

Health at a Glance 2021: OECD Indicators

Highlights for Costa Rica

Health at a Glance provides the latest comparable data and trends on the performance of health systems in OECD countries and key emerging economies. Alongside indicator-by-indicator analysis, this edition offers a special chapter on the health impact of COVID-19.

Costa Rica succeeded in containing the COVID-19 outbreak in the early months of the pandemic, but progress in vaccination has been slow



As of November 1, more than **560 000 COVID-19 infections** and nearly **7 000 deaths** from the virus had been recorded.



To free up hospital beds, **inpatient admissions were reduced by 18%** in Costa Rica in 2020, compared to the previous year.



Cost Rica was one of only six OECD countries where life expectancy **did not decline** in 2020. At **80.7 years in 2020**, life expectancy rose by 0.2 years from 2019, compared to an average decline of 0.6 years.



The pandemic resulted in **postponements in care**, including a **17% drop** in in-person doctor consultations in 2020, compared to the previous year.

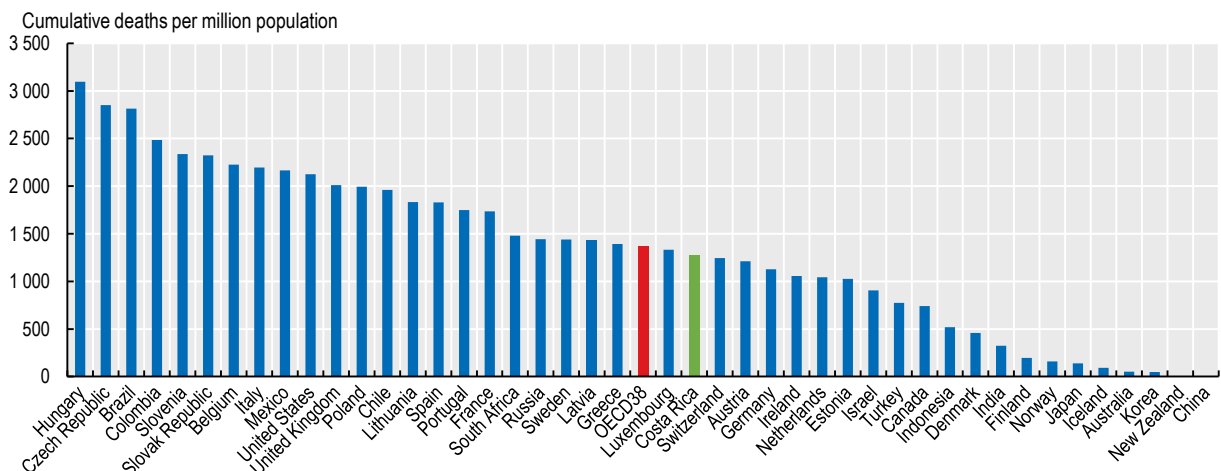


Over half (54%) of the Costa Rican population has been fully vaccinated against COVID-19, compared to 65% across the OECD on average (as of November 1).



Costa Rica had the seventh-lowest vaccination rate against COVID-19 across 37 OECD countries on July 1, and **sixth-lowest** as of November 1.

Cumulative number of confirmed or suspected COVID 19 deaths per million population, January 2020 to early October 2021



Health at a Glance 2021: How does Costa Rica compare?

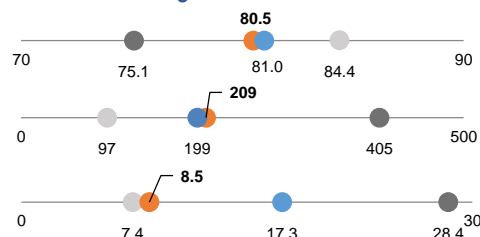


Costa Rica has a young population, with health status close to the OECD average

Life expectancy (2019 or nearest year)
Years of life at birth

Avoidable mortality (2019 or nearest year)
Deaths per 100 000 population (age-standardised)

Population ageing (2019 or nearest year)
% of population 65 and older

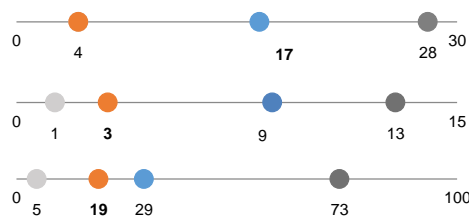


Smoking and alcohol consumption in Costa Rica are below the OECD average

Smoking (2019 or nearest year)
Daily smokers (% population 15+)

Alcohol (2019 or nearest year)
Litres consumed per capita (population 15+)

Air pollution (2019 or nearest year)
Deaths due to ambient particulate matter pollution (per 100 000 population)

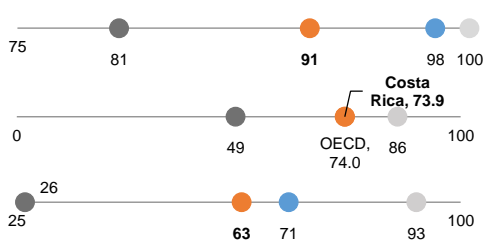


Population coverage and satisfaction with the availability of quality health care are below the OECD average

Population coverage, eligibility (2019 or nearest year)
Population eligible for core services (% population)

Financial protection (2019 or nearest year)
Expenditure covered by compulsory prepayment (% total expenditure)

Population coverage, satisfaction (2019 or nearest year)
Population satisfied with availability of quality health care (% population)



Relatively low avoidable hospital admissions suggest Costa Rica is above the OECD average in measures of effective primary care

Effective primary care (2019 or nearest year)
Avoidable COPD admissions (per 100 000 people, age-sex standardised)



Health spending is below the OECD average, combined with low numbers of hospital beds and nurses per capita

Health spending (2019 or nearest year)
% GDP

Hospital beds (2019 or nearest year)
Per 1 000 population

Doctors (2019 or nearest year)
Practicing physicians (per 1 000 population)

Nurses (2019 or nearest year)
Practicing nurses (per 1 000 population)

