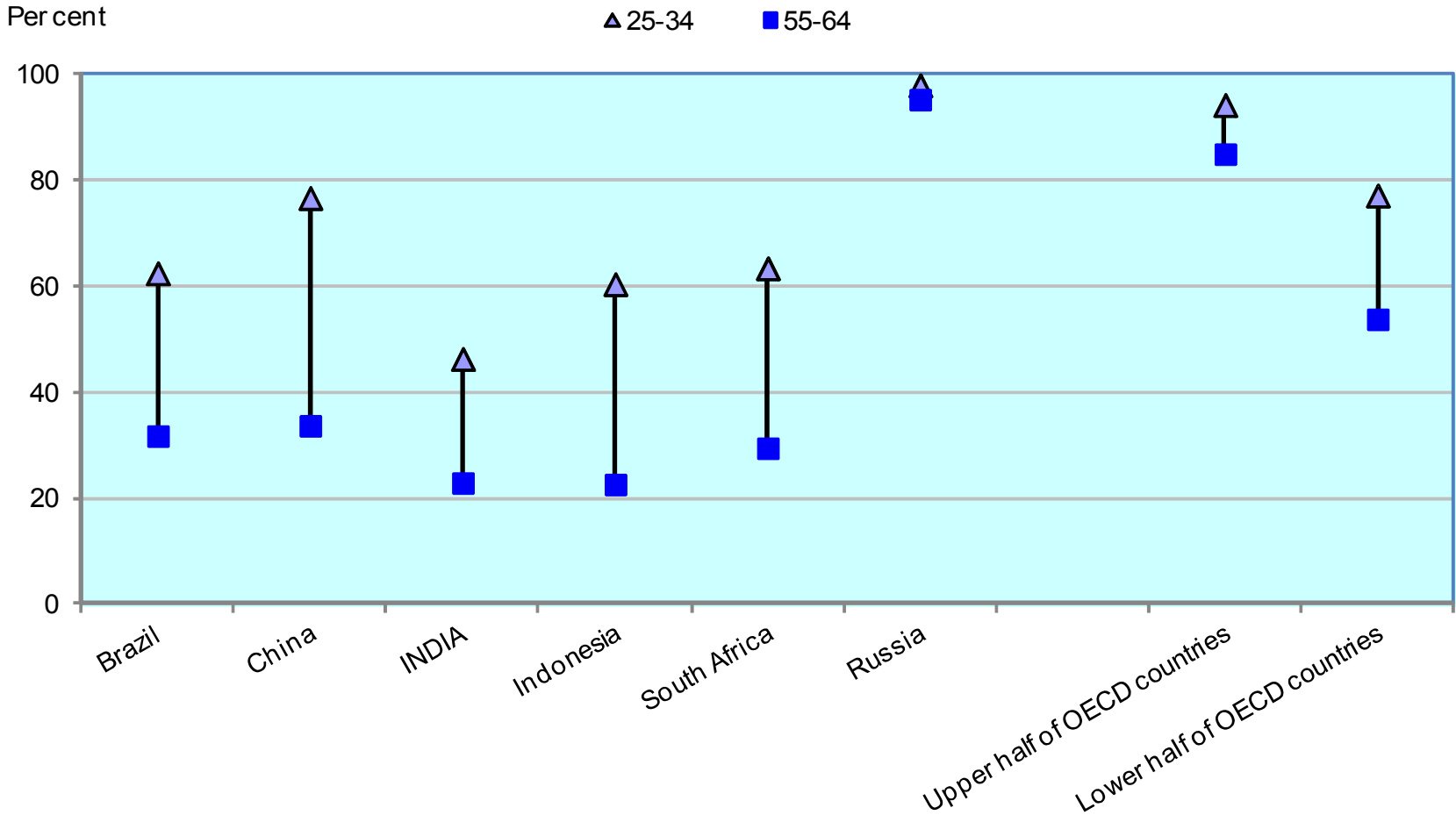
# Public expenditure on education (spending in 2006)



