



SNG WOFI Database

User guide

SNGWOFI

World Observatory on Subnational
Government Finance and Investment



How to use the SNG-WOFI database

➔ When you first land on the database's homepage, the preselected indicator is the "Total number of SNGs", which covers all the 135 countries (Figure 1)

OECD-UCLG World Observatory on Subnational Government Finance and Investment

Customise Export My Queries

Time range Latest available year

Transaction Total number of SNGs

Sector National aggregates

Measure Units

Form of the State	Income Group	Country	Value
Federal country	High income	Europe	Austria 2 102.0
		Belgium 597.0	
		Germany 11 205.0	
		Spain 8 198.0	
		Switzerland 2 174.0	
	Asia Pacific	Australia 545.0	
	North America	Canada 3 918.0	
	United States of America 38 829.0		
	Upper middle income	Europe	Bosnia and Herzegovina 154.0
		Latin America	Argentina 2 335.0
		Brazil 5 597.0	
		Mexico 2 513.0	
		Africa	South Africa 266.0
	Lower middle income	Asia Pacific	Malaysia 164.0
Africa		Nigeria 811.0	
Asia Pacific		India 267 464.0	
Low income	Africa	Nepal 760.0	
	Ethiopia 1 093.0		
Unitary country	High income	Europe	Croatia 576.0
		Cyprus 380.0	
		Czech Republic 6 272.0	
		Denmark 103.0	
		Estonia 79.0	
		Finland 331.0	
		France 36 074.0	

Figure 1

In the default display mode, all countries are included and all measures are selected.

➔ **Step 1:** You can navigate through the "transactions" by selecting the variables from the drop-down menu (Figure 2)

OECD-UCLG World Observatory on Subnational Government Finance and Investment

Customise Export My Queries

Time range Latest available year

Transaction Total number of SNGs

Sector National aggregates

Measure Units

Form of the State	Income Group	Country	Value
Federal country	High income	Europe	Austria 2 102.0
		Belgium 597.0	
		Germany 11 205.0	
		Spain 8 198.0	
		Switzerland 2 174.0	
	Asia Pacific	Australia 545.0	
	North America	Canada 3 918.0	
	United States of America 38 829.0		
	Upper middle income	Europe	Bosnia and Herzegovina 154.0
		Latin America	Argentina 2 335.0
		Brazil 5 597.0	
		Mexico 2 513.0	
		Africa	South Africa 266.0
	Lower middle income	Asia Pacific	Malaysia 164.0
Africa		Nigeria 811.0	
Asia Pacific		India 267 464.0	
Low income	Africa	Nepal 760.0	
	Ethiopia 1 093.0		
Unitary country	High income	Europe	Croatia 576.0
		Cyprus 380.0	
		Czech Republic 6 272.0	
		Denmark 103.0	
		Estonia 79.0	
		Finland 331.0	
		France 36 074.0	

Transaction menu options:

- Average number of inhabitants per municipality
- Number of SNG at Municipal level
- Number of SNG at Intermediary level
- Number of SNG at Regional or State level
- Total number of SNGs**
- Expenditure (please select a sub-category)
- Total expenditure by economic classification
- Current expenditure
- Compensation of employees
- Intermediate consumption
- Current social expenditure
- Subsidies & other current transfers
- Financial charges
- Other current expenditure
- Capital expenditure
- Capital transfers
- Direct investment
- Total expenditure by functional classification (COFOG)
- General public service
- Defence
- Public order and safety
- Economic affairs (inc. Transport)
- Environmental protection
- Housing and community amenities
- Health
- Recreation, culture and religion
- Education
- Social protection
- Total revenue
- Revenue by type (please select a sub-category)
- Tax revenue
- Grants & subsidies
- Tariffs & fees
- Property income
- Others inc. Social contributions

Figure 2

e.g. if you select "compensation of employees", it will display the data for this transaction for all countries, all sectors and all measures (Figure 3)

