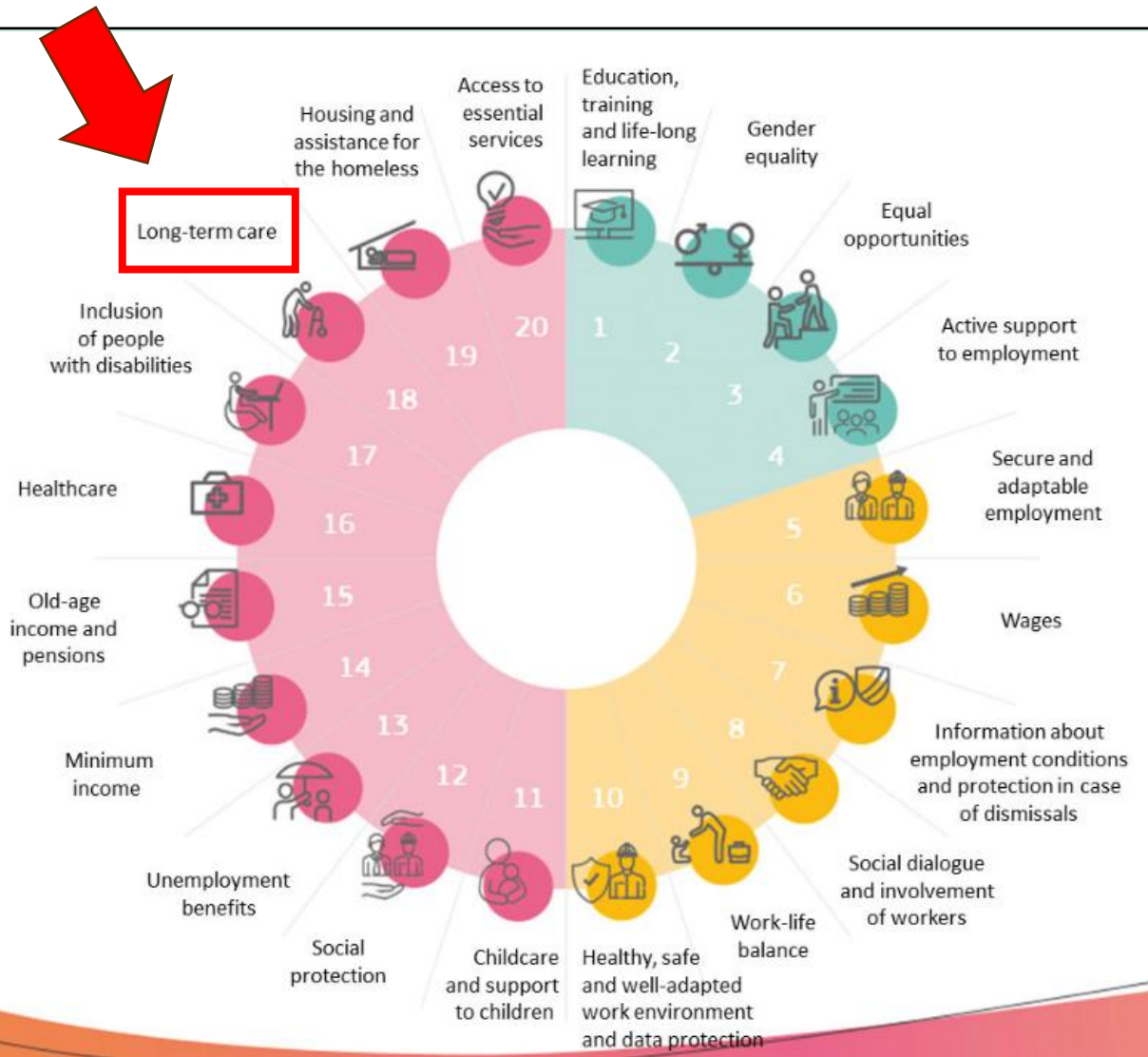


Measuring the population in need of long-term care

EAPS Health, Morbidity and Mortality Working Group (HMMWG) annual meeting
10-12 September 2025, Belval-Esch (Luxembourg)

