

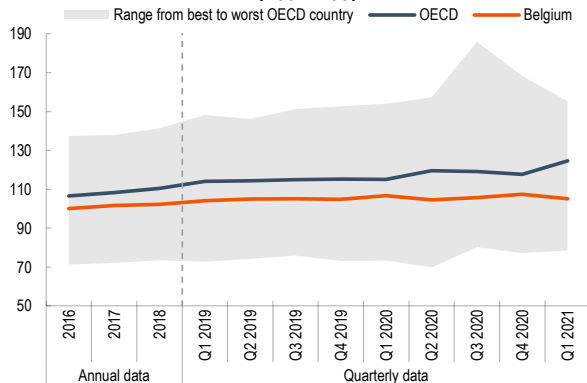
# COVID-19 and Well-being: Life in the Pandemic

## BELGIUM



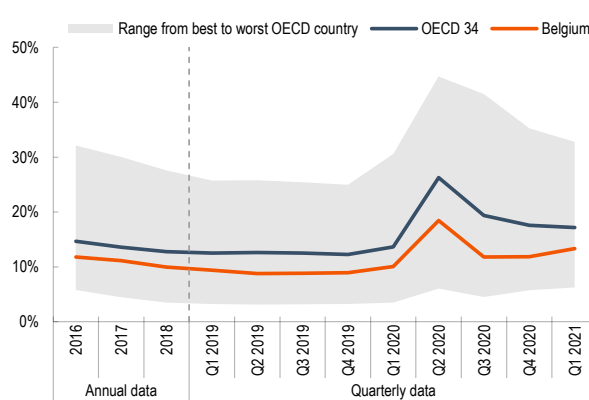
### Material well-being

**Household disposable income per capita, index (2007=100)**



Note: Between Q4 2019 and Q4 2020, household disposable income per capita increased cumulatively by 2% in Belgium, and 2% for the OECD on average.

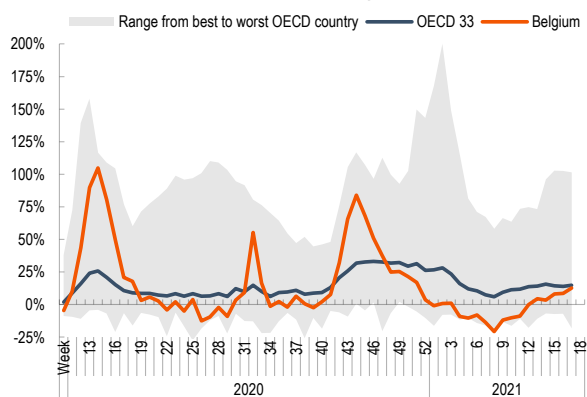
**Labour underutilisation rate**



Note: The labour underutilisation rate includes the unemployed, marginally attached workers and the underemployed, expressed as a share of the total labour force. Between Q4 2019 and Q4 2020, the labour underutilisation rate increased from 9% to 12% in Belgium, and from 12% to 18% for the OECD 34 on average.

