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FIRST GEOGERONTOLOGICAL RESEARCH

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ABSTRACT

The main focus of the paper is geogerontology, that is, the geographical aspects that are part of the multidisciplinary nature of gerontology. Geogerontology is a subdiscipline of medical geography.

In the research, we seek to answer which people had the longest lifespan and from which geographical area they originated. The manuscript represents the oldest people over 100 years old.

We present facts about the beginning and establishment of state civil registry offices, keeping civil registers (births, marriages and deaths) and vital statistics (structure and processing of population data on multiple bases). The main goal of the paper is the presentation of the oldest people over 100 years old. In several tables, we present data on elderly people over 100 and over 110 years old by continent, country, and data on centenarians in the R.N. Macedonia.

This manuscript is a first introductory research. For a larger research, only for Macedonia, it is necessary to use data from the state archives, from the registry offices of the Ministry of Interior and data from the registry books of religious communities.

Keywords: medical geography, geogerontology, centenarians, civil registry, world, Macedonia

INTRODUCTION

Gerontology - the science of aging and longevity (from the Greek word, geron - "old man" and logic - science). That is, gerontology is the science of the sociological, psychological, cognitive and biological aspects of aging.

The multidisciplinary nature of gerontology includes a large number of subfields,

so in addition to gerontologists, researchers and practitioners from the fields of biology, medicine, criminology, social work, psychology, psychiatry, sociology, economics, political science, architecture, geography, pharmacy, public health, and anthropology are involved in the research. (Hooyman, N.R.; Kiyak, H.A., 2011).

Geogerontology is a subdiscipline of medical geography. Medical geography or health geography is an interdisciplinary science that studies the relationships between human health, the occurrence of diseases, and the geographic environment.

That is, it deals with the broader study of the natural and social conditions of a specific geographical territory, which affect human health, the occurrence of certain diseases, epidemics, etc.

Key aspects of the subject of study are the geographical distribution of diseases, the impact of the environment on health, and access to health services. While the subject of research of geogerontology encompasses the study of the elderly only, namely:

- numerical movement and geographical distribution of the elderly (by continents, countries, regions and settlements);
- natural and geographical conditions (positive and negative impact of relief, climate, hydrography and biogeography on the lives of the elderly); and
- socio-economic and social characteristics (of the elderly by gender, education, nationality, religiosity, activity, occupation, lifestyle, social conditions, access to nursing homes, etc.).

The earliest registration of births, marriages and burials was established in parish churches as early as the 16th century, for example in England in 1538, in France in 1539, Sweden 1608-1631, etc. A large part of these church books do not register the entire population on the territory of the mentioned countries, but only the part over which the church parishes have jurisdiction. This means that they are incomplete and do not have continuity in recording the population.

The first vital statistics registers (births, marriages and deaths) date back to the beginning of the 19th century. Namely, the first establishment of civil registry offices to maintain a register of civil registry books for all citizens regulated by the Law on the Registration of Births and Deaths was introduced: in France in 1804, Romania in 1806-1812, the Netherlands in 1811, England and Wales in 1836/37, Hong Kong in 1841, in Scotland from 1855, for the whole of Australia in 1860, Ireland in 1864, Sri Lanka in 1864, Canada from 1867, Spain in 1871, Germany in 1876, India in 1886, etc. (Dimitrov, V, N., 2013; https://parishregister.co.uk/)

In the Republic of Macedonia, civil registry books were introduced by the Law on Civil Registry Books of 09. May 1946. Civil registry books for births, marriages and deaths are kept first in the civil registry offices at the municipal level, and then in the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Special forms for vital events, which are filled out by civil registry officers, are obliged to submit them to the statistical services, which process them and publish them in the aforementioned books.

Previously, the service for statistics of vital statistics was based on church protocols for births, deaths and marriages. However, in our country there are also such older books, so the group of the oldest church protocols for births, deaths and marriages in the territory of Macedonia are those from the beginning of the 19th century. A large part of these books are deposited in the state archive of the R. N. Macedonia. (Dimitrov, V. N., 2013)

The dramatic increase in the elderly population in post-industrial Western countries has led gerontology to become one of the fastest growing fields of science. Significant progress has been made in increasing average life expectancy.

Accordingly, it is predicted that by 2050, about 25% of the world's population will be people over 65 years of age, and that the number of people aged 85 and over will increase from 5.3 million to 21 million. The fastest increase will occur in the age group 90 to 94 years, which will increase from 26.4% in 2010 to over 30% in 2050. It is also predicted that the majority of children born after 2000 will live to an average age of 100. (SSO, 2023) There is no doubt that with the rapid growth of the aging population, social work education and training specialized in older adults and practitioners interested in working with older adults will be in greater demand.

