

Life expectancy at birth, total (years)

6854ab7a-7b1e-4ae2-ac75-9d66094e6063

Report generated on: May 13, 2026

Project type: timeseries

:

Metadata information

Information on metadata

Document title

Metadata for Life expectancy at birth, total (years)

Document ID

META_WB_ESG_SP_DYN_LE00_IN

Metadata producers

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation
Development Economics Data Group	DECDG	World Bank

Production date

2024-12-18

Metadata link

Type	Metadata ID
primary	META_WB_WDI_SP_DYN_LE00_IN

Version

1.1

Version notes

Updated title formatting for consistency.

Version date

2025-03-17

Indicator description

Title statement

Indicator code

WB_ESG_SP_DYN_LE00_IN

Indicator name

Life expectancy at birth, total (years)

Aliases

Alias
SP.DYN.LE00.IN

Database ID

WB_ESG

Language

Name	Code
English	EN

Version date

2026-01-05

Description

Definition

Life expectancy at birth indicates the number of years a newborn infant would live if prevailing patterns of mortality at the time of its birth were to stay the same throughout its life.

Development relevance

Mortality rates for different age groups (infants, children, and adults) and overall mortality indicators (life expectancy at birth or survival to a given age) are important indicators of health status in a country. Because data on the incidence and prevalence of diseases are frequently unavailable, mortality rates are often used to identify vulnerable populations. And they are among the indicators most frequently used to compare socioeconomic development across countries.

Measurement unit

Years

Dimensions

Label	Description
Geographic area	Country/economy, Region

Periodicity

Annual

Links

Type	Description	URL
Website	Data catalog	https://datacatalog.worldbank.org/int/search/dataset/0037651/Environment--Social-and-Governance-Data
API	World Bank Indicators API	https://api.worldbank.org/v2/source/75/indicators

Quality

Limitations

Annual data series from United Nations Population Division's World Population Prospects are interpolated data from 5-year period data. Therefore they may not reflect real events as much as observed data.

Concepts and methods

Methodology

Life expectancy at birth used here is the average number of years a newborn is expected to live if mortality patterns at the time of its birth remain constant in the future. It reflects the overall mortality level of a population, and summarizes the mortality pattern that prevails across all age groups in a given

year. It is calculated in a period life table which provides a snapshot of a population's mortality pattern at a given time. It therefore does not reflect the mortality pattern that a person actually experiences during his/her life, which can be calculated in a cohort life table.

High mortality in young age groups significantly lowers the life expectancy at birth. But if a person survives his/her childhood of high mortality, he/she may live much longer. For example, in a population with a life expectancy at birth of 50, there may be few people dying at age 50. The life expectancy at birth may be low due to the high childhood mortality so that once a person survives his/her childhood, he/she may live much longer than 50 years.

Aggregation method

Weighted average

Geographic and time coverage

Time coverage

Start	End
1960	2023

Economies

Name	Code
Afghanistan	AFG
Angola	AGO
Albania	ALB
Andorra	AND
United Arab Emirates	ARE
Argentina	ARG
Armenia	ARM
Antigua and Barbuda	ATG
Australia	AUS
Austria	AUT
Azerbaijan	AZE
Burundi	BDI
Belgium	BEL
Benin	BEN
Burkina Faso	BFA
Bangladesh	BGD
Bulgaria	BGR
Bahrain	BHR
Bahamas, The	BHS
Bosnia and Herzegovina	BIH
Belarus	BLR
Belize	BLZ
Bolivia	BOL
Brazil	BRA

