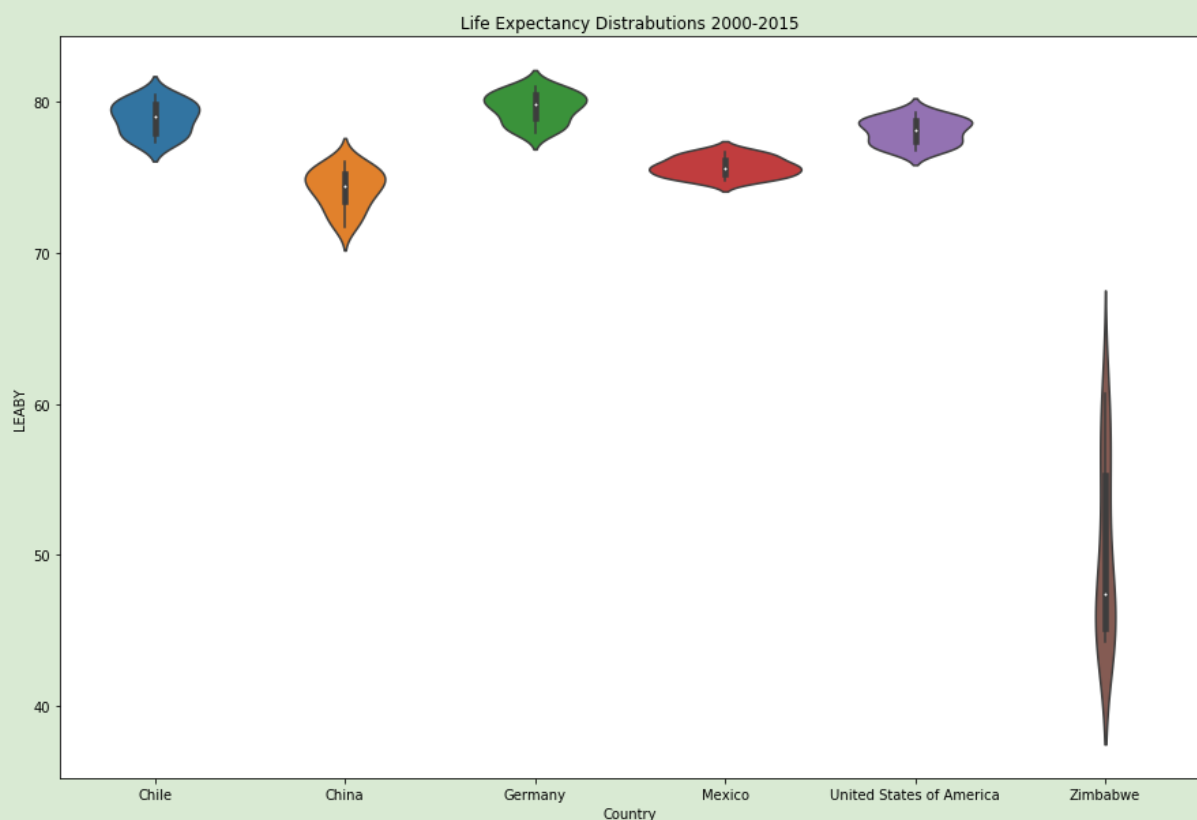
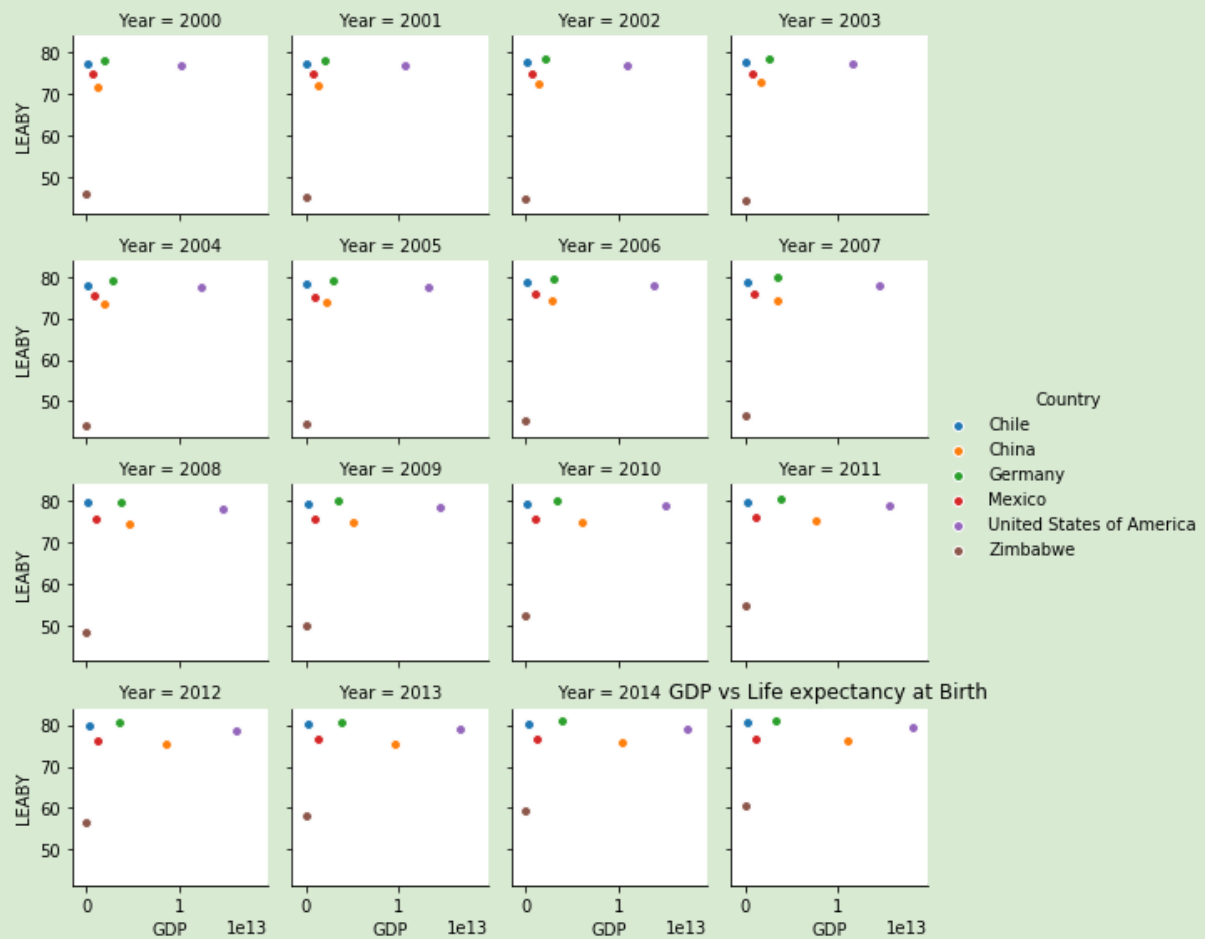


