# CORRELATES OF LIFE EXPECTANCY IN LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES 

ROBERT N. GROSSE and BARBARA H. PERRY<br>Department of Health Planning and Administration, School of Public Health, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, U.S.A.


#### Abstract

Analyses were performed to investigate several hypotheses concerning the multiple determinants of levels of life expectancy in developing countries in recent decades and some possible explanation for the observed variations in amount of gain in life expectancy from the 1950's to the 1970's. The findings were significant. For level of life expectancy the results of this present work conform by and large to results of other scholars in this area, although the present work is unique in that only developing countries were included. From the 1960's to the 1970's there has been a shift in the relative importance of economic indicators and general social indicators in favor of the social indicators. In the period $1960-65$ some $70 \%$ of the variation in levels of life expectancy was associated with per capita income and literacy rates in a ratio of about three to two in favor of the economic variable. By 197075 the ratio has become six to one in favor of literacy. In addition, the multivariate model showed that the sanitation variables began to appear as significant correlates of levels of life expectancy in the more recent time period, playing a larger role than level of income per capita. Work pursued as part of a separate but concurrent project explored explicitly this three-way interaction between literacy, life expectancy and sanitation.

For change in life expectancy from 1950 through 1970, associations were quite different. Per capita income was not associated with the absolute change in life expectancy, and the associations with literacy were much smaller than earlier observed with level of life expectancy at a point in time. In the multivariate model the primary correlates with change were the sanitation variables and health personnel as represented by population per midwife. Tests for such associations with variations in amount of gain in life expectancy have not been found in other literature and comparison with other findings can therefore not be made directly. The present work suggests that it may be lower skill levels of health manpower and activities in sanitation that are the main correlates in a multivariate model of absolute change in life expectancy.


## I. Introduction

Attempts at international comparisons of levels of health and well-being are fraught with all the complexities of trying to understand any elusive phenomenon. A nation's level of health is the result of many interrelated causes. It may have been reached by methods tangible and intangible, direct and indirect and through multiple levels of social and cultural conditions. Difficulties of definition and interpretation because of the lack of adequate data notwithstanding, in an era of increasing recognition of limited resources worldwide, it becomes ever more important to try to understand the pos-
sible reasons why levels of well-being may improve in some countries and remain the same or improve much less quickly in others. That life expectancy at birth has risen about ten years in the past twenty in most of the less developed countries does not mean that simply having time elapse will bring about improvements in the mortality and morbidity in these countries which will bring them all to desired levels. Continuing improvement is likely to be retarded if the marginal productivity of some forces drops because some complementary activities do not move in balance. The parallel rises in economic levels, social well-being, and health service investments that took place in the more developed countries may not repeat themselves in any automatic fashion in the less developed countries.

It appears to be useful to try to identify the forces associated with the courses of mortality experience in less developed countries. In this paper we report on statistical correlations recently performed in an effort to understand what factors seem to determine the levels of life expectancy at birth at particular times and changes in those levels over time. It is recognized that what really is desired is a measure of the health of a population. Unfortunately there is no single measure that will encompass all aspects of health of a population. Life expectancy is chosen as the more positive measure of the mortality experience in a country and relatively more reliable for international comparisons than other measures that might have been used such as age and disease specific mortality or morbidity. Life expectancy at two points in time was used, 1960-65 and 1970-75, the absolute change from the 1950's to the 1970's and additionally the level of infant mortality in 1974.

The following report on the results of the analysis includes first a brief discussion of historical trends and empirical studies, a description of the countries and independent variables used, a section on the indications from zero order correlations, a section on the multivariate model results, and finally discussion and conclusions.

## II. Health Levels - Historical Trends and Relationships

Since the end of World War II, and probably extending as far back as 1930, there has been a substantial decline in mortality in the poorer countries of the world. In Table I are shown the levels and changes in life expectancy at birth from the period $1950-55$ to $1970-75$ by region of the world. One manifestation of this mortality decline has been labeled the population explosion, in that the large increase in the numbers of people has been associated with drops in deaths, rather than increases in fertility. There has been considerable debate about the causes of the mortality decline; some participants have argued it has been the result of increasing success in the

TABLE I
Life Expectancy at Birth, 1950-55 to 1970-75

|  | $1950-55$ | $1970-75$ | Absolute <br> Gain <br> (years) |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Eastern Africa | 34.7 | 43.8 | 9.1 | 26.2 |
| Middle Africa | 35.2 | 41.9 | 6.7 | 19.0 |
| Western Africa | 32.0 | 40.9 | 8.9 | 27.8 |
| Southern Africa | 43.2 | 50.8 | 7.6 | 17.6 |
| Northern Africa | 42.0 | 52.0 | 10.0 | 23.8 |
| Eastern South Asia | 40.4 | 50.6 | 10.2 | 25.2 |
| Middle South Asia | 38.6 | 48.0 | 9.4 | 24.4 |
| Western South Asia | 43.9 | 53.8 | 9.9 | 22.6 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| China | 45.0 | 61.6 | 16.6 | 36.9 |
| Other East Asia (exc. Japan) | 48.2 | 61.1 | 12.9 | 26.8 |
| Caribbean | 52.9 | 63.1 | 10.2 | 19.3 |
| Middle America | 49.6 | 61.5 | 11.5 | 23.2 |
| Tropical South America | 51.9 | 60.5 | 8.6 | 16.6 |
|  |  | 52.2 | 10.6 | 25.5 |
| Less developed regions | 41.6 | 52.2 |  |  |

Source: United Nations, Population Studies No. 60, 1977.
application of communicable disease control technologies through public health activities (Stolnitz, 1975); others that it has been the result of general economic improvement, particularly in the elimination of famines and improved nutrition available to the people of the less developed countries (Krishnan, 1975).

The relationship of health status to social and economic well-being has long been recognized, but argument has it that the association between economic levels and health status has weakened in recent decades, with the increasing capacity of social or health programs to affect health. George Stolnitz (1975), in a paper of the 1974 Bucharest World Population Conference, argued:

[^0]In their study of Latin American mortality trends, Arriaga and Davis (1969) concluded that after 1930 low and high income countries:


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have registered a similar and very rapid increase of life expectancy at birth, regardless of the mortality level already reached. The mortality level and its change - principally the latter can no longer be seen as dependent on economic development. There is no doubt that other factors are at work. Among them, probably the most important is the improvement of public health facilities and medical care.


Samuel Preston (1976a) also argues that:
It seems to have been predominantly broad gauged public health programs of insect control, environmental sanitation, health education, and maternal and child health services that transformed the mortality picture in less developed areas.

This generality of improvement in life expectancy is found to pertain to almost all countries of the developing world since 1950. The argument over whether economic growth or social and health programs have accounted for the health improvements has by no means been conclusively decided in favor of the health programs. There is evidence in the work of Celeste Smucker (1975) of the importance of socio-economic variables over indicators of access to medical care in improvement in mortality levels.

It is puzzling to accept the stated role of health services as the transforming factor in a general trend insofar as there have been substantial differences in the resources devoted to public health programs among developing countries, often with very similar health status results. This alone implies little relationship between results and expenditures. Also there are continual reminders from WHO and developing countries that governmental health programs have been concentrated on a relatively small portion of the population, usually the urban elite.

## III. Empirical Studies of Life Expectancy and Socio-Economic Well-Being

Studies that have been reviewed show mixed results for answers to the question of what has been most associated with the increases in levels of life expectancy in recent decades and throughout the twentieth century. Simple correlations performed on data available by WHO show high correlations between such measures as medical density, per capita income, and bed/population ratio with life expectancy at birth for sixty-eight countries (Gilliand and Galland, 1977). While warning about reservations in the quality of the data, the data nevertheless support recognition that the relationships vary greatly in magnitude between richer and poorer countries.

In a most thorough multi-variate study by Preston (1976a), the change in influence of economic factors was investigated. His findings showed that
from the period of the 1930's to the 1960's the relationships between income level and life expectancy have taken an upward shift, that is that there remains an upward slope to the relationship, but that by the 1960's comparable attainment in level of life expectancy cost approximately one-third more than the same level in the 1930's. In terms of multivariate analysis, Preston suggested in his early work that literacy was probably not a major contributor to levels of life expectancy, but in a separate study (1976b) he finds that indeed literacy does play a major explanatory role. The importance of education levels has also been shown to be the surest correlate of health in a recent study by Fuchs on post-industrial nations (1979).

All of these studies, however, used a group of countries as the base which included developed as well as developing countries. Findings show, as referenced above in the WHO report and in the work of Preston, that relationships differ for countries based on their levels of income or other measures of development. This is represented by the often used logarithmic transformation when using income and comparing levels of life expectancy Fig. 1 from the work of Preston illustrates this.


