

Chile

Statistical profile

Figure 1. Statistical profile



	Population growth 2008-2019 (%)	Growth in employment 2008-2016 (%)	GVA per worker (1 000 USD ppp)	GVA manufacturing (%)	Hospital beds per 1 000 inhabitants
Regions with a city >250K	1.6 (0.7)	NA	NA	NA	1.3 (8.0)
Regions near a city >250K	1.5 (0.4)	NA	NA	NA	1.3 (8.1)
Regions with/near a city <250K	1.2 (0.4)	NA	NA	NA	1.7 (4.9)
Remote regions	0.7 (0.6)	NA	NA	NA	1.8 (4.6)

Note: OECD average in parenthesis. OECD average is presented in parenthesis. Data for hospital beds are from 2018. The OECD average by order in the table has been made with 33 and 19 countries with available data.

Source: (OECD, 2020[1]) OECD Regional Statistics (database), <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/region-data-e>.

Policy framework and Institutional setting of rural development

Rural Definition

- ❖ Chile's National Rural Development Policy proposes a definition of rurality based on the OECD's regional typology for identifying types of rural areas, which was adapted to the

case of Chile. A rural area is defined as a territory generated by the dynamic interrelationship between people, economic activities and natural resources, characterized mainly by a population density of less than 150 inhabitants per km², with a maximum population of 50,000 inhabitants and whose basic organizational unit is the commune.

- ❖ According to this classification, three types of communes are recognized in Chile: predominantly rural, mixed and predominantly urban. It is estimated that 25% of the population in Chile lives in territories with a high degree of rurality (predominantly rural and mixed communes), which together cover 82% of the national territory.
- ❖ A technical committee will now work on applying the definition of rurality and proposing guidelines for harmonizing it with the understandings of the different institutions.

National rural policy

- ❖ Chile had a first version of an explicit national rural development policy in 2014, but it was not until May 2020 that it was officially published. The policy is structured around four main areas: Social Welfare, Economic Opportunities, Environmental Sustainability, and Culture and Identity, in addition to proposing a definition of governance for achieving them. Each area is organized around strategic axes, from which specific guidelines emerge.

Lead ministry(ies) and other co-ordination bodies in charge

Table 1. Main institutions in charge of rural development policies at the national level

Ministries and coordination bodies (most important first)	Role
Ministry of Agriculture /Odepa/Department for Rural Development	Executive Secretariat and technical body in charge of planning, coordination and monitoring.
COMICIVYT (Interministerial Commission of City, Housing and Territory)	Main decision-making body composed of 12 ministries, whose function is to implement, evaluate and update the National Rural Development Policy, supported by the Technical Advisory Committee (with professionals from each ministry).
National Rural Development Advisory Council	A public-private presidential advisory body, with 32 members, which also seeks to make visible the main needs and challenges of rural territories, proposing solutions, mechanisms and strategies for overcoming gaps and providing opportunities.

Table 2. Main institutions in charge of rural development policies at the sub-national level

Institutions	Role
Regional and local governments	Design, local planning and implementation of the guidelines of the National Rural Development Policy

Key objectives in rural policy and delivery mechanisms

- ❖ Chile's rural development policy assigns a high degree of importance to social and economic areas, followed by environmental and cultural areas (Table 3). Table 4 shows the main priorities of its rural policy
- ❖ The mechanism for implementing the National Rural Development Policy is still being developed, the main programs and funding mechanism, as well as the objectives will be defined in a long-term plan, during 2021.

Table 3. Relevance of sectors in rural development policy

Policy areas	Weight on rural policy- Chile	Average OECD
Social	40%	30%
Environment	30%	30%
Economic	30%	40%

Note: Self-reported responses from the OECD country delegate to the question: "Please grade from 1 to 10 the importance rural development policies in your country assigns to economic, social and environmental areas".

Source: OECD (2018), "Responses to the institutional survey on rural policy in OECD countries".

Table 4. Relevant objectives in rural development policy

Top objectives	Programmes	Main financial mechanisms to support the strategy
Agriculture	Na	Na
Land occupation, resilience and landscape preservation	Na	Na
Environmental sustainability	Na	Na
Service delivery	Na	Na
Accessibility- via transport/ broadband	Na	Na

Note: These objectives are the objectives with higher scores in the survey responses

Source: OECD (2018), "Responses to the institutional survey on rural policy in OECD countries".