

Practical class exercise

Topic 1: The role of the public sector in the economy

Exercise 1: OECD data

1. Go to
<https://stats.oecd.org/>
Select "Public Sector, Taxation and Market regulation" (left hand side menu, at the bottom)

Government at a glance → Government at a glance 2017 edition → Public Finance and Economics
2. From the "Customize selection" menu
 - 2a. Country = Spain (deselect all then select Spain and any other country of your choice)
 - 2b. Indicators = Structure of Government expenditures by function, percentage of GDP, (deselect all, then expand this section and select all 11 indicators)
 - 2c. Years = all available
3. From "Customize Layout" menu (drag and drop)
 - 3a. Page = "country"
 - 3b. Row = "indicator"
 - 3c. Column = "year"Export data into an Excel format and save the results (you will get one file per country)
4. View data
Compare your data with that of another country of your choice and comment on the results (e.g. Ranking of sectors by expenditure (greatest to least), evolution of spending before and after 2008 recession)

Exercise 2: World Values Survey data

Use the data from the World Values Survey

<http://www.worldvaluessurvey.org/WVSONline.jsp>

Use either the latest version (2010-2014) or the previous one and select 2 countries of your choice. Then find one or two questions regarding the public attitudes about the public sector role in the economy (you can introduce words in the search such as “government”). There is an option to translate the question (bottom right). Discuss your findings.