

Ukraine

Overview



Transparency: 65 /100 (Open Budget Index score)



Public Participation: **39**/100



Budget Oversight: **82** /100

About the survey

Government budget decisions – what taxes to levy, what services to provide, and how much debt to take on – have important consequences for all people in society. When governments provide information and meaningful channels for the public to engage in these decisions, we can better ensure public money is spent on public interests.

The Open Budget Survey (OBS) is the world's only independent, comparative and fact-based research instrument that uses internationally accepted criteria to assess public access to central government budget information; formal opportunities for the public to participate in the national budget process; and the role of budget oversight institutions, such as legislatures and national audit offices, in the budget process.

The survey helps local civil society assess and confer with their government on the reporting and use of public funds. This 8th edition of the OBS covers 120 countries.

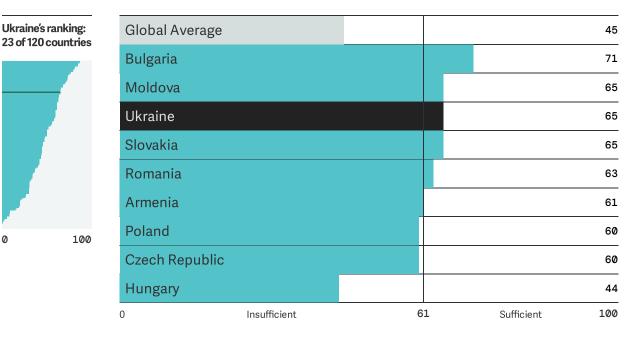
Visit <u>www.internationalbudget.org/open-budget-survey</u> for more information, including the full OBS methodology, the 2021 Global and Regional Reports, findings for all surveyed countries, and the Data Explorer.



Transparency

This part of the OBS measures public access to information on how the central government raises and spends public resources. It assesses the online availability, timeliness, and comprehensiveness of eight key budget documents using 109 equally weighted indicators and scores each country on a scale of 0 to 100. A transparency score of 61 or above indicates a country is likely publishing enough material to support informed public debate on the budget.

Ukraine has a transparency score of 65 (out of 100).



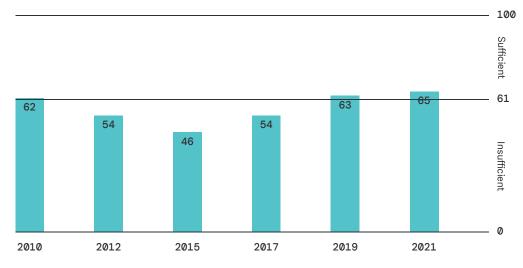
Transparency in Ukraine compared to others



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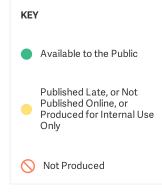
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How has the transparency score for Ukraine changed over time?



Public availability of budget documents in Ukraine

Document	2010	2012	2015	2017	2019	2021
Pre-Budget Statement	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	\bigcirc
Executive's Budget Proposal	٠		٠			•
Enacted Budget	٠	٠	٠		٠	٠
Citizens Budget	\bigcirc	\bigotimes	\bigcirc			٠
In-Year Reports	٠		٠			•
Mid-Year Review			\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigotimes
Year-End Report	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠
Audit Report	٠	٠	٠		٠	٠





How comprehensive is the content of the key budget documents that Ukraine makes available to the public?

Key budget document	Document purpose and contents	Fiscal year assessed	Document content score
Pre- Budget Statement	Discloses the broad parameters of fiscal policies in advance of the Executive's Budget Proposal; outlines the government's economic forecast, anticipated revenue, expenditures, and debt.	2021	Not Produced
Executive's Budget Proposal	Submitted by the executive to the legislature for approval; details the sources of revenue, the allocations to ministries, proposed policy changes, and other information important for understanding the country's fiscal situation.	2021	66
Enacted Budget	The budget that has been approved by the legislature.	2021	89
Citizens Budget	A simpler and less technical version of the government's Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, designed to convey key information to the public.	2021	75
In-Year Reports	Include information on actual revenues collected, actual expenditures made, and debt incurred at different intervals; issued quarterly or monthly.	2020	96
Mid-YearA comprehensive update on the implementation of theReviewbudget as of the middle of the fiscal year; includes areview of economic assumptions and an updated forecastof budget outcomes.		2020	Not Produced
Year-End Report	Describes the situation of the government's accounts at the end of the fiscal year and, ideally, an evaluation of the progress made toward achieving the budget's policy goals.	2019	86
Audit Report	Issued by the supreme audit institution, this document examines the soundness and completeness of the government's year-end accounts.	2019	86

Ukraine's transparency score of **65** in the OBS 2021 is near its score in 2019.

What changed in OBS 2021?

Ukraine has increased the availability of budget information by:



KEY

61-100 / 100

41-60 / 100

1-40 / 100

• Increasing the information provided in the Executive's Budget Proposal and in the Year-End Report.

