

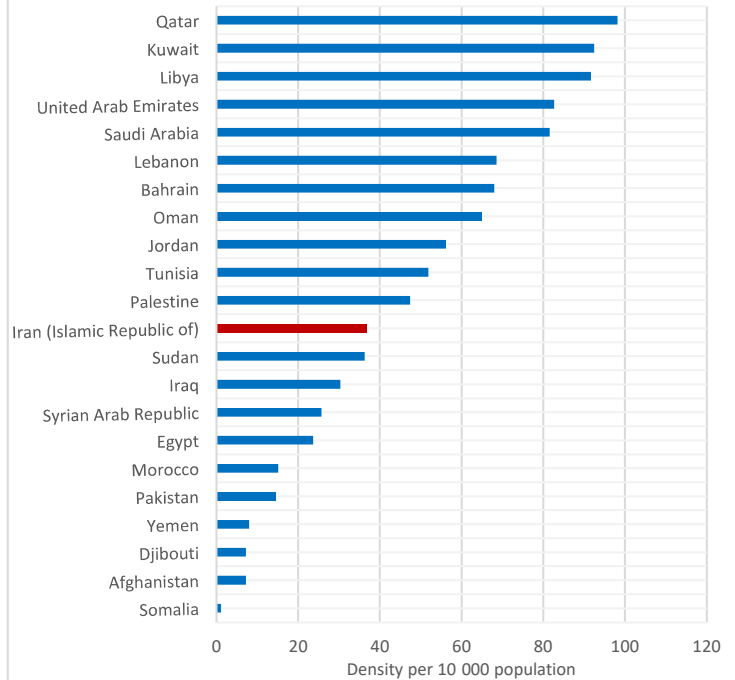


Health workforce snapshot **ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN**

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN AT A GLANCE¹

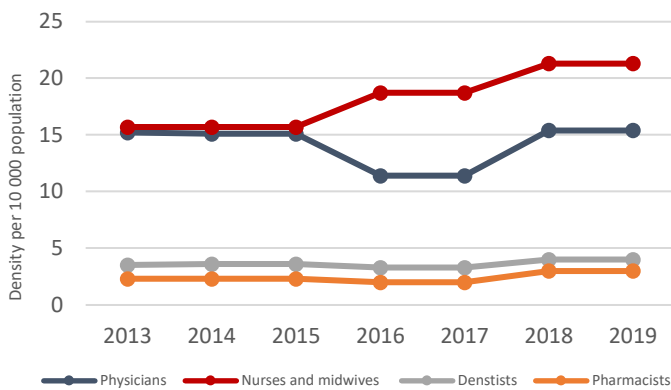
Total population (2017)	7 992 600
Gross national income per capita (Int'l \$, 2017) ²	21 050
Unemployment (% of total labor force) (2018) ²	11.9
Per capita current health expenditure (US\$, 2017) ³	475
Government health expenditure as % general government expenditure (2017) ³	23.00
Out-of-pocket expenditure as % of current health expenditure (2017) ⁴	32.4
Universal health coverage index (2017) ⁵	72
Number of refugees (2016)	979 435
Number of internally displaced persons (2016)	0
Maternal mortality per 100 000 live births (2018) ⁴	18
Under-5 mortality per 1000 live births (2018) ⁴	14
Births attended by skilled health personnel (%) (2018)	99
Raised blood glucose (% , 18+ years) (2018)	12.1
Raised blood pressure (% , 18+ years) (2017)	19.7
Hepatitis B incidence rate per 100 000 (2018)	20

Density of physicians, nurses and midwives in the countries of the Region (2018)



