



OECD Factbook 2009

Economic, Environmental
and Social Statistics

	Population and migration	
	Macroeconomic trends	
	Economic globalisation	
	Prices	
	Energy	
	Labour	
	Science and technology	
	Environment	
	Education	
	Public finance	
	Quality of life	



OECD Factbook 2009

ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL
AND SOCIAL STATISTICS



ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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ÉCONOMIE, ENVIRONNEMENT ET SOCIÉTÉ

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OECD Factbook 2009

FOREWORD

The world is facing a very serious economic crisis, which demonstrates how vulnerable our economies and societies are, and how politicians must play a fundamental role in improving not only the current conditions of a country, but also in securing the future of its citizens.

Given the OECD mandate to becoming a hub for discussion of global issues, we are carefully looking at new ways of harnessing its statistical and analytical resources to identify innovative ways to address the crisis. The multidimensional character of OECD work, its expertise in economic, social and environmental issues, the availability of a unique network of experts in all these domains put the Organisation at the forefront of this effort. This is why the OECD has prepared a strategic response to help governments find effective and efficient strategies to face these challenges, in the short-term, but especially in the long-term.

Moreover, the OECD is working towards its enlargement. Five countries were selected with a view to becoming new members: Chile, Estonia, Israel, the Russian Federation and Slovenia. But the OECD is also engaging key global players in its work, such as Brazil, China, India, Indonesia and South Africa.

The *OECD Factbook* provides comparable statistics on long-term trends of key economic, social and environmental phenomena in member countries and selected non-member economies. In other words, looking at the *OECD Factbook*, readers can find a synthetic description of the key characteristics of the world in which they are living. At a moment when societies are fighting the crisis, defining how to overcome it and simultaneously thinking about how to insert their “exit” strategies in their long-term goals, data must play a fundamental role to underpin these strategies and policy decisions.

Finally, the debate about the best way to measure the progress of our societies, also promoted over the last few years by the OECD and other organisations, is expected to provide in 2009 some concrete recommendations on how to complement classical economic indicators with additional ones about people’s quality of life and well-being. The forthcoming Third OECD World Forum on “Statistics, Knowledge and Policy”, to be held in Busan (South Korea) in October 2009, will be a unique opportunity to take stock of the new proposed indicators and discuss how they can improve policy making and foster the progress of our societies.



Angel Gurría
Secretary-General

PREFACE

The *OECD Factbook* is the most comprehensive horizontal statistical publication published by the Organisation. It is a tool to evaluate the long-term trends of economic, social and environmental variables in OECD countries using solid and comparable statistical data. It draws on the full range of data available within the Organisation, including data from three agencies affiliated to the OECD – the *International Energy Agency (IEA)*, the *Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA)* and the *European Conference of Ministers of Transport (ECMT)*.

The *OECD Factbook* is written in non-technical language and aims to:

- provide a wide range of users with a one-stop resource, containing comparative, country-based economic, social and environmental data;
- help users to assess the position and the performance of a single country, looking at a wide range of domains;
- encourage readers to go deeper in the goldmine of OECD statistics by linking to sources and further readings;
- enhance the visibility of the OECD, particularly for non-experts, both in OECD and non-OECD countries; and
- highlight measurement issues and underline areas where the comparability of statistics across countries is still weak.

The tables of the *OECD Factbook* are available on line at www.sourceoecd.org/factbook. The online version also contains longer time series and more metadata than the paper version. The data included in the *OECD Factbook* are also used to produce the “Country Statistical Profiles” available in the country pages at www.oecd.org. Finally, data contained in the *OECD Factbook* can be dynamically visualised using Trendalyzer, the software developed by the Gapminder Foundation and available on the OECD Statistics Portal (www.oecd.org/statistics).

Thanks to the closer co-operation with non-member economies, the *OECD Factbook 2009* includes many more time series concerning key non-OECD countries (Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, the Russian Federation and South Africa), while “Country Statistical Profiles” have been developed also for Chile, Estonia, Israel and Slovenia.

The Focus chapter in this year’s volume deals with inequality, an issue that the Organisation has been paying particular attention to, notably from the statistical point of view.

The *OECD Factbook* reflects the work of statistical staff throughout the Organisation and was developed in co-operation with the Directorate for Public Affairs and Communications. The Statistics Directorate, which has co-ordinated the project, is grateful for the co-operation of the many staff members involved, but also, of course, for the concerted efforts of statisticians from all OECD countries who have worked, over many years, to develop the wide range of statistics shown here.

Lars Thygesen has co-ordinated the editorial work, co-operating with colleagues from various Directorates in designing the tables, helping to draft many of the texts, checking the quality of data and ensuring the overall coherence of the volume. Vincent Finat-Duclos, Katia Sarrazin and Alena Brin had overall responsibility for technical work on the manuscript.



Enrico Giovannini
Chief Statistician
and Director of the Statistics Directorate

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READER'S GUIDE

Main features:

- Tables or groups of tables are preceded by a short text that explains how the statistics are defined (**Definition**) and identifies any problems there may be in comparing the performance of one country with another (**Comparability**). To avoid misunderstandings, the tables must be read in conjunction with the texts that accompany them.
- Tables and graphs are also available as files (see below). In their electronic version, tables may feature longer time series and data for Chile, Estonia, Israel and Slovenia are added for many indicators. When appropriate, footnotes may provide additional information.
- While media comment on statistics usually focuses on the short term – what has happened to employment, prices, GDP and so on in the last few months – the *OECD Factbook* takes a longer view; the text and graphs mostly describe developments during the fourteen year period from 1994 to 2007. This long-term perspective provides a good basis for comparing the successes and failures of policies in raising living standards and social conditions in countries.
- Many *Factbook* indicators have been standardised by relating them to each country's gross domestic product (GDP). In cases where GDP needs to be converted to a common currency, *purchasing power parities* (PPPs) have been used rather than exchange rates. When PPPs are used, differences in GDP levels reflect only differences in the volume of goods and services, and differences in price levels are eliminated.

Conventions

Unless otherwise specified:

- *OECD total* refers to all the OECD countries listed in a table as a whole; when the indicator is a ratio or mean, OECD total is the weighted average.
- *OECD average* refers to the unweighted, arithmetic average of the listed OECD countries.
- For each country, average over periods only take into account the years for which data are available. The *average annual growth rate* of a value over a period is the geometric average of the growth rates of that value across the period (the annual compound growth rate).
- Each table and graph specifies the period covered. The mention, *XXXX or latest year available* (where XXXX is a year or a period) means that data for later years are not taken into account.

Signs, abbreviations and acronyms

..	Missing value, not applicable or not available	DAC	Development Assistance Committee
0	Less than half of the unit precision level of the observation	ILO	International Labor Organisation
–	Absolute zero	IMF	International Monetary Fund
	Break in series	ITF	International Transport Forum
		ITU	International Telecommunications Union
		NAFTA	North American Free Trade Agreement
		UN	United Nations
		UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
USD	US dollars	UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
		UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
		UNWTO	World Tourism Organisation
		WTO	World Trade Organisation

StatLinks

This book includes OECD's unique **StatLink** service, which enables you to download Excel® versions of tables and graphs. Look for the **StatLinks** at the foot of each one of them. **StatLinks** behave like Internet addresses. Simply type the **StatLink** in your Internet browser to obtain the corresponding data in Excel® format.

For more information about OECD's **StatLinks**, please visit: www.oecd.org/statistics/statlink.

Accessing OECD publications

- OECD publications cited in the *Factbook* are available through SourceOECD (www.sourceoecd.org), the OECD electronic library.
- All the OECD working papers can be downloaded from SourceOECD.
- All OECD databases mentioned in the book can also be accessed through SourceOECD.
- In addition, print editions of all OECD books can be purchased via the OECD online bookshop (www.oecdbookshop.org).

Glossary of Statistical Terms

The online *OECD Glossary of Statistical Terms* (available at www.oecd.org/statistics/glossary) is the perfect companion for the *OECD Factbook*. It contains close to 7 000 definitions of terms, acronyms and concepts in an easy to use format. These definitions are primarily drawn from existing international statistical guidelines and recommendations that have been prepared over the last two or three decades by organisations such as the United Nations, ILO, OECD, Eurostat, IMF and national statistical institutes.





POPULATION AND MIGRATION

TOTAL POPULATION

EVOLUTION OF THE POPULATION

REGIONAL POPULATION

ELDERLY POPULATION

AGEING SOCIETIES

ELDERLY POPULATION BY REGION

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PENSION EXPENDITURES

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

TRENDS IN MIGRATION

IMMIGRANT POPULATION

MIGRATION AND EMPLOYMENT BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

MIGRATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT

EVOLUTION OF THE POPULATION

The size and growth of a country's population are both causes and effects of economic and social developments. The natural increase in population (births minus deaths) has slowed in all OECD countries, resulting in a rise in the average age of populations. In several countries, falling rates of natural increase have been partly offset by immigration from outside the OECD area.

Definition

The tables refer to the resident population. For countries such as France, the United Kingdom and the United States which have overseas colonies, protectorates or other territorial possessions, their populations are generally excluded. For full details, see Sources below.

Growth rates are the annual changes in the population and are the result of births, deaths and net migration during the year.

The total fertility rate is the total number of children that would be born to each woman if she were to live to the end of her child-bearing years and give birth to children in that period in agreement with the prevailing age-specific fertility rates.

Comparability

For most OECD countries, population data are based on regular, ten-yearly censuses, with estimates for intercensal years being derived from administrative data such as population registers, notified births and deaths and migration

records. In several European countries, population estimates are based entirely on administrative records. In general, the population data for OECD countries are reliable, although, for some countries, there are breaks in the series as indicated by vertical lines in the tables.

Note that for some countries the population figures shown here are not those used for calculating GDP and other economic statistics on a "per head" basis. There are several reasons for this, but the differences between the two data sets are normally small.

Population projections are taken from national sources where these are available, but for some countries they are based on UN or Eurostat projections; the projection for the world comes from UN. All population projections require assumptions about future trends in life expectancy, fertility rates and migration. Often, a range of projections is produced using different assumptions about these future trends. The estimates shown here correspond to the median or central variants.

Long-term trends

In 2007, OECD countries accounted for 18% of the world's population of 6.7 billion. China accounted for 20% and India for 18%. Within OECD, the United States accounted for 25% of the OECD total, followed by Japan (11%), Mexico (9%), Germany (7%) and Turkey (6%).

Between 1994 and 2007, the population growth rate for all OECD countries averaged 0.7% per annum. Growth rates much higher than this were recorded for Mexico and Turkey (high birth rate countries) and for Australia, Canada, Luxembourg, Ireland, New Zealand and United States (high net immigration). In the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland, populations declined from a combination of low birth rates and net emigration. Growth rates were very low, although still positive, in Germany and the Slovak Republic.

The population growth of OECD countries is expected to slow down in the coming decennia. Until the middle of this century, the population of OECD countries is expected to grow by less than 0.3 per cent per annum.

Total fertility rates in OECD countries have declined dramatically over the past few decades, falling on average from 2.7 in 1970 to 1.6 children per woman of childbearing age in the early 2000s. By 2006, the total fertility rate was below its replacement level of 2.1 in all OECD countries except Mexico and Turkey at 2.2 and Iceland and the United States at 2.1. In all OECD countries, fertility rates have declined for young women and increased at older ages, because women are postponing the age at which they start their families. However since 2002, there has been a moderate recovery, with the biggest increases in Belgium, the Czech Republic, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

Sources

- For member countries: National Sources, United Nations and Eurostat.
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EVOLUTION OF THE POPULATION

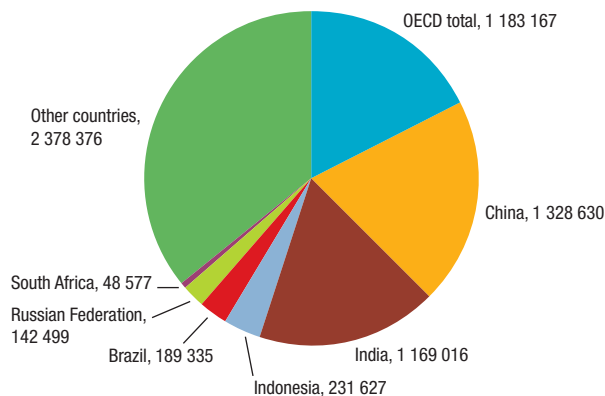
Total population
Thousands

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2020	2050
Australia	18 311	18 518	18 711	18 926	19 153	19 413	19 651	19 895	20 127	20 395	20 698	21 015	23 663	28 081
Austria	7 959	7 968	7 977	7 992	8 012	8 043	8 084	8 118	8 175	8 233	8 282	8 315	8 689	9 514
Belgium	10 157	10 181	10 203	10 226	10 251	10 287	10 333	10 376	10 421	10 479	10 548	10 626	11 568	12 450
Canada	29 611	29 907	30 157	30 404	30 689	31 021	31 373	31 676	31 995	32 312	32 649	32 976	36 344	41 896
Czech Republic	10 315	10 304	10 295	10 283	10 273	10 224	10 201	10 202	10 207	10 234	10 267	10 323	10 287	9 457
Denmark	5 262	5 284	5 301	5 319	5 337	5 355	5 374	5 387	5 401	5 416	5 435	5 457	5 622	5 680
Finland	5 125	5 140	5 153	5 165	5 176	5 188	5 201	5 213	5 228	5 246	5 266	5 289	5 538	5 747
France	58 026	58 207	58 398	58 673	59 049	59 454	59 863	60 264	60 643	60 996	61 353	61 707	65 102	69 993
Germany	81 915	82 035	82 047	82 100	82 212	82 350	82 488	82 534	82 516	82 469	82 376	82 247	82 635	74 422
Greece	10 709	10 777	10 835	10 883	10 917	10 950	10 988	11 024	11 062	11 104	11 149	11 193	11 426	10 605
Hungary	10 311	10 290	10 267	10 238	10 211	10 188	10 159	10 130	10 107	10 087	10 071	10 050	9 856	8 718
Iceland	269	271	274	277	281	285	288	289	293	296	304	311	354	439
Ireland	3 626	3 664	3 703	3 742	3 790	3 847	3 917	3 980	4 045	4 134	4 240	4 339	4 774	5 482
Italy	56 856	56 886	56 902	56 912	56 937	56 972	57 151	57 597	58 167	58 597	58 931	59 336	59 001	55 710
Japan	125 864	126 166	126 486	126 686	126 926	127 291	127 435	127 619	127 687	127 768	127 770	127 771	122 735	95 152
Korea	45 525	45 954	46 287	46 617	47 008	47 357	47 622	47 859	48 039	48 138	48 297	48 456	49 326	42 343
Luxembourg	414	419	425	430	436	442	446	452	458	465	473	480	523	644
Mexico	93 130	94 478	95 790	97 115	98 439	99 716	100 909	102 000	103 002	103 947	104 874	105 791	115 762	121 856
Netherlands	15 531	15 611	15 707	15 812	15 926	16 046	16 149	16 225	16 282	16 320	16 346	16 382	16 762	16 789
New Zealand	3 732	3 781	3 815	3 835	3 858	3 881	3 949	4 027	4 088	4 134	4 185	4 228	4 735	5 469
Norway	4 381	4 405	4 431	4 462	4 491	4 514	4 538	4 565	4 592	4 623	4 661	4 709	5 406	6 569
Poland	38 289	38 292	38 284	38 270	38 258	38 248	38 232	38 195	38 180	38 161	38 132	38 116	37 038	33 576
Portugal	10 058	10 091	10 129	10 172	10 226	10 293	10 368	10 441	10 502	10 549	10 584	10 608	10 501	9 332
Slovak Republic	5 374	5 383	5 391	5 395	5 401	5 380	5 379	5 379	5 383	5 387	5 391	5 398	5 417	4 880
Spain	39 479	39 583	39 722	39 927	40 264	40 721	41 314	42 005	42 692	43 398	44 068	44 874	45 568	42 703
Sweden	8 841	8 846	8 851	8 858	8 872	8 896	8 925	8 958	8 994	9 030	9 081	9 148	9 706	10 538
Switzerland	7 072	7 089	7 110	7 144	7 184	7 230	7 285	7 339	7 390	7 437	7 484	7 550	8 085	8 242
Turkey	62 911	64 063	65 214	66 338	67 393	68 367	69 304	70 231	71 151	72 065	72 971	73 875	84 301	96 498
United Kingdom	58 164	58 314	58 475	58 684	58 886	59 113	59 323	59 557	59 846	60 238	60 587	60 975	66 754	76 959
United States	269 394	272 647	275 854	279 040	282 194	285 112	287 888	290 448	293 192	295 896	298 755	301 621	335 805	419 854
EU27 total	477 856	478 630	480 920	481 618	482 761	483 782	484 614	486 617	488 757	491 024	492 975	495 090	513 838	515 303
OECD total	1 096 611	1 104 556	1 112 194	1 119 926	1 128 050	1 136 184	1 144 135	1 151 981	1 159 853	1 167 527	1 175 228	1 183 167	1 250 980	1 321 817
Brazil	161 323	163 780	166 252	168 754	171 280	173 822	176 391	178 985	181 586	184 184	186 771	189 335	219 078	259 770
China	1 225 680	1 237 431	1 248 852	1 259 740	1 269 962	1 279 486	1 288 401	1 296 838	1 304 983	1 312 979	1 320 864	1 328 630	1 421 260	1 408 846
India	972 968	991 513	1 009 905	1 028 145	1 046 235	1 064 156	1 081 899	1 099 494	1 116 985	1 134 403	1 151 751	1 169 016	1 379 198	1 658 270
Indonesia	200 271	203 122	205 970	208 825	211 693	214 575	217 466	220 355	223 225	226 063	228 864	231 627	261 868	296 885
Russian Federation	148 926	148 667	148 339	147 927	147 423	146 828	146 159	145 438	144 696	143 953	143 221	142 499	132 407	107 832
South Africa	42 401	43 236	44 009	44 729	45 398	46 017	46 581	47 089	47 541	47 939	48 282	48 577	51 281	55 590
World	5 801 566	5 883 316	5 964 308	6 044 563	6 124 123	6 202 979	6 281 209	6 359 055	6 436 826	6 514 751	6 592 900	6 671 226	7 667 090	9 191 287

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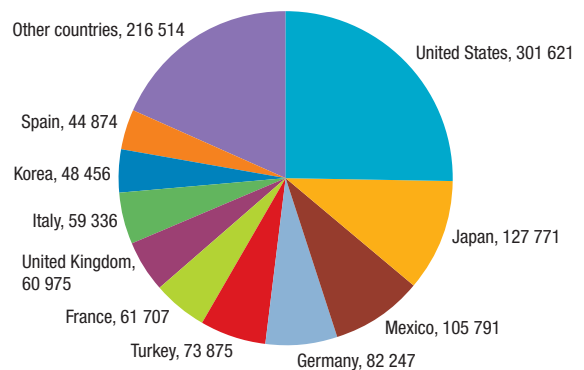
World population

Thousands, year 2007



OECD population

Thousands, year 2007



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/534288836446>

POPULATION AND MIGRATION • TOTAL POPULATION

EVOLUTION OF THE POPULATION

Population growth rates

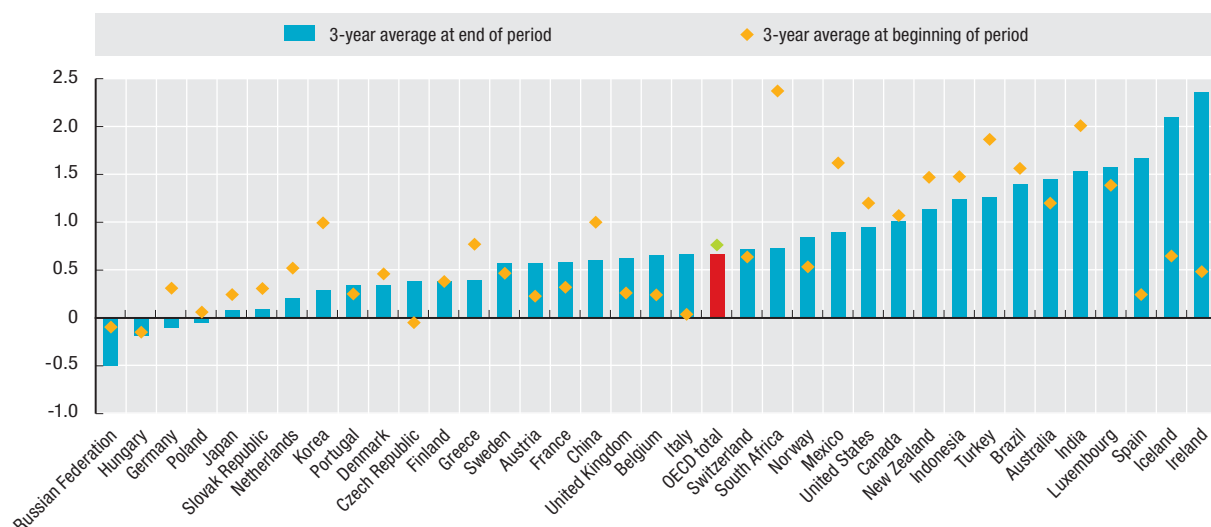
Annual growth in percentage

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	1.06	1.22	1.32	1.13	1.05	1.15	1.20	1.36	1.23	1.24	1.17	1.33	1.49	1.53
Austria	0.39	0.15	0.14	0.11	0.11	0.19	0.24	0.39	0.51	0.42	0.70	0.72	0.59	0.40
Belgium	0.31	0.21	0.20	0.24	0.21	0.23	0.24	0.34	0.45	0.42	0.43	0.55	0.66	0.74
Canada	1.11	1.05	1.05	1.00	0.84	0.82	0.94	1.08	1.13	0.97	1.01	0.99	1.04	1.00
Czech Republic	0.05	-0.05	-0.15	-0.11	-0.08	-0.12	-0.10	-0.47	-0.23	0.01	0.05	0.27	0.32	0.55
Denmark	0.30	0.44	0.64	0.43	0.32	0.34	0.34	0.33	0.36	0.24	0.26	0.27	0.34	0.42
Finland	0.43	0.38	0.33	0.30	0.27	0.23	0.21	0.23	0.24	0.24	0.29	0.34	0.38	0.43
France	0.33	0.32	0.31	0.31	0.33	0.47	0.64	0.69	0.69	0.67	0.63	0.58	0.58	0.58
Germany	0.35	0.29	0.29	0.15	0.02	0.06	0.14	0.17	0.17	0.06	-0.02	-0.06	-0.11	-0.16
Greece	0.84	0.77	0.70	0.63	0.54	0.44	0.32	0.30	0.34	0.33	0.35	0.38	0.40	0.40
Hungary	-0.14	-0.14	-0.17	-0.20	-0.23	-0.28	-0.26	-0.23	-0.28	-0.29	-0.22	-0.20	-0.16	-0.21
Iceland	0.84	0.52	0.58	0.74	1.06	1.24	1.43	1.39	0.88	0.60	1.15	1.12	2.86	2.32
Ireland	0.33	0.43	0.69	1.05	1.06	1.04	1.28	1.52	1.82	1.60	1.64	2.19	2.56	2.34
Italy	0.02	0.00	0.03	0.05	0.03	0.02	0.04	0.06	0.31	0.78	0.99	0.74	0.57	0.69
Japan	0.26	0.24	0.23	0.24	0.25	0.16	0.19	0.29	0.11	0.14	0.05	0.06	0.00	0.00
Korea	1.01	1.01	0.96	0.94	0.72	0.71	0.84	0.74	0.56	0.50	0.38	0.21	0.33	0.33
Luxembourg	1.37	1.42	1.37	1.26	1.25	1.36	1.35	1.20	1.05	1.22	1.43	1.54	1.61	1.56
Mexico	1.71	1.62	1.53	1.45	1.39	1.38	1.36	1.30	1.20	1.08	0.98	0.92	0.89	0.87
Netherlands	0.60	0.50	0.46	0.52	0.62	0.67	0.72	0.76	0.64	0.47	0.35	0.23	0.16	0.22
New Zealand	1.34	1.47	1.60	1.32	0.89	0.53	0.59	0.59	1.75	1.99	1.50	1.14	1.23	1.04
Norway	0.57	0.52	0.51	0.54	0.60	0.69	0.65	0.51	0.54	0.59	0.59	0.68	0.81	1.04
Poland	0.08	0.06	0.04	0.01	-0.02	-0.04	-0.03	-0.03	-0.04	-0.10	-0.04	-0.05	-0.08	-0.04
Portugal	0.22	0.26	0.27	0.33	0.38	0.42	0.53	0.66	0.73	0.70	0.58	0.45	0.33	0.23
Slovak Republic	0.43	0.30	0.19	0.18	0.14	0.08	0.10	-0.39	-0.02	0.00	0.07	0.09	0.07	0.12
Spain	0.27	0.23	0.23	0.26	0.35	0.52	0.84	1.14	1.46	1.67	1.64	1.65	1.54	1.83
Sweden	0.71	0.53	0.16	0.06	0.06	0.08	0.16	0.27	0.33	0.37	0.39	0.40	0.56	0.74
Switzerland	0.80	0.67	0.44	0.24	0.30	0.48	0.56	0.63	0.76	0.74	0.69	0.64	0.63	0.88
Turkey	1.89	1.86	1.85	1.83	1.80	1.72	1.59	1.45	1.37	1.34	1.31	1.28	1.26	1.24
United Kingdom	0.26	0.28	0.24	0.26	0.28	0.36	0.34	0.39	0.36	0.39	0.48	0.66	0.58	0.64
United States	1.23	1.20	1.17	1.21	1.18	1.15	1.13	1.03	0.97	0.89	0.94	0.92	0.97	0.96
EU27 total	0.25	0.20	0.18	0.16	0.48	0.15	0.24	0.21	0.17	0.41	0.44	0.46	0.40	0.43
OECD total	0.79	0.76	0.74	0.72	0.69	0.70	0.73	0.72	0.70	0.69	0.68	0.66	0.66	0.68
Brazil	1.59	1.56	1.54	1.52	1.51	1.50	1.50	1.48	1.48	1.47	1.45	1.43	1.40	1.37
China	1.02	1.00	0.98	0.96	0.92	0.87	0.81	0.75	0.70	0.65	0.63	0.61	0.60	0.59
India	2.06	2.01	1.96	1.91	1.85	1.81	1.76	1.71	1.67	1.63	1.59	1.56	1.53	1.50
Indonesia	1.50	1.48	1.45	1.42	1.40	1.39	1.37	1.36	1.35	1.33	1.30	1.27	1.24	1.21
Russian Federation	-0.06	-0.10	-0.13	-0.17	-0.22	-0.28	-0.34	-0.40	-0.46	-0.49	-0.51	-0.51	-0.51	-0.50
South Africa	2.58	2.38	2.16	1.97	1.79	1.63	1.50	1.36	1.22	1.09	0.96	0.84	0.72	0.61
World	1.51	1.48	1.44	1.41	1.38	1.35	1.32	1.29	1.26	1.24	1.22	1.21	1.20	1.19

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Population growth rates

Average annual growth in percentage



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/534343665680>



Total fertility rates

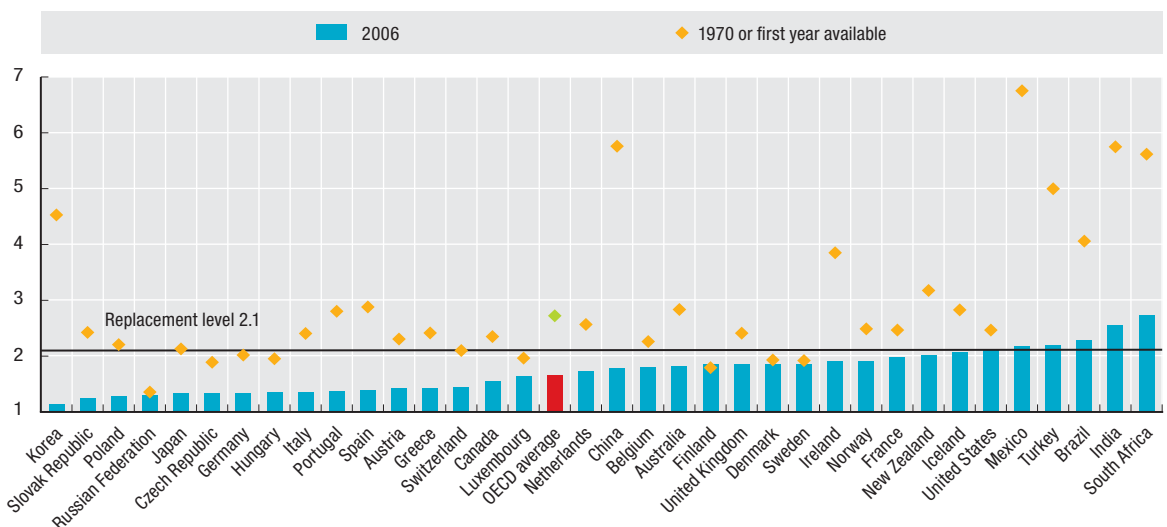
Number of children born to women aged 15 to 49

	1970	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Australia	2.86	1.84	1.82	1.80	1.78	1.76	1.76	1.76	1.73	1.76	1.75	1.76	1.79	1.81
Austria	2.29	1.47	1.42	1.45	1.39	1.37	1.34	1.36	1.33	1.39	1.38	1.42	1.41	1.41
Belgium	2.25	1.56	1.55	1.59	1.61	1.59	1.61	1.66	1.67	1.64	1.66	1.72	1.76	1.80
Canada	2.33	1.62	1.62	1.62	1.58	1.54	1.51	1.49	1.51	1.50	1.53	1.53	1.54	1.54
Czech Republic	1.91	1.44	1.28	1.19	1.17	1.16	1.13	1.14	1.15	1.17	1.18	1.23	1.28	1.33
Denmark	1.95	1.81	1.81	1.75	1.75	1.72	1.74	1.77	1.75	1.72	1.76	1.78	1.80	1.85
Finland	1.83	1.85	1.81	1.76	1.75	1.71	1.73	1.73	1.73	1.72	1.76	1.80	1.80	1.84
France	2.48	1.66	1.71	1.73	1.73	1.76	1.79	1.87	1.88	1.86	1.87	1.90	1.92	1.98
Germany	2.03	1.24	1.25	1.32	1.37	1.36	1.36	1.38	1.35	1.34	1.34	1.36	1.34	1.33
Greece	2.39	1.35	1.32	1.30	1.31	1.29	1.28	1.27	1.26	1.27	1.29	1.31	1.34	1.41
Hungary	1.97	1.64	1.57	1.46	1.38	1.33	1.29	1.33	1.31	1.31	1.28	1.28	1.32	1.35
Iceland	2.81	2.14	2.08	2.12	2.04	2.05	1.99	2.08	1.95	1.93	1.99	2.03	2.05	2.07
Ireland	3.87	1.85	1.85	1.89	1.94	1.95	1.91	1.90	1.96	1.98	1.98	1.95	1.88	1.90
Italy	2.43	1.22	1.19	1.22	1.23	1.21	1.23	1.26	1.25	1.27	1.29	1.33	1.32	1.35
Japan	2.13	1.50	1.42	1.43	1.39	1.38	1.34	1.36	1.33	1.32	1.29	1.29	1.26	1.32
Korea	4.53	1.67	1.65	1.58	1.54	1.47	1.42	1.47	1.30	1.17	1.19	1.16	1.08	1.13
Luxembourg	1.98	1.72	1.67	1.76	1.71	1.67	1.71	1.78	1.66	1.63	1.62	1.66	1.62	1.64
Mexico	6.77	3.06	2.95	2.86	2.76	2.71	2.75	2.70	2.62	2.48	2.35	2.25	2.21	2.17
Netherlands	2.57	1.57	1.53	1.53	1.56	1.63	1.65	1.72	1.71	1.73	1.75	1.73	1.71	1.72
New Zealand	3.17	1.98	1.98	1.96	1.96	1.89	1.97	1.98	1.97	1.89	1.93	1.98	1.97	2.01
Norway	2.50	1.87	1.87	1.89	1.86	1.81	1.85	1.85	1.78	1.75	1.80	1.83	1.84	1.90
Poland	2.20	1.72	1.55	1.53	1.47	1.41	1.37	1.37	1.32	1.25	1.22	1.23	1.24	1.27
Portugal	2.83	1.44	1.41	1.44	1.47	1.48	1.51	1.56	1.46	1.47	1.44	1.40	1.41	1.36
Slovak Republic	2.40	1.67	1.52	1.47	1.43	1.37	1.33	1.29	1.20	1.19	1.20	1.24	1.25	1.24
Spain	2.90	1.20	1.17	1.16	1.18	1.16	1.19	1.23	1.24	1.26	1.31	1.33	1.35	1.38
Sweden	1.94	1.89	1.74	1.61	1.53	1.51	1.50	1.55	1.57	1.65	1.72	1.75	1.77	1.85
Switzerland	2.10	1.49	1.48	1.50	1.48	1.47	1.48	1.50	1.38	1.39	1.39	1.42	1.42	1.44
Turkey	5.00	2.81	2.75	2.69	2.63	2.56	2.48	2.27	2.25	2.24	2.22	2.21	2.19	2.18
United Kingdom	2.43	1.74	1.70	1.73	1.72	1.71	1.68	1.64	1.63	1.64	1.71	1.77	1.79	1.84
United States	2.48	2.00	1.98	1.98	1.97	2.00	2.01	2.06	2.03	2.01	2.04	2.05	2.05	2.10
OECD average	2.71	1.73	1.69	1.68	1.66	1.63	1.63	1.64	1.61	1.60	1.61	1.62	1.62	1.65
Brazil	..	2.54	2.51	2.48	2.45	2.43	2.41	2.39	2.36	2.35	2.33	2.31	2.29	2.27
China	5.78	1.93	1.92	1.91	1.90	1.90	1.89	1.89	1.89	1.88	1.88	1.85	1.81	1.78
India	5.77	3.45	3.40	3.35	3.30	3.22	3.15	3.07	3.00	2.92	2.92	2.68	2.61	2.54
Russian Federation	..	..	1.34	1.27	1.22	1.23	1.16	1.19	1.22	1.29	1.32	1.34	1.29	1.30
South Africa	5.65	3.12	3.08	3.04	3.00	2.97	2.93	2.90	2.86	2.84	2.82	2.80	2.78	2.73

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Total fertility rates

Number of children born to women aged 15 to 49



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/534370014012>

REGIONAL POPULATION

Population is unevenly distributed among regions within countries. Differences in climatic and environmental conditions discourage human settlement in some areas and favour concentration of the population around a few urban centres. This pattern is reinforced by the higher economic opportunities and wider availability of services stemming from urbanisation itself.

Definition

The number of inhabitants of a given region, the total population, can be either the average annual population or the population at a specific date during the year considered. The average population during a calendar year is generally calculated as the arithmetic mean of the population on 1 January of two consecutive years (it is also referred to as the mean population). However, some countries estimate it on a date close to 1 July (mid-year population).

The index of geographic concentration offers a picture of the spatial distribution of the population, as it takes into account the area of each region.

The index compares the economic weight and the geographic weight over all regions in a given country and is constructed to account for both within- and between-country differences in the size of all regions. It lies between 0 (no concentration) and 100 (maximum concentration) and is suitable for international comparisons.

Comparability

The main problem with economic analysis at the sub-national level is the unit of analysis, i.e. the region. The word “region” can mean very different things both within and among countries, with significant differences in area and population.

The smallest OECD region (Melilla, Spain) has an area of 13 square kilometres whereas the largest (Northwest Territories and Nunavut, Canada) has over 3 million square kilometres. Similarly, the population in OECD regions ranges from about 400 inhabitants in Balance ACT (Australia) to more than 47 million in Kanto (Japan).

To address this issue, the OECD has classified regions within each member country. The classification is based on two territorial levels. The higher level (Territorial Level 2) consists of 335 large regions and the lower level (Territorial Level 3) is composed of 1 681 small regions. This classification which, for European Union countries, is largely consistent with the Eurostat NUTS classification facilitates greater comparability of regions at the same territorial level. Indeed, these two levels, which are officially established and relatively stable in all member countries, are used as a framework for implementing regional policies in many countries.

In addition, different typology of regions – urban or rural – can affect the comparability at sub-national level. For instance, in the United Kingdom, one might question the relevance of comparing the highly urbanised area of London to the rural region of the Shetland Islands, despite the fact that both regions belong to the same territorial level. To take account of these differences, the OECD has established a regional typology according to which regions have been classified as predominantly urban, predominantly rural and intermediate. This typology, based on the percentage of regional population living in rural communities, enables meaningful comparisons between regions belonging to the same type (see OECD (2009) “Regions at a Glance” for definition).

Overview

The concentration of population is highest in Australia, Canada, Iceland, the United States, and Mexico where 10% of regions account for no less than 47% of their population. In contrast, the territorial distribution appears more balanced, according to this statistic, in the Slovak Republic, the Czech Republic, Belgium and Denmark.

The index of geographic concentration shows that Canada, Australia and Iceland are the countries with the most uneven population distribution; in contrast, geographic concentration is lowest in the Slovak Republic, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Belgium, the Netherlands and Poland.

Paris is the region with the highest population density in France recording more than 20 000 inhabitants per km²; while the Capital region, the region with the highest population density in Iceland, has only 179 inhabitants per km².

Almost half of the OECD population (46%) lives in predominantly urban regions, which accounted for less than 6% of the total area. Concentration in urban regions is over 60% in the Netherlands, Belgium and United Kingdom. Predominantly rural regions account for almost one fourth of total population (24%) and extended on an area share of 80%. In Ireland, Finland, Sweden and Norway the share of national population in rural regions is more than twice (50% or higher) than the OECD average.

Source

- OECD (2009), *OECD Regions at a Glance 2009*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2001), *OECD Territorial Outlook, 2001 Edition*, OECD, Paris.
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Online databases

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Websites

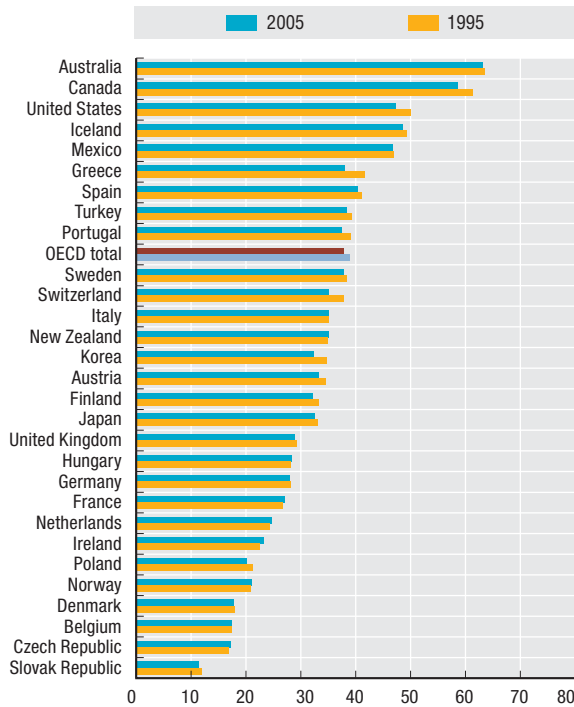
- Territorial grids, www.oecd.org/gov/regional/statisticsindicators.
- OECD eXplorer, www.oecd.org/gov/regional/statisticsindicators/explorer.



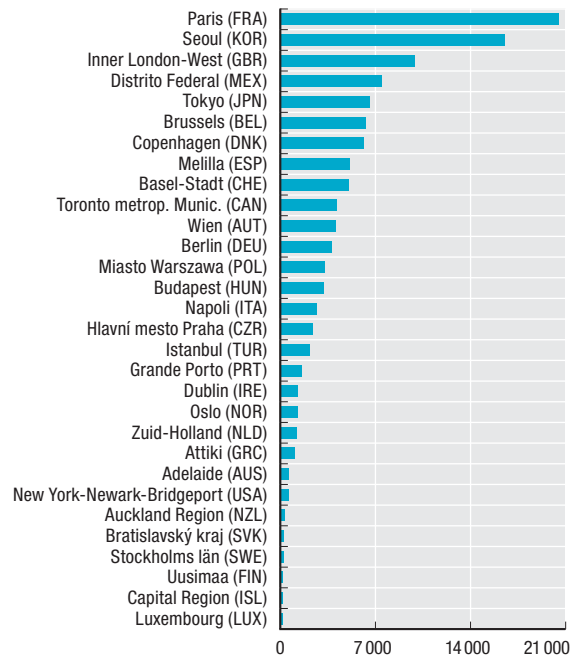
REGIONAL POPULATION

Share of national population in the 10% of regions with the largest population, small regions

Percentage

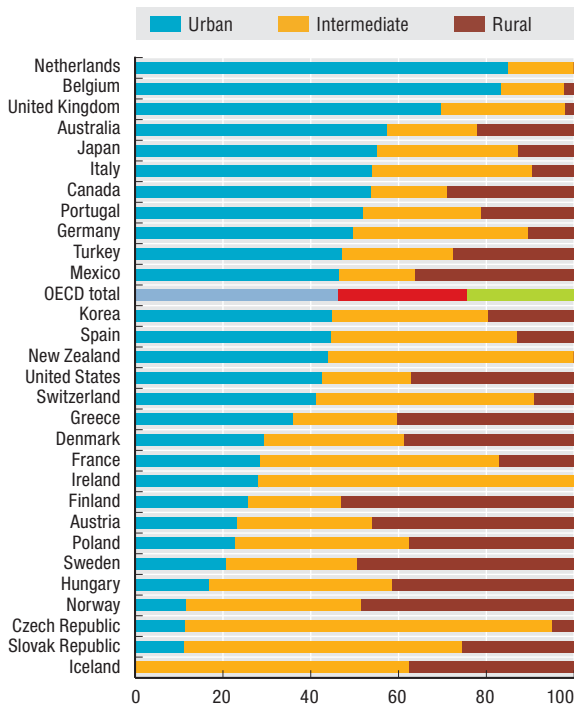


Regions with the highest population density in each country, small regions

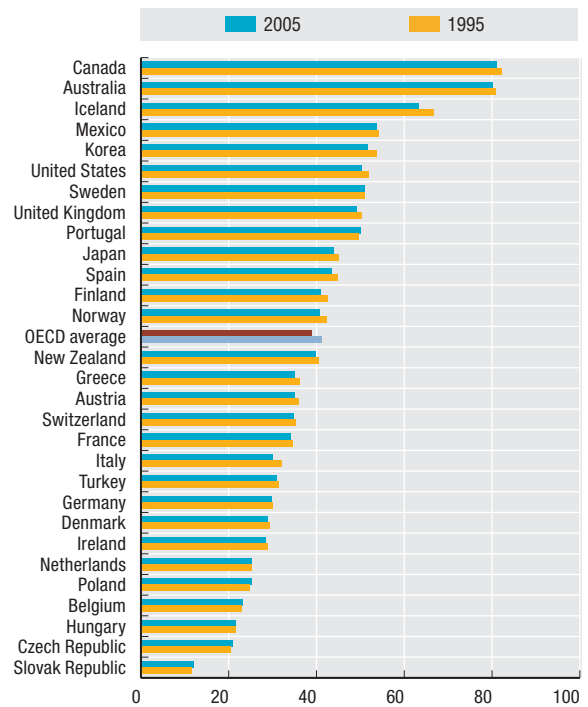
Inhabitants per km², 2005

Distribution of the national population into urban, intermediate and rural regions, small regions

Percentage, 2005



Index of geographic concentration of population, small regions

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/534446820506>

AGEING SOCIETIES

The percentage of the population that is 65 years or older is rising in all OECD countries and is expected to continue doing so. The number of inactive elderly as a ratio of the number in the total labour force is also increasing throughout OECD countries. These trends have a number of implications for government and private spending on pensions and health care and, more generally, for economic growth and welfare.

Definition

Population is defined as the resident population, i.e. all persons, regardless of citizenship, who have a permanent place of residence in the country. The labour force is defined according to the ILO Guidelines and consists of those in employment plus persons who are available for work and who are actively seeking employment. Population projections are taken from national sources where these are available, but for some countries they are based on Eurostat and UN projections.

Comparability

Almost all OECD countries now follow the ILO Guidelines for defining the labour force, so there is good comparability between countries.

All population projections require assumptions about future trends in life expectancy, fertility rates and migration. Often, a range of projections is produced using different assumptions about these future trends. The estimates shown here correspond to the median or central variant.

Long-term trends

The youngest populations (low shares of population aged 65 or over) are either in countries with high birth rates such as Mexico, Iceland and Turkey or in countries with high immigration, such as Australia, Canada and New Zealand. All these countries will, however, experience significant ageing over the next 50 years.

The dependency ratio (i.e. the ratio of inactive elderly to the total labour force, right panel of the table) is projected to be above 50% in Finland, Italy and Japan by 2020. This means that, for each elderly inactive person, there will be fewer than two persons in the labour force. The lowest dependency ratios by 2020, under 30%, are projected for Iceland, Mexico and Turkey.

All countries will experience a further sharp increase in the dependency ratio over the period 2020 to 2050.

The labour force projections start from the population projections described above but then require additional assumptions about the future labour force participation rates of men and women in different age groups. For the projections shown here, particular care has been taken in modeling future trends in the labour force participation of women and of elderly persons.

Sources

- OECD (2008), *Labour Force Statistics*, OECD, Paris.
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- *Main Economic Indicators*.
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Population aged 65 and over

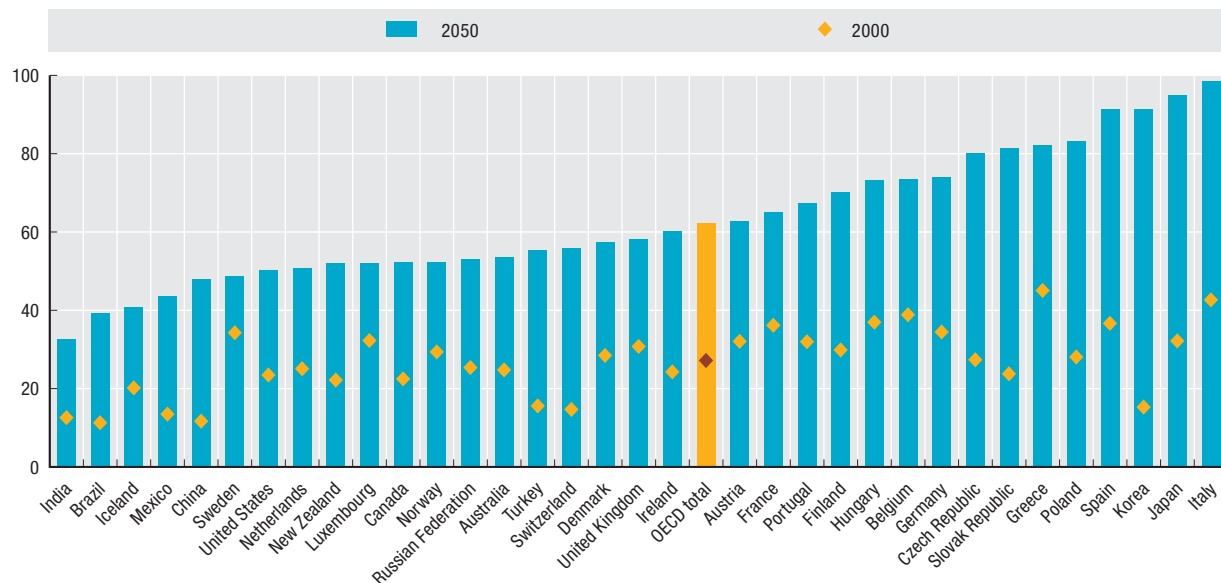
Percentage

	Ratio to the total population							Ratio of inactive elderly to the total labour force						
	2000	2005	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050	2000	2005	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050
Australia	12.4	12.9	14.3	18.3	22.2	24.5	25.7	24.8	25.3	27.2	35.3	44.2	49.9	53.5
Austria	15.4	16.3	17.6	19.7	24.0	27.1	28.1	32.1	31.7	34.1	39.7	51.3	59.7	62.6
Belgium	16.8	17.2	17.2	19.4	22.8	25.0	25.7	38.9	39.4	40.0	49.3	63.5	72.1	73.5
Canada	12.6	13.1	14.1	18.2	23.1	25.0	26.3	22.5	22.6	24.6	33.7	44.6	49.0	52.2
Czech Republic	13.8	14.1	15.4	20.1	22.7	26.5	31.2	27.4	27.9	30.7	41.9	49.5	63.3	80.0
Denmark	14.8	15.1	16.7	20.7	23.9	26.1	25.3	28.5	29.0	32.2	41.7	52.2	59.8	57.3
Finland	14.9	15.9	17.3	22.8	26.2	27.0	27.6	29.9	32.0	35.5	51.1	62.6	66.6	70.2
France	16.1	16.4	16.7	20.3	23.4	25.6	26.2	36.2	37.1	37.9	47.6	56.8	62.8	65.0
Germany	16.4	18.9	20.4	22.7	27.8	31.1	31.5	34.5	37.3	40.3	47.4	62.1	71.1	73.9
Greece	16.6	18.3	18.9	21.3	24.8	29.4	32.5	45.1	40.6	41.9	47.9	58.3	73.2	82.0
Hungary	15.1	15.7	16.7	20.1	21.5	23.9	26.9	37.0	37.6	39.3	48.8	53.9	63.2	73.1
Iceland	11.6	11.7	12.1	15.3	18.9	20.2	20.5	20.2	20.9	22.0	28.6	37.5	40.8	40.8
Ireland	11.2	11.1	11.9	14.9	18.5	22.4	26.3	24.3	22.9	24.2	30.5	38.2	48.2	60.2
Italy	18.3	19.6	20.6	23.3	27.3	32.3	33.7	42.7	45.9	48.5	56.7	71.0	90.9	98.5
Japan	17.4	20.2	23.1	29.2	31.8	36.5	39.6	32.2	38.3	46.4	61.2	68.6	83.1	94.9
Korea	7.2	9.1	11.0	15.6	24.3	32.5	38.2	15.3	19.1	22.8	32.1	51.8	75.5	91.4
Luxembourg	14.1	14.1	14.6	16.6	20.0	22.3	22.1	32.3	30.1	31.0	36.6	46.4	53.1	52.1
Mexico	4.7	5.2	5.9	8.1	11.8	16.7	21.2	13.5	15.6	16.9	20.4	27.0	35.5	43.5
Netherlands	13.6	14.2	15.5	19.8	23.4	25.0	23.5	25.1	26.1	29.3	39.5	50.3	54.7	50.7
New Zealand	11.8	12.0	13.1	16.7	21.1	23.8	24.6	22.2	21.7	23.6	31.3	41.5	49.7	52.0
Norway	15.2	14.7	15.0	17.3	19.8	22.2	23.1	29.4	28.3	30.1	37.5	45.4	51.5	52.3
Poland	12.2	13.2	13.5	18.5	22.7	25.0	29.6	28.1	30.1	30.7	44.3	57.1	67.6	83.1
Portugal	16.2	17.1	17.5	20.1	23.9	28.2	31.6	32.0	32.4	32.7	37.5	45.5	56.5	67.2
Slovak Republic	11.4	11.7	12.8	17.3	21.6	25.0	30.1	23.8	23.6	25.5	35.6	48.4	61.5	81.3
Spain	16.8	16.7	17.4	20.0	25.1	31.6	35.7	36.7	34.0	35.2	42.0	54.6	75.7	91.3
Sweden	17.3	17.3	18.4	21.1	22.8	24.0	23.7	34.3	32.9	35.5	42.4	47.1	49.8	48.7
Switzerland	15.3	15.9	17.1	20.0	23.9	26.6	27.4	14.7	28.2	30.3	36.2	45.7	53.3	55.9
Turkey	5.4	5.9	6.3	7.8	10.4	14.2	17.6	15.6	17.1	18.4	22.9	32.0	44.8	55.2
United Kingdom	15.8	16.0	16.5	19.0	21.9	23.7	24.1	30.8	31.0	33.2	41.7	51.1	57.4	58.1
United States	12.4	12.4	13.0	16.3	19.7	20.4	20.7	23.5	23.5	26.0	35.9	46.5	49.8	50.3
OECD total	13.0	13.8	14.8	18.0	21.5	24.2	25.7	27.2	28.7	31.3	39.8	49.7	57.9	62.3
Brazil	5.4	6.1	6.7	8.7	12.1	15.3	18.8	11.3	12.5	13.6	17.9	24.4	31.0	39.2
China	6.8	7.7	8.4	11.9	16.2	22.2	23.7	11.7	12.8	13.9	20.8	30.2	43.1	48.0
India	4.6	5.0	5.3	6.7	8.8	11.3	14.5	12.6	13.3	13.9	16.2	20.6	26.0	32.6
Indonesia	4.9	5.5	6.1	7.5	10.7	14.7	18.6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Russian Federation	12.3	13.8	12.6	14.8	18.9	20.2	23.8	25.4	26.9	23.8	28.9	37.4	41.8	52.9
South Africa	3.8	4.2	4.9	6.3	7.6	8.5	9.7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
World	6.9	7.3	7.7	9.4	11.7	14.3	16.2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540452278720>

Ratio of the inactive elderly population aged 65 and over to the labour force

Percentage

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/534454747884>

ELDERLY POPULATION BY REGION

In all OECD countries, populations aged 65 years and over have dramatically increased over the last 30 years, both in size and as a percentage of total population. As elderly people tend to be concentrated in few areas within each country, a small number of regions will have to face the social and economic challenges raised by ageing population.

Definition

The elderly population is the number of inhabitants of a given region aged 65 or older. The population can be either the average annual population or the population at a specific date during the year considered. The average population during a calendar year is generally calculated as the arithmetic mean of the population on 1 January of two consecutive years (it is also referred to as the mean population).

The geographic concentration index offers an accurate picture of the spatial distribution of elderly population, as it takes into account the area of each region and reveals large

international differences in the degree of geographic concentration of elderly people.

The geographic concentration index compares the economic weight and the geographic weight over all regions in a given country and is constructed to account for both within- and between-country differences in the size of all regions. The index lies between 0 (no concentration) and 100 (maximum concentration) and is suitable for international comparisons of geographic concentration.

Comparability

As for the other regional statistics, the comparability of elderly population data is affected by differences in the definition of the regions and the different geography of rural and urban communities (see Regional population), both within and among countries.

Overview

As the elderly population may be more concentrated in few areas in each country, regions face different economic and social challenges raised by an ageing population. About 35% of elderly people within the OECD live in only 10% of regions. The share has not changed significantly in the past ten years with the exception of Ireland, due to the increase of the overall population and elderly population in the region of Dublin.

According to the geographic concentration index, Canada, Australia and Iceland are the countries with the highest concentration of elderly population. A relative geographic concentration of the elderly can facilitate the provision of services. The concentration of the elderly population may be a function of the total population – more population therefore more elderly people – or may be due to the regional disparities in age structure – same population but more elderly people. A comparison of the concentration indexes of total and elderly population shows that on average the elderly population is less concentrated than the total population.

Source

- OECD (2009), *OECD Regions at a Glance 2009*, OECD, Paris.

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Analytical publications

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- Oliveira Martins J., F. Gonand, P. Antolin, C. de la Maisonneuve and K.-Y. Yoo (2005), *The Impact of Ageing on Demand, Factor Markets and Growth*, OECD Economics Department Working Papers, No. 420, OECD, Paris.
- Spiezia, V. (2003), “Measuring Regional Economies”, OECD Statistics Brief, No. 6, October, OECD, Paris, www.oecd.org/std/statisticsbrief.

Online databases

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Websites

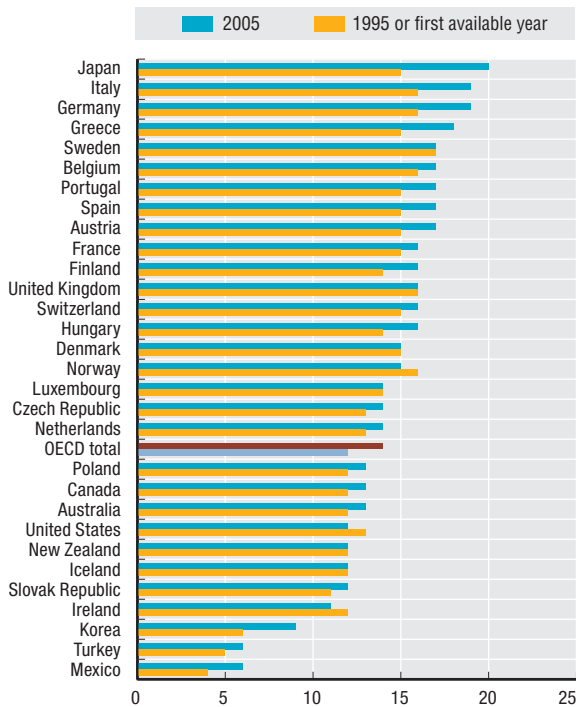
- Territorial grids, www.oecd.org/gov/regional/statisticsindicators.
- OECD eXplorer, www.oecd.org/gov/regional/statisticsindicators/explorer.



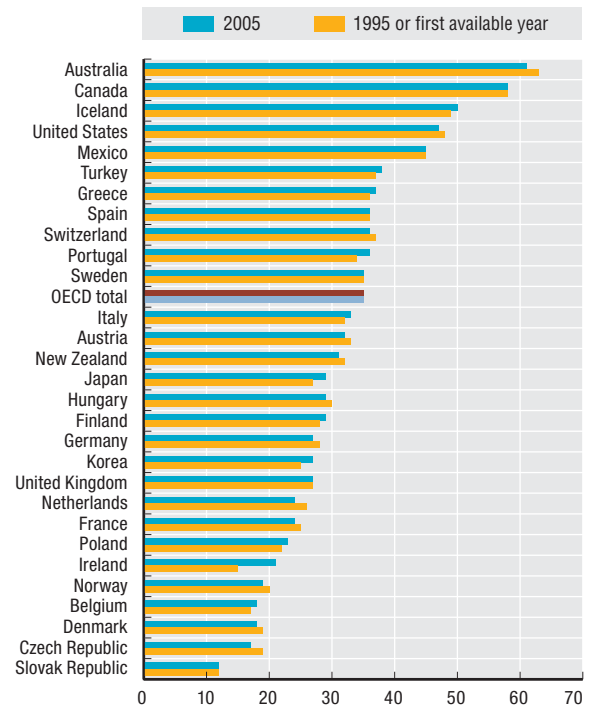
ELDERLY POPULATION BY REGION

Percentage of elderly population
by country

Percentage

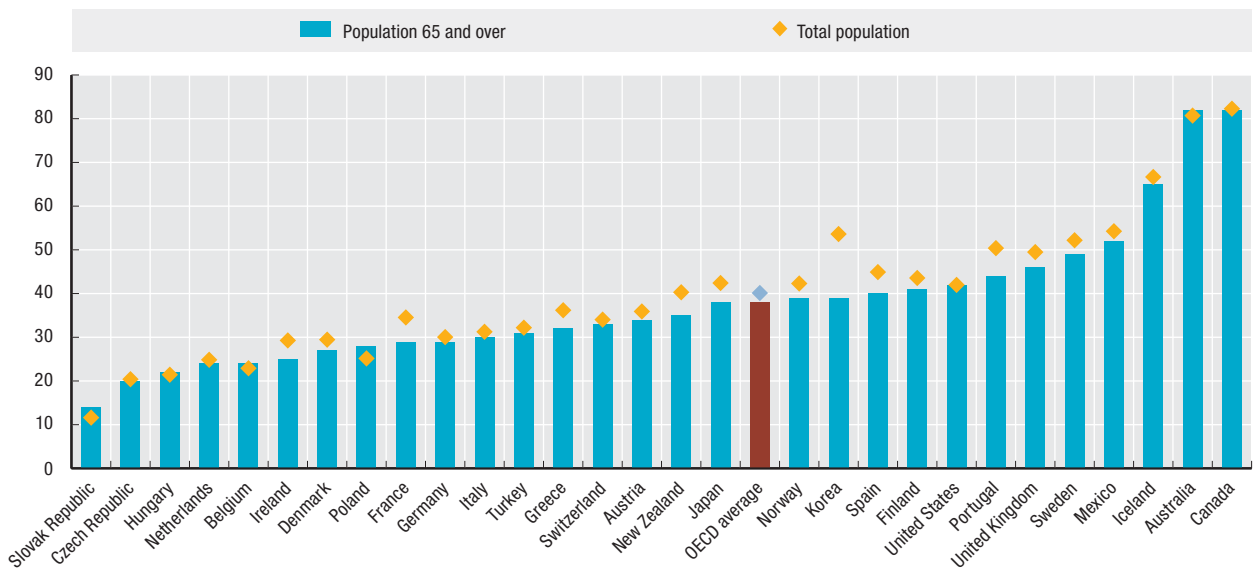
Share of national elderly population
in the 10% of small regions with the largest
elderly population

Percentage



Index of geographic concentration of elderly population and population, small regions

Year 2005

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/534456588301>

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PENSION EXPENDITURES

Pension systems vary country by country, and there is no single pension model which fits all countries. Traditionally, pension systems have combined two distinct components, one public and the other one private. Public pensions were statutory, financed on a pay-as-you-go (PAYG) basis and managed by public sector institutions. Private pensions were voluntary, employment-based (occupational) pension plans or individual retirement arrangements.

Definition

Public expenditures indicate how important public pensions are in terms of old-age benefit provision and can be defined as follows: old-age pension benefits are regarded as public when relevant financial flows are controlled by general government (that is central, state, and local governments, including social security funds). Thus, social security benefits paid by social security institutions are

Overview

In recent years, there has been a shift towards funding and private sector management within statutory pension systems. This trend has been especially strong in Latin America and Central and Eastern Europe, but it also extends to OECD countries such as Australia, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Switzerland and Sweden. With the exception of Finland's statutory pension system (which is run on a hybrid PAYG-funded basis), these new mandatory pension systems are classified as private under National Accounts methodology.

Funding has also become increasingly important within publicly managed pension systems. In some countries like Denmark, public pension institutions provide benefits that are financed on a fully-funded basis (the ATP system). Many other countries have established national reserve funds to provide financing support to otherwise PAYG-run systems.

Fourteen of the thirty OECD countries have some form of mandatory or quasi-mandatory private pension system in place and all OECD countries have voluntary personal pension plans, but statistical information on these plans is sometimes not available from official sources.

Increasingly, therefore, private pension systems are being considered an intrinsic part of the national retirement income system, rather than just a source of complementary benefits for higher income employees. The role of private and funded pensions is likely to continue growing in absolute terms and in relation to public and PAYG pensions. Reforms are partly due to governments' objective of reducing the fiscal liabilities of public pension debts by scaling back benefit promises.

As shown in the figure below, private pension benefits in Australia, Canada, Denmark, Korea, the Netherlands and Switzerland are below, but close to, the total benefits paid by the public pension system in 2006. In Iceland private pension benefits dominate retirement income provision, while in Finland the above-mentioned mandatory private pension system is by far the main source of retirement income.

within the public sphere. Pension benefits provided by governments to their own employees and paid directly out of the government's current budget (PAYG) are also considered to be public. All pension benefits not provided by general government are within the private domain.

Private expenditures on pensions includes payments made to private pension plan members (or dependants) after retirement. All types of plans are included (occupational and personal, mandatory and voluntary, funded and book reserved), covering persons working in both the public and private sectors.

Comparability

The OECD Global Pension Statistics (GPS) database provides pension expenditures for private pension arrangements, while public pension expenditures can be derived from the OECD Social Expenditure (SOCX) database. At the time of data compilation, only data up until 2003 were available in the SOCX database. OECD estimates were therefore calculated for public pension expenditures for 2006 (different methods were used, including linear extrapolation of data from the SOCX database for the period 1990-2003). Seven OECD countries are not shown in the figure as 2006 private pension expenditures were not available for these countries. For the Czech Republic, private pension expenditure data refer to the year 2007.

The GPS database may not cover all types of private pension arrangements for all countries. Data on book reserve plans and pension insurance contracts are currently included when available. Thus, private pension expenditure data for Austria, Canada, Germany and Luxembourg only cover autonomous pension funds.

Source

- OECD Pension Statistics.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2007), *Pensions at a Glance: Public Policies across OECD Countries 2007 Edition*, OECD, Paris.
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- OECD Private Pensions Outlook, www.oecd.org/daf/pensions/outlook.

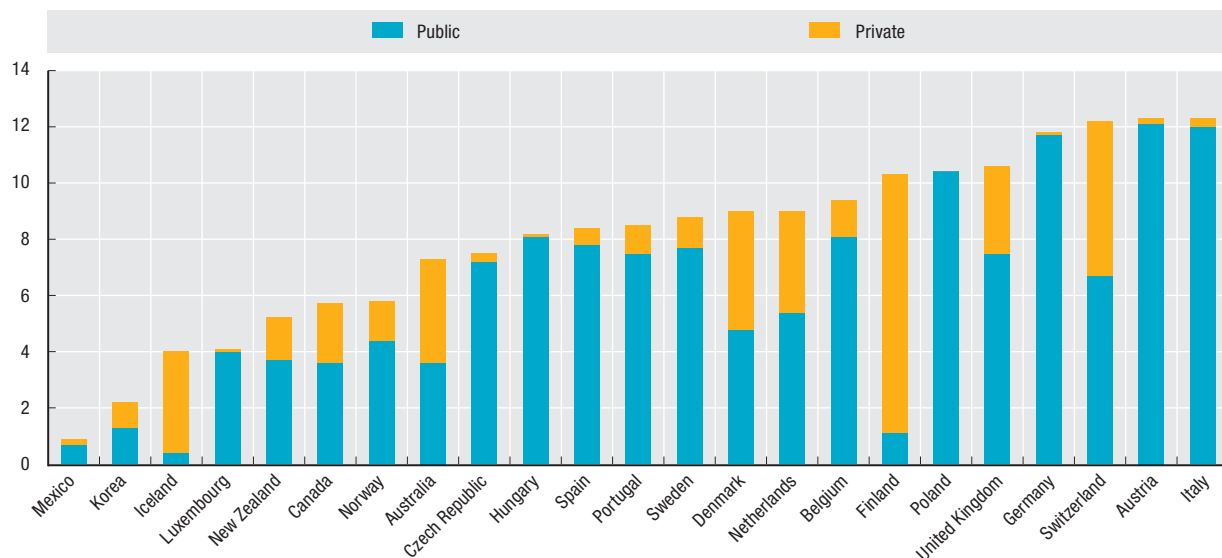
Public and private pension expenditure

	Million US dollars			As a percentage of GDP		
	Public expenditure	Private expenditure		Public expenditure	Private expenditure	
	2006	2006	2007	2006	2006	2007
Australia	26 048	27 101	34 404	3.6	3.7	3.9
Austria	39 012	559	..	12.1	0.2	..
Belgium	32 074	5 199	5 407	8.1	1.3	1.2
Canada	45 922	26 415	31 267	3.6	2.1	2.2
Czech Republic	10 213	..	452	7.2	..	0.3
Denmark	13 347	11 728	11 646	4.8	4.2	3.7
Finland	2 311	19 234	22 203	1.1	9.2	9.1
Germany	339 677	4 114	4 065	11.7	0.1	0.1
Hungary	9 141	158	250	8.1	0.1	0.2
Iceland	62	593	740	0.4	3.6	3.7
Italy	222 032	4 634	4 067	12.0	0.3	0.2
Korea	11 462	8 078	9 700	1.3	0.9	1.0
Luxembourg	1 672	24	38	4.0	0.1	0.1
Mexico	5 504	1 910	1 981	0.7	0.2	0.2
Netherlands	35 947	23 888	27 789	5.4	3.6	3.6
New Zealand	3 873	1 622	1 689	3.7	1.5	1.3
Norway	14 591	4 746	..	4.4	1.4	..
Poland	35 527	10	26	10.4	0.0	0.0
Portugal	14 654	1 975	2 190	7.5	1.0	1.0
Spain	95 785	6 944	7 464	7.8	0.6	0.5
Sweden	30 397	4 491	..	7.7	1.1	..
Switzerland	25 194	20 719	23 066	6.7	5.5	5.4
United Kingdom	176 953	73 483	..	7.5	3.1	..

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540480454102>

Public and private pension expenditures

As a percentage of GDP, 2006

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/534462684217>

TRENDS IN MIGRATION

Migration movements include not only entries of persons of foreign nationality, on which public attention tends to be focused; they also include movements of nationals and emigrants. Net migration summarises the overall effect of these movements. It is in more and more OECD countries the main source of increases in population.

Definition

Net migration is defined as the total number of immigrant nationals and foreigners minus the total of emigrant foreigners and nationals. Arrivals and departures for purposes such as tourism and business travel are not included in the statistics.

Comparability

The main sources of information on migration vary across countries, which poses problems for the comparability of available data on inflows and outflows. However, since the comparability problems generally relate to the extent to which short-term movements are covered, taking the difference between arrivals and departures tends to

eliminate the movements that are the main source of non-comparability. The net migration data, however, are subject to caution, because unauthorised movements are not taken into account in the inflows and these are significant in some OECD countries. In addition, the data on outflows are of uneven quality, with departures being only partially recorded in many countries or having to be estimated in others.

Net migration rate is used in demographic accounting to describe the contribution of international migration to population increase, the other component being natural increase, the difference between births and deaths in a given year.

Long-term trends

Since 1994 Poland is the only OECD country among the countries shown in the table that has shown negative net migration on a systematic basis. Among countries showing significant increases in population (> 0.5% per year) over the 1995-1999 period as a result of international migration are Australia, Canada, Spain, Ireland and Luxembourg. Since then Iceland, Italy and Switzerland have joined the list. Former emigration countries (Ireland, Italy, Portugal and Spain) thus figure prominently among high net migration countries, a trend which is likely to continue.

There are nonetheless a number of countries where net migration is currently contributing less to population increase than was the case five to ten years ago. These include New Zealand, Greece, Germany, Turkey, Denmark and the Netherlands. Countries where it is contributing more include the four former emigration countries Ireland, Italy, Portugal and Spain as well as Austria and Switzerland. Indeed, all but nine OECD countries are showing a larger contribution to population growth from net migration in recent years. With the retirement of baby-boomers in the near future, to be replaced by smaller entering labour force cohorts, labour supply needs may well increase and OECD countries see a continuing rise in net migration.

Source

- OECD (2008), *Labour Force Statistics*, OECD, Paris.

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Online databases

- OECD International Migration Database.



Net migration rate

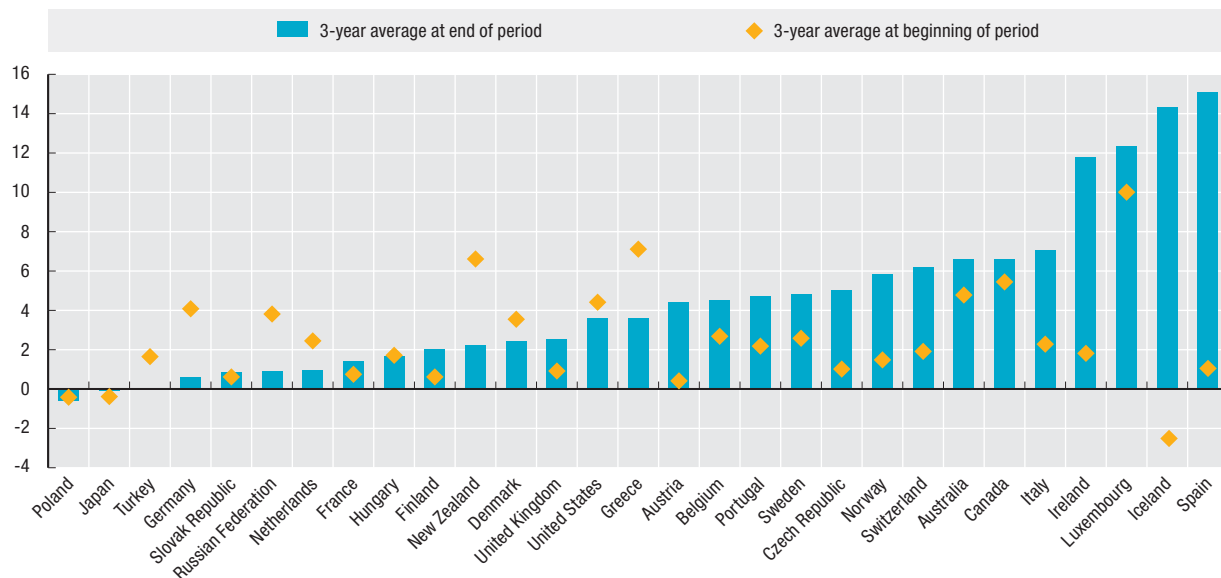
Per 1 000 inhabitants

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	3.1	5.9	5.3	3.9	4.8	5.5	5.8	7.0	5.6	5.5	5.3	6.7	7.7	..
Austria	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.2	1.1	2.5	2.2	4.1	4.2	4.4	6.2	5.9	3.3	4.0
Belgium	2.9	2.7	2.4	1.9	2.1	2.7	2.5	3.4	4.0	3.9	4.2	4.5	4.8	..
Canada	5.2	5.5	5.6	5.2	3.9	5.2	6.5	7.9	6.9	6.5	6.4	6.8	6.6	..
Czech Republic	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.2	0.9	0.9	0.6	-0.8	1.2	2.5	1.8	3.5	3.4	8.1
Denmark	1.9	5.5	3.2	2.3	2.1	1.7	1.7	2.2	1.7	1.1	0.9	1.2	1.8	4.2
Finland	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.4	1.2	1.0	1.2	1.3	1.7	1.9	2.5
France	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.1
Germany	3.9	4.9	3.4	1.1	0.6	2.5	2.0	3.3	2.7	1.7	1.0	1.0	0.3	0.5
Greece	7.4	7.3	6.6	5.7	5.1	4.1	2.7	3.5	3.5	3.3	3.7	3.5	3.6	..
Hungary	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.0	0.4	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.9	1.4
Iceland	-2.6	-2.6	-2.6	0.3	3.2	4.0	6.1	3.4	-1.0	-0.5	1.8	13.0	17.3	12.6
Ireland	-0.8	1.6	4.6	5.1	4.5	6.4	8.4	10.0	8.4	7.8	11.6	15.9	..	..
Italy	2.6	1.6	2.6	2.2	1.6	1.8	3.1	2.2	6.1	10.6	9.6	5.2	6.4	..
Japan	-0.7	-0.4	-0.1	0.1	0.3	-0.1	0.3	-0.4	0.5	-0.3	-0.4	..	..	..
Luxembourg	9.9	11.2	8.9	9.0	9.6	10.9	8.2	2.5	5.8	12.0	9.6	13.1	11.4	12.5
Netherlands	2.4	2.1	2.8	3.1	3.9	3.8	4.5	4.3	3.4	2.2	1.2	0.6	0.6	1.6
New Zealand	5.5	7.7	6.6	2.0	-1.7	-2.3	-2.9	2.5	9.7	8.7	3.7	1.7	3.6	1.4
Norway	1.6	1.4	1.4	2.5	3.2	4.3	2.0	1.8	3.7	2.4	2.8	3.9	5.1	8.5
Poland	-0.5	-0.5	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.4	-0.5	-0.4	-0.5	-0.4	-0.2	-0.3	-0.9	-0.5
Portugal	1.7	2.2	2.6	2.9	3.2	3.7	4.6	6.3	6.8	6.1	4.5	3.6	..	..
Slovak Republic	0.9	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.7	1.3
Spain	0.9	0.9	1.3	1.6	3.1	4.9	8.9	10.1	15.7	14.5	14.7	15.0	14.2	16.0
Sweden	5.8	1.2	0.7	0.7	1.2	1.6	2.8	3.3	3.5	3.2	2.8	3.0	5.6	5.9
Switzerland	4.4	2.1	-0.8	-1.0	0.2	2.3	2.8	5.8	6.7	5.9	5.4	4.8	4.7	9.0
Turkey	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
United Kingdom	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.7	2.3	2.5	2.5	2.5	..	..	..	..	..
United States	4.2	4.4	4.6	4.8	4.2	4.4	4.6	4.2	4.1	3.4	3.4	3.6	3.7	3.4
EU27 total	1.2	1.4	1.2	0.9	1.1	2.0	1.5	1.2	3.8	4.2	3.8	3.4	3.3	3.8
Russian Federation	..	4.4	3.5	3.5	2.9	1.8	2.5	1.9	1.6	0.6	0.7	0.9	1.1	..

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540487504868>

Net migration rate

Per 1 000 inhabitants, annual average

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/534488558144>

IMMIGRANT POPULATION

National views on the appropriate definition of the immigrant population vary from country to country. Despite this, it is now possible to provide an internationally comparable picture of the size of the immigrant population, based either on nationality or on country-of-birth criteria. Strictly speaking, the immigrant population consists of persons residing in a country but born in another country. The definition based on nationality is commonly used in a certain number of countries and reflects a legal view of immigration.

Definition

Nationality and place of birth are the two criteria most commonly used to define the “immigrant” population. The foreign-born population covers all persons who have ever migrated from their country of birth to their current country of residence. The foreign population consists of persons who still have the nationality of their home country. It may include persons born in the host country.

Comparability

The difference across countries between the size of the foreign-born population and that of the foreign population depends on the rules governing the acquisition of citizenship in each country. In some countries, children born in the country automatically acquire the citizenship of their country of birth (*jus solis*, the right of soil) while in other countries, they retain the nationality of their parents (*jus sanguinis*, the right of blood). In others, they retain the nationality of their parents at birth but receive that of the host country at their majority. Differences in the ease with which immigrants may acquire the citizenship of the host country explain part of the gap between the two series. For example, residency requirements vary from as little as three

years in Canada to as much as ten years in some countries. The naturalisation rate is high in settlement countries such as Australia, Canada, New Zealand and in some European countries including Belgium, Sweden and the Netherlands. In general, the foreign-born criterion gives substantially higher percentages for the immigrant population than the definition based on nationality. This is because many foreign-born persons acquire the nationality of the host country and no longer appear as foreign nationals. The place of birth, however, does not change, except when there are changes in country borders.

The data shown for the year 2000 come from a special census data collection covering almost all OECD countries. Note that the foreign-born here include persons born abroad as nationals of their current country of residence. The prevalence of such persons among the foreign-born can be significant in some countries, in particular France and Portugal (repatriations from former colonies).

For a number of countries, reliable data on the foreign-born population are available only at time of census. To make up for this deficiency, the OECD has developed data series for a certain number of countries, applying two estimation methods, the choice of which depends on the auxiliary information available for estimation. These methods are described and evaluated at www.oecd.org/els/migration/foreignborn.

For the foreign-born population the data year shown under the 2000 column is 1999 for France; 2001 for Greece, Italy, the Slovak Republic, Spain; 2002 for Poland; under the 2006 column is 2003 for Germany and 2005 for Mexico. For the foreign population the data year shown as 2000 is 1999 for France; 2001 for Australia, Canada, Greece; 2002 for Poland. Data shown as 2006 is 2005 for France and Ireland.

Long-term trends

Not surprisingly, the foreign-born population has increased in the past decade in all countries for which data are available. It is especially high in Australia, Canada, Luxembourg, New Zealand and Switzerland. Other countries, such as Spain, the Slovak Republic and Ireland, still do not report as high share of foreign-born population but have seen a spectacular increase in recent years. By contrast, the foreign population tends to increase more slowly, because inflows of foreign nationals tend to be counterbalanced by persons acquiring the nationality of the host country. It thus gives a partial view of the evolution of immigration trends.

Source

- OECD (2008), *International Migration Outlook: SOPEMI 2008*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2008), *A Profile of Immigrant Populations in the 21st Century: Data from OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.

Methodological publications

- Lemaître, G. and C. Thoreau (2006), *Estimating the foreign-born population on a current basis*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2005), “Counting immigrants and expatriates in OECD countries – a new perspective”, *Trends in International Migration: SOPEMI – 2004 Edition*, OECD, Paris.

Online databases

- *Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC)*.



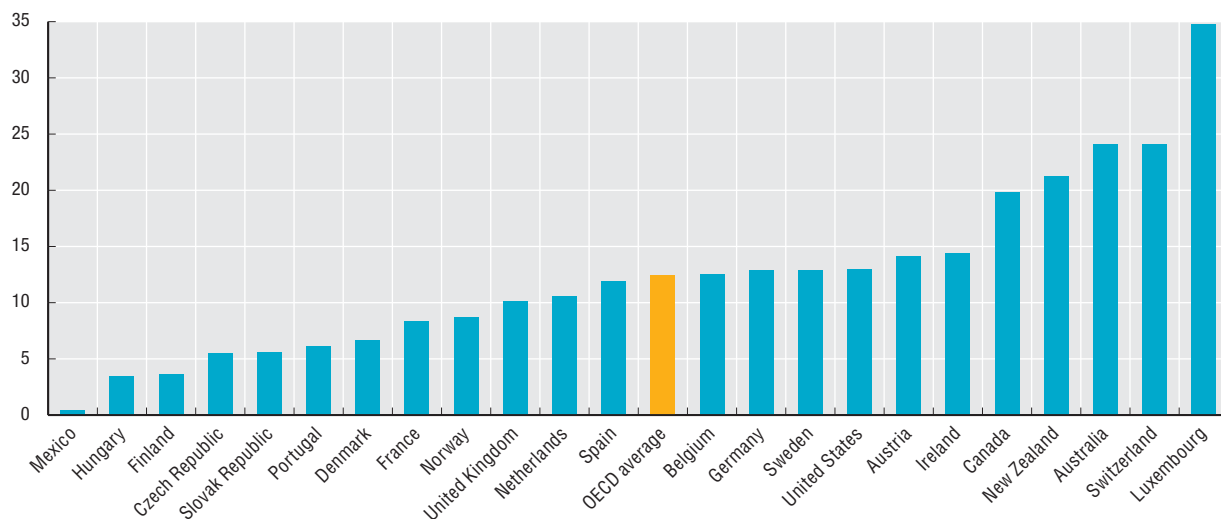
Foreign-born and foreign populations

	As a percentage of the total population								As a percentage of all foreign-born
	Foreign-born population				Foreign population				Foreign-born nationals
	1995	2000	2005	2006	1995	2000	2005	2006	2000
Australia	23.0	23.0	23.8	24.1	..	7.4	..	7.7	68.4
Austria	..	10.5	13.5	14.1	8.5	8.8	9.7	9.9	40.9
Belgium	9.7	10.3	12.1	12.5	9.0	8.4	8.6	8.8	40.8
Canada	17.2	18.1	19.5	19.8	..	5.3	..	6.0	72.6
Czech Republic	..	4.2	5.1	5.5	1.5	1.9	2.7	3.1	79.8
Denmark	4.8	5.8	6.5	6.6	4.2	4.8	5.0	5.1	40.3
Finland	2.0	2.6	3.4	3.6	1.3	1.8	2.2	2.3	41.6
France	..	7.4	8.1	8.3	..	..	5.6	..	53.1
Germany	11.5	12.5	..	..	8.8	8.9	8.2	8.2	..
Greece	..	..	..	..	..	2.9	5.2	5.3	41.5
Hungary	2.8	2.9	3.3	3.4	1.4	1.1	1.5	1.6	71.1
Ireland	..	8.7	12.7	14.4	2.7	3.3	6.3	..	45.2
Italy	..	..	..	..	1.7	2.4	4.6	5.0	47.5
Japan	..	..	..	..	1.1	1.3	1.6	1.6	..
Korea	..	..	..	..	0.2	0.4	1.1	1.4	..
Luxembourg	30.9	33.2	33.8	34.8	33.4	37.3	40.4	41.6	13.0
Mexico	0.4	0.5	0.4	..	..	..	..	..	..
Netherlands	9.1	10.1	10.6	10.6	4.7	4.2	4.2	4.2	65.0
New Zealand	..	17.2	20.5	21.2	..	..	..	..	..
Norway	5.5	6.8	8.2	8.7	3.8	4.0	4.8	5.1	47.6
Poland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.1	96.1
Portugal	5.4	5.1	6.3	6.1	1.7	2.1	4.1	4.1	66.3
Slovak Republic	..	..	4.6	5.6	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	84.2
Spain	..	4.9	11.1	11.9	..	3.4	9.5	10.3	30.9
Sweden	10.5	11.3	12.4	12.9	6.0	5.4	5.3	5.4	62.5
Switzerland	21.4	21.9	23.8	24.1	18.9	19.3	20.3	20.3	29.3
Turkey	..	1.9	..	..	..	..	..	..	79.2
United Kingdom	6.9	7.9	9.7	10.1	3.4	4.0	5.2	5.8	..
United States	9.3	11.0	12.9	13.0	6.0	6.6	..	7.4	46.4

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540605158612>

Foreign-born population

As a percentage of total population, 2006 or latest available year

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/534521240510>

MIGRATION AND EMPLOYMENT BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

In most OECD countries, employment rates for immigrants are lower than for the native-born persons. However, the situation is more diverse if one disaggregates employment rates by educational attainment.

Definition

The employment rate is calculated as the share of employed persons aged 15-64 in the total population (active and inactive persons) in the same age range. In accordance with ILO definitions, employed persons are those who worked at least one hour or who had a job during the reference week. The educational classification shown is a regrouping of the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED) categories. Generally speaking, “low” corresponds to less than upper secondary education, “intermediate” to upper secondary education and “high” to tertiary education. The latter includes high-level vocational education feeding into technical or semi-professional occupations.

Comparability

All data for the European countries are from the European Union Labour Force Survey. The Current Population Survey (March supplement) and the 2006 Census are used respectively for the United States and Canada. Even if employment levels can at times be affected by changes in the survey design (this is the case for France since 2004) and by survey implementation problems (e.g. non-

response), the employment rates are generally consistent over time. However the comparability of education levels between immigrants and the native-born and across countries is approximate. The educational qualifications of other countries may not fit exactly into national educational categories because the duration of study or the programme content for ostensibly equivalent qualifications may not be the same. Likewise, the reduction of the ISCED classification into three categories may represent some loss of information regarding the duration of study, the programme orientation, etc. For example, high-education qualifications can involve programmes of durations varying from two (some short, university-level technical programmes) to seven years or more (PhDs).

Overview

Labour market outcomes of immigrants and natives vary significantly across OECD countries and differences by educational attainment are even larger. In all OECD countries, the employment rate increases with educational level. While people with tertiary education find work more easily and are less exposed to unemployment, access to tertiary education does not necessarily ensure that immigrants and native-born will enter the labour market in the same way. In all OECD countries, employment rates are higher for the native-born population than for the foreign-born. The gap is particularly high for Eastern and Northern Europe countries such as Poland, Germany, Sweden, Austria. This differences can be partly explained by difficulties immigrants face regarding language proficiency and recognition or acceptance of competences and diplomas acquired abroad.

The situation is more diverse for persons with low educational attainment. In the United States, Luxembourg and some of the southern European countries like Greece and Italy, foreign-born immigrants have much higher employment rates than their native-born counterparts; the reverse is true for the Netherlands, the Slovak Republic, Denmark and Sweden. This gap in favour of the foreign-born population in southern European countries may be explained by the strong demand for workers for low-skilled jobs that are no longer taken up by the smaller cohorts of young native-born workers.

Source

- OECD (2008), *International Migration Outlook: SOPEMI 2008*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2008), *Jobs for Immigrants (Vol. 2): Labour Market Integration in France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Portugal*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2007), *Jobs for Immigrants (Vol. 1): Labour Market Integration in Australia, Denmark, Germany and Sweden*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2008), *A Profile of Immigrant Populations in the 21st Century: Data from OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.

Websites

- OECD International Migration Statistics, www.oecd.org/els/migration/statistics.



Employment rates of native-born and foreign-born population by educational attainment

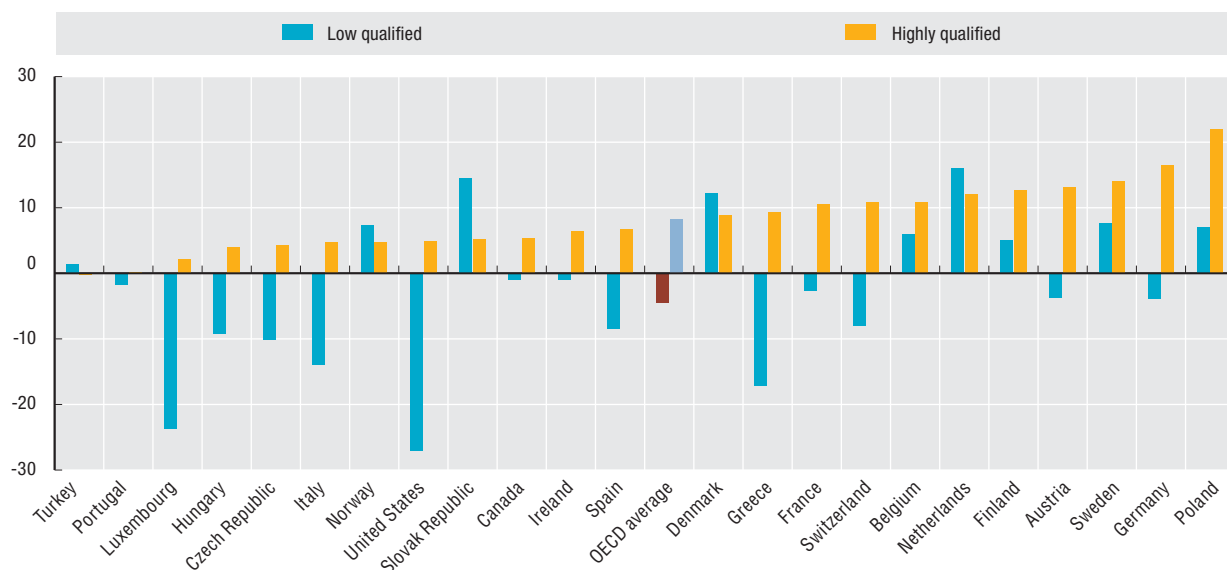
As a percentage of total population, 2006

	Native-born			Foreign-born		
	Low education	Intermediate education	High education	Low education	Intermediate education	High education
Austria	47.7	75.6	88.0	51.4	68.2	74.8
Belgium	41.1	66.6	83.7	35.2	53.3	72.9
Canada	50.6	75.5	82.7	51.6	68.9	77.4
Czech Republic	22.9	72.0	84.0	33.1	67.5	79.8
Denmark	61.5	81.0	87.8	49.3	63.2	78.9
Finland	47.4	73.6	85.6	42.4	65.8	72.9
France	46.5	69.8	79.3	49.1	60.6	68.8
Germany	43.0	72.4	87.8	47.0	64.3	71.3
Greece	48.6	61.4	82.7	65.8	65.6	73.3
Hungary	27.5	65.2	81.3	36.9	59.8	77.3
Ireland	48.9	73.7	86.8	49.9	72.7	80.2
Italy	45.1	67.6	78.6	59.0	70.2	73.9
Luxembourg	37.8	62.5	85.6	61.5	65.2	83.4
Netherlands	60.7	80.5	87.2	44.6	64.2	75.2
Norway	56.4	80.4	89.4	49.1	68.5	84.6
Poland	23.3	58.4	81.9	16.3	32.9	59.9
Portugal	65.9	63.5	84.5	67.5	71.3	84.4
Slovak Republic	14.5	67.5	83.9	..	58.4	78.7
Spain	55.3	65.9	81.9	63.8	73.6	75.3
Sweden	54.7	81.1	88.3	47.0	66.5	74.3
Switzerland	55.3	80.7	92.7	63.3	74.4	81.9
Turkey	41.8	50.2	72.7	40.4	56.8	73.0
United States	35.2	71.7	83.7	62.3	71.6	78.8
OECD average	44.9	70.3	84.4	49.4	64.5	76.1

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540612721044>

Gap in employment rate between native-born and foreign-born population by educational attainment

Percentage points, 2006



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/534528687433>

MIGRATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT

Immigrant workers are more affected by unemployment in older European immigration countries while in North America, in Australia and to a lesser extent in Southern Europe, the unemployment rate tends to depend less on the place of birth. Some groups, such as young immigrants, women or older immigrants have particular difficulties finding jobs.

Definition

The unemployment rate is calculated as the share of the unemployed in the total labour force (employed and unemployed persons). In accordance with the ILO standards, unemployed persons consist of those persons who report that they are without work during the reference week, that they are available for work and that they have taken active steps to find work during the four preceding weeks.

Long-term trends

In 2006, immigrants in the majority of European OECD countries were relatively more affected by unemployment than was the native population. In the Slovak Republic, in Finland, Belgium, France and Germany, the unemployment rate of immigrants is higher than 15%. The rate is more than twice the level observed for the native-born in Finland, Belgium, Sweden, the Netherlands, Austria, Norway, Switzerland and Denmark. In other countries, however, especially the main settlement countries (Australia, Canada, the United States) and recent immigration countries (Greece, Portugal, Italy), the unemployment rate does not vary much by birth status.

The period since 1995 has seen some sizable declines in the unemployment rates of the foreign-born, both men and women, in a number of countries, among them Australia, Denmark and Sweden, Greece, Ireland, the Netherlands, Spain and the United Kingdom. At the same time, labour market conditions have stagnated in a number of other countries and have had adverse consequences for immigrants in Austria, Germany and Luxembourg.

More than 15% of immigrant women in the labour force are seeking employment in the Slovak Republic, Finland, Belgium, France, Germany, Spain, the Czech Republic, and Greece. In relative terms, the unemployment rate of immigrant women is at least twice as high as that of natives in Switzerland, Norway, the Netherlands, Belgium, Finland, Austria, Luxembourg and Sweden. The difference in absolute values vis-à-vis the native-born is systematically positive, but does not generally increase with the level of qualifications.

Comparability

All data for the European countries are from the European Union Labour Force Survey. The national labour force survey, the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics and the 2006 Census, and the Current Population Survey (March supplement) are used respectively for Australia, Canada and the United States. Even if unemployment levels can at times be affected by changes in the survey design (this is the case for France since 2004) and by survey implementation problems (e.g. non-response), the unemployment rates are generally consistent over time.

Source

- OECD (2008), *International Migration Outlook: SOPEMI 2008*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2006), *Local Economic and Employment Development (LEED) – From Immigration to Integration: Local Solutions to a Global Challenge*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2007), *Jobs for Immigrants (Vol. 1): Labour Market Integration in Australia, Denmark, Germany and Sweden*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2008), *Jobs for Immigrants (Vol. 2): Labour Market Integration in France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Portugal*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2008), *A Profile of Immigrant Populations in the 21st Century: Data from OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.

Websites

- OECD International Migration Statistics, www.oecd.org/els/migration/statistics.



Unemployment rates of foreign- and native-born populations

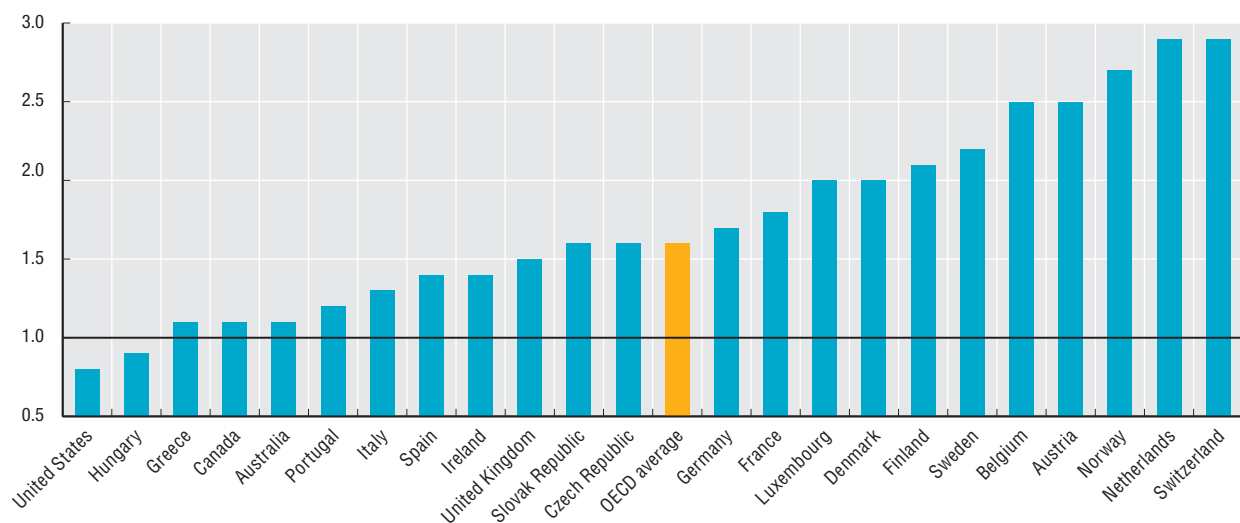
As a percentage of total labour force

	Men						Women					
	Native-born			Foreign-born			Native-born			Foreign-born		
	1995	2000	2006	1995	2000	2006	1995	2000	2006	1995	2000	2006
Australia	8.4	6.6	3.8	10.6	6.5	4.3	7.7	5.8	4.5	9.6	7.0	5.2
Austria	3.6	4.3	3.3	6.6	8.7	9.8	4.6	4.2	4.4	7.3	7.2	9.8
Belgium	6.3	4.2	6.2	16.9	14.7	15.8	11.2	7.4	8.0	23.8	17.5	19.3
Canada	8.6	5.7	6.6	10.4	6.1	6.2	9.8	6.2	6.2	13.3	8.7	8.0
Czech Republic	..	..	5.8	..	..	8.4	..	..	8.8	..	..	15.3
Denmark	6.4	3.4	3.2	20.5	9.5	7.4	8.4	4.3	4.4	20.7	9.6	7.7
Finland	17.7	10.3	8.6	..	..	16.0	16.1	12.0	8.9	..	..	20.4
France	9.1	7.7	8.5	16.6	14.5	15.5	13.6	11.3	9.6	19.0	19.7	17.1
Germany	..	6.9	9.4	..	12.9	16.6	..	8.0	9.3	..	12.1	15.8
Greece	6.1	7.4	5.8	14.0	9.5	5.3	13.7	16.6	13.6	20.8	21.1	15.1
Hungary	..	7.3	7.2	..	..	..	..	5.8	7.8	..	..	10.3
Ireland	12.0	4.4	4.4	16.8	..	6.0	11.9	4.2	3.8	15.4	..	6.0
Italy	9.3	8.4	5.5	..	6.5	5.7	16.3	14.9	8.5	23.5	21.2	12.4
Luxembourg	..	..	2.7	..	..	4.7	..	..	4.1	..	..	8.9
Netherlands	4.9	1.8	3.3	19.5	5.4	10.4	7.7	3.0	4.3	19.8	7.6	11.0
Norway	..	3.4	3.1	..	6.8	8.9	..	3.2	3.0	..	..	7.7
Portugal	6.6	3.1	6.9	..	3.9	8.2	7.8	4.9	9.3	..	5.4	11.4
Slovak Republic	..	..	12.3	..	..	23.0	..	..	14.7	..	..	28.6
Spain	18.0	9.5	6.1	24.4	12.4	7.7	30.5	20.5	10.8	30.5	20.7	15.8
Sweden	7.9	5.1	6.0	24.8	12.3	13.6	6.6	4.2	6.4	18.5	10.8	13.3
Switzerland	..	..	2.4	..	..	6.8	..	..	3.3	..	..	9.4
United Kingdom	9.9	5.9	5.5	14.2	9.6	7.4	6.7	4.6	4.5	10.9	7.8	7.9
United States	6.2	4.5	5.8	7.9	4.5	4.1	5.3	4.2	4.8	8.2	5.5	4.9
OECD average	8.8	5.8	5.8	15.6	9.0	9.6	11.1	7.7	7.1	17.2	12.1	12.2

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540617007518>

Foreign-born unemployment rate relative to native-born unemployment rate

Ratio, 2006 or latest available year



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/534566756704>





MACROECONOMIC TRENDS

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (GDP)

SIZE OF GDP

NATIONAL INCOME PER CAPITA

ECONOMIC GROWTH

EVOLUTION OF GDP

HOUSEHOLD SAVING

INVESTMENT RATES

INFLATION

STEEL PRODUCTION

PRODUCTIVITY

INCOME AND PRODUCTIVITY LEVELS

GROWTH IN GDP PER CAPITA

LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY GROWTH

GROWTH ACCOUNTS FOR OECD COUNTRIES

ECONOMIC STRUCTURE

VALUE ADDED BY ACTIVITY

EVOLUTION OF VALUE ADDED BY ACTIVITY

SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES

SIZE OF GDP

Gross domestic product (GDP) is the standard measure of the value of the goods and services produced by a country during a period. Per capita GDP is a broad indicator of economic living standards.

Each country calculates GDP in its own currency. In order to compare countries, these estimates have to be converted into a common currency. Often, the conversion is made using exchange rates, but these give a misleading comparison of the volumes of goods and services in GDP. Therefore comparisons of GDP between countries are best made using purchasing power parities (PPPs) to convert each country's GDP into a common currency. PPPs are currency converters that equalise the purchasing power of the different currencies (see also Rates of conversion).

Definition

What does gross domestic product mean? "Gross" signifies that no deduction has been made for the depreciation of machinery, buildings and other capital products used in production. "Domestic" means that it is production by the resident institutional units of the country. As many products are used to produce other products it is necessary to define production in terms of value added.

GDP can be measured in three different ways: as output less intermediate consumption (i.e. value added) plus taxes less subsidies on products (such as VAT); as the income earned from production by summing employee compensation, the gross operating surplus of enterprises and government, the gross mixed income of unincorporated enterprises and net taxes on production and imports (VAT, payroll tax, import duties, etc., less subsidies); or as the expenditure on the goods and services produced by summing final consumption expenditures, gross fixed capital formation, changes in inventories and exports less imports.

Long-term trends

In terms of total GDP, the United States is, by far, the largest member country. Japan is the second largest economy followed, at some distance, by the four large EU members – Germany, United Kingdom, France and Italy. The next four are Mexico, Spain, Canada and Korea. These rankings have not changed significantly over the period shown.

Per capita GDP for the OECD as a whole was 32 700 US dollars per head in 2007. Four OECD countries had per capita GDP in excess of 45 000 US dollars – Luxembourg, Norway, United States and Ireland. About half of the 30 OECD members had per capita GDP between 30 000 and 45 000 US dollars, while 10 countries had per capita GDP below 30 000 US dollars. Turkey, Mexico and Poland had the lowest per capita GDP. Note that both GDP and PPPs contain statistical errors, and differences between countries in per capita GDP of 5% or less are not significant.

Comparability

All OECD countries follow the 1993 System of National Accounts. However, since Luxembourg and, to a lesser extent, Switzerland have a relatively large number of frontier workers, their GDP per capita is, to some extent, overstated compared with other countries. Such workers contribute to GDP but are excluded from the population figures.

For some countries, the latest year has been estimated by the Secretariat. For several countries, the historical data have also been estimated by the OECD; if countries revise their methodologies but only supply revised data for recent years, the historical data have been estimated by mechanically linking the new and old series.

Note that for Australia and New Zealand data refer to fiscal year.

Source

- OECD (2008), *National Accounts of OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

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- OECD (2003), *The Sources of Economic Growth in OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.
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- Maddison, Angus (2003), *The World Economy: Historical Perspectives*, OECD, Paris, also available on CD-ROM, www.theworlddeconomy.org.
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- UN, OECD, IMF, Eurostat (eds.) (1993), *System of National Accounts 1993*, United Nations, Geneva, <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/sna1993>.

Online databases

- Annual National Accounts.
- OECD Economic Outlook Statistics.

Websites

- OECD Economic Outlook – Sources and Methods, www.oecd.org/eco/sources-and-methods.

Gross domestic product

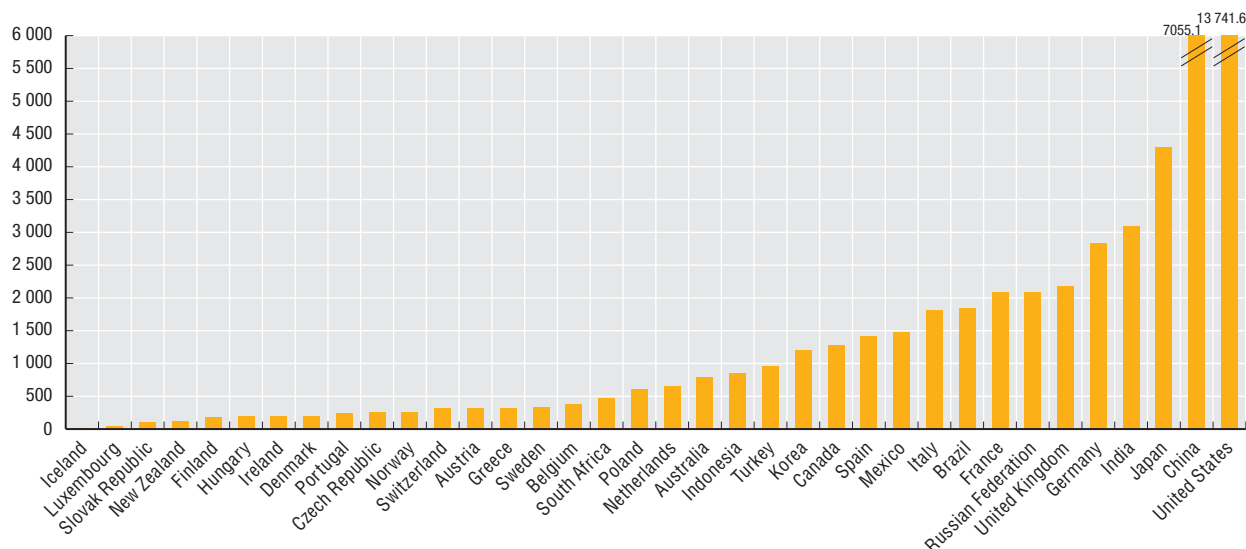
Billion US dollars, current prices and PPPs

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	367.3	392.5	412.3	437.0	463.9	497.4	524.8	552.2	584.9	622.3	655.9	696.8	742.6	794.6
Austria	181.0	187.2	193.9	198.6	208.1	215.9	230.2	231.7	244.3	252.4	266.4	275.8	292.0	308.7
Belgium	218.4	228.2	231.9	242.7	248.4	258.6	282.2	292.3	309.3	312.7	323.3	335.8	354.3	375.8
Canada	636.0	667.2	690.9	732.2	770.6	825.0	873.0	910.0	937.8	989.6	1 049.8	1 131.0	1 203.7	1 269.6
Czech Republic	122.7	132.6	141.0	142.6	143.8	147.2	153.8	165.4	172.1	183.6	197.1	208.4	225.5	248.0
Denmark	114.6	120.5	126.8	133.6	138.7	143.3	153.7	157.7	165.3	164.1	174.6	179.9	189.6	196.3
Finland	90.6	96.1	99.0	108.0	116.8	122.4	132.8	138.3	143.5	144.4	156.3	161.0	171.6	183.6
France	1 155.4	1 203.9	1 242.9	1 301.9	1 369.1	1 425.2	1 532.9	1 630.1	1 711.2	1 700.6	1 767.5	1 869.4	1 962.5	2 078.0
Germany	1 770.2	1 840.4	1 891.7	1 935.8	1 989.7	2 063.8	2 130.2	2 211.8	2 275.4	2 358.4	2 467.8	2 587.7	2 704.5	2 829.1
Greece	150.1	156.4	162.8	173.0	178.9	185.4	200.8	218.3	237.3	248.9	267.4	276.8	297.7	318.1
Hungary	90.4	93.7	96.9	103.3	110.1	115.8	125.3	138.0	149.3	156.9	164.0	171.1	181.6	188.6
Iceland	6.1	6.2	6.5	7.1	7.6	7.9	8.1	8.7	8.9	8.9	9.9	10.4	10.7	11.1
Ireland	57.7	64.6	71.0	79.7	89.1	97.3	108.9	117.8	129.7	137.5	148.2	160.5	177.8	196.2
Italy	1 146.0	1 202.5	1 241.9	1 285.5	1 350.5	1 377.2	1 455.7	1 546.0	1 532.0	1 563.9	1 595.5	1 648.2	1 730.3	1 802.2
Japan	2 721.2	2 831.1	2 964.2	3 061.1	3 031.7	3 071.1	3 246.3	3 330.6	3 417.2	3 510.1	3 710.0	3 872.8	4 093.3	4 295.9
Korea	518.9	578.0	630.2	670.5	631.5	701.4	772.8	821.7	888.9	910.8	981.2	1 027.4	1 114.9	1 201.8
Luxembourg	15.4	15.9	16.7	17.1	18.4	21.1	23.4	23.8	25.7	27.4	29.8	31.7	35.8	38.3
Mexico	718.2	687.7	736.9	799.9	849.5	894.1	985.9	1 009.3	1 047.7	1 108.2	1 185.8	1 290.8	1 396.5	1 479.9
Netherlands	317.3	333.9	352.2	376.3	400.2	425.8	467.7	494.1	515.8	514.5	540.7	572.9	606.7	642.4
New Zealand	60.2	63.9	66.6	69.8	71.3	76.4	80.2	84.7	89.2	93.1	98.5	102.2	108.6	114.8
Norway	96.9	103.0	114.3	123.2	121.5	133.0	162.1	167.4	168.2	174.9	194.1	218.7	242.9	251.7
Poland	263.0	287.0	311.5	339.9	362.5	382.6	403.8	419.0	442.1	458.0	497.1	526.1	566.0	609.4
Portugal	123.5	131.4	137.2	145.8	153.7	163.9	174.5	183.3	191.3	196.3	201.4	217.9	229.2	242.0
Slovak Republic	41.3	44.7	48.6	52.5	55.6	56.1	59.2	64.9	69.8	73.2	79.0	87.1	97.1	108.4
Spain	601.8	631.0	660.7	700.9	750.6	791.5	857.4	920.2	994.3	1 040.0	1 108.6	1 188.1	1 300.9	1 417.4
Sweden	182.3	193.4	200.5	207.3	214.8	228.5	246.0	248.8	258.9	269.4	288.5	291.7	312.9	334.8
Switzerland	184.5	188.9	194.5	202.8	210.5	215.2	227.7	233.9	245.2	246.4	257.5	265.8	287.7	308.6
Turkey	390.1	426.7	466.5	511.2	535.5	517.7	588.6	561.2	572.1	588.1	688.8	781.2	881.1	960.3
United Kingdom	1 090.2	1 146.3	1 220.1	1 308.3	1 363.1	1 423.0	1 533.5	1 630.6	1 713.7	1 778.5	1 899.5	1 968.8	2 068.2	2 168.1
United States	7 017.5	7 342.3	7 762.3	8 250.9	8 694.6	9 216.2	9 764.8	10 075.9	10 417.6	10 908.0	11 630.9	12 364.1	13 116.5	13 741.6
EU27 total	..	8 358.1	8 705.3	9 115.3	9 530.1	9 919.9	10 570.3	11 157.0	11 633.5	11 958.9	12 594.7	13 207.5	14 009.9	14 852.4
OECD total	20 465.1	21 397.1	22 492.6	23 718.3	24 650.3	25 800.1	27 505.9	28 587.7	29 658.7	30 741.2	32 635.4	34 520.1	36 702.7	38 715.2
Brazil	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 585.1	..	1 833.6
China	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 333.2	..	7 055.1
India	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2 341.0	..	3 092.1
Indonesia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	707.9	..	841.1
Russian Federation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 697.5	..	2 088.2
South Africa	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	397.5	..	463.3

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540624022413>

Gross domestic product

Billion US dollars, current prices and PPPs, 2007



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/534570242112>

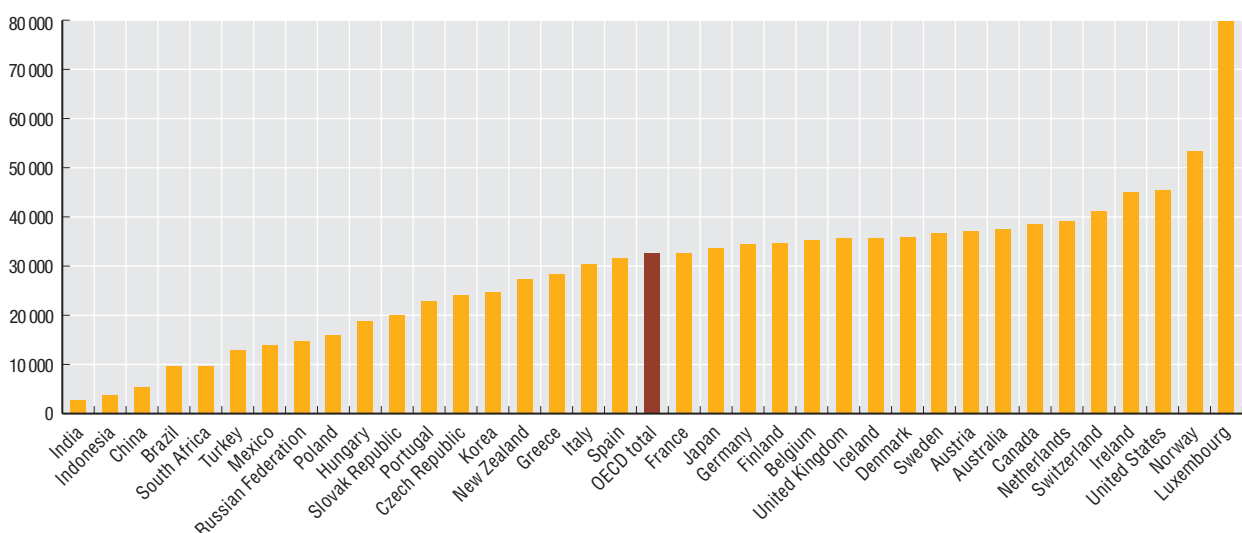
SIZE OF GDP

GDP per capita
US dollars, current prices and PPPs

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	20 466	21 573	22 385	23 488	24 662	26 128	27 233	28 281	29 610	31 139	32 429	33 963	35 666	37 565
Austria	22 802	23 549	24 361	24 927	26 083	27 011	28 736	28 804	30 225	31 096	32 589	33 496	35 259	37 119
Belgium	21 590	22 509	22 839	23 839	24 342	25 299	27 540	28 435	29 946	30 146	31 035	32 063	33 608	35 382
Canada	21 933	22 771	23 334	24 481	25 554	27 135	28 447	29 334	29 893	31 242	32 811	35 002	36 867	38 500
Czech Republic	11 871	12 839	13 668	13 837	13 966	14 312	14 975	16 178	16 872	18 000	19 311	20 366	21 966	24 027
Denmark	22 007	23 038	24 096	25 274	26 146	26 926	28 789	29 445	30 756	30 441	32 314	33 196	34 871	35 961
Finland	17 805	18 811	19 316	21 008	22 666	23 698	25 653	26 652	27 592	27 703	29 905	30 695	32 586	34 718
France	19 514	20 262	20 845	21 760	22 800	23 616	25 232	26 643	27 772	27 410	28 305	29 759	31 055	32 686
Germany	21 741	22 537	23 098	23 593	24 256	25 142	25 919	26 862	27 587	28 579	29 912	31 380	32 835	34 391
Greece	14 155	14 708	15 205	16 052	16 510	17 032	18 389	19 934	21 598	22 577	24 173	24 928	26 701	28 423
Hungary	8 815	9 068	9 402	10 034	10 722	11 312	12 268	13 549	14 694	15 494	16 223	16 958	18 030	18 754
Iceland	22 892	23 266	24 208	26 110	27 832	28 632	28 807	30 451	31 088	30 787	33 702	35 009	35 096	35 697
Ireland	16 102	17 937	19 589	21 771	24 014	25 945	28 648	30 533	33 030	34 452	36 508	38 693	41 803	45 027
Italy	20 161	21 154	21 842	22 596	23 732	24 196	25 565	27 134	26 804	27 149	27 426	28 122	29 356	30 381
Japan	21 739	22 564	23 571	24 283	23 985	24 252	25 593	26 195	26 814	27 483	29 039	30 310	32 040	33 626
Korea	11 623	12 818	13 843	14 592	13 644	15 047	16 439	17 352	18 666	19 030	20 426	21 342	23 083	24 801
Luxembourg	38 152	38 919	40 169	40 736	43 094	48 857	53 315	53 921	57 546	60 737	65 156	68 211	75 754	79 793
Mexico	8 038	7 547	7 962	8 518	8 920	9 261	10 034	10 137	10 398	10 879	11 527	12 432	13 332	14 004
Netherlands	20 629	21 595	22 683	24 110	25 486	26 933	29 371	30 796	31 943	31 716	33 221	35 111	37 130	39 225
New Zealand	16 629	17 385	17 841	18 461	18 685	19 915	20 771	21 792	22 622	23 223	24 256	24 916	26 212	27 431
Norway	22 348	23 644	26 089	27 978	27 421	29 800	36 084	37 101	37 052	38 316	42 274	47 319	52 118	53 477
Poland	6 875	7 498	8 135	8 876	9 470	9 996	10 555	10 953	11 563	11 990	13 020	13 786	14 842	15 989
Portugal	12 348	13 097	13 644	14 446	15 176	16 113	17 067	17 804	18 447	18 799	19 178	20 656	21 656	22 815
Slovak Republic	7 732	8 325	9 041	9 745	10 323	10 403	10 962	12 058	12 970	13 603	14 681	16 175	18 020	20 079
Spain	15 301	16 021	16 735	17 706	18 896	19 824	21 295	22 597	24 067	24 759	25 968	27 377	29 520	31 586
Sweden	20 761	21 911	22 673	23 432	24 269	25 801	27 726	27 971	29 004	30 076	32 078	32 298	34 456	36 603
Switzerland	26 471	26 910	27 536	28 632	29 656	30 210	31 778	32 473	33 793	33 696	34 972	35 839	38 568	41 101
Turkey	6 440	6 922	7 441	8 181	8 439	8 046	8 724	8 178	8 217	8 316	9 595	10 841	12 074	12 993
United Kingdom	18 842	19 755	20 977	22 435	23 311	24 249	26 041	27 585	28 888	29 863	31 747	32 695	34 137	35 669
United States	26 636	27 542	28 780	30 228	31 485	32 994	34 574	35 308	36 145	37 489	39 609	41 718	43 839	45 489
EU27 total	..	17 460	18 156	18 981	19 819	20 590	21 884	23 037	23 959	24 526	25 716	26 849	28 364	29 946
OECD total	18 934	19 635	20 491	21 478	22 171	23 049	24 344	25 116	25 870	26 621	28 068	29 509	31 172	32 664
Brazil	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8 606	..	9 570
China	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 091	..	5 345
India	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2 126	..	2 753
Indonesia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 234	..	3 728
Russian Federation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11 861	..	14 743
South Africa	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8 477	..	9 736

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540641728538>

GDP per capita
US dollars, current prices and PPPs, 2007



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/534585063757>

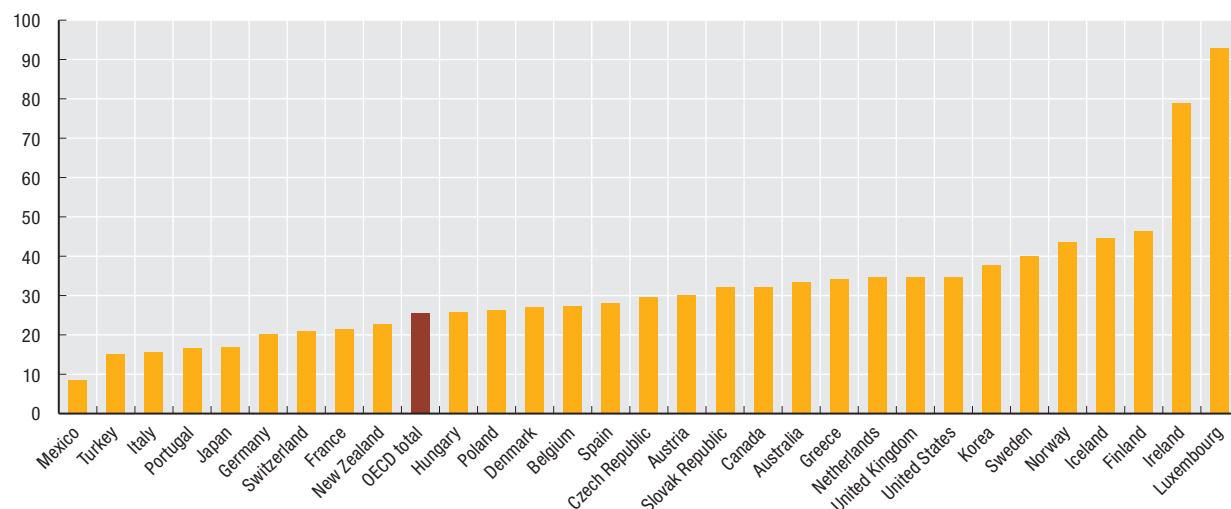
Volume index of GDP per capita

OECD = 100 in 2000, at 2000 price levels and PPPs

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	95.3	97.9	100.5	103.9	108.1	111.1	111.9	114.6	116.9	120.2	122.1	123.9	126.2	128.7
Austria	101.5	102.7	104.9	107.0	110.7	114.2	118.0	118.2	119.5	120.0	122.2	124.8	128.3	131.7
Belgium	97.9	100.1	101.1	104.4	105.9	109.3	113.1	113.6	114.8	115.5	118.4	119.9	122.7	125.1
Canada	98.2	100.0	100.5	103.7	107.1	112.1	116.9	117.7	119.7	120.8	123.4	125.7	128.2	130.4
Czech Republic	53.6	56.8	59.2	58.8	58.4	59.3	61.5	63.3	64.7	67.0	70.0	74.2	79.0	83.2
Denmark	102.2	104.9	107.2	110.1	112.1	114.6	118.3	118.7	118.8	118.9	121.4	124.0	127.7	129.3
Finland	81.7	84.6	87.4	92.5	97.0	100.6	105.4	107.9	109.4	111.1	114.9	117.8	123.0	128.0
France	90.7	92.3	93.0	94.7	97.7	100.4	103.6	104.8	105.2	105.6	107.5	108.9	110.6	112.3
Germany	95.5	97.0	97.7	99.3	101.3	103.3	106.5	107.6	107.4	107.1	108.4	109.3	112.7	115.6
Greece	64.3	65.5	66.5	68.5	70.4	72.5	75.5	78.5	80.9	85.1	89.0	91.2	95.0	98.4
Hungary	40.6	40.9	41.5	43.5	45.7	47.8	50.4	52.6	54.9	57.4	60.3	62.8	65.5	66.3
Iceland	98.4	98.0	102.1	106.4	111.9	115.1	118.3	121.3	120.4	122.6	130.5	138.6	140.8	142.9
Ireland	71.9	78.5	84.3	93.1	99.6	109.1	117.7	122.6	128.2	131.8	135.7	141.3	145.7	150.8
Italy	93.1	95.7	96.8	98.5	99.9	101.3	105.0	106.9	107.0	106.2	106.7	106.5	107.9	108.7
Japan	99.5	101.2	103.8	105.1	102.7	102.4	105.1	105.1	105.1	106.4	109.2	111.3	114.0	116.4
Korea	52.6	56.8	60.2	62.4	57.7	62.8	67.5	69.6	74.0	76.0	79.2	82.4	86.3	90.3
Luxembourg	174.1	174.1	174.2	182.2	191.6	204.8	219.0	223.0	229.7	230.5	237.5	246.0	257.8	267.0
Mexico	37.0	34.1	35.3	37.1	38.5	39.4	41.2	40.7	40.5	40.6	41.8	42.8	44.4	45.4
Netherlands	99.3	101.9	104.9	108.8	112.4	116.9	120.7	122.0	121.4	121.2	123.5	125.7	129.8	134.0
New Zealand	76.5	78.6	80.1	80.3	80.0	83.8	85.3	87.9	91.1	92.7	95.2	96.8	97.3	99.2
Norway	123.0	127.5	133.3	139.7	142.6	144.5	148.2	150.4	151.8	152.5	157.5	160.7	163.0	166.5
Poland	31.1	33.3	35.4	37.9	39.8	41.6	43.4	43.9	44.5	46.3	48.8	50.6	53.8	57.4
Portugal	56.3	58.5	60.5	62.8	65.6	67.8	70.1	71.1	71.1	70.0	70.7	71.0	71.7	72.9
Slovak Republic	36.4	38.4	41.0	42.7	44.5	44.5	45.0	46.7	49.0	51.3	53.9	57.4	62.2	68.6
Spain	71.3	73.1	74.7	77.4	80.6	84.0	87.5	89.6	90.8	92.0	93.5	95.3	97.5	99.3
Sweden	93.9	97.1	98.4	100.8	104.5	109.3	113.9	114.8	117.2	119.0	123.4	126.9	131.6	134.0
Switzerland	120.9	120.4	120.4	122.6	125.6	126.7	130.5	131.3	131.0	129.7	132.0	134.4	138.1	141.8
Turkey	30.4	32.0	33.7	36.4	36.9	35.2	35.8	33.2	34.8	36.0	38.8	41.9	44.2	45.6
United Kingdom	89.2	91.7	94.1	97.0	100.2	103.3	107.0	109.2	111.1	113.8	116.4	118.0	120.6	123.9
United States	121.2	122.9	126.0	130.1	134.1	138.5	142.0	141.6	142.5	144.7	148.6	151.6	154.3	155.9
OECD total	86.6	88.0	90.1	92.8	94.6	97.1	100.0	100.4	101.3	102.6	105.2	107.3	109.9	112.1

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540687570705>**Change in relative volume indices of GDP per capita**

Absolute differences between the 2007 and 1994 indices

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/534610852872>

NATIONAL INCOME PER CAPITA

While per capita gross domestic product is the indicator most commonly used to compare income levels, two other measures are preferred by many analysts. These are per capita gross national income (GNI) and net national income (NNI).

Definition

GNI is defined as GDP plus net receipts from abroad of wages and salaries and of property income.

Wages and salaries from abroad are those that are earned by residents, that is, by persons who essentially live and consume inside the economic territory but work abroad (this happens in border areas on a regular basis) or for persons that live and work abroad for only short periods (seasonal workers) and whose centre of economic interest thus remains in their home country. Guest-workers and other migrant workers who live abroad for twelve months or more are considered to be resident in the country where they are working. Such persons may send part of their earnings to relatives at home, but these remittances are treated as transfers between resident and non-resident households and do not enter into net receipts from abroad of wages and salaries.

Property income from abroad includes interest, dividends and all or part of the retained earnings of foreign enterprises owned fully or in part by residents. In most countries, net receipts of property income account for most of the difference between GDP and GNI. Note that retained earnings of foreign enterprises owned by residents may not actually return to the residents concerned, and, in some countries, there are restrictions on the repatriation of profits. Receipt of retained earnings is an imputation, and, since there is no actual transaction, it is necessary to impute an outflow of the same amount. The imputed outflow is treated as a financial transaction (a reinvestment of earnings abroad) and not as an outflow of property income.

Long-term trends

In the chart, countries are ranked according to GNI, which is usually around 15-19% higher than NNI. Note that the country rankings are not greatly affected by the choice of income measure; the only country that would be more than one place lower in the ranking if NNI were used is Japan, and countries that would be more than one place higher in the ranking are Iceland and the United Kingdom.

Over the period shown, the growth of per capita GNI mirrors that of per capita GDP, with Ireland, the Slovak Republic, Norway and Poland at the top end and Italy, Iceland, Japan and Austria with the lowest rates of growth.

Countries with large stocks of outward foreign direct investment may be shown as having large receipts of property income from abroad and therefore high GNI even though much of the property income may never actually be returned to the country, but instead add to the foreign direct investment.

Depreciation, which is deducted from GNI to obtain NNI, is the decline in the market value of fixed capital assets – dwellings, buildings, machinery, transport equipment, such as physical infrastructure, software, etc. – through wear and tear and obsolescence.

Comparability

Both measures are compiled according to the definitions of the 1993 *System of National Accounts*. There are, however, practical difficulties in the measurement both of international flows of wages and salaries and property income and of depreciation. It is for that reason that GDP per capita is the most widely used indicator of income or welfare, even though it is theoretically inferior to either GNI or NNI.

Note that for Australian and New Zealand data refer to fiscal year.

Source

- OECD (2008), *National Accounts of OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

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- OECD (2003), *The Sources of Economic Growth in OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.
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Online databases

- Annual National Accounts.
- OECD Economic Outlook Statistics.

Websites

- OECD Economic Outlook – Sources and Methods, www.oecd.org/eco/sources-and-methods.

Gross national income per capita

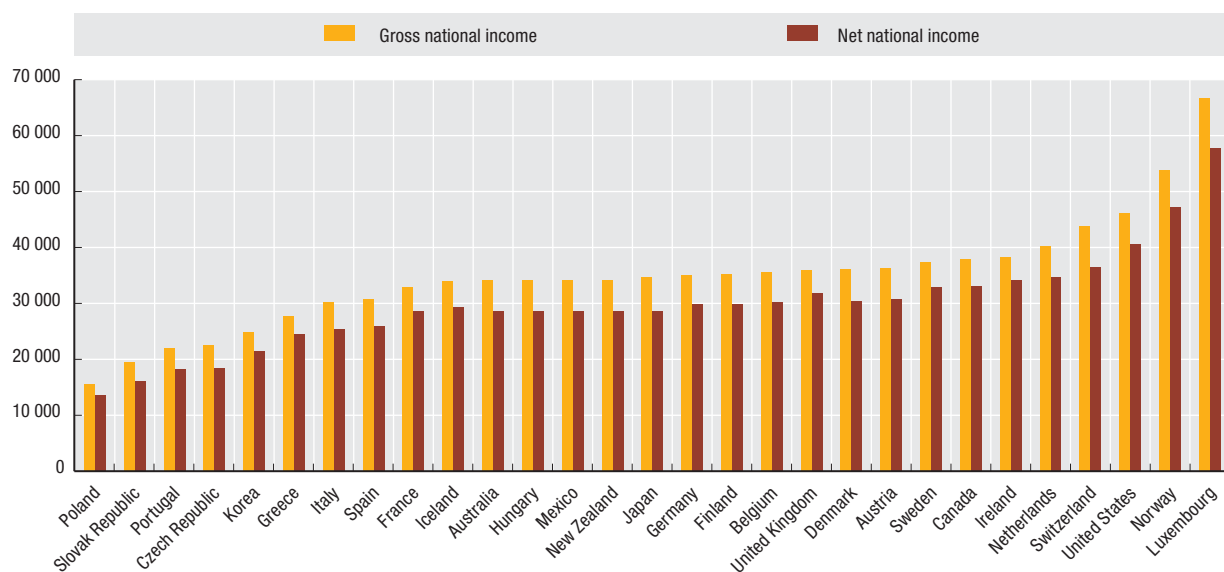
US dollars, current prices and PPPs

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	19 704	20 760	21 600	22 753	23 914	25 388	26 492	27 524	28 770	30 239	31 249	32 586	34 090	..
Austria	22 546	23 181	24 205	24 637	25 729	26 529	28 249	28 187	29 848	30 794	32 344	33 170	34 650	36 353
Belgium	22 019	22 899	23 288	24 333	24 784	25 795	28 163	28 866	30 325	30 564	31 315	32 214	33 829	35 575
Canada	21 137	21 969	22 544	23 713	24 705	26 217	27 706	28 504	29 145	30 506	32 143	34 377	36 548	37 970
Czech Republic	11 899	12 812	13 480	13 621	13 706	13 975	14 637	15 634	16 103	17 224	18 250	19 452	20 778	22 575
Denmark	21 683	22 792	23 788	24 916	25 851	26 699	28 180	29 029	30 393	30 255	32 462	33 659	35 519	36 139
Finland	17 065	18 210	18 809	20 629	22 143	23 385	25 474	26 601	27 672	27 345	30 117	30 865	32 916	35 139
France	19 593	20 300	20 953	21 902	22 972	23 977	25 579	26 959	27 848	27 582	28 530	29 951	31 270	32 857
Germany	21 624	22 370	22 977	23 422	24 005	24 873	25 676	26 595	27 246	28 380	30 198	31 766	33 414	34 977
Greece	14 504	15 074	15 532	16 403	16 863	17 160	18 438	20 059	21 655	22 447	24 002	24 539	26 146	27 612
Hungary	8 341	8 445	8 725	9 192	9 798	10 440	11 612	12 830	13 913	14 738	15 289	15 949	16 839	..
Iceland	22 188	22 615	23 652	25 515	27 232	28 071	28 010	29 494	31 037	30 305	32 332	33 760	32 574	34 027
Ireland	14 778	16 186	17 782	19 446	21 296	22 339	24 689	25 813	27 404	29 439	31 260	33 182	36 256	38 299
Italy	19 784	20 828	21 565	22 450	23 569	24 091	25 373	26 955	26 594	26 927	27 268	28 034	29 309	30 220
Japan	21 818	22 637	23 827	24 602	24 314	24 564	25 920	26 632	27 261	27 961	29 599	31 026	32 948	34 749
Korea	11 593	12 774	13 790	14 512	13 422	14 872	16 368	17 321	18 688	19 050	20 473	21 310	23 114	24 838
Luxembourg	34 263	36 041	37 393	39 205	39 643	43 897	46 456	47 897	47 726	47 086	56 942	58 561	57 625	66 590
Mexico	7 804	7 206	7 639	8 259	8 646	9 028	9 799	9 928	10 215	10 687	11 371	12 238	13 149	..
Netherlands	20 769	21 916	22 885	24 431	25 221	27 226	30 005	31 028	32 236	32 077	34 111	35 280	38 305	40 278
New Zealand	15 503	16 269	16 518	17 298	17 785	18 715	19 415	20 553	21 405	22 005	22 717	23 128	24 332	..
Norway	21 973	23 357	25 793	27 685	27 112	29 550	35 597	37 134	37 166	38 554	42 355	47 646	52 156	53 861
Poland	6 815	7 390	8 080	8 810	9 406	9 940	10 517	10 926	11 524	11 874	12 658	13 523	14 474	15 493
Portugal	12 264	13 071	13 570	14 272	14 958	15 843	16 647	17 279	18 065	18 547	18 876	20 255	20 881	21 904
Slovak Republic	7 671	8 362	9 106	9 759	10 331	10 344	10 901	12 056	12 922	12 927	14 093	15 722	17 591	19 523
Spain	15 015	15 926	16 577	17 546	18 710	19 638	21 116	22 232	23 703	24 472	25 622	26 991	29 030	30 819
Sweden	20 252	21 398	22 168	22 921	23 925	25 546	27 487	27 698	28 905	30 347	32 008	32 249	35 032	37 323
Switzerland	26 987	27 673	28 414	30 069	31 274	32 155	34 113	33 969	34 884	36 240	37 467	39 222	42 081	43 825
United Kingdom	18 795	19 600	20 837	22 371	23 533	24 141	25 993	27 749	29 316	30 270	32 201	33 243	34 364	35 842
United States	26 195	27 296	28 562	30 090	31 615	33 243	35 162	35 775	36 324	37 517	39 803	42 272	44 645	46 098
EU27 total	..	17 346	18 059	18 897	19 732	20 495	21 791	22 925	23 829	24 434	25 731	26 858	28 377	29 851

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540732622743>

Gross and net national income per capita

US dollars, current prices and PPPs, 2007 or latest available year

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/534651883815>

EVOLUTION OF GDP

Gross domestic product (GDP) is a standard measure of the value of production by a country during a period. For the definition refer to Size of GDP. Growth of real GDP, i.e. ignoring price changes, is widely used to assess governments' performance in managing their economies.

Definition

In order to calculate the growth rate of GDP free of the direct effects of inflation, data at fixed, or constant, prices should be used. Price relativities change over time, and the 1993 System of National Accounts recommends that the fixed prices used should be representative of the periods for which the growth rates are calculated, which means that new fixed prices should be introduced frequently, typically every year. The growth rates of GDP between successive periods are linked together to form chain volume indices. All OECD countries derive their "volume" estimates in this way, except for Korea, and Mexico. These two like many non-OECD countries, only revise their fixed weights every five or ten years. Such practices tend to lead to biased growth rates, usually upward.

The growth rates for OECD total are averages of the growth rates of individual countries weighted by the relative size of each country's GDP in US dollars. Conversion to US dollars is done using purchasing power parities so that each country is weighted by the relative size of its real GDP.

Long-term trends

Annual growth for OECD total averaged 2.6% from 1994 to 2007. Ireland and the Slovak Republic substantially outperformed the average with annual growth of over 5%. Growth rates in Ireland were particularly impressive between 1995 and 2000 – the so-called Celtic Tiger period. Korea's growth was badly affected by the financial crisis in Asia in 1998 when real GDP fell by nearly 7% but has since returned to relatively high rates. At the other end of the scale, Germany, Italy, Japan and Switzerland recorded average growth rates of 1.5% or less over the period.

The Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and the Slovak Republic all experienced substantial falls in real GDP in the early years of their transition to market-based economies but generally began to achieve positive rates of growth during the second half of the 1990s. Their growth rates have been among the highest of all OECD countries in recent years.

Comparability

The GDP statistics used for these growth rates have been compiled according to the 1993 System of National Accounts. GDP estimates at current prices are generally regarded as highly comparable between countries. However, there is more variability in how countries calculate their volume estimates of GDP, particularly in respect of government consumption and some types of capital expenditures, although this doesn't necessarily imply less comparability in the estimates of growth themselves.

Note that for Australia and New Zealand data refer to fiscal year.

Sources

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Real GDP growth

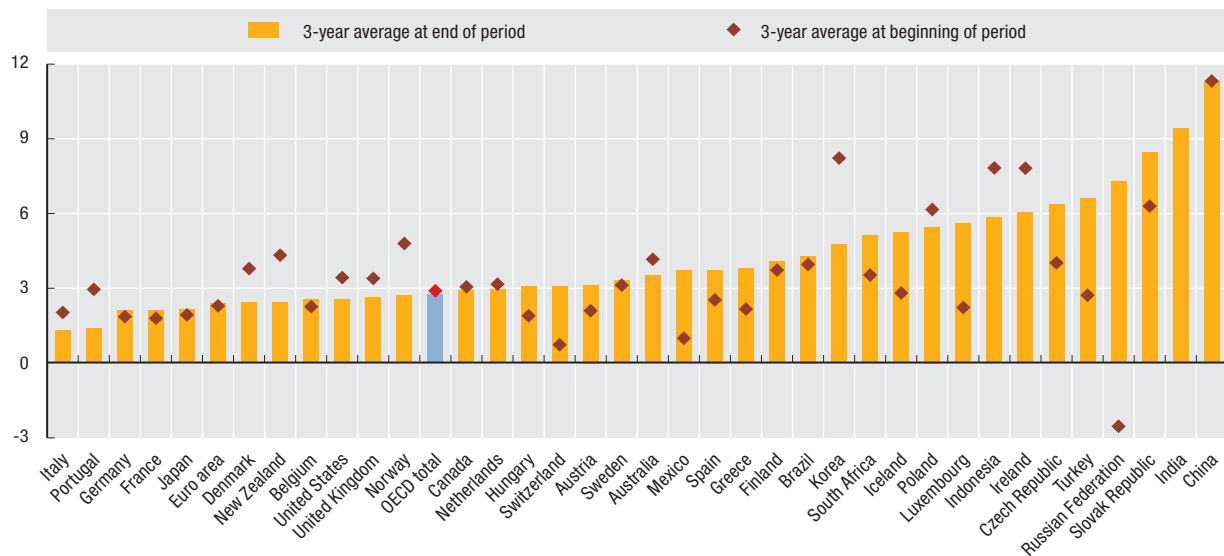
Annual growth in percentage

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	4.5	4.1	3.9	4.5	5.2	4.0	1.9	3.8	3.2	4.0	2.8	3.0	3.2	4.4
Austria	2.7	1.4	2.2	2.1	3.6	3.3	3.7	0.5	1.6	0.8	2.5	2.9	3.4	3.1
Belgium	3.2	2.4	1.2	3.5	1.7	3.4	3.7	0.8	1.5	1.0	3.0	1.8	3.0	2.8
Canada	4.8	2.8	1.6	4.2	4.1	5.5	5.2	1.8	2.9	1.9	3.1	2.9	3.1	2.7
Czech Republic	2.2	5.9	4.0	-0.7	-0.8	1.3	3.6	2.5	1.9	3.6	4.5	6.3	6.8	6.0
Denmark	5.5	3.1	2.8	3.2	2.2	2.6	3.5	0.7	0.5	0.4	2.3	2.4	3.3	1.6
Finland	3.6	3.9	3.7	6.1	5.2	3.9	5.0	2.6	1.6	1.8	3.7	2.8	4.9	4.5
France	2.2	2.1	1.1	2.2	3.5	3.3	3.9	1.9	1.0	1.1	2.5	1.9	2.2	2.2
Germany	2.7	1.9	1.0	1.8	2.0	2.0	3.2	1.2	0.0	-0.2	1.2	0.8	3.0	2.5
Greece	2.0	2.1	2.4	3.6	3.4	3.4	4.5	4.2	3.4	5.6	4.9	2.9	4.5	4.0
Hungary	2.9	1.5	1.3	4.6	4.9	4.2	5.2	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.8	4.0	4.1	1.1
Iceland	3.6	0.1	4.8	4.9	6.3	4.1	4.3	3.9	0.1	2.4	7.7	7.5	4.4	3.8
Ireland	5.8	9.6	8.1	11.5	8.4	10.7	9.2	5.8	6.4	4.5	4.7	6.4	5.7	6.0
Italy	2.2	2.8	1.1	1.9	1.4	1.5	3.7	1.8	0.5	0.0	1.5	0.6	1.8	1.5
Japan	1.1	2.0	2.7	1.6	-2.0	-0.1	2.9	0.2	0.3	1.4	2.7	1.9	2.4	2.1
Korea	8.5	9.2	7.0	4.7	-6.9	9.5	8.5	3.8	7.0	3.1	4.7	4.2	5.1	5.0
Luxembourg	3.8	1.4	1.5	5.9	6.5	8.4	8.4	2.5	4.1	1.5	4.5	5.2	6.4	5.2
Mexico	4.4	-6.2	5.2	6.8	5.0	3.8	6.6	0.0	0.8	1.4	4.0	3.2	4.8	3.2
Netherlands	3.0	3.1	3.4	4.3	3.9	4.7	3.9	1.9	0.1	0.3	2.2	2.0	3.4	3.5
New Zealand	5.3	4.2	3.5	1.7	0.5	5.3	2.4	3.8	5.1	3.5	4.0	2.7	1.6	3.0
Norway	5.1	4.2	5.1	5.4	2.7	2.0	3.3	2.0	1.5	1.0	3.9	2.7	2.3	3.1
Poland	5.3	7.0	6.2	7.1	5.0	4.5	4.3	1.2	1.4	3.9	5.3	3.6	6.2	6.6
Portugal	1.0	4.3	3.6	4.2	4.9	3.8	3.9	2.0	0.8	-0.8	1.5	0.9	1.4	1.9
Slovak Republic	6.2	5.8	6.9	4.4	4.4	0.0	1.4	3.4	4.8	4.7	5.2	6.5	8.5	10.4
Spain	2.4	2.8	2.4	3.9	4.5	4.7	5.0	3.6	2.7	3.1	3.3	3.6	3.9	3.7
Sweden	3.9	4.0	1.5	2.5	3.8	4.6	4.4	1.1	2.4	1.9	4.1	3.3	4.2	2.5
Switzerland	1.2	0.4	0.6	2.1	2.6	1.3	3.6	1.2	0.4	-0.2	2.5	2.5	3.4	3.3
Turkey	-5.5	7.2	7.0	7.5	3.1	-3.4	6.8	-5.7	6.2	5.3	9.4	8.4	6.9	4.5
United Kingdom	4.3	3.0	2.9	3.3	3.6	3.5	3.9	2.5	2.1	2.8	2.8	2.1	2.8	3.0
United States	4.1	2.5	3.7	4.5	4.2	4.5	3.7	0.8	1.6	2.5	3.6	2.9	2.8	2.0
Euro area	..	..	1.5	2.6	2.8	2.9	3.9	1.9	0.9	0.8	2.1	1.7	2.9	2.6
EU27 total	..	..	1.8	2.7	3.0	3.0	3.9	2.0	1.2	1.3	2.5	2.0	3.1	2.9
OECD total	3.1	2.5	3.1	3.6	2.6	3.3	4.0	1.2	1.6	2.0	3.2	2.6	3.1	2.6
Brazil	5.3	4.4	2.2	3.4	0.0	0.3	4.3	1.3	2.7	1.1	5.7	3.2	4.0	5.7
China	13.1	10.9	10.0	9.3	7.8	7.6	8.4	8.3	9.1	10.0	10.1	10.4	11.6	11.9
India	..	..	..	..	6.0	6.9	5.7	3.9	4.6	6.9	7.9	9.1	9.8	9.3
Indonesia	7.5	8.2	7.8	4.7	-13.1	0.8	5.4	3.6	4.5	4.8	5.0	5.7	5.5	6.3
Russian Federation	..	..	-3.6	1.4	-5.3	6.4	10.0	5.1	4.7	7.3	7.2	6.4	7.4	8.1
South Africa	3.2	3.1	4.3	2.6	0.5	2.4	4.2	2.7	3.7	3.1	4.9	5.0	5.3	5.1

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540755823556>

Real GDP growth

Average annual growth in percentage



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/534661378083>

HOUSEHOLD SAVING

Household saving is the main domestic source of funds to finance capital investment, which is a major impetus for long-term economic growth.

Definition

In the national accounts, saving is estimated by subtracting household consumption expenditure from household disposable income plus the change in net equity of households in pension funds (since this component is also a determinant of household disposable income but with an opposite sign).

Household disposable income consists essentially of income from employment and from the operation of unincorporated enterprises, plus receipts of interest, dividends and social benefits minus payments of income taxes, interest and social security contributions. Note that enterprise income includes imputed rents paid by owner-occupiers of dwellings.

Household consumption expenditure consists mainly of cash outlays for consumer goods and services but it also includes the imputed expenditures that owner occupiers pay, as occupiers, to themselves as owners of their dwellings.

Households include households plus non-profit institutions serving households.

The household saving rate is calculated as the ratio of household saving to household disposable income (plus the change in net equity of households in pension funds).

Long-term trends

Household saving rates are very variable between countries. This is partly due to institutional differences between countries such as the extent to which old-age pensions are funded by government rather than through personal saving and the extent to which governments provide insurance against sickness and unemployment. The age composition of the population is also relevant because the elderly tend to run down financial assets acquired during their working life, so that a country with a high share of retired persons will usually have a low saving rate.

Over the period covered in the table, saving rates have been stable or rising in France and Germany but have been falling in the other countries. Particularly sharp declines occurred in Korea, Italy, Poland, Belgium and Japan. Negative saving was recorded in some countries, in particular in Denmark, Greece and New Zealand.

Comparability

Saving rates may be measured on either a net or a gross basis. Net saving rates are measured after deducting consumption of fixed capital (depreciation), in respect of assets used in enterprises operated by households and in respect of owner-occupied dwellings, from saving and from the disposable income of households, so that both saving and disposable income are shown on a net basis.

Because saving is in essence a residual between two large aggregates – disposable income and household consumption expenditure – both of which are subject to estimation errors, estimates of savings also tend to be subject to large relative errors and revisions over time.

Note that for Australia and New Zealand data refer to fiscal year.

Source

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Household net saving rates

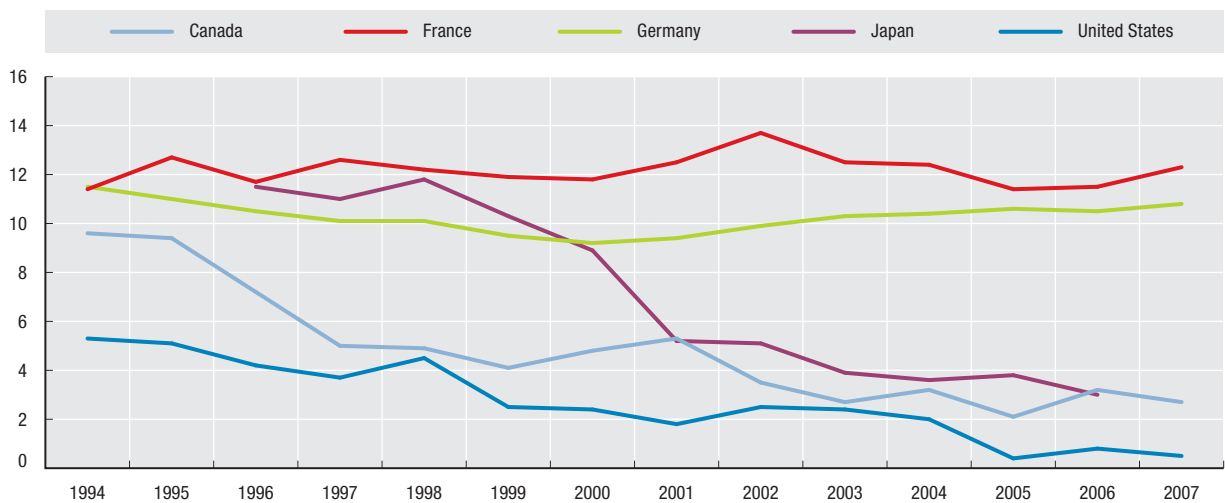
As a percentage of household disposable income

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	5.9	6.4	6.2	2.9	1.9	1.8	2.2	0.6	-2.7	-3.2	-2.1	-0.2	0.8	..
Austria	..	10.9	8.6	7.3	8.2	8.8	8.4	7.5	7.6	8.7	8.9	9.3	9.7	..
Belgium	..	16.1	14.3	13.4	12.6	12.7	10.9	11.8	11.1	9.6	8.2	7.5	8.0	8.6
Canada	9.6	9.4	7.2	5.0	4.9	4.1	4.8	5.3	3.5	2.7	3.2	2.1	3.2	2.7
Czech Republic	..	10.0	6.1	6.0	4.1	3.4	3.3	2.2	3.0	2.4	0.5	3.2	4.5	4.3
Denmark	-1.6	1.3	0.9	-1.6	0.0	-3.3	-1.9	3.7	4.1	4.1	0.7	-4.0	-3.1	..
Finland	1.1	3.9	0.4	2.0	0.5	2.0	-0.1	0.1	0.6	1.4	2.5	0.5	-2.0	..
France	11.4	12.7	11.7	12.6	12.2	11.9	11.8	12.5	13.7	12.5	12.4	11.4	11.5	12.3
Germany	11.5	11.0	10.5	10.1	10.1	9.5	9.2	9.4	9.9	10.3	10.4	10.6	10.5	10.8
Greece	..	..	..	..	..	..	-6.0	-7.5	-8.0	-7.3	-7.2	-8.0	-7.3	..
Hungary	..	..	..	..	..	..	8.9	8.7	6.6	4.4	7.0	6.9	7.3	..
Ireland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5.4	5.4	8.3	5.6	3.8	2.7
Italy	18.2	17.1	17.9	15.2	11.4	10.3	8.5	10.5	11.3	10.3	10.4	10.0	8.7	..
Japan	..	..	11.5	11.0	11.8	10.3	8.9	5.2	5.1	3.9	3.6	3.8	3.0	..
Korea	20.7	17.5	17.5	16.1	24.9	17.5	10.7	6.4	2.2	3.9	6.3	4.7	3.4	2.5
Netherlands	14.4	14.3	12.7	13.3	12.2	9.0	6.9	9.7	8.7	7.6	7.4	6.3	6.4	..
New Zealand	-3.8	-3.6	-2.6	-4.6	-4.2	-5.3	-3.8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Norway	5.4	4.8	2.6	3.0	5.7	4.7	4.3	3.1	8.2	8.9	7.2	10.1	0.1	-1.2
Poland	..	14.6	11.7	11.7	12.1	10.6	8.4	9.9	6.0	5.2	4.7	4.7	4.1	..
Portugal	..	6.9	5.5	4.3	4.0	3.3	3.8	4.6	4.1	4.0	3.1	2.5	1.1	-0.6
Slovak Republic	..	5.2	8.9	9.4	7.7	6.3	6.1	3.9	3.6	1.4	0.7	1.4	0.7	2.7
Spain	..	..	..	..	..	..	5.9	5.6	5.6	6.0	4.9	4.7	4.2	3.0
Sweden	..	9.5	7.3	4.9	4.0	3.6	4.8	9.3	9.1	9.0	7.7	6.8	7.8	9.3
Switzerland	..	12.7	10.9	10.7	10.7	10.8	11.7	11.9	10.7	9.4	9.0	9.9	12.0	..
United States	5.3	5.1	4.2	3.7	4.5	2.5	2.4	1.8	2.5	2.4	2.0	0.4	0.8	0.5
Euro area	..	..	..	..	..	9.1	8.2	9.1	9.7	9.4	9.2	8.6	8.2	8.6
EU27 total	..	..	..	..	..	7.1	6.3	7.4	7.2	7.1	6.6	6.4	5.6	5.2
Brazil	..	..	..	..	..	..	7.8	8.2	8.8	8.6	..	7.0	..	..
Russian Federation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12.8	13.2	11.8	12.0	12.6	..

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540816472883>

Household net saving rates

As a percentage of household disposable income



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/534668455152>

INVESTMENT RATES

The share of total GDP that is devoted to investment in fixed assets is an important indicator of future economic growth, although not all types of investment contribute to future growth in the same way. The following tables show the total of gross fixed capital formation (investment or GFCF) as a share of GDP and two of the main components – dwellings and machinery and equipment.

Definition

Gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) reflects the acquisition, less disposal, of fixed assets, i.e. products which are expected to be used in production for several years. Acquisitions include both purchases of assets (new or second-hand) and the construction of assets by producers for their own use. Disposals include sales of assets for scrap as well as sales of used assets in a working condition to other producers: New Zealand, Mexico and some Central European countries import substantial quantities of used assets.

Fixed assets consist of machinery and equipment; dwellings and other buildings; roads, bridges, airfields and dams; orchards and tree plantations; improvements to land such

as fencing, leveling and draining; draught animals and other animals that are kept for the milk and wool that they produce; computer software and databases; entertainment, literary or artistic originals, and expenditures on mineral exploration. What all these things have in common is that they contribute to future production. This may not be obvious in the case of dwellings but, in the national accounts, flats and houses are considered to produce housing services which are consumed by owners or tenants over the life of the building.

In calculating the shares, gross fixed capital formation and GDP are both valued at current market prices.

Comparability

When the System of National Accounts was revised in 1993, the scope of GFCF was widened to include mineral exploration, computer software and entertainment, literary and artistic originals. Comparability of these items has improved in recent years but the scope with which the various items are covered is smaller in some countries, particularly in the case of the own-account production of software.

Note that for Australia and New Zealand data refer to fiscal year.

Long-term trends

The total investment rate now averages 21% for the OECD as a whole but rates are substantially higher than this in Spain, Iceland, Korea and Australia and well below 20% in United Kingdom, Germany and Sweden. For the OECD as a whole, total investment rates are largely unchanged compared to 1994-1996. Particularly sharp falls occurred in Korea, the Czech Republic, Japan and Germany, although in Korea, the Czech Republic and Japan, investment rates remain well above the OECD average. Total investment rates are now much higher than at the beginning of the 1990s in Iceland, Ireland, Spain and Greece.

Investment in machinery and equipment accounts for more than 30% of GFCF in most OECD countries, but investment rates tend to be higher than this in countries with a significant manufacturing base, such as Japan and Switzerland. Over the period shown, the machinery investment rates have fallen in most countries, with particularly sharp falls in Luxembourg, Korea, Ireland and the Netherlands, reflecting higher growth of service activities. Rates grew most in Greece and Iceland.

Investment rates in dwellings were particularly high at both the beginning and the end of the period in Norway and Portugal. Ireland, Spain and the Slovak Republic recorded substantial increases over the period, but a number of countries recorded large falls: Luxembourg, Germany, Japan and Austria. In the short term, rates of investment in dwellings are sensitive to the business cycle, but, over the long run, investment rates in dwellings reflect population growth rates either through natural growth or immigration, and rising affluence, as is evident for Ireland and Norway.