Today, but also in the future, the elderly population will be geographically most represented in all European countries, followed by Japan, the USA, Canada, China, India, Australia, Russia, etc.

In 2030 in the R. N. Macedonia, life expectancy at birth, by gender, for men will be 76.5 years and for women 81.2 years, in 2050 the average age of men will be 81.0 years and for women 86.0 years, and in 2070 the average age of men will be 84.3 years and for women 88.3 years. By 2050, in the R. N. Macedonia, an elderly population will be present in all settlements, and the largest number will be in cities. The state will need to build nursing homes in all urban settlements. In 2050, in the R. N. Macedonia, the elderly population over 65 years of age will account for over 30%. (SSO, 2023)

It is certain that in the coming decades the number of elderly people (over 65 years old) will increase significantly, and in 2050 there will be over 3 billion people in the world (or 30% of the total number of over 10 billion people), of which several hundred million will be over 80 years old and several million people over 100 years old.

OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

This manuscript is the first research of this type and scope. We emphasize that the research on this question is extensive and cannot be realized through a single paper. In the research, we strive to answer which people had the longest life expectancy in the world and in Macedonia, and from which geographical area they originate.

In the research, we use the method of analysis and synthesis. We mostly use secondary data sources: literature, data from internet addresses, and statistical data.

We also partially use primary data on centenarians from the R. N. Macedonia, namely: birth and death certificates. To fully complete primary data on centenarians, significant work is required, which requires a lot of time, a greater volume of work and quality.

MAIN PART

In the research, we seek answers to several questions related to the duration of human life in years: - Who lived the longest in the world and in Macedonia?, then - Who is the oldest person alive today in the world and in Macedonia?, etc. The answers to some of the questions are in the tables and the short text. However, there remain open questions for which we do not have answers.

- How many years does a person live?
- Which person lived the longest?
- Which is the oldes person alive nowadays?

In search of an answer to this question, we start from the oldest book, the Bible. From the Holy Scriptures - the Bible, we extract data on 25 names of people who lived for many centuries. We will not go into detailed analyses, but one thing is certain: the maximum human lifespan gradually decreased from almost 1,000 to 110 years. (Table 1.)

Table 1. People in the Bible who lived over 100 years

Name	Years	Lived from - to BC	Name	Years	Lived from - to BC
Methuselah	969	/	Arpachshad	438	2094-1656
Jared	962	/	Saleh	433	2124-1691
Noah	950	/	Enoch	365	/
Adam	930	/	Peleg	239	2249-2010
Seth	912	/	Abraham	175	1996-1821
Kenan	910	/	Job	140	/
Enos	905	/	Avram	137	/
Mahalalel	895	/	Judai	130	/
Cain	860	/	Saara	127	/
Seth	800	/	Aron	123	1574-1451
Lamech	777	/	Moses	120	1571-1451
Shem	600	/	Josif I	110	1745-1635
Eber	463	2283-1819	/	/	/

Source: Holy Scripture - Bible, 2017; Dictionary of the Holy Scriptures (Bible dictionary), 2011; Dimitrov, V. N., 2025; https://record.adventistchurch.com/2022/06/29/the-ten-oldest-people-in-the-bible/

Many of the data presented in tables 2 and 3, especially regarding the length of life, are controversial, especially for people from the more distant past. The tables list "super-long-lived" people who lived for two or more centuries. There are no reliable

documents about the accuracy of the data and they are all unsubstantiated claims based on rumors and legends.

Data for certain areas are scientific hoaxes, some are forgeries, some are exclusively propaganda in nature, some are created for political purposes, some are in search of a sensation for the popularity of a certain geographical area, some data is based on inaccurate entries in church books, etc.

However, the dilemma about the reliability of the data remains, because we do not have the opportunity to research and analyze whether these are mysteries created by nature or scientific and other forgeries. In Tables 2 and 3 we provide an overview of the oldest men and women. Namely, men up to 115 years old (a Macedonian, who died in 2010) and for women up to 117 years old (the list is shortened because we need to add another 70 oldest women up to 115 years old, and there is no woman from Macedonia. The oldest Macedonian woman lived to be 113 years old. See Table 6.)

