

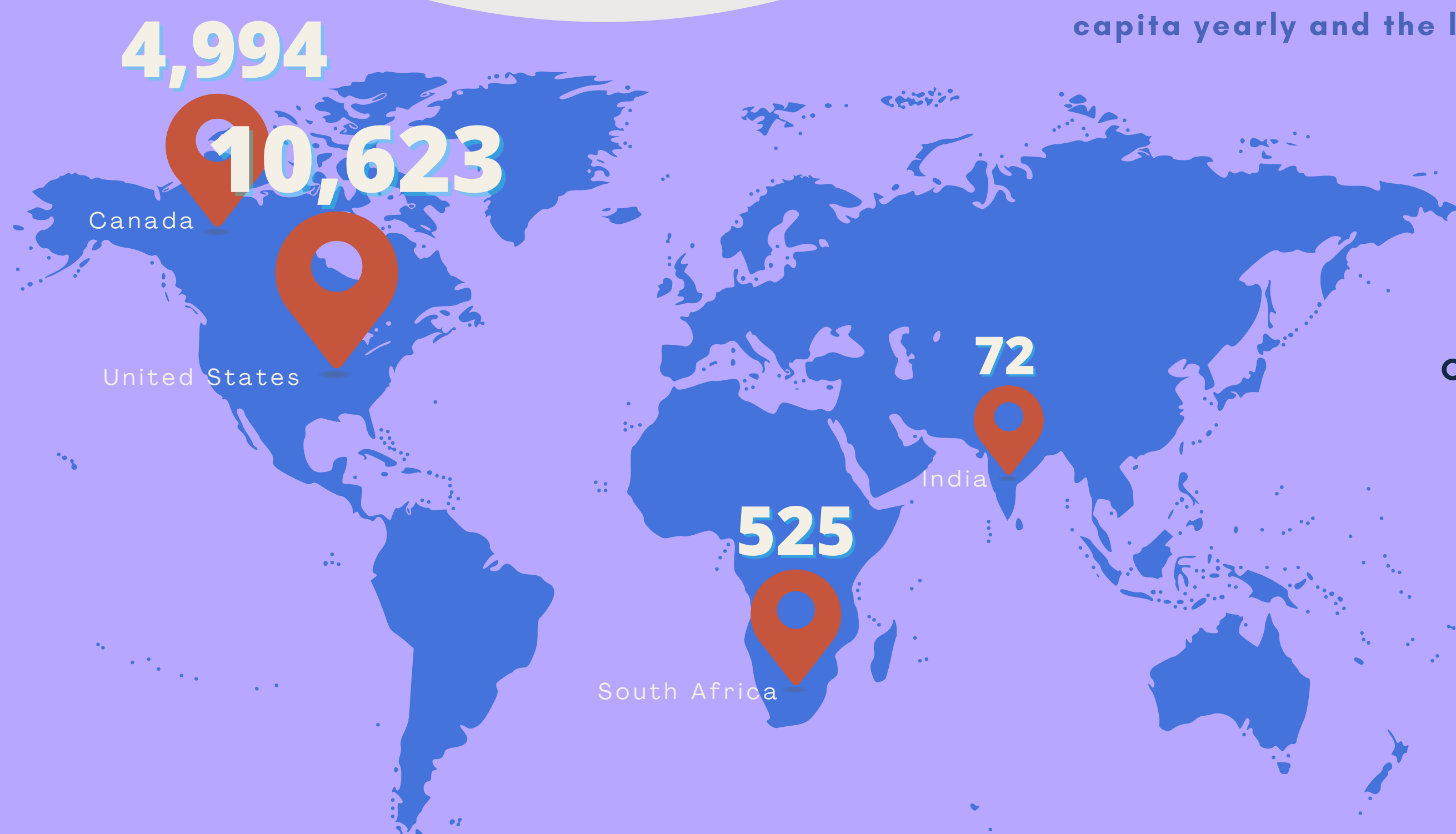
WHAT ARE THE IMPACTS OF

# & ECONOMICS POLICY ON HEALTH INEQUALITIES?

Health services play an important role in maintaining and helping every world citizen, especially in the pandemic. However, there are still places where individuals do not have access to health service due to the uncoverage or unaffordability. Based on the data 4 countries (South Africa, India, Canada, United Stated), health inequalities may vary on the below factors.

