LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH IN THE PERIOD 2015 - 2017

Life expectancy at birth\(^1\) of the Bulgarian population calculated for the period 2015 - 2017 is 74.8 years. Compared to the previous period (2014 - 2016) it increased by 0.1 years.

Bulgaria, Latvia and Lithuania (74.9 years) are the countries with lowest life expectancy in the EU\(^2\). Highest life expectancy at birth is registered in Spain (83.5) and Italy (83.4 years).

Different mortality rates among male and female, as well as among urban and rural population resulted in differences in the life expectancy at birth for these population categories.

Life expectancy at birth for male population is 71.3 years, while for female it is 7.1 years higher - 78.4 years.

Between 2007 and 2017, the life expectancy at birth increased for male population by 2.0 years, while for female - by 2.1 years.

Figure 1. Life expectancy at birth by sex and periods

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\(^1\) Life expectancy at birth indicates the average expected duration of a life of a newborn under the hypothesis for a constant intensity of the age specific mortality observed for the respective year.

Detailed information on life expectancy at birth by ages is published at the NSI website, heading ‘Population and demographic processes’, theme ‘Life tables’

\(^2\) In the international comparisons, data on EU member states refer to 2016. Source: Eurostat - http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/
Life expectancy of the urban population (75.6 years) is 2.8 years higher than of the rural (72.8 years). Compared to 2007, an increase of 2.6 years is observed for the urban population and of 1.3 years - for rural.

1. Life expectancy at birth by residence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005 - 2007</td>
<td>72.7</td>
<td>73.0</td>
<td>71.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006 - 2008</td>
<td>73.0</td>
<td>73.4</td>
<td>71.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007 - 2009</td>
<td>73.4</td>
<td>73.9</td>
<td>72.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008 - 2010</td>
<td>73.6</td>
<td>74.0</td>
<td>72.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009 - 2011</td>
<td>73.8</td>
<td>74.6</td>
<td>72.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010 - 2012</td>
<td>74.0</td>
<td>74.9</td>
<td>72.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 - 2016</td>
<td>74.7</td>
<td>75.5</td>
<td>72.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 - 2017</td>
<td>74.8</td>
<td>75.6</td>
<td>72.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Life expectancy at age 65 is 16.1 years. The respective values for male and female are 14.1 and 17.7 years. For the period between 2007 and 2017, the life expectancy at age 65 increased by 1.3 years - 1.0 for male and 1.5 years for female.

2. Life expectancy at birth at age 65 by sex

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006 - 2008</td>
<td>14.9</td>
<td>13.2</td>
<td>16.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007 - 2009</td>
<td>15.2</td>
<td>13.5</td>
<td>16.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008 - 2010</td>
<td>15.4</td>
<td>13.6</td>
<td>16.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009 - 2011</td>
<td>15.5</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>17.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010 - 2012</td>
<td>15.6</td>
<td>13.9</td>
<td>17.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011 - 2013</td>
<td>15.8</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>17.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 - 2014</td>
<td>16.1</td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td>17.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 - 2015</td>
<td>16.0</td>
<td>14.1</td>
<td>17.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 - 2016</td>
<td>16.0</td>
<td>14.1</td>
<td>17.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 - 2017</td>
<td>16.1</td>
<td>14.1</td>
<td>17.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Life expectancy at birth varies from 72.9 years in districts Vratsa and Montana to 76.4 years in districts Sofia (stolitsa) and Kardzhali. Life expectancy is higher than the country average in eight districts. Women live longer than men in all country districts, but highest is the difference between sexes in district Kyustendil (8.0 years), while smallest - Shumen (5.9 years).

**Figure 2. Life expectancy at birth by district**

![Map showing life expectancy at birth by district in Bulgaria.](image-url)

Total for the country: **74.8**