

TACKLING CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)
CONTRIBUTING TO A GLOBAL EFFORT

INVESTING IN HEALTH TO PROTECT SOCIETY AND BOOST THE ECONOMY

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COVID-19 has shone a light on the need for adequate investment in health systems

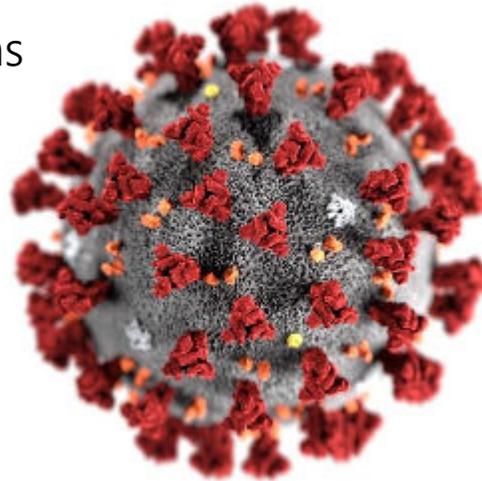
Health crisis

- Almost 4 million recorded Covid-19 deaths
- Many adverse indirect health effects

Economic and socioeconomic crisis

- Global GDP contraction of 3.5% in 2020
- Lost jobs and livelihoods

COVID-19



'Build back better'

- Commitments to increase public spending
- Spending on health & LTC creates new jobs

Substantial returns to health investments

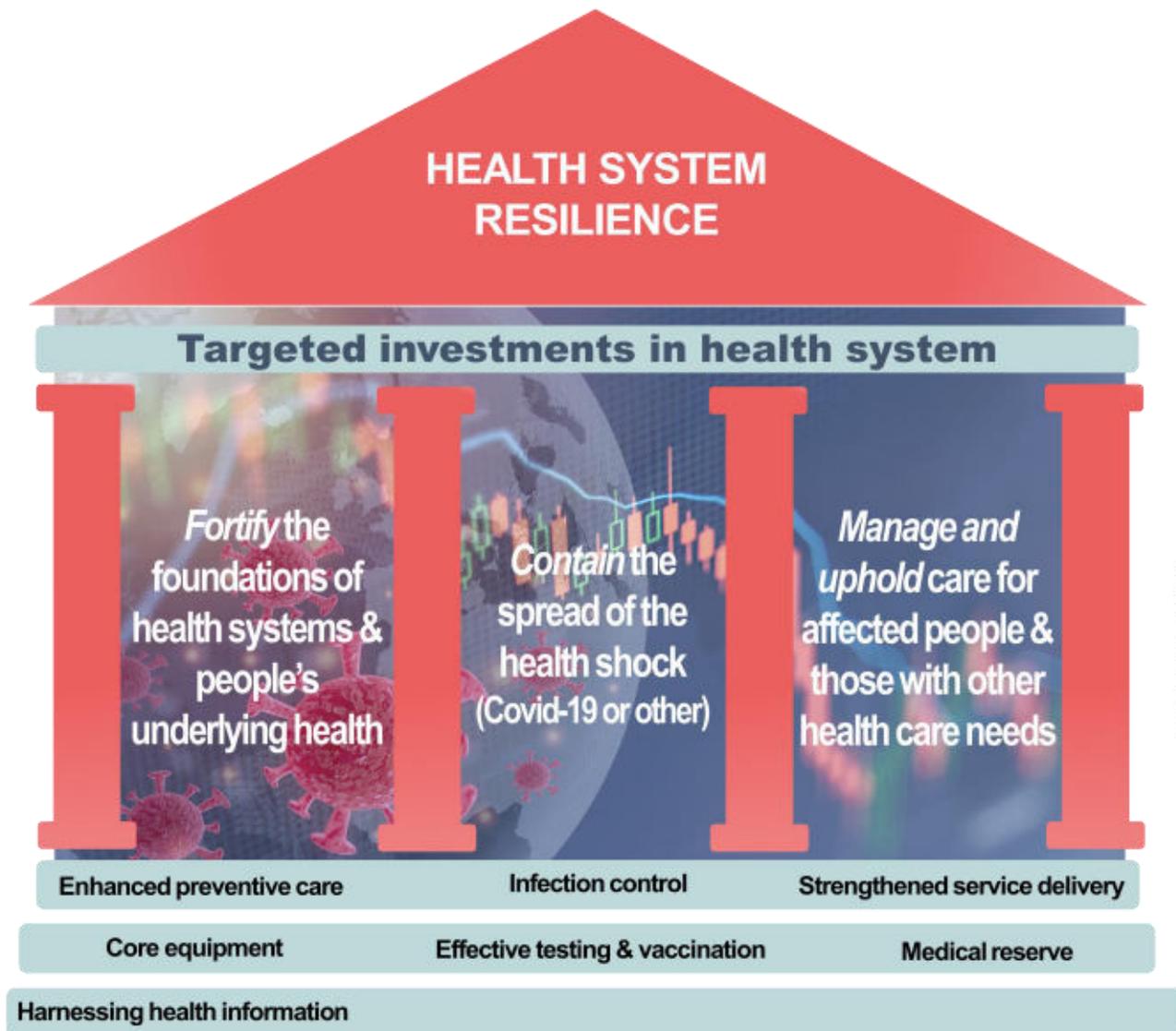
- Stronger health systems, stronger economies

