

CONSUMPTION

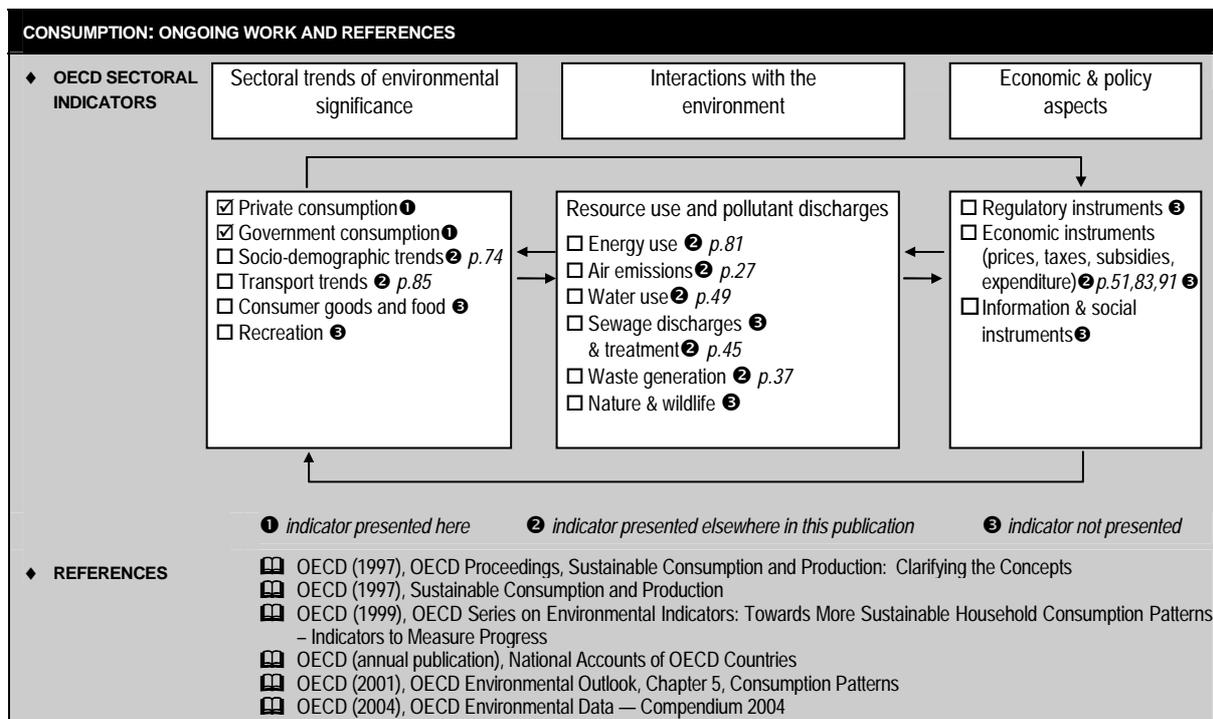
Consumption by households and government is a determinant of sustainable development and its economic, environmental and social dimensions. It has important implications for the level and pattern of production and for related demands for natural resources. Growth of private consumption has both positive and negative environmental effects, entailing increased use of private transport, more leisure and tourism, higher energy consumption, increased use of packaged goods and higher waste production, but also demand for environmentally friendly goods.

Agenda 21, adopted at UNCED (Rio de Janeiro, 1992), stresses that changes in consumption and production patterns are necessary to ensure more sustainable development. These can be promoted by increasing consumer awareness and expanding use of approaches such as life cycle analysis of products and extended producer responsibility. Governments can show the way by "greening" their own consumption and operations.

Indicators presented here relate to:

