

3. Institutional space budgets

In most countries, institutional space budgets fund a large range of activities in space research, development and applications in both civilian and defence domains. Budgets are usually spread across several government agencies (including defence), which makes them sometimes difficult to track in national accounts. The estimates provided here should therefore be considered as conservative.

Although OECD economies account for the largest space budget globally in 2013, an increasing part of global space activities takes place outside of OECD. When comparing OECD and BRIC economies' space budgets in 2008 and 2013 (using USD purchasing power parities or PPPs), budgets from OECD countries have remained resilient to the economic crisis, with only a slight decrease overall. A number of European Union countries (EU15) have seen their national budgets augment in the period, while BRIC's budgets have shown a strong increase. The Russian space budget for instance rose 144% between 2008 and 2013, taking into account inflation. When national space budgets are converted from USD current to USD PPP, China, India and the Russian Federation are among the top-four investors on space in 2013. Still using PPP to allow better international comparison; the United States has the highest space budget per capita, representing some USD 120 PPP per habitant, followed by the Russian Federation, France, Luxembourg, Japan, Belgium, Germany and Norway (see Chapter 1, Table 1.1).

In current US dollars, five countries have budgets above 2 billion USD in 2013, with the highest budget in the United States (USD 39 billion), covering the space activities of NASA, NOAA, USGS as well as other selected governmental Defence organisations. China had the second-biggest space budget, estimated at around USD 6 billion (based on the intensity of its programmes and trends in its official defence budget), followed by the Russian Federation (USD 5.3 billion), Japan (USD 3.6 billion) and France

(USD 2.7 billion). When looking at space budgets' shares in GDP, the percentages remain relatively modest. Only three countries' space budgets represent more than 0.1% of GDP (Russian Federation, United States and France).

Methodological note

Figures reflect all national space investments (civil and military budgets) including national contributions to the European Space Agency and other organisations where applicable. Some countries have fiscal periods stretching over two years, thus making comparison more challenging. Evolutions in a space budget's share of GDP may be affected by both an increase/decrease of space budgets, but also by changes in GDP itself, which may have been hit by the economic crisis. Purchasing power parities (PPPs) are statistical constructs used to allow better international comparisons, in order to compensate for lower price levels in emerging economies (data missing for Chile, Iceland, and New Zealand). The PPP data are complemented by budget data in current USD, where exchange rates fluctuations may impact comparability.

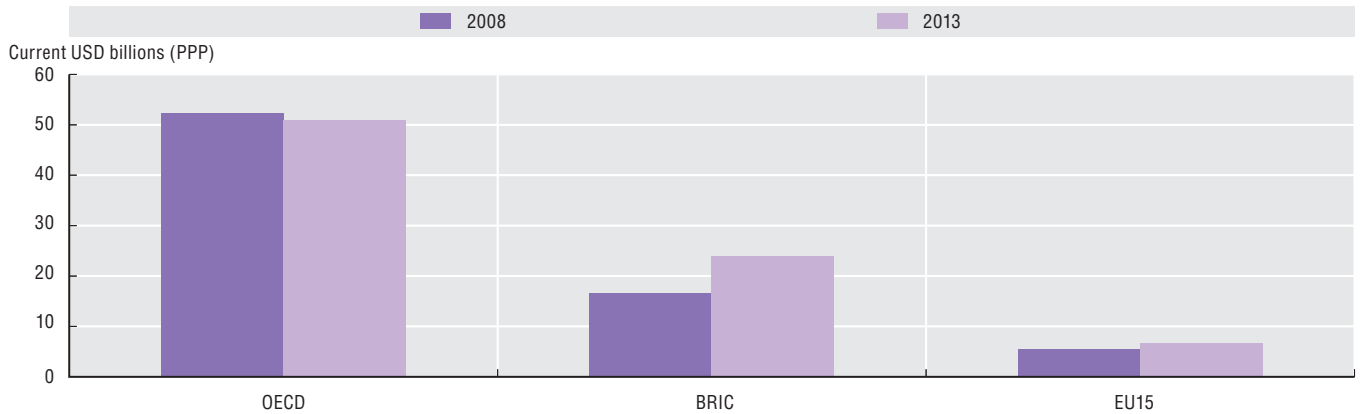
Sources

National governmental data and OECD (2014), *Main Economic Indicators (MEI) Database*, with GDP, exchanges rates and other indicators extracted in June 2014, www.oecd.org/std/mei.

