

Date last modification of documentation sheet: 16-04-2012

Compared to previous version documentation sheet (21-02-2011) the following issues were adapted:

- New section on relevant policy areas added to the documentation sheet

Compared to previous version documentation sheet (16-07-2010) the following issues were adapted:

- Correction/clarification; definition and calculation adapted to match list of operational indicators, i.e. this indicator provides relative figures for the high risk groups instead of absolute figures per 5 year-age group. As Eurostat only provides total number of live births and live births per one year age group of the mother, percentages as requested by ECHIM are not readily available and need to be computed from the Eurostat data.
- Correction; subgroups: SES (educational status) is only relevant for mothers aged 35 and over, as teenage mothers often will not have finished their education yet.

| | |
|--|--|
| <i>ECHIM Indicator name</i> | A) Demographic and socio-economic factors 3. Mother's age distribution |
| <i>Relevant policy areas</i> | - Health inequalities (including accessibility of care) - Health system performance, quality of care, efficiency of care, patient safety - Maternal and perinatal health - Child health (including young adults) |
| <i>Definition</i> | Distribution of live births by mother's age at last birthday (NB: age distribution of mothers at delivery would be preferable; see remarks) |
| <i>Calculation</i> | Percentage of live births in mothers younger than 20 years, and percentage of live births in mothers of 35 years of age and older. |
| <i>Relevant dimensions and subgroups</i> | - Calendar year - Country - Region (according to ISARE recommendations). - Socio-economic status (educational level. ISCED 3 aggregated groups: 0-2; 3+4; 5+6), only relevant for mothers aged 35 and over. |
| <i>Preferred data type and data source</i> | Preferred data type: (In preference order) 1) National population statistics 2) Birth registers and perinatal data bases 3) Perinatal surveys Preferred source: Eurostat.. |
| <i>Data availability</i> | Eurostat: Data available for the EU-27 in the Eurostat database. Regional data available for most Member States (from 1990 onwards, NUTS-II level). Data by socio-economic status (education) is available for CZ, DK, EE, GR, HU, MT, AT, PL, PT, RO, SI, SK, FI, SE and NO for years 2007 and 2008. The ISARE project on regional data has collected data on mother's age (indicators: Number of births by mother's age, and: Percentage of births by maternal age). |
| <i>Data periodicity</i> | Data are updated annually. |
| <i>Rationale</i> | Both early and late childbearing are associated with higher than average rates of preterm birth, growth restriction and mortality in the perinatal period. |
| <i>Remarks</i> | - Currently Eurostat data is based on number of live births, i.e. multiple births are counted multiple times, and stillbirths are not counted. - PERISTAT is an EU-funded project on evaluating and monitoring perinatal health in Europe. PERISTAT recommendation, which is scientifically preferable, is to calculate mother's age distribution based on number of mothers (i.e. deliveries). Currently PERISTAT has data only for years 2000 (15 countries) and 2004 (26 countries). Next data round is planned to be for 2010 data. - PERISTAT plans in the next phase to explicitly work on integrating their recommendations into the regular Eurostat data collections. |

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eurostat presents total numbers of live births and live births per one year age group of mothers (15-49 years), so percentages as requested by ECHIM need to be calculated from these figures. |
| <i>References</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eurostat database, live births by mother's age at last birthday (select live births): http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=demo_fagec&lang=en - Eurostat database, live births by mothers age in completed years and region (select age in completed years): http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=reg_d2natag&lang=en - Eurostat database, live births by mother's age at last birthday and educational attainment (ISCED 1997): http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=demo_faeduc&lang=en - Eurostat meta-data on fertility statistics: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_SDDS/EN/demo_fer_esms.htm - Health Indicators in the European Regions (ISARE) project: http://www.isare.org - PERISTAT: www.euoperistat.com - For PERISTAT project 2000 data please see: the Special Issue of the European Journal for Obstetrics & Gynecology and Reproductive Biology, Volume 111 (2003), Supplement 1, S1–S87. - For PERISTAT project 2004 data please see: “European Perinatal Health Report”, http://www.euoperistat.com/publications/european-perinatal-health-report.shtml |
| <i>Work to do</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitor Eurostat and PERISTAT developments regarding indicator definition and data collection |