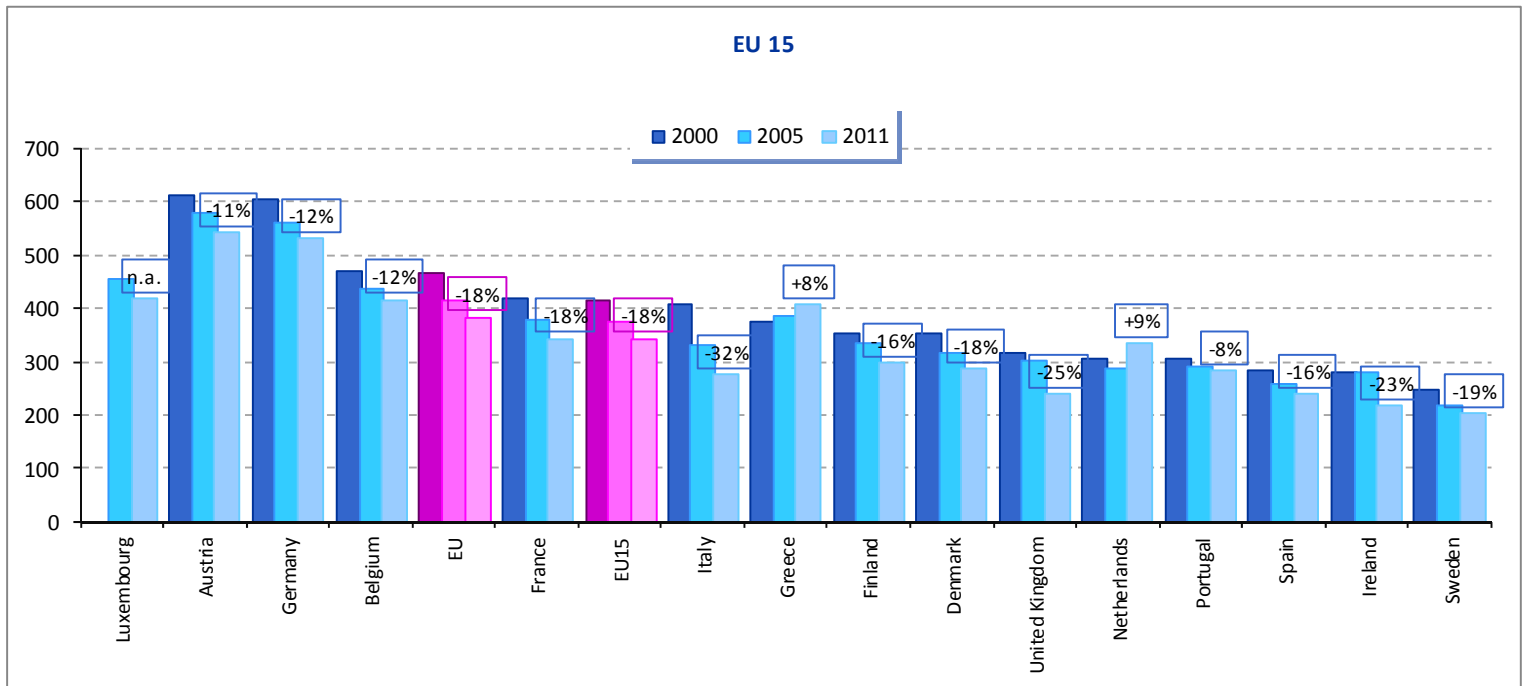


ACUTE CARE HOSPITAL BEDS PER 100.000 POPULATION - TREND OVER THE LAST 11 YEARS



NOTE: The differences in percentage given for each country refer to the entire period: 2000-2011.

Main Sources of data: WHO/Europe, European HFA Database, January 2014

Last data available for Greece is 2009 and for Denmark and Luxembourg is 2010 instead of 2011.

Acute care (or short-stay) hospitals are all general and specialised hospitals with relative short average length of stay (normally less than 18 days).

They represent in average almost the 65% of the total number of hospitals in each European Member State. In 2011, Cyprus had the highest rate of acute care hospital (99%), followed by Poland (88%), Italy (87%), and Hungary (84%). The Netherlands had the lowest rate (38%), followed by Slovenia (41%), Luxembourg and Estonia (42%).

