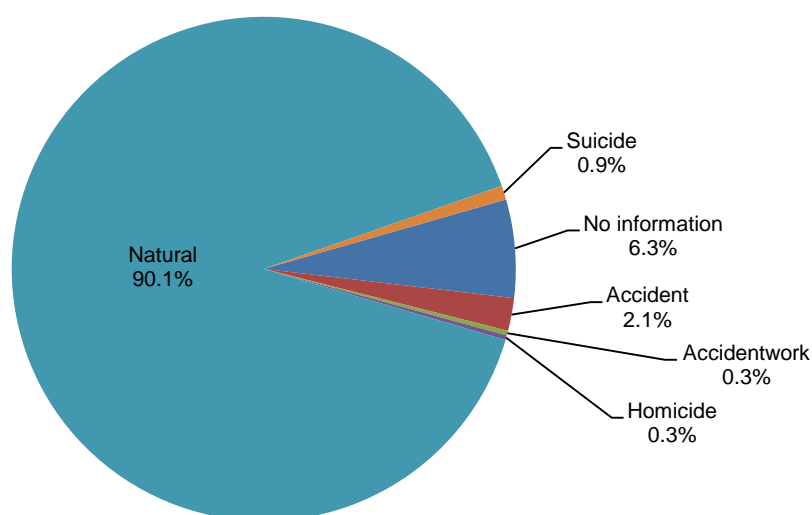


Causes of Deaths

Tirana, May 22, 2018: In 2017, the number of deaths registered in Albania is 22,232, compared to the previous year has increase of 3.9 %. By sex, the number of deaths reported for males is 11,610 (2.9 % more than in 2016) and for women 10,622 (5.1 % more than in 2016).

The crude mortality rate for 2017 is 77.4 deaths per 10 thousand inhabitants, compared to 74.4 in 2016. Referring to causes of deaths, the largest share of deaths from "Natural causes" was 90.1%, followed by "Accidents" by 2.1 %.

Fig. 1 Deaths by Main Causes, 2017



* Unknown are cases that did not determine the cause

In 2017, deaths from the group "Diseases of the bloodstream" account 53.7 % of total deaths. This disease group continues to be the leading cause of death, with a mortality rate of 41.5 per 10 thousand inhabitants, marking a 2.5 % increase compared to the previous year. Within this group, the highest percentage of deaths from "Vascular Brain Diseases" by 32.6 % and "Chronic Heart Disease" by 26.3 %.

Deaths from the "Tumor" disease group account 16.4% of total deaths, ranking as the second major group referring to the number of deaths inflicted. The mortality rate for this disease group is 12.7 per 10 thousand inhabitants and has an increase of 2.0 % compared to 2016. In the "Tumor" group the highest percentage of the subgroup "Tumor of the respiratory system", with 33.5 %.

Deaths from Disease Group "Symptoms, Signs and Illness Unspecified" are ranked as the third major group referring to the number of deaths caused. The mortality rate for this group disease is 16.0 %, marking an increase of 11.2 % compared to 2016. In this group, 75.5 % of the deaths are at age 80 and above, and the specific cause of death is "Death from old age".

Tab. 1 Main Causes of Deaths by Disease Group, 2017 (ICD Classification 9 *)

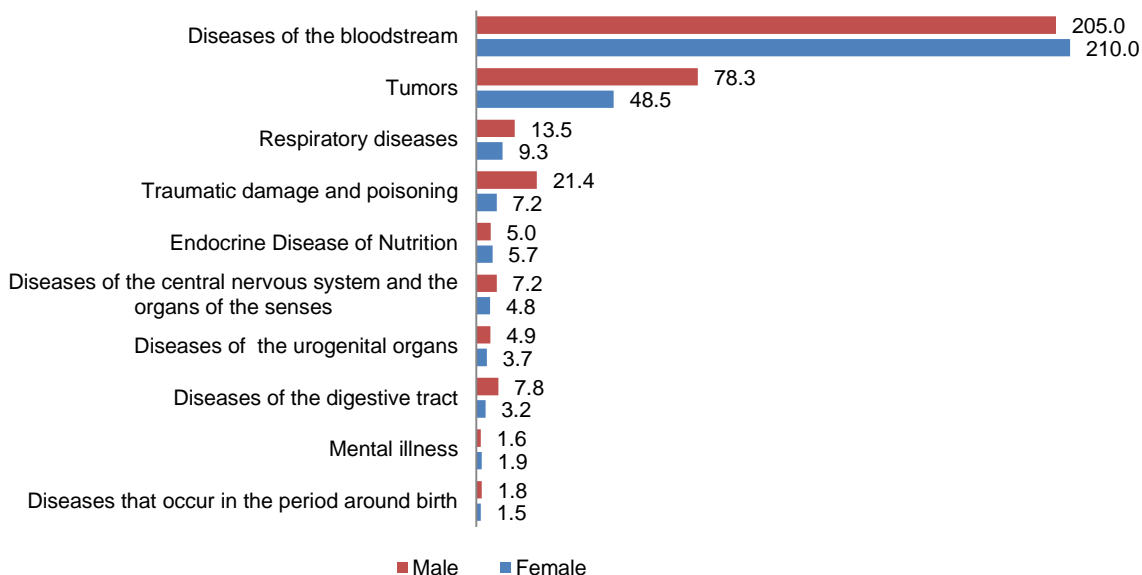
	2016	2017	Annual change rate in %
Diseases of the bloodstream	11637	11926	2.5
Tumors	3571	3645	2.1
Symptoms, signs and diseases not well defined	3206	3566	11.2
Traumatic damage and poisoning	892	820	-8.1
Respiratory diseases	554	656	18.4
Diseases of the central nervous system and the organs of the senses	298	346	16.1
Diseases of the digestive tract	296	316	6.8
Endocrine Disease of Nutrition	294	308	4.8
Diseases of the urogenital organs	253	248	-2.0
Mental illness	101	100	-1.0
Diseases that occur in the period around birth	76	97	27.6
Complications of burden, birth and postnatal period	75	61	-18.7
Diseases of blood and blood forming organs	41	43	4.9
Infectious and parasitic diseases	40	37	-7.5
Diseases of the bone and joint system	26	37	42.3
Congenital anomalies	20	24	20.0
Diseases of skin and skin tissue disorders in the skin	8	2	-75.0
	21388	22232	3.9

