



CHILE – 2023

Key findings

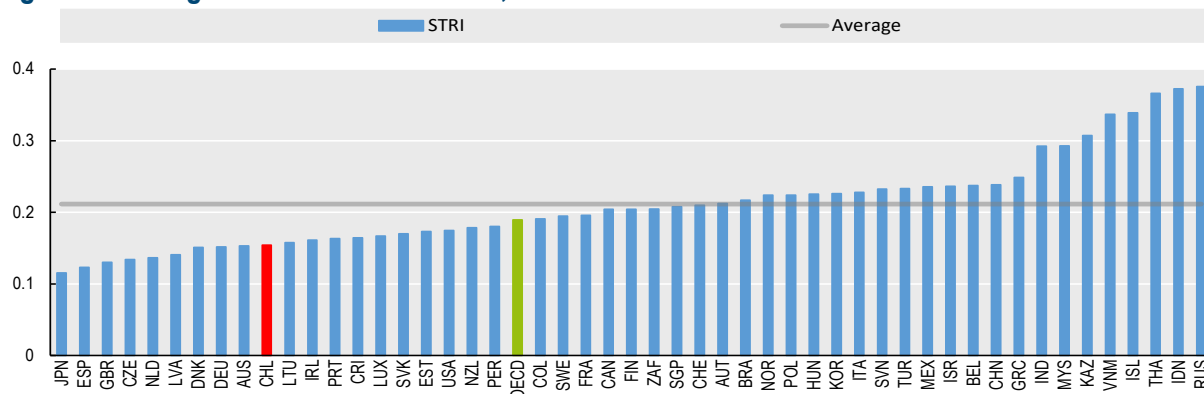
- The 2023 STRI of Chile is below the OECD average and relatively low compared to all countries in the STRI sample. The index has remained the same compared to 2022.
- Chile's regulatory environment for services has been relatively stable for the past years.
- Accounting services is the most open sector in Chile while courier services are the most restricted, relative to the sectoral average.

Recommendation

- Trade in services strengthens resilience across supply chains, facilitating environmental sustainability and promoting greater inclusiveness. To ensure the benefits of open markets and a rules-based international trading system, national and multilateral action is needed to lower barriers and reduce trade costs, promote greater regulatory interoperability, and facilitate the digital transformation of economies.

The 2023 STRI of Chile is below the OECD average, and relatively low compared to other countries in the STRI sample (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Average STRI across countries, 2023ⁱ



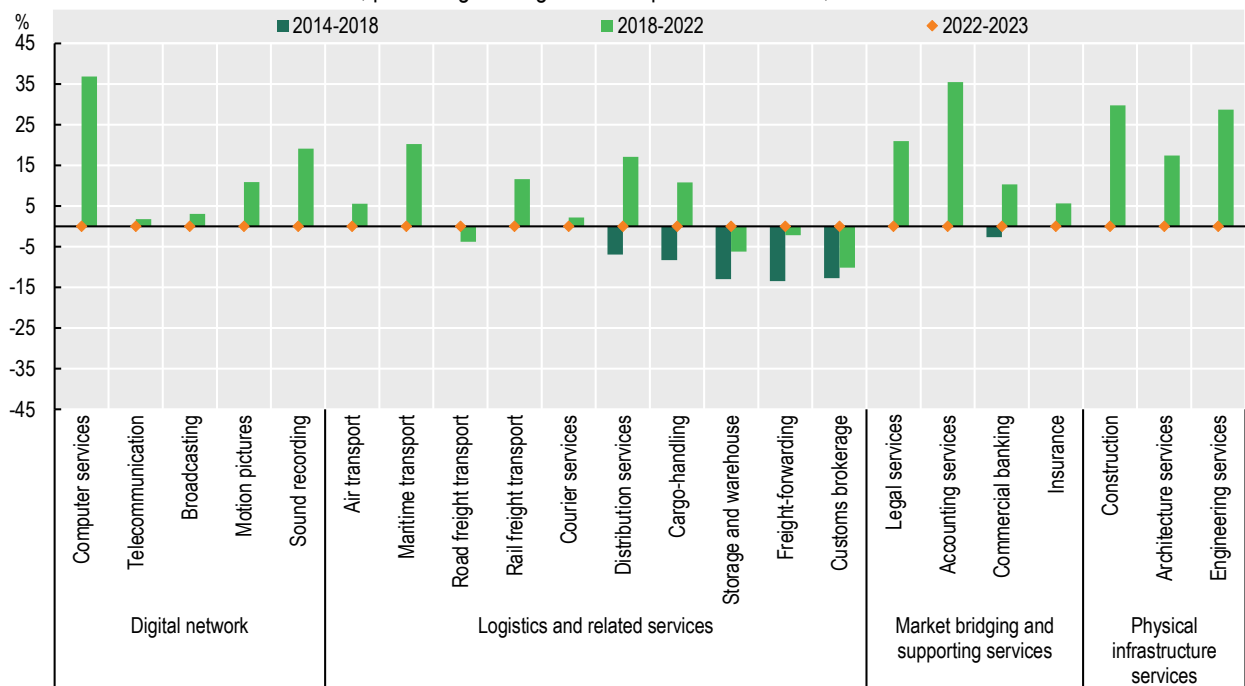
OECD (2023). STRI and TiVA databases.

