

MEXICO'S UPSURGE OF VIOLENCE AND ITS IMPACT ON LIFE EXPECTANCY AND LIFESPAN INEQUALITY

José Manuel Aburto



November 2018

- ▶ **Latin America** is the world's most **violent** region.

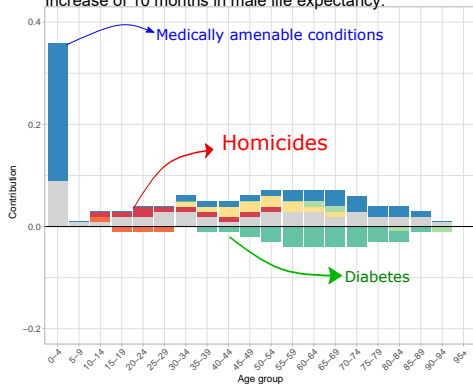
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- ▶ Central American countries → **upsurge** of violence in the new century.

In Mexico: homicides declined in 2000-2005

2000-2005

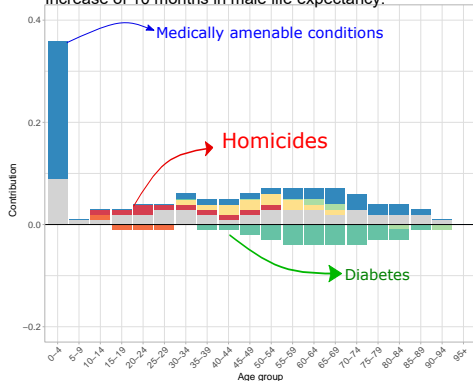
Increase of 10 months in male life expectancy.



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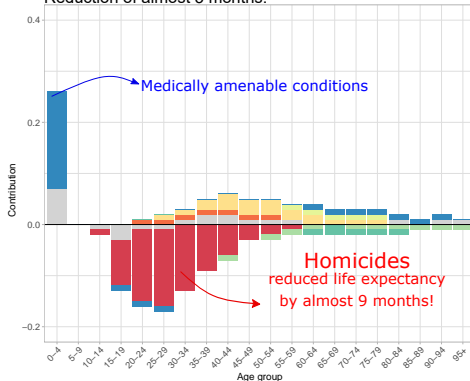
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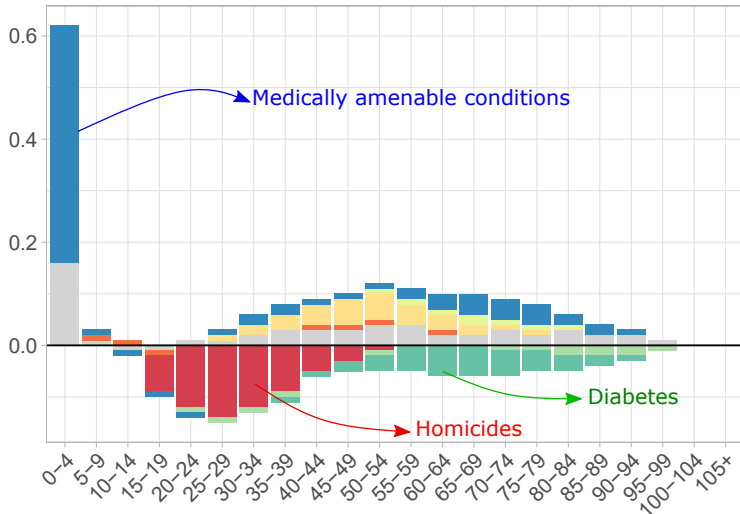
2005–2010

Reduction of almost 3 months.



