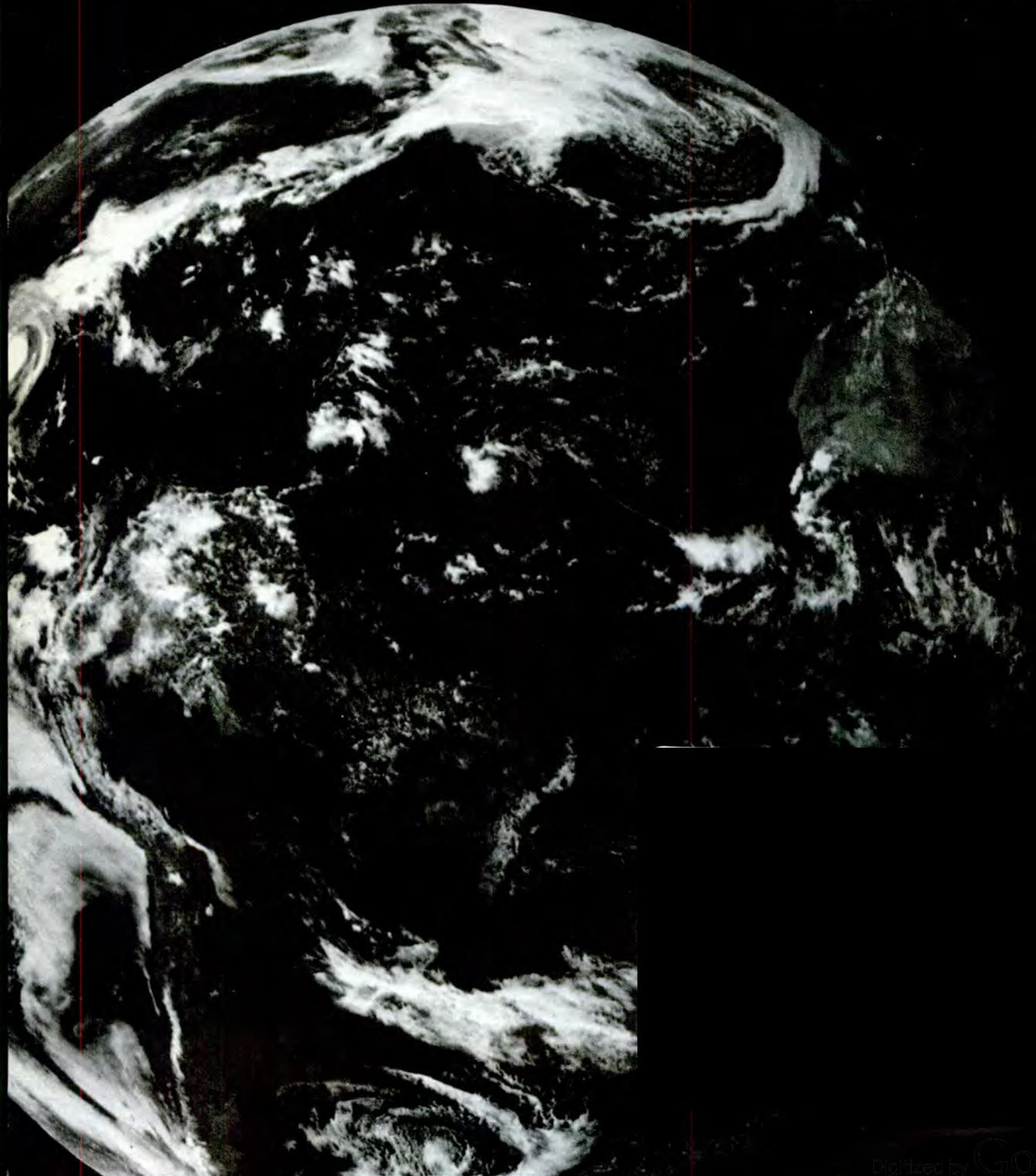


U.S. Department of Commerce
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

Aging in the Third World



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Users of this report are invited to send their comments to the Chief, Center for International Research, Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233.

Aging in the Third World



by
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Issued September 1988



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Introduction

The aging of modern populations represents a major success story unfolding during the latter stages of the 20th century. Through the efforts of both national and international agencies, many societies have drastically reduced their rates of infant and maternal mortality, as well as the incidence of infectious and parasitic diseases. These improvements have interacted with reductions in fertility and advancements in education and health to produce populations with increasingly larger proportions of older members.

The most dramatic and well-publicized examples of population aging have occurred in the industrialized nations of Europe and North America. In many cases, however, countries have not aged gracefully. Belated recognition of demographic and socioeconomic changes has often resulted in ad hoc and inappropriate political responses on the national level, with consequent shortcomings and suffering on the community and personal levels.

Today's developing nations have the opportunity to learn from previous and ongoing efforts and, once the issues are more widely understood, a longer period to plan for the inevitable strains of demographic change. Aging in most developing countries has not yet emerged as a dominant social phenomenon. These nations have time to assess demographic projections, consider structural changes in social institutions such as marriage and the family, compare and evaluate programmatic responses already attempted, and, in short, debate issues before they are branded as crises. While their eventual responses will necessarily differ from those adopted in the past, developing countries can benefit from recent advances in medical technol-

ogy, health service provision, and community support systems.

In view of the myriad problems that continue to confront developing societies, it seems unlikely that aging issues will or should soon be high priorities in national development plans. However, the rapidity of change that will occur (and in numerous cases has already begun) requires significant lead time for planning, especially in countries where quick-fix financial measures will in all likelihood be precluded. Beyond the endemic problem of monetary resources, the most important shortcomings that developing countries now have with regard to the aging of their populations are those of awareness and data. The former has been radically enhanced by the work of the United Nations, both leading up to and going beyond the 1982 World Conference on Aging in Vienna. Nevertheless, awareness of issues concerning older populations remains low in many nations, even as the absolute numbers of aged double and triple.

Part of the unawareness stems from a lack of useful data needed to stimulate and substantiate discussion. Far too often, statistical information on older populations is lumped into a broad, open-ended category (e.g., "60 years and over") which obscures the heterogeneous nature of a population group that spans more than 40 years of life. The elderly are at least as diverse as younger age groups in terms of personal and social resources, health, living arrangements, and integration into social life. The disaggregation of statistics on older populations reveals important demographic and socioeconomic differences that have direct bearing on policymaking, both present and future.

The purpose of this report is twofold: to summarize detailed demographic and socioeconomic statistics that have been collected on older populations in 22 developing countries and to suggest areas where additional information is needed for planning and development purposes. For the most part, report data come from the International Data Base on Aging (IDBA), which comprises computerized country files covering a wide variety of variables. The IDBA is maintained and updated by the Center for International Research, U.S. Bureau of the Census, in Washington, DC, and is currently archived at the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research in Ann Arbor, Michigan. To portray differences among older populations, IDBA data have been disaggregated as much as possible into 5-year age groups. The statistics shown in the appendix tables represent only a small portion of the total contents of the IDBA files.

Data for 11 of the 22 developing countries specifically examined in this report (see figure 1 or appendix A, table 1 for a listing of the 22 countries) had already been collected under a prior research agreement with the U.S. National Institute on Aging. In addition, 11 countries were selected for analysis based on several criteria: importance to the Agency for International Development, data availability, and a desire to expand regional representation (no African countries were among the original 11).

Most sections of this report focus only on data from these 22 countries or a subset thereof. The appendix tables referred to at the beginning of certain report sections indicate the countries for which specific subject-matter data are available. In some report

sections (for example, those dealing with demographic trends and life expectancy), aggregate measures for entire developing regions are also discussed. For other subject matter (e.g., living arrangements and long-term care), comparable cross-national data are largely unavailable, and discussion is limited to existing information for particular countries. While older populations in the 22 nations undoubtedly share many common characteristics with older populations in other developing countries (especially in their respective geographic regions), international differences do of course exist, and the reader should be aware that particular conditions found in some or all of the 22 nations cannot necessarily be extrapolated to the developing world as a whole.

As authors such as Myers (1985) have noted, any chronological demarcation of age boundaries is open to dispute on grounds that it poorly represents biological, physiological, or even psychological dimensions of the human experience. Attainment of age 80 may be as extraordinary in parts of Africa as it is commonplace in Scandinavia. Even so, an international study of older

populations requires the use of some arbitrary age groupings upon which to base comparisons. In this report, no single age category is universally chosen to represent old age; age groupings being discussed sometimes vary from topic to topic, often as a result of data availability. In general, however, the "older" population refers to persons 55 years old and over, "elderly" refers to ages 65 and over, and the so-called "oldest old" are those who have attained or surpassed age 75.

There are vast differences in both the quantity and quality of statistics reported by the various countries. The United Nations has provided international recommendations for the standardization of concepts and definitions for data collected in censuses and surveys. In spite of these, there are still wide discrepancies in data collection practices due to legitimate differences of opinion regarding what is appropriate in varying cultural contexts. As a result, any attempt to compile standard data across countries requires consideration of whether and how the reported data should be analyzed to achieve comparability.

The demographic data in this report have been evaluated by U.S. Census Bureau analysts and judged to be as representative as possible of the true situation in a given country. The data are internally consistent, as well as congruent with other facts known about the country. These data also have been checked for external consistency; that is, compared with information on other countries in the same region or subregion and with those elsewhere at approximately the same level of economic and social development.

Projected numbers and proportions of older populations are, unless otherwise noted, those of the Center for International Research (CIR), U.S. Bureau of the Census, and are based on empirical patterns and trends of fertility, mortality, and migration.

The statistics on socioeconomic characteristics are primarily reported by the countries themselves, and no evaluation techniques have been applied. While these figures have not received the evaluative scrutiny given to demographic data, the CIR has attempted to resolve discrepancies in reported statistics and to alleviate obvious international inconsistencies.

Highlights

Demographic Trends

- Every month, the net balance of the world's older population (ages 55 and over) increases by 1.2 million persons. Of this increase, 80 percent occurs in developing countries.
- Today there are 370 million older persons in the developing world. In less than three decades there will be more than 1 billion.
- The population growth rate for persons aged 55 and over in developing countries (3.1 percent) is three times as high as in the developed world.
- By 2020, the older populations of Indonesia, Mexico, the Philippines, Kenya, and many other nations will more than triple their current size.
- The Caribbean is the "oldest" developing region, with 12 percent of the population aged 55 and over.
- In most developing countries, the population aged 75 and over (the "oldest old") is growing faster than the older population in general. Future expansion of the oldest old will be especially pronounced in Asia.

Urban/Rural Dimensions

- Rural areas are "older" (have higher proportions of older population) than urban areas, due largely to country-to-city migration of younger adults.
- Within urban populations, the proportion of women aged 55 and over tends to be higher than that of men.

Life Expectancy and Mortality

- Average life expectancy at birth in Latin America is 14 years higher than in Africa.
- Women outlive men in virtually all countries of the world, regardless of the level of life expectancy.
- The nature of disease in developing countries is shifting from communicable to chronic. Cardiovascular diseases have become the leading cause of death in 31 countries throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.

Health and Disability

- Numbers of disabled persons are likely to rise rapidly as populations grow older.
- Emerging morbidity patterns in developing countries may require a reevaluation of health services and service provision.

Gender and Marital Status

- Older women outnumber men in most countries, and the differential increases sharply with age.
- Widowhood is a fact of life for a majority of women aged 65 and over.
- The female share of future older populations is projected to rise in most developing countries.

Living Arrangements and Long-Term Care

- Although the family now provides complete support for a vast majority of older populations in developing countries, traditional support structures are thought to be eroding.

- The need for long-term care (whether formal or informal) is experienced disproportionately by women.

Literacy and Educational Attainment

- In some countries, fewer than 1 in 10 older persons can read and write.
- Secondary-school completion rates of 2 percent or less are not uncommon among older female populations.

Labor Force and Occupational Characteristics

- Nearly 70 percent of men continue to work after age 65 in countries such as Bangladesh and Mexico.
- In spite of the worldwide trend away from employment in agriculture, older workers are heavily concentrated in this sector. Manufacturing occupations typically rank second in terms of numbers of older persons employed.

Social Support of the Elderly

- The relative weights of society's main dependent groups--children and the elderly--are shifting as fertility declines and more people live longer.
- Many governments now or will soon face the challenge of extending social security coverage to more than a small minority of their citizens.

Demographic Trends

Selected data for 22 countries appear in appendix A, tables 1, 2, and 3.

Older Population Growing Fastest in Developing Countries

While the world's total population currently is growing at a rate of 1.7 percent per year, the population aged 55 and over is increasing 2.2 percent per year; and the number of persons aged 65 and over, 2.8 percent annually. Every month, the net balance of the world's older population (55 years and over) increases by 1.2 million persons. More than 80 percent of this monthly increase, almost 1 million persons, occurs in developing countries, where the growth rate for persons aged 55 and over (3.1 percent) is three times as high as in developed countries.

Majority of World's Older Population Lives in Developing Countries

There are now some 370 million people aged 55 and over living in developing countries, representing 58 percent of the world total in this age category. Over the next three decades, the regional distribution of older population will change considerably; by 2020, the proportion in developing countries is projected to rise to 72 percent, with the absolute number exceeding 1 billion.

Persons aged 65 and over in developing countries also outnumber their counterparts in the industrial nations, by 13 percent in 1988 (159 million versus 140 million, respectively). In 2020, the 65-and-over population in developing countries is expected to surpass 470 million, which will be more than double the number in developed countries.

Caribbean is "Oldest" Developing Region

Among the world's developing regions, the Caribbean has the highest proportion (12 percent) of population aged 55 and over. Asia and Latin America have more than 10 percent and 9 percent, respectively, and Africa as a whole has 7 percent.

The high percentage of older population in the Caribbean has resulted from a history of relatively low fertility rates combined with significant emigration of young and working-age adults. Although Africa presently has the lowest proportion of older population, its growth rate for ages 55 and over will be the highest among world regions during the next decade.

Table A.
Percentage of Total Population in Older Age Groups: 1988 to 2020

Region	Year	55 years and over	65 years and over	75 years and over
Asia	1988	10.4	4.5	1.3
	2005	12.8	6.1	2.0
	2020	17.5	8.3	2.7
Africa	1988	7.0	2.9	0.7
	2005	7.2	3.1	0.8
	2020	8.2	3.6	1.0
Latin America	1988	9.4	4.4	1.4
	2005	11.4	5.5	2.0
	2020	15.8	7.5	2.7
Caribbean	1988	11.7	6.1	2.2
	2005	13.7	6.8	2.6
	2020	18.7	9.0	3.3

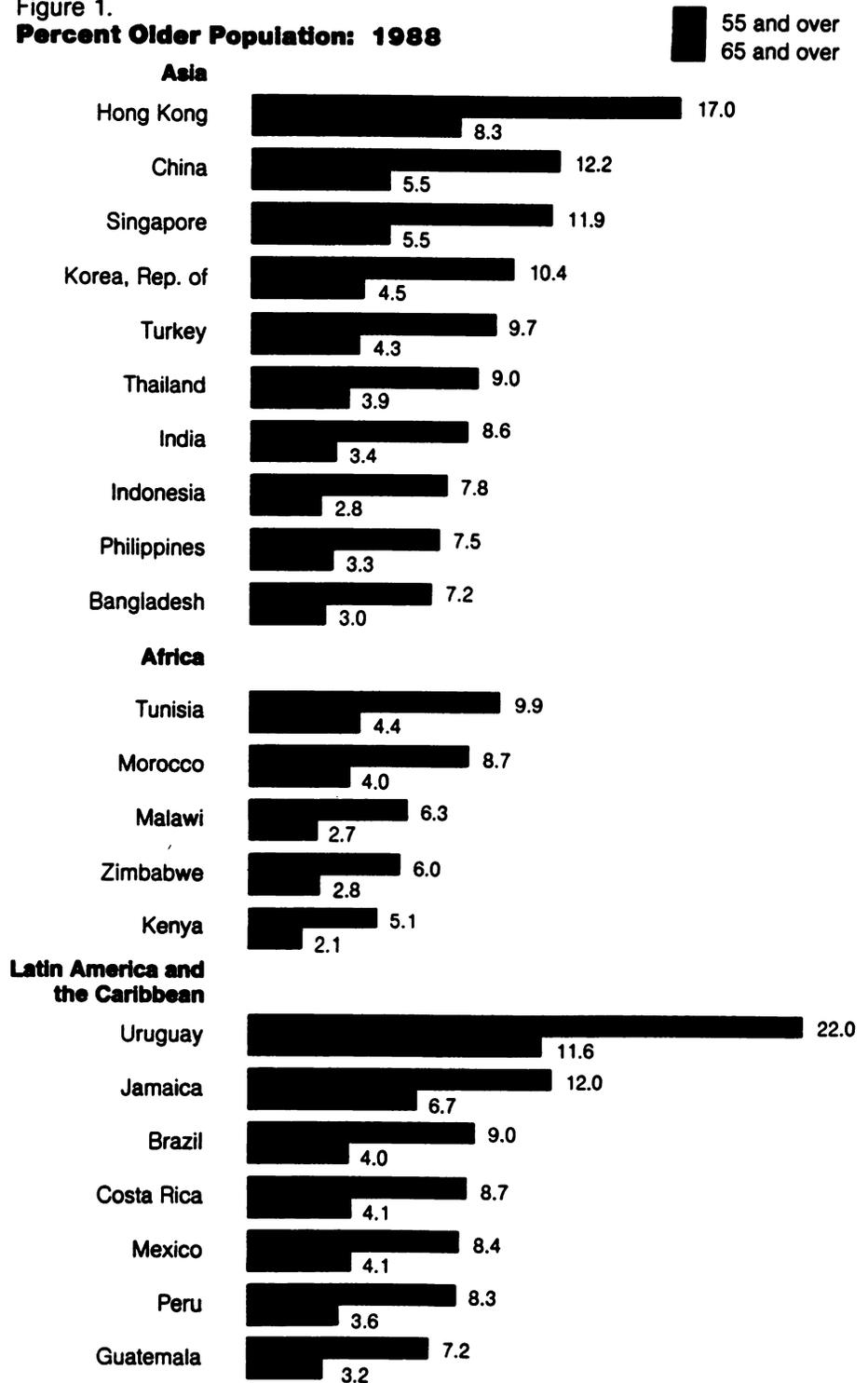
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Center for International Research, International Data Base on Aging.

Within developing regions, differing historical circumstances have produced a wide range in population age structure. Figure 1 portrays the diversity found among the 22 countries specifically examined in this report. Hong Kong, China, and Singapore, with low levels of past fertility, have proportionately greater numbers of people in older age groups than do other Asian nations. As already noted, Africa tends to be younger than other developing regions, although Tunisia, Morocco, and other Northern African nations have aged more rapidly than many of their counterparts in Sub-Saharan Africa and elsewhere. Uruguay is outstanding among Latin American nations. Decades of relatively low fertility have combined with the emigration of working-age individuals to produce a Uruguayan population that is now aged by most standards, with 22 percent of its members over the age of 54.

Many Older Populations to Triple in Size by 2020

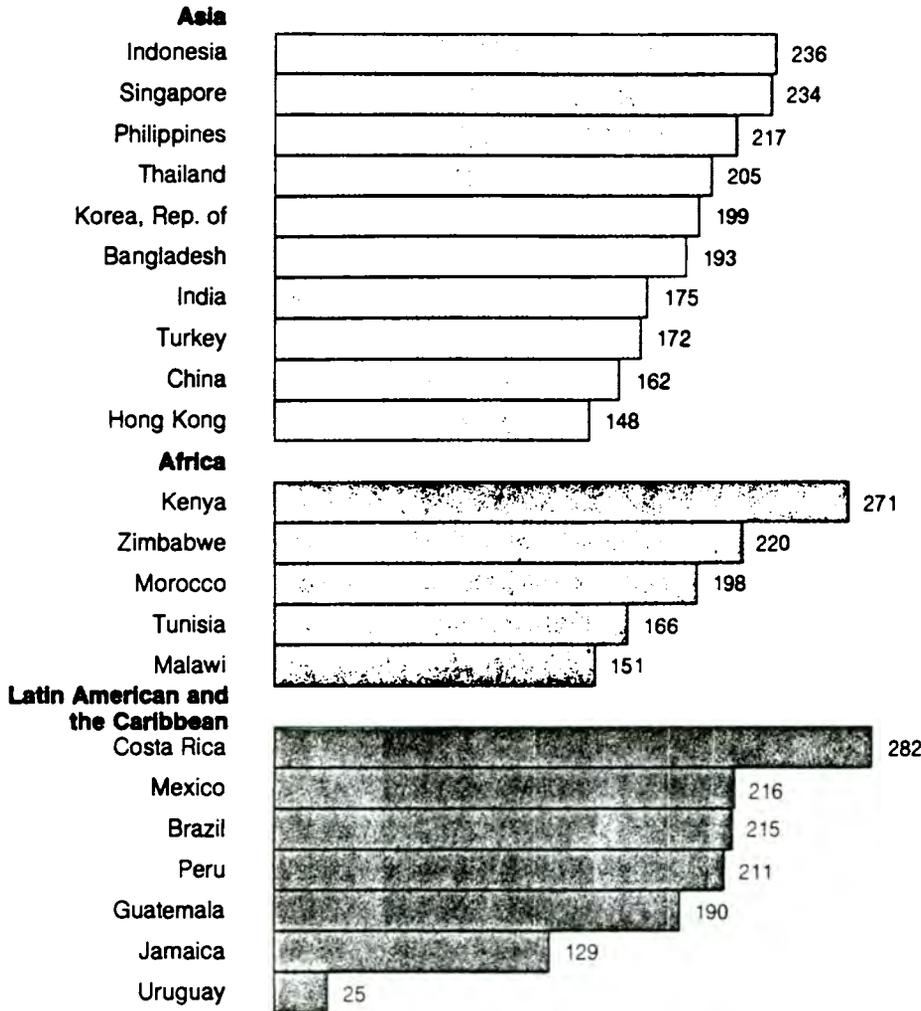
During the next three decades, percent growth in the older populations of the 22 study countries will range from 25 percent in Uruguay to 282 percent in Costa Rica. The latter represents nearly a quadrupling of the number of older Costa Ricans by 2020, compared with a projected total population (all ages) increase of

Figure 1.
Percent Older Population: 1988



Source: See Appendix B for this and all subsequent figures.

Figure 2.
Percent Increase in Population Aged 55 and Over: 1988 to 2020



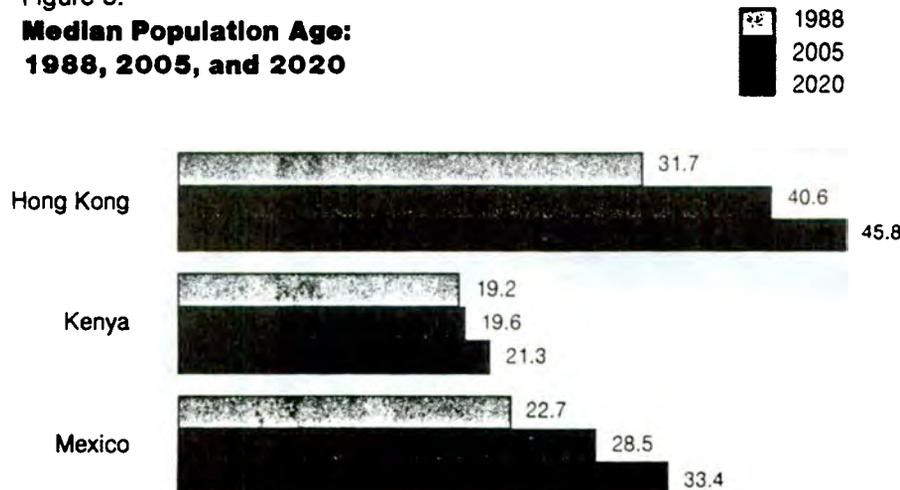
74 percent. Absolute numbers of persons aged 55 and over will more than double by 2020 in all nations except Uruguay, and will more than triple in 10 of the 22 countries (figure 2). In some instances, the absolute numbers are staggering: China alone will witness an increase of 75 million persons aged 55 and over by the year 2005, and another 139 million from 2005 to 2020. India's older citizenry will increase 123 million by 2020. Nations with relatively low percentages of older population today tend to have larger projected percent increases, although the cases of Singapore and the Republic of Korea show that there are significant exceptions.

Median Age to Rise in All Countries

Another way to think of population aging is to consider a society's median age, the age that divides a population into numerically equal parts of younger and older persons. For example, a median age of 25 years indicates that the number of persons under age 25 equals the number who have already celebrated their 25th birthday.

The current median age of countries in this study ranges from 19 years in Kenya to 33 years in Uruguay, with all but a few nations under 25 years. During the next three decades, median ages will rise in all countries, with typical gains of 8 to 10 years. The increase will be least in Sub-Saharan African countries, and greatest in East and Southeast Asia; half of all persons in Hong Kong and Singapore will be over age 45 in the year 2020, a rise in median age of more than 14 years relative to today (figure 3).

Figure 3.
Median Population Age: 1988, 2005, and 2020



Older Age Groups Have Varying Growth Rates

Within the broad population group aged 55 and over, narrower age groupings display differential growth rates over time. In a given country, these differences may be due to the effects of past wars, natural disasters, or fluctuations in fertility levels 55 or more years ago. Because the "older old" often have different needs than do the "younger old" (in terms of economic support, health services, long-term care, etc.), an anticipation of varying growth rates within older populations is important to both short- and long-term planning in developing nations.

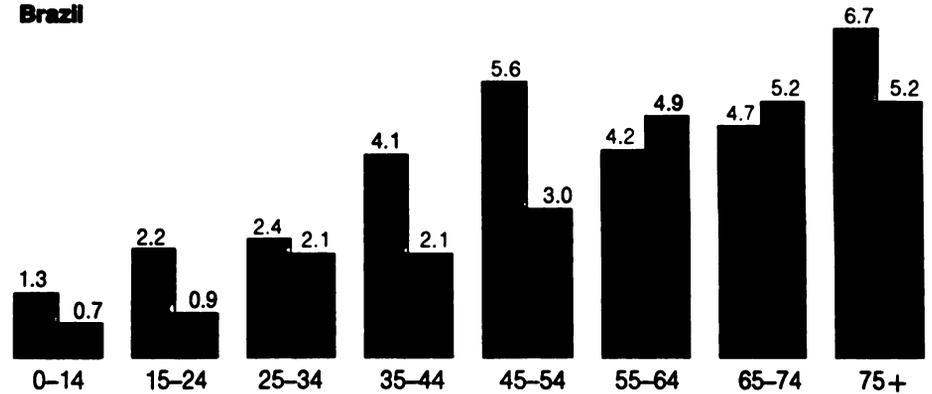
In the 22 study countries, as in most developing nations, the next two decades will see generally higher growth rates in the 65 to 74 and 75 and over population age groups relative to the 55 to 64 year old category (figure 4). However, from 2005 to 2020, average annual growth among the 55 to 64 age group will be higher than during the preceding period for 19 of the 22 countries, and will often outpace changes in the older age groups. Between 2005 and 2020, the absolute number of persons aged 55 to 64 will more than double in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Morocco, Tunisia, Zimbabwe, and Jamaica, while six other nations will have increases of 85 percent or more. These increases in the future population aged 55 to 64 will reflect the large cohorts born between 1955 and 1965, persons who will begin to swell the older ranks of their national populations after 2010.

