

# Data Quality of Mortality in Chinese Censuses

**Danan Gu**

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## **Mortality Data and Methodological Approaches in Estimating Mortality in Developing Countries**

Views expressed in the presentation are solely of the author and do not reflect those of the United Nations



**Population Division**  
United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs



# Outline

- 0 **Background Info**
- 1 **Inconsistency in population accounts**
- 2 **Age patterns of death rates**
- 3 **Death rates at old age**
- 4 **Prospects**



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- **Mortality data are imperfect**
- **Two countries have very good data quality of mortality: Japan & Sweden**
- **11 countries with good data quality of mortality**
- **Data quality in most developing countries is not good.**



# Chinese Pop censuses and major surveys

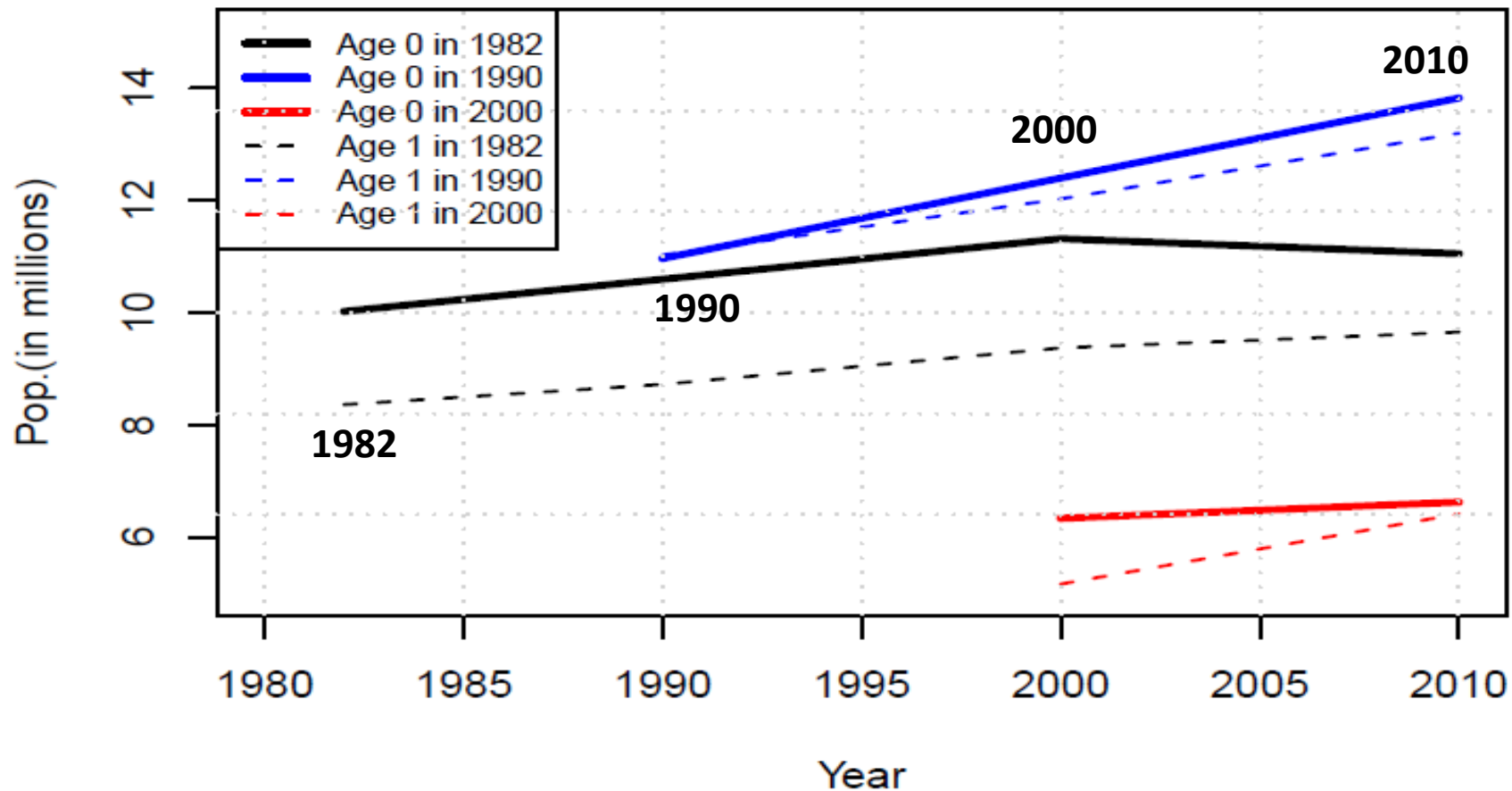
- **Censuses:** 1953, 1964, 1982, 1990 2000, 2010
- **Mini-census (1%):** 1987, 1995, 2005, 2015
- **APC (1‰):** 1983 -
- **Surveys on Cause of Death:** 1973-1975, 1990-1992, 2004-2005
- **DSP system (Maternal and Child Mortality Surveillance system):** 1980-
- **VR:** Ministry of Civil Affairs
- **Household registration system (*Hukou*):** Ministry of Public Security.
- **Various of other surveys:** by governmental organizations and academic institutes on fertility, health...,



# Inconsistency in population accounts

1

## # of Pop. by Cohort in Chinese Censuses, Females



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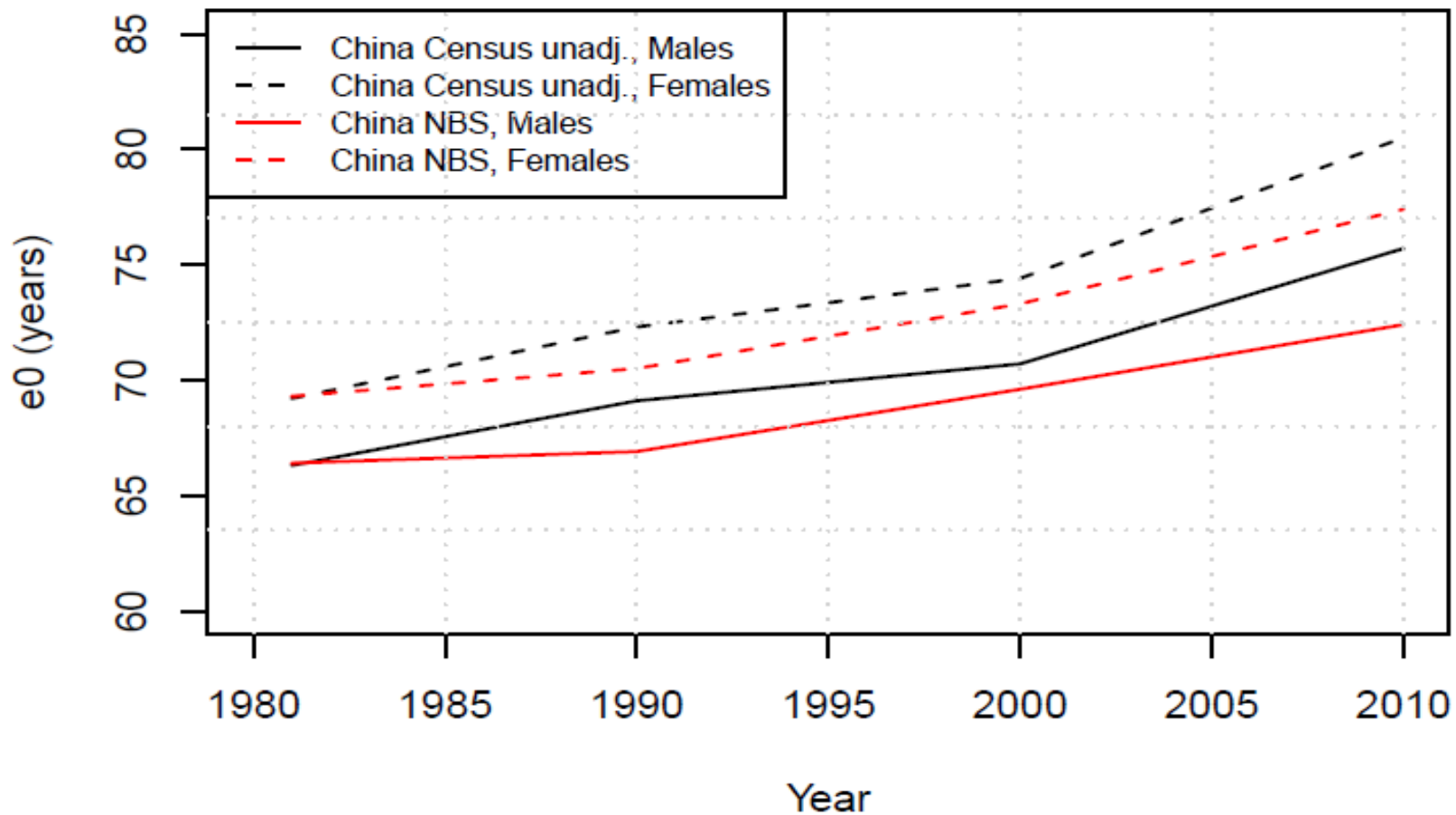
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# Mortality in censuses

