Desigualdades frente a la salud y la muerte durante la transición de la mortalidad en Europa occidental.

Una perspectiva de largo plazo.

Lionel Kesztenbaum INED

Catedra de Demografia El Colegio de Mexico, 7 de octubre, 2013

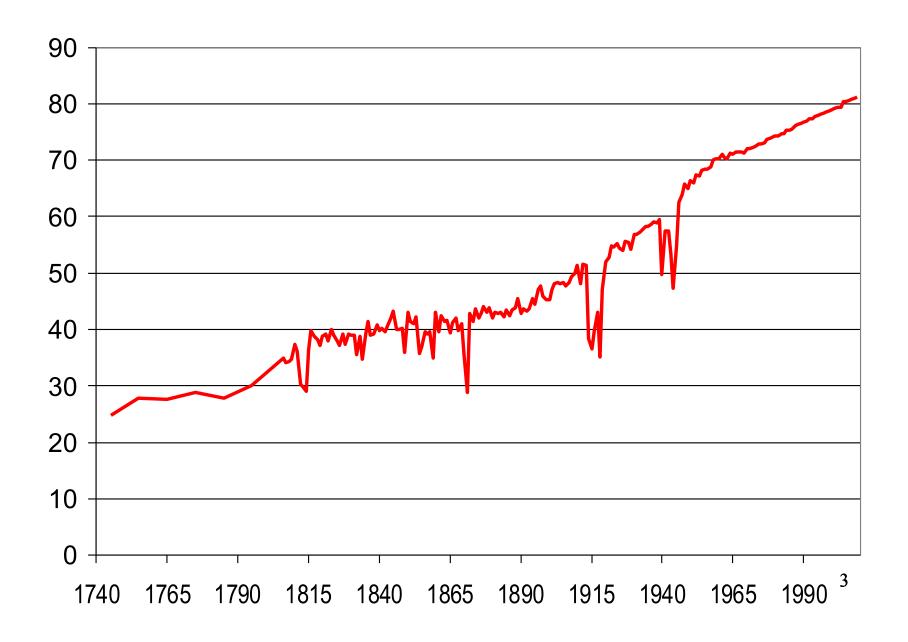
# Mortality and health inequalities in the long run.

