CONFÉRENCE DE COMPARAISONS INTERNATIONALES

#cci_mixités

LA MIXITÉ SOCIALE, SCOLAIRE & ETHNOCULTURELLE A L'ÉCOLE

# *La mesure des mixités sociales à l'école : une problématique statistique mais aussi politique et éthique*

# The measurement of social diversity at school: a statistical as well as political and ethical issue in Sweden

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# Background Sweden

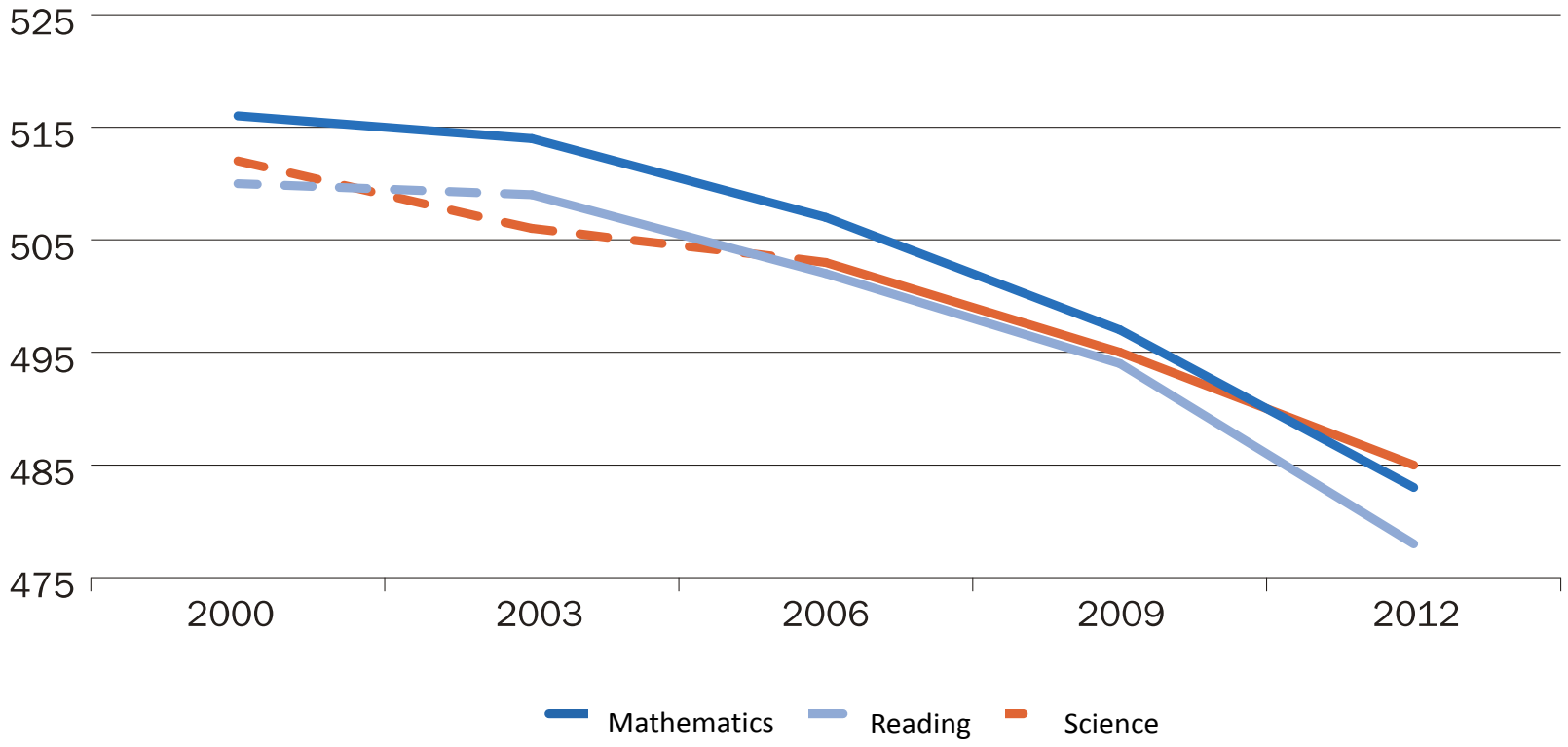
- 1992, liberalization of Swedish school system
  - Free school choice
  - Independent schools
- Goal and result-governed school system
- Before 1992 there were school catchment areas
- Student voucher (money) from local municipality.
- Equal education for all students a goal

# Recent debates

1. OECD report; how to improve schools in Sweden
   - Falling results in PISA
2. Association between segregation and educational achievements
   - Contested in politics
3. How to integrate newly arrived students
   - How to learn language in segregated system

