New Zealand is one of two OECD countries to achieve gender equality in parliament. 48% of parliamentarians in New Zealand were women in 2021, the largest share in the OECD, where the average is 32%. This is a 16 percentage point increase from 2012, when the share of female parliamentarians in New Zealand was 32% (Figure 3.10).

Chapter 3 – Public employment

New Zealand is a leader in delivering a diverse public sector. New Zealand ranks second in the OECD pilot index on development of a diverse public sector (Figure 6.5).

Chapter 6 – Human resources management

Trust in New Zealand’s institutions is above the OECD average. The proportion of citizens which expressed confidence in the civil service in New Zealand in 2018 was of 54%, 88% for the police, 43% for the parliament and 54% for the government. All of these were the OECD averages were of 49%, 72%, 34% and 37% respectively (Figure 13.3).

Chapter 13 – Core government results

Trust in government, the civil service, the parliament and the police, 2017 to 2020.
Public governance practices

Composite indices of public service leadership and capability (2020)
From 0 (worst) to 1 (best)

- Development of a diverse workforce: 0.74
- Policies to manage senior civil servants: 0.54

Objectives included in infrastructure and public procurement strategies (2020)

- Environment: YES 21 YES 5 NO
- Human rights: YES 13 YES 13 NO
- Gender: YES 8 YES 18 NO

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

Citizen and stakeholder participation (2020 or 2021)

- Early consultation in the regulation-making process:
  - SYSTEMATIC: 8 SYSTEMATIC 2 NEVER
  - 27 NOT SYSTEMATIC
- Centres of government consulted stakeholders on strategies to manage the COVID-19 crisis:
  - N. A.: 18 YES 8 NO
- Central government portal(s) for carrying out online consultations:
  - YES: 22 YES 10 NO

Digital government index (2019)
Composite index from 0 (worst) to 1 (best)

- New Zealand: 0.56
- OECD: 0.51
- Range of OECD country values: 0.51
- N. A. not available
- Values have been rounded

Source: OECD Survey on the composition of the workforce in central/federal governments and OECD Survey on public service leadership and capability
Source: OECD and European Commission – Joint survey on emerging green budgeting practices
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

Citizens who express satisfaction with public services (2020)

- Police: 38 - 92%
- Healthcare: 26 - 93%
- Education: 27 - 92%
- Judiciary: 15 - 91%

Source: Gallup World Poll

Citizens who express trust in public institutions (2020)

- Civil service: 51%
- Parliament: 43%
- Government: 34%

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

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

- 67%
- 40%
- 15%

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

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

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 the 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 debenture 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 34-35 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.

Source: OECD Income Distribution Database