

Did you know?

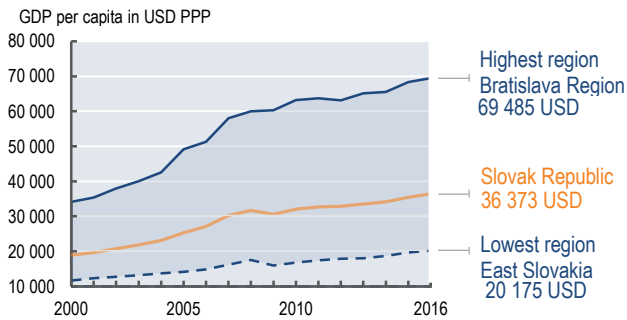
In the OECD, the Slovak Republic has the 4th highest regional disparities in GDP per capita across small regions.

The metropolitan area of Bratislava is home to only 12% of the national population, but it accounts for 28% of national GDP.

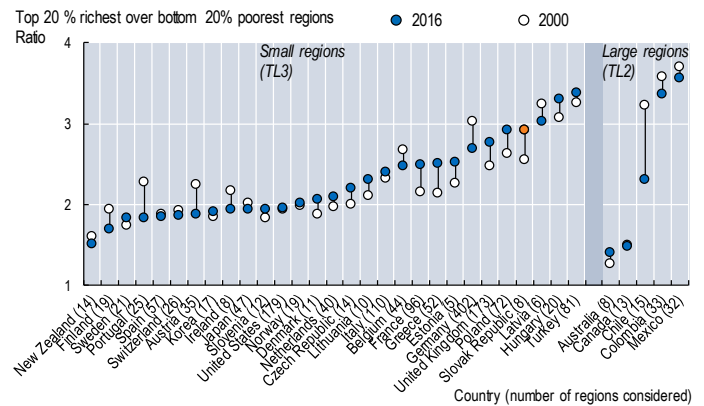
Subnational governments in the Slovak Republic spend 36% of their expenditure on education, 11 percentage points more than the OECD average of 25%.

Economic trends in regions

Regional gap in GDP per capita, 2000-16



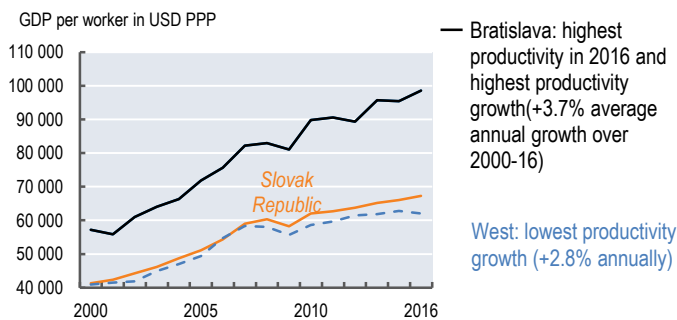
Index of regional disparity in GDP per capita, 2016



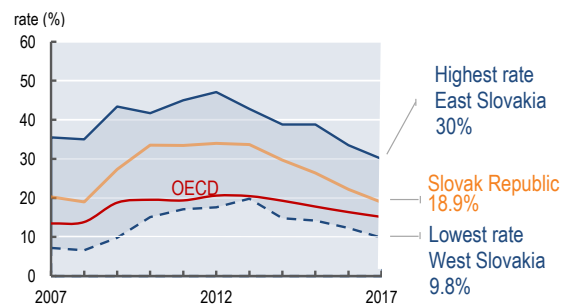
The regional gap in GDP per capita increased in the Slovak Republic over the last sixteen years. Faster growth in the country's richest region, Bratislava, has widened the gap to East Slovakia, the poorest region. GDP per capita in Bratislava is now almost 3.5 times higher than in East Slovakia. In 2016, the Slovak Republic had the fourth highest regional economic disparities among 30 OECD countries with comparable data.

