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

TURKEY

A. Resilient regional societies

B. Regional economic disparities and trends in productivity

C. Well-being in regions

D. Transitioning to clean energy in regions

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).

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A. Resilient regional societies

Istanbul, Izmir and Ankara have the highest potential for remote working

A1. Share of jobs amenable to remote working, 2018
Large regions (TL2, map)
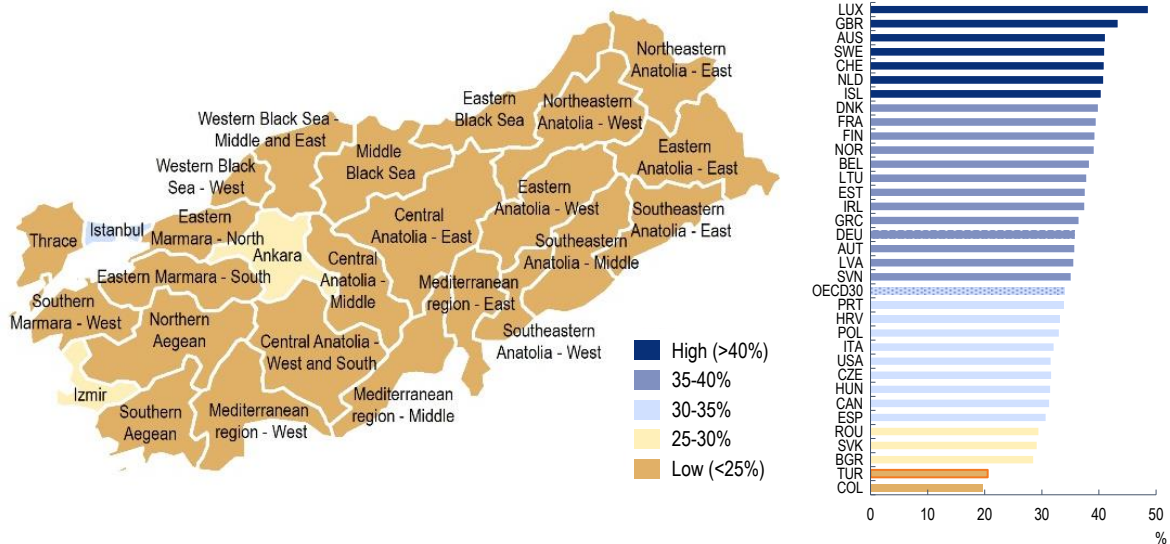
The share of jobs that can be performed remotely varies greatly across Turkish regions, ranging from 30% in Istanbul to less than 15% in Eastern Anatolia – East and Southeastern Anatolia – Middle. (Figure A1). Such differences depend on the task content of the occupations in the regions, which can be amenable to remote working to different extents.

Central Anatolia - East has the highest availability of fiber optic across large regions in Turkey with 30% of the buildings connected to the fiber network (Figure A2).

A2- Internet infrastructure
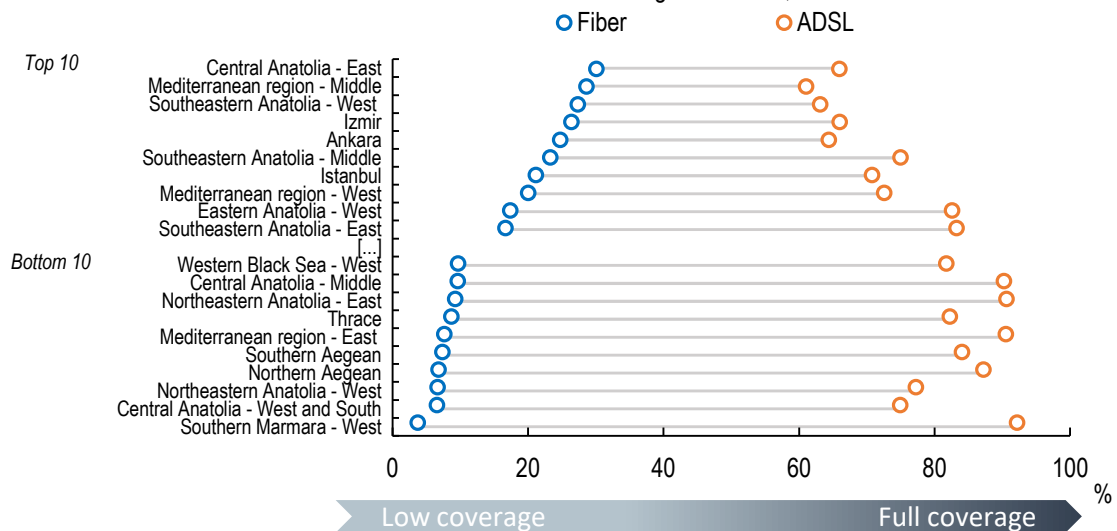Share of buildings connected, 2018

