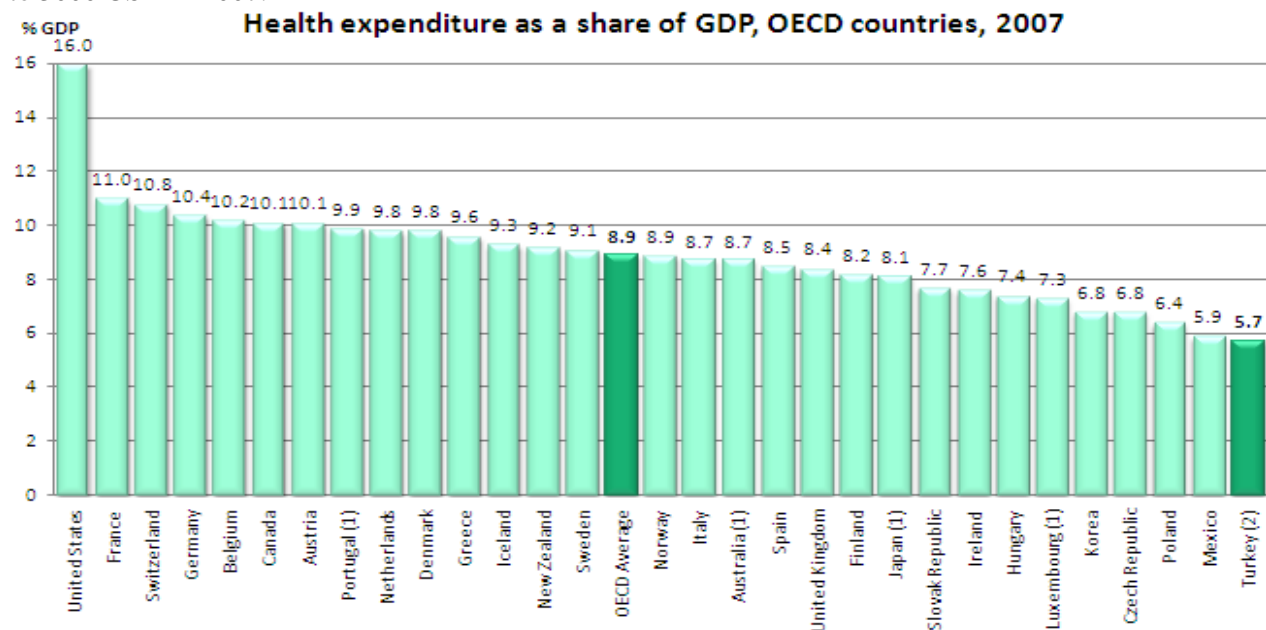




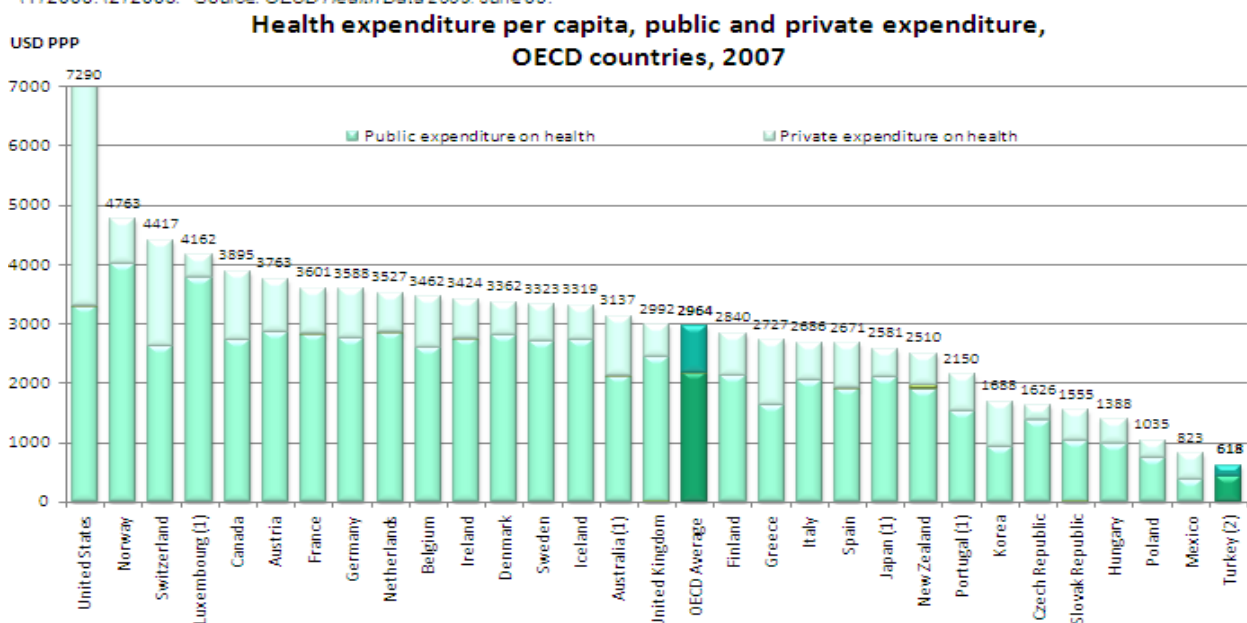
OECD Health Data 2009 How Does Turkey Compare

