Research Team

The HCD research team includes the core team, primarily responsible for the database itself, and a team of country specialists.

Core team
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Country specialists

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Free access to coherent time series of cause-specific mortality
Background

The Human Cause-of-Death Database (HCD) is a joint project of the French Institute for Demographic Studies (INED) in Paris, France and the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPI DR) in Rostock, Germany, based at the MPI DR.

The main goal of the HCD is to provide access to detailed high-quality data on cause-specific mortality to a broad audience of users. In contrast to other existing databases on causes of death, the HCD provides time series with constant classification of causes, based on ICD-10. For comparability purposes, we provide mortality data classified according to a short list and an intermediate list of causes of death, identical for all countries. In addition, a detailed list is provided, but it varies according to available data in each country.

The following features make the HCD particularly attractive to its users:

- Continuous data series with constant cause-of-death classification;
- Availability of basic age-standardized indicators;
- Detailed documentation;
- Free and easy access to all data;
- A uniform and easy to use format of data files.

We hope that HCD will facilitate comparative analysis of mortality by cause across countries and regions.

The HCD website

Available at www.causesofdeath.org

Types of data

Detailed data by cause of death

HCD includes sex and age-specific death counts and death rates, crude death rates and standardized death rates by cause of death, after redistribution of ill-defined causes of death (according to country-specific methods described in the Background and Documentation for each country). Causes of death are classified according to three lists: short, intermediate, and full.

Population exposures and birth counts

The usual source for these data is the Human Mortality Database (www.mortality.org). Please note that in some cases we correct infant mortality and, respectively, birth counts.

Example: HCD country data page

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Cause-of-Death Series</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belarus</td>
<td>1965-2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic*</td>
<td>1994-2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England and Wales*</td>
<td>2001-2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>1955-2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France*</td>
<td>2000-2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany*</td>
<td>1998-2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan*</td>
<td>1995-2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td>1956-2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>1956-2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moldova</td>
<td>1965-2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>1970-2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>1980-2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>1965-2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>1980-2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>1965-2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA*</td>
<td>1999-2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Currently, we have several countries with short data series started when ICD-10 was introduced in the country and restricted only to short and intermediate lists of causes. We are working on data reconstruction for these countries, and in near future these data will be replaced by longer and reconstructed time series with constant classification of causes.