

Social and Welfare Statistics

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Benefits and Wages

Purpose

Monitor reforms of tax and benefits systems and their impact on work incentives and income adequacy. Results are used as the basis of the OECD's "Benefits and Wages" publication and as inputs into a wide range of studies produced within and outside the OECD.

Objectives and outputs

The Benefits and Wages series addresses the complicated interactions of tax and benefit systems for different family types and labour market situations. The series is a valuable tool used to compare the different benefits made available to those without work and those with different levels of in-work income. The resulting indicators (such as 'net replacement rates') are useful for addressing issues of both work incentives and adequacy of household incomes.

Publications

Benefits and Wages: OECD Indicators

Databases

Benefits and Wages

Main Developments for 2004

General aspects:

Wider coverage of different family situations (notably through the inclusion of childcare costs in the simulation models)

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Social Expenditure

Purpose

To publish the CD-ROM "OECD Social Expenditure Database (SOCX)". The database has been developed to monitor trends in aggregate social expenditure as well as changes in its composition. SOCX includes historical series from 1980 on public and mandatory private social expenditure at programme level classified under the major social policy areas.

Objectives and outputs

Social Expenditure Database: annual collection (in co-operation with Eurostat for EU countries) and dissemination on CD-ROM of expenditure data, programme by programme, grouped in the main expenditure categories.

Main tasks achieved comprise a comparison of the SOCX (OECD) and ESSPROS (Eurostat) methodologies for classifying data on social expenditures, in collaboration with Eurostat, an improved consistency with the OECD Active labour market programmes and Health data bases and the update and extension of the coverage to 30 OECD countries.

Publications

OECD Social Expenditures Database (SOCX) CD-ROM

Databases

Social expenditures

Main Developments for 2004

General aspects:

Main changes include: updating the dataset to include 2001 data; apply new structure of broad policy areas to database; improving the consistency of the data with the OECD Labour Market Policy and Health database; and improve transparency of data classification along the SOCX (OECD) and ESSPROS (Eurostat) methodologies (in collaboration with Eurostat).

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Social Indicators

Purpose

To continue development work on social indicators, using existing data, with a focus on social policy effectiveness and presenting data on policy interventions, on the one hand, and social outcomes, on the other.

Objectives and outputs

The second edition of "Society at a Glance" was published late 2002. In addition to existing information, methodological development focused on indicators on disability and child well-being.

Publications

Society at a Glance - OECD Social Indicators

Databases

Social indicators

Main Developments for 2004

General aspects:

A new issue of the publication is envisaged to appear in 2004. In addition to existing information, methodological development will focus on indicators on family and quality of life.