**International classification of deaths*

Death by sex

The diseases group "Diseases of the bloodstream" is the main cause of death, both in women and men, respectively 210 and 205 per 100 thousand inhabitants. "Tumors" are the second leading cause of deaths for both sexes, with a male dominance of about 30 percentage points. The mortality rate for this group of males is 78.3 for males and 48.5 for females per 100 thousand inhabitants.

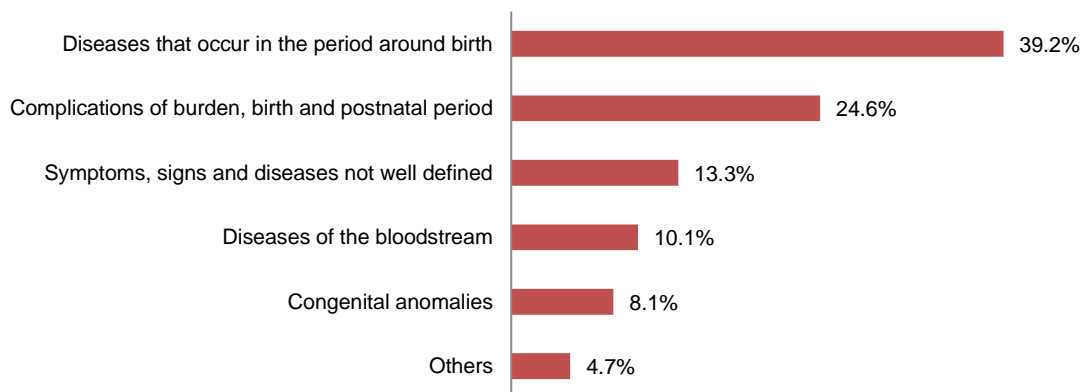
Fig. 2 Crude mortality rate according to group of diseases and gender (per 100 thousand inhabitants)



Death by age group

In 2017, the infant mortality rate is 8.03 per 1000 live births, compared with 8.7 in 2016. The main causes of infant mortality (under 1 year old) are "Diseases occurring in the nursing period" with 39.1 % and "Costs of Birth, Birth and Postpartum Complications" with 24.8 % of the deaths of this age group.

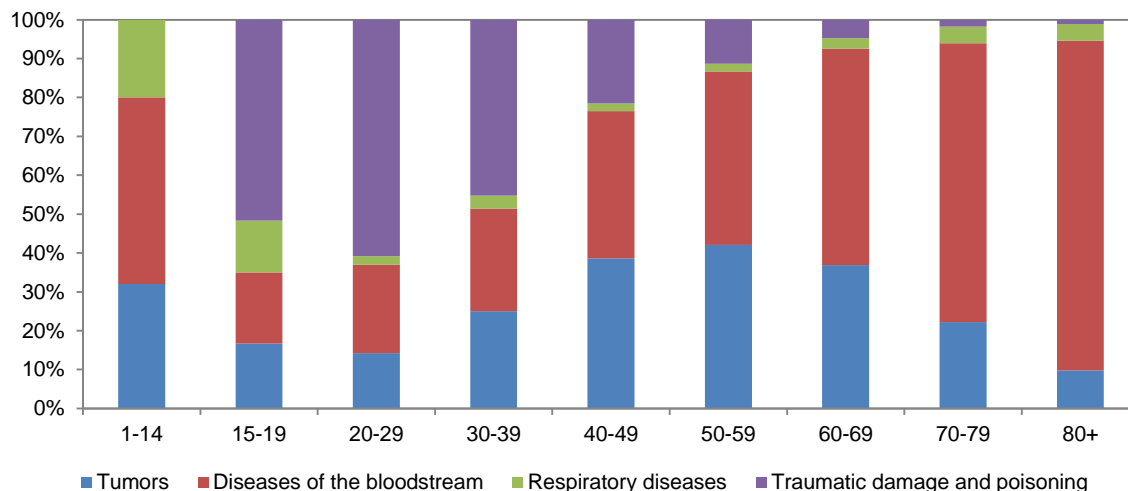
Fig. 3 Infant Mortality by Main Causes (%)



