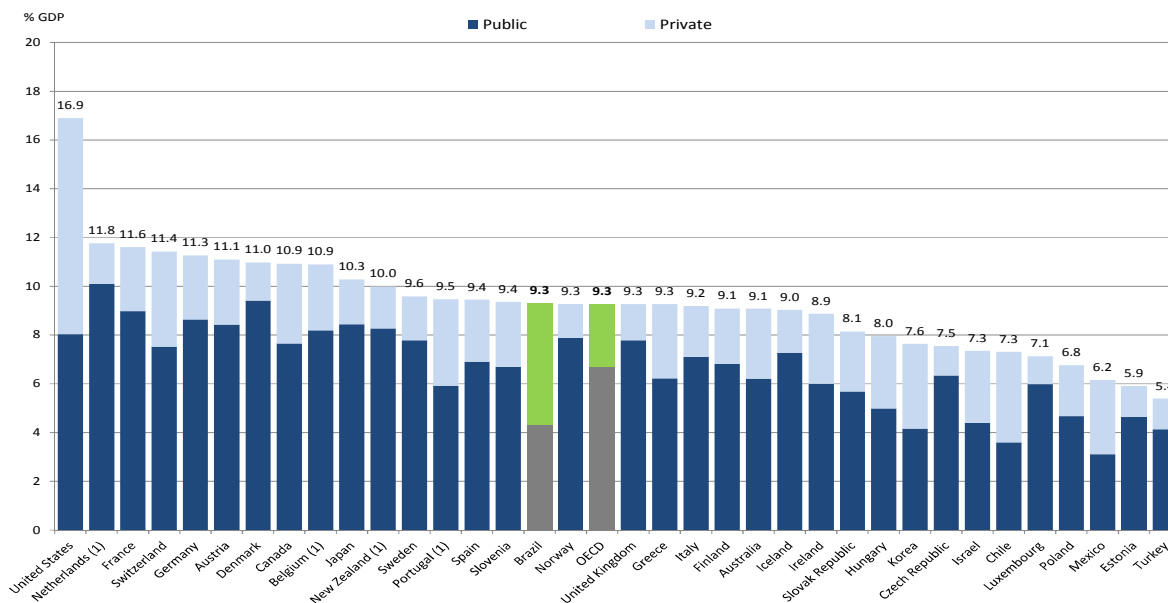


# OECD Health Statistics 2014

## How does Brazil compare?

Total health spending accounted for 9.3% of GDP in **Brazil** in 2012, which is also the average among OECD countries. Health spending as a share of GDP among OECD countries is highest in the United States, which spent 16.9% of its GDP on health in 2012.

Health expenditure as a share of GDP, Brazil and OECD countries, 2012 or latest year