Bratislava is not only the country's most productive region but also recorded the highest productivity growth in 2000-16 at 3.7% per year. Youth unemployment is high in Slovakian regions compared to the OECD average, but it varies widely. In East Slovakia the youth unemployment rate (30%) was more than three times higher than in West Slovakia (9.8%) in 2017.

Productivity trends, most and least dynamic regions, 2000-16



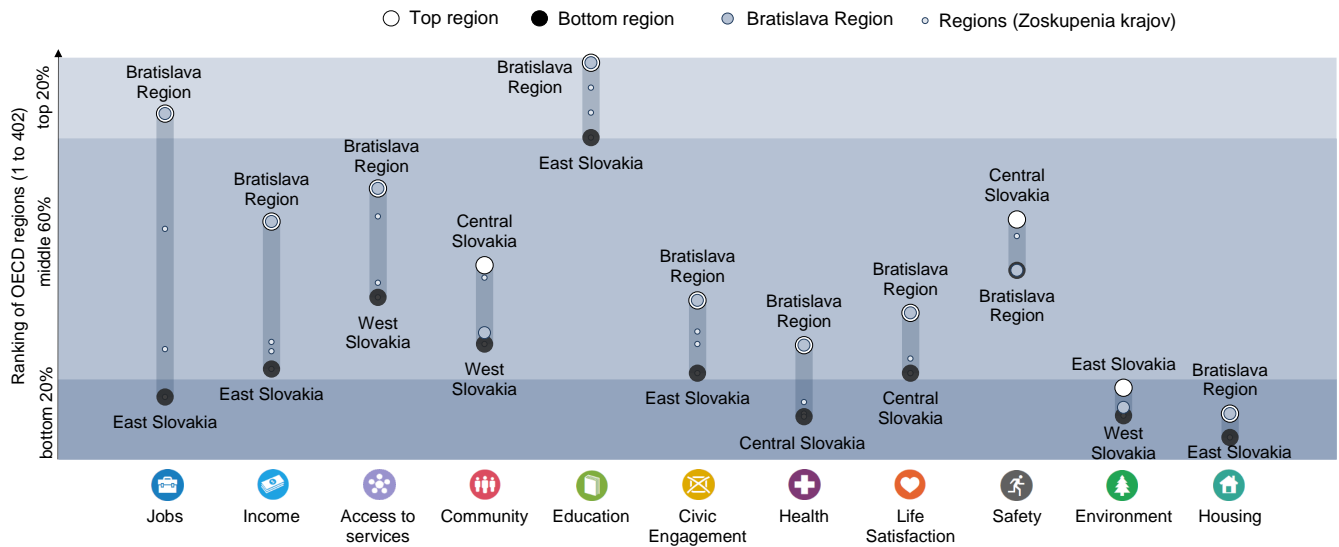
Youth unemployment rate, 15-24 years old, 2007-17



Source: OECD Regional Database.

Notes: (1) Figure on regional gap in GDP per capita: OECD regions refer to the administrative tier of subnational government (large regions, Territorial Level 2); the Slovak Republic is composed of four large regions. (2) Figure on index of regional disparity: top (bottom) 20% regions are defined as those with the highest (lowest) GDP per capita until the equivalent of 20% of national population is reached, this indicator provides a harmonised measure to rank OECD countries, using data for small regions (Territorial Level 3) when available. (3) Productivity is measured as GDP per employee at place of work in constant prices, constant Purchasing Power Parities (reference year 2010).

Differences in well-being across regions



Relative ranking of the regions with the best and worst outcomes in the 11 well-being dimensions, with respect to all 402 OECD regions. The eleven dimensions are ordered by decreasing regional disparities in the country. Each well-being dimension is measured by the indicators in the table below.

All four regions of the Slovak Republic are in the top 20% OECD regions in education, but all four are in the bottom 20% in terms of environment and housing. In terms of jobs, large disparities are observed: Bratislava is in the top 20% of OECD regions whereas East Slovakia is among the bottom 20%.