Fig. 1. Relationship between life expectancy at birth (e) and per capita income for nations in the 1900's, 1930's, and 1960's (Preston, 1976b).

Other measures of level of health have also been analyzed for their associations with various socio-economic indicators. In a study of infant and childhood mortality in four developing countries by Sloan (1971), female literacy and nutrition were shown to have definite impact. Sanitation variables and variables that characterize the housing stock of the region were found to explain none of the variation in mortality rates.

For the present study, to try to maintain some homogeneity in countries represented, an attempt was made to analyze only developing countries. U.S., Canada, Japan, Australia, New Zealand and all of Europe were excluded.

## IV. Data on Ninety Developing Countries

## The Dependent Variables:

The data used for the present analysis were assembled from a number of sources [1]. There was at least some information on each of 140 nations classified as developing countries. A distinction was made between those countries above or below population of one million, with those countries under population one million eliminated from the correlation analysis. By including only countries larger than one million population it was hoped that the possible overrepresentation of atypical situations would be avoided. Appendix I lists the ninety countries included in the current study and their levels on the five proxy measures for level of health. The mean life expectancy for the three periods of time 1950's, 1960's, and 1970's is 42,47 , and 51 years respectively, with a range in the 1950's of from 30 years in Angola to 66 years in Uruguay. By the 1970's, the range became the low of 36 in Bangladesh to the high of 72 in Puerto Rico. Adequate numbers of observations for infant mortality were available only for 1974, and showed an average value of 117, a range of 45 in Sri Lanka and a reported 17 in Singapore to a high of 200 in Angola.

These five indicators were taken as dependent variables and analyzed, both singly and using multivariate techniques, to find clues for the major areas of contribution to levels of health in these developing countries.

## Five Groups of Independent Variables:

Over 200 measures were available for use as independent variables. These covered a broad range of activities which can be hypothesized to influence the health of a country, some directly, others indirectly. Since the ultimate aim for this, and probably most studies of correlates of levels of health, is to assist in eventual policy decisions among alternative and often competing projects, it was felt useful to group the numerous independent variables into familiar groups of broad categories. They were grouped and analyzed as five interacting areas. These included three health input groups (health expenditures, health personnel and facilities, and sanitation activities), and two general social well-being categories (economic level indicators, and social and educational status measures). A general definition of the scope of each group is:

Sanitation (power and utilities usage and availability).
Health expenditures (including various pharmaceutical imports).
Health personnel and facilities (health manpower, hospitals, health centers).
Economic indicators (revenues, expenditures, employment, GNP/capita, exports and imports, income distribution).

Social indicators (includes literacy, nutrition, transportation and communication).
Appendix II lists all the independent variables considered, grouped into five broad categories.

## V. Zero Order Correlations

For many years there has been argument over whether economic growth or social and health programs accounted for the large gains in life expectancy that were observed in developing countries. The most accepted hypothesis that economic level is losing its historic power to determine levels of mortality - was explored, and analyses were performed to determine the relative contributions of those potentially relevant factors about which we could secure information.

Of initial interest was the relationship between economic level alone with level of life expectancy and with change in life expectancy. Simple zeroorder or bivariate correlations demonstrated that in developing countries for the data we used, there was a strong and significant correlation between per capita income and level of life expectancy, but that there was no correlation between absolute changes in life expectancy and level of income per capita.

Some of the variables examined and their correlation are listed in Table II. The column headed " r " notes the correlation coefficient, and " r " the proportion of variation explained.

TABLE II
Zero Order Correlations Between Income and Life Expectancy

| Independent Variable | Dependent Variable | r | $\mathrm{r}^{2}$ | Significance Level |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Per capita income 1960 | Life expectancy at birth $1970-75$ | 0.72 | 0.52 | $\mathrm{p}<0.01$ |
| Per capita income 1970 | Life expectancy at birth 1970--75 | 0.66 | 0.44 | $\mathrm{p}<0.01$ |
| Per capita income 1960 | Life expectancy at birth $1960-65$ | 0.75 | 0.56 | $\mathrm{p}<0.01$ |
| Log of per capita income 1960 | Life expectancy at birth 1960-65 | 0.79 | 0.63 | $\mathrm{p}<0.01$ |
| Log of per capita income 1970 | Life expectancy at birth $1970-75$ | 0.77 | 0.59 | p $<0.01$ |
| Per capita income 1960 | Change in life expectancy 1950-55 to 1970-75 | -0.15 | 0.02 | N.S. |
| Per capita income 1970 | Change in life expectancy 1950-55 to 1970-75 | 0.02 | 0.004 | N.S. |

Percentage changes in life expectancy and percentage changes in income were also compared. There was a significant negative correlation between level of income and percent of change in life expectancy, but not between percent change in income and percent change in life expectancy.

From these correlations, we could conclude that levels of mortality at any one time are related to average levels of income, but that variations in changes in mortality over time are not.

The logarithms of income per capita were used to express the curvilinear shape of its relationship to life expectancy. That is, as higher incomes and life expectancies are examined, the ratio of income to life expectancy becomes less (a flattening of the curve on arithmetic scale). These findings conform to the suggestions of students of mortality. A further investigation was performed to examine more closely the changes in the influence of income on level of life expectancy.

A comparison of the regression lines between life expectancy in 1960 and in 1970 as compared to income per capita (in 1970 U.S. dollars) is shown in Fig. 2. The slopes of the lines are different, with that for 1960 being somewhat steeper. This might indicate that in 1970 increases in life expectancy as a function of economic level required higher economic level per year added than in 1960. In 1960-65, ten years of additional life expectancy at birth "required" a gain of $\$ 300$ per capita. For 1970-75, a gain of ten years "required" a rise of $\$ 500$ per capita, a $60 \%$ increase.

While there is a very strong relationship between levels of life expectancy and income per capita, other variables are also associated with life expectancy.


Fig. 2. Life expectancy at birth vs. per capita national income (1970 U.S. \$).

Simple correlations with variables from each of the five groups showed in fact that levels of life expectancy are correlated with a number of factors. Amongst the group of health expenditure variables several indicators were correlated with health measures, but in general not very highly. The total amount of cleansing agent imports displayed a correlation of between 0.62 and 0.65 with level of life expectancy in each of the three time periods, but no correlation with the absolute amount of change in life expectancy. The amount of pharmaceutical goods imported other than medicaments was associated with the gain in life expectancy, with $r=0.33$. Since these trade data are gathered in different years, all that can really be said is that a positive association is probably affected by activities associated with higher availability of cleaning products.

The association with per capita health expenditures was less strong with correlation coefficients of between 0.36 and 0.41 with level of life expectancy and no significant correlation with amount of change in level of life expectancy over time. Level of total health expenditure also showed positive correlation with level of life expectancy but to a lesser degree ( $r=0.21$ for life expectancy in the 1950 's, and 0.28 for life expectancy in the 1970's). Also, while per capita health expenditure showed no correlation with change in life expectancy, the amount of total health expenditure did, with a correlation of $r=0.31$.

With the group of health facilities and health personnel variables, the measures of population per general hospital bed had significant correlations with life expectancy, in the order of 0.5 to 0.6 . Correlations with population per physician were also significant, ranging from 0.6 to 0.7 . A somewhat surprising observation was the correlation observed between population per midwife and change in life expectancy from the 1950's to the 1970's. This was -0.47 using the 1960 figures, and -0.48 using the 1970 figures. This was of the same magnitude as correlations between population per physician in 1960 and $1970,-0.47$ and -0.44 respectively.

The utilities and sanitation variables showed very high correlations with levels of life expectancy. For example, correlation between level of life expectancy in the 1970's and the percent of urban population with household public water taps was 0.72 . The percent of urban total water coverage, tap or standpipe, in 1975 had a positive correlation with gain in life expectancy for 1950-55 to 1970-75, of $\mathrm{r}=0.31$.

Amongst the social indication variables, as is expected, all are positively correlated with level of life expectancy, but none so highly as the schooling and literacy measures, with correlations as high as 0.88 . Per annum growth rate in food demand showed positive correlation with levels of both life expectancy and absolute change, but not high enough to be more significant than the associations observed with literacy and schooling indicators. A
most curious observation for the nutrition components of social well-being was their general pattern of positive correlation with levels of life expectancy, and yet negative correlation with changes over time. This seems contrary to what logic would predict.

