Contents page

Australia .................................................................................................................. 3
Austria .................................................................................................................... 6
Belgium ................................................................................................................... 9
Brazil ....................................................................................................................... 12
Canada ................................................................................................................... 15
Chile ....................................................................................................................... 18
The Czech Republic ............................................................................................... 21
Denmark ............................................................................................................... 24
Estonia ................................................................................................................... 27
Finland ................................................................................................................... 30
France .................................................................................................................... 33
Germany ............................................................................................................... 36
Greece .................................................................................................................... 39
Hungary ............................................................................................................... 42
Iceland ................................................................................................................... 45
Ireland ................................................................................................................... 48
Israel ...................................................................................................................... 51
Italy ......................................................................................................................... 54
Japan ..................................................................................................................... 57
Luxembourg .......................................................................................................... 60
Mexico ................................................................................................................... 63
The Netherlands .................................................................................................. 66
New Zealand ....................................................................................................... 69
Norway ................................................................................................................... 72
Poland .................................................................................................................... 75
Portugal .................................................................................................................. 78
The Russian Federation ....................................................................................... 81
The Slovak Republic ............................................................................................ 84
Slovenia ............................................................................................................... 87
South Korea ......................................................................................................... 90
Spain ...................................................................................................................... 93
Sweden .................................................................................................................. 96
Switzerland ........................................................................................................... 99
Turkey ................................................................................................................... 102
The United Kingdom .......................................................................................... 105
The United States of America ............................................................................. 108
HOW’S LIFE IN AUSTRALIA?

Australia performs exceptionally well in measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income:** In Australia, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 28,884 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn six times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs:** In terms of employment, over 73% of people aged 15 to 64 in Australia have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 79% of men are in paid work, compared with 67% of women. People in Australia work 1,693 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1,776 hours. Almost 14% of employees work very long hours, much higher than the OECD average of 9%, with 21% of men working very long hours compared with just 6% for women.

**Education:** In Australia, 73% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, close to the OECD average of 74%. This is truer of men than women, as 76% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 71% of women. This difference is higher than the OECD average and suggests women’s participation in higher education could be strengthened. Australia is nonetheless a top-performing country in terms of the quality of its educational system. The average student scored 519 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). This score is higher than the OECD average of 497, making Australia one of the strongest OECD countries in students’ skills. On average in Australia, girls outperformed boys by 9 points, in line with the average OECD gap.

**Health and Environment:** In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Australia is almost 82 years, two years higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 84 years, compared with 80 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 14 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. Australia also does well in terms of water quality, as 91% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, higher than the OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement:** Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Australia, where 94% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 93% during recent elections; this figure is the highest in the OECD where the average is 72%. There is little difference in voting levels across society; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 94% and for the bottom 20% it is 92%, a much narrower difference than the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points and suggesting there is broad social inclusion in Australia’s democratic institutions.

**Life satisfaction:** In general, Australians are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 84% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day than negative ones. This figure is higher than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see:

![Figure 1: Topic rankings for Australia](image-url)
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR AUSTRALIA

- Australia is currently 6th in number of visits with over 75,800 visits and represents 4% of total user base.
- The top cities or regions in numbers of visits are Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Adelaide.
- Health, Life Satisfaction and Education are the three highest ranked topics by Australia-based users. This is based on 1,088 indexes received from Australia-based users.\(^1\)

\(^1\) Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
OECD Better Life Index
Austria

For questions and more information contact:
Lorena Sanchez
Tel: 33 (0) 1 45 24 79 91
lorena.sanchez@oecd.org
Austria performs very well in overall well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top ten countries in several topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income**: In Austria, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 28,852 USD a year, higher than the OECD average of 23,047 USD. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest — the top 20% of the population earn nearly four times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs**: In terms of employment, over 72% of people aged 15 to 64 in Austria have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 78% of men are in paid work, compared with 67% of women. People in Austria work 1,600 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1,749 hours. Some 9% of employees work very long hours, in line with the OECD average, with 13% of men working very long hours compared with just 4% for women.

**Education**: In Austria, 82% of adults aged 25–64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, more than the OECD average of 74%. This is truer of men than women, as 88% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 77% of women. This difference is higher than the OECD average and suggests women’s participation in higher education could be strengthened. In terms of education quality, the average student scored 487 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). This score is slightly lower than the OECD average of 497. On average in Austria, girls outperformed boys by 5 points, below the average OECD gap of 9 points.

**Health and Environment**: In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Austria is 81 years, 1 year higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 84 years, compared with 78 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs — is 27 micrograms per cubic meter, slightly higher than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. Austria performs better in terms of water quality, as 96% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, higher than the OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement**: Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Austria, where 94% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 82% during recent elections, one of the highest in the OECD where the average is 72%.

**Life Satisfaction**: In general, Austrians are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 85% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see: [http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm](http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm)

Figure 1: Topic rankings for Austria
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR AUSTRIA

- Austria is currently 16th in number of visits to the BLI site with over 28,100 visits.
- The top cities or regions in numbers of visits are Vienna, Linz, Graz, Innsbruck and Salzburg.
- Health, Life Satisfaction and Environment are the three highest ranked topics by Austria-based users. This is based on 635 indexes received from Austria-based users.¹

¹ Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
OECD Better Life Index
Belgium

For questions and more information contact:
Lorena Sanchez
Tel: 33 (0) 1 45 24 79 91
lorena.sanchez@oecd.org
How's Life in Belgium?

Belgium performs very well in many measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top ten countries in several topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

Income: In Belgium, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 26,874 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn almost four times as much as the bottom 20%.

Jobs: In terms of employment, over 62% of people aged 15 to 64 in Belgium have a paid job, below the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 67% of men are in paid work, compared with 57% of women. People in Belgium work 1,577 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1,749 hours. Some 4% of employees work very long hours, much lower than the OECD average of 9%, with 7% of men working very long hours compared with just 2% for women.

Education: In Belgium, 70% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, close to the OECD average of 74%. This is equally true for men and women, as 70% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 71% of women. This difference is lower than the OECD average and suggests that Belgium succeeds in delivering quality education regardless of gender. Belgium is a top-performing country in terms of the quality of its educational system. The average student scored 509 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), higher than the OECD average of 497. In line with the school graduation figures, boys and girls both scored 509 points, compared with an average OECD gap of nine points in favour of girls.

Health and Environment: In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Belgium is 81 years, 1 year higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 83 years, compared with 78 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 21 micrograms per cubic meter, in line with the OECD average. Belgium could however perform better in terms of water quality, as 80% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, less than the OECD average of 84%.

Community and public engagement: Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Belgium, where 92% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 89% during recent elections; considerably higher than the OECD average of 72% and one of the highest in the OECD.

Life Satisfaction: In general; Belgians are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 83% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is slightly higher than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see: http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm

Figure 1: Topic rankings for Belgium
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR BELGIUM

- Belgium is currently **15th** in number of visits to the BLI site with **over 28,700 visits**.
- The top cities or regions in numbers of visits are Brussels, Gent, Ixelles, Antwerpen and Leuven.
- **Health, Life Satisfaction and Education** are the three highest ranked topics by Belgium-based users. This is based on 523 indexes received from Belgium-based users.¹

---

1 Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
OECD Better Life Index
Brazil

For questions and more information contact:
Lorena Sanchez
Tel: 33 (0) 1 45 24 79 91
lorena.sanchez@oecd.org
HOW’S LIFE IN BRAZIL?

Brazil has made progress in recent years in improving the quality of life of its citizens, as shown by the fact that Brazilians’ general satisfaction with their lives is higher than the OECD average despite lower than average scores in some topics on the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income:** In Brazil, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is lower than the OECD average of 23 047 USD a year.

**Jobs:** In terms of employment, over 68% of people aged 15 to 64 in Brazil have a paid job, slightly more than the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 80% of men are in paid work, compared with 56% of women. In Brazil, 12% of employees work very long hours, much higher than the OECD average of 9%, with 15% of men working very long hours compared with 9% for women.

**Education:** In Brazil, 41% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, less than the OECD average of 74%. This is truer of women than men, as 39% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 43% of women. Among younger people — a better indicator of Brazil’s future — 53% of 25-34 year-olds have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, also lower than the OECD average of 82% but showing progress. In terms of education quality, the average student scored 401 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). This score is lower than the OECD average of 497. The gender gap in Brazil is narrower than for the OECD overall, with girls scoring 403 and boys 399, compared with an average OECD difference of 9 points in favour of girls.

**Health and Environment:** In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Brazil is 74 years, lower than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 77 years, compared with 70 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 — tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs — is 20 micrograms per cubic meter, close to the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. Brazil could do better in terms of water quality, as 75% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, less than the OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement:** Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Brazil, where 88% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, slightly less than the OECD average 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 79%, higher than the OECD average of 72%. There is little difference in voting levels across society; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 81% and for the bottom 20% it is 80%, much narrower than the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points and suggesting there is broad social inclusion in Brazil’s democratic institutions.