2

e0 comparison between censuses and NBS

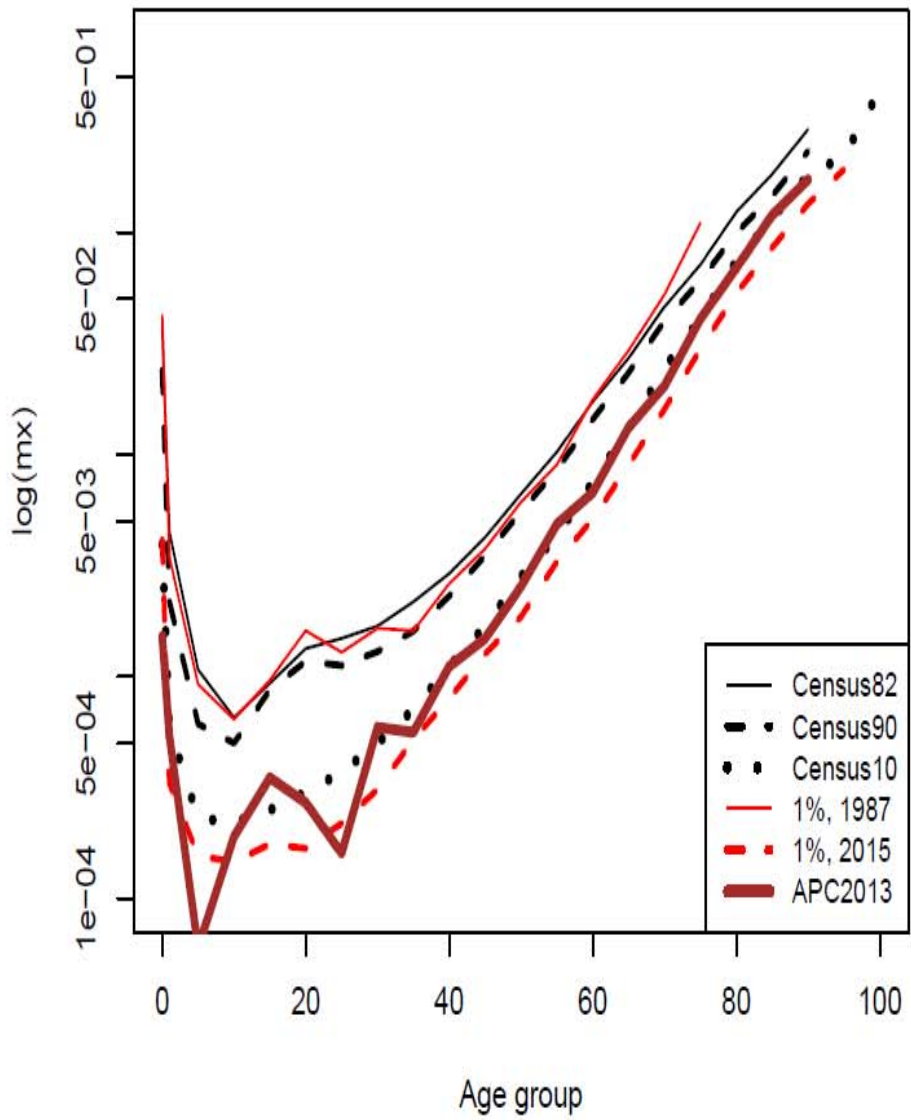


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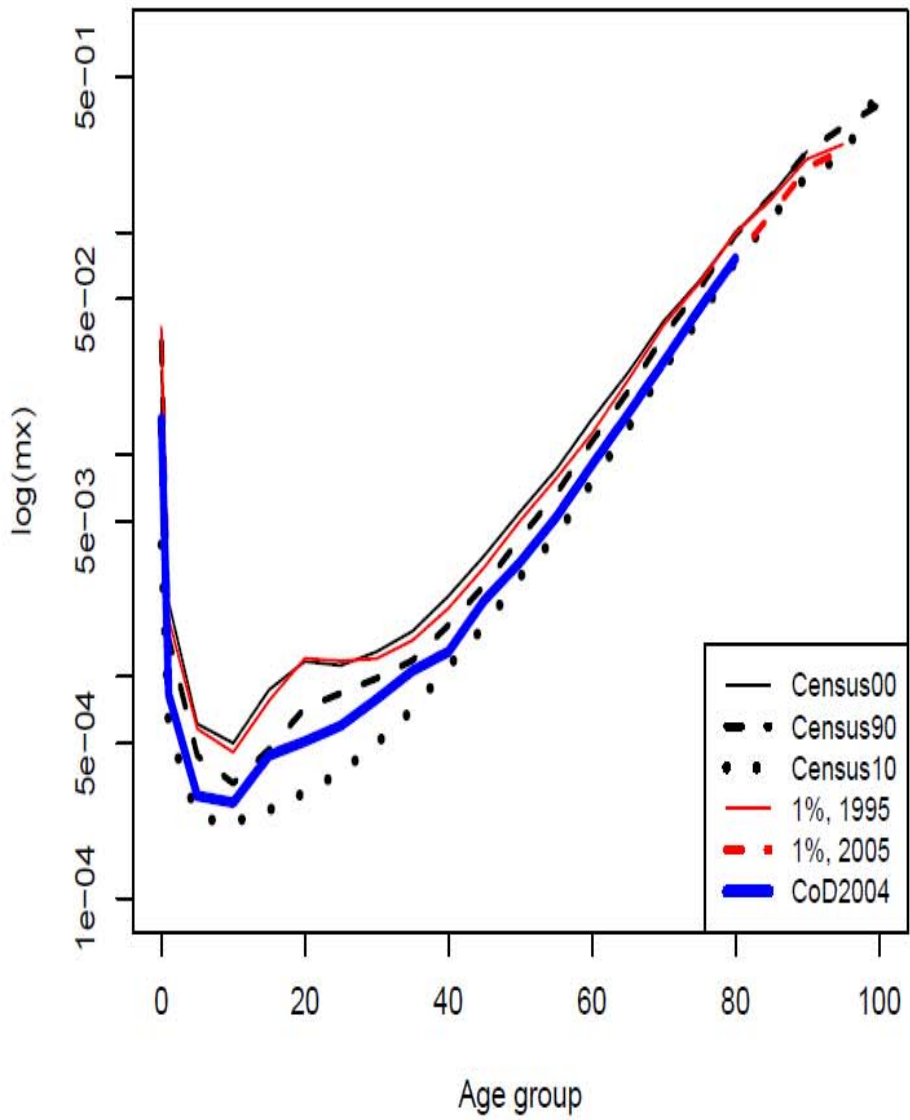
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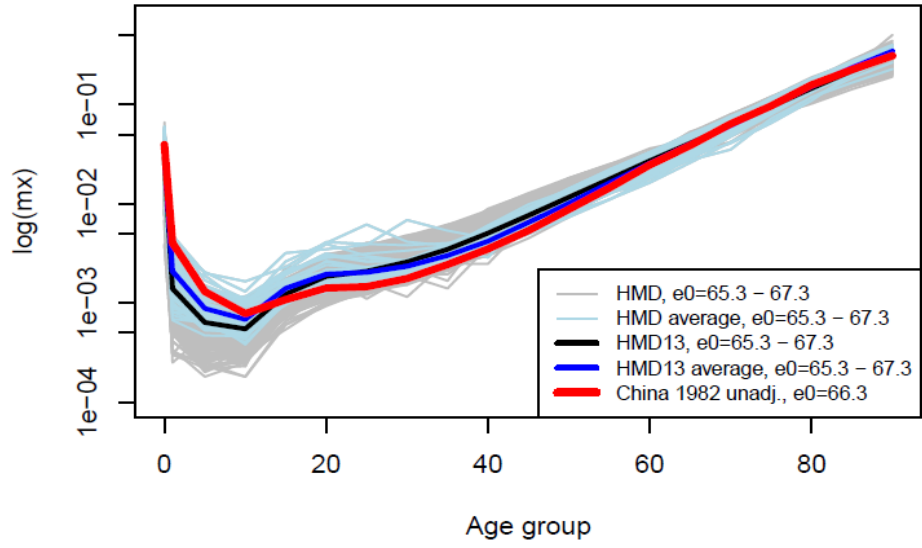
Comparison of mx, China, Males



