



Your Better Life Index

COUNTRY NOTES

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Australia

Australia performs exceptionally well in measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Australia, the average household earns 26 927 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 22 387USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn five times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, over 72% of people aged 15 to 64 in Australia have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 79% of men are in paid work, compared with 66% of women. People in Australia work 1686 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1749 hours. Almost 14% of employees work very long hours, much higher than the OECD average of 9%, with 21% of men working very long hours compared with just 6% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Australia, 71% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, close to the OECD average of 73%. This is truer of men than women, as 74% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 68% of women. This difference is higher than the OECD average **and suggests women's participation in higher education could be strengthened**. Australia is nonetheless a top-performing country in terms of the quality of its educational system. The average student scored 519 in reading literacy, maths and science in the **OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**. This score is higher than the OECD average of 497, making **Australia one of the strongest OECD countries in students' skills**. On average in Australia, girls outperformed boys by 9 points, in line with the average OECD gap.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Australia is almost 82 years, two years higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 84 years, compared with 80 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 14 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Australia also does well in terms of water quality, as 92% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Australia, where 97% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 91. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 95% during recent elections; this figure is the highest in the OECD. The average is 73%. There is little difference in voting levels across society; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 96% and for the bottom 20% it is 94%, much

narrower than the OECD average gap of 7% and suggesting there is broad social inclusion in **Australia's democratic institutions**

In general; Australians are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 74% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 72%.

Austria

Austria performs very well in overall well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top ten countries in several topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Austria, the average household earns 27 541 USD a year, higher than the OECD average of 22 387 USD. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn nearly four times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, over 72% of people aged 15 to 64 in Austria have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 77% of men are in paid work, compared with 66% of women. People in Austria work 1587 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1749 hours. Some 9% of employees work very long hours, in line with the OECD average of 9%, with 14% of men working very long hours compared with just 4% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Austria, 82% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, close to the OECD average of 73%. This is truer of men than women, as 87% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 76% of women. This difference is **higher than the OECD average and suggests women's participation in higher education could be strengthened**. In terms of education quality, the average student scored 487 in reading literacy, maths and science in the **OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**. This score is slightly lower than the OECD average of 497. On average in Austria, girls outperformed boys by 5 points, below the average OECD gap of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Austria is 81 years, years higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 83 years, compared with 78 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 29 micrograms per cubic meter, slightly higher than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Austria also does well in terms of water quality, as 94% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Austria, where 94% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 91. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 82% during recent elections, one of the highest in the OECD where the average is 73%.

In general; Austrians are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 75% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 72%.

Belgium

Belgium performs very well in many measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top ten countries in several topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Belgium, the average household earns 26 734 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn almost four times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, over 62% of people aged 15 to 64 in Belgium have a paid job, below the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 67% of men are in paid work, compared with 57% of women. People in Belgium work 1551 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1749 hours. Some 4% of employees work very long hours, much lower than the OECD average of 9%, with 6% of men working very long hours compared with just 2% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Belgium, 71% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, close to the OECD average of 73%. This is equally true for men and women, as 70% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 71% of women. This difference is lower than the OECD average and suggests that Belgium succeeds in delivering quality education regardless of gender. Belgium is a top-performing country in terms of the quality of its educational system. In terms of education quality, the average student scored 509 in reading literacy, maths and science in the **OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**. This score is higher than the OECD average of 497. In line with the school graduation figures, boys and girls both scored 509 points, compared with an average OECD gap of nine points in favour of girls.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Belgium is 80 years, in line with the OECD average. Life expectancy for women is 83 years, compared with 78 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 21 micrograms per cubic meter, slightly lower than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Belgium also does well in terms of water quality, as 84% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, in line with the OECD average.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Belgium, where 94% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 91% during recent elections; considerably higher than the OECD average of 73% and one of the highest in the OECD.

In general; Belgians are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 74% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings

of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 72%.

Brazil

Brazil has made progress in recent years in improving the quality of life of its citizens, **as shown by the fact that Brazilians' general satisfaction with their lives is higher than the OECD average** despite lower than average scores in some topics on the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Brazil, the average household earns less than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year.

In terms of employment, over 68% of people aged 15 to 64 in Brazil have a paid job, close to the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 80% of men are in paid work, compared with 56% of women. In Brazil, 12% of employees work very long hours, much higher than the OECD average of 9%, with 15% of men working very long hours compared with 9% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Brazil, 41% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, close to the OECD average of 73%. This is truer of women than men, as 39% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 43% of women. Among younger people – **a better indicator of Brazil's future** – 53% of 25-34 year-olds have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, also lower than the OECD average of 81% but showing progress. In terms of education quality, the average student scored 401 in reading literacy, maths and science in the **OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**. This score is lower than the OECD average of 497. The gender gap in Brazil is narrower than for the OECD overall, with girls scoring 403 and boys 399, compared with an average OECD difference of 4 points in favour of girls.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Brazil is 73 years, lower than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 77 years, compared with 70 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 21 micrograms per cubic meter, close to the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Brazil also does well in terms of water quality, as 84% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, in line with the OECD average.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Brazil, where 91% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 83% higher than the OECD average of 73%. There is little difference in voting levels across society; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 83% and for the bottom 20% it is 80%, much narrower than the OECD

average gap of 7% and suggesting there is broad social inclusion in Brazil's **democratic** institutions.

In general; Brazilians are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 77% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 72%.

Canada

Canada performs exceptionally well in measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Canada, the average household earns 27 138 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn more than five times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, over 72% of people aged 15 to 64 in Canada have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 74% of men are in paid work, compared with 69% of women. People in Canada work 1 702 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1 749 hours. Some 4% of employees work very long hours, much lower than the OECD average of 9%, with 6% of men working very long hours compared with just 1% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Canada, 88% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, well above the OECD average of 73%. This is truer of women than of men, as 86% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 89% of women. This reverses the OECD average picture, where men are slightly more likely to have graduated high school. Canada is a top-performing country in terms of the quality of its educational system. The average student scored 527 in reading literacy, maths and science in the **OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**. This score is higher than the OECD average of 497, making Canada one of the strongest OECD countries in **students' skills**. On average in Canada, girls outperformed boys by 6 points, lower than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Canada is 81 years, higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 83 years, compared with 78 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 15 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Canada also does well in terms of water quality, as 90% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community but only moderate levels of civic participation in Canada, where 92% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 60% during recent elections; this figure is lower than the OECD average of 73%. Social and economic status also affect voting

rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 62% and for the bottom 20% it is 56%, in line with the OECD average gap of 7%.

