

LEGISLATURE: Unicameral

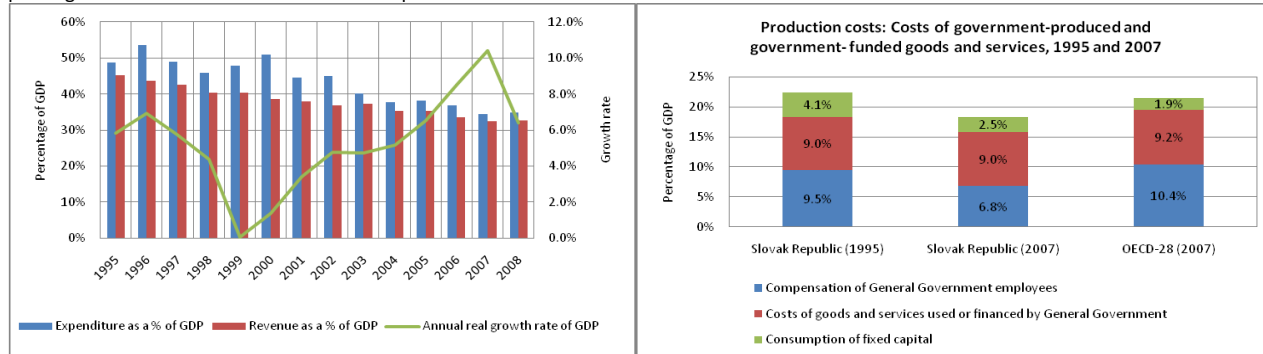
- Upper house: none
- Lower house: elected using Proportional Representation

SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT: Parliamentary

- No. of ministries: 15 (2008)
- No. of ministers: 16 (2008)

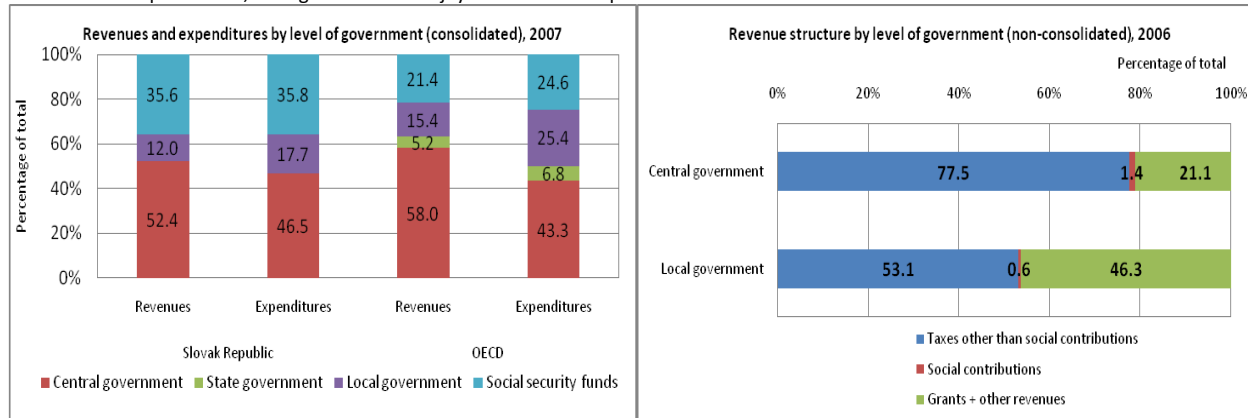
STATE STRUCTURE: Unitary

Revenues and expenditures in Slovak Republic decreased from about 45% to 35% of GDP from 1995 to 2005. Over the same period, expenditures have exceeded revenues, although these deficits have not harmed GDP growth in recent years. In 2006 and 2007, GDP growth was the highest among OECD countries. Government finances have improved markedly over the past years, with the debt-to-GDP ratio falling by almost half since 2000, not the least because of consolidation efforts to meet the Maastricht criteria for euro area entry which occurred on 1 January 2009. Production costs as a share of GDP decreased between 1995 and 2007 due to fast GDP growth. However, the relative role of the private sector in producing and providing public goods and services increased over this period.



Source: OECD National Accounts and Economic Outlook. [\[Revenues\]](#) [\[Expenditures\]](#) [\[Production costs\]](#)

The central government collects over 50% of revenues and represents almost 50% of all expenditures. The role of social security funds is larger in the Slovak Republic than in many other OECD countries, accounting for over one-third of both revenues and expenditures. Despite a low share of overall revenues and expenditures, local governments enjoy some fiscal independence and raise over 50% of revenues from taxes.