**In 2005-2010 rates more than doubled
(9.5 → 22).**

As a result, male life expectancy **stagnated** in the first decade of the new century ($\sim 71y$)



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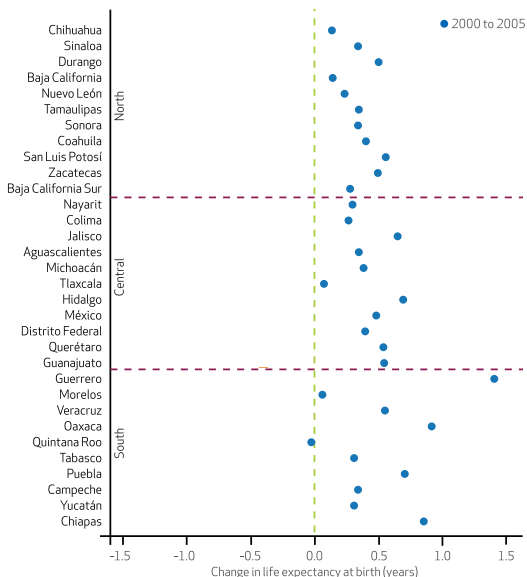
- ▶ **Competition** between drug cartels for territory.
- ▶ **Enforcement operations** trying to mitigate drug trafficking operations after 2005.
- ▶ **Increased profitability** in the drug-trade flow with United States.



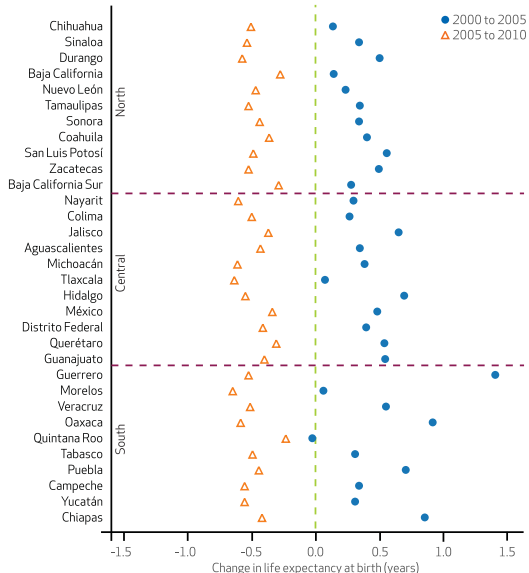
Propagation of violence

Espinal-Enriquez & Larralde 2015

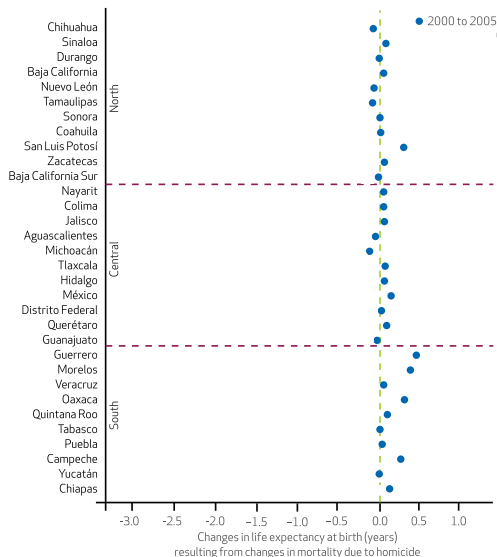
Changes in male life expectancy at birth by state



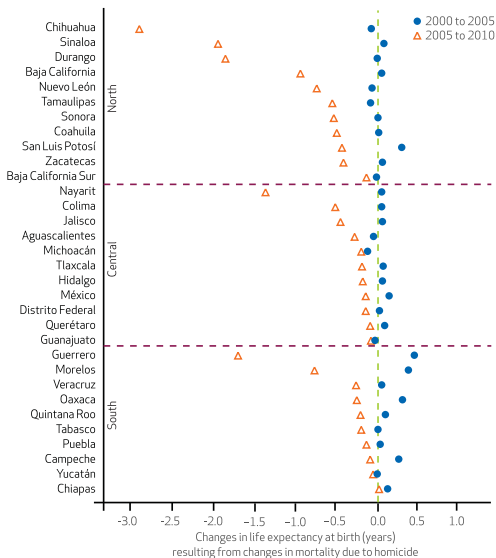
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Homicide contribution to changes in male life expectancy at birth by state



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Gains in life expectancy due to medically amenable causes

