

Analyzing Life Expectancy Across the World

Some of the Questions to Explore



Ask a question about your data



Try one of these to get started

what is the total actual LE

what is the average actual
LE

total actual LE by life-
expectancy-at-different-
ages year

total period life
expectancy at birth - sex:
all - age: 0

maximum life expectancy
- type: period - sex: both -
age: 0

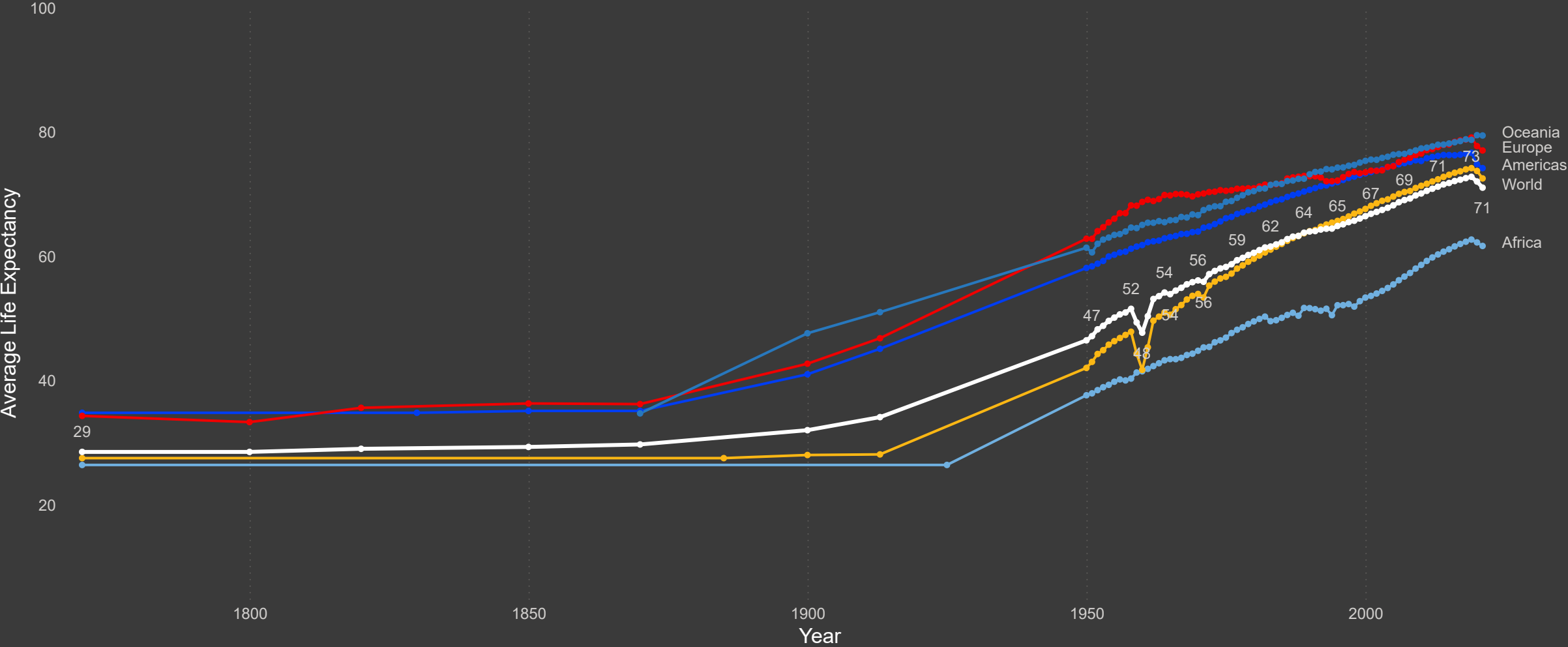
total life expectancy -
type: period - sex: both -
age: 0 by life-expectancy-
hmd-unwpp year

[Show all suggestions](#)

