

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

How does Estonia perform overall?

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

Health status

Key indicators:

Life expectancy was 77.2 years, 3.1 years below the OECD average. Preventable mortality was 253 per 100,000 (higher than the OECD average of 158); with treatable mortality at 110 per 100,000 (higher than the OECD average of 79). 12.1% of people rated their health as bad or very bad (OECD average 7.9%). Diabetes prevalence was similar to the OECD average. Estonia perfoms better than the OECD average on 26% of indicators

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

Risk factors



Key indicators:

Smoking prevalence, at 17.9%, was higher than the OECD average of 16.0%. Alcohol consumption was higher than the OECD average; at 11.1 litres per capita versus 8.6. Obesity prevalence was 21.0%, higher than the OECD average of 18.4%. There were 12 deaths from air pollution per 100,000 population (OECD average 28.9).

Estonia perfoms better than the OECD average on 42% of indicators

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

Quality of care

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Key indicators:

Acute care: 30-day mortality after stroke was 9.0% (OECD average 7.8%), and 11.3% after AMI (OECD average 6.8%). Primary care: There were 354 avoidable admissions per 100,000 population, less than the OECD average of 463. Safe prescribing: Estonia prescribed less antibiotics than on average in the OECD. Preventive care: 59% of women were screened for breast cancer, more than the OECD average of 55%.

Estonia perfoms better than the OECD average on 50% of indicators

(Based on 28 indicators, data missing for 5 indicators)

Estonia perfoms better

than the OECD average

on 33% of indicators

(Based on 18 indicators, data

missing for 0 indicators)

Access to care



Key indicators:

96% 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 76% of spending covered by mandatory prepayment, was similar to the OECD average of 76%. Out-of-pocket spending, at 22% of health expenditure, was higher than the OECD average of 18%. 8.1% of the population reported unmet needs (OECD average 2.3%).

Health system resources



Key indicators:

Estonia spends \$3103 per capita on health, less than the OECD average of \$4986 (USD PPP). This is equal to 6.9% 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 6.5 practising nurses (OECD average 9.2). Estonia has 4.4 hospital beds per 1,000 population, similar to the OECD average of 4.3.

Estonia is above the OECD average on 32% of indicators

(Based on 31 indicators, data missing for 1 indicator)

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)



Find out more at OE.CD/health-at-a-glance

On which indicators does Estonia perfom well or badly?

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



