

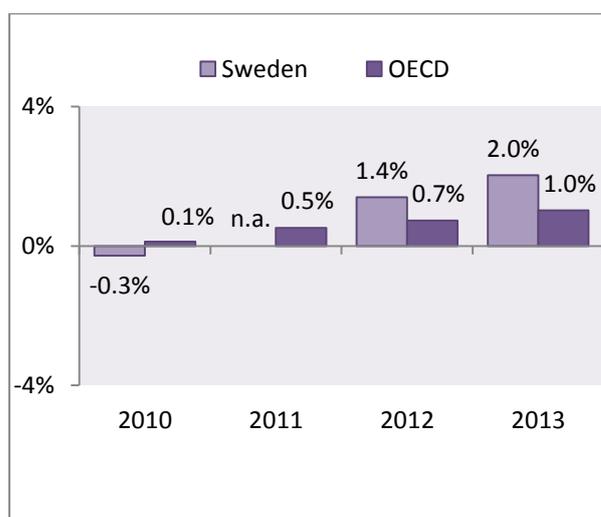
## OECD Health Statistics 2015



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:** After contracting by 0.3% in real terms in 2010, per capita health spending in Sweden started growing again in 2012. In 2013, Swedish health spending increased by 2.0% - twice as fast as spending in the OECD on average.
- ▶ **Share of GDP:** The share of GDP allocated to health spending (excluding capital expenditure) in Sweden was 11.0% in 2013, compared with an OECD average of 8.9%. Health spending as a share of GDP was up from 10.6% in 2011.
- ▶ **Per capita spending:** Sweden spent the equivalent of USD 4904 per person on health in 2013, compared with an OECD average of USD 3453. Public sources accounted for 84% of overall health spending, well above the OECD average.

Figure 1. Annual health spending growth\*, 2010-2013



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

### Health spending in Sweden rising again

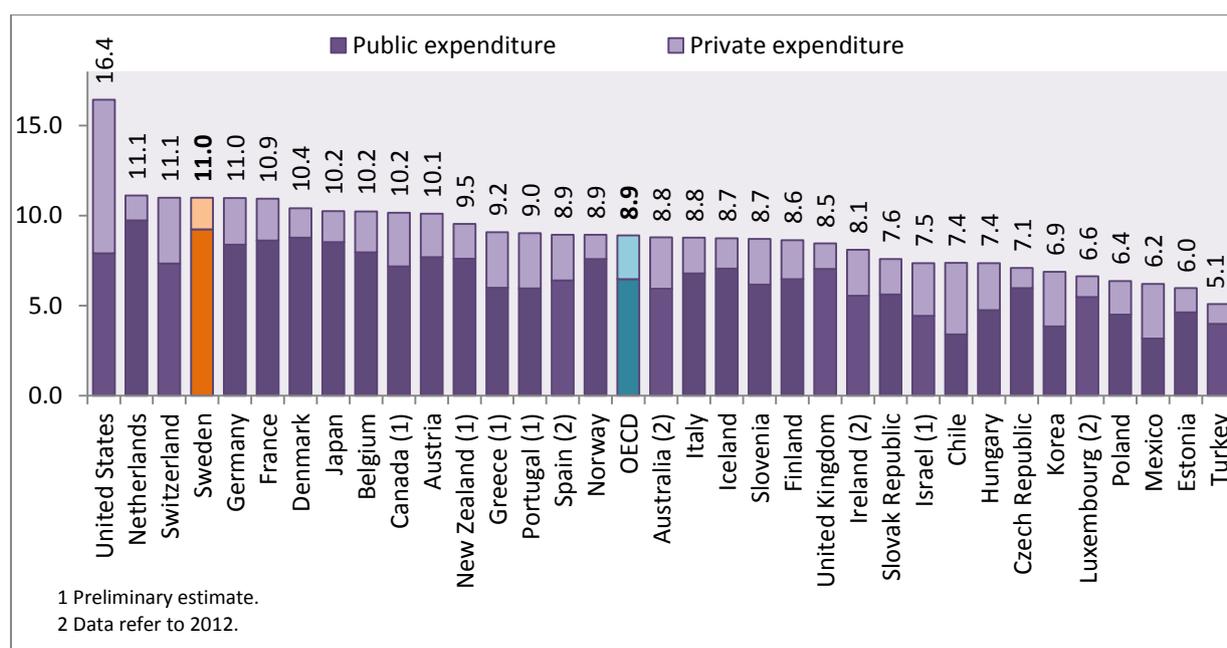
In 2013, per capita health spending in Sweden increased by 2.0% in real terms - the second year in succession that health expenditure has grown at double the OECD average rate. This increase in health spending comes after a contraction of 0.3% in 2010 - at a time when health spending growth slowed down in many other OECD countries.<sup>1</sup>

While both public and private health spending have expanded since 2012, the rate of growth have differed, with private spending outpacing public spending in both 2012 (4.1% vs 0.9%) and 2013 (4.5% vs 1.6%).

With private health insurance playing a negligible role in Sweden, the observed rise in private spending is almost totally down to increases in households' out of pocket spending. Increases in the ceiling for out-of-pocket payments for health care services and prescribed medicines are the main factor behind the rise.

<sup>1</sup> Due to a change in methodology, 2011 growth rates are not available.

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 Sweden remains well above the OECD average

Health spending in Sweden (excluding investment expenditure in the health sector) was 11.0% of GDP in 2013 (Figure 2), well above the OECD average of 8.9%. This has increased by 0.4 percentage point since 2011, because of the acceleration of health spending growth beyond economic growth in recent years.

The share of the economy allocated to health spending is similar to the Netherlands (11.1%), Switzerland (11.1%) and Germany (11.0%), but well below the level of the United States (16.4%).

Government spending as a share of total spending on health in Sweden stood at 84% in 2013. With the OECD

average at 73%, this is one of the highest shares among OECD countries. Similar high shares can be found in the Netherlands (88%), Norway (85%) and Denmark (84%). Among OECD countries, only the United States and Chile report public spending on health below 50%.

Although out-of-pocket spending at 15% of health spending was below the OECD average of 19.5%, it has increased by almost a percentage point since 2011 as a result of the policy changes regarding the capping of out-of-pocket payments for some services.

In per capita terms (adjusted for different price levels using economy-wide purchasing power parities), Sweden spent USD 4904 per head in 2013. This compares with an OECD average of USD 3453.

#### Contacts

David Morgan  
+33 1 45 24 76 09  
[david.morgan@oecd.org](mailto:david.morgan@oecd.org)

Marie-Clémence Canaud  
+33 1 45 24 91 73  
[marie-clemence.canaud@oecd.org](mailto:marie-clemence.canaud@oecd.org)

SHA Contact  
[sha.contact@oecd.org](mailto:sha.contact@oecd.org)

#### Further Reading

Focus on health spending:  
[www.oecd.org/health/health-systems/Focus-Health-Spending-2015.pdf](http://www.oecd.org/health/health-systems/Focus-Health-Spending-2015.pdf)

OECD Health Statistics 2015:  
[www.oecd.org/health/health-data.htm](http://www.oecd.org/health/health-data.htm)

#### Follow us

@OECD\_Social

<https://www.youtube.com/oecd>