

1979 tax/benefit position of a typical worker in OECD member countries = - La situation dun ouvrier moyen en 1979 au regard de limpo t et des transferts sociaux dans les pays membres de lOCDE.

O.E.C.D. - The Tax/benefit position of a typical worker in OECD member countries = La Situation d'un ouvrier moy... .

Seminar Seven: Cultural and Social Factors Affecting International Success
Atmos. Students should understand:

1. The level of state social provision in different welfare systems
2. The relationship between state social provision and economic performance
3. How cultural and linguistic factors can impact business

Activity 7
Comparing public social expenditures across countries

Figure 1, below shows social spending as a percentage of GDP from 1990 to 2005.

a. Comment on the usefulness of these data in table form.
b. Using the data in the table, what were the highest and lowest levels of social spending in 2005?
To answer this, look first at the EU and OECD averages. Do any countries buck this trend?
c. Which countries were the highest spenders in 2005 and which the lowest?
d. How would you explain Sweden's high levels of expenditure compared to those of the United States?
e. Some commentators have argued that globalisation is leading to a 'race to the bottom' in terms of social spending. Do you agree? Why or why not?
f. Some countries believe unambiguously that generous state social provision leads to loss of efficiency and poor economic performance.

Before answering the various parts, you initially want to clarify what is meant by social expenditure (state provision of basic social services for people from the earliest stages of life to old age). This includes things like pensions, health care, income support, working family support, pensions and the significance of the figure will depend on how it is measured. For example, if you are comparing only cash transfers, the figure will be lower than if you include things like health care coverage in the table would help i.e. it relates only to members of the EU and the OECD.

a. Trying to identify the time trend of a data series from a table suffices the simplest information overview. For visual impact presenting the data in graphical form can be more effective. It can also highlight some interesting patterns in data. For example, if you are presenting your poster over the issue of social spending, you might consider drawing a graph such as 'Year on Year' growth in social spending. ... you would be asking too many questions about the data in the table. If you are presenting your poster you might find it easier yourself if you convert the table into a graph.

GPS 2011 Seminar 7.pptx

Description: -

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