



New Zealand public spending is close to the OECD average, despite low public sector employment

In 2013, government expenditures in New Zealand amounted to 40.1% of GDP, close to the OECD average of 41.9%. Out of the public expenditure, the percentage spent on the compensation of employees at 23.5%, was also not far from the OECD average of 22.9%. Total public sector employment, at 12.4% of the general labour force, however, was significantly lower than the OECD average of 21.3%. Intermediate consumption (contracting out) and cash transfers were similar to the OECD average. Public investment attained 9.6 % of GDP in 2013 – which may in part be related to reconstruction after the Christchurch earthquake – compared to the OECD average of 7.8%.



Chapter 2: Public finance and economics
[General government expenditures as a percentage of GDP](#)
[General government expenditures by economic transaction](#)

Chapter 3: Public employment and compensation
[Public sector employment as a percentage of the labour force](#)

Integrity practices are unequal across branches of the New Zealand government

Disclosure of private interest of public officials is one of the tools for managing conflict of interest in government. Disclosure requirements in New Zealand are high for the legislative branch, relative to the OECD average, but do not exist for the judicial branch of government. Disclosure requirements are higher than the OECD average for the Executive branch, but lower in “at risk” areas, such as tax and custom officials, procurement agents and staff of financial authorities.



Chapter 7: Public Sector Integrity
[Level of disclosure and public availability of private interests across branches of government](#)

New Zealanders are more satisfied with public services than citizens in most OECD countries

Satisfaction with health care in New Zealand is high – 84% – compared to 71% across the OECD; followed by education – 73% in New Zealand compared to 67% on average in the OECD; while 63% had confidence in the judicial system, compared to an average of 54% in the OECD. Out of pocket expenditure for healthcare as a percentage of final household consumption is relatively low in New Zealand: 1.8% in 2012, compared to 2.8% on average across the OECD. Responsiveness of the health care system to patient needs compares well internationally as expressed by waiting times for health care appointments and the involvement of patients in care and treatment.



Chapter 12: Serving Citizens
[Citizens' satisfaction with the health care system](#)
[Citizens' satisfaction with the education system](#)
[Citizens' confidence with the judicial system](#)
[Out-of-pocket medical expenditure as a share of final household consumption](#)
[Waiting times for a doctor or nurse appointment and a specialist appointment](#)
[Regular doctor providing easy-to-understand explanations](#)

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

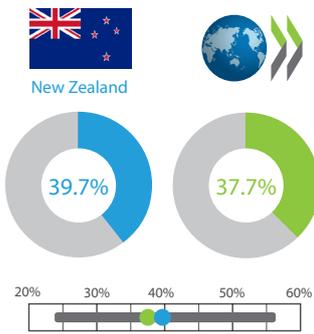
Public Finance & Economics

Public Employment & Compensation

Public Finance and Economics

Government revenues (2013)

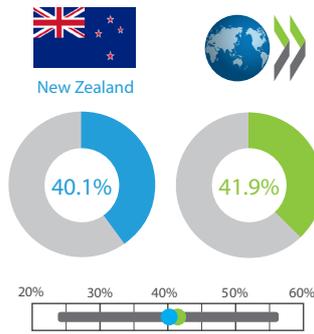
% of GDP



Source: OECD National Accounts

Government expenditures (2013)

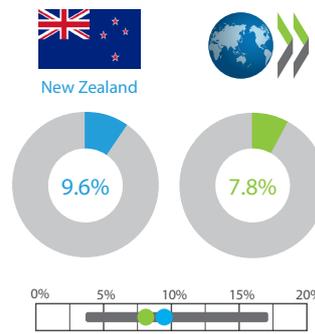
% of GDP



Source: OECD National Accounts

Public investment (2013)

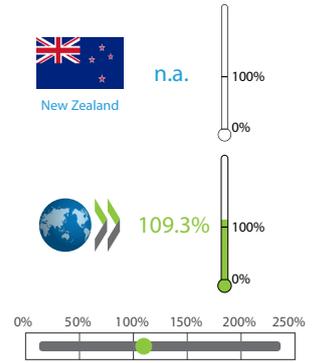
% of of total govt. expenditures



Source: OECD National Accounts

Government gross debt* (2013)

% of GDP



Source: OECD National Accounts
* SNA definition, see Notes

Fiscal balance* (2013)

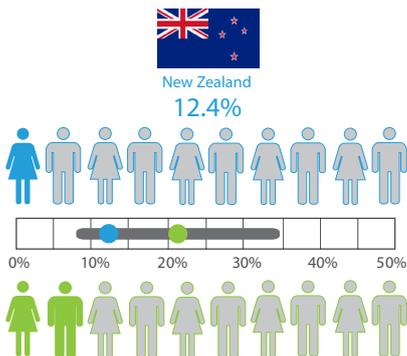
% of GDP



Source: OECD National Accounts. * See Notes

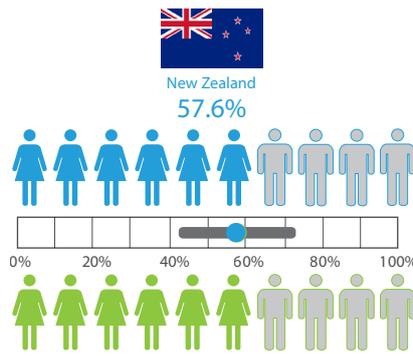
Public Employment and Compensation

Public sector employment as % of total employment (2013)