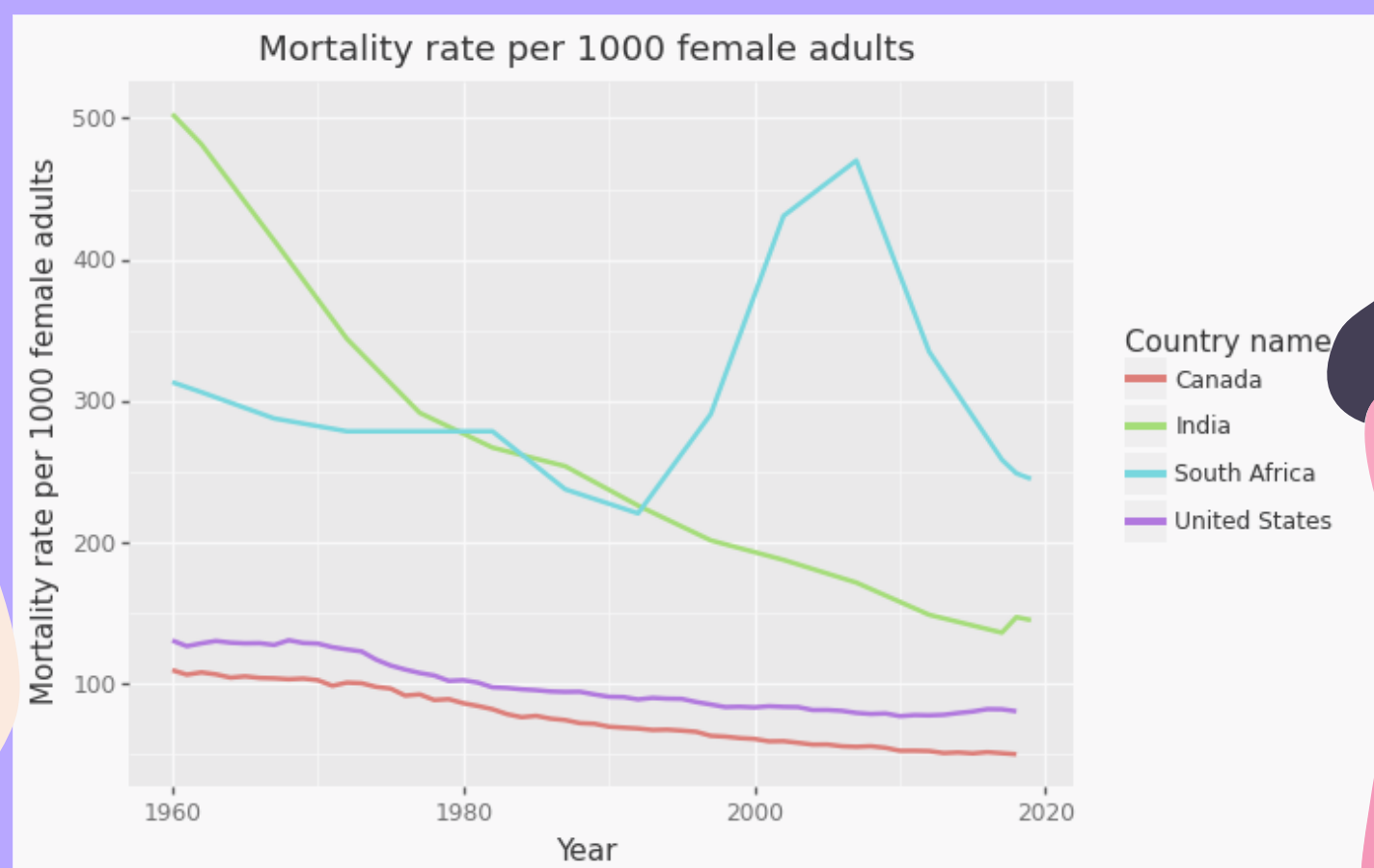
