



Press release



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14 Health

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Causes of death in 2008

Death rates due to cardiovascular diseases on the decline

Neuchâtel, 07.09.2010 (FSO) – **Cardiovascular diseases, cancer and dementia are the three most common causes of death in Switzerland. The overall mortality rate is falling, with cardiovascular diseases registering the biggest decline and dementia, as a disease of old age, on the rise. These are findings from the overview of causes of death, just published by the FSO.**

In 2008 the permanent resident population in Switzerland registered 61,233 deaths, almost as many as in the previous year. But mortality has not remained stable because at the same time the population has grown. Instead, the probability of dying has considerably diminished in each age group. Among persons aged under 80 there were 15,000 fewer deaths than in 1970. Among persons aged 80 years or older, who naturally have a high mortality rate, the number of deaths has doubled since 1970 although the size of this age group has tripled.

SWISS FEDERAL STATISTICAL OFFICE
Press Office

Interested readers will find the complete text of the press release in the German, French or Italian version:

For German see: [Bundesamt für Statistik > Aktuell > Medienmitteilungen](#)

For French see: [Office fédéral de la statistique > Actualités > Communiqués de presse](#)

For Italian see: [Ufficio federale di statistica > Attualità > Comunicati stampa](#)