

Government at a Glance 2021 Country Fact Sheet



Finland

Finland provides one of the most extensive social safety nets among OECD countries. Finland spends 24% of GDP on social protection, a higher proportion than any other OECD country. This is almost double the OECD average of 13.3% of GDP (Figure 2.25).

Chapter 2 – Public finance and economics



Figure 2.25. [General government expenditures by function as a percentage of GDP, 2019](#)

Finland performs well on youth inclusion in politics, but not in government. 36% of Finland's members of parliament are under the age of 40, the second highest share in the OECD (Figure 3.12). However, only 17% of central government employees are aged 18-34, ranking Finland 23 of 35 among OECD countries (Figure 3.6).

Chapter 3 – Public employment



Figure 3.6. [Percentage of central government employees aged 18-34 years old, 2015 and 2020](#)



Figure 3.12. [Share of members of parliament aged 40 and under and people aged 20-39 as a share of voting-age population, 2020](#)

Finland performs exceptionally on citizen confidence and satisfaction with the education and justice systems. Finnish citizens reported the third highest confidence in national government among OECD countries in 2020 (81%, Figure 13.1). Finland ranks first in the OECD for citizen satisfaction with the education system (87%, Figure 14.2), and citizen confidence in the judiciary system (81%, Figure 14.3).

Chapter 13 – Core government results



Figure 13.1. [Confidence in national government in 2020 and its change since 2007](#)

Chapter 14 – Serving citizens



Figure 14.2. [Citizen satisfaction with the education system and schools, 2010 and 2020](#)



Figure 14.3. [Citizen confidence in the judiciary system and the courts, 2010 and 2020](#)

Government resources

Finland

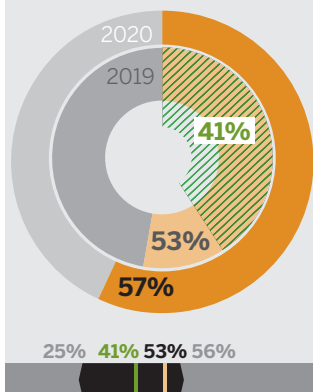
OECD

Range of OECD country values

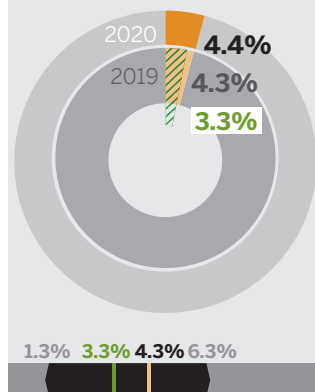
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Values have been rounded

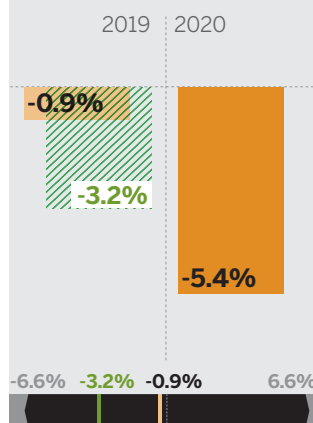
Government expenditures
(2019, 2020)
% of GDP



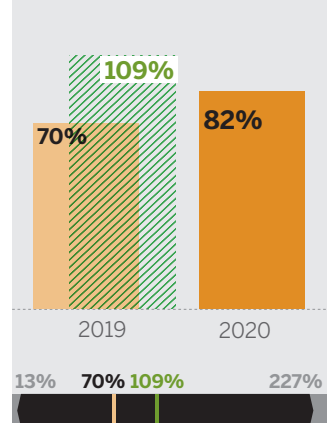
Government investment
(2019, 2020)
% of GDP