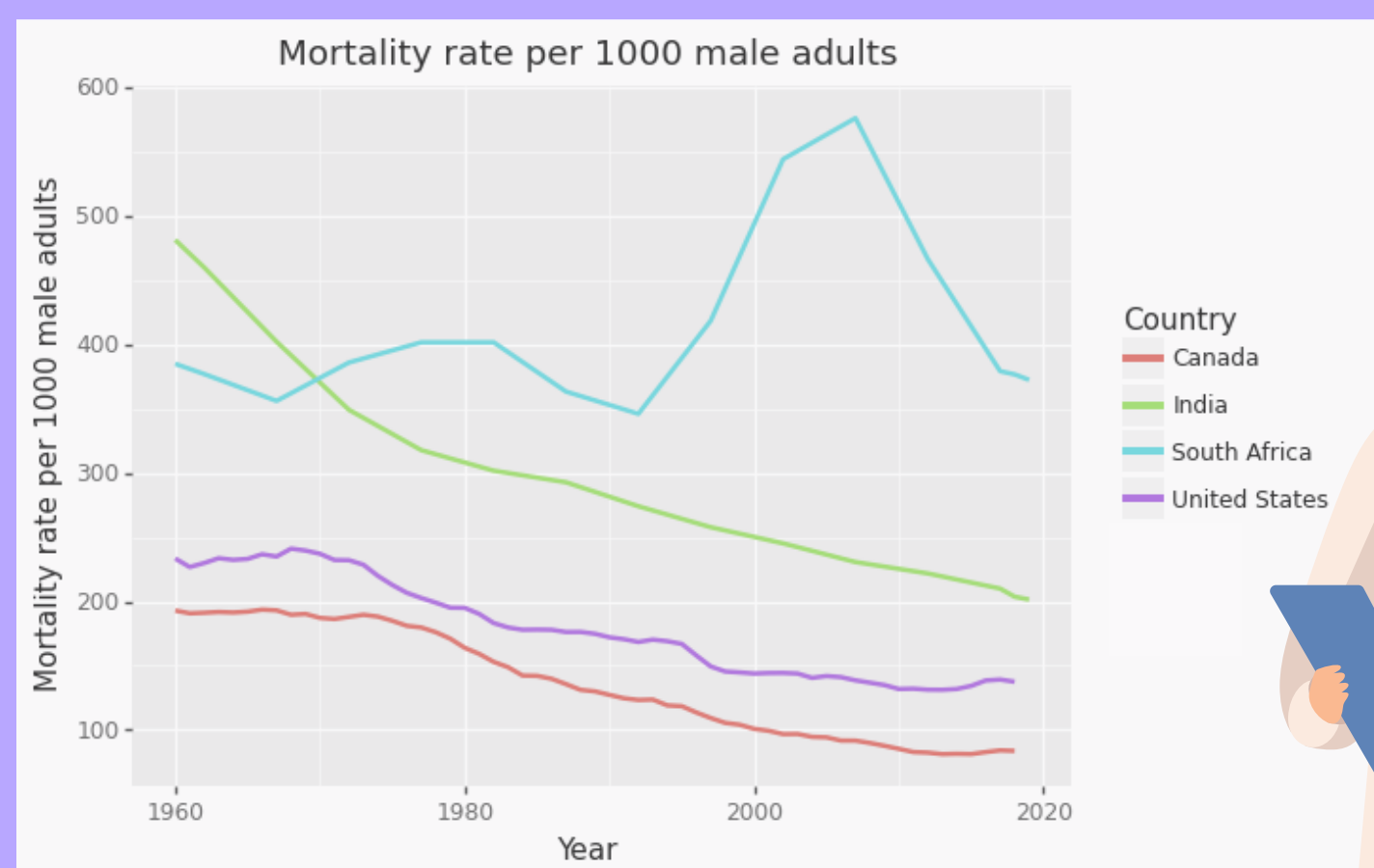
## Average health service cost ( 2018)

