

# Glossary:European health interview survey (EHIS)

Statistics Explained

Health interview surveys offer comprehensive data on the health status of a population and health-related topics based on answers by respondents of a representative sample of the population. The European Health Interview Survey (EHIS) includes information from all [European Union \(EU\)](#) Member States and is to be conducted every five years according to the [Regulation \(EC\) No 1338/2008](#) on Community statistics on public health and health and safety at work.

The first wave of EHIS was conducted under a gentlemen's agreement and implemented in 17 Member States between 2006 and 2009. EHIS wave 2 was conducted in all EU Member States between 2013 and 2015 according to the [Regulation \(EU\) No 141/2013](#) as regards statistics based on the European Health Interview Survey (EHIS). The third wave was conducted in 2019 in accordance with the [Regulation 0255/2018](#) .

EHIS covers the following topics:

- Health status (self-perceived health, chronic diseases, limitation in activities, mental health, pain, accidents, etc.)
- Health determinants (smoking and alcohol consumption, body weight, physical activity, dietary habits, etc.)
- Health care (use of different types of health care services including hospitalizations, consultations, prevention, use of medicines but also unmet needs for health care).

EHIS is used as a data source for important health and social policy indicators such as the [European Core Health Indicators \(ECHI\)](#) or indicators of the health and long-term care strand developed under the Open Method of Coordination on social protection and social inclusion ( [EU social indicators](#) ).

## Further information

- [European Health Interview Survey \(EHIS wave 2\) - Methodological manual](#)
- [Quality report of the second wave of the European Health Interview survey](#)
- [European Health Interview Survey \(EHIS wave 3\) — Methodological manual \(re-edition 2020\)](#)

## Related concepts

- [EU statistics on income and living conditions \(EU-SILC\)](#)
- [Minimum European Health Module \(MEHM\) \]](#)

## Statistical data

- [Breast cancer screening statistics](#)
- [Overweight and obesity - BMI statistics](#)