



## IN-PATIENT, OUT-PATIENT AND OTHER HEALTH CARE ESTABLISHMENTS IN 2010

### 1. Health establishments and beds in health establishments

347 establishments for hospital aid with 48 944 beds are functioning in the country at the end of 2010 (See Table 1). The number of hospitals is 313 with 45 842 beds. The number of out-patient health establishments is 1 613 with 938 beds and other health establishments are 183 with 4 570 beds.

#### 1. HEALTH ESTABLISHMENTS AS OF 31.12.2010

	(Number)	
	Establishments	Beds
<b>Health establishments for hospital aid</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>48944</b>
Hospitals	313	45842
Multi profile hospitals	164	32576
Specialized hospitals	149	13266
Dermato-venereological centres <sup>1</sup>	10	163
Complex oncological centres <sup>2</sup>	9	1334
Mental health centres <sup>3</sup>	12	1450
Other health establishments for hospital aid <sup>4</sup>	3	155
<b>Out-patient health establishments</b>	<b>1613</b>	<b>938</b>
Diagnostic and consulting centres	113	287
Medical centres	520	624
Dental centres	49	4
Medical-dental centres	29	23
Independent medical-diagnostical laboratories and medical-technical laboratories	902	-
<b>Other health establishments</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>4570</b>
of which:		
Centres for urgent medical aid	28	-
Haematological transfusion centres	4	-
Hospices	54	716
Homes for medical and social care for children	32	3 854

<sup>1</sup> Up to 2009 - dermato-venereological dispensaries.

<sup>2</sup> Up to 2009 - oncological dispensaries.

<sup>3</sup> Up to 2009 - psychiatric dispensaries.

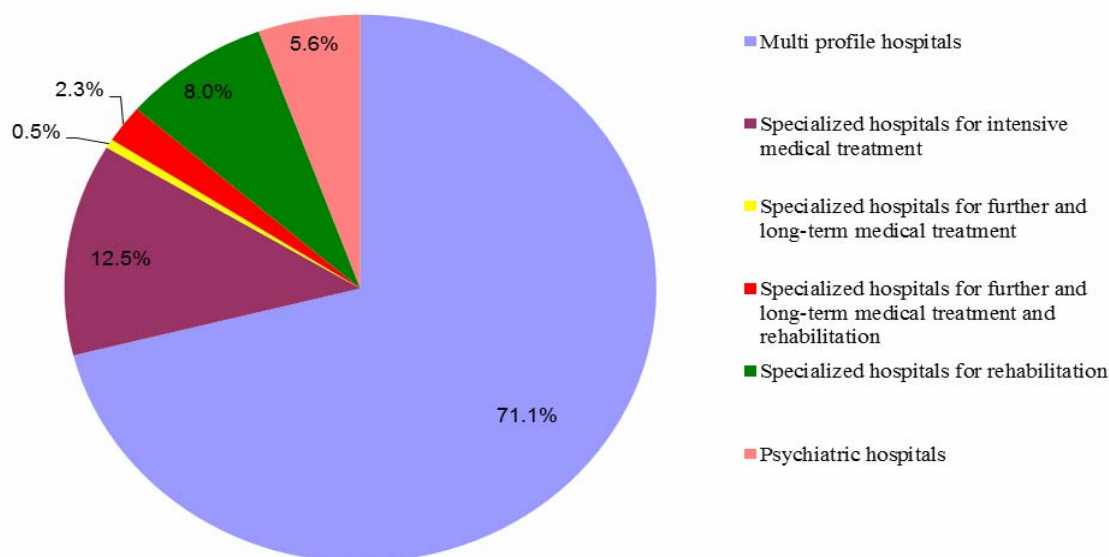
<sup>4</sup> Non-transformed dispensaries according to the amendments in the Law on Health Establishments.

**Health establishments for hospital aid** include hospitals, dermato-venereological centres, mental health centres and complex oncological centres. The dispensaries, which are not still transformed according to the amendments in the Law on Health Establishments, are included as health establishments for hospital aid.



According to the Law on Health establishments, hospitals are multi-profile and specialized. The number of Multi-profile hospitals is 164 with 32 576 beds and specialized hospitals are 149 with 13 266 beds.

Figure 1. **BEDS IN HOSPITALS AS OF 31.12.2010 BY TYPE OF HOSPITALS**



52.4% of all hospitals are multi-profile in 2010, as 71.1% of all hospital beds in the country are concentrated in them (See Fig.1.). The number of beds in these establishments varies in large scale - from 13 to 1345 beds, as highest number of beds is in the Universities' hospitals.