Figure 4.
**Population Change in Brazil, Morocco,
and Indonesia, by Age: 1988 to 2020**

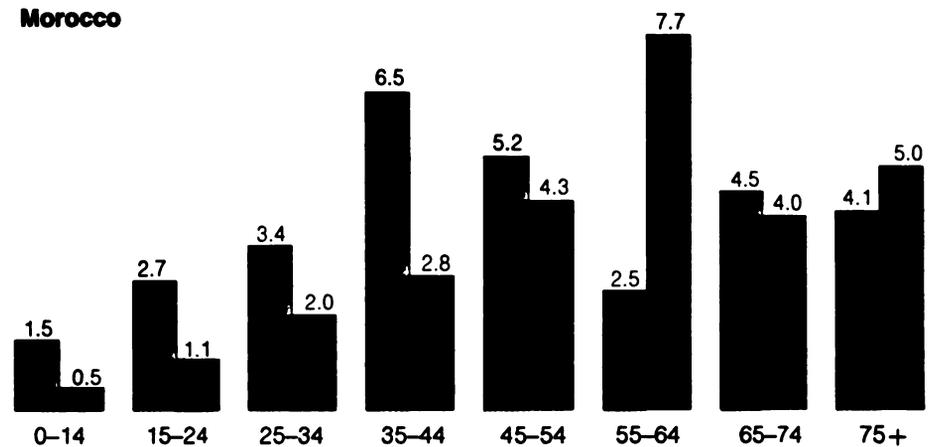
Average annual percent change

■ 1988–2005
■ 2005–2020

Brazil



Morocco



Indonesia

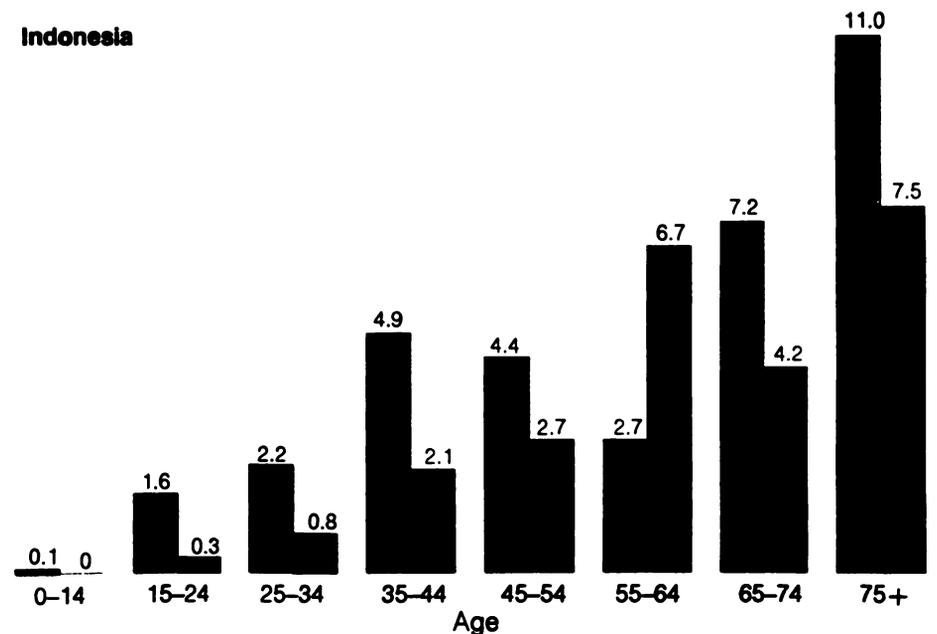


Figure 6 illustrates three general age-sex profiles, one of which applies to most societies today. These three profiles may also be thought of as an historical progression that societies may experience as they age. "Young" societies tend to have high levels of both fertility and mortality, resulting in an "expansive" age structure resembling the shape of a pyramid. As major infectious and parasitic diseases are eradicated and public health measures proliferate, life expectancy at birth increases and overall mortality declines, while fertility initially remains high. Because much of this mortality improvement occurs among infants, more children survive the early high-risk years. Younger population cohorts expand relative to older cohorts, contributing

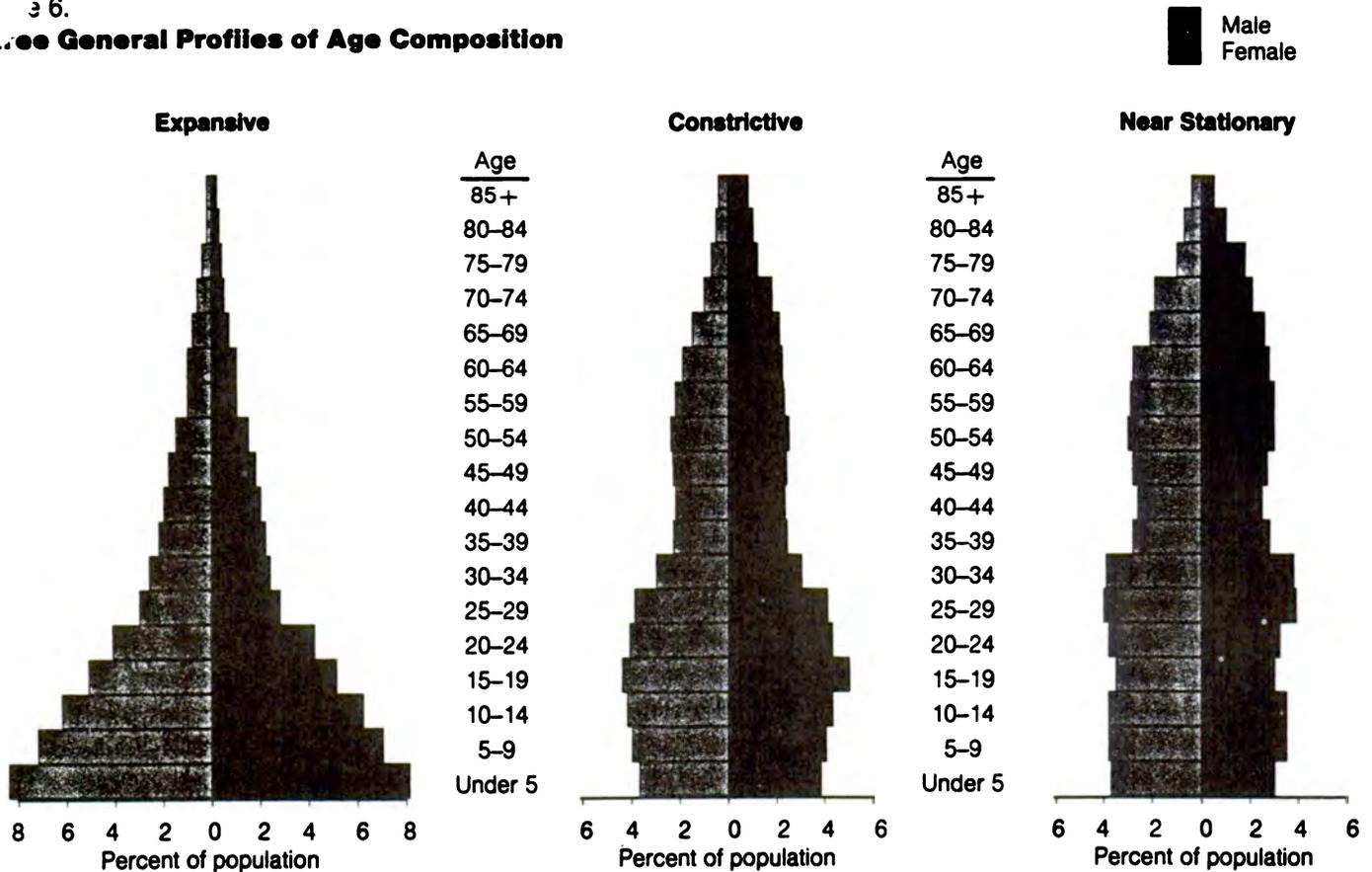
more weight to the bottom of the pyramid.

Whole populations begin to "age" when fertility declines and mortality rates improve, especially at the adult ages. As younger cohorts are reduced in size, a bulge begins to rise above the bottom of the pyramid, resulting in a "constrictive" structure. At this point, societies often make progress in reducing mortality at older ages, and older population components show slight increases. However, the largest population cohorts are still in young or mid-adulthood, and the presence of so many women in their prime childbearing years raises the possibility of a "baby boom echo" which could add girth to the bottom of the age pyramid. Some developing countries (e.g.,

China and Uruguay) are many years into this aging process, while others (Bangladesh, Zimbabwe) continue to have high levels of fertility which will preclude significant population aging in the foreseeable future.

At the other end of the spectrum are "old" (near stationary) societies such as Sweden and the Federal Republic of Germany, which have had low fertility and mortality for decades. With total fertility rates well below the replacement level of 2.1 children per woman, successive small birth cohorts have contributed to large and increasing older proportions in such countries. Over time, age structures in these societies lose their pyramidal dimensions and tend toward a rectangular shape.

Figure 6. Three General Profiles of Age Composition



Urban/Rural Dimensions

Selected data for 20 countries appear in appendix A, tables 4, 5, and 6.

The global population living in cities more than doubled between 1950 and 1975, and the world's urbanization since 1975 has maintained a rapid pace. Change is especially evident in developing countries, and affects all portions of a given population to some extent, including the elderly. Massive rural-to-urban migration of younger persons in search of employment has often been blamed for draining rural areas of much-needed human and financial capital for development. The questions most often asked now are whether the undisputed trend toward more urbanized societies will also lead to serious tensions and conflicts among generations, and whether traditional support systems for the aged will weaken in the face of changing social structures.

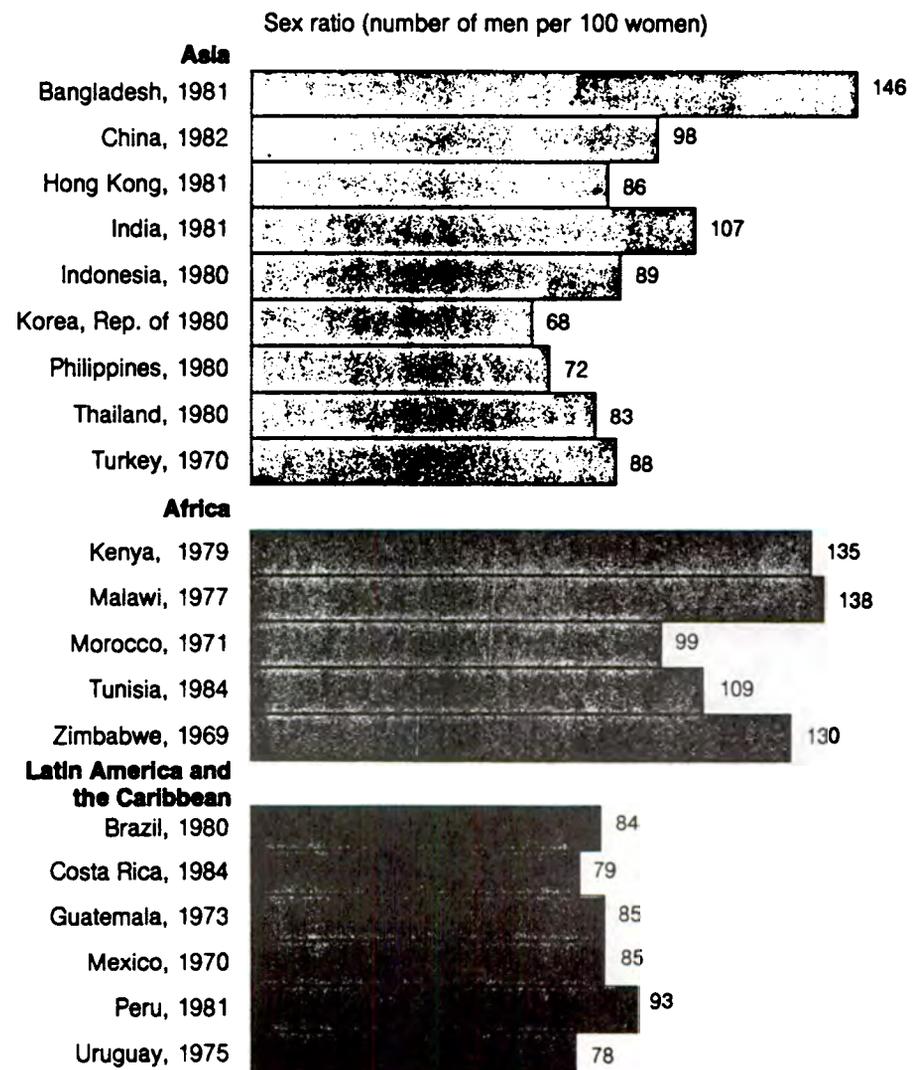
Older Population Becoming More Urban

Throughout the world, the older population became more concentrated in urban areas during the 1970's and early 1980's, and this trend is projected to continue. In developing regions, which as a whole are still predominantly rural, approximately 30 percent of the population aged 60 and over resides in urban areas. This proportion is projected to rise to 40 percent by the year 2000 (United Nations Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, 1985). Countries in South Asia and Africa are likely to witness the most rapid gains, as these regions are now experiencing their peak rates of urbanization.

Within urban populations, the proportion of women aged 55 and over tends to be higher than that of men. For example, more than 10 percent of urban female Turks are over age 54, versus 8 percent of urban males. Female proportions in the 22 study countries are uniformly higher in Latin America and Asia (except Bangladesh), but usually lower than that of men in African countries. The

causes of the gender and regional disparities are not well understood, although the former may be related to the movement of widows from countryside to city, for reasons of proximity to children and/or services after the loss of a spouse. Differences among countries are illustrated by the urban sex ratios (number of older men per 100 older women) in figure 7.

Figure 7.
Urban Sex Ratios for Persons 55 Years and Over



However, Rural Populations Still "Older" Than National Averages

Although today's older (55 years and over) populations are becoming increasingly urban, like populations in general, rural areas remain disproportionately older in most countries (figure 8). In other words, the proportion of the older population that resides in rural areas is higher than the proportion of the total population that is rural. This is largely a result of the migration of young adults to urban areas, and in some cases, of return migration of older adults from urban areas back to rural homes. The exceptions are primarily in Latin America—Uruguay, Costa Rica, and Guatemala—where older residents are more likely than the population as a whole to live in urban settings. This is also true of older women (but not men) in Tunisia and Zimbabwe.

Older Men Particularly Likely to Live in Rural Areas

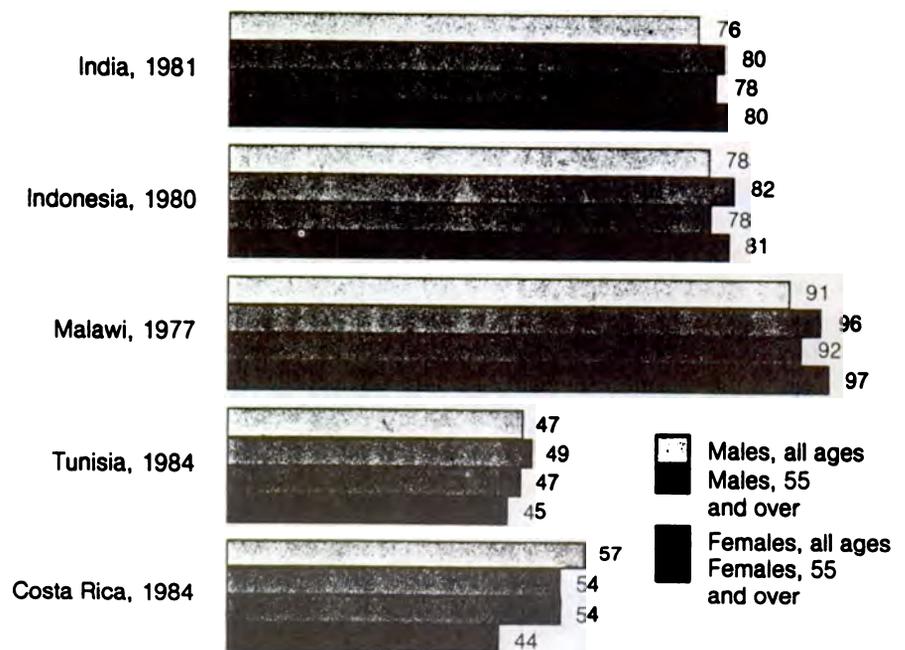
The older male population in Asian countries is less likely than younger men to live in urban areas, and the disparity between young and old widens as age increases among the latter. The difference is most striking in the Republic of Korea: whereas 57 percent of all men live in cities, only 39 percent of men aged 55 and over and 29 percent of men aged 75 and over reside in urban locales. A similar pattern is found among the African nations in this study and especially in Kenya, where the total male urban proportion is 17 percent while the

corresponding figure for oldest old men (75 years and over) is less than 8 percent (figure 9). As indicated before, the general pattern does not always hold true in Latin America. However, a recent analysis of Mexican data (Ham—Chande, 1986) found a sex ratio of 104 in rural areas for both the 65 to 74 and 75 to 84 age groups, which underscores the general finding that the female preponderance typically seen at

older ages is modified by rural residence.

The picture for older women is less consistent. While some countries register the declining proportions noted among men, there is often little difference in female residence by age, and some nations (Turkey, Tunisia, Brazil) have urban concentrations of women that rise with increasing age.

Figure 8.
Percentage of Population in Rural Areas, by Age and Sex



Rural Aging Has Implications for Agricultural Productivity

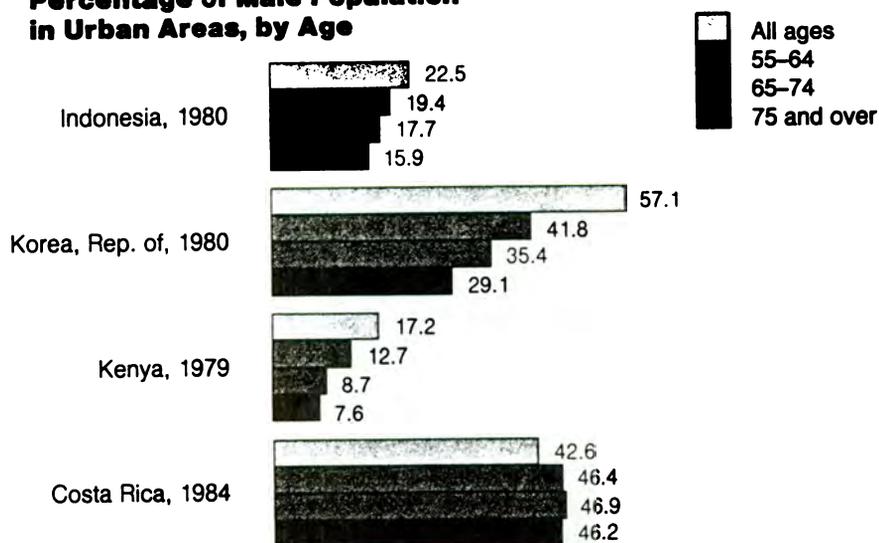
Rural-to-urban migration, and the resultant aging of producers in low capital-intensive agricultural sectors, implies a potential lowering of labor productivity in many societies and highlights the pressure that rural aging may exert on food supply stability. And as Fargues (1986) points out, even migration between

rural areas can exert similar pressures. For example, the Ivory Coast was required to increase its cereal imports by 250 percent between 1974 and 1982. This was partly due to the movement of young migrants from the north (which is devoted largely to subsistence farming) to the south of the country, where they became planters of export crops such as cocoa and coffee.

The consensus to date is that rapid urbanization in developing countries has had a more deleterious effect on urban than on rural elderly. The growth of urban economies has increased employment possibilities outside the home for women as well as for men. However, there is little relation between urbanization and labor force participation at older ages (Martin, 1987). Rather, the new economic opportunities have mainly accrued to younger workers. Traditional family caregivers often enter and remain in the workforce, thereby complicating the provision of care for elderly family members. Unless the latter have a work history of government service, they are unlikely to qualify for pension support and are more likely than other population segments to require some form of economic assistance.

At the same time, urban housing may be poorly suited to traditional extended-family arrangements, thereby forcing a choice between limited privacy and alternate means of shelter. "The loss of status and esteem, displacement in unfavorable housing conditions, and the exclusion from economic production processes combine to put the older population in urban settings in a marginal position" (AAIA, 1985).

Figure 9.
Percentage of Male Population in Urban Areas, by Age



Life Expectancy and Mortality

Average life expectancy at birth in today's developing world stands at 59 years, 19 percent lower than the average of 73 years in developed countries. As figure 10 shows, though, the developing country average masks an enormous range among individual nations. Life expectancy in Hong Kong, Costa Rica, and Jamaica rivals or surpasses the levels found in the United States, France, and many other industrial nations. In certain Asian and Sub-Saharan African countries, on the other hand, the level hovers around 50 years. A newborn in Hong Kong today can look forward to 30 more years of life, on average, than can a baby born in Malawi.

Life Expectancy in Developing Regions Highest in Latin America and the Caribbean

On an aggregate regional basis, life expectancy at birth is highest in Latin America (67 years) and the Caribbean (66 years), and is projected to remain so beyond the year 2020 (table B). The Asian average (excluding Japan) is 6 years lower than that of Latin America, while the African average is less than 53 years. Regions with the lowest present levels are expected to show the most future improvement, in both absolute and relative terms.

Women Living Longer Than Men

Women outlive men in virtually all countries of the world, more so in developed than in developing countries. In the latter, the female advantage is usually in the 3- to 6-year range, and tends to be greatest in East and Southeast Asia and in

Figure 10.
Life Expectancy at Birth: 1988

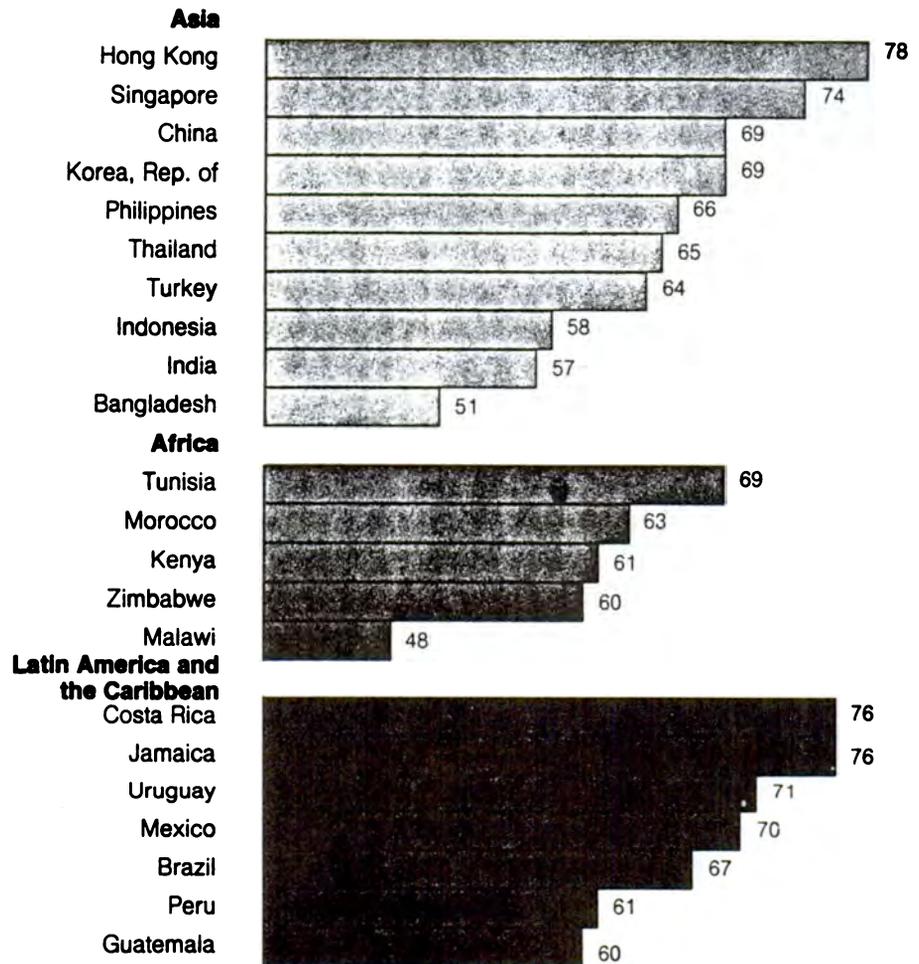
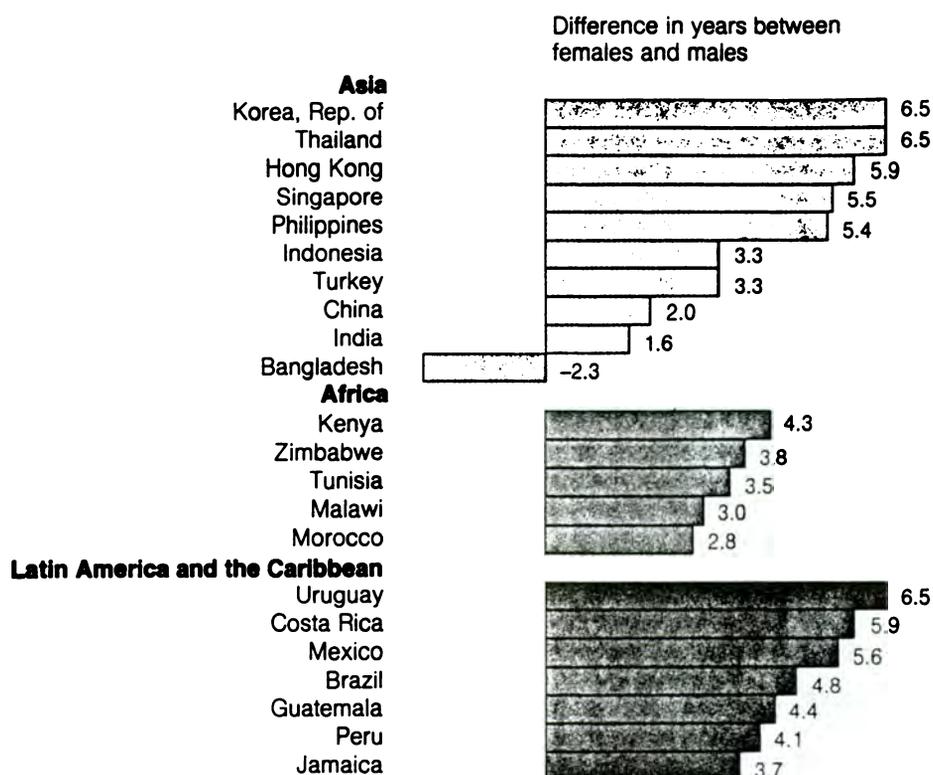


Table B.
Estimated and Projected Life Expectancy at Birth, by Developing Region: 1988 to 2020 (In years)

Region	1988	2005	2020
Asia	60.7	66.6	70.9
Africa	52.6	59.8	65.2
Latin America	66.8	71.7	74.5
Caribbean	65.8	70.2	73.5

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Center for International Research, International Data Base on Aging.

