

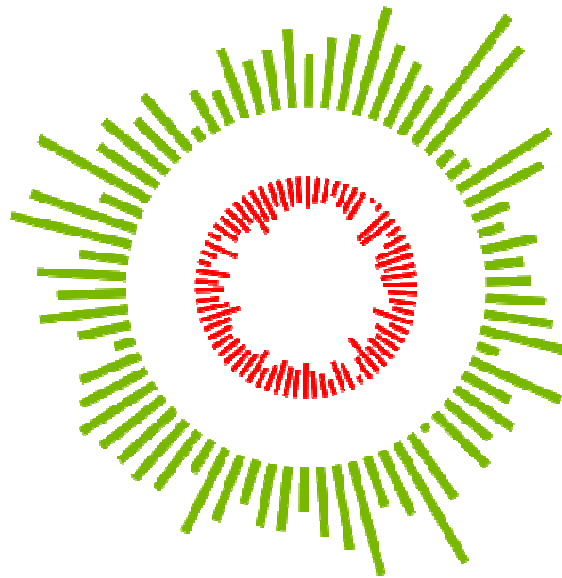
# GLOBAL OPEN DATA INDEX

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Open Knowledge  
[okfn.org](http://okfn.org)



We are a **global network** using **advocacy, technology & training** to unlock information and data and empower citizens and organizations to drive **positive change**.



OPEN KNOWLEDGE



OPEN KNOWLEDGE

# What we assess

Openness of datasets assessed by a global community of over 70 volunteers worldwide. Citizen assessment of open datasets (according to the **Open Definition**)

- Assessing the openness of government datasets validation by country-level experts
  - Sample validation by dataset experts
- 
- Open Definition (v. 2): ***“Open means anyone can freely access, use, modify, and share for any purpose (subject, at most, to requirements that preserve provenance and openness).”***

# The datasets assessed

A crowd-sourced assessment of open data. The datasets were chosen based on the [G8 Open Data Charter principles](#) and after consulting with the Open Government Community.

- transport timetables
- government budget
- government spending
- election results
- company register
- national map
- national statistics
- legislation
- postcodes/zipcodes
- pollutant emissions

# How we assess it

**The following questions examine technical openness:**

- Does the data exist?
- Is the data in digital form?
- Is the data available online?
- Is the data machine-readable?
- Is it available in bulk?
- Is the data provided in a timely and up to date basis?

**The following questions examine the legal status of openness:**

- Is the data publicly available?
- Is the data available for free?
- Is the data openly licensed?

