

### Table 3. Pharmacies and pharmacy ownership policies

|                | Pharmacies and pharmacy departments |  |              |                                     |          | Community pharmacy ownership |                    |                            |                               |   |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------|-------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
|                | Population mid 2008                 | Pharmacy density per 10,000 population | Year of data | Pharmacies and pharmacy departments |          |                              | Pharmacy ownership | Policies and restrictions. |                               |   |
|                |                                     |  |              | Total                               | Hospital | Community                    |                    |                            | Primary healthcare facilities | Other   |
| Albania        | 3,241,000                           | 2.44                                   | 2009         | 790                                 | 43       | 790                          | 0                  | 0                          | U                             | Each pharmacy must employ a pharmacist as its technical director. Can own more than one pharmacy.   |
| Argentina      | 39,746,000                          | 3.79                                   | 2004         | 15,058                              | 601      | 14,457                       | 0                  | 0                          | O                             | Varies by province. Pharmacists, limited liability companies and partnerships permitted to own pharmacies. Limit one pharmacy per pharmacist. Partners cannot be involved in more than three companies that own pharmacies.                                 |
| Australia      | 21,347,000                          | 2.48                                   | 2009         | 5,286                               | 132      | 4,992                        | 162                | 0                          | RP                            | Varies by state. Western Australia: maximum of 4 pharmacies. New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania, Queensland: maximum of 5 pharmacies. Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory: Can own more than one.                         |
| Austria        | 8,352,000                           | 1.53                                   | 2007         | 1,276                               | 46       | 1,230                        | 0                  | 0                          | RP                            | Restrictions on number of pharmacies a pharmacist can own.  |
| Belgium        | 10,695,000                          | 5.01                                   | 2007         | 5,367                               | 200      | 5,167                        | 0                  | 0                          | U                             | Can own more than one pharmacy.   |
| Brazil         | 195,138,000                         | 4.34                                   | 2008         | 84,648                              | 6,678    | 71,980                       | 4,388              | 1,612                      | U                             | Can own more than one pharmacy.   |
| Canada         | 33,304,000                          | 2.74                                   | 2008         | 9,154                               | 1,058    | 8,096                        | 0                  | 0                          | O                             | Varies by province. Alberta, British Columbia, Ontario: restricted to pharmacists or corporation where majority of directors are pharmacists. Quebec, Saskatchewan: pharmacists or physicians. Newfoundland, Manitoba: Nova Scotia: unrestricted ownership. |
| Chile          | 16,770,000                          | N/A                                    | N/A          | N/A                                 | N/A      | N/A                          | N/A                | N/A                        | U                             | Can own more than one pharmacy.   |
| Chad           | 10,111,000                          | 0.04                                   | 2009         | 42*                                 | 2*       | 21*                          | 18*                | 0                          | RP                            | Only pharmacists can own pharmacies. Limit of one pharmacy per pharmacist.  |
| Colombia       | 44,447,000                          | 4.27                                   | 2009         | 19,000                              | 3,214    | 450                          | N/A                | 15,336                     | U                             | A pharmacist or medicine dispenser must be employed as the pharmacy director. Medicine dispensers should have a minimum of 10 years pharmacy experience and have support letters from two physicians or pharmacists.  |
| Costa Rica     | 4,519,000                           | 2.35                                   | 2008         | 1,062                               | 32       | 931                          | 131                | 260                        | U                             | Can own more than one pharmacy.   |
| Croatia        | 4,433,000                           | 2.34                                   | 2007         | 1,038                               | 52       | 986                          | 0                  | 0                          | U                             | Can own more than one pharmacy.   |
| Czech Republic | 10,428,000                          | 2.28                                   | 2009         | 2,381                               | 73       | 2,308                        | 0                  | 0                          | U                             | Can own more than one pharmacy.   |
| Denmark        | 5,490,000                           | 0.62                                   | 2007         | 341                                 | 20       | 321                          | 0                  | 0                          | RP                            | A pharmacist can own up to a maximum of four pharmacies.  |
| Egypt          | 74,946,000                          | N/A                                    | N/A          | N/A                                 | N/A      | N/A                          | N/A                | N/A                        | RP                            | Restrictions on number of pharmacies a pharmacist can own.  |
| Ethiopia       | 79,087,000                          | 0.06                                   | 2007         | 463                                 | 143      | 320                          | 577                | 2,121                      | O                             | Pharmacy should have a licensed pharmacist that is legally and professional responsible. Can own more than one pharmacy.  |
| Finland        | 5,312,000                           | 1.48                                   | 2008         | 787                                 | N/A      | 787                          | N/A                | N/A                        | RP                            | Pharmacy ownership restricted to pharmacists. Limit of one pharmacy per pharmacist.   |
| France         | 62,046,000                          | 4.16                                   | 2007         | 25,850                              | 2,668    | 23,162                       | 0                  | 0                          | RP                            | Only pharmacists can own pharmacies. Maximum of one pharmacy per pharmacist owner. Pharmacist owners can only practice in their own pharmacy.   |
| Germany        | 82,170,000                          | 2.68                                   | 2008         | 22,022                              | 452      | 21,570                       | 0                  | 0                          | RP                            | Restrictions on number of pharmacies a pharmacist can own.  |

