

Causes of Death Statistics

Euro SDMX Metadata Structure (ESMS)

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1. Contact	
1.1. Contact organisation	Institute of Statistics, INSTAT
1.2. Contact organisation unit	Sector of Health and Social Protection Statistics, Directorate of Employment Statistics and Cross-Sectoral Analysis
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2. Metadata update	
2.1. Metadata last certified	01.07.2026
2.2. Metadata last posted	01.07.2026
2.3. Metadata last update	01.07.2026
3. Statistical presentation	
3.1. Data description	Causes of deaths statistics contain data on deaths recorded in a given year in Albania. These statistics are analyzed and published based on the International Classification of Diseases, ICD-9, in full compliance with the World Health Organization (WHO). According to the ICD-9 classification all diseases are coded from 1 to 999 and grouped into 17 major disease groups. Deaths are also grouped according to natural causes, suicide killing, accidents, etc., according to age group, prefecture as well as grouped causes by location (home, health institution or other). A cause-of-death classification according to demand is also made under subgroups or specific diseases whose weight is high in total deaths over a year. These statistics are important for users to study and identify frequent cases, and help preventive health policies for illness.

3.2. Classification system	In processing data and calculating causes of deaths indicators, INSTAT uses the International Classification of Diseases, Causes of Death and Trauma (ICD-9). The main disease groups according to (ICD-9) consist of: I. Infectious & parasitic diseases (001-139); II. Neoplasm (140-239) III. Endocrine, metabolic, immunity, nutritional diseases (240–279); IV. Blood, blood-forming organs (280–289); V. Mental disorders (290–319); VI. Nervous system & sense organ diseases (320–389); VII. Circulatory system diseases (390–459); VIII. Respiratory system diseases (460–519); IX. Digestive system diseases (520–579); X. Genitourinary system diseases (580–629); XI. Pregnancy, childbirth, puerperal (630–676); XII. Skin & subcutaneous tissue diseases (680–709); XIII. Musculoskeletal system and connective tissue (710–739); XIV. Congenital Anomalies (740–759); XV. Certain diseases of early infancy (760–779); XVI. Symptoms, sign, and ill-defined conditions (780–799); XVII. Injury and poisoning (800–999); - XVIII. External of injury and poisoning (accidents) (E800–E999). Albanian version of this classification can be retrieved in the link ICD-9.
3.3. Sector coverage	The statistical information covers data on causes of deaths that are produced in detailed level based on the number of deaths by major disease groups, by gender, age group and prefecture. Also it includes even statistics by cause of death and place of death.
3.4. Statistical concepts and definitions	Cause of Death: It is a disease, illness or trauma that has caused or contributed to death, as well as the circumstances of the accident or the violence that caused these trauma. Death: means the enduring disappearance of all signs of life at any point after a live birth (termination of vital functions without animation). This definition does not include fetal death. Maternal mortality: It is the death of a woman who happens during her pregnancy or within 42 days after her termination, whatever the prolongation or localization, of any cause or burden of burden or aid provided for the burden but not accidental, or unexpected. Mortality: Expresses the deaths as a component of population change. Mortality Rate (or crude mortality rate) is the number of deaths per 1000 inhabitants in a given year. Maternal Mortality Rate: is the number of deaths of women due to pregnancy

