

Population mobility among regions

Inter-regional mobility within countries is an important component of the change in the demographic structure and in the labour force supply.

In the 28 observed OECD countries, around 18 million people changed their region of residence annually in the period 2009-2011. This movement corresponded to 4% of total population in Hungary, less than 0.5% in the Slovak Republic and to 2% of the total population in the OECD area, around half the value of the international migration rate to OECD countries (Figure 4.10).

Regional migration does not affect all regions of a country equally: Voreio Aigaio (Greece) and Tekirdag (Turkey) were the TL3 regions with the highest positive net migration rate, 2.6% and 1.7% of the regional population, respectively. Yozgat (Turkey) and Luton (United Kingdom) were among the TL3 regions with the highest negative net migration rates and the Northwest Territories (Canada) for the TL2 regions (Figure 4.11).

On aggregate, the net migration rate in the predominantly urban regions of 25 OECD countries was of 4.5 people per 10 000 population in 2011 versus -2 and -8 in intermediate and rural regions, respectively. However, net migration rates were negative in urban regions in 10 countries, among which are Estonia, New Zealand, United Kingdom and Norway. On average rural regions were net recipients of regional migration in the United Kingdom, Greece, Portugal, Belgium and the United States (Figure 4.12).

Distance to markets and services seems to be a strong predictor of out-mobility: with the exception of Greece, Italy and Switzerland, remote rural regions – i.e. regions which are far in driving distance from urban agglomerations – show higher net negative flows than predominantly rural regions.

The mobility of young adults, which represents one-fifth of the total internal mobility for the observed 15 countries, is, on average, a migration from rural to urban regions where higher education facilities and more diverse job opportuni-

ties can be found. In Japan, the United Kingdom, Germany, Turkey and Switzerland, more than 80% of young migrants move to predominantly urban regions. Rural regions in Japan will bear the largest share of the future decline in population because of the already high incidence of an elderly population reinforced by out-migration of young people. In contrast, the youth migration flows towards Helsinki (Finland) and Stockholm (Sweden), even if still positive, decreased by half in the years following the economic crisis. The urban regions in the south of Italy have been losing their young population (negative net flows), even if the volume of outflows decreased in the period 1999-2011.

Source

OECD (2013), *OECD Regional Statistics* (database), <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/region-data-en>.

See Annex B for data sources and country-related metadata.

Reference years and territorial level

1999-2011; TL3.

TL2 regions in Australia and Canada.

Data for France and Ireland are not available at regional level.

Chile and Mexico data are not included since data refer only to total flows over a period of five years. Korea is not included since annual flows are given by the gross sum of monthly movements.

Further information

Territorial grids and regional typology (Annex A).

Interactive graphs and maps: <http://rag.oecd.org>.

Figure notes

4.10-4.12: Available years: Canada, Iceland, Norway and Sweden 2010-12; Germany, Netherlands and United States 2008-10; Greece only 2001; New Zealand only 2006; United Kingdom 2006-08, data do not include Scotland and Northern Ireland.

4.11: Due to the recent natural disasters, the regions of Van (Turkey) and Fukushima (Japan) displayed the highest negative net flow of population.

4.13: Last available years: Denmark and Netherlands 2007; United Kingdom 2008; Norway 2009; Germany 2010. First available years: Poland 2000; Portugal 2001; Austria and Netherlands 2002; Norway 2004; Denmark 2006. Japan available only 2010. United Kingdom data do not include Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Greece and Iceland do not have net positive flows in predominantly urban regions.

Information on data for Israel: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888932315602>.

Definition

Data refer to yearly flows of population from one TL3 region to another TL3 region (regional migration). Outflows are represented as the number of persons who left the region the previous year to reside in another region of the country, while inflows are represented as the number of new residents in the region coming from another region of the country.

The net migration flow is defined as the difference between inflows and outflows in a region. A negative net migration flow means that more migrants left the region than entered it.

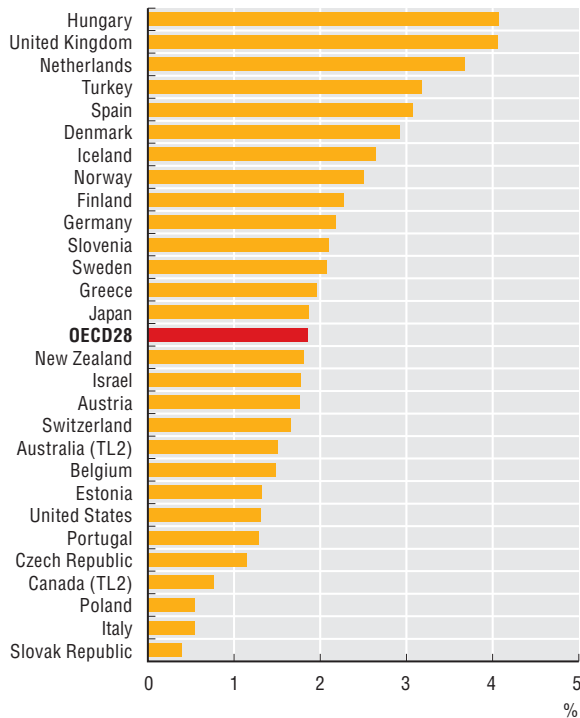
Young migrants are those aged between 18 and 24.

