

Regions and Cities at a Glance 2020 provides a comprehensive assessment of how regions and cities across the OECD are progressing in a number of aspects connected to economic development, health, well-being and net zero-carbon transition. In the light of the health crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the report analyses outcomes and drivers of social, economic and environmental resilience. Consult the full publication [here](#).

OECD REGIONS AND CITIES AT A GLANCE - COUNTRY NOTE

CZECH REPUBLIC

- A. Resilient regional societies
- B. Regional economic disparities and trends in productivity
- C. Well-being in regions
- D. Industrial transition in regions
- E. Transitioning to clean energy in regions
- F. Metropolitan trends in growth and sustainability

The data in this note reflect different subnational geographic levels in OECD countries:

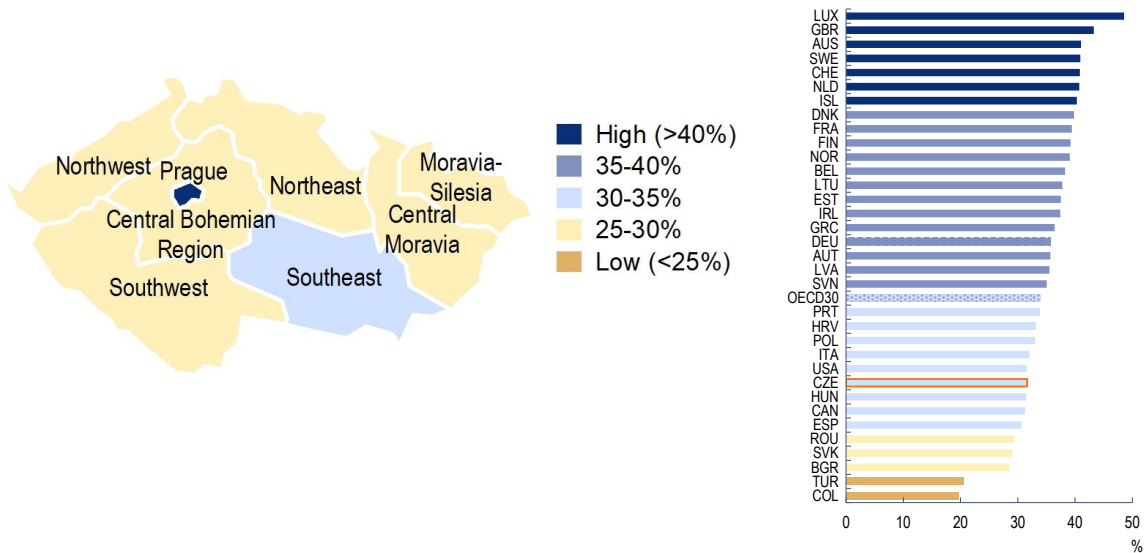
- **Regions** are classified on two territorial levels reflecting the administrative organisation of countries: large regions (TL2) and small regions (TL3). Small regions are classified according to their access to metropolitan areas (see <https://doi.org/10.1787/b902cc00-en>).
- **Functional urban areas** consists of cities – defined as densely populated local units with at least 50 000 inhabitants – and adjacent local units connected to the city (commuting zones) in terms of commuting flows (see <https://doi.org/10.1787/d58cb34d-en>). Metropolitan areas refer to functional urban areas above 250 000 inhabitants.

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Prague has the highest potential for remote working in the country

A1. Share of jobs amenable to remote working, 2018

Large regions (TL2, map)



The share of jobs that can be performed remotely varies greatly across Czech regions, ranging from close to 50% in Prague to 26% in Northwest and Central Moravia (Figure A1). Such differences depend on the task content of the occupations in the regions, which can be amenable to remote working to different extents. Occupations available in the Prague regions tend to be more amenable to remote working than in other areas of the country.

Individuals in Prague has the highest internet usage across large regions in the Czech Republic with 95% of people being connected to internet (Figure A2).