In general; Canadians are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 80% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 72% and makes Canada one of the happiest countries in the OECD.

Chile

Chile has made tremendous progress over the last decade in terms of improving the quality of life of its citizens. Since the 1990s, the country has seen a track record of robust growth and poverty reduction. Notwithstanding, Chile ranks low in a large number of topics relative to most other countries in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Chile, the average household earns 8 618 USD a year, much less than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn 12 times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, over 59% of people aged 15 to 64 in Chile have a paid job, below the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 72% of men are in paid work, compared with 47% of women. People in Chile work 2 068 hours a year, more than the OECD average of 1 749 hours. Some 7% of employees work very long hours, lower than the OECD average of 9%, with 9% of men working very long hours compared with just 4% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Chile, 69% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, below the OECD average of 73%. There is little difference between men and women, as 70% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 69% of women. In terms of education quality, the average student in Chile scored 439 in reading literacy, maths and science in the **OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**. This score is lower than the OECD average of 497. On average in Chile, girls outperformed boys by 3 points, less than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Chile is almost 79 years, two years higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 82 years, compared with 76 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 62 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably higher than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Chile performs better in terms of water quality, as 85% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, in line with the OECD average.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Chile, where 86% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, slightly lower than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 88% during recent elections; higher than the OECD average of 73%. Social and economic status also affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 92% and for the bottom 20% it is 87%, slightly narrower than the OECD average gap of 7%.

In general; Chileans are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 77% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 72%.

Czech Republic

The Czech Republic performs favourably in several measures of well-being, and ranks close to the average in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In the Czech Republic, the average household earns 16 614 USD a year, less than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn four times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, some 65% of people aged 15 to 64 in the Czech Republic have a paid job, below the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 74% of men are in paid work, compared with 56% of women. People in the Czech Republic work 1 947 hours a year, more than the OECD average of 1 749 hours. Some 9% of employees work very long hours, in line with the OECD average, with 13% of men working very long hours compared with just 4% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In the Czech Republic, 91% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, well above the OECD average of 73% and among the highest rates in the OECD. This is truer of men than women, as 94% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 88% of women. This difference is higher than the OECD average and **suggests women's participation in higher education could be strengthened**. In terms of education quality, the average student scored 490 in reading literacy, maths and science in the **OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**. This score is lower than the OECD average of 497. On average in the Czech Republic, girls outperformed boys by 16 points, a far wider gender gap than the OECD average of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in the Czech Republic is almost 78 years, two years lower than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 81 years, compared with 74 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 18 micrograms per cubic meter, lower than the OECD average of 22.0 micrograms per cubic meter. The Czech Republic also does well in terms of water quality, as 87% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and moderate levels of civic participation in the Czech Republic, where 91% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 91. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 64% during recent elections; this figure is lower than the OECD average of 73%. Social and economic status also affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 70% and for the bottom 20% it is 57%, considerably wider than the OECD average gap of 7%.

In general; Czechs are less satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 62% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is lower than the OECD average of 72%.

Denmark

Denmark performs exceptionally well in measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Denmark, the average household earns 23 213 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn more than three times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, over 73% of people aged 15 to 64 in Denmark have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 76% of men are in paid work, compared with 71% of women. People in Denmark work 1 559 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1 749 hours. Some 2% of employees work very long hours, much lower than the OECD average of 9%, with 3% of men working very long hours compared with just 1% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Denmark, 76% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, close to the OECD average of 73%. This is slightly truer of men than women, as 78% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 75% of women. Denmark is a top-performing country in terms of the quality of its educational system. The average student scored 499 in reading literacy, maths and science in the **OECD's Programme** for International Student Assessment (PISA). This score is higher than the OECD average of 497. There is no difference between girls and boys, in contrast to an OECD average of a nine-point difference in girls' favour.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Denmark is 79 years, slightly lower than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 81 years, compared with 77 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 16 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Denmark also does well in terms of water quality, as 96% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Denmark, where 96% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 87% during recent elections; considerably higher than the OECD average of 73%. Social and economic status also affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 90% and for the bottom 20% it is 84%, close to the OECD average gap of 7%.

In general; Danes are the people most satisfied with their lives in the OECD, with 77% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 72%.

Estonia

Estonia has made progress over the last decade in terms of improving the quality of life of its citizens. Until the financial crisis of 2008, the economy had seen record-breaking growth. Notwithstanding, Estonia still ranks low in a large number of topics relative to most other countries in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Estonia, the average household earns 13 149 USD a year, less than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn five times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, some 61% of people aged 15 to 64 in Estonia have a paid job, below the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 62% of men are in paid work, compared with 61% of women, suggesting that women are able to successfully balance family and career. People in Estonia work 1 879 hours a year, less than the OECD average of 1 749 hours. Some 4% of employees work very long hours, much lower than the OECD average of 9%, and with little difference between men and women; 5% of men work very long hours compared with 2% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Estonia, 89% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, considerably higher than the OECD average of 73%. In contrast to most OECD countries, more women have completed high school, at 91%, compared with 86% for men. Estonia is a top-performing country in terms of the quality of its educational system. The average student scored 514 in reading literacy, maths and science in the **OECD's Programme** for International Student Assessment (PISA). This score is higher than the OECD average of 497, making Estonia one of the strongest OECD countries in students' **skills**. On average in Estonia, girls outperformed boys by 12 points, greater than the average OECD gap of nine points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Estonia is almost 76 years, lower than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 80 years, compared with 71 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 13 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Estonia performs less well in terms of water quality, as 70% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, below the OECD average of 84%.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and moderate levels of civic participation in Estonia, where 91% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 62%, below the OECD average of 73

In general; Estonians are less satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 60% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is one of the lowest in the OECD, where the average is 72%.