According to World Bank data, **the United States leads the board on average health expenditure per capita yearly** and the least expenditure is India.



Current health expenditure per capita (current Thousand US\$)

This results in a change of mortality rates of the 4 countries, resulting in the inequality of death rate for both genders. However, there is an outlier, which is Africa with a high mortality rate even though they spent much more on health service than India.



Mortality rate, adult, female and male (per 1,000 adults)

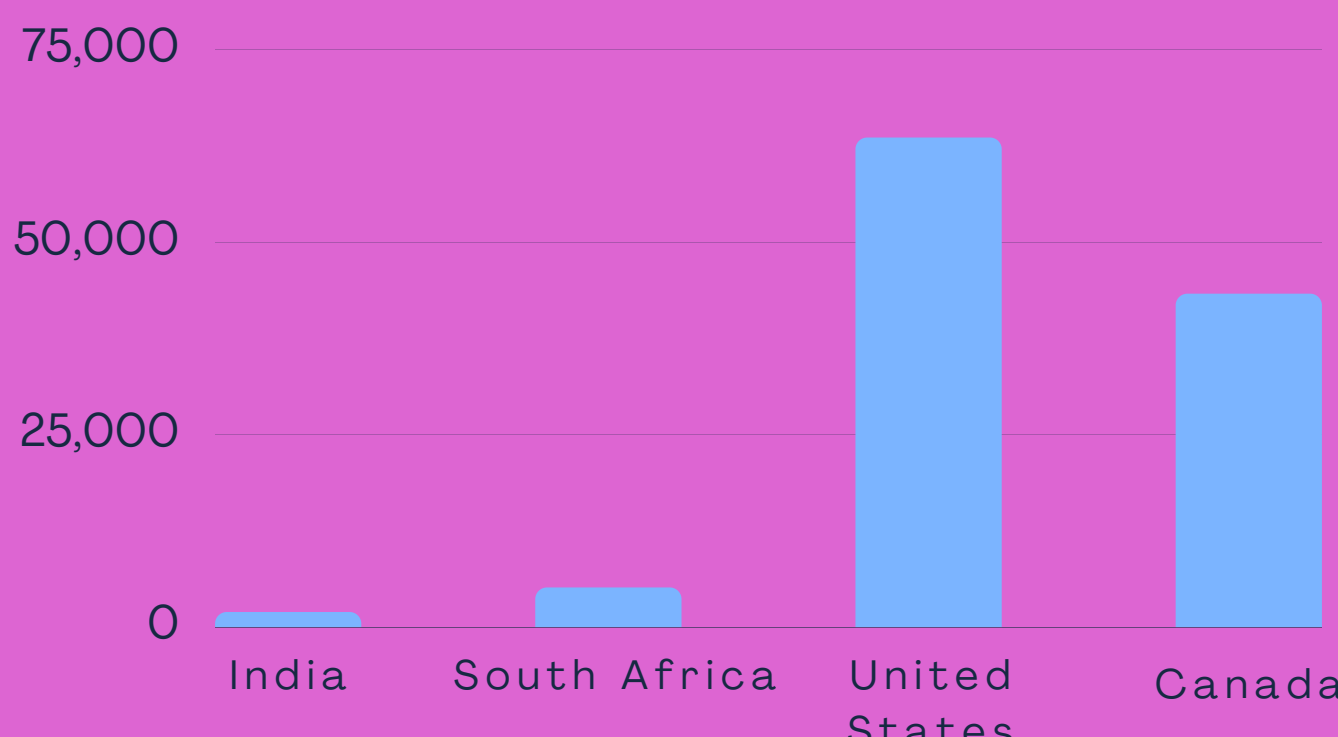
## BUT WHAT CAUSES THE INEQUALITIES BETWEEN THESE COUNTRY?

### GDP per capita

**GDP per capita determines health service paying abilities. The higher the GDP per capita of a person allows them to be much more affordable to access a better health environment and vice versa.**

