



Sweden has been one of the best fiscal performers since the start of the global crisis in 2008

Whereas in 2007, government debt (according to the *System of National Accounts* definition) as a percentage of GDP was 45.3%, it had increased by 5.9 percentage points in 2014, reaching 51.2%. This was the smallest increase for OECD countries with available information where debt increased (all but one). Additionally, in 2014 the deficit reached 1.9 as a percentage of GDP (0.7% structural deficit), significantly below the OECD average of 4.2% (3.1% structural deficit).



Chapter 2: Public finance and economics

[General government fiscal balance as a percentage of GDP](#)

[General government gross debt as a percentage of GDP](#)

[General government structural balance as a percentage of potential GDP](#)

Sweden leads the OECD in terms of public sector gender equality

In 2015, Sweden had the highest share of female members of parliament (43.6%) in the OECD and the second highest share of female ministers (52%). In the public sector more broadly, women are strongly over-represented. In 2013, 72% of all public sector employees were women, which was the highest share within the OECD. For the same year, at 47.6% the share of women in the total workforce was among the highest in the OECD, demonstrating a level close to parity.



Chapter 3: Public employment and compensation

[Share of public sector employment filled by women and men](#)

[Share of women parliamentarians and legislated gender quotas](#)

A challenge for Sweden is the decline in the quality of its school system

Among all OECD member countries, Sweden experienced the strongest fall of PISA test scores between 2003 and 2012 (e.g. 30 points in mathematics). Whereas it ranked above OECD average in 2003 (e.g. 509 in mathematics vs an OECD average of 496), it fell below OECD average in all tested subjects (e.g. 478 in mathematics vs an OECD average of 494) although spending per student is well above the OECD average: 101 155 USD PPP cumulative expenditure per student in Sweden compared to 86 872 USD PPP on average in the OECD in 2011. In addition, citizens' satisfaction with the education system decreased from 71% in 2007 to 64% in 2014.



Chapter 11 Core government results

[Performance in 2012 PISA scores and cumulative expenditure per student](#)

[Life expectancy at birth and total expenditures on health per capita](#)

Chapter 12: Serving Citizens

[Evolution of PISA mean score in mathematics](#)

[Citizens' satisfaction with the education system](#)

How to read the figures:



Country value in **blue**
(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

GOVERNMENT INPUTS: FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES

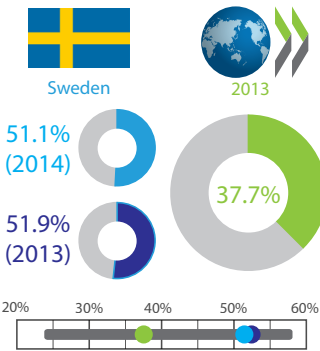
Public Finance & Economics

Public Employment & Compensation

Public Finance and Economics

Government revenues (2013, 2014)

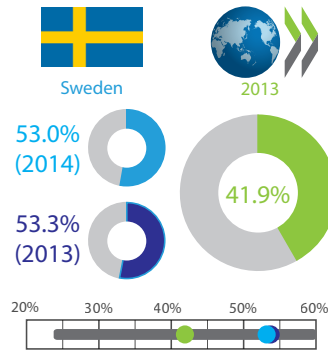
% of GDP



Source: OECD National Accounts

Government expenditures (2013, 2014)

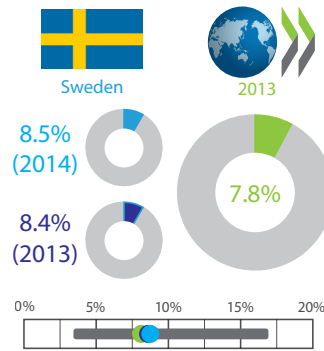
% of GDP



Source: OECD National Accounts

Public investment (2013, 2014)

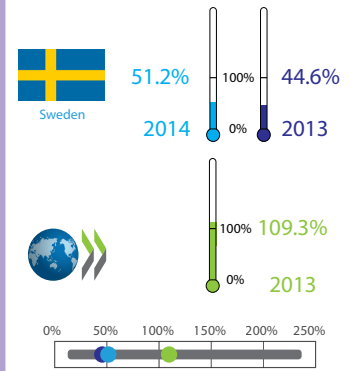
% of of total govt. expenditures



Source: OECD National Accounts

Government gross debt * (2013, 2014)