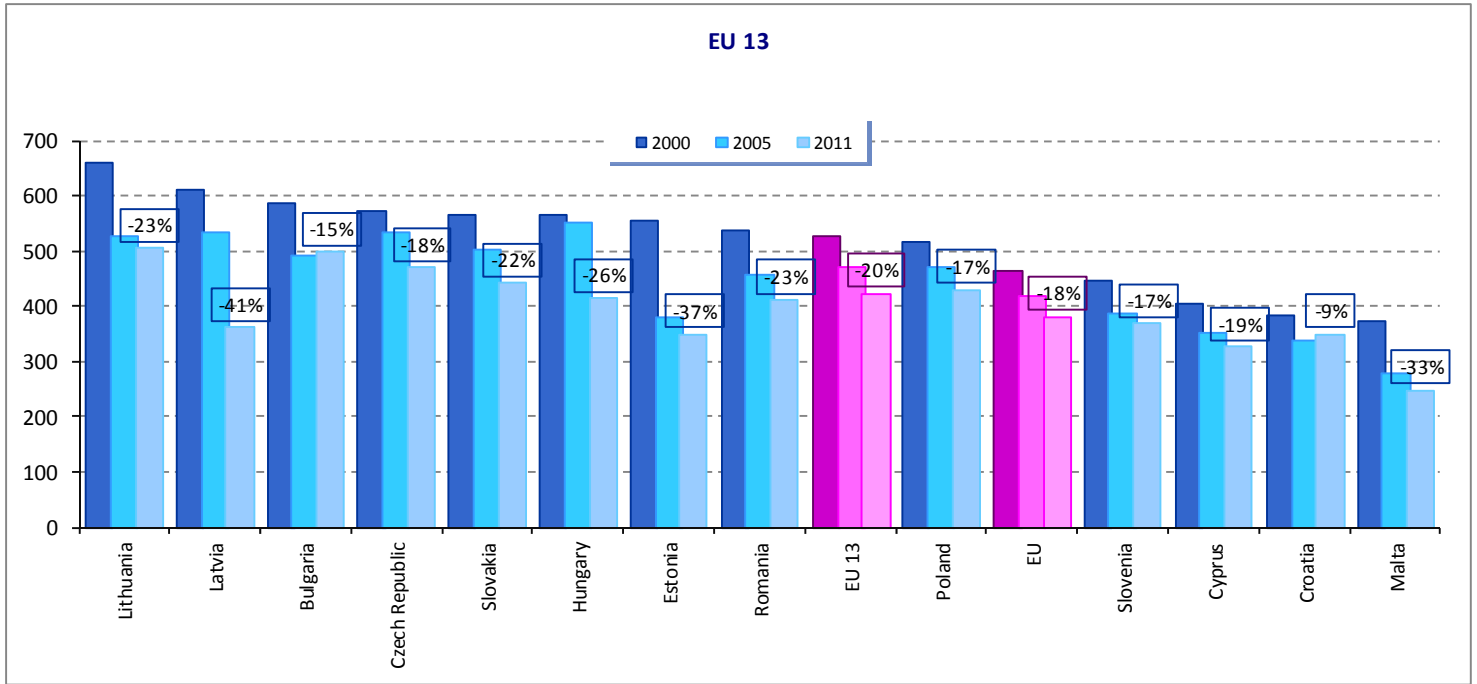
Over the last decades most EU European Member States, fostered by the increasing demand of healthcare and by the resource constrains, operated a huge reduction in the number of acute care hospital beds and facilities.

Between 2000 and 2011, the number of **acute care hospitals** decreased by more than 250 in Germany and France, more than 100 in Italy, around 30 in Spain, Belgium and Cyprus. In central and eastern European Member States, where this process began more recently, acute care establishments decreased by 71 units in Latvia, 33 units in Estonia, 28 units in Cyprus, 22 units in Croatia and Slovakia, more than 10 units in Lithuania and Czech Republic. European countries where number of **acute care hospitals** increased were: Bulgaria (+19%), Ireland (+6%) and Greece (+4%).

Between 2000 and 2011, the **acute care beds per 100.000 inhabitants** decreased on average by 18%. The decrease was around 10% between 2000-2005 and 8% between 2005-2011. The only countries in which the number of **acute care beds per 100.000 inhabitants** grew, were Greece (+8%) and the Netherlands (+9%).

In 'EU15', as showed by the chart above, the average decrease remained encompassed between -32% in Italy and -8% in Portugal (as mentioned only Greece and the Netherlands had a positive trend). In 'EU13', as shown in the chart below, the average rates of reduction in **acute care hospital beds** were quite diverse: lowest rates of decrease in Croatia (-9%), Bulgaria (-15%), Poland and Slovenia (-17%), highest rates of decrease in Latvia (-41%), Estonia (-37%) and Malta (-33%).

However, in 2011 there was still 19% of difference in the **total number of acute care beds per 100.000 inhabitants** between 'EU15' (on average 343 beds) and 'EU13' (on average 424 beds), but this process is still ongoing and these data are going to further converge in the coming years.



'EU15' - Countries joining the European Union between 1952 and 1995: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom.

'EU13' - Countries joining the European Union in 2004, 2007 or 2013: Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia.