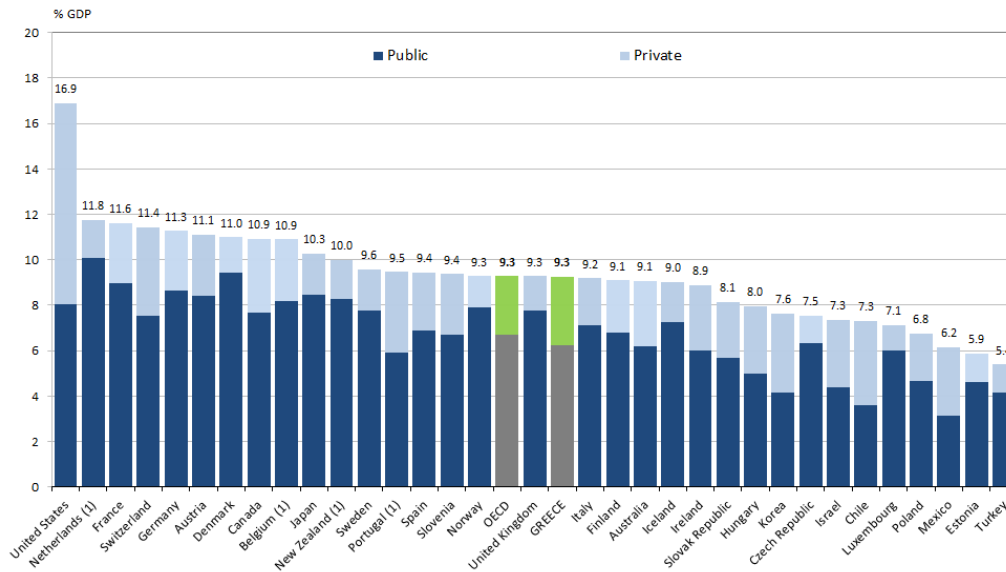


OECD Health Statistics 2014

How does Greece compare?

Health spending accounted for 9.3% of GDP in **Greece** in 2012, equal to the OECD average, but down from a high of 10.0% of GDP in 2009. Health spending as a share of GDP is lower in **Greece** than in the United States (which spent 16.9% of its GDP on health in 2012) and in a number of European countries including the Netherlands, France, Switzerland and Germany (all allocating over 11%). In **Greece**, 67% of health spending was funded by public sources in 2012, below the average of 72% in OECD countries.

Health expenditure, public and private, as a share of GDP, OECD countries, 2012 or latest year

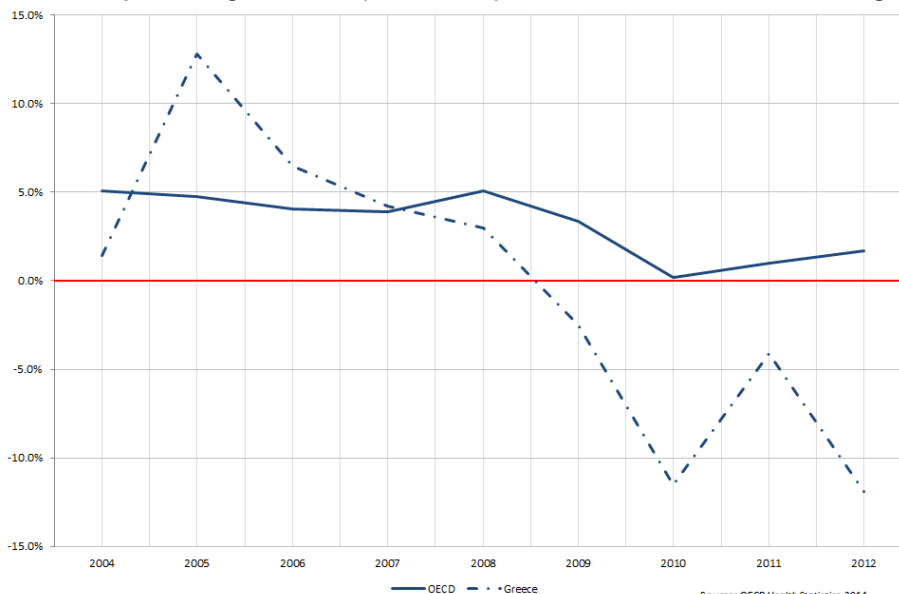


1. Total expenditure excluding capital expenditure.

Source: OECD Health Statistics 2014.

Health spending in **Greece** has dropped in each of the years since 2009, driven by a sharp reduction in public spending as part of government-wide efforts to reduce the large budgetary deficit. Greece saw double-digit percentage reductions in health expenditure in both 2010 and 2012, leaving the overall level of expenditure around 25% below its peak in 2008.

