



Urbanisation index (UX) and socio-economic health index (SGX) – Update for the year 2014

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DOI: 10.20364/VA-18.03

Abstract

Background

In our earlier study we created two indices, urbanisation index (UX) and socioeconomic health index (SGX) which describe the regional sociodemographic situation in rural and urban districts in Germany. We update both indices using the most recent available data (2014).

Methods

In accordance with the previous study we conducted an exploratory factor analysis on a set of 27 indicators describing welfare benefits, income, employment, health status, population and household characteristics, and education for the year 2014, which have been abstracted from official statistics on the district level in Germany (n=402).

Results/conclusion

The update of the 2010-factors UX and SGX showed consistent relations in sociodemographic pattern analysis: with data from 2014 we extracted two latent factors that describe regional variation in population and household characteristics (urbanisation index) on the one hand and disparities in socio-economic and health status variables (socio-economic health index) on the other hand. Given the consistency in results, the present update provides the opportunity for both the cross-sectional and the longitudinal examination of regional sociodemographic patterns, the latter with regard to change in ranks.

Keywords

Factor analysis, area-level sociodemographic patterns, urbanisation index, socio-economic health index, change in ranks, update

Citation

Schulz M, Akmatov MK, Bätzing J, Erhart M. Urbanisation index (UX) and socio-economic health index (SGX) – Update for the year 2014. Central Research Institute for Ambulatory Health Care in Germany (Zi). Versorgungsatlas Report No. 18/03. Berlin 2018. DOI: 10.20364/VA-18.03. URL: <https://www.versorgungsatlas.de/themen/alle-analysen-nach-datum-sortiert/?tab=6&uid=89>

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