Estonia has sustained a primary general government budget surplus and low debt level since 2014

Estonia shifted from a primary deficit in 2013 to primary surplus of 0.7% of GDP in 2014. It is one of 5 OECD countries reporting higher than 1% cyclically adjusted structural budget surplus (1.9% in 2014). This is mainly due to improved tax collection and targeted efforts of the government in decreasing the share of grey economy. General government gross debt – according to the System of National Accounts definition - in Estonia in 2013 (13.5%) remained the lowest across OECD countries (109.2% on average). In 2014, gross debt slightly increased to 14.3%, but remained the lowest in the OECD.

Public sector employment as a share of total employment increased slightly from 2009 to 2013, and is higher in Estonia than the OECD average

In 2013, public sector employment in Estonia amounted to 26.1% of total employment compared to the OECD average of 21.3%. As a share of the labour force, it has increased from 23.1% in 2009 to 23.8% by 2013. This has been the result of a slight increase in public sector employment, coupled with a decline of the labour force. As a response, the Estonian Government has set a policy to keep constant the share of government employment to the labour force, which requires consolidation of the government sector. The policy has been continued by newly elected government in March 2015, requiring decreases in public sector employment as the labour force is expected to further decline.

Open government data availability, accessibility and support for reuse is below the OECD average in Estonia

Estonian open government data efforts, at 0.38, are below the OECD average of 0.58 (OURdata Index). The OURdata Index focuses on the national portal and assesses data availability on the portal, data accessibility and government support to innovative reuse of public data and stakeholder engagement. Estonia is behind in terms of data re-use, support and promotion, compared to the leading countries in open government data. The Government is currently undertaking important transformation of the national open government data portal, has adopted ambitious information society development agenda for 2020, has launched a global Estonian e-residency initiative and is aiming to develop a joint digital services development roadmap together with Finland.
Government revenues (2013, 2014) % of GDP

Government expenditures (2013, 2014) % of GDP

Government gross debt *(2013, 2014) % of GDP

Public Finance and Economics

Fiscal balance *(2013, 2014) % of GDP

Public Employment and Compensation

Public sector employment as % of total employment (2013)

Public sector employment filled by women (2013)

Share of women ministers (2015)

How to read the figures:

Country value in blue (not represented if not available)

Average of OECD countries in green

Range of OECD country values in grey

Values have been rounded.

n.a. refers to data not available

Source: OECD National Accounts

* See Notes

Public Finance & Economics

Public Employment & Compensation

Source: OECD National Accounts

Source: OECD/Eurostat National Accounts

* SNA definition, see Notes

Source: International Labour Organization (database)

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union Parline Database

Source: International Labour Organization (database)

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union Parttime Database
**GOVERNMENT PROCESSES**

### Institutions

**Level of influence of the Centre of Government over line ministries (2013)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Estonia</th>
<th>Moderate</th>
<th>30%</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>11%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Source: OECD 2013 Survey on Centre of Government

### Regulatory Governance

**Stakeholder engagement and consultation (2014)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stakeholder engagement to inform officials about the problem and possible solutions</th>
<th>Consultation on draft regulations or proposed rules</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary laws</td>
<td>Subordinate regulations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For all primary laws / subordinate regulations</td>
<td>For all primary laws / subordinate regulations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Primary laws</th>
<th>Subordinate regulations</th>
<th>Primary laws</th>
<th>Subordinate regulations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: OECD Regulatory Policy Outlook (forthcoming)

### Public Procurement

**Procurement expenditure (2013)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage of government expenditures</th>
<th>Estonia</th>
<th>Moderate</th>
<th>35.7%</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>29.0%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Source: OECD National Accounts

**Strategic public procurement - Objectives (2014)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support for green public procurement</th>
<th>Support for SMEs</th>
<th>Support for innovative goods and services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2014 OECD Survey on Public Procurement

### Digital Gov.

**OURdata Index: Open, Useful, Reusable Government Data (2014)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Composite index from 0 lowest to 1 highest</th>
<th>Estonia</th>
<th>Moderate</th>
<th>0.38</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Source: 2014 OECD Survey on Open Government Data

### Public Sector Integrity

**Level of disclosure of private interests across branches of government (2014)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>High level</th>
<th>Medium level</th>
<th>Low level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive Branch</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislative Branch</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judicial Branch</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2014 OECD Survey on Managing Conflict of Interest in the Executive Branch and Whistleblower Protection
Governments Outputs and Outcomes

Core Government Results and Service Delivery

Satisfaction and confidence across public services (2014)

% of citizens expressing confidence/satisfaction

- Health care: 51% (Estonia), 71% (Average)
- National government: 41% (Estonia), 42% (Range)
- Education system: 52% (Estonia), 67% (Average)
- Judicial system: 54% (Estonia)

Source: Gallup World Poll

Access to healthcare (2012)

Out of pocket expenditure as a % of final household consumption

- Estonia: 2.0% (Top 10%), 0% (Bottom 10%)
- OECD: 2.8%

Source: OECD Health Statistics 2014

Equity in learning outcomes (2012)

PISA mathematics score variance by socio economic background

- Estonia: 14.8%
- OECD: 5%

Source: OECD, PISA 2012 results: Excellence through equity, 2013

Changes in household disposable income, by income group (2007-2011)

- Estonia: -4.5% (Bottom 10%), 0% (Top 10%)
- OECD: [0.37-0.92]

Source: OECD Income Distribution Database

Limited government powers (2014)

- Estonia: 0.79
- OECD: 0.76

Source: The World Justice Project

Notes
- Fiscal balance as reported in the System of National Accounts (SNA) framework, also referred to as net lending (+) or net borrowing (-) of government, is calculated as total government revenues minus total government expenditures.
- Structural fiscal balance, or underlying balance, represents the fiscal balance adjusted for the state of the economic cycle (as measured by the output gap which resulted as the difference between actual and potential GDP) and one-off fiscal operations.
- Government gross debt is reported according to the SNA definition, which differs from the definition applied under the Maastricht Treaty. It is defined as all liabilities that require payment or payments of interest or principal by the debtor to the creditor at a date or dates in the future. All debt instruments are liabilities, but some liabilities such as shares, equity and financial derivatives are not debt.

Government at a Glance 2015

With a focus on public administration, OECD Government at a Glance 2015 provides readers with a dashboard of key indicators assembled with the goal of contributing to the analysis and international comparison of public sector performance across OECD countries. Indicators on public finances and employment are provided alongside composite indexes summarising aspects of public management policies, and indicators on services to citizens in health care, education, and justice. Government at a Glance 2015 also includes indicators on key governance and public management issues, such as regulatory management, budgeting practices and procedures, public sector integrity, public procurement and core government results in terms of trust in institutions, income redistribution and efficiency and cost-effectiveness of governments.

The Excel spreadsheets used to create the tables and figures in Government at a Glance 2015 are available via the StatLinks provided throughout the publication:
http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/gov_glance-2015-en

For more information on the data (including full methodology and figure notes) and to consult all other Country Fact Sheets: www.oecd.org/gov/govataglance.htm