Private spending on health care is when individuals or corporations pay directly. Spending per person in the region with highest expenditure was 100 times greater than in the region with the lowest spending. These regions are North America and Central Africa respectively. Level of spending on private health care is related to the ability to pay, not the need for health care.

The lowest total spending is in territories that appear smallest on the map. Total spending is generally lowest where there is a small population. Some of the lowest spenders on private health care per person are islands and territories in poorer regions.

Territory size shows the proportion of worldwide private spending on health services that is spent there. This spending is measured in purchasing power parity.

“The health industry focuses on people with the greatest ability to pay rather than the greatest need for care.”

Phineas Baxandall, 2001