

IN-PATIENT, OUT-PATIENT AND OTHER HEALTH CARE ESTABLISHMENTS AS OF 31.12.2019

1. Health establishments and beds in health establishments

The number of health establishments for hospital aid as of 31.12.2019 was 341 with 53 997 beds. 319 of them were hospitals with 51 776 beds (Table 1).

The number of out-patient health establishments was 2 079 with 1 223 beds and other health establishments were 144 with 1 914 beds in them.

1. Health establishments as of 31.12.2019

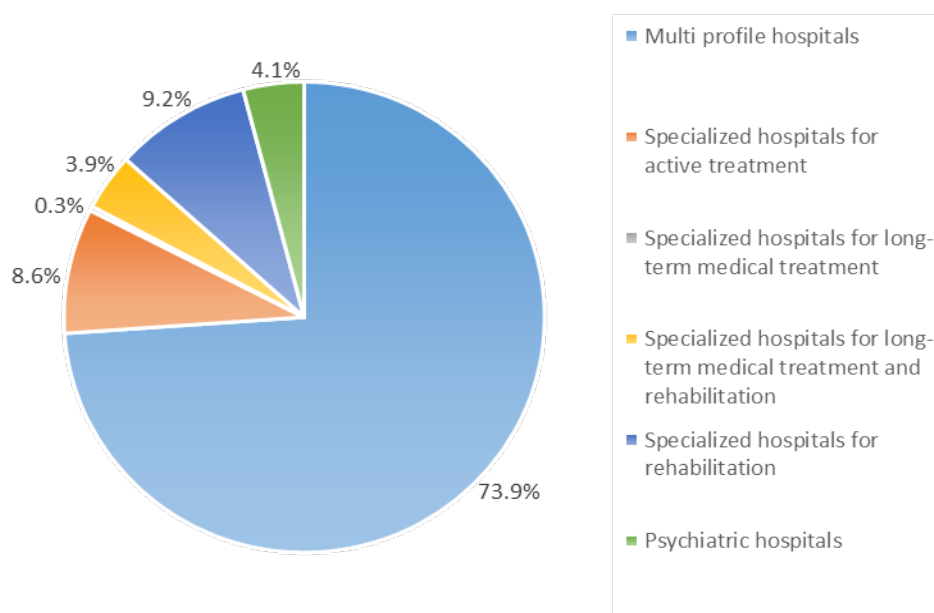
	(Number)	
	Establishments	Beds
Health establishments for hospital aid	341	53997
Hospitals	319	51776
Multi profile hospitals	184	38249
Specialized hospitals	135	13527
Dermato-venereological centres	3	30
Complex oncological centres	7	1169
Mental health centres	12	1022
Out-patient health establishments	2079	1223
Diagnostic and consulting centres	111	299
Medical centres	738	844
Dental centres	55	9
Medical-dental centres	47	71
Independent medical-diagnostical laboratories and medical-technical laboratories	1128	-
Other health establishments	144	1914
of which: Hospices	44	1103

Health establishments for hospital aid include hospitals, dermato-venereological centres, mental health centres and complex oncological centres. According to the Law on Health establishments, hospitals are multi-profile and specialized. The number of **multi-profile hospitals** as of 31.12.2019 was 184 with 38 249 beds. These establishments represented 57.7% of all hospitals and in them are concentrated 73.9% of the total hospital beds in the country. The number of beds in these establishments varied in large scale - from 16 to 1 489. The largest is the share of multi-profile hospitals that at the end of the year has from 100 to 299 beds - 44.0%. Up to 99 beds there were in 35.3% from multi-profile hospitals. With 500 and over beds there were in 8.2% of this type of hospitals.

The number of **specialized hospitals** as of 31.12.2019 was 135 with 13 527 beds in them. Their distribution by types was as follows:

- For active treatment - 74 with 4 482 beds;
- For long-term medical treatment - one with 145 beds;
- For long-term medical treatment and rehabilitation - 16 with 2 006 beds;
- For rehabilitation - 32 with 4 777 beds;
- Psychiatric hospitals - 12 with 2 117 beds.

