

# Package ‘rsurvstat’

January 22, 2026

**Title** Download Infectious Disease Data from 'SurvStat' (Robert Koch Institute)

**Version** 0.1.3

**Description** Provides an interface to the 'SurvStat' web service from the Robert Koch Institute (<<https://tools.rki.de/SurvStat/SurvStatWebService.svc>>) allowing downloads of disease time series stratified by pathogen type and subtype, age, and geography from notifiable disease reports in Germany.

**License** MIT + file LICENSE

**Encoding** UTF-8

**RoxigenNote** 7.3.3.9007

**Suggests** knitr, rmarkdown, ggplot2, testthat

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Imports** dplyr, magrittr, xml2, stringr, tibble, httr, curl, whisker, fs, purrr, tidyverse, cli, locfit, rlang, sf

**Depends** R (>= 3.5)

**LazyData** true

**Language** en-GB

**LazyDataCompression** xz

**URL** <https://bristol-vaccine-centre.github.io/rsurvstat/index.html>,  
<https://github.com/bristol-vaccine-centre/rsurvstat>,  
<https://bristol-vaccine-centre.github.io/rsurvstat/>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/bristol-vaccine-centre/rsurvstat/issues>

**Config/Needs/build** terminological/pkgtools, robchallen/roxygen2

**NeedsCompilation** no

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*age\_groups* SurvStat *age group list*

### Description

- single\_year
- children\_coarse: from 0, 15, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80 years
- children\_medium: from 0, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80 years
- children\_fine: from 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80 years
- five\_year: from 0, 1, 5, 10, 15, 20, ..., 75, 80 years
- zero\_fifteen: from 0, 15+ years
- zero\_fifteen\_sixty: from 0, 15, 60+ years
- zero\_one\_4\_20\_40\_60\_80: from 0, 4, 20, 40, 60, 80+ years

### Usage

*age\_groups*

### Format

An object of class *list* of length 8.

### References

<https://survstat.rki.de/Content/Query/Create.aspx>

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BerlinMap

*A Berlin outline sf map*

---

## Description

A Berlin outline sf map

## Usage

```
data(BerlinMap)
```

## Format

A sf dataframe containing the following columns:

- Name (character) - the Name column

1 rows

---

cache\_clear

*Delete all cached SurvStat requests*

---

## Description

This function is only intended to be used interactively. The cache can be controlled with `set_cache_settings()`

## Usage

```
cache_clear(confirm = utils::askYesNo("Are you sure?"))
```

## Arguments

`confirm` can be set to TRUE to make function non interactive.

## Value

nothing. called for side effects

## Examples

```
cache_clear( confirm = interactive() )
```

## CountyKey71Map

*The CountyKey71Map dataset***Description**

This matches the CountyKey71 dimension in SurvStat. This is the 400 **Stadtkreis** and **Landkreise** administrative regions in Germany, plus 12 Berlin boroughs (**Bezirke**) which replace the Berlin Kriese (Id: 11000). The boroughs have sequential Ids from [11001] to [11012]

**Usage**

```
data(CountyKey71Map)
```

**Format**

A sf dataframe containing the following columns:

- Id - the full SurvStat identifier for this region (includes hierarchical information)
- ComponentId - the id of the most granular geographical unit (which can be used to link out to other data sets)
- HierarchyId - the id of the geographical unit type
- Name - the name of the region

Any grouping allowed.

411 rows

## diseases

*SurvStat disease list***Description**

Supported diseases:

- Acinetobacter (key: Acinetobacter-Infektion oder –Kolonisation)
- Adenovirus (key: Adenovirus (andere Form, Meldepflichtig gemäß Landesmeldeverordnung))
- Amoebiasis (key: Amoebiasis)
- Anthrax (key: Milzbrand)
- Arbovirus (key: Arbovirus-Erkrankung)
- Astrovirus (key: Astrovirus-Infektion)
- Bornavirus (key: Bornavirus)
- Botulism (key: Botulismus)
- Brucellosis (key: Brucellose)

