

# Mastering Health expenses

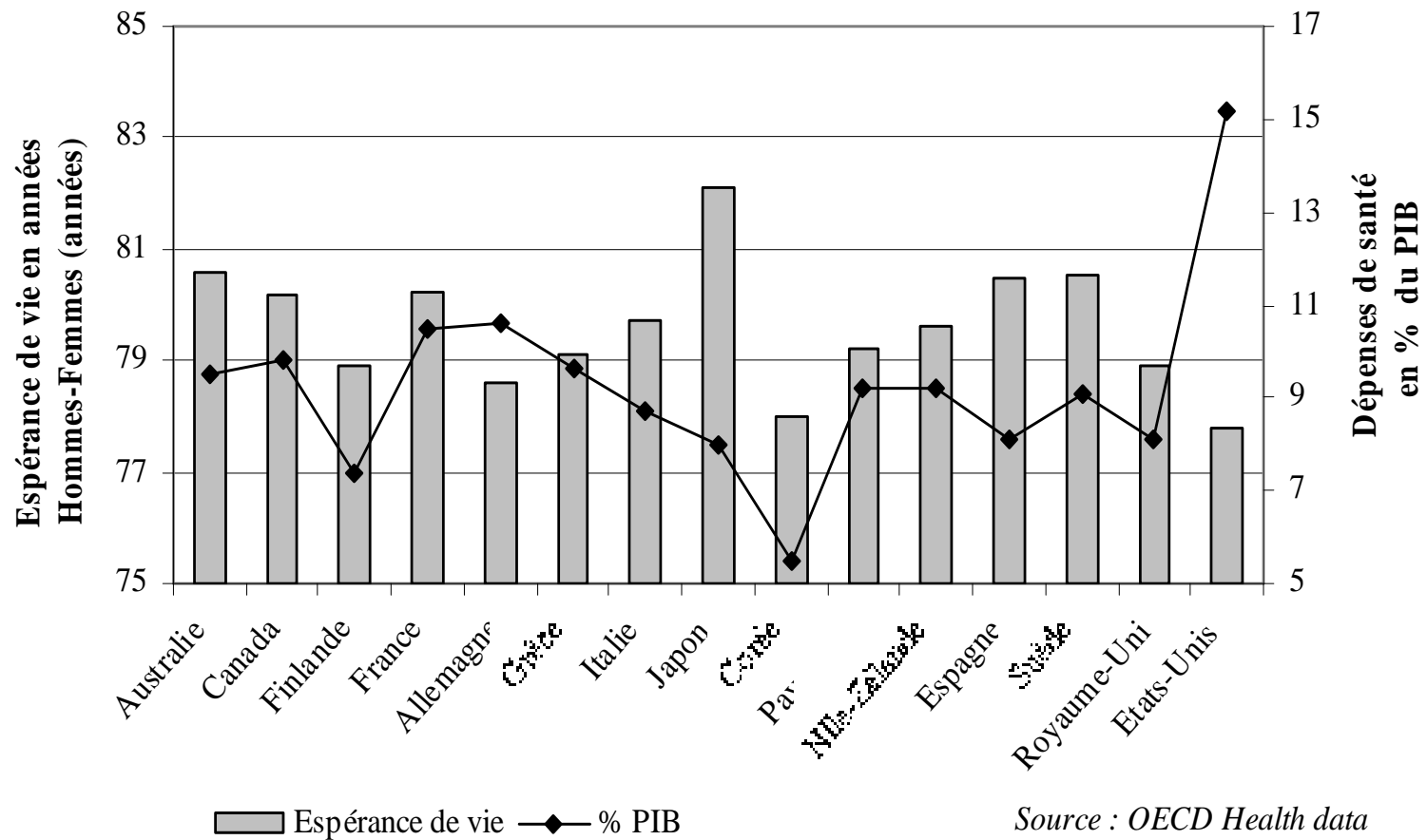
## **Fate or policies ?**

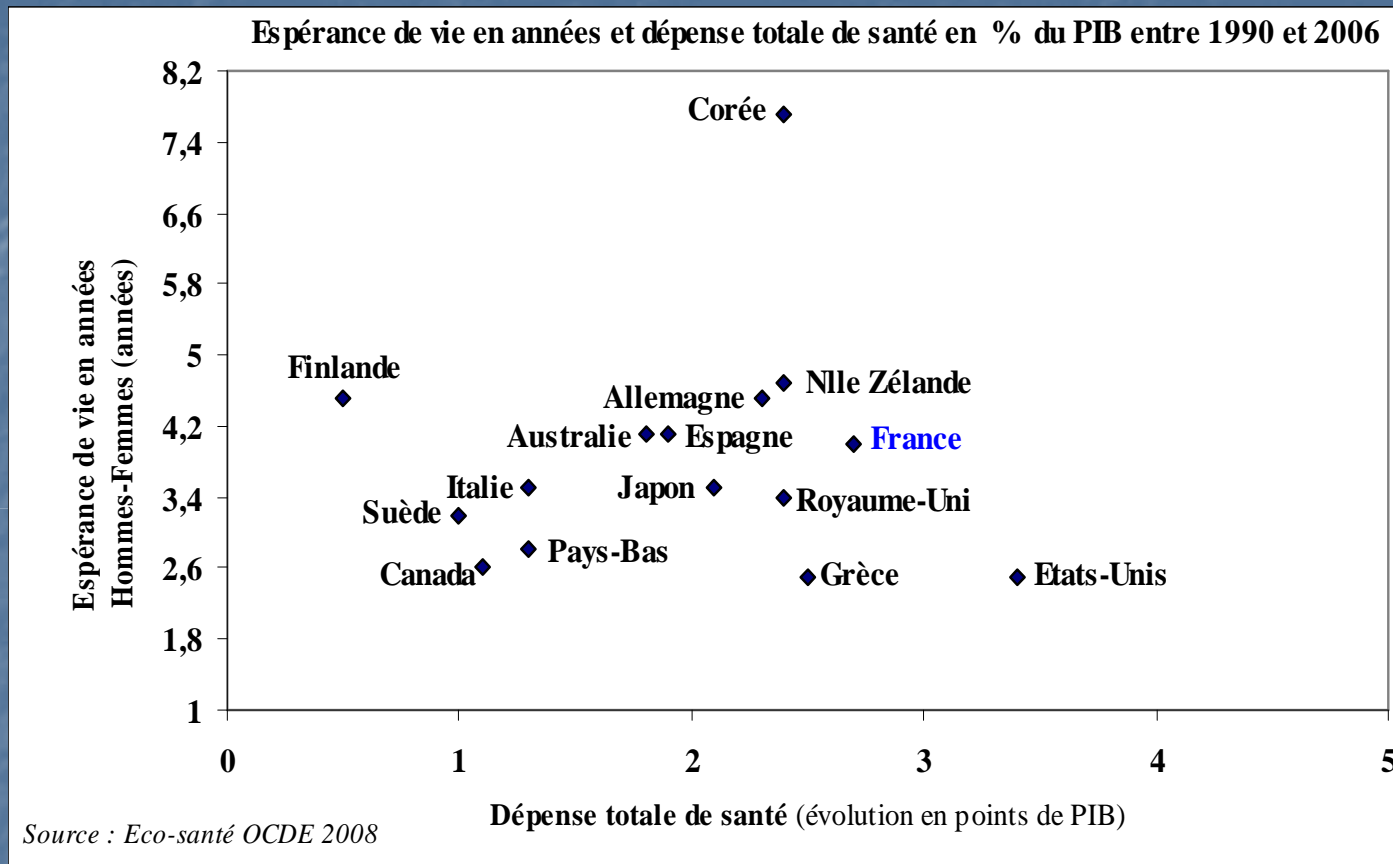
# Surprising facts

In developed countries, there is  
no relationship between health  
indicators and health  
expenditures

