

Current healthcare expenditure in the Basque Country was up 6.0% in 2023, reaching 8,554 million

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Current healthcare expenditure in the Basque Country stood at 8,554 million euros in 2023 (9.2% of GDP), according to data prepared by Eustat in accordance with the OECD methodology published in the System of Health Accounts (SHA 2011). The corresponding amount per capita was 3,882 euros, up 5.4% on the previous year.

Healthcare expenditure measures the final consumption of goods and services for health, that is, current expenditure by any financing agent. The financing of this expenditure includes, as a whole, the Public administrations, Compulsory health insurance, Voluntary health insurance and Direct payment by households.

Since 2020, total current expenditure in absolute terms has grown at an average annual cumulative rate of 5.0%, and in the past year, it has risen by 6.0%, going from 8,068 million in 2022 to 8,554 million in 2023.

Current spending on healthcare as a percentage of GDP has dropped by 0.1 percentage points over the last year. Meanwhile, expenditure per inhabitant has increased by 5.4%, rising from 3,683 euros in 2022 to 3,882 euros in 2023.

Main data and indicators of the Health Account in the Basque Country. 2020-2023

	2020	2021	2022	2023(p)	Rate of change (%)	
					2023(p)/2022	Cumulative annual average 2023(p)/2020
TOTAL CURRENT EXPENDITURE (thousands of euros)	7.389.796	7.820.836	8.068.071	8.554.213	6.0	5.0
Government/compulsory schemes	5.179.651	5.499.591	5.631.709	5.944.151	5.5	4.7
Voluntary schemes/household out-of-pocket payments	2.210.145	2.321.245	2.436.362	2.610.062	7.1	5.7
Expenditure per inhabitant (euros)	3.364	3.571	3.683	3.882	5.4	4.9
Current expenditure/GDP (%)	:	9.9	9.3	9.2	-0.1 (*)	:
Health expenditure PPA/ Total expenditure PPA (%)	16.0	16.4	15.8	:	:	:

(p)provisional

(*)difference in percentage points

Date November 27, 2024

Source: Eustat. Health Account

With regard to the sources of **funding**, of the 8,554 million euros of current expenditure in 2023, 5,944 million euros corresponded to the Public administrations together with Compulsory health insurance, representing an increase of 5.5% compared to 2022. The remaining 2,610 million euros corresponded to Voluntary health insurance together with Direct payment by households, a rise of 7.1% in respect of the previous year.

A detailed analysis of the data from the Basque Country Health Account corresponding to **expenditure by function** shows that the largest category continued to be Curative healthcare (56.9%), with an increase in expenditure of 6.5% in 2023, reaching 4,867 million euros. The second largest function was Medical Products (pharmaceutical products, medical and therapeutic equipment), which represented 16.8% of current expenditure and recorded an annual increase of 7.2%. In third place, expenditure on Long-stay healthcare provision (which includes expenditure on the healthcare of dependants) accounted for 14.7% of current expenditure and saw more moderate growth of 3.5% compared to the year before. Next came expenditure on Auxiliary healthcare services (including spending on clinical analysis, diagnostic imaging and medical transport), which reached 429 million euros in 2023 and represented 5.0% of current expenditure.

The remaining functions, despite accounting for a lower relative share of spending, registered significant growth in 2023: Rehabilitative healthcare was up 12.1%, reaching 180 million euros; expenditure on Prevention services increased by 7.8% and totalled 109 million euros; and the function Governance and administration of the healthcare system saw spending rise by 5.9% to 270 million euros.

Health expenditure by functions in the Basque Country (thousands of euros). 2020-2023

FUNCTION	2020	2021	2022	2023(p)	% of total health expenditure		Annual variation rate (%)	
					2020	2023(p)	2022/2021	2023(p)/2022
+HC.1 Curative health care	4.137.931	4.458.548	4.569.464	4.867.175	56,0	56,9	2,5	6,5
HC.2 Rehabilitation health care	135.836	149.462	160.383	179.797	1,8	2,1	7,3	12,1
+HC.3 Long-term healthcare	1.160.132	1.180.863	1.215.976	1.258.217	15,7	14,7	3,0	3,5
+HC.4 Auxiliary health services	390.283	428.532	421.644	429.235	5,3	5,0	-1,6	1,8
+HC.5 Medical products (not assigned to function)	1.253.000	1.267.307	1.345.029	1.441.375	17,0	16,8	6,1	7,2
+HC.6 Prevention services	97.972	95.703	100.711	108.543	1,3	1,3	5,2	7,8
+HC.7 Governance and administration of the health system and health financing	214.642	240.421	254.864	269.871	2,9	3,2	6,0	5,9
TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON HEALTH	7.389.796	7.820.836	8.068.071	8.554.213	100,0	100,0	3,2	6,0

