

OECD Health Statistics 2023

Definitions, Sources and Methods

Avoidable mortality

Preventable, treatable and avoidable (preventable + treatable) causes of mortality.

Preventable and treatable causes of mortality are defined as follows:

- **Preventable mortality:** Causes of death that can be mainly avoided through effective public health and primary prevention interventions (i.e. before the onset of diseases/injuries, to reduce incidence).
- **Treatable (or amenable) mortality:** Causes of death that can be mainly avoided through timely and effective healthcare interventions, including secondary prevention such as screening, and treatment (i.e. after the onset of diseases, to reduce case-fatality).

i Both indicators refer to premature mortality (under age 75).

- Access the [Joint OECD/Eurostat lists of preventable and treatable causes of mortality](#)

A third indicator **Avoidable mortality (preventable + treatable)** is the sum of time series for both preventable and treatable mortality.

Sources and Methods

Data for the calculation of treatable and preventable mortality are drawn from the **WHO Mortality Database** available at http://www.who.int/healthinfo/statistics/mortality_rawdata/en/index.html (data extracted in June 2023).

Annual data on treatable and preventable deaths are provided in absolute numbers and as standardised death rates according to age.

The standardisation is based on the **2015 OECD Standard Population**, from this edition of the database onwards. (Previous editions of the database used the total OECD population for 2010 as the reference population.)

i The **age structure of the population (2015)** used to compute the age-standardised death rates is as follows:


Age (years)	Population
0-4	5.8556
5-9	5.9688
10-14	5.7458
15-19	5.9803
20-24	6.5360
25-29	6.8008
30-34	6.9247

35-39	6.9704
40-44	7.0394
45-49	6.9554
50-54	6.8590
55-59	6.3507
60-64	5.6845
65-69	5.0384
70-74	3.8759
75-79	3.1256
80-84	2.2627
85+	2.0260
TOTAL	100.00


Notes

 France: Data refer to metropolitan France only, excluding overseas departments.

Israel: The statistical data for Israel are supplied by and under the responsibility of the relevant Israeli authorities. The use of such data by the OECD is without prejudice to the status of the Golan Heights, East Jerusalem and Israeli settlements in the West Bank under the terms of international law.

 Türkiye has been gradually increasing the coverage of population registers across the whole country. Caution is required when interpreting the evolution of data on mortality in Türkiye.

NON-OECD ECONOMIES

 China: Data for China are only for selected urban and rural areas and represent less than 10% of all deaths occurring in the country.

Russian Federation: This document, as well as any data and any map included herein, are without prejudice to the status of or sovereignty over any territory, to the delimitation of international frontiers and boundaries and to the name of any territory, city or area.

For further details on country coverage, please refer to the documentation and note available at <https://www.who.int/data/data-collection-tools/who-mortality-database>.

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<http://www.oecd.org/health/health-data.htm>.