2023 G7 Hiroshima Summit Interim Compliance Report
22 May 2023 to 3 December 2023

Prepared by
Samraggi Hazra and Ambra Bisagni
and the G7 Research Group
19 February 2024
www.g7.utoronto.ca • g7@utoronto.ca • @g7_rg

“We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That’s why today’s outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance.”

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

G7 summits are a moment for people to judge whether aspirational intent is met by concrete commitments. The G7 Research Group provides a report card on the implementation of G7 and G20 commitments. It is a good moment for the public to interact with leaders and say, you took a leadership position on these issues — a year later, or three years later, what have you accomplished?

Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme, in G7 Canada: The 2018 Charlevoix Summit
Contents

Introduction ........................................................................................................................................... 3
Research Team ..................................................................................................................................... 4
Compliance Analysts ............................................................................................................................. 4
Summary ............................................................................................................................................... 6

The Interim Compliance Score .............................................................................................................. 6
Compliance by Member .......................................................................................................................... 6
Compliance by Commitment .................................................................................................................. 6
The Compliance Gap Between Members ............................................................................................... 6
Future Research and Reports ................................................................................................................ 7

Table A: 2023 Priority Commitments Selected for Assessment* .......................................................... 7
Table B: 2023 G7 Hiroshima Interim Compliance Scores ....................................................................... 9
Table C: 2023 G7 Hiroshima Interim Compliance Scores by Member .................................................... 10
Table D: 2023 G7 Hiroshima Interim Compliance Scores by Commitment .............................................. 11

1. Regional Security: Sanctions ............................................................................................................ 12
2. Regional Security: Security Assistance for Ukraine .......................................................................... 34
3. Non-Proliferation: Responsible Nuclear Supply Chain ..................................................................... 51
4. Climate Change: Domestic Mitigation Measures .............................................................................. 74
5. Climate Change: Emission Reduction Policies ............................................................................... 91
6. Energy: Clean Energy Technologies ................................................................................................ 108
7. Energy: Low Carbon and Renewable Hydrogen Markets ............................................................... 152
8. Environment: Conservation Measures ............................................................................................ 207
9. Food and Agriculture: Healthy and Safe Diets ................................................................................. 226
10. Food and Agriculture: Food Safety and Sustainable Production .................................................. 245
11. Health: Life Expectancy .................................................................................................................. 273
13. Education: Inclusivity and Equity .................................................................................................... 337
14. Gender: Labour Markets ................................................................................................................ 355
15. Labour and Employment: Job Creation ............................................................................................ 370
16. Digital Economy: Digital Ecosystem with Trust ............................................................................. 386
17. Macroeconomics: Fiscal Sustainability and Price Stability ............................................................ 402
18. Crime and Corruption: Synthetic Drugs ......................................................................................... 426
20. Trade: Resilient Supply Chains ........................................................................................................ 470
11. Health: Life Expectancy

“We commit to reverse the first global decline in life expectancy in more than seven decades emphasizing the importance of achieving UHC [universal health coverage] by 2030 and accelerating progress toward SDG [Sustainable Development Goal] 3.”

G7 Hiroshima Leaders’ Communiqué

Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>No Compliance</th>
<th>Partial Compliance</th>
<th>Full Compliance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td></td>
<td>+1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td></td>
<td>+1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td></td>
<td>+1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>+1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td></td>
<td>+1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>+1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Union</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>+1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>+0.88 (94%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Background

For the first time in more than seven decades, life expectancy trends are showing a noticeable reversal, signaling a significant public health challenge. This alarming reversal is driven by multiple factors, including the impact of both communicable and non-communicable diseases, mental health conditions, and the strain inflicted by health crises, notably the Covid-19 pandemic. Acknowledging the vital link between access to healthcare services and life expectancy, the G7 emphasized at its 2023 Hiroshima Summit the pivotal role of universal health coverage (UHC) and committed to reversing this decline.\[1557\] The decline in health expectancy highlights the need to align with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3, which focuses on ensuring healthy lives and well-being for all.

UHC was first mentioned at the 2000 G8 Okinawa Summit in the context of improving accessibility and affordability of drugs, vaccines, treatments and other preventative measures in developing countries.\[1558\]

Highlights on the G7’s governance of health, and more specifically UHC and SDG 3, follow:

At the 1983 Williamsburg Summit, G7 leaders agreed to “strengthen cooperation” in health research.\[1559\] This commitment fostered international collaboration in addressing pressing global health challenges.

At the 1986 Tokyo Summit, G7 leaders emphasized their resolution to “pursue effective international action to eliminate the abuse of drugs” and create a healthy environment to pass on to future environments.

At the 1987 Venice Summit, G7 leaders recognized that Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) may be one of the largest health problems in the world.\[1560\] International cooperation was emphasized to strengthen existing organizations, such as the World Health Organization (WHO).

---


At the 1993 Tokyo Summit, G7 leaders addressed the increasing cost of health care in member countries. Leaders recognize the importance of controlling overall outlays and the need to strengthen the efficiency of health care systems by reviewing the coverage of medical insurance and encouraging the reduction of competition in the provision of medical services.

At the 1996 Lyon Summit, G7 leaders with Russia emphasized their support of the efforts of WHO to “combat emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases,” as well as the joint United-Nations Program on AIDS (UNAIDS) to fuel international efforts toward the global HIV/AIDS epidemic. Furthermore, G8 members agreed on the creation and implementation of various mechanisms to aid in the prevention, detection, surveillance, and response to the emergence and re-emergence of communicable diseases.

At the 1997 Denver Summit, G8 leaders discussed the opportunities and challenges of aging populations, noting that “increased life expectancy and improved health among [the] elderly are two major achievements of this century.” Leaders agreed on the importance of learning from each other’s policies and programs to promote active aging and fuel structural reforms to preserve and strengthen pension, health, and long-term care systems. The importance of protecting the health of children, particularly in the context of environmental hazards and threats was also emphasized. The urgency of preventing transmission of HIV infection and the development of AIDS was noted to be an urgent global public imperative. Leaders noted that governments will promote the “more effective coordination of international responses to outbreaks,” as well as promote the development of a global surveillance network and build upon national and regional surveillance systems.

At the 1998 Birmingham Summit, G8 leaders pledged to a shared international effort to enhance mutual cooperation on both infectious and parasitic diseases to support WHO’s efforts. The new initiative to ‘Roll Back Malaria’ was supported, and the French proposal for a ‘Therapeutic Solidarity Initiative’ was welcomed for the prevention and treatment of AIDS. G8 leaders emphasized that their efforts to reduce the global impact of AIDS will continue through vaccine development, preventative programs and appropriate therapy, and continued support for UNAIDS.

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, G8 leaders emphasized their efforts to mobilize new and existing medical, technical and financial resources to strengthen health delivery systems and break the cycles of disease and poverty. Members committed themselves to work in strengthened partnerships with governments, WHO, various international organizations, industries, academic institutions, non-governmental organizations and other relevant actors to deliver on UN targets. Leaders also committed to “pursue healthy ageing policies that permit a continued high quality of life.”

At the 2001 Genoa Summit, G8 leaders emphasized that strong national health systems “will continue to play a key role in the delivery of effective prevention, treatment, and care in improving access to essential health


1563 Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto). 1 February 2015. Access Date: 30 September 2023. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1997denver/g8final.htm


services and commodities without discrimination.”

Leaders recognize that an effective response to HIV/AIDS, among other diseases, will require society-wide action beyond the health sector.

At the 2003 Evian Summit, G8 leaders agreed to strengthen the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria and improve access to health care, including drugs and treatments at prices affordable to those in poorer countries. In addition, leaders agreed to promote research on diseases most affecting developing countries, mobilize funding needed to eradicate polio by 2004, as well as improve international cooperation against new epidemics, such as severe acute respiratory syndrome.

At the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, G8 leaders recognized that a strong response to the “threat of infectious diseases, the leading cause of death worldwide, is essential to global development and to the well-being of the world's population.” Leaders committed to strengthening the global network for the surveillance and monitoring of infectious diseases, fighting the highly pathogenic avian influenza, increasing global preparedness for a human pandemic, and combating HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. Access to prevention, treatment, and care in countries around the world was highlighted as essential to curbing infectious diseases. Leaders also emphasized the health consequences of natural and man-made disasters and reaffirmed “the importance of the coordinating role played by the United Nations in the area of humanitarian emergency response.”

At the 2008 Hokkaido Toyako Summit, G8 leaders emphasized the “importance of comprehensive approaches to address the strengthening of health systems.” Leaders noted that “reliable health systems require a reliable health workforce” and that it is of importance to build upon the commitments made on neglected tropical diseases at St. Petersburg.

At the 2009 L'Aquila Summit, G8 leaders recognized that the health situation in Africa, which was already burdened by infectious diseases such as malaria, HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis, was further aggravated by the prevalence of noncommunicable diseases. Leaders also reaffirmed their commitment to address the health needs of vulnerable populations.

At the 2010 Muskoka Summit, G8 leaders recognized that progress toward Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 5, improving maternal health, and MDG 4, reducing child mortality, is too slow. Leaders affirmed their support to “reduce the number of maternal, newborn, and under five child deaths as a matter of immediate humanitarian and development concern.” G8 members have contributed over USD4.1 billion annually in international development, and it is at this summit that the G8 leaders endorse and launch the Muskoka Initiative, a “comprehensive and integrated approach to accelerate progress towards MDGs 4 and 5 that will significantly reduce the number of maternal, newborn, and under five child deaths in developing countries.”

At the 2011 Deauville Summit, G8 leaders affirmed their commitment to “improving maternal health and reducing child mortality, most notably through the Muskoka Initiative for Maternal, Newborn and Child

1569 Fight Against Infectious Diseases, G7 Information Centre (Toronto). 28 April 2014. Access Date: 30 September 2023. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006StPetersburg/infdis.html
Health.” At the 2014 Brussels Summit, G7 leaders noted that they “remain committed to the Muskoka Initiative on maternal, newborn, and child health,” as well as “welcome the call made at Saving Every Woman, Every Child Summit in Toronto” to expedite global progress on this priority. Further, leaders support the Global Health Security Agenda to work with partner countries to “strengthen compliance with the World Health Organisation’s (WHO) International Health Regulations and enhance health security around the world.”

At the 2015, Elmau Summit, G7 leaders committed to continuing their engagement in the field of health “with a specific focus on strengthening health systems through bilateral programmes and multilateral structures.” Leaders noted that the Ebola crisis has shed light on the global need to improve the capacity for prevention, protection, detection, reporting, and response to public health emergencies. G7 leaders further noted their support for the adoption of the WHO Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance, as well as emphasized their commitment to the One Health approach wherein all areas, human health, animal health, agriculture, and the environment, are encompassed. Leaders also committed to the “fight against neglected tropical diseases (NTDs)” shedding light on the vital role research plays in the “development and implementation of new means of tackling NTDs.” Leaders also noted that they will continue to advocate for “accessible, affordable, quality and essential health services for all” as part of their health system strengthening efforts.

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders emphasized the need for health systems to develop universal health coverage, which includes addressing noncommunicable diseases, “including those due to environmental factors and aging.” Leaders also pledged to support the work of the Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases and acknowledge the impacts of ageing and noncommunicable diseases on the caregivers of the elderly population. This summit marked a shift in the global health agenda to include mental health, as G7 leaders also committed to “promoting women’s, children’s, and adolescents’ mental and physical health, ensuring sexual and reproductive health and rights without discrimination of any kind.”

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 leaders committed to advancing global health security and pursuing policies regarding both physical and mental health globally by “strengthening health systems, preparedness for, and a prompt, effective and coordinated response to public health emergencies and long-term challenges.” This commitment acknowledged global health’s importance to broader economic, social and security gains, highlighting the importance of continuing to promote women’s and adolescents’ health and healthcare, as well as the role of environmental factors in human health.

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to “bringing greater attention to mental health” to support growth and equal participation that benefits everyone and ensure citizens lead healthy lives.

and productive lives.\textsuperscript{1581} To ensure that citizens lead healthy lives, leaders are also committed to promoting access to quality and affordable healthcare.

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, G7 leaders acknowledged the physical and mental health needs of survivors of sexual violence.\textsuperscript{1582} Leaders reaffirmed their commitment to “support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of [conflict-related sexual violence] victims’ specific medical, psychological and social needs” through the adoption of the Declaration on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment.

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders addressed Covid-19’s impacts on physical and mental health.\textsuperscript{1583} Leaders committed to “support a robust global recovery from Covid-19, ensuring that countries are able to effectively address the indirect impacts on physical and mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the [Covid-19] pandemic.”

At the 2022 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to support the integral role of WHO and contribute to WHO’s goal of 70 per cent Covid-19 vaccination coverage worldwide.\textsuperscript{1584} Furthermore, leaders addressed that they will continue to support “health sovereignty at national and regional levels” by generating greater support to “local vaccine production, distribution and scientific research worldwide.” Leaders pledged to further advance universal health coverage and “strengthen equitable and resilient and gender-responsive health systems as well as the global health architecture while working towards appropriate financing mechanisms.”

**Commitment Features**

At the 2023 Hiroshima summit, leaders committed to “reverse the first global decline in life expectancy in more than seven decades emphasizing the importance of achieving UHC by 2030 and accelerating progress toward SDG 3.”\textsuperscript{1585} Centring around life expectancy outcomes, the commitment entails a two-pronged approach. The first main goal involves movement towards and/or enhancement of UHC and the second goal commits members to address the 13 targets outlined in SDG 3. The commitment does not identify a date or specific numerical target by which the reversal should be measured against or achieved. This report therefore monitors the strength of the compliant actions, with very strong action (defined in further detail below) required to show progress towards full compliance with reversing the decline in life expectancy.