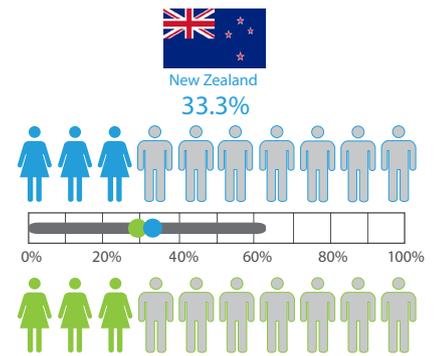
Source: International Labour Organization (database)

Public sector employment filled by women (2013)



Source: International Labour Organization (database)

Share of women ministers (2015)



Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union Parline Database

GOVERNMENT PROCESSES

Institutions

Regulatory Governance

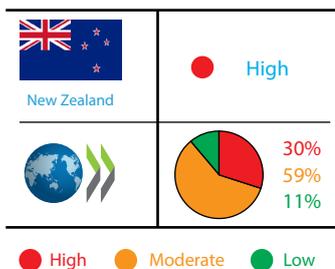
Public Procurement

Public Sector Integrity

Digital Government

Institutions

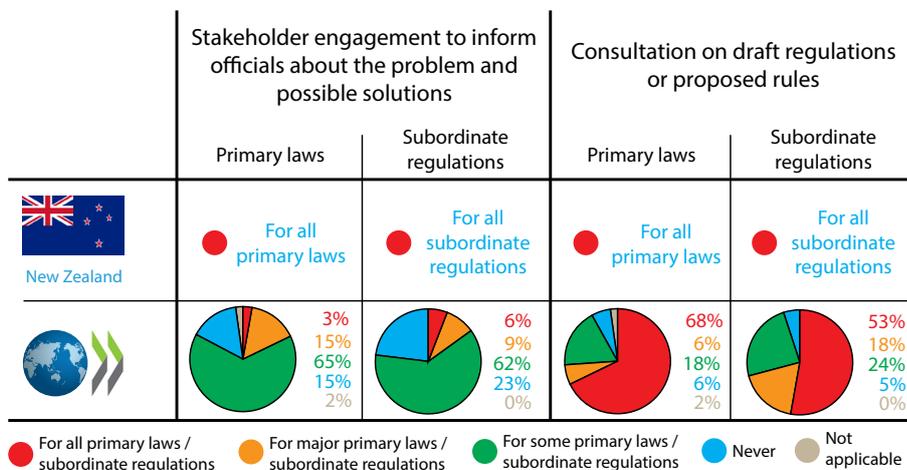
Level of influence of the Centre of Government over line ministries (2013)



Source: OECD 2013 Survey on Centre of Government

Regulatory Governance

Stakeholder engagement and consultation (2014)

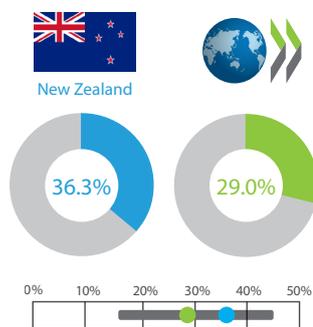


Source: OECD Regulatory Policy Outlook (forthcoming)

Public Procurement

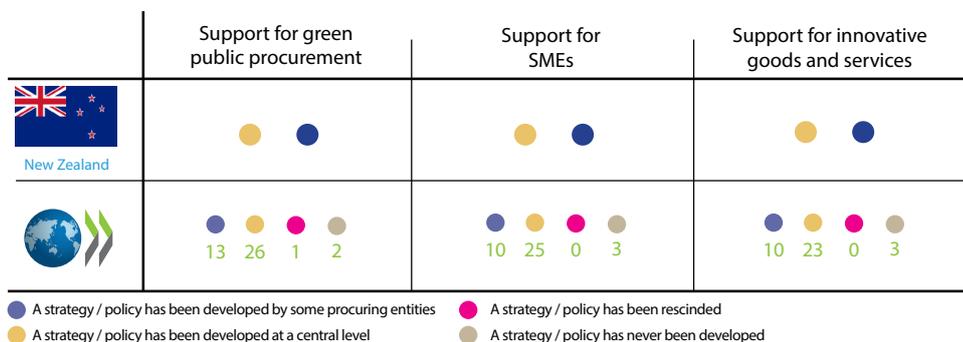
Procurement expenditure (2013)

% of government expenditures



Source: OECD National Accounts

Strategic public procurement - Objectives (2014)

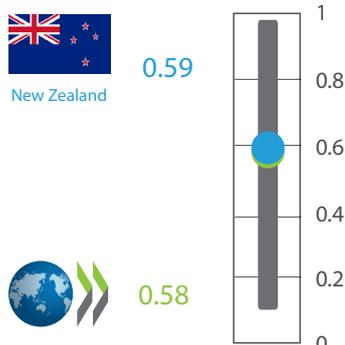


Source: 2014 OECD Survey on Public Procurement

Digital Gov.

