

Portugal

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

How does Portugal perform overall?

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

Health status



Key indicators:

Life expectancy was 81.5 years, 1.2 years above the OECD average. Preventable mortality was 114 per 100,000 (lower than the OECD average of 158); with treatable mortality at 66 per 100,000 (lower than the OECD average of 79). 13.3% of people rated their health as bad or very bad (OECD average 7.9%). Diabetes prevalence was higher than the OECD average.

Portugal performs better than the OECD average on 42% of indicators

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

Risk factors



Key indicators:

Smoking prevalence, at 14.2%, was lower than the OECD average of 16.0%. Alcohol consumption was higher than the OECD average; at 10.4 litres per capita versus 8.6. Obesity prevalence was 16.9%, lower than the OECD average of 18.4%. There were 20.4 deaths from air pollution per 100,000 population (OECD average 28.9).

Portugal performs better than the OECD average on 75% of indicators

(Based on 12 indicators, data missing for 1 indicator)

Quality of care



Key indicators:

Acute care: 30-day mortality after stroke was 10.4% (OECD average 7.8%), and 8.0% after AMI (OECD average 6.8%). Primary care: There were 266 avoidable admissions per 100,000 population, less than the OECD average of 463. Safe prescribing: Portugal prescribed more antibiotics than on average in the OECD. Preventive care: 80% of women were screened for breast cancer, more than the OECD average of 55%.

Portugal performs better than the OECD average on 55% of indicators

(Based on 22 indicators, data missing for 11 indicators)

Access to care



Key indicators:

All of the population is covered for a core set of services. 63% of people were satisfied with the availability of quality healthcare (OECD average 67%). Financial coverage, with 63% of spending covered by mandatory prepayment, was lower than the OECD average of 76%. Out-of-pocket spending, at 29% of health expenditure, was higher than the OECD average of 18%. 2.3% of the population reported unmet needs (OECD average 2.3%).

Portugal performs better than the OECD average on 24% of indicators

(Based on 17 indicators, data missing for 1 indicator)

Health system resources



Key indicators:

Portugal spends \$4162 per capita on health, less than the OECD average of \$4986 (USD PPP). This is equal to 10.6% of GDP, compared to 9.2% on average in the OECD. There are 5.6 practising doctors per 1,000 population (OECD average 3.7); and 7.4 practising nurses (OECD average 9.2). Portugal has 3.5 hospital beds per 1,000 population, less than the OECD average of 4.3.

Portugal is above the OECD average on 30% of indicators

(Based on 27 indicators, data missing for 5 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 Portugal perform well or badly?

The graphs below show selected indicators from *Health at a Glance 2023* where the performance of Portugal 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).

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

