The United Kingdom is exemplary in ex-post evaluation of primary and subordinate regulations

In 2017, the United Kingdom scored 3.43 in the iREG indicator for ex-post evaluation of primary laws (0.33 increase from 2014) and 3.55 for subordinate regulations (0.46 increase). As in 2014, the country had the second-to-best score in the OECD. The iREG indicators measure progress made by OECD countries in improving the way they regulate, they range from 0 (worst) to 4 (best).

Chapter 7. Regulatory governance
Figure 7.5. Ex post evaluation for primary laws, 2014 and 2017
Figure 7.6. Ex post evaluation for subordinate regulations, 2014 and 2017

The United Kingdom has reduced its support for the re-use of government data

The United Kingdom was among the top performers in the OURdata Index in 2017 with a score of 0.78 compared to an OECD average of 0.53, on a scale of 0 (worst) to 1 (best). But, in 2019, the country score has been reduced to 0.57 (against an OECD average of 0.60) because of shifts in political priorities and a decrease in overall support to Open Government Data.

Chapter 9. Open and digital government
Figure 9.4. Open Useful Re-Usable data (OURdata) Index, 2017 & 2019
Figure 9.5. Data availability, 2017 and 2019
Figure 9.6. Data accessibility, 2017 and 2019
Figure 9.7. Government support for data re-use, 2017 and 2019

The United Kingdom achieved 100% enrolment at age 4 in early-childhood education in 2017

In the United Kingdom, each child aged 4 is entitled to 15 hours of free care whether in public or private institutions. Hence, the country performs better than the OECD average (89%). Enrolment also grew in comparison to 2013 (when it was 98%).

Chapter 11. Serving citizens
Figure 11.9. Enrolment at age 3 and 4 in early childhood and pre-primary education, 2017
### Public Finance and Economics

#### Fiscal balance* (2017, 2018)
- U.K. -1.9% 2017, -1.5% 2018

#### Government expenditures* (2017, 2018)
- U.K. 40.4% 2017, 40.8% 2018

#### Government investment* (2017, 2018)
- U.K. 3.1% 2017

#### Government gross debt* (2017, 2018)
- U.K. 116.3% 2017, 112.9% 2018

---

### Public Employment

#### General government employment as % of total employment* (2017)
- U.K. 16.0%

#### Civil servants as % of all central administration employees (2018)
- U.K. 81.3%

### Gender equality ...

#### ... in parliament (2019)
- U.K. 32.0%, 30.1%

#### ... in ministerial positions (2019)
- U.K. 21.7%, 31.2%

### Institutions

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<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>U.K.</td>
<td>34 0 0</td>
<td>24 10 0</td>
<td>21 11 1</td>
<td>18 12 4</td>
<td>16 15 3</td>
<td>16 18 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Responsibility of the Centre of Government
- Shared between the Centre of Government and another body
- Responsibility of another body

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

---

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

---

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


Source: OECD (2017) Survey on Organisation and functions of the Centre of Government
### 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>England</td>
<td>U.K.</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>16</td>
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<td>16</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Yes* | *No*
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Source: OECD (2019) Survey on Strategic Human Resources Management (SHRM)

### Budgeting

#### Gender budgeting index (2018)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Composite index from 0 (worst) to 1 (best)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.K.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*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)*

<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>England</td>
<td>U.K.</td>
<td>3.24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

### Public Procurement

#### General government procurement expenditures (2017)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of government expenditures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.K.</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>England</td>
<td>U.K.</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Yes* | *No* | *No information*
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**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%).

### Open Data

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

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

- **U.K.**
  - 2017: 0.78
  - 2019: 0.57
- **2017: 0.53**
- **2019: 0.60**


### Serving Citizens

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

- **% of citizens expressing confidence/satisfaction**
  - **National government:**
    - U.K: 42%
    - Average: 45%
  - **Police:**
    - U.K: 76%
    - Average: 77%
  - **Health care:**
    - U.K: 78%
    - Average: 70%
  - **Judicial system:**
    - U.K: 69%
    - Average: 56%
  - **Education system:**
    - U.K: 71%
    - Average: 66%

Source: Gallup World Poll

### Core Government Results

**Percentage of individuals economically vulnerable**

- **(2015)**
  - **U.K.**
    - 31.5%
  - **Average: 35.7%**

* 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

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

- **(2016)**
  - **U.K.**
    - Before: 0.51
    - After: 0.36
  - **Average: 0.47**
    - Before: 0.32
    - After: 0.47

Source: OECD Income Distribution Database

**Having a say in what the government does**

- **(2016)**
  - **U.K.**
    - 45.4%
  - **Average: 36.8%**

Source: European Social Survey

### Notes

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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](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](http://www.oecd.org/gov/govataglance.htm)