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Age patterns of mortality in Vietnam from 1989 to 2003

Vinh Nguyen (vinh.nguyen@anu.edu.au)
The Australian National University

Abstract

The decline of mortality in Vietnam has been acknowledged but little is known about recent age patterns of mortality in this country. The main reason is that, in common with many other developing countries, Vietnam has neither an effective vital registration system nor quality data sources about adult mortality. This article uses data from two censuses taken in 1989 and 1999, and four Population Change Surveys from 2000 to 2003 to estimate life tables of Vietnam's population in this period. Several direct and indirect demographical methods are applied in order to obtain reliable estimates from incomplete and inconsistent data. The results indicate not only a trend of declining mortality but also the differences of mortality by age and sex during the last decade in Vietnam.

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