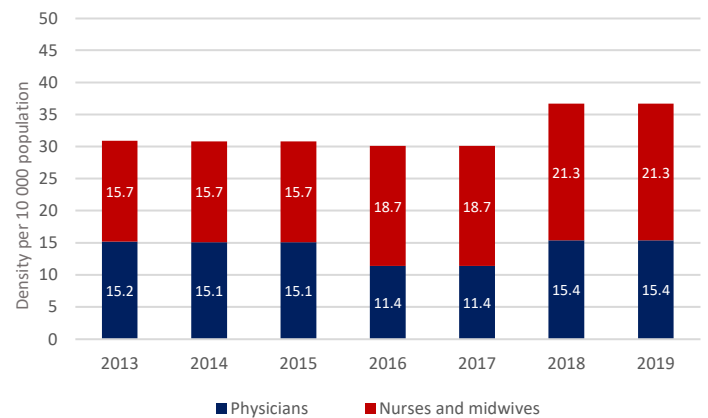
Source: Regional Health Observatory Data Repository.

Density of selected health professionals (2013–2019)



Source Eastern Mediterranean Health Observatory and Ministry of Health and Medical Education.

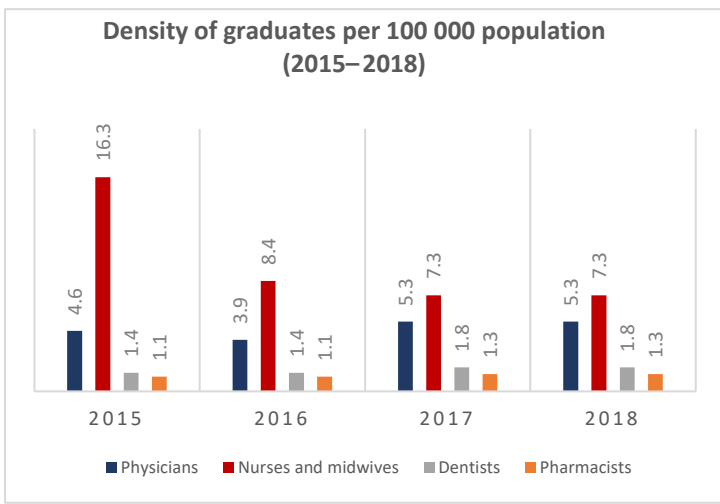
Density of physicians, nurses and midwives (2013–2019)



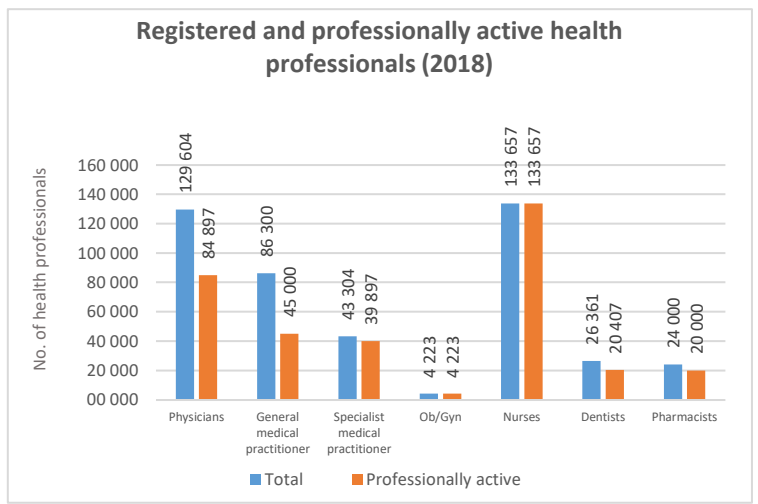
Source: Eastern Mediterranean Health Observatory and Ministry of Health and Medical Education.

