

# List of countries by public sector size

This is a **list of countries by public sector size**, calculated as the number of public sector employees as a percentage of the total workforce. Information is based mainly on data from the [OECD](#)<sup>[1][2][3]</sup> and the [ILO](#).<sup>[4]</sup> If a source has figures for more than one year, only the most recent figure is used (with notes for exceptional circumstances).

In the former [Eastern Bloc](#) countries, the public sector in 1989 accounted for between 70% and over 90% of total employment.<sup>[5]</sup> In [China](#) a full 78.3% of the urban labor force were employed in the public sector by 1978, the year the [Chinese economic reform](#) was launched, after which the rates dropped. Jin Zeng estimates the numbers were 56.4% in 1995 and 32.8% in 2003,<sup>[6]</sup> while other estimates are higher.<sup>[7][8][9]</sup> In 2021, public sector employees made up an estimated 23% of employees in China.<sup>[10]</sup>

In OECD countries, the average public sector employment rate was 21.3% in 2013.<sup>[1]</sup>

# List

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	Country	ILO (%) <sup>[4][11][12][13]</sup>	Other estimates (%) <sup>[1][2][3]</sup>
1	Afghanistan	8.3 (2021)	
2	Angola	14.6 (2014)	
3	Albania	14.4 (2019)	
4	American Samoa	25.0 (2012)	
5	Argentina	17.8 (2022)	
6	Armenia	19.4 (2020)	19.3 (2020)
7	Australia	28.9 (2020)	20.4 (2012)
8	Austria	8.0 (2022)	15.2 (2014)
9	Azerbaijan	21.9 (2022)	21.7 (World Bank publication, 2009) <sup>[14]</sup>
10	Bahamas	33.7 (2009)	
11	Bangladesh	3.1 (2017)	
12	Bahrain	9.6 (2012)	8.4*[a] (Baldwin-Edwards, 2010) <sup>[15]</sup>
13	Barbados	17.1 (2019)	
14	Belarus	39.3 (2015)	72.0 (World Bank publication, 2010), <sup>[5]</sup> 40.1 (BelStat, 2017) <sup>[16]</sup>
15	Belgium	21.1 (2019)	21.5 (2013)
16	Bermuda	12.1 (2012)	
17	Bhutan	25.0 (2022)	
18	Bolivia	7.7 (2022)	
19	Bosnia and Herzegovina	24.5 (2022)	
20	Botswana	18.0 (2022)	
21	Brazil	12.1 (2022)	12.1 (2013)
22	Bulgaria	21.1 (2019)	
23	Cameroon	9.8 (2014)	
24	Canada	21.2 (2022)	22.4 (2013)
25	Chile	9.4 (2022)	14.0 (2013)
26	China	28.0 (2012)	
27	Colombia	4.2 (2022)	5.3*[b] (2017, Public Spending and Investment Commission), <sup>[18]</sup> 6.8 (2017, Colombian Insurers Federation) <sup>[19]</sup> 10.0 (2013)
28	Costa Rica	12.4 (2022)	
29	Croatia	29.8 (2020)	
30	Czech Republic	15.4 (2015)	18.0 (2013)
31	Cuba	77.0 (2010)	
32	Denmark	30.2 (2020)	32.9 (2011)

33	 Dominican Republic	13.8 (2022)	
34	 Ecuador	7.0 (2022)	
35	 Egypt	21.2 (2020)	
36	 El Salvador	8.1 (2022)	
37	 Estonia	23.8 (2019)	22.0 (2013)
38	 Ethiopia	6.6 (2021)	
39	 Finland	26.1 (2019)	27.0 (2013)
40	 France	20.0 (2022)	28.0 (2013)
41	 Gambia	8.0 (2023)	
42	 Georgia	17.7 (2019)	21.1 (World Bank publication, 2009) <sup>[14]</sup>
43	 Ghana	6.4 (2017)	
44	 Germany	12.9 (2013)	15.3 (2012)
45	 Greece	21.3 (2019)	14.6 (2012)
46	 Greenland	40.2 (2015)	
47	 Guatemala	6.1 (2022)	
48	 Guinea	6.8 (2018)	
49	 Haiti	9.0 (2012)	
50	 Hong Kong	7.1 (2014)	
51	 Hungary	30.4 (2018)	24.8 (2012)
52	 Iceland		24.95 (2019) <sup>[23]</sup>
53	 India	3.80 (2014)	4.7*[c] (2002) <sup>[24]</sup> 3.80 (World Bank Data and Reserve Bank of India Data, 2012) <sup>[25][26]</sup>
54	 Indonesia	8.7 (2022)	
55	 Iran	14.9 (2020)	
56	 Iraq	37.4 (2021)	
57	 Ireland	21.9 (2019)	19.5 (2014)
58	 Israel	31.4 (2021)	20.7 (2007)
59	 Italy	16.0 (2013)	18.3 (2013)
60	 Japan	7.7 (2019)	12.9 (2014)
61	 Jordan	24.3 (2019)	
62	 Kazakhstan	23.3 (2012)	20.8 (World Bank publication, 2009) <sup>[14]</sup>
63	 Kosovo	27.8 (2020)	20.8 (World Bank publication, 2009) <sup>[14]</sup>
64	 Kuwait	18.6 (2016)	18.5*[a] (Baldwin-Edwards, 2008) <sup>[15]</sup>
65	 Kyrgyzstan	17.0 (2021)	15.1 (World Bank publication, 2009) <sup>[14]</sup>
66	 Laos	11.4 (2017)	
67	Latvia	29.0 (2020)	31.2 (2013)
68	Liberia	40.3 (2017)	
69	Liechtenstein	7.1 (2015)	