Specialized hospitals for intensive medical treatment are 96 with 5 751 beds. Specialized hospitals for further and long-term medical treatment are 5 with 247 beds. 14 Specialized hospitals for further and long-term medical treatment and rehabilitation with 1 025 beds and 22 specialized hospitals for rehabilitation with 3 685 beds are functioning in the country at the end of 2010.

The psychiatric hospitals are 12 with 2 558 beds.

According to the amendments in the Law on Health Establishments (SG 59/2010) in 2010 the dispensaries were transformed as centres or specialized hospitals. The centres with beds, which main activity is hospital aid are included as health establishments for hospital aid. The distribution of these establishments by type is as follow:

- Dermato-venereological centres – 10 establishments with 163 beds;
- Complex oncological centres – 9 establishments with 1 334 beds;
- Mental health centres – 12 establishments with 1 450 beds.

As of 31.12.2010 non-transformed are 3 establishments with 155 beds.



The number of hospital beds per 100 000 of the population at the end of the year is 652.

At the end of the year, the number of **out-patient health establishments** is 1 613 with 938 beds for short term treatment. The number of establishments is decreased by 5.9% in comparison with 2009, but the number of beds is increased – by 9.6%. The growth is due to the rise of the number of beds in medical centres – from 541 to 624 (by 15.3%).

The highest is the number of medical centres – 520 establishments. Diagnostic and consulting centres are 113 with 287 beds, dental centres are 49 with 4 beds, medical-dental centres are 29 establishments with 23 beds.

289 independent medical-diagnostical laboratories and 613 independent medical-technical laboratories are functioning at the end of 2010.

The group of **other health establishments** covers Centres for urgent medical aid, Regional inspections on protection and control of public health, Regional health centres, Homes for medico-social care for children, Hospices, National centres without beds and other. The number of these establishments is 183 with 4 570 beds at the end of the year. The largest is the number of hospices - 54 establishments with 716 beds.

## 2. Medical personnel

At the end of 2010, there are 28 003 practicing physicians who worked under basic labour contract in health care establishments (See Table 2). Dentists are 6 355. Medical specialists on 'Health cares' are 47 472, 31 790 of them are nurses. 37 266 persons worked under basic labour contract in health care establishments as other personnel, without special medical education.

### 2. MEDICAL PERSONNEL

	2008	2009	2010	2008	2009	2010
	Number			per 10 000 of the population		
Physicians	27480	27988	28003	36.1	37.0	37.3
Dentists	6288	6493	6355	8.3	8.6	8.5
Medical specialists on 'Health cares'	48378	48099	47472	63.6	63.6	63.3
Doctors' assistants	2508	2534	2417	3.3	3.4	3.2
Midwives	3336	3289	3247	4.4	4.3	4.3
Nurses	32314	31961	31790	42.5	42.3	42.4
Laboratory assistants (clinical and X-ray)	5730	5932	5765	7.5	7.8	7.7
Dental mechanics	1412	1350	1280	1.9	1.8	1.7
Pharmacists' assistants	243	240	242	0.3	0.3	0.3
Other medical specialists	2835	2793	2731	3.7	3.7	3.6
Population per one						
Physician	277	270	268	x	x	x
Dentist	1210	1165	1181	x	x	x



The distribution of physicians who worked under basic labour contract in health care establishments by practicing specialty is as follow:

- Medical group of specialties - 11 672 physicians;
- Surgical group of specialties – 5 636 physicians;
- Clinical – diagnostic group of specialties – 2 188 physicians;
- Other specialties – 1 176 physicians;
- Practicing physicians in practices for primary and specialized medical care who have signed contracts with the National Health Insurance Fund – 7 331 physicians.

Among all specialties, at the end of 2010, the highest is the share of GPs – 4 761 persons or 17.0% of all physicians practicing in the country. Pediatricians are 1 425 or 5.1% followed by Internal medicine specialists (1 403 or 5.0 %), Surgeons (1 399 or 5.0 %) and Obstetrician and gynaecologists (1 387 or 5.0%).