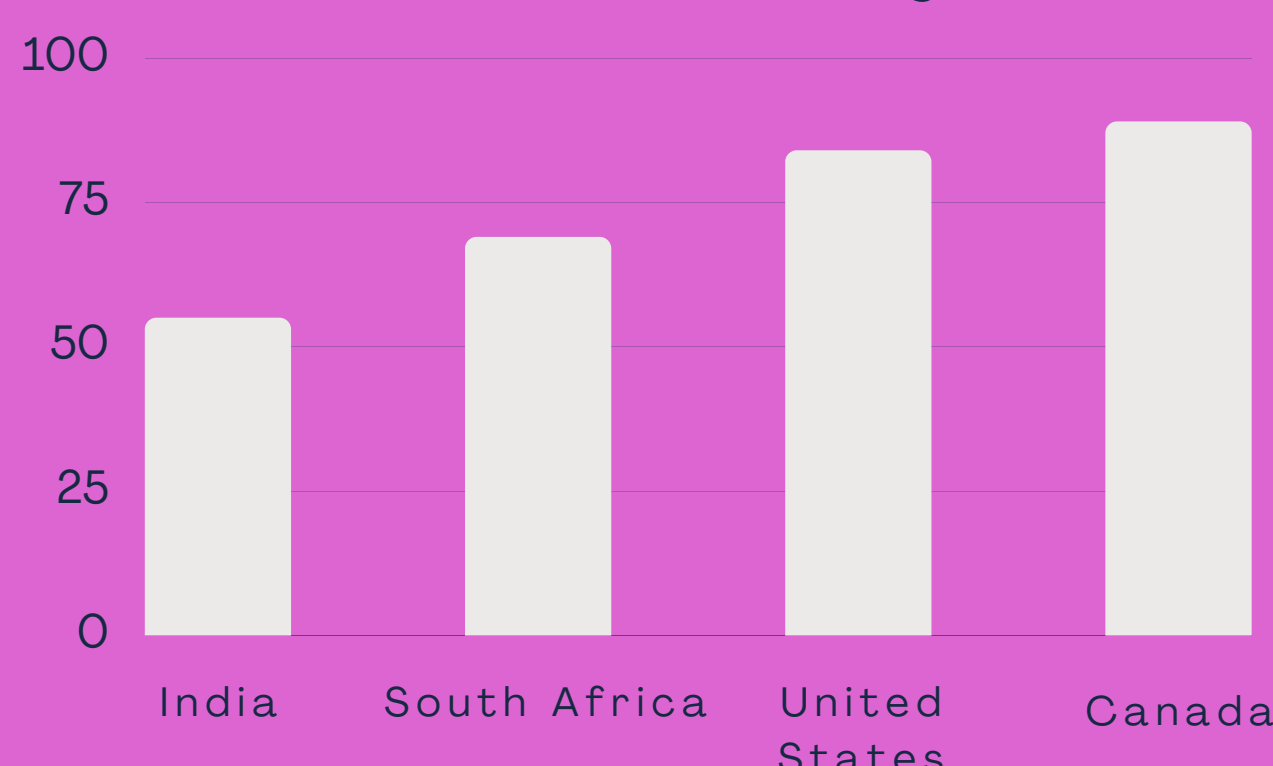
This is the reason why India has such a low health expenditure, the GDP per capita is the lowest and the United States still on the leads of both highest spend and GDP.

GDP per capita (current US\$)