4. INCLUSION AND EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY SERVICES IN REGIONS

Population mobility among regions

4.10. Annual regional migration rate, average 2009-2011

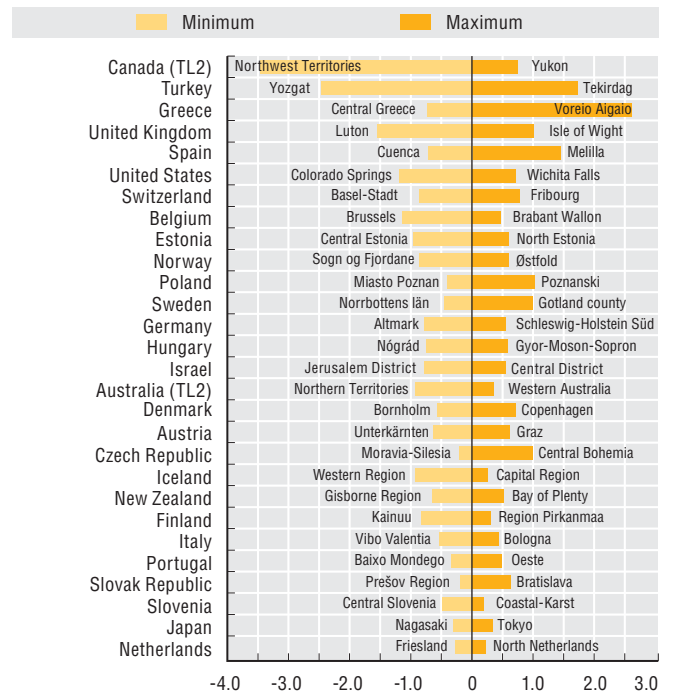
Flows across TL3 regions, % of total population



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888932914311>

4.11. Maximum and minimum annual regional migration rate, average 2009-2011

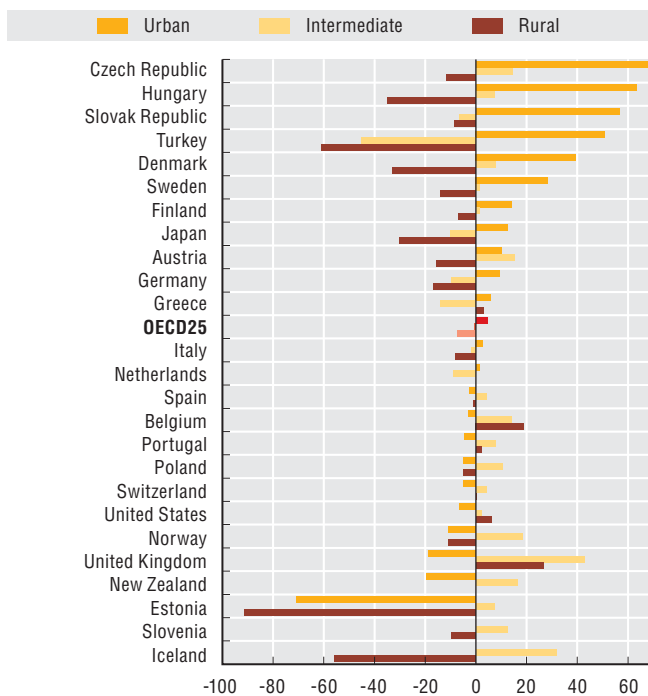
Net flows across TL3 regions, % of total population



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888932914330>

4.12. Annual regional migration rate per typology of region, average 2009-2011

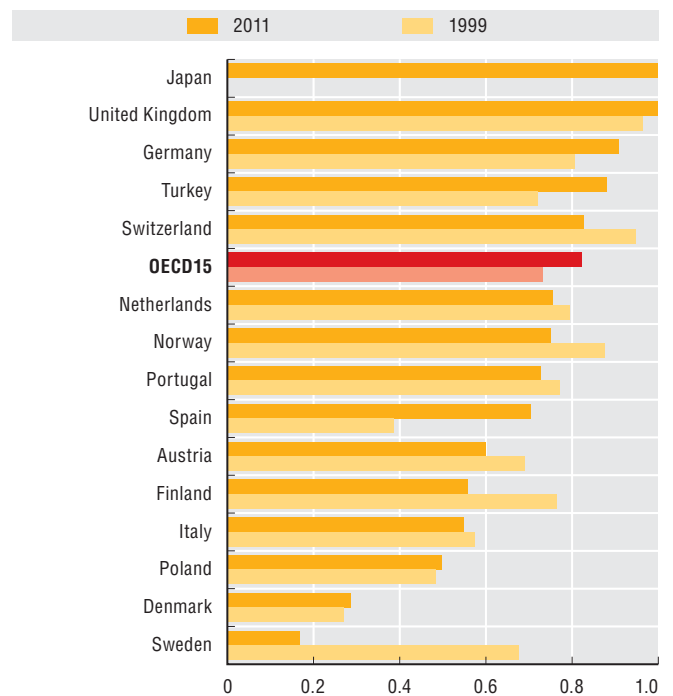
Net flows across TL3 regions per 10 000 population



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888932914349>

4.13. Young immigrants in urban regions as a % of young immigrants in the country, 1999 and 2011

Positive net flows of youth migration across TL3 regions



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888932914368>



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