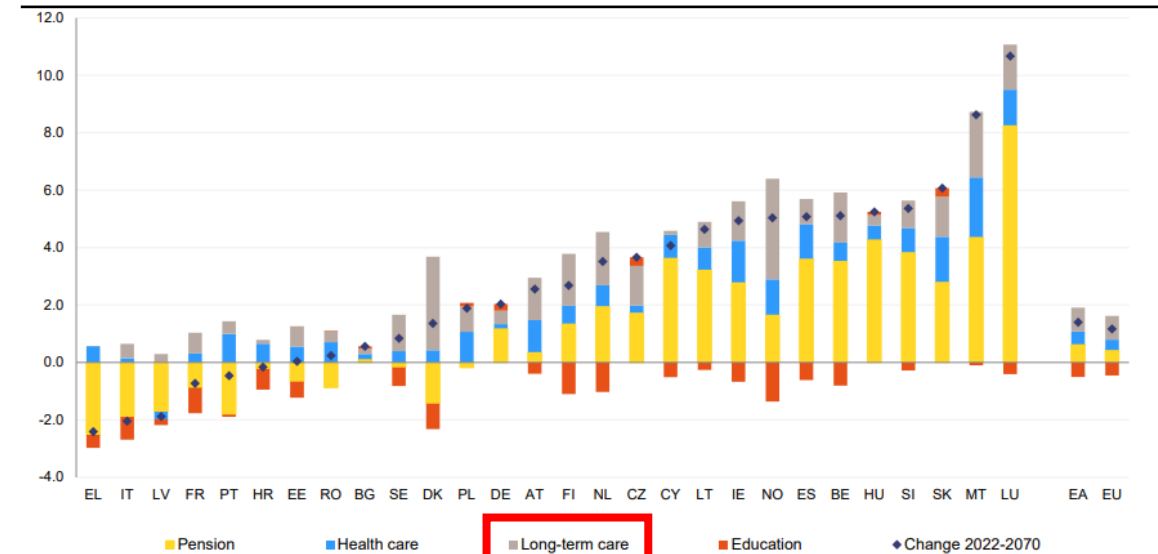
Giampaolo LANZIERI

LTC need: a key piece of evidence for economic and social policymaking



Source: European Commission, [The European Pillar of Social Rights in 20 principles](#).

Graph I.5.2: **Baseline: change in cost of ageing 2022-2070 by component (in pps of GDP)**



Countries are ranked by change in total cost of ageing between 2022-2070.

Source: European Commission, EPC.

Source: European Commission, [2024 Ageing Report](#), European Economy Institutional Paper 279, Graph I.5.2 on p.144.



Please select one or more topics

(check/uncheck to add/remove topics)

▼ ☐ All tables

- > ☐ General principles
- > ☐ I. Financing
- > ☐ II. Health care
- > ☐ III. Sickness - cash benefits
- > ☐ IV. Maternity/Paternity
- > ☐ V. Invalidity
- > ☐ VI. Old-age
- > ☐ VII. Survivors
- > ☐ VIII. Accidents at work and occupational diseases
- > ☐ IX. Family benefits
- > ☐ X. Unemployment
- > ☐ XI. Guaranteed minimum resources
- ▼ ☒ XII. Long-term care ⓘ
 - ☐ Applicable statutory basis
 - ☐ Basic principles
 - > ☐ Risk covered
 - ☐ Persons covered
 - ▼ ☐ Eligibility criteria
 - ☐ 1. Qualifying period ⓘ
 - ☐ 2. Minimum level of dependency and criteria to access homecare and residential care
 - ☐ 3. Age
 - ▼ ☐ Organisation
 - ☐ 1. Needs assessment and care planning
 - ☐ 2. Criteria and categories of need
 - ☐ 3. Review of the need of care and adjustment of the care plans
 - ☐ 4. Waiting times
 - ▼ ☐ 5. Providers
 - ☐ Professional providers
 - ☐ Identification of informal carers ⓘ
 - > ☐ Benefits
 - ☐ Indexation ⓘ
 - ☐ Cumulation with earnings from work or other benefits (for informal carers)
 - > ☐ Taxation and social contributions
 - > ☐ Self-employed



MISSOC

Mutual Information System on Social Protection

Where can we find the data?