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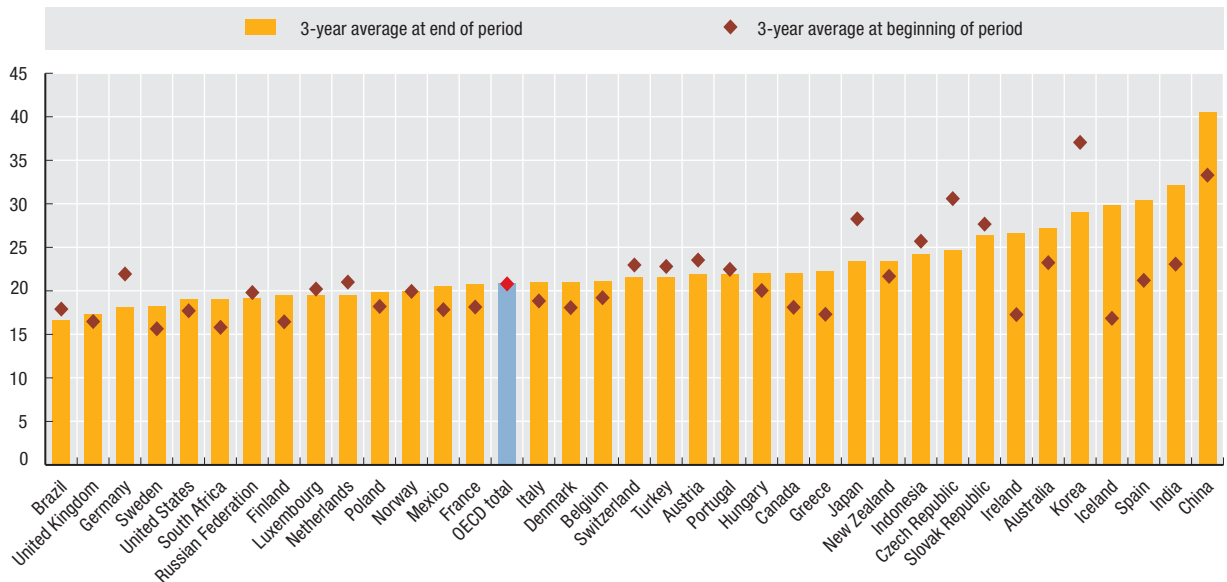
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Gross fixed capital formation*As a percentage of GDP*

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	23.9	22.9	22.9	24.0	24.2	24.8	22.0	22.9	24.8	25.4	25.8	27.0	26.9	27.7
Austria	22.9	23.6	24.1	23.9	24.0	23.5	24.0	23.3	21.7	22.4	22.0	21.8	21.7	22.2
Belgium	18.9	19.3	19.4	20.0	20.2	20.6	20.8	20.4	19.2	18.8	19.6	20.4	21.0	21.7
Canada	18.8	17.6	17.9	19.8	19.9	19.8	19.2	19.6	19.5	19.6	20.3	21.3	22.3	22.6
Czech Republic	28.2	31.5	32.1	29.9	28.2	27.0	28.0	28.0	27.5	26.7	25.8	24.9	24.6	24.3
Denmark	17.2	18.4	18.6	19.6	20.4	19.8	20.2	19.8	19.6	19.3	19.3	19.5	21.3	22.2
Finland	15.6	16.6	17.1	18.3	19.0	19.0	19.4	19.5	17.9	18.1	18.2	18.9	19.3	20.3
France	18.4	18.1	17.9	17.5	17.9	18.8	19.5	19.5	18.8	18.8	19.3	20.0	20.8	21.5
Germany	22.6	21.9	21.3	21.0	21.1	21.3	21.5	20.0	18.3	17.9	17.5	17.4	18.2	18.7
Greece	17.1	17.0	17.8	18.1	19.4	20.8	21.6	21.6	22.5	23.7	22.6	21.6	22.5	22.5
Hungary	19.6	19.6	20.9	21.7	23.1	23.3	23.0	23.0	23.0	22.0	22.5	23.5	21.6	21.0
Iceland	15.9	15.7	18.9	19.7	24.0	21.8	22.9	21.5	18.2	19.9	23.5	28.4	33.7	27.5
Ireland	16.1	17.1	18.6	19.9	21.4	23.1	23.1	22.3	21.6	22.3	24.2	26.6	26.8	26.3
Italy	18.5	19.1	18.9	18.9	19.3	19.6	20.3	20.3	20.9	20.4	20.5	20.7	21.0	21.1
Japan	28.5	28.0	28.3	27.7	25.9	25.5	25.2	24.7	23.3	22.8	22.7	23.3	23.5	23.2
Korea	36.4	37.3	37.5	35.6	30.3	29.7	31.1	29.5	29.1	29.9	29.5	29.3	29.0	28.8
Luxembourg	20.6	19.9	20.1	21.7	21.8	23.5	20.8	22.6	22.6	22.2	21.1	20.4	18.5	19.6
Mexico	19.4	16.2	17.9	19.5	20.9	21.2	21.4	20.0	19.3	18.9	19.7	20.1	20.8	20.8
Netherlands	20.6	20.8	21.6	21.9	22.2	22.9	21.9	21.1	20.0	19.5	18.8	18.9	19.7	20.0
New Zealand	20.9	22.1	22.0	21.1	20.1	20.9	20.4	20.8	21.4	22.6	23.4	24.1	23.0	22.9
Norway	19.8	19.8	20.2	22.0	25.0	21.9	18.4	18.1	17.9	17.3	18.0	18.8	19.6	21.3
Poland	17.1	17.7	19.8	22.4	24.1	24.4	23.7	20.7	18.7	18.2	18.1	18.2	19.7	21.7
Portugal	21.9	22.5	23.0	25.2	26.5	26.8	27.1	26.5	25.0	22.9	22.6	22.2	21.7	21.8
Slovak Republic	26.4	24.8	31.8	33.9	35.7	29.5	25.8	28.6	27.4	24.8	24.0	26.5	26.5	26.1
Spain	20.7	21.5	21.4	21.8	23.0	24.6	25.8	26.0	26.3	27.2	28.0	29.4	30.7	31.0
Sweden	15.3	15.7	15.9	15.5	16.3	17.0	17.6	17.5	16.8	16.3	16.4	17.4	18.2	19.0
Switzerland	23.5	23.3	22.1	21.6	22.2	22.2	22.7	21.9	21.3	20.5	20.8	21.2	21.4	22.0
Turkey	22.9	22.2	23.3	24.6	22.9	18.9	20.4	15.9	16.7	17.0	20.3	21.0	22.3	21.5
United Kingdom	16.1	16.6	16.7	16.7	17.7	17.4	17.1	16.8	16.8	16.4	16.7	16.9	17.2	17.8
United States	17.2	17.7	18.2	18.6	19.1	19.6	19.9	19.2	17.9	17.9	18.5	19.2	19.3	18.4
EU27 total	..	19.7	19.6	19.5	20.0	20.4	20.6	20.2	19.6	19.4	19.6	20.0	20.7	21.3
OECD total	..	20.5	20.9	21.0	21.0	21.2	21.3	20.7	19.9	19.8	20.1	20.7	21.0	20.9
Brazil	18.5	18.3	16.9	17.4	17.0	15.7	16.8	17.0	16.4	15.3	16.1	15.9	16.4	17.5
China	34.5	33.0	32.4	31.8	33.0	33.5	34.3	34.6	36.3	39.2	40.6	41.0	40.7	40.0
India	..	..	..	23.3	22.7	23.2	22.9	23.3	23.7	24.4	27.5	30.4	32.0	33.8
Indonesia	24.8	25.6	26.7	25.5	22.9	18.1	19.9	19.7	19.4	19.5	22.4	23.6	24.1	24.9
Russian Federation	..	21.1	20.0	18.3	16.1	14.4	16.9	18.9	17.9	18.4	18.4	17.7	18.5	21.1
South Africa	15.2	15.9	16.3	16.5	17.1	15.5	15.1	15.1	15.0	15.9	16.2	17.1	18.8	21.1

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540822520564>**Gross fixed capital formation***As a percentage of GDP*StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/534683635260>

Gross fixed capital formation in machinery and equipment

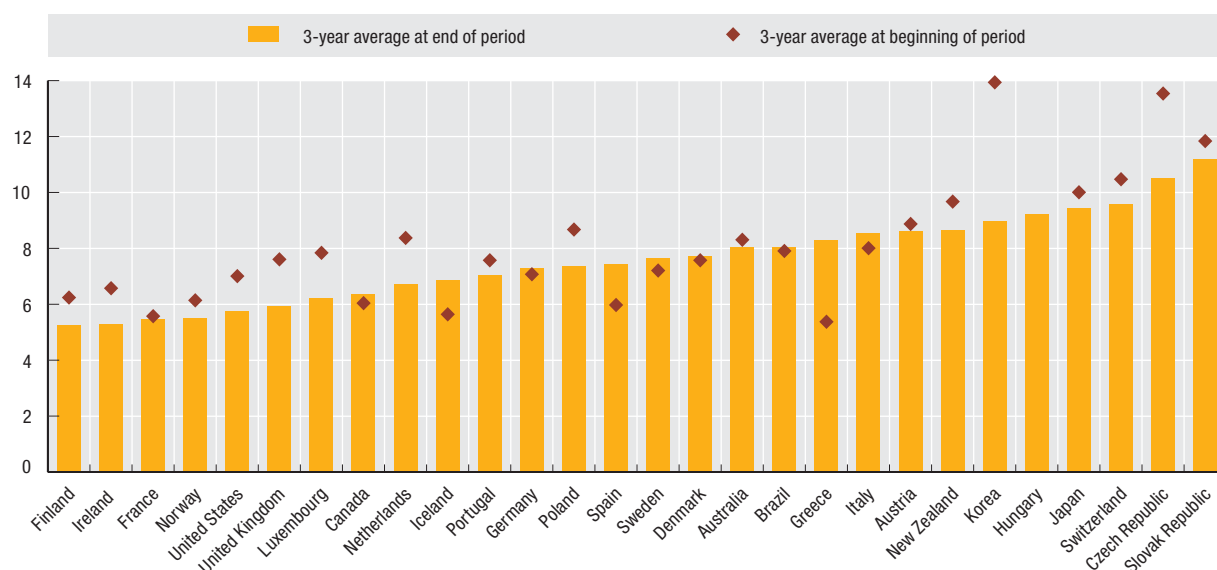
As a percentage of GDP

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	8.5	8.3	8.1	8.4	8.1	8.3	7.9	7.7	8.1	7.9	8.0	8.2	..	..
Austria	8.2	8.9	9.5	9.3	9.4	9.1	9.7	9.4	8.6	9.0	8.5	8.8	8.4	8.6
Canada	5.9	6.1	6.1	7.2	7.6	7.7	7.4	7.0	6.6	6.3	6.2	6.4	6.4	6.3
Czech Republic	..	13.2	14.3	13.1	12.4	12.7	13.8	13.9	13.5	12.1	11.7	10.8	10.7	10.0
Denmark	7.4	8.0	7.3	7.8	8.3	7.8	8.1	8.0	7.6	7.1	7.0	7.6	8.5	..
Finland	5.7	6.3	6.7	7.1	6.9	6.3	6.1	6.3	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.2	5.2	5.4
France	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.4	5.7	6.1	6.3	6.2	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.6	..
Germany	7.2	7.0	7.0	7.2	7.6	7.9	8.6	7.9	7.1	6.9	7.0	7.2	7.7	..
Greece	..	4.9	5.7	5.5	6.2	7.1	7.6	7.2	8.7	8.1	8.3	7.8	8.4	8.7
Hungary	..	..	..	..	..	..	10.7	10.0	9.2	9.2	9.4	9.1	..	..
Iceland	4.6	5.0	7.3	7.1	8.8	6.9	8.4	6.9	4.8	4.6	5.9	10.1	..	..
Ireland	6.2	6.8	6.7	6.7	7.4	7.9	7.5	6.2	5.6	5.0	5.0	5.6	5.0	5.3
Italy	7.6	8.2	8.2	8.4	8.9	9.1	9.5	9.3	9.3	8.6	8.6	8.5	8.5	..
Japan	9.3	10.0	10.7	10.7	10.0	10.0	10.0	9.9	8.9	8.9	9.0	9.6	9.7	..
Korea	13.6	14.1	14.1	12.2	8.4	10.3	12.8	11.0	10.4	9.6	9.2	9.0	9.0	8.9
Luxembourg	8.1	7.9	7.5	9.3	8.6	10.5	8.0	8.9	7.5	6.1	6.7	6.4	5.7	6.5
Netherlands	8.1	8.3	8.7	8.9	8.8	9.0	8.2	7.6	6.9	6.9	6.5	6.4	6.8	7.0
New Zealand	9.8	9.8	9.4	8.4	8.2	8.2	8.7	9.3	8.8	8.9	8.8	8.9	8.2	..
Norway	6.1	6.0	6.3	6.9	8.0	7.3	6.4	5.9	5.7	5.2	5.5	5.5	5.8	5.2
Poland	..	7.6	8.7	9.7	10.4	10.2	9.7	8.2	7.3	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.8	..
Portugal	7.6	7.4	7.7	8.6	9.3	9.4	9.5	8.9	7.8	7.1	7.1	6.9	7.1	..
Slovak Republic	11.5	10.8	13.2	15.0	15.9	12.7	10.8	13.2	13.1	12.0	11.2	12.7	10.8	10.1
Spain	5.6	6.0	6.3	6.8	7.5	7.9	8.1	7.6	7.0	6.9	6.9	7.1	7.4	7.8
Sweden	6.6	7.4	7.6	7.6	7.9	8.5	8.6	8.0	7.4	7.2	6.9	7.4	7.6	7.9
Switzerland	10.2	10.6	10.6	10.6	11.1	11.3	11.6	10.9	10.1	9.5	9.5	9.7	..	..
United Kingdom	7.2	7.6	8.0	7.7	8.5	8.1	7.9	7.4	6.8	6.1	6.2	6.0	5.8	6.0
United States	6.7	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.4	7.4	6.6	5.8	5.6	5.6	5.8	5.8	..
Brazil	..	8.8	7.4	7.5	6.9	6.1	7.2	7.8	7.3	7.2	7.7	7.9	8.5	..

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540883101308>

Gross fixed capital formation in machinery and equipment

As a percentage of GDP



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/534726213474>

Gross fixed capital formation in housing

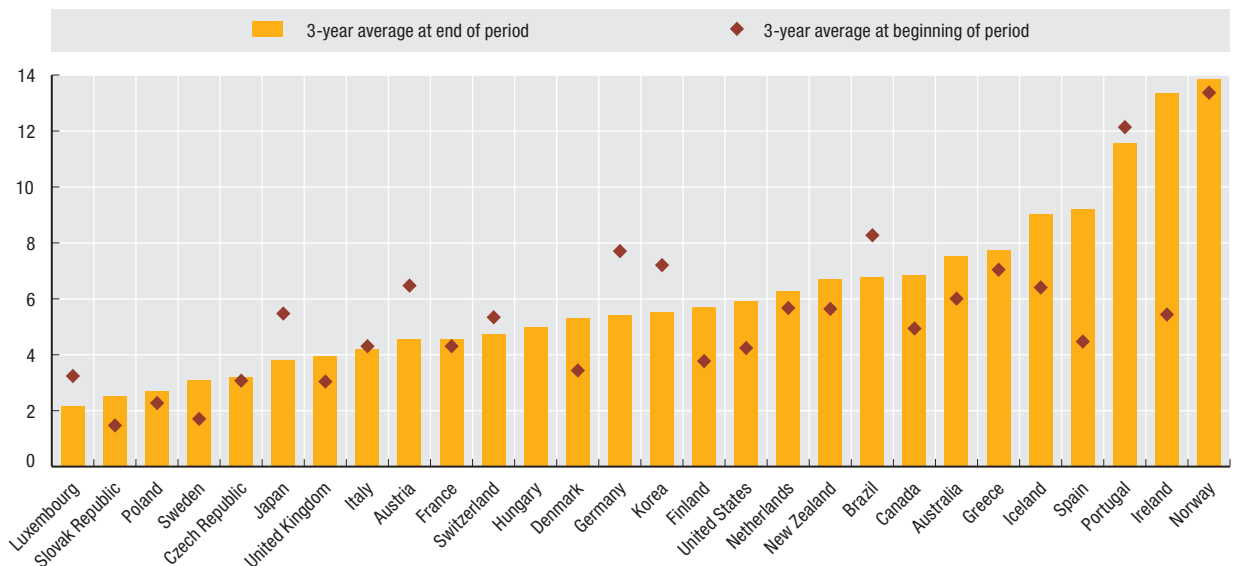
As a percentage of GDP

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	6.8	5.7	5.5	6.1	6.3	7.1	5.9	6.7	7.6	8.0	7.6	7.0	..	..
Austria	6.1	6.6	6.7	6.5	6.2	5.8	5.4	5.0	4.7	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.6	4.7
Canada	5.5	4.5	4.8	5.0	4.7	4.6	4.5	5.0	5.7	6.0	6.5	6.6	6.8	7.1
Czech Republic	..	2.7	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.6
Denmark	3.2	3.5	3.6	3.9	3.9	4.0	4.2	3.9	3.8	4.3	4.7	5.3	5.9	..
Finland	3.9	3.7	3.7	4.4	4.7	5.2	5.3	4.7	4.5	4.9	5.2	5.6	5.8	5.7
France	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.6	4.8	..
Germany	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.4	7.2	7.2	6.8	6.3	5.8	5.7	5.5	5.2	5.5	5.6
Greece	7.2	7.1	6.8	7.0	7.4	7.5	6.8	6.8	7.4	7.7	7.3	6.9	8.6	7.7
Hungary	..	..	..	..	..	..	3.5	4.4	4.8	5.0	5.4	4.6	..	..
Iceland	6.4	6.1	6.7	6.9	7.0	7.4	7.7	7.3	7.7	8.3	9.1	9.7	..	..
Ireland	5.0	5.3	6.0	6.7	7.2	8.0	8.3	8.6	8.8	10.6	12.2	13.6	14.0	12.5
Italy	4.5	4.3	4.1	3.9	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.9	4.0	4.2	4.4	..
Japan	5.5	5.2	5.7	5.0	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	..
Korea	7.3	7.3	7.0	6.5	6.0	5.1	4.3	4.7	5.0	5.5	5.7	5.8	5.5	5.3
Luxembourg	3.5	3.3	2.9	2.9	3.0	2.6	2.4	2.8	2.3	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.1	2.1
Netherlands	5.7	5.6	5.7	5.8	5.8	5.9	5.9	6.1	5.8	5.7	5.9	6.1	6.3	6.4
New Zealand	5.5	5.6	5.8	5.9	5.0	5.7	4.8	4.6	5.7	6.6	6.9	6.7	6.5	..
Norway	13.2	13.4	13.5	14.3	16.4	14.3	11.7	11.9	11.9	11.9	12.3	12.9	13.4	15.3
Poland	..	2.2	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.8	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.8	..
Portugal	11.7	12.3	12.4	13.6	13.8	13.6	13.8	14.0	13.4	12.2	12.0	11.6	11.1	..
Slovak Republic	..	1.2	1.4	1.8	3.0	3.9	4.5	3.5	3.3	3.0	2.8	2.9	2.3	2.4
Spain	4.2	4.4	4.8	4.7	5.0	5.5	6.1	6.5	7.1	7.8	8.4	8.9	9.4	9.3
Sweden	2.0	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.7	1.9	2.1	2.1	2.5	2.8	3.2	3.3
Switzerland	5.6	5.6	4.8	4.4	4.4	4.2	4.1	4.0	3.9	4.4	4.8	5.0	..	..
United Kingdom	3.1	3.1	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.9	3.2	3.4	3.7	3.8	4.0	4.1
United States	4.3	4.1	4.3	4.2	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.9	5.3	5.8	6.2	5.8	..
Brazil	..	8.0	8.2	8.6	8.8	8.3	8.3	7.9	7.7	6.8	7.0	6.7	6.6	..

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540887483715>

Gross fixed capital formation in housing

As a percentage of GDP

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/534763032318>

INFLATION

There are several ways in which inflation can be measured. The most common is by reference to a consumer price index (CPI) which measures the changes in prices of a basket of goods and services purchased by a representative set of households. The CPI is a narrow measure of inflation and does not measure changes in the prices of other goods and services, such as those used for intermediate consumption or the prices of capital products. A much broader indicator of inflation is provided by the GDP deflator, and this is the inflation measure shown here.

Definition

The GDP deflator is an implicit, not an explicit deflator. It is derived by dividing an index of GDP measured in current prices by a chain volume index of GDP (see Evolution of GDP), both, typically, derived using the expenditure approach (see Size of GDP). It is therefore a weighted average of the price indices of:

- goods and services consumed by households;
- expenditure by government on goods, services and salaries;
- fixed capital assets;
- changes in inventories;
- exports of goods and services;
- imports of goods and services (minus).

While the CPI measures the price changes of goods and services consumed by households, the GDP deflator

measures the price changes of goods and services produced by a country, including exports, and also includes a component to reflect price changes in imports. Hence, the treatment of exports and imports merits special attention. The GDP deflator will go up, indicating more inflation, if the prices of exports rise but although higher inflation is usually thought of as a bad thing, it may actually be beneficial to a country if the prices of its exports rise, since it is non-residents who pay the higher prices; although this may be coupled with a fall in the value of the country's currency. Conversely, price rises in imports will reduce the GDP deflator, although, following the same reasoning this may not necessarily be a good thing for residents.

Comparability

The comparability of the inflation rates shown here depends on the methods used to calculate in volume terms the expenditure components of GDP. Most countries use similar methods for consumer goods and imports and exports, but there are clear differences in the methods used to derive volume estimates for government consumption.

Some countries calculate their volume estimates of government consumption by deflating their current price estimates using representative input price indexes, while others weight together output indicators for services provided by hospitals, schools, etc.

Note that for Australia and New Zealand data refer to fiscal year.

Long-term trends

During the period 1994-2007, inflation in the OECD area fell to a record low of 1.4% in 1999. It then gradually increased to 2.4% in 2007.

The average annual rate of inflation over the last three years was below 5% for all OECD countries, except Iceland, Norway, Mexico and Turkey. The volatility in the Norwegian GDP deflator is mostly due to variations in the export prices of petroleum, and these grew very strongly in the most recent years shown here. The strong growth in the GDP deflator for Mexico and Turkey reflects general domestic inflation. These latter two countries have, however, drastically reduced their inflation rates over the period 1994-2007. At the other extreme, Germany, Korea and Japan recorded average annual rates of inflation over the last three years of below 1%.

Several countries (Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Luxembourg, Norway and Switzerland) recorded deflation over the period 1994-2007 for one or more years, but Japan is the only country where this has been sustained over a number of years.

Source

- OECD (2008), *National Accounts of OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2008), *OECD Economic Outlook*, June No. 83 – Vol. 2008/1, OECD, Paris.

Websites

- *Inflation Measures: Too High – Too Low – Internationally Comparable?*, Documents for the meeting held at the OECD, 21-22 June 2005, www.oecd.org/std/price-indices.
- OECD Purchasing Power Parities, www.oecd.org/std/ppp.

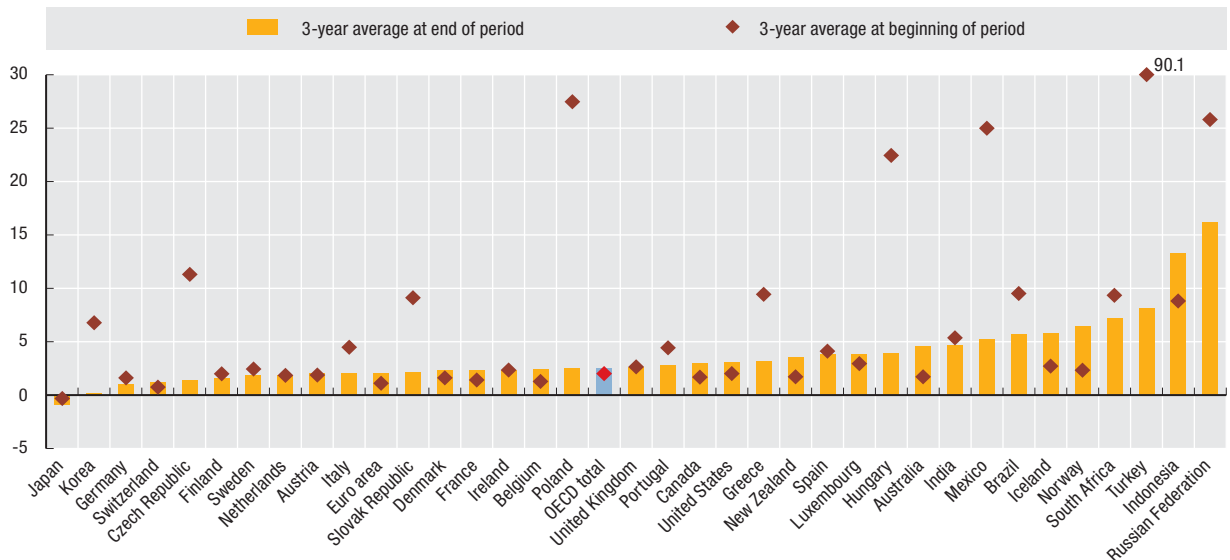
GDP deflator

Annual growth in percentage

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	1.4	2.3	1.4	1.2	0.1	2.1	4.9	2.8	3.0	3.5	3.8	4.6	4.6	4.4
Austria	2.7	2.0	0.9	-0.3	0.4	0.4	1.1	1.9	1.3	1.2	1.7	2.1	1.8	2.1
Belgium	2.1	1.2	0.5	1.1	2.1	0.4	1.8	2.0	1.9	1.6	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.4
Canada	1.1	2.3	1.6	1.2	-0.4	1.7	4.1	1.1	1.1	3.3	3.2	3.4	2.5	3.1
Czech Republic	13.4	10.2	10.3	8.4	11.1	2.8	1.5	4.9	2.8	0.9	4.5	-0.3	0.9	3.6
Denmark	1.5	1.3	2.0	2.0	1.2	1.7	3.0	2.5	2.3	1.6	2.3	2.9	2.0	2.0
Finland	1.4	4.8	-0.2	2.2	3.4	0.9	2.6	3.0	1.3	-0.4	0.6	0.4	1.3	2.9
France	1.3	1.3	1.6	1.0	0.9	0.0	1.4	2.0	2.4	1.9	1.6	2.0	2.5	2.5
Germany	2.4	1.9	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.4	-0.7	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.0	0.7	0.5	1.9
Greece	11.2	9.8	7.3	6.8	5.2	3.0	3.4	3.1	3.4	3.7	3.3	3.4	3.2	2.9
Hungary	19.5	26.7	21.2	18.5	12.6	8.4	9.9	8.5	7.8	5.8	4.4	2.2	3.9	5.7
Iceland	2.6	3.0	2.5	2.9	5.1	3.3	3.6	8.6	5.6	0.6	2.5	2.8	9.0	5.5
Ireland	1.7	3.0	2.3	3.8	6.6	4.0	6.1	5.5	4.6	2.5	2.0	2.3	3.4	1.4
Italy	3.6	5.0	4.8	2.6	2.6	1.8	1.9	3.0	3.3	3.1	2.6	2.1	1.7	2.3
Japan	0.1	-0.5	-0.6	0.6	0.0	-1.3	-1.7	-1.2	-1.5	-1.6	-1.1	-1.2	-0.9	-0.7
Korea	7.8	7.4	5.1	4.6	5.8	-0.1	0.7	3.5	2.8	2.7	2.7	-0.2	-0.5	1.2
Luxembourg	3.5	2.3	3.0	-1.9	-0.4	5.3	2.0	0.1	2.1	6.0	1.9	4.5	5.4	1.7
Mexico	8.3	37.9	30.7	17.7	15.4	15.1	12.1	5.8	7.0	8.5	8.9	4.2	6.9	4.7
Netherlands	2.1	2.1	1.3	2.6	1.9	1.8	4.1	5.1	3.8	2.2	0.7	2.4	1.7	1.5
New Zealand	1.8	2.0	1.3	2.0	1.3	0.7	3.2	3.6	0.0	3.1	2.6	2.4	3.8	4.3
Norway	-0.2	3.0	4.2	2.8	-0.8	6.6	15.7	1.7	-1.8	3.0	5.3	8.7	8.5	2.2
Poland	37.2	28.0	17.9	13.9	11.1	6.0	7.3	3.5	2.2	0.4	4.1	2.6	1.5	3.3
Portugal	7.3	3.4	2.6	3.8	3.8	3.3	3.0	3.7	3.9	3.2	2.4	2.5	2.8	3.0
Slovak Republic	13.4	9.9	4.2	6.2	5.1	7.4	9.4	5.0	3.9	5.3	5.9	2.4	2.9	1.1
Spain	3.9	4.9	3.5	2.4	2.5	2.6	3.5	4.2	4.3	4.1	4.0	4.3	4.0	3.2
Sweden	2.7	3.7	0.9	1.5	0.6	0.9	1.5	2.3	1.6	1.9	0.2	0.9	1.7	2.9
Switzerland	1.3	0.7	0.2	-0.1	0.3	0.6	1.1	0.8	0.5	1.0	0.6	0.1	1.7	1.8
Turkey	106.5	87.2	77.8	81.5	75.7	54.2	49.2	52.9	37.4	23.3	12.4	7.1	9.3	8.1
United Kingdom	1.6	2.7	3.6	2.8	2.2	2.1	1.2	2.1	3.1	3.1	2.5	2.2	2.6	2.9
United States	2.1	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.1	1.4	2.2	2.4	1.8	2.1	2.9	3.3	3.2	2.7
Euro area	..	..	2.6	-0.3	1.0	1.6	1.3	2.4	2.5	2.2	1.9	2.0	1.9	2.3
EU27 total	..	..	3.3	2.8	1.7	2.1	3.2	2.1	2.5	0.3	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.8
OECD total	1.9	2.1	2.0	1.9	1.5	1.4	1.9	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.6	2.4	2.6	2.4
Brazil	..	..	17.1	7.6	4.2	8.5	6.2	9.0	10.6	13.7	8.0	7.2	6.1	3.7
India	..	..	..	..	8.1	4.3	3.7	3.5	3.1	3.8	5.3	4.4	4.9	4.7
Indonesia	7.8	9.9	8.7	12.6	75.3	14.2	8.6	14.3	5.9	5.5	8.6	14.3	14.1	11.5
Russian Federation	..	..	45.8	15.1	18.6	72.5	37.7	16.5	15.7	14.0	20.1	19.2	15.8	13.5
South Africa	9.6	10.3	8.1	8.1	7.7	7.1	8.8	7.7	10.5	4.6	5.5	5.4	7.3	9.0

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/541031887452>**GDP deflator**

Average annual growth in percentage

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/534768568365>

STEEL PRODUCTION

Steel is a core commodity in industrial societies. The OECD regularly monitors capacity, production, consumption, trade and employment in steel for its member countries as well as for all other major steel producing countries and areas.

The table omits production by minor steel producing countries (those with less than 2 million tonnes of production per year).

Definition

Steel production is measured in tonnes of crude steel. Total crude steel is defined as the total output of usable ingots, continuously cast semi-finished products, and liquid steel for castings.

Comparability

The data on crude steel production are compiled by the World Steel Association and are compatible across countries. The data comprise figures submitted by steel companies and associations in 66 countries which account for approximately 98% of total world crude steel production. Non-reporting countries are estimated using independent sources.

Long-term trends

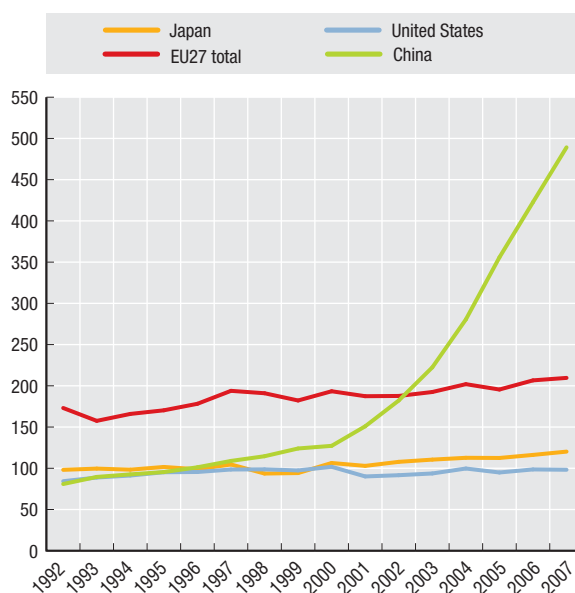
Since 1994, world steel production has grown at an average rate of 4.9% per year. By 2007, the volume of world production had reached 1 344 million tonnes, up from 726 million tonnes in 1994. Production growth was particularly rapid in the latter part of the period, reflecting strong expansions in China and other emerging economies. Annual production growth in the OECD countries averaged only 1.6% in the 1994-2007 period. Experience within the OECD has been mixed with falling production in Australia, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Luxembourg, Poland, and the United Kingdom, while strong growth has been observed in Korea, Mexico, Turkey, Spain and, from a low base, in Austria and Finland.

Among the non-OECD economies, steel production in China has been growing at an average of 13.7% per year, 8% in India and 2% in Brazil. In the Russian Federation, growth has averaged 3% per annum, reflecting the strong recovery in production in the latter part of the period.

China became the world's largest steel producer in 1996, when its production rose slightly above 100 million tonnes. By the end of the period, Chinese production had reached nearly 490 million tonnes, a level more than four times higher than that of the second largest producing country, Japan. The next largest producers were the United States, the Russian Federation, India and Korea.

Steel production in selected countries

Million tonnes



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/534868507518>

Source

- World Steel Association and OECD.

Further information

Statistical publications

- OECD (2008), *Developments in Steelmaking Capacity of Non-OECD Economies 2008*, OECD, Paris.
- *The Iron and Steel Industry*, 2008 online edition, OECD, Paris.

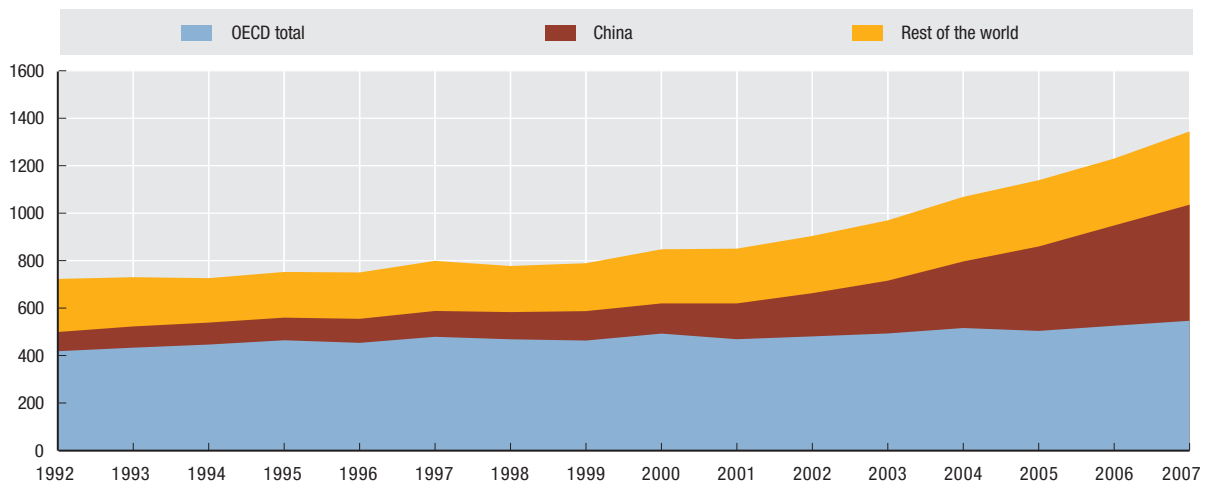
Steel production

Million tonnes

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	8.4	8.5	8.4	8.8	8.9	8.2	7.1	7.0	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.8	7.9	7.9
Austria	4.4	5.0	4.4	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.7	5.9	6.2	6.3	6.5	7.0	7.1	7.6
Belgium	11.3	11.6	10.8	10.7	11.4	10.9	11.6	10.7	11.3	11.1	11.7	10.4	11.6	10.7
Canada	13.9	14.4	14.7	15.6	15.9	16.2	16.6	15.3	16.0	15.9	16.3	15.3	15.5	15.6
Czech Republic	7.1	7.2	6.5	6.8	6.5	5.6	6.2	6.3	6.5	6.8	7.0	6.2	6.9	7.0
Finland	3.4	3.2	3.3	3.7	4.0	4.0	4.1	3.9	4.0	4.8	4.8	4.7	5.1	4.4
France	18.0	18.1	17.6	19.8	20.1	20.2	21.0	19.3	20.3	19.8	20.8	19.5	19.6	19.2
Germany	40.8	42.0	39.8	45.0	44.0	42.1	46.4	44.8	45.0	44.8	46.4	44.5	47.2	48.6
Italy	26.2	27.8	23.9	25.8	25.7	24.9	26.8	26.5	26.1	27.1	28.6	29.4	31.6	31.5
Japan	98.3	101.6	98.8	104.6	93.6	94.2	106.4	102.9	107.8	110.5	112.7	112.5	116.2	120.2
Korea	33.8	36.8	38.9	42.6	39.9	41.0	43.1	43.9	45.4	46.3	47.5	47.8	48.5	51.5
Luxembourg	3.1	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.2	2.8	2.9
Mexico	10.3	12.2	13.2	14.2	14.2	15.3	15.6	13.3	14.0	15.2	16.7	16.2	16.3	17.6
Netherlands	6.2	6.4	6.3	6.6	6.4	6.1	5.7	6.0	6.1	6.6	6.8	6.9	6.4	7.4
Poland	11.1	11.9	10.4	11.6	9.9	8.8	10.5	8.8	8.4	9.1	10.6	8.4	10.0	10.6
Slovak Republic	4.0	4.0	3.6	3.8	3.4	3.6	3.7	4.0	4.3	4.6	4.5	4.5	5.1	5.1
Spain	13.4	13.8	12.2	13.7	14.8	14.9	15.9	16.5	16.4	16.3	17.6	17.8	18.4	19.0
Sweden	5.0	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.2	5.1	5.2	5.5	5.8	5.7	6.0	5.7	5.5	5.7
Turkey	12.6	13.2	13.6	14.5	14.1	14.3	14.3	15.0	16.5	18.3	20.5	21.0	23.3	25.8
United Kingdom	17.3	17.6	18.0	18.5	17.3	16.3	15.2	13.5	11.7	13.3	13.8	13.2	13.9	14.3
United States	91.2	95.2	95.5	98.5	98.7	97.4	101.8	90.1	91.6	93.7	99.7	94.9	98.6	98.2
EU27 total	165.9	170.3	178.2	193.9	191.0	182.2	193.4	187.4	187.7	192.5	202.0	195.5	206.6	209.6
OECD total	446.2	464.3	453.4	478.9	468.4	463.1	492.4	468.7	480.6	493.0	515.9	503.7	525.5	546.4
Brazil	25.7	25.1	25.2	26.2	25.8	25.0	27.9	26.7	29.6	31.1	32.9	31.6	30.9	33.8
China	92.6	95.4	101.2	108.9	114.6	124.0	127.2	150.9	182.2	222.4	280.5	355.8	422.7	489.2
India	19.3	22.0	23.8	24.4	23.5	24.3	26.9	27.3	28.8	31.8	32.6	38.1	49.5	53.1
Russian Federation	48.8	51.6	49.3	48.5	43.8	51.5	59.1	59.0	59.8	61.5	65.6	66.1	70.8	72.4
World	726.0	752.2	750.1	798.9	777.3	789.0	847.7	850.4	903.9	969.7	1 068.6	1 138.8	1 230.0	1 344.3

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/541037428045>**World steel production**

Million tonnes

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/534773352285>

INCOME AND PRODUCTIVITY LEVELS

Together with the analysis of growth rates, the levels of GDP per capita and GDP per hour worked are essential to assess the state of the convergence or divergence of economic performances across countries.

Definition

The differences in income levels can be decomposed into differences in labour productivity levels, measured as GDP per hour worked, and differences in the extent of labour utilisation, measured as the number of hours worked per capita. In countries with low levels of GDP per capita, the gaps in labour productivity levels are typically the most significant factor in determining differences in income. The estimates shown here are based on official OECD GDP converted to a common currency using OECD Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs) for 2007.

Comparability

Comparisons of income and productivity levels across countries require several demanding conditions. First, they require comparable data on output. All OECD countries have implemented the 1993 *System of National Accounts*. However, there are differences, such as the measurement of software investment, that can affect the comparability of GDP across countries, although these differences are usually quite small. Second, in a number of countries, employment data are derived from labour force surveys which may not be

entirely consistent with the national accounts. This reduces the comparability of labour utilisation levels across countries. The measure of labour inputs also requires hours worked which are derived either from labour force surveys or from business surveys. Several OECD countries estimate hours worked from a combination of these sources or integrate these sources in a system of labour accounts, which is comparable to the national accounts. The OECD Productivity Database uses consistent estimates of employment and hours worked. Nonetheless, the cross-country comparability of hours worked remains somewhat limited, however, generating a margin of uncertainty in estimates of productivity levels. The third problem relates to the conversion of output from national currency into a common unit. Market exchange rates cannot be used directly, as they are volatile and reflect other factors, such as capital and trade flows. The preferred alternative is to use Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs), which measure the relative prices of the same basket of consumption goods in different countries.

Overview

In 2007, GDP per capita in OECD countries ranged from over USD 39 000 in Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway and the United States to less than USD 17 000 in Mexico, Poland and Turkey. On average, income levels were about 70% of that of the United States, Norway still remains a notable exception with its GDP per capita 18% above that of the United States.

Relative to the United States, most OECD countries had higher levels of GDP per hour worked than GDP per capita because their levels of labour utilisation were substantially lower than in the United States. This owes to disparities in working hours but also, in several countries, to high unemployment and low participation of the working-age population in the labour market.

The difference between income and productivity levels was largest in European countries. For example, in Belgium, France, Ireland and the Netherlands, while productivity levels in 2007 surpassed that of the United States, income levels were considerably lower.

In several non-EU countries, such as Canada, Iceland, Japan, Korea, New Zealand and Switzerland, labour utilisation in 2007 was higher than in the United States, notably in Iceland and Korea, mainly owing to relatively long working hours and high rates of labour force participation.

Sources

- OECD Productivity Database.
- Annual National Accounts.

Further information

Methodological publications

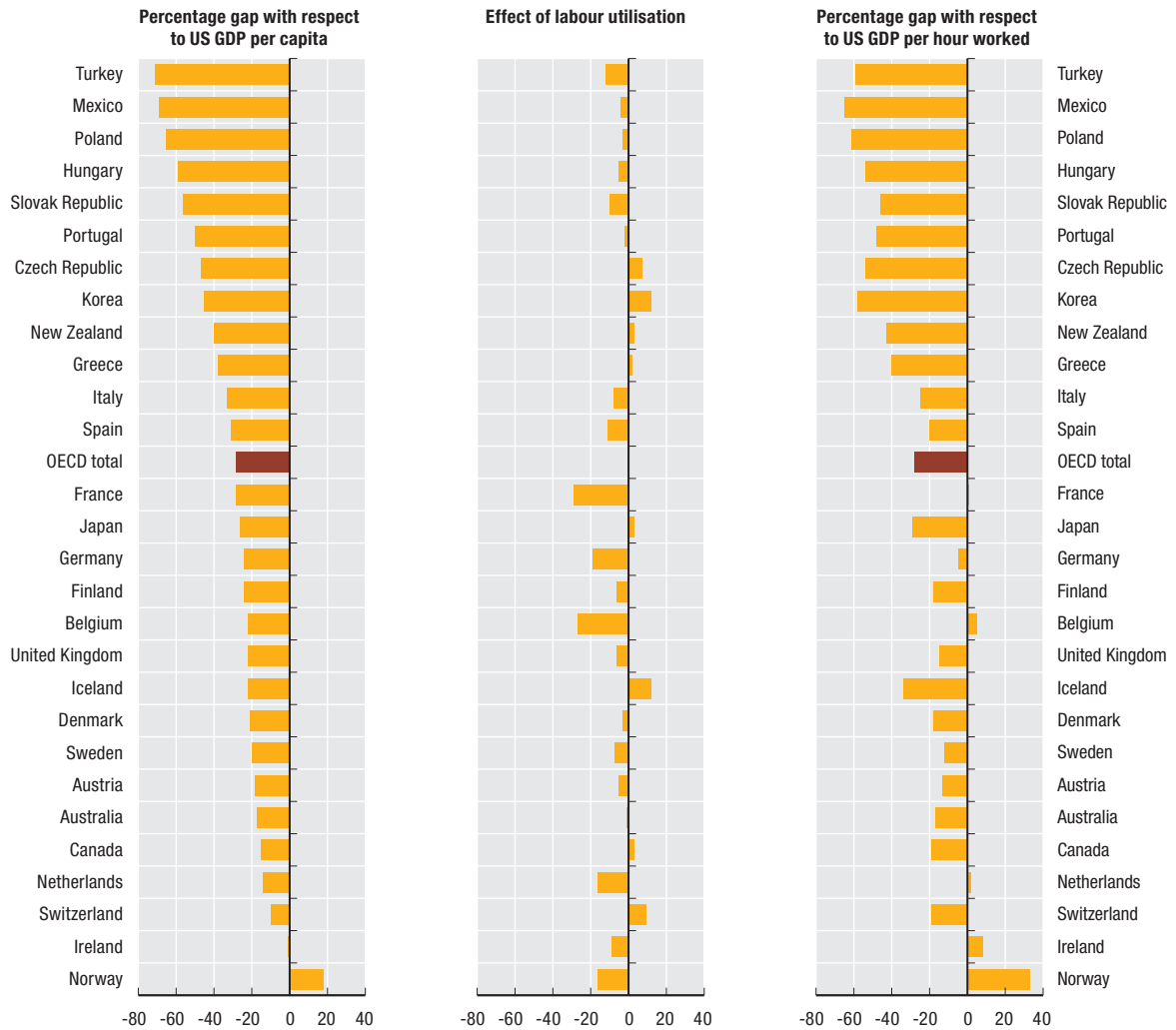
- OECD (2001), *Measuring Productivity – OECD Manual Measurement of Aggregate and Industry-level Productivity Growth*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2004), “Clocking In (and Out): Several Facets of Working Time”, *OECD Employment Outlook: 2004 Edition*, Chapter 1, see also Annex I.A1, OECD, Paris.
- Pilat, D. and P. Schreyer (2004), “The OECD Productivity Database – An Overview”, *International Productivity Monitor*, No. 8, Spring, CSLS, Ottawa, pp. 59-65.

Websites

- OECD Compendium of Productivity Indicators, www.oecd.org/statistics/productivity/compendium.
- OECD work on productivity, www.oecd.org/statistics/productivity/.

Income and productivity levels

Percentage point differences with respect to the United States, 2007



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/535012546741>

GROWTH IN GDP PER CAPITA

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita measures economic activity or income per person and is one of the core indicators of economic performance. GDP per capita is a rough measure of average living standards or economic well-being. Per capita GDP growth can be broken down into a part which is due to labour productivity growth (measured as GDP per hour worked) and a part which is due to increased labour utilisation (measured as hours worked per capita). Growing labour utilisation can have considerable impacts on the growth of GDP per capita. A slowing or declining rate of labour utilisation combined with high labour productivity growth can be indicative of a greater use of capital and/or of a decreasing employment of low-productivity workers.

Definition

The indicator hereafter is calculated using GDP and population estimates published in the OECD Annual National Accounts database. For zone aggregates, GDP estimates have been converted to constant US dollars, using 2000 constant Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs). Series on hours were mostly derived from the OECD, *Annual National Accounts*; when this source was not available the OECD *Employment Outlook* was used instead.

Long-term trends

Over the period 1970-2007, annual growth in GDP per capita has been above 2% in most OECD countries, but significantly more in some countries, notably Ireland and Korea for which the average growth rate went over 4%. In the second half of the 1990s, Hungary, Korea, Poland, the Czech Republic, Turkey and the Slovak Republic experienced high rates of growth in GDP per capita. More recently, many OECD countries have experienced a deceleration in their income growth relative to long-term trends, notably Italy and Portugal.

Since the beginning of the new millennium, many European countries have decreased in the rate of labour utilisation, which was also accompanied by a sharp decline in labour productivity growth. Noteworthy, the estimates shown here are not adjusted for differences in the business cycle; cyclically adjusted estimates might show a somewhat different pattern.

Comparability

All OECD countries follow the 1993 System of National Accounts. Hours worked correspond to actual hours worked, although methods to derive actual hours worked may vary somewhat between countries.

OECD total, in the first chart, does not include Austria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, the Slovak Republic and Turkey; in the other charts, OECD total does not include Poland and Turkey.

Sources

- Annual National Accounts.
- OECD Productivity Database.

Further information

Analytical publications

- Pilat, D. and P. Schreyer (2004), *The OECD Productivity Database – An Overview*, *International Productivity Monitor*, No. 8, Spring, CSLS, Ottawa, pp. 59-65.
- OECD (2004), “Clocking In (and Out): Several Facets of Working Time”, *OECD Employment Outlook: 2004 Edition*, Chapter 1, see also Annex I.A1, OECD, Paris.
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Statistical publications

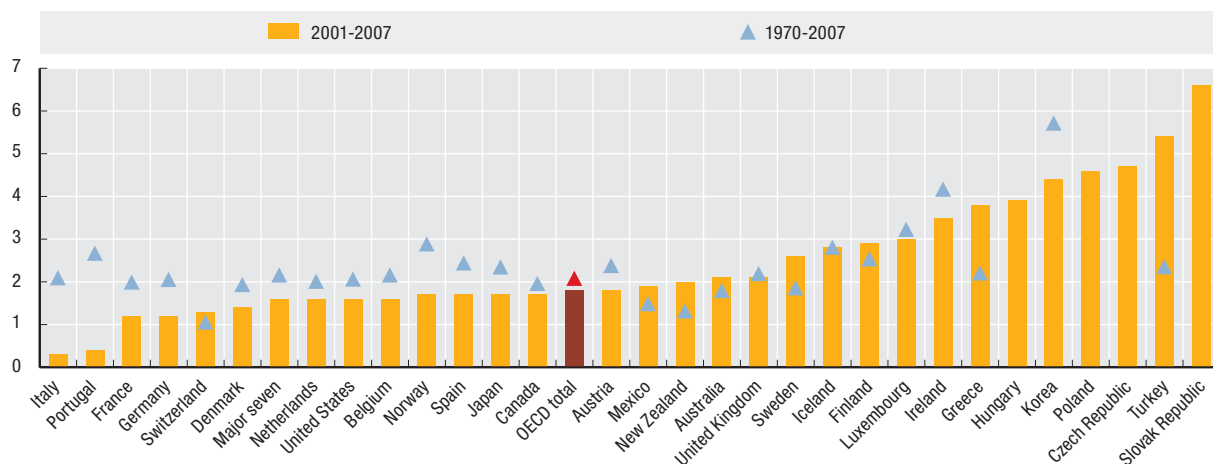
- OECD Compendium of Productivity Indicators.

Methodological publications

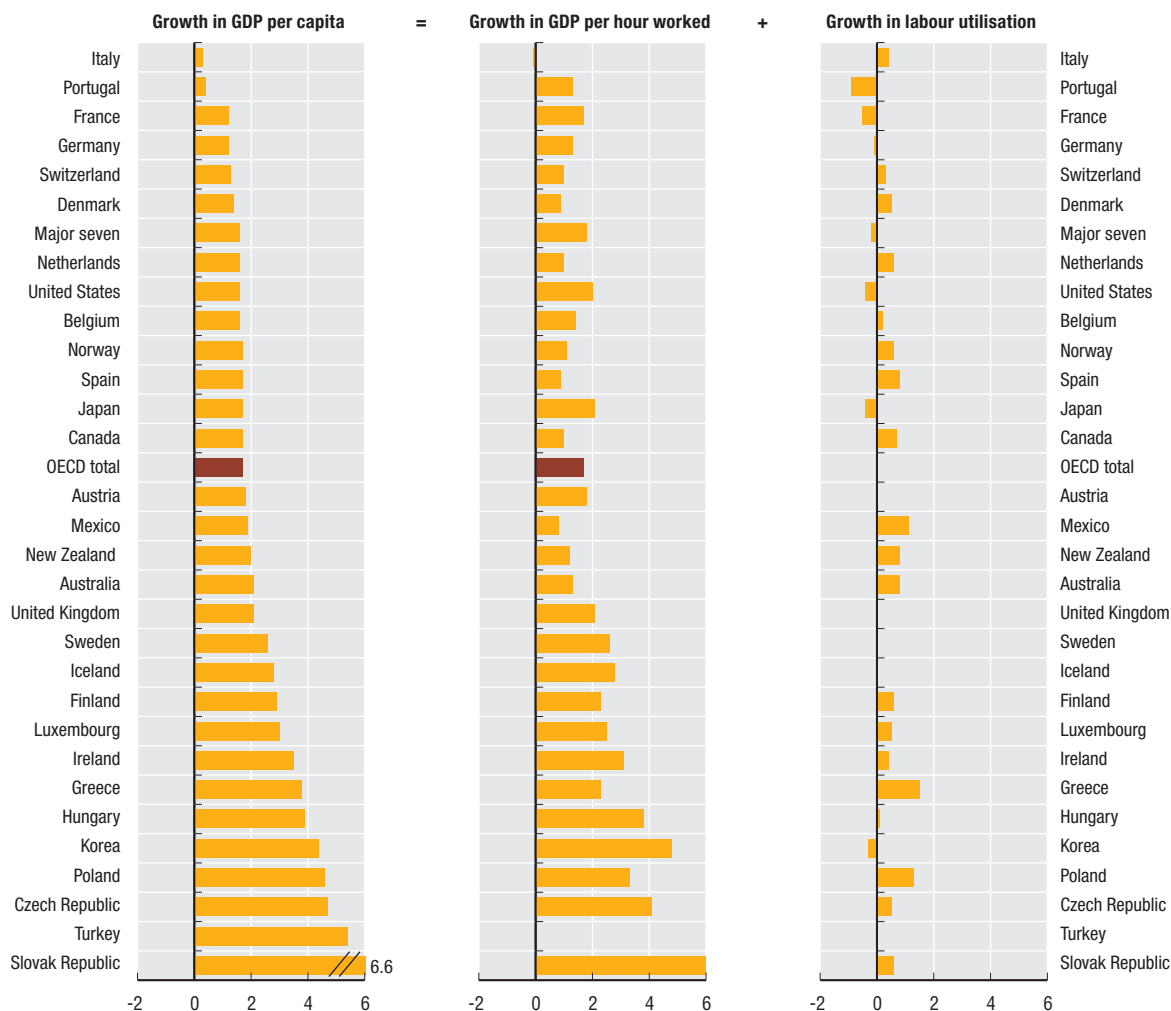
- OECD (2001), *Measuring Productivity – OECD Manual Measurement of Aggregate and Industry-level Productivity Growth*, OECD, Paris.

Growth in GDP per capita

Percentage change, annual rate

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/535082746484>**Contribution of labour productivity and labour utilisation to GDP per capita**

Percentage change 2001-2007, annual rate

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/535080458660>

LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY GROWTH

Productivity growth is measured by relating changes in output to changes in one or more inputs to production. The most common productivity measure is labour productivity, which links changes in output to changes in labour input. It is a key economic indicator and it is closely associated with standards of living.

Definition

The output measures used for calculations are Gross Domestic Product estimates from OECD Annual National Accounts database, based on the 1993 *System of National Accounts*. Labour input measures used are estimates of the hours actually worked. They reflect regular hours worked by full-time and part-time workers, paid and unpaid overtime, hours worked in additional jobs and time not worked because of public holidays, annual paid leaves, strikes and labour disputes, bad weather, economic conditions and other reasons.

Comparability

OECD and National statisticians work together to ensure that the data on hours actually worked are as comparable as possible, though they are based on a range of different sources of varying reliability. In most countries, the data are taken from household labour force surveys, while the rest use establishment surveys, administrative sources or a combination of sources. One problem is that for several EU countries, the estimates are made by the OECD using results from the Spring European Labour Force Survey. The results

reflect a single observation in the year, and the survey data have to be supplemented by information from other sources for hours not worked due to public holidays and annual paid leave. Annual working hours reported for the remaining countries are provided by national statistical offices and are estimated using the best available sources. In general, the data are best used for comparisons of trends over time rather than for inter-country comparisons of level of productivity.

Although the GDP estimates are based on common definitions, the methods used by most countries to estimate value added in government services assume that labour productivity growth is zero. This means that countries with large government sectors or with government sectors that were growing during the period considered will, by assumption, have lower growth in GDP per hour worked than other countries.

Note that in the chart, OECD total excludes Poland and Turkey.

Source

- OECD Productivity Database.

Further information

Analytical publications

- Ahmad, N., F. Lequiller, P. Marianna, D. Pilat, P. Schreyer and A. Wölfl (2003), *Comparing Labour Productivity Growth in the OECD Area: The Role of Measurement*, OECD Science, Technology and Industry Working Papers, No. 2003/14, OECD, Paris.

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Websites

- OECD Compendium of Productivity Indicators, www.oecd.org/statistics/productivity/compendium.
- OECD work on productivity, www.oecd.org/statistics/productivity/.

Long-term trends

Labour productivity growth varies considerably among OECD countries. For example, in the last half of the 1990s, labour productivity growth in Ireland, Korea, Poland and the Slovak Republic ranged from 4.8 to 6.2% to a growth rate of less than 1.0% in Italy and Spain.

In a number of OECD countries, labour productivity growth accelerated in the second half of the 1990s but slowed again in the first half of the new millennium. Between 2001-2007 and 1995-2000, the Czech Republic, Hungary and the Slovak Republic were the only countries which experienced a significant acceleration of growth in GDP per hour worked while over the same period, Ireland, Poland and Portugal saw a strong deceleration in labour productivity growth. The rates shown here are not adjusted for differences in the business cycle; cyclically adjusted estimates might show a somewhat different pattern.

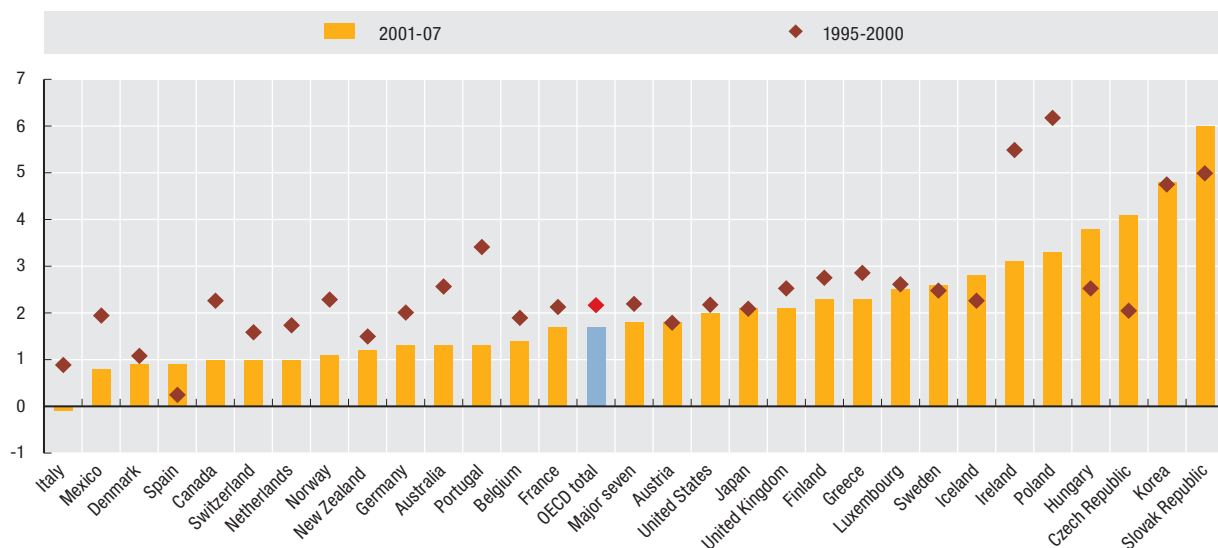
GDP per hour worked

Annual growth in percentage

	1971	1980	1985	1995	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	1.9	0.4	2.2	0.8	3.4	2.5	-1.2	3.9	1.8	2.2	0.9	0.1	1.2	1.6
Austria	..	..	..	..	2.4	2.3	2.1	-0.1	1.9	0.2	1.8	2.4	2.3	2.1
Belgium	3.5	5.7	0.9	-0.8	-0.6	1.9	3.4	-2.1	1.5	1.2	3.9	-0.5	1.2	1.2
Canada	2.8	0.6	1.2	1.4	1.8	2.6	2.9	1.1	1.4	0.4	0.3	2.0	1.3	0.5
Czech Republic	..	..	..	4.0	0.4	4.2	3.5	6.5	2.3	5.3	3.3	4.3	5.2	3.7
Denmark	4.7	-1.0	2.5	2.0	-0.4	0.9	2.0	-0.7	0.8	1.7	2.7	1.4	0.9	-2.0
Finland	4.8	3.2	3.1	2.0	3.6	1.1	3.6	2.0	1.0	2.1	3.0	1.8	3.2	2.5
France	5.3	2.1	2.9	2.7	2.6	1.7	3.6	0.9	3.1	1.2	0.5	1.5	2.4	1.3
Germany	4.3	0.9	2.3	2.5	1.2	1.4	2.6	1.8	1.5	1.2	0.6	1.4	2.4	0.6
Greece	..	..	0.2	1.7	-0.6	1.2	3.9	3.9	1.9	4.0	5.0	1.1	-1.0	2.7
Hungary	..	..	..	4.6	3.4	0.0	4.1	5.8	3.7	4.3	5.5	4.0	3.6	1.3
Iceland	9.6	3.1	-0.3	-3.9	3.3	-2.6	1.6	4.2	3.5	2.5	7.7	4.9	-0.7	-1.3
Ireland	4.5	3.9	2.0	4.8	4.3	5.7	4.6	3.2	5.3	3.9	1.7	2.4	2.2	2.8
Italy	4.4	1.9	2.0	2.9	-0.5	0.6	2.5	0.8	-0.6	-1.2	1.1	0.4	0.1	-0.2
Japan	4.1	2.3	5.1	2.5	0.4	3.0	2.8	1.6	2.4	1.7	3.1	2.2	1.4	1.5
Korea	..	..	3.8	5.7	2.9	7.0	3.3	2.3	5.7	4.5	4.0	4.5	4.0	5.4
Luxembourg	..	..	1.0	-1.8	2.3	3.4	3.1	-1.9	1.6	-	5.0	3.2	0.5	4.7
Mexico	..	..	..	-6.5	4.9	0.3	6.1	1.2	-2.8	2.3	1.0	-0.6	2.7	2.1
Netherlands	3.9	1.0	1.8	2.3	2.3	3.4	2.3	-0.1	1.3	-0.3	3.2	0.6	0.3	0.9
New Zealand	2.7	1.1	-1.8	0.1	0.8	2.9	1.1	1.9	2.1	1.5	-0.1	0.8	0.7	2.0
Norway	5.8	2.0	2.9	3.2	0.2	1.2	3.9	3.4	2.2	3.1	2.0	1.3	-0.9	-1.2
Poland	..	..	..	6.7	4.9	8.9	6.4	4.1	4.2	4.7	4.0	0.7	3.2	2.6
Portugal	..	..	..	1.7	2.7	1.7	4.4	0.0	0.3	1.2	0.4	1.9	0.5	3.7
Slovak Republic	..	..	..	4.1	6.7	2.1	3.1	3.4	8.1	7.1	3.3	3.0	5.4	7.8
Spain	4.2	5.8	3.9	0.9	-0.2	0.1	0.1	0.7	0.6	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.8
Sweden	2.6	1.3	0.9	2.0	2.2	1.9	3.3	0.4	3.8	3.3	3.2	3.0	2.8	-0.6
Switzerland	2.7	3.0	1.8	1.6	0.8	-0.8	2.8	1.8	1.0	-0.6	0.4	2.7	1.5	0.9
United Kingdom	5.0	0.8	0.4	1.6	2.9	2.7	3.4	1.4	2.4	2.9	2.0	0.8	2.4	2.3
United States	3.8	-	1.8	0.1	2.0	2.5	2.3	2.0	2.9	3.0	2.4	1.4	0.9	1.3
Major seven	4.1	0.9	2.5	1.5	1.8	2.5	2.7	1.7	2.4	2.0	2.1	1.5	1.4	1.2
OECD total	..	..	..	1.2	2.2	2.1	2.9	1.5	2.1	2.4	2.1	1.5	1.6	1.4

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/541051616402>**Growth in GDP per hour worked**

Average annual growth in percentage

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/535110006635>

GROWTH ACCOUNTS FOR OECD COUNTRIES

Economic growth can be increased by increasing the amount and types of labour and capital used in production, and by attaining greater overall efficiency in how these factors of production are used together, i.e. higher multi-factor productivity. Growth accounting involves breaking down growth of GDP into the contribution of labour input, capital input and MFP.

Definition

The growth accounting approach is based on the micro-economic theory of production and directly related to the calculation of multi-factor productivity (MFP) growth. MFP growth is measured by deducting from output growth the growth of labour and capital inputs. Turned around, the same relation can be used to explain output growth by the rates of change of labour and capital inputs and by MFP growth.

In these calculations, the growth rate of labour and capital inputs is weighted with their share in total costs. Thus, the contribution of labour to GDP growth is measured as the speed with which labour input grows, multiplied by the relative importance of labour captured by its share in total costs. The growth contributions of capital or of certain types of capital are measured in a similar way so that the growth contribution always reflects two effects, the growth rate of the input and its relative importance in production.

Comparability

The role of information and communication technologies (ICT) for growth in GDP and MFP is analyzed thanks to the differentiation between ICT and non-ICT capital. ICT related capital include hardware, communication and software. Non-ICT capital include transport equipment and non residential construction, products of agriculture, metal products and machinery other than hardware and communication equipment, and other products of non-residential gross fixed capital formation.

The appropriate measure for capital input with the growth accounting framework is the flow of productive services that can be drawn from the cumulative stock of past investments in capital assets. These services are estimated

by the OECD using the rate of change of the “productive capital stock”. This measure takes into account wear and tear and retirements, i.e., reductions in the productive capacity of the fixed assets. The price of capital services for each type of asset is measured as their rental price. In principle, the latter could be directly observed if markets existed for capital services. In practice, however, rental prices have to be imputed for most assets, using the implicit rent that capital goods owners “pay” themselves (or “user costs of capital”).

The measure of total hours worked is an incomplete measure of labour input because it does not account for changes in the skill composition of workers over time, such as educational attainment, and work experience. Adjustment for such attributes would provide a more accurate indication of the contribution of labour to production. In the absence of these adjustments, as is the case in the series shown here, more rapid output growth due to a rise in skills of the labour force are captured by the MFP residual, and not attributed to labour. This should be kept in mind when interpreting rates of MFP growth.

In the charts, data for Belgium refer to 1985-2004, data for Australia, Denmark, Finland, Netherlands, and the United Kingdom refer to 1985-2005, data for Spain refer to 1990-2006, data for Germany refer to 1991-2006, data for Austria and Portugal refer to 1995-2005, and data for Switzerland refer to 1995-2006.

Source

- OECD Productivity Database.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2007), *OECD Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard 2007*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2004), *Understanding Economic Growth A Macro-level, Industry-level, and Firm-level Perspective*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2003), *The Sources of Economic Growth in OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.

Methodological publications

- OECD (2001), *Measuring Productivity – OECD Manual Measurement of Aggregate and Industry-level Productivity Growth*, OECD, Paris.
- Schreyer, P. (2004), “Capital Stocks, Capital Services and Multi-factor Productivity Measures”, *OECD Economic Studies* No. 37, 2003/2, OECD, Paris, pp. 163-184.
- Schreyer, P., P.-E. Bignon and J. Dupont (2003), *OECD Capital Services Estimates*, OECD Statistics Working Papers, No. 2003/6, OECD, Paris.

Websites

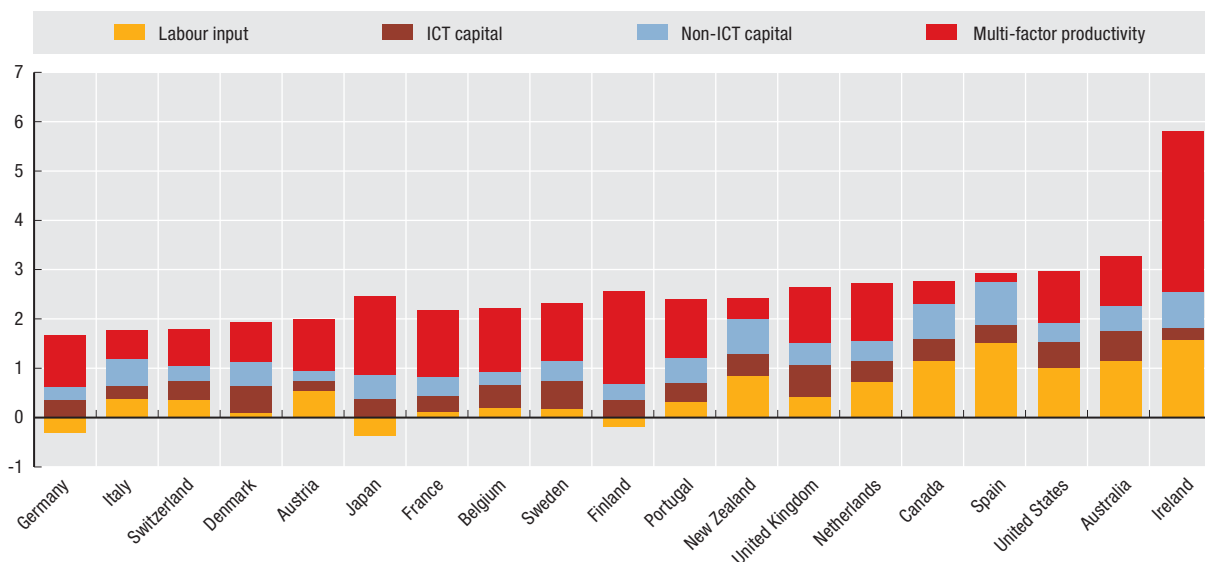
- OECD Compendium of Productivity Indicators, www.oecd.org/statistics/productivity/compendium.
- OECD work on productivity, www.oecd.org/statistics/productivity/.

Long-term trends

From 1985 to 2006, GDP growth in most OECD countries was for a large part driven by growth in capital and MFP. In many countries, growth in capital accounted for around one third of GDP growth from 1985 to 2006. Over the same period, ICT capital services represented between 0.2 and 0.6 percentage points of growth in GDP. The United Kingdom, Australia and Sweden received the largest boost from ICT capital; its contribution was more modest in Italy and France and even smaller in Austria and Ireland. In contrast, growth in labour input was important for a few countries over 1985-2006, notably Ireland, Spain, Canada, Australia and the United States. From 1985 to 2006, MFP growth was a significant source of growth of GDP in Ireland, Finland, Japan, France and Belgium, but its contribution was very small in Spain, New Zealand, Canada and Italy.

Contributions to GDP growth*Average annual growth in percentage, 1985-2006 (or closest comparable period)*

	Labour input	ICT capital	Non-ICT capital	Multi-factor productivity	GDP growth
Australia	1.15	0.60	0.50	1.00	3.23
Austria	0.54	0.21	0.19	1.05	1.98
Belgium	0.20	0.47	0.26	1.30	2.21
Canada	1.15	0.44	0.70	0.46	2.73
Denmark	0.10	0.54	0.48	0.80	1.91
Finland	-0.20	0.37	0.32	1.88	2.34
France	0.11	0.32	0.40	1.34	2.16
Germany	-0.31	0.35	0.28	1.03	1.35
Ireland	1.58	0.24	0.75	3.25	5.71
Italy	0.39	0.25	0.55	0.57	1.75
Japan	-0.37	0.38	0.49	1.59	2.09
Netherlands	0.72	0.42	0.39	1.18	2.70
New Zealand	0.84	0.45	0.72	0.41	2.41
Portugal	0.31	0.38	0.52	1.19	2.39
Spain	1.53	0.34	0.89	0.17	2.91
Sweden	0.17	0.58	0.39	1.18	2.30
Switzerland	0.36	0.39	0.30	0.73	1.78
United Kingdom	0.43	0.63	0.47	1.12	2.62
United States	1.01	0.53	0.38	1.04	2.93

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/541113478810>**Contributions to GDP growth***Average annual growth in percentage, 1985-2006 (or closest comparable period)*StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/535111434826>

VALUE ADDED BY ACTIVITY

The contributions of primary, secondary and tertiary activities to total value added have changed sharply over recent decades. Agriculture, fishing and forestry are now relatively small in almost all OECD countries. The share of manufacturing has also fallen while services now account for well over 60% of total gross value added in most OECD countries.

Definition

Gross value added is defined as output minus intermediate consumption and equals the sum of employee compensation, gross operating surplus of government and corporations, gross mixed income of unincorporated enterprises and taxes less subsidies on production and imports, except for net taxes on products. The shares of each sector are calculated by dividing the value added in each sector by total value added. Total value added is less than GDP because it excludes value-added tax (VAT) and other product taxes.

In the following analysis, tables and graphs for some industry branches are grouped together as follows: “industry” consists of mining and quarrying, manufacturing, and production and distribution of electricity, gas and water; “trade” consists of retail and wholesale trade and repair services; “real estate” covers rents for dwellings including the imputed rents of owner-occupiers; “government” includes public administration, law and order and defence.

Comparability

All OECD member countries follow the international 1993 System of National Accounts, so there is good comparability between countries as regards the definitions of value added and the coverage of the six sectors. It's important to recognise however that part of the decline of industry and the rise of service activities reflects the outsourcing of

service activities that were previously carried out internally within industrial enterprises, and so, in this sense these movements overstate real changes in these activities. For example, if cleaning and security services were earlier provided by employees of a manufacturing enterprise, their salaries would have formed part of value added by industry, but if these services are now purchased from specialised producers, the salaries of the employees will form part of the value added of “other business services”. There will appear to have been a decline in the share of industry and a rise in the share of services although there may have been no change in the quantity of cleaning and security services actually produced.

Note that for Australia and New Zealand data refer to fiscal year.

Source

- OECD (2008), *National Accounts of OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- Lal, K. (2003), *Measurement of Output, Value Added, GDP in Canada and the United States*, OECD Statistics Working Papers, No. 2003/4, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (1996), *Services: Measuring Real Annual Value Added*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2002), *Measuring the Non-Observed Economy: A Handbook*, OECD, Paris.

Online databases

- STAN: OECD Structural Analysis Statistics – online database.

Websites

- OECD National Accounts Archive, www.oecd.org/std/national-accounts/papers.
- OECD National Accounts, www.oecd.org/std/national-accounts.

Further information

Analytical publications

- Lal, K. (2003), *Measurement of Output, Value Added, GDP in Canada and the United States*, OECD Statistics Working Papers, No. 2003/4, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (1996), *Services: Measuring Real Annual Value Added*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2002), *Measuring the Non-Observed Economy: A Handbook*, OECD, Paris.

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- OECD National Accounts, www.oecd.org/std/national-accounts.
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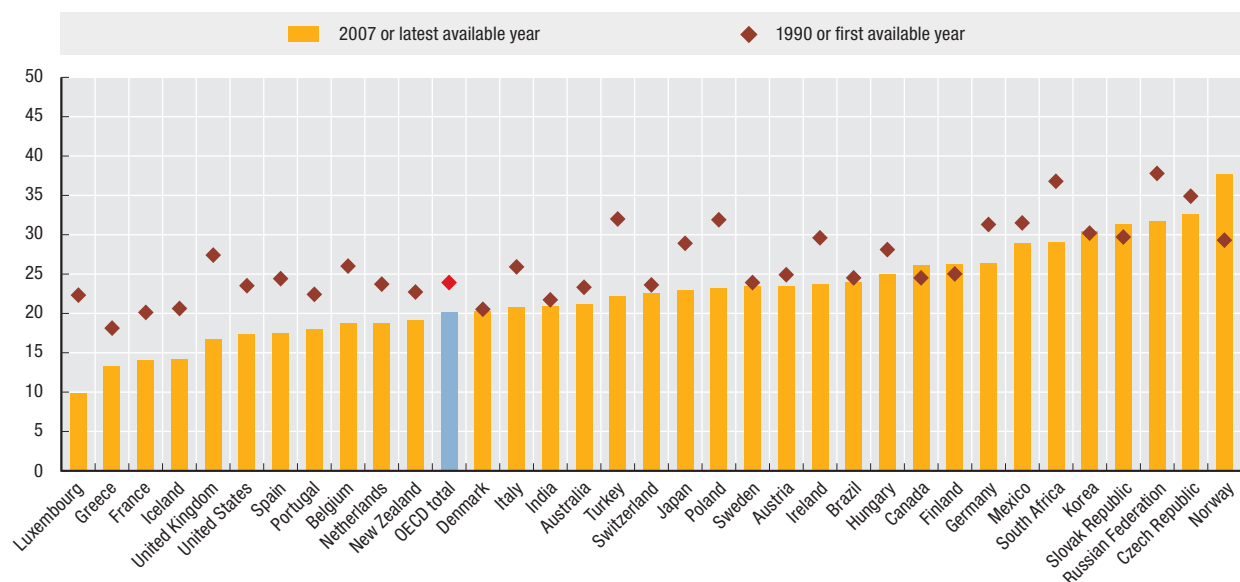
Long-term trends

The share of agriculture, etc., has been declining throughout the period in almost all countries and, towards the end of the period, makes a significant contribution only in Iceland (fishing), New Zealand and Turkey. Shares in industry have also been falling throughout the period. Manufacturing is the most important activity within industry except in Norway, where oil and gas production is more important.

All service activities account for around 70% of total gross value added for the OECD countries as a whole, with very high shares in France, Luxembourg and the United Kingdom and rather low shares in the Czech Republic, Korea, Norway and Turkey. It should be noted, however, that, in most countries, the largest part of service value added is goods-related and consists of trade, transport and business services purchased by industry. A high share of service value added does not necessarily mean that a country has become a service economy; the production, transport and distribution of goods remain the predominant activities in most OECD countries in terms of employment and value added.

Value added in agriculture and industry*As percentage of total value added*

	Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing							Industry, including energy						
	1990	1995	2000	2004	2005	2006	2007	1990	1995	2000	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	3.6	3.8	4.0	3.3	3.1	2.4	2.5	23.3	22.4	20.7	19.8	21.0	21.5	21.2
Austria	4.0	2.6	2.0	1.9	1.6	1.7	1.8	24.9	22.9	23.3	22.2	22.4	23.3	23.5
Belgium	2.1	1.5	1.4	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.8	26.0	23.2	22.0	19.7	19.2	19.2	18.7
Canada	2.9	2.9	2.3	2.2	..	..	..	24.5	25.8	28.2	26.1	..	..	..
Czech Republic	8.7	5.0	3.9	3.3	3.0	2.6	2.4	34.9	31.7	31.6	32.1	31.6	32.0	32.6
Denmark	4.0	3.5	2.6	1.9	1.4	1.4	1.2	20.5	20.4	21.3	19.4	20.1	20.7	20.3
Finland	6.3	4.3	3.5	3.0	3.0	2.5	3.2	25.0	28.4	28.2	26.1	25.4	26.4	26.2
France	3.8	3.4	2.8	2.5	2.3	2.1	2.2	20.1	18.7	17.7	15.4	15.0	14.5	14.1
Germany	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.9	31.3	25.4	25.1	25.1	25.2	25.7	26.4
Greece	9.0	8.9	6.6	5.1	5.1	4.1	3.8	18.1	15.4	13.9	13.1	13.4	13.7	13.3
Hungary	..	8.5	5.4	4.8	4.3	4.1	4.0	..	25.6	27.1	25.4	25.3	25.3	25.0
Iceland	11.2	11.1	8.6	6.5	5.8	..	..	20.6	20.4	17.5	16.5	14.2	..	..
Ireland	8.9	7.0	3.5	2.5	1.9	1.6	1.7	29.6	32.6	33.6	27.1	25.1	23.8	23.7
Italy	3.5	3.3	2.8	2.5	2.2	2.1	2.0	25.9	25.0	23.4	21.2	20.9	20.7	20.8
Japan	2.5	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.4	..	28.9	25.2	24.0	22.9	23.0	23.0	..
Korea	8.9	6.3	4.9	3.8	3.4	3.3	3.0	30.2	30.3	32.4	31.3	31.1	30.6	30.5
Luxembourg	1.5	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.4	22.3	15.3	12.6	11.3	10.5	9.4	9.8
Mexico	8.1	5.4	4.2	3.7	3.4	3.3	..	31.5	29.5	29.4	27.7	27.5	28.9	..
Netherlands	4.4	3.5	2.6	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.0	23.7	21.9	19.3	18.5	18.8	18.9	18.8
New Zealand	6.7	7.2	8.6	..	..	..	..	22.7	21.8	20.1	..	..	..	..
Norway	3.4	3.1	2.1	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.4	29.3	29.7	37.8	35.3	38.4	40.4	37.7
Poland	..	8.0	5.0	5.1	4.5	4.3	4.3	..	28.4	24.0	25.2	24.7	24.7	23.2
Portugal	9.1	5.8	3.8	3.2	2.8	2.8	2.5	22.4	21.9	20.0	18.3	17.7	17.7	18.0
Slovak Republic	..	5.9	4.5	4.1	3.7	3.6	3.5	..	32.7	29.2	30.3	29.7	31.3	31.3
Spain	5.5	4.5	4.4	3.6	3.2	2.9	2.9	24.4	21.9	20.9	18.5	18.2	17.8	17.5
Sweden	3.6	2.9	2.0	1.8	1.1	1.4	1.4	23.9	26.1	24.6	23.1	23.1	23.2	23.4
Switzerland	2.9	2.1	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.2	23.6	23.6	21.8	21.1	21.4	22.1	22.5
Turkey	13.4	11.9	10.8	10.7	10.6	9.4	8.7	32.0	32.8	24.6	23.0	23.0	22.9	22.2
United Kingdom	1.8	1.8	1.0	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.7	27.4	26.0	22.0	17.5	17.3	17.3	16.7
United States	2.1	1.6	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.1	..	23.5	22.2	19.4	17.2	17.3	17.3	..
EU27 total	..	2.9	2.4	2.2	1.9	1.8	1.8	..	23.7	22.4	20.4	20.2	20.2	20.1
OECD total	..	2.5	2.0	..	..	..	..	..	23.9	22.2	..	..	..	..
Brazil	5.2	5.8	5.6	6.9	5.7	5.5	..	24.5	22.0	22.2	25.0	24.4	24.0	..
India	..	..	24.0	19.6	18.9	18.4	18.1	..	..	20.1	20.7	20.8	20.8	20.9
Russian Federation	16.5	7.6	6.7	6.0	5.4	5.0	4.6	37.8	27.9	31.4	30.8	32.9	31.9	31.7
South Africa	4.6	3.9	3.3	3.2	2.7	2.9	3.2	36.8	31.7	29.3	28.5	28.4	28.9	29.0

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/541116662126>**Value added in industry***As a percentage of total value added*StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/535167121025>

VALUE ADDED BY ACTIVITY

Value added in construction and in transport, trade, hotels and restaurants

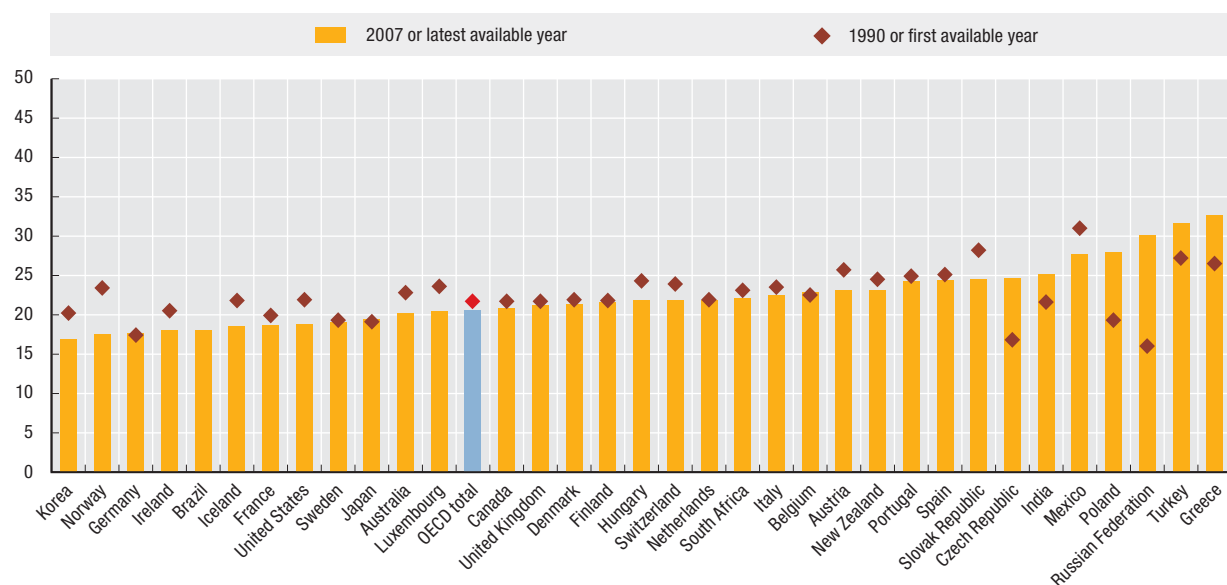
As percentage of total value added

	Construction							Transport, trade, hotels and restaurants						
	1990	1995	2000	2004	2005	2006	2007	1990	1995	2000	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	6.8	6.0	5.4	7.0	7.0	7.5	7.9	22.8	23.5	22.1	22.0	21.1	20.5	20.2
Austria	6.9	7.9	7.5	7.2	7.1	6.9	7.1	25.7	24.6	24.6	24.5	23.8	23.3	23.1
Belgium	5.4	5.1	5.0	4.8	4.8	5.1	5.3	22.5	21.9	21.1	22.9	23.1	22.8	22.9
Canada	6.8	4.9	5.0	5.6	..	..	..	21.7	20.7	20.3	20.8	..	..	..
Czech Republic	8.2	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.3	6.2	6.3	16.8	24.4	25.8	24.4	24.8	25.3	24.6
Denmark	5.1	4.7	5.5	5.3	5.4	5.9	6.1	21.9	22.3	21.8	22.1	22.0	21.2	21.3
Finland	8.3	4.4	5.5	5.4	5.9	6.0	6.4	21.8	20.8	21.5	22.8	22.6	22.1	21.6
France	6.6	6.1	5.2	5.5	5.7	6.2	6.5	19.9	19.3	18.9	19.5	19.3	19.0	18.7
Germany	6.1	6.8	5.2	4.2	4.0	3.8	4.0	17.4	18.0	18.2	17.7	17.7	17.9	17.6
Greece	7.1	6.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.3	7.0	26.5	27.8	30.1	32.7	31.9	31.8	32.6
Hungary	..	4.5	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.6	..	22.0	20.7	20.7	20.3	20.8	21.8
Iceland	9.7	8.0	8.6	8.5	9.5	..	..	21.8	22.5	21.6	19.8	18.5	..	..
Ireland	5.4	5.3	7.4	9.0	9.9	10.2	9.9	20.5	17.4	17.9	17.8	17.9	18.4	18.0
Italy	6.2	5.3	5.0	5.8	6.0	6.1	6.3	23.5	24.2	23.9	23.4	23.1	22.8	22.5
Japan	9.7	8.0	7.1	6.4	6.1	6.1	..	19.1	21.3	20.2	19.7	19.7	19.5	..
Korea	11.3	11.6	8.4	9.3	9.2	9.0	8.9	20.2	18.2	18.2	17.1	17.0	16.9	16.9
Luxembourg	7.1	6.5	5.7	6.3	6.1	5.9	5.9	23.6	21.3	21.8	21.6	20.5	19.7	20.4
Mexico	4.8	4.8	6.4	6.7	6.7	7.0	..	31.0	27.2	29.8	28.2	28.2	27.7	..
Netherlands	5.7	5.4	5.6	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.6	21.9	21.7	23.1	22.5	22.1	22.0	21.9
New Zealand	4.1	4.1	4.3	..	..	..	..	24.5	24.5	22.1	..	..	..	..
Norway	4.6	4.5	4.1	4.6	4.4	4.5	5.0	23.4	22.3	18.8	17.9	17.1	16.9	17.5
Poland	..	6.7	7.7	5.5	6.0	6.4	7.9	..	25.7	27.3	27.4	27.4	27.4	27.9
Portugal	5.7	6.4	7.6	7.1	6.9	6.6	6.5	24.9	24.2	24.1	24.6	24.3	24.4	24.3
Slovak Republic	..	5.1	7.1	6.2	6.7	7.7	7.9	..	24.5	25.1	25.6	25.8	23.8	24.5
Spain	8.6	7.5	8.3	10.6	11.5	12.2	12.3	25.1	26.9	26.1	25.7	25.1	24.8	24.4
Sweden	6.8	4.5	4.0	4.5	4.6	4.7	4.9	19.3	19.1	19.0	19.3	19.5	19.2	19.0
Switzerland	8.3	6.7	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.6	5.5	23.9	22.4	21.4	22.6	22.4	22.0	21.8
Turkey	6.6	5.7	5.4	5.0	5.0	5.4	5.6	27.2	29.0	29.1	32.2	32.2	32.3	31.7
United Kingdom	6.7	5.0	5.3	6.0	6.1	6.3	6.4	21.7	21.6	22.9	22.3	21.8	21.3	21.2
United States	4.6	4.2	4.7	4.9	5.2	5.1	..	21.9	22.2	19.7	19.2	18.9	18.8	..
EU27 total	..	6.0	5.6	5.8	6.0	6.2	6.5	..	21.1	21.6	21.6	21.4	21.3	21.2
OECD total	..	6.0	5.6	..	..	..	..	..	21.7	20.8	..	..	..	..
Brazil	4.6	5.5	5.5	5.1	4.9	4.7	..	..	..	17.2	17.3	17.8	18.1	..
India	..	..	5.9	7.1	7.9	8.3	8.4	..	..	22.1	24.4	24.8	25.0	25.2
Russian Federation	9.5	9.1	6.6	5.7	5.3	5.2	5.7	16.0	33.5	32.7	31.9	30.3	30.8	30.1
South Africa	3.3	3.2	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.7	2.9	..	23.2	24.3	23.8	23.8	23.3	22.1

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/541174506822>

Value added in transport, trade, hotels and restaurants

As a percentage of total value added


StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/535174318655>

Value added in business services and in government and personal services

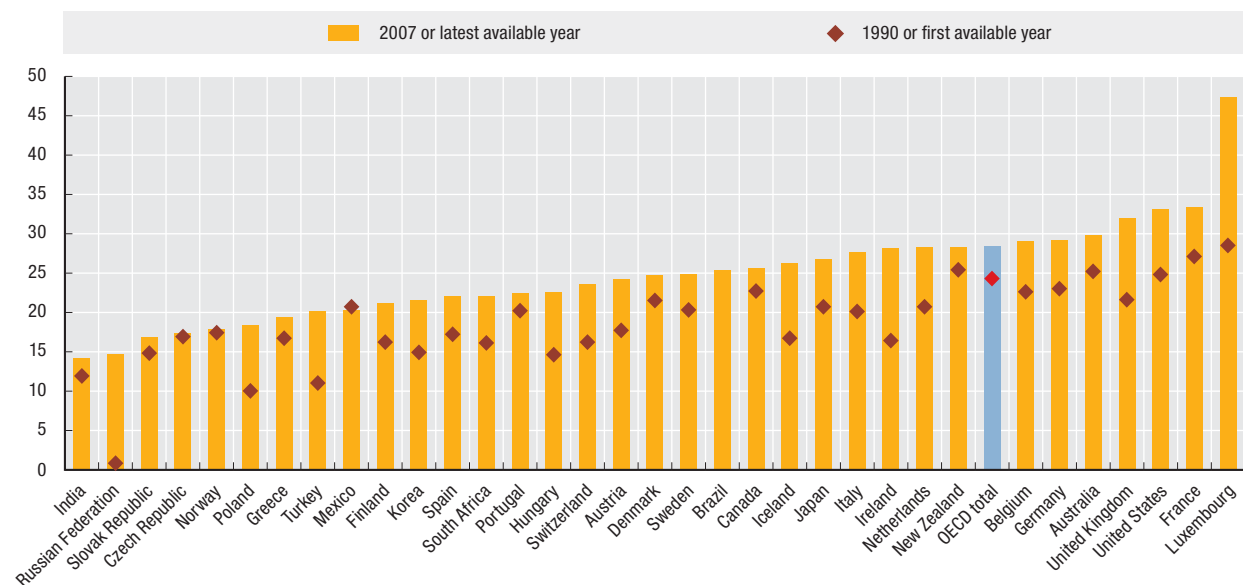
As percentage of total value added

	Banks, insurance, real estate and other business services							Government, health, education and other and personal services						
	1990	1995	2000	2004	2005	2006	2007	1990	1995	2000	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	25.2	25.9	29.3	29.1	29.0	29.4	29.8	18.3	18.5	18.5	18.9	18.9	18.7	18.4
Austria	17.7	19.4	21.5	23.1	24.2	24.1	24.2	20.8	22.6	21.1	21.0	21.0	20.7	20.4
Belgium	22.6	25.6	27.8	28.0	28.4	28.7	29.0	21.5	22.7	22.6	23.4	23.7	23.4	23.3
Canada	22.7	24.2	25.0	25.6	..	..	..	21.4	21.4	19.2	19.7	..	..	..
Czech Republic	16.9	16.8	16.2	16.5	16.8	16.6	17.3	13.4	15.5	16.0	17.2	17.5	17.3	16.8
Denmark	21.5	22.2	22.3	23.8	24.1	24.2	24.7	27.0	26.9	26.4	27.5	27.0	26.5	26.4
Finland	16.2	18.8	20.5	20.6	20.7	21.0	21.2	22.3	23.2	20.8	22.0	22.4	22.0	21.4
France	27.1	28.2	30.7	31.5	32.2	32.9	33.3	22.6	25.1	24.7	25.6	25.6	25.4	25.3
Germany	23.0	26.4	27.5	29.1	29.4	29.4	29.2	20.8	22.2	22.8	22.9	22.9	22.2	21.9
Greece	16.7	20.3	20.6	19.2	19.0	19.3	19.4	20.2	21.3	21.7	22.9	23.6	23.9	23.9
Hungary	..	18.9	20.1	20.9	21.8	22.3	22.6	..	21.3	21.6	23.3	23.4	22.7	22.0
Iceland	16.7	16.3	20.0	23.9	26.2	..	..	20.0	21.8	23.6	24.8	25.8	..	..
Ireland	16.4	17.5	21.8	25.5	27.0	27.7	28.1	19.0	20.1	15.8	18.2	18.2	18.3	18.7
Italy	20.1	22.4	24.7	26.6	26.9	27.2	27.6	20.7	19.8	20.1	20.5	20.9	21.1	20.8
Japan	20.7	23.1	24.9	26.2	26.6	26.7	..	19.2	20.5	22.1	23.2	23.2	23.3	..
Korea	14.9	18.3	20.1	20.6	20.9	21.2	21.6	14.4	15.3	16.1	17.8	18.3	19.0	19.1
Luxembourg	28.5	39.2	43.8	42.7	45.3	48.5	47.3	17.3	16.7	15.4	17.6	17.1	16.1	16.2
Mexico	20.7	27.5	19.0	20.2	20.8	20.3	..	9.3	11.3	12.7	13.6	13.4	12.9	..
Netherlands	20.7	24.2	27.3	27.0	27.6	27.8	28.3	23.6	23.2	22.1	24.6	24.1	23.6	23.4
New Zealand	25.4	25.8	27.1	..	..	..	..	16.7	16.5	17.7	..	..	..	..
Norway	17.4	17.5	16.9	18.7	17.9	17.0	17.9	21.8	23.0	20.3	21.9	20.6	19.7	20.5
Poland	..	12.6	18.1	17.6	18.1	18.3	18.4	..	18.6	18.0	19.1	19.2	18.9	18.3
Portugal	20.2	19.8	20.6	20.9	21.5	22.0	22.4	18.3	21.9	24.0	25.9	26.8	26.5	26.4
Slovak Republic	..	17.5	17.1	17.8	17.7	17.8	16.9	..	14.3	17.1	16.1	16.4	15.9	15.8
Spain	17.2	17.9	19.5	20.7	21.1	21.5	22.1	19.1	21.3	20.8	20.8	20.9	20.8	20.9
Sweden	20.3	22.9	25.0	24.4	24.9	24.8	24.8	26.3	24.6	25.4	26.9	26.8	26.6	26.4
Switzerland	16.2	18.5	24.0	22.6	22.5	23.1	23.6	25.0	26.7	25.7	26.8	26.6	26.0	25.4
Turkey	11.0	12.2	19.5	17.3	17.7	18.6	20.2	9.0	8.6	10.6	11.8	11.5	11.5	11.6
United Kingdom	21.6	23.7	27.0	30.1	30.4	31.0	31.9	20.8	21.8	21.8	23.1	23.7	23.4	23.1
United States	24.8	26.3	31.6	32.1	32.5	33.1	..	23.2	23.4	23.2	25.1	24.8	24.6	..
EU27 total	..	24.0	25.9	27.2	27.5	27.8	28.1	..	22.2	22.1	22.8	23.0	22.7	22.4
OECD total	..	24.3	27.5	..	..	..	..	..	21.8	22.0	..	..	..	..
Brazil	..	..	26.8	24.2	25.6	25.4	..	..	..	22.6	21.4	21.6	22.2	..
India	..	..	13.1	14.2	13.9	13.9	14.2	..	..	14.9	14.0	13.8	13.5	13.3
Russian Federation	0.8	3.3	4.6	12.7	13.7	14.4	14.7	19.3	18.8	18.0	12.9	12.4	12.8	13.1
South Africa	..	16.4	18.6	20.8	21.4	21.3	22.1	..	21.7	22.0	21.4	21.3	21.0	20.6

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/541177606177>

Value added in banks, insurance, real estate and other business services

As a percentage of total value added

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/535202507843>

EVOLUTION OF VALUE ADDED BY ACTIVITY

Although total GDP has grown in all OECD countries in nearly all years since 1990, that growth has not been evenly spread across economic activities. Some economic activities have grown faster than others and some have tended to decline in importance. A convenient way to show how the patterns of growth are changing is to divide the economy into primary, secondary and tertiary sectors – agriculture, industry and services, respectively.

Definition

Gross value added is defined as output minus intermediate consumption and equals employee compensation, net operating surplus, net mixed income and depreciation of capital assets. The growth rates shown here refer to volume estimates of gross value added.

Industry consists of mining and quarrying; manufacturing; production and distribution of electricity, gas and water; and construction. Services consists of retail and wholesale trade; transport and communications; real estate, finance, insurance and business services; education, health and other personal services; public administration; and defence.

Long-term trends

For OECD countries as a whole, agriculture has been growing by about 2.2% per year since 1995, industry by 1.8% per year and services by 2.9% per year.

Annual growth in agriculture is generally very uneven, with changes from year to year of 10% or more being quite common. Growth in industry is somewhat smoother in most countries, while year-to-year growth in services tends to be very smooth in all countries, one reason being that services include government services.

The graphs show growth rates averaged over the three latest years for which data are available. Over the period, agriculture declined in eight countries – most pronounced in Hungary, Denmark, Greece, Luxembourg, the Czech Republic and Ireland. Industry grew in most countries, except Norway. The service sector, however, grew in all countries with particularly sharp increases in the Ireland, Iceland, Luxembourg and Turkey.

Comparability

All OECD member countries follow the international 1993 *System of National Accounts*, so there is good comparability between countries as regards the definitions and coverage. It's important to recognise however that part of the decline of industry and the rise of service activities reflects the outsourcing of service activities that were previously carried out internally within industrial enterprises, and so, in this sense these movements overstate real changes in these activities. For example, if cleaning and security services were earlier provided by employees of a manufacturing enterprise, their salaries would have formed part of value added by industry but if these services are now purchased from specialised producers, the salaries of the employees will form part of the value added of the service sector. No change in the quantity of cleaning and security services produced may have occurred.

Note that for Australia and New Zealand, data refer to fiscal year.

Source

- OECD (2008), *National Accounts of OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2008), *OECD Economic Outlook*, June No. 83 – Vol. 2008/1, OECD, Paris.

Statistical publications

- Maddison, Angus (2003), *The World Economy: Historical Perspectives*, OECD, Paris, also available on CD-ROM, www.theworldeconomy.org.
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Methodological publications

- OECD (2000), *OECD Glossaries, System of National Accounts*, 1993 – Glossary, OECD, Paris.
- UN, OECD, IMF, Eurostat (eds.) (1993), *System of National Accounts 1993*, United Nations, Geneva.

Online databases

- STAN: *OECD Structural Analysis Statistics* – online database.

Websites

- OECD National Accounts, www.oecd.org/std/national-accounts.

Real value added in agriculture, forestry and fishing

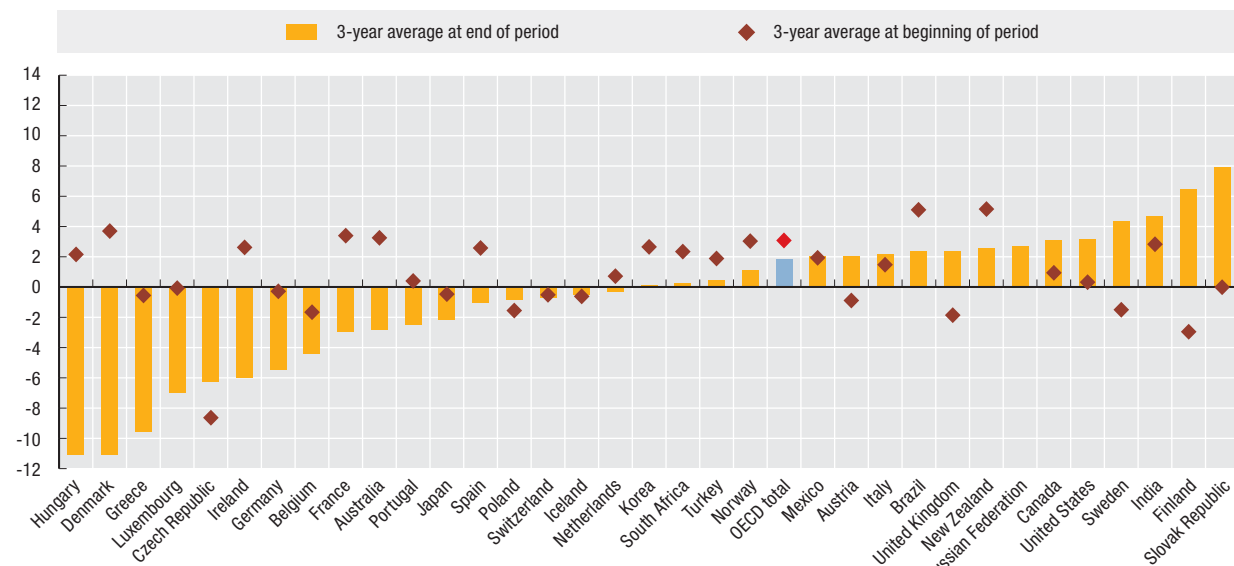
Annual growth in percentage

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	-16.9	23.2	7.5	-0.5	10.2	5.2	4.1	3.2	-23.5	28.2	4.1	2.9	-17.7	8.3
Austria	5.6	-4.2	-3.8	-0.4	2.0	1.5	-5.4	-3.8	-4.3	-1.7	7.6	-1.8	-0.4	8.6
Belgium	-6.8	2.2	-0.2	2.7	2.9	2.9	4.2	-5.5	4.3	-7.6	5.3	-11.6	-4.3	3.4
Canada	1.3	1.4	0.1	-3.4	6.2	7.5	-1.8	-9.1	-5.2	10.8	9.2	2.6	-2.2	..
Czech Republic	-17.3	-4.9	-3.1	-13.4	6.1	5.3	4.1	-2.8	3.4	3.8	7.8	11.0	-16.2	-11.4
Denmark	3.7	5.2	2.2	2.1	2.4	-3.5	8.3	3.8	-3.7	1.0	-0.7	-7.3	-5.3	-19.8
Finland	-2.2	-3.8	-2.9	8.9	-9.0	-1.3	8.7	1.9	2.0	-7.0	1.5	3.7	-0.3	16.6
France	1.5	3.6	5.1	1.7	1.7	3.7	-1.4	-2.8	5.0	-15.3	20.5	-5.4	-1.5	-1.8
Germany	-9.4	5.2	4.0	3.4	-6.0	12.7	-0.4	3.8	-7.0	-5.5	29.4	-16.1	-3.2	4.1
Greece	5.9	-4.0	-3.3	0.4	2.3	3.5	-3.7	-1.2	-3.8	-5.7	4.9	1.4	-18.1	-10.8
Hungary	-0.4	2.7	4.2	-0.2	-1.4	0.9	-7.4	16.2	-9.9	-0.2	53.5	-3.5	-5.8	-22.6
Iceland	-4.8	-0.7	3.8	-0.6	-4.6	-2.3	-1.8	1.5	2.5	-2.9	3.9	-2.4	..	..
Ireland	..	..	7.0	2.1	-1.1	-1.2	1.2	0.8	-5.8	2.7	1.3	-15.2	-4.9	3.1
Italy	1.3	1.5	1.6	2.8	2.4	6.1	-2.4	-2.5	-3.1	-4.9	13.1	-4.4	-1.4	0.0
Japan	2.4	-6.0	2.4	-1.2	2.0	1.0	2.1	-2.4	6.0	-5.9	-7.1	3.6	-2.6	..
Korea	0.4	5.3	2.3	4.6	-6.4	5.9	1.2	1.1	-3.5	-5.3	9.2	0.7	-1.5	1.1
Luxembourg	-5.8	9.4	-3.2	-16.3	15.2	14.4	-13.0	-14.3	11.3	-12.3	0.3	-14.3	-6.2	0.1
Mexico	0.2	1.8	3.8	0.2	3.0	1.5	0.4	5.9	-0.9	3.8	2.9	-0.7	3.9	..
Netherlands	2.6	2.0	-2.4	7.4	-5.6	5.8	2.1	-4.5	-1.5	4.1	5.8	-0.5	-2.0	1.7
New Zealand	0.6	7.4	7.6	0.8	-4.2	4.5	2.7	1.7	-0.3	4.6	2.6	4.7	0.4	..
Norway	2.8	6.7	-0.3	-1.3	1.6	-0.2	-2.7	-2.7	9.0	0.5	12.4	-4.4	0.0	8.0
Poland	-14.9	10.2	1.7	0.2	3.6	-0.5	-4.1	6.6	1.0	2.7	6.8	-1.0	-2.2	0.7
Portugal	-2.1	-1.1	4.5	-8.3	-3.5	4.8	-4.2	-3.2	2.3	-2.3	5.8	-5.6	2.5	-4.2
Slovak Republic	8.1	-3.6	-4.1	13.7	-1.5	-8.7	2.0	14.1	19.4	5.3	-2.5	2.9	11.8	9.2
Spain	-4.7	-6.1	20.6	7.1	3.1	-1.0	7.3	-2.0	0.4	-0.5	-2.3	-8.2	2.5	3.0
Sweden	-3.7	0.2	-1.0	1.8	-5.6	2.2	2.7	4.9	0.5	0.9	7.7	-5.0	21.2	-1.4
Switzerland	-5.6	4.9	-0.6	-4.9	2.9	-1.7	7.8	-8.2	1.6	-9.2	11.4	-2.7	-4.3	5.2
Turkey	-0.7	2.0	4.4	-2.3	8.4	-5.7	7.1	-7.9	8.8	-2.0	2.8	7.2	1.4	-6.8
United Kingdom	-0.6	-2.1	-2.9	3.5	3.4	1.5	-0.8	-8.9	11.7	-1.7	-0.2	5.3	2.8	-0.9
United States	6.0	-10.0	5.8	10.3	4.7	11.7	12.7	-7.5	-2.9	11.6	2.8	12.5	-5.2	..
EU27 total	..	..	3.6	2.6	0.2	4.0	-0.4	-0.5	0.1	-4.5	11.1	-5.3	-1.4	-1.3
OECD total	..	..	3.8	3.2	2.2	4.5	3.7	-2.9	-0.5	0.8	5.3	..	..	..
Brazil	7.4	5.7	3.0	0.8	3.4	6.5	2.7	6.1	6.6	5.8	2.3	0.3	4.5	..
India	..	..	..	..	2.3	5.0	1.2	2.9	-3.2	4.9	1.8	5.0	4.0	5.1
Russian Federation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5.3	2.8	1.2	3.7	3.1
South Africa	7.9	-19.9	24.0	0.9	-5.3	6.2	4.7	-3.3	6.5	-2.1	1.4	5.5	-7.2	2.9

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/541213460847>

Real value added in agriculture, forestry and fishing

Annual growth in percentage

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EVOLUTION OF VALUE ADDED BY ACTIVITY

Real value added in industry

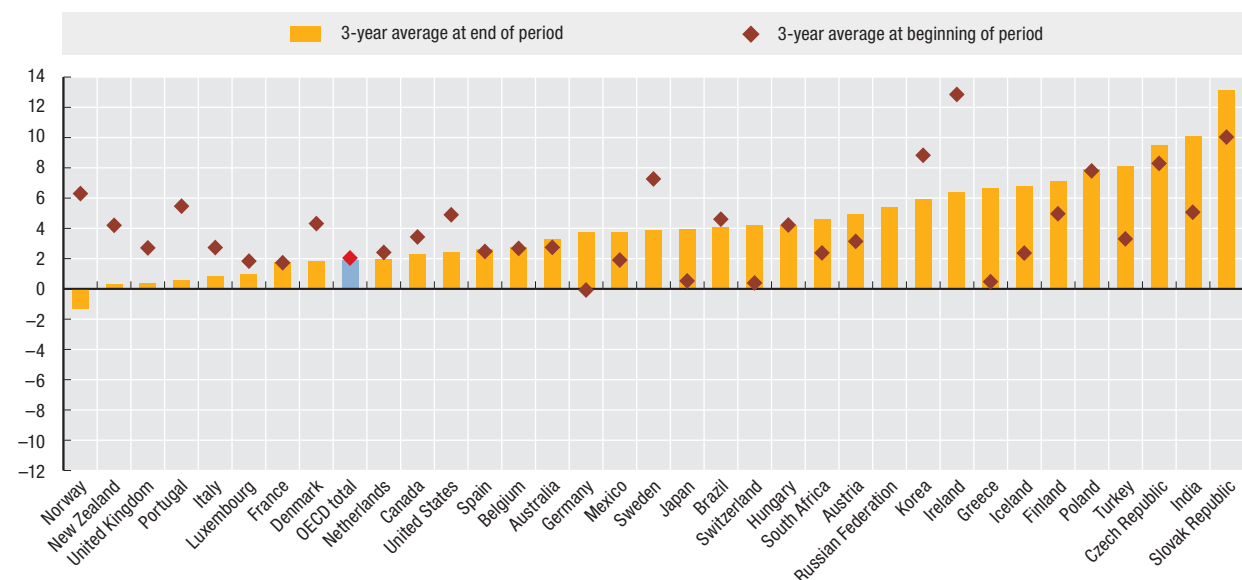
Annual growth in percentage

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	3.7	2.7	1.8	4.6	3.2	3.1	-0.8	3.4	5.4	1.5	1.5	2.3	4.1	3.5
Austria	4.0	3.9	1.5	1.8	3.2	3.2	4.8	1.3	-0.1	1.4	3.2	3.3	7.2	4.3
Belgium	3.4	3.4	1.2	6.0	1.6	1.4	5.0	0.2	-1.0	-0.8	3.1	0.8	4.6	2.8
Canada	5.6	3.2	1.5	5.1	3.4	5.5	7.9	-2.1	2.2	0.6	2.8	2.8	1.2	..
Czech Republic	4.0	10.2	10.8	-5.0	-5.1	2.2	7.1	-1.8	2.8	-0.5	11.6	8.1	12.1	8.2
Denmark	8.1	5.5	-0.5	5.2	1.9	2.9	3.3	-1.6	-1.9	-1.2	1.6	0.9	3.9	0.6
Finland	6.7	2.8	5.4	8.9	8.2	5.5	9.6	3.6	3.0	2.6	4.6	3.4	9.6	8.4
France	2.8	3.4	-1.0	-0.4	3.9	2.8	4.4	2.4	0.1	1.2	1.2	1.7	1.5	2.1
Germany	3.2	-1.0	-2.4	2.4	0.5	0.8	4.5	-0.1	-1.8	-0.4	3.4	1.6	4.8	4.9
Greece	0.0	0.3	2.2	-1.1	7.4	2.3	5.4	8.7	-8.6	9.2	4.8	10.7	5.5	3.8
Hungary	5.7	5.7	1.3	10.8	7.5	6.7	8.2	1.7	3.4	4.3	3.6	3.5	4.9	4.2
Iceland	1.0	-0.6	6.8	6.5	3.6	2.8	6.8	4.2	-4.3	4.6	8.4	7.4	..	..
Ireland	..	..	8.8	16.3	13.6	12.9	9.2	6.8	9.3	1.7	4.0	4.4	5.3	9.4
Italy	4.2	3.8	0.2	0.5	0.8	0.3	3.7	0.8	0.2	-1.7	1.1	0.2	1.2	1.0
Japan	-2.3	0.7	3.2	1.4	-4.5	-0.6	2.7	-4.2	-1.8	2.4	4.8	3.8	3.2	..
Korea	9.5	9.8	7.2	4.5	-8.2	12.2	11.7	3.1	6.4	6.1	8.8	5.7	6.6	5.5
Luxembourg	3.7	2.2	-0.4	5.1	5.0	7.0	6.0	-0.1	6.1	1.7	3.3	3.1	-2.7	2.6
Mexico	5.0	-8.5	10.1	9.3	6.2	4.7	6.0	-3.6	0.0	-0.1	3.6	2.5	5.2	..
Netherlands	3.6	2.0	1.6	0.1	2.2	3.6	4.9	1.2	0.0	-2.3	2.7	0.9	1.9	3.0
New Zealand	6.2	2.8	3.6	0.2	-3.7	5.7	0.6	1.1	9.3	2.9	3.7	-1.0	-1.8	..
Norway	8.3	5.3	5.3	5.5	-1.8	-1.1	3.5	1.1	0.8	0.2	2.3	0.5	-3.3	-1.0
Poland	7.8	9.2	6.4	10.4	4.8	3.0	4.6	-2.4	-2.4	5.5	8.8	4.3	10.3	9.2
Portugal	3.5	6.1	6.8	6.9	3.7	1.2	3.8	2.1	-1.5	-2.2	0.4	-1.7	0.9	2.6
Slovak Republic	8.3	5.5	16.6	-4.9	7.7	-3.9	1.4	3.3	8.0	10.4	16.0	9.7	17.7	12.2
Spain	1.6	4.2	1.6	4.7	5.3	5.9	4.7	4.8	1.8	2.6	2.2	2.4	2.7	2.8
Sweden	9.8	10.4	1.8	4.9	5.8	7.6	6.5	-0.8	4.4	2.8	8.7	4.2	4.7	2.8
Switzerland	3.4	-0.2	-2.0	0.8	0.8	0.3	0.5	2.7	0.1	-0.1	1.3	3.6	5.1	3.9
Turkey	-4.9	8.4	6.9	9.4	1.8	-4.6	6.3	-9.1	4.6	7.8	11.8	8.7	10.2	5.4
United Kingdom	4.1	2.1	1.9	1.5	1.1	1.4	1.6	-0.8	-0.5	0.5	1.4	-0.7	0.7	1.0
United States	6.7	5.2	2.8	4.1	4.1	4.8	4.0	-4.1	0.8	1.1	4.7	1.4	1.2	..
EU27 total	..	..	0.1	2.4	2.2	2.3	4.2	1.0	0.0	0.6	2.8	1.7	3.5	3.4
OECD total	..	..	2.2	2.9	1.0	2.7	4.0	-2.1	0.3	1.3	4.0	..	..	..
Brazil	8.1	4.7	1.1	4.2	-2.6	-1.9	4.8	-0.6	2.1	1.3	7.9	2.1	2.3	..
India	..	..	..	..	4.0	4.2	7.0	2.3	6.3	7.1	9.9	9.9	10.8	9.6
Russian Federation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9.4	7.1	5.0	4.4	6.7
South Africa	2.3	3.2	1.6	2.6	-1.2	-0.2	5.1	1.9	2.7	0.8	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.8

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/541254656768>

Real value added in industry

Annual growth in percentage


StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/535330641740>

Real value added in services

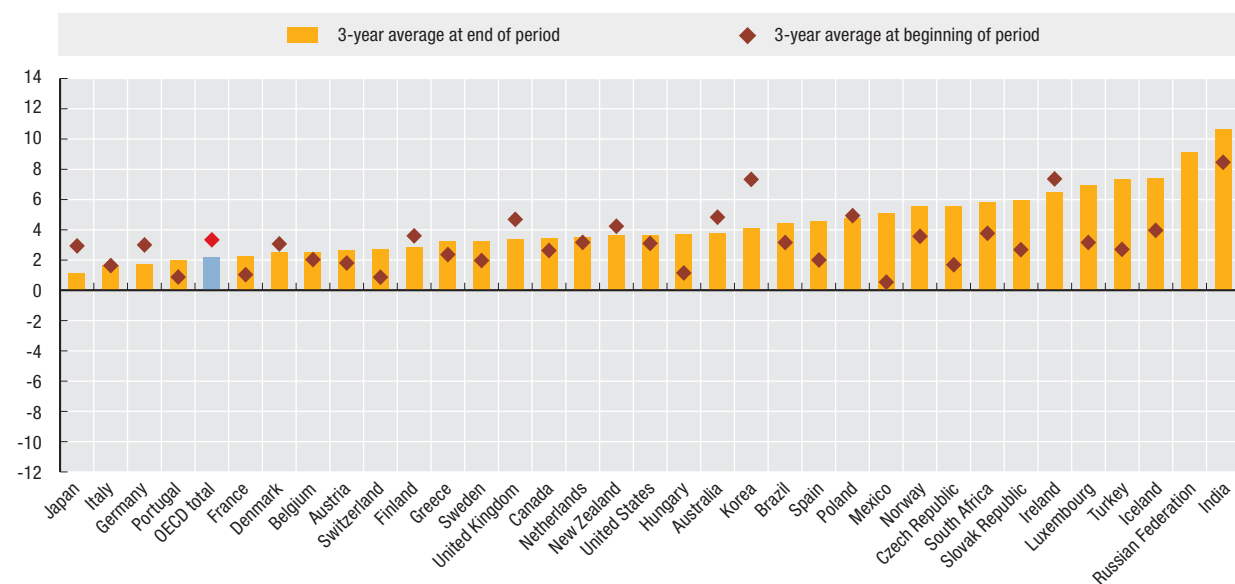
Annual growth in percentage

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	5.8	3.9	4.8	4.2	5.9	4.4	3.5	3.8	3.7	4.0	3.3	3.3	4.1	4.0
Austria	2.1	1.2	2.1	3.5	3.6	2.9	3.3	0.6	2.6	0.8	2.3	3.1	2.4	2.5
Belgium	2.7	2.9	0.5	2.1	1.5	3.8	3.1	1.9	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.5	2.5	2.6
Canada	4.1	2.5	1.3	4.0	4.1	5.5	4.7	3.6	3.0	2.6	3.3	3.1	3.9	..
Czech Republic	3.3	2.5	-0.7	1.5	2.1	0.3	1.5	5.7	2.4	5.0	0.1	5.6	5.7	5.3
Denmark	3.6	2.2	3.4	2.3	1.9	3.0	4.6	1.5	1.3	0.9	1.6	2.0	2.9	2.6
Finland	2.6	4.6	3.6	4.5	4.2	3.5	3.3	2.5	0.4	0.5	3.4	2.4	3.4	2.8
France	1.2	0.4	1.5	1.9	2.8	2.9	3.7	1.7	1.1	1.5	2.4	2.0	2.4	2.4
Germany	2.2	3.7	3.1	1.6	2.9	2.2	3.4	2.1	1.3	0.1	0.5	0.9	2.2	2.0
Greece	0.8	3.9	2.4	5.0	3.0	1.9	5.0	2.5	8.6	6.4	6.1	0.6	4.1	5.1
Hungary	4.5	-3.3	2.4	2.5	3.8	3.2	4.0	3.8	5.0	4.2	2.8	4.8	5.0	1.3
Iceland	3.7	2.6	5.6	5.1	9.1	7.3	6.9	4.8	0.0	4.3	7.5	10.6	..	..
Ireland	..	..	8.3	8.2	5.6	7.2	8.4	7.8	4.8	5.1	6.0	6.8	5.7	6.9
Italy	1.3	2.2	1.4	2.0	1.3	1.4	4.0	2.4	0.9	0.4	1.6	1.1	2.1	1.8
Japan	2.6	3.2	3.0	1.9	-0.5	0.6	1.9	2.1	1.7	1.2	1.1	1.9	0.5	..
Korea	7.7	8.1	6.2	5.1	-3.9	6.6	6.1	4.8	7.8	1.6	1.9	3.4	4.2	4.8
Luxembourg	5.0	2.5	2.0	5.4	6.4	8.2	8.1	4.2	3.4	1.4	4.3	6.0	8.9	6.0
Mexico	5.3	-6.3	3.0	6.6	4.8	3.8	7.6	1.6	1.8	2.5	4.7	4.3	5.4	..
Netherlands	2.4	3.3	3.8	5.6	4.7	4.8	3.7	2.3	0.3	1.3	2.2	2.6	4.1	3.8
New Zealand	4.8	4.5	3.4	2.7	2.5	5.0	3.1	5.2	4.1	3.3	4.2	3.8	3.0	..
Norway	3.5	2.8	4.4	5.4	4.8	3.8	3.5	2.4	1.2	1.5	3.6	3.9	5.7	5.7
Poland	4.7	4.5	5.6	5.1	5.0	5.4	4.4	2.8	3.1	2.9	3.5	3.2	4.6	5.9
Portugal	-2.4	3.0	2.1	3.8	4.7	3.9	4.4	2.9	1.6	0.4	2.0	2.0	1.8	2.1
Slovak Republic	-1.0	6.9	2.3	13.4	0.4	2.9	-0.1	5.1	0.9	0.6	-1.3	3.4	4.8	9.7
Spain	2.0	2.6	1.4	2.9	3.8	4.3	5.1	3.6	3.0	3.0	3.8	4.3	4.4	4.6
Sweden	2.0	2.4	1.5	1.7	3.1	3.4	4.2	1.4	1.6	1.7	2.8	3.1	4.0	2.7
Switzerland	0.3	0.4	1.9	2.2	3.3	0.9	4.3	0.7	0.7	-0.3	2.7	2.1	2.9	3.2
Turkey	-2.3	5.5	5.1	6.3	3.4	-1.0	6.4	-0.2	4.4	3.7	9.6	8.6	7.2	6.3
United Kingdom	7.1	3.4	3.6	4.1	5.1	4.5	4.7	3.6	2.4	3.5	3.2	2.9	3.6	3.7
United States	2.5	2.8	4.0	5.0	5.3	4.4	3.5	2.6	1.5	2.8	3.3	3.7	4.0	..
EU27 total	..	..	2.5	2.8	3.3	3.1	4.0	2.5	1.8	1.7	2.2	2.3	3.1	3.0
OECD total	..	..	3.2	3.5	3.3	3.2	3.6	2.5	1.8	2.1	2.6	..	..	..
Brazil	4.0	3.2	2.2	2.6	1.1	1.2	3.6	1.9	3.2	0.8	5.0	3.7	4.2	..
India	..	..	..	..	10.1	8.2	7.1	6.5	7.3	8.5	8.1	10.2	11.3	10.5
Russian Federation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6.6	7.2	7.3	10.1	10.0
South Africa	2.8	4.3	4.2	2.6	2.0	3.9	4.1	3.6	4.2	4.5	5.2	5.2	6.1	5.4

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Real value added in services

Annual growth in percentage

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/535338667344>

SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES

Statistics showing the distribution of enterprises by size class are important in illustrating the potential contribution of small enterprises to economic growth. Of particular relevance in the context of the tables presented here is that small firms are often the most dynamic and innovative, reflecting the fact that many of them are recent start-ups. Note, however, that because they are not longitudinal, the data do not show the contribution that small enterprises make to economic and employment growth over time as they move from the start-up phase to some optimal size. Many studies have used longitudinal datasets to establish their important contribution in this context.

Definition

An enterprise is a legal entity possessing the right to conduct business on its own; for example to enter into contracts, own property, incur liabilities for debts, and establish bank accounts. It may consist of one or more local units or establishments corresponding to production units situated in a geographically separate place and in which one or more persons work for the enterprise to which they belong.

The number of employees includes all persons, workers and employees, covered by a contractual arrangement and working in the enterprise and who receive compensation for their work, whether full-time or part-time. In particular, the following are considered as employees: salaried managers, students who have a formal commitment whereby they contribute to the unit's process of production in return for remuneration and/or education services, employees engaged under a contract specifically designed to encourage the recruitment of unemployed persons. This category includes persons on sick leave, paid leave or vacation. It excludes working proprietors, active business partners, unpaid family workers and home-workers, irrespective of whether or not they are on the payroll.

Overview

The contribution and importance of small enterprises across economies varies considerably. Generally, the larger the economy the lower the proportion of small enterprises. This partly reflects the greater scope for growth in larger markets, where there is a greater pool of workers and larger demand, but it also partly reflects a statistical phenomenon. For example, when an enterprise opens a new establishment in the same economy within which it is registered, the enterprise will grow and move from being a small to a large enterprise. However, if it opens a new establishment in another country, this will be recorded as the creation of an enterprise in that country.

In most economies, the percentage of businesses with less than 10 persons employed is over 70%. The reverse is true where the number of employees is concerned, where businesses with more than 20 employees contribute around 70% or more.

Comparability

All countries present information using the enterprise as the statistical unit except Japan, Korea, and Mexico, which use establishments. This may create some incomparability but, because most enterprises are also establishments, this is not expected to be significant. An area where considerable differences can and do arise, however, concerns the coverage of data on enterprises/establishments. In many countries, this information is based on business registers, economic censuses or surveys that may have a size-class cut off. Indeed, all countries have thresholds of one sort or another, depending, often, on the tax legislation and permissible business burdens in place across countries. For Ireland, only enterprises with 3 or more persons engaged are reflected, while the data for Japan and Korea do not include establishments with fewer than 4 and 5 persons engaged respectively. Enterprises that operate purely in the underground economy will naturally be very difficult, if not impossible, to capture, and these are most likely to be small. However, despite these differences, it is possible to make sensible comparisons across countries.

Employment data for Australia and Switzerland refer to the total number of persons engaged rather than the number of employees.

Data for Austria, Iceland, Japan (employment), the Netherlands, Poland, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom are for 2005, data for Turkey are for 2004, data for Mexico are for 2003.

Finally, data in the "Less than 10" and "Less than 20" size classes for New Zealand include statistical units with no persons engaged.

Source

- *Structural and Demographic Business Statistics*, OECD database.

Further information

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- Birch, D. (1979), *The Job Generation Process*, MIT Program on Neighborhood and Regional Change, Cambridge.
- OECD (2005), *Local Economic and Employment Development Entrepreneurship A Catalyst for Urban Regeneration*, OECD, Paris.
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Number of employees and number of enterprises in manufacturing

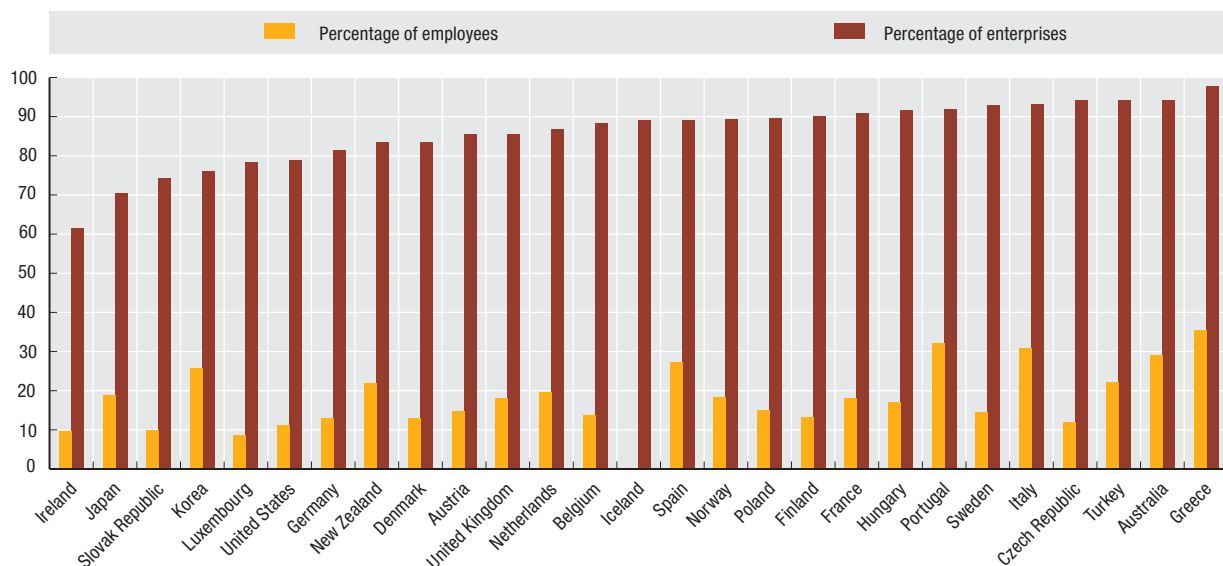
Breakdown by size-class of enterprise, 2006 or latest available year

Number of persons engaged	As percentage of total number of employees in manufacturing							As a percentage of total number of enterprises in manufacturing						
	Less than 20	20 or more	Less than 10	10-19	20-49	50-249	250 or more	less than 20	20 or more	Less than 10	10-19	20-49	50-249	250 or more
Australia	28.9	71.0	19.3	9.6	13.9	..	..	94.2	5.8	88.5	5.7	3.8	..	..
Austria	14.8	85.2	7.7	7.1	11.4	27.2	46.6	85.4	14.6	73.9	11.5	7.9	5.2	1.5
Belgium	13.7	86.3	7.1	6.6	13.0	25.5	47.8	88.3	11.7	80.2	8.2	6.8	3.9	1.0
Czech Republic	11.8	88.2	5.8	6.0	10.5	29.4	48.4	94.1	5.9	90.2	3.9	2.9	2.3	0.6
Denmark	12.8	87.2	5.9	6.9	12.5	28.2	46.5	83.5	16.5	72.3	11.2	9.1	6.0	1.4
Finland	13.1	86.9	7.5	5.7	10.2	24.5	52.1	90.0	10.0	83.3	6.7	5.2	3.7	1.0
France	18.0	82.0	10.8	7.2	12.2	22.5	47.3	90.8	9.2	83.4	7.5	5.4	3.0	0.8
Germany	13.0	87.0	4.9	8.1	7.5	25.0	54.5	81.4	18.6	60.2	21.1	8.1	8.4	2.1
Greece	35.3	64.7	30.2	5.1	10.0	26.3	28.4	97.8	2.2	96.5	1.3	1.0	1.0	0.2
Hungary	17.1	82.9	10.2	6.9	11.6	25.7	45.6	91.7	8.3	85.5	6.2	4.6	3.0	0.8
Iceland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	88.9	11.1	80.2	8.7	6.7	3.8	0.7
Ireland	9.6	90.4	3.9	5.7	12.9	30.1	47.3	61.4	38.6	39.5	21.8	20.5	14.2	3.9
Italy	30.9	69.1	15.3	15.5	17.8	25.1	26.2	93.0	7.0	82.9	10.1	4.7	2.0	0.3
Japan	20.5	79.5	10.3	10.2	17.6	31.0	30.9	72.4	27.6	51.7	20.7	16.8	9.2	1.5
Korea	25.8	74.2	11.3	14.5	20.9	23.9	29.4	76.1	23.9	49.5	26.6	16.5	6.4	1.1
Luxembourg	8.5	91.5	4.1	4.3	7.7	22.6	61.2	78.4	21.6	65.9	12.5	9.8	8.8	3.1
Mexico	13.7	86.3	9.4	4.3	7.3	21.6	57.3	92.8	7.2	89.7	3.1	2.2	1.8	0.7
Netherlands	19.5	80.5	10.3	9.2	14.9	29.8	35.8	86.8	13.2	77.1	9.7	7.4	4.8	1.1
New Zealand	21.8	78.2	11.6	10.2	14.5	11.0	52.8	83.3	16.7	67.1	16.2	10.3	3.4	3.0
Norway	18.3	81.7	9.9	8.5	14.5	28.3	38.9	89.2	10.8	81.0	8.2	6.3	3.8	0.8
Poland	14.9	85.1	10.5	4.3	10.1	32.1	43.0	91.8	8.2	88.1	3.7	3.9	3.5	0.8
Portugal	32.1	67.9	20.1	12.0	19.3	29.7	18.9	91.9	8.1	84.3	7.6	5.3	2.5	0.3
Slovak Republic	9.9	90.1	4.9	5.0	6.9	27.6	55.6	74.2	25.8	54.1	20.1	9.7	12.2	3.9
Spain	27.3	72.7	14.9	12.5	20.6	24.7	27.4	89.1	10.9	78.6	10.5	7.6	2.8	0.5
Sweden	14.4	85.6	8.4	6.1	10.2	23.7	51.7	92.8	7.2	87.7	5.2	3.9	2.6	0.7
Switzerland	22.7	77.3	14.9	7.8	13.0	29.2	35.1	87.8	12.2	79.1	8.7	6.7	4.5	0.9
Turkey	22.1	77.9	..	..	15.0	25.6	37.3	94.2	5.8	..	..	3.6	1.8	0.4
United Kingdom	18.1	99.4	10.4	7.6	14.0	35.3	50.2	85.5	14.5	74.5	11.0	8.0	5.3	1.2
United States	11.1	88.9	5.7	5.4	..	..	..	78.8	21.2	64.3	14.5	..	..	1.2
EU27 total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	89.7	10.1	80.7	9.3	5.8	3.6	0.8

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/541361750571>

Enterprises with less than 20 persons engaged

As a percentage of total number of employees or total number of enterprises, 2006 or latest available year



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/535375263345>





ECONOMIC GLOBALISATION

TRADE

SHARE OF TRADE IN GDP

TRADE IN GOODS

TRADE IN SERVICES

TRADING PARTNERS

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

FDI FLOWS AND STOCKS

ACTIVITIES OF MULTINATIONALS

SHARE OF TRADE IN GDP

International trade in goods and services is a principal channel of economic integration. A convenient way to measure the importance of international trade is to calculate the share of trade in GDP.

International trade tends to be more important for countries that are small (in terms of geographic size or population) and surrounded by neighboring countries with open trade regimes than for large, relatively self-sufficient countries or those that are geographically isolated and thus penalised by high transport costs. Other factors also play a role and help explain differences in trade-to-GDP ratios across countries, such as history, culture, trade policy, the structure of the economy (especially the weight of non-tradable services in GDP), re-exports and the presence of multinational firms, which leads to much intra-firm trade.

Definition

The rates shown in this table correspond to the average of imports and exports (of both goods and services) at current prices as a percentage of GDP. The data are taken from national accounts statistics compiled according to the 1993 System of National Accounts. Goods consist of merchandise imports and exports. Services cover transport, travel, communications, construction, IT, financial, other business, personal and government services, as well as royalties and license fees.

Long-term trends

In 2007, the trade-to-GDP ratio for OECD countries was 28%, while the rate for the EU27 was 40%. For the reasons noted above, there were large differences in these ratios across countries. The ratios exceeded 50% for small countries – Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Hungary, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, the Slovak Republic and Switzerland – but were under 20% for the two largest OECD countries – Japan and the United States.

Between 1994 and 2007, trade-to-GDP ratios for the OECD as a whole increased by 9 percentage points. Substantial increases in trade-to-GDP ratios were recorded for Luxembourg, Hungary and the Slovak Republic. Interestingly, ratios in Anglo-Saxon countries remained broadly stable, ranging from -2 to 4% over the period.

Comparability

The ratios shown in this table are compiled using common standards and definitions.

The trade-to-GDP ratio is often called the “trade openness ratio”. However, the term openness may be somewhat misleading. In fact, a low ratio for a country does not necessarily imply high tariff or non-tariff obstacles to foreign trade, but may be due to the factors mentioned above, especially size and geographic remoteness from potential trading partners.

Please note that the trade-to-GDP ratio shown by WTO, IMF and OECD trade indicators refers to the sum of the imports and exports and not to the average, as is the case here.

Note that for Australia and New Zealand data refer to fiscal year.

Source

- OECD (2008), *National Accounts of OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.

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- OECD (2008), *Main Economic Indicators*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2008), *International Trade by Commodity Statistics*, OECD, Paris.
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- OECD (2008), *Statistics on International Trade in Services*, OECD, Paris.

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- Lindner, A., et al. (2001), “Trade in Goods and Services: Statistical Trends and Measurement Challenges”, OECD Statistics Brief, No. 1, October, OECD, Paris, www.oecd.org/std/statisticsbrief.
- UN, EC, IMF, OECD, UNCTAD and the WTO (2002), *Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services*, United Nations, New York.

Websites

- OECD International Trade Statistics, www.oecd.org/std/its.

Trade in goods and services

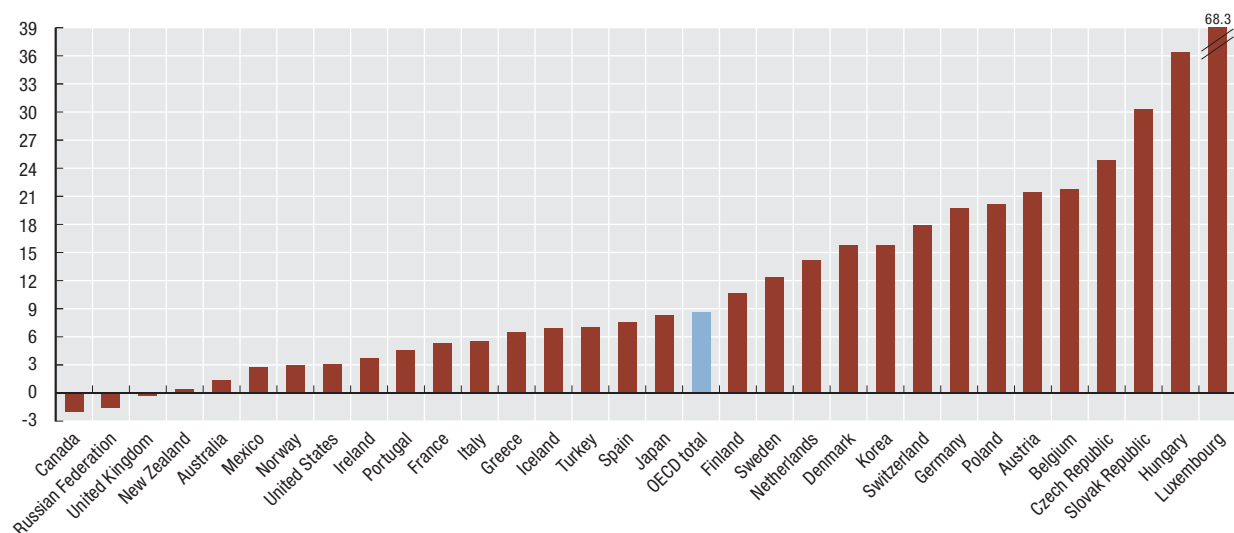
As a percentage of GDP

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	19.1	19.4	19.3	20.3	19.9	20.9	22.5	21.1	20.4	18.8	19.9	21.0	21.2	20.7
Austria	34.0	35.3	36.3	39.7	40.8	41.7	45.5	47.4	46.7	46.8	50.0	52.0	54.2	56.7
Belgium	63.8	65.6	67.7	71.8	72.5	73.2	83.2	83.0	80.2	78.8	81.7	84.8	85.7	87.3
Canada	33.4	35.7	36.4	38.5	40.4	41.4	42.7	40.7	39.4	36.2	36.3	35.9	34.8	33.7
Czech Republic	48.9	52.9	51.8	54.7	54.8	56.0	64.9	66.6	61.3	62.9	70.1	70.6	74.8	77.7
Denmark	35.1	35.5	35.4	36.9	37.2	38.2	43.5	43.9	44.3	42.2	42.9	46.5	50.5	51.2
Finland	31.9	32.6	33.4	34.7	34.0	33.7	38.7	36.6	35.7	35.0	36.5	39.6	42.7	43.2
France	21.4	22.2	22.4	24.3	25.0	25.1	28.1	27.5	26.3	25.1	25.7	26.5	27.4	27.5
Germany	23.0	23.7	24.4	26.8	28.0	29.0	33.2	33.8	33.4	33.7	35.9	38.4	42.5	43.4
Greece	21.3	21.8	22.1	24.0	24.6	27.4	31.6	30.6	27.8	26.7	27.0	26.4	28.0	28.3
Hungary	31.1	43.1	46.6	52.8	60.5	63.4	73.9	71.7	64.1	62.7	64.9	66.9	77.4	79.5
Iceland	33.2	33.7	36.0	36.0	36.9	35.9	37.2	39.3	36.6	35.8	36.9	37.8	41.0	40.6
Ireland	65.4	70.4	71.3	72.9	80.9	82.1	91.4	92.2	85.4	75.8	76.3	75.6	74.5	74.1
Italy	21.1	23.8	22.4	23.3	23.6	23.5	26.6	26.4	25.2	24.3	25.0	26.0	28.2	29.3
Japan	8.1	8.5	9.6	10.3	10.0	9.5	10.3	10.2	10.7	11.2	12.3	13.6	15.4	16.8
Korea	27.0	29.4	29.6	32.7	39.7	35.7	39.2	36.7	34.6	36.8	41.9	41.1	42.5	45.2
Luxembourg	93.9	95.8	101.0	112.2	119.3	124.6	139.5	137.8	130.9	125.1	140.2	145.8	159.7	164.1
Mexico	17.5	26.5	28.3	27.7	28.9	28.8	29.1	26.1	25.3	26.1	27.5	28.0	28.8	29.2
Netherlands	54.0	56.5	57.0	60.5	60.2	60.9	67.3	64.4	60.9	59.9	62.7	65.4	69.0	70.6
New Zealand	29.7	28.6	27.8	27.9	29.3	31.0	34.7	33.9	31.6	28.9	29.5	29.1	29.8	29.0
Norway	35.1	34.9	36.3	37.3	36.7	35.7	38.0	37.3	34.4	33.8	35.3	36.4	37.4	37.8
Poland	20.6	22.1	23.0	25.4	28.4	27.1	30.3	28.9	30.4	34.7	38.7	37.5	41.3	42.2
Portugal	30.3	31.8	31.7	32.6	33.4	33.0	35.2	33.9	32.1	31.3	32.3	33.0	35.1	36.3
Slovak Republic	56.7	56.7	58.7	61.2	64.6	63.4	71.7	76.8	74.7	76.8	75.8	78.5	86.3	87.0
Spain	20.8	22.4	23.4	25.9	26.8	27.6	30.6	29.8	28.4	27.5	27.9	28.3	29.6	29.9
Sweden	33.9	36.4	35.3	38.4	39.8	39.9	43.4	43.2	41.2	40.4	42.2	44.9	47.4	48.7
Switzerland	33.5	33.4	34.1	37.5	38.2	39.3	43.6	43.5	41.1	40.8	42.9	45.6	48.6	51.3
Turkey	16.7	17.5	19.5	21.8	20.8	19.4	21.6	25.4	24.4	23.5	24.9	23.6	25.1	24.5
United Kingdom	26.7	28.3	29.3	28.3	26.9	26.9	28.6	28.3	27.4	26.6	26.6	28.1	30.1	28.0
United States	10.9	11.7	11.8	12.2	11.9	12.2	13.2	12.1	11.7	11.8	12.8	13.5	14.2	14.7
EU27 total	..	28.9	29.2	31.0	31.6	32.1	35.9	35.8	34.6	34.1	35.4	37.0	39.6	40.0
OECD total	..	19.2	19.9	20.8	21.1	21.0	22.4	22.0	21.8	22.3	23.9	25.0	26.7	27.8
Russian Federation	..	27.6	24.0	23.6	27.9	34.7	34.0	30.6	29.8	29.5	28.3	28.3	27.4	26.1

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Trade to GDP ratios

Difference between 2007 and 1995 ratios in percentage points

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/535428614188>

TRADE IN GOODS

Since its creation, the OECD has sought to promote international trade, considering it an effective way of enhancing economic growth and raising living standards. Member countries benefit from increased trade as do OECD's trade partners in the rest of the world.

Definition

According to United Nations guidelines, international merchandise trade statistics record all goods which add to or subtract from the stock of material resources of a country by entering (imports) or leaving (exports) its economic territory. Goods simply being transported through a country or goods temporarily admitted or withdrawn (except for goods for inward or outward processing) are not included in the international merchandise trade statistics.

Comparability

All OECD countries use the United Nations guidelines so far as their data sources allow. There are some, generally minor, differences across countries in the coverage of certain types of transactions such as postal trade, imports and exports of military equipment under defence agreements, sea products traded by domestic vessels on the high seas and goods entering or leaving bonded customs areas.

Long-term trends

Over the ten-year period from 1997 to 2007, relative import growth (i.e. growth in a single country divided by growth for all OECD countries) was low in Japan, Canada, the United Kingdom and Luxembourg while relative import growth in some new member countries – the Slovak Republic, Hungary and the Czech Republic – was particularly high. Concerning BRICS countries, China and India continued to show high relative import growth while growth for the Russian Federation was about the OECD average and Brazil's relative import growth was very low.

Over the same period, relative growth rates of exports of goods were high for the Slovak Republic, Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary. The United Kingdom, the United States, Japan, France, Canada and New Zealand were among the countries with below average growth rates. As for imports, China had the highest relative annual growth of exports of all countries in this comparison.

The United States' negative trade balance has been large throughout the period and growing in most years. The United Kingdom, Spain, India and France also recorded high negative trade balances for goods, while Germany usually had, on average, the largest trade surplus of all OECD countries. The Russian Federation and China had significant trade surpluses, similar to Germany. China's average trade balance over the last three years even more than tripled in comparison to its average trade balance over the whole period.

Exports are usually valued free on board (f.o.b.), with the exception of the United States which values exports free alongside ship (f.a.s.), which is lower than f.o.b. by the cost of loading the goods on board. Imports are valued by most countries at cost, insurance and freight (c.i.f.) i.e. the cost of the goods plus the costs of insurance and freight to bring the goods to the borders of the importing country. Canada, however, reports imports at f.o.b. values. The trade balances shown in the table are, therefore, not strictly comparable because imports are not valued in the same way by all countries.

The introduction by the European Union of the single market in 1993 resulted in some loss of accuracy for intra-EU trade because customs documents were no longer available to record all imports and exports. Note that while the OECD data mostly follow the UN recommendations, trade statistics reported by Eurostat follow the Community definitions. As a result, OECD trade statistics for European Union countries are not strictly comparable with those reported by Eurostat.

OECD total includes Mexico from 1990, Hungary and Poland from 1992, the Czech Republic from 1993, Korea from 1994 and the Slovak Republic from 1997 onwards.

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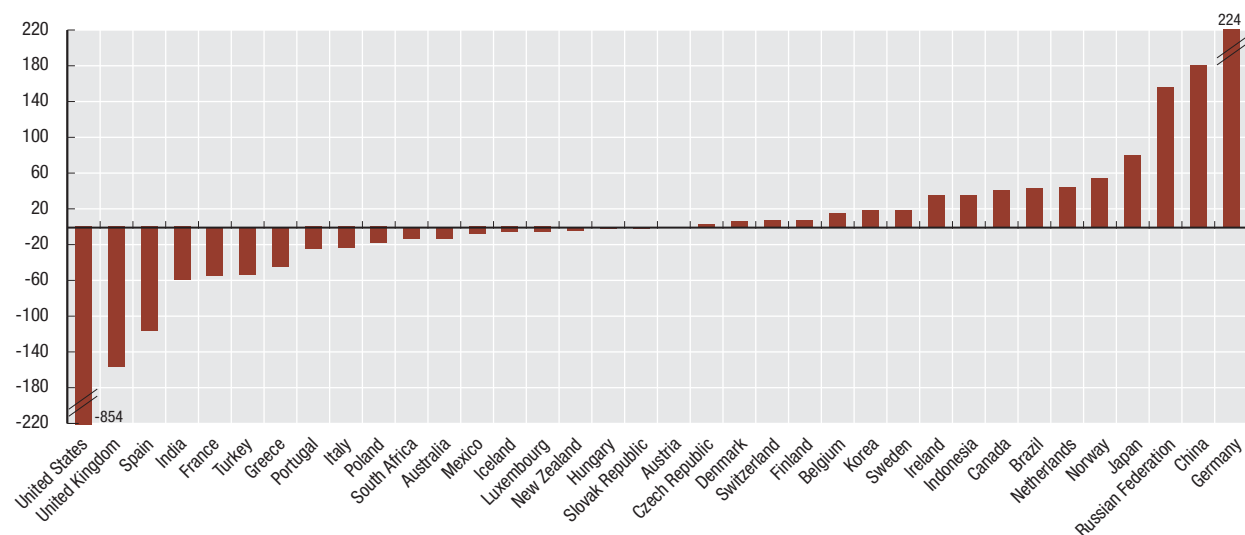
Trade balance: exports of goods minus imports of goods

Billion US dollars

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	-2.7	-4.4	-1.2	1.0	-5.0	-9.5	-4.0	2.4	-4.5	-14.6	-17.3	-13.2	-9.3	-16.8
Austria	-10.2	-8.5	-10.1	-6.9	-6.2	-6.2	-5.2	-4.4	-0.1	-2.3	-0.4	-2.2	-0.3	0.5
Belgium	13.3	15.4	11.4	12.3	14.4	14.3	13.5	11.6	17.7	20.7	21.1	13.8	15.5	17.5
Canada	7.7	16.5	19.2	18.1	13.3	23.2	37.6	39.4	30.2	31.8	43.1	45.7	38.1	39.9
Czech Republic	-0.9	-3.9	-5.8	-4.4	-2.2	-2.0	-3.2	-3.1	-2.2	-2.5	0.5	1.7	1.7	4.1
Denmark	5.8	4.7	5.7	3.7	1.7	4.7	5.2	5.8	6.4	8.4	8.0	8.3	5.6	3.0
Finland	6.4	10.9	9.7	10.0	10.8	10.2	11.7	10.7	11.0	10.9	10.1	6.8	7.8	8.3
France	5.0	10.6	6.2	16.8	14.7	9.5	-8.5	-4.4	1.1	-4.5	-20.5	-41.6	-50.8	-71.8
Germany	45.6	59.6	68.3	67.1	72.3	69.3	54.8	85.7	125.6	146.8	193.6	198.0	203.6	269.5
Greece	-11.7	-15.0	-15.7	-15.8	-19.4	-18.8	-18.8	-17.9	-21.8	-31.2	-37.6	-37.4	-42.8	-52.6
Hungary	-4.2	-2.6	-3.1	-2.1	-2.7	-3.0	-4.0	-3.2	-3.3	-4.7	-4.8	-3.6	-2.9	-0.1
Iceland	-1.5	-1.8	-2.0	-2.0	-2.5	-2.5	-2.6	-2.3	-2.3	-2.8	-3.6	-5.0	-6.0	-6.7
Ireland	8.2	11.5	12.4	14.4	19.9	24.0	25.6	26.4	36.0	38.7	42.0	39.7	32.3	35.1
Italy	22.1	27.2	43.9	29.9	26.5	14.7	1.8	8.1	7.7	2.0	-1.9	-17.0	-41.9	-12.5
Japan	121.6	107.1	61.8	82.2	107.5	107.2	99.6	54.0	79.1	88.5	110.5	79.1	67.7	92.1
Korea	-6.5	-10.4	-19.6	-8.5	39.0	23.9	11.8	9.3	10.4	15.0	29.4	23.2	16.1	14.6
Luxembourg	..	..	..	..	..	-2.8	-2.8	-2.9	-2.9	-3.7	-4.6	-4.9	-6.1	-6.1
Mexico	-18.7	6.8	6.2	0.5	-8.0	-5.7	-5.8	-7.6	-8.7	-5.6	-8.8	-7.6	-6.1	-11.2
Netherlands	15.3	19.6	16.5	15.5	10.9	2.7	5.4	5.6	11.9	18.3	32.8	36.9	38.8	55.5
New Zealand	-0.1	-0.7	-0.6	-0.8	-0.6	-2.4	-1.2	-	-1.2	-2.0	-2.8	-4.5	-4.0	-4.0
Norway	7.3	9.0	14.0	12.8	2.9	11.3	25.5	26.0	24.7	29.0	33.7	48.3	57.9	56.1
Poland	-4.4	-6.1	-12.7	-16.5	-18.8	-18.5	-17.3	-14.2	-14.1	-14.4	-14.4	-12.2	-16.3	-25.4
Portugal	-9.1	-10.2	-10.6	-11.1	-12.8	-15.3	-15.6	-15.4	-14.2	-15.3	-19.2	-23.1	-24.6	-26.9
Slovak Republic	..	..	..	-2.1	-2.4	-1.1	-0.9	-2.1	-2.2	-0.7	-1.9	-2.4	-2.7	-0.9
Spain	-19.0	-23.0	-21.0	-18.2	-25.8	-36.4	-39.5	-38.8	-40.0	-53.4	-76.5	-96.8	-115.9	-137.5
Sweden	9.4	15.8	18.9	18.3	16.4	16.3	14.2	12.8	15.9	18.2	22.8	18.9	20.3	17.8
Switzerland	2.4	1.5	1.5	0.2	-1.2	0.4	-2.0	-2.1	4.2	4.2	6.8	4.4	6.5	10.9
Turkey	-5.2	-14.1	-20.4	-22.3	-19.0	-14.1	-26.7	-10.1	-15.5	-22.1	-34.4	-43.3	-54.3	-62.8
United Kingdom	-31.3	-25.9	-28.7	-26.3	-46.9	-53.2	-56.6	-65.4	-78.8	-85.8	-119.9	-131.4	-154.0	-184.6
United States	-176.7	-187.9	-194.8	-210.5	-263.9	-366.4	-477.7	-449.1	-509.1	-581.4	-707.4	-828.0	-882.0	-854.7
EU27 total	..	103.7	114.8	118.3	82.0	37.0	-15.9	28.9	77.3	68.4	45.4	-23.8	-95.1	-117.8
OECD total	-30.4	3.7	-48.7	-43.0	-85.1	-224.0	-383.7	-343.0	-336.1	-411.7	-518.9	-741.3	-885.8	-844.8
Brazil	8.0	-7.2	-9.0	-12.1	-9.7	-3.7	-3.8	-0.2	10.7	23.4	31.4	42.1	46.4	40.0
China	5.4	16.7	12.2	40.4	43.6	29.2	24.1	22.5	30.4	25.5	32.1	102.0	177.5	261.8
India	-2.3	-4.9	-5.6	-6.6	-9.2	-13.0	-6.1	-7.6	-8.6	-14.2	-28.4	-46.3	-59.3	-72.7
Indonesia	8.1	4.8	6.9	11.8	21.5	24.7	28.6	25.4	25.9	28.5	21.5	28.0	39.7	39.6
Russian Federation	..	..	27.6	19.7	28.6	42.6	69.2	58.0	60.5	76.3	106.0	142.7	163.8	161.3
South Africa	..	..	..	..	..	..	-0.5	3.7	-3.1	-2.9	-7.3	-8.0	-15.9	-15.8

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/541415216657>**Trade balance: exports of goods minus imports of goods**

Billion US dollars, average 2005-2007

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/535470840271>

TRADE IN GOODS

Imports of goods

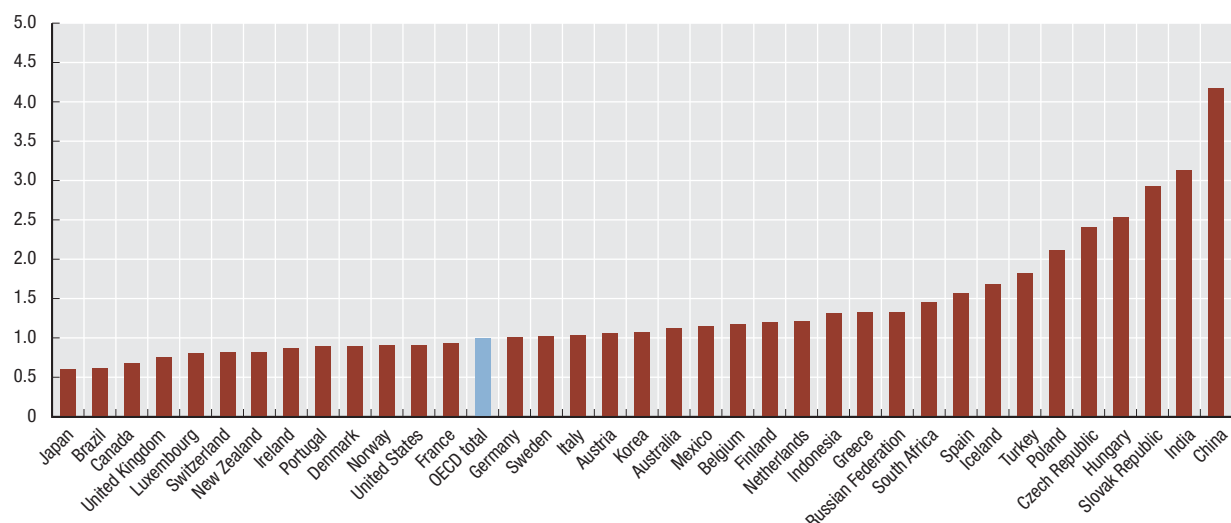
Billion US dollars

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	49.9	57.4	61.4	61.8	60.8	65.5	67.8	60.9	69.5	84.8	103.8	119.0	132.7	157.8
Austria	55.2	66.3	67.1	63.6	67.1	68.7	67.4	69.0	71.4	91.5	111.3	120.0	134.3	156.0
Belgium	127.6	152.3	159.4	158.3	164.9	164.6	171.7	178.7	198.1	234.8	285.4	320.2	353.7	413.4
Canada	148.4	164.5	171.0	197.1	201.3	215.6	240.0	221.6	222.4	240.2	273.8	314.4	349.9	380.0
Czech Republic	14.9	20.8	27.4	27.2	30.5	28.8	32.2	36.5	40.7	51.2	66.7	76.5	93.4	116.8
Denmark	36.5	45.6	45.0	44.5	46.2	44.3	44.4	44.3	49.3	56.2	66.8	75.0	84.5	99.3
Finland	23.3	29.5	30.9	31.0	32.4	31.6	34.1	32.2	33.6	41.6	50.7	58.5	69.4	81.7
France	228.3	273.5	277.7	266.6	285.8	292.8	304.0	304.2	303.8	362.4	434.4	476.0	529.9	611.1
Germany	381.7	464.3	444.4	445.3	471.6	473.5	495.4	486.3	490.1	601.8	718.2	779.8	922.2	1 059.3
Greece	20.9	25.9	27.0	27.0	30.3	29.5	29.8	28.2	32.5	44.9	52.8	54.9	63.7	76.1
Hungary	14.9	15.5	16.2	21.2	25.7	28.0	32.1	33.7	37.6	47.7	60.2	65.9	77.0	94.7
Iceland	1.5	1.8	2.0	2.0	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.3	2.3	2.8	3.6	5.0	6.0	6.7
Ireland	25.9	32.3	35.8	39.2	44.4	46.5	50.7	51.1	52.3	54.2	62.3	70.3	76.6	85.7
Italy	167.9	204.0	208.2	208.1	215.6	220.3	237.3	236.1	246.6	297.4	351.1	384.8	442.6	504.6
Japan	276.1	336.1	349.2	338.8	280.6	309.9	379.7	348.6	337.6	383.5	455.2	515.9	579.1	622.2
Korea	103.1	137.9	144.1	144.6	93.3	119.8	160.5	141.1	152.1	178.8	224.5	261.2	309.4	356.8
Luxembourg	..	..	..	..	..	10.6	10.6	11.2	11.5	13.6	16.8	17.6	19.6	22.3
Mexico	79.3	72.5	89.5	109.8	125.3	142.0	171.1	165.1	168.7	170.5	196.8	221.8	256.1	283.2
Netherlands	130.5	157.7	162.5	158.3	156.8	167.9	174.7	169.9	163.4	209.0	257.7	283.2	331.5	421.3
New Zealand	11.9	13.9	14.7	14.5	12.5	14.3	13.9	13.3	15.0	18.6	23.2	26.2	26.4	30.9
Norway	27.4	33.0	35.6	35.8	37.5	34.2	34.4	33.0	34.9	41.2	48.5	55.5	64.3	80.3
Poland	21.6	28.9	37.1	42.3	47.0	45.9	48.9	50.2	55.1	68.0	88.2	101.5	125.6	164.2
Portugal	27.1	33.6	35.2	35.1	37.0	39.8	39.9	39.5	40.0	47.1	54.9	61.2	66.7	78.2
Slovak Republic	..	..	..	11.7	13.1	11.1	12.7	14.7	16.6	22.6	29.5	34.2	44.4	58.7
Spain	91.0	116.5	123.6	124.4	137.2	147.9	152.9	155.0	165.9	209.7	259.3	289.6	330.0	391.2
Sweden	52.0	61.6	64.0	63.2	68.6	68.5	73.1	63.5	67.1	84.2	100.5	111.4	127.1	151.4
Switzerland	67.9	80.2	78.2	75.9	80.1	79.9	82.5	84.2	83.7	96.4	110.0	126.6	141.4	161.2
Turkey	23.3	35.7	43.6	48.6	45.9	40.7	54.5	41.4	51.3	69.3	97.5	116.8	139.6	170.1
United Kingdom	234.0	268.2	287.6	307.5	320.3	323.8	339.4	338.0	359.4	393.5	468.1	515.8	598.4	624.6
United States	689.0	770.8	817.6	898.0	944.4	1 059.2	1 258.1	1 180.1	1 202.3	1 305.1	1 525.3	1 732.3	1 919.0	2 017.1
EU27 total	..	2 041.1	2 090.6	2 088.7	2 207.1	2 247.9	2 375.0	2 348.2	2 447.1	2 944.3	3 555.7	3 917.5	4 523.4	5 247.9
OECD total	3 130.9	3 700.2	3 856.2	4 001.4	4 078.5	4 327.7	4 816.4	4 633.7	4 774.9	5 522.8	6 596.8	7 391.0	8 414.4	9 477.1
Brazil	35.5	53.7	56.7	65.1	60.8	51.7	58.9	58.5	49.7	49.8	65.3	76.4	91.4	120.6
China	115.6	132.1	138.8	142.4	140.2	165.7	225.1	243.6	295.2	412.8	561.2	660.0	791.5	956.0
India	28.7	36.6	39.1	41.4	42.4	49.7	51.4	51.9	61.1	77.2	108.2	149.7	185.4	218.6
Indonesia	32.0	40.6	42.9	41.7	27.3	24.0	33.5	31.0	31.3	32.6	42.9	57.7	61.1	74.5
Russian Federation	..	..	61.1	67.6	43.7	30.3	33.9	41.9	46.2	57.3	75.6	98.7	137.7	191.0
South Africa	..	..	..	..	..	..	26.8	24.2	26.2	34.5	47.6	55.0	68.5	79.9

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Relative annual growth of imports of goods

Growth over the period 1997-2007, OECD total = 1

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Exports of goods

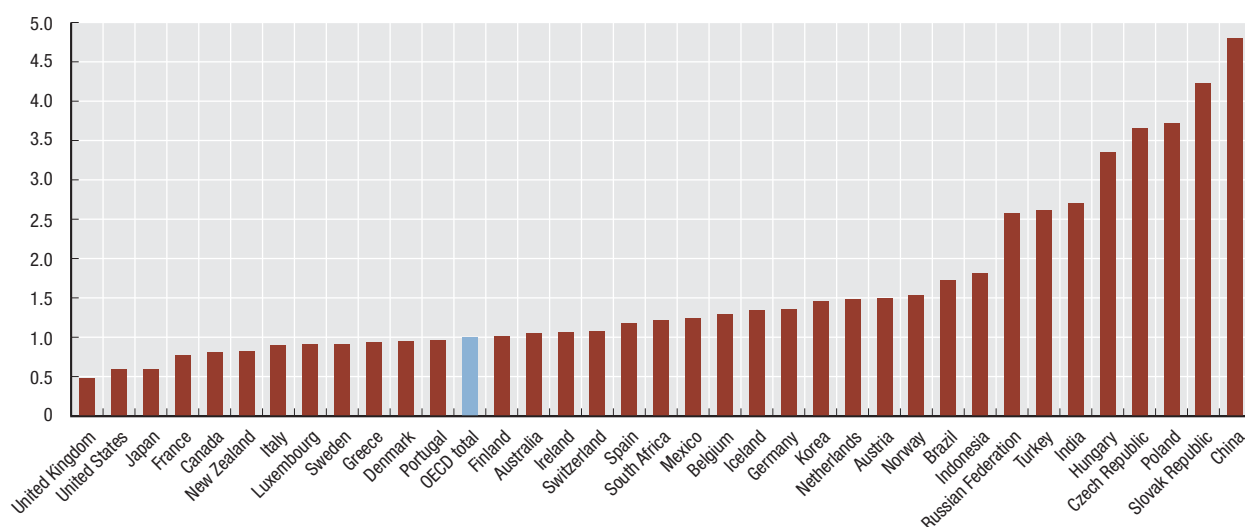
Billion US dollars

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	47.3	53.0	60.2	62.8	55.8	56.0	63.8	63.3	65.0	70.2	86.4	105.8	123.3	141.0
Austria	45.0	57.8	57.1	56.7	60.9	62.4	62.3	64.7	71.3	89.2	110.8	117.7	134.1	156.6
Belgium	140.9	167.7	170.8	170.7	179.3	178.9	185.2	190.3	215.8	255.5	306.5	334.0	369.2	430.9
Canada	156.1	181.0	190.2	215.1	214.6	238.9	277.6	261.1	252.6	272.1	316.9	360.1	388.0	419.9
Czech Republic	14.0	16.8	21.7	22.7	28.3	26.8	29.1	33.4	38.5	48.7	67.2	78.2	95.1	120.9
Denmark	42.3	50.3	50.7	48.2	47.9	49.0	49.6	50.1	55.7	64.6	74.8	83.3	90.1	102.3
Finland	29.8	40.4	40.6	41.0	43.2	41.8	45.8	42.8	44.7	52.5	60.8	65.2	77.3	90.1
France	233.3	284.1	283.9	283.4	300.5	302.3	295.6	299.8	304.9	357.9	413.9	434.4	479.0	539.3
Germany	427.3	523.9	512.7	512.4	543.8	542.8	550.2	572.0	615.6	748.5	911.8	977.8	1 125.8	1 328.8
Greece	9.2	11.0	11.3	11.2	10.9	10.7	11.0	10.3	10.8	13.7	15.2	17.5	20.9	23.5
Hungary	10.7	12.9	13.1	19.1	23.0	25.0	28.1	30.5	34.3	43.0	55.5	62.3	74.1	94.6
Iceland	1.6	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.2	2.4	2.8	3.1	3.5	4.8
Ireland	34.1	43.8	48.2	53.6	64.2	70.5	76.3	77.4	88.3	92.9	104.3	110.0	108.9	120.8
Italy	190.0	231.3	252.1	238.0	242.1	235.1	239.1	244.2	254.3	299.4	349.1	367.9	400.6	492.1
Japan	397.7	443.3	410.9	421.0	388.1	417.1	479.2	402.6	416.7	472.0	565.7	594.9	646.7	714.3
Korea	96.6	127.5	124.5	136.2	132.3	143.7	172.3	150.4	162.5	193.8	253.8	284.4	325.5	371.5
Luxembourg	..	..	..	..	..	7.8	7.9	8.3	8.6	10.0	12.2	12.7	13.6	16.2
Mexico	60.6	79.3	95.7	110.2	117.3	136.3	165.3	157.5	160.0	164.9	188.0	214.2	250.0	272.0
Netherlands	145.8	177.4	179.0	173.8	167.6	170.5	180.1	175.5	175.3	227.3	290.5	320.1	370.3	476.8
New Zealand	11.8	13.3	14.2	13.7	11.9	11.9	12.7	13.3	13.8	16.5	20.3	21.7	22.4	26.9
Norway	34.8	42.0	49.6	48.5	40.4	45.5	59.9	59.0	59.6	70.3	82.2	103.8	122.2	136.4
Poland	17.2	22.9	24.4	25.7	28.2	27.4	31.6	36.1	41.0	53.5	73.8	89.4	109.3	138.8
Portugal	18.0	23.4	24.6	24.0	24.2	24.5	24.4	24.1	25.8	31.8	35.7	38.1	42.1	51.3
Slovak Republic	..	..	..	9.6	10.7	10.1	11.8	12.6	14.5	22.0	27.6	31.9	41.7	57.8
Spain	71.9	93.5	102.6	106.2	111.4	111.5	113.3	116.1	125.9	156.3	182.7	192.8	214.1	253.8
Sweden	61.3	77.4	82.9	81.5	85.0	84.8	87.4	76.3	82.9	102.4	123.2	130.3	147.4	169.3
Switzerland	70.3	81.6	79.7	76.2	78.9	80.3	80.5	82.1	87.9	100.7	116.8	130.9	147.9	172.1
Turkey	18.1	21.6	23.2	26.2	27.0	26.6	27.8	31.3	35.8	47.3	63.1	73.5	85.3	107.2
United Kingdom	202.7	242.2	258.9	281.2	273.4	270.7	282.9	272.6	280.6	307.7	348.2	384.4	444.4	440.0
United States	512.3	583.0	622.8	687.5	680.4	692.8	780.3	731.0	693.2	723.7	817.9	904.3	1 037.0	1 162.4
EU27 total	..	2 144.8	2 205.4	2 207.0	2 289.1	2 284.9	2 359.0	2 377.1	2 524.4	3 012.6	3 601.1	3 893.7	4 428.3	5 130.1
OECD total	3 100.5	3 703.9	3 807.5	3 958.4	3 993.4	4 103.7	4 432.7	4 290.7	4 438.8	5 111.1	6 077.9	6 649.7	7 528.6	8 632.3
Brazil	43.6	46.5	47.7	53.0	51.1	48.0	55.1	58.3	60.4	73.2	96.7	118.5	137.8	160.6
China	121.0	148.8	151.0	182.8	183.8	194.9	249.2	266.1	325.6	438.2	593.3	762.0	968.9	1 217.8
India	26.3	31.7	33.5	34.8	33.2	36.7	45.2	44.3	52.5	63.0	79.8	103.4	126.1	145.9
Indonesia	40.1	45.4	49.8	53.4	48.8	48.7	62.1	56.3	57.2	61.1	64.5	85.7	100.8	114.1
Russian Federation	..	..	88.7	87.4	72.3	72.9	103.1	99.9	106.7	133.7	181.6	241.5	301.6	352.3
South Africa	..	..	..	..	..	..	26.3	27.9	23.1	31.6	40.3	47.0	52.6	64.0

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/541505433837>

Relative annual growth of exports of goods

Growth over the period 1997-2007, OECD total = 1

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/535585384034>

TRADE IN SERVICES

International trade in services is growing in importance both among OECD countries and with the rest of the world. Traditional services – transport, insurance on merchandise trade, and travel – account for about half of total international trade in services, but trade in newer types of services, particularly those that can be conducted via the Internet, is growing rapidly.

