Although the highest level in the region, public debt in Jamaica is declining

In 2012, Jamaica’s public debt reached 145.3% of GDP, above the LAC (50.4%) and OECD (110.2%) averages. Since 2013 Jamaica has been in an IMF programme for fiscal recovery aimed at breaking the cycle of high debt and low growth that affected the country for several years. By 2015, debt had declined to 124.3% of GDP, mostly from decreasing government expenditures as revenues have remained constant. It is expected that debt will continue to decline, especially since the recent elimination of discretionary tax waivers and the replacement of sector-specific tax incentives with a more standardised approach.

Jamaica does not have a main national online portal for government services

Like 39% of LAC countries, Jamaica does not have such a portal; therefore, access to services remains scattered across different institutions. National online portals allow for a single point of access to government services, thereby making it easier for citizens to interact with the public sector and providing a unified image of the public sector to society.

Jamaica has taken important steps to promote the use of e-procurement

While the size of public procurement as a share of total government expenditure in Jamaica is the lowest among the LAC countries - 16.7% of government expenditures, compared to a regional average of 21.9% - Jamaica took important steps to promote the use of e-procurement. For example, it has set up an e-procurement portal that allows the electronic submission of bids (65% of those LAC countries that have an e-procurement portal also have this functionality). Moreover, Jamaica is one of six LAC countries indicating that they are able to carry out the electronic submission of invoices as part of the e-procurement system.
GOVERNMENT INPUTS: FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Public Finance and Economics

Government revenues (2014, 2015) % of GDP

- Jamaica: 2014 = 26.3%, 2015 = 27.9%

Government expenditures (2014, 2015) % of GDP

- Jamaica: 2014 = 26.8%, 2015 = 28.2%

Government investment (2014) % of GDP

- Jamaica: 1.6%

Government gross debt (2014, 2015) % of GDP

- Jamaica: 2014 = 33.1%, 2015 = 33.1%

Fiscal balance (2014, 2015) % of GDP

- Jamaica: 2014 = -0.5%, 2015 = -0.4%

Breakdown of tax revenues (2014) % of total taxation

- Jamaica: Goods and services = 35.9%, Income and profits = 55.1%

Public Employment and Compensation

Public sector employment as % of total employment (2014) *

- Jamaica: 12.0%

Public sector employment filled by women (2014) *

- Jamaica: 50.3%
GOVERNMENT PROCESSES

Health Financing Systems And Budget Formulation

**Health care financing schemes and percentage of population covered (2015)**

![Diagram showing health care financing schemes and percentage of population covered in Jamaica.](image)

**OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES**

**Gini coefficient: Differences in income inequality pre and post-tax and government transfers (2012)**

Indicator from 0 (low income concentration) to 100 (high income concentration)

![Diagram showing Gini coefficient differences in income inequality pre and post-tax and government transfers in Jamaica.](image)

**Notes**

* Tax revenue data for Jamaica are estimated and exclude local government revenues. For Jamaica the part of government procurement related to gross fixed capital formation does not include the consumption of fixed capital. Costs of goods and services financed by general government are not included in government procurement because they are not accounted separately in the IMF Government Finance Statistics (database).

For more information on the data (including full methodology and figure notes) and to consult all other Country Fact Sheets: [http://www.oecd.org/gov/government-at-a-glance-lac.htm](http://www.oecd.org/gov/government-at-a-glance-lac.htm)

The Excel spreadsheets used to create the tables and figures in Government at a Glance: Latin America and the Caribbean 2017 are available via the Stat-Links provided throughout the publication: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/9789264265554-en](http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/9789264265554-en)

**Government at a Glance: Latin America and the Caribbean 2017**

*Government at a Glance: Latin America and the Caribbean 2017* is the second edition of a joint publication between the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). It provides readers with a dashboard of key indicators to inform policy making and benchmark specific interventions. The model is the OECD Government at a Glance, which is a fundamental reference, backed by a well-established methodology for OECD member countries. Compared to the previous edition that had a special focus on Public Financial Management and alongside with indicators on public finances and public employment this second version covers a wider range of public management areas including the role and influence of the Centre of Government, Open Government and Open Data policies, Digital Government, Regulatory Governance and practices for Budgeting in health systems.