27 Excess mortality related to heat

Indicator type Core indicator

Published

Versioning			
First publication	on 1/26/207 Latest update 9/27/2019		
Area and sub-area			
	rea and sub-area Impacts Human settlements and human health		
Presentation			
Tier	3		
Indicator definition and description	number of deaths in given period for population over 65 years old.		
Unit of measu	nit of measure Number of deaths per million people		
Coverage	Resident population aged 65 and over		
Spatial aggreg	ggregation National territory		
Reference per	eference period Calendar year		
Update freque	ate frequency Annual		
Base period	Not applicable		
Disaggregation (operational indicators)			
Disaggregation (operational indicators) Comments			
Gender, age groups and disabilities			
Spatial			
Temporal (by month, by season)			
Income group			
Other related -indicators (e.g.contextual, proxy, other core indicators)			
ID	Subindicator Type		
80 Share	of people working outside Contextual indicator		
37 Propo	rtion of population living in dwellings with air conditioners or air conditioning Contextual indicator		
Relevance			
Policy context rationale	Extreme high air temperatures contribute directly to deaths from cardiovascular and respiratory disease, particularly among elderly people. In the heat wave of summer 2003 in Europe for example, more than 70 000 excess deaths were recorded. Global warming constitutes a new health threat in an aged Europe that may be difficult to detect at the country level, depending on its size. An increase in future heat-related mortality is seen as one of the most likely impacts of future anthropogenic climate change (WHO). Not applicable		

Relation w SDG-I.

indicator (SDG I.)

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Related Sendai Framework I.

Not applicable

Policy references

Methodology

Methodology for indicator calculation

This indicator is calculated as the estimated number of excess deaths which can be attributed to heat compared to the expected number of deaths in the heatwave period.

There is no internationally agreed methodology for calculation of this indicator. For an example of exisiting methodology, refer to the methodology reference.

Methodology references

Document title	Link
Quantitative risk assessment of the effects of climate change on selected causes of death, 2030s and 2050s (World Health Organization, 2014)	https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/134014

Classification syst. Not applicable

Data sources

Other than official statistics Main source

Explanation Estimation

SEEA Accounts that can serve as data sources

UN-FDES

International databases containing this indicator

Comments

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A cutoff time when the outcomes are observed needs to be included in the estimation. The estimation is limited to the older population (aged 65 years or over) because this is the population considered most at risk of heat-related mortality, and also to avoid double counting with other outcomes.