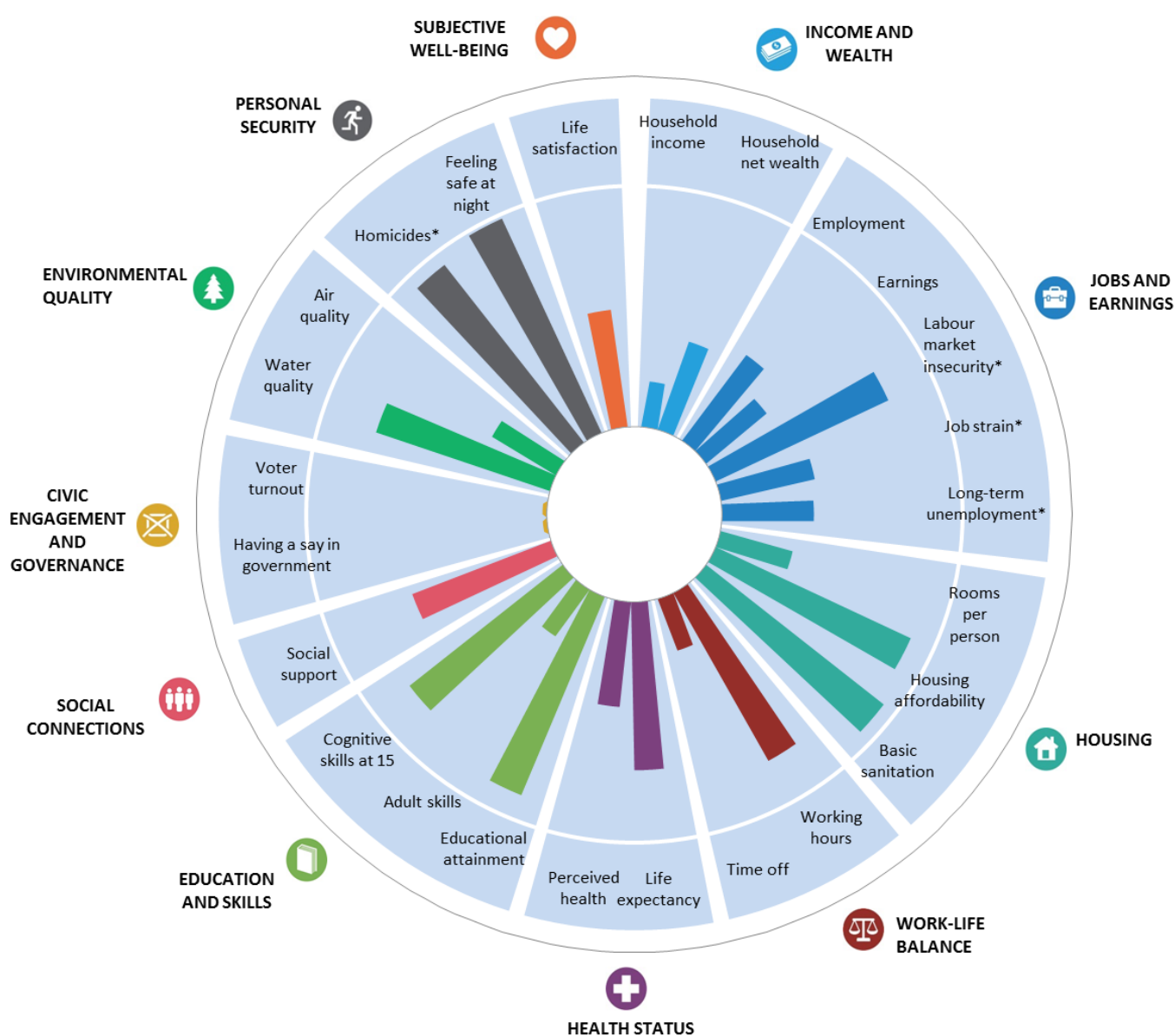


How's Life in Slovenia?