**Definitions and Concepts**

“Commit” is understood to mean to do or perform, to pledge or bind (a person or an organization) to a certain course or policy.\textsuperscript{1586}

“Reverse” refers to changing the direction of something to its opposite.\textsuperscript{1587}

\textsuperscript{1581} The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto). 9 June 2018. Access Date: 30 September 2023. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html


\textsuperscript{1583} G7 Carbis Bay Health Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto). 13 June 2021. Access Date: 30 September 2023. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-carbis-bay-health-declaration.html


“Global decline” in the context of life expectancy refers to the demonstrated drop from 72.8 to 71 in the years from 2019 to 2021.1588

“Life expectancy” refers to the average number of years that a newborn could expect to live, if he or she were to pass through life exposed to the sex- and age-specific death rates prevailing at the time of his or her birth, for a specific year, in a given country, territory, or geographic area.1589

“UHC” or universal health coverage is understood to mean that all people have access to the full range of quality health services they need, when and where they need them, without financial hardship. It covers the full continuum of essential health services, from health promotion to prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and palliative care across the life course.1590

“SDG 3” refers to ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all ages. SDG 3 outlines targets in 13 areas: 1) reducing global maternal mortality; 2) ending preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5; 3) ending epidemics such as of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, and tropical diseases; 4) reducing premature deaths from noncommunicable diseases; 5) preventing and treating substance abuse; 6) reducing road traffic injuries; 7) ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive healthcare services; 8) achieving universal health coverage; 9) preventing mortality and illness from pollutants, chemicals and contamination; 10) strengthening implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control; 11) supporting research and development of vaccines and medicines; 12) increasing financing towards recruitment, development, training, and retention of the healthcare workforce in developing countries; 13) strengthening capacity for early warning of global and national health risks. Emphasis is often placed on aiding developing countries especially least developed countries and small island states. Actions that tangibly address the SDG 3 targets include legislation, regulation, new funding or increased allocations to specifically relevant programs.

General Interpretive Guidelines

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be given to G7 members that exemplify demonstrable strong action towards both UHC and a minimum of seven specific targets within the thirteen targets of SDG 3 (representing a majority of the targets, in line with the strong language of the commitment “to reverse.”). This can include both domestic and international actions. Examples of strong actions which would contribute to compliance include but are not limited to: legislation to expand health coverage towards UHC and/or public health coverage, increasing funding to support existing programs, and establishing or enlarging public drug coverage or extended health benefits such as paramedical services (physio, chiropractic) vision care, dental services, and mental health (psychological services). Strong actions towards individual SDG targets include but are not limited to legislation, regulation, new funding or increased allocation to specifically relevant programs.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned to G7 members that demonstrate weak action towards UHC and a minimum of 7 specific targets within SDG 3 or strong tangible action towards UHC and less than 7 specific targets within SDG 3. Weak or partial actions refer to efforts that are weaker than those listed above dealing with legislation, policy, financing and investments. These include statements of support, committee explorations, conference attendance relevant to the above, diplomatic efforts, public awareness efforts, information or knowledge sharing, and reiterations of support for the commitment. Note that, in line with World Health Organization guiding principles, tax credits or deductions that contribute towards UHC should


be weighted less heavily than universal public options because of the upfront out-of-pocket cost barriers for citizens.\textsuperscript{1591}

Non-compliance, or a score of $-1$, will be assigned if the G7 member demonstrates neither strong action towards UHC nor 7 specific targets within SDG 3.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scoring Guidelines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$-1$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$0$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$+1$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Compliance Director: Jacob Rudolph  
Lead Analyst: Catherine Diyakonov

Canada: $+1$

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to reverse the first global decline in life expectancy in more than seven decades emphasizing the importance of achieving universal health coverage (UHC) by 2030 and accelerating progress toward Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3.

On 23 May 2023, Minister of Health Jean-Yves Duclos announced more than CAD15.4 million in funding over five years to Francophone universities in Ontario to increase health services for Francophones living in a minority setting in Northern Ontario offer health care services in French.\textsuperscript{1592} The project also aims to increase recruitment and capacity for training additional bilingual health service providers.

On 24 May 2023, Minister Duclos announced grants to four researchers in neuroscience: Dr. Emma G. Duerden of Western University, Dr. Lisa Saksida of Western University, Dr. Sylvia Villeneuve of the Douglas Hospital Research Centre, and Dr. Signe Bray of the University of Calgary.\textsuperscript{1593} This aims to increase research and possible treatments for neurological illnesses and better understand how brain disruptions put children and youth at risk for behavioural and mental health challenges.

On 26 May 2023, Minister Duclos announced an investment of up to CAD43 million over the next five years to support the adaptation of the health sector to the changing climate.\textsuperscript{1594} This includes actions like increased efforts to protect people’s health from extreme indoor heat and supporting resilient and low-carbon health systems that can respond to health risks caused by climate change.

On 26 May 2023, Health Canada reached a common regulatory recognition partnership with Australia, the European Union, Japan, Switzerland, Singapore, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The partnership will expedite and improve access to medicines and bolster section eight of SDG 3.

On 29 May 2023, Member of Parliament for Sudbury Vivian Lapointe, on behalf of the Honorable Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health, announced more than CAD930,000 in funding for the Go-Give Mobile Outreach Program through Health Canada's Substance Use and Addictions Program to increase capacity and extend hours of service of distributing food, first aid and harm reduction supplies.

On 31 May 2023, Minister Duclos and Minister of Health and Wellness for Prince Edward Island Mark McLane announced that the province will expand its provincial drug coverage to reduce co-pays for almost 60 per cent of medications regularly used by residents, improving affordability and accessibility of prescription drugs and better health outcomes for residents.

On 31 May 2023, Minister Bennett announced that Canada will require health warnings to be printed directly on individual cigarettes. The aim is to make health warnings impossible to avoid and reduce the appeal of tobacco. They will also strength and update health-related messages on tobacco product packages as part of their efforts.

On 1 June 2023, Minister Duclos announced over CAD1.4 million in funding over two years to the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association, to provide greater access to information for people with disabilities, their caregivers and the organizations that support them.

On 5 June 2023, Minister Bennett announced regulatory changes to schedule novel fentanyl precursors under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act. This allows law enforcement to take action against the illegal importation, distribution and use of these precursor chemicals, which are used in the illegal production of fentanyl by illegal drug producers.

On 6 June 2023, the Government of Canada announced an investment of CAD361 million spread over 10 years in Northwest Territories, including CAD73 million for a bilateral agreement focusing on shared priorities.

---


CAD15 million on growing Canada Health Transfer (CHT) which provides federal support for provincial health initiatives and CAD 2 million on CHT top-up for urgent needs.1601

On 9 June 2023, Minister Duclos announced CAD1.8 million in funding over three years to the Canadian Donation and Transplantation Research Program to support the research of Covid-19 related issues for transplant recipients.1602 This will help increase the number and quality of successful transplants. The project will provide a better understanding of treatment options available to patients, investigates the mental health impacts of Covid-19 develop strategies to improve well-being and evaluates the economic impact and value of emerging and existing therapy options for Covid-19 in transplant patients.

On 14 June 2023, the Government of Canada hosted a Nursing Retention Forum to develop a toolkit with practical strategies to improve the mental health of health authorities to improve nursing retention within their organizations.1603

On 19 June 2023, Health Canada and the Public Health Agency of Canada announced an update on their efforts in minimizing the health risks associated with wildfire smoke-induced air pollution.1604 They assisted health jurisdictions in establishing cleaner air spaces by providing technical expertise, public health guidance, and necessary monitoring equipment upon request. Their efforts advances section nine of SDG 3.

On 20 June 2023, Minister Duclos, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada Steven Guilbeault and Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Marie-Claude Bibeau announced they will evaluate acceptable increases to pesticide residue limits, to ensure a sustainable approach to pesticides management and help famers provide reliable access to safe and nutritious food.1605

On 21 June 2023 Minister Bennett announced regulations requiring manufacturers to disclose sales and ingredients used in vaping products to Health Canada.1606 The regulation provides data assisting in the development of policies and protect people from the health risks of vaping and nicotine addiction.

On 22 June 2023, Minister Bennett announced CAD1.9 million in funding for Pathways to Recovery’s Safer Supply Ottawa Program to offer accessible and flexible pathways to medication and recovery for a broader

The program also aims to increase access to practitioners, mental health programs, housing supports, peer workers and other support services.

On 29 June 2023, Minister Duclos announced the opening of the second benefit period of the Canada Dental Benefit, to provide eligible families with up front, direct payments of up to under 12 for dental care services $650 per child.\(^{1608}\)

On 30 June 2023, Minister Duclos announced that Prince Edward Island will enhance its Catastrophic Drug Program by lowering the cap on household spending to be eligible for medications.\(^{1609}\) The province has added more income threshold levels and adjusted household income expenditure calculations. After the cap is in effect, households in the program will not have to spend more than 6.5 per cent of their household income on eligible medications, saving them CAD430,000 annually.

On 3 July 2023, Minister Duclos announced over CAD2.5 million over three years to the Canadian Council for Practical Nurse Regulators, funding a project that exchanged information about a nurse’s licensing history.\(^{1610}\) This helps improve registration processes and enable more consistent collection of data.

On 6 July 2023, the Government of Canada and the Government of Nunavut announced an agreement to invest CAD381 million for Canada Health Transfer in the province, including a guaranteed 5 per cent growth to the Canada Health Transfer in the next five years, and CAD2 million top-up to address pediatric hospitals and emergency rooms, and long wait times for surgeries.\(^{1611}\) The aim is to increase access to healthcare in rural and underserved communities, provide effective, high quality services and access to timely mental health and addiction services.

On 6 July 2023, Minister Bennett and Member of Parliament for West Vancouver Patrick Weiler announced more than CAD20 million in funding for 42 projects across British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan through Health Canada’s Substance Use and Addictions Program.\(^{1612}\) The aim is to provide harm reduction and treatment services for people who use drugs and people who are disproportionately affected by substance abuse.

On 6 July 2023, the Government of Canada and the Government of Yukon announced an agreement to invest CAD380 million over 10 years in the Yukon to assist with the growth of Canada Health Transfer, address


urgent needs of patients, provide patients access to their electronic health information, access to timely health services, and access to family health services in rural and underserved communities.\textsuperscript{1613}

On 10 July 2023, Minister of Transport Omar Alghabra announced the imposition of fines on drivers or companies who violate the Commercial Vehicle Drivers Hours of Service Regulations, to promote road safety.\textsuperscript{1614} The regulations also outline logging and reporting requirements for commercial vehicle drivers and fleet operators, to further ensure road safety.

On 20 July 2023, Minister of Veterans Affairs and Associate Minister of National Defence Lawrence MacAulay announced that an agreement had been reached with Prince Edward Island, which had provided the province CAD5 million in the 2022-2023 year as part of a 10-year investment that started in 2017.\textsuperscript{1615} The aim is to improve access to home and community care, as well as mental health and addiction services.

On 21 July 2023, Minister Duclos and Minister of Seniors Kamal Khera announced the launch of an online public consultation, to create a space for long-term care residents and families to provide their experience and expertise on how to improve quality, safety, standards and accountability of long-term care.\textsuperscript{1616} This will also include discussions on how federal legislation can support these improvements.

On 21 July 2023, President of the Treasury Board Mona Fortier announced CAD2.5 million for projects led by the First Peoples Wellness Circles (FPWC) to improve mental health support for Indigenous people.\textsuperscript{1617} The FPWC aims to provide a framework to support the creation of mental wellness resources and tools, provide culturally inclusive mental health services and evaluation tools for First Nations populations by increasing the number of mental health professionals in New Brunswick.

On 9 August 2023, Minister of Health Mark Holland announced more than CAD4.3 million to fund the Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) to fund support projects that develop culturally safe and inclusive educational materials that improve access to SRH services and remove barriers for Indigenous and marginalized communities.\textsuperscript{1618}


On 9 August 2023, Member of Parliament Lapointe and Minister of Mental Health and Addictions Ya’ara Saks announced more than CAD237,000 to continue supporting projects with Health Canada’s Substance Use and Addictions Program aimed at increasing access to services for people who use drugs while reducing stigma.\(^{1619}\)

On 16 August 2023, Minister Holland and Minister McLane announced that Prince Edward Island residents have saved over CAD675,000 on out-of-pocket costs as a result of previous efforts to lower the annual cap on household spending on medications and a reduction in co-p payments.\(^{1620}\)

On 29 August 2023, Minister Saks announced more than CAD81,000 to fund a not-for-profit community organization that aims to support black francophone young women and mothers of African origin living in Scarborough by giving them the knowledge and tools needed to reduce harms and risks associated with substance abuse.\(^{1621}\)

On 7 September 2023, Minister Holland announced almost CAD1.3 million in funding for projects aimed at improving access to vital Sexual and Reproductive Health services and reduce barriers to care for these underserved communities across the Prairies and beyond.\(^{1622}\) This will be done through healthcare provider training, SRH awareness campaigns, and culturally relevant tools and resources.

On 7 September 2023, the Government of Canada launched a public consultation to inform the second legislative review of the Tobacco and Vaping Products Act.\(^{1623}\) The review is guided by papers surrounding the issue of tobacco and vaping, and by health professionals, public health advocates and Indigenous people. The review aims to help improve the Government’s understanding of the vaping product market and provide a baseline assessment of the Act and track progress towards reducing tobacco use in Canada.