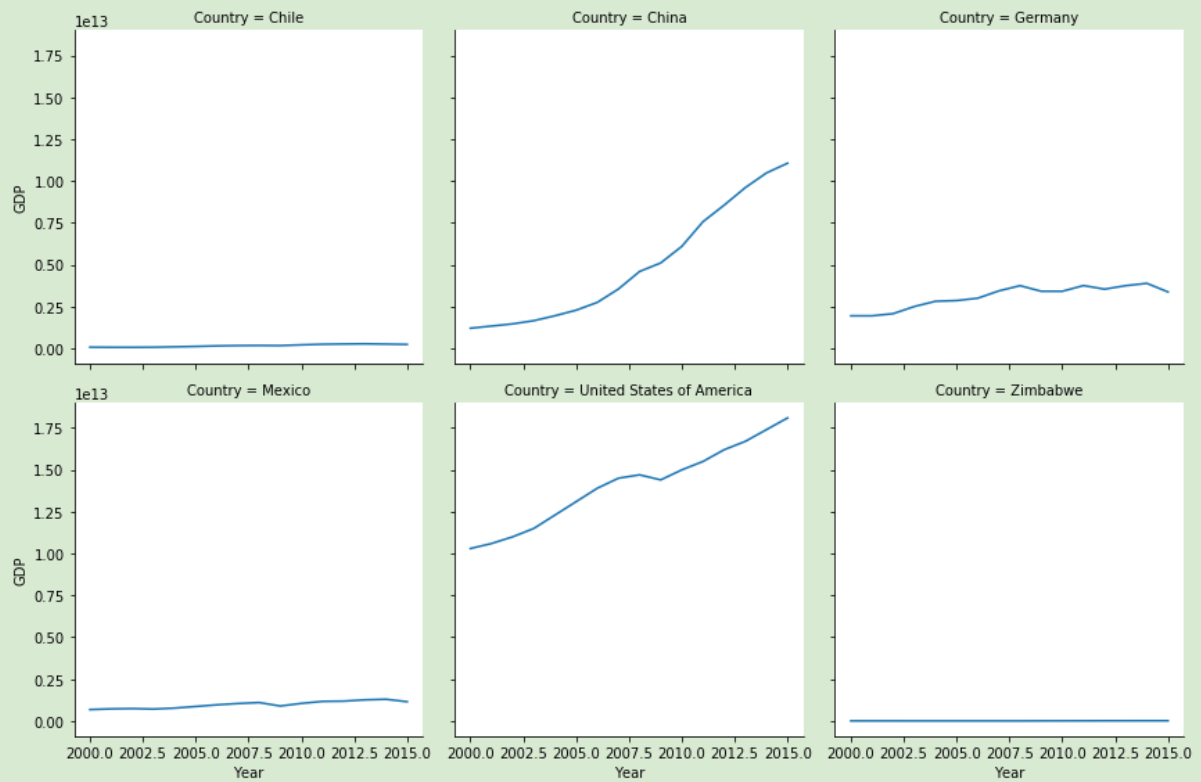
In 2005 Africa Fighting Malaria published a report entitled Despotism and Diseases, which documented that despite initially introducing a solid healthcare system, at the start of his presidency it had been dismantled by decades of instability and tyranny. Yet in the next five years, life expectancy shot up and continued to rise into 2015. The increase in life expectancy in Zimbabwe between 2005 and 2010 is two things, shocking and borderline paradoxical with almost no increase in GDP and no revolutionary policies that could be expected to cause a sudden jump in life expectancy.