Slovenia's average performance across the different well-being dimensions is mixed when assessed relative to other OECD countries. The average **household net adjusted disposable income** was around two-thirds of the OECD average level in 2015, and the **long-term unemployment** rate was twice the OECD average level in 2016. **Educational attainment**, on the other hand, is high: 87% of the adult working-age population in Slovenia have completed at least an upper secondary education, 13 points higher than the OECD average. Students' **cognitive skills** were also above the OECD average in 2015, while **adult skills** were below. Civic engagement and governance, assessed in terms of **voter turnout** and the percentage of adults who feel that they **have a say in what the government does**, are both among the lowest in the OECD. Personal security is, however, high: the **homicide** rate is among the lowest in the OECD, and 85% of Slovenians feel **safe walking alone at night**, one of the best rates in the OECD.

Slovenia's average level of current well-being: Comparative strengths and weaknesses














Note: This chart shows the Slovenia's relative strengths and weaknesses in well-being when compared with other OECD countries. For both positive and negative indicators (such as homicides, marked with an "*"), longer bars always indicate better outcomes (i.e. higher well-being), whereas shorter bars always indicate worse outcomes (i.e. lower well-being). If data are missing for any given indicator, the relevant segment of the circle is shaded in white.

Additional information, including the data used in this country note, can be found at:


www.oecd.org/statistics/Better-Life-Initiative-2017-country-notes-data.xlsx


Change in Slovenia's well-being over the past 10 years

Dimension	Description	Change
 Income and wealth	Household net adjusted disposable income is currently at the same level, in real terms, as it was in 2005.	↔
 Jobs and earnings	Despite a moderate increase since 2013, the employment rate remains close to its 2005 level. On the other hand, real earnings improved consistently, with a cumulative rise of 15%. Labour market insecurity, which increased sharply during the crisis, is yet to recover to its previous levels. The long-term unemployment rate has worsened from 3.1% in 2005 to 4.3% in 2016, while the share of employees experiencing job strain has fallen from 45% in 2005 to 39% in 2015.	↔ ↗ ↘ ↘ ↗
 Housing conditions	Housing affordability has improved in the last decade: the proportion of income spent on housing costs fell from 18.9% in 2005 to 18.3% in 2015. Basic sanitation has become more widespread, with the percentage of people living without basic sanitary facilities reduced by half over the decade.	↗ ↗
 Work-life balance	The share of employees working 50 hours or more per week has fallen by 4 percentage points in the past decade, steeper than the 0.9 point decline recorded for the OECD average.	↗
 Health status	Despite a setback in 2015, life expectancy at birth has increased by almost 2 years overall since 2008 (the earliest year for which comparable data are available). The proportion of Slovenians reporting that their health is “good” or “very good” has also gone up from 54% to 65% over the decade – but this remains below the OECD average.	↗ ↗
 Education and skills	The 10-year change in upper secondary educational attainment cannot be assessed, due to a recent break in the data. However, between 2014 and 2016, attainment rates in Slovenia increased by 1.6 percentage points.	↗
 Social connections	The percentage of people who have relatives or friends whom they can count on to help in case of need has remained relatively stable over the decade.	↔
 Civic engagement	Voter turnout fell by 11.4 percentage points between the 2008 and 2014 parliamentary elections.	↘
 Environmental quality	Satisfaction with local water quality has improved over the decade in Slovenia, but annual exposure to PM _{2.5} air pollution has remained relatively stable.	↗ ↔
 Personal security	There have been clear signs of progress in personal security since 2005: the homicide rate has almost halved, and the proportion of people declaring that they feel safe when walking alone at night has increased by 5 percentage points.	↗ ↗
 Subjective well-being	Life satisfaction in recent years has been very similar to the levels reported 10 years ago.	↔


Note: For each indicator in every dimension: ↗ refers to an improvement; ↔ indicates little or no change; and ↘ signals deterioration. This is based on a comparison of the starting year (2005 in most cases) and the latest available year (usually 2015 or 2016). The order of the arrows shown in column three corresponds to that of the indicators mentioned in column two.