OECD-UCLG World Observatory on Subnational Government Finance and Investment

Customise Export My Queries

Time range Latest available year

Transaction Compensation of employees

Form of the State	Income Group	Country	General government				State government alone				Local government alone				Subnational government					
			Per capita (US dollars PPP)	% of GDP	% of total transaction, same level of government	% of general government, same transaction	Per capita (US dollars PPP)	% of GDP	% of total transaction, same level of government	% of general government, same transaction	Per capita (US dollars PPP)	% of GDP	% of total transaction, same level of government	% of general government, same transaction	Per capita (US dollars PPP)	% of GDP	% of total transaction, same level of government	% of general government, same transaction		
Federal country	High income	Europe	Austria	6 318.1	11.4	19.9	1916.4	3.4	34.7	30.3	54.9	1 573.3	2.8	31.6	24.9	45.1	3 488.8	6.3	33.2	55.2
			Belgium	6 951.8	13.2	22.3	3 304.3	6.3	29.0	47.5	59.7	2 233.3	4.2	57.7	32.1	40.3	5 637.7	10.5	36.3	79.7
			Germany	4 577.7	8.4	16.6	2 392.6	4.4	27.5	52.3	66.9	1 181.9	2.2	24.7	25.8	33.1	3 674.5	6.6	26.5	78.1
			Spain	4 800.1	12.5	23.9	2 970.0	7.7	42.0	61.9	77.6	856.9	2.2	35.0	17.9	22.4	3 826.9	10.0	40.2	79.7
			Switzerland	5 482.2	7.6	20.2	3 031.3	4.2	28.6	55.3	66.1	1 552.3	2.2	29.0	28.3	33.9	4 583.6	6.4	28.8	83.6
	Asia Pacific	Australia	5 423.4	10.4	24.5	3 450.8	6.6	39.9	63.6	89.8	393.5	0.8	30.2	7.3	10.2	3 844.3	7.3	38.6	70.9	
		Canada	6 420.6	13.4	24.8	3 239.1	6.7	26.6	50.4	60.4	2 126.9	4.4	47.6	33.1	39.8	5 366.0	11.2	32.3	83.6	
		United States of America	6 161.0	9.7	20.3	4 317.5	7.5	41.0	76.8	--	--	--	--	--	--	4 678.1	7.4	38.9	75.9	
	Upper middle income	Europe	Bosnia and Herzegovina	1 802.0	11.5	24.3	--	--	--	--	--	220.3	1.4	28.4	12.2	100.0	220.3	1.4	28.4	12.2
			Latin America	Argentina	2 167.4	10.4	24.2	1 632.5	7.9	44.8	75.3	79.9	411.4	2.0	57.9	19.0	20.1	2 043.9	9.8	46.9
		Brazil	1 951.2	13.2	21.4	811.9	4.6	36.2	34.9	50.5	968.0	4.5	46.4	34.2	49.5	1 349.9	9.1	40.6	69.2	
		Mexico	1 733.4	9.2	30.3	972.9	5.2	47.1	56.1	86.6	150.3	0.8	37.8	8.7	13.4	1 123.2	6.0	45.6	64.8	
		Africa	South Africa	1 803.1	13.5	37.8	930.0	7.0	61.3	51.6	76.3	288.9	2.2	28.8	16.0	23.7	1 218.9	9.1	48.4	67.6
		Asia Pacific	Malaysia	2 177.9	7.8	40.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Lower middle income	Africa	Nigeria	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	--	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	
Asia Pacific		India	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.0	0.0	0.0	--		

Figure 3

➔ **Step 2:** If you want to compare certain indicators, or look at a particular sector or group of countries, you can refine the selection of variables by clicking on “Customise” ➔ “Selection” (top left of the screen) (Figure 4)

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Customise Selection... Export My Queries

Layout Table options

Form of the State

Country [127 / 141]

Income Group [4 / 4]

Form of the State [2 / 2]

Sector [5 / 5]