**Life Satisfaction:** In general, Brazilians are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 82% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see: http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm

Figure 1: Topic rankings for Brazil
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR BRAZIL

- Brazil is currently 30th in number of visits to the BLI site with over 14,500 visits.
- The top cities or regions in number of visits are Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Belo Horizonte and Brasilia.
- Life Satisfaction and Education and Health are the three highest ranked topics by Brazilian-based users. This is based on 265 indexes received from Brazil based users.¹

¹ Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
OECD Better Life Index

Canada

For questions and more information contact:

Lorena Sanchez
Tel: 33 (0) 1 45 24 79 91
lorena.sanchez@oecd.org
**HOW’S LIFE IN CANADA?**

Canada performs exceptionally well in measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income:** In Canada, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 28,194 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn more than five times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs:** In terms of employment, over 72% of people aged 15 to 64 in Canada have a paid job, more than the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 75% of men are in paid work, compared with 69% of women. People in Canada work 1,702 hours a year, less than the OECD average of 1,776 hours. Some 4% of employees work very long hours, much lower than the OECD average of 9%, with 6% of men working very long hours compared with just 1% for women.

**Education:** In Canada, 88% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, well above the OECD average of 74%. This is truer of women than of men, as 87% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 90% of women. This reverses the OECD average picture, where men are slightly more likely to have graduated high school. Canada is a top-performing country in terms of the quality of its educational system. The average student scored 527 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). This score is higher than the OECD average of 497, making Canada one of the strongest OECD countries in students’ skills. On average in Canada, girls outperformed boys by 6 points, lower than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

**Health and Environment:** In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Canada is 81 years, one year higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 83 years, compared with 79 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 — tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs — is 16 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Canada also does well in terms of water quality, as 89% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, more than the OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement:** Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community but only moderate levels of civic participation in Canada, where 94% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 61% during recent elections; this figure is lower than the OECD average of 73%. There is little difference in voting levels across society; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 63% and for the bottom 20% it is 60%, a much smaller difference than the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points and suggesting there is broad inclusion in Canada’s democratic institutions.

**Life Satisfaction:** In general, Canadians are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 82% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see: [http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm](http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm)
BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR CANADA

- Canada is currently 3rd in number of visits to the BLI site with over 117,100 visits and represents 6.5% of total user base.
- The top cities or regions in number of visits are Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa and Vancouver.
- Life Satisfaction, Health and Education are the three highest ranked topics by Canada-based users. This based on 1,202 indexes received from Canada-based users.¹

Gender distribution of Canada-based users (%)

Life Satisfaction, Health and Education are the three highest ranked topics by Canada-based users. This based on 1,202 indexes received from Canada-based users.

Gender distribution of all users (%)

Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.

¹ Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
OCED Better Life Index
Chile

For questions and more information contact:
Lorena Sanchez
Tel: 33 (0) 1 45 24 79 91
lorena.sanchez@oecd.org
HOW’S LIFE IN CHILE?

Chile has made tremendous progress over the last decade in terms of improving the quality of life of its citizens. Since the 1990s, the country has seen a track record of robust growth and poverty reduction. Notwithstanding, Chile ranks low in a large number of topics relative to most other countries in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income:** In Chile, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 11 039 USD a year, much less than the OECD average of 23 047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn 13 times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs:** In terms of employment, over 61% of people aged 15 to 64 in Chile have a paid job, below the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 74% of men are in paid work, compared with 49% of women. People in Chile work 2 047 hours a year, more than the OECD average of 1 776 hours. Some 16% of employees work very long hours, more than the OECD average of 9%, with 20% of men working very long hours compared with just 10% for women.

**Education:** In Chile, 71% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, below the OECD average of 74%. There is little difference between men and women, as 72% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 71% of women. In terms of education quality, the average student in Chile scored 439 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). This score is lower than the OECD average of 497. On average in Chile, girls outperformed boys by 3 points, less than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

**Health and Environment:** In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Chile is almost 78 years, two years lower than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 81 years, compared with 76 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 53 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably higher than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Chile could perform better in terms of water quality, as 77% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, lower than the OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement:** Concerning the public sphere, there is a moderate sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Chile, where 82% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, slightly lower than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 88% during recent elections; higher than the OECD average of 72%. There is little difference in voting levels across society; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 90% and for the bottom 20% it is 92%, much narrower than the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points.

**Life Satisfaction:** In general, Chileans are less satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 77% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is lower than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see: [http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm](http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm)
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR CHILE

- Chile is currently 27th in number of visits to the BLI site with over 16,700 visits.
- The top cities or regions in number of visits are Santiago, Valparaiso, Concepcion and Temuco.
- **Education, Life Satisfaction and Jobs** are the three highest ranked topics by Chile-based users. This is based on 202 indexes received from Chile-based users.¹

---

¹ Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
HOW’S LIFE IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC?

The Czech Republic performs favourably in several measures of well-being, and ranks close to the average in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income:** In the Czech Republic, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 16,957 USD a year, less than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn four times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs:** In terms of employment, some 66% of people aged 15 to 64 in the Czech Republic have a paid job, slightly below the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 74% of men are in paid work, compared with 57% of women. People in the Czech Republic work 1,774 hours a year, more than the OECD average of 1,776 hours. Some 8% of employees work very long hours, in line with the OECD average, with 11% of men working very long hours compared with just 3% for women.

**Education:** In the Czech Republic, 92% of adults aged 25–64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, well above the OECD average of 74% and among the highest rates in the OECD. This is truer of men than women, as 95% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 89% of women. This difference is higher than the OECD average and suggests women’s participation in higher education could be strengthened. In terms of education quality, the average student scored 490 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). This score is lower than the OECD average of 497. On average in the Czech Republic, girls outperformed boys by 16 points, a far wider gender gap than the OECD average of 9 points.

**Health and Environment:** In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in the Czech Republic is almost 78 years, two years lower than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 81 years, compared with 75 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 17 micrograms per cubic meter, lower than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. The Czech Republic also does well in terms of water quality, as 84% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, in line with the OECD average.

**Community and public engagement:** Concerning the public sphere, there is a moderate sense of community and moderate levels of civic participation in the Czech Republic, where 89% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, slightly less than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 63% during recent elections; this figure is lower than the OECD average of 72%. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 72% and for the bottom 20% it is 52%, considerably wider than the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points.

**Life Satisfaction:** In general, Czechs are less satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 75% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is lower than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see: [http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm](http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm)

Figure 1: Topic rankings for the Czech Republic
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR THE CZECH REPUBLIC

- The Czech Republic is currently 34th in number of visits to the BLI site with over 11,100 visits.
- The top cities or regions in numbers of visits are Prague, Brno and Ostrava.
- Health, Life Satisfaction and Environment are the three highest ranked topics by Czech Republic-based users. This is based on 107 indexes received from Czech Republic Denmark-based users.\(^1\)

\(^1\) Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
OECD Better Life Index
Denmark

For questions and more information contact:
Lorena Sanchez
Tel: 33 (0) 1 45 24 79 91
lorena.sanchez@oecd.org
Denmark performs exceptionally well in measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income:** In Denmark, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 24,682 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn more four times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs:** In terms of employment, over 73% of people aged 15 to 64 in Denmark have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 76% of men are in paid work, compared with 70% of women. People in Denmark work 1,522 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1,776 hours. Some 2% of employees work very long hours, much lower than the OECD average of 9%, with 3% of men working very long hours compared with just 1% for women.

**Education:** In Denmark, 76% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, slightly higher than the OECD average of 74%. This is slightly truer of men than women, as 77% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 75% of women. In terms of education quality, the average student scored 499 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). This score is slightly higher than the OECD average of 497. There is no difference between girls and boys, in contrast to an OECD average difference of 9 points in favour of girls.

**Health and Environment:** In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Denmark is 80 years, in line with the OECD average. Life expectancy for women is 82 years, compared with 78 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 16 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. Denmark also does well in terms of water quality, as 94% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, lower than the OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement:** Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Denmark, where 94% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 88% during recent elections; considerably higher than the OECD average of 72%. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 90% and for the bottom 20% it is 86%, close to the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points.

**Life Satisfaction:** In Denmark, 89% of people say they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc.) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc.). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see: http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm

Figure 1: Topic rankings for Denmark
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR DENMARK

- Denmark is currently 22nd in number of visits with over 20,400 visits.
- The top cities or regions in numbers of visits are Copenhagen, Aarhus and Frederiksberg.
- **Life Satisfaction, Education and Health** are the three highest ranked topics by Denmark-based users. This is based on 223 indexes received from Denmark-based users.¹

1 Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
OECD Better Life Index

Estonia

For questions and more information contact:
Lorena Sanchez
Tel: 33 (0) 1 45 24 79 91
lorena.sanchez@oecd.org
HOW’S LIFE IN ESTONIA?

