Latvia has one of lowest levels of debt per capita among OECD countries, and had the smallest increase in 2020. Latvia had public debt of around USD 15 100 PPP per capita in 2019. This was one of the lowest levels among OECD countries, and far below the OECD average of about USD 57 000 PPP. Latvia’s public debt per capita rose by USD 2 120 PPP in 2020. This was the smallest increase among OECD counties for which data is available (Figure 2.9).

Chapter 2 – Public finance and economics

Latvia is an average performer on digital government, but is one of the most proactive in delivering digital services. In 2019, Latvia scored slightly below the average of OECD countries in the OECD Digital Government Index (Figure 10.1). However, Latvia had the second highest score in proactiveness, or capacity to anticipate people’s needs and respond to them rapidly.

Chapter 10 – Digital government

Latvia’s citizens have low levels of trust in government and satisfaction with democracy. In 2020, only 24% of people reported confidence in the national government, less than half the average OECD (51%, Figure 13.1). In 2018, 29% of citizens reported that the political system allows people like them to have a say in what the government does, compared to an OECD average of 41%. Only 39% of the population reported being satisfied with democracy, compared to an OECD average of 61%.

Chapter 13 – Core government results
Public governance practices

Composite indices of public service leadership and capability (2020)

From 0 (worst) to 1 (best)

- Development of a diverse workforce: 0.63
- Policies to manage senior civil servants: 0.49

Green budgeting tools (2021)

- Ex ante or ex post environmental assessment: NO GREEN BUDGETING
- Ex ante or ex post green budget tagging: NO GREEN BUDGETING

Objectives included in infrastructure and public procurement strategies (2020)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Environment</th>
<th>Human rights</th>
<th>Gender</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>19 YES 5 NO</td>
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<td>7 YES 17 NO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Citizen and stakeholder participation (2020 or 2021)

- Early consultation in the regulation-making process: NOT SYSTEMATIC
- Centres of government consulted stakeholders on COVID-19 recovery: NO
- Centres of government consulted stakeholders on strategies to manage the COVID-19 crisis: NO
- Central government portal(s) for carrying out online consultations: YES

Digital government index (2019)

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

- Latvia: 0.51
- OECD: 0.47
- Range of OECD country values: 0.26 - 0.74

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

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

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

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)

Citizens who express satisfaction with public services (2020)

Citizens who express trust in public institutions (2020)

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

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

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