

ANNEX C

The OECD index on open government data

This annex provides data for each responding country on the efforts made by government to proactively disclose and support re-use of open government data. These data are the source for the composite indicator presented in Chapter 8.

Data used for the construction of the composite are derived from the 2016 OECD-IDB Survey on Open Government Data. Survey respondents were predominantly chief data officers (CIO) in the central/federal government.

The narrowly defined composite indexes presented in *Government at a Glance: Latin America and the Caribbean 2017* represent the best way of summarising ordinal, qualitative information on key aspects of open government data. “Composite indexes are much easier to interpret than trying to find a common trend in many separate indicators” (Nardo et al., 2004). However, their development and use can be controversial. These indexes are easily and often misinterpreted by users due to a lack of transparency as to how they are generated and the resulting difficulty to truly unpack what they are actually measuring.

The OECD has taken several steps to avoid or address common problems associated with composite indexes. The composites presented in this publication adhere to the steps identified in the Handbook on Constructing Composite Indicators (Nardo et al., 2008) that are necessary for the meaningful construction of composite or synthetic indexes.

Each composite index is based on a theoretical framework representing an agreed upon concept in the area it covers. For this index, the only international agreement available – the G8 Open data Charter – was used as the main theoretical source, along with working papers produced by the secretariat and approved by country delegates from the Public Governance Committee. The variables composing the indexes were selected based on their relevance to the concept by a group of experts within the OECD. Further consultations with country delegates and relevant working parties will allow further expanding and improving the relevance of the index in future years.

In addition:

Various statistical tools, such as factor analysis, were employed to ensure that the variables composing each index are correlated and represent the same underlying concept.

- Different methods for imputing missing values have been explored.
- All sub-indicators and variables were normalised for comparability.
- To build the composites, all sub-indicators were aggregated using a linear method according to the accepted methodology.
- Sensitivity analysis using Monte Carlo simulations was carried out to establish the robustness of the indicators to different weighting options. As this index is a pilot version, equal weighting was provided for each of the variables and pillars.

The composite indexes presented in *Government at a Glance: Latin America and the Caribbean 2017* are descriptive in nature, and have been given titles to reflect this. The survey questions used to create the indexes are the same across countries, ensuring that the indexes are comparable.

The Open Government Data (OGD) index does not purport to measure the overall quality of open government data results in each country (to do so would require a much stronger conceptual foundation and normative assumptions) but rather the level of government efforts to implement some of the good principles internationally agreed in terms of data availability, accessibility and re-use support. For instance, the impact dimension is for instance not captured at all in the index.

While the composite index was based on best practices and/or theory developed in co-operation with OECD member countries, the variables integrating the composites and their weights are offered for debate and, consequently, may evolve over time.

The composites were built according to the following methodology: From the G8 Open Data Charter and OECD Working Paper on Open Government Data (Ubaldi, 2013), three core dimensions of good Open Data practices were identified:

- Data availability: Providing a wide range of data produced by the public sector in open format;
- Data accessibility: Providing those data in a user-friendly way which includes the provision of metadata and machine readable format (e.g. CSV);
- Pro-active support from the government to foster innovative re-use of the data and stakeholder's engagement

To narrow the field the focus for the two first pillars (availability and accessibility) is only on the central/federal open data portal. Equal weights were given to the three dimensions, as well as to the underlying variables. Principal component factor analysis was carried out to examine how a set of underlying variables (survey questions) are associated and whether they are correlated with each other in order to select those that capture the most of the underlying concept. Some variables were also kept based on experts' judgement. All variables constructing the sub-dimensions are equally weighted. Mexico and Chile data are taken from OECD 2014 Survey on Open Government Data.

Table C.1. Data availability on the national portal

	ARG	BRA	CHL	COL	CRI	DOM	MEX	PER	PRY	URY
National elections results	●	●	○	●	○	○	○	○	●	○
National public expenditures	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Local public expenditures	○	○	○	●	○	○	○	●	●	●
The most recent national census	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○	...	●
Applications re-using public data	○	●	○	●	○	●	○	●	●	●

● Yes

○ No

... Missing data

Note: Mexico and Chile data are taken from OECD 2014 Survey on Open Government Data.

Source: OECD (2016), Survey on Open Government Data.

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933431933>

Table C.2. **Data accessibility on the national portal**

	ARG	BRA	CHL	COL	CRI	DOM	MEX	PER	PRY	URY
Use of CSV format (machine readable)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Systematic provision of metadata	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Features available: Geospatial tools	○	○	●	○	●	○	●	●	●	●
Ranking of most popular datasets	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Voting button for visitors	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	○
Receive notifications when datasets are added	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	●

● Yes

○ No

Note: Mexico and Chile data are taken from OECD 2014 Survey on Open Government Data.

Source: OECD (2016), Survey on Open Government Data.

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933431948>Table C.3. **Government support to the reuse of data and stakeholders' engagement**

	ARG	BRA	CHL	COL	CRI	DOM	MEX	PER	PRY	URY
Regular consultations for the types of data released	●	○	○	●	●	○	●	●	●	○
Software development contests/prize (e.g. for apps, widgets etc.)	○	◇	◇	●	○	◇	●	○	○	◇
Info sessions for citizens and businesses	○	◇	◇	◇	○	○	●	◇	○	●
Release of data and implementation of OGD policies considered part of performance indicators of organisations	◇	◇	○	○	○	●	●	◇	○	○
Organisation of co-creation type events (e.g. hackathons)	●	●	●	●	◇	◇	●	◇	●	●
Data promotion to journalists	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	○	◇	○	◇	●
Data analytics teams in government	◇	◇	○	◇	○	◇	●	○	◇	●
Training for civil servants to build capacities	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	●	◇	◇	●

● Often


◇ Sometimes

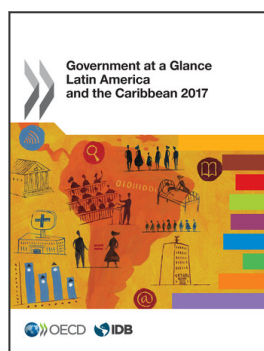
○ Never

.. Missing answer

Note: Mexico and Chile data are taken from OECD 2014 Survey on Open Government Data.

Source: OECD (2016), Survey on Open Government Data.

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933431951>



From:

Government at a Glance: Latin America and the Caribbean 2017

Access the complete publication at:

<https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264265554-en>

Please cite this chapter as:

OECD (2016), “The OECD index on open government data”, in *Government at a Glance: Latin America and the Caribbean 2017*, OECD Publishing, Paris.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264265554-54-en>

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