Potential risks of data sources **for measuring LTC need:**

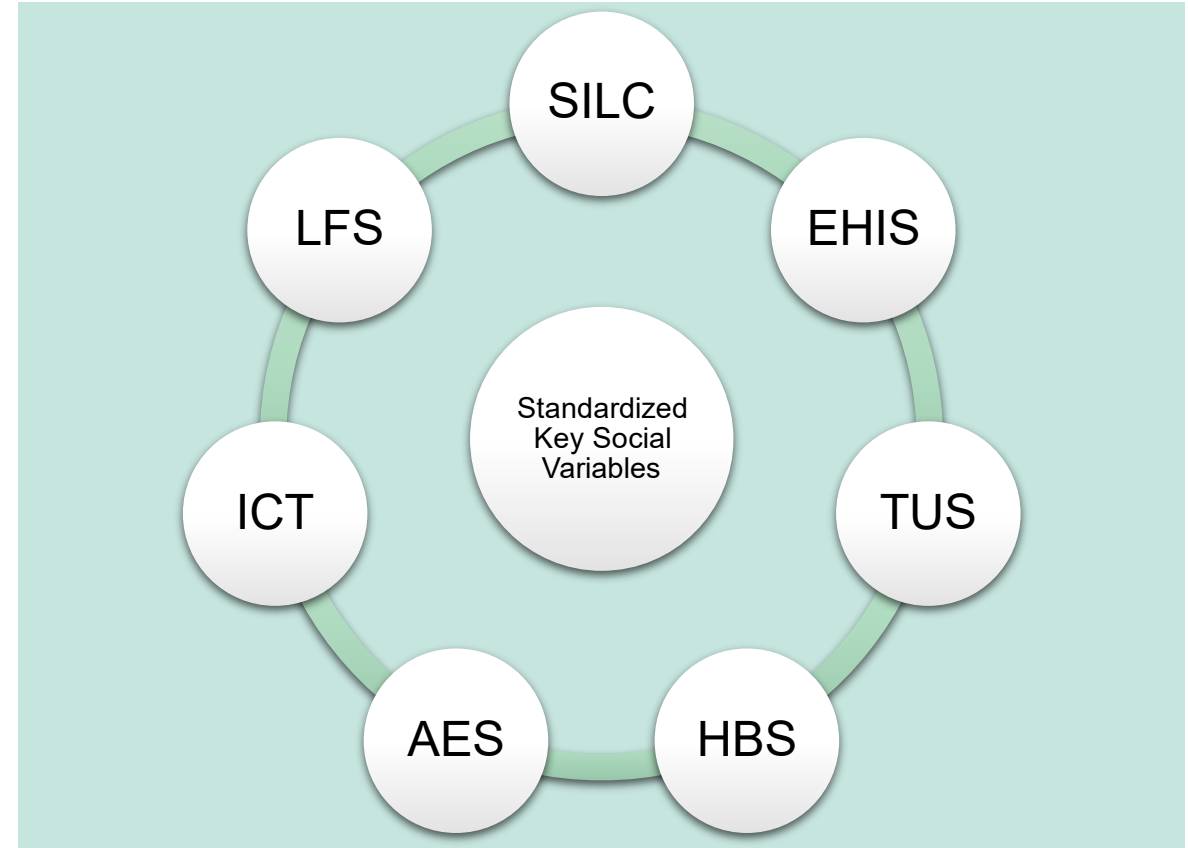
- Administrative sources:
 - Not harmonized criteria across countries
 - Referring to persons receiving LTC
 - Limited additional information on socio-economic characteristics
 - Different updating frequency and rules
- Sample surveys:
 - Self-assessment
 - Sample size and coverage
 - Time intervals between data collections



Source: [Comparative tables - MISSOC](#).

Harmonized European household surveys

- Integrated European social surveys covering various domains:
 - labour force (LFS)
 - income and living conditions (SILC)
 - health (EHIS)
 - education and training (AES)
 - use of inf. and comm. technologies (ICT)
 - time use (TUS)
 - consumption (HBS)
- Common framework defined in [Regulation \(EU\) 2019/1700](#)
- Minimum European Health Module in EHIS, LFS, SILC, ICT
- LTC-relevant mainly in EHIS, SILC, and LFS





10292403-0134 online

2024 Ageing Report

Economic & Budgetary
Projections for the EU
Member States (2022-2070)