	or complications at birth for 1000 live births of that year. Infant Mortality Rate (IMR): is the number of deaths of children under one year in a given year per 1000 live births of that year. Neonatal Mortality Rate: is the number of deaths of children under 28 days in one year for 1000 live births of that year. The Perinatal Mortality Rate is the number of fetal deaths of children under 28 weeks of pregnancy (late fetal death) plus the number of deaths of children under 7 days per 1000 live births of that year. Specific mortality rate: Mortality coefficients can be obtained for a specific age group to compare mortality at different ages or mortality rates for the same age over time. Comparisons can also be made between countries or areas. The specific mortality rate by cause: Every death has a cause, at least for statistical purposes even if that cause is "unknown". Baseline mortality rates by cause are usually expressed in deaths per 100,000 because for many causes of death the incidence rate is very low.
3.5. Statistical unit	The statistical unit is considered the number of deaths of the population in a given year, according to the cause of death, the cause of death by location (home, health institution, other), the cause of death (natural, homicide, suicide, accidents).
3.6. Statistical population	For Causes of Deaths Statistics, INSTAT processes the data on the deaths of residents in Albania, which are provided by the death acts generated by the death files completed by the Doctor. This data are provided by the Directorate of Civil Status.
3.7. Reference area	Data on Causes of Deaths Statistics cover the entire territory of the country. Aggregated data are at country level and prefecture level.
3.8. Time coverage	Data on the Causes of Deaths are available from 2012.
3.9. Base period	Not applicable.
4. Unit of measure	
4.1 Unit of measure	In the Causes of Deaths Statistics the data are published in absolute numbers, crude death rate and in percentage.
5. Reference period	
5.1 Reference period	The reference period of the statistical data on Causes of Deaths Statistics is annual. This report refers to 2025.

6. Institutional mandate	
6.1. Legal acts and other agreements	At national level, Causes of Deaths Statistics are based on: • National Statistical Law; • Official Statistics National Program 2022-2026.
6.2. Data sharing	INSTAT does not transmit indicators to Eurostat regarding Causes of Deaths Statistics.
7. Confidentiality	
7.1. Confidentiality - policy	Data collected by statistical units are considered strictly confidential and are used only for statistical and research purposes based on National Statistical Law No.17/2018 “On Official Statistics”, date 10.03.2018 and the Law No. 124/2024 on the Protection of Personal Data, Article 31 on Statistics Law reads as follows: Data collected for the production of official statistics shall be treated by INSTAT as confidential and shall be used only in aggregated tables that will not identify the source information unit. Direct identification means when a statistical unit is directly identified from its name or address or any officially allocated and commonly known identification number. When data processing is made in a manner that allows the identification of the data subject, the data should immediately be encrypted in order for the subjects to be no longer identifiable.
7.2. Confidentiality - data treatment	Albanian Institute of Statistics protects and does not disseminate data it has obtained or it has access to, which enable the direct or indirect identification of the statistical units. Albania Institute of Statistics takes all appropriate preventive measures so as to render impossible the identification of individual statistical units by technical or other means that might reasonably be used by a third party. Statistical data that could potentially enable the identification of the statistical unit are disseminated by Albania Institute of Statistics if and only if: a) these data have been treated, as it is specifically set out in the Regulation, in such a way that their dissemination does not prejudice statistical confidentiality or b) the statistical unit has given its consent, without any reservations, for the disclosure of data. The confidential data that are transmitted to Albania Institute of Statistics are used exclusively for statistical purposes and the only persons who have the right to have access to these data are the personnel engaged in this task. Issues referring to the observance of statistical confidentiality are examined by the staff working in Albania Institute of Statistics. The responsibilities of this staff are to recommend on: which detailed level the statistical data can be disseminated, so as the identification, either directly or indirectly, of the surveyed statistical unit is not possible; the anonymization criteria for the microdata provided to users;

