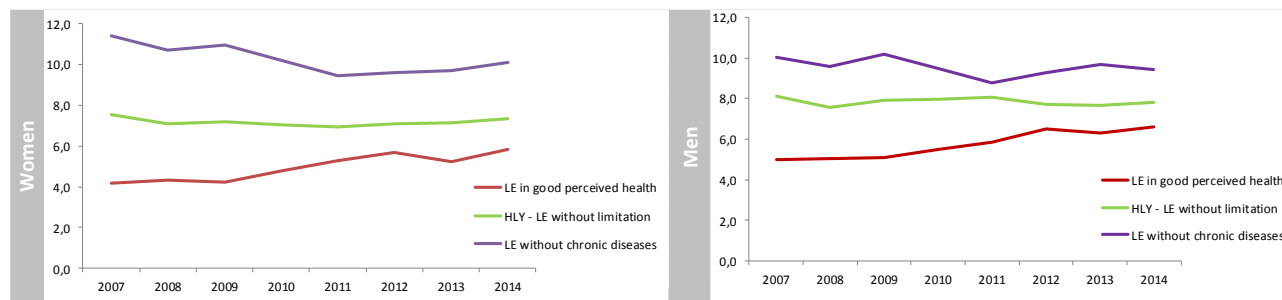


Health expectancies based on activity limitation (HLY), chronic morbidity and perceived health for Italy based on SILC 2007-2014



For all the indicators of 2010 estimated data were used, calculated as the mean of 2009 and 2011 data.

Key points

There are as many health expectancies (HE) as concepts of health and each one describes a specific aspect of health, sometimes it could be difficult to use a specific measure only and it could be useful to analyze all HE in order to have a complete picture of the health status of a population.

The three dimensions of health investigated by MEHM show different levels and time trends of HE for Italy. As observed in the previous reports the trends of three different HE are converging in the whole period 2007-2012: HLY is stable, LE without chronic diseases decreases, while LE in good health increases (+1.5 both for women and men).

In the most recent period 2012-2014 figures show slightly increase of about 0,2 years for women and 0,1 for men for the three dimensions of health expectancies, with the exception for women that gain 0.5 years of life without chronic diseases.

The interpretation of these results, sometimes apparently incoherent, should take into consideration the following warnings:

- 1) the answers provided in SILC questionnaire are self-reported and may be affected by cultural and individual characteristics of respondents, including the economic conditions;
- 2) different dimensions of health and the corresponding measures may lead to different results: for example a person may declare of being in good health also if affected by one or more chronic diseases or by a functional limitations;
- 3) to have an exhaustive picture of a population health status and to provide useful information to the stakeholders it is therefore necessary to analyze jointly all the available healthy expectancy indicators.