

# Longevity

The rapid decline of life expectancy for America's poorest has come against a backdrop of falling poverty [rates] and rising [disposable] incomes.

...

In most wealthy countries, if you're desperately unlucky in the longevity stakes, you succumb to cancer before you reach 60. But if you're unlucky in the US, you die from a drug overdose or gunshot wound by 40. Which brings us again to the most shocking statistic: among the least fortunate 10 per cent of American men, the average age at death is 36.

**John Burn-Murdoch,  
Financial Times, October 13, 2023**