



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE



**GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF  
THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SERVICE  
OF GREECE**

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## ***P R E S S   R E L E A S E***

### **HEALTHY LIFE YEARS**

The General Secretariat of National Service of Greece announces the indicator concerning to Healthy Life Years (also called Disability-free Life Expectancy), which is based on the data of the sampling survey on Income and Living Conditions in households (EU-SILC) 2005-2006. The survey has been conducted in a final sample of approximately 6000 households. Target group is persons aged 16+. The indicator was calculated in cooperation with the European Observatory for the European Health Expectancy Monitoring Unit – EHEMU and it is compared, directly, with the indicator of Life Expectancy Years, that reflects the standard of population's mortality.

#### **A. Data source**

Data source was the survey on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC), conducted in 2005-2006.

Basic aim of the survey is the study, both at national and European level, of living conditions in households mainly in relation to their income. This survey is the key reference source of comparative statistics on income distribution and social exclusion at European level. The comparability of data is obtained by using commonly accepted questionnaires and primary target variables.

Furthermore, through the survey, information is collected that is related to health status, to the existence of chronic morbidity and to the limitation of daily activities due to health problems.

## B. Definition of Indicators

The indicator of **Healthy Life Years** measures the number of the remaining years, people of specific age, are expected to live, on average, without health problems, while the indicator of **Life expectancy** measures the number years, that people of specific age, are expected to live, on average, regardless the condition of their health.

## C. Measurement methodology of the indicator “Healthy Life Years”

The indicator is calculated using the Sullivan method (1971), also used for constructing survival tables. The indicator is calculated as a percentage of the population of a certain age who had either (a) limitation of usual activities <sup>(1)</sup> or (b) chronic morbidity <sup>(2)</sup> or (c) health problems <sup>(3)</sup> compared with the population of the same age without these problems, also taking into account mortality data.

Data used come from the Minimum European Health Module, inserted in the EU-SILC in 2005 and 2006.

## D. Comments for the indicator

The interest of this indicator lies on its simplicity, the availability of its basic data and its being independent of the size and age structure of population. Moreover, one of its main advantages is, that it is easily understood by the general population.

For the calculation of the indicator, people living in collective dwellings are not included. The comparability among countries might be affected due to the variation of the definition of chronic morbidity among the countries.

Finally, it should be noted, that yet there is no formally structured indicator of health expectancy. The European Commission is obliged to introduce in the subsequent reports, which will be issued in spring (Spring Report), health indicators, as agreed at the meeting of Heads of European Union in Lisbon, whereas the effects of good health population on production, consumption and work consist a prerequisite for the economic prosperity.

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<sup>(1)</sup> **Activity limitation**, during the last 6 months, due to a chronic morbidity, physical or mental, of those activities that people usually do or even existence of difficulties in their implementation. The period of 6 months, is not mentioned in the health problem but the time in which, possibly, the activities were limited.

<sup>(2)</sup> **Chronic morbidity** or **chronic diseases**, that last or will last longer than 6 months. Birth defects and any chronic morbidity whether diagnosed by a doctor or not, are included.

<sup>(3)</sup> **Good perceived health** has a person aged 16 and over, when it is declared that he/she has very good perceived health or good perceived health, without chronic morbidity and without any daily activity limitation.

**Bad perceived health** has a person aged 16 and over, when it is declared that he/she has very bad perceived health or bad perceived health, chronic morbidity or daily activity limitation.

**Fair perceived health** has a person aged 16 and over, when he/she is not included in the above categories.

## E. Results

**Table 1. Life expectancy and Healthy Life Years at age 65 based on EU-SILC 2005 and 2006 data**

	Female		Male	
	2005	2006	2005	2006
	<i>Years</i>			
Life expectancy at age 65 (A)	19,2	19,4	17,1	17,5
Health expectancy at age 65 (B)	9,9	10,2	9,5	10,1
% (B)/(A)	52	53	55	58

- The indicator of health expectancy years, at age 65 years by life expectancy years, has increased by 0.3 years (3.6 months) for women and by 0.6 years (7.2 months) for men during the period 2005 - 2006.
- For women, health expectancy at age 65, varies, in the period 2005 - 2006, between 9.9 and 10.2 years, while life expectancy, at the same age, ranges between 19.2 and 19.4 years.
- For men, health expectancy at age 65, varies, in the period 2005 – 2006, between 9.5 and 10.1 years, while life expectancy at the same age, ranges between 17.1 and 17.5 years.
- For women, life expectancy, at age 65 increased by 0.2 years (2.4 months), while health expectancy at age 65 years increased by 0.3 years ( 3.6 months) during the same period.
- For men, life expectancy, at age 65 increased by 0.4 years (4.8 months), while health expectancy at age 65 years increased by 0.6 years (7.2 months) during the same period.