% of GDP



Source: OECD/Eurostat National Accounts
* SNA definition, see Notes

Fiscal balance * (2013, 2014)

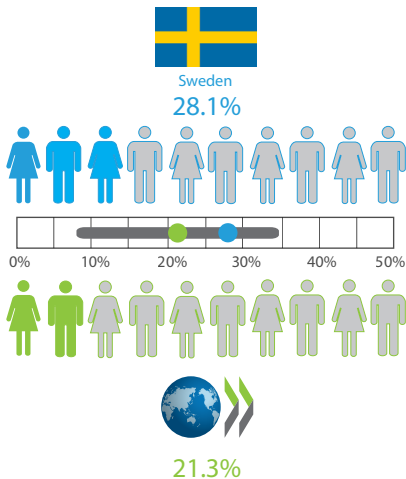
% of GDP



Source: OECD National Accounts. * See Notes

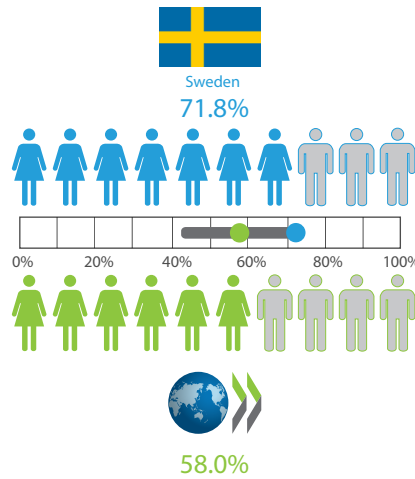
Public Employment and Compensation

Public sector employment as % of total employment (2013)



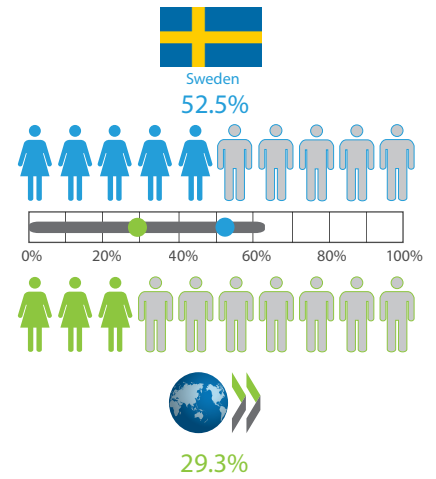
Source: International Labour Organization (database)

Public sector employment filled by women (2013)



Source: International Labour Organization (database)

Share of women ministers (2015)



Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union Parline Database

GOVERNMENT PROCESSES

Institutions

Regulatory Governance

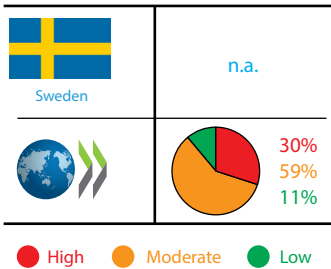
Public Procurement

Public Sector Integrity

Digital Government

Institutions

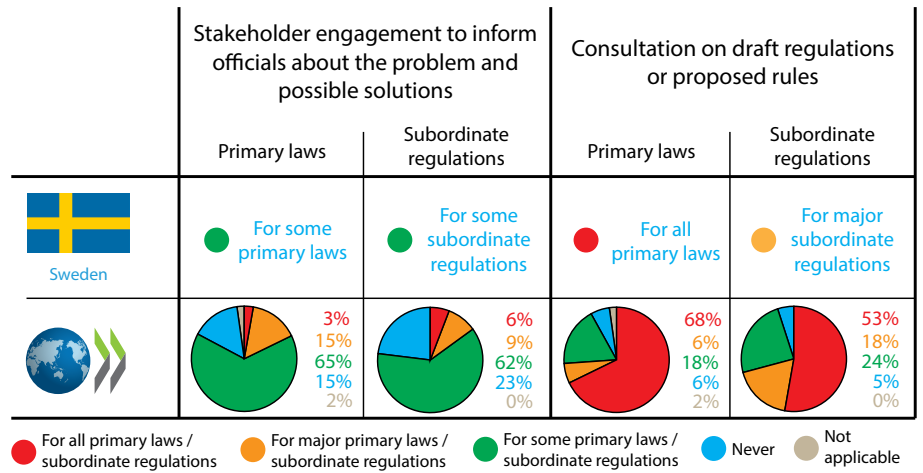
Level of influence of the Centre of Government over line ministries (2013)



