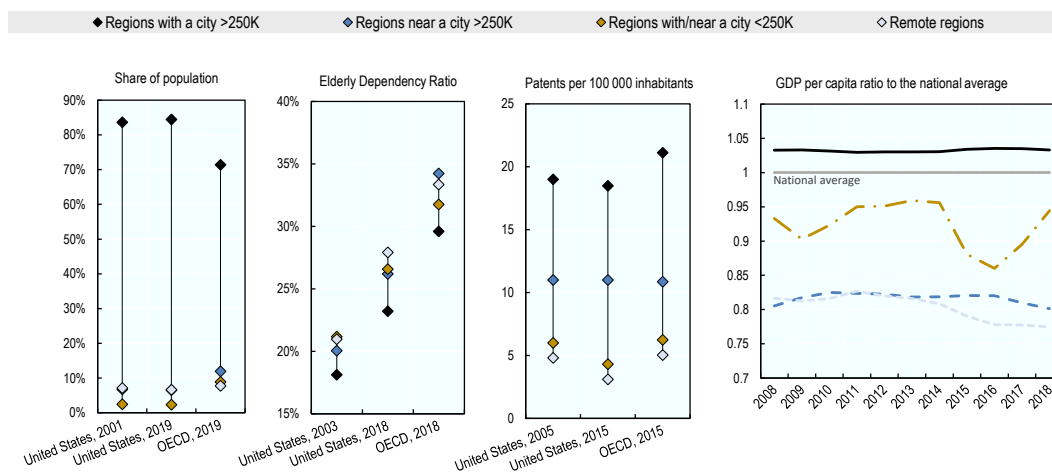


United States

Statistical profile

Figure 1. Statistical profile



	Population growth 2008-2019 (%)	Growth in employment 2008-2017 (%)	GVA per worker (1 000 USD ppp)	GVA manufacturing share (%)	Hospital beds per 1 000 inhabitants
Regions with a	0.9 (0.7)	1.2 (0.9)	98 (92)	19 (18)	NA
Regions near a	0.5 (0.3)	0.5 (0.5)	81 (79)	27 (26)	NA
Regions with/near	0.6 (0.2)	0.4 (0.0)	88 (71)	15 (23)	NA
Remote regions	0.3 (0.5)	0.3 (0.2)	78 (73)	15 (18)	NA

Note: OECD average is presented in parenthesis. 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 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 United States does not have a standard definition of rural areas. Instead, there are multiple definitions of rural depending on the agency and department. For the U. S. Census Bureau, urban-rural classification is fundamentally a delineation of geographical areas,

identifying both individual urban areas and rural areas of the nation. Rural areas encompass all population, housing, and territory not included within an urban area. The Office of Management and Budget, Definition designates areas based on the "Standards for Delineating Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas". For the U.S. Department of Agriculture Economic Research Services studies the conditions of nonmetropolitan (nonmetro) areas are defined based on counties. Nonmetro counties include a combination of areas that do not belong to larger labor market areas (metropolitan areas). It includes open countryside, rural towns (places with fewer than 2,500 people), and urban areas with populations ranging from 2,500 to 49,999. Overall, rural definitions acknowledge the existent of mixed rural/urban areas, rural areas close to cities and remote rural areas.

National rural policy

- ❖ United States does not have an explicit national rural policy. Instead, there is a national approach for rural development defined by the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018. This act is renewed every five years, currently covering until 2023.

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/Departments (most important first)	Role
US Department of Agriculture	Planning, funding, implementation, evaluation
US Department of Health and Human Services	Planning, funding, implementation, evaluation
US Department of Housing and Urban Development	Planning, funding, implementation, evaluation
US Department of Interior	Planning, funding, implementation, evaluation
Small Business Administration	Planning, funding, implementation, evaluation
Department of Labor	Planning, funding, implementation, evaluation
National Economic Council	Coordination and planning
Domestic Policy Council	Coordination and planning

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

Institutions	Role
USDA RD State Offices	Deconcentrated national agency
State Departments of Agriculture	Autonomous regional agency

Key objectives in rural policy and delivery mechanisms

- ❖ United States rural development policy allocates a high level of importance to economic areas (Table 3). Table 4 shows the main priorities of rural policy.
- ❖ The main delivery mechanisms of the rural development policy in United States are dedicated grants programmes and agreements with local communities.

Table 3. Relevance of sectors in rural development policy

Policy areas	Weight on rural policy	Average OECD
Economic	40%	40%
Environment	30%	30%
Social	30%	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
Agricultural production	-	-
Land occupation, resilience and landscape preservation	-	-
Environmental sustainability	-	-
Service delivery	-	-
Accessibility- via transport/ broadband	-	-
Rural-urban linkages	-	-
Quality of life/well-being of rural residents	-	-
Ageing and outmigration	-	-
Innovation support to “rural” sectors	-	-
Support to private sector, jobs and investment	-	-
Capacity building	-	-

Note: Objectives presented are the selected objectives with higher scores in the survey responses. United States rated all the objectives as extremely important.

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