Plot diagrams for some of the more interesting bivariate regressions are shown in the following charts, namely the effects of some of the health manpower and social indicators singly on changes and levels of the health measures. To ask questions about the relative magnitude of all these different correlates of life expectancy requires their joint consideration in a multivariate model. The next section addresses this issue.


Fig. 3.


Fig. 5.


Fig. 4.


Fig. 6.


Fig. 7.

$+=$ countries with high levels* of sanitation
$\mathrm{u}=$ countries with low levels of sanitation
*High: \% Urban total water coverage $>\mathbf{5 5 \%}$; Low: \% Urban total water coverage $\leqslant 55 \%$.
Fig. 9. Interaction between literacy, life expectancy, and level of sanitation.
Source: Hillel Shuval, Robert Tilden, and Robert Grosse, "The Health Benefits of Sanitation Investments: A Threshold-Saturation Theory," The University of Michigan, School of Public Health, May 1979.

## VI. Multiple Regression Analysis

With some understanding that there are problems with the very measures we wish to associate with one another, and for the time being accepting that the U.N. measures of life expectancy are reasonable estimates, the major measurement errors are in the limited numbers of observations, for the
same country, of the many variables of interest. We have attempted therefore to include the maximum number of countries at each step of the analyses with the intent that the final model will contain observations for as many countries as possible.

The multivariate analysis was done by first selecting those variables which had the highest zero order correlations with significance levels of $P \leqslant 0.05$ when compared with the individual health indicators, and then performing a two level process of stepwise multiple regression. The most significant correlates within each of the five categories of explanatory variables were selected and the strongest correlates of all those five categories were then combined to show the relative importance of sanitation, health expenditures, health personnel and facilities, economic and social indicators in the presence of the other explanatory variables in terms of their associations with levels of expectancy, with changes in levels of life expectancy over time, and with infant mortality rates.

Tables III through VI illustrate the process by which representative proxies for each of the five categories of variables were selected. These tables show the results of the stepwise regressions. The starred variables are the resulting selections for the five intra-group analyses. In some cases merely combining these five groups of variables as they were selected provided a very small number of countries for which all of these data were available. Where this was the case, subsets of variables were combined (indicated by $\square$ and \#) to provide a larger number of observations for the final regression equations. An explanation of each final result follows.

## A. LEVEL OF LIFE EXPECTANCY IN 1960-65 AND IN 1970-75

For level of life expectancy in the 1960-65 period, in the forty-nine countries which had recorded information on the five selected sanitation variables (percent of population with access to electricity plus the four water supply indicators), once the effects of the three starred variables (those representing access to electricity, percent with household taps and percent increase in urban access to standpipes) were accounted for in the regression model, no additional explanatory power then came from any of the remaining two sanitation indicators: total urban water coverage or urban access to standpipes. This is not to say that the latter two variables are insignificant as far as their impact on life expectancy is concerned. It is rather to say first, that they most definitely do have relationships with life expectancy (this was shown by their significant zero order correlations), but second, that the direct relationship may well be through other variables with which they are also related.

The combination of electricity, urban household taps, and percentage
TABLE III
Simple and Multiple Correlation Coefficients for Association With Level of Life Expectancy in the 1960-65 Period

| Independent Variable | Simple Correlation Coefficient | 1st Level <br> Multiple <br> Regression ( R ) | 2nd Level <br> Multiple <br> Regression (R) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Utilities (Power and Sanitation): |  |  |  |
| 5004 Per capita electrical consumption (kWh) | 0.750 (67) * |  |  |
| 5006 Percent of urban population with household public water taps | 0.728 (65) * | 0.830 |  |
| 5011 Percent of urban population with access to standpipe | -0.291 (65) | (49) |  |
| 5014 Percent change, urban access to standpipes | -0.262 (57)* |  |  |
| 5016 Urban total water coverage (tap or standpipe) | 0.648 (65) |  |  |
| Health Expenditures: |  |  |  |
| 3079 Total expenditure on health | 0.262 (86) *口 | 0.355 |  |
| 3081 Per capita health expenditure | 0.361 (85) | (54) |  |
| 8001 S.I.T.C. 541 total imports (Medicinal and pharmaceutical products) | 0.408 (56) |  |  |
| Health Personnel and Facilities: |  |  |  |
| 6000 Total number of hospital beds | 0.286 (58) | 0.564 | * 0.915 |
| 6008 Population per general hospital | -0.346 (50) | (44) | (29) |
| 7001 Population per doctor | -0.551 (64)*口 |  |  |
| Economic Variables: |  |  |  |
| 3006 Per capita national income | 0.750 (59) * |  | ก 0.841 |
| 3020 Percent of labor force in agriculture | -0.789 (58) * | 0.793 * 0 | (38) |
| 3022 Percent of G.D.P. derived from agriculture | -0.461 (47) | (35) |  |
| 3045 Total imports and N.F.S. | 0.280 (54) |  |  |
| 3049 Merchandise Exports | 0.307 (54) |  |  |
| 3053 Total exports of goods and N.F.S. | 0.362 (54) |  |  |
| Social Indicators: |  |  |  |
| 2006 Primary school enrollment as a percent of children 6-11 years old | 0.532 (74) * |  |  |
| 2008 Secondary school enrollment as a percent of children 12-17 years old | 0.745 (77) * |  |  |
| 2012 Radios per 1,000 population | 0.525 (78) | 0.915 * |  |
| 2014 Automobiles per 1,000 population | 0.690 (63) * | (52) |  |
| 2019 Per capita available kilocalories per day | 0.564 (76) |  |  |
| 2022 Percent of required calories | 0.317 (65) |  |  |

TABLE IV
Simple and Multiple Correlation Coefficients for Association With Level of Life Expectancy in the 1970－75 Period

| Independent Variable | Simple Correlation Coefficient | 1st Level Multiple Regression（R） |  | 2nd Level Multiple Regression（R） |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Utilities（Power and Sanitation）： |  |  |  |  |
| 5004 Per capita electrical consumption（kWh） | 0.717 （67）＊\＃ |  |  |  |
| 5007 Percent of urban population with household public water taps | 0.612 （74） |  |  |  |
| 5008 Percent of urban population with household public water taps | 0.721 （56）＊口 |  |  |  |
| 5017 Urban total water coverage（tap or standpipe） | 0.278 （73） |  |  |  |
| 5033 Percent rural population with some form of excreta disposal system | 0.399 （58） |  |  |  |
| 5024 Percent of total population with water | 0.563 （69） |  |  |  |
| 5027 Percent urban population with in－house public excreta disposal system | 0.483 （62） |  |  |  |
| Health Expenditures： |  |  |  |  |
| 3079 Total expenditure on health | 0.276 （86）＊ $\mathrm{\square}$ \＃ | 0.486 |  |  |
| 3081 Per capita health expenditure | 0.362 （85） | （51） |  | ＊ 0.970 |
| 8001 S．I．T．C． 541 total imports（Medicinal and pharmaceutical products） | 0.407 （56） |  |  | （30） |
| 8009 S．ITT．C． 554 total imports（Soap，cleansing \＆polishing preparations） | 0.478 （53）＊ |  |  |  |
| Health Personnel and Facilities： |  |  |  | 0.948 |
| 6000 Total number of hospital beds | 0.275 （58） |  |  | （47） |
| 6008 Population per general hospital | －0．361（50） |  |  |  |
| 6019 Population per hospital bed | -0.369 （85） | 0.719 |  | \＃ 0.851 |
| 7004 Population per physician | －0．676（85）＊口 \＃ | （21） |  | （63） |
| 7035 Population per midwife | －0．281（51） |  |  |  |
| 7037 Population per nurse | -0.303 （69） |  |  |  |
| 7040 Population per lab technician，lab assistant | －0．266（63） |  |  |  |
| Economic Variables： |  |  |  |  |
| 3007 Per capita national income | 0.661 （85） | 0.746 | ＊${ }^{\text {\＃}}$ |  |
| 3021 Percent of labor force in agriculture | －0．746（65）＊口 \＃ | （65） |  |  |
| Social Indicators： |  |  |  |  |
| 2004 Percent of population literate | 0.881 （85）＊ 0 \＃ |  |  |  |
| 2005 Percent of children 5－19 in school | 0.772 （85） |  |  |  |
| 2013 Radios per 1，000 population | 0.597 （67） |  |  |  |
| 2021 Per capita available kilocalories per day | 0.642 （85）＊ |  |  |  |

increase in standpipes yielded a multiple correlation coefficient (r) of 0.83 , and thus in the absence of any of the variables from the other four groups, these were associated with $70 \%\left(\mathrm{r}^{2}\right)$ of the variation in life expectancy in 1960-65. Because of this, subsequent selection of sanitation proxies came only from this group of three, and in fact a final stepwise regression was performed only with the urban house tap variable consistent with our efforts to recapture as many countries in the final regression as possible. A similar process was performed for each of the other four categories of independent variables. The final regression model selected for level of life expectancy in 1960 is shown below.