Well-chosen investments strengthen resilience

- Builds resilience in people's underlying health
- Reinforces foundations of health systems



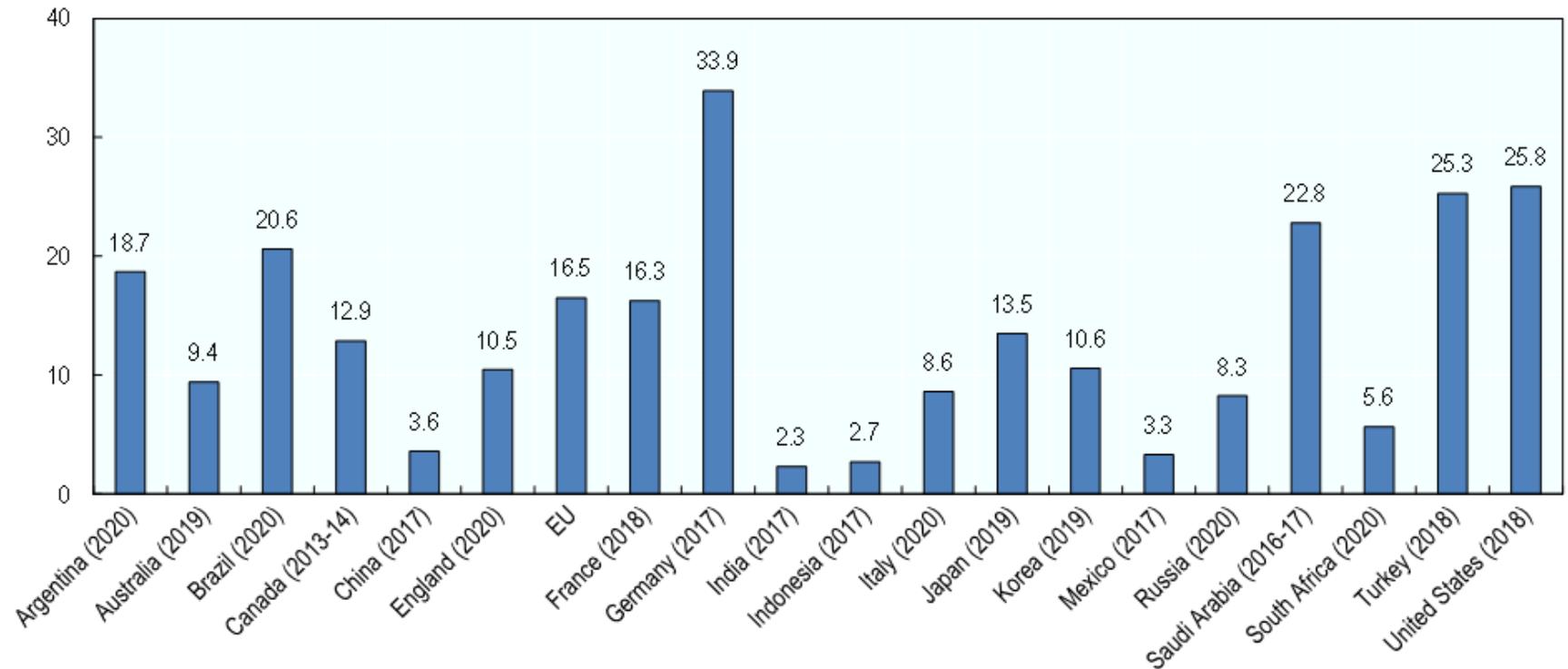
Key investments to strengthen health system resilience – *Fortify, Contain and Manage*



