



# Bridge Health Overview

EUPHA workshop  
October 2015



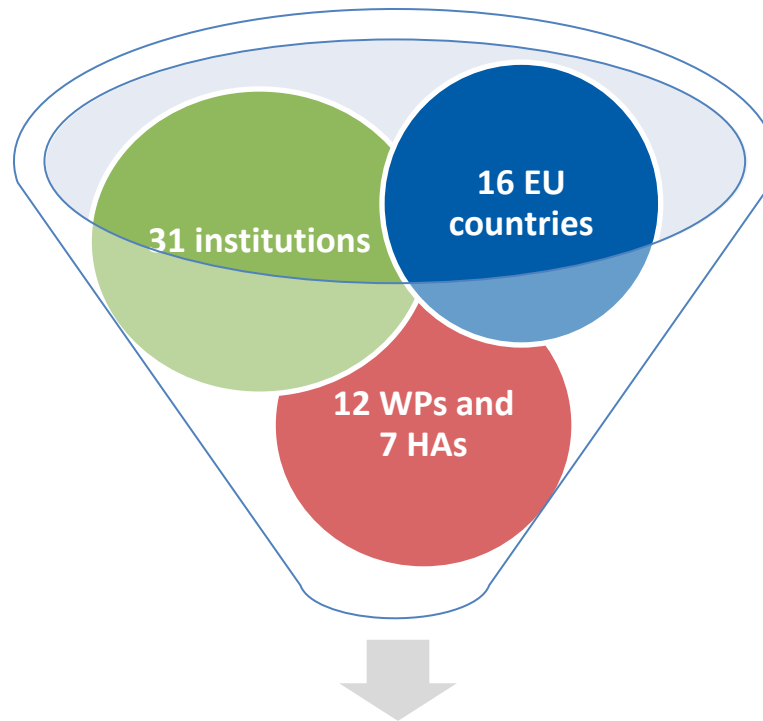
This project is funded by  
the Health Programme of  
the European Union

... working towards a **European health information and data generation network** covering major European health policy areas.

## BRIDGE Health aims

- to create a **blueprint for a European health information system** (EU HIS) and infrastructure;
- to evaluate different **structural and institutional options** including a comprehensive European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERIC) in health information; and
- to **prepare the transition** towards a sustainable and integrated EU HIS for both public health and research purposes.

# Bridge Health constitution





[www.bridge-health.eu](http://www.bridge-health.eu)

Contact: [bridge.coordination@wiv-isp.be](mailto:bridge.coordination@wiv-isp.be)



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# Health examination surveys - added value for health interview surveys, availability and comparability in Europe

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# What is a health examination survey (HES)?

- Population based survey with questionnaire(s), physical measurements and collection of biological samples
- The most reliable data source for many health indicators
- Complementary to European Health Interview Survey and administrative registers



# What a national HES can provide?

- Objective health measurements for
  - Evidence-based policy making
  - Planning and evaluation of prevention activities
  - Research
- Data for several of the indicators defined by the WHO Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases
  - % of raised blood pressure and mean systolic blood pressure
  - % of raised blood glucose/diabetes and overweight and obesity
  - Mean population intake of salt

