The fiscal situation has improved, but public debt remains high

Following the recapitalisation of the banks in 2013, the fiscal deficit improved in 2014, reaching a level of 3.5% of GDP (compared to 12.3% in 2013). Greece succeeded in reaching a primary budget surplus of 0.4% in 2014, and a cyclically adjusted fiscal balance surplus in 2014 of 1.3% of potential GDP. This reflects some improvements in the underlying fiscal position, but Greece’s public debt, at 179.7% of GDP according to the System of National Accounts definition, is well above the OECD average of 109.3%, posing a risk for future macroeconomic stability.

Requirements for disclosure of private interests is generally higher than in other OECD countries, but varies across branches of government

Disclosure of private interests of public officials can be an effective tool, alongside other mechanisms, in managing conflict of interest. In Greece, public officials have the highest obligations in terms of asset declarations in the legislative branch. The level of asset disclosure is also above the OECD average for the judicial branch and for “at risk” areas such as tax and customs officials, procurement agents and financial authorities. It is slightly below the OECD average for the executive branch. As in some other OECD countries, public officials in Greece are required to disclose as well some of the assets of their family members.

Citizen satisfaction with institutions and services is low and decreasing

Between 2007 and 2014, citizen satisfaction with health care services has decreased by 17 p.p moving from 52% to 35%. This is well below the OECD average of 71% in 2014. The level of satisfaction with education services has slightly increased over the same period but remains low (45%) compared to OECD standards (67%). The confidence in the judicial system has slightly decreased over the period and is also low (44%) compared to the OECD average (54%).
How to read the figures:
- Greece: 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

GOVERNMENT INPUTS: FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Public Finance and Economics

Government revenues (2013, 2014) % of GDP
- Greece: 2013 - 45.8% (2014)
- Greece: 2013 - 47.8% (2013)

Government expenditures (2013, 2014) % of GDP
- Greece: 2013 - 49.3% (2014)
- Greece: 2013 - 60.1% (2013)

Public investment (2013, 2014) % of total govt. expenditures
- Greece: 2013 - 7.9% (2014)
- Greece: 2013 - 4.6% (2013)

Government gross debt * (2013, 2014) % of GDP
- Greece: 2014 - 181.0%
- Greece: 2013 - 179.7%

Fiscal balance * (2013, 2014) % of GDP
- Greece: 2014 - -3.5%
- Greece: 2013 - -12.3%
- Greece: 2013 - -4.2%

Public Employment and Compensation

Public sector employment as % of total employment (2013)
- Greece: 22.6%

Public sector employment filled by women (2013)
- Greece: 45.6%

Share of women ministers (2015)
- Greece: 10.0%

The data is sourced from OECD National Accounts, except where noted.

Source: OECD National Accounts

* SNA definition, see Notes
GOVERNMENT OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

Core Government Results and Service Delivery

Satisfaction and confidence across public services (2014)
% of citizens expressing confidence/satisfaction

Health care
35% 71%
National government
19% 42%
Education system
45% 67%
Judicial system
44% 54%

Access to healthcare (2012)
Out of pocket expenditure as a % of final household consumption

3.9%

Greece

Equity in learning outcomes (2012)
PISA mathematics score variance by socio economic background

15.5%

Greece

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

Limited government powers (2014)

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 results 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