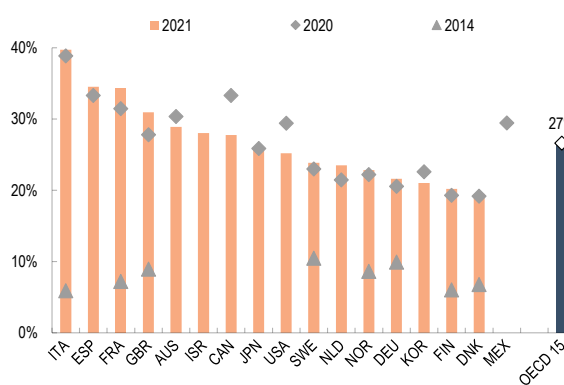
### Quality of life

**Excess mortality**

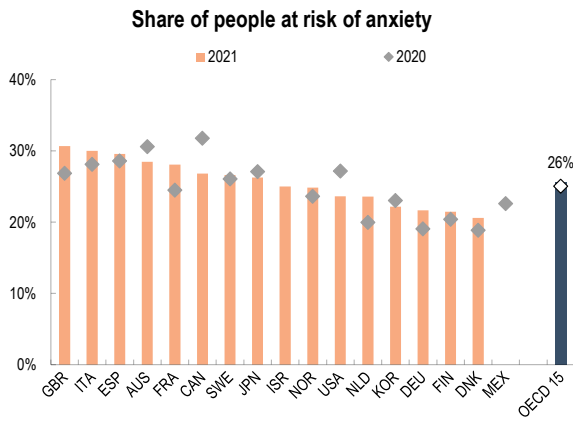


Note: Excess mortality is expressed as the percentage change in the total number of deaths from week 11 2020 to week 19 2021, compared to the 2015-2019 average. Between March 2020 and May 2021, excess mortality averaged 14% in Belgium, and 16% for the OECD 33.

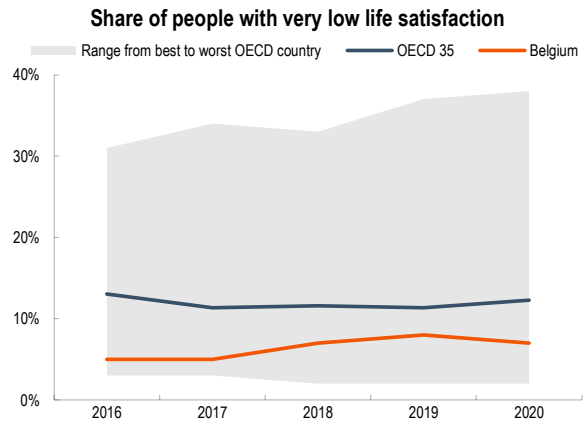
**Share of people at risk of depression**



Note: Risk of depression is measured using the PHQ-4 instrument. In 2020 and 2021, the share of people at risk of depression was 27% for both years for the OECD 15 on average. Data for 2014 are not strictly comparable with later years, as they come from a different source.

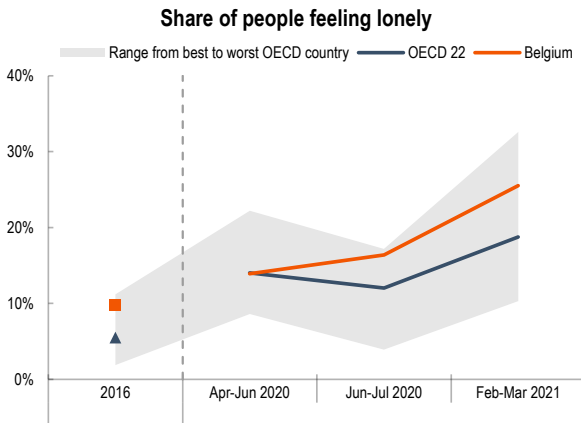


Note: Risk of anxiety is measured using the PHQ-4 instrument. In 2020 and 2021, the share of people at risk of anxiety was 25% and 26% respectively for the OECD 15 on average.

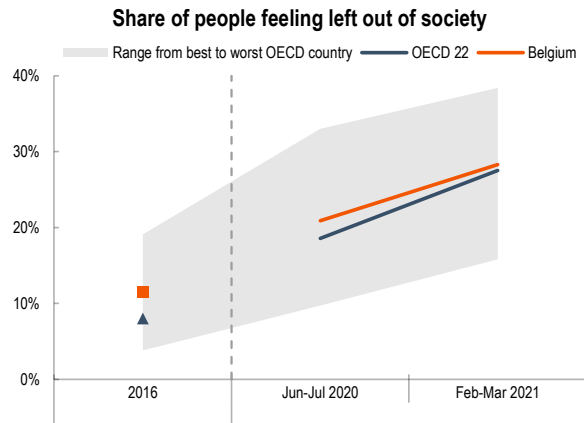


Note: Very low life satisfaction is defined as answering 4 or less on the 0-10 Cantril ladder scale. Between 2019 and 2020, the share of people reporting low life satisfaction decreased from 8% to 7% in Belgium, and increased from 11% to 12% for the OECD 35 on average.

