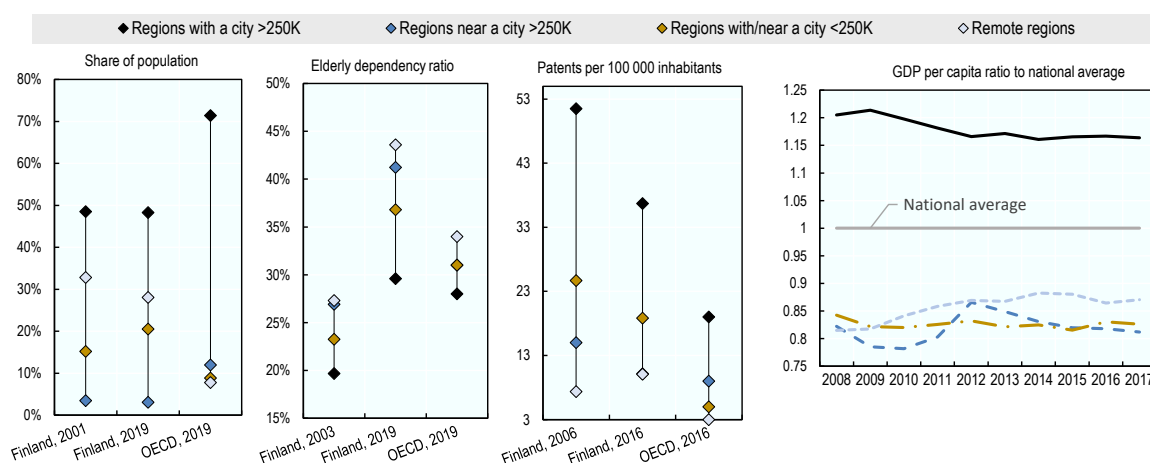


Finland

Statistical profile

Figure 1. Statistical profile



	Population growth 2008-2019 (%)	Growth in employment 2008-2017 (%)	GVA per worker (10 000 USD ppp)	GVA manufacturing share (%)	Hospital beds per 1 000 inhabitants
Regions with a	1.0 (0.7)	0.3 (0.9)	89 (92)	18 (18)	4.8 (9.3)
Regions near a	0.0 (0.3)	-0.6 (0.5)	75 (79)	22 (26)	4.8 (10.8)
Regions with/nk	0.2 (0.2)	-0.3 (0.0)	78 (71)	22 (23)	6.1 (5.7)
Remote regions	-0.3 (0.5)	-0.5 (0.2)	77 (73)	24 (18)	6.3 (5.2)

Note: OECD average is presented in parenthesis. Data for hospital beds are from 2011 and data for GVA per worker, GVA by sector and unemployment rate are from 2017. GVA and GDP are measured in USD PPP (2015). The OECD average by order in the table has been made with 33, 25, 26, 25, 19 countries with available data. Employment growth measured as employment in the workplace.

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

- ❖ The classification framework has been designed to be flexible, which makes it possible to identify an intermediate zone between urban and rural that can be examined as its own

whole. This can be done, for instance, by combining two classes, the peri-urban area and rural areas close to urban areas. The definition identifies a number of rural areas including those mixed rural/urban areas, rural areas close to cities and remote rural areas.

National rural policy

- ❖ Finland has a national rural policy defined by Rural Policy Programme 2014-2020. The main elements of this policy are the cross sectoral measures in Rural Policy Programme 2014-2020, funding possibilities from the Rural Development Programme for Mainland Finland 2014-2020 and from the Programme for Sustainable Growth and Jobs 2014-2020.

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/Committees (most important first)	Role
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	Responsible for rural policy and rural development
Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment	Responsible for regional policy and regional development.
Rural Policy Council	Cross-sectoral strategic guidelines and implementation of rural policy.
Advisory Council on Regional Renewal	Cross-sectoral strategic guidelines and implementation of regional policy

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

Institutions	Role
ELY Centres (regional level, deconcentrated national authorities)	Responsible for the regional implementation and development tasks of the central government
Regional Councils (joint regional authorities)	Regional and land-use planning, and the promotion of local and regional interests in general
LEADER groups (Local Action Groups LAGs)	Fund local rural development projects and supporting local enterprises
Village Associations (local level, associations)	Promotes and develops village action

Key objectives in rural policy and delivery mechanisms

- ❖ Finland's rural development policy allocates a high degree of importance to economic areas (Table 3). Table 4 shows the main priorities of rural Finland's rural policy.
- ❖ The delivery mechanisms of rural development policy in Finland are dedicated grants as well as contracts and agreements with local communities.

Table 3. Relevance of sectors in rural development policy

Policy areas	Finland	OECD Average
Economic	60%	40%
Environment	30%	30%
Social	10%	30%

Note: Self-reported responses from 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
Service delivery	Measures included in the Rural Policy Programme 2014-2020	Mechanisms of EAFRD, State aid for Village Action Association of Finland and R&D project funding
Accessibility- via transport/ broadband	Rural Development Programme for Mainland Finland 2014-2020	Mechanisms of EAFRD
Rural-urban linkages	Cooperation between Rural Policy Council and Urban Policy Committee	-
Quality of life/well-being of rural residents	Measures included in the Rural Policy Programme 2014-2020 and in the Rural Development Programme for Mainland Finland 2014-2020	EU and State funds
Innovation support (R&D, training education)	Measures included in the Rural Policy Programme 2014-2020	R&D project funding

Note: The objectives presented are the objectives with higher scores in the survey responses.

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