

NO WORKFORCE, NO GROWTH: THE SOCIAL IMPERATIVE FOR COMPETITIVENESS

Insights from the OECD Economic Survey of the SLOVAK REPUBLIC

Bratislava

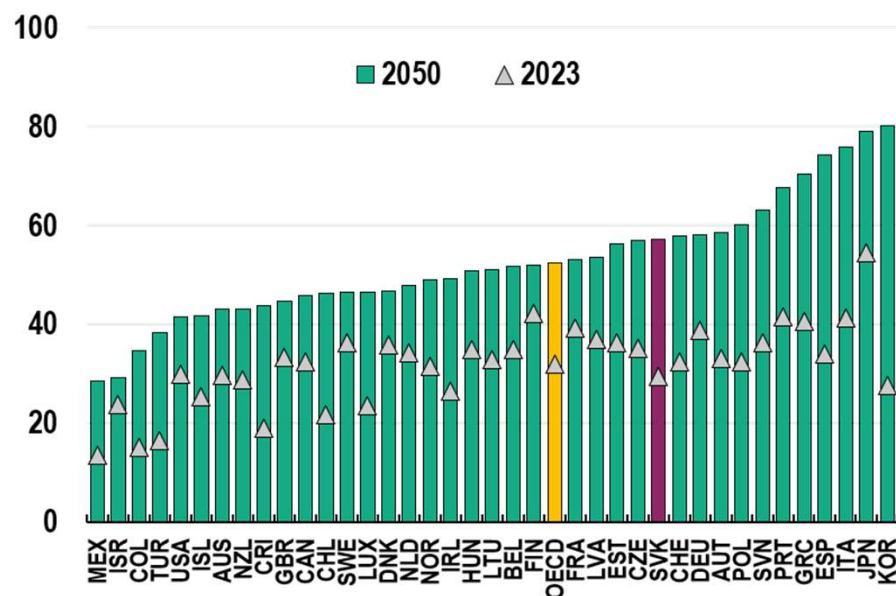
8 September 2026

<https://oe.cd/slovakia>

A shrinking workforce threatens growth

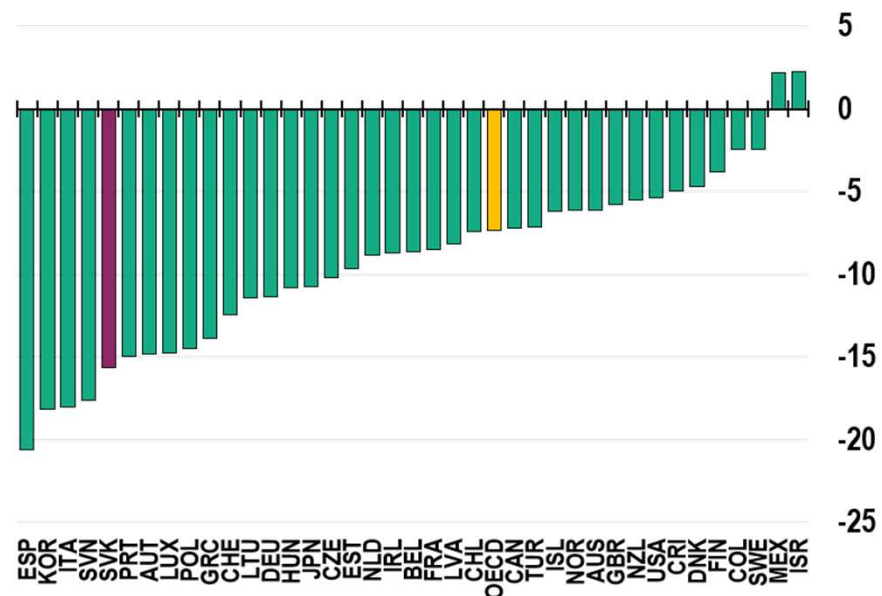
The old-age dependency ratio will soar by 28 percentage points

Old-age dependency ratio, %



Simulated possible losses in GDP per capita from shrinking employment to population ratios