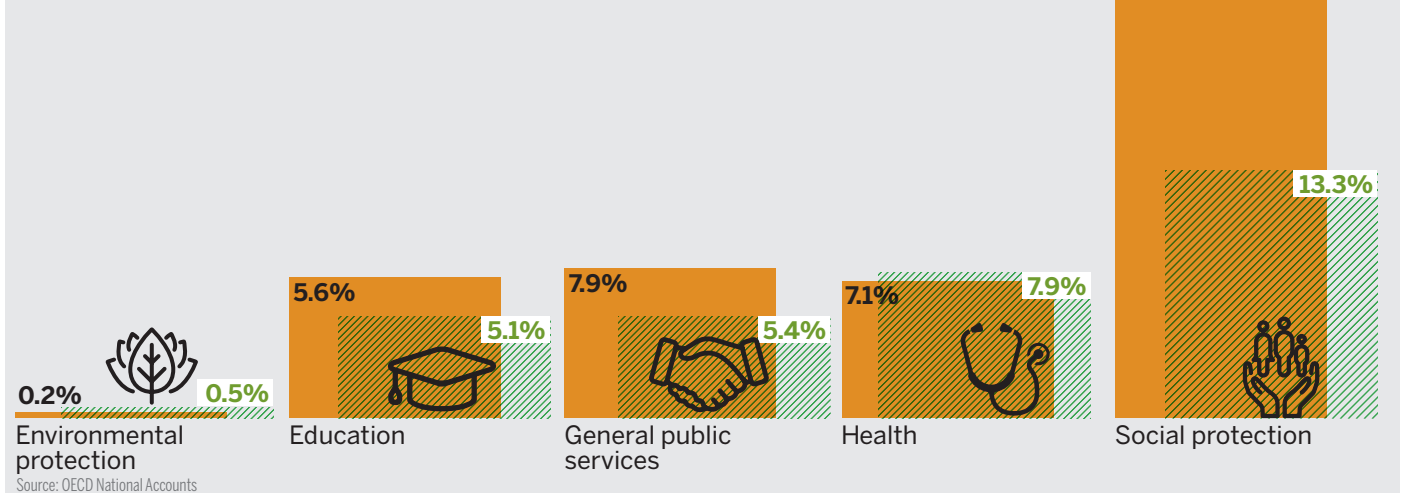
Fiscal balance
(2019, 2020)
% of GDP



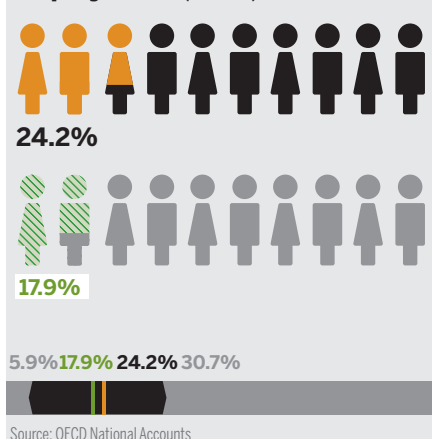
Government gross debt
(SNA definition, 2019, 2020) % of GDP



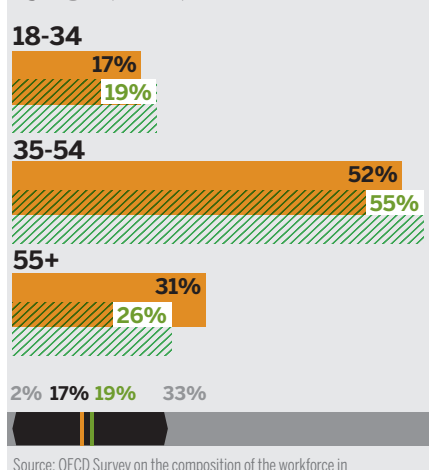
Government expenditures by selected functions (2019)
% of GDP



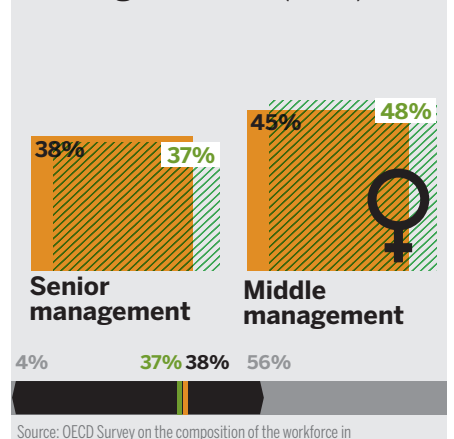
General government employment as a % of total employment (2019)



