

# EAN Fact Sheet

Country profile of Albania

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The EAN is pleased to present this fact sheet to each and every national neurological society, offering key insights into the latest epidemiological, economic, and demographic trends. This data aims to support informed decision-making and enhance understanding of neurological conditions on both national and European level with information provided by three EAN projects: the [“Burden of Neurological Disease in Europe”](#) study, the EAN [“COst of Illness in Neurology in EUrope \(COIN-EU\)”](#) project, the EAN NNS 2021-2022 survey.



# Burden of Disease in Europe – Collaboration with IHME

Neurological disorders are the second most common cause of disability and premature death in the European Region and their prevalence and burden will likely increase with the progressive ageing of the European population. Greater attention to neurological diseases must be paid by health authorities for prevention and care. For this reason, the European Academy of Neurology is conducting research on gaining and analysing reliable data on the number of patients with neurological diseases.

These data are obtained from the currently most developed data base, the [Global Burden of Disease \(GBD\)](#) study of the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), University of Washington, Seattle. The burden of neurological disorders in Europe was calculated for the year 2021 as prevalence, mortality, disability-adjusted life-years (DALYs), years of life lost (YLLs), and years lived with disability (YLDs) for the countries in the EU and the WHO European region for a total of 26 neurological disorders.

The study in Europe is run by the EAN and led by Prof. Dr. Günther Deuschl, Dr. Maurizio Leone and Maria Konti, M.Sc., in close collaboration with the leading scientists of the IHME Institute.

In the table below, you will find the national total counts for DALYs, YLDs, YLLs, prevalence, and deaths, the age-standardised rates by neurological disorder category for the years 1990 and 2021, and the percentage change for both of your country and the WHO Europe.

Diseases with counts less than one have been excluded and the number of decimal points has been adjusted individually for each disease.

	Counts	Age-standardized rate		Percentage change, 1990-2021	
	(thousands)	(per 100 000 people)		Albania	WHO Europe
	2021	1990	2021		
<b>All Neurological Disorders</b>					
DALYs	172,693	6,072	4,600	-24.2%	-29.0%
Deaths	7,563	244	188	-22.8%	-43.2%
Prevalence	1,239,517	41,709	42,064	0.9%	0.3%
YLDs	54,337	1,556	1,615	3.8%	2.9%
YLLs	118,352	4,515	2,985	-33.9%	-44.4%
<b>Alzheimer's disease and other dementias</b>					
DALYs	16,191	403	392	-2.8%	-2.5%
Deaths	792	22	21	-3.7%	-2.8%
Prevalence	27,826	646	649	0.4%	-2.1%
YLDs	5,701	134	134	-0.1%	-2.6%
YLLs	10,489	269	258	-4.1%	-2.5%
<b>Chromosomal abnormalities</b>					
DALYs	95	5.55	4.83	-13.0%	-12.3%
Prevalence	1,046	62	54	-13.3%	-12.8%
YLDs	95	5.55	4.83	-12.9%	-12.4%
<b>Covid-19 (neurological)</b>					
DALYs	2,215	-	77	-	-
Prevalence	21,624	-	689	-	-
YLDs	2,215	-	77	-	-
<b>Cystic echinococcosis</b>					
DALYs	1	0.06	0.04	-24.5%	-18.3%
Prevalence	5	0.18	0.17	-7.4%	-9.0%
YLDs	1	0.06	0.04	-24.6%	-18.4%
<b>Diabetic neuropathy</b>					
DALYs	10,568	164	247	50.9%	98.1%
Prevalence	82,758	1,281	1,935	51.1%	97.9%
YLDs	10,568	164	247	50.9%	98.1%