On 11 September 2023, Minister Saks announced more than CAD1.8 million in funding towards the Health Canada’s Substance Use and Addictions Program, to increase access to services for drug users, people at risk of experiencing substance-related harms, and issues related to homelessness.\(^{1624}\)

On 22 September 2023, Global Affairs Canada committed CAD4 million to a University of Montreal lead One Health empowerment project for disadvantaged women and girls in Burkina Faso and Senegal.\(^{1625}\) The project


\(^{1625}\) Project profile — Empowering women and girls in the fight against zoonotic diseases, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 22 September 2023. Access Date: 9 November 2023. https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P011368001ational.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P011368001
plans to teach improved screening for and diagnosis of zoonotic diseases, and support community-based management of zoonotic diseases. The project advances section three of SDG 3.

On 29 September 2023, the Government of Canada published proposed amendments to Canada’s Cross-Border Movement of Hazardous Waste and Hazardous Recyclable Material Regulations to control transboundary movements of e-waste to all countries to comply with the Basel Ban.1626 This intends to ensure that countries that do not want, or that do not have the necessary infrastructure to deal with e-waste do not face the burden of dealing with them, reducing harm to global environmental and human health.1626

On 29 September 2023, Minister Saks announced the launch of the 2023 national call for proposals for Health Canada’s Substance Use and Addictions Program to increase access to services for drug users and for people at risk of experiencing substance-related harms.1627

On 1 October 2023, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced an investment of CAD196.1 billion over 10 years to improve health care services for Canadians to address unique needs in four shared health priorities, including access to quality mental health and substance use services.1628

On 1 October 2023, Prime Minister Trudeau declared that dental costs for seniors would be lowered through the Canadian Dental Care Plan.1629 He also announced the Old Age Security and the Guaranteed Income Supplement to make life more affordable for seniors.

On 6 October 2023, Minister of Transport Pablo Rodriguez announced the enforcement of regulations allowing Transport Canada to fine people who violate the Motor Vehicle Safety Act, namely, importing vehicles seats, or tires that don’t meet Canadian safety standards; companies refusing to recall products after finding safety defects; and manufacturers failing to adequately test their products for safety standards. These regulations will aim to improve road safety.1630

On 10 October 2023, the Government of Canada and the Government of British Columbia announced a bilateral agreement funding CAD1.2 billion over the next three years.1631 The action plan aims to develop an innovative model of care at 83 acute care sites throughout British Columbia, introducing additional recruitment and retention initiatives, improving access to family care, recuing backlogs, enhancing youth services of treatment and recovery for addictions and mental health, increasing percentage of people in the province who can access health information electronically, up to 75 per cent.

On 11 October 2023, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Steven Guilbeault announced CAD4.4 million in funding through the Environmental Damages Fund to support projects in the province of Quebec that will help reduce transportation-related air pollution. This aims to support projects that reduce transportation-related air pollution by improving urban mobility. By doing so, it helps Canada move closer to net-zero emission goals and create a safer environment for the community.

On 20 October 2023, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) invested CAD26.6 million to support research and knowledge translation to address high priority health care challenges in Canada. The research teams aim to utilize digital solutions to enhance healthcare in rural and remote areas, address sexual health services in pharmacies, enhance care coordination for individuals with long Covid and chronic pain, and promote mental health in equity deserving communities. The investment advances sections four, seven and eight of SDG 3.

On 30 October 2023, Health Canada launched a renewed Canadian Drugs and Substances Strategy as a ‘compassionate approach’ towards healthcare and public safety. They committed to provide funding to communities to build their capacity to support data-driven community-led approaches to prevent and delay substance use in youth. This will be done by launching a Harm Reduction Fund providing funding to projects across Canada that help reduce HIV and hepatitis C among people who share injection and inhalation drug-use equipment, creating a mental Wellness Program to support First Nations and Inuit access to mental wellness services, and launching the Drug Stigma Awareness Training for the law enforcement community to help support frontline officers in their interactions with people who use substances.

On 30 October 2023, Minister Saks announced more than CAD21 million in federal funding for 52 projects through Health Canada’s Substance Use and Addictions Program as part of the renewed Canada Drugs and Substances Strategy.

On 6 November 2023, Health Canada released a statement to recognize National Pain Awareness Week in order to promote awareness for chronic pain, a noncommunicable disease.

On 15 November 2023, Minister Holland announced over CAD700,000 in funding from the Sexual and Reproductive Health Fund towards projects from the Sexual Health Nova Scotia Society and the Association of New Canadians in order to improve access to sexual and reproductive health services in Atlantic Canada.

On 16 November 2023, Health Canada released a statement to recognize Lung Cancer Awareness Month in order to raise awareness regarding lung cancer and prevention methods.\textsuperscript{1638}

On 20 November 2023, Health Canada released a statement recognizing National Addictions Awareness Week to promote education about substance abuse and to provide support to those suffering from addiction.\textsuperscript{1639} This includes the release of the renewed Canadian Drugs and Substances Strategy, a plan for Canada to deal with the overdose crisis and other issues surrounding substance use.

On 21 November 2023, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Chrystia Freeland announced the first details of the Canadian Dental Health Care Plan as part of the Fall 2023 Economic Statement; the plan will support up to nine million uninsured Canadians with net family incomes under CAD90,000 to secure the oral health care that they need as part of Canada’s universal public health system.\textsuperscript{1640} This helps meet SDG to expand access to universal health care and to provide financial risk protection. For families with net income under CAD70,000, there will be no co-payments. The plan builds on the foundation of the Canada Dental Benefit rolled out in 2022 to provide CAD1300 in direct upfront tax-free payments over two years to parents or guardians of children under 18 to cover dental care. Health Canada will release the phase in and implementation roll-out details before the end of 2023.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to reverse the first global decline in life expectancy in more than seven decades emphasizing the importance of achieving UHC by 2030 and accelerating progress toward SDG 3. Canada has taken numerous actions towards UHC, including improving access to healthcare services and the affordability of prescription medication. Canada has also acted on several targets of SDG 3, including preventing road traffic injuries, providing universal health coverage, providing universal access to sexual and reproductive healthcare services, addressing the harms of narcotics and illegal substances, taking action on noncommunicable diseases like cancer and mental health, improving research on medication and treatment and preparing for national and global health risks. Canada has, therefore, taken action on seven SDG 3 targets.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

\textit{Analyst: Advika Gudi}

\textbf{France: +1}

France has fully complied with its commitment to reverse the first global decline in life expectancy in more than seven decades emphasizing the importance of achieving universal health coverage (UHC) by 2030 and accelerating progress toward Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3.

On 22 May 2023, Ministry of the Interior and Overseas launched Road Safety Days at Work and called on employers to join the National Employers’ Appeal for Road Safety.\textsuperscript{1641} The ministry’s action contributes to reducing road deaths and promotes section six of SDG 3.


On 5 June 2023, Ministry of Health and Prevention launched Sexual Health Week to promote access to information about prevention of sexually transmitted infections and methods of contraception. The initiative furthers section seven of SDG 3.

On 6 June 2023, the Crisis and Support Centre transported water-purification units to Ukraine in the aftermath of the Kakhovka dam destruction. The stations reduced contaminated water consumption and helped achieve section nine of SDG 3.

On 13 June 2023, Minister Delegate for Territorial Organization and Health Professions Agnès Firmin Le Bodo announced a strategy to improve UHC access in overseas territories. The strategy focuses on multi-professional health facilities (MSPs) that resulted in more patient appointments and medical assistant employment. The plan includes EUR50 million for facility construction. The government aims to build 4,000 MSPs by 2027.

On 13 June 2023, Minister of Health and Prevention François Braun released a list of essential drugs to help manage their shortages. The list aims to ensure access to safe, affordable, and effective medicines and advances section eight of SDG 3.

On 13 June 2023, President Emmanuel Macron announced a strategy for domestic medicine manufacturing. The strategy launches eight projects with EUR160 million in government funding. The strategy aims to ensure access to safe, affordable, and effective medicines and advances section eight of SDG 3.

On 16 June 2023, Minister Braun announced broader dental coverage to promote preventative care and expand UHC. The government will increase its share of copayments for dental care from 30 to 40 per cent and plans to negotiate full contributions for certain services with providers later in the year.

On 13 July 2023, Minister Delage Le Bodo announced further actions to expand UHC access in overseas territories. The new plan allocates EUR65 million to increase the medical assistant workforce from 4,000 to

---


10,000. To cover rural areas, the strategy deploys 100 medical busses backed by EUR10 million in subsidies for health professionals to reach patients. The plan also calls for better healthcare coordination under the Territorial Health Professional Communities framework.

On 27 July 2023, the National Union of Health Insurance Funds signed a memorandum of understanding with doctors and representatives for the research sector. The memorandum outlines a sectoral economic trajectory and budget increase for 2024-2026. The agreement also outlines a new EUR150 million innovation fund and authorizes direct access to Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) testing. The prevention and innovation efforts for communicable diseases address section four of SDG 3.

On 8 August 2023, Ministry of Health and Prevention released a preliminary 2023-2033 National Health Strategy and opened a public consultation on its contents. The new strategy aims to bolster and expand France’s UHC system. The updated Strategy furthers section one and two of SDG 3 through provisions for maternal and infant health. The strategy outlines a plan for greater HIV testing, cancer care and testing, addiction prevention, sexual health integration, air quality improvements, research and innovation investments, and crisis capacity building in line with SDG 3’s sections three, four, five, seven, nine, A, and D.

On 1 September 2023, Prime Minister Élisabeth Borne proposed announced policy changes aimed at expanding access to UHC. The changes include incentives for health staff to work nights and weekends by increasing payment premiums to 25 percent and 20 percent respectively. As well, Prime Minister Borne proposed to expand the prescription purview of pharmacists to include angina and cystitis. These policy changes advance section four of SDG 3.

On 29 August 2023, Ministry of Health and Prevention released a report on the financing and regulation of health products. The report recommends pathways to promote access to care and medicines to inform the Social Security Financing Bill. The report aims to enhance UHC access and supports section eight of SDG 3.

On 27 September 2023, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Catherine Collona announced EUR7 million in humanitarian aid for Armenia in the Nagorno-Karabakh region. The aid includes emergency medical equipment and medicines, including for children. The aid expands access to pharmaceuticals and decreases under-five mortality rate to advance sections eight and two of SDG 3.

On 27 September 2023, Prime Minister Borne, Minister of Economics, Finance and Digital and Industrial Sovereignty, Bruno Le Maire, Minister of Health and Prevention Aurelien Rousseau and Minister Delegate for

---

1654 La Première ministre, Élisabeth BORNE, en déplacement au CHU de Rouen annonce des mesures pour l’amélioration de l’accès aux soins et des conditions de travail des acteurs de la santé, Ministère de la Santé et de la Prévention (Rouen) 1 September 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 December 2023.
Public Accounts Thomas Cazenave introduced the Social Security Financing Bill to the Council of Ministers and the National Assembly. In terms of prescriptions, the bill allows Minister Rousseau to manage prescriptions during supply shortages, allows pharmacists to prescribe medications for simple infections such as tonsillitis and cystitis, and allows patients with a sore throat or burning urination go directly to pharmacists. These changes will alleviate the stress on the primary health care system.

On 27 September 2023, the introduced Social Security Financing Bill addresses healthcare in terms of preventive care. The bill outlines that preventive health appointments will be provided at ages 25, 45, and 65 to strengthen the mental and physical health of adults and to prevent and manage chronic diseases and conditions. These changes will advance section four of SDG 3.

On 27 September 2023, the introduced Social Security Financing Bill also provides for reimbursement for the costs of reusable menstrual protection for insured persons under the age of 26 and for beneficiaries of complementary solidarity health insurance with no age limit. In addition, the bill legislates the full coverage for condoms. The bill establishes to assess all six-year-olds for physical and mental health and to follow assessment with diagnosis and treatment pathways as required. These measures align with SDG 3’s section seven, universal reproductive health, as well as universal health coverage, financial risk protection and affordable and accessible medicines outlined in section eight.

On 27 September 2023, Minister Le Maire and Minister Delegate Cazenave introduced the 2024 Budget Bill to the Council of Ministers and National Assembly. The budget proposes to improve access to health care by funding the 13 July 2023 announcement of “Practical Solutions for Health Care Access at the Local Level.” The budget provides EUR906 million for vaccine donations to developing countries. The bill includes provisions to prevent soil pollution, expand compulsory visits and screening for elementary students, including those under five, increase prescription drug coverage rate for those living with disabilities, increase the number of clinical trials, reduce smoking prevalence, cover flu vaccines, expand cancer screenings, sanitize drinking water, and combat drug addiction. As a result, the budget addresses sections two, three, four, five, eight, nine, and B of SDG 3.

On 27 September 2023, Minister Rousseau instructed regional health agencies, and the National Health Insurance Fund to implement the National Strategy to Combat Endometriosis and harmonize guiding principles. The strategy’s implementation seeks to incorporate endometriosis care into UHC and progresses section seven of SDG 3 with its focus on sexual and reproductive health.

On 16 October 2023, Minister of Ecological Transition and Territorial Cohesion Barbara Pompili launched an information campaign on air quality, transportation, and health. The campaign aims to reduce air pollution and promotes section nine of SDG 3.

---


On 26 October 2023, the Crisis and Support Center delivered supplies to Palestinian civilians in Gaza including medicines and water purification tablets. The delivery increases drug access in line with section eight of SDG 3 and prevents contaminated water consumption and the spread of water-borne diseases in Gaza, such as cholera.

On 4 November 2023, the National Assembly passed the 2024 Social Security Financing Bill.

On 9 November 2023, the National Assembly passed the 2024 Budget Bill.

On 9 November 2023, President Emmanuel Macron organized and held the International Humanitarian Conference for the Civilian Population in Gaza and pledged EUR100 million in aid. The funds include health supports that expand access and a particular focus on women and children. The expansion of health access and aim to address children’s health and nutrition needs address sections two and eight of SDG 3.

