



ABSTRACT

Title: GEOSTAT 1B case study: Access to emergency hospitals

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Keywords: Case study, accessibility, access, medical emergency center, hospitals, network analyses, Population grid, 2011 Census, GEOSTAT, ESS

In the GEOSTAT 1B project the project partners (number of National Statistical Institutes) have agreed to work together on a case study calculating the population within 30 minutes from emergency hospitals. The aim of this case study is to show the possibilities as well as the advantages using population data in GRID format.

The case study is making use of the 1km² GEOSTAT1B population grid in combination with georeferenced road networks and emergency hospitals in order to determine the travel time to emergency hospitals. The population data is divided into different age groups and makes it possible to generate statistics over an increasing part of the population: population over 65 years.



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In the European context this study has similarities to The European Core Health Indicators (ECHI). ECHI is a list of 88 health indicators identified by policy area. One of these is indicator 80: Equity of access to health care services, which is based on survey results and include question about travel distance to medical care¹.

Using GIS (Geographical Information Systems) for studying travel time to emergency hospitals can complement the surveys of Eurostat and be an input into ECHI's indicator 80. Comparisons will be done with the work of the Regional Development Policy Division at OECD who have carried out a similar study and suggested this as an indicator of accessibility to public services and a way to measure well-being at the regional level².

1 http://www.echim.org/docs/Final_Report_II_2012.pdf

2 OECD, Measuring the access to Public Services: The case of Public Hospitals