BRAZIL GTSI STATISTICS

BRAZILIANS RATE THEIR EDUCATION SYSTEM LOWER THAN ALMOST ANY OF THE 35 COUNTRIES SURVEYED AT 4.2 OUT OF 10.

TEACHER STATUS IS LOWER IN BRAZIL THAN IN ANY OF THE 35 COUNTRIES POLLED IN THE GLOBAL TEACHER STATUS INDEX 2018.

KEY FINDINGS – BRAZIL:

> Brazil is the lowest ranked of all the 35 countries in the Global Teacher Status Index 2018. China, by comparison, ranked highest, while other Latin American countries all placed higher than Brazil: Argentina (31), Colombia (26), Peru (25), Chile (22) and Panama (15). Brazil’s place in the GTSI has slipped since it was first carried out five years ago, when Brazil came 20th out of 21 countries ranked in 2013, just above bottom-placed Israel.

> Brazilians rate their education system lower than almost any of the 35 countries surveyed at 4.2 out of 10. Only Egypt ranked lower at 3.8. Other Latin American countries polled rated their education system higher – Argentina 5.4, Chile 5.2, Colombia 5.3, Panama 4.8 and Peru 4.4. Finland, by contrast, rated their education system 8 out of 10 – the highest of the survey. Brazil’s rating is in line with its ranking of average PISA scores of 28th among the countries polled, with only Peru ranking lower.

The Varkey Global Status Index 2018 (GTSI 2018)

35 survey countries indexed on a relative scale 1-100
Most (29%) Brazilian respondents think the most comparable profession to teachers are librarians.

Less than one in 10 (9%) Brazilian people think pupils respect their teachers - the lowest of all the 35 countries polled. By contrast, 81% in China believe pupils respect their teachers – more than any other country surveyed. The situation has not changed for Brazil in the last five years, when the first GTSI poll of 21 countries showed Brazilian respondents were most likely to feel that students did not respect teachers.

Brazilian teachers are working much longer hours per week than people think, with the general public estimating they work 39.2 hours a week when teachers polled report they are working 47.7 hours. This underestimation of teachers’ actual working hours was common in other Latin American countries taking part in the poll. In Argentina the general public estimated teachers there worked 31.2 hours a week when teachers say they work 43.7, Chile’s general public estimated teachers worked 43.1 hours when teachers put their hours at 51.3 hours, Colombia’s public estimated 36.2 hours compared to 44 hours reported by teachers, Panama’s population estimated 29.6 hours compared to 41 hours reported by teachers, and the general public in Peru estimated 32.1 hours when teachers there say they actually work 45.1 hours a week.
When asked to rank 14 professions including doctors, nurses, librarians and social workers in order of respect Brazilian respondents ranked secondary school teachers and headteachers lower than any other country surveyed. Primary school teachers were ranked the third lowest after Ghana and Uganda.

Brazilian respondents said the most comparable profession to teachers are librarians (29%), while a further 23% said social workers. By comparison, only three countries – China, Russia and Malaysia – said teachers were most like doctors. Only 8% of Brazilian people surveyed said teachers are most similar to doctors. Brazil’s view on which profession is most comparable to teachers has not changed since 2013, when librarians also featured as the closest fit among those polled.
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> Brazilian people would be surprised to learn teachers earn less than they think. While respondents on average estimated that the salary of a starting secondary school teacher is a little under $15,000 (adjusted for purchasing power parity), it is actually lower – just under $13,000. The Brazilian public do not believe this is fair. On average, respondents thought a fair wage of a starting secondary school teacher would be just over $20,000.

> Only a fifth (20%) of Brazilian people would encourage their child to become a teacher. This is the seventh lowest of all the countries surveyed and contrasts sharply with India, where over half (54%) of people would encourage their child to become a teacher, more than any other country surveyed, and with China where 50% would encourage their child. However it is considerably more than in Russia, where only 6% of people would encourage their child to become a teacher – the least of all the countries polled.
Nearly half of those polled in Brazil (43%) support performance related pay for teachers. This compares to a third (33%) of respondents in Brazil who would not support the idea of performance related pay for the nation’s teachers and a quarter (24%) who are undecided on the notion that teachers should be rewarded in pay according to their pupils’ results. By stark contrast, 79% of people in Egypt support performance related teacher pay, more than in any other country surveyed.

Eighty-eight percent of people in Brazil instinctively see teachers as low status, more than any other country polled apart from Israel (90%).