

OECD Regional Labour dataset - Metadata

Dataset access	http://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=REGION_LABOUR
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Dataset last update	15-July-2015
Next dataset major update	March 2016
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1. OECD Regional Database: General Overview (common to all regional datasets)

1.1 Objective

The Regional Database contains annual data from 1995 to the most recent available year (e.g. in July 2015, data are generally available up to 2014 for demographic and labour market data, 2013 for regional accounts, innovation and social statistics).

The data collection is undertaken by the Directorate of Public Governance and Territorial Development, within the Regional Development Policy division (GOV/RDP). Statistics are collected through an annual questionnaire sent to the delegates of the Working Party on Territorial Indicators (WPTI), and through access to the web-sites of National Statistical Offices and Eurostat.

The WPTI is responsible for developing regional (subnational) and urban statistics and providing analysis to support policy evaluations. The Regional Database includes statistics on the regional distribution of resources, regional disparities, and how regions contribute to national growth and the well-being of society. Under this framework, the Regional Database is one of the pillars for providing indicators to the publication *OECD Regions at a Glance* ([link](#)).

1.2 Datasets

The OECD Regional database is composed by five datasets:

- **Regional demography** (population and number of deaths by age and gender; population density; life expectancy; infant mortality; inter-regional migration; demographics indicators)
- **Regional economy** (regional GDP; GVA by industry; employment by industry; labour productivity; labour utilisation; primary and disposable income; growth index)
- **Regional labour** (labour force at place of residence; employment and unemployment by gender; part-time employment; long term and youth unemployment)
- **Regional innovation** (patent and co patent by technology - fractional count, by inventor and priority year ; R&D expenses and R&D employees; Labour Force and Student enrolment by ISCED level)
- **Regional social** (*Environment*: air pollution, municipality waste; *Health*: physician and hospital beds density; *Safety*: homicides, car theft, mortality due to transport; *Social inclusion*: rate of young people neither in employment nor in education and training (NEET), rate of early leavers from education and training, *Housing*: number of rooms per capita, housing cost as a share of household income).

1.3 Geography covered

a) Countries

The Regional Database covers subnational statistics for the 34 OECD countries, plus 10 non-OECD member countries (Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, China, India, Indonesia, Latvia, Lithuania, Russia and South Africa).

b) Territorial Levels (TLs)

In order to facilitate greater comparability of regions, the OECD has classified two levels of subnational units. This classification is officially established, relatively stable in all member countries, and is used by many countries as framework for implementing regional policies:

- Territorial Level 2 (TL2): covers the first administrative tier of subnational government, consisting in 362 large regions for the OECD zone. No regions have been defined for Luxembourg.
- Territorial Level 3 (TL3): is composed by 1 802 small regions under the OECD zone. TL3 regions are available for OECD countries plus Latvia and Lithuania. During 2015, Portugal is in the process of implementing new TL3 regions, therefore both classifications are reported in the Regional Database during this process.
- Non Official Grid (NOG): labour-market indicators in Canada are presented for groups of TL3 regions, labelled as non-official grids.

Country	Territorial level 2	Territorial level 3
Australia	States/territories (8)	Statistical divisions (60)
Austria	Bundesländer (9)	Gruppen von Politischen Bezirken (35)
Belgium	Régions (3)	Provinces (11)
		Census divisions (288)
Canada	Provinces and territories (13)	For Labour statistics, Non Official Grid (NOG): Economic areas census 2011, group of TL3 (72)
Chile	Regions (15)	Provincias (54)
Czech Republic	Oblasti (8)	Kraje (14)
Denmark	Regioner (5)	Landsdeler (11)
Estonia	Region (1)	Groups of maakond (5)
Finland	Suurlueet (5)	Maakunnat (19)
France	Régions (22)	Départements (96)
Germany	Länder (16)	Spatial planning regions (96)
Greece	Groups of development regions (4)	Development regions (13)
Hungary	Planning statistical regions (7)	Counties + Budapest (20)
Iceland	Regions (2)	Landsvaedi (8)
Ireland	Groups regional authority regions (2)	Regional authority regions (8)
Israel	Districts (7)	-
Italy	Regioni (21)	Province (110)
Japan	Groups of prefectures (10)	Prefectures (47)
Korea	Regions (7)	Special city, metrop. area and province (16)
Luxembourg	State (1)	State (1)
Mexico	Estados (32)	Grupos de municipios (209)
Netherlands	Landsdelen (4)	Provinces (12)
New Zealand	Groups of regional councils (2)	Regional councils (14)
Norway	Landsdeler (7)	Fylker (19)
Poland	Wojewodztwa (16)	Podregiony (66)
Portugal	Comissaoes de coordenação e desenvolvimento regional & regioes autonomas (7)	Grupos de municipios (30)
Portugal (new TL3 regions)		Grupos de municipios (25)
Slovak Republic	Zoskupenia krajov (4)	Kraj (8)
Slovenia	Kohezijske regije (2)	Statistične regije (12)
Spain	Comunidades autonomas (19)	Provincias (59)
Sweden	Riksomraden (8)	Län (21)
Switzerland	Grandes regions (7)	Cantons (26)
Turkey	Regions (26)	Provinces (81)
United Kingdom	Regions and countries (12)	Upper tier authorities or groups of lower tier authorities or groups of unitary authorities or LECs or groups of districts (139)
United States	States and the District of Columbia (51)	Economic areas (179)
Brazil	Estados + distrito federal (27)	-
China	Provinces (31)	-
Colombia	Departamentos (32) and Capital District	-
Costa Rica	Provinces (7)	-
India	States and union territories (35)	-
Indonesia	Provinces (33)	-
Latvia	Region (1)	Statistical regions (6)
Lithuania	Region (1)	Counties (10)
Russian Federation	Oblast or okrug (83)	-
South Africa	Provinces (9)	-