Using as the model for determinants of life expectancy in 1960:

|  | \% Urban household taps | Total expenditure on health | Population per physician | Per capita income |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\mathrm{B}_{5}$ (Social) <br> \% Primary <br> school <br> enrollment |  |  |  |

the stepwise regression results were

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \begin{aligned}
\text { LE1960 }= & 35.36+ \\
& (2.000,17.7]^{2} \text { n.s. }
\end{aligned} \\
& +0.027 \text { (Eco.) }+0.126 \text { (Social) } \\
& \text { [0.0035,7.58] [0.0248,5.07] } \\
& \mathrm{n}=38 \\
& \mathrm{R}^{2} \text { at first step } \quad=0.49 \\
& R^{2} \text { at final step } \quad=0.71(F=42.4, p=0.001 \text {, s.e. }=4.64) \\
& \text { partial } \mathrm{r}^{2} \text { econ-social }=0.62 \\
& \text { partial } \mathrm{r}^{2} \text { social-econ }=0.42
\end{aligned}
$$

As explanations of level of life expectancy in the period 1960-65, the economic (as represented by per capita national income) and social indicators (as indicated by schooling) predominate as the primary correlates. After these were added in stepwise fashion to the multiple regression model for life expectancy for the thirty eight countries, no additional explanatory force could be gained by the sanitation, health expenditures, and health personnel and facilities variables. That is not to say these other variables are not correlated, or indeed important in life expectancy. It means that due to the structure of social and governmental systems, the primary, or
most significant route to life expectancy improvement may have been first by way of improvements in social and economic patterns. It is no coincidence that with these improvements come changes in sanitation, health expenditures and availability of health personnel and facilities. The partial correlation coefficients further show that in this period the economic variable was a stronger correlate than the social variable considering each in the presence of the other.

In 1970-75, the impact of economic variables has diminished, and sanitation plays a larger role in the presence of the other variables (Table IV). It is important to recognize that changes in these areas alone, however, may not bring about the desired or expected changes in life expectancy. The model for determinants of life expectancy in the 1970-75 period gave the following result:
 LE1970 $=44.01+\underset{[3.106,14.2]}{ } 0.103$ (Sanitation) -0.083 (Economic)
+0.180 (Social)
[0.0231,7.81]
$\mathrm{n}=47$
$\mathrm{R}^{2}$ at first step (social) $\quad=0.78$
$\mathrm{R}^{2}$ at second step (social, sani.) $\quad=0.88$
$R^{2}$ at final step (social, sani., econ.) $=0.90(F=126.97, p=0.000$, s.e. $=2.99$ )
partial $\mathrm{r}^{2}$ (soc., sani., econ.) $\quad=0.59$
partial $\mathrm{r}^{2}$ (sani., econ., soc.) $\quad=0.39$
partial $\mathrm{r}^{2}$ (econ., sani., soc.) $\quad=0.13$
A total of $90 \%$ of the variation in life expectancy in the period 1970-75 is explained by the three variables literacy, urban water availability, and percent of labor force in agriculture, in that order of importance. After the inclusion of these three indicators, health expenditures and health facilities and personnel variables did not add to the amount of variation explained. Total expenditure on health was used as an independent variable rather
than per capita because for the fifty-one countries with all four items listed under health expenditures in Table IV, total health expenditure was a stronger correlate. Analysis with per capita expenditure did not change the result of the final model. Percent of labor force in agriculture was used as the economic indicator because it was a stronger correlate than per capita income. Had per capita income been used, the contribution of the economic indicator would have been even less.

If we modify the model slightly by substituting electrical consumption for percent of urban population with public water taps as the sanitation and utilities variable, at the cost of using a slightly less powerful sanitation component we gain sixteen additional countries in the sample. The multivariate results then become:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { LE1970 }=49.83-\quad 0.00009 \text { (Health Facilities) } \\
& \text { [2.679,18.60] [0.000037,-2.35] } \\
& -0.106 \text { (Economic) }+0.215 \text { (Social) } \\
& \text { [0.0332,-3.18] [0.0241,8.94] } \\
& \mathrm{n}=63 \\
& \mathrm{R}^{2} \text { at first step (social) } \quad=0.80 \\
& \mathrm{R}^{2} \text { at second step (social + econ.) } \quad=0.84 \\
& \left.\mathrm{R}^{2} \text { at final step (social +econ. }+ \text { H.Fac. }\right)=0.86(\mathrm{~F}=118.02, \mathrm{p}=0.000 \text {, } \\
& \text { s.e. }=3.63 \text { ) } \\
& \text { partial } \mathrm{r}^{2} \text { (social-econ., H.Fac.) } \quad=0.58 \\
& \text { partial r}{ }^{2} \text { (econ.-social, H.Fac.) } \quad=0.15 \\
& \text { partial } \mathrm{r}^{2} \text { (H.Fac.-social, econ.) } \quad=0.08
\end{aligned}
$$

Still literacy dominates, with the economic indicator and health personnel variables playing significant though smaller roles.

The significant correlation of the sanitation variable with level of life expectancy in 1970-75 prompted a further look at the three-way interrelationship between sanitation, literacy, and level of life expectancy. Figure 9 shows how controlling for literacy can show the effect of higher versus lower sanitation investments with regard to associated levels of health.

## B. ABSOLUTE CHANGE IN LIFE EXPECTANCY FROM 1950 TO 1970

In a similar manner, health personnel (as represented by population per midwife) and sanitation indicators (as represented by urban water coverage) dominate as explanatory variables for variations in changes in life expectancy from 1950 to 1970, though able to explain a much smaller percentage of the variation, $28 \%$ and $10 \%$ respectively. It is true that most of the variation in change in life expectancy remains unexplained by variables included in the multivariate model, but what is also true is that a significant part of
TABLE $V$
Simple and Multiple Correlation Coefficients for Association With Absolute Change in Life Expectancy 1950－55 to 1970－75

| Independent Variable | Simple Correlation Coefficient | 1st Level Multiple Regression（R） | 2nd Level Multiple <br> Regression（R） |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Utilities（Power and Sanitation）： |  |  |  |
| 5000 Percent of dwelling units without piped water | 0.532 （33）＊ | 0569 （21） |  |
| 5018 Urban total water coverage（tap or standpipe） | 0.308 （56）\＃口 | 0.569 （21）－ |  |
| Health Expenditures： |  |  |  |
| 3079 Total expenditure on health | 0.310 （86）\＃口 | 0.328 （50） |  |
| 8008 S．I．T．C． 541.9 total imports（Pharmaceutical goods other than medicaments） | 0.324 （51）＊ | $\}^{0.328(50)}$ |  |
| Health Personnel and Facilities： |  |  |  |
| 6019 Population per hospital bed | －0．243（85） |  |  |
| 7004 Population per physician | －0．330（85） |  |  |
| 7006 Population per nurse | -0.273 （52）$\quad$－ |  | \＃ 0.527 （26） |
| 7010 Population per midwife | －0．468（43）＊\＃ | 0.681 （25）\＃ |  |
| 7035 Population per midwife | -0.304 （51） |  | － 0.317 （53） |
| 7037 Population per nurse | －0．263（69） |  |  |
| Economic Variables： |  |  |  |
| 3078 Total expenditure on education | 0.283 （86）＊\＃口 | 0.283 （86） |  |
| Social Indicators： |  |  |  |
| 2002 Percent of population literate | 0.247 （64）＊ |  |  |
| 2003 Percent of population literate | 0.220 （82）\＃口 |  |  |
| 2006 Primary school enrollment as a percent of children 6－11 years old | 0.345 （74） | 0.386 （56） |  |
| 2009 Secondary school enrollment as a percent of children 12－17 years old | 0.260 （79） |  |  |

the variation is correlated with the sanitation indicator and the lower level health manpower indicator, population per midwife. Per capita health expenditures were not at all correlated, nor is level of per capita national income, and once the sanitation or health personnel variable is in the model no additional explanatory power comes from the already weak representatives of the other variables.