Table 2. Overview of the oldest men

Rank	Name	Birth	Death	Age	Place of death or residence
1	Ignacy Lewski	1231	1913	682	Poland
2	Aldulaziz bin mutaib Al Rashid	1186	1876	673	Egypt
3	Colestian Veglin	1261	1876	615	United States
4	Lp Suwang	1551	1995	444	Cambodia
5	Li Ching Yuen	1677	1933	256	China
6	Devraha Baba	1740	1990	250	India
7	Tomas Karnej[1]	1588	1795	207	England
8	Tapaswiji Maharaj	1770	1955	185	India
9	Peter Karsten[1]	1539	1724	185	Hungary
10	Mahashta Murasi Hoax	1835	2014	179	India
11	Ivan Rovin[1]	1553	1725	172	Hungary
12	James Olofintuyi	1844	2014	170	Nigeria
13	Javier Pereira	1789	1958	169	Columbia
14	Henri Dzenkins[1]	1500	1670	169	England
15	Shirali-baba Muslimov[2]	1805	1973	168	Azerbaijan
16	Chesten Marchant	1512	1676	164	Great Britain
17	Dhagobo Ebba	1853	2015	162	Ethiopia
18	Jozef Surington[1]	1637	1797	160	Norway
19	Jegor Korejev[1]	1802	1957	155	Russia
20	Mohanned bin Zarei	1859	2013	154	Saudi Arabia
21	Mohammed bin Masoud	1861	2014	153	Oman
22	Tom Parr[2]	1483	1635	152	Great Britain
23	Mahmud Eyuvazov[2]	1808	1960	152	Azerbaijan
24	Gabriel Umer Enemon	1864	2015	151	Nigeria
25	Andrej Adroshenko[1]	1777	1927	150	Russia
26	Ilija Titov[1]	1800	1949	149	Russia
27	Saparman Sodimejo	1870	2017	147	Indonesia

28	Mbah Gotho	1870	2016	146	Indonesia
29	Drakenberg[1]	1626	1772	146	Netherlands
30	Vailije Tiskin[1]	1806	1951	145	Russia
31	Dzonatan Esinden[1]	1613	1757	144	England
32	Shapkovski[1]	1787	1932	144	Abkhazia Georgia
33	Omar Abas	1857	2001	144	Malaysia
34	Majid Agayev[1]	1835	1978	143	Azerbaijan
35	Feroz-ud-Din Mir	1872	2014	142	Pakistan
36	Khfaf Lazuria[1]	1835	1975	140	Azerbaijan
37	Habib Miyan	1869	2008	139	India
38	Georg Vunder[1]	1626	1761	136	Germany
39	Alimihan Seyiti	1886	2021	135	China
40	Moloko Temo	1874	2009	135	South Africa
41	Robert Tejlor[1]	1764	1898	134	England
42	Jose Coelhode Souza	1884	2017	133	Brazil
43	Dzon Sel[1]	1788	1919	131	United States
44	Trajko Smiljevic[1]	1804	1935	131	Serbia*
45	Marcijan Balarevic[1]	1796	1926	130	Russia
46	Masumex Sanei Torogi	1899	2024	125	Iran
47	Save trom the Savevci family[3]	1578	1697	119	Macedonia
48	Mitre trom the Savevci family[3]	1572	1689	117	Macedonia
49	Mitre Bozinovski[4]	1865	1981	116	Macedonia
50	Jiroemon Kimura	1897	2013	116	Japan
51	Christian Mortensen	1882	1998	116	United States
52	Emiliano Mercado del Toro	1891	2007	116	Puerto Rico
53	Juan Vicente Pérez	1909	2024	115	Venezuela
54	Walter Breuning	1896	2011	115	United States
55	Sadush Memedovski[5]	1895	2010	115	Macedonia

Source: https://gerontology.fandom.com/wiki/List_of_the_verified_oldest_people ;
[1]Stefanovik, S. & Kocijanic, M., 1986; *The longest-lived Yugoslav, according to the same source, was Trajko Smiljević (1804-1935), who died at the age of 131. It is only stated that he lived in Serbia, but there is no information in which place. (p.24) [2]Leontieva, P. L., 1983; [3] Damevski, B., 1998; [4]Lazarevski, G., 2014; [5]Tanevski, B., 2010; Dimitrov, V. N., 2025.

Table 3. Overview of the oldest women

Rank	Name	Birth	Death	Age	Place of death or residence
1	Mama Esifiho	1824	2018	194	Nigeria
2	Fatma Hanum	1764	1928	164	Turkey
3	Maria Priu	1680	1838	158	France
4	Ali Al - Alakim	1871	2018	147	Saudi Arabia
5	Eulalija Peres	1738	1878	140	Spain
6	Halime Hatun	1874	2012	138	Turkey
7	Margaret Patte	1602	1739	137	Great Britain
8	Tuti Yusupova	1880	2015	135	Uzbekistan
9	Alimihan Seyiti	1886	2021	135	China