Transaction [60 / 67]

Measure [7 / 9]

Time range [1]

Time range Latest available year

Transaction Total number of SNGs

Sector National aggregates

Measure Units

Federal country	High income	Europe	Austria	2 102.0	
			Belgium	597.0	
			Germany	11 205.0	
			Spain	8 198.0	
			Switzerland	2 174.0	
		Asia Pacific	Australia	545.0	
			North America	Canada	3 918.0
		United States of America	38 829.0		
		Upper middle income	Europe	Bosnia and Herzegovina	154.0
				Latin America	Argentina
	Brazil		5 597.0		
	Mexico		2 513.0		
	Africa		South Africa	266.0	
	Lower middle income	Asia Pacific	Malaysia	164.0	
		Africa	Nigeria	811.0	
Asia Pacific		India	267 464.0		
Nepal		760.0			
Low income		Africa	Ethiopia	1 093.0	
Unitary country	High income	Europe	Croatia	576.0	
			Cyprus	380.0	
			Czech Republic	6 272.0	
			Denmark	103.0	
			Estonia	79.0	
			Finland	331.0	
			France	26 074.0	

Figure 4

You can select variables among six different categories:

<p>Country</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Includes all the 135 countries 	<p>Form of the State</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Federal country - Unitary country
<p>Income group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High income - Upper middle income - Lower middle income 	<p>Sector (refers to the “level of government”)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National aggregates (apply for transactions that belong to the “socio-economic indicators” category) - General government

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low income 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - State government alone (in federal countries) - Local government alone (in federal countries) - Subnational government
<p>Transaction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Socio-economic data - Subnational government structure - Expenditure - Revenue - Debt <p>(see next section for detailed sub-categories)</p>	<p>Measure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Units (apply for transactions that belong to the “socio-economic indicators” category) - Per capital (US dollars PPP) - % GDP - % of total transaction, same level of government - % of general government, same transaction - % of subnational government, same transaction - % of tax revenue, same level of government (apply for the transaction “recurrent property tax”)

For example, in Figure 5, we choose to include only “Upper middle income” countries.

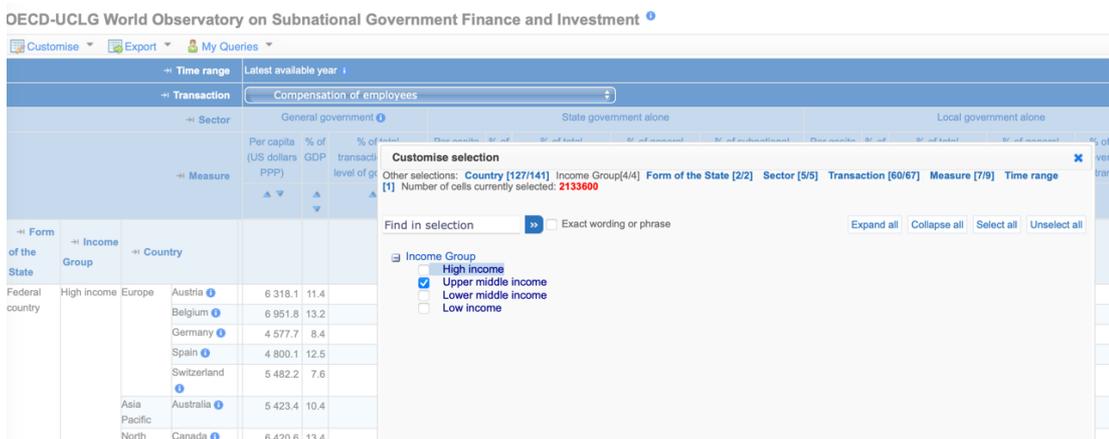


Figure 5

You can also choose to only display data for the “Subnational Government” sector (Figure 6).



