OECD Health Statistics 2025

Definitions, Sources and Methods

Foreign-trained doctors

TOTAL NUMBER OF DOCTORS (PHYSICIANS)

The data should refer to practising physicians where possible. (If not possible, the data can be reported for professionally active physicians or physicians licensed to practice).

Foreign-trained doctors: number (stock)

The number of doctors who have obtained their first medical qualification (degree) in another country and are entitled to practice in the receiving country.

Inclusion

- Foreign-trained doctors who have obtained any type of registration to practice in the receiving country.
- Medical interns and residents who have obtained a medical degree in another country but have not yet obtained a (full) registration to practice in the receiving country.

Exclusion

- Foreign-trained doctors who are registered to practice in the receiving country but are practising in another country (temporarily or permanently).
Note: The number should be at the end of the calendar year.

Foreign-trained doctors: annual inflow

The number of doctors who have obtained their first medical qualification (degree) in another country and are receiving a new authorisation in a given year to practice in the receiving country.

Inclusion

- If the source is professional registers (preferred source): Foreign-trained doctors coming in the country under all types of registration status (full, temporary, limited, provisional or conditional registration).
- If the source is working permits delivered to immigrants (possible alternative source): Foreign-trained doctors coming in the country under a permanent or temporary working permit.
- Medical interns and residents who have obtained a medical degree in another country but have not yet obtained a (full) registration to practice in the receiving country.

Note: The number should be at the end of the calendar year.

Sources and Methods

Australia

Stock of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data:
- 2013 onwards: **Department of Health**, NHWDS Medical Practitioners Data. Data request. Data are as at the end of the re-registration period for the profession in the reference year.
- 2012: **Australian Institute of Health and Welfare**, AIHW National Health Workforce Data Set.
- 2007-2009: **Australian Institute of Health and Welfare**, AIHW Medical Labour Force Survey, 2007, 2008 and 2009 (published data).
Coverage:
- Data for 2010 and 2011 unavailable at requested level of detail.
- Data from a workforce survey that is voluntarily completed at the time of registration renewal was used to populate this table. Data are for practising physicians (i.e. clinical physicians).
- The total includes records where 'Initial country of qualification' is not stated/inadequately described. Provisional registration applies to Australian and New Zealand medical school graduates applying to undertake an approved intern position. Here is a link to the definition of a Provisional registrant: http://www.medicalboard.gov.au/Registration/Types/Provisional-Registration.aspx.
- The voluntary workforce survey is not conducted by any provisional registrants; hence provisional registrants are excluded from the data.
Break in time series:
- From 2013 the NHWDS is held by the Department of Health and the data has minor differences from the previous AIHW holdings due to the method of imputation for survey non-response and enhanced geocoding methods.
Note: Country counts below 6 are suppressed for the Stock of Doctors by Country of Qualification, the count has been included in the Other Country count instead, due to privacy reasons.
Annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data:
- 2013 onwards: **Department of Health**, NHWDS Medical Practitioners Data. Data request. Data are as at the end of the re-registration period for the profession in the reference year.
Coverage:
- Data from NHWDS registration and qualification data was used to populate this table.
- Data are for professional registers.
- The total excludes records where qualification country is not stated/inadequately described.
Note: The strong decrease seen in the inflow of foreign trained doctors in 2020 and 2021 can be attributed to international border closures and travel restrictions for Australia due to COVID-19 which extended from March 2020 to February 2022.

Austria

Source of data: **Austrian Medical Association**, Register of Practising Physicians.
Reference period:
- For stock of foreign-trained doctors: 31st December.
- For annual inflow: 1st January to 31st December.

Coverage:
- Included are foreign-trained practising physicians who are licensed to practice according to the Austrian legislation and who are registered at the Austrian Medical Association (head count).
- Excluded are physicians who do not provide services to individual patients (in industry, administration, research, etc.).
- Stock of foreign-trained doctors: National citizens who went to study abroad and came back afterwards are reported under the line "Of which: native-born but foreign-trained".

Deviation from the definition:
- Interns are excluded.
- Included are oral and maxillofacial surgeons.

Belgium

Stock and inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **Federal Public Service - Public Health**. Full title of the database: Database of health work professionals (known as "Cadastre").
Reference period:
Coverage:
- The "Cadastre" only contains health work professionals with a license to practice their profession. At this stage, it is not yet possible to identify the health work professionals with an economic activity.
- Stock data do not include physicians with temporary visa (but inflow data do).
- Inflow data include physicians with temporary visa. Temporary visa = people staying for few months for a short training-period.
Deviation from the definition: Data refer to doctors licensed to practice.

Canada

Stock of foreign-trained doctors

Source of data: Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI).
Full title of the database: Scott's Medical Database (SMDB) managed by CIHI and the Canadian Post-M.D. Education Registry (CAPER) managed by CAPER.
SMDB: http://www.cihi.ca/en/scotts-medical-database-metadata.
CAPER: https://caper.ca/.
Coverage:
- Excludes physicians in the military as well as semi-retired and retired physicians.
- Excludes non-registered physicians who requested that their information not be published as of December 31 of the reference year.
- No data is available in SMDB on native-born but foreign-trained physicians.
- Detailed data tables and methodological notes concerning SMDB are available free for download at https://www.cihi.ca/en/physicians.
Deviation from the definition: Data refer to professionally active physicians.

Annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI).
Full title of the database: Scott's Medical Database (SMDB) managed by CIHI and the Canadian Post-M.D. Education Registry (CAPER) managed by CAPER.
SMDB: http://www.cihi.ca/en/scotts-medical-database-metadata.
CAPER: https://caper.ca/.
- Excludes physicians in the military as well as semi-retired and retired physicians.
- Excludes non-registered physicians who requested that their information not be published as of December 31 of the reference year.
- Detailed data tables and methodological notes concerning SMDB are available free for download at https://www.cihi.ca/en/physicians.

Chile

Stock of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **Health Superintendence** (Superintendencia de Salud).
Full title of the database: National Registry of Individual Health Providers (Registro Nacional de Prestadores Individuales de Salud). The inscription in the National Registry is possible only when the foreign-trained professionals have obtained a permanent, temporary or conditional registration from the corresponding Authorities.
http://webserver.superdesalud.gob.cl/bases/prestadoresindividuales.nsf/buscador?openForm.
Coverage:
- The data coverage is nationwide.

- The data are provided since 2014. Before this date, the National Individual Health Providers' Registry was still in a progressive extension stage, due to its creation in 2009. Hence the strong increase in the numbers does not reflect a pure variation of annual inflows. The inscription in the National Registry is possible only when the foreign-trained professionals have obtained a permanent, temporary or conditional registration from the corresponding Authorities.
Deviation from the definition: The information refers to doctors licensed to practice.

Annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **Health Superintendence** (Superintendencia de Salud).
Full title of the database: National Registry of Individual Health Providers (Registro Nacional de Prestadores Individuales de Salud).
Coverage: Nationwide.
- In 2018, the data on annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors have been modified since 2014: additional data provided by the Health Superintendence allows to calculate the real annual inflow, from the doctor's date of the registration in the National Register, which is possible only if the professional has obtained the permanent, temporary or conditional authorization to practice as a doctor in Chile.