Source: OECD 2013 Survey on Centre of Government

Regulatory Governance

Stakeholder engagement and consultation (2014)

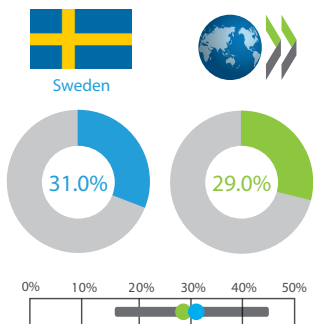


Source: OECD Regulatory Policy Outlook (forthcoming)

Public Procurement

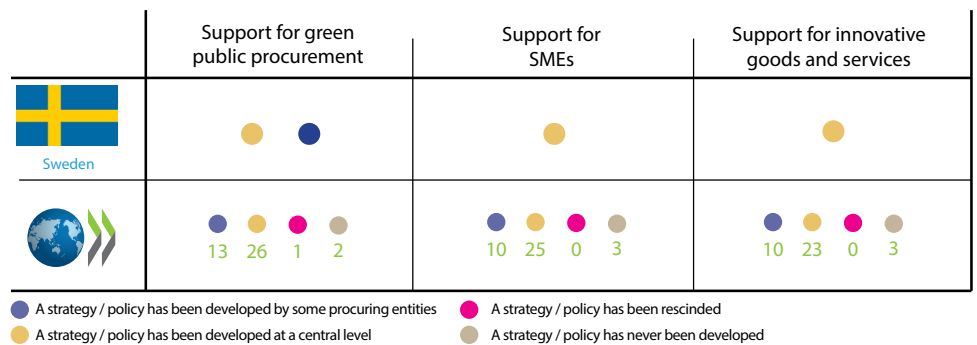
Procurement expenditure (2013)

% of government expenditures



Source: OECD National Accounts

Strategic public procurement - Objectives (2014)

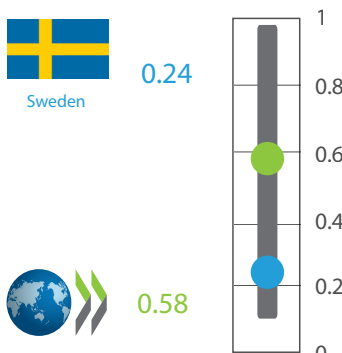


Source: 2014 OECD Survey on Public Procurement

Digital Gov.

OURdata Index: Open, Useful, Reusable Government Data (2014)

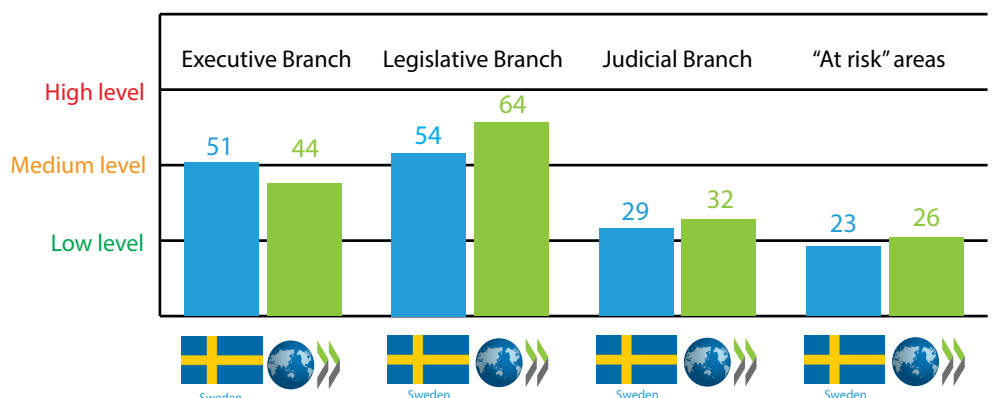
Composite index from 0 lowest to 1 highest



Source: 2014 OECD Survey on Open Government Data

Public Sector Integrity

Level of disclosure of private interests across branches of government (2014)