On 18 November 2023, Minister Delegate Le Bodo unveiled a ten-year strategy to combat antimicrobial resistance (AMR). The strategy focuses on education, research, and monitoring. The document aims to optimize use of existing drugs and develop new methods to combat AMR. Minister Le Bodo also announced that a French group will assist vulnerable countries in the fight against AMR. The strategy bolsters capacity to manage health threats and addresses section d of SDG 3.

On 20 November 2023, France delivered medicines and medical equipment to treat 1,000 Palestinian civilians, increasing access to care.

On 28 November 2023, Minister Rousseau announced the new National Tobacco Control Program 2023-2027. The program proposes measures to reduce smoking accessibility by including an increase in tobacco prices, limits on flavoured products, and a ban on disposable e-cigarette sales. The plan also outlines support for those quitting smoking to assist with withdrawal symptoms, and for industry workers to reduce the number of hours.

---

of incomes dependent on the tobacco. The program strengthens World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) implementation, advancing section a of SDG 3.

On 1 December 2023, the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs called on international partners to accelerate progress towards ending the AIDS epidemic.\textsuperscript{1668}

France has fully complied with its commitment to reverse the first global decline in life expectancy in more than seven decades emphasizing the importance of achieving UHC by 2030 and accelerating progress toward SDG 3. France advanced strong actions towards UHC, including improving access to healthcare services and the accessibility of prescription medication. France also acted on several targets of SDG 3, providing universal access to sexual and reproductive healthcare services, addressing the harms of narcotics and illegal substances, acting on noncommunicable diseases like cancer and mental health, promoting children’s health including for those under five, distributing vaccines to developing countries, limiting tobacco access, and enhancing capacity towards health threats. France has, therefore, acted on seven SDG 3 targets.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

\textit{Analyst: Jacob Rudolph}

\textbf{Germany: +1}

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to reverse the first global decline in life expectancy in more than seven decades emphasizing the importance of achieving universal health coverage (UHC) by 2030 and accelerating progress toward Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3.

On 26 May 2023, the Bundestag announced the Care Support and Relief Act, to ensure that parents pay less for nursing care insurance from the second child onwards.\textsuperscript{1669} It also ensures that people in need of care at home will receive higher benefits in the future, and caring relatives receive more and easier support from long-term care insurance. This aims to ease the burden of home care on the patient and family. The act also increases contribution rates by 0.35 percentage points toward long-term care insurance. Finally, the act increasing the subsidies for home care costs.

On 20 June 2023, the Federal Ministry of Health organised a conference to discuss the framework conditions and opportunities for using health data within and outside European borders.\textsuperscript{1670}

On 24 June 2023, Germany revised the Drinking Water Ordinance to guarantee a high level of drinking water quality while focusing especially on new challenges in the form of environmental factors affecting drinking water resources.\textsuperscript{1671}

On 5 July 2023, the Federal Cabinet adopted the 2024 Draft Budgetary Plan.\textsuperscript{1672} The plan includes the following measures with respect to public health care and allocates resources for: the Act Adopting the Federal Budget for the 2024 Fiscal Year and Fiscal Plan to 2027 adopted on 5 July 2023, the Long-term Care and Relief Support


\url{https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/presse/pressenachrichten/pflegereform-beschluss-bundestag-26-05-23.html}


\textsuperscript{1671} Drinking Water, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 24 June 2023. Access Date: 9 November 2023.
\url{https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/topics/drinking-water.html}

Act of 19 June 2023, and the Act to Combat Supply Shortages of Off-Patent Medicines and to Improve the Supply of Pediatric Medicines of 19 July 2023. The budget bill attends to general allocations and program breakouts for the federal Ministry of Health in support of universal public health. With respect to long term care, the budget increases the contribution rate in the long-term care insurance system by 0.35 per cent points as of 1 July 2023. It also enhances benefits and payments in kind for people receiving care in their own homes by 5 per cent effective 1 January 2024. The ‘generics’ bill establishes an early warning system to identify potential medicine supply shortages. It incentivises development and supply of pediatric medicines as well as generics; pricing can go up to 50 per cent over the latest reference price level. Additionally, the bill provides similar mechanisms for supply critical active pharmaceutical ingredients. Reserve antibiotics against multi resistant bacterial pathogens will also be significantly privileged. Pharmacies’ abilities to substitute medical products will be extended in the event of supply shortages. Collectively, these measures address sections eight and two of SDG 3’s targets pertaining to universal health care and financial risk protection as well as available and affordable medicines and vaccines, and newborn and pediatric health respectively.

On 6 July 2023, Germany and Georgia formed coordinated partnerships in human biomonitoring at the 7th ministerial conference of the World Health Organization (WHO). Human biomonitoring is used as a tool for health-related environmental monitoring, to determine the actual exposure of the population to pollutants. This helps measure the impact of pollutants and create actions and policies as needed.

On 10 July 2023, the federal and state governments agreed on a key point for a law on hospital reform scheduled to be enacted on 1 January 2024. The aim of this reform is to increase the quality of treatment, lessen the burden of bureaucracy from the system, and remove excessive economic constraints from hospitals. The reform provides an advance allowance to necessary clinics, ensuring they can supply treatment even at lower quantities – ending the flat rate per case system and providing greater access to treatment.

On 12 July 2023, Federal Health Minister Karl Lauterbach presented the Long Covid initiative to support those suffering the long-term effects of Covid-19. The Federal Ministry of Health has launched a website detailing offers of help, information on the current state of research and answers to the most important questions about long Covid. Additionally, Minister Lauterbach pledged EUR20 million in health services research towards long Covid.

On 9 August 2023, the Maternity protection committee published their first rule for risk assessment in the area of maternity protection, to support employers in carrying out risk assessments under maternity protection law. The rule specifies design of working conditions, impermissible working hours, activities and working conditions.

On 16 August 2023, the Federal Cabinet approved a law that regulates the controlled handling of cannabis, as well as making amendments to other regulations. Based on this new law, the Federal Ministry of Health

---


launched a campaign to educate adolescents and young adults on marijuana use. The new law limits distribution to adolescents between 18 and 21 years of age to 30 grams per month with a limit on the permissible THC content to 10 percent and controls the quality of cannabis distribution to its pure form. The aim is to curb the dealing in diluted or toxic substances through the black market, and to reduce the number of users.

On 30 August 2023, the Federal Cabinet approved a law to “Accelerate the Digitalization of the Healthcare System” that sets up an electronic patient record for everyone with statutory health insurance at the beginning of 2025. The record provides a medication overview to use digital solutions to improve everyday care in the country. The use of e-prescription will be established as a binding standard in medication supply, and its use will be simplified for insured people.

On 28 September 2023, Federal Development Minister Svenja Schulze and Minister Lauterbach jointly hosted a conference “Pandemics – no time for neglect,” where representatives from politics, international organizations, civil society, science and the private sector discuss steps to prioritise when preventing and preparing for future pandemics and outbreaks.

On 28 September 2023, Germany reached two agreements with the WHO: one to contribute an additional EUR40 million to the organization’s work with over 50 active health emergencies and the other to host the WHO Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence in Berlin. This brings Germany’s total monetary contribution for the year to WHO’s work with health emergencies to EUR53.5 million.

On 29 September 2023, the federal government’s commission on hospital care called for reform in conservative and surgical paediatric and adolescent medicine by introducing a paediatric institute of outpatient clinics, more flexible treatment of mental illnesses by hospitals and a continuation of the financial surcharge for the upcoming year of up to 20 percent.

On 30 September 2023, Federal Environment Minister Steffi Lemke announced the funding of EUR20 million to the fund of the Global Framework on Chemicals to support projects that lay the groundwork for dealing with dangerous chemicals in around 100 countries which do not yet have such a capacity.

On 19 October 2023, the Bundestag passed the hospital Transparency Act, which requires hospitals to provide the Institute for the Hospital Remuneration System with transparent information about the care provided.


This creates a data directory for public access of case numbers, available staff, complication rates, allocation to care levels and type of minimum services provided.

On 20 October 2023, the Bundestag passed the Nursing Studies Strengthening Act to strengthen university nursing education, to make it easier to recognize foreign qualifications in nursing.\(^{1684}\) It also stipulates that future students will receive a training allowance for the entire duration of their studies, and costs of training institutions, as with vocational training, can be refinanced through training funds. This intends to increase the number of healthcare professionals and reduce barriers for people entering the profession.

On 3 November 2023, the German delegation at a meeting of WHO reaffirmed Germany’s support for WHO’s proposed pandemic accord, which aims to bring about international agreement for collaboration regarding health emergencies and research.\(^ {1685}\) The delegation also reaffirmed German support for WHO’s 14th General Programme of Work for 2025-28, which aims, among other objectives, to handle pandemics, respond to health emergencies and deal with health risks from climate change and drug-resistant infections.

On 10 November 2023, the Centre for Artificial Intelligence in Public Health Research hosted a symposium on the topic of Artificial intelligence in Public Health Research where research findings in this area were presented.\(^ {1686}\) The symposium was intended to address the potential use of artificial intelligence in public health research and lay the groundwork for future collaborations in public healthcare.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to reverse the first global decline in life expectancy in more than seven decades emphasizing the importance of achieving UHC by 2030 and accelerating progress toward SDG 3. Germany has taken numerous actions towards UHC, including improving access to healthcare services and improving treatment centres such as hospitals. Germany has also acted on several targets of SDG 3, including maternal mortality prevention, preventing harm from pollutants and contaminantns, developing medicines, working against harmful substance use, preparing for future health emergencies, preventing pediatric mortality, promoting universal healthcare access and preventing noncommunicable diseases. Germany has, therefore, taken action on eight SDG 3 targets.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Advika Gudi*

**Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to reverse the first global decline in life expectancy in more than seven decades emphasizing the importance of achieving universal health coverage (UHC) by 2030 and accelerating progress toward Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3.


\(^ {1685}\) Germany reaffirms its commitment to WHO and key health priorities, World Health Organization (Geneva) 8 November 2023. Access Date: 22 December 2023. https://www.who.int/news/item/08-11-2023-germany-reaffirms-its-commitment-to-who-and-key-health-priorities

On 22 May 2023, the Ministry of Health announced it would “continue to contribute constructively” to enhance the national health system.\(^ {1687}\) These reforms aim to improve healthcare service quality and accessibility, reflecting Italy’s dedication to advancing UHC.

On 22 May 2023, the Ministry of Health announced its support for the Ukrainian healthcare system, as part of a broader international effort to aid in crisis situations.\(^ {1688}\) This commitment involves providing essential resources and expertise to bolster healthcare services in Ukraine, reflecting Italy’s dedication to global health solidarity and alignment with the UHC goals and SDG 3’s target of increasing financing towards recruitment, development, training, and retention of the healthcare workforce in developing countries.

On 23 May 2023, Minister of Health Orazio Schillaci announced an allocation of EUR8 million for hospital and territorial healthcare assistance compromised by the flood.\(^ {1689}\) The decree law, supporting Emilia Romagna, focuses on safeguarding hospital and territorial healthcare services, recognizing continuous training credits for healthcare operators, and facilitating the management of establishments with animals. This initiative aims to restore and strengthen healthcare facilities affected by the flood, ensuring continued assistance and care despite challenges, reflecting Italy’s commitment to maintaining robust healthcare services in emergency situations.

On 25 May 2023, Minister Schillaci signed a Program Agreement with the Puglia Region, focusing on healthcare investments.\(^ {1690}\) This agreement allocates nearly EUR300 million for healthcare enhancements, including completing the New San Cataldo Hospital in Taranto and constructing the New Hospital of North Barese. This funding, aimed at providing advanced, innovative healthcare services to the Puglia community, represents a commitment by Italy to strengthen its public healthcare system, addressing both hospital and territorial healthcare needs. The initiative aligns with Universal Health Coverage goals.

On 13 June 2023, Minister Schillaci highlighted the Council of the EU’s adoption of a Recommendation as a crucial tool in combating antibiotic-resistant infections.\(^ {1691}\) Speaking at the EU Health Council in Luxembourg, Minister Schillaci emphasized the importance of targeted and informed antibiotic use, research support, rapid diagnostic tests, and effective communication within a One Health context. This initiative, focusing on reducing resistant infections in humans and animals, aligns with Italy’s commitment to enhancing health outcomes and supports the objectives of Sustainable Development Goal 3, particularly in strengthening infection prevention, control, and robust surveillance systems.

On 10 July 2023, the Ministry of Health unveiled the National Plan for Rare Diseases (PNMR) 2023-2026,\(^ {1692}\) Orchestrated by Undersecretary Marcello Gemmato, this plan allocates EUR25 million annually for 2023 and

\(^{1687}\) Assemblea Oms, Schillaci: “Da Italia collaborazione costruttiva per più alti livelli di salute” Il Ministro insieme al vice ministro Cirilli a Ginevra incontra il direttore generale Tedros, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 22 May 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2023.

\(^{1688}\) Assemblea Oms, Schillaci: “Pieno sostegno al popolo ucraino, impegnati a supporto sistema sanitario” Il Ministro all’incontro organizzato dalla Polonia con il Ministro della Salute ucraino, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 22 May 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2023.


\(^{1690}\) Investimenti in sanità, Schillaci firma Accordo di Programma con Regione Puglia, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 25 May 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2023.


\(^{1692}\) Presentato il Piano Nazionale Malattie Rare 2023-2026. Gemmato: uno strumento aperto per un approccio multidisciplinare e di sistema, da declinare tutti insieme, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 10 July 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2023.
2024, aiming to provide uniform care for over 2 million Italians with rare diseases. The PNMR aligns with EU initiatives and focuses on diagnosis, treatment, and research, advancing Italy’s commitment to UHC and SDG 3 of supporting research and development of medicines.

