

OECD Regions at a Glance 2013 - Australia Profile

<http://rag.oecd.org>

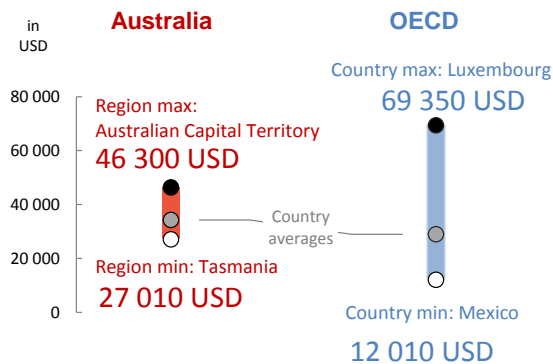
Did you know?

The high growth in Australia, above the OECD average in 2000-10, occurred with wide regional differences, the 5th largest in OECD countries.

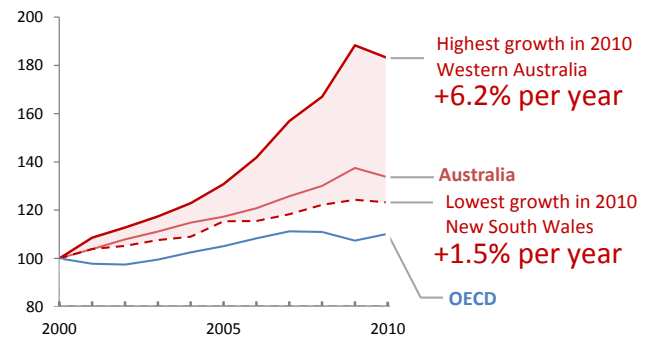
Contrary to many OECD countries, investment carried out by sub-national governments increased in Australia between 2007-11.

Regional dynamics

GDP per capita, 2010

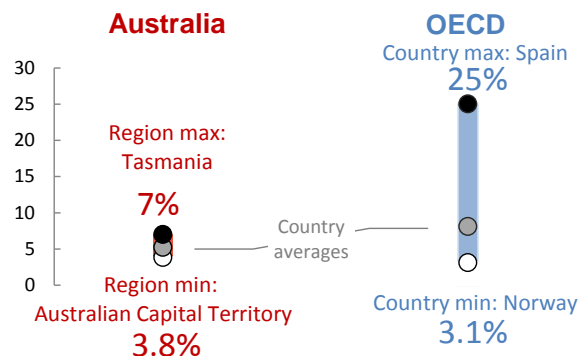


GDP growth (year 2000=100)



In the past decade, **GDP growth** in all Australian regions was above the OECD average; regional growth was as diverse as **+6.2%** annually in **Western Australia** and **+1.5%** in **New South Wales**, the 5th largest regional range among OECD countries.

Unemployment rate, 2012

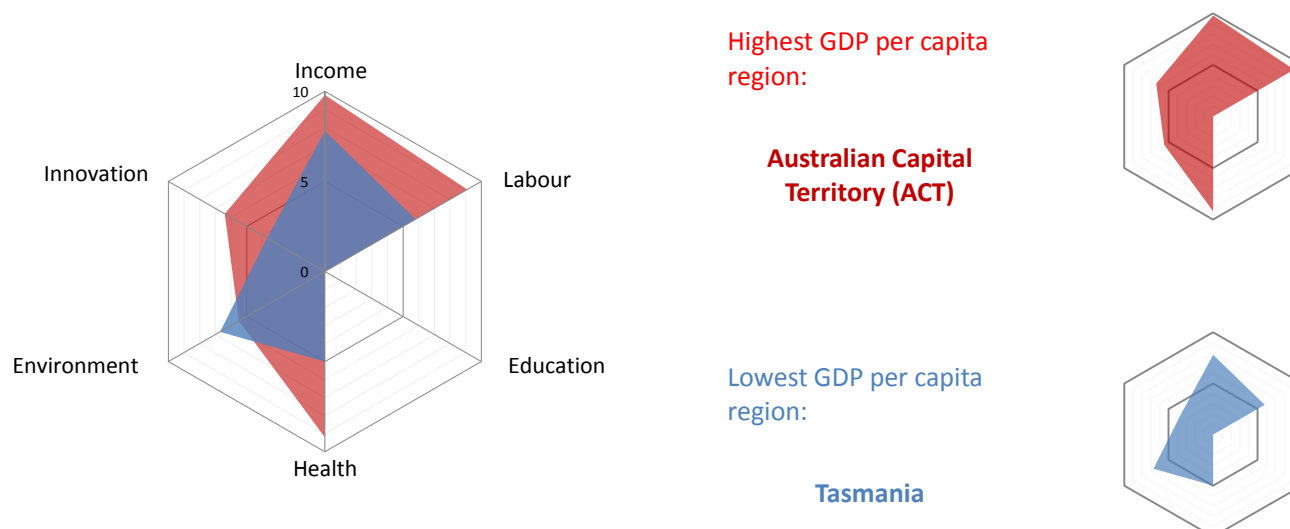


In the recent years, Australia maintained a low unemployment rate and regional disparities in unemployment were among the lowest in OECD countries (24th out of 34 countries).