Ageing challenges eastern regions and regions far from metropolitan areas more strongly

The elderly dependency rates in Turkish regions are among the lowest in compared to OECD regions. The Eastern Anatolia – East region was ranking among the lowest elderly dependency rate of OECD regions with less than seven elderly for every hundred persons in their working-age in 2019, whereas the Western Black Sea - Middle and East region has the highest dependency rate (27%) in Turkey, three-percentage points below the OECD average (Figure A3).

A3. Elderly dependency rate, 2019
Large regions (TL2)
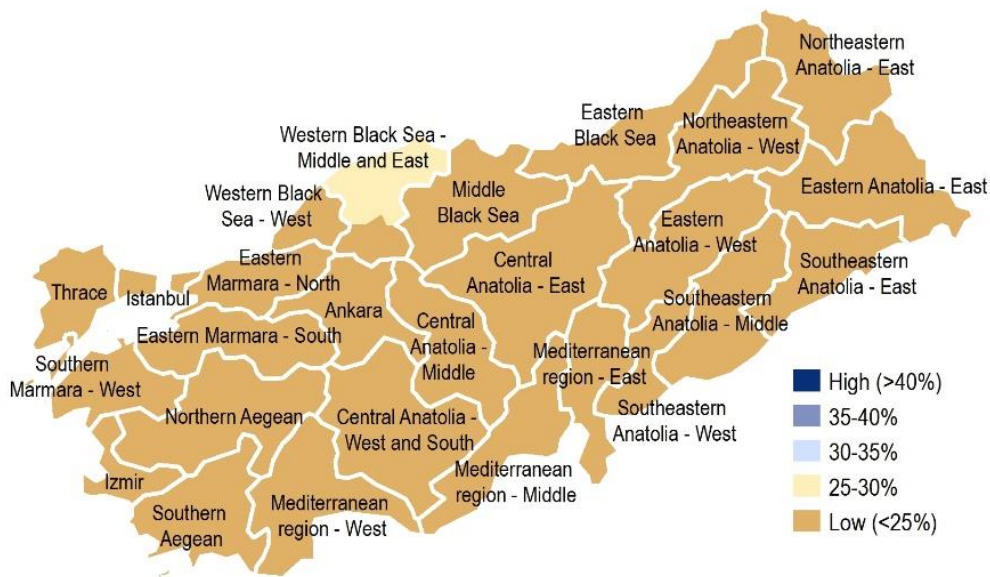
Hospital beds per capita have increased in all large regions of Turkey since 2000

All regions in Turkey have significantly less hospital beds per capita than the OECD average. However, the availability of hospital beds per capita has increased in all regions since 2000 (Figure A4). Regional disparities in hospital beds are below the OECD average, with Northeastern Anatolia – East having the lowest number of hospital beds per 1 000 inhabitants in 2017, less than half the level in Northeastern Anatolia - West.

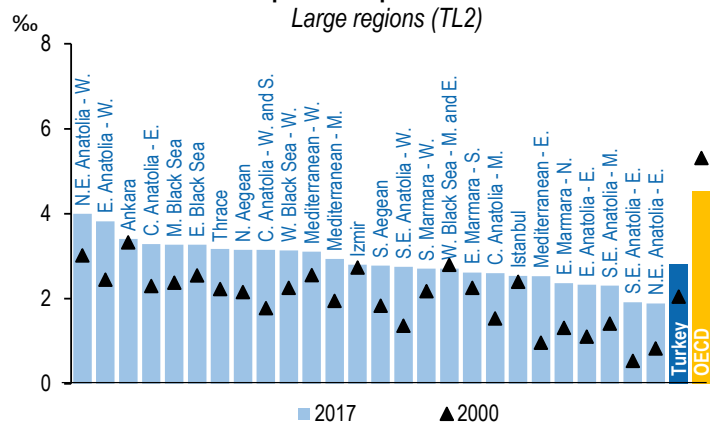**A4 - Hospital beds per 1000 inhabitants**
Large regions (TL2)

Figure [A4]: small TL3 regions in Turkey are composed by 81 Provinces.

