

## STATISTICS ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK

### Legal basis

The regulation of the statistical activities in respect to the statistics on public health and health and safety at work has two aspects:

1. Legal regulation as a result of the Community legislation concerning statistics on public health. This includes Regulation (EC) N 1338/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics on public health and health and safety at work and the engagement and the agreement of EU-countries to apply the general conditions in respect to the public health statistics domains.
2. National legislation, which applies the Community legislation as well as the developed methodologies and guidelines on practical implementation of the Regulations. The Bulgarian National Statistical Programme includes surveys carried out by NSI as well as by the other Bodies of Statistics.

### Organization of statistical activities in the field of statistics on public health

The statistical activity in the field of public health is performed by the National Statistical Institute, the National Centre for Health Information (NCHI) and the Regional Health Centres which are Bodies of Statistics. The activity is performed through conducting statistical surveys by the two administrations as well as by their regional offices. The activity is in accordance with the Law on Statistics, Law on Health, National Statistical Programme and Ordinance № 10/05.07. 2000 of the Minister of Health on medico-statistical information and information on health establishments' medical activities.

Through the system of statistical surveys which are included in the National Statistical Programme and carried out by the NSI and NCHI, annually statistical information on health network by type of health establishments is provided. Statistical surveys carried out by the NCHI provide information on medical activities of health establishments, utilization of beds, surgical operations, dispensary attendance in specialized health establishments etc. The combined usage of data provided by the both institutions, Bodies of Statistics, gives an opportunity for a general description of the system of public health as well as the activity of health establishments in accordance with the legal basis.

### ***European Health Interview Survey***

The survey is a part of the European Health Survey System in the framework of the European Statistical System. The survey has been carried out every five year. The EHIS aims at measuring on a harmonised basis and with a high degree of comparability among EU Member States, the health status, life style (health determinants) and health care services use of the EU citizens. Data collection method is "face to face" PAPI interview.

The survey was carried out by NSI in October and November 2008. The topics included in the questionnaire are referred in order to meet main data needs. They do not cover all detailed aspects of health which can better be carried out via specific surveys at national level

The questionnaire consists of four modules.

- ✓ Health status;
- ✓ Health care;
- ✓ Health determinants;
- ✓ Background module.

The sample is draw with probability proportional to size of the clusters and stratified by place of residence – cities and villages and by districts. 8199 persons aged 15+ are defined

within 3725 private households. In accordance with the EHIS methodology people that live in institutionalised households (residencies for students or workers, medical or social institutions, prisons) are excluded from the target population.

*Proxy interview* was allowed only due to health problems of the respondent. There are two possibilities - the person is unable to complete the interview due to physical or mental problems and the person is hospitalized. In accordance with the ESTAT “EHIS conceptual cards and guidelines” recommendations proxy interview was allowed for some questions. 2008 EHIS data shows that information was given directly by 5 207 of the respondent that is 92 % of the respondents.

EHIS is data source for calculation of main indicators in respect to health status of population – self-perceived health, prevalence of chronic illnesses, use of medical services, use of medicines, use of preventive care, Body mass index, smoking and consumption of alcohol.

### **Publicity**

More health information can be found in the annual publication 'Health services', issued by NSI and the National Centre for Health Information at the Ministry of Health. The data sources are the statistical surveys carried out by the both institutions. Main methodological explanations are also included.

Health data are included in "Statistical Reference Book" and publication "Bulgaria - Statistical Panorama" (preliminary data) as well as in "Statistical yearbook". Data on death by causes are included in the publication “Population and demographic processes”.

Main health indicators are disseminated via press releases on the NSI’s website. Data are disseminated on request to users following the established in NSI rules.

Data users on health information are the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Government and other public administration bodies, National Health Insurance Fund as well as European and international organizations – Eurostat, World Health Organization, UNESCO, UNICEF etc.

Main data on causes of death statistics, health network etc. are presented on the NSI’s website ([www.nsi.bg](http://www.nsi.bg)).