The high performing Slovakian regions fare better than the OECD median region in five out of thirteen **well-being indicators**: employment and unemployment rates, broadband access, community, labour force with at least a secondary degree and homicide rate. In the low performing regions, voter turnout is around 15 percentage points below the OECD median.

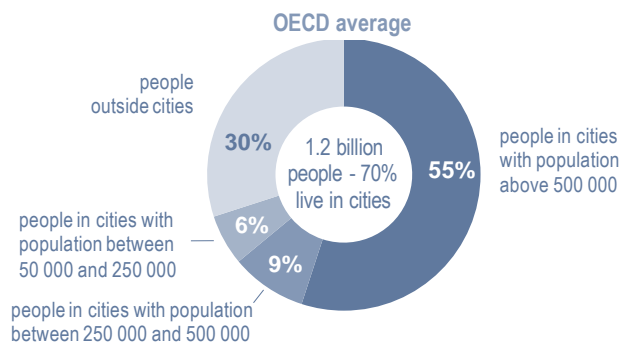
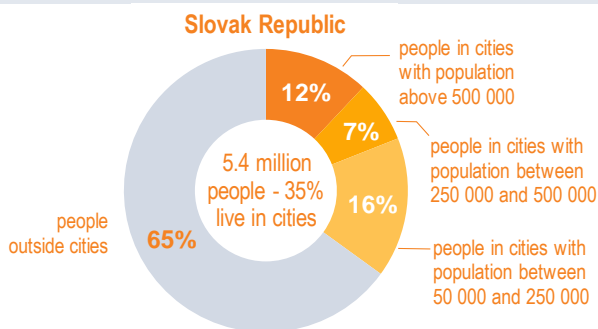
	Country Average	OECD median region	Slovak regions	
			Top 20%	Bottom 20%
Jobs				
Employment rate 15 to 64 years old (%), 2017	66.4	67.7	72.7	60.6
Unemployment rate 15 to 64 years old (%), 2017	8.2	5.5	4.8	12.1
Income				
Disposable income per capita (in USD PPP), 2016	12 999	17 695	16 805	11 167
Access to services				
Households with broadband access (%), 2017	79.0	78.0	83.2	76.0
Community				
Perceived social network support (%), 2013	90.0	91.4	91.3	87.4
Education				
Labour force with at least upper secondary education (%), 2017	93.7	81.7	96.2	91.5
Civic engagement				
Voters in last national election (%), 2017 or lastest year	61.3	70.9	64.3	55.1
Health				
Life Expectancy at birth (years), 2016	77.3	80.4	78.2	77.0
Age adjusted mortality rate (per 1 000 people), 2016	10.3	8.1	9.7	10.5
Life Satisfaction				
Life satisfaction (scale from 0 to 10), 2013	5.9	6.8	6.3	6.0
Safety				
Homicide Rate (per 100 000 people), 2016	1.1	1.3	1.0	1.3
Environment				
Level of air pollution in PM2.5 (µg/m³), 2015	21.3	12.4	19.9	22.0
Housing				
Rooms per person, 2016	1.1	1.8	1.1	1.0

Source: OECD Regional Database. Visualisation: <https://www.oecdregionalwellbeing.org>. Notes: (1) OECD regions refer to the first administrative tier of subnational government (large regions, Territorial Level 2); the Slovak Republic is composed of four large regions. (2) Household income per capita data are based on USD constant PPP, constant prices (year 2010).