A2- Internet usage

○ % individuals who used the internet in the last three months, 2019

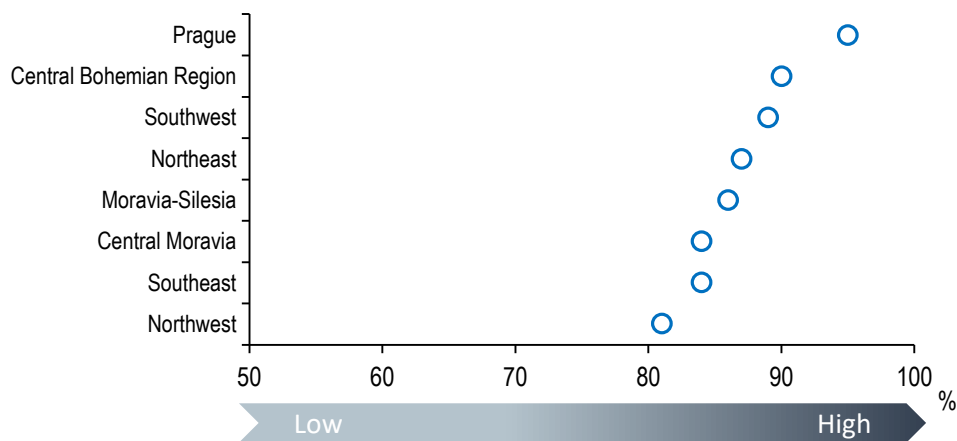
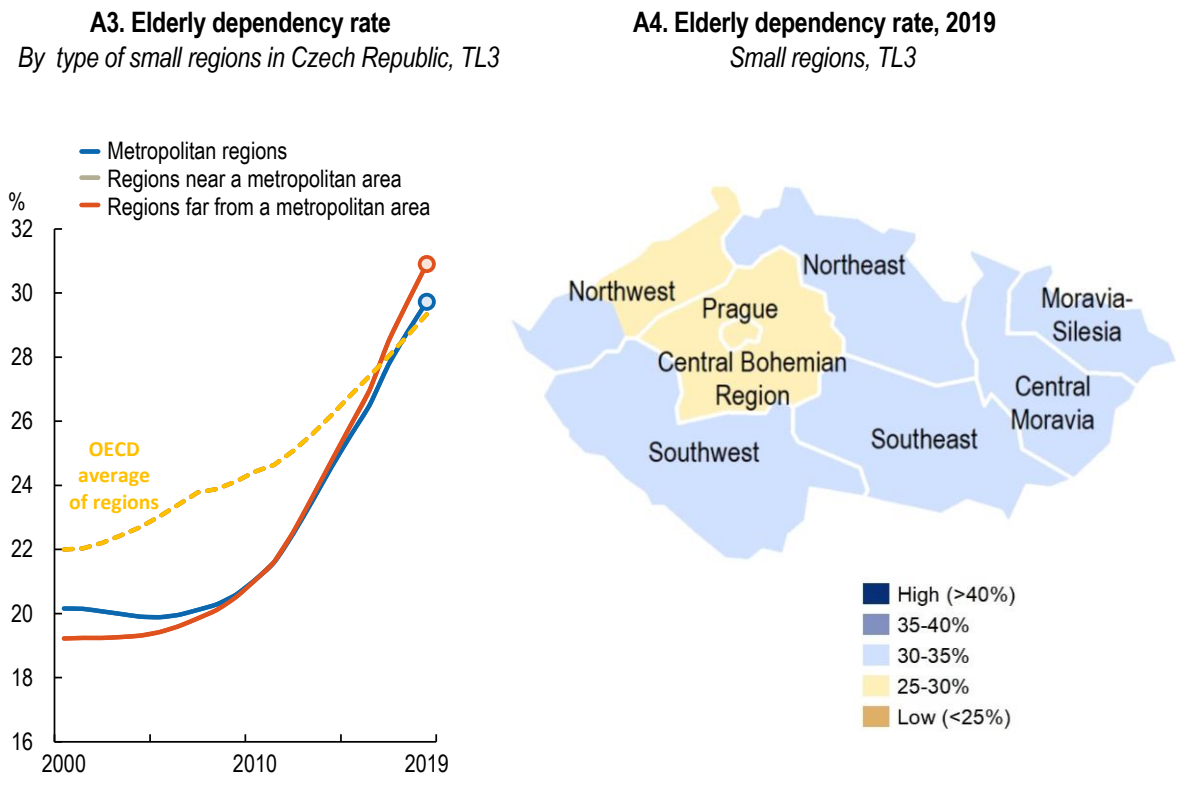


