# Health indicators

## Definitions and examples in the context of road safety

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PAFSE Partnerships for Science Education

Developed by:

PRP Prevenção Rodoviária Portuguesa

# Health Indicators

Measures used to characterize (quantify) health problems in a population.

In road safety, indicators/measurements such as the **number of road crashes**, **mortality** or the **mortality rate** are used to assess the burden of the problem, to compare countries/regions, to monitor the evolution of road crashes over time and to plan interventions that lead to the reduction of road crashes and its consequences.

**Examples**

*(European Core Health Indicators - ECHI)*

# Mortality

A measure of **number of deaths** as the result of a road crash in a given population, location or other group of interest, in a given time interval.

In the European Union, this indicator refers to "deaths within 30 days" - road users whose death occured within 30 days after the crash.

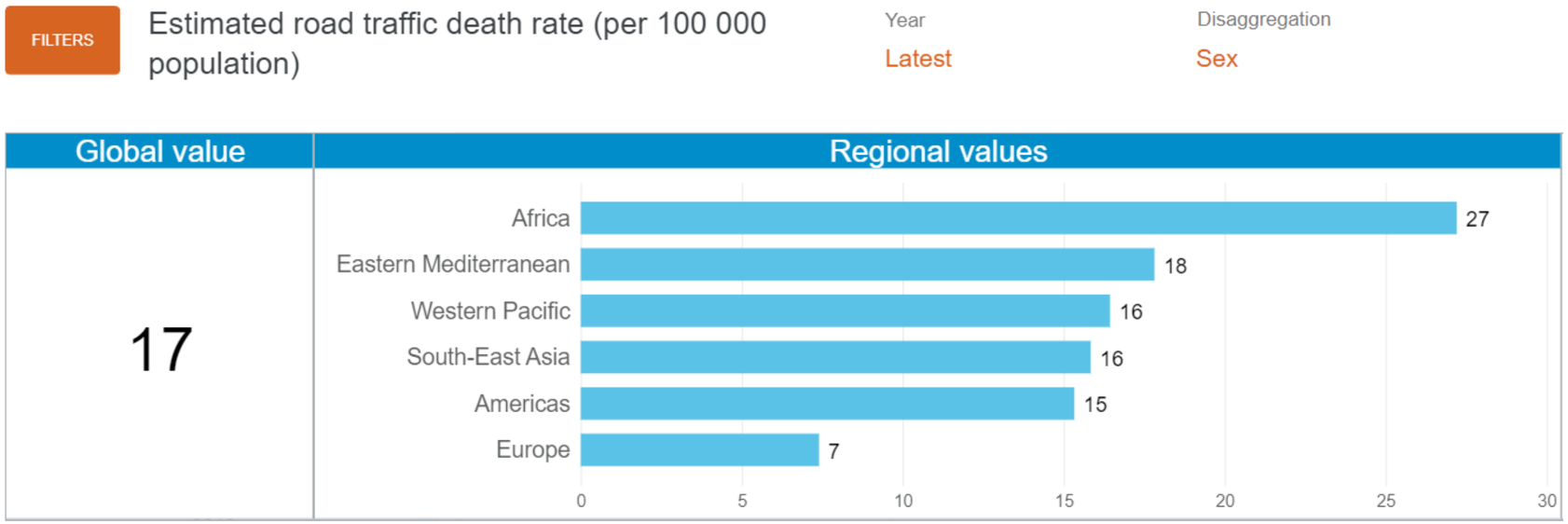
*(click on the image to visit the website)*

# Mortality rate

Number of fatalities resulting from road crashes in a given population, region or interest group, in a given time interval, **adjusted for the size of the population**.

For example, in Europe, in 2021, 7 people per 100,000 inhabitants died as a result of road crashes.

It is an important measure to compare countries/regions with different number of habitants and to understand the evolution over time.

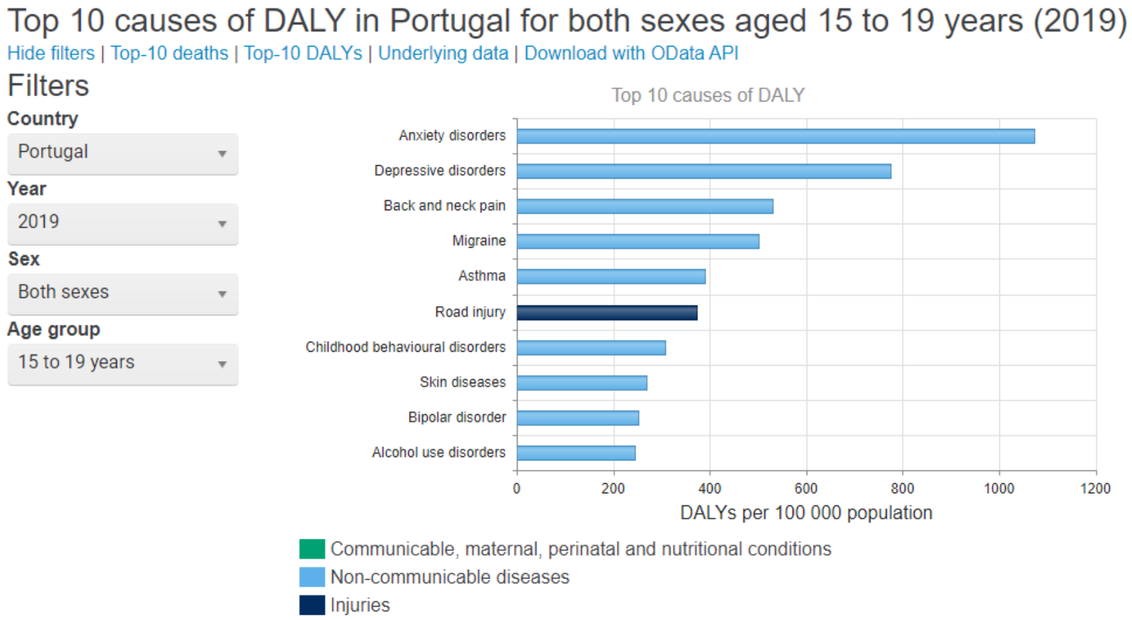



*(click on the image to visit the website)*

# Disability-Adjusted Life-Years (DALYs)

A measure representing the burden of a disease, expressed as the number of years lost due to poor health, disability, or early death. A DALY can be considered as one year of healthy life lost.

The total DALY in a population can also be considered a measure of the difference between the current health status of the population and an ideal situation in which each person is in perfect health in old age.

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# Healt indicators

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