1. Infectious
2. Respiratory diseases
3. Birth conditions
4. ...

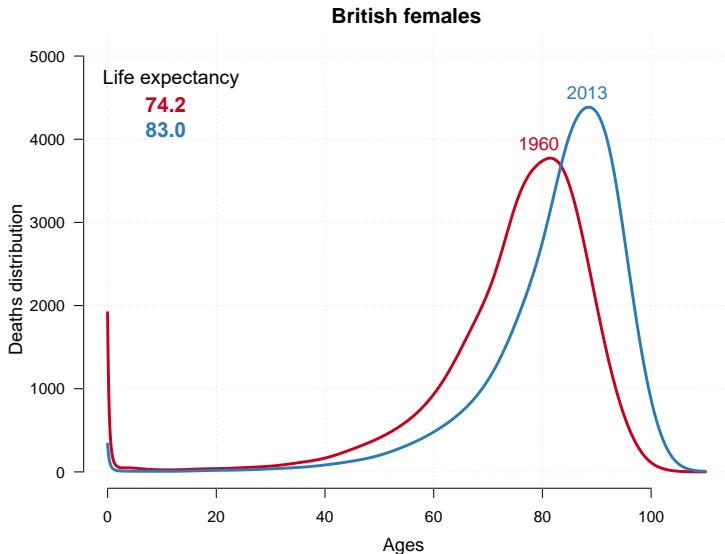
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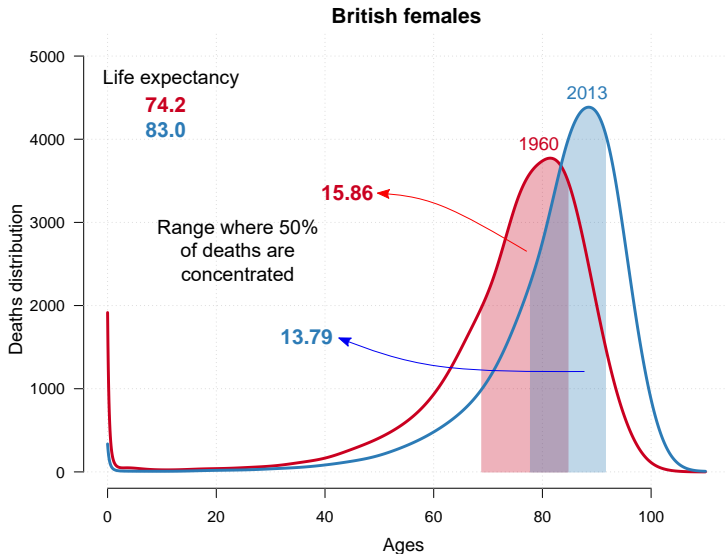
Wiped out by the increase of homicides between 2005-10 in each of the 32 states in Mexico

**What is the effect of homicides
on the uncertainty of life?**

What is lifespan variation or lifespan inequality?



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- ▶ Implications on **planning** of life's events.
- ▶ **Increasing** vulnerability at the societal level.
- ▶ **Ineffectiveness** of policies aiming to protect individuals.

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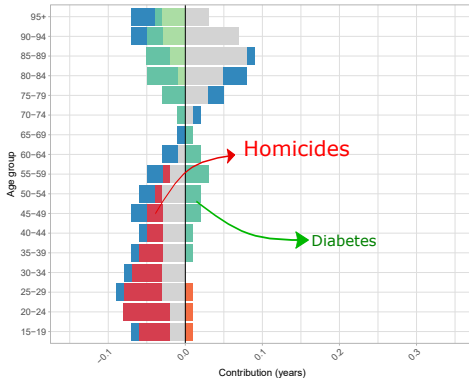
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- ▶ Easy **public health interpretation**.
- ▶ **Quantify** age and cause specific effects.
- ▶ Separate ages that **decrease** from those that **increase**.
- ▶ Conditioned to age 15 to capture the **onset of violence**.

