

OECD Health Statistics 2015



OECD Health Statistics 2015 is the most comprehensive source of comparable statistics on health and health systems across the 34 OECD countries. Covering the period 1960 to 2014, this interactive database can be used for comparative analyses on health status, risk factors to health, health care resources and utilisation, as well as health expenditure and financing. OECD Health Statistics 2015 is available in OECD.Stat, the statistics portal for all OECD databases.

- ▶ **Growth:** While average per capita health spending in OECD countries has increased slowly since 2010, spending in Denmark has contracted between 2010 and 2013 in real terms.
- ▶ **Share of GDP:** The share of GDP allocated to health spending (excluding capital expenditure) in Denmark was 10.4% in 2013, compared with an OECD average of 8.9%. This was unchanged from 2012 and remains below the high of 10.7% in 2009 as GDP also decreased.
- ▶ **Per capita spending:** Denmark spent the equivalent of USD 4553 per person on health in 2013, compared with an OECD average of USD 3453. Public sources accounted for 84.3% of overall health spending, well above the OECD average.

Figure 1. Annual health spending growth*, 2010-2013



*Per capita spending in real terms
Source: OECD Health Statistics 2015

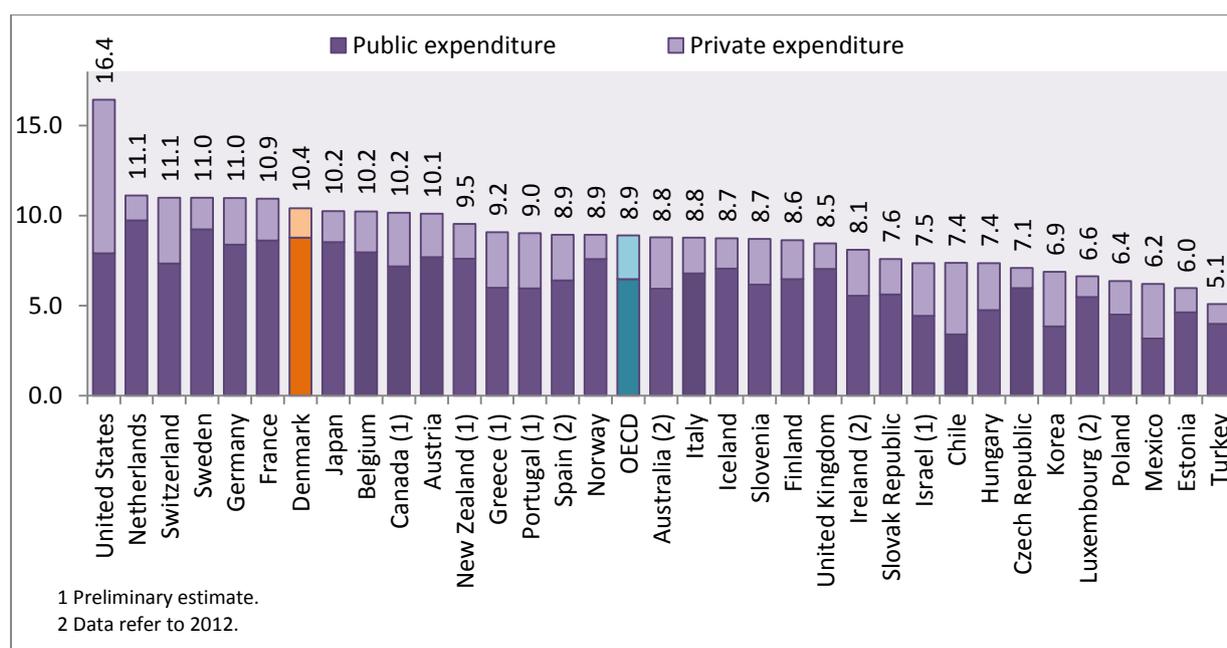
Health spending in Denmark saw further contraction in 2013

In 2013, per capita health spending in Denmark declined by 0.5% in real terms. This marks another contraction in health expenditure after falls of 1.4% in both 2010 and 2011 and near-zero growth in 2012. As a result, per capita health spending in Denmark remains below its 2009 level. Public health spending per capita has shown continuous falls since 2010, with the exception of 2012 (+0.8%).

Similarly, driven by declining private households' out-of-pocket spending, overall private health spending has fallen continuously between 2010 and 2012 as a number of user charges were abolished and some planned new user charges were not introduced..

On the other hand, 2013 saw increases in private spending, as user charges increased slightly for certain health care services and goods.

Figure 2. Health spending* as a share of GDP, 2013



* Excluding capital expenditure.
Source: OECD Health Statistics 2015

Health spending as a share of GDP in Denmark remains above the OECD average

Health spending in Denmark (excluding investment expenditure in the health sector) was 10.4% of GDP in 2013 (Figure 2), above the OECD average of 8.9%. This has increased by 1.5 percentage points since 2003, as health spending grew faster than GDP over this ten-year period.

The share of the economy allocated to health spending is similar to Belgium (10.2%), but below the levels of other European countries, such as the Netherlands (11.1%), Sweden (11.0) and Germany (11.0%).

The share of government spending in total spending on health in Denmark has remained relatively constant over the last decade and stood at 84% in 2013. This is

well above the OECD average of 73% and comparable to the shares found in Norway (85%) and Sweden (84%). Among OECD countries, only the United States and Chile report public spending on health below 50%.

Out-of-pocket spending at 14% of health spending was up from 13% in 2012 and back to the 2010 level. This is similar share to Germany.. On average in OECD countries, out-of-pocket spending accounted for about a fifth of all health spending in 2013.

In per capita terms (adjusted for different price levels using economy-wide purchasing power parities), Denmark spent USD 4553 per head in 2013. This compares with an OECD average of USD 3453.

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Further Reading

Focus on health spending:
www.oecd.org/health/health-systems/Focus-Health-Spending-2015.pdf

OECD Health Statistics 2015:
www.oecd.org/health/health-data.htm

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