Revenue Statistics in Africa 2019 — Rwanda

Tax revenues: tax-to-GDP ratio

Tax-to-GDP ratio over time

The tax-to-GDP ratio in Rwanda decreased by 0.7 percentage points from 16.7% in 2016 to 16.0% in 2017. In comparison, the average for the 26 African countries in Revenue Statistics in Africa 2019 remained at 17.2% over the same period. Over a longer time period, the average for the 26 African countries has increased by 1.5 percentage points, from 15.7% in 2008 to 17.2% in 2017. Over the same period, the tax-to-GDP ratio in Rwanda has increased by 2.7 percentage points, from 13.3% to 16.0%. Since 2000, the highest tax-to-GDP ratio in Rwanda was 16.7% in 2015 and 2016, with the lowest being 10.2% in 2000.

Tax-to-GDP ratio, 2017

Rwanda's tax-to-GDP ratio in 2017 (16.0%) was lower than the average of the 26 African countries in Revenue Statistics in Africa 2019 (17.2%) by 1.2 percentage points and also lower than the LAC average (22.8%).

*The data for the OECD are for 2016 as the data for 2017 are not available.

In the OECD classification the term “taxes” is confined to compulsory unrequited payments to general government. Taxes are unrequited in the sense that benefits provided by government to taxpayers are not normally in proportion to their payments. Non-tax revenues are all other government revenues that are not classified as taxes. http://www.oecd.org/tax/tax-policy/oecd-classification-taxes-interpretative-guide.pdf

The LAC average refers to the Revenue Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean 2019 publication. oe.cd/revenue-statistics-in-latin-america-and-the-caribbean
Tax revenues: structure

Tax structure refers to the share of each tax in total tax revenues. The highest share of tax revenues in Rwanda in 2017 was contributed by value added taxes (29%). The second-highest share of tax revenues in 2017 was derived from other taxes on goods and services (25%).

Non-tax revenues

In 2017, Rwanda's non-tax revenues amounted to 7.3% of GDP. This was lower than tax revenues (16.0% of GDP). Grants represented the largest share of non-tax revenues in 2017, amounting to 4.7% of GDP and 64.6% of non-tax revenues.


For further information, please see: [oe.cd/revenue-statistics-in-africa]