Figure 1. Beds in hospitals as of 31.12.2019 by type of hospital



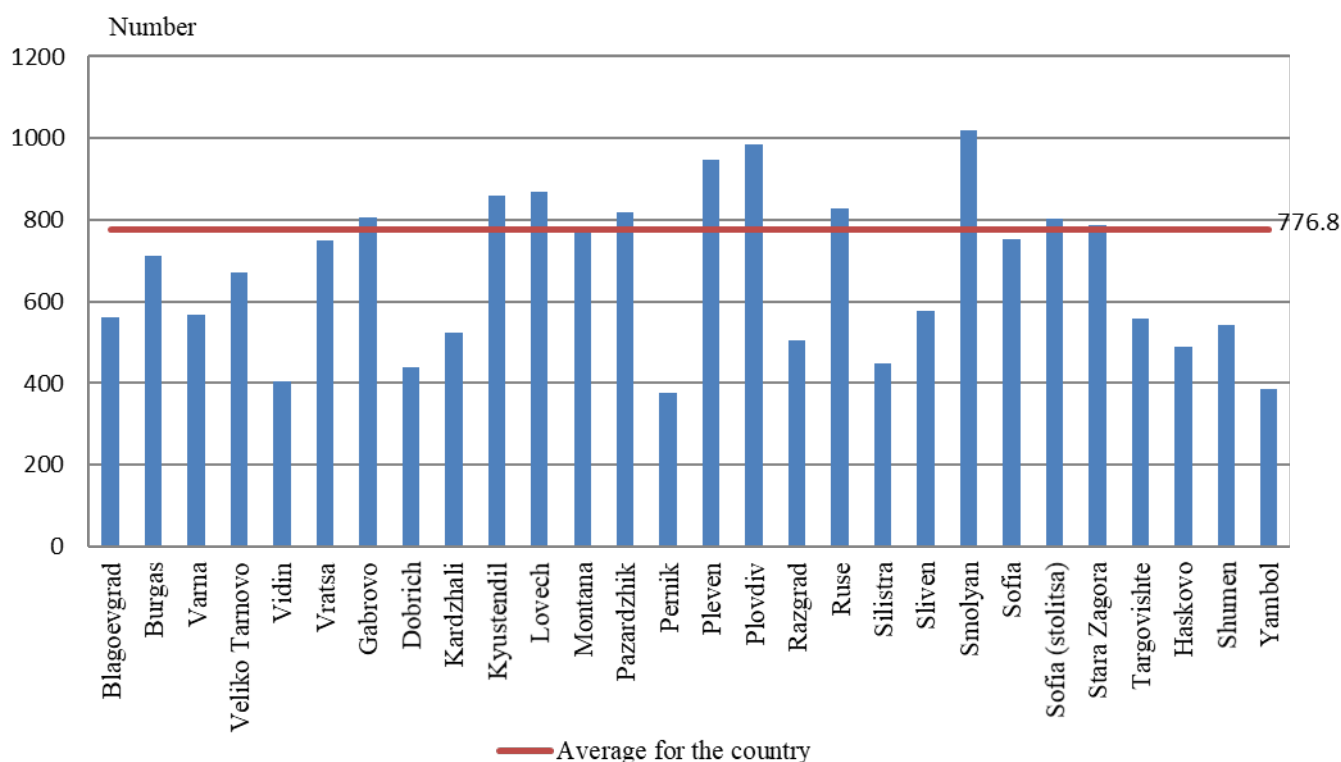
According to the methodological requirements and the applied harmonized definitions, the centers with stationaries are also referred to the health establishments for hospital aid. At the end of 2019, they were as follow:

- Dermato-venereological centres - 3 establishments with 30 beds;
- Complex oncological centres - 7 establishments with 1 169 beds;
- Mental health centres - 12 establishments with 1 022 beds.

The number of hospital beds at the end of 2019 was 776.8 per 100 000 persons of the total population and an increase by 17.2 points (759.6) compared to the end of 2018 was observed.

The highest values of that indicator were registered in districts Smolyan (1 018.0 per 100 000 persons of the population), Plovdiv (985.3) and Pleven (946.2), and the lowest - in Pernik (375.0), Yambol (385.2) and Vidin (404.4) (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Hospital beds per 100 000 persons of the total population as of 31.12.2019 by district



As of 31.12.2019, the number of **out-patient health establishments** was 2 079 with 1 223 beds for short term treatment. In comparison with 2018 the number of these establishments has increased with 0.6%, and the number of beds has decreased with 2.4%.