Low investment in medical equipment strains service provision, undermining the ability to respond to crisis

- Health shocks can place enormous strains on health systems and hospitals
- Estimates of pre-pandemic ICU-bed capacity point to a 15-fold difference across G20 countries
- Bringing investment levels up to the 90 percentile costs around 0.25% GDP

ICU bed capacity in G20 countries prior to the COVID-19 pandemic



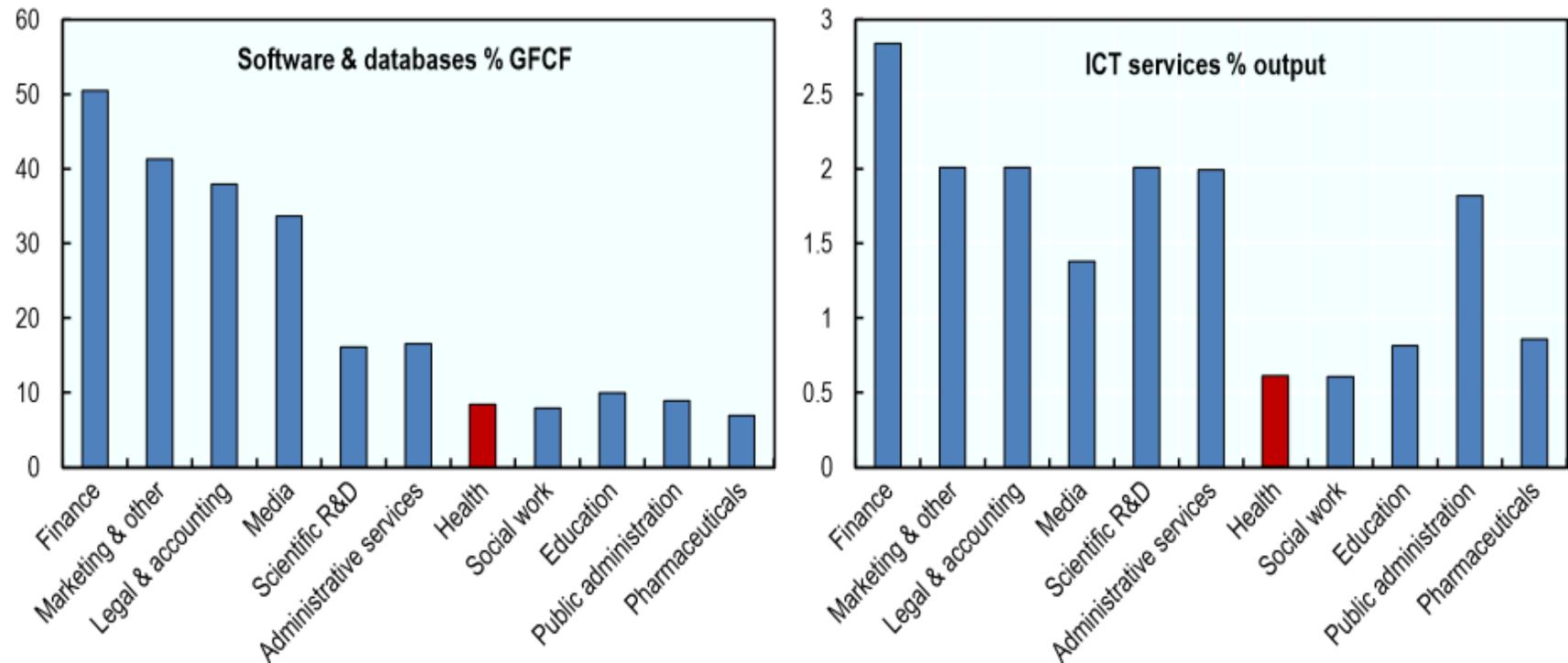
Source: National sources.