INSTITUTIONAL PAPER 279 | APRIL 2024

EUROPEAN ECONOMY



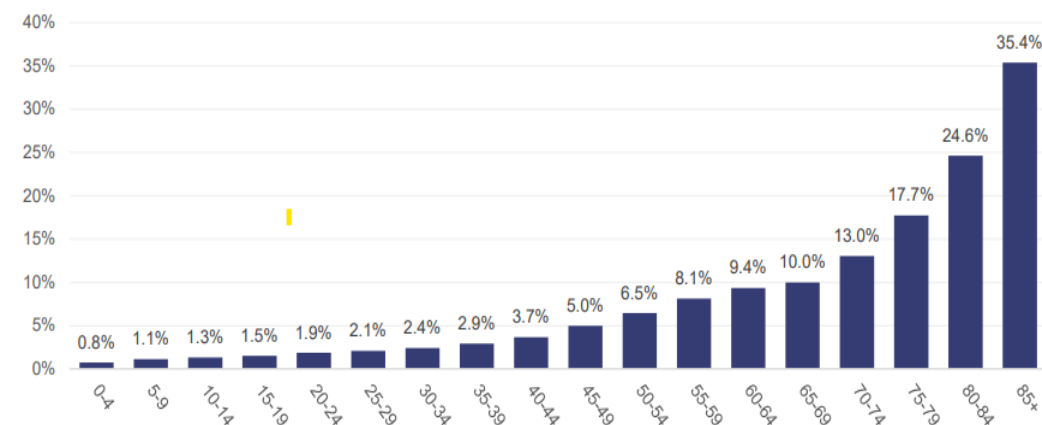
Common measures: GALI

Global Activity Limitation Indicator

*“Are you limited because of a health problem in activities people usually do? [for at least the past 6 months]
Would you say you are...”*

1. Severely limited / 2. Limited but not severely / 3. Not limited at all

Graph I.3.3: Median dependency rates by age group for EU, based on EU-SILC



The dependency rates are based on EU-SILC data on “self-perceived longstanding severe limitation in activities because of health problems (for at least the last 6 months)”. 2016-2019 (base year) average, 2017 values used for ages below 16 where available.

Source: European Commission, EPC.



2021

Long-term care report

Trends, challenges and opportunities in an ageing society

Vol. 1



Joint report prepared by the Social Protection Committee (SPC)
and the European Commission (DG EMPL)



Common measures: TADL

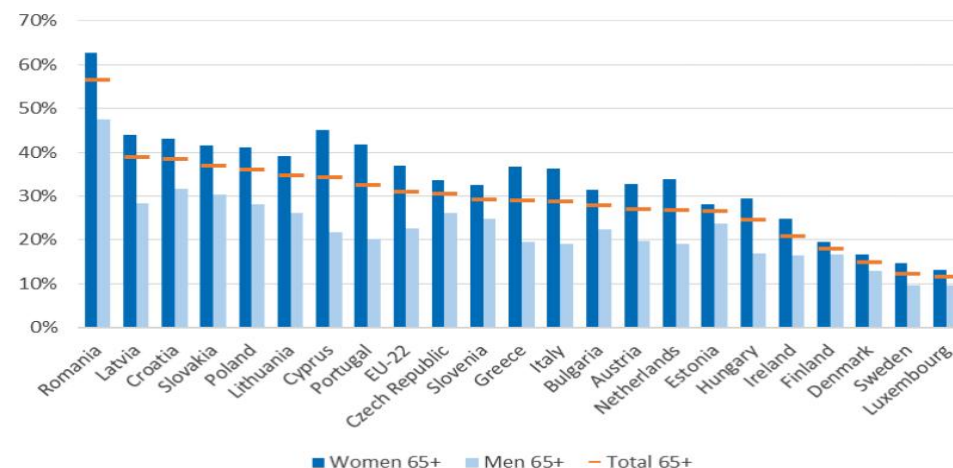
Total Activities of Daily Living (ADL + IADL)

*“Do you usually have difficulty doing any of these
(personal care / household) activities without help?”*

1. No difficulty / 2. Some difficulty / **3. A lot of
difficulty** / 4. **Cannot do at all**

Figure 1: Share of people aged 65+ living in private households with a severe level of difficulty with personal care or household activities

*On average, 30.9 % of people aged 65+ were in need of long-term care in the EU-22 (2019 data),
with marked gender differences*



Note: At the time of publication, EHIS wave 3 data were available for all except five Member States. In wave 2 (2014), data for BE, DE, ES, FR, and MT showed that, respectively, 36 %, 24.9 %, 15.2 %, 25.9 %, and 34 % of the total population aged 65+ had at least one severe difficulty with ADLs and/or IADLs.

