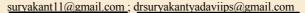


HEALTH, MORBIDITY, AND MORTALITY WORKING GROUP: EAPS

Caste differentials and perbutations in age at death in India

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Introduction

- Life expectancy at birth (e₀) can explain the socioeconomic disparities in mortality across the social groups in India, when decomposed by major groups such as caste, education, and wealth index.
- In India, caste is one of the major determinants of social well-being. We tried to understand the differentials in e₀ and comprehend the disparities in India with respect to mortality. This study estimates e₀ values by social groups – caste, education, and income and show comparison of education and income within each caste group.

Fig. A: Life expectancy at birth in India by Caste categories, India, 2015-16

Objectives

(1) To examine e₀ values of social groups by men and women (2) To compare e₀ values by education and income in men and women in each caste category.

Methodology

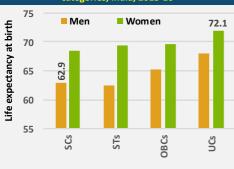
- We calculated the age- and sex-specific annual mortality rate by the social group's caste, education, and income using NFHS (DHS) data.
- We constructed the abridged life tables using the Chiang method based on the annual mortality rates for India and socioeconomic groups

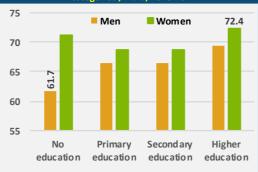
Fig. B: Life expectancy at birth in India by Education categories , India, 2015-16

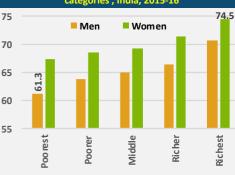
Results

- ☐ Figure A showed Upper Caste (UCs) population has the highest *e*₀ values followed by Other backward classes (OBCs), Scheduled tribes (STs), and Scheduled caste (SCs) populations.
- \square Figure B showed e_0 value is highest among population with high level of educated, followed by secondary, primary, and no education population.
- \Box Figure C showed that population in poorest wealth quintile groups have lowest e_0 value than richer and richest wealth groups.

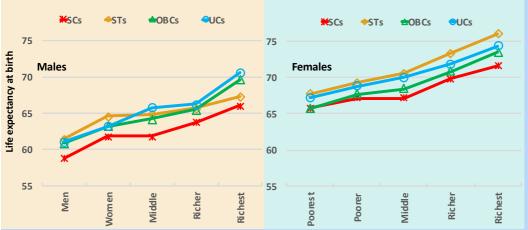
Fig. C: Life expectancy at birth in India by Wealth Index categories, India, 2015-16





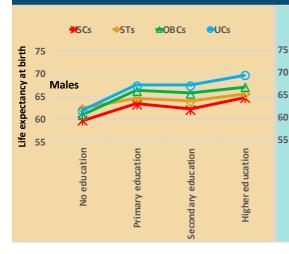


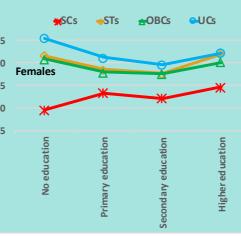
Comparison of Wealth on Life expectancy at birth (e_0) among Upper, OBCs, SCs, and STs caste categories in India, 2015-16



- \square Women show higher e_0 values than men for social and wealth categories,
- \square The e_0 was exceptionally higher in women of STs category. Women in OBCs category also show higher e_0 values than Upper caste category,
- \square Women and men in SCs category show smaller e_0 values compared to other social categories,
- ☐ Men compared to women show smaller *e*₀ values by approx. 5 years in SCs and OBCs social categories,
- \square The gradient of e_0 values has been similar among caste categories, more linearity in Upper caste than other social categories,
- \Box Wealth seems to be strong determinant of the of differentials in e_0 values.

Comparison of Education on Life expectancy at birth (e_0) among Upper, OBCs, SCs, and STs caste categories in India, 2015-16





- \square Women by education categories shows an unexpected level of e_0 values. On the other hand, men show increase in e_0 values with the level of education.
- \square Men in UCs shows highest e_0 values, followed by OBCs category.
- \square Women in SCs category shows increase in e_0 values by education level
- \square Women with 'No education' shows higher e_0 values in UCs, OBCs, and STs.
- ☐ The finding suggests for examining determinants for high survival among women with "No Education".
- \square Finding suggest education is not a strong predictor of high e_0 values in India.

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