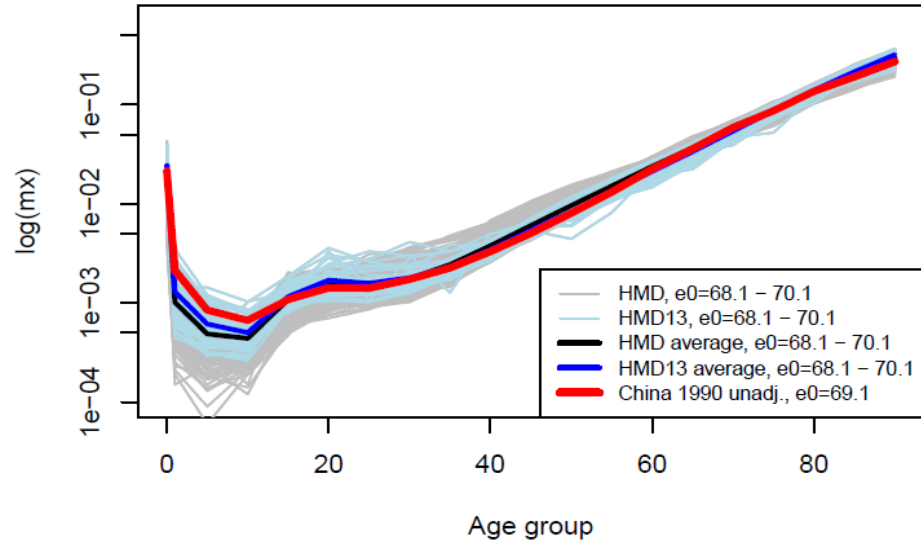
Comparison of mx, China, Males



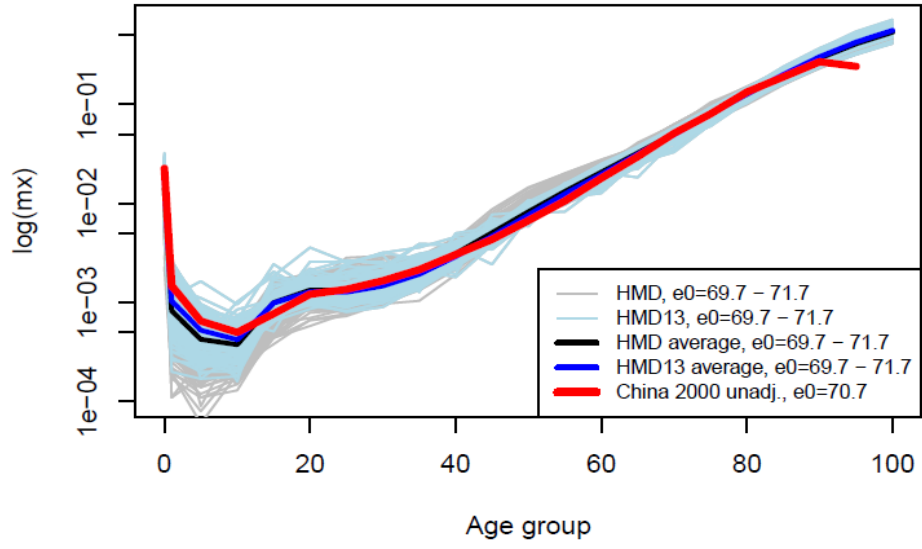
mx between HMD countries and Chinese census, Males ,1982



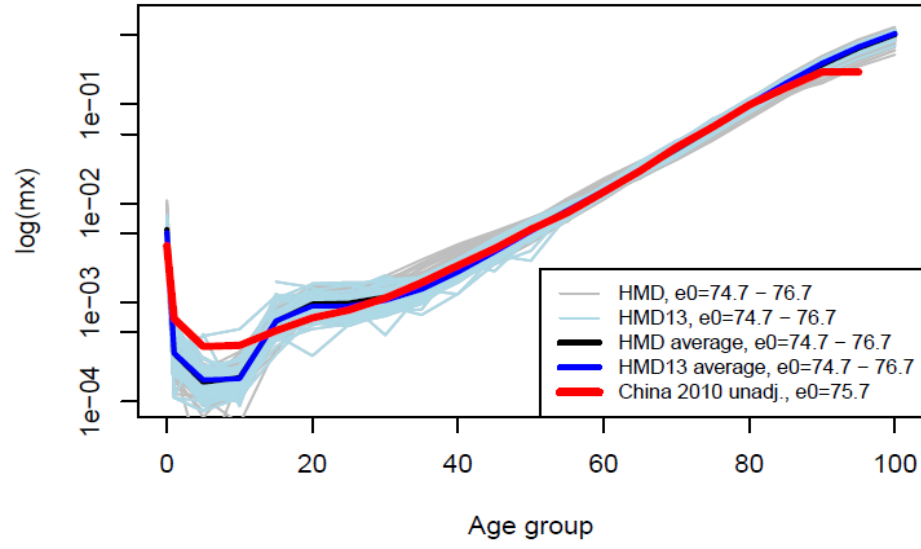
mx between HMD countries and Chinese census, Males ,1990