**Table 2. Life expectancy and Health Life Years at age 65 based on EU-SILC 1996 and 2006**

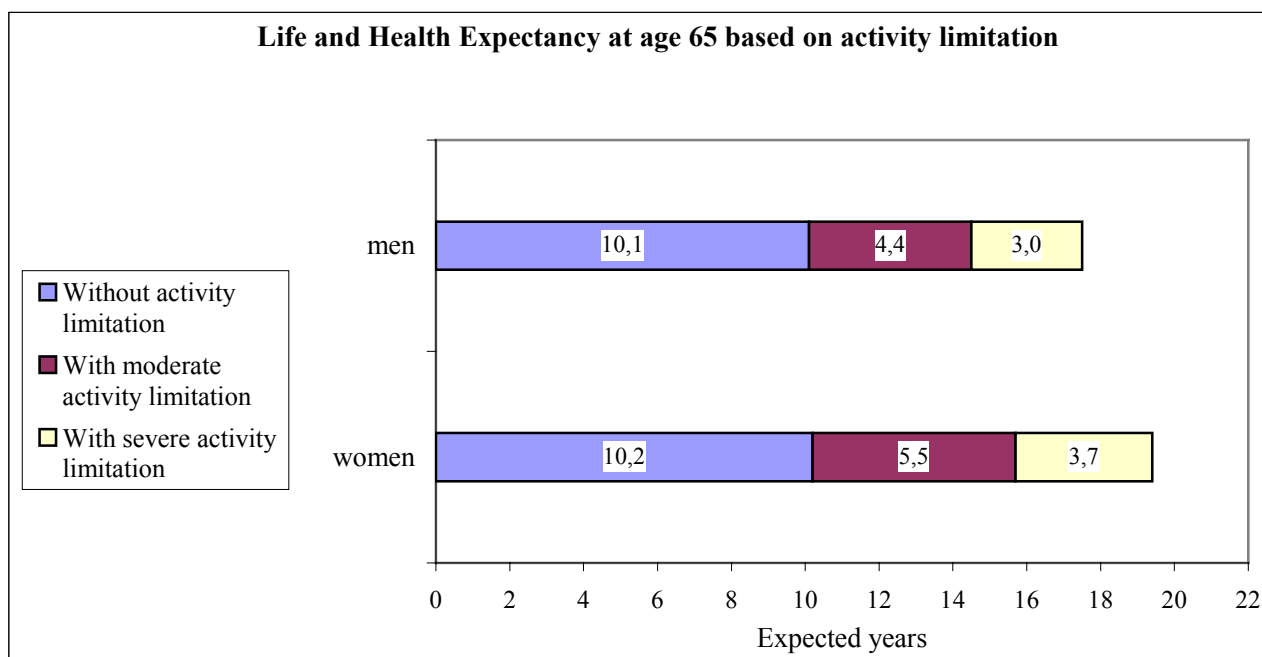
	Female		Male	
	1996	2006	1996	2006
	<i>Years</i>			
Life expectancy at age 65 (A)	18,3	19,4	16,0	17,5
Health expectancy at age 65 (B)	11,3	10,2	10,1	10,1
% (B)/(A)	62	53	64	58

Comparing the life expectancy and health expectancy years among the years 1996 and 2006, at age 65, according to the ordinary activity limitation we notice that:

- For women, when life expectancy increases, health expectancy increases.
- For men, while life expectancy increases, health expectancy remains stable.

