

# Health: The Treasure we All Forget

Current Global Macro Perspectives  
Spring 2020 – Greg Siourounis

# Why Health Matters? Theory Check:

$$Y_t = H_t^\alpha (A_t X)^{1-\alpha}$$

- $H_t$   $\equiv$  efficiency units of labor
- $A_t$   $\equiv$  technological level
- $X$   $\equiv$  land

# Output per efficient worker! Not just L!

- Output per worker produced at time  $t$

$$y_t = h_t^\alpha x_t^{1-\alpha}$$

- $h_t \equiv H_t / L_t \equiv$  efficiency units per-worker

# Utility Function

- The utility function of individual  $t$  (adult at time  $t$ )

$$u^t = (1 - \gamma) \ln(c_t) + \gamma \ln(n_t h_{t+1})$$

- $c_t \equiv$  consumption of individual  $t$
- $n_t \equiv$  number of children of individual  $t$
- $h_{t+1} \equiv$  level of human capital of each child

# Remember the budget Constraint!

$$z_t n_t (\tau + e_{t+1}) + c_t \leq z_t$$

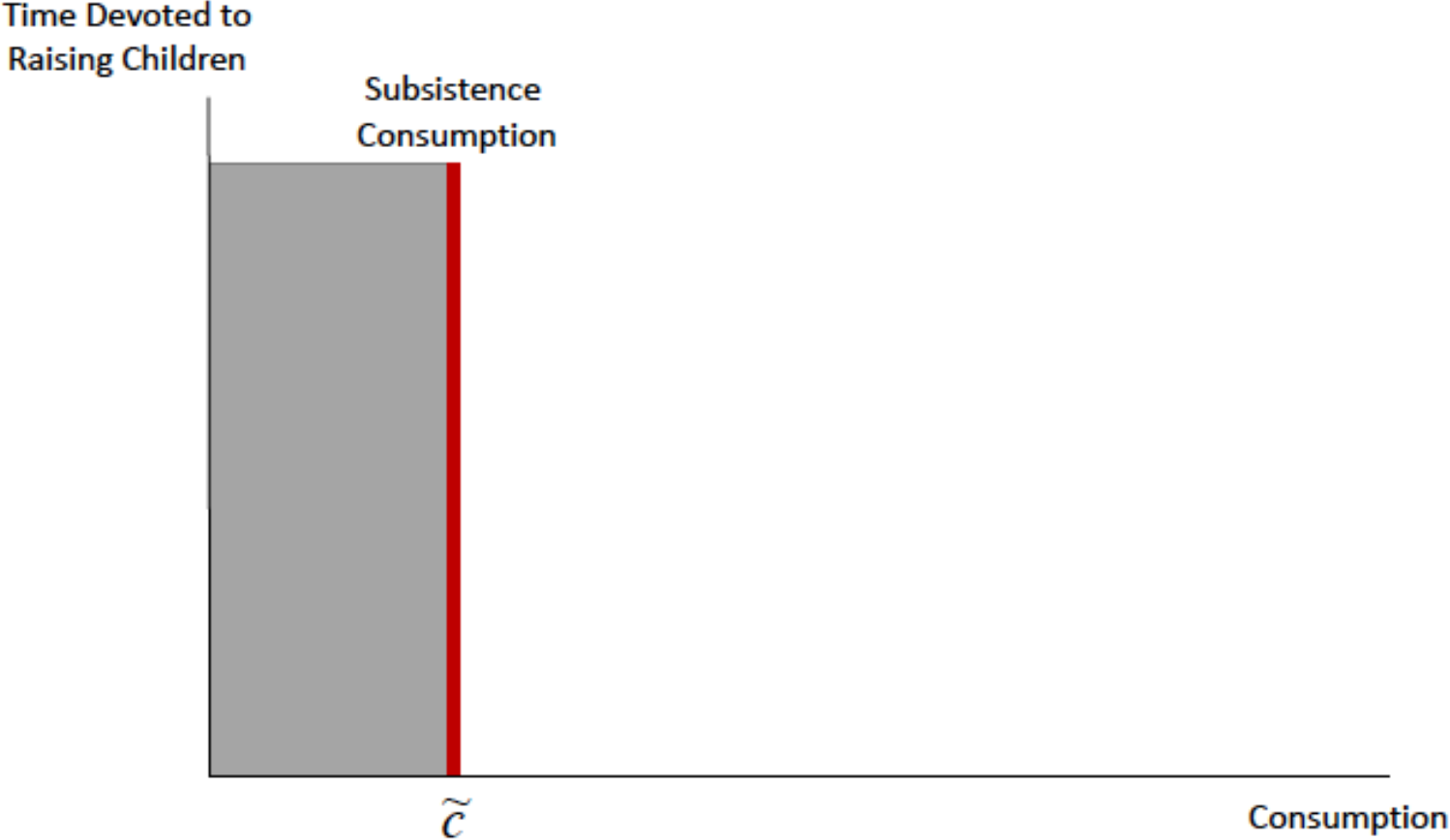
- $z_t \equiv$  potential income of individual  $t$
- $\tau \equiv$  time required to raise a child, regardless of quality
- $\tau + e_{t+1} \equiv$  time needed to raise a child with education  $e_{t+1}$
- $z_t (\tau + e_{t+1}) \equiv$  opportunity cost of raising 1 child with education  $e_{t+1}$

$$z_t \equiv y_t = h_t^\alpha x_t^{1-\alpha}$$

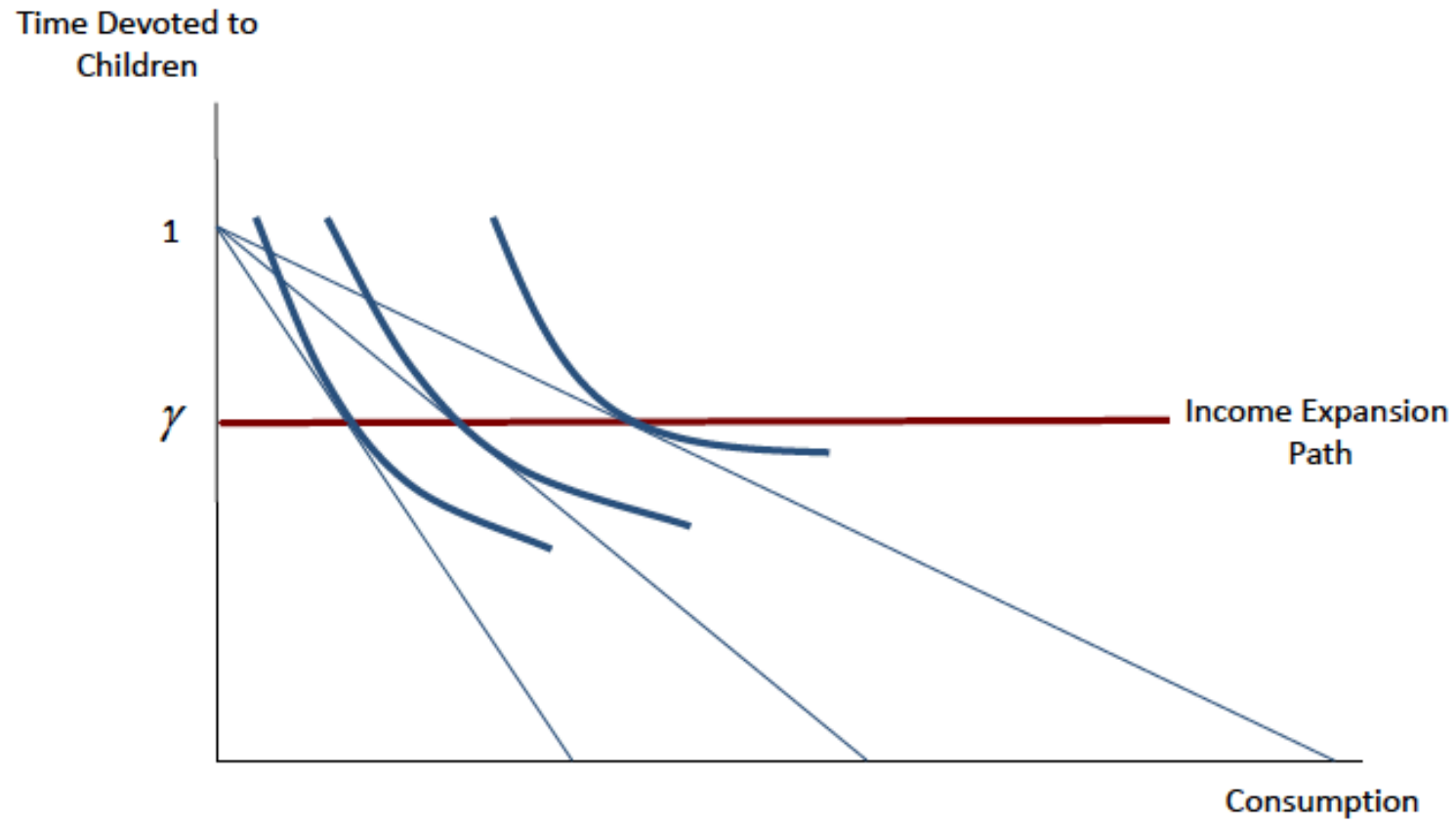
So output is a function of education, technological progress and resources

$$z_t \equiv y_t = h_t^\alpha x_t^{1-\alpha} = h(e_t, g_t)^\alpha x_t^{1-\alpha} = z(e_t, g_t, x_t)$$

# Theory Check: Subsistence Level



# Once you escape subsistence



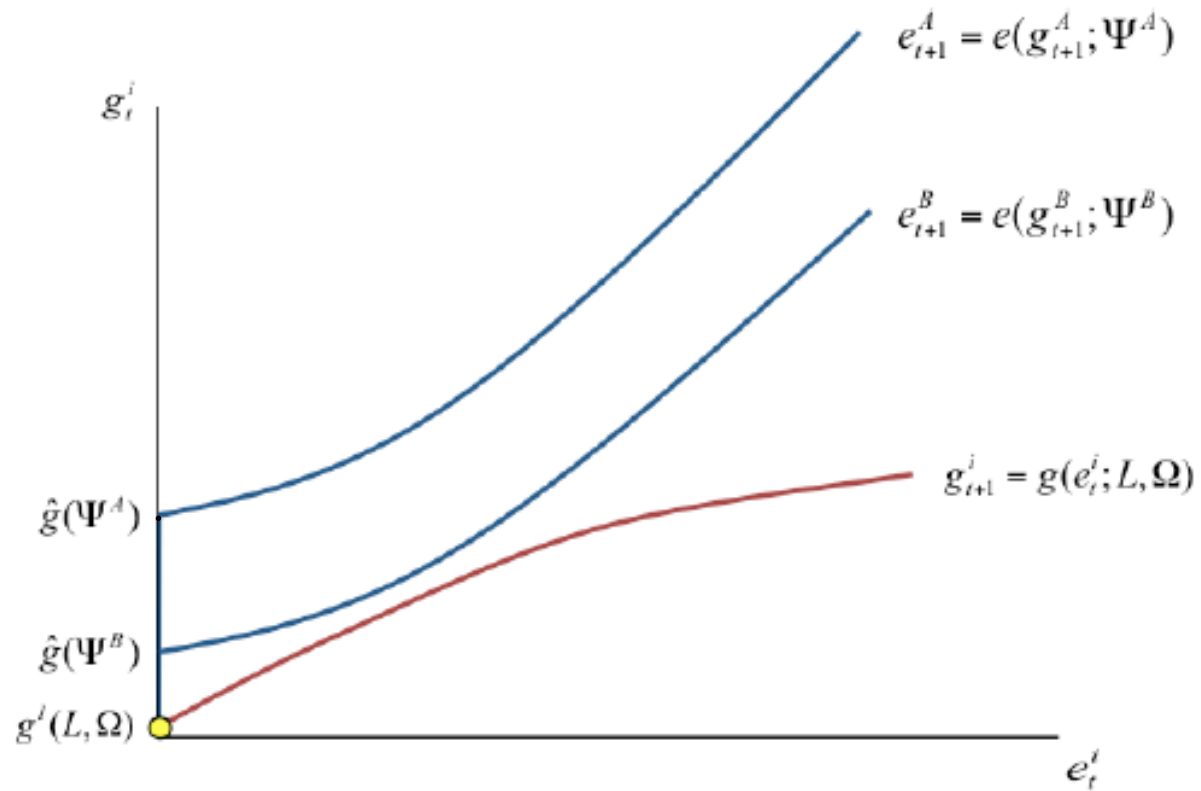


# Theory Check: Improving the Education Path means More Educated Poople are Healthier!

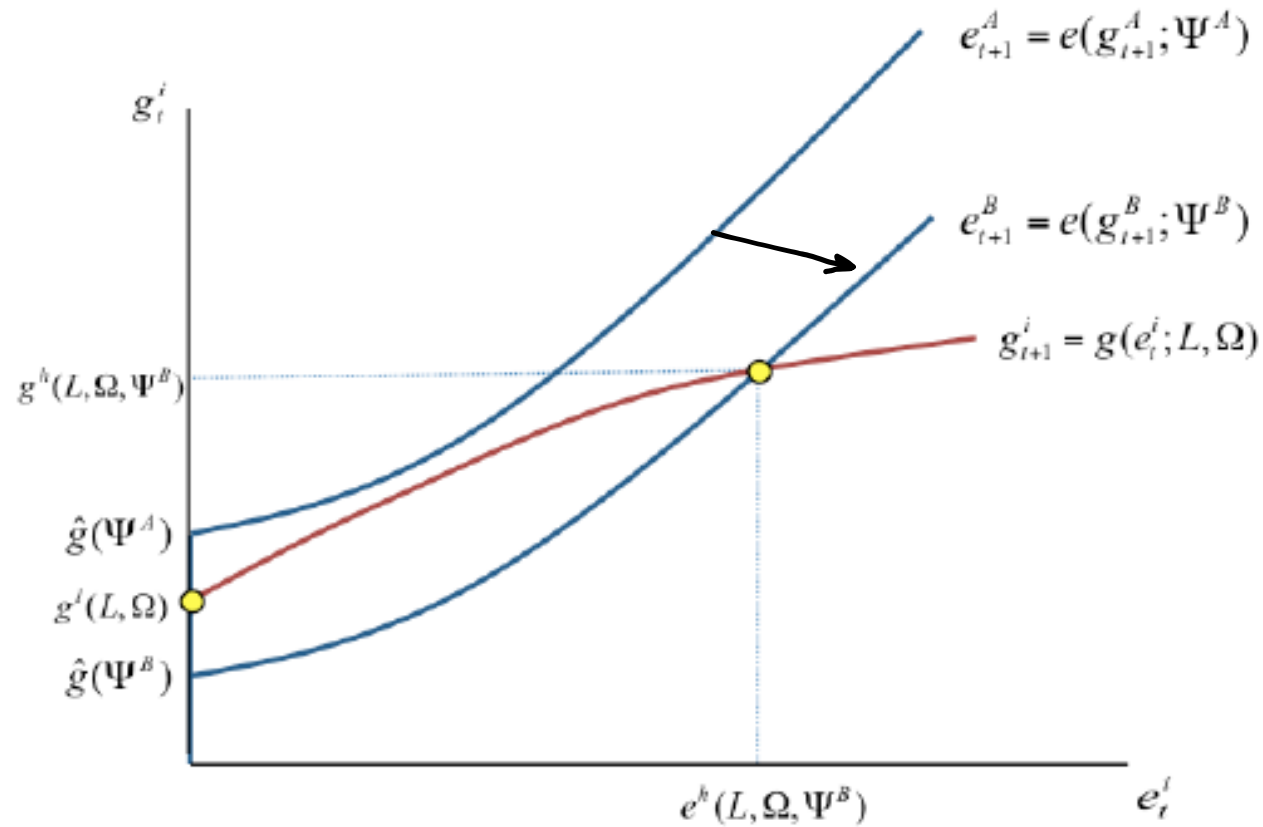
- For country-specific characteristics  $\Psi_t^i$

$$e_{t+1}^i = e(g_{t+1}^i; \Psi_t^i) \begin{cases} = 0 & \text{if } g_{t+1}^i \leq \hat{g}(\Psi_t^i), \\ > 0 & \text{if } g_{t+1}^i > \hat{g}(\Psi_t^i) \end{cases}$$

# Moving from no impact



Duflo et al (2015): Education does improve health attitudes but not in all dimensions...

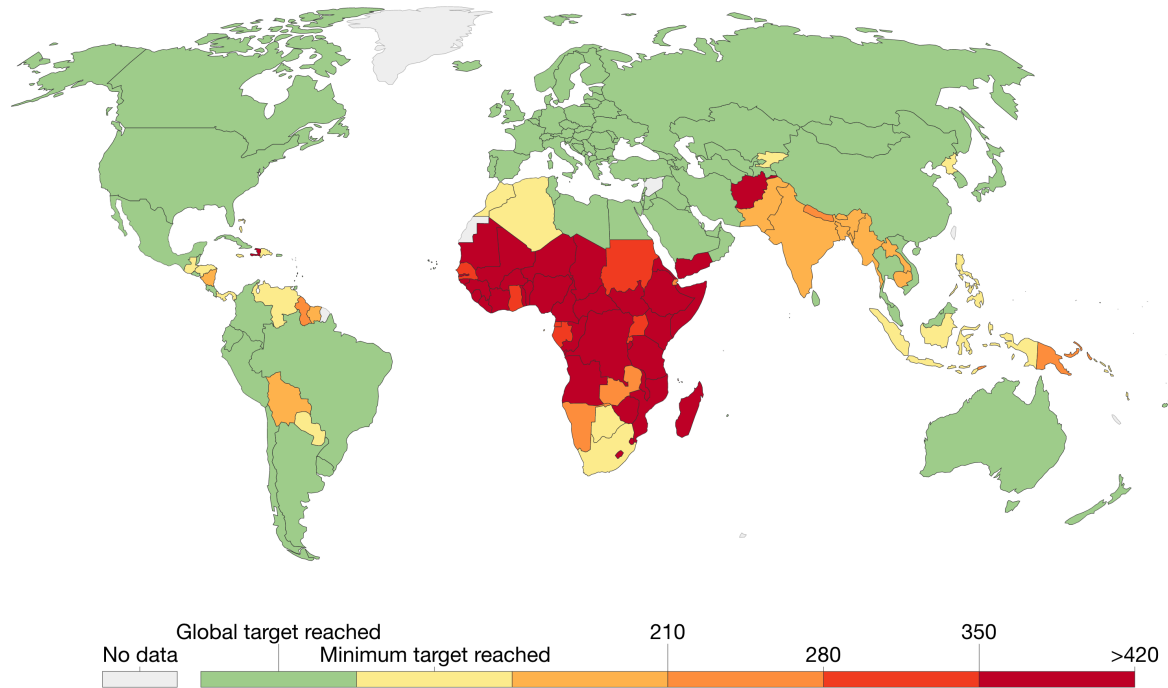


Philosophy trip of the day: Hypocrates, the father of medicine.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xi7ma8SJ5tg>
- BETTER
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FNR7qNxUBos>

## Maternal mortality ratio, 2015

Maternal mortality ratio is the number of women who die from pregnancy-related causes while pregnant or within 42 days of pregnancy termination per 100,000 live births. SDG Target 3.1 is to reduce global maternal deaths to less than 70 per 100,000 live births and all countries less than 140 per 100,000 live births.