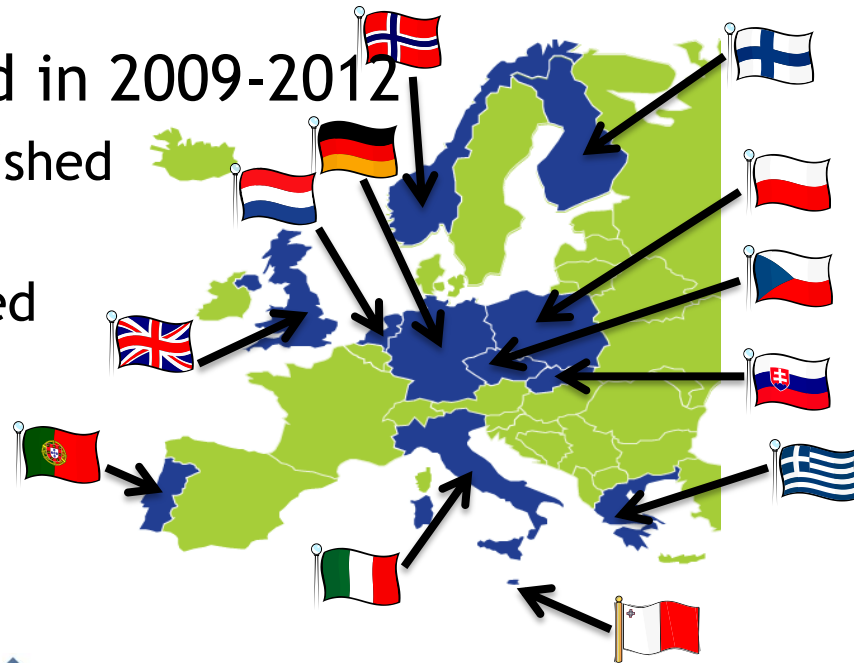


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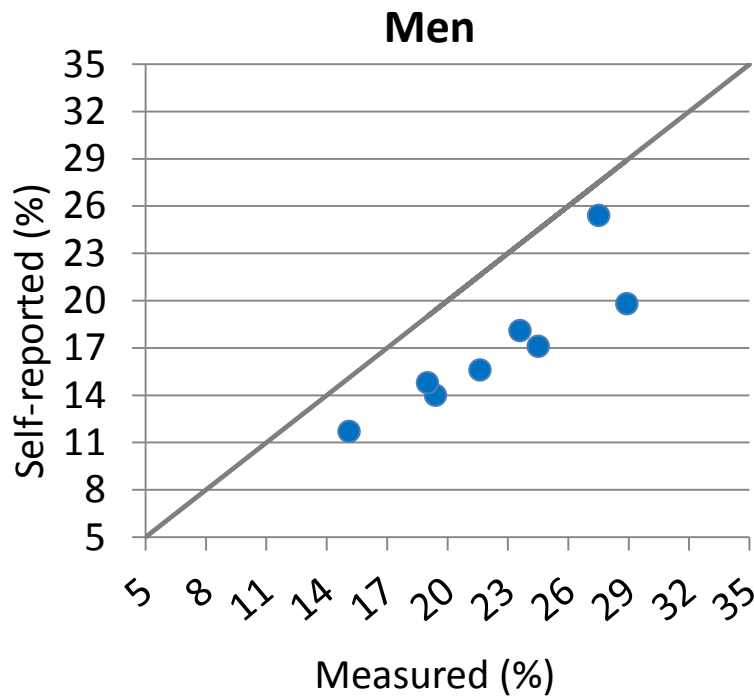
# European Health Examination Survey (EHES)

- A system to collect standardised, representative health examination survey data on the adult population of the European countries
- The pilot phase was conducted in 2009-2012
  - EHES Reference Centre was established to coordinate the activities
  - 12 countries planned and conducted a pilot HES, some a full scale HES
- More information about EHES at <http://www.ehes.info>

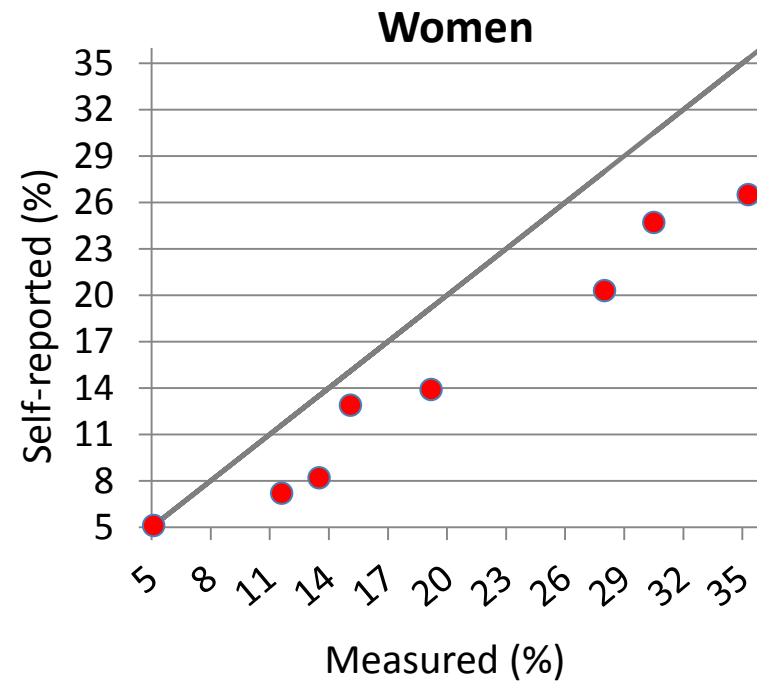


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# Reporting and recall bias in health interview surveys - obesity