Figure 11.
Female Advantage in Life Expectancy at Birth: 1988

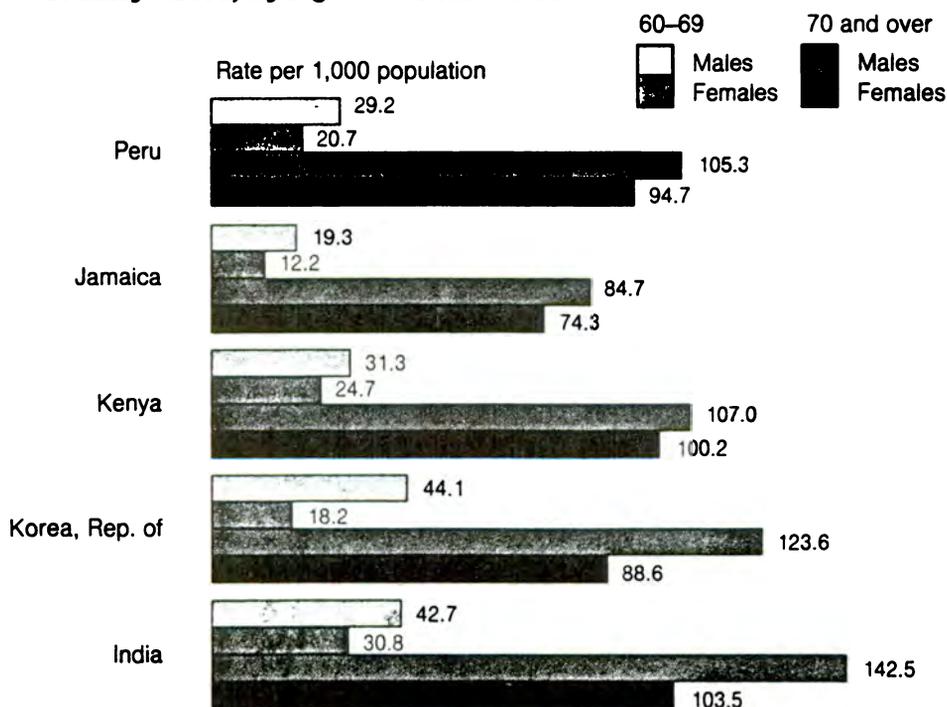


Latin America (figure 11). The typical worldwide pattern is reversed in a few developing societies of South Asia and the Middle East, where a number of cultural factors (among them low female social status, preference for male versus female offspring, and gender differences in the use of medical facilities) are thought to contribute to higher male than female life expectancy at birth.

Given the gender differential in longevity, it is not surprising that in most countries, female mortality rates are lower than male rates at practically all ages, including older ages. As shown in figure 12, this pattern holds regardless of the prevailing level of life expectancy. The relative gender differences in Peru and Jamaica are similar, even though average life expectancy in Jamaica is 15 years higher than in Peru.

Life Expectancy at Older Ages May Improve Faster Than at Younger Ages

Figure 12.
Mortality Rates, by Age and Sex: 1988



When a nation's infant and childhood mortality reach relatively low levels, longevity gains in older segments of the population begin to assume greater overall weight. In the industrialized world, increases in life expectancy at older ages are now out-pacing increases in life expectancy at birth, due in large part to reductions in heart disease and stroke among middle-aged and older adults. In the United States, for example, the average number of years of life remaining at age 65 increased 15 percent (from 14.3 to 16.4 years) during the period 1960-80, while life expectancy at birth increased only 6 percent during the same period.

Although this phenomenon is not yet widespread in developing regions, the proportional increase in life expectancy at age 55 is approaching

(or has already surpassed) the relative increase in life expectancy at birth in some developing countries. Data for Costa Rica (table C) show that from 1973 to 1980, female life expectancy at age 55 increased at a faster rate than female life expectancy at birth, while the reverse was true for men. Estimates for 1987, made on the basis of empirical trends in mortality, indicate that during the 1980–87 period, gains at age 55 for both sexes were greater than the corresponding improvement at birth. Data for Indonesia, on the other hand, suggest that this shift has yet to occur. Indonesia's overall life expectancy at birth of around 50 years in 1976 left significant room for improvement, and the 1976–86 proportional gains at birth remained larger than those at age 55.

Major Causes of Death Differ by Region

Information on specific causes of death among the elderly varies enormously by region and country, in terms of both completeness and accuracy of reporting. Data from Latin America and the Caribbean are thought to be the most reliable, while figures from Asia and Africa (when available) include large numbers of deaths attributed to unspecified causes. On the basis of existing evidence, it appears that the majority of deaths among older populations in most of Africa stem from infectious and parasitic diseases, whereas in Latin America and the Caribbean, the leading causes are cardiovascular diseases. The situation in developing Asian countries seems to be mixed: in the Philippines, for example, communicable diseases are said to be a slightly greater cause of death than cardiovascular diseases at ages 60 to 64, but thereafter cardiovascular diseases are more important (ASEAN, 1985).

Cardiovascular Diseases Paramount in Latin America and Caribbean

A recent Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) analysis suggests that while the transition from traditional agricultural societies to industrial urban societies contributes to increased longevity and higher standards of living, this transition also endangers individual health in a

number of ways. A prime example is the shift toward chronic disease patterns in developing societies.

Cardiovascular diseases have become the leading overall cause of death in 31 countries throughout Latin America and the Caribbean (PAHO, 1986). Among persons aged 65 and over, this has been true since at least the late 1970's (table D).

Table C.

Percent Change in Life Expectancy at Birth and at Age 55, by Sex: Costa Rica and Indonesia

Country and year	Life Expectancy at Birth		Life Expectancy at Age 55	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Costa Rica, 1973	66.2	70.2	20.7	22.8
<i>(Percent change)</i>	<i>(5.7)</i>	<i>(6.8)</i>	<i>(3.9)</i>	<i>(7.5)</i>
1980	70.0	75.1	21.6	24.5
<i>(Percent change)</i>	<i>(3.4)</i>	<i>(4.3)</i>	<i>(4.7)</i>	<i>(6.9)</i>
1987	72.4	78.2	22.5	26.2
Indonesia, 1966	37.4	40.0	11.9	13.7
<i>(Percent change)</i>	<i>(31.6)</i>	<i>(29.8)</i>	<i>(31.1)</i>	<i>(19.7)</i>
1976	49.2	51.9	15.6	16.4
<i>(Percent change)</i>	<i>(13.0)</i>	<i>(13.3)</i>	<i>(9.0)</i>	<i>(11.6)</i>
1986	55.6	58.8	17.0	18.3

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Center for International Research, International Data Base on Aging.

Table D.

Five Leading Causes of Death for Persons Aged 65 and Over, by Rank Order and Subregion, Around 1979

Cause of death	Northern America	Caribbean	Temperate		Tropical South America
			Middle America	South America	
Diseases of the heart	1	1	1	1	1
Malignant neoplasms	2	2	3	2	2
Cerebrovascular disease	3	3	4	3	3
Influenza and pneumonia	4	4	2	4	4
Accidents	5				5
Diabetes mellitus		5	5	5	

Source: Pan American Health Organization, 1982, *Health Conditions in the Americas 1977-1980*, Washington, DC, p. 123.

Figure 13.
**Crude Death Rates from
 Cardiovascular Diseases,
 by Age and Sex**
 (per 100,000 persons)

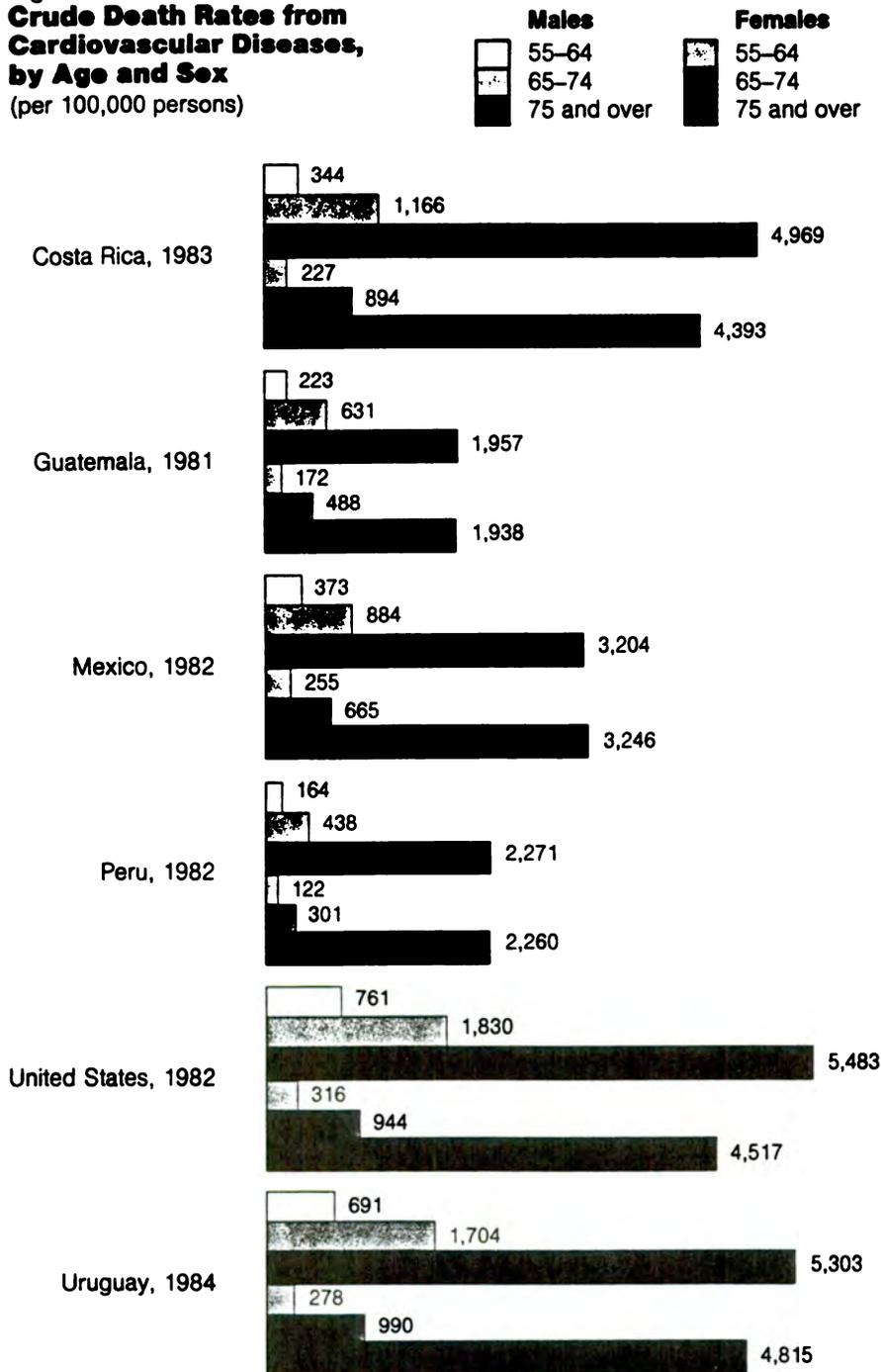


Figure 13 demonstrates the increasing rates of cardiovascular disease that accompany aging in selected countries. Of further interest here are differences between countries, with higher incidence apparently correlated with greater levels of urbanization and industrialization: rates in Costa Rica and Uruguay approach and at some ages exceed those in the United States, while incidence in countries such as Guatemala and Peru is much lower. The potential combined effect of growing elderly populations and increasing numbers of deaths due to cardiovascular disease could be one of heightened morbidity and rapidly escalating health costs.

Cancer Also on the Rise

The PAHO analysis also reveals that in most countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, the incidence of malignant neoplasms (cancers) shows a distinct upward trend. On the basis of detailed studies in seven countries, neoplasms are now seen as a leading and increasing cause of death in each nation, especially in the 45 to 64 and 65 and over age groups. The regional increase in life expectancy also has resulted in a greater incidence of diabetes mellitus, which disproportionately affects older persons. Diabetes is sometimes "accompanied by complications (vascular, renal, peripheral) requiring considerable resources for proper care; this is further aggravated by the frequent association of diabetes with other chronic diseases" (PAHO, 1986). Hospitalization data from Venezuela portray the average length of stay for diabetes as 22.6 days, reflecting the medical costs involved in caring for this disease.

Health and Disability

For some time, the prevailing view among social scientists has been that modernization is inversely related to the social status, health, and general well-being of older populations. However, the data necessary to test this hypothesis are as yet insufficient; inferences can be drawn from existing studies to both support and deny the basic contention. The major question that researchers now seek to address is whether or not older populations in developing societies will show the same patterns of health and well-being as those that have emerged in the developed world.

The health status of the elderly in developed countries has been fairly well documented. Cross-national studies show that a large majority of persons aged 65 and over have at least one chronic health problem, but that these problems are serious impediments to daily living for only a minority. An estimated 60 percent of older, non-institutionalized adults have no significant functional impairment and have a satisfactory level of well-being. Approximately 8 percent of older adults are seriously impaired and dependent on extensive supportive care, while 4 to 6 percent are institutionalized. Some evidence suggests that an additional 5 to 8 percent of older community residents are so impaired that they might more appropriately be cared for in institutions (Maddox, 1982). Studies also show that women have higher rates of need for assistance with activities of daily living than do men (Heikkinen, Waters, and Brzenzinski, 1983). An important finding that emerges from the many studies in developed countries is the large extent to which indicators of health and well-being are similar among older populations of different nations.

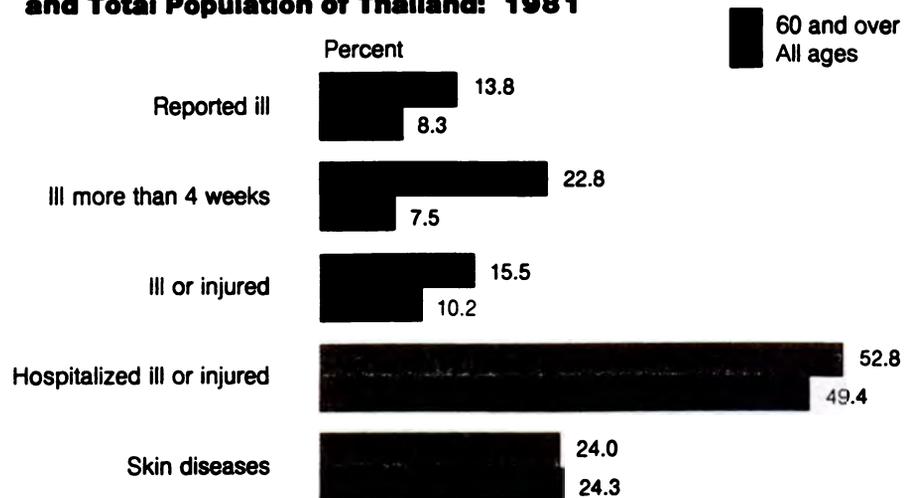
Much less is known about the health and health problems of older populations in the developing world. Given the similarities found among the elderly in various developed nations, there is some basis for anticipating further similarity in developing countries. However, the lack of extensive medical reporting systems and detailed survey information preclude definitive comments. The results of one study, Thailand's Health and Welfare Survey of 1981, offer at least a hint of similarity: the survey found rates of self-reported well-being (58 percent) and disability (7 percent) that are quite close to those of most developed countries.

Additional indications of developed-developing symmetry in health patterns among older populations come from an analysis of surveys sponsored by the World Health Organization in four nations in Asia and Oceania (Malaysia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, and Fiji). The research examined

population subgroups constructed on the basis of probabilities of having certain functional and health statuses, and concluded that a number of the basic age, sex, morbidity, and disability associations found in the four developing countries are mirrored in the elderly population of the United States (Manton, Myers, and Andrews, 1987).

The Thailand survey data further reveal that the morbidity level of the elderly (in this case, those aged 60 and over) is significantly higher than the national average (figure 14). The proportion of persons reported ill was 14 percent for the elderly versus 8 percent for the population as a whole, and the elderly experienced longer durations of illness. The level of hospitalization for the elderly is slightly higher than the national norm. Also of interest is that nearly 40 percent of the elderly habitually smoke, versus 29 percent of the total population aged 11 and over (Chulalongkorn University Institute of Population Studies, 1985).

Figure 14.
**Health Indicators for the Elderly
and Total Population of Thailand: 1981**



Gender Differences in Health Vary by Country

Preliminary data from a recent Pan American Health Organization health survey in Costa Rica show patterns of gender-related differences with advancing age in the ability to perform activities of daily living (ADL's) that are akin to those found in the United States and European nations. On the other hand, the World Health Organization surveys mentioned earlier found few consistent or systematic gender differences with advancing age in ability to perform basic ADL's. The one chronic disability indicator that was strongly age-related and consistently higher for women than for men across all four countries is cognitive function. While this gender difference may reflect differential prevalence of Alzheimer's and other dementia disorders, it may more importantly reflect cultural factors such as lower female educational attainment and more restricted opportunities to develop cognitive function.

Firm conclusions regarding differences in health among the elderly in the developing world cannot be drawn from the scant existing data. However, the findings from the Costa Rican survey vis-a-vis the Asia and Oceania studies do suggest that as developing countries attain relatively higher levels of life expectancy and socioeconomic development, gender differences in health and disability begin to emerge akin to those of developed nations (Doty, 1986).

Numbers of Older Disabled Likely to Rise Rapidly

The study of disability in developing countries is in its infancy, but one current effort is making great strides towards a systematic accounting of international data and sources. The United Nations Statistical Office has created a statistical and informational data base designed to assist nations

in answering policy-related questions about the description of disability and the need for legislation and services.¹ In addition to its many

¹ The United Nations Disability Statistics Data Base has been developed by the Statistical Office, Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, of the United Nations Secretariat, to compile in one location available statistics using a common conceptual framework. The data base contains information on sources of statistics on disability for 95 countries and areas for various years 1975-86, and statistics on disabled persons from national censuses, surveys, and other data sources for 55 countries and areas. At the present time, the complete data base is contained on 17 5.25-inch 360 Kb diskettes in Lotus 1-2-3 format for use on IBM-compatible personal computers with MS-DOS. Further information concerning data base contents and dissemination may be obtained from Dr. Mary Chamie, United Nations Statistical Office (212-963-4947).

other functions, this data base will be of great use in studying age differences in disability and in providing a foundation for projecting disability burdens among future older populations.

Figure 15 shows the gender pattern of disability, by age, as determined by the 1981 survey in Thailand. Most striking are the decrease in prevalence among women in mid-adulthood, and the rapid rise in prevalence among older members of both sexes. Figure 16 illustrates the application of empirical gross disability rates to the projected older population of Thailand. This simplistic example assumes that disability rates for men and women measured

Figure 15.
Prevalence of Disability in Thailand: 1981
(disabled persons per 100,000 population)

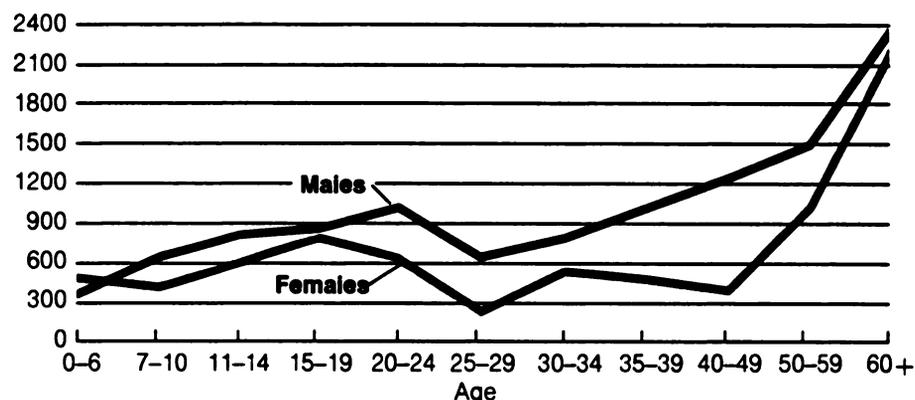
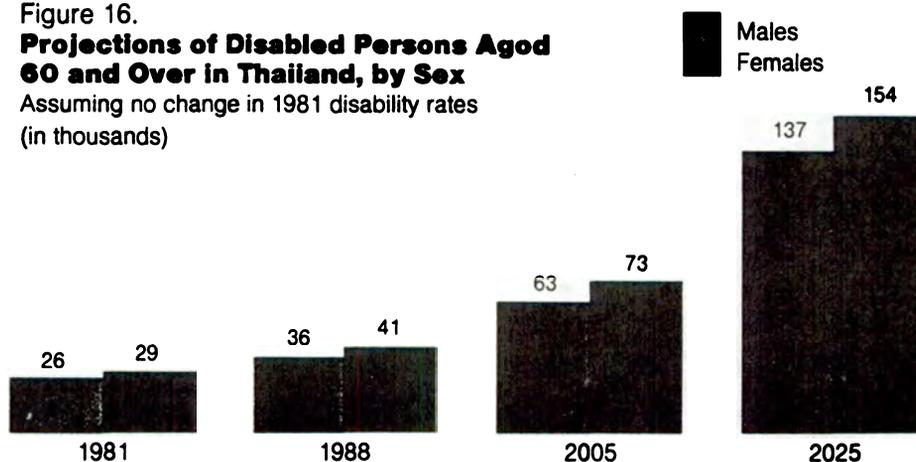


Figure 16.
Projections of Disabled Persons Aged 60 and Over in Thailand, by Sex
Assuming no change in 1981 disability rates
(in thousands)



in 1981 will remain constant in the future. Even with no provision for higher rates of disability as the population ages, the projected increases in absolute numbers of disabled individuals are alarming in terms of future service and care requirements. And if rates of disability at older ages do in fact increase as they have in developed countries, the absolute number of disabled persons will grow accordingly.

Aging Populations Require Altered Health Services

Aging populations encourage a reevaluation of health services and service provision in developing countries. There is little doubt that aging populations face a changing array of health problems and needed services. As noted in the section on mortality, the change goes beyond growth in sheer numbers of older citizens to the nature of predominant illnesses themselves. Declining birth rates, reductions in infant and overall mortality, rapid urbanization, and increasing industrialization all contribute to the rising incidence of diseases and risks that particularly affect the adult population.

The changing patterns of mortality described earlier are, of course, also indicative of altered patterns of morbidity, much of which is now chronic and noncommunicable. The Pan

American Health Organization is particularly concerned about cardiovascular diseases and morbidity from chronic rheumatism; within the latter category, lumbalgia and osteomuscular disorders are prominent causes of disability, and chronic rheumatism, in general, is said to be one of the greatest burdens for health care services in many Latin American countries.

One consideration that complicates health service provision in developing countries is the largely rural character of many societies. "Rural areas, having higher proportions of older people, would obviously need more health care for them, yet health services tend to concentrate in more urban centers and are much poorer in rural areas. In Kenya, for example, 90 percent of all physicians [in the latter 1970's] were located in urban areas, so that only about 100 physicians were available for 10 million persons in rural regions" (Siegel and Hoover, 1982). The four surveys in the Asian and Oceania countries mentioned previously confirmed the better health status of urban versus rural elderly.

There seems to be widespread agreement that the future challenges for health systems in developing countries lie in the provision of long-term care and the prevention of risk factors. "In developing regions, the

aged share with the young the same environmental conditions that lead to excess morbidity and the same poverty. In general, their health needs involve less intervention for acute care and more continuous care for chronic states" (Heisel, 1985). Beyond the provision of care is the needed development of surveillance systems, especially with regard to chronic cardiovascular episodes, and systems to evaluate the effects of primary care actions aimed at health promotion and risk prevention (PAHO, 1986).

On the positive side, one advantage that should accrue to health systems in the developing world is the development of technology in more developed countries. "The possibility that disability rates among the elderly are lowered by technological and educational improvements, as well as improvements in health, has major policy implications for developing countries" (Doty, cited in AARP, 2:2, 1987). That is, while developed countries may need to await further medical advances in treatment and prevention of chronic diseases in order to achieve significantly lowered disability rates among the elderly, particularly at advanced ages, developing countries at least have the potential to achieve future reductions in disability levels as a byproduct of overall modernization.

Gender and Marital Status

Selected data for 22 countries appear in appendix A, tables 7 and 8.

Women constitute increasing majorities of growing older populations in all regions of the world. Because of higher life expectancies at birth and lower age-specific death rates, the percentage of women in 5-year age cohorts increases with age. This has been the historical pattern in industrial nations, and is likely to be the case in the developing world as well. Countries such as Uruguay, Hong Kong, and the Republic of Korea already exhibit the gender imbalances at older ages that are typical of more developed nations.

All but four countries in this study have more women than men aged 60 and over. Bangladesh and Zimbabwe are two of the exceptions, but in both these nations, the proportion female shows the usual rise with increasing age. In Morocco and Tunisia, on the other hand, the female share fluctuates or declines with age. The reasons for this anomaly are unclear, since other countries in Northern Africa do not show a similar pattern. The relatively low female proportions at older ages may be related to migration patterns or to censal underreporting.

Female Proportions to Rise in Most Countries

The female share of the older population should rise in most developing countries over the next three decades, such that by the year 2020, women will form the majority of all older populations in the 22 study countries. Figure 17 shows that with the exception of Brazil and several nations in East and Southeast Asia, the proportion of women among the total population aged 60 and over is projected to increase. The gains are especially noteworthy in Africa.