National lifespan inequality

A) 1995–2005

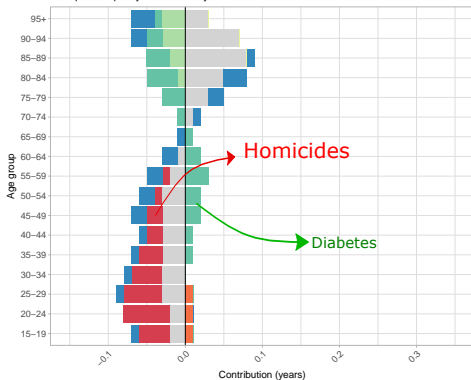
Lifespan inequality decreased by 6.5 months.



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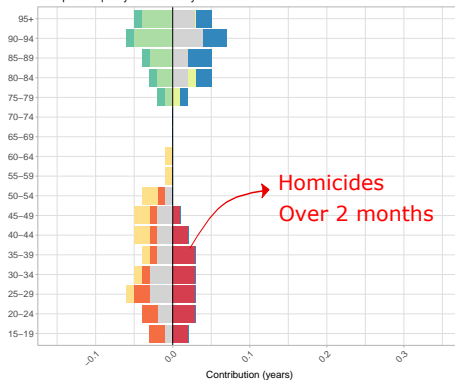
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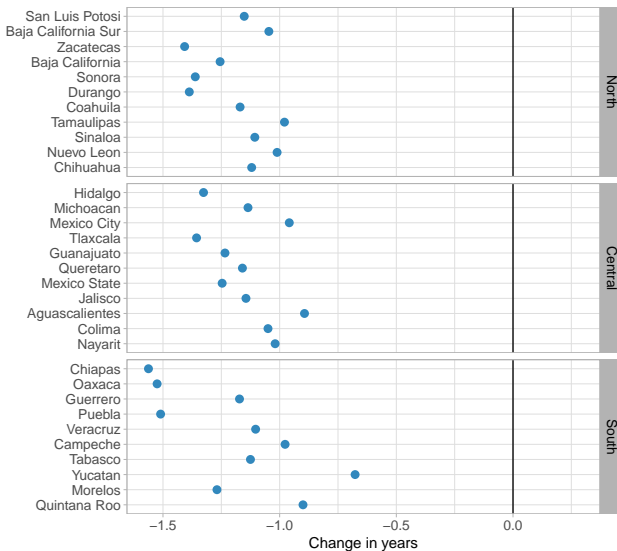


B) 2005–2015

Lifespan inequality decreased by less than 2 months.

