



#### **Finland's underlying fiscal situation is better than the OECD average, but its debt and deficit have grown considerably as a percentage of GDP**

Finland's gross debt has increased rapidly in recent years, though it remains well below the OECD average of 109.3%. Gross debt grew from 39.1% of GDP in 2007 to 64.8% in 2013 and 71.1% in 2014. The last year that Finland had a positive fiscal balance was in 2007, with 5.1% of the GDP. It has been in deficit each year since, registering -3.2% of GDP in 2014. In structural adjusted terms, the underlying fiscal deficit is somewhat lower (-1.6% of potential GDP in 2014). This is below the OECD average (-3.6%), and is expected to further decrease in 2015 and 2016.



Chapter 2: Public finance and economics

[General government debt as a percentage of GDP](#)

[General government fiscal balance as a percentage of GDP](#)

[General government structural balance as a percentage of potential GDP](#)

#### **Requirements to disclose private interests are low across the public sector, with no requirement for parliamentarians to disclose assets**

Disclosure of private interests of public officials can be an effective tool, alongside other mechanisms, in managing conflict of interest. Legislated requirements of disclosure of private interests in Finland are below the OECD average for all three branches government (executive, legislative and judicial), as well as for "at risk" occupations such as procurement agents and tax and customs officials. Finland is one of only two OECD countries where there are no obligations for members of the legislative branch regarding asset declarations.



Chapter 7: Public Sector Integrity

[Level of Disclosure and public availability of private interests across branches of government](#)

#### **Finnish citizens are generally satisfied with their public services, particularly with education**

Citizen satisfaction with the education system remains well above the OECD average, increasing 5 p.p. between 2007 and 2014. This coincides with above OECD average equality of educational opportunities in Finland, where socio-economic background is less of a factor for explaining student's performance than on average in the OECD. Finnish students are also consistently among the top performers on PISA tests (although the average score has decreased compared to the early 2000s). Citizen confidence with the judicial system is also well above the OECD average, whereas citizen satisfaction with the health care system is very close to the OECD average in 2014 and has remained relatively stable between 2007 and 2014.



Chapter 12: Serving Citizens

[Citizens' satisfaction with the health care system](#)

[Citizens' satisfaction with the education system](#)

[Percentage of variance in PISA mathematics score explained by socio-economic background](#)

[Evolution of PISA mean score in mathematics](#)

[Citizens' confidence with the judicial system](#)

