

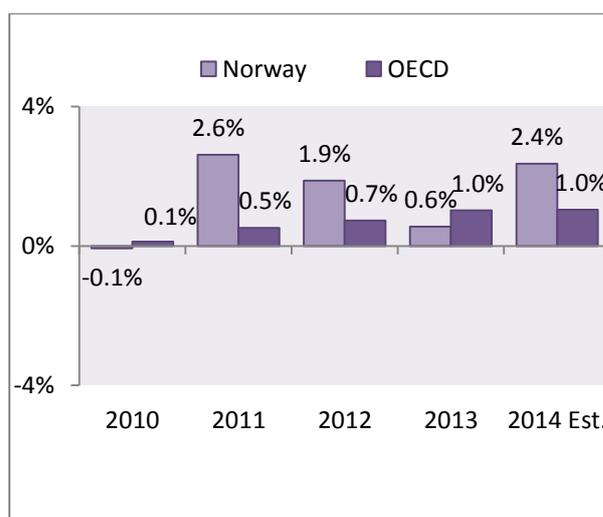
OECD Health Statistics 2015



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:** Per capita health spending in Norway grew only slightly (0.6%) in 2013 but is expected to increase further in 2014.
- ▶ **Share of GDP:** The share of GDP allocated to health spending (excluding capital expenditure) in Norway was 8.9% in 2013, equal to the OECD average. This has edged up slightly over recent years as increases in health spending have stayed just ahead of economic growth.
- ▶ **Per capita spending:** Norway spent the equivalent of USD 5862 per person on health in 2013, third after the United States (8713) and Switzerland (5862). Government spending accounted for 85% of overall health spending, among the highest in the OECD.

Figure 1. Annual health spending growth*, 2010-2014



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

Slower health spending growth in 2013 due to lower expenditure on pharmaceuticals

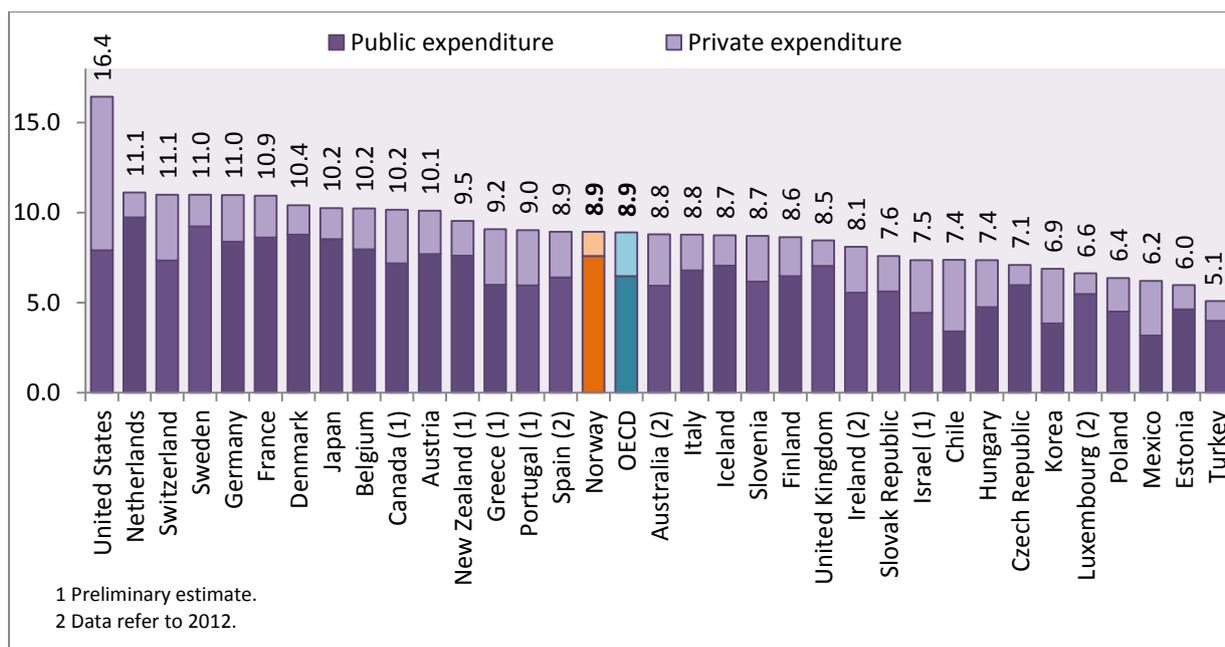
In 2013, per capita health spending in Norway grew by just 0.6% in real terms - compared to growth of 2.6% in 2011 and 1.9% in 2012. Preliminary estimates point to higher growth of 2.4% in 2014.

Overall, health spending growth in Norway has been steady - growing at between 1.5-1.7% over the last ten years in real terms. After Norway's GDP contracted in

2009, there was a brief slowdown in health spending - mainly as a result of a drop in out-of-pocket spending on health in 2010.

The slower growth in health spending in 2013 is mainly due to a 3% reduction in pharmaceutical spending. By contrast, expenditure on long-term care services, which accounts for 30% of government spending on health, increased by 2.6%.

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 Norway remains around the OECD average

Health spending in Norway (excluding investment expenditure in the health sector) was 8.9% of GDP in 2013 (Figure 2), the same as the OECD average. The health spending to GDP ratio has remained stable over the last few years as health spending growth has kept close to overall economic growth.

The share of the Norwegian economy allocated to health spending is similar to Spain and Italy but below other high-income European countries such as Switzerland and Germany (11.1% and 11.0% respectively).

The share of government spending in Norway as a share of total spending on health has remained relatively

constant over the last decade between 83 and 85%. This is one of the highest in the OECD and above the OECD average of 73%. Among OECD countries, only the United States and Chile report public spending on health below 50%.

Out-of-pocket spending at 15% of health spending has remained relatively stable in recent years, and is comparable with other western European countries such as France (10%), Germany (14%) and United Kingdom (10%). Private health insurance in Norway is negligible.

In per capita terms (adjusted for different price levels using economy-wide purchasing power parities), Norway spent USD 5862 per head in 2013. This was the third highest after the United States and Switzerland and 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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