70		Lithuania	26.9 (2019)	24.0 (World Bank publication, 2010) <sup>[5]</sup>
71		Luxembourg	11.7 (2018)	22.1 (2011)
72		Macau	6.5 (2014)	
73		Madagascar	4.0 (2015)	
74		Malaysia	15.1 (2019)	
75		Mali	2.38 (2020)	
76		Mauritius	18.1 (2019)	
77		Mexico	11.8 (2022)	13.8 (2013)
78		Moldova	16.2 (2022)	41.0 (World Bank publication, 2010) <sup>[5]</sup>
79		Mongolia	36.6 (2022)	
80		Montenegro		32.2 (2021) <sup>[27][28]</sup>
81		Morocco	8.4 (2022)	
82		New Zealand	11.5 (2011)	13.4 (2011)
83		Nicaragua	8.1 (2012)	
84		Nigeria	3.6 (2022)	
85		Netherlands	19.9 (2019)	17.3 (2013)
86		North Macedonia	25.6 (2022)	
87		Norway	32.2 (2020)	35.6 (2013)
88	OECD			21.3* <sup>[d]</sup> (2013)
89		Oman	78.7 (2020)	14.0* <sup>[a]</sup> (Baldwin-Edwards, 2008) <sup>[15]</sup>
90		Pakistan	7.3 (2021)	
91		Palestine	20.9 (2022)	
92		Panama	16.1 (2022)	
93		Paraguay	10.5 (2022)	
94		Peru	8.2 (2022)	
95		Philippines	9.1 (2019)	
96		Poland	23.6 (2019)	16.0 (World Bank publication, 2010) <sup>[5]</sup> 25.2 (2013)
97		Portugal	14.7 (2014)	18.4 (2014)
98		Qatar	11.3 (2022)	12.1* <sup>[a]</sup> (Baldwin-Edwards, 2009) <sup>[15]</sup>
99		Romania	16.0 (2019)	15.3 (INS, 2015) <sup>[29]</sup>
100		Russia	40.6 (2011)	31.0 (2016, IMF) <sup>[30]</sup>
101		Rwanda	5.6 (2022)	
102		Saint Lucia	17.6 (2022)	
103		San Marino	23.4 (2022)	
104		Saudi Arabia	35.3 (???)	35.3* <sup>[a]</sup> (Baldwin-Edwards, 2008) <sup>[15]</sup>
105		Senegal	6.3 (2019)	
106		Serbia	23.3 (2022)	

107	 <a href="#">Seychelles</a>	44.3 (2020)	
108	 <a href="#">Singapore</a>	9.9 (2022)	
109	 <a href="#">Slovakia</a>	28.0 (2022)	18.2 (2013)
110	 <a href="#">Slovenia</a>	20.9 (2012)	20.9 (2012)
111	 <a href="#">South Africa</a>	15.7 (2022)	17.4 (2013)
112	 <a href="#">South Korea</a>	10.3 (2014)	11.6 (2013)
113	 <a href="#">Spain</a>	16.3 (2019)	17.9 (2014)
114	 <a href="#">Sri Lanka</a>	14.8 (2019)	
115	 <a href="#">Sweden</a>	29.3 (2020)	29.9 (2013)
116	 <a href="#">Switzerland</a>	15.3 (2022)	18.0 (2014)
117	 <a href="#">Tajikistan</a>		33.0 (World Bank publication, 2010) <sup>[5]</sup>
118	 <a href="#">Tanzania</a>	4.6 (2020)	
119	 <a href="#">Thailand</a>	9.6 (2022)	
120	 <a href="#">Trinidad and Tobago</a>	22.9 (2021)	
121	 <a href="#">Turkey</a>	15.0 (2022)	15.9 (2011)
122	 <a href="#">Uganda</a>	4.1 (2017)	
123	 <a href="#">Ukraine</a>	26.5 (2013)	26.7 (2012)
124	 <a href="#">United Arab Emirates</a>	10.2 (2021)	
125	 <a href="#">United Kingdom</a>	22.5 (2020)	16.7 (House of Commons Library, 2020) <sup>[31]</sup> 21.5 (2013)
126	 <a href="#">United States</a>	13.4 (2022)	19.2 (Mercatus publication, 2013) <sup>[32]</sup> 17.6 [not included in dataset] (2013)
127	 <a href="#">Uruguay</a>	15.7 (2022)	
128	 <a href="#">Uzbekistan</a>	18.2 (2019)	
129	 <a href="#">Venezuela</a>	24.3 (2020)	
130	 <a href="#">Vietnam</a>	7.6 (2022)	
131	 <a href="#">Yemen</a>	19.3 (2014)	
132	 <a href="#">Zambia</a>	6.7 (2019)	
133	 <a href="#">Zimbabwe</a>	12.1 (2019)	

- a. GCC estimates by Baldwin-Edwards are state employment as a proportion of total employment. The employment of nationals is primarily in the state sector, with migrant workers dominating the private sector.
- b. The number of employees in Colombia's public sector is underestimated because subcontracting and outsourcing are common in many government agencies.
- c. India's public sector still accounted for 69% of the country's organised workforce.
- d. OECD average for 2013 does not include Australia, the Czech Republic, Germany, South Korea, Ireland and Portugal.

## See also

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- [List of countries by employment rate](#)
- [List of countries by government spending as percentage of GDP](#)

- [List of countries by labour force](#)
- [Public sector](#)

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