Colombia

Source of data:
- 2011-2021: Calculations by the Direction of Human Talent Development in Health, **Ministry of Health and Social Protection**.
Coverage: National.
Estimation method:
- The estimate of doctors trained abroad is built from the information of degrees validated by the Ministry of National Education, which is used to calculate the indicator that monitors the percentage of human resources in health trained in Colombia.
- The estimate considers the distribution of doctors trained in Colombia and abroad, without detailing their nationality.
- The data presented are estimates.
- The total series since 2011 was revised/recalculated considering the year of registration in the National Unified Registry of Human Resources in Health (Registro Único Nacional del Talento Humano en Salud-RETHUS) for the authorization of professional practice. The estimates are based on three main calculations: i) the percentage of physicians (registered by the end of each year) who obtained their degree abroad with respect to the total number of physicians registered in the RETHUS; ii) the percentage of national doctors (registered with the Colombian citizenship card as identification document) registered in the RETHUS who obtained their degree abroad (with respect to the total number of registered doctors who obtained their degree abroad); and, iii) for the variable "Foreign-trained doctors: annual inflow" the year of registration in the RETHUS is taken into account for doctors who obtained their degree "abroad".

Costa Rica

Stock of foreign-trained doctors
Data not available.

Annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **Consejo Nacional de Rectores – CONARE (National Council of University Chancellors)**. **Annual Statistics** as reported in 2022.

Czechia

Stock and annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **Czech Medical Chamber**.
Reference period:

Coverage: Physicians registered in the Czech Medical Chamber as of 31 December of the respective year excluding inactive physicians (e.g. retired physicians or physicians on maternity leave). Data on foreign-trained doctors may include inactive physicians.
- Registration in the Czech Medical Chamber is obligatory by law for persons who want to work as physicians.
- The Stock of doctor - total numbers of doctors report also shows doctors who are registered with the Czech Medical Chamber (CMC) but do not pay regular financial contributions and cannot be contacted by the CMC (invalid phone numbers, etc.). In addition, there are non-practicing doctors registered in the CMC, who, however, retain the right to prescribe drugs (there is an obligation to register in the CMC), as well as doctors who have applied to the CMC and gone to work abroad, etc. personal de-registration of the doctor is required and many of them have not done so, the total number of registered doctors reported from this source is inaccurate.

Stock of foreign-trained doctors
Annual changes can be related to cancellation of membership in the Czech Medical Chamber of doctors who work outside the health services.

Denmark

Stock of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data:
- 2000-2021: **The Danish Health Data Authority**, Labour Register for Health Personnel **The Danish Health Data Authority**.
- 2022-2023 **The Danish Health Data Authority,** Registered Health Professionals, the Danish Register for Evaluation of Marginalisation, The Danish Civil Registration System.

Reference period: 31st December
Coverage: 2000-2023
Deviation from the definition: Only possible to divide into Denmark vs other countries.
Break in time series: 2023 change in the data collection

Annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **The Danish Health Data Authority**, Registered Health Professionals, the Danish Register for Evaluation of Marginalisation, The Danish Civil Registration System.
Reference period: 31st December
Coverage: 2000-2023
Deviation from the definition: Only possible to divide into Denmark vs other countries.
Break in time series: 2023 change in the data collection

Estonia

Stock of foreign-trained doctors
Sources of data: **Health Board**, Register of Health Professionals.
Reference period: at the end of the calendar year.
Coverage: The register was established on 01.01.2002. The total number of doctors is not complete for the years 2002-2004, all doctors had to be registered by the beginning of 2005.
Deviation from the definition: The programme of the register does not enable to separate general and specialised doctors.
The data refer to doctors licensed to practice (not practising doctors).

Annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Sources of data: **Health Board**, Register of Health Professionals.
Reference period: at the end of the calendar year.
Coverage: The register was established on 01.01.2002.
Deviation from the definition: The data refer to doctors licensed to practice (not practising doctors).

Finland

Stock of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **THL Health Personnel Statistics; Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare.** The data are based on the Employment Register kept by Statistics Finland.
Reference period: At the end of the calendar year.
Coverage: Practising physicians cover all medical doctors licensed to practice who are employed in the health care field under the occupational title of medical doctor (including generalist medical practitioners, senior practitioners and specialists). This includes individuals providing services through temporary staffing services as well as interns and residents working under supervision if their occupational title falls under a medical doctor according to Statistics Finland. Physicians whose most recent specialisation is in dental or maxillofacial surgery have been excluded.
Deviation from the definition:
Estimation method:
Break in time series:

Annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: VALVIRA. **National Supervisory Authority for Welfare and Health**. Register on Qualified Health Care Personnel.
Reference period: At the end of the calendar year.
Coverage: All doctors with a permanent license to practice medicine in Finland who have acquired their first license to practice medicine on a given year.
Deviation from the definition:
- Medical interns and residents have not been included if they have not acquired a permanent license to practice medicine on a given year.
- Individuals with temporary or provisional licenses have not been included as we do not currently have that information.
- All doctors with a licence to practice medicine in Finland are included, even if they live and practice medicine abroad on a given year.
Estimation method:
Break in time series:

France

Stock and annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **Ministère des solidarités et de la santé - Direction de la Recherche, des Études, de l'Évaluation et des Statistiques** (DREES), Sous-Direction de l'Observation de la Santé et de l'Assurance maladie, Bureau des Professions de santé.
- **From 2011** (01/01/2012): **RPPS** (Répertoire partagé des professionnels de santé), DREES. Data were revised in 2023 (years 2011 to 2021).
- **Until 2010** (01/01/2011): **Répertoire ADELI**, DREES, for stock data. Until 2010, the available source of data "Répertoire ADELI-DREES" is not reliable enough to estimate the annual flow of foreign trained doctors : data are not provided.
Reference period: 31st December year N (approximated by data of January1st year N+1).
Coverage:
Stock: From 2011, data from "RPPS Registry", physicians who have obtained their diploma in a foreign country OR have obtained from the Ministry of Health a registration to practice.
Only physicians born in France are considered as "native-born" (i.e., physicians born abroad with French nationality are excluded).
- Until 2010, data from "ADELI Registry", physicians who have obtained their diploma in a foreign country OR have obtained from the Ministry of Health a registration to practice. Data represent the global figure of foreign trained with no precision of the country of training.
Annual inflow: From 2011, data from "RPPS Registry", physicians who have registered themselves for the first time in the "RPPS Registry" during the given year of the annual data AND who have obtained their diploma in a foreign country OR have obtained from the Ministry of Health a registration to practice.