B. Regional economic disparities and trends in productivity

Regional economic gaps have declined since 2000, partially due to higher growth of the poorest regions

Regional disparities in terms of GDP per capita have slightly decreased in Turkey since 2004. With a growth of GDP per capita of 4.5% per year over the period 2004-18, Eastern Anatolia – East has been catching up with Istanbul, the richest Turkish region in terms of GDP per capita, which grew by 3.7% per year over the same period. Turkey has the highest regional disparities among 29 OECD countries with comparable data, when the richest and poorest regions representing at least 20% of the population are taken into account (Figure B1). The richest regions have a GDP per capita more than three times the GDP per capita in the poorest regions.

B1. Regional disparity in GDP per capita
Top 20% richest over bottom 20% poorest regions
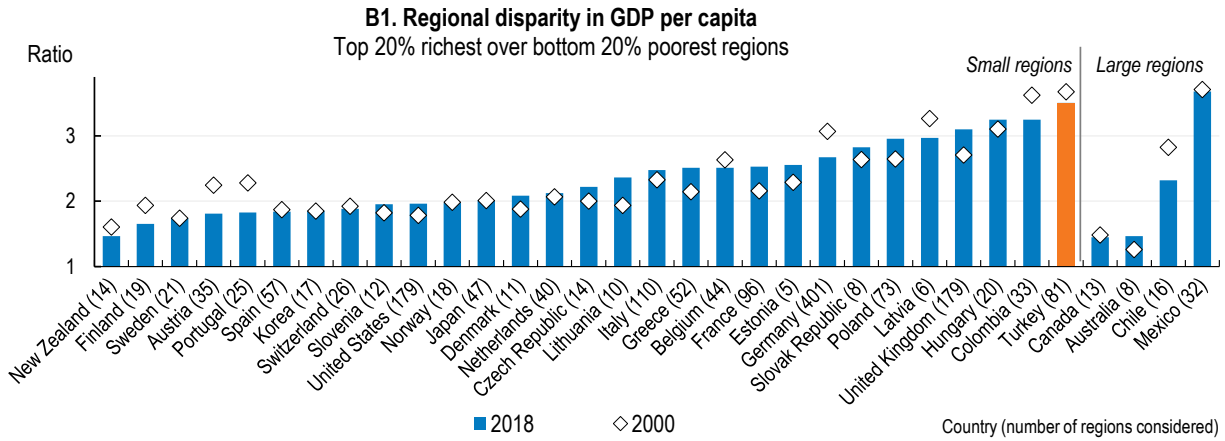
Note: A ratio with a value equal to 2 means that the GDP of the most developed regions accounting for 20% of the national population is twice as high as the GDP of the poorest regions accounting for 20% of the national population.

C. Well-being in regions

Turkey faces large regional disparities in 6 out of 11 well-being dimensions, with the largest disparities in the dimensions of community and access to services