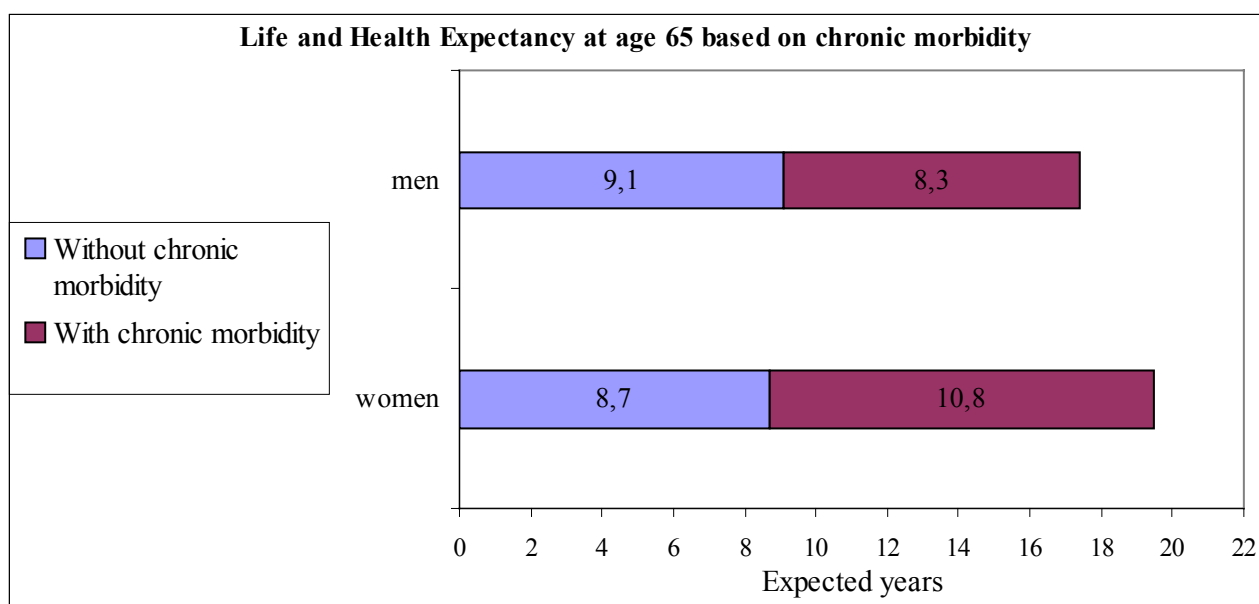
## Health Expectancy (EU-SILC 2006)

### ➤ Distribution based on activity limitation



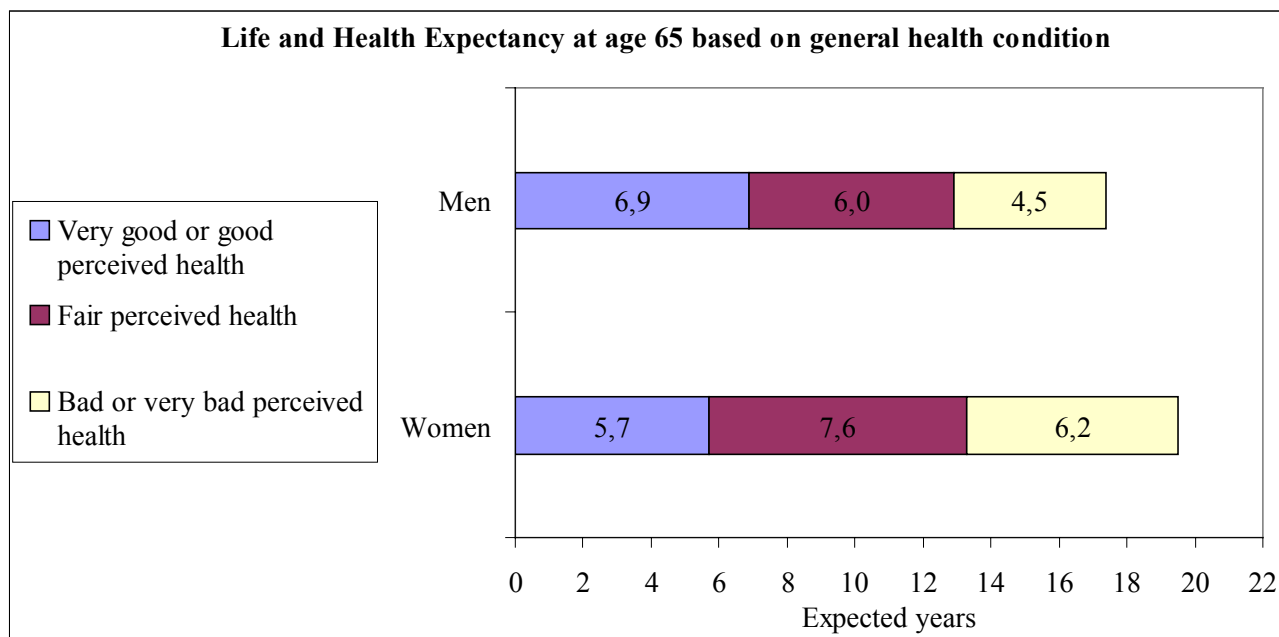
- Life and health expectancy without any ordinary activity limitation at age 65 is estimated at additional 10.2 years for women or 53% of the rest of their life and additional 10.1 years for men or 58% of the rest of their life.
- Life and health expectancy with moderate activity limitation at age 65 is estimated at additional 5.5 years for women or 28% of the rest of their life and, additional, 4.4 years for men or 25% of the rest of their life.
- Life and health expectancy with severe activity limitation at age 65 years is estimated at additional 3.7 years for women or 19% of the rest of their life and additional 3 years for men or 17% of the rest of their life.