The first model for change in life expectancy is:


$$
\begin{array}{rll}
\text { LE } 1950-1970= & 9.935- & 0.000014(\text { Health Facilities }) \\
& {[0.667,14.90][0.000004,-3.04]}
\end{array}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& n=26 \\
& R^{2} \text { at first step (population per midwife) }=0.28 \\
& (F=9.24, p=0.006, \text { s.e. }=2.97)
\end{aligned}
$$

Partial correlations of each of the other four were all less than 0.01 and did not increase the overall amount of variation explained. As was done with level of life expectancy, subsequent analyses were performed to expand the number of countries included as much as possible. By taking the weaker health personnel variable, population per physician, the sample size is increased to 53 and the following results are obtained:

$$
\begin{array}{rll}
\text { LE1950-1970 = } \mathrm{B}_{0}+ & \mathrm{B}_{1}(\text { Sanit. })+ & \mathrm{B}_{2}(\text { H.Exp. })+ \\
& \text { Urban } & \text { Total } \\
& \text { water } & \text { expac. }) \\
& \text { Population } \\
& \text { coverage } & \text { on health }
\end{array} \text { physician }
$$

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
+\mathrm{B}_{4}(\text { Eco. })+ & \mathrm{B}_{5}(\text { Social }) \\
\text { Education } & \% \text { literate } \\
\text { expenditures } &
\end{array}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { LE1950-1970 }= 6.205+ \\
& {[1.35,4.59][0.040 \text { (Sanitation) }} \\
& {[0.017,2.39] }
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& n=53 \\
& R^{2} \text { at first step }(\% \text { total urban water coverage })=0.10 \\
& (F=5.72, p=0.021, \text { s.e. }=2.76)
\end{aligned}
$$

Again, partial correlations of each of the health expenditure, health facilities, economic, and social variables were all under 0.01 and not significant. It is interesting, however, that the next most significant variable amongst the remaining four would have been population per midwife.

In conclusion, for the analysis looking at changes in life expectancy over time, economic indicators, health expenditures, and social indicators play less of a role in terms of showing correlation in this multivariate model. The primary indicators seem to be low level health technology (population per midwife) or levels of sanitation (urban water coverage).

## C. LEVELS OF INFANT MORTALITY

In the multivariate analysis of levels of infant mortality the social indicator variables, specifically percent of population literate, dominated as the chief determinant. While no direct causal link can be proven by this high association, it is certainly plausible that the various forms of communication, of which literacy levels may be a surrogate, are playing a role here.

The regression equation resulting from this stepwise linear regression process is:

$+B_{4}($ Eco. $)+B_{5}$ (Social)
\% labor \% literate
force in
agriculture
IMR1974 $=170.24-\quad 1.355$ (Social Indicator)
[6.61,25.75] [0.124,-10.96]

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{n}=42 \\
& \mathrm{R}^{2} \text { at first step }(\% \text { literate })=0.75 \\
& (\mathrm{~F}=120.23, \mathrm{p}=0.000, \text { s.e. }=21.96)
\end{aligned}
$$

The other independent variables did not add to the $75 \%$ variation already explained by literacy level. These results very strongly support the notion that communication and education activities do have an influence on the level of well-being in a region. Though the findings show literacy dominates in the multivariate model, the high associations between IMR and other communication surrogates such as radios per 1,000 population also suggest
TABLL VI
Simple and Multiple Correlation Coefticients for Association With Level of Infant Mortality 1974

| Independent Variable | Simple <br> Correlation <br> Coetficient | 1st Level <br> Multiple <br> Regression (R) | 2nd Level <br> Multiple <br> Regression (R) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Utilities (Power and Sanitation): |  |  |  |
| 5005 Per capita electrical consumption (kWh) | $-0.696(67)^{*}$ |  |  |
| 5007 Percent of urban population with household public water taps | -0.585 (74) |  |  |
| 5012 Percent urban population with access to standpipe | 0.337 (70) |  |  |
| 5016 Urban total water coverage (tap or standpipe) | -0.613 (65) | 0.715 (39) |  |
| 5017 Urban total water coverage (tap or standpipe) | -0.290 (73) | 0.715 (39) |  |
| 5024 Percent of total population with water | -0.583 (69) |  |  |
| 5027 Percent urban population with in-house public excreta disposal system | $-0.488(62) *$ |  |  |
| 5033 Percent rural population with some form of excreta disposal system | -0.312 (58) |  |  |
| Health Expenditures: |  |  |  |
| 3079 Total expenditure on health | -0.242 (86) |  |  |
| 3081 Per capita health expenditure | -0.282 (86) | 0.348 (52) |  |
| 8009 S.I.T.C. 554 total imports (Soap, cleansing and polishing preparations) | -0.348 (52)* |  |  |
| Health Personnel and I acilities: |  |  |  |
| 6008 Population per general hospital | 0.363 (49) |  | * 0.867 (31) |
| 6019 Population per hospital bed | 0.290 (86) | 0.556 (21) |  |
| 7031 Population per doctor | 0.351 (75) * |  | - 0.866 (42) |
| 7035 Population per midwife | 0.283 (51) |  |  |
| 7010 Population per midwife | 0.397 (40) |  |  |
| Economic Variables: |  |  |  |
| 3007 Per capita national income | 0.543 (82) |  |  |
| 3021 Percent of labor force in agriculture | 0.664 (65) |  |  |
| 3023 Percent of G.D.P. derived from agriculture | 0.461 (65) | 0.679 (45) |  |
| 3043 Merchandise imports | -0.292(58) | 0.679 (45) |  |
| 3046 Total imports and N.I'S. | 0.430 (71) |  |  |
| 3054 Total imports of goods and N.I.S. | 0.358 (71) |  |  |
| Social Indicators: |  |  |  |
| 2003 Percent of population literate, 1970 | $-0.793(81)$ |  |  |
| 2004 Percent of population literate, 1974 | -0.880 (86) * |  |  |
| 2005 Percent of children 5-19 in school | $0.752(86)^{*}$ | $0.903(65) *$ * |  |
| 2013 Radios per 1,000 population | . 0.616 (67)* |  |  |
| 2015 Automobiles per 1,000 population | $-0.561(67)$ |  |  |
| 2021 Per capita available kilocalories per day | $0.576(86)$ |  |  |
| 2025 Percent of required calories | $\cdots 0.613(86)$ |  |  |

that the communication process broadly has an influence on the health behavior of populations.

Female literacy has been shown in other studies to be highly correlated with childhood mortality, so the present results are consistent with explanations. Some of the causal links hypothesized between literacy and childhood mortality are:
(1) Increased awareness of personal hygiene;
(2) The propensity of the literate to seek medical care from scientific rather than from folk sources;
(3) Cognitive development enabling the consequences of particular acts to be anticipated, particularly those associated with child care; and
(4) Greater efficiency in consumption. That is, the literate pay lower prices for the goods and services they purchase and thus secure more goods and services from a fixed amount of income (Sloan, 1971).

## VII. Discussion and Conclusions

The problem of determining what "explains" mortality and changes in mortality is similar in concept to determining the production function of an industrial or agricultural product. That is, many inputs, resources, and environmental conditions are necessary. At any given level of output, all of the factors of production make contributions. The question of whether to increase the use of some or decrease the use of others is answered by testing the effects on changes in output of small changes in one or another of the inputs. It is essential to keep in mind that the marginal productivity of any input is related closely to the simultaneous utilization of other factors as well. The relative costs of inputs are significant considerations which must be looked at in relation to outputs as well as the physical relationships. Thus there is a "technical production function" and relative prices of inputs to be considered. In our current work we have sought the "social production functions" that relate actions in society to the desired outputs, in this case represented by gains in life expectancy.

The limited explanatory power of income per capita and its weakening strength have been noted by many writers such as Stolnitz, Preston, and Arriaga and Davis. Most of them asserted that the changes in society which were affecting mortality favorably were disease control programs, medical technology, and the like. While our calculations support the idea that income per capita explains only a fraction of life expectancy variations and is lessening in power (in our data from 1960 to 1970; Preston showed this for 1930 to 1960; Arriaga and Davis saw a turning point in Latin America in the 1930's), the health inputs measured - expenditures, personnel, and
facilities - had much less statistical significance in explaining variations in levels of life expectancy. It is the set of social factors, among which adult literacy is the strongest, that explains the largest part of life expectancy variations, with sanitation investments also playing a significant role.