Finland

Finland performs very well in many measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Finland, the average household earns 24 958 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn almost four times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, 68% of people aged 15 to 64 in Finland have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 70% of men are in paid work, compared with 67% of women. People in Finland work 1 697 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1 749 hours. Some 4% of employees work very long hours, much lower than the OECD average of 9%, with 6% of men working very long hours compared with just 2% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Finland, 82% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, higher than the OECD average of 73%. This is truer of women than of men, as 80% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 84% of women, in contrast to the OECD average where men are ahead of women. Finland is nonetheless a top-performing country in terms of the quality of its educational system. The average student scored 543 in reading literacy, maths and science in the **OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**. This score is the highest in the OECD, where the average is 497, making Finland one of the strongest OECD countries in **students'** skills. On average in Finland, girls outperformed boys by 23 points, considerably more than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Finland is almost 80 years, in line with the OECD average. Life expectancy for women is 83 years, compared with 77 for men, also in line with the OECD average. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 15 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Finland also does well in terms of water quality, as 94% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Finland, where 94% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 74% during recent elections; slightly above the OECD average of 73%. Social and economic status also affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 83% and for the bottom 20% it is 67%, much broader than the OECD average gap of 7% and suggesting there is room for broader social inclusion in **Finland's** democratic institutions

In general; Finns are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 73% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 72%.

France

France performs very well in many measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top ten countries in several topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In France, the average household earns 27 789 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn more than four times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, over 64% of people aged 15 to 64 in France have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 68% of men are in paid work, compared with 60% of women. People in France work 1 554 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1 749 hours. 9% of employees work very long hours, in line with the OECD average, with 12% of men working very long hours compared with 5% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In France, 70% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, close to the OECD average of 73%. There is little difference between men and women, as 71% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 69% of women. In terms of the quality of the education system, the average student scored 497 in reading literacy, maths and science in the **OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**, in line with the OECD average. On average in France, girls outperformed boys by 7 points, close to the average OECD gap of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in France is almost 81 years, higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 85 years, compared with 78 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 13 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. France performs somewhat less well in terms of water quality, as 80% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, below the OECD average of 84%.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in France, where 92% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 84% during recent elections; this figure is the highest in the OECD. The average is 73%. Social and economic status also affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 91% and for the bottom 20% it is 80%, much wider than the OECD average gap of 7% and suggesting there is room for broader **social inclusion in France's** democratic institutions

In general; French people are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 73% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day

(feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 72%.

Germany

Germany performs very well in many measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top ten countries in several topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Germany, the average household earns 27 692 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn more than four times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, some 71% of people aged 15 to 64 in Germany have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 76% of men are in paid work, compared with 66% of women. People in Germany work 1 419 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1 749 hours on average. Some 5% of employees work very long hours, lower than the OECD average of 9%, with 8% of men working very long hours compared with just 2% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Germany, 85% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, close to the OECD average of 73%. This is truer of men than women, as 88% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 83% of women. This difference is slightly higher than the OECD average. Germany is a top-performing country in terms of the quality of its educational system. The average student scored 510 in reading literacy, maths and science in the **OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**. This score is higher than the OECD average of 497, making Germany one of the strongest **OECD countries in students' skills**. On average in Germany, girls outperformed boys by 6 points, lower than the average OECD gap of 9 points..

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Germany is almost 80 years, in line with the OECD average. Life expectancy for women is 83 years, compared with 78 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 16 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Germany also does well in terms of water quality, as 96% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Germany, where 95% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 78% during recent elections; higher than OECD average of 73%. Social and economic status also affects voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 81% and for the bottom 20% it is 72%, much broader than the OECD average gap of 7% and suggesting there is room for broader social inclusion in **Germany's** democratic institutions

In general; Germans are as satisfied with their lives as other OECD citizens, with 72% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc), in line with the OECD average of 72%.

Greece

Greece performs moderately well in overall measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks close to the average in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Greece, the average household earns 22 134 USD a year, slightly less than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn almost five times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, some 60% of people aged 15 to 64 in Greece have a paid job, below the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 71% of men are in paid work, compared with 48% of women, suggesting that women encounter difficulties in balancing family and career. People in Greece work 2 109 hours a year, more than most people in the OECD who work 1 749 hours on average. Almost 5% of employees work very long hours, lower than the OECD average of 9%, with 6% of men working very long hours compared with 4% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Greece, 61% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, close to the OECD average of 73%. There is little difference between men than women, as 60% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 63% of women. In terms of the quality of the education system, the average student scored 473 in reading literacy, maths and science in the **OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**. This score is lower than the OECD average of 497. On average in Greece, girls outperformed boys by 14 points, more than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Greece is almost 81 years, slightly higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is almost 83 years, compared with 78 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 32 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably higher than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Greece also performs below the OECD average in terms of water quality, as 61% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, below the OECD average of 84%.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a moderate sense of community and levels of civic participation in Greece, where 85% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, lower than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 71% during recent elections, below the OECD average of 73%.

In general; Greeks are less satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 67% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of

rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 72%.

Hungary

Hungary performs only moderately well in overall well-being, as it ranks lower or close to the average in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Hungary, the average household earns 13 696 USD a year, less than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn nearly four times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, around 55% of people aged 15 to 64 in Hungary have a paid job, well below the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 60% of men are in paid work, compared with 51% of women. People in Hungary work 1 961 hours a year, more than most people in the OECD who work 1 749 hours on average. Around 3% of employees work very long hours, much lower than the OECD average of 9%, with 5% of men working very long hours compared with just 2% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Hungary, 81% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, higher than the OECD average of 73%. 84% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 77% of women. In terms of the quality of the education system the average student scored 496 in reading literacy, maths and science in the **OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**, close to the OECD average of 497. On average in Hungary, girls outperformed boys by 9 points, in line with the average OECD gap.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Hungary is 74 years, lower than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 78 years, compared with 70 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 16 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Hungary performs slightly less well in terms of water quality, as 78% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, lower than the OECD average of 84%.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and moderate levels of civic participation in Hungary, where 89% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, close to the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 64% during recent elections; below the OECD average of 73%. There is little difference in voting levels across society; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 72% and for the bottom 20% it is 55%, suggesting there is room for **broader social inclusion in Hungary's** democratic institutions

In general; Hungarians are less satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 65% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings

of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is lower than the OECD average of 72%.