10	Antisa Khvichava	1880	2012	132	Georgia
11	Sarht Rashidova	1875	2007	132	Azerbaijan
12	Sahan Dosova	1875	2007	132	Kazakhstan
13	Maria Oliva de Silva	1880	2010	130	Brazil
14	Koku Istanbulova	1889	2019	129	Russia
15	Cruz Hernandez	1878	2007	128	El Salvador
16	Jeanne Calment	1875	1997	122	France
17	Kane Tanaka	1903	2022	119	Japan
18	Sarah Knauss	1880	1999	119	United States
19	Lucile Randon	1904	2023	118	France
20	Sister Andrea	1905	2023	118	France
21	Nabi Tajima	1900	2018	118	Japan
22	Marie Louise Meilleur	1880	1998	117	Canada
23	Violet Brown	1900	2017	117	Jamaica
24	Maria Branyas Morera	1907	2024	117	Spain
25	Emma Morano	1899	2017	117	Italy
26	Chiyo Miyako	1901	2018	117	Japan
27	Delphia Welford	1875	1992	117	United States
28	Misao Okawa	1898	2015	117	Japan

Source: https://gerontology.fandom.com/wiki/List of the verified oldest_people ; Dimitrov, V., N., 2025

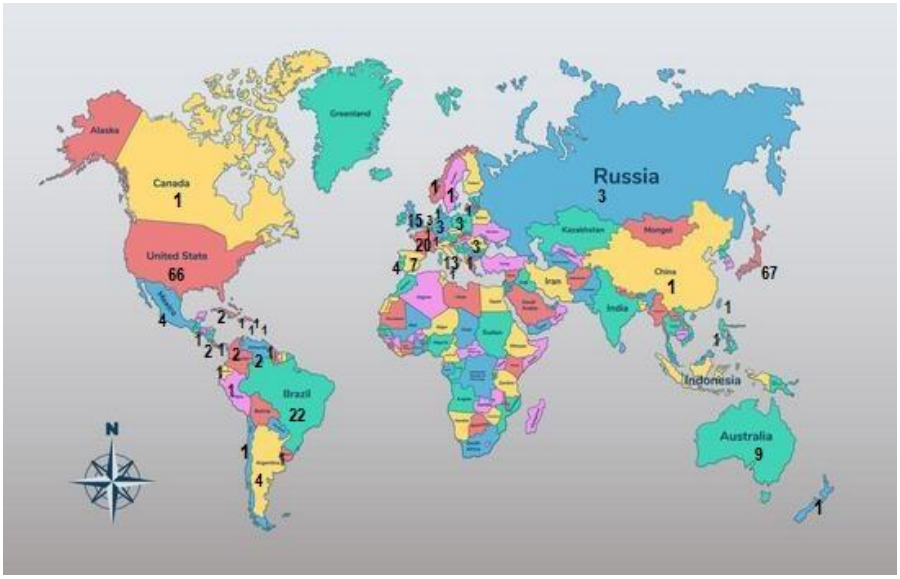
Since the beginning of the 20th century, many countries around the world have begun to regularly keep civil registers. Thus, today we have a large list of living and deceased centenarians in many countries around the world.

As of February 8, 2026, there were 278 living people over 110 years old registered in the world. Of these, the number of centenarian women was 244 (87.8%) and the number of men was 34 (12.2%). Looking at the continents, the most centenarians over 110 years old are in America, 116 people (41.7%), in Europe 82 (29.5%), in Asia 70 (25.2%), and in Australia and Oceania 10 people (3.6%), while in Africa there is no registered old person over 110 years old.
https://gerontology.fandom.com/wiki/Oldest living_people

The elderly over 110 years old are distributed in 44 countries: Japan (67 people), United States (66), Brazil (22), France (20), United Kingdom (15), Italy (13), Australia (9), Spain (7), Mexico (4), Argentina (4), Portugal (4), Romania (3), Netherlands (3), Poland (3), Germany (3), Russia (3), Costa Rica (2), Cuba (2), Colombia (2), Venezuela (2), Chile (1), New Zealand (1), Denmark (1), Ecuador (1), Paraguay (1), Saint Lucia (1), Norway, (1), Guyana (1), Dominican Republic (1), Canada (1), Switzerland (1), El Salvador (1), Trinidad and Tobago (1), Jamaica (1), Panama (1), Greece (1), Belgium (1), Peru (1), Sweden (1), China (1), Taiwan (1), Philippines (1), Malta (1) and Lithuania (1 person). (See: Map 1)

Spatially, the largest concentration of centenarians is in Japan (in addition to geriatric homes, centenarians are also found in traditional families on the islands of Okinawa and Hokkaido), in the United States (the largest proportion of centenarians are found in geriatric homes), followed by centenarians in Brazil, France, the United Kingdom, Italy, etc. (Map 1)

The longevity of people is the result of advanced medicine, a healthy lifestyle, a clean environment and other positive environmental factors. In addition to the above countries, there are other countries in the world with a significant concentration of the elderly population of 100 and over 100 years old, spread across rural and urban areas. Many of the centenarians live in traditional families in mountainous and other clean regions (example: the Caucasus Mountains), Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, then in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey, India, Nepal, etc.