## How to read the figures:



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



Average of OECD countries  
in **green**



Range of OECD country  
values in **grey**

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

# GOVERNMENT INPUTS: FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES

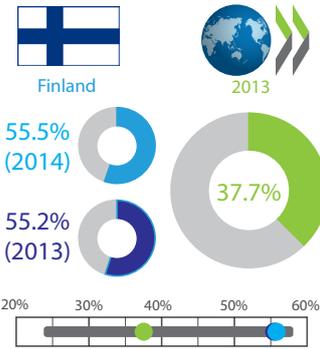
Public Finance & Economics

Public Employment & Compensation

## Public Finance and Economics

### Government revenues (2013, 2014)

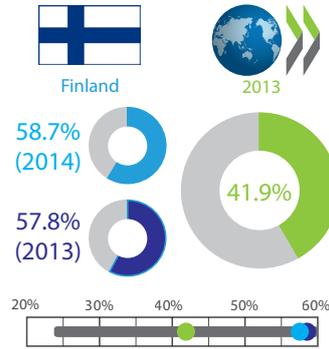
% of GDP



Source: OECD National Accounts

### Government expenditures (2013, 2014)

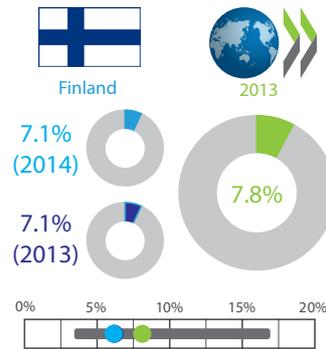
% of GDP



Source: OECD National Accounts

### Public investment (2013, 2014)

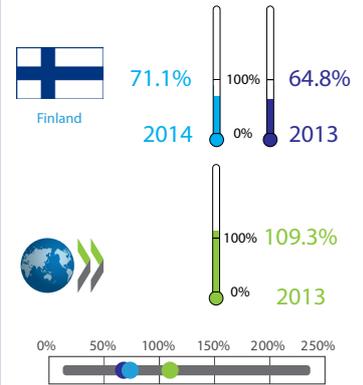
% of total govt. expenditures



Source: OECD National Accounts

### Government gross debt (2013, 2014)

% of GDP



Source: OECD/Eurostat National Accounts  
\* SNA definition, see Notes

### Fiscal balance (2013, 2014)

% of GDP



Source: OECD National Accounts. \* See Notes

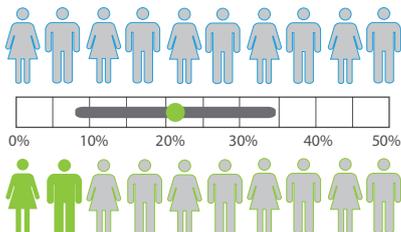
## Public Employment and Compensation

### Public sector employment as % of total employment (2013)



Finland

n.a.



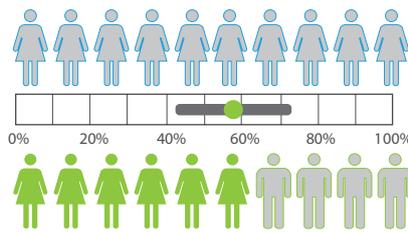
Source: International Labour Organization (database)

### Public sector employment filled by women (2013)



Finland

n.a.



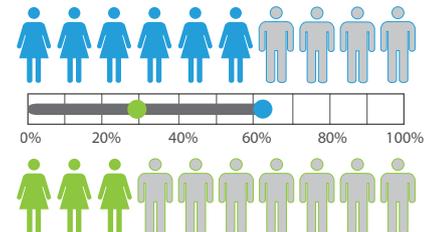
Source: International Labour Organization (database)

### Share of women ministers (2015)



Finland

62.5%



Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union Parline Database

# GOVERNMENT PROCESSES

Institutions

Regulatory Governance

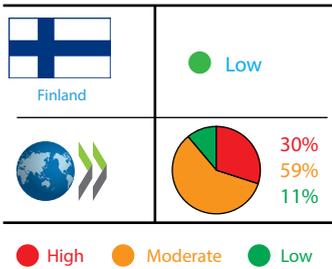
Public Procurement

Public Sector Integrity

Digital Government

## Institutions

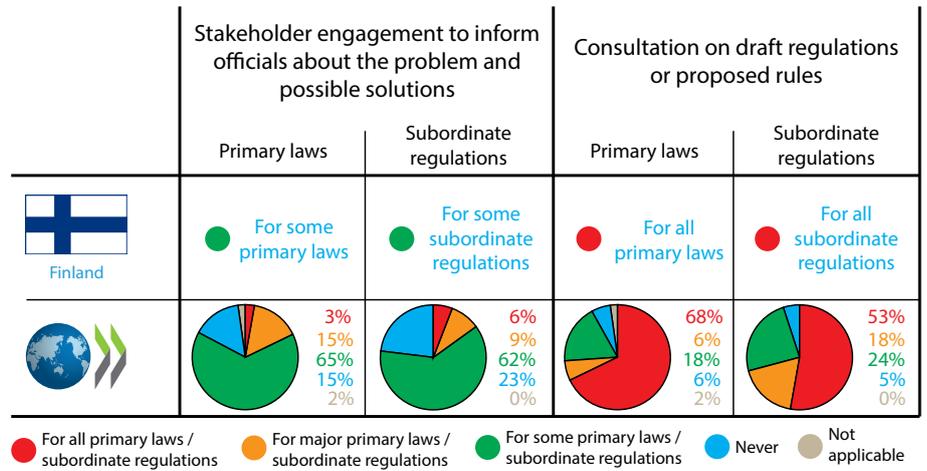
### Level of influence of the Centre of Government over line ministries (2013)