Capital investment in IT infrastructure and better use of the health data are critical

- The health sector, remains 'data rich but information poor' – often siloed, fragmented, unstandardised and inaccessible
- OECD countries typically spend less in health sector on software, databases and use of ICT services than comparable sectors

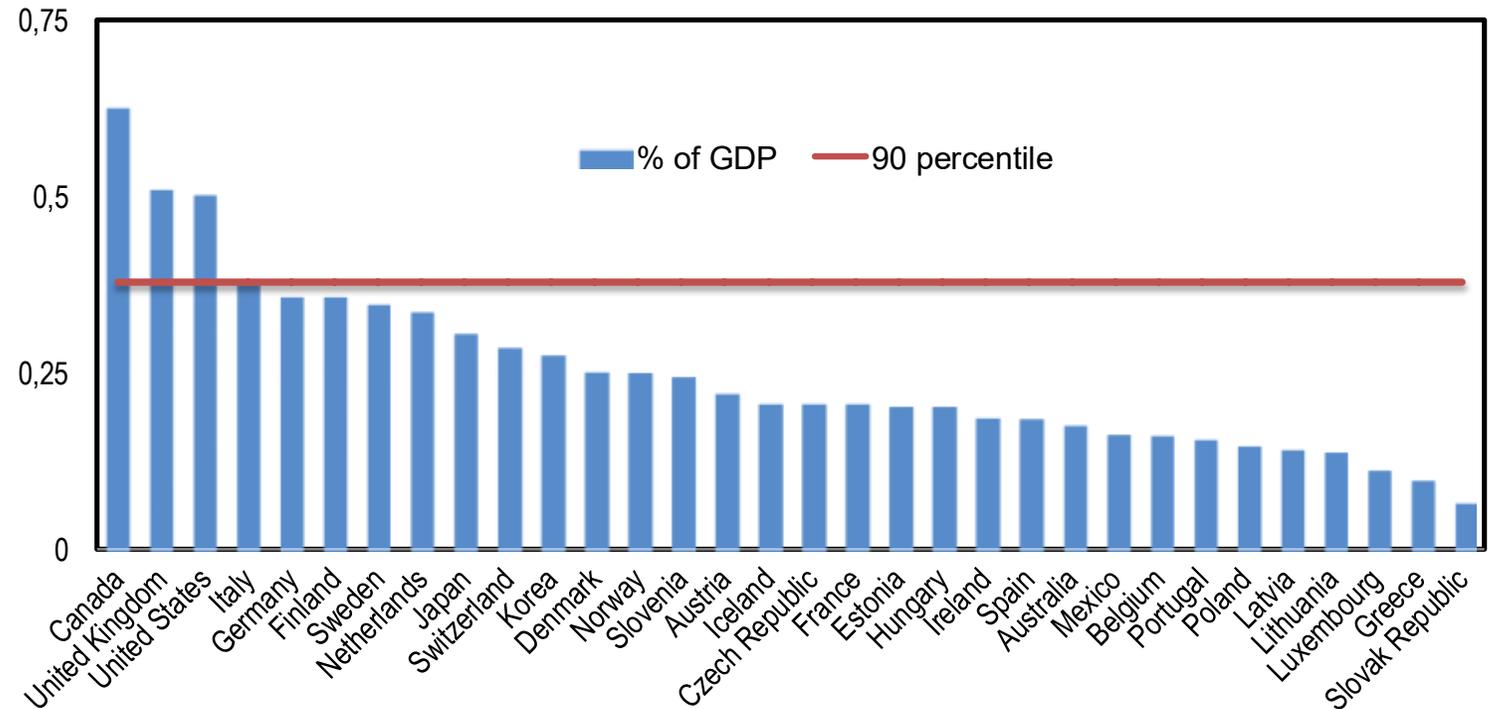
Expenditure on software, databases and ICT services by the health sector