Metropolitan areas in the national economy



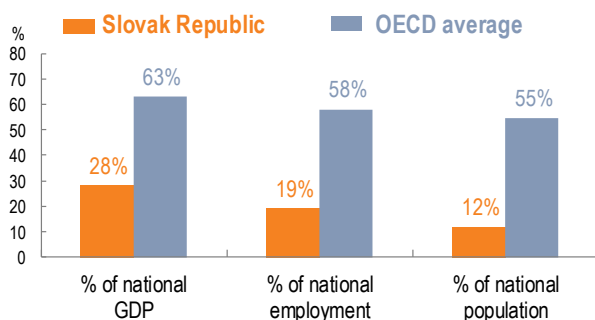
OECD population is concentrated in cities* Percentage of population in cities, 2016



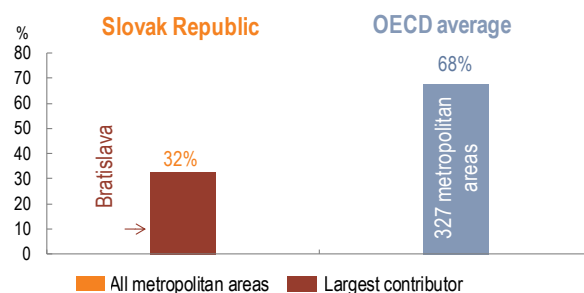
Source: OECD Metropolitan Database. Number of cities: eight in the Slovak Republic and 1 138 in the OECD.

In the Slovak Republic, **35% of the population lives in cities** of more than 50 000 inhabitants. The share of population in cities with more than 500 000 people is **12%** compared to 55% in the OECD area.

Importance of metropolitan areas Cities above 500 000 people, 2016



Contribution of metropolitan areas to GDP growth Cities above 500 000 people, 2000-16



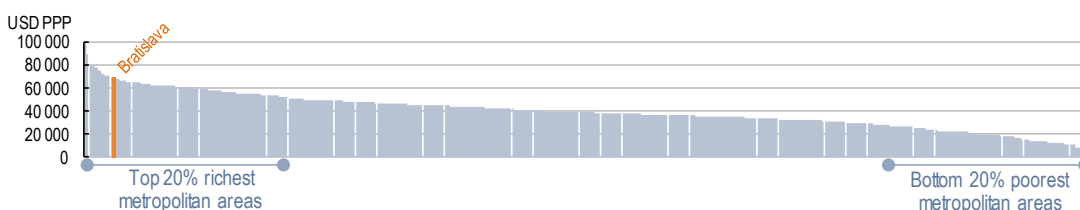
The metropolitan area of Bratislava accounts for **28%** of national **GDP**. Between 2000 and 2016 it generated **32%** of the national **GDP growth**.

In terms of **GDP per capita**, Bratislava is among the top 5% OECD metropolitan areas, ranking 11th out of 327 metropolitan areas.

Bratislava is among the **25%** OECD metropolitan areas with the highest **air pollution** in terms of PM 2.5 levels.