Definition

International trade in services is defined according to the 5th edition of the *IMF Balance of Payments Manual* (BPM5). Services include transport (both freight and passengers), travel (mainly expenditure on goods and services by tourists and business travellers), communications services (postal, telephone, satellite, etc.), construction services, insurance and financial services, computer and information services, royalties and license fees, other business services (merchandising, operational leasing, technical and professional services, etc.), cultural and recreational services (rents for films, fees for actors and other performers, but excluding purchases of films, recorded music, books, etc.) and government services not included in the list above.

Long-term trends

Between 1997 and 2007, growth among OECD member countries of service imports was highest in Ireland and was also well above average in Greece, Luxembourg and Poland. Imports of services grew relatively slowly in Japan.

In the same period, the growth rate of service exports for Ireland was again well above the average and relatively high growth was also recorded for Luxembourg and Denmark. Rather low relative growth occurred in Turkey, Mexico and France.

Averaged over the last three years, trade in services was relatively balanced for most countries but large surpluses were recorded for United States and United Kingdom, and substantial deficits occurred in Germany and Japan.

The fastest growing services in OECD exports are now insurance and computer and information services, and for imports insurance and government services not included elsewhere. The slowest growing export category has been construction services.

Comparability

BPM5 was issued in 1993 and countries began to implement it in the next two or three years. Prior to that, services were defined according to BPM4. All OECD countries now report international trade in services broadly according to the BPM5 framework, and BPM4 is of interest principally for some historic series that have not been revised. The main difference between them is that BPM5 makes a clear distinction between transactions in services and payments of income. In BPM4, labour and non-financial property incomes were included with services. Countries have tried to preserve continuity by revising earlier figures in line with BPM5 but this has not always been possible.

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Services trade balance: exports of services minus imports of services

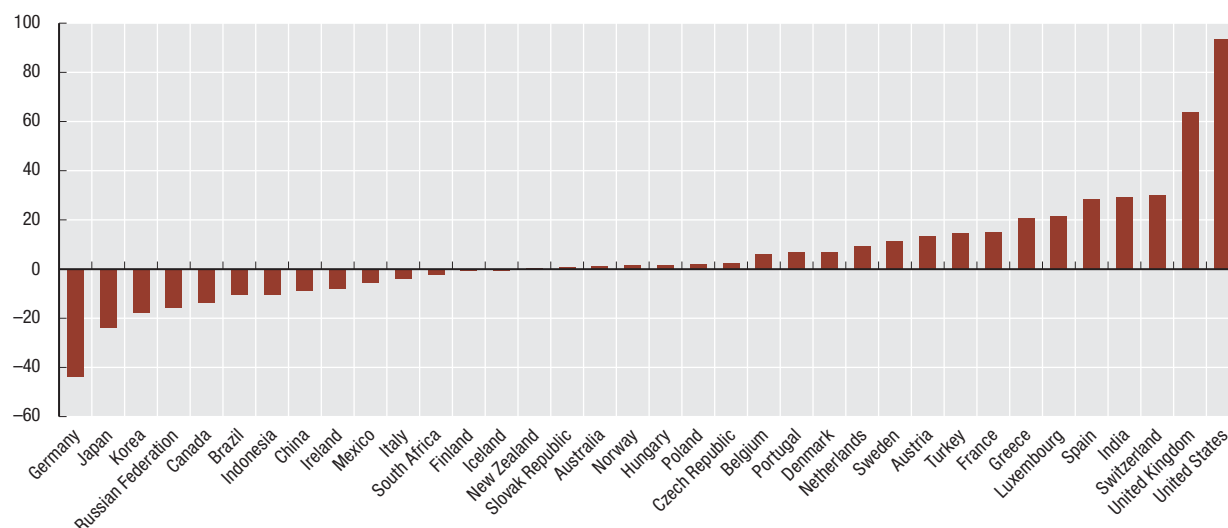
Billion US dollars

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	-1.0	-0.9	0.2	0.2	-0.9	0.1	0.9	0.7	1.2	1.8	0.5	0.5	0.9	1.2
Austria	..	5.0	4.7	4.0	5.1	6.2	6.6	6.4	7.1	8.7	10.0	11.8	12.1	16.3
Belgium	..	-0.1	0.2	1.3	0.8	1.4	2.1	1.8	1.8	1.7	3.6	5.0	6.4	6.3
Canada	-8.5	-7.4	-6.7	-6.4	-4.3	-4.5	-3.9	-5.0	-4.6	-8.2	-8.5	-10.0	-13.0	-17.9
Czech Republic	0.5	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.2	1.4	1.5	0.7	0.5	0.6	1.5	2.1	2.8
Denmark	0.5	0.7	1.3	0.1	-0.3	2.0	2.4	3.4	2.0	3.5	3.3	6.2	6.6	7.4
Finland	-1.8	-2.2	-1.7	-1.6	-1.1	-1.1	-1.4	-0.2	0.6	-0.7	0.6	-0.7	-1.1	-0.2
France	..	14.3	15.1	16.7	17.3	18.6	19.8	17.8	17.1	15.8	16.5	16.6	12.4	15.0
Germany	-46.1	-53.4	-51.7	-48.1	-51.6	-57.9	-55.0	-54.1	-43.2	-50.7	-51.1	-47.1	-39.3	-45.2
Greece	..	..	..	7.2	7.0	7.6	8.2	7.9	9.7	13.0	19.2	19.5	19.3	22.7
Hungary	0.2	0.6	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.3	0.8	1.1	0.0	-1.2	0.1	1.4	1.6	1.4
Iceland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.5	-0.7	-0.7
Ireland	-4.1	-6.3	-7.7	-9.0	-9.9	-10.8	-12.8	-11.9	-13.0	-12.5	-12.7	-11.6	-8.5	-3.9
Italy	5.2	6.3	7.2	7.8	4.9	1.2	1.1	-	-2.9	-2.7	1.5	-0.7	-1.6	-9.6
Japan	-47.9	-57.3	-62.3	-54.1	-49.3	-54.0	-47.6	-43.7	-42.0	-35.5	-39.0	-27.9	-20.1	-23.2
Korea	-1.8	-3.0	-6.2	-3.2	1.0	-0.7	-2.8	-3.9	-8.2	-7.4	-8.0	-13.7	-19.0	-20.6
Luxembourg	..	3.2	3.5	4.0	4.2	5.4	6.8	6.4	8.1	9.9	13.0	16.3	20.6	26.9
Mexico	-2.0	0.7	0.4	-0.7	-0.9	-1.8	-2.3	-3.6	-4.0	-4.6	-4.6	-4.7	-5.7	-6.3
Netherlands	0.2	1.1	2.0	3.3	2.5	2.6	-2.1	-2.5	-1.0	-0.7	4.3	6.8	9.4	12.1
New Zealand	-0.3	-0.2	-0.2	-0.6	-0.7	-0.2	-0.1	0.1	0.6	1.1	0.9	0.3	0.2	0.2
Norway	0.2	0.5	1.4	1.4	0.7	1.0	2.7	2.6	1.6	1.1	1.0	0.7	1.5	2.1
Poland	2.8	3.5	3.4	3.2	4.2	1.4	1.4	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.1	0.7	0.7	4.7
Portugal	..	..	1.4	1.5	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.6	3.1	4.0	5.0	4.8	6.0	9.2
Slovak Republic	0.8	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.8	0.5
Spain	14.8	17.4	19.0	18.2	19.7	20.5	19.4	20.6	21.1	26.2	26.9	27.7	27.9	30.0
Sweden	0.2	-0.4	-0.9	-1.3	-1.6	-1.3	-1.5	-0.6	-0.8	2.0	5.8	7.8	10.0	15.4
Switzerland	11.9	13.3	13.1	13.7	14.3	15.2	15.9	14.2	15.3	18.3	20.6	22.7	30.2	36.7
Turkey	7.1	9.6	6.7	10.9	13.5	7.5	11.4	9.1	7.9	10.5	12.8	15.3	13.8	13.9
United Kingdom	12.4	17.6	22.3	27.5	24.8	25.2	22.9	24.8	29.1	36.9	51.6	47.2	60.5	83.3
United States	67.3	77.8	86.9	90.2	82.1	82.7	74.9	64.4	61.2	54.0	61.8	75.6	85.0	119.1
Euro area	..	..	..	5.0	0.7	-9.8	-8.9	-2.5	17.3	26.9	41.2	47.4	55.4	72.8
EU27 total	..	25.4	38.1	51.5	43.1	41.9	35.5	37.8	62.7	70.5	106.6	114.2	146.8	196.4
OECD total	..	..	..	93.9	88.7	73.1	75.3	67.6	81.2	94.8	146.9	188.9	242.7	315.0
Brazil	-5.3	-7.5	-8.1	-9.3	-9.0	-7.0	-7.2	-7.8	-5.0	-4.9	-4.7	-8.3	-9.7	-13.4
China	0.3	-6.1	-2.0	-3.4	-2.8	-5.3	-5.6	-5.9	-6.8	-8.6	-9.7	-9.4	-8.8	-7.9
India	0.6	0.2	0.3	1.3	2.1	2.2	3.4	2.9	4.4	6.4	13.0	20.0	31.0	36.9
Indonesia	-6.6	-8.1	-8.5	-9.7	-7.6	-7.8	-10.4	-10.4	-10.4	-12.1	-8.8	-9.1	-9.9	-11.8
Russian Federation	-7.0	-9.6	-5.4	-5.9	-4.1	-4.3	-6.7	-9.1	-9.9	-10.9	-12.7	-13.9	-13.7	-19.8
South Africa	-1.3	-1.4	-0.7	-0.6	-0.3	-0.5	-0.8	-0.4	-0.5	0.3	-0.6	-1.0	-2.3	-3.1

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Services trade balance: exports of services minus imports of services

Billion US dollars, average 2005-2007

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TRADE IN SERVICES

Imports of services

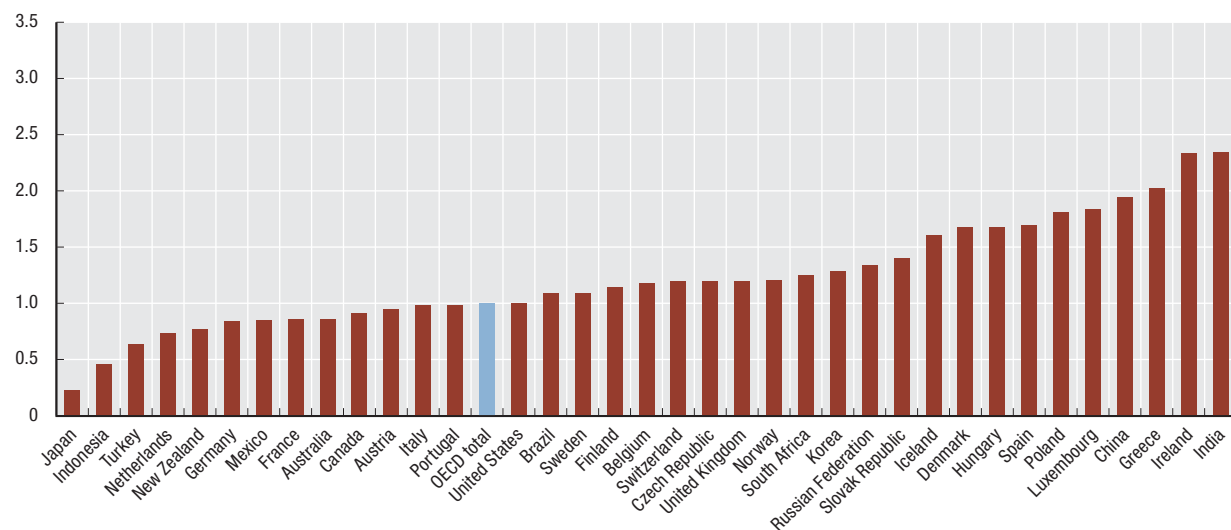
Billion US dollars

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	15.5	17.4	18.9	19.2	18.0	18.8	18.9	17.3	18.3	21.8	27.9	30.4	32.2	39.1
Austria	..	19.3	19.9	17.9	18.1	17.3	16.5	17.6	18.8	23.8	28.0	30.7	33.6	39.0
Belgium	..	29.7	29.0	27.8	30.0	31.2	32.3	33.6	35.9	42.9	49.1	51.1	53.2	72.6
Canada	32.5	33.5	35.9	38.0	38.1	40.6	44.1	43.8	45.0	52.3	58.7	65.4	72.3	80.5
Czech Republic	4.7	4.9	6.3	5.4	5.7	5.9	5.4	5.6	6.4	7.3	9.0	10.2	11.8	14.3
Denmark	11.8	13.2	13.9	14.2	15.6	18.4	22.1	23.5	25.1	27.9	33.3	37.3	45.7	54.1
Finland	7.3	9.6	8.8	8.2	7.8	7.6	9.1	9.4	9.8	12.1	14.6	17.7	18.6	20.8
France	..	64.5	66.8	64.2	67.5	63.1	60.8	62.4	68.7	82.9	98.4	105.7	113.6	130.5
Germany	111.6	133.4	135.3	130.7	135.6	141.9	138.2	142.7	145.5	173.8	196.9	210.3	226.4	261.0
Greece	..	..	..	4.1	4.5	9.7	11.5	11.6	9.6	11.2	14.0	14.7	16.4	20.2
Hungary	3.0	3.6	3.5	4.1	4.2	4.4	4.8	5.6	6.8	9.2	10.2	11.5	11.8	15.7
Iceland	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.5	1.8	2.6	2.6	2.9
Ireland	8.4	11.3	13.4	15.2	23.9	27.7	32.8	37.5	42.8	54.5	65.4	71.5	80.2	93.8
Italy	45.7	51.1	53.4	54.2	59.1	57.7	55.6	57.8	63.0	74.3	83.3	90.0	100.4	121.3
Japan	106.2	122.8	130.0	123.4	111.7	114.9	116.8	108.2	107.8	108.8	133.7	134.0	134.5	149.3
Korea	18.6	25.8	29.6	29.5	24.5	27.2	33.4	32.9	36.6	40.4	49.9	58.8	68.9	83.6
Luxembourg	..	7.5	8.5	8.7	9.9	11.5	13.2	13.3	12.4	15.5	21.0	24.6	30.2	37.5
Mexico	12.3	9.0	10.2	11.8	12.4	13.5	16.0	16.2	16.7	17.1	18.6	20.8	22.0	23.8
Netherlands	41.1	44.8	45.3	45.8	47.2	49.5	51.4	53.8	57.0	63.9	69.5	73.3	75.3	84.2
New Zealand	4.0	4.7	4.9	4.8	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.3	4.8	5.7	7.2	8.3	7.9	9.1
Norway	12.0	13.1	13.4	14.3	14.8	15.4	15.0	15.8	17.8	20.6	24.3	29.2	31.7	38.2
Poland	3.9	7.1	6.3	5.7	6.6	7.0	9.0	9.0	9.2	10.6	13.4	15.5	19.9	24.1
Portugal	..	..	6.5	6.2	6.9	7.3	7.1	6.8	7.2	8.3	9.8	10.4	11.8	13.9
Slovak Republic	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.1	2.3	1.8	1.8	2.0	2.3	3.0	3.4	4.1	4.6	6.5
Spain	18.9	22.9	25.5	25.6	28.6	32.0	33.2	35.2	38.8	48.0	59.2	67.1	78.5	98.9
Sweden	14.0	16.8	18.4	19.7	21.4	23.0	24.2	23.6	24.0	28.7	33.1	35.3	39.6	48.0
Switzerland	10.3	12.1	12.7	11.2	12.3	13.1	12.8	13.5	14.2	16.3	21.3	24.5	25.0	29.6
Turkey	4.0	5.3	6.7	8.8	10.2	9.3	9.0	6.9	6.9	8.5	11.3	11.4	11.4	14.9
United Kingdom	61.2	66.9	74.3	79.8	89.9	98.6	101.1	101.6	112.0	130.3	154.6	169.9	183.8	212.1
United States	133.1	141.4	152.6	165.9	180.7	199.2	223.7	221.8	231.1	250.4	291.2	313.5	348.9	378.1
Euro area	..	..	..	241.4	262.8	275.0	277.1	285.4	293.0	345.6	409.4	454.4	495.4	595.6
EU27 total	..	543.6	571.9	567.2	614.9	649.9	663.3	687.4	729.0	875.5	1 028.7	1 127.3	1 247.8	1 470.4
OECD total	..	..	..	902.2	953.5	1 009.2	1 052.8	1 063.7	1 118.3	1 286.5	1 508.2	1 631.9	1 781.2	2 049.9
Brazil	10.3	13.6	12.7	15.3	16.7	14.2	16.7	17.1	14.5	15.4	17.3	24.4	29.1	37.2
China	16.3	25.2	22.6	28.0	26.7	31.6	36.0	39.3	46.5	55.3	72.1	83.8	100.8	130.1
India	5.5	6.7	7.1	7.8	9.6	12.3	13.3	14.5	15.0	17.5	25.2	32.6	40.2	48.6
Indonesia	11.4	13.5	15.1	16.6	12.1	12.4	15.6	15.9	17.0	17.4	20.9	22.0	21.4	24.3
Russian Federation	15.4	20.2	18.7	20.0	16.5	13.4	16.2	20.6	23.9	27.1	33.3	38.9	44.8	59.2
South Africa	5.1	6.0	5.7	6.0	5.7	5.8	5.8	5.2	5.5	8.0	10.3	12.2	14.3	16.6

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Relative annual growth in imports of services

Growth over the period 1997-2007, OECD total = 1

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Exports of services

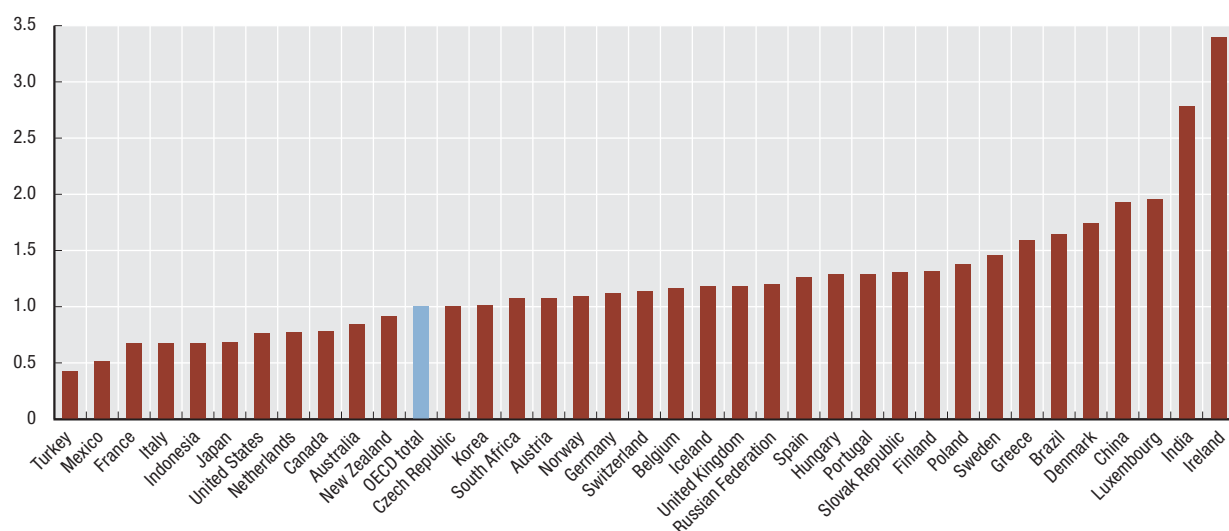
Billion US dollars

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	14.5	16.5	19.1	19.3	17.2	18.9	19.9	18.1	19.6	23.6	28.5	31.0	33.1	40.3
Austria	..	24.3	24.6	21.9	23.2	23.5	23.1	24.0	25.9	32.5	38.0	42.6	45.6	55.3
Belgium	..	29.6	29.3	29.1	30.8	32.6	34.3	35.4	37.7	44.6	52.7	56.1	59.5	78.9
Canada	24.0	26.1	29.2	31.6	33.9	36.1	40.2	38.8	40.4	44.1	50.3	55.4	59.3	62.6
Czech Republic	5.2	6.7	8.2	7.2	7.6	7.1	6.9	7.1	7.1	7.8	9.6	11.8	13.9	17.1
Denmark	12.3	13.9	15.1	14.3	15.3	20.4	24.5	26.9	27.1	31.4	36.6	43.5	52.3	61.5
Finland	5.5	7.4	7.1	6.7	6.7	6.5	7.7	9.2	10.4	11.5	15.2	17.0	17.5	20.6
France	..	78.9	81.9	80.9	84.8	81.7	80.6	80.2	85.8	98.7	114.8	122.3	126.1	145.5
Germany	65.5	79.9	83.6	82.6	84.0	84.0	83.2	88.6	102.3	123.1	145.8	163.2	187.1	215.7
Greece	..	..	..	11.2	11.5	17.4	19.6	19.5	19.2	24.2	33.2	34.3	35.6	42.9
Hungary	3.1	4.3	5.0	5.7	5.9	5.6	5.6	6.6	6.9	8.0	10.3	12.9	13.4	17.1
Iceland	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.4	1.6	2.0	1.8	2.2
Ireland	4.3	5.0	5.7	6.2	14.1	16.9	20.0	25.6	29.8	42.0	52.7	59.9	71.6	89.9
Italy	50.9	57.5	60.6	62.0	64.0	58.9	56.7	57.9	60.1	71.6	84.7	89.4	98.8	111.7
Japan	58.3	65.5	67.7	69.3	62.4	60.9	69.2	64.5	65.7	73.3	94.7	106.1	114.4	126.2
Korea	16.8	22.8	23.4	26.3	25.6	26.5	30.5	29.1	28.4	33.0	41.9	45.1	49.9	63.0
Luxembourg	..	10.7	12.0	12.7	14.2	16.9	20.0	19.8	20.5	25.4	33.9	40.9	50.9	64.4
Mexico	10.3	9.7	10.6	11.1	11.5	11.7	13.7	12.7	12.7	12.5	14.0	16.1	16.2	17.5
Netherlands	41.4	45.9	47.2	49.0	49.7	52.1	49.3	51.3	56.0	63.2	73.7	80.1	84.7	96.4
New Zealand	3.7	4.5	4.7	4.2	3.8	4.3	4.4	4.4	5.4	6.8	8.1	8.6	8.1	9.3
Norway	12.2	13.7	14.8	15.7	15.5	16.4	17.8	18.4	19.4	21.7	25.2	29.9	33.2	40.3
Poland	6.7	10.7	9.7	8.9	10.8	8.4	10.4	9.8	10.0	11.2	13.5	16.3	20.6	28.8
Portugal	..	..	7.9	7.7	8.8	9.3	9.0	9.4	10.3	12.3	14.7	15.2	17.8	23.1
Slovak Republic	2.3	2.5	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.1	2.2	2.5	2.8	3.3	3.7	4.4	5.4	7.0
Spain	33.6	40.3	44.5	43.9	48.4	52.5	52.6	55.8	59.9	74.2	86.2	94.8	106.4	128.9
Sweden	14.2	16.4	17.5	18.4	19.7	21.7	22.7	23.0	23.3	30.7	38.9	43.1	49.6	63.4
Switzerland	22.2	25.5	25.8	25.0	26.5	28.2	28.7	27.7	29.6	34.6	41.9	47.2	55.3	66.3
Turkey	11.1	14.9	13.4	19.7	23.7	16.8	20.4	16.0	14.8	19.0	24.0	26.6	25.3	28.7
United Kingdom	73.6	84.5	96.5	107.4	114.7	123.8	124.0	126.4	141.0	167.2	206.2	217.1	244.3	295.4
United States	200.4	219.2	239.5	256.1	262.8	281.9	298.6	286.2	292.3	304.3	353.1	389.1	433.9	497.2
Euro area	..	..	..	246.4	263.5	265.2	268.3	282.9	310.3	372.5	450.6	501.8	550.8	668.4
EU27 total	..	569.0	610.0	618.7	658.0	691.8	698.7	725.1	791.7	946.0	1 135.3	1 241.5	1 394.6	1 666.7
OECD total	..	..	..	996.1	1 042.2	1 082.3	1 128.1	1 131.3	1 199.5	1 381.3	1 655.1	1 820.8	2 023.9	2 364.9
Brazil	4.9	6.1	4.7	6.0	7.6	7.2	9.5	9.3	9.6	10.4	12.6	16.0	19.5	23.9
China	16.6	19.1	20.6	24.6	23.9	26.2	30.4	33.3	39.7	46.7	62.4	74.4	92.0	122.2
India	6.1	6.9	7.5	9.1	11.7	14.5	16.7	17.3	19.5	23.9	38.3	52.6	71.1	85.5
Indonesia	4.8	5.5	6.6	6.9	4.5	4.6	5.2	5.5	6.7	5.3	12.0	12.9	11.5	12.5
Russian Federation	8.4	10.6	13.3	14.1	12.4	9.1	9.6	11.4	14.0	16.2	20.6	25.0	31.1	39.4
South Africa	3.8	4.6	5.1	5.4	5.4	5.2	5.0	4.8	5.0	8.3	9.7	11.2	12.0	13.6

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/541572063070>

Relative annual growth in exports of services

Growth over the period 1997-2007, OECD total = 1

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TRADING PARTNERS

The pattern of OECD merchandise trade – where imports come from and where exports go to – has undergone significant shifts over the last decade. These are in response to changes in the distribution of global income and to globalisation – in particular, the outsourcing of manufacturing from OECD countries to the rest of the world.

These tables refer to total OECD imports and exports and show merchandise trade both within the OECD area and with countries in the rest of the world.

Definition

NAFTA is the North American Free Trade Area and consists of Canada, Mexico and the United States.

OECD Asia and Oceania includes Australia and New Zealand as well as Japan and Korea.

Non-OECD America covers the Caribbean, South America and Central America, except Mexico.

Non-OECD Asia covers Central Asia, China, the Indian sub-continent and South East.

Middle East covers the Gulf Arabian Countries, Iran, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, the Occupied Palestinian territory and the Syrian Arab Republic.

The definitions of merchandise imports and exports are explained under “Trade in goods”.

Long-term trends

Since 1988, there has been a steady decline in the share of OECD imports and exports among OECD member countries. In 1988, imports from OECD countries accounted for 80% of total OECD imports but by 2007 this had fallen to 70%. For exports the fall in intra-OECD trade was less marked – down from 81% in 1988 to 74% in 2007.

OECD imports from Non-OECD Asia have risen from 7% to 18% over the period and exports to them from 7.5% to 11%. A large change occurred in trade between OECD and China. In 1988 China supplied a little over 1% of total OECD imports but by 2007 this had risen to 10%. China's importance as a destination for OECD countries has increased less sharply, rising from 1% in 1988 to 5% in 2007.

Comparability

OECD countries follow common definitions and procedures in compiling their merchandise trade statistics which are comparable and of good quality. The removal of customs frontiers following the creation of a common market in Europe required EU countries to adopt a system of recording trade flows through sample surveys of exporters and importers. This led to some fall in the reliability of merchandise trade statistics for trade between the EU countries. Statistics on trade between EU countries and non-EU countries, however, were not affected.

Source

- OECD (2008), *International Trade by Commodity Statistics*, OECD, Paris.

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Methodological publications

- UN, EC, IMF, OECD, UNCTAD and the WTO (2002), *Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services*, United Nations, New York.

Online databases

- ITCS International Trade by Commodity Statistics.
- Monthly International Trade.

Websites

- OECD International Trade Statistics, www.oecd.org/std/its.

Partner countries and regions of OECD merchandise trade

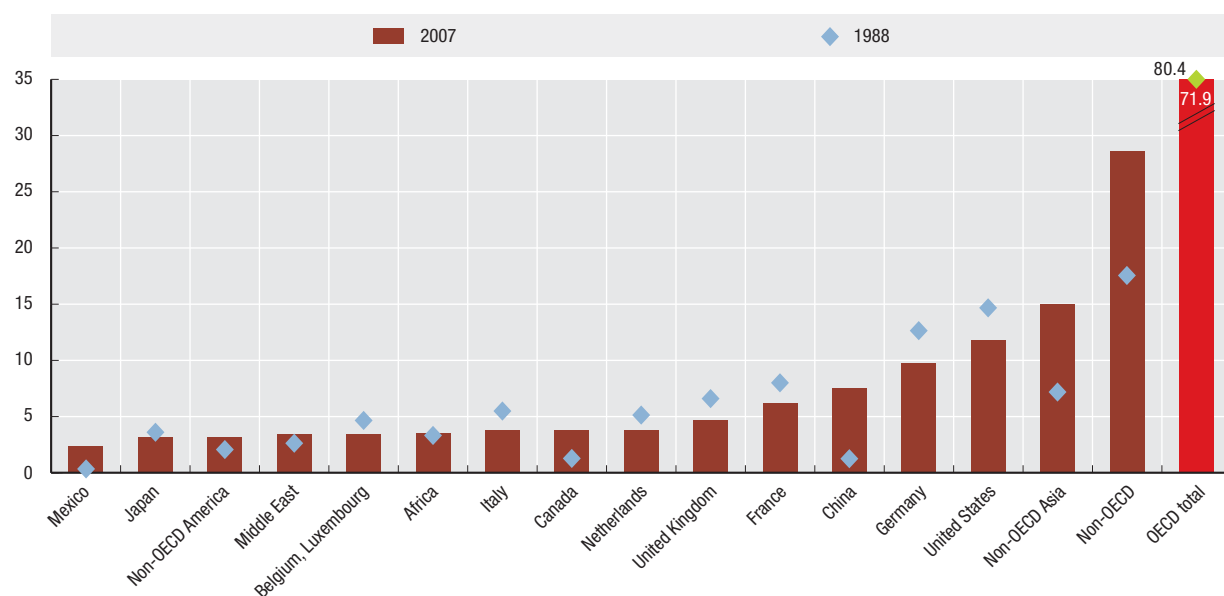
As a percentage of total OECD merchandise trade

	1988	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
OECD total	80.4	76.1	75.7	75.6	77.4	77.1	75.8	75.8	75.5	74.1	73.5	71.3	70.8	71.9
Major seven	52.3	49.7	49.0	49.1	50.1	50.4	49.2	48.8	47.8	45.0	44.9	43.0	42.1	43.2
NAFTA	16.3	19.0	19.7	21.2	21.7	22.7	23.8	23.1	22.2	18.1	18.9	18.6	18.0	18.1
Canada	1.3	4.5	4.6	4.8	4.9	5.1	5.3	5.1	4.8	4.5	4.2	4.3	4.1	3.8
Mexico	0.3	1.8	2.0	2.3	2.5	2.7	3.2	3.1	3.0	2.7	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.4
United States	14.7	12.7	13.1	14.0	14.3	14.9	15.4	14.8	14.3	10.8	12.1	11.7	11.3	11.8
OECD Asia Oceania	6.5	8.9	8.4	8.1	7.4	7.7	8.0	7.3	7.1	6.9	6.8	6.6	6.3	5.9
Japan	3.6	5.7	5.3	5.1	4.7	4.9	4.9	4.5	4.2	4.0	3.8	3.7	3.4	3.2
Korea	1.5	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.4	1.7	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.7
OECD Europe	57.8	48.1	47.5	46.4	48.3	46.6	44.0	45.5	46.2	49.1	47.8	46.1	46.4	47.9
Austria	1.7	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.4
Belgium-Luxembourg	4.7	3.6	3.4	3.2	3.3	2.6	2.8	3.0	3.1	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4
France	8.0	6.3	6.1	5.9	6.2	6.1	5.5	5.7	5.7	6.0	5.8	5.5	5.4	6.2
Germany	12.7	10.6	10.3	9.6	10.1	9.8	9.0	9.3	9.4	10.1	10.0	9.7	9.5	9.7
Italy	5.5	4.3	4.2	4.0	4.2	4.0	3.7	3.8	3.9	4.2	4.0	3.3	3.7	3.8
Netherlands	5.1	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.9	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8
Spain	2.1	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.5	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.6	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7
Sweden	2.2	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4
Switzerland	2.6	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.6
United Kingdom	6.6	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.8	5.7	5.4	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.0	4.8	4.7	4.7
Non-OECD	17.6	22.5	22.9	23.4	21.6	21.3	23.1	23.1	23.4	24.8	25.7	27.3	28.3	28.6
Africa	3.3	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.4	3.1	3.3	3.5
South Africa	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
America	2.1	3.1	3.1	3.3	3.2	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.8	2.6	2.8	3.0	3.2	3.2
South America	1.6	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.0	2.1	2.1	1.9	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.4
Brazil	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9
Asia	7.2	12.4	12.4	12.6	11.5	11.8	12.8	12.5	13.0	13.8	14.2	14.6	14.9	15.0
China	1.3	2.8	2.9	3.1	3.2	3.4	3.9	4.2	4.9	5.8	6.3	6.8	7.2	7.5
India	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9
Chinese Taipei	1.4	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	2.0	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.3
Europe	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.2	1.9	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.9	3.1	3.6	3.8	4.2
Russian Federation	0.2	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.7	2.0	2.1
Middle East	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.8	2.4	2.4	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.9	3.0	3.4	3.4	3.4

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Partner countries and regions of OECD merchandise trade

As a percentage of total OECD merchandise trade



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Partner countries and regions of OECD merchandise imports

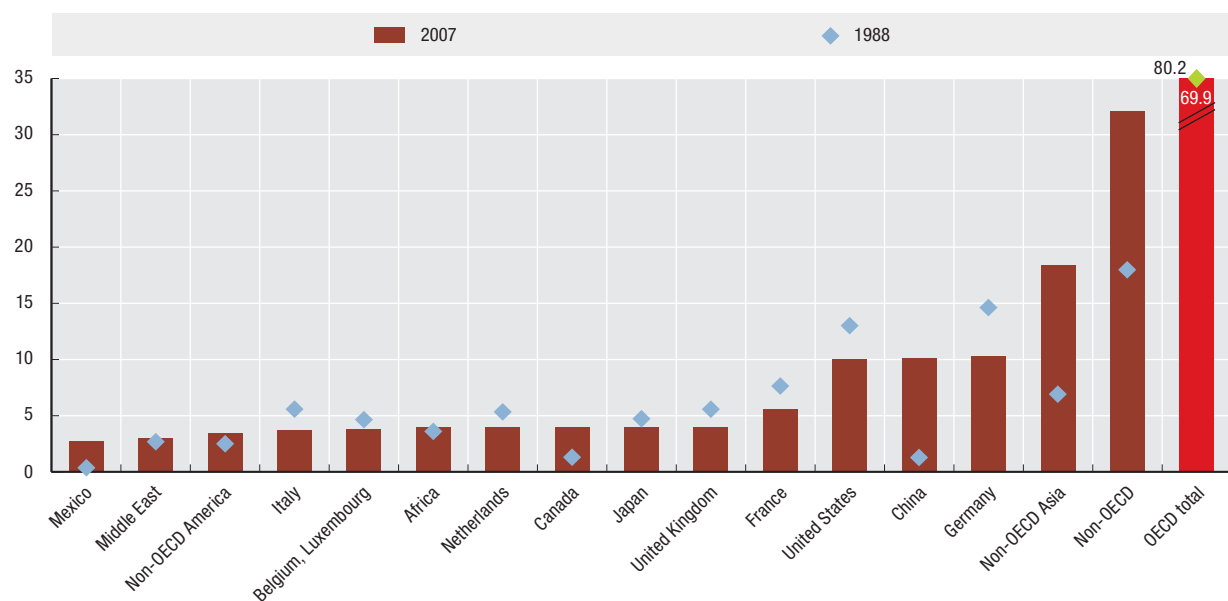
As a percentage of total OECD merchandise imports

	1988	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
OECD total	80.2	76.3	75.6	75.4	76.8	75.4	73.0	73.2	72.8	71.2	70.3	67.2	66.4	69.9
Major seven	52.5	50.8	50.2	50.0	50.5	49.8	47.5	47.0	45.9	43.1	42.7	40.2	39.1	41.8
NAFTA	14.7	18.9	19.7	20.8	20.7	21.1	21.7	21.1	19.9	16.1	16.5	16.0	15.5	16.8
Canada	1.3	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.2	5.4	5.6	5.5	5.2	4.8	4.6	4.6	4.3	4.0
Mexico	0.4	2.0	2.2	2.5	2.6	2.9	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.0	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.7
United States	13.0	11.9	12.4	13.1	12.9	12.8	12.8	12.2	11.5	8.3	9.2	8.7	8.5	10.0
OECD Asia Oceania	7.8	10.2	9.2	9.2	9.0	9.3	9.4	8.5	8.2	7.9	7.9	7.5	7.2	6.9
Japan	4.7	7.2	6.4	6.4	6.2	6.4	6.3	5.6	5.4	5.1	4.9	4.6	4.3	4.0
Korea	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.9	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.9	2.0
OECD Europe	58.0	47.3	46.7	45.5	47.1	45.6	42.0	43.6	44.5	47.6	45.9	43.5	43.6	46.2
Austria	1.5	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3
Belgium-Luxembourg	4.6	3.4	3.2	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.6	2.8	2.9	3.1	3.1	2.6	3.0	3.8
France	7.6	6.1	5.9	5.8	6.1	5.8	5.1	5.3	5.3	5.6	5.3	4.9	4.7	5.6
Germany	14.6	10.9	10.6	10.0	10.5	10.2	9.2	9.6	10.0	10.8	10.7	10.2	10.0	10.3
Italy	5.6	4.6	4.6	4.3	4.5	4.2	3.7	3.8	3.9	4.1	3.9	3.1	3.6	3.7
Netherlands	5.3	4.0	3.9	3.9	4.0	3.7	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	4.0
Spain	1.8	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.1	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.2
Sweden	2.3	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4
Switzerland	2.3	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.1	1.4	1.4
United Kingdom	5.6	5.1	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.1	4.9	4.8	4.6	4.5	4.1	4.0	3.8	4.0
Non-OECD	18.0	22.6	23.3	23.9	22.4	23.2	26.0	25.7	25.9	27.6	28.9	31.3	32.5	32.1
Africa	3.6	2.4	2.6	2.5	2.2	2.1	2.4	2.5	2.3	2.6	2.7	3.5	3.9	4.0
South Africa	1.0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
America	2.5	2.9	3.0	3.0	2.8	2.8	3.0	2.9	3.0	2.9	3.2	3.4	3.5	3.4
South America	2.1	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.7	2.8	2.7
Brazil	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Asia	6.9	12.4	12.8	13.2	13.2	13.7	14.6	14.5	15.2	16.0	16.6	17.2	17.8	18.4
China	1.3	3.7	4.0	4.4	4.5	4.9	5.5	5.9	6.8	7.7	8.5	9.3	9.8	10.1
India	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.9
Chinese Taipei	1.5	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.1	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.3	1.4	1.6
Europe	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.8	3.1	3.7	3.9	4.0
Russian Federation	0.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.8	2.1	2.4	2.4
Middle East	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.9	2.2	2.5	3.5	3.3	2.9	3.2	3.3	3.9	4.1	3.0

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Partners countries and regions of OECD merchandise imports

As a percentage of total OECD merchandise imports



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Partner countries and regions of OECD merchandise exports

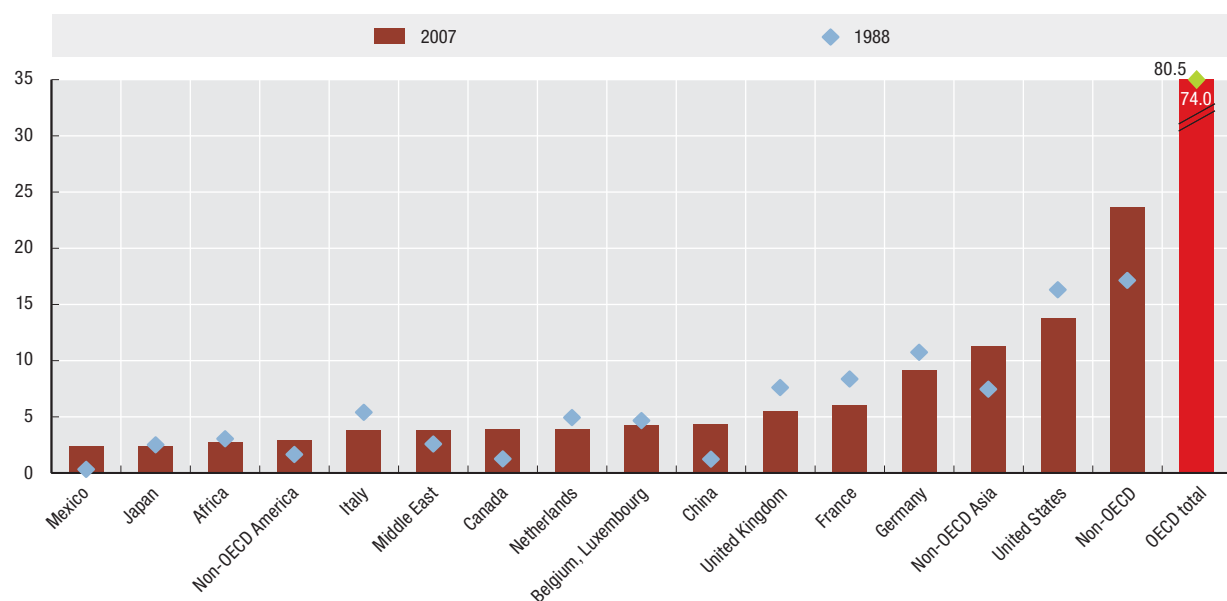
As a percentage of total OECD merchandise exports

	1988	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
OECD total	80.5	75.9	75.7	75.8	77.9	79.6	79.0	78.8	78.5	77.4	77.0	75.4	75.6	74.0
Major seven	52.2	48.6	47.9	48.2	49.7	51.1	51.0	50.8	49.9	47.1	47.4	46.1	45.5	44.7
NAFTA	17.9	19.2	19.7	21.6	22.6	24.5	26.1	25.2	24.6	20.2	21.4	21.5	20.8	19.5
Canada	1.3	4.1	4.2	4.5	4.6	4.8	4.8	4.6	4.5	4.2	3.9	4.0	3.9	3.6
Mexico	0.3	1.6	1.8	2.2	2.4	2.6	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.1
United States	16.3	13.5	13.7	14.8	15.6	17.1	18.3	17.6	17.4	13.5	15.2	15.1	14.5	13.8
OECD Asia Oceania	5.3	7.6	7.6	7.0	5.7	6.1	6.5	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.6	5.4	5.3	4.9
Japan	2.5	4.1	4.1	3.8	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.2	2.9	2.8	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.2
Korea	1.4	2.2	2.2	1.9	1.2	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.3
OECD Europe	57.5	49.0	48.4	47.2	49.6	49.0	46.4	47.6	47.9	51.4	50.0	48.5	49.6	49.7
Austria	1.8	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.6
Belgium-Luxembourg	4.7	3.8	3.6	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.2	3.4	3.5	3.8	3.8	3.2	3.7	4.2
France	8.4	6.6	6.2	5.9	6.3	6.3	6.0	6.2	6.1	6.5	6.3	6.2	6.1	6.8
Germany	10.7	10.3	9.9	9.3	9.7	9.4	8.8	9.0	8.8	9.5	9.2	9.0	9.1	9.0
Italy	5.4	4.0	3.8	3.7	3.9	3.9	3.7	3.8	3.9	4.3	4.1	3.5	3.9	3.9
Netherlands	4.9	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	3.9	3.8	3.8	4.0	3.8	3.7	3.9	3.7
Spain	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.8	3.0	2.8	2.9	3.0	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.3
Sweden	2.1	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5
Switzerland	2.9	2.0	2.0	1.8	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.7	1.8
United Kingdom	7.6	5.9	6.0	6.2	6.4	6.3	6.1	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.0	5.7	5.6	5.5
Non-OECD	17.2	22.5	22.4	23.0	20.8	19.3	20.1	20.4	20.6	21.7	22.1	22.7	23.5	24.9
Africa	3.1	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.3	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.6	2.7	3.0
South Africa	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
America	1.7	3.3	3.3	3.7	3.7	3.1	3.0	3.1	2.7	2.3	2.5	2.6	2.8	2.9
South America	1.1	2.3	2.3	2.6	2.6	2.0	1.9	2.0	1.6	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.7	2.0
Brazil	0.3	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8
Asia	7.5	12.4	12.0	12.0	9.8	9.9	10.9	10.3	10.7	11.5	11.7	11.7	11.8	11.3
China	1.2	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9	2.2	2.4	2.9	3.6	3.9	4.0	4.4	4.7
India	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9
Chinese Taipei	1.4	1.9	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.7	2.0	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.0
Europe	2.2	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.4	1.9	1.9	2.4	2.6	3.0	3.1	3.4	3.8	4.3
Russian Federation	0.2	0.8	0.9	1.1	0.9	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.5	1.7
Middle East	2.6	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.8	2.7	3.8

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/541662784670>

Partner countries and regions of OECD merchandise exports

As a percentage of total OECD merchandise exports

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/535683211083>

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

The current account balance is the difference between current receipts from abroad and current payments to abroad. When the current account of the balance of payments is positive, the country can use the surplus to repay foreign debts or to lend to the rest of the world. When the current account balance is negative, the deficit will be financed by borrowing from abroad or by liquidating foreign assets acquired in earlier periods.

Definition

The current account balance is the difference between a country's current receipts from and its current payments to the rest of the world. These current transactions consist of exports and imports of goods; exports and imports of services such as tourism, international freight and passenger transport, insurance and financial services; income consisting of wages and salaries, dividends, interest and other property income; and transfers.

Note that property income includes retained earnings of foreign-owned subsidiaries. All earnings of foreign-owned subsidiaries are treated as if they were remitted abroad and the part which is actually retained in the country where the subsidiary is located is then shown as a re-investment flow in the capital account.

Long-term trends

Current account balances as a percentage of GDP have been negative throughout the period since 1994 in Australia, Hungary, Mexico, New Zealand, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States; this is partly due to the way in which earnings of foreign owned-subsidaries are treated. Countries which have recorded current account surpluses throughout the period include Finland, Japan, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland.

Since 1994, current account balances have generally moved from deficit to surplus in Austria, Canada Germany and Korea.

The chart shows current account balances as a percentage of GDP, averaged over the last three years. Deficits averaged 5% or more of GDP in Iceland, Greece, Portugal, Spain, New Zealand, Hungary, the Slovak Republic, the United States, Australia and Turkey. Surpluses in excess of 5% were recorded by Germany, Sweden, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Switzerland and Norway.

Comparability

The data in this table are taken from balance of payments statistics compiled according to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) *Balance of Payments Manual* (BPM5). The IMF closely monitors balance of payments statistics reported by its member countries through regular meetings of balance of payments compilers. As a result, there is relatively good comparability across countries.

Because all earnings of foreign-owned subsidiaries are treated as though they are remitted even though a large part may in practice be retained by the subsidiaries in the countries where they are located, the existence of foreign-owned subsidiaries in an economy will tend to reduce its current account balance.

Sources

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- For Brazil, China, India and Russian Federation: National sources.

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- UN, EC, IMF, OECD, UNCTAD and the WTO (2002), *Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services*, United Nations, New York.

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Websites

- OECD Economic Outlook – Sources and Methods, www.oecd.org/eco/sources-and-methods.

Current account balance of payments

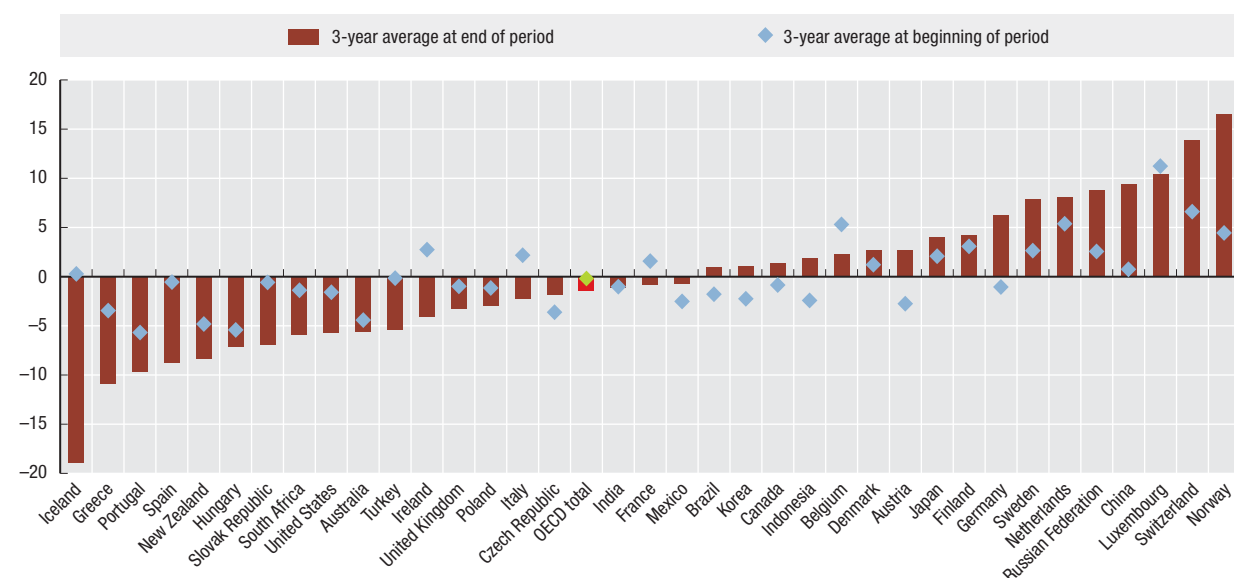
As a percentage of GDP

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	-4.7	-5.0	-3.6	-2.8	-4.7	-5.1	-3.6	-1.9	-3.7	-5.2	-5.9	-5.5	-5.1	-6.1
Austria	..	-2.9	-2.9	-2.5	-1.7	-1.7	-0.7	-0.8	2.7	1.7	2.1	2.1	2.8	3.2
Belgium	..	5.4	5.0	5.5	5.2	5.1	4.0	3.4	4.6	4.1	3.5	2.6	2.7	1.7
Canada	-2.3	-0.8	0.5	-1.3	-1.2	0.3	2.7	2.3	1.7	1.2	2.3	1.9	1.4	0.9
Czech Republic	-1.8	-2.5	-6.6	-6.2	-2.0	-2.4	-4.8	-5.3	-5.5	-6.3	-5.2	-1.3	-2.6	-1.8
Denmark	1.5	0.7	1.4	0.4	-0.9	1.9	1.6	2.6	2.9	3.5	2.3	4.3	2.7	1.1
Finland	1.1	4.1	4.0	5.6	5.6	6.2	8.1	8.6	8.8	5.2	6.5	3.6	4.6	4.6
France	..	0.7	1.3	2.7	2.6	3.1	1.6	1.9	1.4	0.8	0.6	-0.6	-0.7	-1.2
Germany	-1.4	-1.2	-0.6	-0.5	-0.7	-1.3	-1.7	0.0	2.0	2.0	4.7	5.2	6.1	7.5
Greece	..	..	..	-3.9	-2.7	-3.8	-7.8	-7.3	-6.8	-6.6	-5.9	-7.3	-11.1	-14.3
Hungary	-9.2	-3.3	-3.8	-4.3	-7.0	-7.6	-8.4	-6.0	-7.0	-8.0	-8.6	-7.5	-7.5	-6.4
Iceland	1.9	0.7	-1.8	-1.7	-6.7	-6.7	-10.1	-4.3	1.5	-4.8	-9.8	-16.2	-25.1	-15.6
Ireland	2.8	2.6	2.8	2.3	0.8	0.2	-0.4	-0.7	-0.9	0.0	-0.6	-3.5	-3.5	-5.4
Italy	1.2	2.2	3.1	2.8	1.9	0.7	-0.5	-0.1	-0.8	-1.3	-0.9	-1.7	-2.6	-2.4
Japan	2.7	2.1	1.4	2.3	3.1	2.6	2.6	2.1	2.9	3.2	3.7	3.6	3.8	4.8
Korea	-1.0	-1.7	-4.1	-1.6	11.7	5.5	2.4	1.7	1.0	2.0	4.1	1.9	0.6	0.6
Luxembourg	..	12.1	11.2	10.4	9.2	8.4	13.2	8.8	10.5	8.1	11.8	11.0	10.5	9.8
Mexico	-6.4	-0.5	-0.7	-1.7	-3.5	-2.6	-2.9	-2.6	-2.0	-1.2	-0.9	-0.7	-0.6	-1.0
Netherlands	4.9	6.1	5.1	6.5	3.2	3.8	1.9	2.4	2.5	5.5	7.5	7.3	9.3	7.7
New Zealand	-3.8	-5.0	-5.7	-6.3	-3.9	-6.2	-5.2	-2.7	-3.8	-4.2	-6.3	-8.5	-8.6	-8.1
Norway	3.0	3.5	6.8	6.3	0.0	5.6	15.0	16.1	12.5	12.3	12.7	16.3	17.3	15.9
Poland	-0.9	-1.7	-0.9	-2.7	-4.0	-6.9	-6.0	-3.1	-2.8	-2.5	-4.0	-1.2	-2.8	-4.8
Portugal	..	..	-4.2	-5.9	-7.0	-8.5	-10.2	-9.9	-8.1	-6.1	-7.6	-9.5	-10.1	-9.5
Slovak Republic	4.9	2.6	-9.3	-8.4	-8.9	-4.8	-3.4	-8.3	-7.9	-0.8	-3.4	-8.5	-7.0	-5.3
Spain	-1.2	-0.3	-0.2	-0.1	-1.2	-2.9	-4.0	-3.9	-3.3	-3.5	-5.3	-7.4	-8.9	-10.1
Sweden	1.1	3.3	3.5	4.1	3.8	4.1	3.8	3.8	4.0	7.2	6.7	6.8	8.5	8.4
Switzerland	6.3	6.5	7.0	9.3	9.2	10.8	12.1	7.7	8.4	12.9	12.9	13.7	14.5	13.4
Turkey	1.5	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	0.7	-0.5	-3.7	1.7	-0.7	-2.7	-4.0	-4.6	-6.0	-5.7
United Kingdom	-1.0	-1.2	-0.8	-0.1	-0.4	-2.4	-2.6	-2.1	-1.7	-1.6	-2.1	-2.6	-3.4	-3.8
United States	-1.7	-1.5	-1.6	-1.7	-2.5	-3.3	-4.3	-3.8	-4.4	-4.8	-5.4	-5.9	-6.0	-5.3
EU27 total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.1	-0.2	-0.7	-0.6
OECD total	..	..	..	0.2	-0.1	-0.7	-1.3	-1.1	-1.1	-1.1	-0.9	-1.4	-1.6	-1.4
Brazil	-0.2	-2.4	-2.8	-3.5	-4.0	-4.3	-3.8	-4.2	-1.5	0.8	1.8	1.6	1.3	0.1
China	1.2	0.2	0.8	3.9	3.1	1.9	1.7	1.3	2.4	2.8	3.6	7.2	9.6	11.3
India	..	..	..	-0.7	-1.7	-0.7	-1.0	0.3	1.4	1.5	0.1	-1.3	-1.1	-1.0
Indonesia	-1.4	-2.9	-3.0	-2.1	3.9	3.7	4.8	4.3	4.0	3.5	0.6	0.1	3.0	2.4
Russian Federation	..	2.3	2.8	0.0	0.1	12.6	18.0	11.1	8.5	8.2	10.1	11.0	9.5	5.9
South Africa	0.0	-1.6	-1.2	-1.5	-1.6	-0.5	-0.1	0.3	0.8	-1.1	-3.2	-4.0	-6.4	-7.3

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/541730882637>

Current account balance of payments

As a percentage of GDP

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/535704103703>

FDI FLOWS AND STOCKS

Foreign direct investment (FDI) is a key element in the rapidly evolving process of international economic integration. FDI creates direct, stable and long-lasting links between economies. FDI encourages the transfer of technology and know-how between countries, and it allows the host economy to promote its products more widely in international markets. Finally, FDI is an additional source of funding for capital investment and under right policy environment it can serve as an important vehicle for enterprise development.

Definition

Foreign direct investment is defined as investment by a resident entity in one economy with the objective of obtaining a lasting interest in an enterprise resident in another economy. The lasting interest means the existence of a long-term relationship between the direct investor and the enterprise and a significant degree of influence by the direct investor on the management of the direct investment enterprise. The ownership of at least 10% of the voting power, representing the influence by the investor, is the basic criterion used. Hence, control by the foreign investor is not required.

Inward stocks are the direct investments held by non-residents in the reporting economy; outward stocks are the investments of the reporting economy held abroad.

Long-term trends

Both inflows and outflows of FDI worldwide dropped drastically in 2001 following the spectacular investment boom of the late 1990s. FDI into the OECD area continued to decline until 2004 when inflows picked up timidly by 5% and outflows more significantly by 29%. The global environment for FDI further improved in 2006 while at the same time macro-economic growth continued, stock prices remained firm and corporate profitability was generally strong. Multinational enterprises based in emerging economies were active to acquire enterprises in the OECD area. Also, large amounts of investments by financial investors such as private equity companies were recorded in 2006. Direct investment into OECD grew by 31% in 2007 reaching 1 369 billion US dollars. The United States, the United Kingdom, Luxembourg and France were the main destinations for FDI in the OECD. Investment flows to EU countries increased by 40% to 1 080 billion US dollars. Investments into China, amongst the foremost destinations of FDI in 2005, declined by 1 billion dollars in 2006 but increased by 77% in 2007. FDI outflows from the OECD increased further by 50 % to 1 819 billion US dollars in 2007. The OECD area continued to be significant net outward investor at around historically high 500 billion US dollars in 2007. However, preliminary data indicate that as the financial crisis has evolved into a global economic crisis, the outlook for FDI indicate a decline of 13% for inflows and 6% for outflows by end-2008.

The stock tables also show the distribution of stocks according to broad sectors of the industry, namely manufacturing and services.

Negative flows may generally indicate disinvestments or the impact of substantial reimbursements of inter-company loans.

Comparability

International standards call for FDI stocks to be valued at market prices but most OECD countries report their FDI stocks using book values as recorded in the balance sheets of enterprises. Book values may be substantially different from market values and the rules for estimating book values also vary between countries.

Despite improvements in recent years, there are also methodological differences between countries as regards the inward and outward flow of FDI. For more details, see the joint IMF/OECD analysis of how countries apply the international standards (see the methodological publications below).

Totals for OECD are only for the countries for which data are available. Data for 2006 and 2007 are provisional.

Source

- OECD (2005), *International Direct Investment Statistics Yearbook*, OECD, Paris.

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Outward and inward FDI stocks

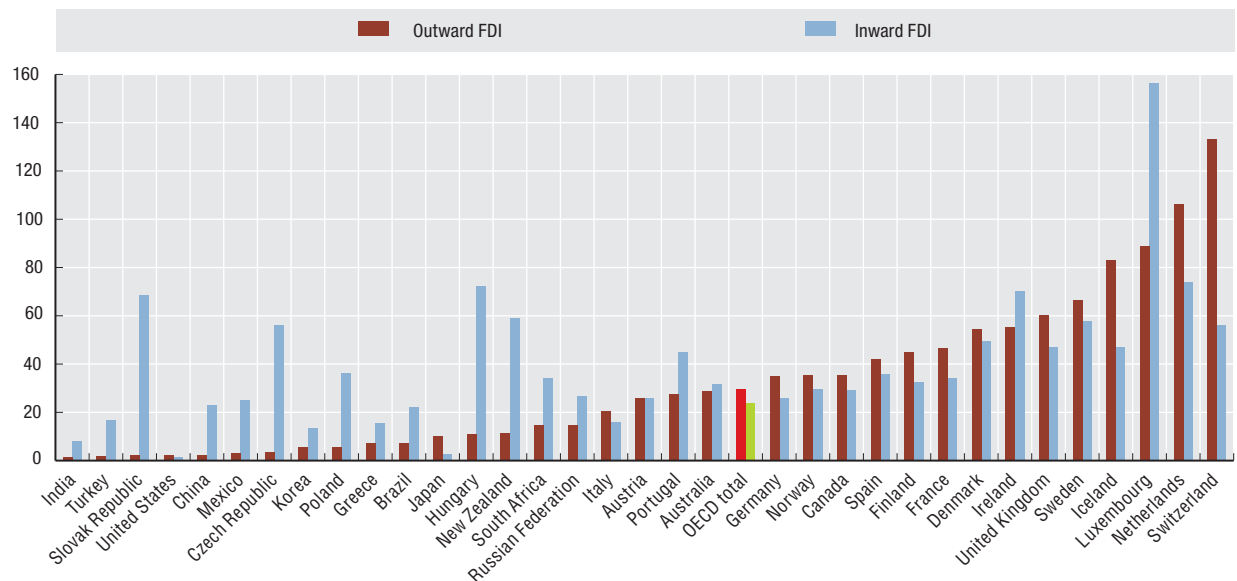
Million US dollars

	Outward direct investment stocks							Inward direct investment stocks						
	1990	1995	2000	2003	2004	2005	2006	1990	1995	2000	2003	2004	2005	2006
Australia	30 495	53 009	85 385	161 949	204 347	178 481	227 445	73 615	104 074	111 138	199 340	261 552	207 952	249 867
Austria	4 747	11 832	24 820	55 961	67 785	65 445	83 234	10 972	19 721	30 431	53 844	62 337	69 454	84 025
Canada	84 813	118 106	237 647	318 974	372 652	390 907	454 766	112 850	123 182	212 723	289 157	315 247	339 406	376 535
Czech Republic	..	345	738	2 284	3 759	3 610	5 017	..	7 350	21 647	45 286	57 246	60 662	79 838
Denmark	..	24 703	73 074	102 587	126 298	129 584	149 194	..	23 801	73 573	100 236	116 486	115 955	135 385
Finland	11 227	14 993	52 109	76 050	85 023	81 663	94 586	5 132	8 465	24 272	50 257	57 379	54 587	67 991
France	110 121	204 430	445 087	724 445	845 451	868 495	1 054 785	84 931	191 433	259 773	527 625	641 807	628 072	771 499
Germany	130 760	233 107	486 750	720 718	814 798	843 947	1 025 167	74 067	104 367	462 529	666 174	719 260	631 176	750 196
Greece	..	..	5 852	12 337	13 791	13 602	19 560	..	..	14 113	22 454	28 482	29 189	41 317
Hungary	..	278	1 279	3 509	6 022	7 836	12 180	569	11 304	22 856	48 345	62 624	61 970	81 607
Iceland	75	177	663	1 733	4 025	10 085	13 820	147	149	491	1 190	1 998	4 696	7 833
Ireland	..	..	27 925	73 322	106 692	104 152	123 296	..	..	127 088	222 837	207 647	163 530	156 591
Italy	60 195	106 319	180 274	238 888	280 481	293 475	378 931	60 009	65 347	121 169	180 891	220 720	224 079	294 877
Japan	201 440	238 452	278 441	335 500	370 544	386 581	449 567	9 850	33 508	50 322	89 729	96 984	100 899	107 634
Korea	..	..	..	24 986	32 165	38 683	49 187	..	..	..	66 070	87 766	104 879	119 143
Luxembourg	..	4 703	7 927	21 355	27 883	33 410	..	..	18 503	23 492	41 730	49 733	43 721	66 658
Mexico	..	..	..	14 088	18 520	24 994	30 753	22 424	41 130	97 170	175 062	197 458	217 194	236 231
Netherlands	106 896	172 675	305 459	523 207	587 252	613 484	718 828	68 729	116 051	243 730	426 611	477 218	451 078	502 226
New Zealand	..	7 676	6 065	11 966	13 885	11 375	12 382	..	25 728	28 070	44 606	52 573	52 190	63 358
Norway	10 889	22 521	46 302	82 615	92 630	97 704	119 456	12 404	19 836	30 261	48 967	78 338	76 431	99 493
Poland	..	463	1 059	2 687	2 959	7 039	19 472	109	7 843	34 233	57 841	85 506	90 575	124 363
Portugal	..	..	19 793	34 443	43 940	41 966	53 814	..	18 973	32 043	60 585	66 970	63 339	87 959
Slovak Republic	..	139	379	827	842	597	1 176	..	1 297	4 761	15 738	21 881	23 656	38 334
Spain	..	36 547	167 718	292 464	370 933	375 047	517 096	..	110 291	156 347	339 652	395 984	370 997	442 787
Sweden	50 720	73 143	123 234	183 631	214 826	208 836	262 224	12 636	31 089	93 972	157 084	196 369	171 768	226 387
Switzerland	66 087	142 481	232 176	341 384	400 590	428 039	518 072	34 245	57 064	86 810	162 238	197 669	170 835	218 024
Turkey	..	..	3 668	6 138	7 060	8 315	8 866	..	..	19 209	33 537	38 522	71 297	88 309
United Kingdom	229 307	304 865	897 845	1 187 045	1 247 190	1 198 637	1 442 165	203 905	199 772	438 631	606 157	701 913	840 652	1 131 827
United States	616 655	885 506	1 531 607	2 054 464	2 498 494	2 651 721	2 935 977	505 346	680 066	1 421 017	1 576 983	1 727 062	1 874 263	2 151 616
EU27 total	..	..	..	..	7 905 820	7 482 434	9 247 518	..	..	..	..	6 903 789	6 635 656	8 338 337
OECD total	1 714 426	2 656 470	5 243 274	7 609 557	8 860 835	9 117 711	10 781 017	1 291 940	2 020 343	4 241 872	6 310 226	7 224 731	7 314 503	8 801 909
of which: Manufacturing	35%	29%	28%	22%	21%	19%	..	34%	29%	17%	12%	19%	16%	..
Services	34%	66%	67%	73%	72%	74%	..	27%	57%	74%	81%	76%	79%	..
Brazil	..	..	..	54 892	69 196	79 259	113 925	..	..	..	132 818	161 259	195 562	236 186
China	..	..	..	..	52 704	64 493	90 630	..	..	..	..	368 970	471 549	612 508
India	..	..	2 609	7 392	10 072	12 832	25 520	..	..	20 278	36 374	44 668	50 614	70 189
Russian Federation	..	2 420	20 141	90 873	107 291	146 679	216 488	..	345	32 204	96 729	122 295	180 228	265 873
South Africa	15 010	23 301	32 325	27 185	39 083	37 706	50 826	9 210	15 014	43 451	46 869	64 451	78 986	87 765

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/541738010263>

FDI stocks

As a percentage of GDP, 2006 or latest available year

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/535728153720>

FDI FLOWS AND STOCKS

Inflows of foreign direct investment

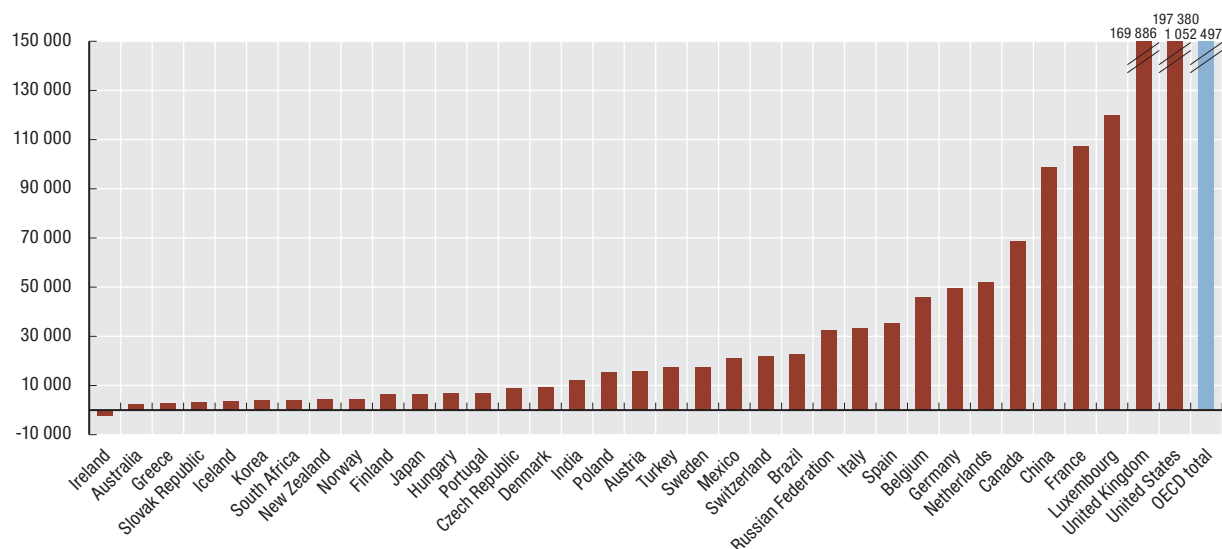
Million US dollars

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	5 025	11 963	6 111	7 633	6 003	3 268	13 950	8 297	16 996	7 975	36 105	-35 206	18 889	23 577
Austria	2 103	1 904	4 429	2 656	4 534	2 975	8 842	5 921	357	7 151	3 892	10 777	6 191	30 680
Belgium	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16 265	33 508	43 583	34 351	63 948	39 065
Canada	8 204	9 255	9 633	11 522	22 803	24 747	66 796	27 670	22 146	7 486	-364	28 923	69 044	107 435
Czech Republic	868	2 562	1 428	1 301	3 716	6 326	4 980	5 645	8 483	2 109	4 975	11 654	6 019	9 132
Denmark	4 898	4 180	768	2 799	7 726	14 657	31 306	11 525	6 633	2 597	-10 721	12 891	3 625	11 218
Finland	1 578	1 063	1 109	2 116	12 141	4 610	8 836	3 732	8 053	3 322	2 828	4 747	5 484	8 477
France	15 574	23 679	21 960	23 171	30 984	46 546	43 258	50 485	49 079	42 538	32 585	84 887	78 198	157 974
Germany	7 134	12 025	6 573	12 243	24 597	56 077	198 313	26 419	53 571	32 398	-10 195	41 943	55 199	50 932
Greece	1 166	1 198	1 196	1 089	72	561	1 108	1 589	50	1 276	2 103	606	5 366	1 918
Hungary	1 144	5 102	3 300	4 171	3 337	3 313	2 763	3 936	2 994	2 137	4 508	7 711	6 789	5 573
Iceland	-2	9	83	148	148	67	170	173	91	328	654	3 075	3 959	3 836
Ireland	856	1 442	2 616	2 710	8 856	18 211	25 784	9 653	29 350	22 803	-10 614	-31 670	-938	25 896
Italy	2 236	4 816	3 535	4 962	4 280	6 911	13 377	14 873	14 558	16 430	16 824	19 959	39 261	40 209
Japan	888	41	228	3 224	3 193	12 743	8 318	6 244	9 239	6 324	7 819	2 778	-6 503	22 548
Korea	809	1 776	2 325	2 844	5 412	9 333	9 283	3 528	2 392	3 526	9 246	6 309	3 645	1 579
Luxembourg	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	115 242	89 287	78 687	115 955	124 972	118 820
Mexico	15 069	9 679	10 087	14 165	12 409	13 734	18 001	29 528	23 017	16 591	22 876	20 823	19 225	23 230
Netherlands	7 158	12 307	16 660	11 137	36 925	41 206	63 866	51 937	25 060	21 063	4 602	47 666	7 985	99 457
New Zealand	2 616	2 850	3 922	1 917	1 826	940	1 344	-113	1 658	2 441	2 525	1 489	8 016	2 871
Norway	2 773	2 409	3 207	3 982	3 935	6 792	7 095	2 122	791	3 472	2 544	5 414	6 473	603
Poland	1 875	3 658	4 500	4 914	6 368	7 276	9 446	5 697	4 121	4 867	12 484	9 542	18 913	17 563
Portugal	1 255	660	1 344	2 362	3 005	1 157	6 637	6 232	1 801	7 155	1 936	3 927	11 311	5 633
Slovak Republic	273	241	396	231	707	429	2 383	1 584	4 144	2 161	3 033	2 427	4 175	2 867
Spain	9 276	6 285	6 821	6 388	11 798	18 744	39 582	28 347	39 249	25 844	24 775	25 005	26 903	53 395
Sweden	6 350	14 447	5 437	10 967	19 843	60 964	23 431	10 905	12 269	4 980	11 022	10 175	23 072	18 779
Switzerland	3 368	2 224	3 078	6 642	8 942	11 714	19 266	8 859	6 284	16 505	933	-1 540	26 289	40 403
Turkey	608	885	722	805	940	783	982	3 352	1 133	1 752	2 786	10 026	19 912	21 957
United Kingdom	9 255	19 968	24 441	33 245	74 349	87 973	118 824	52 650	24 052	16 846	56 002	175 974	147 716	185 968
United States	46 121	57 776	86 502	105 603	179 045	289 444	321 274	167 021	84 372	63 750	145 966	112 638	241 961	237 542
EU27 total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	303 366	719 451	771 716	1 079 243
OECD total	158 475	214 405	232 410	284 946	497 892	751 503	1 069 214	547 810	583 451	468 622	503 398	743 256	1 045 099	1 369 136
Brazil	3 072	4 859	11 200	19 650	31 913	28 576	32 779	22 457	16 590	10 144	18 166	15 066	18 782	34 585
China	33 787	35 849	40 180	44 237	43 751	38 753	38 399	44 241	49 308	47 077	54 937	79 127	78 095	138 413
India	973	2 144	2 426	3 577	2 635	2 169	3 584	5 472	5 626	4 323	5 771	6 677	17 453	..
Russian Federation	690	2 065	2 579	4 865	2 761	3 309	2 714	2 748	3 377	7 958	15 444	12 886	29 701	55 073
South Africa	374	1 248	816	3 811	550	1 503	969	7 270	1 480	783	701	6 522	-184	5 746

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/541742533277>

Inflows of foreign direct investment

Million US dollars, average 2005-2007

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/535763335633>

Outflows of foreign direct investment

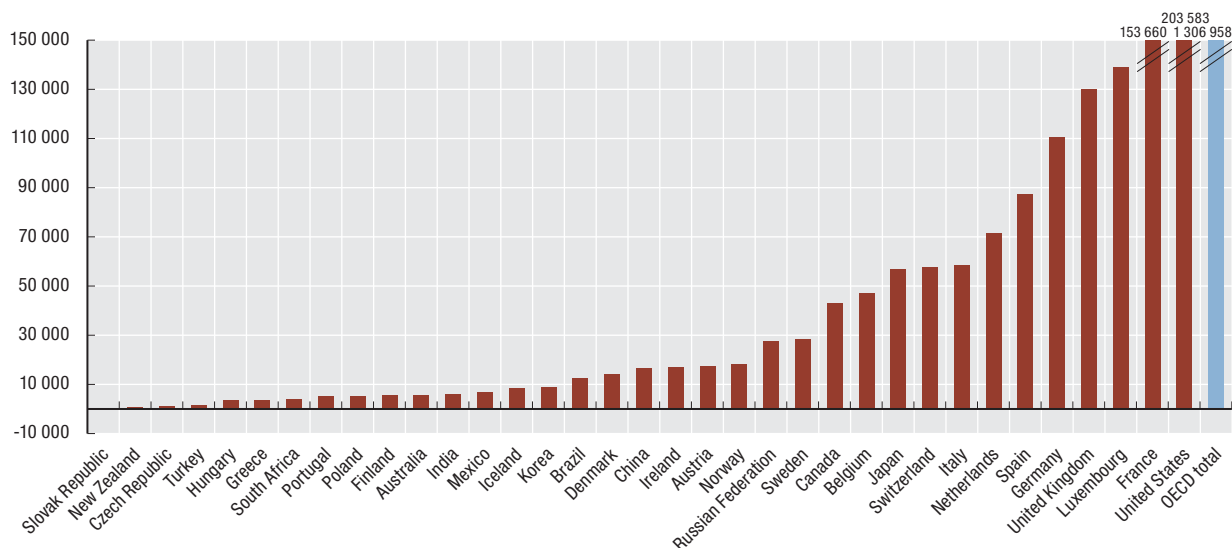
Million US dollars

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	2 817	3 282	7 088	6 428	3 345	-421	3 158	11 962	7 852	16 205	10 960	-33 438	23 816	25 689
Austria	1 257	1 131	1 935	1 988	2 745	3 301	5 741	3 138	5 812	7 143	8 305	11 198	9 665	31 443
Belgium	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12 288	38 359	34 038	32 640	56 202	51 855
Canada	9 294	11 462	13 094	23 059	34 349	17 250	44 678	36 037	26 761	22 935	43 684	33 544	45 246	49 460
Czech Republic	120	37	153	25	127	90	43	165	206	207	1 014	-19	1 469	1 335
Denmark	3 955	3 063	2 519	4 207	4 477	16 434	23 093	13 376	5 695	1 124	-10 371	16 196	8 498	16 989
Finland	4 298	1 497	3 597	5 292	18 642	6 616	24 035	8 372	7 378	-2 282	-1 080	4 220	3 163	8 624
France	24 372	15 758	30 419	35 581	48 613	126 859	177 482	86 783	50 486	53 197	56 762	114 964	121 376	224 640
Germany	18 858	39 052	50 806	41 794	88 837	108 692	56 567	39 691	18 963	5 827	20 559	68 834	94 753	167 454
Greece	..	..	..	..	-276	552	2 137	616	655	413	1 030	1 450	4 169	5 339
Hungary	48	59	-4	462	278	250	620	368	278	1 644	1 119	2 206	3 622	4 117
Iceland	24	25	63	56	74	123	393	342	320	373	2 553	7 063	5 319	12 476
Ireland	436	820	728	1 014	3 902	6 109	4 630	4 066	11 035	5 555	18 079	14 304	14 743	22 052
Italy	5 109	5 731	6 465	12 245	16 078	6 722	12 318	21 476	17 138	9 079	19 273	41 795	42 091	90 797
Japan	18 117	22 628	23 419	25 991	24 155	22 747	31 539	38 349	32 280	28 799	30 963	45 830	50 244	73 545
Korea	2 461	3 552	4 670	4 449	4 740	4 198	4 999	2 420	2 617	3 426	4 650	4 291	7 126	15 276
Luxembourg	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	125 770	99 863	84 083	124 544	110 675	181 882
Mexico	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 404	891	1 253	4 432	6 474	5 758	8 256
Netherlands	17 554	20 176	32 098	24 522	36 475	57 611	75 649	50 602	32 046	44 076	29 181	135 723	47 121	31 169
New Zealand	2 008	1 783	-1 240	-1 566	401	1 073	609	-1 082	372	879	-523	-1 665	374	2 810
Norway	2 172	2 856	6 098	5 290	2 542	5 834	9 510	807	5 760	6 065	5 317	21 970	21 138	11 174
Poland	29	42	53	45	316	31	17	-89	229	305	767	3 395	8 878	3 229
Portugal	283	685	729	2 092	4 029	3 191	8 134	6 263	-149	6 590	7 457	2 110	6 975	6 218
Slovak Republic	18	43	63	95	147	-377	29	65	11	247	-21	149	369	204
Spain	4 111	4 158	5 590	12 547	18 938	44 384	58 224	33 113	32 744	28 745	60 567	41 804	100 305	119 628
Sweden	6 701	11 214	5 025	12 648	24 379	21 929	40 976	7 328	10 596	21 129	20 758	26 577	22 049	36 696
Switzerland	10 797	12 214	16 150	17 748	18 769	33 264	44 698	18 326	8 212	15 443	26 282	51 341	69 890	50 984
Turkey	49	113	110	251	367	645	870	497	175	499	780	1 064	924	2 101
United Kingdom	32 206	43 560	34 056	61 620	122 861	201 437	233 488	58 885	50 347	62 439	91 083	80 818	79 470	229 872
United States	80 167	98 750	91 885	104 803	142 644	224 934	159 212	142 349	154 460	149 564	316 223	36 235	241 244	333 271
EU27 total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	458 609	826 602	916 733	1 330 483
OECD total	247 259	303 690	335 570	402 686	621 953	913 476	1 022 848	588 630	621 228	629 100	887 925	895 618	1 206 670	1 818 586
Brazil	1 037	1 384	-467	1 042	2 721	1 690	2 282	-2 258	2 482	249	9 471	2 517	28 203	7 067
China	2 000	2 000	2 114	2 563	2 634	1 775	916	6 884	2 518	-152	1 805	11 306	21 160	16 995
India	83	117	239	113	48	79	510	1 398	1 678	1 879	2 179	2 495	9 670	..
Russian Federation	281	605	922	3 185	1 270	2 208	3 177	2 533	3 966	9 727	13 782	12 768	23 151	45 916
South Africa	1 261	2 494	1 048	2 324	1 634	1 584	277	-3 515	-402	553	1 305	909	6 536	3 757

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/541745711486>

Outflows of foreign direct investment

Million US dollars, average 2005-2007

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/535773443811>

ACTIVITIES OF MULTINATIONALS

Firms in OECD countries increasingly adopt global strategies and establish overseas sales, marketing, production and research units to cope with new competitive pressures. Indicators on the activity of affiliates under foreign control are thus an important complement to information on FDI when analysing the weight and economic contribution of such firms in host countries.

While data on the manufacturing sector have been available since the beginning of the 1980s, the OECD did not start collecting data on the activity of affiliates under foreign control in services until the second half of the 1990s, and data are not yet available for all OECD countries.

Definition

An affiliate under foreign control is defined as one in which a single foreign investor holds more than 50% of the shares with voting rights. The notion of control allows all of a company's activities to be attributed to the controlling investor. This means that variables such as a company's turnover, staff or exports are all attributed to the controlling investor and the country from which he or she comes. Control may be direct or indirect.

Long-term trends

The shares of foreign affiliates in manufacturing employment show considerable variation across OECD countries ranging from under 15% in Denmark, Italy, Portugal, Switzerland, Turkey and the United States to 35% or more in the Czech Republic, Luxembourg, the Slovak Republic and Ireland. Employment in service sector foreign affiliates is lower in all countries although as noted above, comparability is affected in several countries by the exclusion of employment in banking and insurance services.

In the period from 2000 to 2006, employment in foreign-controlled manufacturing affiliates grew or remained stable in all countries for which data are available except Spain, where the rate slightly fell and in the United States where the shares have remained fairly stable. Particularly sharp increases were recorded by the Czech Republic, the Netherlands, Poland, and the United Kingdom.

Over the same period, employment in foreign-controlled service affiliates grew or remained stable in all countries for which data are available, except Belgium and Hungary. The biggest increases were recorded in the Czech Republic, the Netherlands, Poland and Sweden.

Comparability

Fewer countries are able to supply estimates of employment in service affiliates than in manufacturing affiliates because collection of employment data on services began later.

For employment in manufacturing, there are breaks in the series for Austria (2001/2002), the Czech Republic (1999/2000), France (2001/2002), Germany (2001/2002), Hungary (2002/2003), Portugal (2002/2003) and for the United States (1996/1997) because of changes to the data collection methods.

For employment in services, the main problem in comparability is that financial institutions are excluded by Belgium, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States. Breaks in series for France (2003), Germany (2002), Hungary (2003) and Portugal (2002) are due to changes in the data collection methods.

Source

- OECD (2007), *OECD Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard 2007*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2005), *Measuring Globalisation: OECD Economic Globalisation Indicators*, OECD, Paris.

Statistical publications

- OECD (2007), *Measuring Globalisation: Activities of Multinationals – Volume I: Manufacturing, 2000-2004, 2007 Edition*, OECD, Paris.
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- OECD (2005), *Measuring Globalisation: OECD Handbook on Economic Globalisation Indicators*, OECD, Paris.

Online databases

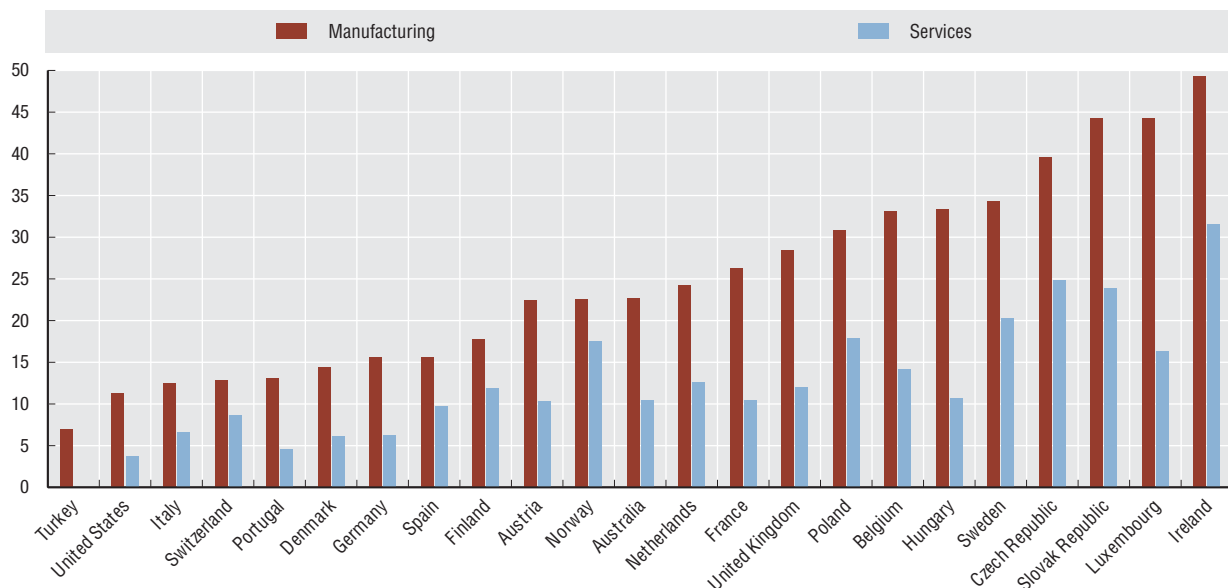
- *Measuring Globalisation Statistics*.

Websites

- OECD Measuring Globalisation, www.oecd.org/sti/measuring-globalisation.
- OECD Science, Technology and Industry, www.oecd.org/sti.

Employment in affiliates under foreign control*As percentage of total employment*

	Share of employment in manufacturing							Share of employment in services						
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Australia	22.7	..	..	..	..	..	..	10.5	..	..	..	..	..	..
Austria	19.6	18.0	24.0	22.5	..	..	..	..	9.7	..	10.3	..	..	..
Belgium	..	..	32.3	34.5	32.8	33.1	..	..	..	17.2	16.2	15.3	14.2	..
Czech Republic	25.3	28.9	27.2	32.6	37.2	37.8	39.6	14.2	..	..	21.1	22.7	24.9	..
Denmark	15.1	14.1	14.4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Finland	15.9	17.2	..	..	..	17.3	17.8	11.1	11.9	..	..	..	..	..
France	30.1	30.8	26.4	26.8	26.2	26.4	26.3	6.1	5.6	5.2	10.0	10.5	..	..
Germany	6.0	5.8	14.8	15.5	15.7	15.8	15.6	3.2	2.9	7.2	6.1	6.3	..	..
Hungary	44.5	45.2	43.6	27.1	32.4	33.4	..	15.2	15.1	14.8	..	11.3	10.7	..
Ireland	48.1	49.2	48.4	46.7	48.0	49.3	..	..	28.4	28.5	27.3	27.5	31.6	..
Italy	..	10.8	13.1	12.5	12.4	12.5	..	..	5.1	5.4	5.7	6.1	6.7	..
Luxembourg	41.1	41.7	42.4	42.8	45.0	44.3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Netherlands	18.3	21.0	25.7	24.1	25.7	24.3	..	8.7	9.1	12.1	11.6	12.6	12.6	..
Norway	21.3	24.3	23.0	21.3	21.4	22.3	22.6	15.7	17.3	17.5	17.5	17.5	..	..
Poland	20.9	21.9	24.1	25.4	28.1	29.5	30.9	..	13.4	15.3	15.3	17.1	17.9	..
Portugal	10.1	9.5	8.9	12.8	12.6	13.1	..	4.0	4.7	..	7.4	7.0	7.3	..
Slovak Republic	..	..	..	34.9	41.4	44.3	..	..	..	..	..	23.5	23.9	..
Spain	16.8	16.4	15.9	15.4	15.6	15.6	..	..	..	8.7	10.0	9.5	9.7	..
Sweden	29.1	32.7	34.8	33.2	32.4	33.8	34.3	14.5	..	17.5	20.6	22.4	20.3	..
Switzerland	..	..	..	12.1	12.8	12.7	12.8	..	..	..	7.3	7.6	8.2	8.7
Turkey	5.7	7.0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
United Kingdom	19.6	24.0	24.6	26.1	25.8	27.6	28.4	..	..	..	11.6	12.0	12.0	..
United States	11.5	11.1	11.3	11.4	11.1	11.3	11.3	..	..	3.8	..	..	..	..

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/541840143042>**Employment in manufacturing and services in affiliates under foreign control***As a percentage of total employment, 2006 or latest available year*StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/535810101275>

34,432,741,064. +
300,000. +
85,679,200. -
43,628,500. -
36,286,400. +
34,432,741,064. 0
34,432,741,064. *

220,061,246. +
242,765. +
54,975,316. -
3,458,295,462. +
9,423,290,000. -
627,646,320. -
242,347,296. +
312,759. +
-5,184,652,108. 0
-5,184,652,108. *



PRICES

PRICES AND INTEREST RATES

CONSUMER PRICE INDICES (CPI)

PRODUCER PRICE INDICES (PPI)

LONG-TERM INTEREST RATES

PURCHASING POWER AND EXCHANGE RATES

RATES OF CONVERSION

EFFECTIVE EXCHANGE RATES

CONSUMER PRICE INDICES (CPI)

Consumer price indices have a long history in official statistics. They measure the erosion of living standards through price inflation and are probably the best known economic statistics among the media and general public.

Definition

Consumer price indices measure the change in the prices of a basket of goods and services that are typically purchased by specific groups of households. For the indices in these tables, the groups of households have been broadly defined and cover virtually all households except for “institutional” households – prisons and military barracks for example – and, in some countries, households in the highest income group.

The index for food covers food and non-alcoholic beverages but excludes purchases in restaurants. The index for energy is intended to cover all forms of energy, including fuels for motor vehicles, heating and other household uses.

Long-term trends

For most OECD countries, consumer price indices have grown only moderately since 1994, with inflation lower in the latter part of the period compared with the years up to 1997. Over the period as a whole, inflation has been exceptionally low in Japan, averaging close to 0% per year, but quite substantial in Greece, Mexico, Turkey and the four recent member countries in Central Europe – the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and the Slovak Republic.

As regards the five non-member economies shown, CPIs have risen sharply since 1994 in Brazil, India, Russian Federation and South Africa.

Food and energy are shown separately because they are important items in the consumer price indices of all countries and because their price movements tend to be more volatile than other goods and services. Food prices have risen over the period by less than total consumer prices, and increases have been moderate in most of the European Union countries. However, substantial increases occurred in 2001 and, except in Europe, between 1996 and 1998. Energy prices have been rather volatile; for example they rose over 10% in 2005 but actually fell in 1998 and 2002. Over the period as whole, energy prices have risen faster than the total consumer price indices.

Comparability

There are a number of differences in the ways that these indices are calculated. The most important ones concern the treatment of dwelling costs, adjustments for changes in the quality of goods and services, the frequency with which the basket weights are updated and the index formulae used. In particular, country methodologies for the treatment of owner-occupied housing vary significantly. The European Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICP) exclude owner-occupied housing as do national CPIs for Belgium, France, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Poland, Portugal, Spain and the United Kingdom. For the United Kingdom, the national CPI is the same as the HICP. The European Union area CPI refers to the HICP published by Eurostat and covers the twenty seven countries for the entire period of the time series. In addition, there are practical difficulties in measuring consumer prices in countries experiencing very high inflation – such as Hungary, Mexico and Turkey during the period considered here.

Source

- OECD (2008), *Main Economic Indicators*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- Brook, A.M. et al. (2004), *Oil Price Developments: Drivers, Economic Consequences and Policy Responses*, OECD Economics Department Working Papers, No. 412, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2008), *OECD Economic Outlook*, June No. 83 – Vol. 2008/1, OECD, Paris.

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- OECD (1999), *Main Economic Indicators: July Volume 1999 Issue 7*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2002), “Comparative Methodological Analysis: Consumer and Producer Price Indices”, *Main Economic Indicators, Volume 2002, Supplement 2*, OECD, Paris.
- ILO, IMF, OECD, Eurostat, World Bank (2004), *Consumer Price Index Manual: Theory and Practice*, ILO, Geneva.

Websites

- OECD Main Economic Indicators, www.oecd.org/std/mei.

CPI: all items

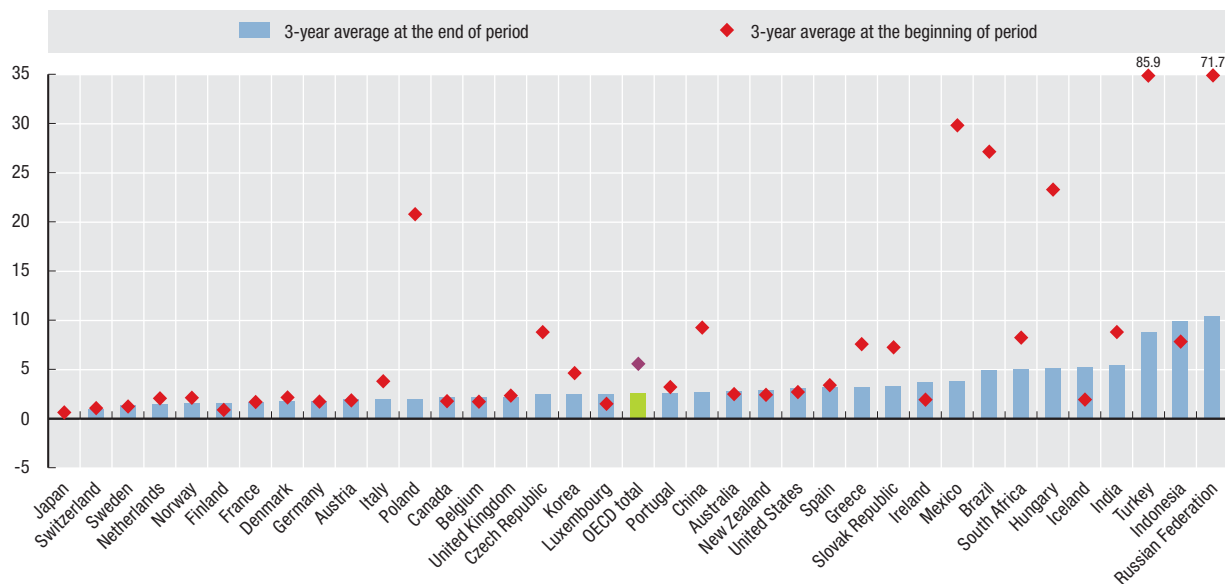
Year 2000 = 100

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	86.9	90.9	93.3	93.5	94.3	95.7	100.0	104.4	107.5	110.5	113.1	116.1	120.2	123.0
Austria	91.2	93.3	95.0	96.3	97.2	97.7	100.0	102.7	104.5	105.9	108.1	110.6	112.2	114.6
Belgium	90.8	92.1	94.0	95.5	96.4	97.5	100.0	102.5	104.2	105.8	108.0	111.0	113.0	115.1
Canada	89.9	91.8	93.2	94.7	95.7	97.4	100.0	102.5	104.8	107.7	109.7	112.2	114.4	116.9
Czech Republic	66.2	72.2	78.5	85.2	94.3	96.2	100.0	104.7	106.6	106.8	109.8	111.8	114.7	118.1
Denmark	87.4	89.2	91.1	93.1	94.8	97.2	100.0	102.4	104.8	107.0	108.3	110.2	112.3	114.2
Finland	92.2	92.9	93.5	94.6	95.9	97.0	100.0	102.6	104.2	105.1	105.3	106.0	107.6	110.3
France	92.5	94.2	96.0	97.2	97.8	98.3	100.0	101.6	103.6	105.8	108.0	109.9	111.7	113.4
Germany	92.3	93.9	95.3	97.1	98.0	98.6	100.0	102.0	103.4	104.5	106.2	107.9	109.6	112.1
Greece	72.5	79.0	85.4	90.2	94.5	96.9	100.0	103.4	107.1	110.9	114.1	118.2	122.0	125.5
Hungary	38.7	49.7	61.3	72.5	82.8	91.1	100.0	109.1	114.9	120.2	128.3	132.9	138.1	149.1
Iceland	85.6	87.0	89.0	90.6	92.1	95.1	100.0	106.4	111.9	114.2	117.8	122.5	130.7	137.3
Ireland	86.0	88.2	89.7	91.0	93.2	94.7	100.0	104.9	109.7	113.6	116.1	118.9	123.5	129.6
Italy	84.2	88.7	92.2	94.1	95.9	97.5	100.0	102.8	105.3	108.1	110.5	112.7	115.1	117.2
Japan	98.6	98.5	98.6	100.4	101.1	100.7	100.0	99.2	98.4	98.1	98.1	97.8	98.1	98.1
Korea	78.8	82.3	86.4	90.2	97.0	97.8	100.0	104.1	106.8	110.7	114.7	117.8	120.5	123.5
Luxembourg	91.0	92.7	93.8	95.1	96.0	96.9	100.0	102.7	104.8	106.9	109.3	112.0	115.0	117.7
Mexico	30.9	41.7	56.0	67.6	78.3	91.3	100.0	106.4	111.7	116.8	122.3	127.2	131.8	137.0
Netherlands	88.2	89.9	91.7	93.7	95.6	97.7	100.0	104.2	107.6	109.9	111.2	113.1	114.4	116.3
New Zealand	89.7	93.1	95.2	96.3	97.6	97.5	100.0	102.6	105.4	107.2	109.7	113.0	116.8	119.6
Norway	87.1	89.2	90.4	92.7	94.8	97.0	100.0	103.0	104.3	106.9	107.4	109.1	111.6	112.4
Poland	43.2	55.3	66.2	76.1	84.9	91.0	100.0	105.4	107.4	108.2	111.8	114.3	115.7	118.6
Portugal	84.1	87.6	90.3	92.4	95.0	97.2	100.0	104.4	108.1	111.6	114.2	116.9	120.5	123.4
Slovak Republic	61.4	67.4	71.3	75.7	80.7	89.3	100.0	107.3	110.7	120.2	129.2	132.7	138.7	142.5
Spain	84.0	87.9	91.0	92.8	94.5	96.7	100.0	103.6	106.8	110.0	113.4	117.2	121.3	124.7
Sweden	95.4	97.7	98.3	98.9	98.7	99.1	100.0	102.4	104.6	106.6	107.0	107.5	109.0	111.4
Switzerland	94.7	96.4	97.2	97.7	97.7	98.5	100.0	101.0	101.6	102.3	103.1	104.3	105.4	106.2
Turkey	3.3	6.3	11.4	21.2	39.2	64.6	100.0	154.4	223.8	272.2	295.6	319.8	350.4	381.1
United Kingdom	90.0	92.4	94.7	96.4	97.9	99.2	100.0	101.2	102.5	103.9	105.3	107.5	110.0	112.5
United States	86.1	88.5	91.1	93.2	94.7	96.7	100.0	102.8	104.5	106.8	109.7	113.4	117.1	120.4
EU27 total	..	..	83.6	89.7	93.9	96.7	100.0	103.2	105.8	108.1	110.5	113.1	115.7	118.4
OECD total	75.6	80.2	84.8	88.9	92.7	96.1	100.0	103.7	106.7	109.3	111.9	114.8	117.8	120.8
Brazil	42.0	69.7	80.7	86.3	89.1	93.4	100.0	106.8	115.9	132.9	141.7	151.4	157.8	163.5
China	78.1	91.5	99.1	101.8	101.0	99.6	100.0	100.7	100.0	101.1	105.1	107.0	108.5	113.7
India	63.0	69.5	75.7	81.1	91.9	96.1	100.0	103.8	108.2	112.4	116.6	121.5	128.6	136.8
Indonesia	40.3	44.0	47.6	50.5	80.0	96.4	100.0	111.5	124.8	133.2	141.3	156.0	176.5	187.8
Russian Federation	6.9	20.6	30.4	34.9	44.6	82.8	100.0	121.5	140.7	159.9	177.3	199.8	219.2	238.9
South Africa	66.6	72.4	77.8	84.4	90.3	94.9	100.0	105.7	115.4	122.1	123.8	128.1	134.0	143.5

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/541855028608>

CPI: all items

Average annual growth in percentage

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/535818202805>

CONSUMER PRICE INDICES (CPI)

CPI: food

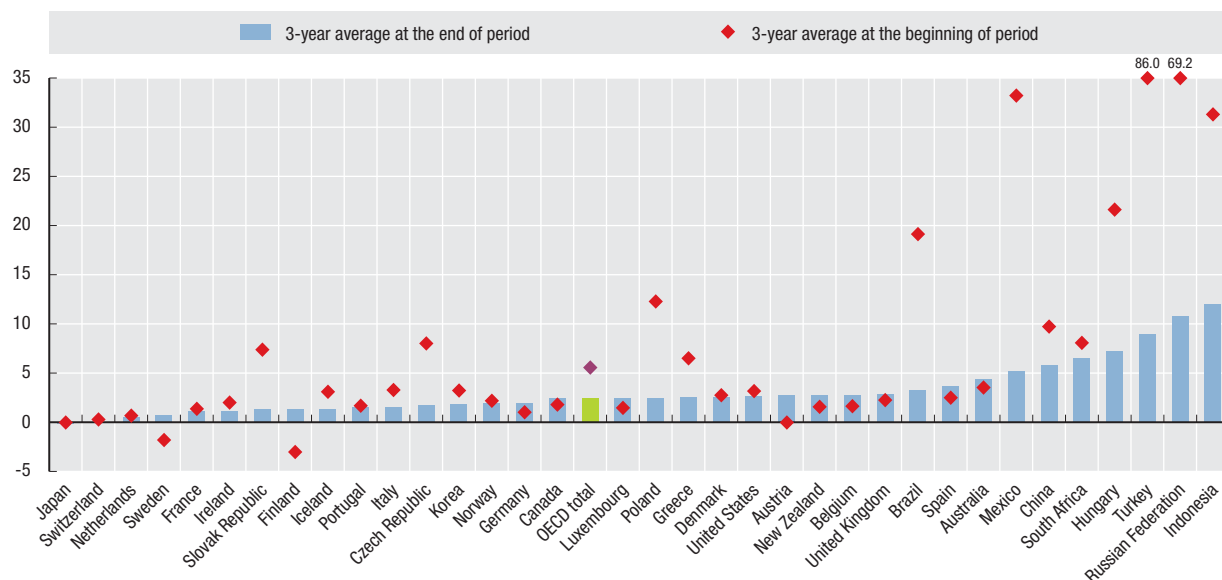
Year 2000 = 100

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	84.0	88.1	90.7	93.2	96.0	99.4	100.0	106.2	110.2	114.3	116.6	118.9	130.2	132.5
Austria	98.2	96.5	96.6	98.1	100.0	99.4	100.0	103.6	105.1	106.9	109.0	111.3	113.3	118.1
Belgium	92.7	93.9	95.2	97.3	99.2	99.1	100.0	104.6	107.0	109.2	110.5	112.5	115.3	119.8
Canada	91.6	94.0	95.1	96.6	97.9	99.0	100.0	104.9	107.5	109.1	111.0	113.6	116.2	119.2
Czech Republic	79.6	89.0	96.1	100.3	104.7	98.9	100.0	105.0	103.0	100.7	104.2	103.9	104.8	109.8
Denmark	87.5	90.2	91.7	94.9	96.9	97.5	100.0	103.9	106.1	107.7	106.6	107.3	110.2	115.1
Finland	106.5	98.1	96.7	97.1	99.0	98.9	100.0	104.4	107.4	108.1	108.9	109.5	111.0	113.3
France	92.0	93.1	94.1	95.8	97.4	97.8	100.0	105.5	108.4	110.9	111.4	111.6	113.4	115.1
Germany	98.0	99.0	99.6	101.0	102.0	100.7	100.0	104.5	105.3	105.2	104.8	104.9	107.0	111.1
Greece	76.0	82.4	88.2	91.8	95.9	98.1	100.0	105.1	110.7	116.2	116.9	117.6	122.0	125.9
Hungary	43.3	56.6	66.4	77.9	89.0	91.6	100.0	113.6	118.6	120.3	127.1	129.2	139.8	156.5
Iceland	82.6	84.9	87.6	90.5	93.0	96.0	100.0	106.9	111.4	108.5	109.6	106.8	115.3	114.1
Ireland	85.2	87.6	89.1	90.4	94.1	97.0	100.0	106.5	110.2	111.8	111.5	110.7	112.2	115.4
Italy	87.7	93.0	96.7	96.6	97.6	98.5	100.0	104.1	107.9	111.3	113.7	113.7	115.6	119.0
Japan	101.5	99.8	99.7	101.4	103.2	102.4	100.0	99.4	98.3	98.1	99.2	97.9	98.5	98.8
Korea	78.2	80.2	82.5	86.0	94.7	99.1	100.0	105.0	110.0	115.1	124.3	127.6	128.2	131.4
Luxembourg	90.3	92.5	93.3	94.3	96.8	98.0	100.0	104.8	108.9	111.0	113.0	114.8	117.6	121.5
Mexico	29.9	41.7	59.3	70.7	82.0	94.9	100.0	105.1	109.1	115.1	123.5	130.2	134.9	143.7
Netherlands	94.5	94.8	94.8	96.4	98.6	99.7	100.0	107.0	110.5	111.7	107.8	106.5	108.2	109.4
New Zealand	90.4	91.4	92.6	94.7	98.1	99.0	100.0	106.8	109.9	109.3	109.7	111.0	114.3	118.9
Norway	85.4	86.7	88.1	91.1	95.4	98.1	100.0	98.1	96.4	99.7	101.5	103.1	104.5	107.4
Poland	..	63.3	74.5	83.7	89.6	91.2	100.0	104.6	104.0	102.7	108.8	111.2	111.9	117.1
Portugal	88.1	90.5	92.3	92.6	95.9	97.9	100.0	106.5	108.6	111.4	112.6	112.0	115.0	117.8
Slovak Republic	70.6	79.4	82.7	87.4	92.5	95.0	100.0	106.1	107.6	111.3	116.6	115.0	116.6	121.3
Spain	88.8	93.2	96.3	95.6	96.7	98.0	100.0	105.9	111.2	115.7	120.2	124.0	129.1	133.8
Sweden	102.9	104.3	97.1	97.4	98.5	100.0	100.0	102.9	106.2	106.6	106.1	105.4	106.2	108.3
Switzerland	96.9	97.6	97.1	97.7	98.5	98.4	100.0	102.1	104.4	105.8	106.3	105.5	105.5	106.1
Turkey	3.9	7.6	13.1	25.1	46.2	68.2	100.0	149.1	223.0	273.5	292.2	306.6	336.3	378.0
United Kingdom	92.8	96.4	99.4	99.2	100.2	100.5	100.0	103.8	104.6	105.8	106.5	108.2	110.9	115.8
United States	85.8	88.6	91.9	94.2	96.0	97.8	100.0	103.3	104.6	106.9	110.9	113.0	115.0	119.9
EU27 total	..	..	78.8	89.2	94.8	96.2	100.0	106.5	109.7	111.9	113.9	115.1	117.9	121.9
OECD total	77.2	82.1	86.9	90.8	95.0	97.6	100.0	104.7	107.7	110.3	113.3	114.9	117.4	121.7
Brazil	52.9	83.9	8.88	89.5	92.0	95.1	100.0	106.7	117.0	140.8	146.5	151.0	151.0	161.2
China	83.8	103.0	110.8	110.7	107.2	102.7	100.0	100.0	99.4	102.8	113.1	116.4	119.1	133.9
Indonesia	..	37.1	40.2	43.6	84.0	105.0	100.0	108.4	120.2	121.5	128.6	141.9	162.9	180.8
Russian Federation	7.0	21.4	30.0	33.9	43.1	84.9	100.0	121.3	136.2	151.4	167.2	190.2	208.4	227.1
South Africa	66.0	71.7	76.1	83.3	88.4	92.7	100.0	105.4	122.1	131.9	134.9	137.9	147.9	163.1

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/541872832588>

CPI: food

Average annual growth in percentage


StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/535837313886>

CPI: energy

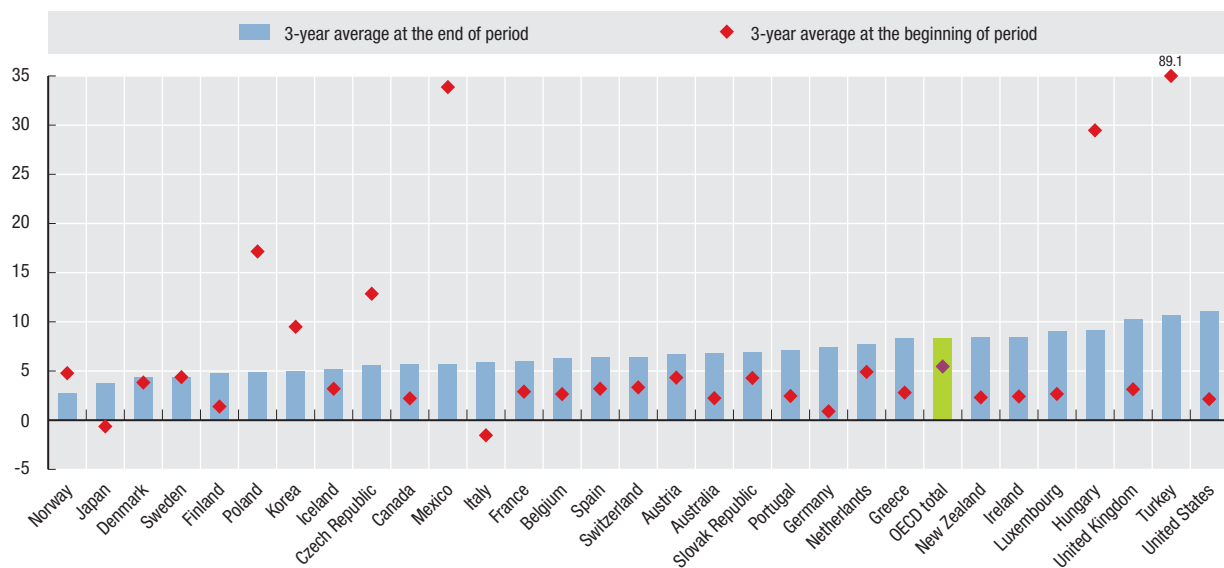
Year 2000 = 100

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	81.7	84.2	85.8	87.3	84.3	85.8	100.0	102.5	103.3	108.6	115.5	126.9	138.8	140.7
Austria	81.9	84.9	90.3	93.0	90.0	90.3	100.0	100.5	98.1	99.1	105.4	115.7	122.9	128.0
Belgium	82.1	81.5	86.1	88.8	85.7	87.4	100.0	100.6	97.4	97.3	103.7	115.7	124.3	124.6
Canada	79.5	80.5	82.9	84.9	81.4	86.0	100.0	103.2	101.2	109.2	116.6	127.8	134.4	137.5
Czech Republic	..	..	60.8	68.9	82.3	87.4	100.0	104.2	104.6	105.6	110.0	117.2	127.4	129.4
Denmark	73.8	75.2	80.1	82.6	83.7	89.2	100.0	101.5	103.7	104.6	107.0	115.0	121.1	121.5
Finland	83.2	77.3	85.2	86.7	85.6	88.8	100.0	98.2	97.3	102.0	105.9	113.1	119.7	121.8
France	83.9	85.5	89.6	91.4	88.8	89.2	100.0	98.4	96.9	99.2	103.9	114.2	121.5	123.8
Germany	84.9	84.2	84.9	87.2	84.5	87.9	100.0	106.0	106.2	110.4	114.8	126.2	136.9	142.3
Greece	84.5	88.3	95.6	91.8	88.8	85.4	100.0	98.3	98.1	102.0	107.9	123.2	134.2	137.0
Hungary	30.4	41.2	53.0	66.0	75.3	85.3	100.0	104.1	106.4	112.8	124.4	133.8	142.6	161.9
Iceland	80.9	81.4	85.0	88.9	86.9	89.4	100.0	104.1	101.9	103.9	111.7	118.6	128.0	130.1
Ireland	80.9	81.4	84.4	86.9	86.4	88.0	100.0	97.4	100.8	104.8	113.6	128.0	138.5	144.9
Italy	94.5	99.0	88.6	90.2	89.0	89.6	100.0	101.8	99.0	102.2	104.4	113.4	122.8	124.1
Japan	104.9	102.8	100.1	102.9	98.4	96.9	100.0	100.5	98.1	98.2	99.8	103.5	109.6	111.4
Korea	53.7	54.7	60.2	70.5	90.9	91.3	100.0	107.0	103.6	107.4	113.2	119.1	127.5	131.0
Luxembourg	79.2	78.1	82.6	85.7	81.3	83.5	100.0	98.4	94.4	96.6	105.5	121.5	133.6	136.7
Mexico	26.0	37.2	50.5	62.4	71.9	84.9	100.0	108.6	117.4	128.4	138.4	146.9	157.7	163.6
Netherlands	73.8	74.2	79.0	85.2	85.1	87.1	100.0	107.0	109.5	114.5	120.8	135.2	145.4	150.8
New Zealand	83.1	84.9	87.1	89.0	87.4	88.4	100.0	99.1	100.5	104.6	115.1	127.1	143.0	146.6
Norway	79.1	83.6	86.6	91.0	87.4	89.7	100.0	108.2	105.7	126.4	123.1	126.1	148.5	133.4
Poland	..	50.8	60.5	70.9	81.7	88.5	100.0	107.3	112.6	117.3	122.3	128.7	135.8	140.9
Portugal	88.8	89.8	91.8	95.5	96.1	94.3	100.0	105.1	106.2	111.3	117.3	128.9	139.2	144.1
Slovak Republic	..	43.2	45.7	47.3	49.0	69.9	100.0	113.9	127.7	153.0	174.9	188.6	211.9	213.8
Spain	80.9	83.7	86.8	88.9	85.5	88.2	100.0	99.0	98.2	99.6	104.4	114.4	123.5	125.6
Sweden	81.7	83.1	88.5	92.9	92.9	92.7	100.0	107.1	108.6	121.8	125.5	132.2	142.3	142.6
Switzerland	79.3	81.4	84.7	87.5	82.4	84.9	100.0	98.8	93.9	95.0	99.4	109.8	117.6	119.7
Turkey	3.3	5.9	12.2	22.3	36.6	64.0	100.0	192.2	279.9	330.9	346.5	397.5	442.2	470.0
United Kingdom	81.3	84.2	86.4	89.2	89.5	93.4	100.0	97.3	96.5	99.1	105.3	116.9	134.1	141.3
United States	84.0	84.5	88.4	89.5	82.6	85.6	100.0	103.8	97.6	109.5	121.5	142.1	158.0	166.7
EU27 total	..	..	79.6	85.4	85.5	88.8	100.0	102.8	104.4	108.5	114.4	125.7	136.3	140.9
OECD total	71.6	74.9	79.7	84.0	83.0	87.2	100.0	104.9	104.1	111.7	119.6	133.9	146.4	152.2

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/542016216238>

CPI: energy

Average annual growth in percentage

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/535842266350>

PRODUCER PRICE INDICES (PPI)

A variety of tools are used to measure price changes taking place in an economy. These include consumer price indices (CPI), price indices relating to specific goods and/or services, GDP deflators and producer price indices (PPI). Whereas CPIs are designed to measure changes over time in average retail prices of a fixed basket of goods and services taken as representing the consumption habits of households, the purpose of PPIs is to provide measures of average movements of prices received by the producers of commodities.

Producer price indices measure changes in prices at an early stage in the production process. Because of this, they are often seen as advance indicators of price changes throughout the economy, including changes in the prices of consumer goods and services.

Definition

Producer prices are defined as “ex-factory prices” and exclude any taxes, transport and trade margins that the purchaser may have to pay. Manufacturing covers the production of semi-processed goods and other intermediate goods as well as final products such as consumer goods and capital equipment.

Long-term trends

Compared with consumer prices, producer prices have risen more quickly during the period 2004-2007, for OECD in total by 3.6 %. Nine OECD countries recorded average annual increases of under 2.5% and in Ireland producer prices were even falling. All countries recorded unusually sharp rises in 1995, 2000 and 2005-2007 due to sharp movements in world commodity prices.

For the Czech Republic, Hungary, Mexico, Poland and Turkey, very high growth rates in the first 3-year period have been replaced by more moderate growth in 2004-2007.

Comparability

The price indices shown here are intended to be producer price indices for manufacturing. In practice many countries do not calculate such indices for the manufacturing sector alone. The indices for Austria, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Mexico, Spain, Switzerland and Turkey all have broader coverage, usually including (in addition to manufacturing) mining, electricity, gas and water and, in some countries, agriculture.

An additional problem is that Austria and Turkey calculate wholesale price indices rather than producer price indices. Wholesale prices include taxes and transport and trade margins in addition to the ex-factory cost of the goods.

There are also differences between countries in the ways in which they adjust prices for quality changes, in the frequency with which the weights are updated, and in the price index formulae used.

Source

- OECD (2008), *Main Economic Indicators*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- Brook, A.M. et al. (2004), *Oil Price Developments: Drivers, Economic Consequences and Policy Responses*, OECD Economics Department Working Papers, No. 412, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2008), *OECD Economic Outlook*, June No. 83 – Vol. 2008/1, OECD, Paris.

Methodological publications

- IMF, ILO, OECD, Eurostat, UN, World Bank (2004), *Producer Price Index Manual: Theory and Practice*, IMF, Washington, DC.
- OECD (2002), “Comparative Methodological Analysis: Consumer and Producer Price Indices”, *Main Economic Indicators*, Volume 2002, Supplement 2, OECD, Paris.

Websites

- OECD Main Economic Indicators, www.oecd.org/std/mei.

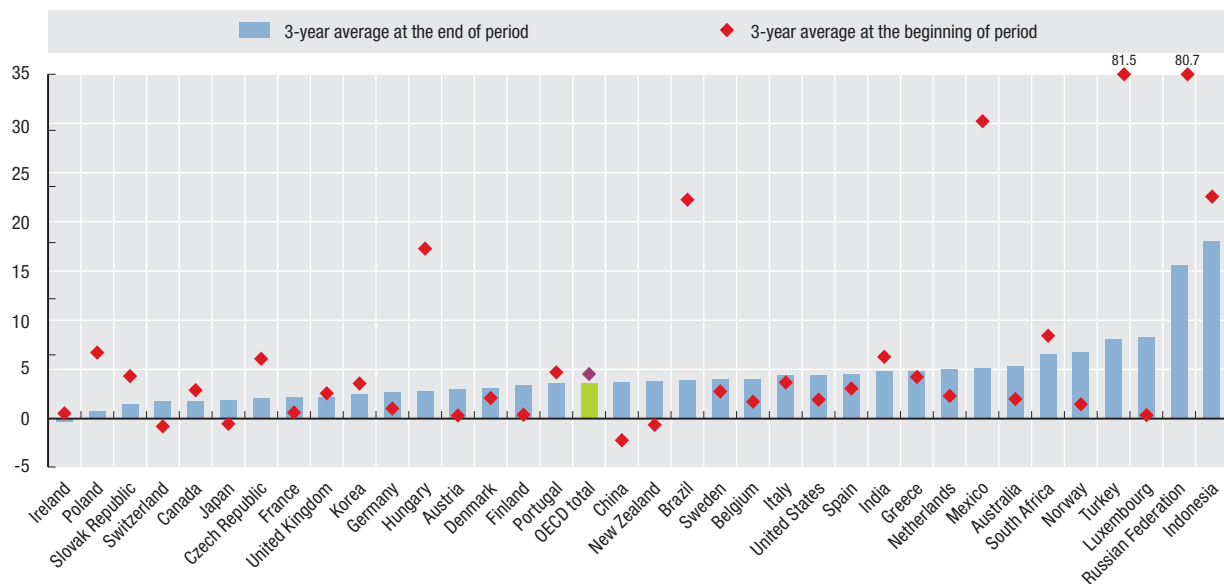
PPI: manufacturing

Year 2000 = 100

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	87.0	90.2	91.0	92.1	92.7	93.3	100.0	103.1	103.3	103.8	107.9	114.3	123.4	126.3
Austria	97.4	97.7	97.7	98.1	97.6	96.7	100.0	101.5	101.1	102.8	107.8	110.1	113.3	117.9
Belgium	88.0	90.0	90.7	92.4	91.0	91.1	100.0	99.5	99.2	98.8	102.9	105.6	110.9	115.9
Canada	86.4	92.8	93.2	93.9	94.2	95.9	100.0	101.0	101.0	99.7	102.8	104.3	106.8	108.5
Czech Republic	75.8	82.2	86.3	90.3	94.5	94.6	100.0	102.6	101.3	101.0	107.0	109.1	109.9	113.7
Denmark	90.7	93.5	94.8	96.3	95.7	96.0	100.0	102.9	103.9	104.0	105.1	108.2	111.6	115.2
Finland	92.4	94.1	92.3	93.3	91.7	91.2	100.0	98.9	96.6	95.5	95.3	98.0	101.5	105.4
France	98.9	103.9	101.1	100.5	99.6	98.0	100.0	101.2	101.0	101.3	102.5	104.3	106.9	109.3
Germany	94.7	96.7	96.8	97.4	97.2	97.0	100.0	101.3	101.5	102.1	103.9	106.8	109.7	112.6
Greece	..	80.0	85.3	87.9	90.4	92.3	100.0	102.9	104.8	106.3	110.2	116.2	123.6	126.9
Hungary	..	53.0	64.5	77.3	85.4	89.3	100.0	104.3	101.7	103.2	105.9	110.9	116.5	115.0
Ireland	88.3	89.6	89.2	89.5	91.9	93.6	100.0	101.7	100.5	92.4	90.2	90.1	90.7	89.2
Italy	84.9	91.5	93.2	94.4	94.6	94.3	100.0	101.9	102.1	103.7	106.5	110.8	117.0	121.1
Japan	104.6	103.8	102.1	102.7	101.3	99.8	100.0	97.7	95.6	94.8	95.9	97.8	99.9	101.5
Korea	79.2	83.0	84.9	87.8	100.5	97.2	100.0	97.9	96.4	98.1	105.5	112.6	112.8	113.7
Luxembourg	97.3	100.7	96.5	98.1	99.8	95.0	100.0	99.8	99.0	100.4	109.3	118.1	127.2	138.8
Mexico	31.3	44.3	59.6	69.1	78.6	90.9	100.0	103.3	107.8	115.9	126.7	132.0	140.7	147.3
Netherlands	86.2	88.1	89.4	92.1	89.9	90.1	100.0	101.0	99.8	100.5	104.7	111.2	116.5	121.2
New Zealand	93.6	93.7	92.9	91.6	92.4	93.3	100.0	104.8	105.1	103.5	105.5	109.3	114.2	117.9
Norway	83.3	84.9	86.1	86.8	87.6	90.6	100.0	100.6	97.5	99.2	105.5	112.5	121.5	128.3
Poland	..	..	76.6	83.1	88.4	92.9	100.0	99.9	99.9	102.3	109.1	108.8	109.6	111.6
Portugal	76.9	80.8	85.5	88.1	83.9	86.9	100.0	102.7	103.1	103.5	106.5	110.3	115.3	118.3
Slovak Republic	..	78.2	81.9	86.0	88.6	91.6	100.0	105.9	106.7	109.4	113.2	115.6	118.0	118.4
Spain	86.8	92.3	93.9	94.8	94.2	94.8	100.0	101.7	102.4	103.9	107.4	112.7	118.7	122.6
Sweden	89.5	98.3	96.1	96.9	96.4	95.9	100.0	101.5	100.9	99.8	100.7	104.5	108.6	113.2
Switzerland	104.0	103.9	102.0	101.3	100.1	99.1	100.0	100.5	100.0	100.0	101.2	102.0	104.1	106.6
Turkey	4.2	7.8	13.8	25.1	43.1	66.0	100.0	161.6	242.6	304.6	338.4	366.3	402.1	427.4
United Kingdom	91.1	94.7	97.2	98.1	98.1	98.5	100.0	99.7	99.7	100.8	102.2	104.1	106.4	109.1
United States	90.4	93.1	95.2	95.5	94.5	96.1	100.0	100.8	100.1	102.7	107.1	113.0	117.5	122.0
EU27 total	90.5	94.7	95.7	96.3	95.7	95.7	100.0	101.2	101.5	102.7	105.7	109.3	113.0	116.7
OECD total	80.1	85.3	88.6	91.3	93.1	95.1	100.0	101.9	102.7	104.7	108.4	112.8	117.0	120.6
Brazil	38.4	61.0	64.9	70.1	72.6	84.7	100.0	112.6	131.4	167.6	185.1	195.4	197.0	208.0
China	..	..	104.3	104.0	99.7	97.3	100.0	98.7	96.5	98.8	104.7	109.9	113.2	116.7
India	71.7	78.7	82.2	85.9	90.9	94.1	100.0	105.2	107.8	113.5	121.0	126.7	132.8	139.2
Indonesia	..	42.4	43.9	45.5	78.0	96.5	100.0	111.0	122.0	127.4	132.7	151.8	192.7	218.3
Russian Federation	6.8	23.1	34.9	40.1	42.9	68.3	100.0	118.2	130.5	151.9	187.4	225.9	253.9	289.7
South Africa	66.8	73.4	79.3	85.0	88.3	92.9	100.0	107.1	121.4	127.0	129.5	134.3	142.9	156.8

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/542027762677>**PPI: manufacturing**

Average annual growth in percentage

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536100454470>

LONG-TERM INTEREST RATES

Long-term interest rates are one of the determinants of business investment. Low interest rates encourage investment in new equipment and high interest rates discourage it. Investment is, in turn, a major source of economic growth.

Definition

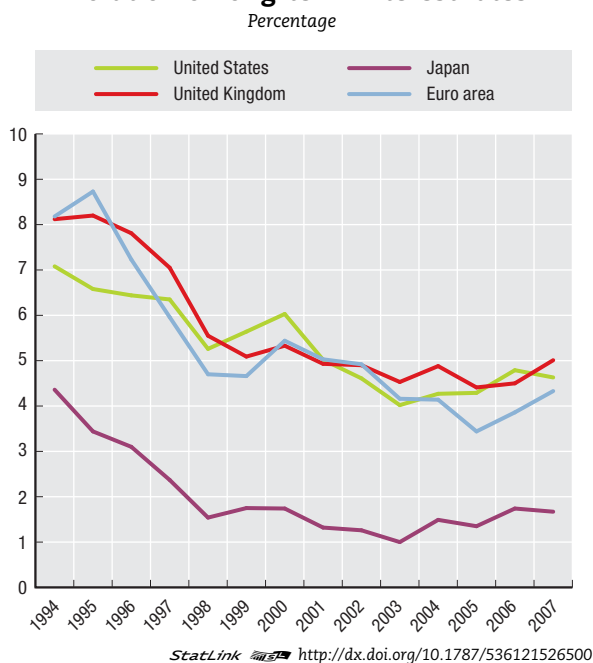
These interest rates refer to government bonds with a residual maturity of about ten years. They are not the interest rates at which the loans were issued, but the interest rates implied by the prices at which the bonds are traded on financial markets. For example if a bond was initially bought for 100 with an interest rate of 9%, but the bond is now trading at 90, the interest rate has risen to 10% ($[9/90] \times 100$).

Comparability

The rates shown are, where possible, averages of daily rates. They are in all cases interest rates on bonds whose capital repayment is guaranteed by governments.

Comparability is considered to be high.

Evolution of long-term interest rates



Long-term trends

Interest rates are determined by three factors: the price that lenders charge for postponing consumption, the risk that the borrower may not repay the capital and the fall in the real value of the capital that the lender expects to occur because of inflation during the lifetime of the loan. The interest rates shown here refer to government borrowing and the risk factor is very low. To an important extent the interest rates in this table are driven by the expected rates of inflation.

From 1994 long-term interest rates have been falling steadily in most member countries until 2005, but have started to rise in 2006-2007. For the 21 member countries in the table for which data are available for the full period from 1994 to 2007, long-term interest rates averaged 8.0% in 1994 but only 4.6% by 2006. For many countries the long-term interest rates recorded in 2005 were historically low.

The most striking feature of the table is the reduction in the variance of interest rates among countries. The convergence of long-term interest rates is mostly explained by the increasing integration of financial markets – one aspect of globalisation – and was particularly pronounced among members of the Euro area. Japan and Switzerland are exceptions; their interest rates have remained low but are not converging to the OECD average.

Source

- OECD (2008), *Main Economic Indicators*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2008), *Financial Market Trends*, series, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2008), *OECD Economic Outlook*, June No. 83 – Vol. 2008/1, OECD, Paris.

Methodological publications

- OECD (1998), *Main Economic Indicators – Sources and Methods: Interest Rates and Share Price Indices*, OECD, Paris.

Long-term interest rates

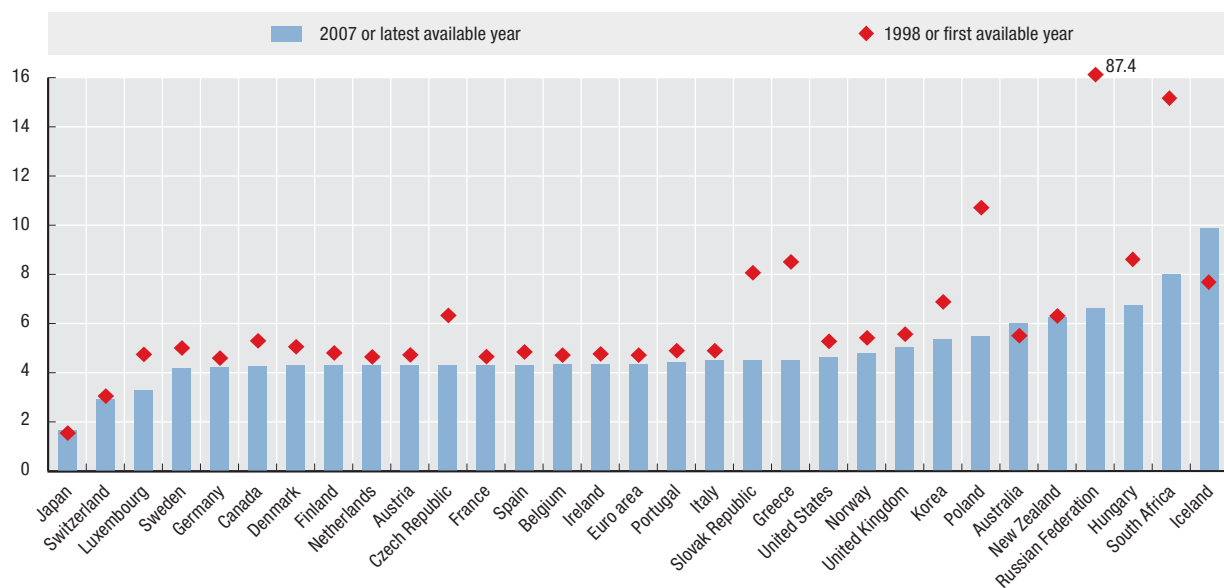
Percentage

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	8.89	9.21	8.21	6.95	5.49	6.01	6.31	5.62	5.84	5.37	5.59	5.34	5.59	6.00
Austria	7.03	7.13	6.32	5.68	4.71	4.68	5.56	5.08	4.97	4.15	4.15	3.39	3.80	4.30
Belgium	7.70	7.38	6.30	5.59	4.70	4.71	5.57	5.06	4.89	4.15	4.06	3.37	3.81	4.33
Canada	8.36	8.16	7.24	6.14	5.28	5.54	5.93	5.48	5.30	4.80	4.58	4.07	4.21	4.27
Czech Republic	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6.31	4.88	4.12	4.82	3.54	3.80	4.30
Denmark	7.83	8.27	7.19	6.26	5.04	4.92	5.66	5.09	5.06	4.31	4.30	3.40	3.81	4.29
Finland	9.04	8.79	7.08	5.96	4.79	4.72	5.48	5.04	4.98	4.14	4.11	3.35	3.78	4.29
France	7.22	7.54	6.31	5.58	4.64	4.61	5.39	4.94	4.86	4.13	4.10	3.41	3.80	4.30
Germany	6.88	6.86	6.23	5.66	4.58	4.50	5.27	4.80	4.78	4.07	4.04	3.35	3.76	4.22
Greece	..	..	..	..	8.48	6.31	6.11	5.30	5.12	4.27	4.26	3.59	4.07	4.50
Hungary	..	..	..	..	..	..	8.55	7.95	7.09	6.77	8.29	6.60	7.12	6.74
Iceland	6.98	9.65	9.24	8.71	7.66	8.47	11.20	10.36	7.96	6.65	7.49	7.73	9.33	9.85
Ireland	8.04	8.23	7.25	6.26	4.75	4.77	5.48	5.02	4.99	4.13	4.06	3.32	3.79	4.33
Italy	10.52	12.21	9.40	6.86	4.88	4.73	5.58	5.19	5.03	4.30	4.26	3.56	4.05	4.49
Japan	4.36	3.44	3.10	2.37	1.54	1.75	1.74	1.32	1.26	1.00	1.49	1.35	1.74	1.67
Korea	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6.86	6.59	5.05	4.73	4.95	5.15	5.35
Luxembourg	7.15	7.23	6.30	5.60	4.73	4.67	5.52	4.86	4.68	3.32	2.84	2.41	3.30	..
Netherlands	6.87	6.90	6.15	5.58	4.63	4.63	5.41	4.96	4.89	4.12	4.10	3.37	3.78	4.29
New Zealand	7.63	7.78	7.89	7.19	6.29	6.41	6.85	6.39	6.53	5.87	6.07	5.88	5.78	6.26
Norway	7.43	7.43	6.77	5.89	5.40	5.50	6.22	6.24	6.38	5.05	4.37	3.75	4.08	4.77
Poland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10.68	7.36	5.78	6.90	5.22	5.23	5.48
Portugal	10.48	11.47	8.56	6.36	4.88	4.78	5.60	5.16	5.01	4.18	4.14	3.44	3.91	4.42
Slovak Republic	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8.04	6.94	4.99	5.03	3.52	4.41	4.49
Spain	10.00	11.27	8.74	6.40	4.83	4.73	5.53	5.12	4.96	4.13	4.10	3.39	3.78	4.31
Sweden	9.50	10.24	8.03	6.61	4.99	4.98	5.37	5.11	5.30	4.64	4.43	3.38	3.70	4.17
Switzerland	4.96	4.52	4.00	3.36	3.04	3.04	3.93	3.38	3.20	2.66	2.74	2.10	2.52	2.93
United Kingdom	8.12	8.20	7.81	7.05	5.55	5.09	5.33	4.93	4.90	4.53	4.88	4.41	4.50	5.01
United States	7.08	6.58	6.44	6.35	5.26	5.64	6.03	5.02	4.61	4.02	4.27	4.29	4.79	4.63
Euro area	8.18	8.73	7.23	5.96	4.70	4.66	5.44	5.03	4.92	4.16	4.14	3.44	3.86	4.33
Russian Federation	..	..	..	..	..	87.38	35.16	19.38	15.82	8.90	7.79	7.76	6.83	6.61
South Africa	14.83	16.11	15.48	14.70	15.12	14.90	13.79	11.41	11.50	9.62	9.53	8.07	7.94	7.99

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/542081367404>

Long-term interest rates

Percentage

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536117732345>

RATES OF CONVERSION

To compare a single country's real GDP over a period of years, it is necessary to remove any movements that are due to price changes. In the same way, in order to compare the real GDPs of a group of countries at a single point in time, it is necessary to remove any differences in their GDPs that are due to differences in their price levels. Price indices are used to remove the effects of price changes in a single country over time; purchasing power parities (PPP) are used to remove the effects of the different levels of prices within a group of countries at a single point in time.

Definition

PPPs are currency converters that equalise price levels between countries. The PPPs shown here have been calculated by comparing the prices in OECD countries of a common basket of about 2 500 goods and services. Countries are not required to price all the items in the common basket because some of the items may be hard to find in certain countries, but the common basket has been drawn up in such a way that each country can find prices for a wide range of the goods and services that are representative of their markets.

Long-term trends

Over the period 1994-2007, movements of PPPs and of exchange rates were rarely similar and even when they moved in the same direction they were not of the same magnitude – see for example Ireland and the Czech Republic in the graph on the opposite page.

Exchange rates are sometimes used to convert the GDPs in different currencies to a common currency. However, comparisons of GDP based on exchange rates do not reflect the real volumes of goods and services in the GDPs of the countries being compared. For many of the low income countries, the differences between GDP converted using exchange rates and real GDP converted using PPPs are considerable. The differences are illustrated in the second graph.

For Turkey and Mexico, for example, the difference between PPP-converted GDP and exchange rate-converted is over 45 per cent. In general, the use of exchange rates understates the real GDP of low-income countries and overstates the real GDP of high-income countries.

The price level indices in the third table are the PPPs divided by exchange rates, with the OECD set to 100. In general, there is a positive correlation between income levels and price levels; Denmark, Iceland, Norway and Switzerland, four high-income countries, had the highest price levels in 2007 while the Czech Republic, Mexico, Poland, the Slovak Republic and Turkey, five of the poorer OECD countries, had price levels around 65 per cent of the OECD average.

The goods and services to be priced cover all those that enter into final expenditure – household consumption, government services, capital formation and net exports. Prices for the different items are weighted by their shares in total final expenditures to obtain the GDP PPPs shown here.

Comparability

The PPPs shown here have been calculated jointly by the OECD and Eurostat using standard procedures. In consultation with their member countries, OECD and Eurostat keep their methodology under review and improvements are made regularly.

Source

- OECD (2008), *Purchasing Power Parities and Real Expenditures: 2005 Benchmark Year, 2007 Edition*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- Schreyer, P. and F. Koechlin (2002), "Purchasing Power Parities – Measurement and Uses", OECD Statistics Brief, No. 3, March, OECD, Paris, www.oecd.org/std/statisticsbrief.

Statistical publications

- OECD (2009), *National Accounts of OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2009), *Main Economic Indicators*, OECD, Paris.

Websites

- OECD Purchasing Power Parities, www.oecd.org/std/ppp.
- Joint World Bank-OECD Seminar on Purchasing Power Parities, 2001, www.oecd.org/std/ppp/seminar2001.



Purchasing power parities

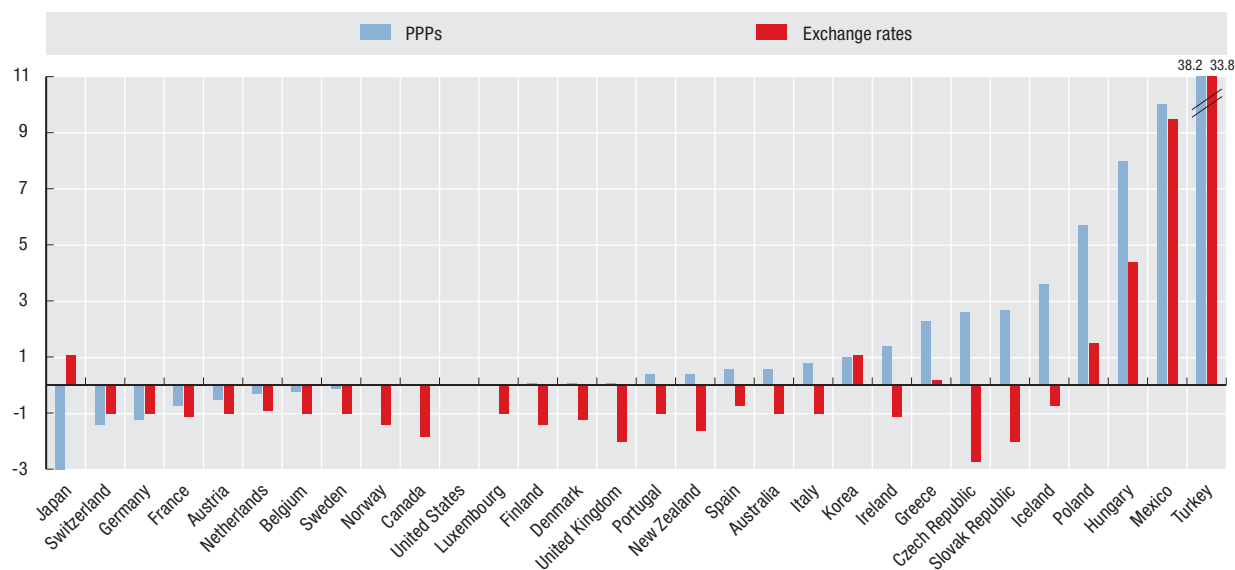
National currency units per US dollar

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	1.32	1.32	1.32	1.32	1.31	1.30	1.31	1.33	1.34	1.35	1.37	1.39	1.41	1.42
Austria	0.934	0.933	0.929	0.924	0.917	0.917	0.901	0.917	0.896	0.885	0.874	0.886	0.881	0.877
Belgium	0.918	0.911	0.911	0.911	0.924	0.921	0.892	0.886	0.865	0.879	0.896	0.900	0.898	0.891
Canada	1.21	1.21	1.21	1.21	1.19	1.19	1.23	1.22	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.21	1.21	1.21
Czech Republic	10.2	11.1	11.9	12.7	13.9	14.1	14.2	14.2	14.3	14.0	14.3	14.3	14.3	14.2
Denmark	8.53	8.46	8.44	8.43	8.39	8.47	8.42	8.47	8.30	8.54	8.40	8.59	8.59	8.60
Finland	0.972	0.998	1.003	0.997	1.003	1.003	0.996	1.012	1.003	1.011	0.975	0.977	0.973	0.979
France	0.999	0.992	0.987	0.974	0.967	0.960	0.940	0.918	0.905	0.938	0.939	0.923	0.921	0.911
Germany	1.006	1.004	0.992	0.990	0.988	0.975	0.968	0.955	0.942	0.917	0.896	0.867	0.858	0.856
Greece	0.532	0.573	0.604	0.629	0.662	0.681	0.679	0.671	0.660	0.689	0.695	0.714	0.716	0.717
Hungary	50	62	73	85	94	101	108	111	115	121	126	129	131	135
Iceland	72.3	73.0	74.9	74.4	77.2	79.7	84.4	88.9	91.3	94.5	94.2	99.1	109.3	115.1
Ireland	0.81	0.82	0.83	0.85	0.88	0.93	0.96	0.99	1.00	1.01	1.01	1.01	1.00	0.97
Italy	0.766	0.788	0.808	0.816	0.808	0.818	0.818	0.808	0.845	0.854	0.872	0.867	0.855	0.852
Japan	179	174	170	168	167	162	155	149	144	140	134	130	124	120
Korea	656	690	712	732	767	755	749	757	770	796	794	789	761	750
Luxembourg	0.94	0.95	0.95	0.96	0.95	0.94	0.94	0.95	0.93	0.94	0.92	0.95	0.95	0.95
Mexico	2.17	2.93	3.76	4.35	4.96	5.63	6.11	6.31	6.55	6.82	7.22	7.13	7.38	7.53
Netherlands	0.914	0.914	0.908	0.910	0.906	0.907	0.894	0.906	0.902	0.927	0.908	0.896	0.890	0.883
New Zealand	1.46	1.46	1.47	1.45	1.45	1.43	1.45	1.47	1.47	1.50	1.51	1.54	1.52	1.55
Norway	9.07	9.16	9.04	9.08	9.38	9.33	9.14	9.18	9.11	9.11	8.98	8.90	8.89	9.05
Poland	0.94	1.18	1.36	1.52	1.66	1.74	1.84	1.86	1.83	1.84	1.86	1.87	1.87	1.92
Portugal	0.639	0.648	0.660	0.672	0.693	0.697	0.701	0.706	0.708	0.706	0.716	0.684	0.678	0.674
Slovak Republic	12.1	13.0	13.3	13.7	14.2	15.1	15.9	15.7	15.9	16.7	17.2	17.1	17.1	17.1
Spain	0.689	0.709	0.717	0.719	0.719	0.733	0.735	0.740	0.733	0.753	0.759	0.765	0.755	0.741
Sweden	9.21	9.36	9.24	9.30	9.37	9.29	9.15	9.35	9.35	9.34	9.10	9.38	9.27	9.14
Switzerland	2.00	1.98	1.94	1.89	1.88	1.87	1.85	1.84	1.77	1.78	1.75	1.74	1.69	1.66
Turkey	0.013	0.024	0.043	0.076	0.131	0.202	0.283	0.428	0.613	0.773	0.812	0.831	0.861	0.892
United Kingdom	0.636	0.640	0.641	0.634	0.645	0.653	0.637	0.627	0.628	0.641	0.632	0.636	0.639	0.646
United States	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Brazil	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.36	..	1.40
China	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3.45	..	3.54
India	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14.67	..	15.66
Indonesia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 934.25	..	4 703.59
Russian Federation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12.74	..	15.82
South Africa	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3.87	..	4.22

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/542134231417>

Changes in exchange rates and purchasing power parities

Average annual growth in percentage, 1994-2007

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536122683508>

RATES OF CONVERSION

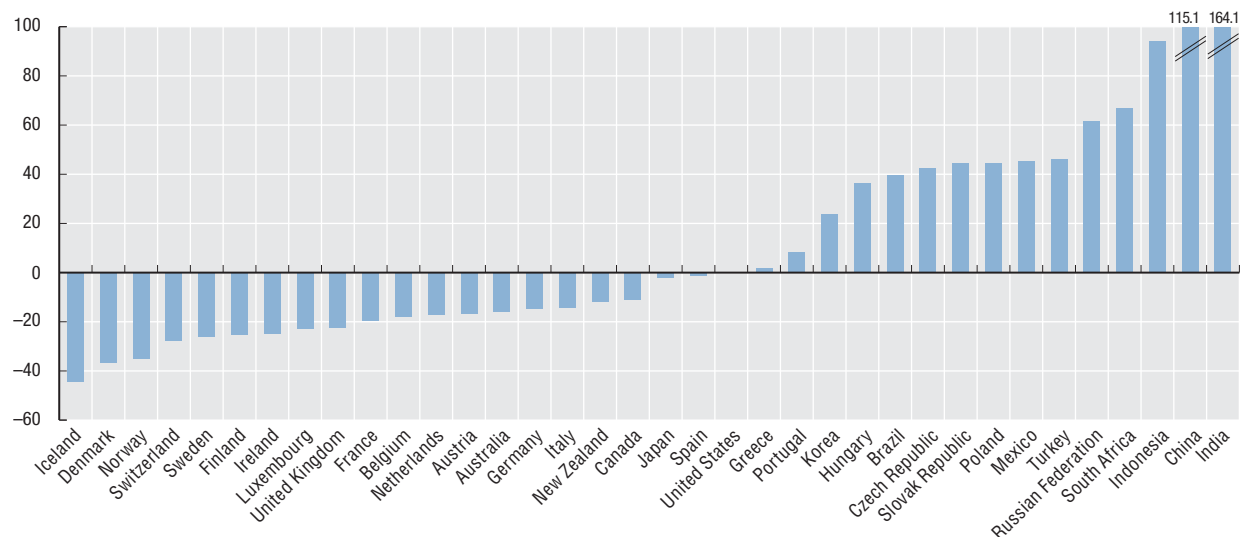
Exchange rates
National currency units per US dollar

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	1.368	1.349	1.278	1.347	1.592	1.550	1.725	1.933	1.841	1.542	1.360	1.309	1.328	1.195
Austria	0.830	0.733	0.769	0.887	0.900	0.939	1.085	1.118	1.063	0.886	0.805	0.804	0.797	0.731
Belgium	0.829	0.731	0.768	0.887	0.900	0.939	1.085	1.118	1.063	0.886	0.805	0.804	0.797	0.731
Canada	1.366	1.372	1.363	1.385	1.483	1.486	1.485	1.549	1.569	1.401	1.301	1.212	1.134	1.074
Czech Republic	28.79	26.54	27.14	31.70	32.28	34.57	38.60	38.04	32.74	28.21	25.70	23.96	22.60	20.29
Denmark	6.361	5.602	5.799	6.604	6.701	6.976	8.083	8.323	7.895	6.588	5.991	5.997	5.947	5.444
Finland	0.879	0.734	0.773	0.873	0.899	0.939	1.085	1.118	1.063	0.886	0.805	0.804	0.797	0.731
France	0.846	0.761	0.780	0.890	0.899	0.939	1.085	1.118	1.063	0.886	0.805	0.804	0.797	0.731
Germany	0.830	0.733	0.769	0.887	0.900	0.939	1.085	1.118	1.063	0.886	0.805	0.804	0.797	0.731
Greece	0.712	0.680	0.706	0.801	0.867	0.897	1.072	1.118	1.063	0.886	0.805	0.804	0.797	0.731
Hungary	105.16	125.68	152.65	186.79	214.40	237.15	282.18	286.49	257.89	224.31	202.75	199.58	210.39	183.63
Iceland	69.94	64.69	66.50	70.90	70.96	72.34	78.62	97.42	91.66	76.71	70.19	62.98	70.18	64.06
Ireland	0.849	0.792	0.794	0.838	0.892	0.939	1.085	1.118	1.063	0.886	0.805	0.804	0.797	0.731
Italy	0.833	0.841	0.797	0.880	0.897	0.939	1.085	1.118	1.063	0.886	0.805	0.804	0.797	0.731
Japan	102.21	94.06	108.78	120.99	130.91	113.91	107.77	121.53	125.39	115.93	108.19	110.22	116.30	117.75
Korea	803.45	771.27	804.45	951.29	1 401.44	1 188.82	1 130.96	1 290.99	1 251.09	1 191.61	1 145.32	1 024.12	954.79	929.26
Luxembourg	0.829	0.731	0.768	0.887	0.900	0.939	1.085	1.118	1.063	0.886	0.805	0.804	0.797	0.731
Mexico	3.375	6.419	7.599	7.918	9.136	9.560	9.456	9.342	9.656	10.789	11.286	10.898	10.899	10.928
Netherlands	0.826	0.729	0.765	0.885	0.900	0.939	1.085	1.118	1.063	0.886	0.805	0.804	0.797	0.731
New Zealand	1.687	1.524	1.455	1.512	1.868	1.890	2.201	2.379	2.162	1.722	1.509	1.420	1.542	1.361
Norway	7.058	6.335	6.450	7.073	7.545	7.799	8.802	8.992	7.984	7.080	6.741	6.443	6.413	5.862
Poland	2.272	2.425	2.696	3.279	3.475	3.967	4.346	4.094	4.080	3.889	3.658	3.235	3.103	2.768
Portugal	0.828	0.754	0.769	0.874	0.898	0.939	1.085	1.118	1.063	0.886	0.805	0.804	0.797	0.731
Slovak Republic	32.04	29.71	30.65	33.62	35.23	41.36	46.04	48.35	45.33	36.77	32.26	31.02	29.70	24.69
Spain	0.805	0.749	0.761	0.880	0.898	0.939	1.085	1.118	1.063	0.886	0.805	0.804	0.797	0.731
Sweden	7.716	7.133	6.706	7.635	7.950	8.262	9.162	10.329	9.737	8.086	7.349	7.473	7.378	6.759
Switzerland	1.368	1.182	1.236	1.451	1.450	1.502	1.689	1.688	1.559	1.347	1.244	1.245	1.254	1.200
Turkey	0.030	0.046	0.081	0.152	0.261	0.419	0.625	1.226	1.507	1.501	1.426	1.344	1.428	1.303
United Kingdom	0.653	0.634	0.641	0.611	0.604	0.618	0.661	0.695	0.667	0.612	0.546	0.550	0.543	0.500
United States	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
Euro area	..	0.765	0.788	0.882	0.892	0.939	1.085	1.118	1.063	0.886	0.805	0.804	0.797	0.731
Brazil	0.6393	0.9177	1.0051	1.0780	1.1605	1.8139	1.8294	2.3496	2.9204	3.0775	2.9251	2.4344	2.1753	1.9471
China	8.619	8.351	8.314	8.290	8.279	8.278	8.279	8.277	8.277	8.277	8.277	8.194	7.973	7.608
India	31.37	32.43	35.43	36.31	41.26	43.06	44.94	47.19	48.61	46.58	45.32	44.10	45.31	41.35
Indonesia	2 160.8	2 248.6	2 342.3	2 909.4	10 013.6	7 855.2	8 421.8	10 260.9	9 311.2	8 577.1	8 938.9	9 704.7	9 159.3	9 141.0
Russian Federation	2.3915	4.6260	5.1675	5.8375	9.7051	24.6199	28.1292	29.1685	31.3485	30.6920	28.8137	28.2844	27.1910	25.5808
South Africa	3.551	3.627	4.299	4.608	5.528	6.109	6.940	8.609	10.541	7.565	6.460	6.359	6.772	7.045

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/542200555741>

Percentage differences in GDP when converted to US dollars using exchange rates and PPPs

PPP-based GDP minus exchange rate-based GDP as per cent of exchange rate-based GDP, 2007



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536163570243>



Indices of price levels

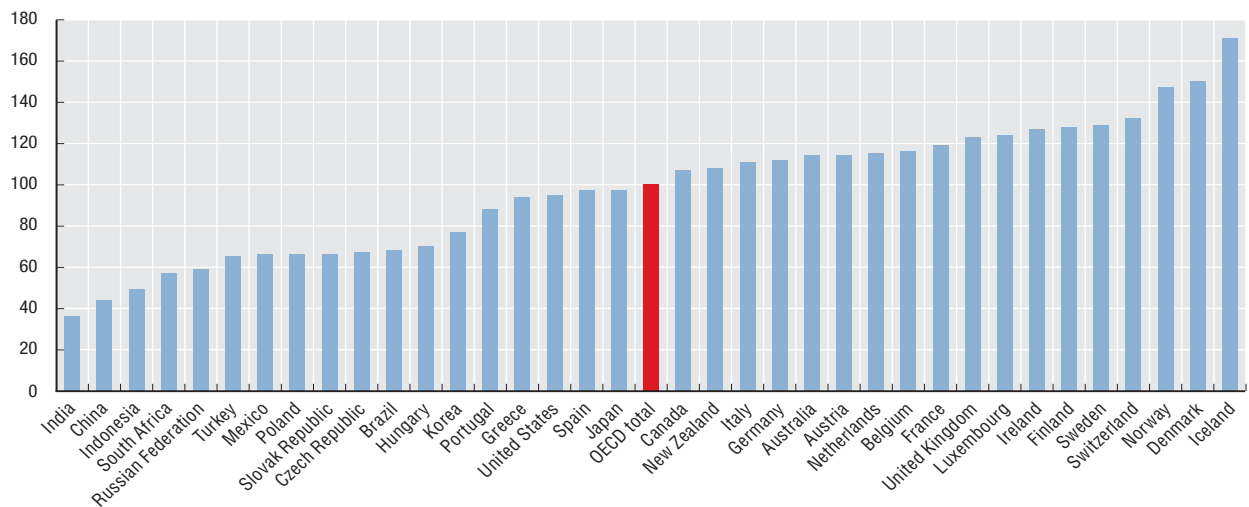
OECD = 100

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	90	86	95	97	84	85	81	77	80	90	98	104	105	114
Austria	104	112	111	103	104	99	88	92	93	102	106	108	109	114
Belgium	102	110	109	102	105	100	88	89	90	101	109	110	111	116
Canada	82	78	82	86	82	81	88	88	87	90	92	98	105	107
Czech Republic	33	37	41	40	44	42	39	42	48	51	54	59	62	67
Denmark	124	133	134	126	128	123	111	114	117	133	137	140	143	150
Finland	102	120	120	113	114	108	98	101	105	117	118	119	121	128
France	109	115	117	108	110	104	92	92	94	108	114	113	114	119
Germany	112	121	119	110	112	105	95	96	98	106	109	106	106	112
Greece	69	74	79	78	78	77	67	67	69	80	84	87	89	94
Hungary	44	43	44	45	45	43	41	43	49	55	61	63	62	70
Iceland	96	100	104	104	111	112	114	102	110	126	131	154	154	171
Ireland	89	92	96	101	101	101	95	99	105	117	122	123	124	127
Italy	85	83	93	92	92	89	80	81	88	99	106	106	106	111
Japan	162	164	144	137	130	144	153	137	127	123	121	115	106	97
Korea	75	79	82	76	56	64	71	66	68	68	68	75	79	77
Luxembourg	105	115	114	107	108	102	92	95	97	109	112	116	117	124
Mexico	59	40	46	54	55	60	69	76	75	65	62	64	67	66
Netherlands	102	111	109	101	103	98	88	91	94	107	110	109	110	115
New Zealand	80	85	93	95	79	77	70	69	75	89	98	106	98	108
Norway	119	128	129	127	127	121	111	114	127	132	130	135	137	147
Poland	38	43	46	46	49	45	45	51	50	48	50	57	60	66
Portugal	71	76	79	76	79	75	69	71	74	82	87	83	84	88
Slovak Republic	35	39	40	40	41	37	37	36	39	47	52	54	57	66
Spain	79	84	87	81	82	79	72	74	77	87	92	93	94	97
Sweden	110	116	127	120	120	114	106	101	106	118	121	123	124	129
Switzerland	135	148	144	129	132	127	117	122	126	135	138	137	133	132
Turkey	42	47	48	49	51	49	48	39	45	53	56	61	60	65
United Kingdom	90	89	92	103	109	107	103	101	104	107	113	113	116	123
United States	92	88	92	99	102	102	107	112	111	102	98	98	99	95
OECD total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Brazil	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	54	..	68
China	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	42	..	44
India	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32	..	36
Indonesia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	41	..	49
Russian Federation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	45	..	59
South Africa	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	59	..	57

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/542200823762>

Indices of price levels

OECD = 100, year 2007

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536165027205>

EFFECTIVE EXCHANGE RATES

A broad interpretation of international competitiveness would involve comparison of the success of different countries in raising productivity, fostering innovation and improving living standards. The two competitiveness indicators shown here have a narrower objective – namely to measure changes in a country's price competitiveness in international markets based on changes in that country's exchange rate and price level (either consumer goods prices or unit labour costs in manufacturing) relative to those of its competitors. In addition, we present indices of nominal effective exchange rates. This indicator reflects only variations in market exchange rates, which is just one of the factors that enter the calculation of the two competitiveness indicators mentioned above.

Definition

The nominal effective exchange rate indices are calculated by comparing, for each country, the change in its own exchange rate against the US dollar to a weighted average of changes in its competitors' exchange rates (also against the US dollar), using the weighting matrix for the current year (based on the importance of bilateral trade).