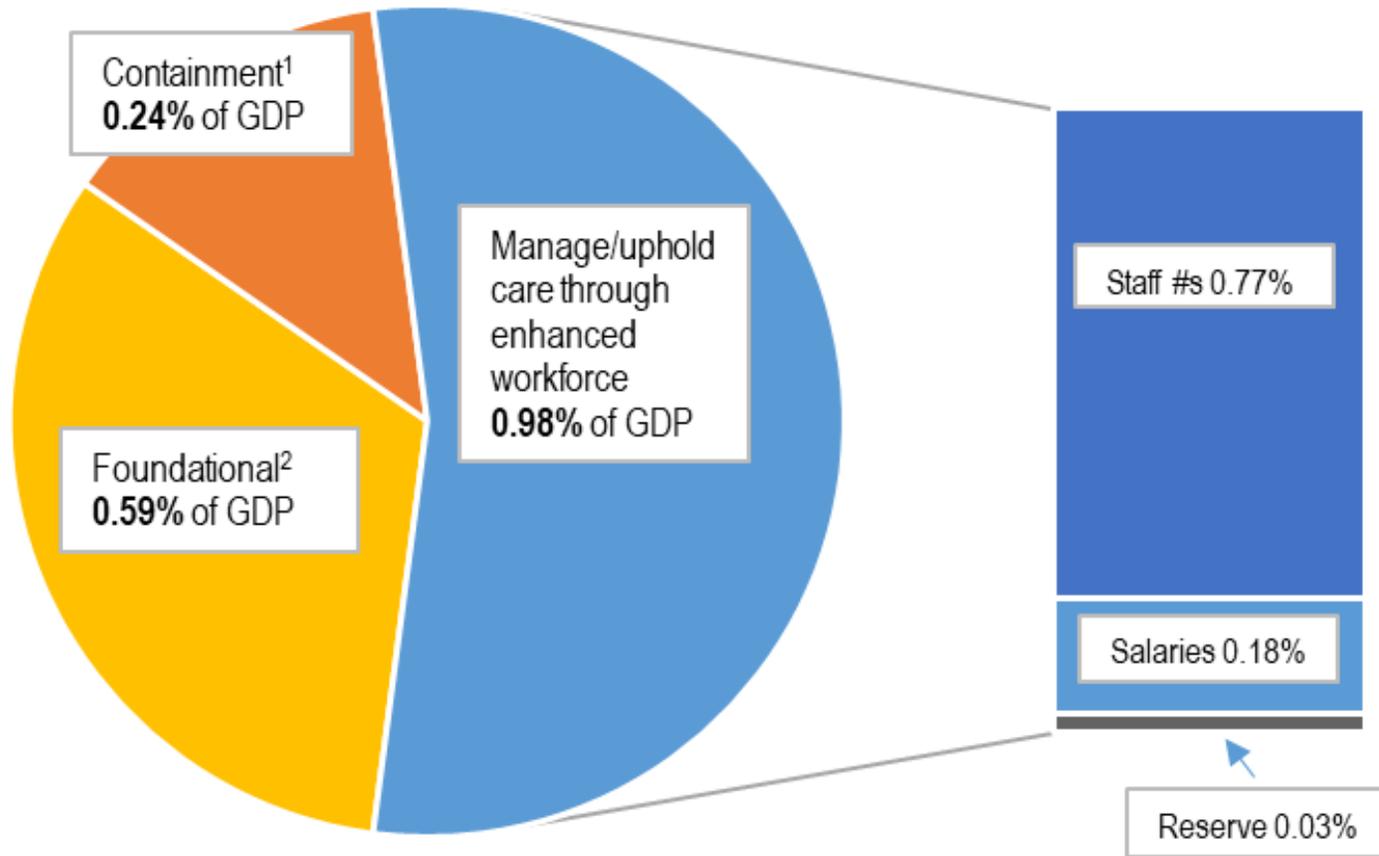
Preparedness requires making populations resilient: stronger focus on prevention

- Less than 0.25% of GDP (or 3% CEH) on average is allocated to prevention and public health services in OECD countries.
- Bringing prevention spending up to the 90 percentile together with a package of public health measures would cost 0.2% of GDP on average across OECD

Spending on preventive services as % of GDP



Countries will need to invest an extra ~1% of GDP in their health workforce



- Benchmarking analysis to estimate additional health workers, higher salaries & medical reserve needed (figures are OECD averages)
- Part of broader investment package to boost health system resilience