### Service coverage

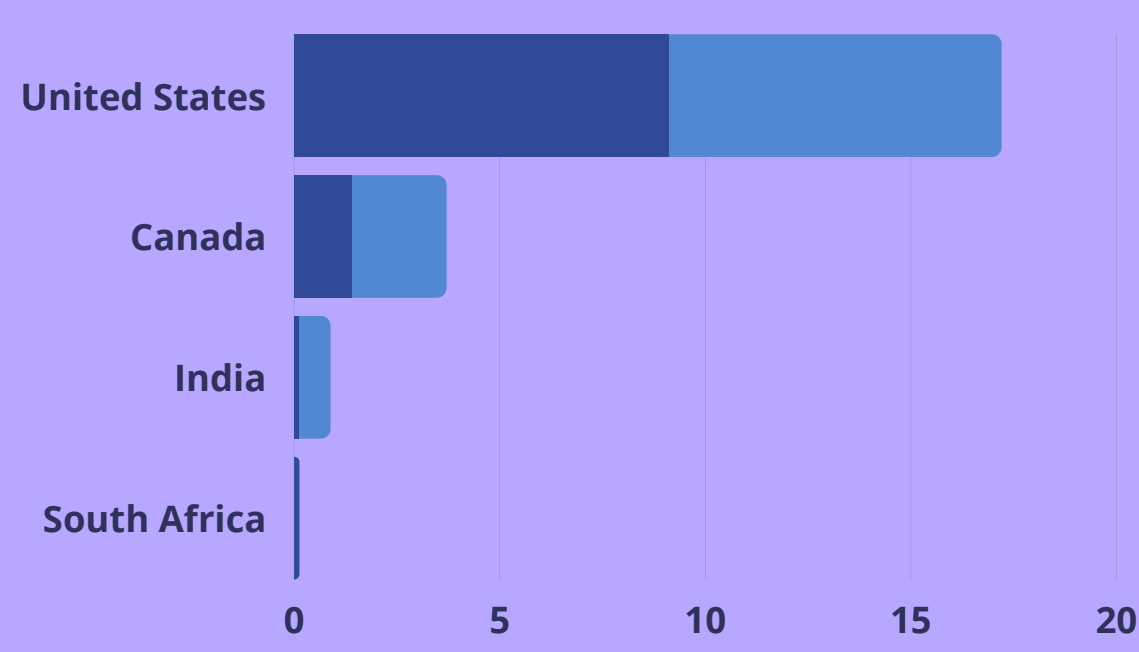
UHC service coverage index



**US still holds the highest rank.** However, the mortality rate of Canada does not match the prediction of the higher the GDP per capita, the more health expenditure. Rather, UHC coverage is what separates Canada's mortality rate compared to other countries. **It is because Canada's government offers free health care for all Canadians and permanent residents, which allows accessibility for those who have low income.**

GDP per capita also affects the vaccination rate of each country.

■ Share of people fully vaccinated against COVID-19  
■ Share of people only partly vaccinated against COVID-19

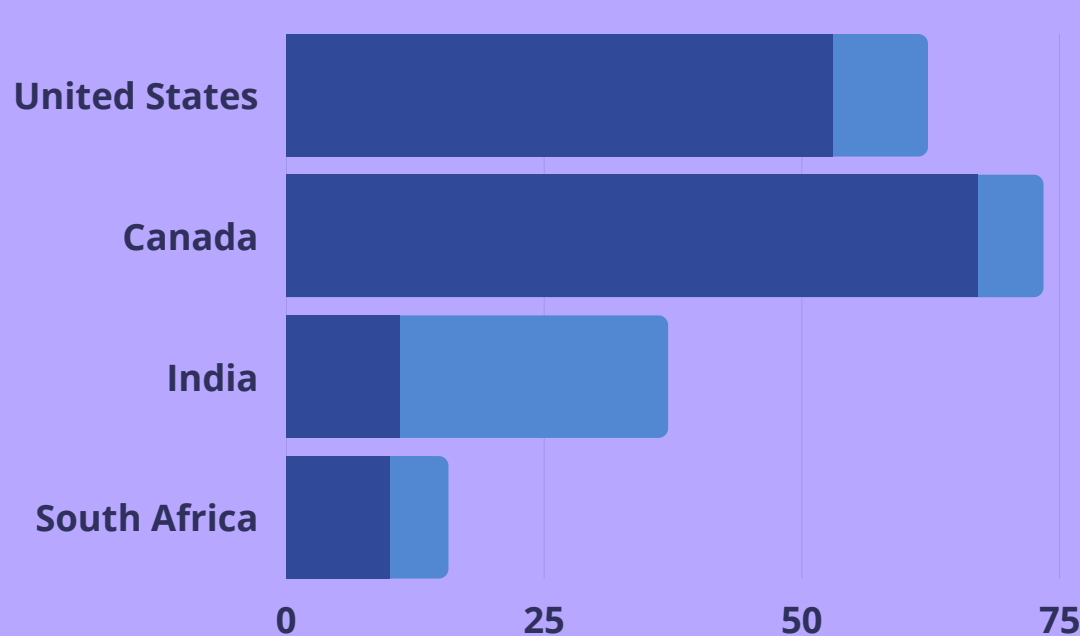


Sep 1, 2021

In the later stage, although the United States can produce vaccines, its "anti-vaccine" movement makes its vaccination rate smaller than Canada (Sep 1, 2021). In this stage, India has more than double the vaccination rate compared with South Africa because this country can produce vaccines itself.