Figure [A1]: The lower percentage range (<25%) depicts the bottom quintile among 370 OECD and EU regions, the following ranges are based on increment of 5 percentage points. Further reading: OECD (2020), Capacity to remote working can affect lockdown costs differently across places, <http://www.oecd.org/coronavirus/policy-responses/capacity-for-remote-working-can-affect-lockdown-costs-differently-across-places-0e85740e/>

Ageing was lower than OECD average in Czech regions up to 2019

The elderly dependency rate, defined as the ratio between the elderly population and the working age (15-64 years) population is evenly low across Czech regions, with an elderly dependency rate ranging between 28% and 33% in Central Bohemia and Hradec Králové (Northeast region), respectively (Figure A4). The elderly dependency rate is also similar across the different types of regions (Figure A3), and exceeded the OECD average in 2019.



Czech regions have consistently more hospital beds per capita than OECD average

All regions in the Czech Republic have more hospital beds per capita than the OECD average, although this ratio has decreased in all regions since 2000 (Figure A5). Regional disparities in hospital beds are above OECD average, with Central Bohemian Region having the lowest number of hospital beds per capita, almost three beds less per 1 000 inhabitants than in the close by region of Prague in 2018.

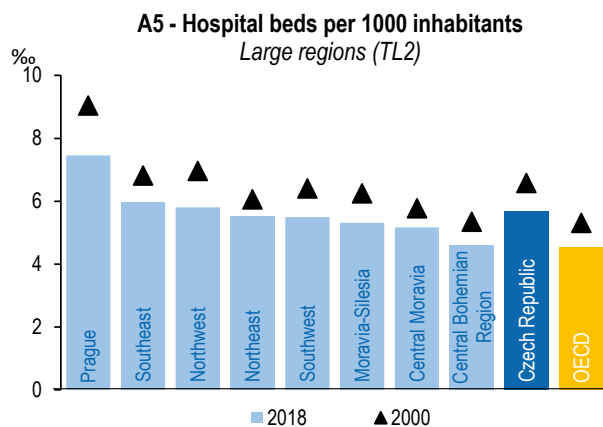


Figure notes. [A3]: OECD (2019), Classification of small (TL3) regions based on metropolitan population, low density and remoteness <https://doi.org/10.1787/b902cc00-en>. Two-year moving averages. [A4]: Small TL3 regions contained in large TL2 regions. TL3 regions in Czech Republic are composed by 14 Kraje.