Depending on the type of health establishment, medical specialists are distributed as follow:

- In health establishments for hospital aid (hospitals and centres with beds) practicing 14 842 physicians and 46 dentists. Medical specialists on 'Health cares' are 29 012, 20 914 of them are nurses.
- 10 491 practising physicians and 5 995 practising dentists are working under basic labour contract in out-patient health establishments. This group covers all physicians (7 331) and dentists (5 723), which are working in individual or group practices under agreement with the National Health Insurance Fund. From other out-patient health establishments, the highest share is of physicians, working under basic labour contract in a Diagnostic and consulting centres (1 527) and medical centres (1 354). 223 physicians are working in independent medical-diagnostical laboratories at the end of the year.
- 2 669 physicians and 314 dentists are working under basic labour contract in other health care establishments (incl. crèches and medical consulting rooms in the schools) as of 31.12.2010.

The number of physicians per 10 000 of the population at the end of 2010 is 37.3. The number of dentists per 10 000 of the population is 8.5.

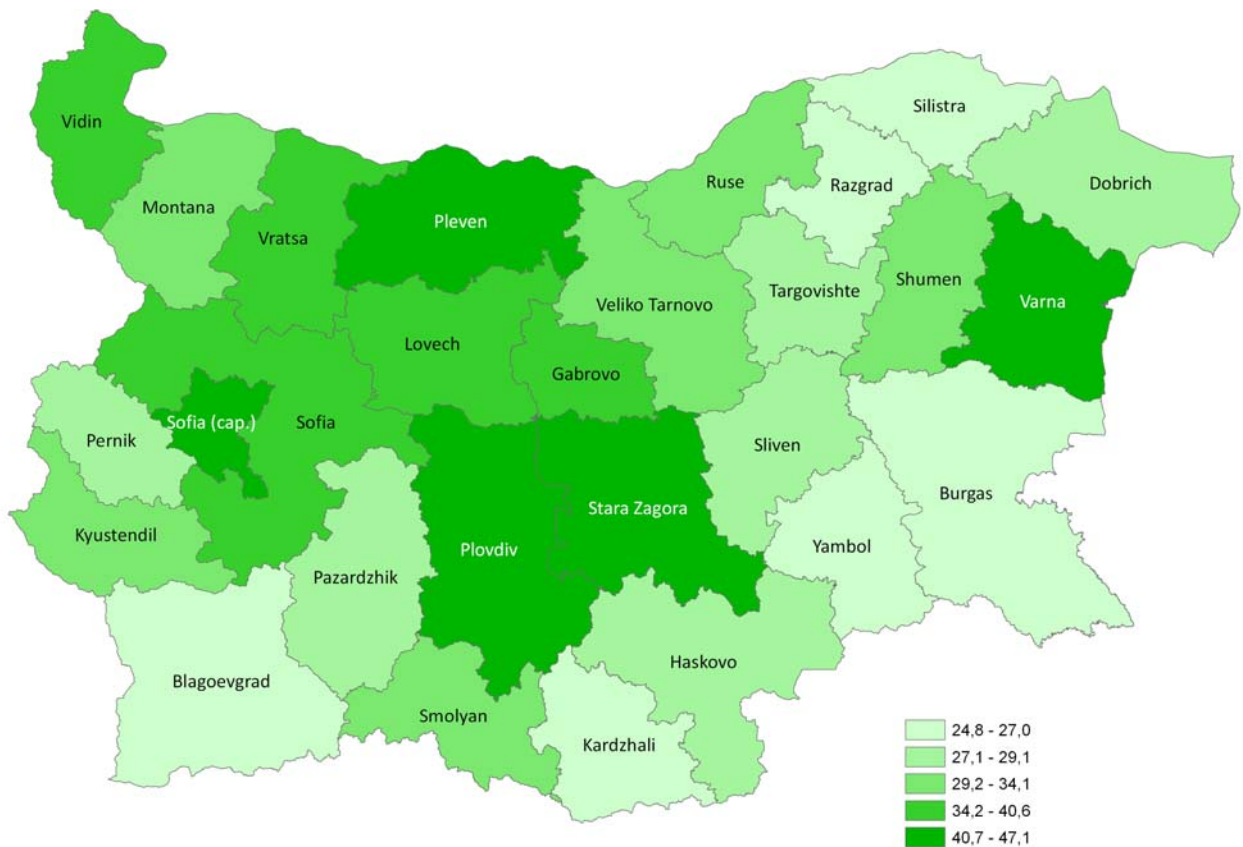
Some specific particularities on medical servicing have to be taken into consideration. The health establishments are not directly connected to the servicing of population of a given settlement or even of municipality. A great part of health establishments serve the population of a given region or a group of municipalities, and the specialized health care establishments service the population of 2 or 3 regions. The establishments under central administration, regardless of their location, serve the population from the whole country.