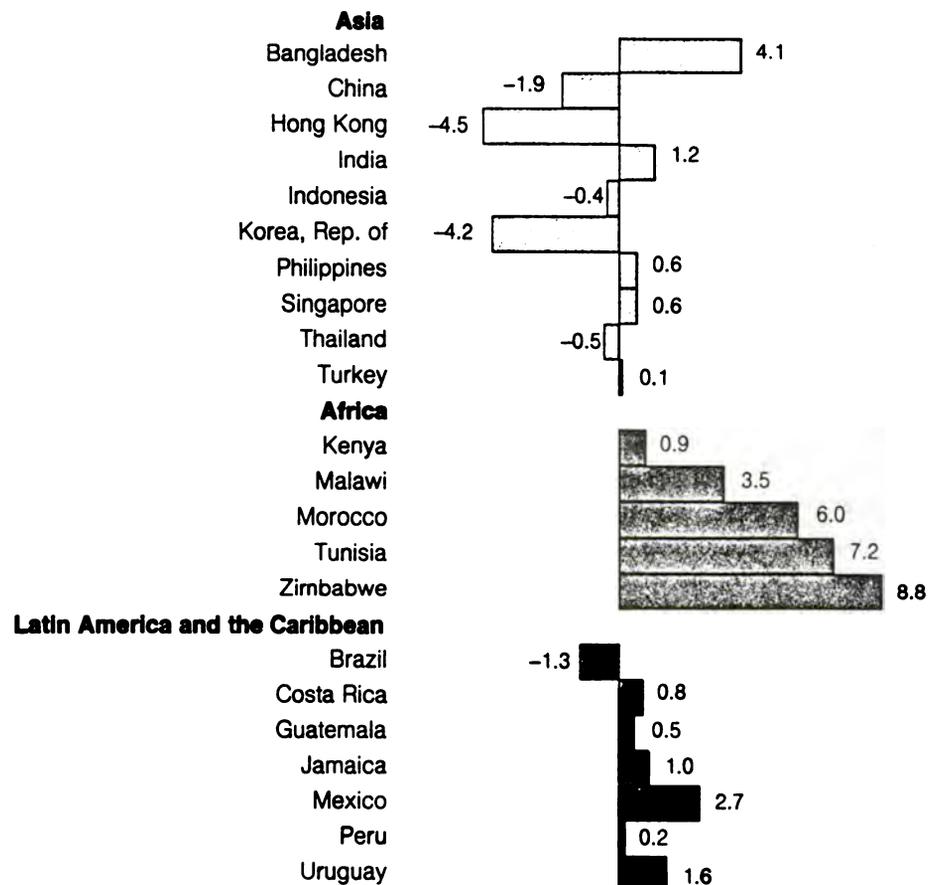
Much of this rise is attributable to assumptions about an increasing differential in favor of female versus male life expectancy at birth: most demographers expect to see a pattern similar to the past trend observed in developed countries, where female gains in life expectancy have tended to outpace male advances.

Marital Status Closely Linked to Well-Being of Older Populations

Marriage (including consensual union) is the most common status

among the adult populations in this report, and the consensus of existing research is that the married fare better than the non-married on a number of dimensions—economic, social, emotional, care-giving—during the progression through older life (Myers, 1986). A major concern in many countries today is the large increase in the number of widowed persons, particularly women, within older populations. In developed countries, the issues revolve around solitary living arrangements, lack of pension benefits, and community support mechanisms. In the developing world, concern focuses on the

Figure 17.
Percent Change in Female Share of Population Aged 60 and Over: 1988 to 2020



impact that urbanization and economic development will have upon the extended family, and whether existing social support traditions will continue to absorb increasing numbers of widows.

Widowhood a Fact of Life for Many in Developing Countries

Widowhood rates in older population groups vary widely in the developing world, but regardless of the level, these rates increase substantially with age. Among national populations aged 55 to 64, recent widowhood rates for men and women combined range from 9 to 28 percent, while for persons aged 65 and over, the range is 27 to 55 percent. Countries with data for the oldest old show even higher percentages widowed; nearly three of every four persons aged 75 and over in the Republic of Korea are without a spouse.

Older Women Especially Apt To Be Widowed

Much lower percentages of men than women are widowed, and in all countries examined, married men outnumber widowers in the age groups 55 to 64, 65 and over, and (where data are available) 75 and over. Women's marital situations are radically different. At ages 65 and over, the number of widows is greater than the total of married women in all countries—more than three times so in Morocco and the Republic of Korea, and twice so in countries such as Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Singapore, and Guatemala. At ages 75 and over, the female widowed-to-married ratio rises beyond 5 to 1 in some countries.

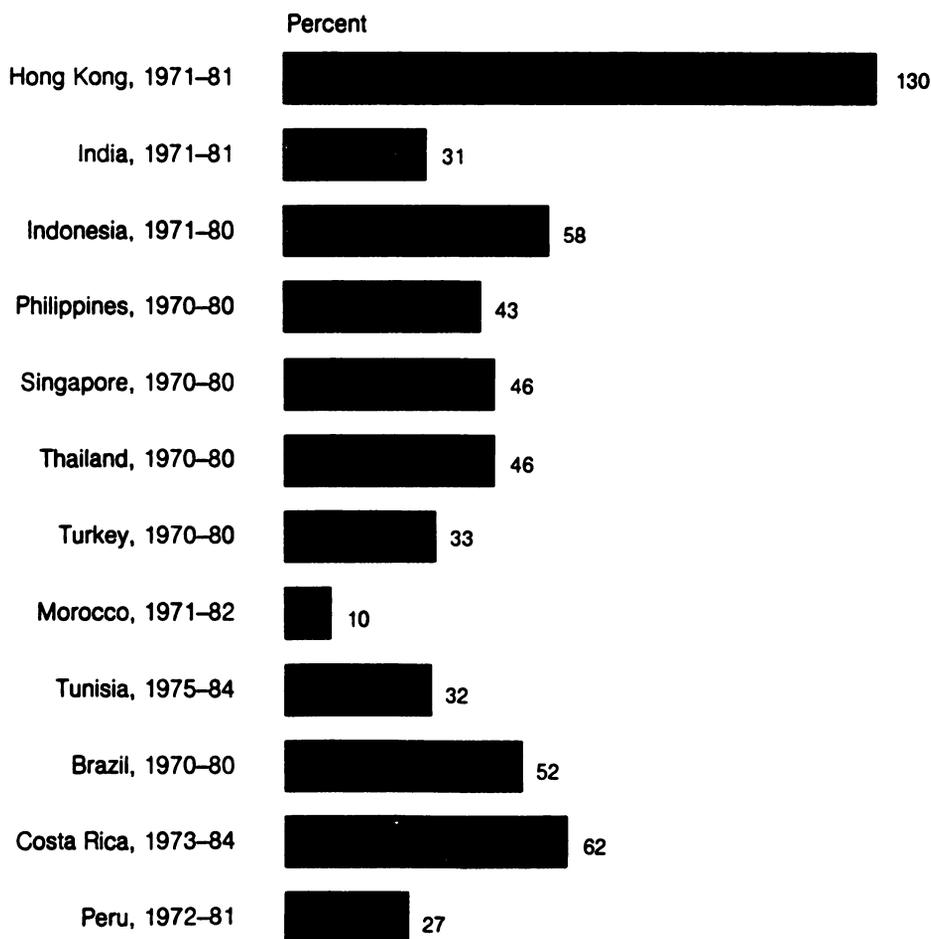
There are several reasons for the gender disparity in widowhood found in developed as well as developing societies. The most obvious factor is simply that women live longer on average than men. There is also a

nearly universal tendency for women to marry men older than themselves, thereby compounding the likelihood of women outliving their spouses. Furthermore, widowed men are much more likely than widows to remarry.

The relationship between elderly well-being and marital status requires that any changes over time in the latter receive close scrutiny. Available trend data since 1970 for countries in this report indicate that female proportions widowed were more likely to decline than to increase or remain the same. At the same time, however, absolute numbers of older widowed women were

increasing rapidly (figure 18). The number in Thailand aged 65 and over rose from 354,000 in 1970 to 518,000 in 1980; in Brazil from 893,000 to 1,356,000 during the same period; and in India a total gain of more than 2 million from 1971 to 1981. Thus, the issue in developing countries appears to be one of numbers, not proportions. If, as projected, female life expectancy rises faster than that of men, and if women increase their share of older populations, the net result may be an overall improvement in status for older women under the age of 65 or 70, but a worsening of the situation for older age groups that are at greater risk in economic and health terms.

Figure 18.
Percent Increase in Number of Widows Aged 65 and Over



Living Arrangements and Long-Term Care

The essential functions that planned housing and institutions serve in developed countries are usually served by the family in developing nations. Public welfare systems in the Third World serve older populations primarily in a "residual" manner, providing only those services that are impossible for the family to perform (Lawton, 1982). At present, a vast majority of living and care arrangements for older persons are still in the domain of "normal" family life. Of course, this was once true for the elderly in the developed world as well, whereas now, living alone is commonplace. One of the greatest challenges that developing countries will confront in the face of accelerating socioeconomic change is the maintenance of satisfactory housing and suitable environments for older citizens.

Few Elderly Now Live Alone

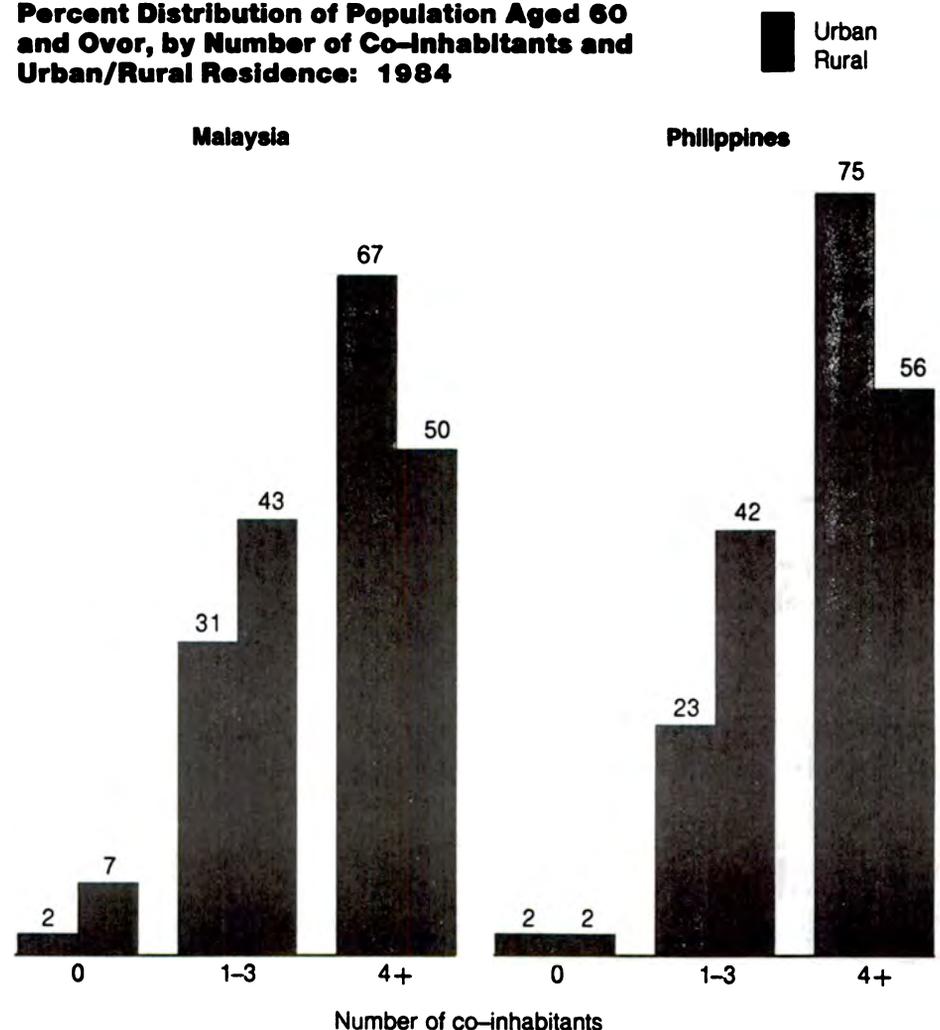
Data on living arrangements and provision of care in developing countries are sparse. Most existing information supports the common view that a small proportion of older persons live alone. In the Republic of Korea, the Philippines, and Fiji, only 2 percent of persons aged 60 and over live alone, and the differences by age and sex are negligible. In Malaysia and Singapore, the figures are only slightly higher (approximately 5 and 6 percent respectively), although the percentage in Malaysia is higher for women and increases with age (WHO, 1986; and ASEAN, 1985). On the other hand, data from Israel reveal that a much higher proportion lives alone, and that the gender differential is considerable. Nearly 40 percent of Israeli women aged 65 and over reside by themselves,

compared with only 12 percent of elderly men (Israel Central Bureau of Statistics, 1985).

In Malaysia, the Philippines, and the Republic of Korea, rural households were found to be smaller and less likely than urban households to include elderly persons living with their offspring. Three-quarters of urban Filipino households with one or more persons aged 60 and over had at least four members, compared with slightly more than half of similar rural households (figure 19).

Data such as these suggest that, in urbanizing societies, aged parents remain in villages while their children move to cities, and also that the scarcity of urban housing may dictate that older parents and adult children live together. While rural elderly may appear disadvantaged in terms of direct familial contact, it should be remembered that family support can be just as strong for parents who live near but not with their children (WHO, 1986).

Figure 19.
Percent Distribution of Population Aged 60 and Over, by Number of Co-Inhabitants and Urban/Rural Residence: 1984



Gender Differences in Living Arrangements Are Pronounced

Gender differences are a crucial component in the analysis of aging, and they are clearly reflected in data on living arrangements. Because women marry earlier and live longer than men, they are much more likely to be living without a spouse during their older years, and the relative difference widens with increasing age (figure 20). While the great majority of older men have wives available to take care of them in old age, older women are generally dependent on their children during illness and extreme old age. The fact that functional disability rates are strongly age-related means that the need for long-term care (whether provided formally or informally, inside or outside of the home) is disproportionately experienced more by women than by men (Doty, 1986).

Traditional Family Support Systems Thought To Be Eroding

In the forefront of concern about social support systems in developing countries is the question of whether traditional family support structures will continue to provide effectively for

growing numbers of elderly. Although normative changes are difficult to quantify, a number of authors have suggested that traditional patterns of family support in developing countries are disintegrating. A survey of rural elderly in Kenya found that 91 percent of respondents felt that their children did not do as much for them as they had done for their own parents. A large majority of respondents were reported to be living in poverty, and half of these attributed their condition to neglect by their immediate family (AARP, 1:1, 1985).

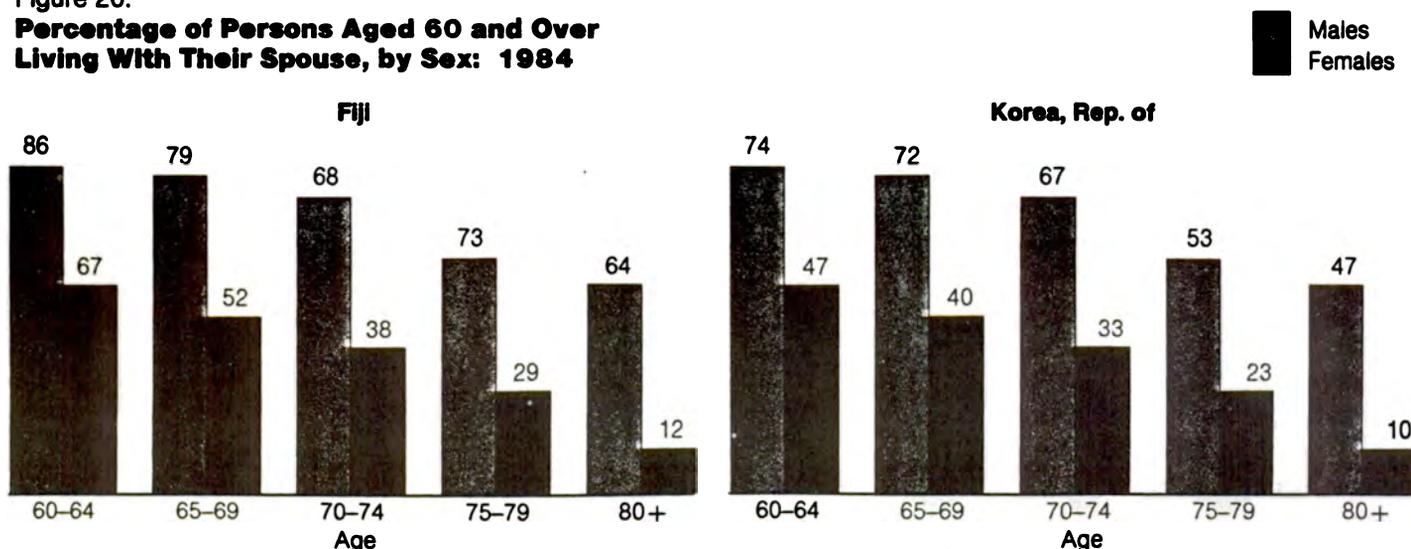
The experience of Japan may be illustrative of the kind of change that developing countries can expect. The Japanese tradition of the aged living with their children, once almost universal, is clearly on the wane. Today, the proportion of persons aged 65 and over living with children and/or grandchildren has declined to 70 percent, and is expected to sink to 50 percent by the end of this century. In a country often viewed as especially respectful toward the elderly, "significant numbers of them lead destitute, solitary lives. More than 900,000 women aged 65 and over live alone in Japan, many of them scraping by on meager pensions,

doing menial work, dreaming of getting into shabby government nursing homes" (Burgess, 1986).

Fertility Declines Affect Extended Family

One factor often mentioned as contributing to high fertility is the belief that the more children parents sire, the greater the likelihood of having at least one son who will survive and care for the parents later in life. While at least one study, in rural India, casts some doubt on the validity of this belief (Vlassoff and Vlassoff, 1980), the fact remains that declines in fertility at least potentially diminish the prospects for parental support and care by children. In an examination (Goodman, Keyfitz, and Pullum, 1979) of nations with high fertility and relatively low mortality—i.e., nations in the midst of the classic demographic transition—mothers are said to have twice as many adult daughters alive in the mid-transition phase than they do in the latter phase; after the demographic transition, the average mother at age 60 has only one living daughter. In the former instance, the extended family can still function well, but probably not so in the latter case (Siegel and Hoover, 1982).

Figure 20. **Percentage of Persons Aged 60 and Over Living With Their Spouse, by Sex: 1984**



Literacy and Educational Attainment

Selected data on educational attainment for 16 countries appear in appendix A, table 9.

The well-being of older persons is intimately linked to their educational experiences earlier in life. Among the many positive correlates of education is longevity: in one study of 115 countries, the correlation between literacy and life expectancy at birth was higher than for any other specific factor considered (Granahan et al., 1972). The accomplishment of literacy affords persons in developing societies a smoother relationship with the socioeconomic transition now engulfing many nations. Formal educational attainment greatly enhances economic prospects and permits younger persons to prepare for the economics of older age. Future levels of societal dependence will be determined in large part by the educational achievement of today's young adults.

Illiteracy Among Elderly Still High

In developing countries, the older populations of today lived much of their lives prior to the period of accelerated socioeconomic development. Consequently, their rates of literacy are low relative to younger generations, in some cases less than half of the rate for the 25 to 54 age group (figure 21).

Differences among nations can be enormous. Nearly 70 percent of Mexicans aged 55 to 64 are literate, versus less than 11 percent of Moroccans. More than half of elderly (aged 65 and over) Filipinos can read and write, as opposed to roughly 10 percent of the elderly in Tunisia and 23 percent in Turkey.

Formal Educational Attainment of Elderly Much Lower Than That of Younger Generations

Although differentials are narrowing with time, the formal educational attainment of elderly populations is well below that of younger populations. For countries studied in this report with data from the 1980's, rates of completion at the primary school level for persons aged 55 and over are usually one-half to one-third as high as for persons aged 15

to 24. Completion rates for the older population range from just over 8 percent in Bangladesh and Indonesia to more than 52 percent in Hong Kong.

Rural Areas Disadvantaged

The quantity and quality of educational facilities in rural areas were and still are inferior to those of urban areas. As would be expected, literacy rates among the rural elderly are considerably lower than those of their urban counterparts (table E).

Figure 21.
Percentage of Literate Persons, by Age

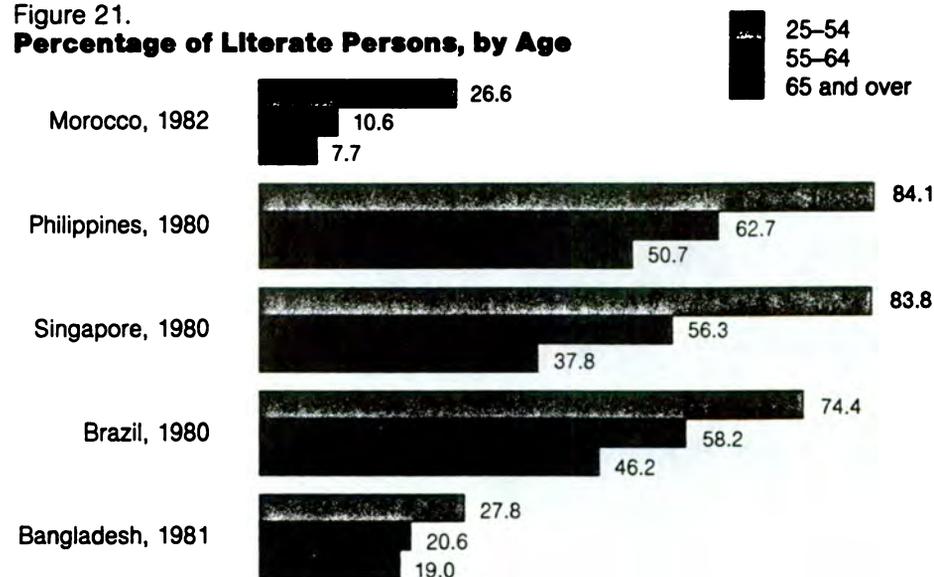


Table E.
Percent Literate Aged 65 and Over, by Rural/Urban Residence

Country and year	Rural	Urban
Bangladesh, 1981	18	29
Philippines, 1980	40	70
Morocco, 1982	5	12
Brazil, 1980	24	56
Guatemala, 1981	22	58

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Center for International Research, International Data Base on Aging.

Older Women Least Literate

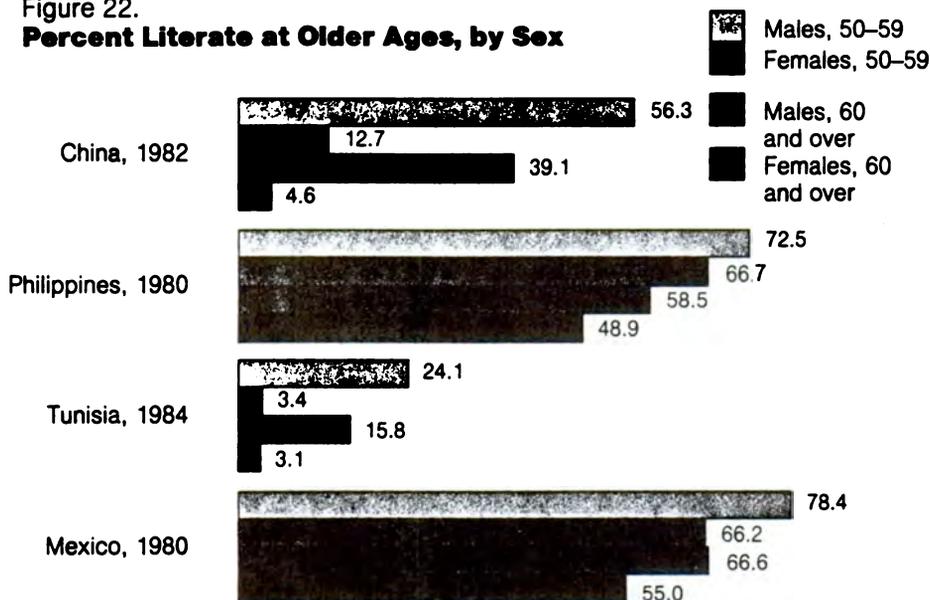
Within countries, older women are less likely than older men to be literate. In some cases, the differences are relatively small, while in countries such as China and Tunisia, the gap between men and women is huge (figure 22).

Given that many older women are widowed and without direct economic support, their high rates of

illiteracy further demonstrate the importance of traditional, family-based systems of social support. Fortunately for many countries, literacy rates for older women have improved over time, often at a faster pace than those for men. In Brazil, for instance, literacy among women aged 55 to 64 increased from 39 percent in 1960 to 53 percent in 1980, while the male rate rose from 57 percent to 64 percent. Among

young adults today, female literacy rates are often higher than those of men, suggesting that the gender disparity will eventually be eliminated. However, the improvement process will be a gradual one, and lingering high levels of female illiteracy represent a target for the efforts of national and international development agencies. As noted in a recent analysis of aging in Southeast Asian nations (ASEAN, 1985), even in the modern and dynamic city of Singapore, more than half of the elderly female population is expected to be illiterate in the year 2000.

Figure 22.
Percent Literate at Older Ages, by Sex



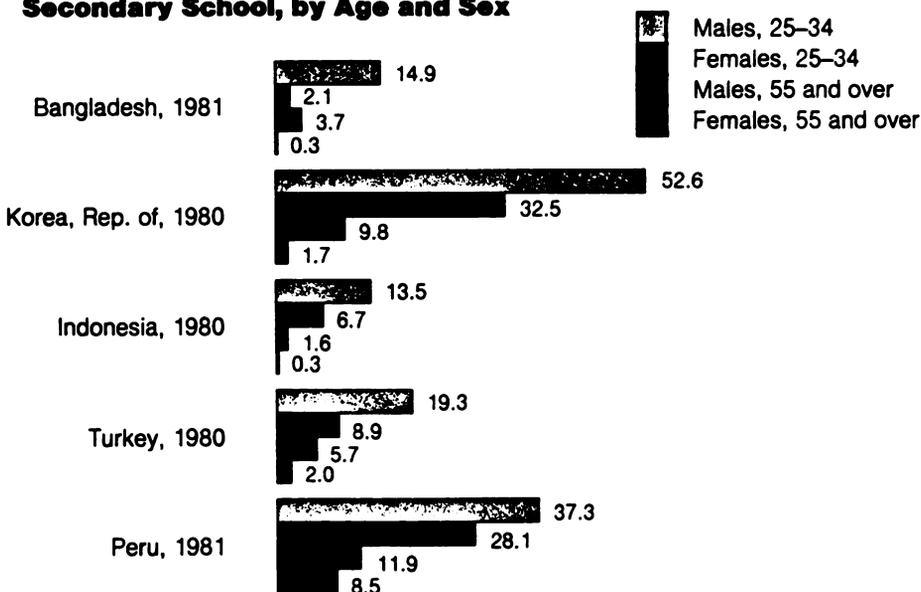
Secondary School Degrees Uncommon Among Older Populations

In view of the gender disparity in literacy rates, it is not surprising that older men have higher primary-level completion rates than older women. The differences tend to be small in Latin America, but much more significant in Asia. For example, 29 percent of older Brazilian males versus 25 percent of older Brazilian females have completed primary school, while in Turkey the respective figures are 28 percent and 10 percent, and in South Korea 51 percent and 24 percent.

