The fiscal deficit in Austria has decreased below the OECD average

After experiencing a 5.4% deficit in 2009, fiscal consolidation has brought the deficit to 1.1% of GDP in 2015, while the OECD average deficit reached 2.8% of the GDP. This is also reflected by the state of the primary balance, which measures the overall balance excluding net interest payments on government debt, as it reached a surplus of 0.8% of GDP in 2015. In 2016, the deficit increased slightly to 1.6% of GDP and the primary balance fell to a surplus of 0.1% of GDP. However, the structural primary balance is expected to remain positive in 2017 and 2018.

Austria has one of the most comprehensive performance budgeting frameworks among OECD countries

The framework was introduced as part of far reaching budget reforms in 2013 which sought to improve budgetary decision-making. In particular, the reforms focussed on designing the federal budget as a comprehensive steering instrument for resources, outputs and outcomes. These reforms are one of the reasons why, between 2011 and 2016 Austria improved the most on the OECD performance budgeting indicator among all OECD countries.

The share of women occupying cabinet positions fell below OECD average

Between 2015 and 2017 the share of women ministers in Austria decreased from 31% to 23%, while the average among all OECD countries remained around 28%. During this period, the share of women parliamentarians in Austria remained above the OECD average, reaching 31% in 2017 while the OECD average was 29%. At the same time in the federal civil service 29% of senior civil servants are women, slightly below the OECD average of 33%.
Public Finance and Economics

Fiscal balance* (2015, 2016) % of GDP

Government expenditures (2015, 2016) % of GDP

Government investment (2015, 2016) % of GDP

Government gross debt* (2015) % of GDP

Public Employment

General government employment as % of total employment (2015)

Women in the civil service ... and in senior positions (2015)

Percentage of central government employees aged 55 years or older (2015)

Public Sector Compensation

Annual compensation across central government positions (2015)
Human Resource Management

Composite indicators on HRM practices in central government (2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HRM Practice</th>
<th>Austria</th>
<th>Composite Index</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extent of delegation of HRM practices in line ministries</td>
<td>0.62</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent of the use of performance assessments in HR decisions</td>
<td>0.64</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent of the use of performance related pay</td>
<td>0.68</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of separate HRM practices for senior civil servants</td>
<td>0.66</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection of administrative data</td>
<td>0.55</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of performance-related pay</td>
<td>0.65</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of separate HRM practices for senior civil servants</td>
<td>0.70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection of administrative data</td>
<td>0.68</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: OECD (2016) Strategic Human Resources Management Survey

Budgeting

Performance budgeting practices at the central level of government (2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Budgeting Practices</th>
<th>Austria</th>
<th>Composite Index</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.58</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: OECD (2016) Survey of Performance Budgeting

Regulatory governance

Composite indices on regulatory governance for primary laws* (2014)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regulatory Governance</th>
<th>Austria</th>
<th>Composite Index</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stakeholder engagement in developing regulations</td>
<td>1.36</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regulatory Impact Assessment for developing regulations</td>
<td>2.09</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ex post evaluation of regulations</td>
<td>1.88</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* See Notes

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

Public Procurement

General government procurement expenditures (2015)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of government expenditures</th>
<th>Austria</th>
<th>Composite Index</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26.1%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: OECD National Accounts

Strategic public procurement - Objectives (2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Austria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Support for green public procurement</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support for SMEs</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support for innovative goods and services</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Some procuring entities have developed an internal strategy/policy
A strategy/policy has been developed at a central level
A strategy/policy has been rescinded
There has never been a strategy/policy in place

Source: OECD (2016) Survey on Public Procurement
**Open Data**

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

Composite index: from 0 lowest to 1 highest

- Government support to re-use
- Data accessibility
- Data availability

Austria: 0.68
United States: 0.55

Source: OECD (2017) Survey on Open Government Data

**Digital Government**

**Individuals using the Internet for sending filled forms via public authorities websites in the past 12 months (2016)**

- Austria: 33.0%
- United States: 35.6%

Source: OECD, ICT database; and Eurostat, Information Society database

**Core Government Results**

**Satisfaction and confidence across public services (2016)**

- National government: 43% (Before), 42% (After)
- Police: 86% (Before), 77% (After)
- Health care: 88% (Before), 70% (After)
- Judicial system: 68% (Before), 55% (After)
- Education system: 72% (Before), 67% (After)

Source: Gallup World Poll

**Differences in income inequality pre and post-tax and government transfers (2013)**

- Before: Austria: 0.50, United States: 0.47
- After: Austria: 0.28, United States: 0.32

Source: OECD Income Distribution Database

**Limited government powers (2016)**

- Austria: 0.86
- United States: 0.75

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.
- 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%).
- 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 at a Glance 2017**

Government at a Glance provides readers with a dashboard of key indicators assembled with the goal of contributing to the analysis and international comparison of public sector productivity and performance. Indicators on government revenues, expenditures, and employment are presented, alongside key output and outcome data for education, health and justice. Information on key enablers to increase productivity including on digital government, budget procedures, strategic human resource management, open government data and innovative practices are also included. In a context of tight budget constraints in many member countries, good indicators are needed more than ever, in order to help governments make informed decisions regarding resource allocation and to help restore confidence in government institutions.

The Excel spreadsheets used to create the tables and figures in Government at a Glance 2017 are available via the StatLinks provided throughout the publication: http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/gov_glance-2017-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