(p)provisional

Date November 27, 2024

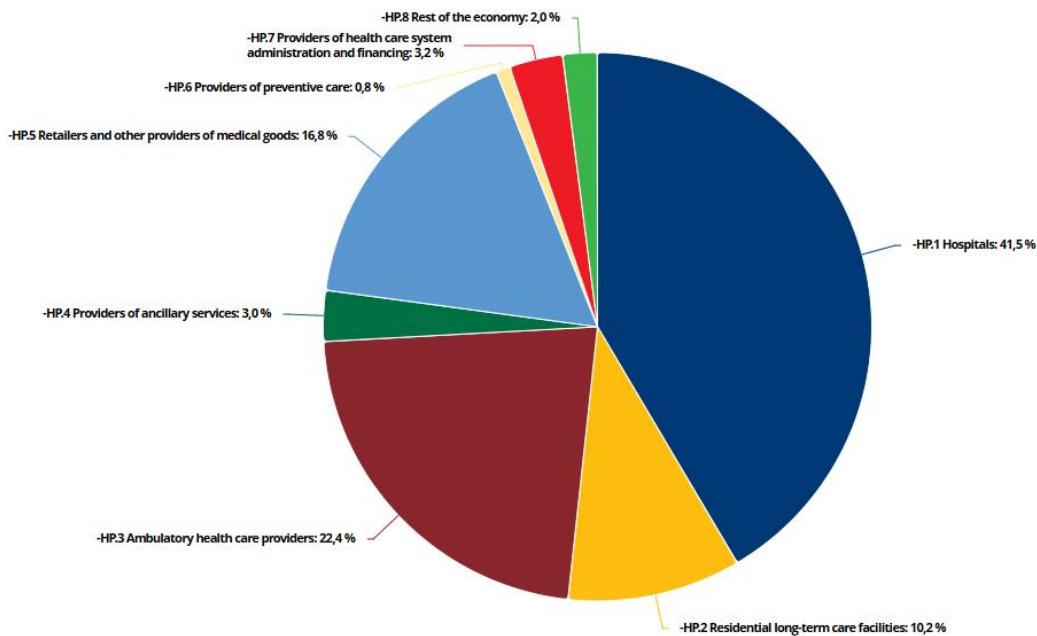
Source: Eustat. Health Account

The structure of **expenditure by provider** was similar to that of previous periods; the greater part of spending was on Hospitals (41.5%), with growth of 6.3% in 2023. In second place were Providers of outpatient care, which accounted for 22.4% of spending and registered an increase of 6.9% in respect of 2022. In third place, Retailers and providers of medical products represented 16.9% of current expenditure and recorded growth of 7.2% in 2023. Spending on Long-stay residential establishments accounted for 10.2% of current expenditure.

The remaining expenditure (9.0%) corresponded to Auxiliary service providers (medical transport, laboratories), Prevention service providers, Administration of the healthcare system and the Rest of the economy, which includes households as home healthcare providers.

≡ Current expenditure on health in the Basque Country, by providers.
 2023

Thousand euros and percentage



Source: Eustat. Health Account

As regards **international comparison**, the latest data published by Eurostat and the OECD for all the EU27 countries correspond to 2022. The main indicators for **comparison** are **expenditure as a percentage of GDP**, **expenditure per capita in PPP (euros)** and the **indicator of contributions from the public administrations**.

The indicator of contributions from the public administrations, i.e. public expenditure on healthcare in relation to the total expenditure by public administrations in the Basque Country, stood at **15.8%** in 2022, which was higher than the averages for the EU27 (14.7%) and Spain (15.2%).

Healthcare expenditure as a percentage of GDP in the Basque Country was **9.3%** in 2022, below the average for the EU27 (10.4%).

