

Public sector debt by instrument coverage

■ Abstract

The magnitude of government debt, and public sector debt likewise, depends on the coverage of instruments used and available data. To accommodate a fair international comparison of related indicators, the IMF, the OECD and the World Bank have agreed to define various debt measures depending on the coverage or non-coverage of instruments: D1 to D4.

The D1-D4 presentation classifies gross government debt and public sector debt into four separate categories, as defined in the 2012 IMF Staff Discussion Note: "What Lies Beneath: The Statistical Definition of Public Sector Debt". This coverage of instruments according to this classification ranges from a narrow definition including only debt securities and loans (D1) to a fully comprehensive definition covering all six debt instruments (D4), as defined in the Public Sector Debt Statistics Guide for User and Compilers, and the Government Finance Statistics Manual 2014.

For more information, please see the document:

- **Measuring Government Debt: D1-D4**

■ Aggregation & consolidation

GDP data shown in this dataset are calculated as a rolling sum GDP by summing the past four quarters. For instance, the Q1 2014 GDP is calculated by summing GDP data (quarterly levels, current prices, national currency and not seasonally adjusted) from Q2 2013 to Q1 2014.

For Canada, Portugal and the United Kingdom, GDP data used to calculate GDP rolling sums are seasonally adjusted.