

HEALTH STATUS OF ELDERLY IN SAGE COUNTRIES : ISSUES

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OBJECTIVES AND DATA SOURCES

Globally, population of elderly is increasing in terms of proportion as well as absolute number

Given the kind of health concerns elderly have, it is important to examine health status of elderly

Attempt is made to assess health status of elderly in terms of healthy life expectancy, disease burden, composite health score etc in WHO's SAGE study countries viz. China, Ghana, India, Mexico, Russia, and South Africa

Uses Wave 1 data (2007-10) of WHO's Study on global AGEing and adult health (SAGE) across six countries

% OF 50+ POPULATION IN SAGE COUNTRIES 2010 - 2050

Country	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050
China	24.8	33.2	39.4	45.8	48.8
Ghana	10.9	13.7	17.2	22.0	26.9
India	16.4	20.0	24.3	28.5	32.6
Mexico	17.3	22.4	28.0	32.8	32.1
Russia	33.4	36.7	40.4	46.4	45.7
South Africa	16.3	18.7	19.9	23.6	27.5

Source : US Census Bureau

WIDOWHOOD AMONG POPULATION 70+

Country	MALE- %	FEMALE -%
China	17.9	45.0
Ghana	12.3	69.3
India	16.8	74.5
Mexico	17.9	53.1
Russia	24.7	70.5
South Africa	13.6	60.2

DEFINITION OF HALE

Healthy life expectancy, is a population health indicator that combines mortality and health into a single health state utility score

Difference between life expectancy and HALE is average number of years lived in ill health over a person's life

2 sets of time series data are required to generate HALE measures: (1) age specific mortality rates and (2) age specific measures of average health status (Berthelot, 2003)

Used WHO's Model Life Tables for mortality component (WHO, 2006), while death registration data, population based epidemiological studies, disease registers, and notification systems were used to estimate health status component (WHO, 2008a)

LE and HALE

LE at birth is estimated to be highest in Mexico (77 years), followed by China (74 years), Russia (68 years), India (65 years), Ghana (58 years), and South Africa (53 years) (UN, 2009)

Life expectancy at age of 60 for 2010–2015 is highest in Mexico (22 years), followed by China (20 years), Ghana, India, and Russia (17 years), and South Africa (16 years)

According to WHO 2007 estimates of HALE at birth for both sexes combined, Mexico led SAGE countries, followed by China, Russia, India, Ghana, and South Africa (67, 66, 60, 56, 50, and 48 years, respectively)

HALE at age of 60 had same order—Mexico, China, Russia, India, Ghana, and South Africa (16, 15, 13, 12, 11, and 10 years respectively)

PREVENTIVE HEALTH BEHAVIOUR (50+)

Country	Adequate fruit/vegetable intake		Moderate Physical Activity	
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural
China	66	63	72	71
Ghana	30	27	58	70
India	12	8	70	74
Mexico	16	29	59	66
Russia	24	12	71	79
South Africa	35	25	38	42

% FEELING DEPRESSED IN LAST 30 DAYS (50+)

Country	Married	Widowed
China	17	28
Ghana	49	58
India	55	68
Mexico	43	58
Russia	29	48
South Africa	46	56

Health State Score

Health state scores were calculated based on self reported health in eight health domains covering affect /emotions, cognition, interpersonal activities and relationships, mobility, pain, self care, sleep/energy, and vision (Salomon, et al., 2003)

SAGE composite health score was derived from 16 responses, two questions for each domain, using a Rasch partial credit model of Item Response Theory (Wilson, Allen, and Li, 2006)

Chi-square fit statistics were calculated to determine how well each item contributed to a common global health measurement. Calibration for each health item was taken into account and raw scores were transformed into continuous cardinal scale, where score of 0 represents worst health and maximum score of 100 represents best health

MEAN HEALTH SCORE

Country	Total	50-69	70+	M	F	U	R
China	68.1	70.4	59.6	70.3	65.9	71.9	65.0
Ghana	56.1	59.2	49.9	58.6	53.5	58.4	54.6
India	53.1	55.4	46.5	56.7	49.5	56.1	51.8
Mexico	62.4	64.0	57.9	64.7	60.5	63.6	58.4
Russia	60.1	64.5	49.7	63.6	57.8	60.4	59.1
South Africa	62.0	63.5	55.9	64.5	60.0	62.6	61.0

CHRONIC CONDITIONS(%)

Country	Arthritis	Depression	Hypertension	Diabetes	Cataract	Missing all teeth	Injuries
China	21	1	25	6	7	9	7
Ghana	14	7	14	4	5	3	7
India	18	14	17	7	19	16	11
Mexico	9	11	30	18	10	22	6
Russia	30	4	52	7	13	18	6
South Africa	25	3	30	9	4	9	3

HEALTH CARE UTILISATION 50+ (12 months, %)

	China	Ghana	India	Mexico	Russia	South Africa
Received Care	67	68	90	42	72	65
Received OP care	60	65	88	41	67	62
Paid by self/spouse	61	56	65	29	12	24
Received IP care	15	9	11	3	17	9
Paid by Self/spouse	28	37	55	24	6	12

DISABILITY (50+, %)

	China	Ghana	India	Mexico	Russia	South Africa
Any disability	68	78	93	21	91	76
Difficulty in moving around	21	47	66	38	52	34
Difficulty with self care	8	25	23	20	27	16
Body ache/pains	48	80	74	54	62	64
Difficulty in concentration or remembering	48	62	68	49	50	56

LIFE SATISFACTION(50+, %)

	China	Ghana	India	Mexico	Russia	South Africa
Satisfied with Life	66	57	66	79	61	61
Satisfied with Health	57	57	56	69	43	62
Happy	59	63	55	54	50	58
Mean WHO QOL score	54	72	72	49	71	68

ISSUES THAT NEED ATTENTION

- Life expectancy and healthy life expectancy
- Adequate fruit/vegetable intake
- Physical activity
- Depression, higher among widowed
- Moderate health score – 70+ , rural and females
- Chronic health conditions
- Health care expenses met by self/spouse
- Higher levels of disability, difficulty in moving around, body pains/ache and difficulty in concentration/ remembering
- Moderate levels of satisfaction with life and happiness

Thanks for your attention