Map 1. Geographic distribution of people over 110 years old, by country (as of 08.02.2026)

Of the total number of 278 living people, only 50 people (about 18%) were over the age of 112. The geographical distribution by continent was as follows: 21 people in America, 18 people in Asia, 10 people in Europe and 1 person in Australia. Looking at the countries, people over 112 years old were distributed in the following 13 countries: Japan (18 people), USA (11), Brazil (6), France (3), United Kingdom (2), Italy (2), Argentina (2), Romania (1), Portugal 1, Spain 1, Mexico 1, Chile 1 and Australia 1 person. https://gerontology.fandom.com/wiki/Oldest_living_people
Table 4 lists the oldest living people, women and men.

Table 4. Overview of the oldest living people in the world, women and men

Oldest living female				
Rank	**Name**	**Birth**	**Age as of 7 Feb 2026**	**Country**
1.	Erhel Caterhan	21 Aug 1909	116 years,170 days	UK
2.	Maria - Rose Tessier	21 May 1910	115 years,262 days	France
3.	Naomi Whitehead	26 Sept 1910	115 years,134 days	USA
4.	Lucia Laura Sangento	22 Nov 1910	115 years, 77 days	Italy
5.	Yolanda Belitrao de Azevedo	13 Jan 1911	115 years, 25 days	Brazil
6.	Shigako Kadawa	28 May 1911	114 years,255 days	Japan
7.	Beatriz Ferreira Duarte	21 June 1911	114 years,231 days	Brazil
8.	Bonita Gibson	4 July 1911	114 years,218 days	USA
9.	Raynunda Luzia da Conceicao	1 Aug 1911	114 years,190 days	Brazil
10.	Fuyo Kishimato	20 Dec 1911	114 years, 49 days	Japan
Oldest living men				
Rank	**Name**	**Birth**	**Age as of 7 Feb 2026**	**Country**
1.	Joao Marinho Neto	5 Oct 1912	113 years,125 days	Brazil
2.	Ilie Ciocan	10 June 1913	112 years,242 days	Romania
3.	Ken Weeks	5 Oct 1913	112 years,125 days	Australia

Source: https://gerontology.fandom.com/wiki/Oldest_living_people ; Edited by the author

In the following text, we will provide an answer to the oldest Macedonian centenarians that we discovered through this research. However, we emphasize that there are open questions that will require additional research.

- Who was the first Macedonian?
- Who Macedonian lived the longest?
- Who is the oldest person alive today in the R. N. Macedonia?

If we refer to history for the appearance of the ancient Macedonians, then most likely the first Macedonian was Macedon!?[1]

If the country ruled by Macedon was called Macedonia (and that was at least 4000 years ago), the then inhabitants who lived and today's inhabitants who live on the territory of Macedonia, regardless of name, surname, religion, nation, etc., are

[1] Macedon is a mythical eponymous hero of Macedonia and the Macedonians. He is first mentioned by Hesiod, and there are several versions of his mythological origin. In various contradictory sources, he is listed as the son of Zeus and Theia (daughter of Deucalion) and brother of Magnete, then as one of the ten sons of Aeolus, then the son of Helen and brother of Dor, then the son of Ajax and one of the fifty sons of the Arcadian or king of Emathia, Lycaon. There is another version that he was the son of the Egyptian god Osiris, who, leaving the rule of Isis to her, set out to conquer the world together with his sons Macedon and Anubis. When he arrived in Thrace, Osiris killed King Lycurgus, and Macedon proclaimed him king and left him to rule here in the land that was named Macedonia after him. Macedon's sons became eponyms for several regions, cities, mountains, and rivers in Macedonia. (Macedonian Encyclopedia, vol. 2, 2009; Proeva, N., 1997; Proeva, N., 2004.)

Macedonians. Everyone can call themselves Macedonians and the Macedonian people whenever and wherever they want without anyone arguing or forbidding them.

– Which Macedonian lived the longest?

Total of 1,767 settlements have been registered in the Republic of Macedonia, the assumption is that for a period of 200 years (1825-2025) if there were at least 1 to 5 centenarians in each settlement, and then the total number of centenarians ranged from a minimum of 1,767 to a maximum of 8,835 people. To confirm this, serious research is needed in the Death Registers located in the State Archives of the Republic of Macedonia and in the departments in Skopje, Kumanovo, Tetovo, Ohrid, Veles, Shtip, Prilep, Bitola and Strumica, as well as research in other professional services, institutions, using literature, etc.

The oldest civil registry books are the church ones that are in the archives and date from 1804 onwards. In some civil registry books we notice that the dates of birth, marriage and death of a certain number of people are registered with a delay of several years (especially in the period from 1912 to 1918, the Balkan Wars and the First World War). Thus, for many people, only the year is recorded without a date of birth, marriage or death, and other data is missing. We also note other cases, especially among adopted children, where only the year of birth is entered and nothing more. We also register so-called "phantom persons", born persons whose years are later entered in the civil registry books, based on the memory of a parent or another close person.