Lessons from Western Europe

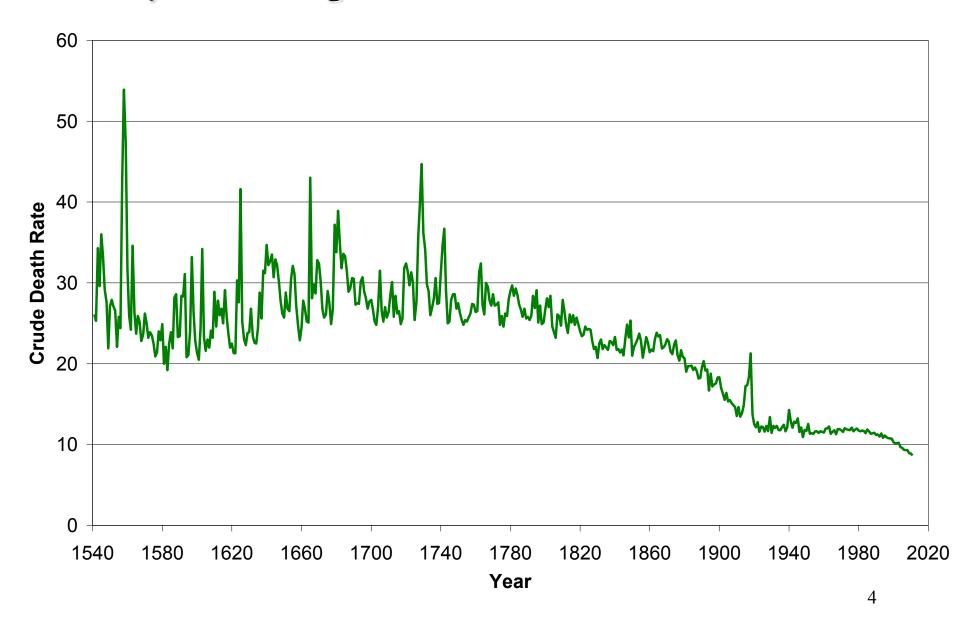
Lionel Kesztenbaum INED

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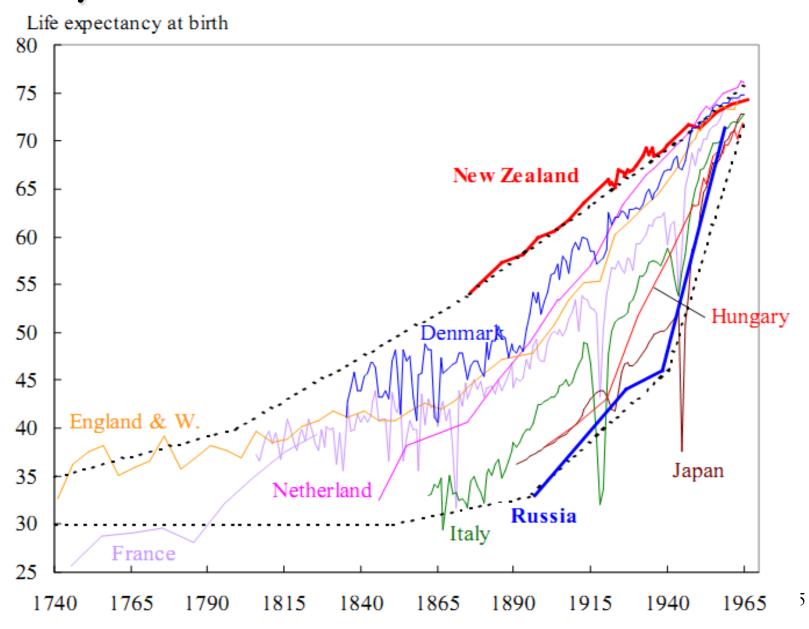
## Life expectancy at birth in France



