

Causes of death statistics

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2	Metadata update	
2.1	Metadata last certified	2026-06-29
2.2	Metadata last posted	2026-06-29
2.3	Metadata last update	2026-06-29

3	Statistical presentation	
3.1	Data description	The aim is to prepare and provide statistical information on the causes of death of the deceased population by disease groups. Causes of death data are derived from medical death certificates and medical perinatal death certificates. Causes of death statistics are presented by the underlying cause of death. Annual national data is provided in absolute numbers, crude death rates and age-standardized death rates.
3.2	Classification system	International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Health Problems (ICD-10). Since 2011, International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Disorders, Tenth Revised and Supplemented Edition Systematic List of Diseases (Australian Modification, ICD-10-AM). Classification of Administrative Units and Populated Localities of the Republic of Lithuania (LR AVGVK 2018); Nomenclature of Countries and Territories ; Classification of State and Municipal Codes; Classification of Civil Registry Institutions.
3.3	Sector coverage	Public Health
3.4	Statistical concepts and definitions	Death is the irreversible destruction of the human organism as a whole. Underlying cause of death is defined as the disease or injury which initiated the train of morbid events leading directly to death, or the circumstances of the accident or violence which produced the fatal injury.
3.5	Statistical unit	Dead person, stillbirth.
3.6	Statistical population	Data covers deaths of permanent residents of the Republic of Lithuania and stillbirths born in Lithuania whose parents (or at least one of them) are permanent residents of Lithuania or their origins are unknown.
3.7	Reference area	Entire territory of the Republic of Lithuania.
3.8	Time coverage	Since 1998
3.9	Base period	–
4	Unit of measure	Number of deaths – persons; Crude death rate – per 100,000 population; Age-standardized death rate – per 100,000 population.
5	Reference period	Month, year
6	Institutional mandate	

6.1	Legal acts and other agreements	Regulation (EC) No 1338/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on Community statistics on public health and health and safety at work; Commission Regulation (EU) No 328/2011 of 5 April implementing Regulation (EC) No 1338/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics on public health and health and safety at work, as regards statistics on causes of death; The Law on the Establishment of Death of a Human Being, and on Critical Conditions (25 March 1997, No. VIII-157) (only in Lithuanian); Decision of Government of the Republic of Lithuania “On the Establishment of the State Register of Death Cases and Their Causes and Approval of the Provisions” (8 July 2009, No. 709) (only in Lithuanian).
6.2	Data sharing	The exchange of statistical data necessary for the implementation of the Official Statistics Program is defined in Article 17 of the Law on Official Statistics and State Data Governance of the Republic of Lithuania.
7	Confidentiality	
7.1	Confidentiality - policy	The Law on Official Statistics and State Data Governance of the Republic of Lithuania (only in Lithuanian). Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on European statistics and repealing Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1101/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the transmission of data subject to statistical confidentiality to the Statistical Office of the European Communities, Council Regulation (EC) No 322/97 on Community Statistics, and Council Decision 89/382/EEC, Euratom establishing a Committee on the Statistical Programs of the European Communities; Decision of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania “On the Establishment of the State Register of Death Cases and Their Causes and Approval of the Provisions” (8 July 2009, No.709) (only in Lithuanian).
7.2	Confidentiality - data treatment	Data protection regulations for registers and state information systems managed by the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania and maintained by the Institute of Hygiene , approved by Order No. V-888 of the Minister of Health of the Republic of Lithuania of 14 October 2025 (only in Lithuanian).
8	Release policy	
8.1	Release calendar	Statistical information is published on the Official Statistics Portal , according to an approved Official Statistics Calendar and on the Institute of Hygiene Internet Site according to an approved Statistical Information Release Calendar.
8.2	Release calendar access	Official Statistics Calendar ; Health Statistics Release Calendar .

8.3	User access	Data prepared by the Institute of Hygiene are compiled and published in accordance with the principles of impartiality, objectivity and following professional and ethical standards (the European Statistics Code of Practice), as well as transparent policies and practices for users and respondents. All users have equal access to statistical information. Statistical information is published at 9 a.m. on the day of publication of statistical information specified in the Calendar on the Official Statistics Portal. Statistical information is published following the Official Statistics Dissemination Policy Guidelines, the Rules for Dissemination and Communication of Information prepared by the State Data Agency, approved by Order No. DJ- 221 of 14 October 2025 of the Director General of the State Data Agency , and the Description of the procedure for the publication and revision of official statistical information, approved by Order No V-49 of 20 March 2025 of the Director of the Institute of Hygiene (only in Lithuanian).
9	Frequency of dissemination	Monthly, annual
10	Accessibility and clarity	
10.1	News release	News releases are not published.
10.2	Publications	Statistical information is published in the following annual publications: Causes of Death , Health of Lithuanian Population and Activities of Health Facilities , Health Statistics of Lithuania .
10.3	On-line database	Statistical indicators are published in the Database of Indicators (Population and social statistics -> Population -> Mortality ->Deaths by cause of death). The page of the Database of Indicators is used for viewing and analyzing statistical information. For more information on the Database of Indicators, see Indicators Database Users Guide. Statistical indicators also are published on the Portal of Health Statistics (only in Lithuanian), Search Tool of Causes of Death Data.
10.4	Micro-data access	Data of the State Register of Deaths and their Causes may be provided for scientific purposes under single requests or data provision agreements, in accordance with the regulations of the State Register of Deaths and their Causes. The Open Data Portal of Lithuania publishes data on the deaths and their causes of permanent residents of Lithuania, whether deceased in Lithuania or abroad, and of stillbirths of permanent residents of the Republic of Lithuania.
10.5	Other	Statistical information on the causes of death is published on the HI internet site , Eurostat database and the World Health Organisation Regional Office for Europe database .
10.6	Documentation on methodology	Methodological documents are published on the website of the Institute of Hygiene in the section Methodological Information of the Register of Causes of Death (only in Lithuanian).
11	Quality management	