We also note copies of birth records for a certain number of years. Thus, in the birth records, the same person with the same first and last name may be recorded in two birth records, but with different data for the year of birth. Most often, this was done for males to avoid military conscription, that is, to present themselves as minors, or to receive a pension sooner or later, etc. While for females, it was done to present themselves as younger, etc.

Based on the above, for the persons in table 5 with serial numbers 10 and 14 we have a confirmed answer, while for the others we do not have a confirmed answer for the accuracy of the ages. Also, in table 6 for the person with serial number 1 we do not have a confirmed answer for the accuracy of the ages, while for the others we have a confirmed answer.

So far, the oldest confirmed person in Macedonia was the oldest woman, Fikrie Loki (1914-2024), who died at the age of 110 years and 247 days (Table 6), and the oldest man was Ramiz Selami (1914-2023), who died at the age of 108 years and 265 days (Table 5).

Also, the oldest confirmed person born in Macedonia was Elizabeth Kimoff (1904-2015), who died in Canada at the age of 110 years and 329 days. (Table 7)

Table 5. Oldest men from the R.N. Macedonia

Oldest men					Municipality of	
Rank	**Name**	**Birth**	**Death**	**Age**	**birth**	**death**
1.	Trajko Smiljevic[1]	1804	1935	131	/	/
2.	Save trom the Savevci family[3]	1578	1697	119	Demir Hisar	Demir Hisar
3.	Mitre trom the Savevci family[3]	1572	1689	117	Demir Hisar	Demir Hisar
4.	Mitre Bozinovski[4]	1865	1981	116	Novaci	Novaci
5.	Sadush Memedovski[5]	1895	2010	115	Novaci	Novaci
6.	Sargjo Karagja Bradina[5]	1778	1889	111	Mavrovo and Rostushe	Mavrovo and Rostushe
7.	Magden from the Savevci family[2]	1525	1635	110	Demir Hisar	Demir Hisar
8.	Nikola from the Brsakovci family[2]	1840	1850	110	Demir Hisar	Demir Hisar
9.	Boshe from the Josifovci family[2]	1808	1918	110	Demir Hisar	Demir Hisar
10.	Ramiz Selmani	10 Okt. 1914	2 July 2023	108 years, 265 days	Lipkovo	Lipkovo
11.	Lozan from the Savevci family[2]	1592	1699	107	Demir Hisar	Demir Hisar
12.	Gjorgjija from the Lichovci family[6]	1840	1947	107	Demir Hisar	Demir Hisar
13.	Hristo Dimitrovski[7]	1897	2004	107	Bitola	Bitola
14.	Ibush Ademi	15 April 1918	Living	107 years, 298 days	Cair	Cair

Source: [1]Stefanovik, S. & Kocijanic, M., 1986; *Trajko Smiljevic (1804-1935) who died at the age of 131. He was most likely from Macedonia. The name and surname Trajko Smilević or Smilev/ski was and is a common name and surname in Macedonia. This remains to be confirmed through extensive research in the birth and death registers in the state archives. [2]Leontieva, P. L., 1983; [3]Damevski, B., 1998; [4]Lazarevski, G., 2014; [5]Tanevski, B., 2010; [5]http://www.mn.mk/istorija/3137 ; [6]Popovski-Licho, A., 1993; [7]Personal archive of the author. https://gerontology.fandom.com/wiki/List_of_oldest_people_from_Macedonia ; Edited by the author.

The person Trajko Smilević (1804-1935) most likely came from Macedonia. Such a name and surname are common in many parts of Macedonia. To confirm the authenticity of the 131-year life, extensive research in the birth and death registers in all departments of the State Archives of Macedonia will be necessary.

Table 6. Oldest women from the R.N. Macedonia

Oldest women					Municipality of	
Rank	**Name**	**Birth**	**Death**	**Age**	**birth**	**death**
1.	Masa trom the Apostolvci family[1]	1875	1988	113	Demir Hisar	Demir Hisar
2.	Fikrije Loki	10 Jan. 1914	13 Sep. 2024	110 years, 247 days	Kosovo	Tetovo
3.	Zaide Sali	17 May 1902	24 Dec. 2011	109 years, 221 days	Cucer Sandecvo	Aracinovo
4.	Zejna Hajra	2 Avg 1875	02.Mart 1985	109 years, 212 daus	Kicevo	Kicevo
5.	Esma Ballazhi	1 July 1878	6.Maj 1985	106 years, 309 days	Kicevo	Kicevo

Source: [1]Damevski, B., 1998; Edited by the author;
https://gerontology.fandom.com/wiki/List_of_oldest_people_from_Macedonia