Estonia has made progress over the last decade in terms of improving the quality of life of its citizens. Until the financial crisis of 2008, the economy had seen record-breaking growth. Notwithstanding, Estonia still ranks low in a large number of topics relative to most other countries in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income**: In Estonia, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 12,800 USD a year, less than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn five times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs**: In terms of employment, some 65% of people aged 15 to 64 in Estonia have a paid job, below the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 68% of men are in paid work, compared with 63% of women, suggesting that women are able to successfully balance family and career. People in Estonia work 1,924 hours a year, less than the OECD average of 1,776 hours. Some 4% of employees work very long hours, much lower than the OECD average of 9%, and with little difference between men and women; 6% of men work very long hours compared with 3% for women.

**Education**: In Estonia, 89% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, considerably higher than the OECD average of 74%. In contrast to most OECD countries, more women have completed high school, at 92%, compared with 86% for men. Estonia is a top-performing country in terms of the quality of its educational system. The average student scored 514 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). This score is higher than the OECD average of 497, making Estonia one of the strongest OECD countries in students’ skills. On average in Estonia, girls outperformed boys by 12 points, greater than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

**Health and Environment**: In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Estonia is 76 years, lower than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 81 years, compared with 71 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 9 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. Estonia performs less well in terms of water quality, as 75% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, below the OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement**: Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and moderate levels of civic participation in Estonia, where 86% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in times of need, below the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 64% in the most recent elections, below the OECD average of 72%.

**Life Satisfaction**: In general, Estonians are less satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 69% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is one of the lowest in the OECD, where the average is 80%.

For more information see: [http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm](http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm)
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR ESTONIA

- Estonia is currently 33rd in number of visits with over 11,600 visits.
- The top cities or regions in numbers of visits are Tallinn and Tartu Parish.
- Environment, Education and Health are the three highest ranked topics by Estonia-based users. This is based on 77 indexes received from Estonia-based users. \(^1\)

\(^1\) Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
Under embargo until 28 May 10:00 a.m. (Paris time)

OECD Better Life Index
Finland

For questions and more information contact:
Lorena Sanchez
Tel: 33 (0) 1 45 24 79 91
lorena.sanchez@oecd.org
HOW'S LIFE IN FINLAND?

Finland performs very well in many measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

Income: In Finland, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 25,739 USD a year, slightly more than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn almost four times as much as the bottom 20%.

Jobs: In terms of employment, 69% of people aged 15 to 64 in Finland have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 71% of men are in paid work, compared with 68% of women. People in Finland work 1,684 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1,776 hours. Some 4% of employees work very long hours, much lower than the OECD average of 9%, with 6% of men working very long hours compared with just 2% for women.

Education: In Finland, 83% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, higher than the OECD average of 74%. This is truer of women than of men, as 81% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 85% of women. Finland is a top-performing country in terms of the quality of its educational system. The average student scored 543 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). This score is the highest in the OECD, where the average is 497. On average in Finland, girls outperformed boys by 23 points, considerably more than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

Health and Environment: In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Finland is almost 81 years, one year higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 84 years, compared with 77 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 15 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. Finland also does well in terms of water quality, as 92% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water.

Community and public engagement: Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Finland, where 92% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 69% during recent elections; slightly below the OECD average of 72%. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 74% and for the bottom 20% it is 61%, slightly broader than the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points.

Life Satisfaction: In general, Finns are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 82% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see:

Figure 1: Topic rankings for Finland
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR FINLAND

- Finland is currently 28th in number of visits with over 15,800 visits.
- The top cities or regions in numbers of visits are Helsinki, Espoo and Tampere.
- **Life Satisfaction, Environment and Health** are the three highest ranked topics by Finland-based users. This is based on 150 indexes received from Finland-based users.¹

¹ Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
HOW’S LIFE IN FRANCE?

France performs very well in many measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top ten countries in several topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income**: In France, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 28,310 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn more than four times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs**: In terms of employment, 64% of people aged 15 to 64 in France have a paid job, below the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 68% of men are in paid work, compared with 60% of women. People in France work 1,476 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1,776 hours. Around 9% of employees work very long hours, in line with the OECD average, with 12% of men working very long hours compared with 5% for women.

**Education**: In France, 71% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, close to the OECD average of 74%. There is little difference between men and women, as 72% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 70% of women. In terms of the quality of the education system, the average student scored 497 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), in line with the OECD average. On average in France, girls outperformed boys by 7 points, close to the average OECD gap of 9 points.

**Health and Environment**: In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in France is 82 years, higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 86 years, compared with 79 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 13 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. France performs somewhat less well in terms of water quality, as 81% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, below the OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement**: Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in France, where 93% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 80% during recent elections, higher than the OECD average of 72%. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 89% and for the bottom 20% it is 79%, less than the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points.

**Life Satisfaction**: In general, French people are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 83% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is slightly higher than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see: [http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm](http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm)
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR FRANCE

- France is currently 2nd in number of visits to the BLI site with **over 152,000 visits** and represents **8.3%** of total user base.
- The top cities or regions in number of visits are Paris, Lyon, Toulouse and Nantes.
- **Health, Life Satisfaction and Education** are the three highest ranked topics by France-based users. This is based on 4,004 indexes received from France-based users.  

---

1 Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
OECD Better Life Index
Germany

For questions and more information contact:
Lorena Sanchez
Tel: 33 (0) 1 45 24 79 91
lorena.sanchez@oecd.org
HOW’S LIFE IN GERMANY?

Germany performs very well in many measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top ten countries in several topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income**: In Germany, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 28,799 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn more than four times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs**: In terms of employment, some 73% of people aged 15 to 64 in Germany have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 77% of men are in paid work, compared with 68% of women. People in Germany work 1,413 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1,749 hours on average. Some 5% of employees work very long hours, lower than the OECD average of 9%, with 8% of men working very long hours compared with just 2% for women.

**Education**: In Germany, 86% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, more than the OECD average of 74%. This is truer of men than women, as 88% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 83% of women. Germany is a top-performing country in terms of the quality of its educational system. The average student scored 510 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). This score is higher than the OECD average of 497, making Germany one of the strongest OECD countries in students’ skills. On average in Germany, girls outperformed boys by 6 points, lower than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

**Health and Environment**: In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Germany is almost 81 years, one year higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 83 years, compared with 78 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs –is 16 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. Germany also does well in terms of water quality, as 93% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water.

**Community and public engagement**: Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and moderate levels of civic participation in Germany, where 92% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 71% during recent elections; lower than OECD average of 72%. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 80% and for the bottom 20% it is 59%, much broader than the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points and suggesting there is room for broader social inclusion in Germany’s democratic institutions.

**Life Satisfaction**: In general, Germans are as satisfied with their lives as other OECD citizens, with 81% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc), close to the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see: [http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm](http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm)
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR GERMANY

- Germany is currently 5th in number of visits to the BLI site with over 92,700 visits.

- The top cities or regions in number of visits are Berlin, Munich, Frankfurt, Hamburg and Cologne.

- Life Satisfaction, Health and Education are the three highest ranked topics by Germany-based users. This is based on 1,619 indexes received from Germany-based users.¹

---

¹ Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
OECD Better Life Index
Greece
HOW’S LIFE IN GREECE?

Greece performs moderately well in overall measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks close to the average in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income:** In Greece, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 20,440 USD a year, slightly less than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn six times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs:** In terms of employment, some 56% of people aged 15 to 64 in Greece have a paid job, below the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 66% of men are in paid work, compared with 45% of women, suggesting that women encounter difficulties in balancing family and career. People in Greece work 2,032 hours a year, more than most people in the OECD who work 1,776 hours on average. Almost 5% of employees work very long hours, lower than the OECD average of 9%, with 6% of men working very long hours compared with 4% for women.

**Education:** In Greece, 65% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, less than the OECD average of 74%. This is equally true of men and women. In terms of the quality of the education system, the average student scored 473 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). This score is lower than the OECD average of 497. On average in Greece, girls outperformed boys by 14 points, more than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

**Health and Environment:** In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Greece is almost 81 years, slightly higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is almost 83 years, compared with 78 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 31 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably higher than the OECD average of 20 micrograms per cubic meter. Greece also performs below the OECD average in terms of water quality, as 69% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, below the OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement:** Concerning the public sphere, there is a moderate sense of community and moderate levels of civic participation in Greece, where 81% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, lower than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 62% during recent elections, below the OECD average of 72%.

**Life Satisfaction:** In general, Greeks are less satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 71% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is lower than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see: [http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm](http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm)
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR GREECE

- Greece is currently 35th in number of visits with over 10,500 visits.
- The top cities or regions in numbers of visits are Athens and Thessaloniki
- Life Satisfaction, Health and Education are the three highest ranked topics by Greece-based users. This is based on 133 indexes received from Greece-based users.\(^1\)

---

\(^1\) Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
HOW’S LIFE IN HUNGARY?