Slovenia's resources and risks for future well-being: Illustrative indicators

 Natural capital		
Indicator	Tier	Change
Greenhouse gas emissions from domestic production	2	↗ 2005-2015
CO ₂ emissions from domestic consumption	2	↗ 2001-2011
Exposure to PM _{2.5} air pollution	3	↔ 2005-2013
Forest area	1	↔ 2005-2014
Renewable freshwater resources	1	.. Long-term annual avg
Freshwater abstractions	2	.. 2015
Threatened birds	3	.. Latest available
Threatened mammals	3	.. Latest available
Threatened plants	2	.. Latest available

 Economic capital		
Indicator	Tier	Change
Produced fixed assets	3	↗ 2005-2015
Gross fixed capital formation	3	↘ 2005-2016
Financial net worth of total economy	3	↘ 2005-2016
Intellectual property assets	3	↗ 2005-2015
Investment in R&D	2	↗ 2005-2015
Household debt	1	↘ 2005-2015
Household net wealth	2	.. 2014
Financial net worth of government	2	↘ 2005-2016
Banking sector leverage	1	↗ 2005-2016

1	Top-performing OECD tier, latest available year
2	Middle-performing OECD tier, latest available year
3	Bottom-performing OECD tier, latest available year

 Human capital		
Indicator	Tier	Change
Young adult educational attainment	1	↔ 2014-2016
Educational expectancy	1	.. 2015
Cognitive skills at age 15	1	.. 2015
Adult skills	3	.. 2011/2012
Long-term unemployment	3	↘ 2005-2016
Life expectancy at birth	2	↗ 2008-2015
Smoking prevalence	2	↔ 2007-2014
Obesity prevalence	2	↘ 2007-2014

 Social capital		
Indicator	Tier	Change
Trust in others	1	.. 2013
Trust in the police	3	.. 2013
Trust in the national government	3	↘ 2005-2016
Voter turnout	3	↘ 2008-2014
Government stakeholder engagement	1	.. 2014
Volunteering through organisations	2	.. 2011/2012

↗	Improving over time
↘	Worsening over time
↔	No change
..	No data available

HOW LARGE ARE WELL-BEING INEQUALITIES IN SLOVENIA?

What is inequality and how is it measured? Measuring inequality means trying to describe **how unevenly distributed** outcomes are in society. *How's Life? 2017* adopts several different approaches:

- Measures of “**vertical**” inequalities address how unequally outcomes are spread across all people in society – for example, by looking at the size of the gap between people at the bottom of the distribution and people at the top
- Measures of “**horizontal**” inequalities focus on the gap between population groups defined by specific characteristics (such as men and women, young and old, people with higher and lower levels of education).
- Measures of “**deprivation**” report the share of people who live below a certain level of well-being (such as those who face income poverty or live in an overcrowded household).

Compared to most OECD countries, Slovenia has low levels of **vertical inequality** in terms of household income, working hours, cognitive skills at age 15 and life satisfaction. Inequalities in net wealth, earnings, life expectancy and having a say in government are moderately-sized, although the gap between top and bottom performers becomes a lot larger for adult skills.

Across OECD countries, **women** typically fare worse than **men** on earnings, low pay and employment. However, Slovenia shows mixed outcomes in term of gender divides in the labour market. For example, women are 15% more likely to be unemployed (whereas in the OECD on average men and women are roughly equal), yet the gender gaps in earnings and low pay are comparatively small. Gaps favouring men are also found in educational attainment, time spent socialising, voter turnout and homicides.

In all OECD countries, **young people** are at disadvantage on the job market, compared to **middle-aged adults**. However, in Slovenia age-related gaps in both earnings and unemployment are smaller than for the OECD on average. Nonetheless, young Slovenians experience larger gaps than their peers in most OECD countries in terms of employment.

In most OECD countries, people with a **tertiary education** tend to fare better than those with only a **secondary education** across a range of well-being outcomes. In Slovenia, this gap is often comparatively large – with the exception of net wealth, where it is one of the smallest in the OECD.

Levels of **deprivation** in Slovenia are comparatively high for 10 out of the 20 available indicators. It has the third highest share of individuals not casting a vote at national election (48%) and the highest share of people who feel they do not have a say in what the government does (75%). By contrast, deprivations are comparatively low in dimensions such as personal security and work-life balance.