The group of **other health establishments** covers Centres for emergency aid, Regional health inspections, Homes for medical and social care for children, Hospices, National centres without beds, Dialysis as well as Haematological transfusion centres. At the end of 2019 the number of these establishments was 144 with 1 914 beds in them, as the largest was the number of Hospices - 44 establishments with 1 103 beds. Total number of beds in other health establishments has decreased with 8.2% in comparison with 2018, mainly due to the decreased number of beds in Homes for medical and social care for children.

2. Medical personnel

At the end of 2019 29 612 physicians were in practice under the basic labour contracts in health establishments (Tabl. 2). Dentists were 7 376, as 6 493 of them worked in practices that had signed contract with National Health Insurance Fund. Medical specialists on 'Health cares' who worked on a basic labour contract in health establishments were 46 491. 30 546 of them were nurses and 3 269 - midwives.

- In in-patient health establishments (hospitals and centres with stationaries) practiced 16 999 physicians and 29 dentists. Medical specialists on 'Health care' were 27 386, 19 412 of which were nurses.
- In out-patient health establishments physicians practiced under a basic labour contract were 10 455 and 6 967 dentists. This group covers all physicians (6 911) and dentists (6 493), which were working in individual or group practices under agreement with the National Health Insurance Fund. From other out-patient health establishments, the highest share was of physicians, working under a basic labour contracts in medical centres (1 761) and Diagnostic and consulting centres (1 388).
- 2 158 physicians and 380 dentists were working in other health care establishments (incl. crèches and medical consulting rooms in the schools) under basic labour contract as of 31.12.2019.

2. Medical personnel

	2018	2019	2018	2019
	In numbers		Per 10 000 persons of the population	
Physicians	29667	29612	42.4	42.6
Dentists	7240	7376	10.3	10.6
Medical specialists on 'Health cares'	46332	46491	66.2	66.9
Doctors' assistants	2145	2011	3.1	2.9
Midwives	3155	3269	4.5	4.7
Nurses	30589	30546	43.7	43.9
Laboratory assistants (medical and X-ray)	5978	6009	8.5	8.6
Dental mechanics	1624	1702	2.3	2.4
Other medical specialists	2841	2954	4.1	4.2
Population per one				
Physicians	236	235	x	x
Dentists	967	942	x	x

Practicing physicians by sex and age

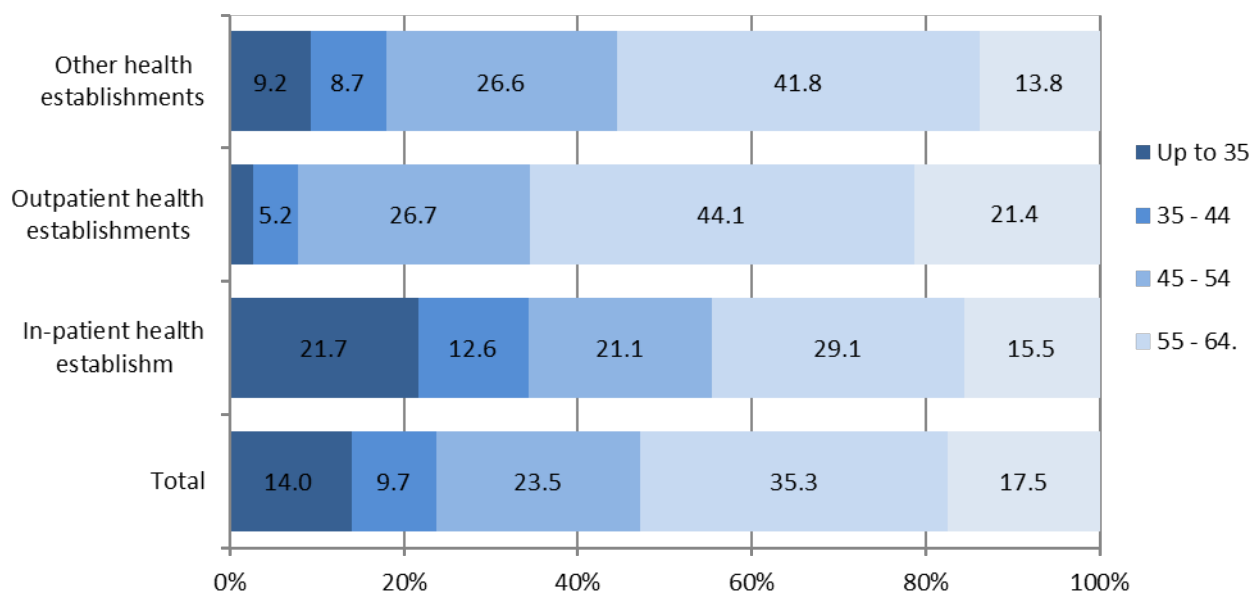
The distribution of practicing physicians by sex and age as of 31.12.2019 is as follow:

- 13 060 (44.1%) were males and 16 552 (55.9%) - females.
- The largest was the share of physicians in the age group 55 - 64 years - 10 465 persons or 35.3%.
- The young practicing physicians aged up to 35 years were 4 157 persons or 14.0%, while the elderly (aged 65 and over) - 5 169 or 17.5%.

3. Practicing physicians by sex and age as of 31.12.2019

Age (in complete years)	Total		Male		Female	
	In numbers	Structure - %	In numbers	Structure - %	In numbers	Structure - %
Total	29612	100	13060	100	16552	100
up to 35	4157	14	1840	14.1	2317	14
35 - 44	2875	9.7	1235	9.5	1640	9.9
45 - 54	6946	23.5	3290	25.2	3656	22.1
55 - 64	10465	35.3	4535	34.7	5930	35.8
65 and over	5169	17.5	2160	16.5	3009	18.2

Figure 3. Physicians practicing under a basic labour contract in health establishments by type of establishments and age as of 31.12.2019



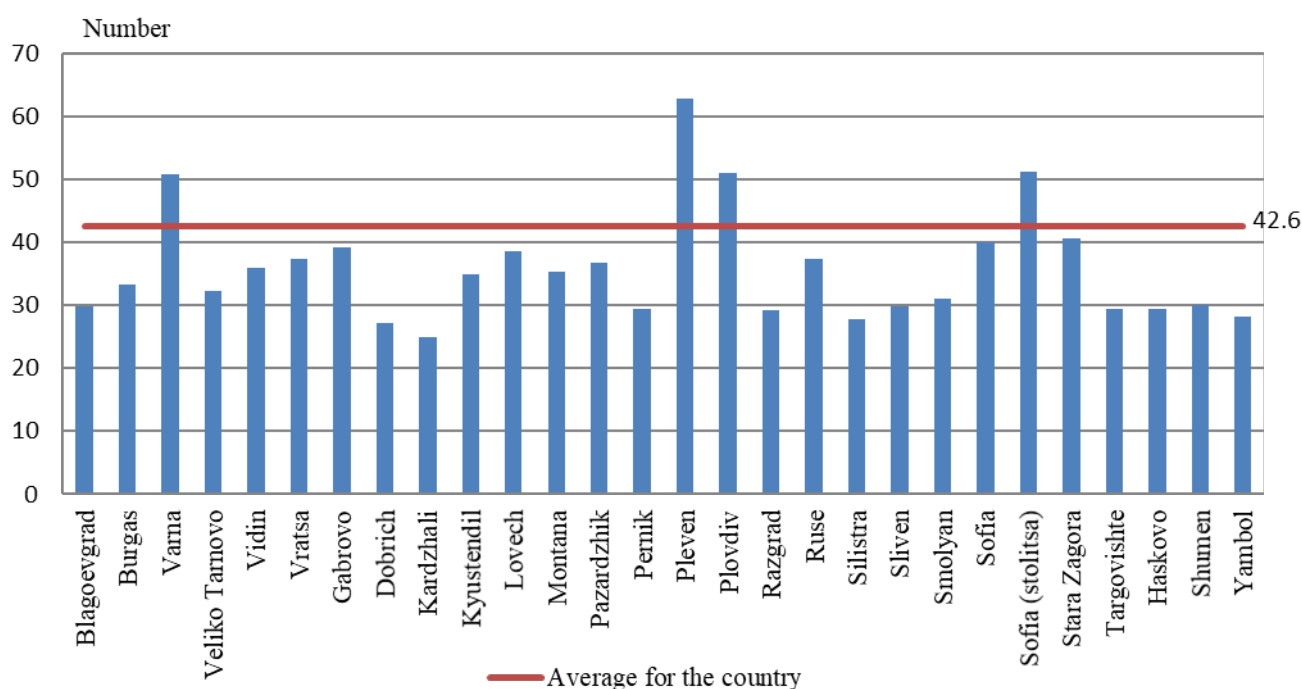
Practicing physicians by specialties