c) Regional Typology

The OECD has established a regional typology for small regions (TL3 level), to better take in account the different “geography” of each geographic unit. This typology, based on settlement patterns calculated on the percentage of population living in rural communities, enables meaningful comparisons between regions belonging to the same type and level.

The OECD regional typology is primarily based on a criterion which identifies rural communities according to population density. A community is defined as rural if its population density is below 150 inhabitants per km² (500 inhabitants for Japan and Korea to account for the fact that the national population density exceeds 300 inhabitants per km²). The next steps of the methodology follows the scheme presented on the right. For further information, the detailed methodology is available [here](#).

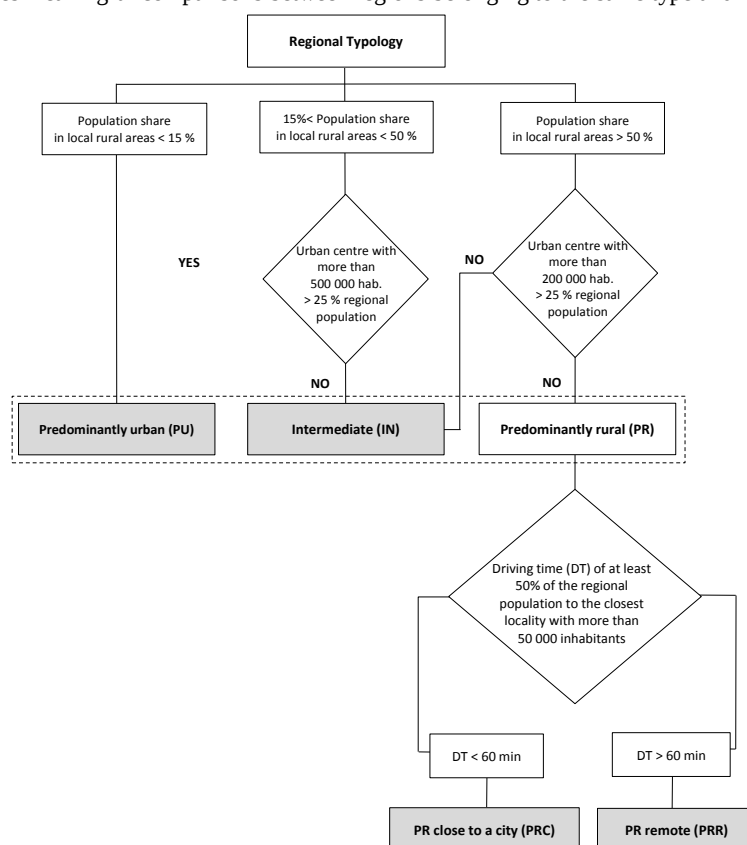
Thus, each TL3 regions have been classified as:

- Predominantly Urban (PU)
- Intermediate (IN)
- Predominantly Rural (PR)

Predominantly Rural regions are further distinguished between rural regions that are:

- Close to larger urban centres (PRC)
- Remote (PRR)

This extended typology is currently not available for Australia and Chile, and for which rural regions are therefore presented under predominantly rural (PR).



