

National consistency: Sweden

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Introduction

Sweden has a long history of keeping track of their citizens. This work was originally done by the church but is now the responsibility of different governmental institutions. The statistical data is usually published both in paper and as PDF-files on internet. These PDF files can be obtained free of charge. A limitation is that the data mostly is published in Swedish although an English summary or subtitles in English makes part of the data available for an international audience. The data is when available usually considered being of high quality. One problem when looking at indicators related to mortality is that the autopsy rate in Sweden has been declining for many years.

Indicators Class 1:

These indicators are available through official statistics published by Statistics Sweden. The data is published annually in Swedish and partly in English on the web site: www.scb.se and is also available in a paper, CD and a PDF version: *Statistical Yearbook of Sweden*.

Indicators Class 2:

Mortality

Detailed information on causes of death is available through the National Board of Health and Welfare www.socialstyrelsen.se in the annual publication *Causes of death* which is available as a PDF file on the web site above. The publication is in Swedish with an English summary.

Morbidity respiratory system

Information available only through a limited number of specific studies as the European Respiratory Community Health Survey, International Study of Asthma and Allergy in Children (ISAAC) and the FINESS-study.

Indicators Class 3:

Information on body mass index and smoking is repeatedly collected during national census in the study: Undersökningar av levnadsförhållanden (ULF) and is available in *Statistical Yearbook of Sweden*. Birth weight is routinely collected through a national birth registry and is annually published in Swedish in *Nordisk födelsestatistik* which is available as a PDF file: www.socialstyrelsen.se. National data on food consumption is published in *Statistical Yearbook of Sweden*. Data on air pollutants is routinely collected in many Swedish towns and cities and such data is available from the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency: www.naturvardsverket.se. Data on most of the other indicators is only available from a limited number of specific studies.

Indicators Class 4:

Health promotion and health protection

Limited data is available from a few specific studies.

Health care resources

Data is available from the National Board of Health and Welfare annual publication *Yearbook of Health and Medical Care* www.socialstyrelsen.se. For some of the indicators such as number of specialists specific information must be asked from the Swedish Medical Society: www.svls.se. Data on management plans, lung function and allergy testing is only available from a limited number of specific studies.

Health care utilisation

Data on hospital admission rates for asthma and COPD is available in *Yearbook of Health and Medical Care*. No data is available for health care utilisation in undiagnosed subjects except in a few local studies.

Detailed data on sale of asthma drugs is available from the National Pharmacy (Apoteket) and published on the web site: www.apoteket.se . National indirect and direct cost for asthma and COPD has been calculated in a few specific studies using official statistics.

Health care quality/ performance

This kind of information is only available from a limited number of specific studies.

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