

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002411/24
to the Commission
Gerald Hauser (PFE)
(5 November 2024)**

Subject: Excess mortality since 2020

EuroMOMO is a European platform for monitoring mortality to detect and measure excess mortality in the context of seasonal influenza, pandemics and other public health threats.

Official national mortality statistics are provided weekly by the 27 EU Member States or sub-national regions in the EuroMOMO cooperation network. Looking at statistics since 2019 (start of the COVID-19 pandemic) to this day, we see a rapid increase in excess mortality after week 10 in 2020.

1. In the Commission's view what were the reasons for this rapid increase?
2. In the Commission's view what effect did COVID-19 mRNA vaccinations have in relation to this increase?
3. What recommendations were made to curb the increase?

Submitted: 5.11.2024

**Answer given by Mr Várhelyi on behalf of the European Commission
(24 February 2025)**

Data on excess mortality in EU/European Economic Area (EEA) countries is collected by the EuroMOMO project and by the Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the EU.

The EuroMOMO project is a European mortality monitoring activity based on overall mortality, but not cause-specific, supported by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and the World Health Organisation (WHO), and hosted by Statens Serum Institut, Denmark ⁽¹⁾.

The statistical office of the European Union (DG ESTAT) publishes an excess mortality indicator, which is based on data from National Statistical Institutes on weekly deaths on a voluntary basis since April 2020 ⁽²⁾.

In the years 2020-2023 the excess deaths rates correlate with the COVID-19 waves and are inversely correlated with vaccination coverage, as highlighted by the WHO ⁽³⁾.

The Commission supports ongoing studies on post-COVID and its link to various disease outcomes, such as heart disease, diabetes, cancers, or neural dysfunctions ⁽⁴⁾.

The ECDC recommends further immunisation as the most effective measure to protect against severe viral respiratory diseases ⁽⁵⁾ and scenario modelling has shown that high vaccine uptake at the population level is strongly correlated with reduced disease burden.

⁽¹⁾ <https://www.euromomo.eu/>

⁽²⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?oldid=509982#Recent_data_on_excess_mortality_in_the_EU

⁽³⁾ <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-022-05522-2>

⁽⁴⁾ https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area/health/coronavirus_en

⁽⁵⁾ <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/news-events/acute-respiratory-infections-eueea-epidemiological-update-and-current-public-health-0>