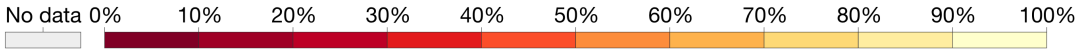
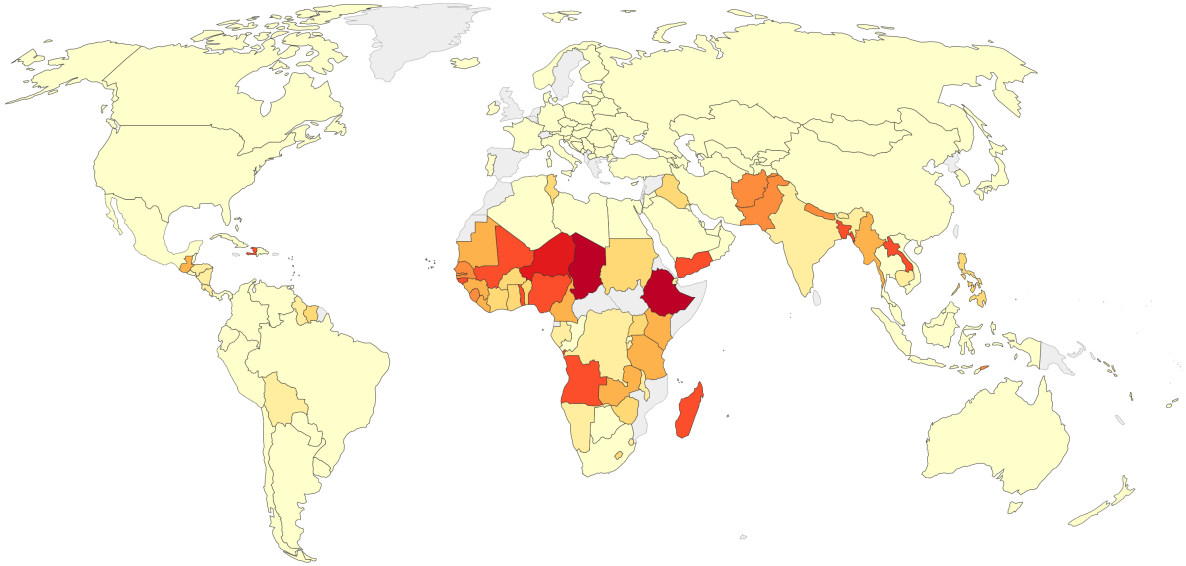


Source: World Bank

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# Share of births attended by skilled health staff, 2017

Percentage of births attended by personnel trained to give the necessary supervision, care, and advice to women during pregnancy, labor, and the postpartum period; to conduct deliveries on their own; and to care for newborns.

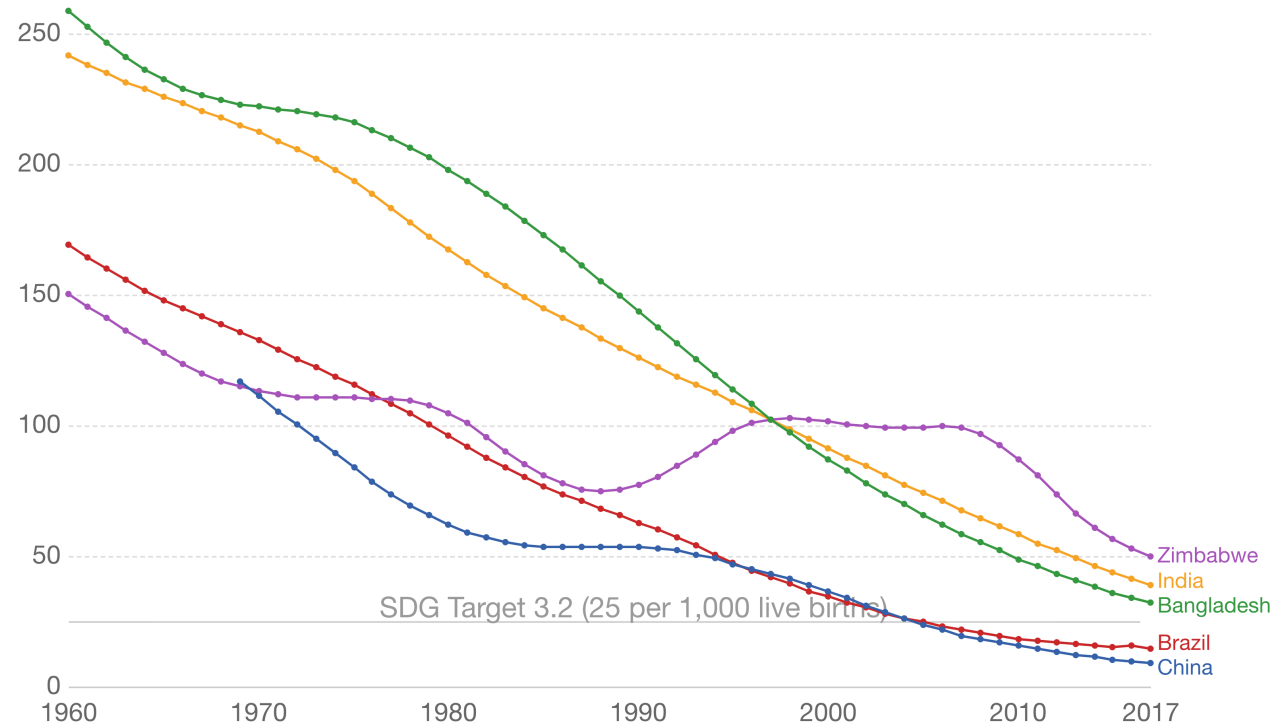


Source: World Bank

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## Child mortality rate

Under-five mortality rate is the probability per 1,000 that a newborn baby will die before reaching age five, if subject to age-specific mortality rates of the specified year. SDG Target 3.2 is to reduce child mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births by 2030.

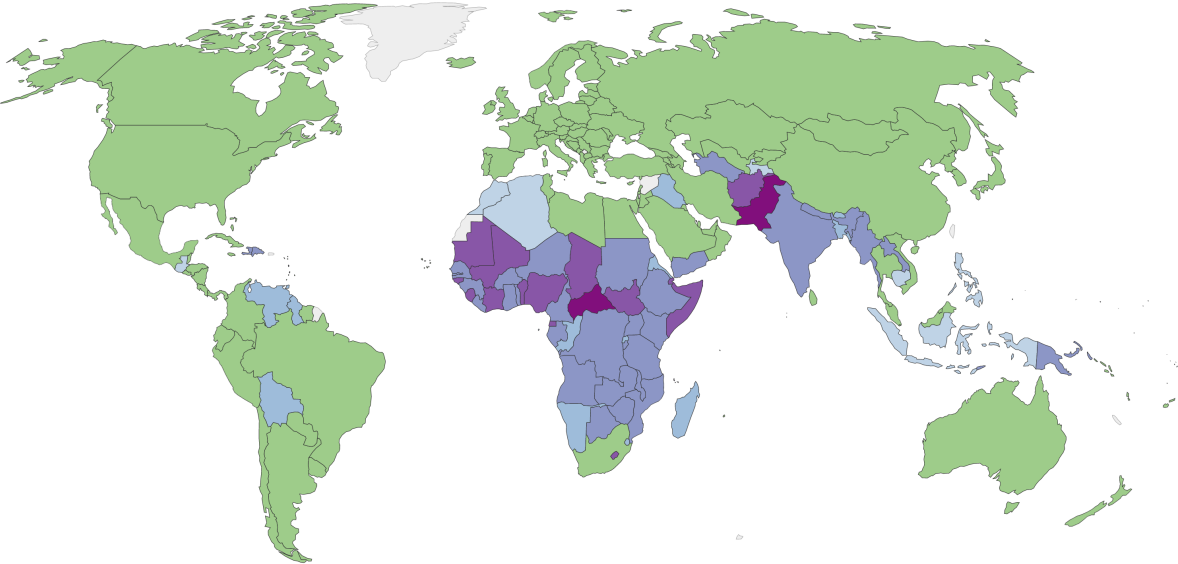


Source: UN Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation

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# Neonatal mortality rate, 2017

Neonatal mortality rate is the number of neonates dying before reaching 28 days of age, per 1,000 live births in a given year. SDG Target 3.2 is to reduce neonatal mortality rates to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births by 2030.



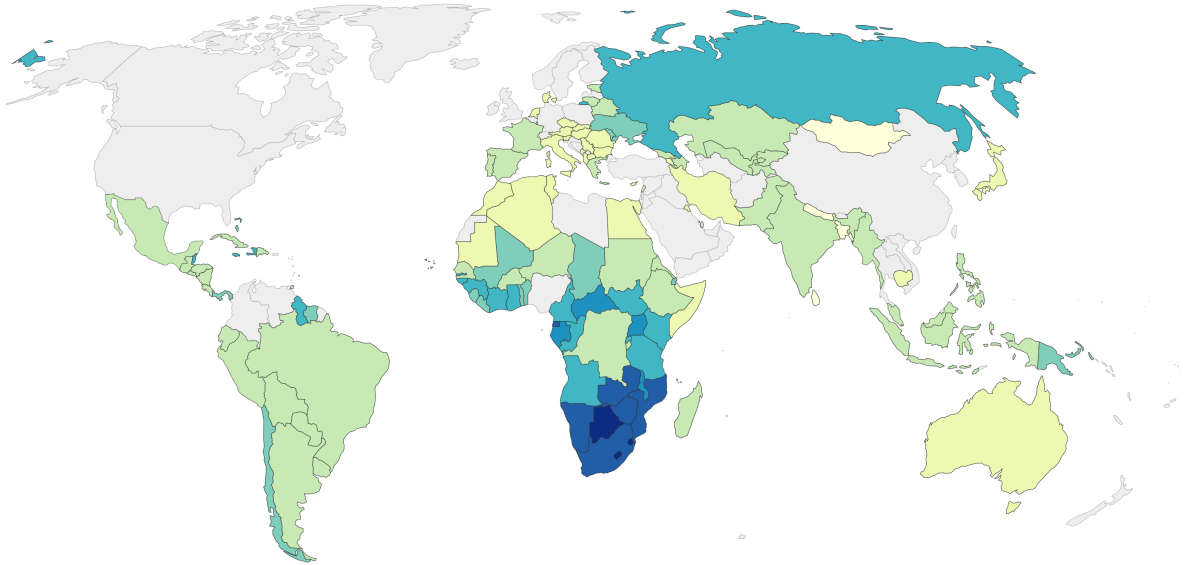
Source: World Bank

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# Incidence of HIV per 1,000 uninfected adults, 2017

Number of new HIV infections among uninfected populations ages 15-49 expressed per 1,000 uninfected population in the year before the period.

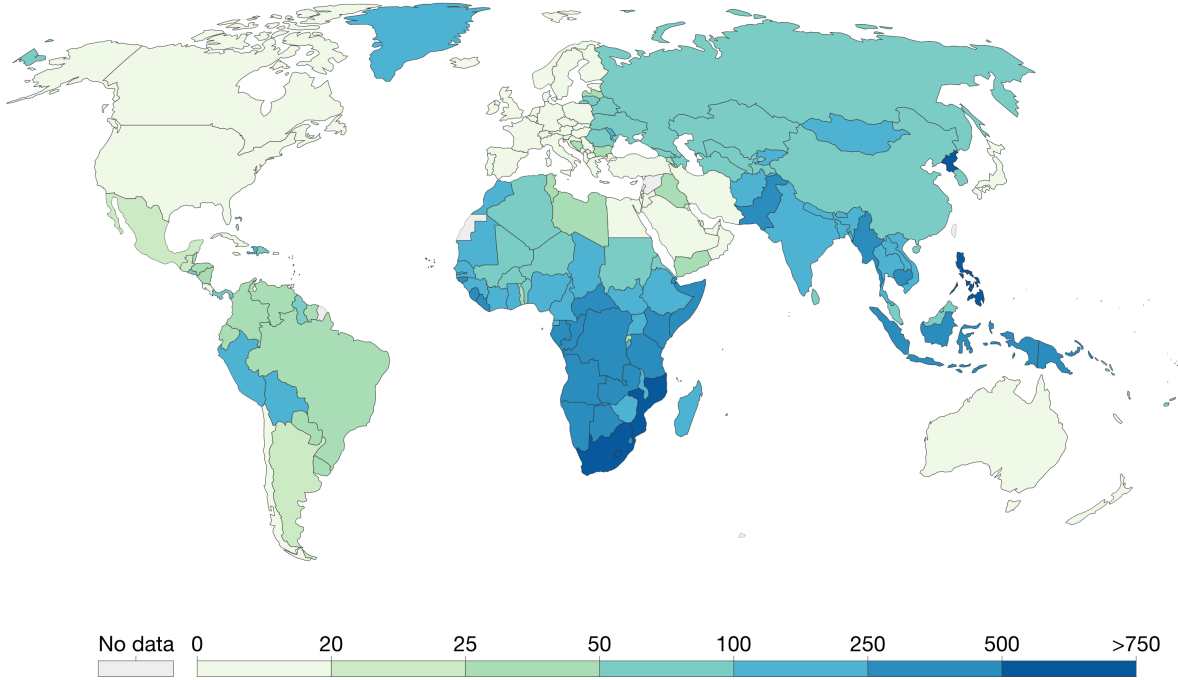


Source: UNAIDS

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# Tuberculosis incidence (per 100,000 people), 2016

Incidence of tuberculosis is the estimated number of new and relapse tuberculosis cases arising in a given year, expressed as the rate per 100,000 population. All forms of TB are included, including cases in people living with HIV.

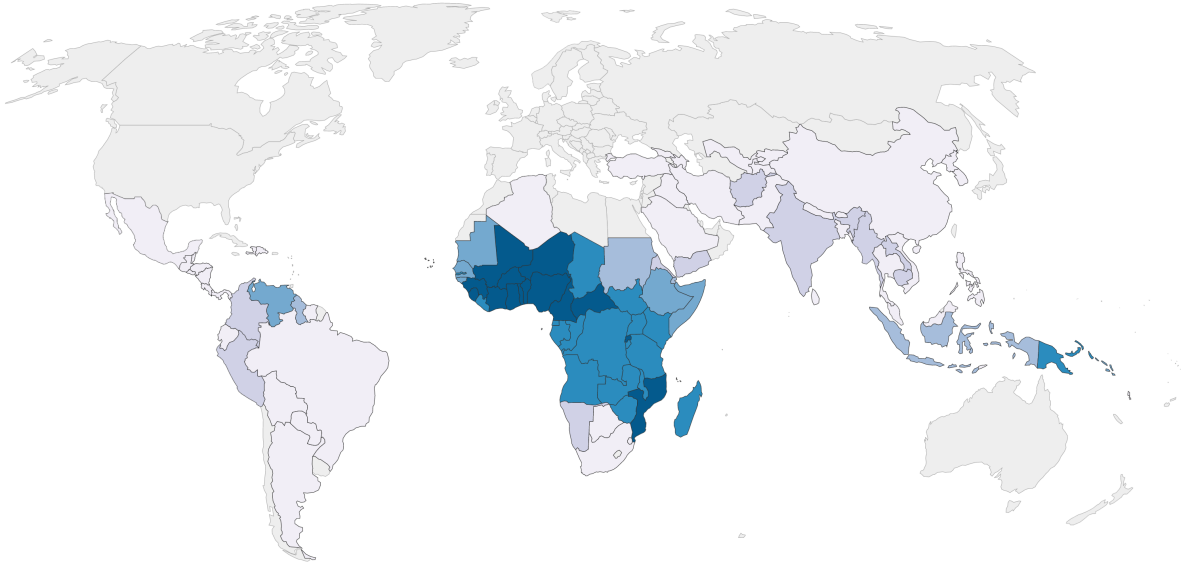


Source: World Bank

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# Malaria incidence (per 1,000 population at risk), 2015

Incidence of malaria is the number of new cases of malaria in a year per 1,000 population at risk. SDG Target 3.3 is to end the epidemic of malaria.



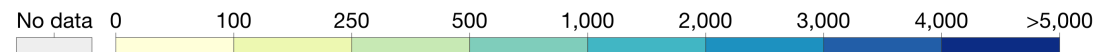
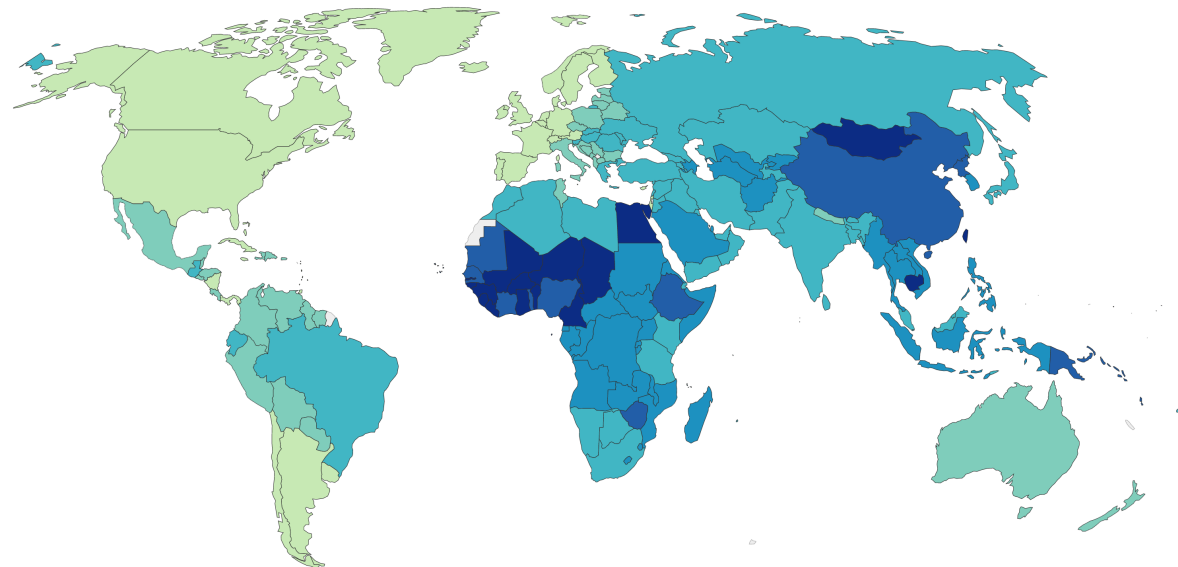
Source: World Bank

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# Hepatitis B incidence per 100,000 population

## Hepatitis B incidence rate, 2017

Incidence of hepatitis B, measured as the number of new cases of hepatitis B per 100,000 individuals in a given population. SDG Target 3.3 is to combat hepatitis B by 2030.



Source: IHME, Global Burden of Disease

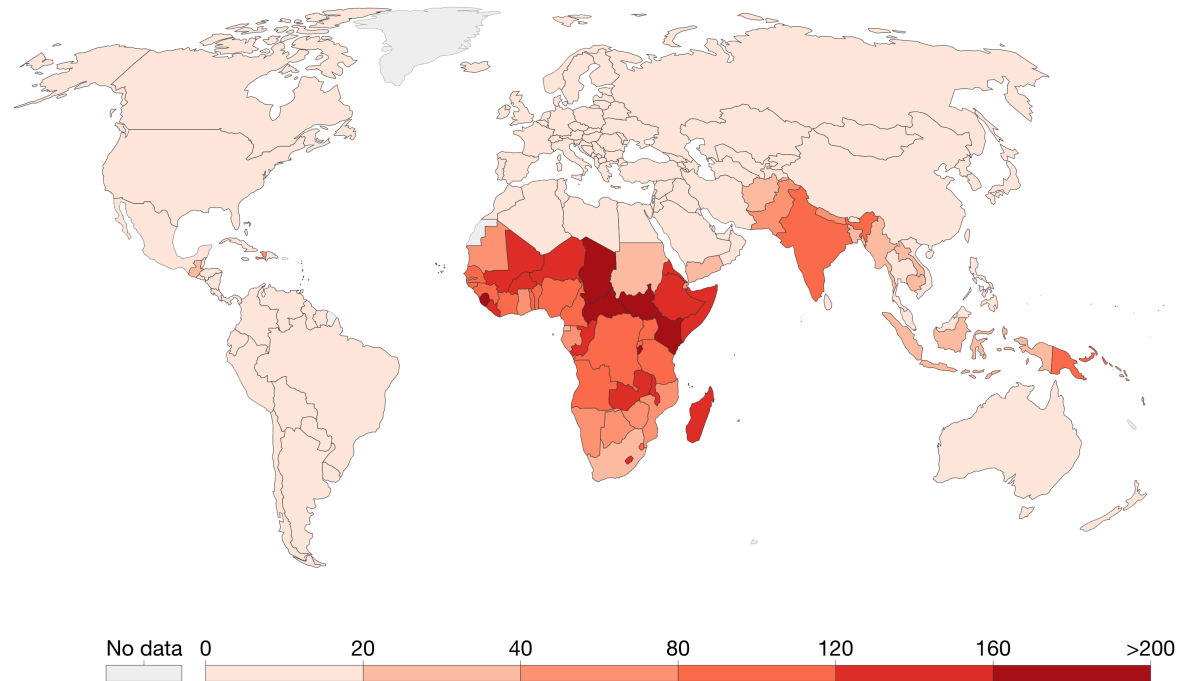
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# Mortality rate from unsafe water, sanitation, hygiene (WASH)

Mortality rate attributable to unsafe water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), 2016



Age-standardized death rate attributed to unsafe water, sanitation or lack of hygiene (WASH), measured as the number of deaths per 100,000 people of a given population.



