Latvia reached a fiscal balance in equilibrium in 2016

Compared to 2009, Latvia’s fiscal balance improved reaching -1.3% of GDP in 2015 and equilibrium in 2016. Latvia’s deficit level in 2015 was 1.6 p.p. lower than the OECD average (2.8% of GDP). In addition, the government gross debt – according to the System of National Accounts definition – reached 40.8% of GDP in 2015 being among the lowest across the OECD countries.

Latvia has taken important steps towards performance budgeting

Performance budgeting involves bridging the gap between programme performance and the allocation of public expenditure. The government of Latvia has a compulsory performance budgeting framework and is now part of the subset of 26 OECD countries that have a standard framework applied uniformly across government.

Latvia has considerable room for improvement in its open government data strategies

While many OECD countries have introduced strategies to facilitate access and utilisation of data collected by the government, Latvia trails in the adoption of tools to facilitate government data use by the public. According to the OECD OURdata index, which measures how much governments facilitate data availability, access and re-use, Latvia had the second-lowest overall score in 2016 among all OECD countries.
### Public Finance and Economics

#### Fiscal balance*(2015, 2016)
- % of GDP
  - 2016: Latvia -1.3%
  - 2015: Latvia -2.8%

#### Government expenditures(2015, 2016)
- % of GDP
  - 2015: Latvia 37.0%
  - 2016: Latvia 36.3%

#### Government investment(2015, 2016)
- % of GDP
  - 2015: Latvia 4.7%
  - 2016: Latvia 3.3%

#### Government gross debt*(2015, 2016)
- % of GDP
  - 2015: Latvia 0%
  - 2016: Latvia 20%

* Source: OECD National Accounts

### Public Employment

#### General government employment as % of total employment (2015)
- Latvia: 20.1%

#### Women in the civil service...
- Latvia: 63.7%

#### Percentage of central government employees aged 55 years or older (2015)
- Latvia: 19.8%

* Source: OECD National Accounts

### 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>52,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Professionals</td>
<td>100,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Managers (D3 positions)</td>
<td>134,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Managers (D1 positions)</td>
<td>231,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Source: OECD (2016) Survey on the compensation of employees in central / federal governments

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*See Notes*
Human Resource Management

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Latvia</th>
<th>OECD Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extent of delegation of HRM practices in line ministries</td>
<td>0.59</td>
<td>0.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent of the use of performance assessments in HR decisions</td>
<td>0.64</td>
<td>0.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent of the use of performance related pay</td>
<td>0.66</td>
<td>0.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of separate HRM practices for senior civil servants</td>
<td>0.35</td>
<td>0.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection of administrative data</td>
<td>0.73</td>
<td>0.68</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>Latvia</th>
<th>OECD Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.32</td>
<td>0.41</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>Latvia</th>
<th>OECD Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.44</td>
<td>2.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.05</td>
<td>1.54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: OECD (2016) Survey of Performance Budgeting

**Public Procurement**

**General government procurement expenditures (2015)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Latvia</th>
<th>OECD Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>32.5%</td>
<td>29.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: OECD National Accounts

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Latvia</th>
<th>OECD Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</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
**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](http://www.oecd.org/gov/govataglance.htm)

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### Fiscal balance

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

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

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.

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**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

Latvia: 0.21

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)**

- Latvia: 31.0%
- World: 35.6%

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

**Core Government Results**

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

- % of citizens expressing confidence/satisfaction
- National government
  - Latvia: 32% (Before), 42% (After)
  - Average: 41% (Before), 55% (After)
  - Range: 57% (Before), 41% (After)

- Police
  - Latvia: 67% (Before), 77% (After)
  - Average: 70% (Before), 67% (After)
  - Range: 85% (Before), 57% (After)

- Health care
  - Latvia: 47% (Before), 70% (After)
  - Average: 41% (Before), 55% (After)
  - Range: 88% (Before), 31% (After)

- Judicial system
  - Latvia: 41% (Before), 55% (After)
  - Average: 41% (Before), 55% (After)
  - Range: 67% (Before), 41% (After)

- Education system
  - Latvia: 57% (Before), 67% (After)
  - Average: 57% (Before), 67% (After)
  - Range: 67% (Before), 41% (After)

Source: Gallup World Poll

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

- Latvia: 0.50 (Before taxes and transfers), 0.35 (After taxes and transfers)
  - Higher inequality: 0.50 (Before), 0.47 (After)
  - Lower inequality: 0.3 (Before), 0.32 (After)

Source: OECD Income Distribution Database

**Limited government powers (2016)**

- Latvia: 0.75

Source: The World Justice Project

### Notes

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