Iceland

Iceland performs very well in many measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in several topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Iceland, the average household earns more than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year.

In terms of employment, some 79% of people aged 15 to 64 in Iceland have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 81% of men are in paid work, compared with 77% of women. People in Iceland work 1 697 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1 749 hours on average.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Iceland, 66% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, below the OECD average of 74%. There is little difference between men than women, as 67% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 65% of women. Iceland performs well in terms of the quality of its educational system. The average student **scored 501 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**. This score is higher than the OECD average of 497. On average in Iceland, girls outperformed boys by 13 points, a wider gender gap than the OECD average of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Iceland is 81 years, two years higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 83 years, compared with 79 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 14 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Iceland also does well in terms of water quality, as 97% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, considerably higher than the OECD average of 85%.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Iceland, where 98% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 84% during recent elections; among the highest in the OECD where the average is 73%. There is little difference in voting levels across society; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 88% and for the bottom 20% it is 83%, narrower than the OECD average gap of 7% and suggesting there is broad social **inclusion in Iceland's democratic institutions**.

In general, Icelanders are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 83% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 72%.

Ireland

Ireland performs very well in overall well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top ten countries in several topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Ireland, the average household earns 24 156 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn more than four times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, some 60% of people aged 15 to 64 in Ireland have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 64% of men are in paid work, compared with 56% of women. People in Ireland work 1 664 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1 749 hours on average. Almost 4% of employees work very long hours, much lower than the OECD average of 9%, with 6% of men working very long hours compared with just 1% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Ireland, 72% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, close to the OECD average of 74%. In contrast to the overall OECD experience, more women have graduated high school than men, as 68% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 75% of women. In terms of the quality of its education system, **the average student scored 497 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**, in line with the OECD average. On average in Ireland, girls outperformed boys by 12 points, slightly more than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Ireland is 81 years, higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 83 years, compared with 79 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 13 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Ireland also does well in terms of water quality, as 89% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, compared with an OECD average of 85%.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and moderate levels of civic participation in Ireland, where 98% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 67% during recent elections, below the OECD average of 73%. There is little difference in voting levels across society; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 65% and for the bottom 20% it is 68%, suggesting there is **broad social inclusion in Ireland's democratic institutions**.

In general; Irish people are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 77% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings

of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 72%.

Israel

Israel performs favourably in several measures of well-being, and ranks close to the average or higher in several topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Israel, the average household financial wealth is 47 750 USD, more than the OECD average of 36 238 USD.

In terms of employment, over 60% of people aged 15 to 64 in Israel have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 63% of men are in paid work, compared with 57% of women. People in Israel work 1 889 hours a year, more than most people in the OECD who work 1 749 hours. Almost 19% of employees work very long hours, much higher than the OECD average of 9%, with 29% of men working very long hours compared with 9% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Israel, 80% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, higher than the OECD average of 74%. There is little difference between men than women, as 80% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 84% of women. In terms of the quality of the education system, the average student scored 459 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), below the OECD average of 497. On average in Israel, girls outperformed boys by 13 points, wider than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Israel is almost 82 years, two years higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 84 years, compared with 80 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 28 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably higher than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Israel could also perform better in terms of water quality, as 59% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, compared with an OECD average of 85%.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and moderate levels of civic participation in Israel, where 88% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, lower than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 64% during recent elections; lower than the OECD average of 73%. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 70% and for the bottom 20% it is 62%, close to the OECD average gap of 7%.

In general; Israelis are less satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 63% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 72%.

Italy

Italy performs favourably in several measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks close to the average in several topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Italy, the average household earns 23 917 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn five times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, 57% of people aged 15 to 64 in Italy have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 68% of men are in paid work, compared with 46% of women. This suggests that women encounter difficulties in balancing work and family life. People in Italy work 1 778 hours a year, slightly more than most people in the OECD who work 1 749 hours on average. Almost 5% of employees work very long hours, much higher than the OECD average of 9%, with 7% of men working very long hours compared with just 2% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Italy, 54% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, below the OECD average of 74%. There is little difference between men and women, as 54% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 55% of women. In terms of the quality of the education system, the average student scored 486 in reading **literacy, maths and science in the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**, lower than the OECD average of 497. On average in Italy, girls outperformed boys by 11 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Italy is almost 82 years, two years higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 85 years, compared with 79 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 23 micrograms per cubic meter, slightly higher than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Italy could do better in terms of water quality, as 80% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, below the OECD average of 85%

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Italy, where 91% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, in line with the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 81% during recent elections; higher than the OECD average of 74%. Social and economic status can also affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 88% and for the bottom 20% it is 81%, in line with the OECD average gap of 7%

In general; Italians are as happy as other people in the OECD, with 73% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride

in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc), close to the OECD average of 72%.

Japan

Japan performs favourably in several measures of well-being, and ranks close to the average or higher in several topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Japan, the average household earns 23 458 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn more than five times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, 70% of people aged 15 to 64 in Japan have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 80% of men are in paid work, compared with 60% of women, suggesting that women encounter difficulties in balancing work and family life. People in Japan work 1 733 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1 749 hours on average.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Japan, the **average student scored 529 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**. This score is higher than the OECD average of **497, making Japan one of the strongest OECD countries in students' skills**. On average in Japan, girls outperformed boys by 14 points, wider than average OECD gender gap of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Japan is almost 83 years, two years higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 86 years, compared with 80 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 27 micrograms per cubic meter, higher than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Japan also does well in terms of water quality, as 88% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and moderate levels of civic participation in Japan, where 92% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 67% during recent elections; below the OECD average of 73%. There is little difference in voting levels across society; voter turnout is the same for the top 20% of the population and for the bottom 20%, at 67%, suggesting there is **broad social inclusion in Japan's democratic institutions**.

