Health at a Glance 2021: OECD Indicators

**Highlights for France**


**COVID-19 vaccination accelerated sharply after initial hesitancy, but the pandemic significantly disrupted other care and mental health worsened**

Vaccine hesitancy has fallen sharply throughout the course of the pandemic, from more than one in two French adults expressing hesitancy at being vaccinated in January 2021 to fewer than one in four by August. The implementation of the pass sanitaire has proved an additional motivator for vaccination.

As of November 1, more than 7.2 million COVID-19 infections and nearly 120 000 deaths from the virus had been recorded.

Life expectancy at birth declined by 0.6 years in France during the first year of the pandemic, from 82.9 years in 2019 to 82.3 years in 2020, in line with the OECD average of a 0.6 year decline.

68% of the French population has been fully vaccinated against COVID-19, slightly higher than the 65% average across OECD countries (as of November 1).

The pandemic resulted in delays in care, with screening mammograms for breast cancer falling by around half during the peak of the pandemic.

All-cause mortality in 2020 and the first six months of 2021 rose by 10% compared with the 2015-2019 average.

The pandemic caused health spending as a share of GDP to rise sharply, from 11.1% in 2019 to 12.4% in 2020 (compared to an average 0.9 percentage point increase in the OECD area).

France had the 15th-highest vaccination rate across 37 OECD countries on November 1, up from 22nd at the beginning of July.

The COVID-19 crisis has had a significant and negative impact on population mental health. In France, the prevalence of anxiety nearly doubled to 27% in early 2020, compared with the previous year.

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**Cumulative excess mortality compared to reported COVID-19 deaths per million population, January 2020 to end June 2021**

![Cumulative excess mortality chart]
Health status is high in France, though self-rated health is lower than 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

- **Self-rated health** (2019 or nearest year)
  Population in poor health (% population 15+)

Smoking and alcohol consumption in France are much higher than the OECD average

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

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

- **Overweight / obese** (2019 or nearest year)
  Population with BMI $\geq 25$ (% population 15+)

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

Population coverage is high, with relatively high satisfaction and few people reporting unmet needs

- **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)

Quality of care is good, though some indicators lag behind – including high rates of antibiotic prescribing

- **Safe primary care** (2019 or nearest year)
  Antibiotics prescribed (defined daily dose per 1,000 people)

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

- **Effective preventive care** (2019 or nearest year)
  Mammography screening within the past two years (% of women 50+)

- **Effective secondary care** (2019 or nearest year)
  30 day mortality following AMI (per 100,000 people, age-sex standardised)

Resources for health are above average, with higher-than-average spending, hospital beds and nurses per capita

- **Health spending** (2019 or nearest year)
  % of GDP

- **Long-term care spending** (2019 or nearest year)
  % of 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)