mx between HMD countries and Chinese census, Males ,2000



mx between HMD countries and Chinese census, Males ,2010

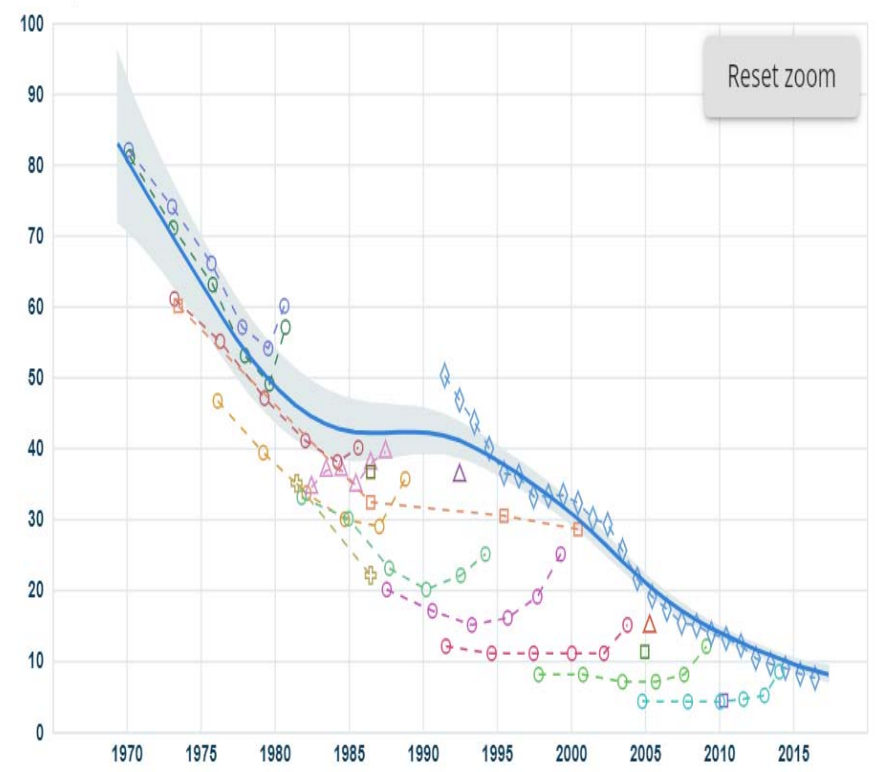




q0

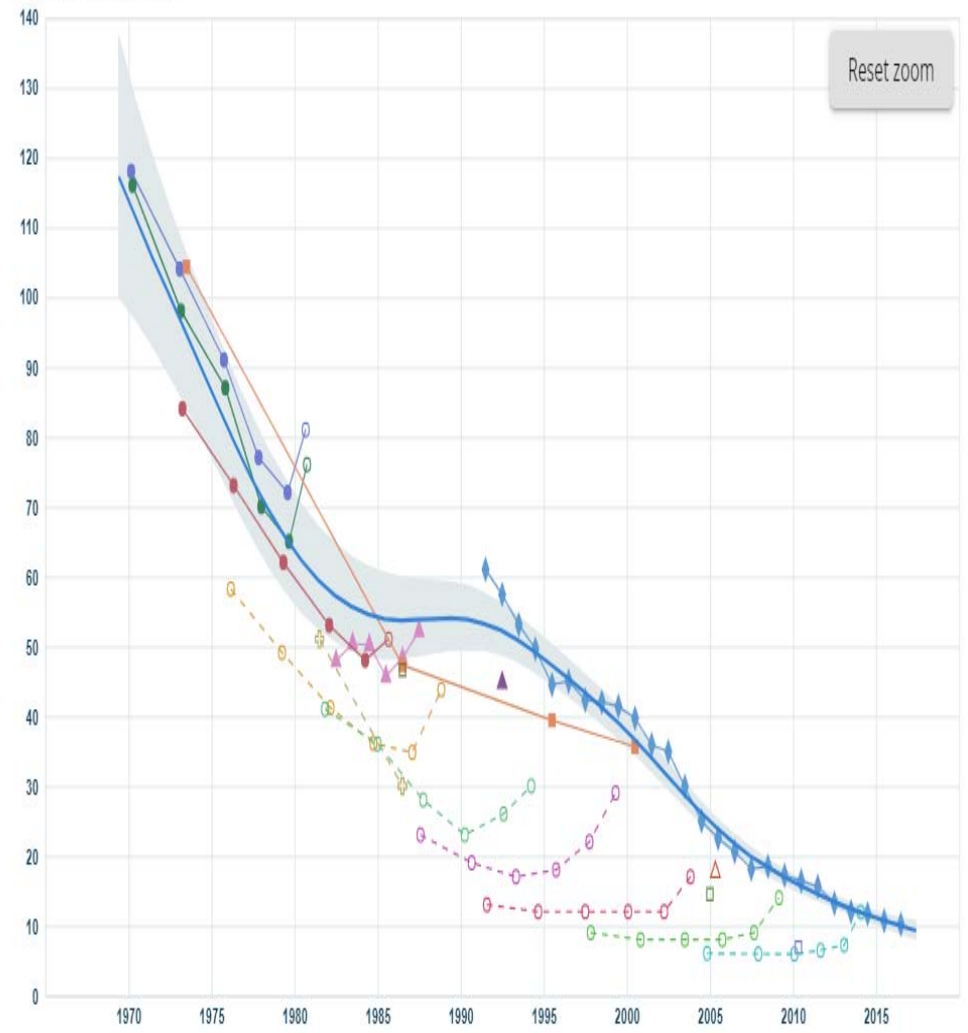
5q0

Deaths per 1000 live births



UN IGME Estimates   Source data excluded

Deaths per 1000 live births



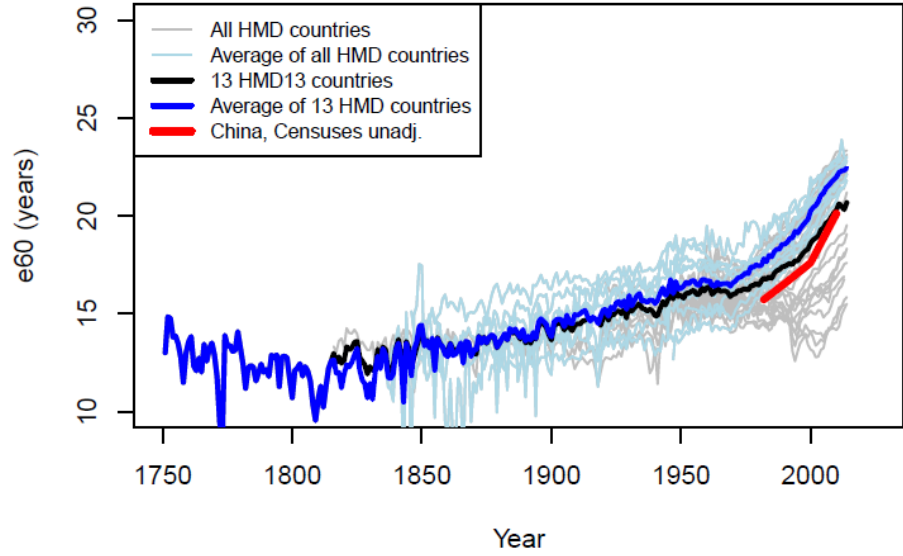
UN IGME Estimates   Source data included   Source data excluded

