OECD
BETTER POLICIES FOR BETTER LIVES

Government at a Glance 2017

www.oecd.org/gov/govataglance.htm

Country Fact Sheet

Korea

Korea spent the highest share of public expenditures on public investment among OECD countries in 2015

While governments across OECD countries invest, on average, 7.7% of public expenditures, Korea allocates 15.2% of all public expenditures to government investment, which represents also 5% of the Korean GDP. The proportion of government investment is allocated mainly to economic affairs and defence (54.5%) but investment in housing and community amenities is more than double that of the OECD average of 5.1%, reaching 11.9% in Korea.

Chapter 2. Public finance and economics

Government investment as percentage of GDP
Government investment as a share of total investment

Korea is a leader among OECD countries in the implementation of open government data strategies

Governments gather large amounts of information as part of its administrative duties. Some of that information can be put to use not only to improve the organizational efficiency of the government itself, but also to create value-added in private sector, foster innovation and empower citizens' decision-making. Korea scores the highest on the OECD *OURdata* index, a measure of data availability, accessibility and the government support for re-use of data.

Chapter 10. Open government

Open-Useful-Reusable Government Data Index *(OURdata)*

The Korean central government employs relatively few young people

The share of the central government workforce aged between 18 and 34 years is 9%, 9 p.p. below OECD average. At the same time the workforce in central government that is 55 years or older is also relatively small, representing 12% of all central government workforce, compared to an OECD average of 24%.

Chapter 3. Public employment and pay

Share of people employed in the central government by age group
Percentage of central government employees aged 55 years or older

How to read the figures:

Korea

Country value in **blue**
(not represented if not available)

Average of OECD countries in **red**

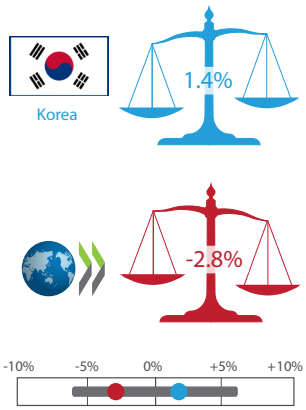
Range of OECD country values in **grey**

Values have been rounded.
n.a. refers to data not available

Public Finance and Economics

Fiscal balance* (2015)

% of GDP

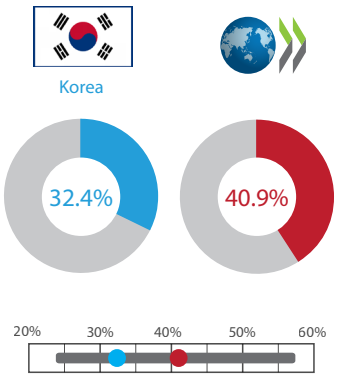


* *See Notes*

Source: OECD National Accounts

Government expenditures (2015)

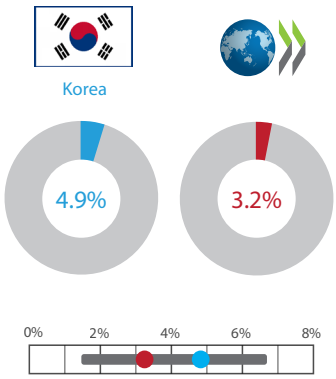
% of GDP



Source: OECD National Accounts

Government investment (2015)

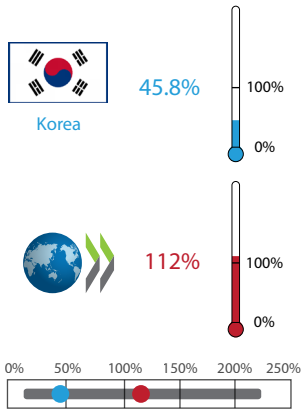
% of GDP



Source: OECD National Accounts

Government gross debt* (2015)

% of GDP

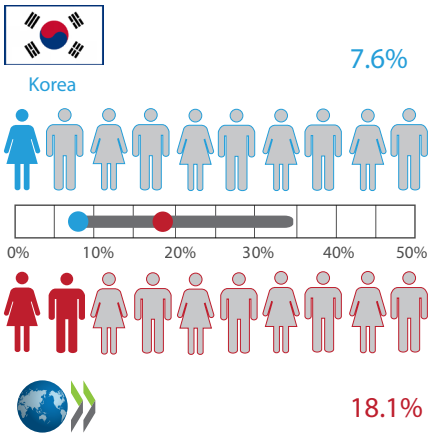


* *SNA definition, see Notes*

Source: OECD National Accounts

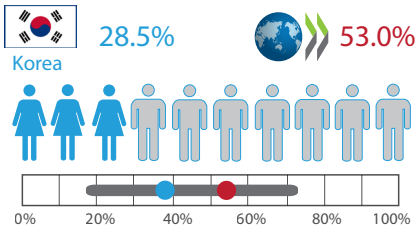
Public Employment

General government employment as % of total employment (2015)

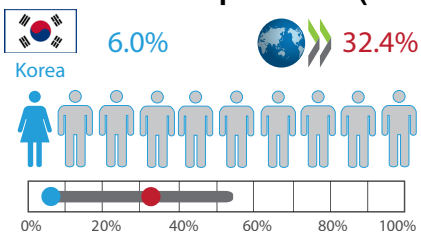


Source: OECD National Accounts

Women in the civil service ...