<b>Down syndrome</b>					
DALYs	55	3.36	2.73	-18.8%	-19.6%
Prevalence	601	38	30	-19.6%	-20.7%
YLDs	55	3.36	2.73	-18.7%	-19.8%
<b>Encephalitis</b>					
DALYs	870	103	41	-60.3%	-30.1%
Deaths	18	1.53	0.67	-56.0%	-15.9%
Prevalence	571	32	18	-43.1%	-13.6%
YLDs	58	3.36	1.94	-42.3%	-12.0%
YLLs	812	100	39	-60.9%	-31.0%
<b>Epilepsy</b>					
DALYs	5,778	300	222	-26.0%	-12.6%
Deaths	60	2.84	1.99	-29.8%	3.9%
Prevalence	11,564	427	437	2.5%	3.3%
YLDs	3,179	147	120	-17.8%	-11.3%
YLLs	2,599	153	101	-33.8%	-14.3%
<b>Guillain-Barre Syndrome</b>					
DALYs	13	0.42	0.42	0.0%	12.4%
Prevalence	43	1.42	1.42	0.0%	12.4%
YLDs	13	0.42	0.42	0.0%	12.4%
<b>Idiopathic intellectual disability</b>					
DALYs	455	30	19	-37.2%	-19.7%
Prevalence	10,795	752	447	-40.5%	-21.2%
YLDs	455	30	19	-37.2%	-19.7%
<b>Klinefelter syndrome</b>					
DALYs	1	0.02	0.02	-1.5%	5.7%
Prevalence	57	2.66	2.69	1.4%	5.5%
YLDs	1	0.02	0.02	-1.5%	5.5%

	Counts (thousands)		Age-standardized rate (per 100 000 people)		Percentage change, 1990-2021	
	2021	1990	2021	Albania	WHO Europe	
<b>Meningitis</b>						
DALYs	412	188	22	-88.5%	-80.5%	
Deaths	7	2.34	0.30	-87.2%	-75.4%	
Prevalence	690	102	23	-77.5%	-66.7%	
YLDs	59	8	2	-75.6%	-64.6%	
YLLs	354	179	20	-89.1%	-81.3%	
<b>Migraine</b>						
DALYs	15,072	513	516	0.6%	0.04%	
Prevalence	392,413	13,506	13,598	0.7%	0.3%	
YLDs	15,072	513	516	0.6%	0.04%	
<b>Motor neuron disease</b>						
DALYs	119	4.73	4.73	0.0%	37.5%	
Deaths	3	0.07	0.09	25.4%	54.1%	
Prevalence	82	2.85	2.94	3.1%	19.8%	
YLDs	17	0.61	0.63	3.1%	19.5%	
YLLs	101	4.12	4.10	-0.4%	38.5%	
<b>Multiple sclerosis</b>						
DALYs	2,008	73	57	-22.2%	-5.0%	
Deaths	41	1.55	1.08	-30.6%	-12.5%	
Prevalence	3,086	89	84	-4.9%	26.4%	
YLDs	773	22	21	-4.8%	25.5%	
YLLs	1,236	50	35	-29.9%	-22.2%	
<b>Nervous system cancer</b>						
DALYs	6,343	212	208	-1.9%	-3.3%	
Deaths	194	5.02	5.27	4.8%	10.8%	
Prevalence	461	11	18	67.7%	35.9%	
YLDs	70	1.70	2.28	34.4%	25.3%	
YLLs	6,273	211	206	-2.2%	-3.7%	

<b>Neurocysticercosis</b>						
DALYs	57	2.45	1.53	-37.6%	-42.5%	
Prevalence	242	8.19	6.35	-22.6%	-32.8%	
YLDs	57	2.43	1.53	-37.1%	-42.5%	
<b>Neurosyphilis</b>						
DALYs	1	0.03	0.03	-3.9%	-43.6%	
Prevalence	33	0.67	1.08	61.1%	-11.7%	
YLDs	1	0.03	0.03	-4.1%	-43.4%	
<b>Other neurological disorders</b>						
DALYs	2,656	123	110	-10.5%	25.8%	
Deaths	50	1.69	1.61	-4.3%	45.0%	
YLDs	842	21	32	51.2%	62.9%	
YLLs	1,809	101	78	-23.4%	14.2%	
<b>Parkinson's disease</b>						
DALYs	4,009	96	90	-6.5%	5.6%	
Deaths	240	5.83	5.63	-3.5%	4.0%	
Prevalence	4,523	90	99	9.4%	21.9%	
YLDs	644	13	14	9.6%	21.4%	
YLLs	3,365	84	76	-8.9%	2.0%	
<b>Spinal cord injury</b>						
DALYs	2,592	104	83	-20.4%	-26.9%	
Prevalence	9,507	315	300	-4.6%	-21.9%	
YLDs	2,592	104	83	-20.4%	-26.9%	