India

# Secondary level education gaps are still substantial for the younger cohorts (attainment in 2007)

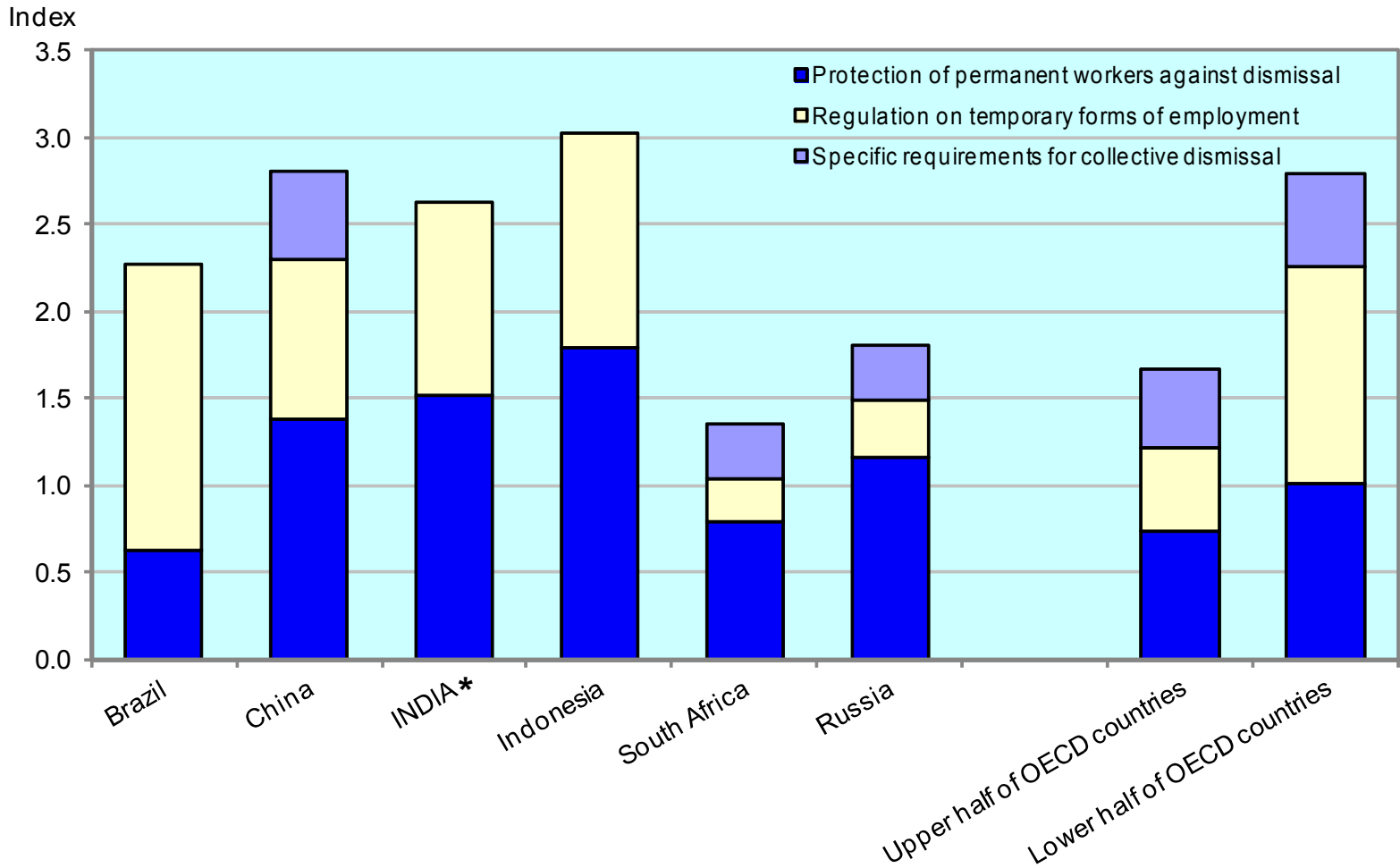
India





# Job protection legislation is highly restrictive (stringency in 2008)

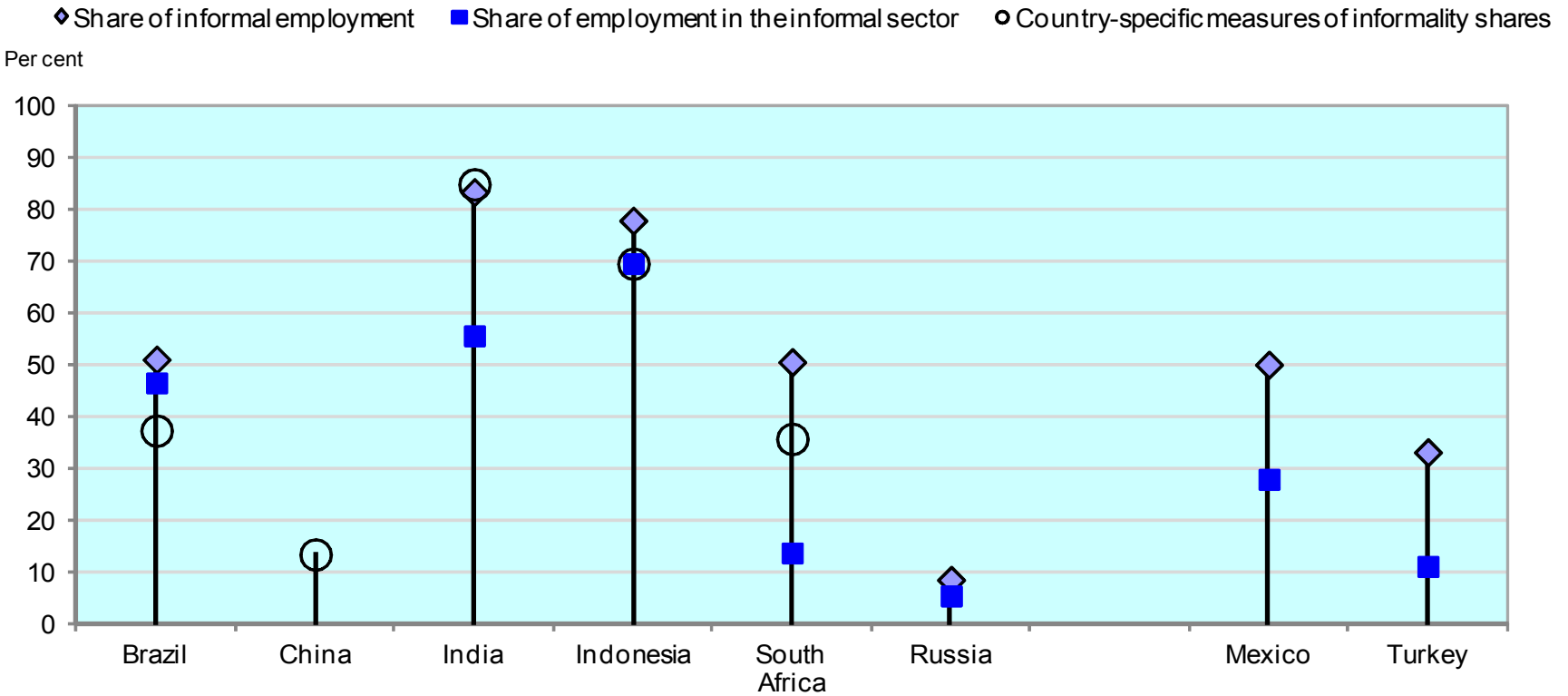