The other two indicators, relative consumer price indices and relative unit labour costs in manufacturing, can be

described as indices of real effective exchange rates. Unlike nominal effective exchange rates, they take into account not only changes in market exchange rates, but also variations in relative price levels (using, respectively, consumer prices and unit labour costs in manufacturing), and therefore can be used as indicators of competitiveness. The change in a country's index of relative consumer prices between two years is obtained by comparing the change in the country's consumer price index (converted into US dollars at market exchange rates) to a weighted average of changes in its competitors' consumer price indices (also expressed in US dollars), using the weighting matrix for the current year (based on the importance of bilateral trade). Changes in the index of relative unit labour costs in manufacturing are calculated in the same way.

Comparability

All three indices shown here are constructed using a common procedure.

Long-term trends

A rise in the indices represents a deterioration in that country's competitiveness. Note that the indices only show changes in the international competitiveness of each country over time and that differences between countries in the levels of the indices have no significance.

All three indices are rather variable from year to year, so that it is difficult to detect long-term movements. Between 2000 and 2007, Japan, Mexico, Sweden and the United States have generally improved their international competitiveness as judged by both relative consumer price indices and unit labour costs in manufacturing, while the competitive positions of Australia, Canada, Korea and New Zealand have generally deteriorated. For both groups of countries, these changes reflected in large part movements in these countries' nominal effective exchange rates. By contrast, in the case of the United States, the improvement in competitiveness in terms of unit labour costs since 2000 has been significantly larger than the change in their nominal effective exchange rate, and therefore must have been due to favourable developments in unit labour costs in manufacturing, which in turn reflected trends in productivity and wage costs.

Source

- OECD (2008), *OECD Economic Outlook*, June No. 83 – Vol. 2008/1, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Statistical publications

- OECD (2008), *Main Economic Indicators*, OECD, Paris.

Methodological publications

- Durand, M., C. Madaschi and F. Terribile (1998), *Trends in OECD Countries' International Competitiveness*, OECD Economics Department Working Papers, No. 195, OECD, Paris.
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Online databases

- OECD Economic Outlook Statistics.

Websites

- OECD Economic Outlook – Sources and Methods, www.oecd.org/eco/sources-and-methods.



Nominal effective exchange rates

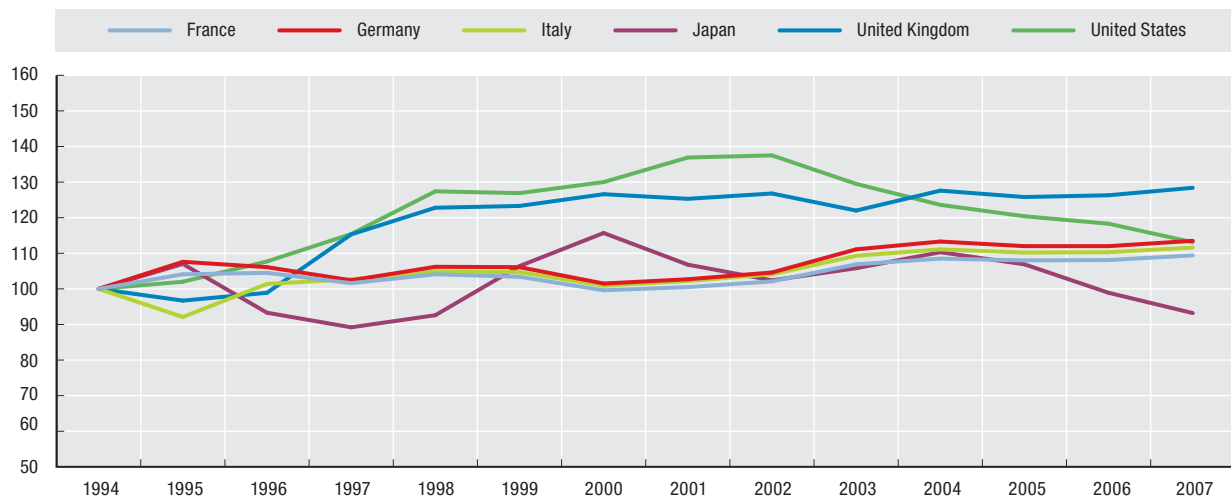
Year 2000 = 100

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	107.2	103.9	113.9	115.4	107.4	107.6	100.0	93.7	97.2	108.6	117.1	120.0	118.3	125.7
Austria	97.8	102.5	101.5	99.6	101.6	102.3	100.0	100.4	101.0	104.4	105.5	104.7	104.8	105.4
Belgium	102.2	107.9	106.2	102.0	104.4	104.1	100.0	101.2	103.0	108.3	110.2	109.7	109.8	111.3
Canada	102.8	102.0	103.9	104.3	99.4	99.1	100.0	97.0	95.5	105.5	112.0	119.8	127.7	133.6
Czech Republic	98.1	98.8	100.4	97.4	99.1	98.7	100.0	105.0	117.0	116.7	117.0	124.3	130.5	133.3
Denmark	100.5	105.7	104.7	102.3	104.9	104.2	100.0	101.8	103.3	108.1	109.5	108.6	108.4	109.8
Finland	90.1	103.6	101.1	98.9	101.7	104.7	100.0	102.1	104.2	110.3	112.4	111.5	111.3	113.0
France	100.4	104.5	104.9	102.1	104.5	103.8	100.0	100.9	102.5	107.4	109.0	108.4	108.5	109.9
Germany	98.5	106.0	104.5	100.9	104.6	104.5	100.0	101.2	103.1	109.4	111.6	110.3	110.3	111.8
Greece	115.1	113.8	111.9	109.9	106.6	107.0	100.0	101.0	102.8	107.8	109.5	108.5	108.6	110.1
Hungary	192.8	153.0	130.3	120.7	109.3	105.4	100.0	101.9	108.9	108.3	110.4	111.1	104.0	110.0
Iceland	92.9	93.3	92.8	94.8	97.4	99.0	100.0	85.2	87.9	92.0	93.1	103.5	92.7	93.7
Ireland	109.2	111.2	114.1	113.9	110.5	107.3	100.0	101.2	103.6	112.6	115.1	114.9	115.1	118.1
Italy	99.1	91.3	100.5	101.8	104.0	103.8	100.0	101.3	103.2	108.3	110.1	109.2	109.3	110.7
Japan	86.4	92.5	80.6	77.1	80.0	91.9	100.0	92.3	88.4	91.5	95.3	92.4	85.4	80.5
Korea	119.1	119.5	121.4	112.4	81.3	93.3	100.0	92.4	95.4	94.8	94.8	105.6	113.9	113.2
Luxembourg	102.0	105.4	104.3	102.0	103.0	102.8	100.0	100.4	101.5	104.9	106.1	105.5	105.5	106.6
Mexico	263.8	138.6	117.7	115.5	102.6	97.9	100.0	102.8	99.7	87.1	81.9	84.3	83.8	82.2
Netherlands	101.8	108.8	107.3	102.1	105.7	105.4	100.0	101.4	103.7	110.8	113.4	112.7	112.6	114.7
New Zealand	109.4	116.9	124.3	127.3	114.3	110.3	100.0	98.7	106.8	121.5	129.7	135.8	125.4	133.9
Norway	100.8	104.5	104.6	105.6	102.4	102.2	100.0	103.3	112.1	109.7	106.0	110.6	109.9	111.6
Poland	139.2	122.7	114.4	106.3	104.0	97.0	100.0	110.2	105.4	94.8	92.7	103.6	106.8	110.4
Portugal	101.7	104.9	104.5	103.1	103.0	102.4	100.0	100.9	102.0	104.8	105.5	104.9	105.0	105.7
Slovak Republic	97.1	100.4	101.3	106.0	105.9	98.3	100.0	97.6	98.0	103.6	108.0	110.1	113.4	125.0
Spain	105.7	106.0	107.1	102.8	104.0	103.1	100.0	101.1	102.5	106.3	107.5	106.9	107.0	108.0
Sweden	93.6	94.0	103.5	100.2	99.9	99.7	100.0	91.9	94.1	99.5	101.3	98.7	99.1	100.2
Switzerland	95.6	104.0	102.7	96.9	101.0	101.8	100.0	104.0	109.3	111.1	111.5	110.6	108.9	106.0
Turkey	1 719.1	990.8	581.1	345.5	207.8	137.2	100.0	56.3	41.8	36.8	35.9	37.7	35.1	35.9
United Kingdom	79.0	76.4	78.1	91.1	97.0	97.4	100.0	99.0	100.2	96.3	100.8	99.3	99.8	101.4
United States	76.9	78.5	82.9	88.8	98.0	97.6	100.0	105.3	105.8	99.6	95.1	92.6	91.0	87.0
Euro area	100.8	109.5	111.7	104.6	110.8	109.9	100.0	102.5	106.4	119.3	123.8	121.8	121.9	125.6
Brazil	..	165.8	154.8	153.8	149.9	96.7	100.0	80.9	71.7	61.7	61.9	74.2	82.3	88.7
China	80.7	82.1	85.6	91.2	98.9	98.3	100.0	105.0	104.7	99.5	95.8	95.5	97.8	100.0
India	112.5	104.6	98.9	104.8	100.3	98.8	100.0	99.7	95.2	91.5	89.1	90.3	86.7	90.0
Indonesia	323.5	296.5	302.9	278.4	85.8	104.7	100.0	87.4	95.5	97.3	89.1	80.9	84.3	80.8
Russian Federation	986.6	417.4	393.2	392.6	314.7	103.5	100.0	100.9	91.0	82.1	81.3	82.0	84.4	83.5

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/542215100515>

Nominal effective exchange rates

Year 1994 = 100

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536172412541>

EFFECTIVE EXCHANGE RATES

Relative consumer price indices

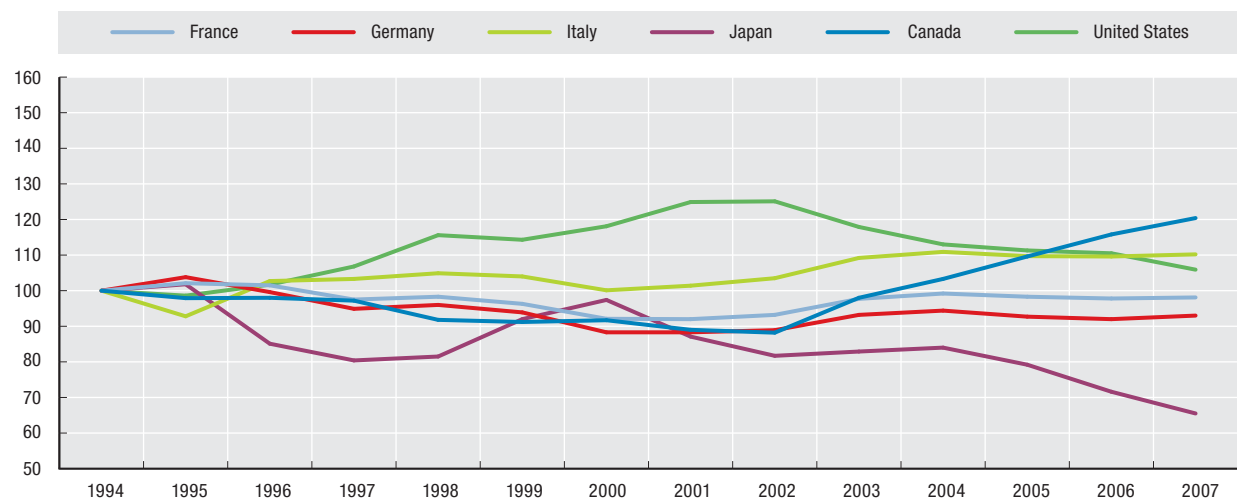
Year 2000 = 100

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	106.0	104.3	114.1	113.1	103.7	104.7	100.0	96.2	101.6	114.9	124.4	128.2	127.9	135.9
Austria	106.4	109.4	106.9	103.3	103.6	102.6	100.0	100.2	100.6	103.4	104.2	103.7	103.1	103.4
Belgium	108.6	112.3	109.5	104.3	105.3	104.0	100.0	100.9	102.2	106.9	108.8	109.0	108.6	109.4
Canada	109.0	106.7	106.8	106.0	100.1	99.4	100.0	97.0	96.1	106.8	112.6	119.5	126.2	131.2
Czech Republic	80.8	83.6	89.1	90.6	99.3	98.0	100.0	106.7	118.5	115.9	116.7	123.8	130.5	134.0
Denmark	101.5	105.2	103.7	101.0	103.4	103.6	100.0	101.5	103.4	108.5	109.2	108.1	107.7	108.3
Finland	105.9	113.7	107.0	103.1	104.5	104.4	100.0	101.4	102.5	106.8	106.7	104.1	103.0	104.4
France	108.6	110.9	110.2	105.9	106.8	104.6	100.0	99.9	101.2	106.1	107.7	106.7	106.2	106.5
Germany	113.3	117.6	112.9	107.5	108.8	106.4	100.0	100.0	100.7	105.6	107.0	105.0	104.2	105.4
Greece	100.6	103.9	106.7	107.5	106.2	106.8	100.0	101.0	103.7	109.8	112.2	112.7	113.7	115.8
Hungary	93.4	88.7	89.5	95.1	95.8	98.6	100.0	108.2	119.2	121.8	129.8	132.4	126.2	140.8
Iceland	91.6	90.3	89.6	91.2	93.6	96.2	100.0	88.8	94.8	99.6	102.3	116.1	108.6	113.0
Ireland	107.9	109.1	110.9	109.9	107.1	103.8	100.0	103.8	109.4	120.8	123.8	123.7	126.0	132.5
Italy	99.9	92.7	102.6	103.2	104.8	103.9	100.0	101.3	103.4	109.1	110.8	109.6	109.5	110.1
Japan	102.7	104.5	87.4	82.6	83.7	94.5	100.0	89.5	83.9	85.1	86.3	81.3	73.5	67.3
Korea	107.6	108.9	112.8	106.4	81.2	92.8	100.0	94.6	99.6	101.2	102.9	115.7	125.3	124.6
Luxembourg	105.7	108.3	105.7	102.6	102.9	102.1	100.0	100.7	101.9	105.7	107.1	106.8	107.6	108.8
Mexico	95.2	64.5	72.0	83.3	84.2	92.1	100.0	106.6	106.9	95.5	91.7	95.2	95.2	94.5
Netherlands	107.7	111.8	108.8	103.0	106.1	105.6	100.0	103.0	106.8	114.3	116.0	114.5	113.2	114.2
New Zealand	111.5	119.5	126.7	129.1	115.5	110.1	100.0	98.9	108.3	123.2	131.8	139.2	129.5	137.6
Norway	100.5	103.0	101.7	103.1	100.6	101.1	100.0	103.9	112.0	110.2	105.3	109.6	109.5	109.3
Poland	74.0	79.0	84.8	87.8	93.3	90.7	100.0	112.9	107.7	95.6	94.6	105.8	108.1	111.7
Portugal	98.8	102.3	102.2	101.0	101.9	102.0	100.0	102.5	104.8	108.7	109.5	108.8	109.5	110.2
Slovak Republic	84.2	86.1	85.9	90.7	91.8	90.7	100.0	101.2	102.5	115.6	126.6	129.7	136.6	150.6
Spain	102.3	103.8	105.5	101.0	102.0	102.0	100.0	102.2	104.6	109.6	111.8	112.6	114.3	115.9
Sweden	104.5	103.7	111.6	106.1	103.2	101.4	100.0	91.7	94.1	99.5	99.7	95.6	95.1	96.1
Switzerland	108.2	114.7	110.6	102.2	104.0	102.9	100.0	102.2	105.9	106.3	105.3	103.4	100.6	96.2
Turkey	65.9	71.5	72.2	77.2	84.9	89.3	100.0	81.5	88.7	93.4	96.4	107.3	106.8	115.7
United Kingdom	83.7	80.1	81.4	94.1	99.5	99.2	100.0	97.4	97.6	93.2	96.8	95.2	95.7	97.1
United States	84.7	83.5	86.1	90.5	97.9	96.8	100.0	105.8	106.0	99.9	95.7	94.3	93.6	89.7
Euro area	118.6	123.0	121.8	111.4	114.6	110.9	100.0	102.0	105.9	118.7	122.8	120.5	120.1	122.9

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/542215225533>

Relative consumer price indices

Year 1994 = 100


StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536210402618>



Relative unit labour costs in manufacturing

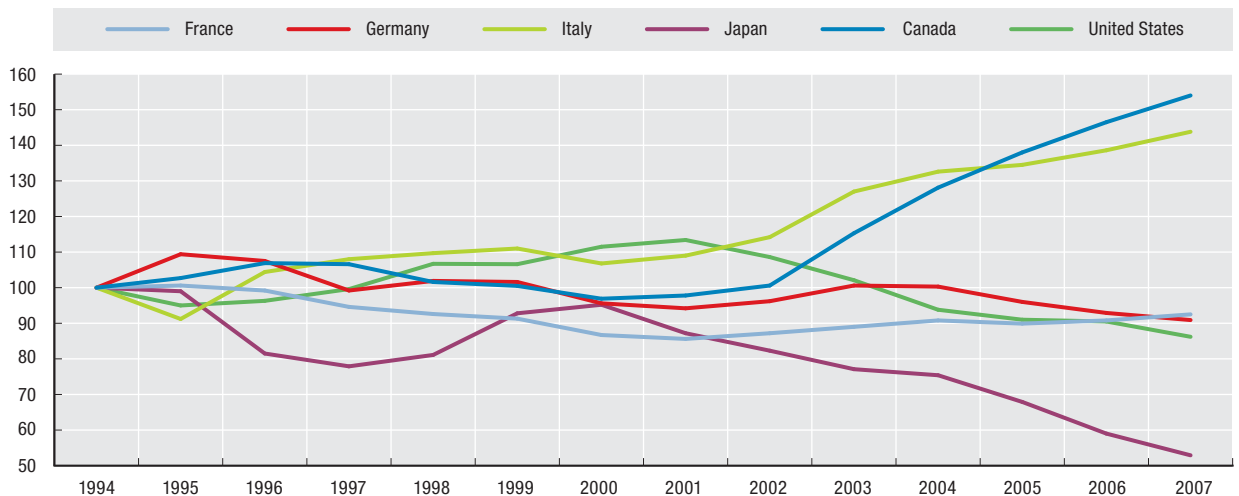
Year 2000 = 100

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	92.9	97.9	108.9	109.9	100.8	106.5	100.0	92.2	97.4	112.5	126.6	138.2	139.0	148.6
Austria	115.4	113.4	107.1	104.5	106.4	105.2	100.0	98.6	99.2	103.2	104.3	103.9	101.0	101.4
Belgium	114.8	116.1	111.3	103.3	104.4	105.7	100.0	102.4	104.4	110.4	111.0	111.0	111.0	112.7
Canada	103.2	106.0	110.3	110.0	104.9	103.7	100.0	100.9	103.8	119.0	132.2	142.4	151.2	158.9
Czech Republic	88.8	88.4	96.6	98.7	109.5	101.3	100.0	112.5	126.3	130.4	127.2	129.3	130.4	129.2
Denmark	95.6	100.1	101.6	98.6	102.6	103.3	100.0	102.3	106.9	114.3	117.7	122.2	122.3	124.0
Finland	110.4	125.3	118.2	111.0	111.6	111.7	100.0	99.3	97.6	100.3	100.0	98.3	92.5	88.1
France	115.3	116.0	114.4	109.1	106.8	105.3	100.0	98.7	100.5	102.6	104.7	103.7	104.7	106.6
Germany	104.6	114.4	112.4	103.8	106.6	106.3	100.0	98.5	100.6	105.2	104.9	100.4	97.2	95.1
Greece	100.1	105.0	107.3	114.8	110.3	107.0	100.0	94.3	97.9	100.9	112.2	107.4	112.1	116.8
Hungary	130.3	118.1	109.2	107.7	99.8	96.0	100.0	108.1	116.4	113.5	124.3	127.7	117.4	125.1
Iceland	71.9	72.7	72.3	75.9	82.9	92.1	100.0	87.3	93.0	98.1	101.2	117.7	114.0	123.9
Ireland	144.5	135.4	134.3	127.1	115.2	106.2	100.0	97.5	90.8	99.9	102.2	102.7	99.9	101.9
Italy	93.6	85.4	97.7	101.1	102.7	103.9	100.0	102.0	106.9	118.9	124.1	125.9	129.7	134.6
Japan	105.0	103.9	85.6	81.8	85.2	97.4	100.0	91.6	86.4	81.0	79.2	71.3	62.0	55.5
Korea	119.8	133.3	144.7	128.6	89.9	93.4	100.0	92.7	97.3	96.9	98.6	110.0	114.8	112.7
Luxembourg	111.4	115.8	112.4	108.9	105.5	100.9	100.0	105.8	106.9	113.3	113.8	118.7	122.5	127.5
Mexico	94.5	58.8	62.1	75.1	76.5	86.6	100.0	112.8	117.3	106.3	103.2	104.1	101.3	100.8
Netherlands	107.3	110.5	107.0	104.1	108.0	107.3	100.0	101.9	106.4	115.7	117.0	115.1	114.0	116.6
New Zealand	108.8	114.5	124.7	130.1	118.1	113.2	100.0	102.0	111.9	129.8	144.4	152.5	142.2	156.7
Norway	80.7	85.6	85.8	90.8	93.8	98.7	100.0	102.8	114.1	109.4	105.9	111.8	115.0	122.1
Poland	81.9	88.2	94.1	97.1	103.5	97.6	100.0	105.3	92.4	75.1	70.9	79.4	76.9	79.2
Portugal	100.1	101.7	98.0	96.3	99.3	101.8	100.0	100.1	101.9	103.5	105.1	106.8	107.7	105.6
Slovak Republic	92.5	97.7	97.0	100.7	96.9	90.5	100.0	95.5	100.4	104.9	107.9	101.6	98.8	98.8
Spain	101.8	102.6	105.1	102.9	103.3	100.8	100.0	101.2	104.0	110.4	114.5	117.3	119.6	122.2
Sweden	112.1	107.8	121.1	113.4	107.0	99.4	100.0	95.7	92.8	94.7	91.3	85.8	83.7	87.1
Switzerland	97.3	105.9	102.0	96.1	99.1	100.5	100.0	106.0	112.9	114.8	114.1	115.1	115.3	114.1
Turkey	71.1	60.5	59.1	66.7	72.7	94.2	100.0	76.1	76.4	74.9	77.6	85.4	82.1	86.7
United Kingdom	70.3	68.7	70.2	84.6	94.6	96.8	100.0	97.5	100.2	96.9	102.2	101.0	103.2	105.8
United States	89.7	85.2	86.4	89.3	95.7	95.6	100.0	101.7	97.4	91.6	84.1	81.6	81.2	77.3
Euro area	114.9	121.0	122.2	111.0	113.5	112.2	100.0	99.7	105.2	119.6	125.1	122.5	122.3	125.2

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/542243662651>

Relative unit labour costs in manufacturing

Year 1994 = 100

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536217650380>





ENERGY

ENERGY SUPPLY

PRIMARY ENERGY SUPPLY

ENERGY SUPPLY AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

ENERGY SUPPLY PER CAPITA

ELECTRICITY GENERATION

NUCLEAR ENERGY

RENEWABLE ENERGY

ENERGY PRODUCTION AND PRICES

ENERGY PRODUCTION

OIL PRODUCTION

OIL PRICES

PRIMARY ENERGY SUPPLY

An analysis of energy problems requires a comprehensive presentation of basic supply and demand data for all fuels in a manner which will allow the easy comparison of the contribution each fuel makes to the economy and their interrelationships through the conversion of one fuel into another. This type of presentation is suitable for the study of energy substitution, energy conservation and forecasting.

Definition

The table refers to total primary energy supply (TPES). TPES equals production plus imports minus exports minus international marine bunkers plus or minus stock changes. The IEA energy balance methodology is based on the calorific content of the energy commodities and a common unit of account. The unit of account adopted is the tonne of oil equivalent (toe) which is defined as 10^7 kilocalories (41.868 gigajoules). This quantity of energy is, within a few per cent, equal to the net heat content of 1 tonne of crude oil. The difference between the “net” and the “gross” calorific value for each fuel is the latent heat of vaporisation of the water produced during combustion of the fuel. For coal and oil, net calorific value is about 5% less than gross, for most forms of natural and manufactured gas the difference is 9-10%, while for electricity there is no difference as the concept has no meaning in this case. The IEA balances are calculated using the physical energy content method to calculate the primary energy equivalent.

Long-term trends

Over the 35-year period of 1971 to 2006, the world's total primary energy supply increased by 112%, reaching 11 740 Mtoe (million tonnes of oil equivalent). This equates to a compound growth rate of 2.2% per annum. By comparison, world population grew by 1.6% and gross domestic product by 3.5% per annum in real terms over the same period.

Energy supply growth was fairly constant over the period, except in 1974-1975 and in the early 1980s as a consequence of the first two oil shocks, and in the early 1990s following the dissolution of the Soviet Union.

The share of OECD in world primary energy supply decreased again in 2006. Strong economic development in Asia led to a large increase in the share of Asia (including China) in world energy supply, from 13% in 1971 to 27% in 2006. By contrast, the combined share of the former USSR and non-OECD Europe decreased significantly in the late 1980s.

The forecasts provided in the table refer to the Reference Scenario of the *World Energy Outlook*. The Reference Scenario projects supply and demand if present policies were to continue. The *World Energy Outlook* also presents a scenario for stabilising greenhouse gas concentrations at 550 parts per million (ppm) of CO₂-equivalent (which would limit the temperature increase to about 3 °C) and another scenario at 450 ppm of CO₂-equivalent (which would limit the temperature increase to about 2 °C).

Comparability

While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the data, quality is not homogeneous for all countries/regions. In some countries data are based on secondary sources, and where incomplete or unavailable, the IEA has made estimates. In general, data are likely to be more accurate for production and trade than for international marine bunkers or stock changes. Moreover, statistics for combustible renewables and waste are less accurate than traditional commercial energy data in most countries.

Sources

- IEA (2008), *Energy Balances of OECD Countries*, IEA, Paris.
- IEA (2008), *Energy Balances of Non-OECD Countries*, IEA, Paris.
- IEA (2008), *World Energy Outlook 2008*, IEA, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- IEA (2009), *Lessons Learned from the Energy Policies of IEA Countries*, IEA, Paris.
- IEA (2008), *Energy Technology Perspectives: Scenarios and Strategies to 2050*, IEA, Paris.
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- IEA (2007), *Energy Use in the New Millennium: Trends in IEA Countries*, IEA, Paris.
- IEA (2007), *Mind the Gap: Quantifying Principal-Agent Problems in Energy Efficiency*, IEA, Paris.

Online databases

- World Energy Statistics and Balances.

Websites

- International Energy Agency, www.iea.org.



Total primary energy supply

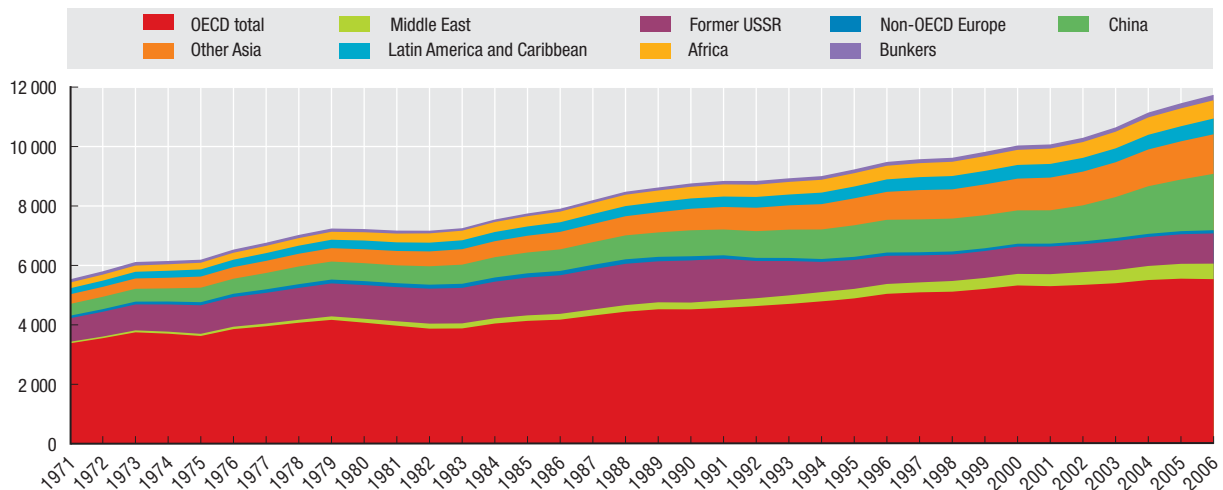
Million tonnes of oil equivalent (Mtoe)

	1971	1990	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2030
Australia	52.1	87.7	103.5	106.4	108.6	110.6	108.4	111.6	112.8	113.1	120.7	122.5	128.2	..
Austria	18.9	25.1	28.7	29.2	29.1	29.0	30.7	31.3	32.8	33.0	34.0	34.2	33.2	..
Belgium	40.1	49.7	59.7	61.0	61.4	61.9	61.3	59.3	62.4	62.2	61.7	61.0	59.0	..
Canada	141.8	209.5	239.7	238.2	245.4	252.1	249.0	249.5	262.2	269.0	273.7	269.7	272.4	..
Czech Republic	45.6	49.0	42.6	41.1	38.5	40.4	41.4	42.0	44.6	45.8	45.2	46.1	45.8	..
Denmark	19.2	17.9	21.0	20.7	19.9	19.4	19.9	19.6	20.8	20.2	19.7	20.9	20.4	..
Finland	18.2	28.7	32.6	32.9	32.8	32.5	33.2	34.9	37.0	37.2	34.4	37.4	37.2	..
France	160.1	227.6	247.2	255.3	255.4	258.2	266.2	266.8	271.4	275.4	276.2	272.7	268.3	..
Germany	307.6	355.6	350.5	348.6	341.2	343.2	353.0	344.8	347.4	349.4	345.3	348.6	334.8	..
Greece	9.1	22.2	25.1	26.4	26.6	27.9	28.8	29.1	29.9	30.5	31.0	31.1	30.8	..
Hungary	19.1	28.6	25.8	25.4	25.3	25.0	25.4	25.8	26.3	26.4	27.8	27.6	27.1	..
Iceland	1.0	2.2	2.5	2.7	3.1	3.2	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.6	4.3	4.4	..
Ireland	7.0	10.3	12.5	13.2	13.6	14.2	15.2	15.4	14.9	15.0	15.2	15.5	15.5	..
Italy	106.6	148.1	163.1	167.7	170.0	173.3	173.7	173.9	181.2	183.3	185.7	184.2	186.8	..
Japan	268.8	443.9	517.5	508.6	515.9	526.6	518.2	518.6	514.2	530.8	528.4	527.6	522.5	519.4
Korea	17.0	93.4	175.1	160.0	176.5	189.4	192.1	202.5	206.8	212.3	212.5	216.5	227.1	..
Luxembourg	4.1	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.6	..
Mexico	43.5	123.0	140.2	146.5	149.7	150.2	152.1	155.4	159.8	165.2	176.6	177.4	184.1	..
Netherlands	51.5	67.1	74.8	75.1	74.3	76.4	78.5	79.1	81.4	82.7	82.4	80.1	83.2	..
New Zealand	7.1	13.8	17.1	16.8	17.7	18.1	18.2	17.8	17.3	17.6	17.3	17.5	18.2	..
Norway	13.5	21.4	24.5	25.5	26.8	25.7	26.4	25.1	27.2	29.1	33.1	26.1	25.7	..
Poland	86.3	99.9	102.4	95.8	93.2	89.4	90.0	89.1	91.4	91.7	92.7	97.7	98.6	..
Portugal	6.5	17.2	21.6	23.3	25.0	25.2	25.4	26.4	25.8	26.5	27.2	25.4	25.4	..
Slovak Republic	14.3	21.3	18.1	17.6	17.7	17.8	18.6	18.8	18.7	18.4	18.9	18.7	18.1	..
Spain	43.2	91.2	107.9	113.3	118.7	124.7	127.8	131.5	136.0	142.2	144.9	144.6	148.1	..
Sweden	36.2	47.6	50.8	51.8	50.8	48.3	51.2	52.3	51.1	53.2	52.2	51.3	50.0	..
Switzerland	16.9	24.8	25.9	26.3	26.2	26.0	27.5	26.6	26.7	27.0	27.0	28.2	27.1	..
Turkey	19.6	52.9	70.9	72.2	70.9	76.9	70.9	75.1	78.7	81.8	85.5	94.0	100.2	..
United Kingdom	211.1	212.3	227.4	230.4	231.6	233.9	234.5	228.6	232.9	233.2	234.5	231.1	226.9	..
United States	1 592.7	1 926.3	2 162.1	2 180.6	2 239.4	2 302.6	2 256.8	2 286.5	2 281.1	2 328.0	2 341.9	2 320.7	2 367.0	2 565.6
EU27 total	..	1 655.9	1 709.1	1 721.2	1 709.6	1 724.2	1 762.4	1 757.0	1 797.8	1 817.7	1 821.1	1 822.5	..	1 903.3
OECD total	3 378.6	4 521.8	5 094.2	5 115.9	5 209.1	5 325.4	5 301.5	5 344.9	5 400.3	5 508.3	5 554.0	5 537.4	5 590.6	6 180.3
Brazil	69.6	140.0	178.8	183.2	187.8	189.8	191.1	196.5	199.9	210.9	216.5	224.1	..	..
China	391.7	863.2	1 090.6	1 090.2	1 094.4	1 105.9	1 104.3	1 196.4	1 362.2	1 584.9	1 720.1	1 878.7	..	3 884.9
India	157.0	319.9	416.1	425.2	451.0	459.8	466.4	478.9	491.3	519.4	538.1	565.8	..	1 279.6
Indonesia	36.2	102.8	143.4	132.8	148.0	151.4	158.5	161.6	164.3	172.0	176.0	179.1	..	..
Russian Federation	..	878.9	595.7	581.9	603.6	614.6	621.9	618.5	640.4	642.3	656.4	676.2	..	859.4
South Africa	45.3	91.2	107.5	109.0	109.2	111.3	109.2	105.3	118.1	129.3	127.6	129.8	..	..
World	5 532.6	8 758.8	9 573.7	9 622.0	9 821.7	10 035.2	10 071.1	10 294.3	10 645.0	11 143.6	11 457.5	11 740.0	..	17 013.6

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Total primary energy supply by region

Million tonnes of oil equivalent (Mtoe)



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536274373476>

ENERGY SUPPLY AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

It is not an easy task to monitor the overall trend in energy efficiency of a country, since there are numerous elements to consider such as climate change, outsourcing of goods produced by energy-intensive industries, etc. A common way to measure progress in energy intensity is to look at the changes in the ratio of energy use to GDP. Indeed, some experts look at energy intensity to derive trends of energy efficiency, but such an analysis has many limitations.

Definition

The table shows total primary energy supply (TPES) per thousand US dollars of GDP. The ratios are calculated by dividing each country's annual TPES by each country's annual GDP expressed in constant 2000 prices and converted to US dollars using purchasing power parities (PPPs) for the year 2000.

TPES consists of primary energy production adjusted for net trade and stock changes. Production of secondary energy (e.g. oil/coal products, electricity from fossil fuels, etc.) is not included since the "energy equivalent" of the primary fuels used to create the secondary products or electric power has already been counted. TPES is expressed in tonnes of oil equivalent (see the IEA sources below for details on how TPES is calculated).

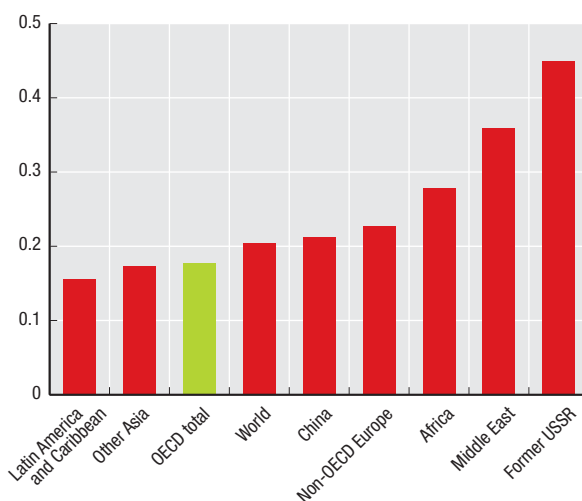
Comparability

Care should be taken when comparing energy intensities between countries and over time. Different national circumstances such as density of population, country size, average temperatures and economic structure will affect

the ratios. A decrease in the TPES/GDP ratio may be partly attributable to a restructuring of the economy by transferring energy-intensive industries such as iron and steel out of the country – i.e. by purchasing energy-intensive products from abroad. The harmful effects of such outsourcing may actually increase the damage to the environment if the producers abroad use less energy efficient techniques.

Total primary energy supply per unit of GDP

Tonnes of oil equivalent (toe) per thousand 2000 US dollars of GDP calculated using PPPs, 2006



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536281500457>

Long-term trends

Sharp improvements in the efficiency of key end uses, shifts to electricity, and some changes in manufacturing output and consumer behaviour have occurred in many OECD countries since 1971. As a consequence, energy supply per unit of GDP fell significantly, particularly in the 1979-1990 period.

Contributing to the trend were higher fuel prices, long-term technological progress, government energy efficiency programmes and regulations. Overall growth in per capita GDP, combined with higher living standards and slow population growth, produced steadily rising demand after 1985.

The ratio of energy supply to GDP (TPES/GDP) fell less than the ratio of energy consumption to GDP (TFC/GDP), because of increased use of electricity. The main reason for this is that losses in electricity generating outweighed intensity improvements achieved in end uses such as household appliances.

Among OECD countries, the ratio of energy consumption to GDP varies considerably. Apart from energy prices, winter weather is a key element in these variations, as are raw materials processing techniques, the distance goods must be shipped, the size of dwellings, use of private rather than public transport and other lifestyle factors.

Sources

- IEA (2008), *Energy Balances of OECD Countries*, IEA, Paris.
- IEA (2008), *Energy Balances of Non-OECD Countries*, IEA, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

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- IEA (2008), *Energy Policies of IEA Countries*, series, IEA, Paris.
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- IEA (2007), *Energy Use in the New Millennium: Trends in IEA Countries*, IEA, Paris.
- IEA (2007), *Mind the Gap: Quantifying Principal-Agent Problems in Energy Efficiency*, IEA, Paris.

Online databases

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Websites

- International Energy Agency, www.iea.org.

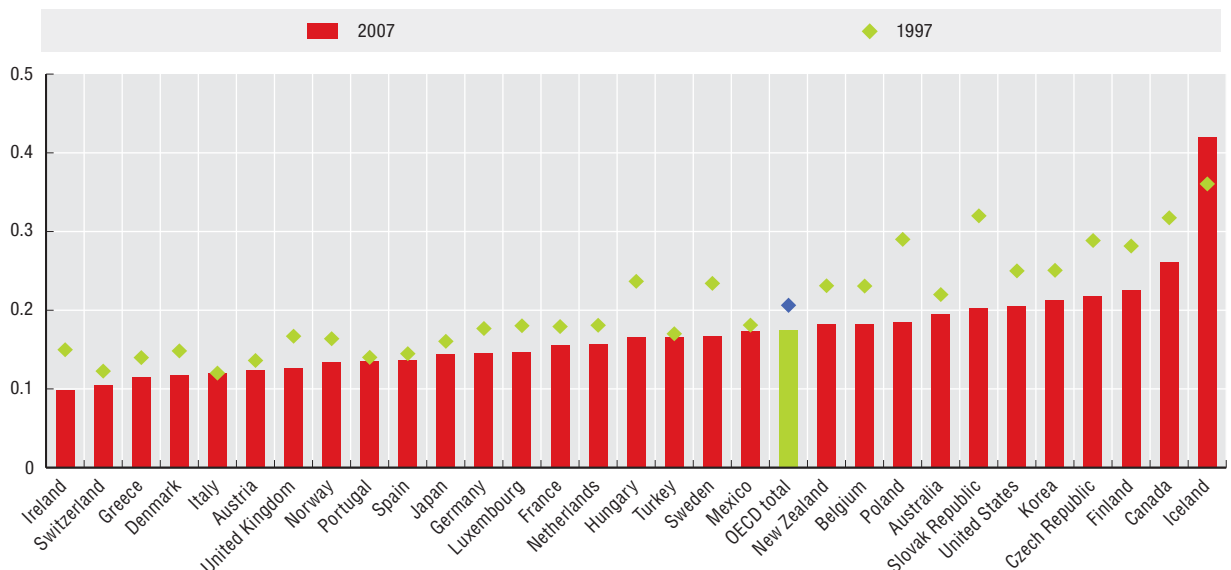
Total primary energy supply per unit of GDP

Tonnes of oil equivalent (toe) per thousand 2000 US dollars of GDP calculated using PPPs

	1971	1990	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	0.24	0.24	0.22	0.22	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.20	0.20	0.19	0.19	0.20	0.19	0.19
Austria	0.18	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.13	0.12	0.13	0.13	0.14	0.13	0.14	0.13	0.12
Belgium	0.29	0.22	0.24	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.22	0.22	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.20	0.19	0.18
Canada	0.41	0.32	0.33	0.32	0.30	0.30	0.29	0.28	0.27	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.27	0.26
Czech Republic	0.44	0.33	0.28	0.29	0.28	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.27	0.26	0.24	0.23	0.22
Denmark	0.24	0.15	0.16	0.15	0.14	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.12	0.12	0.12
Finland	0.32	0.26	0.29	0.28	0.27	0.26	0.24	0.24	0.25	0.26	0.25	0.23	0.24	0.23
France	0.22	0.18	0.19	0.18	0.18	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.16	0.16
Germany	0.29	0.21	0.18	0.18	0.17	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.15	0.14
Greece	0.09	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.12	0.12	0.11
Hungary	0.28	0.25	0.25	0.24	0.22	0.21	0.20	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.18	0.18	0.17	0.17
Iceland	0.33	0.34	0.37	0.36	0.36	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.39	0.38	0.36	0.42	0.42
Ireland	0.28	0.19	0.16	0.15	0.15	0.14	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.12	0.11	0.11	0.10	0.10
Italy	0.16	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12
Japan	0.20	0.15	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.15	0.15	0.14
Korea	0.17	0.22	0.24	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.24	0.24	0.23	0.23	0.22	0.21	0.21
Luxembourg	0.58	0.25	0.19	0.18	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.16	0.15
Mexico	0.15	0.19	0.19	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.18	0.17	0.17
Netherlands	0.24	0.20	0.19	0.18	0.17	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.16	0.16
New Zealand	0.16	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.22	0.20	0.19	0.19	0.18	0.18	0.18
Norway	0.23	0.19	0.16	0.16	0.17	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.15	0.16	0.17	0.18	0.14	0.13
Poland	0.41	0.36	0.31	0.29	0.26	0.24	0.22	0.22	0.21	0.21	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.19
Portugal	0.10	0.13	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.15	0.14	0.14	0.15	0.14	0.15	0.15	0.14	0.14
Slovak Republic	0.38	0.39	0.34	0.32	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.29	0.28	0.26	0.25	0.23	0.20
Spain	0.12	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.15	0.14	0.14	0.14
Sweden	0.27	0.24	0.25	0.23	0.23	0.22	0.20	0.21	0.21	0.20	0.20	0.19	0.18	0.17
Switzerland	0.11	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.11	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11
Turkey	0.15	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.17
United Kingdom	0.27	0.18	0.18	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.15	0.15	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.13
United States	0.41	0.27	0.26	0.25	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.23	0.23	0.22	0.22	0.21	0.21	0.21
EU27 total	..	0.19	0.18	0.18	0.17	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.15	..
OECD total	0.29	0.22	0.21	0.21	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.18	0.18	0.17
Brazil	0.17	0.14	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.16	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	..
China	0.88	0.47	0.30	0.28	0.26	0.24	0.22	0.20	0.20	0.21	0.22	0.22	0.22	..
India	0.26	0.23	0.21	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.19	0.18	0.18	0.17	0.17	0.16	0.15	..
Indonesia	0.34	0.26	0.22	0.22	0.23	0.26	0.25	0.26	0.25	0.24	0.24	0.23	0.22	..
Russian Federation	..	0.58	0.68	0.64	0.66	0.65	0.60	0.58	0.55	0.53	0.49	0.48	0.46	..
South Africa	0.22	0.28	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.29	0.29	0.28	0.26	0.28	0.29	0.27	0.26	..
World	0.32	0.26	0.24	0.24	0.23	0.23	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.20	..

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/542247616365>**Total primary energy supply unit of GDP**

Tonnes of oil equivalent (toe) per thousand 2000 US dollars of GDP calculated using PPPs

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536277447613>

ENERGY SUPPLY PER CAPITA

Total primary energy supply per capita is a common, albeit an imperfect measure of energy efficiency in a country. For instance, neither the impact of climate on energy use (heating, cooling) nor the size of the country and the density of the population are properly taken into account when comparing countries. Energy analysts usually prefer to compare energy use per unit of output or per unit of GDP. However, the ratio has been presented here since its use is widespread.

Definition

The table refers to total primary energy supply (TPES) per head of population. The ratio is expressed in tonnes of oil equivalent (toe) per person. TPES consists of primary energy production adjusted for net trade and stock changes. Production of secondary energy (e.g. oil/coal products, electricity from fossil fuels, etc.) is not included since the “energy equivalent” of the primary fuels used to create the secondary products or electric power has already been counted. TPES is expressed in tonnes of oil equivalent (see the IEA sources below for details on how TPES is calculated). The forecasts provided in the table refer to the Reference Scenario of the *World Energy Outlook*.

Long-term trends

The level of energy supply on a per capita basis varied significantly across OECD countries. The countries with the highest ratios were those countries with the smallest populations. In 2007, the energy supply per capita for Iceland was 14.6 toe/capita and for Luxembourg was 9.6 toe/capita. The high ratio for Iceland is explained partly by the climate but also by the availability of cheap – and non-polluting – thermal energy from hot springs. In the case of Luxembourg, the high ratio is partly due to low sales taxes on petroleum products; motorists and other consumers from neighbouring countries – Belgium, France and Germany – buy their supplies in Luxembourg.

The United States and Canada are also large consumers of energy per capita, with ratios of 7.8 and 8.3 toe/capita in 2007. On the other end of the scale, the countries with the lowest TPES/capita were Turkey (1.4 toe/capita) and Mexico (1.7 toe/capita).

Between 1971 and 2007, there are striking differences in the trends of the OECD countries. Compared to 1971, TPES/capita in 2007 was nine times higher in Korea and more than doubled in Greece, Iceland, Portugal, Spain and Turkey. On the other hand, the ratio decreased in five OECD countries over this period: Luxembourg (-20%), the Czech Republic (-4%), Denmark (-3%), Poland (-2%), and the United Kingdom (-1%).

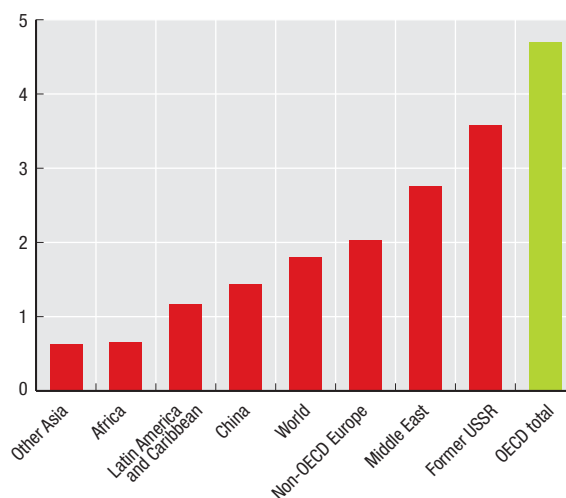
In general, the TPES/capita of non-OECD countries is lower than that of the OECD countries. In 2006, the ratio for China (1.4 toe/capita) was three times greater than in 1971. South Africa (2.7 toe/capita), Brazil (1.2 toe/capita) and India (0.5 toe/capita) grew slightly more slowly.

Comparability

Care should be taken when comparing energy supply per capita between countries and over time. Different national circumstances such as density of population, country size, temperatures, economic structure and domestic energy resources affect the ratios.

Total primary energy supply per capita

Tonnes of oil equivalent (toe) per capita, 2006



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536306673482>

Sources

- IEA (2008), *Energy Balances of OECD Countries*, IEA, Paris.
- IEA (2008), *Energy Balances of Non-OECD Countries*, IEA, Paris.
- IEA (2008), *World Energy Outlook 2008*, IEA, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- IEA (2009), *Lessons Learned from the Energy Policies of IEA Countries*, IEA, Paris.
- IEA (2008), *Energy Policies of IEA Countries*, series, IEA, Paris.

Online databases

- World Energy Statistics and Balances.

Websites

- International Energy Agency, www.iea.org.

Total primary energy supply per capita

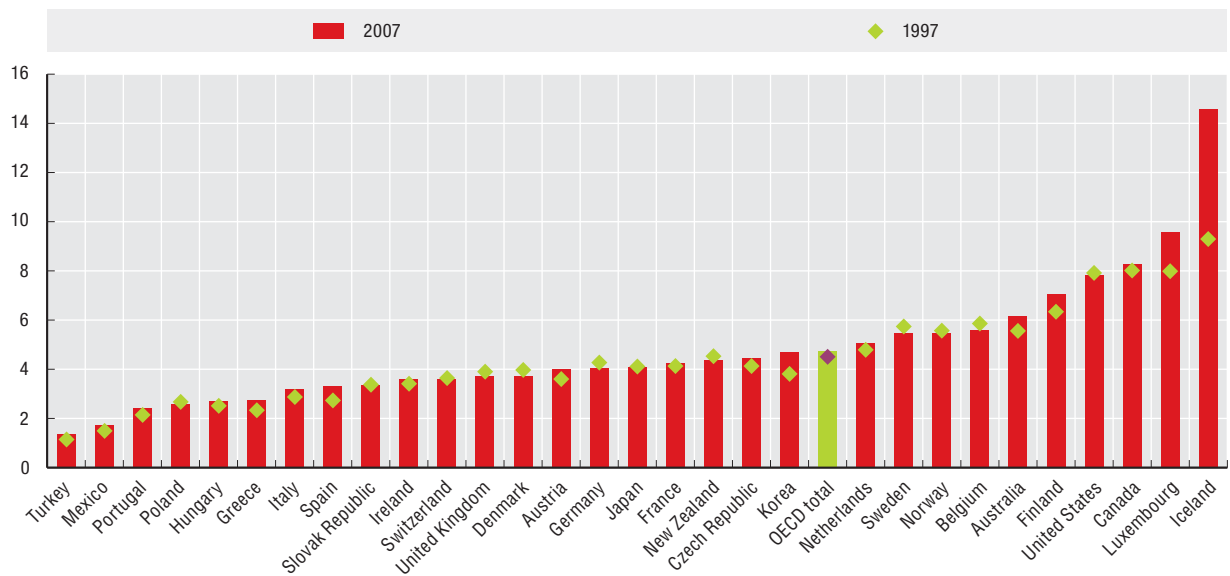
Tonnes of oil equivalent (toe) per capita

	1971	1990	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2030
Australia	3.95	5.11	5.56	5.65	5.71	5.74	5.55	5.65	5.65	5.60	5.90	5.90	6.15	..
Austria	2.52	3.26	3.60	3.66	3.65	3.62	3.81	3.87	4.04	4.04	4.13	4.13	4.02	..
Belgium	4.15	4.99	5.86	5.98	6.01	6.04	5.97	5.74	6.01	5.97	5.89	5.79	5.60	..
Canada	6.46	7.56	8.02	7.90	8.07	8.21	8.03	7.95	8.28	8.41	8.47	8.27	8.29	..
Czech Republic	4.64	4.73	4.13	3.99	3.74	3.93	4.05	4.12	4.37	4.48	4.42	4.49	4.46	..
Denmark	3.86	3.49	3.97	3.91	3.75	3.63	3.72	3.65	3.86	3.74	3.63	3.85	3.74	..
Finland	3.95	5.76	6.34	6.38	6.35	6.27	6.40	6.70	7.10	7.12	6.55	7.11	7.06	..
France	3.06	3.91	4.13	4.25	4.23	4.25	4.35	4.33	4.37	4.41	4.40	4.31	4.26	..
Germany	3.93	4.48	4.27	4.25	4.16	4.18	4.29	4.18	4.21	4.23	4.19	4.23	4.06	..
Greece	1.02	2.15	2.33	2.44	2.45	2.56	2.63	2.65	2.71	2.76	2.79	2.79	2.76	..
Hungary	1.84	2.76	2.51	2.47	2.47	2.45	2.49	2.54	2.60	2.61	2.76	2.74	2.70	..
Iceland	4.74	8.48	9.30	9.81	11.11	11.50	11.76	11.75	11.68	11.90	12.21	14.23	14.56	..
Ireland	2.36	2.94	3.41	3.56	3.64	3.73	3.93	3.93	3.73	3.70	3.66	3.63	3.59	..
Italy	1.97	2.61	2.87	2.95	2.99	3.04	3.05	3.04	3.15	3.15	3.17	3.13	3.18	..
Japan	2.57	3.60	4.11	4.02	4.07	4.15	4.08	4.07	4.03	4.15	4.14	4.13	4.09	4.40
Korea	0.52	2.18	3.81	3.46	3.79	4.03	4.06	4.25	4.32	4.42	4.42	4.48	4.68	..
Luxembourg	11.99	9.28	7.99	7.68	7.96	8.28	8.56	8.95	9.31	10.09	10.14	9.96	9.56	..
Mexico	0.87	1.51	1.49	1.54	1.55	1.53	1.53	1.54	1.57	1.61	1.70	1.69	1.74	..
Netherlands	3.91	4.49	4.79	4.78	4.70	4.80	4.89	4.90	5.02	5.08	5.05	4.90	5.06	..
New Zealand	2.49	4.09	4.53	4.41	4.61	4.69	4.69	4.50	4.31	4.33	4.22	4.23	4.36	..
Norway	3.47	5.05	5.57	5.75	6.00	5.72	5.85	5.53	5.95	6.34	7.15	5.60	5.49	..
Poland	2.63	2.63	2.67	2.50	2.44	2.34	2.35	2.33	2.39	2.40	2.43	2.56	2.59	..
Portugal	0.75	1.73	2.14	2.30	2.46	2.47	2.47	2.55	2.47	2.53	2.57	2.40	2.42	..
Slovak Republic	3.13	4.02	3.37	3.26	3.28	3.29	3.46	3.49	3.47	3.42	3.50	3.46	3.35	..
Spain	1.26	2.34	2.73	2.85	2.97	3.10	3.14	3.18	3.24	3.33	3.34	3.28	3.32	..
Sweden	4.46	5.56	5.74	5.85	5.74	5.44	5.76	5.86	5.71	5.92	5.78	5.65	5.47	..
Switzerland	2.67	3.65	3.64	3.68	3.66	3.61	3.77	3.62	3.61	3.62	3.60	3.73	3.59	..
Turkey	0.54	0.94	1.14	1.14	1.10	1.14	1.03	1.08	1.11	1.14	1.19	1.29	1.35	..
United Kingdom	3.77	3.71	3.90	3.94	3.95	3.97	3.97	3.85	3.91	3.90	3.89	3.82	3.73	..
United States	7.67	7.70	7.92	7.90	8.02	8.15	7.91	7.93	7.83	7.92	7.89	7.74	7.82	6.98
EU27 total	..	3.50	3.56	3.58	3.55	3.57	3.64	3.62	3.69	3.71	3.70	3.69	..	3.82
OECD total	3.83	4.33	4.61	4.60	4.65	4.71	4.66	4.66	4.67	4.74	4.75	4.70	4.72	4.75
Brazil	0.71	0.94	1.07	1.08	1.09	1.09	1.08	1.10	1.10	1.14	1.16	1.18	..	..
China	0.47	0.76	0.89	0.88	0.87	0.88	0.87	0.93	1.06	1.22	1.32	1.43	..	2.67
India	0.28	0.38	0.43	0.43	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.46	0.46	0.48	0.49	0.51	..	0.88
Indonesia	0.30	0.58	0.72	0.66	0.73	0.73	0.76	0.76	0.77	0.79	0.80	0.80	..	..
Russian Federation	..	5.93	4.04	3.96	4.13	4.20	4.26	4.26	4.43	4.47	4.59	4.75	..	6.98
South Africa	2.01	2.59	2.63	2.60	2.54	2.53	2.44	2.33	2.58	2.79	2.72	2.74	..	..
World	1.47	1.66	1.64	1.63	1.64	1.65	1.64	1.65	1.69	1.75	1.77	1.80	..	2.07

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/542261385450>

Total primary energy supply per capita

Tonnes of oil equivalent (toe) per capita

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536282656786>

ELECTRICITY GENERATION

The amount of electricity generated by a country and the breakdown of the production by fuel is a reflection of its natural resources, imported energy, national policies on security of energy supply, population, electrification rate and the development and growth of the economy in general.

Definition

The table refers to electricity generation from fossil fuels, nuclear, hydro (excluding pumped storage), geothermal, solar, biomass, etc. It includes electricity produced in electricity-only plants and in combined heat and power plants. Both main activity producer and autoproducer plants have been included, where data are available. Main activity producers generate electricity for sale to third parties as their primary activity. Autoproducer undertakings generate electricity wholly or partly for their own use as an activity which supports their primary activity. Both types of plants may be privately or publicly owned. The forecasts provided in the table refer to the Reference Scenario of the *World Energy Outlook*.

Comparability

Some countries, both OECD and non-OECD, have trouble reporting electricity generation from autoproducer plants. It is also difficult to obtain information on electricity generated by combustible renewables and waste in some non-OECD countries. For example, electricity generated from waste biomass in sugar refining remains largely unreported.

Long-term trends

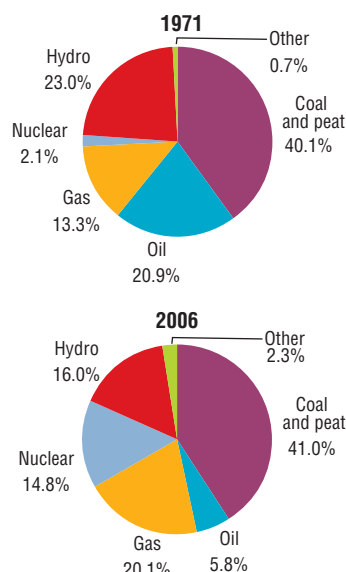
World electricity generation rose at an average annual rate of 3.7% from 1971 to 2006, greater than the 2.2% growth in total primary energy supply. This increase was largely due to more electrical appliances, development of electrical heating in several developed countries and rural electrification programmes in developing countries.

The share of electricity production from fossil fuels has gradually fallen, from just under 75% in 1971 to 67% in 2006. This decrease was due to a progressive move away from oil, which fell from 20.9% to 5.8%.

Oil for power generation has been displaced in particular by dramatic growth in nuclear electricity generation, which rose from 2.1% in 1971 to 14.8% in 2006. The share of coal remained stable, at 40-41% while that of natural gas increased from 13.3% to 20.1%. The share of hydro-electricity decreased from 23.0% to 16.0%. Due to large programmes to develop wind and solar energy in several OECD countries, the share of new and renewable energies, such as solar, wind, geothermal, biomass and waste increased. However, these energy forms remain limited: in 2006, they accounted for only 2.3% of total electricity production.

World electricity generation by source of energy

As a percentage of world electricity generation



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536357457783>

Sources

- IEA (2008), *Energy Balances of OECD Countries*, IEA, Paris.
- IEA (2008), *Energy Balances of Non-OECD Countries*, IEA, Paris.
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- IEA (2006), *China's Power Sector Reforms*, IEA, Paris.
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Electricity generation

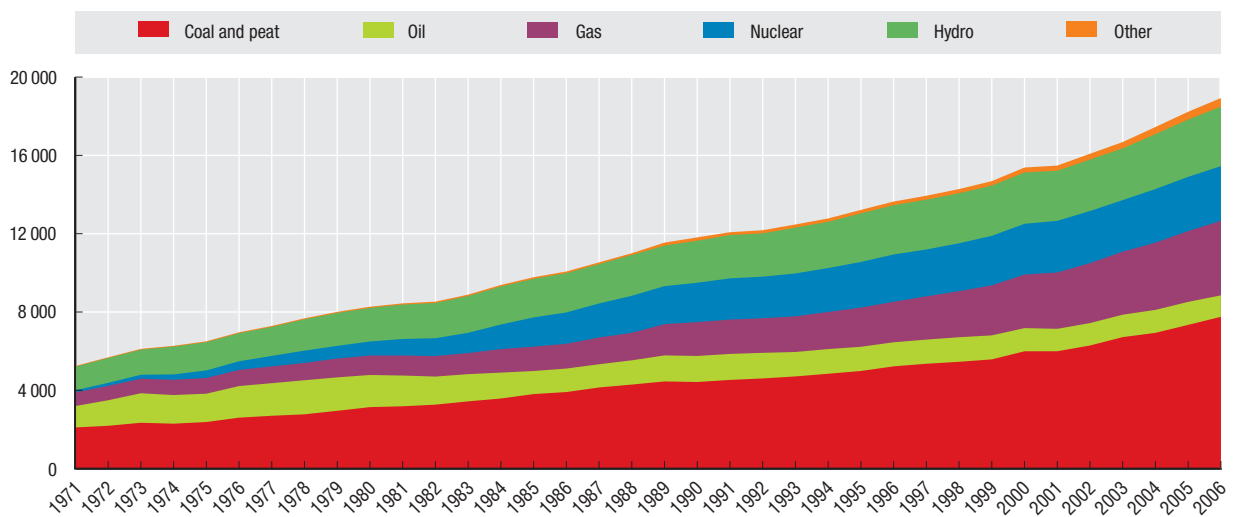
Terawatt hours (TWh)

	1971	1990	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2030
Australia	53.0	154.3	182.8	195.6	203.0	207.4	216.5	226.2	227.9	234.3	245.1	251.3	258.9	..
Austria	28.2	49.3	55.7	55.9	59.7	59.9	60.7	60.3	57.7	61.6	63.0	60.7	61.2	..
Belgium	33.2	70.3	77.9	82.1	83.4	82.8	78.6	80.9	83.6	84.4	85.7	84.3	87.9	..
Canada	221.8	481.9	573.5	561.5	578.8	605.5	589.6	601.0	589.4	599.7	625.9	612.5	630.9	..
Czech Republic	36.4	62.3	64.2	64.6	64.2	72.9	74.2	76.0	82.8	83.8	81.9	83.7	87.8	..
Denmark	18.6	26.0	44.3	41.1	38.9	36.0	37.7	39.3	46.2	40.4	36.4	45.7	39.2	..
Finland	21.7	54.4	69.2	70.2	69.5	70.0	74.5	74.9	84.2	85.8	70.6	82.3	81.2	..
France	155.8	417.2	501.1	507.3	521.3	536.1	545.7	553.9	561.8	569.1	571.5	569.2	564.4	..
Germany	327.2	547.7	548.0	552.4	552.5	572.3	581.9	582.0	601.5	608.5	613.4	629.4	629.3	..
Greece	11.6	34.8	43.3	46.2	49.4	53.4	53.1	53.9	57.9	58.8	59.4	60.2	62.9	..
Hungary	15.0	28.4	35.4	37.2	37.8	35.2	36.4	36.2	34.1	33.7	35.8	35.9	39.9	..
Iceland	1.6	4.5	5.6	6.3	7.2	7.7	8.0	8.4	8.5	8.6	8.7	9.9	12.0	..
Ireland	6.3	14.2	19.7	20.9	21.8	23.7	24.6	24.8	24.9	25.2	25.6	27.7	27.4	..
Italy	123.9	213.1	246.5	253.7	259.3	269.9	271.9	277.5	286.3	295.8	296.8	307.7	308.8	..
Japan	382.9	835.5	1 004.3	1 010.0	1 027.9	1 048.6	1 029.8	1 048.4	1 037.5	1 067.2	1 088.4	1 090.5	1 144.2	1 271.4
Korea	10.5	105.4	222.1	216.1	235.6	288.5	309.1	329.8	343.2	366.6	387.9	402.3	437.4	..
Luxembourg	1.3	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	2.8	2.8	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.2	..
Mexico	31.0	124.1	180.9	181.2	189.9	203.6	209.1	214.6	217.8	224.1	242.0	249.6	257.2	..
Netherlands	44.9	71.9	86.6	91.2	86.9	89.7	93.8	96.1	96.8	100.8	100.2	98.4	103.4	..
New Zealand	15.5	32.3	35.9	36.3	38.2	39.2	39.4	41.1	41.2	42.9	43.1	43.5	43.9	..
Norway	63.5	121.6	110.7	116.1	122.3	139.6	119.2	130.3	106.8	110.2	137.2	121.3	136.6	..
Poland	69.5	134.4	140.9	140.8	140.0	143.2	143.7	142.5	150.0	152.6	155.4	160.8	158.7	..
Portugal	7.9	28.4	34.1	38.9	42.9	43.4	46.2	45.7	46.5	44.8	46.2	48.6	47.1	..
Slovak Republic	10.9	25.5	25.1	25.7	28.1	30.8	31.9	32.2	31.0	30.5	31.4	31.3	27.5	..
Spain	61.6	151.2	189.2	193.4	205.9	222.2	233.2	241.6	257.9	277.2	288.9	299.1	303.3	..
Sweden	66.5	146.0	149.2	158.8	154.8	145.2	161.6	146.7	135.4	151.7	158.4	143.3	148.7	..
Switzerland	31.2	55.0	62.0	62.3	68.7	66.1	71.1	65.5	65.4	63.9	57.8	62.1	66.5	..
Turkey	9.8	57.5	103.3	111.0	116.4	124.9	122.7	129.4	140.6	150.7	162.0	176.3	191.2	..
United Kingdom	255.8	317.8	349.2	361.1	365.3	374.4	382.4	384.6	395.5	391.2	395.5	394.5	393.6	..
United States	1 703.4	3 202.8	3 672.2	3 804.5	3 873.5	4 025.7	3 838.6	4 026.1	4 054.4	4 147.7	4 268.4	4 274.3	4 372.2	5 332.3
EU27 total	..	2 567.3	2 825.4	2 886.6	2 914.2	2 996.8	3 077.1	3 099.1	3 187.4	3 252.6	3 273.9	3 323.1	..	4 157.6
OECD total	3 820.7	7 568.4	8 833.2	9 042.8	9 243.4	9 618.4	9 485.8	9 772.7	9 869.5	10 115.0	10 385.7	10 459.8	10 726.3	13 418.0
Brazil	51.6	222.8	308.1	321.9	334.8	349.2	327.9	345.7	364.9	387.5	402.9	419.3	..	..
China	138.4	621.2	1 134.7	1 166.6	1 239.8	1 356.2	1 472.4	1 641.4	1 908.5	2 201.0	2 499.6	2 864.2	..	8 241.4
India	66.4	289.4	465.8	496.9	537.4	562.2	581.0	598.4	635.2	667.6	699.2	744.1	..	2 645.1
Indonesia	2.4	33.3	76.5	77.3	84.3	92.6	101.6	108.2	112.9	120.2	127.4	133.1	..	..
Russian Federation	..	1 082.2	833.2	826.2	845.3	876.5	889.3	889.3	914.3	929.9	951.2	993.9	..	1 445.5
South Africa	54.6	165.4	207.7	203.0	200.4	207.8	208.2	215.7	232.3	242.5	242.9	251.9	..	..
World	5 245.7	11 810.9	13 937.5	14 279.0	14 685.4	15 380.3	15 478.2	16 083.3	16 681.3	17 449.9	18 229.3	18 930.4	..	33 264.6

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/542273577711>

World electricity generation by source of energy

Terawatt hours (TWh)

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536312870056>

NUCLEAR ENERGY

In 2007 nuclear energy provided over 21% of total electricity supply in OECD countries. However, the use of nuclear energy varies widely. In all, 17 of the 30 OECD countries use nuclear energy at present, with eight generating one-third or more of their power from this source. Collectively, OECD countries produce about 85% of the world's nuclear energy. The remainder is produced in 14 non-OECD economies.

Definition

The table gives the net nuclear generation in terawatt hours (TWh) in each of the OECD member countries and in selected non-OECD countries. The percentage share this represents of total net electricity generation in each country and in the OECD as a whole is also given, and is shown in the chart.

Long-term trends

After growing strongly in the 1970s and 1980s, nuclear energy has since stagnated. Only a few new nuclear power plants have been ordered in the last 20 years, with the Czech Republic, Japan and Korea being the only OECD countries where new nuclear plants have entered operation since 2000. However, Finland, France, Japan, Korea, the Slovak Republic and the United States all presently have one or more nuclear plants under construction.

The role of nuclear energy in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and in increasing energy diversification and security of supply has been increasingly recognised over the last few years. This has led to renewed interest in building new nuclear plants in several countries. As a result, nuclear capacity is now expected to grow more strongly over the next 10 to 20 years and beyond. Much of this growth is expected to be in non-OECD countries, in particular, China, India and the Russian Federation, which each have several new plants under construction. Among OECD members, Japan, Korea and the United States are expected to add significantly to their nuclear capacity, with others also considering additional nuclear plants.

Recent projections by the OECD Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) indicate that, in the high case scenario, worldwide nuclear capacity could grow from 372 GWe (gigawatts electrical) in 2007 (of which 310 GWe is in OECD countries) to about 470 GWe by 2020. In this scenario, nuclear capacity could reach around 600 GWe by 2030 and 1 400 GWe by 2050, potentially increasing the nuclear share of global electricity production from 16% at present to around 22% by 2050. However, the NEA low case scenario projects only around 400 GWe by 2030 and 580 GWe by 2050, reflecting uncertainties about success with the construction and operation of the next generation of nuclear plants, public and political acceptance of nuclear energy, and the extent to which other low-carbon energy sources are successfully developed.

The number of nuclear power plants in operation and under construction as at 31 October 2008 is also given.

Comparability

Some generation data are provisional and may be subject to revision. Generation data for Japan are for the fiscal year. Number of plants connected to the grid includes two units in Canada and one in Japan in long-term shutdown.

Sources

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Nuclear electricity generation and nuclear power plants

Year 2007

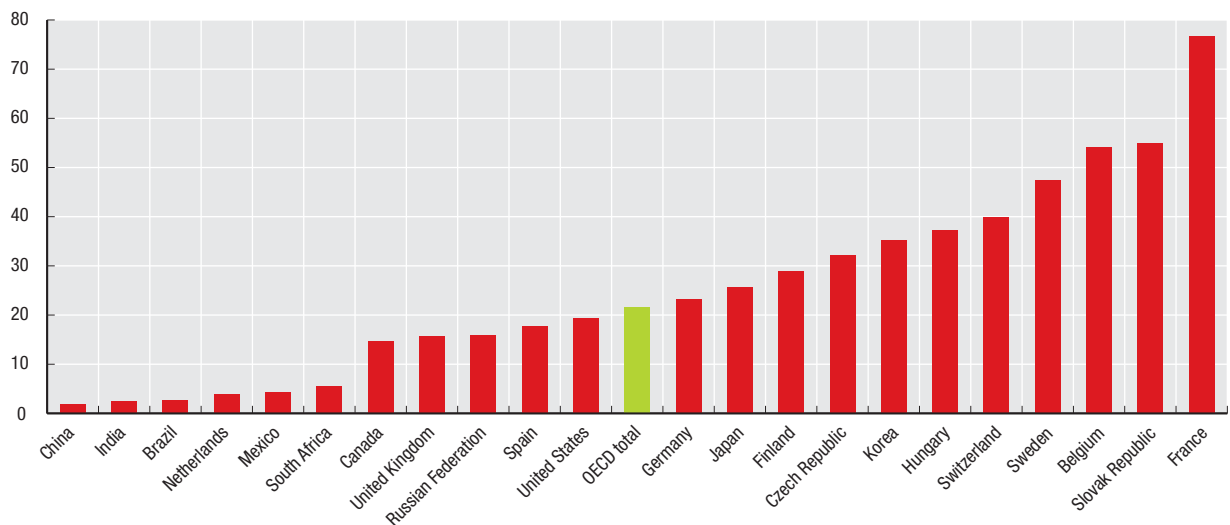
Number, as at 31 October 2008

	Terawatt hours net	As a percentage of total electricity generation	Plants connected to the grid	Plants under construction
Australia	–	–	–	–
Austria	–	–	–	–
Belgium	45.9	54.1	7	–
Canada	88.6	14.7	20	–
Czech Republic	26.2	32.2	6	–
Denmark	–	–	–	–
Finland	22.5	29.0	4	1
France	418.6	76.8	59	1
Germany	133.2	23.2	17	–
Greece	–	–	–	–
Hungary	13.8	37.2	4	–
Iceland	–	–	–	–
Ireland	–	–	–	–
Italy	–	–	–	–
Japan	251.6	25.6	56	2
Korea	136.3	35.2	20	6
Luxembourg	–	–	–	–
Mexico	10.4	4.4	2	–
Netherlands	4.0	4.0	1	–
New Zealand	–	–	–	–
Norway	–	–	–	–
Poland	–	–	–	–
Portugal	–	–	–	–
Slovak Republic	14.1	54.9	5	2
Spain	53.4	17.8	8	–
Sweden	64.3	47.4	10	–
Switzerland	26.3	39.9	5	–
Turkey	–	–	–	–
United Kingdom	57.3	15.7	19	–
United States	806.0	19.4	104	1
EU27 total	888.6	28.2	146	6
OECD total	2 172.5	21.6	347	13
Brazil	12.4	2.8	2	–
China	62.6	1.9	11	6
India	15.9	2.5	17	6
Indonesia	–	–	–	–
Russian Federation	147.8	16.0	31	8
South Africa	12.6	5.5	2	–

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/542451087418>

Nuclear electricity generation

As a percentage of total electricity generation, 2007

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536366223458>

RENEWABLE ENERGY

More and more governments are recognising the importance of promoting sustainable development and combating climate change when setting out their energy policies. As energy use has increased, greenhouse gas emissions have spiraled up and their concentration in the atmosphere has increased. One way to reduce emissions is to replace energy from fossil fuels by energy from renewables.

Definition

The table refers to the contribution of renewables to total primary energy supply (TPES) in OECD countries. Renewables include the primary energy equivalent of hydro (excluding pumped storage), geothermal, solar, wind, tide and wave. It also includes solid biomass, biogasoline, biodiesel, other liquid biofuels, biogas, industrial waste and municipal waste. Biomass is defined as any plant matter used directly as fuel or converted into fuels (e.g. charcoal) or electricity and/or heat. Included here are wood, vegetal waste (including wood waste and crops used for energy production), ethanol, animal materials/wastes and sulphite lyes. Municipal waste comprises wastes produced by the residential, commercial and public service sectors that are collected by local authorities for disposal in a central location for the production of heat and/or power. The forecasts provided in the table refer to the Reference Scenario of the *World Energy Outlook*.

Long-term trends

In OECD countries, total renewables supply grew by 2.4% per annum between 1971 and 2007 as compared to 1.4% per annum for total primary energy supply. Annual growth for hydro (1.0%) was lower than for other renewables such as geothermal (5.8%) and combustible renewables and waste (2.8%). Due to a very low base in 1971, solar and wind experienced the most rapid growth in OECD member countries, especially where government policies have stimulated expansion of these energy sources.

For total OECD, the contribution of renewables to energy supply increased from 4.8% in 1971 to 6.7% in 2007. The contribution of renewables varied greatly by country. On the high end, renewables represented 76% in Iceland and 50% in Norway. On the low end, renewables contributed 3% or less of the supply for Ireland, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg and the United Kingdom.

In general, the contribution of renewables to the energy supply in non-OECD countries is higher than in OECD countries. In 2006, renewables contributed 43% to the supply of Brazil, 33% in Indonesia, 30% in India, 14% in China, 11% in South Africa and 3% in the Russian Federation.

Comparability

Biomass and waste data are often based on small sample surveys or other incomplete information. Thus, the data give only a broad impression of developments and are not strictly comparable between countries. In some cases, complete categories of vegetal fuel are omitted due to lack of information.

Sources

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Contribution of renewables to energy supply

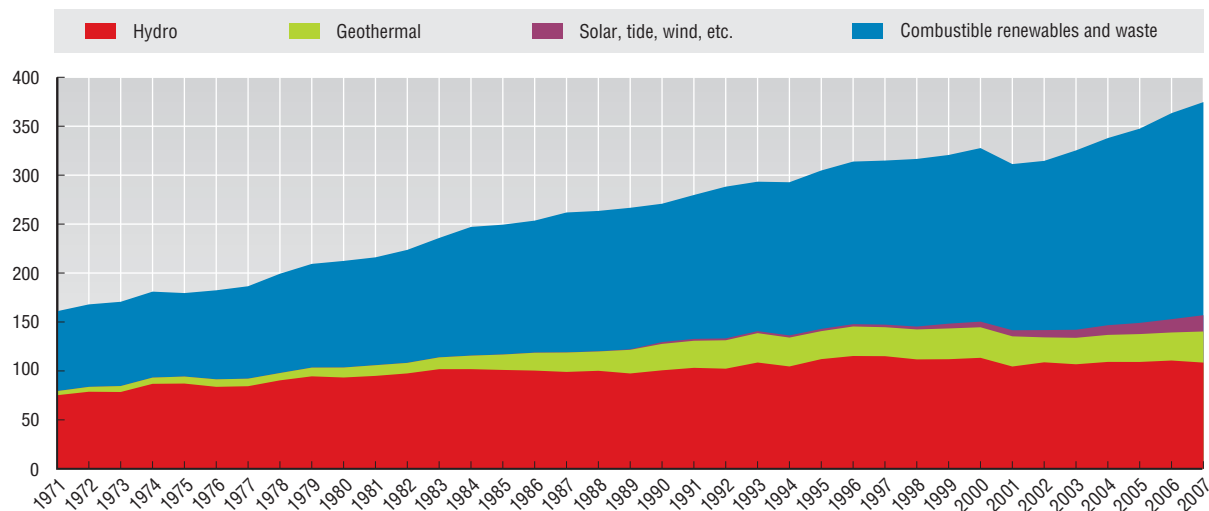
As a percentage of total primary energy supply

	1971	1990	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2030
Australia	8.7	6.0	6.4	6.0	6.0	5.9	6.1	6.2	5.9	5.9	5.5	5.3	6.0	..
Austria	10.9	20.7	21.5	21.2	23.5	23.5	22.6	22.4	19.8	21.2	21.2	22.7	23.2	..
Belgium	-	2.6	4.3	4.4	4.6	4.8	5.0	4.8	5.0	5.2	5.5	6.0	6.3	..
Canada	15.2	16.1	16.8	16.4	16.8	16.8	15.9	16.8	15.6	15.5	15.9	16.1	16.5	..
Czech Republic	0.2	0.2	1.7	1.7	2.4	2.0	2.1	2.5	3.7	4.1	4.3	4.5	4.9	..
Denmark	1.7	6.6	8.4	8.8	9.7	11.0	11.5	12.5	13.4	15.1	16.6	15.6	16.8	..
Finland	27.2	19.1	21.2	22.5	22.5	24.5	23.0	22.7	21.7	23.3	23.4	23.1	23.2	..
France	8.5	7.2	7.1	7.0	7.3	7.0	6.9	6.3	6.4	6.3	6.1	6.3	6.9	..
Germany	1.2	1.8	2.5	2.8	2.8	3.1	3.4	3.8	4.1	4.8	5.1	6.1	7.2	..
Greece	7.4	4.9	5.5	5.2	5.6	5.3	4.7	4.9	5.2	5.2	5.4	5.8	5.2	..
Hungary	2.9	1.7	2.0	1.9	1.9	2.1	2.0	3.5	3.5	3.7	4.4	4.7	5.1	..
Iceland	42.9	64.8	66.7	67.3	71.1	71.5	73.1	72.6	72.8	71.9	72.9	75.3	75.5	..
Ireland	0.6	1.6	1.4	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.7	1.5	1.9	2.4	2.7	2.9	..
Italy	5.5	4.5	5.4	5.5	6.0	6.0	6.2	5.9	6.2	7.0	6.6	7.2	7.2	..
Japan	2.7	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.5	3.4	3.2	3.4	3.1	6.7
Korea	0.6	1.4	0.7	0.9	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	..
Luxembourg	-	0.8	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.7	1.7	2.6	..
Mexico	16.6	11.2	10.7	10.4	10.5	10.6	10.1	9.5	9.5	9.7	9.7	9.4	9.3	..
Netherlands	-	1.4	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.7	2.6	2.9	3.5	3.7	3.6	..
New Zealand	31.0	34.7	28.6	30.9	31.1	31.5	29.5	28.6	28.3	30.1	30.4	30.0	31.0	..
Norway	40.2	53.5	43.6	44.1	44.7	51.8	44.3	50.1	38.5	36.7	39.4	44.7	50.4	..
Poland	1.6	2.4	4.3	4.6	4.5	4.7	5.0	5.2	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.7	5.4	..
Portugal	18.9	19.0	17.4	16.0	13.5	15.2	16.1	13.8	16.8	14.7	13.3	17.1	18.0	..
Slovak Republic	2.4	1.5	3.9	4.0	4.4	4.6	4.4	4.2	3.6	4.2	4.6	4.7	5.4	..
Spain	6.4	6.9	6.4	6.2	5.3	5.7	6.5	5.4	6.9	6.3	5.9	6.5	7.2	..
Sweden	20.4	24.7	27.1	27.6	26.9	31.2	28.4	25.8	25.0	25.5	29.3	29.0	30.0	..
Switzerland	15.0	14.3	16.2	16.1	18.1	17.5	18.2	16.8	17.2	17.6	17.7	17.2	19.9	..
Turkey	31.0	18.2	15.8	15.9	15.1	13.2	13.2	13.4	12.8	13.2	11.9	11.0	9.6	..
United Kingdom	0.1	0.5	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.7	1.9	2.0	2.3	..
United States	3.7	5.2	5.2	5.1	4.9	4.8	4.3	4.3	4.6	4.6	4.7	5.0	5.0	11.0
EU27 total	..	4.5	5.7	5.8	5.9	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.3	6.7	6.8	7.3	..	16.1
OECD total	4.8	6.0	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.2	5.9	5.9	6.0	6.1	6.3	6.6	6.7	12.6
Brazil	56.4	46.7	40.7	40.1	39.9	38.9	37.4	39.2	41.8	42.1	42.7	43.0	..	..
China	40.0	24.5	20.6	20.9	21.1	21.2	21.8	20.4	18.1	16.0	15.2	14.2	..	9.4
India	62.5	43.6	35.9	35.6	34.1	33.8	33.8	33.1	32.8	31.6	31.1	30.1	..	17.2
Indonesia	75.9	45.3	36.6	35.1	36.4	36.3	35.8	35.3	34.9	33.5	32.8	32.9	..	..
Russian Federation	..	3.0	3.4	3.3	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.1	3.5	3.4	3.4	..	5.0
South Africa	10.4	11.5	11.2	11.2	11.3	11.4	11.9	12.6	11.3	10.3	10.8	10.8	..	..
World	13.2	12.8	13.2	13.2	13.3	13.2	13.2	13.1	13.0	12.8	12.8	12.9	..	14.3

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/542517717367>

OECD renewable energy supply

Million tonnes of oil equivalent (Mtoe)

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536367415815>

ENERGY PRODUCTION

Energy production is a function of the natural resources of a country and the economic incentives to exploit those resources. Countries will also take into consideration energy security and environmental protection when making decisions on how much and what type of energy to produce.

Definition

Production refers to the quantities of fuels extracted from the ground after the removal of inert matter or impurities (e.g. sulphur from natural gas). For non-combusted energy such as nuclear, hydro and solar, the primary energy equivalent is calculated using the physical energy content method.

Comparability

In general, data on energy production are of high quality. In some instances, information has been based on secondary sources or estimated by the IEA.

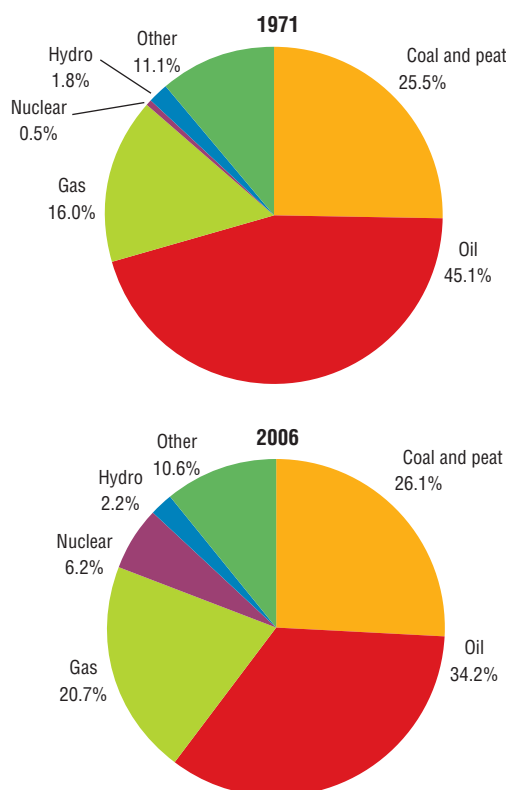
Long-term trends

World energy production increased by 2.1% per year between 1971 and 2006, reaching 11 796 million tonnes of oil equivalent (Mtoe). The OECD, with a 33% share of the global production, was the main energy producing region in 2006. China accounted for 15% of world energy production, the United States for 14%, the Middle East region for 13% and the Russian Federation for 10%. Since 1971, the shares of the OECD, Middle East and Former USSR decreased, while Latin America and non-OECD Europe remained stable. On the other hand, the share of energy production in China (as well as the rest of Asia) increased dramatically since 1971 and China passed the United States as the largest energy producer in 2005.

The energy mix has changed significantly between 1971 and 2006. Nuclear energy, which experienced an annual average growth of 7.5% since 1971, increased its share of production from 0.5% to 6.2%. In absolute terms, renewable energy also experienced a high growth rate over the last 35 years, but its share of total production has remained low since it was starting from a very low base. The share of natural gas in total production increased from 16.0% in 1971 to 20.7% in 2006, causing the share of oil to fall from 45.1% to 34.2%. The share of coal and peat production increased slightly to 26.1%.

Total energy production by product

As a percentage of total energy production



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536405705437>

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Total production of energy

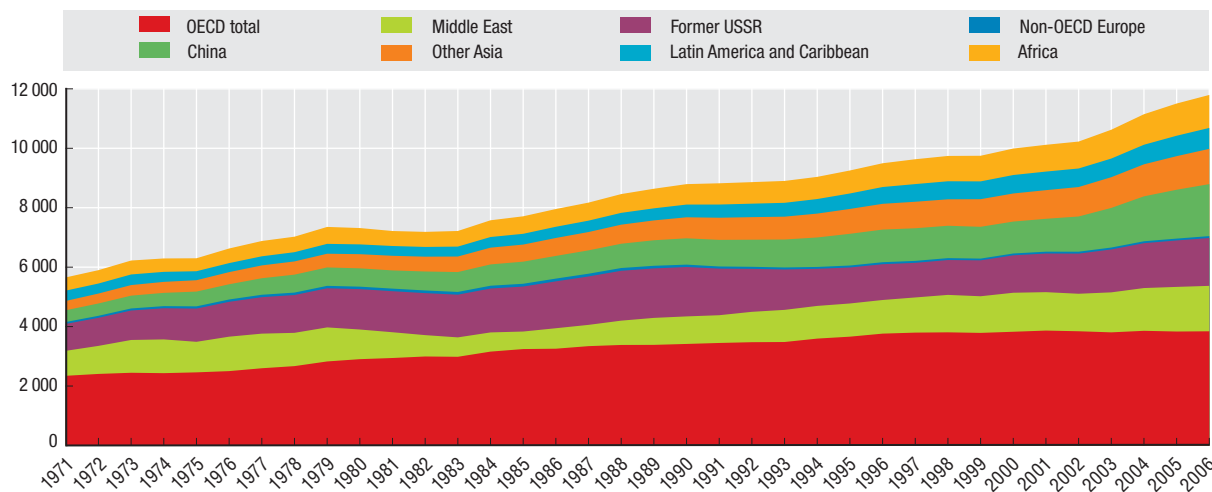
Million tonnes of oil equivalent (Mtoe)

	1971	1990	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	53.9	157.5	189.8	201.1	216.5	213.6	233.6	249.2	254.1	253.5	258.5	268.2	267.8	287.7
Austria	7.4	8.1	8.6	8.7	8.9	9.7	9.8	9.8	10.0	9.7	10.0	9.6	9.9	10.1
Belgium	6.8	13.6	13.8	15.0	14.8	15.7	15.6	15.2	15.2	15.4	15.5	15.6	15.5	15.9
Canada	155.8	273.7	358.3	364.9	365.5	364.5	372.5	376.9	383.9	385.9	397.5	402.1	411.7	415.5
Czech Republic	39.9	40.1	32.5	32.9	30.8	28.1	29.9	30.6	30.7	33.4	34.5	32.9	33.4	33.3
Denmark	0.3	10.1	17.7	20.2	20.4	23.8	27.7	27.1	28.6	28.5	31.1	31.4	29.6	26.9
Finland	5.0	12.1	13.6	15.0	13.6	15.4	15.1	15.0	16.0	15.9	15.7	16.5	18.0	16.2
France	47.6	112.4	132.3	129.5	126.5	128.4	132.1	132.9	134.9	136.4	137.4	137.1	137.0	134.9
Germany	175.2	186.2	143.3	143.6	136.0	137.2	135.3	134.7	134.5	135.5	137.6	135.3	136.8	132.8
Greece	2.1	9.2	9.1	9.6	9.8	9.5	10.0	10.0	10.2	9.9	10.3	10.3	10.0	9.8
Hungary	11.8	14.3	13.1	12.8	12.0	11.5	11.3	10.9	11.2	10.4	10.2	10.3	10.3	10.1
Iceland	0.4	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.8	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.6	3.3	3.3
Ireland	1.4	3.5	3.5	2.9	2.5	2.5	2.2	1.8	1.5	1.8	1.9	1.6	1.6	1.4
Italy	19.5	25.3	30.3	30.4	30.3	29.2	28.2	26.9	27.5	27.8	28.4	27.8	27.4	26.5
Japan	35.8	75.2	101.7	106.2	109.1	104.5	105.8	104.8	96.9	84.0	95.0	99.9	101.1	89.3
Korea	6.4	22.6	22.5	23.7	27.1	30.6	32.6	33.2	34.8	37.9	38.3	42.9	43.7	42.5
Luxembourg	-	-	-	-	0.1	-	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Mexico	43.4	193.4	212.0	222.0	227.3	223.0	225.9	230.2	229.9	242.3	253.6	259.2	256.0	250.9
Netherlands	37.3	60.5	74.0	65.8	63.0	59.0	57.2	61.0	60.4	58.4	67.7	61.9	60.8	61.3
New Zealand	3.4	12.0	14.0	14.8	13.8	14.5	15.0	14.9	14.5	13.1	12.9	12.6	13.1	14.3
Norway	6.0	119.1	207.1	212.6	205.7	209.4	226.4	223.9	232.6	233.1	236.9	232.3	222.9	211.0
Poland	99.2	99.4	99.0	100.0	87.6	83.9	79.6	80.3	80.2	79.9	78.8	78.6	77.9	73.9
Portugal	1.4	3.4	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.4	3.8	4.1	3.6	4.3	3.9	3.6	4.3	4.6
Slovak Republic	2.7	5.3	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.5	6.3	6.7	6.8	6.6	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.0
Spain	10.4	34.6	32.7	31.7	32.3	30.7	31.7	33.5	31.8	33.0	32.6	30.1	31.4	30.7
Sweden	7.4	29.7	32.0	32.4	34.0	33.2	30.5	33.9	31.8	30.9	34.3	34.7	32.8	32.9
Switzerland	2.9	9.7	10.3	10.8	11.0	11.5	11.5	12.0	11.6	11.8	11.8	10.9	12.1	12.7
Turkey	13.8	25.8	27.1	28.0	29.1	27.5	25.9	24.4	24.1	23.6	24.1	23.9	26.3	27.3
United Kingdom	109.8	208.0	268.9	268.3	271.9	281.6	272.4	262.3	258.3	246.6	225.6	205.2	186.6	176.5
United States	1 436.4	1 649.4	1 685.5	1 683.7	1 696.9	1 678.5	1 675.3	1 697.3	1 664.6	1 633.5	1 644.4	1 629.9	1 654.2	1 674.1
EU27 total	..	940.3	989.0	981.3	954.7	956.4	947.8	947.2	946.0	937.8	934.5	900.8	881.4	..
OECD total	2 343.7	3 415.7	3 763.2	3 796.8	3 807.0	3 788.1	3 825.6	3 865.9	3 843.0	3 805.9	3 857.7	3 833.9	3 842.3	3 832.4
Brazil	49.0	103.7	118.0	126.1	133.3	141.7	148.3	152.3	167.6	178.3	182.8	195.0	206.7	..
China	394.1	886.3	1 097.7	1 098.3	1 089.4	1 069.8	1 074.0	1 105.7	1 185.2	1 333.2	1 511.7	1 643.9	1 749.3	..
India	141.5	291.1	341.2	351.6	350.3	357.4	364.3	372.3	381.4	394.3	407.4	420.3	435.6	..
Indonesia	72.8	170.0	224.9	230.2	223.6	242.7	235.6	241.7	246.3	256.5	263.2	276.7	307.7	..
Russian Federation	..	1 280.3	953.0	921.6	928.4	950.5	966.5	996.1	1 034.5	1 106.9	1 158.4	1 197.1	1 220.0	..
South Africa	37.8	114.5	135.0	143.4	145.0	145.0	145.6	144.9	143.8	153.5	157.5	158.8	158.7	..
World	5 654.6	8 795.2	9 495.9	9 630.2	9 742.8	9 748.3	9 989.6	10 116.8	10 225.3	10 622.6	11 145.5	11 507.2	11 795.8	..

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Total energy production by region

Million tonnes of oil equivalent (Mtoe)



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536402684302>

OIL PRODUCTION

The Middle East and North Africa are exceptionally well-endowed with energy resources, holding 66% of the world's proven oil reserves at the end of 2006. Current oil production is relatively low in comparison to these reserves and further development of them will be critical to meeting global energy needs in the coming decades.

Definition

Crude oil production refers to the quantities of oil extracted from the ground after the removal of inert matter or impurities. It includes crude oil, natural gas liquids (NGLs) and additives. Crude oil is a mineral oil consisting of a mixture of hydrocarbons of natural origin, being yellow to black in colour, of variable density and viscosity. NGLs are the liquid or liquefied hydrocarbons produced in the manufacture, purification and stabilisation of natural gas. Additives are non-hydrocarbon substances added to or blended with a product to modify its properties, for example, to improve its combustion characteristics (e.g. MTBE and tetraethyl lead).

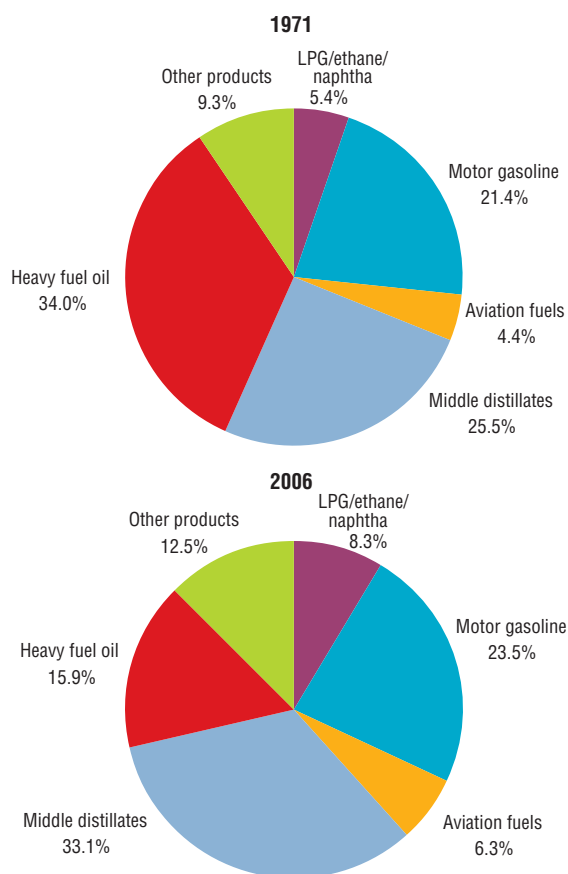
Refinery production refers to the output of secondary oil products from an oil refinery.

Comparability

In general, data on oil production are of high quality. In some instances, information has been based on secondary sources or estimated by the IEA.

Share of refinery production by product

As a percentage of refinery production



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536436221205>

Long-term trends

World crude oil production increased by 58% over the 36-year period from 1971 to 2007. In 2007, production reached 3 937 million tonnes or about 82 million barrels per day. Growth was not constant over the period as production declined in the aftermath of two oil shocks.

In 2007, the Middle East region's share of oil production was 31% of the world total. However, both production and share varied significantly over the period, with the Middle East representing 33% in 1971 falling to less than 19% in 1985. Increased production in the 1980s and 1990s put the OECD on par with the Middle East during that period, but by 2007, the share of OECD oil production had fallen to 23%.

Refinery production of secondary oil products changed significantly between 1971 and 2006. The share of heavy fuel oil in the refinery mix fell from 34% in 1971 to 16% in 2006 whereas the share of middle distillates increased from 25% to 33%.

Sources

- IEA (2008), *Energy Balances of OECD Countries*, IEA, Paris.
- IEA (2008), *Energy Balances of Non-OECD Countries*, IEA, Paris.
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Further information

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Online databases

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Production of crude oil

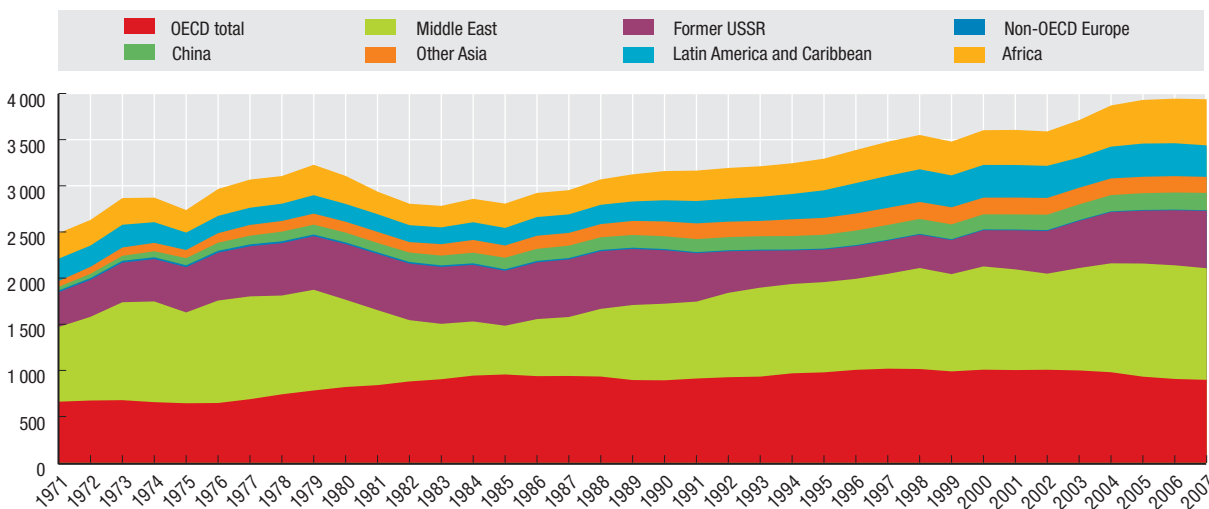
Million tonnes

	1971	1990	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	14.3	27.5	26.4	26.7	29.4	23.7	32.1	33.1	31.3	29.1	26.2	22.9	21.9	24.2
Austria	2.6	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0
Canada	70.6	91.6	113.5	119.0	124.7	119.9	124.8	126.6	132.9	140.4	145.4	143.5	151.3	157.1
Czech Republic	-	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.4
Denmark	-	6.0	10.1	11.1	11.4	14.5	17.8	16.9	18.1	18.1	19.3	18.5	16.8	15.2
Finland	-	-	-	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
France	2.5	3.5	2.6	2.3	2.1	2.0	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.0
Germany	7.6	5.3	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.8	4.3	4.3	4.6	4.8	4.9	5.2	5.2	5.2
Greece	-	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.3	-	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Hungary	2.0	2.3	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.2
Italy	1.3	4.7	5.7	6.1	5.8	5.2	4.8	4.2	5.8	5.9	5.7	6.4	6.3	6.4
Japan	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Korea	-	-	-	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6
Mexico	25.4	151.1	160.4	169.0	171.9	166.9	169.3	175.5	178.3	189.3	191.4	187.6	183.2	172.9
Netherlands	1.7	4.0	3.1	2.9	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.3	3.1	3.1	2.9	2.3	2.0	3.1
New Zealand	-	1.9	2.2	2.8	2.3	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.0	2.0
Norway	0.3	82.1	156.8	156.5	149.8	149.4	161.0	162.5	157.7	153.6	152.6	141.0	130.2	116.5
Poland	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7
Slovak Republic	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	-	-	-	-
Spain	0.1	1.1	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1
Turkey	3.5	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.2	2.9	2.8	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.2
United Kingdom	0.2	91.6	130.1	128.4	132.5	137.2	126.4	116.8	116.1	106.2	95.5	84.7	76.6	76.8
United States	527.7	413.3	382.5	380.9	369.8	354.2	353.0	349.9	348.1	338.4	325.9	310.0	304.4	310.3
EU27 total	..	129.0	167.4	166.4	170.1	176.2	168.7	157.3	161.5	151.5	140.4	128.9	118.0	..
OECD total	661.1	892.7	1 006.2	1 018.8	1 015.2	989.4	1 008.0	1 003.6	1 007.1	999.6	980.4	932.2	907.4	897.7
Brazil	8.4	32.4	40.3	43.7	50.6	57.2	64.3	67.4	75.6	77.9	77.5	85.5	90.8	92.0
China	39.4	138.3	157.3	160.7	161.2	160.2	163.1	164.1	167.1	169.7	175.9	181.4	184.9	187.6
India	7.3	34.6	36.2	37.4	36.4	36.4	36.4	36.2	37.4	37.7	38.3	36.3	38.1	39.1
Indonesia	44.1	73.2	79.1	78.9	75.5	74.7	69.9	68.3	62.8	59.4	54.9	51.4	48.5	46.1
Russian Federation	..	523.7	305.1	303.9	301.4	303.2	321.7	345.8	377.2	418.6	456.3	466.4	475.8	487.2
South Africa	-	-	0.4	0.8	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.7	1.7	1.7	1.5	8.8
World	2 487.1	3 159.4	3 387.5	3 477.4	3 550.9	3 478.2	3 602.2	3 605.4	3 588.9	3 711.0	3 870.6	3 930.0	3 943.9	3 937.4

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Production of crude oil by region

Million tonnes

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536436022827>

OIL PRICES

The price of crude oil, from which petroleum products such as gasoline are derived, is influenced by a number of factors beyond the traditional movements of supply and demand, notably geopolitics. Some of the lowest cost reserves are located in sensitive areas of the world. There is not one price for crude oil but many. World crude oil prices are established in relation to three market traded benchmarks (West Texas Intermediate [WTI], Brent, Dubai), and are quoted at premiums or discounts to these prices.

Definition

Crude oil import prices come from the Crude Oil Import Register. Information is collected according to type of crude and average prices are obtained by dividing value by volume as recorded by customs administrations for each tariff position. Values are recorded at the time of import and include cost, insurance and freight (c.i.f.) but exclude import duties.

Long-term trends

The 1973 Arab oil embargo had a major price impact as Arabian Light prices surged from USD 1.84/barrel in 1972 to USD 10.77 in 1974.

The first spike after 1973 came in 1981, in the wake of the Iranian revolution, when prices rose to a high of nearly USD 40. Prices declined gradually after this crisis. They dropped considerably in 1986 when Saudi Arabia increased its oil production substantially.

The first Gulf crisis in 1990 brought a new peak. In 1997, crude oil prices started to decline due to the impact of the Asian financial crisis.

Prices started to increase again in 1999 with OPEC target reductions and tightening stocks. A dip occurred in 2001 and 2002, but the expectation of war in Iraq raised prices to over USD 30 in the first quarter of 2003. Prices remained high in the latter part of 2003 and in 2004. Crude oil prices increased dramatically in late August 2005 after Hurricane Katrina hit the eastern coast of the US Gulf of Mexico. Prices continued to increase throughout 2006 as the demand for oil in emerging economies, especially China, put pressure on the supply/demand balance, averaging 24 per cent higher than the previous year. In 2007, the increase continued with Dubai hitting USD 88.82/barrel at the beginning of November and WTI climbing to USD 96.50/barrel.

Since then, prices have risen steadily against a background of tight market fundamentals. One of the strongest drivers was a rapid rise in demand in emerging economies, most notably China. In early 2008, prices crossed the symbolic \$100/barrel threshold and reached a new peak just under \$150/barrel in July 2008. However, since their record highs, prices have fallen back down to \$40/barrel as the impact of high prices and the onset of the global financial crisis have sharply curbed oil demand.

The nominal crude oil spot price from 1985 to 2007 is for Dubai and from 1970 to 1984 for Arabian Light. The real price was calculated using the deflator for GDP at market prices and was rebased with base year 1970 = 100.

Comparability

Average crude oil import prices are affected by the quality of the crude oil that is imported into a country. High quality crude oils such as UK Forties, Norwegian Oseberg and Venezuelan Light will be more expensive than lower quality crude oils such as Canadian Heavy and Venezuelan Extra Heavy. For a given country, the mix of crude oils imported each month will affect the average monthly price.

Source

- IEA (2008), *Energy Prices and Taxes*, IEA, Paris.

Further information

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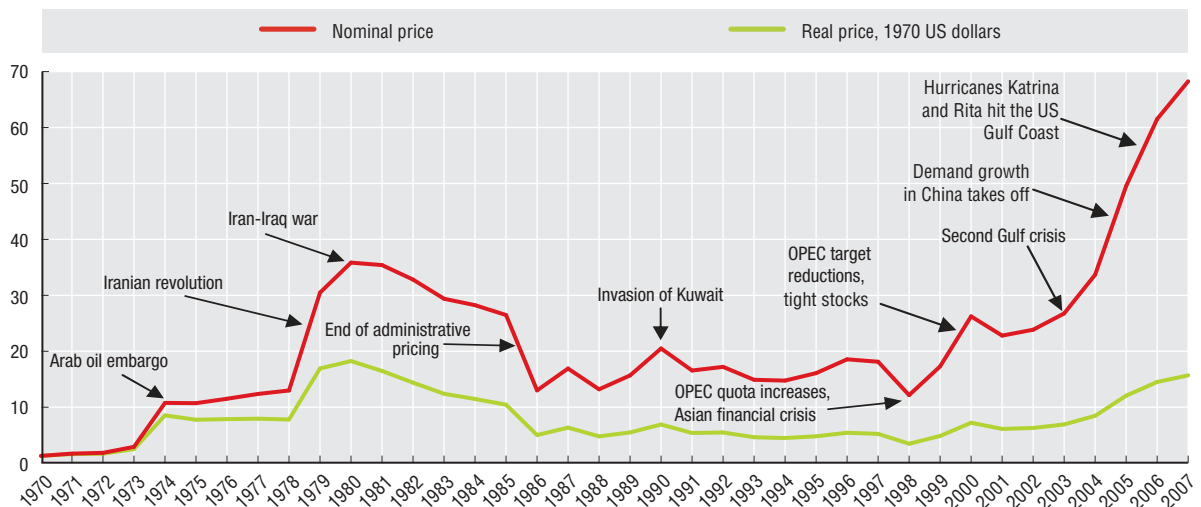
Crude oil import prices

US dollars per barrel, average unit value, c.i.f.

	1976	1990	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	..	24.21	21.81	21.78	14.60	18.38	30.79	26.61	25.80	31.24	40.93	56.71	66.71	77.13
Austria	12.85	24.58	22.06	21.31	14.34	17.54	29.39	25.32	24.64	29.59	38.21	53.15	64.44	71.86
Belgium	12.64	21.11	20.53	18.65	11.97	17.33	27.87	24.20	24.35	27.72	35.35	50.06	61.06	70.35
Canada	..	24.15	21.26	20.59	13.15	17.85	29.10	24.87	24.97	29.53	38.13	52.37	64.33	70.04
Czech Republic	..	..	..	..	..	..	26.59	23.74	23.37	28.13	34.82	51.28	62.05	68.54
Denmark	12.98	23.18	21.25	20.15	13.49	17.71	29.66	24.82	24.88	29.68	38.78	54.40	66.92	74.94
Finland	..	..	21.69	19.44	12.80	18.31	28.13	23.49	24.51	27.72	36.09	51.12	63.37	70.48
France	..	..	20.82	18.99	12.43	17.45	28.18	24.13	24.63	28.87	37.61	52.74	63.69	72.22
Germany	13.27	23.17	20.68	19.01	12.48	17.51	28.09	24.15	24.40	28.44	36.65	52.30	63.29	71.60
Greece	12.13	22.42	20.08	18.45	11.66	16.64	26.95	23.22	24.08	27.17	34.53	50.33	60.97	69.93
Hungary	..	..	19.32	16.74	10.77	16.05	26.22	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ireland	..	25.55	21.19	19.99	13.55	17.14	29.88	25.31	25.52	29.66	39.24	55.24	66.38	74.16
Italy	12.41	23.23	20.53	18.88	12.21	17.10	27.77	23.87	24.34	28.58	36.60	51.33	62.50	70.20
Japan	12.59	22.64	20.55	20.55	13.68	17.38	28.72	25.01	24.96	29.26	36.59	51.57	64.03	70.09
Korea	..	..	20.11	20.34	13.72	16.91	28.22	24.87	24.12	28.80	36.15	50.19	62.82	70.01
Netherlands	13.06	21.83	20.39	18.37	11.98	16.97	27.59	23.48	23.99	27.67	35.02	50.00	61.47	68.74
New Zealand	..	21.97	21.86	21.65	14.63	18.16	29.95	26.14	25.89	31.00	41.71	56.07	67.36	73.84
Norway	..	18.46	21.62	16.71	12.23	17.46	28.91	23.43	24.46	30.41	39.20	53.08	58.83	70.16
Portugal	12.14	22.75	20.35	18.95	12.21	17.38	28.20	24.02	24.27	28.72	37.89	51.94	62.77	70.23
Spain	12.54	21.88	20.45	18.34	11.80	16.99	27.16	23.32	23.95	28.13	36.03	50.54	60.99	68.66
Sweden	13.22	23.02	20.86	18.90	12.61	17.68	28.13	24.03	23.86	28.60	36.47	51.78	62.50	70.13
Switzerland	13.87	24.23	21.71	20.50	13.38	18.35	29.53	25.04	25.34	30.26	38.73	55.81	66.76	74.92
Turkey	..	23.11	20.25	18.79	11.99	16.07	26.61	22.98	23.57	27.05	34.90	50.65	61.48	68.59
United Kingdom	12.57	22.92	21.08	19.32	12.64	18.01	28.45	24.45	24.58	29.13	37.75	53.79	65.00	73.80
United States	13.48	21.07	20.16	18.34	12.02	17.06	27.54	22.07	23.52	27.66	35.86	48.82	59.15	66.75

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/542563683338>**Crude oil spot prices**

US dollars per barrel

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536440778182>





LABOUR

EMPLOYMENT

EMPLOYMENT RATES BY GENDER
EMPLOYMENT RATES BY AGE GROUP
PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT
SELF-EMPLOYMENT

UNEMPLOYMENT

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
LONG-TERM UNEMPLOYMENT
REGIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT

LABOUR COMPENSATION AND HOURS WORKED

LABOUR COMPENSATION
HOURS WORKED

EMPLOYMENT RATES BY GENDER

Employment rates show the percentage of persons of working age who are in employment. In the short term, these rates are sensitive to the economic cycle, but in the longer term they are significantly affected by government policies with regard to higher education and income support and by policies that facilitate employment of women.

Employment rates for men and women differ both between countries and over time in individual countries. Employment rates are here shown for total employment and for men and women separately.

Definition

Employment rates are calculated as the ratio of the employed to the working age population. To calculate this employment rate, the population of working age is divided into two groups: those who are employed and those who are not. Employment is generally measured through household labour force surveys and, according to the ILO Guidelines, employed persons are defined as those aged 15 or over who report that they have worked in gainful employment for at least one hour in the previous week. Those not in employment consist of persons who are out of work but seeking employment, students and all others who have excluded themselves from the labour force for one reason or another, such as incapacity or the need to look after young children or elderly relatives.

Working age is generally defined as persons in the 15 to 64 age bracket although in some countries working age is defined as 16 to 64.

Comparability

All OECD countries use the ILO Guidelines for measuring employment, but the operational definitions used in national labour force surveys vary slightly in Iceland and Turkey. Employment levels are also likely to be affected by changes in the survey design and/or the survey conduct, but employment rates are likely to be fairly consistent over time.

Long-term trends

Over the period 1994-2007, total employment rates (men and women) have fallen in 17 member countries and risen in 13 countries. Particularly large falls were recorded in Luxembourg, Czech Republic, Turkey, Hungary, Korea and Slovak Republic and particularly large increases occurred in Iceland, Ireland, Spain and Finland.

Growth in employment rates was very different for men and women. Employment rates for men decreased somewhat in 6 member countries during the latest three-year period, strongest in Korea, United Kingdom and Luxembourg. For women, on the other hand, employment rates grew in all member countries except United Kingdom, where they declined slightly. Particularly strong increases were recorded for Poland, the Slovak Republic, Germany and Austria.

Clearly, these differences in the growth of employment rates are leading to convergence in the rates for women and men although differences remain large in many countries.

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Online databases

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Websites

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- Putting More Women to Work: A Colloquium on Employment, Child Care and Taxes, www.oecd.org/employment/colloquium/women.

Employment rates: total

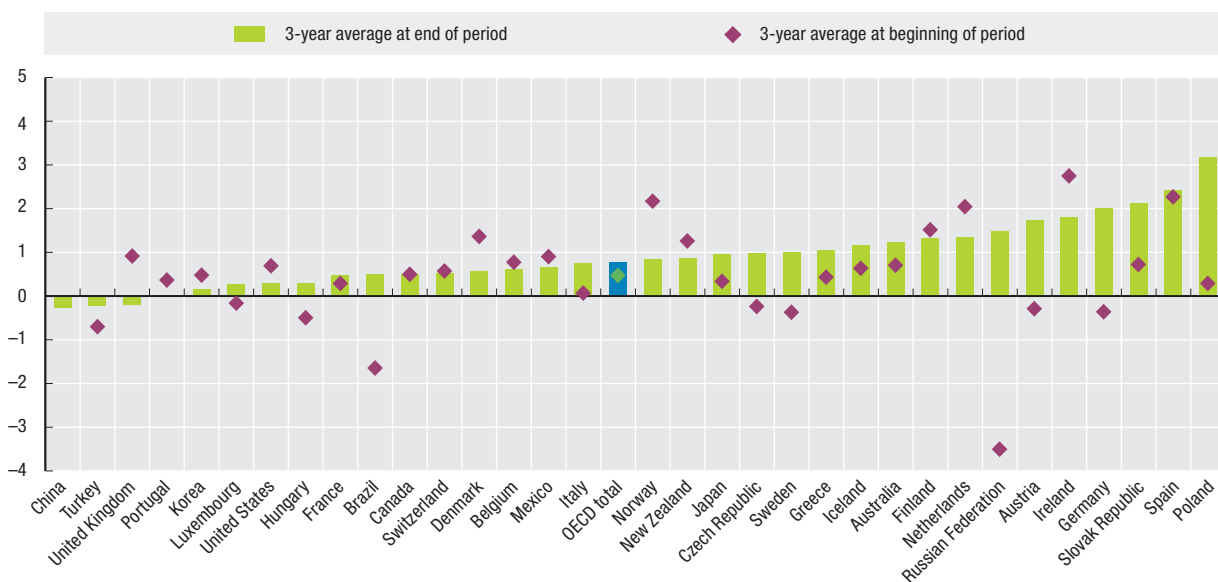
Share of persons of working age (15 to 64 years) in employment

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	66.0	67.7	67.6	67.4	67.9	68.4	69.3	69.0	69.4	70.0	70.3	71.6	72.2	72.9
Austria	68.4	68.7	67.8	67.8	67.8	68.4	68.3	68.2	68.8	68.9	67.8	68.6	70.2	71.4
Belgium	55.7	56.3	56.3	57.0	57.3	58.9	60.9	59.7	59.7	59.3	60.5	61.0	60.4	61.6
Canada	67.0	67.5	67.3	68.0	68.9	70.0	70.9	70.8	71.4	72.2	72.5	72.5	72.9	73.6
Czech Republic	69.2	69.4	69.3	68.7	67.5	65.9	65.2	65.3	65.7	64.9	64.2	64.8	65.3	66.1
Denmark	72.4	73.9	74.0	75.4	75.3	76.5	76.4	75.9	76.4	75.1	76.0	75.5	76.9	77.3
Finland	60.7	61.9	62.8	63.5	64.8	66.6	67.5	68.3	68.3	67.9	67.8	68.5	69.6	70.5
France	58.4	59.1	59.2	58.9	59.4	59.8	61.1	62.0	62.2	63.3	63.1	63.2	63.3	64.0
Germany	64.5	64.6	64.3	63.8	64.7	65.2	65.6	65.8	65.3	64.6	65.0	65.5	67.2	69.0
Greece	54.1	54.5	54.9	54.8	55.6	55.4	55.9	55.6	57.7	58.9	59.6	60.3	61.0	61.5
Hungary	53.5	52.9	52.7	52.7	53.8	55.7	56.0	56.2	56.2	57.0	56.8	56.9	57.3	57.3
Iceland	78.5	80.5	80.4	80.0	82.2	84.2	84.6	84.6	82.8	84.1	82.8	84.4	85.3	85.7
Ireland	51.9	54.1	55.0	56.3	59.6	62.5	64.5	65.0	65.0	64.9	65.4	67.1	68.2	69.0
Italy	51.5	51.2	51.4	51.6	52.2	52.9	53.9	54.9	55.6	56.2	57.4	57.5	58.4	58.7
Japan	69.3	69.2	69.5	70.0	69.5	68.9	68.9	68.8	68.2	68.4	68.7	69.3	70.0	70.7
Korea	62.8	63.5	63.7	63.7	59.2	59.6	61.5	62.1	63.3	63.0	63.6	63.7	63.8	63.9
Luxembourg	60.2	58.5	59.1	59.9	60.2	61.6	62.7	63.0	63.6	62.2	62.5	63.6	63.6	63.0
Mexico	58.7	57.2	58.1	60.3	60.4	60.4	60.1	59.4	59.3	58.8	59.9	59.6	61.0	61.1
Netherlands	63.9	65.1	66.0	67.9	69.5	70.8	72.1	72.5	72.4	71.8	71.2	71.1	72.4	74.1
New Zealand	68.0	70.1	71.1	70.6	69.6	70.1	70.7	71.8	72.4	72.5	73.5	74.6	75.2	75.4
Norway	72.2	73.5	75.3	77.0	78.3	78.0	77.9	77.5	77.1	75.8	75.6	75.2	76.3	77.5
Poland	58.3	58.1	58.4	58.8	58.9	57.5	55.0	53.5	51.7	51.4	51.9	53.0	54.5	57.0
Portugal	64.0	63.2	63.6	64.7	66.8	67.4	68.3	68.6	68.1	67.1	67.8	67.5	67.9	67.8
Slovak Republic	59.8	60.2	61.9	61.1	60.5	58.1	56.8	56.9	56.9	57.7	57.0	57.7	59.4	60.7
Spain	47.4	48.3	49.3	50.7	52.4	55.0	57.4	58.8	59.5	60.7	62.0	64.3	65.7	66.6
Sweden	71.5	72.2	71.6	70.7	71.5	72.9	74.2	75.2	74.9	74.3	73.5	73.9	74.5	75.7
Switzerland	75.6	76.4	77.0	76.9	78.0	78.4	78.4	79.2	78.9	77.9	77.4	77.2	77.9	78.6
Turkey	52.4	52.4	52.5	51.3	51.4	50.8	48.9	47.8	46.7	45.5	46.1	45.9	45.9	45.8
United Kingdom	68.7	69.2	69.7	70.6	71.0	71.5	72.2	72.5	72.3	72.6	72.7	72.6	72.5	72.3
United States	72.0	72.5	72.9	73.5	73.8	73.9	74.1	73.1	71.9	71.2	71.2	71.5	72.0	71.8
EU27 total	..	..	..	..	..	..	62.1	62.5	62.4	62.7	62.8	63.6	64.5	65.4
OECD total	64.1	64.2	64.5	65.0	65.1	65.3	65.6	65.4	65.0	64.8	65.2	65.5	66.2	66.7
Brazil	..	67.7	65.1	65.3	64.4	64.6	..	64.3	65.4	65.0	66.4	67.0	67.4	67.4
China	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	75.6	74.9	74.5	74.2	74.0	73.8	73.6
Russian Federation	..	59.0	57.7	54.9	53.0	56.8	58.5	58.4	59.8	59.5	60.3	61.1	61.4	63.0

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Employment rates: total

Average annual growth in percentage



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EMPLOYMENT RATES BY GENDER

Employment rates: men

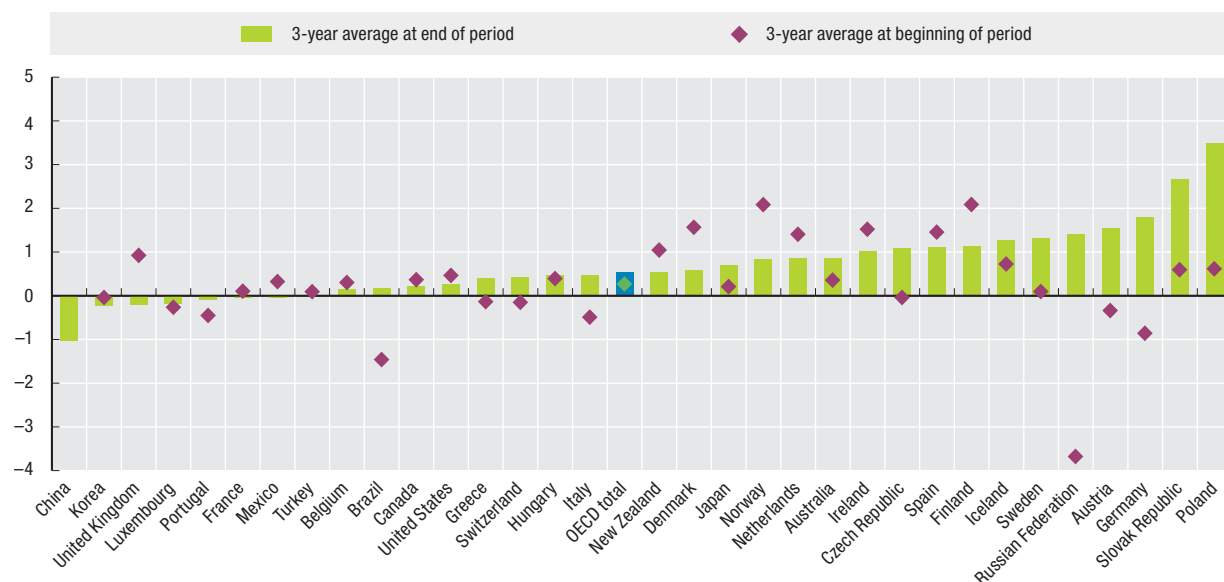
Share of men of working age (15 to 64 years) in employment

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	75.0	76.4	76.3	75.8	76.2	76.6	77.1	76.4	76.8	77.1	77.6	78.5	78.8	79.6
Austria	78.0	78.6	77.4	77.2	77.0	77.5	77.3	76.6	76.4	76.4	74.9	75.4	76.9	78.4
Belgium	66.5	66.9	66.8	67.1	67.0	67.5	69.8	68.5	68.1	67.1	67.9	67.7	67.0	68.2
Canada	73.0	73.4	73.2	73.8	74.3	75.4	76.2	75.7	75.9	76.4	76.7	76.7	76.8	77.2
Czech Republic	77.5	77.9	78.1	77.4	76.3	74.3	73.6	73.6	74.2	73.4	72.4	73.3	73.7	74.8
Denmark	77.6	80.7	80.5	81.3	80.2	81.2	80.7	80.2	80.2	79.7	79.9	80.1	80.6	81.3
Finland	62.6	64.8	66.0	66.6	68.2	69.6	70.5	71.2	70.4	70.1	70.0	70.5	71.8	72.4
France	66.1	66.7	66.8	66.3	66.6	66.8	68.1	69.0	68.6	69.1	68.7	68.6	68.4	68.6
Germany	74.0	73.7	72.8	72.1	72.9	72.8	72.9	72.8	71.7	70.4	70.8	71.4	72.8	74.7
Greece	72.2	72.2	72.6	71.9	71.6	70.9	71.3	70.9	72.5	73.5	74.0	74.5	74.6	74.9
Hungary	59.6	60.2	60.2	60.3	60.6	62.6	62.7	63.0	62.9	63.4	63.1	63.1	63.8	64.0
Iceland	82.4	84.0	84.3	84.2	86.0	88.2	88.2	88.0	85.7	86.8	86.2	87.4	88.7	89.5
Ireland	64.8	66.7	66.6	67.8	71.0	73.5	75.6	76.0	74.9	74.6	75.1	76.2	77.4	77.4
Italy	67.8	67.0	66.9	66.8	67.1	67.6	68.2	68.7	69.2	69.7	69.7	69.7	70.5	70.7
Japan	81.9	81.9	82.1	82.4	81.7	81.0	80.9	80.5	79.9	79.8	80.0	80.4	81.0	81.7
Korea	76.3	76.8	76.7	76.2	71.3	71.3	73.1	73.5	74.9	75.0	75.2	75.0	74.6	74.7
Luxembourg	74.9	74.3	74.4	74.3	74.6	74.4	75.0	74.9	75.5	73.3	72.8	73.3	72.6	72.4
Mexico	82.9	79.9	81.4	83.7	83.5	83.7	82.8	82.3	81.6	80.8	81.0	80.2	81.6	80.9
Netherlands	74.9	76.0	76.8	78.1	79.6	80.3	81.2	81.1	80.7	79.3	78.0	77.4	78.7	80.0
New Zealand	76.2	78.6	79.0	78.6	77.3	77.4	78.2	79.1	79.8	79.4	80.8	81.5	82.1	82.1
Norway	76.8	78.1	80.0	81.7	82.8	82.1	81.7	81.0	80.2	78.7	78.4	78.3	79.5	80.4
Poland	64.9	64.7	65.2	66.1	65.8	63.6	61.2	59.2	57.0	56.7	57.4	59.0	60.9	63.6
Portugal	73.5	72.1	72.0	72.5	75.6	75.6	76.3	76.5	75.7	73.9	74.1	73.4	73.9	73.9
Slovak Republic	67.2	67.6	69.2	68.4	67.8	64.3	62.2	62.1	62.5	63.4	63.2	64.6	67.0	68.4
Spain	63.3	64.0	64.7	66.1	68.3	70.8	72.7	73.8	73.9	74.5	74.9	76.4	77.3	77.4
Sweden	72.2	73.5	73.2	72.4	73.6	74.8	76.2	76.9	76.4	75.7	75.0	75.9	76.8	78.0
Switzerland	86.3	87.3	86.8	85.9	87.2	87.1	87.3	87.6	86.2	85.1	84.5	83.9	84.7	85.6
Turkey	74.6	74.6	74.9	74.8	74.3	72.7	71.7	69.3	66.9	65.9	67.9	68.2	68.0	67.9
United Kingdom	75.3	76.1	76.3	77.4	78.0	78.3	78.9	79.1	78.6	78.9	78.9	78.8	78.4	78.4
United States	79.0	79.5	79.7	80.1	80.5	80.5	80.6	79.4	78.0	76.9	77.2	77.6	78.1	77.8
EU27 total	..	..	..	..	..	..	70.7	70.8	70.4	70.4	70.2	70.8	71.7	72.5
OECD total	75.4	75.4	75.6	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.2	75.7	75.0	74.6	74.8	75.1	75.7	76.0
Brazil	..	83.1	80.8	80.7	79.5	78.8	..	78.2	78.7	77.9	79.3	79.4	79.6	79.7
China	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	81.6	81.2	81.1	81.8	81.4	79.5	79.3
Russian Federation	..	65.7	64.2	60.9	58.7	62.1	63.8	63.5	64.5	64.1	64.9	65.7	65.7	67.7

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/542604872158>

Employment rates: men

Average annual growth in percentage



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536467325285>

Employment rates: women

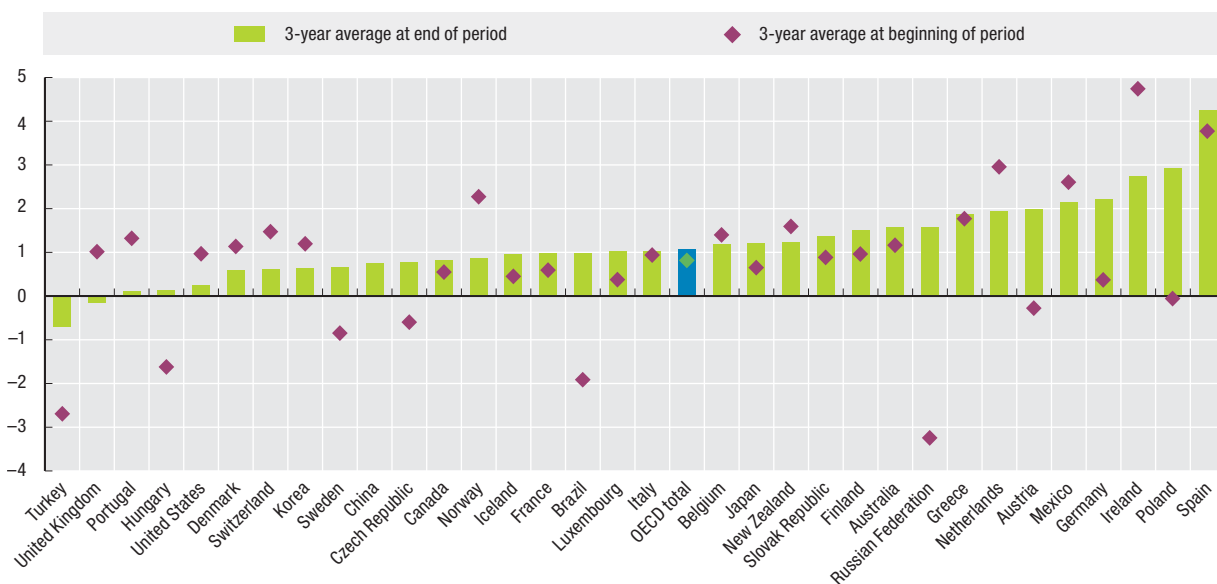
Share of women of working age (15 to 64 years) in employment

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	56.9	59.0	58.9	58.9	59.6	60.0	61.4	61.7	62.1	62.9	63.1	64.7	65.5	66.1
Austria	58.9	58.9	58.3	58.4	58.5	59.4	59.4	59.9	61.2	61.6	60.7	62.0	63.5	64.4
Belgium	44.8	45.4	45.6	46.7	47.5	50.2	51.9	50.7	51.1	51.4	53.0	54.1	53.6	54.9
Canada	61.1	61.6	61.5	62.1	63.5	64.6	65.6	65.9	67.0	67.9	68.4	68.3	69.0	70.1
Czech Republic	61.0	61.0	60.6	59.9	58.7	57.4	56.9	57.0	57.1	56.3	56.0	56.3	56.8	57.3
Denmark	67.1	67.0	67.4	69.4	70.3	71.6	72.1	71.4	72.6	70.5	72.0	70.8	73.2	73.3
Finland	58.7	59.0	59.5	60.4	61.3	63.6	64.5	65.4	66.1	65.7	65.5	66.5	67.3	68.5
France	50.8	51.6	51.8	51.7	52.4	53.0	54.3	55.2	55.8	57.6	57.7	58.0	58.2	59.4
Germany	54.7	55.3	55.5	55.3	56.3	57.4	58.1	58.7	58.8	58.7	59.2	59.6	61.4	63.2
Greece	37.1	38.0	38.5	39.1	40.3	40.7	41.3	41.2	43.1	44.5	45.5	46.2	47.5	48.1
Hungary	47.8	45.9	45.5	45.5	47.3	49.0	49.6	49.8	49.8	50.9	50.7	51.0	51.2	50.9
Iceland	74.6	76.8	76.5	75.6	78.3	80.2	81.0	81.1	79.8	81.2	79.4	81.2	81.6	81.7
Ireland	38.9	41.5	43.3	44.7	48.2	51.3	53.3	54.0	55.0	55.2	55.6	57.9	58.7	60.3
Italy	35.4	35.4	36.0	36.4	37.3	38.3	39.6	41.1	42.0	42.7	45.2	45.3	46.3	46.6
Japan	56.5	56.4	56.8	57.6	57.2	56.7	56.7	57.0	56.5	56.8	57.4	58.1	58.8	59.5
Korea	49.8	50.5	51.1	51.6	47.3	48.1	50.0	50.9	52.0	51.1	52.2	52.5	53.1	53.2
Luxembourg	44.9	42.2	43.6	45.4	45.6	48.5	50.0	50.8	51.5	50.9	51.9	53.7	54.6	53.5
Mexico	36.2	36.0	36.8	39.1	39.3	39.1	39.6	39.0	39.5	39.1	40.9	41.6	42.9	43.6
Netherlands	52.6	53.9	54.9	57.4	59.1	61.1	62.7	63.7	64.0	64.2	64.3	64.8	66.0	68.1
New Zealand	59.9	61.7	63.4	62.8	62.1	63.0	63.5	64.8	65.3	65.7	66.5	68.0	68.4	69.0
Norway	67.5	68.8	70.4	72.2	73.6	73.8	74.0	73.8	73.9	72.7	72.7	72.0	73.1	74.6
Poland	51.9	51.8	51.8	51.8	52.2	51.6	48.9	47.8	46.4	46.2	46.4	47.0	48.2	50.6
Portugal	55.0	54.8	55.6	57.2	58.3	59.5	60.5	61.0	60.8	60.6	61.7	61.7	62.0	61.9
Slovak Republic	52.6	53.0	54.6	54.0	53.5	52.1	51.5	51.8	51.4	52.2	50.9	50.9	51.9	53.0
Spain	31.5	32.5	33.8	35.2	36.5	39.1	42.0	43.8	44.9	46.8	49.0	51.9	54.0	55.5
Sweden	70.7	70.9	69.9	68.9	69.4	70.9	72.2	73.5	73.4	72.8	71.8	71.8	72.1	73.2
Switzerland	64.9	65.6	67.1	67.8	68.8	69.6	69.4	70.7	71.5	70.7	70.3	70.4	71.1	71.6
Turkey	30.4	30.2	30.3	28.0	28.5	28.9	26.2	26.3	26.6	25.2	24.3	23.7	23.8	23.8
United Kingdom	62.1	62.5	63.3	64.0	64.2	65.0	65.6	66.0	66.3	66.4	66.6	66.7	66.8	66.3
United States	65.2	65.8	66.3	67.1	67.4	67.6	67.8	67.1	66.1	65.7	65.4	65.6	66.1	65.9
EU27 total	..	..	..	..	..	..	53.6	54.3	54.5	55.0	55.4	56.3	57.3	58.3
OECD total	52.9	53.2	53.6	54.2	54.4	54.9	55.2	55.3	55.3	55.3	55.7	56.1	56.9	57.5
Brazil	..	53.1	50.3	50.7	50.1	51.3	..	51.3	52.9	52.9	54.3	55.3	55.9	55.9
China	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	69.4	68.5	67.8	66.5	66.6	68.2	68.0
Russian Federation	..	52.9	51.9	49.5	47.9	52.0	53.8	53.9	55.5	55.3	56.1	57.0	57.6	58.8

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Employment rates: women

Average annual growth in percentage



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536488372372>

EMPLOYMENT RATES BY AGE GROUP

The employment rates in this chapter show the percentage of persons of working age who are in employment, broken down into three age groups. The youngest age group contains persons who are just entering the labour market, the second group those in their prime working lives, and the third group those who are approaching retirement.

Employment rates in these different age groups are significantly affected by government policies with regard to higher education, pensions and retirement age.

Definition

To calculate the employment rate for a given age group, the total population in that age group is divided between those in employment and those who are not. The numbers in employment are then expressed as a percentage of the total numbers in that age group.

Employment is generally measured through household labour force surveys and, in accordance with the ILO Guidelines, employed persons are defined as those aged 15 or over who report that they have worked in gainful employment for at least one hour in the previous week. Those not in employment consist of persons who are out of work but seeking employment, students and all others who have excluded themselves from the labour force for one reason or another, such as incapacity or the need to look after young children or elderly relatives.

Comparability

All OECD countries use the ILO Guidelines for measuring employment, but the operational definitions used in national labour force surveys vary slightly in Iceland and Turkey. Employment levels are also likely to be affected by changes in the survey design and/or the survey conduct, but employment rates are likely to be fairly consistent over time.

Long-term trends

In general, employment rates for those in the prime working age group – 25 to 54 – are relatively similar between OECD countries with ratios for all countries except Turkey ranging between 70% and 90% in 2007. Rates are most variable between countries for those in the youngest age group where, in 2007, they ranged from under 25% in Hungary, Luxembourg, Greece and Italy, to over 60% in Iceland, Denmark, the Netherlands, Australia, and Switzerland. Employment rates for the oldest age group also vary considerably between countries, with more than 70% of this age group in employment in 2007 in Iceland, New Zealand and Sweden, but less than 30% employed in Turkey and Poland.

Over the period from 1998 to 2007, employment rates for the youngest age group have been slightly declining for the OECD as a whole, with sharpest decrease in the Czech Republic and Hungary. This partly reflects government policies to encourage young people to increase their educational qualifications. For those in the prime working age group – 25 to 54 – employment rates have grown for the OECD as a whole, but there were significant falls in the employment rates for Turkey, the United States and Slovak Republic, and large gains in Spain, Ireland and Italy. Persons in the oldest age group have fared particularly well overall, with the largest increases in employment rates for Finland, the Netherlands, Hungary and New Zealand.

Source

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- For Non-Member Countries: National Sources.

Further information

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- OECD (2004), *Quarterly Labour Force Statistics*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2008), *Labour Force Statistics*, OECD, Paris.

Websites

- OECD Labour Statistics Database, www.oecd.org/statistics/labour.
- OECD Jobs for Youth Project, www.oecd.org/employment/youth.
- OECD Ageing and Employment Policies, www.oecd.org/els/employment/olderworkers.
- NERO Meeting on Labour Market Issues, Paris, 25 June 2004, www.oecd.org/eco/nero.
- OECD Employment Data, www.oecd.org/els/employment/data.
- Youth Employment Summit, www.yesweb.org.

Employment rates for age group 15-24

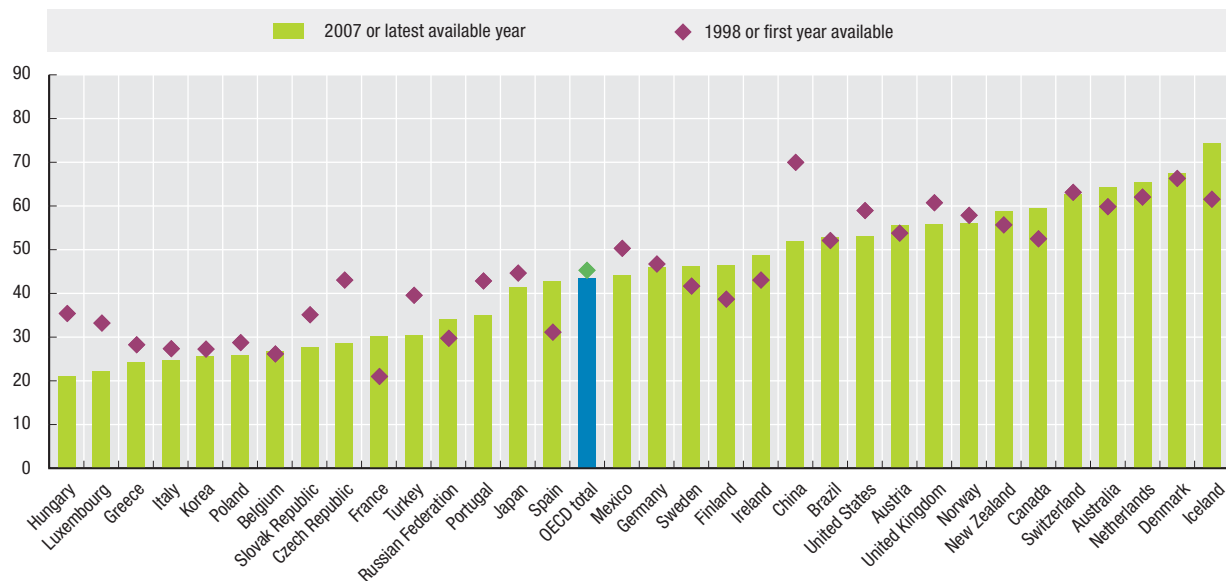
Persons in employment as a percentage of population in that age group

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	58.6	60.8	60.5	58.9	59.9	61.0	62.1	61.2	61.1	61.8	62.4	63.6	63.9	64.2
Austria	59.2	57.2	55.6	54.7	53.8	53.8	52.8	51.6	51.7	51.1	51.9	53.1	54.0	55.5
Belgium	27.5	26.6	26.1	25.2	26.0	25.5	30.3	28.5	28.5	27.1	28.1	26.6	26.2	26.8
Canada	53.8	53.8	52.7	51.5	52.5	54.5	56.3	56.3	57.5	58.3	58.0	57.8	58.7	59.5
Czech Republic	47.5	46.6	45.8	44.2	43.0	40.1	38.3	36.1	33.7	31.4	28.5	27.3	27.7	28.5
Denmark	62.1	65.9	66.0	68.2	66.4	66.0	67.1	61.7	64.0	59.4	61.3	62.0	63.7	67.4
Finland	31.9	33.4	34.5	37.1	38.6	41.8	42.9	43.5	42.4	41.4	41.3	42.1	44.1	46.4
France	22.0	21.8	21.3	19.9	20.8	20.7	23.2	24.3	24.1	29.7	29.3	29.3	28.9	30.1
Germany	51.4	49.1	47.0	45.8	46.7	47.1	47.2	47.0	44.8	42.4	41.9	42.6	44.0	45.9
Greece	26.7	26.5	25.4	24.5	28.1	26.8	26.9	26.0	26.8	26.2	27.4	25.3	24.5	24.2
Hungary	30.8	31.3	30.4	31.3	35.3	35.7	32.5	30.7	28.5	26.7	23.6	21.8	21.7	21.0
Iceland	51.7	54.9	54.8	55.7	61.6	65.1	68.2	66.8	59.4	68.1	66.3	71.6	72.9	74.3
Ireland	33.5	37.3	36.4	38.3	43.0	46.4	48.2	47.0	44.8	45.2	44.7	46.4	48.4	48.8
Italy	28.3	27.3	26.9	27.0	27.2	27.3	27.8	27.4	26.7	26.0	27.2	25.5	25.5	24.7
Japan	45.0	44.7	45.0	45.3	44.6	42.9	42.7	42.0	41.0	40.3	40.0	40.9	41.4	41.4
Korea	34.5	34.6	33.7	32.2	27.1	27.6	29.4	30.1	31.5	30.8	31.2	29.9	27.2	25.7
Luxembourg	42.8	38.2	36.9	34.7	33.1	31.7	31.8	32.3	32.3	27.0	23.3	24.9	23.3	22.1
Mexico	50.3	48.2	48.2	49.2	50.3	50.3	48.9	47.2	45.4	44.1	44.3	43.7	44.8	44.2
Netherlands	55.4	56.3	58.1	60.9	62.1	65.4	66.5	66.8	66.7	64.9	63.2	61.9	63.9	65.4
New Zealand	56.5	59.4	59.5	58.2	55.7	54.6	54.6	55.8	56.6	56.3	56.8	56.9	58.8	58.7
Norway	48.4	49.2	52.3	55.1	57.9	57.8	58.1	56.5	56.9	55.3	54.4	52.9	55.8	56.0
Poland	28.0	27.3	27.9	28.8	28.6	24.3	24.5	22.1	20.0	19.6	20.0	20.9	24.0	25.8
Portugal	40.5	37.6	37.1	39.2	42.8	42.6	42.0	42.7	41.9	38.4	36.9	36.1	35.8	34.9
Slovak Republic	34.4	34.8	36.8	36.4	35.0	31.0	29.0	27.9	27.2	27.6	26.5	25.6	25.7	27.6
Spain	28.3	28.6	28.3	29.4	31.0	34.4	36.3	37.1	36.6	36.8	38.4	41.9	43.3	42.9
Sweden	41.3	42.5	40.3	39.7	41.6	43.8	46.1	47.8	46.5	45.1	42.8	42.5	44.0	46.3
Switzerland	60.3	60.1	63.3	62.9	63.2	64.8	65.1	63.9	65.4	63.5	61.9	59.9	63.3	62.6
Turkey	43.0	41.0	42.0	40.3	39.5	39.7	37.0	35.3	33.0	30.5	31.6	31.2	30.8	30.4
United Kingdom	58.8	59.0	60.2	60.8	60.8	60.8	61.5	61.0	60.9	59.7	60.1	58.6	57.3	55.9
United States	58.1	58.3	57.6	58.0	59.0	59.0	59.7	57.7	55.7	53.9	53.9	53.9	54.2	53.1
EU27 total	..	..	..	..	..	..	37.0	37.3	36.7	36.1	35.7	36.1	36.6	37.4
OECD total	45.7	45.1	44.9	45.0	45.4	45.4	45.6	44.8	43.7	42.8	43.1	43.1	43.5	43.5
Brazil	..	57.7	54.7	54.0	52.1	51.7	..	50.8	51.7	50.8	52.4	52.7	52.6	52.9
China	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	70.1	65.7	61.5	57.1	55.7	52.8	51.9
Russian Federation	..	41.0	38.0	33.0	29.6	34.4	34.6	33.5	34.2	32.7	32.5	32.9	32.5	34.1

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/542713300423>

Employment rates for age group 15-24

Persons in employment as a percentage of population in that age group



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536533802664>

EMPLOYMENT RATES BY AGE GROUP

Employment rates for age group 25-54

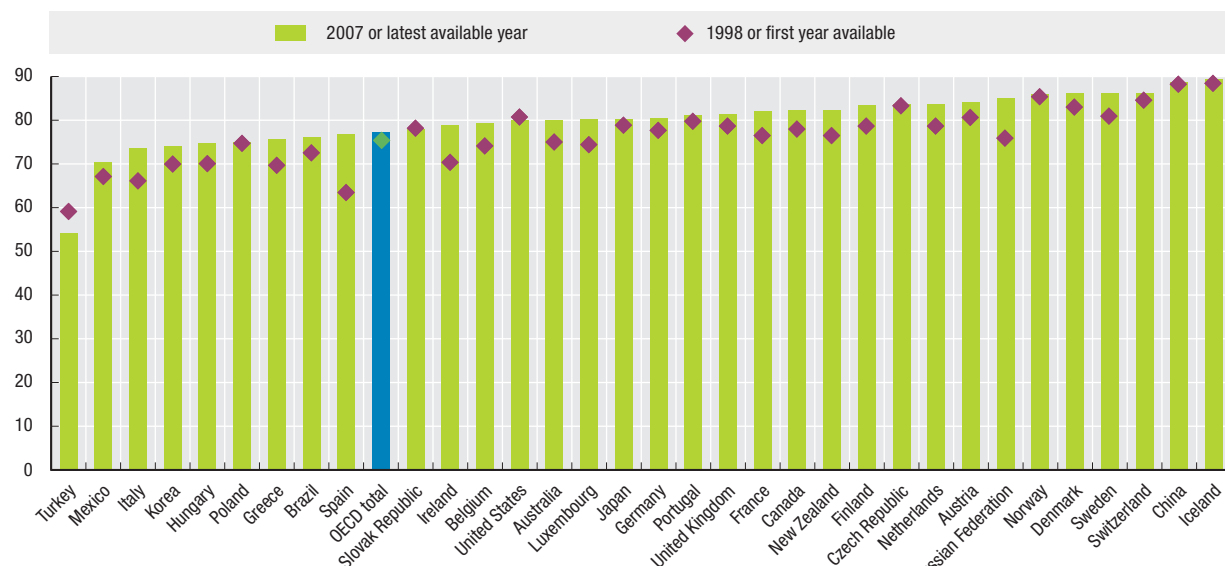
Persons in employment as a percentage of population in that age group

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	73.6	75.2	74.9	74.9	75.3	75.5	76.3	76.3	76.7	77.2	77.4	78.8	79.2	80.0
Austria	79.8	80.6	80.3	80.8	81.0	82.0	82.5	82.7	83.5	84.0	82.6	82.6	83.5	84.0
Belgium	73.1	73.8	73.9	74.6	74.4	76.4	77.9	76.6	76.6	76.1	77.3	78.3	78.2	79.3
Canada	75.5	76.2	76.2	77.3	78.3	79.2	79.9	79.8	80.3	80.8	81.3	81.3	81.6	82.2
Czech Republic	86.3	86.3	85.8	85.0	83.7	81.9	81.6	82.1	82.5	81.7	81.4	82.0	82.5	83.5
Denmark	80.5	81.7	82.2	82.8	83.4	84.4	84.3	84.5	84.7	83.5	84.0	83.9	85.5	86.1
Finland	74.9	76.1	76.9	77.5	79.0	80.4	80.9	81.5	81.6	81.1	81.0	81.7	82.5	83.3
France	76.3	77.0	76.9	76.4	76.8	77.0	78.3	79.3	79.4	80.4	80.5	80.7	81.2	82.1
Germany	76.2	76.8	76.8	76.7	78.0	78.7	79.3	79.3	78.8	78.2	78.1	77.4	78.8	80.3
Greece	68.6	68.8	69.5	69.7	69.9	70.0	70.2	70.4	71.9	73.1	73.7	74.3	75.3	75.7
Hungary	71.7	70.7	70.4	70.2	70.3	72.3	73.0	73.1	73.0	73.7	73.6	73.7	74.2	74.6
Iceland	87.5	89.1	89.3	88.2	88.9	90.9	90.6	90.7	90.0	89.2	88.0	88.2	89.1	89.4
Ireland	62.7	64.7	66.3	67.4	70.6	73.2	75.3	76.4	76.4	75.7	76.5	77.8	78.2	78.8
Italy	65.8	65.5	65.7	65.8	66.3	67.1	68.0	69.2	70.1	70.8	72.1	72.2	73.3	73.5
Japan	79.5	79.3	79.6	79.9	79.2	78.7	78.6	78.6	78.0	78.3	78.6	79.0	79.6	80.2
Korea	73.6	74.2	74.7	74.8	70.2	70.3	72.2	72.6	73.4	73.1	73.4	73.4	73.9	74.0
Luxembourg	73.5	71.9	73.2	74.4	74.7	76.7	78.2	78.7	79.1	77.8	79.3	80.7	81.0	80.1
Mexico	65.0	63.7	65.2	67.6	67.3	66.9	67.4	67.1	67.6	67.3	68.7	68.8	69.9	70.3
Netherlands	73.7	75.0	75.5	77.3	79.0	79.9	81.0	81.6	81.2	81.1	80.6	80.9	82.0	83.6
New Zealand	76.2	77.6	78.4	77.8	76.8	77.6	78.6	79.3	79.6	79.8	80.8	82.0	82.1	82.2
Norway	81.3	82.4	83.7	85.0	85.8	85.5	85.3	85.1	84.4	82.9	83.1	83.2	84.4	85.8
Poland	73.8	74.2	74.6	74.7	75.0	73.7	70.9	69.3	67.5	67.6	68.3	69.5	71.8	74.9
Portugal	78.7	78.7	78.7	79.3	80.1	80.6	81.8	82.2	81.5	81.0	81.1	80.8	81.3	81.0
Slovak Republic	78.4	78.7	80.3	79.3	78.5	76.1	74.7	74.8	75.1	76.0	74.7	75.3	77.2	78.0
Spain	58.4	59.5	60.6	62.0	63.6	66.1	68.4	69.5	70.1	71.3	72.7	74.4	75.8	76.8
Sweden	81.9	82.6	81.8	80.7	81.3	82.5	83.8	84.6	84.2	83.5	82.9	83.9	84.7	86.1
Switzerland	83.2	84.2	83.6	83.4	85.0	85.1	85.4	86.0	86.0	84.8	84.7	85.1	85.2	86.1
Turkey	59.8	60.5	60.1	59.0	59.2	58.2	56.7	55.5	54.6	54.0	54.1	54.1	54.2	54.2
United Kingdom	76.5	77.1	77.4	78.3	79.0	79.6	80.2	80.5	80.3	80.7	80.7	81.1	81.2	81.3
United States	79.2	79.7	80.2	80.9	81.1	81.4	81.5	80.5	79.3	78.8	79.0	79.3	79.8	79.9
EU27 total	..	..	..	..	..	..	76.0	76.3	76.1	76.4	76.6	77.2	78.2	79.1
OECD total	74.5	74.8	75.1	75.5	75.6	75.7	76.0	75.8	75.4	75.3	75.6	75.9	76.6	77.2
Brazil	..	75.0	72.8	73.3	72.8	73.2	..	73.1	74.2	74.0	75.4	75.9	76.3	76.1
China	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	88.7	87.7	86.6	85.6	85.2	88.0	88.7
Russian Federation	..	81.1	80.7	77.9	76.2	77.9	80.2	80.7	81.8	81.4	82.2	82.9	83.1	85.1

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/542733658134>

Employment rates for age group 25-54

Persons in employment as a percentage of population in that age group



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536566040214>

Employment rates for age group 55-64

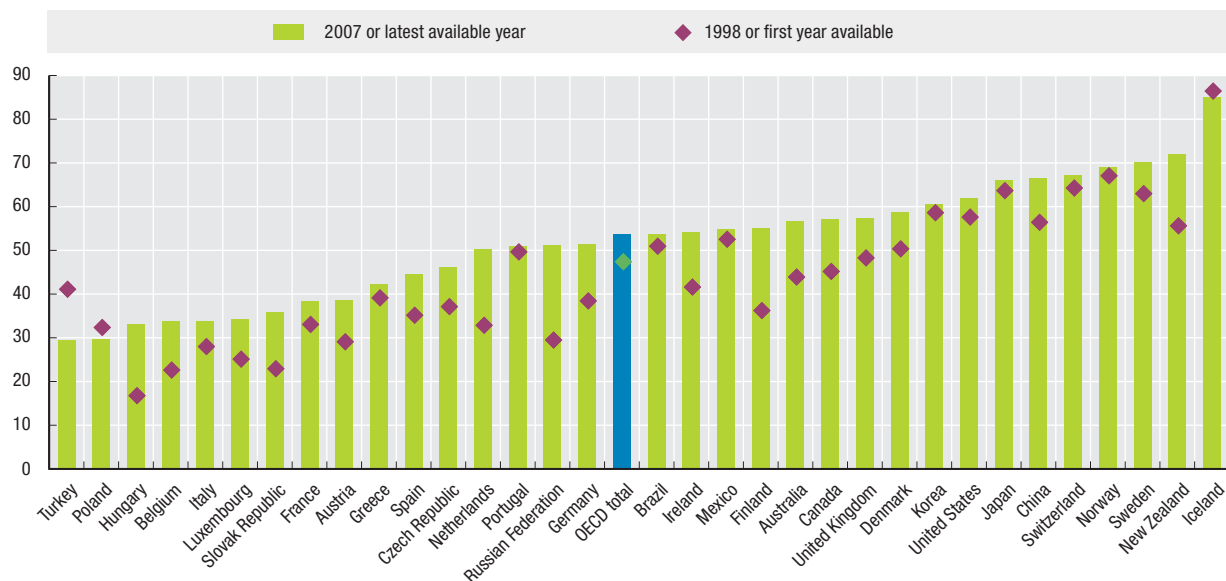
Persons in employment as a percentage of population in that age group

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	40.5	41.7	42.4	42.7	43.9	44.3	46.2	46.7	48.7	50.5	52.0	53.7	55.6	56.7
Austria	28.4	30.2	29.1	28.5	29.0	29.7	28.3	28.2	29.2	30.3	28.8	31.8	35.5	38.6
Belgium	22.4	23.3	21.8	22.0	22.5	24.7	25.0	25.2	25.8	28.1	30.1	32.1	30.4	33.8
Canada	43.6	43.2	43.5	44.4	45.2	46.8	48.1	48.2	50.1	53.0	53.9	54.8	55.6	57.1
Czech Republic	32.3	34.8	37.3	38.3	37.1	37.5	36.3	37.1	40.8	42.3	42.6	44.6	45.2	46.0
Denmark	50.2	49.3	47.5	51.4	50.4	54.2	54.6	56.5	57.3	60.7	61.8	59.8	60.9	58.7
Finland	33.5	34.4	35.6	35.7	36.2	39.2	42.3	45.9	47.8	49.9	51.0	52.6	54.5	55.0
France	33.4	33.5	33.5	33.6	33.0	34.2	34.3	36.5	39.3	37.0	37.6	38.7	38.1	38.3
Germany	35.9	37.4	38.0	38.3	38.4	37.8	37.6	37.9	38.6	39.0	41.8	45.5	48.1	51.3
Greece	39.5	40.5	40.7	40.7	39.1	38.4	39.0	38.0	38.9	41.0	39.4	41.6	42.4	42.1
Hungary	17.0	17.1	17.4	17.3	16.6	19.4	21.9	23.5	25.6	29.0	31.1	33.0	33.6	33.1
Iceland	84.7	85.1	83.8	83.7	86.7	85.9	84.2	85.6	87.2	83.3	82.0	84.8	84.9	84.9
Ireland	39.5	39.4	40.3	40.2	41.6	43.8	45.2	46.6	47.9	49.2	49.5	51.7	53.4	54.1
Italy	29.4	28.4	28.7	28.0	27.9	27.6	27.7	28.0	28.9	30.3	30.5	31.4	32.5	33.8
Japan	63.7	63.7	63.6	64.2	63.8	63.4	62.8	62.0	61.6	62.1	63.0	63.9	64.7	66.1
Korea	62.9	63.6	63.2	63.8	58.7	58.2	57.8	58.3	59.5	57.8	58.5	58.7	59.3	60.6
Luxembourg	23.2	24.0	22.6	23.7	25.0	26.3	27.2	24.8	27.9	30.3	30.4	31.7	33.2	34.3
Mexico	52.4	50.0	51.3	54.5	52.6	54.1	51.7	51.1	52.2	52.9	53.8	52.6	55.0	54.7
Netherlands	29.0	29.4	30.3	31.3	32.8	34.9	37.6	39.2	42.7	42.9	44.2	44.9	46.9	50.1
New Zealand	47.3	50.4	53.9	54.5	55.7	56.9	57.2	60.7	63.4	64.3	67.2	69.7	70.4	72.0
Norway	61.6	63.1	64.6	66.0	67.2	67.3	67.1	67.4	68.4	68.6	68.0	67.6	67.4	69.0
Poland	34.4	33.8	33.0	33.6	32.3	32.5	28.4	29.0	27.9	28.6	28.0	29.1	28.1	29.7
Portugal	45.9	44.6	46.2	47.1	49.7	50.4	50.8	50.0	50.9	51.1	50.3	50.5	50.1	50.9
Slovak Republic	21.3	21.7	22.8	21.4	22.8	22.3	21.3	22.3	22.9	24.6	26.8	30.4	33.2	35.7
Spain	32.7	32.4	33.2	34.1	35.1	35.1	37.0	39.2	39.7	40.8	41.3	43.1	44.1	44.6
Sweden	61.9	62.0	63.4	62.7	63.1	64.0	65.1	67.0	68.4	69.0	69.5	69.6	69.8	70.1
Switzerland	61.1	61.7	63.3	63.9	64.4	64.6	63.3	67.3	64.6	65.7	65.2	65.1	65.7	67.2
Turkey	40.8	41.7	41.6	40.5	41.1	39.3	36.4	35.9	35.3	32.7	33.1	30.8	30.1	29.4
United Kingdom	47.4	47.5	47.8	48.5	48.3	49.4	50.4	52.1	53.1	55.4	56.2	56.7	57.4	57.4
United States	54.4	55.1	55.9	57.2	57.7	57.7	57.8	58.6	59.5	59.9	59.9	60.8	61.8	61.8
EU27 total	..	..	..	..	..	..	36.8	37.5	38.2	39.9	40.5	42.3	43.5	44.7
OECD total	46.1	46.4	46.9	47.6	47.6	47.9	47.9	48.4	49.4	50.0	50.8	51.9	52.8	53.7
Brazil	..	53.3	50.7	51.1	51.0	52.2	..	51.2	52.7	52.1	52.5	54.0	54.0	53.7
China	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	56.5	55.9	54.5	52.6	58.3	64.5	66.5
Russian Federation	..	33.7	32.6	31.6	29.4	34.8	34.8	31.9	35.2	37.8	40.4	44.6	47.4	51.1

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/542741851847>

Employment rates for age group 55-64

Persons in employment as a percentage of population in that age group



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536602188711>

PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT

Part-time work accounted for a substantial share of overall employment growth in many OECD countries between 1994 and 2007. Part-time work has been an important factor behind employment growth of groups that are often under-represented in the labour force, such as women, youths and, to a lesser extent, older workers.

Recent surveys in a large number of OECD countries show that most people who work part-time do so from choice. This suggests that countries with little part-time employment could foster increased employment by policies that promote the availability of part-time positions. This would particularly benefit women with young children.

Definition

Part-time employment refers to persons who usually work less than 30 hours per week in their main job. Both employees and the self-employed may be part-time workers.

Employment is generally measured through household labour force surveys and, according to the ILO Guidelines, employed persons are defined as those aged 15 or over who report that they have worked in gainful employment for at least one hour in the previous week. The rates shown here refer to the numbers of persons who usually work less than 30 hours per week as a percentage of the total number of those in employment.