Table 7. List of the Oldest Macedonian emigrants ever

Oldest Macedonian emigrants						Municipality Country of	
Rank	**Name**	**Sex**	**Birth**	**Death**	**Age**	**birth**	**death**
1.	Elisabeth Kimoff	F	20 Nov. 1904	15 Oct. 2015	110 years, 329 days	Novo Selo	Canada
2.	Karavilka Petrovic	F	15 June 1902	9 Mar 2013	110 years, 267 days	Bitola	USA
3.	Rachel Nahmias	F	7 Oct 1917	10 Jan 2026	108 years, 95 days	Bitola	USA
4.	Ted Petkoff	M	31 Jan 1904	5 April 2012	108 years, 65 days	Bitola	Canada
5.	Aleksandar Nikolov	M	12 July 1914	7 Oct 2020	106 years, 87 days	Negotino	Bulgaria

Source: https://gerontology.fandom.com/wiki/List_of_oldest_people_from_Macedonia;
Edited by the author

– Who is the oldest living person in the Republic of Macedonia today?

The oldest living person over 100 years old in the Republic of Macedonia is Ibus Ademi, born on April 15, 1918, who today (February 8, 2026) is 107 years and 298 days old and lives in the municipality of Cair in the city of Skopje.

DISCUSSION

- What is the maximum length of human life?

Scientists often ask this question, to which a definitive answer has not yet been received. Table 8 shows the average life expectancy in separate historical periods of human development and in the future until 2100.

Table 8. Estimated average life expectancy in years by period

Period	Average life expectancy in years	Period	Average life expectancy in years
Stone Age[1]	19	1951-1970 year[2]	60-65
Bronze Age[1]	21,5	1971-1983 year[2]	65-70
Ancient Age[1]	20-30	1984-2000 year[3]	70-73
XVI century[1]	29,5	2001-2010 year[4]	73-75
XVII century[1]	29	2011-2025 year[4]	75-77
XVIII century[1]	28,5	2026-2030 year[4]	77-80
XIX century[1]	35,5-40,5	2031-2050 year[5]	81-85
1901-1934 year[1]	44,8-59,8	2051-2075 year[5]	86-90
1946-1950 year[1]	57,7-60	2076-2100 year[5]	91-100

Source: [1]Stefanovik, S., & Kocijanic M., 1986; [2]Yugoslavia - thirty years after liberation and victory over fascism 1945 - 1975 ; [3]Friganovic, M., 1978; [3]Wertheimer-Baletic, A., 1982; [3]Breznik, D., 1980; [4]Nejasmic, I., 2005; [4]Risteski, S.,2009; [4]Dimitrov,V.N.,2018; [5]Author's assessment; Dimitrov,V.N., 2025.

According to the UN, in 2021 there were 593,000 people in the world over the age of one hundred. Japan had the most centenarians in the world with about 120,000 people (20.2%). Every year the number of centenarians increases by several thousand. Thus, in 2025 there will be 630,000 people in the world who have reached their 100th birthday (or 0.0076% of the world population - 8,250,174,000 (03.10.2025) (https://www.worldometers.info/world-population/).

More than half of them are in just ten countries, among which Japan stands out as the absolute record holder with 123,000 people (19.5%) and where the average life expectancy of the population is 85 years (for women 88 years and for men 82 years), and with the participation of centenarians in the total population of 0.01%, making it at the top in the world. This is followed by the United States with about 74,000 centenarians (0.02%), China with about 49,000 (0.0035%), India with 38,000 centenarians (0.0027%), etc. However, if the number of centenarians is compared to the size of the population of the countries, then the United States and China fall down the list, while France, Greece and Italy approach the top, and at the very top is Monaco with a centenarian share of 2.4% of the total population. Monaco has the most centenarians, 950 centenarians or 2.4% of the total population (Monaco had a population of 39,100 in 2021).

In 2021, countries with high prevalence were Hong Kong (with 133 per 100,000 inhabitants), Guadeloupe - a former French colony (100), Japan (98), Uruguay (85), France (47), Great Britain (26), USA (20) and Macedonia with a prevalence of 4 centenarians per 100,000 inhabitants is devastating compared to the world average. (https://www.worldometers.info/demographics/life-expectancy/#google_vignette)

Experts say the rise in the number of centenarians is due to improvements in quality of life and health care, reduced smoking and better working conditions. The research uses data from the UN and reveals huge differences in longevity around the world, with Macedonia far behind the global average and needing to rethink its

approach to health and care for older people. Many of the countries where people live the longest have high investments in health per capita, have better access to and quality of health services, low crime rates and high quality of life and living standards.

