Government at a Glance 2019
Country Fact Sheet

Netherlands

The size of public procurement is the largest in the Netherlands among OECD countries

In 2017, it amounted to 19.5% of GDP compared to the OECD average of 11.8% of GDP and 45.8% of general government expenditures, compared to the OECD average of 29.1%. Procurement spending remained stable between 2007 and 2017 both as a ratio of GDP and total government expenditures in the Netherlands. High public procurement spending is due the reliance of the Netherlands on private providers in the area of health care and social services.

Chapter 8. Public procurement
Figure 8.1. General government procurement spending as a percentage of GDP and total government expenditures, 2007, 2009 and 2017

The Netherlands has the most comprehensive system among OECD countries for monitoring fiscal risks in 2018

They are monitoring for macroeconomic shocks, financial sector crisis, change in debt and interest rates, demographic changes, natural disasters, government guarantees, government litigation and lawsuits, public-private partnerships and private financial initiatives, environmental degradation, local government or devolved administration and state-owned enterprises.

Chapter 5. Budgeting practices and procedures
Table 5.6. Fiscal risks monitored by countries, 2018

Citizens of the Netherlands are the most satisfied with their health care system among OECD countries

In 2018, 90% of the citizens of Netherlands expressed their satisfaction in the city or area they live with the availability of quality of health care, according to the Gallup World Poll, compared to the OECD average of 70%. Satisfaction levels with the health system remained stable between 2007 and 2018 both in the Netherlands and across the OECD.

Chapter 11. Serving citizens
Figure 11.1. Citizen satisfaction with the health care system, 2007 and 2018
Public Finance and Economics

Fiscal balance* (2017, 2018) % of GDP
-2.2% 2017
1.2% 2017
1.5% 2018

Government expenditures* (2017, 2018) % of GDP
Netherlands 42.2% 2018
Netherlands 42.5% 2017

Government investment* (2017, 2018) % of GDP
Netherlands 3.1% 2018
Netherlands 3.2% 2017

Government gross debt* (2017, 2018) % of GDP
Netherlands 64.6% 2018
Netherlands 69.8% 2017

Public Employment

General government employment as % of total employment* (2017)
Netherlands 11.9%

Civil servants as % of all central administration employees (2018)
Netherlands 100.0%

Gender equality ...

... in parliament (01.2019)*
Netherlands 31.3%

... in ministerial positions (01.2019)*
Netherlands 35.3%

Institutions

Responsibilities of the Centre of Government (2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preparation of Cabinet meetings</th>
<th>Policy co-ordination</th>
<th>Transition planning and management</th>
<th>Strategic planning</th>
<th>Government programme</th>
<th>Monitoring of government policy</th>
<th>Relations with parliament</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
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<tr>
<td>Source: OECD (2017) Survey on Organisation and functions of the Centre of Government</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### 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></td>
<td></td>
<td>Outcome indicators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Netherlands</strong></td>
<td>25</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: OECD (2018) Survey on Strategic Human Resources Management (SHRM)

### Budgeting

**Gender budgeting index (2018)**

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

- **Netherlands**: 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)

- Stakeholder engagement in developing regulations: Netherlands - 2.66
- Regulatory Impact Assessment for developing regulations: Netherlands - 1.65
- Ex post evaluation of regulations: Netherlands - 1.72

Source: Indicators of Regulatory Policy and Governance Surveys (2019)

### Public Procurement

**General government procurement expenditures (2017)**

- **Netherlands**: 45.8%
- 29.1%

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>Public procurement officials and political appointees have certain limitations in participating in public procurement opportunities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Netherlands</strong></td>
<td>28</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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.
• Gender equality in parliament and ministerial positions: Data refer to January 1, 2019 and do not reflect changes in 2019.
• 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 80.6% and 84%).

Serving Citizens

Satisfaction and confidence across public services (2018)

% of citizens expressing confidence/satisfaction

National government

Police

Health care

Judicial system

Education system

Average

Government support to re-use

Data accessibility

Data availability

Source: Gapm up World Poll

Core Government Results

Percentage of individuals economically vulnerable* (2015)

Netherlands

28.0%

Source: OECD Wealth Distribution Database

Having a say in what the government does (2016)

Netherlands

53.6%

Source: European Social Survey

Differences in income inequality pre and post-tax and government transfers (2016)

Netherlands

0.36

Higher inequality

Lower inequality

Before

After

Taxes and transfers

Taxes and transfers

0.45

0.29

0.32

0.47

0.6

0.2

0.4

0.6

0.8

1.0

0.0

0.2

0.4

0.6

0.8

1.0

Source: OECD Income Distribution Database