In 2016 public and private revenue spending on health and social care totalled nearly £203bn. This was more than one pound in 10 of the UK’s GDP and equivalent to nearly £3100 per person. As a sector of the economy, health and social care rank second highest after the value of real estate activities.

Inpatient spending is accounted for separately by the OECD. For the UK, capital spending in 2016 amounted to £5.3bn.

The 78:22 split between public and private spending is similar to that in the Netherlands and France, somewhat greater than in Germany, Denmark, and Sweden (at about 15% private), and a bit below the OECD average of about 27% private spending.