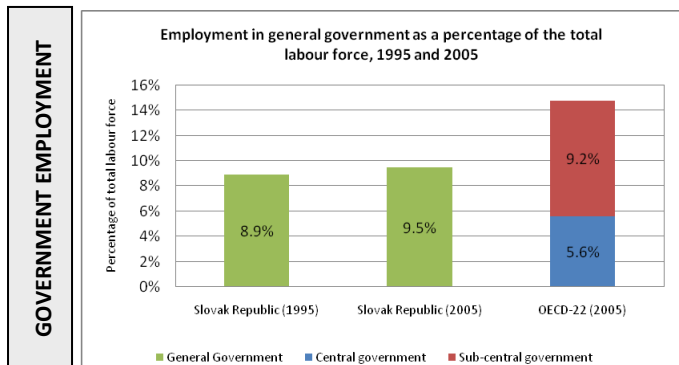


Source: OECD National Accounts [\[Revenues\]](#) [\[Expenditures\]](#)

The structure of expenditures in the Slovak Republic is similar to the OECD average. Unlike in many other OECD countries, local governments play a role in providing security services (defence and public order and safety). A large proportion of local government expenditures are also used for administrative purposes (general public services), infrastructure (economic affairs) and education. Over 70% of central government expenditures go towards administrative activities, infrastructure, education and social protection. Social security funds (not depicted separately in the table) comprise a large proportion of total expenditures on health and social protection.

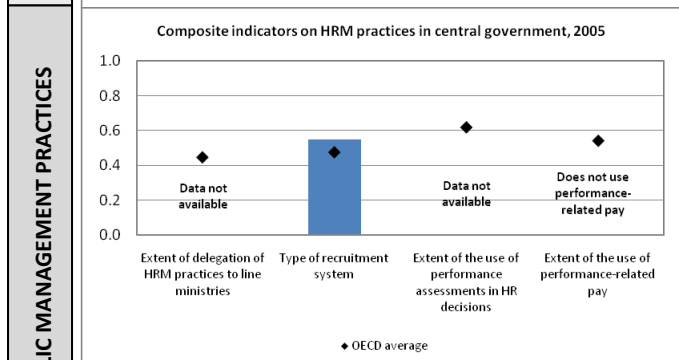
Expenditure structure by function of government (non-consolidated), 2006	Slovak Republic			OECD-26	EU-19
	Central government	Local government	General government	General government	General government
Share of total					
General public services	24.7%	15.8%	13.4%	13.8%	13.9%
Defence	5.3%	9.1%	4.8%	3.4%	3%
Public order and safety	6.4%	10.8%	5.8%	3.8%	3.7%
Economic affairs	14.6%	16.3%	11.0%	10.6%	10.1%
Environment protection	2.6%	4.5%	1.9%	1.7%	1.5%
Housing and community amenities	1.5%	7.0%	2.3%	2%	1.9%
Health	8.6%	2.3%	14.3%	15.1%	14.1%
Recreation, culture and religion	4.4%	4.6%	2.5%	2.6%	2.5%
Education	13.1%	22.4%	11.0%	12.9%	11.6%
Social protection	18.7%	7.2%	32.9%	34.2%	37.7%

Source: OECD National Accounts [\[General government\]](#) [\[Central, state and local\]](#)



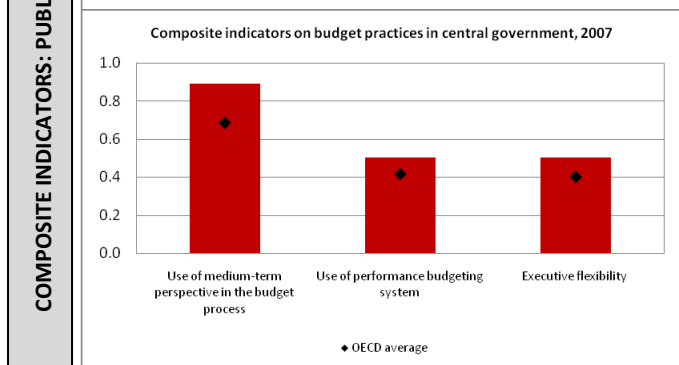
The Slovak government employs less than 10% of the total labour force, well below the OECD average. However, government employment increased between 1995 and 2005, as the number of civil servants increased by 14 percent.