Average difference = 4.4 %-points

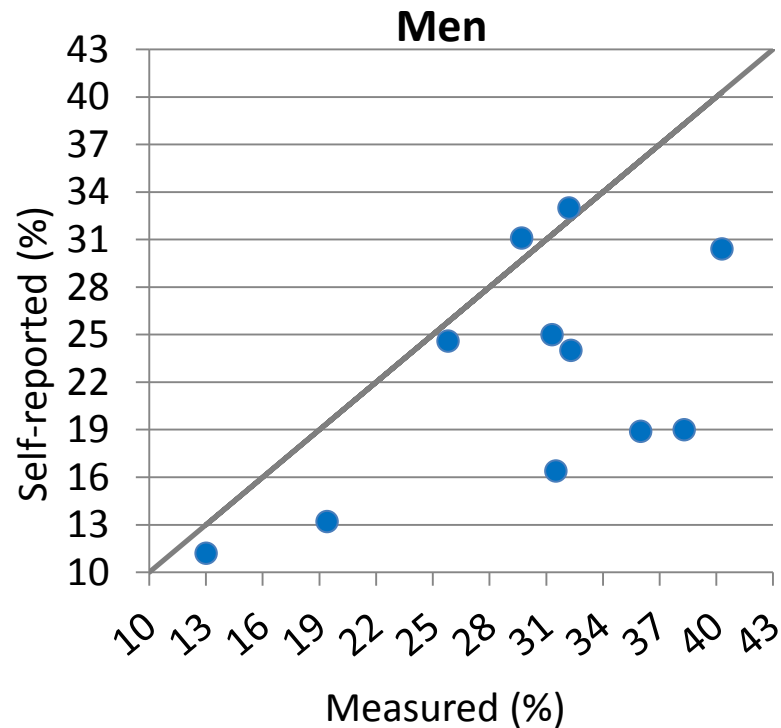


Average difference = 4.2 %-points

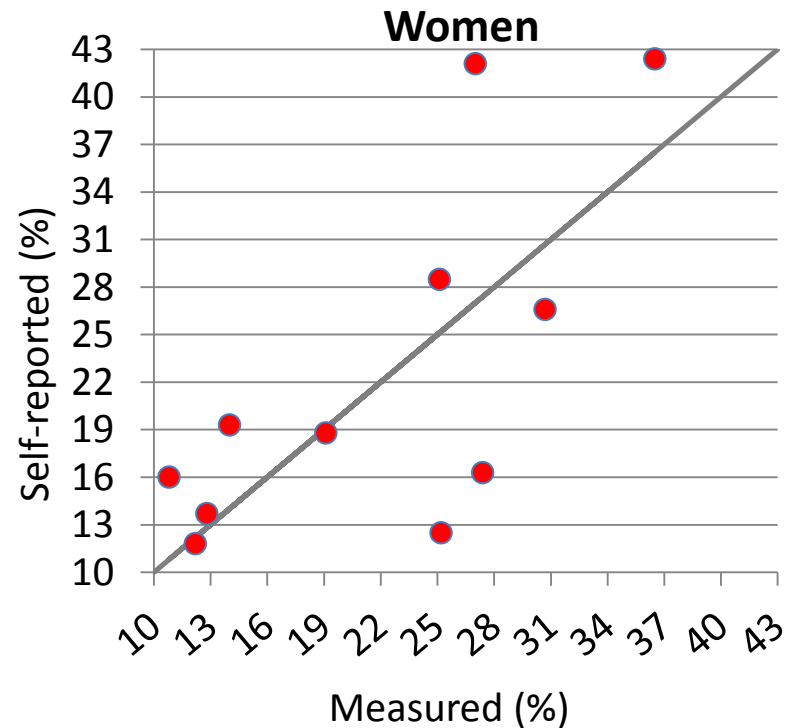


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# Reporting and recall bias in health interview surveys - hypertension