Figure 6

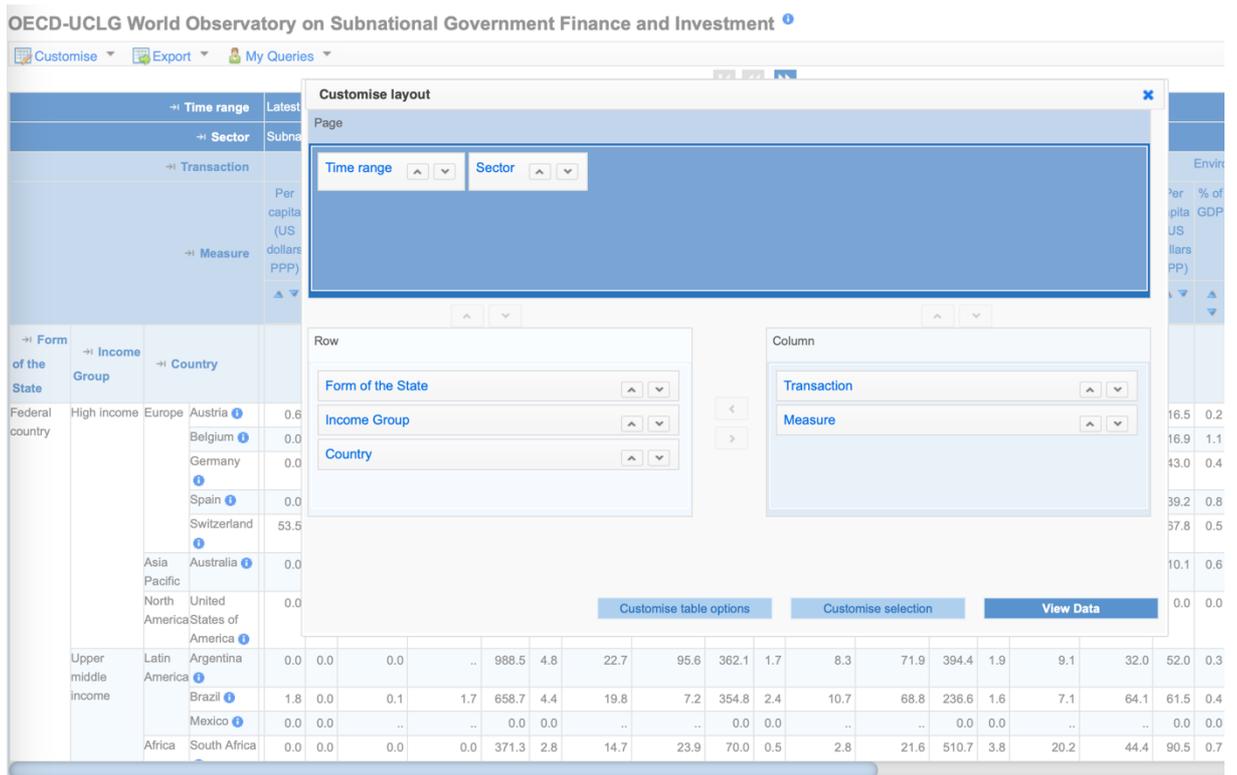
The **time-range** is fixed, set to the last year that was available at the time of the last edition’s launch. In general, the year of reference for financial data is 2020, with exceptions for some countries for which data was only available for previous years.

To check the year of reference for each country and indicator, you can click on the small blue icon next to the country names:

Austria
Belgium
Germany
Spain
Switzerland

→ **Step 3:** You can then adjust the way variables are displayed by clicking on “Customise” → “Layout” (Figure 7)

Figure 7



You can choose which variables will be fixed, at the top of the page (here: Time range and Sector), which ones will appear in columns and which ones will appear on rows.

For instance, in Figure 8, we choose to display only transactions on “Expenditure by functional classification” for the subnational government sector. All measures are displayed in columns, and countries appear in rows.