	Counts (thousands)		Age-standardized rate (per 100 000 people)		Percentage change, 1990-2021	
	2021	1990	2021	Albania	WHO Europe	
<b>Stroke</b>						
DALYs	97,120	3,539	2,316	-34.6%	-52.6%	
Deaths	6,157	201	151	-25.1%	-55.6%	
Prevalence	31,368	950	804	-15.4%	-19.2%	
YLDs	5,806	175	148	-15.2%	-18.9%	
YLLs	91,313	3,365	2,168	-35.6%	-55.3%	
<b>Tension-type headache</b>						
DALYs	2,252	72	73	0.9%	-1.6%	
Prevalence	864,333	29,922	29,929	0.0%	-0.8%	
YLDs	2,252	72	73	0.9%	-1.6%	
<b>Traumatic Brain Injury</b>						
DALYs	3,809	134	113	-15.5%	-28.2%	
Prevalence	26,084	911	768	-15.7%	-28.0%	
YLDs	3,809	134	113	-15.5%	-28.2%	

Table 1: National total counts for DALYs, YLDs, YLLs, prevalence, and deaths, age-standardised rates by neurological disorder category for 1990 and 2021, and percentage change of 1990-2021. Diseases with counts less than one have been excluded and the number of decimal points has been adjusted individually for each disease.

## Neurological conditions

In figure 1 below, the top 20 neurological disorders are ranked based on the national age-standardised rate of DALYs per 100 000 population in 2021 for all age groups.