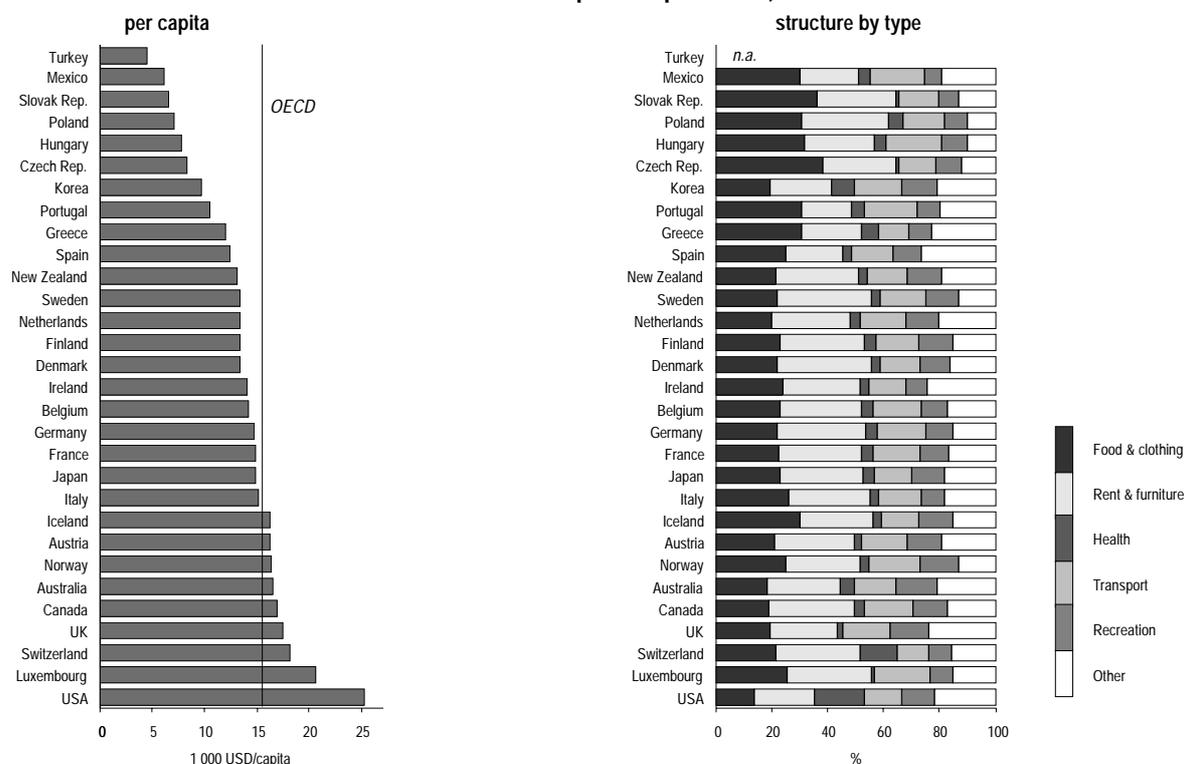
- ♦ *private consumption, i.e. by households and private non-profit institutions serving households. They present private final consumption expenditure expressed as percentage of GDP and per capita, as well as the structure of private consumption.*
- ♦ *government consumption, presenting government final consumption expenditure expressed as percentage of GDP and per capita.*

They should be read in conjunction with other indicators in this publication, notably those dealing with energy, transport, waste and water, and should be complemented with information on production patterns and trends.



PRIVATE CONSUMPTION 21

Private final consumption expenditure, 2003



	Private final consumption expenditure		Consumption patterns, by type, %						
	Total % of GDP 2003	per capita 1 000 USD/cap. 2003	% change since 1990	Food & clothing	Rent & furniture	Health	Transport	Recreation	Other
Canada	56	17.0	22.1	19.2	30.1	4.4	17.2	12.0	17.2
Mexico	70	6.2	15.2	30.4	21.1	4.4	19.1	6.3	18.7
USA	71	25.3	32.4	14.1	22.0	17.6	12.8	11.5	22.0
Japan	56	14.9	17.1	23.3	30.3	3.8	13.2	11.9	17.6
Korea	53	9.8	64.4	20.3	21.5	7.7	16.5	13.3	20.6
Australia	61	16.5	32.1	18.6	26.1	4.6	14.7	14.5	21.5
New Zealand	61	13.2	22.4	21.0	29.4	3.2	14.3	12.0	18.8
Austria	56	16.2	20.0	21.4	27.7	3.3	16.3	12.4	18.9
Belgium	54	14.3	20.5	23.0	29.3	4.4	16.8	9.5	17.1
Czech Rep.	54	8.4	24.6	38.3	26.2	1.1	13.1	9.3	12.0
Denmark	47	13.5	16.8	21.8	34.3	2.6	14.3	11.2	15.9
Finland	51	13.5	16.8	23.3	30.4	4.0	15.5	11.6	15.2
France	56	14.9	17.1	22.6	29.5	3.6	17.3	9.7	17.3
Germany	59	14.7	18.0	22.3	31.6	4.2	17.2	10.1	14.7
Greece	67	12.1	25.6	30.9	22.0	5.6	10.9	7.5	23.0
Hungary	59	7.8	..	32.3	25.1	3.6	19.8	8.9	10.3
Iceland	56	16.2	21.7	30.2	25.7	3.1	13.1	12.4	15.4
Ireland	45	14.2	66.0	23.5	28.2	2.7	13.1	8.5	23.9
Italy	61	15.2	18.8	26.4	28.8	3.0	14.9	8.4	18.4
Luxembourg	41	20.7	31.4	26.0	29.5	1.3	20.0	8.4	14.8
Netherlands	50	13.4	23.3	20.4	27.9	4.3	16.0	11.6	19.8
Norway	45	16.4	41.1	25.3	27.1	2.9	17.5	13.8	13.5
Poland	65	7.1	76.9	31.1	30.7	5.2	14.7	7.9	10.3
Portugal	62	10.6	30.3	30.5	17.8	4.5	19.4	8.2	19.6
Slovak Rep.	55	6.6	..	36.3	27.6	1.3	13.9	7.4	13.5
Spain	59	12.4	28.2	25.3	20.2	3.4	14.8	9.9	26.4
Sweden	49	13.4	14.9	22.4	33.8	2.5	16.2	12.3	12.6
Switzerland	61	18.2	6.5	21.1	28.6	13.3	11.1	8.2	15.4
Turkey	67	4.5	9.7	..	..	..	..	..	..
UK	67	17.6	34.6	19.6	24.1	1.7	16.7	13.9	24.0
OECD	63	15.5	26.6	..	..	..	..	..	..

♦ See Technical Annex for data sources, notes and comments.

22 GOVERNMENT CONSUMPTION**Government final consumption expenditure**