The 2023 STRI is partially explained by the relatively open general regulatory environment for services trade. Remaining economy-wide barriers include limitations on acquisition of land or real estate by foreigners along the coast and frontier areas. There is also no general obligation to publish laws and regulations before they enter into force or to open draft regulations for public comment, although specific mechanisms for civil society consultation exist in some sectors. The fact that Chile is one of the few countries in the STRI sample with no foreign equity restrictions in air transport services has also contributed to the comparatively low overall index.

Since 2014, Chile has undertaken trade liberalisation in specific sectors, such as distribution and logistics services (Figure 2). However, the overall STRI effect of the reforms has been counterbalanced by the new Law of Migration and Foreigners, adopted in 2022 and allowing the Council of Migration Policy to limit the number of migration permits that can be granted. In 2023, Chile passed several reforms, including an alignment with international standards, such as UNECE Model Regulation on Transport of Dangerous Goods, and an increase of the value for goods benefiting from a *de minimis* regime. These changes do not, however, have an impact on the 2023 index for Chile.

Figure 2. Evolution of STRI indices by sector in Chile

Services Trade Restrictiveness Index, percentage change over the period 2014-2018, 2018-2022 and 2022-2023



OECD (2023). STRI database.

Figure 3 ranks Chile's sectors relative to the respective sector's world average. Accounting services, legal services, air transport and logistics storage are the sectors with the relatively lowest scores. Conversely, logistics customs brokerage, telecommunications, broadcasting and courier services are the sectors with the relatively highest score.

Figure 3. Sectoral breakdown - The least and most restricted sectors in Chile compared to world average



Note: Selection was made based on how far the sectors' score were from the world average score, as a percentage difference

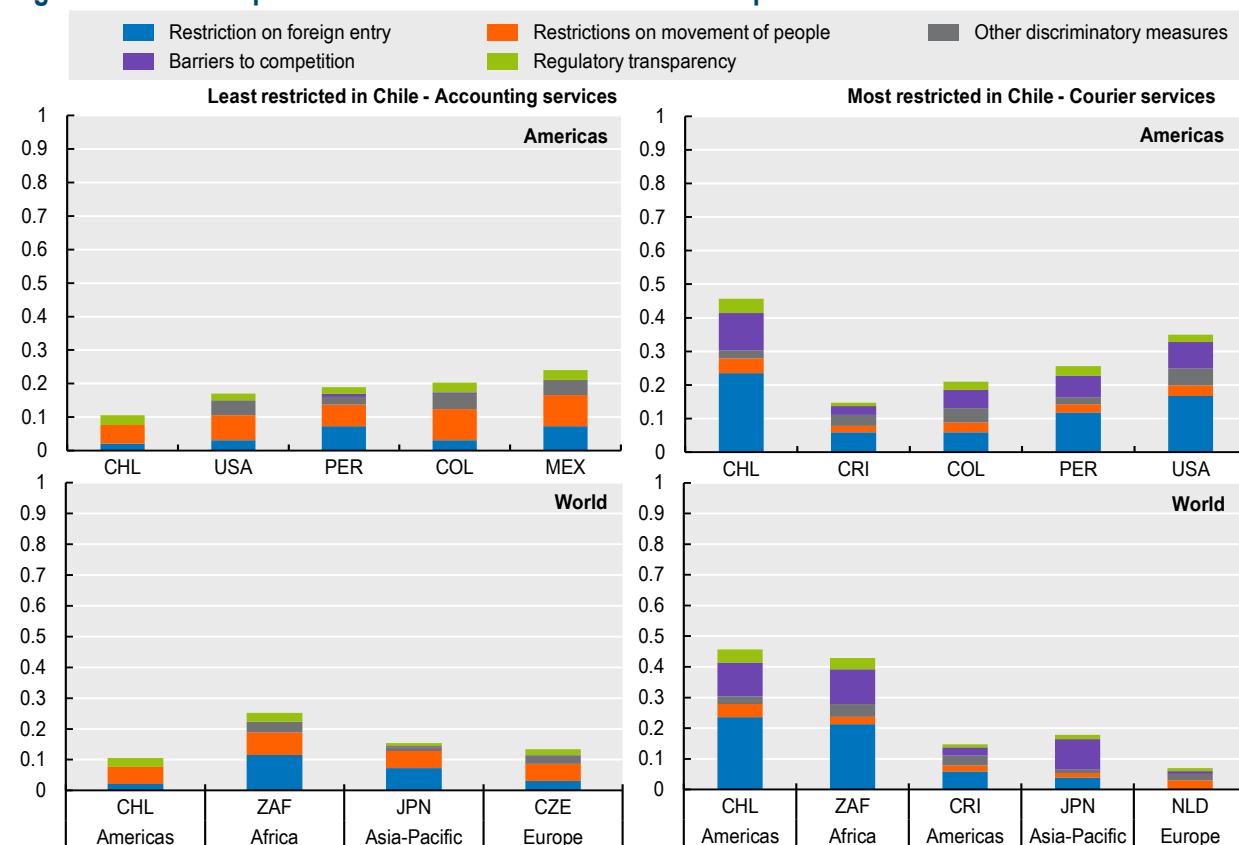
i.e. $(STR I_{country, sector} - STR I_{world average, sector}) / STR I_{world average, sector}$