Source: IHME, Global Burden of Disease

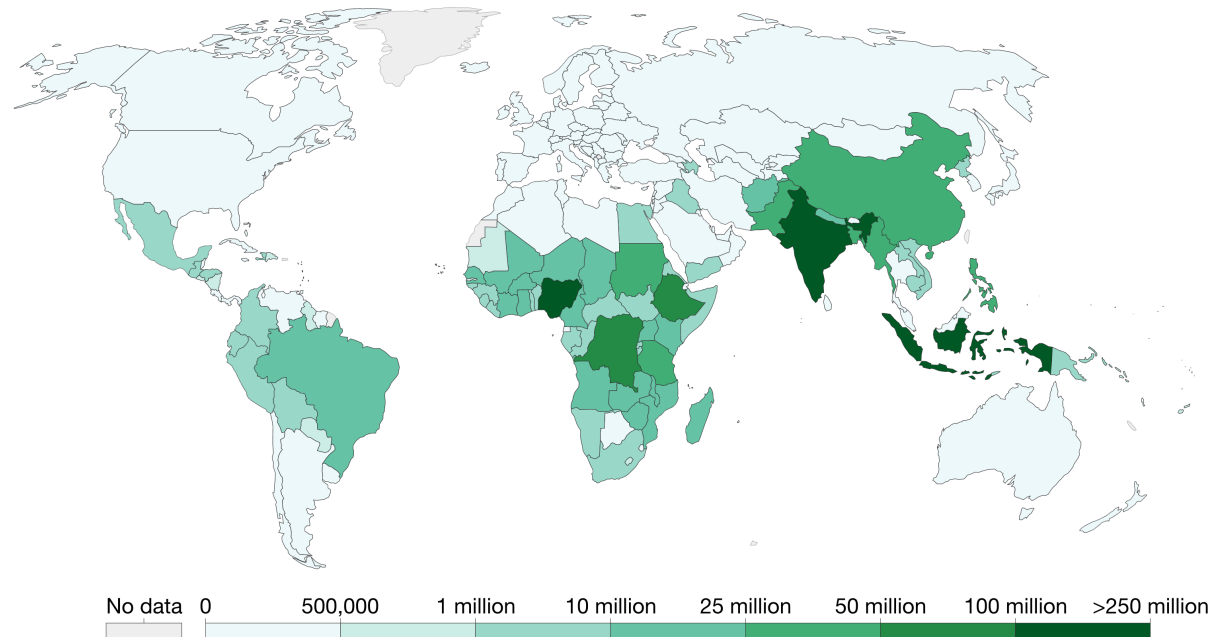
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# Number of people requiring interventions against neglected tropical diseases

## Number of people requiring interventions against neglected tropical diseases (NTDs), 2015

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People requiring interventions against neglected tropical diseases (NTDs). SDG Target 3.3 is to end neglected tropical diseases NTDs by 2030.



Source: WHO, Global Health Observatory

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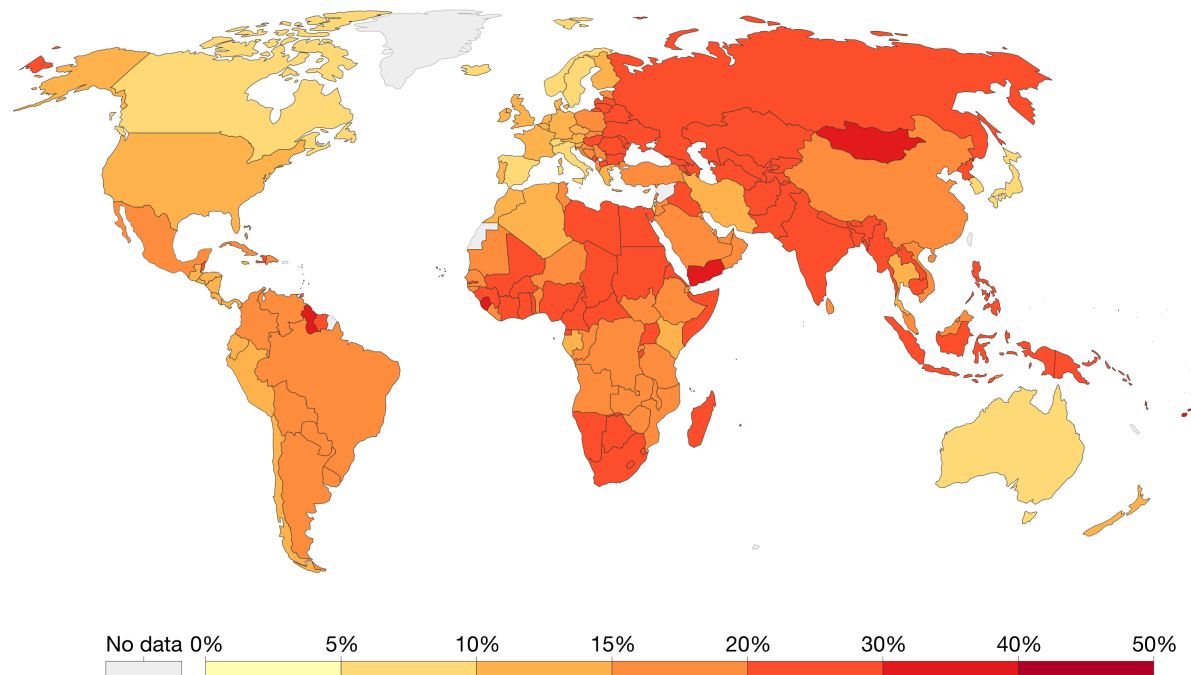
Note: 15 NTDs identified by the WHO NTD Roadmap are: Buruli ulcer, Chagas disease, Dengue and Chikungunya, Dracunculiasis (guinea-worm disease), Echinococcosis, Foodborne trematodiasis, Human African trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness), Leishmaniasis, Leprosy (Hansen's disease), Lymphatic filariasis, Mycetoma, chromoblastomycosis and other deep mycoses, Onchocerciasis (river blindness), Rabies, Scabies, Schistosomiasis, Soil-transmitted helminthiasis, Snakebite envenoming, Taeniasis/Cysticercosis, Trachoma, Yaws.

# Mortality rate attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease

## Mortality from non-communicable diseases, 2016

Mortality from CVD, cancer, diabetes or CRD is the percent of 30-year-old-people who would die before their 70th birthday from any of cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, or chronic respiratory disease, assuming that s/he would experience current mortality rates at every age and s/he would not die from any other cause of death (e.g., injuries or HIV/AIDS).

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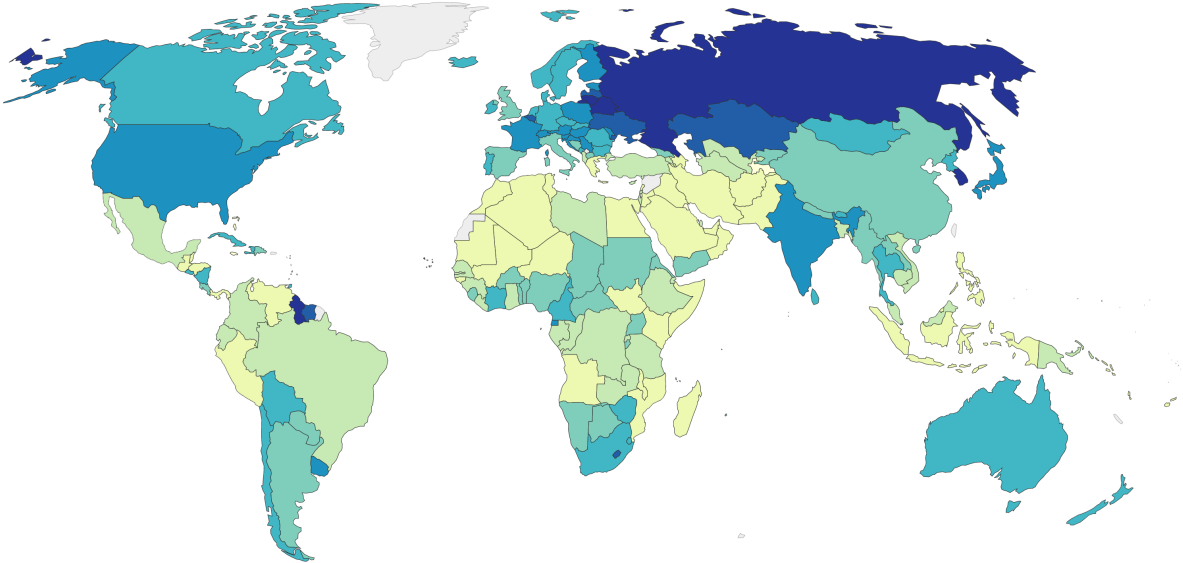
Source: World Bank

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# Suicide mortality rate

## Suicide death rates, 2016

Suicide mortality rate is the number of suicide deaths in a year per 100,000 population.



Source: World Bank

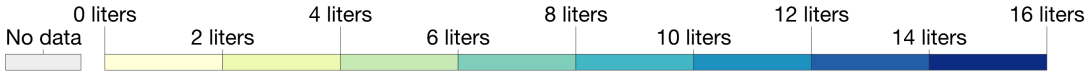
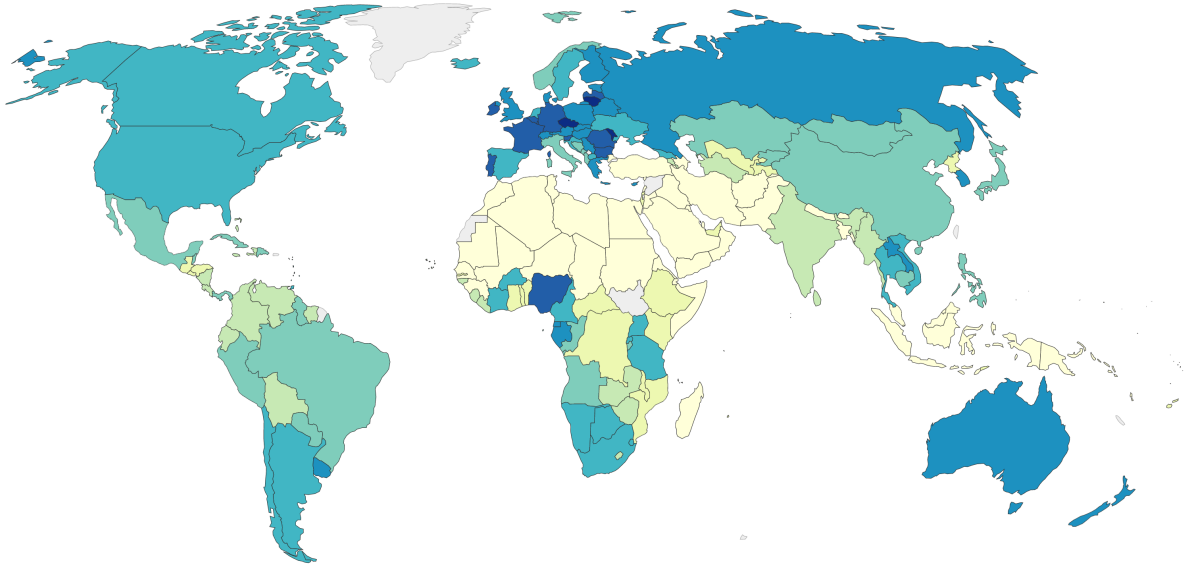
[OurWorldInData.org/suicide/](https://OurWorldInData.org/suicide/) • CC BY



# Alcohol consumption per capita

## Alcohol consumption per person, 2016

Consumption of alcohol is measured in liters of pure alcohol per person aged 15 or older.



Source: World Bank

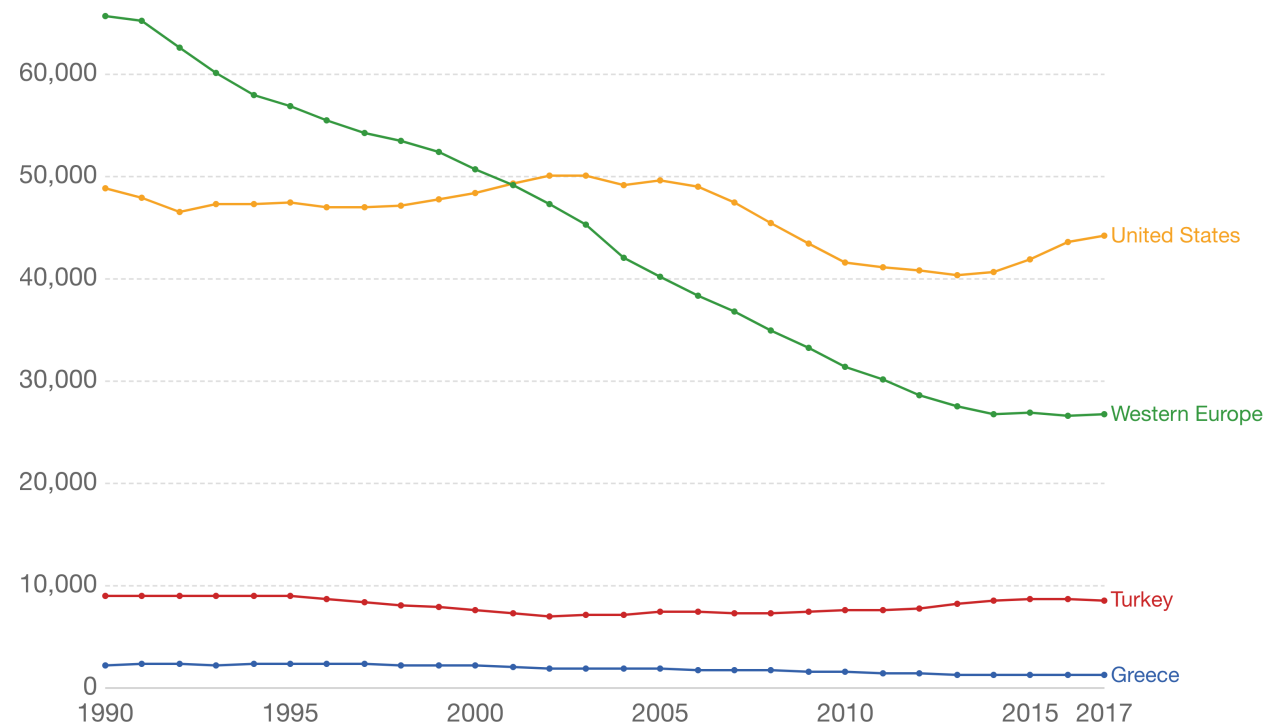
[OurWorldInData.org/alcohol-consumption](https://OurWorldInData.org/alcohol-consumption) • CC BY

# Halve the number of road traffic deaths

## Road traffic deaths

Total number of deaths from road traffic incidents, including vehicle drivers or passengers, motorcyclists, cyclists and pedestrians. SDG Target 3.6 is to halve the global number of deaths from road incidents by 2020 (from 2010 levels).

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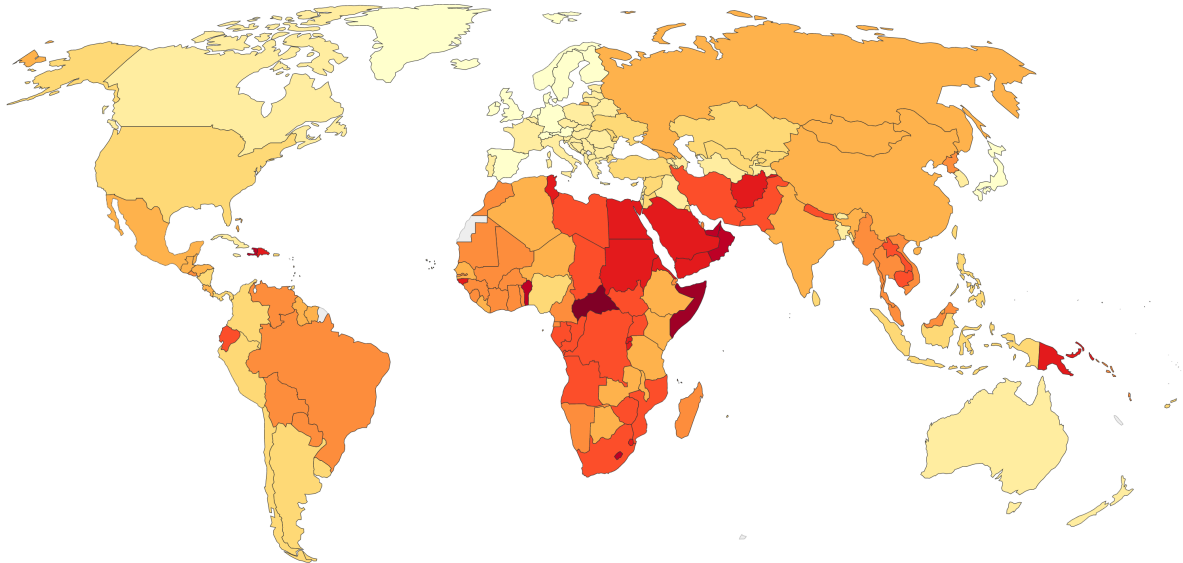


Source: IHME, Global Burden of Disease

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# Death rate from road accidents, 2017

The annual number of deaths from road accidents per 100,000 people.  
Deaths include those from drivers and passengers, motorcyclists, cyclists and pedestrians.



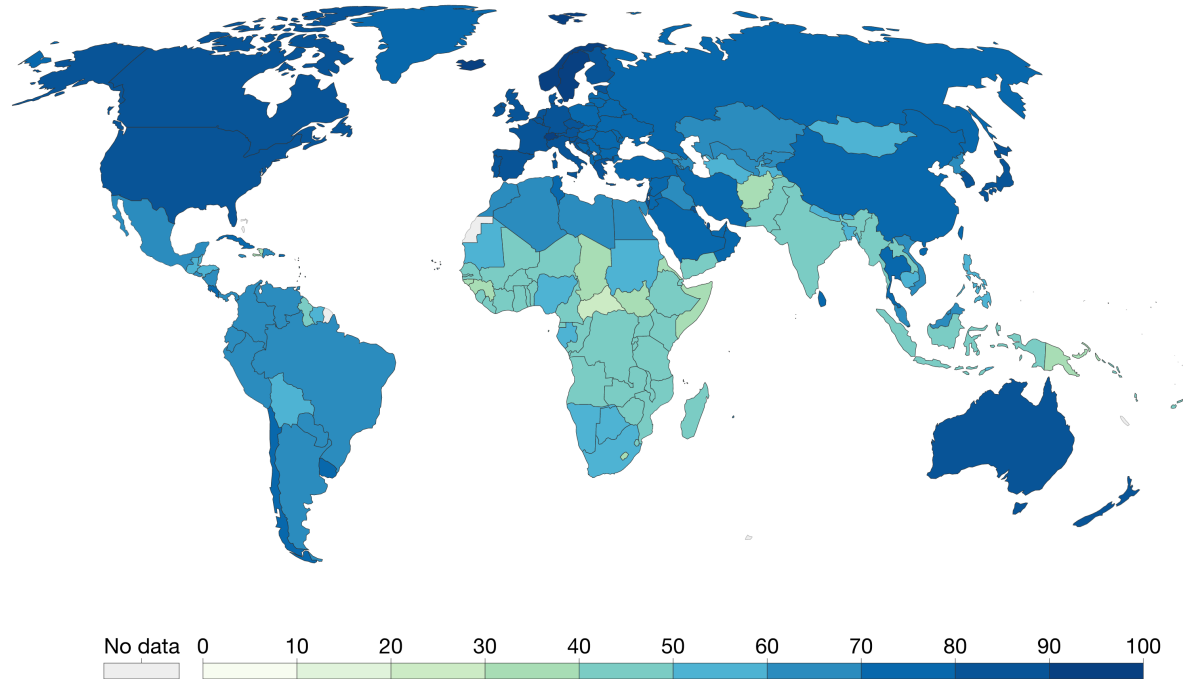
Source: IHME, Global Burden of Disease (GBD)  
Note: To allow comparisons between countries and over time this metric is age-standardized.

# Coverage of essential health services

## Healthcare Access and Quality Index, 2015

The Healthcare Access and Quality (HAQ) Index is measured on a scale from 0 (worst) to 100 (best) based on death rates from 32 causes of death that could be avoided by timely and effective medical care (also known as 'amenable mortality').

