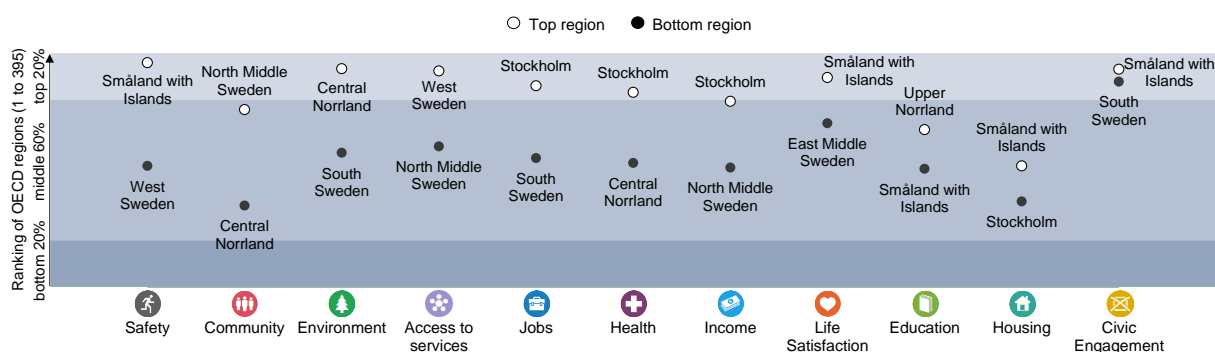


REGIONAL WELL-BEING IN OECD COUNTRIES: SWEDEN

Compared to other OECD countries, regional disparities are generally low in Sweden. The widest regional gaps are found in safety and community, though in both cases the low performing regions are above the OECD averages. All eight Swedish regions rank in the top 20% of the OECD regions in civic engagement, and at least one region ranks in the top 20% of the OECD regions in 7 other well-being dimensions: safety, environment, access to services, jobs, health, income and life satisfaction.

Relative performance of Swedish 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

High and low performing Swedish regions fare better than the OECD average in all the 13 well-being indicators, with the exception of the unemployment rate in North Middle Sweden, close to the OECD average, and the number of rooms per person in Stockholm, East Middle Sweden, South Sweden and West Sweden that were below the OECD average. About 90% of households in the high performing regions and 82% in the low performing ones have access to broadband connection.

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

	Swedish regions		Country average	OECD average
	Top 20%	Bottom 20%		
 Safety				
Homicide Rate (per 100 000 people), 2013	0.3	1.3	0.9	3.4
 Community				
Perceived social support network (%), average 2006-14	93.7	90.9	92.4	88.9
 Environment				
Level of air pollution in PM 2.5 (µg/m³), 2013	4.1	8.5	6.2	10.4
 Access to services				
Households with broadband access (%), 2014	90.0	81.8	87.0	69.8
 Jobs				
Employment rate (%), 2014	80.3	74.8	77.8	66.3
Unemployment rate (%), 2014	6.9	9.6	7.9	8.6
 Health				
Life Expectancy at birth (years), 2013	82.8	81.4	82.0	79.7
Age-adjusted mortality rate (per 1 000 people), 2013	7.1	7.9	7.5	8.4
 Income				
Disposable income per capita (in USD PPP), 2013	23 456	18 262	19 923	17 916
 Life satisfaction				
Self-evaluation of life satisfaction (scale from 0 to 10), average 2006-14	7.6	7.3	7.4	6.7
 Education				
Labour force with at least upper secondary education (%), 2014	85.9	82.6	84.0	74.3
 Housing				
Rooms per person, 2013	1.8	1.6	1.7	1.8
 Civic engagement				
Voters in last national election (%), 2015	86.5	84.7	86.0	68.1

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