OECD-UCLG World Observatory on Subnational Government Finance and Investment

Customise Export My Queries

Time range: Latest available year

Sector: Subnational government

Transaction: Defence, General public service, Public order and safety, Economic affairs (inc. Transport)

Measure: Per capita (US dollars PPP), % of GDP, % of total transaction, same level of government, % of general government, same transaction

Form of the State	Income Group	Country	Per capita (US dollars PPP)	% of GDP	% of total transaction, same level of government	% of general government, same transaction	Per capita (US dollars PPP)	% of GDP	% of total transaction, same level of government	% of general government, same transaction	Per capita (US dollars PPP)	% of GDP	% of total transaction, same level of government	% of general government, same transaction	Per capita (US dollars PPP)	% of GDP	% of total transaction, same level of government	% of general government, same transaction		
Federal country	High income	Europe	Austria	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.2	1 417.9	2.5	13.5	19.2	115.3	0.2	1.1	14.3	1 322.9	2.4	12.6	23.3	
			Belgium	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2 454.5	4.5	17.0	20.0	497.1	0.9	3.4	45.6	2 327.6	4.2	16.1	61.9	
			Germany	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2 740.0	4.9	22.6	59.5	806.2	1.4	6.7	88.7	1 430.6	2.5	11.8	64.4	
			Spain	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2 067.8	4.9	22.8	26.7	357.1	0.8	3.9	46.6	997.9	2.4	11.0	59.4	
			Switzerland	53.5	0.1	0.4	8.9	2 104.7	2.9	14.4	49.1	1 060.7	1.5	7.2	88.3	1 850.1	2.5	12.6	53.1	
		Asia Pacific	Australia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	993.9	1.9	10.0	26.3	896.9	1.7	9.1	83.6	1 883.6	3.6	19.0	47.4	
		North America	United States of America	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1 703.0	2.6	14.2	44.5	1 085.9	1.7	9.1	84.8	1 684.0	2.6	14.1	68.4	
		Upper middle income	Latin America	Argentina	0.0	0.0	0.0	..	988.5	4.8	22.7	95.6	362.1	1.7	8.3	71.9	394.4	1.9	9.1	32.0
				Brazil	1.8	0.0	0.1	1.7	658.7	4.4	19.8	7.2	354.8	2.4	10.7	68.8	236.6	1.6	7.1	64.1
				Mexico	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
		Africa	South Africa	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	371.3	2.8	14.7	23.9	70.0	0.5	2.8	21.6	510.7	3.8	20.2	44.4	

Figure 8

➔ Step 4: You can export the data on your computer by clicking on “Export” (Figure 9)

Customise Export My Queries

Export menu: Excel, Text file (CSV), PC-axis, SDMX (XML), Related files

Time range: Latest available year

Sector: Subnational government

Transaction: Defence, General public service, Public order and safety, Economic affairs (inc. Transport)

Measure: Per capita (US dollars PPP), % of GDP, % of total transaction, same level of government, % of general government, same transaction