Source: EHIS wave 3, 2019, hlth_ehis_tadle.



Other potential measures of LTC need

NCTA

- Need of Care in Total Activities of daily living
- “*Receiving / Need to receive help or more help with one or more self-care / domestic activities*”
- **1. Yes, with at least one activity / 2. No**

BIM2

- Budapest Initiative Mark 2
- Measure the main physical, sensory, cognitive and communication functional difficulties
- 1. No difficulty / 2. Some difficulty / **3. A lot of difficulty / 4. Cannot do at all/ Unable to do**

WGSS

- UN Washington Group Short Set on functioning
- Assess functional limitations in seeing, hearing, walking, remembering or concentrating, self-care, and communicating
- Categories as in BIM2



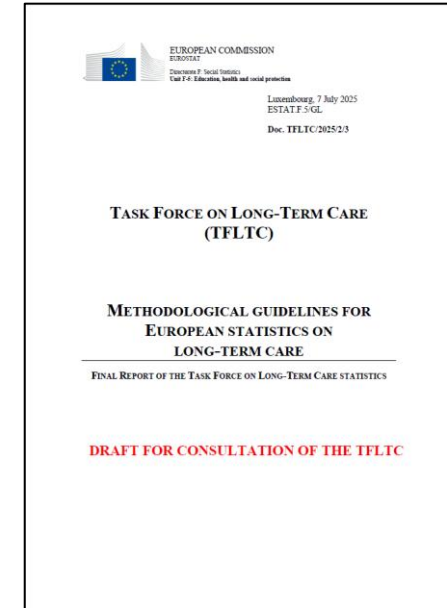
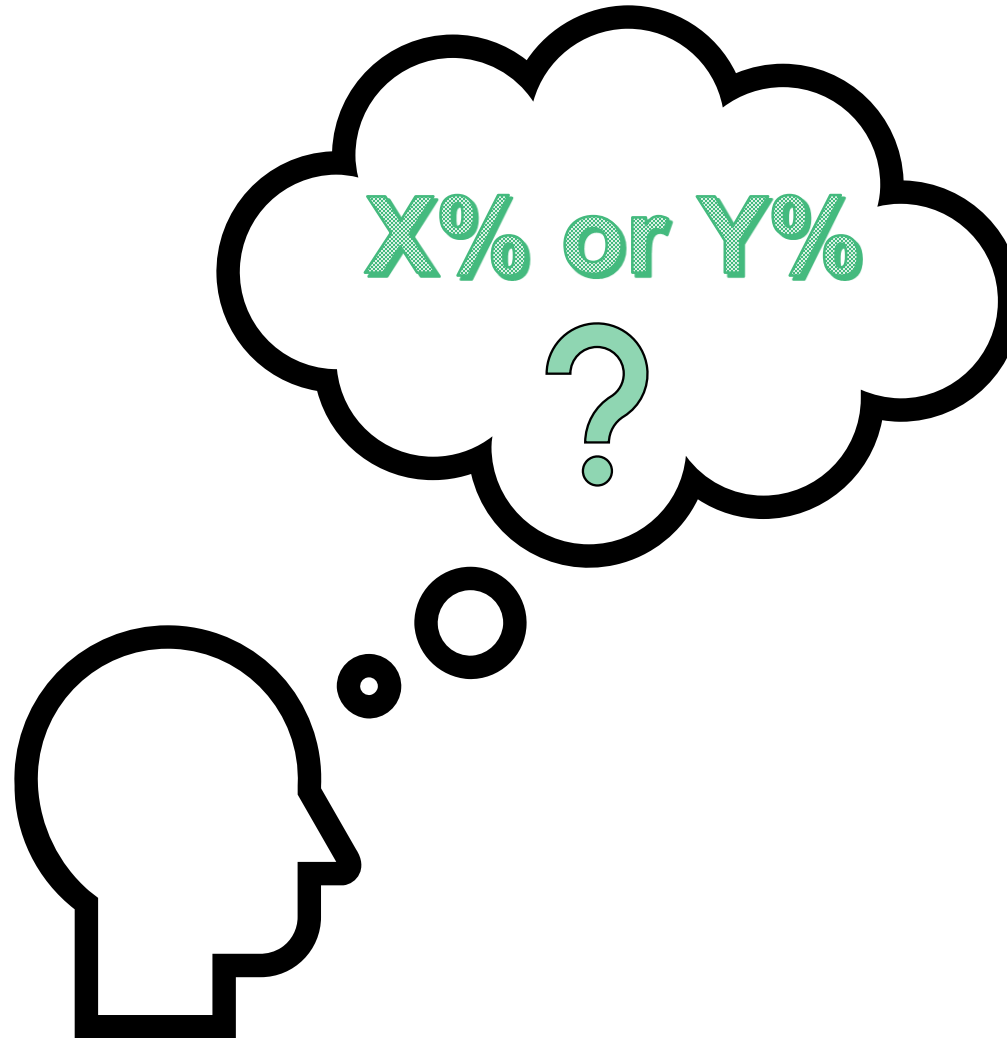
Frequency as from European social surveys