- CJD (key: CJK)
- CJD, variant (key: vCJK)
- COVID-19 (key: COVID-19)
- Campylobacter (key: Campylobacter-Enteritis)
- Candida auris (invasive) (key: Candida auris, invasive Infektion)
- Chickenpox (key: Windpocken)
- Chickenpox (state) (key: Windpocken (Meldepflicht gemäß Landesmeldeverordnung))
- Chikungunya (key: Chikungunya-Fieber)
- Chlamydia Trachomatis (key: Chlamydia-trachomatis-Infektion)
- Cholera (key: Cholera)
- Clostridium difficile / mild (key: Clostridium difficile, nicht schwerer Verlauf)
- Clostridium difficile / moderate (key: Clostridium difficile, schwerer Verlauf)
- Cryptosporidiosis (key: Kryptosporidiose)
- Cytomegalovirus (key: Cytomegalie)
- Dengue (key: Denguefieber)
- Diphtheria (key: Diphtherie)
- E. Coli, enteritis (key: E.-coli-Enteritis)
- E. Coli, enterohemorrhagic (key: EHEC-Erkrankung)
- Ebola (key: Ebolafieber)
- Echinococcosis (key: Echinokokkose)
- Enterobacteria colonisation (key: Enterobacteriaceae-Infektion oder –Kolonisation)
- Enterovirus (key: Enterovirus)
- Gas gangrene (key: Gasbrand)
- Gastroenteritis (other) (key: Weitere bedrohliche Krankheit (gastro))
- Giardia (key: Giardiasis)
- Gonorrhoea (key: Gonorrhoe)
- Group B Streptococcus (key: Gruppe-B-Streptokokken)
- HIV (key: HIV-Infektion)
- Haemolytic-uraemic syndrome (key: HUS (Hämolytisch-urämisches Syndrom), enteropathisch)
- Haemophilus influenza, invasive (key: Haemophilus influenzae, invasive Erkrankung)
- Hand foot mouth disease (key: Hand-Fuß-Mund-Krankheit)
- Hantavirus (key: Hantavirus-Erkrankung)
- Head lice (key: Kopflausbefall)
- Hepatitis (general) (key: Hepatitis (allgemein))
- Hepatitis A (key: Hepatitis A)
- Hepatitis B (key: Hepatitis B)
- Hepatitis C (key: Hepatitis C)

- Hepatitis D (key: Hepatitis D)
- Hepatitis E (key: Hepatitis E)
- Hepatitis non A-E (key: Hepatitis Non A-E)
- Herpes Zoster (key: Herpes Zoster)
- Influenza, seasonal (key: Influenza, saisonal)
- Influenza, zoonotic (key: Influenza, zoonotisch)
- Keratoconjunctivitis (IfSG) (key: Keratokunkunktivitis (Meldepflicht gemäß IfSG))
- Keratoconjunctivitis (state) (key: Keratokunkunktivitis (Meldepflicht gemäß Landesmeldeverordnung))
- Lassa fever (key: Lassafieber)
- Legionalla (key: Legionellose)
- Leprousy (key: Lepra)
- Leptospirosis (key: Leptospirose)
- Listeriosis (key: Listeriose)
- Lyme Disease (key: Borreliose)
- MERS (key: Middle East Respiratory Syndrome)
- MRSA, invasive (key: MRSA, invasive Infektion)
- Malaria (IfSG) (key: Malaria (§7(3) IfSG))
- Malaria (state) (key: Malaria, Länderverordnung)
- Marburg virus (key: Marburgfieber)
- Measles (key: Masern)
- Meningitis (other) (key: Meningitis, andere)
- Meningococcal, invasive (key: Meningokokken, invasive Erkrankung)
- Mpox (key: Affenpocken)
- Mpox (key: Affenpocken)
- Mumps (IfSG) (key: Mumps (Meldepflicht gemäß IfSG))
- Mumps (state) (key: Mumps (Meldepflicht gemäß Landesmeldeverordnung))
- Mycoplasma (key: Mycoplasma)
- Norovirus (key: Norovirus-Gastroenteritis)
- Orthinovirus (key: Ornithose)
- Orthopox (key: Orthopocken)
- Parainfluenze (key: Parainfluenza)
- Paratyphus (key: Paratyphus)
- Plague (key: Pest)
- Pneumococcus (IfSG) (key: Pneumokokken (Meldepflicht gemäß IfSG))
- Pneumococcus (state) (key: Pneumokokken (Meldepflicht gemäß Landesverordnung))
- Poliomyelitis (key: Poliomyelitis)

