

Poland

Health at a Glance provides the latest comparable data and trends on population health and health system performance. This Country Note shows how Poland compares to other OECD countries across indicators in the report.

How does Poland perform overall?

This section shows key indicators, and also how often Poland is above the OECD average on relevant indicators (where data are available for Poland).

Health status



Key indicators:

Life expectancy was 75.5 years, 4.8 years below the OECD average. Preventable mortality was 227 per 100,000 (higher than the OECD average of 158); with treatable mortality at 117 per 100,000 (higher than the OECD average of 79). 10.3% of people rated their health as bad or very bad (OECD average 7.9%). Diabetes prevalence was similar to the OECD average.

Poland performs better than the OECD average on 32% of indicators

(Based on 19 indicators, data missing for 0 indicators)

Risk factors



Key indicators:

Smoking prevalence, at 17.1%, was higher than the OECD average of 16.0%. Alcohol consumption was higher than the OECD average; at 11.0 litres per capita versus 8.6. Obesity prevalence was 18.5%, close to the OECD average of 18.4%. There were 73.3 deaths from air pollution per 100,000 population (OECD average 28.9).

Poland performs better than the OECD average on 36% of indicators

(Based on 11 indicators, data missing for 2 indicators)

Quality of care



Key indicators:

Acute care: 30-day mortality after stroke was 11.8% (OECD average 7.8%), and 5.2% after AMI (OECD average 6.8%). Primary care: There were 663 avoidable admissions per 100,000 population, more than the OECD average of 463. Safe prescribing: Poland prescribed more antibiotics than on average in the OECD. Preventive care: 33% of women were screened for breast cancer, less than the OECD average of 55%.

Poland performs better than the OECD average on 32% of indicators

(Based on 19 indicators, data missing for 14 indicators)

Access to care



Key indicators:

94% of the population is covered for a core set of services. 51% of people were satisfied with the availability of quality healthcare (OECD average 67%). Financial coverage, with 72% of spending covered by mandatory prepayment, was lower than the OECD average of 76%. Out-of-pocket spending, at 20% of health expenditure, was higher than the OECD average of 18%. 2.6% of the population reported unmet needs (OECD average 2.3%).

Poland performs better than the OECD average on 27% of indicators

(Based on 15 indicators, data missing for 3 indicators)

Health system resources



Key indicators:

Poland spends \$2973 per capita on health, less than the OECD average of \$4986 (USD PPP). This is equal to 6.7% of GDP, compared to 9.2% on average in the OECD. There are 3.4 practising doctors per 1,000 population (OECD average 3.7); and 5.7 practising nurses (OECD average 9.2). Poland has 6.3 hospital beds per 1,000 population, more than the OECD average of 4.3.

Poland is above the OECD average on 24% of indicators

(Based on 29 indicators, data missing for 3 indicators)

Note: Overall comparisons of health status, risk factors, access, quality and resources are unweighted and therefore not measures of performance; OECD averages for quality of care are based on Chapter 1 (and differ slightly from averages in Chapter 6 due to differences in country coverage)

On which indicators does Poland perform well or badly?

The graphs below show selected indicators from *Health at a Glance 2023* where the performance of Poland deviates markedly from the OECD on average. For more details on the data presented, please refer to the full report, using the graph references provided (e.g. g5.1).

Poland: ● Better ● Worse ● Higher ● Lower ● OECD average ● Other OECD countries

