

## NATIONAL INCOME PER CAPITA

While per capita gross domestic product is the indicator most commonly used to compare national income levels, two other measures are preferred by many analysts. These are per capita Gross National Income (GNI) and Net National Income (NNI). Whereas GDP refers to the income generated by production activities on the economic territory of the country, GNI measures the income generated by the residents of a country, whether earned in the domestic territory or abroad. NNI is the aggregate value of the balances of net primary incomes summed over all sectors.

### Definition

GNI is defined as GDP plus receipts from abroad less payments to abroad of wages and salaries and of property income plus net taxes and subsidies receivable from abroad. NNI is equal to GNI net of depreciation.

Wages and salaries from abroad are those that are earned by residents who essentially live and consume inside the economic territory but work abroad (this happens in border areas on a regular basis) or for persons that live and work abroad for only short periods (seasonal workers) and whose centre of economic interest remains in their home country. Guest-workers and other migrant workers who live abroad for twelve months or more are considered to be resident in the country where they are working. Such persons may send part of their earnings to relatives at home, but these remittances are treated as transfers between resident and non-resident households and are recorded in national disposable income but not national income.

Property income from/to abroad includes interest and dividends. It also includes all or part of the retained earnings of foreign enterprises owned fully or in part by

residents (and vice versa). In this respect, it is important to note that retained earnings of foreign enterprises owned by residents do not actually return to the residents concerned. Nevertheless, the retained earnings are recorded as a receipt.

### Comparability

All countries compile data according to the 2008 SNA “System of National Accounts, 2008” with the exception of Chile, Japan, and Turkey, where data are compiled according to the 1993 SNA. When changes in international standards are implemented countries often take the opportunity to implement improved compilation methods; therefore also implementing various improvements in sources and estimation methodologies. In some countries the impact of the ‘statistical benchmark revision’ could be higher than the impact of the changeover in standards. As a consequence the GDP level for the OECD total increased by 3.8% in 2010 based on the available countries. The level changes in NNI are generally more moderate than the changes in the levels of GDP. For the OECD, the impact of the changes on NNI is about 0.5 percentage points on average in 2010.

However, there are practical difficulties in the measurement both of international flows of wages and salaries and property income and of depreciation. It is for that reason that GDP per capita is the most widely used indicator of income or welfare, even though, GNI is theoretically superior.

### Overview

On average for the OECD, GNI per capita is around 15-25% higher than NNI per capita. The country rankings are not greatly affected by the choice of income measure. Only three countries would be more than one place higher in the ranking if GNI per capita were used instead of NNI: the Slovak Republic, the Czech Republic, and Finland. Only four countries would be more than two places lower in the ranking if GNI per capita were used: Russia, Israel, Ireland and the United Kingdom.

GNI per capita does not differ significantly from GDP per capita. Usually, the differences are smaller than USD 3 000. There are, however, two exceptions. For Luxembourg, GNI per capita in 2014, although still highest in the OECD, is nearly USD 33 000 lower than GDP per capita. In Ireland, GNI is USD 8 000 lower than GDP per capita in 2013.

### Sources

- OECD (2015), *National Accounts of OECD Countries*, OECD Publishing.

### Further information

#### Analytical publications

- OECD (2015), *OECD Economic Outlook*, OECD Publishing.
- OECD (2014), *Perspectives on Global Development*, OECD Publishing.
- OECD (2003), *The Sources of Economic Growth in OECD Countries*, OECD Publishing.

#### Statistical publications

- OECD (2015), *National Accounts at a Glance*, OECD Publishing.

#### Methodological publications

- OECD, et al. (eds.) (2010), *System of National Accounts 2008*, United Nations, Geneva.

#### Online databases

- OECD National Accounts Statistics.
- OECD Economic Outlook: Statistics and Projections.

#### Websites

- Sources & Methods of the OECD Economic Outlook, [www.oecd.org/eco/sources-and-methods](http://www.oecd.org/eco/sources-and-methods).