# Tracking the state of government open data.

97

PLACES IN THE INDEX

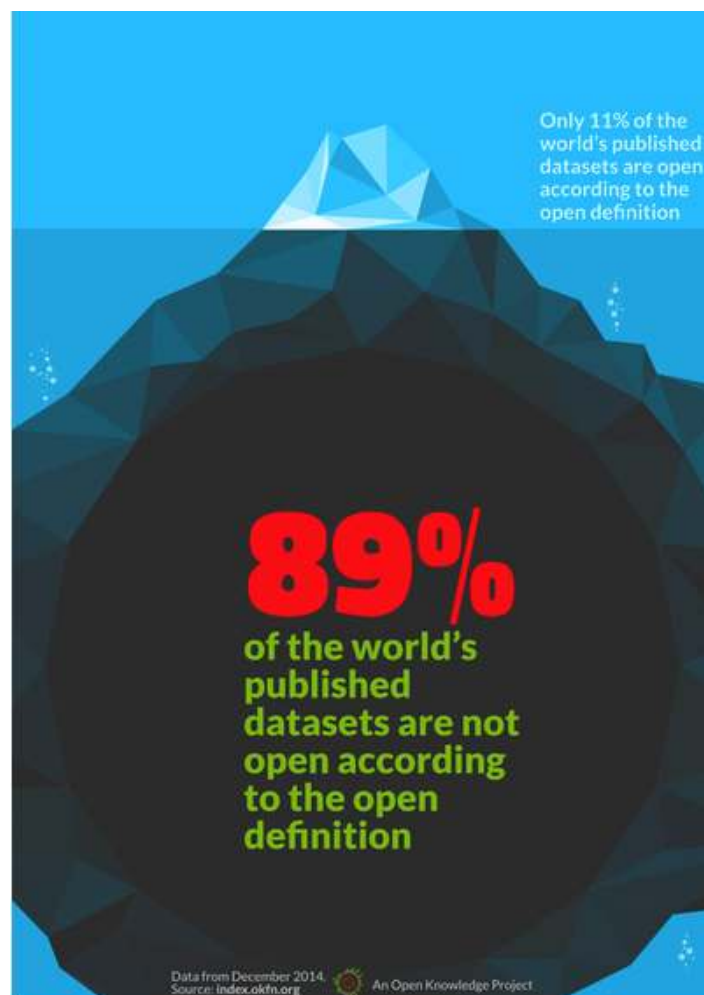
Up from 60 in 2013

106 of 970

KEY DATASETS IN THE INDEX ARE OPEN

Up from 87 of 599 in 2013

Rank	Place	Transport Timetables	Government Budget	Government Spending	Election Results	Company Register	National Map	National Statistics	Legislation	Postcodes / Zipcodes	Pollutant Emissions	Score
1	United Kingdom											97%
2	Denmark											83%
3	France											80%
4	Finland											73%
5	Australia											72%
5	New Zealand											72%
7	Norway											71%
8	United States											70%
9	Germany											69%
10	India											68%



## The State of Budget & Spending Data

### BUDGET DATA

Budget data shows planned government spending, divided by sector.



### SPENDING DATA

Detailed spending datasets show how and where public money was spent.



**77**

countries publish their budgets online

**21**

countries do so under an open license that allows reuse:

AUSTRALIA BRAZIL CANADA CHILE  
DENMARK FRANCE GERMANY INDIA  
INDONESIA ISLE OF MAN ITALY MEXICO  
NETHERLANDS NEW ZEALAND NORWAY  
POLAND SLOVENIA SWEDEN UNITED  
KINGDOM UNITED STATES URUGUAY



**11**

countries publish their detailed spending data online

**2**

countries do so under an open license that allows reuse:

GREECE UNITED KINGDOM

Data from December 2014  
Source: [index.okfn.org](http://index.okfn.org)



An Open Knowledge Project



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# Results

The **United Kingdom**, a leader in open government, topped the Index again

**France:** Most improved award goes to the government of France now at #3 up from #12 last year. The French government has put significant effort on opening data to the public while having a dialogue with civil society. They also launched a new data portal and have a strong emphasis on releasing data in bulk and in a machine readable format, which has given them points. There are still some key issues, but France can top the leader board next year if it keeps up the work they are doing.

**Greece:** a country which has been in the headlines with regards to its government spending, has scored high on openness of government spending. Thanks to a new spending portal <https://diavgeia.gov.gr/> Greece is one of only two countries who scored full marks on the openness of government spending in the Global Open Data Index 2014.





# Results

- The **Russian Federation** falls well behind its recent G7/8 peers coming in at #45
- **India** dramatically improved to #10 - launching a new data portal coincided with a major push to release more and better data
- **Colombia**: First time included in the index and ranked 12th along with Uruguay, ranking the same as progressive Sweden (also #12) and leaving behind Austria on #22
- **Africa**: South Africa is leading the continent in 36th place on the global scale, but the next one after it Burkina Faso in #59. Guinea is closing the list as #97. Main issues are not the openness of data but the lack of data.

# Community

Pieter-Jan Pauwels is a Community Coordinator at Open Knowledge Belgium. He is also an organiser of open summer of code, and Open Belgium. Pieter works to translate open data efforts in Belgium into interesting projects, and is hoping to introduce the concept of open knowledge to a wider audience in Belgium through an interactive video platform.