Much smaller proportions of all age groups have completed secondary schooling, and the relative difference between older and younger groups at this educational level is more pronounced (figure 23). The gender differential also widens, and secondary-level completion rates of 2 percent or less are not unusual among women aged 55 and over.

At the level of higher education, completion rates for today's older populations are understandably low. Rates for ages 55 and over are often less than 1 percent, although they reach or exceed 4 percent among males in some countries (e.g., Hong Kong, the Philippines, and Peru).

Figure 23.
Percentage of Persons Who Completed Secondary School, by Age and Sex



Labor Force and Occupational Characteristics

Selected data for 21 countries appear in appendix A, tables 10 and 11.

Labor force participation declines markedly as persons approach retirement age in industrialized countries. Although life expectancy continues to increase throughout the developed world, the percentage of persons aged 60 and over still working is often a small fraction of the corresponding percentage of persons aged 25 to 59. A number of factors have converged to bring about such high rates of economic inactivity at older ages; foremost among these are lowered retirement ages, changing educational and technological circumstances that may favor younger over older workers, increases in social security benefits, and expanded coverage of private pensions systems.

In most developing countries, however, the situation is quite different. While economic activity rates also decline with older age, they rarely reach the low levels seen in developed countries. The predominantly rural character of many developing economies means that relatively small proportions of population are in wage and salaried employment affected by compulsory retirement ages. Similarly small portions of the labor force² are eligible for pension benefits. And because large

² The labor force or economically active population in a given country is usually defined as all persons who are working, actively seeking work, or temporarily out of work due to illness, layoff, vacation, strike, and so forth. The time period for such activity can vary, however, as can the inclusion or exclusion of certain categories of workers (for example, persons engaged in "home duties"). Such differences in national reporting schemes can have an effect on measured labor force participation rates, especially for women and older workers (Holden, 1978). National definitions of economic activity can be found in the annotation that forms a part of all IDBA machine-readable files.

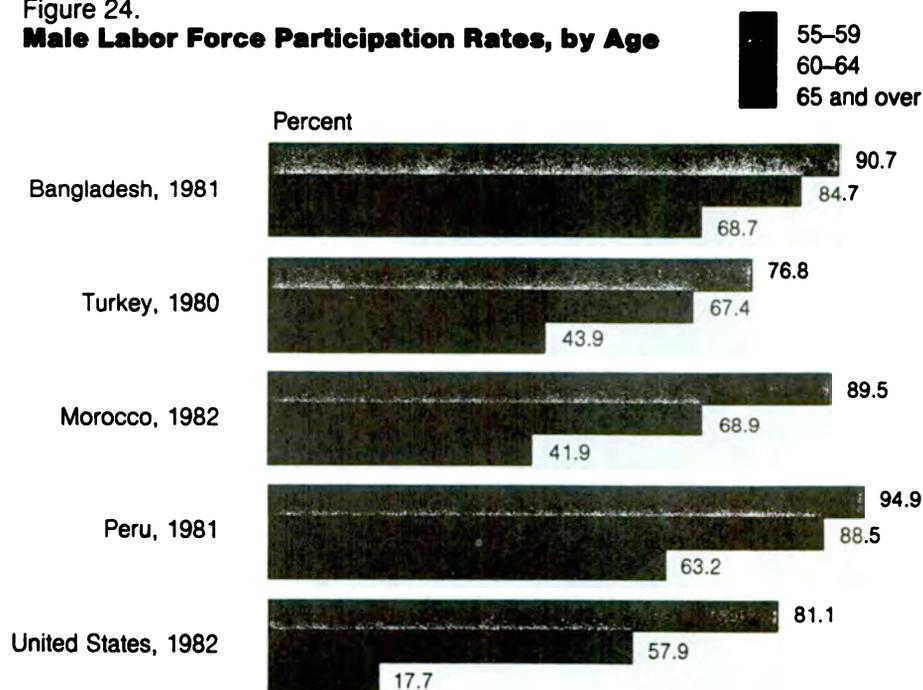
numbers of workers are self-employed, economic necessity forces many people to continue working as long as they are able to, though perhaps at a reduced pace.

Most Men Work After Age 60

The most recent data for 21 study countries show that at least 80 percent of men aged 55 to 59 are working in all countries except Turkey (77 percent) and Singapore (71 percent). At ages 60 to 64 years, the percentages range from just under 60 to 88, except for a low of 52 in Singapore. By way of contrast, male participation rates for ages 60 to 64 in developed countries are usually lower, and often very much so: 39 percent in France, 29 percent in Italy, and only 13 percent in Hungary.

Economic activity rates for men aged 65 and over in developed countries rarely exceed 20 percent. In most developing nations, on the other hand, these rates range between 30 and 60 percent, reaching 69 percent in both Mexico and Bangladesh (figure 24). Some of the developed-developing country differential may be attributed to the nature of work in disparate societies. Economic activity among older persons in rural areas of developing countries may take on a part-time character which is linked to the seasonal demands of agriculture. Data from the Indonesian census of 1980, for example, indicate that the average number of hours worked decreases as people grow older; in rural Indonesia, 54 percent of persons aged 65 and over worked fewer than 35 hours per week, compared with 41 percent of all rural workers.

Figure 24.
Male Labor Force Participation Rates, by Age



Somewhat surprisingly, the urban differential (42 percent and 19 percent, respectively) was even larger (ASEAN, 1985).

Among older and elderly women, reported rates in developing nations are much lower than those for men. However, it is widely acknowledged that census and sometimes survey definitions of economic activity in many societies (not limited to developing countries) serve to exclude major types and amounts of female work which arguably should be included in national accounts of economic activity. This tendency appears especially pronounced in certain African and South Asian nations.

This caveat may help to explain the large differences in reported levels of female economic activity in different societies. More than half (56 percent) of women in the Philippines aged 55 to 64 are said to be in the labor force, as opposed to less than 5 percent in Bangladesh. The highest levels of female participation are reported in East and Southeast Asia, and the lowest in South Asia, Northern Africa, and Central America.

Participation of Older Males in Asia Declining

From the early 1970's to the 1980's, male participation rates at older ages generally declined in the Asian countries examined. While the overall declines for ages 55 and over were slight, declines among persons aged 65 and over were sometimes notable: from 84 percent to 69 percent in Bangladesh from 1974 to 1981, and from 68 percent to 44 percent in Turkey from 1970 to 1980.

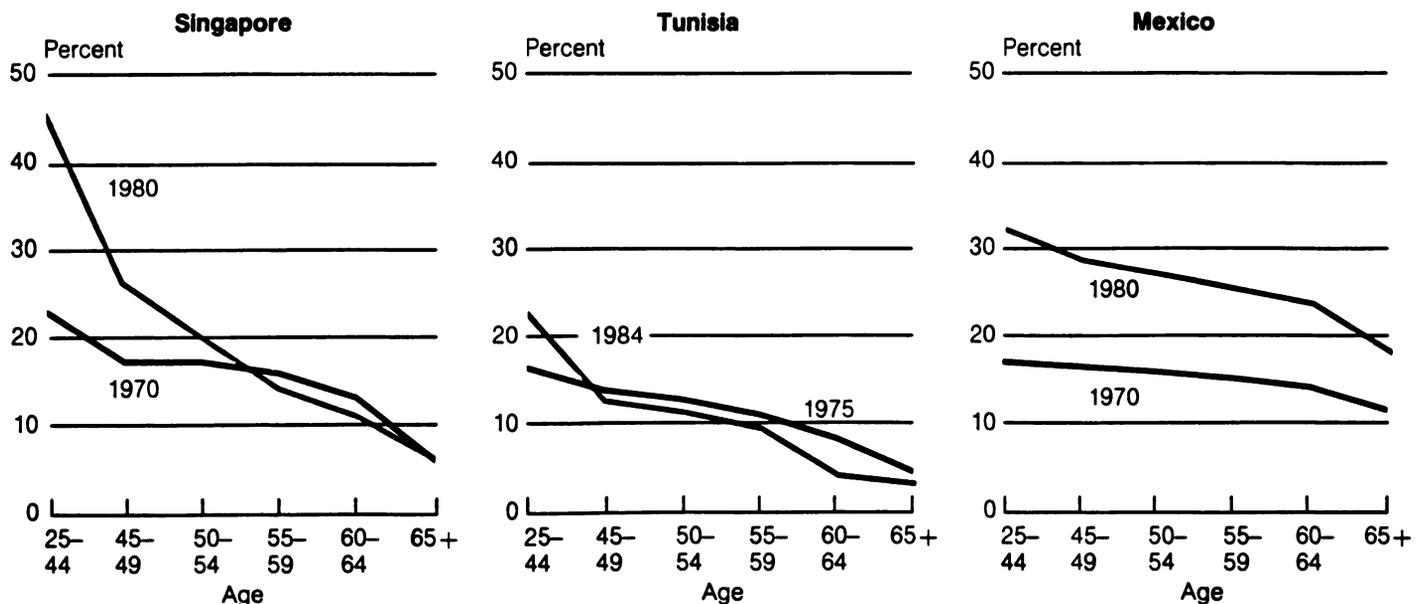
In other regions, there was no discernible trend. The participation of older men in Africa and Latin America was as likely to increase as to decrease. The situation among older women was also mixed, although increasing participation levels over time outnumbered declining levels by 2 to 1.

Economic Activity Rates for Younger Women on the Rise

Female activity rates at younger ages tended to rise in developing countries

during the 1970's and into the 1980's, even though rates at older ages may have been declining (figure 25). As is also the case in developed countries, more women than ever before are in their respective labor forces, in part a result of improved educational opportunities and declining fertility levels. This trend is likely to reduce future societal dependence (there will be more wage-earners in the labor force) and to allow women to accumulate resources (earnings and pensions) for older age. But as one author has noted with regard to Sub-Saharan Africa, economic and demographic changes may require a greater female labor force presence without necessarily improving their quality of life. "In recent years, the introduction of cash crops and the migration of the young to the cities have simultaneously given older women more burdensome agricultural responsibilities and less help. Their needs have rarely been addressed in rural development plans" (Gibson, 1985).

Figure 25. Labor Force Participation Rates of Women, by Age



Vast Majority of Older Workers in Agriculture

Despite a worldwide trend away from employment in agriculture, jobs in this sector remain of paramount importance in developing countries. Data on the occupational distribution³ of workers, by age, are often unavailable or incomplete, but existing information shows that older workers are heavily concentrated in agricultural jobs. With the exception of Uruguay and the city-states of Hong Kong and Singapore, at least 40 percent of workers aged 60 and over are in agriculture. In Bangladesh, China, the Republic of Korea, Thailand, and Turkey, more than 8 out of 10 workers in this age group are so employed.

Production (manufacturing) occupations rank second to agriculture in most countries in terms of numbers of older persons employed, in spite of the stereotype that manufacturing work is too demanding for these workers. More than one-third of employees aged 60 and over in Hong Kong work in production, as do more than a fifth of older Tunisians. Sales positions are also an important source of work for older persons in certain countries, more so than manufacturing jobs in Thailand and the Republic of Korea. In several nations, the proportion of workers in sales is higher among older than younger persons.

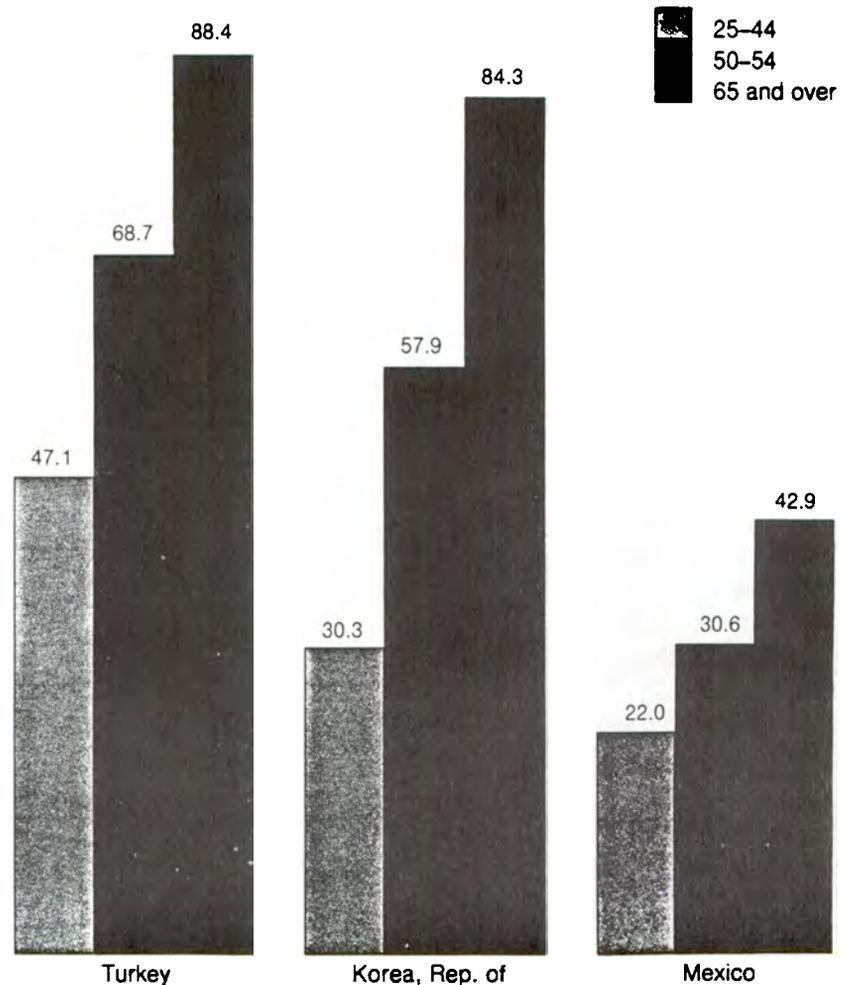
³ The occupational categories referred to here and in appendix A, table 11, are those of the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO-1968). While most countries adhere to the basic categorical standards when reporting data, points of divergence do exist. Annotations in the IDBA highlight any major definitional deviations. For a further discussion of international standards and related reporting issues, see explanatory notes in any annual issue of the International Labour Office (Geneva) Year Book of Labour Statistics.

Changing Occupational Distributions Reflect Shifting Economies

Economic changes in developing countries have increasingly directed younger workers into professional, clerical, service, and especially production activities, such that current proportions of workers in these fields decline monotonically with age in practically all countries. Since relatively fewer persons are entering agricultural pursuits, the

percentage of persons engaged in agriculture rises with age in all study countries where data are available (figure 26). In Mexico and the Republic of Korea, the percentage of younger workers in agriculture is now less than half the percentage at ages 65 and over. This is also true in Costa Rica, where recent census data reveal that for the first time, the number of workers aged 25 to 44 in manufacturing occupations has surpassed the number in agriculture.

Figure 26.
Percentage of Workers in Agriculture, by Age: 1980



Social Support of the Elderly

Various support ratios for 22 countries appear in appendix A, table 12.

One aspect of socioeconomic development that national planners now or will soon face is determining the kinds of social support services that growing older populations require, and the cost/benefit tradeoffs that must be made to facilitate provision of these services. Such planning requires difficult choices involving expanded social security coverage, worker retirement ages, geographic location of service facilities, and so forth. To prudently weigh the economic considerations, attention must first be given to changing societal age structures and worker/nonworker ratios that set the parameters for future decisionmaking.

Support ratios—numbers of “dependent” persons (usually thought of as those under age 20 and over age 64) per 100 persons of working age (20 to 64 years)—are one means of assessing the level and nature of economic dependency within a given society. Although such aggregate indicators are open to criticism (see, for example, U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1987), they do suggest likely macroeconomic outcomes of shifting demographic pressures, just as they alert policymakers to the potential for increased financial burdens on future working-age populations.

Elderly Support Ratios to Rise Gradually Through 2020

In most countries examined in this report, elderly support ratios (the number of persons aged 65 and over per 100 population aged 20 to 64) are projected to increase rather slowly during the next three decades. This is because the high-fertility cohorts of the 1960's and 1970's will still be in the denominator of the support ratio (that is, under the age of 65). The

most rapid increases in elderly support ratios will be seen in today's “older” Asian countries: Hong Kong, Singapore, the Republic of Korea, and China. The three Sub-Saharan African nations of Kenya, Malawi, and Zimbabwe are likely to experience a static or declining ratio, the result of continued high fertility and relatively low life expectancy (figure 27).

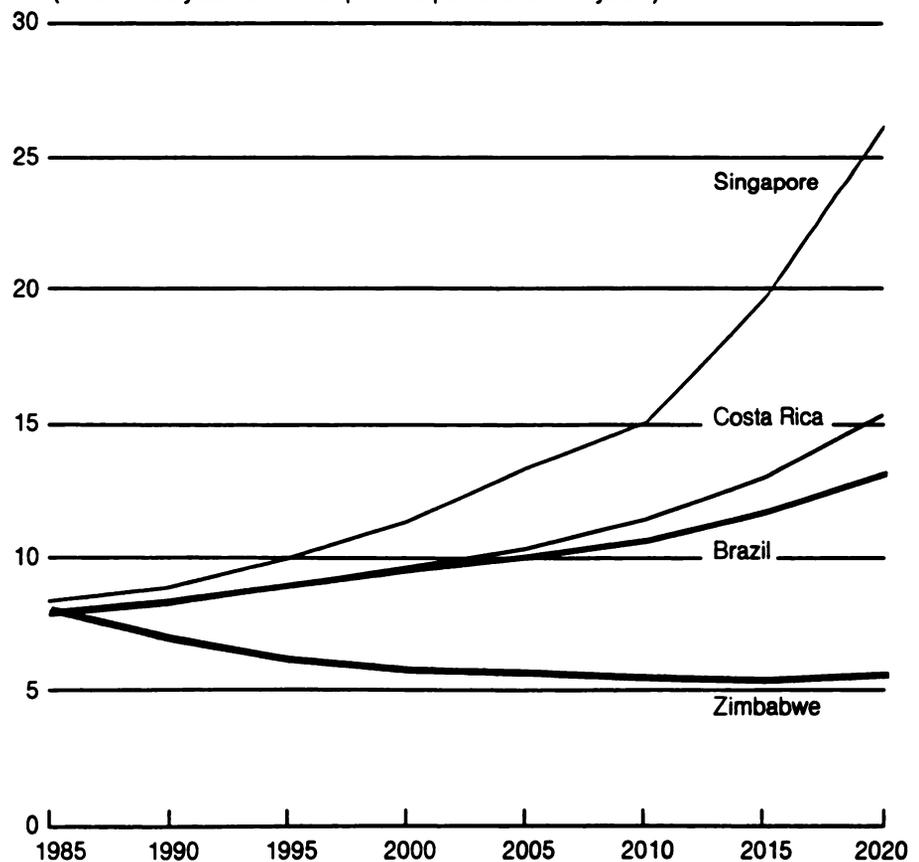
Youth and Total Support Ratios to Decline

At the other end of the dependency spectrum is the youth support ratio,

defined as the number of persons under age 20 per 100 persons aged 20 to 64. This measure now exceeds 100 in 12 of the 22 countries, reaching as high as 176 in Kenya and 164 in Zimbabwe. Without exception, this ratio is expected to decline uniformly in each country through the year 2020, reflecting both a projected lowering of fertility and growing numbers of young adults entering the working ages. Mexico's decline of 51 percent will be the most dramatic, although many other countries will lower their youth support ratios by 40 percent or more during the 1988–2020 period.

Figure 27.
Elderly Support Ratios: 1985 to 2020

(Persons 65 years and over per 100 persons 20–64 years)



The combination of youth and elderly support ratios forms a total support ratio, which is one measure of the overall support burden on working-age adults. In the foreseeable future, major fertility reductions in developing countries will outweigh growing numbers of older persons, with the result that total support ratios will fall. Within this decline, however, the relative weight of the youth and elderly components of the total support ratio will begin (or continue) to change (figure 28), with the elderly constituting an increasing portion of the total.

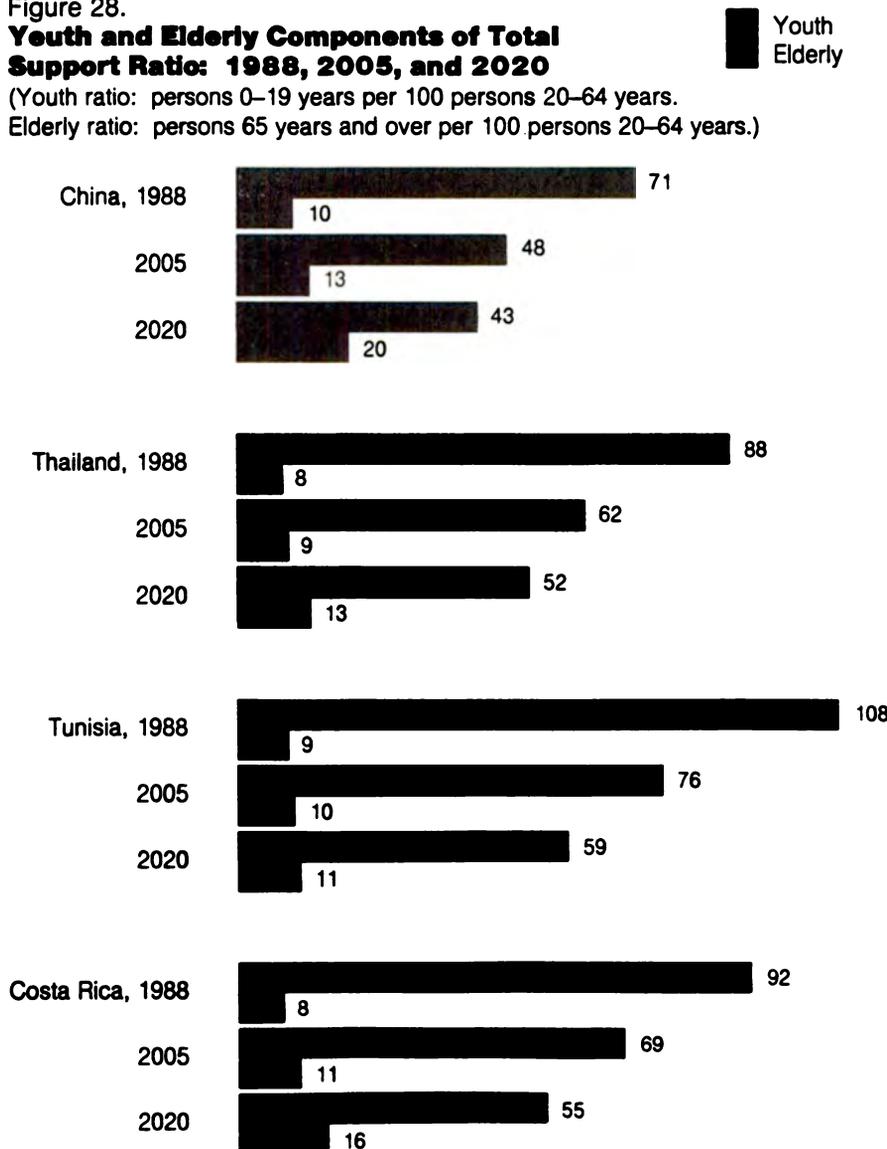
Therefore, a cursory examination of total support ratios does not reveal the fact that absolute numbers of older population are increasing dramatically in many developing countries. A decline at one end of the age continuum (e.g., children) can mask a large increase at the other end. In terms of age-group percentages and ratios, large-scale population aging in developing countries will not be seen until the huge numbers of children born in the 1960's and 1970's enter their older years. In the meantime, however, recent and continued declines in birth rates

will effect a change in the age dependency structure of a large majority of developing countries. As this change unfolds, nations will grapple with issues involving the allocation of scarce resources among young and old.

Age Dependency Change Will Test China's Social Support System

The People's Republic of China, which because of historical and political developments will age sooner than most developing countries, offers an illustrative glimpse at the magnitude of change that will confront many developing societies. China's present age profile contains two major bulges in its population pyramid, consisting of those persons aged 8 to 19 and 24 to 30. As these relatively young cohorts age, they will swell the ranks of the working population around the turn of the century, thereby providing a large social and tax base for dependents at both ends of the age continuum.

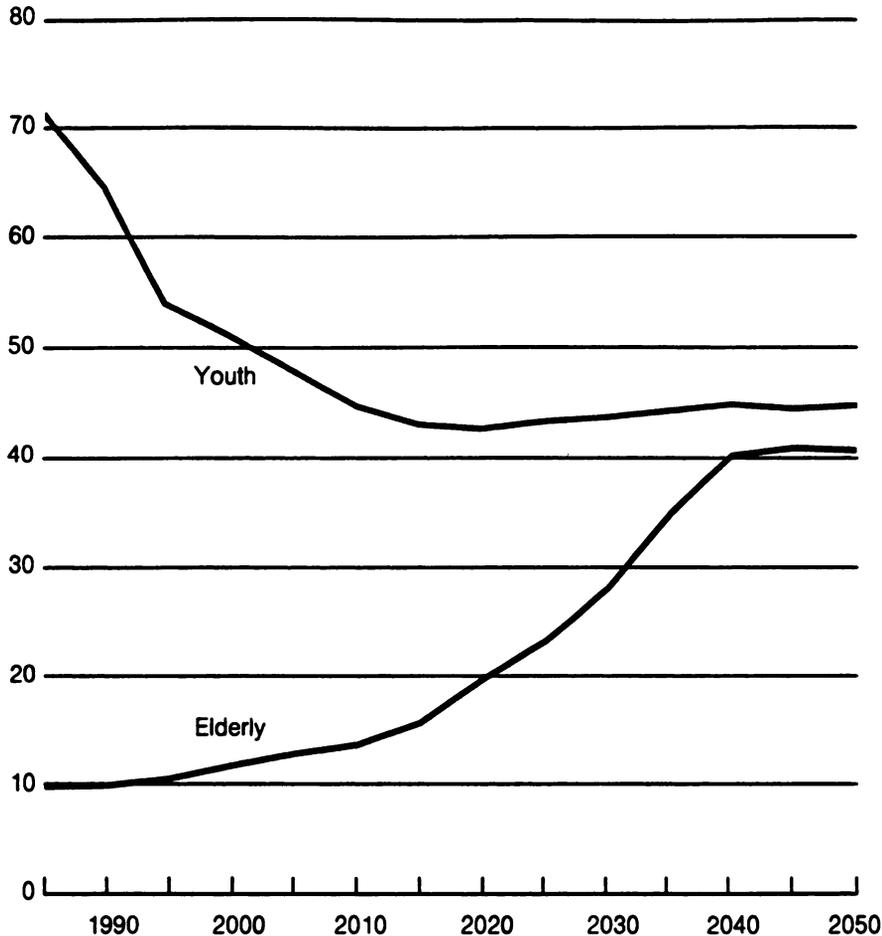
Figure 28. **Youth and Elderly Components of Total Support Ratio: 1988, 2005, and 2020**
 (Youth ratio: persons 0–19 years per 100 persons 20–64 years.
 Elderly ratio: persons 65 years and over per 100 persons 20–64 years.)