Well-being inequalities in Slovenia

	Vertical inequality	Horizontal inequality by			Deprivation
		Gender	Age	Education	
		Women relative to men	Young relative to middle-aged	Secondary relative to tertiary	
Household income	●		●		●
Household net wealth	●		●	●	●
Earnings	●	●	●	●	
Low pay		●			●
Employment		●	●	●	
Unemployment		●	●	●	●
Housing affordability					●
Rooms per person					●
Life expectancy	●				
Perceived health		●	●	●	●
Working hours	●	●	●	●	●
Time off		●	●		
Educational attainment		●	●		●
Cognitive skills at 15	●	●		●	●
Adult skills	●	●	●	●	●
Time spent socialising		●	●		
Social support		●	●	●	●
Voter turnout		●	●	●	●
Having a say in government	●	●	●	●	●
Air quality					●
Water quality		●	●	●	●
Homicides		●			●
Feeling safe at night		●	●	●	●
Life satisfaction	●	●	●	●	●
Negative affect balance					●

● top third of OECD countries
● middle third of OECD countries
● bottom third of OECD countries
 data gaps
 no measures

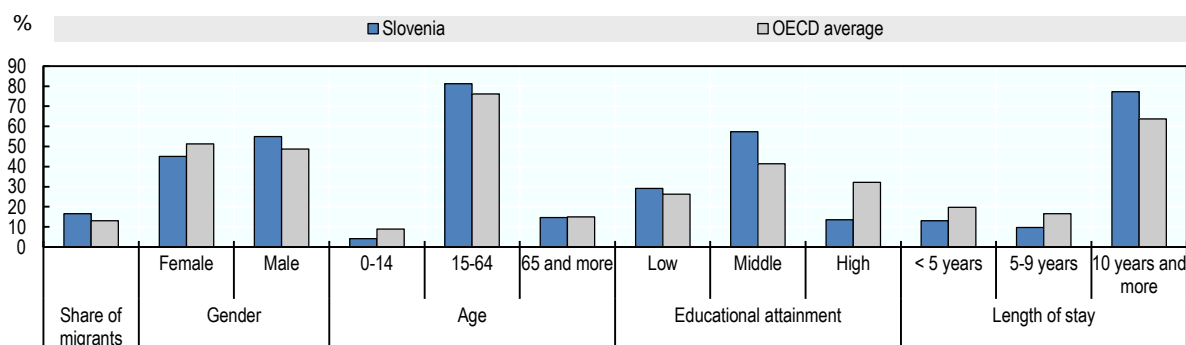
HOW'S LIFE FOR MIGRANTS IN SLOVENIA?

Migrants (defined as people living in a different country from the one in which they were born) represent an important share of the population in most OECD countries. Capturing information about their well-being is critical for gaining a fuller picture of how life is going, and whether it is going equally well for all members of society.

Who are the migrants in Slovenia and OECD?

More than one in six people living in Slovenia (17%) were born elsewhere, slightly above the OECD average (13%), and 45% of them are women (51% for the OECD average). Migrants in Slovenia are more likely to be of working age than in the OECD on average (81% of them are aged 15 to 64, as compared to 76% across the OECD), and are more likely to have a middle educational attainment than a low or a high level. Almost eight in ten migrants arrived in Slovenia ten years ago or more.

Share of migrants in the total population and selected characteristics

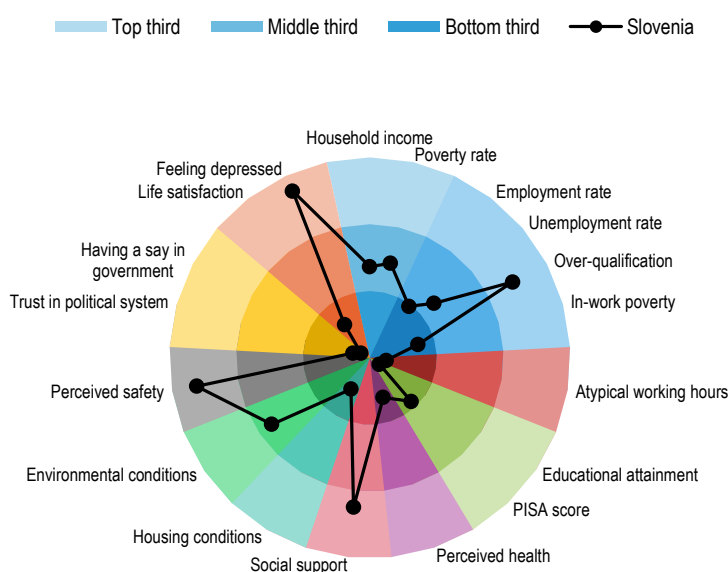


How is migrants' well-being in Slovenia?