Mar 1, 2021

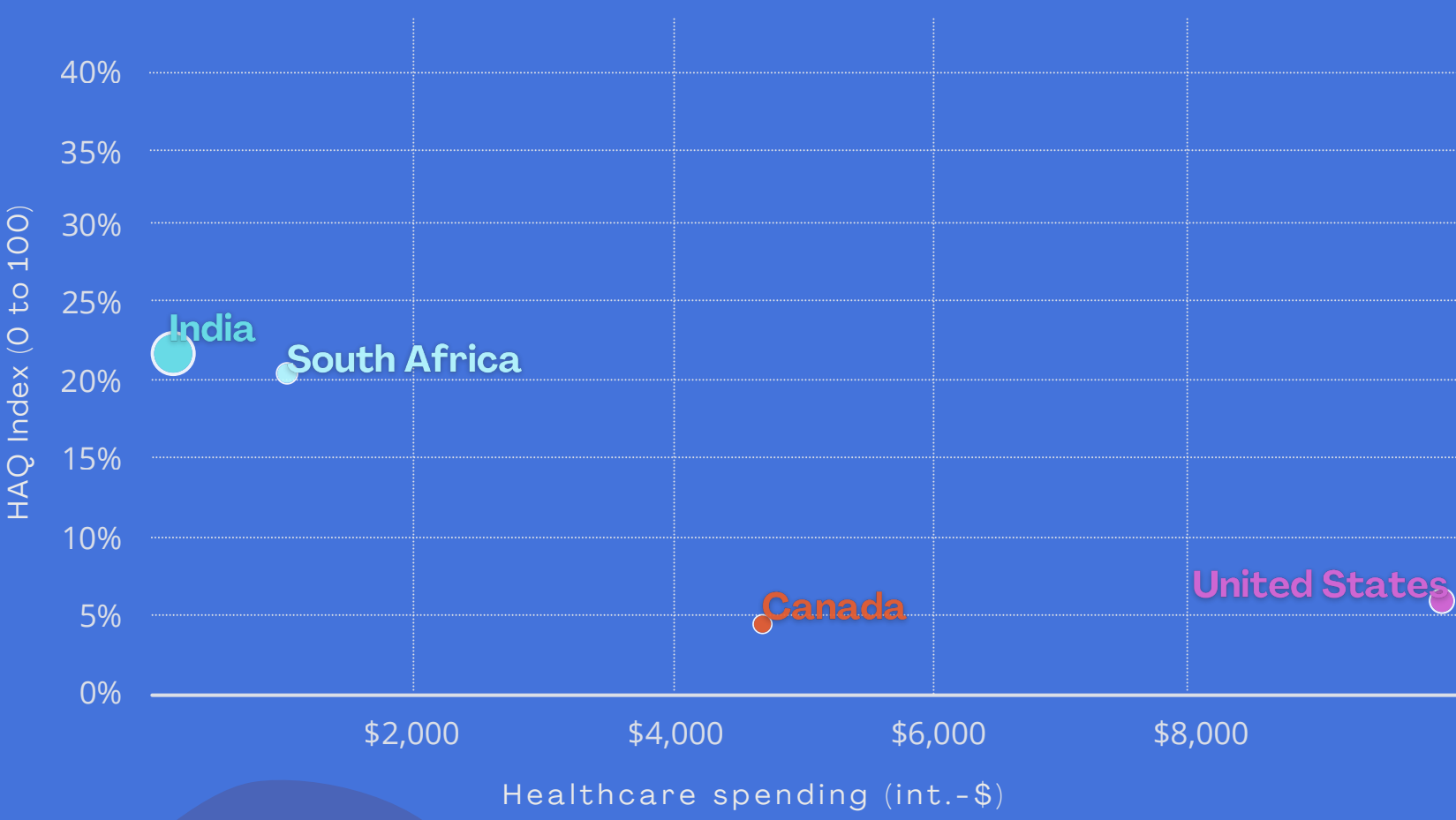
**Americans with highest GDP per capita also led the rank of having the highest proportion share of people vaccinated against COVID-19.** Americans also led the rank because this country can produce vaccines itself due to its highest GDP per capita rank and highest average health expenditure.



