



Slovakia

GENERAL INFORMATION

Slovakia is a country with an approximate area of 49 thousand square kilometers (UNO, 2008). The population is 5,411,640 and the sex ratio (men per hundred women) is 95 (UNO, 2009). The proportion of the population under the age of 18 years is 19% and the proportion above age 60 is 12% (UNO, 2009). The life expectancy at birth is 71 years for males and 79 years for females (UNO, 2005-2010). The healthy life expectancy at birth is 64 years for males and 79 years for females (UNPD, 2010). The country is in the high income group (based on 2010 World Bank criteria). The total expenditure on health as a percentage of gross domestic product is 8.5% and the per capita government expenditure on health (PPP int. \$) is \$903.0 (WHO, 2006). The suicide rate for males is 22.3 per 100,000 population and for females is 3.4 per 100,000 population. In Slovakia, neuropsychiatric disorders are estimated to contribute to 26.% of the global burden of disease (WHO, 2008).

GOVERNANCE

An officially approved mental health policy exists and was approved or most recently revised in 2006. Mental health is also specifically mentioned in the general health policy.

A mental health plan exists and was approved or most recently revised in 2008. The mental health plan components include:

- Timelines for the implementation of the mental health plan.
- Integration of mental health services into primary care.

Dedicated mental health legislation exists and was initiated or most recently revised in 2009. Legal provisions concerning mental health are also covered in other laws (e.g., welfare, disability, general health legislation etc.).

Note: The laws that concern mental health include the Criminal law (2005), Health Care law (2004), Social welfare law (2008) and the Employment Services Act 5 (2004).

FINANCING

Mental health expenditures by the government health department/ministry are not available. Mental hospital expenditures are 27.56% of the total mental health budget.

Note: Mental health expenditures by the Slovakian government were approximately 99 million Euros in the year 2008.

MENTAL HEALTH CARE DELIVERY

Primary Care

Prescription regulations authorize primary health care doctors to prescribe and/or to continue prescription of psychotherapeutic medicines but with restrictions. In contrast, the department of health does not authorize primary health care nurses to prescribe and/or to continue prescription of psychotherapeutic medicines. Similarly, official policy does not permit primary health care nurses to independently diagnose and treat mental disorders within the primary care system.

Data collected in 2011

UN = information unavailable, NA = item not applicable

The majority of primary health care doctors and nurses have received official in-service training on mental health within the last five years. Officially approved manuals on the management and treatment of mental disorders are available in the majority of primary health care clinics. Official referral procedures for referring persons from primary care to secondary/tertiary care exist. However, referral procedures from tertiary/secondary care to primary care do not exist.

Mental Health Services

Availability of mental health facilities

	Total number of facilities/beds	Rate per 100,000 population	Number of facilities/beds reserved for children and adolescents only	Rate per 100,000 population
Mental health outpatient facilities	346	6.39	40	0.74
Day treatment facilities	18	0.33	1	0.02
Psychiatric beds in general hospitals	2,062	38.10	65	1.20
Community residential facilities	267	4.93	51	0.94
Beds/places in community residential facilities	13,469	248.89	1,296	23.95
Mental hospitals	9	0.17	1	0.02
Beds in mental hospitals	1,674	30.93	150	2.77

Access to care

	Rates per 100,000 population)	Females (%)	Under age 18 (%)
Persons treated in mental health outpatient facilities	UN	UN	UN
Persons treated in mental health day treatment facilities	UN	UN	UN
Admissions to psychiatric beds in general hospitals	449.27	UN	UN
Persons staying in community residential facilities at the end of the year	UN	UN	UN
Admissions to mental hospitals	167.27	UN	UN

Data collected in 2011

UN = information unavailable, NA = item not applicable

Long term care in mental hospitals (% of persons staying):

Less than 1 year	UN
More than 1 and less than 5 years	UN
More than 5 years	UN

Note: Data presented above are collected from the following sources:

- 1.) "Annual report of the activity of psychiatric ambulatories, 2009"
- 2.) "The overview of hospital beds fund and its use in Slovakia, 2008"
- 3.) "Psychiatric care in Slovakia, 2008"
- 4.) The Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic.

Data regarding children and adolescents are from social service homes for children with behavioral disorders and both mental and physical disabilities.

Much of the above information is unknown as the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic reports data from health services that provide care for a combination of disabilities (physical, mental, sensory). As such, it is difficult to report data exclusively about facilities for mental health patients.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Workforce and training

	Health professionals working in the mental health sector Rate per 100,000	Training of health professions in educational institutions Rate per 100,000
Psychiatrists	11.48	0.48
Medical doctors, not specialized in psychiatry	UN	8.5
Nurses	19.27	8.57
Psychologists	UN	UN
Social workers	UN	UN
Occupational therapists	UN	UN
Other health workers	UN	NA

Informal human resources (Family and User Associations)

	User	Family
Present in the country?	Yes	Yes
Number of members	15	14
Participation in the formulation/implementation of policy/plan/legislation?	not routinely	not routinely

Data collected in 2011

UN = information unavailable, NA = item not applicable

MEDICINES

Expenditures for medicines for mental and behavioral disorders at country level

Type of Medicines	Expenditures at country level per year and per 100,000 population (in USD)
All the psychotherapeutic medicines ¹	1,470,908
Medicines used for bipolar disorders ²	6,906
Medicines for psychotic disorders ³	1,034,327
Medicines used for general anxiety ⁴	108,130
Medicines used for mood disorders ⁵	325,094

INFORMATION SYSTEMS

	Data on number of people/ activities are collected and reported	Data on age and gender are collected and reported	Data on patient's diagnosis are collected and reported
Persons with mental disorders treated in primary health care	Yes	Yes	Yes
Interventions (psychopharmacological and psychosocial) delivered in primary health care for people with mental disorders	Yes	Yes	Yes
Persons treated in mental health outpatient facilities	Yes	Yes	Yes
Contacts in mental health outpatient facilities	No	No	No
Persons treated in mental health day treatment facilities	Yes	Yes	No
Admissions in general hospitals with psychiatric beds	Yes	Yes	Yes
Admissions in mental hospitals	Yes	Yes	Yes
Days spent in mental hospitals	Yes	Yes	Yes
Admissions in community residential facilities	No	No	No

Note: Mental health data (either on the public system, private system or both) have been compiled for general health statistics in the last three years, but not in a specific mental health report.

¹ N03AG01, N05A, N05B, N05C, N06A

² N03AG01, N05A, N05B, N05C, N06A

³ N05A (excluding N05AN)

⁴ N05B & N05C

⁵ N06A

Data collected in 2011

UN = information unavailable, NA = item not applicable