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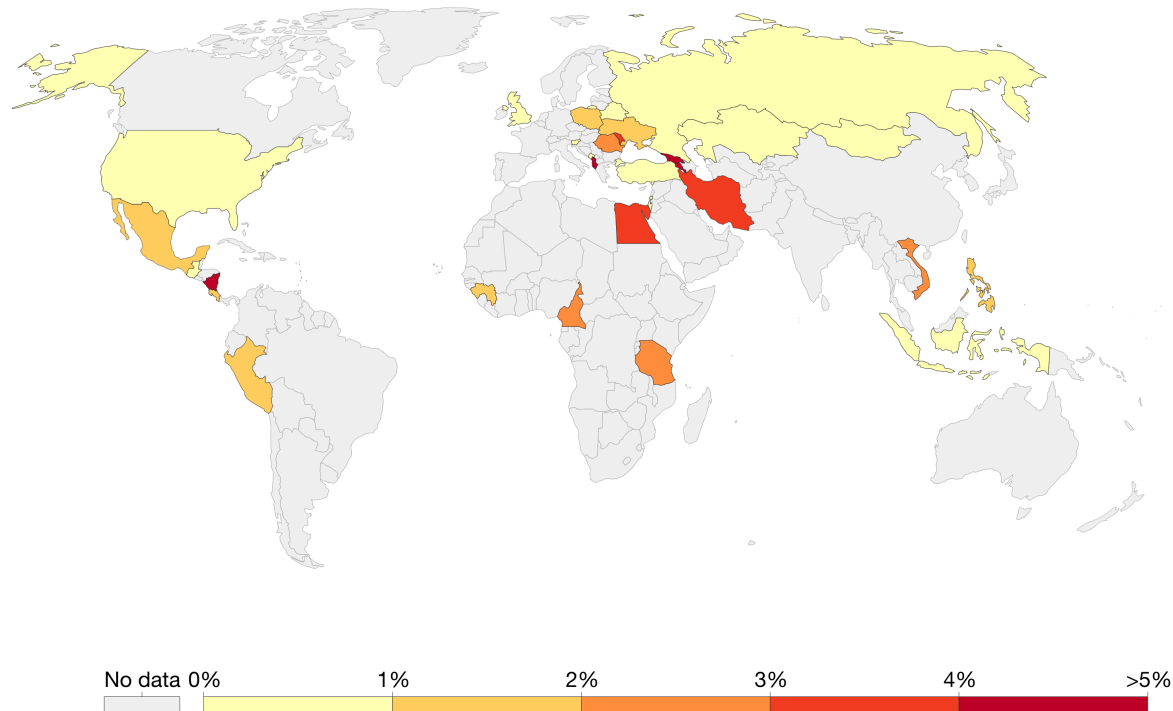
Source: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (2017)

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# Household expenditures on health

Share of population with large household expenditures on health, 2015  
The share of the population that spend more than 25% of total household expenditure or income on health.

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Source: UN Statistics Division (2019)

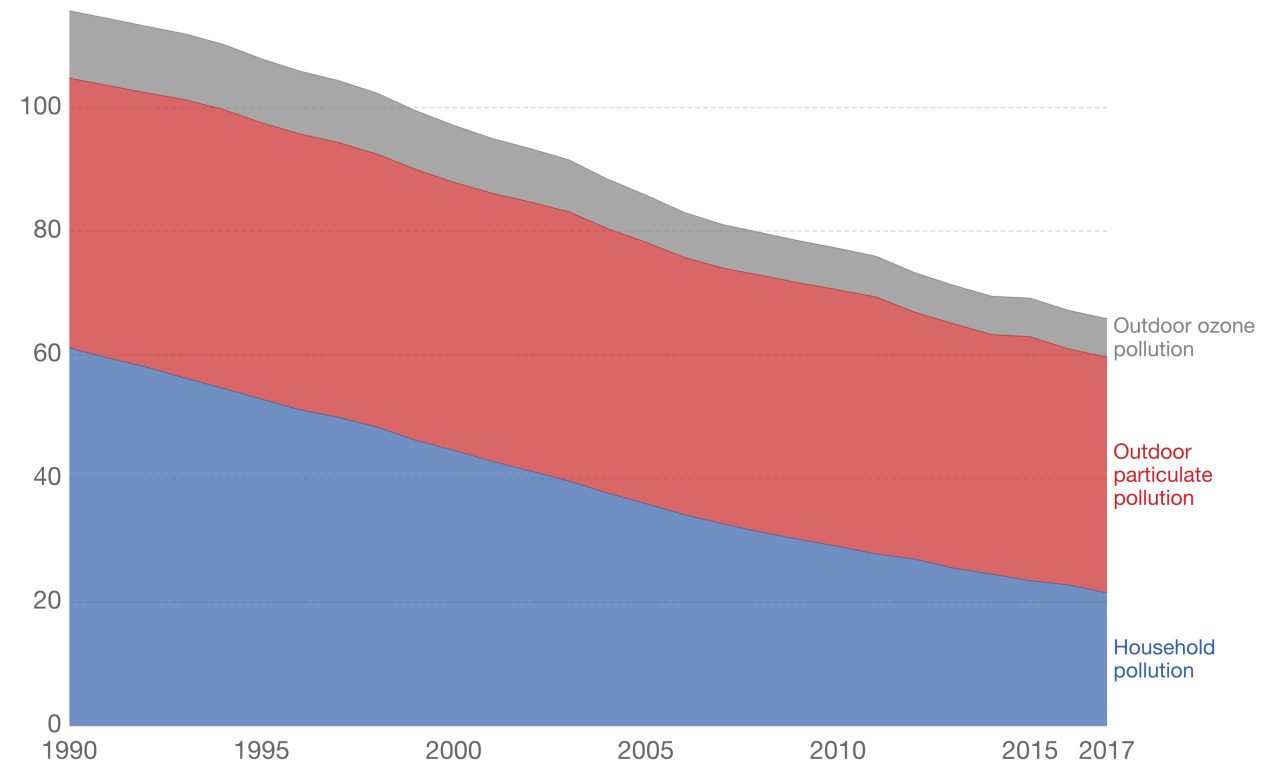
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# Mortality rate from air pollution

## Death rates from air pollution, World

Age-standardized death rates from outdoor ozone, particulates, and indoor fuel pollution per 100,000 individuals.

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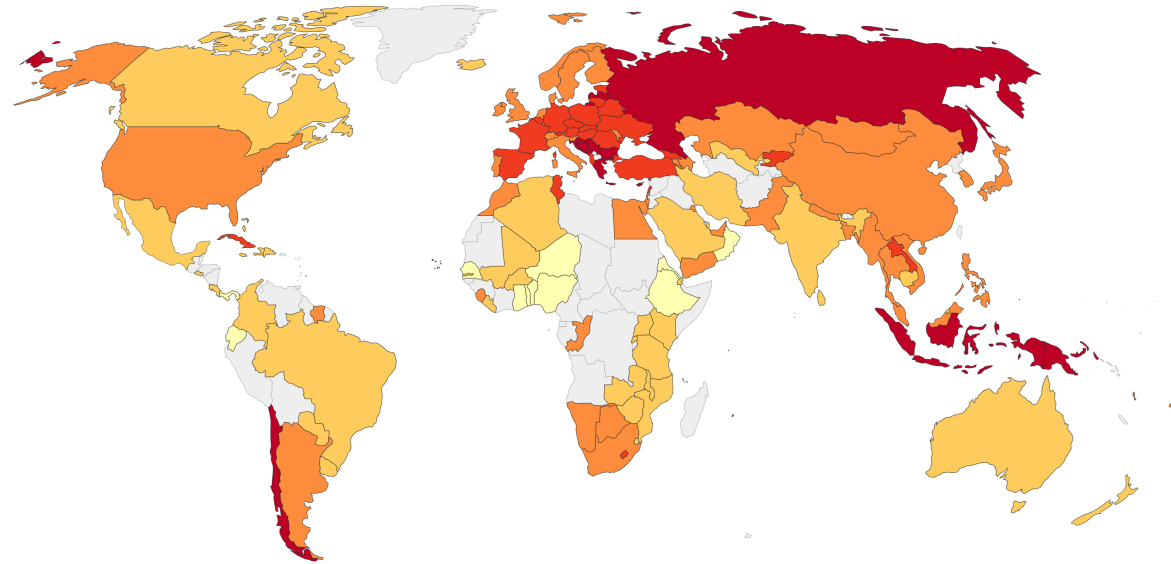
Source: IHME, Global Burden of Disease

OurWorldInData.org/air-pollution/ • CC BY

# Prevalence of tobacco use

Prevalence of tobacco use among adults, 2016  
Share of the population aged 15 years or older who smoke tobacco daily.

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Source: United Nations Statistics Division

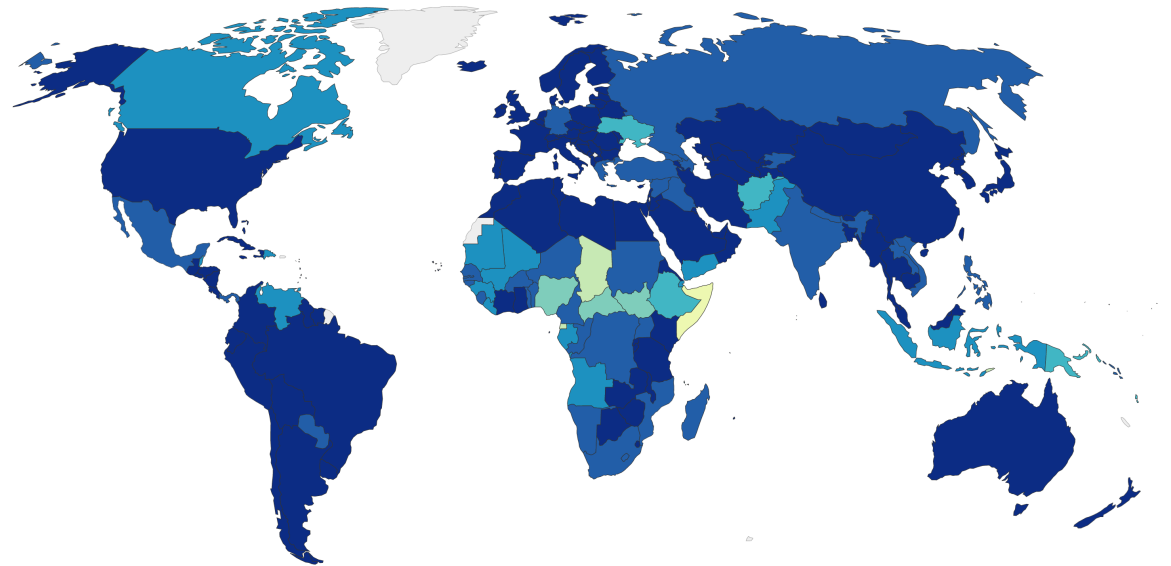
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# Vaccine coverage

## Share of children who receive key vaccines in target populations, 2016

Share of children of the relevant age category who receive the seven key vaccines, conditional on inclusion in national vaccine schedules. The eight vaccines include DPT3, measles, polio, Hep3B, Haemophilus influenzae type b, pneumococcal conjugate vaccine, and rotavirus vaccine.

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Source: Institute of Health Metrics & Evaluation (IHME)

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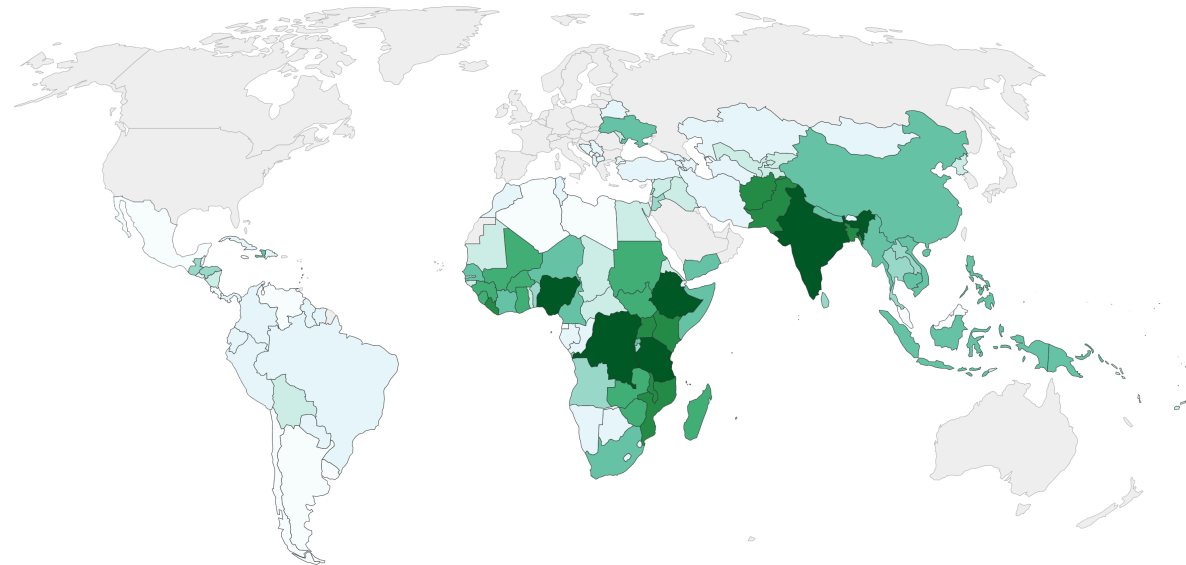


# Development assistance to medical research & basic healthcare

## Gross official development assistance (ODA) for medical research and basic health sectors, 2015

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Gross disbursements of total Official Development Assistance (ODA) from all donors to medical research and basic health sectors, measured in constant 2015 US\$.



Source: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

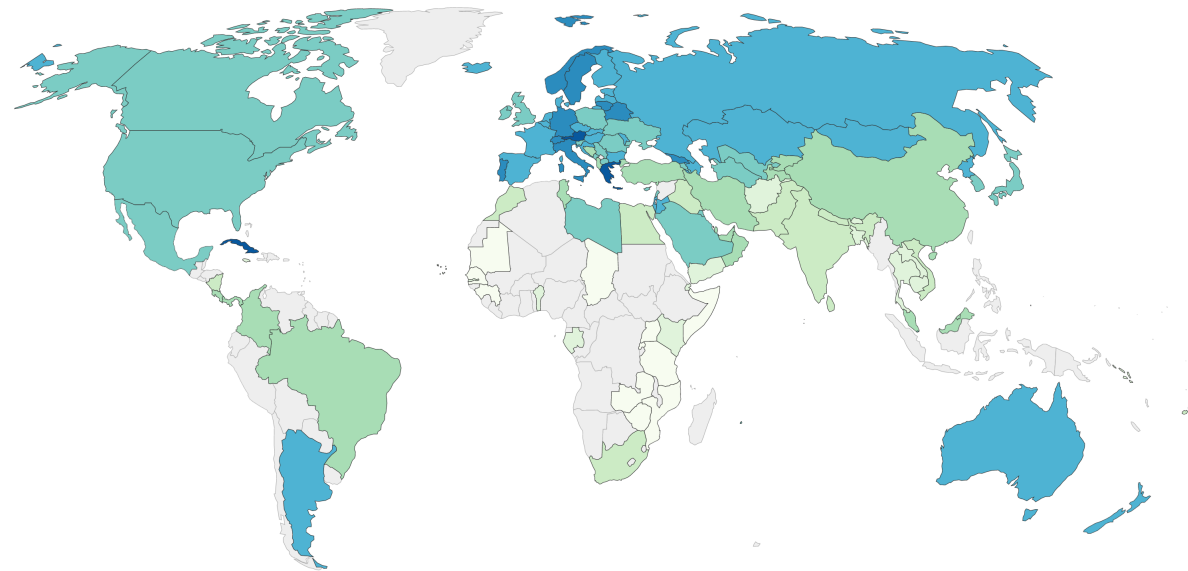
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# Doctors density

## Medical doctors per 1,000 people, 2016

Medical doctors include generalist physicians and specialist medical practitioners.

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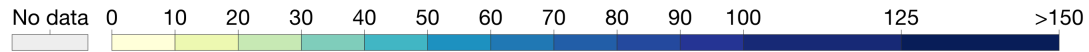
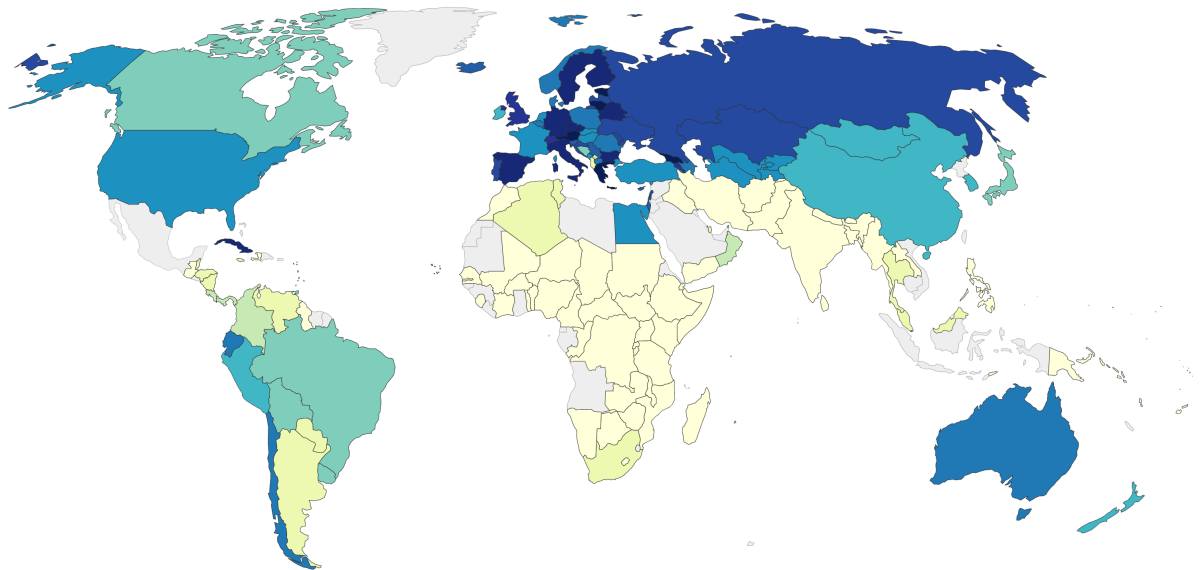
Source: World Bank

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# Surgical Doctors Density

## Specialist surgical workforce (per 100,000 population)

Specialist surgical workforce is the number of specialist surgical, anaesthetic, and obstetric (SAO) providers who are working in each country per 100,000 population.

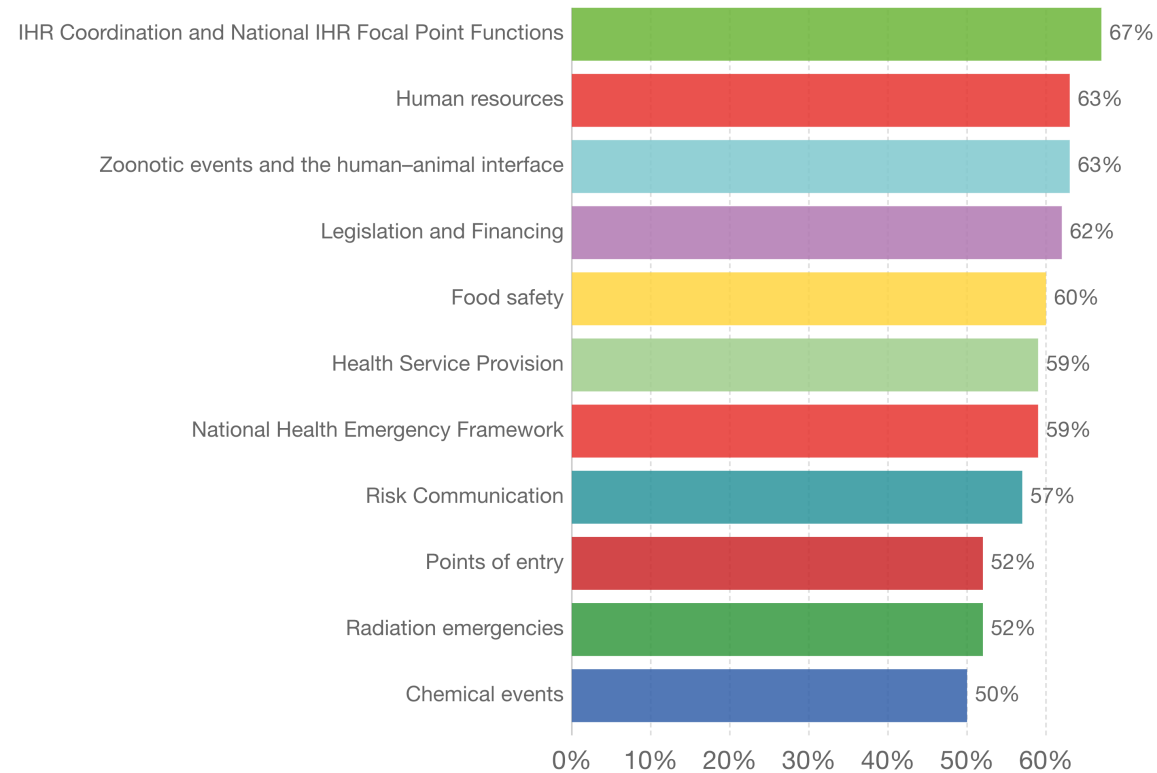


Source: World Bank

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# Precaution is better than treatment!