## Appendix I: Ninety Developing Countries - Life Expectancy at Three Points in Time and Infant Mortality Rates in 1974

| Country | Life Expectancy | Relative <br> change in <br> life expectancy | Infant <br> mortality |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | 1950's | 1960's | 1970's | 1950's-1970's | 1974


| West Africa |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Benin | 31.3 | 36.0 | 41.0 | 9.7 | 185.0 |
| Ghana | 34.0 | 39.0 | 43.5 | 9.5 | 133.0 |
| Guinea | 31.3 | 36.0 | 41.0 | 9.7 | 175.0 |
| Ivory Coast | 33.5 | 38.4 | 43.5 | 10.0 | 160.0 |
| Liberia | 34.5 | 38.5 | 43.5 | 9.0 | 159.0 |
| Mali | 33.5 | 36.0 | 38.0 | 4.5 | 168.0 |
| Mauritania | 33.5 | 38.4 | 38.5 | 5.0 | 137.0 |
| Niger | 33.5 | 38.4 | 38.5 | 5.0 | 175.0 |
| Nigeria | 31.3 | 36.0 | 41.0 | 9.7 | 162.0 |
| Senegal | 33.5 | 38.0 | 40.0 | 6.5 | 159.0 |
| Sierra Leone | 33.5 | 38.5 | 43.5 | 10.0 | 136.0 |
| Togo | 31.3 | 36.0 | 41.0 | 9.7 | 127.0 |
| Upper Volta | 31.0 | 34.0 | 38.0 | 7.0 | 180.0 |
| East Africa |  |  |  |  |  |
| Burundi | 31.3 | 36.0 | 39.0 | 7.7 | 150.0 |
| Ethiopia | 31.0 | 36.5 | 39.0 | 8.0 | 178.0 |
| Kenya | 40.0 | 45.0 | 50.0 | 10.0 | 115.0 |
| Madagascar | 33.5 | 38.4 | 43.5 | 10.0 | 102.0 |
| Malawi | 33.5 | 36.5 | 41.0 | 7.5 | 119.0 |
| Mozambique | 33.5 | 38.5 | 43.5 | 10.0 | 150.0 |
| Rwanda | 33.5 | 38.5 | 41.0 | 7.5 | 133.0 |
| Somalia | 33.5 | 36.8 | 41.0 | 7.5 | 177.0 |
| Rhodesia | 41.8 | 46.8 | 51.5 | 9.7 | 122.0 |
| Uganda | 40.0 | 45.0 | 50.0 | 10.0 | 160.0 |
| Tanzania | 34.2 | 39.2 | 44.5 | 10.3 | 160.0 |
| Zambia | 36.0 | 41.0 | 44.5 | 8.5 | 157.0 |
| North Africa |  |  |  |  |  |
| Algeria | 43.1 | 48.1 | 53.2 | 10.1 | 126.0 |
| Egypt | 42.4 | 47.4 | 52.4 | 10.0 | 98.0 |
| Libya | 42.9 | 47.9 | 52.9 | 10.0 | 125.0 |
| Morocco | 42.9 | 47.9 | 52.9 | 10.0 | 149.0 |
| Sudan | 38.6 | 43.6 | 48.6 | 10.0 | 136.0 |
| Tunisia | 43.6 | 48.6 | 54.1 | 10.5 | 128.0 |

## (Appendix I cont'd)

| Country | $\begin{array}{l}\text { Life expectancy }\end{array}$ |  | $\begin{array}{l}\text { Relative } \\ \text { change in }\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{l}\text { Infant } \\ \text { mortality }\end{array}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1950's | 1960 's |  |  |  |$\quad 1970$ 's $\left.\begin{array}{l}\text { life expectancy }\end{array}\right\}$| 1974 |
| :--- |


| $\quad$ Central Africa |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Angola | 30.0 | 34.0 | 38.5 | 8.5 | 200.0 |
| Central African Empire | 33.0 | 37.0 | 41.0 | 8.0 | 163.0 |
| Chad | 31.3 | 36.0 | 38.5 | 7.2 | 160.0 |
| Congo | 33.5 | 38.4 | 43.5 | 10.0 | 175.0 |
| Cameroon | 33.5 | 38.4 | 41.0 | 7.5 | 135.0 |
| Zaire | 38.5 | 40.0 | 43.5 | 5.0 | 160.0 |
| $\quad$ South Africa |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\quad$ Lesotho | 35.9 | 40.9 | 46.0 | 10.1 | 114.0 |
| South Africa | 44.4 | 48.6 | 51.5 | 7.1 | 117.0 |

Tropical America

| Bolivia | 40.8 | 43.8 | 46.8 | 6.0 | 108.0 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Brazil | 54.2 | 57.9 | 61.4 | 7.2 | 82.0 |
| Colombia | 50.2 | 56.6 | 60.9 | 10.7 | 76.0 |
| Ecuador | 47.2 | 54.2 | 59.6 | 12.4 | 78.0 |
| Paraguay | 51.5 | 57.0 | 61.9 | 10.4 | 65.0 |
| Peru | 44.8 | 51.0 | 55.7 | 10.9 | 110.0 |
| Venezuela | 54.2 | 60.2 | 64.7 | 10.5 | 50.0 |

Middle America

| Costa Rica | 58.2 | 62.8 | 68.2 | 10.0 | 52.0 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| El Salvador | 43.7 | 51.5 | 57.8 | 14.1 | 58.0 |
| Guatemala | 41.2 | 47.2 | 52.9 | 11.7 | 79.0 |
| Honduras | 36.9 | 45.1 | 53.5 | 16.6 | 115.0 |
| Mexico | 51.6 | 59.5 | 63.2 | 11.6 | 61.0 |
| Nicaragua | 43.0 | 47.9 | 52.9 | 9.9 | 121.0 |
| Panama | 58.8 | 62.9 | 66.5 | 7.7 | 44.0 |

Temperate America
Argentina

| 62.7 | 66.0 | 68.2 | 5.5 | 60.0 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


| Chile | 54.1 | 57.7 | 62.6 | 8.5 | 71.0 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


| Uruguay | 66.3 | 68.3 | 69.8 | 3.5 | 45.0 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

Caribbean

| Cuba | 58.8 | 65.1 | 69.8 | 11.0 | 29.0 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Dominican Republic | 45.1 | 53.0 | 57.8 | 12.7 | 98.0 |
| Haiti | 40.5 | 45.5 | 50.0 | 9.5 | 150.0 |
| Jamaica | 57.9 | 65.8 | 69.5 | 11.6 | 26.0 |
| Puerto Rico | 64.4 | 69.5 | 72.1 | 7.7 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\quad$ East Asia |  |  |  |  | 55.0 |
| People's Republic China | 45.0 | 55.5 | 61.6 | 16.6 |  |
| Hong Kong | 60.9 | 66.1 | 70.0 | 9.1 | 100.0 |
| Korea (DR) | 47.5 | 55.2 | 60.6 | 13.1 | 47.0 |
| Korea (R) | 47.5 | 55.2 | 60.6 | 13.1 |  |

(Appendix I cont'd)

| Country | Life Expectancy |  |  | Relative <br> change in <br> life expectancy |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | | Infant |
| :--- |
| mortality |

## Middle Asia

| Afghanistan | 30.2 | 35.3 | 40.3 | 10.1 | 182.0 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Bangladesh | 36.7 | 40.8 | 35.8 | -0.9 | 132.0 |
| Bhutan | 31.1 | 38.1 | 43.6 | 12.5 |  |
| India | 38.7 | 44.7 | 49.5 | 10.8 | 134.0 |
| Iran |  |  |  |  | 139.0 |
| Nepal | 33.1 | 38.1 | 43.6 | 10.5 | 152.0 |
| Pakistan | 39.1 | 44.9 | 49.8 | 10.7 | 124.0 |
| Sri Lanka | 56.6 | 63.5 | 67.8 | 11.2 | 45.0 |

South East Asia

| Burma | 40.0 | 45.0 | 50.0 | 10.0 | 126.0 |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Kampuchea | 39.4 | 43.4 | 45.4 | 6.0 | 127.0 |
| Indonesia | 37.5 | 42.5 | 47.5 | 10.0 | 125.0 |
| Laos | 37.8 | 40.4 | 40.4 | 2.6 | 123.0 |
| Malaysia | 48.5 | 54.2 | 59.4 | 10.9 | 75.0 |
| Philippines | 46.0 | 52.2 | 58.4 | 12.4 | 74.0 |
| Singapore | 60.4 | 65.8 | 69.5 | 9.1 | 17.0 |
| Viet Nam | 37.8 | 41.7 | 44.6 | 6.8 | 100.0 |
| Thailand | 45.2 | 52.5 | 58.0 | 12.8 |  |
| $\quad$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\quad$ West Asia | 42.7 | 47.7 | 52.7 | 10.0 | 99.0 |
| Iraq | 43.2 | 48.2 | 53.2 | 10.0 | 97.0 |
| Jordan | 54.0 | 58.7 | 63.2 | 9.2 | 59.0 |
| Lebanon | 34.7 | 39.7 | 45.3 | 10.6 | 153.0 |
| Saudi-Arabia | 43.8 | 48.8 | 54.0 | 10.2 | 93.0 |
| Syria | 47.0 | 51.7 | 56.9 | 9.9 | 119.0 |
| Turkey | 34.7 | 39.7 | 44.8 | 10.1 | 152.0 |
| Yenen (R) | 34.7 | 39.7 | 44.8 | 10.1 | 152.0 |
| Yemen (PR) |  |  |  |  |  |