In general; the Japanese are less satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 70% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is lower than the OECD average of 72%.

Korea

Korea performs moderately well in overall measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks higher than average in several topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Korea, the average household earns 16 570 USD a year, less than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn more than five times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, 63% of people aged 15 to 64 in Korea have a paid job, below the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 74% of men are in paid work, compared with 53% of women, suggesting that women encounter difficulties in balancing work and family life. People in Korea work 2 193 hours a year, more than most people in the OECD who work 1 749 hours on average.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Korea, 80% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, higher than the OECD average of 73%. This is truer of men than women, as 84% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 76% of women. Korea is a top-performing country in terms of the quality of its educational system. The average student scored 541 in reading literacy, maths and science in the **OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**. This score is higher than the OECD average of 497 and one of the highest in the OECD, making Korea one of the strongest **OECD countries in students' skills. On average in Korea, girls outperformed boys by 11 points, in line with the average OECD gap of 9 points.**

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Korea is 81 years, two years higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 84 years, compared with 77 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 31 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably higher than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Korea also does relatively well in terms of water quality, as 82% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, compared with an OECD average of 85%.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a moderate sense of community and level of civic participation in Korea, where 81% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 63% during recent elections; this figure is the lower than the OECD average of 73%. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 91% and for the bottom 20% it is 59%, much greater than the OECD average gap of 7% and suggesting a need to work for **broader social inclusion in Korea's democratic institutions**

In general; Koreans are not as happy as others across the OECD, with 62% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride

in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is lower than the OECD average of 72%.

Luxembourg

Luxembourg performs very well in many measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in several topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Luxembourg, the average household earns 35 321 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn more than four times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, 65% of people aged 15 to 64 in Luxembourg have a paid job, slightly below the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 73% of men are in paid work, compared with 57% of women. People in Luxembourg work 1616 hours a year, more than most people in the OECD who work 1749 hours. Nearly 4% of employees work very long hours, lower than the OECD average of 9%, with 5% of men working very long hours compared with just 2% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Luxembourg, 77% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, slightly higher than the OECD average of 74%. This is truer of men than women, as 80% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 74% of women. In terms of the quality of the education system, the average student scored 482 in reading **literacy, maths and science in the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**, lower than the OECD average of 497. On average in Luxembourg, girls outperformed boys by 4 points, less than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Luxembourg is almost 81 years, one year higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 83 years, compared with 78 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 13 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Luxembourg also does well in terms of water quality, as 92% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Luxembourg, where 95% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 91% during recent elections, much higher than the OECD average of 73%.

In general, people in Luxembourg are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 74% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is slightly higher than the OECD average of 72%.

Mexico

Mexico has made tremendous progress over the last decade in terms of improving the quality of life of its citizens, especially in the areas of education, health and jobs. Notwithstanding, Mexico ranks low in a large number of topics relative to most other countries in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Mexico, the average household earns 11 106 USD a year, less than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn thirteen times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, over 60% of people aged 15 to 64 in Mexico have a paid job, lower than the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 78% of men are in paid work, compared with 44% of women. People in Mexico work 1866 hours a year, more than most people in the OECD who work 1749 hours. Almost 29% of employees work very long hours, much higher than the OECD average of 9%, with 35% of men working very long hours compared with 18% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Mexico, 35% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, much lower than the OECD average of 74%. This is slightly truer of men than women, as 37% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 33% of women. In terms of the quality of the education system, the average student scored 420 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), lower than the OECD average of 497. On average in Mexico, girls outperformed boys by 2 points, less than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Mexico is almost 76 years, four years lower than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 78 years, compared with 73 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 33 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably higher than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Mexico also performs below the OECD average in terms of water quality, as 71% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, below the OECD average of 85%.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a moderate sense of community and level of civic participation in Mexico, where 81% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, lower than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 59% during recent elections, lower than the OECD average of 73%. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 64% and for the bottom 20% it is 58%, close to the OECD average gap of 7% and suggesting there is broad social inclusion in Mexico's democratic institutions

In general, Mexicans are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 78% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 72%.

Netherlands

The Netherlands performs very well in overall well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In the Netherlands, the average household earns 25 740 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn nearly five times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, over 75% of people aged 15 to 64 in the Netherlands have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 80% of men are in paid work, compared with 69% of women. People in the Netherlands work 1 377 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1749 hours. Very few employees work very long hours, compared with 9% on average across the OECD.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In the Netherlands, 73% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, close to the OECD average of 74%. This is slightly truer of men than women, as 75% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 72% of women. In terms of the quality of the education system, the average student scored 519 in **reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**. This score is higher than the OECD average of 497, making the Netherlands one of the strongest OECD countries in students' **skills**. **There is** hardly any difference between the performances of boys and girls, compared with an average OECD gap of 9 points in favour of girls.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in the Netherlands is almost 81 years, one year higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 83 years, compared with 79 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 31 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably higher than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. The Netherlands perform better in terms of water quality, as 95% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, higher than the 85% OECD average.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in the Netherlands, where 93% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 80% during recent elections; this figure is higher than the OECD average of 73%. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 82% and for the bottom 20% it is 78%, narrower than the OECD average gap of 7% and suggesting there is broad social **inclusion in the Netherlands' democratic institutions**

In general, 72% of people in the Netherlands say they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc), in line with the OECD average.