Barbados	BRB
Brunei Darussalam	BRN
Bhutan	BTN
Botswana	BWA
Central African Republic	CAF
Canada	CAN
Switzerland	CHE
Chile	CHL
China	CHN
Cote d'Ivoire	CIV
Cameroon	CMR
Congo, Dem. Rep.	COD
Congo, Rep.	COG
Colombia	COL
Comoros	COM
Cabo Verde	CPV
Costa Rica	CRI
Cuba	CUB
Cyprus	CYP
Czechia	CZE
Germany	DEU
Djibouti	DJI
Dominica	DMA
Denmark	DNK
Dominican Republic	DOM
Algeria	DZA
Ecuador	ECU
Egypt, Arab Rep.	EGY
Eritrea	ERI
Spain	ESP
Estonia	EST
Ethiopia	ETH
Finland	FIN
Fiji	FJI
France	FRA
Micronesia, Fed. Sts.	FSM
Gabon	GAB
United Kingdom	GBR
Georgia	GEO
Ghana	GHA
Guinea	GIN
Gambia, The	GMB

Guinea-Bissau	GNB
Equatorial Guinea	GNQ
Greece	GRC
Grenada	GRD
Guatemala	GTM
Guyana	GUY
Honduras	HND
Croatia	HRV
Haiti	HTI
Hungary	HUN
Indonesia	IDN
India	IND
Ireland	IRL
Iran, Islamic Rep.	IRN
Iraq	IRQ
Iceland	ISL
Italy	ITA
Jamaica	JAM
Jordan	JOR
Japan	JPN
Kazakhstan	KAZ
Kenya	KEN
Kyrgyz Republic	KGZ
Cambodia	KHM
Kiribati	KIR
St. Kitts and Nevis	KNA
Korea, Rep.	KOR
Kuwait	KWT
Lao PDR	LAO
Lebanon	LBN
Liberia	LBR
Libya	LYB
St. Lucia	LCA
Liechtenstein	LIE
Sri Lanka	LKA
Lesotho	LSO
Lithuania	LTU
Luxembourg	LUX
Latvia	LVA
Morocco	MAR
Monaco	MCO
Moldova	MDA

Madagascar	MDG
Maldives	MDV
Mexico	MEX
Marshall Islands	MHL
North Macedonia	MKD
Mali	MLI
Malta	MLT
Myanmar	MMR
Montenegro	MNE
Mongolia	MNG
Mozambique	MOZ
Mauritania	MRT
Mauritius	MUS
Malawi	MWI
Malaysia	MYS
Namibia	NAM
Niger	NER
Nigeria	NGA
Nicaragua	NIC
Netherlands	NLD
Norway	NOR
Nepal	NPL
Nauru	NRU
New Zealand	NZL
Oman	OMN
Pakistan	PAK
Panama	PAN
Peru	PER
Philippines	PHL
Palau	PLW
Papua New Guinea	PNG
Poland	POL
Korea, Dem. People's Rep.	PRK
Portugal	PRT
Paraguay	PRY
Qatar	QAT
Romania	ROU
Russian Federation	RUS
Rwanda	RWA
Saudi Arabia	SAU
Sudan	SDN
Senegal	SEN

Singapore	SGP
Solomon Islands	SLB
Sierra Leone	SLE
El Salvador	SLV
San Marino	SMR
Somalia	SOM
Serbia	SRB
South Sudan	SSD
Sao Tome and Principe	STP
Suriname	SUR
Slovak Republic	SVK
Slovenia	SVN
Sweden	SWE
Eswatini	SWZ
Seychelles	SYC
Syrian Arab Republic	SYR
Chad	TCD
Togo	TGO
Thailand	THA
Tajikistan	TJK
Turkmenistan	TKM
Timor-Leste	TLS
Tonga	TON
Trinidad and Tobago	TTO
Tunisia	TUN
Turkiye	TUR
Tuvalu	TUV
Tanzania	TZA
Uganda	UGA
Ukraine	UKR
Uruguay	URY
United States	USA
Uzbekistan	UZB
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	VCT
Venezuela, RB	VEN
Viet Nam	VNM
Vanuatu	VUT
Samoa	WSM
Yemen, Rep.	YEM
South Africa	ZAF
Zambia	ZMB
Zimbabwe	ZWE

