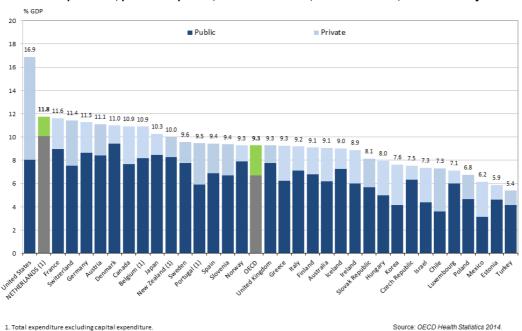


OECD Health Statistics 2014 How does the Netherlands compare?

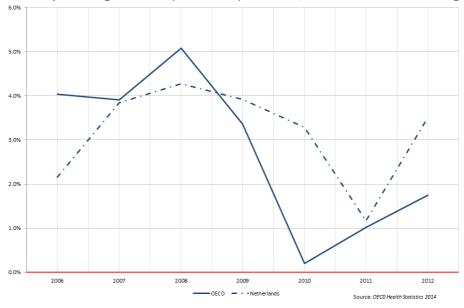
Health spending accounted for 11.8% of GDP in the **Netherlands** in 2012 - making it second only to the United States (which spent 16.9% of its GDP on health in 2012) and above a number of other European countries including France, Switzerland and Germany (all allocating over 11%). In the **Netherlands**, around 86% of health spending comes from government or through social insurance - a figure that has been slowly increasing in recent years and is well above the average of 72% in OECD countries.

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



Health spending in the **Netherlands** has continued to grow despite the economic crisis, averaging an annual real term growth rate of over 3% between 2006 and 2012. The rate of growth slowed to 1.2% in 2011 but picked up again in 2012 to 3.5%.

Health expenditure growth rates (in real terms) since 2006, Netherlands and OECD average



In line with a number of other OECD countries, pharmaceutical spending in the **Netherlands** has decreased in recent years. The reductions in drug spending are due to both price and volume effects. The loss of patent protection for a number of high-profile drugs and the resulting increase in lower-cost generic drugs explain some of the spending reductions. In addition, in 2012, the distribution of some of the more costly pharmaceuticals has been shifted away from pharmacies and into the hospital expenditure, thus over-estimating the real reduction in pharmaceutical spending.

% 4.0 2.0 -0.3 -0.3 -1.1 -0.9 -2.2 -4.0 -6.0 -8.0 -10.0 2009 2010 2011 2012

Annual growth of pharmaceutical spending (in real terms) since 2009, Netherlands and OECD average

Health status and risk factors

In 2012, life expectancy at birth in the **Netherlands** stood at 81.2 years, one year higher than the OECD average of 80.2 years. Still, a number of countries registered a higher life expectancy than the **Netherlands**, including Japan (83.2 years), Iceland (83.0 years) and Switzerland (82.8 years).

■ OECD ■ Netherlands

Source: OECD Health Statistics 2014.

The proportion of regular smokers among adults has shown a marked decline over the past decade in most OECD countries. In the **Netherlands**, the rate of daily smokers among adults has been cut down from 32% in 2000 to 18% in 2012. It is now below the OECD average of 20.7%.

At the same time, obesity rates have increased in recent decades in all OECD countries, although there are notable differences. In the **Netherlands**, the obesity rate among adults – based on self-reported height and weight – was 12.0% in 2012, up from 6.0% in 1990 and 9.4% in 2000. This remained much lower than the rate in the United States (28.6% in 2012 also based on self-reported data), and also lower than the average among the 29 OECD countries providing self-reported data (15.4%). Still, the growing prevalence of obesity foreshadows increases in the occurrence of health problems (such as diabetes and cardiovascular diseases), and higher health care costs in the future.

Key facts for the Netherlands from OECD Health Statistics 2014

	Netherlands				OECD average		Rank among OECD
	2012		2000		2012	2000	countries*
Health status							
Life expectancy at birth (years)	81.2		78.2		80.2	77.1	15 out of 34
Life expectancy at birth, men (years)	79.3		75.6		77.5	74.0	11 out of 34
Life expectancy at birth, women (years)	83.0		80.7		82.8	80.2	23 out of 34
Life expectancy at 65, men (years)	18.0		15.4		17.7	15.6	18 out of 34
Life expectancy at 65, women (years)	21.0		19.3		20.9	19.1	20 out of 34
Mortality from cardiovascular diseases (age-standardised rates per 100 000 pop.)	213.2		352.4		296.4	428.5	26 out of 34
Mortality from cancer (age-standardised rates per 100 000 pop.)	242.1		265.8		213.1	242.5	6 out of 34
Risk factors to health (behavioural)							
Tobacco consumption among adults (% daily smokers)	18.4		32.0		20.7	26.0	24 out of 34
Alcohol consumption among adults (liters per capita)	9.3	(2010)	10.1		9.0	9.5	18 out of 34
Obesity rates among adults, self-reported (%)	12.0		9.4		15.4	11.9	24 out of 29
Obesity rates among adults, measured (%)					22.7	18.7	
Health expenditure							
Health expenditure as a % GDP	11.8		8.0		9.3	7.7	2 out of 34
Health expenditure per capita (US\$ PPP)	5099		2343		3484	1888	4 out of 34
Pharmaceutical expenditure per capita (US\$ PPP)	450		274		498	300	22 out of 33
Pharmaceutical expenditure (% health expenditure)	8.8		12.3		15.9	17.9	30 out of 33
Public expenditure on health (% health expenditure)	85.8		66.4		72.3	71.4	1 out of 34
Out-of-pocket payments for health care (% health expenditure)	6.0		8.0	(2003)	19.0	20.5	34 out of 34
Health care resources							
Number of doctors (per 1000 population)	3.1	(2011)	2.4		3.2	2.7	19 out of 34
Number of nurses (per 1000 population)	11.9	(2011)	10.3		8.8	7.5	7 out of 34
Hospital beds (per 1000 population)	4.7	(2009)	4.8		4.8	5.6	16 out of 34

^{*}Note: Countries are ranked in descending order of values.

More information on *OECD Health Statistics 2014* is available at www.oecd.org/health/healthdata. For more information on OECD's work on the **Netherlands**, please visit www.oecd.org/netherlands.