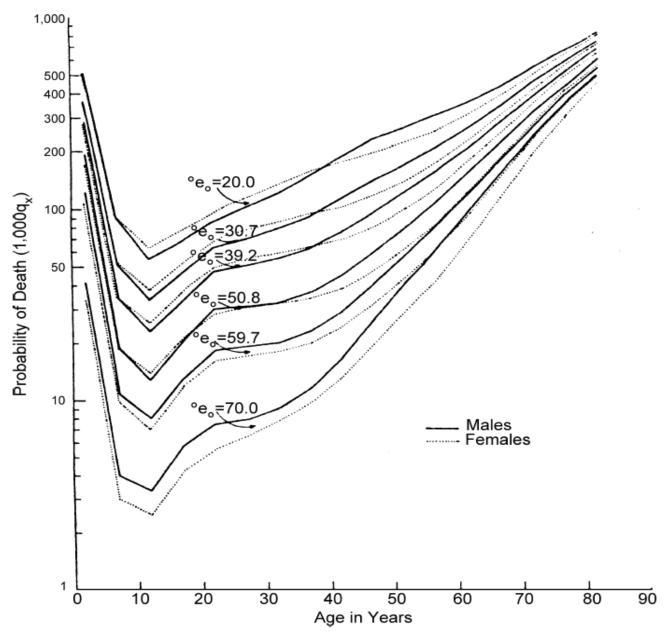
#### Mortality rates in England

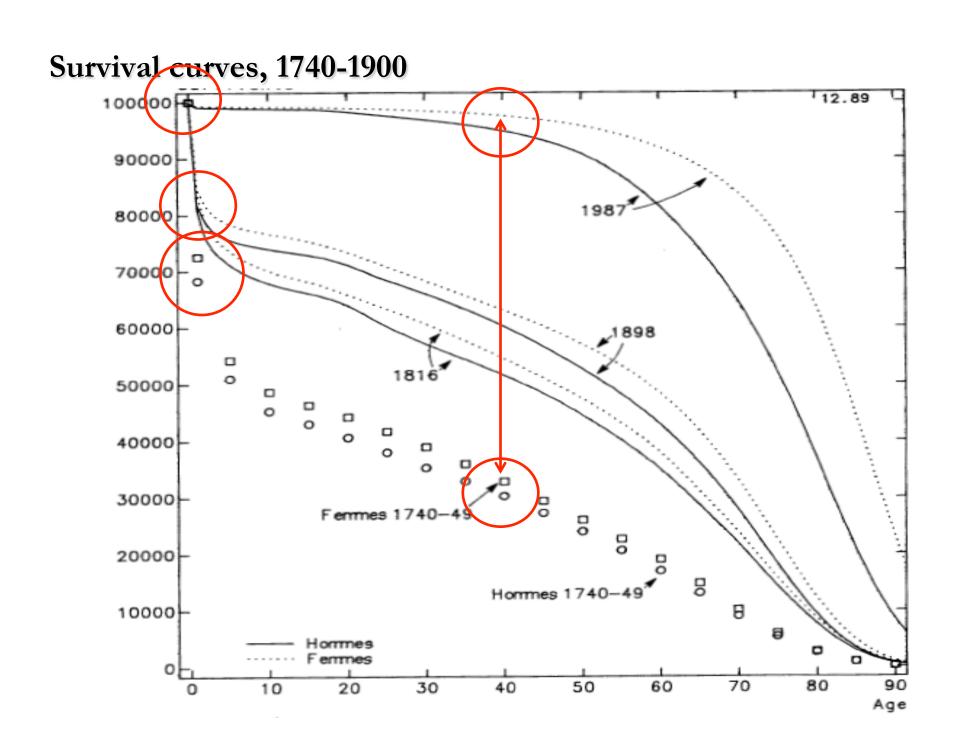


#### Mortality decrease in the West



#### Probability of death by age

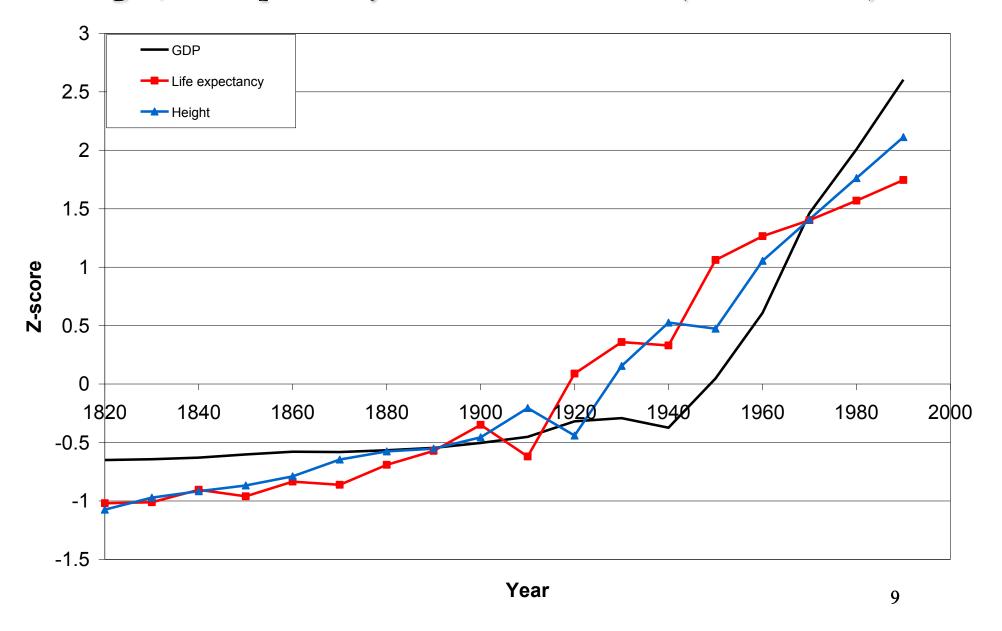




#### Median male height in France



#### Height, life expectancy and GDP in France (standardized)



#### General settings (1) income and mortality

- Do economic growth reduce mortality?
  - Income produce health.
  - But direct causation difficult to assess.
  - Lack of empirical evidences.
- > A more complex pattern
  - Both direct and indirect effects.
  - Combination of public and private health.
  - Long term effects (early life hypothesis, foetal hypothesis, etc.).
- Overall, huge historical changes in mortality not (Directly? Entierly?) linked to increase of income.

#### General settings (2) health and income

- The capacity to work is limited by health status.
  - Better food produces healthier individuals.
  - Better health produces income.
- Physical capital.
  - Size and shape of the body matter...
  - ...and change also over time.
- Mortality is not the only thing that matters, health is also important.
- In the long run virtuous circle as both physical and economic capital increase.

#### General settings (3) inequalities in mortality and health

- How does inequality evolve during the health transition?
  - Decrease in overall mortality may combine with stable (or even increasing) inequalities.
  - Historically both a strong wealth gradient and a strong urban penalty.
  - Mortality inequalities are quite high today in developed countries.
- Investigating the mortality transition
  - The evolution of inequalities may depends on the factors underlying the mortality transition.
  - Long term effects.
- Paris at the turn of the 20th century
  - One example of a place with strong inequalities in different dimensions.
  - Allows to test the timing of the historical decrease in mortality.