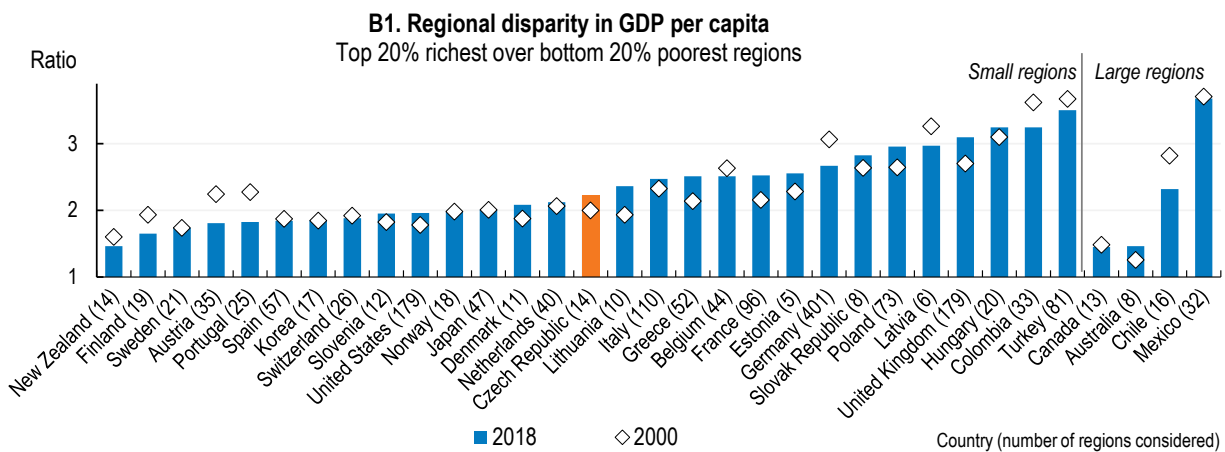
B. Regional economic disparities and trends in productivity

Fast economic growth in the region of Prague drove an increase of regional economic disparities in recent years

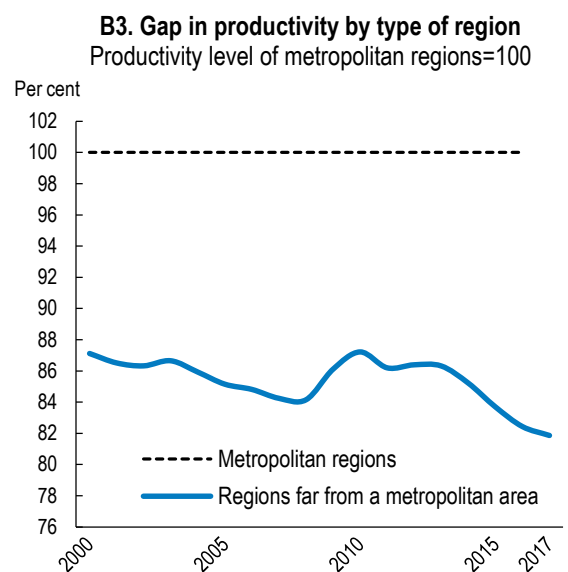
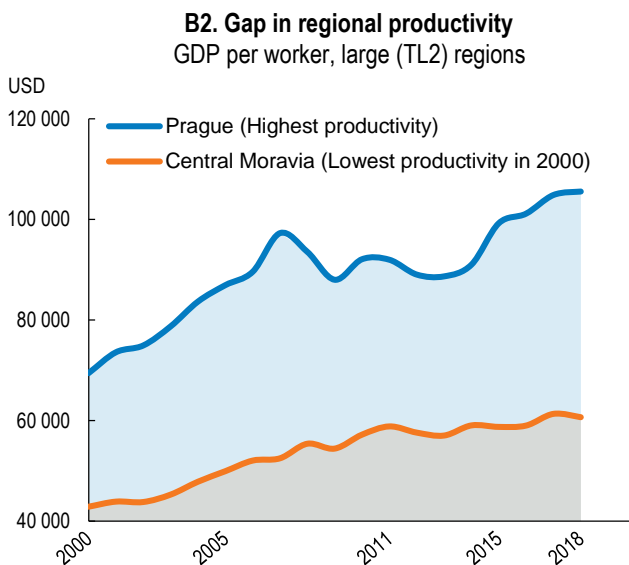
The regional gap in GDP per capita increased in the Czech Republic over the last eighteen years. Over the period 2000-18, GDP per capita in Prague increased by 68%, a rate twice as high as in Northwest, the poorest region of Czech Republic in 2018. Nevertheless, GDP per capita in Moravia-Silesia, the poorest Czech region in 2000, has grown at the same pace than Prague over the period (Figure B1).

