Although government debt is among the highest across the OECD, the underlying fiscal position has improved

According to the *System of National Accounts* definition, Italian government gross debt in 2013 (143% of GDP) was above the OECD average (117.8% of GDP). The underlying fiscal position of the Italian government, however, has improved: the structural balance adjusted for the output cycle went from a deficit of 4.2% of potential GDP in 2009, and a deficit of 0.2% in 2013, to a surplus of 0.4% in 2014.

The share of women parliamentarians and ministers is above the OECD average and increasing

The share of women parliamentarians in Italy went from less than 10% in 2002, to 31% in 2015. This is above the OECD average in 2015 (27.8%). The share of women ministers also increased significantly, moving from about 8% in 2005, to about 44% in 2015, which is also above the OECD average (about 29% in 2015). This may be partly the result of policies that have been directed to foster active participation of women in politics and decision making positions through specific training and education programmes.

Challenge to improve access and quality of health care in context of ongoing efforts to contain health spending

The level of public satisfaction with the health care system in Italy decreased from 56% in 2007 to 48% in 2014, and is now well below the OECD average (71% in 2014). The share of public spending on health in Italy remains high and the share of direct out-of-pocket spending by patients is in line with the OECD average, although higher than in other neighboring countries such as France and Germany. A higher proportion of the Italian population, particularly those in low-income groups, report some unmet care needs for medical examination for financial reasons or other reasons. The challenge for Italy is therefore to improve access and quality of care for the population in all regions, in a context of ongoing tight budget constraints.
**Public Finance and Economics**

**Government revenues (2013, 2014) % of GDP**

- **Italy**: 48.1% (2014), 48.0% (2013)

**Government expenditures (2013, 2014) % of GDP**

- **Italy**: 51.1% (2014), 50.9% (2013)

**Public investment (2013, 2014) % of total govt. expenditures**

- **Italy**: 4.4% (2014), 4.7% (2013)

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

- **Italy**: 143.0% (2013), 156.0% (2014)

**Fiscal balance * (2013, 2014) % of GDP**

- **Italy**: -3.0% (2014), -2.9% (2013)

**Public Employment and Compensation**

**Public sector employment as % of total employment (2013) ***

- **Italy**: 17.3%

**Public sector employment filled by women (2013) ***

- **Italy**: 55.9%

**Share of women ministers (2015)**

- **Italy**: 43.8%

*Source: OECD National Accounts. * See Notes

Values have been rounded. n.a. refers to data not available.
Institutions

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Moderate</th>
<th>Low</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: OECD 2013 Survey on Centre of Government

Regulatory Governance

**Stakeholder engagement and consultation (2014)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Primary laws</th>
<th>Subordinate regulations</th>
<th>Primary laws</th>
<th>Subordinate regulations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>For some primary laws</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>For some subordinate regulations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: OECD Regulatory Policy Outlook (forthcoming)

Public Procurement

**Procurement expenditure (2013)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>% of government expenditures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>20.9% 29.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: OECD National Accounts

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<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>Italy</td>
<td></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>Country</th>
<th>High level</th>
<th>Medium level</th>
<th>Low level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>0.39</td>
<td>0.58</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</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>Executive Branch</th>
<th>Legislative Branch</th>
<th>Judicial Branch</th>
<th>“At risk” areas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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.
• Public sector employment data for Italy are from the National Statistical Institute and the Ministry of Finance.