In the age group 1-14, among the 4 major disease groups, the highest weight was composed by the group "Diseases of the bloodstream" by 48.0 % of the number of deaths for this age group. In the age group 15-39, the highest weight was marked on "Traumatic Damage and Poisoning", with over 45 % of the number of deaths for this age group. In the age group 40-49, the highest burden was composed by

"Tumor" by 38.6 % of the number of deaths for this age group. In the ages of 50 to 80 and over, most of the deaths were caused by disease group "Diseases of the bloodstream".

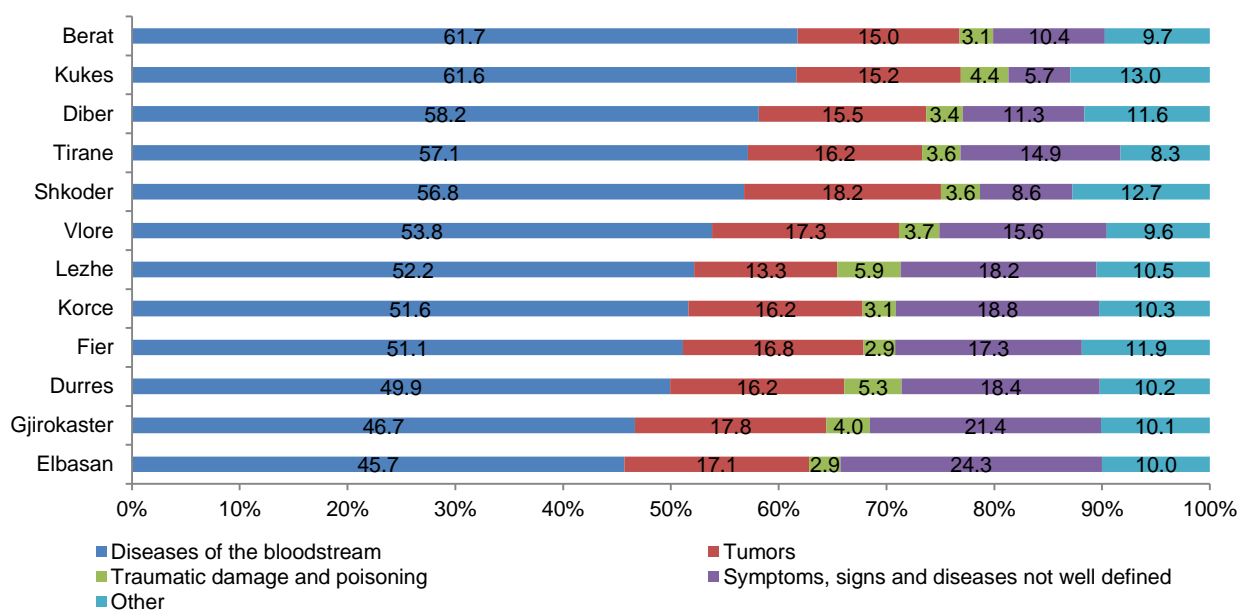
Fig. 4 Specific weight belonging to the major disease group for each age group (%)



Death by Prefectures

Disease Group "Diseases of the bloodstream" is the dominant cause of death in all prefectures. This cause marks the highest value in the Berat prefecture with 61.7 % of the total number of deaths and Kukës with 61.6 % of the total number of deaths. The "Tumor" group causes over 13.0 % of total deaths in each prefecture, marking the highest value in Shkodra prefecture with 18.2 % of deaths. Disease Group "Symptom, Signs and Unspecified illness" is the third leading cause of deaths for all prefectures with the highest value in Elbasan district with 24.3 % and Gjirokastra with 21.4 %.

Fig. 5 Death by disease group and by prefectures, 2017



Methodology

Cause of death is the disease or symptom that has caused or contributed to death, as well as the circumstances of the accident that caused the trauma (Described in the death certificate). The source of the data is the General Directorate of Civil Status.

International Classification "ICD-9" is the international classification of causes of death, which codifies the group of 17 major disease groups. This coding is done by the physician and is the most complete official statistical source of the diseases that are the cause of death.

Disease is the frequency of diseases in a population. It is measured by: Prevalence that is the number of all cases of disease in a population at a given moment (instantaneous frequency) or during a given period, regardless of whether the disease is at first or not and regardless of the cases new or old.

Death means the enduring disappearance of all signs of life at any point after a live birth (termination of vital functions without resuscitation). This definition does not include fetal death.

Mortality expresses the deaths as a component of the population change, which happens to every member of the population.