## [Belgium ranked #53 in the 2014 Open Data Index](#) / [Other stories from Europe](#)

In early 2014, we used the Global Open Data Index to motivate open data experts, opinion leaders and government officials to gather for the very first edition of Open Belgium, as a part of the 'Data Days' conference in Ghent. This was a success, not only because it was an opportunity to openly discuss open data, but also act and publicise new datasets such as the company register (KBO) of the Department of Economy, and the transport data of TEC, the Walloon public transport company.

Now almost a year later, we view the Global Open Data Index not just as a tool for leverage, but as a tool to support further open data publications in Belgium. It is also a way to encourage those who are opening up information in Government, and shows other departments on a federal level that opening up their data is part of a global movement.

[index.okfn.org/stories/](http://index.okfn.org/stories/)





# United Kingdom

Frances Maude, Minister for the Cabinet Office (United Kingdom):

*"We're delighted to see the UK retain its number one position in the Open Data Index. We believe this recognizes the UK continues to have a leading position in this globally important area and recognizes our efforts ongoing efforts to be the most transparent and open government in the world."*

# France



Axelle Lemaire, Secretary of State for Digital Affairs:

*"I am thrilled that France has registered the biggest boost in the new index, zooming up from 12th to 3rd." "One big step forward came from over a year of debate with the Postal service, civil society organisations like Open Street Map, the official institute de géographique national and our open data team – it lead to the release of a comprehensive address list. **Our belief is that open data is good but engaging in uses of open data is even better, and the new platform set up at [data.gouv.fr](http://data.gouv.fr) does just that: anyone can contribute, reuse and build upon public data: truly people powered public services!"***

# Impact anecdotes

- Denmark: *“Important to push for more open data. Important to push for the use of open data, “we have a lot of open data, why don't we make use of it?”*
- Nigeria: “let government institutions know how to openly license their data, and empower citizens”
- Rwanda “It is imperative to be able to learn quickly from other countries”
- Kenya “Open data allows citizens make inf. choices about their lives”



# Twitter campaign

The US ranked 8th on the Global [#OpenData](#) Index. <http://ow.ly/Gf4wt> [#openindex14](#) thanks [@OKFN](#) for the useful tool!

- [#openindex14](#) has been a great [#community](#) effort to benchmark [#government](#) [#opendata](#) around the world <http://ow.ly/Gf0GP> [#transparency](#)

- 'Data Journalists are also one of the beneficiaries of the Global [#OpenData](#) Index.'  
<http://ow.ly/Gf4wt> [#openindex14](#) [#NEPAL](#)

- [#Burkina](#) Faso's [#openindex14](#) story. "Often the publication of data does not include 'reuse'."  
<http://bit.ly/1zrW3X5> [#open](#) [#government](#)

- [#Kenya](#)'s [#openindex14](#) story. "Open data allows citizens make inf. choices about their lives"  
<http://bit.ly/1wJAU8C> "



# Success

*“We have noted that for the Company Register dataset on the Global Open Data Index, Australia is ranked #11, with an indication that the license under which the data is published is not open.*

***I am writing to inform you that we have now changed the license to Creative Commons 3.0 <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/au/>; this dataset is now published under an open license.”***

# Fierce competition, creative country-level tweets



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Join the community at [open-data-census@lists.okfn.org](mailto:open-data-census@lists.okfn.org)



**If you release your data  
openly, make sure the  
people who can benefit  
from its release are made  
aware of it**



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# Martin Alvarez-Espinar

PSI Re-use Scoreboard



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# Questions

## **What x is the thing that should be done to publisher or reuse PSI?**

Measuring and benchmarking open data initiatives using common (and transparent) indicators and methodologies. Encourage publishers to be aware of the indicators developed in the community to improve quality and transparency for their own publishing practices.

## **Why does x facilitate the publication of reuse of PSI?**

Encourages the adoption of best practices, helps improve the effectiveness of the initiatives, offers a degree of comparability - ideally at the national, regional and thematic level.

## **How can one achieve x and how can you measure or test it?**

Implementing a methodology along with a set of indicators enabling comparison of successful and unsuccessful initiatives. Also the ability to judge the progress made against open data initiatives year by year.