- Q-fever (key: Q-Fieber)
- RSV (IfSG) (key: RSV (Meldepflicht gemäß IfSG))
- RSV (state) (key: RSV (Meldepflicht gemäß Landesmeldeverordnung))
- Rabies (confirmed) (key: Tollwut)
- Rabies (suspected) (key: Tollwutexpositionenverdacht)
- Relapsing fever (key: Läuserückfallfieber)
- Ringworm (key: Ringelröteln)
- Rotavirus gastroenteritis (key: Rotavirus-Gastroenteritis)
- Rubella (key: Röteln, postnatal)
- Rubella (state) (key: Röteln (Meldepflicht gemäß Landesmeldeverordnung))
- Rubella, congenital (key: Röteln, konnatal)
- SARS (key: SARS)
- Salmonellosis (key: Salmonellose)
- Scabies (key: Kräutmilbenbefall)
- Scarlet fever (key: Scharlach)
- Sepsis (other) (key: Weitere bedrohliche Krankheit)
- Shigellosis (key: Shigellose)
- Smallpox (key: Pocken)
- Subacute Sclerosing Panencephalitis (key: Subakute Sklerosierende Panenzephalitis)
- Syphilis (key: Syphilis)
- Tetanus (key: Tetanus)
- Tick borne encephalitis (key: FSME (Frühsommer-Meningoenzephalitis))
- Toxoplasmosis (key: Toxoplasmose)
- Toxoplasmosis, congenital (key: Toxoplasmose, konnatal)
- Trichinellosis (key: Trichinellose)
- Tuberculosis (key: Tuberkulose)
- Tularemia (key: Tularämie)
- Typhoid (key: Fleckfieber)
- Typhoid, abdominal (key: Typhus abdominalis)
- Typhus/Paratyphus (key: Typhus/Paratyphus)
- Varicella, congenital (key: Fetales (kongenitales) Varizellsyndrom)
- Vibria (key: Vibrionen)
- Viral haemorrhagic fever (key: Virale hämorrhagische Fieber)
- West Nile Virus (key: West-Nil-Virus)
- Whooping cough (IfSG) (key: Keuchhusten (Meldepflicht gemäß IfSG))
- Whooping cough (state) (key: Keuchhusten (Meldepflicht gemäß Landesmeldeverordnung))
- Yellow fever (key: Gelbfieber)
- Yersinia (key: Yersiniose)
- Zika (key: Zikavirus-Erkrankung)

**Usage**

```
diseases
```

**Format**

An object of class `list` of length 121.

**References**

<https://survstat.rki.de/Content/Query/Create.aspx>

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`FedStateKey71Map`      *The FedStateKey71Map dataset.*

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**Description**

This matches the `FedStateKey71` dimension in `SurvStat`. This is the 16 federal states in Germany.

**Usage**

```
data(FedStateKey71Map)
```

**Format**

A `sf` dataframe containing the following columns:

- `Id` - the full `SurvStat` identifier for this region (includes hierarchical information)
- `ComponentId` - the id of the most granular geographical unit (which can be used to link out to other data sets)
- `HierarchyId` - the id of the geographical unit type
- `Name` - the name of the region

16 rows

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fit_population	<i>Infer and fit a population model from SurvStat output</i>
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## Description

SurvStat can be queried for count or incidence. From the combination of these metrics queried across the whole range of disease notifications for any given year we can infer a stratified population size, that SurvStat is using to calculate it's incidence. This is simply modelled with a local polynomial over time to allow us to fill in weekly population denominators.

## Usage

```
fit_population(count_df, .progress = TRUE)

infer_population(
  age_group = NULL,
  geography = NULL,
  years = NULL,
  .progress = TRUE
)
```

## Arguments

count_df	a data frame from the output of <code>get_timeseries()</code> or <code>get_snapshot()</code>
.progress	by default a progress bar is shown, which may be important if many downloads are needed to fulfil the request. It can be disabled by setting this to FALSE here.
age_group	(optional) the age group of interest as a SurvStat key, see <code>rsurvstat::age_groups</code> for a list of valid options.
geography	(optional) one of "state", "nuts", or "county" to define the resolution of the query. Does not accept a sf map or subset of (unlike <code>get_timeseries()</code> ).
years	(optional) a vector of years to limit the response to. This may be useful to limit the size of returned pages in the event the SurvStat service hits a data transfer limit.