## Sex Ratio of m0 in Census and DSP, China

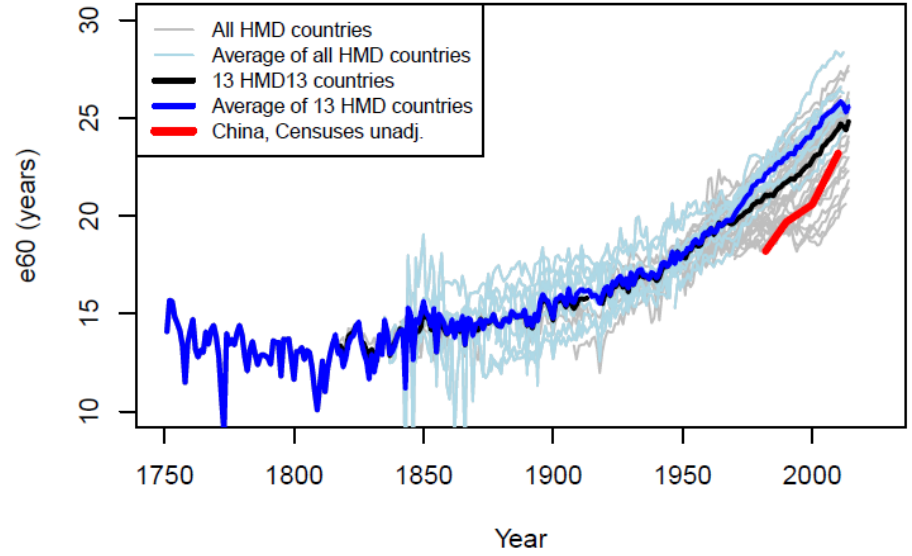
	DSP	Census
1990	1.05	0.89
2000		0.70
2010	1.34	0.95



