

Public Health Indicators, 2023

Year 2023

Tirana, on 21 November 2024: In 2023, the total number of visits to the primary hospital service is 9,241,229, averaging 3.3 contacts per person in one year. The number of visits marks an increase of 9.6 %, compared to the number of visits in 2022. The average number of days a patient stays in hospital is 4.8 days during 2023. In public hospital service institutions 65,043 surgeries were performed, 1.8 % more, compared to a year ago.

I. Primary health care

In 2023, from 9,241,229 of total visits to the primary service, 41.5 % were performed in health centers, 23.2 % in ambulances and 35.2 % in polyclinics. Over the last 5 years, there is almost the same distribution in the number of visits. Approximately 35 % of visits to health centers and ambulances were performed by persons over 60 years of age.

Tab. 1 Activity of Health centers, Ambulances and Polyclinics

Item	Years				
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total visits	7,650,504	7,353,296	8,144,504	8,434,996	9,241,229
Number of visits in Health Centers	3,374,429	3,149,495	3,482,174	3,501,358	3,836,024
Number of visits in Ambulances	1,543,269	1,510,006	1,650,378	1,961,026	2,148,465
Number of visits in polyclinics	2,732,806	2,693,795	3,011,952	2,972,612	3,256,740

Source: Ministry of Health and Social Protection

The Women's Consultant

In 2023, the number of visits to the women's consultant was 203,550, marking a decrease of 7.5 %, compared to 2022. From the total of visits, 21.9 % were gynecological visits, and 78.1 % were obstetric visits. 60.5 % of obstetrical visits were performed with the assistance of a specialist doctor. The number of pre-obstetrical visits was 21,944, with a decrease of 6.4 % more, compared to 2022.

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Tab. 2 Activity of women's consultation

Items	Years				
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of total visits	206,326	212,400	224,790	220,074	203,550
Number of gynecological visits	38,981	30,231	41,647	44,514	44,499
Number of obstetrical visits	167,345	182,169	183,143	175,560	159,051
- with physician	101,938	111,288	111,516	97,897	96,261
Number of pre-obstetrical visits	28,178	23,636	25,900	23,444	21,944

Source: Ministry of Health and Social Protection

The Child Consultant

In 2023, 281,055 children were registered at the child consultant and 738,629 visits were made, an average of 2.6 visits per child in one year. Compared to 2022, the number of visits has decreased by 1.4 %. From the total of visits, 52.3 % of them were performed with the assistance of a specialist doctor and the rest were attended by midwives and nurses.

The number of children 0-1 years old who are exclusively breastfed during 2023 is 15,979, while the number of children fed with artificial food is 4,365.

Tab. 3 Activity of child consultations

Item	Years				
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of child consultations	2,081	2,028	2,055	2,124	2,082
Visit's number in consultation	782,532	708,211	745,746	749,118	738,629
of which: by physician	423,412	410,153	414,282	422,998	386,065
Children's number registered in consultation	276,306	256,146	257,054	266,362	281,055
Number of breastfed children	18,317	18,541	19,660	17,849	15,979
Number of children fed with artificial food	4,585	4,239	4,597	4,719	4,365

Source: Ministry of Health and Social Protection

In 2023, vaccination of children within the first year of life according to the national vaccination scheme continues to be high for all vaccine types. This year, there is an increase in vaccination coverage against Measles-Mumps-Rubeola by 3.8 percentage points, and against Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis by 2.1 percentage points, compared to 2022. Meanwhile, a decrease in vaccination coverage of 0,9 percentage points to Poliomyelitis.

Tab. 4 Vaccine coverage, in %

Item	Years				
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Infants, immunized against:					
- Tuberculosis	98.9	97.9	98.8	98.7	99.2
- Diphtheria	98.6	98.5	95.8	95	97.1
- Tetanus	98.6	98.5	95.8	95	97.1
- Pertussis	98.6	98.5	95.8	95	97.1
- Measles-Mumps-Rubeola	95	91	89.2	89.2	93.0
- Poliomyelitis	98.6	98.3	98	98.0	97.1

Source: Institute of Public Health

II. Secondary Hospital service

In 2023, the number of public and non-public hospitals in the country is 67, of which 43 are public hospitals and 24 private hospitals. The coverage of public and non-public hospital service is 2.4 hospitals per 100 thousand inhabitants.¹

In public hospital service institutions, in 2023 the number of patients was 285,594 patients. The average stay days of a patient were 4.8 days per year with a bed turn 35.0 times a year patients. The usage of hospital beds for health care during 2023 was 166.5 days, which constitute 45.6 % of the calendar days of this year. From the total of hospitalized patients, 23 % of them have undergone surgery.