	the access granting to researchers on confidential data for scientific purposes.
8. Release policy	
8.1. Release calendar	Notifications about the dissemination of statistics are published in the release calendar, which is available on the website. The announcements and delays are per-announced in this calendar. In the case of delays, the date of the next publication and the explanation of the reasons for the delays are specified.
8.2. Release calendar access	The Calendar of publications is available on the INSTAT website.
8.3. User access	In line with the article 34 of Law No.17/2018 “On Official Statistics”, INSTAT disseminates statistics on INSTAT website and other media for simultaneous access, respecting professional independence and in an objective, professional and transparent manner in which all users are treated equitably. The following dissemination channels are used to release the results: 1. Website – online release; 2. Written requests, (by mail or email); 3. Special publications; 4. Data request, section available for external users.
9. Frequency of dissemination	
9. Frequency of dissemination	Dissemination of Causes of Death Statistics is done on an annual basis through the publications mentioned above.
10. Accessibility and clarity	
10.1. News release	The press release contains information about Statistics Causes of Deaths on main indicator analyzed and published. The format of the press release is determined by the publication sector, which also sets the publication date. Press release of the Causes of Deaths is published online on INSTAT's website.
10.2. Publications	Users can find the publications on Causes of Deaths Statistics on INSTAT website organized as follows. Annual: • Men and Women; • Regional Statistical Yearbook. Dedicated publication: • Causes of Deaths Statistics.
10.3. Online database	Data on Statistics Causes of Deaths are published in the official website of INSTAT, under the section Statistical Database .

	• Deaths by age-group and illness; • Deaths by illnesses and sex; • Deaths by prefecture and illness; • Deaths by prefectures and location; • Deaths by prefectures, sex and causes of death.
10.4. Micro-data access	Data on Statistics Causes of Deaths based on micro-level data are not published due to confidentiality reasons. Aggregated data is the only type of data that is provided to external users. This data are given to the users, in case these data are not confidential based on Article 31 of Official Statistical Law No.17/2018.
10.5. Other	Users can send other specific requests through a dedicated section for Contact
10.6. Documentation on methodology	The methodology of the Causes of Deaths Statistics is based on Eurostat manuals and regulations, which contain a comprehensive set of recommendations on the compilation of indicators dedicated to these statistics. There is a section on the INSTAT website regarding the methodology on Causes of Death Statistics (under the topic Health statistics).
10.7. Quality documentation	Sector of Health and Social Protection Statistics documents all processes and work procedures for internal use.
11. Quality management	
11.1. Quality assurance	INSTAT is committed to quality assurance in the production of official statistics. Based on Law no. 17/2018 "On Official Statistics" , INSTAT uses statistical methods and processes in accordance with internationally accepted scientific principles and standards, and conducts continuous analysis to improve the quality and provision of up-to-date statistics. In carrying out its tasks, INSTAT follows the general principles of quality management, in accordance with the European Statistics Code of Practice . INSTAT for quality assurance is guided by the following principles: impartiality, quality of statistical processes and products, user orientation, employee orientation, effectiveness of statistical processes and reducing the workload for respondents.
11.2. Quality assessment	Quality controls and validation of data are actions carried out throughout the process. The staff is involved in different stages of data compilation are all well trained. The source of data for Causes of Deaths Statistics is mainly an administrative source. Data is compared with data from previous years to see if there is data coherence or major changes.

12. Relevance	
12.1. User needs	Users of Causes of Death statistics are classified as external and internal. • External users are: ○ Institutions of Public Administration; ○ Universities; ○ Businesses; ○ General public and other stakeholders; ○ National non-profit organizations. • Internal users are within INSTAT who use Causes of Deaths Statistics as input for their work. The main purpose of producing Causes of Deaths statistics is to provide more complete information due to the social relevance of these statistics, and also the needs of the public concerned to them, as well as for studies and health reports.
12.2. User satisfaction	INSTAT annually conducts the Survey for Measuring User Satisfaction, the results of which are published on the web at the link: User Satisfaction Survey
12.3. Completeness	INSTAT produces Causes of Death Statistics in full compliance with the International Classification of Diseases, Causes of Death and Trauma (ICD 9). The completeness of the data for “Causes of Death” for 2025 is judged by comparing the quality and quantity of indicators in the Official Statistics Program (2022-2026).
13. Accuracy and reliability	
13.1. Overall accuracy	Information on "Causes of Deaths Statistics" is collected from administrative sources and the data are final. In general, the data have been checked with previous years to identify any significant changes in the performance of the data. In cases where changes are encountered, INSTAT notifies the relevant data sources to inform about the findings found in order to correct this data if deemed necessary or to be officially confirmed.
13.2. Sampling error	Not applicable, because it is an administrative source.
13.3. Non-sampling error	The non-sampling errors are mainly errors of the administrative data sources reported data. Data revision only occurs if the relevant institutions revise the data sent to INSTAT for update effect or any potential human error. If the relevant institutions revise the data sent to INSTAT, then in the most recent publication INSTAT will reflect these changes and provide brief clarification information to the users.