- Data refer to active physicians, registered in the “ADELI Registry” or “RPPS Registry”. Data from 2011 are revised in 2023 in order to count practising physicians only and to improve the data by detailed country.
- Stomatologists are included in the number of physicians until 2010. They are excluded for year 2011 and after since the 2023 revision.
- Before 2023: Interns and residents are not included.
- Data refer to metropolitan France and D.R.O.M. (overseas departments and regions).
- The training location is not informed for doctors reported in the category “Others (n.e.c)”.
Warning: The data from ADELI Registry referring to foreign trained professionals are not exhaustive. In the case of physicians, the change of data source had a significant impact on the global number of foreign trained physicians, and as such, the ADELI Registry significantly underestimates this category of professionals.
Deviation from the definition: Before 2011, data include stomatologists and non-practising physicians.
Estimation method:
Break in time series:
- Break in 2011 due to the change in data source and to the exclusion of stomatologists and non-practising physicians since 2011.
- Before 2023, interns and residents are not included. Since 2023, they are included in the stock of doctors. However, the RPPS does not give any information on their place of graduation, so they are all included in the category « Unknown place of training ».

Germany

Stock of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **German Medical Association**, Medical practitioner statistics 2023; http://www.gbe-bund.de/ or http://www.baek.de.
Reference period: 31st December.
Coverage:
- Data contain the number of foreign-national physicians registered by the medical association who are actively practising medicine in public and private institutions and provide services directly to patients (head-count data).
- The reported values refer to all practicing physicians with a foreign citizenship registered in Germany. Medical practitioners, who have both a German and a foreign citizenship, are not counted.
- Included are general practitioners, specialists, interns and resident physicians.
- The data include physicians specializing in oral and maxillofacial surgery.
- The data exclude dentists and stomatologists as well as qualified physicians working in administration, research and industry positions, unemployed and retired physicians.
- Excluded are students who have not yet graduated.
Deviation from the definition:
- Data are based on nationality (not on place of training).
- The total number of doctors here is slightly different from the number of practicing physicians shown in other indicators. These differences are due to the inclusion of practising physicians specializing in oral and maxillofacial surgery in this data while they are excluded in the other indicators.

Annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
2020-2023:
Source of data: **Federal Statistical Office in cooperation with the Federal Statistical Offices of the Länder**.
Full title of the database: Survey pursuant to Section 17 of the Professional Qualifications Assessment Act (BQFG).
Reference period: 31st December.
Coverage:
-The basis of the statistics according to the Professional Qualifications Assessment Act (BQFG) is Section 17 BQFG of the federal law as well as the corresponding paragraphs or articles of the state laws on the recognition of foreign professional qualifications under federal or state law.
- The data provided include the number of positively decided applications for the recognition of foreign professional qualifications (decision before appeal). The positively approved recognition procedures

include both those procedures in which full equivalence of the professional qualification is certified directly, as well as those applications that receive full equivalence only after completion of a compensatory measure or receive positive-partial access to the profession.
- The data cover recognised foreign professional qualifications for physicians.
- The data by country are based on country of training.
Deviation from the definition:
- The data include recognized qualifications of persons with German or non-German citizenship regardless of their place of residence.
Estimation method:
- For reasons of data protection, a rounding procedure was used to ensure confidentiality. Individual results are initially determined without rounding. Subsequently, each number is rounded up or down to a multiple of 3. As a consequence, the total value can deviate from the sum of the individual values. This method distorts the data only slightly. The deviation from the real value is at most 1 for each data cell.
Additional information:
The "Others (not elsewhere classified)" item includes countries not in the country list of the table, i.e.:

- former Serbia (including Kosovo)
- former Serbia and Montenegro
- former Czechoslovakia
- Macedonia (former Yugoslav Republic)
- former Soviet Union
- Kosovo
- Palestinian territories

2000-2019:
Source of data: **German Medical Association**, Medical practitioner statistics 2019; http://www.gbe-bund.de/ or http://www.baek.de.
Reference period: 31st December.
Coverage:
- Data contain the number of accessions of medical practitioners from countries of the European Union.
- Included are general practitioners, specialists, interns and resident physicians.
- The data exclude dentists and stomatologists as well as students who have not yet graduated.
Deviation from the definition: Data contain the number of accessions of medical practitioners from EU countries only.
Estimation method:

Break in time series:
2020 (change in data source).

Greece

Stock of doctors by country of first qualification
Source of data: **Directorate of Public Health and Social Welfare**, **Athens Medical Association**, **Piraeus Medical Association**, etc.; Annual Doctors and Dentists survey: http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SHE09/-.
Reference period: 31st December.
Coverage: Information is partially missing(e.g., 10% missing for 2023), hence the sum of aggregates does not add up to the total number of doctors licensed to practice.
Deviation from the definition:
Estimation method:
Break in time series:

Annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **Directorate of Public Health and Social Welfare**, **Athens Medical Association**, **Piraeus Medical Association**, etc.; Annual Doctors and Dentists survey: http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SHE09/-.
Reference period: 31st December.

Coverage:
Deviation from the definition:
Estimation method:
Break in time series:

Hungary

Stock and annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data:
- Up to 2006: **Hungarian Medical Chamber** (MOK in Hungarian), www.mok.hu.
- From 2007 until 2014: **Office of Health Authorisation and Administrative Procedures** (EEKH in Hungarian), www.eekh.hu.
- From 2015 to 2016: **Health Registration and Training Center** (ENKK in Hungarian), www.enkk.hu. Operational Register.
- From 2017: **National Healthcare Service Center** (ÁEEK in Hungarian), www.enkk.hu. Operational register.
- From 2021, **National Directorate General for Hospitals** (OKFŐ in Hungarian) www.okfo.gov.hu. Operational register.

Reference period:
Deviation from the definition:
Estimation method:
Break in time series:

Stock of foreign-trained doctors
Coverage:
Doctors, who has a valid registration in the Operational Registry, which is the condition of the unsupervised healthcare activity. In case of physicians, there is a five-yearly cyclical decrease in the operational registration because of the expiry of the five yearly renewable operational license. In every fifth year (2005, 2010, 2015, 2020) there was a dropout in the case of those physicians who did not request the renewal of their next five year cycle because they did not fulfil their mandatory further training, or they have been retired, left the country, left the healthcare sector or died.
- Before 2004, the information of the doctor's registration in the Operational Registry is not available.

Break in time series: 2010, 2015, 2020.

Annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Coverage: Foreign trained doctors, by the year of registration in the Basic Register.

Note: The data source of the stock of doctors is the Operational Registry. In order to pursue healthcare activities in Hungary, healthcare professionals are required to hold a valid operational registration, which is valid for five years and can be renewed by collecting certain amount of CPD credits.
The inflow of doctors (and nurses) is one possible factor of the change of the stock from one year to another, however the renewal or the expiration of the operational registration or the cancellation due to the death of the professional can also contribute, therefore the change of stock and the inflow do not necessarily meet.

Iceland

Stock of foreign-trained doctors
Data not available.

Annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **Directorate of Health in Iceland**, register of health care professionals.
Reference period: The calendar year.
Coverage:

- Register data, nationwide coverage. All physicians who have received their first degree in another country and have subsequently received registration in Iceland (full, limited, temporary, etc).
- Data available as of 2017.
Deviation from the definition:
Estimation method:
Break in time series:

Ireland

Stock and annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **Medical Council of Ireland** (https://www.medicalcouncil.ie).
Reference period: Figures refer to as at end of December.
Coverage:
From 2024:
- **Stock figures** refer to physicians registered with the Medical Council of Ireland who, in the last 12 months, have declared themselves practising as either "only in Ireland" or "both in Ireland and abroad" on either a full or part-time basis during the reference period.
- **Inflow figures** refer to the number of doctors active on the Medical Council of Ireland's Register who have obtained their first medical degree (qualification) in another country and received a new authorisation in the reference year to practise in Ireland.
Pre-2024:
- **Stock figures** refer to all persons (including physicians working abroad) who have entered and maintained their name as fully registered doctors in the Register of Medical Practitioners, regardless of the area in which they are engaged or whether or not they are practising medicine.
- Physicians licensed refer to those registered by the Medical Council of Ireland. Registration is a pre-requisite for practice in Ireland.
- **Inflow figures** refer to the number of doctors active on the Medical Council of Ireland's Register who have obtained their first medical degree (qualification) in another country and received a new authorisation in the reference year to practise in Ireland.
Deviation from definition: Data refers to licensed physicians and includes physicians practising outside of Ireland.
Estimation method:
Break in time series:
- **From 2024**, figures refer to practicing physicians in Ireland as per register maintained by the source.
- **Pre-2024**, figures refer to physicians licensed to practice in Ireland as per register maintained by the source.
Note: Data on native-born doctors who are foreign trained is not available.

Israel

Stock of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: Health Information Division and Medical Professions Division in the **Ministry of Health**.
Full title of the database: Physician License Registry.
- Demographic information is periodically updated from the Population Registry at the Ministry of Interior. The source of residents' data is the Israeli Medical Association.
Coverage: Includes all licensed physicians under age 67, which is the retirement age in Israel since the early 2000's, according to Physician Licence Registry.
Deviation from the definition:
- Includes all licensed physicians under age 67 at the end of the year as an estimate to professionally active physicians.
- Physicians working abroad or working in other fields than health cannot be excluded from the data. 11.3% in 2008 and 9.3% in 2015 of the physicians licensed to practice (recorded in the Physicians License Registry) were not resident in Israel for more than 12 months.
- The category "OTHERS (not elsewhere classified)" includes doctors trained in former countries (not existing anymore). For example, in 2023, the category "Others (n.e.c.)" includes 257 doctors trained in Former USSR, 364 trained in the West Bank, 59 doctors trained in Czechoslovakia and 12 doctors trained

in Yugoslavia. In 2022, the category “Others (n.e.c.)” includes 286 doctors trained in Former USSR, 293 trained in the West Bank, 57 doctors trained in Czechoslovakia and 14 doctors trained in Yugoslavia. In 2015, the category “Others (n.e.c.)” includes 368 doctors trained in Former USSR, 40 trained in the West Bank, 61 doctors trained in Czechoslovakia and 23 doctors trained in Yugoslavia.
Break in time series: No break in series.

Annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: Health Information Division and Medical Professions Division in the **Ministry of Health**.
Full title of the database: Physician License Registry, Ministry of Health.
Coverage: All new licenses each year.
- The category "OTHERS" includes 71 doctors trained in 2023 in the West Bank and 22 in 2015.
Break in time series: No break in series.

Note: The statistical data for Israel are supplied by and under the responsibility of the relevant Israeli authorities. The use of such data by the OECD is without prejudice to the status of the Golan Heights, East Jerusalem and Israeli settlements in the West Bank under the terms of international law.

Italy

Stock and annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **Federazione nazionale degli Ordini dei Medici Chirurghi e degli Odontoiatri (FNOMCEO)**. https://portale.fnomceo.it/.
Reference period: 31st December.
Coverage: The distribution of foreign-trained doctors by country of training is available since 2019.
- Doctors registered in Italy but practicing abroad are included.
- The category “OTHERS (not elsewhere classified)” includes doctors trained abroad, but the country of training is unknown.
- The increase observed between 2022 and 2023 is mainly due to an improvement in the quality of data on the 'place of training' variable, which, for the first time in 2023, has zero cases with unknown place of training.
Deviation from the definition: Data refer to doctors entitled to practice trained abroad.
Estimation method: None.
Break in time series: None.

Japan

Data not available.

Korea

Stock of foreign-trained doctors
- Data not available.

Annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **Ministry of Health and Welfare**, unpublished data.
Coverage:
- From 2001: Data from medical licensing administration.

Latvia

Source of data: **Health Inspectorate of Latvia**; Register of Medical Practitioners and Medical Support Staff.
Reference period: 31 December (stock), 1st January to 31st December (inflow).
Coverage: The data coverage is complete. The data cover entire country, and both public and private sectors.

Deviation from the definition: data reported under Health Workforce Migration include dentists until 2019.
Estimation method:
Break in time series: 2020.
- From 2020, the migration data are reported for professionally active physicians without dentists.
Data for doctors (stock) differ from the data reported under Physicians (in the dataset on Health Care Resources) as the data reported under Health Workforce Migration include dentists until 2019.

Lithuania

Stock and annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **Health Information Centre of Institute of Hygiene**. Data are calculated from the Compulsory Health Insurance Fund information system (subsystem METAS).
Reference period: 31st December.
Coverage:
- The number includes physicians licensed to practice in the country at the end of the year.
- The number of foreign-trained doctors is calculated according to the country of the university they graduated.
- Annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors is the number of doctors received the licence to practice for the first time calculated according to the country of the university they graduated.
- Specialists declared emigration but having valid licence at the end of the year are included as there is no information if they are practicing abroad.
There is no possibility to recognize if the foreign-trained person is native-born.
In 2022 the number of foreign trained doctors have increased significantly due to high number of Ukrainian refugees.
Deviation from the definition: data refer to physicians licensed to practice.

Luxembourg

Luxembourg is not able to provide reliable information on Health Workforce Migration due to its specificities:
- Luxembourg nationals often obtain their diplomas/qualifications abroad, mainly because education is not available in Luxembourg for several health professions. Hence, using the country where the qualification was obtained as a criteria to assess migratory status is not pertinent.
- Moreover, nearly half of Luxembourg's population is of foreign origin and some Luxembourg nationals choose to live across the borders. Thus, using nationality as a criteria to assess migratory status is not pertinent.
- However, methodology and data collection are under discussion and revision in order to better complete this data collection.

Mexico

Data not available.

Netherlands

Stock and annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **CIBG**. Full title of the database: Beroepen in de Gezondheidszorg (BIG). To distinguish working doctors in the health care and health care related sectors, the database was linked to the Social Statistical Database of Statistics Netherlands.
http://www.cibg.nl.
Reference period:
Coverage: From 2014: Data refer to doctors who are licensed to practice and live and work in the Netherlands. Their license requires that they have been practising in the past five years.
Data cover doctors working in the Netherlands (also doctors living in other countries and working in the Netherlands, but that last group may be incomplete).