During the period 2000-18, the productivity gap between Northwest and Prague, the region with the lowest and highest productivity in the Czech Republic, respectively, has further increased. (Figure B2).

After a period of relative stagnation of their productivity, regions far from a metropolitan area of at least 250 000 inhabitants have increased their gap to metropolitan regions since 2010 (Figure B3).

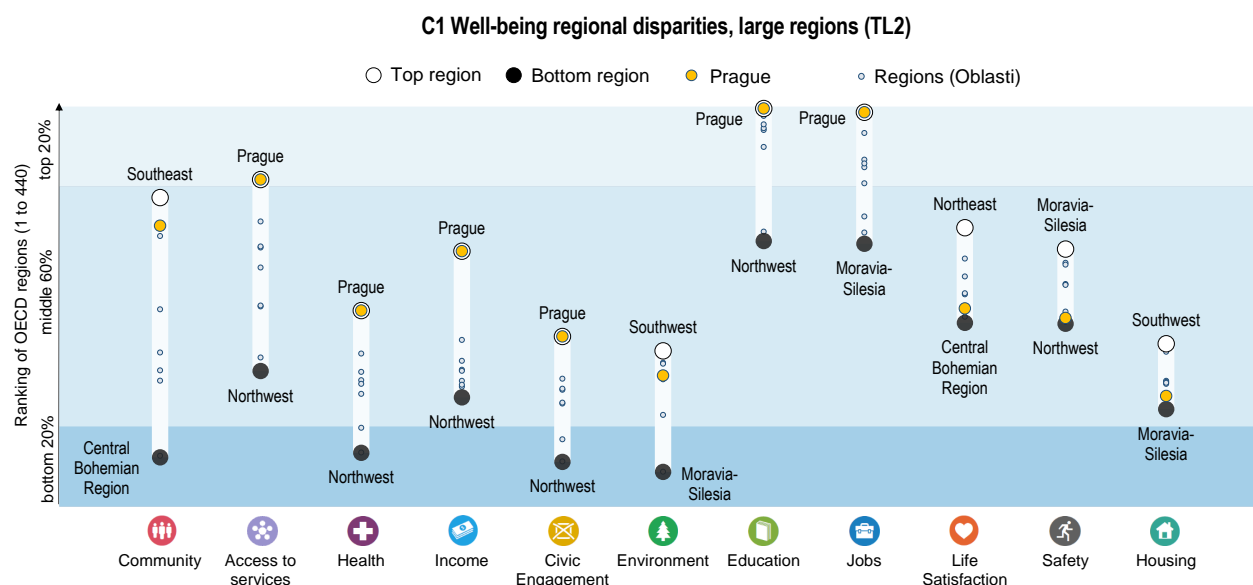


Note: A ratio with a value equal to 2 means that the GDP per capita of the richest regions accounting for 20% of the national population is twice as high as the GDP of the poorest regions accounting for 20% of the national population.



C. Well-being in regions

In the Czech Republic, regional disparities in people's well-being are largest in the dimensions of community and access to services



Note: Relative ranking of the regions with the best and worst outcomes in the 11 well-being dimensions, with respect to all 440 OECD regions. The eleven dimensions are ordered by decreasing regional disparities in the country. Each well-being dimension is measured by the indicators in the table below.

While Czech regions rank in the bottom 40% of OECD regions in the dimension of environment, most Czech regions – except for Northwest and Moravia-Silesia – rank among the top 20% of the OECD regions in educational attainment, with Prague being in the top 1%. In contrast, the country shows large regional disparities in community and access to services (Figure C1).

The top performing Czech regions fare better than the top 20% of OECD regions in terms of employment and unemployment rates, and in the share of population with at least upper secondary education (Figure C2).

