

QUANTITATIVE LITERACY SAMPLE ASSIGNMENT

Course: Microeconomics

U.S. Department of State also allows you to research various countries and provides detailed profiles by country. For example, they discuss crime rates, both on tourists and on the local populations.

Use the CIA World Factbook website (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>) to make a list (an Excel spreadsheet might be helpful) with at least ten countries down the left side (try for different continents) and data fields across the top. Data fields should include Per Capita GDP, Gini Index, % below Poverty Line, Infant Mortality Rate and Life Expectancy (at birth).

Create a series of graphs using the appropriate graph type and scale to compare:

- Per Capita GDP to Infant Mortality Rate
- Per Capita GDP to Life Expectancy
- Gini Index to Infant Mortality Rate
- Gini Index to Life Expectancy
- % below the Poverty line to Infant Mortality Rate
- % below the Poverty line to Life Expectancy

Analyze the data and graphs to identify the relationships between economic data and health data.

Do countries with relatively high per capital GDP have an advantage in quality of life issues? Does the Poverty level have an impact on quality of life when measured by infant mortality or life expectancy? What do you see as issues or benefits for countries where the Gini Index is low relative to other countries on your list? What do you see as issues or benefits for countries where the Gini Index is high relative to other countries on your list? For countries with a Gini Index in the middle (such as the United States?) what are the apparent advantages and disadvantages of having a somewhat skewed distribution of income compared to other countries with either relatively high or low Gini Index values?