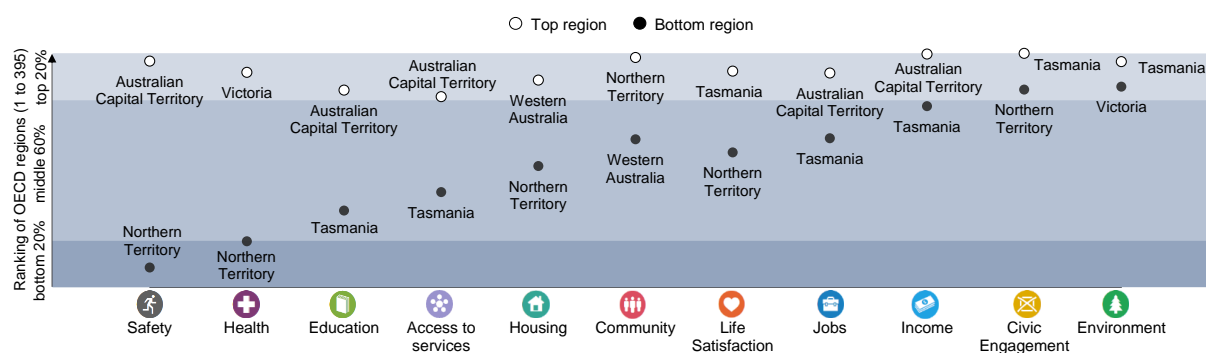


REGIONAL WELL-BEING IN OECD COUNTRIES: AUSTRALIA

All eight Australian states are among the top 20% of the OECD regions in two well-being dimensions, environment and civic engagement (due to the compulsory voting system). The Capital Territory has the best outcomes among Australian states in five out of eleven well-being dimensions. Australia has the third largest regional disparities in safety among OECD countries.

Relative performance of Australian regions by well-being dimension



Note: Relative ranking of the regions with the best and worst outcomes in the 11 well-being dimensions, with respect to all 395 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.

Source: OECD Regional Well-Being Database: www.oecdregionalwellbeing.org

Both the high and the low performing states in Australia fare better than the OECD average in all the well-being indicators, with the exception of safety; the homicide rate in the Northern Territory was twice the OECD value, while in the other seven Australian states was lower than the OECD average in 2014.

How do the top and bottom regions in Australia fare on the well-being indicators?

	Australian regions		Country average	OECD average
	Top 20%	Bottom 20%		
Safety				
Homicide Rate (per 100 000 people), 2013	0.7	6.9	1.1	3.4
Health				
Life Expectancy at birth (years), 2013	82.8	81.5	82.2	79.7
Age-adjusted mortality rate (per 1 000 people), 2013	6.4	7.4	6.7	8.4
Education				
Labour force with at least upper secondary education (%), 2014	83.1	78.6	81.3	74.3
Access to services				
Households with broadband access (%), 2014	79.5	74.7	77.0	69.8
Housing				
Rooms per person, 2013	2.5	2.2	2.3	1.8
Community				
Perceived social support network (%), average 2006-14	95.5	93.2	94.5	88.9
Life satisfaction				
Self-evaluation of life satisfaction (scale from 0 to 10), average 2006-14	7.5	7.0	7.3	6.7
Jobs				
Employment rate (%), 2014	76.9	72.9	73.9	66.3
Unemployment rate (%), 2014	5.2	6.7	6.2	8.6
Income				
Disposable income per capita (in USD PPP), 2013	32 095	24 335	27 204	17 916
Civic engagement				
Voters in last national election (%), 2015	94.4	82.4	93.9	68.1
Environment				
Level of air pollution in PM 2.5 ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$), 2013	2.0	4.4	2.8	10.4

Note: Data in the first two columns refer to average values of top and bottom regions of national ranking and until the equivalent of 20% of the national population is reached.

Source: OECD Regional Well-Being Database: www.oecdregionalwellbeing.org