Hungary performs only moderately well in overall well-being, as it ranks lower or close to the average in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income:** In Hungary, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 13,858 USD a year, less than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn nearly four times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs:** In terms of employment, around 56% of people aged 15 to 64 in Hungary have a paid job, well below the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 61% of men are in paid work, compared with 51% of women. People in Hungary work 1,980 hours a year, more than most people in the OECD who work 1,776 hours on average. Around 3% of employees work very long hours, much lower than the OECD average of 9%, with 5% of men working very long hours compared with just 1% for women.

**Education:** In Hungary, 81% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, higher than the OECD average of 74%. 84% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 78% of women. In terms of the quality of the education system the average student scored 496 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), close to the OECD average of 497. On average in Hungary, girls outperformed boys by 9 points, in line with the average OECD gap.

**Health and Environment:** In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Hungary is 75 years, lower than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 79 years, compared with 71 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 15 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. Hungary performs slightly less well in terms of water quality, as 76% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, lower than the OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement:** Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and moderate levels of civic participation in Hungary, where 90% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, in line with the OECD average. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 47% during recent elections; below the OECD average of 72% and the lowest in the OECD. Voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 53% and for the bottom 20% it is 39%, slightly wider than the average OECD difference of 12 percentage points.

**Life Satisfaction:** In general, Hungarians are less satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 69% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is lower than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see: [http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm](http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm)

Figure 1: Topic rankings for Hungary
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR HUNGARY

- Hungary is currently 24th in number of visits with over 20,000 visits.
- The top cities or regions in numbers of visits are Budapest, Szeged and Debrecen.
- **Life Satisfaction, Health and Work-Life Balance** are the three highest ranked topics by Hungary-based users. This is based on 250 indexes received from Hungary-based users.¹

---

¹ Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
HOW'S LIFE IN ICELAND?

Iceland performs very well in many measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in several topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income:** Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Iceland, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is lower than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year.

**Jobs:** In terms of employment, some 79% of people aged 15 to 64 in Iceland have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 81% of men are in paid work, compared with 77% of women. People in Iceland work 1,732 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1,776 hours on average.

**Education:** In Iceland, 67% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, below the OECD average of 74%. There is little difference between men than women, as 67% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 66% of women. Iceland performs well in terms of the quality of its educational system. The average student scored 501 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). This score is higher than the OECD average of 497. On average in Iceland, girls outperformed boys by 13 points, a wider gender gap than the OECD average of 9 points.

**Health and Environment:** In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Iceland is 82 years, two years higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 84 years, compared with 81 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 16 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. Iceland also does well in terms of water quality, as 97% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, considerably higher than the OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement:** Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Iceland, where 98% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 85% during recent elections; among the highest in the OECD where the average is 72%. Voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 88% and for the bottom 20% it is 77%, slightly narrower than the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points.

**Life Satisfaction:** In general, Icelanders are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 87% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see: [http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm](http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm)
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR ICELAND

- Iceland is currently **40th** in number of visits with **over 7,100 visits**.
- The top cities or regions in numbers of visits are Reykjavik and Kopavogur.
- **Health, Safety and Education** are the three highest ranked topics by Iceland-based users. This is based on 72 indexes received from Iceland-based users.¹

---

¹ Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
OECD Better Life Index
Ireland

For questions and more information contact:
Lorena Sanchez
Tel: 33 (0) 1 45 24 79 91
lorena.sanchez@oecd.org
HOW’S LIFE IN IRELAND?

Ireland performs very well in overall well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top ten countries in several topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income:** In Ireland, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 24,104 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn more than four times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs:** In terms of employment, some 60% of people aged 15 to 64 in Ireland have a paid job, below the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 63% of men are in paid work, compared with 56% of women. People in Ireland work 1,543 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1,776 hours on average. Almost 4% of employees work very long hours, much lower than the OECD average of 9%, with 7% of men working very long hours compared with just 1% for women.

**Education:** In Ireland, 73% of adults aged 25–64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, close to the OECD average of 74%. In contrast to the overall OECD experience, more women have graduated high school than men, as 71% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 76% of women. In terms of the quality of its education system, the average student scored 497 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), in line with the OECD average. On average in Ireland, girls outperformed boys by 12 points, slightly more than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

**Health and Environment:** In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Ireland is 81 years, higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 83 years, compared with 78 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 13 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. Ireland could perform better in terms of water quality, as 84% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, slightly below the OECD average of 85%.

**Community and public engagement:** Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and moderate levels of civic participation in Ireland, where 96% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 70% during recent elections, below the OECD average of 72%. There is little difference in voting levels across society; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 69% and for the bottom 20% it is 67%, much narrower than the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points and suggesting there is broad social inclusion in Ireland’s democratic institutions.

**Life Satisfaction:** In general; Irish people are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 84% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see:  

Figure 1: Topic rankings for Ireland
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR IRELAND

- Ireland is currently **29th** in number of visits with **over 15,800 visits**.
- The top cities or regions in numbers of visits are Dublin, Cork and Limerick.
- **Life Satisfaction, Health and Education** are the three highest ranked topics by Ireland-based users. This is based on 114 indexes received from Ireland-based users.¹

---

¹ Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
OECD Better Life Index
Israel

For questions and more information contact:
Lorena Sanchez
Tel: 33 (0) 1 45 24 79 91
lorena.sanchez@oecd.org
HOW’S LIFE IN ISRAEL?

Israel performs favourably in several measures of well-being, and ranks close to the average or higher in several topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income:** In Israel, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is lower than the OECD average of 23 047 USD a year.

**Jobs:** In terms of employment, over 61% of people aged 15 to 64 in Israel have a paid job, below the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 64% of men are in paid work, compared with 57% of women. People in Israel work 1 890 hours a year, more than most people in the OECD who work 1 776 hours. Almost 18% of employees work very long hours, much higher than the OECD average of 9%, with 27% of men working very long hours compared with 8% for women.

**Education:** In Israel, 82% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, higher than the OECD average of 74%. There is little difference between men and women, as 81% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 83% of women. In terms of the quality of the education system, the average student scored 459 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), below the OECD average of 497. On average in Israel, girls outperformed boys by 13 points, a larger difference than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

**Health and Environment:** In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Israel is almost 82 years, two years higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 84 years, compared with 80 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 24 micrograms per cubic meter, higher than the OECD average of 20 micrograms per cubic meter. Israel could also perform better in terms of water quality, as only 66% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, compared with an OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement:** Concerning the public sphere, there is a moderate sense of community and moderate levels of civic participation in Israel, where 89% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, lower than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 65% during recent elections; lower than the OECD average of 72%. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 71% and for the bottom 20% it is 63%, slightly narrower than the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points.

**Life Satisfaction:** In general, Israelis are less satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 70% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is lower than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see:  
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR ISRAEL

- Israel is currently 24th in number of visits to the BLI site with over 20,000 visits.
- The top cities or regions in number of visits are Tel Aviv-Yafo, Jerusalem, Haifa and Ramat Gan.
- Education, Health and Housing are the three highest ranked topics by Israel-based users. This is based on 159 indexes received from Israel based users.¹

Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
HOW’S LIFE IN ITALY?

Italy performs favourably in several measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks close to the average in several topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income**: In Italy, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 24 216 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 23 047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn five times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs**: In terms of employment, 57% of people aged 15 to 64 in Italy have a paid job, below the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 67% of men are in paid work, compared with 47% of women. This suggests that women encounter difficulties in balancing work and family life. People in Italy work 1 774 hours a year, close to the OECD average of 1 776 hours. Almost 4% of employees work very long hours, less than the OECD average of 9%, with 6% of men working very long hours compared with just 2% for women.

**Education**: In Italy, 55% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, below the OECD average of 74%. There is little difference between men and women, as 54% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 56% of women. In terms of the quality of the education system, the average student scored 486 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), lower than the OECD average of 497. On average in Italy, girls outperformed boys by 11 points.

**Health and environment**: In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Italy is almost 83 years, three years higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 85 years, compared with 80 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs— is 21 micrograms per cubic meter, in line with the OECD average. Italy could do better in terms of water quality, as 71% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, below the OECD average of 85%.

**Community and public engagement**: Concerning the public sphere, there is a moderate sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Italy, where 86% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, less the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 81% during recent elections; higher than the OECD average of 72%. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 91% and for the bottom 20% it is 78%, a slightly larger difference than the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points.

**Life Satisfaction**: In general, Italians are as happy as other people in the OECD, with 69% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc), close to the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see:
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR ITALY

- Italy is currently 7th in number of visits to the BLI site with over 61,550 visits.
- The top cities or regions in number of visits are Milan, Rome, Turin, Bologna and Florence.
- **Health, Life Satisfaction and Education** are the three highest ranked topics by Italy-based users. This is based on 1,360 indexes received from Italy-based users.¹

1 Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
OECD Better Life Index
Japan

For questions and more information contact:
Lorena Sanchez
Tel: 33 (0) 1 45 24 79 91
lorena.sanchez@oecd.org
HOW'S LIFE IN JAPAN?

Japan performs favourably in several measures of well-being, and ranks close to the average or higher in several topics in the Better Life Index (see Figure 1).