Central government workforce by age (2020)



Share of women in management positions in the central government (2020)



Public governance practices

Finland

OECD

Range of OECD country values

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Values have been rounded

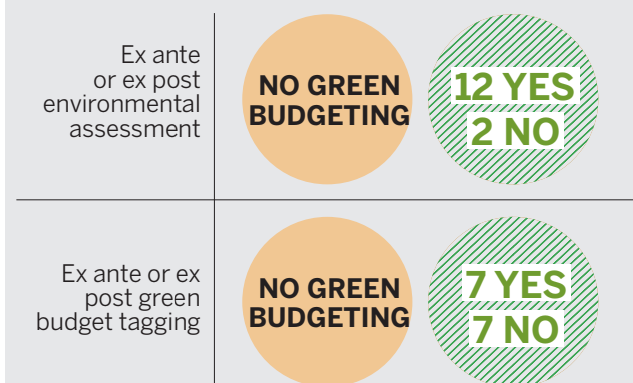
Composite indices of public service leadership and capability (2020)

From 0 (worst) to 1 (best)



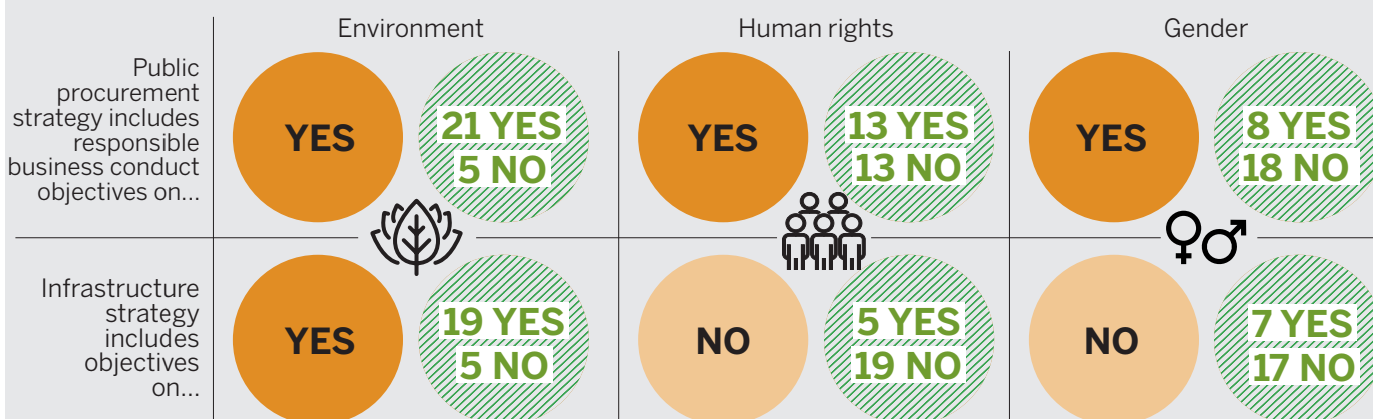
Source: OECD Survey on the composition of the workforce in central/federal governments and OECD Survey on public service leadership and capability

Green budgeting tools (2021)