1.4 Dimensions common to all datasets

The data selection in the datasets can be done through the following common dimensions:

- **Territorial Level and Typology:** data can be selected at different levels:
 - country level, code=[1]
 - large regions, code=[2]
 - small regions: predominantly urban [3_PU], intermediate [3_IN], predominantly rural close to a city [3_PRC], predominantly rural remote [3_PRR] (for Australia and Chile, only [3_PR] currently available for rural regions).
 - aggregation of typology at country level: predominantly urban [1_PU], intermediate [1_IN], predominantly rural [1_PR], predominantly rural close to a city [1_PRC], predominantly rural remote [1_PRR]
- **Region:** regions are presented as a tree structure, in other words, TL2 large regions are contained in their respective countries and TL3 small regions are contained under their respective TL2. There are two exceptions to this rule:
 - The United States, for which not all TL3 are contained in a single TL2, therefore the list of TL3 regions are presented below the list of TL2 regions.
 - The TL3 region 'Ost-Friesland' in Germany [code=DE12] which is contained in two TL2 regions, the 'Lower Saxony' [DE9] and 'Bremen' [DE5]. In order to ease the selection, this region has been put under 'Lower Saxony' [DE9], since more than 80% of its population is located in this TL2, and therefore, the values for these two TL2 don't correspond to the sum of the TL3 shown under their hierarchy.
- **Indicator:** the list of indicators is specific to the datasets (cf. next box).
- **Position:** this dimension allows to show the regional disparities the selection of extreme regional values within a country, by territorial level and by year. All regions can be selected through the position 'All regions' [code=ALL], which is the selection by default, or only the selection of regions that have the highest and the lowest values can be selected [codes=MAX,MIN]. This can be done only for a selection of relevant indicators, which is specific to each dataset. The highest or lowest values can return several values if more than one region have the same value. Highest and lowest values are returned without taking in account if the indicator is a 'positive indicator' like life expectancy, or a 'negative indicator' like unemployment rate.
- **Time:** reference year

In addition to these common dimensions, some datasets have specific dimensions:

- **Gender** (for Regional Demography and Labour datasets)
- **Series and Measure** (for the Regional Economy dataset)

2. Regional Labour dataset

2.1 Labour Dimensions specific to the dataset

- **Gender:** female, male, both sex

2.2 Labour Indicators

- **Regional Labour Force**
 - Working Age Population (15 years old and over)
 - Labour Force (15 years old and over)
 - Youth Labour Force (15-24 years old)
 - Participation Rate (% labour force 15+ over population 15+)
 - Participation Rate Growth Index (2001=100)
 - Participation Rate Gender difference (female-male)
- **Regional Employment (place of residence)**
 - Employment (15 years old and over)
 - Employment Rate (% employment 15+ over working age population 15+)
 - Employment Rate Growth Index (2001=100)
 - Employment Rate Growth Index (2007=100)
 - Part-Time Employment (15 years old and over, working under 30 hours per week)
 - Part-Time Employment Incidence (% part-time employees over total employment)
 - Part-Time Employment Incidence Gender difference (female-male)
- **Regional Unemployment**
 - Unemployment (15 years old and over)
 - Unemployment Rate (% unemployment 15+ over labour force 15+)
 - Unemployment Rate Growth Index (2001=100)
 - Unemployment Rate Growth Index (2007=100)
 - Unemployment Rate Gender difference (female-male)
 - Youth Unemployment (15-24 years old)
 - Youth Unemployment Rate (% unemployment 15-24 over labour force 15-24)
 - Long Term Unemployment (15 years old and over, unemployed 12 months or more)
 - Long Term Unemployment Rate (% LT unemployment over labour force)
 - Long Term Unemployment Rate Growth Index (2001=100)
 - Long Term Unemployment Rate Growth Index (2007=100)
 - Long Term Unemployment Incidence (% LT unemployment over total unemployment)
 - Long Term Unemployment Incidence Growth Index (2001=100)
 - Long Term Unemployment Incidence Growth Index (2007=100)
- **Regional Employment by industry, at place of work (ISIC revision 4)**
 - *Data available in the Regional Economic dataset, no breakdown by gender*
 - Employment at place of work, total activities
 - Employment in agriculture, forestry and fishing (A)
 - Employment in industry, including energy (B_E)
 - Of which: Employment in manufacturing (C)
 - Employment in construction (F)
 - Employment in distributive trade, repairs, transport, accommodation, food services activities (G_I)
 - Employment in information and communication (J)
 - Employment in financial and insurance activities (K)
 - Employment in real estate activities (L)
 - Employment in prof., scientific, technical activities, admin., support service activities (M_N)
 - Employment in public admin., compulsory social security, education, human health (O_Q)
 - Employment in other services (R_U)
- **Regional Labour Force by Educational Attainment**
 - *Data available in the Regional Innovation and Education dataset, no breakdown by gender*

2.3 Labour Data specificities

a) Data sources

Data for labour force, employment and unemployment by place of residence are collected through the Labour Force Surveys (LFS) conducted by the National Statistical Offices, and provided to the OECD Secretariat through the Delegates participating to the Working Party on Territorial Indicators. Regarding EU countries, due to time lags that may occur in the data collection, some variables are complemented with the latest year available from Eurostat.