Source: OECD 2013 Survey on Centre of Government

## Regulatory Governance

### Stakeholder engagement and consultation (2014)

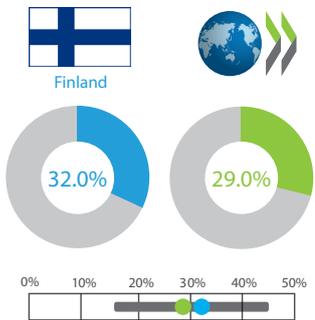


Source: OECD Regulatory Policy Outlook (forthcoming)

## Public Procurement

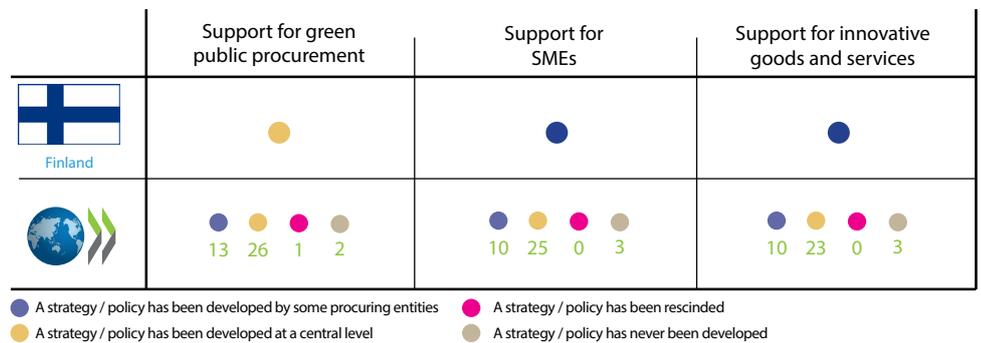
### Procurement expenditure (2013)

% of government expenditures



Source: OECD National Accounts

### Strategic public procurement - Objectives (2014)

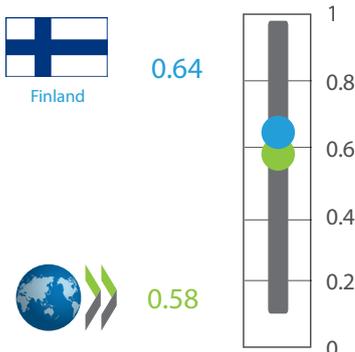


Source: 2014 OECD Survey on Public Procurement

## Digital Gov.

### OURdata Index: Open, Useful, Reusable Government Data (2014)

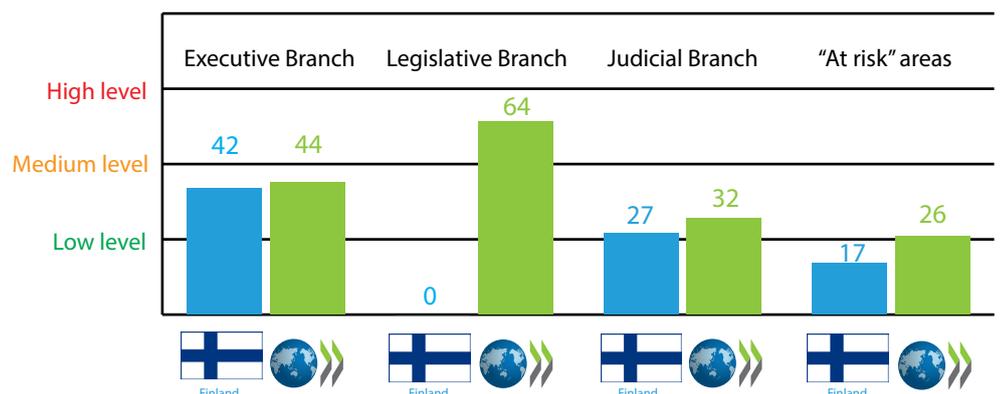
Composite index from 0 lowest to 1 highest



