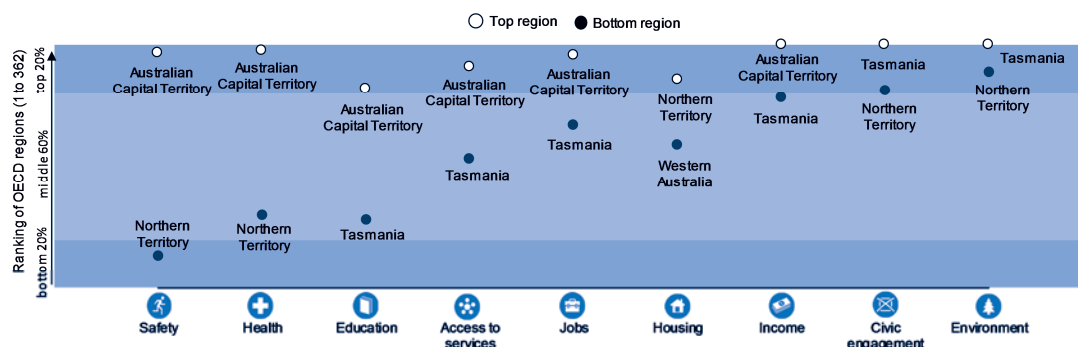


Australia

All Australian regions are among the top 20% OECD regions in environment, civic engagement (due to the compulsory voting system) and income. The Australian Capital Territory has the best outcomes in six out of nine well-being dimensions.

Australia has the fourth largest regional disparities in health and the fifth largest in safety among OECD countries.

Relative performance of Australian regions by well-being dimensions



Note: Relative ranking of the regions with the best and worst outcomes in the 9 well-being dimensions, with respect to all 362 OECD regions. The nine dimensions are ordered by decreasing regional disparities in the country. Each well-being dimension is measured by the indicators in the table below.

Even the low performing regions in Australia fare better than the OECD average in all of the well-being indicators.

Education is the only exception; the share of workforce with at least a secondary degree in the bottom 20% regions in Australia is 13 percentage points lower than the OECD average.

How do the top and bottom regions in Australia fare on the well-being indicators?

	Australian regions		Country average	OECD average
	Top 20%	Bottom 20%		
Safety				
Homicide rate (per 100 000 people), 2012	0.8	3.3	1.1	4.2
Health				
Life expectancy at birth (years), 2012	82.4	79.0	82.0	79.5
Age adjusted mortality rate (per 1 000 people), 2012	6.4	8.4	6.8	8.1
Education				
Labour force with at least a secondary degree (%), 2013	78.3	66.7	75.3	74.6
Access to services				
Households with broadband access (%), 2013	78.4	70.8	75.0	67.2
Jobs				
Employment rate (%), 2013	74.5	73.1	74.5	66.7
Unemployment rate (%), 2013	4.2	5.9	5.3	8.0
Housing				
Rooms per person, 2012	2.4	2.2	2.3	1.8
Income				
Household disposable income per capita (in USD), 2011	37 034	21 873	23 556	18 907
Civic engagement				
Voters in last national election (%), 2013	78.4	70.8	75.0	67.7
Environment				
Level of air pollution (PM _{2.5}) experienced by regional population (µg/m ³), 2012	2.7	4.6	3.4	12.3

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933129220>

Note: Data in the first two columns refer to average values in regions at the top and the bottom 20% of national ranking. The OECD average is computed for 34 countries except for housing (32 countries) and life expectancy at birth (33 countries).

Source: OECD Regional Well-Being Database, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/region-data-en>; www.oecdregionalwellbeing.org.



From:

How's Life in Your Region?

Measuring Regional and Local Well-being for Policy Making

Access the complete publication at:

<https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264217416-en>

Please cite this chapter as:

OECD (2014), "Australia", in *How's Life in Your Region?: Measuring Regional and Local Well-being for Policy Making*, OECD Publishing, Paris.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264217416-15-en>

This work is published under the responsibility of the Secretary-General of the OECD. The opinions expressed and arguments employed herein do not necessarily reflect the official views of OECD member countries.

This document and any map included herein are without prejudice to the status of or sovereignty over any territory, to the delimitation of international frontiers and boundaries and to the name of any territory, city or area.

You can copy, download or print OECD content for your own use, and you can include excerpts from OECD publications, databases and multimedia products in your own documents, presentations, blogs, websites and teaching materials, provided that suitable acknowledgment of OECD as source and copyright owner is given. All requests for public or commercial use and translation rights should be submitted to rights@oecd.org. Requests for permission to photocopy portions of this material for public or commercial use shall be addressed directly to the Copyright Clearance Center (CCC) at info@copyright.com or the Centre français d'exploitation du droit de copie (CFC) at contact@cfcopies.com.