Source: ILO Laboursta Database and OECD Labour Force Survey
[\[General government employment\]](#) [\[Distribution by level\]](#)



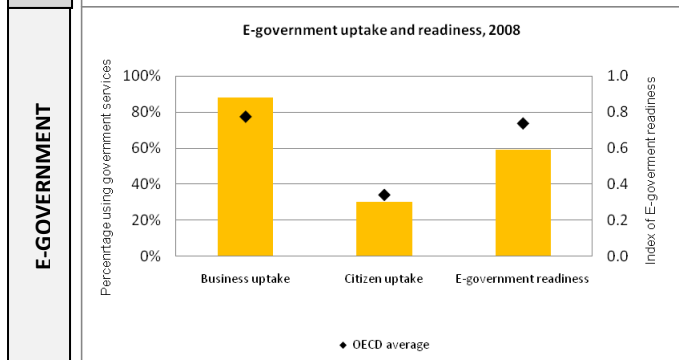
The central government has been moving to a more open system of recruitment, and since 2006, all jobs are open to external competition. In their incentive system, they do not utilize any form of performance-related pay. The Slovak central government is characterised by a cadre of senior civil servants that are managed separately, although these management practices only differ slightly from those for other staff.

Source: OECD Strategic HRM Survey
[\[Delegation\]](#) [\[Recruitment\]](#) [\[Performance management\]](#)



The Slovak Republic stands out as having taken steps to incorporate a medium-term perspective in its budget process. It includes expenditure estimates for each ministry forecasted over the next three years, as well as expenditure targets/ceilings. While performance information is not presented to the legislature, individual ministries publish their performance against targets and this information is used by the executive when developing its budget. The executive has more flexibility than other countries to reallocate budgeted funds, although ministries must often obtain approval before taking such actions.

Source: OECD International Budget Practices and Procedures Database.
[\[Medium-term\]](#) [\[Performance budgeting\]](#) [\[Executive flexibility\]](#)
 OECD Journal on Budgeting: www.oecd.org/gov/budget/journal



The Slovak Republic lags behind other OECD countries in terms of e-government readiness, largely due to a relatively low level of broadband penetration. While the Slovak Republic operates a sophisticated, user-friendly national portal, it offers comparatively fewer services on line compared to other European OECD members. However, a significant amount of businesses do access the services that are available on line, and citizen uptake is comparable to other OECD countries.

Source: United Nations E-Government Readiness Knowledge Base, Eurostat.
[\[Readiness\]](#) [\[Uptake\]](#)
[\[OECD E-Government Publications\]](#)

Types of information central government decision makers are required to disclose and level of transparency, 2009

	President	Prime Minister	Minister	Lower House Legislators
Requirements for disclosure				
Assets and liabilities	DP	DP	DP	DP
Loans	DP	DP	DP	DP
Sources and level of income	DP	DP	DP	DP
Outside positions	DP	DP	DP	DP
Gifts	ND	ND	ND	ND
Previous employment	DP	DP	DP	DP

D= Disclosed; DP= Disclosed and publicly available; ND= Not disclosed; NA= Not applicable.

The Slovak Republic stands out as systematically requiring decision makers across both the legislative and executive branches to disclose a significant amount of information about their private interests, and makes this information available to the public. While gifts are not disclosed separately, the value of gifts must be taken into account when disclosing total assets greater than EUR 10 300. Slovak Republic passed a specific conflict-of-interest Bill that incorporated many of the OECD recommendations regarding public ethics, and restrictions for civil servants were strengthened from January 2004.

Source: OECD Survey on Integrity
[\[Disclosures\]](#)

Requirements for Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA) processes used by central governments

	2005	2008
Quality reviewed by body external to Ministry preparing rules	No	No
Required for draft primary laws	In selected cases	In selected cases
Required for draft subordinate regulations	No	No
Required to quantify costs	In selected cases	In selected cases
Required to quantify benefits	In selected cases	In selected cases
Required to publicly release results	No	In selected cases

Extent of programs for reducing administrative burdens at the central level of government

	1998	2005	2008
Explicit programme exists	N/A	No	Yes
Includes quantitative targets	N/A	N/A	Yes

The 2005 and 2008 surveys of Indicators of Systems of Regulatory Management examined the extent of governance practices designed to improve the quality of regulation in OECD countries. Among the most important practices are: the use of regulatory impact analysis (RIA) to assess the cost and benefits of new regulation and the institutional oversight of the quality of regulations; and the design of programs to reduce the costs of administrative activities on business and citizens.

The Slovak Republic has a limited system of regulatory management without a comprehensive strategy for regulatory reform. The implementation of regulatory impact assessment is in its initial stage. A programme on administrative burden reduction was adopted in 2007.

Source: OECD Survey on Regulatory Management.

[\(RIA\)](#) [Administrative simplification](#)

Regulatory Management Indicators: www.oecd.org/regreform/indicators

EU 15 reviews on Regulatory Reform: www.oecd.org/gov/regref/eu15

Background reports on Regulatory Reform: www.oecd.org/regreform/backgroundreports

Production costs are a subset of total government expenditures, excluding government investment (other than depreciation costs), interest paid on government debt and payments made to citizens and others not in exchange for the production of goods and services (such as subsidies or social benefits). Production costs include compensation costs of general government employees, the costs of goods and services produced by private entities funded by government (intermediate consumption and social transfers in kind via market producers), and the consumption of fixed capital (indicating the level of depreciation of capital).