|                 |                     | Pharmacies and pharmacy departments    |              |          |          |           |                               | Community pharmacy ownership |                    |   |
|-----------------|---------------------|--|--------------|----------|----------|-----------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|---|
|                 | Population mid 2008 | Pharmacy density per 10,000 population | Year of data | Total    | Hospital | Community | Primary healthcare facilities | Other                        | Pharmacy ownership | Policies and restrictions.  |
| Great Britain   | 61,291,000          | 2.12                                   | 2008         | 13,005   | 280      | 12,725    | N/A                           | N/A                          | U                  | Can own more than one pharmacy.   |
| Hungary         | 10,034,000          | 2.50                                   | 2009         | 2,500    | 140      | 2,360     | 0                             | 0                            | U                  | Ownership requires permission from the Hungarian Competition Authority. A pharmacist should have part-ownership.  |
| Iceland         | 319,000             | 1.91                                   | 2009         | 61*      | 2*       | 55*       | 4*                            | 0                            | U                  | Companies cannot hold more than the majority of the market share in order to promote competition.   |
| India           | 1,149,285,000       | 4.79                                   | 2009         | 550,000* | N/A      | 550,000*  | N/A                           | N/A                          | U                  | Can own more than one pharmacy.   |
| Indonesia       | 239,945,000         | 1.13                                   | 2009         | 27,000   | N/A      | N/A       | N/A                           | N/A                          | RP                 | Restrictions on pharmacy ownership.   |
| Iraq            | 29,492,000          | N/A                                    | N/A          | N/A      | N/A      | N/A       | N/A                           | N/A                          | RP                 | Ownership restricted to pharmacists. Cannot own more than one pharmacy.   |
| Israel          | 7,482,000           | 1.80                                   | 2009         | 1,350*   | 100      | 1,100     | 350                           | 20                           | U                  | Physicians cannot own pharmacies. Can own more than one pharmacy.   |
| Italy           | 59,865,000          | 3.05                                   | 2007         | 18,250   | 1,000    | 17,250    | 0                             | 0                            | RP                 | Restrictions on the number of pharmacies a pharmacist can own.  |
| Japan           | 127,720,000         | 4.76                                   | 2006         | 60,852   | 8,900    | 51,952    | N/A                           | N/A                          | O                  | Designated responsible pharmacist must be employed in each pharmacy.  |
| Jordan          | 5,849,000           | 3.09                                   | 2007         | 1,806    | N/A      | N/A       | N/A                           | N/A                          | U                  | Pharmacists should employ at least one fulltime pharmacist that is not designated as a responsible pharmacist in any other pharmacy. Pharmacists working in the public sector cannot own private pharmacies but can be a shareholder. |
| Kenya           | 37,954,000          | 0.44                                   | 2009         | 1,700    | N/A      | 1,700     | N/A                           | N/A                          | O                  | Ownership restricted to pharmacists and pharmaceutical technologists. Pharmaceutical technologists must have practiced for at least 6 years in order to own a pharmacy.   |
| Kuwait          | 2,669,000           | 2.09                                   | 2008         | 559      | 57       | 345       | 81                            | N/A                          | O                  | Only Kuwaiti pharmacists (pharmacists with a Kuwaiti pharmacist license) may own pharmacies with the exception of pharmacies in supermarkets and private hospitals. Can own more than one pharmacy.                                   |
| Mali            | 12,716,000          | 0.90                                   | 2008         | 1,145    | 11       | 834       | 300                           | 0                            | RH                 | Each pharmacy must employ a pharmacist.   |
| Malta           | 412,000             | 5.44                                   | 2005         | 224      | 8        | 207       | 5                             | 4                            | U                  | Can own more than one pharmacy.   |
| Mexico          | 107,677,000         | 2.04                                   | 2006         | 22,000   | 100      | 21,900    | 0                             | 0                            | U                  | Can own more than one pharmacy.   |
| Nepal           | 26,997,000          | 5.93                                   | 2008         | 16,016   | 16       | 16,000    | N/A                           | N/A                          | O                  | Pharmacists, those who have completed diploma pharmacy programs and have completed a three month orientation program (run by Department of Drug Administration) can own a pharmacy. Can own more than one pharmacy.                   |
| Nigeria         | 148,071,000         | 0.17                                   | 2007         | 2,581    | 21       | 2,560     | N/A                           | N/A                          | RP                 | Ownership restricted to pharmacists. Can own more than one pharmacy.  |
| Pakistan        | 172,800,000         | 4.62                                   | 2008         | 80,000   | 1000     | 78,000    | 1,000                         | 0                            | U                  | No limitations.   |
| Paraguay        | 6,230,000           | 5.14                                   | 2007         | 3,200    | 50       | 3,150     | 0                             | 0                            | U                  | No limitations.   |
| Portugal        | 10,621,000          | 2.89                                   | 2008         | 3,071    | 294      | 2,777     | 0                             | 0                            | U                  | Restrictions on the number of pharmacies that can be owned.   |
| R. of Macedonia | 2,049,000           | 3.90                                   | 2008         | 800      | 28       | 772       | 0                             | 0                            | U                  | Can own more than one pharmacy.   |