However, Ukraine has decreased the availability of budget information by:

 Failing to produce the Pre-Budget Statement. In 2020, the Ministry of Finance prepared a roadmap for developing a Pre-Budget Statement. Since OBS 2010, Ukraine has consistently published the Pre-Budget Statement. In 2020, this practice was suspended due to the pandemic. However, Ukraine resumed publishing the Pre-Budget Statement in 2021, after the end of the assessment period for OBS 2021.

Recommendations

Ukraine should prioritize the following actions to improve budget transparency:

- Produce and publish the Mid-Year Review online in a timely manner.
- Improve the comprehensiveness of the Executive's Budget Proposal by including detailed expenditure and revenue information for a multi-year period, increasing information on fiscal risk, and providing information about financial assets and non-financial assets.



Public Participation

The OBS assesses the formal opportunities offered to the public for meaningful participation in the different stages of the budget process. It examines the practices of the central government's executive, the legislature, and the supreme audit institution (SAI) using 18 equally weighted indicators, aligned with the Global Initiative for Fiscal Transparency's <u>Principles of Public</u> <u>Participation in Fiscal Policies</u>, and scores each country on a scale from 0 to 100.

Ukraine has a public participation score of **39** (out of 100).

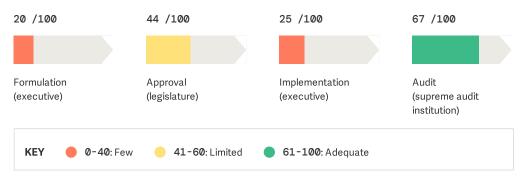
Public participation in Ukraine compared to others

Global Average			14
Ukraine			39
Bulgaria			26
Poland			22
Slovakia			22
Czech Republic	-		15
Moldova			11
Romania			7
Armenia			6
Hungary			0
0	Insufficient	6	1 Sufficient 100

For more information, see <u>here</u> for innovative public participation practices around the world.



Extent of opportunities for public participation in the budget process



Recommendations

Ukraine's Ministry of Finance has established public consultations during budget formulation and e-consultations during budget implementation. To strengthen public participation, Ukraine's Ministry of Finance should also prioritize the following actions.

- Expand mechanisms during budget formulation to engage any civil society organization or member of the public who wishes to participate.
- Actively engage with vulnerable and underrepresented communities, directly or through civil society organizations representing them.

Ukraine's Parliament has established public hearings related to the approval of the annual budget. To strengthen public participation, Ukraine's legislature should also prioritize the following actions:

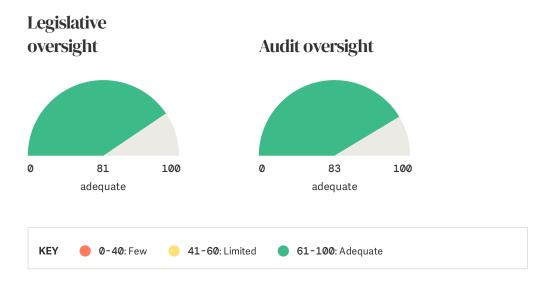
- Allow any member of the public or any civil society organization to testify during its hearings on the budget proposal prior to its approval.
- Allow members of the public or civil society organizations to testify during its hearings on the Audit Report.



Budget Oversight

The OBS examines the role that legislatures and supreme audit institutions (SAIs) play in the budget process and the extent to which they provide oversight; each country is scored on a scale from 0 to 100 based on 18 equally weighted indicators. In addition, the survey collects supplementary information on independent fiscal institutions (see Box).

The legislature and supreme audit institution in Ukraine, together, provide adequate oversight during the budget process, with a composite oversight score of **82** (out of 100). Taken individually, the extent of each institution's oversight is shown below:



Recommendations

Ukraine's Parliament provides adequate oversight during the planning stage of the budget cycle and adequate oversight during the implementation stage. To further improve oversight, the following actions should be prioritized:

• The Parliament should debate budget policy before the Executive's Budget Proposal is tabled and approve recommendations for the upcoming budget.

To strengthen independence and improve audit oversight by the Ukraine Accounting Chamber, the following actions are recommended:

• Ensure audit processes are reviewed by an independent agency.



The emerging practice of establishing independent fiscal institutions

Ukraine does not have an independent fiscal institution (IFI). IFIs are increasingly recognized as valuable independent and nonpartisan information providers to the Executive and/or Parliament during the budget process.

*These indicators are *not* scored in the Open Budget Survey.



Methodology

- Only documents published and events, activities, or developments that took place through 31 December 2020 were assessed in the OBS 2021.
- The survey is based on a questionnaire completed in each country by an independent budget expert:
 Volodymyr Tarnay
 Consultant
 vtarnay@gmail.com
- To further strengthen the research, each country's draft questionnaire is also reviewed by an anonymous independent expert, and in Ukraine by a representative of the Ministry of Finance.

