A large reduction of the public deficit and an increase in social spending were observed in Spain over the past years

Between 2007 and 2009 the fiscal conditions have deteriorated in Spain reporting the largest deficits in 2009 (-11.0% of GDP), the second highest deficit across OECD countries. Ambitious consolidation programmes put in place by the Spanish government led to a reduction of the general government deficit to its lowest level since the beginning of the crisis (-5.8% of GDP in 2014). Simultaneously and mainly related to the rise of unemployment, Spanish total government spending on social protection as a percentage of total government spending experienced the largest increase across OECD countries (6.7 p.p. between 2007 and 2013).

The crisis brought an increase in income inequalities partly mitigated by transfers and the tax system in Spain

The economic crisis resulted in a sharp increase in income inequalities. Between 2007 and 2011, the disposable income of the bottom 10% of the population decreased annually by 12.9%, while it decreased only by 1.4% for the top 10%, the highest difference between these income groups across OECD countries. However, in general terms, government transfers and the tax system in Spain have managed to substantially reduce income inequality in 2011 from a Gini coefficient of 0.52 before taxes and transfers to 0.34 after taxes and transfers.

Spanish life expectancy is one of the longest across OECD countries and efficiency gains have also been observed in hospital service delivery over the last years

Over the past decade, the increase in life expectancy in Spain can partly be attributed to better processes of care. Indeed, Spain was the country with the fourth longest life expectancy at birth across OECD countries in 2012 (82.5 years), 2.3 years above the OECD average. Additionally, over the period 2002 and 2012, efficiency gains have been reported in hospital service delivery. Indeed, the average length of stay in hospital for any conditions has been reduced over the period 2002-2012 reaching an average stay of 6.7 days (0.8 days below the OECD average).
Government revenues (2013, 2014) % of GDP

Government expenditures (2013, 2014) % of GDP

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

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

Fiscal balance * (2013, 2014) % of GDP

Public sector employment as % of total employment (2013)

Public sector employment filled by women (2013)

Share of women ministers (2015)
GOVERNMENT OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

Core Government Results and Service Delivery

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

Health care
67% 71%

National government
21% 42%

Education system
54% 67%

Judicial system
36% 54%

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.
- Data for Spain for fiscal balance in 2013 include 4.897 million EUR of financial aids to the banks.
- 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.

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

2.9%

Spain

2.8%

National government

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

15.8%

Spain

14.8%

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

Limited government powers (2014)

Source: OECD Health Statistics 2014

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

Source: Gallup World Poll

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