Compared with the migrant populations of other OECD countries, migrants living in Slovenia have a relatively good situation regarding over-qualification, social support, perceived safety and feeling depressed. Moreover, migrants settled in Slovenia rank in the middle third of OECD-country migrants for household income, poverty, unemployment and environmental conditions. They are in the bottom third for 10 out of 18 selected well-being indicators.

As in many other OECD countries, migrants in Slovenia tend to experience lower well-being outcomes than the native-born population: in Slovenia, this is the case for 8 out of 12 selected well-being indicators. However, migrants in Slovenia experience similar situations to the native-born with respect to environmental conditions, perceived safety and having a say in government, while they report a higher level of trust in political system than the native-born.

Comparing well-being outcomes for migrants in Slovenia with the migrant populations of other OECD countries



Comparison of migrants' and native-born well-being in Slovenia

	Migrants have a worse situation	Same situation	Migrants have a better situation
Household income	▲		
Atypical working hours	▲		
PISA score	▲		
Perceived health	▲		
Social support	▲		
Housing conditions	▲		
Environmental conditions		▲	
Perceived safety		▲	
Trust in political system			▲
Having a say in government		▲	
Life satisfaction	▲		
Feeling depressed	▲		

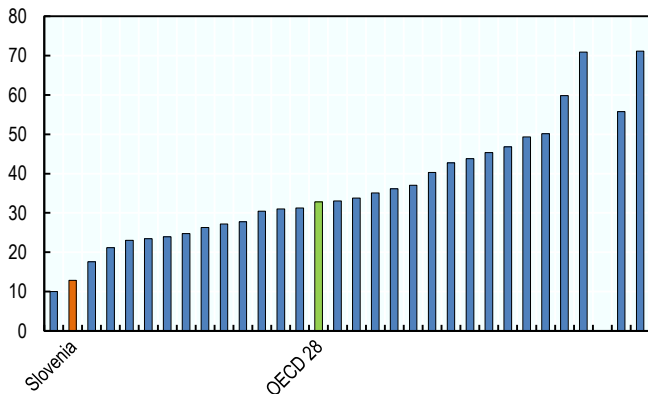
GOVERNANCE AND WELL-BEING IN SLOVENIA

Public institutions play an important role in well-being, both by guaranteeing that people's fundamental rights are protected, and by ensuring the provision of goods and services necessary for people to thrive and prosper. How people experience and engage with public institutions also matters: people's political voice, agency and representation are outcomes of value in their own right.

In Slovenia, close to 13% of the population feels that they have a say in what their government does, lower than the OECD average of 33%. In recent years, voter turnout has decreased, with almost 52% of eligible Slovenians voting in 2014, compared to 63% in 2008. When asked about whether or not corruption is widespread across government, 78% of Slovenians answered "yes", as compared to an OECD average of 56%. Since around 2006, the share of people in the OECD who report that they have confidence in their national government has fallen from 42% to 38%.

Having a say in what the government does

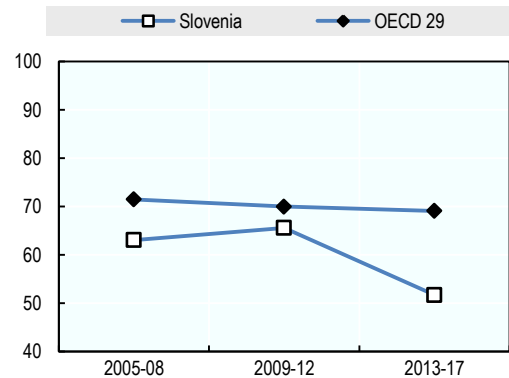
Percentage of people aged 16-65 who feel that they have a say in what the government does, around 2012



Source: OECD Survey of Adult Skills (PIAAC database)

Voter turnout

Percentage of votes cast among the population registered to vote



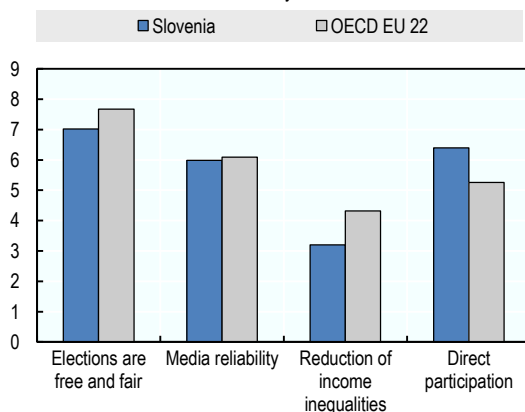
Note: Data refers to parliamentary elections. If more than one election took place over the time period indicated, the simple average voter turnout from all elections is shown. The OECD average sums elections that occurred over the time periods shown in 29 OECD countries.