C1 Well-being regional gap
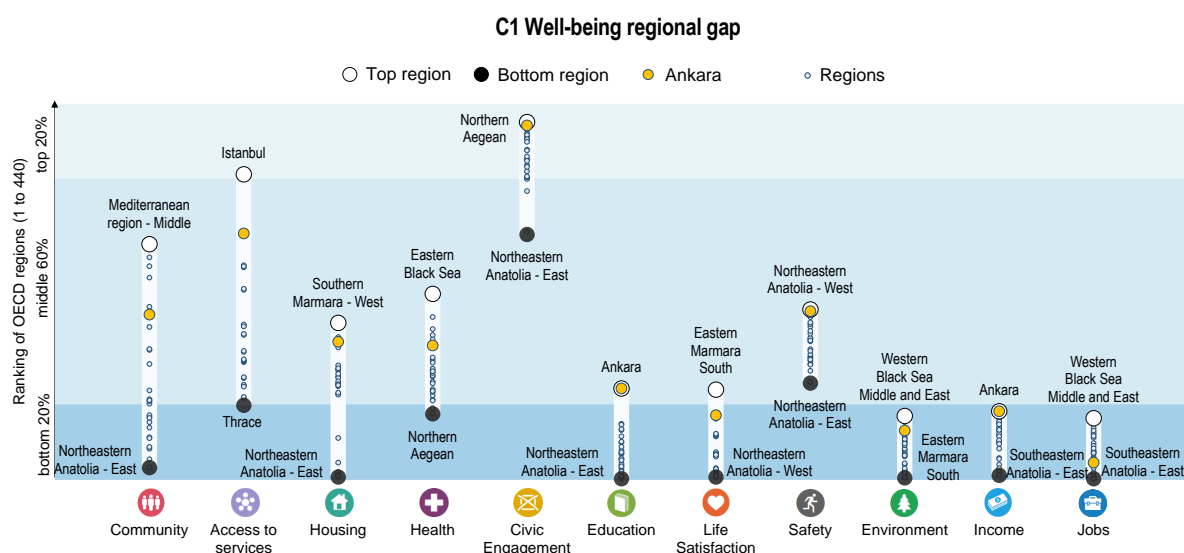
Note: Relative ranking of the regions with the best and worst outcomes in the 11 well-being dimensions, with respect to all 440 OECD regions. The eleven dimensions are ordered by decreasing regional disparities in the country. Each well-being dimension is measured by the indicators in the table below.

While the majority of Turkish regions are lagging behind other OECD regions in six well-being dimensions – including environment, income and jobs - most Turkish regions are among the top 20% of OECD regions in civic engagement. In contrast, outcomes across regions are very unequal in the dimension of access to services. While Istanbul ranks in the top 20% of OECD regions in access to broadband, Thrace ranks in the bottom 20% of OECD regions (Figure C1).

The average of the top performing Turkish regions is below the average of the top 20% of OECD regions in the all well-being indicators apart from voter turnout (Figure C2).

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

	Country Average	OECD Top 20% regions	Turkish regions	
			Top 20%	Bottom 20%
Community				
Perceived social network support (%), 2014-18	85.5	94.1	90.7	80.1
Access to services				
Households with broadband access (%), 2019	82.7	91.3	90.9	75.9
Housing				
Rooms per person, 2018	1.0	2.3	1.5	0.9
Health				
Life Expectancy at birth (years), 2018	78.6	82.6	79.7	78.1
Age adjusted mortality rate (per 1 000 people), 2018	9.3	6.6	8.6	10.0
Civic engagement				
Voters in last national election (%), 2019 or latest year	87.6	84.2	89.5	83.7
Education				
Population with at least upper secondary education, 25-64 year-olds (%), 2019	38.9	90.3	47.6	26.0
Life Satisfaction				
Life satisfaction (scale from 0 to 10), 2014-18	5.5	7.3	5.8	5.0
Safety				
Homicide Rate (per 100 000 people), 2016-18	2.3	0.7	1.8	3.2
Environment				
Level of air pollution in PM 2.5 (µg/m³), 2019	21.2	7.0	23.3	31.9
Income				
Disposable income per capita (in USD PPP), 2018	6 512	26 617	8 798	3 539
Jobs				
Employment rate 15 to 64 years old (%), 2019	50.3	76.0	56.4	40.3
Unemployment rate 15 to 64 years old (%), 2019	14.0	3.3	9.2	21.7

Note: OECD regions refer to the first administrative tier of subnational government (large regions, Territorial Level 2); Turkey is composed of 26 large regions. Visualisation: https://www.oecdregionalwellbeing.org

D. Transitioning to clean energy in regions

Electricity generation in Turkey still relies a lot on coal, with the biggest electricity producers Southern Marmara-West and Mediterranean region-East mainly using coal

The two largest producers of electricity in Turkey highly rely on coal for electricity generation and have a limited use of renewable sources. Southern Marmara-West and Mediterranean region-East generate more than half of their electricity using coal and only 28% or less using renewables. In contrast, Middle Black Sea – the third largest producer of electricity in the country – is making progress towards clean electricity generation. In 2017, Middle Black Sea produced 44% of its electricity using renewable sources and none using coal (Figure D1).

