

OECD Regions at a Glance 2013 – Iceland Profile

<http://rag.oecd.org>

Did you know?

Among OECD countries, Iceland has the 11th lowest regional disparities in unemployment rates.

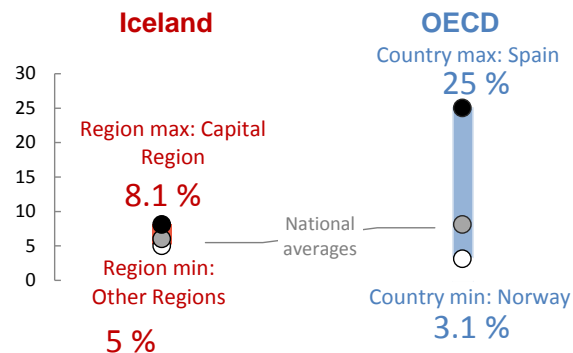
Among OECD countries, Iceland had the 2nd largest decrease in sub-national public investment between 2007 and 2012.

The three metropolitan areas in Austria contributed to half of the national GDP growth in 2000-10.

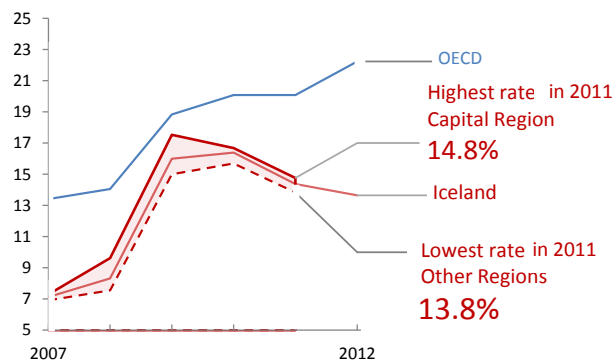
Regional dynamics



Unemployment rate, 2012



Youth unemployment rate, 15-24 years old, 2007-11

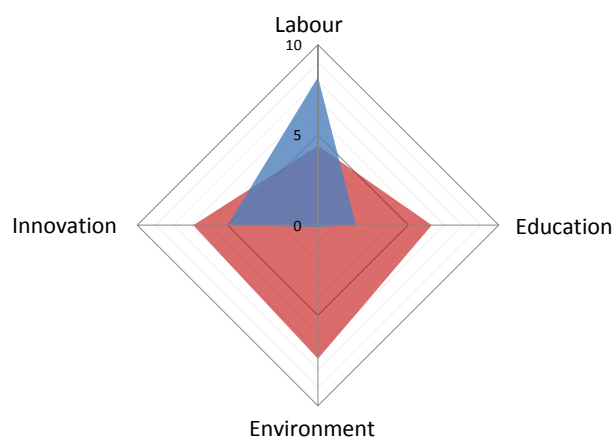


In recent years, the **unemployment rate** increased in Icelandic regions reaching **8.1%** in the **Capital Region**. In the same region the **youth unemployment rate** has reached **14.8%**.

Regional dynamics

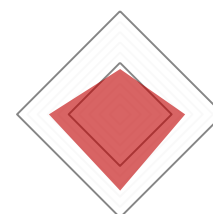


How the regions with the highest and lowest employment opportunities fare on social and environmental dimensions?



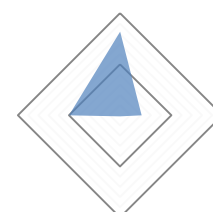
Highest employment rate region:

Capital region



Lowest employment rate region:

Other regions



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 Capital region fares better than the OECD median region in all available dimensions with the exception of labour. The other Icelandic region, fares better than the OECD median region for labour, while it is in line with the median performance in term for innovation, and below for the environment.

Dimensions	Indicators	Capital region	Other regions	United States	OECD average
Labour	Unemployment rate, 2011 (%)	8.1	5.0	7.0	8.1
Education	Share of student enrolment in tertiary education, 2012 (%)	21.2	13.5	18.6	20.0
Environment	CO2 per capita, 2008 (tonnes per person)	5.3	154.4	9.2	10.7
Innovation	No. of patents per million people, 2010	88.3	51.8	74.9	108.8