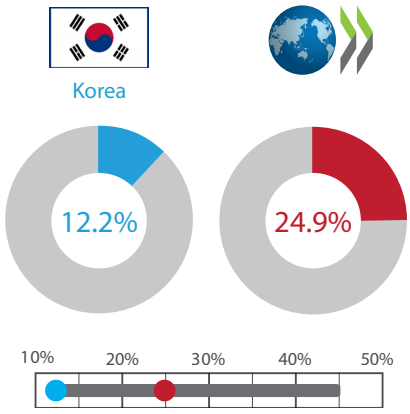


... and in senior positions (2015)



Source: OECD (2016) Survey on the Composition of the workforce in Central/federal Governments

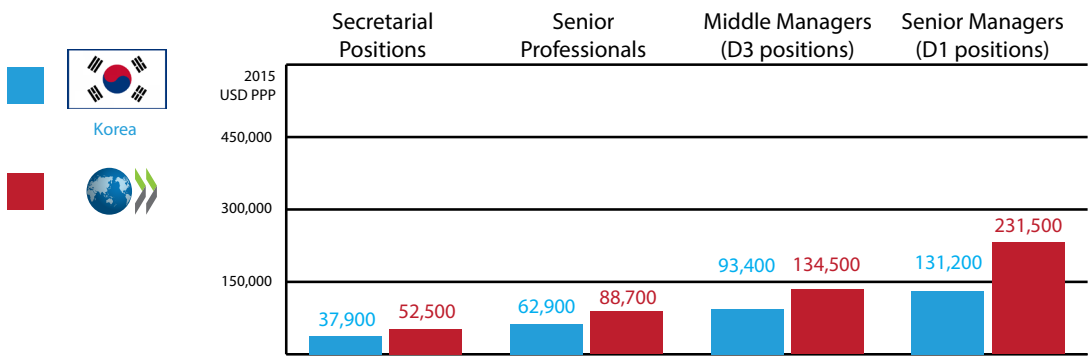
Percentage of central government employees aged 55 years or older (2015)



Source: OECD (2016) Survey on the Composition of the workforce in Central/federal Governments

Public Sector Compensation

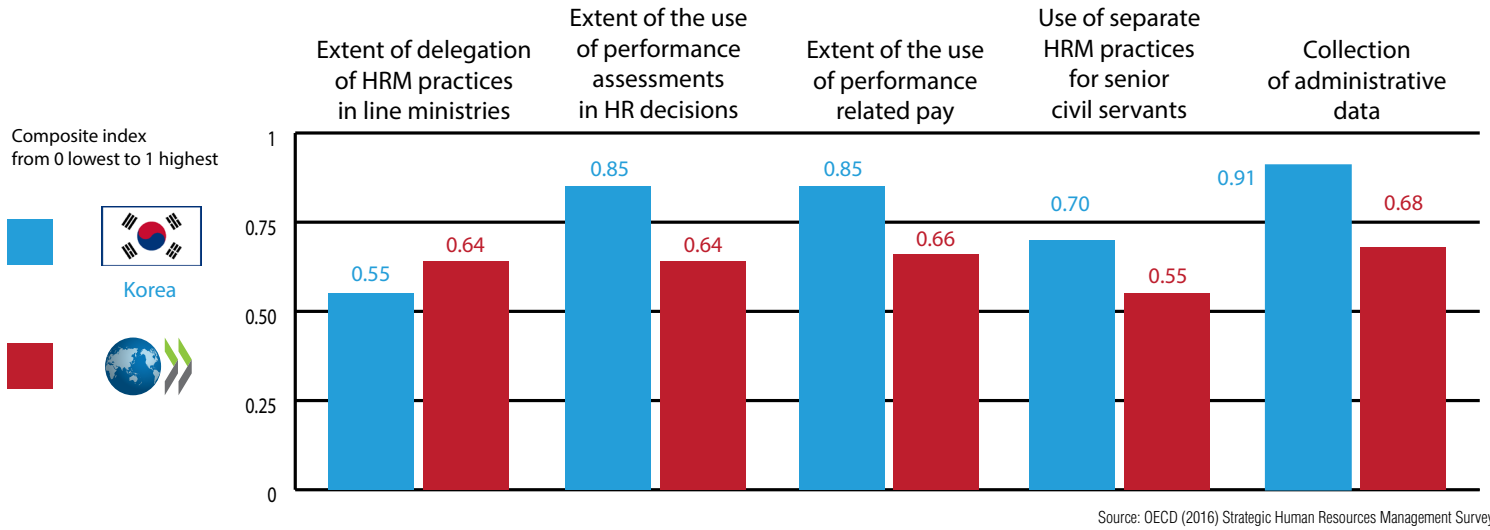
Annual compensation across central government positions (2015)