	Year of data collection									
Sample survey	<i>Before EU Reg.</i>		<i>Period covered by EU Regulation 2019/1700</i>							
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
EHIS	GALI TADL NCTA BIM2						GALI TADL NCTA BIM2			
SILC	GALI	GALI	GALI GALic	GALI WGSS	GALI	GALI GALic	GALI WGSS	GALI	GALI GALic	GALI WGSS
LFS				GALI		GALI		GALI		GALI
ICT				GALI		GALI		GALI		GALI

Challenges using European social surveys for measuring LTC need

- Self-assessed measures
- Relation with other concepts (disability, frailty, etc.)
- No coverage of the population not living in private households
- Data gaps due to survey periodicity (depending on the data source)
- Incomplete age profiles (depending on the measure)

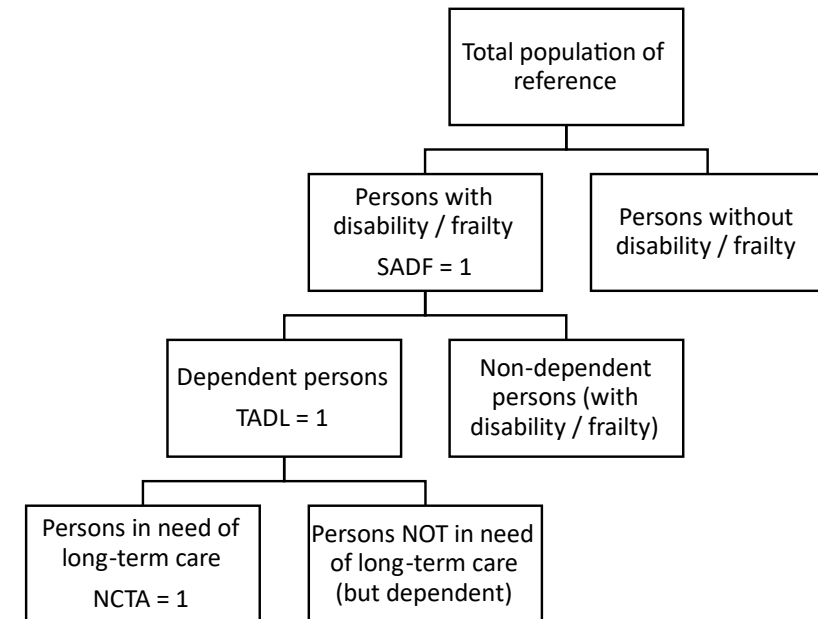
No agreed official measure of LTC need – but methodological work is ongoing



A new measure of LTC need

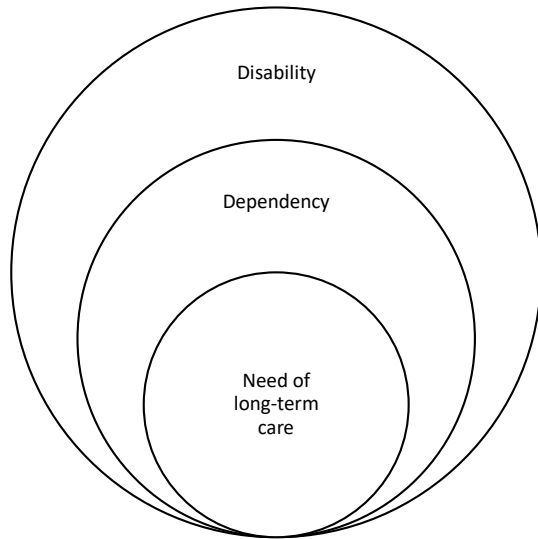
Conditional Self-Assessed Need of long-term care (CSAN):