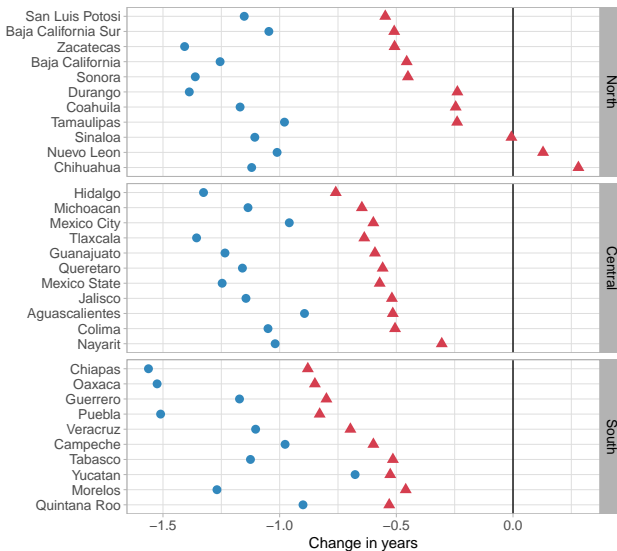


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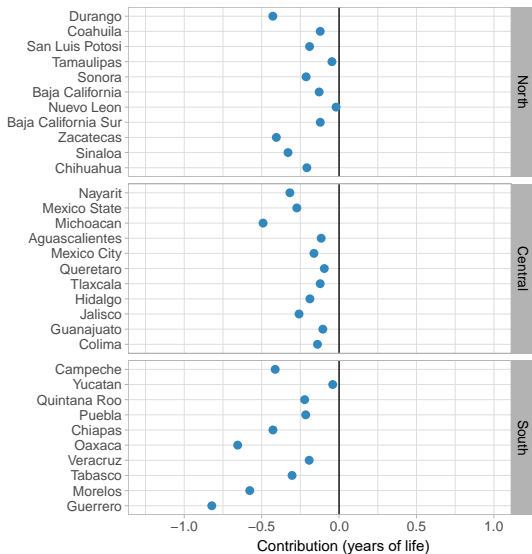
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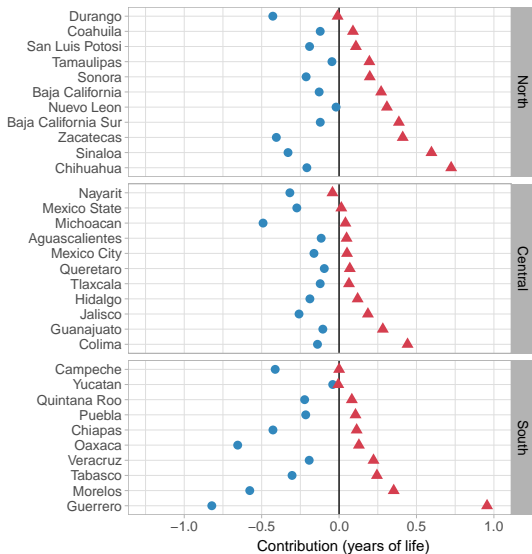
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Homicide contribution to lifespan inequality



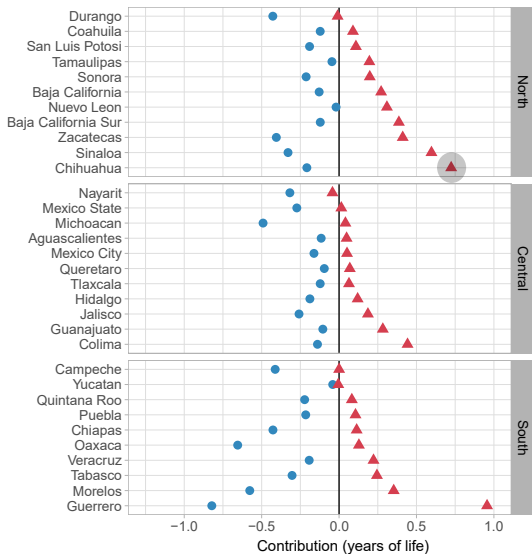
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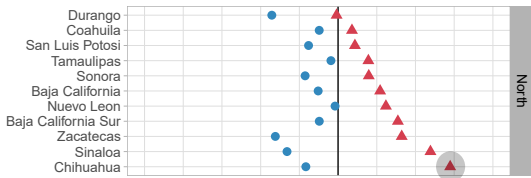
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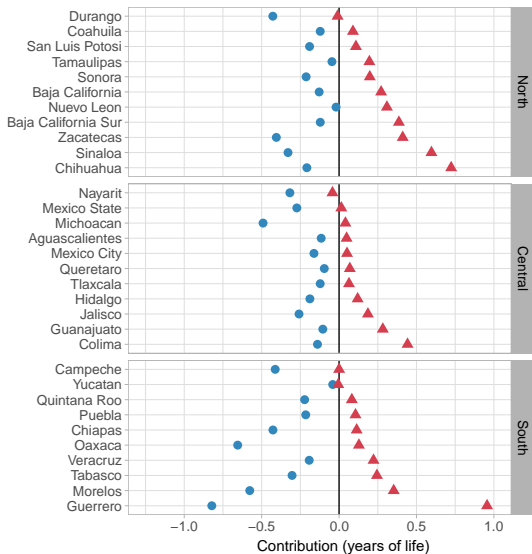
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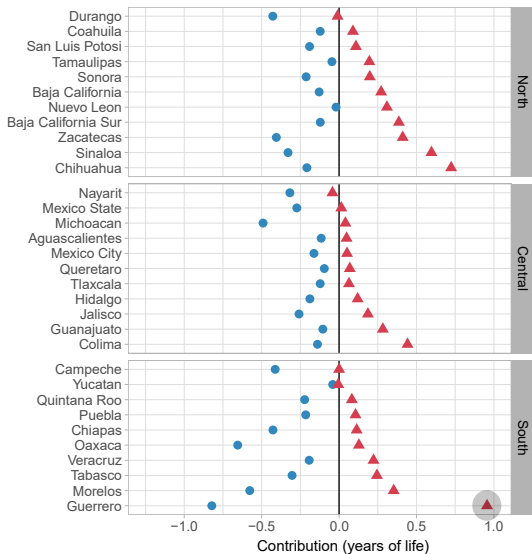


