

Governments and public organisations produce and collect a wide range of data when performing their day-to-day activities. By sharing these data in ways that are easily accessible, useable and understandable by citizens and businesses, governments cannot only improve access to valuable information about public programmes and services, but also foster innovation and support economic and social development through multiple uses of these data.

In a similar way to OECD countries, the proactive release of open government data (OGD) in LAC countries is transforming public services in health care, education, transport and other sectors at the national and sub-national levels and exposing governments to a higher public scrutiny. In 2013, G8 countries adopted the first international instrument to guide the implementation of OGD strategies. The G8 Open Data Charter defines five principles: open data by default, quality and quantity data, usable by all, releasing data for improved governance and releasing data for innovation, as well as three collective actions to guide their implementation. Based to a large extent on the G8 charter, an International Open Data Charter (IODC) was also adopted in 2015.

The OECD developed a framework and related set of indicators to monitor the implementation of the G8 Open data Charter and support OGD impact (Ubaldi, 2013). Out of the 13 LAC countries that responded to the 2015 OECD Survey on Open Government and Open Data, 8 have a dedicated comprehensive strategy on OGD at the Central/federal level and a majority (10) have developed a national OGD portal, with the exception of El Salvador, Guatemala and Panama.

The OECD pilot index on open government data assesses governments' efforts to implement open data in three areas: data availability on the national portal (based on principle 1 and collective action 2), data accessibility on the national portal (based on principle 3) and governments' support to innovative re-use of public data and stakeholder engagement (principle 5). The only principle not covered in this year's index is principle 4, releasing data for improved value of governance (e.g. transparency), as existing measurement efforts have focused primarily on socio-economic value creation. In the future, the OECD will further extend this composite index to cover a larger set of principles from the IODC.

Bringing the three dimensions together in a composite index, government open data efforts in the LAC region in 2015 were the highest in Colombia, Uruguay, Mexico and Paraguay whereas they were lowest in the Dominican Republic. On average, LAC countries (0.44) perform slightly below the OECD countries (0.56) driven by relatively lower

average scores in terms of data availability and government support to the reuse of data but also by the fact that a larger share of countries did not develop a central national portal for accessing and reusing OGD.

Methodology and definitions

The data come from the OECD Survey on open government and open data for LAC countries. Survey respondents were predominantly chief information officers. Data refer only to central/federal governments and exclude open government data practices at the state/local levels. The composite index is based on the G8 Open Data Charter principles and on the methodology described in OECD work (Ubaldi, 2013). The OECD pilot index on open government data contains 19 variables that cover information on three dimensions: data availability on the national portal; data accessibility on the national portal and government support to innovative re-use of public data and stakeholder engagement. The index does not aim to measure the overall quality of the open government data approach/strategy in each country. Countries with no central/federal open data portal were given a score of 0 in the index that was included in the OECD and LAC averages. Annex C contains a description of the methodology used to construct this index.

Further reading

Amar Flórez, D. (2016), *International Case Studies of Smart Cities: Medellin, Colombia*, Inter-American Development Bank, Washington, DC., <https://publications.iadb.org/handle/11319/7716>.

OECD (2016), *Open Government Data Review of Mexico: Data Reuse for Public Sector Impact and Innovation*, OECD Digital Government Studies, OECD Publishing, Paris, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/9789264259270-en>.

Ubaldi, B. (2013), "Open Government Data: Towards Empirical Analysis of Open Government Data Initiatives", OECD Working Papers on Public Governance, No. 22, OECD, Paris, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/5k46bj4f03s7-en>.

Figure notes

Data for Chile and Mexico are for 2014 rather than 2015.

8.21 and 8.22: Guatemala, Panama and El Salvador do not have a one stop shop portal. This version of the OURdata index is a pilot version.