By 2015, however, the oldest cohorts in today's age bulge will have entered their older ages, and the momentum of today's bulge will produce a rapidly increasing older population in the second and third decades of the 21st century. The number of persons aged 60 and over will increase from the 77 million counted in China's 1982 census to nearly 300 million by 2025, and further to 430 million by 2050. "Nothing can change this fact, short of a catastrophic rise in adult mortality, because the aged of the middle decades of the 21st century are already born" (Banister, 1987). Eventually, China's projected youth and elderly support ratios will approach convergence (figure 29), evoking images of a social fabric radically different from that of the late 20th century.

Figure 29.
**Youth and Elderly Support Ratios
 in China: 1988 to 2050**

(Youth ratio: persons 0–19 years per 100 persons 20–64 years.
 Elderly ratio: persons 65 years and over per 100 persons 20–64 years.)



Social Security Coverage Erratic in Developing Countries

Publicly-funded economic support systems are the main source of income for elderly citizens in the industrialized world. Most developed nations also consider private pensions as an additional tier of economic support for retired individuals. In the developing world, however, such systems are often rudimentary. While most countries have some form of social security, only a small fraction of the population is typically covered, and the level of benefits is still very low.

Regionally, countries in South America appear to offer the most widespread benefits, with many countries having legislation intended to protect their older rural as well as their urban population. In Africa, coverage is either nonexistent or limited to the wage-earning population, often a small portion of the overall labor force. In Asian nations, social security benefits do not normally accrue to agricultural workers, although countries such as India, Malaysia, and Turkey make some exceptions (Heisel, 1985).

Appendix A. Statistical Tables

Table 1.
Percentage of Population in Older Age Groups: 1988, 2005, and 2020

Region and country	1988			
	Total population, all ages (in thousands)	Percent aged 55 and over	Percent aged 65 and over	Percent aged 75 and over
ASIA				
Bangladesh	109,964	7.2	3.0	0.8
China	1,088,169	12.2	5.5	1.6
Hong Kong	5,651	17.0	8.3	2.7
India	816,828	8.6	3.4	0.8
Indonesia	184,016	7.8	2.8	0.6
Korea, Republic of	42,773	10.4	4.5	1.3
Philippines	63,199	7.5	3.3	1.0
Singapore	2,645	11.9	5.5	1.8
Thailand	54,589	9.0	3.9	1.3
Turkey	54,168	9.7	4.3	1.4
AFRICA				
Kenya	23,342	5.1	2.1	0.5
Malawi	7,679	6.3	2.7	0.8
Morocco	24,976	8.7	4.0	1.4
Tunisia	7,738	9.9	4.4	1.4
Zimbabwe	9,729	6.0	2.8	0.9
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN				
Brazil	150,685	9.0	4.0	1.2
Costa Rica	2,888	8.7	4.1	1.3
Guatemala	8,831	7.2	3.2	1.0
Jamaica	2,458	12.0	6.7	2.7
Mexico	83,528	8.4	4.1	1.6
Peru	21,269	8.3	3.6	1.1
Uruguay	2,976	22.0	11.6	4.3

Table 1.
Percentage of Population in Older Age Groups: 1988, 2005, and 2020—Continued

Region and country	2005			
	Total population, all ages (in thousands)	Percent aged 55 and over	Percent aged 65 and over	Percent aged 75 and over
ASIA				
Bangladesh	159,290	7.9	3.6	1.0
China	1,293,188	16.0	8.1	2.9
Hong Kong	6,510	21.8	12.3	5.3
India	1,090,831	10.7	4.5	1.1
Indonesia	243,962	10.5	4.9	1.3
Korea, Republic of	51,930	15.2	7.1	2.0
Philippines	95,886	9.0	4.1	1.2
Singapore	3,018	19.3	8.9	3.0
Thailand	69,802	12.1	5.8	1.9
Turkey	74,535	11.3	5.7	1.8
AFRICA				
Kenya	46,609	5.0	2.1	0.6
Malawi	13,475	5.6	2.3	0.6
Morocco	37,018	9.2	4.7	1.6
Tunisia	10,873	10.6	5.4	1.8
Zimbabwe	18,041	5.3	2.3	0.6
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN				
Brazil	214,443	11.3	5.4	1.8
Costa Rica	4,073	12.3	5.8	2.1
Guatemala	12,475	9.0	4.1	1.3
Jamaica	3,207	11.8	6.5	2.8
Mexico	113,320	10.9	5.5	2.1
Peru	31,135	9.9	4.6	1.4
Uruguay	3,255	21.3	12.8	5.4

Table 1.
Percentage of Population in Older Age Groups: 1988, 2005, and 2020—Continued

Region and country	2020			
	Total population, all ages (in thousands)	Percent aged 55 and over	Percent aged 65 and over	Percent aged 75 and over
ASIA				
Bangladesh	201,488	11.5	4.5	1.4
China	1,441,318	24.0	12.2	4.1
Hong Kong	6,896	34.5	17.4	6.1
India	1,307,775	14.8	6.2	1.6
Indonesia	293,088	16.4	7.2	2.3
Korea, Republic of	57,762	23.0	10.3	3.4
Philippines	130,665	11.6	5.2	1.6
Singapore	3,144	33.5	16.5	5.0
Thailand	81,588	18.4	8.3	2.8
Turkey	92,188	15.6	7.1	2.4
AFRICA				
Kenya	79,189	5.6	2.4	0.7
Malawi	21,093	5.8	2.5	0.6
Morocco	48,517	13.3	6.0	2.1
Tunisia	13,623	14.9	6.4	2.2
Zimbabwe	29,421	6.3	2.5	0.7
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN				
Brazil	273,286	15.6	7.5	2.6
Costa Rica	5,031	19.1	9.0	3.1
Guatemala	15,661	11.8	5.5	1.9
Jamaica	4,078	16.6	7.8	3.0
Mexico	137,770	16.0	7.7	3.0
Peru	40,347	13.6	6.2	2.0
Uruguay	3,503	23.3	12.4	5.2

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Center for International Research, International Data Base on Aging.

Table 2.
Population by Age: 1988 and 2020

(Numbers in thousands)

Region and country	1988								
	Total, all ages	0 to 24 years	25 to 54 years	55 to 59 years	60 to 64 years	65 to 69 years	70 to 74 years	75 to 79 years	80 years and over
ASIA									
Bangladesh	109,964	69,711	32,356	2,636	2,008	1,390	930	554	379
China	1,088,169	550,417	405,480	39,986	32,524	24,541	17,505	10,453	7,262
Hong Kong	5,651	2,215	2,475	263	229	180	134	92	63
India	816,828	467,926	278,601	24,152	18,459	13,103	8,176	4,190	2,221
Indonesia	184,016	106,193	63,519	5,434	3,791	2,486	1,474	742	376
Korea, Republic of	42,773	21,114	17,224	1,448	1,082	807	527	336	236
Philippines	63,199	38,340	20,094	1,542	1,136	857	628	369	232
Singapore	2,645	1,095	1,236	94	76	55	42	28	19
Thailand	54,589	30,212	19,446	1,587	1,210	843	587	374	330
Turkey	54,168	31,263	17,635	1,634	1,284	953	641	415	342
AFRICA									
Kenya	23,342	16,558	5,588	404	303	219	143	79	47
Malawi	7,679	5,187	2,007	160	119	86	59	36	26
Morocco	24,976	15,357	7,453	638	518	381	278	192	159
Tunisia	7,738	4,580	2,392	237	190	135	95	60	49
Zimbabwe	9,729	6,723	2,426	175	136	105	76	50	38
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN									
Brazil	150,685	86,578	50,616	4,126	3,328	2,479	1,706	1,095	758
Costa Rica	2,888	1,620	1,017	74	60	47	33	21	16
Guatemala	8,831	5,576	2,616	202	156	115	79	48	40
Jamaica	2,458	1,417	746	68	62	54	45	33	34
Mexico	83,528	51,275	25,262	2,010	1,555	1,198	894	662	672
Peru	21,269	12,765	6,743	556	429	319	229	141	87
Uruguay	2,976	1,252	1,070	162	148	121	96	69	59

Table 2.
Population by Age: 1988 and 2020—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Region and country	2020								
	Total, all ages	0 to 24 years	25 to 54 years	55 to 59 years	60 to 64 years	65 to 69 years	70 to 74 years	75 to 79 years	80 years and over
ASIA									
Bangladesh	201,468	94,803	83,517	7,930	6,225	3,817	2,406	1,627	1,143
China	1,441,318	476,736	618,136	95,634	75,111	70,743	45,373	28,043	31,542
Hong Kong	6,896	1,804	2,710	595	584	453	325	173	251
India	1,307,775	553,986	560,356	62,520	50,297	35,914	23,329	12,986	8,387
Indonesia	293,088	117,769	127,183	14,661	12,286	9,211	5,168	3,731	3,078
Korea, Republic of	57,762	20,279	24,212	3,854	3,470	2,393	1,612	1,049	893
Philippines	130,665	68,171	47,373	4,538	3,746	2,801	1,888	1,202	945
Singapore	3,144	835	1,256	269	264	209	153	80	77
Thailand	81,588	31,715	34,850	4,503	3,738	2,769	1,753	1,058	1,203
Turkey	92,188	39,434	38,401	4,362	3,401	2,593	1,745	1,174	1,079
AFRICA									
Kenya	79,189	51,673	23,075	1,460	1,085	792	544	330	229
Malawi	21,093	13,366	6,511	379	302	243	156	83	52
Morocco	48,517	22,612	19,458	1,942	1,604	1,142	721	528	512
Tunisia	13,623	5,866	5,722	643	515	342	231	159	145
Zimbabwe	29,421	18,421	9,149	637	470	325	204	125	90
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN									
Brazil	273,286	122,130	108,620	12,190	9,900	7,743	5,640	3,739	3,323
Costa Rica	5,031	2,013	2,058	281	227	171	125	83	73
Guatemala	15,661	7,497	6,312	542	444	337	237	149	143
Jamaica	4,078	1,743	1,658	203	156	114	81	59	64
Mexico	137,770	56,776	58,909	6,734	4,799	3,687	2,711	1,944	2,208
Peru	40,347	18,873	16,002	1,659	1,310	1,002	701	447	352
Uruguay	3,503	1,244	1,443	207	177	143	108	82	99

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Center for International Research, International Data Base on Aging.

Table 3.
Average Annual Percent Growth and Percent Change in Older Population: 1988 to 2005 and 2005 to 2020

Region and country	Average Annual Percent Growth					
	1988 to 2005			2005 to 2020		
	55 to 64 years	65 to 74 years	75 years and over	55 to 64 years	65 to 74 years	75 years and over
ASIA						
Bangladesh	2.3	3.4	3.1	4.8	2.7	3.8
China	2.0	2.8	4.3	3.4	3.6	3.2
Hong Kong	1.3	2.2	4.7	4.3	3.5	1.4
India	2.7	3.3	3.8	3.5	3.1	3.7
Indonesia	2.2	4.7	6.2	4.6	3.3	5.0
Korea, Republic of	3.0	4.0	3.4	3.7	2.8	4.3
Philippines	3.3	3.6	3.9	3.8	3.6	4.0
Singapore	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.5	4.7	3.7
Thailand	2.6	3.8	3.8	4.2	3.4	3.5
Turkey	2.1	3.5	3.4	4.1	2.8	3.4
AFRICA						
Kenya	3.8	4.0	4.6	4.3	4.1	4.7
Malawi	2.8	2.7	1.6	2.8	3.7	3.4
Morocco	2.1	3.3	3.1	5.1	3.1	3.7
Tunisia	1.7	3.1	3.4	4.7	2.6	3.0
Zimbabwe	3.2	3.0	1.7	4.9	3.8	4.0
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN						
Brazil	3.1	3.5	4.5	3.7	3.8	3.9
Costa Rica	4.0	3.8	4.7	4.4	4.4	4.2
Guatemala	3.2	3.3	3.7	3.1	3.5	3.8
Jamaica	1.6	1.0	1.8	4.9	3.4	2.0
Mexico	3.2	3.6	3.3	4.2	3.4	3.9
Peru	3.1	3.6	3.7	3.9	3.5	4.2
Uruguay	-0.7	0.5	1.9	2.2	0.4	0.2

Table 3.
Average Annual Percent Growth and Percent Change in Older Population: 1988 to 2005 and
2005 to 2020—Continued

Region and country	Percent Change					
	1988 to 2005			2005 to 2020		
	55 to 64 years	65 to 74 years	75 years and over	55 to 64 years	65 to 74 years	75 years and over
ASIA						
Bangladesh	47.7	79.0	68.0	106.3	49.9	76.9
China	41.5	60.3	108.7	66.4	72.3	61.2
Hong Kong	25.2	46.0	122.8	91.3	69.7	23.3
India	57.1	73.8	92.3	68.5	60.2	73.3
Indonesia	45.8	123.0	187.3	100.3	62.8	112.0
Korea, Republic of	66.1	98.7	78.7	74.3	51.1	89.9
Philippines	75.7	83.7	95.2	76.1	71.8	82.8
Singapore	84.6	83.0	88.8	69.9	103.8	74.7
Thailand	56.0	90.1	90.8	88.9	66.4	68.2
Turkey	44.1	80.1	79.2	84.6	51.1	65.9
AFRICA						
Kenya	89.5	98.3	118.1	90.0	85.7	103.0
Malawi	60.3	57.3	31.3	52.8	74.9	67.2
Morocco	42.4	76.1	69.3	115.4	60.3	75.1
Tunisia	34.3	68.5	78.4	102.2	47.2	56.4
Zimbabwe	71.3	65.3	33.3	108.1	77.1	83.2
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN						
Brazil	70.7	80.3	113.8	73.6	77.3	78.4
Costa Rica	96.9	91.5	123.9	92.4	93.6	87.0
Guatemala	73.1	76.4	89.1	59.1	68.1	76.5
Jamaica	32.2	19.0	35.0	109.8	65.9	35.7
Mexico	71.3	84.9	74.6	88.9	65.4	78.4
Peru	68.6	83.4	87.1	78.7	69.5	87.5
Uruguay	-10.7	9.7	38.8	38.7	5.5	2.5

Note: Average annual percent growth calculated as an exponential growth rate.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Center for International Research, International Data Base on Aging.

Table 4.
Urban Population, by Sex and Older Age Groups: Selected Years, 1969 to 1984

Region and country	Year	Males				Females			
		Total, all ages	55 years and over	65 years and over	75 years and over	Total, all ages	55 years and over	65 years and over	75 years and over
ASIA									
Bangladesh	1974	3,538,531	213,158	84,854	26,690	2,734,781	144,543	63,247	21,656
	1981	7,370,000	509,000	226,000	161,000	5,858,000	348,000	157,000	114,000
China	1982	112,149,996	10,723,230	4,182,812	1,020,871	98,397,149	10,964,175	5,186,071	1,680,490
Hong Kong	1981	2,412,201	304,824	120,384	(X)	2,210,613	356,282	177,837	(X)
India	1971	58,718,371	4,024,234	1,526,269	426,617	50,378,274	3,637,672	1,494,668	471,555
	1981	83,813,517	6,204,849	2,423,348	700,619	73,751,550	5,785,813	2,493,325	768,181
Indonesia	1971	10,194,359	525,786	196,839	49,553	10,255,961	596,886	245,422	72,608
	1980	16,439,900	1,012,659	374,916	109,342	16,401,825	1,139,477	489,857	161,593
Korea, Republic of	1970	6,485,721	300,372	87,797	(X)	6,443,101	434,721	178,341	(X)
	1975	8,369,903	407,319	128,569	24,178	8,400,037	589,233	253,528	71,254
	1980	10,697,843	557,775	183,694	34,045	10,711,606	826,805	365,207	102,451
Philippines	1970	5,670,816	370,273	149,101	46,574	5,999,388	402,240	170,339	60,397
	1975	6,553,324	446,405	182,848	47,616	6,752,757	467,848	198,287	58,733
	1980	8,765,413	535,989	244,103	72,395	9,178,240	740,434	341,658	102,050
Thailand	1970	2,254,158	143,641	55,778	(X)	2,293,296	175,242	79,328	(X)
	1980	3,744,425	261,061	109,059	30,926	3,888,491	314,734	147,891	50,529
Turkey	1970	6,799,320	541,644	220,360	56,439	5,920,646	616,245	291,722	95,372
	1975	9,004,842	(X)	(X)	(X)	7,864,226	(X)	(X)	(X)
	1980	10,272,130	(X)	(X)	(X)	9,372,877	(X)	(X)	(X)
AFRICA									
Kenya	1969	627,276	(X)	(X)	(X)	452,632	(X)	(X)	(X)
	1979	1,303,932	52,787	21,142	6,677	1,073,002	39,176	18,128	6,749
Malawi	1977	252,105	10,307	3,842	(X)	216,562	7,446	3,203	(X)
Morocco	1971	2,627,918	201,784	94,678	(X)	2,740,046	204,323	103,436	(X)
Tunisia	1975	1,399,230	123,560	50,650	(X)	1,375,800	107,970	46,990	(X)
	1984	1,869,010	184,350	83,920	24,570	1,816,460	188,900	75,490	25,510
Zimbabwe	1969	494,867	23,598	7,065	(X)	350,369	18,214	7,602	(X)
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN									
Brazil	1970	25,173,439	1,975,295	803,470	226,288	26,801,506	2,303,406	1,010,184	330,504
	1980	39,192,230	3,290,688	1,447,919	821,616	41,172,542	3,940,055	1,864,900	1,111,885
Costa Rica	1973	360,701	30,642	14,033	4,855	399,378	39,026	18,493	6,717
	1984	514,426	49,534	24,261	8,755	560,828	63,017	32,416	12,441
Guatemala	1973	905,685	66,790	29,216	9,095	972,506	78,581	36,717	12,329
Mexico	1970	13,882,914	1,003,740	463,048	143,320	14,425,642	1,183,877	580,730	205,308
	1980	21,576,749	(X)	(X)	(X)	22,722,980	(X)	(X)	(X)
Peru	1972	4,019,307	282,537	125,390	39,855	4,020,856	319,630	154,174	56,184
	1981	5,517,769	421,351	193,224	71,290	5,574,154	455,164	225,243	89,977
Uruguay	1975	1,099,634	198,910	99,670	32,577	1,214,722	255,936	138,060	53,634

(X) Not available.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Center for International Research, International Data Base on Aging.

Table 5.
Rural Population, by Sex and Older Age Groups: Selected Years, 1969 to 1984

Region and country	Year	Males				Females			
		Total, all ages	55 years and over	65 years and over	75 years and over	Total, all ages	55 years and over	65 years and over	75 years and over
ASIA									
Bangladesh	1974	33,532,178	2,855,128	1,288,130	427,955	31,672,231	2,196,004	938,093	309,253
	1981	37,549,000	3,166,000	1,479,000	1,022,000	36,343,000	2,502,000	1,093,000	756,000
China	1982	407,256,535	42,410,521	17,686,418	4,241,655	390,347,686	46,496,821	22,220,248	6,724,118
Hong Kong	1981	191,967	27,970	12,209	(X)	171,779	29,972	16,379	(X)
India	1971	225,274,666	19,726,515	7,863,335	2,283,600	213,672,277	18,139,699	7,441,427	2,264,114
	1981	259,959,458	24,327,912	10,214,624	2,969,981	267,474,905	23,285,132	9,877,157	2,871,382
Indonesia	1971	48,137,228	3,122,475	1,243,003	330,846	49,765,243	3,287,764	1,283,113	333,851
	1980	56,500,730	4,455,681	1,813,693	579,080	57,413,620	4,781,005	2,091,450	675,358
Korea, Republic of	1970	9,293,894	807,963	310,281	(X)	9,212,536	1,016,621	462,959	(X)
	1975	9,075,337	834,771	329,818	81,210	8,833,689	1,052,033	494,684	161,917
	1980	8,051,459	876,725	355,787	82,972	7,945,901	1,132,219	541,426	181,267
Philippines	1970	12,569,193	849,684	356,683	117,171	12,415,432	831,889	356,741	128,278
	1975	14,722,900	1,037,174	422,776	110,635	14,041,679	957,071	398,257	117,461
	1980	15,363,614	1,043,263	469,258	137,105	14,791,193	1,257,075	559,479	162,612
Thailand	1970	14,846,053	1,009,101	407,835	(X)	14,958,390	1,143,099	513,059	(X)
	1980	18,584,182	1,399,197	596,196	172,239	18,607,442	1,581,771	738,278	247,250
Turkey	1970	11,203,735	1,139,513	487,447	108,974	11,672,746	1,211,933	566,167	177,793
	1975	11,739,988	(X)	(X)	(X)	11,738,663	(X)	(X)	(X)
	1980	12,423,232	(X)	(X)	(X)	12,668,718	(X)	(X)	(X)
AFRICA									
Kenya	1969	4,855,105	(X)	(X)	(X)	5,007,692	(X)	(X)	(X)
	1979	6,287,529	449,741	232,899	81,089	6,633,113	437,233	214,229	79,848
Malawi	1977	2,416,583	225,456	118,397	(X)	2,653,095	240,283	122,947	(X)
Morocco	1971	5,042,039	504,081	278,577	(X)	4,911,207	435,771	237,205	(X)
Tunisia	1975	1,424,020	136,460	56,740	(X)	1,370,150	102,930	40,920	(X)
	1984	1,677,030	175,910	84,190	24,320	1,612,950	137,470	57,550	16,190
Zimbabwe	1969	2,050,547	120,735	52,139	(X)	2,164,344	98,228	45,068	(X)
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN									
Brazil	1970	21,065,100	1,480,850	589,268	173,045	19,915,014	1,245,032	522,159	173,554
	1980	19,865,956	1,683,316	777,687	421,514	18,643,937	1,442,792	679,926	386,489
Costa Rica	1973	577,834	41,411	18,669	5,952	533,867	33,437	14,803	4,827
	1984	693,790	57,019	27,778	10,214	647,765	48,943	23,517	8,680
Guatemala	1973	1,683,579	107,572	44,940	14,568	1,598,451	91,116	38,495	12,923
Mexico	1970	10,182,700	808,024	396,118	128,459	9,733,982	725,456	351,489	123,482
	1980	11,462,558	(X)	(X)	(X)	11,084,546	(X)	(X)	(X)
Peru	1972	2,752,094	238,489	112,985	43,347	2,717,888	256,374	129,936	52,674
	1981	2,972,098	272,317	132,155	53,894	2,941,189	279,624	142,058	60,346
Uruguay	1975	269,778	46,289	20,194	5,922	204,295	31,159	14,892	5,568

(X) Not available.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Center for International Research, International Data Base on Aging.

Table 6.
Older Urban Population as a Percentage of Total Urban Population, by Sex and Age, and
Urban Sex Ratios: Selected Years, 1969 to 1984

Region and country	Year	Males			Females			Sex ratios		
		55 years and over	65 years and over	75 years and over	55 years and over	65 years and over	75 years and over	55 years and over	65 years and over	75 years and over
ASIA										
Bangladesh	1974	6.0	2.4	0.8	5.3	2.3	0.8	147.5	134.2	123.2
	1981	6.9	3.1	2.2	5.9	2.7	1.9	146.3	143.9	141.2
China	1982	9.6	3.7	0.9	11.1	5.3	1.7	97.8	80.7	60.7
Hong Kong	1981	12.6	5.0	(X)	16.1	8.0	(X)	85.6	67.7	(X)
India	1971	6.9	2.6	0.7	7.2	3.0	0.9	110.6	102.1	90.5
	1981	7.4	2.9	0.8	7.8	3.4	1.0	107.2	97.2	91.2
Indonesia	1971	5.2	1.9	0.5	5.8	2.4	0.7	88.1	80.2	68.2
	1980	6.2	2.3	0.7	6.9	3.0	1.0	88.9	76.5	67.7
Korea, Republic of	1970	4.6	1.4	(X)	6.7	2.8	(X)	69.1	49.2	(X)
	1975	4.9	1.5	0.3	7.0	3.0	0.8	69.1	50.7	33.9
	1980	5.2	1.7	0.3	7.7	3.4	1.0	67.5	50.3	33.2
Philippines	1970	6.5	2.6	0.8	6.7	2.8	1.0	92.1	87.5	77.1
	1975	6.8	2.8	0.7	6.9	2.9	0.9	95.4	92.2	81.1
	1980	6.1	2.8	0.8	8.1	3.7	1.1	72.4	71.4	70.9
Thailand	1970	6.4	2.5	(X)	7.6	3.5	(X)	82.0	70.3	(X)
	1980	7.0	2.9	0.8	8.1	3.8	1.3	82.9	73.7	61.2
Turkey	1970	8.0	3.2	0.8	10.4	4.9	1.6	87.9	75.5	59.2
AFRICA										
Kenya	1979	4.0	1.6	0.5	3.7	1.7	0.6	134.7	116.6	98.9
Malawi	1977	4.1	1.5	(X)	3.4	1.5	(X)	138.4	120.0	(X)
Morocco	1971	7.7	3.6	(X)	7.5	3.8	(X)	98.8	91.5	(X)
Tunisia	1975	8.8	3.6	(X)	7.8	3.4	(X)	114.4	107.8	(X)
	1984	9.9	4.5	1.3	9.3	4.2	1.4	109.1	111.2	96.3
Zimbabwe	1969	4.8	1.4	(X)	5.2	2.2	(X)	129.6	92.9	(X)
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN										
Brazil	1970	7.8	3.2	0.9	8.6	3.8	1.2	85.8	79.5	68.5
	1980	8.4	3.7	2.1	9.6	4.5	2.7	83.5	77.6	73.9
Costa Rica	1973	8.5	3.9	1.3	9.8	4.6	1.7	78.5	75.9	72.3
	1984	9.6	4.7	1.7	11.2	5.8	2.2	78.6	74.8	70.4
Guatemala	1973	7.4	3.2	1.0	8.1	3.8	1.3	85.0	79.6	73.8
Mexico	1970	7.2	3.3	1.0	8.2	4.0	1.4	84.8	79.7	69.8
Peru	1972	7.0	3.1	1.0	7.9	3.8	1.4	88.4	81.3	70.9
	1981	7.6	3.5	1.3	8.2	4.0	1.6	92.6	85.8	79.2
Uruguay	1975	18.1	9.1	3.0	21.1	11.4	4.4	77.7	72.2	60.7

(X) Not available.