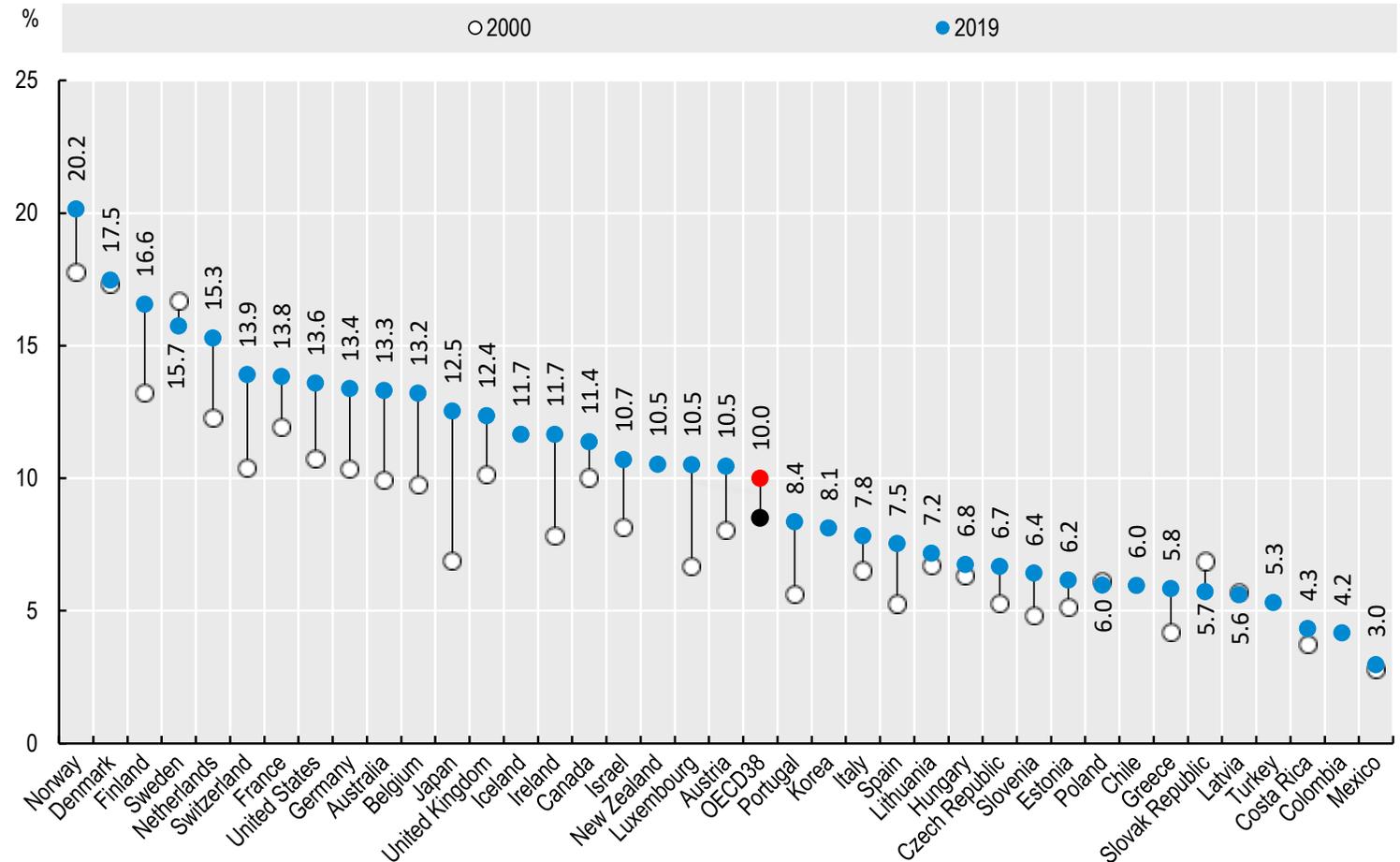
¹ infection control, testing, vaccination. ² prevention, core equipment, HIS



Investing in the health workforce is an investment in employment

- Adults in good health are more likely to be employed, productive when they do work and earn more.
- Economic output: the health sector as the “health economy”
- Healthier populations, better access to health services, better quality of care