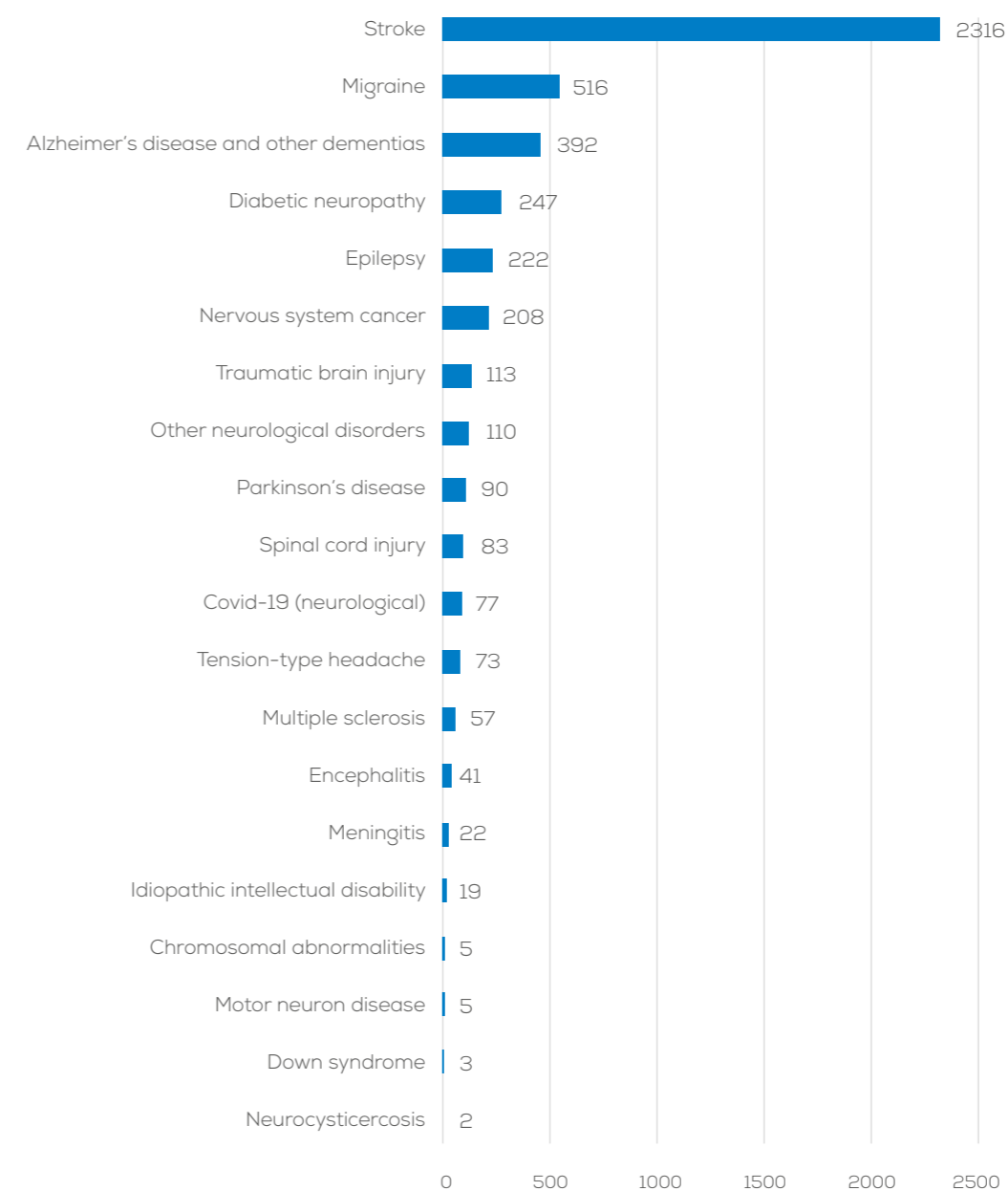


Figure 1: National age-standardised DALYs per 100 000 population by neurological disorder in 2021.

## DALYs per 100 000 population

In order to show how the diseases are evolving both in **Albania** and the European Region, we present the temporal pattern of DALYs per 100 000 population over the last three decades in the figure below:

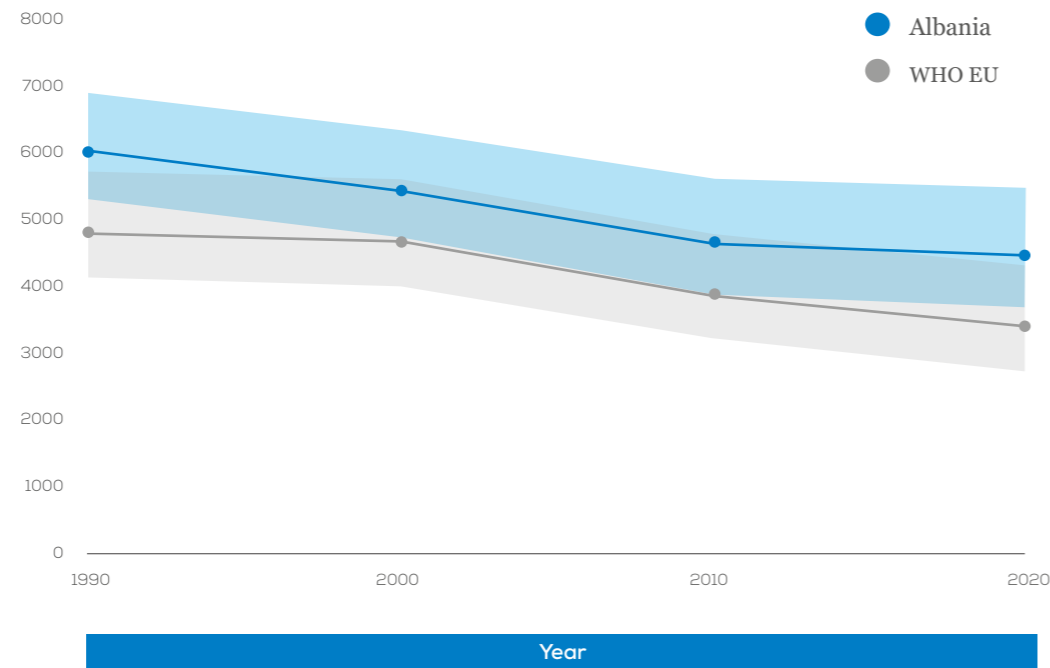


Figure 2: Age-Standardized DALYs per 100 000 population over the last 3 decades.

In figure 3 we show the distribution of DALYs rate per 100 000 population by age group divided in female and male:

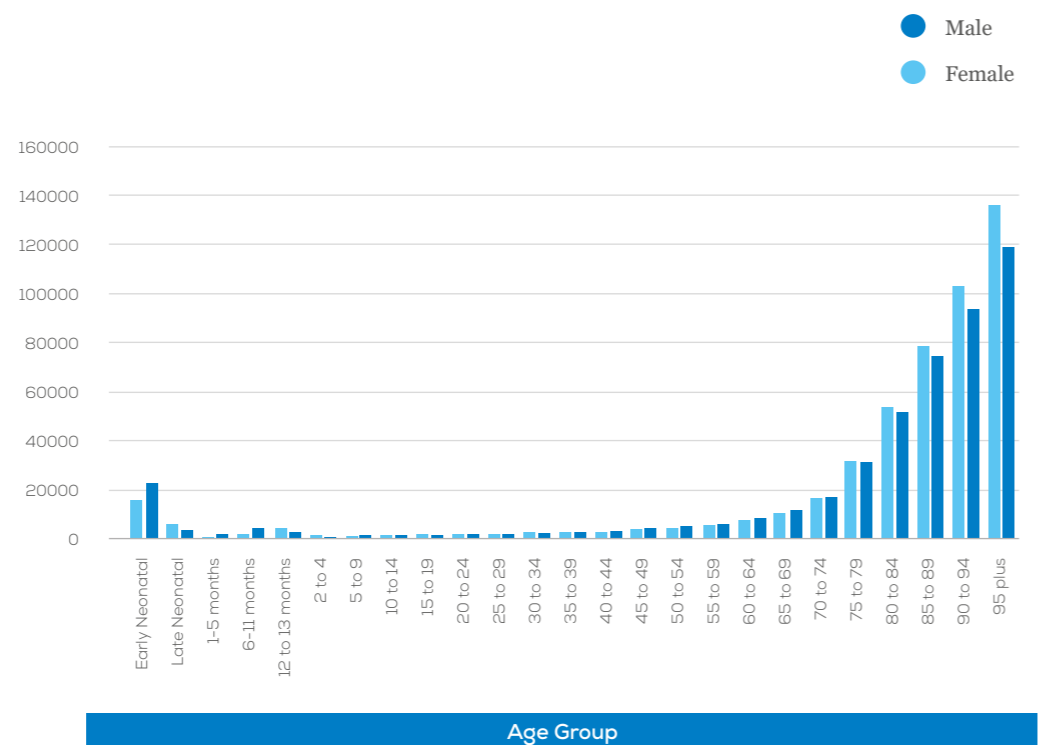


Figure 3: National DALYs per 100 000 population by age group and sex in 2021.

Extensive data and analyses are provided in the published paper and it will be communicated to the National Neurological societies.

# COIN-EU (Cost of Illness in Neurology in Europe)

The Cost of Illness in Neurology in Europe (COIN-EU) project, which was launched in 2021, is run by EAN and led by Prof. Richard Dodel, Prof. Uwe Siebert and Prof. Günther Deuschl. This project is overseen at the EAN by Prof. Paul Boon, Prof. Claudio Bassetti and Prof. Thomas Berger.

The aim of the study is to assess disease- and country-specific annual costs for 12 categories of neurological diseases in Europe with a focus on the prevalent adult patient population. Costs have been calculated in three main categories: a) direct health care costs (i.e., all goods and services related to the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of a disorder; e.g. physician visits, hospitalizations and pharmaceuticals), b) informal care costs (i.e. other goods and services related to the disorder; e.g. social services, special accommodation and informal care), and c) indirect costs (i.e., lost productivity due to work absence or early retirement).

As the literature review revealed many gaps in research for many diseases and many countries, the group has developed a method to provide estimations of the above cost categories for the cases where no data are available. Data are imputed for those countries which belong to the same GNI category with countries that do present data. In case none of the countries which belong to the same GNI category present data, then an imputation is not possible.

In the table below, costs for **Albania** have been calculated for the diseases with available data, in three main categories where the numbers represent millions € PPP 2019.

million € PPP  
2019

Informal Care

Neurological Disorder	Total Costs	Direct Costs	Informal Care Costs	Indirect Costs
Stroke	70.46	30.07	13.81	26.58
Multiple sclerosis	43.09	36.09	3.39	3.61
Traumatic brain injury	39.15	39.15	-	-
Parkinson's disease	15.66	9.64	5.24	0.78
Idiopathic epilepsy	8.55	7.49	-	1.06
<b>Total Costs:</b>	<b>176.91</b>	<b>122.44</b>	<b>22.43</b>	<b>32.03</b>

Table 2: Total, direct, informal care and indirect costs per neurological disorder. Number of diseases depends on the availability of original studies and imputation of data.

# NNS Survey 2021

In December 2021, the EAN conducted a survey among the national neurological societies. By combining the data from the Burden of Disease in Europe study across all European Region countries, we can provide demographic data regarding the workforce of neurologists in Europe for the 37 countries who took part in the survey.

The figure below represents the number of neurologists, fully specialised and in training per 100 000 population.