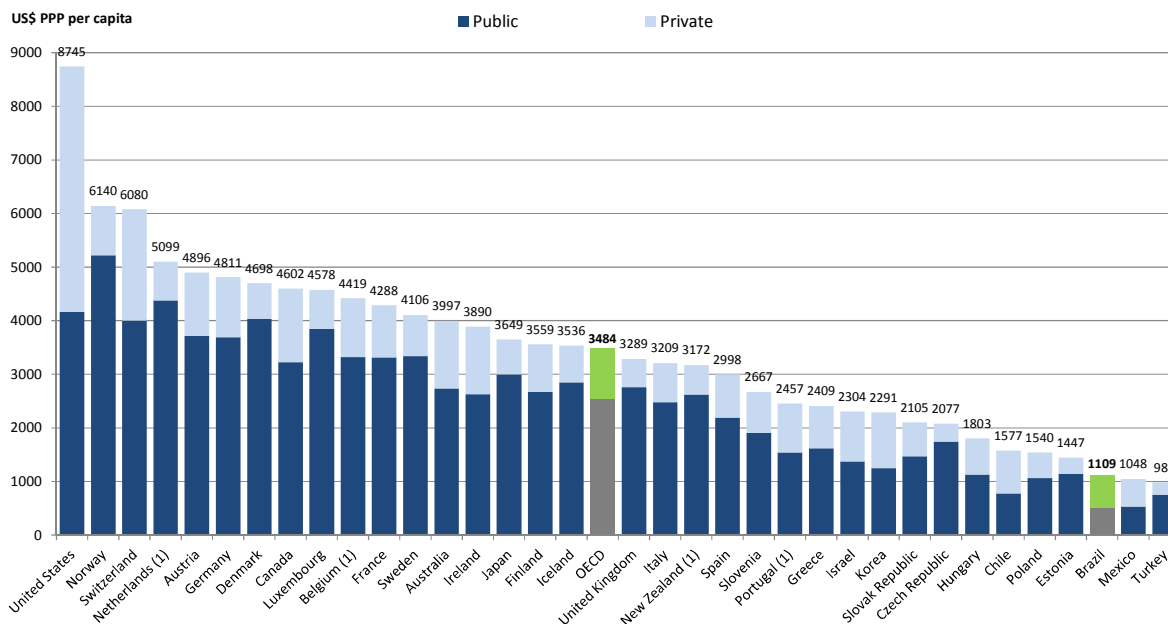


1. Total expenditure excluding capital expenditure.

Source: OECD Health Statistics 2014; WHO Global Health Expenditure Database

Health spending tends to rise with incomes, and generally countries with higher GDP per capita also tend to spend more on health. It is not surprising, therefore, that **Brazil** ranks below the OECD average in terms of health expenditure per capita, with spending of 1109 USD in 2012 (calculated based on purchasing power parity), compared with an OECD average of 3484 USD.

Health expenditure per capita, Brazil and OECD countries, 2012 or latest year



1. Total expenditure excluding capital expenditure.

Source: OECD Health Statistics 2014; WHO Global Health Expenditure Database

The public sector is the main source of health funding in nearly all OECD countries. In **Brazil**, 46% of health spending was funded by public sources in 2012, much lower than the average of 72% in OECD countries. The public share of health spending in **Brazil** is also slightly lower than in the United States (48%), Chile (49%) and Mexico (51%), the three OECD countries with the lowest public share. But in the United States, private health insurance accounts for a much larger share of private spending than in **Brazil**, where most private spending is paid directly out-of-pocket.

### **Resources in the health sector**

In 2010 (latest year available), **Brazil** had 1.8 physicians per 1000 population, well below the OECD average of 3.2 in 2012. There were only about 1.5 nurses per 1000 population in **Brazil** in 2010, compared with an OECD average of 8.8 in 2012.

The number of hospital beds in **Brazil** was 2.3 per 1000 population in 2012, about half the OECD average (4.8 beds). As in most OECD countries, the number of hospital beds per capita in **Brazil** has fallen over time (down from 2.9 beds per 1000 population in 2000), coinciding with a reduction in average length of stays in hospitals.

### **Health status and risk factors**

Most 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. Life expectancy at birth in **Brazil** has increased by 19 years since 1960 to reach 73.7 years in 2012, although it still remains 6 ½ years lower than the OECD average (80.2 years).

The infant mortality rate in **Brazil** has fallen greatly over the past two decades, coming down from 51.6 deaths per 1000 live births in 1990 to 12.9 deaths in 2012. Nonetheless, it remains much higher than the OECD average of 4.0 deaths per 1000 births.

Obesity rates have increased in recent decades in all OECD countries. In **Brazil**, the obesity rate among adults, based on self-reported data, was 18% in 2012, slightly higher than the OECD average (15%). Obesity's growing prevalence foreshadows increases in the occurrence of health problems (such as diabetes and cardiovascular diseases), and higher health care costs in the future.

---

More information on **OECD Health Statistics 2014** is available at [www.oecd.org/health/healthdata](http://www.oecd.org/health/healthdata). For more information on OECD's work on **Brazil**, please visit [www.oecd.org/brazil](http://www.oecd.org/brazil).

---