# Decreasing performance

Swedish results in PISA, years 2000 to 2012



# Is there an association?

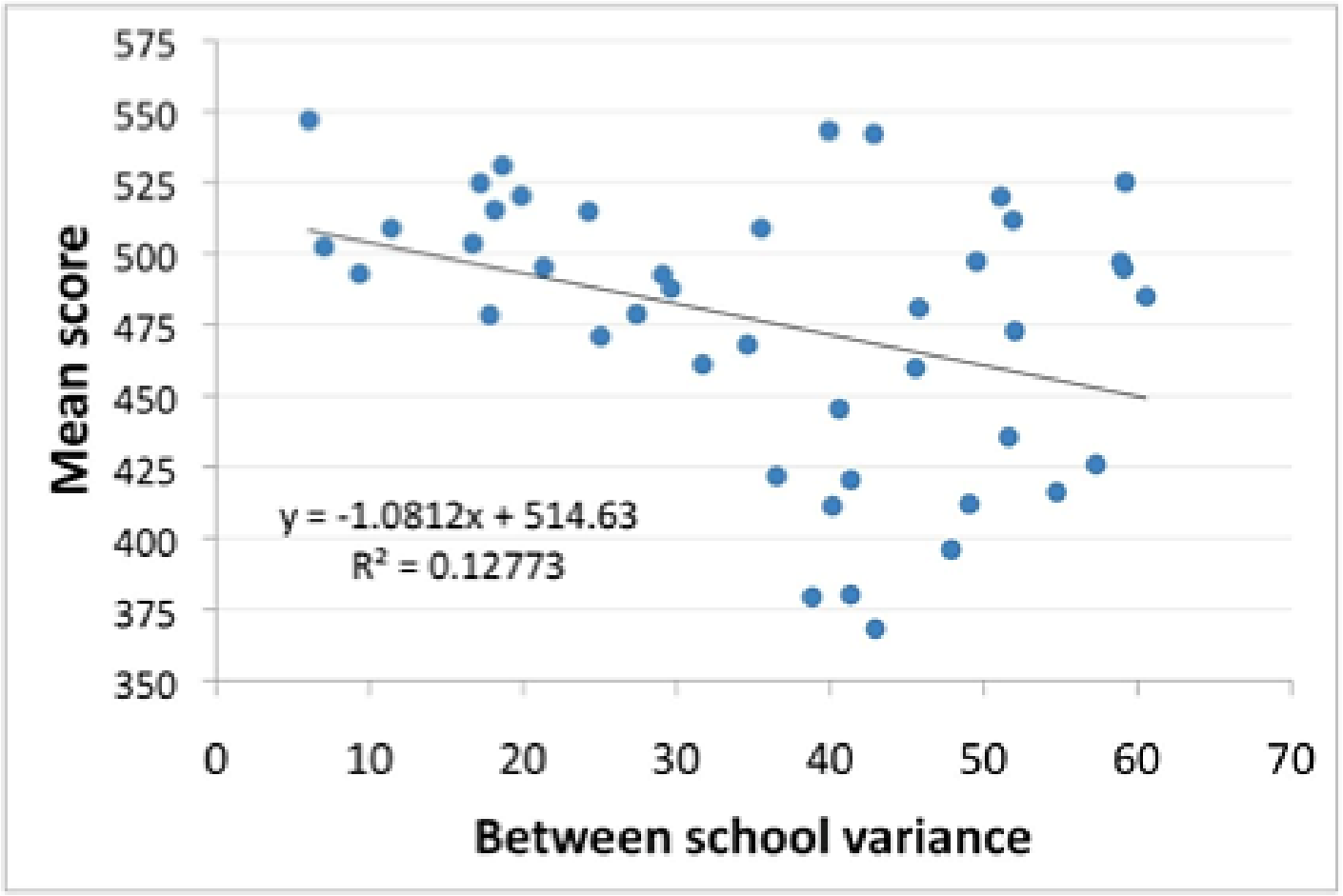
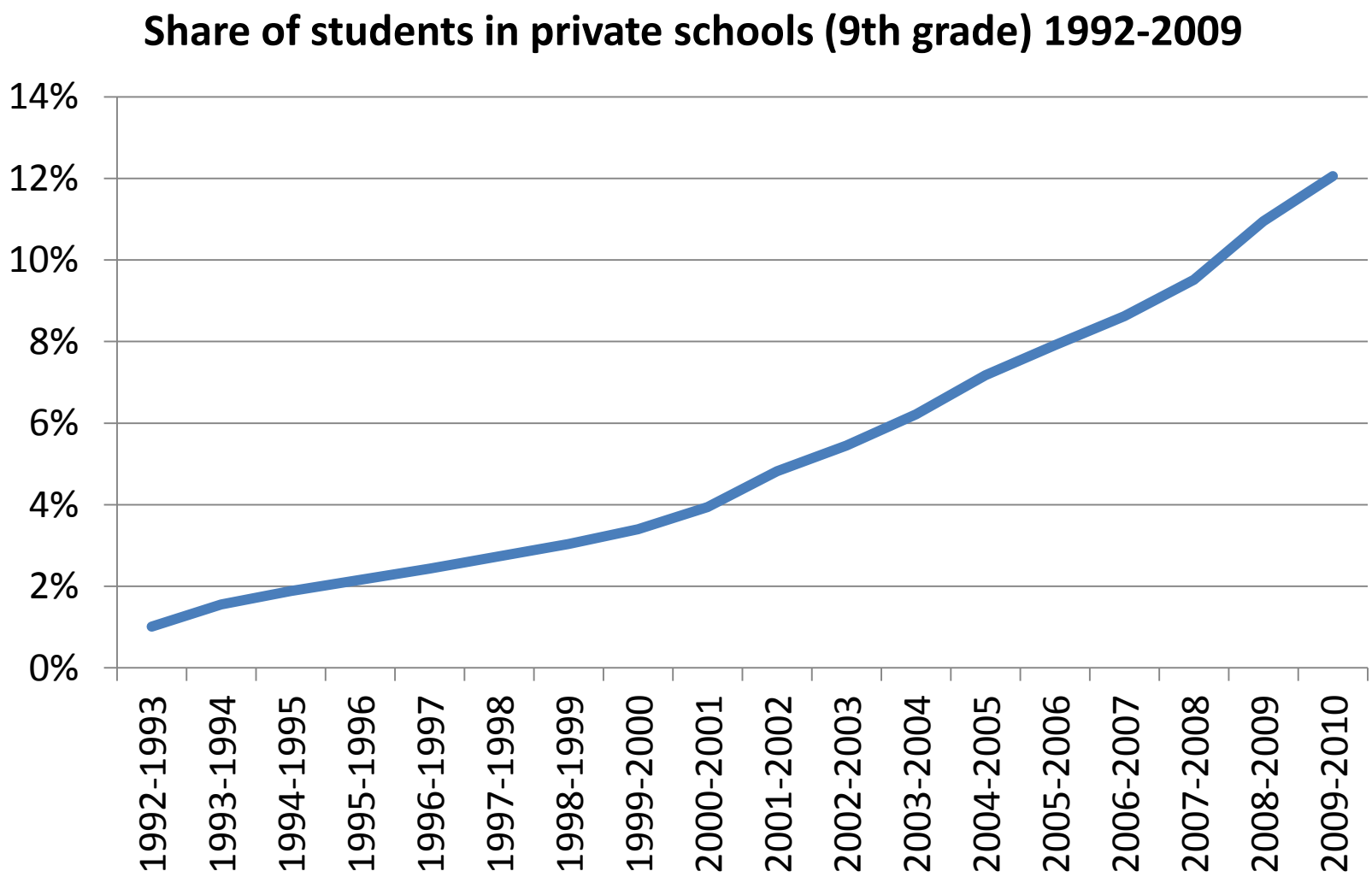



