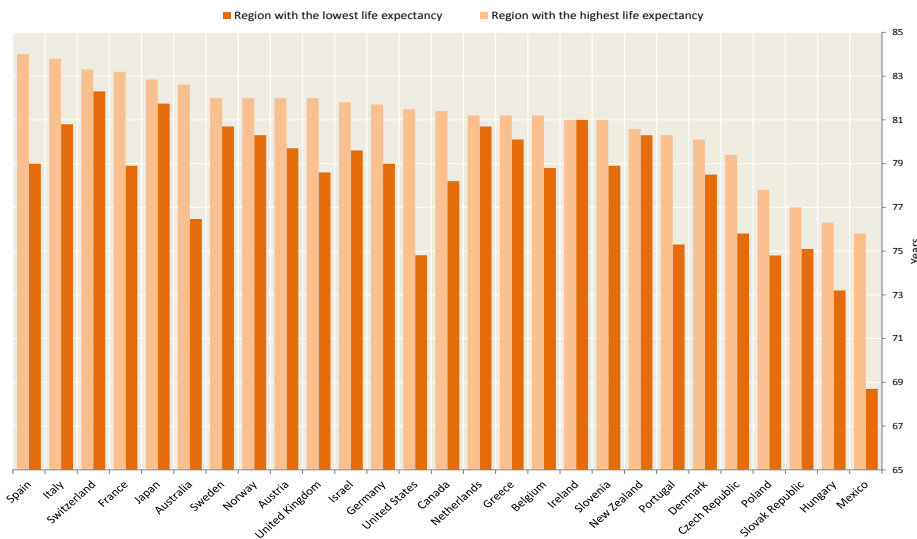


Equal Access to Health

Life expectancy at birth is the most frequently used measure of health of the population. Regional data show that there were 15 years of difference in the life expectancy among OECD regions in 2010: 68.7 years in Chihuahua (Mexico) to 84 years in Navarra (Spain).

The regions enjoying the highest life expectancy at birth are concentrated in Spain, Italy, France, Switzerland and Japan. The regions with the lowest life expectancy are found in Mexico, Hungary and Poland.

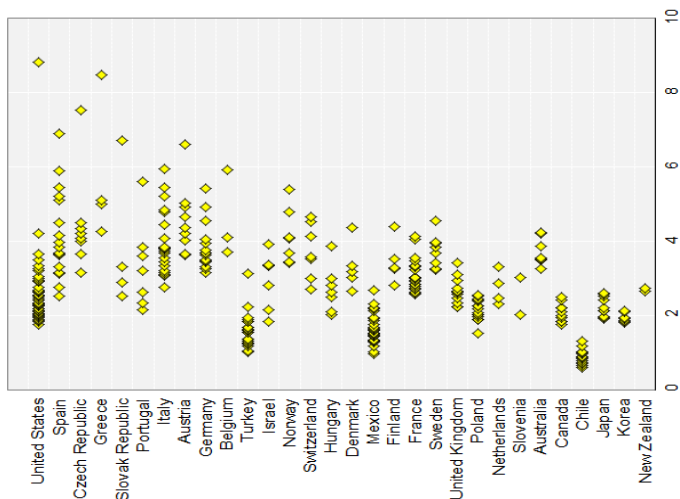
Maximum and minimum regional life expectancy at birth, 2010 (TL2)



Source: OECD Regions at a Glance 2013

Disparities in the number of doctors per 1 000 inhabitants among regions within the same country can provide an indication of areas needing an increase in access to health services. The largest regional differences were found in in the United States and Czech Republic, (driven mainly by the large number in the national capital regions, the District of Columbia and Prague, respectively), and Spain. For example, the state of Mississippi had 1.8 doctors per 1 000 inhabitants, while Massachusetts 4.2, in 2010. Prague had 6.6 doctors per 1 000 inhabitants and the surrounding Central Bohemian Region only 2.4.

Range in TL2 regional physicians density (per 1 000 inhabitants), 2011



Source: OECD Regions at a Glance 2013

Links:

- [OECD Regions at a Glance 2013](#)
- [OECD Regional Statistics and Indicators](#)
- [Regions at a Glance interactive](#)

Definitions

Life expectancy at birth measures the number of years a new born can expect to live, if death rates in each age group would stay the same during her or his lifetime.

The **number of physicians** is the number of general practitioners and specialists actively practicing medicine in a region during the year, in both public and private institutions