Structure of government expenditures: Data on expenditures are disaggregated according to the Classification of the Functions of Government (COFOG), which divides government spending into 10 functions. More information about the types of expenditures included in each function can be found in Annex B of *Government at a Glance 2009*.

Employment characteristics: The OECD averages refer to the following number of countries:

- Share of employees that are female: OECD-23
- Share of senior managers that are female: OECD-22
- Share of administrative positions filled by females: OECD-17
- Share of employees 50 years or older: OECD-25

HRM Composites: The indexes range between 0 (low level) and 1 (high level). Details about the theoretical framework, construction, variables and weighting for each composite are available at: www.oecd.org/gov/indicators/govataglance.

- **Delegation index** gathers data on the delegation of determining the number and types of posts needed in an organization, compensation levels, position classification, recruitment and dismissals, and conditions of employment. This index summarises the relative level of authority provided to line ministries to make HRM decisions. It does not evaluate how well line ministries are using this authority.
- **Type of recruitment system index** includes policies for becoming a civil servant in general (*e.g.* competitive examination or direct application) and for recruiting senior civil servants, and systems for appointing entry-level positions and for allocating posts across departments. This index describes a spectrum of recruitment systems in place in OECD member countries. Countries scoring closer to 0 have career-based systems whereas countries scoring closer to 1 have more position-based systems. The index does not evaluate the performance of difference systems.
- The **performance assessment index** indicates the extent to which it is used in career advancement, remuneration and contract renewal decisions, based on the views of survey respondents. This index provides information on the formal use of performance assessments in central government, but does not provide any information on its implementation or the quality of work performed by public servants.
- The **performance-related pay index** looks at the range of employees to whom PRP applies and the maximum proportion of base pay that PRP may represent. This index provides information on the formal use of performance related pay in central government, but does not provide any information on its implementation or the quality of work performed by public servants.

Budget Composites: The indexes range between 0 (low level) and 1 (high level). Details about the theoretical framework, construction, variables and weighting for each composite are available at: www.oecd.org/gov/indicators/govataglance.

- The **medium term budget perspective index** contains information on whether countries develop and present multi-year expenditure estimates in the annual budget, the number of years the estimate covers, how often estimates are updated; and whether there are multi-year targets or ceilings and how often these are revised. This index measures the extent to which countries have developed a medium-term perspective in their budget process. However, it does not evaluate whether this perspective has been effective at achieving budget outcomes such as fiscal discipline and allocative efficiency.
- The **performance budgeting index** contains information on what type of performance information is developed; the processes for setting goals and targets; the process for monitoring and reporting on results; and if and how performance information is used in budget negotiations and decision making processes by key actors including the central budget authority, the line ministries and politicians. This index examines the degree to which OECD member countries have put a performance budgeting system in place. However, it does not measure how successfully these systems operate in practice.
- The **executive flexibility index** contains the following variables: the extent to which lump sum appropriations are used; the number of line items in the budget; agencies' ability to carry-over unused budget allocations between years, borrow against future appropriations, reallocate between line items and keep efficiency gains; and constraints on the executive's ability to increase spending during budget execution. This index looks at the different levels of flexibility provided to the executive during budget execution. However, it does not measure whether this flexibility is used effectively or appropriately.

E-Government:

- The **UN e-government readiness index** ranges between 0 (low level) and 1 (high level). It measures the capacity of governments to implement and develop e-government services. Developed within the framework of the UN global e-government survey, the indicator consists of three sub-indices: (1) the web measure index, (2) the telecommunication infrastructure index and (3) the human capital index. The web measure index ranks countries based on the coverage, sophistication and availability of e-services and e-products. The index categorizes countries as having either an emerging, enhanced, interactive, transactional, or networked e-government presence. The telecommunication infrastructure index is a weighted average of 5 measures of ICT infrastructure capacity: PCs/100 persons, Internet users/100 persons, Telephone lines/100 persons, Broad-banding/100 persons and Mobile phones/100 persons. The human capital index is a weighted average of the adult literacy rate (two-thirds weight) and the combined primary, secondary and tertiary gross enrolment ratio (one-thirds weight).
- The e-government take-up by citizens indicator measures the percentage of individuals (aged 16-74) who used the Internet to interact with public authorities in the 3 months preceding the survey. Data are collected through Eurostat's annual Community Survey on ICT Usage in Households and by Individuals, and are only available for European countries.
- The e-government take-up by businesses indicator measures the percentage of enterprises using the Internet to interact with public authorities. Only businesses with 10 or more employees are included. Data are collected by national statistical offices based on Eurostat's annual Model Survey on ICT Usage and E-commerce in Businesses.