|                   | Pharmacies and pharmacy departments |  |              |         | Community pharmacy ownership |           |                               |        |                    |   |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------|---------|------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|--------|--------------------|---|
|                   | Population mid 2008                 | Pharmacy density per 10,000 population | Year of data | Total   | Hospital                     | Community | Primary healthcare facilities | Other  | Pharmacy ownership | Policies and restrictions.  |
| Republic of Korea | 48,607,000                          | 4.50                                   | 2007         | 22,000  | 1,251                        | 20,703    | 0                             | 0      | RP                 | Restrictions on the number of pharmacies that can be owned.   |
| Rwanda            | 9,609,000                           | 0.85                                   | 2008         | 815     | 42                           | 71        | 510                           | 192    | RP                 | Pharmacy ownership restricted to pharmacists. Limit of one pharmacy per pharmacist  |
| Serbia            | 7,354,000                           | 5.44                                   | 2009         | 4,000*  | 100*                         | 3,100*    | 0                             | 800*   | U                  | Pharmacies are also owned by the state. Can own more than one pharmacy.   |
| Singapore         | 4,790,000                           | 0.49                                   | 2007         | 232     | 51                           | 157       | 24                            | 0      | U                  | Can own more than one pharmacy.   |
| Spain             | 46,501,000                          | 4.50                                   | 2007         | 20,941  | N/A                          | 20,941    | N/A                           | N/A    | RP                 | Only individual pharmacists can own pharmacies. Limit of one pharmacy per pharmacist.   |
| Sudan             | 39,445,000                          | 0.90                                   | 2008         | 3,531   | 257                          | 2,306     | 802                           | 166    | U                  | Each pharmacy must employ a responsible pharmacist. Can own more than one pharmacy.   |
| Switzerland       | 7,633,000                           | 7.15                                   | 2008         | 5,458   | 114                          | 1,712     | N/A                           | 3,632  | U                  | A responsible pharmacist must be employed in the pharmacy. Can own more than one pharmacy.  |
| Syria             | 19,933,000                          | 5.32                                   | 2007         | 10,613  | 30                           | 10,555    | 28                            | 0      | RP                 | Pharmacy ownership restricted to pharmacists. Limit of one pharmacy per pharmacist.   |
| Tanzania          | 40,213,000                          | 0.12                                   | 2008         | 414     | N/A                          | 414       | N/A                           | N/A    | U                  | Each pharmacy must be supervised by a pharmacist. A pharmacist cannot supervise more than one pharmacy. Can own more than one pharmacy.   |