➤ **Distribution based on the existence or not of chronic morbidity**



- Health expectancy without any chronic morbidity at age 65 is estimated at additional 8.7 years for women and at additional 9.1 years for men.
- Health expectancy with chronic morbidity at age 65 is estimated at additional 10.8 years for women and additional 8.3 years for men.

➤ **Distribution based on general health condition**



- Health expectancy in good or very good perceived health for people at age 65 and over is estimated at additional 5.7 years for women and additional 6.9 years for men.
- Health expectancy in fair perceived health for people at age 65 and over is estimated at additional 7.6 years for women and additional 6 years for men.
- Health expectancy in bad or very bad perceived health for people at age 65 and over is estimated at additional 6.2 years for women and additional 4.5 years for men.

## Annex

**Table 1. Health expectancy based on activity limitation by age**

Age	Female			Male		
	Without activity limitation	Activity limitation		Without activity limitation	Activity limitation	
		Moderate	Severe		Moderate	Severe

### EU-SILC 2005

0	67.20	9.39	5.03	65.66	7.02	4.13
15	52.88	9.22	5.00	51.24	6.94	4.12
20	48.13	9.08	4.97	46.5	6.88	4.11
25	43.25	9.04	4.97	41.92	6.78	4.11
30	38.59	8.85	4.92	37.35	6.64	4.11
35	34.04	8.62	4.8	32.79	6.51	4.02
40	29.53	8.30	4.76	28.36	6.27	3.98
45	25.09	8.01	4.69	23.98	6.09	3.88
50	20.81	7.67	4.54	19.78	5.83	3.82
55	16.83	7.28	4.25	15.92	5.52	3.67
60	13.28	6.63	3.86	12.38	5.21	3.44
65	9.94	5.77	3.54	9.50	4.59	3.04
70	7.10	4.71	3.07	6.90	3.88	2.74
75	4.76	3.58	2.50	4.61	3.25	2.39
80	2.96	2.34	2.05	3.07	2.42	2.03
85	1.65	1.35	1.47	1.81	1.73	1.68

### EU-SILC 2006

0	67.86	9.00	5.06	66.29	6.87	4.05
15	53.48	8.84	5.03	51.85	6.77	4.03
20	48.72	8.71	4.99	47.12	6.69	4.01
25	43.86	8.65	4.98	42.56	6.61	3.96
30	39.11	8.48	4.97	38.13	6.34	3.93
35	34.35	8.37	4.92	33.55	6.26	3.84
40	29.77	8.15	4.83	29.09	6.06	3.79
45	25.39	7.82	4.70	24.62	5.91	3.76
50	21.17	7.44	4.56	20.50	5.67	3.60
55	17.26	7.00	4.25	16.72	5.33	3.43
60	13.61	6.34	3.98	13.20	4.93	3.23
65	10.20	5.51	3.73	10.13	4.37	2.95
70	7.40	4.40	3.30	7.30	3.84	2.67
75	4.88	3.47	2.67	5.17	2.99	2.40
80	3.04	2.30	2.12	3.78	1.94	2.01
85	1.75	1.55	1.25	2.27	1.48	1.71