#### Mortality and health inequalities in the long run

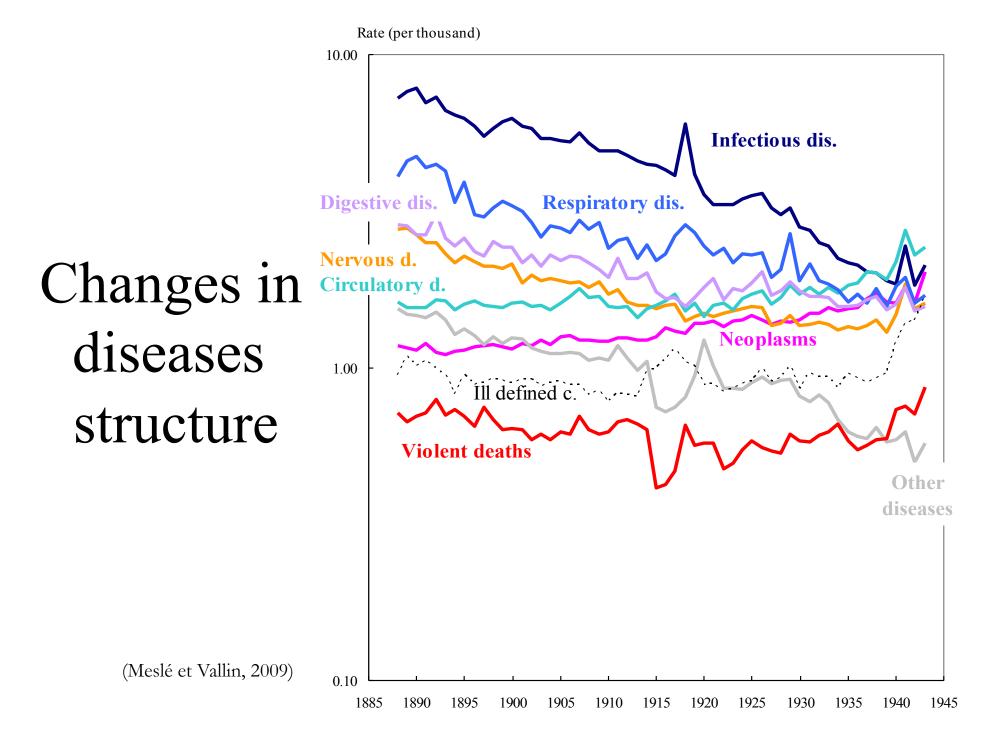
- 1. Income growth and the health transition
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## Public policies during the health transition

- What drove the health transition? Private vs public goods
  - \* Income.
  - Hygiene.
  - Medicine.
- Public health policies...
  - \* Transfer of medical knowledge.
  - Everyday application.
- ...but also large scale health improving infrastructures.

#### The role of income in mortality

- Why would income matters?
  - \* Exposure.
  - \* Nutrition.
  - \* Access to medical treatment.
- On a macro level mortality depends on knowledge.
  - The role of medicine and health technology.
- Improvement of sanitary conditions.
  - \* The role of public health.
- Hygiene and changes in the perception of health.
  - Home economics.



#### Medical technology

- A game against nature.
  - \* Knowledge.
  - Belief in mankind's capacity to change his health and mortality.
- Different complementary levels.
  - Best knowledge and practice.
  - \* Average practice.
  - \* The level of inequality.
- Before 1870, lack of knowledge.
- The emergence of the germ theory.
  - \* Pasteur, Koch.
  - Understanding how diseases are transmitted and the role of water and food.

#### Public health

- Initial interventions
  - Control of epidemics.
- Market failure
  - Report on the sanatory condition of the British working class, 1842.
  - Public Health Act, 1848.
- Inoculation and vaccination
  - Jenner and smallpox.
  - The concomitant rise of statistics, public health and probability theory.

#### Sanitary movement

- Rise of statistical data and analysis.
  - \* Louis vs Broussais.
  - Snow, On the Mode of Communication of Cholera, 1849.
  - \* But also drawbacks and failure (Semmelweiz).
- Large-scale publications: public health.
  - \* Annales d'hygiène publique, 1829.
- Interaction with society at large.
  - \* Importance of vector, nutriments, etc.

## Hygiene

- How to diffuse new idea in sanitation
  - Experts and doctors.
  - \* Development of hygienist movements, societies, etc.
  - Direct propaganda.
- Special attention to the children
  - \* The role of hygiene at home.
  - \* La goutte de lait.
- Home economics
  - \* The direct result of the germ theory.