Data are collected at regional level, the Secretariat calculate aggregation of typology at country level.

b) Data definitions

- *The labour force* is the sum of the numbers of persons, 15 years and over, employed and unemployed.
- *The young labour force* is the sum of the numbers of persons, between 15 and 24 years old, employed and unemployed.
- *Total employment* is defined as the sum of civilian employment and members of the armed forces, 15 years and over, measured at the place of living.
- *The unemployed* comprise all persons above a specified age, who during the reference period were: a) without work, i.e. were not in paid employment or self-employment during the reference period, b) currently available for work, i.e. were available for paid employment or self-employment c) seeking work, i.e. had taken specific steps in a specified recent period to seek paid employment or self-employment.
- *Long term unemployment* is defined as the number of persons that have been unemployed for more than 1 year.
- *Youth unemployment* is defined as the number of unemployed persons aged between 15 and 24 years.
- *Part-time work* corresponds to usual working hours under 30 hours per week.

c) Break in series

- *Canada*: Non Official Grid (NOG) regions are economic regions which are geographical units generally composed of several census divisions within a province. While 72 regions are defined for the purposes of sampling, some areas are too small to enable production of independent estimates from the survey. These small regions are grouped with a neighbouring region with similar economic characteristics. In the case of Prince Edward Island, the province constitutes one economic region. For geographic descriptions of economic regions, refer to the Guide to the Labour Force Survey (Catalogue no. 71-543-GIE).
- *Chile*: for GVA, income and employment variables prior 2008, 'Los Rios' [CL14] is included in 'Los Lagos' [CL10], and 'Arica y Parinacota' [CL15] included in 'Tarapacá' [CL01].

d) Data consistency

- Differences with National figures can occur due to difference of the reference period used: National values present average population, whereas in the Regional Demography, it has been preferred to keep to original reference period submitted in order to better identify and track break in series (cf. in point 2.2, the different reference periods reported by country). However, for the Regional Economy dataset, an average population have been computed in order to calculate per capita economic measures.
- France data: regions for France do not include French Overseas Departments and Territories, whereas these regions are included in National values.