## Value

the count\_df data frame with an additional population column  
a data frame with geography, age grouping, year and population columns

## Functions

- `infer_population()`: Query SurvStat for data to impute a population denominator

## Examples

```
# snapshot:
get_snapshot(
  disease = diseases$`COVID-19`,
  geography = "state",
  season=2024
) %>%
  fit_population() %>%
  dplyr::glimpse()

# timeseries
# A weekly population estimate is inferred from the yearly data:
get_timeseries(
  diseases$`COVID-19`,
  measure = "Count",
  age_group = age_groups$children_coarse
) %>%
  fit_population() %>%
  dplyr::glimpse()

infer_population(years=2020:2025) %>% dplyr::glimpse()
```

`get_snapshot`

*Retrieve data from the SurvStat web service relating to a single time period.*

## Description

This function gets a snapshot of disease count or incidence data from the Robert Koch Institute SurvStat web service, based on either whole epidemiological season or an individual week within a season. Seasons are whole years starting either at the beginning of the calendar year, at week 27 or at week 40.

## Usage

```
get_snapshot(
  disease = NULL,
  measure = c("Count", "Incidence"),
  ...,
  season,
  season_week = NULL,
  season_start = 1,
  age_group = NULL,
  age_range = c(0, Inf),
```

```

disease_subtype = FALSE,
geography = NULL,
.progress = TRUE
)

```

## Arguments

disease	the disease of interest as a SurvStat key, see <code>rsurvstat::diseases</code> for a current list of these. This is technically optional, and if omitted the counts of all diseases will be returned. Keys are the same as the options in the SurvStat user interface found <a href="#">here</a> . If SG and state variants of diseases are counts that are reported directly to the Robert Koch Institute or indirectly via state departments.
measure	one of "Count" (default) or "Incidence" per 100,000 per week or year depending on the context.
...	not used, must be empty.
season	the start year of the season in which the snapshot is taken
season_week	the start week within the season of the snapshot. If missing then the whole season is used
season_start	the week of the calendar year in which the season starts this can be one of 1, 27 or 40.
age_group	(optional) the age group of interest as a SurvStat key, see <code>rsurvstat::age_groups</code> for a list of valid options.
age_range	(optional) a length 2 vector with the minimum and maximum ages to consider
disease_subtype	if TRUE the returned count will be broken down by disease or pathogen subtype (assuming disease was provided).
geography	(optional) a geographical breakdown. This can be given as a character where it must be one of state, nuts, or county specifying the 16 region FedStateKey71Map, 38 region NutsKey71Map, or 411 region CountyKey71Map data respectively. Alternatively it can be given as a <code>sf</code> data frame, subsetting one of these maps, in which case only that subset of regions will be returned.
.progress	by default a progress bar is shown, which may be important if many downloads are needed to fulfil the request. It can be disabled by setting this to FALSE here.

## Details

The snapshot can be stratified by any combination of age, geography, disease, disease subtype. Queries to SurvStat are cached and paged, but obviously multidimensional extracts have the potential to need a lot of downloading.

## Value

a data frame with at least year (the start of the epidemiological season) and `start_week` (the calendar week in which the epidemiological season starts), and one of `count` or `incidence` columns. Most likely it will also have `disease_name` and `disease_code` columns, and some of `age_name`, `age_code`, `age_low`, `age_high`, `geo_code`, `geo_name`, `disease_subtype_code`, `disease_subtype_name` depending on options.

## Examples

```
get_snapshot(
  diseases$`COVID-19`,
  measure = "Count",
  season = 2024,
  age_group = age_groups$children_coarse
)

get_snapshot(
  diseases$`COVID-19`,
  measure = "Count",
  age_group = age_groups$children_coarse,
  season = 2024,
  geography = rsurvstat::FedStateKey71Map[1:10,]
)
```

**get\_timeseries**

*Retrieve time series data from the SurvStat web service.*

## Description

This function gets a weekly timeseries of disease count or incidence data from the Robert Koch Institute SurvStat web service. The timeseries can be stratified by any combination of age, geography, disease, disease subtype. Queries to SurvStat are cached and paged, but obviously multidimensional extracts have the potential to need a lot of downloading.

