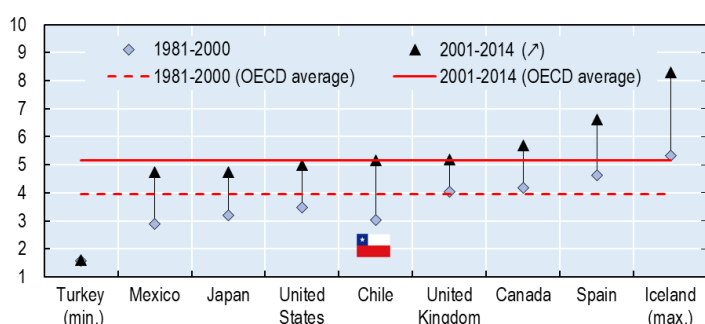




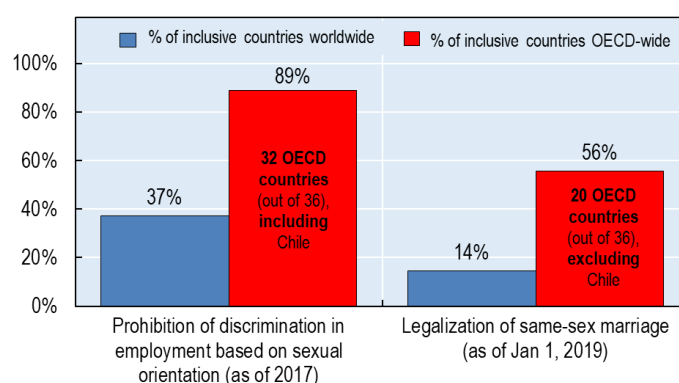
The 2019 edition of *Society at a Glance* examines trends in social well-being across the OECD. It features a special chapter on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people: their numbers, how they fare in terms of their economic situation and well-being, and what policies can improve LGBT inclusivity. It also includes a special chapter based on the 2018 OECD Risks That Matter Survey on people's perceptions of social and economic risks and the extent to which they think governments address those risks. The publication also presents 25 indicators on general context, self-sufficiency, equity, health and social cohesion.

Fig.1. Despite improvements, acceptance of homosexuality remains limited



Note: Acceptance of homosexuality is measured on a scale from 1 to 10, where 1 means that homosexuality is never justifiable and 10 means that it is always justifiable. Source: [Figure 1.6 of OECD Society at a Glance 2019]

Fig.2. There is still a long way before sexual and gender minorities meet full-fledged legal recognition, and Chile is no exception



Source: [Figure 1.18 of OECD Society at a Glance 2019]

### A SPOTLIGHT ON LGBT PEOPLE

Chile is one of the 15 OECD countries that include a question on self-identification as heterosexual, homosexual, or bisexual, and one of only three OECD countries that collect information on gender identity in at least one of their nationally representative surveys. According to the CASEN survey, the share of LGBT people in Chile in 2017 is sizeable (2%) and on the rise [Figure 1.4 of the OECD Publication *Society at a Glance 2019*]. Increasing disclosure of an LGBT identity is likely to continue in the future since it is driven by younger cohorts.

Attitudes toward LGBT people are improving worldwide and have consistently been more positive in OECD countries than elsewhere. However, there remains substantial room for progress. Chile is no exception: Chilean citizens are only halfway to full social acceptance of homosexuality, scoring nearly five on a 1-to-10 acceptance scale (in line with the average OECD score) [Figure 1 above]. Moreover, only a minority of Chilean respondents (43%) would accept that a child dresses and expresses herself/himself as a child of the other gender [Figure 1.8].

Low acceptance of LGBT people puts them at risk of discrimination. Representative survey data (that do not cover Chile) reveal that LGBT people are penalised with respect to employment status and labour earnings [Figure 1.12]. Experimental data confirm that this penalty at least partly reflects labour market discrimination: with the same curriculum vitae, homosexual applicants are 1.5 times less likely to be invited to a job interview than heterosexual applicants when their sexual orientation is conveyed through their volunteer engagement or work experience in a gay and lesbian organisation [Figure 1.13].

A range of policies can help improve LGBT inclusivity. Making LGBT individuals and the penalties they face visible in national statistics is a prerequisite for their inclusion, suggesting that Chile could collect information on sexual orientation and gender identity in a broader range of surveys, including the Chilean Census.