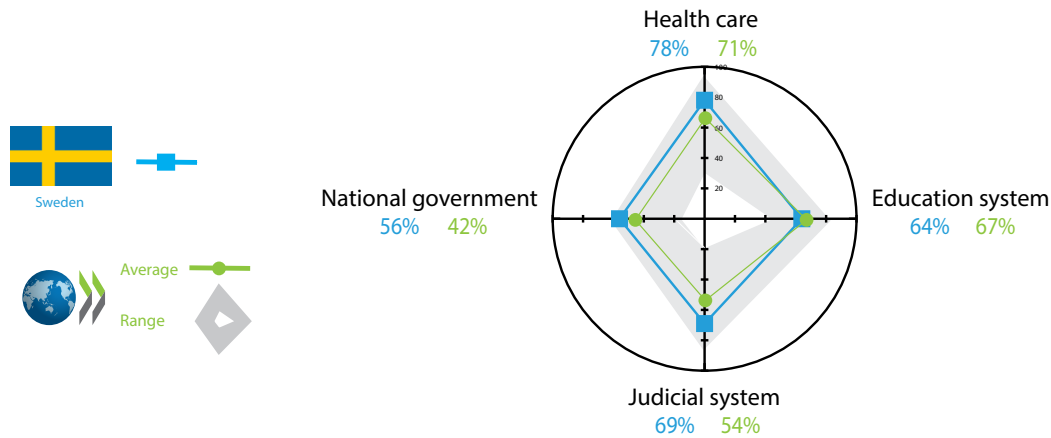
Source: 2014 OECD Survey on Managing Conflict of Interest in the Executive Branch and Whistleblower Protection

GOVERNMENT OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

Core Government Results and Service Delivery

Satisfaction and confidence across public services (2014)

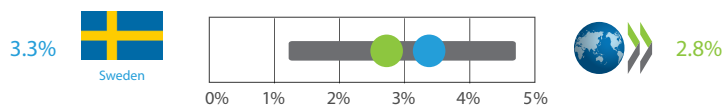
% of citizens expressing confidence/satisfaction



Source: Gallup World Poll

Access to healthcare (2012)

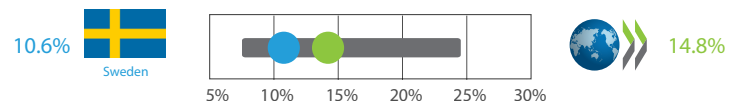
Out of pocket expenditure as a % of final household consumption



Source: OECD Health Statistics 2014

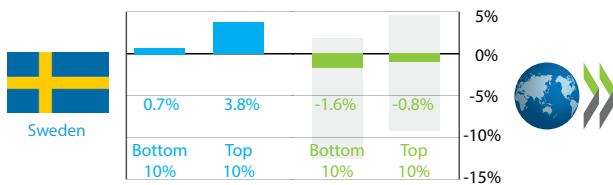
Equity in learning outcomes (2012)

PISA mathematics score variance by socio economic background



Source: OECD, PISA 2012 results: Excellence through equity, 2013

Changes in household disposable income, by income group (2007-2011)



Source: OECD Income Distribution Database

Limited government powers (2014)



Source: The World Justice Project

Notes

- 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.
- Structural fiscal balance**, or underlying balance, represents the fiscal balance adjusted for the state of the economic cycle (as measured by the output gap which resulted as the difference between actual and potential GDP) and one-off fiscal operations.
- 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. Government gross debt for Sweden is reported on an adjusted basis (i.e. excluding unfunded pension liabilities).

Government at a Glance 2015

With a focus on public administration, OECD Government at a Glance 2015 provides readers with a dashboard of key indicators assembled with the goal of contributing to the analysis and international comparison of public sector performance across OECD countries. Indicators on public finances and employment are provided alongside composite indexes summarising aspects of public management policies, and indicators on services to citizens in health care, education, and justice. Government at a Glance 2015 also includes indicators on key governance and public management issues, such as regulatory management, budgeting practices and procedures, public sector integrity, public procurement and core government results in terms of trust in institutions, income redistribution and efficiency and cost-effectiveness of governments.

The Excel spreadsheets used to create the tables and figures in Government at a Glance 2015 are available via the StatLinks provided throughout the publication:

http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/gov_glance-2015-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