8.20. Central/federal government support to open government data, 2015

	Strategy/Infrastructure		Consultations	Data re-use support and promotion		Data accessibility on the national portal			
	Single Central/federal OGD strategy	Existence of a national OGD portal	Regular consultation of users' needs for data release	Organization of co-creation type events (e.g. hackathons)	Training for civil servants to build capacities for data analysis and re-use	Data released in CSV format (machine readable)	Systematic provision of metadata	User feedback section	Possibility to receive notification when datasets are added
Argentina	●	●	●	■	◇	■	●	○	○
Brazil	○	●	○	■	◇	■	●	○	○
Chile	●	●	○	■	◇	■	●	●	○
Colombia	○	●	●	■	◇	■	●	●	○
Costa Rica	○	●	●	◇	◇	■	●	●	○
Dominican Republic	●	●	○	◇	◇	■	●	○	○
El Salvador	○	○	○	×	×	×	×
Guatemala	●	○	○	×	×	×	×
Mexico	●	●	●	■	■	■	●	●	○
Panama	●	○	○	×	×	×	×
Paraguay	●	●	●	■	◇	■	●	○	○
Peru	○	●	○	◇	◇	■	●	○	○
Uruguay	●	●	○	■	■	■	●	●	●
LAC tot 13									
Yes	8	10	7				10	5	1
No	5	3	6					7	11
OECD total									
Yes	25	29	24				20	21	10
No	5	1	6				8	7	18

● Yes

○ No

■ Often/Generally


◇ Sometimes

□ Never

.. Missing data

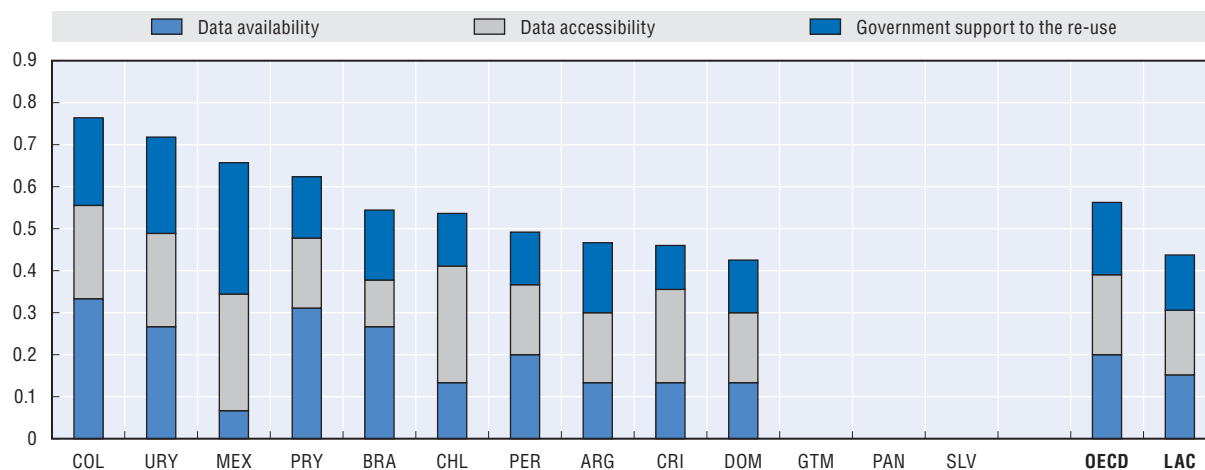
× Not applicable

Source: OECD (2015), survey on Open Government and Open Data.


StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933431891>

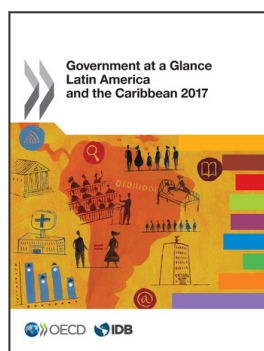
8.21. OURdata Index: Open, Useful, Reusable Government Data, 2015

Composite index from 0 lowest to 1 highest



Source: OECD (2015), survey on Open Government and Open Data.

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933431522>



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