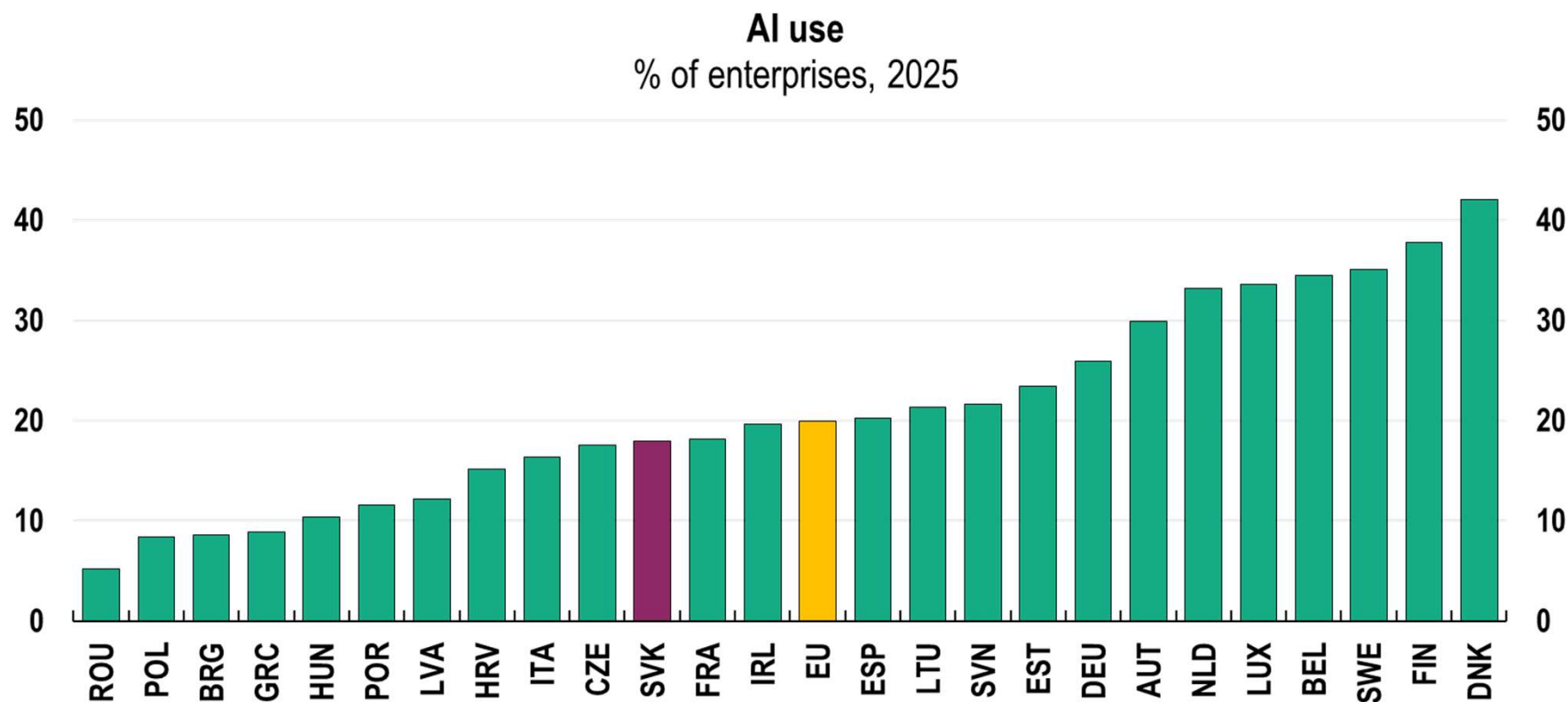
% changes in GDP per capita, 2021-2050



Note: Left panel, the old-age dependency ratio is defined as the number of people aged 65 and over (old) divided by the number of people aged 20-64 (working age population). Right panel shows the loss in per capita income stemming from population ageing under the assumption that age- and gender-specific employment rates in 2050 remain the same as in 2021. Population ageing implies a fall in employment-to-population ratio, dragging down GDP per capita growth.