14. Timeliness and punctuality									
14.1. Timeliness	Results of “Causes of Deaths” are published on INSTAT website 182 days after the end of the reference period (T + 182 days). The reference period of these results is December 31st, 2025. <table> <tr> <td>Reference period</td><td>31/12/2025</td></tr> <tr> <td>Publication Date</td><td>01/07/2026</td></tr> <tr> <td>Timelines</td><td>182</td></tr> </table>	Reference period	31/12/2025	Publication Date	01/07/2026	Timelines	182		
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14.2. Punctuality	The data on “Causes of Deaths” are disseminated according to the publication calendar. The publication of Causes of Deaths statistics as an integral part of INSTAT publications, has been 100% punctual in time of all publications made over the years. <table> <tr> <td>Reference period</td><td>31/12/2025</td></tr> <tr> <td>Date announced</td><td>01/07/2026</td></tr> <tr> <td>Publication Date</td><td>01/07/2026</td></tr> <tr> <td>Delay in time</td><td>0</td></tr> </table>	Reference period	31/12/2025	Date announced	01/07/2026	Publication Date	01/07/2026	Delay in time	0
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15. Coherence and comparability									
15.1. Comparability - geographical	Data on Causes of Deaths statistics are comprehensive, they are produced at country level and by prefectures.								
15.2. Comparability - over time	Causes of Deaths Statistics date back to 1993, there is a disconnect from 2009-2011. From 2012 - 2025 data of causes of deaths statistics are provided according to a certain electronic format defined by the administrative source and INSTAT, providing comparability over the time of 14 years. (CC2=Jlast Jfirst+1=14). Data on infant mortality rates should not be compared with previous years due to methodologic changes in 2021.								
15.3. Coherence - cross domain	Not applicable.								
15.4. Coherence - internal	The internal consistency of the data is checked before being finalized. There are also checked the relation between the variables and the coherence in the various series.								
16. Cost and burden									
16.1 Cost and burden	The staff involved in the preparation of Causes of Deaths Statistics at the Social Statistics Development Sector is: 1 employee at INSTAT headquarters.								

17. Data revision	
17.1. Data revision - policy	Revision policy of Causes of Deaths Statistics is done in accordance with general revision policy and errors treatment policy introduced by INSTAT in the links below. The same revision policy is applied in transmissions to Eurostat as well. For more information refer to: • Revision policy; • The error treatment policy.
17.2. Data revision-practise	If stakeholders that send information on Causes of Deaths to INSTAT will report changes in the information provided, this data will be updated and published in the forthcoming publication accompanied by an explanatory note to the user.
18. Statistical processing	
18.1. Source data	The main institution that serve as a source of information for causes of Deaths Statistics is The General Directorate of Civil Status. These resources are very important for the progress of work and for meeting the set deadlines.
18.2. Frequency of data collection	The data collected on Causes of Deaths Statistics are annual.
18.3. Data collection	Data from the General Directorate of Civil Status include data on deaths recorded during a year in Albania, information based on the deaths files completed by the doctor.
18.4. Data validation	Causes of deaths data were subjected to logical and mathematical checks. With methods of verification of administrative data we can mention: Checking for completeness of data, consistency over time, arithmetic corrections (should not be too high), summary controls, time series control if there are large deviations etc.
18.5. Data compilation	Not applicable. Coverage is all-inclusive at country and prefecture level, data is administrative and statistical information is always available on time, so data evaluation is not necessary.
18.6. Adjustment	Not applicable.
19. Comments	
Annex	