Comparability

All OECD countries use the ILO Guidelines for measuring employment, but the operational definitions used in national labour force surveys vary slightly in Iceland and Turkey. Employment levels are also likely to be affected by changes in the survey design and/or the survey conduct, but employment rates are likely to be fairly consistent over time. Information on the number of hours worked is collected in household labour force surveys and the rates shown here are considered to be of good comparability.

Long-term trends

For the OECD as a whole, the part-time employment rate increased by 3.5 percentage points between 1998 and 2007. Part-time employment rates grew considerably – by more than 5 percentage points – in the Netherlands, Austria and Germany, while they fell – by more than 1 percentage point – in several countries including Iceland, Poland, France and Greece.

The chart shows great variation between countries in part-time employment in 2007. In the Netherlands and Switzerland over 25% of all those in employment were working part-time, while the incidence of part-time employment were under 10% in the Slovak Republic, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Greece, Turkey, Korea and Portugal. The average incidence of part-time employment for the OECD as a whole was 15% in 2007 and was three percentage points higher in the EU27 countries.

Source

- OECD (2008), *OECD Employment Outlook*, OECD, Paris.
- For Non-Member Countries: National Sources.

Further information

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- OECD (1999), *Implementing the OECD Jobs Strategy: Assessing Performance and Policy*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2002-2008), *Babies and Bosses – Reconciling Work and Family Life*, series, OECD, Paris.
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Statistical publications

- OECD (2008), *Labour Force Statistics*, OECD, Paris.

Websites

- OECD Productivity Database, www.oecd.org/statistics/productivity.
- OECD Labour Statistics Database, www.oecd.org/statistics/labour.
- OECD Employment Data, www.oecd.org/els/employment/data.

Incidence of part-time employment

As a percentage of total employment

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24.2	24.3	24.7	23.8	24.5	24.4	24.1
Austria	..	11.1	10.9	10.8	11.5	12.3	12.2	12.4	13.6	13.5	15.4	16.0	17.3	17.2
Belgium	14.6	14.6	14.8	15.0	15.6	19.9	19.0	17.0	17.9	18.0	18.9	18.5	19.3	18.3
Canada	18.9	18.8	19.1	19.1	18.8	18.4	18.1	18.1	18.8	18.9	18.5	18.3	18.1	18.2
Czech Republic	3.6	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.2	3.2	2.9	3.2	3.1	3.3	3.3	3.5
Denmark	17.3	16.9	16.6	17.2	17.1	15.3	16.1	14.7	16.0	15.7	17.3	17.6	18.1	17.7
Finland	8.9	8.7	8.5	9.3	9.7	9.9	10.4	10.5	11.0	11.3	11.3	11.2	11.4	11.7
France	13.8	14.2	14.0	14.8	14.7	14.6	14.2	13.8	13.8	12.9	13.3	13.4	13.3	13.4
Germany	13.5	14.2	14.9	15.8	16.6	17.1	17.6	18.3	18.8	19.6	20.1	21.8	22.0	22.2
Greece	7.8	7.8	8.0	8.3	9.1	8.0	5.5	4.9	5.6	5.6	6.0	6.1	7.5	7.8
Hungary	..	2.8	2.7	2.9	2.9	3.2	2.9	2.5	2.6	3.2	3.3	3.2	2.7	2.8
Iceland	22.6	22.5	20.9	22.4	23.2	21.2	20.4	20.4	20.1	16.0	16.6	16.4	16.0	15.9
Ireland	13.5	14.3	14.2	15.0	17.6	17.9	18.1	17.9	18.6	19.3	19.3	19.6	19.9	20.3
Italy	10.0	10.5	10.5	11.3	11.2	11.8	12.2	12.2	11.9	12.0	14.8	14.6	14.9	15.1
Japan	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17.7	18.2	18.1	18.3	18.0	18.9
Korea	4.5	4.3	4.3	5.0	6.7	7.7	7.0	7.3	7.6	7.7	8.4	9.0	8.8	8.9
Luxembourg	10.7	11.3	10.4	11.0	12.6	12.1	12.4	13.3	12.5	13.3	13.2	13.9	12.7	13.1
Mexico	..	16.6	14.9	15.5	15.0	13.7	13.5	13.7	13.5	13.4	15.1	..	..	..
Netherlands	28.9	29.4	29.3	29.1	30.0	30.4	32.1	33.0	33.9	34.6	35.0	35.7	35.5	36.1
New Zealand	21.0	20.9	21.9	22.3	22.7	23.0	22.2	22.4	22.6	22.3	22.0	21.7	21.3	22.0
Norway	21.5	21.4	21.6	21.0	20.8	20.7	20.2	20.1	20.6	21.0	21.1	20.8	21.1	20.4
Poland	..	..	..	11.9	11.8	14.0	12.8	11.6	11.7	11.5	12.0	11.7	10.8	10.1
Portugal	9.5	8.6	9.2	10.2	10.0	9.4	9.4	9.2	9.7	10.0	9.6	9.8	9.3	10.0
Slovak Republic	2.7	2.3	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.6	2.3	2.8	2.6	2.5	2.6
Spain	6.4	7.0	7.5	7.9	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.7	8.0	8.5	11.3	11.1	10.9
Sweden	15.8	15.1	14.8	14.2	13.5	14.5	14.0	13.9	13.8	14.1	14.4	13.5	13.4	14.4
Switzerland	23.2	22.9	23.7	24.0	24.2	24.8	24.4	24.8	24.8	25.1	24.9	25.1	25.5	25.4
Turkey	8.8	6.4	5.5	6.1	6.0	7.7	9.4	6.2	6.6	6.0	6.6	5.8	7.9	8.4
United Kingdom	22.4	22.3	22.9	22.9	23.0	22.9	23.0	22.7	23.3	23.7	24.0	23.5	23.4	23.3
United States	14.2	14.0	13.9	13.5	13.4	13.3	12.6	12.8	13.1	13.2	13.2	12.8	12.6	12.6
EU27 total	..	..	..	..	..	..	16.4	16.3	16.2	16.6	17.2	17.8	18.1	18.2
OECD total	11.3	11.6	11.5	11.8	11.9	12.1	11.9	12.1	14.6	14.7	15.1	15.3	15.2	15.4
Brazil	..	16.2	15.3	15.9	16.3	16.9	..	16.0	17.0	17.1	17.3	17.9	18.0	17.2

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/542744551031>

Incidence of part-time employment

As a percentage of total employment



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536605373762>

SELF-EMPLOYMENT

Self-employment may be seen either as a survival strategy for those who cannot find any other means of earning an income or as evidence of entrepreneurial spirit and a desire to be one's own boss. The self-employment rates shown in this section reflect these various motives.

Definition

Employment is generally measured through household labour force surveys and, according to the ILO Guidelines, employed persons are defined as those aged 15 or over who report that they have worked in gainful employment for at least one hour in the previous week.

Self-employed persons include employers, own-account workers, members of producers' co-operatives, and unpaid family workers. The last of these are unpaid in the sense that they do not have a formal contract to receive a fixed amount of income at regular intervals, but they share in the income generated by the enterprise; unpaid family workers are particularly important in farming and retail trade. Note

that all persons who work in corporate enterprises, including company directors, are considered to be employees.

The rates shown here are the percentages of the self-employed in total civilian employment i.e., total employment less military employees.

Comparability

All OECD countries use the ILO Guidelines for measuring employment, but the operational definitions used in national labour force surveys vary slightly in Iceland and Turkey. Employment levels are also likely to be affected by changes in the survey design and/or the survey conduct, but employment rates are likely to be fairly consistent over time.

Note that the composition of the self-employed with regard to the four categories listed above varies considerably among countries. In particular, countries with relatively large numbers of small farms, Brazil, Mexico and Turkey, for example, will have relatively large numbers of unpaid family workers.

Long-term trends

In 2007, the total self-employment rates (men and women together) ranged from under 9% in Luxembourg, United States, Norway, and Denmark to well over 30% in Korea, Mexico, Brazil, Greece, Turkey and China. It is noticeable that close to 60% per cent of self-employed work in the farm sector in Turkey, while this share amounts to 30% in Greece, 25% in Mexico and 20 in Korea. In general, self-employment rates are highest in countries with low per capita income although Italy, with a self-employment rate of 26.4%, is a striking exception. Ireland and Spain are also countries with both high per capita incomes and high self-employment rates.

Over the period 1995-2007, self-employment rates have been falling in most countries although there have been small increases in Germany, and larger ones in Czech Republic and Slovak Republic, albeit from low levels. Conversely, there have been much sharper declines in self-employment rates in Turkey, Greece and Mexico from higher levels.

The levels and changes in total self-employment rates conceal significant differences between men and women. In more than half of the countries, over 18% of all men in employment were self-employed; the corresponding figure for women was under 10% (figures for 2007).

Growth rates have also differed. Self-employment rates for men rose somewhat significantly in Austria, Slovak Republic, Sweden and Ireland, while receding by more than one percentage point in Iceland, Poland and Turkey. For women, self-employment grew somewhat markedly only in Austria and Switzerland, albeit from low levels, while dropping by one or more percentage points in Korea and Turkey from historically high levels.

Source

- OECD (2008), *Labour Force Statistics*, OECD, Paris.
- For Non-Member Countries: National Sources.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2000), "The Partial Renaissance of the Self-Employed", *OECD Employment Outlook*, Chapter 5, OECD, Paris, pp. 155-199.
- OECD (2005), *OECD SME and Entrepreneurship Outlook – 2005 Edition*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2008), *OECD Employment Outlook*, OECD, Paris.

Statistical publications

- OECD (2004), *Quarterly Labour Force Statistics*, OECD, Paris.

Online databases

- *Employment Statistics*.

Websites

- OECD Directorate for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, www.oecd.org/els.
- OECD Entrepreneurship at Local Level, www.oecd.org/tfs/leed/entrepreneurship.

Self-employment rates: total

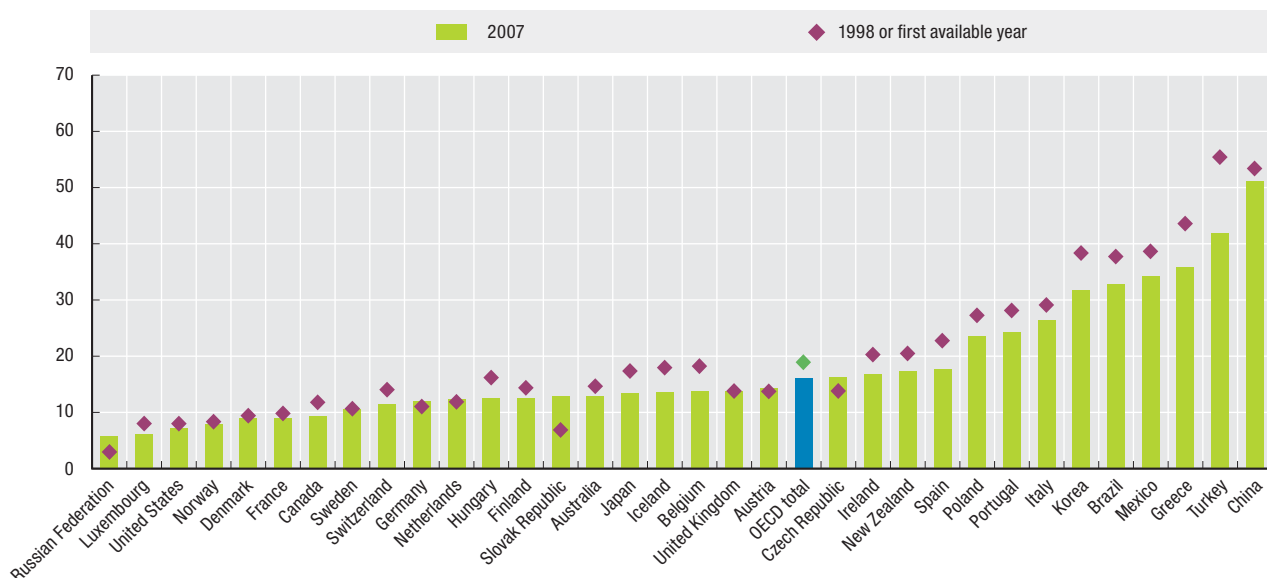
As a percentage of total civilian employment

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	15.9	15.4	14.8	15.1	14.6	14.5	14.1	13.8	13.9	13.4	13.2	12.9	12.9	12.9
Austria	13.8	14.4	14.0	13.6	13.7	13.4	13.1	13.2	13.1	12.8	12.8	13.3	13.6	14.4
Belgium	18.9	18.8	18.8	18.6	18.2	17.3	14.0	14.1	14.1	14.1	14.1	13.8	13.8	13.8
Canada	10.7	10.6	11.1	11.4	11.7	11.3	10.6	9.9	9.8	9.8	9.5	9.4	9.1	9.3
Czech Republic	10.6	12.0	12.2	12.4	13.8	14.5	15.2	15.2	16.1	17.3	16.9	16.1	16.2	16.2
Denmark	10.0	9.6	9.5	9.1	9.4	9.1	8.7	8.9	9.0	8.8	8.7	8.7	8.9	8.9
Finland	16.3	15.6	15.3	14.9	14.3	14.0	13.7	13.0	12.9	12.9	12.8	12.7	12.9	12.6
France	11.3	10.8	10.4	10.1	9.8	9.5	9.2	8.9	8.8	8.8	8.9	9.0	9.0	9.0
Germany	10.6	10.7	10.8	10.9	11.0	10.8	11.0	11.1	11.2	11.4	12.1	12.4	12.2	12.0
Greece	46.7	46.1	45.7	45.2	43.6	42.2	41.9	39.9	39.3	39.0	36.6	36.4	36.3	35.9
Hungary	17.8	18.0	18.1	17.4	16.1	15.7	15.2	14.5	13.9	13.5	14.3	13.8	12.8	12.5
Iceland	18.4	19.7	18.2	17.7	17.9	17.7	18.0	16.9	16.6	13.9	14.1	14.2	14.7	13.7
Ireland	22.8	22.2	20.8	20.8	20.2	19.2	18.9	18.1	18.1	17.7	18.0	17.4	16.3	16.8
Italy	29.0	29.3	29.3	29.1	29.1	28.6	28.5	28.2	27.7	27.5	28.4	27.0	26.7	26.4
Japan	18.6	18.3	17.7	17.5	17.3	17.2	16.6	15.9	15.4	15.1	14.9	14.7	13.8	13.4
Korea	37.1	36.8	36.7	36.8	38.3	37.6	36.8	36.7	36.0	34.9	34.0	33.6	32.8	31.8
Luxembourg	8.4	8.4	8.3	8.2	8.0	7.7	7.4	7.1	6.9	6.8	6.7	6.5	6.3	6.1
Mexico	43.7	41.2	40.1	40.9	38.6	38.0	36.0	36.4	36.8	36.6	36.5	35.5	34.5	34.3
Netherlands	12.3	12.4	12.5	12.6	11.8	11.3	11.2	11.6	11.7	11.4	12.1	12.4	12.4	12.4
New Zealand	21.1	20.9	20.9	20.0	20.4	21.2	20.7	19.9	19.4	19.4	19.2	18.5	17.7	17.3
Norway	9.7	9.3	8.7	8.2	8.3	7.8	7.4	7.2	7.1	7.3	7.4	7.4	8.5	8.0
Poland	30.9	29.7	29.5	28.3	27.2	26.9	27.4	28.0	28.1	27.3	26.7	25.8	24.4	23.5
Portugal	27.6	27.9	28.6	28.9	28.1	27.0	26.1	26.8	26.6	26.7	25.9	25.1	24.1	24.2
Slovak Republic	6.3	6.5	6.4	6.3	6.8	7.7	7.9	8.4	8.6	9.7	12.0	12.6	12.6	12.9
Spain	25.8	25.2	24.7	23.5	22.7	21.3	20.2	19.8	19.0	18.3	18.1	18.2	17.9	17.7
Sweden	11.1	11.2	11.0	10.8	10.6	10.6	10.3	10.0	9.8	9.6	9.9	9.8	10.0	10.6
Switzerland	12.7	12.8	13.4	13.9	14.0	14.0	13.2	13.0	12.5	12.0	11.4	11.2	11.1	11.5
Turkey	59.1	58.5	57.2	55.4	55.4	55.0	51.4	52.8	50.2	49.4	49.2	45.8	43.5	41.9
United Kingdom	15.7	15.6	14.9	14.5	13.7	13.2	12.8	12.8	12.7	13.2	13.6	13.4	13.5	13.8
United States	8.8	8.5	8.4	8.2	7.9	7.7	7.4	7.4	7.2	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.4	7.2
EU27 total	..	17.9	17.8	17.6	17.2	16.9	16.7	16.6	16.5	16.6	16.4	16.3	16.0	15.9
OECD total	19.8	19.4	19.2	19.0	18.6	18.3	17.6	17.5	17.3	17.2	17.3	16.9	16.5	16.1
Brazil	..	38.6	37.0	37.8	37.7	38.5	..	35.6	35.7	35.6	34.9	34.9	34.0	32.9
China	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	53.4	51.8	48.8	45.8	48.2	52.0	51.2
Russian Federation	..	1.9	2.1	2.9	2.9	8.0	7.6	6.0	5.9	5.7	5.8	6.1	6.0	5.7

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Self-employment rates: total

As a percentage of total civilian employment



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536633027413>

SELF-EMPLOYMENT

Self-employment rates: men

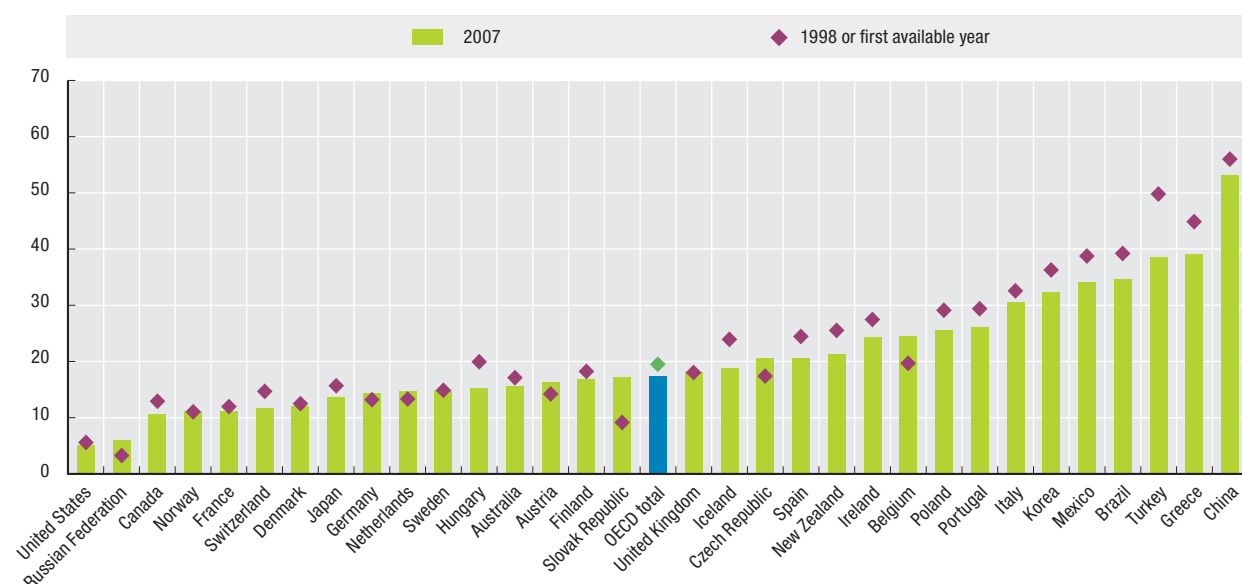
As a percentage of total male civilian employment

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	18.3	17.9	17.2	17.4	17.1	17.1	16.7	16.6	16.6	16.2	15.9	15.5	15.5	15.5
Austria	..	-	14.1	14.0	14.2	14.0	13.9	14.1	14.2	14.0	14.8	15.3	15.4	16.2
Belgium	19.6	19.7	19.9	19.9	19.6	18.2	24.2	24.4	24.6	24.8	24.9	24.5	24.5	24.5
Canada	12.0	11.8	12.2	12.5	12.9	12.5	11.7	11.2	10.8	11.0	10.8	10.5	10.2	10.5
Czech Republic	13.7	15.1	15.7	15.9	17.3	18.4	19.1	19.1	20.3	21.7	21.5	20.4	20.3	20.5
Denmark	..	12.4	12.4	..	12.4	12.2	11.7	12.4	12.5	11.9	11.9	11.6	11.7	12.0
Finland	21.1	20.2	19.7	19.0	18.2	18.1	17.8	16.8	16.7	16.7	16.7	16.7	17.1	16.8
France	13.3	12.9	12.6	12.3	11.9	11.6	11.3	11.0	10.9	10.9	11.0	11.2	11.2	11.2
Germany	12.3	12.5	12.7	13.0	13.1	13.2	13.4	13.4	13.6	14.0	14.9	14.9	14.7	14.4
Greece	47.6	47.4	46.9	46.8	44.9	43.8	43.7	42.1	41.4	41.0	39.4	39.1	39.1	39.0
Hungary	21.9	22.1	22.6	21.5	19.9	19.5	19.2	18.1	17.3	17.1	17.9	17.3	16.0	15.3
Iceland	25.6	27.6	23.9	23.2	23.9	23.7	24.0	23.1	23.6	19.2	19.3	20.1	20.8	18.8
Ireland	30.3	29.9	28.2	28.1	27.4	26.1	25.8	25.2	25.6	25.0	25.3	24.7	23.3	24.2
Italy	31.6	32.3	32.5	32.4	32.5	32.1	32.3	32.2	31.7	31.5	32.4	31.2	30.8	30.6
Japan	16.4	16.1	15.8	15.9	15.6	15.8	15.5	15.0	14.8	14.7	14.7	14.5	13.9	13.6
Korea	34.7	34.3	34.4	34.7	36.3	36.1	35.7	36.0	35.7	35.3	34.4	34.0	33.2	32.3
Mexico	44.2	41.6	40.6	40.8	38.7	38.1	36.4	36.9	36.9	36.5	36.2	35.7	34.4	34.1
Netherlands	-	13.7	13.8	14.0	13.3	12.7	12.6	12.9	13.4	13.6	14.1	14.6	14.6	14.6
New Zealand	25.7	25.4	25.8	24.9	25.5	26.4	25.9	24.9	24.5	24.6	24.0	23.0	22.0	21.2
Norway	12.8	12.1	11.4	10.9	11.0	10.3	9.8	9.4	9.7	10.1	10.3	10.2	11.7	11.1
Poland	32.4	31.4	31.1	30.0	29.1	29.2	29.5	29.9	30.4	29.8	28.9	27.9	26.6	25.5
Portugal	28.9	29.9	30.3	30.0	29.3	28.2	27.5	28.4	28.1	28.3	27.8	26.7	25.5	26.0
Slovak Republic	8.6	8.7	8.7	8.4	9.1	10.4	10.8	11.3	11.8	13.0	16.0	17.2	16.7	17.2
Spain	26.9	26.2	26.1	25.3	24.4	23.2	22.2	21.9	21.3	20.7	20.5	20.8	20.7	20.6
Sweden	15.7	15.7	15.6	15.3	14.8	14.8	14.5	14.1	14.0	13.9	14.3	14.0	14.2	14.9
Switzerland	12.5	13.3	14.0	14.1	14.6	14.6	13.9	13.7	13.0	12.4	11.9	11.7	11.5	11.7
Turkey	52.7	52.1	50.5	49.8	49.8	48.9	46.5	47.5	45.1	44.5	45.0	42.2	40.1	38.5
United Kingdom	20.6	20.6	19.6	19.1	18.0	17.7	16.7	17.0	17.0	17.6	18.3	17.6	17.7	18.0
United States	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.8	5.5	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.4	5.3	5.1	5.1	5.1
EU27 total	..	20.8	20.0	19.8	19.6	19.2	19.1	19.1	19.2	19.6	19.4	19.3	19.0	18.9
OECD total	20.3	19.9	19.9	19.9	19.5	19.2	18.7	18.7	18.5	18.5	18.6	18.1	17.7	17.4
Brazil	..	38.8	38.2	39.0	39.2	40.0	..	37.4	37.2	37.4	36.7	36.2	35.5	34.6
China	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	56.0	54.5	51.2	48.8	51.1	54.1	53.1
Russian Federation	..	2.3	2.5	3.2	3.2	7.5	7.3	5.8	5.8	5.8	6.0	6.3	6.2	6.0

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/542846316582>

Self-employment rates: men

As a percentage of total male civilian employment



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536634105547>

Self-employment rates: women

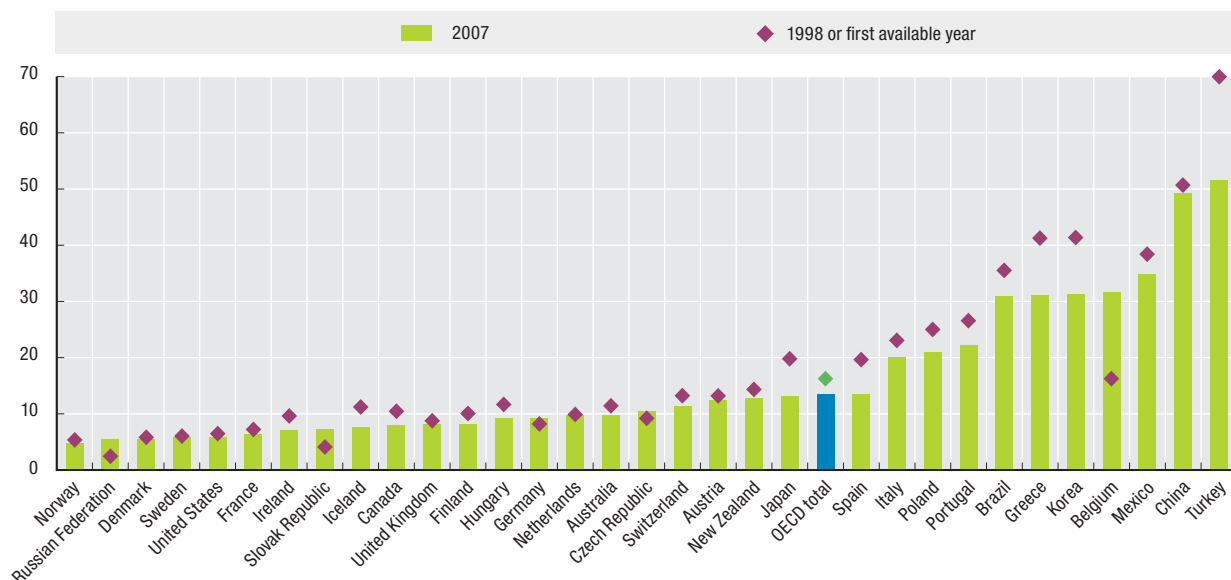
As a percentage of total female civilian employment

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	12.6	12.1	11.6	12.2	11.4	11.1	10.7	10.3	10.4	10.0	9.9	9.8	9.8	9.8
Austria	..	-	13.8	13.2	13.1	12.6	12.2	12.1	11.8	11.3	10.3	10.9	11.3	12.3
Belgium	17.7	17.6	17.4	16.9	16.2	16.0	33.1	33.6	33.3	32.9	32.4	31.6	31.6	31.6
Canada	9.2	9.1	9.7	10.2	10.4	9.8	9.2	8.4	8.5	8.4	8.0	8.1	7.9	8.0
Czech Republic	6.7	8.0	7.9	8.0	9.2	9.6	10.2	10.2	10.7	11.5	10.9	10.4	10.9	10.5
Denmark	..	6.3	6.1	..	5.8	5.6	5.5	4.9	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.8	5.5
Finland	11.1	10.5	10.5	10.2	10.0	9.5	9.2	8.9	8.7	8.8	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.2
France	8.7	8.2	7.8	7.5	7.2	6.9	6.7	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.3
Germany	8.3	8.3	8.1	8.1	8.2	7.8	7.9	8.3	8.2	8.4	8.8	9.4	9.3	9.2
Greece	45.2	43.8	43.7	42.4	41.3	39.3	38.9	36.1	35.7	35.6	32.1	32.0	32.1	31.1
Hungary	13.0	13.0	12.7	12.4	11.6	11.1	10.5	10.2	10.0	9.2	10.1	9.9	9.1	9.2
Iceland	10.4	10.6	11.5	11.4	11.2	10.8	11.0	9.7	8.7	8.0	8.3	7.4	7.6	7.6
Ireland	10.1	9.7	9.6	9.5	9.6	9.2	9.0	8.0	7.8	7.9	7.9	7.5	6.7	7.1
Italy	24.2	23.8	23.6	23.2	23.0	22.6	22.0	21.6	21.2	21.1	22.2	20.6	20.5	20.0
Japan	22.0	21.5	20.4	19.9	19.8	19.3	18.3	17.2	16.3	15.8	15.3	14.9	13.7	13.1
Korea	40.7	40.4	40.1	39.8	41.4	39.7	38.4	37.6	36.5	34.5	33.4	32.9	32.3	31.2
Mexico	42.6	40.5	38.9	41.3	38.4	37.8	35.3	35.6	36.7	36.7	37.1	35.3	34.6	34.8
Netherlands	-	10.7	10.6	10.7	9.8	9.4	9.4	9.8	9.5	8.6	9.6	9.7	9.7	9.7
New Zealand	15.3	15.3	14.9	14.1	14.3	15.0	14.7	14.0	13.3	13.2	13.6	13.4	12.5	12.7
Norway	5.8	6.1	5.7	5.1	5.3	5.0	4.8	4.7	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.5	4.9	4.7
Poland	29.2	27.7	27.5	26.3	25.0	24.1	24.8	25.7	25.4	24.3	24.1	23.1	21.8	20.9
Portugal	26.0	25.5	26.5	27.5	26.6	25.6	24.4	24.9	24.7	24.8	23.5	23.3	22.4	22.1
Slovak Republic	3.4	3.8	3.5	3.8	4.0	4.4	4.7	4.9	4.7	5.9	7.1	7.0	7.3	7.3
Spain	23.6	23.2	21.9	20.2	19.6	17.8	16.6	16.2	15.1	14.5	14.3	14.5	13.8	13.5
Sweden	6.3	6.4	6.0	5.9	6.0	6.1	5.7	5.6	5.3	5.1	5.1	5.3	5.4	5.8
Switzerland	13.0	12.0	12.6	13.5	13.2	13.2	12.4	12.0	11.7	11.4	10.7	10.6	10.7	11.4
Turkey	74.6	74.0	73.6	70.0	69.9	70.0	64.7	66.8	63.0	61.9	60.7	56.2	53.3	51.5
United Kingdom	9.8	9.6	9.3	9.1	8.7	8.0	8.3	7.8	7.8	8.2	8.3	7.8	8.0	8.2
United States	7.1	6.9	6.9	6.7	6.4	6.2	6.1	6.1	5.9	6.1	6.1	5.9	6.0	5.8
EU27 total	..	13.8	14.8	14.5	14.1	13.7	13.5	13.3	12.9	12.9	12.6	12.5	12.2	12.1
OECD total	17.4	17.0	16.8	16.7	16.2	15.8	15.0	14.9	14.7	14.4	14.4	14.0	13.6	13.4
Brazil	..	38.4	35.3	36.1	35.5	36.3	..	33.0	33.5	33.1	32.5	33.1	31.8	30.8
China	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50.7	49.1	46.3	42.7	45.4	49.9	49.3
Russian Federation	..	1.4	1.6	2.5	2.4	8.5	8.0	6.1	5.9	5.5	5.6	6.0	5.7	5.4

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/542847266333>

Self-employment rates: women

As a percentage of total female civilian employment



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536635115142>

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Most OECD countries publish unemployment rates that are based on the numbers of persons who are registered as unemployed at government labour offices. Because they are available soon after the end of the month or quarter to which they refer, the numbers of registered unemployed are treated as the “headline” unemployment figures by many countries. However, the rules for registering at labour offices vary from country to country, so that unemployment statistics based on this source are not comparable between countries. The unemployment rates shown here use ILO Guidelines that provide common definitions of unemployment and of the labour force.

Definition

Unemployed persons are defined as those who report that they are without work, that they are available for work and that they have taken active steps to find work in the last four weeks. The ILO Guidelines specify what actions count as active steps to find work and these include answering vacancy notices, visiting factories, construction sites and other places of work, and placing advertisements in the press as well as registering with labour offices.

Long-term trends

In most OECD countries, unemployment rates rose in the early part of the 1990s but have been falling since then. Falls have been particularly marked in Australia, Finland, Ireland, New Zealand and Spain.

There is no obvious pattern in the differences in unemployment rates for men and women. Unemployment rates for women are usually higher than for men, but in several countries unemployment rates for women have been lower in recent years – Canada, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Korea, Norway, the United Kingdom and the United States. Part of the reason may be that in these countries women are more likely than men to withdraw from the labour force when unemployed.

As regards total unemployment rates in 2005-2007, countries can be divided into three groups: a low unemployment group with rates below 4.5% (Iceland, Korea, Norway, Mexico, New Zealand, Netherlands, Switzerland, Japan, Denmark and Luxembourg); a middle group with unemployment rates between 4.5% and 9%; and a high unemployment group with average rates of 9% and above (Greece, Germany, Turkey, Poland and the Slovak Republic).

The unemployment rate is defined as the number of unemployed persons as a percentage of the labour force, where the latter consists of the unemployed plus those in employment, which are defined as persons who have worked for one hour or more in the last week.

When unemployment is high, some persons become discouraged and stop looking for work. They are then excluded from the labour force so that the unemployment rate may fall, or stop rising, even though there has been no underlying improvement in the labour market.

Comparability

All OECD countries use the ILO Guidelines for measuring unemployment, but the operational definitions used in national labour force surveys vary slightly in a few countries. Unemployment levels are also likely to be affected by changes in the survey design and/or the survey conduct, but unemployment rates are likely to be fairly consistent over time.

Source

- OECD (2008), *Main Economic Indicators*, OECD, Paris.
- For Non-Member Countries: National Sources.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2007), *Society at a Glance: OECD Social Indicators – 2006 Edition*, OECD, Paris.

Statistical publications

- OECD (2004), *Quarterly Labour Force Statistics*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2008), *OECD Employment Outlook*, OECD, Paris.

Online databases

- *Employment Statistics*.

Websites

- OECD Labour Statistics Database, www.oecd.org/statistics/labour.
- OECD Employment Policy, www.oecd.org/els/employment.
- OECD Employment Data, www.oecd.org/els/employment/data.

Unemployment rates: total

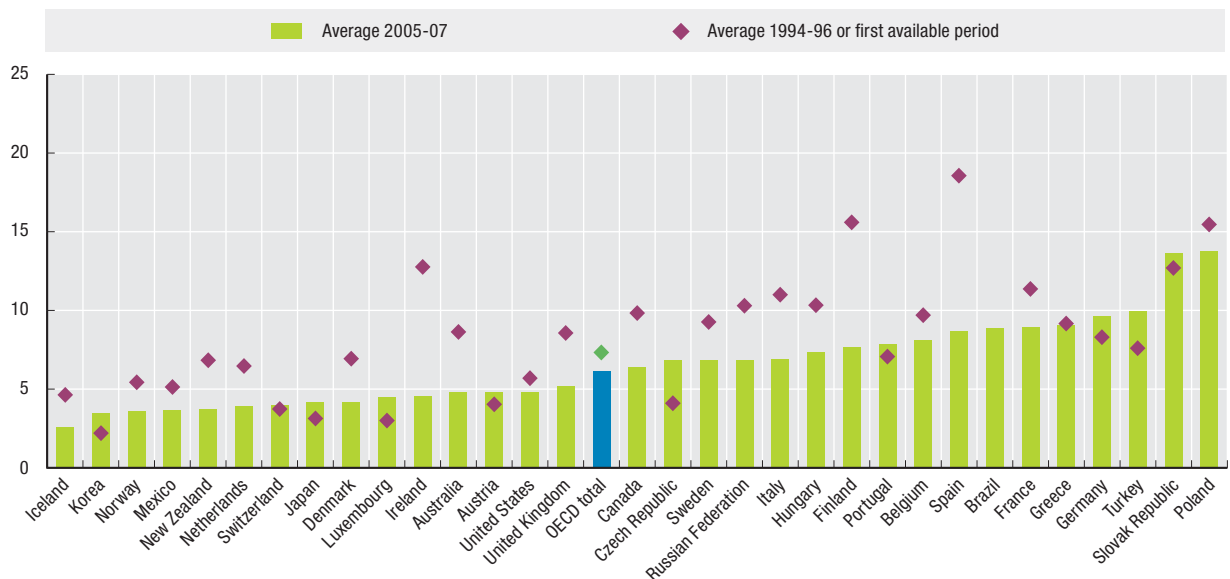
As a percentage of civilian labour force

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	9.5	8.2	8.2	8.3	7.7	6.9	6.3	6.7	6.4	5.9	5.4	5.1	4.8	4.4
Austria	3.8	3.9	4.4	4.4	4.5	3.9	3.7	3.6	4.2	4.3	4.9	5.2	4.7	4.4
Belgium	9.8	9.7	9.6	9.2	9.3	8.5	6.9	6.6	7.5	8.2	8.4	8.5	8.3	7.5
Canada	10.4	9.5	9.6	9.1	8.3	7.6	6.8	7.2	7.7	7.6	7.2	6.8	6.3	6.0
Czech Republic	4.3	4.1	3.9	4.8	6.4	8.6	8.7	8.0	7.3	7.8	8.3	7.9	7.2	5.3
Denmark	7.7	6.8	6.3	5.2	4.9	5.1	4.3	4.5	4.6	5.4	5.5	4.8	3.9	3.8
Finland	16.8	15.1	14.9	12.7	11.4	10.3	9.6	9.1	9.1	9.1	8.9	8.4	7.7	6.9
France	11.6	11.0	11.5	11.4	11.0	10.4	9.0	8.3	8.6	9.0	9.3	9.3	9.2	8.3
Germany	8.2	8.0	8.7	9.4	9.0	8.3	7.5	7.6	8.4	9.3	9.8	10.6	9.8	8.4
Greece	8.8	9.0	9.7	9.6	11.1	12.0	11.3	10.7	10.3	9.7	10.5	9.9	8.9	8.3
Hungary	11.0	10.4	9.6	9.0	8.4	6.9	6.4	5.7	5.8	5.9	6.1	7.2	7.5	7.4
Iceland	5.3	4.9	3.7	3.9	2.7	2.0	2.3	2.3	3.3	3.4	3.1	2.6	2.9	2.3
Ireland	14.4	12.3	11.6	9.9	7.6	5.7	4.3	4.0	4.5	4.7	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.7
Italy	10.6	11.2	11.2	11.2	11.4	11.0	10.1	9.1	8.7	8.5	8.1	7.7	6.8	6.2
Japan	2.9	3.1	3.4	3.4	4.1	4.7	4.7	5.0	5.4	5.3	4.7	4.4	4.1	3.9
Korea	2.5	2.1	2.0	2.6	7.0	6.6	4.4	4.0	3.3	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.5	3.2
Luxembourg	3.2	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.4	2.3	1.9	2.6	3.8	4.9	4.6	4.6	4.2
Mexico	3.7	6.2	5.5	3.7	3.2	2.5	2.5	2.8	3.0	3.4	3.9	3.6	3.6	3.7
Netherlands	6.8	6.6	6.0	4.9	3.8	3.2	2.8	2.2	2.8	3.7	4.6	4.7	3.9	3.2
New Zealand	8.1	6.3	6.1	6.6	7.4	6.8	6.0	5.3	5.2	4.6	3.9	3.7	3.8	3.6
Norway	6.0	5.5	4.8	4.0	3.2	3.2	3.4	3.6	3.9	4.5	4.4	4.6	3.5	2.6
Poland	16.9	15.4	14.1	10.9	10.2	13.4	16.2	18.3	20.0	19.7	19.0	17.8	13.9	9.6
Portugal	6.8	7.2	7.2	6.7	5.0	4.5	4.0	4.0	5.1	6.4	6.8	7.7	7.8	8.1
Slovak Republic	13.7	13.1	11.3	11.9	12.7	16.3	18.8	19.3	18.7	17.6	18.2	16.3	13.4	11.1
Spain	19.5	18.4	17.8	16.7	15.0	12.5	11.1	10.4	11.1	11.1	10.6	9.2	8.5	8.3
Sweden	9.4	8.8	9.6	9.9	8.2	6.7	5.6	4.9	5.0	5.6	6.3	7.3	7.0	6.2
Switzerland	3.8	3.5	3.9	4.2	3.5	3.0	2.6	2.6	3.2	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.0	3.6
Turkey	8.6	7.6	6.6	6.8	6.9	7.7	6.5	8.4	10.3	10.5	10.3	10.2	9.9	9.8
United Kingdom	9.3	8.5	7.9	6.8	6.1	5.9	5.4	5.0	5.1	5.0	4.7	4.8	5.4	5.3
United States	6.1	5.6	5.4	4.9	4.5	4.2	4.0	4.7	5.8	6.0	5.5	5.1	4.6	4.6
EU27 total	..	..	..	..	..	..	8.7	8.5	8.9	9.0	9.0	8.9	8.2	7.1
OECD total	7.6	7.2	7.2	6.9	6.8	6.7	6.2	6.4	6.9	7.1	6.9	6.7	6.1	5.6
Brazil	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9.2	9.6	8.7	8.3
Russian Federation	..	9.4	9.7	11.8	13.3	13.0	10.6	9.0	7.9	8.2	7.8	7.2	7.2	6.1

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Unemployment rates: total

As a percentage of civilian labour force



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536641403626>

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Unemployment rates: men

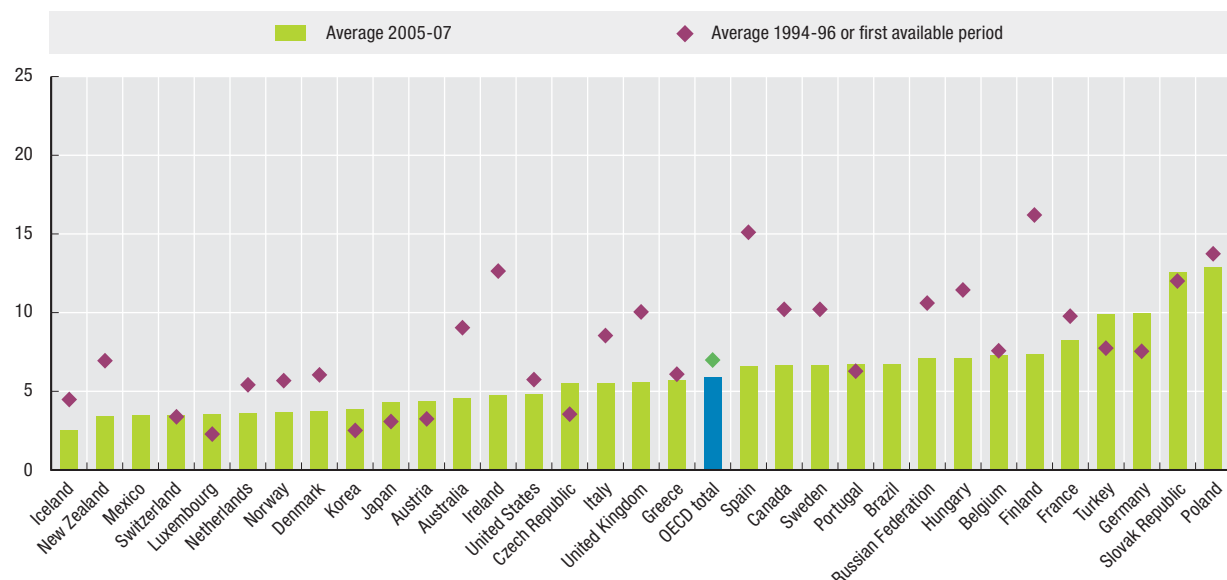
As a percentage of male civilian labour force

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	9.9	8.7	8.5	8.6	8.1	7.2	6.5	7.1	6.6	5.9	5.3	4.9	4.7	4.1
Austria	3.0	3.1	3.6	3.6	3.8	3.3	3.1	3.1	4.0	4.0	4.4	4.9	4.3	3.9
Belgium	7.7	7.6	7.4	7.3	7.6	7.1	5.6	5.9	6.7	7.7	7.5	7.7	7.4	6.7
Canada	10.9	9.8	9.9	9.3	8.5	7.8	6.9	7.5	8.1	7.9	7.5	7.0	6.5	6.4
Czech Republic	3.7	3.5	3.4	4.0	5.0	7.2	7.3	6.7	6.0	6.2	7.1	6.5	5.8	4.2
Denmark	7.1	5.7	5.3	4.5	3.9	4.5	4.0	4.1	4.3	4.9	5.1	4.4	3.4	3.4
Finland	18.4	15.2	15.0	12.3	10.9	9.7	8.7	8.7	9.1	9.3	8.8	8.2	7.4	6.5
France	10.0	9.3	10.0	10.0	9.5	8.9	7.5	7.0	7.7	8.1	8.4	8.4	8.5	7.8
Germany	7.2	7.2	8.2	9.0	8.8	8.1	7.5	7.8	8.8	9.9	10.3	11.2	10.2	8.5
Greece	6.0	6.2	6.0	6.3	7.3	8.0	7.4	7.2	6.8	6.2	6.6	6.2	5.6	5.2
Hungary	12.3	11.8	10.2	9.7	9.0	7.4	7.0	6.3	6.1	6.1	6.1	7.0	7.2	7.1
Iceland	5.2	4.8	3.4	3.3	2.2	1.4	1.8	2.1	3.6	3.6	3.2	2.6	2.7	2.3
Ireland	14.2	12.2	11.5	9.9	7.7	5.7	4.3	4.1	4.8	5.0	4.9	4.6	4.6	5.0
Italy	8.3	8.6	8.7	8.7	8.8	8.5	7.9	7.1	6.7	6.5	6.4	6.2	5.4	4.9
Japan	2.8	3.1	3.3	3.4	4.2	4.8	4.9	5.2	5.5	5.5	4.9	4.6	4.3	3.9
Korea	2.8	2.3	2.4	2.8	7.8	7.4	5.0	4.5	3.7	3.8	3.9	4.0	3.8	3.7
Luxembourg	2.6	2.0	2.2	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.6	2.0	3.0	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.4
Mexico	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.4	2.6	2.9	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.5
Netherlands	6.0	5.5	4.7	3.7	3.0	2.3	2.2	1.8	2.5	3.5	4.4	4.4	3.5	2.8
New Zealand	8.5	6.2	6.1	6.6	7.5	7.0	6.1	5.3	5.0	4.3	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.3
Norway	6.6	5.7	4.7	3.9	3.1	3.3	3.6	3.7	4.1	4.9	4.9	4.8	3.6	2.6
Poland	15.1	13.8	12.3	9.1	8.5	11.8	14.4	16.9	19.2	19.0	18.2	16.6	13.0	9.0
Portugal	6.0	6.4	6.4	6.0	4.0	3.9	3.2	3.2	4.2	5.5	6.0	6.8	6.6	6.7
Slovak Republic	13.3	12.5	10.2	11.1	12.2	16.3	18.9	19.8	18.7	17.5	17.4	15.5	12.3	9.9
Spain	16.2	14.8	14.3	13.1	11.2	9.0	7.9	7.5	8.1	8.2	8.0	7.1	6.3	6.4
Sweden	10.8	9.7	10.1	10.2	8.4	6.6	5.9	5.2	5.3	6.0	6.5	7.3	6.8	5.9
Switzerland	3.4	3.0	3.7	4.2	3.1	2.6	2.2	2.0	3.0	4.0	4.0	3.9	3.4	3.0
Turkey	8.8	7.8	6.6	6.5	6.9	7.7	6.6	8.7	10.7	10.7	10.5	10.2	9.7	9.7
United Kingdom	11.0	9.9	9.2	7.7	6.8	6.5	5.9	5.5	5.7	5.5	5.1	5.2	5.8	5.6
United States	6.2	5.6	5.4	4.9	4.4	4.1	3.9	4.8	5.9	6.3	5.6	5.1	4.6	4.7
EU27 total	..	..	..	..	..	..	7.8	7.7	8.3	8.4	8.5	8.3	7.6	6.6
OECD total	7.3	6.8	6.8	6.4	6.4	6.2	5.8	6.1	6.7	6.9	6.7	6.4	5.9	5.4
Brazil	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7.0	7.3	6.6	6.2
Russian Federation	..	9.7	10.0	12.1	13.5	13.2	10.8	9.3	8.1	8.5	8.0	7.3	7.5	6.4

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/543002577158>

Unemployment rates: men

As a percentage of male civilian labour force



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536650635250>

Unemployment rates: women

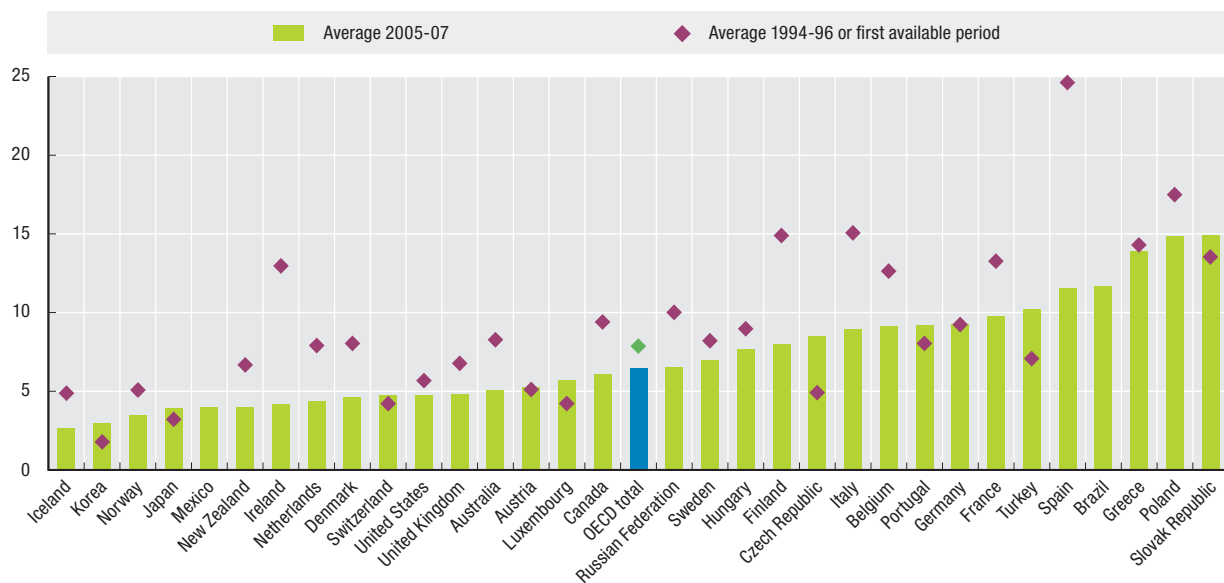
As a percentage of female civilian labour force

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	9.0	7.9	7.9	8.1	7.5	6.8	6.2	6.5	6.2	6.0	5.6	5.2	5.0	4.9
Austria	5.0	5.0	5.3	5.4	5.4	4.7	4.3	4.2	4.4	4.7	5.4	5.5	5.3	5.0
Belgium	12.7	12.7	12.5	11.9	11.6	10.2	8.5	7.6	8.6	8.9	9.5	9.5	9.4	8.5
Canada	9.8	9.1	9.3	8.9	8.0	7.3	6.7	6.9	7.1	7.2	6.9	6.5	6.1	5.6
Czech Republic	5.2	4.8	4.7	5.9	8.0	10.3	10.3	9.7	9.1	9.9	9.9	9.8	8.9	6.8
Denmark	8.5	8.1	7.5	6.2	6.0	5.7	4.8	5.0	5.0	6.1	6.0	5.3	4.5	4.1
Finland	14.9	15.0	14.8	13.0	11.9	10.8	10.6	9.7	9.1	8.9	9.0	8.6	8.1	7.2
France	13.5	13.0	13.3	13.2	12.8	12.1	10.8	9.9	9.8	10.0	10.3	10.2	10.1	8.9
Germany	9.5	9.0	9.2	9.8	9.3	8.5	7.6	7.4	7.9	8.7	9.1	10.0	9.4	8.3
Greece	13.7	13.8	15.4	14.8	17.0	18.2	17.1	16.1	15.7	15.0	16.2	15.3	13.6	12.8
Hungary	9.4	8.7	8.8	8.1	7.8	6.3	5.6	5.0	5.4	5.6	6.1	7.4	7.8	7.7
Iceland	5.6	4.9	4.1	4.5	3.2	2.6	2.9	2.5	2.9	3.1	2.9	2.6	3.1	2.3
Ireland	14.6	12.5	11.8	9.9	7.3	5.6	4.1	3.8	4.1	4.3	4.1	4.0	4.2	4.2
Italy	14.6	15.4	15.2	15.3	15.4	14.8	13.6	12.2	11.5	11.4	10.6	10.0	8.8	7.9
Japan	3.0	3.2	3.4	3.4	4.0	4.5	4.5	4.7	5.1	4.9	4.4	4.2	3.9	3.7
Korea	2.0	1.7	1.6	2.3	5.7	5.3	3.6	3.3	2.7	3.3	3.4	3.4	2.9	2.6
Luxembourg	4.1	4.3	4.2	3.9	4.0	3.3	3.0	2.4	3.5	4.9	6.8	6.0	6.0	5.1
Mexico	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3.6	3.7	4.3	5.1	4.0	3.9	4.1
Netherlands	7.9	8.1	7.7	6.6	5.0	4.4	3.6	2.9	3.1	3.9	4.9	5.0	4.4	3.7
New Zealand	7.6	6.3	6.1	6.6	7.4	6.5	5.8	5.3	5.3	5.0	4.4	4.0	4.1	3.9
Norway	5.3	5.1	4.8	4.2	3.2	3.0	3.2	3.5	3.6	4.0	4.0	4.4	3.4	2.5
Poland	19.0	17.3	16.2	13.0	12.2	15.2	18.2	19.9	20.9	20.5	20.0	19.2	14.9	10.4
Portugal	7.8	8.1	8.2	7.6	6.2	5.2	5.0	5.0	6.1	7.3	7.7	8.7	9.1	9.7
Slovak Republic	14.1	13.8	12.7	12.8	13.2	16.4	18.6	18.7	18.7	17.8	19.2	17.3	14.7	12.7
Spain	25.4	24.7	23.8	22.6	21.1	18.1	16.1	14.8	15.7	15.3	14.3	12.2	11.5	10.9
Sweden	7.8	7.8	9.0	9.5	8.0	6.8	5.3	4.5	4.6	5.2	6.1	7.3	7.1	6.4
Switzerland	4.4	4.0	4.2	4.1	4.0	3.5	3.2	3.4	3.5	4.6	4.9	5.1	4.7	4.4
Turkey	8.0	7.3	5.9	7.7	6.8	7.6	6.3	7.5	9.4	10.1	9.7	10.1	10.3	10.2
United Kingdom	7.3	6.7	6.3	5.8	5.3	5.1	4.8	4.4	4.5	4.3	4.3	4.3	5.0	5.0
United States	6.0	5.6	5.4	5.0	4.6	4.3	4.1	4.7	5.6	5.7	5.4	5.1	4.6	4.5
EU27 total	..	..	..	..	..	..	9.8	9.4	9.7	9.7	9.8	9.6	8.9	7.8
OECD total	8.1	7.8	7.7	7.5	7.4	7.2	6.7	6.8	7.2	7.3	7.2	7.0	6.5	5.9
Brazil	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.9	12.5	11.3	11.1
Russian Federation	..	9.2	9.3	11.5	13.0	12.9	10.4	8.6	7.6	8.0	7.5	7.0	6.8	5.8

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/543010081278>

Unemployment rates: women

As a percentage of female civilian labour force



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536662250514>

LONG-TERM UNEMPLOYMENT

Clearly, long-term unemployment is of particular concern to policy makers. Quite apart from the mental stress caused to the unemployed and their families, high rates of long-term unemployment indicate that labour markets are operating inefficiently and, in countries which pay generous unemployment benefits, the existence of long-term unemployment is a significant burden on government finances.

Definition

Long-term unemployment is conventionally defined either as those unemployed for 6 months or more or, as here, those unemployed for 12 months or more. The ratios calculated here show the proportion of these long-term unemployed among all unemployed.

Unemployment is defined in most OECD countries in accordance with the ILO Guidelines. Unemployment is usually measured by household labour force surveys and the unemployed are defined as those persons who report that they have worked in gainful employment for less than one hour in the previous week, who are available for work and who have taken actions to seek employment in the previous four weeks. The ILO Guidelines specify the kinds of actions that count as seeking work.

Long-term trends

In 2007, rates of long-term unemployment varied from 10% or less in Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, Canada, Iceland, Norway and the United States, to 50% or more in Belgium, Greece, the Czech Republic, Germany and the Slovak Republic. Lower rates of long-term unemployment are generally found in countries that have enjoyed relatively high rates of economic growth in recent years. There appears to be a two-way causal relationship here – on the one hand, jobs are easier to find in a fast growing economy and, on the other, economies may grow faster by making unemployment an unattractive proposition.

Over the period 1998-2007, long-term unemployment rates have been relatively stable and even receded somewhat for the OECD as a whole, but there have been some sharp rises in several countries and equally sharp falls in others. Rates of long-term unemployment have more than tripled in Mexico, albeit from very low levels and still below 3% in 2007. On the other hand, since 1998, the share of long-term unemployed has more than halved in New Zealand, Sweden, Korea and Iceland.

Comparability

All OECD countries use the ILO Guidelines for measuring unemployment, but the operational definitions used in national labour force surveys vary slightly in Iceland and Turkey. Unemployment levels are also likely to be affected by changes in the survey design and/or the survey conduct, but unemployment rates are likely to be fairly consistent over time.

In comparing rates of long-term unemployment, it is important to bear in mind differences in institutional arrangements between countries. Rates of long-term unemployment will generally be higher in countries where unemployment benefits are relatively generous and are available for long periods of unemployment. In countries where the benefits are low and of limited duration, unemployed persons will more quickly lower their salary expectations or consider taking jobs that are in other ways less attractive than those which they formerly held.

Source

- OECD (2008), *Labour Force Statistics*, OECD, Paris.
- For Non-Member Countries: National Sources.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2002), "The Ins and Outs of Long-term Unemployment", *OECD Employment Outlook*, Chapter 4, OECD, Paris, pp. 187-243.
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- OECD (2004), *Quarterly Labour Force Statistics*, OECD, Paris.

Online databases

- *Employment Statistics*.

Websites

- OECD Labour Statistics Database, www.oecd.org/statistics/labour.
- OECD Employment Outlook, www.oecd.org/els/employmentoutlook.
- OECD Employment Data, www.oecd.org/els/employment/data.

Long-term unemployment

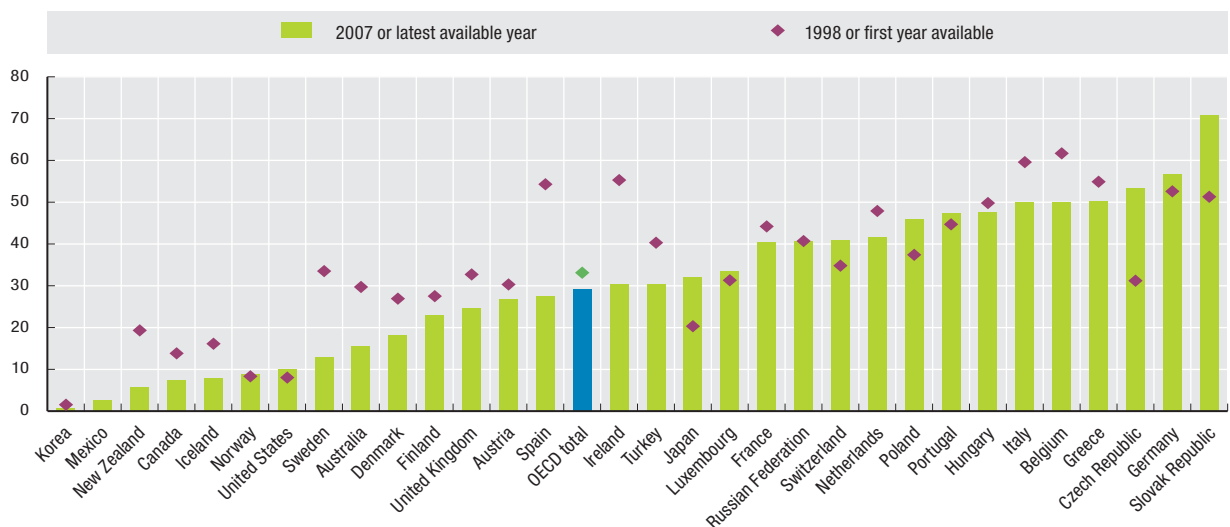
Persons unemployed for 12 months or more as a percentage of total unemployed

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	36.1	32.0	28.5	31.2	29.7	28.3	25.5	22.0	22.3	21.3	20.5	17.7	17.8	15.5
Austria	18.4	29.1	24.9	27.5	30.3	29.2	25.8	23.3	19.2	24.5	27.6	25.3	27.3	26.8
Belgium	58.3	62.4	61.3	60.5	61.7	60.5	56.3	51.7	49.6	46.3	49.6	51.6	55.6	50.0
Canada	17.9	16.8	16.8	16.1	13.8	11.7	11.2	9.5	9.6	10.0	9.5	9.6	8.7	7.5
Czech Republic	22.3	31.2	31.3	30.5	31.2	37.1	48.8	52.7	50.7	49.9	51.8	53.6	55.2	53.4
Denmark	32.1	27.9	26.5	27.2	26.9	20.5	20.0	22.2	19.7	19.9	22.6	25.9	20.4	18.2
Finland	..	37.6	34.5	29.8	27.5	29.6	29.0	26.2	24.4	24.7	23.4	24.9	24.8	23.0
France	38.5	42.5	39.6	41.4	44.2	40.4	42.6	37.6	33.8	41.0	40.9	41.4	42.2	40.4
Germany	44.3	48.7	47.8	50.1	52.6	51.7	51.5	50.4	47.9	50.0	51.8	54.1	57.3	56.6
Greece	50.5	51.4	56.7	55.7	54.9	55.3	56.4	52.8	52.7	56.3	54.8	53.7	55.6	50.3
Hungary	41.3	50.6	54.4	51.3	49.8	49.5	49.0	46.6	44.8	42.2	45.1	46.1	46.1	47.5
Iceland	15.1	16.8	19.8	16.3	16.1	11.7	11.8	12.5	11.1	8.1	11.2	13.3	7.3	8.0
Ireland	64.3	61.6	59.5	57.0	..	55.3	..	33.1	29.4	35.5	34.3	34.3	34.3	30.3
Italy	61.5	63.6	65.6	66.3	59.6	61.4	61.3	63.4	59.2	58.2	49.7	52.2	52.9	49.9
Japan	17.5	18.1	19.3	21.8	20.3	22.4	25.5	26.6	30.8	33.5	33.7	33.3	33.0	32.0
Korea	5.4	4.4	3.8	2.6	1.5	3.8	2.3	2.3	2.5	0.6	1.1	0.8	1.1	0.6
Luxembourg	29.6	23.2	27.6	34.6	31.3	32.3	22.4	28.4	27.4	24.7	21.0	26.4	29.5	33.5
Mexico	..	1.5	2.2	1.8	0.8	1.5	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.1	2.3	2.5	2.7
Netherlands	49.4	46.8	50.0	49.1	47.9	43.5	..	..	26.7	29.2	32.5	40.1	45.2	41.7
New Zealand	32.7	25.7	20.8	19.3	19.3	20.9	19.3	16.7	14.5	13.5	11.7	9.4	7.1	5.7
Norway	28.8	24.2	14.2	12.4	8.3	7.1	5.3	5.5	6.4	6.4	9.2	9.5	14.5	8.8
Poland	40.4	40.0	39.0	38.0	37.4	34.8	37.9	43.1	48.4	49.7	47.9	52.2	50.4	45.9
Portugal	43.4	50.9	53.1	55.6	44.7	41.2	42.9	38.1	35.5	32.8	43.2	48.6	51.8	47.3
Slovak Republic	42.6	54.1	52.6	51.6	51.3	47.7	54.6	53.7	59.8	61.1	60.6	68.1	73.1	70.8
Spain	56.2	57.1	55.9	55.7	54.3	51.2	47.6	44.0	40.2	39.8	37.7	32.6	29.5	27.6
Sweden	25.7	27.8	30.1	33.4	33.5	30.1	26.4	22.3	21.0	17.8	18.9	..	..	13.0
Switzerland	29.0	33.6	25.6	28.2	34.8	39.6	29.0	29.9	21.8	26.1	33.5	39.0	39.1	40.8
Turkey	45.9	36.4	44.3	41.6	40.3	28.2	21.1	21.3	29.4	24.4	39.2	39.6	35.8	30.4
United Kingdom	45.4	43.6	39.8	38.6	32.7	29.6	28.0	27.8	22.9	22.8	21.4	22.4	22.1	24.7
United States	12.2	9.7	9.5	8.7	8.0	6.8	6.0	6.1	8.5	11.8	12.7	11.8	10.0	10.0
EU27 total	..	..	..	..	..	..	46.1	45.8	45.3	45.8	46.1	45.9	45.5	42.7
OECD total	35.5	34.0	34.2	35.0	33.1	31.7	31.4	29.5	29.4	30.7	31.7	32.8	32.1	29.1
Russian Federation	..	29.7	32.6	38.2	40.7	47.0	46.2	39.2	39.2	37.6	39.0	38.5	41.7	40.6

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/543025087648>

Long-term unemployment

Persons unemployed for 12 months or more as a percentage of total unemployed



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/5336670854016>

REGIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment rates vary significantly among OECD countries but large international differences hide even larger differences among regions. In 2006, regional differences in unemployment rates were above 10 percentage points in one third of OECD countries.

Definition

Unemployed persons are defined as those who report that they are without work, that they are available for work and that they have taken active steps to find work in the last four weeks preceding the survey. The ILO Guidelines specify what actions count as active steps to find work and these include answering vacancy notices, visiting factories, construction sites and other places of work, and placing advertisements in the press as well as registering with labour offices.

The unemployment rate is defined as the number of unemployed persons as a percentage of the labour force, where the latter consists of unemployed and employed persons.

When unemployment is high, some persons become discouraged and stop looking for work. They are then excluded from the labour force so that the unemployment

rate may fall, or stop rising, even though there has been no underlying improvement in the labour market.

The Gini index offers an accurate picture of regional disparities. It looks not only at the regions with the highest and the lowest rates of unemployment but also at the differences among all regions. The index ranges between 0 and 1: the higher its value, the larger the regional disparities. Regional disparities tend to be underestimated when the size of regions is large.

The youth unemployment rate is defined as the ratio between the unemployed persons aged between 15 and 24 and the labour force in the same age group.

Comparability

As for the other regional statistics, the comparability of unemployment rates is affected by differences in the meaning of the word region and the different geography of rural and urban communities (see Regional population), both within and among countries.

Overview

In one third of OECD countries the difference between the regions with highest and lowest unemployment rate is higher than 10 percentage points. In 2006, Canada, Germany, the Slovak Republic and Spain had regions with unemployment rates as low as 5% or less and others with unemployment rate above 20%. Iceland, Italy and Belgium were the countries with the largest disparities in unemployment rate according to the Gini index. In Sweden, Ireland, New Zealand and Greece unemployment rates reflected a more even regional pattern. Unemployment rates have generally decreased between 1999 and 2006. During the same period, the reduction in the national unemployment rate experienced in Spain and Italy was accompanied by a reduction of regional disparity according to the Gini index. The decrease of the unemployment rates in Greece and New Zealand had no effect on the regional disparities and resulted in an increase of regional disparities in Slovak Republic and Korea.

There are also significant differences in youth unemployment rates (unemployed between 15 and 24 years) among regions within a country. The Slovak Republic, Belgium and Italy were the countries with the highest regional inequality. In almost half of the countries considered, the regional variation in youth unemployment rate is higher than 15 per cent points.

Source

- OECD (2009), *OECD Regions at a Glance 2009*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2001), *OECD Territorial Outlook, 2001 Edition*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2003), *Geographic Concentration and Territorial Disparity in OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2005), *Local Governance and the Drivers of Growth*, OECD, Paris.
- Oliveira Martins, J., F. Gonand, P. Antolin, C. de la Maisonneuve and K.-Y. Yoo (2005), *The Impact of Ageing on Demand, Factor Markets and Growth*, OECD Economics Department Working Papers, No. 420, OECD, Paris.

Online databases

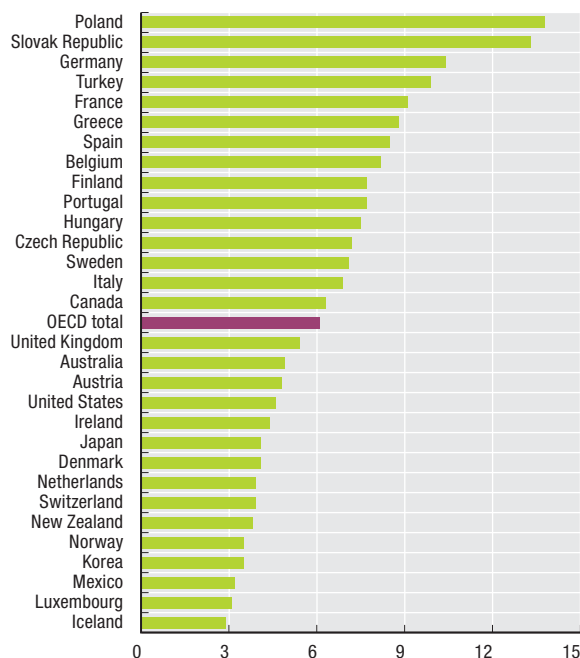
- OECD Regional Database.

Websites

- Territorial grids, www.oecd.org/gov/regional/statisticsindicators.
- OECD eXplorer, www.oecd.org/gov/regional/statisticsindicators/explorer.

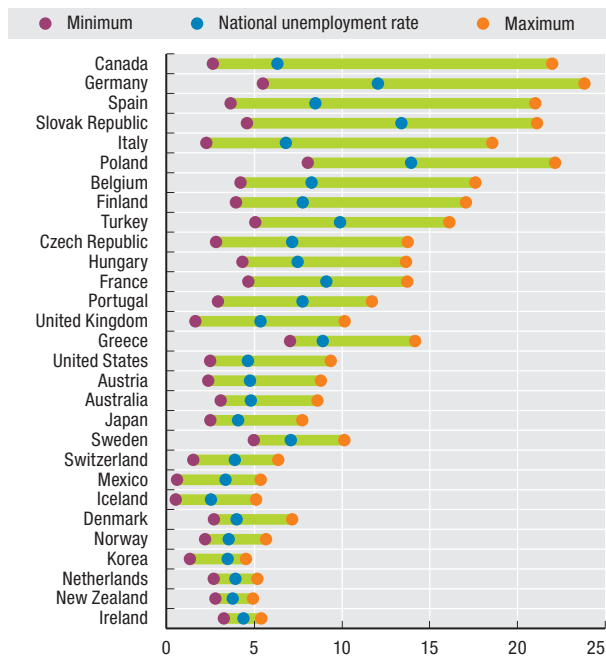
National unemployment rate

As a percentage of the labour force, 2006



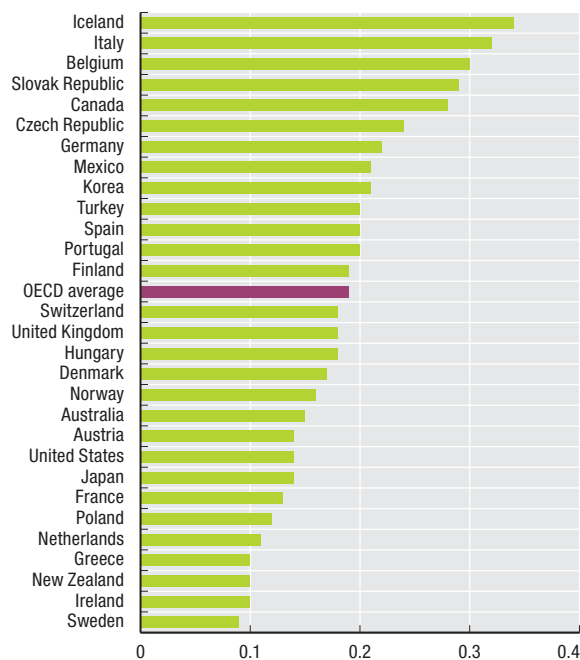
Range in regional unemployment rate, small regions

Percentage, 2006



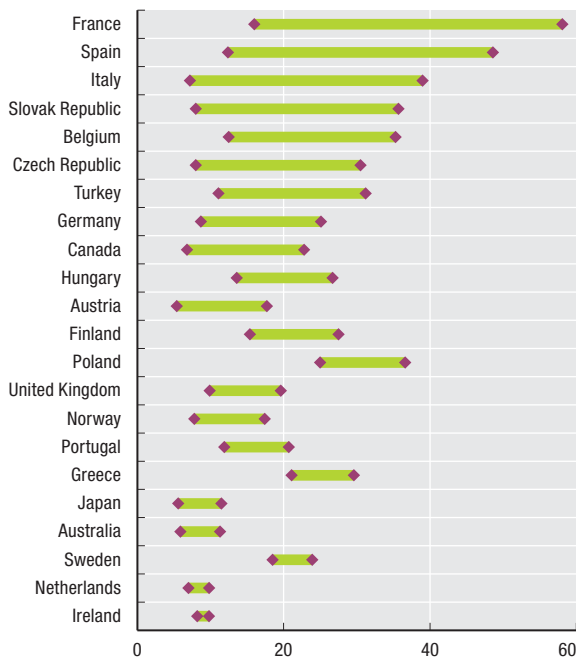
Gini index of regional unemployment rates, small regions

Year 2006



Regional variation of the youth unemployment rate, large regions

Percentage, 2006



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536674321543>

LABOUR COMPENSATION

Labour compensation per unit labour input shows the average compensation received by employees of businesses, either per hour worked or on an annual basis per employee. Unit labour costs represent a link between productivity and the cost of labour in producing output. Annual growth rates show relative changes over time across countries. Adjusting labour compensation by purchasing power parity (PPP) converts all countries data to a common currency allowing meaningful cross-country comparisons of data in levels to be made. The labour compensation country data can be interpreted as the quantity of equivalent goods and services that could be purchased for the compensation received for labour services rendered. The data presented here are an output of the OECD System of Unit Labour Cost and Related Indicators which produces annual and quarterly unit labour cost and related indicators (e.g., labour compensation per unit labour input, labour productivity) according to a specific methodology to ensure data are comparable across all OECD member countries.

Definition

Labour compensation per unit labour input is defined as compensation of employees divided by total hours worked by employees of businesses, or if hours are not available then by total employees. Unit labour costs measure the average cost of labour per unit of output. They are calculated as the ratio of total labour costs to real output, or equivalently, as the ratio of mean labour costs per hour to labour productivity (output per hour).

Long-term trends

At the total economy level, based on the PPP adjusted labour compensation per hour data at least for the last 5 years, workers in the United States are the most highly compensated for their labour services, followed closely by the Netherlands and Norway. However, the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic are the fastest growing countries for PPP adjusted labour compensation per hour data. This high growth for these countries is mimicked for labour compensation per unit labour input at the total economy (as measured in national currency) with only Hungary, Mexico and Turkey showing higher growth for this series.

Annual growth for unit labour costs in the business sector show a divergent story for the OECD member countries over the last ten years. A number of countries have recorded either very low (or even negative) growth over this timeframe, including Japan, Germany, Korea and Finland. At the other extreme a group of countries has recorded in excess of 5% for this timeframe, namely, Turkey, Mexico and Hungary indicating that growth in average employee compensation exceeds growth in labour productivity, which may be creating pressure on producer prices.

Comparability

Every effort has been made to ensure that data are comparable across countries. The primary data source is the OECD National Accounts database within which data are compiled on a similar basis across countries according to the 1993 System of National Accounts. Therefore cross-country comparisons of labour compensation per employee or per hour in US dollars PPP adjusted levels can be used for static analysis (i.e. comparison of levels across countries at a point in time) whereas growth rates based on the national currency series are useful for comparing evolution over time. Ideally, cross-country comparisons are best made from the US dollars PPP adjusted labour compensation per hour series as comparability of levels across countries for the per employee series can suffer from different proportions of full-time and part-time employees across countries. Due to the high level of comparability, cross-country comparisons of developments in the annual growth of unit labour costs can be made with a strong degree of confidence.

When hours are used (rather than employees) it should be kept in mind that no adjustment is made for the skill composition of hours. Thus, differences in average compensation across countries will also reflect differences in the skill composition of employed persons.

Source

- Main Economic Indicators.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2007), *Sickness, Disability and Work: Breaking the Barriers* (Vol. 2): Australia, Luxembourg, Spain and the United Kingdom, OECD, Paris.
- OECD Compendium of Productivity Indicators.

Statistical publications

- OECD (2008), *Main Economic Indicators*, OECD, Paris.

Labour compensation per unit labour input, total economy

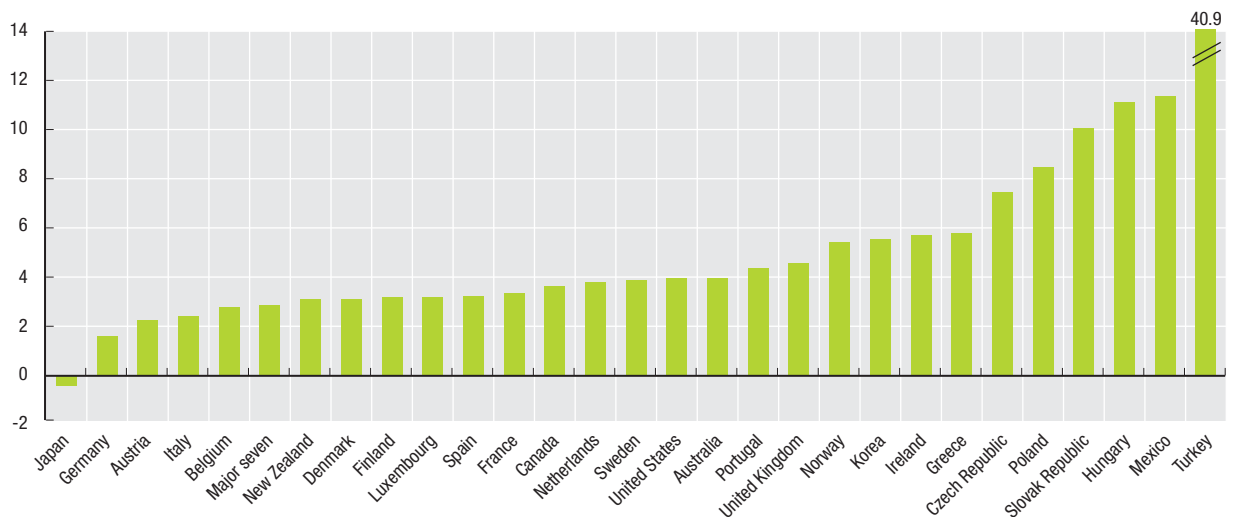
Annual growth in percentage

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	1.5	4.3	5.5	3.6	3.1	3.1	3.9	5.0	3.1	4.3	4.4	4.7	4.4	..
Austria	4.1	4.3	1.0	-	2.1	2.3	2.0	1.1	2.3	1.4	1.3	3.4	3.6	3.1
Belgium	4.4	1.4	1.4	3.4	1.4	3.5	2.0	3.6	3.8	1.7	1.9	2.1	3.3	3.7
Canada	-0.1	1.6	1.5	5.2	2.9	2.3	5.3	3.1	2.2	3.1	2.7	4.7	4.8	..
Czech Republic	..	..	16.9	8.5	8.2	5.9	6.2	13.7	9.1	9.1	4.7	4.0	6.1	6.8
Denmark	3.8	3.6	4.9	1.6	3.1	2.9	3.0	3.7	4.5	3.9	3.1	3.3	3.1	2.2
Finland	3.4	4.1	2.6	1.6	4.5	2.2	3.7	4.7	1.8	2.8	3.6	3.8	2.9	3.5
France	1.7	3.5	1.7	2.3	2.3	2.4	5.1	3.1	6.0	3.1	1.5	3.2	4.4	..
Germany	3.2	4.7	2.7	1.6	1.3	2.0	3.3	2.4	2.1	2.0	0.1	0.6	1.2	1.0
Greece	..	..	10.3	16.1	4.2	4.1	5.5	3.5	12.4	5.4	5.5	3.7	-1.5	..
Hungary	..	..	20.6	19.1	13.9	4.0	15.9	17.5	12.7	11.1	11.3	7.1	4.9	6.2
Ireland	..	..	4.4	5.0	4.8	4.5	8.0	7.5	5.0	5.7	5.3	6.4	4.6	6.0
Italy	4.0	4.1	4.8	4.9	-2.5	2.1	2.2	4.1	2.9	2.9	2.8	3.7	2.1	1.5
Japan	1.4	1.6	0.6	1.5	-0.1	-1.1	0.4	-0.5	-1.6	-1.4	-1.3	-0.1	0.1	..
Korea	12.6	14.7	12.9	6.5	8.4	0.1	2.4	7.4	6.3	9.6	4.8	5.5	3.8	6.4
Luxembourg	3.9	1.3	1.9	2.6	0.9	4.0	5.3	3.5	3.1	1.1	3.7	3.7	3.1	4.3
Mexico	..	..	20.8	20.5	23.7	16.7	19.7	12.1	3.0	9.6	3.7	1.9	5.3	..
Netherlands	2.1	1.2	1.7	2.8	4.6	4.2	5.1	5.3	5.3	3.8	3.7	1.7	2.5	2.8
New Zealand	2.3	1.6	2.9	3.7	-0.6	-0.6	3.3	4.2	3.9	4.6	4.6	3.1	4.9	..
Norway	3.2	4.6	4.7	5.2	7.1	5.5	6.1	7.6	5.4	4.8	2.8	4.2	5.7	5.5
Poland	40.4	34.0	27.3	20.9	15.9	12.1	11.7	10.4	1.4	3.2	3.9	3.6	4.3	7.3
Portugal	..	..	6.1	6.0	5.5	5.2	6.4	4.0	3.6	3.5	2.6	4.7	2.1	..
Slovak Republic	..	..	15.2	16.9	11.4	6.5	13.1	5.8	13.3	12.3	7.8	7.4	6.5	..
Spain	3.7	3.7	3.9	2.1	1.6	1.9	2.8	3.9	3.5	3.7	3.1	4.1	4.0	4.7
Sweden	3.6	2.4	6.3	4.6	2.6	0.8	8.5	5.7	4.5	4.3	2.4	3.4	2.3	3.9
Turkey	53.9	66.9	93.4	101.8	74.2	74.8	44.9	43.6	37.8	27.9	16.5	6.2	10.4	..
United Kingdom	3.1	3.6	3.4	4.1	6.8	4.7	5.4	4.9	3.7	4.7	4.1	3.8	4.6	3.6
United States	2.8	3.3	3.2	3.8	5.9	4.9	5.2	2.6	2.7	3.1	4.1	3.7	3.7	3.7
Euro area	3.0	3.2	2.8	0.1	0.7	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.3	2.1	1.9	2.2	2.5
EU27 total	..	..	4.8	4.3	3.1	3.3	4.5	4.3	4.0	3.5	2.7	3.1	3.3	3.3
Major seven	2.5	3.1	2.6	3.1	3.4	3.0	4.0	2.4	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.8	2.9	..

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/543102365846>

Labour compensation per unit labour input, total economy

Average annual growth in percentage, 1996-2007 or latest available period



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536718282201>

LABOUR COMPENSATION

Labour compensation per hour, total economy

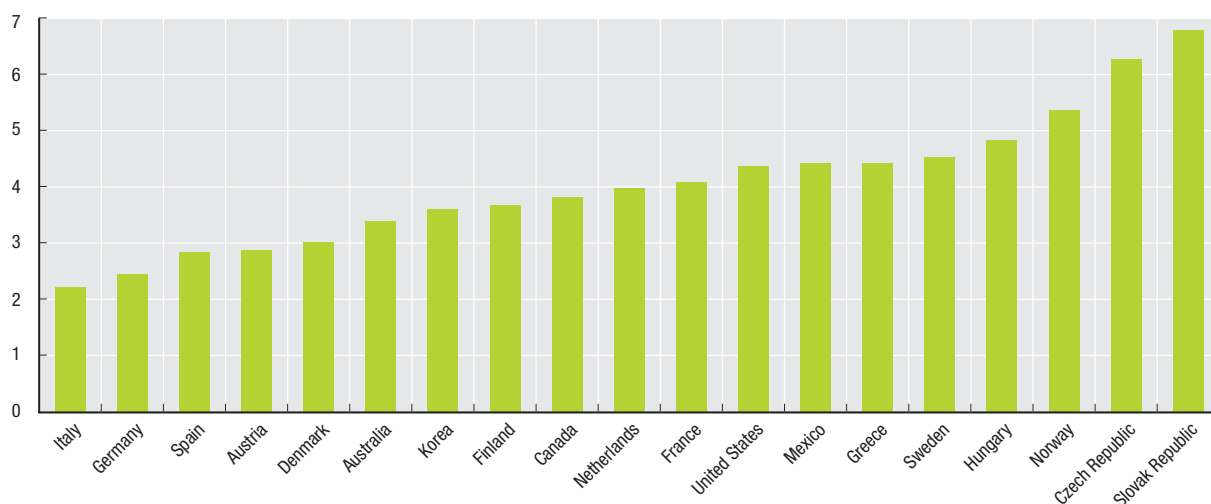
US dollars calculated using PPPs

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	13.8	14.4	15.2	15.8	16.2	16.9	17.4	18.0	18.3	18.6	19.7	20.3	21.2	..
Austria	19.4	20.3	20.5	20.6	21.3	22.0	22.9	22.7	23.6	24.3	24.8	25.7	26.9	28.0
Canada	15.0	15.3	15.6	16.5	16.9	17.3	18.1	18.7	18.8	19.5	20.2	21.3	22.7	..
Czech Republic	..	5.9	6.5	6.6	6.6	7.0	7.4	8.6	9.1	10.1	10.5	11.1	11.8	12.7
Denmark	16.4	17.0	17.9	18.3	19.0	19.4	20.0	20.2	21.4	21.4	22.4	22.9	24.1	24.8
Finland	14.0	14.7	15.2	15.5	16.2	16.7	17.5	18.0	18.5	18.9	20.1	20.9	21.8	22.6
France	18.4	19.3	19.7	20.5	21.1	22.0	23.7	25.2	26.9	26.4	27.0	28.2	29.4	..
Germany	19.5	20.6	21.3	21.7	22.0	22.9	23.6	24.4	25.0	26.0	26.5	27.0	27.5	27.8
Greece	..	9.0	9.4	10.5	10.4	10.7	11.3	12.0	13.9	13.8	14.4	14.8	14.5	..
Hungary	..	7.2	7.2	7.5	7.6	7.3	7.8	8.7	9.5	10.1	10.8	11.4	11.9	12.1
Italy	17.2	17.2	17.6	18.5	18.2	18.5	18.9	19.5	19.5	20.1	20.6	21.3	21.9	22.4
Korea	7.4	8.1	8.8	9.0	9.2	9.1	9.0	9.4	9.7	10.5	11.0	11.7	12.2	13.0
Mexico	..	3.9	3.7	3.9	4.1	4.2	4.7	5.0	5.0	5.3	5.3	5.5	5.7	..
Netherlands	..	20.0	20.5	20.9	22.0	22.9	24.5	25.4	26.8	26.9	28.5	29.3	30.3	31.5
Norway	15.7	16.4	17.5	18.2	19.1	20.0	21.0	22.4	23.8	25.2	26.3	27.4	29.2	31.1
Slovak Republic	..	4.9	5.5	6.3	6.7	6.6	7.0	7.5	8.4	8.7	9.0	9.9	10.6	..
Spain	..	15.7	16.1	16.5	16.8	17.1	17.6	18.4	19.3	19.4	19.5	20.2	21.0	21.9
Sweden	14.7	15.0	16.1	16.8	17.3	17.7	19.7	20.4	21.3	22.2	23.3	24.1	24.9	26.2
United States	19.5	19.9	20.5	21.2	22.5	23.4	24.9	25.8	26.8	28.0	29.1	30.3	31.5	32.8

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/543117607868>

Labour compensation per employee, total economy

Average annual growth in percentage, 1996-2007 or latest available period



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536748608541>



Unit labour costs, business sector

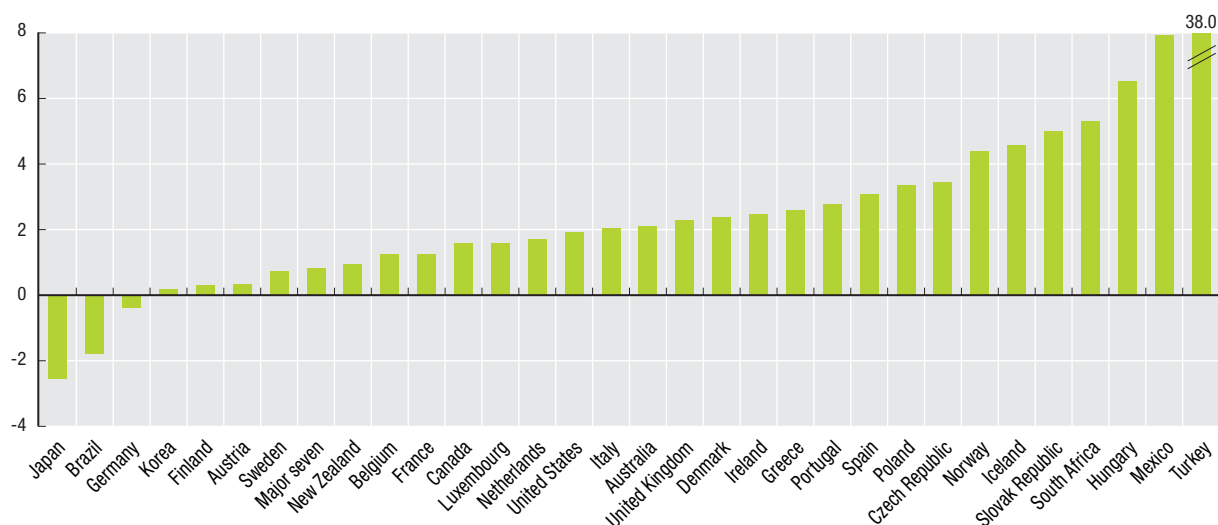
Annual growth in percentage

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	1.3	3.7	1.0	0.7	0.0	1.2	3.9	0.5	0.6	2.3	4.7	3.8	3.4	..
Austria	0.8	-0.3	-0.2	-0.3	0.2	0.0	-0.8	0.8	0.5	1.3	-0.8	1.0	0.8	1.1
Belgium	0.2	-0.2	1.0	-0.2	1.1	2.2	0.8	3.8	1.2	-0.3	-0.2	0.9	1.6	2.8
Canada	-2.0	1.1	2.2	2.2	1.7	-0.4	1.6	2.9	-0.1	2.4	2.3	..	..	..
Czech Republic	15.3	12.0	12.2	11.6	8.8	1.4	2.4	6.2	5.0	3.8	0.5	-1.8	-1.0	1.8
Denmark	-2.9	1.0	2.7	1.1	3.9	0.3	-0.4	4.6	3.8	1.6	0.0	3.5	2.7	5.1
Finland	-3.6	3.4	-0.5	-0.6	1.0	0.2	-0.2	2.8	0.1	0.2	-1.1	1.9	-1.5	0.7
France	-0.7	0.6	1.5	0.4	-0.5	0.3	1.3	2.1	2.7	1.1	1.6	1.5	2.1	..
Germany	0.0	2.0	0.7	-1.6	0.0	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.4	-1.5	-1.2	-1.7	0.0
Greece	..	..	8.4	8.2	5.4	1.7	0.3	-4.3	8.3	-0.2	-1.5	4.2	4.5	..
Hungary	10.5	19.2	20.7	13.8	9.9	1.9	12.0	9.8	5.9	5.4	7.4	3.2	-0.4	3.7
Iceland	1.0	5.0	3.1	2.4	7.4	6.4	5.3	4.8	7.3	-1.4	2.5	6.9	..	..
Ireland	2.0	-3.4	-0.5	-0.1	5.9	1.3	4.0	2.1	-2.5	2.3	2.9	6.4	3.3	1.9
Italy	-1.1	1.1	5.1	2.5	-0.6	2.3	-0.8	2.2	3.8	4.6	1.5	3.2	1.8	2.0
Japan	0.2	-1.5	-2.3	-0.5	-0.3	-3.2	-2.5	-2.1	-4.1	-4.5	-4.3	-3.2	-0.8	..
Korea	7.0	8.8	6.8	-0.3	1.0	-5.0	-2.0	3.8	0.6	5.8	-0.5	-0.1	-1.2	0.4
Luxembourg	1.0	0.8	3.1	-0.7	-0.9	1.8	3.1	6.2	1.2	0.3	1.0	1.4	0.4	3.8
Mexico	5.9	22.1	21.9	18.7	15.4	13.6	9.6	8.3	6.3	1.9	1.8	3.1	2.0	..
Netherlands	-0.6	0.5	1.3	1.4	2.3	1.3	2.1	4.3	4.0	1.4	-0.4	-1.0	1.1	2.3
New Zealand	2.9	1.1	3.4	1.9	0.6	-4.3	-0.2	3.4	1.2	4.2	..	..	..	..
Norway	-1.8	1.0	0.5	3.2	8.4	5.3	1.5	3.1	3.2	0.2	1.2	4.3	8.8	9.4
Poland	30.1	25.0	23.8	17.1	14.2	3.6	3.0	8.0	-4.6	-2.8	-3.1	0.1	0.2	..
Portugal	3.5	-0.7	3.5	3.3	4.6	3.1	2.5	1.9	3.5	2.6	0.7	3.5	2.0	..
Slovak Republic	19.8	8.6	9.2	12.7	2.8	5.4	15.2	1.4	5.0	3.7	3.1	3.6	-1.8	..
Spain	1.4	1.7	4.3	4.0	2.6	2.3	4.0	3.4	3.0	3.1	2.3	3.5	3.6	2.2
Sweden	-0.5	-1.1	4.4	0.4	0.9	-2.0	4.4	6.0	-1.1	-1.0	-2.4	-0.3	-1.3	4.9
Turkey	68.2	55.1	95.9	91.9	69.9	91.1	45.8	43.8	31.3	18.6	10.9	4.7	6.2	..
United Kingdom	-3.4	1.9	0.6	2.1	4.3	1.8	2.8	3.5	2.2	2.3	1.2	1.9	2.1	1.1
United States	0.1	2.5	1.8	2.4	3.6	1.6	4.4	1.4	-2.0	-0.5	1.8	1.8	3.3	3.5
Euro area	-0.2	1.2	1.7	-1.9	-0.1	1.6	0.7	1.8	2.1	1.6	0.5	0.9	0.9	1.4
EU27 total	..	..	3.5	2.1	2.2	1.4	2.4	3.2	2.3	1.9	0.7	1.7	1.2	1.8
Major seven	-0.4	1.3	1.0	1.2	1.9	0.5	2.0	1.0	-1.0	-0.3	0.4	0.7	1.8	..
Brazil	..	..	-25.6	-13.0	-3.4	-1.4	8.7	-3.5	-0.6	3.9	-7.8	2.4	-1.6	..
South Africa	5.8	8.0	5.3	5.9	9.5	6.0	4.2	3.5	5.1	5.8	3.4	4.4	5.2	5.3

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/543202530022>

Unit labour costs, business sector

Average annual growth in percentage, 1996-2007 or latest available period



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536822205851>

HOURS WORKED

Governments of some OECD countries have pursued policies to make it easier for parents to reconcile work and family, and some of these policies also tend to reduce working time. Examples include the extension of annual paid leave, maternity/parental leave and workers' options for working part-time schedules or, albeit less frequently, the reduction of the full-time workweek.

Definition

The average hours worked is calculated as the total numbers of hours worked over the year divided by the average numbers of people in employment.

Employment is generally measured through household labour force surveys and, in accordance with the ILO Guidelines, employed persons are defined as those aged 15 years or over who report that they have worked in gainful employment for at least one hour in the previous week.

Estimates of the hours actually worked are also based on household labour force surveys in most countries, while the rest use establishment surveys, administrative sources or a combination of sources. They include regular work hours of full-time and part-time workers, over-time (paid and unpaid), hours worked in additional jobs and time not worked because of public holidays, annual paid leave, time spent on illness and maternity leave, strikes and labour disputes, bad weather, economic conditions and several other minor reasons.

Long-term trends

In the large majority of OECD countries, hours worked have fallen over the period from 1994 to 2007. However, this decline was not particularly large in most countries, as compared to the decline in earlier decades and some of the decline in average hours between these two years may reflect transitory business cycle effects.

The average hours worked per year per employed person fell from 1 837 in 1994 to 1 768 in 2007; this is equivalent to a reduction in hours worked of more than one and a half 40-hour work-week. The table shows that working hours fell in a majority of countries; hours increased in only Belgium (to a small extent), Denmark, Greece, Mexico and Turkey. Reductions in hours worked were most marked in, Korea, Ireland, Luxembourg, France, Germany, Japan, Portugal and the Slovak Republic.

Although one should exercise caution when comparing across countries, it is clear from the table and chart that actual hours worked in the Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Korea and Poland are largely above the average for OECD countries as a whole and that actual hours worked are relatively low in France, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Norway and Sweden.

Comparability

National statisticians and the OECD secretariat work to ensure that these data are as comparable as possible, but they are based on a range of different sources of varying reliability. For example, for several EU countries, the estimates are made by the OECD using results from the Spring European Labour Force Survey. The results reflect a single observation in the year and the survey data have to be supplemented by information from other sources for hours not worked due to public holidays and annual paid leave. Annual working hours reported for the remaining countries are provided by national statistical offices and are estimated using the best available sources. The data are intended for comparisons of trends over time and are not fully suitable for inter-country comparisons because of differences in their sources and other uncertainties about their international comparability.

Data cover dependent and self-employed as well as full-time and part-time employment.

Source

- OECD (2008), *OECD Employment Outlook*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- Durand, M., J. Martin and A. Saint-Martin (2004), "The 35-hour week: Portrait of a French exception", *OECD Observer*, No. 244, September 2004, OECD, Paris.
- Evans, J., D. Lippoldt and P. Marianna (2001), *Trends in Working Hours in OECD Countries*, OECD Labour Market and Social Policy Occasional Papers, No. 45, OECD, Paris.

Methodological publications

- OECD (2004), "Clocking In (and Out): Several Facets of Working Time", *OECD Employment Outlook: 2004 Edition*, Chapter 1, see also Annex I.A1, OECD, Paris.

Websites

- OECD Labour Statistics Database, www.oecd.org/statistics/labour.
- OECD Employment Data, www.oecd.org/els/employment/data.

Average hours actually worked

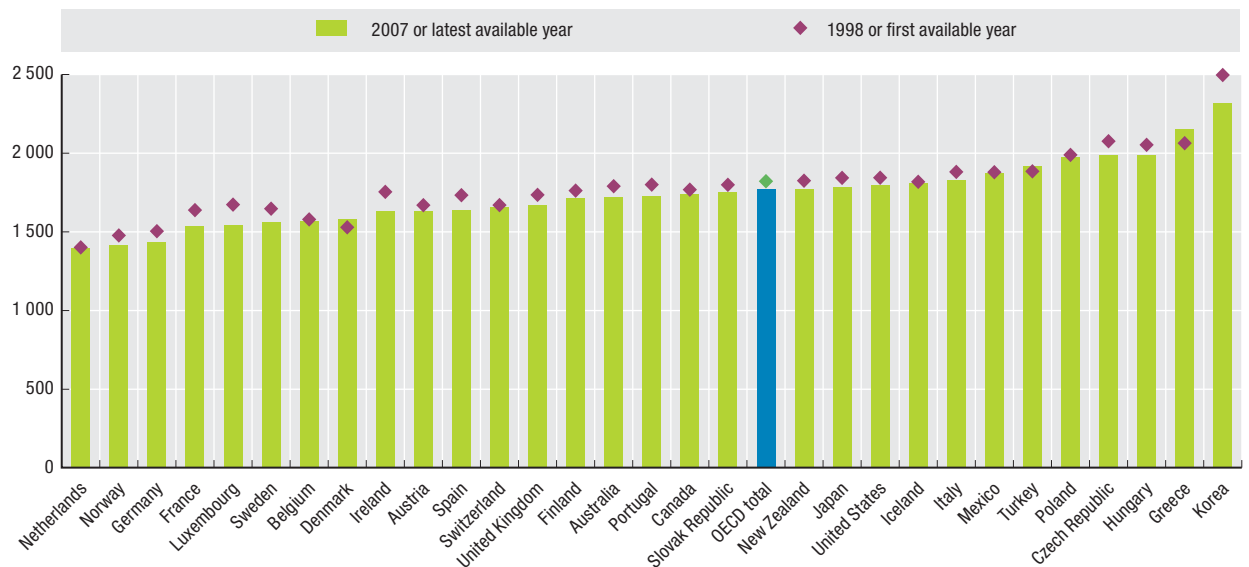
Hours per year per person in employment

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	1 807	1 803	1 799	1 795	1 789	1 787	1 785	1 755	1 740	1 737	1 747	1 732	1 723	1 722
Austria	..	1 654	1 659	1 666	1 668	1 656	1 658	1 657	1 652	1 658	1 663	1 652	1 644	1 630
Belgium	1 554	1 580	1 554	1 567	1 578	1 581	1 554	1 577	1 579	1 575	1 549	1 565	1 571	1 566
Canada	1 762	1 761	1 774	1 767	1 767	1 769	1 768	1 762	1 744	1 734	1 753	1 738	1 738	1 736
Czech Republic	2 043	2 064	2 066	2 067	2 075	2 088	2 092	2 000	1 980	1 972	1 986	2 002	1 997	1 985
Denmark	1 494	1 499	1 494	1 512	1 528	1 539	1 554	1 562	1 556	1 552	1 556	1 556	1 562	1 577
Finland	1 775	1 776	1 775	1 771	1 761	1 765	1 750	1 734	1 728	1 720	1 724	1 718	1 714	1 710
France	1 675	1 651	1 655	1 649	1 637	1 630	1 591	1 579	1 537	1 533	1 561	1 559	1 541	1 533
Germany	1 547	1 534	1 518	1 509	1 503	1 492	1 473	1 458	1 445	1 439	1 442	1 435	1 433	1 433
Greece	2 133	2 123	2 098	2 065	2 063	2 107	2 121	2 123	2 106	2 116	2 064	2 081	2 150	..
Hungary	2 032	2 039	2 034	2 060	2 052	2 067	2 061	2 019	2 026	1 997	1 996	1 994	1 989	1 986
Iceland	1 813	1 832	1 860	1 839	1 817	1 873	1 885	1 847	1 812	1 807	1 810	1 794	1 795	1 807
Ireland	1 883	1 875	1 882	1 832	1 753	1 725	1 719	1 709	1 695	1 671	1 668	1 654	1 640	1 630
Italy	1 857	1 859	1 873	1 863	1 880	1 876	1 861	1 843	1 831	1 826	1 826	1 819	1 814	1 824
Japan	1 898	1 884	1 892	1 865	1 842	1 810	1 821	1 809	1 798	1 799	1 787	1 775	1 784	1 785
Korea	2 651	2 658	2 648	2 592	2 496	2 502	2 520	2 506	2 465	2 434	2 404	2 364	2 357	2 316
Luxembourg	1 709	1 719	1 691	1 678	1 672	1 669	1 662	1 646	1 634	1 630	1 586	1 570	1 604	1 542
Mexico	..	1 857	1 902	1 927	1 878	1 922	1 888	1 864	1 888	1 857	1 849	1 909	1 883	1 871
Netherlands	1 411	1 391	1 421	1 414	1 400	1 381	1 372	1 372	1 348	1 363	1 362	1 375	1 391	1 392
New Zealand	1 849	1 842	1 833	1 821	1 824	1 838	1 830	1 817	1 817	1 813	1 827	1 810	1 787	1 771
Norway	1 505	1 488	1 483	1 478	1 476	1 473	1 455	1 429	1 414	1 399	1 417	1 420	1 414	1 417
Poland	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 988	1 974	1 979	1 984	1 983	1 994	1 985	1 976
Portugal	1 838	1 897	1 848	1 812	1 799	1 812	1 765	1 769	1 767	1 742	1 763	1 752	1 758	1 728
Slovak Republic	1 854	1 879	1 840	1 834	1 798	1 808	1 811	1 799	1 746	1 673	1 708	1 741	1 749	..
Spain	1 733	1 733	1 729	1 728	1 732	1 732	1 731	1 727	1 721	1 706	1 690	1 668	1 653	1 635
Sweden	1 608	1 609	1 613	1 675	1 646	1 613	1 574	1 527	1 534	1 559	1 575	1 607	1 576	1 562
Switzerland	1 725	1 702	1 674	1 662	1 669	1 690	1 685	1 646	1 629	1 639	1 669	1 669	1 657	..
Turkey	1 886	1 876	1 892	1 878	1 884	1 925	1 937	1 942	1 943	1 943	1 918	1 918	..	..
United Kingdom	1 740	1 743	1 742	1 740	1 734	1 723	1 711	1 714	1 696	1 677	1 672	1 676	1 669	1 670
United States	1 833	1 840	1 832	1 842	1 843	1 844	1 832	1 811	1 807	1 797	1 799	1 795	1 797	1 794
OECD total	1 837	1 837	1 839	1 834	1 820	1 819	1 810	1 795	1 787	1 777	1 776	1 775	1 773	1 768

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Average hours actually worked

Hours per year per person in employment



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536836453771>





SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (R&D)

EXPENDITURE ON R&D

INVESTMENT IN KNOWLEDGE

RESEARCHERS

PATENTS

ICT

SIZE OF THE ICT SECTOR

INVESTMENT IN ICT

OCCUPATION AND SKILLS IN THE INFORMATION ECONOMY

COMPUTER AND INTERNET ACCESS BY HOUSEHOLDS

COMMUNICATIONS

EXPORTS OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT

TELEPHONE ACCESS

EXPENDITURE ON R&D

Expenditure on research and development (R&D) is a key indicator of government and private sector efforts to obtain competitive advantage in science and technology. In 2006, research and development amounted to 2.3% of GDP for the OECD as a whole.

Definition

Research and development (R&D) comprise creative work undertaken on a systematic basis in order to increase the stock of knowledge, including knowledge of man, culture and society, and the use of this stock of knowledge to devise new applications. R&D is a term covering three activities: basic research, applied research, and experimental development. Basic research is experimental or theoretical work undertaken primarily to acquire new knowledge of the underlying foundation of phenomena and observable facts, without any particular application or use in view. Applied research is also original investigation undertaken in order to acquire new knowledge. It is, however, directed primarily towards a specific practical aim or objective. Experimental development is systematic work, drawing on existing knowledge gained from research and/or practical experience, which is directed to producing new materials, products or devices, to installing new processes, systems and services, or to improving substantially those already produced or installed.

The main aggregate used for international comparisons is gross domestic expenditure on R&D (GERD). This consists of the total expenditure (current and capital) on R&D by all resident companies, research institutes, university and government laboratories, etc. It excludes R&D expenditures financed by domestic firms but performed abroad.

Long-term trends

Since 2000, R&D expenditure relative to GDP (R&D intensity) has increased in Japan (3.4% in 2006), and has decreased slightly in the United States (2.7% in 2007). In the EU it has remained relatively stable (1.8% in 2006).

In 2006/2007, Finland, Japan, Korea and Sweden were the only OECD countries in which the R&D-to-GDP ratio exceeded 3%, well above the OECD average of 2.3%. Since the mid-1990s, R&D expenditure (in real terms) has been growing the fastest in Iceland and Turkey, both with average annual growth rates above 10%.

R&D expenditure for China has been growing even faster than GDP, resulting in a rapidly increasing R&D intensity, growing from 0.9% in 2000 to 1.5% in 2007.

Comparability

The R&D data shown here have been compiled according to the guidelines of the Frascati Manual. It should, however, be noted that over the period shown, several countries have improved the coverage of their surveys of R&D activities in the services sector (Japan, Netherlands, Norway and United States) and in higher education (Finland, Greece, Japan, Netherlands, Spain and the United States). Some of the changes shown in the table reflect these methodological improvements as well as the underlying changes in R&D expenditures.

For Korea, social sciences and the humanities are excluded from the R&D data. For the United States, capital expenditure is not covered.

Data for Brazil and India are not completely according to Frascati Manual guidelines, and were compiled from national sources. Data for Brazil, India and South Africa are underestimated, as are the data for China before 2000.

Source

- OECD (2008), *Main Science and Technology Indicators*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2008), *OECD Science, Technology and Industry Outlook 2008*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2007), *OECD Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard 2007*, OECD, Paris.
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Websites

- OECD Science, Technology and Industry, www.oecd.org/sti.



Gross domestic expenditure on R&D

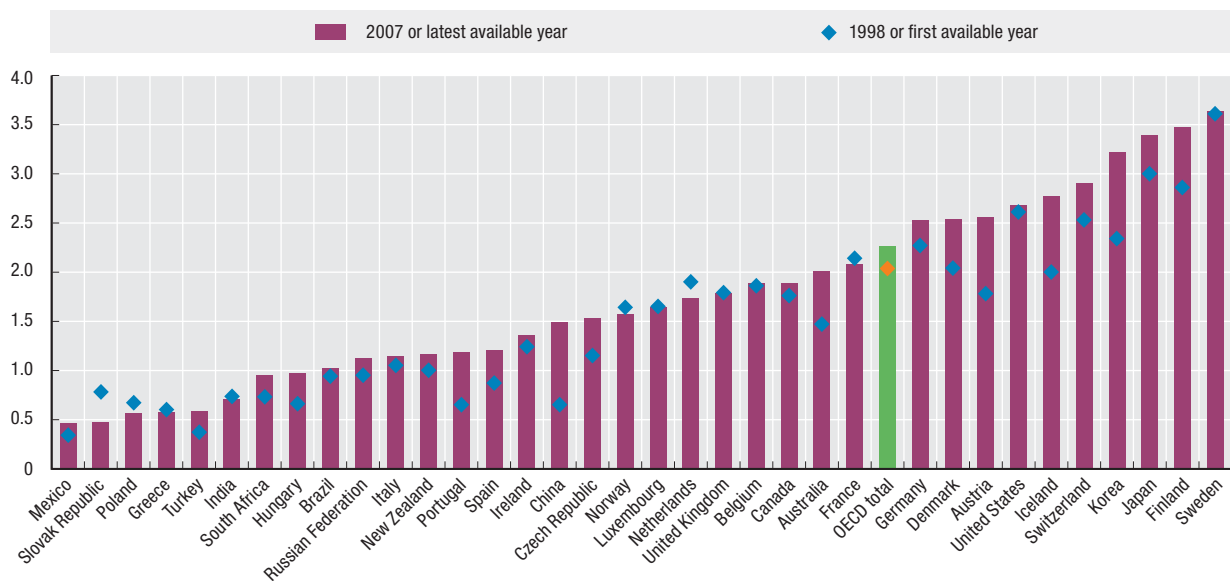
As a percentage of GDP

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	1.53	..	1.61	..	1.47	..	1.51	..	1.69	..	1.78	..	2.01	..
Austria	1.51	1.55	1.60	1.70	1.78	1.90	1.94	2.07	2.14	2.26	2.26	2.44	2.46	2.56
Belgium	1.65	1.67	1.77	1.83	1.86	1.94	1.97	2.08	1.94	1.88	1.87	1.84	1.88	1.89
Canada	1.73	1.70	1.65	1.66	1.76	1.80	1.91	2.09	2.04	2.03	2.05	2.01	1.94	1.89
Czech Republic	..	0.95	0.97	1.08	1.15	1.14	1.21	1.20	1.20	1.25	1.25	1.41	1.55	1.53
Denmark	..	1.82	1.84	1.92	2.04	2.18	..	2.39	2.51	2.58	2.48	2.45	2.46	2.54
Finland	2.28	2.26	2.52	2.70	2.86	3.16	3.34	3.30	3.36	3.43	3.45	3.48	3.45	3.47
France	2.32	2.29	2.27	2.19	2.14	2.16	2.15	2.20	2.23	2.17	2.15	2.10	2.10	2.08
Germany	2.18	2.19	2.19	2.24	2.27	2.40	2.45	2.46	2.49	2.52	2.49	2.48	2.54	2.53
Greece	..	0.43	..	0.45	..	0.60	..	0.58	..	0.57	0.55	0.58	0.57	0.57
Hungary	0.87	0.71	0.63	0.70	0.66	0.67	0.78	0.92	1.00	0.93	0.88	0.94	1.00	0.97
Iceland	1.37	1.53	..	1.83	2.00	2.30	2.67	2.95	2.95	2.82	..	2.77	..	..
Ireland	1.25	1.26	1.30	1.27	1.24	1.18	1.12	1.10	1.10	1.17	1.24	1.26	1.32	1.36
Italy	1.02	0.97	0.99	1.03	1.05	1.02	1.05	1.09	1.13	1.11	1.10	1.09	1.14	..
Japan	2.60	2.71	2.81	2.87	3.00	3.02	3.04	3.12	3.17	3.20	3.17	3.32	3.39	..
Korea	2.32	2.37	2.42	2.48	2.34	2.25	2.39	2.59	2.53	2.63	2.85	2.98	3.22	..
Luxembourg	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.65	..	..	1.66	1.63	1.57	1.66	1.64
Mexico	0.27	0.28	0.28	0.31	0.34	0.39	0.34	0.36	0.40	0.40	0.43	0.46	..	..
Netherlands	1.95	1.97	1.98	1.99	1.90	1.96	1.82	1.80	1.72	1.76	1.78	1.74	1.73	1.73
New Zealand	..	0.95	..	1.09	..	1.00	..	1.14	..	1.19	..	1.16	..	..
Norway	..	1.69	..	1.63	..	1.64	..	1.59	1.66	1.71	1.59	1.52	1.52	1.57
Poland	0.70	0.63	0.65	0.65	0.67	0.69	0.64	0.62	0.56	0.54	0.56	0.57	0.56	..
Portugal	0.56	0.54	0.57	0.59	0.65	0.71	0.76	0.80	0.76	0.74	0.77	0.81	1.00	1.18
Slovak Republic	0.89	0.92	0.90	1.07	0.78	0.65	0.65	0.63	0.57	0.58	0.51	0.51	0.49	0.47
Spain	0.79	0.79	0.81	0.80	0.87	0.86	0.91	0.91	0.99	1.05	1.06	1.12	1.20	..
Sweden	..	3.26	..	3.48	..	3.61	..	4.17	..	3.85	3.62	3.80	3.74	3.63
Switzerland	..	..	2.65	..	..	..	2.53	..	..	..	2.90	..	..	..
Turkey	0.27	0.28	0.34	0.37	0.37	0.47	0.48	0.54	0.53	0.48	0.52	0.59	0.58	..
United Kingdom	2.00	1.94	1.86	1.80	1.79	1.86	1.85	1.82	1.82	1.78	1.71	1.76	1.78	..
United States	2.42	2.51	2.55	2.58	2.61	2.66	2.75	2.76	2.66	2.66	2.59	2.62	2.66	2.68
EU27 total	..	1.67	1.66	1.67	1.67	1.72	1.74	1.76	1.77	1.76	1.73	1.74	1.77	..
OECD total	2.04	2.06	2.08	2.10	2.13	2.17	2.21	2.25	2.22	2.22	2.19	2.23	2.26	..
Brazil	0.85	0.80	0.72	..	..	..	0.94	0.96	0.91	0.88	0.83	0.97	1.02	..
China	0.64	0.57	0.57	0.64	0.65	0.76	0.90	0.95	1.07	1.13	1.23	1.33	1.42	1.49
India	0.65	0.63	0.65	0.72	0.73	0.76	0.78	0.76	0.75	0.74	0.71	..	..	..
Russian Federation	0.84	0.85	0.97	1.04	0.95	1.00	1.05	1.18	1.25	1.28	1.15	1.07	1.07	1.12
South Africa	..	..	..	0.60	..	..	..	0.73	..	0.80	0.86	0.92	0.95	..

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/543322161221>

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D

As a percentage of GDP

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536842640445>

INVESTMENT IN KNOWLEDGE

"Investment in knowledge" is a synthetic indicator designed to compare member countries' expenditures on their "knowledge base" which are aimed at bringing future returns.

Definition

Investment in knowledge is defined and calculated as the sum of expenditure on R&D, on total higher education (public and private) and on software. Simple summation of the three components would lead to overestimation of the investment in knowledge owing to overlaps (R&D and software, R&D and education, software and education). Therefore, data reported here have been adjusted to exclude the overlaps between components.

Note that as the term is used here, "investment" has a broader connotation than its usual meaning in economic statistics. It includes current expenditures, such as on education and R&D, as well as capital outlays, such as purchases of software and construction of school buildings.

Comparability

The OECD is the source of the data on R&D, education and software. In previous years, the software component of investment in knowledge was estimated from a private source. However, the OECD has recently developed a capital services database, which includes software investment data. Software data from the OECD's capital services database are used here, and the figures reported here differ from those of previous years.

Note that OECD total excludes Australia, Austria and Greece from the group of reporting countries; EU15 total excludes Greece from the group of reporting countries.

Long-term trends

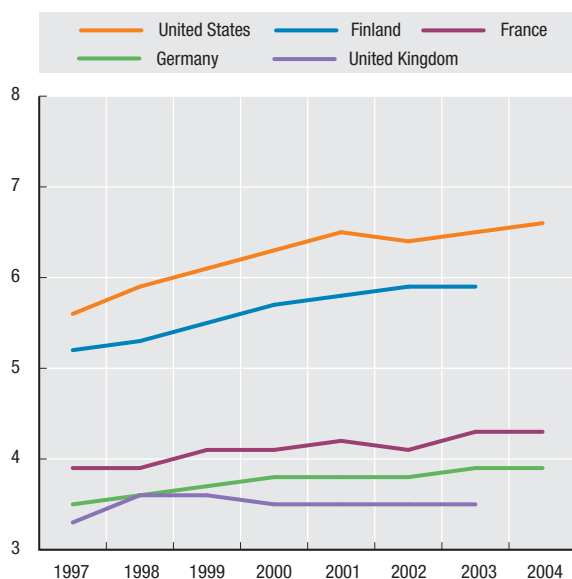
In 2004, investment in knowledge amounted to 4.9% of GDP in the OECD area. It exceeds the OECD average in the United States (6.6%), Sweden (6.4%), Finland (5.9%), Japan (5.3%) and Denmark (5.1%). In contrast, it is less than 2.5% in Ireland and Italy and less than 2% of GDP in Portugal and Greece.

Most OECD countries are increasing their investment in the knowledge base. For all reporting countries except Ireland, the ratio of investment in knowledge to GDP was higher in 2004 (or 2003) than in 1997. Further, the increase in the United States and Japan is sharper than in the EU countries for which data is available.

For Japan, Sweden, France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, increases in software expenditure were the major source of increased investment in knowledge. In the United States and Belgium, higher education was the main driver of the expansion of investment in knowledge. R&D was the main source of increase in Denmark, Finland, Canada, Spain, Germany, Portugal, Greece, Australia and Austria.

Investment in knowledge for selected countries

As a percentage of GDP



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537013265432>

Source

- OECD (2007), *OECD Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard 2007*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

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- OECD Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard, www.sourceoecd.org/scoreboard.



Investment in knowledge

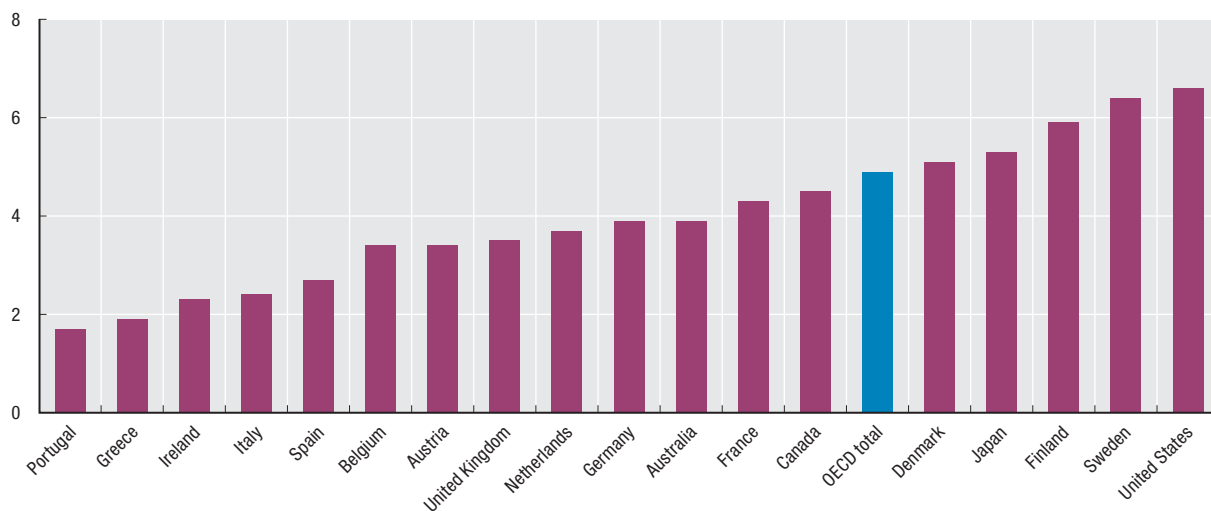
As a percentage of GDP

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Australia	..	3.6	..	3.9	..	4.0	3.9	3.9
Austria	..	3.1	..	..	..	3.3	3.4	..
Belgium	..	2.6	3.5	3.6	3.8	3.5	3.4	..
Canada	3.9	4.0	4.6	4.6	4.9	..	4.5	4.5
Denmark	3.8	4.5	4.7	4.7	5.1	5.3	5.1	..
Finland	5.2	5.3	5.5	5.7	5.8	5.9	5.9	..
France	3.9	3.9	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.3	4.3
Germany	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.9
Greece	1.7	..	1.7	..	1.9	..	1.9	..
Ireland	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.3	..
Italy	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.4	2.4	2.4	..
Japan	4.1	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.8	4.9	5.1	5.3
Netherlands	3.5	3.6	3.9	3.7	3.8	3.6	3.7	..
Portugal	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.7	..
Spain	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.7
Sweden	5.6	..	6.2	..	6.9	..	6.4	..
United Kingdom	3.3	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	..
United States	5.6	5.9	6.1	6.3	6.5	6.4	6.5	6.6
OECD total	4.2	..	4.7	..	4.9	..	4.9	..

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Investment in knowledge

As a percentage of GDP, 2004 or latest available year

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/536863143258>

RESEARCHERS

Researchers are the central element of the research and development system. In 2005, approximately 3.9 million persons in the OECD area were employed in research and development and approximately two-thirds of these were engaged in the business sector.

Definition

Researchers are defined as professionals engaged in the conception and creation of new knowledge, products, processes, methods and systems as well as those who are directly involved in the management of projects. They include researchers working in both civil and military research in government, universities, research institutes as well as in the business sector.

Comparability

The number of researchers is expressed in full-time equivalent (FTE) on R&D (i.e. a person working half-time on R&D is counted as 0.5 person-year) and includes staff engaged in R&D during the course of one year. The data have been compiled on the basis of the methodology of the Frascati Manual, but comparability over time is affected to some extent by improvements in the coverage of national R&D surveys and efforts by countries to improve the international comparability of their data.

For the United Kingdom and the United States, the total researchers figures beginning 1999 and 2000 respectively are OECD estimates. Also for the United States, data since 1985 exclude military personnel.

Data for Brazil and India are not completely according to Frascati Manual guidelines, and were compiled from national sources. Data for Brazil and South Africa are underestimated, as are the data for China before 2000.

Long-term trends

In 2005, there were about 7.3 researchers per thousand employees in the OECD area, compared with 5.9 per thousand in 1995. The number of researchers has steadily increased over the last two decades. Among the major OECD regions, Japan has the highest number of researchers relative to total employment, followed by the United States and the European Union.

Finland, Iceland, Japan, and New Zealand have the highest number of research workers per thousand persons employed. Rates are also high in Denmark, Sweden, Norway and the United States. Among the OECD countries, research workers per thousand employees are low in Mexico and Turkey.

Among the major non-member countries, growth has been steady in China, although, at 1.8 in 2007, it still remains well below the OECD average. The rate for the Russian Federation has been falling since 1994, but was still 6.7 researchers per thousand employed in 2007.

Source

- OECD (2008), *Main Science and Technology Indicators*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2007), *OECD Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard 2007*, OECD, Paris.

Statistical publications

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Methodological publications

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- OECD Measuring Science and Technology, www.oecd.org/sti/measuring-scitech.
- OECD Science, Technology and Industry, www.oecd.org/sti.
- OECD Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard, www.sourceoecd.org/scoreboard.



Researchers

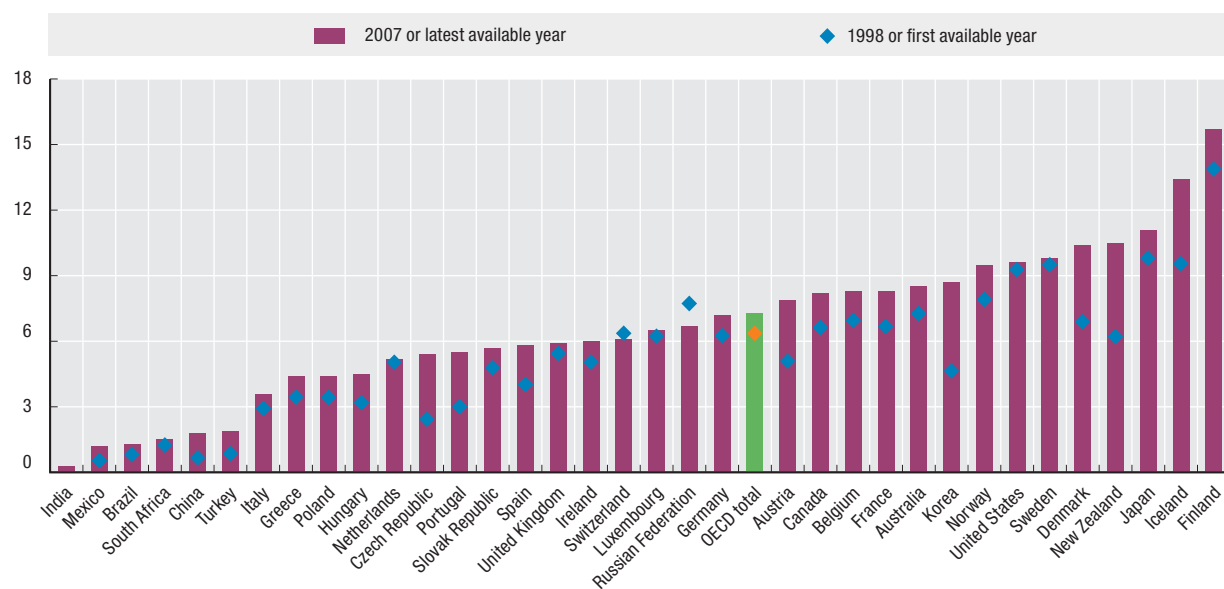
Per thousand employed, full-time equivalent

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	7.0	..	7.3	..	7.3	..	7.3	..	7.8	..	8.4	..	8.5	..
Austria	..	..	..	..	5.1	..	..	..	6.4	..	6.8	7.3	7.5	7.9
Belgium	5.9	6.0	6.5	6.7	7.0	7.4	7.5	7.8	7.4	7.5	7.8	7.9	8.2	8.3
Canada	6.4	6.4	6.6	6.7	6.6	6.7	7.2	7.5	7.4	7.7	7.9	8.2	..	..
Czech Republic	..	2.3	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.7	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.3	4.8	5.2	5.4
Denmark	..	6.1	6.3	6.5	..	6.9	..	7.0	9.2	9.0	9.6	10.2	10.3	10.4
Finland	..	8.2	..	12.3	13.9	14.5	15.2	15.8	16.4	17.7	17.3	16.5	16.6	15.7
France	6.6	6.7	6.8	6.8	6.7	6.8	7.1	7.2	7.5	7.7	8.1	8.1	8.3	..
Germany	..	6.2	6.1	6.3	6.3	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.8	6.9	7.0	7.0	7.2	7.2
Greece	..	2.4	..	2.7	..	3.5	..	3.4	..	3.5	..	4.3	4.3	4.4
Hungary	3.1	2.9	2.9	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.9	3.8	4.1	4.5	4.5
Iceland	6.1	7.6	..	9.4	9.6	10.3	..	11.7	..	12.2	..	13.4	..	..
Ireland	4.3	4.5	4.8	5.0	5.1	4.9	5.0	5.1	5.3	5.5	5.9	5.9	6.0	..
Italy	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.0	2.9	3.0	3.4	3.6	..
Japan	8.1	8.3	9.2	9.3	9.8	10.0	9.9	10.4	10.1	10.6	10.6	11.0	11.1	..
Korea	..	4.9	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.9	5.1	6.3	6.4	6.8	6.9	7.9	8.7	..
Luxembourg	..	..	..	..	..	..	6.2	..	..	6.7	6.8	7.2	6.4	6.5
Mexico	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	..	..	..	0.9	1.1	1.2	..	..
Netherlands	4.9	4.8	4.9	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.5	4.6	4.5	5.1	4.9	5.6	5.2
New Zealand	..	4.7	..	6.2	..	6.2	..	9.1	..	10.4	..	10.5	..	..
Norway	..	7.5	..	7.9	..	7.9	..	8.6	..	9.1	9.1	9.2	9.5	..
Poland	3.1	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.7	3.8	4.5	4.7	4.7	4.4	..
Portugal	2.3	2.6	2.7	2.9	3.0	3.2	3.3	3.5	3.7	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.8	5.5
Slovak Republic	4.9	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.8	4.5	4.9	4.7	4.5	4.7	5.2	5.2	5.5	5.7
Spain	3.6	3.5	3.7	3.8	4.0	3.9	4.7	4.7	4.8	5.2	5.5	5.7	5.8	..
Sweden	..	8.2	..	9.1	..	9.5	..	10.5	..	11.0	11.3	12.7	12.6	9.8
Switzerland	..	..	5.6	..	..	..	6.4	..	..	..	6.1	..	..	..
Turkey	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.5	1.6	1.8	1.9	..
United Kingdom	4.9	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.5	5.6	5.4	5.6	5.8	5.9	5.7	5.8	5.9	..
United States	..	8.1	..	8.8	..	9.3	9.3	9.5	9.7	10.2	9.8	9.6	..	..
EU27 total	..	4.8	4.9	4.9	5.0	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.5	5.6	5.8	6.0	6.1	..
OECD total	5.9	5.9	6.1	6.2	6.4	6.6	6.6	6.8	6.9	7.2	7.2	7.3	..	..
Brazil	..	0.7	..	..	..	..	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.3	1.3	..
China	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.5	1.6	1.8
India	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Russian Federation	9.1	9.2	8.5	8.2	7.7	7.8	7.8	7.9	7.5	7.4	7.1	6.8	6.7	6.7
South Africa	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.3	..	1.2	1.5	1.4	1.5	..

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Researchers

Per thousand employed, full-time equivalent



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PATENTS

Patent-based indicators provide a measure of the output of a country's R&D, i.e. its inventions. The methodology used for counting patents can influence the results. Simple counts of patents filed at a national patent office are affected by various kinds of limitations, such as weak international comparability (home advantage for patent applications) and highly heterogeneous patent values. The OECD has developed triadic patent families, which are designed to capture all important inventions only and to be internationally comparable.

Definition

A patent family is defined as a set of patents taken in various countries (i.e. patent offices) to protect the same invention. Triadic patent families are a set of patents taken at all three of these major patent offices – the European Patent Office (EPO), the Japan Patent Office (JPO) and the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

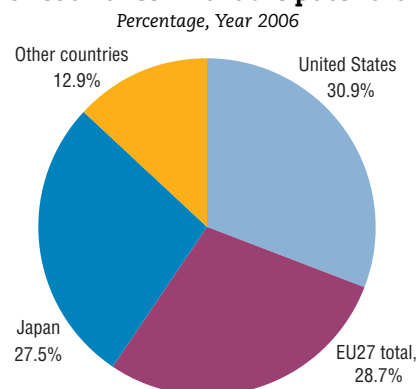
Triadic patent family counts are attributed to the country of residence of the inventor and to the date when the patent was first registered.

Comparability

The concept of triadic patent families has been developed in order to improve the international comparability and

quality of patent-based indicators. Indeed, only patents applied in the same set of countries are included in the family: home advantage and influence of geographical location are therefore eliminated. Furthermore, patents included in the family are typically of higher value: patentees only take on the additional costs and delays of extending protection to other countries if they deem it worthwhile.

Share of countries in triadic patent families



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Long-term trends

Growth during the second half of the 1990s was at a steady 6% a year on average until 2000. The beginning of the 21st century was marked by a slowdown, with patent families increasing by 1.5% a year on average. The United States, the European Union and Japan show a similar trend, with a stronger deceleration in Japan after 2000.

About 52 000 triadic patent families were filed worldwide in 2006, a sharp increase from less than 36 000 in 1995. The United States accounts for 31% of patent families, a loss of around 3 percentage points from its level in 1995 (34%); the relative proportion of patent families originating from Europe has also tended to decrease, losing more than 4 percentage points between 1995 and 2006 (to 28.7% in 2006). The most spectacular growth has occurred in Asian countries: Japan's share in triadic patent families gained 1 percentage point to reach 27.5% in 2006 and Korea contributed to 5.4% of triadic patent families in 2006 compared to less than 1% in 1995. The upsurge is also observed in China and India.

When triadic patent families are normalised using total population, Switzerland, Japan, Sweden and Germany appear as the four most inventive countries in 2006. Ratios for Austria, Denmark, Finland, Korea, the Netherlands and the United States are above the OECD average (42). Switzerland has the highest number of patent families per million population (115), followed by Japan (111). By size, China has less than 0.4 patent families per million population.

Sources

- OECD Compendium of Patents Statistics 2008.
- OECD Patent Database.

Further information

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Triadic patent families

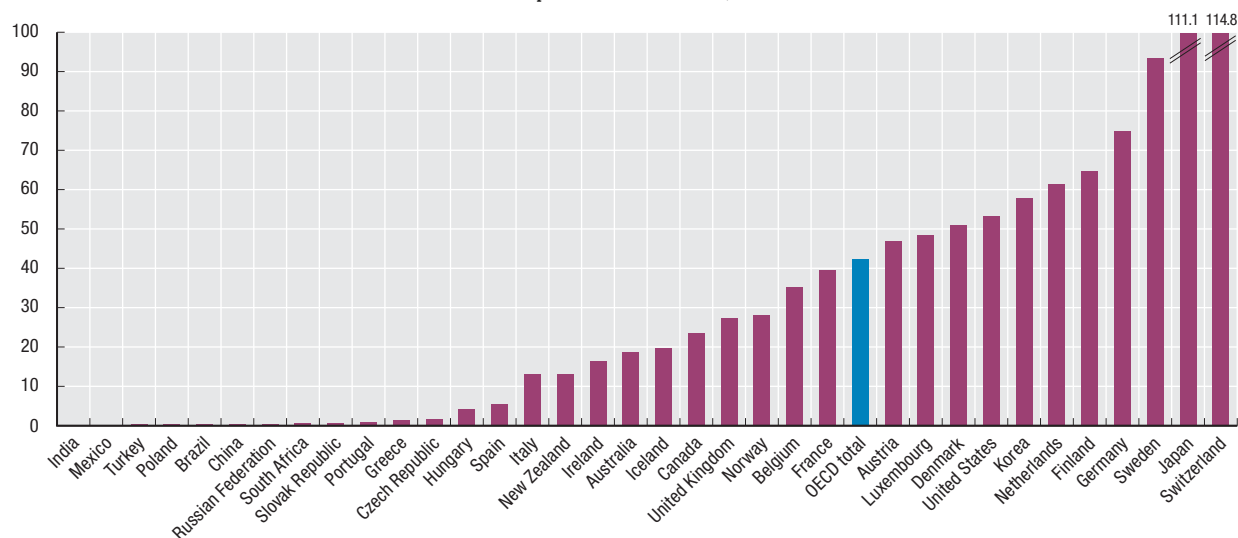
Number

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Australia	196	234	231	233	275	298	324	349	349	372	376	385	386	390
Austria	175	209	221	213	258	269	251	283	263	317	331	343	350	388
Belgium	339	352	373	362	432	393	404	367	339	346	319	379	368	372
Canada	292	357	387	427	527	532	552	537	538	617	635	706	751	767
Czech Republic	8	5	3	11	11	16	9	9	14	16	16	16	15	17
Denmark	159	177	189	226	216	269	246	240	230	236	248	256	264	277
Finland	252	345	316	356	454	440	454	373	347	279	304	314	319	341
France	1 721	1 903	1 971	2 147	2 205	2 272	2 391	2 332	2 370	2 398	2 462	2 500	2 468	2 499
Germany	4 042	4 398	4 849	5 508	5 680	6 119	6 214	6 213	5 792	5 633	5 867	6 079	6 132	6 171
Greece	3	4	2	13	9	10	10	8	6	8	10	9	14	15
Hungary	25	21	25	25	32	18	37	36	33	29	43	40	38	41
Iceland	1	3	6	7	4	6	7	10	3	8	5	2	6	6
Ireland	19	31	31	28	38	38	72	43	54	51	58	68	64	70
Italy	626	619	617	701	737	671	651	691	735	701	716	750	764	767
Japan	8 306	8 273	9 576	10 608	11 109	11 336	12 940	14 943	13 622	13 376	14 174	14 950	13 987	14 187
Korea	164	209	322	322	387	462	604	752	935	1 245	1 729	2 324	2 628	2 785
Luxembourg	13	8	13	16	16	21	22	18	23	14	18	24	21	23
Mexico	6	5	12	10	9	9	11	7	11	10	16	14	18	17
Netherlands	596	677	753	805	835	850	947	1 056	1 238	1 095	1 041	1 079	1 027	1 005
New Zealand	14	24	21	32	39	50	50	57	44	63	69	59	53	54
Norway	73	85	87	75	102	94	110	113	92	113	100	110	130	131
Poland	12	4	5	11	9	4	9	8	9	14	13	12	13	13
Portugal	4	2	3	4	7	4	6	4	6	6	7	6	10	10
Slovak Republic	2	1	2	1	5	3	2	2	2	3	4	3	4	4
Spain	70	87	82	91	109	126	131	156	169	166	171	205	230	236
Sweden	528	665	751	914	979	849	903	697	679	706	690	747	791	847
Switzerland	707	723	760	816	821	795	801	842	819	816	843	839	850	856
Turkey	2	2	2	4	3	7	5	5	9	8	8	12	20	22
United Kingdom	1 429	1 531	1 561	1 659	1 639	1 773	1 729	1 703	1 666	1 669	1 670	1 669	1 654	1 663
United States	10 663	11 089	12 146	12 931	13 914	14 402	14 868	14 475	14 236	14 807	14 960	15 540	15 688	15 942
EU27 total	10 034	11 049	11 779	13 109	13 686	14 163	14 505	14 259	14 001	13 713	14 022	14 533	14 587	14 795
OECD total	30 446	32 046	35 314	38 557	40 861	42 134	44 759	46 331	44 636	45 118	46 902	49 439	49 064	49 914
Brazil	22	12	17	18	29	29	31	33	47	44	51	51	56	65
China	16	17	21	23	43	47	62	84	114	178	252	290	384	484
India	8	6	11	14	22	34	40	45	85	106	120	122	133	136
Indonesia	2	-	-	-	2	3	2	3	2	1	-	-	-	-
Russian Federation	34	51	60	58	69	94	60	69	56	48	51	55	64	63
South Africa	32	21	25	29	34	35	31	35	24	28	30	33	31	30
World	30 794	32 414	35 731	39 098	41 515	42 878	45 507	47 162	45 565	46 120	48 093	50 727	50 569	51 579

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/543388161231>

Triadic patent families

Number per million inhabitants, 2006

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537066622566>

SIZE OF THE ICT SECTOR

Information and communication technologies (ICT) have been at the heart of economic changes for more than a decade. ICT-producing sectors play an important role, notably by contributing to rapid technological progress and productivity growth.

Definition

In 1998, the OECD countries reached agreement on an industry-based definition of the ICT sector based on Revision 3 of the International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC Rev. 3). The principles underlying the definition are the following.

For manufacturing industries, the products of a candidate industry must be intended to fulfill the function of information processing and communication including transmission and display, must use electronic processing to detect, measure and/or record physical phenomena or control a physical process.

For services industries, the products of a candidate industry must be intended to enable the function of information processing and communication by electronic means.

Long-term trends

For the 1995-2006 period the share of ICT services has grown most in Finland, Ireland, the Czech Republic and the Netherlands. In 2006, Korea's ICT manufacturing sector's share of manufacturing value added represented 21% of total manufacturing value added. In 2006, the ICT manufacturing sector represented between 2.3% and 21% of total manufacturing value added in OECD countries with available data. The average share for the 23 OECD countries for which data are available was 7.2%.

The Telecommunication services sector is largest, as a percentage of business services value added, in Greece, Hungary, Korea, Portugal and the Czech Republic. It is smallest in Ireland, Sweden, France and Austria.

Comparability

The existence of a widely accepted definition of the ICT sector is the first step towards making comparisons across time and countries possible. However, the definition is not as yet consistently applied and data provided by member countries have been combined with different data sources to estimate ICT aggregates compatible with national accounts totals. For this reason, statistics presented here may differ from figures contained in national reports and in previous OECD publications.

Source

- OECD (2007), *OECD Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard 2007*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2003), *ICT and Economic Growth: Evidence from OECD countries, industries and firms*, OECD, Paris.
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SIZE OF THE ICT SECTOR

Share of ICT in value added

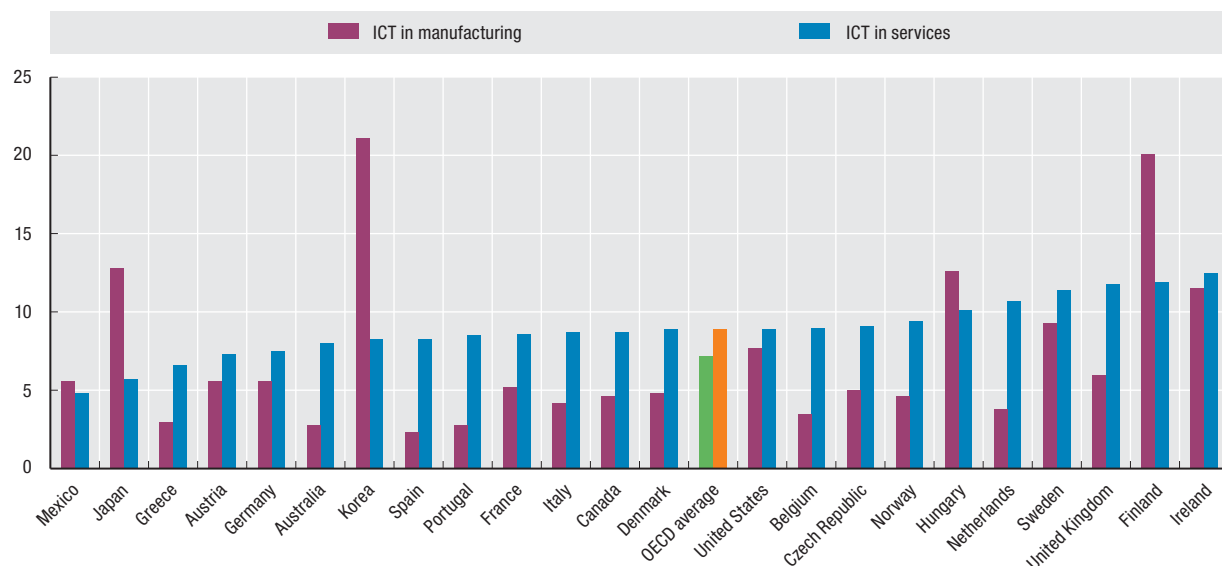
Year 2006

	Share of ICT manufacturing in total manufacturing value added		Share of ICT services in total business services value added		
	ICT manufacturing	Percentage point change 1995-2006	Telecommunication services	Other ICT services	Percentage point change 1995-2006
Australia	2.8	-0.3	4.1	3.9	-1.0
Austria	5.6	-1.6	2.9	4.4	0.4
Belgium	3.5	-0.6	4.0	5.0	2.3
Canada	4.6	-1.6	4.1	4.6	1.3
Czech Republic	5.0	2.2	5.3	3.8	3.2
Denmark	4.8	0.4	2.9	6.0	1.5
Finland	20.1	11.4	5.0	6.8	4.1
France	5.2	-1.1	2.8	5.8	0.3
Germany	5.6	1.0	3.0	4.5	-0.6
Greece	3.0	1.2	6.0	0.6	0.8
Hungary	12.6	7.8	5.8	4.3	2.8
Ireland	11.5	-2.7	2.6	9.9	4.1
Italy	4.2	-	3.5	5.2	2.2
Japan	12.8	0.2	3.3	2.4	1.1
Korea	21.1	5.1	5.6	2.7	1.6
Mexico	5.6	0.4	3.6	1.2	0.7
Netherlands	3.8	-2.4	3.7	7.0	3.2
Norway	4.6	0.2	3.5	6.0	2.5
Portugal	2.8	-1.0	5.5	3.0	0.7
Spain	2.3	-1.5	4.3	4.0	1.1
Sweden	9.3	1.7	2.7	8.8	2.7
United Kingdom	6.0	-2.3	3.9	7.9	2.1
United States	7.7	-2.6	4.7	4.2	0.3
OECD average	7.2	0.3	4.0	4.9	1.6

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/543440167040>

Share of ICT in value added

Share of ICT manufacturing and ICT services value added, 2006

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537135867673>

INVESTMENT IN ICT

Investment in physical capital is important for growth. It is a way to expand and renew the capital stock and enable new technologies to enter the production process. Information and communication technology (ICT) has been the most dynamic component of investment in recent years.

Definition

Investment is defined in accordance with the 1993 *System of National Accounts*. It covers the acquisition of equipment and computer software that is used in production for more than one year. ICT has three components: information technology equipment (computers and related hardware), communications equipment and software. Software includes acquisition of pre-packaged software, customised software and software developed in-house.

The investment shares shown in the table and graph are percentages of each country's gross fixed capital formation, excluding residential construction.

Comparability

Correct measurement of ICT investment in both nominal and volume terms is crucial for estimating the contribution of ICT to economic growth and performance. Data availability and measurement of ICT investment based on the 1993 *System of National Accounts* vary considerably across OECD countries, especially as regards measurement of investment in software, deflators applied, breakdown by institutional sector and temporal coverage.

In the national accounts, expenditure on ICT products is considered investment only if the products can be physically isolated (i.e. ICT embodied in equipment is considered not as investment but as intermediate consumption). This means that ICT investment may be underestimated and the order of magnitude of the underestimation may differ depending on how intermediate consumption and investment are treated in each country's accounts. In particular, it is only very

recently that expenditure on software has started being treated as investment in the national accounts, and methodologies still vary across countries. The difficulties of measuring software investment are also linked to the ways in which software can be acquired, e.g. via rental and licences or embedded in hardware. Moreover, software is often developed on own account. To tackle the specific problems relating to software in the national accounts, a joint OECD-EU task force on the measurement of software in the national accounts has developed recommendations concerning the capitalisation of software. These are now being implemented by OECD member countries.

Note that ICT components that are incorporated in other products, such as motor vehicles or machine tools, are included in the value of those other products and are excluded from ICT investment as defined here.

Source

- OECD Productivity Database.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2008), *OECD Information Technology Outlook 2008*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2008), *Broadband Growth and Policies in OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2007), *OECD Communications Outlook 2007*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2007), *OECD Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard 2007*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2003), *ICT and Economic Growth: Evidence from OECD countries, industries and firms*, OECD, Paris.

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- OECD (2008), *STAN Industry Structural Analysis Database on CD-Rom*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2008), *National Accounts of OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.

Methodological publications

- Ahmad, N. (2003), *Measuring Investment in Software*, OECD Science, Technology and Industry Working Papers, No. 2003/6, OECD, Paris.
- Lequillier, F. et al. (2003), *Report of the OECD Task Force on Software Measurement in the National Accounts*, OECD Statistics Working Papers, No. 2003/1, OECD, Paris.
- Schreyer, P., P.-E. Bignon and J. Dupont (2003), *OECD Capital Services Estimates*, OECD Statistics Working Papers, No. 2003/6, OECD, Paris.

Online databases

- STAN: OECD Structural Analysis Statistics – online database.

Websites

- OECD Productivity Database, www.oecd.org/statistics/productivity.
- OECD Compendium of Patents Statistics 2007, www.oecd.org/sti/ipr-statistics.

Long-term trends

ICT shares in total non-residential investment doubled, and in some cases, even quadrupled between 1980 and 2000 but then started to decrease, following the bursting of the dot-com bubble. In 2007, ICT shares remain particularly high in the United States, the United Kingdom, Sweden, the Netherlands and Denmark.

Software has been the fastest growing component of ICT investment. In many countries, its share in non-residential investment multiplied several times between 1980 and 2006. In 2007, software's share in total investment is highest in the United States, the United Kingdom, Sweden, Finland, Denmark and France.

In the recent years, software accounted for 50% or more of total ICT investment in Finland, France, Sweden, Denmark, the United Kingdom and the United States. Communication equipment was the major component of ICT investment in Portugal, and Greece. IT equipment was the major component in Belgium, Australia and Ireland.



Shares of ICT investment in non-residential gross fixed capital formation

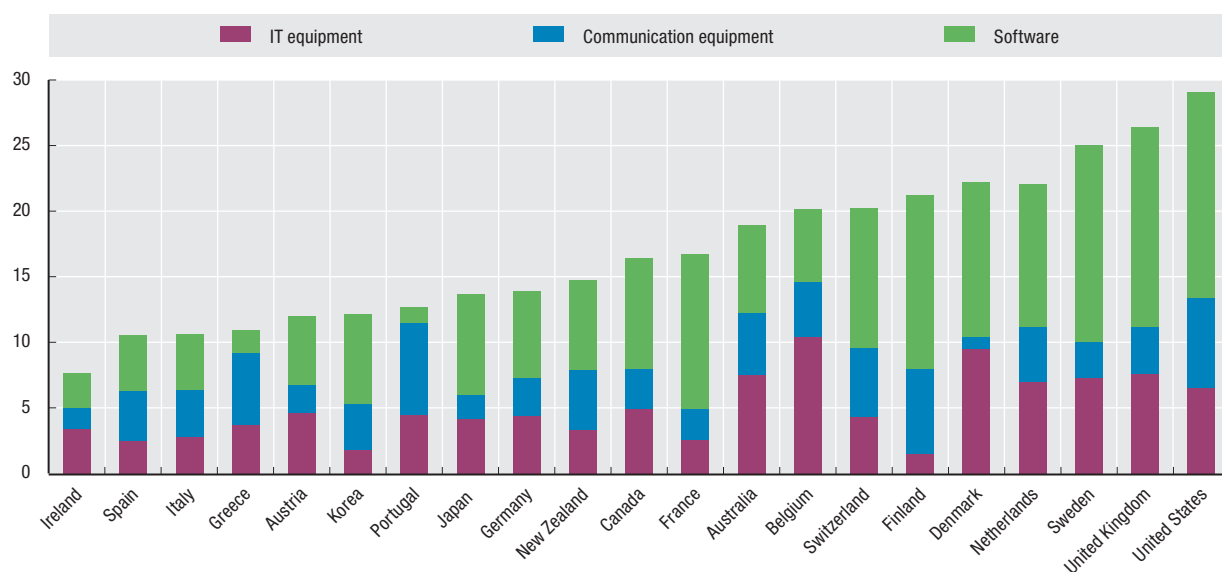
As a percentage of total non-residential gross fixed capital formation, total economy

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	18.8	19.1	19.9	21.1	21.0	22.6	26.0	24.7	24.2	22.9	21.4	18.9	..	..
Austria	10.8	11.3	10.8	11.2	12.6	13.5	13.4	14.0	14.5	13.1	12.4	11.9	..	..
Belgium	16.9	18.0	18.4	19.4	21.5	21.7	24.2	23.3	20.3	19.9	20.1	..	..	..
Canada	16.4	16.8	18.0	17.5	18.8	19.9	20.6	20.2	19.2	18.8	18.5	17.3	16.6	16.4
Denmark	21.3	19.7	18.5	19.8	19.5	21.6	19.9	19.2	22.0	22.0	22.0	22.1	..	..
Finland	18.2	19.9	17.5	17.5	18.7	19.4	19.5	17.9	18.5	20.1	19.2	21.2	..	..
France	13.1	13.9	15.5	17.5	18.7	19.9	19.2	20.5	19.2	18.5	17.6	17.4	16.9	16.7
Germany	13.0	13.3	14.1	14.5	15.3	16.6	17.5	17.8	17.0	15.3	14.8	15.1	15.3	13.8
Greece	11.7	10.0	10.9	11.0	12.4	11.7	12.8	14.3	11.5	10.8	..	..	..	..
Ireland	8.1	10.3	11.1	9.4	10.8	9.9	10.0	9.8	8.5	7.7	8.1	7.5	7.7	..
Italy	12.7	12.2	12.8	13.9	13.3	13.0	13.8	12.9	11.6	10.8	10.6	10.5	10.7	..
Japan	9.6	10.8	12.6	12.1	12.0	13.0	15.0	15.1	14.8	14.8	14.6	14.3	13.8	..
Korea	8.2	9.0	10.6	11.8	13.3	14.9	17.0	15.1	13.9	11.8	11.8	12.2	..	..
Netherlands	16.3	15.6	16.1	17.7	18.7	18.9	19.7	19.9	19.1	20.0	21.4	22.1	..	..
New Zealand	14.4	13.9	13.6	14.6	17.8	16.8	19.7	17.1	15.2	15.0	14.3	14.2	14.7	..
Portugal	11.4	12.2	12.2	12.0	13.0	13.4	12.4	13.1	11.9	13.6	12.9	12.7	..	..
Spain	12.9	12.5	14.6	14.5	14.7	14.9	14.7	13.7	12.3	11.1	11.2	10.9	10.5	..
Sweden	24.7	24.1	23.3	24.8	27.1	28.7	31.3	28.7	26.3	24.7	24.3	25.6	25.0	..
Switzerland	16.9	15.7	16.2	17.9	18.0	19.1	18.9	19.3	20.7	20.7	21.9	21.0	20.3	..
United Kingdom	20.2	22.3	24.3	23.3	24.9	26.7	29.3	28.5	27.0	24.9	25.8	26.4	..	..
United States	23.8	24.7	25.6	27.1	27.6	29.8	31.7	30.4	29.4	29.1	28.5	26.9	26.4	29.1

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/543461717414>

Shares of ICT investment in non-residential gross fixed capital formation

As a percentage of total non-residential gross fixed capital formation, total economy, 2007 or latest available year



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537137303402>

OCCUPATION AND SKILLS IN THE INFORMATION ECONOMY

Two measures of ICT employment have been developed. One is a narrow measure, comprising ICT specialists whose job is directly focused on ICT, e.g. software engineers. The other is a broader measure where ICT is used regularly as part of the job, but where the job is not focused on ICT.

Definition

The indicators in this section are based on the following three definitions:

1. ICT specialists, who have the capabilities to develop, operate and maintain ICT systems. ICT constitutes the main part of their job.
2. Advanced users: competent users of advanced, and often sector-specific software tools. ICT is not their main job but a tool.
3. Basic users: competent users of generic tools (e.g. Word, Excel, OpenOffice, Lotus Notes) needed for working life. Here too, ICT is a tool, not the main job.

In this section, the first category corresponds to the narrow measure of ICT-skilled employment, and the sum of all three categories to the broad measure of ICT-skilled employment.

Long-term trends

Around 3-4% of total employment in most OECD countries was accounted for by ICT specialists in 2007. This share has risen consistently in recent years in most countries, despite the relative stagnation in the share of ICT sector employment in business sector employment. Although these data are not directly comparable, the divergences between the two suggest that there is ongoing occupational specialisation as higher level ICT skills are required. These skills are used partly in the ICT sector as it restructures around more advanced products and activities, and partly across the wider non-ICT economy as ICT specialist skills are needed to produce ICT products in non-ICT sectors (software in the banking industry for example) and non-ICT products with ICT embedded in them (automobile braking systems for example). The share of ICT specialists in total employment declined only in France, Ireland and Portugal. ICT-using occupations (including specialists) make up over 20% of total employment in most countries. These occupations include e.g. scientists and engineers, as well as office workers, but exclude teachers and medical specialists for whom the use of ICTs is in general not essential for their tasks. There remains a contrasting picture in terms of trends, with the share of ICT-using occupations declining in English-language countries (Australia, Canada, the United States) or remaining flat (the United Kingdom) over the period 1995-2007, whereas some other countries increased considerably (Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Ireland and Austria).

Comparability

Data for EU countries are based on ISCO 88 (the International Standard Classification of Occupations), but data for the non-EU countries are based on national classification systems. The classification and the selection of occupations were not harmonised internationally as there are no official cross-classifications. Moreover, national classifications have more detail. The same logic and rationale were applied to each of the national classification systems to identify the occupations to be included in the narrow and broad definition of ICT-skilled employment.

This means, however, that the level of the indicators is not directly comparable across countries. Furthermore, there may be differences in ICT usage in occupations, both within and between countries, even when they are based on the same classification. For Europe, data from the European Labour Force Survey are based on three-digit ISCO 88. US data on employment by occupation are from the US Current Population Survey (CPS). However, as the 1990 Census Occupational Classification was replaced by one derived from the US Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) in January 2003, the 2007 data were estimated. Labour Force data for Canada are based on SOC 91-Canada. The data for Australia are based on four-digit ASCO (Australian Standard Classification of Occupations). Data for Korea are based on a new classification system, which is being revised. Finally, the Labour Force Survey data for Japan only distinguish a small number of occupations relative to the detail available in the occupational classifications of other countries.

Sources

- OECD (2008), *OECD Information Technology Outlook 2008*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2007), *OECD Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard 2007*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2004), *Information Technology Outlook 2004*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2006), *Information Technology Outlook 2006*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- Van Welsum, D., and G. Vickery (2005), *New perspectives on ICT skills and employment*, DSTI Information Economy Working Paper, OECD, Paris.

Statistical publications

- *Guide to Measuring the Information Society*, OECD, Paris.

Websites

- OECD Key ICT indicators, www.oecd.org/sti/ictindicators.
- OECD Science, Technology and Industry, www.oecd.org/sti.



Share of ICT-related occupations in the total economy

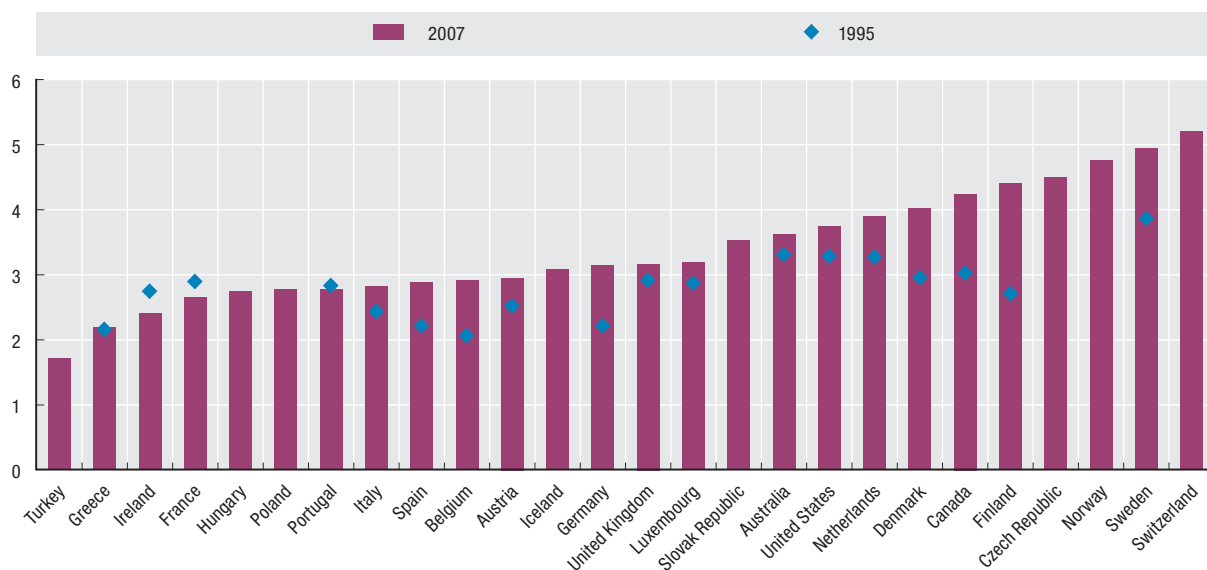
As a percentage of total employment

	Narrow definition		Broad definition	
	1995	2007	1995	2007
Australia	3.3	3.6	21.1	20.8
Austria	2.5	3.0	15.1	20.5
Belgium	2.1	2.9	18.7	21.7
Canada	3.0	4.2	20.6	20.5
Czech Republic	..	4.5	..	22.4
Denmark	3.0	4.0	20.4	27.2
Finland	2.7	4.4	20.0	24.9
France	2.9	2.6	18.6	20.1
Germany	2.2	3.1	20.4	21.6
Greece	2.2	2.2	10.3	14.9
Hungary	..	2.7	..	22.6
Iceland	..	3.1	..	22.5
Ireland	2.8	2.4	14.5	20.9
Italy	2.4	2.8	20.9	22.2
Luxembourg	2.9	3.2	23.0	30.6
Netherlands	3.3	3.9	23.0	23.4
Norway	..	4.8	..	23.8
Poland	..	2.8	..	17.9
Portugal	2.8	2.8	16.4	14.3
Slovak Republic	..	3.5	..	19.1
Spain	2.2	2.9	15.8	18.6
Sweden	3.9	4.9	20.4	24.6
Switzerland	..	5.2	..	23.0
Turkey	..	1.7	..	11.8
United Kingdom	2.9	3.2	27.8	28.0
United States	3.3	3.7	21.2	20.2

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/543461725577>

Share of ICT-related occupations in the total economy, narrow definition

As a percentage of total employment



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537148603274>

COMPUTER AND INTERNET ACCESS BY HOUSEHOLDS

Computers are increasingly present in homes in OECD countries, both in countries that already have high penetration rates and in those where adoption has lagged.

