

# Global Trends in Public Health Spending and the Outlook

Benedict Clements Fiscal Affairs Department International Monetary Fund

**October 3, 2011** 



#### **Objectives of presentation**

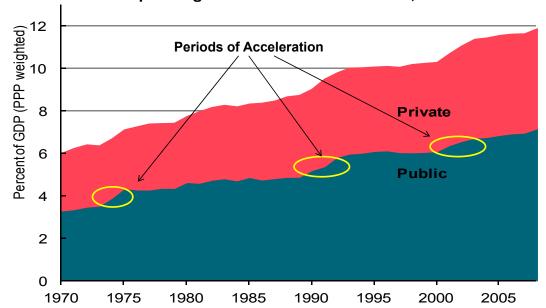


- Examine public health spending trends in the past 40 years
- □ Provide country-specific projections of public health spending for both advanced and emerging economies

### Led by public sector, large spending increases in advanced economies over past 40 years

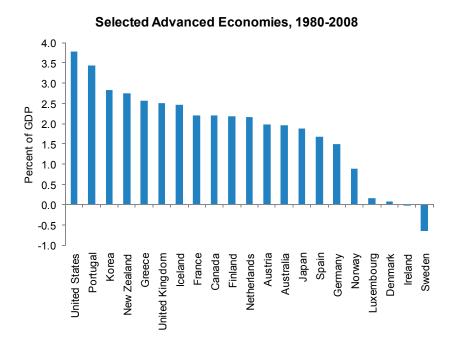






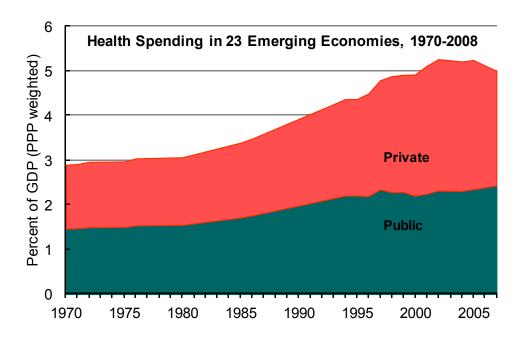
#### Increases have varied by country





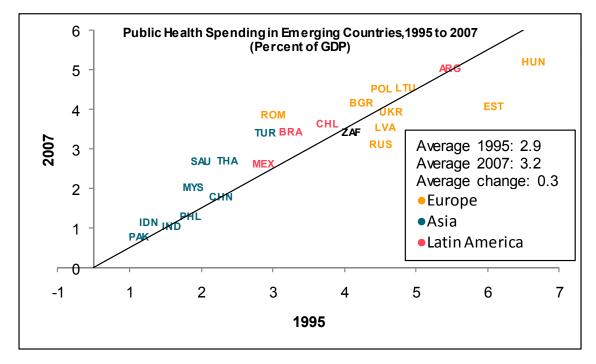
## Increases in public health spending were much smaller in emerging economies...





#### ...and varied by country as well





#### Main drivers of public health spending



- □ Population aging—explains about one fourth of the increase in spending-to-GDP ratios
- Excess Cost Growth (ECG) —the difference between real health expenditure growth and real GDP growth—explains the rest
  - □ Technology
  - ☐ Health policies and institutions

### Recent health reforms unlikely to alter long-term trends



- □ In the United States, 2010 health care reform expands coverage; net effect on expenditure is small
- ☐ In Europe, cuts in health employment and compensation; long-term impact uncertain
- □ Pharmaceuticals reforms in Europe unlikely to have a major effect in the long run

# Methodology for projecting public health spending



For advanced economies, country-specific estimates of ECG from econometric analysis
Reflects varying success of countries' health systems in containing costs
For emerging economies, common ECG of 1.0 percent assumed, similar to historical average

### Econometric estimates of ECG for advanced economies

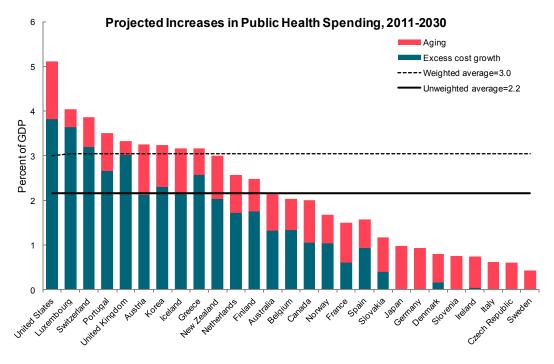


Estimates of ECG vary significantly by country,
ranging from -0.9 percent (Czech Republic) to 3.5
percent (Korea)

- □ The average is comparable with the ECG estimates in the literature, from around 1.0 percent to 1.5 percent
- ☐ The ECG estimates were capped between zero and 2.0 percent in spending projections

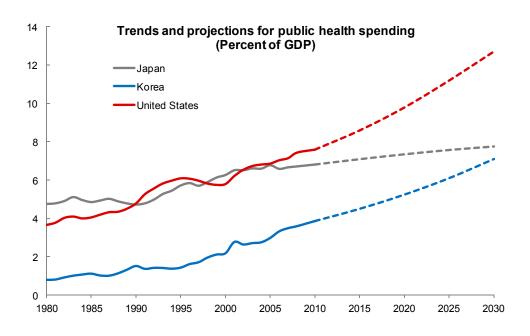
### Public spending pressures in advanced countries are substantial and varies





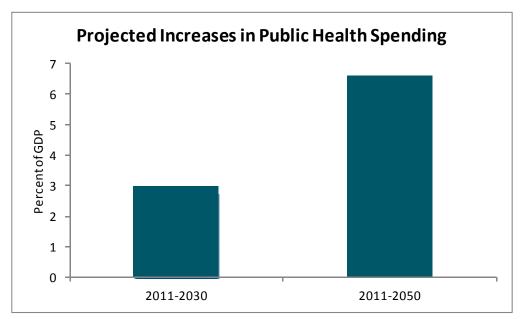
#### Spending projections reflect past trends





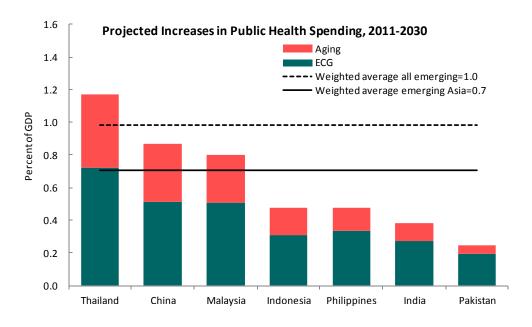
## Spending pressures are larger in the longer term





## Spending pressures in emerging Asia lower than emerging economy average









⊔ For	advan	ced eco	onomies

- ☐ Projected increases in public health spending are large
- ☐ The projected increases vary by country, with the United States facing the largest increase

#### ☐ For emerging economies

- ☐ Projected increases in public health spending are moderate
- ☐ Spending pressures in emerging Asia are lower than emerging economy average



Thank you!