Average difference = 10.1 %-points

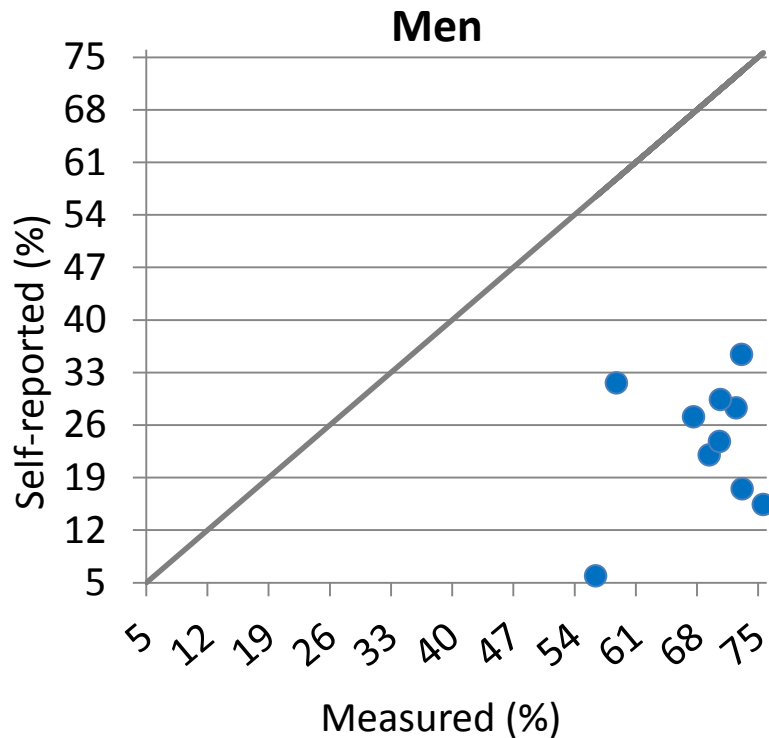


Average difference = -3.5 %-points

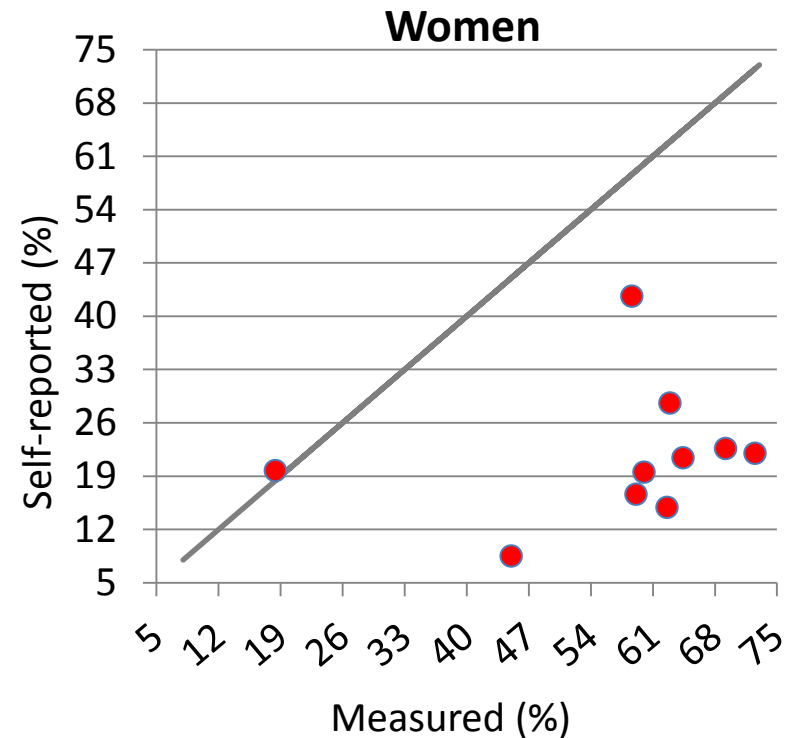


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# Reporting and recall bias in health interview surveys - high cholesterol