Stock of foreign-trained doctors: Doctors from other countries that register in the Netherlands might not get a social security number in the BIG registry immediately, so we expect an underestimation of foreign doctors that will slowly decrease as the registry gets better.
Deviation from the definition:
- Up to 2014: Data refer to doctors are licensed to practice; and working in the Netherlands, in the health care sector, or health related sectors (excluded e.g., is agriculture and industry, it more or less equals SHA HP classification). Definition is approach of professionally active doctors. It includes doctors in training, however, for these it is not possible to distinguish them according to their specialty AND to their country of training (i.e., their basic doctor's exam).
- Figures below 5 are not reported; they are included in 'other'.
Estimation method:
Break in time series:
- 2020: After 2019 the annual inflow decreased again. Probably partly because of the increase in 2019 and partly because the borders were temporarily closed because of Covid-19.
- 2019: Due to efforts from the bureau of the register to add the social security number of foreign doctors and nurses with a foreign training the number has increased substantially in 2019. This is an administrative correction. New social security numbers are seen as inflow.
- 2017 onwards: doctors from other countries and working in the Netherlands slowly get a better registration in the data of CIBG.
- 2012. The register has been cleaned up in 2012. As from 2014 we adapted a new method to physicians with a specialism and general practitioners. As the license register requires those physicians to have been practising in the past five years, we did not use the sector of employment in the selection method anymore. Research showed this was a better estimate for the required definition of practising. The result is a slight increase of their numbers from 2014 onwards, compared to the previous professionally active definition.

New Zealand

Stock of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **Medical Council of New Zealand**.
Full title of the database: Medical Register.
Coverage:
- Only those doctors in New Zealand on permanent forms of registration are surveyed. Doctors in New Zealand for special short-term purposes are not surveyed.
- The results of the survey only include 'active doctors' or those doctors who have reported working four or more hours per week.
- Not all doctors respond to the survey. For the 2012 survey, the response rate was 96 percent, but this included responses from inactive doctors.
Deviation from the definition:
- The data refer to doctors 'licensed to practise' (see Health Employment Definitions, Sources and Methods for further detail).
Break in time series: 2020.
- There is a break in the time series for doctors between 2019 and 2020, with a change from end-year to mid-year reporting and a change in reporting organisation from the Medical Council to the Ministry of Health. From 2020, the numbers refer to all doctors licensed to practice as of 30 June.

Annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **Medical Council of New Zealand**.
Full title of the database: Medical Register.
Coverage: Refers to the number of registrations during the calendar year.
Break in time series: 2020.
- From 2020, the coverage refers to doctors newly registered and licensed to practise in the year as of 30 June (vs end of year until 2019).
Note:
- There has been a decrease in the inflow of foreign-trained doctors and nurses which can be attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic and on consequent border restrictions on entry to New Zealand. For doctors, this is apparent in the 2020 and 2021 counts (which are based on a 30 June reporting date). This is consistent

with immigration data which shows a precipitous fall in immigrant numbers in the second quarter of 2020, followed by a slow recovery which has still not returned to pre-COVID levels. These decreases have nevertheless had only a small effect on the proportions of foreign-trained personnel in the stocks of doctors and nurses.

Norway

Stock of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **Statistics Norway**. Statistics on health-care personnel. See www.ssb.no/hesospers_en/.
- Administrative registers.
Reference period: 3rd week of November.
Coverage:
- Data include all qualified physicians working within HP1-HP4. There is no guarantee that qualified physicians actually work as physicians, as data refer to education rather than employment (the job they hold).
- Native born is defined according to standard for Immigration category (2008), all codes except 'B' and practicing physicians not living in Norway (see codes below).

Code	Title
A	Born in Norway to Norwegian-born parents
B	Immigrants
C	Norwegian-born to immigrant parents
E	Foreign-born with one Norwegian-born parent
F	Norwegian-born with one foreign-born parent
G	Foreign-born to Norwegian-born parents

- Only doctors younger than 75 years are included, which gives a small discrepancy to number of doctors in the health employment module, where all practicing doctors, in all ages, are included.
Inclusion
- Persons who have completed studies in medicine at university level (granted by adequate diploma) and who are licensed to practice and working in HP1-HP4
- Interns and resident physicians (with adequate diploma and providing services under supervision of other medical doctors during their postgraduate internship or residency in a health care facility)
- Salaried and self-employed physicians delivering services irrespectively of the place of service provision
- Foreign physicians licensed to practice and actively practicing in the country.

Annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: Helsepersonellregisteret (HPR) is the administrative register where you are required to be registered if you wish to work under the titles medical doctor or nurse (among many other medical titles) https://ehelse.no/helseadministrative-registre/helsepersonellregisteret-hpr
Coverage: HPR covers all of Norway.
Deviation from the definition: It is possible to apply and be registered as a medical doctor in HPR without entering Norway. However, it is reasonable to assume that someone applying and paying the application-fee (NOK 1665) intends to enter Norway or is already located in Norway.
Break in time series: HPR was partially restructured in 2012. This restructuring effected how medical doctors are registered in HPR. Medical doctors generally receive different limited licenses which allow the doctor to work prior to receiving their final authorization as a medical doctor. Based on the inclusion criteria some of these licenses should be used as annual inflow, however prior to 2013 these limited licenses were not recorded and stored permanently in a structured way. This means that prior to 2013 some medical doctors may have obtained their first limited license prior to what is recorded in HPR. The total numbers of inflow should not be off by much, but the year they were first registered might be. Even with these issues the numbers should be a very good estimate of annual inflow of medical doctors.

Poland

Stock of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **Polish Supreme Chamber of Physicians and Dentists**.

Full title of the database: Central Register of Physicians and Dentists of the Republic of Poland.
The data have been taken from the Central Register of Physicians and dentists of the Republic of Poland. This is a register maintained by the Supreme Chamber, based on regional registers kept by regional chambers of physicians and dentists (regional chambers award the right to practice the profession of a physician in Poland).
Reference period:
Coverage:
- Foreign-trained doctors holding the right to practice in Poland.
- Data regarding the countries of origin of the foreign diplomas not as detailed as requested, due to the fact that a large part of foreign medical diplomas comes from the former USSR (diplomas obtained until 1991), Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia. Some of these diplomas are still listed as USSR diplomas, some are listed as diplomas from the countries that emerged from the USSR (former USSR republics). The same regards Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia. Data in the category "Others (not elsewhere classified)" refer to not anymore existing countries, i.e. mainly the USSR.
Deviation from the definition: As an example, we can indicate that out of 2 203 foreign medical diplomas (2012), 547 diplomas come from Ukraine, 206 from Belorussia, 54 from Germany and 52 from Czech Republic. 170 diplomas were awarded in ex-USSR. The numbers for Ukraine and Belorussia include all diplomas awarded after dissolution of USSR as well as some of the diplomas awarded on the territory of Ukrainian or Belorussian Republics during the time of USSR.
- There are minor differences between the total number of foreign-trained doctors and the sum of foreign-trained doctors by country of first qualification, which cannot be corrected yet. The Polish Physicians and Dentists Chamber is currently working on developing a new system that should help to solve this issue in future.
In 2020 additional amendments to the law on the professions of a physician and a dentist were adopted regarding the possibility to exercise the medical profession in Poland by holders of non-EU medical diplomas without the need to have the diploma recognized by standard recognition procedures and without the need to pass the Polish language exam.
This procedure applies to all countries which are not applying the EU directive 2005/36/EC on recognition of professional qualifications – however in practical terms it mostly concerns doctors from Ukraine and Belarus.
To be granted authorization to work in Poland on basis of these regulations the doctor has to apply to the Minister of Health for a decision allowing the doctor to work in Poland. This decision will also specify the limited scope of medical activities that the given doctor will be entitled to carry out in Poland, period of validity (not longer than 5 years) and the indicate the concrete healthcare facility where the doctor can work.
Specific conditions that have to be met to be granted the decision of the Minister of Health are listed in art. 7 sections 2a – 2k. For detailed information regarding this procedure one should contact the Ministry of Health https://www.gov.pl/web/zdrowie/uproszczony-dostep-do-wykonywania-zawodu-lek-i-lek-dentysty
Having received the decision of the Minister of Health, the doctor should apply to the territorially competent regional chamber of physicians and dentists with an application for the award of the right to practice the profession in Poland.
The authorization to work in Poland on this basis is limited. The doctor will only be entitled to:
- carry out the medical activities that are specified in the decision of the Minister,
- be employed in the concrete healthcare facility indicated by the Minister.
-work in Poland for a limited period of time – maximum 5 years.
Professional qualifications of doctors with basic training obtained in other EU Member States are subject to automatic recognition in Poland based on the EU Directive 2005/36/EC on recognition of professional qualifications – some Polish nationals complete medical studies abroad (for example in Slovakia which is one of the countries where medical studies can be completed fully in English language) and right after graduation come back to Poland and apply for the authorization to practice the profession (usually they do not apply for the authorization to practice the profession in the country where the medical studies took place). Therefore, they are regarded as foreign-trained doctors (holders of foreign medical diplomas), even though they never actually practiced the profession in the country of their basic medical training.
The same situation is with foreign students who move to Poland to complete medical studies in English and then right after graduation go back to work in their countries of origin, never practicing the profession in Poland.

Annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **Polish Supreme Chamber of Physicians and Dentists**.
Full title of the database: Central Register of Physicians and Dentists of the Republic of Poland.
Note: The increase in the number of foreign-trained doctors in 2021 is due to a simplified access to medical profession for doctors with diplomas from outside the EU.

Portugal

Foreign-trained doctors: number (stock) and annual inflow
Source of data: **Statistics Portugal** and the **Portuguese Medical Association**. Series available at www.ine.pt [Médicos (N.º) por Local de residência; Anual].
Reference period: 31st December.
Coverage:
- Head count data.
- Includes all physicians registered in the Portuguese Medical Association at the time of data collection, practising or not practising medicine.
Deviation from the definition: The specialties Stomatology and Maxillo-facial surgery (696 in 2017) are included in the data.
Note: The total number of doctors reported in the "health workforce migration" module is slightly different from the number of physicians licensed to practice (reported in the "health employment" module) as the latter excludes the specialties Stomatology and Maxillo-facial surgery.

Slovak Republic

NOTE: Data cannot be provided because they are currently not available in sufficient quantity and quality. For part of the required data, the National Health Information Center (NHIC) will be able to provide after capacity increase of the National Register of Healthcare Professionals (NR ZPr), and part of the required data is not subject of collection of the National Register of Healthcare Professionals (NR ZPr) (i.e. country of obtaining first medical qualification of the doctor is not stated in the NR ZPr; there is stated only "abroad" in the National Register of Healthcare Professionals).
Activities of National Health Information Center (NHIC) move towards providing and fulfilling of this indicator.

Stock of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **National Health Information Center**. Full title of the database: National Register of Health Professionals.
Reference period:
Coverage:
- National Register of Health Professionals covers 60% of health professionals of the SR.
- At the present time, the National administrative register of the healthcare professionals (Register) is part of the Unified reference Data Base (URDB) of the Healthcare branch which is one of the key parts of the eHealth Implementation Programme in Slovakia. Full coverage of National administrative register of the healthcare professionals (Register) is expected to be in the future. Register will be updated in accordance with deliverables linked to schedule of the eHealth Implementation Programme in Slovakia. It is expected that in the future there will be available data from 2010 onwards.
- Data match the proposed definition. Data include practising doctors providing services directly to patients.
- Total number of doctors includes also number/group of foreign- and domestically-trained doctors which cannot be selected and separated into certain category of foreign- or domestically-trained doctors (i.e., there are 4350 doctors of total number of doctors who cannot be selected into certain category in 2010 and 4268 doctors of total number of doctors who cannot be selected into certain category of foreign- or domestically-trained doctors in 2011):
  - In 2010, the total number of doctors consists of number of domestically-trained doctors+foreign-trained doctors+number of doctors who cannot be separated into certain category, i.e. total number 16575=11789+436+4350.

- In 2011, the total number of doctors represents the same calculation: total number 16899=12125+506+4268.

Annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Data not available.

Slovenia

Stock of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data:
From 2016 onwards: **Medical Chamber of Slovenia**. Full title of the database: Register of physicians.
Until 2015: **National Institute of Public Health Slovenia**. Full title of the database: National Healthcare Providers Database.
http://www.ivz.si/Mp.aspx?ni=46&pi=5&_5_id=29&_5_PageIndex=0&_5_groupId=185&_5_newsCategory=&_5_action=ShowNewsFull&pl=46-5.0
Coverage:
Full coverage of practising physicians (medical specialists and interns/residents).
Deviation from the definition:
Until 2015:
- Data provided for physicians who graduated medicine in a foreign country. Data are reliable for those who graduated after 1990. Before 1990 there are many missing values in the database. These cases are added to Slovenia. Interpretation should therefore be very cautious.
- Slovenian citizens who studied abroad cannot be separated from foreigners who studied abroad.
- Data on country of medical specialty training not available.
Break in time series: 2016 – change in the data source.
Note: the difference between the total of practicing physicians reported in "Health Employment and Education" and the one reported in "Health Workforce Migration" is explained by the different sources of data. The source for "Health Employment and Education" data is the NIJZ database. The source for "Health Workforce Migration" is
the Medical Chamber of Slovenia that reports practising physicians with a membership in the Medical Chamber of Slovenia."

Annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data:
From 2016 onwards: Medical Chamber of Slovenia. Full title of the database: Register of physicians.
Until 2015: National Institute of Public Health Slovenia. Full title of the database: National Healthcare Provider.
Full title of the database: Register of physicians.
Coverage: Full coverage of practising physicians (medical specialists and interns/residents).
Break in time series: 2016 – change in the data source.

Spain

Annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **Ministerio de Ciencia, Innovación y Universidades,** Secretaría General de Universidades **y Ministerio de Sanidad**, Dirección General de Ordenación Profesional (**Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities,** General Secretariat of Universities and **Ministry of Health**, General Directorate for Professional Regulation).
Coverage: The coverage is the entire national territory.
- Data for foreign-trained doctors with recognized qualification.
- In 2023 there was a significant increase due to a regulatory change in the approval of qualifications that does not represent a break in the series (see Royal Decree 889/2022, of October 18, which establishes the conditions and procedures for homologation, declaration of equivalence and validation of university education from foreign educational systems and which regulates the procedure for establishing

correspondence at the level of the Spanish Qualifications Framework for Higher Education of official university degrees belonging to previous academic orders).
- Between 2023 and 2024, the total inflow of doctors decreased by 15%; inflow of doctors trained in certain countries increased by a relatively large amount (Argentina, Chile, Italy) while in other countries decreased by a relatively large amount (Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico). The apparent increase in migration in 2023, when the regulatory change occurred, corresponds to an increase in pending resolutions and not to the actual number of applications for that year. Similarly, the apparent decrease in applications in 2024 corresponds to data more in line with the actual number of applications from these professionals, given that the initial volume has now normalized. The fact that a person requests recognition of their degree does not mean that they will actually come to the country to practice their profession. It is also worth noting that the number of requests is related, among other factors, to the economic situation of the country from which the professional comes.