# The health-wealth relationship

- How much does wealth influence life chances?
  - \* Various indicators: wealth, income, education, etc.
  - Most studies use occupation as a proxy for affluence.
- Does this relationship change with time?
  - \* The gradient is invariant with time.
  - \* The gradient appears with the industrial revolution and diminishes during the 20th century.
  - Most studies focus on one particular place.

## Features of the mortality transition

## □ The "urban penalty"

- ▲ Linked to bad living conditions...
- ▲ ...or population concentration?
- ▲ Stay high until the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

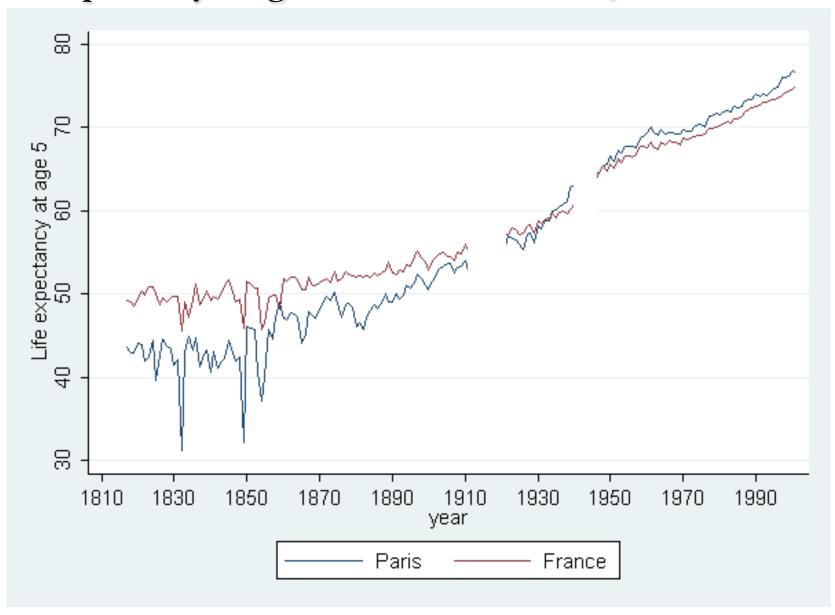
#### The gender gap

- ▲ A natural advantage compensated (or reversed) by social practices.
- ▲ A spectacular increase in male mortality.
- ▲ Finally social practices and genetics goes hand in hand.

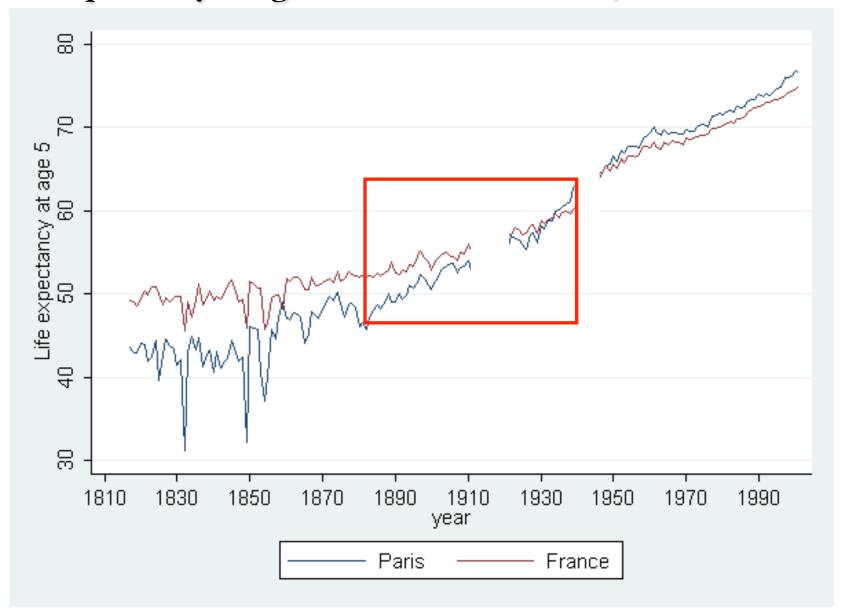
#### Mortality and health inequalities in the long run

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## Life expectancy at age 5 in Paris and France, 1817-2000