Note

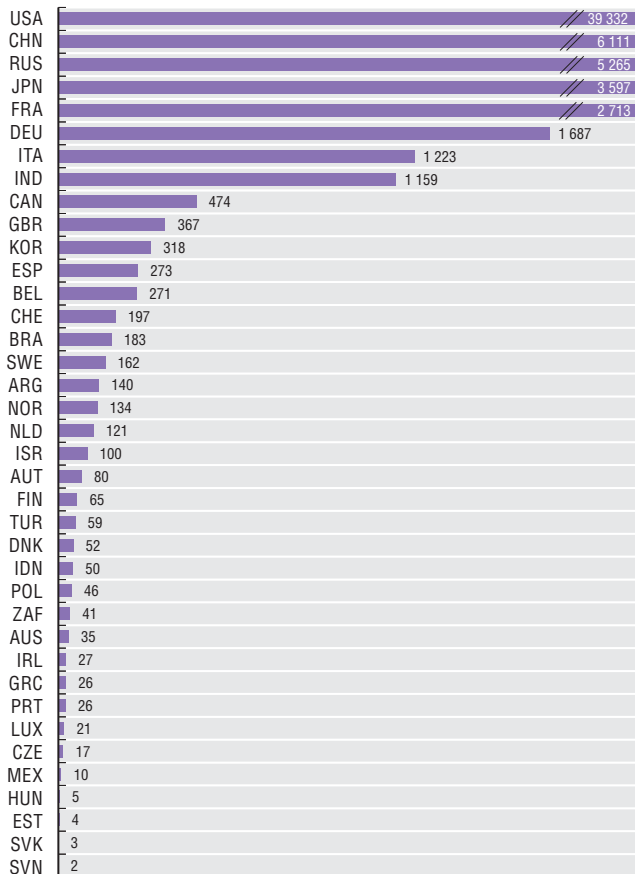
Information on data for Israel: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888932315602>.

3.1. OECD, BRIC and EU15 space budgets



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933141722>

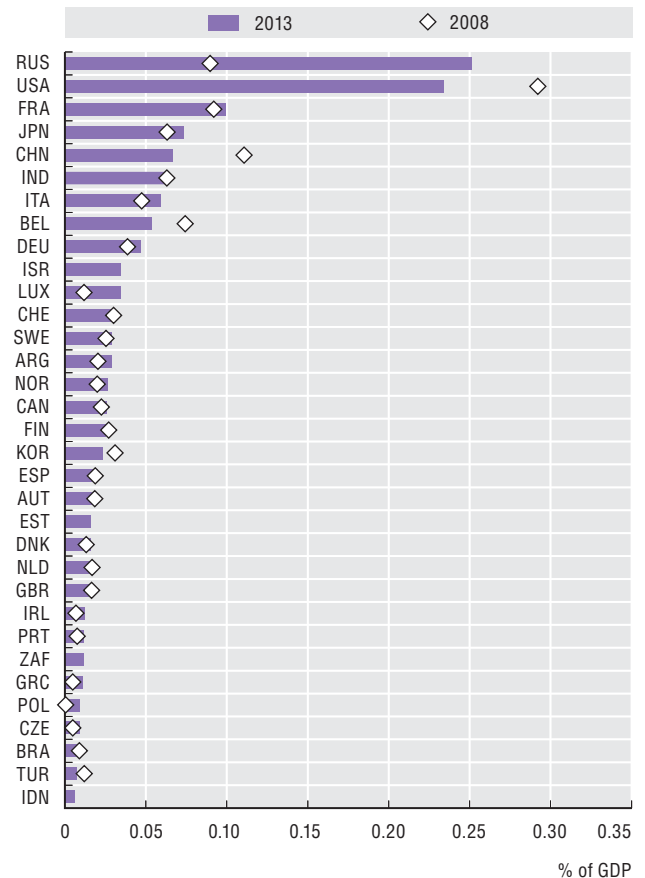
3.2. Space budgets of selected OECD and non-OECD countries in current USD, 2013



Source: OECD calculations based on national data and OECD MEI data.
StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933141741>

3.3. Space budget as a share of GDP for selected countries

% of GDP (based on current USD), 2008 and 2013



Source: OECD calculations based on national data and OECD MEI data.
StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933141760>



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