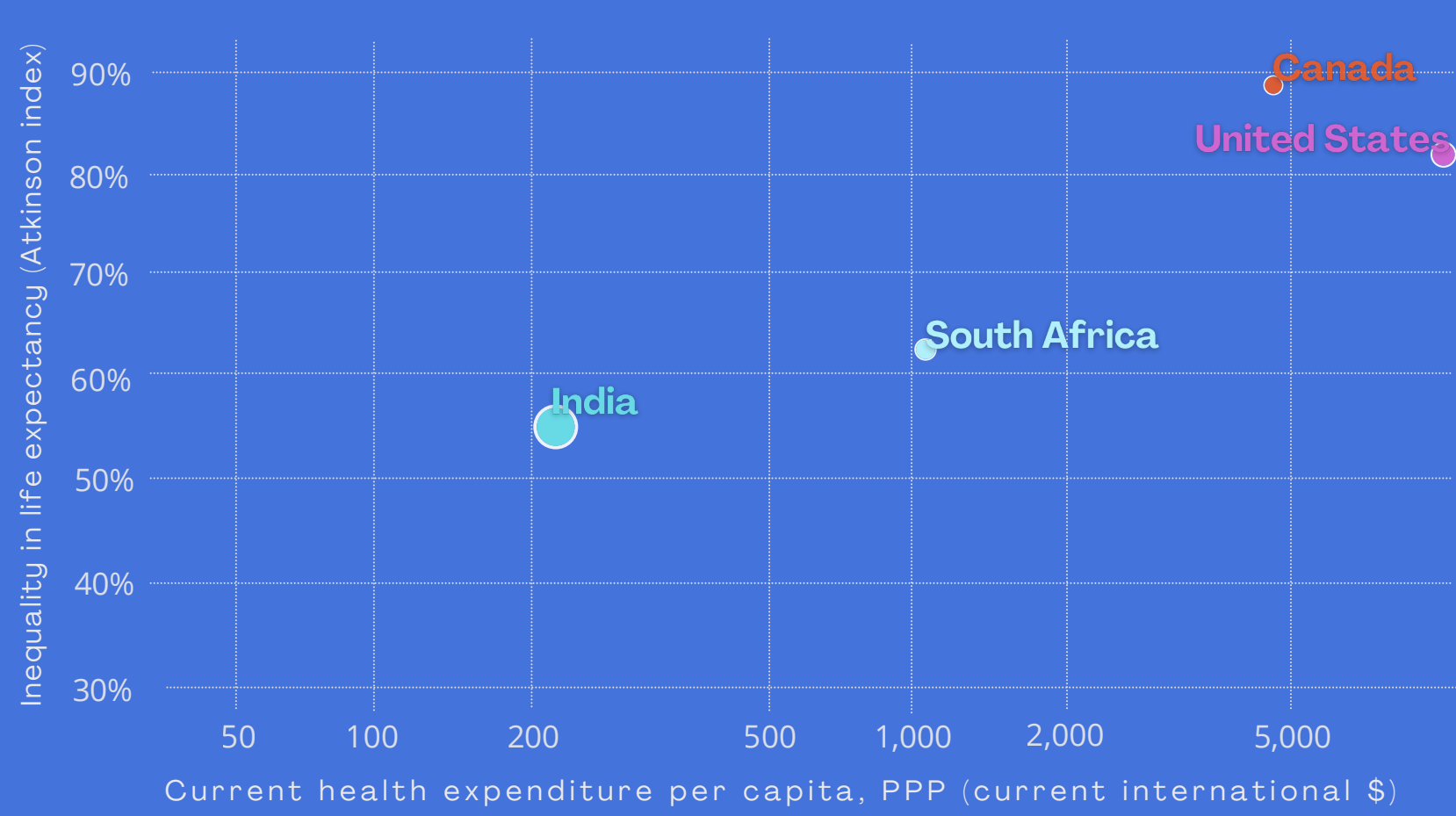
## Share of people vaccinated against COVID-19

Based on the data provided by WHO, UNDP, and WDI, for most cases, **higher levels of healthcare spending in a country provides more health access for its citizens**, which is calculated by HAQ index. More health expenditure per capita ( 2015) also promoted lower inequality in life expectancy.

Health access and quality by level of healthcare spending, 2018



Inequality in life expectancy vs. health expenditure per capita, 2015



**However, there are differences between American and Canada's relations.** While Canada pays less than America in current health expenditure, the inequality rate in life expectancy of America is bigger than in Canada. And the same contrast exists in the quality of healthcare and quality by level of spending between these two countries. This different prediction is caused by **the government policies of Canada.**

## Conclusion

In 4 countries, **the economic potential** and payment on health made by citizens and governments made a great impact on **the quality of health in each country.** This is **a linear correlation** between these variables, where the higher economic potential which makes higher health expenditure per capita can result in a country developing its health quality better. However, this conclusion also depends on each country's **public policies** as can be seen with the situation in **Canada.**