**Income**: In Japan, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 24 147 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 23 047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn more than six times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs**: In terms of employment, 70% of people aged 15 to 64 in Japan have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 80% of men are in paid work, compared with 60% of women, suggesting that women encounter difficulties in balancing work and family life. People in Japan work 1 728 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1 776 hours on average.

**Education**: In Japan, the average student scored 529 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). This score is higher than the OECD average of 497, making Japan one of the strongest OECD countries in students’ skills. On average in Japan, girls outperformed boys by 14 points, more than average OECD gender gap of 9 points.

**Health and Environment**: In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Japan is almost 83 years, three years higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 86 years, compared with 79 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 25 micrograms per cubic meter, higher than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. Japan does better in terms of water quality, as 86% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, compared with an OECD average of 84%.

**Community and civic engagement**: Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and moderate levels of civic participation in Japan, where 90% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, in line with the OECD average. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 69% during recent elections; below the OECD average of 72%. There is little difference in voting levels across society; voter turnout is 69% for the top 20% of the population and 68% for the bottom 20%, suggesting there is broad social inclusion in Japan’s democratic institutions.

**Life Satisfaction**: In general, the Japanese are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 87% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see:

Figure 1: Topic rankings for Japan
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR JAPAN

- Japan is currently 8th in number of visits to the BLI site with over 45,500 visits.
- The top cities or regions in number of visits are Tokyo, Kanagawa and Osaka prefectures.
- Safety, Life Satisfaction and Education are the three highest ranked topics by Japan-based users. This is based on 300 indexes received from users based in Japan.¹

¹ Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
OECD Better Life Index
Luxembourg

For questions and more information contact:
Lorena Sanchez
Tel: 33 (0) 1 45 24 79 91
lorena.sanchez@oecd.org
HOW’S LIFE IN LUXEMBOURG?

Luxembourg performs very well in many measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in several topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income:** Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Luxembourg, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is higher than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year.

**Jobs:** In terms of employment, nearly 65% of people aged 15 to 64 in Luxembourg have a paid job, slightly below the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 72% of men are in paid work, compared with 57% of women. People in Luxembourg work 1,601 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1,776 hours. Close to 3% of employees work very long hours, less than the OECD average of 9%, with 4% of men working very long hours compared with just 1% for women.

**Education:** In Luxembourg, 78% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, slightly more than the OECD average of 74%. This is truer of men than women, as 81% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 75% of women. In terms of the quality of the education system, the average student scored 482 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), lower than the OECD average of 497. On average in Luxembourg, girls outperformed boys by 4 points, less than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

**Health and Environment:** In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Luxembourg is 81 years, one year higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 84 years, compared with 79 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 13 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. Luxembourg also does well in terms of water quality, as 87% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, compared with an OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement:** Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Luxembourg, where 91% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, slightly higher than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 91% during recent elections, much higher than the OECD average of 72%.

**Life Satisfaction:** In general, people in Luxembourg are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 83% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is slightly higher than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see: [http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm](http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm)
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR LUXEMBOURG

- Luxembourg is currently 49th in number of visits to the BLI site with over 4,600 visits.
- The top cities or regions in numbers of visits are Luxembourg and Ehlerange.
- Health, Life Satisfaction and Income are the three highest ranked topics by Luxembourg-based users. This is based on 64 indexes received from Luxembourg-based users.¹

---

¹ Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
OECD Better Life Index
Mexico

For questions and more information contact:
Lorena Sanchez
Tel: 33 (0) 1 45 24 79 91
lorena.sanchez@oecd.org
HOW'S LIFE IN MEXICO?

Mexico has made tremendous progress over the last decade in terms of improving the quality of life of its citizens, especially in the areas of education, health and jobs. Notwithstanding, Mexico ranks low in a large number of topics relative to most other countries in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

Income: In Mexico, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 12 732 USD a year, less than the OECD average of 23 047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn nearly thirteen times as much as the bottom 20%.

Jobs: In terms of employment, nearly 60% of people aged 15 to 64 in Mexico have a paid job, lower than the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 78% of men are in paid work, compared with 43% of women. People in Mexico work 2 250 hours a year, more than most people in the OECD who work 1 776 hours. Almost 29% of employees work very long hours, much more than the OECD average of 9%, with 35% of men working very long hours compared with 18% for women.

Education: In Mexico, 36% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, much lower than the OECD average of 74%. This is slightly truer of men than women, as 38% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 35% of women. In terms of the quality of the education system, the average student scored 420 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), lower than the OECD average of 497. On average in Mexico, girls outperformed boys by 2 points, less than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

Health and Environment: In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Mexico is almost 74 years, six years lower than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 77 years, compared with 71 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs –is 33 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably higher than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. Mexico also performs below the OECD average in terms of water quality, as 78% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, below the OECD average of 84%.

Community and public engagement: Concerning the public sphere, there is a moderate sense of community and level of civic participation in Mexico, where 76% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, lower than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 63% during recent elections, lower than the OECD average of 72%. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; but in Mexico there is little difference across society. Voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 63% and for the bottom 20% it is 61%, suggesting there is broad social inclusion in Mexico’s democratic institutions.

Life Satisfaction: In general, Mexicans are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 85% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see: http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm

Figure 1: Topic rankings for Mexico
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR MEXICO

- Mexico is currently 10th in number of visits to the BLI site with over 41,650 visits.
- The top cities or regions in number of visits are Mexico City, Guadalajara, Monterrey and Puebla.
- Life Satisfaction, Education and Health are the three highest ranked topics by Mexico-based users. This is based on 674 indexes received from Mexico-based users.\(^1\)

\(^1\) Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
OECD Better Life Index
The Netherlands

For questions and more information contact: Lorena Sanchez
Tel: 33 (0) 1 45 24 79 91
lorena.sanchez@oecd.org
HOW’S LIFE IN THE NETHERLANDS?

The Netherlands performs very well in overall well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

Income: In the Netherlands, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 25,493 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn nearly five times as much as the bottom 20%.

Jobs: In terms of employment, nearly 75% of people aged 15 to 64 in the Netherlands have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 80% of men are in paid work, compared with 70% of women. People in the Netherlands work 1,379 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1,776 hours. Very few employees work very long hours, compared with 9% on average across the OECD.

Education: In the Netherlands, 73% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, close to the OECD average of 74%. This is slightly truer of men than women, as 75% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 71% of women. In terms of the quality of the education system, the average student scored 519 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). This score is higher than the OECD average of 497, making the Netherlands one of the strongest OECD countries in students’ skills. There is hardly any difference between the performances of boys and girls, compared with an average OECD gap of 9 points in favour of girls.

Health and Environment: In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in the Netherlands is 81 years, one year higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 83 years, compared with 79 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 30 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably higher than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. The Netherlands perform better in terms of water quality, as 90% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, higher than the 84% OECD average.

Community and public engagement: Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in the Netherlands, where 94% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 75% during recent elections; this figure is higher than the OECD average of 72%. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 85% and for the bottom 20% it is 65%. This 20 percentage point difference is much larger than the OECD average difference of 12 percentage points, and points to shortcomings in the political mobilisation of those of lower socio-economic status.

Life Satisfaction: In general, 86% of people in the Netherlands say they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc), more than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see: http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm

Figure 1: Topic rankings for the Netherlands
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR THE NETHERLANDS

- The Netherlands is currently 14th in number of visits to the BLI site with over 29,600 visits.
- The top cities or regions in numbers of visits are Amsterdam, The Hague, Utrecht, Rotterdam and Eindhoven.
- Life Satisfaction, Health and Work-Life Balance are the three highest ranked topics by The Netherlands-based users. This is based on 231 indexes received from The Netherlands-based users.¹

![Distribution of gender for all Netherlands-based users (%)](image1)

![Distribution of gender for all users (%)](image2)

![Age distribution for all Netherlands-based users](image3)

![Age distribution of all users](image4)

![Topic preferences for Netherlands-based users and all users](image5)

¹ Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
How’s Life in New Zealand?

New Zealand performs exceptionally well in overall well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

Income: In New-Zealand, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 21,892 USD a year, less than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn five times as much as the bottom 20%.

Jobs: In terms of employment, 73% of people aged 15 to 64 in New-Zealand have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 78% of men are in paid work, compared with 67% of women. People in New-Zealand work 1,762 hours a year, slightly less than most people in the OECD who work 1,776 hours. Around 13% of employees work very long hours, more than the OECD average of 9%, with 20% of men working very long hours compared with 6% for women.

Education: In New-Zealand, 73% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, close to the OECD average of 74%. This is truer of men than women, as 74% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 72% of women. New-Zealand is a top-performing country in terms of the quality of its educational system. The average student scored 524 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). This score is higher than the OECD average of 497, making New-Zealand one of the strongest OECD countries in students’ skills. On average in New-Zealand, girls outperformed boys by 15 points, higher than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

Health and Environment: In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in New-Zealand is 81 years, one year higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 83 years, compared with 79 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 — tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs — is 12 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. New-Zealand also does well in terms of water quality, as 88% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, higher than the 84% OECD average.