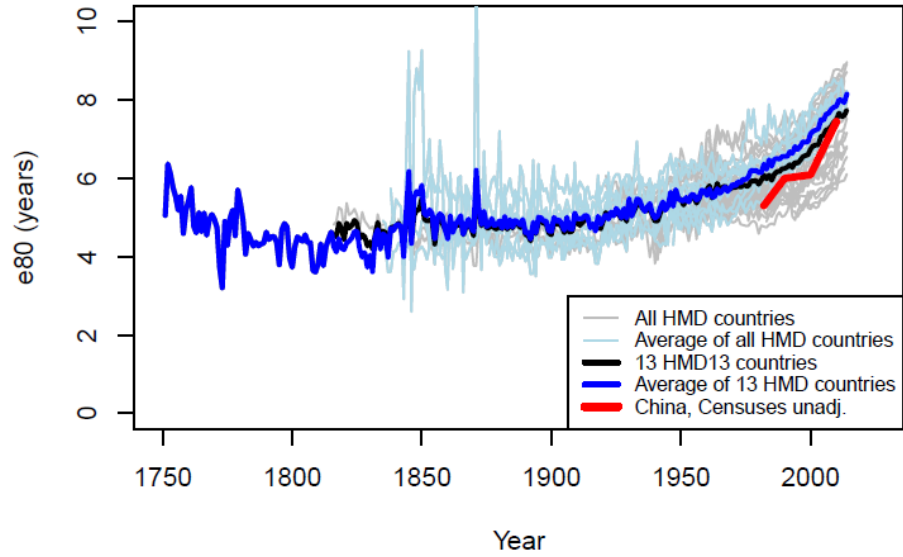
e60 trajectories, Males



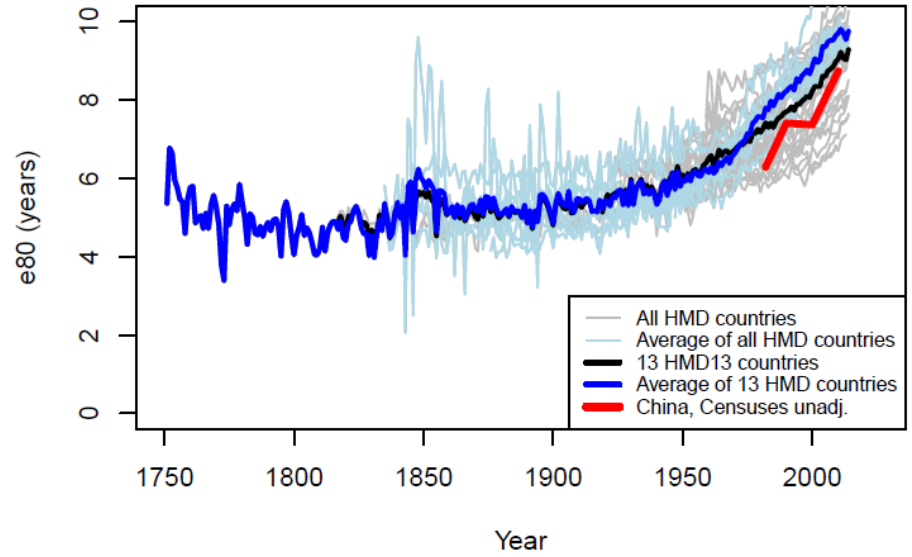
e60 trajectories, Females



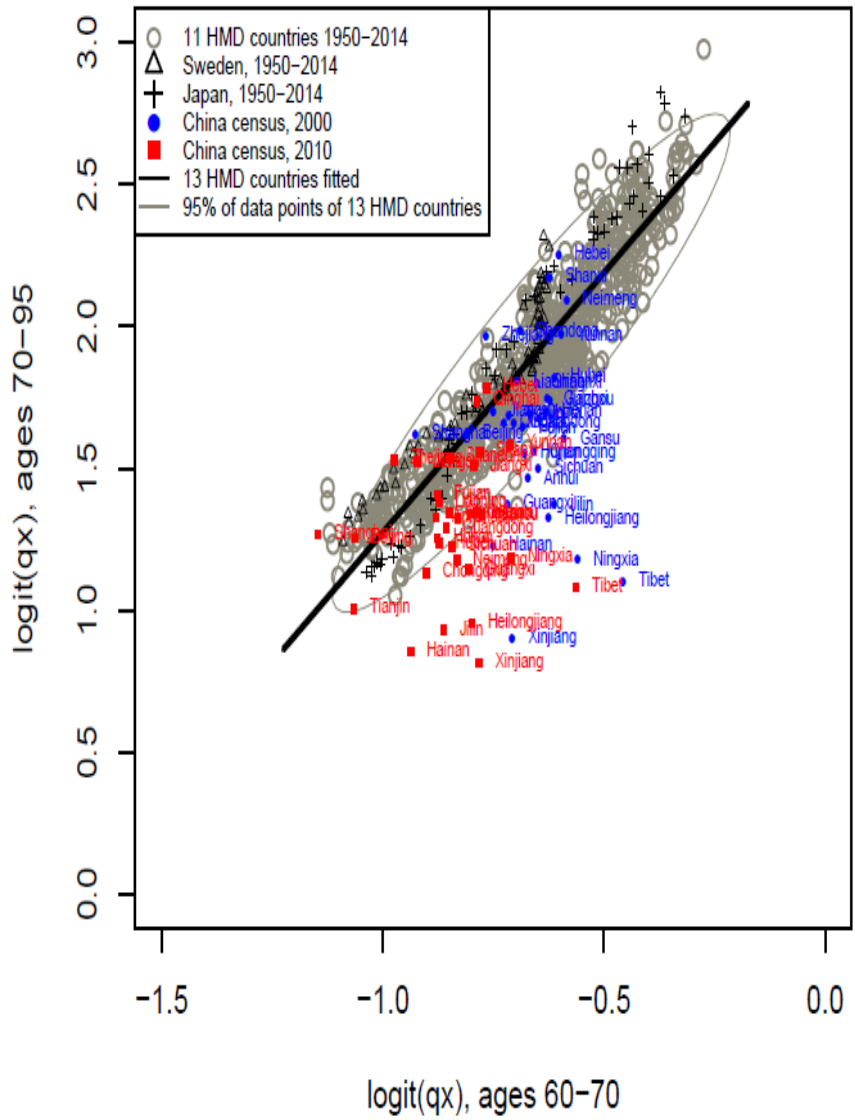
e80 trajectories, Males



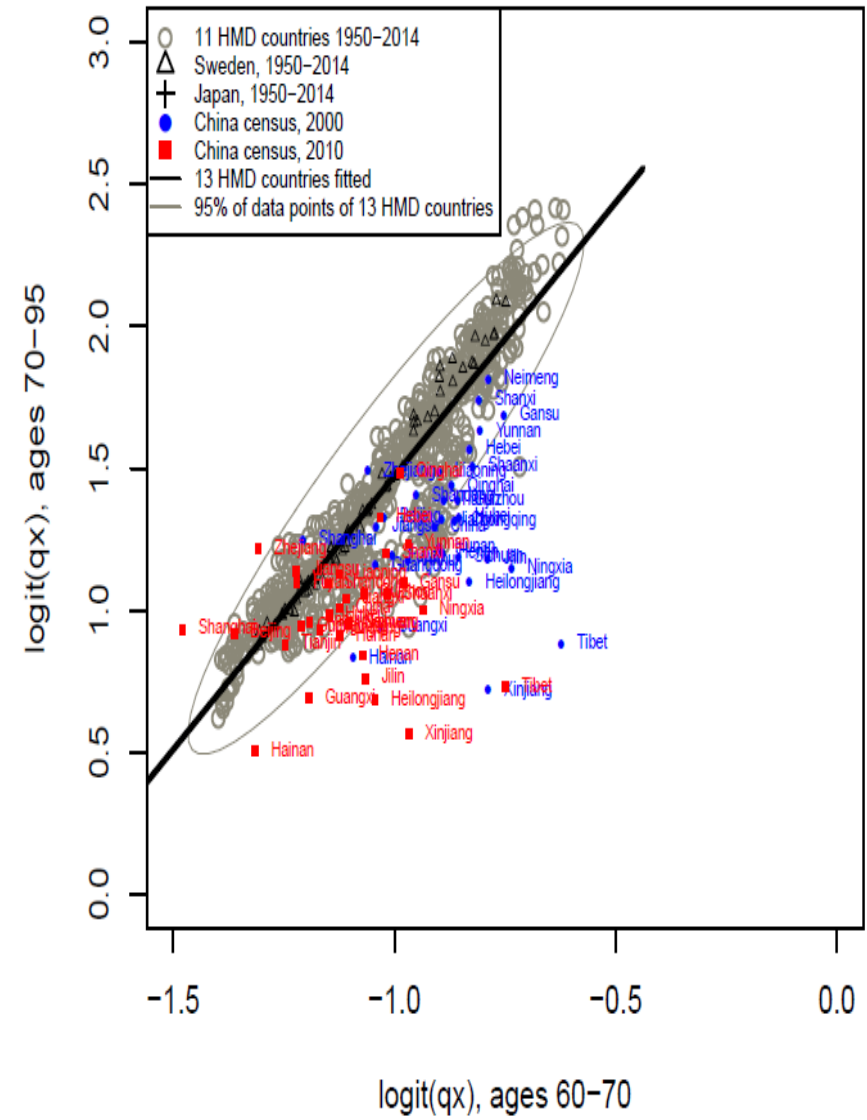
e80 trajectories, Females



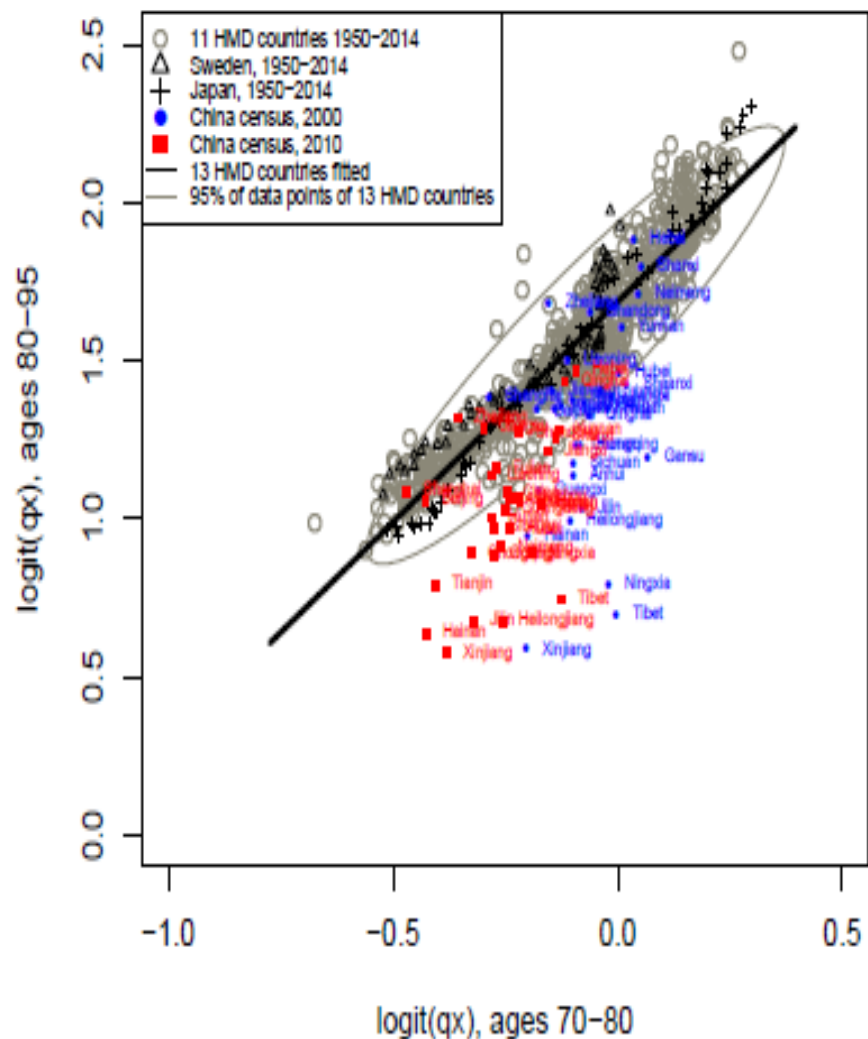
Ages 70-95 vs. ages 60-70, Males



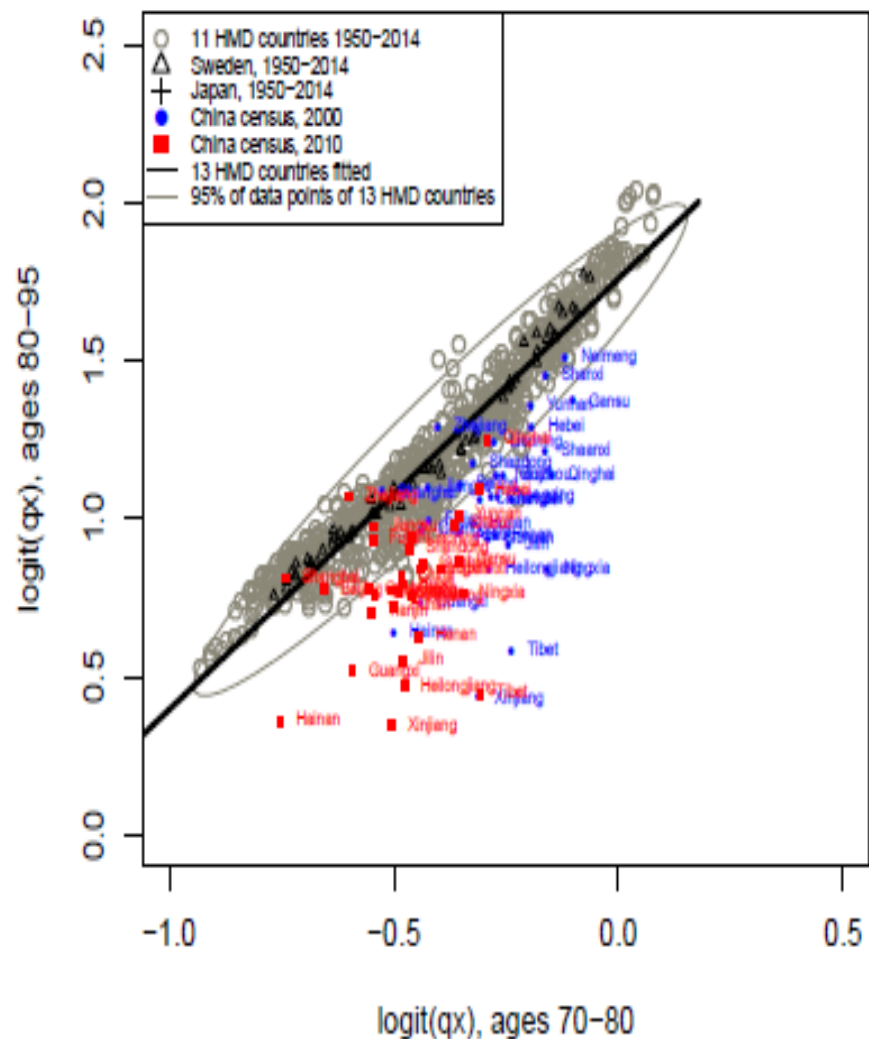
Ages 70-95 vs. ages 60-70, Females



Ages 80-95 vs. ages 70-80, Males

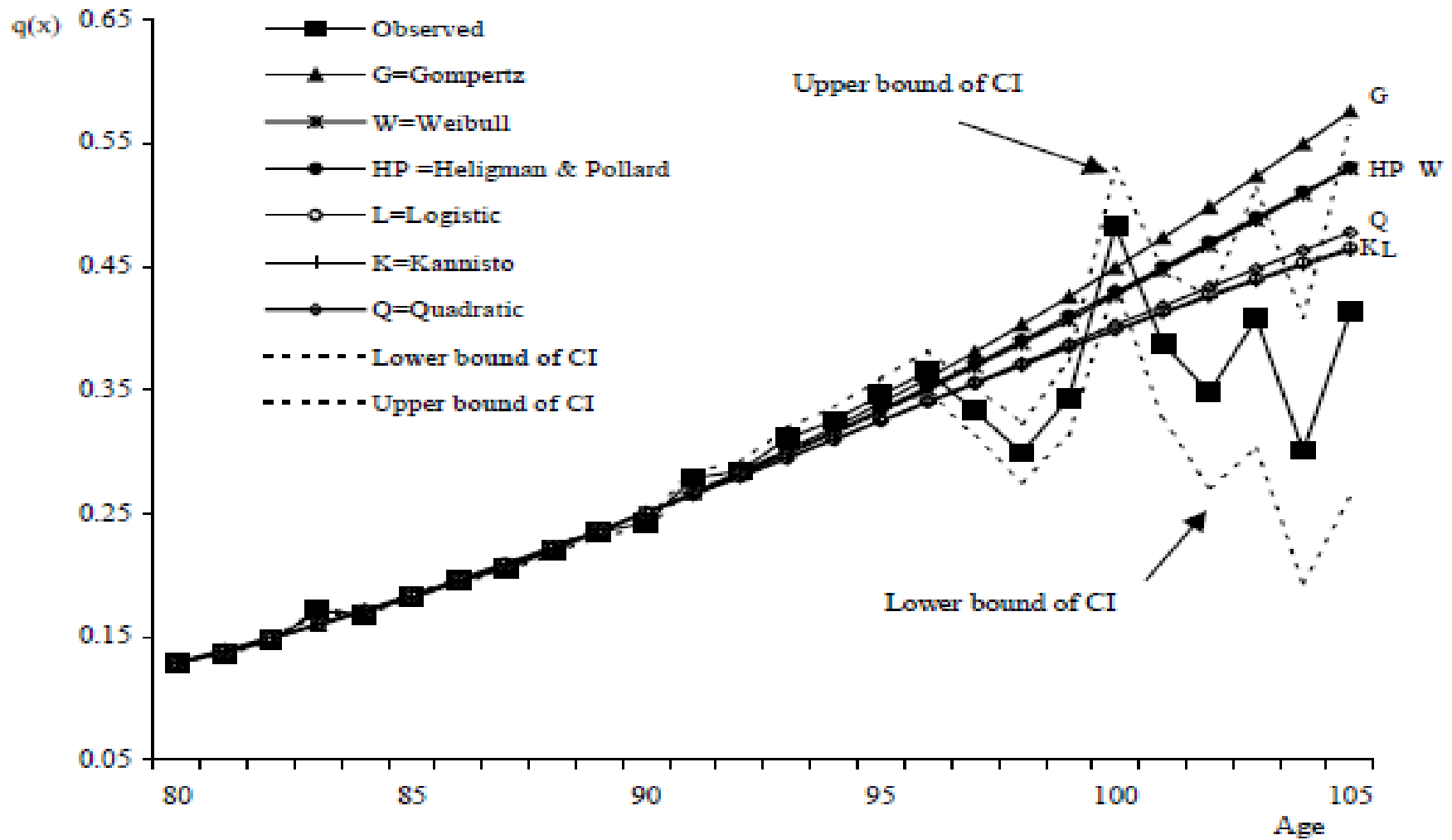


Ages 80-95 vs. ages 70-80, Females

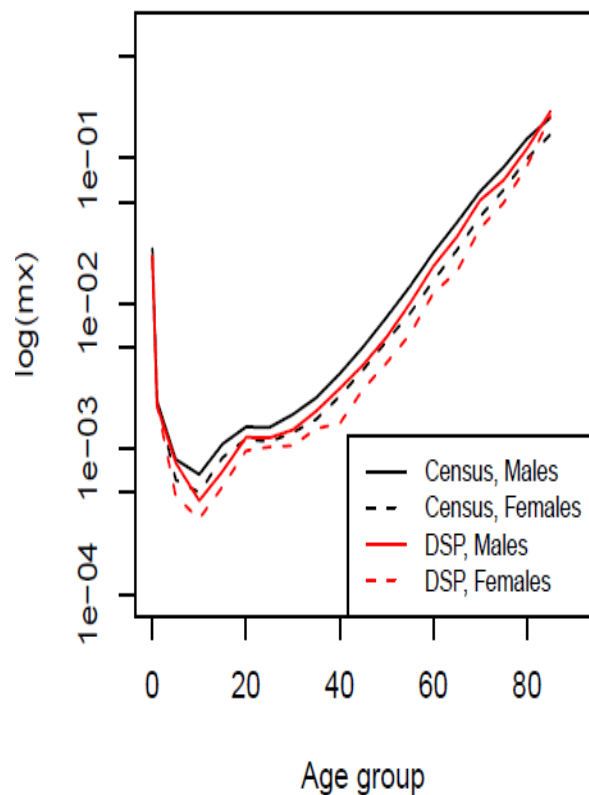


# Han Chinese, Males, 1990 census

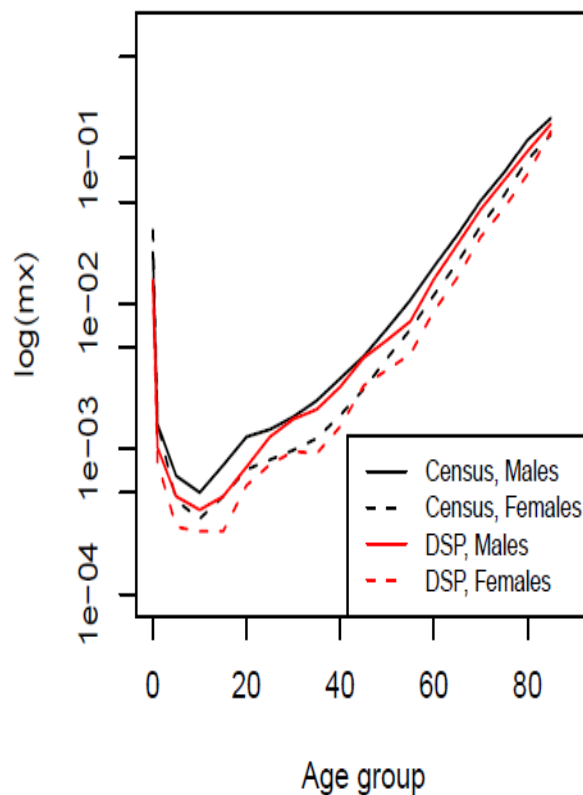
Source: Zeng and Vaupel (2003)



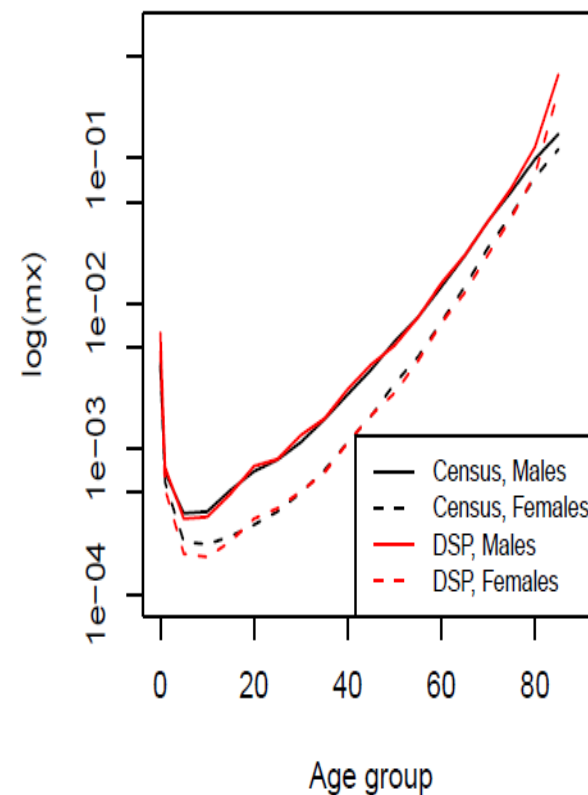
mx, Census vs. DSP, China, 1990



mx, Census vs. DSP, China, 2000



mx, Census vs. DSP, China, 2010



Source: Zhou & Yin(2016)



## Death cases reporting in China during 2004-2015

Year	reported number of deaths	Number of counties	Reporting rate	Garbage code rate	Crude mortality rate in DSPs	Mortality rate released by National statistics Bureau	Infant mortality rate in DSPs	Infant Mortality rate released by National statistics Bureau