## Appendix II: Five Groups of Independent Variables

## 1. HEALTH EXPENDITURES

| HLTH 65 | 14 | Health expenditure (Million U.S. \$) | 1965 |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | ---: |
| HLTH 70 | 77 | Health expenditure (Million U.S. \$) | 1970 |
| HLTH 73 | 54 | Health expenditure (Million U.S. \$) | 1973 |
| EXHLM\$US | 103 | Total expenditure on health (Million U.S. \$) | 1974 |
| XPCHLT74 | 102 | Per capita health expenditure (Million U.S. \$) | 1974 |
| SITC541 | 72 | S.I.T.C.541 total imports med and pharm products |  |
| SITC5411 | 35 | S.IT.C.S41.1 total imports vitamins |  |
| SITC5413 | 39 | S.I.T.C. 541.3 total imports antibiotics |  |
| SITC5414 | 27 | S.I.T.C. 541.4 total imports vegetable alkaloids |  |
| SITC5415 | 27 | S.I.T.C. 541.5 total imports hormones (insulin, etc.) |  |

(Appendix II cont'd)

| SITC5416 | 50 | S.I.T.C. 541.6 total imports antiscra, vaccines |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| SITC5417 | 68 | S.I.T.C. 541.7 total imports medicaments |
| SITC5419 | 62 | S.I.T.C. 541.9 total imports pharmaceutical goods |
|  |  | (other than medicaments) |
| SITC554 | 69 | S.I.T.C. 554 total imports soap, cleansing and polishing <br> preparations |
| SITC5541 | 51 | S.I.T.C. 5541 total imports bars soap and soap products |
| SITC5542 | 56 | S.I.T.C. 5542 total imports cleansing agents |

## 2. HEALTH FACILITIES AND PERSONNEL

| TOTBDS60 | 79 | Total number of hospital beds | 1960 |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- |
| R HOSP70 | 36 | Number of rural hospitals | 1970 |
| POPRH70 | 36 | Population per rural hospital | 1970 |
| H CNTR60 | 23 | Number of health centers | 1960 |
| POPHCT60 | 23 | Population per health center | 1960 |
| H CNTR70 | 33 | Number of health centers | 1970 |
| POPHCT70 | 33 | Population per health center | 1970 |
| LABTEC A | 105 | Number of auxiliary health personnel and other |  |
| TRDMWDRA | 24 | Number of traditional midwives, doctors, etc |  |
| G HOSP60 | 69 | Number of general hospitals | 1960 |
| POPGHP60 | 69 | Population per general hospital | 1960 |
| G HOSP70 | 55 | Number of general hospitals | 1970 |
| POPGHP70 | 55 | Population per general hospital | 1970 |
| RHBDS70 | 33 | Number of rural hospital beds | 1970 |
| POPRHB70 | 33 | Population per rural hospital bed | 1970 |
| HCBDS70 | 23 | Number of health center beds | 1970 |
| POPHCB70 | 23 | Population per health center bed | 1970 |
| GH13DS60 | 59 | Number of general hospital beds | 1960 |
| POPGHB60 | 58 | Population per general hospital bed | 1960 |
| GHBDS70 | 54 | Number of general hospital beds | 1970 |
| POPGHB70 | 54 | Population per general hospital bed | 1970 |
| POPBED74 | 102 | Population per hospital bed | 1974 |
| DOCTOR60 | 93 | Number of doctors | 1960 |
| POPDR60 | 92 | Population per doctor | 1960 |
| DOCTOR70 | 55 | Number of doctors | 1970 |
| POPDR70 | 55 | Population per doctor | 1970 |
| POPPHYS | 102 | Population per physician | 1974 |
| NURSE 60 | 77 | Number of nurses | 1960 |
| POPNRS60 | 77 | Population per nurse | 1960 |
| NURSE 70 | 52 | Number of nurses | 1970 |
| POPNRS70 | 52 | Population per nurse | 1970 |
| MIDWIF60 | 62 | Number of midwives | 1960 |
| POPMDW60 | 61 | Population per midwife | 1960 |
| MIDWIF70 | 44 | Number of midwives | 1970 |
| POPMDW70 | 44 | Population per midwife | 1970 |
| PHARM 60 | 61 | Number of pharmacists | 1960 |
| POPHN60 | 60 | Population per pharmacist | 1960 |
| PHARM 70 | 50 | Number of pharmacists | 1970 |
| POPPHM70 | 50 | Population per pharmacist | 1970 |
|  |  |  |  |

## (Appendix II cont'd)

## 3. SANITATION ACTIVITIES AND UTILITIES

| PCWOPC60 | 35 | Percent of dwelling units without piped water | 1960 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| PCWOPW70 | 30 | Percent of dwelling units without piped water | 1970 |
| PCWELEC60 | 31 | Percent of dwellings with electricity | 1960 |
| PCWELEC70 | 27 | Percent of dwellings with electricity | 1970 |
| ELEC C60 | 79 | Per capita electrical consumption (kWh) | 1960 |
| ELEC C70 | 81 | Per capita electrical consumption (kWh) | 1970 |
| UWB WH62 | 66 | Percent of urban population with household public water taps | 1962 |
| UBW WH70 | 88 | Percent of urban population with household public water taps | 1970 |
| UBW WH75 | 65 | Percent of urban population with household public water taps | 1975 |
| CUWPW627 | 61 | Percent change, urban population with household water taps | 1962-70 |
| CUWPW705 | 63 | Percent change, urban population with household water taps | 1970-75 |
| UBW PS62 | 66 | Percent urban population with access to standpipe | 1962 |
| UBW SP70 | 85 | Percent urban population with access to standpipe | 1970 |
| UBW SP75 | 64 | Percent urban population with access to standpipe | 1975 |
| CUWSP627 | 58 | Percent change, urban access to standpipes | 1962-70 |
| CUWSP705 | 61 | Percent change, urban access to standpipes | 1970-75 |
| UBTOTW62 | 66 | Urban total water coverage (tap or standpipe) | 1962 |
| UBTOTW70 | 87 | Urban total water coverage (tap or standpipe) | 1970 |
| URTOTW75 | 67 | Urban total water coverage (tap or standpipe) | 1975 |
| CUTWW627 | 60 | Percent change, urban total water coverage | 1962-70 |
| CUTWW705 | 63 | Percent change, urban total water coverage | 1970-75 |
| RURACW70 | 82 | Percent rural population with access to water | 1970 |
| RURACW75 | 65 | Percent rural population with access to water | 1975 |
| CRWAW705 | 55 | Percent change, rural with access to water | 1970-75 |
| UANDRW70 | 82 | Percent of total population with water | 1970 |
| UANDRW75 | 63 | Percent of total population with water | 1975 |
| CTOTW705 | 58 | Percent change, total population with water | 1970-75 |
| UBWSWG70 | 70 | Percent urban population with in-house public excreta disposal system | 1970 |
| UBWSWG75 | 62 | Percent urban population with in-house public excreta disposal system | 1975 |
| CUWSW705 | 49 | Percent change, urban population with in-house excreta disposal systems | 1970-75 |
| UBTOTS 70 | 65 | Percent urban population with some form of excreta disposal system (in-house, privies, pots, etc) | 1970 |
| UBTOTS75 | 53 | Percent urban population with some form of excreta disposal system (in-house, privies, pots, etc) | 1975 |
| CUTSG705 | 47 | Percent change, urban population with some form of excreta disposal | 1970-75 |
| RURWSG70 | 65 | Percent rural population with some form of excreta disposal | 1970 |
| RURWSG75 | 56 | Percent rural population with some form of excreta disposal | 1975 |
| CRWSG705 | 38 | Percent change, rural with some form of excreta disposal | 1970-75 |
| URTOTS70 | 61 | Total population (urban and rural) with some form of sewage system | 1970 |
| URTOTS 75 | 51 | Total population (urban and rural) with some form of sewage system | 1975 |
| CURSG705 | 44 | Percent change, total population with sewage systems | 1970-75 |