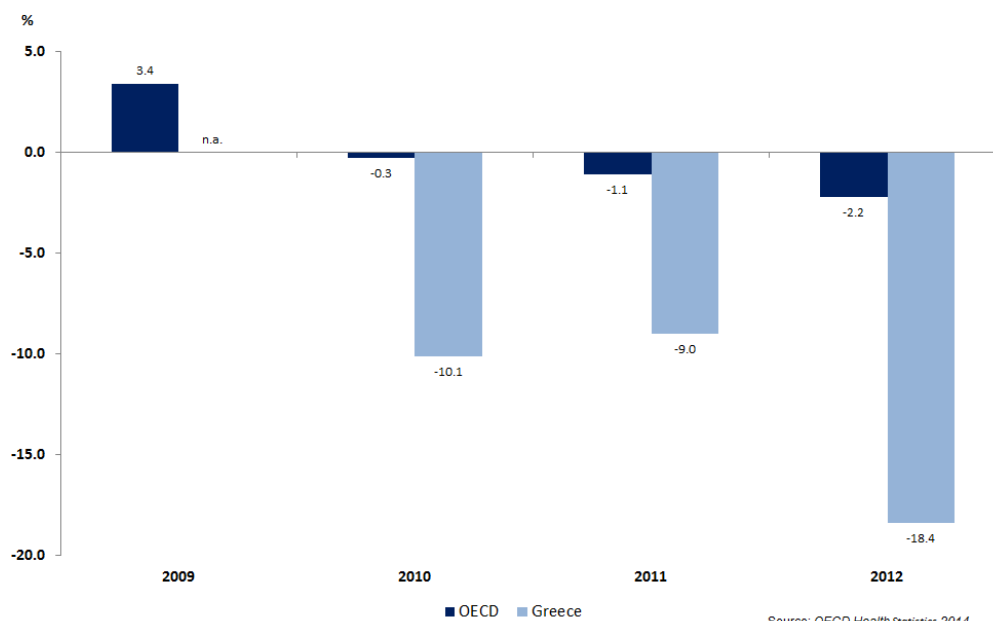
Health expenditure growth rates (in real terms) since 2004, Greece and OECD average



Source: OECD Health Statistics 2014

In line with a number of other OECD countries, pharmaceutical spending in **Greece** has been significantly affected, after years of previously stronger growth. The large reductions in drug spending have come as a result of a series of government measures aimed at reducing the price of pharmaceuticals as well as some reductions in volumes as costs have been shifted to households.

Annual growth of pharmaceutical spending (in real terms) since 2009, Greece and OECD average



Health status and risk factors

Life expectancy at birth in **Greece** stood at 80.7 years in 2012, half a year higher than the OECD average (80.2). However, life expectancy in **Greece** remains lower than that in a number of OECD countries (such as Japan, Iceland, Switzerland, Spain, Italy and France), where life expectancy exceeds 82 years.

The proportion of smokers among adults has shown a marked decline over the past two decades in most OECD countries, but not in **Greece**. **Greece** had the highest rate of daily smokers among adults of all OECD countries, with a rate of 39% in 2010, compared with an OECD average of 20.7%. Some of the Nordic countries (Sweden, Iceland and Norway), the United States and Australia provide examples of countries that have achieved remarkable success in reducing tobacco consumption, with smoking rates among adults now below 16%.

At the same time, obesity rates have increased in recent decades in all OECD countries, although there remain notable differences. In **Greece**, the obesity rate among adults – based on self-reported height and weight – was 19.6% in 2010. This is lower than that in the United States (28.6% in 2012), but higher than the average across all OECD countries (15.4%). Obesity's growing prevalence foreshadows increases in the occurrence of health problems (such as diabetes and cardiovascular diseases), and higher health care costs in the future.

Key facts for Greece from OECD Health Statistics 2014

	Greece		OECD average		Rank among OECD countries*
	2012	2000	2012	2000	
Health status					
Life expectancy at birth (years)	80.7	78.2	80.2	77.1	20 out of 34
Life expectancy at birth, men (years)	78.0	75.5	77.5	74.0	20 out of 34
Life expectancy at birth, women (years)	83.4	80.9	82.8	80.2	17 out of 34
Life expectancy at 65, men (years)	18.1	16.2	17.7	15.6	16 out of 34
Life expectancy at 65, women (years)	21.0	18.7	20.9	19.1	20 out of 34
Mortality from cardiovascular diseases (age-standardised rates per 100 000 pop.)	343.6	(2011) 532.8	296.4	428.5	8 out of 34
Mortality from cancer (age-standardised rates per 100 000 pop.)	193.5	(2011) 213.9	213.1	242.5	27 out of 34
Risk factors to health (behavioural)					
Tobacco consumption among adults (% daily smokers)	38.9	(2010) 35.0	20.7	26.0	1 out of 34
Alcohol consumption among adults (liters per capita)	7.9	(2010) 8.5	9.0	9.5	25 out of 34
Obesity rates among adults, self-reported (%)	19.6	(2010) ..	15.4	11.9	5 out of 29
Obesity rates among adults, measured (%)	22.7	18.7	..
Health expenditure					
Health expenditure as a % GDP	9.3	8.0	9.3	7.7	18 out of 34
Health expenditure per capita (US\$ PPP)	2409	1453	3484	1888	24 out of 34
Pharmaceutical expenditure per capita (US\$ PPP)	599	275	498	300	8 out of 33
Pharmaceutical expenditure (% health expenditure)	25.2	19.9	15.9	17.9	3 out of 33
Public expenditure on health (% health expenditure)	67.1	60.0	72.3	71.4	26 out of 34
Out-of-pocket payments for health care (% health expenditure)	28.4	..	19.0	20.5	4 out of 34
Health care resources					
Number of doctors (per 1000 population)	6.2	(2011) 4.3	3.2	2.7	1 out of 34
Number of nurses (per 1000 population)	3.3	(2009) 2.7	8.8	7.5	32 out of 34
Hospital beds (per 1000 population)	4.9	(2009) 4.7	4.8	5.6	14 out of 34

*Note: Countries are ranked in descending order of values.

More information on *OECD Health Statistics 2014* is available at www.oecd.org/health/healthdata. For more information on OECD's work on Greece, please visit <http://www.oecd.org/greece>.