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

Human Resource Management

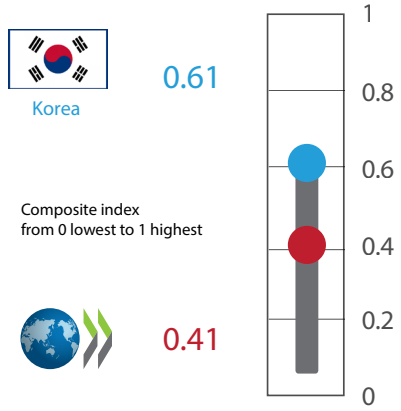
Composite indicators on HRM practices in central government (2016)



Source: OECD (2016) Strategic Human Resources Management Survey

Budgeting

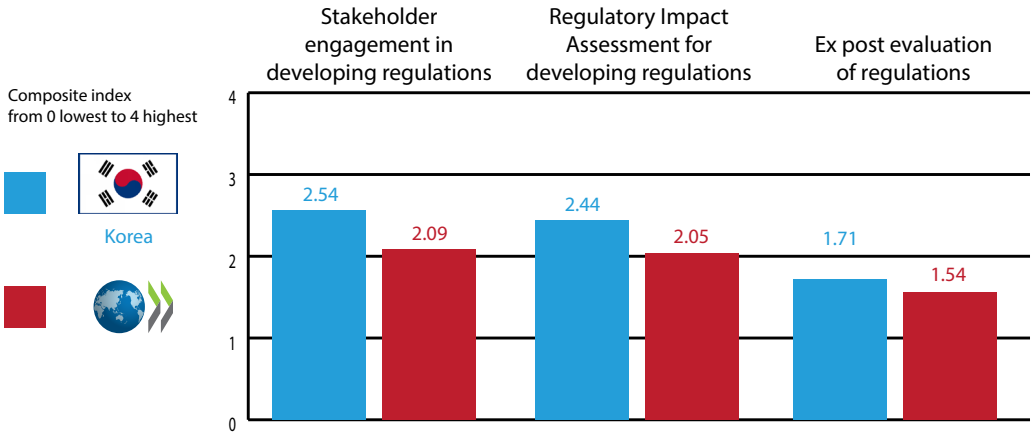
Performance budgeting practices at the central level of government (2016)



Source: OECD (2016) Survey of Performance Budgeting

Regulatory governance

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



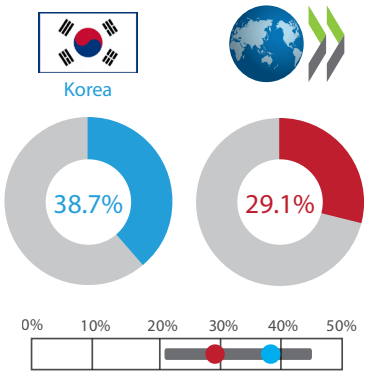
* See Notes

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

Public Procurement

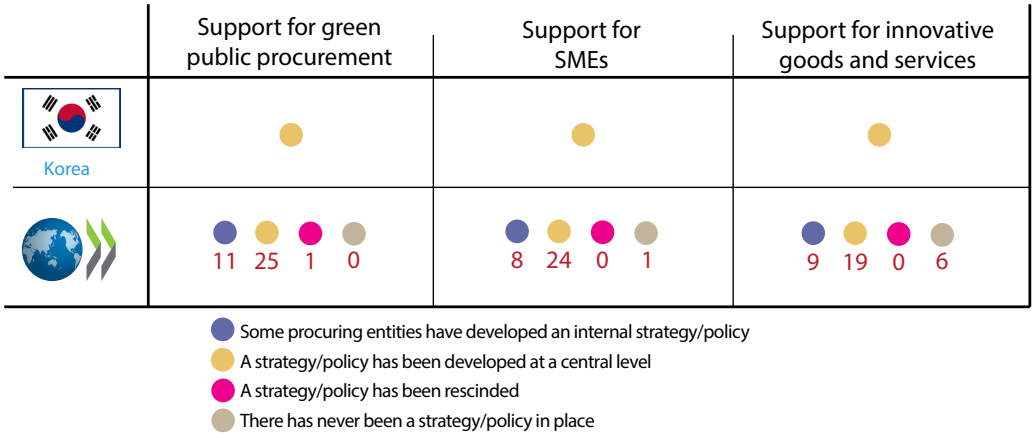
General government procurement expenditures (2015)