Regional dynamics



How do the richest and poorest regions fare on social and environmental dimensions?



How to read the graph: For each dimension, regions have been assigned values from 0 to 10 based on their rank among all OECD regions and on the latest available data: 10 is the best performance and 0 is the lowest. The OECD median region is equal to 5. The more the radar graph is covered, the better the performance of the region among OECD regions.

The Australian Capital Territory (ACT), the Australian region with highest GDP per capita in the country, fares better than the OECD median region in all dimensions. Tasmania, the Australian region with the lowest GDP per capita, fares better than the OECD median region for income, labour, health and environment; for the latter it fares higher than the Australian Capital Territory (ACT). The largest difference among the two regions is found in innovation.

| Dimensions | Indicators | Australian Capital Territory (ACT) | Tasmania | Australia | OECD average |
|-------------|--|------------------------------------|----------|-----------|--------------|
| Income | Household income per capita, 2010 (USD PPP per capita) | 38 192 | 21 826 | 23 033 | 18 775 |
| Labour | Unemployment rate, 2012 (%) | 3.8 | 7.0 | 5.2 | 8.1 |
| Education | Share of work force with tertiary education, 2010 (%) | .. | .. | .. | 20.0 |
| Health | Life expectancy, 2010 (years) | 82.6 | 80.2 | 81.8 | 79.8 |
| Environment | CO ₂ per capita, 2008 (tonnes per person) | 6.9 | 5.8 | 19.7 | 10.7 |
| Innovation | No. of patents per million people, 2010 | 78.3 | 28.2 | 71.2 | 108.8 |

Source: OECD Regional database. Household income per capita data are based on USD constant PPP, constant prices (year 2005).

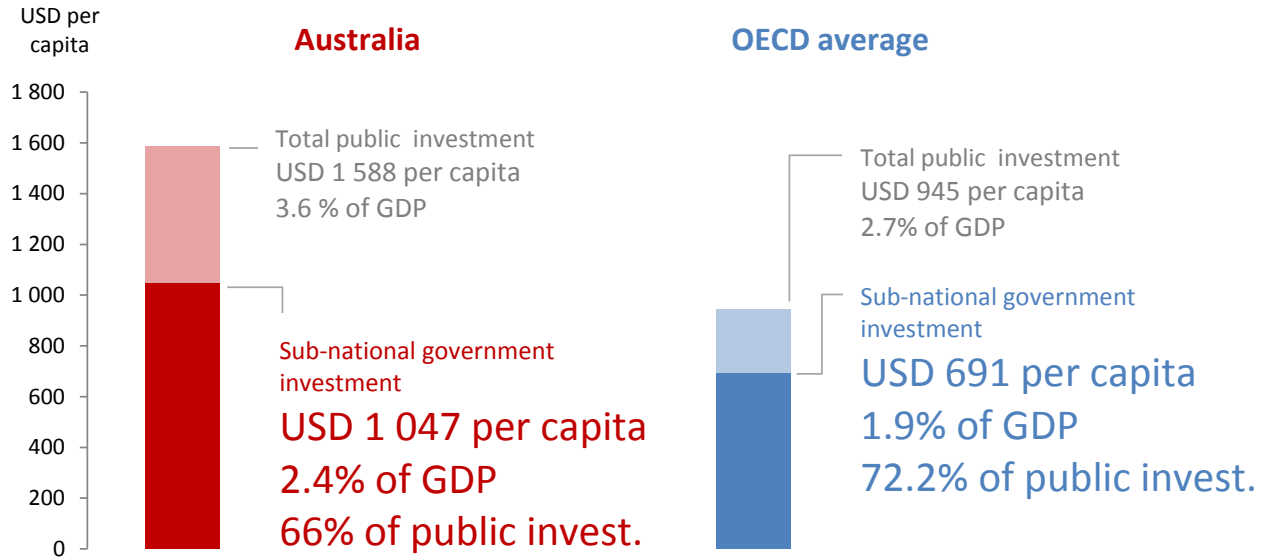
Note: OECD regions refer to the first administrative tier of sub-national government; Australia is composed by 8 regions (States/territories).

Sub-national government finance



Sub-national governments have a key role in public investment

Sub-national government public investment per capita, 2011



In Australia **66%** of the **total public investment** was carried out by sub-national governments (SNG) compared to **72%** in the **OECD area**. In the recent years of economic downturn, SNG investment increased in Australia from **USD 964** per capita in 2007 to **USD 1 047** per capita in 2011, while it decreased in the OECD area of around USD 46 per capita.

Source: OECD National Accounts database.

OECD Regions at a Glance 2013

This edition of OECD Regions at a Glance shows how regions and cities contribute to national growth and the well-being of societies. It updates its regular set of region-by-region indicators, examining a wide range of policies and trends and identifying those regions that are outperforming or lagging behind in their country.

New to this edition:

- The role of OECD metropolitan areas in countries' development
- Recent trends in public investment, revenues and the debt of subnational governments

Consult this publication on line: http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/reg_glance-2013-en