On 28 July 2023, Minister Schillaci emphasized the nation’s ‘maximum commitment’ to combating hepatitis, highlighting prevention, early diagnosis, and effective treatments as strategic focuses.1693 This initiative, particularly through free national HCV screening and the updated National Plan for Viral Hepatitis Prevention, aligns with Italy’s efforts towards eradicating hepatitis and supports the goals of UHC and the SDG 3’s target of combating epidemics.

On 2 August 2023, the Italian State-Regions Conference approved the National Vaccination Plan 2023-2025, harmonizing vaccination strategies across regions to ensure equitable access.1694 This plan focuses on proactive healthcare and addressing the needs of high-risk populations. Key objectives include maintaining polio-free status, eliminating measles and rubella, preventing human papillomavirus-related cancers, enhancing vaccine coverage, and addressing healthcare inequalities.

On 3 August 2023, Italy and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) signed a financing agreement for EUR6 million to expand the Kidane Mihret Catholic General Hospital in Adwa, Ethiopia in order to improve access to healthcare for more than 70,000 people in the region.1695

On 17 August 2023, the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation signed a project agreement worth EUR7.6 million with UNOPS, aiming to provide multi-sectoral interventions to improve health conditions in Ethiopia.1696 The project will ensure quality healthcare services and improved nutrition for schoolchildren.

On 12 September 2023, the Ministry of Health and the Deposits and Loans Fund (CDP) Foundation signed a Memorandum of Understanding to support scientific research projects under the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR).1697 This collaboration allocates up to EUR1 million for Italian Research Institutes already receiving PNRR funds, focusing on healthcare research initiatives. This joint effort aims to enhance biomedical research within the national health service, aligning with Italy’s commitment to improving healthcare through research, a key aspect of UHC and SDG 3.

On 21 September 2023, Minister Schillaci, speaking at the UN General Assembly, emphasized the importance of strengthening international cooperation to improve global health.1698 Highlighting lessons from the Covid-19 pandemic, he advocated for fortified health services and an interdisciplinary approach, aligning with the One Health strategy. This stance, reflecting Italy’s commitment to UHC and SDG 3, also resonates with the

https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_4_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&comunicatistampa&id=5967

https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_4_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&comunicatistampa&id=5971


1697 Ministero della Salute e Fondazione CDP insieme per i progetti del PNRR nella ricerca scientifica, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 12 September 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2023.
https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_4_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&comunicatistampa&id=5977

https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_4_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&comunicatistampa&id=5981
country’s focus for its 2024 G7 presidency, underscoring the interconnectedness of human, animal, and environmental health.

On 28 September 2023, Minister Schillaci expressed satisfaction with the new agreement for the contractual renewal of the healthcare sector for 2019-2021. The agreement, a result of the Meloni government’s commitment to address delays, brings improvements in economic aspects and working conditions for healthcare workers. He also reiterated the government’s commitment to revitalizing the public healthcare sector, focusing on higher salaries and better work organization to address the shortage of medical professionals.

On 16 October 2023, Minister of Economy and Finance Giancarlo Giorgetti tabled the 2024 Draft Budget Plan with the Cabinet; its main measures focus on growing the national economy while maintaining sound public finances and social-economic balance as well as strengthening the national health care system. The draft budget allocates resources for public sector contract negotiations, with focus on health care workers. Minister Giorgetti adds an incremental EUR2.5 billion to increase their hourly wages in the 2024-2026 period. The budget increases financing for the national health care requirement by EUR3 billion for 2024, EUR4 billion for 2025, and EUR4.2 billion for 2026 towards SDG 3’s target eight around universal health care, financial risk protection, and available and accessible medicines. These allocations ensure public health care funding reaches 6.4 per cent of gross domestic product. Funding health care in Sicily’s region receives an additional EUR300 million share.

On 31 October 2023, the Council of Ministers published the Decree No. 145, the Budget Law 2024, approved on 18 October 2023. It provides authorization for the increases in the National Health Fund for 2024-2026 outlined in the 2024 Draft Budget Plan. Article 42 spells out that the National Health Fund improvements target distribution of medicines and the new ceilings set for pharmaceutical expenditures. Article 44 resets the ceilings at 8.6 per cent for direct purchases and 6.7 per cent for territorial pharmaceutical expenditures. As for distribution of medicines, Article 45 describes a new system of fixed and variable quotas for remuneration of pharmacies. Additional measures strengthen the network of pharmacies throughout the country. These initiatives are consistent with SDG 3’s section eight.

On 31 October 2023, the Italian Embassy in Libya, along with the World Health Organization, signed a “One Health” agreement to support efforts to prevent and control arboviral and zoonotic diseases in Libya in collaboration with the Libyan Ministry of Health and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation.

On 7 November 2023, the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation and UNOPS agreed to a EUR4.2 million project to promote healthcare quality in Sudan and provide a safe environment for patients with disabilities. This project will focus on Kassala State, and aims to improve access to quality health services for more than 2.8 million people.

---


On 23 November 2023, Minister Schillaci signed a decree for the 2023 psychologist bonus, underlining mental health as a key priority. The decree, part of a comprehensive mental health initiative, allocated EUR5 million for 2023, rising to 8 million from 2024, with bonuses available based on income levels. This measure aims to expand Universal Health Care by enhancing mental health care and addressing social stigma.

On 1 December 2023, Minister Schillaci announced the government will be increasing funds for telemedicine and home care, with EUR750 million going towards proximity care and management of chronic illnesses.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to reverse the first global decline in life expectancy in more than seven decades emphasizing the importance of achieving UHC by 2030 and accelerating progress toward SDG 3. It has demonstrated strong support of UHC, taking action across seven areas of SDG 3: increasing financing towards recruitment, development, training, and retention of the healthcare workforce in developing countries, achieving universal health coverage, supporting research and development of vaccines and medicines, strengthening capacity for early warning of global and national health risks, improving the health of children, ending epidemics and combating noncommunicable diseases.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Wyatt McConnell

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to reverse the first global decline in life expectancy in more than seven decades emphasizing the importance of achieving universal health coverage (UHC) by 2030 and accelerating progress toward Sust Development Goal (SDG) 3.

On 26 May 2023, the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency reached a common regulatory recognition partnership with Australia, Canada the European Union, Switzerland, Singapore, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The partnership will expedite and improve access to medicines and bolster section eight of SDG 3.

On 26 July 2023, representatives from the Cabinet Secretariat, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare and Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry attended a press conference regarding the launch of “Japan Health,” an international exhibition for healthcare and medical devices. This support for innovation reaffirms section B of SDG 3.

On 21 August 2023, Japan announced a USD2.4 million investment to Fiji’s Ministry of Health, targeted towards improving Fiji’s primary healthcare systems.

---


On 31 August 2023, Japan collaborated with the Government of Taiwan to hold the 20th Japan-Taiwan Symposium on Infectious Diseases.\(^{1709}\) At this symposium, representatives from both countries discussed topics including vaccine promotion, antimicrobial resistance, and surveillance strategies for emerging infectious diseases. These dialogues complement sections three, B, and D of SDG 3.

On 13 September 2023, Japan announced funding of USD72,000 to the Jezmo Charity Association, a Jordanian non-profit.\(^{1710}\) This funding will go towards the provision of medical equipment across Jordan and advances section C of SDG 3.

On 18 September 2023, Japan sponsored an event organized by the World Health Organization (WHO) regarding the topic of “Integrating Essential Nutrition Actions in Universal Health Coverage.”\(^{1711}\)

On 18 September 2023, Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare Keizo Takemi signed a Statement of Intent on Japan-US Health Security Collaboration with the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services Xavier Becerra.\(^{1712}\) This agreement will allow the countries to continue to work together on planning, developing, and distributing emergency medicines.

On 21 September 2023, Prime Minister Kishida delivered remarks at the meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on UHC.\(^{1713}\) Prime Minister Kishida reaffirmed Japan’s commitment to leading efforts surrounding UHC, referencing the G7 Hiroshima Summit as evidence of Japan’s previous work.

On 21 September 2023, Japan organized an event in partnership with the WHO regarding “Equitable Access to Medical Countermeasures and Impact Investment Initiative for Global Health.”\(^{1714}\)

On 1 October 2023, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare announced that it will sponsor two months of a Narcotics, Stimulants and Cannabis Abuse Prevention Campaign with the aim of raising awareness regarding the use of drugs and eventually eradicating drugs.\(^{1715}\)

On 10 October 2023, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism announced new revisions to the Passenger Motor Vehicle Transportation Business Transportation Regulations in order to improve the safety of chartered buses and prevent traffic accidents.\(^{1716}\)

---


On 19 October 2023, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare announced the purchase of 9 million doses of the omicron Covid-19 vaccine from Pfizer and 1 million doses of Moderna in order to ensure reliable supply of vaccines to the public.\footnote{新型コロナワクチンの追加購入に係るファイザー社及びモデルナ社との合意につい, 厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 19 October 2023. Access Date: 24 December 2023. https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_35861.html}


On 1 December 2023, the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare announced awareness events for World AIDS Day along with various organizations in order to promote education regarding the disease.\footnote{世界エイズデーに向けた普及啓発イベントを実施します, 厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 1 December 2023. Access Date: 24 December 2023. https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/0000183582_00012.html}

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to reverse the first global decline in life expectancy in more than seven decades emphasizing the importance of achieving UHC by 2030 and accelerating progress toward SDG 3. Japan demonstrated strong action towards universal health coverage both nationally and globally. It has also taken action on six aspects of SDG 3: road traffic safety, preventing drug abuse, researching and developing medicines and vaccines, ending global epidemics, promoting universal health coverage, and financing the development of healthcare systems in developing countries.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

**Analyst: Hannah Cluroe**

**United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to reverse the first global decline in life expectancy in more than seven decades emphasizing the importance of achieving universal health coverage (UHC) by 2030 and accelerating progress toward Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3.


The funding includes GBP24 million for new antibiotic and vaccine development which advances section B of SDG 3. Deaths caused by AMR disproportionately impact children under five years of age meaning these efforts directly address goals in section two of SDG 3. The funding increases capacity for nations to mitigate and manage health threats and Minister of State Quince’s unveiling of the UK’s Global Health Framework strengthen section D of SDG 3. The framework recommit the UK to the SDGs and presents plans to bolster global health security, the World Health Organization (WHO) and to promote research and development.
On 24 May 2023, the Minister for Development Andrew Mitchell pledged GBP143 million in humanitarian aid to East Africa.1722 The funding enables partners to deliver health services and promotes section eight of SDG 3.

On 25 May 2023, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care Steve Barclay announced GBP20 billion in capital funding to rebuild five hospitals.1723 The funding to repair the hospitals reduces risks for patients and staff while ensuring that access to UHC will continue in affected communities.

On 26 May 2023, the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) announced the Innovative Devices Access Pathway to streamline regulations and facilitate product to patient delivery.1724 The pathway targets medical devices that can improve treatment outcomes and advances section four of SDG 3 to help prevent premature mortality.

On 26 May 2023, the MHRA announced a common regulatory recognition partnership with Australia, Canada, the European Union, Japan, Switzerland, Singapore and the United States.1725 The partnership will expedite and improve access to medicines and bolster section eight of SDG 3.

On 30 May 2023, Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Primary Care and Public Health Neil O’Brien announced plans to close a regulatory loophole that allows distribution of free vaping samples to minors.1726 In addition, they launched a review into prohibiting nicotine-free vape sales to minors. To bolster prevention efforts, vaping risk education forms a new component in the Relationships, Sex and Health Education curriculum. G7 members classify vapes as tobacco products and their control strengthens implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC), advancing section A of SDG 3.1727

On 9 June 2023, the MHRA announced the Windsor Framework to secure medicine supplies to Northern Ireland.1728 The framework allows access to pharmaceuticals furthering section eight of SDG 3.

On 14 June 2023, the Minister of State for Health and Social Care Helen Whately announced government commitments to assist local health systems.1729 The government committed to aiding local units to implement the new National Health System (NHS) England operating framework, and to offer greater funding certainty and alleviate administrative burdens by tweaking reporting requirements. The commitments benefit UHC delivery and access by empowering local providers.

---

On 15 June 2023, Parliamentary Under Secretary O’Brien announced that those aged 60 and over will continue receiving free prescription medication and that the eligibility age will not be raised to 66 to match the pension system. The pharmaceutical coverage program bolster access to affordable medicines under UHC.

On 15 June 2023, the Prime Minister’s Special Representative for Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict and Minister of State for the Middle East, North Africa, South Asia, the United Nations and the Commonwealth Tariq Ahmed pledged GBP150 million for Syrians in need. The funds aim to provide resources to 65,000 vulnerable Syrians annually and advance section seven of SDG 3 by offering specialized sexual and reproductive healthcare.

On 23 June 2023, Secretary of State Barclay and Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology Chloe Smith allocated GBP21 million to the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Diagnostic Fund speed diagnosis and improve treatment outcomes for non-communicable conditions. The funding supports premature death prevention and section four of SDG 3.

On 26 June 2023, Prime Minister Sunak and Secretary of State Barclay announced a national targeted lung cancer screening programme to aid early detection and improve treatment outcomes. The program focuses on those aged 55 to 74 with a smoking history. The cancer-combating efforts aim to reduce premature mortality and aid section four of SDG 3.

On 28 June 2023, Secretary of State Barclay and Minister of State Whately opened bids for a GBP1 million defibrillator fund. The fund aims to place defibrillators in more public spaces. The lifesaving devices aim to prevent premature mortality from heart related conditions and help achieve section four of SDG 3.

On 29 June 2023, Secretary of State Barclay unveiled a digital health check to detect hypertension and cardiovascular disease. The check aims to prevent heart attack and stroke cases by detecting heart problems earlier. These premature death prevention efforts further progress towards section four of SDG 3. The digital check also aspires to improve UHC access by opening up space for appointments.

