



LR Central Statistical Bureau

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Age structure of the population of Latvia

Even though in 2008 the largest birth number since 2000 (20248) was registered in Latvia (23948) it still lags from death indicator in the result of which the balance of natural increase is negative. In its turn, it causes unfavourable changes in the age structure of the population and, the same as in Europe, population aging process is also continuing in Latvia.

Since 2000 the number of children and teenagers (aged 0 - 14 years) has decreased by 117.8 thsd and the share in the total number of population has decreased from 18.0% in the beginning of 2000 to 13.7% in the beginning of 2009. However, along the birth increase, this drop slows down. If in 2000 the number of children and teenagers has decreased by 18.3 thsd, in 2008 it has reduced only by 2 thsd.

Since 2000 the number of population aged 15 – 64 years has dropped by 40.2 thsd or by 2.5%. However, the number of population aged over 65 years during this period has increased by 37.5 thsd, and its share in the total of population has grown from 14.8% to 17.3%.

Number of population in separate age groups in Latvia in 2000 - 2009
(at the beginning of the year)

Year	Age groups (years)					
	0 - 14		15 - 64		65 +	
	number	% of total	number	% of total	number	% of total
2000	428082	18.0	1600317	67.2	353316	14.8
2005	341415	14.8	1583843	68.7	381176	16.5
2006	328547	14.3	1580414	68.9	385629	16.8
2007	318463	14.0	1572881	68.9	389961	17.1
2008	312309	13.8	1567797	69.0	390788	17.2
2009	310311	13.7	1560129	69.0	390854	17.3

In the age group 0 – 14 years the number of males exceeds the number of females by 2.4%, in the age group 15 – 64 years prevalence of females is observed – by 3.4%, but in the age group over 65 years the number of females exceeds the number of males by 34.8%. Border at which the number of males exceeding the number of females starts to diminish has increased from 28 years in 2000 to 37 years in 2009.

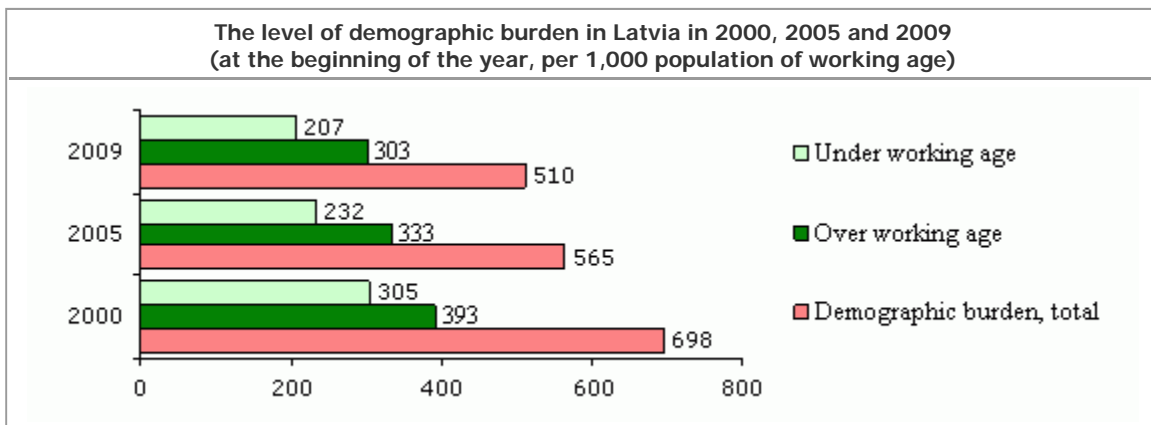
Number of males and females in separate age groups in Latvia in 2000 - 2009
(thsd, at the beginning of the year)

Year	Age groups (years)					
	0 - 14		15 - 64		65 +	
	males	females	males	females	males	females
2000	219.0	209.1	765.3	835.0	112.6	240.7
2005	174.6	166.8	763.9	819.9	124.5	256.7
2006	168.1	160.5	763.3	817.1	125.9	259.7

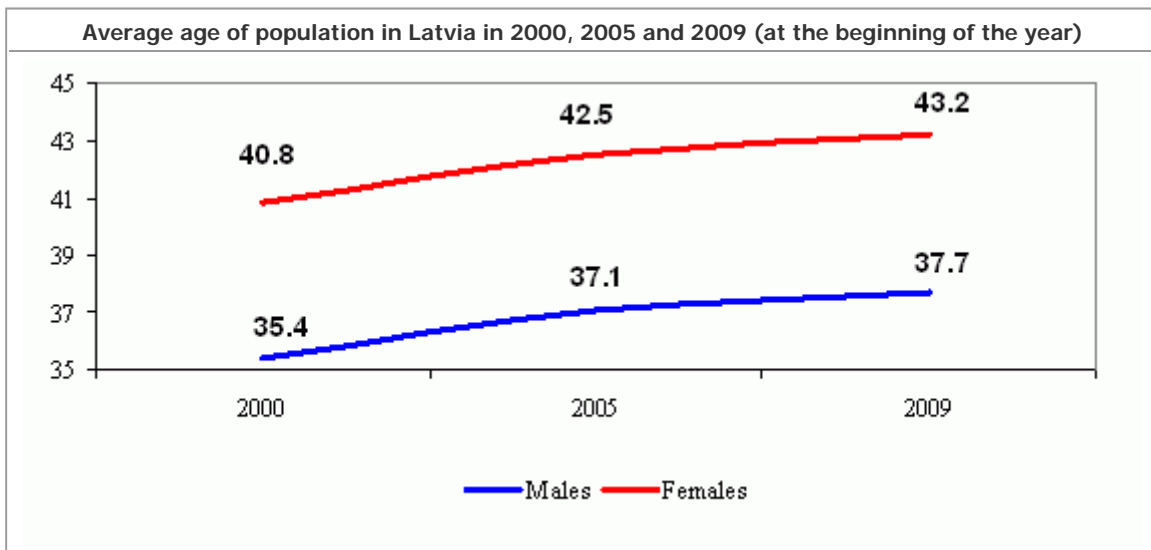
2007	162.9	155.6	760.6	812.3	127.5	262.4
2008	159.7	152.6	759.4	808.4	127.8	263.0
2009	158.7	151.6	756.7	803.4	127.7	263.2

The burden of population of working age (indicator which is obtained by dividing the number of children and population of pension age with the number of population of working age) is reducing during the last years. Partially it can be explained with the increase of pension age.

Rate of children and teenagers in the demographic burden since 1993 is smaller than the rate of population of pension age because birth has reduced but death and migration of population of working age has increased. In the beginning of 2009 the number of population of pension age per 1,000 population of working age was 1.5 times higher than the number of children and teenagers. In 2000 this relation was 1.3 times.



The increase of mean age of Latvian population confirms aging trend of population in our country. Age increase can be explained both with the low birth, and with the increase of life expectancy.



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