## Community relations

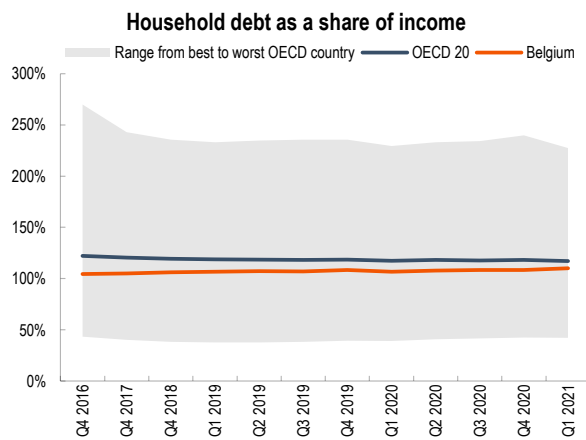


Note: Data refer to people reporting feeling lonely "most" or "all of the time" in the past two weeks. In April-June 2020 and February-March 2021, it was 14% and 26% respectively in Belgium, and 14% and 19% respectively for the OECD 22 on average. In 2016, the share of people feeling lonely was 10% in Belgium and 6% for the OECD 22 on average, but this value is not strictly comparable with later years, as it stems from a different source.

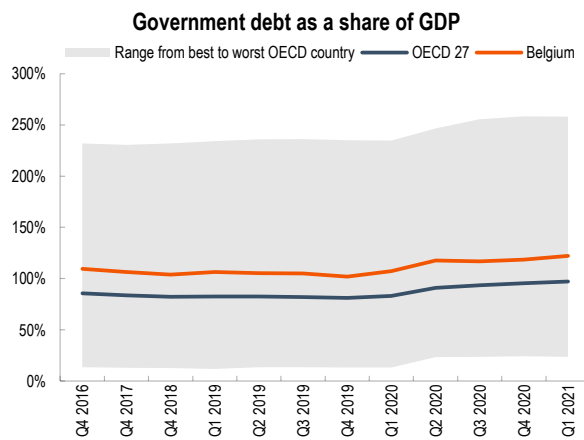


Note: Data refer to the share of people agreeing or strongly agreeing with the statement "I feel left out of society". In June-July 2020 and February-March 2021, it was 21% and 28% respectively in Belgium, and 19% and 27% respectively for the OECD 22 on average. In 2016, the share of people feeling left out was 12% in Belgium and 8% for the OECD 22 on average, but this value is not strictly comparable with later years, as it stems from a different source.

## Sustainability

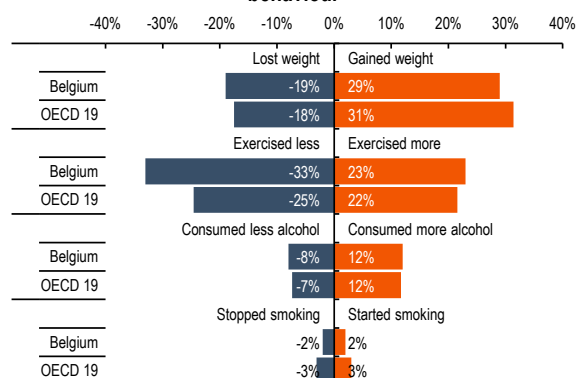


Note: Between Q4 2019 and Q4 2020, household debt remained relatively stable at 108% of gross household disposable income in Belgium, and decreased from 119% to 118% for the OECD 20 on average.