#### Life expectancy at age 5 in Paris and France, 1817-2000



#### Life expectancy at age 5 in Paris and France, 1880-1940



# Main arguments

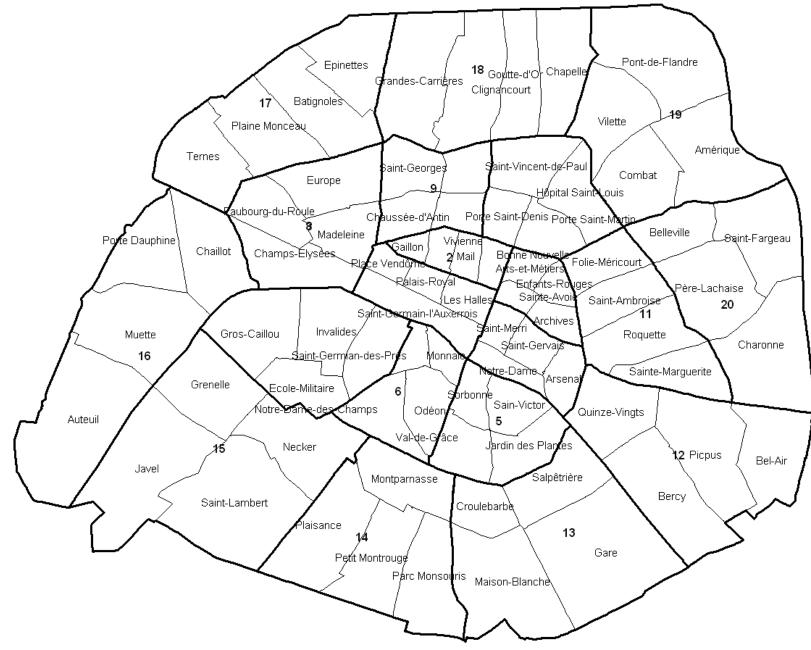
- > Large differences in mortality rates within Paris.
- > Strong concentration of wealth.
- Mortality inequality *increases* (rather than *diminishes*) within Paris during the transition period.
- ➤ Better sanitation explains both the initial increase and the subsequent convergence.

# Paris as a laboratory

# Early work on inequality and the risk of death

- ❖ Villermé (1820's); Bertillon L.-A. and J. (late 19<sup>th</sup> century).
- Large amounts of high quality data
  - \* Demographic data: Annuaire statistique de la ville de Paris.
  - Special edition of census results.
  - Fiscal data: Livre foncier.
- Homogeneity of many living conditions (e.g. climate).
- Diversity within Paris at the quartier level.

#### The administrative divisions of Paris



# Annuaire statistique de la ville de Paris

QUARTIERS	POPU-	SUPER- FICIE	HOMMES DÉCÉDÉS AGÉS												
et Arrondissements	LATION EN 1891	en HEC- TARES	Moins de fan	De 4 à 4 ans	De 3 à 14 ans	De 45 à 34 ans	De 35 à 59 aus	De 60 ans et au-dessus	TOTAL						
		h, a.					Ì								
4 ** Saint-Germain-l'Auxerrois	9,130	93 55	9	7	3	8	30	90	7						
2. Halles	30,065	44 00	26	23	6	52	121	74	30						
3. Palais-Royal	14,525	28 45	40	5	2	45	38	34	4						
4º Placo-Vendôme	14,218	27 00	3	7		47	28	38	9						
I' arrondissement.	67,938	190 00	48	42	15	92	217	166	51						
5. Gaillon	8,998	19 20	7	. 39	2	3	23	21							
6 Vivienne	12,146	23 30	5	8	2	26	23	16	7						
7• Mail	18,742	27 00	45	18	3	40	84	38	15						
8. Bonne-Nouvelle	30,041	28 00	37	22	9	60	120	71	31						
II arrondissement.	69,927	97 50	64	41	16	127	250	146	65						
9- Arts-et-Métiers	24,478	30 65	35	14	5	57	105	70	2						
0 Enfants-Rouges	21,082	27 85	21	19	2	44	78	49	2						
i* Archives	21,115	36 00	24	45	5	38	83	16	2						
12 Sainte-Avoie	22,005	24 50	26	29	4	43	79	49	2						
III arrondissement.	88,680	116 00	106	11	16	182	345	229	•						
13* Saint-Merri	24,864	32 00	48	30	8	63	192	66	3						
14 Saint-Gervais	41,243	40 85	58	44	47	85	188	444	5						
15* Arsenal	18,745	48 15	. 2+	18	2	35	51	55	1						
16- Notro-Dame	13,792	35 50	47	47	3	30	64	43	3						