Israel	ISR
--------	-----

Geographic areas

Name	Code
Arab World	ARB
Central Electricity Board (CEB)	CEB
Caribbean small states	CSS
East Asia & Pacific (excluding high income)	EAP
Early-demographic dividend	EAR
East Asia & Pacific	EAS
Europe & Central Asia (excluding high income)	ECA
Europe & Central Asia	ECS
Euro area	EMU
European Union	EUU
Fragile and conflict affected situations	FCS
High income	HIC
Heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC)	HPC
IBRD only	IBD
IDA & IBRD total	IBT
IDA total	IDA
IDA blend	IDB
IDA only	IDX
Latin America & Caribbean (excluding high income)	LAC
Latin America & Caribbean	LCN
Least developed countries: UN classification	LDC
Low income	LIC
Lower middle income	LMC
Low & middle income	LMY
Late-demographic dividend	LTE
Middle East and North Africa	MEA
Middle income	MIC
Middle East & North Africa (excluding high income)	MNA
North America	NAC
OECD members	OED
Other small states	OSS
Pre-demographic dividend	PRE
Pacific island small states	PSS
Post-demographic dividend	PST
South Asia	SAS
Sub-Saharan Africa (excluding high income)	SSA
Sub-Saharan Africa	SSF
Small states	SST

East Asia & Pacific (IDA & IBRD)	TEA
Europe & Central Asia (IDA & IBRD)	TEC
Latin America & Caribbean (IDA & IBRD)	TLA
Middle East & North Africa (IDA & IBRD)	TMN
South Asia (IDA & IBRD)	TSA
Sub-Saharan Africa (IDA & IBRD)	TSS
Upper middle income	UMC
World	WLD

Access and use

License

Name	URL	Note
CC BY 4.0	https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/	This work is provided under a Creative Commons 4.0 Attribution International License, with the following mandatory and binding addition:i. Any and all disputes arising under this License that cannot be settled amicably shall be submitted to mediation in accordance with the WIPO Mediation Rules in effect at the time the work was published. If the request for mediation is not resolved within forty-five (45) days of the request, either You or the Licensor may, pursuant to a notice of arbitration communicated by reasonable means to the other party refer the dispute to final and binding arbitration to be conducted in accordance with UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules as then in force. The arbitral tribunal shall consist of a sole arbitrator and the language of the proceedings shall be English unless otherwise agreed. The place of arbitration shall be where the Licensor has its headquarters. The arbitral proceedings shall be conducted remotely (e.g., via telephone conference or written submissions) whenever practicable, or held at the World Bank headquarters in Washington DC.

Confidentiality status

PU

Sources and citation

Sources of data

Sources of data

Title

World Population Prospects: 2022 Revision

Author (Organization)

United Nations (UN)

Electronic location or identifier

<https://population.un.org/wpp/>

Sources of data

Title

Demographic Statistics

Author (Organization)

Eurostat (ESTAT)

Electronic location or identifier

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/>

Sources of data

Title

Census Reports and Statistical Publications

Author (Organization)

National Statistical Offices (NSOs)

Sources of data

Title

Population and Vital Statistics Report (various years)

Author (Organization)

UN Statistics Division (UNSD)

Sources of data

Title

International Database

Author (Organization)

United States Census Bureau

Sources of data

Title

Statistics and Demography Programme

Author (Organization)

Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)

Citation requirement

(1) United Nations Population Division. World Population Prospects: 2022 Revision, or derived from male and female life expectancy at birth from sources such as: (2) Census reports and other statistical publications from national statistical offices, (3) Eurostat: Demographic Statistics, (4) United Nations Statistical Division. Population and Vital Statistics Report (various years), (5) U.S. Census Bureau: International Database, and (6) Secretariat of the Pacific Community: Statistics and Demography Programme.

Additional Fields

Visualization

Remove chart types

Chart type
stackedBar
pie