India



\*Indicator for India does not fully capture the effects of collective dismissal regulation under the IDA act

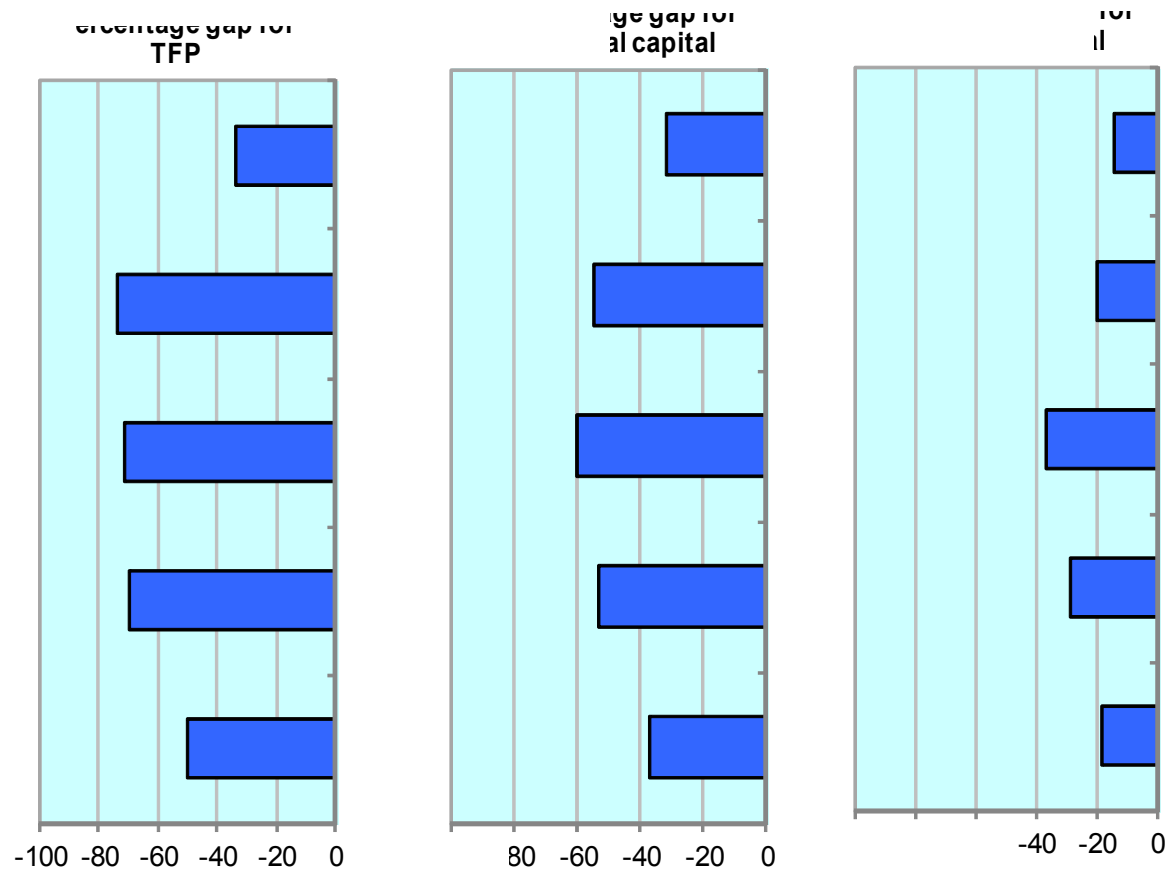
# Informality is very high (various estimates for mid-2000s)