KEY FACTS

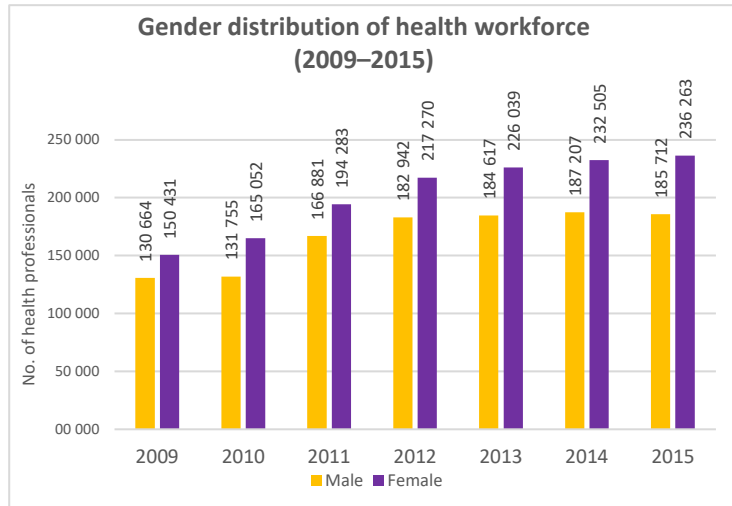
- Health service delivery and health professional education are integrated under the Ministry of Health and Medical Education. Over 60 affiliated universities of medical sciences provide health care and are responsible for the education and training of 77% of the health workforce.
- As a result of integration since the 1980s, the number of educational institutions for health professions has expanded and the annual number of undergraduates and postgraduates in medical and other health professional education has increased significantly.
- Dual practice by health care providers is allowed, with some restrictions for faculty members of universities of medical sciences.
- For almost 30 years, the country has hosted among the highest number of refugees regionally and globally, primarily from Afghanistan and Iraq. There are 1 million registered and almost 3 million non-registered refugees, presenting challenges for planning of the health workforce.
- While there is a ratio of just over 2 nurses to every doctor, challenges remain in the distribution of the health workforce. With its well established behvarz programme, there is an effective primary care workforce serving the rural population in the country.
- A comprehensive health workforce observatory is needed for better monitoring of the health workforce in the public and private sectors.



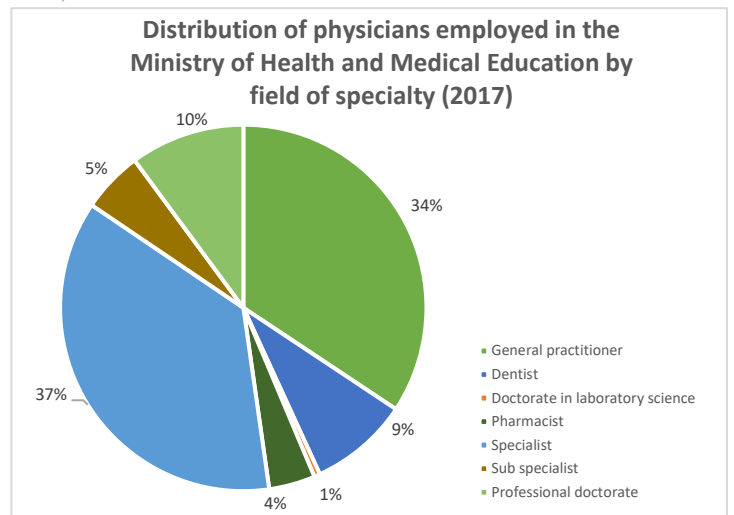
Source: Eastern Mediterranean Health Observatory.