Form of the State	Income Group	Country	Per capita (US dollars PPP)	% of GDP	% of total transaction, same level of government	% of general government, same transaction	Per capita (US dollars PPP)	% of GDP	% of total transaction, same level of government	% of general government, same transaction	Per capita (US dollars PPP)	% of GDP	% of total transaction, same level of government	% of general government, same transaction	Per capita (US dollars PPP)	% of GDP	% of total transaction, same level of government	% of general government, same transaction		
Federal country	High income	Europe	Austria	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.2	1 417.9	2.5	13.5	19.2	115.3	0.2	1.1	14.3	1 322.9	2.4	12.6	23.3	
			Belgium	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2 454.5	4.5	17.0	20.0	497.1	0.9	3.4	45.6	2 327.6	4.2	16.1	61.9	
			Germany	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2 740.0	4.9	22.6	59.5	806.2	1.4	6.7	88.7	1 430.6	2.5	11.8	64.4	
			Spain	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2 067.8	4.9	22.8	26.7	357.1	0.8	3.9	46.6	997.9	2.4	11.0	59.4	
			Switzerland	53.5	0.1	0.4	8.9	2 104.7	2.9	14.4	49.1	1 060.7	1.5	7.2	88.3	1 850.1	2.5	12.6	53.1	
		Asia Pacific	Australia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	993.9	1.9	10.0	26.3	896.9	1.7	9.1	83.6	1 883.6	3.6	19.0	47.4	
		North America	United States of America	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1 703.0	2.6	14.2	44.5	1 085.9	1.7	9.1	84.8	1 684.0	2.6	14.1	68.4	
		Upper middle income	Latin America	Argentina	0.0	0.0	0.0	..	988.5	4.8	22.7	95.6	362.1	1.7	8.3	71.9	394.4	1.9	9.1	32.0
				Brazil	1.8	0.0	0.1	1.7	658.7	4.4	19.8	7.2	354.8	2.4	10.7	68.8	236.6	1.6	7.1	64.1
				Mexico	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
		Africa	South Africa	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	371.3	2.8	14.7	23.9	70.0	0.5	2.8	21.6	510.7	3.8	20.2	44.4	

Figure 9

If you export in XLS format, you can open the file on your computer (you can ignore the “warning message” that will pop up).

If you want to save the file for later use, we advise you to save it under another format adapted to your computer.

➔ **Step 4:** Finally, if you want to save your choice of criteria and layout, you can create a "query" (Figure 10)

OECD-UCLG World Observatory on Subnational Government Finance and Investment ¹

Customise Export My Queries

Save Manage

Time		Subnational government													
Sector		Defence				General public service				Public order and safety					
Form of the State	Income Group	Country	Per capita (US dollars PPP)		% of total transaction, same level of government		% of general government, same transaction		Per capita (US dollars PPP)		% of total transaction, same level of government		% of general government, same transaction		
			▲▼	▲▼	▲▼	▲▼	▲▼	▲▼	▲▼	▲▼	▲▼	▲▼	▲▼	▲▼	
Federal country	High income	Europe													
		Austria	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.2	1 417.9	2.5	13.5	19.2	115.3	0.2	1.1	14.3	
		Belgium	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2 454.5	4.5	17.0	20.0	497.1	0.9	3.4	45.6	
		Germany	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2 740.0	4.9	22.6	59.5	806.2	1.4	6.7	88.7	
		Spain	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2 067.8	4.9	22.8	26.7	357.1	0.8	3.9	46.6	
		Switzerland	53.5	0.1	0.4	8.9	2 104.7	2.9	14.4	49.1	1 060.7	1.5	7.2	88.3	
		Asia Pacific													
		Australia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	993.9	1.9	10.0	26.3	896.9	1.7	9.1	83.6	
		North America													
		United States of America	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1 703.0	2.6	14.2	44.5	1 085.9	1.7	9.1	84.8	

Figure 10

To save a query, you will need to **register/log in first via an OECD account** (open to the public). You can do this by clicking on "Click here to Login" at the bottom right of the webpage (Figure 11).

Figure 11

You will then be asked to enter your login/password, or to create a new account.

Now, you are all set! Feel free to explore the different indicators and layouts to find the most suitable for your use.

The SNG-WOFI website links to the latest version of the 2022 third edition database.

➔ You can also access the **2019 SNG-WOFI edition database** (with data for the year 2016), archived at this link: https://stats.oecd.org/index.aspx?datasetcode=SNGF_WO_2019

Contact

If you have any question or request, you can contact:

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Annex - List of transactions

Table 1. List of socio-economic indicators at national level included in the database

	Indicators
Population and geography (at national level)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Geographical area (km²)• Population (thousands inhabitants)• Population growth (% 2015-2020)• Density (inhab./km²)• Urban population (% total population)• Urban population growth (% , 2020 vs 2019)• Name of the capital and share of population (city or metropolitan area)
Economic data (at national level)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Current GDP in PPP international dollars (billion, USD PPP)• Current GDP per capita in PPP international dollars (USD PPP)• Annual growth rate in real terms (% , 2020 vs 2019)• Unemployment rate (number of unemployed people as a percentage of the labour force)• Foreign direct investment, net inflows (BoP, current USD millions)• Gross fixed capital formation -public and private (% of GDP)• Human Development Index (index and rank)