Community and Public Engagement: Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in New-Zealand, where 93% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 74% during recent elections, higher than the OECD average of 72%. Voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is an estimated 81%, whereas the participation rate of the bottom 20% is an estimated 75%. This 6 percentage point difference is lower than the OECD average difference of 12 percentage points, and suggests there is broad social inclusion in New Zealand’s democratic institutions.

Life Satisfaction: In general, 83% of people in New-Zealand say they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc), more than OECD average of 80%.

For more information see: [http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm](http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm)

Figure 1: Topic rankings for New Zealand
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR NEW ZEALAND

- New Zealand is currently 18th in number of visits to the BLI site with over 25,700 visits.
- The top cities or regions in numbers of visits are Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch.
- Health, Life Satisfaction and Environment are the three highest ranked topics by New Zealand-based users. This is based on 230 indexes received from New Zealand-based users.¹

¹ Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
OECD Better Life Index
Norway

For questions and more information contact:
Lorena Sanchez
Tel: 33 (0) 1 45 24 79 91
lorena.sanchez@oecd.org
HOW’S LIFE IN NORWAY?

Norway performs exceptionally well in overall well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income**: In Norway, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 31,459 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn four times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs**: In terms of employment, over 75% of people aged 15 to 64 in Norway have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 77% of men are in paid work, compared with 73% of women. People in Norway work 1,426 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1,776 hours on average. Only 3% of employees work very long hours, much less than the OECD average of 9%, with 4% of men working very long hours compared with just 1% for women.

**Education**: In Norway, 81% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, higher than the OECD average of 74%. This is equally true of men and women. In terms of the quality of the education system, the average student scored 500 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International, higher than the OECD average of 497. Student Assessment (PISA). On average in Norway, girls outperformed boys by 15 points, higher than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

**Health and Environment**: In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Norway is 81 years, one year higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for men is 79 years, compared with 84 for women. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 15 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. Norway also does well in terms of water quality, as 96% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, compared with an OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement**: Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Norway, where 93% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 76% during recent elections, higher than the OECD average of 72%. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 83% and for the bottom 20% it is 70%, slightly broader than the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points.

**Life Satisfaction**: In general, Norwegians are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 86% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see:

Figure 1: Topic rankings for Norway
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR NORWAY

- Norway is currently 32nd in number of visits to the BLI site with over 12,300 visits.
- The top cities or regions in number of visits are Oslo, Bergen, Stavanger, and Trondheim.
- Life Satisfaction, Health and Education are the three highest ranked topics by Norway-based users. This is based on 113 indexes received from users based in Norway.¹

¹ Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not representative for the population at large.
HOW’S LIFE IN POLAND?

Poland performs moderately well in overall measures of well-being, and ranks higher than average in some of the topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income:** In Poland, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 15,371 USD a year, less than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn nearly five times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs:** In terms of employment, around 60% of people aged 15 to 64 in Poland have a paid job, less than the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 66% of men are in paid work, compared with 53% of women. People in Poland work 1,937 hours a year, more than most people in the OECD who work 1,776 hours. Approximately 7% of employees work very long hours, slightly less than the OECD average of 9%, with 11% of men working very long hours compared with just 3% for women.

**Education:** In Poland, 89% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, higher than the OECD average of 74%. This is equally true of men and women. In terms of the quality of the educational system, the average student scored 501 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), higher than the OECD average of 497. On average in Poland, girls outperformed boys by 18 points, higher than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

**Health and Environment:** In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Poland is 77 years, three years below the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 81 years, compared with 73 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 34 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably higher than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. Poland also performs below the OECD average in terms of water quality, as 79% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, below the OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement:** Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and a moderate level of civic participation in Poland, where 91% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, slightly more than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 55% during recent elections; this figure is one of the lowest in the OECD where average participation is of 73%. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 68% and for the bottom 20% it is 43%, broader than the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points and suggesting there is room for broader social inclusion in Poland’s democratic institutions.

**Life Satisfaction:** In general, Poles are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 83% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc), more than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see: [http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm](http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm)
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR POLAND

- Poland is currently 25th in number of visits to the BLI site with over 18,300 visits and represents 1% of total user base.
- The top cities or regions in numbers of visits are Warsaw, Krakow, Poznan and Wroclaw.
- Life Satisfaction, Education and Work-Life Balance are the three highest ranked topics by Poland-based users. This is based on 332 indexes received from Poland-based users.¹

¹ Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
HOW'S LIFE IN PORTUGAL?

Portugal has made significant progress over the last few years in modernising its economy and improving the living standards of its citizens, however the global financial crisis has surely weakened its growth. Portugal performs only moderately well in overall measures of well-being, as it ranks lower or close to the average in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income:** In Portugal, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 19,366 USD a year, less than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn six times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs:** In terms of employment, around 64% of people aged 15 to 64 in Portugal have a paid job, in line with the OECD employment average. Some 68% of men are in paid work, compared with 60% of women. People in Portugal work 1,711 hours a year, slightly less than most people in the OECD who work 1,776 hours. Around 9% of employees work very long hours, in line with the OECD average, with 12% of men working very long hours compared with just 5% for women.

**Education:** In Portugal, 32% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, much lower than the OECD average of 74% and the lowest rate amongst OECD countries. This is truer of women than men, as 29% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 35% of women. In terms of the quality of the educational system, the average student scored 490 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). This score is slightly lower than the OECD average of 497. On average in Portugal, girls outperformed boys by 10 points, slightly more than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

**Health and Environment:** In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Portugal is almost 81 years, one year above the OECD average. Life expectancy for women is 84 years, compared with 78 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 20 micrograms per cubic meter, close to the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. Portugal does well in terms of water quality, as 86% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, slightly more than the average OECD level of 84%.

**Community and public engagement:** Concerning the public sphere, there is a moderate sense of community and level of civic participation in Portugal, where 85% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, less than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 58% during recent elections, lower than the 72% OECD average. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 63% and for the bottom 20% it is 56%. This 7 percentage point difference is lower than the OECD average difference of 12 percentage points and suggests there is broad social inclusion in Portugal’s democratic institutions.

**Life Satisfaction:** In general, 71% of people in Portugal say they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc), below the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see:
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR PORTUGAL

- Portugal is currently 17th in number of visits to the BLI site with over 27,200 visits.
- The top cities or regions in numbers of visits are Lisbon, Oporto and Coimbra.
- Life Satisfaction, Jobs and Health are the three highest ranked topics by Portugal-based users. This is based on 399 indexes received from Portugal-based users.¹

¹ Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
OECD Better Life Index
The Russian Federation

For questions and more information contact:
Lorena Sanchez
Tel: 33 (0) 1 45 24 79 91
lorena.sanchez@oecd.org
HOW’S LIFE IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION?

The Russian Federation has made progress over the last decade in improving the quality of life of its citizens, despite lower than average scores in some topics on the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income**: In Russia, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 15,286 USD a year, less than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn nine times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs**: In terms of employment, around 68% of people aged 15 to 64 in Russia have a paid job, slightly above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 72% of men are in paid work, compared with 64% of women. People in Russia work 1,981 hours a year, more than most people in the OECD who work 1,776 hours. Very few employees work very long hours, compared with 9% on average across the OECD.

**Education**: In Russia, 91% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, much higher than the OECD average of 74%. This is truer of women than men, as 90% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 93% of women. In terms of the quality of the educational system, the average student scored 469 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), lower than the OECD average of 497. On average in Russia, girls outperformed boys by 15 points, higher than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

**Health and Environment**: In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Russia is 70 years, ten years below the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 76 years, compared with 64 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 16 micrograms per cubic meter, lower than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. Russia could do better in terms of water quality, as only 49% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, below the OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement**: Concerning the public sphere, there is a moderate sense of community and level of civic participation in Russia, where 87% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, less than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 65% during recent elections; this figure is lower than the OECD average of 72%. There is little difference in voting levels across society; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 70% and for the bottom 20% it is 66%, much narrower than the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points and suggesting there is broad social inclusion in Russia’s democratic institutions.

**Life Satisfaction**: In general, Russians are less satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 74% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is lower than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see:

Figure 1: Topic rankings for the Russian Federation
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

- The Russian Federation is currently 14th in number of visits to the BLI site with over 29,200 visits.
- The top cities or regions in number of visits are Moscow, Saint Petersburg, Novosibirsk, Yekaterinburg and Nizhny Novgorod.
- Education, Housing and Health are the three highest ranked topics by Russian Federation-based users. This is based on 397 indexes received from Russian Federation-based users.¹

1 Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
**HOW’S LIFE IN THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC?**

The Slovak Republic performs only moderately well in overall measures of well-being, as it ranks lower or close to the average in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income:** In the Slovak Republic, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 16 682 USD a year, less than the OECD average of 23 047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn four times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs:** In terms of employment, 59% of people aged 15 to 64 in the Slovak Republic have a paid job, below the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 66% of men are in paid work, compared with 53% of women. People in the Slovak Republic work 1 793 hours a year, slightly more than most people in the OECD who work 1 776 hours. Around 6% of employees work very long hours, lower than the OECD average of 9%, with 9% of men working very long hours compared with just 3% for women.