New Zealand

New Zealand performs exceptionally well in overall well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In New-Zealand, the average household earns 18 601 USD a year, less than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn five times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, 72% of people aged 15 to 64 in New-Zealand have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 78% of men are in paid work, compared with 67% of women. People in New-Zealand work 1758 hours a year, slightly more than most people in the OECD who work 1749 hours. More than 13% of employees work very long hours, higher than the OECD average of 9%, with 20% of men working very long hours compared with 7% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In New-Zealand, 72% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, close to the OECD average of 74%. This is truer of men than women, as 74% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 71% of women. New-Zealand is a top-performing country in terms of the quality of its educational system. The average **student scored 524 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**. This score is higher than the OECD average of 497, making New-Zealand one of **the strongest OECD countries in students' skills**. On average in New-Zealand, girls outperformed boys by 15 points, higher than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in New-Zealand is 81 years, one year higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 83 years, compared with 79 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 12 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. New-Zealand also does well in terms of water quality, as 88% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, higher than the 85% OECD average.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in New-Zealand, where 96% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 79% during recent elections, higher than the OECD average of 73%. New Zealand is one of the few OECD countries where voter turnout for the bottom 20% of the population is higher than that of the top 20%, by 7%. On average in OECD countries, voter turnout for the top 20% is 7% higher than for the bottom 20%.

In general, people in New-Zealand are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 78% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 72%.

Norway

Norway performs exceptionally well in overall well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Norway, the average household earns 30 465 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn four times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, over 75% of people aged 15 to 64 in Norway have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 77% of men are in paid work, compared with 73% of women. People in Norway work 1 414 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1749 hours. Only 3% of employees work very long hours, much lower than the OECD average of 9%, with 4% of men working very long hours compared with just 1% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Norway, 81% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, higher than the OECD average of 74%. This is equally true of men and women. In terms of the quality of the education system, the average student scored 500 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). On average in Norway, girls outperformed boys by 15 points, higher than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Norway is 81 years, one year higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 79 years, compared with 83 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 16 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Norway also does well in terms of water quality, as 95% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Norway, where 94% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 77% during recent elections, higher than the OECD average of 73%. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 82% and for the bottom 20% it is 70%, broader than the OECD average gap of 7% and suggesting there is room for broader social inclusion in **Norway's democratic institutions**

In general, Norwegians are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 75% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings

of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 72%.

Poland

Poland performs moderately well in overall measures of well-being, and ranks higher than average in some of the topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Poland, the average household earns 14 508 USD a year, less than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn more than four times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, 59% of people aged 15 to 64 in Poland have a paid job, lower than the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 66% of men are in paid work, compared with 53% of women. People in Poland work 1939 hours a year, more than most people in the OECD who work 1749 hours. Approximately 7% of employees work very long hours, slightly lower than the OECD average of 9%, with 11% of men working very long hours compared with just 3% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Poland, 88% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, higher than the OECD average of 74%. This is equally true of men and women. In terms of the quality of the educational system. The average student scored 501 in reading literacy, maths **and science in the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**, higher than the OECD average of 497. On average in Poland, girls outperformed boys by 18 points, higher than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Poland is 76 years, four years lower than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 81 years, compared with 72 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 35 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably higher than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Poland also performs below the OECD average in terms of water quality, as 77% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, below the OECD average of 85%.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a moderate sense of community and level of civic participation in Poland, where 90% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, slightly lower than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 54% during recent elections; this figure is one of the lowest in the OECD where average participation is of 73%. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 60% and for the bottom 20% it is 47%, broader than the OECD average gap of 7% and suggesting there is room for broader social inclusion **in Poland's democratic institutions**

In general, Poles are less satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 68% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest,

pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is lower than the OECD average of 72%.

Portugal

Portugal has made significant progress over the last few years in modernising its economy and improving the living standards of its citizens, however the global financial crisis has surely weakened its growth. Portugal performs only moderately well in overall measures of well-being, as it ranks lower or close to the average in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Portugal, the average household earns 18 689 USD a year, less than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn six times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, over 66% of people aged 15 to 64 in Portugal have a paid job, in line with the OECD employment average. Some 70% of men are in paid work, compared with 61% of women. People in Portugal work 1714 hours a year, slightly less than most people in the OECD who work 1749 hours. 5% of employees work very long hours, less than the OECD average of 9%, with 8% of men working very long hours compared with just 3% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Portugal, 30% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, much lower than the OECD average of 74% and the lowest rate amongst OECD countries. This is truer of women than men, as 27% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 32% of women. In terms of the quality of the educational system, the **average student scored 490 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**. This score is slightly lower than the OECD average of 497. On average in Portugal, girls outperformed boys by 10 points, slightly more than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Portugal is almost 80 years, in line with the OECD average. Life expectancy for women is 83 years, compared with 77 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 21 micrograms per cubic meter, close to the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Portugal does well in terms of water quality, as 88% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, slightly more than the average OECD level of 85%.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a moderate sense of community and level of civic participation in Portugal, where 86% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, lower than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 64% during recent elections, lower than the 73% OECD average. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 72% and for the bottom 20% it is 63%, broader than the OECD average

gap of 7% and suggesting there is room for broader social inclusion in Portugal's democratic institutions.

In general, 72% of people in Portugal say they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc), in line with the OECD average.

Russian Federation

The Russian Federation has made progress over the last decade in improving the quality of life of its citizens, despite lower than average scores in some topics on the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Russia, the average household earns 13 911 USD a year, less than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn nine times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, over 67% of people aged 15 to 64 in Russia have a paid job, slightly above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 72% of men are in paid work, compared with 63% of women. People in Russia work 1 976 hours a year, more than most people in the OECD who work 1749 hours. Very few employees work very long hours, compared with 9% on average across the OECD.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Russia, 88% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, much higher than the OECD average of 74%. This is equally true of men and women. In terms of the quality of the educational system, the average student scored 469 in reading literacy, maths and science in the **OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**, lower than the OECD average of 497. On average in Russia, girls outperformed boys by 15 points, higher than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Russia is 69 years, eleven years lower than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 75 years, compared with 63 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 16 micrograms per cubic meter, lower than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Russia could do better in terms of water quality, as only 51% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, below the OECD average of 85%.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a moderate sense of community and level of civic participation in Russia, where 88% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, lower than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 64% during recent elections; this figure is lower than the OECD of 73%. There is little difference in voting levels across society; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 67% and for the bottom 20% it is 66%, much narrower than the **OECD average gap of 7% and suggesting there is broad social inclusion in Russia's democratic institutions**

In general; Russians are less satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 59% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is lower than the OECD average of 72%.