Legally prohibiting anti-LGBT discrimination and ensuring equal rights for LGBT individuals is also essential to improve their situation. While Chile is among the 32 OECD countries that prohibit discrimination in employment based on sexual orientation, same-sex marriage is still not legal in Chile [Figure 2 above]. In the

United States, for instance, same-sex marriage policies caused a reduction by nearly 15% of suicide attempts among adolescents who self-identify as gay, lesbian or bisexual.

Finally, educating people in countering their unconscious bias is a key component of any policy package aiming to better LGBT inclusion. Evidence shows that these interventions can be highly effective, even when they are short.

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### OECD Risks that Matter survey suggests Chileans worry about government responsiveness

Chileans are worried about making ends meet – both today and in the future. When asked to list their top worries over the next couple of years, 53% of Chileans listed ‘working but struggling to meet all expenses’ as a top-three concern [Figure 3.1]. When looking beyond the next decade, 75% of Chileans say financial security in old age is a top-three risk [Figure 3.2].

In the face of these concerns, Chileans want more support from government. An overwhelming majority (90%) of Chileans say that the government should do more to ensure their economic and social security [Figure 3.6], and 74% of Chileans say that the government should tax the rich more than they currently do in order to support the poor [Figure 3.7].

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## OVERVIEW OF OTHER SOCIAL INDICATORS

### Low disposable income

The median disposable income per capita in Chile was 9 500 US PPP in 2016, which is the **second lowest income level in the OECD** and about 40% of the OECD average [Figure 4.1]. Even so, the Chilean median disposable income is (considerably) above that in the other Latin American countries included in the publication (Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica and Mexico).

### High inequality and low social mobility

**Income inequality in Chile is the second highest among OECD countries, after Mexico.** The average income of the 10% richest is 19 times higher than the income of the 10% poorest, compared to 9.3 on average across OECD countries [Figure 6.1]. High levels of inequality tend to be an obstacle to income and social mobility: in Chile it could take six generations for the offspring of a family in the bottom 10% of the income distribution to reach the average income, compared to four to five on average across OECD countries [Figure 6.3].

### Low but increasing employment rates

**In Chile, employment rates have been slowly but constantly increasing during the last decades.** In 2017,

about 63% of the working-age individuals were employed, up from 58% in 2007 but still below the OECD average of 69%. The gender employment gap persists: only 53% of Chilean women aged 15-64 were employed, compared with 73% of men [Figure 5.1].

### High qualification mismatch

**Approximately one in two workers in Chile are mismatched by qualification**, the second highest share among OECD countries (after Mexico): 30% of workers are over-qualified, while 17% are under-qualified [Figure 5.9]. For comparison, the qualification mismatch is 36% on average in the OECD.

**Seven out of ten jobs in Chile that are hard to fill are found in medium-skilled occupations**, such as personal service workers or electrical and electronic trades workers [Figure 5.7]. The demand for highly skilled professionals is significantly lower in Chile than in other OECD countries on average. Less than two out of ten jobs in shortage in Chile are “high-skilled” (ranging from managerial positions to highly skilled professionals in the health care, teaching or ICT sectors), compared with more than five out of ten in the OECD on average.

### Chileans feel unsafe on the street

**About 58% of Chilean women and 45% of Chilean men do not feel safe walking alone at night** in the city or area where they live in. These shares are the second highest among OECD countries, though below the rates in some other Latin American countries, like Argentina and Brazil, and comparable to Mexico and Colombia [Figure 8.9].

### High smoking rates

**One in four Chileans smoked on a daily basis in 2016**, placing Chile fourth in the OECD ranking and far above the OECD average of 18% [Figure 7.13]. Smoking rates are lower for women than for men, but even for women the smoking rate in Chile (21%) is considerably above that in the OECD (14%). As in most OECD countries, smoking rates in Chile have gone down in the past decade.

### Low but increasing alcohol consumption

**Alcohol consumption is lower in Chile than in many OECD countries.** In 2016, Chileans consumed about 7.9 litres of alcohol, compared with 8.8 litres in the OECD on average. However, while the OECD average consumption dropped by 0.7 litres over the past decade and a half, consumption in Chile increased by 1.7 litres [Figure 7.14].

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