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**Insights – Unemployment Per COVID Related Deaths in EU Countries**

This line graph and heatmap illustrate the “Unemployment per Excess Death” metric across EU countries between 2020 and 2023. This metric is calculated by dividing the unemployment rate by the number of excess deaths per 100,000 people due to COVID-19. It offers an interesting perspective into how economic strain (unemployment) and public health impact (excess deaths) may align or diverge. A high value may indicate substantial economic disruption despite relatively lower mortality, whereas a low value may point to severe health impact with comparatively stable unemployment, or simply low unemployment altogether. It is important to note that this metric shows correlation, not causation; it doesn’t imply that COVID deaths directly caused unemployment or vice versa. The line graph allows us to follow the general trends and shifts among countries, while the heatmap makes it easier to examine these fluctuations on a country-by-country basis. The contrast in values highlights how varied the pandemic’s socioeconomic impact has been across Europe.

Overall, we observe that most countries display a sharp decline in the “Unemployment per Excess Death” metric after 2020, likely due to falling excess death rates and recovering economies. Notable outliers include Luxembourg, which shows an unusually high value in 2020, possibly due to minimal deaths but considerable unemployment impact. Countries like Germany, Estonia, and Cyprus also show higher-than-average values initially. On the other hand, countries such as Denmark and Latvia even reported negative excess deaths, resulting in unusual values in the metric.

All in all, this exploratory metric opens a window into how different EU countries weathered the socio-economic and health crises during the pandemic. And while it doesn’t tell the full story, it provides a helpful foundation for deeper analysis.