3. Annex - Data availability by country - selection of indicators

Regional Labour Force / Employment / Unemployment

ISO	Country	Data source	Coverage period		Notes
			TL2	TL3	
AUS	Australia	Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)	1990-2014	1998-2014	
AUT	Austria	Statistics Austria, Labour Force Survey	1999-2014	..	
BEL	Belgium	Eurostat - Labour Force (*)	1999-2014	1999-2013	
CAN	Canada	Statistics Canada. For TL2: CANSIM database Table 282-0002, Labour force survey estimates (LFS), by sex and detailed age group. For NOG: CANSIM database Table 282-0055 Labour force survey estimates (LFS), by provinces, territories and economic regions based on 2011 Census boundaries.	1980-2014	NOG:1996-2013	
CHL	Chile	INE, Chile. New National Employment Survey	1990-2014	..	
CZE	Czech republic	Czech Statistical Office CZSO, Labour Force Survey	1993-2013	1993-2013	
DNK	Denmark	Statistics Denmark, StatBank - dataset RASA1: Employed by region	2007-2014	2007-2013	Labour Force data refer to 16-64 years old. Employment at place of work.
EST	Estonia	Statistics Estonia. Statistical database - table ML4645: Labour status of population aged 15-74	1990-2014	1993-2013	1990-1996: employed persons aged 15-69; since 1997 employed persons aged 15-74.
FIN	Finland	Statistics Finland, Population Statistics, Employment	1990-2014	1990-2013	The reference period of the statistics is the last week of the year. (Labour force at 31.12. on reference year)
FRA	France	Eurostat - Labour Force (*)	1999-2013	1999-2009 [Discontinued]	
DEU	Germany	Federal Employment Agency, Spatial Monitoring System of the BBSR	1995-2013	1995-2013	
GRC	Greece	Hellenic Statistical Authority. EL.STAT - Labour Force Survey	1999-2014	1999-2014	
HUN	Hungary	HCSO, Hungarian Central Statistical Office. Labour Force Survey	1999-2013	1999-2013	As from December 2014 grossing up of LFS data is based on the adjusted population number of 2011 census. To ensure comparability previous estimates have been modified by the new weighting system dating back to 2006.
ISL	Iceland	Statistics Iceland, Labour market by sex, age, region and education 1991-2014	1991-2014	1991-2012	
IRL	Ireland	Eurostat - Labour Force	1999-2014 (EC)	..	
ISR	Israel	Central Bureau of Statistics Israel	1990-2013	1990-2013	
ITA	Italy	ISTAT, Labour Force Survey	1999-2014 (EC)	1999-2011 [Discontinued]	
JPN	Japan	Statistics Bureau, Labour Force Survey (Basic Tabulation , Regional results)	1990-2014	1997-2013	Data updated in 2015 : Tohoku region data which were missing due to the damage caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake.
KOR	Korea	Statistics Korea, Economically Active Population Survey & Local Area Labour Force Survey	2000-2014	2000-2014	
LUX	Luxembourg	Eurostat - Labour Force (*)	1990-2014	1990-2014	Labour Force Survey. Break in series in 2003 and 2009.
MEX	Mexico	INEGI. Encuesta Nacional de Ocupación y Empleo (ENOE)	1996,1998-2014	2000	
NLD	Netherlands	Eurostat - Labour Force (*)	1999-2014	1999-2014	Labour Force Survey. Break in series in 2003 and 2009.
NZL	New Zealand	Statistics New Zealand - Household Labour Force Survey.Year ended June. Persons aged 15 and over. Excludes non-residents, unpaid workers in family business, institutionalised residents, and non-civilians. Gisborne/Hawke's Bay combined (NZ016 included in NZ015), Tasman/Nelson/Marlborough/West Coast combined (NZ022 included in NZ021)	1986-2014	1990-2013	
NOR	Norway	Statistics Norway	2000-2014	2000-2012	
POL	Poland	Central Statistical Office of Poland, Labour Force Survey	1999-2014	1999-2009 [Discontinued]	
PRT	Portugal	Statistics Portugal (INE), Labour Force Survey.	1999-2014	..	Break in series in 2010: 2011 marks the beginning of a new Labour Force Survey (LFS) series data, for this reason, the results are not directly comparable with the results of the previous years.
SVK	Slovak Republic	Statistical Office of the SR, Labour Force Survey. Regional database Datacube	2000-2014	2000-2013	
SVN	Slovenia	.	2001-2014	2001-2011 [Discontinued]	
ESP	Spain	INE - Labour Force Survey	1999-2014	1999-2012,2014	Data can not separate between Ceuta (ES63) and Melilla (ES64) due to strong sampling errors in the LFS.
SWE	Sweden	Statistics Sweden, Labour Force Survey	1999-2014	1999-2014	
CHE	Switzerland	Federal Statistical Office of Switzerland (FSO): Census 2000 and Structural Labour Force Survey as from 2010. For the period 2001-2009: data from Eurostat.	2000;2010-2013	2000;2010-2013	
TUR	Turkey	TURKSTAT, Household Labour Force Survey Revised Results	2004-2013(B)2014	1990,95,2000	Household Labour Force Survey Revised Results: break in series in 2014 due change in methodology.
GBR	United Kingdom	Eurostat - Labour Force (*)	1999-2014	.	
USA	United States	U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics program.	1990-2014	1990-2012	The universe for labor force data in the U.S. is the civilian noninstitutional population ages 16 and older, (16 to 24 for youths).

ISO	Country	Data source	Coverage period		Notes
			TL2	TL3	
BRA	Brazil		-	-	
CHN	China	National Bureau of Statistics China	2008	-	
COL	Colombia	DANE. 2001-2005 and 2006 (January-June): Continuous Household Survey (ECH for its acronym in Spanish). 2006 (July-December) and 2007-2014: Great integrated household survey (GEIH for its acronym in Spanish).	2001-2014	-	
CRI	Costa Rica		2010-2014	.	
IND	India		-	-	
IDN	Indonesia		-	-	
LVA	Latvia	.	.	.	
LTU	Lithuania	.	.	.	
RUS	Russian Federation	.	1992-2014	-	
ZAF	South Africa	.	1992-2014	-	

.. : Regional data are not available.

(*) Eurostat tables accessed the 29th of May 2015: Employment by sex, age and NUTS 2 regions (lfst_r_lfe2emp) ; Economically active population by sex, age and NUTS 3 regions (lfst_r_lfp3pop) ; Employment by sex, age and NUTS 2 regions (lfst_r_lfe2emp);.