Definition

The table shows the number of households that reported having at least one personal computer in working order in their household. The second part of the table shows the percentage of households who reported that they had access to the Internet. In almost all cases this access is via a personal computer either using a dial-up, ADSL or cable broadband access.

Comparability

Over a very short period, national statistical offices have made great progress in providing indicators of the use of information and communication technology. From an international perspective, the major drawback of official statistics on ICT use is that they remain based on different standards and measure rapidly changing behaviour at different points in time. Most countries use existing surveys, such as labour force, time use, household expenditure or general social surveys. Others rely on special surveys.

Another issue for international comparability is the choice between households and individuals as the survey unit. Household surveys generally provide information on both the household and the individuals in the household. Person-based data typically provide information on the number of individuals with access to a technology, those using the technology, the location at which they use it and the purpose of use.

Statistics on ICT use by households may run into problems of international comparability because of structural differences in the composition of households. On the other hand, statistics on individuals may use different age groups, and age is an important determinant of ICT use. Household- and person-based measures yield different figures in terms of levels and growth rates. Such differences complicate international comparisons and make benchmarking exercises based on a single indicator of Internet access or use misleading, since country rankings change according to the indicator used.

The OECD has addressed issues of international comparability by developing a model survey on ICT use in households/by individuals. The model survey is designed to be flexible; it uses modules addressing different topics so that additional components can be added as technologies reflecting usage practices and policy interests change. The ICT access and use by households and individuals model survey is available on the OECD website.

Long-term trends

Penetration rates are highest in Iceland, the Netherlands, Japan, Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Korea, where 80% or more of households had access to a home computer by 2007. On the other hand, shares in Turkey, Mexico, Greece, the Czech Republic and Portugal were below 50%. Between 2001 and 2007, the percentages of households with access to a home computer increased particularly sharply in France, Japan, the United Kingdom and Germany.

The picture with regard to Internet access is similar. In Korea, Iceland, the Netherlands, Sweden, Denmark and Norway, more than 75% of households had Internet access by 2007. In Mexico and Brazil, on the other hand, less than one quarter of the households had Internet access by 2007.

Source

- OECD (2007), *OECD Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard 2007*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2008), *OECD Information Technology Outlook 2008*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2009), *OECD Communications Outlook 2009*, OECD, Paris.

Statistical publications

- Eurostat (2005), Eurostat community survey on ICT usage in households and by individuals, May 2005, Eurostat, Luxembourg.

Websites

- OECD Telecommunications and Internet Policy, www.oecd.org/sti/telecom.
- OECD Science, Technology and Industry, www.oecd.org/sti.



COMPUTER AND INTERNET ACCESS BY HOUSEHOLDS

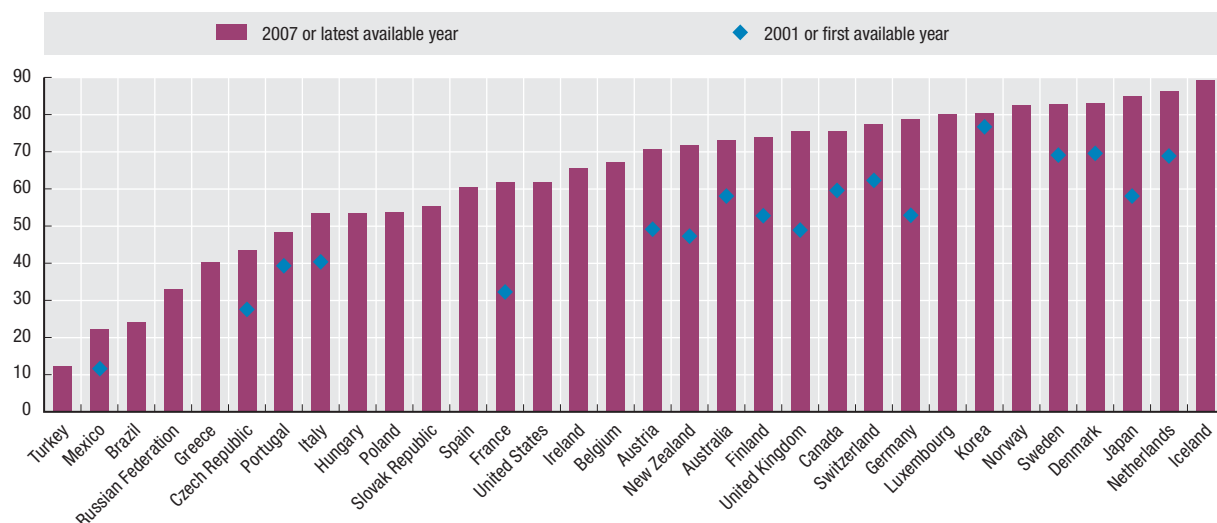
Households with access to home computers and the Internet

	Percentage of households with access to a home computer							Percentage of households with access to the Internet						
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	58.0	61.0	66.0	67.0	70.0	73.0	..	42.0	46.0	53.0	56.0	60.0	64.0	..
Austria	..	49.2	50.8	58.6	63.1	67.1	70.7	..	33.5	37.4	44.6	46.7	52.3	59.6
Belgium	..	..	..	..	..	57.5	67.2	..	..	..	..	50.2	54.0	60.2
Canada	59.9	64.1	66.6	68.7	72.0	75.4	..	49.9	54.5	56.9	59.8	64.3	68.1	..
Czech Republic	..	27.8	23.8	..	30.0	39.0	43.4	..	..	14.8	19.4	19.1	29.3	35.1
Denmark	69.6	72.2	78.5	79.3	83.8	85.0	83.0	59.0	55.6	64.2	69.4	74.9	78.7	78.1
Finland	52.9	54.5	57.4	57.0	64.0	71.1	74.0	39.5	44.3	47.4	50.9	54.1	64.7	68.8
France	32.4	36.6	45.7	49.8	..	56.4	61.6	18.1	23.0	31.0	33.6	..	40.9	49.2
Germany	53.0	61.0	65.2	68.7	69.9	76.9	78.6	36.0	46.1	54.1	60.0	61.6	67.1	70.7
Greece	..	25.3	28.7	29.0	32.6	36.7	40.2	..	12.2	16.3	16.5	21.7	23.1	25.4
Hungary	..	..	..	31.9	42.3	49.6	53.5	..	..	..	14.2	22.1	32.3	38.4
Iceland	..	..	..	85.7	89.3	84.6	89.1	..	..	..	80.6	84.4	83.0	83.7
Ireland	..	..	42.2	46.3	54.9	58.6	65.5	..	..	35.6	39.7	47.2	50.0	57.3
Italy	..	39.9	47.7	47.4	45.7	51.6	53.4	..	33.7	32.1	34.1	38.6	40.0	43.4
Japan	58.0	71.7	78.2	77.5	80.5	74.1	85.0	..	48.8	53.6	55.8	57.0	60.5	62.1
Korea	76.9	78.6	77.9	77.8	78.9	79.6	80.4	63.2	70.2	68.8	86.0	92.7	94.0	94.1
Luxembourg	..	52.6	58.0	67.3	74.5	77.3	80.0	..	39.9	45.4	58.6	64.6	70.2	74.6
Mexico	11.6	15.2	..	18.0	18.6	20.6	22.1	6.2	7.5	..	8.7	9.0	10.1	12.0
Netherlands	..	69.0	70.8	..	77.9	80.0	86.3	..	58.0	60.5	..	78.3	80.3	82.9
New Zealand	47.0	..	..	..	..	71.6	..	37.4	..	..	..	..	64.5	..
Norway	..	..	71.2	71.5	74.2	75.4	82.4	..	..	60.5	60.1	64.0	68.8	77.6
Poland	..	..	..	36.1	40.1	45.4	53.7	..	..	..	26.0	30.4	35.9	41.0
Portugal	39.0	26.8	38.3	41.3	42.5	45.6	48.3	18.0	15.1	21.7	26.2	31.5	35.2	39.6
Slovak Republic	..	..	..	39.0	46.7	50.1	55.4	..	..	..	23.3	23.0	26.6	46.1
Spain	..	..	47.1	52.1	54.6	57.2	60.4	..	..	27.5	33.6	35.5	39.1	44.6
Sweden	69.2	..	..	..	79.7	82.5	82.9	53.3	..	..	..	72.5	77.4	78.5
Switzerland	62.2	65.4	68.9	70.6	76.5	77.4	..	..	..	..	61.0	..	70.5	..
Turkey	..	..	..	10.2	12.2	..	..	..	..	..	7.0	7.7	..	..
United Kingdom	49.0	57.9	63.2	65.3	70.0	71.5	75.4	40.0	49.7	55.1	55.9	60.2	62.6	66.7
United States	56.2	..	61.8	..	..	..	..	50.3	..	54.6	..	..	..	61.7
EU27 total	..	..	..	51.0	58.0	60.0	..	..	..	..	40.0	48.0	49.0	54.0
Brazil	..	..	..	16.3	16.9	19.6	24.0	..	..	..	12.2	12.9	14.5	17.0
Russian Federation	..	..	..	20.0	26.0	33.0	..	..	..	..	27.3	25.0	28.5	..

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/543480632240>

Households with access to a home computer

As a percentage of all households

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537160311288>

EXPORTS OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT

Exports of ICT goods accounted for much of the growth in trade over the past decade. In all OECD countries, they grew more rapidly than total manufacturing exports. This is especially the case for high-technology exports.

Definition

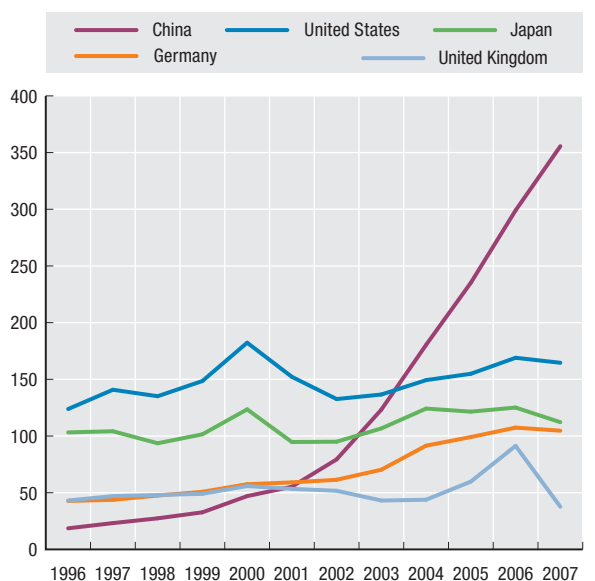
The OECD has developed a commodity-based definition of the ICT sector based on the CPC (Central Product Classification) and the Harmonised System (HS). The definition of ICT goods includes the following broad categories: telecommunications equipment; computer and related equipment; electronic components; audio and video equipment; and other ICT goods.

Comparability

The data for this table are taken from the statistics on international trade. These are compiled according to internationally agreed standards and are generally considered to be of good comparability.

Exports of ICT equipment

Billion US dollars



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537247214455>

Long-term trends

Growth of exports of ICT has been particularly high for the countries that started with a low base in 1996 – Hungary, the Slovak Republic, the Czech Republic, China, Poland and Iceland.

By the end of the period, the OECD countries could be divided into three groups – United States, Japan, Germany, Korea, the Netherlands and Mexico, with high exports of ICT goods. A middle group consisting of the United Kingdom, France, Ireland, Hungary, Canada and the Czech Republic, and the remainder with relatively low values of ICT exports. Growth of ICT exports has been steady for almost all OECD countries.

In comparison, China has experienced a spectacular growth in exports of ICT goods, between 1996 and 2007, the value of ICT exports from China have been growing at an average rate of 31% per year and since 2004, China's ICT exports has surpassed those of the United States.

Source

- ITCS International Trade by Commodity Statistics.

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Analytical publications

- OECD (2008), *OECD Information Technology Outlook 2008*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2009), *OECD Communications Outlook 2009*, OECD, Paris.

Methodological publications

- Guide to Measuring the Information Society, www.oecd.org/dataoecd/41/12/36177203.pdf.

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Exports of ICT equipment

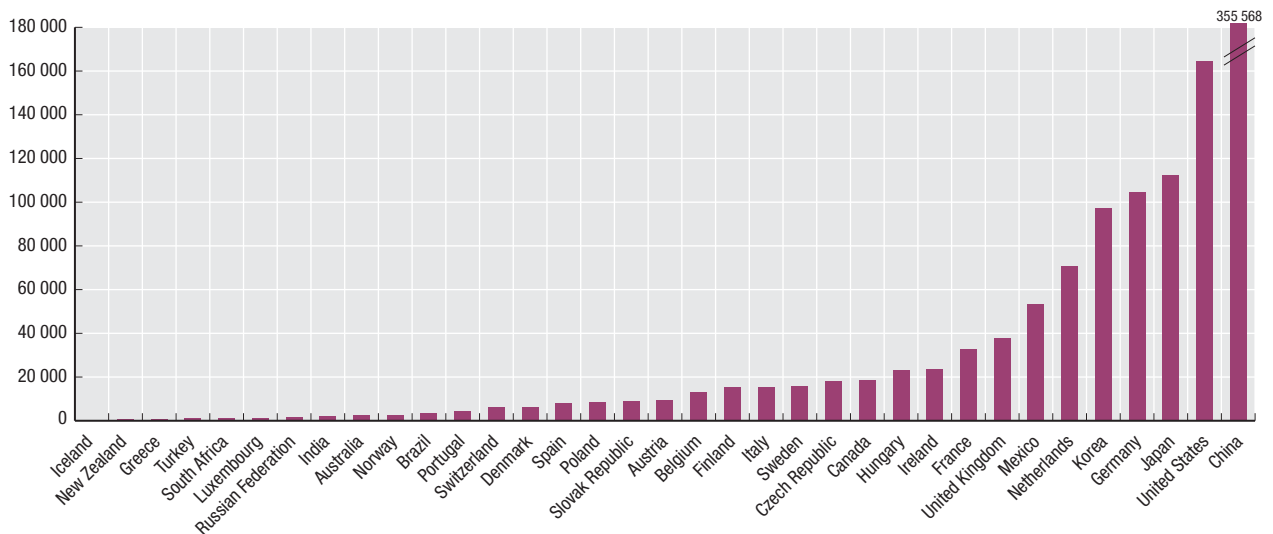
Million US dollars

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	2 180	2 282	1 873	1 830	2 068	1 983	1 762	1 948	2 128	2 262	2 238	2 454
Austria	3 270	3 568	4 074	4 111	5 018	5 237	5 846	6 627	7 861	8 134	8 465	9 602
Belgium	8 272	8 696	9 563	9 548	11 431	12 209	10 561	12 488	13 579	14 620	13 655	12 815
Canada	13 875	14 913	14 573	15 728	22 626	15 011	12 018	12 015	14 236	16 613	18 048	18 463
Czech Republic	894	..	1 513	1 339	2 128	3 201	4 790	5 922	9 104	9 778	13 498	17 946
Denmark	3 154	..	3 862	4 016	4 167	4 061	5 434	5 136	5 819	7 102	6 531	6 247
Finland	5 935	6 920	8 656	9 343	11 555	9 414	9 789	11 085	11 563	14 557	14 640	15 409
France	25 892	28 155	32 257	32 084	35 689	30 457	27 827	28 211	32 565	33 182	38 120	32 790
Germany	42 812	43 700	47 517	50 793	57 452	59 083	61 433	70 349	91 452	99 127	107 388	104 716
Greece	182	219	257	315	481	384	381	455	586	525	700	700
Hungary	663	3 294	4 761	5 943	7 776	7 510	8 938	11 967	16 983	17 277	19 353	23 194
Iceland	..	3	4	5	12	9	13	17	18	25	16	17
Ireland	13 265	16 224	18 637	23 644	26 341	29 734	27 258	22 565	23 673	24 933	24 360	23 532
Italy	13 047	11 711	11 890	11 777	12 811	12 829	11 422	12 547	14 661	15 162	15 377	15 552
Japan	103 213	104 239	93 612	101 473	123 548	94 696	95 015	106 655	124 242	121 474	125 089	112 199
Korea	34 316	36 248	33 906	45 061	61 525	46 793	55 021	66 545	86 099	87 163	88 544	97 371
Luxembourg	..	..	..	1 102	1 114	1 552	1 300	1 103	1 229	1 390	1 143	1 143
Mexico	16 422	20 369	24 678	30 432	38 267	38 055	36 270	35 906	41 336	43 870	53 462	53 343
Netherlands	24 899	31 926	31 584	35 396	41 218	34 543	31 593	45 505	58 305	64 748	70 049	70 621
New Zealand	232	290	299	280	286	273	314	365	464	494	509	569
Norway	1 301	1 432	1 513	1 502	1 430	1 528	1 349	1 471	1 670	1 858	2 172	2 688
Poland	648	917	1 295	1 242	1 424	1 738	2 154	2 652	3 341	4 123	6 124	8 587
Portugal	1 371	1 357	1 465	1 781	1 893	2 065	2 012	2 716	2 899	3 184	3 907	4 300
Slovak Republic	..	310	386	409	464	574	624	1 032	1 896	3 200	5 518	8 779
Spain	4 969	5 115	5 683	6 055	6 137	6 161	5 897	7 615	8 218	8 280	8 547	8 194
Sweden	11 407	12 513	13 224	13 720	16 579	9 353	10 251	11 374	14 816	15 818	16 475	15 980
Switzerland	4 143	3 919	4 090	4 337	4 712	4 301	3 730	4 237	4 947	5 690	5 512	6 194
Turkey	496	647	1 043	924	1 103	1 188	1 714	2 125	3 096	3 395	1 718	954
United Kingdom	43 116	47 039	48 019	48 964	55 865	53 396	51 868	43 052	43 848	59 755	91 282	37 560
United States	123 802	140 814	135 108	148 465	182 262	152 150	132 614	136 631	149 273	154 917	169 027	164 623
OECD total	503 774	546 821	555 341	611 620	737 379	639 486	619 197	670 317	789 906	842 658	931 465	876 539
Brazil	..	1 176	1 190	1 479	2 513	2 640	2 420	2 332	2 290	4 038	4 396	3 380
China	18 584	23 194	27 419	32 663	46 996	55 305	79 377	123 303	180 422	235 167	298 993	355 568
India	659	545	317	444	714	880	939	1 262	1 205	1 424	1 742	1 877
Russian Federation	..	917	609	755	799	1 009	942	896	1 137	1 157	1 519	1 680
South Africa	..	394	467	525	521	545	493	615	761	798	955	1 142

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Exports of ICT equipment

Million US dollars, 2007

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537166557176>

TELEPHONE ACCESS

The number of telephone connections – more precisely the number of fixed and mobile telecommunications access paths – has increased dramatically in OECD countries. This is associated both with growing use of the Internet and, particularly in recent years, with the growing popularity of cellular mobile telephones.

Definition

For the OECD member countries and China, total communication access paths are the total of fixed lines (standard analogue access lines and ISDN lines) plus the number of DSL, cable modem subscribers and mobile telephone subscribers. For Brazil, India, Russian Federation and South Africa, total communication access paths are the sum of main telephone lines in operation, ISDN lines, DSL and cable modem subscribers and cellular mobile telephone subscribers.

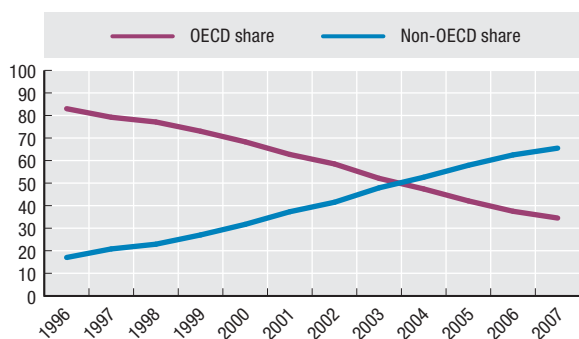
Comparability

For OECD countries, the data are collected according to agreed definitions and are highly comparable. The data shown for the five large non-OECD countries were partly

collected according to the OECD definitions and partly provided by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU). The definition used by the ITU is slightly narrower than that used by the OECD, although data reported for the two sets of countries can be regarded as broadly comparable.

Mobile cellular subscribers

OECD and non-OECD share in the world total, 1996-2007



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Long-term trends

Access to communications networks continues to expand in all OECD countries. At the end of 2007, the total number of fixed and mobile telecommunications paths had increased to more than 1.85 billion. This represented a 6% increase over 2006 and an average increase of more than 8.5% per year since 1997.

Growth was not occurring across all access paths. The number of cellular mobile communication subscribers continues to climb. An additional 102 million mobile subscribers were added in 2007. By way of contrast, some segments of the fixed connection market continue to decrease. The number of fixed access lines is decreasing steadily since 2001 and will most likely continue to do so over the coming years.

By 2007, all but one OECD country – Mexico – had more than one telecommunications access path per inhabitant, 26 countries reported more than one and a half per inhabitant and three countries reported more than two per inhabitant – Greece, Italy and Luxembourg.

Among the five non-OECD countries shown here, growth has been spectacular in China, which had less than one access path per 100 inhabitants in 1991 but 73 in 2007. A growing trend toward liberalisation, and the consequent use of prepaid cards in competitive markets, has helped drive the growth of mobile communications in both OECD and non-OECD countries. From 1997 to 2007 the share of OECD cellular mobile subscribers in the world total decreased from 79 to 34%.

Sources

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- ITU (2008), *World Telecommunications Indicators Database*.

Further information

Analytical publications

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Telephone access

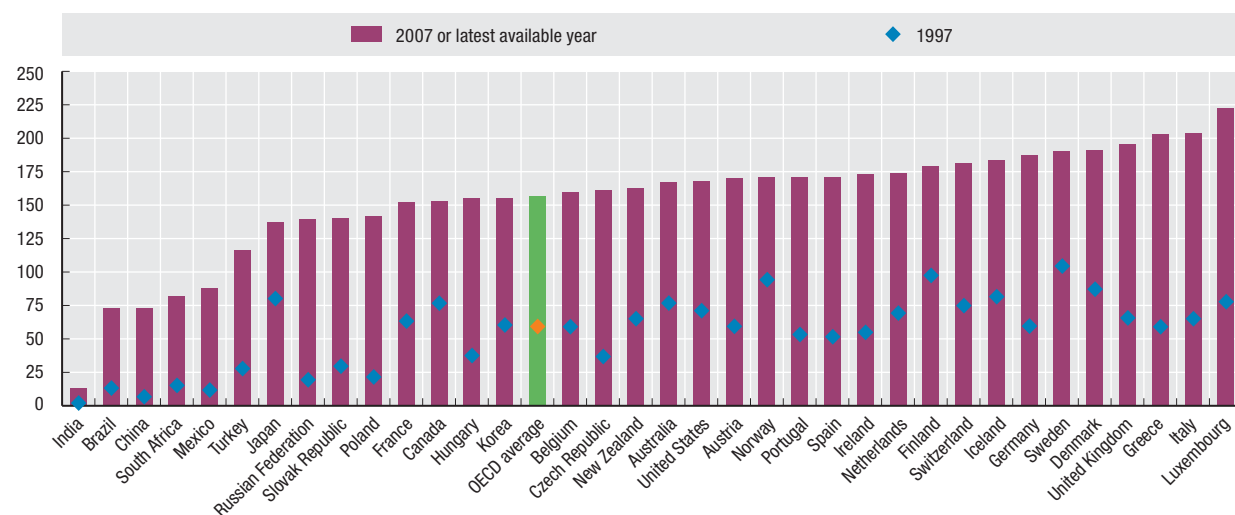
Number of telecommunication access paths per 100 inhabitants

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	55.5	62.3	72.9	76.8	81.1	86.5	96.1	110.7	120.6	129.6	138.8	147.8	160.1	167.3
Austria	49.8	51.6	54.0	59.4	72.2	97.7	120.2	126.1	128.3	133.7	145.7	152.2	162.8	170.4
Belgium	46.1	48.3	51.8	59.1	63.6	76.5	100.0	121.0	128.3	135.7	143.3	150.5	152.6	159.5
Canada	65.9	57.1	72.5	76.7	82.5	86.5	96.7	106.9	111.7	122.3	129.3	138.3	145.9	153.1
Czech Republic	21.1	19.0	29.3	36.8	45.7	55.9	80.3	104.0	117.8	127.8	137.2	147.5	147.6	161.1
Denmark	69.8	77.2	86.9	87.2	96.8	109.4	124.4	137.6	148.7	156.5	166.9	174.6	184.1	190.8
Finland	54.4	55.5	84.8	97.5	112.6	121.7	131.7	141.2	148.9	153.0	158.0	168.3	173.0	179.2
France	55.0	57.8	57.8	63.3	70.4	84.4	97.9	109.3	112.4	119.3	127.4	136.1	142.7	152.0
Germany	52.6	53.7	57.0	59.6	66.3	77.4	107.2	118.7	123.6	131.7	145.9	156.4	168.5	187.0
Greece	48.4	51.1	54.7	59.1	70.1	87.6	107.1	125.8	137.3	145.1	151.1	163.3	177.4	202.9
Hungary	18.8	24.1	30.6	37.5	44.1	51.2	65.3	82.9	100.9	112.5	121.5	128.3	142.3	154.8
Iceland	64.0	67.2	74.6	81.6	96.8	120.3	134.4	141.6	154.0	163.4	168.1	179.5	182.4	183.3
Ireland	36.8	40.1	46.5	54.9	68.2	86.9	96.3	114.8	123.0	129.2	137.7	148.7	161.4	172.7
Italy	47.1	50.7	55.3	65.1	79.8	96.7	117.5	133.8	137.8	147.3	158.8	174.6	188.7	203.5
Japan	51.6	58.5	71.2	80.2	87.0	94.1	102.0	109.3	117.3	125.0	130.9	134.8	136.6	137.1
Korea	41.7	45.6	50.8	60.4	75.1	98.3	113.1	126.7	136.4	134.9	140.8	143.4	150.6	155.0
Luxembourg	58.5	62.7	70.9	77.8	83.8	98.4	125.7	155.0	163.4	177.2	202.8	222.6	223.9	222.1
Mexico	10.1	10.5	10.7	11.7	13.9	19.2	26.9	35.8	40.8	46.0	55.9	66.0	76.2	88.2
Netherlands	53.0	55.5	59.0	69.3	70.8	95.8	122.1	125.3	128.7	139.9	162.4	161.5	170.3	174.1
New Zealand	53.0	56.7	58.8	65.1	79.1	86.0	102.2	108.5	111.6	112.8	123.1	138.0	147.6	162.7
Norway	68.8	78.6	85.4	94.3	102.6	114.6	125.8	132.7	138.4	145.7	158.5	164.7	168.2	170.6
Poland	13.1	15.0	17.5	21.5	26.9	34.8	46.2	58.0	67.7	77.2	93.3	107.3	130.9	141.9
Portugal	36.5	39.2	43.8	53.3	68.8	84.2	102.3	114.7	126.7	135.2	142.5	152.7	160.6	170.7
Slovak Republic	18.9	21.1	23.7	29.6	37.2	43.0	55.4	68.8	80.4	92.6	103.6	108.8	116.5	140.0
Spain	38.4	40.7	46.9	51.6	59.2	80.3	103.7	116.8	126.8	136.1	140.4	154.8	163.8	171.1
Sweden	83.7	91.0	96.8	104.5	115.2	126.7	139.0	150.0	159.5	169.7	170.7	176.8	183.0	190.2
Switzerland	67.1	69.6	68.0	74.9	83.0	100.6	122.9	132.1	140.7	150.2	155.4	165.7	176.8	181.1
Turkey	22.5	23.7	24.1	27.8	32.3	40.2	49.6	54.4	60.7	66.4	75.7	89.0	101.8	115.9
United Kingdom	54.3	58.6	63.0	65.7	76.0	94.7	114.2	130.3	138.4	145.9	161.2	175.4	185.8	195.3
United States	65.9	70.9	65.6	71.1	76.4	82.6	115.6	121.7	131.2	135.2	143.7	154.4	163.8	167.5
OECD average	48.0	51.6	53.8	59.3	66.2	76.7	96.2	106.0	113.5	127.7	129.2	139.1	148.5	156.7
Brazil	8.2	9.2	10.9	13.2	16.4	23.7	31.6	38.3	42.2	48.5	61.7	73.0	..	..
China	2.4	3.7	5.0	6.7	8.9	12.0	11.4	25.4	32.5	20.9	49.4	58.5	65.9	73.0
India	1.1	1.3	1.6	2.0	2.4	2.9	3.6	4.4	5.3	6.6	8.7	12.9	..	..
Russian Federation	16.2	16.9	17.6	19.4	20.3	22.0	24.1	28.0	36.4	49.7	77.7	111.3	139.6	139.6
South Africa	10.3	11.1	12.4	15.2	19.3	24.1	29.6	34.5	40.2	46.6	54.9	82.2	..	..

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Telephone access

Number of telecommunication access paths per 100 inhabitants



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537275627647>





ENVIRONMENT

WATER AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WATER CONSUMPTION

FISHERIES

AIR AND LAND

EMISSIONS OF CARBON DIOXIDE (CO₂)

MUNICIPAL WASTE

WATER CONSUMPTION

Freshwater resources are of major environmental and economic importance. Their distribution varies widely among and within countries. In arid regions, freshwater resources may at times be limited to the extent that demand for water can be met only by going beyond sustainable use in terms of quantity.

Freshwater abstractions, particularly for public water supplies, irrigation, industrial processes and cooling of electric power plants, exert a major pressure on water resources, with significant implications for the quantity and quality of water resources. Main concerns relate to the inefficient use of water and to its environmental and socio-economic consequences: low river flows, water shortages, salinisation of freshwater bodies in coastal areas, human health problems, loss of wetlands, desertification and reduced food production.

Definition

Water abstractions refer to freshwater taken from ground or surface water sources, either permanently or temporarily, and conveyed to the place of use. If the water is returned to a surface water source, abstraction of the same water by the downstream user is counted again in compiling total abstractions.

Mine water and drainage water are included. Water used for hydroelectricity generation is an in situ use and is excluded.

Comparability

It should be borne in mind that the definitions and estimation methods employed by member countries may vary considerably and may have changed over time. In general, data availability and quality is best for abstractions for public supply, representing about 15% of the total water abstracted in OECD countries.

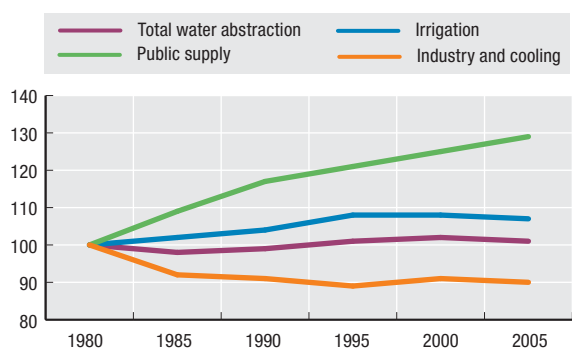
Long-term trends

Most OECD countries increased their water abstractions over the 1960s and 1970s in response to demand by the agricultural and energy sectors. Since the 1980s, some countries have stabilised their abstractions through more efficient irrigation techniques, the decline of water-intensive industries (e.g. mining, steel), increased use of cleaner production technologies and reduced losses in pipe networks. More recently, this stabilisation partly reflects consequences of droughts while population growth continues to drive increases in public supply.

At world level, it is estimated that water demand rose by more than double the rate of population growth in the last century, with agriculture being the largest user of water.

Water abstractions in OECD countries

Year 1980 = 100



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537337237523>

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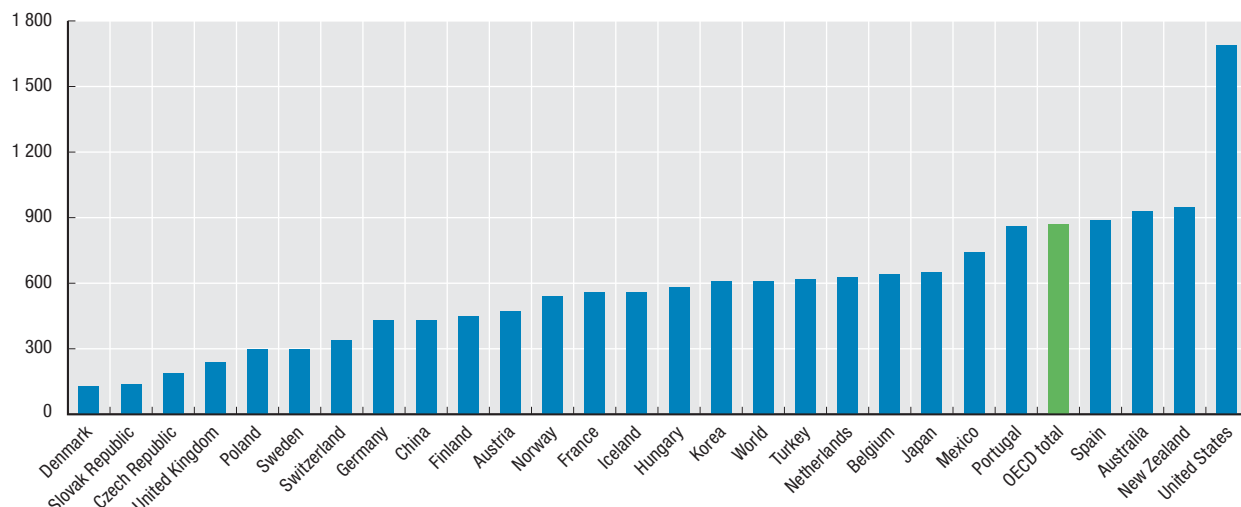


Water abstractions

	Total gross abstractions Million m ³						Per capita abstractions m ³ /capita
	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2006 or latest available year	2006 or latest available year
Australia	10 900	14 600	..	24 071	21 703	18 767	930
Austria	3 342	3 580	3 807	3 449	3 668	3 816	470
Belgium	..	..	..	8 221	7 538	6 654	640
Canada	37 594	42 383	45 096	42 214	..	..	..
Czech Republic	3 622	3 679	3 623	2 743	1 918	1 936	190
Denmark	1 205	..	1 261	887	726	680	130
Finland	3 700	4 000	2 347	2 586	2 346	2 319	450
France	30 972	34 887	39 323	40 671	32 715	33 715	560
Germany	42 206	41 216	47 873	43 374	40 590	35 557	430
Greece	5 040	5 496	7 030	8 695	..	..	..
Hungary	4 805	6 267	6 293	5 976	6 621	5 818	580
Iceland	108	112	167	165	163	165	560
Ireland	1 070	..	..	1 176	..	..	..
Italy	..	..	..	..	41 982	..	..
Japan	85 991	87 209	88 906	88 881	86 972	83 538	650
Korea	17 510	18 580	20 570	23 670	26 020	29 163	610
Luxembourg	..	67	59	57	60	..	..
Mexico	56 003	..	..	73 672	70 428	77 322	740
Netherlands	9 198	9 349	7 984	6 507	8 915	10 325	630
New Zealand	..	..	..	..	2 512	3 926	950
Norway	..	2 025	..	2 420	2 348	2 476	540
Poland	15 131	16 409	15 164	12 924	11 994	11 522	300
Portugal	10 500	..	8 600	10 849	8 808	..	860
Slovak Republic	2 232	2 061	2 116	1 386	1 171	763	140
Spain	39 920	46 250	36 900	33 288	37 071	38 158	890
Sweden	4 106	2 970	2 968	2 725	2 688	2 676	300
Switzerland	2 589	2 646	2 665	2 571	2 564	2 507	340
Turkey	16 200	19 400	28 073	33 482	43 650	44 849	620
United Kingdom	13 514	11 533	12 052	12 117	15 022	12 990	240
United States	517 720	467 335	468 620	470 514	476 800	..	1 690
OECD total	991 800	974 200	985 500	995 800	1 009 100	1 008 000	870
China	..	..	..	..	..	563 298	432
World	..	..	..	..	..	3 830 000	610

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Water abstractions

m³ per capita, 2006 or latest available year
StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537335008410>

FISHERIES

Fisheries make an important contribution to sustainable incomes, employment opportunities and overall food protein intake. On the other hand, overfishing of some species in some areas is threatening stocks with depletion. In certain countries, including at least two OECD countries – Iceland and Japan – fish is the main source of protein intake.

Definition

The figures refer to the tonnage of landed catches of marine fish, and to cultivated fish and crustaceans taken from inland waters and sea tanks. Landed catches of marine fish for each country cover landings in both foreign and domestic ports. The table distinguishes between marine capture fisheries and aquaculture because of their different production systems and growth rates.

Comparability

The time series presented are relatively comprehensive and consistent across the years, but some of the variation over time may reflect changes in national reporting systems. In one case, the data shown are estimated by the OECD Secretariat.

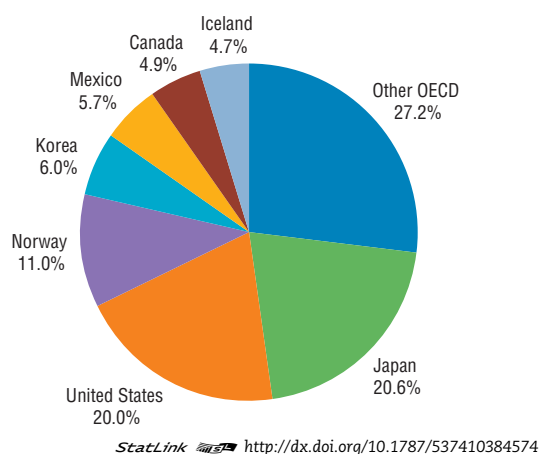
Long-term trends

Total global marine capture production according to FAO data reached 83 million tonnes in 2006, of which OECD countries contributed some 22 million tonnes. Japan, the United States, Norway and Korea were the largest contributors with 59% of total OECD production. Despite this, total marine capture by OECD countries continued their overall downward trend mainly due to overfishing and reductions in quotas. As a result, the relative contribution of OECD countries to total marine capture production dropped from 26% in 1995 to less than 20% in 2006. Denmark, Poland, Korea, Japan and Greece experienced significant declines in marine capture production over the past decade.

Total OECD aquaculture production increased by an average of 1.5% a year between 1995 and 2006. Worldwide, since 1970 the aquaculture sector has grown by more than 8% on an annual basis; FAO statistics suggest a total world production in 2006 of 67 million tonnes. OECD countries' contribution to world aquaculture is about 5 million tonnes. Among OECD countries Japan, Korea, Norway and the United States are important producing countries. Aquaculture represents 19% of total OECD fisheries production in 2006 compared to 45% globally.

Fish landings in domestic and foreign ports

As a percentage of OECD total, 2006



Source

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Marine capture and aquaculture production

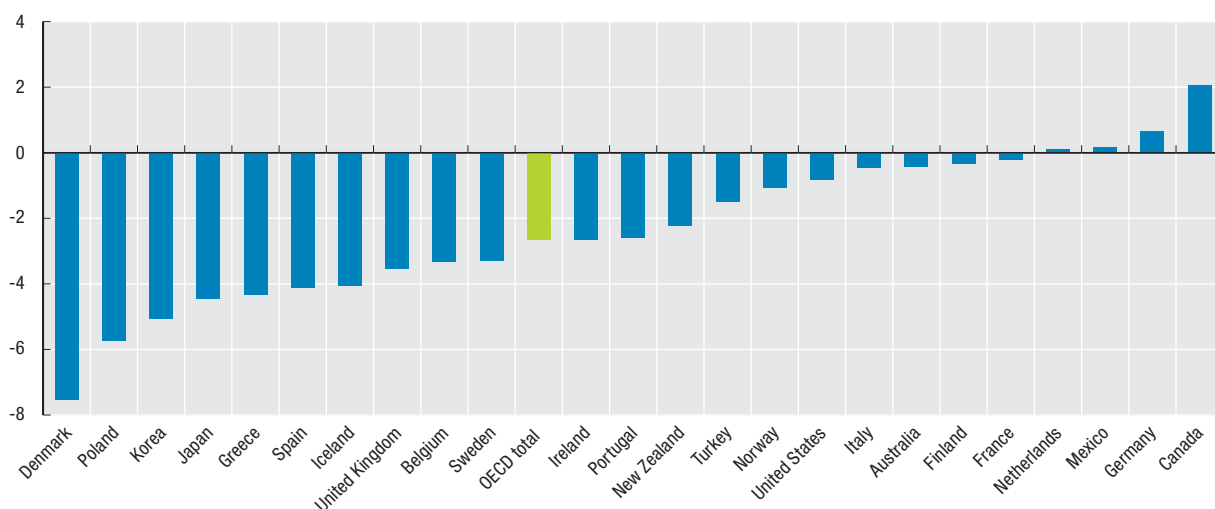
Thousand tonnes

	Fish landings in domestic and foreign ports							Aquaculture						
	1995	2000	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	1995	2000	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Australia	201	185	187	215	231	237	192	24	37	44	44	51	48	54
Austria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belgium	29	27	26	24	24	22	20	2	2	2	..	..	..	..
Canada	854	1 008	1 042	1 088	1 452	1 020	1 070	66	127	177	157	145	145	171
Czech Republic	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	19	19	20	19	20	20
Denmark	2 025	1 524	1 433	1 028	1 090	913	857	45	44	37	38	43	39	38
Finland	106	92	95	76	89	77	102	17	15	15	13	13	14	13
France	616	682	690	695	663	606	602	281	267	250	240	244	244	238
Germany	241	194	182	222	223	246	259	40	45	50	64	57	57	45
Greece	153	93	94	90	91	90	94	33	88	101	102	98	110	113
Hungary	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	..	..	..	..	..	..
Iceland	1 603	1 930	2 132	1 981	1 730	1 669	1 018	4	4	3	6	8	8	10
Ireland	379	291	281	195	306	282	282	27	41	53	63	59	61	87
Italy	301	387	304	312	288	268	286	225	228	260	192	233	234	242
Japan	7 450	5 092	4 495	4 743	4 515	4 466	4 511	1 390	1 292	1 385	1 306	1 261	1 257	1 224
Korea	2 322	2 090	1 867	1 831	1 752	1 829	1 311	1 017	667	794	844	938	1 057	1 280
Mexico	1 222	1 193	1 295	1 303	1 246	1 246	1 244	158	46	71	70	80	80	123
Netherlands	463	404	467	391	379	413	469	84	92	92	..	52	68	42
New Zealand	567	536	512	688	633	633	442	69	87	76	87	94	105	108
Norway	2 701	2 894	2 923	2 702	2 671	2 546	2 402	278	492	554	584	637	657	712
Poland	241	200	204	160	174	136	126	25	32	33	32	35	36	35
Portugal	242	172	181	182	163	157	181	5	8	8	8	7	7	8
Slovak Republic	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	1	2
Spain	1 075	1 002	747	774	687	717	677	224	312	328	313	362	273	273
Sweden	379	341	284	281	262	248	262	8	6	6	7	7	7	9
Switzerland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Turkey	577	461	523	463	505	380	489	22	79	61	79	94	118	129
United Kingdom	912	748	685	575	654	670	614	92	144	150	212	202	152	157
United States	4 783	4 245	4 407	4 402	4 492	3 641	4 374	413	373	393	420	408	408	360
EU27 total	8 054	6 794	6 339	5 901	5 874	5 632	5 315	1 184	1 402	1 277	1 347	1 332	1 272	..
OECD total	29 442	25 791	25 056	24 421	24 320	22 512	21 884	4 582	4 548	4 963	4 902	5 148	5 206	5 385
Russian Federation	..	4 289	3 456	3 426	3 174	..	..	..	205	268	289	302	..	..

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/543548876143>

Fish landings in domestic and foreign ports

Average annual growth in percentage, 1995-2006 or latest available period



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537354482566>

EMISSIONS OF CARBON DIOXIDE (CO₂)

Carbon dioxide (CO₂) makes up the largest share of “greenhouse gases”. The addition of man-made greenhouse gases to the atmosphere disturbs the earth’s radiative balance. This is leading to an increase in the earth’s surface temperature and to related effects on climate, sea level rise and world agriculture.

Definition

The table refers to emissions of CO₂ from burning oil, coal and gas for energy use. Carbon dioxide also enters the atmosphere from burning wood and waste materials and from some industrial processes such as cement production. Emissions of CO₂ from these sources are a relatively small part of global emissions and are not included in these statistics. The *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories* (see below) provide a fuller, technical definition of how CO₂ emissions have been estimated for this table. The forecasts provided in the table refer to the Reference Scenario of the *World Energy Outlook*.

Long-term trends

Global emissions of carbon dioxide have risen by 99%, or on average 2.0% per year, since 1971, and are projected to rise by another 45% by 2030, or by 1.6% per year. In 1971, the current OECD countries were responsible for 66% of the total. As a consequence of rapidly increasing emissions in the developing world, the OECD contribution to the total fell to 46% in 2006, but this is expected to fall to 32% by 2030. By far, the largest increases in non-OECD countries occurred in Asia, where emissions in China have risen by 5.7% per annum between 1971 and 2006. The use of coal in China increased levels of CO₂ by 4.8 billion tonnes over the 35-year period.

Two significant downturns can be seen in OECD CO₂ emissions, following the oil shocks of the mid-1970s and early 1980s. Emissions from the economies in transition declined over the last decade, helping to offset the OECD increases between 1990 and the present. However, this decline did not stabilise global emissions as emissions in developing countries grew.

Disaggregating the emissions data shows substantial variations within individual sectors. Between 1971 and 2006, the combined share of electricity and heat generation and transport shifted from one-half to two-thirds of global emissions.

Fossil fuel shares in overall emissions changed slightly during the period. The relative weight of coal in global emissions has remained at approximately 40% since the early 1970s. The share of natural gas has increased from 15% in 1971 to 19% in 2006. Oil’s share decreased from 49% to 39%. Fuel switching and the increasing use of non-fossil energy sources reduced the CO₂/total primary energy supply (TPES) ratio by 6% over the past 35 years.

Comparability

These emissions estimates are affected by the quality of the underlying energy data. For example, some countries, both OECD and non-OECD, have trouble reporting information on bunker fuels and incorrectly define bunkers as fuel used abroad by their own ships and planes. Since emissions from bunkers are excluded from the national totals, this affects the comparability across countries. On the other hand, since the estimates have been made using the same method and emission factors for all countries, in general, the comparability across countries is quite good.

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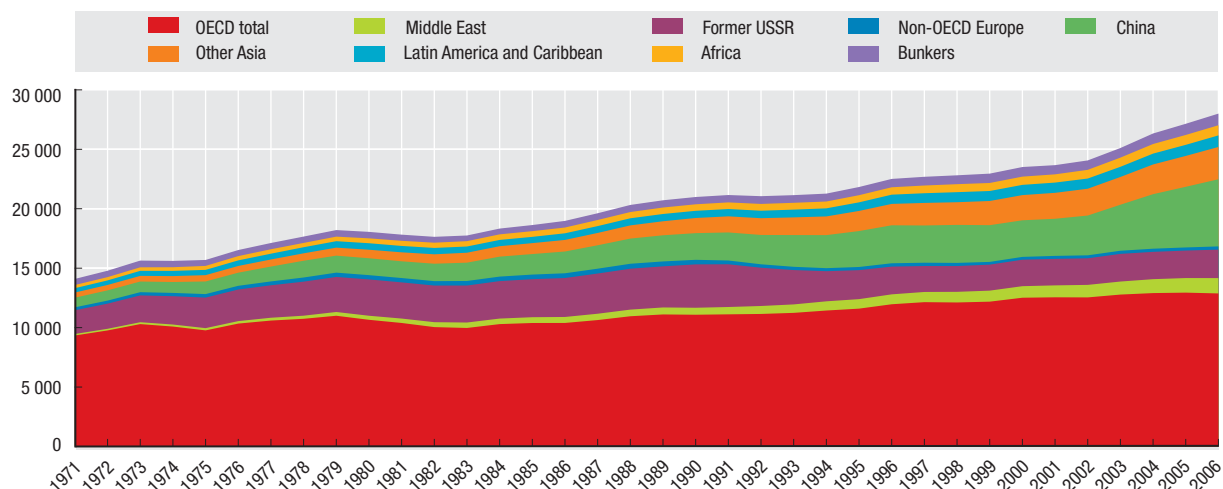
CO₂ emissions from fuel combustion

Million tonnes

	1971	1990	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2030
Australia	144	260	296	303	323	332	339	351	360	361	370	387	394	..
Austria	49	57	63	62	63	62	62	66	68	74	74	75	73	..
Belgium	117	110	128	126	129	125	127	128	119	127	124	120	117	..
Canada	339	432	480	497	500	511	533	526	534	554	550	556	539	..
Czech Republic	151	155	125	124	117	111	122	122	117	121	122	120	121	..
Denmark	55	50	71	61	57	54	50	51	51	56	51	47	55	..
Finland	40	54	62	60	57	56	54	59	62	72	67	55	67	..
France	432	352	368	362	385	376	376	384	376	384	384	387	377	..
Germany	979	950	898	867	860	829	827	845	833	842	843	811	823	..
Greece	25	70	76	77	80	80	87	90	90	94	93	95	94	..
Hungary	62	69	59	58	58	58	55	56	55	58	57	57	56	..
Iceland	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	..
Ireland	22	31	34	35	38	39	41	43	43	42	42	43	45	..
Italy	293	398	406	410	421	421	425	427	434	452	450	454	448	..
Japan	759	1 071	1 172	1 169	1 138	1 177	1 192	1 178	1 214	1 223	1 222	1 228	1 213	1 064
Korea	52	229	393	418	361	395	431	449	457	459	479	469	476	..
Luxembourg	15	10	8	8	7	7	8	8	9	10	11	11	11	..
Mexico	97	293	316	329	349	342	357	356	362	371	374	402	416	..
Netherlands	130	157	178	173	174	169	173	179	179	184	185	183	178	..
New Zealand	14	21	26	29	29	31	32	34	35	36	36	36	37	..
Norway	24	28	33	35	37	38	34	33	33	35	36	37	37	..
Poland	287	344	347	337	314	304	292	291	280	291	295	294	306	..
Portugal	14	39	47	49	53	60	59	59	63	58	60	63	56	..
Slovak Republic	39	57	41	41	40	39	37	38	38	38	37	38	37	..
Spain	120	206	223	241	249	269	284	285	302	310	327	339	328	..
Sweden	82	53	63	57	58	57	53	52	54	55	54	50	48	..
Switzerland	39	41	42	41	43	43	42	43	41	43	44	44	44	..
Turkey	41	127	169	177	178	177	201	182	192	202	207	216	240	..
United Kingdom	623	553	538	516	520	517	526	539	524	536	536	535	536	..
United States	4 291	4 863	5 299	5 477	5 475	5 501	5 693	5 673	5 614	5 689	5 772	5 785	5 697	5 804
EU27 total	..	4 063	3 974	3 889	3 887	3 818	3 842	3 916	3 886	4 005	4 010	3 979	3 983	3 755
OECD total	9 337	11 083	11 964	12 141	12 115	12 183	12 514	12 549	12 541	12 779	12 904	12 942	12 874	13 166
Brazil	91	193	257	274	283	293	303	312	311	304	321	327	332	..
China	800	2 211	3 161	3 101	3 156	3 046	3 038	3 084	3 309	3 830	4 547	5 060	5 607	11 706
India	199	589	826	870	878	942	977	986	1 017	1 043	1 114	1 161	1 250	3 293
Indonesia	25	140	209	235	232	253	265	282	291	299	316	331	335	..
Russian Federation	..	2 180	1 555	1 444	1 438	1 474	1 514	1 514	1 505	1 540	1 524	1 531	1 587	2 004
South Africa	174	255	286	299	310	291	299	284	295	321	338	330	342	..
World	14 095	20 988	22 509	22 686	22 813	22 953	23 509	23 666	24 065	25 108	26 332	27 146	28 003	40 553

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/543556343271>**World CO₂ emissions from fuel combustion, by region**

Million tonnes

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537418588611>

MUNICIPAL WASTE

The amount of municipal waste generated in a country is related to the rate of urbanisation, the types and patterns of consumption, household revenue and lifestyles. While municipal waste is only one part of total waste generated, its management and treatment often absorbs more than one third of the public sector's financial efforts to abate and control pollution.

The main environmental concerns relate to the potential impact from inappropriate waste management on human health and the environment (soil and water contamination, air quality, land use and landscape).

Kilogrammes of municipal waste per capita – or “waste generation intensities” – are broad indicators of potential environmental pressure. They should be complemented with information on waste management practices and costs, and on consumption levels and patterns.

Definition

Municipal waste is waste collected and treated by or for municipalities. It covers waste from households, including bulky waste, similar waste from commerce and trade, office buildings, institutions and small businesses, yard and garden waste, street sweepings, the contents of litter containers, and market cleansing waste. The definition excludes waste from municipal sewage networks and treatment, as well as municipal construction and demolition waste.

Long-term trends

The quantity of municipal waste generated in the OECD area has risen from 1980 and exceeded 619 million tonnes in 2006 (580 kg per capita). Generation intensity – i.e. kilogrammes per capita – has risen at a lower rate than private final consumption expenditure and GDP, with a significant slowdown in recent years.

The amount of municipal waste also depends on national waste management practices. Only a few countries have succeeded in reducing the quantity of solid waste to be disposed of. In most countries for which data are available, increased affluence, associated with economic growth and changes in consumption patterns, tends to generate higher rates of waste per capita.

Comparability

The definition of municipal waste and the surveying methods used vary from country to country. For detailed footnotes please refer to the excel file available under StatLink.

The main problems relate to the coverage of household-like waste from commerce and trade, and of separate waste collections, carried out by private companies.

Data for Canada and New Zealand refer to household waste only.

Data for China do not cover waste produced in rural areas.

OECD total does not include the Czech Republic, Hungary, Korea, Poland and the Slovak Republic. Per capita value covers all OECD countries.

EU27 total refers to data provided by Eurostat.

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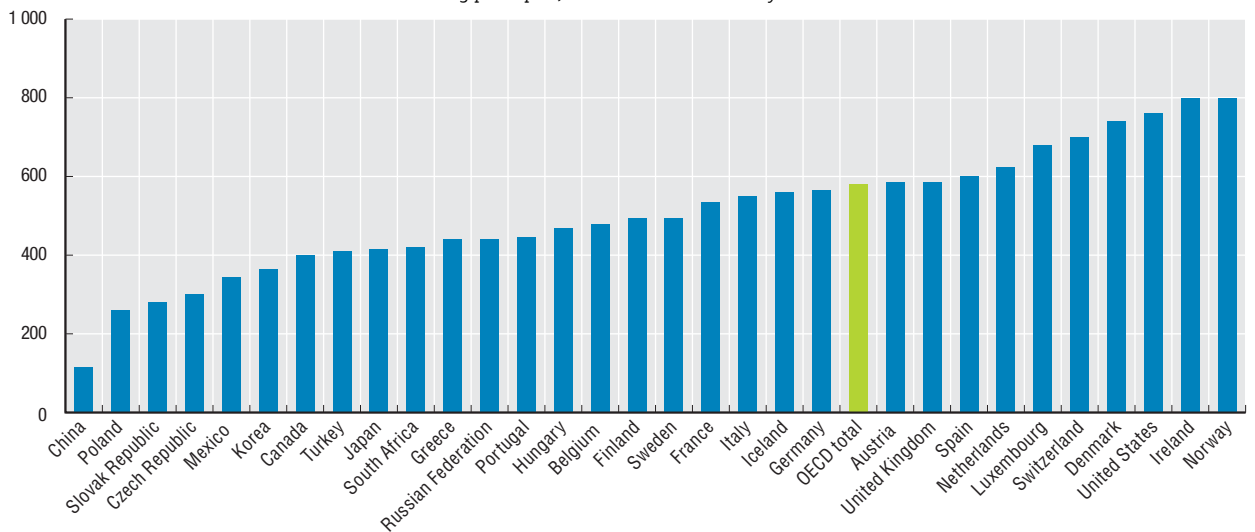
Municipal waste generation

	Total amount generated Thousand tonnes						Generation intensities kg/capita
	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2006 or latest available year	2006 or latest available year
Australia	10 000	..	12 000	..	13 200	..	..
Austria	..	..	3 200	3 480	4 260	4 850	585
Belgium	2 760	3 055	3 440	4 585	4 860	5 070	480
Canada	..	..	8 925	7 030	11 280	12 980	400
Czech Republic	..	2 600	..	3 200	3 435	3 040	300
Denmark	2 050	2 430	..	2 960	3 550	4 020	740
Finland	..	..	..	2 110	2 600	2 600	495
France	..	..	26 220	28 250	31 230	33 880	535
Germany	..	..	49 860	50 894	52 810	46 425	565
Greece	2 500	3 000	3 000	3 200	4 450	4 930	440
Hungary	..	..	5 500	4 750	4 550	4 710	470
Iceland	..	..	..	114	130	170	560
Ireland	640	1 100	..	1 850	2 280	3 385	800
Italy	14 040	15 000	20 000	25 780	28 960	32 508	550
Japan	43 940	42 095	50 260	52 220	54 830	52 730	415
Korea	..	20 990	30 650	17 440	16 950	17 665	365
Luxembourg	128	131	224	240	285	320	680
Mexico	..	..	21 060	30 510	30 730	36 135	345
Netherlands	7 050	6 930	7 430	8 470	9 770	10 170	625
New Zealand	880	..	1 140	1 430	1 540	..	..
Norway	1 700	1 970	2 000	2 720	2 755	3 680	800
Poland	10 055	11 090	11 100	10 985	12 230	9 880	260
Portugal	1 980	2 350	3 000	3 855	4 530	4 690	445
Slovak Republic	..	1 900	1 600	1 620	1 710	1 525	280
Spain	..	..	..	18 730	24 730	26 520	600
Sweden	2 510	2 650	3 200	3 555	3 795	4 500	495
Switzerland	2 790	3 400	4 100	4 200	4 730	5 230	700
Turkey	12 000	18 000	22 315	27 235	30 620	30 080	410
United Kingdom	..	..	27 100	28 900	33 955	35 480	585
United States	137 570	149 190	186 170	193 870	216 150	228 020	760
EU27 total	..	..	..	226 516	252 482	254 964	517
OECD total	377 176	405 268	488 861	527 433	589 699	619 430	580
Brazil	..	..	..	..	58 000	..	..
China	..	..	67 670	106 710	118 190	154 145	115
India	..	..	..	..	108 000	..	..
Russian Federation	22 000	24 800	28 000	50 000	51 850	63 075	440
South Africa	..	..	..	..	..	20 000	420

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/543571383548>

Municipal waste generation

kg per capita, 2006 or latest available year



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537435847521>





EDUCATION

OUTCOMES

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ASSESSMENT
TRENDS IN TERTIARY GRADUATION AND ENTRY RATES
TERTIARY ATTAINMENT

EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION

CHANGE IN EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION
RELATIVE EARNINGS OF GRADUATES
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EXPENDITURE IN TERTIARY EDUCATION
EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ASSESSMENT

How effective are school systems at providing young people with a solid foundation of knowledge and skills that will equip them for life and learning beyond school? OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) assesses student knowledge and skills in science, mathematics and reading at age 15, i.e. towards the end of compulsory education.

PISA 2006 also assesses the attitudes which students have towards science and the environment, their interest in science, the extent to which they are aware of the life opportunities that possessing science competencies may open, and the science learning opportunities and environment which their schools offer.

Definition

The PISA survey covers science, mathematics and reading. For the 2006 round of PISA, three and a half hours of testing time was in science, two hours for mathematics and one hour for reading. Each student spent two hours on the assessment items.

Scientific literacy is the capacity to use scientific knowledge to identify questions, to acquire new knowledge, to explain scientific phenomena, and to draw evidence-based conclusions about science-related issues.

Overview

The graph "Performance on the science scale in PISA 2006" shows the results for science in terms of differences from the OECD average score (500). As in the 2003 PISA, Finland is the top of the league. For Hungary, Sweden, Poland, Denmark and France the science scores are not significantly different from the OECD average. The table "Mean scores and gender differences on the science scale in PISA 2006" presents also the scores in science by gender. In OECD on average, the boys are doing slightly better than the girls. The results are significantly better for boys in Denmark, Luxembourg, Mexico, the Netherlands, Switzerland and United Kingdom, whereas significantly better results for girls than for boys occur in Greece and Turkey.

The results for mathematics and reading are displayed in the following graphs. Finland and Korea are competing for the top positions in these results. Germany, Sweden, Ireland, France, United Kingdom and Poland are not significantly different from the OECD average in mathematics. The other countries are significantly above or below the OECD average and are indicated in green. In reading, Japan, United Kingdom, Germany, Denmark, Austria and France are not significantly different from the OECD average. In the same way as for mathematics, countries significantly above or below the OECD average are indicated.

In mathematics, females remain at a disadvantage in many countries, with on average 11 score points of difference in favour of males. On the opposite side, in reading, differences in favour of females are observed in all countries. On average across OECD countries, females are 38 score points ahead of their male counterparts.

Mathematical literacy is the capacity to identify and understand the role that mathematics plays in the world, to make well-founded judgments and to use and engage with mathematics in ways that meet the needs of that individual's life as a constructive, concerned and reflective citizen.

Reading literacy is the capacity to understand, use and reflect on written texts, in order to achieve one's goals, to develop one's knowledge and potential and to participate in society.

Comparability

Leading experts in participating countries advise on the scope and nature of the assessments and final decisions on this are taken by OECD governments. Substantial efforts and resources are devoted to achieving cultural and linguistic breadth and balance in the assessment materials and stringent quality assurance mechanisms are applied in translation, sampling and data collection.

Over 400 000 15-year-old students in 57 participating countries were assessed for PISA 2006. Because the results are based on probability samples, the standard errors have to be calculated and these are shown in the tables.

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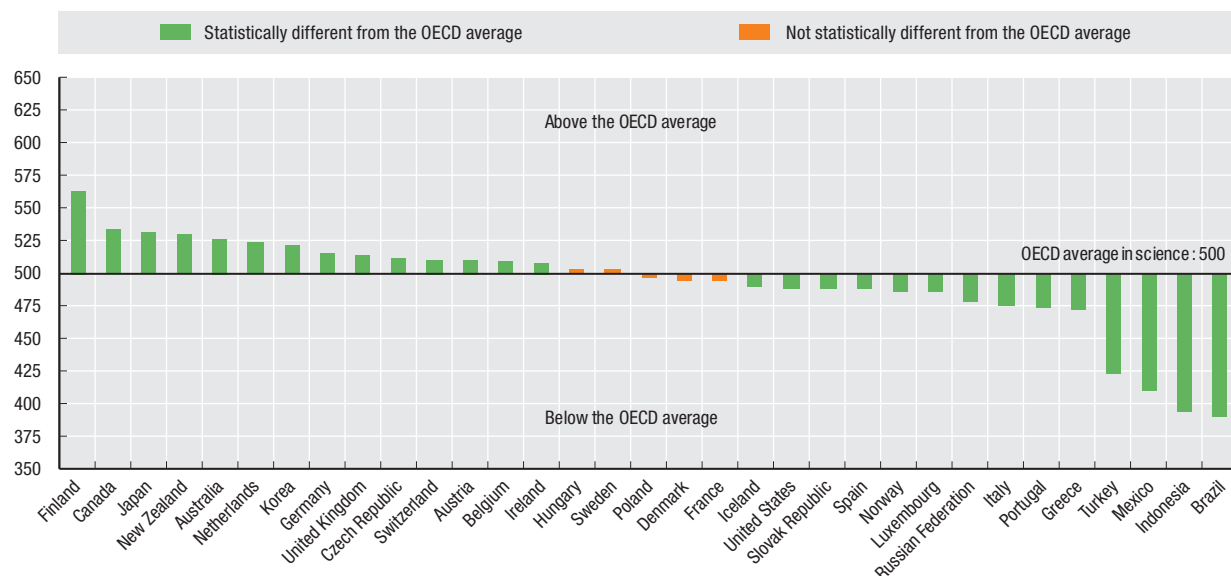
Mean scores and gender differences on the science scale in PISA 2006

	All students		Males		Females		Difference (males – females)	
	Mean score	S.E.	Mean score	S.E.	Mean score	S.E.	Score difference	S.E.
Australia	527	2.3	527	3.2	527	2.7	0	3.8
Austria	511	3.9	515	4.2	507	4.9	8	4.9
Belgium	510	2.5	511	3.3	510	3.2	1	4.1
Canada	534	2.0	536	2.5	532	2.1	4	2.2
Czech Republic	513	3.5	515	4.2	510	4.8	5	5.6
Denmark	496	3.1	500	3.6	491	3.4	9	3.2
Finland	563	2.0	562	2.6	565	2.4	–3	2.9
France	495	3.4	497	4.3	494	3.6	3	4.0
Germany	516	3.8	519	4.6	512	3.8	7	3.7
Greece	473	3.2	468	4.5	479	3.4	–11	4.7
Hungary	504	2.7	507	3.3	501	3.5	6	4.2
Iceland	491	1.6	488	2.6	494	2.1	–6	3.4
Ireland	508	3.2	508	4.3	509	3.3	0	4.3
Italy	475	2.0	477	2.8	474	2.5	3	3.5
Japan	531	3.4	533	4.9	530	5.1	3	7.4
Korea	522	3.4	521	4.8	523	3.9	–2	5.5
Luxembourg	486	1.1	491	1.8	482	1.8	9	2.9
Mexico	410	2.7	413	3.2	406	2.6	7	2.2
Netherlands	525	2.7	528	3.2	521	3.1	7	3.0
New Zealand	530	2.7	528	3.9	532	3.6	–4	5.2
Norway	487	3.1	484	3.8	489	3.2	–4	3.4
Poland	498	2.3	500	2.7	496	2.6	3	2.5
Portugal	474	3.0	477	3.7	472	3.2	5	3.3
Slovak Republic	488	2.6	491	3.9	485	3.0	6	4.7
Spain	488	2.6	491	2.9	486	2.7	4	2.4
Sweden	503	2.4	504	2.7	503	2.9	1	3.0
Switzerland	512	3.2	514	3.3	509	3.6	6	2.7
Turkey	424	3.8	418	4.6	430	4.1	–12	4.1
United Kingdom	515	2.3	520	3.0	510	2.8	10	3.4
United States	489	4.2	489	5.1	489	4.0	1	3.5
OECD average	500	0.5	501	0.7	499	0.6	2	0.7
OECD total	491	1.2	492	1.4	490	1.3	3	1.3
Brazil	390	2.8	395	3.2	386	2.9	9	2.3
Indonesia	393	5.7	399	8.2	387	3.7	12	6.3
Russian Federation	479	3.7	481	4.1	478	3.7	3	2.7

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/543580488454>

Performance on the science scale in PISA 2006

Mean scores

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537478811217>

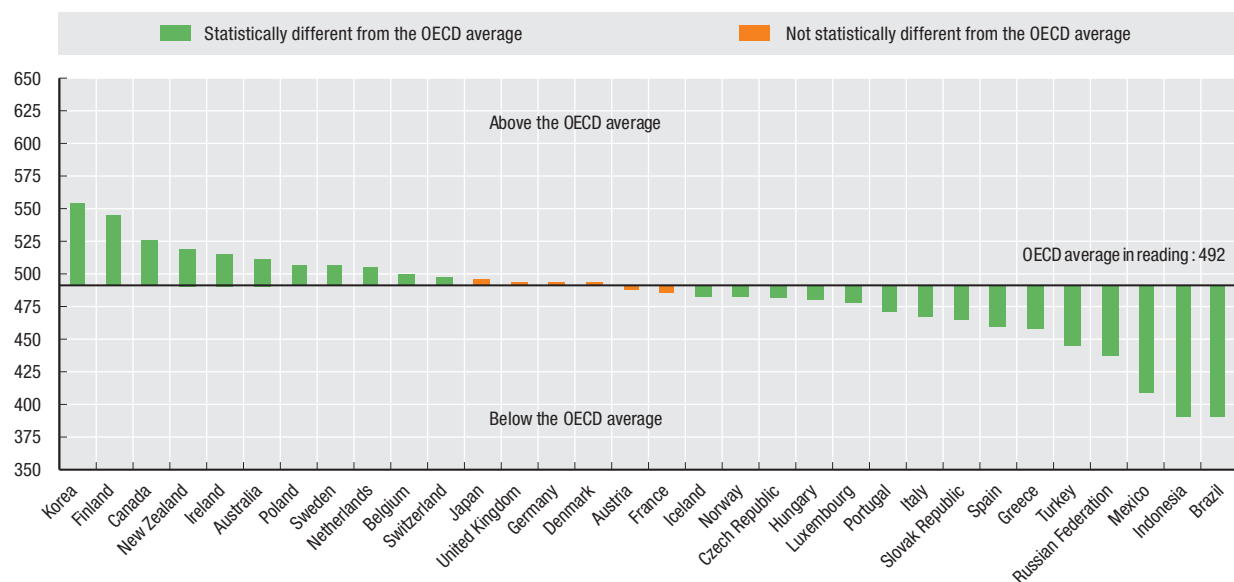
Mean scores and gender differences on the reading scale in PISA 2006

	All students		Males		Females		Difference (males – females)	
	Mean score	S.E.	Mean score	S.E.	Mean score	S.E.	Score difference	S.E.
Australia	513	2.1	495	3.0	532	2.2	–37	3.6
Austria	490	4.1	468	4.9	513	5.5	–45	6.0
Belgium	501	3.0	482	4.1	522	3.5	–40	4.8
Canada	527	2.4	511	2.8	543	2.5	–32	2.3
Czech Republic	483	4.2	463	5.0	509	5.4	–46	6.2
Denmark	494	3.2	480	3.6	509	3.5	–30	3.2
Finland	547	2.1	521	2.7	572	2.3	–51	2.8
France	488	4.1	470	5.2	505	3.9	–35	4.4
Germany	495	4.4	475	5.3	517	4.4	–42	3.9
Greece	460	4.0	432	5.7	488	3.5	–57	5.6
Hungary	482	3.3	463	3.7	503	3.9	–40	4.1
Iceland	484	1.9	460	2.8	509	2.3	–48	3.3
Ireland	517	3.5	500	4.5	534	3.8	–34	4.9
Italy	469	2.4	448	3.4	489	2.8	–41	4.0
Japan	498	3.6	483	5.4	513	5.2	–31	7.7
Korea	556	3.8	539	4.6	574	4.5	–35	5.9
Luxembourg	479	1.3	464	2.0	495	2.1	–32	3.2
Mexico	410	3.1	393	3.5	427	3.0	–34	2.5
Netherlands	507	2.9	495	3.7	519	3.0	–24	3.4
New Zealand	521	3.0	502	3.6	539	3.6	–37	4.6
Norway	484	3.2	462	3.8	508	3.3	–46	3.3
Poland	508	2.8	487	3.4	528	2.8	–40	2.9
Portugal	472	3.6	455	4.4	488	3.5	–33	3.7
Slovak Republic	466	3.1	446	4.2	488	3.8	–42	5.4
Spain	461	2.2	443	2.6	479	2.3	–35	2.1
Sweden	507	3.4	488	4.0	528	3.5	–40	3.2
Switzerland	499	3.1	484	3.2	515	3.3	–31	2.6
Turkey	447	4.2	427	5.1	471	4.3	–44	4.3
United Kingdom	495	2.3	480	3.0	510	2.6	–29	3.5
OECD average	492	0.6	473	0.7	511	0.7	–38	0.8
OECD total	484	1.0	466	1.2	502	1.3	–36	1.4
Brazil	393	3.7	376	4.3	408	3.7	–32	3.0
Indonesia	393	5.9	384	8.7	402	4.2	–18	6.3
Russian Federation	440	4.3	420	4.8	458	4.3	–38	3.2

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Performance on the reading scale in PISA 2006

Mean scores

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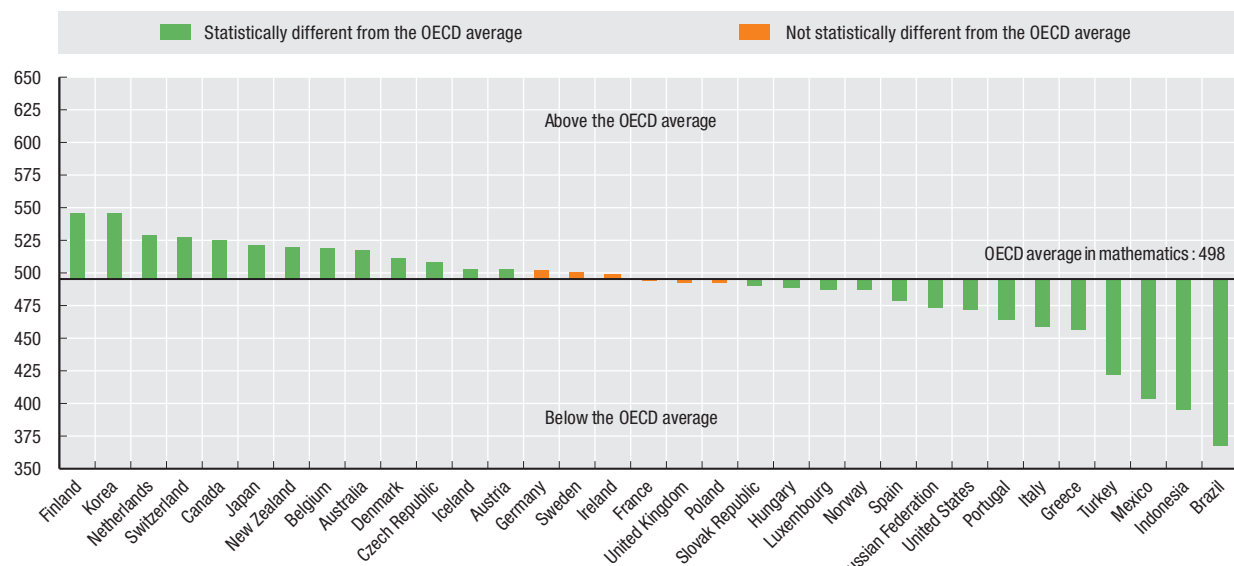
Mean scores and gender differences on the mathematics scale in PISA 2006

	All students		Males		Females		Difference (males – females)	
	Mean score	S.E.	Mean score	S.E.	Mean score	S.E.	Score difference	S.E.
Australia	520	2.2	527	3.2	513	2.4	14	3.4
Austria	505	3.7	517	4.4	494	4.1	23	4.7
Belgium	520	3.0	524	4.1	517	3.4	7	4.8
Canada	527	2.0	534	2.4	520	2.0	14	1.9
Czech Republic	510	3.6	514	4.2	504	4.8	11	5.6
Denmark	513	2.6	518	2.9	508	3.0	10	2.8
Finland	548	2.3	554	2.7	543	2.6	12	2.6
France	496	3.2	499	4.0	492	3.3	6	3.7
Germany	504	3.9	513	4.6	494	3.9	20	3.7
Greece	459	3.0	462	4.3	457	3.0	5	4.5
Hungary	491	2.9	496	3.5	486	3.7	10	4.3
Iceland	506	1.8	503	2.6	508	2.2	–4	3.2
Ireland	501	2.8	507	3.7	496	3.2	11	4.1
Italy	462	2.3	470	2.9	453	2.7	17	3.4
Japan	523	3.3	533	4.8	513	4.9	20	7.2
Korea	547	3.8	552	5.3	543	4.5	9	6.3
Luxembourg	490	1.1	498	1.7	482	1.8	17	2.8
Mexico	406	2.9	410	3.4	401	3.1	9	2.6
Netherlands	531	2.6	537	3.1	524	2.8	13	2.8
New Zealand	522	2.4	527	3.1	517	3.6	11	4.7
Norway	490	2.6	493	3.3	487	2.8	6	3.1
Poland	495	2.4	500	2.8	491	2.7	9	2.6
Portugal	466	3.1	474	3.7	459	3.2	15	3.3
Slovak Republic	492	2.8	499	3.7	485	3.5	14	4.6
Spain	480	2.3	484	2.6	476	2.6	9	2.2
Sweden	502	2.4	505	2.7	500	3.0	5	2.9
Switzerland	530	3.2	536	3.3	523	3.6	13	2.7
Turkey	424	4.9	427	5.6	421	5.1	6	4.6
United Kingdom	495	2.1	504	2.6	487	2.6	17	2.9
United States	474	4.0	479	4.6	470	3.9	9	2.9
OECD average	498	0.5	503	0.7	492	0.6	11	0.7
OECD total	484	1.2	489	1.3	478	1.3	12	1.2
Brazil	370	2.9	380	3.4	361	3.0	19	2.8
Indonesia	391	5.6	399	8.3	382	4.0	17	7.3
Russian Federation	476	3.9	479	4.6	473	3.9	6	3.3

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/543628340368>

Performance on the mathematics scale in PISA 2006

Mean scores

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537521338885>

TRENDS IN TERTIARY GRADUATION AND ENTRY RATES

Upper secondary graduation is becoming the norm in most OECD countries today. In addition, most students are graduating from upper secondary programmes designed to provide access to tertiary education, which is leading to increased enrolments in tertiary programmes. Countries with high graduation rates at the tertiary level are also the ones most likely to be developing or maintaining a highly skilled labour force.

Definition

The indicators in this chapter show:

- the current tertiary graduate output of educational systems, i.e. the percentage of the population in the typical age cohort for tertiary education that follows and successfully completes tertiary programmes (the indicator only contains the proportion of first-time graduates);
- and the percentage of a youth cohort that will enter different types of tertiary education during their lifetime.

Tertiary education covers a wide range of programmes, but overall serves as an indicator of the rate at which countries

produce advanced knowledge. A traditional university degree is associated with completion of “type A” tertiary courses; “type B” generally refers to shorter and often vocationally oriented courses and usually leads to direct labour market access. The indicator also sheds light on the internal efficiency of tertiary educational systems.

Comparability

Graduation rates for first tertiary-type A programmes are calculated as net graduation rates, as the sum of age-specific graduation rates. Gross graduation rates are presented for those countries that cannot provide such detailed data. In order to calculate gross graduation rates, countries identify the age at which first-time graduation typically occurs.

Entry rates for tertiary-type A programmes correspond to the sum of net entry rates for all ages. The net entry rate for a specific age is obtained by dividing the number of first-time entrants of that age to each type of tertiary education by the total population in the corresponding age group. The sum of net entry rates is calculated by adding the rates for each year of age.

Data on trends in graduation and entry rates at tertiary level for the years 1995, 2000-2004 are based on a special survey carried out in OECD countries and four of the six partner economies in January 2007. The data for the years 2005 and 2006 are based on the UNESCO/OECD/Eurostat data collection on education statistics.

Long-term trends

Based on current patterns of graduation, on average 37% of an age cohort are estimated to have completed tertiary-type A education in 2006 among the 25 OECD countries with comparable data. This figure ranged from 20% or less in Turkey and Greece to more than 45% in Poland, Finland, New Zealand, Australia and Iceland. These graduation rates tend to be higher in countries where the programmes provided are of shorter duration.

On average in OECD countries, tertiary-type A graduation rates increased by 15 percentage points over the last eleven years. In virtually every country for which comparable data are available, these rates increased between 1995 and 2006, often quite substantially. One of the most significant increases was reported in Italy where the rate doubled to 39% between 2000 and 2006.

It is estimated that 56% of young adults in OECD countries will enter tertiary-type A programmes during their lifetime, assuming that current patterns of entry continue. In Australia, Iceland, Poland, Finland, Sweden and New Zealand, 70% or more of young adults enter tertiary-type A programmes. The United States has an entry rate of 64%, but both type A and type B programmes are included in the figures for tertiary-type A. On average, in all OECD countries with comparable data, 8 percentage points more of today's young adults enter tertiary-type A programmes than in 2000, and 18 percentage points more than in 1995. Entry rates in tertiary-type A education increased by more than 15 percentage points between 2000 and 2006 in the Slovak Republic, the Czech Republic, Australia, Greece and Italy.

Source

- OECD (2008), *Education at a Glance*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2008), *Trends Shaping Education – 2008 Edition*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2008), *Trends Shaping Education – 2008 Edition*, OECD, Paris.

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- OECD (2004), *OECD Handbook for Internationally Comparative Education Statistics: Concepts, Standards, Definitions and Classifications*, OECD, Paris.
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Websites

- OECD Education at a Glance, www.oecd.org/edu/eag2008.

TRENDS IN TERTIARY GRADUATION AND ENTRY RATES

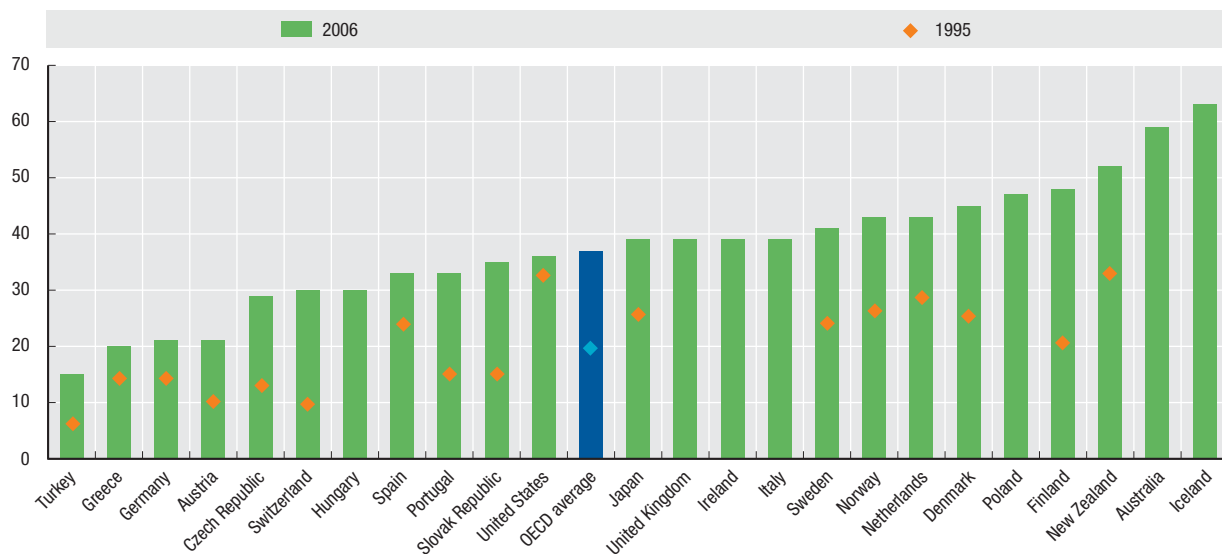
**Tertiary graduation rates
(Tertiary type-A level)**Percentage of tertiary-type A graduates to the population
at the typical age of graduation**Tertiary entry rates
(Tertiary type-A level)**

Sum of net entry rates for single years of age

	Typical age of graduation	1995	2000	2002	2004	2006	1995	2000	2002	2004	2006
Australia	20-25	..	36	46	47	59	..	59	77	70	84
Austria	22-26	10	15	18	20	21	27	34	31	37	40
Belgium	22-24	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33	34	35
Canada	22-25	..	28	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Czech Republic	23-25	13	14	15	20	29	..	25	30	38	50
Denmark	24	25	37	41	44	45	40	52	53	55	59
Finland	25-29	20	41	49	47	48	39	71	71	73	76
Germany	24-27	14	18	18	19	21	26	30	35	37	35
Greece	22-24	14	15	18	24	20	15	30	33	35	49
Hungary	23-24	..	..	..	29	30	..	64	62	68	66
Iceland	24-25	..	33	41	51	63	..	66	72	79	78
Ireland	21-25	..	30	32	39	39	..	32	39	44	40
Italy	23-25	..	19	25	36	39	..	39	50	55	55
Japan	22, 24	25	29	33	35	39	31	40	42	42	45
Korea	21	..	..	..	..	..	41	45	46	49	59
Mexico	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	27	35	30	31
Netherlands	21-23	29	35	37	40	43	44	53	54	56	58
New Zealand	21-22	33	50	46	50	52	83	95	101	86	72
Norway	22-25	26	37	38	45	43	59	67	75	72	67
Poland	23-25	..	34	43	45	47	36	65	71	71	78
Portugal	22-24	15	23	30	32	33	..	..	..	..	53
Slovak Republic	23-24	15	..	23	28	35	28	37	43	47	68
Spain	20-22	24	30	32	33	33	..	47	49	44	43
Sweden	25	24	28	32	37	41	57	67	75	79	76
Switzerland	24-26	9	12	21	26	30	17	29	35	38	38
Turkey	22-24	6	9	10	11	15	18	21	23	26	31
United Kingdom	20-25	..	37	37	39	39	..	47	48	52	57
United States	22	33	34	32	33	36	..	43	64	63	64
OECD average		20	28	31	35	37	37	47	52	53	56
Brazil	21-24	..	10	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Russian Federation	19-24	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	65

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/543647311567>**Tertiary-type A graduation rates**

Percentage of tertiary-type A graduates to the population at the typical age of graduation

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537572781005>

TERTIARY ATTAINMENT

The share of the population that has attained qualifications at the tertiary level is a key indicator of how well countries are placed to profit from technological and scientific progress. The difference between tertiary attainment of younger and older age groups is a measure of progress in the attainment of higher education.

Definition

For each age group shown, those who have completed tertiary education are shown as a percentage of all persons in that age group. Tertiary education includes both tertiary-type “A programmes”, which are largely theoretically-based and designed to provide qualifications for entry to advanced research programmes and professions with high skill requirements, as well as tertiary-type “B programmes”

which are classified at the same level of competencies as tertiary-type A programmes but are more occupationally-oriented and lead to direct labour market access. The tertiary attainment profiles are based on the percentage of the population aged 25 to 64 that has completed that level of education.

Comparability

The International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED-97) is used to define the levels of education in a comparable way across countries. See the *OECD Handbook for Internationally Comparative Education Statistics* for a description of ISCED-97 education programmes and attainment levels and their mappings for each country.

Long-term trends

OECD countries have seen significant increases in the proportion of the adult population attaining tertiary education over the last decades. In 2006 for the 25-64 year-old population, 15 countries are grouped together within a range of 10 points between 25 and 35% of the population having attained the tertiary level. Three member countries are performing remarkably high: Canada, Japan and the United States. Conversely, two member countries are significantly below this average percentage in tertiary attainment where less than 13% of the population has attained tertiary qualifications: Italy and Turkey.

In the youngest age group, 25 to 34 years old, the OECD country average for tertiary attainment increased from 25 to 33% between 1997 and 2006. In three OECD countries – Canada, Japan and Korea – 50% or more of this age group had in 2006 obtained a tertiary qualification.

An indication of longer term trends can be obtained by comparing the current attainment levels of younger and older age cohorts. For instance, comparing the tertiary attainment levels of 25-34 year olds with those of 55-64 year olds indicates that in Korea, there has been an increase in tertiary attainment over the past 30 years of more than 40 percentage points, nearly 30 percentage points higher than the OECD average increase over this period. In contrast, some OECD countries have only seen marginal increases (USA) or even decreases (Germany) of over the same period.

Source

- OECD (2008), *Education at a Glance*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- Blöndal S., S. Field and N. Girouard (2002), *Investment in Human Capital Through Post-Compulsory Education and Training: Selected Efficiency and Equity Aspects*, OECD Economics Department Working Papers, No. 333, OECD, Paris.
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- OECD Centre for Educational Research and Innovation (CERI), www.oecd.org/edu/ceri.
- OECD Education at a Glance, www.oecd.org/edu/eag2007.



Tertiary attainment for age group 25-64

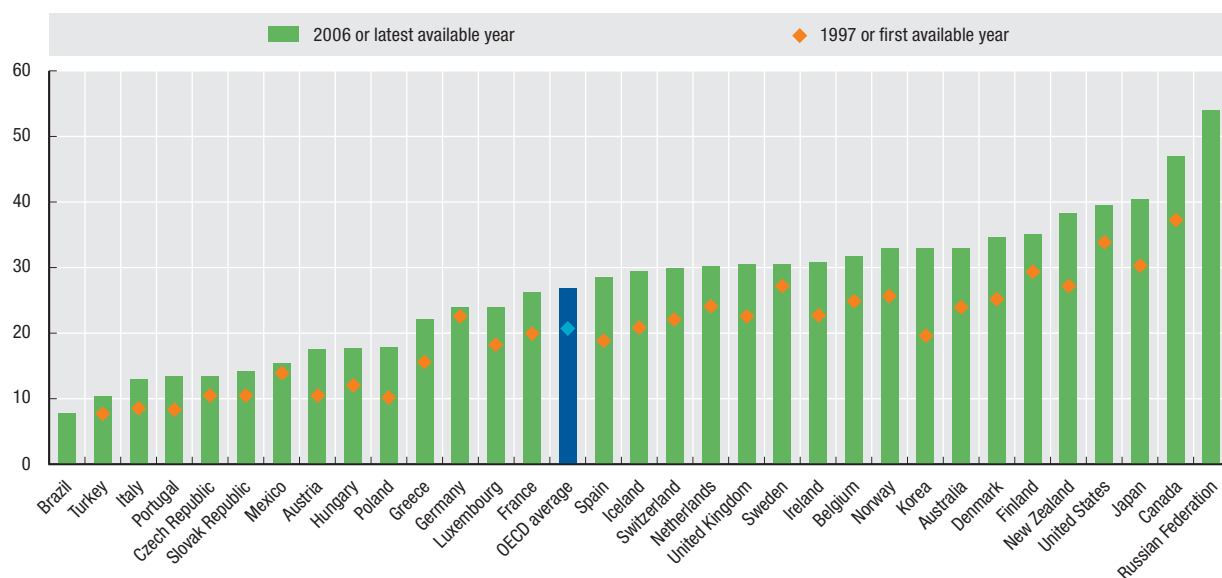
As a percentage of the population of that age group

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Australia	24.3	25.4	26.7	27.5	29.0	30.8	31.3	30.8	31.7	33.0
Austria	10.6	10.9	10.9	13.9	14.1	14.5	14.5	18.3	17.8	17.6
Belgium	25.1	25.3	26.7	27.1	27.6	28.1	29.0	30.4	31.0	31.8
Canada	37.3	38.1	39.2	40.0	41.6	42.6	44.0	44.6	46.1	47.0
Czech Republic	10.6	10.4	10.8	11.0	11.1	11.9	12.0	12.3	13.1	13.5
Denmark	..	25.4	26.5	26.2	28.4	29.6	31.9	32.9	33.5	34.7
Finland	29.4	30.2	31.3	32.0	32.3	32.6	33.3	34.2	34.6	35.1
France	20.0	20.6	21.5	22.0	23.0	24.0	23.9	24.5	25.4	26.2
Germany	22.6	23.0	22.9	23.5	23.2	23.4	24.0	24.9	24.6	23.9
Greece	15.5	16.8	17.4	17.5	17.9	18.6	19.2	21.2	21.3	22.2
Hungary	12.2	13.2	13.5	14.0	14.0	14.2	15.4	16.7	17.1	17.7
Iceland	20.9	21.0	22.4	23.2	24.6	25.6	28.9	29.1	30.5	29.5
Ireland	22.8	21.1	20.5	18.5	23.6	24.8	26.3	27.8	29.1	30.8
Italy	..	8.6	9.3	9.4	10.0	10.4	10.5	11.6	12.2	12.9
Japan	30.5	30.6	31.8	33.6	34.1	36.6	37.4	38.7	39.9	40.5
Korea	19.8	22.5	23.1	23.9	25.0	26.0	29.5	30.5	31.6	32.9
Luxembourg	..	..	18.3	18.3	18.1	18.6	14.3	23.7	26.5	24.0
Mexico	13.8	13.6	13.4	14.6	15.0	15.3	15.4	16.4	14.9	15.4
Netherlands	..	24.2	22.6	23.4	23.2	25.0	27.5	29.5	30.1	30.2
New Zealand	27.5	28.1	29.0	29.2	29.3	30.8	32.3	35.6	39.4	38.3
Norway	25.8	27.4	27.5	28.4	30.2	31.0	31.0	31.8	32.7	32.9
Poland	10.2	10.9	11.3	11.4	11.9	12.6	14.2	15.7	16.9	17.9
Portugal	..	8.3	8.7	8.9	9.1	9.3	10.8	12.5	12.8	13.5
Slovak Republic	10.5	10.3	10.1	10.4	10.9	11.0	11.8	12.4	13.7	14.2
Spain	18.6	19.7	21.0	22.6	23.6	24.4	25.2	26.4	28.2	28.5
Sweden	27.5	28.0	28.7	30.1	31.6	32.6	33.4	34.5	29.6	30.5
Switzerland	22.2	22.9	23.6	24.2	25.4	25.4	26.9	28.1	28.8	29.9
Turkey	7.6	7.5	8.1	8.3	8.4	9.1	9.7	9.1	9.7	10.4
United Kingdom	22.7	23.7	24.8	25.7	26.1	26.9	28.0	29.2	29.6	30.5
United States	34.1	34.9	35.8	36.5	37.3	38.1	38.4	39.1	39.0	39.5
OECD average	20.8	20.7	21.2	21.8	22.7	23.4	24.3	25.4	26.0	26.8
Brazil	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7.8	..	..
Russian Federation	..	..	..	..	..	54.0	..	..	..	..

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/543722580131>

Tertiary attainment for age group 25-64

As a percentage of the population of that age group



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537653060506>

TERTIARY ATTAINMENT

Tertiary attainment for age group 25-34

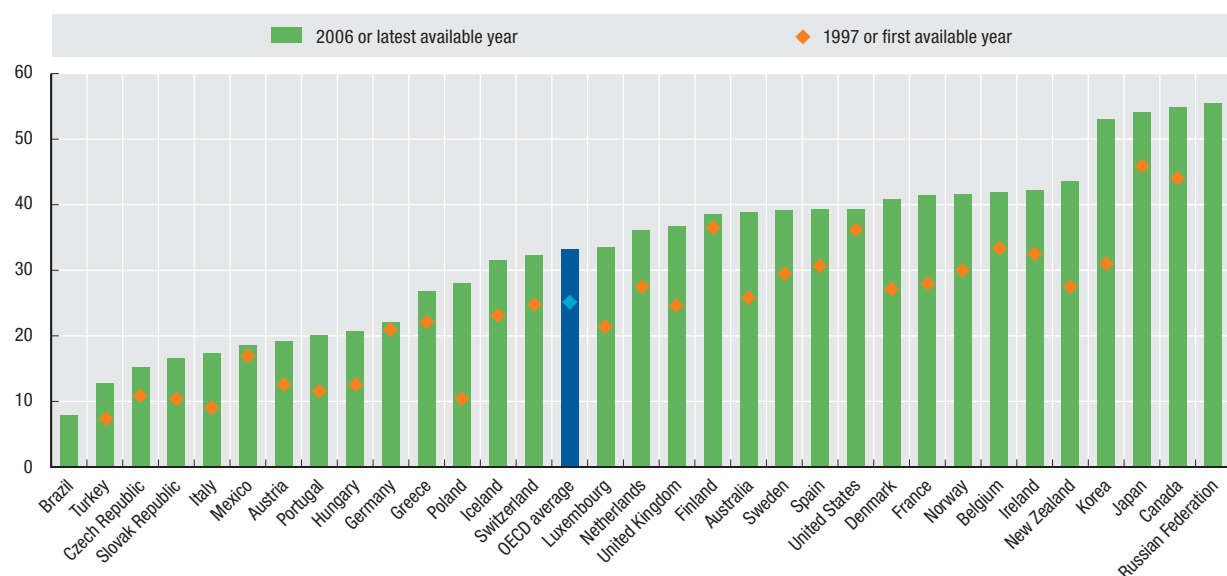
As a percentage of the population of that age group

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Australia	25.7	28.1	29.0	31.4	33.5	35.8	36.3	36.2	38.1	38.8
Austria	12.4	12.5	12.7	15.0	14.3	14.8	15.4	20.3	19.7	19.2
Belgium	33.1	33.8	34.4	36.0	37.5	37.6	38.9	40.7	40.6	41.9
Canada	44.1	45.5	46.8	48.3	50.5	51.2	52.8	53.3	53.8	54.8
Czech Republic	10.9	10.5	10.9	11.2	11.3	12.3	12.1	13.0	14.2	15.2
Denmark	..	26.8	28.6	28.9	31.1	32.3	35.1	37.6	39.8	40.8
Finland	36.4	36.0	37.4	37.6	38.2	39.2	37.9	38.2	37.5	38.5
France	27.8	29.6	30.9	32.4	34.2	36.1	37.9	38.4	39.8	41.4
Germany	21.0	21.5	21.5	22.3	21.8	21.7	21.8	22.9	22.5	22.0
Greece	22.3	23.7	23.9	23.6	23.3	23.4	23.7	25.3	25.4	26.7
Hungary	12.4	13.9	13.7	14.7	14.8	15.0	16.8	18.9	19.6	20.7
Iceland	23.0	24.2	27.6	27.8	26.5	28.1	32.8	33.3	35.8	31.5
Ireland	32.5	29.5	28.1	25.2	33.4	35.2	37.1	39.6	40.6	42.2
Italy	..	9.0	10.0	10.4	11.8	12.5	12.7	14.8	16.1	17.3
Japan	45.8	46.1	45.8	47.8	48.5	51.0	51.6	52.6	53.2	54.1
Korea	30.9	33.8	34.8	36.9	39.2	41.2	46.6	49.1	51.0	53.0
Luxembourg	..	..	21.2	22.9	23.4	22.6	18.8	32.4	37.0	33.5
Mexico	16.7	16.7	16.3	17.5	18.1	18.6	18.9	19.5	18.2	18.6
Netherlands	..	27.5	25.1	26.6	26.5	28.3	32.1	34.5	35.4	36.0
New Zealand	27.5	27.8	28.4	29.3	30.2	31.6	34.6	39.5	44.0	43.6
Norway	29.9	32.8	34.7	34.9	37.9	39.7	39.8	39.2	40.9	41.5
Poland	10.3	11.8	12.3	14.2	15.2	16.8	20.4	23.2	25.5	28.0
Portugal	..	11.5	12.2	13.0	14.0	15.0	16.3	18.6	19.1	20.0
Slovak Republic	10.4	11.3	11.1	11.2	11.9	11.9	13.2	14.3	16.3	16.6
Spain	30.3	32.0	33.5	34.1	35.5	36.7	37.5	38.1	39.7	39.2
Sweden	29.3	30.7	31.7	33.6	36.9	39.2	40.4	42.3	37.3	39.1
Switzerland	24.7	25.0	25.9	25.6	25.6	26.7	29.2	30.4	31.0	32.2
Turkey	7.3	7.8	8.7	8.9	9.1	10.5	11.4	10.8	11.8	12.8
United Kingdom	24.7	25.9	27.3	28.6	29.5	31.2	33.1	34.9	35.0	36.7
United States	35.7	36.2	37.4	38.1	39.1	39.3	38.7	39.0	39.2	39.2
OECD average	24.9	24.8	25.3	26.2	27.4	28.4	29.8	31.3	32.2	33.2
Brazil	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7.9	..	..
Russian Federation	..	..	..	..	..	55.5	..	..	..	..

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/543727046273>

Tertiary attainment for age group 25-34

As a percentage of the population of that age group


StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537653652078>



Tertiary attainment for age group 55-64

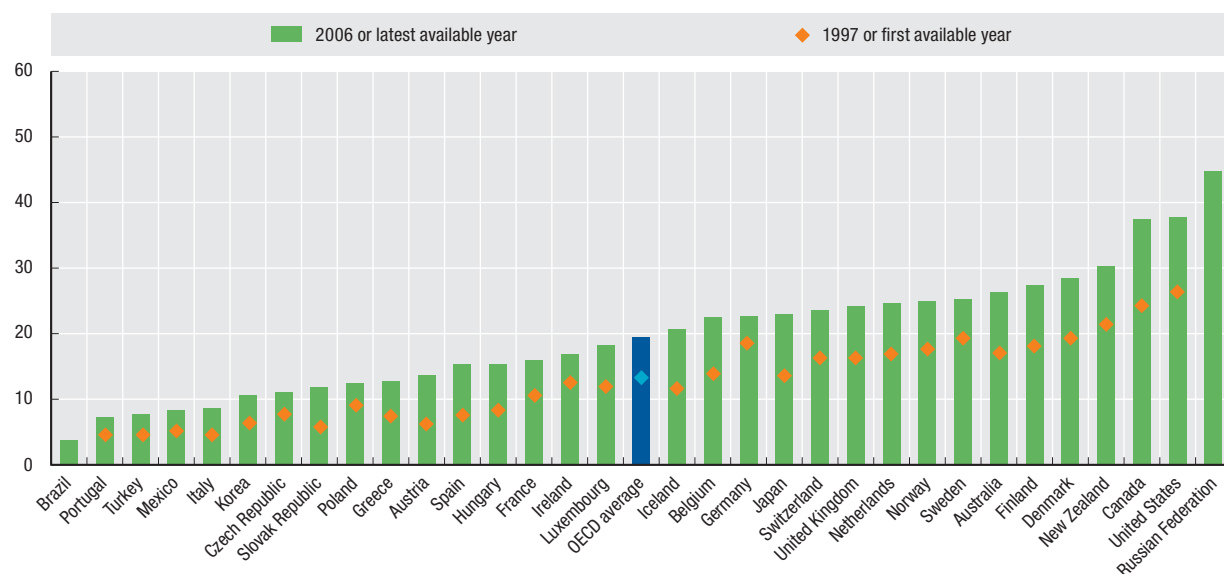
As a percentage of the population of that age group

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Australia	17.1	17.0	17.5	19.1	21.1	22.5	23.3	23.0	23.8	26.3
Austria	6.3	6.5	6.5	9.9	10.6	11.0	11.3	14.8	14.0	13.7
Belgium	13.7	13.8	15.7	16.8	17.1	18.2	18.9	20.0	21.9	22.5
Canada	24.3	25.7	27.4	28.3	30.1	32.1	33.8	34.5	36.3	37.4
Czech Republic	7.9	8.5	9.4	9.1	9.3	10.6	10.3	10.2	10.7	11.1
Denmark	..	19.3	19.0	18.9	22.2	24.2	25.9	26.8	27.3	28.5
Finland	17.9	19.3	20.7	22.7	23.4	23.4	25.0	25.7	26.5	27.3
France	10.5	11.2	12.4	13.3	14.1	15.2	14.0	14.8	16.1	16.0
Germany	18.4	19.3	19.4	20.2	20.2	20.6	21.6	22.8	22.9	22.7
Greece	7.5	7.8	8.1	8.3	8.8	10.1	11.2	12.2	11.9	12.7
Hungary	8.5	10.2	11.2	11.8	11.5	12.6	13.8	14.4	14.6	15.4
Iceland	11.6	10.8	11.3	13.5	14.8	16.9	16.5	18.4	20.5	20.7
Ireland	12.5	11.4	12.6	11.5	13.5	14.3	14.6	15.4	16.7	16.9
Italy	..	4.8	5.5	5.5	6.2	6.7	6.9	7.4	8.0	8.6
Japan	13.7	13.2	14.3	15.2	15.1	18.0	19.2	20.6	21.7	22.9
Korea	6.5	8.3	8.5	8.6	8.9	9.1	9.5	9.7	10.0	10.6
Luxembourg	..	..	12.0	13.0	13.5	14.4	10.2	15.8	18.6	18.2
Mexico	5.3	4.8	5.6	7.0	7.2	7.3	7.7	8.5	8.0	8.3
Netherlands	..	16.9	16.9	17.7	17.4	19.6	21.9	24.0	24.4	24.6
New Zealand	21.4	22.6	23.6	23.0	22.0	25.0	25.9	29.1	32.0	30.3
Norway	17.5	18.9	18.8	20.4	21.5	21.7	21.7	23.2	24.0	24.9
Poland	9.1	9.9	10.4	9.9	10.2	10.5	11.1	12.2	12.7	12.5
Portugal	..	4.7	4.5	4.7	4.9	4.6	5.6	6.7	7.4	7.3
Slovak Republic	6.1	6.7	6.9	7.8	8.6	8.6	8.9	9.3	10.5	11.8
Spain	7.6	8.1	8.7	9.7	10.3	10.5	11.0	12.4	14.5	15.3
Sweden	19.3	19.9	21.3	23.0	24.4	25.2	26.3	27.3	24.9	25.2
Switzerland	16.5	18.0	17.8	18.3	20.2	21.3	22.0	22.1	22.1	23.5
Turkey	4.6	4.5	5.3	5.9	5.9	6.3	7.3	6.6	7.2	7.7
United Kingdom	16.3	17.2	18.5	18.9	19.1	19.8	20.8	22.7	23.8	24.1
United States	26.2	27.2	28.0	29.7	30.6	33.2	34.7	36.2	36.9	37.7
OECD average	13.1	13.3	13.9	14.7	15.4	16.4	17.0	18.2	19.0	19.5
Brazil	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3.7	..	..
Russian Federation	..	..	..	..	..	44.8	..	..	..	..

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/543741054287>

Tertiary attainment for age group 55-64

As a percentage of the population of that age group



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537657633882>

CHANGE IN EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION

Policy makers must balance the importance of improving the quality of educational services with the desirability of expanding access to educational opportunities, notably at the tertiary level. The comparative review of how trends in educational expenditure per student have evolved shows that in many OECD countries the expansion of enrolments, particularly in tertiary education, has not always been paralleled by changes in educational investment.

Definition

The indicator shows direct public and private expenditure on educational institutions in relation to the number of full-time equivalent students enrolled in these institutions. Public subsidies for students' living expenses have been excluded to ensure international comparability of the data.

Expenditure on education per student is obtained by dividing the total expenditure on educational institutions by the number of full-time equivalents students. Only those educational institutions and programmes are taken into account for which both enrolment and expenditure data are available.

Long-term trends

In 2005, the level of expenditure per tertiary student on average in OECD countries was 11 512 USD converted using PPPs. This average masks a considerable variation of spending at tertiary level with two countries (Poland and the Slovak Republic) spending less than 6 000 USD per student rising up to a level of spending of more than 21 000 USD in Switzerland and the United States. OECD countries in which most R&D is performed by tertiary educational institutions tend to report higher expenditure per tertiary student than countries in which a large part of R&D is performed in other public institutions or by industry.

On average, for the countries where data are available, expenditure on tertiary education per student increased by 11% in real terms over the period 2000 to 2005. Despite this average increase however, spending per student has fallen in some cases, as expenditure failed to keep up with expanding student numbers: Belgium, Brazil, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, the Netherlands, and Sweden recorded a decrease in expenditure on tertiary education per student between 2000 and 2005. In all of these countries except Belgium and Germany, this decline was mainly the result of a rapid increase of 10% or more in the number of tertiary students. Globally, 7 out of the 10 countries in which the number of students enrolled in tertiary education increased by over 20% between 2000 and 2005 (the Czech Republic, Greece, Iceland, Mexico, Poland, the Slovak Republic and Switzerland) increased their expenditure on tertiary education over the period by at least the same proportion.

Comparability

Expenditure in national currency for 2005 is converted to US dollars by PPP exchange rates. The PPP exchange rate is used because the market exchange rate is affected by many factors (interest rates, trade policies, expectations of economic growth, etc.) that have little to do with relative purchasing power of currencies in different countries.

The changes in expenditure on educational institutions per student are based on data from 1995 and 2005. The data on expenditure for 1995 were obtained by a special survey updated in 2007. OECD countries were asked to collect the 1995 data according to the definitions and the coverage of the joint UNESCO-OECD-Eurostat data collection programme on education. All expenditure data have been adjusted to 2005 prices using the GDP price deflator.

Source

- OECD (2008), *Education at a Glance*, OECD, Paris.

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- OECD (2004), *Internationalisation and Trade in Higher Education: Opportunities and Challenges*, OECD, Paris.
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- OECD Education at a Glance, www.oecd.org/edu/eag2008.

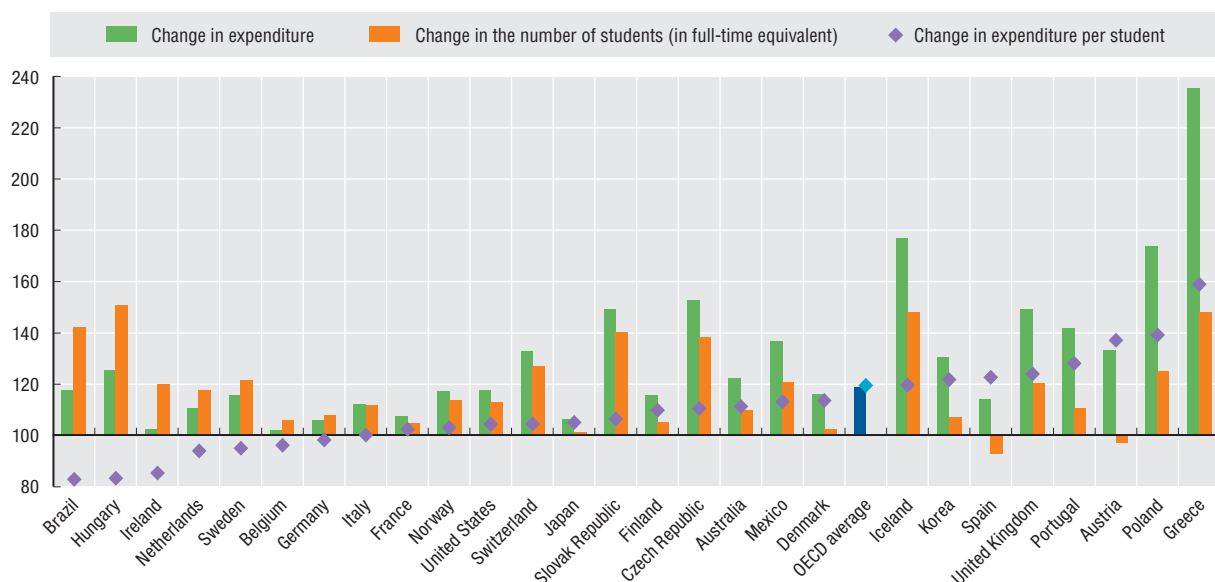
Expenditure on educational institutions for all services per student and change in expenditure relative to different factors

Primary, secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education							Tertiary education							
Expenditure per student US dollars, 2000 constant prices and PPPs	Index of real change, year 2000 = 100						Expenditure per student US dollars, 2000 constant prices and PPPs	Index of real change, year 2000 = 100						
	Expenditure		Number of students		Expenditure per student			Expenditure		Number of students		Expenditure per student		
2005	1995	2005	1995	2005	1995	2005	2005	1995	2005	1995	2005	1995	2005	
Australia	7 142	74	113	94	103	79	109	14 579	91	122	83	110	110	111
Austria	9 436	94	103	..	99	..	104	14 775	98	133	91	97	108	137
Belgium	7 306	..	107	..	112	..	96	11 960	..	102	..	106	..	96
Canada	7 837	106	116	..	101	..	115	20 156	75	117	..	..	..	..
Czech Republic	4 098	116	130	107	93	109	139	6 649	101	153	64	138	159	111
Denmark	8 997	84	116	96	105	87	110	14 959	91	116	96	102	95	114
Finland	6 610	89	123	93	105	96	117	12 285	90	116	89	105	101	110
France	7 456	90	101	..	98	..	103	10 995	91	107	..	105	..	102
Germany	7 039	94	99	97	98	97	102	12 446	95	106	104	108	91	98
Greece	5 493	64	128	107	99	60	129	6 130	66	236	68	148	97	159
Hungary	4 027	100	147	105	93	95	158	6 244	74	126	58	151	128	83
Iceland	8 815	..	140	99	106	..	133	9 474	..	177	79	148	..	120
Ireland	6 411	83	152	105	103	79	147	10 468	57	102	86	120	66	85
Italy	7 410	103	107	102	101	101	105	8 026	79	112	101	112	79	100
Japan	7 343	98	101	113	92	86	110	12 326	88	106	99	101	88	105
Korea	5 638	..	149	107	98	..	152	7 606	..	130	68	107	..	122
Luxembourg	15 930	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mexico	2 025	81	125	93	106	87	118	6 402	77	137	77	121	101	113
Netherlands	7 045	84	120	98	103	86	116	13 883	94	111	99	118	95	94
New Zealand	5 659	71	108	..	..	..	..	10 262	105	118	..	..	..	..
Norway	9 975	94	113	89	106	107	106	15 552	107	117	100	114	106	103
Poland	3 165	70	112	110	88	64	128	5 593	59	174	55	125	107	139
Portugal	5 646	76	102	105	90	72	113	8 787	73	142	77	111	96	128
Slovak Republic	2 740	96	136	105	93	91	147	5 783	81	149	72	140	112	106
Spain	6 411	99	108	119	94	84	115	10 089	72	114	100	93	72	123
Sweden	7 861	81	113	86	102	94	112	15 946	81	116	83	121	98	95
Switzerland	10 721	101	110	95	102	107	108	21 734	74	133	95	127	78	105
United Kingdom	6 888	87	140	..	..	..	..	13 506	98	149	89	118	110	126
United States	9 769	80	108	87	109	100	129	24 370	70	118	92	113	77	104
OECD average	7 065	89	119	100	100	89	119	11 512	83	130	84	118	99	111
Brazil	1 287	82	141	85	102	96	139	9 994	78	118	79	142	98	83
Russian Federation	1 754	..	154	..	..	..	..	3 421	..	228	..	..	..	..

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/543814127784>

Real changes in expenditure on educational institutions in tertiary education

Year 2000 = 100, 2005



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537663801107>

RELATIVE EARNINGS OF GRADUATES

The relative earnings of the population that has attained qualifications at the tertiary level is a key indicator of the financial return from education. How well countries' salary scales are placed to remunerate higher education investments may also reflect differences in the supply of educational programmes at different levels (or barriers to access to those programmes).

Definition

Relative earnings of those who have completed tertiary education are shown as a percentage of earnings of those who have completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education. Tertiary education includes both tertiary-type "A programmes", which are largely theoretically-based and designed to provide qualifications for entry to advanced research programmes and professions with high skill requirements, as well as tertiary-type "B programmes" which are more occupationally-oriented and lead to direct labour market access. The relative earnings profiles are based on the earnings of the population aged 25 to 64.

Long-term trends

In all countries, graduates of tertiary-level education earn substantially more than upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary graduates. For 25-to-64-year-olds, financial rewards from tertiary education are particularly high in the Czech Republic, Ireland, Hungary, Poland, Portugal, and the United States for both females and males while in Finland, Italy, and Germany males have a substantial wage premium and in Korea and the United Kingdom females with tertiary education earn substantially more than their counterparts with upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education. On average, across the countries for which data are available, the average wage premium for completing tertiary education is above 50% both for males and females relative to their counterparts with an upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education.

Trends in relative earnings provide an indication of supply and demand for higher educated individuals in different countries. Increases in earnings premium over time can be seen as an indication of a short supply of tertiary educated individuals relative to the demand from the labour market whereas a falling earnings premium could potentially indicate an excess supply of tertiary educated. A comparison over time for countries with data for 1997 or 1998 and 2005 or 2006 suggests that the demand for tertiary educated individuals still outstrips the supply in most countries. Significant increases in the wage premium have taken place in Germany, Hungary, Ireland, and Italy for both males and females.

Comparability

The International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED-97) is used to define the levels of education. See the *OECD Handbook for Internationally Comparative Education Statistics* for a description of ISCED-97 education programmes and attainment levels and their mappings for each country.

Earnings data are based on an annual reference period in Austria, Canada, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Ireland, Italy, Korea, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United States. Earnings are reported weekly in Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom, and monthly in Belgium, France, Germany, Hungary, Poland and Switzerland. Data on earnings are before income tax, while earnings for Belgium, Korea and Turkey are net of income tax. Data on earnings for individuals in part-time work are excluded for the Czech Republic, Hungary, Luxembourg and Poland, while data on part-year earnings are excluded for Hungary, Luxembourg and Poland.

Source

- OECD (2008), *Education at a Glance*, OECD, Paris.

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Trends in relative earnings for age group 25-64 with tertiary education

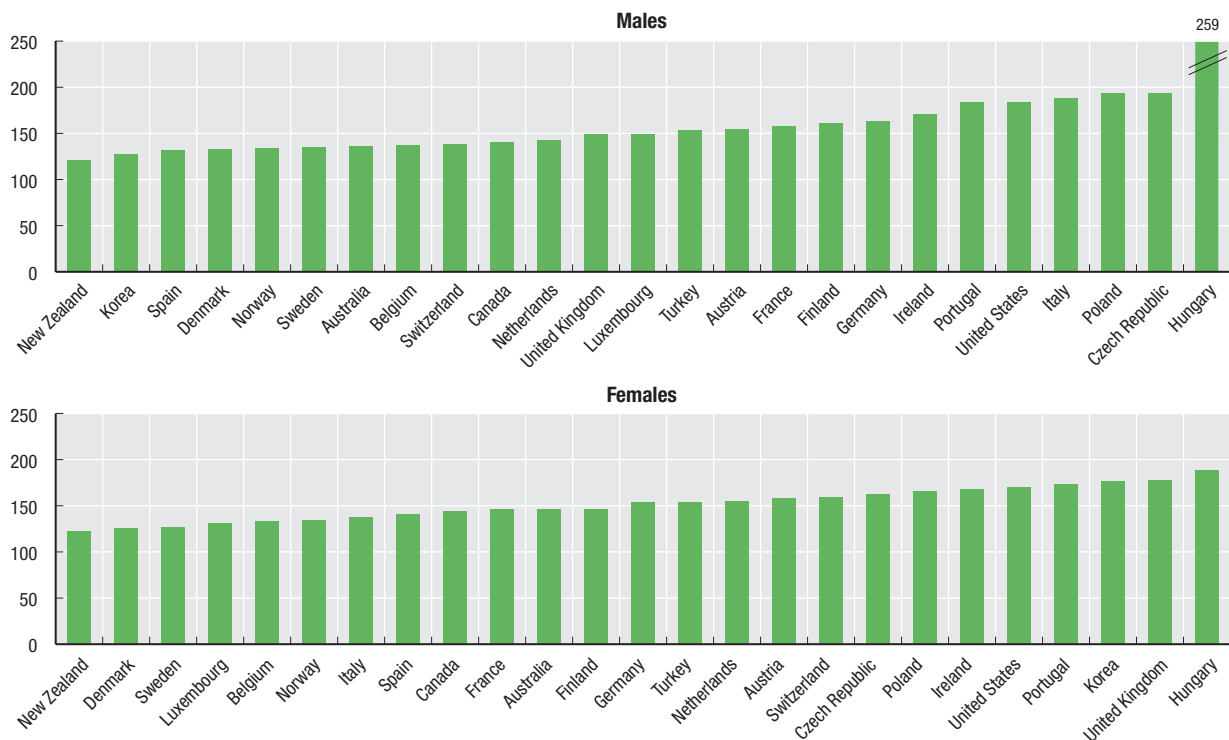
Upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education = 100

	Males							Females						
	1998	2000	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	1998	2000	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Australia	..	..	..	..	..	136	..	..	..	..	..	..	146	..
Austria	..	..	..	..	..	149	155	..	..	..	..	..	156	158
Belgium	..	128	132	132	137	137	..	..	132	139	132	134	134	..
Canada	143	151	143	143	140	140	..	147	145	141	144	144	144	..
Czech Republic	178	..	..	..	193	190	194	170	..	..	..	160	161	163
Denmark	132	..	131	134	133	133	..	124	..	123	127	126	126	..
Finland	159	..	163	160	161	..	..	143	..	146	146	146	..	..
France	159	..	160	151	154	152	157	145	..	148	146	145	142	146
Germany	126	141	140	150	149	151	163	128	137	137	145	148	151	153
Hungary	218	232	245	255	253	253	259	159	164	176	192	190	188	189
Ireland	131	138	141	..	171	..	..	145	163	153	..	168	..	..
Italy	138	143	162	..	188	..	..	115	137	147	..	138	..	..
Korea	132	..	..	127	..	..	..	141	..	..	176	..	..	..
Luxembourg	..	..	149	..	..	..	..	..	..	131	..	..	..	..
Netherlands	..	..	143	..	..	..	..	..	..	155	..	..	..	..
New Zealand	137	130	..	132	136	140	120	129	136	..	132	133	135	123
Norway	133	..	138	129	140	134	..	136	..	140	130	142	135	..
Poland	..	..	..	..	179	..	194	..	..	..	..	151	..	165
Portugal	178	..	..	..	182	183	..	171	..	..	..	177	173	..
Spain	152	..	..	..	132	..	..	137	..	..	..	141	..	..
Sweden	136	..	139	137	135	135	..	125	..	129	128	127	126	..
Switzerland	135	139	136	136	142	140	138	145	150	151	153	160	149	159
Turkey	..	..	..	..	139	153	..	..	..	..	..	164	154	..
United Kingdom	149	147	..	151	150	142	149	173	183	..	180	178	180	177
United States	176	178	178	177	179	183	183	163	164	165	167	166	167	170

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/543823314178>

Relative earnings for age group 25-64 with tertiary education

Upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education = 100, 2006 or latest available year



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537688810877>

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EXPENDITURE IN TERTIARY EDUCATION

Cost-sharing between participants in the education system and society as a whole is an issue under discussion in many countries. It is especially relevant for pre-primary and tertiary education, for which full or nearly full public funding is less common. As new client groups participate in a wider range of educational programmes from increasing numbers of providers, governments are forging new partnerships to mobilise the necessary resources and to share costs and benefits more equitably.

Definition

Governments can spend public funds directly on educational institutions or use them to provide subsidies to private entities for the purpose of education.

Not all spending on instructional goods and services occurs within educational institutions. For example, families may

purchase textbooks and materials commercially or seek private tutoring for their children outside educational institutions. At the tertiary level, students' living costs and foregone earnings can also account for a significant proportion of the costs of education. All such expenditure outside educational institutions, even if publicly subsidised, is excluded from this indicator.

Comparability

The broad definition of institutions outlined above ensures that expenditure on services, which are provided in some OECD countries by schools and universities and in others by agencies other than schools, are covered on a comparable basis. Additionally, to ensure comparability over time the data on expenditure for 1995 and 2000 were obtained by a special survey updated in 2007 in which expenditure for 1995 and 2000 were adjusted to the methods and definitions used in the current data collection.

Long-term trends

Educational institutions are still mainly publicly funded as 86% of all funds for educational institutions in OECD countries come directly from public sources. At tertiary level of education, the share of public funding represented 73% on average in OECD countries in 2005. The proportion of expenditure on tertiary institutions covered by individuals, businesses and other private sources, including subsidised private payments, ranges from less than 5% in Denmark, Finland and Greece, to more than 40% in Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand and the United States and to over 75% in Korea.

However, there is a substantial and growing degree of private funding at the tertiary level. On average among the 18 OECD countries for which trend data are available, the share of public funding in tertiary institutions decreased from 79% in 1995 to 73% in 2005. In more than one-half of the countries with comparable data for 1995 and 2005, the private share increased by 3 percentage points or more. This increase exceeds 9 percentage points in Australia, Italy, Portugal, the Slovak Republic and the United Kingdom. Only the Czech Republic and Ireland – and to a lesser extent Spain – show a significant decrease in the private share allocated to tertiary educational institutions.

At the tertiary level, rises in private expenditure on educational institutions have generally gone hand in hand with rises (in real terms) in public expenditure on educational institutions, as they have for all levels of education combined. Public investment in tertiary education has increased in all OECD countries for which 2000 to 2005 data are available. Notably, in eight out of the 11 OECD countries with the highest increases in public expenditure on tertiary education, tertiary institutions charge low or no tuition fees and tertiary attainment is relatively low. By contrast, in Korea, the United Kingdom and in the United States where public spending has also increased significantly, there is a high reliance on private funding of tertiary education.

Source

- OECD (2008), *Education at a Glance*, OECD, Paris.

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Websites

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Trends in relative proportions of public expenditure on educational institutions for tertiary education

Percentage

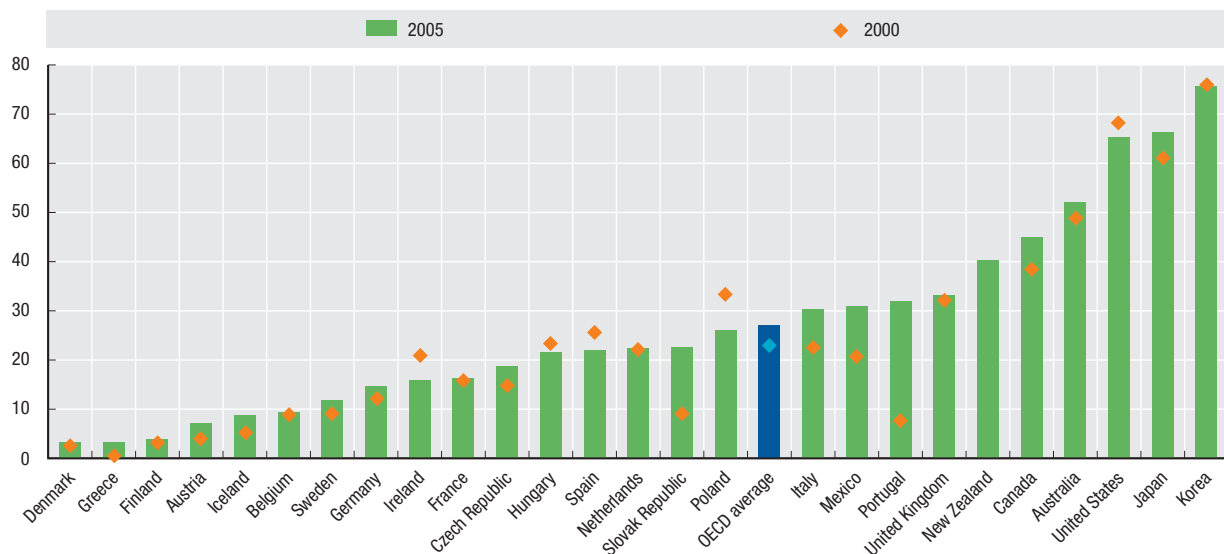
Year 2000 = 100

	Share of public expenditure on educational institutions							Index of change in public expenditure on educational institutions						
	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Australia	64.8	51.0	51.3	48.7	48.0	47.2	47.8	115	100	103	105	107	111	115
Austria	96.1	96.3	94.6	91.6	92.7	93.7	92.9	97	100	112	103	109	119	129
Belgium	..	91.5	89.5	86.1	86.7	90.4	90.6	..	100	99	98	97	99	101
Canada	56.6	61.0	58.6	56.4	..	55.1	..	69	100	102	98	..	105	..
Czech Republic	71.5	85.4	85.3	87.5	83.3	84.7	81.2	86	100	108	122	138	145	147
Denmark	99.4	97.6	97.8	97.9	96.7	96.7	96.7	93	100	117	123	113	120	115
Finland	97.8	97.2	96.5	96.3	96.4	96.3	96.1	91	100	100	104	108	114	114
France	85.3	84.4	83.8	83.8	83.8	83.8	83.6	93	100	101	103	104	105	106
Germany	89.2	88.2	..	..	..	..	85.3	96	100	..	..	..	..	102
Greece	..	99.7	99.6	99.6	97.9	97.9	96.7	63	100	136	154	194	196	228
Hungary	80.3	76.7	77.6	78.7	78.5	79.0	78.5	78	100	109	124	140	122	129
Iceland	..	94.9	95.0	95.6	88.7	90.9	91.2	..	100	105	127	133	153	170
Ireland	69.7	79.2	84.7	85.8	83.8	82.6	84.0	50	100	100	103	98	102	109
Italy	82.9	77.5	77.8	78.6	72.1	69.4	69.6	85	100	107	111	100	101	100
Japan	35.1	38.5	36.3	35.3	36.6	36.6	33.7	80	100	94	94	101	102	93
Korea	..	23.3	15.9	14.9	23.2	21.0	24.3	..	100	74	68	127	109	136
Mexico	77.4	79.4	70.4	71.0	69.1	68.9	69.0	75	100	84	119	113	113	119
Netherlands	80.6	78.2	78.2	78.8	78.6	77.6	77.6	97	100	103	105	105	107	110
New Zealand	..	..	..	62.5	61.5	60.8	59.7	105	100	105	111	116	112	118
Norway	93.7	96.3	..	96.3	96.7	..	..	107	100	105	117	122	124	117
Poland	..	66.6	66.9	69.7	69.0	72.9	74.0	89	100	117	148	151	180	193
Portugal	96.5	92.5	92.3	91.3	91.5	86.0	68.1	76	100	107	99	109	89	101
Slovak Republic	95.4	91.2	93.3	85.2	86.2	81.3	77.3	85	100	109	111	126	150	127
Spain	74.4	74.4	75.5	76.3	76.9	75.9	77.9	72	100	107	111	117	119	119
Sweden	93.6	91.3	91.0	90.0	89.0	88.4	88.2	84	100	102	107	111	113	111
Switzerland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	74	100	112	124	131	131	133
Turkey	96.3	95.4	94.6	90.1	95.2	90.0	..	56	100	95	106	113	106	..
United Kingdom	80.0	67.7	71.0	72.0	70.2	69.6	66.9	116	100	113	123	122	123	148
United States	37.4	31.1	38.1	39.5	38.3	35.4	34.7	85	100	110	119	130	131	132
OECD average	78.7	77.1	77.5	77.0	76.0	74.9	73.0	86	100	107	115	121	124	128
Brazil	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	78.1	100	100	102	109	101	118
Russian Federation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	120	143	171	175	228

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/543832584383>

Share of private expenditure on educational institutions in tertiary education

Percentage



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537714563870>

EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Expenditure on education is an investment that can help to foster economic growth, enhance productivity, contribute to personal and social development, and reduce social inequality. The proportion of total financial resources devoted to education is one of the key choices made in each country by governments, enterprises and individual students and their families.

Definition

This indicator covers expenditure on schools, universities and other public and private institutions involved in delivering or supporting educational services. Expenditure on institutions is not limited to expenditure on instructional services but also includes public and private expenditure on ancillary services for students and families, where these services are provided through educational institutions. At the tertiary level, spending on research and development can also be significant and is included in this indicator, to the extent that the research is performed by educational institutions.

In principle, public expenditure includes public subsidies to households attributable for educational institutions and direct expenditure on educational institutions from international sources, and consequently private expenditure is net of public subsidies attributable for educational institutions. However, public subsidies for educational expenditure outside educational institutions (e.g. textbooks purchased by families, private tutoring sought for students, student living costs) are excluded. At the tertiary level, student living costs and forgone earnings can also account for a significant proportion of the costs of education.

Comparability

The broad definition of institutions outlined above ensures that expenditure on services, which are provided in some OECD countries by schools and universities and in others by agencies other than schools, are covered on a comparable basis.

Overview

In 2005, taking into account both public and private sources of funds, OECD countries as a whole spend 6.1% of their collective GDP on educational institutions at the pre-primary, primary, secondary and tertiary levels. The highest spending on educational institutions is in Denmark, Iceland, Korea and the United States, with at least 7% of GDP accounted for by public and private spending on educational institutions, followed by Mexico and New Zealand with more than 6.5%. Nine out of 30 countries for which data are available spend less than 5% of GDP on educational institutions; in Greece and in the Russian Federation, the figure is 4.2 and 3.8%, respectively.

Nearly one-third of combined OECD expenditure on educational institutions is accounted for by tertiary education. At this level, the pathways available to students, the duration of programmes and the organisation of teaching vary greatly among OECD countries, resulting in significant differences in the expenditure allocated to tertiary education. On the one hand, Canada, Korea and the United States spend between 2.4 and 2.9% of their GDP on tertiary institutions. Except for Canada, these countries are also those with the highest proportion of private expenditure on tertiary education. On the other hand, the proportion of GDP spent on tertiary institutions in Belgium, France, Iceland, Mexico, Portugal, Switzerland and the United Kingdom is below the OECD average; these countries are among the OECD countries in which the proportion of GDP spent on primary, secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education is above the OECD average.

Source

- OECD (2008), *Education at a Glance*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

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- OECD (2006), *Schooling for Tomorrow – Think Scenarios*, Rethink Education, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2006), *Starting Strong II: Early Childhood Education and Care*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2008), *Students with Disabilities, Learning Difficulties and Disadvantages: Policies, Statistics and Indicators – 2007 Edition*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2008), *Trends Shaping Education – 2008 Edition*, OECD, Paris.

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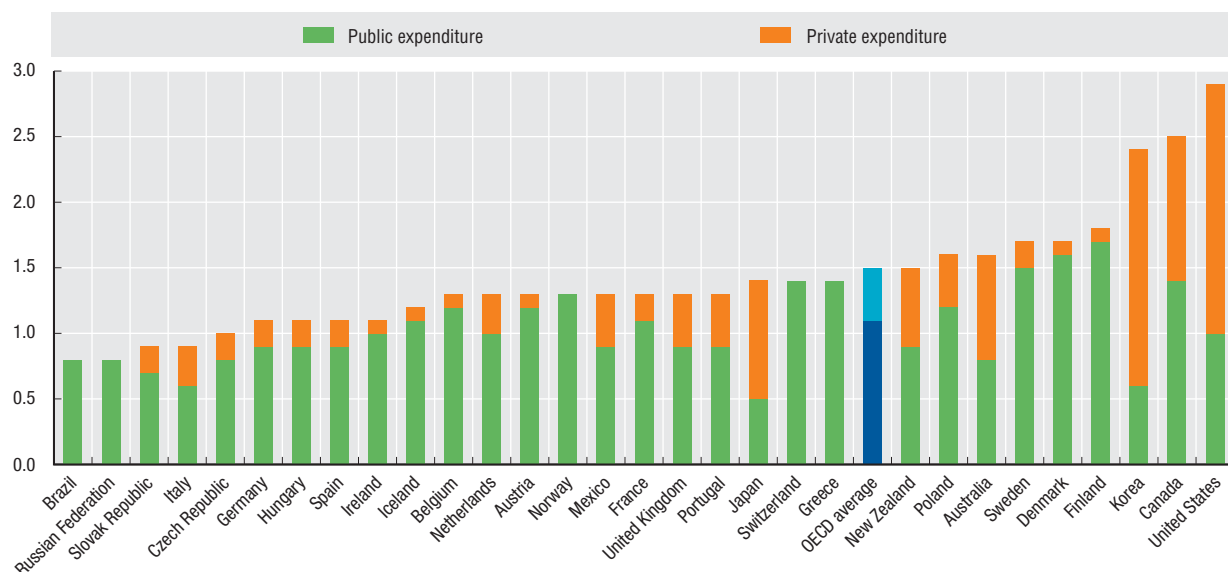
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- OECD Education at a Glance, www.oecd.org/edu/eag2008.

Expenditure on educational institutions*As a percentage of GDP, 2005*

	Primary, secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education			Tertiary education			Total all levels of education		
	Public	Private	Total	Public	Private	Total	Public	Private	Total
Australia	3.4	0.7	4.1	0.8	0.8	1.6	4.3	1.5	5.8
Austria	3.5	0.2	3.7	1.2	0.1	1.3	5.2	0.4	5.5
Belgium	3.9	0.2	4.1	1.2	0.1	1.2	5.8	0.2	6.0
Canada	3.2	0.4	3.6	1.4	1.1	2.6	4.7	1.5	6.2
Czech Republic	2.7	0.3	3.0	0.8	0.2	1.0	4.1	0.6	4.6
Denmark	4.4	0.1	4.5	1.6	0.1	1.7	6.8	0.6	7.4
Finland	3.8	..	3.9	1.7	0.1	1.7	5.9	0.1	6.0
France	3.8	0.2	4.0	1.1	0.2	1.3	5.6	0.5	6.0
Germany	2.8	0.6	3.4	0.9	0.2	1.1	4.2	0.9	5.1
Greece	2.5	0.2	2.7	1.4	..	1.5	4.0	0.3	4.2
Hungary	3.3	0.2	3.4	0.9	0.2	1.1	5.1	0.5	5.6
Iceland	5.2	0.2	5.4	1.1	0.1	1.2	7.2	0.7	8.0
Ireland	3.3	0.1	3.4	1.0	0.1	1.2	4.3	0.3	4.6
Italy	3.2	0.1	3.3	0.6	0.3	0.9	4.3	0.4	4.7
Japan	2.6	0.3	2.9	0.5	0.9	1.4	3.4	1.5	4.9
Korea	3.4	0.9	4.3	0.6	1.8	2.4	4.3	2.9	7.2
Luxembourg	3.7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mexico	3.7	0.7	4.4	0.9	0.4	1.3	5.3	1.2	6.5
Netherlands	3.3	0.1	3.4	1.0	0.3	1.3	4.6	0.4	5.0
New Zealand	4.0	0.7	4.7	0.9	0.6	1.5	5.2	1.4	6.7
Norway	3.8	..	..	1.3	..	..	5.7	..	..
Poland	3.7	0.1	3.7	1.2	0.4	1.6	5.4	0.6	5.9
Portugal	3.8	..	3.8	0.9	0.4	1.4	5.3	0.4	5.7
Slovak Republic	2.5	0.4	2.9	0.7	0.2	0.9	3.7	0.7	4.4
Spain	2.7	0.2	2.9	0.9	0.2	1.1	4.1	0.5	4.6
Sweden	4.2	..	4.2	1.5	0.2	1.6	6.2	0.2	6.4
Switzerland	3.9	0.5	4.4	1.4	..	..	5.6	..	..
United Kingdom	3.8	0.8	4.6	0.9	0.4	1.3	5.0	1.2	6.2
United States	3.5	0.3	3.8	1.0	1.9	2.9	4.8	2.3	7.1
OECD average	3.5	0.3	3.8	1.1	0.4	1.5	5.0	0.8	5.8
OECD total	3.3	0.4	3.7	0.9	1.0	2.0	4.6	1.5	6.1
Brazil	3.3	..	..	0.8	..	..	4.4	..	..
Russian Federation	1.9	..	..	0.8	..	..	3.8	..	..

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544004708745>**Expenditure on educational institutions in tertiary education***As a percentage of GDP, 2005*StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537761757078>





PUBLIC FINANCE

GOVERNMENT DEFICITS AND DEBT

GOVERNMENT DEFICITS

GOVERNMENT DEBT

PUBLIC EXPENDITURE

HEALTH EXPENDITURE

SOCIAL EXPENDITURE

LAW, ORDER AND DEFENCE EXPENDITURE

SUPPORT AND AID

AGRICULTURAL SUPPORT ESTIMATES

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR FISHING

OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

TAXES

TOTAL TAX REVENUE

TAXES ON THE AVERAGE WORKER

GOVERNMENT DEFICITS

Government deficits or surpluses are commonly assessed using the net borrowing (or net lending) figures of the general government sector in the national accounts. During the period between 1991 and 2005, governments in most OECD countries have recorded deficits but in 2007 half of the OECD countries recorded general government surpluses. Government deficits have to be met by borrowing from residents or foreigners.

Definition

The net borrowing/net lending of the general government is the balancing item of the non-financial accounts (according to the 1993 *System of National Accounts*). It is also equal to the difference between total revenue and total expenditure, including capital expenditure (in particular, gross fixed capital formation). The main revenue of general government consists of tax, social contributions, dividends and other property income. The main expenditure items consist of the compensation of civil servants, social benefits, interest on the public debt, subsidies and gross fixed capital formation. A negative figure indicates a deficit.

The data in the table are on a national accounts basis and may differ from the numbers reported to the European Commission under the excessive deficit procedure (EDP) for some EU countries and for some years.

Long-term trends

Government deficits are sensitive to the economic cycle as well as to government taxation and spending policies. For the OECD as a whole, deficits as a percentage of GDP reached a peak in 1993 but then fell steadily over the next six years (if one excludes the large one-off which occurred in Japan in 1998) and had turned into surpluses (net lending) at the peak of the economic cycle in 2000. Since then, deficits have been growing and the deficit to GDP ratio had become high in 2003 for most of the larger member countries including France, Germany, the United Kingdom, the United States and, especially, Japan. In 2004-2006 the deficit to GDP ratios were reduced in most countries with the exception of Hungary, Italy, Portugal and the Slovak Republic. In 2007 most countries improved further their fiscal position. However in Belgium, France, Greece, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States deficits have been increasing.

In the run-up to monetary union, EU countries that expected to adopt the Euro followed fiscal policies aimed at reducing government deficits. Deficit reduction policies were successfully implemented in several other countries, including New Zealand since 1994 and Australia, Denmark, Finland and Sweden since 1998. Korea is the only country which has recorded surpluses throughout the period, although Norway has had surpluses in most years since 1990.

Comparability

Data in this table are based on the 1993 *System of National Accounts* or on the 1995 *European System of Accounts* so that all countries are using a common set of definitions. In several OECD countries the accounts for 2000, 2001 or 2002 were affected by the sale of mobile telephone licenses, recorded in national accounts as a negative expenditure (the sale of an asset) thereby reducing the deficit. To ensure consistency with official National Accounts data some very large one-offs which had been excluded in the past have been reintegrated in the data (Germany and Netherlands in 1995, Japan in 1998).

Brazil data are calculated as total claims on the general government on the basis of the monetary survey.

Source

- OECD (2008), *OECD Economic Outlook*, Nov. No. 84 – Vol. 2008/2, OECD, Paris.

Further information

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Government net borrowing/net lending

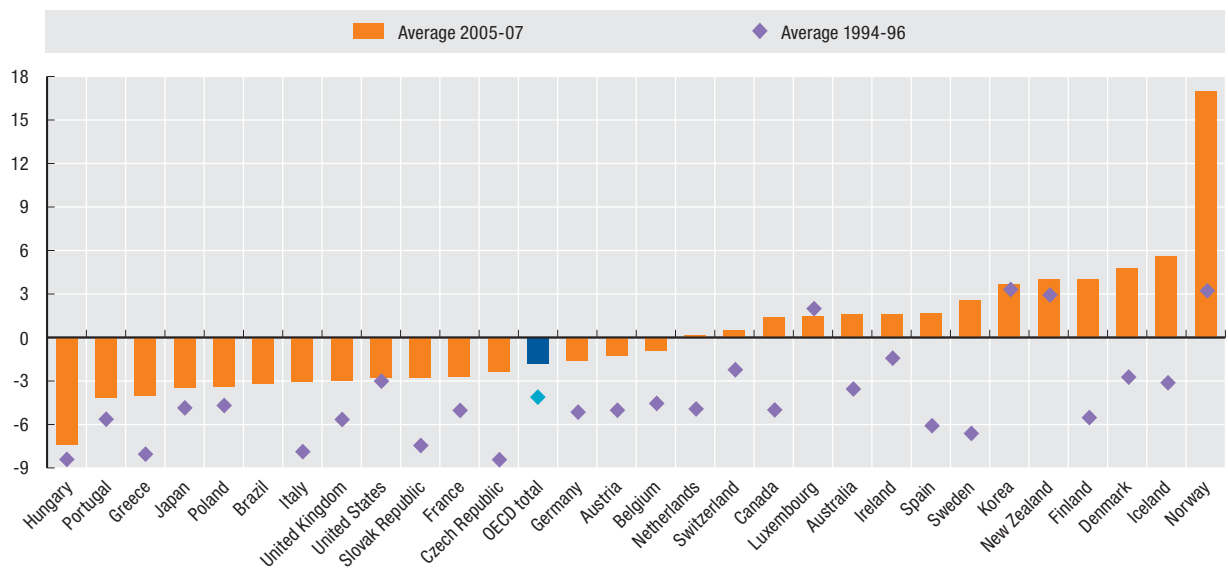
As a percentage of GDP

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	-4.5	-3.7	-2.4	-0.7	1.6	2.0	0.9	-0.1	1.3	1.8	1.1	1.5	1.5	1.6
Austria	-4.9	-5.9	-4.1	-1.9	-2.5	-2.4	-1.9	-0.2	-0.9	-1.6	-4.5	-1.6	-1.7	-0.5
Belgium	-5.1	-4.5	-4.0	-2.2	-0.9	-0.6	0.0	0.4	-0.1	-0.1	-0.3	-2.7	0.3	-0.3
Canada	-6.7	-5.3	-2.8	0.2	0.1	1.6	2.9	0.7	-0.1	-0.1	0.9	1.5	1.3	1.4
Czech Republic	..	-13.4	-3.3	-3.8	-5.0	-3.7	-3.7	-5.7	-6.8	-6.6	-2.9	-3.6	-2.7	-1.0
Denmark	-3.3	-2.9	-1.9	-0.5	0.0	1.4	2.3	1.2	0.2	-0.1	1.9	5.1	5.0	4.4
Finland	-6.7	-6.2	-3.5	-1.2	1.7	1.6	6.9	5.0	4.2	2.4	2.2	2.7	4.0	5.3
France	-5.5	-5.5	-4.0	-3.3	-2.6	-1.8	-1.5	-1.6	-3.2	-4.1	-3.6	-3.0	-2.4	-2.7
Germany	-2.3	-9.7	-3.3	-2.6	-2.2	-1.5	1.3	-2.8	-3.6	-4.0	-3.8	-3.3	-1.5	0.1
Greece	-8.3	-9.1	-6.6	-5.9	-3.8	-3.1	-3.7	-4.4	-4.8	-5.8	-7.4	-5.2	-3.1	-3.7
Hungary	-11.4	-7.7	-6.0	-7.4	-8.4	-5.3	-2.9	-4.1	-9.0	-7.2	-6.4	-7.8	-9.3	-5.0
Iceland	-4.7	-3.0	-1.6	0.0	-0.4	1.1	1.7	-0.7	-2.6	-2.8	0.0	4.9	6.3	5.5
Ireland	-2.0	-2.1	-0.1	1.4	2.3	2.6	4.7	1.0	-0.3	0.5	1.4	1.7	3.0	0.2
Italy	-9.1	-7.4	-7.0	-2.7	-3.1	-1.8	-0.9	-3.1	-3.0	-3.5	-3.6	-4.4	-3.4	-1.5
Japan	-4.2	-5.1	-5.1	-4.0	-11.2	-7.4	-7.6	-6.3	-8.0	-7.9	-6.2	-6.7	-1.4	-2.4
Korea	2.9	3.8	3.4	3.3	1.6	2.7	5.4	4.6	5.4	0.4	2.5	3.0	3.6	4.5
Luxembourg	2.5	2.4	1.2	3.7	3.3	3.4	6.0	6.1	2.1	0.5	-1.2	-0.1	1.3	3.2
Netherlands	-3.5	-9.2	-1.9	-1.2	-0.9	0.4	2.0	-0.3	-2.1	-3.2	-1.8	-0.3	0.6	0.3
New Zealand	3.1	2.9	2.9	1.7	0.1	-0.2	1.6	2.1	3.2	3.8	4.3	4.5	3.7	3.7
Norway	0.3	3.2	6.3	7.6	3.3	6.0	15.4	13.3	9.2	7.3	11.1	15.1	18.5	17.4
Poland	..	-4.4	-4.9	-4.6	-4.3	-2.3	-3.0	-5.1	-5.0	-6.3	-5.7	-4.3	-3.8	-2.0
Portugal	-7.2	-5.0	-4.5	-3.5	-3.4	-2.8	-3.0	-4.3	-2.9	-3.0	-3.4	-6.1	-3.9	-2.7
Slovak Republic	-8.8	-3.4	-9.9	-6.3	-5.3	-7.4	-12.3	-6.5	-8.2	-2.7	-2.3	-2.8	-3.5	-2.0
Spain	-6.8	-6.5	-4.9	-3.4	-3.2	-1.4	-1.0	-0.7	-0.5	-0.2	-0.4	1.0	2.0	2.2
Sweden	-9.1	-7.3	-3.3	-1.6	1.2	1.2	3.7	1.7	-1.4	-1.2	0.6	2.1	2.2	3.5
Switzerland	-2.8	-2.0	-1.8	-2.8	-1.9	-0.5	0.1	-0.1	-1.2	-1.7	-1.8	-0.7	1.0	1.3
United Kingdom	-6.8	-5.8	-4.2	-2.2	-0.1	0.9	3.7	0.6	-2.0	-3.7	-3.7	-3.3	-2.7	-2.8
United States	-3.6	-3.1	-2.2	-0.8	0.4	0.9	1.6	-0.4	-3.8	-4.8	-4.4	-3.3	-2.2	-2.9
Euro area	-4.9	-7.6	-4.3	-2.7	-2.3	-1.4	0.0	-1.8	-2.6	-3.1	-3.0	-2.5	-1.3	-0.6
OECD total	-4.2	-4.8	-3.2	-1.8	-2.0	-0.8	0.2	-1.3	-3.3	-4.0	-3.4	-2.8	-1.3	-1.4
Brazil	..	..	..	..	-6.5	-5.2	-3.8	-3.9	-4.6	-5.9	-3.4	-3.7	-3.5	-2.4

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544013122721>

Government net borrowing/net lending

As a percentage of GDP



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537775822542>

GOVERNMENT DEBT

There are two standard ways to measure the extent of government debt – by reference to gross financial liabilities or by reference to net financial liabilities – the latter being measured as gross financial liabilities minus financial assets. Gross financial liabilities as a percentage of GDP is the most commonly used government debt ratio and is shown here.

Definition

For most countries, gross financial liabilities refer to the liabilities (short and long-term) of all the institutions in the general government sector, as defined in the 1993 *System of National Accounts* (SNA) or in the 1995 *European System of Accounts* (ESA). This definition differs from the definition of debt applied under the Maastricht Treaty essentially in two respects. First, gross debt according to the Maastricht definition excludes trade credits and advances, as well as shares and insurance technical reserves. Second, government bonds are valued at nominal values instead of at market value or issue price plus accrued interest as required by the SNA rules. The United States and Canada also value government bonds at nominal value.

Long-term trends

From 1990 to 1996, government gross financial liabilities were rising in most countries. Since then, government debt has been decreasing as a percentage of GDP in many of the 28 countries in the table. There are, however, exceptions: government debt ratios continued to increase particularly fast in Japan and Korea and significantly in France, Germany, Greece and Portugal. Korea's government debt ratio rose by over 8% per year from 1990 to 2007 but this is measured from a very low initial rate and by 2007, Korea's government debt ratio was still among the lowest in the OECD.

In 2007, government debt ratios decreased in all OECD countries with the exception of the Czech Republic, Korea, the United Kingdom and the United States. Still government debt ratios exceeded 100% in Greece, Italy and Japan and was close to 90% in Belgium. Most countries were in a band between 40% and 70%, with two countries reporting debt ratios of under 20% Australia and Luxembourg.

In principle, debts within and between different levels of government are consolidated; a loan from one level of government to another represents both an asset and an equal liability for the government as a whole and so it cancels out (is “consolidated”) for the general government sector.

Comparability

The comparability of data can be affected in two ways. First, national differences in implementing SNA/ESA definitions can affect the comparability of government debt across countries. Second, changes in implementing SNA/ESA definitions can affect the comparability of data within a country over time.

For Brazil, the debt statistics exclude government securities held by the central bank and include repurchase agreements issued by the Central Bank.

Source

- OECD (2008), *OECD Economic Outlook*, Nov. No. 84 – Vol. 2008/2, OECD, Paris.

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- OECD Economic Outlook – Sources and Methods, www.oecd.org/eco/sources-and-methods.

General government gross financial liabilities

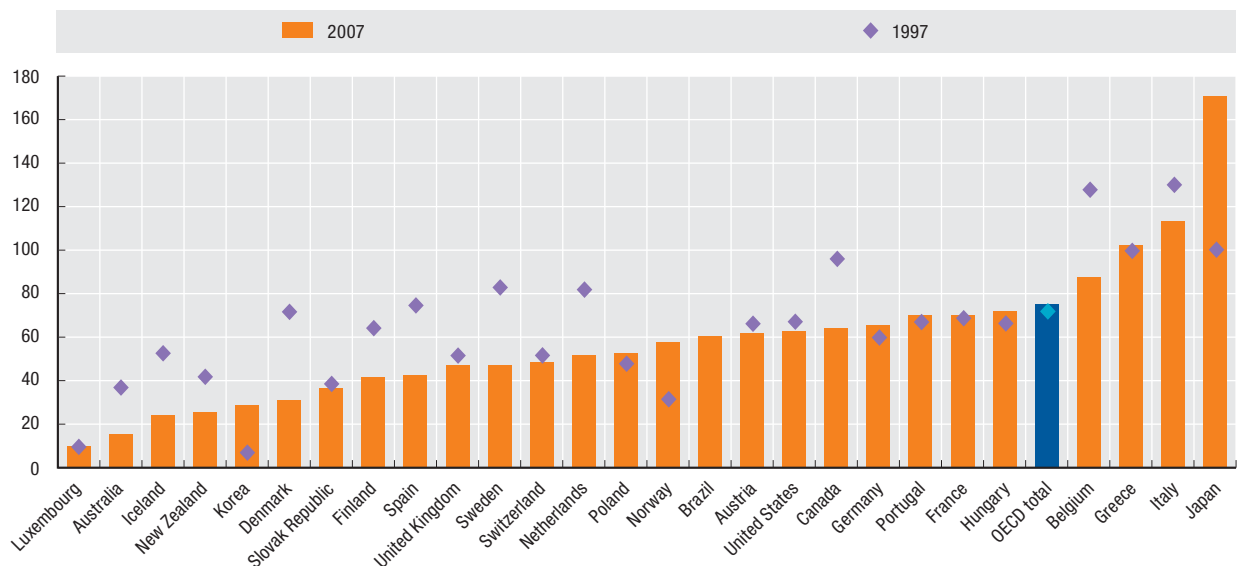
As a percentage of GDP

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	40.1	41.9	39.1	37.4	32.3	28.0	25.0	22.2	20.1	18.8	17.0	16.7	16.1	15.4
Austria	65.3	69.8	70.2	66.6	68.4	71.2	71.0	72.0	73.2	71.3	70.8	70.3	65.9	61.9
Belgium	137.7	135.3	133.4	128.0	122.9	119.5	113.5	111.8	108.3	103.5	98.6	95.7	91.2	87.6
Canada	98.0	101.6	101.7	96.3	95.2	91.4	82.1	82.7	80.6	76.6	72.6	71.1	68.0	64.1
Czech Republic	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33.1	34.9	34.7	34.9	34.7	38.4
Denmark	78.9	79.3	76.6	72.1	69.7	64.1	57.1	55.0	55.4	53.6	50.1	42.3	37.4	31.0
Finland	60.9	65.2	65.9	64.6	60.9	54.7	52.4	49.8	49.5	51.3	51.4	48.4	44.8	41.5
France	60.2	63.0	66.7	69.1	70.7	67.1	65.9	64.4	67.4	71.5	74.1	76.0	71.5	70.1
Germany	46.5	55.7	58.8	60.3	62.2	61.5	60.4	59.7	62.1	65.3	68.7	71.1	69.4	65.5
Greece	..	101.2	103.1	100.0	97.6	101.1	114.9	117.9	116.3	112.5	114.4	112.3	105.8	102.3
Hungary	91.8	88.5	76.1	66.7	64.9	66.2	60.1	59.7	61.0	61.4	65.3	68.7	71.9	72.0
Iceland	55.7	58.9	56.3	53.1	47.9	43.4	41.0	45.9	42.1	40.8	34.5	25.4	30.1	24.0
Ireland	..	..	..	..	62.2	51.3	40.1	37.4	35.2	34.1	32.7	32.6	28.8	27.9
Italy	120.9	122.5	128.9	130.3	132.6	126.4	121.6	120.8	119.4	116.8	117.3	119.9	117.1	113.2
Japan	79.4	86.7	94.0	100.5	113.2	127.0	135.4	143.7	152.3	158.0	165.5	175.3	171.9	170.6
Korea	5.2	5.5	5.9	7.5	13.1	15.6	16.3	17.4	16.6	18.4	22.6	24.7	27.6	28.9
Luxembourg	..	9.5	10.1	10.2	11.1	10.0	9.3	8.2	8.5	7.9	8.5	7.6	10.4	9.9
Netherlands	86.7	89.6	88.1	82.2	80.8	71.6	63.9	59.4	60.3	61.4	61.9	60.5	54.2	51.7
New Zealand	57.4	51.3	44.9	42.3	42.2	39.6	37.4	35.4	33.5	31.4	28.6	27.5	27.1	25.3
Norway	37.3	40.9	36.5	32.0	30.8	30.8	34.0	32.9	40.5	49.3	52.7	49.1	60.9	57.9
Poland	..	51.6	51.4	48.3	43.8	46.6	45.4	43.8	55.0	55.3	54.6	56.4	55.9	52.5
Portugal	..	68.8	68.4	67.4	65.2	62.0	61.1	62.6	66.1	67.2	69.5	73.0	72.0	70.1
Slovak Republic	..	38.2	37.7	39.0	41.2	53.5	57.6	57.2	50.3	48.3	47.3	38.7	34.7	36.5
Spain	64.3	69.3	76.0	75.0	75.3	69.4	66.5	61.9	60.2	55.3	53.4	50.8	46.6	42.7
Sweden	82.5	81.0	84.4	83.2	82.5	73.7	64.7	63.4	60.5	59.8	59.5	59.7	52.5	47.0
Switzerland	45.5	47.7	50.1	52.1	54.9	51.9	52.5	51.3	57.2	57.0	57.9	56.5	50.6	48.6
United Kingdom	46.8	51.6	51.2	52.0	52.5	47.4	45.1	40.4	40.8	41.2	43.5	46.1	46.0	46.9
United States	71.1	70.7	70.0	67.6	64.5	61.0	55.2	55.2	57.6	60.9	61.9	62.3	61.7	62.9
Euro area	69.1	72.4	77.5	79.6	80.3	78.5	75.3	73.9	74.2	75.1	75.9	77.0	74.7	71.4
OECD total	68.2	70.0	72.0	72.3	72.9	72.2	69.5	69.8	71.7	74.0	75.6	77.4	76.0	75.0
Brazil	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	57.3	60.3

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544023448651>

General government gross financial liabilities

As a percentage of GDP

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537825212141>

HEALTH EXPENDITURE

In most OECD countries, spending on health is a large and growing share of both public and private expenditure. The level of spending as a share of GDP varies widely across countries, reflecting a wide array of market and social factors as well as the diverse financing and organisational structures of the health system in each country.

Long-term trends

The average share of GDP that OECD countries devoted to health stood at 9% in 2006. However, this share varied considerably across OECD countries, ranging from around 6% in Turkey, Poland and Mexico to more than 15% of GDP for the United States. The number of countries spending more than 10% of their GDP on health goods and services stood at seven in 2006, compared with four in 2000 and only one country, the United States, in 1990. Concerning public expenditure as a share of GDP, there was a three-fold difference between the highest and lowest countries. Public spending on health in France accounted for 8.8% of GDP in 2006, while in Mexico, where private expenditure plays the more important role in health care financing, public financing of health was 2.9% of GDP.

The health expenditure share of GDP on average across OECD countries remained stable over recent years. In several countries, the percentage of GDP devoted to health actually fell slightly between 2005 and 2006. Overall, this marked a pause in a long-term rising trend that has seen health spending rise from 6.6% of GDP on average in OECD countries in 1980.

In 2006, health spending on average across OECD countries grew in real terms by just over 3%, the lowest rate since 1997. Looking at the trend during this decade, health expenditure grew rapidly in many countries between 2000 and 2003, with an annual average growth rate of 6.2% over that period. Since 2003, however, the rise in health expenditure has slowed to an average of 3.6% per year.

There is a positive association between GDP per capita and health expenditure per capita across OECD countries. The association is stronger among OECD countries with low GDP per capita than among countries with a higher GDP per capita. For countries with similar levels of GDP per capita there are substantial differences in health expenditure. For example, the health spending per capita of Japan and Germany differs considerably with Japan spending less than 75% of the level of Germany.

OECD projections suggest that, depending on the type of scenario, health and long-term care expenditures could increase by between 3.5 to more than 6 percentage points of GDP on average across OECD countries between 2005 and 2050 (of which 2 to 4 percentage points for health care). For health care, the impact of population ageing on expenditures is expected to increase over time, but its effect is moderate compared with the impact of non-demographic factors (e.g. higher incomes and diffusion of new treatments and medical products).

Definition

Total expenditure on health measures the final consumption of health goods and services (i.e. current health expenditure) plus capital investment in health care infrastructure. This includes spending by both public and private sources (including households) on medical services and goods, public health and prevention programmes and administration. Excluded are health-related expenditures such as training, research and environmental health.

Comparability

OECD countries are at varying stages of reporting total expenditure on health according to the boundary of health care proposed in the OECD manual *A System of Health Accounts* (SHA). This means that data reported are at varying levels of comparability. The comparability of health expenditure data has improved over recent years. However, limitations do remain (even among those countries where total expenditure is fairly comparable), due to the fact that data reporting is connected to current administrative records of financing systems. For example, different practices regarding the inclusion of long-term care in health or social expenditure are a major factor affecting data comparability.

The size of a country's GDP and hence its ratio of total health expenditure to GDP can be affected by the retained earnings of foreign companies operating in the country. This is particularly the case for countries such as Ireland.

Source

- OECD (2008), *OECD Health Data 2008*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

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- OECD (2004), *The OECD Health Project: Towards High-Performing Health Systems*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2004), *The OECD Health Project: Private Health Insurance in OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2005), *The OECD Health Project: Health Technologies and Decision Making*, OECD, Paris.
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- OECD (2008), *OECD Health Policy Studies: The Looming Crisis in the Health Workforce: How Can OECD Countries Respond?*, OECD, Paris.

Statistical publications

- OECD (2007), *Health at a Glance 2007: OECD Indicators*, OECD, Paris.

Methodological publications

- OECD (2000), *A System of Health Accounts*, OECD, Paris.

Online databases

- *OECD Health Data*.