In 2010, young males in Chihuahua (bordering with Texas) had 3 times the mortality rates of US troops in Iraq between 2003 and 2006!

Homicide contribution to lifespan inequality

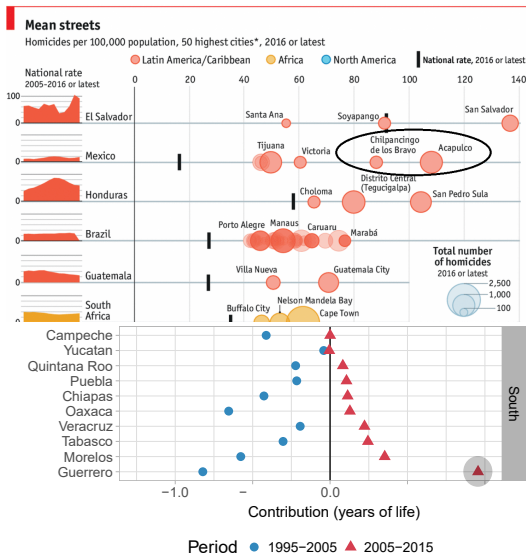


Homicide contribution to lifespan inequality



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Mexico's 2 most dangerous cities in this state, among the most dangerous cities in the WORLD!



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- ▶ Young males **live less**, on average, and **face more uncertainty**.
- ▶ **Ten years into the War on Drugs**, Mexico has not been able to reduce the homicide levels to those prior to 2005
- ▶ Failure to recognize and correct the detrimental **consequences in health and human rights** of violence.

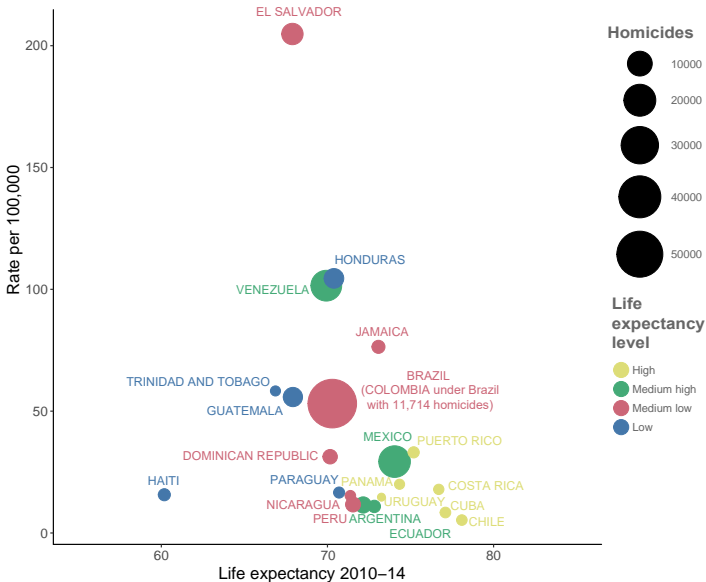
International Perspective

~ 2,000,000
15-30

77%
Men

35%
Homicides
(+ 1/2 million)

Life expectancy by homicide rate, males 2015.



Canudas-Romo & Aburto (forthcoming)

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Challenge of Mexico: Reducing violence

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 @jmaburto

Shinnyapp:

https://demographs.shinyapps.io/LVMx_15_App/

Lifespan variation in Mexico, 1995-2015

