# Analysis on the Average Lifespan in Countries with and without Universal Healthcare

I did an analysis of the differences in the average lifespan of male and female citizens of different countries with and without some sort of universal or government funded healthcare system. I hypothesized that of course, in countries that provide healthcare access to all citizens would have a higher average lifespan than those without. Also that women living in countries that provide access to prenatal care will have higher life expectancies than those who do not. I first identified the countries that ensure all of their citizens have access to healthcare and then analyzed the data from the years 2000-2020.

I first looked to find the three countries that do provide their citizens healthcare that have the lowest average life expectancy. I found that the country in this category that has the lowest average life expectancy was the same for both men and women, Burkina Faso, at 57 for women and 54 for men. I did however find out that this country only starting offering healthcare to its citizens in the year 2016, and even then it only covers pregnant women and children 5 and under. I then pulled the women’s life expectancy from the years 2015-2020 and there is a slight uptick starting after 2016, going from 60.4 years in 2015 to 61.6 years in 2020. I then looked to see the three countries that had the lowest life expectancy without any sort of government provided healthcare. This country was Lesotho for both men and women, at 50 years old for women and 45 for men. Upon researching I found that many sources cite lack of access to healthcare as a main reason.

My next step was to look into the countries with the highest life expectancy. I first started with the countries that do provide healthcare. This was Monaco for both men and women, at 87 for women and about 82 for men. After researching I found that Monaco has a very good public healthcare system that is available to all legal citizens, as well as of course access to private insurance. As far as prenatal care I found that Monaco covers most expenses for expectant mothers as well as well as any maternity related hospital stays covered for up to 12 days. As far as countries that do not have government provided healthcare, Bermuda was the highest for men, at 83 years old. Though Bermuda has no publicly funded healthcare system, an increase is healthcare availability and a better standard of living are cited as major reasons for this high life expectancy. The country Guernsey had the highest life expectancy for men with no universal healthcare at 79 years old.

Looking back over my findings, I definitely feel as if my hypothesis were correct. Countries that provide some form of publicly funded healthcare consistently show to have higher life expectancies than those without. And those countries that provide free or discounted prenatal care show to have positive impacts on women’s life expectancy.