**Education:** In the Slovak Republic, 91% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, higher than the OECD average of 74%. This is slightly truer of men than women, as 93% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 89% of women. In terms of the quality of the educational system, the average student scored 488 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), lower than the OECD average of 497. On average in the Slovak Republic, girls outperformed boys by 16 points, more than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

**Health and Environment:** In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in the Slovak Republic is 76, four years lower than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 80 years, compared with 72 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 12 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. The Slovak Republic could do better in terms of water quality, as only 81% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, below the OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement:** Concerning the public sphere, there is a moderate sense of community and level of civic participation in the Slovak Republic, where 89% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, slightly lower than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 59% during recent elections; this figure is much lower than the OECD average of 72%. Voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 64% and for the bottom 20% it is 60%, much narrower than the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points and suggesting there is broad social inclusion in the Slovak Republic’s democratic institutions.

**Life Satisfaction:** In general, Slovaks are less satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 75% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is lower than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing</th>
<th>3.9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jobs</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>7.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic engagement</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>5.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Satisfaction</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work-Life Balance</td>
<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 1: Topic rankings for the Slovak Republic
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC

- The Slovak Republic is currently **39th** in number of visits to the BLI site with **over 7,800 visits**.
- The top cities or regions in numbers of visits are Bratislava and Kosice.
- **Health, Safety and Work-Life Balance** are the three highest ranked topics by Slovak Republic-based users. This is based on 100 indexes received from Slovak Republic-based users.¹

---

¹ Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
OECD Better Life Index
Slovenia

For questions and more information contact: Lorena Sanchez
Tel: 33 (0) 1 45 24 79 91
lorena.sanchez@oecd.org
HOW'S LIFE IN SLOVENIA?

Slovenia performs favourably in several measures of well-being, and ranks close to the average or higher in several topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income:** In Slovenia, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 19,119 USD a year, less than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn more than three times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs:** In terms of employment, 64% of people aged 15 to 64 in Slovenia have a paid job, slightly below the 66% OECD employment average. Some 68% of men are in paid work, compared with 61% of women. People in the Slovak Republic work 1,662 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1,776 hours. Approximately 6% of employees work very long hours, slightly less than the OECD average of 9%, with 8% of men working very long hours compared with just 3% for women.

**Education:** In Slovenia, 83% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, higher than the OECD average of 74%. This is truer of men than women, as 85% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 81% of women. In terms of the quality of the educational system, the average student scored 499 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), slightly higher than the OECD average of 497. On average in Slovenia, girls outperformed boys by 22 points, higher than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

**Health and Environment:** In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Slovenia is almost 80 years, in line with the OECD average. Life expectancy for women is 83 years, compared with 77 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 26 micrograms per cubic meter, higher than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. Slovenia performs better in terms of water quality, as 87% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, higher than the OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement:** Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and a moderate level of civic participation in Slovenia, where 92% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 66% during recent elections. This figure is lower than the OECD average of 72%. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 75% and for the bottom 20% it is 62%, a slightly broader difference than the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points and suggesting there is room for broader social inclusion in Slovenia’s democratic institutions.

**Life Satisfaction:** In general, Slovenians are less satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 72% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is lower than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see:

Figure 1: Topic rankings for Slovenia
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR SLOVENIA

- Slovenia is currently 43rd in number of visits to the BLI site with over 6,700 visits.
- The top cities or regions in numbers of visits are Ljubljana and Maribor.
- Life Satisfaction, Education and Health are the three highest ranked topics by Slovenia-based users. This is based on 57 indexes received from Slovenia-based users.¹

1 Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
OECD Better Life Index
South Korea

For questions and more information contact:
Lorena Sanchez
Tel: 33 (0) 1 45 24 79 91
lorena.sanchez@oecd.org
HOW’S LIFE IN SOUTH KOREA?

South Korea performs moderately well in overall measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks higher than average in several topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income:** In South Korea, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 17,337 USD a year, less than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn more than five times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs:** In terms of employment, nearly 64% of people aged 15 to 64 in South Korea have a paid job, slightly below the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 75% of men are in paid work, compared with 53% of women, suggesting that women encounter difficulties in balancing work and family life. People in South Korea work 2,090 hours a year, more than most people in the OECD who work 1,776 hours on average.

**Education:** In South Korea, 80% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, higher than the OECD average of 74%. This is truer of men than women, as 85% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 76% of women. South Korea is a top-performing country in terms of the quality of its educational system. The average student scored 541 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). This score is higher than the OECD average of 497 and one of the highest in the OECD. On average in South Korea, girls outperformed boys by 11 points, slightly more than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

**Health and Environment:** In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in South Korea is 81 years, one year higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 85 years, compared with 78 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 33 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably higher than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. South Korea also performs below the OECD average in terms of water quality, as 78% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, compared with an OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement:** Concerning the public sphere, there is a moderate sense of community and level of civic participation in South Korea, where 77% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, less than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 76% during recent elections; this figure is lower than the OECD average of 72%. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is estimated at close to 100% and for the bottom 20% it is 71%, a much larger difference than the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points and suggesting a need to work for broader social inclusion in South Korea’s democratic institutions.

**Life Satisfaction:** In general, South Koreans are as happy as others across the OECD, with 82% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is slightly higher than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see: [http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm](http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm)

Figure 1: Topic rankings for South Korea
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR SOUTH KOREA

- South Korea is currently **20th** in number of visits with **over 23,700 visits**.
- The top cities or regions in numbers of visits are Seoul and Daejeon.
- **Safety, Life Satisfaction and Health** are the three highest ranked topics by South Korea-based users. This is based on 228 indexes received from South Korea-based users.\(^1\)

\(^1\) Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
HOW’S LIFE IN SPAIN?

Spain performs favourably in several measures of well-being, and ranks close to the average or higher in several topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income:** In Spain, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 22,847 USD a year, slightly less than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn more than six times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs:** In terms of employment, around 58% of people aged 15 to 64 in Spain have a paid job, below the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 64% of men are in paid work, compared with 53% of women. People in Spain work 1,690 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1,776 hours. Only 6% of employees work very long hours, less than the OECD average of 9%, with 9% of men working very long hours compared with just 4% for women.

**Education:** In Spain, 53% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, lower than the OECD average of 74%. This is slightly truer of women than men, as 52% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 54% of women. In terms of the quality of the educational system, the average student scored 484 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), lower than the OECD average of 497. On average in Spain, girls and boys performed equally, compared with an average OECD gap of nine points in favour of girls.

**Health and Environment:** In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Spain is 82 years, two years higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 85 years, compared with 79 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10—tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs—is 25 micrograms per cubic meter, higher than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. Spain also performs below the OECD average in terms of water quality, as 79% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, below the OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement:** Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and moderate levels of civic participation in Spain, where 93% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 69% during recent elections; this figure is slightly lower than the OECD average of 72%. There is little difference in voting levels across society; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 76% and for the bottom 20% it is 66%, a slightly narrower gap than the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points.

**Life Satisfaction:** In general, 73% of people in Spain say they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc), less than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see: http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm

Figure 1: Topic rankings for Spain
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR SPAIN

- Spain is currently 9th in number of visits to the BLI site with over 42,700 visits.
- The top cities or regions in number of visits are Madrid, Barcelona, Valencia and Seville.
- Health, Education and Life Satisfaction are the three highest ranked topics by Spain-based users. This is based on 507 indexes received from Spain based users.¹

¹ Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
Sweden performs exceptionally well in overall well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income:** In Sweden, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 26,242 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn more than four times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs:** In terms of employment, around 74% of people aged 15 to 64 in Sweden have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 76% of men are in paid work, compared with 72% of women. People in Sweden work 1,644 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1,776 hours. Only 1% of employees work very long hours, much less than the OECD average of 9%.

**Education:** In Sweden, 87% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, higher than the OECD average of 74%. This is truer of women than men, as 85% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 88% of women. In terms of the quality of the educational system, the average student scored 496 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), close to the OECD average of 497. On average in Sweden, girls outperformed boys by 17 points, more than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

**Health and Environment:** In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Sweden is almost 82 years, two years higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 84 years, compared with 80 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs –is 10 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. Sweden also does well in terms of water quality, as 95% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, compared with an OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement:** Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Sweden, where 92% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, slightly higher than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 84% during recent elections. This figure is higher than the OECD average of 72%. There is little difference in voting levels across society; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 89% and for the bottom 20% it is 83%, narrower than the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points and suggesting there is broad social inclusion in Sweden’s democratic institutions.