Note: "Urban" refers to localities defined as such by each country. Individual national definitions are available in the annotations to respective tables in the International Data Base.

"Sex ratio" is defined as the number of males in a given age category per 100 females in the same age category.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Center for International Research, International Data Base on Aging.

Table 7.
Female Share of Population 25 Years and Over, by Age: 1988 and 2020
(In percent)

Region and country	1988						
	25 to 49 years	50 to 59 years	60 to 64 years	65 to 69 years	70 to 74 years	75 to 79 years	80 years and over
ASIA							
Bangladesh	48.4	46.6	45.4	45.8	46.6	48.5	48.9
China	47.8	47.2	48.7	50.6	53.3	56.8	62.9
Hong Kong	47.2	46.6	49.5	51.8	54.4	61.6	71.6
India	47.9	49.0	49.4	50.6	53.5	59.5	63.0
Indonesia	50.0	52.6	53.8	54.3	55.0	56.0	59.0
Korea, Republic of	48.6	51.9	56.9	58.1	61.3	67.4	74.5
Philippines	50.3	51.3	52.3	53.4	53.8	54.2	56.5
Singapore	48.9	49.8	49.7	51.6	54.7	57.5	63.6
Thailand	49.2	50.5	51.8	53.5	56.5	61.1	62.6
Turkey	49.2	50.2	50.2	51.7	54.1	56.1	59.8
AFRICA							
Kenya	51.1	52.5	52.8	53.6	54.3	55.0	56.8
Malawi	53.2	53.8	55.0	55.4	54.8	54.7	54.6
Morocco	51.5	52.4	49.8	48.4	48.0	48.4	49.9
Tunisia	50.6	50.2	48.2	46.4	45.5	44.3	44.3
Zimbabwe	54.0	48.5	46.7	48.1	49.7	51.8	56.0
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN							
Brazil	50.1	52.1	53.9	55.0	56.6	58.9	63.0
Costa Rica	49.6	50.4	51.0	52.0	53.7	56.2	60.6
Guatemala	49.5	50.0	50.7	51.2	51.6	52.3	54.7
Jamaica	51.6	51.6	52.2	53.3	54.2	55.1	59.4
Mexico	51.9	51.3	51.6	52.6	53.9	54.4	55.1
Peru	49.5	50.6	51.8	52.9	54.2	55.9	58.7
Uruguay	50.9	52.4	53.4	54.6	56.6	59.2	64.4

Table 7.
Female Share of Population 25 Years and Over, by Age: 1988 and 2020—Continued
(In percent)

Region and country	2020						
	25 to 49 years	50 to 59 years	60 to 64 years	65 to 69 years	70 to 74 years	75 to 79 years	80 years and over
ASIA							
Bangladesh	47.5	47.1	47.1	50.7	53.7	54.2	55.5
China	48.6	49.1	48.3	49.9	50.3	51.7	53.9
Hong Kong	44.9	46.0	48.1	48.8	49.6	50.5	57.5
India	48.3	48.5	49.4	50.8	54.3	61.6	70.7
Indonesia	49.6	50.7	51.8	53.0	55.2	57.5	61.0
Korea, Republic of	48.3	49.7	52.2	53.1	57.2	62.9	72.4
Philippines	50.0	51.4	52.5	53.4	54.2	55.5	58.9
Singapore	48.7	49.5	50.6	52.6	54.9	58.0	63.4
Thailand	49.9	50.2	51.5	52.8	55.9	60.3	62.8
Turkey	49.3	48.9	50.3	51.8	53.8	56.1	59.8
AFRICA							
Kenya	50.5	51.5	52.7	54.2	55.7	57.0	59.7
Malawi	50.4	51.2	55.4	59.7	60.4	60.1	63.4
Morocco	49.7	51.9	52.7	53.8	55.9	57.9	60.0
Tunisia	49.5	50.0	51.6	53.3	55.4	57.5	54.6
Zimbabwe	50.2	52.2	57.4	58.2	58.1	58.2	58.4
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN							
Brazil	49.3	50.5	51.9	53.2	55.0	57.6	62.5
Costa Rica	49.2	49.9	51.0	52.4	54.3	57.1	63.6
Guatemala	50.1	50.9	51.4	51.7	52.0	52.3	54.6
Jamaica	48.9	50.4	53.6	54.2	54.7	57.0	61.5
Mexico	49.9	51.7	54.3	55.3	56.2	57.3	58.1
Peru	49.5	50.4	51.6	52.7	54.2	56.4	60.4
Uruguay	49.5	51.1	53.0	55.0	58.8	61.7	67.5

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Center for International Research, International Data Base on Aging.

Table 8.
Marital Status of Older Population, by Sex and Age: Selected Years, 1970 to 1984

Region, country, year, and age	Males							Females						
	Total	Single	Married	Consensual union	Widowed	Separated or divorced	Percent widowed	Total	Single	Married	Consensual union	Widowed	Separated or divorced	Percent widowed
ASIA														
Bangladesh														
1974														
55 to 64	1,695,311	14,144	1,595,451	(X)	83,804	1,912	4.9	1,339,206	4,104	577,702	(X)	752,369	5,031	56.2
65 and over	1,372,987	12,345	1,211,675	(X)	147,891	1,076	10.8	1,001,340	4,916	208,707	(X)	785,640	2,077	78.5
1981														
55 to 64	1,969,488	28,747	1,864,985	(X)	74,559	1,197	3.8	1,599,535	13,736	743,735	(X)	838,107	3,957	52.4
65 and over	1,704,863	4,187	1,518,419	(X)	181,204	1,053	10.6	1,249,841	1,360	344,564	(X)	901,865	2,052	72.2
China														
1982														
50 to 59	38,995,450	1,158,670	33,740,040	(X)	3,315,600	781,140	8.5	35,626,300	75,270	29,271,140	(X)	6,112,760	167,130	17.2
60 to 79	33,773,360	858,010	23,850,350	(X)	8,534,660	530,340	25.3	37,708,310	109,310	16,658,820	(X)	20,794,240	145,940	55.1
80 and over	1,760,680	44,160	654,620	(X)	1,047,130	14,770	59.5	3,280,380	8,710	234,240	(X)	3,033,140	4,290	92.5
Hong Kong														
1971														
55 to 64	127,225	4,289	116,301	(X)	5,924	711	4.7	139,080	10,661	96,322	(X)	31,381	716	22.6
65 and over	59,139	1,610	50,094	(X)	7,138	297	12.1	118,433	6,720	62,672	(X)	48,673	368	41.1
1976														
55 to 64	164,950	6,490	149,550	(X)	7,080	1,830	4.3	166,060	10,330	120,010	(X)	33,790	1,930	20.3
65 and over	85,620	2,420	72,200	(X)	10,140	860	11.8	152,690	10,930	74,750	(X)	65,610	1,400	43.0
1981														
55 to 64	200,201	10,678	175,899	(X)	11,680	1,944	5.8	192,038	8,590	131,982	(X)	49,425	2,041	25.7
65 and over	132,593	4,727	105,943	(X)	20,930	993	15.8	194,216	13,718	66,870	(X)	111,768	1,860	57.5
India														
1971														
55 to 64	14,352,002	347,164	11,826,418	(X)	2,112,133	66,287	14.7	12,841,066	58,031	5,965,813	(X)	6,753,204	64,018	52.6
65 and over	9,383,212	226,541	6,620,836	(X)	2,491,958	43,877	26.6	8,928,952	32,093	2,220,930	(X)	6,646,582	29,347	74.4
1981														
55 to 64	17,887,880	368,498	15,361,824	(X)	2,087,576	69,982	11.7	16,697,610	59,948	9,116,951	(X)	7,438,739	81,972	44.5
65 and over	12,625,093	253,621	9,375,358	(X)	2,947,660	48,454	23.3	12,377,227	50,035	3,579,769	(X)	8,705,536	41,887	70.3

Table 8.
Marital Status of Older Population, by Sex and Age: Selected Years, 1970 to 1984—Continued

Region, country, year, and age	Males							Females						
	Total	Single	Married	Consensual union	Widowed	Separated or divorced	Percent widowed	Total	Single	Married	Consensual union	Widowed	Separated or divorced	Percent widowed
ASIA—Continued														
Indonesia														
1971														
55 to 64	2,208,419	35,096	1,950,347	(X)	194,512	28,464	8.8	2,356,115	20,125	932,949	(X)	1,314,944	88,097	55.8
65 and over	1,439,842	19,751	1,128,295	(X)	269,286	22,510	18.7	1,528,535	12,753	354,997	(X)	1,115,343	45,442	73.0
75 and over	380,399	5,848	268,862	(X)	99,578	6,091	26.2	406,459	3,749	68,867	(X)	324,097	9,726	79.7
1976														
55 to 64	2,599,515	20,860	2,316,786	(X)	249,730	12,139	9.6	2,649,323	20,146	1,058,867	(X)	1,545,260	25,050	58.3
65 and over	1,572,899	9,595	1,251,201	(X)	301,798	10,305	19.2	1,803,247	12,599	348,862	(X)	1,431,870	9,896	79.4
75 and over	417,437	2,362	300,153	(X)	111,812	3,110	26.8	478,171	2,938	58,956	(X)	414,644	1,633	86.7
1980														
55 to 64	3,279,731	23,881	3,015,928	(X)	191,399	48,523	5.8	3,339,175	32,654	1,618,490	(X)	1,477,193	210,838	44.2
65 and over	2,188,609	19,761	1,787,537	(X)	340,079	41,232	15.5	2,581,307	26,825	657,722	(X)	1,784,132	132,628	68.3
75 and over	688,422	7,251	507,540	(X)	159,786	13,845	23.2	836,951	9,420	144,331	(X)	648,026	35,174	77.4
Korea, Republic of														
1975														
55 to 64	783,671	1,095	728,831	(X)	50,993	2,752	6.5	892,965	1,254	467,699	(X)	420,490	3,522	47.1
65 and over	458,360	615	355,840	(X)	100,902	1,003	22.0	748,040	941	181,991	(X)	583,677	1,431	75.4
1980														
55 to 64	894,976	1,912	834,595	(X)	55,062	3,407	6.2	1,052,347	1,466	565,995	(X)	480,351	4,535	45.6
65 and over	539,414	876	431,132	(X)	106,394	1,012	19.7	906,571	913	220,236	(X)	683,937	1,485	75.4
75 and over	116,991	268	74,234	(X)	42,324	165	36.2	283,692	286	32,968	(X)	250,092	348	88.2
Philippines														
1970														
55 to 64	713,283	20,114	630,558	(X)	58,108	4,503	8.1	705,960	55,312	461,663	(X)	181,836	7,149	25.8
65 and over	504,464	13,479	381,080	(X)	106,603	3,302	21.1	525,339	38,095	207,556	(X)	276,324	3,364	52.6
1975														
55 to 64	877,576	40,727	768,372	(X)	63,484	4,993	7.2	827,618	48,835	580,469	(X)	189,778	8,536	22.9
65 and over	604,964	33,886	461,399	(X)	105,292	4,387	17.4	595,711	42,056	269,671	(X)	277,730	6,254	46.6
1980														
55 to 64	968,578	29,252	854,546	(X)	77,289	7,491	8.0	1,029,004	72,616	693,846	(X)	250,470	12,072	24.3
65 and over	792,595	24,520	616,185	(X)	146,465	5,425	18.5	838,298	69,601	366,999	(X)	394,730	6,968	47.1
75 and over	228,270	8,051	154,003	(X)	64,728	1,488	28.4	246,437	21,440	67,126	(X)	156,115	1,756	63.3

Table 8.
Marital Status of Older Population, by Sex and Age: Selected Years, 1970 to 1984—Continued

Region, country, year, and age	Males							Females						
	Total	Single	Married	Consensual union	Widowed	Separated or divorced	Percent widowed	Total	Single	Married	Consensual union	Widowed	Separated or divorced	Percent widowed
ASIA—Continued														
Singapore														
1970														
55 to 64	59,042	3,531	50,314	(X)	4,751	446	8.0	55,246	3,133	28,893	(X)	22,784	436	41.2
65 and over	30,589	2,147	21,621	(X)	6,582	239	21.5	38,775	2,161	8,787	(X)	27,683	144	71.4
75 and over	5,840	453	3,347	(X)	2,000	40	34.2	11,187	527	1,325	(X)	9,311	24	83.2
1980														
55 to 64	66,784	3,176	59,039	(X)	3,749	820	5.6	64,308	2,252	38,520	(X)	22,372	1,164	34.8
65 and over	51,202	2,350	38,762	(X)	9,548	542	18.6	62,722	3,405	18,485	(X)	40,337	495	64.3
75 and over	12,036	579	7,702	(X)	3,643	112	30.3	19,234	1,030	2,999	(X)	15,111	94	78.6
Thailand														
1970														
55 to 64	687,607	25,334	594,563	(X)	54,016	13,694	7.9	721,851	15,945	434,047	(X)	243,036	28,823	33.7
65 and over	460,737	23,922	333,654	(X)	91,808	11,353	19.9	583,995	11,594	202,726	(X)	353,804	15,871	60.6
1980														
55 to 64	932,326	15,364	822,471	(X)	77,139	17,352	8.3	997,614	25,938	613,225	(X)	320,551	37,900	32.1
65 and over	671,668	10,201	501,902	(X)	145,231	14,334	21.6	853,188	17,268	296,823	(X)	517,907	21,190	60.7
Turkey														
1970														
55 to 64	951,639	16,694	865,461	(X)	60,010	9,474	6.3	946,602	11,550	638,241	(X)	284,091	12,920	30.0
65 and over	684,680	11,572	549,466	(X)	117,734	5,908	17.2	817,867	11,765	308,100	(X)	486,917	11,085	59.5
1975														
55 to 64	895,135	32,224	805,594	(X)	48,186	9,131	5.4	914,943	38,931	614,073	(X)	245,626	16,313	26.8
65 and over	801,249	44,047	619,132	(X)	130,474	7,596	16.3	969,729	60,407	388,614	(X)	500,981	19,727	51.7
1980														
55 to 64	967,439	22,123	893,743	(X)	41,817	9,756	4.3	975,850	13,164	693,394	(X)	258,682	12,610	26.3
65 and over	955,360	20,399	752,991	(X)	172,800	9,170	18.1	1,157,887	14,871	481,671	(X)	648,208	13,137	56.0
AFRICA														
Malawi														
1970-72														
60 and over	125,579	495	117,536	(X)	3,624	3,924	2.9	117,817	495	53,687	(X)	49,418	14,217	41.9
1977														
55 to 64	113,484	1,541	105,276	(X)	2,670	3,997	2.4	121,332	1,248	75,813	(X)	30,271	14,000	24.9
65 and over	122,194	1,740	106,166	(X)	8,794	5,494	7.2	125,828	1,711	49,739	(X)	61,215	13,163	48.6

Table 8.
Marital Status of Older Population, by Sex and Age: Selected Years, 1970 to 1984—Continued

Region, country, year, and age	Males							Females						
	Total	Single	Married	Consensual union	Widowed	Separated or divorced	Percent widowed	Total	Single	Married	Consensual union	Widowed	Separated or divorced	Percent widowed
AFRICA—Continued														
Morocco														
1971														
55 to 64	332,610	11,022	304,773	(X)	10,540	6,275	3.2	299,453	10,486	132,260	(X)	139,550	17,157	46.6
65 and over	373,255	13,137	314,402	(X)	36,746	8,970	9.8	340,641	14,275	65,949	(X)	243,393	17,024	71.5
1982														
55 to 64	481,613	8,035	451,518	(X)	13,881	8,179	2.9	456,984	5,515	240,762	(X)	188,131	22,576	41.2
65 and over	424,846	7,546	367,417	(X)	40,397	9,486	9.5	375,217	7,542	85,414	(X)	266,817	15,444	71.1
75 and over	170,280	3,703	137,207	(X)	24,492	4,858	14.4	143,225	2,939	18,571	(X)	116,189	5,526	81.1
Tunisia														
1975														
55 to 64	158,120	3,920	147,150	(X)	5,810	1,240	3.7	129,470	3,090	81,400	(X)	41,840	3,140	32.3
65 and over	118,990	3,390	100,740	(X)	13,540	1,320	11.4	100,420	4,160	30,890	(X)	61,720	3,650	61.5
1984														
55 to 64	191,330	4,390	180,140	(X)	5,840	960	3.1	172,480	3,340	113,800	(X)	53,310	2,030	30.9
65 and over	167,260	6,490	141,600	(X)	18,220	950	10.9	131,950	4,780	44,280	(X)	81,490	1,400	61.8
Zimbabwe														
1982														
55 to 64	144,250	6,495	127,455	(X)	4,515	5,785	3.1	126,060	3,852	76,407	(X)	39,088	6,713	31.0
65 and over	115,930	6,906	94,868	(X)	9,267	4,889	8.0	122,770	5,902	44,383	(X)	66,995	5,490	54.6
75 and over	47,310	3,523	36,815	(X)	5,255	1,717	11.1	53,440	3,138	14,879	(X)	33,147	2,276	62.0
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN														
Brazil														
1970														
55 to 64	2,080,906	117,992	1,645,556	112,799	133,771	70,788	6.4	2,043,382	175,812	1,071,998	52,892	621,538	121,142	30.4
65 and over	1,396,751	72,597	954,357	61,094	258,351	50,352	18.5	1,544,432	140,333	424,458	16,986	693,075	69,580	57.8
1980														
55 to 64	2,709,662	143,380	2,356,365	(X)	132,353	77,564	4.9	2,778,572	231,878	1,673,165	(X)	716,213	157,316	25.8
65 and over	2,199,520	117,384	1,668,831	(X)	347,749	65,556	15.8	2,470,392	235,135	793,478	(X)	1,356,397	85,382	54.9
Costa Rica														
1973														
55 to 64	39,351	4,115	27,901	4,128	1,909	1,298	4.9	39,167	6,458	20,776	2,330	7,096	2,507	18.1
65 and over	32,702	3,599	20,204	2,438	5,168	1,293	15.8	33,296	6,299	11,085	1,060	13,548	1,304	40.7
75 and over	10,807	1,247	5,694	597	2,851	418	26.4	11,544	2,302	2,557	213	6,202	270	53.7
1984														
55 to 64	54,514	5,213	38,939	6,064	1,913	2,385	3.5	56,027	8,763	30,383	3,618	8,522	4,741	15.2
65 and over	52,041	5,477	32,504	3,988	7,570	2,502	14.5	55,933	9,852	19,058	1,968	21,942	3,093	39.2

Table 8.
Marital Status of Older Population, by Sex and Age: Selected Years, 1970 to 1984—Continued

Region, country, year, and age	Males							Females						
	Total	Single	Married	Consensual union	Widowed	Separated or divorced	Percent widowed	Total	Single	Married	Consensual union	Widowed	Separated or divorced	Percent widowed
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN—Continued														
Guatemala														
1973														
55 to 64	100,058	8,159	44,316	38,963	7,953	667	7.9	94,108	13,023	30,569	22,569	26,247	1,700	27.9
65 and over	73,959	6,582	29,434	22,538	14,867	538	20.1	74,802	11,814	14,819	9,834	37,424	911	50.0
75 and over	23,579	2,097	7,894	6,422	7,007	159	29.7	25,081	3,993	3,117	2,407	15,362	202	61.2
1981														
55 to 64	125,900	5,600	63,200	45,500	9,100	2,500	7.2	117,200	8,300	43,500	26,800	31,800	6,800	27.1
65 and over	93,000	3,900	42,500	27,100	17,300	2,200	18.6	94,100	7,900	21,500	11,800	48,800	4,300	51.9
75 and over	32,000	1,300	12,900	8,200	8,900	700	27.8	33,900	3,000	5,000	2,900	21,900	1,100	64.6
Jamaica														
1970														
55 to 64	53,807	16,138	34,415	(X)	2,199	1,055	4.1	56,280	19,894	27,288	(X)	8,114	984	14.4
65 and over	43,594	11,381	26,398	(X)	5,028	787	11.5	55,256	20,420	16,128	(X)	18,108	600	32.8
Mexico														
1970														
55 to 64	952,598	55,632	716,013	107,584	53,600	19,769	5.6	977,114	81,251	547,331	75,769	229,334	43,429	23.5
65 and over	859,166	81,679	561,035	84,181	110,833	21,438	12.9	932,239	120,540	343,770	48,336	382,919	36,674	41.1
75 and over	271,779	37,022	153,005	24,069	50,339	7,344	18.5	328,790	54,929	88,817	13,573	159,468	12,003	48.5
Peru														
1972														
55 to 64	280,616	20,816	187,071	40,207	26,798	5,724	9.5	288,578	32,227	138,397	31,019	77,644	9,291	26.9
65 and over	235,807	18,545	134,718	26,572	51,956	4,016	22.0	279,079	35,798	80,089	18,502	139,363	5,327	49.9
1981														
55 to 64	368,119	23,428	263,814	43,435	29,661	7,781	8.1	363,542	30,159	200,571	32,025	86,250	14,537	23.7
65 and over	323,413	19,897	200,570	30,759	65,962	6,225	20.4	358,488	30,420	119,500	20,276	176,824	9,468	49.6
Uruguay														
1975														
55 to 64	125,100	17,700	91,200	5,800	5,100	5,300	4.1	132,000	17,500	74,900	4,600	27,500	7,500	20.8
65 and over	118,100	14,800	77,300	3,800	17,500	4,700	14.8	150,500	23,100	44,800	2,800	74,500	5,300	49.5
75 and over	37,500	4,700	21,100	800	9,700	1,200	25.9	59,100	9,900	10,100	600	36,700	1,600	62.1

(X) Not available.

Note: For countries without data on consensual unions, any such unions are usually included in the "Married" category.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Center for International Research, International Data Base on Aging.

Table 9.
Educational Attainment of Population 25 Years and Over, by Sex and Age: Selected Years, 1970 to 1982

(In percent)

Region, country, year, and sex	Secondary Level or More				Post-Secondary Level			
	25 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and over	25 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and over
ASIA								
Bangladesh								
1981								
Male	12.6	6.1	¹ 3.7	(X)	3.0	1.3	¹ 0.7	(X)
Female	1.5	0.5	¹ 0.3	(X)	0.3	0.2	¹ 0.1	(X)
China								
1982								
Male	40.7	18.1	² 12.9	³ 7.5	1.4	1.8	² 0.9	³ 0.5
Female	22.2	4.6	² 2.0	³ 0.8	0.6	0.5	² 0.2	³ 0.1
Hong Kong								
1971								
Male	37.8	25.7	23.6	18.9	7.1	5.6	6.1	5.4
Female	23.2	11.7	6.8	2.7	3.8	2.0	1.2	0.5
1976								
Male	32.5	15.4	16.1	15.0	9.3	4.6	5.3	5.5
Female	23.6	7.1	5.6	2.3	4.9	1.5	1.1	0.4
1981								
Male	59.8	31.3	25.5	22.4	11.3	7.3	5.6	5.4
Female	48.3	15.2	10.8	4.9	8.0	3.0	2.0	1.1
India								
1971								
Male	⁴ 23.7	⁵ 17.7	(X)	(X)	⁴ 5.0	⁵ 3.8	(X)	(X)
Female	⁴ 17.1	⁵ 11.1	(X)	(X)	⁴ 3.7	⁵ 1.9	(X)	(X)
1981								
Male	⁴ 28.9	⁵ 23.9	(X)	(X)	⁴ 7.7	⁵ 5.7	(X)	(X)
Female	⁴ 23.8	⁵ 17.3	(X)	(X)	⁴ 6.4	⁵ 3.7	(X)	(X)
Indonesia								
1971								
Male	5.2	1.4	¹ 0.8	(X)	1.1	0.3	¹ 0.2	(X)
Female	1.6	0.3	¹ 0.1	(X)	0.2	-	-	(X)
1976								
Male	7.6	2.2	¹ 1.1	(X)	1.3	0.5	¹ 0.3	(X)
Female	2.9	0.5	¹ 0.3	(X)	0.3	0.1	-	(X)
1980								
Male	11.6	4.1	¹ 1.6	(X)	1.7	0.8	¹ 0.2	(X)
Female	5.1	1.0	¹ 0.3	(X)	0.5	0.1	-	(X)
Korea, Republic of								
1980								
Male	48.2	29.6	14.9	6.8	12.7	10.2	5.1	2.3
Female	25.4	7.5	3.0	1.1	4.6	1.0	0.3	0.1

Table 9.
Educational Attainment of Population 25 Years and Over, by Sex and Age: Selected Years,
1970 to 1982—Continued

(In percent)

Region, country, year, and sex	Secondary Level or More				Post-Secondary Level			
	25 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and over	25 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and over
ASIA—Continued								
Philippines								
1970								
Male	22.3	14.2	11.9	7.8	12.5	8.1	6.5	4.7
Female	17.8	8.9	7.1	3.2	11.5	5.3	3.9	1.8
1975								
Male	⁴ 28.1	⁵ 17.8	(X)	(X)	⁴ 16.2	⁵ 9.9	(X)	(X)
Female	⁴ 25.4	⁵ 12.4	(X)	(X)	⁴ 17.5	⁵ 7.3	(X)	(X)
1980								
Male	⁴ 34.3	⁵ 21.8	(X)	(X)	⁴ 19.6	⁵ 12.9	(X)	(X)
Female	⁴ 33.8	⁵ 16.4	(X)	(X)	⁴ 22.6	⁵ 10.5	(X)	(X)
Singapore								
1980								
Male	⁶ 29.8	⁷ 17.9	⁸ 10.4	³ 29.1	⁶ 15.4	⁷ 10.0	⁸ 4.9	³ 2.6
Female	⁶ 23.4	⁷ 9.0	⁸ 4.2	³ 1.8	⁶ 9.2	⁷ 4.0	⁸ 2.0	³ 0.8
Thailand								
1980								
Male	7.6	⁹ 2.5	(X)	(X)	4.5	⁹ 1.6	(X)	(X)
Female	5.2	⁹ 0.8	(X)	(X)	3.3	⁹ 0.5	(X)	(X)
Turkey								
1970								
Male	8.3	5.8	¹ 3.3	(X)	2.9	2.7	¹ 1.4	(X)
Female	3.9	2.1	¹ 1.1	(X)	1.4	0.6	¹ 0.3	(X)
1975								
Male	10.9	6.2	¹ 3.5	(X)	3.8	2.2	¹ 1.4	(X)
Female	4.2	2.4	¹ 1.2	(X)	0.8	0.5	¹ 0.3	(X)
1980								
Male	16.5	7.6	¹ 5.7	(X)	7.5	3.5	¹ 3.0	(X)
Female	7.1	3.0	¹ 2.0	(X)	2.1	0.9	¹ 0.7	(X)
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN								
Brazil								
1970								
Male	6.4	4.6	4.1	3.7	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.1
Female	5.5	3.3	2.6	2.1	0.9	0.5	0.4	0.3
1980								
Male	13.5	8.0	6.0	4.5	4.9	3.7	3.0	2.4
Female	13.5	6.0	4.3	3.1	4.2	1.8	1.0	0.5
Costa Rica								
1973								
Male	⁴ 14.8	¹⁰ 8.8	¹⁵ 5.5	(X)	⁴ 4.1	¹⁰ 3.6	¹² 2.3	(X)
Female	⁴ 13.4	¹⁰ 7.1	¹⁴ 4.8	(X)	⁴ 4.9	¹⁰ 3.2	¹¹ 1.9	(X)

Table 9.
Educational Attainment of Population 25 Years and Over, by Sex and Age: Selected Years,
1970 to 1982—Continued

(In percent)

Region, country, year, and sex	Secondary Level or More				Post-Secondary Level			
	25 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and over	25 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and over
LATIN AMERICAN AND THE CARIBBEAN—Continued								
Guatemala								
1973								
Male	3.0	2.1	1.8	1.5	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6
Female	1.5	1.1	0.9	0.6	0.1	0.1	-	-
1981								
Male	7.2	4.1	2.9	2.9	1.7	1.3	0.9	0.9
Female	5.4	3.1	2.3	2.3	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.2
Mexico								
1970								
Male	⁴ 8.5	⁵ 5.0	(X)	(X)	⁴ 5.6	⁵ 3.3	(X)	(X)
Female	⁴ 5.0	⁵ 2.8	(X)	(X)	⁴ 2.0	⁵ 1.2	(X)	(X)
Peru								
1981								
Male	31.4	16.1	13.1	10.5	9.9	6.3	5.1	3.8
Female	23.0	11.6	9.5	7.5	7.4	3.7	2.6	1.9
Uruguay								
1975								
Male	14.4	9.0	7.8	5.9	6.7	4.3	3.8	3.0
Female	18.1	10.3	7.4	4.8	8.0	4.9	3.9	2.7

- Represents zero or rounds to zero.

