



Industry

Main article: [Health care industry](#)



The health care industry is one of the world's largest and fastest-growing industries.[6] Consuming over 10 [redacted] of gross domestic product of most [redacted] [redacted] health care can form an enormous part of a country's [economy](#). In 2003, health care costs paid to [hospitals](#), [physicians](#), [nursing homes](#), [diagnostic](#) laboratories, [pharmacies](#), [medical device](#) manufacturers and other components of the health care system, consumed 15.3 percent[7] of the [GDP](#) of the [United States](#), the largest of any country in the world. For the United States, the health share of gross domestic product (GDP) is [redacted] to hold steady in 2006 before resuming its historical upward trend, reaching 19.6 percent of GDP by 2016. [8] In 2001, for the [OECD](#) countries the average was 8.4 percent [9] with the [United States](#) (13.9%), [Switzerland](#) (10.9%), and [Germany](#) (10.7%) being the top three.