Total and public expenditure on health

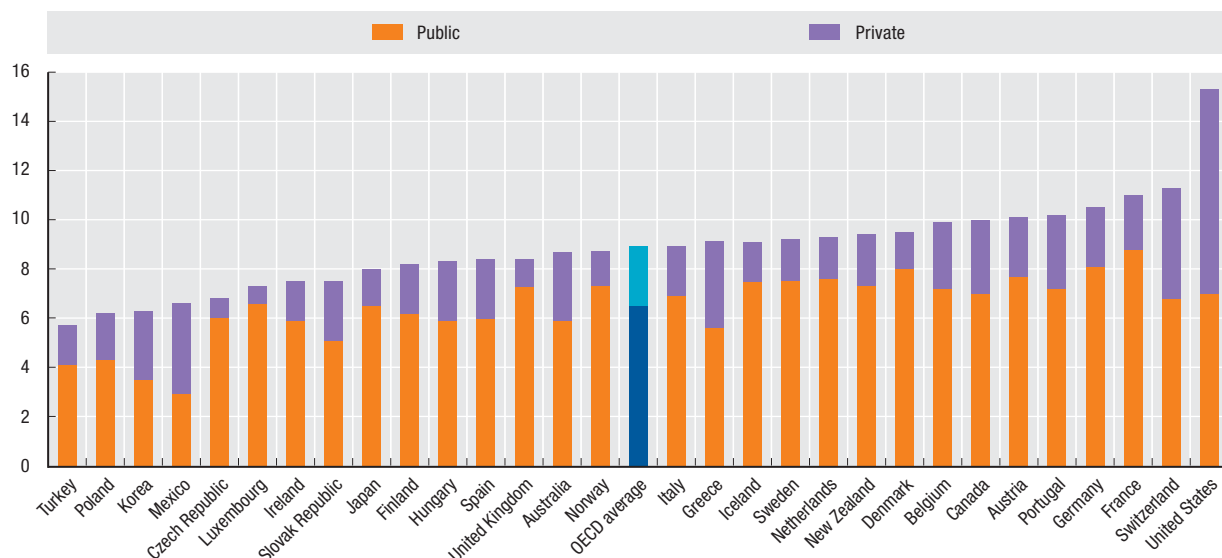
As a percentage of GDP

	Public expenditure							Total expenditure						
	1980	1990	2000	2003	2004	2005	2006	1980	1990	2000	2003	2004	2005	2006
Australia	3.9	4.6	5.5	5.7	5.9	5.9	5.9	6.3	6.9	8.3	8.6	8.8	8.8	8.7
Austria	5.1	6.1	7.5	7.7	7.8	7.9	7.7	7.5	8.4	9.9	10.2	10.3	10.3	10.1
Belgium	..	5.7	6.1	7.1	7.4	7.4	7.2	..	..	8.1	10.0	10.2	10.1	9.9
Canada	5.3	6.6	6.2	6.9	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.0	8.9	8.8	9.8	9.8	9.9	10.0
Czech Republic	..	4.6	5.9	6.7	6.4	6.3	6.0	..	4.7	6.5	7.4	7.2	7.1	6.8
Denmark	7.9	6.9	6.8	7.8	7.9	7.9	8.0	8.6	8.2	8.1	9.3	9.5	9.5	9.5
Finland	5.0	6.2	5.1	5.9	6.0	6.2	6.2	6.3	7.7	7.0	8.0	8.1	8.3	8.2
France	5.6	6.4	8.0	8.7	8.8	8.9	8.8	7.0	8.4	10.1	10.9	11.0	11.1	11.0
Germany	6.6	6.3	8.2	8.5	8.1	8.2	8.1	8.4	8.3	10.3	10.8	10.6	10.7	10.6
Greece	3.3	3.5	4.7	5.4	5.1	5.6	5.6	5.9	6.6	7.8	8.5	8.3	9.0	9.1
Hungary	..	6.3	4.9	6.0	5.8	6.0	5.9	..	7.0	6.9	8.4	8.2	8.5	8.3
Iceland	5.5	6.8	7.7	8.5	8.0	7.7	7.5	6.3	7.8	9.5	10.4	9.9	9.4	9.1
Ireland	6.8	4.4	4.6	5.6	5.9	6.5	5.9	8.3	6.1	6.3	7.3	7.5	8.2	7.5
Italy	..	6.1	5.8	6.2	6.6	6.8	6.9	..	7.7	8.1	8.3	8.7	8.9	9.0
Japan	4.7	4.6	6.2	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.5	6.5	6.0	7.7	8.1	8.0	8.2	8.1
Korea	0.8	1.6	2.2	2.8	2.9	3.2	3.5	3.4	4.0	4.5	5.4	5.4	5.9	6.4
Luxembourg	4.8	5.0	5.2	6.8	7.3	7.0	6.6	5.2	5.4	5.8	7.6	8.1	7.8	7.3
Mexico	..	2.0	2.6	2.8	3.0	2.9	2.9	..	4.8	5.6	6.3	6.5	6.4	6.6
Netherlands	5.1	5.4	5.0	5.8	5.8	6.0	7.6	7.0	7.5	7.6	8.9	9.1	9.2	9.3
New Zealand	5.2	5.7	6.0	6.3	6.6	6.9	7.3	5.9	6.9	7.7	8.0	8.5	8.9	9.3
Norway	5.9	6.3	6.9	8.4	8.1	7.6	7.3	7.0	7.6	8.4	10.0	9.7	9.1	8.7
Poland	..	4.4	3.9	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.3	..	4.8	5.5	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.2
Portugal	3.4	3.8	6.4	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.2	5.3	5.9	8.8	9.7	10.0	10.2	10.2
Slovak Republic	..	..	4.9	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.1	..	..	5.5	5.9	7.2	7.1	7.4
Spain	4.2	5.1	5.2	5.7	5.8	5.8	6.0	5.3	6.5	7.2	8.1	8.2	8.3	8.4
Sweden	8.2	7.4	7.0	7.8	7.6	7.5	7.5	8.9	8.2	8.2	9.4	9.2	9.2	9.2
Switzerland	..	4.3	5.7	6.7	6.7	6.8	6.8	7.3	8.2	10.3	11.4	11.4	11.4	11.3
Turkey	1.0	2.2	3.1	4.3	4.3	4.1	..	3.3	3.6	4.9	6.0	5.9	5.7	..
United Kingdom	5.0	5.0	5.8	6.6	6.9	7.1	7.3	5.6	6.0	7.2	7.7	8.0	8.2	8.4
United States	3.6	4.7	5.8	6.7	6.8	6.9	7.0	8.7	11.9	13.2	15.1	15.2	15.2	15.3
OECD average	4.8	5.2	5.6	6.4	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.4	7.3	8.1	8.9	8.8	8.9	9.0

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544027018621>

Expenditure on health

As a percentage of GDP, 2006 or latest available year

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537826662388>

SOCIAL EXPENDITURE

Social expenditures as a percentage of GDP are a measure of the extent to which governments assume responsibility for supporting the standard of living of disadvantaged or vulnerable groups.

Definition

Public social expenditure comprises cash benefits, direct “in-kind” provision of goods and services, and tax breaks with social purposes. To be considered “social”, benefits have to address one or more social goals. Benefits may be targeted at low-income households, but they may also be for

the elderly, disabled, sick, unemployed, or young persons. Programmes regulating the provision of social benefits have to involve: a) redistribution of resources across households, or b) compulsory participation. Social benefits are regarded as public when general government (that is central, state, and local governments, including social security funds) controls relevant financial flows. The expenditures shown here refer only to public social benefits and exclude similar benefits provided by private charities.

Comparability

For cross-country comparisons, the most commonly used indicator of social support is gross (before tax) public social expenditure related to GDP. Measurement problems do exist, particularly with regard to spending by lower tiers of government, which may be underestimated in some countries. As noted above, similar social benefits provided by private charities are excluded.

Long-term trends

In 2005, on average, public social expenditure amounted to 21% of GDP, although there are significant cross-country variations. In Sweden and France public social spending is about 29% while it is 7% in Mexico and Korea.

Changes in gross public social expenditures over time are also significant. Gross public social expenditure has increased from about 16% in 1980 to 18% in 1990 and to 21% of GDP in 2005 on average across 28 OECD countries. Experiences differ across OECD countries, but on average public social spending-to-GDP ratios increased most significantly in the early 1980s, early 1990s and, again in the beginning of this millennium, when the average public spending-to-GDP increased by 1% of GDP in the early 2000s. In between these decennial turning points spending-to-GDP ratios changed little; during the 1980s the average OECD public social spending to GDP ratio oscillated just below 20% of GDP while during the 1990s it trended downwards after the economic downturn in the early 1990s, but nevertheless remained above 20% of GDP.

It is convenient to divide expenditures according to their social purposes to better analyse policy focus and trends. Broadly speaking, the three biggest groups of social transfers are pensions (on average 7% of GDP), health (6%) and income transfers to the working-age population (4%). Public spending on other social services only exceeds 5% of GDP in the Nordic countries, where the public role in providing services to the elderly, the disabled and families is the most extensive.

Public support for families with children is 2% of GDP on average, but this has increased in most countries since 1980. Family support exceeds 3% of GDP in the Nordic countries and France, Luxembourg and the United Kingdom, as they have the most comprehensive public system of child allowances, paid leave arrangements or childcare. Moreover, governments also help families through the tax system; examples include the “quotient familial” in France and “income splitting” in Germany.

Social insurance spending related to work incapacity (disability, sickness and occupational injury benefits) has declined in as many countries as it has increased since 1980. Particularly large declines were found in Belgium and in the Netherlands.

Source

- Social Expenditure Database.

Further information

Analytical publications

- Adema, W. and M. Ladaïque (2005), *Net Social Expenditure, 2005 Edition: More Comprehensive Measures of Social Support*, OECD Social Employment and Migration Working Papers, No. 29, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2002-2008), *Babies and Bosses – Reconciling Work and Family Life*, OECD, Paris.
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- OECD (2006), *Starting Strong II: Early Childhood Education and Care*, OECD, Paris.

Websites

- OECD Social and Welfare Statistics, www.oecd.org/statistics/social.

Public social expenditure

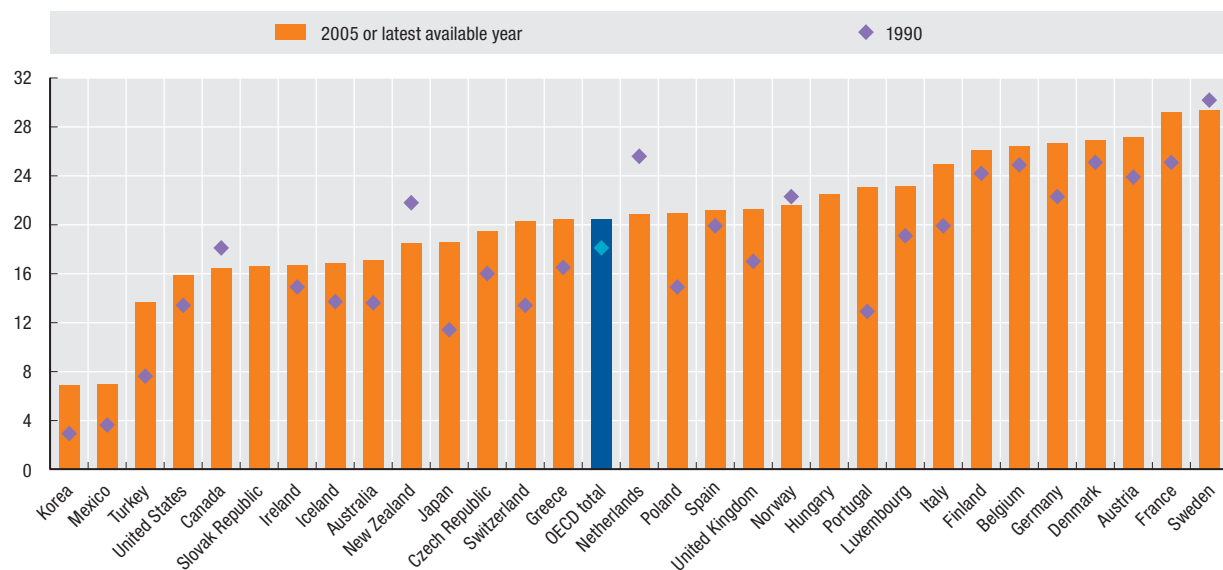
As a percentage of GDP

	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Australia	13.6	16.6	16.6	16.4	17.1	17.0	17.8	17.3	17.5	17.8	17.7	17.1
Austria	23.9	26.5	26.6	26.7	26.6	26.9	26.4	26.6	27.0	27.5	27.3	27.2
Belgium	24.9	26.2	26.8	25.7	26.1	26.0	25.3	25.8	26.2	26.5	26.6	26.4
Canada	18.1	18.9	18.1	17.4	17.8	16.7	16.5	17.0	17.1	17.2	16.6	16.5
Czech Republic	16.0	18.2	18.1	18.8	19.1	19.5	19.8	19.8	20.6	20.7	19.7	19.5
Denmark	25.1	28.9	28.2	27.2	26.5	26.4	25.6	25.9	26.6	27.6	27.5	26.9
Finland	24.2	30.9	30.8	28.5	26.3	25.7	24.3	24.2	25.0	25.8	26.0	26.1
France	25.1	28.6	28.9	28.7	28.9	29.0	27.9	27.9	28.6	29.0	29.1	29.2
Germany	22.3	26.5	27.1	26.4	26.3	26.3	26.2	26.3	27.0	27.3	26.7	26.7
Greece	16.5	17.3	17.9	17.9	18.6	19.2	19.2	20.6	20.0	19.9	19.9	20.5
Hungary	..	..	..	..	..	21.1	20.0	20.2	21.4	22.2	21.7	22.5
Iceland	13.7	15.2	14.9	14.6	14.8	15.4	15.3	15.3	16.9	18.2	17.9	16.9
Ireland	14.9	15.7	14.8	14.0	13.0	14.1	13.6	14.4	15.3	15.8	16.2	16.7
Italy	19.9	19.9	22.0	22.7	22.9	23.3	23.3	23.5	24.0	24.4	24.7	25.0
Japan	11.4	14.3	14.6	14.7	15.5	16.1	16.5	17.4	17.8	18.1	18.2	18.6
Korea	2.9	3.3	3.5	3.8	5.2	6.3	5.0	5.4	5.3	5.6	6.3	6.9
Luxembourg	19.1	20.8	20.9	21.2	20.9	20.4	19.7	20.8	22.0	23.4	23.9	23.2
Mexico	3.6	4.7	4.4	4.5	5.0	5.7	5.8	5.9	6.3	6.8	6.7	7.0
Netherlands	25.6	23.8	22.6	21.8	21.4	20.5	19.8	19.7	20.5	21.2	21.1	20.9
New Zealand	21.8	18.9	18.8	19.8	20.3	19.6	19.4	18.6	18.7	18.2	18.0	18.5
Norway	22.3	23.3	22.5	22.0	23.6	23.6	21.3	22.2	23.6	24.5	23.2	21.6
Poland	14.9	22.6	22.8	22.2	21.4	21.6	20.5	21.9	22.3	22.3	21.4	21.0
Portugal	12.9	17.0	17.6	17.5	17.9	18.3	19.6	19.9	21.3	22.9	23.1	..
Slovak Republic	..	18.6	18.2	17.9	18.0	18.5	17.9	17.6	17.7	17.1	16.5	16.6
Spain	19.9	21.4	21.3	20.7	20.6	20.3	20.3	20.0	20.4	21.0	21.2	21.2
Sweden	30.2	32.1	31.7	30.5	30.3	29.8	28.5	28.9	29.5	30.3	29.8	29.4
Switzerland	13.4	17.5	18.0	18.7	18.8	18.6	17.9	18.4	19.2	20.3	20.3	20.3
Turkey	7.6	7.5	9.7	10.8	11.1	13.2	..	..	..	..	..	13.7
United Kingdom	17.0	20.2	19.9	19.0	19.4	19.1	19.2	20.1	20.0	20.5	21.1	21.3
United States	13.4	15.3	15.1	14.9	14.7	14.5	14.5	15.1	15.9	16.2	16.1	15.9
OECD total	18.1	19.9	20.0	19.7	19.8	19.7	19.3	19.7	20.2	20.7	20.6	20.5

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544036521217>

Public social expenditure

As a percentage of GDP

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537860231647>

LAW, ORDER AND DEFENCE EXPENDITURE

Two essential tasks of a government are to protect the state from external aggression and maintain law and public order within its frontiers.

Definition

The table is taken from national accounts sources, and the data conform to the definitions of the 1993 System of National Accounts. The expenditures cover all expenditures whether current or capital.

Law and order covers the police forces, intelligence services, prisons and other correctional facilities, the judicial system, and ministries of internal affairs. Note that the figures shown here do not include the costs of government-mandated security arrangements at airports, seaports and other border crossings. Nor, of course, do they include the provision of security in shopping-malls, football matches, concerts and other public gatherings, all of which have certainly increased in recent years.

Comparability

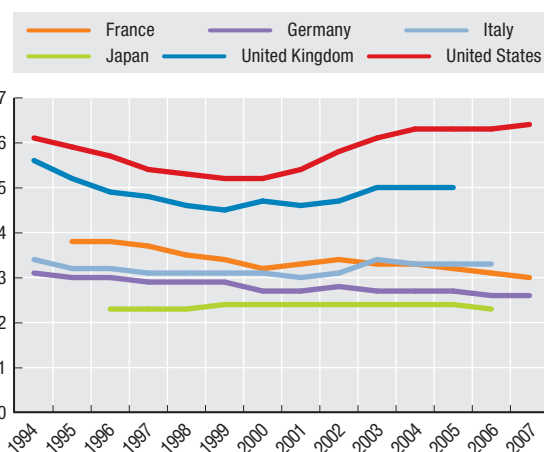
Data are taken from national accounts sources and have been compiled according to the Classification of the Functions of Government (COFOG). In general, the data are

broadly comparable. Nevertheless for Japan law, order and defence expenditure refers to fiscal year whereas GDP refers to calendar year.

For New Zealand data refer to fiscal year.

Law, order and defence expenditure

As a percentage of GDP



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538001347317>

Long-term trends

Within the total, the shares of the two components – law and order and defence – vary considerably between countries with high shares for defence expenditures in the United States, Greece, Korea, Norway and Denmark and high shares for law and order in Iceland, Luxembourg, and Ireland. Typically, for most countries shown in the table, expenditures on law and order were larger at the end of the period than expenditures on defence, with the ratio between the two having grown in most countries since the beginning of the period.

In 2006 – the latest year for which most countries can supply data – overall expenditure as a share of GDP was highest in the United States, which recorded a significant increase in expenditures compared to 1996, and the United Kingdom, and lowest in Luxembourg, Iceland and Ireland. In the majority of countries these percentages have fallen since 1996 with particularly large falls in Norway, Sweden, the Czech Republic, Ireland and France.

Source

- OECD (2008), *National Accounts of OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2004), *The Security Economy*, OECD, Paris.

Methodological publications

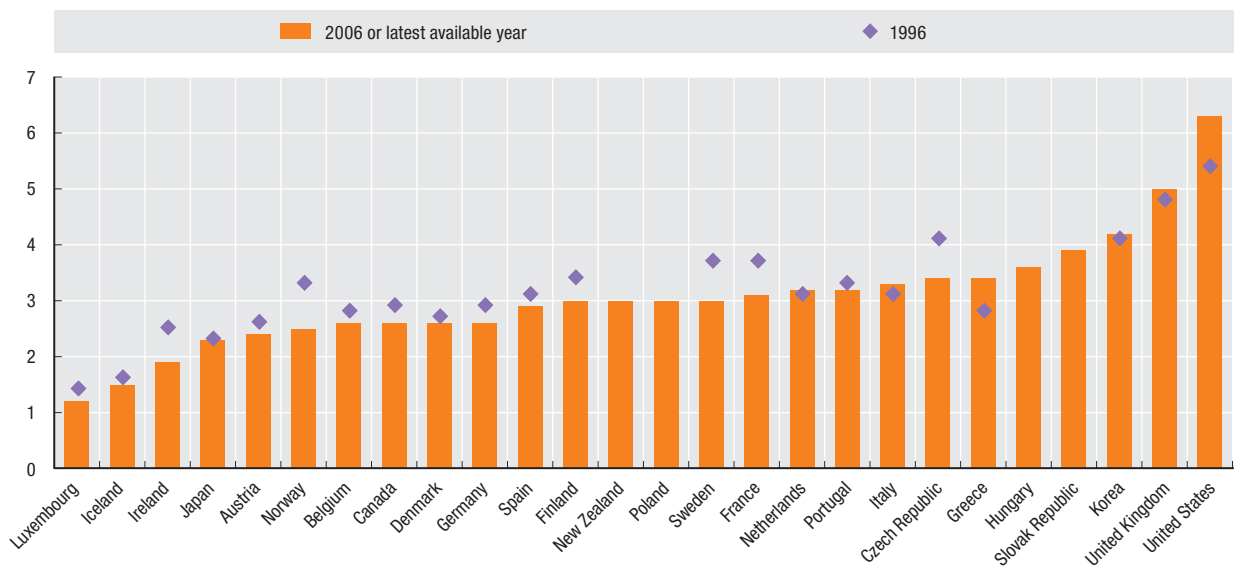
- UN, OECD, IMF, Eurostat (eds.) (1993), *System of National Accounts 1993*, United Nations, Geneva, Paragraph XVIII.9, <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/sna1993>.

Online databases

- Annual National Accounts.

Law, order and defence expenditure*As a percentage of GDP*

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Austria	..	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.3
Belgium	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.6	..
Canada	3.4	3.3	3.2	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.6	..
Czech Republic	..	4.5	4.1	4.1	3.7	4.0	4.1	3.8	3.7	4.2	3.5	3.9	3.4	..
Denmark	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.6
Finland	3.7	3.5	3.6	3.4	3.2	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.9	3.1	3.2	3.0	..
France	..	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.0
Germany	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.6
Greece	..	2.2	2.5	2.8	2.9	3.8	4.7	4.5	4.7	4.2	4.0	3.6	3.4	..
Hungary	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3.2	3.8	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.6	..
Iceland	..	..	..	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	..
Ireland	3.0	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.0	1.9	2.0	1.8	1.9	..
Italy	3.4	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.3	..
Japan	..	..	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.3	..
Korea	..	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	4.1	4.2	..
Luxembourg	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2
Netherlands	..	3.3	3.3	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2
New Zealand	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.9	2.7	3.0	..	..
Norway	..	..	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.3	2.9	2.9	3.2	3.1	2.9	2.5	2.5	..
Poland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.8	2.9	2.6	2.8	3.0	..
Portugal	..	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.2	..
Slovak Republic	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3.7	2.3	3.7	3.9	..
Spain	..	3.4	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.9	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	..
Sweden	..	3.8	3.9	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.2	3.1	3.0	..
United Kingdom	5.6	5.2	4.9	4.8	4.6	4.5	4.7	4.6	4.7	5.0	5.0	5.0	..	..
United States	6.1	5.9	5.7	5.4	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.4	5.8	6.1	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.4

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544045214367>**Law, order and defence expenditure***As a percentage of GDP*StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/537876651863>

AGRICULTURAL SUPPORT ESTIMATES

During the mid-1980s, when the Uruguay Round of agricultural trade negotiations was getting underway, the OECD undertook to measure and codify support to the farm sector arising from agricultural policies. This led to the development of the producer support estimate (PSE), an indicator that is available on a timely and comprehensive basis for all 30 of the OECD's member countries (the European Union is treated as a single entity) and selected non-members. The measure includes budgetary transfers financed by taxpayers but also includes the implicit tax on consumers that arises from agricultural policies - border protection, and administered pricing - that raise farm prices above the levels that would otherwise prevail. The measure is agreed by OECD member countries and is widely recognised as the only available internationally comparable indicator.

Definition

The OECD PSE is an indicator of the annual monetary value of gross transfers from consumers and taxpayers to agricultural producers, measured at the farmgate level, arising from policy measures that support agriculture, regardless of their nature, objectives or impacts on farm production or income. It can be expressed as a total monetary amount, but is more usually quoted as a percentage of gross farm receipts (%PSE). This is the measure used here.

Comparability

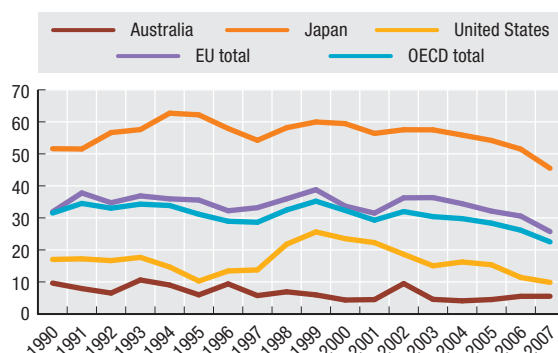
Continuous efforts are made to ensure consistency in the treatment and completeness of coverage of policies in all

OECD countries through the annual preparation of the Monitoring and Evaluation report. Each year, the provisional estimates are subject to review and approval by representatives of OECD's member countries, as are all methodological developments. The %PSE is the most appropriate and widely used measure to compare support across countries, commodities and time.

In the table, data are not shown for individual EU member countries. Austria, Finland and Sweden are included in the EU15 from 1995. The Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and the Slovak Republic, together with the EU members which are not members of the OECD, are included in the EU25 from 2004 to 2006 and EU27 from 2007. The OECD total includes the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and the Slovak Republic for the entire period but excludes the EU members not members of the OECD.

Agricultural producer support estimate for selected countries

As a percentage of value of gross farm receipts



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538024440752>

Long-term trends

There are large and increasing differences in the levels of support among OECD countries. Producer support estimates as a percentage of gross farm receipts (%PSE) currently range from almost zero to 61%. These differences reflect among other things, variations in policy objectives, different historical uses of policy instruments, and the varying pace and degrees of progress in agricultural policy reform. Over the longer term, the level of producer support has fallen in most OECD countries. The average %PSE in 2005-07 at 26% is lower than the 1986-88 average of 37% and has fallen in most countries. There has also been some change in the way support is delivered to the sector. Support known to be the most distorting in terms of production and trade is less dominant than in the past: 59% of total support during the 2005-2007 period compared to over 86% in 1986-1988.

For emerging economies covered by the OECD PSE calculations the %PSE has been significantly lower than the OECD average and ranged from 6% for South Africa and Brazil to 14% for the Russian Federation in 2005-07. Trends in the level of producer support vary between economies. While in South Africa and the Russian Federation the level of producer support has fallen, in Brazil and China it has increased since the mid-1990s.

Sources

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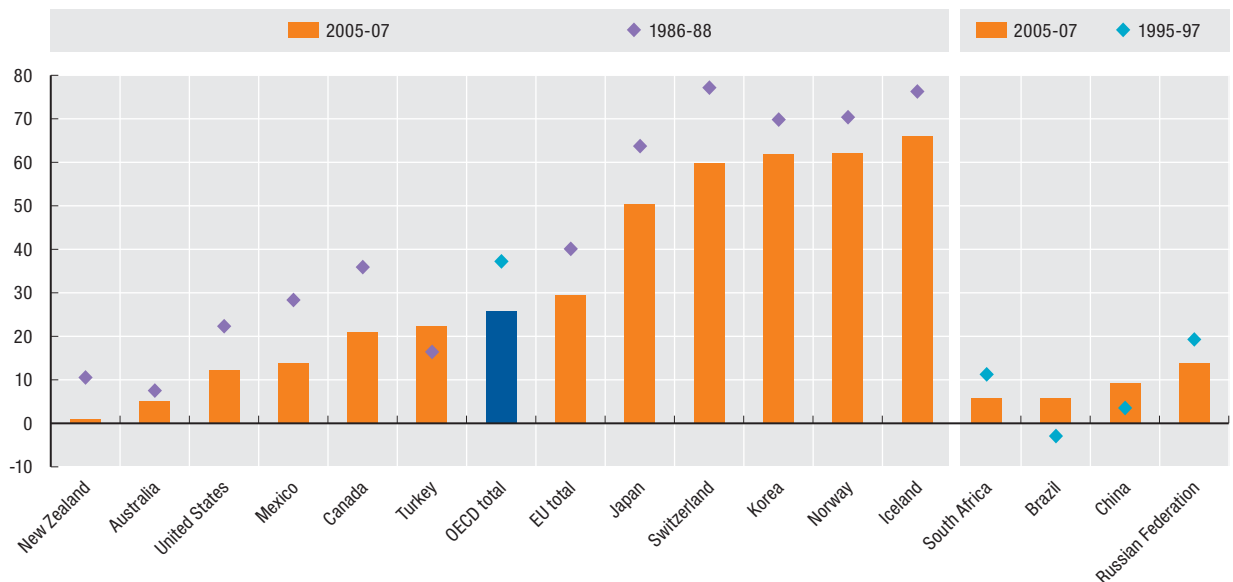
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Methodological publications

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Agricultural producer support estimate by country*As a percentage of value of gross farm receipts*

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	9.0	6.0	9.4	5.7	6.9	6.0	4.3	4.5	9.5	4.5	4.1	4.5	5.5	5.5
Canada	20.5	19.5	16.1	14.3	17.0	18.0	19.1	16.0	22.2	25.0	20.6	22.0	22.7	18.4
Iceland	62.1	61.8	60.4	59.4	70.7	71.1	62.7	58.8	65.9	66.4	66.4	69.6	67.7	60.6
Japan	62.7	62.2	57.9	54.2	58.2	60.0	59.4	56.4	57.5	57.5	55.9	54.2	51.5	45.5
Korea	73.0	72.0	64.2	63.0	56.5	65.4	66.3	60.7	64.6	61.1	62.2	62.3	63.3	59.8
Mexico	22.5	-4.9	5.5	14.5	17.7	17.4	22.5	18.4	27.6	19.1	11.3	12.9	14.8	13.6
New Zealand	1.3	1.5	1.0	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.9	0.8	1.4	1.0	0.7
Norway	69.5	65.0	66.8	69.0	71.2	71.9	65.9	66.4	75.6	72.0	67.3	67.4	65.4	53.3
Switzerland	72.9	64.8	69.1	69.7	71.8	75.9	69.1	68.2	72.6	70.1	67.7	67.7	62.3	49.8
Turkey	14.1	13.0	16.0	24.9	26.5	22.4	20.2	3.5	21.7	28.4	26.1	25.3	20.3	21.5
United States	14.7	10.3	13.4	13.7	21.8	25.6	23.5	22.3	18.6	15.0	16.2	15.4	11.4	9.9
EU total	35.9	35.6	32.2	33.2	36.0	38.8	33.7	31.5	36.3	36.3	34.4	32.1	30.6	25.7
OECD total	33.9	31.1	28.9	28.6	32.5	35.2	32.3	29.3	32.0	30.4	29.8	28.3	26.1	22.5
Brazil	..	-7.7	-0.1	-1.8	6.8	1.3	5.8	4.2	5.7	5.9	4.6	6.3	6.1	5.0
China	0.7	6.2	1.8	1.8	1.5	-2.4	3.4	5.9	8.8	10.1	7.2	7.8	11.0	8.6
Russian Federation	-4.1	13.2	17.7	26.4	18.6	-0.7	4.6	9.2	14.6	20.9	21.9	13.3	17.5	10.8
South Africa	10.8	14.7	7.6	10.8	10.7	8.2	5.2	3.9	11.0	7.1	7.7	6.5	7.5	3.3

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544063776103>**Agricultural producer support estimate by country***As a percentage of value of gross farm receipts*StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538001603742>

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR FISHING

Catches from sea fishing have been declining as a result of over-fishing and because of national and international measures to preserve remaining fish resources. This has been particularly marked in the Northern Hemisphere and, to cushion the adjustment burden, has led governments in many OECD countries to provide financial support to the fishing industry.

Definition

The time series, “Government financial transfers (GFT)” provides an indicator of the financial support received by the fisheries sector. GFT consists of direct revenue enhancing transfers (direct payments), transfers that reduce the operating costs, and the costs of general services provided to the fishing industry. These general services consist mainly of fishery protection services and fisheries management but also include the costs of local area weather forecasting and the costs of navigation and satellite surveillance systems designed to assist fishing fleets.

Comparability

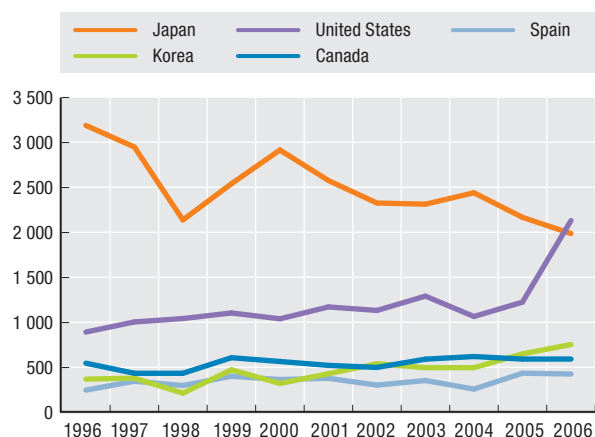
The data are relatively comprehensive and consistent across the years although some year-to-year variations must be interpreted with caution as they may reflect changes in national statistical systems. Note too that the general services provided by governments may contain large and irregular capital investments. Also it should be noted that for some types of GFT (e.g. at maritime surveillance) these may be covered by another agency than fisheries agencies (e.g. in some countries maritime surveillance is carried out by the marine) and data may therefore not be available. Some figures, in particular later years, are preliminary in nature.

Long-term trends

While total transfers (preliminary) peaked at 7 billion USD in 2006, overall transfers to the fishing industry in OECD countries, have been fluctuating at around USD 6 billion over the last decade. The peak 2006 figure, among other things, reflects in particular a change in the way the United States records its enforcement and surveillance costs. Over the past decade GFTs represent around 18% of the value of the total catch from capture fisheries. United States and Japan are the largest spenders, contributing 30% and 27% respectively of total OECD transfers in 2006. Based on data for the last decade, the majority of GFTs are for fisheries management, research and enforcement (38% of total GFTs in OECD countries) and infrastructure expenditure (39%). The remaining spending consists of vessel decommissioning schemes (7%), income support (5%), access agreements (3%), vessel construction and modernisation (3%) and other cost reducing transfers and direct payments general services (5%).

GFT to fishing for selected countries

Million US dollars



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538077265507>

Source

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Further information

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Websites

- OECD Fisheries, www.oecd.org/fisheries.

Government financial transfers to fishing

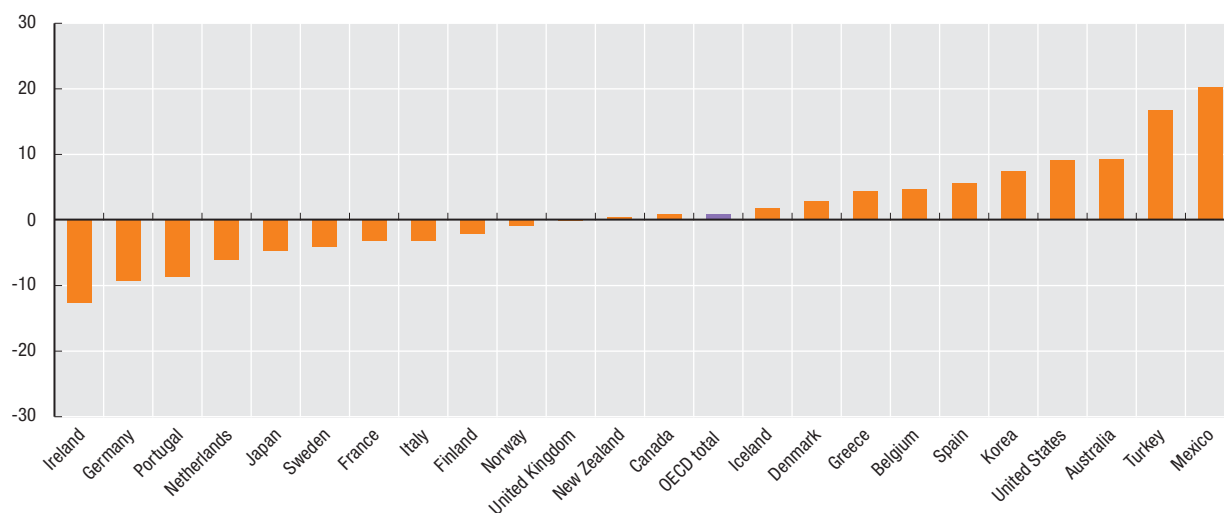
Thousand US dollars

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Australia	37 391	41 230	..	..	82 272	75 902	78 038	95 558	95 560	46 299	89 991
Belgium	4 970	4 949	..	4 473	6 849	2 830	1 607	1 668	6 328	8 613	7 757
Canada	545 301	433 309	..	606 443	564 497	521 355	497 771	589 975	618 787	591 000	591 000
Denmark	85 771	82 030	90 507	27 765	16 316	..	68 769	37 659	28 505	58 108	113 213
Finland	28 978	26 198	26 888	19 236	13 908	16 510	16 025	20 231	19 397	24 817	23 399
France	158 203	140 807	..	71 665	166 147	141 786	155 283	179 740	236 811	126 194	113 779
Germany	81 567	63 215	16 488	31 276	29 834	28 988	28 208	33 890	18 326	30 928	30 741
Greece	52 308	46 958	26 908	43 030	87 315	86 957	88 334	119 045	35 500	61 013	79 586
Iceland	43 770	38 678	36 954	39 763	41 978	28 310	28 955	48 348	55 705	64 326	52 447
Ireland	112 673	98 880	..	143 184	..	..	63 632	64 960	21 448	22 144	29 430
Italy	162 625	91 811	..	200 470	217 679	231 680	159 630	149 270	170 055	119 239	119 239
Japan	3 186 363	2 945 785	2 135 946	2 537 536	2 913 149	2 574 086	2 323 601	2 310 744	2 437 934	2 165 198	1 985 074
Korea	367 793	378 994	211 927	471 556	320 449	428 313	538 695	495 280	495 280	649 387	752 153
Mexico	14 201	16 808	..	..	..	..	..	177 000	114 000	84 973	89 074
Netherlands	39 927	35 849	..	..	1 389	12 779	12 443	6 569	5 218	13 685	21 349
New Zealand	37 241	40 397	29 412	29 630	27 273	15 126	18 981	38 325	50 134	32 197	38 566
Norway	172 694	163 437	153 046	180 962	104 564	99 465	156 340	139 200	142 315	149 521	159 516
Portugal	71 847	65 077	..	28 674	25 578	25 066	24 899	26 930	26 930	32 769	29 340
Spain	246 473	344 581	296 642	399 604	364 096	376 614	301 926	353 290	256 569	433 786	425 361
Sweden	62 320	53 452	26 960	31 053	25 186	22 505	24 753	30 650	34 422	36 603	41 533
Turkey	28 665	15 114	..	1 277	26 372	17 721	16 167	16 300	59 500	98 072	133 882
United Kingdom	115 359	128 066	90 833	75 968	81 394	73 738	..	82 691	87 487	103 150	114 659
United States	891 160	1 002 580	1 041 000	1 103 100	1 037 710	1 169 590	1 130 810	1 290 440	1 064 400	1 222 500	2 128 807
OECD total	6 547 600	6 258 205	4 183 511	6 046 665	6 153 955	5 949 321	5 734 867	6 307 763	6 080 611	6 174 521	7 169 896

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544068602375>

Government financial transfers to fishing

Average annual growth in percentage, 1996-2006 or latest available period

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538051105732>

OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

The promotion of economic and social development in non-member countries has been a principal objective of the OECD since its foundation. The share of national income devoted to official development assistance (ODA) is widely regarded as a test of a country's commitment to international development, and there is a long-standing United Nations target for developed countries to devote 0.7% of their gross national income (GNI) to ODA. The tables in this section show total ODA as shares of GNI as well as the geographical distribution of bilateral ODA.

Definition

Official development assistance is defined as government aid to developing countries designed to promote the economic development and welfare of recipient countries. Loans and credits for military purposes are excluded. The aid may be provided bilaterally, from donor to recipient, or it may be channeled through a multilateral development agency such as the United Nations or the World Bank.

Aid includes grants, "soft" loans, and the provision of technical assistance. Soft loans are those where the grant element is at least 25%. ODA is usually measured on a net basis, i.e. after subtracting loan repayments from the gross aid flows. Data on the geographical distribution of aid are presented on a gross basis to show the level of new aid provided during the period.

The OECD maintains a list of developing countries and territories, and only aid to these countries counts as ODA. The list is periodically updated and currently contains over 150 countries or territories which had per capita incomes of less than USD 10 066 in 2004 (by comparison, per capita income in OECD countries averaged over USD 35 000 in that year). Note that of the 30 member countries of the OECD, only the 22 shown in the table are members of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC), along with the European Commission.

Long-term trends

The DAC total shown in the graph is the weighted average of total ODA provided by DAC members as a percentage of their total GNI; it amounted to 0.28% in 2007. The unweighted average, measuring "average country effort", was 0.45% in 2007. The decline since 1990 in both the weighted and unweighted averages was halted in 1999 and then reversed as DAC members increased their aid following the commitments they made at the Monterrey 2002 Financing for Development Conference.

ODA shares of GNI declined to their lowest point in 1997 but increased again from 2002 to reach a peak in 2005, due to debt relief. 2006 marked the first fall in ODA in real terms since 1997, though the level was still the highest recorded with the exception of 2005. ODA fell again in 2007 (by -8.5% in real terms) as large Paris Club debt relief operations for Nigeria and Iraq tapered off. Other types of aid should increase in the future as donors move to fulfill their more recent pledges to increase their aid.

Comparability

Statistics on ODA are compiled according to a set of directives drawn up by the DAC and each country's statistics are subject to regular peer reviews by other DAC members. Data for Greece are available only since 1996 as Greece joined the DAC in 1999. From 1990 to 1992 inclusive, forgiveness of non-ODA debt was reportable as a part of a country's ODA but was excluded from the DAC total.

Source

- Development Assistance Committee Aid Statistics.

Further information

Analytical publications

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Net official development assistance

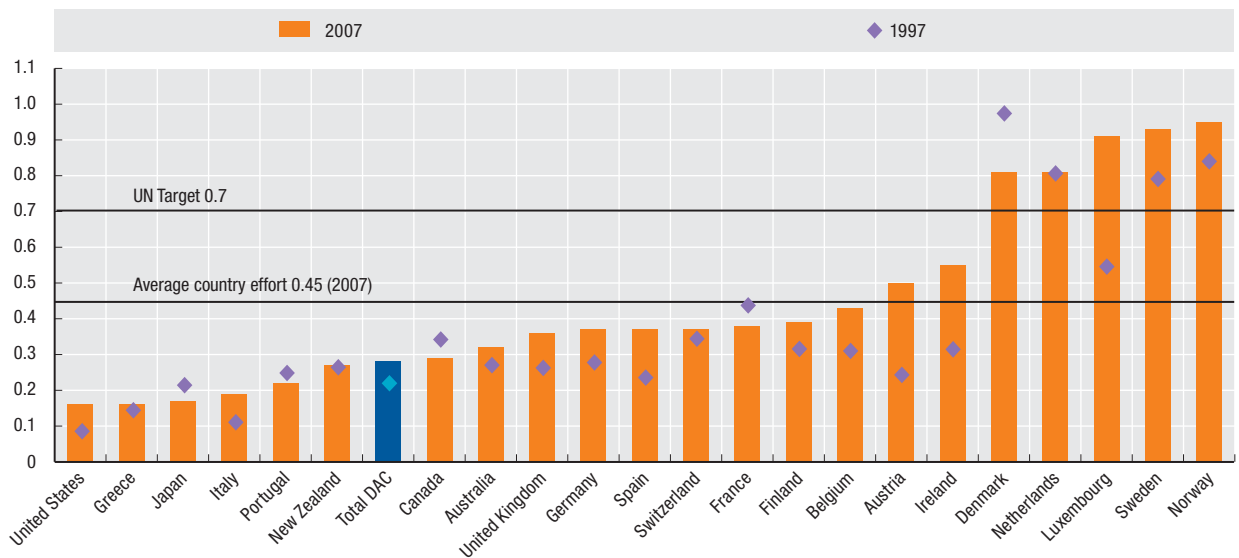
As a percentage of gross national income

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	0.34	0.34	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.26	0.27	0.25	0.26	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.30	0.32
Austria	0.17	0.27	0.23	0.24	0.22	0.24	0.23	0.34	0.26	0.20	0.23	0.52	0.47	0.50
Belgium	0.32	0.38	0.34	0.31	0.35	0.30	0.36	0.37	0.43	0.60	0.41	0.53	0.50	0.43
Canada	0.43	0.38	0.32	0.34	0.30	0.28	0.25	0.22	0.28	0.24	0.27	0.34	0.29	0.29
Denmark	1.03	0.96	1.04	0.97	0.99	1.01	1.06	1.03	0.96	0.84	0.85	0.81	0.80	0.81
Finland	0.31	0.31	0.33	0.32	0.31	0.33	0.31	0.32	0.35	0.35	0.37	0.46	0.40	0.39
France	0.62	0.55	0.48	0.44	0.38	0.38	0.30	0.31	0.37	0.40	0.41	0.47	0.47	0.38
Germany	0.33	0.31	0.32	0.28	0.26	0.26	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.28	0.28	0.36	0.36	0.37
Greece	..	..	0.15	0.14	0.15	0.15	0.20	0.17	0.21	0.21	0.16	0.17	0.17	0.16
Ireland	0.25	0.29	0.31	0.31	0.30	0.31	0.29	0.33	0.40	0.39	0.39	0.42	0.54	0.55
Italy	0.27	0.15	0.20	0.11	0.20	0.15	0.13	0.15	0.20	0.17	0.15	0.29	0.20	0.19
Japan	0.29	0.27	0.20	0.21	0.27	0.27	0.28	0.23	0.23	0.20	0.19	0.28	0.25	0.17
Luxembourg	0.40	0.36	0.44	0.55	0.65	0.66	0.72	0.77	0.78	0.86	0.79	0.79	0.90	0.91
Netherlands	0.76	0.81	0.81	0.81	0.80	0.79	0.84	0.82	0.81	0.80	0.73	0.82	0.81	0.81
New Zealand	0.24	0.23	0.21	0.26	0.27	0.27	0.25	0.25	0.22	0.23	0.23	0.27	0.27	0.27
Norway	1.05	0.86	0.83	0.84	0.89	0.88	0.76	0.80	0.89	0.92	0.87	0.94	0.89	0.95
Portugal	0.34	0.25	0.21	0.25	0.24	0.26	0.26	0.25	0.27	0.22	0.63	0.21	0.21	0.22
Spain	0.28	0.24	0.22	0.24	0.24	0.23	0.22	0.30	0.26	0.23	0.24	0.27	0.32	0.37
Sweden	0.96	0.77	0.84	0.79	0.72	0.70	0.80	0.77	0.84	0.79	0.78	0.94	1.02	0.93
Switzerland	0.36	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.32	0.35	0.34	0.34	0.33	0.37	0.40	0.44	0.39	0.37
United Kingdom	0.31	0.29	0.27	0.26	0.27	0.24	0.32	0.32	0.31	0.34	0.36	0.47	0.51	0.36
United States	0.14	0.10	0.12	0.09	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.11	0.13	0.15	0.17	0.23	0.18	0.16
DAC total	0.29	0.26	0.25	0.22	0.23	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.23	0.25	0.26	0.33	0.31	0.28
of which: EU members	0.41	0.37	0.37	0.33	0.33	0.31	0.32	0.33	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.44	0.43	0.39

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544138607251>

Net official development assistance

As a percentage of gross national income

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538078760207>

Distribution of gross bilateral ODA from DAC countries by income group and by region

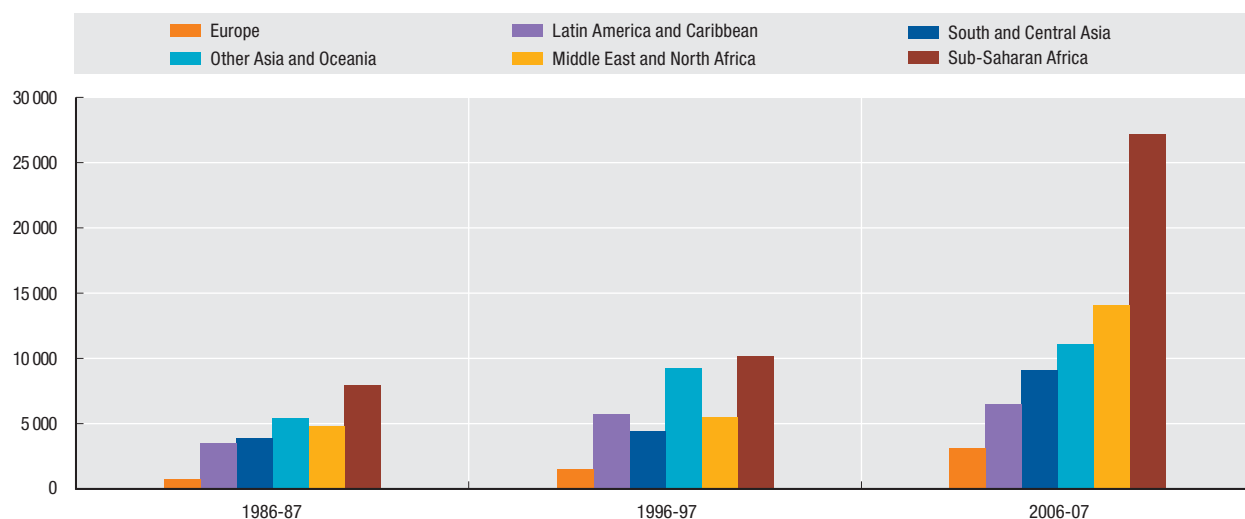
Million US dollars, 2-year averages

	1986-87	1996-97	2006-07
Distribution of bilateral ODA by income group			
Least Developed Countries	7 566	8 466	19 459
Other low-Income Countries	3 877	6 383	16 402
Lower Middle-Income Countries	8 882	14 216	27 226
Upper Middle-Income Countries	1 928	2 643	3 652
More Advanced Developing Countries and Territories	2 931	2 495	..
Unallocated	4 739	9 010	20 163
Distribution of bilateral ODA by region			
Sub-Saharan Africa	7 954	10 128	27 187
Middle East and North Africa	4 790	5 484	14 028
South and Central Asia	3 866	4 387	9 097
Other Asia and Oceania	5 435	9 229	11 050
Europe	734	1 490	3 121
Latin America and Caribbean	3 452	5 738	6 439
Unspecified	3 691	6 757	15 981
Bilateral ODA	29 922	43 213	86 903
Multilateral ODA	11 171	16 321	29 510
Total ODA	41 093	59 534	116 413

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544155576323>

Distribution of gross bilateral ODA from DAC countries by region

Million US dollars, 2-year averages



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538134177866>

Major recipients of total gross bilateral ODA from DAC countries

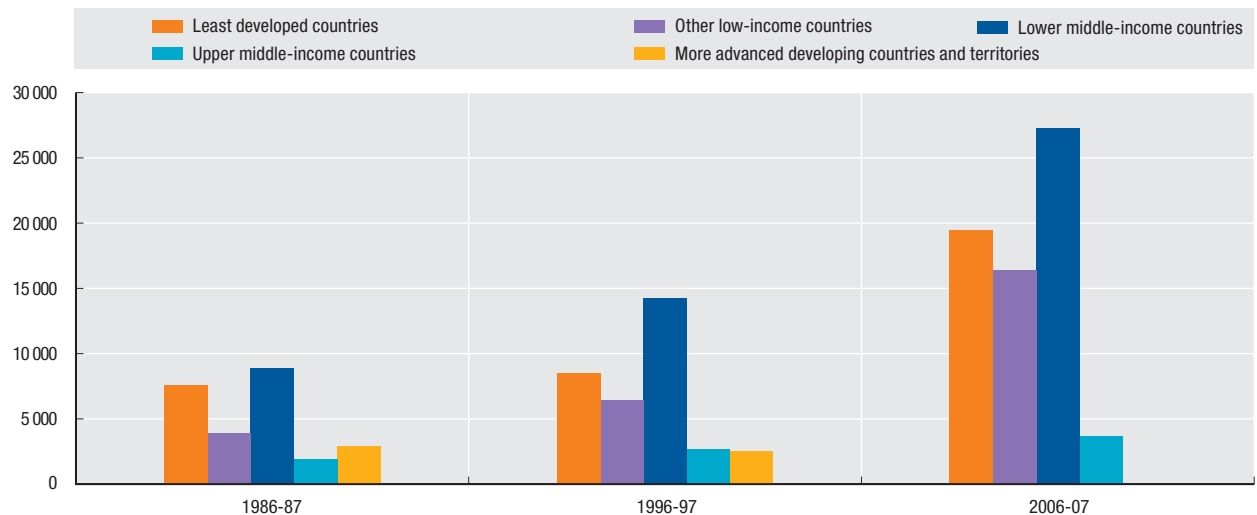
2-year averages

	1986-87			1996-97			2006-07	
	Million US dollars	As a percentage of total ODA		Million US dollars	As a percentage of total ODA		Million US dollars	As a percentage of total ODA
Israel	1 681	4.1	Egypt	1 795	3.0	Iraq	8 752	7.5
Egypt	1 653	4.0	China	1 783	3.0	Nigeria	6 488	5.6
India	1 356	3.3	Indonesia	1 761	3.0	Afghanistan	2 699	2.3
Indonesia	1 232	3.0	India	1 616	2.7	China	2 411	2.1
Bangladesh	888	2.2	Israel	1 213	2.0	Indonesia	2 245	1.9
Philippines	875	2.1	Philippines	1 058	1.8	Cameroon	1 836	1.6
China	805	2.0	Thailand	919	1.5	India	1 732	1.5
Pakistan	687	1.7	Bangladesh	767	1.3	Sudan	1 595	1.4
Tanzania	665	1.6	Mozambique	613	1.0	Vietnam	1 568	1.3
Thailand	490	1.2	Pakistan	605	1.0	Tanzania	1 415	1.2
Turkey	468	1.1	Tanzania	598	1.0	Congo, Democratic Republic	1 152	1.0
Sudan	460	1.1	Vietnam	590	1.0	Pakistan	1 142	1.0
Kenya	441	1.1	Bosnia-Herzegovina	561	0.9	Ethiopia	1 138	1.0
Mozambique	430	1.0	Bolivia	552	0.9	Egypt	1 131	1.0
Sri Lanka	389	0.9	Nicaragua	538	0.9	Philippines	1 115	1.0
Bilateral ODA	29 922	72.8	Bilateral ODA	43 213	72.6	Bilateral ODA	86 903	74.7
Multilateral ODA	11 171	27.2	Multilateral ODA	16 321	27.4	Multilateral ODA	29 510	25.3
Total ODA	41 093	100.0	Total ODA	59 534	100.0	Total ODA	116 413	100.0

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544165482108>

Distribution of gross bilateral ODA from DAC countries by income group

Million US dollars, 2-year averages

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538157626047>

TOTAL TAX REVENUE

Total tax revenue as a percentage of GDP indicates the share of a country's output that is collected by the government through taxes. It can thus be regarded as one measure of the degree to which the government controls the economy's resources. Taxes on incomes and profits as a percentage of GDP represents the amount of resources collected by government directly from the incomes of people and companies. Taxes on goods and services as a percentage of GDP represents the amount of resources the government collects from people as they spend their income on goods and services.

Definition

Taxes are defined as compulsory, unrequited payments to general government. They are unrequited in the sense that benefits provided by government to taxpayers are not normally in proportion to their payments.

Taxes on incomes and profits cover taxes levied on the net income or profits (gross income minus allowable tax reliefs) of individuals and enterprises. They also cover taxes levied on the capital gains of individuals and enterprises, and gains from gambling.

Taxes on goods and services cover all taxes levied on the production, extraction, sale, transfer, leasing or delivery of goods, and the rendering of services, or on the use of goods or permission to use goods or to perform activities. They consist mainly of value added and sales taxes.

Note that the sum of taxes on goods and services and taxes on income and profits is less than the figure for total tax revenues, which also includes payments by employers and employees made under compulsory social security schemes as well as payroll taxes, taxes related to the ownership and transfer of property, and other taxes.

Long-term trends

Total tax revenue as a percentage of GDP followed a slow upward trend in almost all OECD countries during the 1990s. However, in 2000, the upward trend stopped, and, since 2001, the average tax revenue as a percentage of GDP for all OECD countries has stabilised.

The OECD average for taxes on income and profit as a percentage of GDP showed an upward trend in the second half of the 1990s reaching a peak in 2000 since when it has fallen back slightly.

The OECD average for tax revenues on goods and services as a percentage of GDP has been remarkably stable since 1994.

Comparability

The data are collected in a way that makes them as internationally comparable as possible. Country representatives have agreed on the definitions of each type of tax and how they should be measured in all OECD countries, and they are then responsible for submitting data that conform to these rules. The rules are set out in "The OECD Interpretative Guide" shown at the end of each edition of Revenue Statistics.

Source

- OECD (2008), *Revenue Statistics 1965-2007 – Edition 2008*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

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- Revenue Statistics of OECD Member Countries.

Websites

- Tax Administration in OECD Countries: Comparative Information Series (2004), www.oecd.org/ctp/ta.
- OECD Centre for Tax Policy and Administration, www.oecd.org/ctp.



Total tax revenue

As a percentage of GDP

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	28.0	28.8	29.4	29.2	30.0	30.5	31.1	29.6	30.5	30.6	31.1	30.8	30.6	..
Austria	41.7	41.2	42.5	43.9	44.0	43.6	42.6	44.6	43.6	43.3	42.8	42.1	41.7	41.9
Belgium	43.6	43.6	44.0	44.5	45.2	45.2	44.9	44.9	45.0	44.6	44.8	44.8	44.5	44.4
Canada	35.2	35.6	35.9	36.7	36.7	36.4	35.6	34.8	33.7	33.7	33.7	33.4	33.3	33.3
Czech Republic	38.9	37.5	36.0	36.3	34.9	35.8	35.3	35.6	36.3	37.3	37.8	37.5	36.9	36.4
Denmark	48.7	48.8	49.2	48.9	49.3	50.1	49.4	48.4	47.8	48.0	49.0	50.7	49.1	48.9
Finland	46.9	45.7	47.0	46.3	46.1	45.8	47.2	44.6	44.6	44.0	43.4	43.9	43.5	43.0
France	42.8	42.9	44.1	44.4	44.2	45.1	44.4	44.0	43.4	43.2	43.5	43.9	44.2	43.6
Germany	37.2	37.2	36.5	36.2	36.4	37.1	37.2	36.1	35.4	35.5	34.8	34.8	35.6	36.2
Greece	27.9	28.9	35.9	30.3	32.0	32.9	34.1	33.0	33.3	32.2	31.2	31.3	31.3	..
Hungary	43.3	41.3	39.6	38.0	37.8	38.1	38.0	38.0	37.8	37.5	37.6	37.2	37.1	39.3
Iceland	30.6	31.2	32.3	32.2	34.5	36.9	37.2	35.4	35.3	36.7	38.0	40.7	41.5	41.4
Ireland	35.1	32.5	32.4	31.7	31.3	31.4	31.7	29.5	28.2	28.7	30.1	30.6	31.9	32.2
Italy	40.2	40.1	41.8	43.2	41.7	42.5	42.3	42.0	41.4	41.8	41.0	40.9	42.1	43.3
Japan	26.3	26.8	26.8	27.2	26.8	26.3	27.0	27.3	26.2	25.7	26.3	27.4	27.9	..
Korea	19.4	19.4	20.0	21.0	21.1	21.5	23.6	24.1	24.4	25.3	24.6	25.5	26.8	28.7
Luxembourg	36.8	37.1	37.6	39.3	39.4	38.3	39.1	39.7	39.3	38.3	37.3	37.8	35.9	36.9
Mexico	17.2	16.7	16.7	17.5	16.6	17.3	18.5	18.8	18.1	19.0	19.0	19.9	20.6	20.5
Netherlands	43.0	41.5	40.9	40.9	39.1	40.1	39.7	38.2	37.5	36.9	37.3	38.8	39.3	38.0
New Zealand	36.5	36.6	34.8	35.0	33.4	33.4	33.6	33.0	34.4	34.2	35.3	37.5	36.7	36.0
Norway	40.8	40.9	40.8	41.5	42.4	42.7	42.6	42.9	43.1	42.3	43.3	43.5	43.9	43.4
Poland	36.9	36.2	36.1	35.2	34.6	32.4	31.6	33.5	36.3	32.9	32.3	32.9	33.5	..
Portugal	30.1	31.7	32.6	32.7	32.9	33.9	34.1	33.8	34.5	34.7	33.9	34.7	35.7	36.6
Slovak Republic	..	..	..	..	36.5	35.0	33.8	33.0	33.0	33.4	31.8	31.8	29.8	29.8
Spain	32.9	32.1	31.9	32.9	33.2	34.1	34.2	33.8	34.2	34.2	34.6	35.8	36.6	37.2
Sweden	46.3	47.5	49.4	50.6	51.0	51.4	51.8	49.8	47.9	48.3	48.7	49.5	49.1	48.2
Switzerland	27.0	27.7	28.1	27.6	28.5	28.7	30.0	29.5	29.9	29.2	28.8	29.2	29.6	29.7
Turkey	16.5	16.8	18.9	20.7	21.1	23.1	24.2	26.1	24.6	25.9	24.1	24.3	24.5	23.7
United Kingdom	33.4	34.5	34.4	34.9	36.0	36.4	37.1	36.8	35.2	35.0	35.4	36.3	37.1	36.6
United States	27.5	27.9	28.3	28.7	29.3	29.4	29.9	28.8	26.5	25.9	26.1	27.3	28.0	28.3
OECD average	34.9	34.8	35.3	35.4	35.5	35.9	36.1	35.7	35.4	35.3	35.2	35.8	35.9	..

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544176163465>

Total tax revenue

As a percentage of GDP

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538248761026>

TOTAL TAX REVENUE

Taxes on income and profits

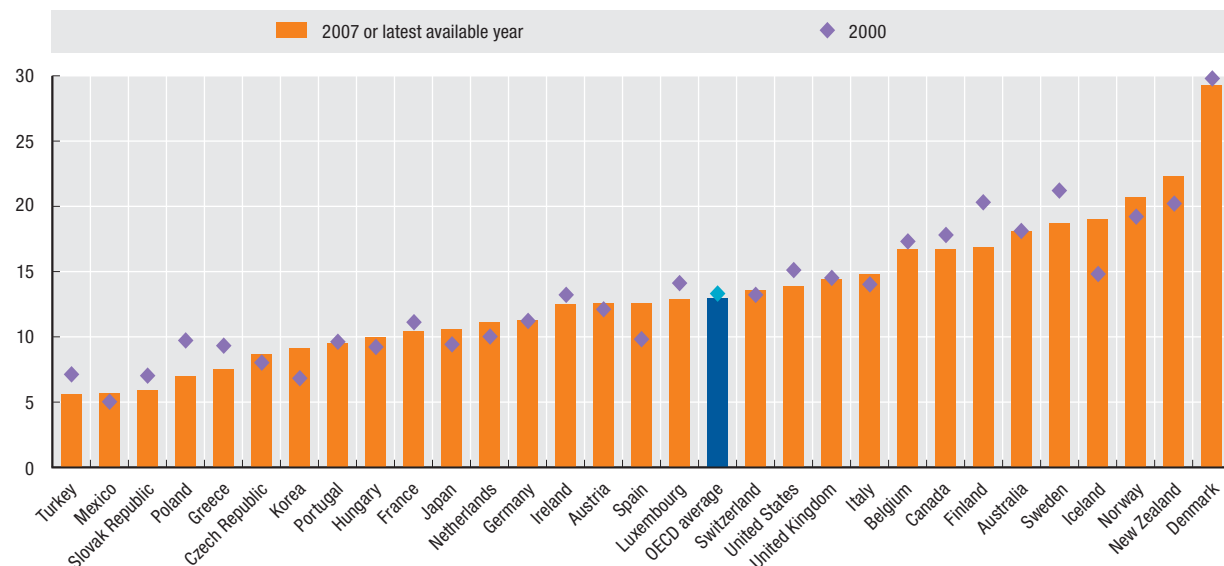
As a percentage of GDP

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	15.2	15.9	16.6	16.5	17.7	18.3	18.1	16.7	17.2	17.3	18.2	18.2	18.1	..
Austria	10.3	10.8	11.8	12.6	12.8	12.4	12.1	13.9	12.9	12.7	12.5	11.9	12.0	12.6
Belgium	16.0	16.6	16.6	17.0	17.5	17.1	17.3	17.5	17.3	16.9	16.9	17.2	16.8	16.7
Canada	15.8	16.5	16.9	17.9	17.7	18.1	17.8	16.7	15.4	15.4	15.7	15.9	16.2	16.7
Czech Republic	9.7	9.4	8.1	8.7	8.1	8.3	8.0	8.6	9.0	9.5	9.5	9.1	9.0	8.7
Denmark	30.0	30.1	30.2	29.8	29.4	29.6	29.8	28.7	28.5	28.8	29.6	31.1	29.5	29.3
Finland	16.4	16.5	18.2	17.7	18.1	17.8	20.3	18.2	18.1	17.0	16.8	16.8	16.6	16.9
France	7.0	7.0	7.4	8.1	10.2	10.8	11.1	11.2	10.4	10.0	10.2	10.3	10.7	10.4
Germany	11.0	11.3	10.5	10.2	10.7	11.1	11.2	10.4	9.9	9.7	9.5	9.8	10.8	11.3
Greece	6.0	6.4	6.4	6.8	8.1	8.4	9.3	8.0	8.0	7.4	7.5	7.9	7.5	..
Hungary	9.1	8.6	8.7	8.3	8.4	8.9	9.2	9.7	10.0	9.3	8.9	8.8	9.1	10.0
Iceland	10.2	10.6	11.3	11.5	13.0	14.2	14.8	15.3	15.3	16.0	16.1	17.6	18.3	19.0
Ireland	14.1	12.7	13.2	13.1	12.9	13.1	13.2	12.2	11.1	11.3	11.9	11.7	12.7	12.5
Italy	14.0	14.2	14.5	15.3	13.6	14.4	14.0	14.3	13.4	12.9	12.9	12.9	14.0	14.8
Japan	10.3	10.3	10.2	10.1	9.0	8.4	9.4	9.1	8.0	7.9	8.4	9.3	9.9	10.6
Korea	5.9	6.2	6.0	5.5	6.4	5.3	6.8	6.4	6.2	7.1	6.9	7.5	7.9	9.1
Luxembourg	13.9	14.6	14.9	15.6	15.1	13.9	14.1	14.3	14.4	13.9	12.4	13.0	12.5	12.9
Mexico	5.2	4.1	4.0	4.6	4.7	5.0	5.0	5.2	5.2	5.0	4.7	4.8	5.2	5.7
Netherlands	12.0	10.9	11.1	10.7	10.3	10.2	10.0	10.1	10.2	9.4	9.2	10.8	10.7	11.1
New Zealand	22.3	22.4	20.7	20.9	19.4	19.4	20.2	19.5	20.5	20.4	21.6	23.6	22.8	22.3
Norway	14.2	14.3	14.8	15.7	15.7	16.0	19.2	19.3	18.8	18.5	20.1	21.4	22.0	20.7
Poland	11.3	11.1	10.6	10.4	10.2	9.9	9.7	9.5	9.6	6.0	5.9	6.4	7.0	..
Portugal	7.9	7.9	8.6	8.7	8.5	9.1	9.6	9.1	8.9	8.4	8.3	8.2	8.5	9.5
Slovak Republic	..	..	..	..	8.5	8.5	7.0	7.0	6.6	6.8	5.7	5.7	5.8	5.9
Spain	9.3	9.4	9.2	9.8	9.4	9.6	9.8	9.7	10.1	9.8	9.9	10.6	11.4	12.6
Sweden	19.7	18.6	19.3	19.9	19.9	20.8	21.2	18.9	17.1	17.8	18.6	19.4	19.4	18.7
Switzerland	12.5	11.9	12.3	11.9	12.5	12.0	13.2	12.4	12.9	12.5	12.5	13.0	13.5	13.6
Turkey	4.9	4.8	5.0	5.7	7.0	7.3	7.1	7.5	6.1	6.1	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.6
United Kingdom	12.0	12.7	12.6	12.9	14.0	14.0	14.5	14.6	13.4	12.8	13.0	13.9	14.7	14.4
United States	12.3	12.8	13.5	14.0	14.4	14.6	15.1	14.1	11.7	11.2	11.4	12.7	13.5	13.9
OECD average	12.4	12.4	12.5	12.8	12.8	12.9	13.3	12.9	12.5	12.3	12.3	12.8	13.0	..

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544200010233>

Taxes on income and profits

As a percentage of GDP

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538274408848>

Taxes on goods and services

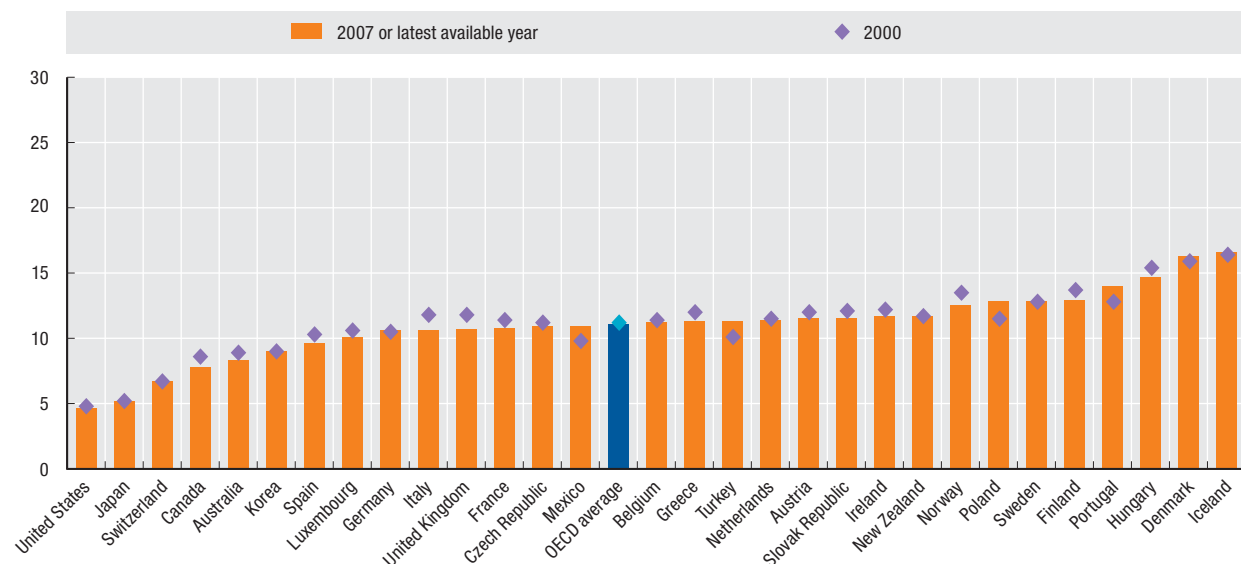
As a percentage of GDP

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	8.2	8.4	8.2	8.0	8.2	8.0	8.9	8.9	9.2	9.1	8.9	8.6	8.3	..
Austria	12.9	11.5	11.9	12.4	12.3	12.4	12.0	12.1	12.3	12.2	12.1	12.0	11.5	11.5
Belgium	11.4	11.2	11.5	11.7	11.1	11.5	11.4	11.0	11.1	11.0	11.2	11.3	11.4	11.2
Canada	9.2	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.1	8.8	8.6	8.8	8.9	8.9	8.7	8.5	8.1	7.8
Czech Republic	13.0	12.1	11.8	11.3	10.8	11.5	11.2	10.8	10.8	11.1	11.8	11.7	11.1	10.9
Denmark	15.5	15.7	16.1	16.1	16.4	16.5	15.9	15.9	16.0	15.8	16.0	16.3	16.3	16.3
Finland	14.4	13.8	13.9	14.5	14.1	14.2	13.7	13.2	13.5	14.1	13.8	13.8	13.5	12.9
France	11.6	11.7	12.2	12.0	11.9	12.0	11.4	11.1	11.1	11.0	11.1	11.1	10.9	10.8
Germany	10.7	10.4	10.3	10.1	10.0	10.4	10.5	10.4	10.3	10.4	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.6
Greece	12.1	11.9	12.2	12.3	12.0	12.2	12.0	12.5	12.2	11.5	11.1	10.8	11.3	..
Hungary	16.0	16.8	16.1	14.9	14.7	15.3	15.4	14.7	14.2	14.8	15.3	14.8	14.2	14.7
Iceland	15.0	15.2	15.6	15.3	15.9	17.0	16.4	14.3	14.4	15.1	16.0	17.1	17.6	16.6
Ireland	13.7	13.2	13.0	12.6	12.2	12.1	12.2	11.0	11.1	11.0	11.4	11.6	11.6	11.7
Italy	11.4	10.9	10.8	11.2	11.5	11.7	11.8	11.2	11.2	10.7	10.8	10.8	10.8	10.6
Japan	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.7	5.3	5.4	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.2
Korea	8.4	8.4	8.8	9.0	8.0	8.6	9.0	9.5	9.5	9.4	8.9	8.8	8.7	9.0
Luxembourg	10.2	9.9	9.8	10.4	10.5	10.4	10.6	10.5	10.6	10.5	11.2	10.9	10.0	10.1
Mexico	8.1	9.0	9.3	9.4	8.3	8.6	9.8	9.7	8.9	10.0	10.5	11.3	11.6	10.9
Netherlands	11.3	11.3	11.6	11.3	11.3	11.7	11.5	11.8	11.6	11.7	11.9	12.3	12.0	11.4
New Zealand	12.3	12.2	12.2	12.2	12.1	12.1	11.7	11.8	12.1	12.1	11.9	12.0	12.0	11.7
Norway	15.7	15.8	15.5	15.4	15.8	15.6	13.5	13.3	13.3	12.9	12.7	12.1	12.0	12.5
Poland	13.2	12.8	12.9	12.0	11.9	12.1	11.5	11.2	12.3	12.5	12.4	12.6	12.8	..
Portugal	13.5	12.9	13.2	12.8	13.1	13.3	12.8	12.9	13.2	13.3	13.3	13.9	14.5	14.0
Slovak Republic	..	..	..	..	12.5	11.9	12.1	11.0	11.2	12.1	12.3	12.7	11.5	11.5
Spain	9.3	9.2	9.3	9.5	9.8	10.2	10.3	9.9	9.8	9.9	9.9	10.0	9.9	9.6
Sweden	11.9	13.2	12.8	12.8	12.7	12.6	12.8	12.7	12.9	12.9	12.7	12.9	12.8	12.8
Switzerland	5.3	6.1	6.0	6.0	6.2	6.6	6.7	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.9	6.8	6.7
Turkey	6.1	6.3	7.2	7.7	7.6	8.3	10.1	10.5	11.5	12.8	11.5	12.0	11.9	11.3
United Kingdom	11.8	12.2	12.2	12.1	11.9	12.0	11.8	11.5	11.4	11.4	11.3	11.0	10.8	10.7
United States	5.1	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.6
OECD average	11.1	11.0	11.1	11.1	11.1	11.3	11.2	11.0	11.0	11.2	11.2	11.3	11.1	..

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544203635154>

Taxes on goods and services

As a percentage of GDP

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538337231323>

TAXES ON THE AVERAGE WORKER

This series, “taxes on a single average worker”, measures the ratio of the amount of taxes paid by a single average worker compared with the implied total labour cost for the employer. This “tax wedge” measure therefore represents the extent to which the tax system discourages employment.

Definition

The taxes included in the measure are personal income taxes, employees’ social security contributions and employers’ social security contributions. For the few countries that have them, it also includes payroll taxes. The amount of these taxes paid in relation to the employment of one average worker is expressed as a percentage of their labour cost (gross wage plus employers’ social security contributions and payroll tax).

An average worker is defined as somebody who earns the average income of full-time workers of the country concerned in sectors C-K of the International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC). The average worker is single, meaning that he or she does not receive any tax relief in respect of a spouse, unmarried partner or child.

Comparability

The types of taxes included in the measure are fully comparable across countries, as they are based on common definitions agreed by all OECD countries and published in Revenue Statistics.

The income levels of the workers are different in each country, but they are each equal to the average income of full-time workers in ISIC sectors C-K. Thus, they can be regarded as income levels that correspond to comparable types of work in each country.

The information on the average worker’s income level is supplied by the Ministries of Finance in all OECD countries and is based on national statistical surveys. The amount of taxes paid by the single worker is calculated by applying the tax laws of the country concerned. Thus, the “tax wedge” measures are therefore the result of a modeling exercise rather than direct observation of taxes actually paid.

Long-term trends

On average, the taxes on an average worker have decreased slightly since 2000 for the OECD as a whole. However, there are important differences between countries. 13 of the 30 OECD member countries experienced an overall increase in the taxes on an average worker since 2000. Countries with the largest increases included Japan, Greece and Korea. Of the 17 countries that have experienced an overall decline, the largest decreases were for Finland, Ireland and Sweden.

Source

- OECD (2008), *Taxing Wages 2006-2007*, 2007 Edition, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

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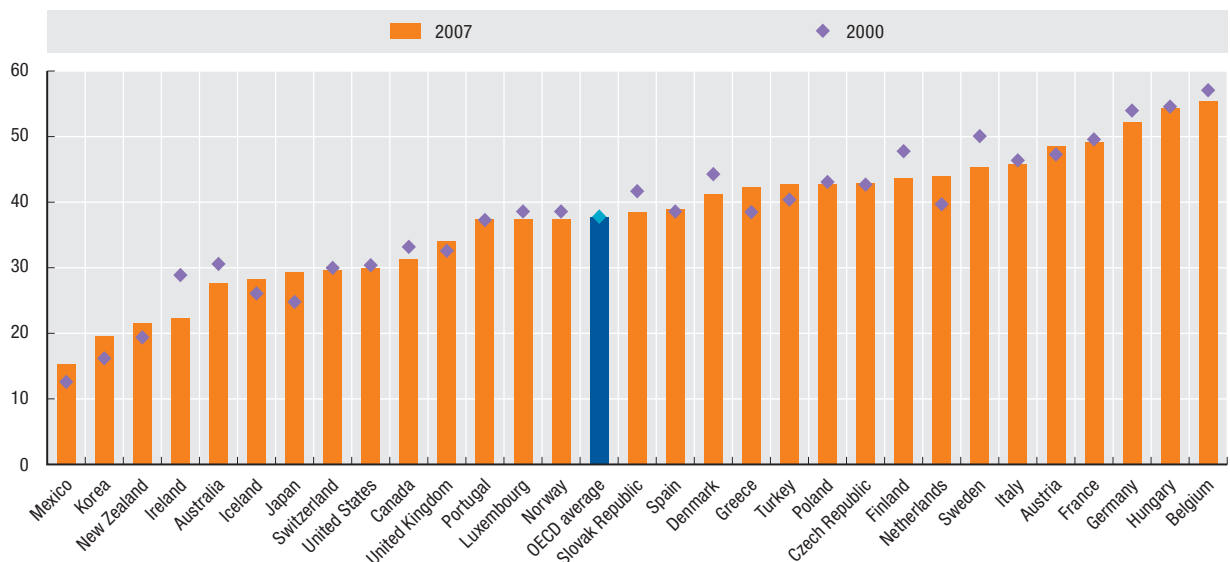
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- OECD (2008), *OECD Latin American Economic Outlook 2009*, OECD, Paris.

Websites

- OECD Tax Policy Analysis, www.oecd.org/ctp/tpa.
- OECD Centre for Tax Policy and Administration, www.oecd.org/ctp.
- OECD Benefits and Wages, www.oecd.org/els/social/workingincentives.

Taxes on the average worker*As a percentage of labour cost*

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	30.6	27.3	27.7	28.0	28.0	28.3	28.3	27.7
Austria	47.3	46.9	47.1	47.4	48.1	48.0	48.3	48.5
Belgium	57.1	56.7	56.3	55.7	55.4	55.5	55.5	55.5
Canada	33.2	32.0	32.1	32.0	32.0	31.9	31.9	31.3
Czech Republic	42.7	42.6	42.9	43.2	43.5	43.8	42.6	42.9
Denmark	44.3	43.6	42.6	42.6	41.3	41.1	41.3	41.3
Finland	47.8	46.4	45.9	45.0	44.5	44.6	44.1	43.7
France	49.6	49.8	49.8	49.8	49.9	50.0	50.2	49.2
Germany	54.0	53.0	53.5	54.2	53.2	53.1	53.3	52.2
Greece	38.5	38.2	39.0	37.9	40.0	40.5	41.9	42.3
Hungary	54.6	55.8	53.7	50.8	51.8	51.1	51.9	54.4
Iceland	26.1	26.9	28.4	29.2	29.4	29.6	29.5	28.3
Ireland	28.9	25.8	24.5	24.2	24.0	23.5	23.0	22.3
Italy	46.4	46.0	46.0	45.0	45.4	45.4	45.5	45.9
Japan	24.8	24.9	30.5	27.4	27.3	27.7	28.8	29.3
Korea	16.2	16.4	16.1	16.3	17.2	17.3	18.2	19.6
Luxembourg	38.6	37.0	34.2	34.7	35.1	35.9	36.6	37.5
Mexico	12.6	13.2	15.8	16.8	15.3	14.7	15.0	15.3
Netherlands	39.7	37.2	37.4	37.1	38.8	38.7	44.4	44.0
New Zealand	19.4	19.4	19.5	19.7	20.0	20.4	21.1	21.5
Norway	38.6	39.2	38.6	38.1	38.1	37.2	37.4	37.5
Poland	43.1	42.8	42.7	43.0	43.2	43.4	43.7	42.8
Portugal	37.3	36.4	36.6	36.8	37.8	37.3	37.4	37.4
Slovak Republic	41.7	42.7	42.5	42.9	42.5	38.3	38.5	38.5
Spain	38.6	38.8	39.1	38.5	38.7	38.9	39.1	38.9
Sweden	50.1	49.1	47.8	48.2	48.4	48.1	47.8	45.4
Switzerland	30.0	30.1	30.1	29.7	29.4	29.5	29.5	29.6
Turkey	40.4	43.6	42.5	42.2	42.8	42.8	42.7	42.7
United Kingdom	32.6	32.2	32.3	33.8	33.9	34.0	34.0	34.1
United States	30.4	30.3	30.1	29.9	29.8	29.7	29.9	30.0
OECD average	37.8	37.5	37.5	37.3	37.5	37.3	37.7	37.7

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544212780653>**Taxes on the average worker***As a percentage of labour cost*StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538364151820>





QUALITY OF LIFE

HEALTH

LIFE EXPECTANCY
INFANT MORTALITY
MENTAL HEALTH
OBESITY

SOCIETY

SUICIDE
SUBJECTIVE WELL-BEING
VOLUNTEERING AND SOCIAL SUPPORT
YOUTH INACTIVITY

LEISURE

LEISURE TIME
RECREATION AND CULTURE
TOURISM: HOTEL NIGHTS

SECURITY

VICTIMISATION RATES
ROAD FATALITIES

LIFE EXPECTANCY

Life expectancy at birth remains one of the most frequently quoted indicators of health status.

Gains in life expectancy in OECD countries in recent decades, reflecting sharp reductions in mortality rates, can be attributed to a number of factors, including rising living standards, improved lifestyle and better education, as well as greater access to quality health services. Other factors, such as better nutrition, sanitation and housing also played a role, particularly in countries with developing economies.

It is difficult to estimate the relative contribution of the numerous non-medical and medical factors that might affect variations in life expectancy over time and across countries. Higher national income (as measured by GDP per capita) is generally associated with higher life expectancy at birth across OECD countries, although the relationship is less pronounced at higher levels of income.

Long-term trends

On average across OECD countries, life expectancy at birth for the whole population reached 79 years in 2006, more than ten years greater than in 1960. In one-third of OECD countries, life expectancy at birth exceeded 80 years in 2006. The country with the highest life expectancy was Japan, with a life expectancy for women and men combined of 82.4 years. At the other end of the scale, life expectancy in OECD countries was the lowest in Turkey, followed by Hungary. However, while life expectancy in Hungary has increased only modestly since 1960, it has increased sharply in Turkey, rapidly catching up with the OECD average.

The gender gap in life expectancy stood at 5.6 years on average across OECD countries in 2006, with life expectancy reaching 76.1 years among men and 81.7 years among women. This gender gap increased by half-a-year on average across countries between 1960 and 2006. But this result hides different trends between earlier and later decades. While the gender gap in life expectancy increased substantially in many countries during the 1960s and the 1970s, it narrowed during the past 25 years, reflecting higher gains in life expectancy among men than among women in most OECD countries. The narrowing of the gender gap in life expectancy over the past 25 years can be attributed at least partly to the narrowing of differences in risk-increasing behaviours, such as smoking, between men and women, accompanied by sharp reductions in mortality rates from cardio-vascular diseases among men.

Definition

Life expectancy measures how long on average people would live based on a given set of age-specific death rates. However, the actual age-specific death rates of any particular birth cohort cannot be known in advance. If age-specific death rates are falling (as has been the case over the past decades in OECD countries), actual life spans will be higher than life expectancy calculated with current death rates.

Comparability

Each country calculates its life expectancy according to methodologies that can vary somewhat. These differences in methodology can affect the comparability of reported life expectancy estimates, as different methods can change a country's estimates by a fraction of a year.

Source

- OECD (2008), *OECD Health Data 2008*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

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- OECD (2007), *Health at a Glance 2007: OECD Indicators*, OECD, Paris.
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Online databases

- OECD Health Data.

Websites

- OECD Health Data, www.oecd.org/health/healthdata.



Life expectancy at birth: total

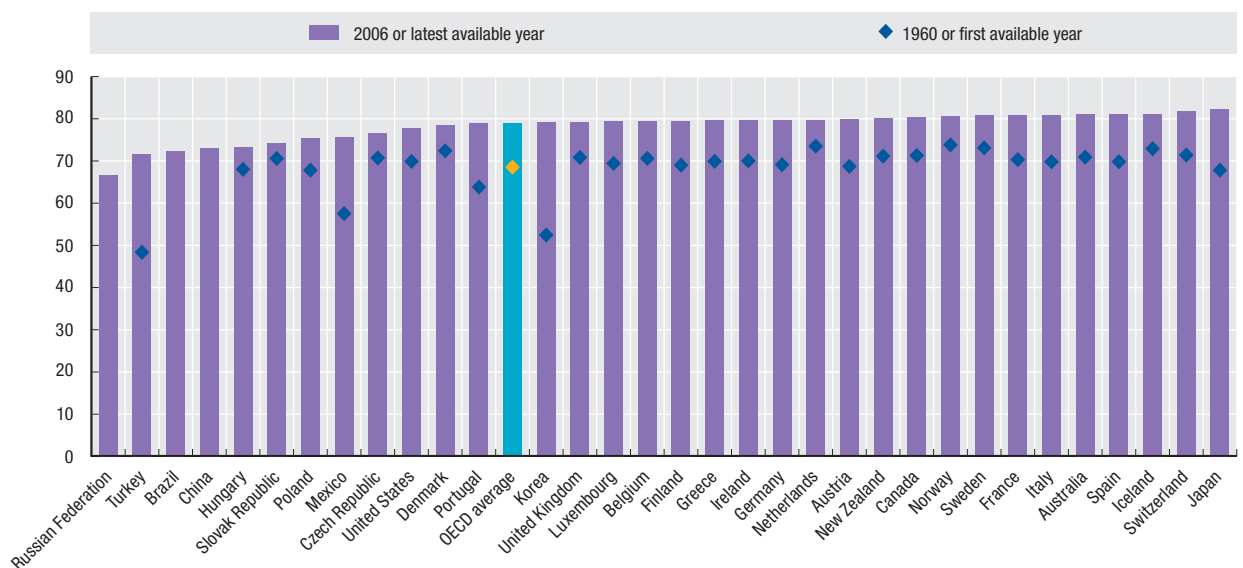
Number of years

	1960	1970	1980	1990	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Australia	70.9	70.8	74.6	77.0	77.9	79.3	79.7	80.0	80.3	80.6	80.9	81.1
Austria	68.7	70.0	72.6	75.5	76.6	78.1	78.6	78.8	78.8	79.3	79.5	79.9
Belgium	70.6	71.0	73.3	76.1	77.0	77.8	78.1	78.2	78.2	78.9	79.1	79.5
Canada	71.3	72.9	75.3	77.6	78.1	79.3	79.6	79.7	79.9	80.2	80.4	..
Czech Republic	70.7	69.6	70.5	71.6	73.3	75.1	75.4	75.4	75.3	75.9	76.1	76.7
Denmark	72.4	73.3	74.3	74.9	75.3	76.9	77.0	77.1	77.4	77.8	78.3	78.4
Finland	69.0	70.8	73.4	75.0	76.6	77.7	78.2	78.3	78.5	79.0	79.1	79.5
France	70.3	72.2	74.3	76.9	77.9	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.3	80.3	80.2	80.9
Germany	69.1	70.6	72.9	75.3	76.6	78.2	78.5	78.5	78.6	79.2	79.4	79.8
Greece	69.9	72.0	74.5	77.1	77.7	78.0	78.5	78.7	78.9	79.1	79.3	79.6
Hungary	68.0	69.2	69.1	69.4	69.9	71.7	72.3	72.6	72.6	72.8	72.8	73.2
Iceland	72.9	74.3	76.7	78.0	78.0	80.1	80.2	80.6	81.2	81.0	81.2	81.2
Ireland	70.0	71.2	72.9	74.9	75.6	76.6	77.2	77.9	78.4	78.9	79.5	79.7
Italy	69.8	72.0	74.0	77.2	78.4	80.0	80.2	80.3	80.0	80.9	80.9	..
Japan	67.8	72.0	76.1	78.9	79.6	81.2	81.5	81.8	81.9	82.1	82.0	82.4
Korea	52.4	62.2	65.9	71.4	73.5	76.0	76.4	77.0	77.4	78.0	78.5	79.1
Luxembourg	69.4	70.3	72.5	75.6	76.8	78.0	77.9	78.1	77.8	79.1	79.5	79.4
Mexico	57.5	60.9	67.2	71.2	72.7	74.1	74.4	74.6	74.9	75.2	75.5	75.7
Netherlands	73.5	73.7	75.9	77.0	77.5	78.0	78.3	78.4	78.6	79.2	79.4	79.8
New Zealand	71.1	71.5	73.2	75.5	76.8	78.4	78.7	79.0	79.2	79.6	79.9	80.2
Norway	73.8	74.4	75.9	76.7	77.9	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.6	80.1	80.3	80.6
Poland	67.8	70.0	70.2	70.7	72.0	73.9	74.3	74.6	74.7	75.0	75.1	75.3
Portugal	63.8	66.6	71.4	74.1	75.4	76.7	77.0	77.2	77.4	78.3	78.1	78.9
Slovak Republic	70.6	69.8	70.6	71.0	72.4	73.3	73.6	73.8	73.9	74.1	74.0	74.3
Spain	69.8	72.0	75.4	77.0	78.1	79.4	79.7	79.8	79.7	80.3	80.4	81.1
Sweden	73.1	74.7	75.8	77.6	78.8	79.7	79.9	79.9	80.2	80.6	80.6	80.8
Switzerland	71.4	73.1	75.7	77.5	78.7	79.9	80.4	80.6	80.6	81.2	81.4	81.7
Turkey	48.3	54.2	58.1	66.1	67.9	70.5	70.6	70.8	71.0	71.2	71.4	71.6
United Kingdom	70.8	71.9	73.2	75.7	76.7	77.9	78.2	78.3	78.4	78.9	79.1	..
United States	69.9	70.9	73.7	75.3	75.7	76.8	77.1	77.2	77.5	77.8	77.8	..
OECD average	68.5	70.3	72.6	74.9	76.0	77.4	77.7	77.9	78.0	78.5	78.7	79.0
Brazil	..	..	62.7	66.6	68.6	70.5	70.8	71.1	71.4	71.7	72.0	72.3
China	..	..	..	68.6	..	71.4	..	..	..	..	73.0	..
Russian Federation	..	..	67.5	69.2	64.5	65.3	65.2	65.0	64.9	65.3	65.3	66.6

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544223472072>

Life expectancy at birth: total

Number of years

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538382241346>

LIFE EXPECTANCY

Life expectancy at birth: men

Number of years

	1960	1970	1980	1990	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Australia	67.9	67.4	71.0	73.9	75.0	76.6	77.0	77.4	77.8	78.1	78.5	78.7
Austria	65.4	66.5	69.0	72.2	73.3	75.1	75.6	75.8	75.9	76.4	76.7	77.1
Belgium	67.7	67.8	69.9	72.7	73.5	74.6	75.0	75.1	75.3	76.0	76.2	76.6
Canada	68.4	69.3	71.7	74.4	75.1	76.7	77.0	77.2	77.4	77.8	78.0	..
Czech Republic	67.8	66.1	66.9	67.6	69.7	71.7	72.1	72.1	72.0	72.6	72.9	73.5
Denmark	70.4	70.7	71.2	72.0	72.7	74.5	74.7	74.8	75.0	75.4	76.0	76.1
Finland	65.5	66.5	69.2	71.0	72.8	74.2	74.6	74.9	75.1	75.4	75.6	75.9
France	67.0	68.4	70.2	72.8	73.9	75.3	75.5	75.7	75.8	76.7	76.7	77.3
Germany	66.5	67.5	69.6	72.0	73.3	75.1	75.6	75.7	75.8	76.5	76.7	77.2
Greece	67.3	70.1	72.2	74.6	75.0	75.5	75.9	76.2	76.5	76.6	76.8	77.1
Hungary	65.9	66.3	65.5	65.1	65.3	67.4	68.1	68.4	68.4	68.6	68.6	69.0
Iceland	70.7	71.2	73.7	75.4	75.9	78.4	78.1	78.7	79.7	79.2	79.2	79.4
Ireland	68.1	68.8	70.1	72.1	72.8	74.0	74.5	75.2	75.9	76.4	77.3	77.3
Italy	67.2	69.0	70.6	73.9	75.1	77.0	77.2	77.4	77.1	77.9	78.1	..
Japan	65.3	69.3	73.4	75.9	76.4	77.7	78.1	78.3	78.4	78.6	78.6	79.0
Korea	51.1	58.7	61.8	67.3	69.6	72.3	72.8	73.4	73.9	74.5	75.1	75.7
Luxembourg	66.5	67.1	69.1	72.4	73.0	74.6	75.1	74.6	74.8	75.9	76.7	76.8
Mexico	55.8	58.5	64.1	68.3	70.0	71.6	71.9	72.1	72.4	72.7	73.0	73.2
Netherlands	71.5	70.8	72.5	73.8	74.6	75.5	75.8	76.0	76.2	76.9	77.2	77.6
New Zealand	68.4	68.4	70.1	72.5	74.1	75.9	76.3	76.7	77.0	77.5	77.9	78.1
Norway	71.6	71.2	72.4	73.4	74.8	76.0	76.2	76.4	77.1	77.6	77.8	78.2
Poland	64.9	66.6	66.0	66.2	67.6	69.7	70.2	70.4	70.5	70.7	70.8	70.9
Portugal	61.0	63.6	67.9	70.6	71.7	73.2	73.5	73.8	74.2	75.0	74.9	75.5
Slovak Republic	68.4	66.7	66.8	66.6	68.4	69.1	69.5	69.8	69.9	70.3	70.1	70.4
Spain	67.4	69.2	72.3	73.4	74.4	75.8	76.2	76.3	76.3	76.9	77.0	77.7
Sweden	71.2	72.2	72.8	74.8	76.2	77.4	77.6	77.7	77.9	78.4	78.4	78.7
Switzerland	68.7	70.0	72.3	74.0	75.4	77.0	77.5	77.9	78.0	78.6	78.7	79.2
Turkey	46.3	52.0	55.8	63.8	65.6	68.1	68.2	68.4	68.6	68.8	68.9	69.1
United Kingdom	67.9	68.7	70.2	72.9	74.0	75.5	75.8	76.0	76.2	76.8	77.1	..
United States	66.6	67.1	70.0	71.8	72.5	74.1	74.4	74.5	74.8	75.2	75.2	..
OECD average	65.9	67.2	69.3	71.6	72.7	74.3	74.7	74.9	75.1	75.6	75.8	76.1
Brazil	..	..	59.6	62.8	64.8	66.7	67.0	67.3	67.6	67.9	68.1	68.4
Russian Federation	..	..	61.5	63.7	58.1	59.0	58.9	58.7	58.6	58.9	58.9	60.4

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544240158677>

Life expectancy at birth: men

Number of years



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538443824282>



Life expectancy at birth: women

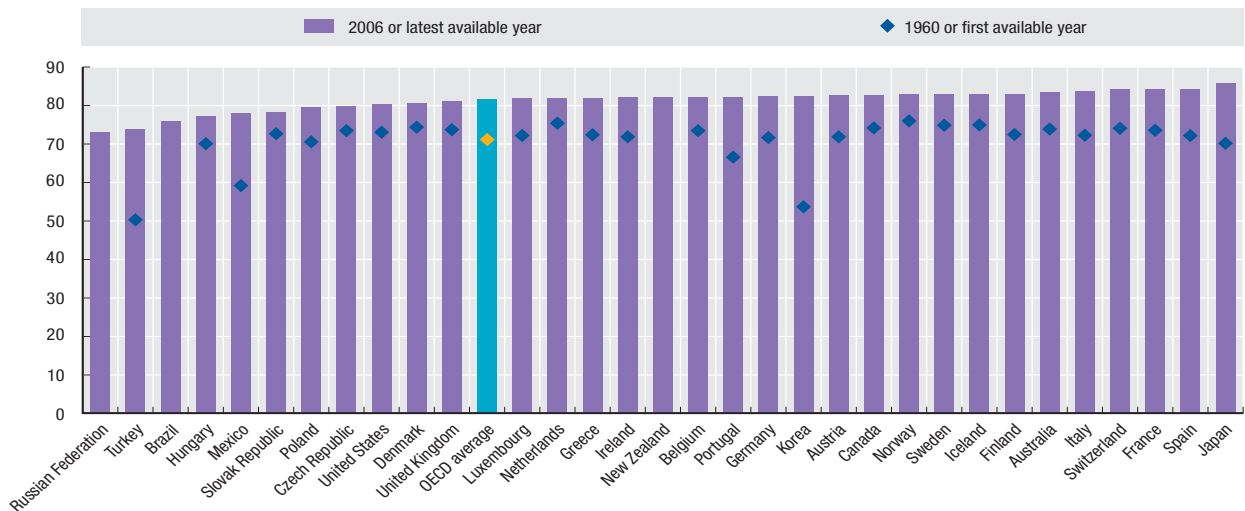
Number of years

	1960	1970	1980	1990	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Australia	73.9	74.2	78.1	80.1	80.8	82.0	82.4	82.6	82.8	83.0	83.3	83.5
Austria	71.9	73.4	76.1	78.8	79.9	81.1	81.5	81.7	81.6	82.1	82.2	82.7
Belgium	73.5	74.2	76.7	79.5	80.4	81.0	81.2	81.2	81.1	81.8	81.9	82.3
Canada	74.2	76.4	78.9	80.8	81.1	81.9	82.1	82.1	82.4	82.6	82.7	..
Czech Republic	73.5	73.1	74.0	75.5	76.8	78.5	78.6	78.7	78.6	79.2	79.2	79.9
Denmark	74.4	75.9	77.3	77.8	77.9	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.8	80.2	80.5	80.7
Finland	72.5	75.0	77.6	79.0	80.4	81.2	81.7	81.6	81.9	82.5	82.5	83.1
France	73.6	75.9	78.4	80.9	81.8	83.0	83.0	83.0	82.7	83.8	83.7	84.4
Germany	71.7	73.6	76.2	78.5	79.9	81.2	81.4	81.3	81.3	81.9	82.0	82.4
Greece	72.4	73.8	76.8	79.5	80.3	80.5	81.0	81.1	81.3	81.5	81.7	82.0
Hungary	70.1	72.1	72.7	73.7	74.5	75.9	76.4	76.7	76.7	76.9	76.9	77.4
Iceland	75.0	77.3	79.7	80.5	80.0	81.8	82.2	82.5	82.7	82.7	83.1	83.0
Ireland	71.9	73.5	75.6	77.7	78.3	79.2	79.9	80.5	80.8	81.4	81.7	82.1
Italy	72.3	74.9	77.4	80.4	81.6	82.9	83.2	83.2	82.8	83.8	83.7	..
Japan	70.2	74.7	78.8	81.9	82.9	84.6	84.9	85.2	85.3	85.6	85.5	85.8
Korea	53.7	65.6	70.0	75.5	77.4	79.6	80.0	80.5	80.8	81.4	81.9	82.4
Luxembourg	72.2	73.4	75.9	78.7	80.6	81.3	80.7	81.5	80.8	82.3	82.3	81.9
Mexico	59.2	63.2	70.2	74.1	75.3	76.5	76.8	77.1	77.4	77.6	77.9	78.1
Netherlands	75.4	76.5	79.2	80.1	80.4	80.5	80.7	80.7	80.9	81.4	81.6	81.9
New Zealand	73.8	74.5	76.2	78.4	79.5	80.8	81.1	81.2	81.3	81.7	81.9	82.2
Norway	76.0	77.5	79.3	79.9	80.9	81.5	81.6	81.6	82.1	82.6	82.7	82.9
Poland	70.6	73.3	74.4	75.2	76.4	78.0	78.3	78.7	78.8	79.2	79.4	79.6
Portugal	66.6	69.6	74.9	77.5	79.0	80.2	80.5	80.6	80.6	81.5	81.3	82.3
Slovak Republic	72.7	72.9	74.3	75.4	76.3	77.4	77.7	77.7	77.8	77.8	77.9	78.2
Spain	72.2	74.8	78.4	80.6	81.8	82.9	83.2	83.2	83.0	83.7	83.7	84.4
Sweden	74.9	77.1	78.8	80.4	81.4	82.0	82.1	82.1	82.5	82.7	82.8	82.9
Switzerland	74.1	76.2	79.0	80.9	81.9	82.8	83.2	83.2	83.2	83.8	84.0	84.2
Turkey	50.3	56.3	60.3	68.3	70.2	72.8	73.0	73.2	73.4	73.6	73.8	74.0
United Kingdom	73.7	75.0	76.2	78.5	79.3	80.3	80.5	80.6	80.5	81.0	81.1	..
United States	73.1	74.7	77.4	78.8	78.9	79.5	79.8	79.9	80.1	80.4	80.4	..
OECD average	71.0	73.3	76.0	78.2	79.2	80.3	80.6	80.8	80.8	81.3	81.4	81.7
Brazil	..	..	65.7	70.4	72.3	74.3	74.6	74.9	75.2	75.5	75.8	76.1
Russian Federation	..	..	73.0	74.3	71.6	72.3	72.2	71.9	71.8	72.3	72.4	73.2

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544284347660>

Life expectancy at birth: women

Number of years

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538511484418>

INFANT MORTALITY

Numerous studies have taken infant mortality rates as a health outcome to examine the effect of a variety of medical and non-medical determinants of health. The infant mortality rate, the rate at which babies of less than one year of age die, reflects the effect of economic and social conditions on the health of mothers and newborns as well as the effectiveness of health systems. The fact that some countries with a high level of health expenditure do not necessarily exhibit low levels of infant mortality has led to the conclusion that more health spending is not necessarily required to obtain better results. A body of research suggests that many factors beyond the quality and efficiency of the health system, such as income inequality, social environment, and individual lifestyles and attitudes, influence infant mortality rates.

Definition

The infant mortality rate is the number of deaths of children under one year of age expressed per 1 000 live births. Neonatal mortality refers to the death of children under 28 days.

Long-term trends

All OECD countries have achieved remarkable progress in reducing infant mortality rates from the levels of 1970, when the average was approaching 30 deaths per 1 000 live births. The OECD average in 2006 stood at 5.2 deaths per 1 000 live births, which equates to a reduction of over 80% since 1970. Portugal has seen its infant mortality rate reduced by over 90% since 1970, moving from the country with the highest rate in Europe to one with an infant mortality rate among the lowest in the OECD in 2006. Large reductions in infant mortality rates have also been observed in Korea. On the other hand, the reduction in infant mortality rates has been slower in the United States.

Around two-thirds of the deaths that occur during the first year of life are neonatal deaths (i.e. during the first four weeks). Congenital malformations, prematurity and other conditions arising during pregnancy are the principal factors contributing to neonatal mortality in developed countries. With an increasing number of women deferring childbearing and the rise in multiple births linked with fertility treatments, the number of pre-term births has tended to increase. In a number of higher-income countries, this has contributed to a leveling-off of the downward trend in infant mortality rates over the past few years. For deaths beyond a month (post neonatal mortality), there tends to be a greater range of causes – the most common being SIDS (sudden infant death syndrome), birth defects, infections and accidents.

Comparability

Some of the international variation in infant and neonatal mortality rates may be due to variations among countries in registering practices of premature infants (whether they are reported as live births or fetal deaths). In several countries, such as in the United States, Canada, Japan and the Nordic countries, very premature babies with relatively low odds of survival are registered as live births, which increases mortality rates compared with other countries that do not register them as live births.

Source

- OECD (2008), *OECD Health Data 2008*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2004), *The OECD Health Project: Towards High-Performing Health Systems*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2004), *The OECD Health Project: Towards High-Performing Health Systems – Policy Studies*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2008), *OECD Health Policy Studies: The Looming Crisis in the Health Workforce: How Can OECD Countries Respond?*, OECD, Paris.

Statistical publications

- OECD (2006), *Economic Valuation of Environmental Health Risks to Children*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2007), *Health at a Glance 2007: OECD Indicators*, OECD, Paris.

Online databases

- OECD Health Data.

Websites

- OECD Health Data, www.oecd.org/health/healthdata.



Infant mortality

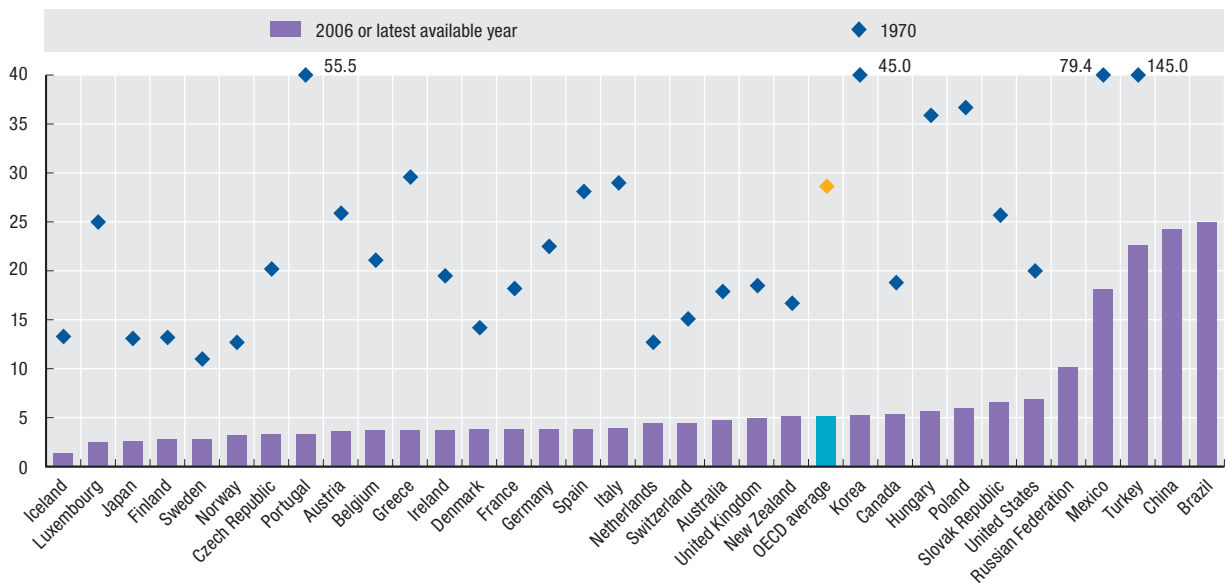
Deaths per 1 000 live births

	1970	1980	1990	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Australia	17.9	10.7	8.2	5.7	5.2	5.3	5.0	4.8	4.7	5.0	4.7
Austria	25.9	14.3	7.8	5.4	4.8	4.8	4.1	4.5	4.5	4.2	3.6
Belgium	21.1	12.1	6.5	5.9	4.8	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.3	3.7	..
Canada	18.8	10.4	6.8	6.1	5.3	5.2	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.4	..
Czech Republic	20.2	16.9	10.8	7.7	4.1	4.0	4.1	3.9	3.7	3.4	3.3
Denmark	14.2	8.4	7.5	5.1	5.3	4.9	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	3.8
Finland	13.2	7.6	5.6	3.9	3.8	3.2	3.0	3.1	3.3	3.0	2.8
France	18.2	10.0	7.3	4.9	4.5	4.6	4.2	4.2	4.0	3.8	3.8
Germany	22.5	12.4	7.0	5.3	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.1	3.9	3.8
Greece	29.6	17.9	9.7	8.1	5.4	5.1	5.1	4.0	4.1	3.8	3.7
Hungary	35.9	23.2	14.8	10.7	9.2	8.1	7.2	7.3	6.6	6.2	5.7
Iceland	13.3	7.8	5.8	6.0	3.0	2.7	2.3	2.4	2.8	2.3	1.4
Ireland	19.5	11.1	8.2	6.4	6.2	5.7	5.0	5.3	4.6	4.0	3.7
Italy	29.0	14.6	8.2	6.2	4.5	4.6	4.3	3.9	3.9	..	..
Japan	13.1	7.5	4.6	4.3	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.6
Korea	45.0	17.0	10.0	7.7	6.2	..	5.3	..	..	..	..
Luxembourg	25.0	11.4	7.3	5.5	5.1	5.9	5.1	4.9	3.9	2.6	2.5
Mexico	79.4	51.0	36.2	27.6	23.3	22.4	21.4	20.5	19.7	18.8	18.1
Netherlands	12.7	8.6	7.1	5.5	5.1	5.4	5.0	4.8	4.4	4.9	4.4
New Zealand	16.7	13.0	8.4	6.7	6.3	5.6	6.2	5.4	5.9	5.0	5.2
Norway	12.7	8.1	6.9	4.0	3.8	3.9	3.5	3.4	3.2	3.1	3.2
Poland	36.7	25.5	19.3	13.6	8.1	7.7	7.5	7.0	6.8	6.4	6.0
Portugal	55.5	24.2	11.0	7.5	5.5	5.0	5.0	4.1	3.8	3.5	3.3
Slovak Republic	25.7	20.9	12.0	11.0	8.6	6.2	7.6	7.9	6.8	7.2	6.6
Spain	28.1	12.3	7.6	5.5	4.4	4.1	4.1	3.9	4.0	3.8	3.8
Sweden	11.0	6.9	6.0	4.1	3.4	3.7	3.3	3.1	3.1	2.4	2.8
Switzerland	15.1	9.1	6.8	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.0	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.4
Turkey	145.0	117.5	55.4	43.0	28.9	27.8	26.7	28.7	24.6	23.6	22.6
United Kingdom	18.5	12.1	7.9	6.2	5.6	5.5	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.0
United States	20.0	12.6	9.2	7.6	6.9	6.8	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.9	..
OECD average	28.1	17.9	11.0	8.4	6.7	6.4	6.1	6.0	5.7	5.4	5.2
Brazil	..	69.1	47.0	37.9	30.1	29.2	28.4	27.5	26.6	25.8	25.0
China	..	..	32.9	..	28.4	..	..	..	..	24.3	..
Russian Federation	..	22.1	17.4	18.1	15.3	14.6	13.3	12.4	11.6	11.0	10.2

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544372178375>

Infant mortality

Deaths per 1 000 live births



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538513502878>

MENTAL HEALTH

Mental health disorders are a major burden on those who suffer them and on the public at large. The economic cost of mental health problems – including treatment and the indirect cost of lost productivity and days off work – are estimated at more than 2% of GDP in the United Kingdom and slightly less in Canada.

Definition

The first data set used here is from large-scale epidemiological surveys implemented as part of the World Health Organisation World Mental Health Survey Initiative (WMHSI). These surveys were conducted between 2002 and 2005 in 10 OECD countries. They use a common diagnostic instrument to measure the occurrence of various types of disorders, their nature and intensity, and the treatment provided. Disorders considered include anxiety disorders, mood disorders, disorders linked to impulse control and disorders due to use of alcohol and drugs. All disorders are classified as serious, moderate, or mild.

The second set of data is from the European Quality of Life Survey conducted in 2007 by the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions. These data are based on the following question: Please indicate for

each for the five statements which is closest to how you have been feeling over the last two weeks – I have felt cheerful and in good spirits; I have felt calm and relaxed; I have felt active and vigorous; I woke up feeling fresh and rested; my day has been filled with things that interest me (all of the time, most of the time, more than half of the time, less than half of the time, some of the time, never). The total score on all statements is multiplied by 4 to get a score that has a maximum value of 100.

Comparability

The WMHSI data typically cover people aged 18 and over in most countries, with the exceptions of New Zealand (16 and above), Japan (20 and above) and Mexico (18 to 65). Sample sizes range between around 2 000 (the Netherlands), and 13 000 (New Zealand), and response rates between 50% (Belgium) and 80% (New Zealand). Samples are nationally representative in most countries, but they refer to all urban areas in Mexico and to four metropolitan areas in Japan. The European surveys do not assess bipolar disorders and substance abuse, limiting comparability.

The European Quality of Life Survey covers a larger number of European countries plus Turkey. The resulting index is based on self-reports picking up depressive-style symptoms. Thus country rankings from this survey cannot be compared to those of the WMHSI data.

Overview

Mental health problems are not uncommon. The share of people reporting having experienced any type of mental health disorder in the previous year ranged from 9% in Italy, Japan, Spain and Germany, to between 12 and 15% in Belgium, Mexico and the Netherlands, 18% in France and 26% in the United States. More people report having incurred some mental health disorders during their lifetime, with shares ranging from 18% in Italy and Japan, to around 40% or more in New Zealand and the United States.

In all countries, the most common disorders are due to anxiety followed by mood disorders. Rarer are those due to impulse control and use of substances. A large part of all mental disorders are classified as mild, but close to 5% of the population of the countries covered report moderate disorders, and a further 3% serious disorders – with a prevalence close to 10% in the United States.

Most mental health disorders go untreated. The proportion of disorders receiving treatment varies from 8% in Italy to 26% in the United States. While the proportion of treatment is higher for serious and moderate cases (at 48% and 31%, respectively), many serious cases receive no treatment.

Across the 21 European countries, the mental health index reveals relatively poor mental health in Turkey and, to a lesser extent, in Italy and Poland. The mental health index suggests good levels of mental health in Norway, followed by the Netherlands, Ireland and Denmark. Differences are relatively small for countries ranked in the middle of distribution of the mental health index.

Source

- OECD (2008), *OECD Employment Outlook 2008*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2009), *Society at a Glance: OECD Social Indicators*, 2008 Edition, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- WHO World Mental Health Survey Consortium (2007), *Prevalence, Severity, and Unmet need for Treatment of Mental Disorders in the World Health Organisation World Mental Health Surveys*, American Medical Association, Vol. 291, No. 21, June.
- Kessler R.C. et al. (2007), *Lifetime prevalence and age-of-onset distributions of mental disorders in the World Health Organisation World Mental Health Survey Initiative*, *World Psychiatry*, Vol. 6, October.

Websites

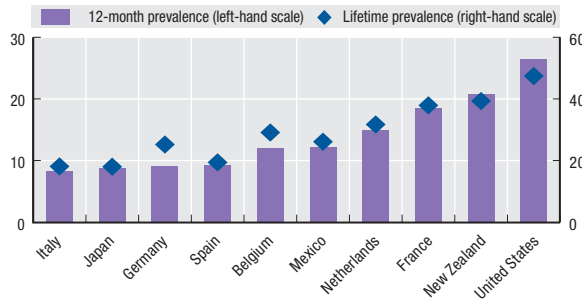
- Second European Quality of Life Survey – First Findings (2008), European Foundation, www.eurofound.europa.eu/publications/htmlfiles/ef0852.htm.



MENTAL HEALTH

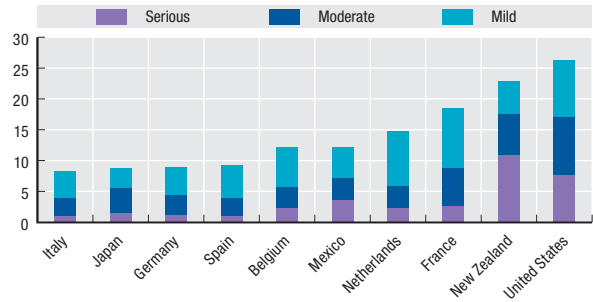
Prevalence of mental health problems

As a percentage of total population, 2003 or latest available year



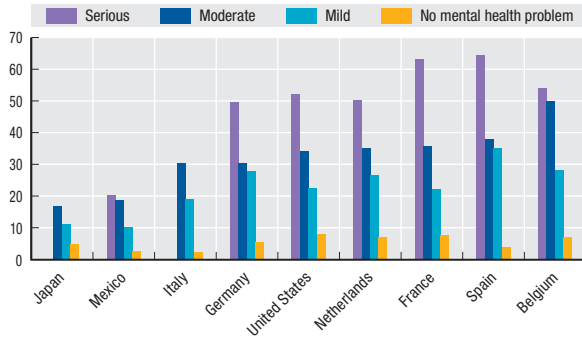
12-month prevalence by severity

As a percentage of total population, 2003 or latest available year



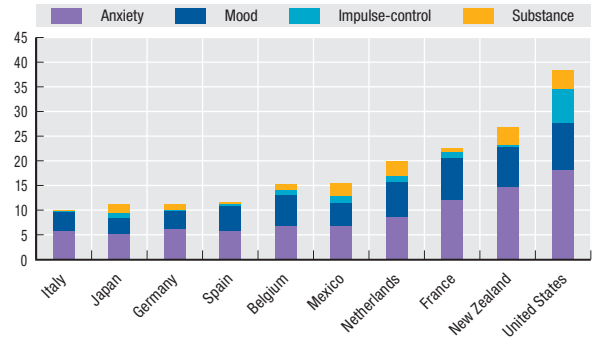
Share of people receiving treatment

As a percentage of people with different forms of mental health problems, 2003 or latest available year



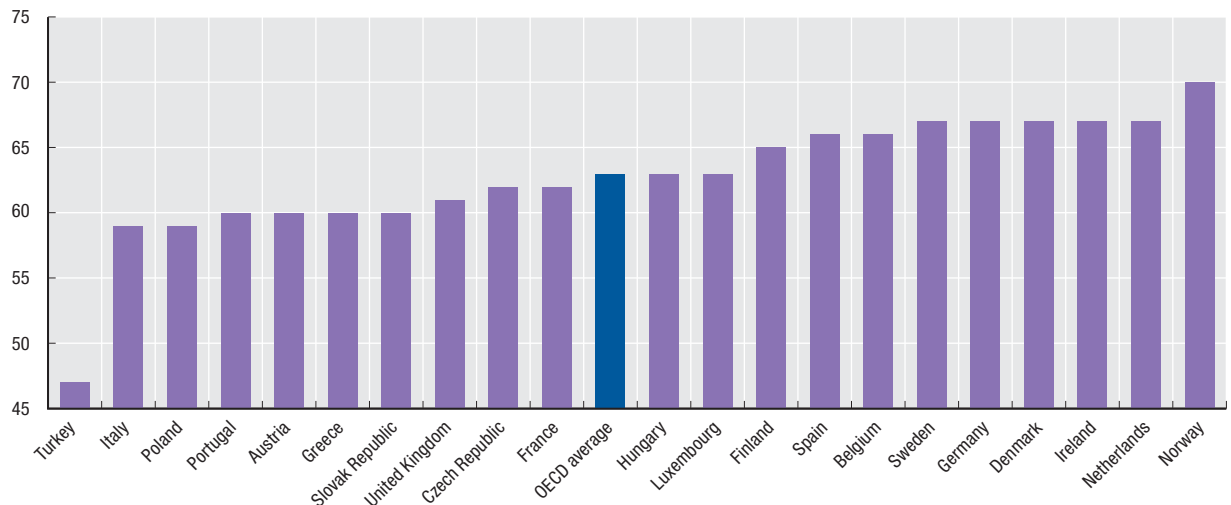
12-month prevalence by type

As a percentage of total mental disorders, 2003 or latest available year



Mental health index

Mean scores in percentages, 2007



OBESITY

Obesity is a known risk factor for numerous health problems, including hypertension, high cholesterol, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, respiratory problems (asthma), musculoskeletal diseases (arthritis) and some forms of cancer. At an individual level, several factors can lead to obesity, including excessive calorie consumption, lack of physical activity, genetic predisposition and disorders of the endocrine system.

Because obesity is associated with higher risks of chronic illnesses, it is linked to significant additional health care costs.

Definition

The most frequently used measure of overweight and obesity is based on the body mass index (BMI), which is a single number that evaluates an individual's weight status in relation to height (weight/height², with weight in kilograms and height in meters). Based on the WHO current classification, adults with a BMI between 25 and 30 are defined as overweight, and those with a BMI over 30 as obese.

Long-term trends

Half or more of the adult population is now defined as either being overweight or obese in no less than 11 OECD countries: Mexico, the United States, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, Australia, Greece, Luxembourg, Hungary, the Czech Republic, the Slovak Republic and Spain. By comparison, overweight and obesity rates are much lower in the OECD's two Asian countries (Japan and Korea) and in some European countries (France and Switzerland), although overweight and obesity rates are also increasing in these countries. Focusing only on obesity, the prevalence of obesity among adults varies from a low of 4% in Japan and Korea to over 30% in the United States and Mexico.

Based on consistent measures of obesity over time, the rate of obesity has more than doubled over the past twenty years in the United States, while it has almost tripled in Australia and more than tripled in the United Kingdom. The obesity rate in many Western European countries has also increased substantially over the past decade.

In all countries, more men are overweight than women, but in almost half of OECD countries, more women are obese than men. Taking overweight and obesity together, the rate for women exceeds that for men in only two countries – Mexico and Turkey.

Comparability

The BMI classification may not be suitable for all ethnic groups, who may have equivalent levels of risk at lower BMI (for example, Asians) or higher BMI. The thresholds for adults are also not suitable to measure overweight and obesity among children.

For most countries, data on obesity are self-reported through population-based health interview surveys. The exceptions are Australia, the Czech Republic (2005), Japan, Luxembourg, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States, where the data are derived from health examinations whereby actual measures are taken of people's height and weight. These differences in data collection methodologies seriously limit data comparability. Estimates from health examinations are generally higher and more reliable than those coming from health interviews.

Source

- OECD (2008), *OECD Health Data 2008*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2004), *The OECD Health Project: Towards High-Performing Health Systems*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2004), *The OECD Health Project: Towards High-Performing Health Systems – Policy Studies*, OECD, Paris.

Statistical publications

- OECD (2007), *Health at a Glance 2007: OECD Indicators*, OECD, Paris.

Online databases

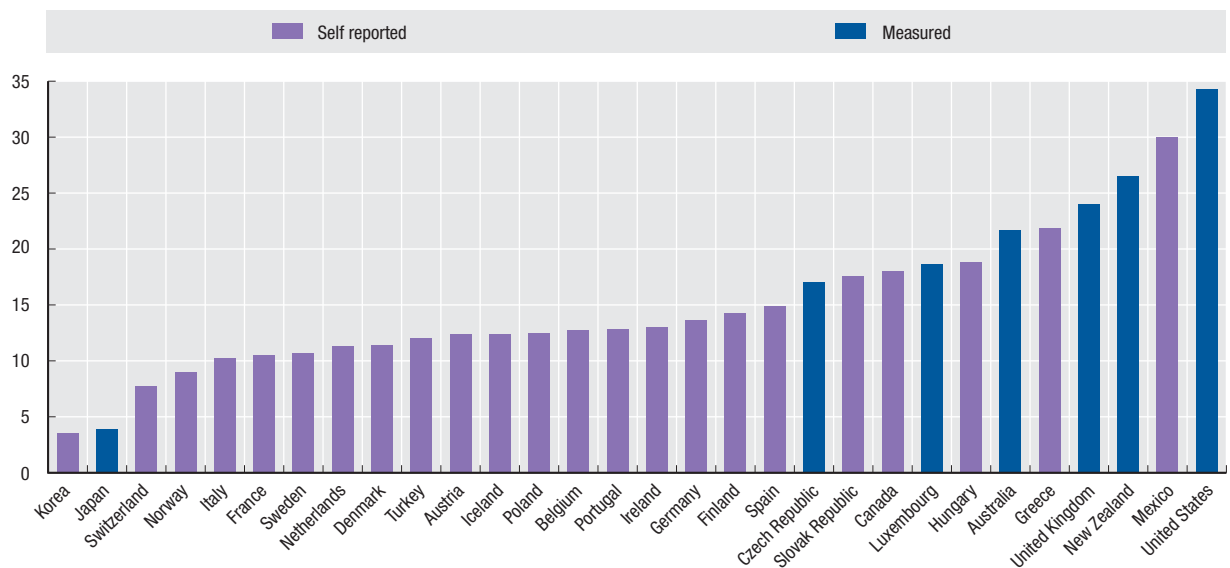
- OECD Health Data.

Websites

- OECD Health Data, www.oecd.org/health/healthdata.
- Session on Obesity and Health at the OECD Forum 2004, www.oecd.org/forum2004.

Overweight and obese population aged 15 and above*As a percentage of population aged 15 and above, 2006 or latest available year*

	Females			Males			Total		
	Overweight	Obese	Overweight and obese	Overweight	Obese	Overweight and obese	Overweight	Obese	Overweight and obese
Australia	28.2	21.4	49.6	45.3	21.9	67.2	36.7	21.7	58.4
Austria	29.9	12.7	42.6	44.9	12.0	56.9	35.3	12.4	47.7
Belgium	24.4	13.4	37.8	38.7	11.9	50.6	31.4	12.7	44.1
Canada	24.7	19.0	43.7	39.3	17.0	56.3	31.9	18.0	49.9
Czech Republic	29.0	17.0	46.0	42.0	18.0	60.0	35.0	17.0	52.0
Denmark	26.4	11.8	38.2	40.9	11.0	51.9	33.2	11.4	44.6
Finland	27.2	14.1	41.3	40.9	14.6	55.5	33.4	14.3	47.7
France	21.2	10.4	31.6	32.0	10.5	42.5	26.5	10.5	37.0
Germany	28.7	12.8	41.5	43.5	14.4	57.9	36.0	13.6	49.6
Greece	29.9	18.2	48.1	41.1	26.0	67.1	35.2	21.9	57.1
Hungary	29.8	18.0	47.8	38.7	19.6	58.3	34.0	18.8	52.8
Iceland	28.0	12.4	40.4	44.6	12.4	57.0	35.9	12.4	48.3
Ireland	25.0	12.0	37.0	41.0	14.0	55.0	34.0	13.0	47.0
Italy	26.8	10.0	36.7	43.8	10.4	54.2	35.0	10.2	45.1
Japan	17.7	4.3	22.0	25.2	3.4	28.6	21.0	3.9	24.9
Korea	23.7	3.3	27.0	30.3	3.7	34.0	27.0	3.5	30.5
Luxembourg	25.4	18.5	43.9	41.1	18.8	59.9	34.6	18.6	53.3
Mexico	37.4	34.5	71.9	42.5	24.2	66.7	39.5	30.0	69.5
Netherlands	29.2	12.7	41.9	41.3	9.8	51.1	35.2	11.3	46.5
New Zealand	28.9	25.6	54.5	42.2	24.4	66.6	35.5	25.0	60.5
Norway	26.0	8.0	34.0	43.0	9.0	52.0	34.0	9.0	43.0
Poland	26.6	12.5	39.1	39.5	12.6	52.1	32.8	12.5	45.3
Portugal	31.8	14.0	45.8	42.3	11.4	53.7	36.8	12.8	49.6
Slovak Republic	28.0	18.0	46.0	45.9	16.8	62.7	34.0	17.6	51.6
Spain	28.6	14.7	43.4	43.6	15.1	58.6	36.2	14.9	51.1
Sweden	25.9	10.3	36.2	40.7	11.1	51.8	33.3	10.7	44.0
Switzerland	21.8	7.5	29.3	37.5	7.9	45.4	29.4	7.7	37.1
Turkey	28.9	14.5	43.4	33.6	9.7	43.3	31.6	12.0	43.4
United Kingdom	31.9	24.2	56.1	43.4	23.7	67.1	38.0	24.0	62.0
United States	26.2	35.3	61.5	40.0	33.3	73.3	33.0	34.3	67.3

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544411055451>**Obese population aged 15 and above***As a percentage of population aged 15 and above, 2006 or latest available year*StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538537864717>

SUICIDE

Suicide is often considered as an extreme manifestation of depression and of poor quality of life. Because of its extreme nature, suicide can be viewed as the tip of an iceberg, with inter-temporal changes in rates of suicide, and differences between countries, giving an indicator of the extent of broader problems of depressive illness.

Definition

Data on suicide rates are based on official registers on causes of death based on international conventions surrounding the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD). The rates shown here are standardised using the OECD population structure of 1980, so as to allow controlling for differences in the age structure of the population across countries and over time. Suicide rates are expressed as deaths per 100 000 individuals.

Overview

Overall, suicide rates increased in the 1970s and peaked at the beginning of the 1980s. However, Japan and Ireland do not share this pattern. In Japan, suicide rates are today somewhat lower than in 1960, but have remained at relatively high levels (around 20 deaths per 100 000 persons) since 1997. Ireland shows a strong and continuous increase of suicide rates until 2000, followed by a small but continuous decline since then.

Suicide rates have fallen for both men and women, with little changes in the gender gap. Suicide continues to be a predominantly male phenomenon. On average, for each female suicide there are about 3 male deaths. Gender gaps are larger in Mexico, Poland and the Slovak Republic and smaller in Korea, the Netherlands and Norway. Gender gaps in suicide rates are also smaller for younger cohorts.

Across OECD countries, suicide rates show no systematic relation with GDP per capita, while there is a weak negative correlation between suicide rates and subjective life-evaluations (as shown under “Subjective well-being”).

Comparability

Despite the ICD, there are comparability problems with suicide data. Countries have different procedures for recording suicide as the underlying cause of death, and these procedures may have changed over time. In addition suicide may be under-reported because of a societal stigma attached to it. This socio-cultural norm may vary across countries and over time.

Studies assessing the reliability of suicide statistics suggest that sources of error are random. Thus they have little impact on comparing rates between countries, between demographic groups or over time (Sainsbury and Jenkins, 1982).

The data on life satisfaction are based on the Gallup World Survey. Regarding the comparability of these data, please see “Subjective well-being”.

Sources

- OECD (2007), *Health at a Glance 2007: OECD Indicators*, OECD, Paris.
- Gallup World Survey.
- OECD (2008), *National Accounts of OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

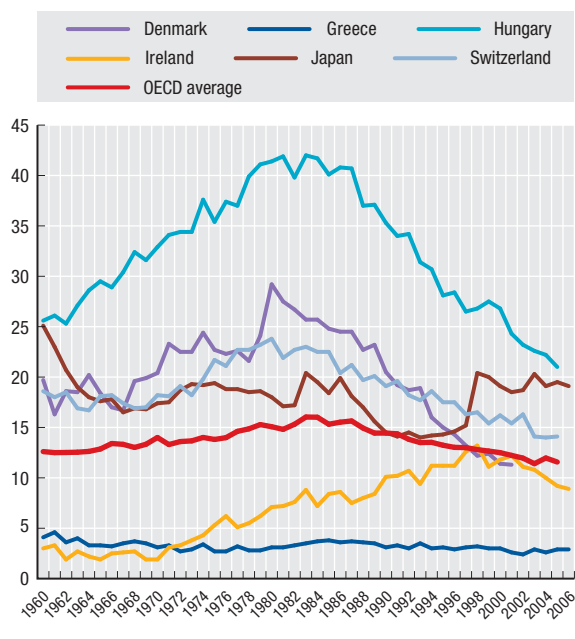
Analytical publications

- Sainsbury P. and J.S. Jenkins (1982), “The accuracy of officially reported suicide statistics for purposes of epidemiological research”, *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*, 36: 43-48.



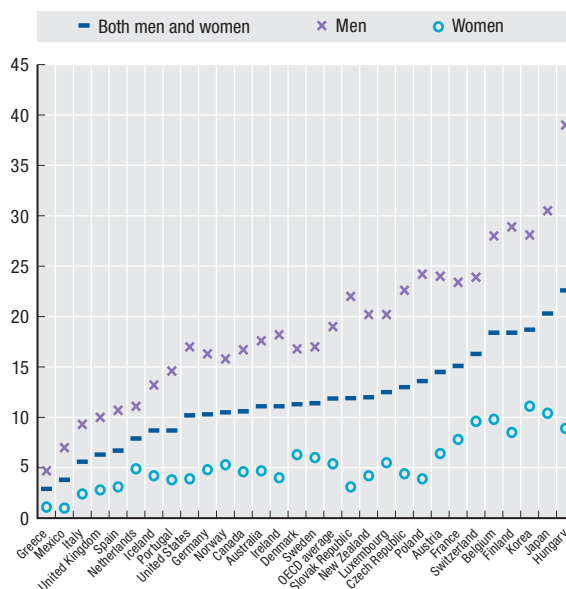
Suicide rates

Per 100 000 persons



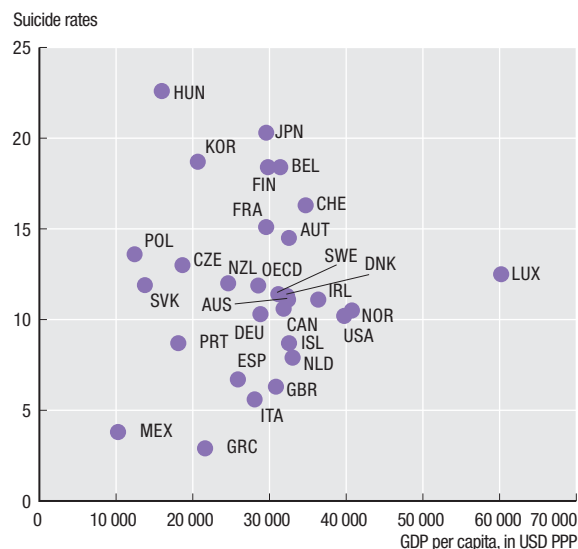
Suicide rates by gender

Per 100 000 persons, 2004 or latest available year



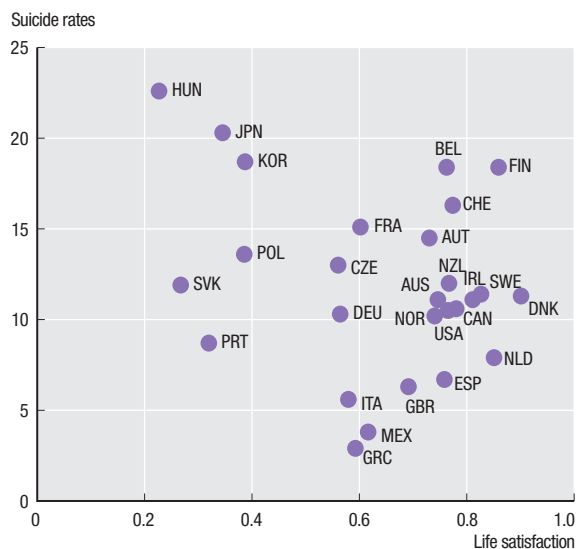
Suicide rates and per capita GDP

2004 or latest available year



Suicides rates and subjective life satisfaction

Suicides rates (2004 or latest available year)
and life satisfaction (2008 or latest available year)



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538607287057>

SUBJECTIVE WELL-BEING

Subjective well-being consists of life satisfaction, the presence of positive experiences and feelings, and the absence of negative experiences and feelings. Each of these three elements represents a separate dimension of subjective well-being, and is subject to a different range of determinants.

Definition

Measures of life satisfaction reflect the cognitive evaluation of life as a whole, now and five years from now, made by each person. The measures shown here are based on ladder-of-life questions, which ask respondents to rate their life from the worst (0) to the best (10) level, and refer to the share of people who rate their life (today and in the future) at step 7 or higher.

Measures of positive and negative experiences and feelings refer to people who declared having experienced six different forms of negative and positive experiences during the previous day. Also shown are two composite indexes of positive and negative experiences, calculated at the individual record level. For each person, the 6 items are recoded so that positive answers are scored as 1 and negative answers (including “don’t know” and “refused to answer”) a 0; an individual record has an index calculated if it has at least 5 out of 6 valid scores. Each person’s

composite index is the mean of valid items multiplied by 100, and the country level score shown in the table is the mean of all individual records for which an index was calculated.

Population shares are calculated as a percentage of all respondents excluding those who refused or didn’t know how to answer the various survey questions.

Comparability

The data shown here are drawn from the IV wave of the World Gallup Survey, and refer to 2008 or earlier. The Gallup World Poll is conducted in around 140 countries around the world based on a common questionnaire, translated into the predominant languages of each country. With few exceptions, all samples are probability based and nationally representative of the resident population aged 15 and over in the entire country (including rural areas).

While this assures a high degree of comparability across countries, results may be affected by sampling and non-sampling errors. Sample sizes are limited to around 1 000 persons in each country.

Overview

On average, around 60% of people in OECD countries reported a high satisfaction with their life, and a slightly higher share for their life five years from now. Among OECD countries, the share of people reporting high life satisfaction ranges between 85% or more in the Netherlands, Finland and Denmark, and less than 30% in Turkey, Hungary and the Slovak Republic. The non-OECD countries report lower life-satisfaction but are generally more optimistic about their future. Satisfaction with current life is around 20% or lower in Indonesia, China, India and South Africa, but higher in Brazil.

When looking at positive experiences, close to 90% of the OECD population declare having been treated with respect, or enjoyed something they did on the previous day, while much lower proportions report having learned something, or being proud of something they did.

Among negative experiences, around one third of OECD people report having been worried in the previous day, while around 10% reported feeling depressed. For OECD countries, the composite “positive experience index” is highest in Canada and lowest in the Netherlands, while the “negative experience index” is highest in the Netherlands and lowest in Denmark. The cross-country correlation between the positive and negative experience index is -98%.

Source

- Gallup World Survey.

Further information

Analytical publications

- Deaton A. (2008), “Income Health and Well-Being Around the World: Evidence from the Gallup World Poll”, *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Vol. 22, No. 2, Spring.



People reporting various positive and negative experiences

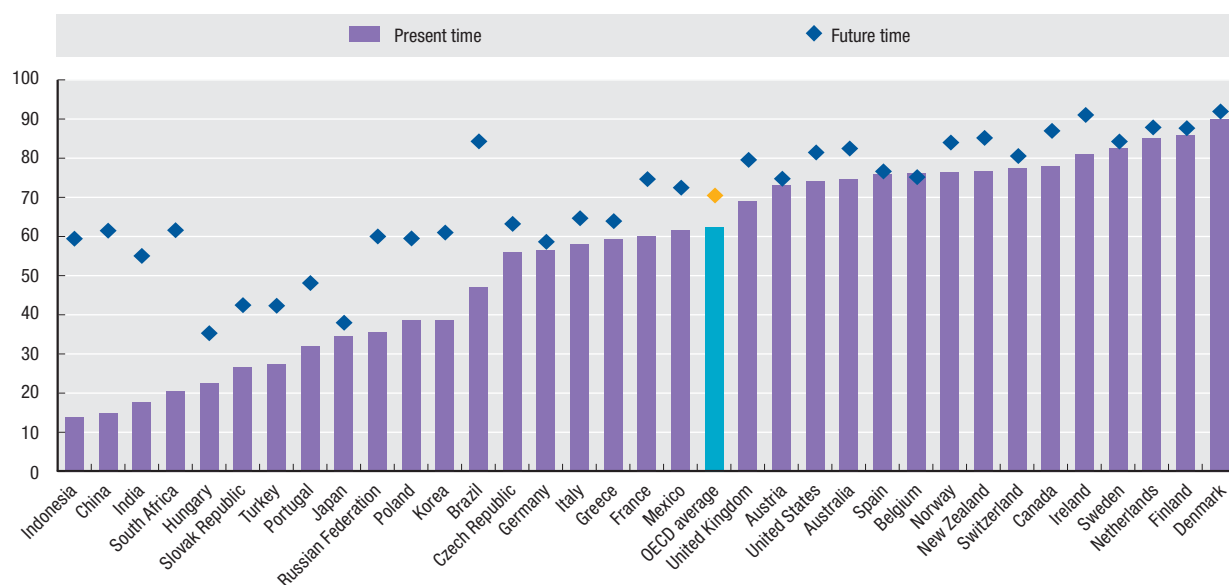
2008 or latest available year

	Positive experiences						Positive Experience Index	Negative experiences						Negative Experience Index
	As a percentage of respondents							As a percentage of respondents						
	Well rested	Treated with respect	Chose how time was spent	Proud of something you did	Learnt or did something interesting	Enjoyment		Pain	Worry	Sadness	Boredom	Depression	Anger	
Australia	65.8	90.6	70.7	73.7	58.9	83.2	74.3	23.0	30.6	17.3	20.3	8.2	17.6	22.1
Austria	73.5	93.8	78.3	63.8	52.7	84.4	75.1	21.2	23.5	16.5	11.6	5.8	12.3	18.2
Belgium	70.6	92.5	82.9	60.6	50.1	79.1	73.7	28.1	33.3	18.6	11.5	8.6	20.7	23.8
Canada	71.1	92.3	75.8	78.6	63.8	90.6	80.5	24.4	32.3	14.3	22.4	7.3	14.0	21.3
Czech Republic	59.8	74.0	54.6	52.2	50.8	77.9	21.4	20.9	33.9	18.8	14.9	13.0	30.9	59.5
Denmark	66.3	96.0	71.9	62.6	61.4	88.8	76.8	21.0	23.7	12.2	12.3	2.9	13.3	15.1
Finland	69.8	93.2	74.0	61.8	57.6	73.2	72.8	17.7	29.1	9.9	18.1	6.5	4.4	15.3
France	60.3	95.1	78.5	49.9	52.8	77.0	22.6	27.9	31.3	19.7	16.0	5.4	35.5	68.5
Germany	63.8	92.6	61.7	56.2	47.7	73.1	18.1	20.7	29.3	23.0	13.7	4.9	17.0	66.6
Greece	60.1	89.1	63.0	45.0	41.5	77.1	21.0	23.2	34.1	16.0	29.1	7.7	16.3	63.0
Hungary	51.5	87.9	68.6	61.2	39.8	77.1	21.3	27.6	34.5	20.6	10.1	21.7	14.2	62.6
Ireland	75.2	95.5	80.6	75.2	53.1	86.8	78.6	14.3	19.9	13.7	21.6	6.1	10.7	15.6
Italy	61.1	93.1	79.7	63.0	51.8	71.5	24.5	23.2	45.8	26.3	23.7	10.6	18.9	67.4
Japan	73.8	57.6	85.3	46.9	55.6	71.8	68.8	23.0	31.8	16.4	21.8	24.3	17.7	24.6
Korea	66.7	66.6	78.8	62.3	44.7	65.0	23.1	21.6	38.0	13.6	29.7	20.1	16.6	61.5
Mexico	78.9	91.1	74.6	70.0	64.6	82.7	79.6	26.3	32.3	19.4	30.8	12.4	8.8	20.8
Netherlands	74.0	95.1	67.6	65.1	50.9	84.9	16.6	19.9	37.0	17.6	9.5	6.3	9.4	73.6
New Zealand	66.3	91.1	70.5	76.4	70.9	84.6	77.8	23.5	31.4	18.0	24.0	8.8	20.2	23.6
Norway	67.8	93.5	66.8	58.6	63.4	88.1	..	19.8	29.1	16.7	22.2	7.7	13.4	19.5
Poland	62.1	93.2	70.6	63.1	47.5	76.8	19.1	16.2	28.6	19.6	22.3	5.9	23.0	65.9
Portugal	73.2	96.6	75.5	57.2	51.5	64.8	..	31.9	57.6	31.3	16.2	20.5	11.3	29.3
Slovak Republic	59.2	82.3	60.2	54.6	38.6	74.9	..	24.1	39.3	22.9	16.8	12.6	30.8	25.5
Spain	73.7	96.4	84.7	69.5	49.9	63.2	72.3	27.9	35.5	21.6	20.8	10.0	20.8	24.0
Sweden	64.1	94.1	70.0	66.5	61.6	86.8	76.4	22.9	15.9	12.0	19.0	4.4	12.4	15.8
Switzerland	69.8	94.4	70.1	60.3	57.5	86.1	..	26.2	32.1	17.9	14.2	4.2	13.8	19.8
Turkey	69.9	74.2	61.2	60.9	33.6	49.9	56.5	18.5	32.6	31.7	60.3	15.1	39.2	28.1
United Kingdom	62.5	90.0	75.6	59.1	56.7	82.4	73.5	24.8	26.8	20.9	27.1	11.2	17.9	22.6
United States	68.5	92.4	71.4	74.2	62.0	89.0	78.4	24.8	33.7	17.9	29.8	10.3	16.4	24.6
OECD average	67.1	89.1	72.3	62.4	53.3	78.2	54.3	23.0	32.3	18.7	21.1	10.1	17.8	35.6
Brazil	66.2	94.3	82.7	75.3	60.6	84.6	23.2	27.4	48.1	25.4	13.9	8.4	16.2	77.7
China	79.3	86.6	82.9	35.5	35.0	84.4	17.7	13.1	24.5	8.5	21.4	8.8	14.5	64.8
India	59.0	76.1	53.6	33.0	40.8	71.2	59.1	27.2	32.4	23.3	21.5	25.8	21.7	25.9
Indonesia	83.1	89.7	69.9	69.8	47.8	74.5	72.4	17.4	29.5	19.4	31.8	2.5	22.8	16.4
Russian Federation	60.2	87.8	63.6	46.2	41.1	67.4	17.9	19.9	22.6	18.0	18.7	13.1	10.2	54.6
South Africa	71.4	79.7	70.6	56.0	50.0	68.3	20.6	21.2	28.6	19.6	22.0	18.3	14.9	67.0

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544524513718>

People reporting high evaluation of their life as a whole

As a percentage of respondents, 2008 or latest available year



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538608771301>

VOLUNTEERING AND SOCIAL SUPPORT

The coping strategies available to people and households when confronted with social distress are a function not only of government policies but also of the initiatives of civil society and of various informal forms of support. Two of the most important items in this perspective are volunteering and social support.

Definition

A tool for valuing volunteering is provided by the new *Handbook on Non-profit Institutions* in the System of National Accounts, developed by the Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies in co-operation with the United Nations Statistics Division. The *Handbook* recommends that countries regularly produce “satellite accounts” of the non-profit sector, providing a comprehensive picture of its size and operation. So far, eight OECD countries have implemented this handbook, with data referring to a year between 1999 and 2004, and four additional countries are committed to do so in the future.

Beyond the comprehensive information available through these handbooks, information on the size of volunteering and social support is available for a larger number of countries through household surveys. The data presented here are drawn from the Gallup World Poll. Data on volunteering are based on the two following questions: “Have you donated money to an organisation in the last

month?” and “Have you volunteered your time to an organisation in the last month?”. Data on social support from the same survey are based on the questions: “If you were in trouble, do you have relatives or friends you can count on to help you whenever you need them?” and “Have you helped a stranger or someone you didn’t know who needed help in the last month?”. Population shares are calculated as a percentage of all respondents excluding those who refused or didn’t know how to answer the various questions.

Comparability

Data from the satellite accounts for non-profit institutions are based on comparable definitions and classifications across countries; the quality of the estimates depends, however, on the nature of the information used to compile these accounts, which may differ across countries.

The Gallup World Poll is conducted in around 140 countries around the world based on a common questionnaire, translated into the predominant languages of each country. With few exceptions, all samples are probability based and nationally representative of the resident population aged 15 and over in the entire country (including rural areas). While this assures a high degree of comparability across countries, results may be affected by sampling and non-sampling errors. Sample sizes are limited to around 1 000 persons in each country.

Overview

Across the eight OECD countries that have implemented the UN Handbook, the non-profit sector (including volunteering) accounts for around 5% of GDP, with this share ranging from a little over 1% in the Czech Republic to over 7% in Canada and the United States. These shares are much larger than those conventionally attributed to “non-profit institutions serving households” in economic accounts. Most of the activity of non-profit institutions is concentrated in health, education and social services, which together account for over 60% of their value added. Culture and recreation, and other activities account for the remaining 40%, although with large differences across countries.

On average, 47% of respondents in OECD countries donated money in the last month to an organisation and 24% volunteered time. The extent of volunteering is large in the Netherlands and in all English-speaking countries, while it is much lower in Mexico, Turkey and in several southern and eastern European countries.

Social support is very high in all OECD countries, with 91% of respondents reporting that they had someone they could count on in case of need but much lower shares in Turkey and, to a lesser extent, Korea and Japan. OECD countries that top the league in terms of the share of respondents reporting to have helped a stranger are also those with high scores in terms of volunteering. Having someone to count on is a robust correlate of subjective well-being in both OECD and non-OECD countries (Helliwell, 2008).

Source

- Gallup World Survey.
- *Measuring Civil Society and Volunteering*, Initial Findings from Implementation of the UN Handbook on Non-profit Institutions, Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies.

Further information

Analytical publication

- John F. Helliwell (2008), *Life Satisfaction and Quality of Development*, Working Paper No. 14507, National Bureau of Economic Research, Cambridge, United States.

Websites

- The UN Non-profit Handbook Project, www.jhu.edu/ccss/unhandbook/handbookdraft.html.
- The Comparative Non-profit Sector Project, www.jhu.edu/cnp/.



VOLUNTEERING AND SOCIAL SUPPORT

People reporting volunteering or social support

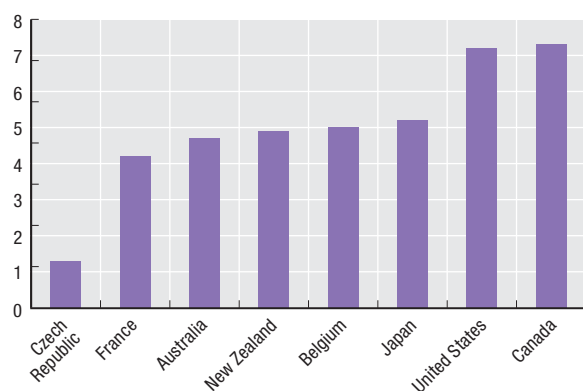
As a percentage of respondents, 2008 or latest available year

	Volunteering		Social support	
	Donated money	Volunteered your time	Someone you can count on	Helped a stranger
Australia	69.9	37.9	94.7	64.6
Austria	69.7	30.3	93.5	58.8
Belgium	40.5	24.0	92.3	46.0
Canada	65.6	38.1	93.9	66.0
Czech Republic	31.0	18.2	90.0	38.3
Denmark	67.7	19.7	95.4	45.6
Finland	42.7	27.9	95.1	42.1
France	51.5	28.5	94.4	38.2
Germany	56.3	22.7	92.6	47.9
Greece	19.0	7.4	80.8	34.2
Hungary	19.2	6.3	93.1	38.8
Ireland	73.0	38.0	98.3	58.7
Italy	50.7	21.1	91.2	33.8
Japan	25.6	24.7	85.7	22.7
Korea	30.9	21.3	82.7	41.6
Mexico	20.2	10.3	87.6	41.3
Netherlands	74.9	37.1	94.4	49.4
New Zealand	67.7	41.5	94.4	64.1
Norway	52.4	38.9	95.9	48.9
Poland	29.3	10.4	91.3	36.5
Portugal	18.9	11.9	90.5	38.4
Slovak Republic	29.3	12.9	95.4	31.4
Spain	23.4	14.8	94.8	46.0
Sweden	52.4	12.4	92.3	47.6
Switzerland	70.7	34.1	95.1	61.5
Turkey	14.6	7.5	64.5	35.7
United Kingdom	72.2	28.7	95.4	58.5
United States	66.3	41.9	95.3	65.5
OECD average	46.6	23.8	91.4	46.5
Brazil	29.1	16.9	88.6	52.9
China	8.2	3.9	81.1	40.5
India	14.3	12.8	68.4	31.6
Indonesia	43.1	23.1	67.5	25.6
Russian Federation	4.6	20.3	88.2	35.2
South Africa	14.3	12.8	78.8	51.3

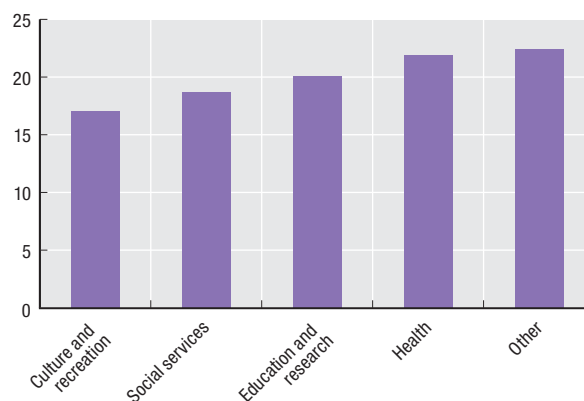
StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544563886858>

Output of the non-for profit sector for selected countries

As a percentage of GDP, 2007



As a percentage of output in the non-profit sector, average of selected countries, 2007



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538638471325>

YOUTH INACTIVITY

If young people are not in employment and not at school, there are good reasons to be concerned about their current well-being and their future prospects. Low educational attainments and the growing importance of educational attainment for successful integration into the workforce make it difficult for those leaving school without adequate qualifications to move into jobs with good career prospects. The shares of young persons who are neither in employment nor in education is an indicator of those who are candidates to later become the “socially excluded” – persons with incomes below or at the poverty-line and who lack the skills to improve their economic situation.

Definition

The indicator presents the proportion of youths aged 15 to 19 who are not in education, training or employment as a percentage of the total number of all in that age group. Youths in education include those attending part-time as well as full-time education, but exclude those in non-formal education and educational activities of very short duration. Employment is defined according to the ILO Guidelines and covers all those who have worked for monetary gain for at least one hour in the week previous to the enquiry date.

Long-term trends

On average, across the countries for which data are available, 6.7% of male and female teenagers were neither in school nor at work in 2006. Differences across countries are large: in Netherlands, Finland, Norway and Poland less than 4% of the females were in this situation and in Netherlands, Norway and Poland less than 4% of the males were neither in school or work. The situation is substantially worse in Italy where this share exceeded 10% and in Turkey (in 2005) where over 20% is neither in school nor in work.

For the OECD as a whole, there has been a decline in the percentages of all teenagers who are neither in employment nor education, but the decline has been most marked for females. Improved labour market conditions in general and the fact that young people, and particularly females, spend more time in education than they did a decade ago has contributed to this.

Several features of the labour markets and training systems affect the ease of transition from school to work. OECD reviews of youths' transition from school to work have identified Nordic and English-speaking countries as those where this process is smoother than in countries in Continental and Southern Europe countries. Beyond waste of human capital and risks of marginalisation in the labour markets, delays in settling into jobs will lead many youths to live longer with their parents and defer the formation of independent families, further compounding fertility declines.

Comparability

Standard definitions are specified for both “being in education” and “being in employment” and countries try to apply these criteria correctly. The main problem of comparability is that in some countries, youths performing compulsory military service are neither recorded as being in employment nor in education; they are therefore included in the numerator of the ratio although they could reasonably be considered to be both in training and in employment. However, in countries where there is still conscription, the duration of military services is quite short and reallocation of military conscripts to the employment/education category would not much change the figures given here.

Source

- OECD (2008), *Education at a Glance*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2000), *From Initial Education to Working Life: Making Transitions Work*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2008), *Jobs for Youth*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2007), *Society at a Glance: OECD Social Indicators – 2006 Edition*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2008), *OECD Employment Outlook*, OECD, Paris.

Websites

- OECD Education at a Glance, www.oecd.org/edu/eag2007.
- Youth Employment Summit, www.yesweb.org.



Youths aged between 15 and 19 who are neither in education nor in employment

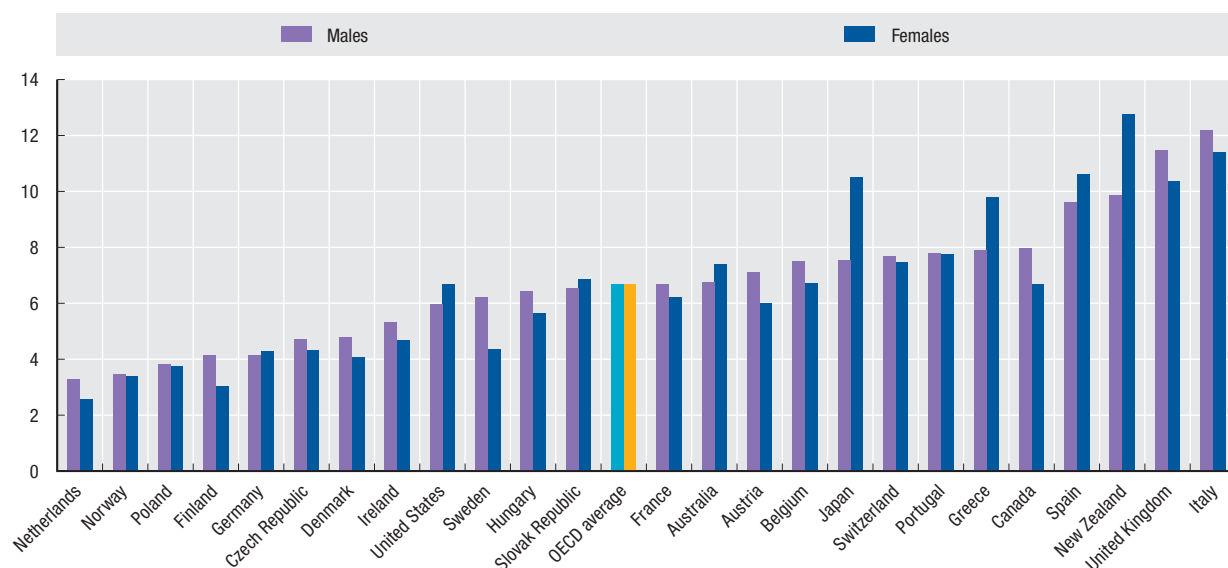
As percentage of persons in that age group

	Males							Females						
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Australia	6.4	7.9	6.9	6.4	7.6	7.1	6.7	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.4	7.7	7.4
Austria	..	..	8.1	5.8	7.2	7.6	7.1	..	..	4.4	5.4	7.5	6.2	6.0
Belgium	6.7	6.0	7.3	6.9	5.8	5.9	7.5	6.3	6.4	6.4	7.4	3.9	6.6	6.7
Canada	8.7	8.1	8.7	8.9	9.8	7.3	8.0	7.7	6.5	7.2	7.3	7.6	6.8	6.7
Czech Republic	7.3	6.4	5.8	5.4	5.0	5.5	4.7	8.5	7.3	6.3	6.2	6.4	5.1	4.3
Denmark	1.9	4.7	2.4	3.3	1.9	3.5	4.8	3.6	2.7	2.4	1.7	2.3	5.2	4.1
Finland	..	..	..	6.5	5.4	5.6	4.1	..	..	..	6.0	6.4	4.9	3.0
France	3.4	3.4	3.7	5.4	5.7	6.4	6.7	3.2	3.5	3.2	4.7	4.5	5.5	6.2
Germany	5.2	4.9	4.3	4.7	3.5	3.8	4.1	6.3	5.3	5.1	4.8	3.7	5.0	4.3
Greece	6.9	5.6	5.2	9.0	8.7	9.5	7.9	11.2	9.7	7.5	10.1	11.3	10.0	9.8
Hungary	8.6	8.8	8.3	6.6	6.6	6.3	6.4	8.6	7.8	7.8	6.9	5.8	6.5	5.6
Ireland	4.5	4.3	5.2	5.4	5.2	4.9	5.3	4.3	3.9	4.5	5.1	4.6	4.0	4.7
Italy	12.2	12.1	10.8	9.1	11.1	10.9	12.2	14.1	13.0	10.3	9.4	10.9	11.4	11.4
Japan	7.3	6.5	8.3	9.0	8.1	7.6	7.5	10.3	10.5	10.6	10.7	10.4	9.9	10.5
Luxembourg	..	..	..	..	..	..	4.4	..	..	4.3	..	4.0	..	..
Mexico	7.6	7.2	7.4	8.1	7.6	..	..	29.0	28.2	27.4	27.8	26.3	..	..
Netherlands	3.8	2.9	4.0	4.7	3.5	3.8	3.3	3.6	4.4	3.7	4.1	3.4	3.8	2.6
New Zealand	..	..	..	..	..	8.4	9.9	..	..	..	..	..	8.6	12.7
Norway	..	..	..	..	..	..	3.5	..	..	..	..	..	..	3.4
Poland	5.0	6.2	3.5	3.8	3.0	2.2	3.8	4.0	5.4	2.6	2.7	2.1	1.2	3.7
Portugal	6.2	5.4	7.7	8.2	9.0	8.1	7.8	9.2	9.5	6.8	9.4	10.6	8.8	7.7
Slovak Republic	27.8	27.9	17.7	15.2	8.6	5.6	6.5	24.7	24.9	13.5	9.9	7.1	7.0	6.8
Spain	7.7	6.6	6.9	7.3	7.3	10.3	9.6	8.2	7.3	7.5	7.4	7.9	11.4	10.6
Sweden	4.7	5.4	5.9	5.1	6.4	6.0	6.2	2.4	3.1	3.3	3.4	3.2	3.3	4.3
Switzerland	7.3	6.4	5.8	7.1	7.6	7.6	7.7	8.5	7.2	5.8	8.8	6.8	6.8	7.5
Turkey	17.8	19.2	21.7	22.6	24.7	25.8	..	46.5	47.0	45.6	44.3	47.1	50.1	..
United Kingdom	8.2	8.3	8.2	9.7	9.0	9.7	11.5	7.9	8.0	8.9	9.2	9.0	9.0	10.3
United States	6.8	6.9	6.4	..	6.5	5.9	6.0	7.3	8.0	7.5	..	7.3	6.3	6.7
OECD average	7.9	7.9	7.5	7.7	7.4	7.4	6.7	10.5	10.3	8.8	9.2	8.8	8.4	6.7
India	..	..	..	..	7.0	..	..	..	..	..	..	35.0	..	..