2004	437,430	2422	82.58	20.05	6.08	6.42	11.32	21.5
2005	702,296	2295	78.25	24.68	6.08	6.51	11.32	19.0
2006	937,995	2308	79.45	22.13	5.25	6.81	9.31	17.2
2007	1,399,764	2385	81.63	14.07	5.60	6.93	9.02	15.3
2008	2,212,693	2593	84.16	7.06	5.75	7.06	8.00	14.9
2009	2,479,811	2615	84.74	5.82	5.83	7.08	6.06	13.8
2010	2,943,629	2695	87.33	5.56	5.75	7.11	5.51	13.1
2011	3,400,136	2695	87.33	5.10	5.76	7.14	5.82	12.1
2012	3,991,660	2818	91.08	6.26	5.96	7.15	6.32	10.3
2013	4,927,460	2903	93.6	5.96	5.60	7.16	4.70	9.5
2014	5,599,933	2900	93.4	3.70	5.87	7.16	4.80	8.9
2015	6,096,558	2916	93.6	3.58	5.84	-	4.80	



## Under-reporting rate of death for China CDC DSP field surveys 2009-2011

Ages	2009	2010	2011	Total
0-5	17.4(76/438)	22.0(89/405)	19.6(64/326)	19.6
5-14	21.2(54/255)	17.8(48/270)	18.2(45/248)	19.0
15-44	13.9(372/2669)	14.4(345/2394)	13.8(327/2363)	14.1
45-64	14.1(960/6833)	12.1(827/6836)	11.6(818/7055)	12.6
65+	13.0(2623/20186)	12.2(2541/20910)	11.5(2404/20909)	12.2

No. of under-reported cases/No. of total death cases

Source: Guo et al. (2015): Table 4.

## Underestimation rate of mx in the 2010 census

	Urban & rural combined		Urban		Rural	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
<b>0</b>	74.4	69.0	58.4	56.9	75.0	68.0
<b>1-4</b>	23.9	17.5	23.4	17.6	25.0	18.2
<b>5-14</b>	23.7	3.7	13.5	0.4	28.5	7.7
<b>15-44</b>	17.8	18.3	17.1	16.5	17.9	19.1
<b>45-59</b>	13.7	13.6	12.9	14.2	14.1	13.2
<b>60-69</b>	13.9	14.2	13.2	13.6	14.3	14.7
<b>70-95</b>	18.6	23.1	18.1	22.1	18.8	23.8
<b>95+</b>	41.8	36.1	44.3	37.3	37.9	34.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>20.4</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>20.9</b>	<b>19.8</b>

Source: Xiong, Gu, Zeng (under review)

- **For China, modelling approaches are needed, but DSP assessments are more reliable.**
- **For China, a long way to go to upgrade to an acceptable level or to a country with good data quality**
- **Combined different sources & models**
- **To be included in HMD?**
  - **Good news**
  - **Challenges**