**Table 2. Health Expectancy based on the existence or not of chronic morbidity by age**

Age	Female		Male	
	Without chronic morbidity	With chronic morbidity	Without chronic morbidity	With chronic morbidity
<b>EU-SILC 2005</b>				
16	50.33	15.78	48.74	12.59
20	46.49	15.68	44.97	12.52
25	41.64	15.62	40.40	12.4
30	36.88	15.48	35.83	12.26
35	32.29	15.17	31.31	12.02
40	27.64	14.95	26.89	11.72
45	23.31	14.47	22.51	11.44
50	19.14	13.89	18.48	10.95
55	15.36	13.00	14.76	10.36
60	11.90	11.87	11.47	9.56
65	8.78	10.47	8.63	8.50
70	6.27	8.62	6.09	7.43
75	4.18	6.67	4.19	6.06
80	2.52	4.84	2.87	4.64
85	1.60	2.87	2.14	3.07

<b>EU-SILC 2006</b>				
16	50.07	16.28	49.20	12.47
20	46.20	16.22	45.39	12.43
25	41.41	16.07	40.8	12.33
30	36.72	15.84	36.35	12.05
35	32.07	15.57	31.84	11.81
40	27.44	15.31	27.39	11.55
45	23.12	14.80	23.01	11.28
50	18.97	14.19	18.98	10.80
55	15.25	13.26	15.26	10.21
60	11.80	12.12	12.05	9.31
65	8.67	10.77	9.13	8.33
70	5.97	9.12	6.50	7.32
75	4.02	7.00	4.63	5.93
80	2.48	4.99	3.28	4.45
85	1.33	3.21	2.23	3.24



**Table 3. Health expectancy based on perceived health by age**

Age	Female			Male		
	Very good or good perceived health	Fair perceived health	Bad or very bad perceived health	Very good or good perceived health	Fair perceived health	Bad or very bad perceived health

**EU-SILC 2005**

16	47.39	11.46	7.27	47.70	7.61	6.02
20	43.50	11.40	7.26	43.86	7.62	6.01
25	38.60	11.39	7.27	39.18	7.62	6.01
30	33.79	11.30	7.26	34.58	7.56	5.95
35	29.16	11.07	7.23	29.98	7.47	5.87
40	24.53	10.89	7.17	25.49	7.36	5.76
45	20.08	10.61	7.09	21.00	7.28	5.67
50	15.91	10.17	6.95	16.77	7.00	5.66
55	12.15	9.51	6.70	12.94	6.73	5.44
60	8.96	8.62	6.18	9.69	6.18	5.17
65	6.17	7.32	5.76	6.84	5.63	4.67
70	4.02	5.90	4.96	4.52	4.73	4.27
75	2.54	4.19	4.12	2.79	3.75	3.71
80	1.56	2.70	3.10	1.76	2.60	3.15
85	0.74	1.54	2.19	1.16	1.84	2.22

**EU-SILC 2006**

16	46.97	11.45	7.93	47.36	8.40	5.91
20	43.10	11.41	7.91	43.52	8.40	5.90
25	38.18	11.42	7.89	38.93	8.30	5.91
30	33.36	11.33	7.87	34.42	8.19	5.79
35	28.61	11.19	7.83	29.81	8.16	5.67
40	23.99	11.04	7.73	25.34	8.03	5.57
45	19.62	10.73	7.57	20.9	7.89	5.50
50	15.50	10.28	7.39	16.76	7.56	5.45
55	11.77	9.65	7.09	12.97	7.22	5.28
60	8.56	8.74	6.62	9.77	6.74	4.85
65	5.67	7.61	6.17	6.92	6.00	4.54
70	3.58	6.12	5.40	4.58	5.04	4.20
75	2.19	4.43	4.40	2.82	3.96	3.78
80	1.22	2.81	3.44	1.43	3.19	3.12
85	0.63	1.90	2.02	0.74	2.08	2.64

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