Source: IDEA dataset

Overall, Slovenian's satisfaction with the way democracy works in their country varies across the different elements of democracy. People in Slovenia are relatively satisfied with the freedom and fairness of elections (7.0 on a 0-10 scale), and with the existence of direct participation mechanisms at the local level (6.4), while they are less satisfied with policies aimed at reducing inequalities (3.2). Europeans' satisfaction with public services meanwhile varies according to whether people have used those services in the last year. For example, satisfaction with education is higher among those with direct recent experience (6.6 vs 6.2 on average), and this is also true of the health system (6.4 vs 6.2 on average). These data relate to 19 European countries only, and unfortunately no comparable data are available for Slovenia.

People's satisfaction with different elements of democracy

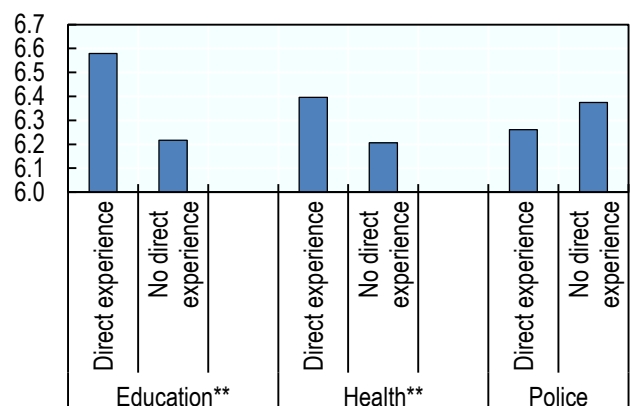
Mean score on a 0-10 scale, with higher scores indicating higher satisfaction with elements of democracy, 2012



Source: OECD calculations based on wave 6 of the European Social Survey (ESS), special rotating module on citizens' valuations of different elements of democracy.

OECD EU average satisfaction with public services

Mean score on a 0-10 scale, with higher scores indicating higher satisfaction with elements of democracy, 2013



Note: ** Difference is statistically significant at 95%

Source: OECD calculations based on the EU Quality of Government (QoG) for 19 European OECD countries.

BETTER LIFE INDEX

The **Better Life Index** is an interactive web application that allows users to compare well-being across OECD countries and beyond on the basis of the set of well-being indicators used in *How's Life?*. Users chose what weight to give to each of the eleven dimensions shown below and then see how countries perform, based on their own personal priorities in life.