India



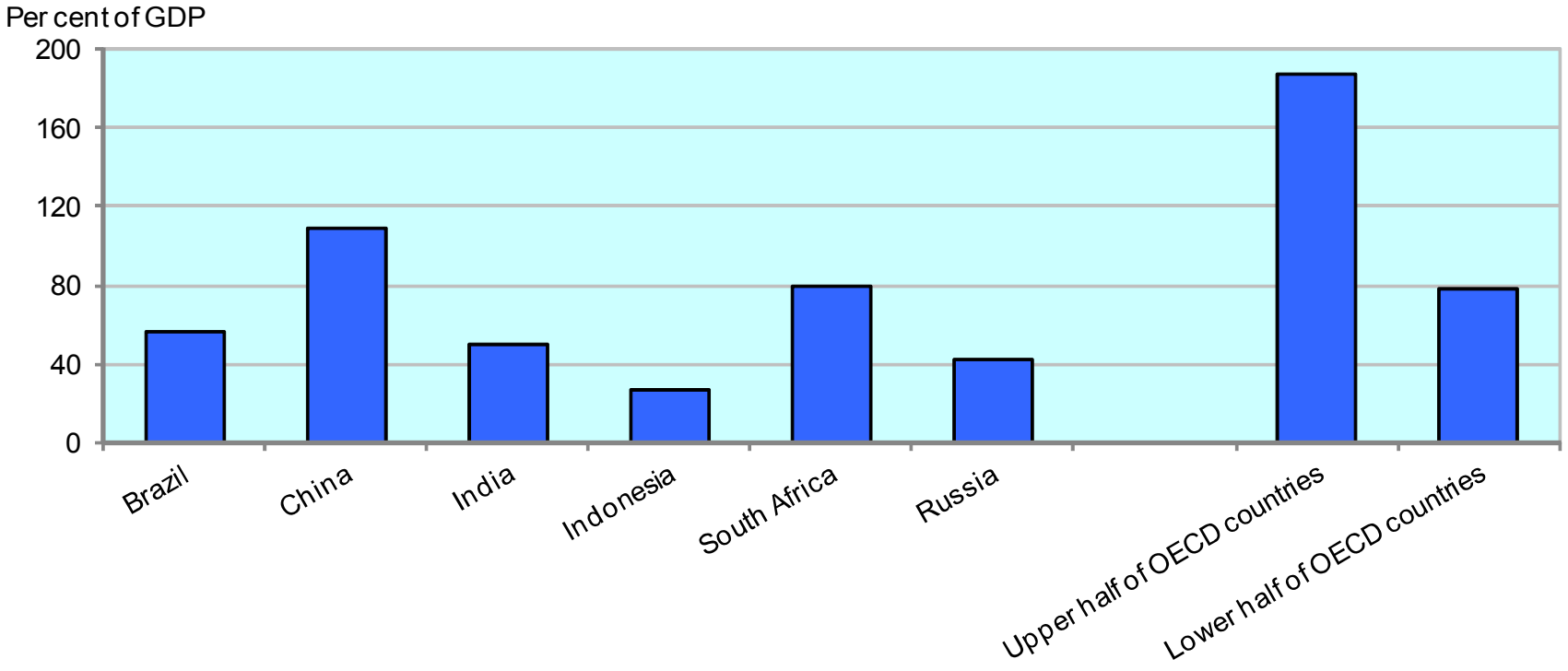
# Physical capital is at a relatively low level (breakdown of labour productivity gaps)