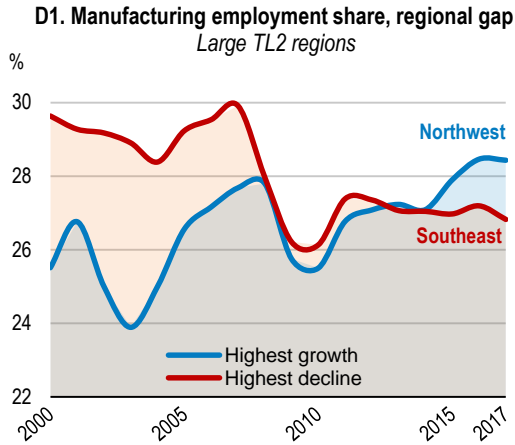
C2. How do the top and bottom regions fare on the well-being indicators?

	Country Average	OECD Top 20% regions	Czech regions	
			Top 20%	Bottom 20%
Jobs				
Employment rate 15 to 64 years old (%), 2019	75.1	76.0	78.5	72.5
Unemployment rate 15 to 64 years old (%), 2019	2.1	3.3	1.4	3.4
Civic engagement				
Voters in last national election (%), 2019 or latest year	60.8	84.2	65.6	54.0
Community				
Perceived social network support (%), 2014-18	89.6	94.1	93.5	84.3
Education				
Population with at least upper secondary education, 25-64 year-olds (%), 2019	93.8	90.3	96.5	89.5
Access to services				
Households with broadband access (%), 3-year average 2017-19	85.3	91.3	90.0	81.1
Life Satisfaction				
Life satisfaction (scale from 0 to 10), 2014-18	6.7	7.3	7.0	6.5
Income				
Disposable income per capita (in USD PPP), 2018	16 494	26 617	20 023	14 804
Safety				
Homicide Rate (per 100 000 people), 2016-18	1.3	0.7	1.0	1.6
Environment				
Level of air pollution in PM2.5 (µg/m³), 2019	19.8	7.0	14.4	23.0
Housing				
Rooms per person, 2018	1.4	2.3	1.6	1.4
Health				
Life Expectancy at birth (years), 2018	79.0	82.6	80.4	77.6
Age adjusted mortality rate (per 1 000 people), 2018	9.3	6.6	8.6	10.3

Note: OECD regions refer to the first administrative tier of subnational government (large regions, Territorial Level 2); Czech Republic is composed of eight large regions. Visualisation: <https://www.oecdregionalwellbeing.org>.



Differently from the rest of the country, manufacturing employment has grown in Northeast and Northwest regions between 2000 and 2017



Between 2000 and 2017, six out of eight large regions in Czech Republic experienced a decline in the share of manufacturing employment. With a reduction of 2.8 percentage points in the share of employment in manufacturing, the Southeast region, the second most populous region, recorded the largest decrease (Figure D1).

Manufacturing gross value-added increased in all regions between 2000 and 2017, except Prague and Southeast. Both employment and gross value added in manufacturing increased in the same period only in the Northeast and Northwest regions (Figure D2).

D2. Manufacturing trends, 2000-17



Figure [D.2]: Regions are ordered by regional employment as a share of national employment. Colour of the bubbles represents the evolution of the share over the period 2000-17 in percentage points: red: below -2 pp; orange: between -2 pp and -1 pp; yellow: between -1 pp and 0; light blue: between 0 and +1 pp; medium blue: between +1 pp and +2 pp; dark blue: above +2 pp over the period.



E. Transitioning to clean energy in regions

Most of the electricity generation through renewable sources happens in Central Moravia

Most Czech regions still rely on the use of coal in electricity production, with the exception of the Southwest and Southeast regions – which together account for 40% of the country's electricity in 2017. In contrast, the Northwest region – the largest producer of electricity in the country, produced 86% of its electricity using coal. Central Moravia generated 82% of its electricity from renewable sources (Figure E1).