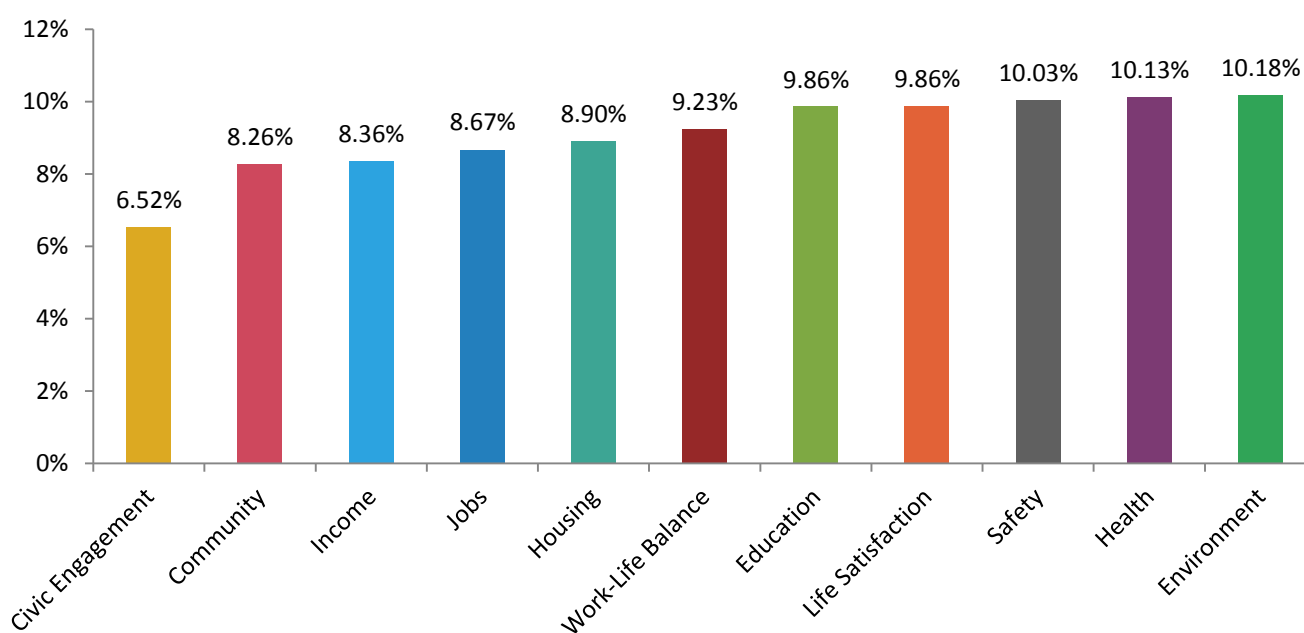


Users can also share their index with other people in their networks, as well as with the OECD. This allows the OECD to gather valuable information on the importance that users attach to various life dimensions, and how these preferences differ across countries and population groups.

WHAT MATTERS MOST TO PEOPLE IN SLOVENIA?

Since its launch in May 2011, the Better Life Index has attracted **over ten million visits from just about every country on the planet** and has received over **22 million page views**. To date, over 23,600 people in Slovenia have visited the website making Slovenia the 54th country overall in traffic to the website. The top cities are Ljubljana (63% of visits), Maribor, Celje, Koper, Zirovnica and Kranj.

The following country findings reflect the ratings voluntarily shared with the OECD by 210 website visitors in Slovenia. Findings are only indicative and are not representative of the population at large. **For Slovenian users of the Better Life Index, environment, safety and health are the three most important topics** (shown below).¹ Up to date information, including a breakdown of participants in each country by gender and age can be found here: www.oecdbetterlifeindex.org/responses/#SVN.



¹ User information for Slovenia is based on shared indexes submitted between May 2011 and September 2017.

The **OECD Better Life Initiative**, launched in 2011, focuses on the aspects of life that matter the most to people and that shape the quality of their lives. The Initiative comprises a set of regularly updated well-being indicators and an in-depth analysis of specific topics, published in the *How's Life?* report. It also includes an interactive web application, the *Better Life Index*, and a number of *methodological and research projects* to improve the information base available to understand well-being levels, trends and their drivers.

The OECD Better Life Initiative:

- Helps to inform policy making to improve quality of life.
- Connects policies to people's lives.
- Generates support for needed policy measures.
- Improves civic engagement by encouraging the public to create their own *Better Life Index* and share their preferences about what matters most for well-being
- Empowers the public by improving their understanding of policy-making.

This note presents **selected findings for Slovenia from the *How's Life? 2017* report** (pages 1-6) and shows what **Slovenian users of the Better Life Index** are telling us about their **well-being priorities** (page 7).

HOW'S LIFE?



How's Life?, published every two years, provides a comprehensive picture of well-being in OECD and selected partner countries by bringing together an internationally comparable set of well-being indicators. It considers eleven dimensions of current well-being including: income and wealth; jobs and earnings; housing; health status; work-life balance; education and skills; social connections; civic engagement and governance; environmental quality; personal security; and subjective well-being. It also looks at four types of resources that help to sustain well-being over time: natural, human, economic and social capital.

The *How's Life? 2017* report presents the latest data on well-being in OECD and partner countries, including how lives have changed since 2005. It includes a special focus on inequalities, the well-being of migrants in OECD countries, and the issue of governance – particularly how people experience and engage with public institutions. To read more, visit: www.oecd.org/howslife.

For media requests contact:
news.contact@oecd.org or +33 1 45 24 97 00

For more information contact:
wellbeing@oecd.org