% of government expenditures



Source: OECD National Accounts

Strategic public procurement - Objectives (2016)

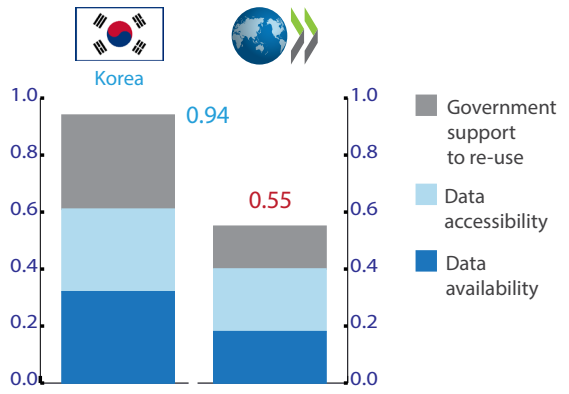


Source: OECD (2016) Survey on Public Procurement

Open Data

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

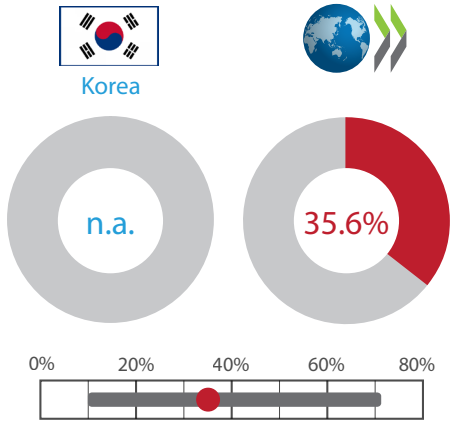
Composite index: from 0 lowest to 1 highest



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)

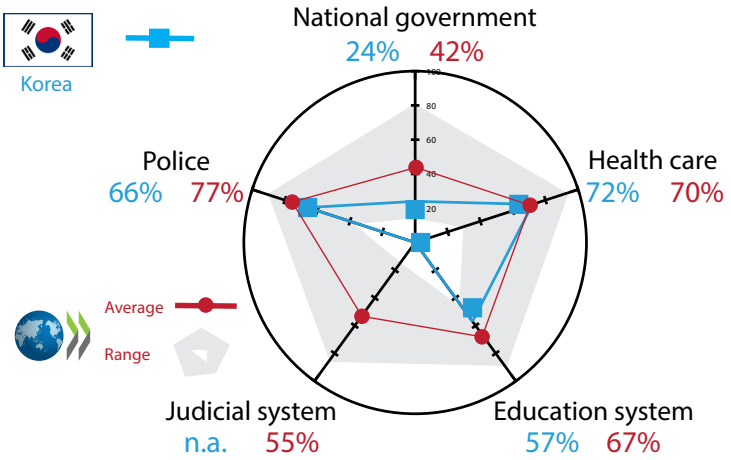


Source: OECD, ICT database; and Eurostat, Information Society database

Core Government Results

Satisfaction and confidence across public services* (2016)

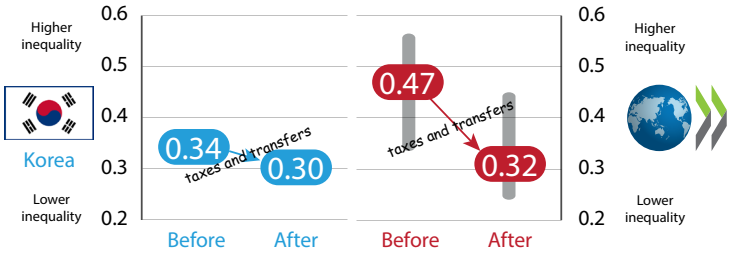
% of citizens expressing confidence/satisfaction



* *The Korean data are not displayed due to reliability issues.*

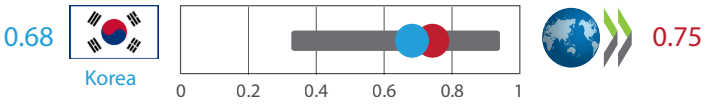
Source: Gallup World Poll

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



Source: OECD Income Distribution Database

Limited government powers (2016)



Source: The World Justice Project

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.

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