



Summary general questions

Latvia

November 6, 2018

Country description

The population in Latvia is estimated at 1.9 million, with 21,600 births each year. The average life expectancy is estimated at 70 for men and 80 for women (2016). The gross national income per capita (PPP int. \$) is 27,598 (2017). The estimated total expenditure on health per capita (Intl \$, 2014) is 940 and the total current expenditure on health as percentage of GDP (2014) is 5.9%.

General health and school systems

The total density of hospitals is 1.56 per 100,000 people (2013). 98.4% of children are born in the hospital or maternity clinic and 99.9% of the births are attended by skilled personnel. Prematurely born children can be treated from 22 weeks. The average stay in the hospital is 3-4 days. The birth registration coverage is 100%. The infant mortality under the age of 5 per 1000 live births per year is 5.

The primary school starts at age 7.

Existing prevention programmes and coverage

General Preventive Child Health Care programmes are nationally organized and are performed by GPs or pediatricians in collaboration with nurses, midwives, physician assistants and ophthalmologists. The care is funded by the government and free of charge for the parents.

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

	Vaccination or tests	Coverage
First weeks		
birth-1 week	Hepatitis B, tuberculosis	98%
1 month	General examination	around 54%
2 months	General examination	around 54%
2 months	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, poliomyelitis, type b <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> infection and Hepatitis B	96%
3 months	General examination	around 54%
4-6 year		
4 years	General examination	around 54%
5 years	General examination	around 54%
6 years	General examination	around 54%

All children are invited for screening by the GPs. In 2016 54% of children age up 18 have been preventive health checkups. Additionally children are examined also at regular visits at GP. The outcomes are collected in statistical reports of treatment institutions. A cost-effectiveness analysis has been performed.

Some of the vaccinations are obligatory. About 93-98% of the children are vaccinated.

The total costs of general screening are 3.4 million euros per year and about 15 euros per child per year. The average salary costs for a doctor are 13,500 euros per year (7 euros per hour).

References

WHO (all accessed August 2018):

- Data on country population and economics: <http://www.who.int/countries/en/>
- Data on health infrastructure: <http://apps.who.int/gho/data/view.main.30000>
- Data on skilled professionals at birth: <http://apps.who.int/gho/data/view.main.1630>
- 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>