



OECD Demographics Survey

Sweden

Executive Summary by Levente Kardkovács



| Factsheet | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Fertility rate (births/woman) | Net migration rate (entering-leaving/1000) | Family policies | Attitude towards immigration |
| 1.67 (11th in the OECD) | 5.62 (22nd in the OECD) | Generous | Neutral |

Immigration Policies

Only about a decade ago Sweden was seen as a welcoming destination for immigrants. However the surge in asylum seekers arriving in the country in the mid 2010s has forced the government to tighten its migration policy after the initial message of “welcome everyone”. With a right-wing government currently in place, the U-turn seems complete. For example work permits are now restricted to immigrants earning at least 80% of the median Swedish salary. The public remains divided (help refugees or lament the surge in violent crimes), as the life for both would be and for current immigrants becomes increasingly difficult.

Family Policies

Sweden is a progressive, generous welfare state which extends to family support. Government policy supports gender equality in raising a child, both in supporting women to balance child care and work obligations, and offering equal parental leave to men. Each parent is allowed 240 days of leave for a combined 480 days. They can then choose to work part-time hours until the child reaches the age of 8. Other policies include parental benefits (payments based on previous income) and leave to care for a sick child (up to 120 days per child per year). Companies often offer additional benefits.

Potential allies: Germany, Switzerland, Poland

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