Slovak Republic

The Slovak Republic performs only moderately well in overall measures of well-being, as it ranks lower or close to the average in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In the Slovak Republic, the average household earns 15 840 USD a year, less than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn four times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, 59% of people aged 15 to 64 in Slovakia have a paid job, below the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 65% of men are in paid work, compared with 52% of women. People in Slovakia work 1786 hours a year, slightly more than most people in the OECD who work 1749 hours. Nearly 6% of employees work very long hours, lower than the OECD average of 9%, with 9% of men working very long hours compared with just 3% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Slovakia, 91% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, higher than the OECD average of 74%. This is slightly truer of men than women, as 93% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 89% of women. In terms of the quality of the educational system, the average student scored 488 in reading literacy, **maths and science in the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**, lower than the OECD average of 497. On average in Slovakia, girls outperformed boys by 16 points, more than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Slovakia is 75 years, five years lower than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 79 years, compared with 72 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 13 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Slovakia also does well in terms of water quality, as 85% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, in line with the OECD average.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and a moderate level of civic participation in Slovakia, where 92% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, slightly higher than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 55% during recent elections; this figure is much lower than the OECD average of 73%.

In general, Slovaks are less satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 61% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is lower than the OECD average of 72%.

Slovenia

Slovenia performs favourably in several measures of well-being, and ranks close to the average or higher in several topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Slovenia, the average household earns 19 334 USD a year, less than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn more than three times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, 66% of people aged 15 to 64 in Slovenia have a paid job, in line with the OECD employment average. Some 70% of men are in paid work, compared with 63% of women. Approximately 6% of employees work very long hours, slightly lower than the OECD average of 9%, with 8% of men working very long hours compared with just 3% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Slovenia, 83% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, higher than the OECD average of 74%. This is truer of men than women, as 85% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 81% of women. In terms of the quality of the educational system, the average student scored 499 in reading literacy, **maths and science in the OECD's Programme** for International Student Assessment (PISA), slightly higher than the OECD average of 497. On average in Slovenia, girls outperformed boys by 22 points, higher than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Slovenia is almost 80 years, in line with the OECD average. Life expectancy for women is 83 years, compared with 76 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 29 micrograms per cubic meter, higher than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Slovenia performs better in terms of water quality, as 88% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, higher than the OECD average of 85%.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and a moderate level of civic participation in Slovenia, where 93% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 63% during recent elections. This figure is lower than the OECD average of 73%. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 71% and for the bottom 20% it is 60%, broader than the OECD average gap of 7% and suggesting there is room for broader **social inclusion in Slovenia's democratic institutions**.

In general, Slovenians are less satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 66% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings

of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is lower than the OECD average of 72%.

Spain

Spain performs favourably in several measures of well-being, and ranks close to the average or higher in several topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Spain, the average household earns 23 541 USD a year, slightly more than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn five times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, over 59% of people aged 15 to 64 in Spain have a paid job, below the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 66% of men are in paid work, compared with 53% of women. People in Spain work 1663 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1749 hours. Almost 7% of employees work very long hours, lower than the OECD average of 9%, with 9% of men working very long hours compared with just 4% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Spain, 52% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, lower than the OECD average of 74%. This is slightly truer of women than men, as 51% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 53% of women. In terms of the quality of the educational system, the average student scored 484 in reading literacy, **maths and science in the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**, lower than the OECD average of 497. On average in Spain, girls and boys performed equally, compared with an average OECD gap of nine points in favour of girls.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Spain is 82 years, two years higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 85 years, compared with 79 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 28 micrograms per cubic meter, higher than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Spain also performs below the OECD average in terms of water quality, as 81% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, below the OECD average of 85%.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Spain, where 94% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 75% during recent elections; this figure is slightly higher than the OECD average of 73%. There is little difference in voting levels across society; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 73% and for the bottom 20% it is 74%, much narrower than the OECD average gap of 7% and suggesting there is broad social **inclusion in Spain's democratic institutions**

In general, 72% of people in Spain say they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc), in line with the OECD average.

Sweden

Sweden performs exceptionally well in overall well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Sweden, the average household earns 26 633 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn four times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, over 73% of people aged 15 to 64 in Sweden have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 75% of men are in paid work, compared with 70% of women. People in Sweden work 1624 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1749 hours. Only 1% of employees work very long hours, much lower than the OECD average of 9%.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Sweden, 86% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, higher than the OECD average of 74%. This is truer of women than men, as 84% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 87% of women. In terms of the quality of the educational system, the average student scored 496 in reading literacy, **maths and science in the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**, close to the OECD average of 497. On average in Sweden, girls outperformed boys by 17 points, higher than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Sweden is almost 82 years, two years higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 84 years, compared with 80 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 11 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Sweden also does well in terms of water quality, as 97% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Sweden, where 92% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, slightly higher than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 82% during recent elections. This figure is higher than the OECD average of 73%. There is little difference in voting levels across society; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 86% and for the bottom 20% it is 80%, narrower than the OECD average gap of 7% and suggesting there is **broad social inclusion in Sweden's democratic institutions**

In general, Swedes are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 76% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings

of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 72%.

