



[Course](#) > [Section...](#) > [4.1 Intr...](#) > Life Ex...

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Life Expectancy and Fertility Rates

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life expectancy and fertility rates

RAFAEL IRIZARRY: Our misconceptions stem from the preconceived notion

that the world is divided into two groups, the Western World, composed

of Western Europe and North America, which

is characterized by long lifespans and small



Video

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Textbook link

This video corresponds to the [textbook section on Gapminder scatterplots](#).

Key points

- A prevalent worldview is that the world is divided into two groups of countries:
 - Western world: high life expectancy, low fertility rate
 - Developing world: lower life expectancy, higher fertility rate
- Gapminder data can be used to evaluate the validity of this view.
- A scatterplot of life expectancy versus fertility rate in 1962 suggests that this viewpoint was grounded in reality 50 years ago. Is it still the case today?

Code

```
# basic scatterplot of life expectancy versus fertility
ds_theme_set() # set plot theme
filter(gapminder, year == 1962) %>%
  ggplot(aes(fertility, life_expectancy)) +
  geom_point()

# add color as continent
filter(gapminder, year == 1962) %>%
  ggplot(aes(fertility, life_expectancy, color = continent)) +
  geom_point()
```

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