LIFE EXPECTANCY HAS INCREASED ACROSS THE WORLD

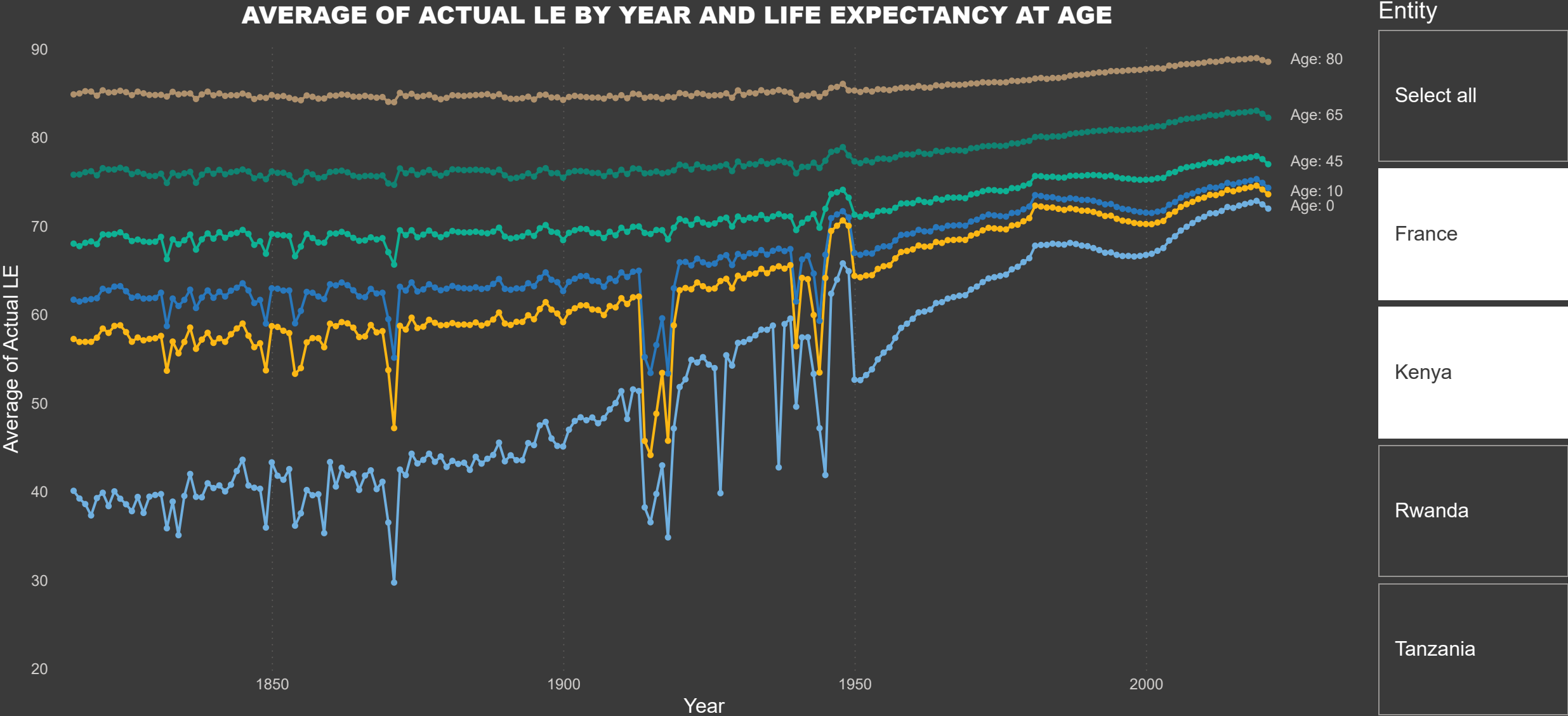
In 2021, the global average life expectancy was just over 70 years. Two hundred years ago, it was less than half. This was the case for all world regions: in 1800, no region had a life expectancy higher than 40 years. The average life expectancy has risen steadily and significantly across all regions. This extraordinary rise is the result of a wide range of advances in health – in nutrition, clean water, sanitation, neonatal healthcare, antibiotics, vaccines, and other technologies and public health efforts – and improvements in living standards, [economic growth](#), and [poverty](#) reduction. Africa's Life Expectancy still falls below the global average. This can be attributed to a higher disease burden as well higher than normal levels of poverty.

AVERAGE OF LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH ACROSS THE WORLD OVER TIME



LIFE EXPECTANCY HAS IMPROVED GLOBALLY FOR ALL AGES

In developing countries, life expectancy at age zero is still lower than that at age 10. This is likely attributable to a slightly higher than global average child mortality. This is as a result of less than optimal quality of care for the unborn which is a factor of poor healthcare distribution and quality.



WOMEN TEND TO LIVE LONGER THAN MEN, BUT THIS GAP HAS CHANGED OVER TIME

Across the world, [women tend to live longer than men](#). But the gender gap varies between countries and is not constant over time, as you can see in the chart. For example, the gap spiked in some countries during the World Wars. A statement released by WHO says that “Women generally live longer than males – on average by six to eight years. The difference is partly due to an inherent biological advantage for the female, but it also reflects behavioural differences between men and women.” Accross the world the difference is 5 - 6 years, but other countries are outliers, Notably, the Sex gap life expectancy in Nigeria is near zero.

SEX GAP LIFE EXPECTANCY (FEMALE - MALE) OVER TIME