There was some progress in policies, such as declaring the Aids crisis as a national emergency and putting a good deal of funding in place in order to combat this. A number of factors also slightly reduced the number of malaria deaths, but these pale in comparison to human rights abuses which have threatened health in Zimbabwe, for example in may of 2005 Mugabe engaged in the clearing of poor neighborhoods which left many people homeless and throughout the decade there were reductions in the budget for many health crises . Yet while the impact of tyranny shows in China, where massive growth in GDP barely touched the life expectancy, in Zimbabwe something different was going on - at least for those few years. The cause is unclear and requires much further research. The graphs below compare Zimbabwe to China, the United States, Chile, and Mexico, which shows how unusual it is.

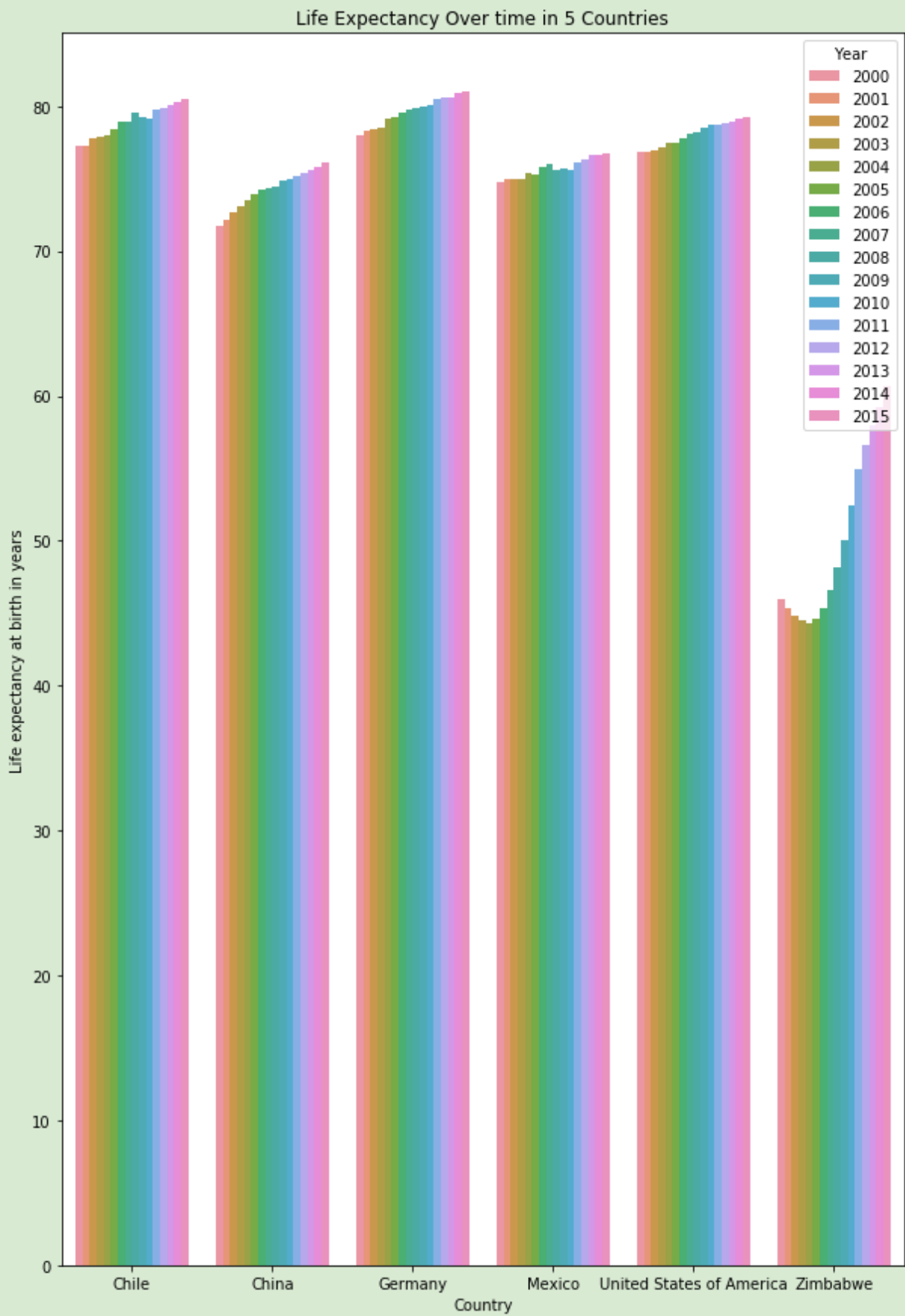




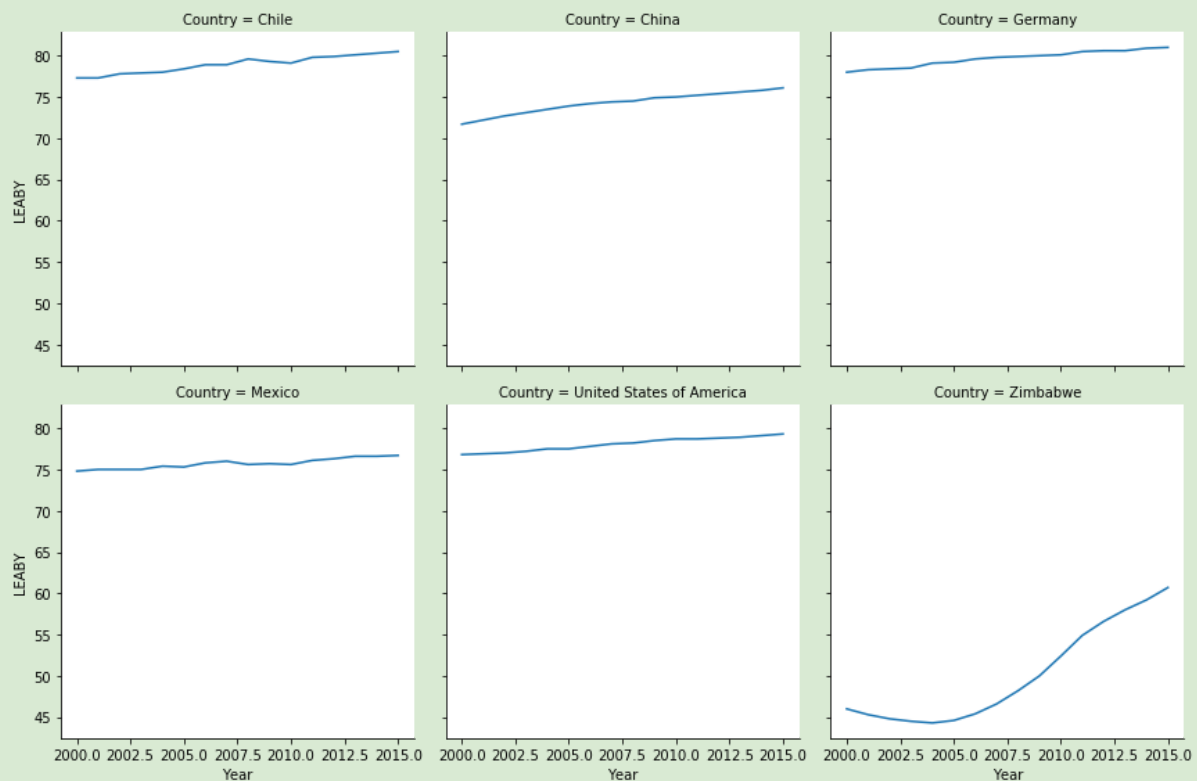
These scatter graphs are harder to read as the high GDP of the USA makes it hard to see how small Zimbabwe's is but it demonstrates very well how Zimbabwe and China have moved along one axis over time and not the other.



The above line graphs show GDP over time it is clear that Zimbabwe's has quite literally flatlined. Because America draws the range up so much it is difficult to see here that Zimbabwe is poorest out of Zimbabwe, Mexico and Chile, this is demonstrated best in the bar chart below.



This figure showing the change in life expectancy from 2000 - 2015 shows that whilst Zimbabwe's is much lower the change is unparalleled in the other 4 countries.



This set of line graphs has a similar impact however it far better illuminates the lower starting place of Zimbabwe.

Because despite this jump Zimbabwe still has a lower life expectancy than other nations, most analysis of health in Zimbabwe focuses on the question “why is life expectancy in Zimbabwe so low?” and most of it reaches the same conclusion: “because of widespread corruption and Tyranny.” However something else is going on in Zimbabwe which is worth exploring. The next logical step would be to compare data from Zimbabwe to other African countries, and countries with similar starting points, as well as exploring this over a broader period of time.