The number of physicians per 10 000 of the population by districts varies from 24.8 to 47.1. The highest is the indicator for districts with Medical universities and Universities hospitals. Of great value (over the average for the country) is that indicator for districts: Varna (47.1), Pleven (46.0), Sofia (cap.) (44.7), Stara Zagora (43.8), Plovdiv (42.1), Lovech (40.6) and Sofia (38.2).

Lowest values are indicated for districts: Razgrad (24.8 per 10 000 of the population), Yambol (25.0) and Silistra (25.1).



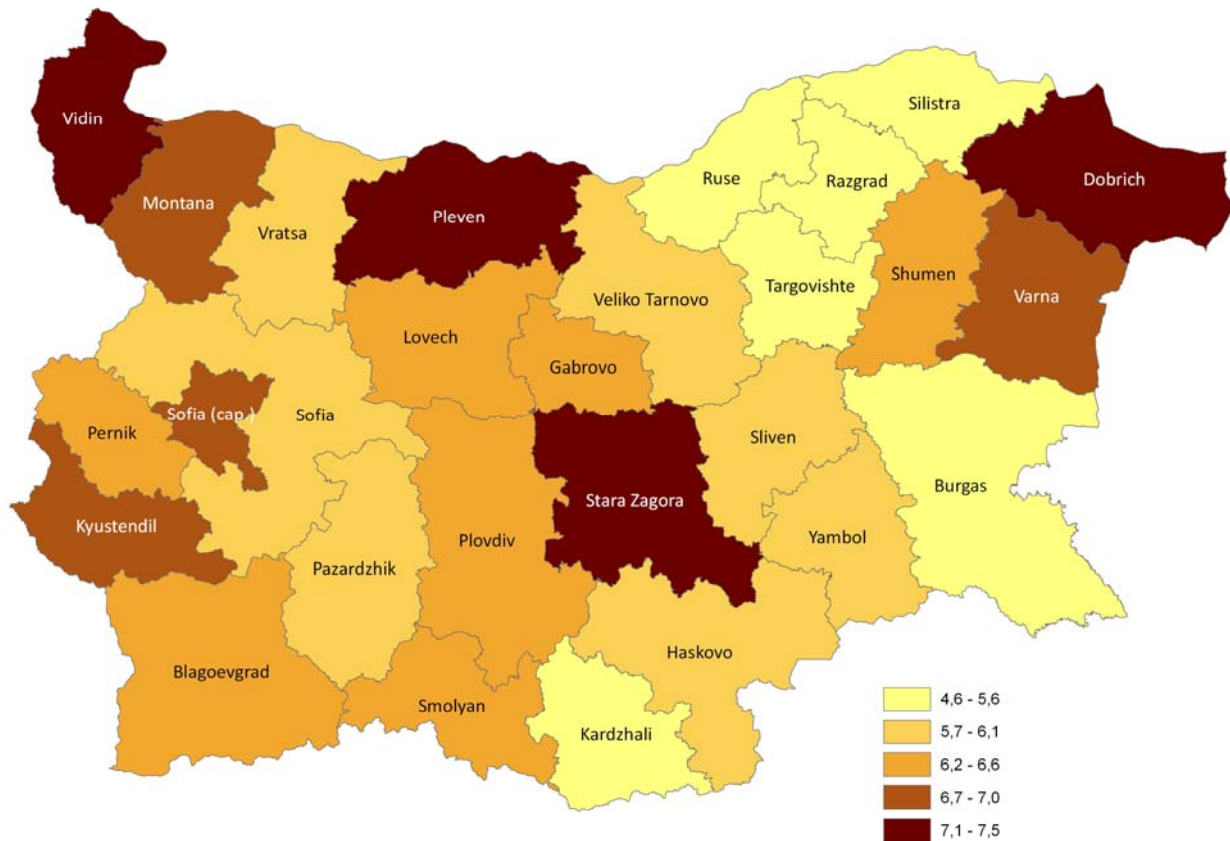
Figure 2. PHYSICIANS PER 10 000 OF THE POPULATION AS OF 31.12.2010 BY DISTRICT



At the end of 2010 the number of general practitioners per 10 000 of the population is 6.3. For 12 of all districts in the country that indicator is higher than the average for the country. The highest is the indicator for districts Pleven (7.5), Dobrich (7.2), Vidin (7.1) and Stara Zagora (7.1). Lowest values are indicated for districts: Kardzhali, Razgrad and Targovishte – 4.6 per 10 000 of the population.



