

Life Expectancy Increases

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The  **Moscow Times**

The average life expectancy in Russia has increased significantly in recent years, Prime Minister Vladimir Putin told the 60th meeting of the World Health Organization's European chapter in Moscow on Monday.

"It has gone up three years over the past five years and now reaches 69 years," Putin said. "It may be a moderate figure for Europe, but three years in five years is a considerable figure. The tendency is obviously positive."

He said he expected the trend to continue.

Putin also listed other positive tendencies in Russia's demographic situation, saying the infant mortality rate had gone down by almost one-third and the birth rate has increased since 2005.

(Interfax)

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