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544565036437>

Youths aged between 15 and 19 who are neither in education nor in employment

As a percentage of persons in that age group, 2006



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538732228554>

LEISURE TIME

The time that people devote to leisure activities is a key dimension of their quality of life, on par with the goods and services that they consume. Because of this, a long tradition of research has aimed at assessing the importance of leisure time for cross-country comparisons of quality of life and living standards.

Definition

The measures of the quantity of leisure time presented here are based on information drawn from national and international Time Use Surveys. Participants to these surveys fill diaries over a number of days. Information from these diaries is then aggregated into a standard activity classification, with the sum of minutes spent in various (primary) activities summing to 24 hours per day.

Time-use data from national surveys have been re-coded by the OECD to a common classification based on the five main categories of “paid work and study”; “home production”; “personal care”; “leisure activities”; and “other activities not classified elsewhere”. Adjustments have been made to account for cross-country differences in the age of people covered by the various national surveys. Finally, to account for differences across countries in time devoted to personal care, this has been set equal to the amount devoted to this activity in the country where this is lowest (Norway); the excess of daily time that residents of some countries devote to personal care has been added to leisure.

Overview

On average, across the countries considered here, people aged 15 and over spent 25% of their time during a typical day in leisure activity (as compared to 43% in personal care, 17% in paid work or study, 15% in unpaid work). The share of time devoted to leisure was lowest in Mexico (below 20%) and highest in Germany and Belgium (at 28%). The amount of leisure time is generally higher in European countries than elsewhere, although differences are not high.

Except in Norway, men spent the same or more time in leisure activities than women, reflecting the “double burden” that falls on women that cumulate paid and unpaid work. This gender gap in leisure time is highest in Italy (6 points) followed by Mexico and Poland, while it is nil in such countries as Canada and New Zealand. Leisure time declines when moving from youths (15 to 24) to young adults (aged 25 to 44) and then rises among prime aged (45 to 64) and, especially, elderly people (65 and over), with a similar U-shaped relation between age and leisure holding in all countries.

Watching TV and listening to the radio at home are the dominant type of leisure activity, especially in Mexico and Japan, where this share is around 50%. Other leisure activities (various hobbies, naps, Internet use, phone conversations, etc.) is the second most important category, on average, followed, at a distance, by visiting and entertaining friends, participating and attending events, and active sports.

Comparability

Comparability of time-use data is low, due to differences in survey-design and characteristics. Surveys differ, for example, in terms of whether they are conducted throughout the year or limited to a specific week; the number of diaries that are collected from each participant; the information collected on the setting where various activities take place (e.g. at home or outside, with or without other people); and whether information on “secondary activities” (i.e. activities performed simultaneously, such as watching television while caring for one’s child) is collected. Data refer to 2006 for Australia, Japan and Turkey; 2005 for Belgium, Canada and the United States; 2004 for Korea and Poland; 2003 for Italy and Spain; 2002 for Germany and Mexico; 2001 for Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom; 1999 for New Zealand; and 1998 for Finland and France.

At a conceptual level, the distinction between the various activities implemented in time-use surveys is also partly arbitrary, as (for example) the value of leisure to a person who is involuntarily unemployed differs from that of a person with a rewarding job.

Source

- OECD (2009), *Society at a Glance 2008: OECD Social Indicators*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- European Commission (2004), *How Europeans Spend their Time – Everyday Life of Women and Men*, Data 1998-2002, Pocketbooks.

Websites

- Eurostat Harmonized European Time Use Survey, <https://www.testh2.scb.se/tus/tus/>.
- Economic Social Research Council/University of Oxford, Centre for Time Use Research, www.timeuse.org/.



Distribution of leisure time

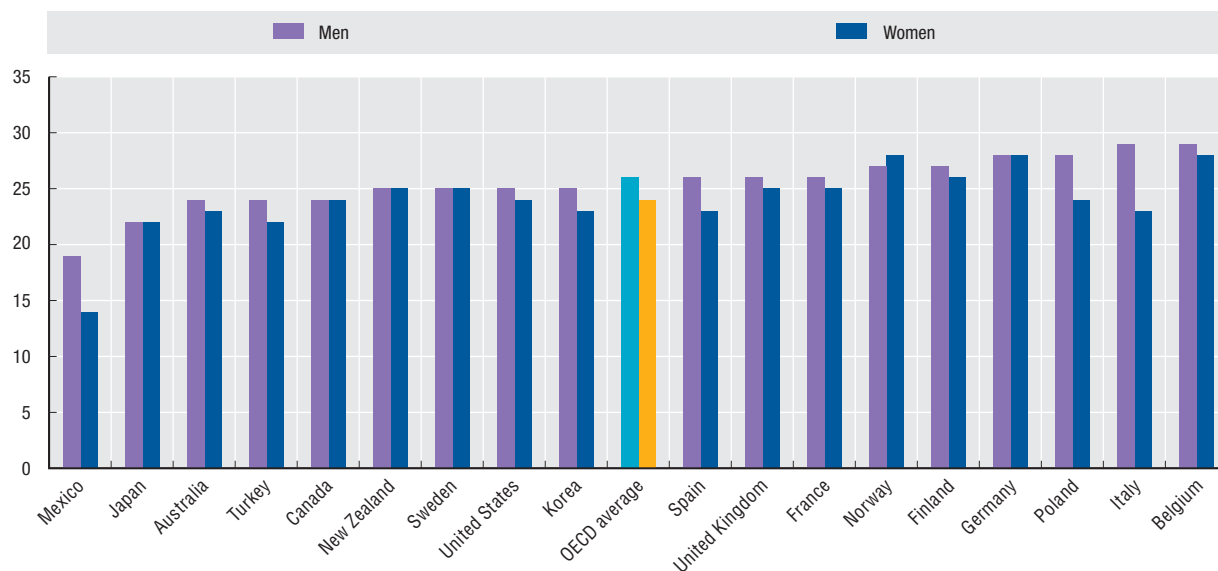
Percentages using a normalised measure of leisure, 2006 or latest available year

	Total	Shares of leisure time by demographic groups						Composition of leisure time by activities				
		Gender		Age				TV or radio at home	Other leisure activities	Visiting or entertaining friends	Participating and attending events	Sports
		Men	Women	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 and over					
Australia	23	24	23	27	17	22	34	41	47	3	2	6
Belgium	28	29	28	28	23	29	38	36	42	8	8	5
Canada	24	24	24	27	18	23	39	34	34	21	2	8
Finland	27	27	26	30	23	27	38	37	40	7	8	8
France	26	26	25	27	22	25	37	34	45	6	7	8
Germany	28	28	28	29	23	29	37	28	46	4	15	7
Italy	26	29	23	30	21	25	37	28	48	6	10	8
Japan	22	22	22	21	16	19	34	47	42	4	0	6
Korea	24	25	23	24	22	25	33	35	41	16	1	7
Mexico	16	19	14	18	11	16	25	48	33	10	4	5
New Zealand	25	25	25	30	20	22	35	25	45	24	2	5
Norway	27	27	28	29	24	28	39	31	33	14	15	8
Poland	25	28	24	28	22	26	39	41	38	6	8	6
Spain	26	26	23	28	20	26	35	31	41	4	12	12
Sweden	25	25	25	29	21	25	38	31	42	7	11	8
Turkey	23	24	22	..	..	..	..	40	25	34	0	2
United Kingdom	25	26	25	27	22	26	36	41	39	7	10	4
United States	25	25	24	27	20	23	37	44	32	16	2	5
OECD average	25	26	24	27	20	25	36	36	40	11	6	7

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544568030266>

Leisure time in a typical day

Percentages using a normalised measure of leisure, 2006 or latest available year



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538767417284>

RECREATION AND CULTURE

In general, percentages of GDP spent on recreation and culture are positively correlated with per capita income – the richer the country, the higher the percentage expenditure on culture and recreation – but there are some striking exceptions. Ireland with relatively high per capita income spends relatively little on recreation and culture while the Czech Republic, with relatively low per capita income, spends a rather high share.

Definition

Household expenditure on recreation and culture includes purchases of audio-visual, photographic and computer equipment; CDs and DVDs; musical instruments; camper vans; caravans; sports equipment; toys; domestic pets and related products; gardening tools and plants; newspapers; tickets to sporting matches, cinemas and theatres; and spending on gambling (including lottery tickets) less any winnings. It excludes expenditures on restaurants, hotels, and travel and holiday homes but includes package holidays.

Government expenditures include administration of sporting, recreational and cultural affairs as well as the maintenance of zoos, botanical gardens, public beaches and parks; support for broadcasting services and, where present, support for religious, fraternal, civic, youth and other social organisations (including the operation and repair of facilities and payment to clergy and other officers.) Also included are grants to artists and arts companies. Capital outlays such as the construction of sports stadiums, public swimming pools, national theatres, opera houses and museums are included.

Comparability

The data in these tables are all taken from the OECD's national accounts database and are compiled according to a common set of definitions. Nevertheless, for Australia and United States, final consumption expenditure of households includes final consumption expenditure of Non-Profit Institution Serving Households. For Japan Government expenditure refers to fiscal year whereas GDP refers to calendar year. For Australia and New Zealand data refer to fiscal year.

Long-term trends

In most countries, household expenditures on recreation and culture have remained fairly stable at around 5% of GDP over the last decade. Notable exceptions were Greece, and the Slovak Republic where the percentages increased significantly, and Luxembourg, Turkey and Ireland, where they fell significantly to percentages well below the OECD average.

Data on government expenditures on recreation, culture and religion are available for fewer countries. In most of these countries, government expenditure amounts to between 0.5 and 2% of GDP. By the end of the period, government expenditures were much higher than average in Hungary, Luxembourg and (particularly) Iceland and below 0.5% of GDP in Japan, Greece and the United States. Percentages over the period covered, grew significantly in the case of Iceland but fell significantly in Sweden; albeit from a relatively high starting position.

The third table shows the combination of private and public expenditures on recreation and culture. Typically, for most countries the shares are in the 5 to 7% of GDP range but significantly higher in Iceland and lower in Ireland.

Source

- OECD (2008), *National Accounts of OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.

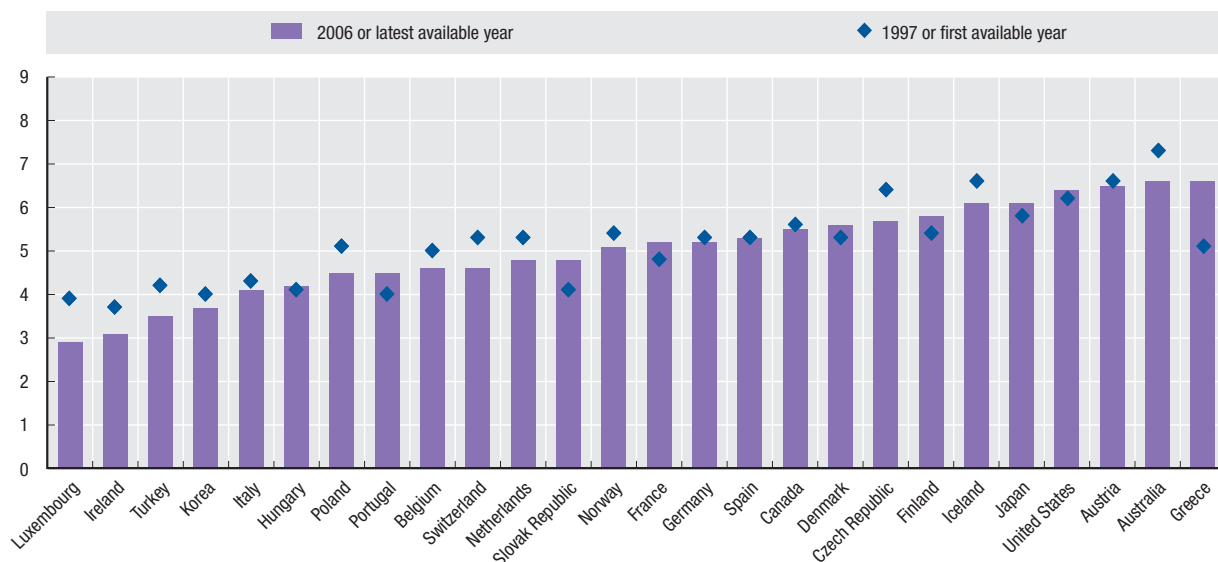
Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2005), *Culture and Local Development*, OECD, Paris.

Household expenditure on recreation and culture*As a percentage of GDP*

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	6.9	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.1	7.2	7.1	7.0	6.8	6.6	..
Austria	6.6	6.4	6.6	6.6	6.7	7.0	7.0	7.1	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.7	6.5	..
Belgium	..	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.2	5.2	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.7
Canada	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.8	5.7	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.4
Czech Republic	..	5.5	5.8	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.1	6.2	6.0	6.2	6.0	5.9	5.7	5.6
Denmark	5.1	5.1	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.3	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.6
Finland	5.3	5.3	5.6	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.8	5.7
France	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.1
Germany	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.4	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.1
Greece	..	..	..	..	..	..	5.1	5.8	5.8	5.4	5.5	5.6	6.6	6.3
Hungary	..	..	..	..	..	..	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.2	..
Iceland	7.1	7.2	7.1	6.6	6.7	6.9	7.1	6.9	6.8	6.7	6.5	6.4	6.1	..
Ireland	..	4.0	4.1	3.7	3.4	3.2	3.4	3.5	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.1
Italy	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.1	4.1	4.0
Japan	..	..	5.6	5.8	5.8	5.8	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.0	6.1	..
Korea	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.0	3.4	3.6	4.1	4.2	4.4	4.0	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.7
Luxembourg	..	3.9	3.9	3.9	4.0	3.7	3.6	3.8	3.9	3.5	3.5	3.2	2.9	2.8
Netherlands	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.3	5.1	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.8
Norway	5.2	5.4	5.5	5.4	5.8	5.8	5.2	5.3	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.1	..	..
Poland	..	4.8	5.3	5.1	5.3	5.1	5.6	4.9	4.8	5.0	5.0	4.7	4.5	..
Portugal	..	3.7	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.5	..
Slovak Republic	..	3.8	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.5	4.7	5.2	5.0	4.7	4.8	4.9	4.8	5.0
Spain	..	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.6	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.3	..
Switzerland	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.0	4.9	4.6	..
Turkey	..	..	..	..	4.2	3.7	3.8	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.2
United States	5.9	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.4	6.5

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544584412123>**Household expenditure on recreation and culture***As a percentage of GDP*StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538787062625>

Government expenditure on recreation and culture

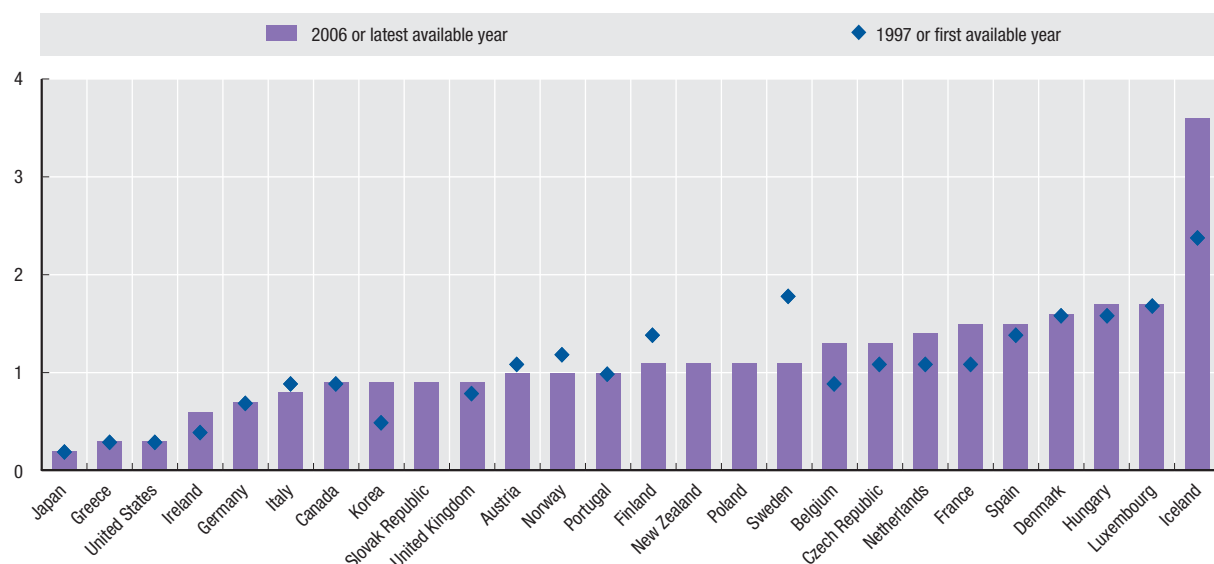
As a percentage of GDP

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Austria	..	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Belgium	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.3	..
Canada	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	..
Czech Republic	..	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.3	..
Denmark	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.6
Finland	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	..
France	..	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5
Germany	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7
Greece	..	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	..
Hungary	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.6	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.7	..
Iceland	..	..	..	2.4	2.9	3.0	3.2	3.0	3.3	3.6	3.7	3.3	3.6	..
Ireland	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	..
Italy	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.8	..
Japan	..	..	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	..
Korea	..	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	..
Luxembourg	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.1	2.2	1.7	1.9
Netherlands	..	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.3
New Zealand	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.3	1.3	1.1	..	..
Norway	..	..	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.0	..
Poland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	..
Portugal	..	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0	..
Slovak Republic	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.0	1.2	0.9	0.9	..
Spain	..	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	..
Sweden	..	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.1	..
United Kingdom	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	..	..
United States	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544612134232>

Government expenditure on recreation and culture

As a percentage of GDP



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538801715106>

Household and government expenditure on recreation and culture

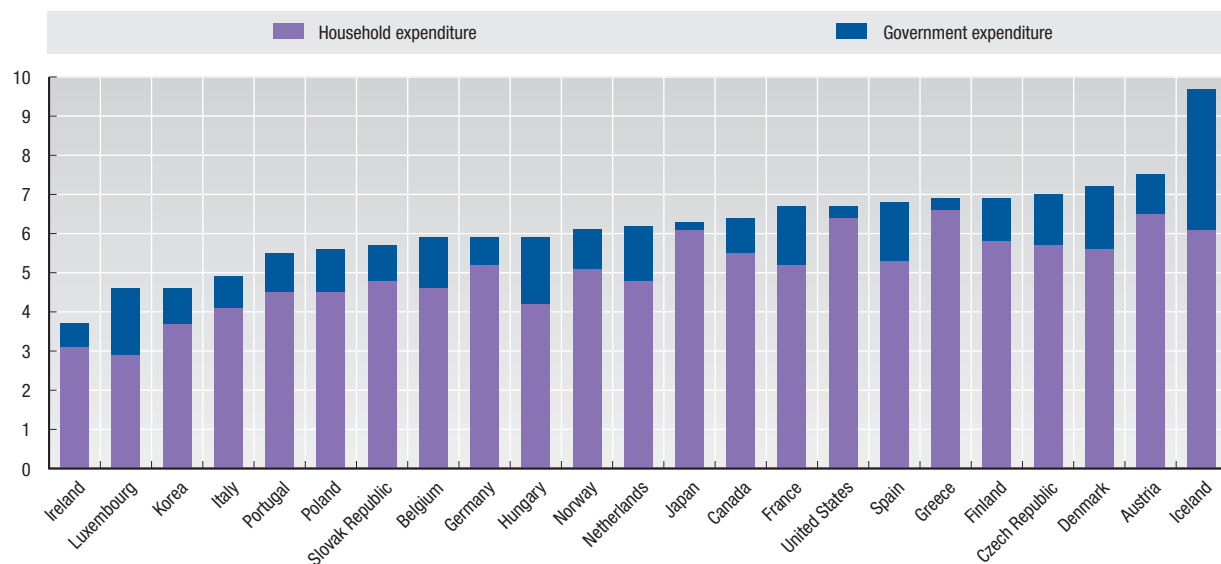
As a percentage of GDP

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Austria	..	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.8	8.1	8.0	8.1	8.0	7.9	7.8	7.6	7.5	..
Belgium	..	5.6	5.7	5.9	5.9	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.9	..
Canada	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.4	..
Czech Republic	..	6.6	7.2	7.5	7.4	7.2	7.1	7.3	7.3	7.4	7.2	7.1	7.1	..
Denmark	6.8	6.8	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.9	7.2	7.1	7.2	7.2
Finland	6.5	6.6	7.0	6.8	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.7	6.7	6.9	6.9	..
France	..	5.9	5.9	5.9	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.5	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.6
Germany	5.9	5.9	5.9	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.5	6.4	6.3	6.1	6.0	6.0	5.9	5.8
Greece	..	..	..	..	..	..	5.4	6.1	6.1	5.7	5.8	6.0	6.9	..
Hungary	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5.8	6.0	6.1	5.9	6.0	5.9	..
Iceland	..	..	..	9.0	9.6	9.9	10.3	9.9	10.1	10.2	10.2	9.8	9.7	..
Ireland	..	4.5	4.6	4.1	3.9	3.7	4.0	4.0	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.7	..
Italy	5.1	5.0	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.4	5.3	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.1	4.9	4.9	..
Japan	..	..	5.8	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.3	..
Korea	..	4.7	4.6	4.5	4.0	4.3	4.8	4.9	5.0	4.8	4.4	4.5	4.6	..
Luxembourg	..	5.4	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.5	5.2	5.4	5.7	5.4	5.6	5.4	4.6	4.7
Netherlands	..	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.8	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.6	6.5	6.3	6.2	6.2
Norway	..	..	6.7	6.6	7.0	7.0	6.2	6.4	6.7	6.8	6.6	6.1	..	..
Poland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.7	5.6	..
Portugal	..	4.5	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.4	5.5	5.5	..
Slovak Republic	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5.8	5.9	5.7	5.8	..
Spain	..	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.9	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.8	..
United States	6.2	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.8

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544638278635>

Expenditure on recreation and culture

As a percentage of GDP, 2006 or latest available year

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538810121017>

TOURISM: HOTEL NIGHTS

Arrivals of non-resident tourists in accommodation (hotel or similar establishments) is one of the standard measures of international tourism activity. It excludes domestic tourism.

Definition

This statistic refers to the number of non-residents who arrive in a hotel or similar establishment such as apartment-hotels, motels, roadside inns, beach hotels, residential clubs, boarding houses, and similar accommodation providing limited hotel services. Note that arrivals of non-resident tourists do not show the number of travellers. When a person visits the same country several times a year, each visit is counted as a separate arrival and if a person visits several countries during the course of a single trip, his/her arrival in each country is recorded as a separate arrival. Same day visitors and tourists who stay with friends or relatives are excluded.

Long-term trends

According to *Tourism in OECD Countries 2008: Trends and Policies* (OECD, 2008), OECD member countries represent about 60% of international arrivals. Eight out of ten of the main tourism destinations in the world are OECD member countries. Tourism in OECD member countries accounts for between 2 and 12 per cent of GDP, between 3 and 11 per cent of employment, and on average about 30% of service exports. Tourism is also a key driver of globalisation. Its relevance to countries' economic, services industry and employment performance is widely recognised. Governments are also giving increased policy consideration to this industry at national, regional and local levels.

UNWTO's *Tourism 2020 Vision* forecasts that international arrivals will reach over 1.56 billion by the year 2020. East Asia and the Pacific, South Asia, the Middle East, and Africa are expected to record growth at rates of over 5% per year, compared with the world average of 4.1%. The more mature tourism regions, Europe and the Americas, are expected to show lower than average growth rates. Europe will maintain the highest share of world arrivals, although there will be a decline from 60% in 1995 to 46% in 2020.

Comparability

Several OECD countries cannot provide statistics on "arrivals of non-resident tourists in hotels or similar establishments". For those countries, the statistical profile presents "arrivals of non-residents at national borders". Canada, China, India, Ireland and the United States report the number of non-resident tourist arrivals at their national borders; a tourist is a visitor who intends to stay for at least one night. The figures for Japan, Korea and New Zealand include the number of non-resident visitor arrivals at their national borders; visitors include overnight (tourists) and same day visitors. For Australia (1990-97, 2007 visitors and 1998-2006 tourists) and South Africa (1990-94 visitors and 1995-2007 tourists) time series present mixed indicators.

Sources

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- World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO).

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Arrivals of non-resident tourists in hotels and similar establishments or at borders

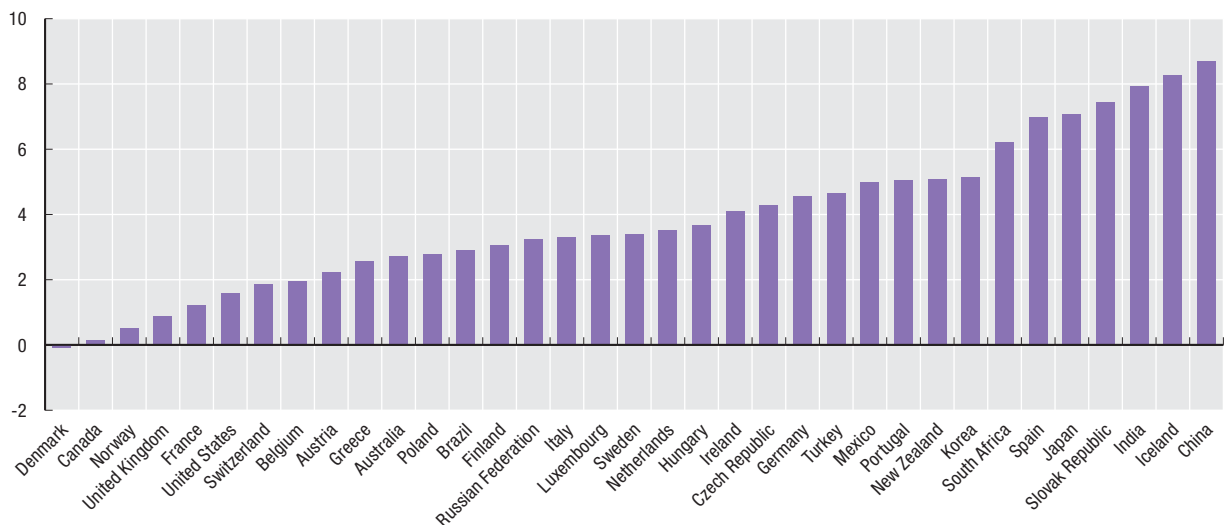
Thousands

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	3 362	3 726	4 165	4 318	3 825	4 109	4 530	4 435	4 420	4 354	4 774	5 020	5 064	5 644
Austria	12 878	12 464	12 533	12 329	12 803	12 755	13 240	13 279	13 487	13 748	14 075	14 542	14 947	15 344
Belgium	3 947	4 138	4 469	4 710	4 859	4 983	5 163	5 117	5 323	5 261	5 385	5 409	5 665	5 713
Canada	15 972	16 932	17 286	17 669	18 870	19 411	19 627	19 679	20 057	17 534	19 145	18 770	18 265	17 931
Czech Republic	2 448	2 891	3 696	4 013	4 067	4 141	3 863	4 439	4 314	4 485	5 346	5 686	5 781	6 098
Denmark	..	..	1 307	1 317	1 305	1 268	1 347	1 310	1 284	1 294	1 363	1 350	1 357	1 308
Finland	1 633	1 587	1 537	1 618	1 655	1 613	1 751	1 774	1 796	1 800	1 825	1 828	2 045	2 188
France	27 121	27 018	27 096	29 625	32 339	34 267	36 474	35 097	36 093	32 520	33 988	35 033	32 506	33 463
Germany	12 269	12 683	13 042	13 745	14 457	14 965	16 719	15 754	15 672	15 979	17 620	18 761	20 630	21 449
Greece	6 659	6 250	5 973	6 785	7 276	7 229	7 767	6 997	6 654	6 574	6 313	7 143	7 548	8 746
Hungary	2 122	2 116	2 202	2 188	2 472	2 401	2 604	2 669	2 659	2 599	2 951	3 140	3 009	3 131
Iceland	..	..	311	354	400	431	451	465	513	569	615	643	714	782
Ireland	4 309	4 818	5 289	5 587	6 064	6 403	6 646	6 353	6 476	6 764	6 953	7 333	8 001	8 332
Italy	21 074	23 467	24 929	25 133	25 927	26 530	28 797	29 138	29 340	28 174	29 916	30 870	33 513	34 757
Japan	3 468	3 345	3 837	4 218	4 106	4 438	4 757	4 772	5 239	5 212	6 138	6 728	7 334	8 347
Korea	3 580	3 753	3 684	3 908	4 250	4 660	5 322	5 147	5 347	4 753	5 818	6 023	6 155	6 448
Luxembourg	492	496	461	508	525	580	589	577	599	581	613	667	673	706
Mexico	5 159	6 718	7 491	8 155	8 157	9 501	9 867	9 410	7 869	8 556	9 972	10 691	9 689	13 250
Netherlands	4 456	4 797	4 999	6 163	7 432	7 550	7 738	7 445	7 433	6 930	7 601	8 081	8 567	8 713
New Zealand	1 323	1 409	1 529	1 497	1 485	1 607	1 787	1 909	2 045	2 104	2 334	2 366	2 409	2 455
Norway	2 830	2 880	2 746	2 702	2 829	2 857	2 787	2 686	2 561	2 439	2 556	2 656	2 841	..
Poland	2 540	2 792	3 020	2 919	2 695	1 982	2 505	2 488	2 536	2 701	3 385	3 723	3 738	3 833
Portugal	3 809	4 000	4 069	4 314	4 974	4 911	5 119	4 934	5 060	4 906	5 201	5 355	5 883	7 045
Slovak Republic	680	735	758	660	701	767	836	927	1 041	1 043	1 094	1 203	1 292	1 350
Spain	15 310	16 286	17 008	18 250	20 199	26 799	27 150	27 012	26 611	27 249	27 620	29 029	34 412	35 844
Sweden	1 830	1 995	2 091	2 143	2 304	2 320	2 465	2 586	2 577	2 552	2 610	2 736	2 867	2 993
Switzerland	7 358	6 946	6 730	7 039	7 185	7 154	7 821	7 455	6 868	6 530	..	7 229	7 863	8 448
Turkey	3 716	4 617	6 440	9 382	7 539	4 805	6 789	8 769	9 859	8 983	10 962	12 937	11 883	14 788
United Kingdom	14 927	17 118	16 890	17 110	16 304	17 019	17 019	17 019	14 176	14 397	13 172	17 009	18 711	18 671
United States	44 753	43 490	46 636	47 875	46 377	48 510	51 237	46 927	43 581	41 218	46 086	49 206	50 978	55 986
Brazil	1 529	1 709	2 266	2 419	3 854	3 754	3 868	3 331	3 536	2 633	3 068	3 215	..	..
China	21 070	20 034	22 765	23 770	25 073	27 047	31 229	33 167	36 803	32 970	41 761	46 809	49 913	54 720
India	1 886	2 124	2 288	2 374	2 359	2 482	2 649	2 537	2 384	2 726	3 457	3 919	4 447	5 082
Russian Federation	..	5 311	5 496	..	..	..	..	3 215	3 231	3 101	3 275	3 438	4 416	..
South Africa	3 897	4 488	4 915	4 976	5 732	5 890	5 872	5 787	6 430	6 505	6 678	7 369	8 396	9 091

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544644865517>

Arrivals of non-resident tourists in hotels and similar establishments or at borders

Average annual growth in percentage, 1997-2007 or latest available period



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538820811257>

VICTIMISATION RATES

The risk of being victim of a physical assault or other types of crime is one of the main factors shaping personal security and quality of life. While comparisons of crime statistics based on police records are potentially affected by cross-country differences in reporting practices, greater comparability can be achieved through household surveys designed to assess people's experience with victimisation.

Respondents to the surveys used here are asked about victimisation by ten types of conventional crimes that they themselves, or other members of their households, may have experienced in the previous year. These conventional crimes cover vehicle-related crimes, burglary, theft of personal property, and contact crimes. Also covered, but more difficult to measure, are non-conventional crimes such as drug-related problems, hate crime, street level corruption and consumer fraud.

Definition

Crime statistics shown here are based on the 2005 International Crime Victim Survey (ICVS), run by a consortium coordinated by the United Nations Interregional Criminal Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) and the United

Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). ICVS data for European countries are drawn from the European Survey on Crime and Safety, organised by a consortium led by Gallup Europe. Previous waves of this survey were conducted in 1989, 1992, 1996 and 2000, and most results can be compared across waves.

Comparability

While survey results are based on representative samples, they are affected by design features such as mode of interviewing and period of fieldwork. Samples sizes are usually limited to 2 000 people in most countries.

Comparability problems are higher for non-conventional crimes (especially those experienced by a small minority of people) and for sexual crimes (due to differences across countries in perceptions of what is unacceptable sexual behaviour).

Most recent data refer to surveys undertaken in either 2004 or 2005. Earlier data refer to 2000 for all countries except Austria (1996), Italy and New Zealand (1992) and Norway, Germany and Spain (1989).

Overview

Almost 16% of the population of OECD countries reported having been victim of a conventional crime in 2004-2005. Crime victimisation is above 20% in Ireland, New Zealand, Iceland and the United Kingdom, closely followed by the Netherlands, Denmark, Mexico, Switzerland and Belgium, but is at or below 10% in Hungary, Japan and Spain. Since 2000, victimisation rates have declined by 3 points on average, with falls in 18 out of the 20 OECD countries for which information is available.

When looking at various types of crimes, less than 3% of the population reported having been victim of an assault or threat, ranging from around 5% or more in the United Kingdom, Iceland, Ireland and New Zealand, to less than 1% in Japan, Italy and Portugal. On average, around 1% of the population declared having been victim of a robbery, with higher levels in Mexico and Ireland. Sexual offences against women are reported by around 2% of respondents, while 10% of respondents declared having experienced some types of consumer fraud, ranging from close to 25% in Greece to less than 2% in Japan. The share of people reporting a personal experience of corruption is small on average, but much higher in Greece and Mexico. In general, the share of people reporting fear of crime and assaults is much higher than the prevalence of crime victimisation, with some of the countries reporting lower victimisation also reporting higher fear of crime, and vice versa.

Sources

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- OECD Social and Welfare Statistics, www.oecd.org/statistics/social.
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, www.unodc.org.



Victimisation by type of crime and fear of crime

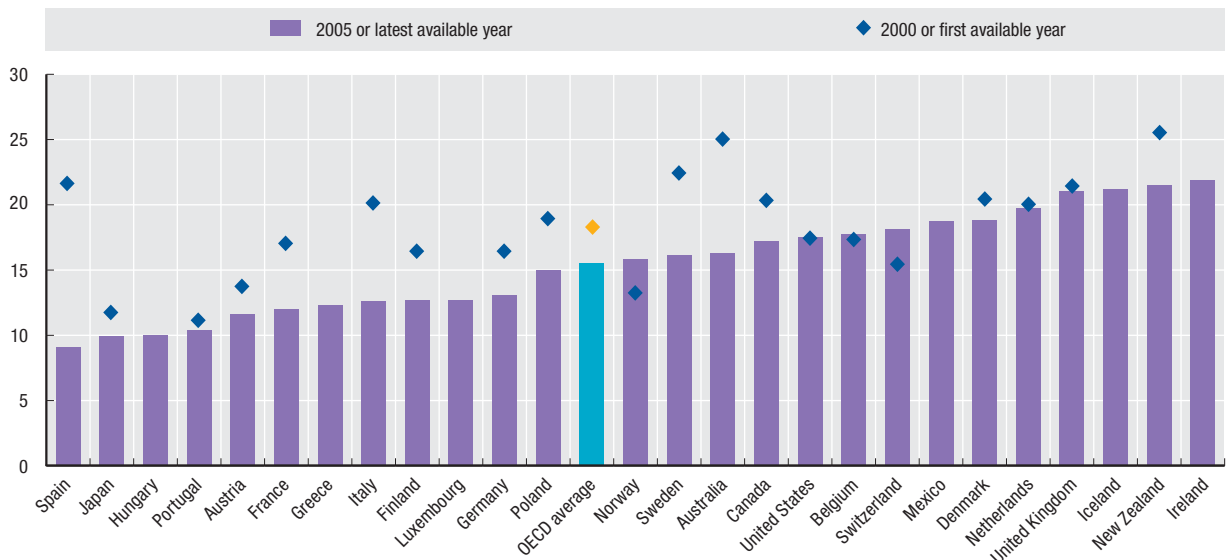
Percentage, one-year prevalence among the entire population, 2005 or latest available year

Victimisation by:														Fear of crime
All conventional victimisation	Conventional crimes											Non-conventional crimes		
	Vehicle-related crimes				Burglary and other thefts			Contact crimes			Consumer fraud	Corruption	Feeling unsafe or very unsafe on the street after dark	
	Theft of cars	Theft from or out of cars	Motor-cycle theft	Bicycle theft	Burglary with entry	Attempted burglary	Theft of personal property and pick-pocketing	Robbery	Sexual offences against women	Assaults or threats				
Australia	16.3	1.1	4.5	0.1	1.2	2.5	2.4	3.6	0.9	..	3.4	..	..	27
Austria	11.6	0.1	2.4	0.0	2.0	0.9	1.4	3.4	0.4	2.2	1.8	8.1	0.6	19
Belgium	17.7	0.5	4.2	0.1	4.2	1.8	2.4	3.4	1.2	0.9	3.6	8.0	0.5	26
Canada	17.2	0.8	4.8	0.2	2.7	2.0	1.7	4.0	0.8	2.3	3.0	7.4	0.6	17
Denmark	18.8	1.3	2.6	0.3	6.0	2.7	1.6	3.3	0.9	1.9	3.3	15.7	1.0	17
Finland	12.7	0.4	2.2	0.1	5.2	0.8	0.5	2.3	0.3	1.4	2.2	5.2	0.0	14
France	12.0	0.6	3.2	0.3	0.9	1.6	1.2	3.3	0.8	0.4	2.1	10.2	1.1	21
Germany	13.1	0.2	2.0	0.2	3.4	0.9	1.3	3.0	0.4	2.4	2.7	11.7	0.6	30
Greece	12.3	0.3	1.8	0.6	2.1	1.8	1.7	5.3	1.4	1.7	2.4	24.7	13.5	42
Hungary	10.0	0.2	2.1	0.0	1.7	1.7	0.8	3.0	0.9	0.1	1.2	19.7	4.9	26
Iceland	21.2	1.0	3.8	0.1	4.6	1.6	1.6	6.9	0.8	3.0	5.9	12.9	0.3	6
Ireland	21.9	1.2	5.2	0.3	2.5	2.3	1.7	7.2	2.2	3.8	4.9	8.0	0.3	27
Italy	12.6	1.0	2.4	1.0	2.1	2.1	2.5	2.4	0.3	0.7	0.8	5.9	0.4	35
Japan	9.9	0.1	1.1	0.7	5.1	0.9	0.7	0.3	0.2	1.3	0.6	1.9	0.2	35
Luxembourg	12.7	0.6	2.8	0.0	1.6	1.7	2.7	2.9	0.7	0.6	2.3	9.8	0.4	36
Mexico	18.7	0.9	4.1	0.0	3.7	3.0	3.0	4.3	3.0	1.5	2.2	7.2	13.3	34
Netherlands	19.7	1.0	3.9	0.4	6.6	1.3	1.4	3.7	0.5	1.9	4.3	7.0	0.2	18
New Zealand	21.5	1.8	6.6	0.1	1.4	3.2	3.1	4.1	1.1	2.5	4.9	7.7	0.5	30
Norway	15.8	0.7	2.6	0.3	4.2	1.2	0.9	4.8	0.8	2.5	2.9	9.7	0.4	14
Poland	15.0	0.7	3.9	0.1	2.6	1.4	1.1	3.5	1.3	1.3	3.0	16.1	4.4	33
Portugal	10.4	1.5	5.0	0.0	0.5	1.4	0.8	1.6	1.0	0.5	0.9	8.2	1.0	34
Spain	9.1	1.0	2.7	0.3	0.7	0.8	0.4	2.1	1.3	0.3	1.6	10.8	0.3	33
Sweden	16.1	0.5	4.2	0.6	5.0	0.7	0.1	2.4	1.1	3.3	3.5	13.7	0.1	19
Switzerland	18.1	0.2	2.9	0.6	4.6	1.6	1.2	5.9	0.8	2.9	2.5	7.3	0.5	..
United Kingdom	21.0	1.8	5.8	0.7	2.7	3.3	2.6	5.7	1.3	1.9	5.4	..	..	31
United States	17.5	1.1	5.2	0.0	2.9	2.5	2.6	4.8	0.6	3.6	4.3	12.5	0.5	19
OECD average	15.5	0.8	3.5	0.3	3.1	1.8	1.6	3.7	1.0	1.8	2.9	10.4	1.9	26

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544645204414>

Victimisation rates

Percentage, one-year prevalence among the entire population



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538832788213>

ROAD FATALITIES

The number of road motor vehicles is high and rising among OECD countries, and reducing road accidents is a concern in all countries. The table in this section shows the numbers of road fatalities per million inhabitants and the chart combines the number of road fatalities per million inhabitants and per million vehicles.

Definition

A road motor vehicle is a vehicle running on wheels and intended for use on roads with an engine providing its sole means of propulsion and which is normally used for carrying persons or goods or for drawing, on the road, vehicles used for the carriage of persons or goods. Thus buses, coaches, freight vehicles and motor cycles are included as well as passenger motor cars. Motor vehicles running on rails are excluded.

Road fatality means any person killed immediately or dying within 30 days as a result of a road accident.

Comparability

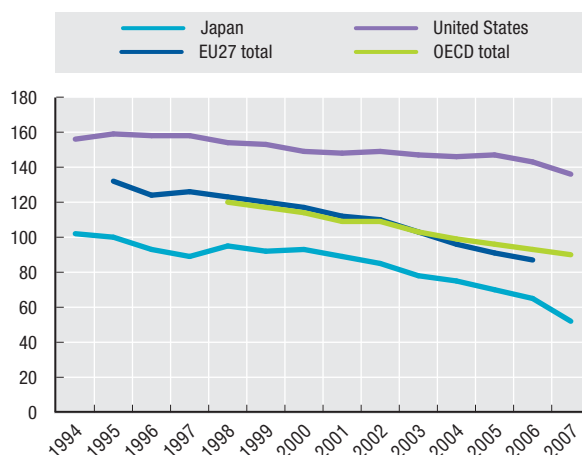
Road motor vehicles are attributed to the countries where they are registered while deaths are attributed to the countries in which they occur. As a result, ratios of fatalities to million inhabitants and of fatalities to million vehicles cannot strictly be interpreted as indicating the proportion of a country's population that is at risk of suffering a fatal road accident or the likelihood of a vehicle registered in a given country being involved in a fatal accident. In practice,

however, this is not considered to be a serious problem because discrepancies between the numerators and denominators tend to cancel out.

The numbers of vehicles entering the existing stock is usually accurate but information on the numbers of vehicles withdrawn from use is less certain.

Evolution of road fatalities

Per million inhabitants



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538874344604>

Long-term trends

In 2007, road fatalities per million inhabitants ranged from over 235 per million inhabitants in Russia to 48 in Iceland. Over the period shown in the table, rates have decreased in all countries except in India, with particularly sharp falls in Portugal, New Zealand and France.

Road fatality rates per million inhabitants are an ambiguous indicator of road safety since the number of accidents depends to a great extent on the number of vehicles in each country. The chart shows the number of fatalities per million vehicles together with fatalities per million inhabitants. Both ratios refer to 2007. Rates per million vehicles are affected by driving habits, traffic legislation and the effectiveness of its enforcement, road design and other factors over which governments may exercise control. In 2007, fatality rates per million vehicles were less than 80 in Iceland, Switzerland and Norway, but exceeded 400 in Slovak Republic, Turkey and Russia. Note that low fatality rates per million inhabitants may be associated with very high fatality rates per million vehicles. For example, a country with a small vehicle population may show a low fatality rate per million inhabitants but a high fatality rate per vehicle.

Source

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Road fatalities

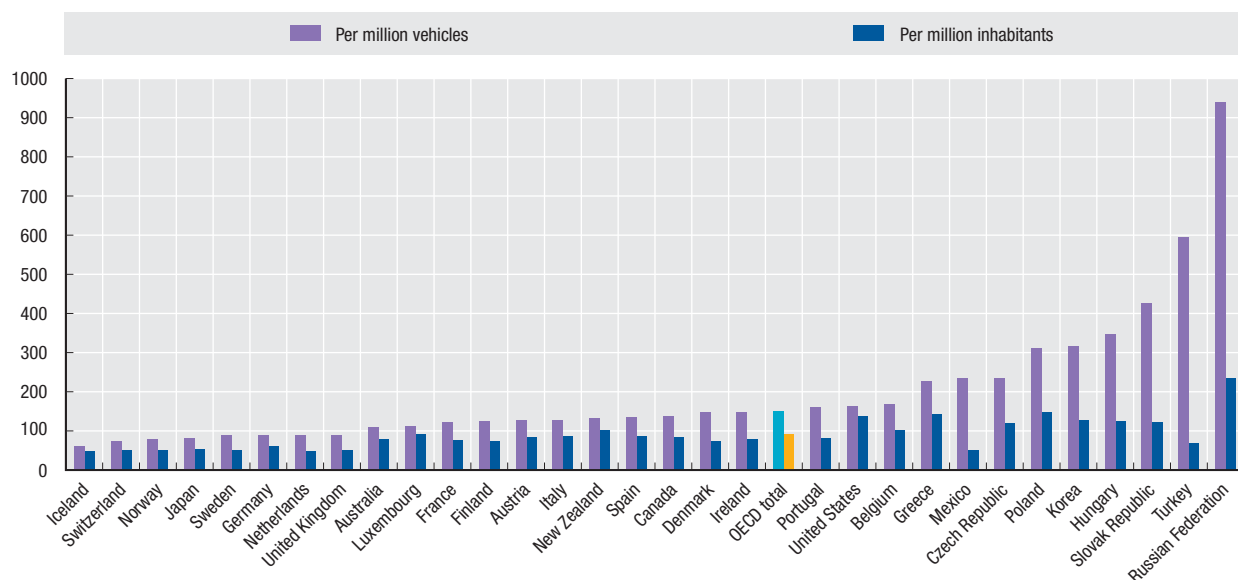
Per million inhabitants

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	109	111	108	95	94	93	95	90	87	82	79	81	78	77
Austria	167	150	127	137	121	135	122	119	118	114	108	94	89	83
Belgium	167	148	134	134	147	136	143	144	131	117	112	104	102	100
Canada	111	113	103	101	97	98	95	90	93	87	85	91	..	83
Czech Republic	158	154	152	155	132	141	145	130	140	142	136	126	104	118
Denmark	105	111	98	93	94	97	93	80	86	80	68	61	56	74
Finland	94	86	79	85	78	83	76	83	80	73	72	72	64	72
France	147	144	138	136	143	136	129	130	121	96	87	88	77	75
Germany	121	116	107	104	95	95	91	85	83	80	71	65	62	60
Greece	183	195	206	201	207	201	193	178	159	145	151	150	149	141
Hungary	152	155	135	137	136	130	118	122	141	131	129	127	130	123
Iceland	44	90	37	55	98	75	113	84	101	80	79	64	104	48
Ireland	113	122	125	129	124	110	110	107	96	84	94	84	87	77
Italy	123	122	115	116	118	116	115	117	117	105	98	94	89	86
Japan	102	100	93	89	95	92	93	89	85	78	75	70	65	52
Korea	..	..	..	..	226	232	218	171	152	151	136	132	..	127
Luxembourg	166	169	170	142	134	133	172	159	140	118	109	101	78	90
Mexico	57	51	52	53	53	53	53	52	49	46	45	46	47	51
Netherlands	84	86	76	74	73	75	73	67	66	67	54	50	50	48
New Zealand	164	162	141	144	132	134	121	118	103	115	107	99	95	100
Norway	65	70	58	69	79	68	76	61	68	61	56	49	52	49
Poland	175	179	165	189	183	174	163	143	152	148	150	143	138	147
Portugal	222	242	241	222	213	200	186	161	165	148	124	118	104	81
Slovak Republic	127	130	119	154	160	125	120	116	116	121	113	111	113	122
Spain	143	147	139	142	150	144	143	135	129	128	115	89	94	85
Sweden	67	65	61	61	60	65	67	65	63	59	53	49	49	51
Switzerland	97	98	87	83	84	81	82	75	70	74	69	55	50	51
Turkey	97	97	86	81	76	69	58	45	62	56	62	62	62	68
United Kingdom	67	66	65	65	62	62	62	63	63	62	57	55	55	50
United States	156	159	158	158	154	153	149	148	149	147	146	147	143	136
EU27 total	..	132	124	126	123	120	117	112	110	103	96	91	87	..
OECD total	..	..	..	..	120	117	114	109	109	103	99	96	93	90
India	55	72	72	75	76	79	77	75	76	77	82	87	92	..
Russian Federation	239	221	199	188	198	203	203	213	228	248	241	237	230	235

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544681821032>

Road fatalities

2007 or latest available year

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538838247375>





SPECIAL FOCUS

INEQUALITY

INTRODUCTION

INCOME INEQUALITIES

MEASURES OF INCOME INEQUALITY

INCOME AT DIFFERENT POINTS OF THE DISTRIBUTION

INCOME POVERTY

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INTRODUCTION

“Capitalism and democracy ... need each other – to put some rationality into equality and some humanity into efficiency.”

Arthur M. Okun, *Equality and Efficiency – The big trade-off*

All societies pay attention to the distribution of rewards that comes from participation into a market system. Assuring a “fair” distribution of such rewards is part of the goals that governments and societies strive to achieve, sometimes in competition with other goals. As argued by Arthur Okun more than 30 years ago “If both equality and efficiency have value, and neither takes absolute priority on the other, then, in places where they conflict, compromises ought to be struck”. Designing policies that achieve the “right” compromise depends on the inclinations of each government and society, but also on the availability of indicators that allow monitoring and comparing developments in their various areas.

The term “inequality” is often perceived as a value-laden one, with judgments on the desirability of various levels of inequality differing across people and national cultures. The term is used here in a deliberately loose way, to refer to various disparities among individuals and families in their standard of living and quality of life. These “inequalities” – in the way the term is used here – will not always signal the existence of a problem of social consequences, as they may reflect differences in peoples’ preferences and life-styles (e.g. for working more). But at times they do, and suitable indicators are needed to warn people of when developments in various fields conflict with shared norms of what is fair in society.

Inequalities can be measured and assessed in a variety of dimensions. This issue of the *Factbook* has strived to provide a broad perspective on some of the inequalities that are of greater economic and social significance. Compared to most of the “hard” measures that are used in this volume, the available statistics on inequalities are sometimes patchy. They often come from non-official sources and sometimes lack the rigorous international comparability criteria that exist for other indicators. While this is a limit, it also reflects the complexity of the issues addressed. For example, SNA aggregates of household income are based on aggregating flows among unattached individuals, with the total then divided among all persons in a country. This approach neglects the pooling and sharing of resources that occurs within each family. Further, individuals are all assumed to be identical. All of these assumptions will strike non-economists as representing a radical departure from what ought to be measured to provide a more relevant picture of the conditions of different groups of people within society.

Among all the various forms of inequalities, those that pertain to income are among the most visible manifestations of differences in living standards in each country.



Measures of these inequalities can be compared fairly reliably across countries and over time. The *Factbook* presents a number of indicators of how the overall shape of the income distribution compared across OECD countries and evolved over time, drawing on evidence from a recent OECD report on this issue (*Growing Unequal? Income Distribution and Poverty in OECD Countries*). Beyond measures pertaining to the entire distribution of household income, it also presents indicators that focus on its lower tail, to provide information on the risk of poverty (relative to the standards that are more typical in society). While this approach to income-poverty is not shared by all OECD countries, it is the one that best lends itself to international comparisons. Also presented in this *Factbook* are indicators of the size of the redistribution operated by governments through the cash benefits that they provide to households and the direct taxes and social security contributions that they collect from them.

Beyond income, inequalities in non-monetary dimensions of living standards are also important. This *Factbook* presents information on inequalities in health (referring to both health status and to access and use of health care services) and education (i.e. inequalities in the literacy of students aged 15, the gap in test scores for students issued from immigrant families, and the probability of accessing higher education for youths with different parental background). While the information presented lacks in many respects, and does not provide a single all-encompassing measure of the size of these inequalities in various countries, it suggests that these inequalities are important.

Finally, inequalities are also significant when looking at sub-national regions within each country, for example because of the geographical concentration of people facing the greater risks of exclusion. The most dynamic regions in each country account for a disproportionate share of the GDP and employment growth recorded at the national level, while regional inequalities are also significant when looking at the concentration of long-term unemployment, and at access to health care and educational services.

MEASURES OF INCOME INEQUALITY

Income inequalities are one of the most visible manifestations of differences in living standards within each country. High income inequalities typically imply a waste of human resources, in the form of a large share of the population out of work or trapped in low-paid and low-skilled jobs.

Definition

Income is defined as household disposable income in a particular year. It consists of earnings, self-employment and capital income and public cash transfers; income taxes and social security contributions paid by households are deducted. The income of the household is attributed to each of its members, with an adjustment to reflect differences in needs for households of different sizes (i.e. the needs of a household composed of four people are assumed to be twice as large as those of a person living alone).

Income inequality among individuals is measured here by five indicators. The Gini Coefficient is based on the comparison of cumulative proportions of the population against cumulative proportions of income they receive, and it ranges between 0 in the case of perfect equality and 1 in the case of perfect inequality. The mean log deviation is the average value of the logarithm of the ratio of mean income to the income of each decile. The squared coefficient of variation is the variance of average income of each decile, divided by the square of the average income of the entire population. The P90/P10 ratio is the ratio of the upper bound value of the ninth decile (i.e. the 10% of people with highest income) to that of the first. The P50/P10 ratio is the ratio of median income to the upper bound value of the first decile. The mean log deviation and inter-decile ratios have a lower value of 1 and no upper bound, while the squared coefficient of variation has a lower bound of 0 and upper bound of infinity.

Comparability

Data used here were provided by national experts applying common methodologies and standardised definitions. In many cases, experts have made several adjustments to their source data to conform to standardized definitions. While this

approach improves comparability, full standardisation cannot be achieved. Also, small differences between periods and across countries are usually not significant.

Results refer to different years. “Mid-2000s” data refer to the income earned in 2004 in all countries except Australia and New Zealand (2003/04); Hungary and the United Kingdom (2004/05); Switzerland (2004/05); Canada, Denmark, Netherlands and the United States (2005); and Korea (2006). “Mid-1990s” data refer to the income earned in 1995 in all countries except Austria and Italy (1993); Australia (1994/95); Denmark, France, Greece, Ireland, Japan, Mexico and Turkey (1994); and the Czech Republic, Luxembourg and New Zealand (1996). “Mid-1980s” data refer to the income earned in 1985 in all countries except Austria, Belgium, Denmark and Sweden (1983); France, Italy, Mexico, Turkey and the United States (1984); Finland, Luxembourg, New Zealand and Norway (1986); Ireland (1987); and Greece (1988). “Mid-1980s to Mid-1990s” data refer to changes from around 1990 to the mid-1990s for the Czech Republic, Hungary and Portugal and to the western Länder of Germany. “Mid-1990s to Mid-2000s” data refer to changes from the mid-1990s to around 2000 for Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Ireland, Portugal and Spain (where 2005 data, based on EU-SILC, are not deemed to be comparable with those for earlier years), and to changes from 2000 to 2005 for Switzerland.

Source

- Förster, M. and M. Mira d’Ercole (2005), *Income Distribution and Poverty in OECD Countries in the Second Half of the 1990s*, OECD Social Employment and Migration Working Papers, No. 22, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- Jomo, K. S. (2001), *Globalisation, Liberalisation, Poverty and Income Inequality in Southeast Asia*, OECD Development Centre Working Papers, No. 185, OECD, Paris.
- Kayizzi-Mugerwa, S. (2001), *Globalisation, Growth and Income Inequality: The African Experience*, OECD Development Centre Working Papers, No. 186, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2004), *Income Disparities in China: An OECD Perspective*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2005), *Extending Opportunities: How Active Social Policy Can Benefit Us All*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2009), *Society at a Glance 2008: OECD Social Indicators*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2008), *Growing Unequal? Income Distribution and Poverty in OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.
- Uchimura, H. (2005), *Impact of Changes in Social Institutions on Income Inequality in China*, OECD Development Centre Working Papers, No. 243, OECD, Paris.

Websites

- OECD Social and Welfare Statistics, www.oecd.org/statistics/social.
- OECD work on income distribution and poverty, www.oecd.org/els/social/inequality.

Overview

There is considerable variation in income inequality across OECD countries. Inequality as measured by the Gini coefficient is lowest in Denmark and Sweden and highest in Mexico and Turkey. It is above-average in Poland, Portugal and the United States, and below-average in the remaining Nordic and many Continental European countries. The Gini coefficient for the most unequal country (Mexico) is double the value of the most equal country (Denmark). Overall, the different measures of income inequalities provide similar ranking across countries.

From the mid-1980s to the mid-2000s, inequality rose in 19 out of 24 countries. The increase was strongest in Finland, New Zealand and Portugal. Declines occurred in France, Greece, and Turkey, as well as Ireland and Spain (where trend data are limited to 2000). Income inequality generally rose faster from the mid-1980s to the mid-1990s than in the following decade.



Income inequality

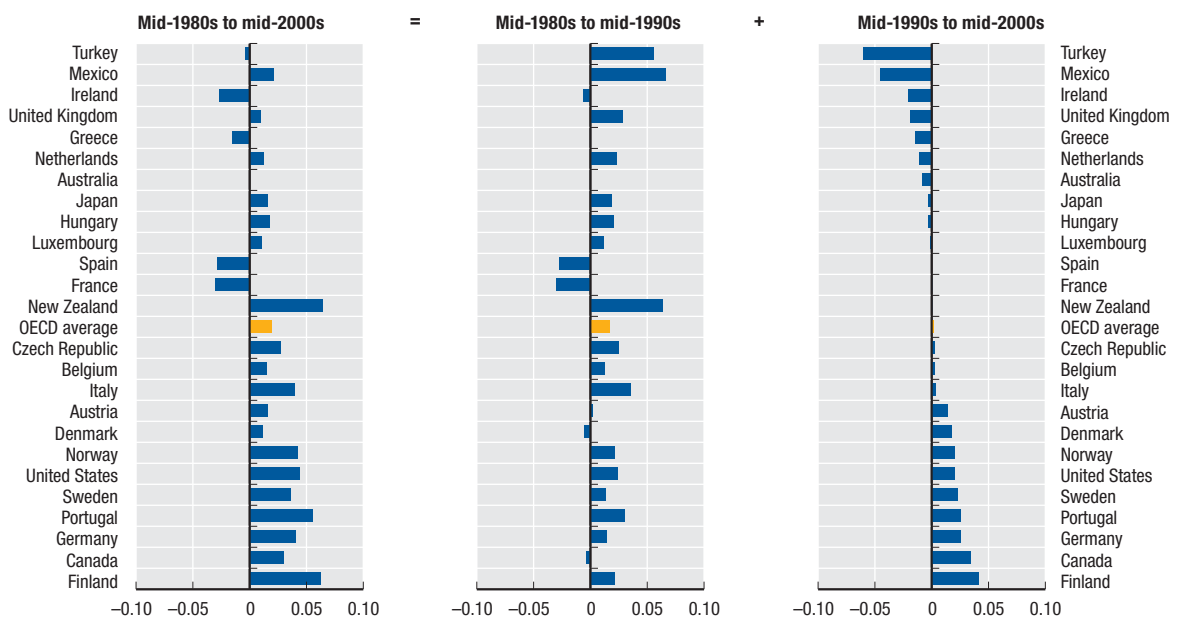
Different summary measures, mid-2000s

	Gini coefficient		Mean Log Deviation		Standard Coefficient of Variation		Interdecile ratio P90/P10		Interdecile ratio P50/P10	
	Level	Rank	Level	Rank	Level	Rank	Level	Rank	Level	Rank
Australia	0.30	16	0.17	15	0.39	9	3.95	15	2.09	18
Austria	0.27	4	0.13	8	0.33	3	3.27	10	1.82	7
Belgium	0.27	9	0.13	6	0.30	1	3.43	14	1.97	14
Canada	0.32	18	0.18	17	0.59	17	4.12	17	2.14	20
Czech Republic	0.27	5	0.12	4	0.38	8	3.20	5	1.74	2
Denmark	0.23	1	0.10	2	0.60	18	2.72	1	1.75	3
Finland	0.27	7	0.13	7	0.81	24	3.21	6	1.86	11
France	0.28	13	0.14	9	0.37	7	3.39	13	1.82	8
Germany	0.30	15	0.16	14	0.45	13	3.98	16	2.08	17
Greece	0.32	21	0.18	16	0.43	12	4.39	21	2.18	21
Hungary	0.29	14	0.14	10	0.48	15	3.36	12	1.78	6
Iceland	0.28	12	0.16	13	0.54	16	3.10	4	1.76	4
Ireland	0.33	22	0.19	18	0.79	22	4.41	22	2.29	22
Italy	0.35	25	0.24	23	1.10	25	4.31	20	2.11	19
Japan	0.32	20	0.20	20	0.41	11	4.77	25	2.43	26
Korea	0.31	17	0.20	22	0.35	5	4.73	24	2.50	27
Luxembourg	0.26	3	0.12	3	0.30	2	3.25	8	1.86	10
Mexico	0.47	30	0.41	28	2.70	28	8.53	30	2.86	30
Netherlands	0.27	8	..	..	..	..	3.23	7	1.86	12
New Zealand	0.34	23	..	..	..	..	4.27	19	2.06	16
Norway	0.28	11	0.16	12	0.46	14	2.83	3	1.77	5
Poland	0.37	26	0.26	24	0.71	20	5.63	26	2.42	25
Portugal	0.42	28	0.31	26	1.13	26	6.05	28	2.35	24
Slovak Republic	0.27	5	0.13	5	0.37	6	3.26	9	1.86	13
Spain	0.32	19	0.20	21	0.41	10	4.59	23	2.32	23
Sweden	0.23	2	0.10	1	0.65	19	2.79	2	1.72	1
Switzerland	0.28	10	0.15	11	0.34	4	3.29	11	1.83	9
Turkey	0.43	29	0.32	27	1.45	27	6.49	29	2.67	28
United Kingdom	0.34	23	0.20	19	0.71	21	4.21	18	1.99	15
United States	0.38	27	0.29	25	0.81	23	5.91	27	2.69	29
OECD average	0.31	..	0.19	..	0.66	..	4.16	..	2.09	..

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544701673235>

Trends in income inequality

Percentage point changes in the Gini coefficient



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/538878202736>

INCOME AT DIFFERENT POINTS OF THE DISTRIBUTION

Summary indicators of income inequality describe relative incomes within each country. Also important are differences in absolute levels of household disposable income for people at different points of the income distribution.

Definition

Income is defined as household disposable income in a particular year. It consists of earnings, self-employment and capital income and public cash transfers; income taxes and social security contributions paid by households are deducted. The income of the household is attributed to each of its members, with an adjustment to reflect differences in needs for households of different sizes (i.e. the needs of a household composed of four people are assumed to be twice as large as those of a person living alone).

Because of this adjustment for differences in needs, the income levels shown here (per consumption unit) differ from the per-capita measures shown in other parts of the *Factbook*. Income data for each country are adjusted for inflation with the consumer price index (CPI) for 2005 when the original income data refer to a different year. Incomes are converted into US dollars based on purchasing power parities (PPP) for actual consumption in 2005. PPPs are currency converters that equalise price levels between countries.

Overview

The median income per consumption unit is about 20 000 USD on average, ranging from around 5 000 USD in Mexico and Turkey to 36 000 USD in Luxembourg. When excluding the outliers on both ends, the variation across the remaining OECD countries remains large, from around 17 000 USD to around 28 000 USD.

Cross-country differences are much larger for people at the bottom of the distribution. The average income of the poorest people (i.e. those in the first decile of the distribution) ranges from less than 1 000 USD in Mexico to 15 000 USD in Luxembourg, with a country-ranking that differs significantly from that for median income – e.g. the United States (with the fourth-highest median income) falls by 16 positions while Sweden (ranked 17 in terms of median income) rises by 11.

For the richest people (i.e. those in the top decile of the distribution) average income is highest in the United States, at more than 93 000 USD, and lowest in the Slovak Republic, at 21 000 USD.

Comparability

Data used here were provided by national experts applying common methodologies and standardised definitions. In many cases, experts have made several adjustments to their source data to conform to standardized definitions. While this approach improves comparability, full standardisation cannot be achieved. Also, small differences across countries are usually not significant.

Differences in income levels may also reflect differences in the quality of the underlying sources, and the exclusion of some items (such as imputed rents and the value of goods produced for own consumption) whose importance varies across countries. Results may also differ across countries because of differences in the year to which tabulations refer (for details on the exact years, see “Measures of income inequality”).

Applying PPPs to different segments of the income distribution also assumes that poorer and richer households have identical consumption baskets. Despite these caveats, values of mean disposable income per consumption unit shown here are highly correlated with conventional measures of income per capita (Net National Income) based on national accounts.

Source

- OECD (2008), *Growing Unequal? Income Distribution and Poverty in OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- Atkinson, A. B., and A. Brandolini (2004), “Global World Income Inequality: Absolute, Relative or Intermediate?”, Paper presented at the 28th General Conference of the International Association for Research in Income and Wealth, Cork, 22-28 August 2004.

Websites

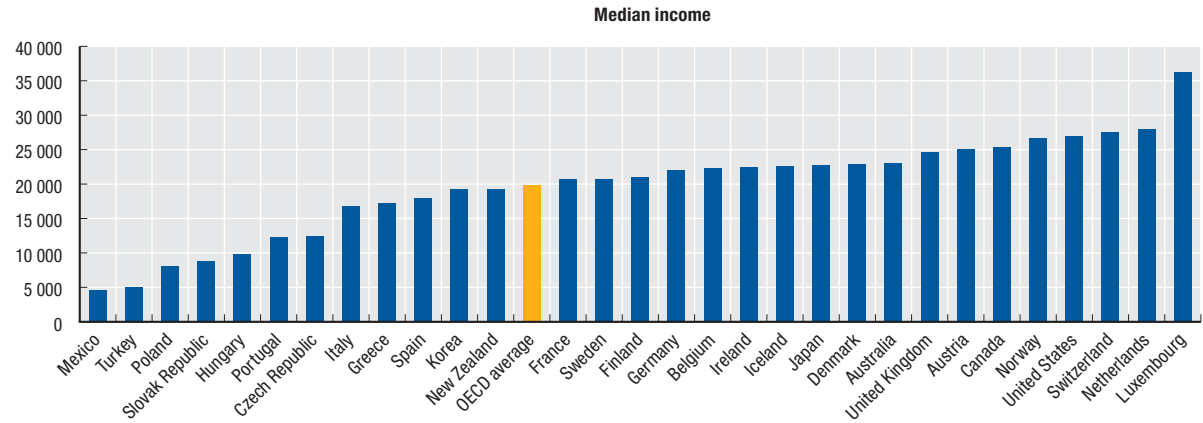
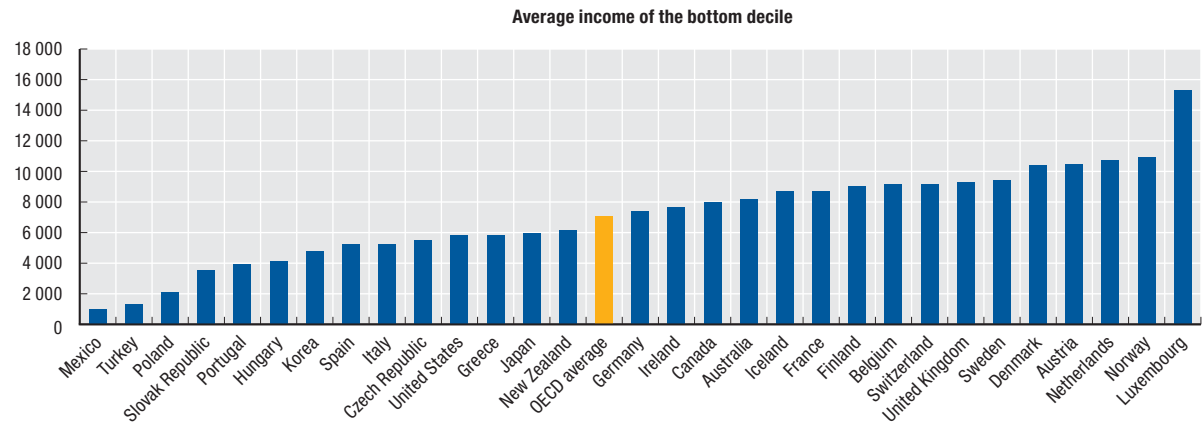
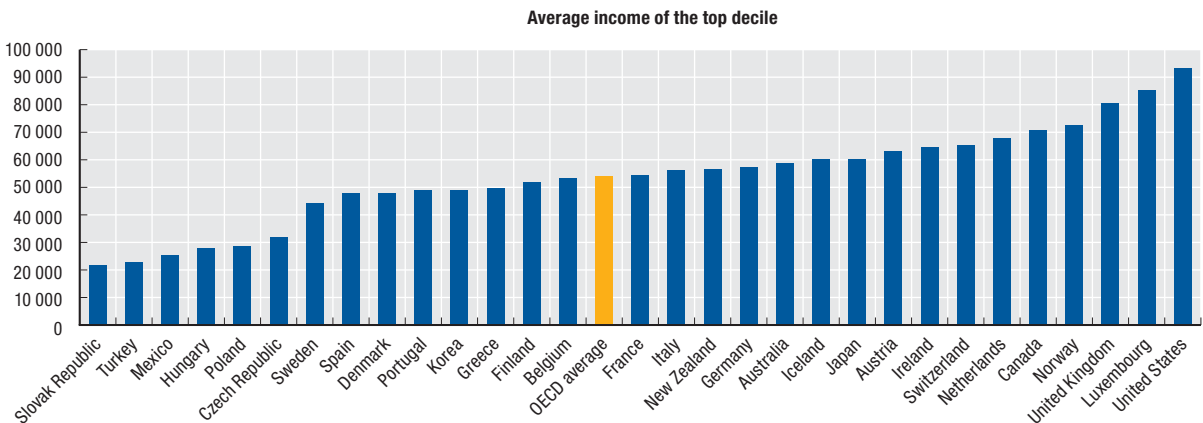
- OECD Social and Welfare Statistics, www.oecd.org/statistics/social.
- OECD work on income distribution and poverty, www.oecd.org/els/social/inequality.



INCOME AT DIFFERENT POINTS OF THE DISTRIBUTION

Income levels for people at different points in the distribution

US dollars and PPPs, mid-2000s

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540073745865>

POVERTY RATES AND POVERTY GAPS

Avoiding economic hardship is a primary objective of social policy. As perceptions of “a decent standard of living” vary across countries and over time, no commonly agreed measure of “absolute” poverty across OECD countries exists. A starting point for measuring poverty is therefore to look at “relative” poverty, whose measure is based on the income that is most typical in each country in each year.

Definition

Relative income poverty is measured here by the poverty rate and the poverty gap. The poverty rate is the ratio of the number of people who fall below the poverty line and the total population; the poverty line is here taken as half the median household income. However, two countries with the same poverty rates may differ in terms of the income-level of the poor. To measure this dimension of poverty, the poverty gap, i.e. the percentage by which the mean income of the poor falls below the poverty line, is also presented.

Income is defined as household disposable income in a particular year. It consists of earnings, self-employment and capital income and public cash transfers; income taxes and social security contributions paid by households are deducted. The income of the household is attributed to each of its members, with an adjustment to reflect differences in needs for households of different sizes (i.e. the needs of a household composed of four people are assumed to be twice as large as those of a person living alone).

Comparability

Data used here were provided by national experts applying common methodologies and standardised definitions. In many cases, experts have made several adjustments to their source data to conform to standardised definitions. While this approach improves comparability, full standardisation cannot be achieved. Also, small differences between periods and across countries are usually not significant.

Measurement problems are especially severe at the bottom end of the income scale. Further, as large proportions of the population are clustered around the poverty line used here, small changes in their income can lead to large swings in poverty measures. Small differences between periods and across countries are usually not significant. Exact years for each country are provided under the section on “Measures of income inequality”.

Overview

Across OECD countries, the average poverty rate was about 11% in the mid-2000s. There is considerable diversity across countries: poverty rates are 17% or more in the Mexico, Turkey and the United States, but below 6% in the Czech Republic, Denmark and Sweden. On average, in OECD countries, the mean income of poor people is 29% lower than median income (poverty gap), with larger gaps in Mexico, Switzerland and the United States and lower ones in Belgium, Luxembourg, Finland and the Netherlands. In general, countries with higher poverty rates also have higher poverty gaps but this is not universal (for example, Iceland and Switzerland combine low poverty rates and high poverty gaps, while the opposite pattern occurs in Australia, Canada, Greece, Ireland and Italy).

Over the past 20 years, poverty rates fell for 8 countries and rose for 16 countries, resulting in an overall increase of little over 1 percentage point for the OECD as a whole. Larger falls were registered in Belgium and Mexico, and the largest rises, between 4 and 5 percentage points, were experienced by Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands and New Zealand.

Source

- OECD (2008), *Growing Unequal? Income Distribution and Poverty in OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

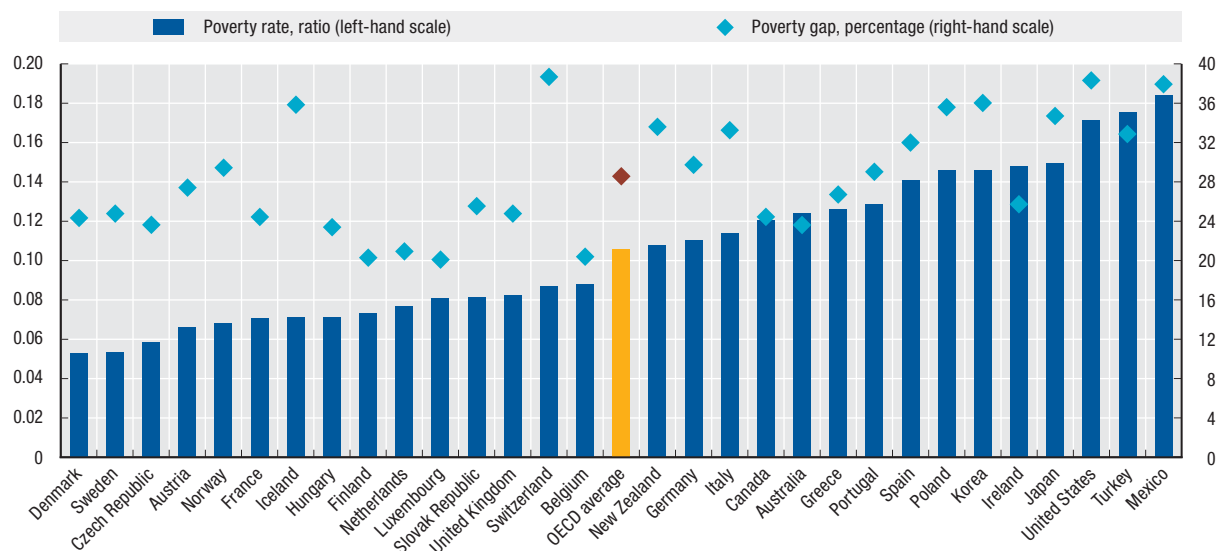
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- Förster, M. (1994), *Measurement of Low Incomes and Poverty in a Perspective of International Comparisons*, OECD Labour Market and Social Policy Occasional Papers, No. 14, OECD, Paris.



POVERTY RATES AND POVERTY GAPS

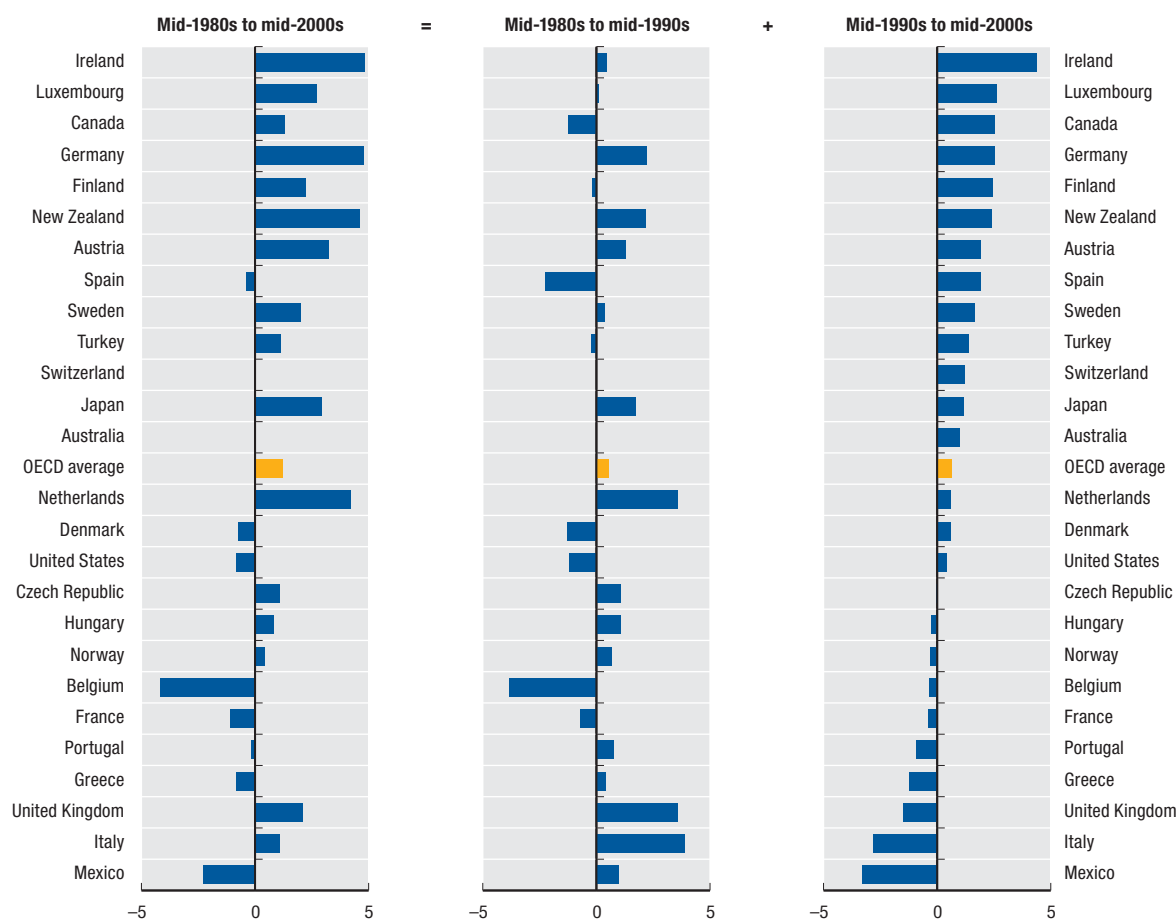
Poverty rates and poverty gaps

Mid-2000s



Trends in poverty rates

Percentage point changes in income poverty rate at 50% median level

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540102033433>

POVERTY BY INDIVIDUAL AND HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

Relative poverty rates differ significantly across different population groups. Important factors increasing or decreasing the risk of poverty include age, presence of children and numbers of wage-earners within a household.

Definition

Group-specific poverty rates are headcounts of how many people of a population group fall below the poverty line, in percentage of the total number in that population group. The poverty line used here is 50% of the median household disposable income, adjusted for household size. Children are persons with less than 18 years of age, working-age people are persons between age 18 and 65 and adults are persons aged 18 and over. A worker is an adult with a non-zero annual earning or self-employment income. In addition to poverty rates, indicators show here include the poverty risk (i.e. the age-specific poverty rate divided by the poverty rate for the entire population, times 100) and the share of various population groups that are counted as poor.

Income is defined as household disposable income in a particular year. It consists of earnings, self-employment and capital income and public cash transfers; income taxes and social security contributions paid by households are deducted. The income of the household is attributed to each of its members, with an adjustment to reflect differences in needs for households of different sizes (i.e. the needs of a household composed of four people are assumed to be twice as large as those of a person living alone).

Comparability

Data used here were provided by national experts applying common methodologies and standardised definitions. In many cases, experts have made several adjustments to their source data to conform to standardized definitions. While this approach improves comparability, full standardisation cannot be achieved. Also, small differences between periods and across countries are usually not significant.

Overview

Around 9% of the OECD population of working age are poor. On average, the poverty rate for people living in households where no one works (and with a head of working age) is 36%, i.e. almost three times higher than for households with one worker, and 12 times higher than for households with two or more workers. However, work alone is not sufficient to avoid poverty: 60% of poor people live in households where one or more members have a paid-job, with much higher shares in Japan, Greece, Luxembourg, Turkey, Iceland and Mexico.

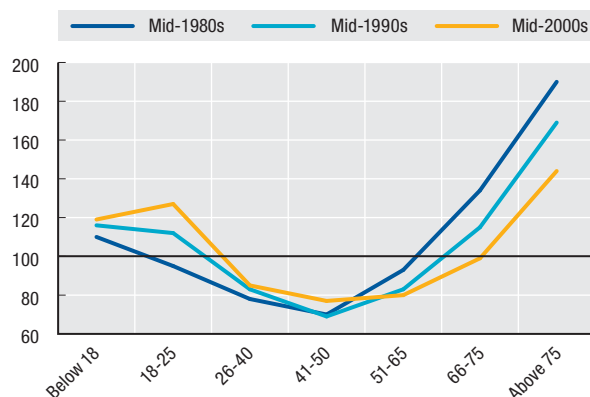
Over the past 20 years, poverty risks have shifted from older population groups to young adults and children. The OECD poverty rate among people aged 66 to 75 is today below the average for the entire population, while the poverty rate of single-parent households is three times larger. For both single parents and couples with children, absence of work implies poverty rates close to and above 50%.

Measurement problems are especially severe at the bottom end of the income scale. Estimates of poverty rates for various population groups may also reflect small sample sizes. Small differences between periods and across countries are usually not significant. Exact years for each country are provided under the section on “Measures of income inequality”.

Data for people belonging to households with a head of working age for Switzerland refer to households without children.

Risk of relative poverty by age of individuals, OECD average

As a percentage of the entire population in each year = 100



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540111027104>

Source

- OECD (2008), *Growing Unequal? Income Distribution and Poverty in OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

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- UNICEF (2007), *Child poverty in perspective: An overview of child well-being in rich countries*, Innocenti Report Card 7, UNICEF, Florence.

Web sites

- OECD Social and Welfare Statistics, www.oecd.org/statistics/social.
- OECD work on income distribution and poverty, www.oecd.org/els/social/inequality.



POVERTY BY INDIVIDUAL AND HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

Poverty rates

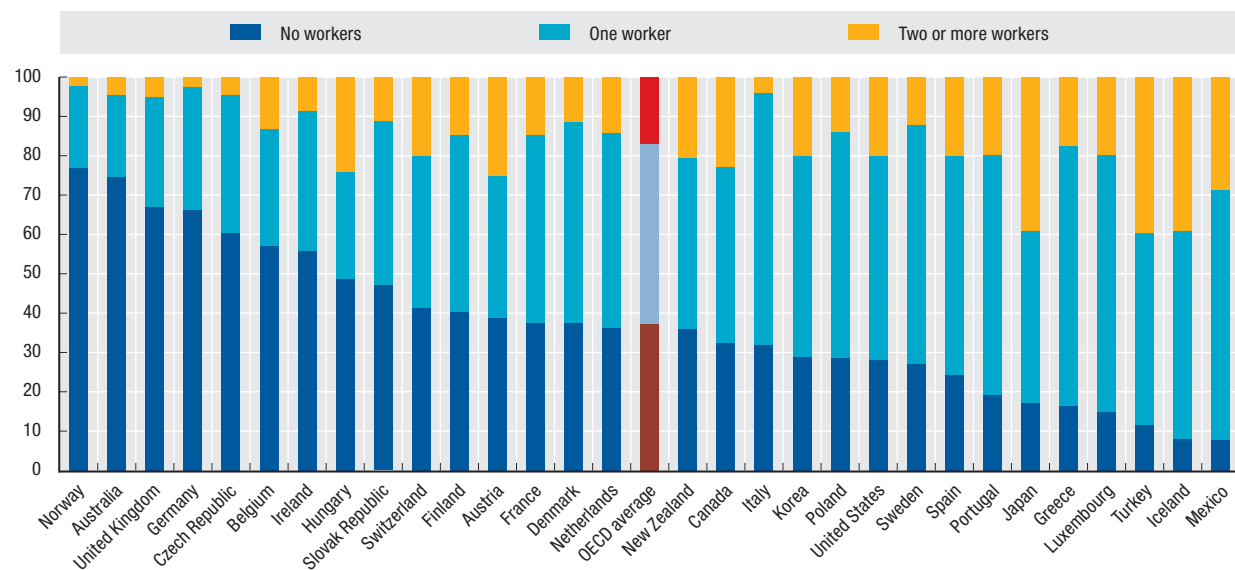
As a percentage of different groups of the population, mid-2000s

Working age people		People from households with a head of working age				Children	People from households with children and a head of working age							
		All	No workers	One worker	Two workers		Single			Couple				
							All single parents	Not working	Working	All couples with children	No workers	One worker	Two and more workers	
Australia	10	10	55	7	1	12	38	68	6	7	51	8	1	
Austria	7	6	22	6	3	6	21	51	11	4	36	4	3	
Belgium	7	8	25	8	2	10	25	43	10	7	36	11	3	
Canada	12	13	66	21	4	15	45	89	32	9	81	22	4	
Czech Republic	5	6	38	7	0	10	32	71	10	6	43	9	1	
Denmark	5	5	18	8	1	3	7	20	4	2	21	5	0	
Finland	7	6	34	10	1	4	14	46	6	3	23	9	1	
France	7	7	22	10	2	8	19	46	12	6	48	12	2	
Germany	10	12	40	7	1	16	41	56	26	9	47	6	1	
Greece	9	10	26	18	3	13	27	84	18	12	39	22	4	
Hungary	7	7	19	6	4	9	25	44	16	7	22	6	3	
Iceland	7	7	28	19	4	8	18	23	17	6	51	29	4	
Ireland	12	13	63	15	2	16	47	75	24	10	55	16	2	
Italy	10	11	36	16	1	16	..	..	16	14	78	24	1	
Japan	12	12	42	14	9	14	59	60	58	11	50	11	10	
Korea	12	11	58	13	4	10	27	29	26	8	65	10	4	
Luxembourg	8	9	19	15	3	12	41	69	38	10	27	16	5	
Mexico	15	18	37	26	10	22	33	30	34	19	53	27	11	
Netherlands	7	8	34	13	2	12	39	62	27	6	65	12	2	
New Zealand	11	12	46	19	4	15	39	48	30	9	47	21	3	
Norway	7	6	38	4	0	5	13	31	5	2	29	4	0	
Poland	14	16	33	23	5	22	44	75	26	18	51	28	6	
Portugal	11	11	37	24	3	17	33	..	26	13	53	34	5	
Slovak Republic	8	9	38	15	1	11	33	66	24	9	66	18	2	
Spain	11	11	49	18	4	17	41	78	32	14	71	23	5	
Sweden	6	5	23	9	1	4	8	18	6	3	36	14	1	
Switzerland	7	6	25	6	2	9	22	..	..	8	..	..	..	
Turkey	14	17	19	17	18	25	39	44	32	20	28	19	20	
United Kingdom	7	8	33	7	1	10	24	39	7	6	36	9	1	
United States	15	16	71	25	5	21	48	92	36	14	82	27	6	
OECD average	9	10	36	14	3	12	31	54	21	9	48	16	4	

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544721650740>

Poor people by number of workers in the household

As a percentage of poor people living in households with a head of working age, mid-2000s

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540107246087>

PUBLIC BENEFITS, TAXES AND INCOME INEQUALITY

OECD countries differ in how much income they redistribute through government policies. They do so through a range of programmes but most directly through the cash transfers paid to households and the direct taxes and social security contributions collected from them.

Definition

Redistribution is measured by comparing the same inequality measure (e.g. Gini coefficients) for market income (i.e. gross of public cash transfers and household taxes) and for disposable income (i.e. net of transfers and taxes). Two measures of redistribution are presented. In the first (standard) approach, inequality in the distribution of market income is computed by ranking people based on their market income: this implies, for example, that middle class people plunge into the bottom of the distribution of market income when moving into retirement, simply because it is the government, rather than the market, that provide their pensions. In the second approach, inequality of market income is based on people ranked by their disposable income, i.e. by where they end up “after” redistribution rather than where they were placed “before” redistribution.

Government redistribution depends on the size of public benefits and household taxes (as a percentage of household disposable income) and of their concentration (i.e. how large a share of benefits/taxes is received/paid by different income groups, compared to their share of disposable income). The concentration of transfers can be negative

when the share of transfers received by poorer people exceeds their share of income (with more negative values implying greater progressivity); for household taxes, higher values of the concentration coefficient imply a more progressive distribution of taxes. The inequality reduction of public benefits is the fall in inequality when moving from market to gross (pre-tax) income; the inequality reduction of taxes is the fall in inequality when moving from gross to disposable (post-tax) income.

Income is defined as household disposable income in a particular year. It consists of earnings, self-employment and capital income and public cash transfers; income taxes and social security contributions paid by households are deducted. The income of the household is attributed to each of its members, with an adjustment to reflect differences in needs for households of different sizes (i.e. the needs of a household composed of four people are assumed to be twice as large as those of a person living alone).

Comparability

Data used here were provided by national experts applying common methodologies and standardised definitions. In many cases, experts have made several adjustments to their source data to conform to standardized definitions. While this approach improves comparability, full standardisation cannot be achieved. Also, small differences between periods and across countries are usually not significant.

The size and definition of public benefits and household taxes used here may differ from that available from other administrative data, and this will influence cross-country comparisons. Small differences between periods and across countries are usually not significant. Exact years for each country are provided under the section on “Measures of income inequality”.

Overview

On the standard measure (shown as a diamond in the figure), the combined effect of the tax and transfer systems is to lower income inequality by 15 points (i.e. more than one-third) on average. On the second measure (shown as a bar), the reduction of inequality achieved by taxes and transfers is lower, at around 10 points, with declines ranging from 15 points or more in Denmark, Belgium, Sweden and the Czech Republic to less than 2 points in Korea. In some OECD countries, a significant part of the redistribution measured by the standard approach reflects the re-ranking of people, namely in countries where public pensions account for more than 90% of the disposable income of the retirement-age population – Austria, Belgium, France, Italy, Luxembourg and Sweden.

Cash benefits are more progressively distributed (i.e. they have a high concentration coefficient) than other incomes in all countries, thus reducing inequality. Household taxes tend to be distributed more progressively in English-speaking countries and less so in the Nordic countries, France and Switzerland. On average, the redistribution achieved by public cash transfers is twice as large as that achieved through household taxes, while in the United States the effects of the two levers are similar.

Source

- OECD (2008), *Growing Unequal? Income Distribution and Poverty in OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- Barr, N. (1992), “Economic Theory and the Welfare State: A Survey and Reinterpretation”, *Journal of Economic Literature*, Vol. 30, June.

Websites

- OECD Social and Welfare Statistics, www.oecd.org/statistics/social.
- OECD work on income distribution and poverty, www.oecd.org/els/social/inequality.



Size, concentration and effectiveness of taxes and transfers in reducing inequality

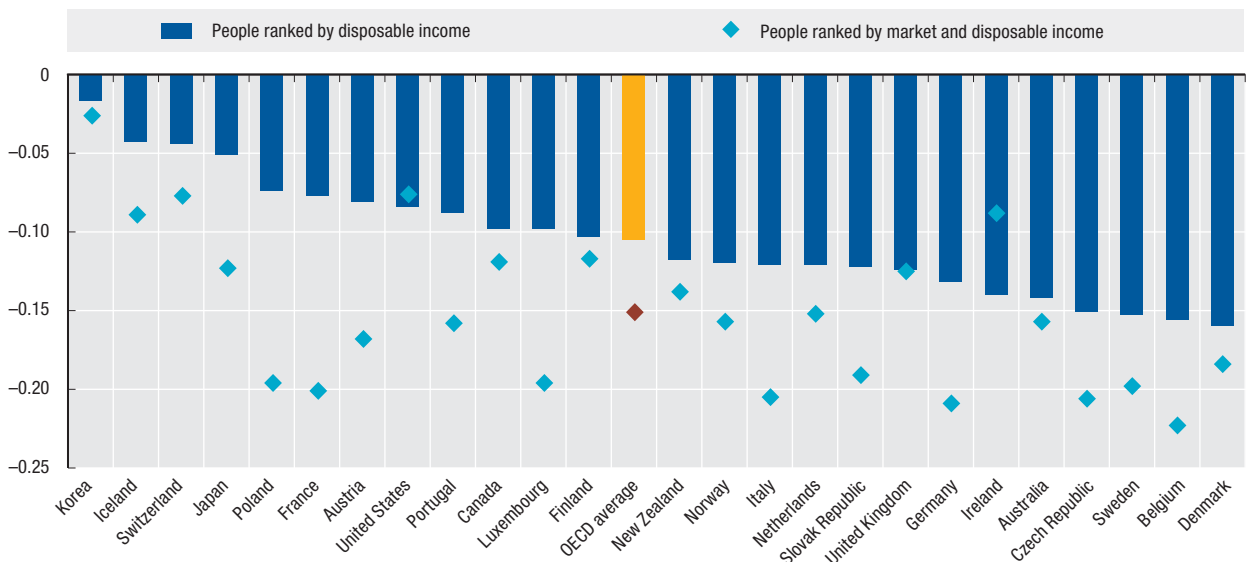
Mid-2000s

	Public cash transfers			Household taxes		
	As a percentage of household disposable income	Concentration coefficients	Inequality reduction	As a percentage of household disposable income	Concentration coefficients	Inequality reduction
Australia	14.3	-0.400	0.097	23.4	0.533	0.045
Austria	36.6	0.157	0.052	33.4	0.381	0.029
Belgium	30.5	-0.120	0.119	38.3	0.398	0.037
Canada	13.6	-0.152	0.060	25.8	0.492	0.037
Czech Republic	24.3	-0.154	0.114	21.6	0.471	0.037
Denmark	25.6	-0.316	0.118	52.5	0.349	0.042
Finland	14.4	-0.219	0.065	30.1	0.428	0.038
France	32.9	0.136	0.056	26.0	0.374	0.020
Germany	28.2	0.013	0.086	35.5	0.468	0.046
Ireland	17.7	-0.214	0.100	19.4	0.570	0.041
Italy	29.2	0.135	0.073	30.2	0.546	0.047
Japan	19.7	0.010	0.048	19.7	0.378	0.003
Korea	3.6	-0.012	0.011	8.0	0.380	0.005
Luxembourg	30.6	0.085	0.066	23.8	0.420	0.032
Netherlands	17.1	-0.198	0.080	24.7	0.471	0.041
New Zealand	13.0	-0.345	0.080	29.0	0.498	0.038
Norway	21.7	-0.183	0.093	33.2	0.376	0.027
Slovak Republic	26.0	-0.056	0.094	20.0	0.422	0.028
Sweden	32.7	-0.145	0.121	43.2	0.337	0.032
Switzerland	16.0	-0.170	0.057	36.0	0.223	-0.012
United Kingdom	14.5	-0.275	0.085	24.1	0.533	0.039
United States	9.4	-0.089	0.041	25.6	0.586	0.044
OECD average	21.4	-0.114	0.078	28.3	0.438	0.032

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544730300331>

Differences in inequality before and after taxes and transfers

Percentage difference in concentration coefficients, mid-2000s

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540115381716>

PUBLIC BENEFITS, TAXES AND INCOME POVERTY

The role of cash benefits and household taxes is particularly important for reducing poverty. Although the primary goal of most social programmes is not explicitly to reduce poverty, all tax/transfer systems do redistribute income towards lower income households. A critical question relates to the impact of benefits and transfers on poverty risks of particular population groups and how this impact has changed over time.

Definition

Poverty rates are headcounts of how many people, within a country or a specific population group, fall below the poverty line, in percentage of the total number of people. The poverty line used here is 50% of the median household disposable income, adjusted for household size. Children are persons with less than 18 years of age, working-age people are persons between age 18 and 65, retirement-age people are persons aged 66 and over. The poverty rate of single-parents refers to all persons living in a household with one adult and at least one child.

The poverty-reducing effect of benefits and transfers is measured as the difference between poverty rates based on disposable incomes and those based on market income. For both measures, the poverty threshold is 50% of household disposable income. Because of this definition, the effect of public cash benefits and household taxes in reducing income poverty reflects both their size and the extent to which these are targeted to the poor.

Income is defined as household disposable income in a particular year. It consists of earnings, self-employment and capital income and public cash transfers; income taxes and social security contributions paid by households are deducted. The income of the household is attributed to each

of its members, with an adjustment to reflect differences in needs for households of different sizes (i.e. the needs of a household composed of four people are assumed to be twice as large as those of a person living alone).

Comparability

Data used here were provided by national experts applying common methodologies and standardised definitions. In many cases, experts have made several adjustments to their source data to conform to standardized definitions. While this approach improves comparability, full standardisation cannot be achieved. Also, small differences between periods and across countries are usually not significant.

The size and definition of public benefits and household taxes used here may differ from that available from other administrative data, and this will influence cross-country comparisons. Small differences between periods and across countries are usually not significant. Exact years for each country are provided under the section on “Measures of income inequality”.

Overview

In all OECD countries, public cash benefits and household taxes significantly reduce poverty. The reduction ranges from less than 10 points in Korea, Switzerland and the United States to more than 23 points in Belgium and France. The percentage reduction in poverty headcounts due to household taxes and public cash transfers is about 60% on average and ranges from 12% in Korea to 80% in Sweden.

The reduction of poverty achieved through taxes and transfers differs significantly across population groups and over time. Because of the importance of public pensions, the effect is much greater for people of retirement age, ranging between 80% and 100% in most countries. The effect is smaller for people of working age and, even smaller, for children. The impact of taxes and transfers in reducing poverty among children and people of working age has declined over time in most OECD countries.

Source

- OECD (2008), *Growing Unequal? Income Distribution and Poverty in OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2007), *Benefits and Wages: OECD Indicators*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2005), *Extending Opportunities: How Active Social Policy Can Benefit Us All*, OECD, Paris.
- Smeeding, T. and L. Rainwater (2000), *United States Poverty in a Cross-National Context*, LIS Working Paper No. 244, Luxembourg.

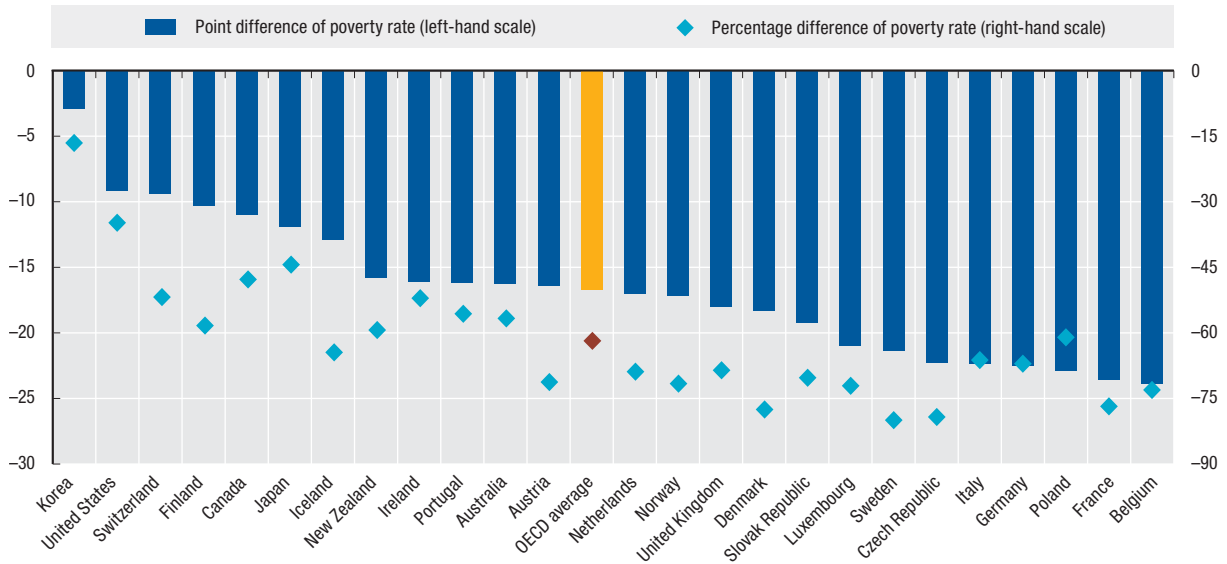
Websites

- OECD Social and Welfare Statistics, www.oecd.org/statistics/social.
- OECD work on income distribution and poverty, www.oecd.org/els/social/inequality.

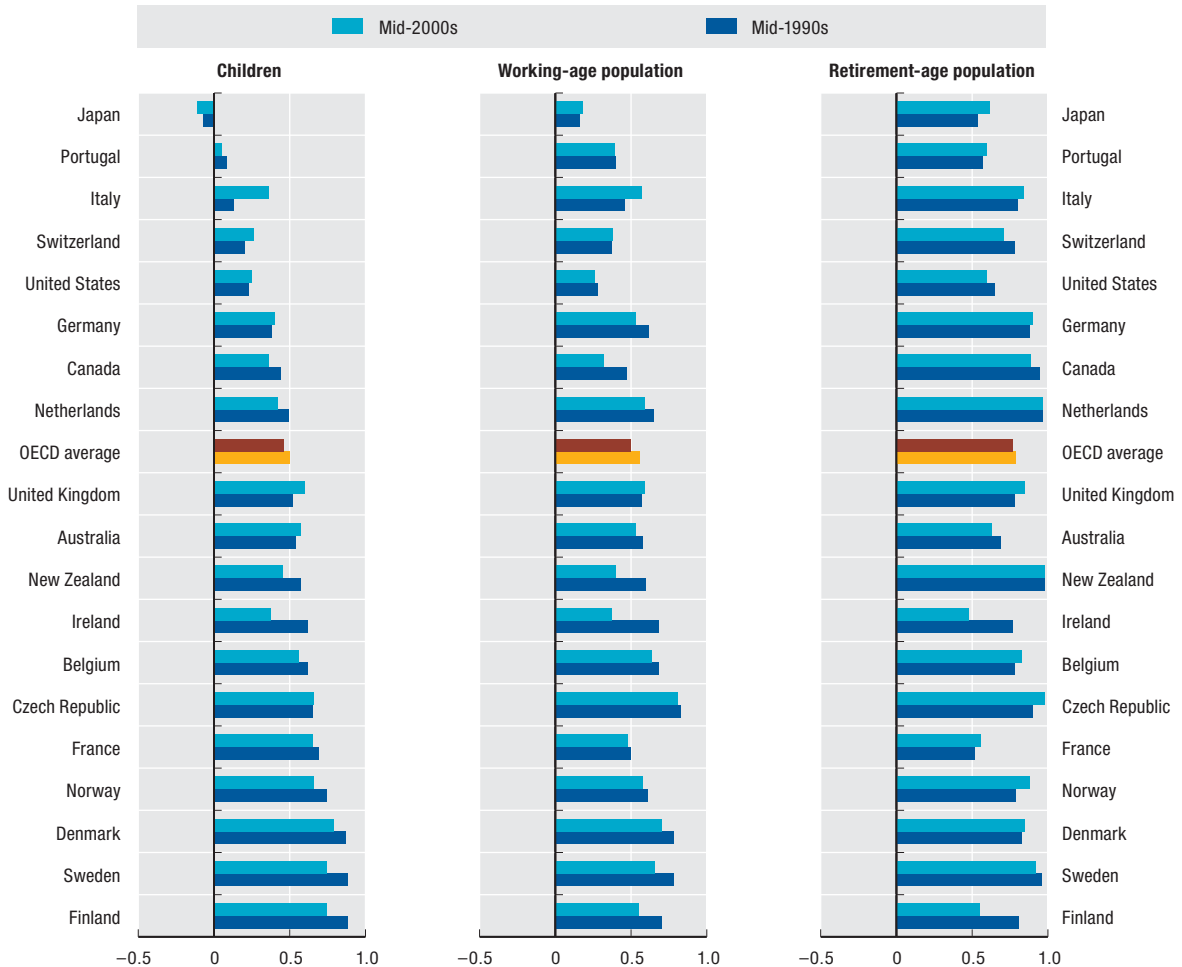


Effects of taxes and transfers in reducing poverty among the entire population

Mid-2000s



Effects of taxes and transfers in reducing poverty among children, adults and the elderly

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540136147634>

READING PROFICIENCY OF 15-YEAR-OLD STUDENTS

Are all students equipped with adequate knowledge and skills when they leave compulsory education? Answering this question is important as the competences gained in schools shape the probability of pursuing higher education and of accessing well paid and rewarding jobs.

Definition

Differences in the proficiency of students are assessed in terms of reading skills, as measured by the OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) of students aged 15, i.e. towards the end of compulsory education. Reading literacy is defined as the ability of students to use written information in situations which they encounter in their life. This implies a capacity to understand, use and reflect on written texts in order to achieve one's goals, to develop one's knowledge and potential and to participate in society. This definition goes beyond the traditional notion of decoding information and literal interpretation of what is written towards more applied tasks. The concept of reading literacy used in PISA is defined by three dimensions: the format of the reading material, the type of reading task or reading aspects, and the situation or the use for which the text was constructed.

Two indicators are used to describe differences in the reading proficiency of students. The first is the distribution of students among different levels of reading proficiency, with the length of the various shadings on the bar showing the percentage of students proficient at each level. Students proficient at Level 5 are capable of completing sophisticated tasks, such as locating and using information that is difficult to find in unfamiliar texts; understanding such texts and inferring which information is relevant to the task; and being able to evaluate critically and build hypotheses, draw on specialised knowledge, and accommodate concepts that may be contrary to

expectations. Students proficient at Level 1 are only capable of completing the simplest tasks, such as locating a single piece of information, identifying the main theme of a text or making a simple connection with everyday knowledge. Students with literacy skills at or below this level lack the necessary skills to benefit from the educational opportunities open to them. The second indicator is the ratio between the mean scores of students in the top and bottom decile of the distribution of reading scores (with higher values of this ratio denoting higher inequalities).

Over 400 000 15-year-old students in 57 participating countries were assessed for PISA 2006. The estimates shown in the tables are based on probability samples.

Comparability

PISA results have a high degree of comparability across countries. Leading experts in participating countries advise on the scope and nature of the assessments, with final decisions taken by OECD governments. Substantial efforts and resources are devoted to achieving cultural and linguistic breadth and balance in the assessment materials. Stringent quality assurance mechanisms are applied in translation, sampling and data collection. The large sample size of PISA allows meaningful comparisons across groups of people within each country.

Overview

In the OECD area, an average of 8.6% of the students performed at Level 5, with this share ranging from more than 20% in Korea to less than 1% in Mexico. When looking at the other end of the distribution of reading skills, 12.7% of OECD students performed at Level 1 and a further 7.4% performed below that level. Differences across countries in the size of this underperforming group are wide, with the share of students performing at or below Level 1 ranging from around 5% in Finland to close to 50% in Mexico.

There are also large differences in the reading performance of students in the top and bottom deciles of the distribution. In Mexico, the Czech and Slovak Republics and Italy best performing students have reading skills that are around 80% higher than those of their counterparts at the bottom of the distribution, while such difference is less than 50% in Korea and Finland.

Source

- OECD (2007), *PISA 2006: Science Competencies for Tomorrow's World: Volume 1 Analysis*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Methodological publications

- OECD (2006), *Assessing Scientific, Reading and Mathematical Literacy: A Framework for PISA 2006*, OECD, Paris.

Online database

- OECD PISA Database.

Websites

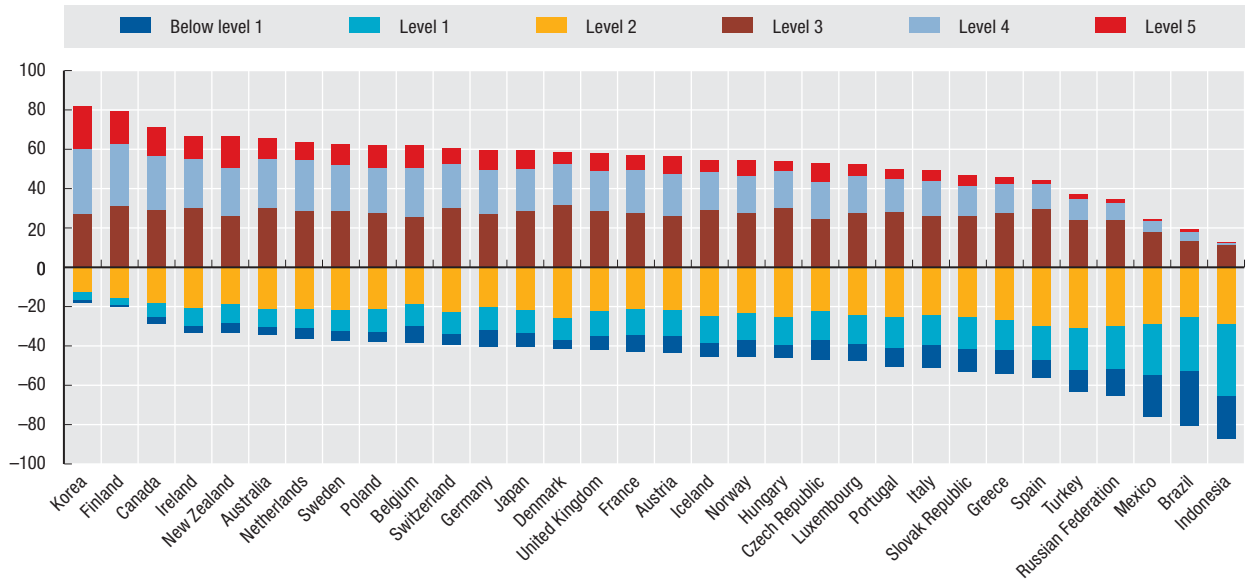
- PISA website, www.pisa.oecd.org.



READING PROFICIENCY OF 15-YEAR-OLD STUDENTS

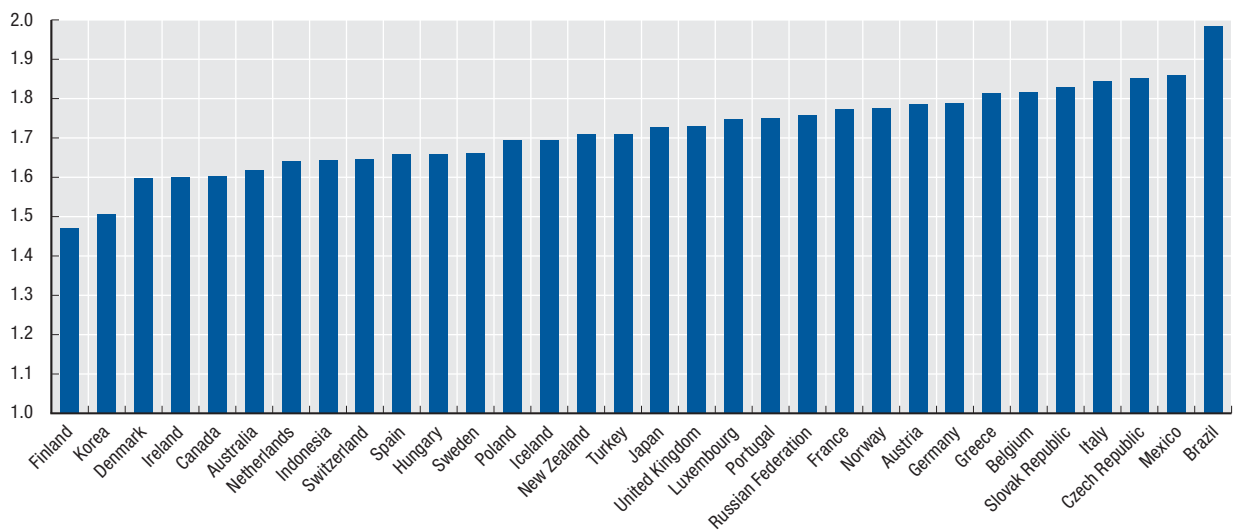
Distribution of students among different levels of reading proficiency

Year 2006



Ratio between mean scores of students in the top and bottom decile of the distribution of reading scores

Year 2006

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540155287485>

PERFORMANCE OF 15-YEAR-OLDS BY IMMIGRANT STATUS

Because of the large inflows of migrants experienced in recent decades, many OECD governments are paying special attention to the school performance of youths issued from immigration. These migrant youths constitute a sizable and very heterogeneous group, with a diverse range of skills, backgrounds and motivations. While some migrants are highly skilled, others have low skills and are socially disadvantaged. Such disadvantage, along with cultural and ethnic differences, can breed divisions and inequities in the host society between newcomers and natives.

Definition

Differences in the performance of 15-year-old students by immigrant status are here assessed in terms of scientific literacy, i.e. the capacity of students to use scientific knowledge to identify questions, acquire new knowledge, explain scientific phenomena, and draw evidence-based conclusions about science-related issues. Data are issued from the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), which assesses the knowledge and skills

of students at age 15, i.e. towards the end of compulsory education. PISA survey covers science, mathematics and reading. For the 2006 round of PISA, three and a half hours of total testing time was in science, two hours for mathematics and one hour for reading.

Differences in scientific literacy by immigrant status are measured by the gap that separates students with an immigrant background from natives. Students with an immigrant background are grouped in first-generation students (i.e. students who were born outside the country of assessment and who also have foreign-born parents) and second-generation students (i.e. those who have been born in the country of assessment and have benefited from participation in the same formal education system as their native peers for the same number of years). Data are limited to countries where first-generation and second-generation students account for at least 3% of all 15-years old students.

Overview

Across OECD countries, first-generation students lag their native counterparts by more than 50 points in the PISA scale, which is equivalent to more than one year in school attainment. Much of this difference remains even after accounting for other socio-economic factors. This gap suggests that schools and societies face major challenges in realising the human capital potential that immigrants bring with them. This gap ranges from 22 score points in Canada to between 77 and 95 score points in Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Austria, Belgium and Switzerland. In contrast, first-generation immigrant students perform at the same level as their native peers in Australia, New Zealand, Ireland and the Russian Federation.

The gap in performance relative to natives remains sizable (at 40 points, on average) for second-generation students. This disadvantage is very large in Germany, Austria, Denmark, Belgium and the Netherlands, where these students score between 79 and 93 points lower than their native counterparts, while it is negligible in Australia and Canada. In Sweden and Switzerland, the better performance of second-generation students compared to first generation ones suggests that participation in the education and social system from birth onwards can bring a substantial gain in school performance. However, the opposite pattern is observed in New Zealand, where second-generation students have lower scores than their first-generation counterparts.

Source

- OECD (2007), *PISA 2006: Science Competencies for Tomorrow's World: Volume 1 Analysis*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

Methodological publications

- OECD (2006), *Assessing Scientific, Reading and Mathematical Literacy: A Framework for PISA 2006*, OECD, Paris.

Online database

- OECD PISA Database.

Websites

- PISA website, www.pisa.oecd.org.



Students performance on the science scale in PISA 2006 by immigrants status

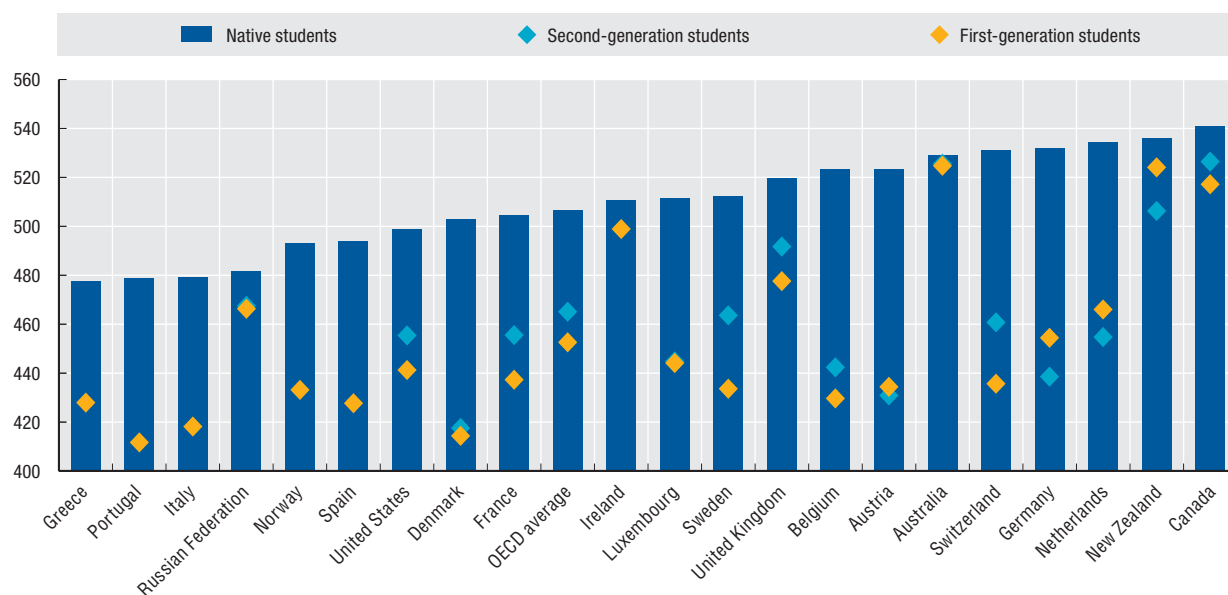
Mean scores

	Native students	Second-generation students	First-generation students
Australia	529	528	527
Austria	523	431	435
Belgium	523	443	430
Canada	541	528	519
Czech Republic	515	..	..
Denmark	503	418	414
Finland	566	..	..
France	505	456	438
Germany	532	439	455
Greece	478	..	428
Hungary	505	..	..
Iceland	494	..	..
Ireland	510	..	500
Italy	479	..	418
Japan	532	..	..
Korea	523	..	..
Luxembourg	511	445	445
Mexico	415	..	..
Netherlands	534	455	467
New Zealand	536	508	526
Norway	493	..	433
Poland	499	..	..
Portugal	479	..	412
Slovak Republic	490	..	..
Spain	494	..	428
Sweden	512	464	434
Switzerland	531	462	436
Turkey	425	..	..
United Kingdom	519	493	479
United States	499	456	442
OECD average	506	466	453
OECD total	497	463	448
Brazil	393	..	..
Indonesia	395	..	..
Russian Federation	481	468	467

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/544760356375>

Student performance on the science scale in PISA 2006 by immigrant status

Mean scores



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540204633626>

PARTICIPATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION BY FATHER'S JOB AND EDUCATION

A key issue for educational systems is to provide equal opportunities to attend higher education for all individuals, regardless of their socio-economic status. Leveling the playing field between affluent and less affluent youths is a matter for equity; but also for increasing the recruiting ground for highly skilled jobs and overall labour competitiveness.

Definition

Two measures of youths' participation in higher education by parents' socio-economic status are shown. The first is obtained by comparing the share of students in higher education whose father has a blue-collar job to the share of men aged 40-60 in blue-collar occupations. The second is obtained by comparing the share of students in higher education whose father has a higher-educational attainment to the share of men aged 40-60 with higher educational attainment in the population.

The data are limited to ten European countries and are based on Eurostudent, a survey that collects data on occupational status (white-collar or blue-collar) and educational attainment of students' fathers, as well as on other aspects. These indicators are a first attempt to illustrate the analytical potential of better data on this issue.

Comparability

In most cases, the countries participating to the Eurostudent programme have integrated these questions within larger national surveys. Most countries have surveyed students attending higher education programmes classified as ISCED 5A and 5B, with the exceptions of Austria, Germany, Italy and Spain (which only surveyed students in ISCED 5A) and Portugal (which surveyed students in levels 5A, 5B and 6). Cross-country differences in the definition of higher-education (as well as differences in the definition of blue collar jobs) may distort comparability to some extent, although they are less important for the between-groups comparisons shown here.

Data for the United Kingdom refer to England and Wales; for this country, data on parents by education refer to the parent (either male or female) with the highest income.

Overview

There are large differences among countries in the degree to which students from a blue-collar background participate in higher education. Ireland and Spain stand out as providing the most equitable access to higher education, whereas Austria, France, Germany and Portugal provide the less equitable access (i.e. in these countries the share of students with a blue collar background is about one-half of the share of blue collar workers).

The proportion of students in higher education whose fathers completed higher education provides another perspective on the same topic. Finland, France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom have the largest intake of higher-education students whose fathers hold a higher education degree, whereas Ireland and Italy have the lowest intake from this group. On this measure, Portugal provides the less equitable access, and Ireland the most equitable one.

Source

- Eurostudent (2005), *Eurostudent Report 2005: Social and Economic Conditions of Student Life in Europe*, HEIS (HIS).

Further information

Websites

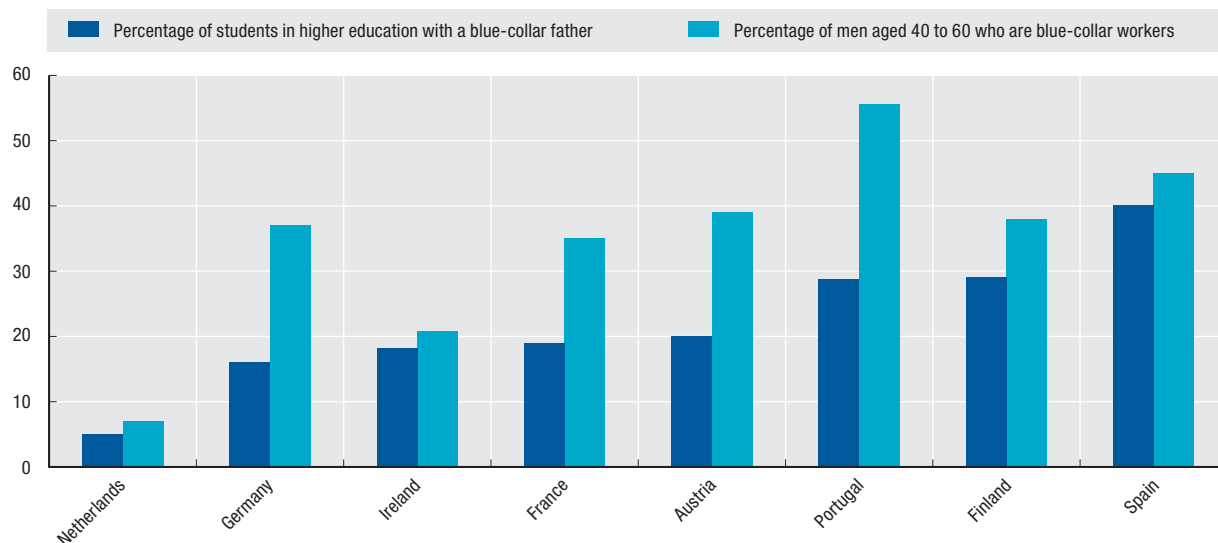
- Eurostudent website, www.eurostudent.eu.



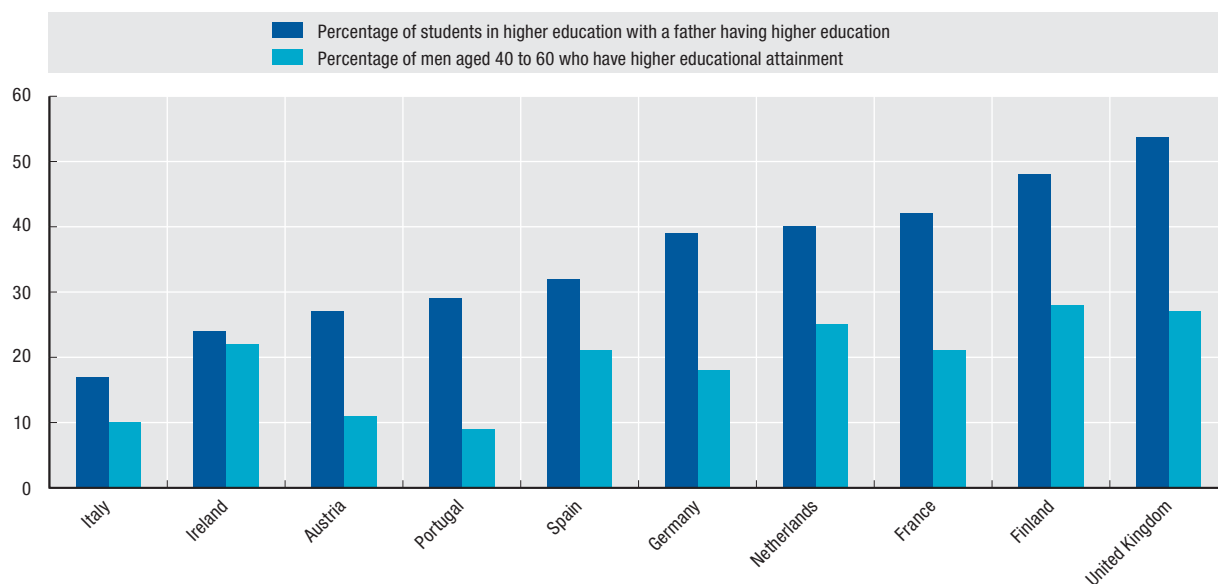
PARTICIPATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION BY FATHER'S JOB AND EDUCATION

Participation in higher education by occupation of students' fathers

Year 2004

**Participation in higher education by educational attainment of students' fathers**

Year 2004

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540237614168>

HEALTH STATUS

Improvements in health status have not been equally shared by all. Inequalities in health status within each country exist along many dimensions including age, gender, race or ethnic group, geographic area and socioeconomic status.

Definition

Inequalities in health status are defined as differences in mortality and in perceived health status between different socio-economic groups. Mortality is measured as numbers of deaths per 100 000 resident population. Perceived health status is measured based on people's perception of their health as determined through surveys. Socioeconomic status refers to an individual's position in society, and is measured in terms of income, education, occupation, or by combining these and other measures.

Inequalities in mortality rates by education are measured by the ratio of the mortality rate of less educated people to that of better educated ones (higher values denoting greater inequalities). Inequalities in perceived health status are measured by the difference in the share of respondents reporting poor health among people with lower socioeconomic status compared with those with higher status. The data, limited to European countries, refer to people rating their health as "bad or very bad" classified by income quintiles.

Overview

People with lower education or income, or from a less prestigious occupational group tend to have a higher prevalence of health problems and also die at younger ages. This pattern is confirmed by both inequalities in mortality rates and in perceived health.

Death rates among less educated European men are around 50% higher than those of more educated men; the gap is around 30% among women. Smaller-than-average inequalities are found in Italy and Spain, and larger inequalities in Poland and Hungary. Similar mortality inequalities are reported by studies undertaken in Korea and the United States.

People's perception of their own health also varies by socioeconomic status, with people with lower income or less education reporting poorer health. In European countries, inequalities between low and high income groups are high in Belgium, Iceland, Ireland and the United Kingdom, although in the latter three countries, the proportion of persons reporting poorer health is low.

The situation is similar in non-European countries. National data, reviewed in de Looper and Lafortune (2009), highlight a consistent pattern of poorer self-rated health among people with lower education (Canada, Japan and Korea), lower income (United States) and greater disadvantage (Australia and New Zealand).

Comparability

Good comparative measures of inequalities in health status do not currently exist, and the indicators presented here are based on information collected by the OECD from national sources and comparative studies. Estimates of mortality rates by education are based on studies undertaken in different years and covering people whose age and educational attainment may differ across countries. Estimates of inequalities in perceived health status may reflect the use of different survey questions and response categories, as well as cultural variations in interpreting "bad health".

Mortality rates for the United Kingdom refer to England and Wales. Data refer to 1991-1996 for England and Wales, and Italy; 1992-1996 for Spain; 1991-1995 for Belgium, Denmark, Finland and Switzerland; 1990-1994 for France; 1990-1995 for Norway; 1991-1992 for Austria; 1991-1997 for the Netherlands; 1988-1989 for Poland; 2002 for Hungary; and end-of-1990s for the Czech Republic.

Sources

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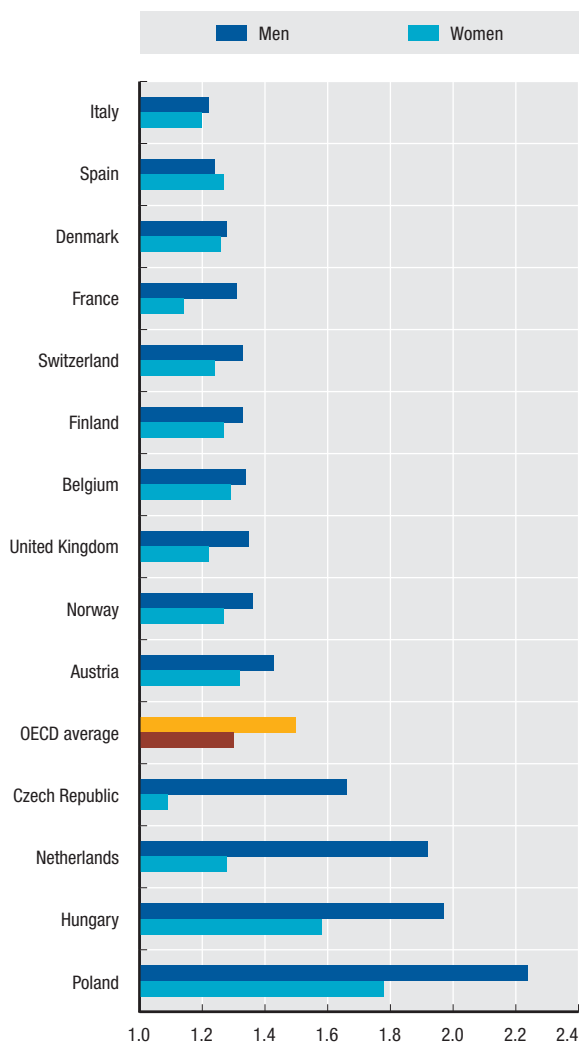
Websites

- Commission on the Social Determinants of Health, www.who.int/social_determinants.
- DETERMINE, European Portal for Action on Health Equity, www.health-inequalities.eu.



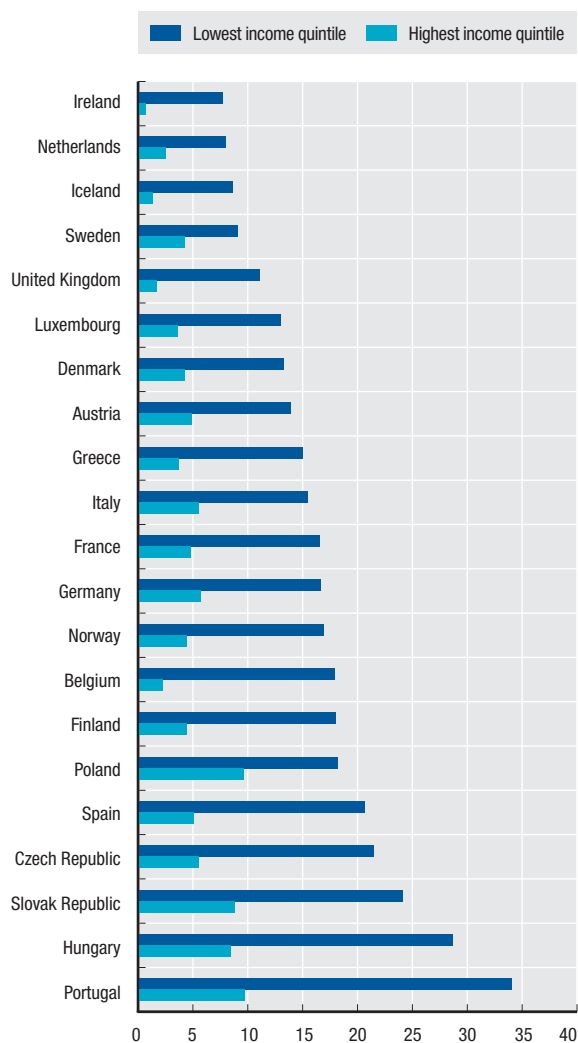
Total mortality rates of less educated people relative to more educated people

Ratio of the mortality rates between less and more educated people, 1995 or latest available year



Persons rating their health as "bad or very bad" by income

As a percentage of adults, 2006



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540255836046>

ACCESS AND USE OF HEALTH CARE

Inequalities in health care access and use remain in all countries. Some common barriers to access include financial reasons, a lack of health care providers, excessive travelling distance, and excessive waiting times to see providers.

Definition

Health care access refers to people's ability to obtain appropriate health care services in a timely fashion and without obstacles. Inequalities in health care access and use are here assessed in terms of people's income, based on data from the European Union Statistics on Income and Living Condition survey for 2006. For non-European countries, data refer to the share of people who reported having gone without "needed care" due to costs among all adults and among those with low income; "needed care" refer to having

unfilled prescription or missed medication, having missed tests, treatment or follow-up, or not having visited a doctor despite having a health problem.

Inequalities that are deemed to be unfair are sometimes termed "inequities". In determining these inequities in health service use, data on actual use are adjusted for people's differing needs for care, using information on their self-assessed health status. The index for horizontal inequity shown here refers to specialist care: specialist care is inequitable (favouring high income groups) if the 95% confidence interval does not contain zero.

Comparability

No single survey or study on inequalities in health care access and use has been conducted across all OECD countries. Cross-country comparisons have to rely on studies employing different sources and methods. Regarding unmet care and health service use, differing problems of access, survey questions and response categories affect the ability to make precise cross-national comparisons. Surveyed groups may also vary in terms of age, and the measures used to grade income, education and occupation can also differ across countries.

Overview

In 2006, high rates of unmet need for medical examination among the adult population in Europe are shown in Poland, Portugal, Italy and Greece. The ratio of reported unmet care between the lowest and the highest income groups was greater in Belgium, Portugal, and the Slovak Republic, although in Belgium the overall level of unmet care is low.

Inequalities in health care access and use are also evident in non-European countries, where foregone care for a number of different treatments due to costs is more prevalent among adults with below average income than among other people. There are also large differences in the size of these inequalities across countries; the share of people reporting having gone without needed care is much lower in the United Kingdom than in the United States. In the United States, adults with below-average incomes who have health insurance report significantly less access problems due to cost than their uninsured counterparts.

Even though people in lower socioeconomic groups tend to have higher rates of disease and mortality, they do not necessarily make greater use of health care. After adjusting for differences in the need for health care, the use of primary care is generally found to be equitably distributed, while use of specialist care has a 'pro-rich' bias in most countries. In Europe, this was especially true for Portugal, Finland, Ireland and Italy, countries where private insurance and direct private payments play a large role in accessing specialist services. In 9 European countries, after controlling for need, the share of people with higher education using specialist care is higher than that among less-educated people. Use of preventive health services, such as breast and cervical cancer screening, also varies much by income, even in countries where screening is common.

Source

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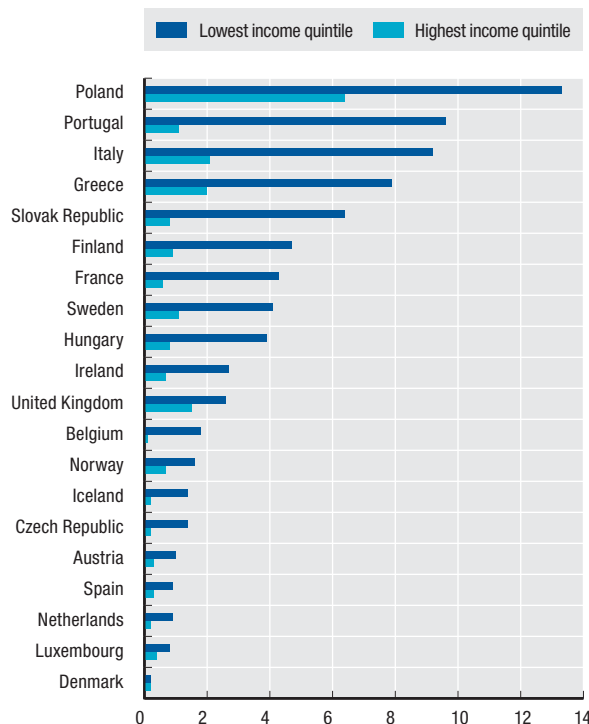
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- Commonwealth Fund International Health Policy Survey 2004, www.commonwealthfund.org.
- European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC), www.epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu.



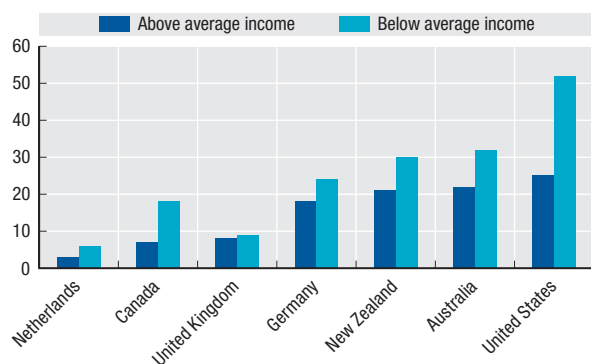
Persons reporting an unmet need for a medical examination because of problems of access

As a percentage of adults, 2006



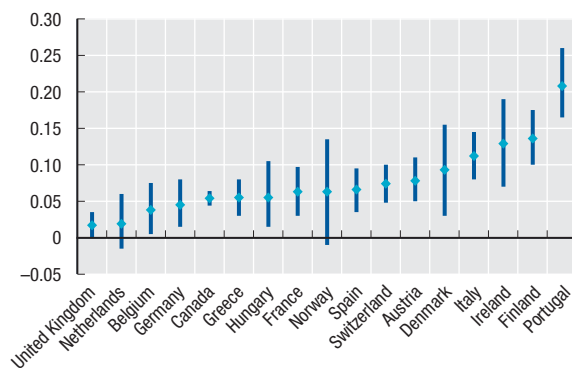
Persons going without needed care due to costs by income

As a percentage of adults, 2007



Pro-rich bias in use of specialist care

Confidence intervals not containing zero indicate a pro-rich bias, 2000 or latest available year



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540257461086>

REGIONAL GDP

Disparities in economic performance across OECD countries are often smaller than those prevailing among regions of the same country. Further, these regional disparities have often persisted over time, even when economic disparities among countries were falling.

Definition

Regional inequalities in economic performance are here measured by regional GDP per capita. Regional GDP is measured according to the definitions of the 1993 *System of National Accounts*. GDP per capita is calculated by dividing the GDP of a region by the population (number of inhabitants) living there. Regional GDP per capita can be biased due to commuting (which raises the GDP per capita of those urban regions where people are employed, and lowers that of regions where commuters live).

The Gini index is one summary measure of regional disparities within each country. It looks not only at the regions with the highest and the lowest GDP per capita but at differences among all regions. The index ranges between 0 and 1: the higher its value, the larger the disparities. Regional disparities tend to be underestimated when the

size of regions is large. This may be the case for Australia, Canada, Mexico and the United States, where GDP figures are only available for Territorial Level 2 regions (see Regional population).

Comparability

As for the other regional statistics, comparability is affected by differences in the meaning of the word “region”. The word “region” can mean very different things both within and among countries, with significant differences in terms of area and population. To address this issue, the OECD has classified regions within each member country based on two levels: territorial level 2 (TL2, large regions) and territorial level 3 (TL3, small regions). Data for Australia, Canada, Mexico and the United States refer to larger (TL2) regions, while those for other countries refer to smaller (TL3) regions.

“2005 or latest available year” refers to 2005 in all countries except Mexico (2004); New Zealand (2003); and Turkey (2001). “1995-2005 or latest available period” refers to data from 1995 to 2005 in all countries except Italy (2000-05); Mexico (1995-2004); Poland (2000-05); and the United States (1997-2005).

Overview

Regional disparities in the economic performance within OECD countries are often substantial. For example the GDP per capita in Inner London-West (United Kingdom) is more than four times higher than the national average, while that of the Isle of Anglesey is only half the national average. Large differences are also found in the United States, Turkey and Poland. Only in Australia, the Netherlands, Sweden and New Zealand the GDP per capita of the richest region is less than twice the GDP per capita of the poorest region. Regional inequalities within countries remain large when using a measure of regional productivity (for example GDP per worker).

Regional disparities in GDP per capita result from different pattern of economic growth within countries. In recent years, the 10% most dynamic OECD regions were responsible for 44% of the total increase in the OECD GDP. In Greece, almost all the increase in the national GDP is accounted for by the Attiki region. The contribution to growth of the 10% fastest growing regions was above 50% of GDP growth in Sweden, Finland, Hungary, Italy and Japan.

Regional disparities, based on the Gini index, are highest in Turkey, Mexico and the Slovak Republic. A comparison between regional disparities and the share of people living in regions with low GDP per capita (below the national median GDP per capita) gives a measure of the economic implications of these regional inequalities. In 2005, more than 40% of the total OECD population lived in regions with low GDP per capita. In Turkey and Mexico, two countries with the same Gini index of regional GDP per capita, this proportion varied from 35% in Turkey to almost 60% in Mexico.

Sources

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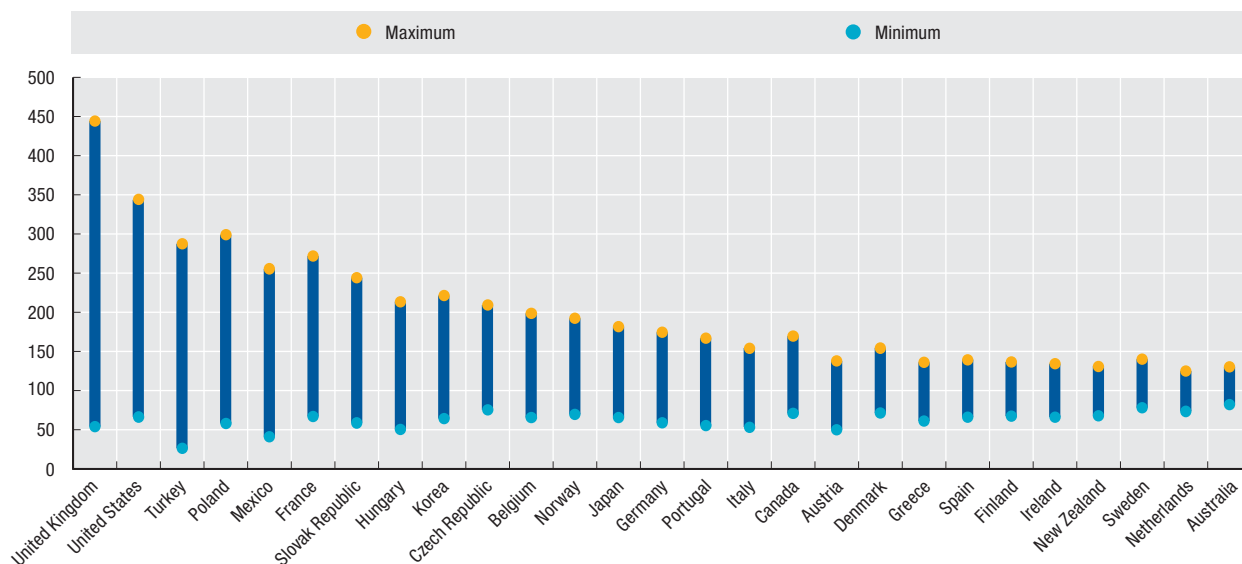
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- OECD eXplorer, www.oecd.org/gov/regional/statisticsindicators/explorer.



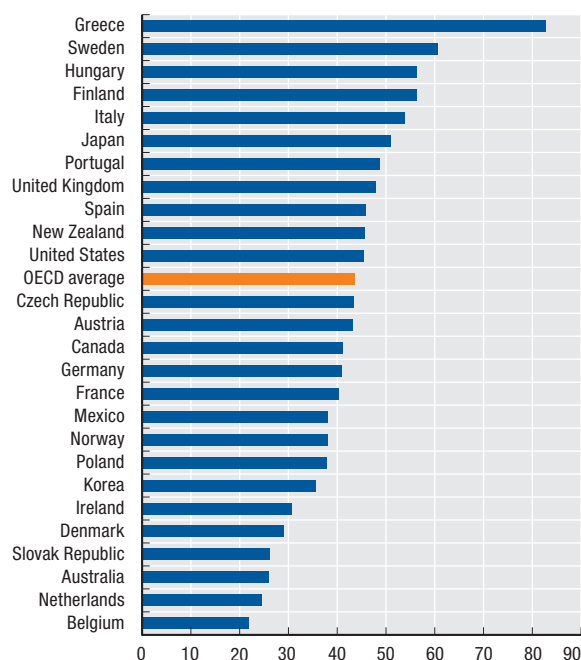
Range in regional GDP per capita, small regions

As a percentage of national GDP per capita, 2005 or latest available year



Share of GDP increase of each country due to the ten per cent of most dynamic regions, small regions

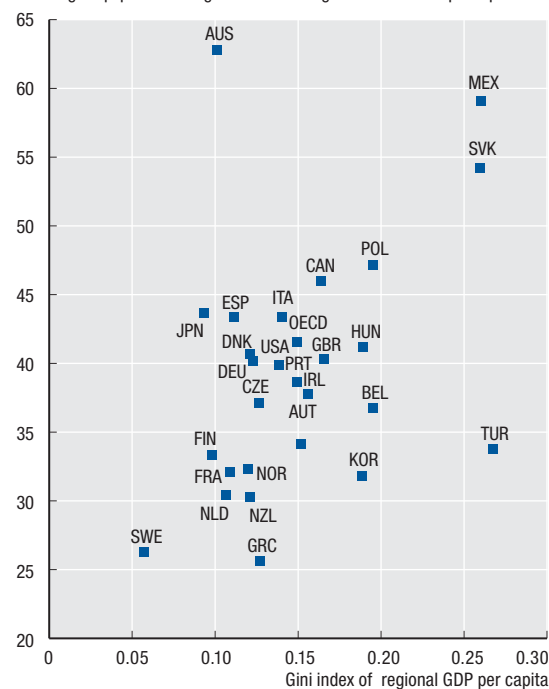
Percentage, 1995-2005 or latest available period



Gini index of regional GDP per capita and share of the population in regions with low GDP per capita, small regions

2005 or latest available year

Percentage of population in regions under the regional median GDP per capita



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540261700407>

REGIONAL LABOUR MARKETS

Inequalities in economic performance across regions partly reflect the extent to which each region is able to utilise its available labour resources, and especially to increase job opportunities for under-represented groups and for those who have been out of the labour market for a long period.

Definition

Employed persons are all persons who during the reference week of the survey worked at least one hour for pay or profit, or were temporarily absent from such work. The employment rate is the number of employed persons as a percentage of the working age (25-64) population.

Unemployed persons are all persons who report that they are without work, that they are available for work and that they have taken active steps to find work in the four weeks preceding the survey. The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed persons as a percentage of the

labour force, which consists of the sum of unemployed and employed persons.

People are counted as long-term unemployed if they have been unemployed for 12 months or more. The incidence of long-term unemployment is the ratio between the long-term unemployed and all unemployed people. This indicator highlights both the degree of rigidity in local labour markets and the extent to which inadequate skills prevent people in each region from getting a job.

Comparability

As for the other regional statistics, comparability is affected by differences in the meaning of the word “region”. The word “region” can mean very different things both within and among countries, with significant differences in terms of area and population. To address this issue, the OECD has classified regions within each member country based on two levels: territorial level 2 (TL2, large regions) and territorial level 3 (TL3, small regions). Labour market data for Australia and Canada refer to a different regional grouping labelled non-official grids (NOG).

While employment and unemployment rates are available for small regions (territorial level 3, TL3), female employment rates and long-term unemployment rates are usually available only for large regions (territorial level 2, TL2).

Data on employment growth refer to small (TL3) regions for all countries except Mexico. Data refer to 1999-2006 for all countries except Iceland (1999-2005) and Mexico (2000-2006). Data on the employment rate of women refer to 2006 for all countries except Germany and Iceland (2005).

Overview

Differences in employment growth among regions within a country are often larger than across countries. During the period from 1999 to 2006, differences in employment growth across regions were above 7 percentage points in Poland, Mexico and Spain, while they were above 5 points in Italy, the United States, Korea, France and Canada. Wide differences in employment growth across regions were experienced both in countries with high employment growth at the national level, such as Spain, and in countries where employment growth at the national level was low or negative, such as Poland.

Employment creation at the national level is largely due to a small number of dynamic regions. On average, the 10% of OECD regions with the stronger pace of job creation accounted for 47% of overall employment growth between 1999 and 2006. The regional contribution to national employment growth of more dynamic regions was particularly marked in Greece, the United States and Sweden (where more than 60% of the employment growth at the national level was spurred by 10% of regions).

Even though the female employment rate has been rising in recent years, in 15% of the OECD regions less than 40% of women of working age were employed in 2006. The largest regional differences in the female employment rates are observed in Turkey, Korea and Italy.

Many OECD countries also show large disparities in the number of unemployed and of long-term unemployed people across regions. Regional variation in the incidence of the long-term unemployment was widest in Italy, Germany and Turkey.

Source

- OECD (2009), *OECD Regions at a Glance 2009*, OECD, Paris.

Further information

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- OECD (2001), *OECD Territorial Outlook, 2001 Edition*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2003), *Geographic Concentration and Territorial Disparity in OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris.
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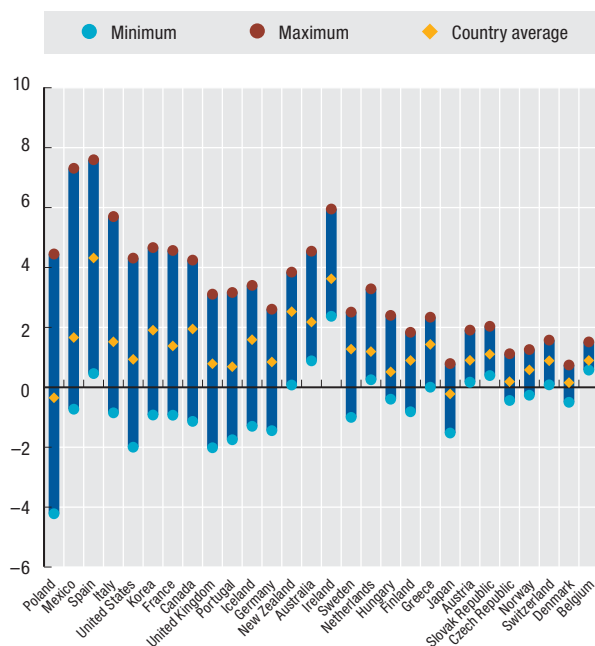
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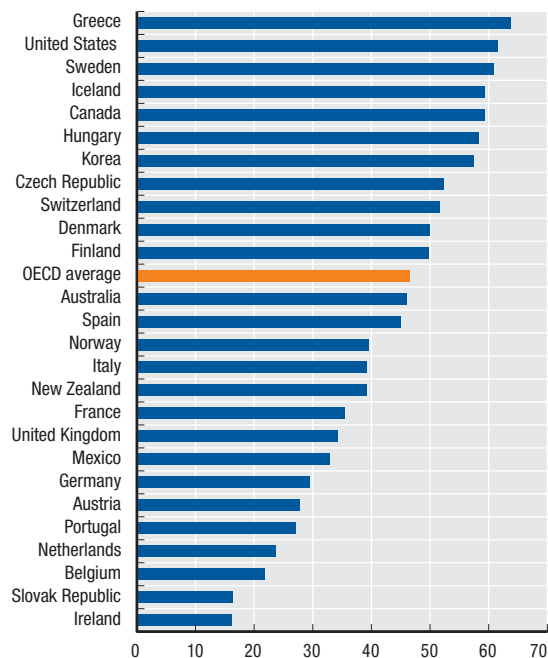
Differences in annual employment growth across regions, small regions

Percentage, 1999-2006 or latest available period



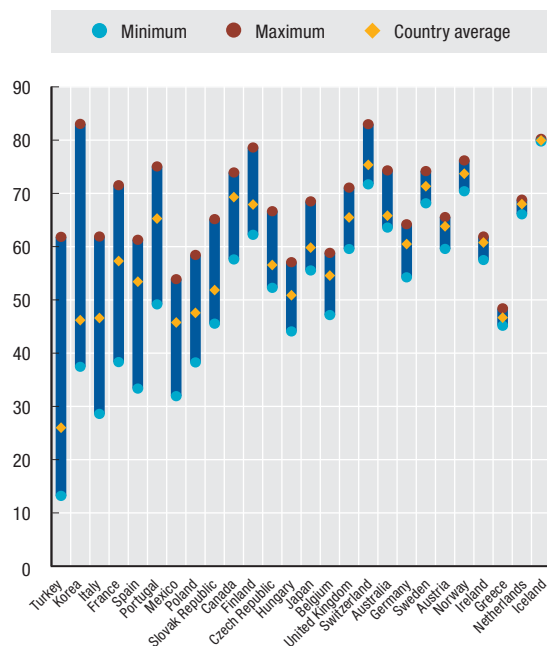
Share of national employment growth due to the 10 per cent of most dynamic regions, small regions

Percentage, 1999-2006



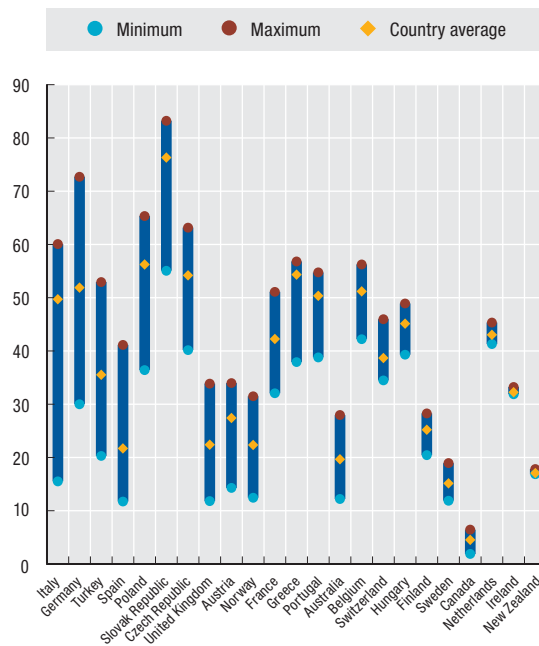
Regional differences in the employment rate of women, large regions

Percentage, 2006 or latest available year



Regional differences in the incidence of long-term unemployment, large regions

Percentage, 2006



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540375861507>

REGIONAL ACCESS TO EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES

Regional disparities in terms of access and quality of education and health services impact not only on the well-being of people but also on a region's competitiveness and ability to attract people and business. Regional data and country studies suggest that regional inequalities in the availability and quality of these services are often very large.

Definition

Regional data on educational attainment refer to the proportion of the labour force with a certain level of education, based on the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED 97). Pre-primary, primary and lower secondary education include the 3 lowest ISCED levels (levels 0, 1 and 2) and is referred to here as basic (or lower secondary) education. Upper secondary education includes the ISCED levels 3-4, while tertiary education includes the levels 5-6.

Regional data on the health status of populations refer to mortality rates, which are age-adjusted (i.e. by applying the age-specific death rates of that region to the age distribution of the population averaged across all OECD countries) to eliminate differences due to different population structures. Inequalities in access to health services are described by the number of physicians of each region (both general practitioners and specialists practicing medicine in both

public and private institutions) in a given region during the year, per 1 000 people.

The range of regional variation of the various indicators is measured by the difference between the minimum and maximum values of the indicator observed among the regions of each country.

Comparability

As for the other regional statistics, comparability is affected by differences in the meaning of the word "region". The word "region" can mean very different things both within and among countries, with significant differences in terms of area and population. To address this issue, the OECD has classified regions within each member country based on two levels: territorial level 2 (TL2, large regions) and territorial level 3 (TL3, small regions).

International comparability of social indicators at the sub-national level is limited. While information on outcomes or on quality of services is increasing, international standards and harmonized surveys that allow computing statistics for sub-national units remain limited.

Data on basic educational attainment refer to 2006 for all countries except Australia and Mexico (2005). Data on age-adjusted mortality rates refer to 2005 for all countries except Belgium (2003); Australia, Italy and United Kingdom (2004); and Korea (2000). Data on the number of physicians per 1000 inhabitants refer to 2005 for all countries except Japan and the Netherlands (2004); Iceland and Switzerland (2002); United Kingdom (2000); Portugal and Turkey (2003).

Overview

Almost one fourth of the OECD labour force has only a basic education. This is a result of different patterns among regions within countries. The range of regional variation in the share of adults with only basic education was above 20 points in Mexico, Spain, Greece, Portugal, France and Italy. These same countries are also characterized by a proportion of adults with only basic education above the OECD average.

In almost all OECD countries the capital region shows the highest percentage of labour force with tertiary education. Ontario is the OECD region with the highest percentage of skilled labour force (55%), followed by the Capital Territory in Australia. The concentration of people with higher educational attainment in urban regions is often the result of migration away from rural areas, due to the existence of a significant differential in the return to education between rural and urban areas. Health inequalities also have a geographic dimension both in terms of health status and of health resources. The gap between the regions with the lowest and the highest age-adjusted mortality rate is the widest in Mexico, the United States and Portugal, while it is lowest in Iceland, Ireland, the Netherlands and Greece.

In 2005, the regional variation in the density of physicians was the widest in the United States and the Czech Republic, in both cases due to the fact that the national capital region had a very high density of physicians compared to the rest of the country.

Source

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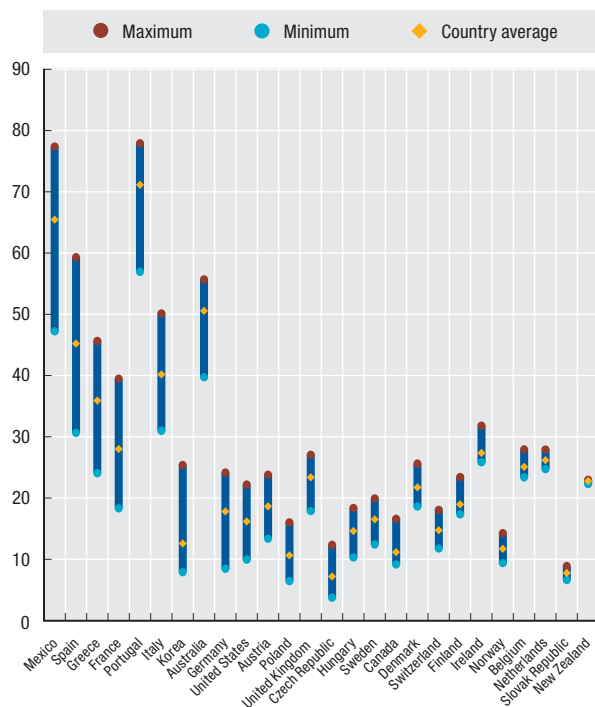
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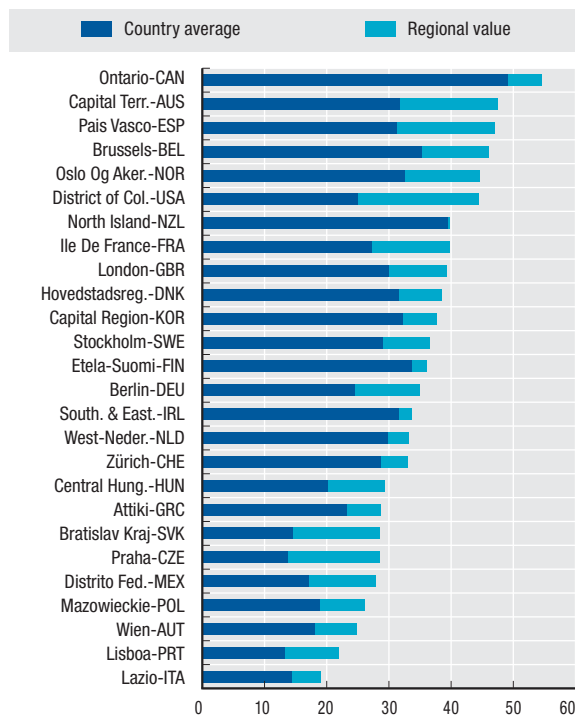
Regional differences in basic educational attainment, large regions

Percentage, 2006 or latest available year



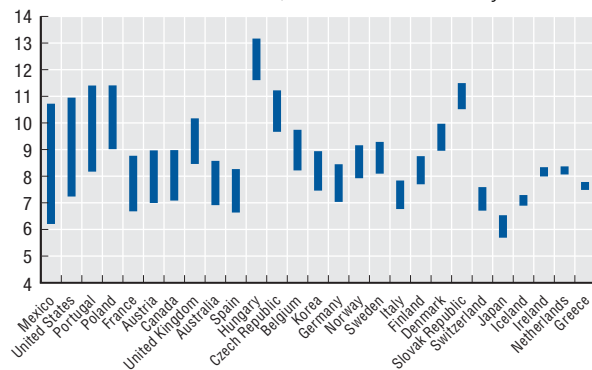
Regions with the highest tertiary education attainment compared to the national average, large regions

Percentage, 2005 or latest available year



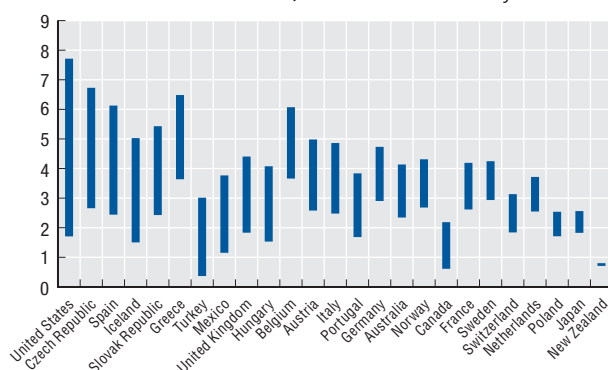
Regional differences in age-adjusted mortality rates, large regions

Per thousand inhabitants, 2005 or latest available year



Regional differences in the number of physicians, large regions

Per thousand inhabitants, 2005 or latest available year



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/540380235088>

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