E1. Transition to renewable energy, 2017

	Total electricity generation (in GWh per year)	Regional share of renewables in electricity generation (%)	Regional share of coal in electricity generation (%)	Greenhouse gas emissions from electricity generated (in Ktons of CO ₂ eq.)	
Northwest	24 565	1%	86%		Nor.
Southwest	16 279	4%	7%		Sou.
Southeast	16 123	8%	6%		Sou.
Central Bohemian Region	8 816	11%	85%		Cen.
Northeast	7 424	5%	95%		Nor.
Moravia-Silesia	5 193	1%	99%		Mor.
Central Moravia	1 911	82%	18%		Cen.
Prague	867	0%	100%		Pra.

Carbon efficiency in the production of electricity is very unequal across Czech regions. While Northwest emits 770 tons of CO₂ per gigawatt hour of electricity produced, Southeast releases 60 tons of CO₂ per gigawatt hour. Relative to total national levels, although Northwest accounts for 30% of electricity produced in the country, it accounts for almost half the share of CO₂ emissions related to electricity generation (E2).

E2. Contribution to total CO₂ emissions from electricity production, 2017

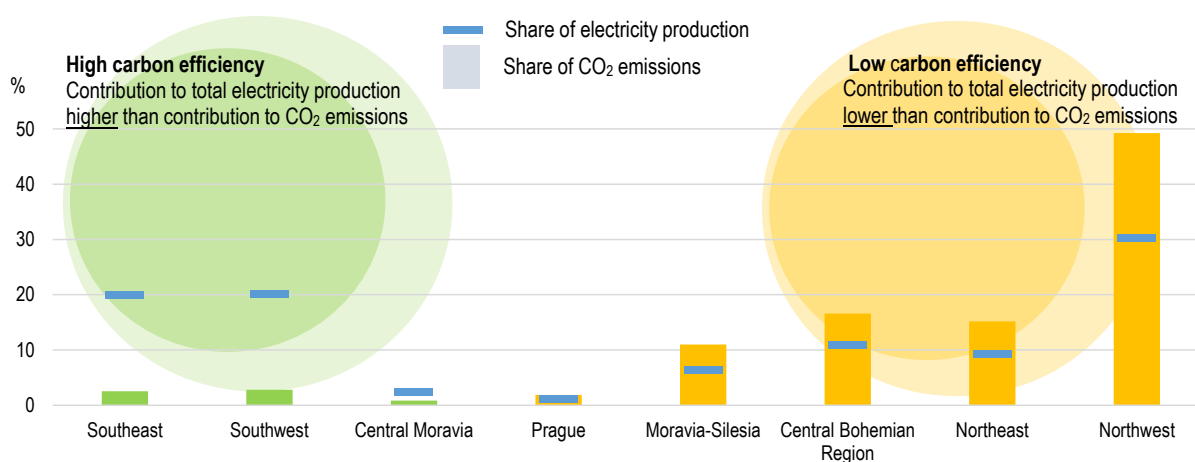


Figure notes: Regions are arranged in Figure E1 by total generation, and in Figure E2 according to gap between share of electricity generation and share of CO₂ emissions (most positive to most negative). These estimates refer to electricity production from the power plants connected to the national power grid, as registered in the Power Plants Database. As a result, small electricity generation facilities disconnected from the national power grid might not be captured. Only 93% of the total country's electricity production is covered. Electricity production from Biomass, Oil, Waste, Wind power plants is missing. See [here](#) for more details.