Stock of foreign-trained doctors is not available.

Sweden

Stock and inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **National Board of Health and Welfare**.
Full title of the database: LOVA-register.
Reference period:
Coverage:
The database only contains information on the largest specific migration countries. Doctors trained in countries outside the EU28 / ESS country are from 2015 reported in the category OTHERS (not elsewhere classified).
Doctors trained in Czechia and Slovakia are reported under Czechia.
- The time series has been revised in 2024, from the year 2015 and onwards.
Deviation from the definition:
Estimation method:
Break in time series:
Due to a changed method for collecting and processing data from 2015 onwards, data may differ more than from previous years in time series.

Stock of foreign-trained doctors:
Foreign-trained physicians without a Swedish license are not registered as physicians when undertaking clinical training as part of the licensing process and are therefore not included in employment data. The time series is revised from 2015 onwards. The data before 2015 do not sum up to the same total for practicing physicians as in the Excel file Health Employment where the time series is revised from 1995. Revising the entire time series backwards for stock of foreign-trained doctors would result in problems with quality for training country.

Switzerland

Stock of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **Swiss Medical Association (FMH)**. Special analysis.
Full title of the database: Medical Statistics of Physicians.
Reference period: Data as of December 31.
Coverage: Full coverage based on survey data. It is estimated that about 4000 physicians working in hospital as assistant are not counted in these statistics.
Deviation from the definition: Data refer to professionally active physicians (including those working in the health sector as managers, educators, researchers, etc. in addition to practising physicians).

Annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data: **State Secretariat for Migration (SEM)**, Bern; Système d'information central sur les migrations SYMIC, analysis by Obsan (Swiss Health Observatory).
Reference period: Annual census.

Coverage:
- Full coverage (full survey).
- Practising physicians, includes medical interns.
- Data by country are based on the place of training.
Deviation from the definition: Foreign-trained: Numbers of residence permits, settlement permits, and cross-border commuter permits delivered to physicians of foreign nationality. (Swiss citizens trained abroad are not included in the data.)

Türkiye

Data not available.

United Kingdom

Stock of foreign-trained doctors
Source of data:
- **NHS Education for Scotland**, **Welsh Government** and **NHS Digital source England's** data from the following:
  * Hospital and Community Health Services (HCHS) Doctors - 2000-2008: Medical & Dental Workforce Census; from 2009 onwards7: NHS Hospital & Community Health Service (HCHS) workforce statistics.
  * General Practitioners (GPs) - 2000-2015: General & Personal Medical Services Statistics; from 2015 onwards: Primary Care Workforce Tool / National Workforce Reporting Service.
- **Scotland**: Specialist medical practitioners data sourced from Scottish Workforce Information Standard System (SWISS). GP data sourced from 2000-2004 GMS Warehouse, 2005-2019 GPCD database. 2020 NPCCD database. ISD Scotland. From 2021, NHS Education for Scotland: SWISS. From November 2021, the SWISS data is reported from the NHSScotland data warehouse. https://turasdata.nes.nhs.scot/about-our-data-and-reports/methods/nhsscotland-workforce-data-warehouse/.
- **Wales**: NHS staff data is sourced from the Electronic Staff Record (ESR) Data Warehouse provided by Health Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW). GP data for 2020 onwards is sourced from the Wales National Workforce Reporting System (WNWRS) which replaces the GMS Census.
Coverage:
- Data are for England, Wales and Scotland only; Northern Ireland was not able to submit data. However, in 2018 supplied data were from England (NHS Digital) and Scotland (ISD Scotland) only; Wales and Northern Ireland were unable to provide data. 2022 - 2023 data submitted from England and Wales only.
- UK nationals are included in the country they were trained in, as data are based on the nation of training and not nationality. All UK nationals trained within the UK will appear in the 'Domestically-trained doctors' row.
- Due to the new GP workforce collection method, some individuals in the 2015 GP workforce data have conflicting country of qualifications attributed to them. It is for this reason that individual parts may not be the sum of the totals provided. Also a large number of GPs have an unknown country of qualification. This may slightly skew the '% of foreign-trained doctors' which is based on all doctors (not just those with a known country of qualification).
- Country of qualification Serbia and Montenegro cannot be split in the HCHS or GP workforce statistics. All relevant staff are recorded against Serbia.
- **Scotland** figures are in headcount - this will include a small element of double counting as medics can work across more than one specialty. Due to the different sources of data there will be double counting of HCHS physicians with a specialty of General Practice and General medical practitioners.
- Medics may be counted twice in the split of country of qualification but will only be counted once in the total figure (i.e. they may have unspecified country of qualification recorded for one of their posts).
- Other West Indies has had to be added: it includes Jamaica, Barbados and Trinidad & Tobago which cannot be separated in the NHS workforce census data.
- **England**: Revisions made in 2018: Hospital and Community Health Services (HCHS) Doctors: 2009-2014 data were previously rolecount - they are now headcount so 2009-2017 data are consistent, General Practitioners (GPs): Data have been revised for all years, GP Retainers are now included for all years having previously being excluded. All Doctors (HCHS and GP) in 2000-2016: In previous submissions

doctors with an unknown country of qualification were included in 'OTHERS (not elsewhere classified)'. However, these data have been removed from 'OTHERS (not elsewhere classified)' and now only appear in 'Unknown place of training'.
- **England**: From 2009 onwards: Some HCHS Doctor data (from 2009) and GP data (from 2015) have conflicting country of qualifications attributed to them. It is for this reason that the sum of individual parts may not equal the totals provided. From 2015 onwards: A large number of GPs have an unknown country of qualification. All years HCHS & GP: Country of qualification Serbia and Montenegro cannot be split. All relevant staff are recorded against Serbia.
- **England**: Ophthalmic Medical Practitioners (OMPs) are not included in the stock data.
- **Scotland**: Dentists and oral maxillofacial surgeons have been excluded, GP Performer retainers have been excluded. All grades of medics have been included (including directors).
- **Wales**: 2008-2012: Data include the number of GPs in both hospitals and practices. However, there is a small risk of some double counting in this table (GPs who work in both a GP practice and in a hospital). 2013 onwards: Data include GPs in hospitals and practices; additionally, they now include hospital and community doctors. 2021 onwards: dental doctors have been excluded. GPs include partners, salaried GPs, locums, retainers and registrars.

All countries:
- The data exclude the private sector.
- It is possible that some numbers from the 'Other' section may contain 'European - Unspecified' and by default may contain some UK numbers.

