**Government gross debt (according to the System of National Accounts definition) is the lowest in Estonia among the OECD countries**

Estonia’s government gross debt was 13% of GDP both in 2017 and 2018 compared to the OECD average of 110% of the GDP in 2017. It was also the lowest in 2007 with 7.3% of the GDP. Estonia also has the lowest government gross debt per capita with 4,735 USD PPP compared to the OECD average of 53,641 USD PPP.

**Estonia reduced employment in general government by more 5.5% from 2016 to 2017**

This is the largest reduction during this period among OECD countries while on average general government employment in the OECD countries increased by 0.5%.

**Unmet care needs for medical examinations are reported by 16.4% of the population of Estonia**

This is the highest figure among the OECD–EU countries, and almost 14 percentage points higher than the OECD-EU countries’ average of 2.7%.
Public Finance and Economics

**Fiscal balance**
* (2017, 2018) % of GDP

- Estonia
  - 2017: -2.2%
  - 2018: -0.6%

**Government expenditures**
* (2017, 2018) % of GDP

- Estonia
  - 2017: 39.3%
  - 2018: 39.5%

**Government investment**
* (2017, 2018) % of GDP

- Estonia
  - 2017: 5.3%
  - 2018: 5.4%

**Government gross debt**
* (2017, 2018) % of GDP

- Estonia
  - 2017: 100%
  - 2018: 110.3%

* See Notes Source: OECD National Accounts

Public Employment

**General government employment**
as % of total employment* (2017)

- Estonia
  - 2017: 21.0%
  - 2018: 17.7%

**Civil servants**
as % of all central administration
employees (2018)

- Estonia
  - 72.5%

* See Notes Source: OECD National Accounts

Gender equality ...

**... in parliament (2019)**

- Estonia
  - 28.7%

**... in ministerial positions (2019)**

- Estonia
  - 35.7%

* See Notes Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) "Women in Politics", 2019

Institutions

**Responsibilities of the Centre of Government (2016)**

- Estonia

  - Preparation of Cabinet meetings: 34 0 0
  - Policy co-ordination: 24 10 0
  - Transition planning and management: 21 11 1
  - Strategic planning: 20 13 1
  - Government programme: 18 12 4
  - Monitoring of government policy: 16 15 3
  - Relations with parliament: 16 18 0

Source: OECD (2017) Survey on Organisation and functions of the Centre of Government

How to read the figures:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country value in purple</th>
<th>Average of OECD countries in green</th>
<th>Range of OECD country values in grey</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estonia (not represented if not available)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Values have been rounded.

n.a. refers to data not available.
**Human Resource Management**

**Performance management regime for senior managers**

(2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Existence of a performance-management regime for senior managers</th>
<th>Performance agreement with the Minister (at D1)</th>
<th>Performance appraisal system which includes:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>Estonia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>16 20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: OECD (2019) Survey on Strategic Human Resources Management (SHRM)

**Budgeting**

**Gender budgeting index**

(2018)

- Composite index from 0 (worst) to 1 (best)
- Estonia: 0.53*

* Average of 17 countries practicing gender budgeting.

Source: OECD (2018) Survey on Gender Budgeting

**Regulatory governance**

**Composite indices on regulatory governance for primary laws (2017)**

- Composite index from 0 (worst) to 4 (best)
- Estonia: Stakeholder engagement in developing regulations = 2.87
- Estonia: Regulatory Impact Assessment for developing regulations = 3.05
- Estonia: Ex post evaluation of regulations = 2.08

Source: Indicators of Regulatory Policy and Governance Surveys (REG)

**Public Procurement**

**General government procurement expenditures**

(2017)

- % of government expenditures
- Estonia: 35.4%

Source: OECD National Accounts

**Mechanisms to prevent and manage conflicts of interests among public procurement officials**

(2018)

- Regulatory framework includes a definition of a conflict of interest for public procurement officials
- Public procurement officials have to declare "no conflict of interest" or notify the competent authority in case of potential conflict of interest
- Certain public officials and political appointees have certain limitations in participating in public procurement opportunities

- Estonia: 18 13 5

Open Data

OURdata Index: Open, Useful, Reusable Government Data (2017, 2019)

Composite index from 0 (worst) to 1 (best)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>0.45</td>
<td>0.51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Government support to re-use
Data accessibility
Data availability


Serving Citizens

Satisfaction and confidence across public services (2018)

% of citizens expressing confidence/satisfaction

National government

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Before</th>
<th>After</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Police

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Before</th>
<th>After</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Health care

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Before</th>
<th>After</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>70%</td>
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</table>

Judicial system

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Before</th>
<th>After</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>56%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Education system

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Before</th>
<th>After</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Gallup World Poll

Core Government Results

Percentage of individuals economically vulnerable* (2015)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>0%</th>
<th>20%</th>
<th>40%</th>
<th>60%</th>
<th>80%</th>
<th>100%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>39.6%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>35.7%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* A person is considered vulnerable when, if income were to stop suddenly, that person would not have enough readily available financial assets to keep living above the poverty line for at least three months.

Source: OECD Wealth Distribution Database

Having a say in what the government does (2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>0%</th>
<th>20%</th>
<th>40%</th>
<th>60%</th>
<th>80%</th>
<th>100%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>26.0%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>36.8%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: European Social Survey

Notes

- Data on Public finance and economics and General government employment, which are based on the System of National Accounts (SNA), were extracted on 24 June 2019.
- 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.
- 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 2019

Government at a Glance provides reliable, internationally comparative data on government activities and their results in OECD countries. In many public governance areas it is the only available source of data. It includes, input, process, output and outcome indicators as well as contextual information for each country. Input indicators are on public finance and employment; while processes in the 2019 edition include data on institutions, budgeting practices and procedures, human resources management, regulatory government, public procurement and digital government and open data. Outcomes cover core government results (e.g. trust, inequality reduction) and indicators on access, responsiveness, quality and citizen satisfaction for the education, health and justice sectors. Governance indicators are needed more than ever, given large number of OECD principles and recommendations that countries signed up to adhere to need regular monitoring; their relationship to Sustainable Development Goals and the unique position of the OECD in collecting vital information on public governance practices from government officials.

The Excel spreadsheets used to create the tables and figures in Government at a Glance 2019 are available via the StatLinks provided throughout the publication:
http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/gov_glance-2019-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