## Gross national income per capita

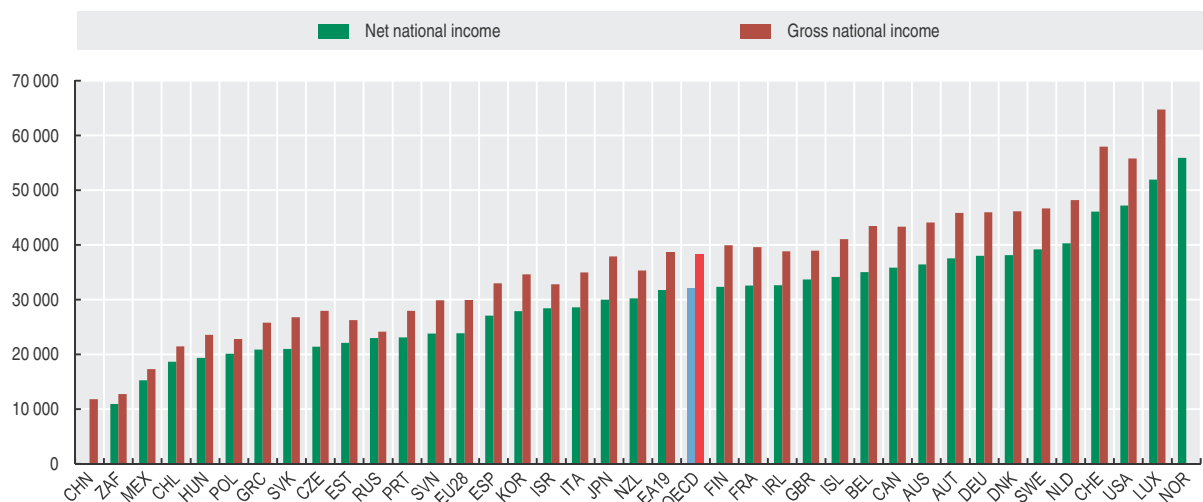
US dollars, current prices and PPPs

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Australia	29 740	31 173	32 446	34 061	35 906	37 736	38 317	39 539	40 554	42 467	42 575	43 672	44 098
Austria	31 109	32 150	33 770	34 593	37 755	39 162	41 451	40 632	42 227	44 188	44 916	45 263	45 878
Belgium	31 287	31 631	32 421	33 445	35 586	37 076	38 745	37 711	40 438	41 475	42 549	42 190	43 484
Canada	29 851	31 259	32 923	35 310	37 218	38 647	39 498	38 026	39 278	40 808	41 548	42 414	43 361
Chile	9 879	10 137	10 780	11 629	13 657	14 888	15 153	15 091	16 950	19 069	20 211	21 037	21 494
Czech Republic	17 675	18 942	20 004	21 231	22 872	24 918	25 243	25 001	24 914	26 434	26 840	27 214	27 984
Denmark	31 226	31 076	33 307	34 342	37 642	38 882	41 299	40 023	42 501	44 239	44 566	45 365	46 182
Estonia	11 218	12 478	13 907	15 864	18 255	20 302	21 270	19 578	19 974	22 721	24 220	25 630	26 283
Finland	28 506	28 643	31 311	32 199	34 848	37 627	39 804	38 028	38 815	40 434	40 419	40 157	39 943
France	28 812	28 462	29 479	30 929	32 961	34 773	35 921	35 459	36 629	38 213	37 810	38 205	39 636
Germany	28 097	29 099	30 925	32 472	35 314	37 324	38 805	37 971	40 402	43 216	43 826	44 222	46 016
Greece	22 678	23 699	25 095	25 397	27 722	28 539	30 188	29 932	28 390	25 998	25 734	25 805	..
Hungary	14 168	14 940	15 597	16 380	17 708	18 063	19 536	19 919	20 559	21 505	21 588	22 836	23 616
Iceland	31 940	31 276	33 434	34 646	34 524	37 065	32 826	32 465	32 398	34 541	36 547	41 087	..
Ireland	28 679	30 824	32 781	34 920	38 523	40 531	38 004	34 850	36 357	36 857	37 324	38 832	..
Israel	24 222	22 839	24 390	24 558	25 535	27 460	26 828	26 917	28 310	30 184	31 084	32 065	32 844
Italy	27 761	28 277	28 655	29 586	31 942	33 546	34 614	33 857	34 307	35 377	34 971	34 691	35 006
Japan	27 690	28 423	29 931	31 156	32 702	34 445	34 622	32 745	34 655	35 380	36 729	37 586	37 929
Korea	20 701	21 307	22 921	24 031	25 767	27 787	28 716	28 326	30 496	31 512	32 351	33 325	34 622
Luxembourg	47 715	47 224	53 696	56 087	53 473	62 392	63 476	54 142	62 819	63 276	63 475	61 126	64 780
Mexico	10 132	10 611	11 275	12 124	13 226	13 822	14 490	14 166	14 975	16 083	16 461	16 405	17 318
Netherlands	34 010	34 217	36 051	37 461	41 696	44 336	45 298	44 452	45 115	47 237	47 342	47 672	48 235