Total health spending accounted for 5.7% of GDP in **Turkey** in 2005 (latest year available), below the average of 8.9% across OECD countries. The United States is, by far, the country that spends the most on health as a share of its economy (with 16.0% of its GDP allocated to health in 2007), followed by France (11.0%), Switzerland (10.8%) and Germany (10.4%).

Health spending tends to rise with income: in general, OECD countries with higher GDP per capita tend to spend more on health. Given that **Turkey** has the lowest GDP per capita among OECD countries, it is not surprising that it also has the lowest health spending per capita among OECD countries, with spending of 618 USD in 2005 (adjusted for purchasing power parity). This compares with an OECD average of close to 3000 USD in 2007.



(1) 2006. (2) 2005. Source: OECD Health Data 2009, June 09.



(1) 2006, (2) 2005. Data for Belgium, Denmark and the Netherlands are current expenditures (excluding investment). Source: OECD Health Data 2009, June 09. Data are expressed in US dollars adjusted for purchasing power parities (PPPs), which provide a means of comparing spending between countries on a common base. PPPs are the rates of currency conversion that equalise the cost of a given 'basket' of goods and services in different countries.

The public sector continues to be the main source of health funding in all OECD countries, except the United States and Mexico. In **Turkey**, 71% of health spending was funded by public sources in 2005, slightly below the average of 73% in OECD countries. The share of public spending in **Turkey**, however, has increased significantly over the past five years, up from 63% in 2000.

Resources in the health sector (human, physical)

Despite increasing numbers of doctors in recent years, **Turkey** continues to have the lowest number of physicians per capita among all OECD countries. In 2006, **Turkey** had 1.5 physicians per 1 000 population, two times less than the OECD average of 3.1.

Similarly, there were only 2.0 nurses per 1 000 population in **Turkey** in 2007, a much lower figure than the average of 9.6 in OECD countries.

The number of acute care hospital beds in **Turkey** in 2007 was 2.7 per 1 000 population, less than the OECD average of 3.8 beds.

Health status and risk factors

Most OECD countries have enjoyed large gains in life expectancy over the past decades, thanks to improvements in living conditions, public health interventions and progress in medical care. Among OECD countries, **Turkey** registered one of the greatest gains in life expectancy between 1960 and 2007, with an overall increase in longevity of over 23 years, rapidly narrowing the gap with the average across OECD countries. In 1960, life expectancy in **Turkey** was 20 years below the OECD average. By 2007, it was only about 7 years lower (71.8 years in **Turkey** compared with the OECD average of 79.0 years).

Infant mortality rate in **Turkey** has fallen dramatically over the past few decades, down from about 190 deaths per 1 000 live births in 1960 to 20.7 deaths in 2007. Nonetheless, the rate of infant mortality in **Turkey** remains four times higher than the OECD average of 4.9. Among OECD countries, infant mortality is the lowest in some Nordic countries (Iceland, Sweden and Finland), Luxembourg and Japan.

Tobacco smoking has shown a marked decline over the past twenty years in most OECD countries. **Turkey** has achieved some progress in reducing tobacco consumption, with the proportion of daily smokers among adults decreasing from 43.6% in 1989 to 33.4% in 2006. Still, smoking rates among adults in **Turkey** remains much higher than the OECD average of 23.3%. The lowest rates among OECD countries are in Australia, Sweden and the United States, all with fewer than 17% of adults reporting to be daily smokers.

More information on *OECD Health Data 2009* is available at www.oecd.org/health/healthdata.

For more information on OECD's work on **Turkey**, please visit www.oecd.org/turkey.