In 2025, in over 40 countries the average life expectancy of the population was over 80 years. The highest average life expectancy, at over 84 years, was in: Monaco 86,5; San Marino 85,8; Hong Kong 85,7; Japan 85,0; South Korea 84,5; Andorra 84,2; Switzerland 84,2, Australia 84,2 i Italy 84,0 years. https://population.un.org/wpp/

In 2025, the average life expectancy in the world (The World Bank: World Development Indicators, 2025) is 73.5 years (females 76.2 and males 70.9 years), for comparison, in 2000-2005, the average life expectancy in the world was 64.7 years (women 67.0 and men 62.5 years) (Ivo Nejasmic, 2005). So, in 25 years, the average life expectancy in the world increased by 8.8 years. If this trend continues, the average life expectancy in the world in 2050 will be 82.3 years, in 2075, 91.2 years, and in 2100 a high 99.9 years. This means that in many countries the average life expectancy of the population will be over 100 years.

Many of the world's leading gerontologists agree that the maximum length of human life ranges between 110 - 120 years. Men who live "perfectly healthy" can live up to 114.1 years, and women 115.7. ("Nature Communications"). Most likely, the result of the centenarian is an orientation towards healthy aging, which involves a combination of nutrition, physical activity and a healthy environment. However, a significant number of gerontologists, however, believe that the maximum length of human life is constantly increasing as a result of the progress of medicine, so according to them, a person can live up to about 150 years. (Dimitrov, V.N., 2025)

However, according to futuristic thinking, the maximum length of human life could change significantly if artificial intelligence and robotics took over all activity and "care" for humans. Then the limit of life would be raised to several centuries, of course this could happen if there is no cataclysm to the detriment of humanity.

In general, the increase in the average life expectancy of the world's population is thanks to advances in medicine, improved living standards, a developed healthcare system, quality healthcare services, regular healthy living habits, etc.

In 1970-72, the average life expectancy in Macedonia was 67.3 years, of which men with 66.4 and women with 68.2 years (Disan Breznik, 1980). The average life expectancy is constantly increasing and in 2025, out of a total of 201 countries and territories, Macedonia ranked 69th with 77.7, (females 79.8 and male 75.4 years), and the last is Nigeria with 54.78, (male 54.45 and females 55.12).

If the average life expectancy in 2005 in the Republic of Macedonia was 74 years (Dimitrov, V. N., 2018), it means that in twenty years it increased by 3.7 years, and if the same dynamics continue, then in 2050 the average life expectancy will be 81.4 years, in 2075 85.7 years, and in 2100 88.8 years.

Today, other rural and urban areas with a concentration of elderly people aged 100 and over stand out in the world. Areas in the following countries stand out in particular: Kyrgyzstan, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Armenia, Russia, Italy, Greece, Portugal, Spain, France, China, India, Ecuador, the USA, etc. So, in many countries in the world, the population is aging rapidly and several zones with centenarians

stand out. Hundreds of thousands of centenarians live in many million-plus cities and other cities around the world, but also in traditional families, and of course in retirement, nursing, geriatric and other homes.

In 2050, the world will have 9.8 billion inhabitants. By 2050, the number of countries in the world with an average life expectancy of over 80 years will be about 100, of which a dozen will have an average life expectancy of over 90 years. By mid-century (2050), the standard of living will have increased significantly, the number of pensioners will be over 30% or over 3 billion, of which several million people will be over 100 years old.

By the end of the 21st century, the Earth will have over 11.2 billion inhabitants, of which about 50% will be elderly. Retirement will be over 70 years old (or there will be no retirement - everyone will be able to work until they want and for as long as they can, and in addition to a pension they can also receive a regular salary!?, and if robots take over all the work, then humans will "enjoy"!?), the average life expectancy will be over 95 years old, and in some countries over 100 years old. This means that the number of centenarians will increase significantly, to over one hundred million people. Of course, unless a new pandemic (similar to Covid-19) emerges, it would be disastrous for centenarians.

We emphasize again, in the manuscript we present only an initial possibility for more detailed research. Because, according to statements by older people, there were more centenarians in Macedonia in the past than today. We do not have specific data for this claim. To confirm this, all the Birth and Death Registers kept in the State Archives of Macedonia, the Ministry of Internal Affairs - Civil Registry Office, archives of religious communities and other entities will have to be investigated. Also, data should be extracted from other books, various documents, data from over 200 monographs on Macedonian settlements, in which valuable data on domicile centenarians can be found.

This research opens up the possibility to value longevity, to celebrate life, to promote healthy living, to educate about active recreation. (Dimitrov, V. N., 2025).

With God's grace and blessing for a long life, I express the following: "If you live above average, that is your reward, if you live over 90 years, that is a reward from the angels, and if you live over 100 years, that is a reward from God." The three symbolic words: your reward, reward from the angels, and reward from God, are a combination of genes, quality of life, proper nutrition, physical activity, better working conditions, advances in medicine, and a healthy environment.

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