Indicators of health expenditure by country. 2022

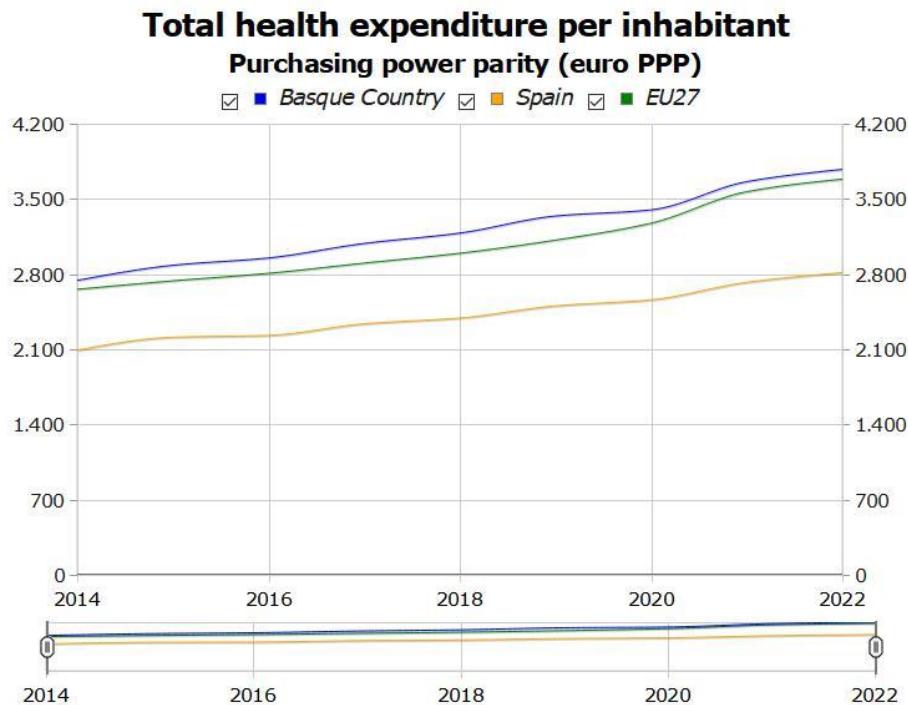
	Health spending by government schemes and compulsory health insurance in % GDP	Health spending by government schemes and compulsory health insurance in % current expenditure on health	Health spending by government schemes and compulsory health insurance as share of total government expenditure	Health expenditure in % GDP	Current expenditure per inhabitant (PPP, euro)
Average EU-27	8,4	81,3	14,7	10,4	3.685
Germany	10,9	86,7	20,5	12,6	5.317
Austria	8,7	77,6	16,3	11,2	4.751
Belgium	8,1	75,1	15,2	10,8	4.339
Bulgaria	4,9	63,5	11,8	7,7	1.786
Cyprus	7,4	80,9	18,3	9,1	2.854
Croatia	6,2	85,3	13,7	7,3	1.858
Denmark	8,0	84,6	17,8	9,5	4.154
Slovakia	6,2	79,9	14,6	7,7	1.947
Slovenia	7,1	74,0	15,0	9,6	2.927
Spain	7,2	74,0	15,2	9,7	2.814
Estonia	5,3	74,8	13,2	7,0	2.014
Finland	7,7	79,6	14,8	9,7	3.645
France	10,1	84,7	15,9	11,9	4.302
Greece	5,3	62,0	9,9	8,5	1.986
Hungary	4,9	72,6	9,9	6,7	1.867
Ireland	4,7	77,4	22,3	6,1	4.136
Italy	6,7	74,4	11,8	9,0	2.945
Latvia	4,9	64,9	12,1	7,6	1.928
Lithuania	4,8	66,5	13,0	7,2	2.318
Luxembourg	4,8	86,1	11,0	5,6	4.316
Malta	6,6	67,0	16,2	9,8	3.427
Netherlands	8,5	84,2	15,4	10,1	4.531
Poland	4,7	73,7	10,7	6,4	1.960
Portugal	6,5	62,5	14,8	10,5	2.823
Czech Republic	7,5	85,0	16,7	8,8	2.908
Romania	4,5	77,8	11,2	5,7	1.627
Sweden	9,0	86,0	18,8	10,5	4.363
Basque Country	6,5	69,8	15,8	9,3	3.775

PPP: Purchasing Power Parity

Date November 27, 2024

Source: Eustat. Health Account and OECD Health Statistics 2024. Eurostat

A better position was obtained by **healthcare expenditure per capita in PPP (euros)**, which reached **3,775** in the Basque Country, placing it above the averages for the EU27 (3,685) and countries such as Spain (2,814) and Finland (3,645). At the very top of the table was Germany with 5,317. The latter indicator has remained above the EU27 average throughout the entire series of years available.



Source: Eustat. Health account and OECD, Eurostat. Health Statistics

For further information:

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