

# The Effect of High Temperature on Seniors' Health: Evidence from SHARE

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Authors: Eric Bonsang\*, Clémentine Garrouste\*, Eléonore Rouault\*

\* Université Paris-Dauphine, PSL, LEDa-LEGOS

Abstract: European countries are facing both an increasingly ageing population and global warming. This study aims at investigating the effect of high temperatures on the physical and cognitive health of individuals aged 50 and over. The empirical analysis exploits longitudinal data from the Survey on Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE) which is combined with measures of daily temperature across 19 countries. Our estimates are based on an individual fixed-effect strategy and show that high temperatures impede the cognitive and physical aspects of health. Our results reveal a stronger effect for poorer individuals, as well as those aged over 65 years. Additionally, results show that individuals frequently exposed to high temperatures are affected at least as much as less exposed individuals, suggesting limited adaptation capacities to face climate change.