This is true both in absolute and  
relative terms

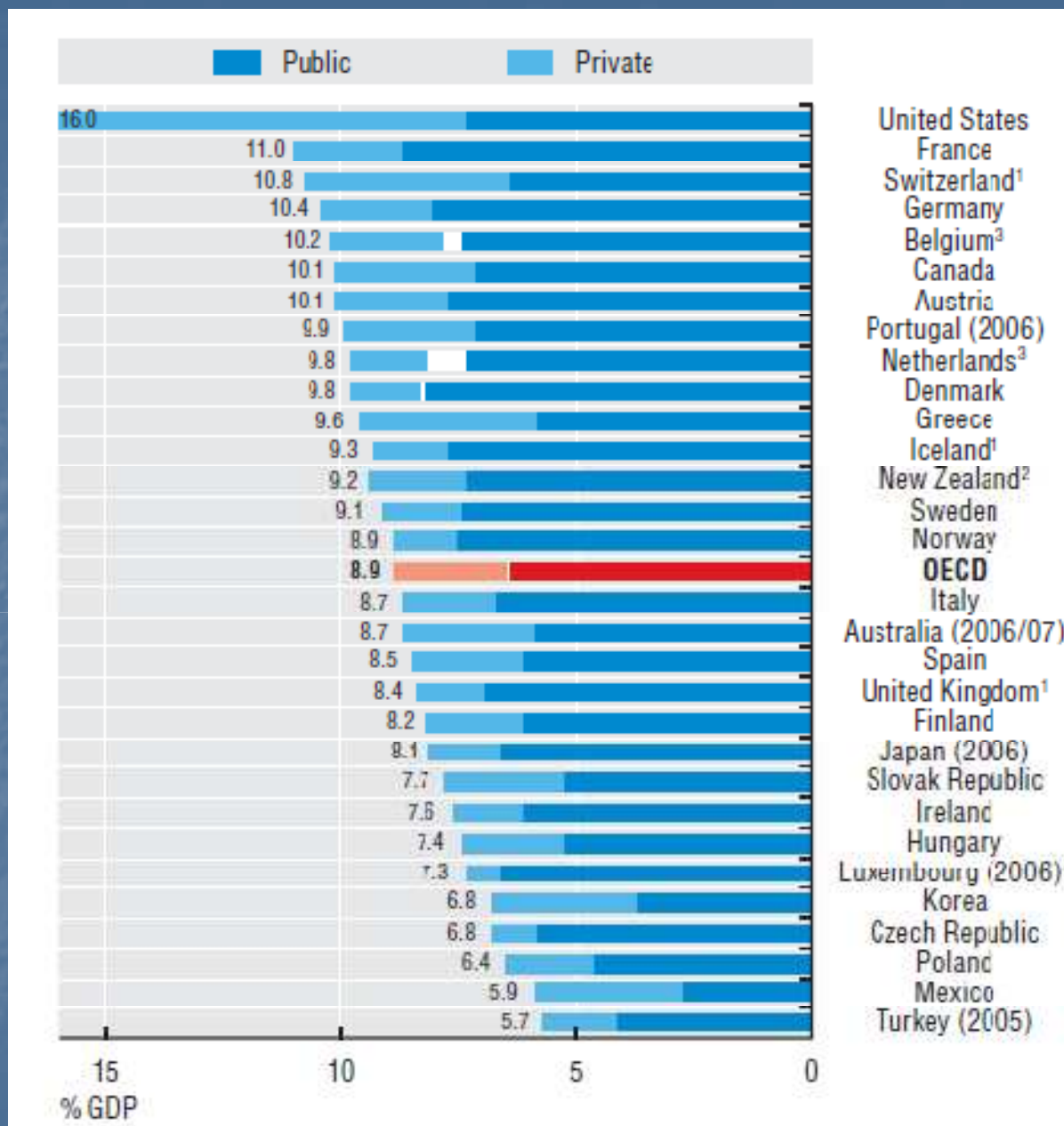
**Espérance de vie en années et dépense totale de santé en % du PIB en 2004**