11.1	Quality assurance	The quality of statistical information and its production process is ensured by the provisions of the European Statistics Code of Practice .
11.2	Quality assessment	The quality of the data meets the requirements of accuracy, timeliness and punctuality, comparability and consistency. Primary control of data entry is conducted at the Register: completeness of mandatory data, assurance of data suitability and verification of record consistency. Data quality assurance is performed by verifying the entered data against the information on deceased persons provided by the Resident's Register and the State Data Agency. Quality of death statistics is evaluated using international indicators of quality of death statistics, which are reported in the Quality Report on the Causes of Death Statistics.
12	Relevance	
12.1	User needs	The main users of statistical information are State and municipal authorities and agencies, international organizations, the media, research institutions, students and business representatives, whose needs are satisfied without a breach of the confidentiality principle. Statistical information is needed to perform analysis of the causes of death, municipal public health offices to carry out public health monitoring programs, researchers, to analyse student research, to evaluate ongoing prevention programs, and so on.
12.2	User satisfaction	Traffic to the HI portal is monitored, surveys of the Internet visitors are conducted. In 2022, the User Opinion Survey on the Need, Quality and Availability of Health Statistics was conducted.
12.3	Completeness	All regulated statistics are published.
12.3.1	Data completeness rate	100 per cent of information produced in accordance with Part I of the Official Statistics Programme is published.
13	Accuracy and reliability	
13.1	Overall accuracy	Statistical information is compiled on the basis of administrative data, so the overall accuracy of the data is high.
13.2	Sampling error	A continuous statistical survey based on administrative data is carried out, no sample is taken.
13.3	Non-sampling error	Statistical survey is conducted based on administrative data. Accuracy of statistical data depends on the quality of the administrative sources.
13.3.1	Non-response error	Errors due to non-response are not calculated, all necessary data for calculations are obtained from administrative sources.
13.3.1.1	Unit non-response rate	All data used for calculations are obtained from administrative sources, the non-response rate of a statistical unit is not calculated.
13.3.1.2	Item non-response rate	Item non-response rate is considered to be equal to 0 per cent, all necessary item values are obtained from administrative sources.
14	Timeliness and punctuality	
14.1	Timeliness	Provisional monthly statistical information of a reference month is published after 45 days from the end of the reference month. Provisional annual statistical information is published in May, final statistical data – at the beginning of August.

14.2	Punctuality	Statistical information is published in accordance with the approved Official Statistics Calendar and Release Calendar of Health Statistics . In case of delay, users are notified in advance by indicating the reason and a new date of publication.
14.2.1	Punctuality - delivery and publication	100 per cent.
15	Coherence and comparability	
15.1	Comparability - geographical	Statistical information is comparable among the European Union Member States.
15.2	Comparability - over time	Comparability is fully ensured.
15.2.1	Length of comparable time series	Since 1998
15.3	Cross-domain coherence	Indicator values are reconciled with the statistical survey on the determination of the number and composition of permanent residents.
15.4	Coherence - internal	Monthly and annual statistical indicators are coherent.
16	Cost and response burden	Administrative data are used. In this case, no response burden on respondents is caused. In 2025, the amount of EUR 145,56 thousand for the statistical survey was allocated.
17	Data revision	
17.1	Data revision - policy	Revisions of statistical indicators are performed in accordance with the Description of the procedure for the publication and revision of official statistical information , approved by Order No V-49 of 20 March 2025 of the Director of Institute of Hygiene (only in Lithuanian).
17.2	Data revision - practice	Users are informed about planned revisions in advance in the Calendar of Planned Revisions of Health Statistical Information . As legal acts change, revisions of statistical indicators are carried out in case of significant errors. Users are immediately informed about their results and changes made.
17.2.1	Data revision - average size	Preliminary and final indicators differ slightly. Usually, absolute numbers do not differ; only density indicators differ due to the use of provisional or final population figures.
18	Statistical processing	
18.1	Source data	The source of statistical data on the causes of death for deceased persons and the causes of death for stillbirths is the State Register of Deaths and their Causes, where medical (and perinatal) death certificates issued by healthcare institutions and other documents, specified in the Regulations of the State Register of Death and their Causes, are stored.

18.2	Frequency of data collection	Monthly, annual.
18.3	Data collection	Medical death certificates (paper form) once a month are forwarded to the Institute of Hygiene. Electronic medical death certificates are collected from the e-health system. Specialists manually code multiple causes of deaths and select code of the underlying cause of death. ACME Decision tables is used to check the selection of the underlying cause. Causes of death are classified according to the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD-10-AM, Australian Modification).
18.4	Data validation	Statistical data control requirements are indicated in the technical specification of the State Register of Death Cases and their Causes. The data entered are checked against the information on deceased persons, provided by the Resident's Register and the State Data Agency.
18.5	Data compilation	Methods for grouping and summarizing statistical data are used in compiling statistical information. Statistics are processed by date of death. Preliminary monthly data are calculated based on the date of death. A more extensive process of compiling statistical indicators is described in the Methodology for the Survey on Death Causes (only in Lithuanian).
18.6	Adjustment	Influence of the season and the number of working days on the survey of death causes statistics is not assessed.
19	Comment	–