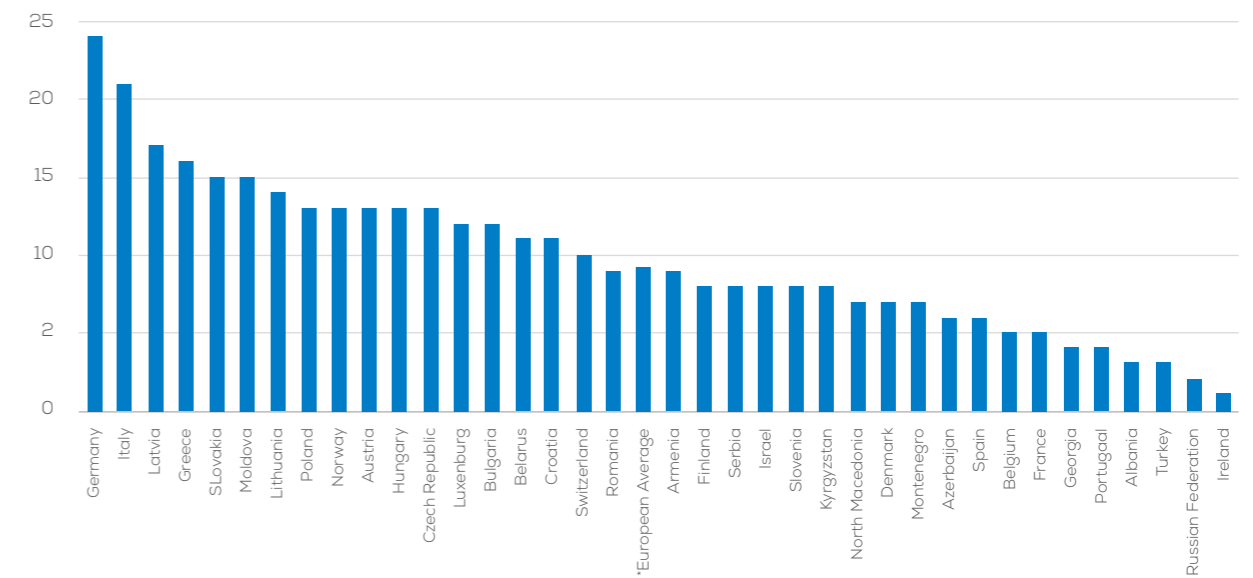


Figure 4: Number of neurologists (fully specialised and in training) per 100 000 population.

In the last figure the number of patients per neurologist is displayed:

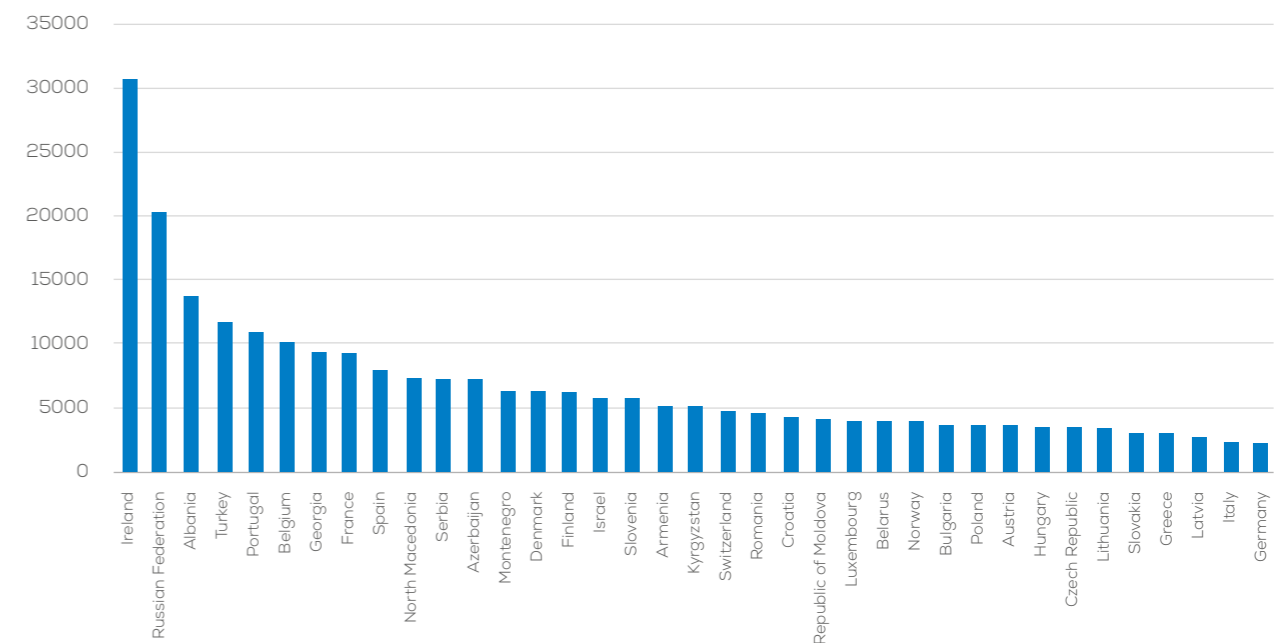
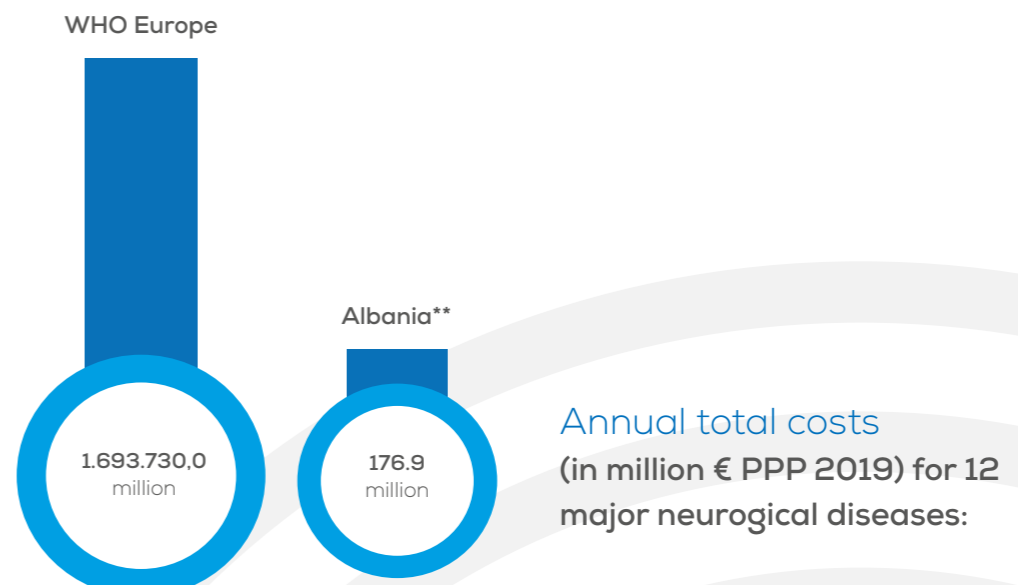
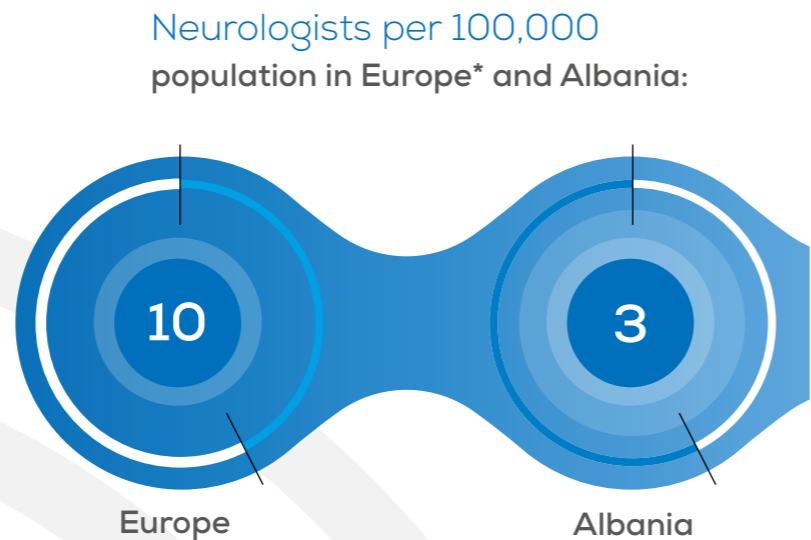
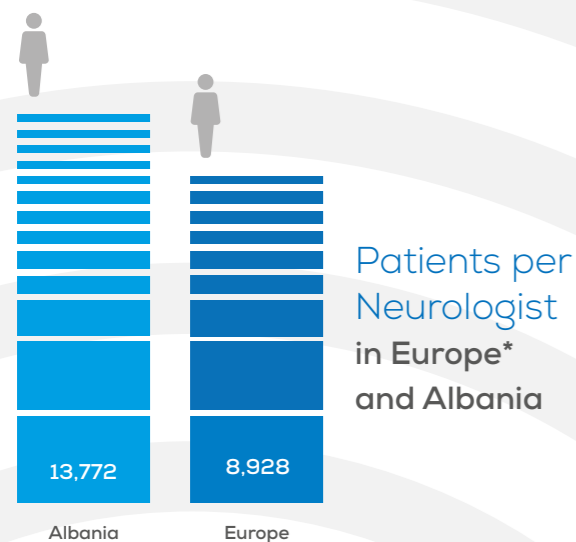


Figure 5: Number of patients per neurologist (fully specialised and in training).