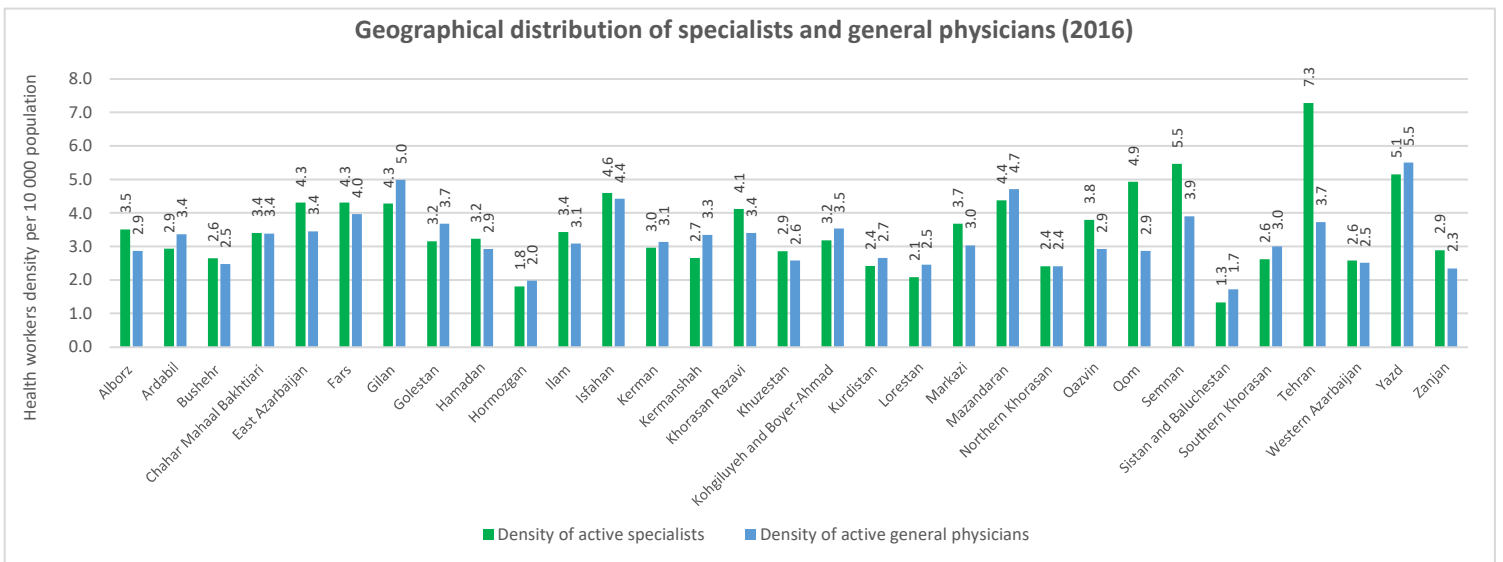
Source: National Health Workforce Accounts and Human Resources Study Center Database, Ministry of Health and Medical Education.



Source: Ehsani E, Ghadakchi A, Yazdi F, Sadrossadat S, Mahi A, Mehrolohasani M, et al. Investigating availability and distribution trend of human resources affiliated to the Ministry of Health and Medical Education in Iran from 2009 to 2015. *Iran J Epidemiol.* 2018;14:60-71.



Source: Iran Statistical Yearbook 2017–2018 (1396), Statistical Center of Iran.



Source of specialists and GP count: Bayat M, Shokri A, Mirbahaeddin E, Khalilnezhad R, Khatibi S, Fattahi H, et al. Geographic distribution of active medical specialists in Iran: A three-source capture-recapture analysis. *Arch Iran Med.* 2020;23(1):15–22; Shokri A, Akbari-Sari A, Bayat M, Khodadost M, Rahimi Foroushani A, Mirbahaeddin E, et al. Estimate general practitioners active supply in Iran: Capture-recapture method for three data sources. *Iran J Public Health.* 2019;48(12):2240–2248. Source of population data: National census 2016. Statistical Center of Iran.

- Eastern Mediterranean Health Observatory.
- Ministry of Health and Medical Education, 2020.
- Domestic general government health expenditure (GGHE-D) as percentage of general government expenditure (GGE) (%). The Global Health Observatory [website]. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2020 ([https://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/domestic-general-government-health-expenditure-\(gghe-d\)-as-percentage-of-general-government-expenditure-\(gge\)-\(-\)](https://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/domestic-general-government-health-expenditure-(gghe-d)-as-percentage-of-general-government-expenditure-(gge)-(-)))
- Monitoring health and health system performance in the Eastern Mediterranean Region: Core indicators and indicators on the health-related Sustainable Development Goals 2019. Cairo: WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean; 2020 (https://rho.emro.who.int/sites/default/files/booklets/EMR-HIS-and-core-indicators-2019-final_0.pdf#%20).
- UHC Index of Service Coverage (SCI). The Global Health Observatory [website]. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2020 (<https://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/uhc-index-of-service-coverage>).