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

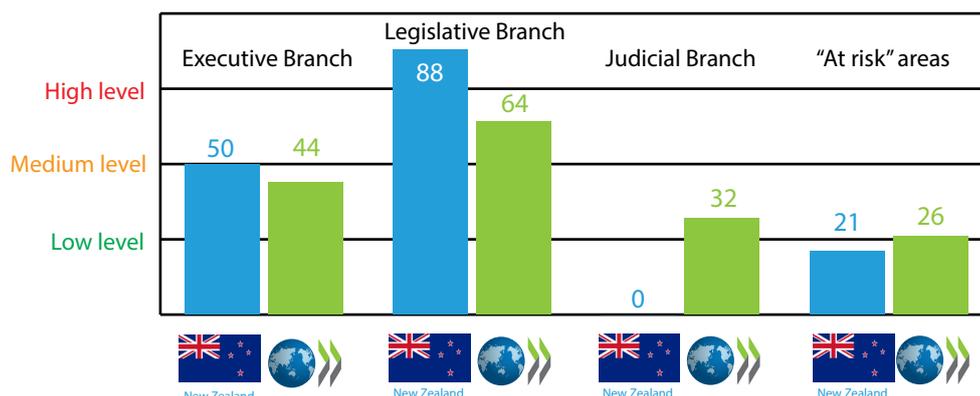
Composite index from 0 lowest to 1 highest



Source: 2014 OECD Survey on Open Government Data

Public Sector Integrity

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



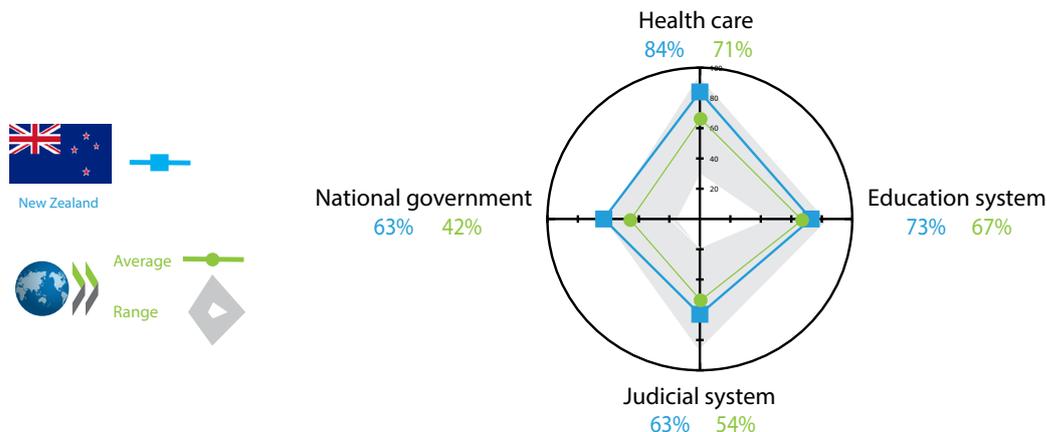
Source: 2014 OECD Survey on Managing Conflict of Interest in the Executive Branch and Whistleblower Protection

GOVERNMENT OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

Core Government Results and Service Delivery

Satisfaction and confidence across public services (2014)

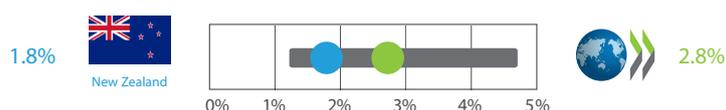
% of citizens expressing confidence/satisfaction



Source: Gallup World Poll

Access to healthcare (2012)

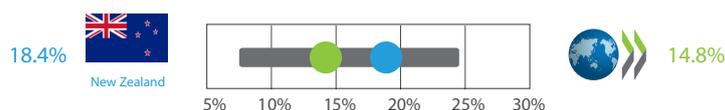
Out of pocket expenditure as a % of final household consumption



Source: OECD Health Statistics 2014

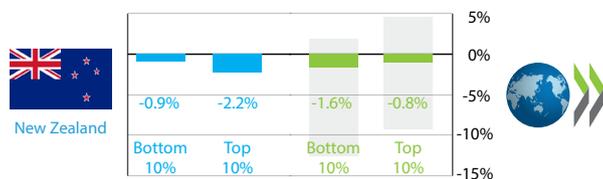
Equity in learning outcomes (2012)

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 debt for Australia is reported on an adjusted basis (i.e. excluding unfunded pension liabilities).

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

For more information on the data (including full methodology and figure notes) and to consult all other Country Fact Sheets: www.oecd.org/gov/ataglance.htm