Figure 3. GENERAL PRACTITIONERS PER 10 000 OF THE POPULATION  
AS OF 31.12.2010 BY DISTRICT



The number of hospital beds (beds in hospitals and dispensaries) in Bulgaria in 2008 is 650.8 per 100 000 standardized population (Table 3). In comparison with other EU member-states for which Eurostat disseminated data, that indicator is higher for Bulgaria than 11 countries. Higher number of hospital beds per 100 000 standardized population is indicated in Germany, Austria, Latvia, Malta, Czech Republic, Hungary, France, Belgium and other.



### 3. HOSPITAL BEDS<sup>1</sup>

(Per 100 000 standardized population)

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>EU - 27</b>	<b>608.2</b>	<b>597.5</b>	<b>588.8</b>	<b>577.4</b>	<b>567.8</b>	<b>561.9</b>
Belgium	752.3	749.1	744.8	672.7	665.7	660.1
<b>Bulgaria</b>	<b>630.3</b>	<b>614.7</b>	<b>642.9</b>	<b>621.4</b>	<b>638.1</b>	<b>650.8</b>
Czech Republic	771.9	763.2	754.2	741.2	727.3	715.8
Denmark	413.9	397.6	386.3	379.4	369.7	357.8
Germany	874.4	857.6	846.4	829.1	823.4	820.3
Estonia	593.4	582.6	548.4	565.3	557.3	571.5
Ireland	571.9	570.1	552.7	533.9	519.9	.
Greece	470.3	469.8	473.8	482.7	482.4	478.4
Spain	347.8	344.5	338.9	334.2	330.2	324.5
France	747.6	732.0	715.7	705.0	700.3	684.8
Italy	417.9	400.6	400.9	395.2	386.1	371.4
Cyprus	431.1	421.0	380.0	373.7	374.5	377.2
Latvia	779.3	771.4	766.4	758.6	755.4	744.5
Lithuania	778.4	745.9	711.1	690.7	690.2	685.3
Luxembourg	.	643.8	583.4	569.4	571.4	562.4
Hungary	784.5	783.5	786.2	792.1	713.3	705.0
Malta	740.5	743.0	742.5	752.3	778.0	731.4
Netherlands	450.9	447.8	445.8	446.1	426.2	426.3
Austria	771.3	770.7	766.2	764.9	776.0	769.2
Poland	667.7	666.7	651.9	646.9	642.3	662.1
Portugal	366.2	365.1	354.5	345.9	341.3	336.8
Romania	675.3	674.5	678.1	674.8	654.4	657.4
Slovenia	496.0	480.1	483.9	477.5	468.3	476.9
Slovakia	723.7	689.5	676.7	670.9	674.9	655.0
Finland	725.3	710.9	706.5	699.9	674.5	653.8
Sweden	.	.	.	.	.	.
United Kingdom	396.2	387.6	374.4	356.7	341.9	336.7

<sup>1</sup>Source: Eurostat



### Methodological notes

The statistical survey on health establishments provides data on health network by type of health establishments, their regional distribution as well as on medical personnel by specialty and categories. The survey methodology is in accordance with the Eurostat methodological guidelines for the practising medical specialists.

Data is presented according to the status at the end of the year. Data on hospital beds include all de facto operating hospital beds as well as hospital beds temporary out of use for a period less than six months.

Hospital beds for temporary use are excluded.

When analyzing the health network data the following has to be taken into account: the number of health establishments and hospital beds has changed not only as a result of the opening or closure of establishments, but also because of the reorganization or merging of establishments.

The number of medical personnel (individuals working under basic labour contract) includes persons, practising at healthcare establishments regardless of their ownership and subordination. Data on medical specialists working outside of the country, as well as on medical specialists practising outside of the health establishments (for example, physicians working for the pharmaceutical industry) are excluded.

The distribution of the physicians by specialties is based on the national nomenclature in accordance with the Ordinance № 34 of the Ministry of Health (SG, 7/2007) and it is assign to their practicing specialty. The indicators on the coverage of the population are calculated based on the population number at the end of the year.

Data on health network are elaborated at national level, by district and municipalities, while data on practicing medical specialists by specialties – at national and district level.

Additional statistical information about the survey “In-patient, out-patient and other health establishments” can be provided through the NSI’s “User Services” Division, or by e-mail: [info@nsi.bg](mailto:info@nsi.bg).