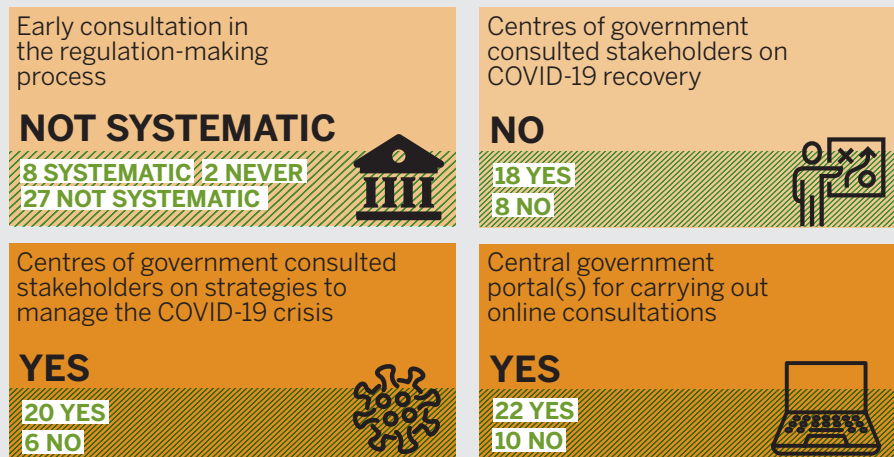
Source: OECD and European Commission – Joint survey on emerging green budgeting practices

Objectives included in infrastructure and public procurement strategies (2020)



Source: OECD Survey on infrastructure governance and OECD Survey on leveraging responsible business conduct through public procurement

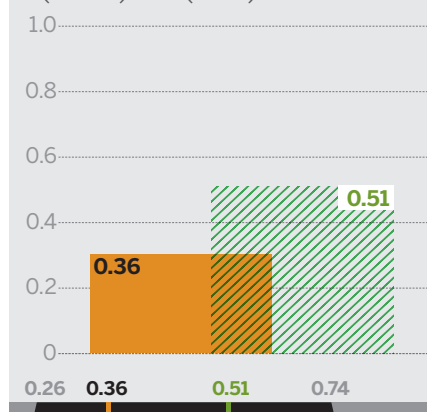
Citizen and stakeholder participation (2020 or 2021)



Source: OECD Survey on centres of government's role in managing the COVID-19 crisis, OECD open government Survey and OECD indicators of regulatory policy and governance (iREG) Survey

Digital government index (2019)

Composite index from 0 (worst) to 1 (best)

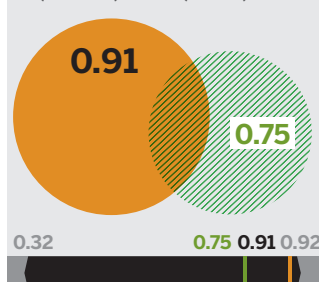


Source: OECD Survey on digital government 1.0

Government results

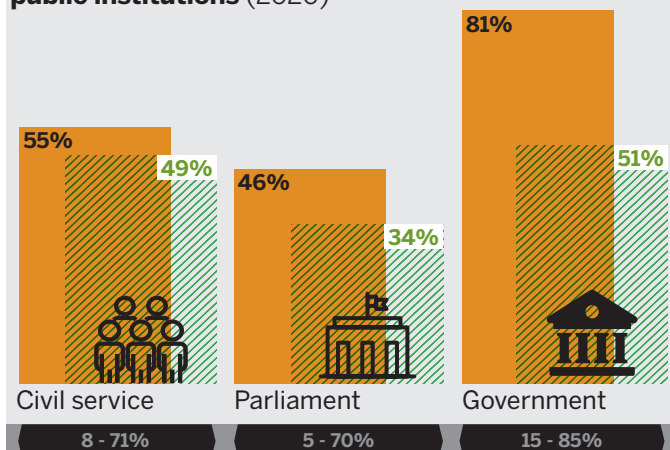
Government provides information on law enforcement, due process and respect of human rights (2020)

Composite index from 0 (worst) to 1 (best)



Source: World Justice Project, Rule of Law Index 2020

Citizens who express trust in public institutions (2020)



Source: Gallup World Poll, World Values Survey and European Values Study.