International Health Regulations (IHR) core capacity index, World, 2018  
Percentage of attributes of core capacities that have been attained at a specific point in time.



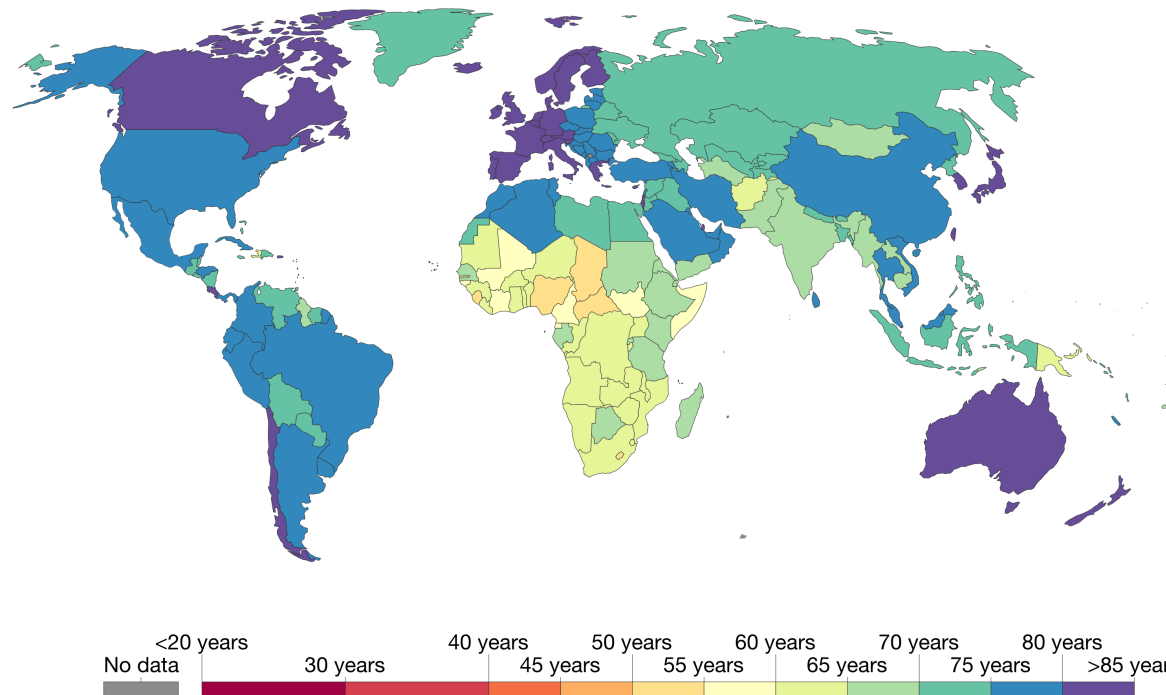
Source: United Nations Statistics Division

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# And all those affect returns on lifetime education and output!!

Life expectancy, 2019

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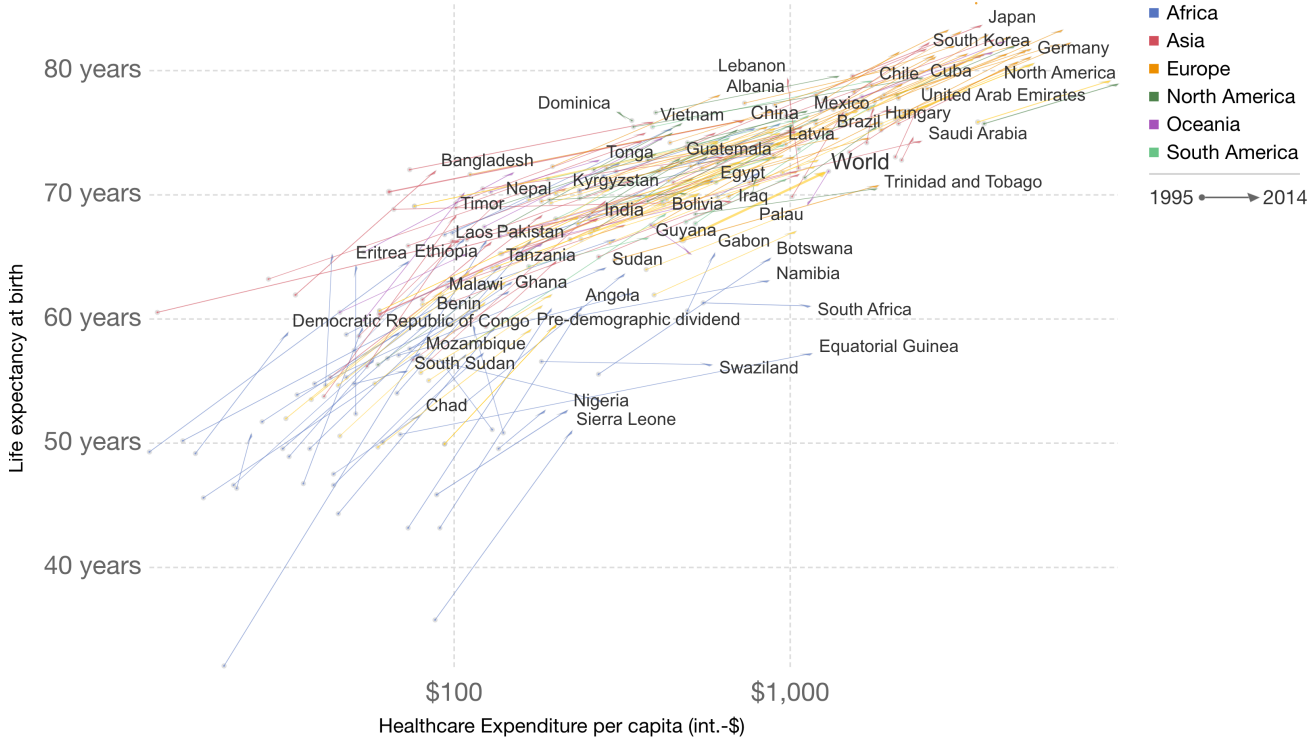
Source: Riley (2005), Clio Infra (2015), and UN Population Division (2019)

OurWorldInData.org/life-expectancy • CC BY

Note: Shown is period life expectancy at birth, the average number of years a newborn would live if the pattern of mortality in the given year were to stay the same throughout its life.

# Life expectancy vs. healthcare expenditure, 1995 to 2014

Total healthcare expenditure per capita is adjusted for price differences between countries and for inflation and measured in international-\$.

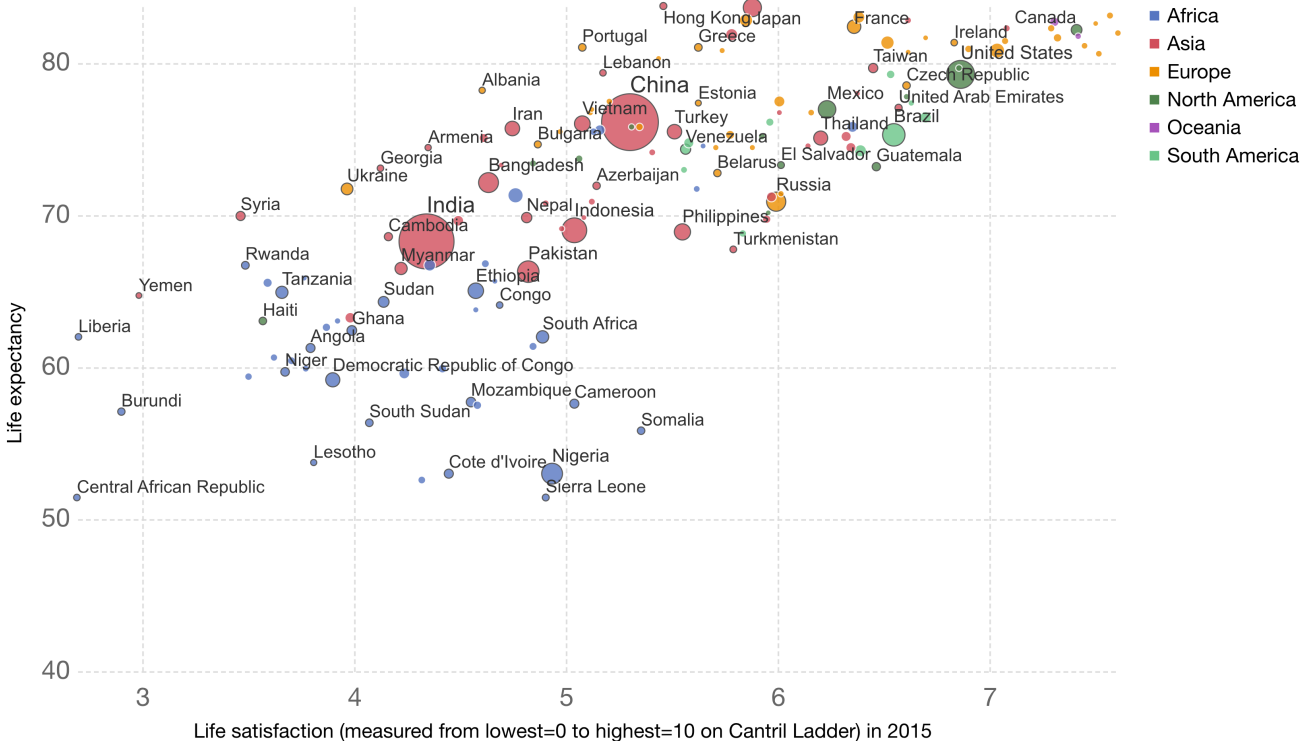


Source: World Bank



# Life satisfaction vs Life expectancy, 2015

The vertical axis shows life expectancy at birth. The horizontal axis shows self-reported life satisfaction in the Cantril Ladder (0-10 point scale with higher values representing higher life satisfaction).



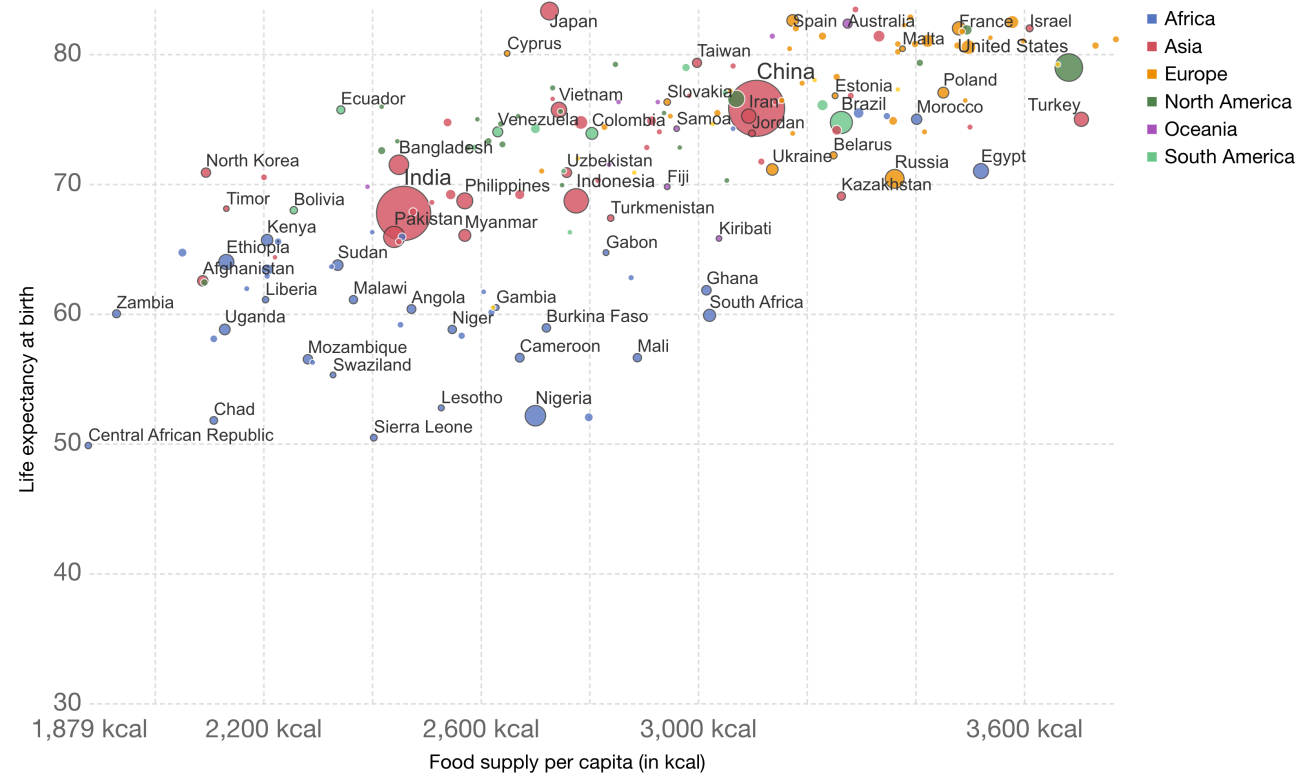
Source: UN Population Division (2017 Revision), World Happiness Report (2019)

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# Food supply vs life expectancy, 2013

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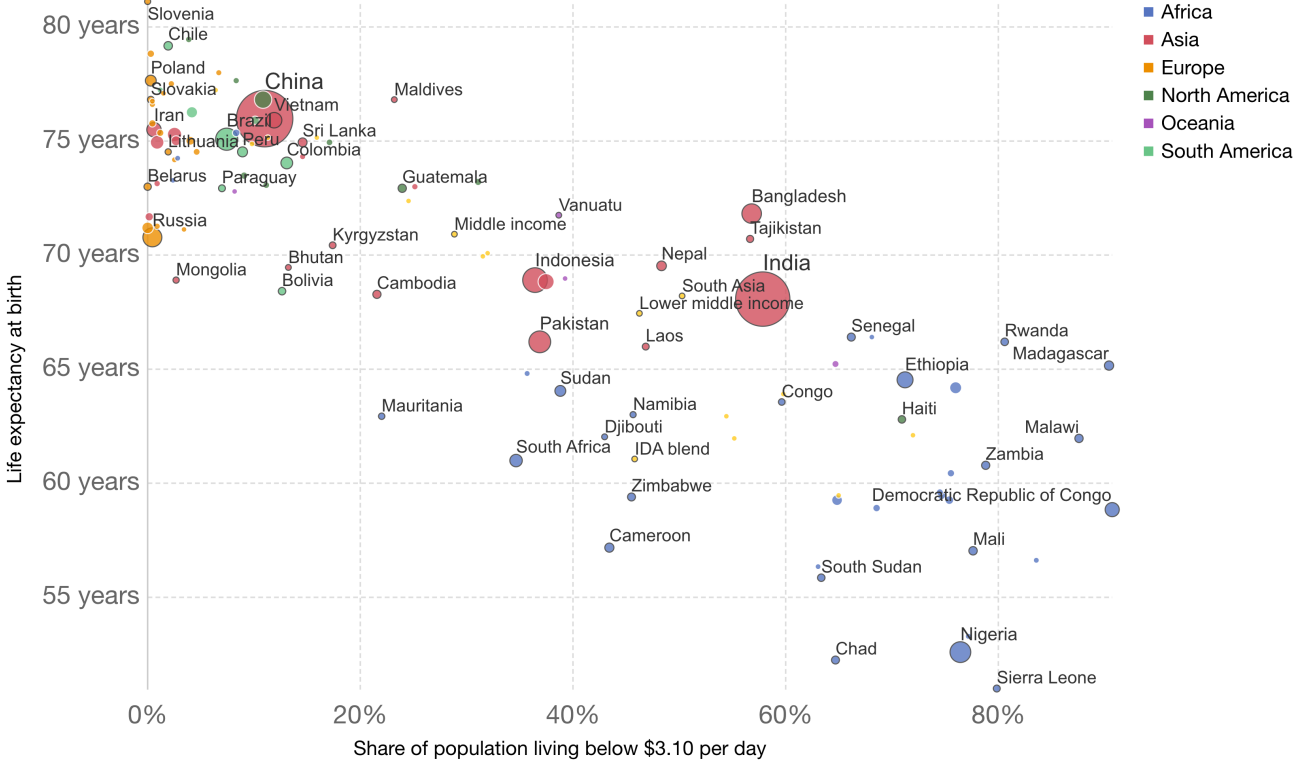


Source: FAO (2017) & Various historical sources, UN Population Division (2017 Revision)

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# Poverty vs. Life expectancy, 2014

Poverty is measured as the share of the population living on less than 3.10\$ international dollars per day.

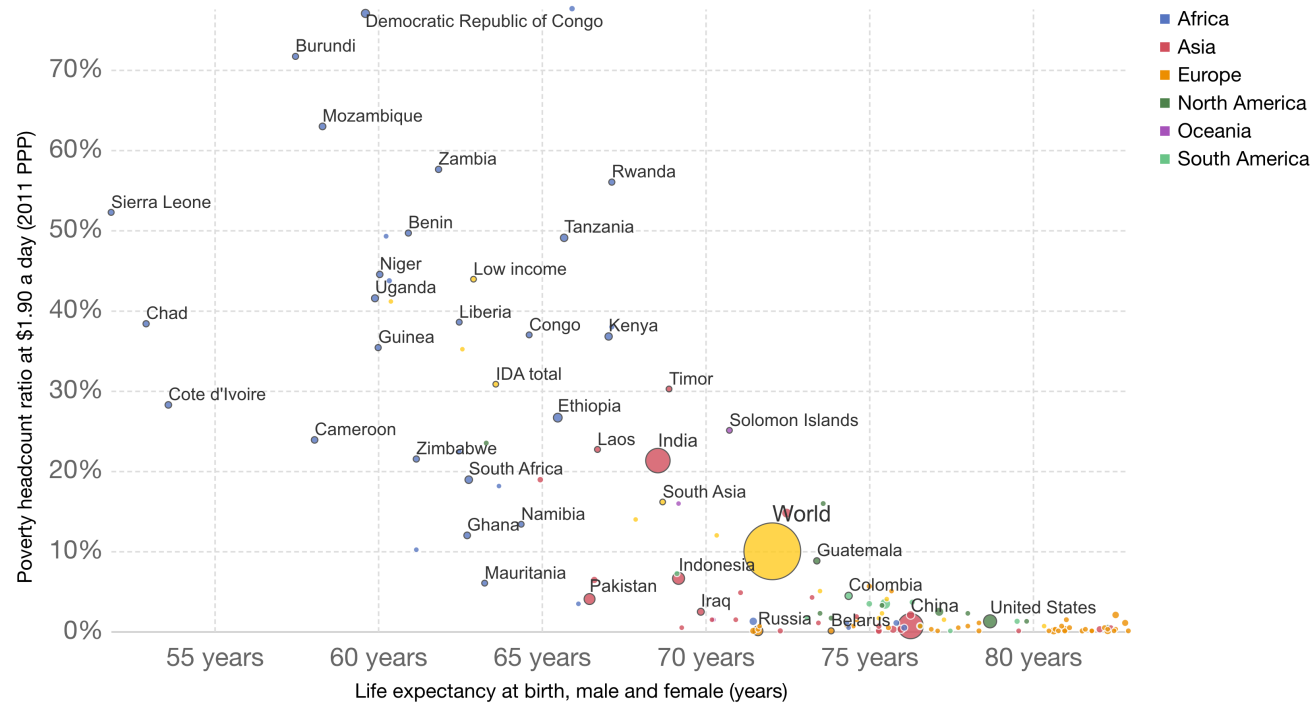


Source: World Bank

## Extreme poverty (headcount ratio) vs Life expectancy at birth, 2016



The horizontal axis shows life expectancy at birth for each country (i.e. the number of years a newborn infant would live if prevailing patterns of mortality at the time of its birth were to stay the same throughout its life). The vertical axis shows the poverty headcount ratio at \$1.90 international dollars (i.e. after adjusting for inflation and cross-country price differences).



