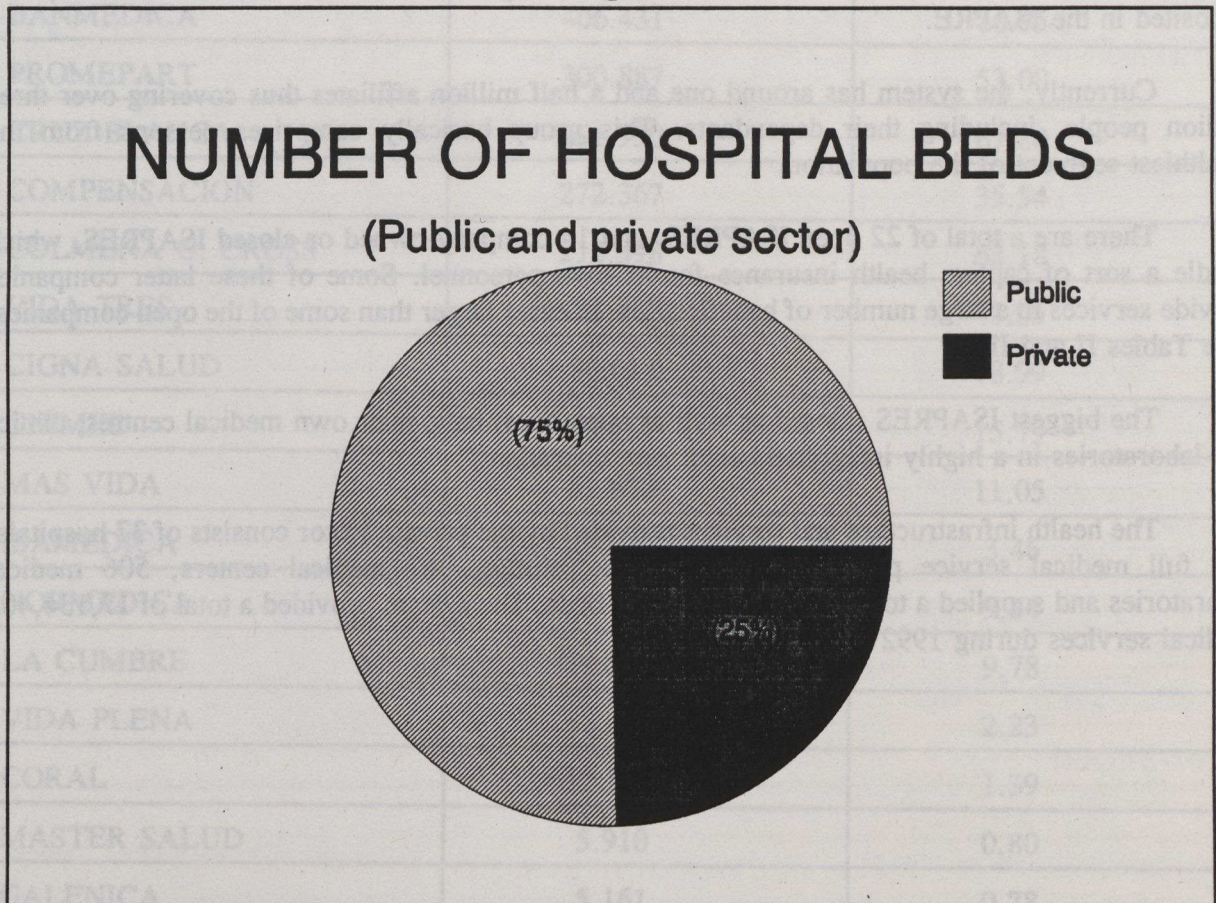


The number of hospital beds is fairly evenly distributed in the various Regions of the country. Average density was 421 inhabitants per bed in 1992, up from 395 in 1989. The best relative situations were found in the XIth and XIIth Regions in the South while the Santiago Metropolitan area has the worse relative condition in the country, with 499 inhabitants per bed.

Graph 1



Source: Ministry of Health

7. Out of a total of 15.062 registered medical doctors for the year 1992, the Service directly employed 6.563 of them, either on a full or part time basis. The National Health Service also employs directly 1,125 odontologists, 2,883 professional nurses, 1,763 midwives and several thousand people as medical technicians, auxiliaries, paramedical and administrative personnel¹.

¹ Source: Ministry of Health