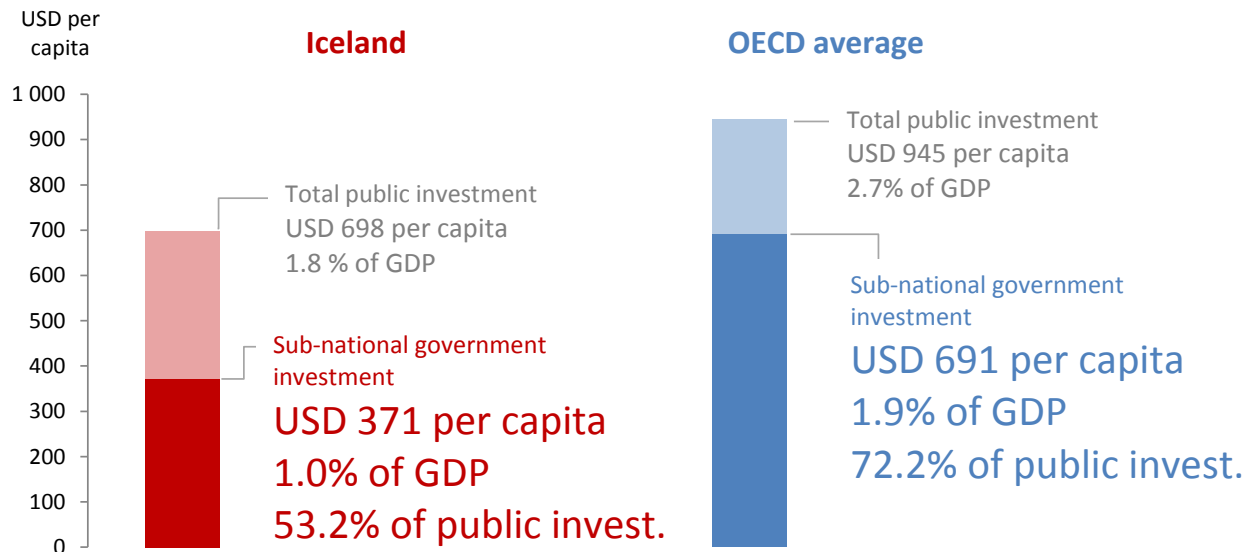
Source: OECD Regional database.

Note: OECD regions refer to the first administrative tier of sub-national government; Iceland is composed by 2 Regions.

Sub-national government finance

Sub-national governments have a key role in public investment

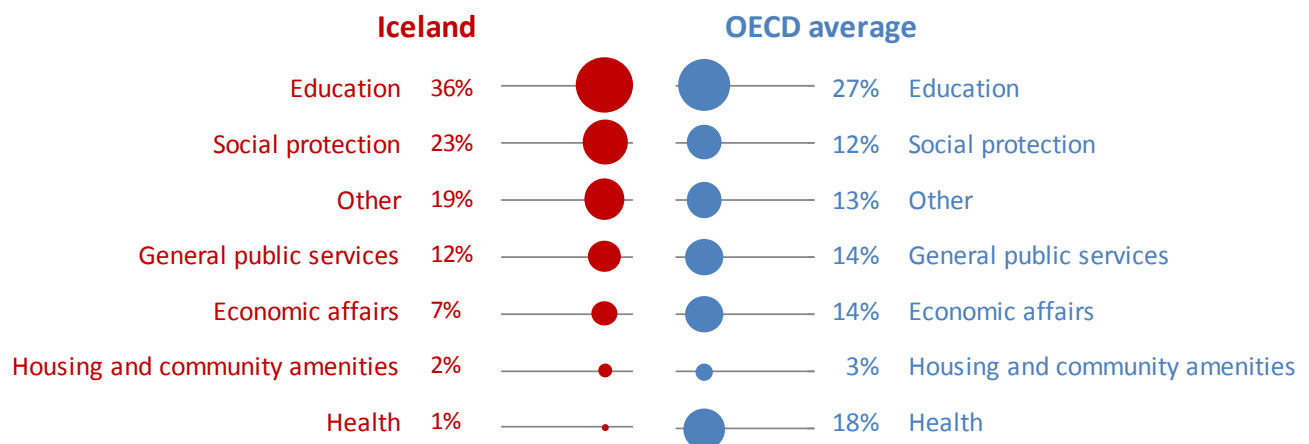
Sub-national government public investment per capita, 2012



In Iceland **53%** of the **total public investment** was carried out by sub-national governments (SNG) compared to 72% in the OECD area. SNG investment has decreased in Iceland from **USD 936 per capita** in 2007 to **USD 371 per capita** in 2012.

Sub-national government expenditure by function, 2012

As a share of total SNG expenditure



Sub-national expenditure per capita: USD 5 139 (Iceland) USD 6 173 (OECD average)

Sub-national government expenditure accounts for **29%** of the **total public expenditure** and **14%** of **GDP** in Iceland, compared to 40% and 17% respectively, in the OECD area. It corresponds to **USD 5 139 per capita** and USD 6 173 in the OECD area. Education and social protection are the two largest spending items for SNGs in Iceland: together they represent **59%** of sub-national expenditure compared to 39% in the OECD area.

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