Source: 2014 OECD Survey on Open Government Data

## Public Sector Integrity

### Level of disclosure of private interests across branches of government (2014)



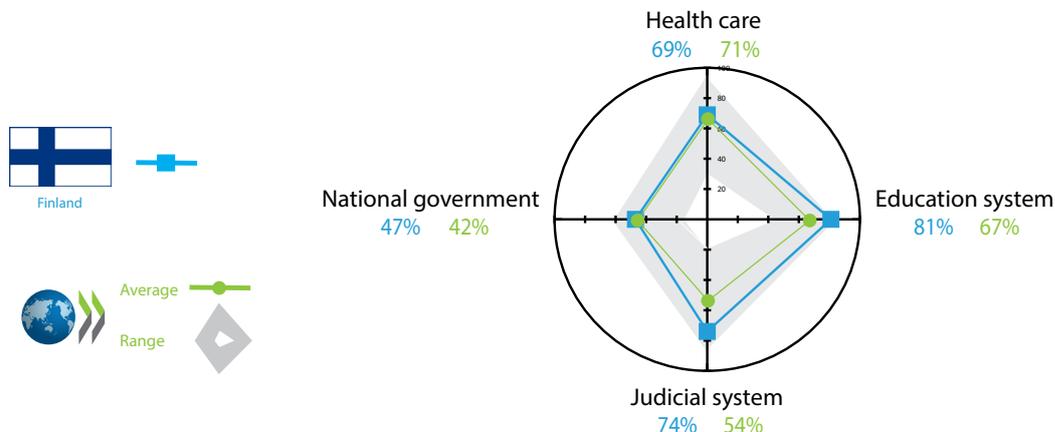
Source: 2014 OECD Survey on Managing Conflict of Interest in the Executive Branch and Whistleblower Protection

# GOVERNMENT OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

## Core Government Results and Service Delivery

### Satisfaction and confidence across public services (2014)

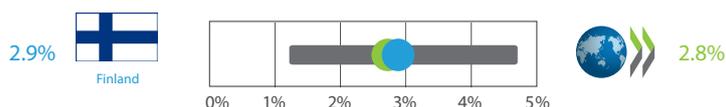
% of citizens expressing confidence/satisfaction



Source: Gallup World Poll

### Access to healthcare (2012)

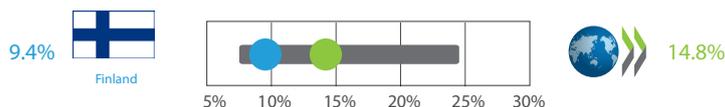
Out of pocket expenditure as a % of final household consumption



Source: OECD Health Statistics 2014

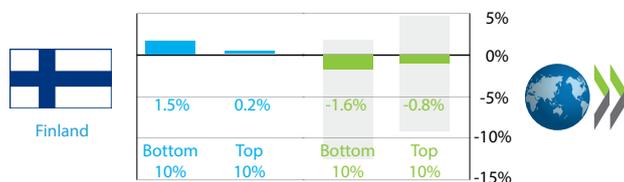
### Equity in learning outcomes (2012)

PISA mathematics score variance by socio economic background



Source: OECD, PISA 2012 results: Excellence through equity, 2013

### Changes in household disposable income, by income group (2007-2011)



Source: OECD Income Distribution Database

### Limited government powers (2014)



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.
- Structural fiscal balance**, or underlying balance, represents the fiscal balance adjusted for the state of the economic cycle (as measured by the output gap which resulted as the difference between actual and potential GDP) and one-off fiscal operations.
- 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 2015

With a focus on public administration, OECD Government at a Glance 2015 provides readers with a dashboard of key indicators assembled with the goal of contributing to the analysis and international comparison of public sector performance across OECD countries. Indicators on public finances and employment are provided alongside composite indexes summarising aspects of public management policies, and indicators on services to citizens in health care, education, and justice. Government at a Glance 2015 also includes indicators on key governance and public management issues, such as regulatory management, budgeting practices and procedures, public sector integrity, public procurement and core government results in terms of trust in institutions, income redistribution and efficiency and cost-effectiveness of governments.

The Excel spreadsheets used to create the tables and figures in Government at a Glance 2015 are available via the StatLinks provided throughout the publication:

[http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/gov\\_glance-2015-en](http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/gov_glance-2015-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/govtaglance.htm](http://www.oecd.org/gov/govtaglance.htm)

