Korea has significantly increased per capita government expenditures between 2007 and 2017, with increases in spending on social benefits and decreases on capital expenditures. During this period, Korea had the highest annual average growth rate of government expenditures per capita at +3.5% among the OECD countries whose average was +1.0%. In 2017, the share of the expenditures spent on capital expenditures was the largest in Korea, which had significantly decreased by 4.8 p.p. since 2007. At the same time, the share spent on social benefits have increased by 8.0 p.p. since 2007, and it represented 29.0% of general government expenditures in 2017, which was still below the OECD average of 40.9%.

E-procurement systems are highly connected with other governmental and non-governmental digital systems in Korea. In 2018, 62% of the OECD countries had their e-procurement systems centrally connected with other digital systems, with varying degrees of connectivity – most often to the government’s budgeting and accounting systems. In the case of Korea, its e-procurement system is interconnected with over 200 systems, including 65 systems of public entities as well as databases from private sector business associations, credit rating companies and the payment systems of commercial banks.

Korea has the longest average length of stay (ALOS) in hospitals for all conditions among the OECD countries. The ALOS in hospitals for Korea was 18.5 days in 2017 whereas the OECD average was 7.5 days. Between 2006 and 2017, while the ALOS in hospitals has shortened in most of the OECD countries (-0.9 days), it has increased by 3.6 days in Korea. In the absence of old age homes, the elderly in Korea are treated in hospitals.
Public Finance and Economics

Fiscal balance* (2017) % of GDP

Government expenditures* (2017) % of GDP

Government investment* (2017) % of GDP

Government gross debt* (2017) % of GDP

Public Employment

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

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

Gender equality ...

... in parliament (2019)

... in ministerial positions (2019)

Institutions

Responsibilities of the Centre of Government (2016)

Preparation of Cabinet meetings
Policy co-ordination
Transition planning and management
Strategic planning
Government programme
Monitoring of government policy
Relations with parliament

Korea
n.a.
n.a.
n.a.
n.a.
n.a.
n.a.
n.a.

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

Source: OECD National Accounts

See Notes

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

How to read the figures:

Country value in purple
(not represented if not available)

Average of OECD countries in green

Range of OECD country values in grey

-10% -5% 0% +5% +10%

* See Notes

Source: OECD National Accounts

Responsibility of the Centre of Government

Shared between the Centre of Government and another body

Responsibility of another body
**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-related pay</th>
<th>Performance agreement with the Minister (at D1)</th>
<th>Performance appraisal system which includes:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>![Korea Flag]</td>
<td>![Performance Index]</td>
<td>![Performance Index]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 11</td>
<td>20 16</td>
<td>15 21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>![Yes]</td>
<td>![Yes]</td>
<td>![Yes]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


### Budgeting

**Gender budgeting index (2018)**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Korea</th>
<th>Gender Budgeting Index</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>![Korea Flag]</td>
<td>0.78</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stakeholder engagement in developing regulations</th>
<th>Regulatory Impact Assessment for developing regulations</th>
<th>Ex post evaluation of regulations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>![Korea Flag]</td>
<td>![Performance Index]</td>
<td>![Performance Index]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.89</td>
<td>2.20</td>
<td>3.26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

### Public Procurement

**General government procurement expenditures (2017)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Korea</th>
<th>General Government Procurement Expenditures (2017)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>![Korea Flag]</td>
<td>40.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: OECD National Accounts

**Mechanisms to prevent and manage conflicts of interests among public procurement officials (2018)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regulatory framework includes a definition of a conflict of interest for public procurement officials</th>
<th>Public procurement officials have to declare ‘no conflict of interest’ or notify the competent authority in case of potential conflict of interest</th>
<th>Certain public officials and political appointees have certain limitations in participating in public procurement opportunities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>![Korea Flag]</td>
<td>![Performance Index]</td>
<td>![Performance Index]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 3 5</td>
<td>18 13 5</td>
<td>18 13 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

Regulatory governance indicators: The results for stakeholder engagement and Regulatory Impact Assessment apply exclusively to processes for developing primary laws initiated by the executive. Data is not applicable to the United States, where all primary laws are initiated by Congress. In the majority of countries, most primary laws are initiated by the executive, except for Mexico and Korea, where a higher share of primary laws are initiated by parliament/congress (respectively 90.6% and 84%).

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Government support to re-use</th>
<th>Data accessibility</th>
<th>Data availability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Korea (2017)</td>
<td>0.94</td>
<td>0.93</td>
<td>0.53 (2017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korea (2019)</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>0.58</td>
<td>0.60 (2019)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**Satisfaction and confidence across public services (2018)**

% of citizens expressing confidence/satisfaction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>National government</th>
<th>Police</th>
<th>Health care</th>
<th>Education system</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Gallup World Poll

**Percentage of individuals economically vulnerable**

* 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.

<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>Korea</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>35.7%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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>Korea</td>
<td>36.8%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: European Social Survey

**Differences in income inequality pre and post-tax and government transfers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Higher inequality</th>
<th>Lower inequality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>0.41</td>
<td>0.32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: OECD Income Distribution Database

**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.
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**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