Source: OECD (2023). STRI database.

Accounting services are the least restricted in Chile compared to the sector's average STRI across all countries. Accountant and auditor are not regulated professions in Chile. On the other hand, courier services is the most restricted services sector in Chile compared to the sectoral STRI average. The restrictions on foreign entry and barriers to competition are significant compared to best performers. Courier services cover also postal services. Chile maintains a monopoly on the delivery of

correspondence which includes letters, post cards and parcels up to 1 kg. The state-owned incumbent operator, *Correos de Chile*, also enjoys preferential treatment on the application of VAT or transport bans, and no regulation is in place to avoid cross-subsidisation of competitive and protected activities (Figure 4).

Figure 4. Chile compared to the Americas and World's best performers



Source: OECD (2023). STRI database.

Recent policy changes

In 2023, Chile raised the value for its *de minimis* regime, now exempting from import duties and internal tax imported goods not exceeding USD 41 in value.

In 2022, Chile adopted UNECE's Model Regulations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods for the road freight sector. During the same year, a new Law of Migration and Foreigners (*Ley de Migración y Extranjería*, n. 21325/2021) entered into force, aiming to restructure the types of permits for foreigners and provide for the related procedures and conditions. The new law brings several changes, including in the institutional framework and application process. It also extends the general validity of permits for contractual services suppliers and for independent services suppliers from 12 to 24 months. The duration of visa for crew for air, maritime and road freight transport sectors also increased from 1 to 3 months. Finally, the law also opens the possibility for the Council of Migration Policy to limit the number of migration permits that can be granted in accordance with the National Migration Policy. In May 2022, Supreme Decree No. 177 established 16 different types of permits for temporary residence in Chile, including permits relevant for foreign services providers.

More information

- » Access all country notes, sector notes, and interactive STRI tools at <http://oe.cd/stri>
- » Read more about [Services Trade Policies and the Global Economy](#)
- » More information about measuring the regulatory environment for services trade in the APEC region: <https://apecservicesindex.org/>
- » Contact the OECD Trade and Agriculture Directorate with your questions at stri.contact@oecd.org

¹Note: The STRI indices take values between zero and one, one being the most restrictive. The STRI database records measures on a Most Favoured Nation basis. Air transport and road freight cover only commercial establishment (with accompanying movement of people). The indices are based on laws and regulations in force on 31 October 2023. The STRI regulatory database covers the 38 OECD Members, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Peru, Russia, Singapore, South Africa, Thailand and Viet Nam. The statistical data for Israel are supplied by and under the responsibility of the relevant Israeli authorities. The use of such data by the OECD is without prejudice to the status of the Golan Heights, East Jerusalem and Israeli settlements in the West Bank under the terms of international law.