Source: World Bank, Population (Gapminder, HYDE(2016) & UN (2019))

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What about education and health? What economics have to say about this?

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**[Education, HIV and Early Fertility: Experimental Evidence from Kenya](#)**

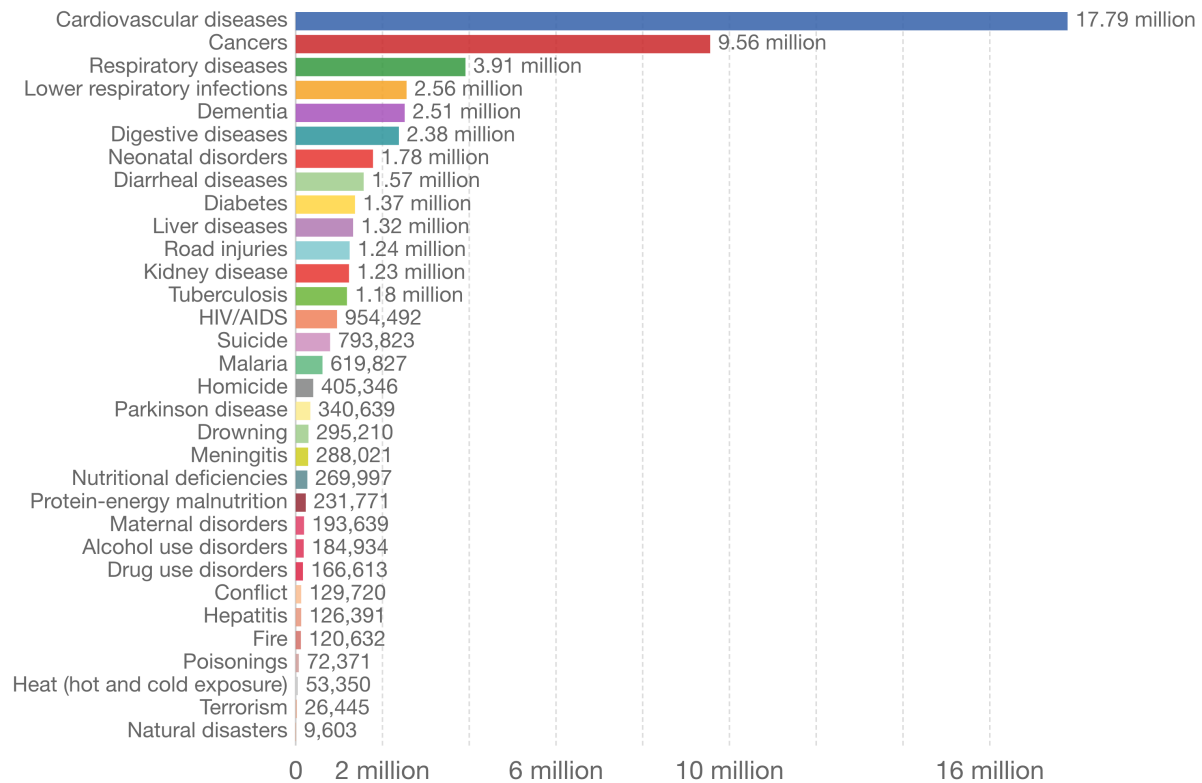
*American Economic Review Vol. 105(9), pp. 2257-97, September 2015*

with Pascaline Dupas, Michael Kremer

2019 Nobel Laureate in Economics



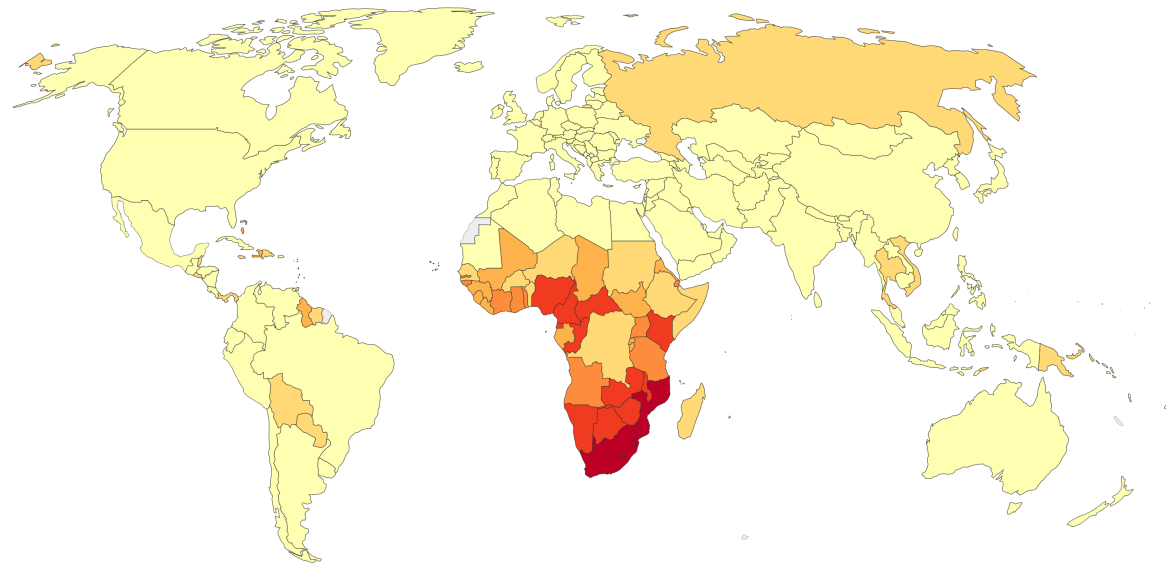
# Number of deaths by cause, World, 2017



Source: IHME, Global Burden of Disease

## Death rate from HIV/AIDS, 2017

The annual number of deaths from HIV/AIDS per 100,000 people.



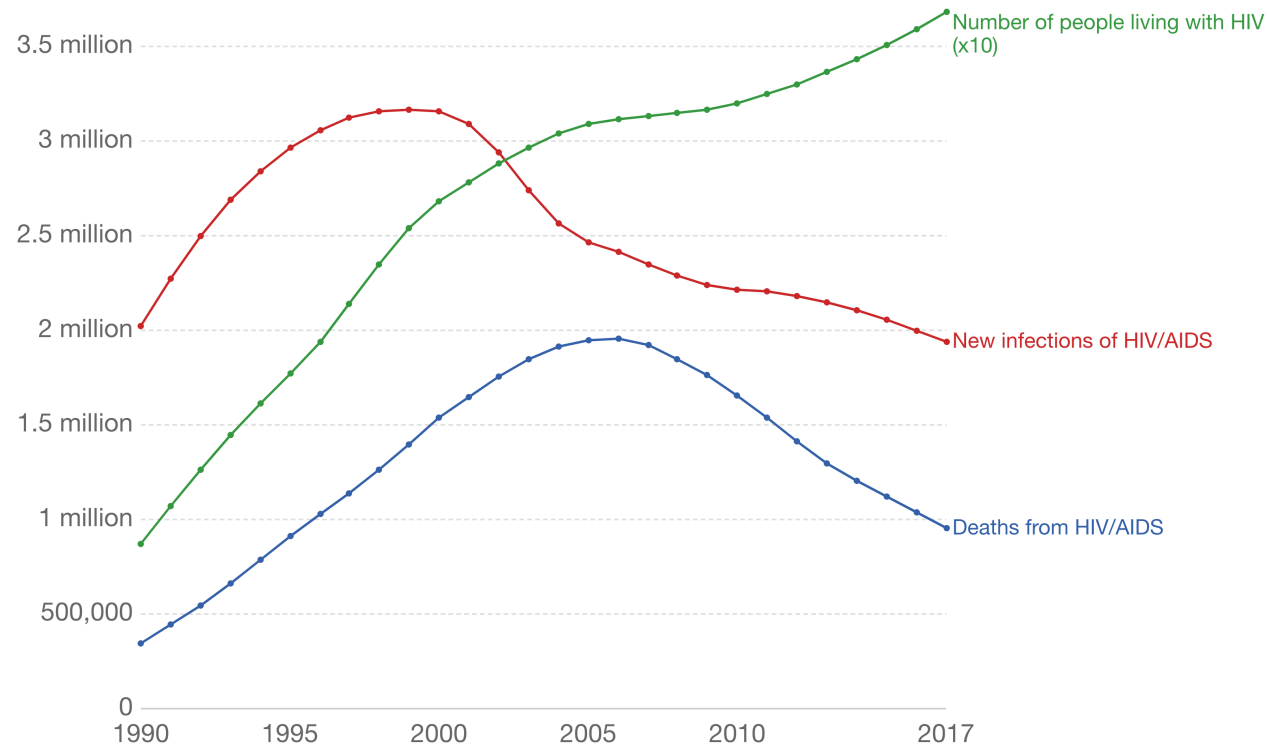
Source: IHME, Global Burden of Disease (GBD)

Note: To allow comparisons between countries and over time this metric is age-standardized.

OurWorldInData.org/hiv-aids • CC BY

## Prevalence, new cases and deaths from HIV/AIDS, World

To fit all three measures on the same visualization the total number of people living with HIV has been divided by ten (i.e. in 2017 there were 37 million people living with HIV).

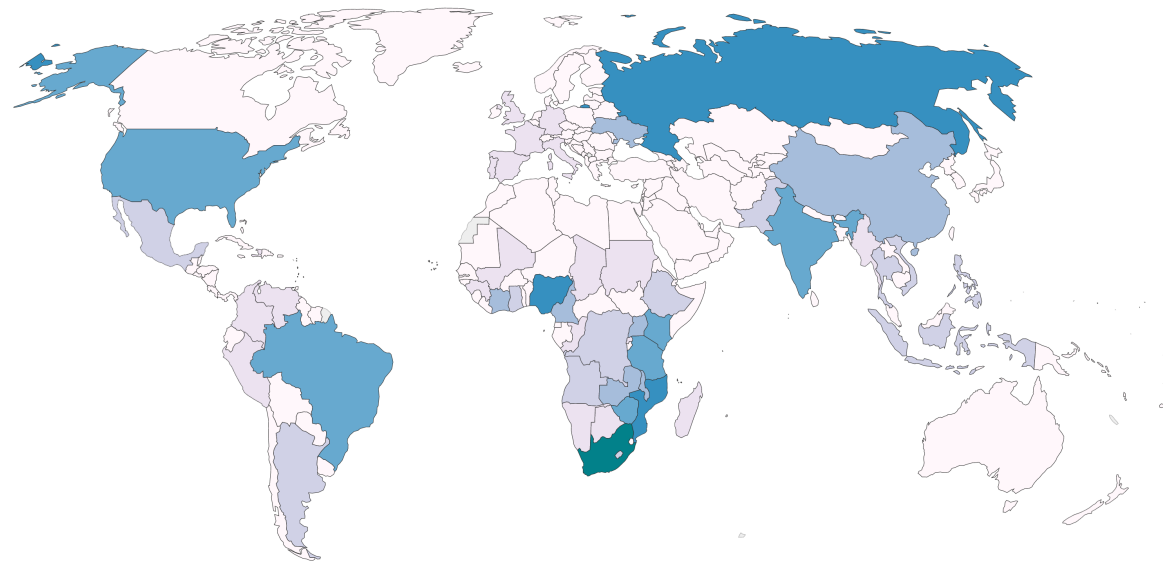


Source: IHME, Global Burden of Disease

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## Number of new cases of HIV, 2017

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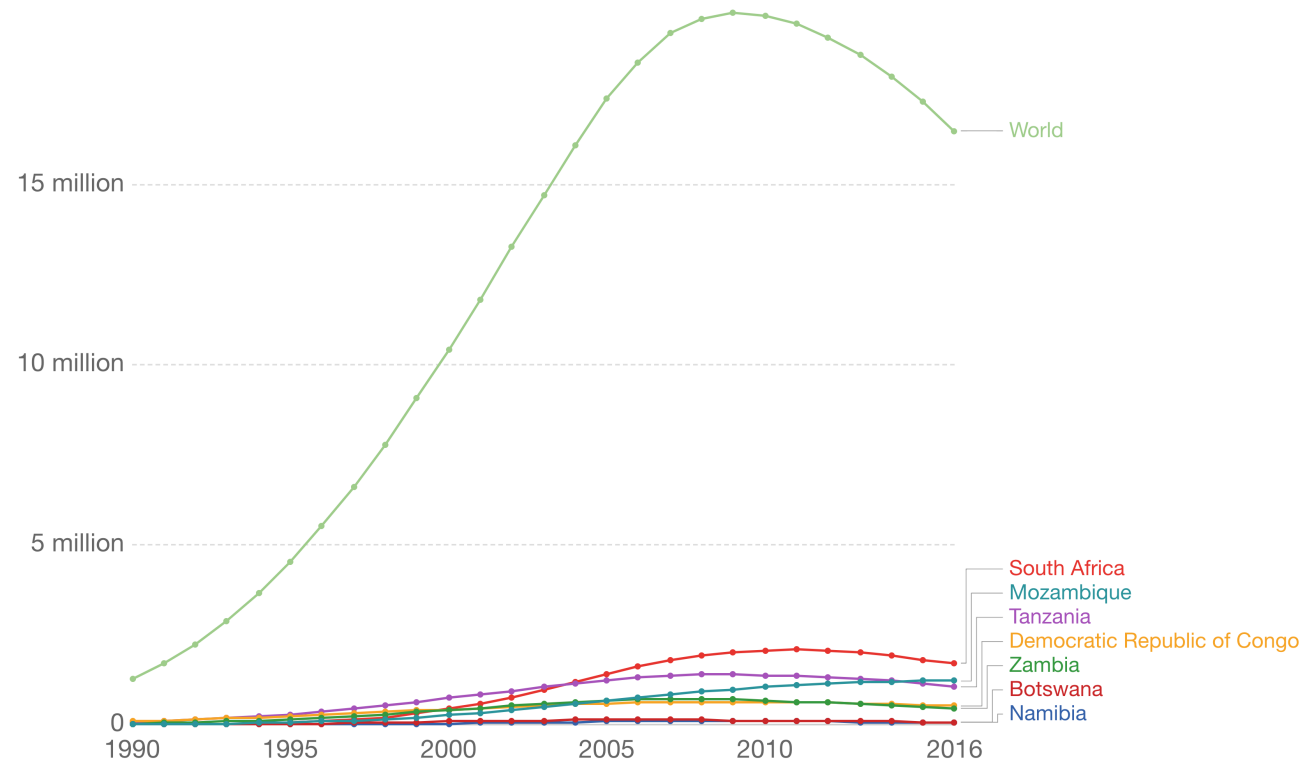
Source: IHME, Global Burden of Disease

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## Number of children annually orphaned from AIDS deaths

Number of children, aged 17 and under, annually orphaned through the death of one or both parents from AIDS.



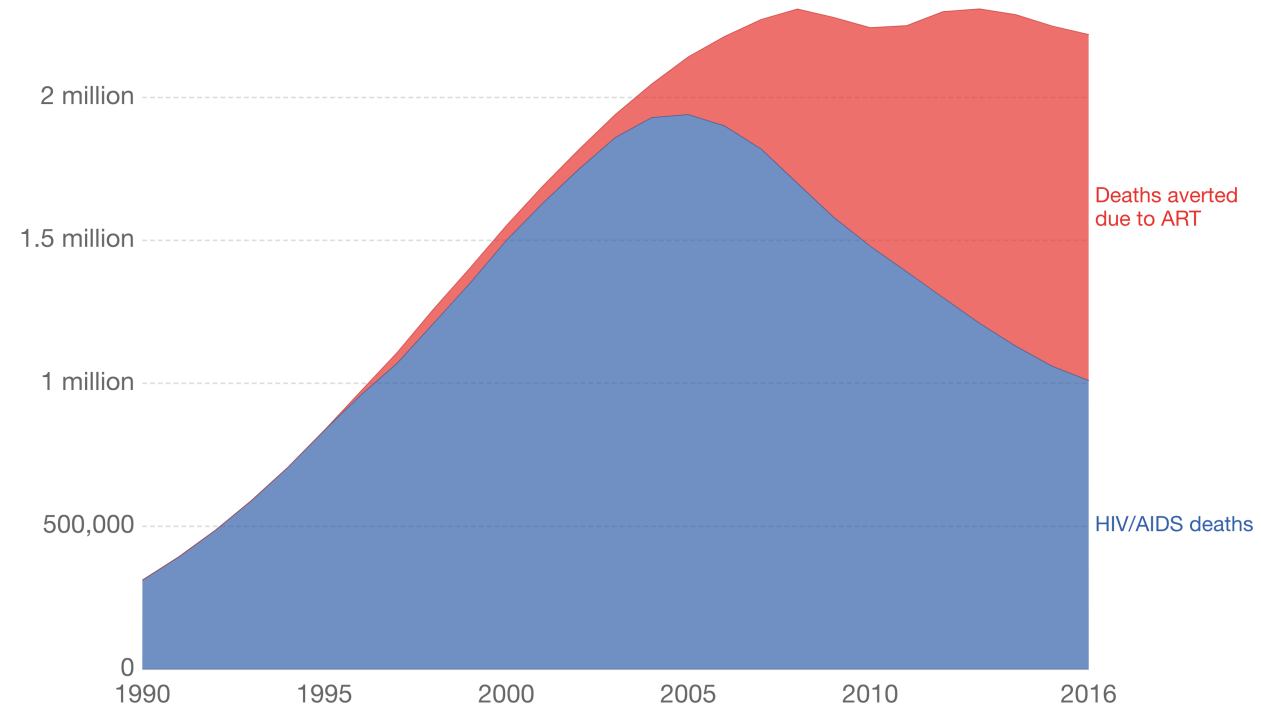
Source: UNAIDS

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## HIV/AIDS deaths and deaths averted due to antiretroviral therapy (ART), World

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Annual number of deaths from HIV/AIDS and the estimated number which have been averted as a result of antiretroviral therapy (ART).



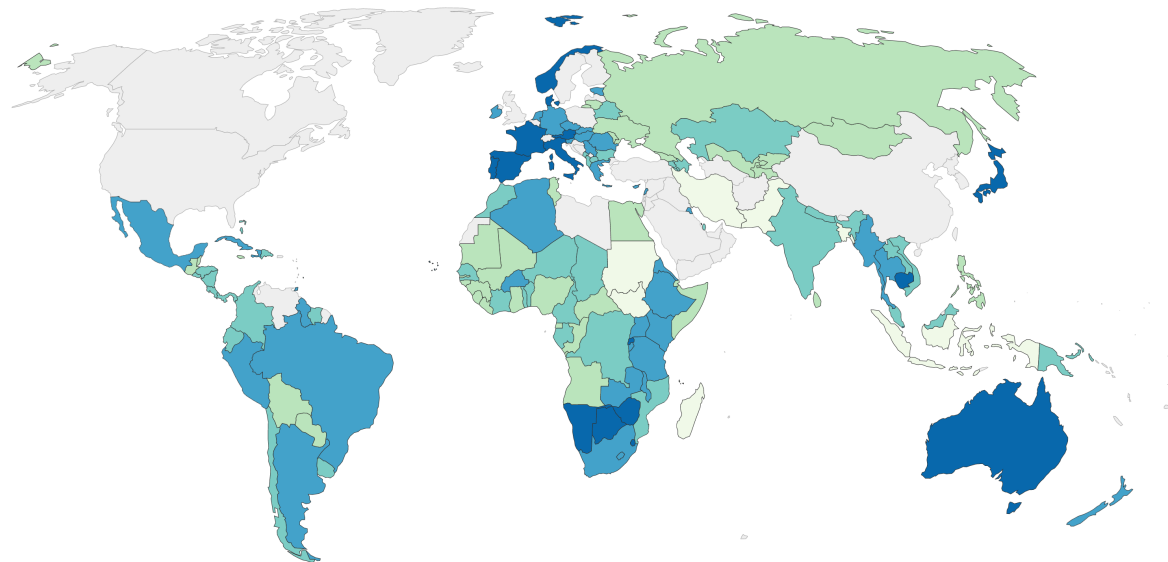
Source: UNAIDS

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## Share of people with HIV who receive antiretroviral therapy, 2017

Percentage of people living with HIV, who are receiving antiretroviral therapy. This therapy is a combination of several antiretroviral medicines, used to slow the rate at which HIV multiplies inside the body.