D1. Transition to renewable energy, 2017

	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 CO2 eq.)	
Southern Marmara - West	39 521	19%	56%	23 081	Sou.
Mediterranean region - East	38 276	28%	57%	21 005	Med.
Middle Black Sea	19 834	44%	0%	5 732	Mid.
Southern Aegean	19 697	28%	47%	10 194	Sou.
Eastern Marmara - South	16 533	5%	12%	8 376	Eas.
Eastern Marmara - North	16 527	0%	9%	8 589	Eas.
Istanbul	14 586	0%	0%	7 295	Ist.
Northern Aegean	13 924	13%	87%	9 949	Nor.
Western Black Sea - West	13 509	0%	100%	11 078	Wes.
Southeastern Anatolia - Middle	13 340	93%	0%	765	Sou.
Thrace	12 614	18%	0%	5 083	Thr.
Izmir	12 125	5%	16%	6 291	Izm.
Southeastern Anatolia - West	10 904	100%	0%	262	Sou.
Ankara	9 624	12%	35%	5 297	Ank.
Mediterranean region - West	9 536	24%	0%	3 614	Med.
Mediterranean region - Middle	7 372	10%	90%	5 479	Med.
Eastern Anatolia - West	6 310	100%	0%	151	Eas.
Central Anatolia - Middle	5 440	35%	0%	1 808	Cen.
Southeastern Anatolia - East	5 048	100%	0%	121	Sou.
Eastern Black Sea	4 636	98%	0%	156	Eas.
Central Anatolia - East	3 478	15%	85%	2 437	Cen.
Central Anatolia - West and South	1 471	100%	0%	52	Cen.

Carbon efficiency in the production of electricity is very unequal across Turkish regions. While Middle Black Sea emits around 290 tons of CO_2 per gigawatt hour of electricity produced, Southern Marmara-West releases close to 580 tons of CO_2 per gigawatt hour. Relative to total national levels, Southern Marmara-West produces only 13% of electricity in the country but emits 17% of total CO_2 emissions related to electricity generation (D2).

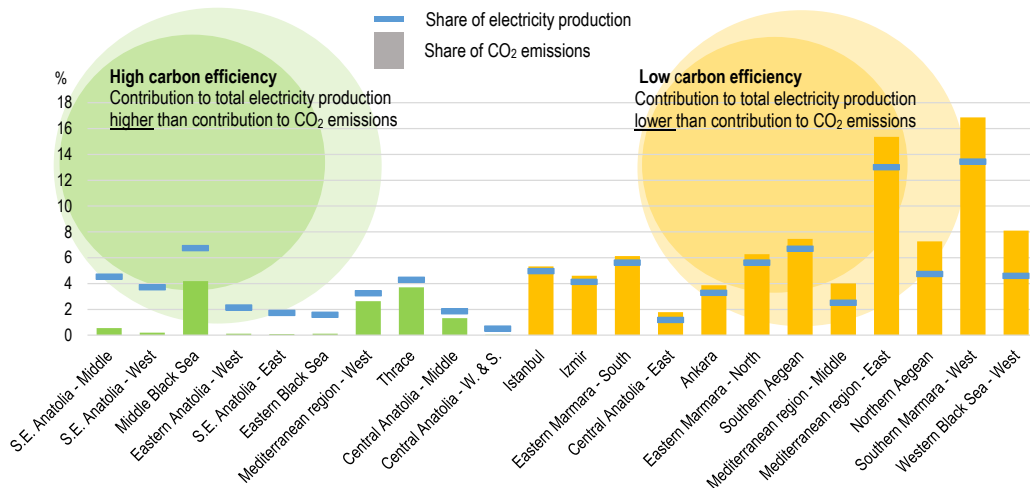**D2. Contribution to total CO$_2$ emissions from electricity production, 2017**

Figure notes: Regions are arranged in Figure D1 by total generation, and in Figure D2 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. Renewable energy sources include hydropower, geothermal power, biomass, wind, solar, wave and tidal and waste. See here for more details.