#### Livre Foncier

DÉSIGNATION  DÉSIGNATION  des  QUARTIERS.	The second	1	SUBDIVISION DU NOMBRE ET DU MONTAN															NTAN	ES V	VALE					
	-	De 1 i 299.		De 300 à 399.		De <b>400</b> à <b>499.</b>		De <b>500</b> à <b>599.</b>		De 600 à 699.		De <b>700</b> à <b>799.</b>		De <b>800</b> à <b>899.</b>		De 900 à 999.		1,000 à 1,099.		De 1,100 à 1,199.		1,200 i 1,299,		99.	
ARRONDI	QUARTIERS.	Nombre.	Valeur.	Nombre.	Valeur	Nombre,	Valeur.	Nombre.	Valeur.	Nombre.	Valeur.	Nombre,	Valeur.	Nombre.	Valeur.	No	Valeur.	Nombre.	Valeur.	Nombre.	Valeur.	Nombre.	Valenz	Nombre.	Valeur.
1	3	3	francs.	5	6 frances.	7	8 francs.	9	francs.	11	francs.	13	14 francs.	15	16	17	francs.	19	francs.	31	francs.	23	france	25	a6
	S'-Germain-l'Auxerrois.  Halles  Palais-Royal  Place-Vendôme		158,570 543,972 172,919		497,470	1,625	650,305	881	452,660 226,850	170 703 333 270	430,520 204,805	1222 423 165 178	302,570 119,510	331	271,990 144,465	182		90 301 189 175	301,570 189,250	91 51	100,430 56,750	181	219,36 115,59	16 60 26 37	21,3 78,4 34,0 48,3
	TOTAUX	5,775	998,407	2,660	863,063	2,672	1,090,970	1,925	985,855	1,476	904,820	888	636,830	773	629,925	372	338,265	755	756,640	246	272,400	474	572,871	139	182,
1	Gaillon	370 1,086	56,2 <b>3</b> 5 173,915	202	65,020 125,580	177 380	74,340 158,115	196 363	102,910 184,650	185 297	113,830 180,945	124 182	90,760 129,540	133 222		38 88	34,350 79,850	158 225	158,180 225,200	11 36	12,150 39,750	82 94	100,000	25	
1	Mail		373,773 684,250	906 1,934	299,595 642,195	851 1,598	361,205 678,175	648	332,835 592,070	473 554	290,400 340,500	281 292	201,790 209,490	242 270	195,845 218,110	87 114	78,690 103,560	201 231	201,600 231,450	34 43	37,710 47,780	120 136	-10,000		1
	Totaux	7,872 1	288,173	3,435	1,132,390	3,006	1,271,835	2,360	1,212,465	1,509	925,675	879	631,580	867	700,235	327	296,450	815	816,430	124	137,390	432	522,855	12:	5 163

#### Selection issues

# Huge migratory flows to Paris

- \* Selection effects.
- \* Previous work showed that migrants were healthier but that their mortality converges to that of city natives.
- Migrants go first to poor neighbourhoods.

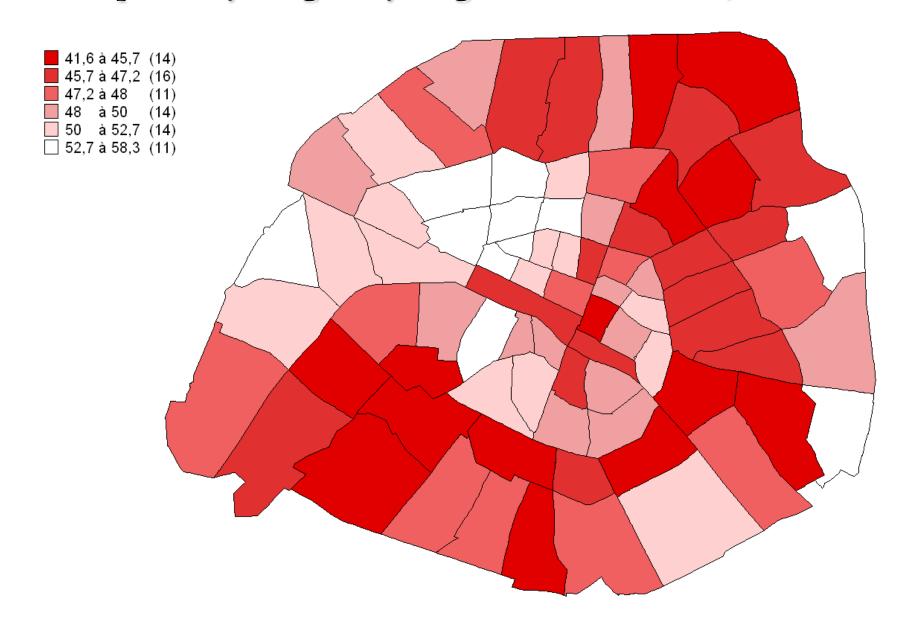
# Sorting of Paris inhabitants by neighbourhoods