New Zealand	22 041	22 752	23 599	24 013	25 735	27 022	27 323	29 135	29 390	30 739	31 528	33 620	35 369
Norway	37 840	39 230	43 284	48 900	54 759	56 725	62 138	56 517	59 403	63 328	66 904	66 353	66 306
Poland	11 553	11 930	12 635	13 566	14 836	16 327	17 733	18 566	19 735	21 251	22 063	22 840	..
Portugal	18 994	19 573	19 999	21 733	23 128	24 420	25 080	25 257	26 019	26 413	26 346	27 279	28 002
Slovak Republic	13 081	13 196	14 367	16 023	18 196	20 719	23 286	22 889	23 757	24 263	25 270	26 114	26 815
Slovenia	20 024	20 790	22 458	23 743	25 640	27 127	28 906	27 120	27 329	28 287	28 240	28 515	29 922
Spain	24 390	25 125	26 240	27 460	30 367	32 007	32 804	32 202	31 907	31 970	32 165	32 395	33 034
Sweden	30 857	32 601	34 458	34 796	38 485	42 006	43 581	40 688	42 950	45 016	45 298	45 926	46 719
Switzerland	37 142	38 604	39 908	42 241	46 430	47 526	46 998	50 744	54 214	55 079	57 094	57 964	..
Turkey	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
United Kingdom	30 595	31 725	33 732	35 466	37 355	37 924	37 898	36 515	36 325	37 038	37 630	38 367	38 986
United States	38 544	39 884	42 190	44 669	47 322	48 346	48 568	47 176	48 808	50 622	52 770	53 943	55 842
Euro area	22 766	23 152	24 143	25 238	27 337	28 899	29 498	28 698	29 675	30 881	30 812	30 931	38 631
EU 28	24 488	25 198	26 508	27 753	25 337	26 787	27 574	26 825	27 638	28 765	28 917	29 222	29 948
OECD	26 725	27 521	29 057	30 625	32 772	34 135	34 818	33 912	35 222	36 626	37 548	38 213	..
Brazil	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
China	3 419	3 829	4 321	4 913	5 706	6 680	7 459	8 104	8 992	9 920	10 891	11 818	..
India	..	..	2 703	3 001	3 329	3 714	3 840	4 223	..	..	..	..	..
Indonesia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Russian Federation	7 876	8 972	10 010	11 527	14 475	16 256	19 572	18 757	19 844	21 857	23 254	24 183	..
South Africa	8 205	8 507	9 102	9 755	10 450	11 068	11 584	11 338	11 521	11 977	12 370	12 661	12 795

1 2 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/88893336415>

## Gross and net national income per capita

US dollars, current prices and PPPs, 2014 or latest available year

1 2 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/88893335255>



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