



The European Community Health Indicators (ECHI)

Factsheet, June 2011

What are the European Community Health Indicators (ECHI) all about?

Reliable data for health benchmarking

Are you looking for health indicators from reliable sources to get a comprehensive picture of the state of health and health care in the European Union...

... We provide the reference point for the 27 EU Member States, EFTA countries, candidate countries and other European countries.

... We make available more than 40 indicators selected using the following criteria:

- Comprehensiveness, as all aspects of public health are covered;
- Meeting user needs, as the indicators cover the main priorities in European public health policies;
- Being innovative: the set is not just data-driven, but also flags development needs;
- Using earlier work produced by Eurostat, the OECD and the WHO in definitions and standard variables;
- Using results from the EU health programmes.

Comparability, regular updates and many breakdowns available

... All ECHI indicators are reasonably comparable and regularly updated. Whenever possible, indicators are broken down by gender, age group or region.

Understandable to everyone and easy to access

... The indicators can be browsed according to **four main chapters**:

- Demographic and socio-economic factors,
- Health status,
- Determinants of health,
- Health interventions: health services.

Further developments

The list of ECHI is constantly being improved in terms of indicator definition or data availability. In the future, the comprehensive ECHI-list should include over **80 health indicators**. The list will be constantly complemented by other health indicators. A further chapter on health interventions and health promotion will also be added.

Where to find the ECHI or other European health indicators?

To know more about ECHI or to browse the list of indicators,
The link: http://ec.europa.eu/health/indicators/echi/index_en.htm



ECHI indicators are also presented in the Heidi data tool, a graphics interface of the Heidi (Health in Europe: Information and Data Interface) wiki platform which is a comprehensive search tool for European health information and data.

To view an indicator as a line graph, a bar chart, a map, a table, a html page or an image as you wish and according to your own data needs, the Heidi data tool is your partner:

http://ec.europa.eu/health/indicators/indicators/index_en.htm

Some examples of charts available in the Heidi data tool:

The screenshot shows the Heidi data tool interface with four main chart types: Line chart, Bar chart, Map chart, and Table chart. Each chart displays data for various European countries and regions.

Line chart: Standardised death rate (per 100,000 inhabitants), all causes, total population, shown between 1994 and 2009 (15 years). The chart shows a general downward trend in death rates across most countries, with France and Italy showing the highest rates and Malta the lowest.

Bar chart: Healthy Life Years at birth - Women, from 2004 onwards, time series of 5 years. The chart shows that women in the EU27 have an average of approximately 70 healthy life years at birth, with the Netherlands having the highest and Hungary the lowest.

Map chart: Ratio between the total number of elderly persons of an age whom they are generally economically inactive, shown between 1960 and 2010 (50 years). The map shows that the ratio has generally increased across most countries, with the highest ratios in countries like Italy and Greece.

Table chart: Hospital beds - Per 100 000 of population. Beds accommodating patients who are formally admitted (or hospitalized) to an institution for treatment and/or care and... The table shows data for various countries from 1987 to 2009, with values ranging from approximately 662 to 686 beds per 100,000 population.

Contact us

Do you have a [question on the ECHI](#) or other [health indicators](#)?

Do you want to be alerted each time an indicator has been updated or a new one has been created?

Consult: SANCO-C2-HEALTH-INFORMATION@ec.europa.eu

Let's keep in touch!

The ECHI was a project carried out under the Health Monitoring Programme and the EU's Public Health Programme 2003-2008. Its follow-up European Community Health Indicators Monitoring ECHIM is funded by the EU's Health Programme 2008-2013. ECHIM aims to develop and implement health indicators and health monitoring in the EU and all its Member States.