

Economy-wide PMR indicators

Frequently asked questions



Economy-wide PMR indicators

1. What are the Economy-wide PMR indicators and how they differ from the PMR Sector indicators?

The Economy-wide PMR indicators measure the regulatory barriers to firm entry and competition in a broad range of cross-sector policy areas, as well as in specific services and network sectors.

The difference between the Economy-wide and the Sector indicators lies in their scope. Although both are built using the same database, the latter use exclusively the information on the sectors assessed while the former also incorporate information on cross-sector regulatory domains.

2. What areas are covered by the Economy-wide PMR indicators?

The Economy-wide PMR indicators compile information on regulation across a variety of markets and cross-sector areas. The full structure of the PMR Economy-wide indicators is available in the Presentation section of the webpage and is available [here](#).

3. How often are the Economy-wide PMR indicators updated?

The Economy-wide PMR indicators are updated every five years since they were created in 1998.

4. Do the Economy-wide PMR indicators capture *de facto* competition?

The PMR indicators capture only *de jure* regulation: they reflect the status of existing laws and regulations. They do not capture the level of enforcement.

5. How is the information used to build the Economy-wide PMR indicators sourced?

The information on laws and regulations is collected through a questionnaire and vetted by OECD experts. The questionnaire is filled in by ministries, regulators and other relevant authorities in the countries surveyed.

6. To which jurisdictions do the information used to build the Economy-wide PMR indicators refer?

The information is collected at the national level for unitary states and at federal level for federal states. Yet, there may be sectors or regulatory areas where regulations and policies are set by lower levels of government (e.g. state, region, or even at the city level). In those cases, the collected information refers to the laws and regulations set at the level that is most relevant to each specific case. To capture this, a specific jurisdiction is selected, which is considered representative. Information on these jurisdictions can be found in the file with the indicator values.

7. How can one interpret the scores of the Economy-wide PMR indicators?

The PMR indicators range from 0 to 6. A lower value represents a more competition friendly regulatory regime.

8. How is the information scored to build the Economy-wide PMR indicators?

The qualitative answers to the questionnaire are coded into scores ranging from 0 to 6 according to a set of criteria (applied to all jurisdictions) that are described in the Economy-wide PMR Schemata. Some questions require the respondent to answer by giving a numerical value. In this case, the possible answers are grouped into classes according to a set of thresholds, and the 0 to 6 scores are applied to these classes. More details on the scoring procedures can be found in the Methodological Note under the Methodology section of the webpage.

9. Where can I find how countries rank in the Economy-wide PMR indicators?

There is no ranking based on the PMR indicators. The indicators are a tool for countries to identify regulatory weaknesses and identify policy options to overcome them by comparing themselves with peer countries and with international best practices. In addition, the PMR indicators cover countries at different stages of economic development and only captures *de jure* regulation, two aspects that make the ranking of countries less useful.

10. Are the Economy-wide PMR indicators comparable across years?

The PMR economy-wide indicators are comparable for the years 1998, 2003, 2008 and 2013. In 2018, the OECD undertook a major review of their content and structure to maintain their relevance in the context of evolving insights from economic theory, modifications in the technological and business environment, and changes in the practice of regulation. As a result, the PMR values after 2013 are not comparable with prior years.

11. Why does the OECD publish two sets of Economy-wide PMR indicators (OECD and OECD-WBG)?

The OECD PMR indicator dataset includes countries where the OECD is solely responsible for the data collection process. They include OECD members, EU non-OECD member countries and some non-OECD economies.

The OECD-WBG PMR indicators dataset, produced in partnership with the World Bank Group (WBG), include a number of non-OECD countries. The same questionnaire is used. The WBG is responsible for the data collection while the OECD remains responsible for data validation and the calculation of the indicators. The coverage of the OECD-WBG PMR indicators can vary from vintage to vintage.

12. Where can one find more details on how the Economy-wide PMR indicators are built?

The Methodological Note under the Methodology section of the webpage offers a detailed description of the methodology used to build the indicators.