# Neurological Diseases in Europe and Albania:

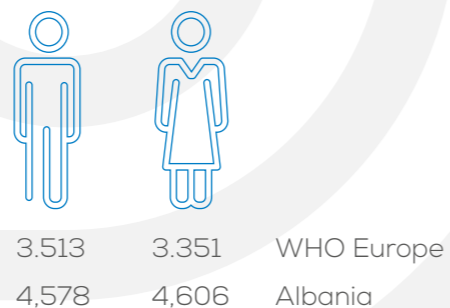
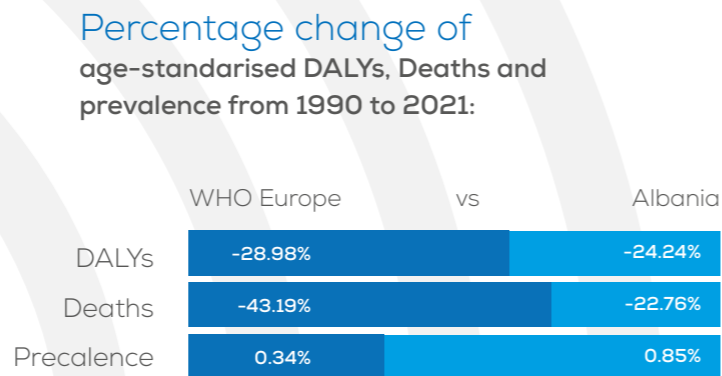
Key Data and Trends from 2021



## Most prevalent neurological diseases in Albania in

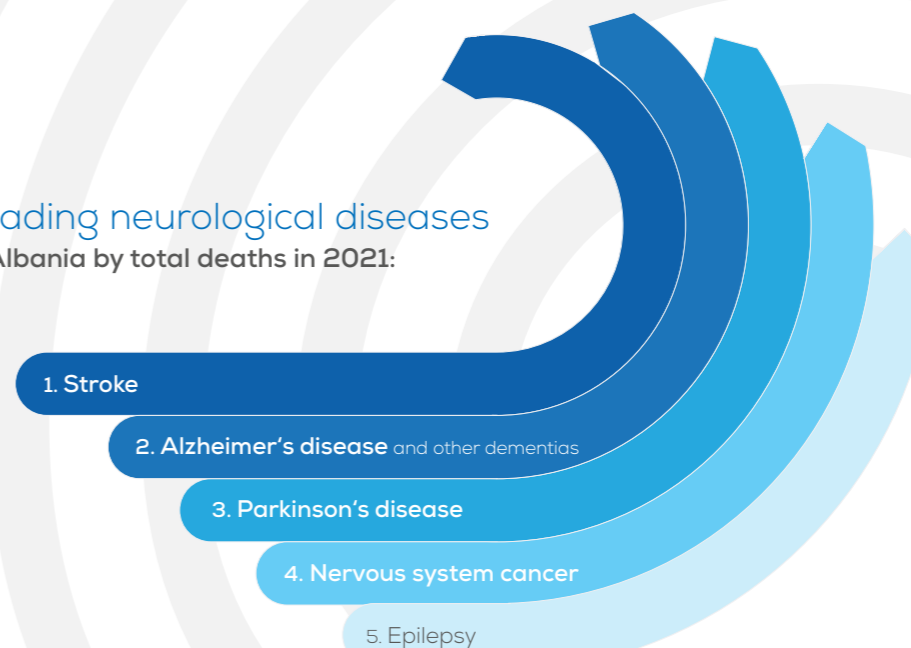
# 2021

- 1 Tension-type headache
- 2 Migraine
- 3 Diabetic neuropathy
- 4 Stroke
- 5 Alzheimer's disease and other dementias



Age-standardised DALYs rate per 100,000 population in 2021 by sex

## Leading neurological diseases in Albania by total deaths in 2021:



\*Based on data from 37 countries of the WHO European region  
 \*\*Cost estimates are derived from country-specific data available for specific diseases.