Average difference = 49.6 %-points

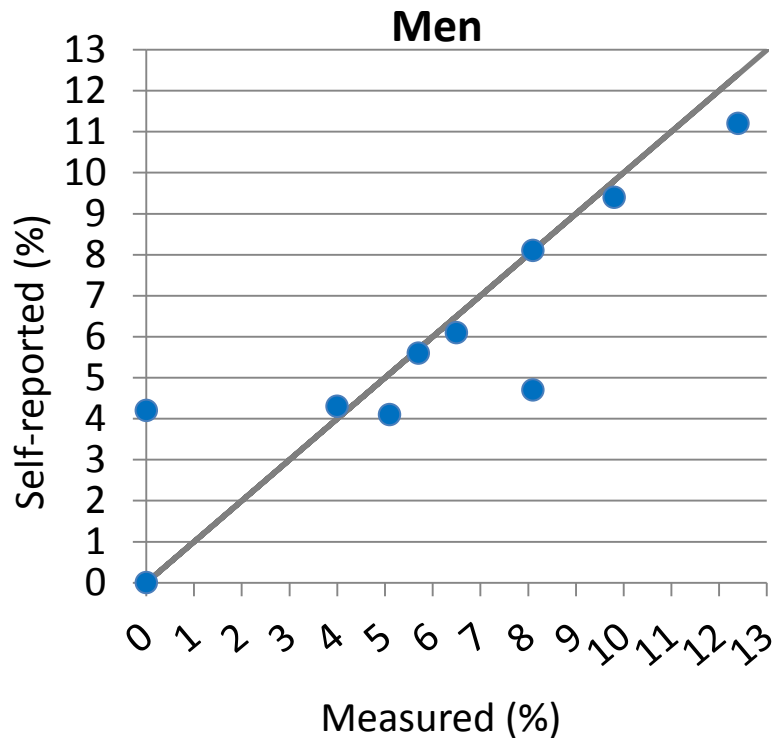


Average difference = 43.6 %-points

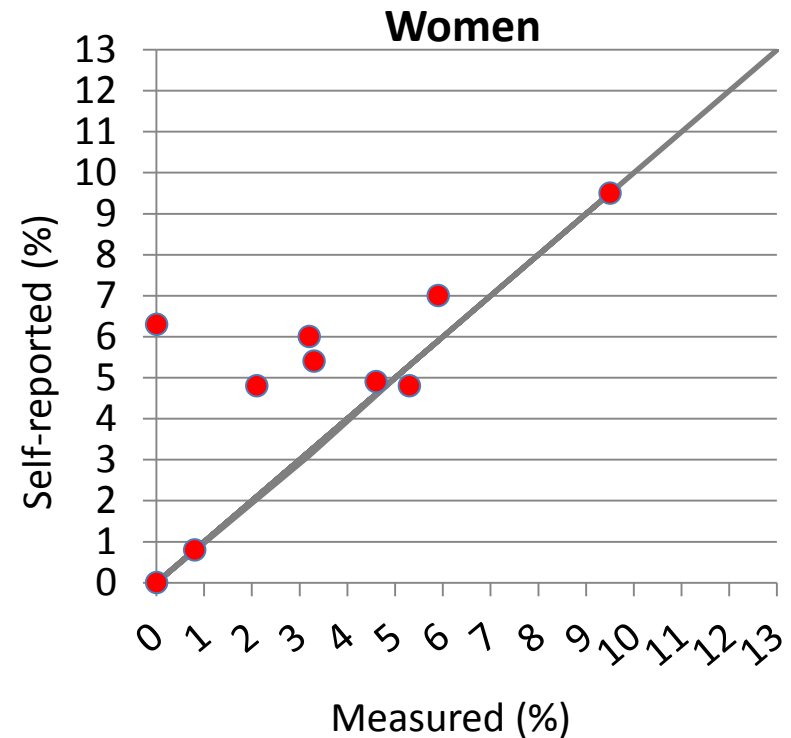


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# Reporting and recall bias in health interview surveys - diabetes



Average difference = 0.8 %-points



Average difference = -0.9 %-points



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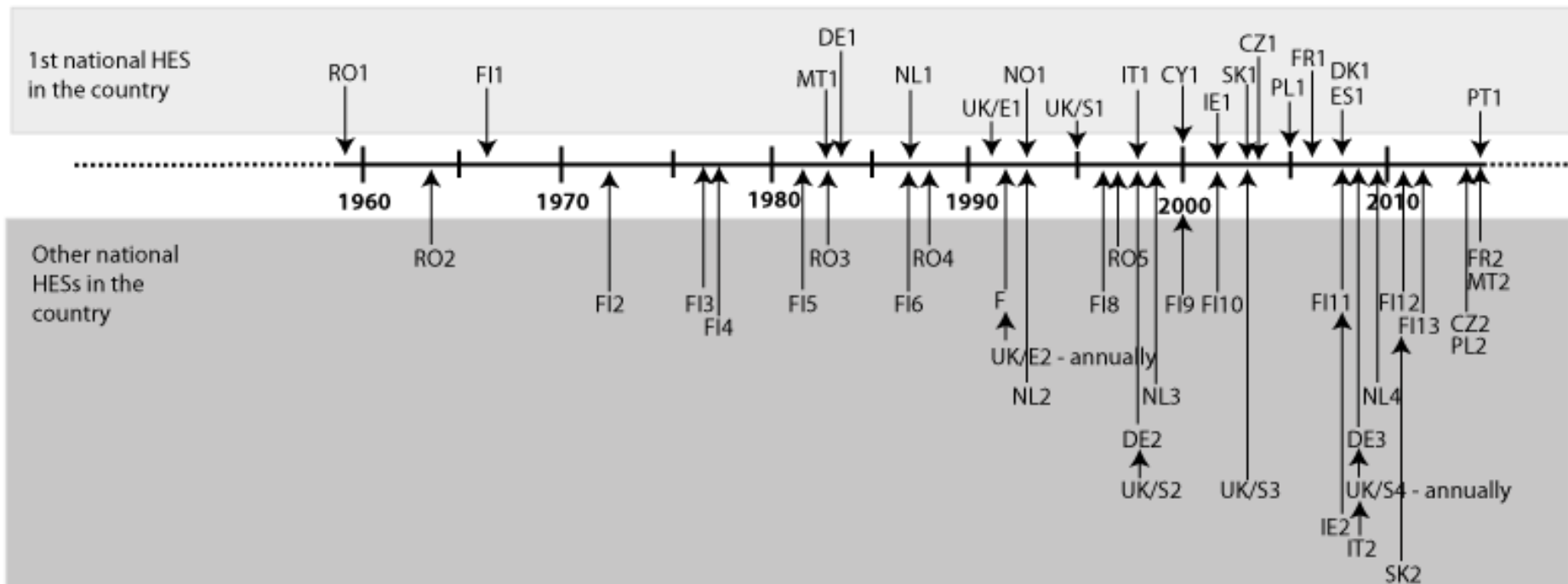
# Proportion at risk missed by self-reported data