OECD Metropolitan areas ranking Cities above 500 000 people

GDP per capita, 2016



Air pollution (PM2.5), 2017

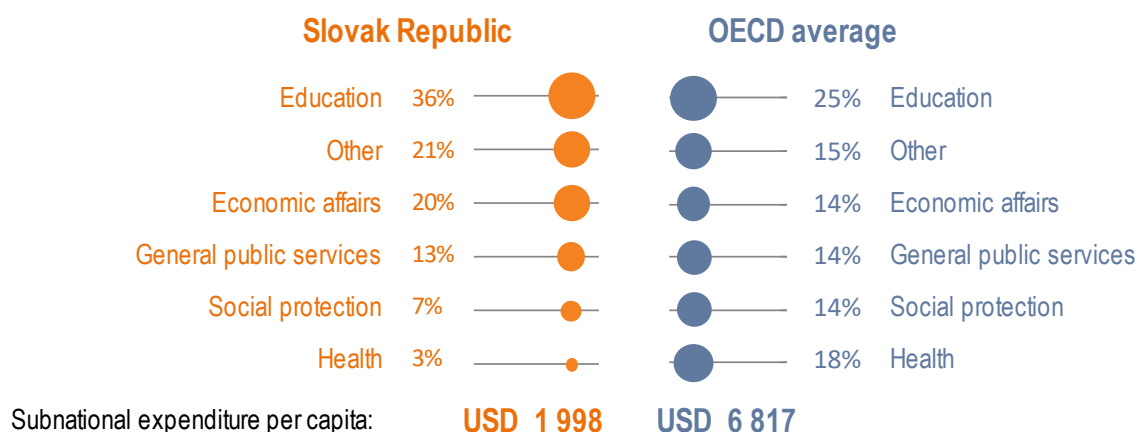


Source: OECD Metropolitan Database. Number of metropolitan areas with a population of over 500 000: one in the Slovak Republic compared to 327 in the OECD.

* Note: Cities are defined here as functional urban areas, which are composed by high-density urban centres of at least 50 000 people and their areas of influence (commuting zone). For more information, see: <http://www.oecd.org/cfe/regional-policy/functionalurbanareasbycountry.htm>.



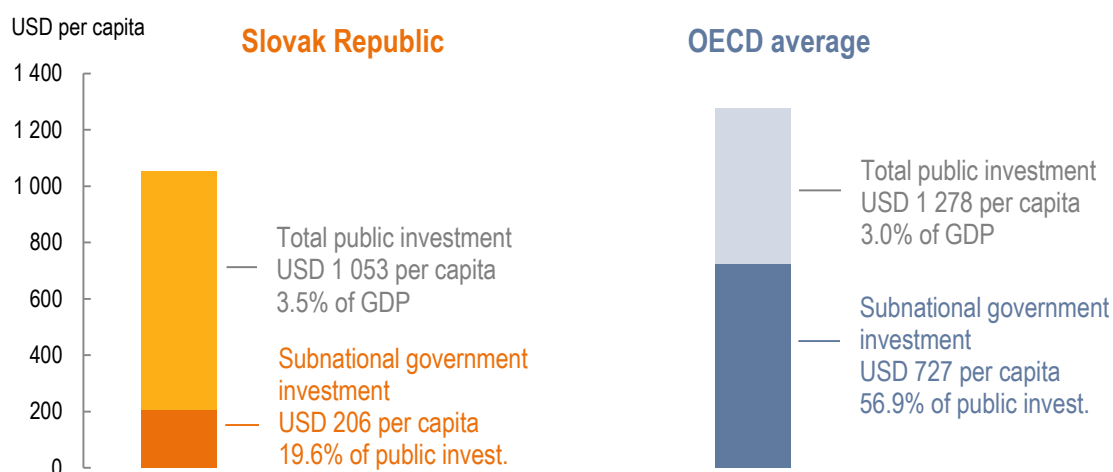
Subnational government expenditure by function As a share of total subnational government expenditure, 2016



Subnational government expenditure amounts to **USD 1 998 per capita** in the Slovak Republic compared to an OECD average of USD 6 817. In the Slovak Republic, this is equivalent to **15.8% of total public expenditure** and to **6.6% of GDP**. In comparison, across the OECD, subnational government expenditure accounts for 40.4% of total public expenditure and for 16.2% of GDP. Education and the function 'Other' (housing and community amenities, recreation, culture and religion; environment; public order and safety) are the two largest spending items for subnational governments in the Slovak Republic: together they represent **57%** of subnational expenditure compared to 40% in the OECD area.

In the Slovak Republic, **19.6%** of **total public investment** was carried out by subnational governments compared to an OECD average of 56.9%.

Role of subnational governments in public investment Subnational government public investment per capita, 2016



Source: OECD Subnational Government Structure and Finance Database.

OECD Regions and Cities at a Glance 2018

The 2018 edition of OECD Regions and Cities at a Glance shows how regions and cities contribute to national growth and the well-being of societies. It updates its regular set of region-by-region indicators, examining a wide range of policies and trends and identifying those regions that are outperforming or lagging behind in their country.

Consult this publication on line: <https://oe.cd/pub/2n9>