Deviation from the definition: Figures are only available as at 30th September for each year.
2022 - 2023 data submitted from England and Wales only.
Break in time series: 2009, 2015, 2022
There are breaks in the time series in 2009 and 2015 which relate to changes in the collection methodology:
- 2009: HCHS data changed from an annual census collection to monthly workforce statistics from the Electronic Staff Record (ESR).
- 2015: GP data changed from an annual census collection to a quarterly collection from the Primary Care Workforce Tool (PCWT) / National Workforce Reporting Service (NWRS).

2022 - 2023 data submitted from England and Wales only. Share of foreign-trained doctors calculated using the data reported for Workforce Migration, where the total differs from the number reported in Health Workforce.

Foreign-trained doctors: annual inflow

Source of data: **The General Medical Council (GMC)**: List of Registered Medical Practitioners. All doctors with a primary medical qualification from outside the UK who were granted their first registration to practice in the UK in each year. http://www.gmc-uk.org/doctors/register/LRMP.asp.
Coverage: The data cover all doctors with a primary medical qualification from outside the UK who were granted their first registration to practice in the UK in each year. Registrations are granted throughout the year, and these are the annual totals.
- Doctors listed on the "Annual Inflow Of Doctors" tab are all doctors with a primary medical qualification from outside the UK who were granted their first registration to practice in the UK each year. It is not guaranteed that a doctor necessarily lived or worked in the UK in the year that they gained registration, and it is possible for a doctor to have been erased from the register at any point since this registration.
- We list foreign-trained doctors by country of the first qualification that meets the requirements to register as a doctor in the UK. If the doctor also holds an earlier medical qualification that did not meet the requirements to register as a doctor in the UK, this would not be recorded in the table. The figures may include UK nationals who studied a primary medical qualification abroad.
- The following have been rolled under 'OTHERS (not elsewhere classified)': Aruba, Cayman Islands, Curacao, Palestinian Territories, Saba, Sint Maarten and Taiwan.

Further Information: http://www.gmc-uk.org/publications/10586.asp.

United States

Foreign-trained doctors: number (stock)

Source of data: **National Center for Health Workforce Analysis**. AMA physician Masterfile (2015). https://bhw.hrsa.gov/national-center-health-workforce-analysis.
Full title of the database: AMA physician Masterfile (2015).
Coverage:
- Nationwide- continental US.
- Data cover physicians in the public and private sectors.
Deviation from the definition: None.
Estimation method: Consistent with OECD requirements.
Break in time series: No breaks in time series.
Further information: Visit the National Center for Health Workforce Analysis.

Foreign-trained doctors: annual inflow
Source of data: **Association of American Medical Colleges** (AAMC). Unpublished data. Reprinted with permission. https://www.aamc.org/.
Full title of the database: GME Track.
Coverage:
- The data are limited to first-year residents who have graduated from foreign medical schools and had no prior GME training reported in the GME Track Resident Survey.
- Data include all foreign graduates entering residency training programs accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME); they do not include residents entering osteopathic residency training in programs solely accredited by the American Osteopathic Association (AOA). Approximately 94 percent of all ACGME-accredited residency programs participate in the GME Track Resident Survey.
Deviation from the definition: These data reflect first-year residents entering ACGME-accredited residency programs, which is required to be licensed to practice medicine in the U.S.
Estimation method: Data are collected in the GME Track Resident Survey portion of the National GME Census. The National GME Census is completed by residency program directors and institutional officials. The National GME Census is comprised of two components: the Resident Survey and the Program Survey.
Break in time series: No breaks in time series.
Further information: https://www.aamc.org/services/gmetrack/.
In the event a publication results from use of this Data, AAMC requests that a copy of the published work be emailed to datarequest@aamc.org for our records.
In the event the National Center for Health Statistics - Center for Disease Control and Prevention breaches any one of these conditions this grant will be deemed to be immediately revoked by the AAMC and National Center for Health Statistics - Center for Disease Control and Prevention may no longer include the Data in their report.
AAMC provides these data "as is" without warranty of any kind as to completeness or accuracy, and National Center for Health Statistics - Center for Disease Control and Prevention releases aamc from any and all liability for inaccurate or incomplete information.

NON-OECD ECONOMIES

Bulgaria

Source of data: Ministry of Health.
Reference period:
Coverage: Only annual inflow data are available.
According to the national legislation, the Ministry of Health is responsible institution for the recognition of medical training obtained in another country. All granted recognitions and issued certificates during the respective year are covered.

Croatia

Stock of foreign-trained doctors

Source of data: Croatian Medical Chamber.
Reference period: Status on December 31st.
Coverage: complete; public and private health sectors included; data refer to practising physicians.

Annual inflow of foreign-trained doctors
Data not available.

Cyprus

Foreign-trained doctors: number (stock)
Source of data: Cyprus Medical Association (CYMA) and Cyprus Medical Council (Ministry of Health). In order for a physician to be authorised to practice in Cyprus year he/she has to renew his/her registration with CYMA on an annual basis. In order for CYMA to issue the license to practise, the physician's qualifications (degree) have to be validated from the Cyprus Medical Council. Hence, the combination of data from these two registers provides complete coverage.
Reference period: End of the reference year
Coverage: Complete coverage. The figures refer to practising physicians.
Deviation from the definition: No deviation.
Estimation method: It should be mentioned that up to 2018, all the physicians practising in Cyprus have been trained abroad, since no medical faculties existed in Cyprus Universities. The first physicians graduated from universities in Cyprus in 2019.
Break in time series: Data by country of first qualification has been provided for the first time for reference year 2019.

Foreign-trained doctors: annual inflow
Source of data: Cyprus Medical Association (CYMA) and Cyprus Medical Council (Ministry of Health). In order for a physician to be authorised to practice in Cyprus year he/she has to renew his/her registration with CYMA on an annual basis. In order for CYMA to issue the license to practice, the physician's qualifications (degree) have to be validated from the Cyprus Medical Council. Hence, the combination of data from these two registers provides complete coverage.
Reference period: End of the reference year
Coverage: Complete coverage. The figures refer to practising physicians, registering in CYMA in the reference year.
Deviation from the definition: No deviation.
Estimation method: It should be mentioned that up to 2018, all the physicians practising in Cyprus have been trained abroad, since no medical faculties existed in Cyprus Universities. The first physicians graduated from universities in Cyprus in 2019.
Break in time series: Data by country of first qualification has been provided for the first time for reference year 2019.

Romania

Source of data: Romanian College of Physicians.
Reference period: Data as of December 31st.
Coverage: data refer to foreign-trained physicians who obtained full right to practice in Romania; physicians are classified based on their citizenship; included: foreign-trained doctors with temporary or occasionally practice licence; the licence is valid, according with the national legislation, for a maximum of one year. In 2024 data were revised for the period 2018-2021 as, by error, foreign-trained doctors with temporary or occasionally practice licence were not included in the total number of doctors. Subsequently, the number of domestically trained doctors was also revised.
Deviation from the definition: data refer to physicians licensed to practice.
Break in time series:
Note: In 2017, the Romanian College of Physicians provided data by country of first qualification for both 2016 and 2015.

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https://www.oecd.org/en/data/datasets/oecd-health-statistics.html