On 30 June 2023, the NHS England released its GBP2.4 billion Long Term Workforce Plan. The plan aims to address shortfalls within the healthcare system and protect the UK’s UHC system through training efforts to ensure access to quality care. The plan also outlines the government’s effort to double medical school places, increase General Practitioner (GP) places by 50 percent, nearly double nursing places, and increase dentistry places by 40 percent by 2031. The plan also includes retention efforts through enhanced contract flexibility, pension scheme reforms, and improved childcare availability. The NHS places renewed focus on efficiency by incorporating technological innovations and associate positions. The plan commits the government to explore reforms that incentivize dentists to provide more public NHS care, thereby expanding dental care access as part of UHC.

---

On 4 July 2023, the Minister of State for Education Nick Gibb and Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Women and for Mental Health and Women’s Health Strategy Maria Caulfield announced that the government expanded the free flu vaccine program to cover secondary school students.\textsuperscript{1737} The efforts to achieve universal vaccine access further section eight of SDG 3.

On 5 July 2023, Prime Minister Sunak, the Secretary of State Barclay, and the Secretary of State for Business and Trade, President of the Board of Trade, and the Minister for Women and Equalities announced an agreement with BioNTech SE to tailored cancer immunotherapies and vaccines for 10,000 patients by 2030.\textsuperscript{1738} This advancement in cancer treatment advances section four of SDG 3.

On 6 July 2023, the Secretary of State Barclay convened an NHS Recovery Summit to address waitlists in the UHC system.\textsuperscript{1739} The summit facilitated ideas and cooperation to improve UHC access.

On 10 July 2023, the Representative at the British Office Taipei John Dennis and Taiwanese Representative to the United Kingdom Kelly Wu-Chao Hsieh signed a memorandum of understanding including cooperation commitments on pandemic preparedness, health insurance, and mental health.\textsuperscript{1740} The memorandum furthers efforts on health threat management capacity in section D of SDG 3, financial risk protection for UHC, and mental health promotion in section four of SDG 3.

On 20 July 2023, the Parliamentary Under Secretary Caulfield established a maternal and neonatal care oversight group to improve care quality through standards, best practices, and accountability.\textsuperscript{1741} The new oversight body follows a report on shortcomings at the East Kent Hospitals NHS trust and accompanies other directives to combat mortality. Measures include a national monitoring taskforce for maternity and neonatal wards, two investigations on training and teamwork to augment care, and maternity care representation on trust boards. The new actions promote maternal and neonatal health and address sections one and two of SDG 3.

On 22 July 2023, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State Caulfield announced new policies to support women’s health.\textsuperscript{1742} The measures allocate GBP25 million to finance women’s health hubs across the country. The NHS website launched a new area dedicated to women’s health featuring information on periods, adenomyosis, gynaecological conditions, fertility, pregnancy, heart health and cancers. Website changes also include access to information on publicly funded in vitro fertilization treatment. Caulfield also announced a new AI method to monitor maternity health risks. The suite of measures address sections one and seven of SDG 3 by aiming to reduce maternal mortality and expand access to sexual and reproductive care.

On 25 July 2023, the UK Health Security Agency released its three-year strategy to bolster health security and tackle new and re-emerging risks.\textsuperscript{1743} The strategy focuses on infectious diseases and environmental health hazards. In the report, the UK commits to support the WHO’s health security priorities including in developing

The strategy strengthens global capacity to mitigate and manage health risks under section D of SDG 3.

On 28 July 2023, the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs James Cleverly announced GBP1 million for women and children in Yemen. The funds aid access to food, water, and reproductive and sexual health services. The aid aims to lower mortality and illness for women and children while advancing section one, two, and seven of SDG 3.

On 3 August 2023, the Minister of State Quince and Minister of State for Science, Research and Innovation George Freeman announced GBP33 million for inhaler manufacturing. The funds support drug availability within the UHC system aiding access and affordability.

On 4 August 2023, the Parliamentary Undersecretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Trudy Harrison made GBP6 million in Air Quality Grants available to communities. The grants primarily focus on reducing particulate matter and other pollution to below legal thresholds and help achieve section nine of SDG 3.

On 7 August 2023, the UK Health Security Agency introduced the Vaccine Development and Evaluation Centre. The centre’s initiatives span vaccine research, development, testing, and evaluation which advance section B of SDG 3. The centre emphasizes work on gaps in current vaccine capabilities.

On 10 August 2023, the Minister of State Quince announced an interim delivery plan to address myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome care. The plan aims to advance research, change attitudes, and enhance education about the illness. The plan’s well-being promotion efforts fall within section four of SDG 3.

On 13 August 2023, the Secretary of State Barclay opened dialogues with administrations in Wales and Scotland to address medical waitlists. The efforts to shorten waitlists enhance access to UHC.

On 14 August 2023, the Secretary of State Barclay launched a public consultation on tobacco packaging inserts that encourage people to quit smoking. The proposed inserts address section a of SDG 3 and its commitment towards the WHO FCTC.

---

On 15 August 2023, the Secretary of State Barclay and the Minister of State Quince announced GBP250 million to add 900 beds throughout the NHS system. The funding strengthens care delivery and expands hospital care access to bolster UHC.

On 16 August 2023, Secretary of State Barclay announced GBP210 million to combat antimicrobial resistance. The UK will partner with countries across Asia and Africa to strengthen health risk management capacity and progress section D of SDG 3.

On 22 August 2023, the UK Health Security Agency launched a GBP1 million study into mpox asymptomatic transmission and opened a call for participants. The study aims to provide information on communicable disease spread and advances efforts to achieve section 3 of SDG 3.

On 25 August 2023, the Secretary of State Barclay and Parliamentary Under Secretary of State Caulfield announced GBP10 million for a relaunched fund to help non-governmental organizations expand suicide prevention efforts. The fund aims to reduce premature mortality as detailed in section four of SDG 3.

On 29 August 2023, the Minister of State Freeman and Minister of State Quince awarded GBP5 million to twelve projects which seek to combat fatal drug overdoses. The focus on premature death prevention and substance abuse progress sections four and five of SDG 3.

On 1 September 2023, the Department of Health and Social Care awarded the Tropical Health Education Trust GBP9 million to workforce training and exchange programs in Kenya, Nigeria, and Ghana. The funding’s focus on the health workforce in developing counties addresses section C of SDG 3.

On 4 September 2023, the MHRA released guidance to industry on the common regulatory recognition partnership with Australia, Canada, the European Union, Japan, Switzerland, Singapore and the United States. The guidance aims to help implement the expedited and improve access to medicines that the partnership puts in place and bolster section eight of SDG 3.

On 5 September 2023, the Minister of State Freeman launched the Medicines Manufacturing Skills Centre of Excellence backed by GBP5.5 million to attract and retain talent to spur medicinal innovation. The centre and funding aid the research and development process for medicine and further efforts towards section B of SDG 3.

---


On 11 September 2023, the Secretary of State Barclay and Parliamentary Under Secretary of State released the Suicide Prevention Strategy for England: 2023-2028. The strategy aims to reduce suicide deaths within two and a half years. It establishes an alert system to better prepare educational institutions and charities to mitigate risks and promote safety. The strategy outlines updated methods for first responders and plans for implementing a suicide trend surveillance system. The plan also promotes international cooperation. By introducing steps to reduce premature mortality, the strategy advances section four of SDG 3.

On 12 September 2023, the Financial Secretary to the Treasury Victoria Atkins announced GBP12.4 million in treasury awards for information and education projects about endometriosis. The projects seek to assess impact on women in the workplace. The funding addresses components of sexual and reproductive health outlined in section seven of SDG 3.

On 12 September 2023, the Permanent Under-Secretary at the UK’s Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office Phillip Barton announced GBP3 million for the United Nations High for Refugees to deliver humanitarian aid to Rohingya refugees. The funding aims to provide healthcare access and moves forward section eight of SDG 3.

On 13 September 2023, the MHRA introduced a new regional centre to facilitate adverse impact reporting from medications. The ‘Yellow Card’ centre aims to ensure the safety and efficacy of available medicines and addresses section eight of SDG 3.

On 14 September 2023, the Secretary of State Barclay and Minister of State Whately announced GBP200 million for the NHS targeted at enhancing care in the UHC system this winter.

On 27 September 2023, the UK Health Security Agency delivered genomic sequencing equipment to the Caribbean Public Health Agency to assist in Covid-19 monitoring. The equipment strengthens the capacity of developing countries in relation to health risks as outlined in section d of SDG 3.

On 29 September 2023, the Parliamentary Undersecretary of State for Europe at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office Leo Docherty announced GBP1 million for the United Nations High for Refugees to deliver humanitarian aid to Rohingya refugees.

On 11 September 2023, the Secretary of State Barclay and Parliamentary Under Secretary of State released the Suicide Prevention Strategy for England: 2023-2028. The strategy aims to reduce suicide deaths within two and a half years. It establishes an alert system to better prepare educational institutions and charities to mitigate risks and promote safety. The strategy outlines updated methods for first responders and plans for implementing a suicide trend surveillance system. The plan also promotes international cooperation. By introducing steps to reduce premature mortality, the strategy advances section four of SDG 3.

The ‘Yellow Card’ centre aims to ensure the safety and efficacy of available medicines and addresses section eight of SDG 3.

On 12 September 2023, the Permanent Under-Secretary at the UK’s Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office Phillip Barton announced GBP3 million for the United Nations High for Refugees to deliver humanitarian aid to Rohingya refugees. The funding aims to provide healthcare access and moves forward section eight of SDG 3.

On 13 September 2023, the MHRA introduced a new regional centre to facilitate adverse impact reporting from medications. The ‘Yellow Card’ centre aims to ensure the safety and efficacy of available medicines and addresses section eight of SDG 3.

On 14 September 2023, the Secretary of State Barclay and Minister of State Whately announced GBP200 million for the NHS targeted at enhancing care in the UHC system this winter.

On 27 September 2023, the UK Health Security Agency delivered genomic sequencing equipment to the Caribbean Public Health Agency to assist in Covid-19 monitoring. The equipment strengthens the capacity of developing countries in relation to health risks as outlined in section d of SDG 3.

On 29 September 2023, the Parliamentary Undersecretary of State for Europe at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office Leo Docherty announced GBP1 million for the United Nations High for Refugees to deliver humanitarian aid to Rohingya refugees.

---

On 3 October 2023, the Secretary of State Barclay announced GBP30 million for technology implementation at the NHS. The project aims to expand virtual wards to improve access to care at home and open spaces for care in hospitals advancing UHC. Other initiatives address section four of SDG 3 with improved imaging technology to aid earlier diagnoses for cancer and other non-communicable diseases.

On 3 October 2023, the Secretary of State Barclay announced that the government moved forward its timeline to fund 205 additional medical school places by 2024. The change means that the NHS will experience an earlier injection of staff and patients will see better access to UK’s UHC system.

On 4 October 2023, Prime Minister Sunak announced the government’s introduction of a law to prohibit the sale of tobacco products to those born after 1 January 2009. The proposed legislation strengthens implementation of the WHO FCTC and section A of SDG 3.

On 5 October 2023, the Minister of State Whately announced GBP3 million for technology implementation to improve care outcomes. Selected projects include digital medication management, promote independence for those receiving at home care, monitor risks for at home patients, and fall prevention for seniors. The funds aim to reduce hospital re-admissions and improve treatment outcomes, addressing section four of SDG 3.

On 12 October 2023, Prime Minister Sunak, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State O’Brien, and Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs Rebecca Pow opened a public consultation on the government’s draft law to prohibit the sale of tobacco products to those born after 1 January 2009. The consultation represents another mandated step to passing and implementing the legislation that will strengthen the WHO FCTC and section A of SDG 3.

On 12 October 2023, the MHRA announced a new expedited processing program for medicinal clinical trials in the lowest risk categories. The process aids medicine research and development and addresses section B of SDG 3.

On 16 October 2023, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State O’Brien opened a public consultation to improve care for alcohol abuse treatment, advancing section five of SDG 3.

---


---

G7 Research Group, 19 February 2024

308
On 19 October 2023, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State Caulfield announced plans to create a national pelvic health service with GBP11 million in resources. The organization and funding enables early assessment and information for pregnant women on pelvic dysfunction and birth injuries. The focus on reducing maternal injuries addresses section one of SDG 3.

On 23 October 2023, Prime Minister Sunak and the Secretary of State of Cleverly announced GBP20 million in additional humanitarian aid for Palestinian civilians. The funding aims to address healthcare needs and promotes section eight of SDG 3.

On 24 October 2023, the Minister of State Whately announced GBP42.6 billion in adult social care grants. The investments support the care workforce and expand access to care. Projects include the Shared Lives program that aids mental health and advances section four of SDG 3.

On 25 October 2023, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State Caulfield announced the removal of cost prohibitive screening requirements for same sex couples to access IVF. The changes also allow those with non-transmissible Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) to pursue IVF. The expanded access to reproductive health services addresses section seven of SDG 3.

On 25 October 2023, the Parliamentary Under Secretary Caulfield announced nearly GBP5 million to support youth access to mental health care. Ten community locations will receive funds to provide earlier interventions and mitigate mental crises. The funding advances the mental health promotion component in section four of SDG 3.

On 29 October 2023, Prime Minister Sunak announced GBP100 million for AI initiatives in life sciences. Proposed projects include dementia treatment and diagnosis and management, addressing section four of SDG 3.

On 30 October 2023, the UK Health Security Agency unveiled a pilot project to monitor infections in 500 care homes across England. The initiative aims to prevent communicable infection spread and advances section three of SDG 3.