India



# Financial markets remain relatively shallow (domestic credit to the private sector in 2008)

India



## *G-20 Contributions*

- Identifying reform priorities based on *Going for Growth*
- Estimating the impacts of structural reform
- Inputs into the G-20's Framework for Stronger, Sustainable and Balanced Growth

# Simulated impacts of structural reforms

	Definition of "unit" shock	OECD average	OECD standard deviation	Simulated effect (unit changes)		Simulated effect (one-standard deviation changes)	
				After 10 years	Steady-state	After 10 years	Steady-state
<b>Labour market policies</b>							
Average replacement rate	-10 ppt.	27.2	11.0	1.9	3.0	2.0	3.2
Employment protection legislation (EPL)	-1 index point	2.2	0.8	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.3
Maternal leave weeks	+10 weeks	27.0	20.5	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3
Childcare benefits	-0.1 ppt.	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Childcare support	+0.1 ppt.	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Standard retirement age	+1 year	64.3	2.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.6
Implicit tax on continued work	-10 ppt.	26.9	19.9	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.8
Average weekly normal hours and overtime	+1 hour	44.3	4.7	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.4
<b>Taxation</b>							
Average tax wedge	-10 ppt.	30.0	9.9	3.3	5.2	3.1	5.0
Marginal tax	-10 ppt.	32.4	9.5	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
<b>Product market regulation</b>							
Gas	-0.1 index point	3.3	1.1	0.1	0.1	1.1	1.0
Electricity	-0.1 index point	1.8	1.3	0.1	0.1	1.0	1.2
Road	-0.1 index point	1.6	1.4	0.1	0.1	1.5	1.3
Rail	-0.1 index point	3.6	1.5	0.1	0.1	1.5	1.4
Air	-0.1 index point	2.0	1.6	0.1	0.1	1.7	1.5
Post	-0.1 index point	3.0	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.4
Telecommunications	-0.1 index point	1.6	0.9	0.1	0.1	0.9	0.9
Overall	-0.1 index point	2.5	0.8	0.73	0.67	5.7	5.1
<b>Human capital</b>							
PISA score	+10 points	496	21.4*	0.1	2.0	0.3	4.1
Average years of schooling (16-24 cohort)	+1 year	12.6	1.0	0.6	8.1	0.6	8.3

# OECD is looking at the current account effects of structural reforms

	Total saving	Total investment	Current account	Surplus countries (2009) with priority in these areas
Increase in productivity growth	+	+	-	
Product market deregulation		+	(-)	Austria, Belgium, China, Chile, Estonia, Germany, Denmark, Israel, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, Norway, Russia, Switzerland, Hungary
Improvement in coverage/quality of social welfare system	-		(-)	Switzerland, Russia, Hungary
Increase in statutory retirement age	-		(-)	Finland, Belgium
Lowering of employment protection for regular workers	-	-	0	Germany, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Sweden, Chile
Financial market deregulation	0/-	+/-	(+/-)	

# Balancing multiple objectives

External surplus	
Fiscal deficit	Fiscal surplus
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▼ Product market regulation</li> <li>▼ State control of potentially competitive activities</li> <li>▼ Support to agriculture</li> <li>▲ Efficiency public spending in health and pensions</li> <li>▲ Retirement age</li> <li>Change in tax structure : ▲ increase indirect taxes and :               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▼ Corporate income taxes</li> <li>▼ Tax wedge</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▲ Public spending (education, innovation, infrastructure)</li> <li>▲ ALMP spending</li> <li>▼ Tariffs on international trade</li> </ul>
External deficit	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▼ Unemployment benefits</li> <li>▼ Disability/ sickness benefits</li> <li>▼ FDI restrictions</li> </ul>	



**For more information**

[www.oecd.org/goingforgrowth](http://www.oecd.org/goingforgrowth)