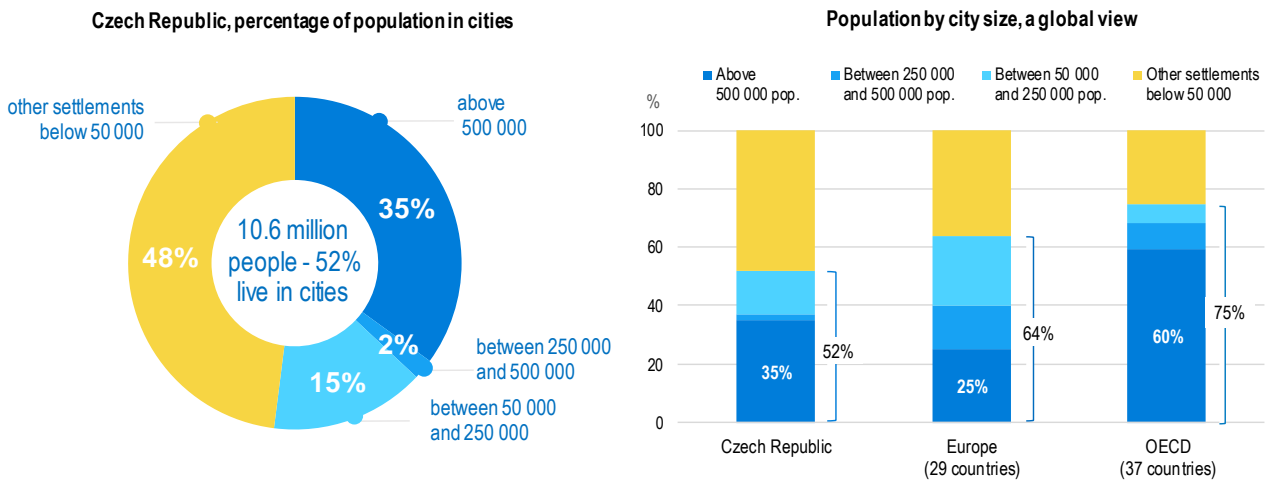


F. Metropolitan trends in growth and sustainability

Metropolitan areas of at least half a million people account 35% of the national population, 10-percentage points more than in Europe, but below OECD average.

In Czech Republic, 52% of the population lives in cities of more than 50 000 inhabitants and their respective commuting areas (functional urban areas, FUAs). The share of the population in FUAs with more than 500 000 people is 35%, lower than the OECD average of 60% (Figure F1).

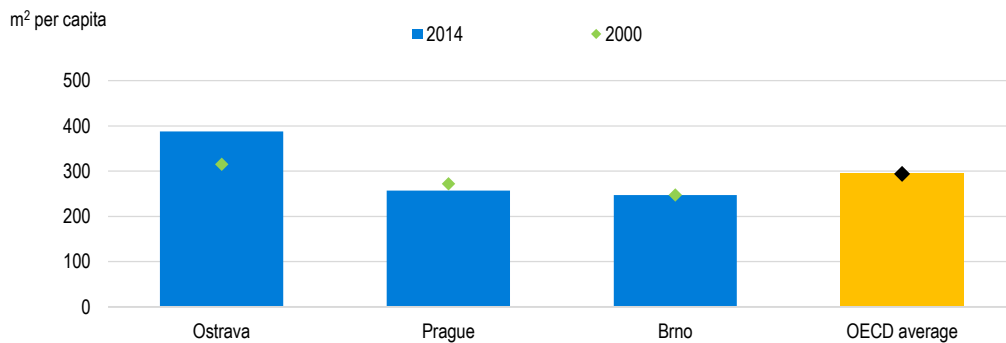
F1. Distribution of population in cities by city size
Functional urban areas, 2018



Built-up area in Ostrava functional urban area has increased whereas its population decreased since 2000

Built-up area per capita levels in Czech metropolitan areas is in line with the OECD metropolitan average. The amount of built-up area per capita has increased significantly in Ostrava since 2000, mainly due to the increased in built-up area combined with a decline in population in the same period (Figure F2).

F2. Built-up area per capita
Functional urban areas with more than 500 000 residents



Source: OECD Metropolitan Database. Number of metropolitan areas with a population of over 500 000: three in Czech Republic compared to 349 in the OECD.

GDP per capita in Czech metropolitan areas have grown faster than neighbouring metropolitan areas since 2000

GDP per capita in the three metropolitan areas with at least 500 000 inhabitants in the Czech Republic grew faster than metropolitan areas in Austria, Slovak Republic and Hungary over the period 2000-18 (Figure F3).

