

## Has human life span reached its limit?

Human life expectancy has steadily increased since the nineteenth century. Reports of supercentenarians...have prompted some to suggest that there is no upper limit on human lifespan. Others say that the steady increase in life expectancy and maximum human lifespan seen during the last century will eventually stop.

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[In a global demographic study, Jan Vijg, a geneticist at Albert Einstein College of Medicine] concludes that there is a natural limit to human lifespan of about 115 years old. There will still be occasional outliers[,]...but he calculates that the probability of a person exceeding 125 in any given year is less than 1 in 10,000.

The limit is surprising, says Vijg, given that the world's population is increasing...and that nutrition and general health have improved.

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But not everyone agrees with his team's interpretation. The age experiencing the greatest increase in survival may have plateaued in many countries, says [James Vaupel](#), founding director of the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research in Rostock, Germany. But it has not yet plateaued in...[Japan] nor in France or Italy, which have large populations and high life expectancies.

**The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion, and analysis. Read full, original post: [Human age limit claim sparks debate](#)**