

## Macro Roundup Article

**Headline:** [How Disadvantage Became Deadly in America](#)

**Article Link:** <https://www.ft.com/content/6d8bad29-3147-44a2-bc61-70f8ceff6c6f>

Author(s)	John Burn-Murdoch
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**Tweet:** Lower life expectancy for America's poor is largely driven by opioids and gun deaths. Among the 10% of Americans who die youngest, the mean age of death is 36.

**Summary:** My calculations suggest the average age of death in [the shortest-lived 10%] is just 36 years old, compared with 55 in the Netherlands and 57 in Sweden. It hasn't always been this way. In the 1980s, the most disadvantaged Americans lived about as long as their counterparts in France. By the early 2000s, lives at the bottom had lengthened considerably, and while a deficit was opening up, it wasn't worrisome. But in the past decade, the lives of America's least fortunate have shortened by an astonishing eight years. Wealthy Americans who live in the parts of the country with high opioid use and gun violence live just as long as those who live where fentanyl addiction and gunshot incidents are relatively rare. But poor Americans live far shorter lives if they grow up surrounded by guns and drugs than if they don't.

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**Primary Topic:** Demographics

**Topics:** Database, Demographics, Op-Ed/Blog Post, Poverty/Crime, Weekly, Workforce

**Permalink:** <https://www.edwardconard.com/macro-roundup/lower-life-expectancy-for-americas-poor-is-largely-driven-by-opioids-and-gun-deaths-the-bottom-10-of-american-mens-mean-age-of-death-is-36-jburnmurdoch?view=detail>

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