Colombia’s fiscal position has weakened, as expenditures have grown faster than revenues

The government deficit in 2015 reached 3.2% of GDP, higher than the 2.8% of GDP average deficit among OECD countries. Between 2007 and 2015, Colombia increased government revenues by 3.2 p.p., from 31.1% to 34.3% of GDP, as oil revenues and tax reforms increased the revenues of the central government, yet during the same period government expenditures grew by 4.8 p.p., reaching 37.5% of GDP in 2015.

Colombia has a strong and comprehensive open government data policy

According to the OECD OURdata (Open-Useful-Reusable data) index, Colombia has high standards in open government data availability, accessibility and re-use, with an overall score which is higher than the OECD average.

In Colombia, compensation for senior managers in the central government, in GDP per capita terms, is highest among OECD and accession candidate countries

Although senior officials in the Colombian government earn less than the OECD average in USD PPP terms, D1 managers earn more than double the OECD average when compensation is measured relative to GDP per capita. This reflects the countries relative income differences.
**Public Finance and Economics**

**Fiscal balance* (2015) % of GDP**
- Colombia: -3.2%
- Source: OECD National Accounts

**Government expenditures (2015) % of GDP**
- Colombia: 37.2%
- Source: OECD National Accounts

**Government investment (2015) % of GDP**
- Colombia: 3.2%
- Source: OECD National Accounts

**Government gross debt* (2015) % of GDP**
- Colombia: 65.3%
- Source: OECD National Accounts

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**Public Employment**

**General government employment as % of total employment (2015)**
- Colombia: 18.1%
- Source: OECD National Accounts

**Women in the civil service ...**
- Colombia: 57.0%
- Source: OECD (2016) Survey on the Composition of the workforce in Central/federal Governments

**... and in senior positions (2015)**
- Colombia: 39.5%
- Source: OECD (2016) Survey on the Composition of the workforce in Central/federal Governments

**Percentage of central government employees aged 55 years or older (2015)**
- Colombia: 18.7%
- Source: OECD (2016) Survey on the Composition of the workforce in Central/federal Governments

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**Public Sector Compensation**

**Annual compensation across central government positions (2015)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>2015 USD PPP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Secretarial Positions</td>
<td>19,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Professionals</td>
<td>52,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Managers (D3) positions</td>
<td>88,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Managers (D1) positions</td>
<td>106,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>134,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>189,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>231,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


* Values have been rounded. n.a. refers to data not available.
**Open Data**

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

Composite index: from 0 lowest to 1 highest

- **Colombia**: 0.80
- **n.a.**: 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)**

- **Colombia**: 35.6%
- **n.a.**

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

**Core Government Results**

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

- **National government**
  - Colombia: 26% before, 42% after
  - Average: 53% before, 67% after

- **Health care**
  - Colombia: 45% before, 70% after
  - Average: 64% before, 67% after

- **Police**
  - Colombia: 53% before, 77% after

- **Judicial system**
  - Colombia: 25% before, 55% after

- **Education system**
  - Colombia: 64% before, 67% after

Source: Gallup World Poll

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

- **Colombia**
  - Before (0.47)
  - After (0.32)

Source: OECD Income Distribution Database

**Limited government powers (2016)**

- **Colombia**: 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](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)