



## **Summary general questions**

### **Greece**

**November 13, 2018**

#### **Country description**

The population in Greece is estimated at 11 million, with 90,000 births each year. The average life expectancy is estimated at 79 for men and 84 for women (2016). The gross national income per capita (PPP int. \$) is 27,809 (2017). The estimated total expenditure on health per capita (Intl \$, 2014) is 2,098 and the total current expenditure on health as percentage of GDP (2014) is 8.1%.

#### **General health and school systems**

95%-98% of children are born in the hospital or maternity clinic. Prematurely born children can be treated from 23 weeks. The average stay in the hospital is 2-5 days. The birth registration coverage is 100%. The infant mortality under the age of 5 per 1000 live births per year is 4.

The primary school starts at age 5.

#### **Existing prevention programmes and coverage**

General Preventive Child Health Care programmes are nationally organized and are performed by pediatricians.

## Health care contact moments in the first weeks and at 4-6 year

|                    | Vaccination or tests   | Coverage            |
|--------------------|--|---------------------|
| <b>First weeks</b> |  |                     |
| Birth              | Universal newborn testing by Guthrie test  | >95%                |
|                    | BCG only high risk newborns  | Low - unknown       |
|                    | HepB at birth only when mother HbsAg (+) or status unknown                       | 90%                 |
| 4 weeks            | General examination (weight, height, head circumference, icterus, hip dysplasia) | 80%                 |
| 8 weeks            | DTaP-IPV-Hib/HepB + PCV  | 100% & 94%          |
|                    | No National hearing test in place, there are guidelines for red reflex testing   | no data on coverage |
| <b>4-6 year</b>    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose MMR & Varicella   | 83% & 74%           |
|                    | 5 <sup>th</sup> dose of DTaP-IPV   | 90%                 |
|                    | Visual testing usually performed   | No data             |

Private pediatricians are inviting children for screening. At least 60% of children are seen at private pediatricians' offices for primary care. Although recently protocols have been published there is no evidence that there has been adoption and implementation as yet. There is no system to invite children for screening (other than National newborn screening). The number of children that attends screening is unknown. No information is provided on the monitoring of the quality of the programme or on cost-effectiveness.

No national vaccination registry exists as yet so no official data on vaccine coverage are available . There are a couple of regional studies for some vaccines . According to WHO data about 97% of the children are vaccinated.

The total costs of general screening are unknown. The average salary costs for a pediatrician are 12,000 to 18,000 euros per year (6-9 euros per hour).

### References

WHO (all accessed August 2018):

- Data on country population and economics: <http://www.who.int/countries/en/>
- Data on birth registrations: <http://apps.who.int/gho/data/view.main.GSWCAH54v>
- Data on vaccinations: <http://apps.who.int/gho/data/view.main.UHCIMMUNIZATIONv>

World Bank (accessed August 2018):

- GDP per capita: <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.PP.CD?view=chart>