Indicator	Men	Women
Obesity	30%	26%
Hypertension	41%	28%
High cholesterol	68%	70%
Diabetes	22%	14%

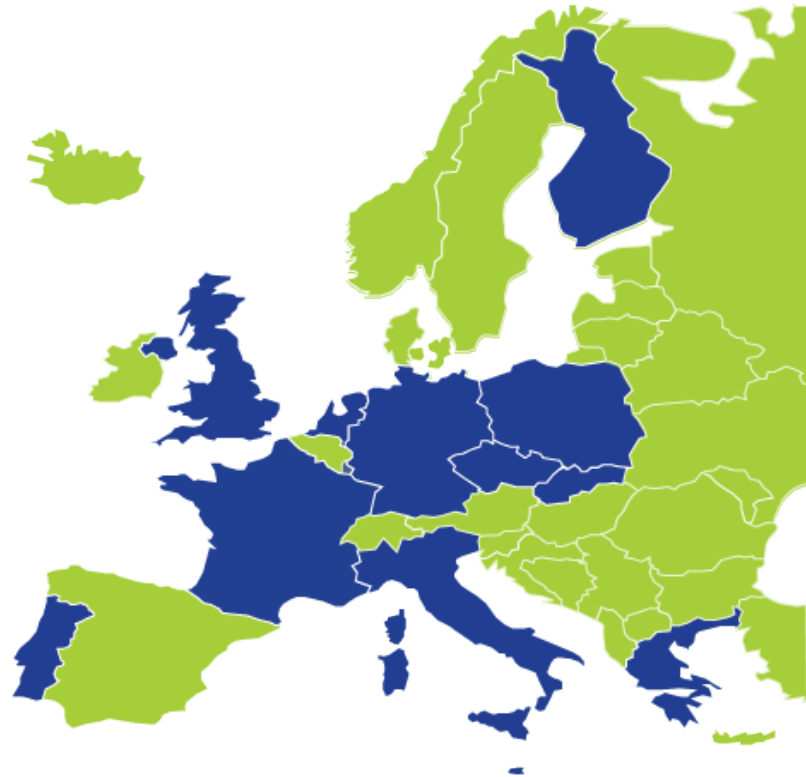


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# History of national HESs in Europe



# Current status of national HESs in Europe



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# Comparability of results between national HESs

- European level standard protocols created by EHES
  - Published at <http://www.ehes.info>
  - Training material on the web
  - Training seminars organized in 2010
  - External quality assurance system
    - Support on planning
    - Site visits
    - Laboratory quality assessment
- EHES Pilot project demonstrated that standardisation is possible



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# Future of national HESs in Europe

- Experiences from EHES are promising
- Several countries have plans to conduct a national HES during the next 5 years
- A sustainable system for coordination and standardisation of future national HESs is needed
  - Further development and updating of survey protocols
  - Organization of quality assurance measures such as training, site visits and laboratory quality assessment
  - Support for countries planning their surveys



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# Thank you!

For more information on EHES  
<http://www.ehes.info>  
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