On 30 October 2023, the Secretary of State Barclay announced GBP21 million for an AI initiative to speed accurate lung cancer diagnoses. The action addresses section four of SDG 3 by aiding reducing premature mortality from a non-communicable disease through early diagnosis.

On 30 October 2023, the Department of Health and Social Care released a consultation response on extended amendments to the Human Medicines Regulation to promote vaccine access.\textsuperscript{1781} The amendment allows non-medical but legally authorised and trained personnel to administer a flu or Covid-19 vaccine. The regulations waive manufacturer and wholesale dealer licences to allow expedited Covid-19 vaccine preparation and labelling, and Covid-19 and flu vaccine transportation. The facilitated access to vaccines and mitigation of communicable diseases addresses sections eight and three of SDG 3.

On 2 November 2023, the Minister of State Freeman announced investments totalling GBP337 million through the International Science Partnerships Fund.\textsuperscript{1782} The funding includes GBP21 million allocated towards infectious disease research in Southeast Asia. The research focuses on epidemic and antimicrobial resistance threats and will strengthen health management efforts outlined in section d of SDG 3.

On 6 November 2023, the Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the World Trade Organization and United Nations Simon Manley delivered a speech at the Seventh Intergovernmental Negotiating Body, calling for a legally binding Pandemic Accord to mitigate public health threats.\textsuperscript{1783} The diplomatic effort in the remarks relates to section D of SDG 3 in the strengthening of health risk management capacity.

On 9 November 2023, the Secretary of State for Transport Mark Harper and Minister of State for Transport Jesse Norman introduced new legislation to regulate self-driving vehicles.\textsuperscript{1784} The proposed legislation creates a safety framework and empowers government bodies to enforce accountability. The bill establishes legal liability rules introduces standards. The legislation aims to protect drivers and passengers from road accidents and progresses section six of SDG 3.

On 13 November 2023, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State O’Brien announced GBP267 million for substance treatment and recovery services.\textsuperscript{1785} The funding will recruit staff and connect former incarcerated individuals with care. The expanded care advances section five of SDG 3.

On 17 November 2023, the Prime Minister’s Office announced that women in England will be able to access contraceptive pills at pharmacies without a GP referral.\textsuperscript{1786} The action follows additional training for pharmacists and expands access to sexual and reproductive health services as outlined in section seven of SDG 3.

On 20 November 2023, the Department of Health and Social Care, the NHS England, and the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry announced a voluntary pricing scheme for branded medicine.\textsuperscript{1787} The scheme saves a projected GBP14 billion by increasing medicine affordability, advancing section eight of SDG 3.


\textsuperscript{1783} UK Statement at 7th Intergovernmental Negotiating Body, Government of the United Kingdom (Geneva) 7 November 2023. Access Date: 9 December 2023.


On 22 November 2023, the Chancellor of the Exchequer Jeremy Hunt released the Autumn 2023 Economic Statement and detailed various commitments to advance public universal health care in the United Kingdom.\(^{1788}\) The statement confirms 2024-25 spending levels at GBP162.5 billion for the NHS. The 2023 Statement adds a further GBP200 million to enhance NHS resilience. In addition, it allocates GBP2.4 billion for the June 2023 NHS Long-term Workforce Plan. This plan includes productivity measures, staff training, an initial increase in the number of medical student placements by 205 in 2024 and doubling of the number of medical student and nursing student spaces annually by 2031.

On 22 November 2023, the released Autumn 2023 Economic Statement will fund the initiative for the first smoke-free generation and a new legislation to work to prevent around 115,000 premature deaths from heart disease, stroke, and lung cancer and other respiratory diseases. For mental health, it will create additional 100,000 places over five years in the Individual Support and Placement for Severe Mental Illness program and increase funding to Talking Therapies UK to expand the number of sessions per treatment course by 2028-2029.

On 22 November 2023, the released Autumn 2023 Economic Statement will provide GBP520 million towards advanced manufacturing in life sciences. An incremental GBP10 million from the government and GBP10 million from Scottish Enterprises will fund a world class Manufacturing Centre of Excellence in Oligonucleotides. The Statement also allocates GBP5 million to the Fleming Centre leading up to the centenary of penicillin’s discovery. It provides GBP51 million to Our Future Health to genotype one million patients and to recruit more volunteers for the same. They will also look at individualized therapies for children with ultra-rare diseases. These measures collectively address SDG 3’s targets including, newborn and child health (section 2) mental health (section 4) UHC, financial risk protection, as well as availability and affordability of medicines and vaccines (section eight) and reduction of tobacco use (section A).

On 29 November 2023, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care Victoria Atkins announced GBP20 million to expand HIV testing to 46 new sites.\(^{1789}\) The testing scheme aids early detection leading to better treatment outcomes and helps prevent transmission. The funding addresses section three of SDG 3 and its commitment to end the AIDS epidemic.

On 29 November 2023, the MHRA’s Criminal Enforcement Unit seized thousands of illicit drugs including opioids. The raid prevented substance abuse in line with section five of SDG 3.

On 30 November 2023, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State Caulfield announced a suicide surveillance system.\(^{1790}\) The system will provide data to inform creation of a national suicide alert system aimed at prevention. The system aids premature mortality prevention, advancing section four of SDG 3.

On 1 December 2023, the Export Credit Agency announced GBP226 million to support the Iraqi Government in developing a 350km drainage network and fifteen wastewater stations, providing a projected 25,000 households with clean water access.\(^{1791}\) By mitigating contamination and reducing water borne disease spread, this funding addresses section three and section nine of SDG 3.

---

\(^{1788}\) Minister of the Exchequer Delivers Autumn 2023 Economic Statement, Her Majesty’s Treasury (London) 22 November 2023. Access Date: 11 December 2023. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6568909c5936bb00133167cc/E02982473_Autumn_Statement_Nov_23_Accessible_Final.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6568909c5936bb00133167cc/E02982473_Autumn_Statement_Nov_23_Accessible_Final.pdf)


The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to reverse the first global decline in life expectancy in more than seven decades emphasizing the importance of achieving universal health coverage (UHC) by 2030 and accelerating progress toward Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3. The United Kingdom advanced strong actions towards UHC, including improving access to healthcare services and the accessibility of prescription medication. The United Kingdom also addressed all 13 sections of SDG 3.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

**United States: +1**

United States has fully complied with its commitment to reverse the first global decline in life expectancy in more than seven decades emphasizing the importance of achieving universal health coverage (UHC) by 2030 and accelerating progress toward Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3.

On 26 May 2023, the Food and Drug Administration reached a common regulatory recognition partnership with Australia, Canada, the European Union, Japan, Switzerland, Singapore, and the United Kingdom.1792 The partnership will expedite and improve access to medicines and bolster section eight of SDG 3.

On 5 June 2023, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) held an in-person Sickle Cell Disease Data Summit with organizations supporting a coordinated response to the disease.1793 This summit marks an effort in addressing sickle cell disease through enhanced data collection and collaboration, contributing to the goals of UHC and aligning with SDG 3’s section four focus on reducing illness from non-communicable diseases.

On 8 June 2023, the HHS released its first-ever Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Federal Implementation Plan.1794 This comprehensive strategy aims to address and reduce the impact of STIs nationwide, supporting the advancement of UHC and aligning with SDG 3’s section 7 targets on sexual and reproductive health.

On 9 June 2023, the Biden Administration announced significant cost reductions for 43 prescription drugs as part of the cost-saving measures under President Biden’s Inflation Reduction Act.1795 This measure, aimed at making essential medications more affordable, advances UHC by improving access to healthcare.

On 9 June 2023, the HHS announced a new USD15 million loan repayment program to strengthen the pediatric health care workforce.1796 This initiative aims to bolster the availability and quality of pediatric care, particularly

---


in underserved areas, supporting the goals of UHC and aligning with SDG 3’s section two focus on child health and well-being.

On 12 June 2023, the Biden-Harris administration announced the introduction of new tools to lower prescription drug costs for low-income seniors and people with disabilities. This initiative, aimed at making essential medications more affordable, supports the advancement of UHC by addressing the healthcare needs of vulnerable populations.

On 13 June 2023, the Biden-Harris administration announced the expansion of Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program postpartum coverage in New York, making it the 35th state, along with the District of Columbia, to offer full-year coverage after pregnancy. This expansion enhances healthcare support for new mothers, aligning with Universal Health Coverage goals and supporting SDG 3’s section one emphasis on maternal health.

On 14 June 2023, the HHS announced the allocation of nearly USD9 million to increase the number of substance use disorder clinicians in underserved communities. This funding initiative is aimed at enhancing treatment capabilities for substance use disorders, directly supporting the Universal Health Coverage goals and aligning with SDG 3’s section A on strengthening the treatment and prevention of substance abuse.

On 21 June 2023, the Biden-Harris administration announced a public-private partnership to expand access to contraceptive care. This collaborative effort aims to enhance reproductive health services, supporting the advancement of UHC aligning with SDG 3’s section seven objectives on sexual and reproductive health.

On 23 June 2023, the HHS announced the allocation of USD69 million for teen pregnancy prevention opportunities. This initiative aims to enhance educational and healthcare services for adolescents, contributing to the goals of UHC and aligning with SDG 3’s section seven focus on promoting sexual and reproductive health.

On 24 June 2023, the Biden-Harris administration reaffirmed its commitment to advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights globally. This pledge, highlighting a focus on comprehensive healthcare, aligns

with the UHC objectives and supports SDG 3 by ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive healthcare services.

On 29 June 2023, the HHS released a draft framework designed to accelerate efforts in helping Americans avoid and quit smoking. This initiative tackles one of the leading causes of preventable diseases, directly supports the advancement of Universal Health Coverage and aligns with SDG 3, particularly in strengthening the implementation of tobacco control measures in section A.

On 29 June 2023, HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra acknowledged the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) recommendation for older and immunocompromised adults to receive the Respiratory Syncytial Virus vaccine. This decision aims to enhance protection against communicable diseases in vulnerable populations, aligning with the goals of Universal Health Coverage and supporting SDG 3 section four targets.

On 30 June 2023, the HHS announced a series of actions to lower healthcare costs through the implementation of the Inflation Reduction Act, including a new provision allowing Medicare to negotiate lower drug prices. This initiative represents a step towards reducing financial barriers to healthcare, thereby supporting the advancement of UHC.

On 13 July 2023, the HHS announced the Food and Drug Administration’s approval of the first daily over-the-counter oral contraceptive. This decision represents an advancement in women’s reproductive health, increasing accessibility to birth control and reinforcing the commitment to Universal Health Coverage and SDG 3 section seven targets for sexual and reproductive health services.

On 13 July 2023, the CDC announced the launch of the Bridge Access Program, set to provide free Covid-19 vaccines and treatments to uninsured and underinsured adults starting fall 2023. This program aims to improve public health response and accessibility, enhancing UHC and SDG 3 section three targets to combat communicable diseases.

On 19 July 2023, the HHS distributed USD47.8 million in grant funding for programs expanding access to medications for opioid use disorder and addressing other facets of overdose and substance use. This decision aims to enhance protection against communicable diseases in vulnerable populations, aligning with the goals of Universal Health Coverage and supporting SDG 3.


initiative represents a step towards enhancing healthcare services for substance use disorders, aligning with the goals of UHC the SDG 3 section 5 targets.

On 20 July 2023, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved requests from California and Kentucky to provide essential behavioural health services. This decision supports the expansion of mental health and substance use disorder services, furthering the commitment to Universal Health Coverage and addressing key aspects of SDG 3.

On 25 July 2023, the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and the Treasury announced proposed rules to strengthen the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act. This collaborative effort aims to enhance mental health and substance use disorder benefits for Americans, promoting equitable healthcare access in line with UHC goals.

On 26 July 2023, the HHS, through the Health Resources and Services Administration, invested USD11 million to expand medical residencies in rural communities. This initiative aims to enhance healthcare services in underserved areas, contributing to the advancement of UHC.

On 31 July 2023, the HHS announced the Medicare Dementia Care Model, aimed at enhancing dementia care for Medicare beneficiaries. This initiative, led by Secretary Becerra, focuses on comprehensive care planning and caregiver support, aligning with UHC objectives under SDG 3. It represents a concrete action by the United States to improve healthcare accessibility and life expectancy in alignment with G7 commitments.

On 10 August 2023, the Biden-Harris Administration announced a USD100 million initiative to grow the nursing workforce. This investment, aimed at addressing the critical shortage of nurses, aligns with SDG 3 by enhancing the capacity and quality of healthcare personnel, thereby contributing to the improvement of health systems and ensuring quality care for all.

On 11 August 2023, the Biden-Harris Administration awarded USD88 million in grants to safeguard youth mental health and expand access to treatment for substance use disorders. This funding aims to address critical mental health issues among young people and substance abuse challenges. It supports the strengthening and prevention of substance abuse and promotes mental health and well-being under section five and four of SDG 3.


On 21 August 2023, the CMS issued draft guidance for a new program that allows people on Medicare to pay out-of-pocket prescription drug costs through monthly payments.\(^{1815}\) This initiative aims to make medication costs more manageable for Medicare beneficiaries, as well as enhancing access to essential medicines and reducing financial barriers in healthcare.

On 23 August 2023, the Biden-Harris Administration awarded more than USD64 million in grants to fund mental health services and awareness training in United States territories.\(^{1816}\) This investment, dedicated to improving mental health resources and education, promotes mental health and well-being, particularly through enhancing public awareness and access to mental health services.

On 25 August 2023, the HHS awarded USD23 million to support evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention programs.\(^{1817}\) This funding, aimed at educating and empowering adolescents, aligns with SDG 3 by focusing on section seven on sexual and reproductive health education, thereby contributing to the reduction of teen pregnancy rates and promoting health and well-being among young people.