Switzerland

Switzerland performs very well in overall well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Switzerland, the average household earns 27 756 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn five times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, 79% of people aged 15 to 64 in Switzerland have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 85% of men are in paid work, compared with 72% of women. Only 6% of employees work very long hours, lower than the OECD average of 9%.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Switzerland, 87% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, higher than the OECD average of 74%. This is truer of men than women, as 90% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 83% of women. This difference is **higher than the OECD average and suggests women's participation in higher education could be strengthened**. Switzerland is nonetheless a top-performing country in terms of the quality of its educational system. The average student scored **517 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**. This score is higher than the OECD average of 497. On average in Switzerland, girls outperformed boys by 4 points, less than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Switzerland is almost 83 years, three years higher than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 85 years, compared with 80 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 22 micrograms per cubic meter, in line with the OECD average. Switzerland also does well in terms of water quality, as 97% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and a moderate level of civic participation in Switzerland, where 94% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 48% during recent elections; this figure is much lower than the OECD average of 73%. There is little difference in voting levels across society; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 45% and for the bottom 20% it is 44%, much narrower than the OECD average gap of 7% and suggesting there is **broad social inclusion in Switzerland's democratic institutions**

In general, people in Switzerland are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 76.4% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an

average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 72%.

Turkey

Turkey has made considerable progress in improving the quality of life of its citizens over the last two decades. Notwithstanding, Turkey ranks low in a large number of topics relative to most other countries in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In Turkey, the average household earns less than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. There is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn eight times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, 46% of people aged 15 to 64 in Turkey have a paid job, lower than the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 67% of men are in paid work, compared with 26% of women. People in Turkey work 1877 hours a year, more than most people in the OECD who work 1749 hours. 43% of employees work very long hours, much higher than the OECD average of 9%, with 49% of men working very long hours compared with 34% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In Turkey, 33% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, much lower than the OECD average of 74%. This is truer of men than women, as 35% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 26% of women. This difference is **higher than the OECD average and suggests women's participation in higher education could be strengthened**. In terms of the quality of the educational system, **the average student scored 455 in reading literacy, maths and science in the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**, lower than the OECD average of 497. On average in Turkey, girls outperformed boys by 15 points, more than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in Turkey is 74 years, six years lower than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 77 years, compared with 72 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 37 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably higher than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. Turkey also performs below the OECD average in terms of water quality, as 65% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, below the OECD average of 85%.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a moderate sense of community and high levels of civic participation in Turkey, where 69% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, lower than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 83% during recent elections; this figure is higher than the OECD average of 73%.

In general, Turks are less satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 56% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is much lower than the OECD average of 72%.

United Kingdom

The United Kingdom performs very well in overall well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in several topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In the United Kingdom, the average household earns 26 552 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn six times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, over 70% of people aged 15 to 64 in the United Kingdom have a paid job, above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 75% of men are in paid work, compared with 65% of women. People in the United Kingdom work 1647 hours a year, less than most people in the OECD who work 1749 hours. Almost 12% of employees work very long hours, higher than the OECD average of 9%, with 17% of men working very long hours compared with just 6% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In the United Kingdom, 74% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, close to the OECD average. This is truer of men than women, as 77% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 70% of women. **This difference is higher than the OECD average and suggests women's participation in higher education could be strengthened.** In terms of the quality of the educational system, the average student scored 500 in reading literacy, maths and science in the **OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**, slightly higher than the OECD average of 497. On average in the United Kingdom, girls outperformed boys by 2 points, less than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in the United Kingdom is 80 years, in line with the OECD average. Life expectancy for women is 82 years, compared with 79 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 13 micrograms per cubic meter, considerably lower than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. The United Kingdom also does well in terms of water quality, as 97% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and a moderate level of civic participation in the United Kingdom, where 96% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, higher than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 61% during recent elections. This figure is lower than the OECD average of 73%. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is 64% and for the bottom 20% it is 51%, broader than the OECD average gap of 7% and suggesting there is room for **broader social inclusion in the United Kingdom's democratic institutions.**

In general, people in the United Kingdom are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 75% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 72%.

United States

The United States performs very well in overall measures of well-being, as shown by the fact that it ranks among the top countries in a large number of topics in the Better Life Index.

Money, while it cannot buy happiness, is an important means to achieving higher living standards. In the United States, the average household earns 37 708 USD a year, more than the OECD average of 22 387 USD a year. But there is a considerable gap between the richest and poorest – the top 20% of the population earn approximately eight times as much as the bottom 20%.

In terms of employment, 67% of people aged 15 to 64 in the United States have a paid job, slightly above the OECD employment average of 66%. Some 71% of men are in paid work, compared with 62% of women. People in the United States work 1778 hours a year, more than most people in the OECD who work 1749 hours. Almost 11% of employees work very long hours, higher than the OECD average of 9%, with 15% of men working very long hours compared with just 6% for women.

Having a good education is an important requisite for finding a job. In the United States, 89% of adults aged 25-64 have earned the equivalent of a high-school degree, higher than the OECD average of 74%. This is truer of women than men, as 88% of men have successfully completed high-school compared with 90% of women. In terms of the quality of the educational system, the average student scored 496 in reading **literacy, maths and science in the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**, close to the OECD average of 497. On average in the United States, girls outperformed boys by 3 points, less than the average OECD gap of 9 points.

In terms of health, life expectancy at birth in the United States is almost 79 years, one year lower than the OECD average of 80 years. Life expectancy for women is 81 years, compared with 76 for men. The level of atmospheric PM10 – tiny air pollutant particles small enough to enter and cause damage to the lungs – is 19 micrograms per cubic meter, lower than the OECD average of 22 micrograms per cubic meter. The United States also does well in terms of water quality, as 86% of people say they are satisfied with the quality of their water, slightly higher than the OECD average of 85%.

Concerning the public sphere, there is a strong sense of community and high levels of civic participation in the United States, where 92% of people believe that they know someone they could rely on in time of need, slightly higher than the OECD average of 91%. Voter turnout, a measure of public trust in government and of citizens' participation in the political process, was 90% during recent elections; this figure is higher than the OECD average of 73%. Social and economic status can affect voting rates; voter turnout for the top 20% of the population is close to 100% and for the bottom 20% it is 72%, broader than the OECD average gap of 7% and suggesting there **is room for broader social inclusion in the United States' democratic institutions.**

In general; Americans are more satisfied with their lives than the OECD average, with 76% of people saying they have more positive experiences in an average day (feelings of rest, pride in accomplishment, enjoyment, etc) than negative ones (pain, worry, sadness, boredom, etc). This figure is higher than the OECD average of 72%.