

# OECD Health Statistics 2020

## Definitions, Sources and Methods

### Potential years of life lost by ICD categories

For descriptor and ICD codes, please refer to the list presented under [Causes of mortality](#).

**Potential Years of Life Lost (PYLL)** is a summary measure of premature mortality which provides an explicit way of weighting deaths occurring at younger ages, which are, a priori, preventable. The calculation of PYLL involves summing up deaths occurring at each age and multiplying this with the number of remaining years to live up to a selected age limit.

The **limit of 75 years** has been chosen for the calculations in *OECD Health Statistics* (starting in the 2019 edition of the database). In order to assure cross-country and trend comparison, the PYLL are standardised, for each country *i* and each year *t* as follows:

$$PYLL_{it} = \sum_{a=0}^{l-1} (l-a)(d_{at} / p_{at})(P_a / P_n) * 100000$$

where *a* stands for age, *l* is the upper age limit chosen for the measure (75 years old in *OECD Health Statistics*), *d<sub>at</sub>* is the number of deaths at age *a*, *p<sub>at</sub>* refers to the number of persons aged *a* in country *i* at time *t*, *P<sub>a</sub>* refers to the number of persons aged *a* in the reference population, and *P<sub>n</sub>* refers to the total number of persons in the reference population.

**i** The **PYLL per 100 000 population** are **calculated by the OECD Secretariat** based on age-specific death statistics provided by the World Health Organization ([http://www.who.int/healthinfo/statistics/mortality\\_rawdata/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/healthinfo/statistics/mortality_rawdata/en/index.html) - data extracted in June 2020). The **total OECD population in 2010** is taken as the reference population for age standardisation. The standard OECD population by age groups is presented under the [Causes of mortality section](#).

**i** Note that due to implementation of new revisions of ICD and coding changes that there may be breaks in the series. Data are thus only considered consistent within the same ICD revision.

**i** **Turkey** 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 Turkey.

#### Notes:

- 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.
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