Drawing on internationally accepted criteria developed by multilateral organizations, the Open Budget Survey uses 109 equally weighted indicators to measure budget transparency. These indicators assess whether the central government makes eight key budget documents available to the public online in a timely manner and whether these documents present budget information in a comprehensive and useful way.

Each country receives a composite score (out of 100) that determines its ranking on the Open Budget Index – the world’s only independent and comparative measure of budget transparency.

What is Moldova’s OBI score in 2017?

How does budget transparency in Moldova compare to others?

Moldova’s score of 58 out of 100 is substantially higher than the global average score of 42.
Transparency alone is insufficient for improving governance. Public participation in budgeting is vital to realize the positive outcomes associated with greater budget transparency.

To measure public participation, the Open Budget Survey assesses the degree to which the government provides opportunities for the public to engage in budget processes. Such opportunities should be provided throughout the budget cycle by the executive, the legislature, and the supreme audit institution.

The questions assessing participation in the Open Budget Survey 2017 were revised to align them with the Global Initiative for Fiscal Transparency’s new principles on public participation, which now serve as the basis for widely accepted norms on public participation in national budget processes. Therefore, data on the extent of public participation in budgeting in the Open Budget Survey 2017 cannot be compared directly to data from earlier editions.

How does public participation in Moldova compare to other countries in the region?

Moldova’s score of 7 out of 100 indicates that it provides few opportunities for the public to engage in the budget process. This is lower than the global average score of 12.

To what extent do different institutions in Moldova provide opportunities for public participation?
The Open Budget Survey examines the role that legislatures, supreme audit institutions, and independent fiscal institutions play in the budget process and the extent to which they are able to provide effective oversight of the budget. These institutions play a critical role — often enshrined in national constitutions or laws — in planning budgets and overseeing their implementation.

These indicators were revised to better assess the role of formal oversight institutions in ensuring integrity and accountability in the use of public resources. Therefore, data on the role and effectiveness of oversight institutions in the Open Budget Survey 2017 should not be compared directly to data from earlier editions.

To what extent does the legislature in Moldova provide budget oversight?

The legislature provides limited oversight during the budget cycle. This score reflects that the legislature provides limited oversight during the planning stage of the budget cycle and limited oversight during the implementation stage of the budget cycle.

Oversight by an Independent Fiscal Institution

Moldova does not have an independent fiscal institution (IFI). While IFIs are not yet widespread globally, they are increasingly recognized as an important source of independent, nonpartisan information. IFIs take a variety of different institutional forms. Common examples include parliamentary budget offices and fiscal councils.


RECOMMENDATIONS

For more detailed information on the survey findings for Moldova, please see the Open Budget Survey Data Explorer at survey.internationalbudget.org.

How can Moldova improve transparency?

Moldova should prioritize the following actions to improve budget transparency:

- Publish the Mid-Year Review in a timely manner.
- Provide detailed data on the macroeconomic forecast, as well as data on the financial position of the government in the Executive’s Budget Proposal.
- Provide details of comparisons between planned nonfinancial outcomes and actual outcome in the Year-End Report, and increase the information provided in the In-Year Reports.
- A debate on budget policy by the legislature does not take place prior to the tabling of the Executive’s Budget Proposal.
- The Executive’s Budget Proposal is not provided to legislators at least two months before the start of the budget year.
- A legislative committee does not examine or publish reports on in-year budget implementation online.
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Further Information
Visit openbudgetsurvey.org for more information, including:
■ The Open Budget Survey 2017: Global report
■ Data explorer
■ Methodology report
■ Full questionnaire