On 8 September 2023, the HHS announced details of its partnership with Regeneron to develop life-saving monoclonal antibodies.\(^{1818}\) This collaboration, focusing on advancing therapeutic solutions, aligns with SDG 3 by contributing to the development and research of treatments and medicines.

On 12 September 2023, Secretary Becerra issued a statement following the CDC’s recommendation of updated Covid-19 vaccines.\(^{1819}\) This statement underscores the US commitment to public health and safety, aligning with SDG 3 by promoting widespread vaccination under section three.

On 15 September 2023, the HHS invested USD8 million to improve healthcare access by training new physicians to care for individuals with disabilities and those with limited English proficiency.\(^{1820}\) This initiative, aimed at enhancing equitable healthcare, focuses on reducing health disparities and ensuring inclusive and quality healthcare for all.


On 20 September 2023, the HHS awarded USD45 million in grants to expand access to care for people with long Covid.\(^{1821}\) This funding, dedicated to addressing the long-term health impacts of Covid-19, supports UHC by enhancing health systems’ capacity to provide comprehensive care for chronic conditions arising from infectious diseases.

On 18 September 2023, Secretary Becerra signed a Statement of Intent on Japan-US Health Security Collaboration with the Japanese Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare Keizo Takemi.\(^{1822}\) This agreement will allow the countries to continue to work together on planning, developing, and distributing emergency medicines.

On 20 September 2023, the Biden-Harris Administration awarded USD600 million to bolster U.S. manufacturing of Covid-19 tests and announced the re-opening of COVIDTests.gov.\(^{1823}\) This investment, aimed at enhancing testing capabilities, aligns with SDG 3’s section three target of combating infectious diseases and strengthening capacity for early warning of global and national health risk.

On 21 September 2023, Secretary Becerra delivered remarks at the United Nations General Assembly high-level meeting on Universal Health Coverage.\(^{1824}\) His participation underscores the US commitment to global health initiatives, particularly aligning with SDG 3’s objective of achieving universal health coverage. This engagement highlights the US’s dedication to collaborating on international health goals, contributing to the global discourse on accessible, quality health care for all.

On 21 September 2023, the Biden-Harris Administration awarded nearly USD130 million to expand Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics across the U.S.\(^{1825}\) This funding, aimed at enhancing mental health services, aligns with expanding UHC by ensuring accessible and quality mental health care for all.

On 25 September 2023, the Biden-Harris Administration announced an allocation of over USD200 million to support youth mental health.\(^{1826}\) This funding is dedicated to enhancing mental health resources for young people, aiming to promote mental well-being and prevent mental health issues among the youth under section four.

---


On 27 September 2023, Secretary Becerra announced a funding of over USD103 million to enhance maternal health.\footnote{As Part of HHS’ Maternal Health Day of Action, the Biden-Harris Administration Announces More Than $103 Million and Launches New Initiatives to Address Maternal Health Crisis, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington, D.C.) 27 September 2023. Access Date: 1 December 2023. https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2023/09/27/part-hhs-maternal-health-day-action-biden-harris-administration-announces-more-than-103-million-launches-new-initiatives-address-maternal-health-crisis.html} The funding supports expanded access to maternal healthcare, addresses maternal mental health and substance use disorders, and initiates a public education campaign on postpartum depression. This investment aims to alleviate the maternal health crisis and is part of a comprehensive strategy to improve maternal health, particularly in underserved communities, aligning with SDG 3’s section one goals of reducing global maternal mortality and ensuring healthy lives.


On 29 September 2023, the Biden-Harris Administration announced over USD330 million in new funding to advance the Biden Cancer Moonshot initiative, aimed at improving health care research, treatment, and...
outcomes. On 4 October 2023, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) announced nearly USD35 million in grants for comprehensive behavioral health care and HIV prevention and care in historically underserved populations. This funding aligns with several SDG3 targets such as section three in addressing epidemics, section five on substance abuse, and section 8 on achieving universal health coverage.

On 13 October 2023, the HHS selected initial vaccine candidates under Project NextGen, awarding over USD500 million to advance the development of vaccines and therapeutics. This initiative seeks to bolster the nation’s capabilities to combat infectious diseases, in line with the G7’s commitment to health security and SDG 3’s aim of ending epidemics and supporting research and development of vaccines and medicines.

On 2 November 2023, the CMS announced the expansion of behavioral health services coverage for Medicare recipients and the enhancement of hospital price transparency. These actions, included in the 2024 Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System, aim to improve access to behavioral health care and make hospital charges more understandable to the public. The expansion enhances access to UHC by reducing financial barriers.

On 3 November 2023, the Biden-Harris Administration announced actions to enhance healthcare in rural America. These measures include expanding affordable health coverage under the Affordable Care Act and Inflation Reduction Act, maintaining rural hospital operations, strengthening the rural health workforce, and improving access to behavioral health and telehealth services. These initiatives enhance and expands Universal Health Coverage.

On 6 November 2023, the Biden-Harris Administration proposed key changes to Medicare Advantage and the Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Program. These changes aim to enhance competition in healthcare and improve access to affordable, quality care. Notably, the proposal includes measures to improve access to behavioral health care and foster transparency in Medicare. These actions align with G7 commitments to

---


The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to reverse the first global decline in life expectancy in more than seven decades emphasizing the importance of achieving UHC by 2030 and accelerating progress toward SDG 3. It has demonstrated strong action towards Universal Health Coverage as well as achieving more than 7 specific targets within the SDG 3. These actions releasing comprehensive plans to tackle sexually transmitted infections, implementing cost-reduction measures for prescription drugs, and enhancing healthcare access for vulnerable populations, such as children, pregnant women, and those with mental health needs, through various funding initiatives, policy changes, and collaborations.

Thus, United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Wyatt McConnell

**European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to reverse the first global decline in life expectancy in more than seven decades emphasizing the importance of achieving universal health coverage (UHC) by 2030 and accelerating progress toward Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3.

On 26 May 2023, the European Medicines Agency reached a common regulatory recognition partnership with Australia, Canada, Japan, Switzerland, Singapore, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The partnership will expedite and improve access to medicines and bolster section eight of SDG 3.

On 5 June 2023, the European Commission and World Health Organization (WHO) announced the launch of a digital health partnership regarding digital Covid-19 certifications. Beginning in June, the WHO will adopt the EU’s digital Covid-19 certification system, resulting in greater global mobility and protection from health threats. This partnership addresses section D of SDG 3 by strengthening the capacity to manage global health risks.

---


On 13 June 2023, the European Council adopted a recommendation that seeks to reduce antimicrobial resistance by monitoring the use of antibiotics through more comprehensive surveillance and raising awareness. The recommendation aids section B of SDG 3 by protecting against declines in antibiotic medicine efficacy.

On 23 June 2023, the President of the European Investment Bank (EIB) Werner Hoyer, met with the Prime Minister of Barbados, Mia Amor Mottley, to provide funding of EUR10 million to healthcare resilience efforts in Barbados. The funding furthers section C of SDG 3 by increasing health financing.

On 23 June 2023, the EIB helped found the Health Investment Platform with the WHO and other development banks. This Platform will provide an initial EUR1.5 billion in loans and grants for primary healthcare services across low- and middle-income countries, addressing section C of SDG 3.

On 27 June 2023, the European Council approved the replacement of the existing European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Action with a new European Union Drugs Agency. This new agency will respond to health and security challenges presented by illicit drugs and drug trafficking across the EU, strengthening section five of SDG 3.

On 7 July 2023, the EIB announced funding of EUR79 million to the Djibouti government to support access to clean drinking water in Djibouti. This effort will specifically combat water-borne diseases under section three of SDG 3.

On 12 July 2023, the European Parliament adopted recommendations to evaluate the work of its Special Committee on the Covid-19 pandemic. The recommendations outline future action in four main areas, including health and global response to the pandemic. The recommendations address section D of SDG 3 by strengthening the capacity to manage global health risks.

On 12 July 2023, the European Commission and the EIB signed an agreement to establish Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority (HERA) Invest. HERA Invest makes available EUR100 million in venture loans that will cover up to half of project costs. The loans aim to finance medical and technological research and development to combat health threats in accordance with section B of SDG 3.

---

On 13 September 2023, the European Parliament passed a law regarding improved air quality with the goal of achieving a healthier environment for EU citizens.\textsuperscript{1849} The law addresses section nine of SDG 3 by setting limits on pollutants including particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide, and ozone.

On 14 September 2023, the EIB announced funding of EUR12.8 million to the Bulgarian municipality Burgas to establish a specialized children’s hospital.\textsuperscript{1850} The new hospital will provide care to 220,000 children in southern Bulgaria, advancing section two of SDG 3 by decreasing early-child mortality and enhancing access to UHC.

On 18 September 2023, the EIB announced funding of EUR1 million to the WHO to provide support for Ethiopia’s primary healthcare system.\textsuperscript{1851} This financing advances section C of SDG 3, including its emphasis on aid for least developed countries (LDCs).

On 20 September 2023, the European Parliament’s Environment Committee adopted a report outlining their recommendations for the treatment of discharge water, with the goal of better protecting human health.\textsuperscript{1852} The measures, including better monitoring of chemicals and detection of viruses, address section nine and section D of SDG 3.

On 3 October 2023, the European Parliament approved a law that seeks to reduce the exposure of EU workers to carcinogenic asbestos fibers, furthering goals in sections four and nine of SDG 3.\textsuperscript{1853}

On 9 October 2023, Ministers for Employment and Social Affairs met in Luxembourg and approved multiple conclusions regarding mental health.\textsuperscript{1854} These conclusions call upon member states to improve working conditions, protect mental health, and eliminate psychosocial risks in the workplace, advancing section four of SDG 3.

On 11 October 2023, the EIB announced an investment of EUR500 million to efforts to eradicate polio in Africa and Asia.\textsuperscript{1855} This investment will go towards the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, and cover vaccinations for around 370 million children annually. The funding supports sections two and three of SDG 3.

On 18 October 2023, the EIB announced funding of EUR6.6 billion towards various climate and energy goals, including strengthening health development across the EU and the wider world.\textsuperscript{1856} The funding supports

wastewater treatment projects in Italy and the Czech Republic, as well as water drainage infrastructure in Benin, furthering section three of SDG 3.

On 20 October 2023, representatives from the European Commission’s Directorate General for Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations met with top representatives from the WHO to discuss health emergency preparedness.\textsuperscript{1857} Representatives shared their global health priorities and ideas for strategic health developments and, supporting section D of SDG 3, and discussed negotiations for a Pandemic Accord.

On 24 October 2023, the European Commission adopted a set of policies to improve its prevention and mitigation of medicine shortages across the EU.\textsuperscript{1858} The policies include the launch of the European Voluntary Solidarity Mechanism for medicines, the creation of an EU list of critical medicines, and the adoption of various regulatory flexibilities. This action will enhance UHC in the EU.

On 25 October 2023, the European Council adopted a regulation regarding blood, tissues, and cells, in order to ensure better protection of all individuals engaging in and assisted with medically assisted reproduction.\textsuperscript{1859} The measures seek to decrease maternal and child mortality through communicable disease reduction, thereby addressing sections one, two, and three of SDG 3.

On 25 October 2023, the EIB announced funding of EUR250,000 to cover psychosocial and trauma support for victims of the recent earthquake in Morocco, in alignment with section four of SDG 3.\textsuperscript{1860}

On 26 October 2023, the EU pledged funding of EUR500 million to reinforce a partnership between the European Commission, the EIB, and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.\textsuperscript{1861} The investments include research and development for medical innovations including vaccines, as well as their production and promotion. The EU also announced EUR134 million to improve domestic health manufacturing and healthcare access in Egypt, Ghana, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, and South Africa. The funding addresses sections B and C of SDG 3, with emphasis on LDCs while increasing UHC access.

On 27 October 2023, the EIB announced its support and funding for a technical assistance facility for the Caribbean Sustainable Water Management and Clean Oceans program.\textsuperscript{1862} This facility aims to improve access to clean water, leading to better health outcomes and further section three of SDG 3. Selected projects can access EUR150 billion in EIB loans.


\textsuperscript{1858} Commission steps up actions to address critical shortages of medicines and strengthen security of supply in the EU, European Commission (Brussels) 24 October 2023. Access Date: 3 November 2023. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_23_5


\textsuperscript{1861} Global Gateway: EU steps up support for global health and equitable access to health products and local manufacturing, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 26 October 2023. Access Date: 3 November 2023. https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2023-396-global-gateway-eu-steps-up-support-global-health-equitable-access-health-products-local-manufacturing

On 27 October 2023, the EU began its EU humanitarian air bridge operation, which will work to provide essential supplies to those in need in Gaza. The EU is funding the entirety of the project under the European Humanitarian Response Capacity. This increased access to medical supplies will advance global UHC.

On 16 November 2023, the EIB announced EUR25 million in funding to a water company in Lithuania, which will allow the company to extend and rehabilitate its local water supply. This supports section C of SDG 3.

On 28 November 2023, the EIB donated EUR200,000 to the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF) to address the needs of refugees in Armenia. This funding will support up to 26,000 refugees who are preparing to face winter, supporting section C of SDG 3.

On 30 November 2023, the EIB announced EUR100 million in funding to a water supply company in the Netherlands, which will allow the company to upgrade its drinking water production and distribution. This funding aligns with section C of SDG 3.

On 1 December 2023, the European Parliament hosted a commemorative act with the theme “HIV and Human Rights: Political Action to Achieve Zero Stigma,” aligning with section seven of SDG 3.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to reverse the first global decline in life expectancy in more than seven decades, emphasizing the importance of achieving UHC by 2030 and accelerating progress toward SDG 3. The EU demonstrated strong action towards achieving UHC and ten sections of SDG 3.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Hannah Cluroe

---