Finland

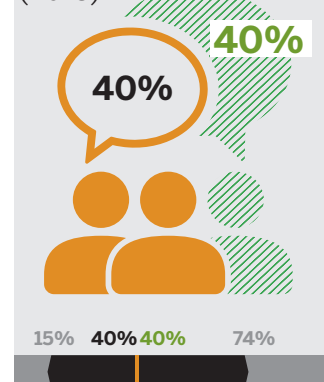
OECD

Range of OECD country values

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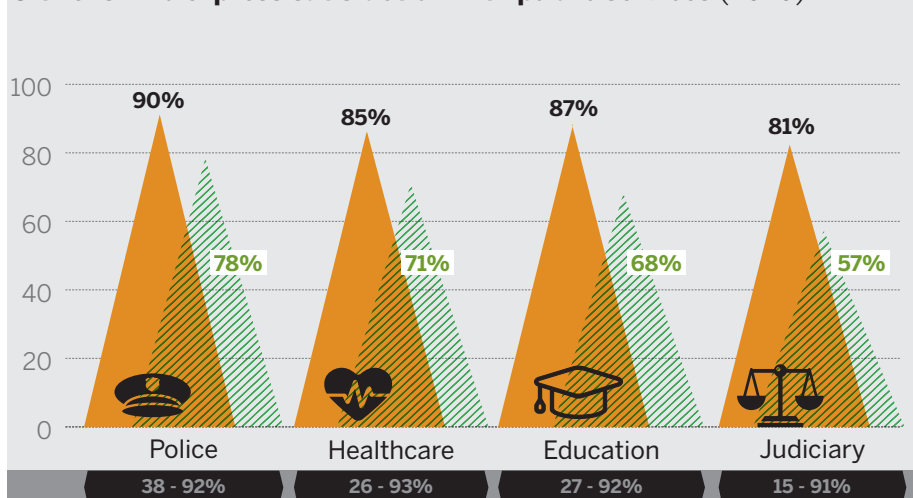
Values have been rounded

Citizens who believe they have a say in what government does (2018)



Source: OECD calculations based on rounds 8 and 9 of the ESS and the 2017-2020 round of the World Values Survey

Citizens who express satisfaction with public services (2020)



Source: Gallup World Poll

Income inequality before taxes and post taxes and transfers (GINI index, 2018)



Source: OECD Income Distribution Database

Figure notes

- Data on Public finance and economics, which are based on the System of National Accounts (SNA), were extracted on 11 May 2021 and data on General government employment were extracted on 12 April 2021. The range of country values refers to year 2019.
- Fiscal balance as reported in SNA framework, also referred to as net lending (+) or net borrowing (-) of government, is calculated as total government revenues minus total government expenditures.
- 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.
- The range of country values for the central government workforce by age refers to the 18-34 group.
- Data on trust in the civil service and parliament are 2018 for most countries.
- The range of country values for share of women in management positions in the central government refers to senior management.
- Citizens who express satisfaction with public services: for the judiciary and the police, the data reflect the proportion of citizens who express having confidence in the institution.
- The range of country values for income inequality before taxes and post taxes and transfers refers to GINI after taxes and transfers for the working age population.

Government at a Glance 2021

Published every two years, **Government at a Glance** provides reliable, internationally comparable indicators on government activities and their results in OECD countries.

The 2021 edition includes input indicators on public finance and employment; while processes include data on institutions, budgeting practices and procedures, human resources management, regulatory governance, public procurement, the governance of infrastructure, public sector integrity, open government and digital government. Outcomes cover core government results (e.g. trust, political efficacy, inequality reduction) and indicators on access, responsiveness, quality and citizen satisfaction for the education, health and justice sectors. Governance indicators are especially useful for monitoring and benchmarking governments' progress in their public sector reforms.



Each indicator in the publication is presented in a user-friendly format, consisting of graphs and/or charts illustrating variations across countries and over time, brief descriptive analyses highlighting the major findings conveyed by the data, and a methodological section on the definition of the indicator and any limitations in data comparability.

The Excel spreadsheets used to create the tables and figures in Government at a Glance 2021 are available via the StatLinks provided throughout the publication: <https://doi.org/10.1787/1c258f55-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