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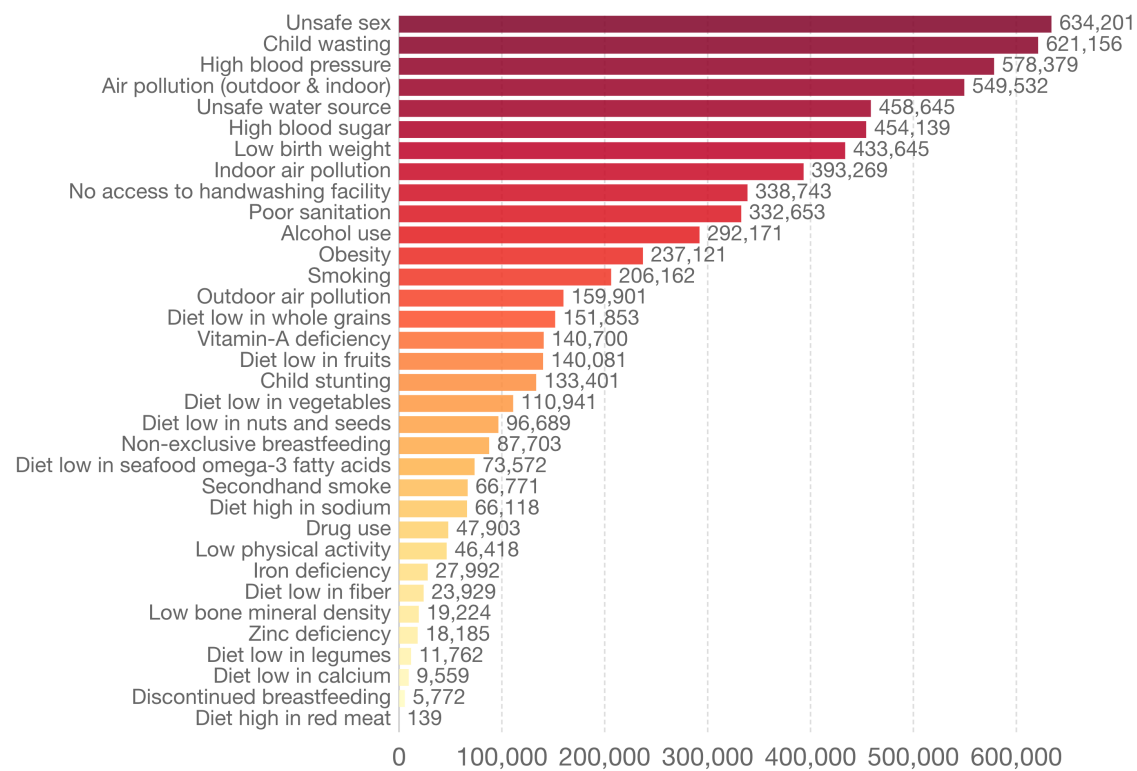
Source: UNAIDS

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## Number of deaths by risk factor, Sub-Saharan Africa, 2017

Total annual number of deaths by risk factor, measured across all age groups and both sexes.

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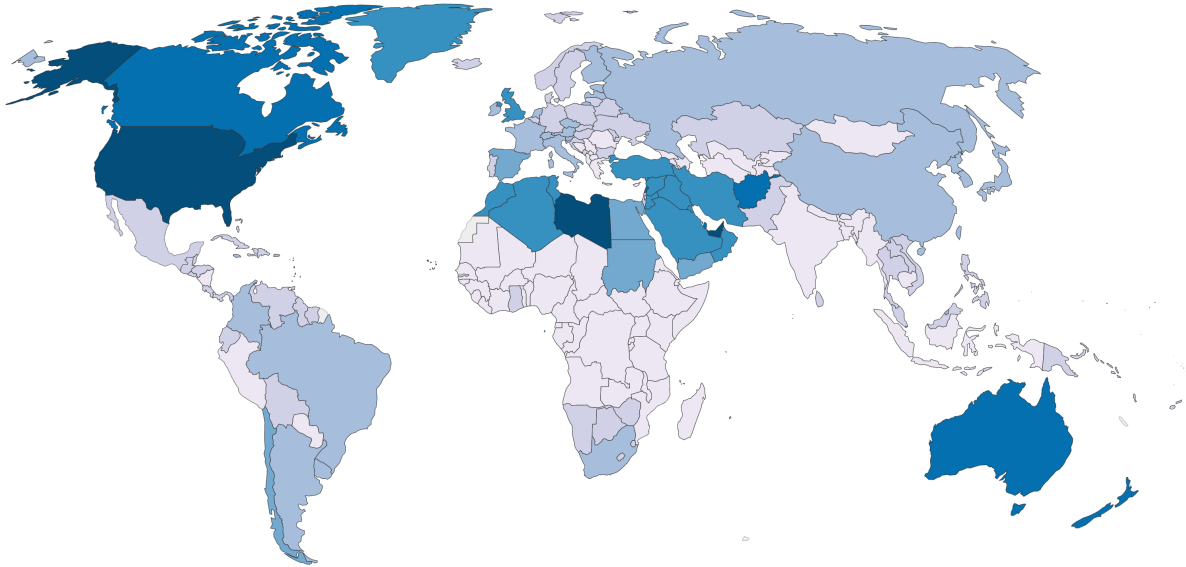


Source: IHME, Global Burden of Disease (GBD)

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# Share of population with drug use disorders, 2017

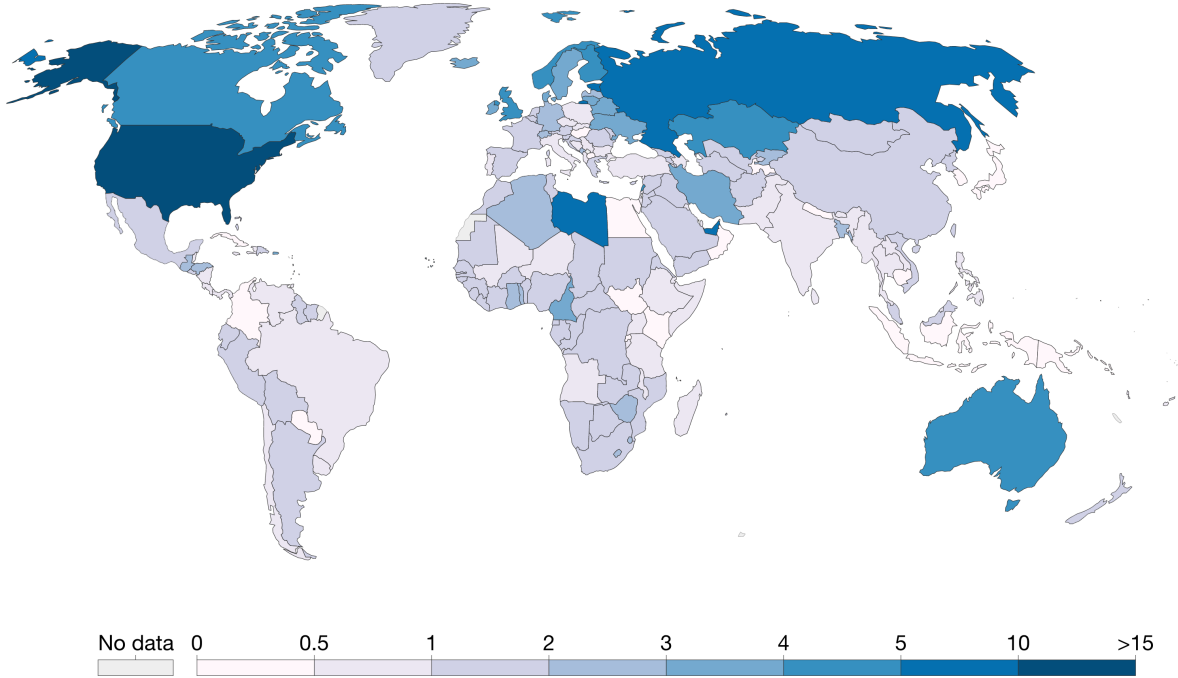
Drug dependence is defined by the International Classification of Diseases as the presence of three or more indicators of dependence for at least a month within the previous year. Drug dependency includes all illicit drugs.



Source: IHME, Global Burden of Disease

# Death rates from drug use disorders, 2017

Age-standardized death rates from drug use disorders, measured per 100,000 individuals. Drug use here refers to illicit drugs including opioids, cocaine, amphetamine, and cannabis. Figures do not include indirect suicide deaths which may otherwise be related to drug use disorders.

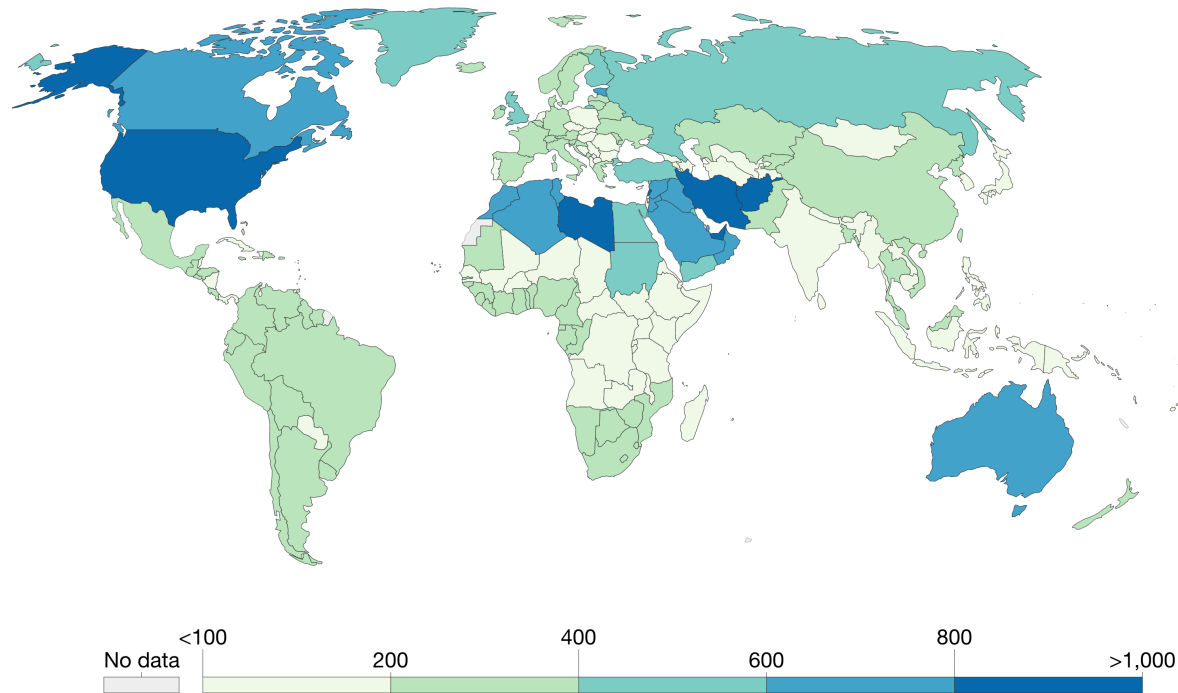


Source: IHME, Global Burden of Disease

## Drug use disorder DALYs, age-standardized rate, 2017

Age-standardized DALYs (Disability-Adjusted Life Years) from drug use disorders per 100,000 individuals. DALYs are used to measure total burden of disease - both from years of life lost and years lived with a disability. One DALY equals one lost year of healthy life.

Our World  
in Data



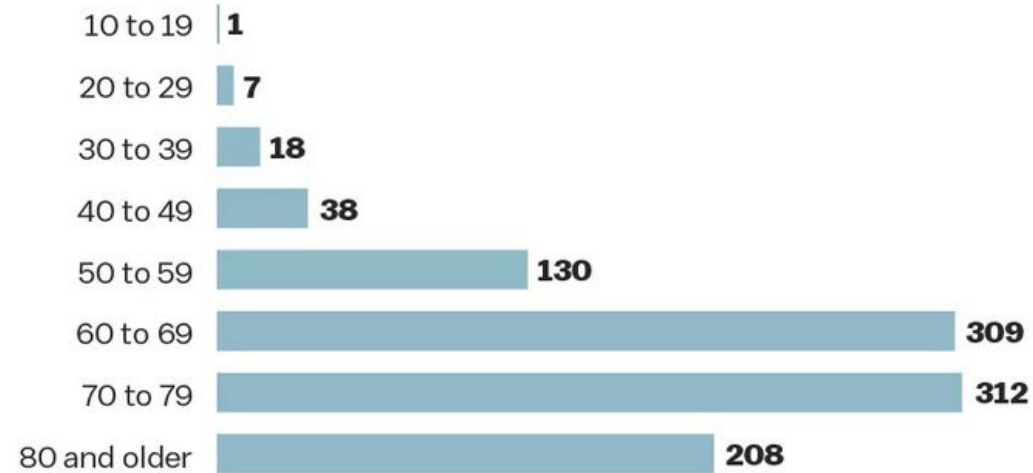
Source: IHME, Global Burden of Disease

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# Some Flu Economics

## Deaths from Covid-19 in mainland China, by age group

As of February 11, 2020



Source: *The Epidemiological Characteristics of an Outbreak of 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) – China, 2020*, China CDC

**Vox**

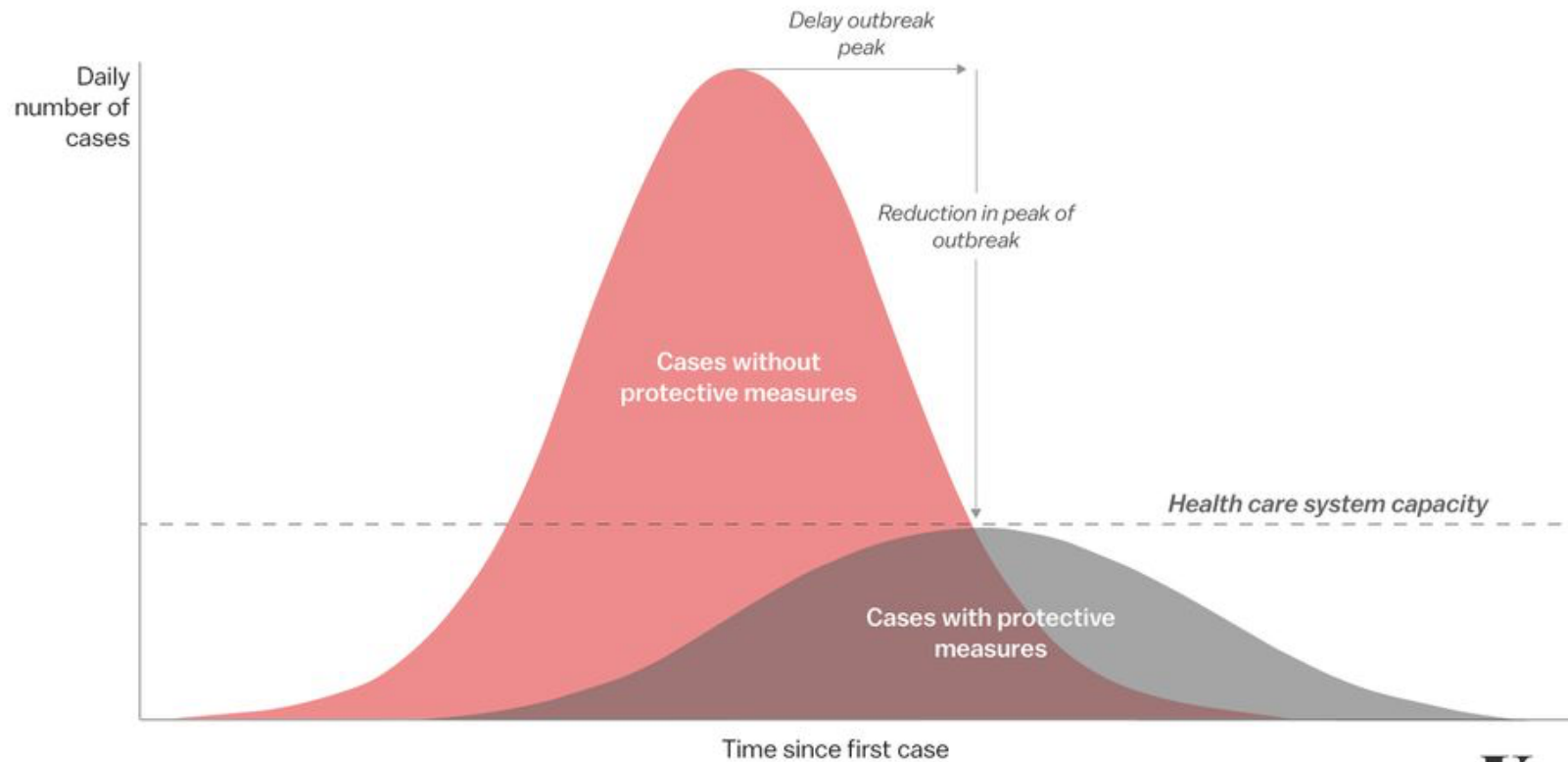


We are the leader after all!



# Yes we can do something! Act Proactively!!!

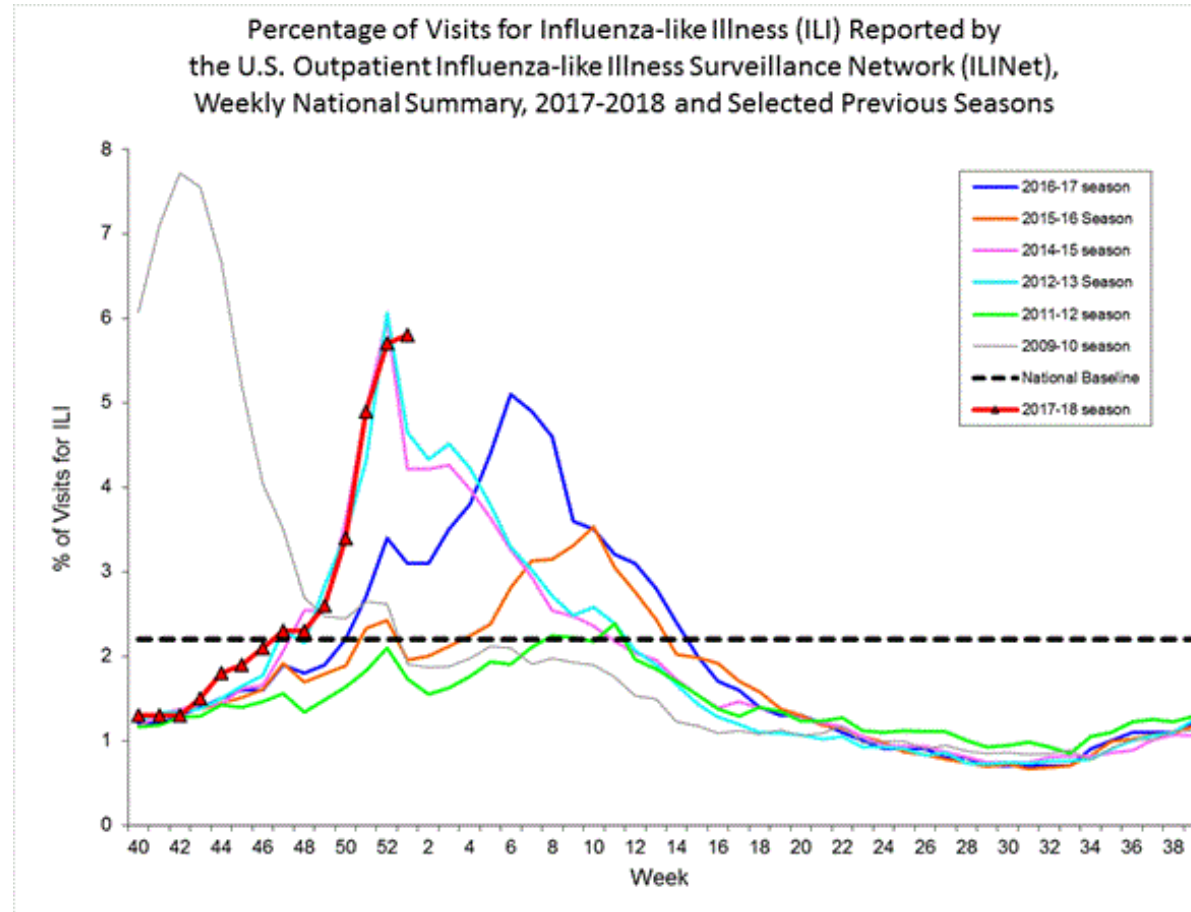
## Flattening the curve



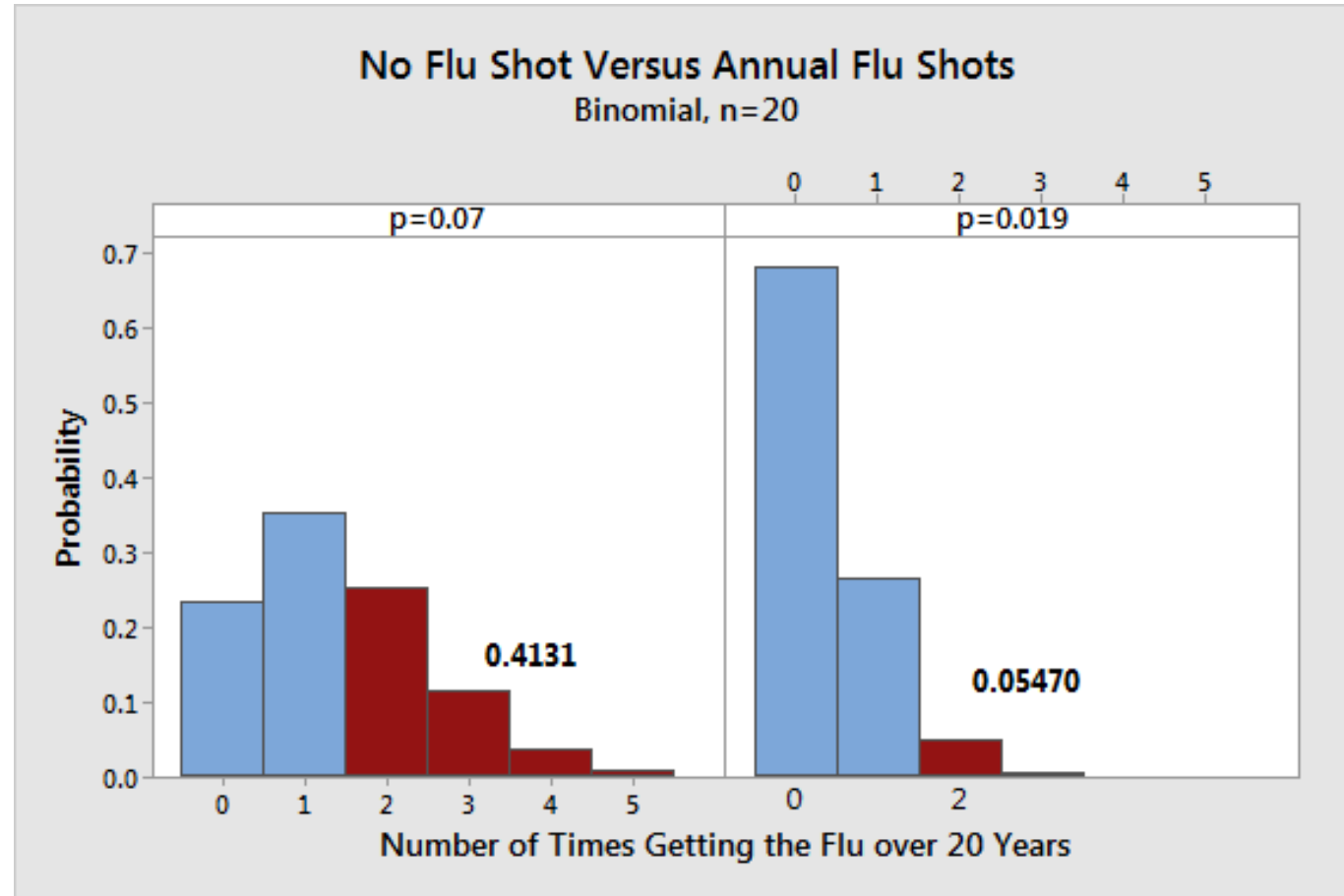
Source: CDC

**Vox**

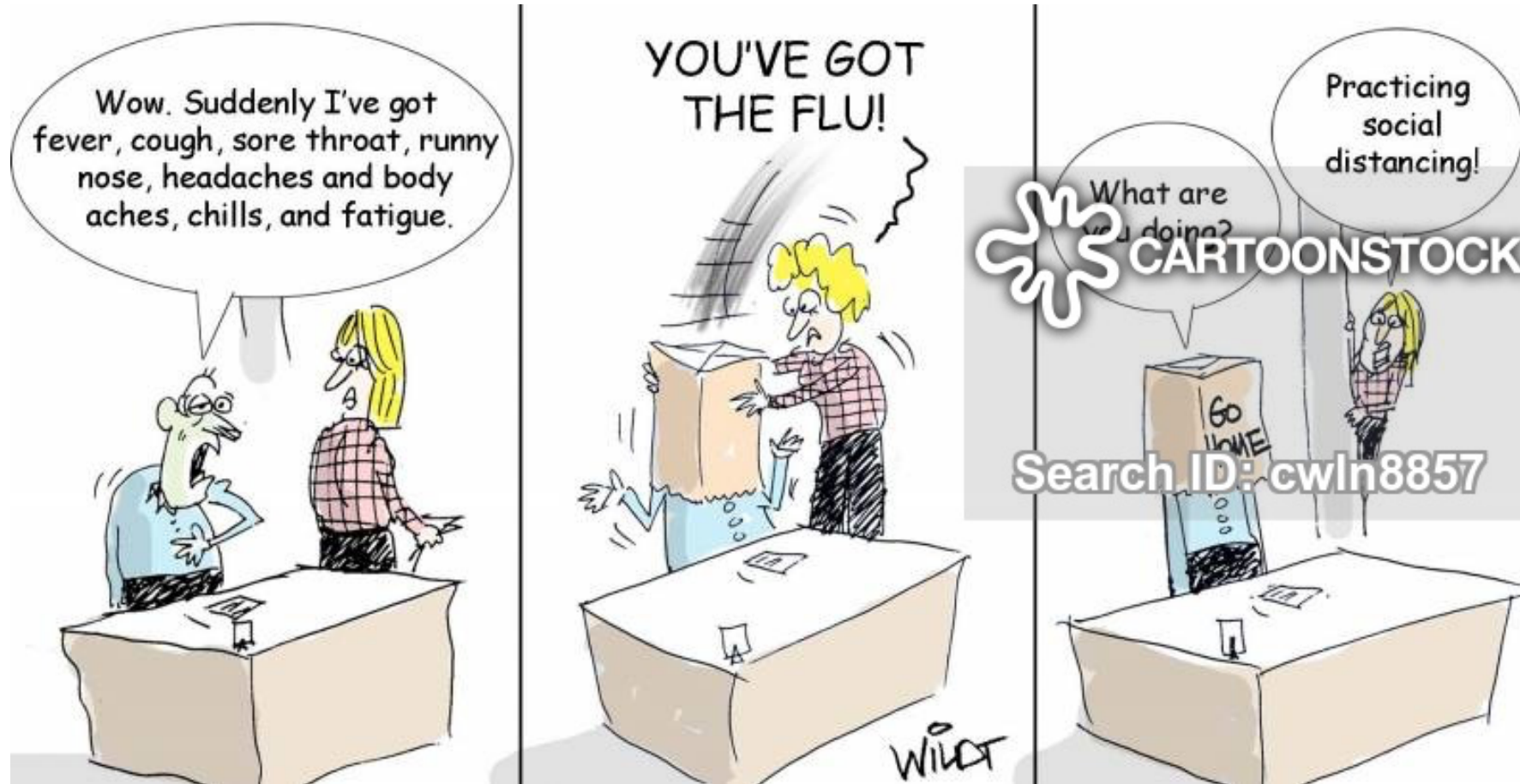
# Don't Panic!!! You harm everybody!



# Give time to science! In Science we trust!



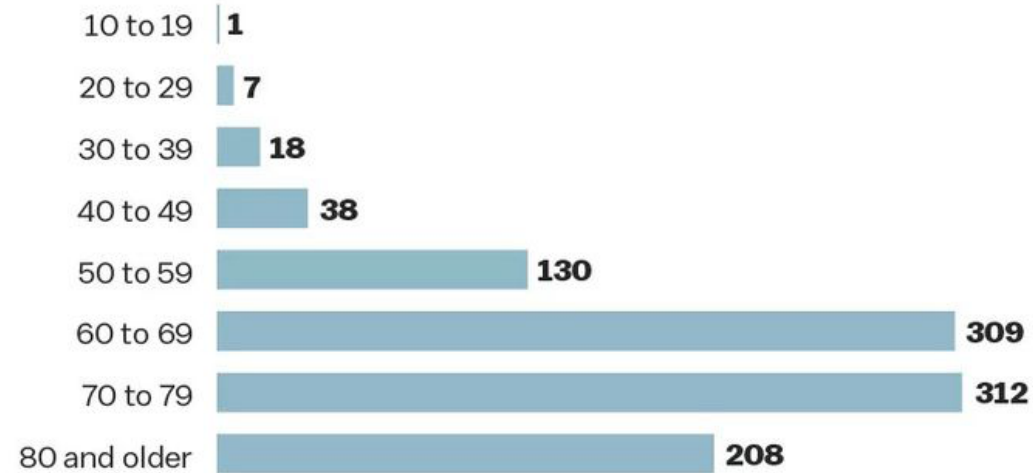
# Keep safe and healthy!



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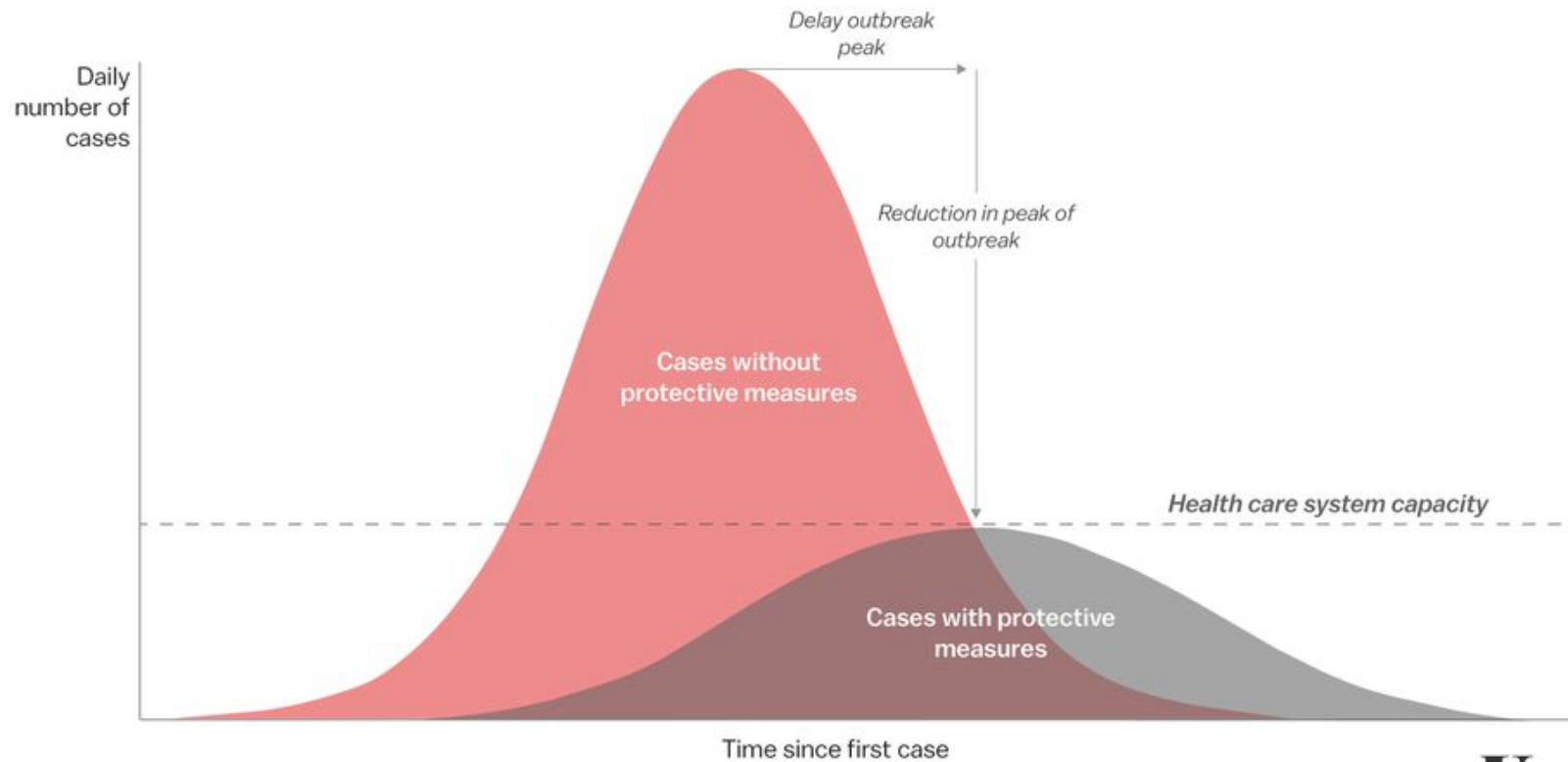
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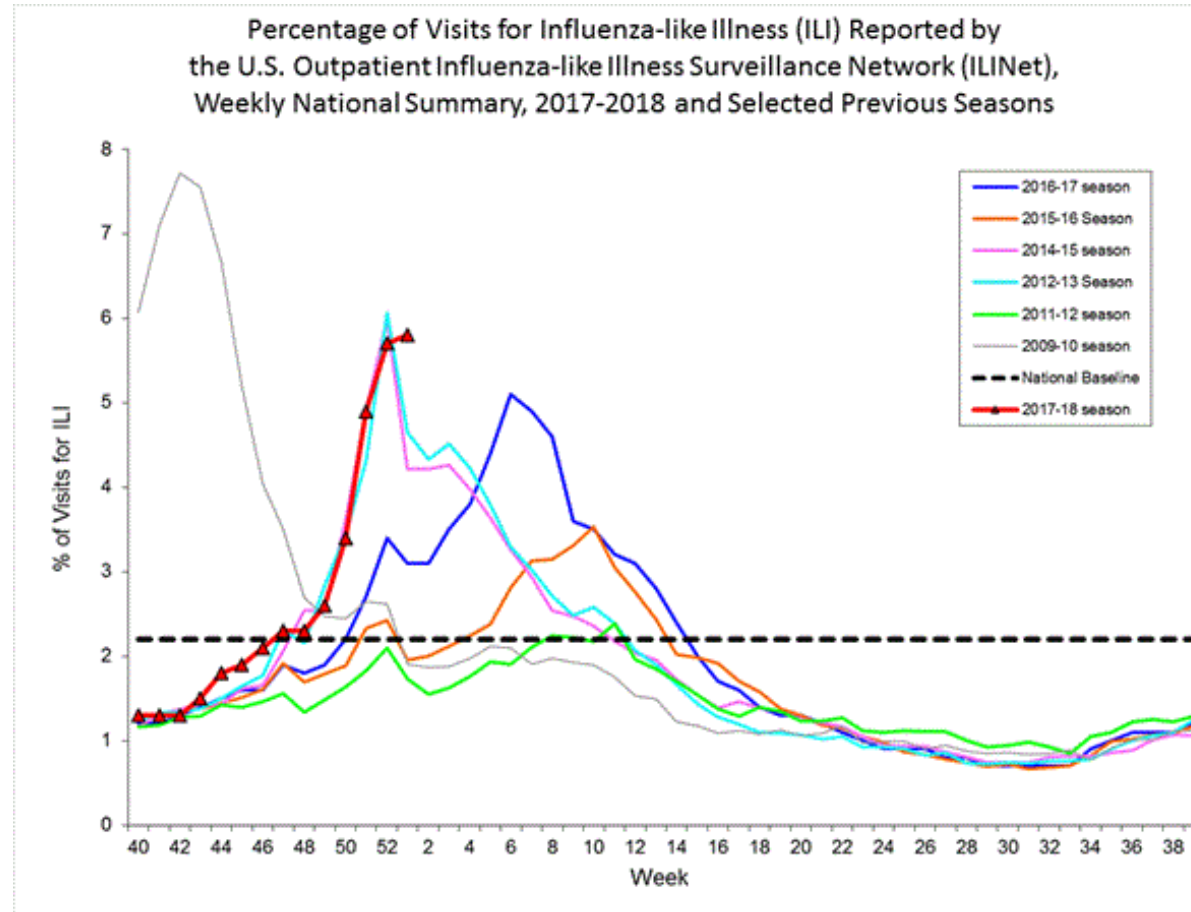


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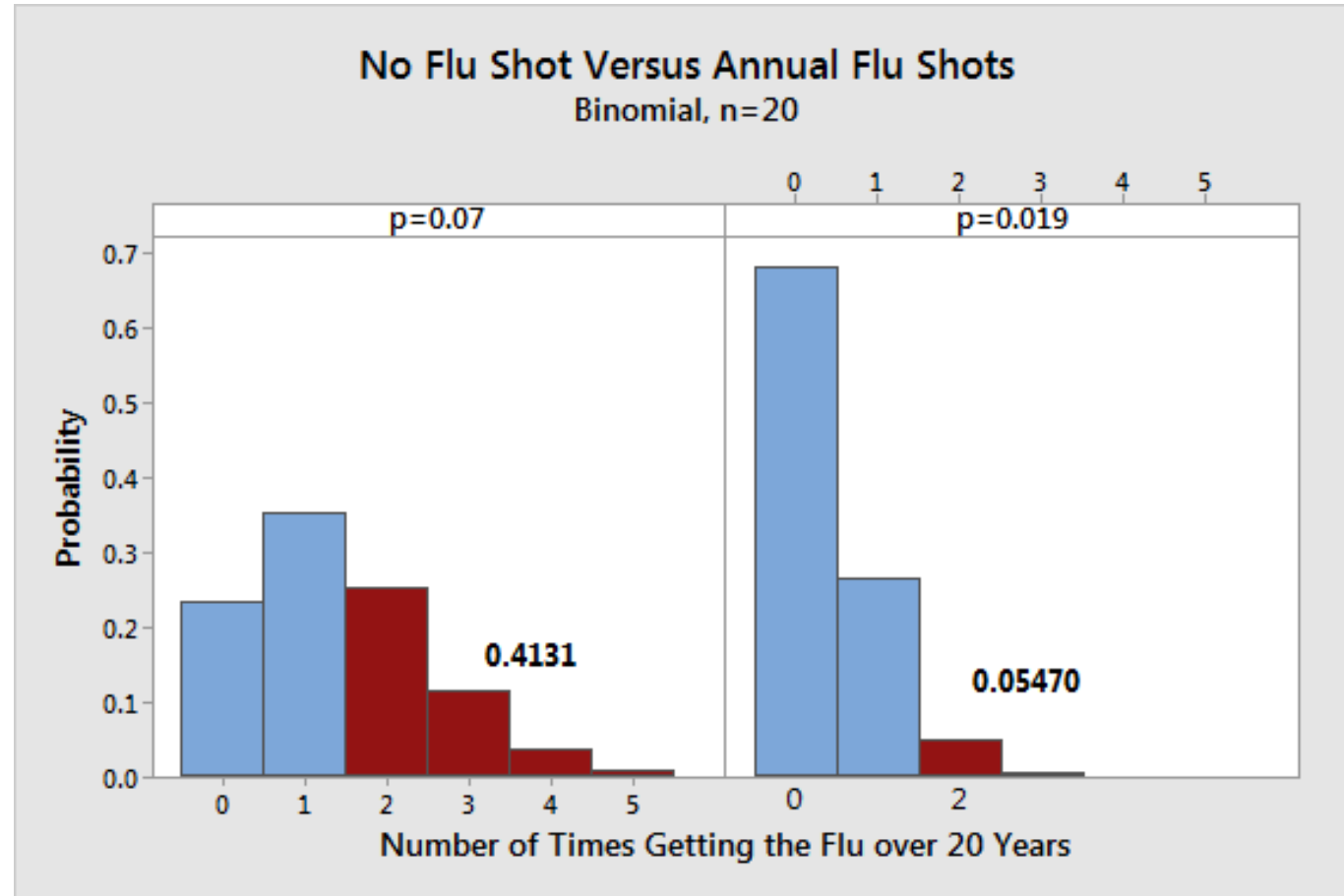
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