



## ON LIFE EXPECTANCY OF MEN AND WOMEN

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**SUMMARY** Demographic interpretation is provided to the data about the dynamics of life expectancy at birth of males and females in Bulgaria registered in various historical period. In addition to this variations of the same indicator in different countries of the world are studied. This indicator is used as an integral measure for the level of mortality. The life-table data base of Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research is used. The research is concentrated on the causes for differential mortality by sex. Conclusions are drawn upon two empirically observed groups of populations (the countries of Eastern and Western Europe) with respect to the overall level of mortality (in the total population), and to difference of life expectancy by sex. Suggestions are made about the existence of two main groups of determinants for the differences by sex: 1) determinants of economic activity and employment; 2) determinants in the sphere of family.

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