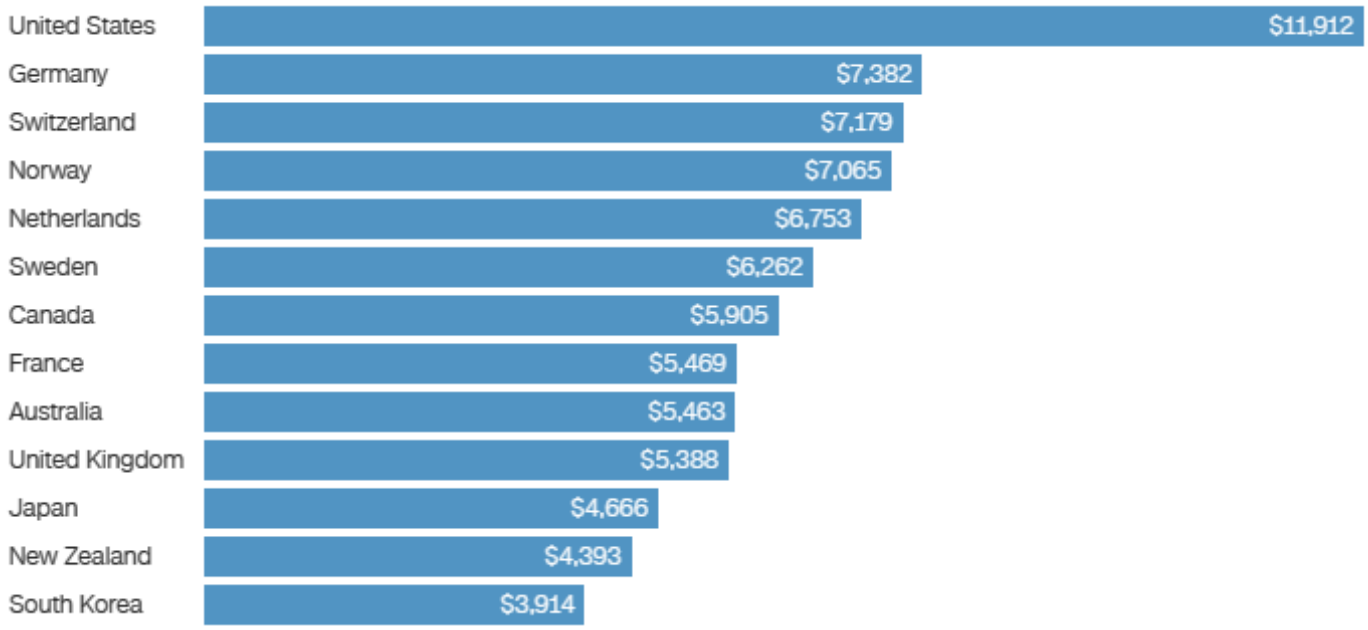
College of Medicine and Healing Arts

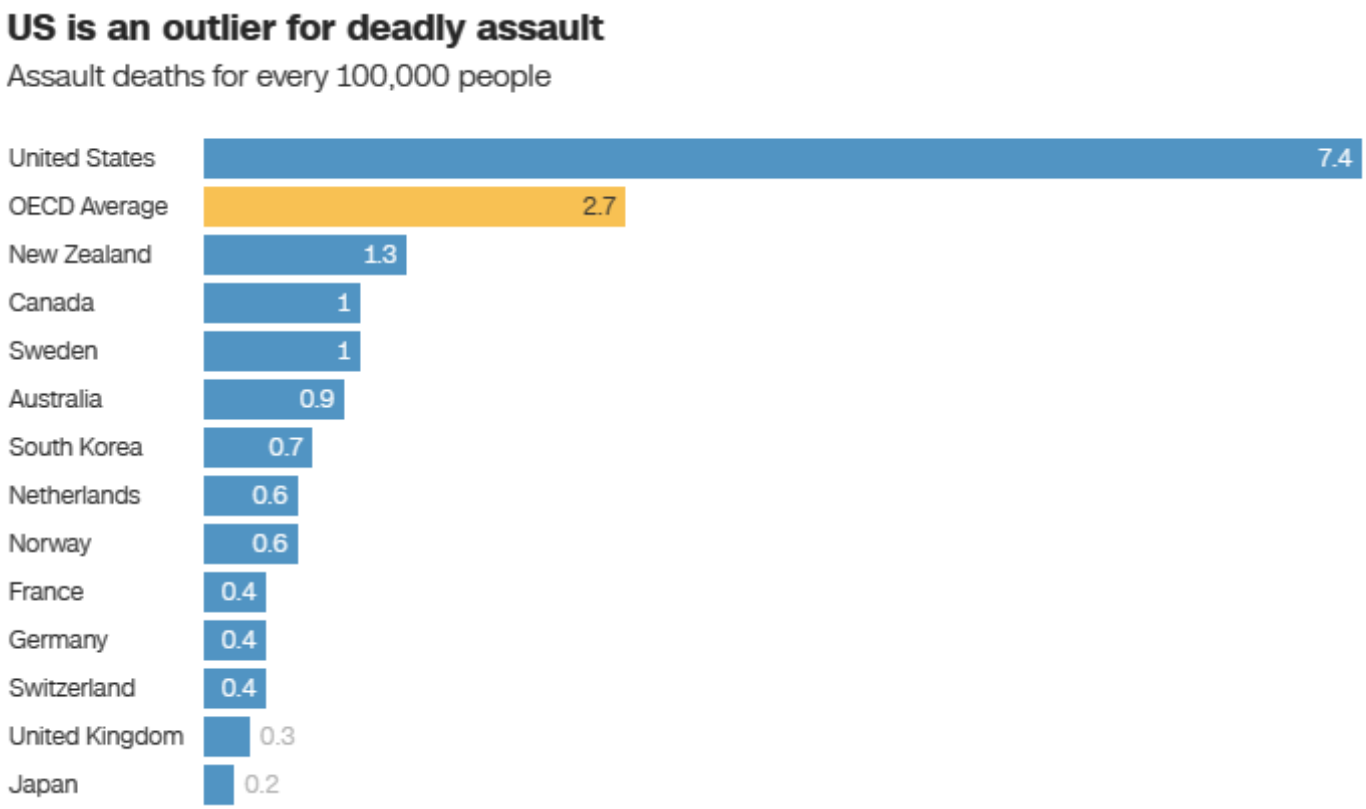
The Healthcare Crisis in the USA

Life expectancy at birth in the USA in 2020 was 77 years – three years less than the OECD average – and early data suggests that US life expectancy dropped even further in 2021.

Since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, more people died from coronavirus infections in the USA than in any other high-income country, according to the report.

"US spends most on health care but has worst health outcomes among high-income countries, new report finds."





Psychological Illness in the USA

In 2020, 21% of adults (52.9 million) experienced a mental health condition. Young adults (18-25) have the highest rate of experiencing mental health conditions (30.6%), followed by ages 26~49 (25.3%) and ages 50+ (14.5%).

While the percentage of U.S. adults receiving mental health treatment increased from 19.2% to 21.6%, from 2019 to 2021, 42% of adults with a diagnosable condition reported in 2023 that they could not afford to access the treatment they needed.

Leading 10 Causes of Death in the USA in 2023

Rank	Cause of Death	Deaths
1	Heart Disease	680,981
2	Cancer	613,352
3	Unintentional Injuries	222,698
4	Stroke	162,639
5	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	145,357
6	Alzheimer's Disease	114,034
7	Diabetes	95,190
8	Nephritis	55,253
9	Chronic Liver Disease	52,222
10	Covid-19	49,932

Data Source: CDC NCHS Provisional Report on U.S. Mortality for 2024

Summary

Overall life expectancy at birth is 76.5 years for men and 81.4 years for women.

Healthy life expectancy (i.e. the years lived in full health without major disability or disease) is approximately:

Men

* Life expectancy is 76.5 years.

* Healthy life expectancy is roughly 65.1 years, meaning men spend about 11.4 years (15% of their lives) in ill health.

Women

* Life expectancy is 81.4 years.

* Healthy life expectancy is roughly 66.9 years, meaning men spend about 14.5 years (18% of their lives) in ill health.

USA Health Spending

The USA Government spends approximately $14,885 per person per year on healthcare.

The USA total population is approximately 342 million.