(X) Not available.

¹Refers to ages 55 years and over.

²Refers to ages 55 to 59 years.

³Refers to ages 60 years and over.

⁴Refers to ages 25 to 34 years.

⁵Refers to ages 35 years and over.

⁶Refers to ages 25 to 39 years.

⁷Refers to ages 40 to 49 years.

⁸Refers to ages 50 to 59 years.

⁹Refers to ages 45 years and over.

¹⁰Refers to ages 35 to 54 years.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Center for International Research, International Data Base on Aging.

Table 10.
Labor Force Participation Rates, by Sex and Age: Selected Years, 1970 to 1984

Region and country	Year	Males						Females					
		25 to 44 years	45 to 49 years	50 to 54 years	55 to 59 years	60 to 64 years	65 years and over	25 to 44 years	45 to 49 years	50 to 54 years	55 to 59 years	60 to 64 years	65 years and over
ASIA													
Bangladesh	1974	97.9	¹ 98.3	(X)	² 95.2	(X)	84.2	3.0	¹ 3.6	(X)	² 4.0	(X)	3.3
	1981	92.4	93.6	90.6	90.7	84.7	68.7	4.7	4.4	4.7	4.4	4.5	3.6
China	1982	98.7	97.5	91.4	83.0	63.7	30.1	87.8	70.6	50.9	32.9	16.9	4.7
Hong Kong	1971	98.5	97.7	95.4	89.1	77.1	39.8	39.1	39.2	38.6	36.0	31.4	12.6
	1976	95.1	94.5	90.5	80.6	64.1	33.9	44.7	40.3	37.3	33.3	28.3	12.2
	1981	98.4	97.6	94.3	84.5	67.5	35.5	55.6	49.6	43.9	37.8	31.4	15.0
India	1971	96.0	97.1	⁴ 94.0	(X)	⁵ 73.8	(X)	20.8	22.4	⁴ 19.4	(X)	⁵ 10.5	(X)
	1981	³ 96.1	(X)	⁴ 93.3	(X)	⁵ 65.0	(X)	³ 34.8	(X)	⁴ 29.8	(X)	⁵ 14.0	(X)
Indonesia	1971	94.2	93.4	90.6	86.0	79.3	62.9	39.9	45.4	43.5	40.5	35.2	24.5
	1976	98.2	97.5	96.3	92.4	87.5	69.7	55.1	62.2	60.9	54.1	48.4	31.2
	1980	94.3	94.1	90.0	84.6	76.7	53.4	40.5	46.8	44.3	40.8	32.9	19.0
Korea, Republic of	1975	97.7	96.8	93.7	85.6	68.3	34.4	45.9	59.8	57.1	50.9	33.6	12.0
	1980	95.8	95.2	90.6	82.6	68.9	40.6	37.9	51.3	49.0	43.3	31.3	13.0
Philippines	1970	89.5	89.7	87.1	85.8	79.3	56.5	37.1	38.7	36.5	33.4	28.6	17.7
	1973	96.1	⁶ 92.0	(X)	(X)	(X)	54.3	40.2	⁶ 37.4	(X)	(X)	(X)	18.7
	1975	94.0	95.7	93.5	90.7	84.3	62.6	25.4	24.8	23.4	21.7	19.6	13.7
	1978	97.6	¹ 95.9	(X)	² 89.1	(X)	60.6	48.1	¹ 47.5	(X)	² 40.9	(X)	23.1
	1983	95.5	¹ 96.6	(X)	² 88.4	(X)	60.1	56.9	¹ 60.4	(X)	² 56.4	(X)	28.0
Singapore	1970	98.2	96.2	88.1	73.9	55.6	31.9	23.2	17.5	17.5	16.2	13.4	6.5
	1980	97.7	95.7	89.6	70.7	52.5	28.6	45.9	26.5	20.4	14.5	11.3	6.4
Thailand	1976	³ 93.9	(X)	⁴ 92.3	(X)	⁵ 54.9	(X)	³ 61.5	(X)	⁴ 56.2	(X)	⁵ 23.2	(X)
	1977	³ 97.4	(X)	⁴ 95.0	(X)	⁵ 57.4	(X)	³ 78.9	(X)	⁴ 69.1	(X)	⁵ 27.9	(X)
	1980	94.2	93.7	90.7	84.4	67.8	39.3	74.1	73.5	68.6	59.1	43.1	19.0
Turkey	1970	94.5	94.9	91.9	88.0	83.0	67.8	51.8	52.9	53.6	50.0	47.6	35.1
	1975	92.4	92.1	88.6	82.5	76.8	64.9	46.1	48.2	48.9	46.3	40.7	27.9
	1980	95.8	91.1	84.9	76.8	67.4	43.9	43.3	48.3	46.1	42.4	36.3	20.8
AFRICA													
Malawi	1977	95.3	¹ 96.1	(X)	² 94.4	(X)	83.6	67.4	¹ 72.6	(X)	² 69.9	(X)	55.3
Morocco	1971	95.8	94.5	91.6	88.9	63.3	33.5	11.3	15.0	18.9	22.5	7.7	3.8
	1982	97.1	96.6	93.3	89.5	68.9	42.1	17.9	14.1	14.6	14.6	11.2	5.3
Tunisia	1975	97.9	97.3	94.2	86.0	66.5	38.0	16.8	14.1	13.0	11.3	8.6	4.8
	1984	96.9	96.2	92.8	82.1	59.2	38.5	23.0	12.9	11.6	9.8	4.4	3.5
Zimbabwe	1969	69.8	61.3	52.5	49.1	43.1	24.9	11.8	10.2	9.8	9.2	9.0	2.7
	1982	93.8	93.9	92.5	90.4	⁶ 69.1	(X)	50.3	52.4	50.6	50.7	⁵ 31.5	(X)

Table 10.
Labor Force Participation Rates, by Sex and Age: Selected Years, 1970 to 1984—Continued

Region and country	Year	Males						Females					
		25 to 44 years	45 to 49 years	50 to 54 years	55 to 59 years	60 to 64 years	65 years and over	25 to 44 years	45 to 49 years	50 to 54 years	55 to 59 years	60 to 64 years	65 years and over
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN													
Brazil	1970	95.1	92.3	87.7	82.6	73.5	49.8	21.3	18.6	16.5	14.2	11.4	6.3
	1980	³ 95.4	(X)	⁴ 82.3	(X)	⁵ 57.5	¹⁰ 21.8	³ 33.4	(X)	⁴ 21.4	(X)	⁹ 10.3	¹⁰ 2.8
Costa Rica	1973	97.9	97.9	96.4	94.3	86.0	57.1	23.6	16.8	13.5	10.7	7.8	3.9
	1980	⁷ 93.1	⁶ 95.4	⁴ 91.5	(X)	⁵ 63.0	¹⁰ 27.1	⁷ 34.4	⁶ 25.5	⁴ 14.3	(X)	⁹ 8.5	¹⁰ 2.6
	1981	⁷ 91.7	⁶ 94.9	⁴ 88.2	(X)	⁵ 61.0	¹⁰ 26.7	⁷ 36.1	⁶ 29.9	⁴ 18.5	(X)	⁹ 10.5	¹⁰ 2.8
	1984	93.8	92.3	88.7	83.0	69.6	38.9	29.5	20.9	15.5	11.6	6.9	3.1
Guatemala	1973	95.6	95.3	94.0	92.4	87.7	69.8	14.3	13.6	12.9	12.0	10.2	7.1
	1981	93.2	93.2	91.7	90.3	85.8	66.9	14.9	12.2	11.6	10.1	9.0	6.5
Jamaica	1975	97.9	¹ 97.2	(X)	² 90.9	(X)	64.7	78.6	¹ 76.1	(X)	² 56.5	(X)	27.0
	1978	97.3	¹ 96.9	(X)	² 90.9	(X)	65.6	86.0	¹ 80.3	(X)	² 63.6	(X)	30.7
Mexico	1970	89.2	89.6	88.0	86.2	81.5	67.1	17.3	16.8	16.2	15.4	14.4	11.8
	1980	95.5	95.3	93.8	91.4	85.6	68.6	32.6	29.1	27.5	25.8	24.1	18.6
Peru	1972	96.3	97.1	95.5	92.8	83.9	61.5	22.3	19.5	17.9	16.1	13.4	8.5
	1981	96.3	98.7	97.3	94.9	88.5	63.2	30.3	26.9	26.0	23.6	23.4	12.5
Uruguay	1975	96.9	95.2	90.5	81.2	58.9	20.9	40.5	35.3	29.6	21.7	12.2	3.6

(X) Not available.

¹Refers to ages 45 to 54 years.

²Refers to ages 55 to 64 years.

³Refers to ages 25 to 49 years.

⁴Refers to ages 50 to 59 years.

⁵Refers to ages 60 years and over.

⁶Refers to ages 45 to 64 years.

⁷Refers to ages 20 to 39 years.

⁸Refers to ages 40 to 49 years.

⁹Refers to ages 60 to 69 years.

¹⁰Refers to ages 70 years and over.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Center for International Research, International Data Base on Aging.

Table 11.
Percentage of Workers in Major Occupational Categories, by Age: Selected Years, 1970 to 1984

Region, country, year, and age	Total workers	Occupational Category							
		Professional, technical, and related	Administrative and managerial	Clerical and related	Sales	Agriculture, animal husbandry, and forestry	Production and related; equipment operators and laborers	Service	Unknown
ASIA									
Bangladesh									
1974									
25 to 44	8,079,934	2.7	0.3	1.6	5.5	74.3	14.0	1.7	-
45 to 54	2,685,989	2.0	0.2	1.1	5.2	79.9	9.8	1.7	-
55 to 64	1,673,437	1.8	-	0.3	3.4	89.3	4.8	0.7	-
65 and over	1,187,362	1.5	-	0.3	3.4	89.3	4.8	0.7	-
China									
1982									
25 to 34	155,457,760	6.0	0.7	1.4	2.0	68.7	19.2	2.0	0.1
35 to 54	164,871,570	6.8	3.6	1.8	1.8	69.9	13.4	2.6	0.4
55 and over	38,797,720	2.7	2.5	0.8	2.1	81.7	6.3	3.9	0.4
Hong Kong									
1971									
25 to 44	640,888	6.4	5.5	8.0	8.7	2.8	51.6	13.6	3.4
45 to 54	282,738	3.8	7.5	5.4	11.8	4.0	43.8	19.6	4.0
55 to 64	92,845	3.7	7.8	4.9	11.8	4.6	38.4	23.4	5.4
65 and over	97,233	3.4	8.2	4.1	12.6	5.6	33.2	26.3	6.7
1976									
20 to 39	906,470	7.8	2.1	14.4	9.2	1.6	53.8	11.2	-
40 to 49	339,120	4.5	2.9	5.2	15.5	3.4	50.1	18.3	-
50 to 59	249,080	4.0	3.2	5.4	17.9	4.4	41.2	23.8	-
60 and over	116,530	3.5	2.5	5.1	19.5	5.7	33.9	29.7	-
1981									
25 to 44	1,048,722	8.4	3.9	12.3	9.7	1.5	50.6	13.0	0.7
45 to 49	189,396	5.0	3.5	5.2	13.1	2.9	50.1	19.5	0.6
50 to 54	171,553	3.2	2.9	4.6	15.5	3.6	46.4	23.2	0.5
55 to 59	123,048	3.3	3.2	4.9	16.3	4.3	41.0	26.4	0.6
60 to 64	83,472	2.6	3.1	5.2	16.5	4.6	36.8	30.6	0.6
65 and over	76,288	2.6	2.6	3.7	17.5	4.8	34.3	33.8	0.8
Indonesia									
1971									
25 to 44	20,159,891	2.9	0.6	4.0	11.3	59.3	12.0	3.5	6.4
45 to 49	3,253,279	1.2	0.9	3.9	12.3	62.3	10.6	3.7	5.1
50 to 54	2,555,416	1.1	0.8	3.3	11.5	65.3	9.5	3.8	4.6
55 to 59	1,401,977	1.1	0.7	2.5	11.3	67.0	9.2	3.7	4.5
60 to 64	1,288,154	0.9	0.4	1.4	9.9	71.1	7.6	3.4	5.3
65 and over	1,261,762	1.1	0.3	1.3	8.4	72.3	6.5	3.0	7.0
Korea, Republic of									
1980									
25 to 44	6,257,613	5.9	1.3	10.3	14.9	30.3	29.6	7.7	-
45 to 49	1,240,114	4.2	1.9	6.1	13.4	50.0	17.5	6.8	-
50 to 54	865,144	3.5	1.8	4.6	12.4	57.9	13.4	6.3	-
55 to 59	662,335	2.9	1.5	2.3	11.3	67.2	10.0	4.7	-
60 to 64	385,542	2.0	1.0	1.1	8.8	77.9	5.9	3.3	-
65 and over	323,274	1.7	0.6	0.6	7.3	84.3	3.3	2.3	-
Philippines									
1975									
60 and over	877,644	2.7	1.4	1.2	8.8	70.9	11.0	3.6	0.5

Table 11.
Percentage of Workers in Major Occupational Categories, by Age: Selected Years,
1970 to 1984—Continued

Region, country, year, and age	Occupational Category								
	Total workers	Profes- sional, technical, and related	Administra- tive and managerial	Clerical and related	Sales	Agriculture, animal husbandry, and forestry	Production and related; equipment operators and laborers	Service	Unknown
ASIA—Continued									
Singapore									
1980									
20 to 39	1,612,733	10.8	5.2	18.4	10.2	1.4	41.0	8.3	4.7
40 to 59	640,644	8.2	6.6	9.2	17.4	3.1	38.6	16.3	0.6
60 and over	252,760	2.6	4.9	5.8	29.3	6.3	26.6	24.2	0.1
Thailand									
1980									
25 to 39	7,734,837	4.6	2.1	2.6	7.8	66.1	13.4	3.2	0.2
40 to 49	3,693,029	2.2	2.1	1.1	9.0	71.9	10.6	3.0	0.1
50 to 59	2,206,089	2.3	1.8	1.0	8.4	75.9	7.8	2.7	0.1
60 and over	1,132,885	0.7	0.6	0.3	6.8	81.6	6.3	1.7	0.1
Turkey									
1970									
25 to 44	6,170,631	4.9	0.8	3.2	3.8	61.2	10.0	4.6	11.5
45 to 49	910,125	3.7	1.3	3.5	4.7	65.1	8.1	4.7	8.9
50 to 54	696,389	2.9	1.0	2.6	4.0	73.1	5.9	3.9	6.6
55 to 59	657,946	2.7	0.8	2.1	4.4	74.6	5.5	3.9	5.9
60 to 64	647,681	1.9	0.5	1.0	3.3	82.6	3.8	2.4	4.3
65 and over	781,109	1.8	0.4	0.5	3.1	85.9	3.2	1.6	3.6
1975									
25 to 44	6,759,946	5.9	0.6	4.6	4.2	56.1	20.6	4.7	3.3
45 to 49	1,218,133	3.3	0.9	3.7	4.9	63.9	16.7	4.3	2.5
50 to 54	954,918	2.6	0.8	3.2	4.5	69.7	13.1	3.8	2.4
55 to 59	509,700	2.1	0.6	2.2	4.5	74.4	10.7	3.4	2.1
60 to 64	689,044	1.4	0.3	1.1	3.6	60.6	8.4	2.5	2.1
65 and over	974,307	0.6	0.2	0.3	0.8	86.6	6.3	0.9	4.4
1980									
25 to 44	7,391,463	7.5	1.3	5.4	5.0	47.1	23.5	6.4	3.8
45 to 49	1,453,113	2.8	1.5	2.4	5.9	62.3	17.0	5.8	2.4
50 to 54	1,171,108	2.3	1.4	1.9	6.0	68.7	12.8	4.9	2.0
55 to 59	729,074	1.8	1.3	1.5	5.8	74.1	9.4	4.1	2.0
60 to 64	441,936	1.3	0.8	0.8	4.2	83.5	5.4	2.6	1.3
65 and over	699,286	0.9	0.4	0.7	3.2	88.4	3.5	1.5	1.5
AFRICA									
Tunisia									
1975									
25 to 44	635,870	7.5	0.5	7.6	4.9	31.7	35.2	6.0	6.7
45 to 49	132,850	2.9	0.4	3.7	7.0	40.5	33.4	6.5	5.8
50 to 54	100,540	2.5	0.4	3.9	7.4	43.0	30.7	6.4	5.7
55 to 59	78,710	2.2	0.4	3.7	7.2	46.5	27.1	7.1	5.9
60 to 64	55,300	1.9	0.4	1.7	7.4	54.6	22.3	5.6	6.1
65 and over	48,900	2.1	0.1	1.4	7.6	56.7	19.0	6.3	6.8

Table 11.
Percentage of Workers in Major Occupational Categories, by Age: Selected Years,
1970 to 1984—Continued

Region, country, year, and age	Occupational Category								
	Total workers	Profes- sional, technical, and related	Administra- tive and managerial	Clerical and related	Sales	Agriculture, animal husbandry, and forestry	Production and related; equipment operators and laborers	Service	Unknown
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN									
Costa Rica									
1973									
25 to 44	237,890	12.8	2.2	6.3	8.0	31.4	26.9	10.4	2.0
45 to 49	36,681	8.6	3.1	4.1	9.1	37.0	24.9	10.8	2.4
50 to 54	29,766	6.5	3.0	3.7	10.3	40.8	22.2	10.7	2.7
55 to 59	21,217	5.6	3.1	3.3	9.9	43.6	20.7	10.3	3.6
60 to 64	17,913	3.9	2.7	2.6	9.4	49.5	18.5	10.2	3.1
65 and over	19,951	3.3	2.2	1.9	9.5	56.6	15.3	9.1	2.1
1984									
25 to 44	373,891	15.0	3.9	8.9	9.0	23.2	23.7	11.2	5.2
45 to 49	47,188	11.7	5.0	4.2	9.5	29.5	21.6	13.8	4.7
50 to 54	39,309	8.8	4.8	3.8	10.1	32.6	20.3	14.4	5.3
55 to 59	28,208	7.2	4.6	3.6	10.2	35.7	18.6	14.2	5.9
60 to 64	18,900	4.9	3.7	2.4	10.6	42.1	16.3	13.0	6.7
65 and over	21,864	3.4	3.1	1.5	11.1	48.5	10.5	8.4	15.2
Guatemala									
1973									
25 to 44	612,501	5.3	1.4	3.3	6.8	52.8	23.3	6.1	0.9
45 to 49	101,078	4.0	1.9	2.2	7.7	56.3	21.8	5.4	0.7
50 to 54	79,867	3.5	2.0	2.0	8.1	57.4	20.7	5.5	0.7
55 to 59	53,144	3.5	1.9	2.0	8.2	58.7	19.7	5.3	0.8
60 to 64	47,100	2.9	1.6	1.6	7.9	63.0	17.6	4.5	0.8
65 and over	56,180	2.3	1.4	1.2	8.3	64.8	16.6	4.5	0.9
Mexico									
1970									
25 to 44	5,548,592	7.0	3.0	7.2	7.1	36.1	22.9	12.1	4.6
45 to 49	911,326	5.1	3.9	5.2	9.0	39.7	20.7	11.7	4.7
50 to 54	639,951	5.2	4.1	5.1	9.6	41.9	18.2	10.9	5.0
55 to 59	531,732	4.8	4.2	4.7	10.2	43.2	17.0	10.7	5.2
60 to 64	454,205	3.7	3.6	3.7	9.8	49.6	14.2	9.7	5.8
65 and over	706,574	3.0	3.0	2.9	10.2	54.2	11.5	8.1	7.2
1980									
25 to 44	9,369,111	3.6	4.4	9.8	7.2	22.0	30.4	7.1	15.5
45 to 49	1,424,982	2.1	3.4	6.4	9.0	28.8	26.7	7.8	15.8
50 to 54	1,118,276	2.0	3.3	5.9	9.7	30.6	24.8	7.8	16.0
55 to 59	858,987	1.9	3.0	5.3	10.0	32.5	23.1	8.1	16.1
60 to 64	602,067	1.8	2.5	4.4	10.0	37.6	18.8	8.4	16.7
65 and over	1,079,121	1.3	1.9	3.0	10.1	42.9	14.4	8.3	18.1
Peru									
1981									
30 to 44	1,285,446	10.0	0.8	10.1	9.7	35.3	25.8	4.6	3.8
45 to 64	911,525	5.8	0.8	7.6	8.5	46.3	22.9	4.3	3.8
65 and over	250,651	2.8	0.5	3.5	9.0	62.0	12.6	3.8	5.8
Uruguay									
1975									
60 and over	73,652	7.0	2.4	8.8	9.4	25.7	23.1	14.5	9.1

- Represents zero or rounds to zero.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Center for International Research, International Data Base on Aging.

Table 12.
Support Ratios: 1988, 2005, and 2020

Region and country	Total			Youth			Elderly			Oldest		
	1988	2005	2020	1988	2005	2020	1988	2005	2020	1988	2005	2020
ASIA												
Bangladesh	131.7	100.4	73.8	124.9	93.2	66.1	6.9	7.2	7.8	17.7	17.6	18.2
China	81.3	61.1	62.6	71.4	48.1	42.8	10.0	13.0	19.8	19.2	25.0	23.8
Hong Kong	61.8	55.8	61.0	48.4	36.6	32.9	13.4	19.2	28.1	22.1	33.2	23.7
India	104.1	81.6	67.1	97.1	73.4	56.8	6.9	8.2	10.3	13.9	15.6	16.3
Indonesia	103.4	77.4	65.1	97.8	68.6	53.2	5.6	8.8	11.9	12.6	17.5	20.3
Korea, Republic of	77.7	64.7	61.7	69.7	53.1	45.1	7.9	11.6	16.6	19.1	18.3	20.6
Philippines	120.4	107.7	94.0	113.2	99.2	83.9	7.3	8.5	10.2	18.7	19.7	20.3
Singapore	59.4	52.4	59.2	50.7	38.9	32.9	8.7	13.5	26.3	21.6	23.2	20.0
Thailand	95.9	71.4	65.4	88.2	61.5	51.7	7.7	10.0	13.8	21.1	22.7	21.5
Turkey	109.8	86.1	71.5	100.7	75.5	59.3	9.1	10.6	12.3	20.8	22.2	22.5
AFRICA												
Kenya	181.4	169.3	139.0	175.5	163.6	133.3	5.9	5.7	5.7	15.9	17.5	18.8
Malawi	165.9	152.6	128.8	158.8	146.8	123.0	7.2	5.8	5.8	19.0	16.4	16.2
Morocco	128.2	99.8	77.8	119.0	90.3	67.2	9.2	9.5	10.6	23.0	23.6	23.1
Tunisia	117.3	86.5	70.0	107.8	76.5	59.1	9.5	10.0	10.9	20.6	22.9	21.8
Zimbabwe	170.9	150.9	126.0	163.5	145.1	120.3	7.5	5.8	5.7	21.8	18.0	17.7
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN												
Brazil	107.6	89.7	78.1	99.3	79.5	64.8	8.3	10.2	13.3	16.8	23.3	23.3
Costa Rica	99.9	79.5	70.6	91.8	69.0	55.2	8.1	10.4	15.4	21.0	23.8	23.0
Guatemala	136.3	100.9	80.0	128.8	92.7	70.1	7.5	8.2	10.0	20.0	21.2	22.2
Jamaica	117.0	89.4	73.8	102.4	77.1	60.2	14.6	12.3	13.5	29.5	31.8	25.9
Mexico	122.3	82.2	68.7	113.2	72.3	55.8	9.1	10.0	12.9	26.8	26.1	27.1
Peru	118.2	96.1	79.3	110.2	87.1	68.2	8.0	9.0	11.1	18.9	19.7	21.0
Uruguay	83.7	76.0	68.7	62.5	53.5	47.9	21.3	22.4	20.8	25.9	32.3	29.7

Total — the number of persons aged 0-19 and 65 and over per 100 persons aged 20-64.

Youth — the number of persons aged 0-19 per 100 persons aged 20-64.

Elderly — the number of persons 65 and over per 100 persons aged 20-64.

Oldest — the number of persons 75 and over per 100 persons aged 60 and over.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Center for International Research, International Data Base on Aging.

Appendix B.

Sources For Figures

Figure

1. U.S. Bureau of the Census, Center for International Research, International Data Base on Aging.
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