In the structure of physicians by specialties¹, the highest was the share of ‘General practitioners’ - 4 119 persons or 13.9% of all physicians practicing in the country, followed by specialists, practicing: ‘Cardiology’ – 6.1% ‘Obstetrics and gynecology’ - 5.9%, ‘Anaesthesiology’ - 5.5%, ‘Surgery’ - 5.2%, and ‘Neurology’ – 5.0%.

Physicians and dentists per 10 000 persons of the population

The number of physicians per 10 000 persons of the total population at the end of 2019 was 42.6 and the number of dentists per 10 000 persons of the total population was 10.6. Compared to 2018, both indicators increased slightly, which is due to the decreased of the population as of 31.12.2019 (42.4 and 10.3 per 10 000 population, respectively).

Figure 4. Physicians per 10 000 persons of the total population as of 31.12.2019 by districts



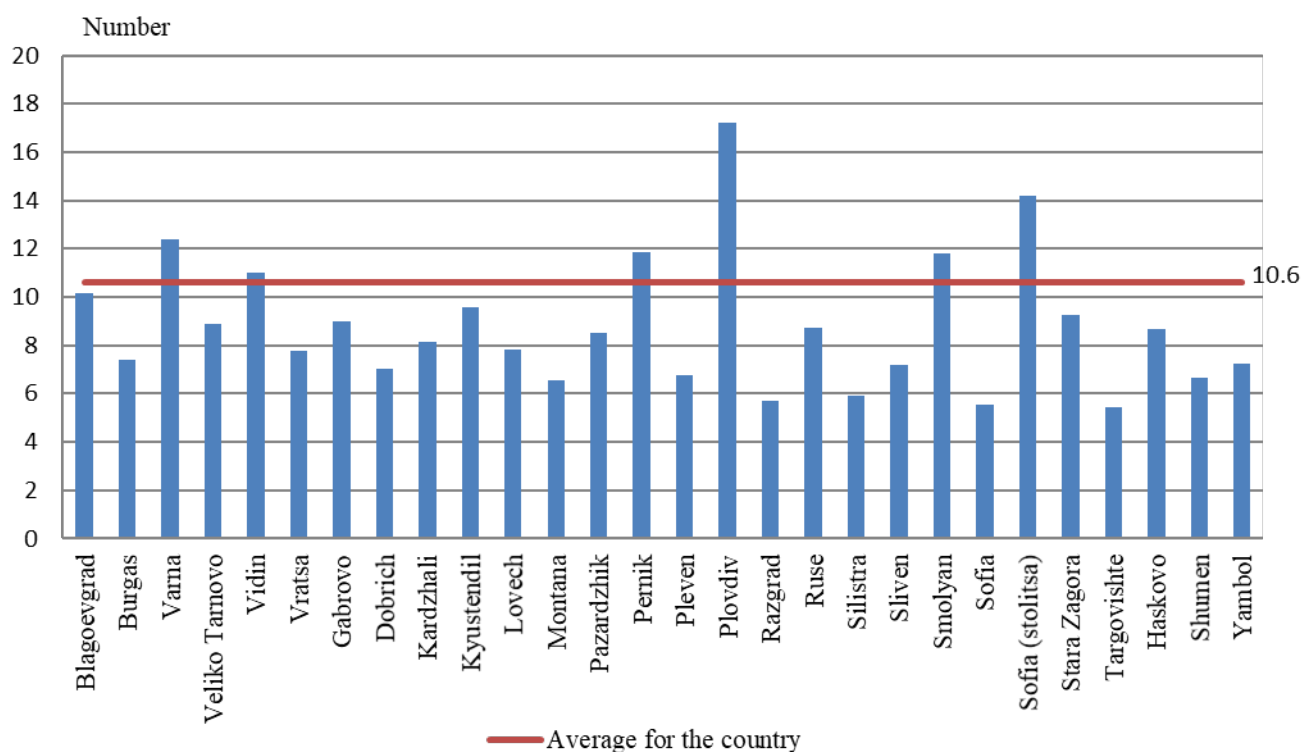
¹ Distribution of physicians by specialties is in accordance with their practicing specialty. The physicians in practices for specialized medical care are also included. The physicians practicing more than one specialty has been included in the total number but has been not distributed by specialties.

