Government revenues as a share of GDP have yet to recover to pre-financial crisis levels

Government revenues in 2007 reached 41.3% of GDP, decreasing to 40.5% in 2009 due to lower economic activity during the financial crisis. Yet by 2015, revenues further declined to 39.8% of GDP, despite positive economic growth. Nevertheless, the fiscal deficit has decreased from 3.9% of GDP in 2009 to 1.3% of GDP in 2015, but the fiscal balance remains lower than the surplus experienced before the crisis, which reached 1.8% of GDP in 2007.

Citizen satisfaction with the health care system in Canada increased significantly in the last decade despite high waiting times for doctors' and specialists' appointments

From 2007 to 2016, the share of citizen satisfaction with health care in Canada increased from 68% to 77%, one of the largest increases among OECD countries in this period, while satisfaction with the health care system remained mostly unchanged on average among OECD countries at 70%. On the other hand, waiting times remain high, with more than half of the population reporting that they could not get same or next day appointment with a doctor last time they needed care compared to 39% on average across the OECD and 30% reporting that they had to wait two months or longer for a specialist appointment compared to 14% on average across the OECD.

Canada uses public spending reviews extensively to assess the impact of public expenditures and make corrective actions if necessary

Between 2008 and 2016 Canada carried out 5 comprehensive spending reviews in order to assess its efficiency and efficacy. At the start of this period the objective was clearly focused on efficiency and reallocation improvements. After the advent of the financial crisis, the primary focus became fiscal consolidation. A secondary consideration in the review was the alignment of programme spending to government priorities and the improvement of spending efficiency.
Human Resource Management

**Composite indicators on HRM practices in central government (2016)**

- Extent of delegation of HRM practices in line ministries: 0.61
- Extent of the use of performance assessments in HR decisions: 0.64
- Extent of the use of performance related pay: 0.64
- Use of separate HRM practices for senior civil servants: 0.95
- Collection of administrative data: 0.85

Canada: 0.68

Source: OECD (2016) Strategic Human Resources Management Survey

**Budgeting**

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

Canada: 0.54

Source: OECD (2016) Survey of Performance Budgeting

**Regulatory governance**

**Composite indices on regulatory governance for primary laws**

Canada: Stakeholder engagement in developing regulations: 2.87

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

**Public Procurement**

**General government procurement expenditures (2015)**

Canada: 32.7%

Source: OECD National Accounts

**Strategic public procurement - Objectives (2016)**

Canada: Support for green public procurement: 11
Support for SMEs: 8
Support for innovative goods and services: 9

Source: OECD (2016) Survey on Public Procurement
**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.

**OURdata Index:**

Open, Useful, Reusable Government Data (2017)

Composite index: from 0 lowest to 1 highest

**Core Government Results**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National government</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judicial system</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education system</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Before (Income before transfers)</th>
<th>After (Income after transfers)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>0.44</td>
<td>0.32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Limited government powers (2016)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>0.84</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes**

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**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](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](http://www.oecd.org/gov/govataglance.htm)