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Centenarians in Europe

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Highlights

- Census data revealed that in 32 European countries in 2011 there were 89156 individuals aged 100 and over.
- Centenarian ratios were highest in France, Italy and Greece, and lowest in Bulgaria, Romania, and Croatia.
- Only 16.5% of the overall population of centenarians were male.
- Across Europe, 62.7% of the centenarians lived in private households, with a range from 10.9% (Iceland) to 90.0% (Romania).
- An average of 13.6% of the centenarians had had no formal education.

Abstract

Objectives: The group of individuals aged 80 and over is growing faster than other segments of the population, and within this group the number of centenarians has risen exponentially worldwide. This paper reports the numbers of centenarians (total, and ratio relative to total population) in 32 European countries and their key characteristics: gender distribution, level of education, and type of residence.

Study design: Population based study.

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