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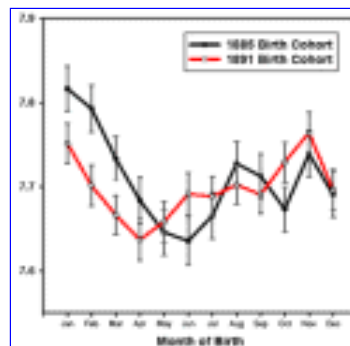
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Chances of Joining Centenarians Best for First Born Daughters of Farmers

Also helps with birthday in January, raised on farm in the West

Nov. 8, 2005 – Centenarians (people living to age 100) represent one of the fastest-growing age groups in America - increasing by 4.1 percent a year. But, if you want to be a member of this elite group, your chances are best if you are a first born daughter from a large family, have a birthday in January and were raised in January and were raised on a farm in the West.



Life Expectancy at Age 80 in years by birth month

This shows the effects of month of birth on life expectancy at age 80 for persons born in 1885 and 1891. Click graphic for larger

Those are some of the indications from new research, developed by the Society of Actuaries in partnership with researchers at the Center on Aging and the National Opinion

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Research Center at the University of Chicago. [view.](#)

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The number of U.S. centenarians has increased by 51 percent in the 10-year period from Jan. 1, 1990 to Jan. 1, 2000.

The researchers found that first-born daughters are three times more likely to survive to age 100, compared to later born daughters. First-born sons are twice more likely to become centenarians compared to sons having birth order between four and six. They found, however, an unusual U-shaped form among males, with both the first born and last born had the highest chances of longevity.

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[Men Die Younger Due to Systematic Male Dominance - Patriarchy](#)

Female murder rates account for 48.8% of the variation in death rates among men

Sept. 15, 2005 - Systematic male dominance - patriarchy - explains half the discrepancy in life expectancy between the sexes, suggests research spanning four continents in the Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health. [Read more...](#)

[Americans Becoming New Longevity Record Setters: 14 of Oldest 30](#)

Twenty of oldest 30 people in the world are from U.S. or Japan

By Tucker Sutherland, editor
Sept. 8, 2005 – Americans have generally not been noted for setting longevity records. The oldest people seem to usually be in Japan or a colder region, like Sweden or Norway. All of a sudden, that appears to be changing with Americans now representing almost half of the 30 oldest people in the

It was also shown that month of birth has a significant effect on later-life mortality and lifespan.

This study found that life expectancy at age 80 depends on the month of a person's birth: individuals born in January live longer lives than persons born in other months and in April-June in particular. This periodicity repeats in every studied birth group starting from birth year 1885 to 1899. However, by age 100 this dependence of survival on month of birth fades out, indicating that centenarians indeed represent a selected population.

Drs. Natalia Gavrilova and Leonid Gavrilov collected data from publicly available computerized genealogies of 75 million individuals identified in previous studies and validated ages and birth dates by linking records to the Social Security Administration Death Master File and reviewing U.S. censuses for years 1900, 1910 and 1920.

They evaluated detailed family data for nearly 1,000 centenarians born in the U.S. from 1875 to 1899.

“The study supports the idea that early childhood conditions might be important for survival to advanced ages,” said Dr. Natalia Gavrilova.

“Limited access to parental care, including attention and supervision, may result in less attention being paid to health and safety of later-born children, resulting in a

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world and holding the top three positions in the rankings. Only two men are on the list - one American and one Puerto Rican. [Read more...](#)

[American Woman Becomes World's Oldest Living Person](#)

age 100 than those from the Midwest and Northeast areas of the country.

“Without the type of food processing that’s currently available, living on a farm 100 y ago meant fresher food with more nutrient value,” said Thomas Edwalds, Fellow of the SOA and chairman of the project oversight committee. “This very well might correlate prenatal and childhood nutrition as factors of exceptional longevity.”

“Actuaries are skilled at measuring risks, and this research helps us better understand the predictors of longevity and quantify the implications on society and business,” continued Edwalds. “This research also illustrates that studies on human longevity be modernized and advanced further by using new computerized data resources such as genealogies.”

The Society of Actuaries is an educational, research and professional organization dedicated to serving the public and its 18,000 members. The SOA’s vision is for actuaries - business professionals who analyze the financial consequence of risk - to be recognized as the leading professional in the modeling and management of financial and contingent events. The SOA’s mission is to advance actuarial knowledge and to enhance the ability of actuaries to provide expert advice and relevant solutions for financial, business and societal problems involving uncertain future events.

To learn more, or read the full study, visit www.soa.org.

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