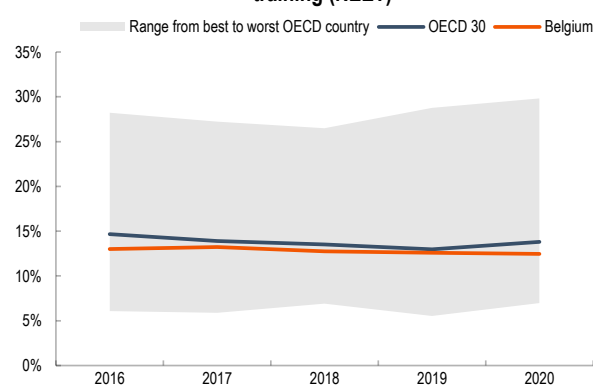
Note: Between Q4 2019 and Q4 2020, government gross debt increased from 102% to 118% of GDP in Belgium, and from 81% to 95% of GDP for the OECD 27 on average.

### Share of people who reported changes in health behaviour



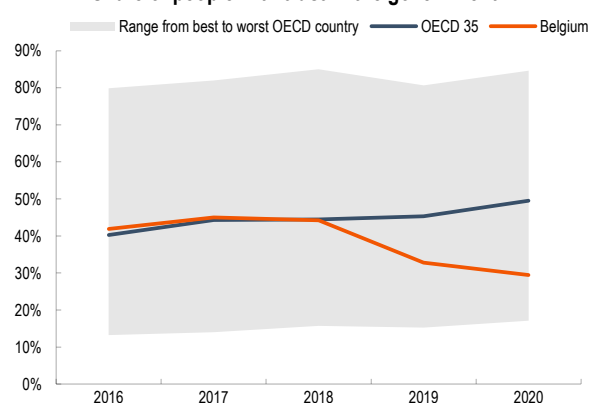
Note: Data refer to the share of people reporting changes in health behaviour since the start of the pandemic until October-November 2020.

### Young people not in employment, education or training (NEET)



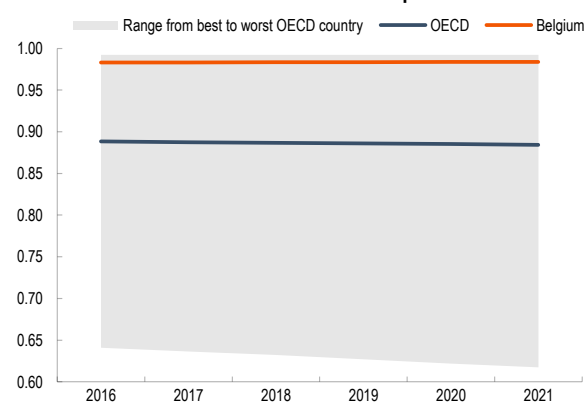
Note: Between 2019 and 2020, the share of young people aged 15-29 not in employment, education or training decreased from 13% to 12% in Belgium, and increased from 13% to 14% for the OECD 30 on average.

### Share of people with trust in the government



Note: Between 2019 and 2020, the share of people answering "yes" to a question about whether they have confidence in the national government decreased from 33% to 29% in Belgium, and increased from 45% to 50% for the OECD 35 on average.

### Red List Index of threatened species



Note: A Red List Index value of 0 refers to all species having gone extinct, and a value of 1.0 refers to all species qualifying as "Least Concern". Between 2019 and 2021, the Red List Index of threatened species remained stable at 0.98 in Belgium, and decreased from 0.89 to 0.88 for the OECD on average.

### For more information

Access the complete OECD (2021) *COVID-19 and Well-being: Life in the Pandemic* publication:

[www.oecd.org/wise/covid-19-and-well-being-1e1ecb53-en.htm](http://www.oecd.org/wise/covid-19-and-well-being-1e1ecb53-en.htm)

Find the data used in this country profile, and more information about indicator definitions, sources and methodology at: [www.oecd.org/wise/COVID-19-well-being-country-notes-data.xlsx](http://www.oecd.org/wise/COVID-19-well-being-country-notes-data.xlsx).

Whenever data are available for fewer than all 38 OECD countries, the number of countries included in the calculation of the OECD average is specified in the figure and note (e.g. OECD 33).

Whenever data for the country of this note are not available, only the OECD average is shown.