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The number of physicians per 10 000 persons of the population¹ by districts varied from 24.8 to 62.8 per 10 000 as the highest values of that indicator were registered in districts with Medical universities and Universities' hospitals (Figure 4) - Pleven (62.8 per 10 000 persons of the population), Sofia (stolitsa) (51.2), Plovdiv (51.0) and Varna (50.7). The lowest values were registered for the districts: Kardzhali (24.8 per 10 000 persons of the total population), Dobrich (27.2) and Silistra (27.7).

The number of general practitioners per 10 000 persons of the total population was 5.9. The highest values were registered in districts: Pleven (8.3 per 10 000 persons), Vidin and Kyustendil (7.0) and Montana (6.9). The lowest values of the number of general practitioners per 10 000 persons of the total population were registered in districts: Kardzhali (3.4 per 10 000 persons of the total population), Targovishte (4.3), Razgrad and Ruse (4.6).

Figure 5. Dentists per 10 000 persons of the total population as of 31.12.2019 by districts



¹ The indicator for the country are calculated by taking into account the total number of physicians practitioners working in individual or group practices under a contract with the National Health Insurance Fund in more than one district.

The number of dentists per 10 000 persons of the total population¹ was 10.6. The highest values were registered in districts: Plovdiv (17.2 per 10 000 persons), Sofia (stolitsa) (14.2), Varna (12.4), Pernik and Smolyan (11.8). The lowest values of the number of dentists per 10 000 persons of the total population were registered in districts: Targovishte (5.4), and Sofia (5.5), Razgrad (5.7) and Silistra (5.9 per 10 000 persons of the total population) (Figure 5).

¹ The indicator for the country are calculated by taking into account the total number of dentists practitioners working in individual or group practices under a contract with the National Health Insurance Fund in more than one district..

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Methodological notes

The statistical survey on in-patient, out-patient and other health establishments provides data on health network by type of health establishments, their regional distribution as well as on medical personnel by specialty and categories. The survey methodology is in accordance with the Eurostat methodological guidelines for the practicing medical specialists.

Data is presented according to the status at the 31.12 of the year. Data on hospital beds include all de facto operating hospital beds as well as hospital beds temporary out of use for a period less than six months. Hospital beds for temporary use are excluded.

When analyzing the health network data the following has to be taken into account: the number of health establishments and hospital beds has changed not only as a result of the opening or closure of establishments, but also because of the reorganization or merging of establishments.

When analyzing medical service by districts, some specific particularities on medical servicing have to be taken into consideration. The health establishments are not directly connected to the servicing of population of a given settlement or even of municipality. A great part of health establishments serve the population of a given region or a group of municipalities, and the specialized health care establishments service the population of 2 or 3 regions. The establishments under central administration, regardless of their location, serve the population from the whole country.

The number of medical personnel (individuals working under basic labour contract) includes persons, practicing at healthcare establishments regardless of their ownership and subordination. Data on medical specialists working outside of the country, as well as on medical specialists practicing outside of the health establishments (for example, doctors working for the pharmaceutical industry) are excluded.

Since 2018, there is a break in time series in respect to the territorial distribution of physicians and dentists as well as the distribution of physicians by specialties. Medical specialists working in practices under a contract with the NHIF, which served the population in more than one district, respectively municipality has been included in the total number for the country (district) but not distributed by districts (municipalities).

The distribution of the physicians by specialties is based on the national nomenclature in accordance with the Ordinance № 1 of 22 January 2015 of the Ministry of Health (amended and supplemented, State Gazette No. 58 of 23 July 2019) and it is according to their practicing specialty. Since 2018, physicians working in specialized practices under a contract with the NHIF are allocated to the specialty they are practice. Those who practice more than one specialty are included in the total number of physicians but not distributed by specialty.

The indicators per 10 000 of the population are calculated based on data on total population as of the end of the year.

Additional statistical information and data from the survey 'In-patient, out-patient and other health care establishments' are available in Information System Infostat (https://infostat.nsi.bg/infostat/pages/module.jsf?x_2=58) as well as on the NSI's website (www.nsi.bg), section 'Health'