**Life Satisfaction:** In general, Swedes are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 85% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see: [http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm](http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm)

Figure 1: Topic rankings for Sweden
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR SWEDEN

- Sweden is currently **19th** in number of visits to the BLI site with **over 25,500 visits**.
- The top cities or regions in numbers of visits are Stockholm, Gothenburg, Malmo and Lund.
- **Life Satisfaction, Health and Education** are the three highest ranked topics by Sweden-based users. This is based on 228 indexes received from Sweden-based users.¹

¹ Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
OECD Better Life Index
Switzerland

For questions and more information contact:
Lorena Sanchez
Tel: 33 (0) 1 45 24 79 91
lorena.sanchez@oecd.org
HOW’S LIFE IN SWITZERLAND?

Switzerland performs very well in overall well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income:** In Switzerland, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 30,060 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn nearly five times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs:** In terms of employment, 79% of people aged 15 to 64 in Switzerland have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 85% of men are in paid work, compared with 73% of women. People in Switzerland work 1,632 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1,776 hours. Only 6% of employees work very long hours, less than the OECD average of 9%.

**Education:** In Switzerland, 86% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, higher than the OECD average of 74%. This is truer of men than women, as 89% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 83% of women. This difference is higher than the OECD average and suggests women’s participation in higher education could be strengthened. Switzerland is nonetheless a top-performing country in terms of the quality of its educational system. The average student scored 517 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). This score is higher than the OECD average of 497. On average in Switzerland, girls outperformed boys by 4 points, less than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

**Health and Environment:** In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Switzerland is almost 83 years, three years higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 85 years, compared with 81 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 22 micrograms per cubic meter, slightly more than the 21 micrograms OECD average. Switzerland performs better in terms of water quality, as 95% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, compared with an OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement:** Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and a moderate level of civic participation in Switzerland, where 94% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 49% during recent elections; this figure is much lower than the OECD average of 72%. Voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 61% and for the bottom 20% it is 43%, a broader difference than the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points.

**Life Satisfaction:** In general, people in Switzerland are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 82% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see: [http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm](http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm)

Figure 1: Topic rankings for Switzerland
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR SWITZERLAND

- Switzerland is currently 11th in number of visits to the BLI site with over 35,700 visits.
- The top cities or regions in numbers of visits are Zurich, Geneva, Berne, Lausanne and Basel.
- Life Satisfaction, Health and Education are the three highest ranked topics by Switzerland-based users. This is based on 462 indexes received from Switzerland-based users.¹

¹ Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
OECD Better Life Index

Turkey

For questions and more information contact:
Lorena Sanchez
Tel: 33 (0) 1 45 24 79 91
lorena.sanchez@oecd.org
HOW’S LIFE IN TURKEY?

Turkey has made considerable progress in improving the quality of life of its citizens over the last two decades. Notwithstanding, Turkey ranks low in a large number of topics relative to most other countries in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income**: In Turkey, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is lower than the OECD average of 23 047 USD a year.

**Jobs**: In terms of employment, 48% of people aged 15 to 64 in Turkey have a paid job, less than the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 69% of men are in paid work, compared with 28% of women. People in Turkey work 1877 hours a year, more than most people in the OECD who work 1 776 hours. Around 46% of employees work very long hours, much higher than the OECD average of 9%, with 50% of men working very long hours compared with 35% for women.

**Education**: In Turkey, 31% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, much lower than the OECD average of 74%. This is truer of men than women, as 36% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 26% of women. This difference is larger than the OECD average and suggests women’s participation in higher education could be strengthened. In terms of the quality of the educational system, the average student scored 455 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), lower than the OECD average of 497. On average in Turkey, girls outperformed boys by 15 points, more than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

**Health and Education**: In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Turkey is 75 years, five years lower than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 77 years, compared with 72 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 37 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably higher than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. Turkey also performs below the OECD average in terms of water quality, as 61% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, below the OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement**: Concerning the public sphere, there is a moderate sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Turkey, where 73% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, less than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 88% during recent elections; this figure is higher than the OECD average of 73%. Voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 89% and for the bottom 20% it is 84%, much narrower than the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points and suggesting there is broad social inclusion in Turkey’s democratic institutions.

**Life Satisfaction**: In general, Turks are less satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 68% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is much lower than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see: [http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm](http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm)

*Figure 1: Topic rankings for Turkey*
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR TURKEY

- Turkey is currently 12th in number of visits to the BLI site with over 31,300 visits.
- The top cities or regions in numbers of visits are Istanbul, Ankara and Izmir.
- **Education, Health and Life Satisfaction** are the three highest ranked topics by Turkey-based users. This is based on 419 indexes received from Turkey-based users.¹

---

¹ Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
OECD Better Life Index
United Kingdom

For questions and more information contact:
Lorena Sanchez
Tel: 33 (0) 1 45 24 79 91
lorena.sanchez@oecd.org
HOW’S LIFE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM?

The United Kingdom performs very well in overall well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in several topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income**: In the United Kingdom, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 26,904 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn nearly six times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs**: In terms of employment, over 70% of people aged 15 to 64 in the United Kingdom have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 76% of men are in paid work, compared with 65% of women. People in the United Kingdom work 1,625 hours a year, less than the OECD average of 1,776 hours. About 12% of employees work very long hours, more than the OECD average of 9%, with 18% of men working very long hours compared with just 6% for women.

**Education**: In the United Kingdom, 75% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, close to the OECD average of 74%. This is truer of men than women, as 78% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 72% of women. This difference is larger than the OECD average gap and suggests women’s participation in higher education could be strengthened. In terms of the quality of the educational system, the average student scored 500 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), slightly higher than the OECD average of 497. On average in the United Kingdom, girls outperformed boys by 2 points, less than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

**Health and Environment**: In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in the United Kingdom is 81 years, one year higher than the OECD average. Life expectancy for women is 83 years, compared with 79 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 13 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. The United Kingdom also does well in terms of water quality, as 97% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, more than the OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement**: Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and a moderate level of civic participation in the United Kingdom, where 95% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 90%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 66% during recent elections. This figure is lower than the OECD average of 72%. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 73% and for the bottom 20% it is 50%, a broader difference than the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points and suggesting there is room for broader social inclusion in the United Kingdom’s democratic institutions.

**Life Satisfaction**: In general, people in the United Kingdom are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 85% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see: [http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm](http://www.oecd.org/statistics/measuringwell-beingandprogress.htm)
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM

- The United Kingdom is currently 4th in number of visits to the BLI site with over 112,250 visits.
- The top cities or regions in number of visits are London, Edinburgh, Brighton, Manchester and Oxford.
- Life Satisfaction, Health and Education are the three highest ranked topics by United Kingdom-based users. This is based on 940 indexes received from users based in the United Kingdom.¹

¹ Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.
Under embargo until 28 May 10:00 a.m. (Paris time)

OECD Better Life Index
United States

For questions and more information contact:
Lorena Sanchez
Tel: 33 (0) 1 45 24 79 91
Mob: 33 (0) 6 17 88 67 43
lorena.sanchez@oecd.org
HOW’S LIFE IN THE UNITED STATES?

The United States performs very well in overall measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index (Figure 1).

**Income:** In the United States, the average household net-adjusted disposable income is 38,001 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 23,047 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn approximately eight times as much as the bottom 20%.

**Jobs:** In terms of employment, 67% of people aged 15 to 64 in the United States have a paid job, slightly above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 71% of men are in paid work, compared with 62% of women. People in the United States work 1,787 hours a year, more than the OECD average of 1,776 hours. Around 11% of employees work very long hours, higher than the OECD average of 9%, with 16% of men working very long hours compared with 6% for women.

**Education:** Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In the United States, 89% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, higher than the OECD average of 74%. This is slightly truer of women than men, as 88% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 90% of women. In terms of the quality of the educational system, the average student scored 496 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), close to the OECD average of 497. On average in the United States, girls outperformed boys by 3 points, less than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

**Health and Environment:** In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in the United States is almost 79 years, one year lower than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 81 years, compared with 76 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 18 micrograms per cubic meter, lower than the OECD average of 21 micrograms per cubic meter. The United States also does well in terms of water quality, as 87% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, slightly higher than the OECD average of 84%.

**Community and public engagement:** Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and moderate levels of civic participation in the United States, where 90% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, in line with the OECD average. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens’ participation in the political process, was 70% during recent elections; this figure is slightly lower than the OECD average of 72%. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is close to 79% and for the bottom 20% it is 56%, broader than the OECD average gap of 12 percentage points and suggesting there is room for broader social inclusion in the United States’ democratic institutions.

**Life Satisfaction:** In general, Americans are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 83% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 80%.

For more information see:
OECD BETTER LIFE INDEX (BLI): USER FINDINGS FOR THE UNITED STATES

- The United States is currently 1st in number of visits to the BLI site with over 390,000 visits.
- The top cities are New York, Washington, Chicago, San Francisco and Los Angeles.
- Life Satisfaction, Health and Education are the three highest ranked topics by United States users. This is based on 3,406 indexes received from users based in the United States.¹

¹ Out of 24,167 user indexes collected between May 2011 and May 2013. User feedback is not necessarily representative for the population at large.