- Derived from the values taken by SADF (Self-Assessed Disability or Frailty), TADL, and NCTA
- Estimate of the self-assessed need of long-term care conditionally to chronic dependency due to disability or frailty
- Data source: EHIS
- From experimental tests, on average: $GALI < CSAN < TADL < BIM2 < NCTA$

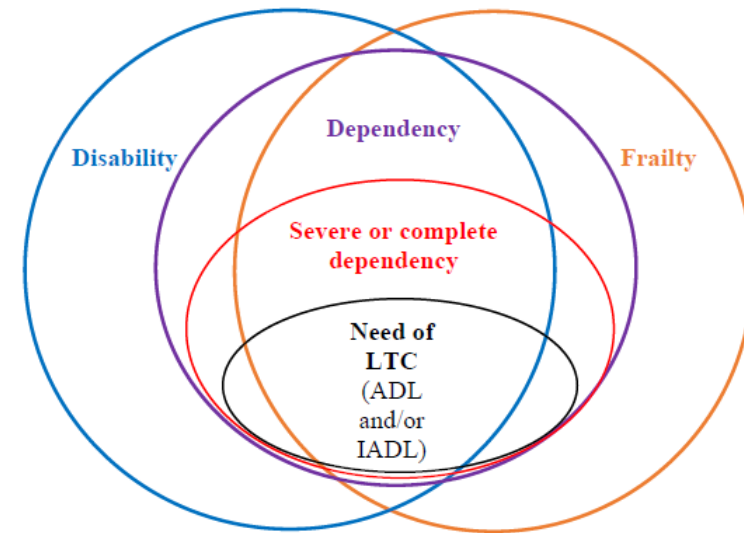


Relation of LTC need with other concepts

Basic version



Expanded version



How to cope with under-coverage?

$$P^{LTC} = p^{TP} \cdot TP + p^{HR} \cdot IP_{HR} + p^{\overline{HR}} \cdot IP_{\overline{HR}}$$

TP = Target Population (survey)
IP = Institutionalized Population
HR = Health-Related institution
p = proportion

Option 1: EHIS

- Expanding the coverage of EHIS ($IP \subset TP$)
- Currently with feasibility studies, focusing on health-related institutions ($IP_{HR} \subset TP$)
- Results expected after 2027

Option 2: Recipients

- Adding the LTC recipients in institutional households as collected from national admin data (\hat{p}^{TP})
- Assumption: no person in need of LTC and living in (usually health-related) institution is left behind ($\hat{p}^{TP} = p^{TP}$)

Option 3: Assumptions

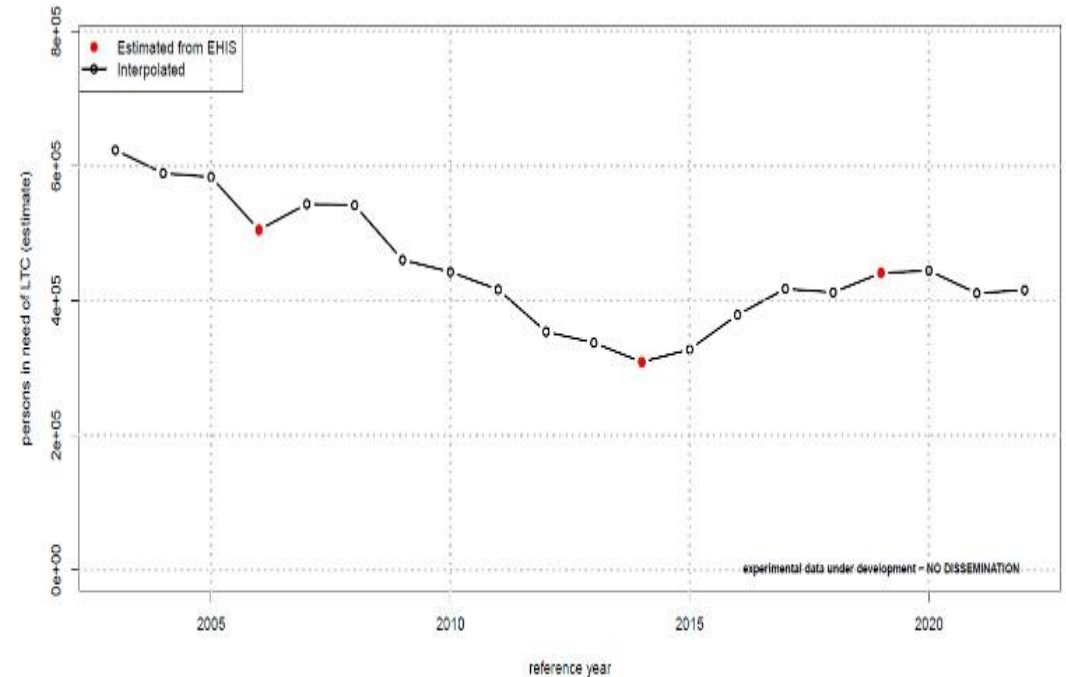
- All persons not living in private households are assumed:
 - having the same prevalence of LTC need ($p^{TP} = p^{\overline{TP}}$); or
 - being all in need of LTC ($p^{\overline{TP}} \equiv 1$), possibly limited to IP_{HR} ($p^{HR} \equiv 1$, $0 \leq p^{\overline{HR}} \leq p^{TP}$)