## 4. SOCIAL INDICATORS

| PCTLIT40 | 17 | Percent of population literate | 1940 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| PCTLIT60 | 62 | Percent of population literate | 1960 |
| PCTLIT70 | 85 | Percent of population literate | 1970 |
| PCTLIT7A | 91 | Percent of population literate | 1970 |
| PCTLIT74 | 102 | Percent of population literate | 1974 |
| PCINSCHL | 102 | Percent of children 5-19 in school | 1974 |
| PRSCHL60 | 87 | Primary school enrollment as a percent of children 6-11 years old | 1960 |
| PRSCHL70 | 106 | Primary school enrollment as a percent of children 6-11 years old | 1970 |
| SDSCHL60 | 91 | Secondary school enrollment as a percent of children 12-17 years old | 1960 |
| SDSCHL70 | 112 | Secondary school enrollment as a percent of children 12-17 years old | 1970 |
| NPERRM60 | 45 | Average number of persons per room | 1960 |
| NPERRM70 | 48 | Average number of persons per room | 1970 |
| RADIO 60 | 125 | Radios per 1,000 population | 1960 |
| RADIO 70 | 79 | Radios per 1,000 population | 1970 |
| CARS 60 | 75 | Automobiles per 1,000 population | 1960 |
| CARS 70 | 79 | Automobiles per 1,000 population | 1970 |
| QOFLI76 | 100 | Quality of life index (0-100) | 1976 |
| POLFRI76 | 100 | Political freedom index (0-100) | 1976 |
| CAL 40 | 13 | Per capita available kilocalories per day | 1940 |
| CAL 65 | 86 | Per capita available kilocalories per day | 1965 |
| CAL 70 | 91 | Per capita available kilocalories per day | 1970 |
| CAL 74 | 100 | Per capita available kilocalories per day | 1974 |
| PCTCAL60 | 73 | Percent of required calories | 1960 |
| PCTCAL65 | 86 | Percent of required calories | 1965 |
| PCTCAL70 | 76 | Percent of required calories | 1970 |
| PCTCAL74 | 100 | Percent of required calories | 1974 |
| PROT 60 | 74 | Daily protein consumption in grams | 1960 |
| PROT 65 | 86 | Daily protein consumption in grams | 1965 |
| PROT 70 | 76 | Daily protein consumption in grams | 1970 |
| PCPTA 60 | 41 | Percent of protein from animal and pulses | 1960 |
| PCPTA 70 | 76 | Percent of protein from animal and pulses | 1970 |
| FPPTGR65 | 86 | Food production percent growth rate | 1965 |
| FDPAGR65 | 79 | Food demand per annum growth rate | 1965 |
| GINI60 | 27 | Gini coefficient, early 1960's (1960-63) |  |
| PCI 2060 | 27 | Percent of income held by bottom 20 percent |  |
| PCI 9060 | 27 | Percent of income held by top 10 percent |  |
| GINI65 | 18 | Gini coefficient, mid-late 1960's (1966-69) |  |
| PCI 2065 | 18 | Percent of income held by bottom 20 percent |  |
| PCI 9065 | 18 | Percent of income held by top 10 percent |  |
| GINI70 | 23 | Gini coefficient, early 1970's (1970-73) |  |
| PCI 2070 | 23 | Percent of income held by bottom 20 percent |  |
| PCI 8070 | 23 | Percent of income held by top 10 percent |  |
| PCTI2060 | 33 | Percent of income held by bottom 20 percent | 1960 |
| PCTI2070 | 32 | Percent of income held by bottom 20 percent | 1970 |

## (Appendix II cont'd)

## 5. ECONOMIC INDICATORS

| GDP 50\$ | 18 | Gross domestic product at factor cost (Million U.S. \$) | 1950 |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- |
| GDP 55\$ | 27 | Gross domestic product at factor cost (Million U.S. \$) | 1955 |
| GDP 60\$ | 81 | Gross domestic product at factor cost (Million U.S. \$) | 1960 |
| GDP 65\$ | 88 | Gross domestic product at factor cost (Million U.S. \$) | 1965 |
| GDP 70\$ | 88 | Gross domestic product at factor cost (Million U.S. \$) | 1970 |
| GDP 73\$ | 83 | Gross domestic product at factor cost (Million U.S. \$) | 1973 |
| PCI6070\$ | 68 | Per capita national income (in 1970\$) | 1960 |
| PCI7070\$ | 120 | Per capita national income (in 1970\$) | 1970 |
| PTI6070\$ | 68 | Percent change in per capita income | $1960-70$ |
| RCI6070\$ | 68 | Real change in per capita income (in 1970\$) | $1960-70$ |
| RGNP174 | 70 | Real gross national product index (U.S. = 100) | 1974 |
| PCTUNE60 | 31 | Percent of labor force unemployed | 1960 |
| PCTUNE70 | 45 | Percent of labor force unemployed | 1970 |
| PCLFAG60 | 69 | Percent of labor force in agriculture | 1960 |
| PCLFAG70 | 77 | Percent of labor force in agriculture | 1970 |
| PCGDPA60 | 63 | Percent of G.D.P. derived from agriculture | 1960 |
| PCGDPA70 | 80 | Percent of G.D.P. derived from agriculture | 1970 |
| EXEDM\$US | 103 | Total expenditure on education (1) | 1974 |
| XPCED74 | 102 | Per capita education expenditure (1) | 1974 |
| PCGDPA75 | 57 | Percent of G.D.P. derived from agriculture | 1975 |
| ECONTYPE | 108 | Type of economic system | 1976 |
| ACGDP607 | 32 | Annual growth rate G.D.P. | $1960--70$ |
| PCCGDP67 | 32 | Per capita annual growth rate G.D.P. | $1960-70$ |
| GOVCON67 | 30 | Annual growth rate of government final consumption | $1960-70$ |
| PRICON67 | 30 | Annual growth rate of private final consumption | $1960-70$ |
| GFCAPF67 | 32 | Annual growth rate of fixed capital formation | $1960-70$ |
| XPORT607 | 26 | Annual growth rate of exports of goods and services | $1960--70$ |
| IPORT607 | 26 | Annual growth rate of imports of goods and services | $1960-70$ |
| ACGDP05 | 36 | Annual growth rate G.D.P. | $1970-75$ |
| PCCGDP05 | 36 | Per capita annual growth rate G.D.P. | $1970-75$ |
| GOVCON05 | 33 | Annual growth rate of government final consumption | $1970-75$ |
| PRICON05 | 32 | Annual growth rate of private final consumption | $1970-75$ |
| GFCAPF05 | 34 | Annual growth rate of exports capital formation | $1970-75$ |
| XPORT705 | 30 | Annual growth rate of exports of goods and services | $1970-75$ |
| IPORT705 | 30 | Annual growth rate of imports of goods and services | $1970-75$ |
|  |  |  |  |

## Notes

1 Variables were taken from data tapes of the World Bank, most of which have been published in World Tables 1976, published for the World Bank by Johns Hopkins University Press (1976); United Nations Statistical Yearbook, 1977, U.N.; World Population Prospects as Assessed in 1973 (1977) U.N.; Population and Vital Statistics Report, Series A, Vol. XXIX, No. 4 (1977) U.N.; World Military and Social Expenditures, 1977, Ruth Leger Sivard, Rockefeller Foundation (1977); Size Distribution of Income, A Compilation of Data, Shail Jain, World Bank (1975); "Real G.N.P. per capita for more than 100 countries," Irving R. Kravis, Alan W. Heston and Robert Summers (1978), The Economic Journal, Vol. 88, Cambridge University Press, June; United Nations Demographic Yearbook (1977), U.N.; Community Water Supply and Wastewater Disposal (1976), MidDecade Progress Report, Director General, World Health Organization, May.
2 [standard error, t]

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## Acknowledgements

The help of Mr. Robert Eckstein and Mr. Robert Tilden, researchers at The University of Michigan School of Public Health, with the extensive data collection and their assistance in producing the graphs is gratefully acknowledged.


[^0]:    The evidence appears overwhelming that levels of living and life-style can be greatly offset or even dominated by what might be called programmed disease control, defining the last broadly to include all public health programmes, hospital plus all other medical resources, and sanitary facilities. In areas where mortality is especially high, as in Africa and parts of Asia, public health and sanitation are almost surely the main prime movers needed for achieving rapid initial change. In less developed areas with already reduced, but still high mortality, hospital and other medical facilities have tended to become the strategic main factors for further change once public health and sanitation subsystems have come into being. The same has been true of less developed areas which have begun to penetrate current or recent ranges of mortality in developed areas. In all of these cases, the onset of rapid changes, both in mortality and major causes of death, is found to be closely related with programmes instituted by governments, international agencies and other health related institutions.