Tab. 5 Indicators of activity in public institutions of hospital service

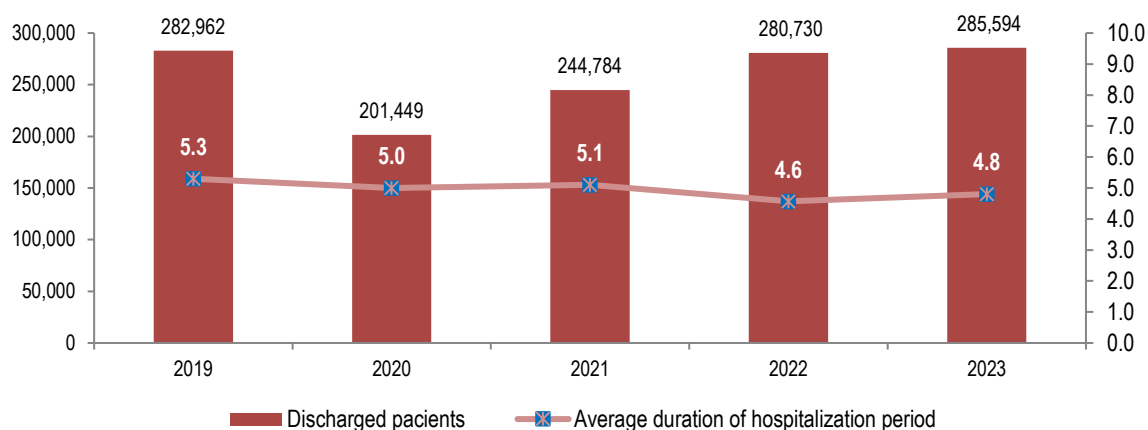
Activity indicators in public hospitals	Years				
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of hospital institutions	42	42	43	43	43
Number of beds in total ²	8,189	8334	8501	8,703	8,839
Hospitalized persons	282,962	201,449	244,784	280,730	285,594
Days in bed realized	1,491,930	1,032,922	1,248,197	1,272,322	1,345,506
Bed occupancy in days	182.2	123.9	146.8	158.2	166.5
- in percentage	49.9	33.9	40.2	43.3	45.6
Average duration of hospitalization period	5.3	5.0	5.1	4.6	4.8
Bed turn	34.6	24.2	28.8	34.6	35.0
Number of persons operated on	63,669	46,369	56,622	63,862	65,043

Source: Ministry of Health and Social Protection

¹ For the calculation of the indicator, has been used the population of 1 January 2023.

² The total number of beds also includes emergency beds, acute curative beds that provide hospital services.

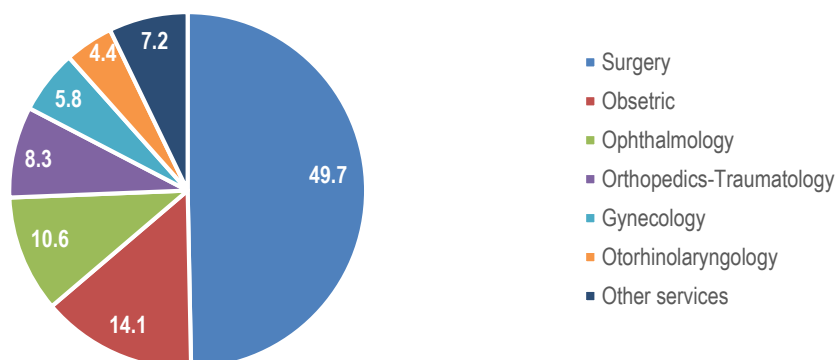
Fig. 1 Hospitalized discharges and average days of stay in public hospital services



Source: Ministry of Health and Social Protection

In 2023, from the total number of hospitalized patients, 65,043 surgical interventions were performed, with an increase of 1.8 %, compared to the previous year. From the total number of operations performed, according to types of services approximately half of surgeries pertain to surgery (49.7%).

Fig. 2 Surgical interventions disaggregated by the type of services, in %



Source: Ministry of Health and Social Protection

Methodology

The publication "Public Health Indicators" contains administrative data on the primary health care service and the secondary hospital service, with annual frequency. The data are provided by the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, while the data on the vaccine coverage are sourced from the Institute of Public Health.

Definitions

Primary health care centers are all healthcare institutions that provide healthcare for outpatient patients, which are equipped with at least one medical staff doctor or nurse (dental service is not included). Primary health care is provided to the population from its basic unit, which is known as the main health center, and from the ambulance, as the first point of contact with the national health care system.

The hospital is an institutional residence equipped to provide 24 hour medical care, hospitality and rehabilitation to patients who may need medical or surgical assistance.

Hospital beds are beds for accommodating patients, which include four types of beds according to function: curative beds, rehabilitation beds, chronic and palliative beds, as well as other unclassified beds. The total number of beds refers to the number in all hospitals, including general hospitals, mental health and substance abuse hospitals, specialty hospitals, regardless of whether the bed is occupied or no

Inpatients are patients who have been formally admitted to an institution for treatment or care, and who stay at least one night

Usage of hospital bed per day is the number of average days of the year during which a hospital bed is occupied with patients.

Days in bed realized are multiplying the use of hospital beds per day with the number of beds in the hospital.

Hospitalization is the ratio of the number of patients discharged from hospitals in a year to the population of that year.

Turnover of a bed is the number of patients who are hospitalized per year.