One in 10 jobs in the health and social sector

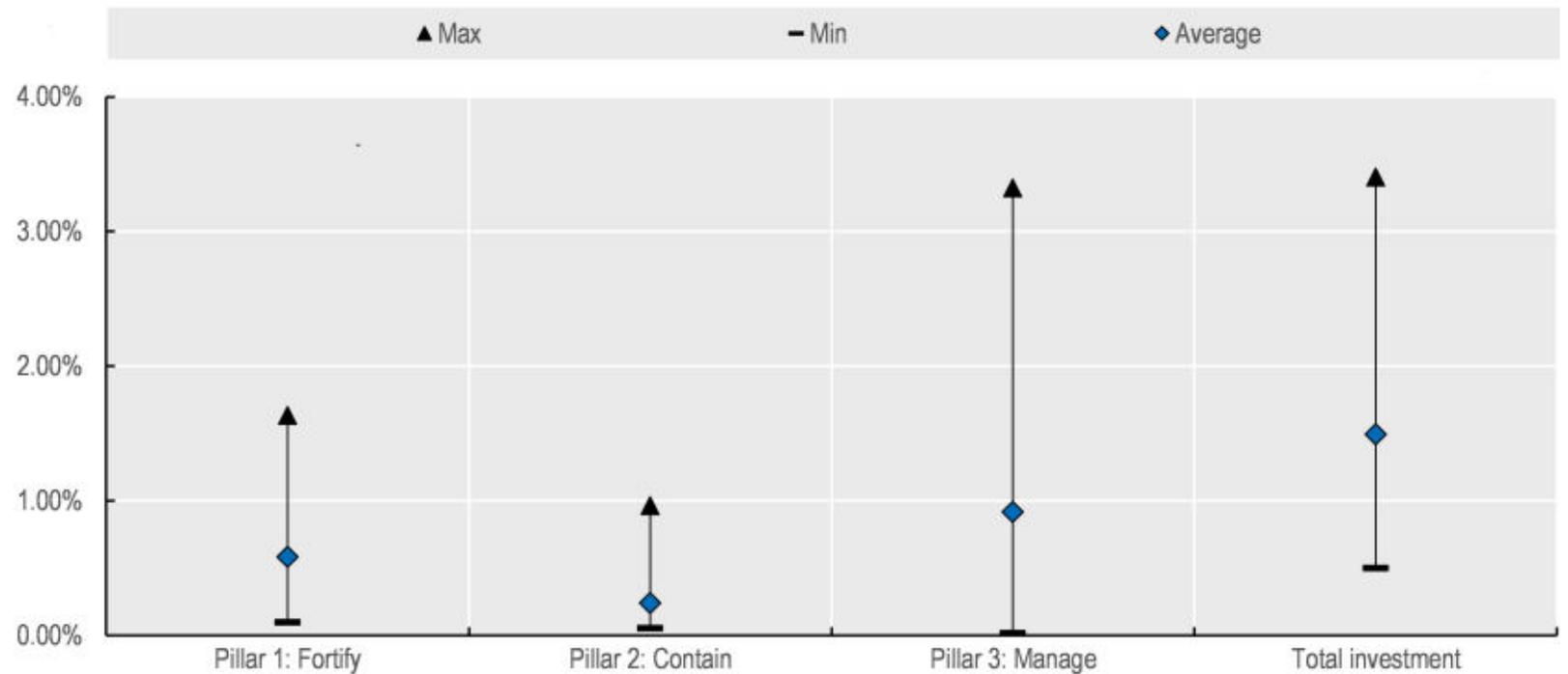


Overall magnitude of investment needed

1.5% of GDP (range of 0.5-3.4%)

- 7 areas of key investments to strengthen health system resilience grouped into 3 investment pillars
- Funding such investments requires buy-in from MOF as well as MOH
- But return likely to far outweigh cost – to health sector and wider economy

Order-of-magnitude estimates across 3 investment pillars



www.oecd.org/coronavirus/en/#policy-responses

- Strengthening the frontline: How primary health care helps health systems adapt during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Workforce and safety in long-term care during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Treatments and a vaccine for COVID-19: The need for coordinating policies on R&D, manufacturing and access
- Testing for COVID-19: How to best use the various tests?; and Testing for COVID-19: A way to lift confinement restrictions
- Flattening the COVID-19 peak: Containment and mitigation policies
- Beyond Containment: Health systems responses to COVID-19 in the OECD
- Supporting livelihoods during the COVID-19 crisis
- Supporting people and companies to deal with the COVID-19 virus
- Migrant doctors and nurses in COVID-19 crisis
- Public employment services on the frontline for jobseekers, workers and employers
- Children and COVID-19
- Women at the core of the fight against COVID-19 crisis



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