Figure 1 Between school variance and mean student performance in OECD/Pisa data, 43 countries 2000-06. Robust standard error for the slope parameter is 0.358 (Huber–White).

# Increasing school choice in Sweden



# School statistics in Sweden

- The National Agency for Education responsible, but Statistic Sweden produces, collects data
- Municipalities (290) deliver data on students and schools to Statistics Sweden
- Statistics Sweden produce individual, longitudinal register data with school data (grades, schools, parents, foreign born, national tests, teachers, costs per school etc.)
- SCB adds students' background from the total population register (RTB)
- All students, not a sample
- No data on religion or ethnicity

# cont. School statistics in Sweden

- National Agency for Education gets data from Statistics Sweden and produces SALSA (model), SIRIS, and 'Jämförelsetal'.
  - SALSA, model on background statistics of students to compare effectiveness and achievements with the control of e.g. parental education
  - SIRIS, school data base, national tests
  - Jämförelsetal, comparing municipalities
- Surveys like PISA, TIMSS

# cont. School statistics in Sweden

- Municipalities (local level) use data to compensate schools financially. Recently arrived immigrants or to schools in which students have low educated parents. Vary between municipalities.
- Municipalities also use products from the National Agency for Education such as SALSA.
- In SALSA the indicators used are foreign background, sex, and parental education.

# cont. School statistics in Sweden

- Data for schools, grades and students etc. are in long time series back to 1980s. National tests comparable country-wide, from the 2000s
- National Agency for Education arrange seminars with researchers
- Some researchers directly access registers at SCB including school data and information on students' parents and schools' and residences' geo-coordinates.
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# Ethnic diversity

- We cannot analyze ethnicity in its true sense, no data on ethnicity, language or religion for example

- Most studies combine *being foreign* born (or having parents being foreign born) with *social* segregation

# Political and ethical issues

- *Choice for all?*
    - Measurement of *who* choses
- *Allocating money to adjust inequalities between schools within municipalities*
    - What indicators to measure?
    - How large is the segregation?
- *Benefits from reforms of free choice, independent schools*
    - Integrating students/mixing?
    - Overall results?
- *School choice based on share of foreign born in school*
    - Information available to parents

***Data is available but political, ethical and ideological questions remain***