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A new @ONS blog from @SarahCaul_ONS discusses a new cross-UK initiative to provide clarity around excess deaths.

Excess deaths are calculated relative to an expected baseline. But in the wake of the pandemic how many deaths do we expect?



blog.ons.gov.uk

How do we measure expected and excess deaths? There has been widespread interest in the number of excess deaths across the UK. That is, the difference ...

1:40 PM · Feb 10, 2023 · 47.2K Views

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stuart mcdonald @ActuaryByDay · Feb 10

Replying to @ActuaryByDay

A range of approaches are used by different organisations for different purposes. There is no one right answer and indeed the first challenge is to establish what the question is! The current ONS approach predates the pandemic so was not designed to measure its impact.

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stuart mcdonald @ActuaryByDay · Feb 10

A new mortality baseline technical working group has representation from across government and beyond, including the @actuarynews CMI.

The group will evaluate a range of new and existing methods and is seeking feedback from interested parties.



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stuart mcdonald @ActuaryByDay · Feb 13

The Statistics Regulator (OSR) @StatsRegulation has published a short review of excess deaths reporting, noting differences between methods and some shortcomings in official communication about these. OSR has welcomed the ONS initiative to review methods and provide more clarity.

Office for Statistics Regulation @ @StatsRegulation · Feb 13

We have completed a short review of excess death reporting, asking @ONS to review its methods and reporting and make improvements to support users of these data.

osr.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/news/osr-publi...

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Dr Noor Bari @NjbBari3 · Feb 10

Replying to @ActuaryByDay @chrischirp and 2 others

I'm wondering whether it is best to leave the baseline as 2019 and aim to return to that, or adjust year on year but acknowledge that a significant negative excess death rate coupled with stabilisation or increasing life expectancy would be an indication of recovery?

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Bot on the landscape @Botonthelandsc1 · Feb 10 Replying to @ActuaryByDay @ONS and @SarahCaul_ONS The question that needs to be answered is -

What percentage of the excess deaths are among the vaccinated?

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1. Count people <=28 days post ✓ as un ✓ ... 🤄

2. Keep changing the definition of what is un so that things are difficult to calculate. e.g. if someone hasn't had their 2nd booster or only had so (count them as un so).

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They want to know what is killing people

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