The less people pay directly, the  
less it costs

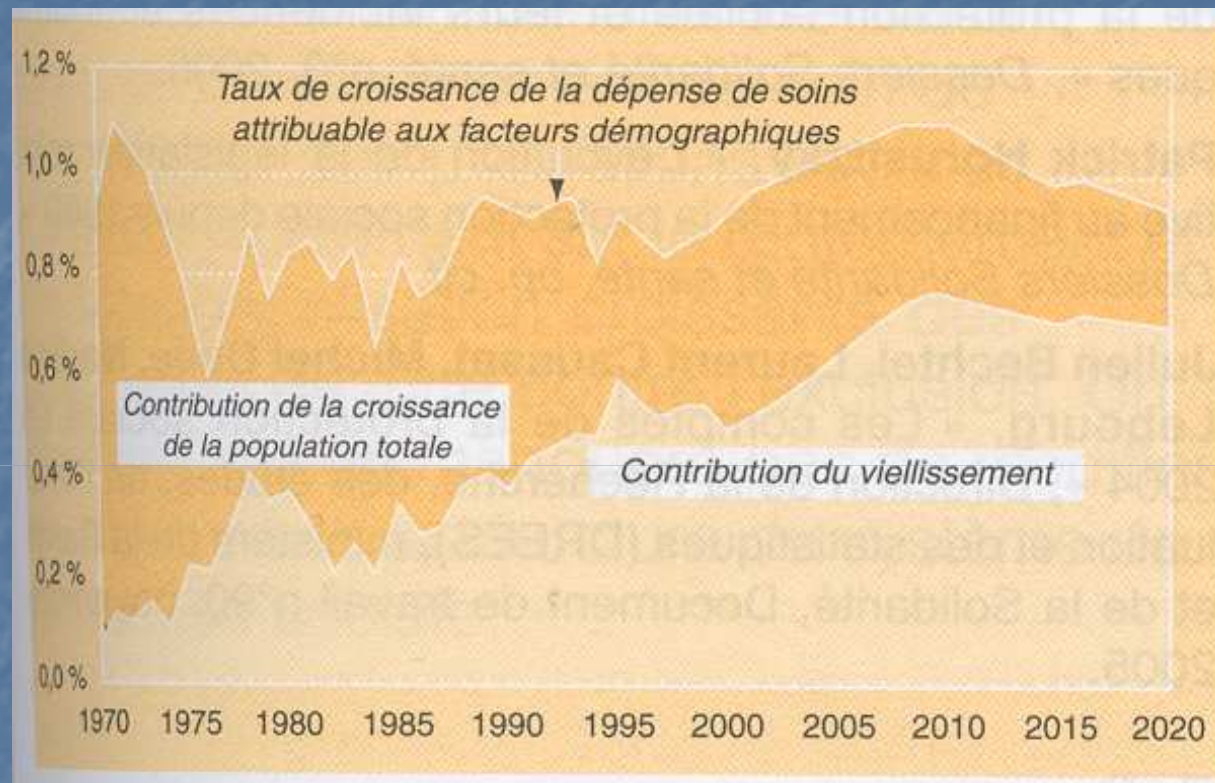


CSDM - Paris - Oct 2010 - J de K  
CNAM

Aging explains a very limited  
part of health expenditures  
increase, this is also true of  
medical innovations

There is no technological  
determinism of health  
expenditures





# Complex ?

# There are different meanings and different levels of “complexity”

- Technical
- Institutional
- Political (policy)
- Political (politics)



# Technical complexity

- Given the exponential growth of medical knowledge, the number of medical specialties increase (*de facto* > 100)
- The number of occupations in any hospitals is also very high: in France 184
- So managing an hospital or any medical network is a “complex” technical matter



# Institutional complexity

There are several sources of legitimacy in any hospital:

- Knowledge,
- Political,
- Financial,
- Social,
- Institutional,
- Patients.

Which is the most important ?

# Political complexity *(Policies)*

- Any policy has an implicit or explicit theory of social change
- Some of them don't address the problem (excuses, inappropriate diagnosis, believes...)
- Other try to address the problem with an inadequate theory
- In some case the theory has some empirical justifications in other fields, but can't be transferred (tobacco consumption)
- In a very limited number of cases it works

# The difficulties of international comparisons

**Learn about**  
**Learn why**  
**Learn from**



# Political difficulties *(Politics)*

There is no basic difference between this area and others but the fact that it deals with life and death, is emotional, controlled by the medical profession which has been successful enough to make us believe that the more they earn, the better we feel!

*Pas mal !*



This is a demonstration of the  
inanity of the precaution  
principle:

How can you protect your  
citizens when you don't know ?