Switzerland continues to strengthen its fiscal position

In 2015, Switzerland had a fiscal surplus of 1.1% of GDP, whereas the average balance across OECD countries was a deficit of 2.8% of GDP. The structural government primary balance, adjusted for the economic cycle, one-off fiscal operations and net interest payments, is estimated to be positive and will remain so for the upcoming years, albeit decreasing slightly, as it is projected to go from 1% of potential GDP in 2016 to 1.2% of potential GDP in 2018.

Participation of women in the central government workforce is relatively low

The share of women in central government positions in 2015 reached 30% for professionals, 20% for middle managers and 15% for senior managers in Switzerland. In countries like Poland, Greece, Iceland and Latvia the share of women in senior positions is between 50% and 54%.

Trust in government is the highest in Switzerland among OECD countries

The share of citizens who have confidence in the national government was close to 80% in 2016 (based on Gallup World Polls), almost double the OECD average of 42%, increasing 17 p.p. since 2007 and reaching the highest share across all OECD countries.
Public Finance and Economics

**Fiscal balance*** *(2015)*

- **% of GDP**
  - Switzerland: 1.1%
  - Average of OECD countries: -2.8%
  - Range of OECD country values: -10% to +10%

* See Notes

**Government expenditures** *(2015)*

- **% of GDP**
  - Switzerland: 33.9%
  - Average of OECD countries: 40.9%

**Government investment** *(2015)*

- **% of GDP**
  - Switzerland: 3.0%
  - Average of OECD countries: 3.2%

**Government gross debt*** *(2015)*

- **% of GDP**
  - Switzerland: 45.2%
  - Average of OECD countries: 112%

* SNA definition, see Notes

Public Employment

**General government employment as % of total employment (2015)**

- Switzerland: 9.9%
- Average of OECD countries: 18.1%

**Women in the civil service ...**

- **Percentage of central government employees aged 55 years or older (2015)**
  - Switzerland: 30.9%
  - Average of OECD countries: 53.0%

**... and in senior positions (2015)**

- **Percentage of central government employees aged 55 years or older (2015)**
  - Switzerland: 14.7%
  - Average of OECD countries: 32.4%

Public Sector Compensation

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

- **2015 USD PPP**
  - Secretarial Positions: 52,700
  - Senior Professionals: 88,700
  - Middle Managers (D3 positions): 134,500
  - Senior Managers (D1 positions): 231,500

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

Values have been rounded. n.a. refers to data not available.
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: 0.90
- Collection of administrative data: 0.89

Switzerland

Source: OECD (2016) Strategic Human Resources Management Survey

Budgeting

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

- Composite index: 0.58

Switzerland

Source: OECD (2016) Survey of Performance Budgeting

Regulatory governance

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

- Stakeholder engagement in developing regulations: 2.81
- Regulatory Impact Assessment for developing regulations: 2.92
- Ex post evaluation of regulations: 2.01

Switzerland

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

Public Procurement

General government procurement expenditures (2015)

- % of government expenditures: 25.8% (n.a.), 29.1% (n.a.)

Switzerland

Source: OECD National Accounts

Strategic public procurement - Objectives (2016)

- Support for green public procurement: n.a.
- Support for SMEs: 11, 25, 1, 0
- Support for innovative goods and services: 8, 24, 0, 1

Switzerland

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

**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.

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**Open Data**

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

Composite index: from 0 lowest to 1 highest

- **Switzerland**
  - 0.43
  - Government support to re-use
  - Data accessibility
  - Data availability

Source: OECD (2017) Survey on Open Government Data

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**Digital Government**

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

- **Switzerland**
  - 35.6%

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

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**Core Government Results**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>% of citizens expressing confidence/satisfaction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National government</td>
<td>80% 42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>88% 77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care</td>
<td>93% 70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judicial system</td>
<td>81% 55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education system</td>
<td>82% 67%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Gallup World Poll

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Before taxes and transfers</th>
<th>After taxes and transfers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>0.39</td>
<td>0.32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: OECD Income Distribution Database

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**Limited government powers (2016)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>0.75</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Source: The World Justice Project

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