Source: UN World Population Prospects database; André, C., P. Gal and M. Schief (2024), "Enhancing productivity and growth in an ageing society: Key mechanisms and policy options", OECD Economics Department Working Papers, No. 1807, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/605b0787-en>; and OECD calculations.

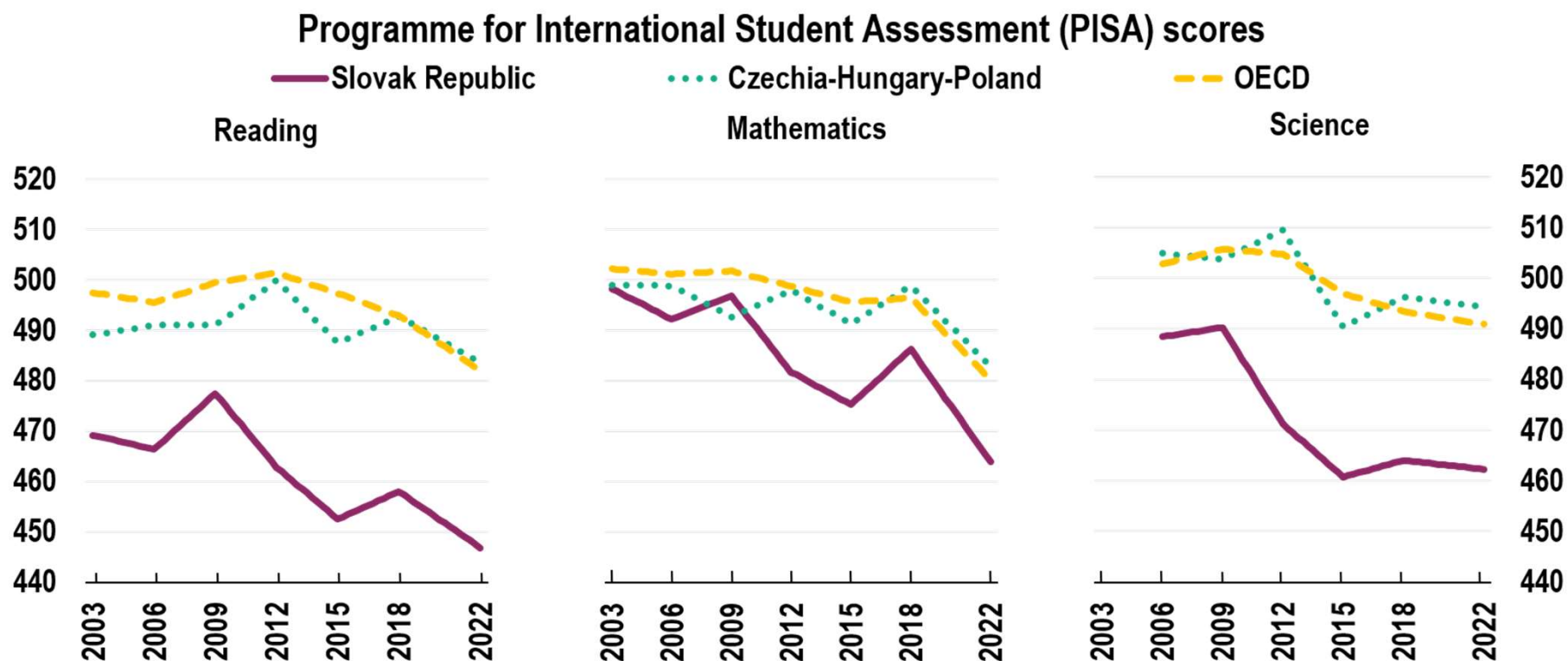
Broader AI adoption can boost growth



Source: Eurostat Statistics Explained: Use of Artificial Intelligence in Enterprises.

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Skills development is essential to deal with the challenges of the future

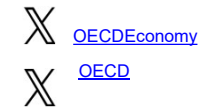


Note: Czechia-Hungary-Poland refers to the average of the data for Czechia, Hungary and Poland.

Source: OECD (2023), PISA 2022 Results (Volume I): The State of Learning and Equity in Education; OECD (2023), PISA 2022 Results (Volume II): Learning during – and from – Disruption.



For more
information



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