See also Cambois et al (2016): "International Comparisons of Disability: Impact of Accounting or Not Accounting for the Institutionalized Population"



Filling the temporal gaps

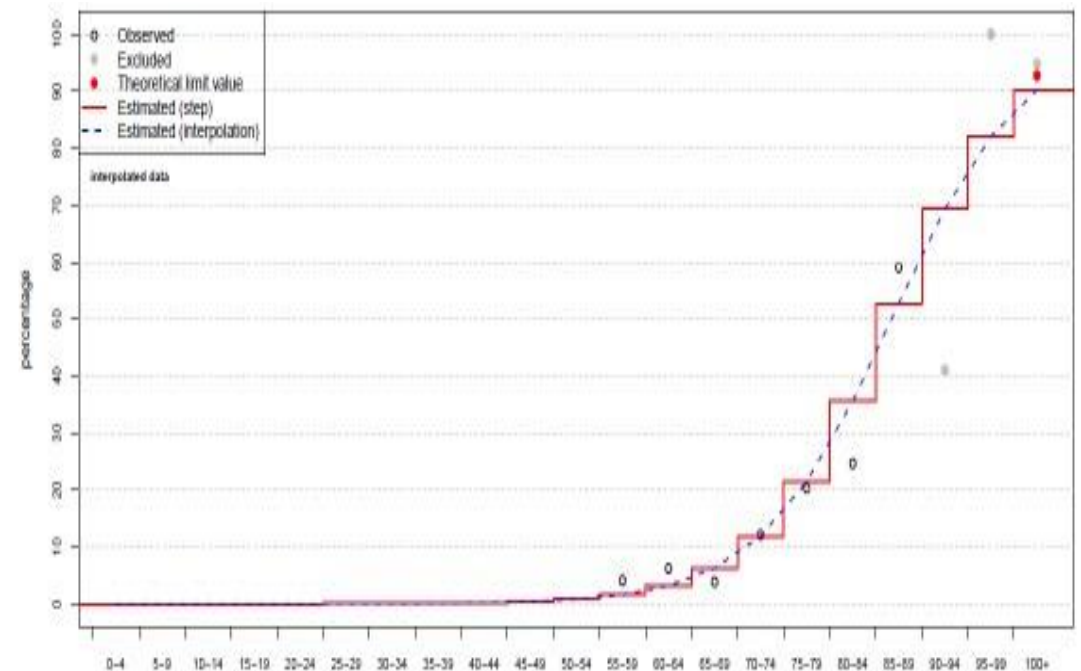
- Currently availability of CSAN every 5 years (6y in the future)
- Main current idea: linkage with a proxy available with higher frequency, with exact match in available years
- Alternative: development of a model with determinants, also available with higher frequency



Source: simulated data.

Age profile – work in progress

- Useful for estimating LTC need at younger ages and smoothing sample estimates across ages and waves
- Ongoing work: exploration of the role of period and/or cohort, analysis of methodological issues



Source: simulated data.

Thank you!



For additional info, please contact:

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