

Reported self-perceived health status, chronic (long-standing) illness condition, activity limitations for at least 6 months, and reasons for unmet need for medical care by sex and age group in Latvia, %\* (data from SILC 2016)

	Men					Women				
	Total	16–24	25–49	50–64	65+	Total	16–24	25–49	50–64	65+
<b>Self-perceived health status</b>										
Good and very good	52.8	87.7	71.2	31.1	11.4	42.8	86.7	67.6	29.3	8.3
Fair	34.3	10.3	23.7	53.0	51.9	39.4	11.5	28.1	54.8	50.0
Bad and very bad	12.9	2.1	5.1	15.8	36.6	17.7	1.9	4.3	16.0	41.7
<b>Chronic illness condition</b>										
Yes	34.3	9.5	18.5	46.8	74.7	39.6	9.9	21.3	49.6	80.8
No	65.7	90.5	81.5	53.2	25.3	60.4	90.1	78.7	50.4	19.2
<b>Reported activity limitations</b>										
Severe restrictions	7.1	0.9	2.2	8.3	22.6	9.8	0.9	2.3	7.8	24.1
Some restrictions	25.6	8.1	15.8	37.4	46.6	31.2	8.0	16.1	37.9	52.4
None restrictions	67.2	91.0	82.0	54.3	30.8	59.0	91.1	81.6	54.3	23.4
<b>Reasons for unmet need for medical care</b>										
Could not afford	40.4	25.9	31.6	50.7	40.4	48.4	44.7	61.9	50.3	50.0
Waiting list	18.2	23.1	19.3	13.0	24.3	22.9	24.9	5.7	24.1	20.6
Could not take time	8.6	21.4	11.2	9.9	0.0	6.0	12.3	9.3	7.3	0.6
Too far to travel/no means of transportation	3.2	12.8	1.4	2.4	5.8	4.6	2.6	1.0	2.0	7.6
Fear of doctors	1.9	1.9	1.5	0.6	4.9	1.9	2.3	1.7	0.7	2.5
Wanted to wait and see if problem got better on its own	24.2	14.9	32.2	18.3	22.3	13.2	11.1	19.3	12.5	15.3
Didn't know any good doctor or specialist	2.9	...	1.8	5.0	1.6	1.9	1.7	0.6	2.4	1.7
Other reasons	0.6	...	1.1	...	0.8	...	0.5	0.4	0.7	1.8

\*Estimated values may not sum up to the total of 100% due to rounding.

Source: Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia.

## Key points:

Based on SILC 2016 data self-perceived health for men and women differs significantly, especially in terms of reported good and very good health status, where the gap between sexes produce 10.0 percent points. Similar situation has been observed for reported chronic illness and reported activity limitations, where the overall proportion of men without reported chronic illness and activity limitations exceeded proportion for women by 5.3 and 8.2 percent points respectively. A greater sex differences in reported health evaluations appear in older ages where women start perceiving their state of health much more critically than men.

Data on reasons for unmet need for medical care supports and complements previous observations. Figures show, that men not only perceive their state of health more optimistically, but also treat it more flippantly. On average 24.2% of men had make a choice to wait and see if problem got better on its own while for women that proportion was 10.4%. Small differences between men and women are among answers to reason for unmet need for medical care - "could not afford". That reason had a largest proportion among other reasons for unmet need for medical care for both sexes, but a specific weight for women in all age groups was higher than for men.