Table 2. List of territorial indicators at national level included in the database

	Indicators
Subnational government structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Average number of inhabitants by municipality• Number of subnational governments (SNGs) at municipal level• Number of SNGs at intermediate level• Number of SNGs at regional or state level• Total number of SNGs

Table 3. List of subnational government finance indicators included in the database

Subnational government expenditure by economic classification		
Total expenditure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current expenditure • Capital expenditure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff expenditure • Intermediate consumption • Current social expenditure • Subsidies and other current transfers • Financial charges • Other • Direct investment (of GFCF) • Capital transfers
Subnational government expenditure by functional classification (COFOG categories)		
Total expenditure (more details below in Table 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General public services • Defence • Public order and safety • Economic affairs (including Transport) • Environmental protection • Housing and community amenities • Health • Recreation, culture and religion • Education • Social protection 	
Subnational government revenue		
Total revenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tax revenue • Grants and subsidies • Tariffs and fees • Property income • Other revenues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recurrent property tax
Subnational government debt		
Total debt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial debt • Insurance pensions and standardised guarantees • Other accounts payable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currency and deposits • Bonds / debt securities • Loans

Table 4. Subnational government responsibilities by COFOG categories: detailed nomenclature

1. General public services (administration)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administrative services (marriage, birth, etc.) • Public buildings and facilities (town houses, etc.) • Administration and operation of general services (non-assigned to specific functions) • Basic research activities (non-assigned to specific areas)
2. Public order, safety and defence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police • Firefighting • Civil protection & emergency services • Road traffic control / Traffic signs and lights • Defence (military and civil)
3. Economic affairs / Transports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road networks and facilities (highways, national, regional, local) • Parking ; Railway networks and facilities (national, regional, local) • Airports (international, national, local) ; Ports (sea and fishing, inland waterways) • Public transport (road, railways, tramway) • Special transport services (e.g. pupil and student transport) • Employment policies / services • Support to local enterprises and entrepreneurship • Agriculture, rural development, irrigation • Telecommunications / IT • Manufacturing and construction, mining • Tourism ; Commerce ; Energy (electricity, gas, etc.)
4. Environmental protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks & green areas • Nature preservation ; Noise and vibration abatement ; Air pollution • Soil and groundwater protection ; Climate protection • Waste management (collection, treatment and disposal of waste) • Sewerage (waste water management) • Street cleaning
5. Housing and community amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drinking water distribution • Public lighting ; Urban heating • Housing : subsidies, construction/renovation, management • Urban and land use planning ; Urbanism
6. Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pharmaceutical and medical products • General and specialised medical services and paramedical services (e.g. dental care) • Primary healthcare (medical centres) • Hospital services (general and specialist) • Preventative healthcare • Public health services
7. Recreation, culture, recreation and religion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports and recreation ; Libraries ; Museums • Cultural activities (theatres, exhibition halls, zoos, botanical gardens, etc.) • Cultural heritage/monuments ; Media/Broadcasting and publishing services • Religious affairs
8. Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-primary education • Primary education • Secondary education • Higher education (universities, other tertiary education institutions) • Vocational education / training and special education • Research & Development

9. Social protection

- Social care for children and youth
 - Support services for families
 - Elderly
 - Disabled people
 - Social exclusion / poverty (benefits and policies)
 - Immigrants
 - Integration of foreigners
 - Social welfare centres
 - Housing subsidies/benefits
 - Unemployment subsidies/benefits
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Note: With regard to COFOG classification, two functions have been merged: public order and safety and defence.
Source: (OECD, 2018_[16]) (OECD, 2018_[16])