



FSO standpoint

FSO figures on excess mortality, mortality, deaths, causes of death, mortality rates and life expectancy

There are currently numerous debates in the media and on social networks on the topics above. The FSO would therefore like to briefly inform you about which figures are available from the office on these topics, where they can be found and to what they refer:

1: The figures on excess mortality can be found on this page:

<https://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/en/home/statistics/health/state-health/mortality-causes-death.html>

Supported by a graphic and downloadable tables, they show how the number of deaths has developed compared with the expected value for a certain time period. The FSO updates the graphic and excess mortality figures every Tuesday at 2pm.

Using experimental mortality monitoring, the FSO also provides a regional depiction of excess mortality by major region and canton:

<https://www.experimental.bfs.admin.ch/expstat/en/home/innovative-methods/momo.html>

The various graphics show to what extent excess mortality has developed in a certain region or canton in the course of 2020 and at the start of 2021. These figures are also updated every Tuesday at 2pm.

2: The deaths in absolute numbers can be seen on the following page:

<https://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/en/home/statistics/population/births-deaths/deaths.html>

Here you can see how many deaths there are week by week by canton, age group and gender. These figures are also updated every Tuesday at 2pm. The FSO will publish the consolidated provisional figures for the whole of 2020 by 6 April 2021 at the latest.

3: The office publishes figures on the causes of death, the medically proven main cause of a death, on this page:

<https://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/en/home/statistics/health/state-health/mortality-causes-death/specific.html>

The FSO's latest figures from these statistics refer to 2018. The figures for 2020 will be published by the end of 2022 at the latest. However, given the pandemic and sustained public interest, the office is working to publish the figures for 2020 more quickly than initially planned. However, a more precise deadline cannot be specified.

The figures on suicides in 2020 will also be included in the cause of death statistics as usual.

4: The figures on the age-standardised mortality rates showing how many people died per 100 000 inhabitants in a particular year broken down by gender can be found on this page:

<https://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/en/home/statistics/health/state-health/mortality-causes-death/specific.html>

However, this calculation will only be done for 2020 when the causes of death for the year concerned have been evaluated. The FSO's latest figures for this refer to 2018.

5: The FSO provides figures on the average length of life and life expectancy at birth. This information can be found here:

<https://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/en/home/statistics/population/births-deaths/life-expectancy.html>

The current latest figures are for 2019; the provisional figures for 2020 will be published by 6 April 2021 at the latest.

The FSO uses the latest methods which are transparent and can be viewed by anyone who wishes to see them. Explanations on the survey methodology can be found on one of the pages cited above. Methodological notices specifically for the various death statistics at federal level can also be found in the following document:

<https://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/en/home/statistics/health/state-health/mortality-causes-death.assetdetail.12967239.html>

Neuchâtel, 27 January 2021