

# The United States

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

## How does the United States perform overall?

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

### Health status



#### Key indicators:

Life expectancy was 76.4 years, 3.9 years below the OECD average. Preventable mortality was 238 per 100,000 (higher than the OECD average of 158); with treatable mortality at 98 per 100,000 (higher than the OECD average of 79). 3.1% of people rated their health as bad or very bad (OECD average 7.9%). Diabetes prevalence was higher than the OECD average.

**The United States performs better than the OECD average on 29% of indicators**

(Based on 17 indicators, data missing for 2 indicators)

### Risk factors



#### Key indicators:

Smoking prevalence, at 8.8%, was lower than the OECD average of 16.0%. Alcohol consumption was higher than the OECD average; at 9.5 litres per capita versus 8.6. Obesity prevalence was 42.8%, higher than the OECD average of 25.7%. There were 14.5 deaths from air pollution per 100,000 population (OECD average 28.9).

**The United States performs better than the OECD average on 33% of indicators**

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

### Quality of care



#### Key indicators:

Acute care: 30-day mortality after stroke was 4.3% (OECD average 7.8%), and 5.5% after AMI (OECD average 6.8%). Primary care: There were 725 avoidable admissions per 100,000 population, more than the OECD average of 463. Safe prescribing: Data on antibiotic prescribing was not available. Preventive care: 76% of women were screened for breast cancer, more than the OECD average of 55%.

**The United States performs better than the OECD average on 56% of indicators**

(Based on 18 indicators, data missing for 15 indicators)

### Access to care



#### Key indicators:

91% of the population is covered for a core set of services. 75% of people were satisfied with the availability of quality healthcare (OECD average 67%). Financial coverage, with 84% of spending covered by mandatory prepayment, was higher than the OECD average of 76%. Out-of-pocket spending, at 11% of health expenditure, was lower than the OECD average of 18%. No comparable data is available on unmet needs.

**The United States performs better than the OECD average on 57% of indicators**

(Based on 7 indicators, data missing for 11 indicators)

### Health system resources



#### Key indicators:

The United States spends \$12555 per capita on health, more than the OECD average of \$4986 (USD PPP). This is equal to 16.6% of GDP, compared to 9.2% on average in the OECD. There are 2.7 practising doctors per 1,000 population (OECD average 3.7); and 12.0 practising nurses (OECD average 9.2). The United States has 2.8 hospital beds per 1,000 population, less than the OECD average of 4.3.

**The United States is above the OECD average on 46% of indicators**

(Based on 28 indicators, data missing for 4 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 the United States perform well or badly?

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

United States: ● Better ● Worse ● Higher ● Lower ● OECD average ● Other OECD countries

