

Table I.1. Growth of General Government Expenditure, 1870–1996 (Percent of GDP)

	Late 19th Century about 1870 ^a	Pre World War I 1913	Post World War I 1920	Pre World War II 1937	Post World War II 1960	Post World War II 1980	1990	1996
<i>General government for all years</i>								
Australia	18.3	16.5	19.3	14.8	21.2	34.1	34.9	35.9
Austria	10.5	17.0	14.7 ^b	20.6	35.7	48.1	38.6	51.6
Canada	...	...	16.7	25.0	28.6	38.8	46.0	44.7
France ^c	12.6	17.0	27.6	29.0	34.6	46.1	49.8	55.0
Germany	10.0	14.8	25.0	34.1	32.4	47.9	45.1	49.1
Italy	13.7	17.1	30.1	31.1	30.1	42.1	53.4	52.7
Ireland ^d	...	...	18.8	25.5	28.0	48.9	41.2	42.0
Japan	8.8	8.3	14.8	25.4	17.5	32.0	31.3	35.9
New Zealand ^e	...	...	24.6	25.3	26.9	38.1	41.3	34.7
Norway ^f	5.9	9.3	16.0	11.8	29.9	43.8	54.9	49.2
Sweden ^g	5.7	10.4	10.9	16.5	31.0	60.1	59.1	64.2
Switzerland	16.5	14.0	17.0	24.1	17.2	32.8	33.5	39.4
United Kingdom	9.4	12.7	26.2	30.0	32.2	43.0	39.9	43.0
United States	7.3	7.5	12.1	19.7	27.0	31.4	32.8	32.4
Average	10.8	13.1	19.6	23.8	28.0	41.9	43.0	45.0
<i>Central government for 1870–1937, general government thereafter</i>								
Belgium	13.8	22.1	21.8	30.3	57.8	54.3	52.9	...
Netherlands	9.1	9.0	13.5	19.0	33.7	55.8	54.1	49.3
Spain ^h	...	11.0	8.3	13.2	18.8	32.2	42.0	43.7
Average	9.1	11.3	14.6	18.0	27.6	48.6	50.1	48.6
Total average	10.7	12.7	18.7	22.8	27.9	43.1	44.8	45.6

Sources: Compiled by Tanzi and Schuknecht based on Fernández Acha (1976); Andic and Veverka (1964); Australia, Bureau of Census and Statistics (1938); Institut National de la Statistique [Belgium] (1952); Brosio and Marchese (1986); United States Bureau of Census (1975); Buttini (1984); Norway, Statistisk Sentralbyrå (1969, 1978); Delorme and André (1983); Flora, Kraus, and Pfenning (1983); IMF, *Statistical Appendix*, New Zealand; IMF, *Statistical Appendix*, Recent Economic Developments (1996); *Historical Statistics of Japan* (1987); Mitchell, *International Historical Statistics* (various years); Neck and Schneider (1988); The Netherlands, Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek (1956); New Zealand Official (1938); OECD, *Economic Outlook* (1996, 1997); Italy, Istituto Nazionale di Statistica (1951); *Österreichisches Statistisches Zentralamt* (1935).

^aOr closest year available for all countries. Pre World War II data sometimes on the basis of GNP or NNP instead of GDP.

^bCentral government data for this year, New Zealand: 1960 = 1970, and 1994–95 = 1996.

^c1996 data; calculations are based on the Maastricht definition, and are smaller than that published by the INSEE, the national statistical agency.

^d1995 instead of 1996, because of break in data calculation.