## Usage

```
get_timeseries(
  disease = NULL,
  measure = c("Count", "Incidence"),
  ...,
  age_group = NULL,
  age_range = c(0, Inf),
  disease_subtype = FALSE,
  years = NULL,
  geography = NULL,
  trim_zeros = c("leading", "both", "none"),
  .progress = TRUE
)
```

## Arguments

disease	the disease of interest as a SurvStat key, see <code>rsurvstat::diseases</code> for a current list of these. This is technically optional, and if omitted the counts of all diseases will be returned. Keys are the same as the options in the SurvStat user interface found <a href="#">here</a> . If SG and state variants of diseases are counts that are reported directly to the Robert Koch Institute or indirectly via state departments.
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<code>measure</code>	one of "Count" (default) or "Incidence" per 100,000 per week or year depending on the context.
<code>...</code>	not used, must be empty.
<code>age_group</code>	(optional) the age group of interest as a SurvStat key, see <code>rsurvstat::age_groups</code> for a list of valid options.
<code>age_range</code>	(optional) a length 2 vector with the minimum and maximum ages to consider
<code>disease_subtype</code>	if TRUE the returned count will be broken down by disease or pathogen subtype (assuming disease was provided).
<code>years</code>	(optional) a vector of years to limit the response to. This may be useful to limit the size of returned pages in the event the SurvStat service hits a data transfer limit.
<code>geography</code>	(optional) a geographical breakdown. This can be given as a character where it must be one of state, nuts, or county specifying the 16 region FedStateKey71Map, 38 region NutsKey71Map, or 411 region CountyKey71Map data respectively. Alternatively it can be given as a <code>sf</code> dataframe, subsetting one of these maps, in which case only that subset of regions will be returned.
<code>trim_zeros</code>	get rid of zero counts. Either "both" (from start and end), "leading" (from start only - the default) or "none".
<code>.progress</code>	by default a progress bar is shown, which may be important if many downloads are needed to fulfil the request. It can be disabled by setting this to FALSE here.

## Value

a data frame with at least date (weekly), and one of count or incidence columns. Most likely it will also have `disease_name` and `disease_code` columns, and some of `age_name`, `age_code`, `age_low`, `age_high`, `geo_code`, `geo_name`, `disease_subtype_code`, `disease_subtype_name` depending on options. The dataframe will be grouped to make sure each group contains a single timeseries.

## Examples

```
# age stratified
get_timeseries(
  diseases$`COVID-19`,
  measure = "Count",
  age_group = age_groups$children_coarse
) %>% dplyr::glimpse()

# geographic
get_timeseries(
  diseases$`COVID-19`,
  measure = "Count",
  geography = "state"
) %>% dplyr::glimpse()

# disease stratified, subset of years:
get_timeseries(
```

```
measure = "Count",
years = 2024
) %>% dplyr::glimpse()
```

**NutsKey71Map***The NutsKey71Map dataset***Description**

This matches the NutsKey71 dimension in SurvStat. This is the 38 NUTS2 level administrative regions in Germany.

**Usage**

```
data(NutsKey71Map)
```

**Format**

A sf dataframe containing the following columns:

- Id - the full SurvStat identifier for this region (includes hierarchical information)
- ComponentId - the id of the most granular geographical unit (which can be used to link out to other data sets)
- HierarchyId - the id of the geographical unit type
- Name - the name of the region

38 rows

**set\_cache\_settings***Set options for the rsurvstat cache***Description**

By default successful requests to SurvStat are cached for 7 days to prevent repeated querying of the service. This is stored in the usual R package cache location by default (e.g. `"~/ .cache/rsurvstat"` on mac / linux). Caching can be switched off altogether.

**Usage**

```
set_cache_settings(..., active = NULL, dir = NULL, stale = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

...	you can also submit the settings as a named list.
active	boolean (optional), set to FALSE to disable caching
dir	file path (optional), the location of the cache
stale	numeric (optional), the number of days before a cached item is considered out of date

**Value**

the old cache settings as a list

**Examples**

```
old_settings = set_cache_settings(active = FALSE)
set_cache_settings(old_settings)
```

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