CHINA GTSI STATISTICS

THESE FINDINGS ARE AMONG THOSE PUBLISHED TODAY BY GLOBAL EDUCATION CHARITY THE VARKEY FOUNDATION.

TEACHER STATUS IS HIGHER IN CHINA THAN IN ANY OF THE 35 COUNTRIES POLLED IN THE NEW GLOBAL TEACHER STATUS INDEX 2018

KEY FINDINGS – CHINA:

> China ranks 1st out of 35 countries in the Global Teacher Status Index 2018 in stark contrast to Brazil, which ranked lowest. It retains this position from 2013, when it was 1st out of 21 countries surveyed then. China’s high status corresponds to its rank of 7th out of 35 surveyed countries for average PISA scores.

> Over four in five (81%) Chinese respondents believed that pupils respect teachers, up from 75% in 2013. This was the highest estimated level of pupil respect of any country surveyed: the average of estimated pupil respect in all countries was just 36%.
Over four in five (81%) Chinese respondents believe that pupils respect teachers, more than in any other country surveyed.

> Thirty-seven percent of Chinese people say that doctors are the closest professional equivalent to teachers. China was one of only three countries alongside Russia and Malaysia to choose doctor as the closest comparison – all other countries choosing either Nurse, Librarian or Social Worker. China’s choice remained the same as in 2013, when 35% also chose doctor.

> Chinese respondents rated their own education system highly, with a score of 6.8 out of 10 – the ninth highest of all the countries surveyed. This is still some way behind first ranked Finland (8 out of 10) but is a considerable rise from 2013, when Chinese people gave a rating of 5.8 out of 10.
When asked to rank 14 professions in order of respect (including headteachers, primary and secondary teachers, doctors, nurses, social workers, and librarians), China ranked primary and secondary school teachers higher than any other country surveyed. China ranked headteachers the third highest of all the countries polled after Malaysia and Indonesia.

Half (50%) of Chinese people say they would probably or definitely encourage their child to become a teacher, the second highest of all the countries polled after India (54%).
Chinese people overestimate how much teachers are paid. While respondents in the survey said the starting salary for a secondary school teacher is around $19,500 (adjusted for purchasing power parity), it is actually much lower at around $12,000. Chinese people think a fair wage for starting secondary school teachers would be $21,500 – higher than the sum teachers consider fair (around $18,700).

The minimum salary that Chinese respondents say they would need to consider becoming teachers is $17,343 - lower than the estimated wage of teachers (around $19,500), but much higher than the actual starting secondary school teacher salary of around $12,000.
Support for performance-related pay for teachers is strong, with 59% in favour. However, this was only the 12th highest rate of support for performance-related pay among all countries surveyed, with Egypt showing a rate of 79%, higher than any other country surveyed.

China was one of the only countries to have an accurate public perception of the number of hours worked by teachers. Respondents estimated 43.3 hours per week on average, compared to 41.5 hours actually reported by teachers in our study. This was the 7th most accurate estimate out of 35 countries surveyed.

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HALF (50%) OF CHINESE PEOPLE WOULD PROBABLY OR DEFINITELY ENCOURAGE THEIR CHILD TO BECOME A TEACHER, THE SECOND HIGHEST OF ALL THE COUNTRIES POLLED.

#TeacherStatus