| Turkey            | 74,766,000                          | 3.32                                   | 2008         | 24,819* | 700*                         | 24,119    | 0                             | 0      | RP                 | Pharmacy ownership restricted to pharmacists. Limit of one pharmacy per pharmacist.   |
| Uganda            | 29,194,000                          | 0.13                                   | 2008         | 400     | 15                           | 270       | 18                            | N/A    | U                  | Each pharmacy should employ a pharmacist as its director. Can own more than one pharmacy.   |
| Uruguay           | 3,334,000                           | 4.38                                   | 2008         | 1,460   | 110                          | 1,200     | 150                           | 0      | O                  | Any person can own a pharmacy provided they are not a doctor, dentist or veterinarian.  |
| USA               | 304,486,000                         | 2.20                                   | 2008         | 67,016  | 6,701                        | 46,911    | N/A                           | 13,403 | U                  | Nearly all 50 states require a designated pharmacist-in-charge to be employed. Can own more than one pharmacy.  |
| Vietnam           | 86,185,000                          | 4.52                                   | 2007         | 39,016  | 1,032                        | 10,200    | 27,784                        | 0      | O                  | Pharmacists with a University degree or pharmacy technicians with a diploma can own a pharmacy. Individuals can only own one pharmacy each. Companies may own more than one pharmacy. Pharmacy assistants (1 year training) can run pharmacy kiosks owned by the district or village. |
| Zimbabwe          | 13,481,000                          | 0.69                                   | 2007         | 928     | 115                          | 263       | 550                           | N/A    | RP                 | Pharmacists must own at least a 51% share of a pharmacy. Can own more than one pharmacy.  |

## Notes

N/A – Data not available  
 \* – Estimated data  
 RP – Restricted to pharmacists  
 RH – Restricted to healthcare professionals  
 U – Unrestricted  
 O – Other

Population data source – Population Reference Bureau, 2008. Available at [www.prb.org](http://www.prb.org). Accessed 24 April 2009.

## Definitions

Pharmacist: Premises which in accordance to the local legal provisions and definitions may operate as a facility in the provision of pharmacy services in the community or hospital settings.  
 Pharmacist: A professional who in accordance to the local legal provisions and definitions may provide pharmacy services (in the community, hospital, academia, research, industry etc) in your country.  
 Pharmacy technician: A person who supports pharmacists in the delivery of pharmacy\* services. Also includes qualified assistive personnel such as pharmacy technologists.

Hospital pharmacist/pharmacy departments: Premises which in accordance to the local legal provisions and definitions may operate as a facility in the provision of pharmacy services in the hospital setting.  
 Community pharmacist: Premises which in accordance to the local legal provisions and definitions may operate as a facility in the provision of pharmacy services in the community settings.  
 Primary healthcare facilities: Premises which in accordance to the local legal provisions and definitions may operate as a facility in the provision of pharmacy services in primary healthcare facilities such as general practice clinics and polyclinics.