- Higher life expectancy may be linked to characteristics of the neighbourhood itself...
- \* ... or to the high (low) income of those who live here.

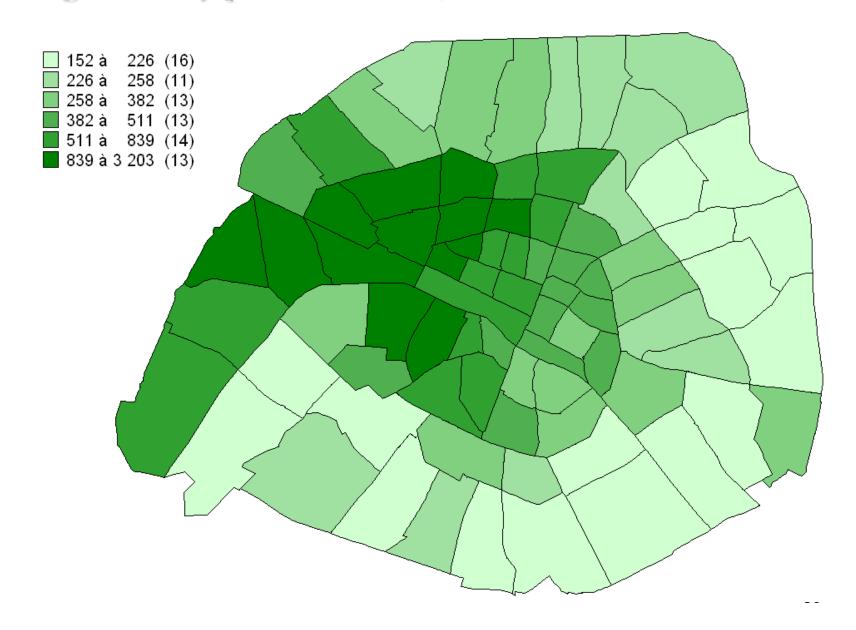
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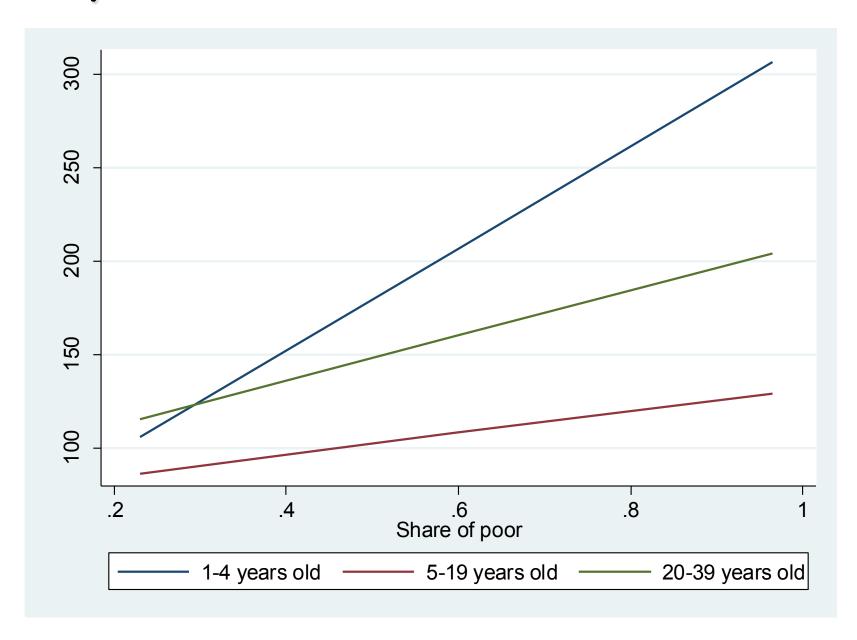
## Life expectancy at age 5 by neighborhood in Paris, 1881



## Average rents by quartiers in Paris, 1878



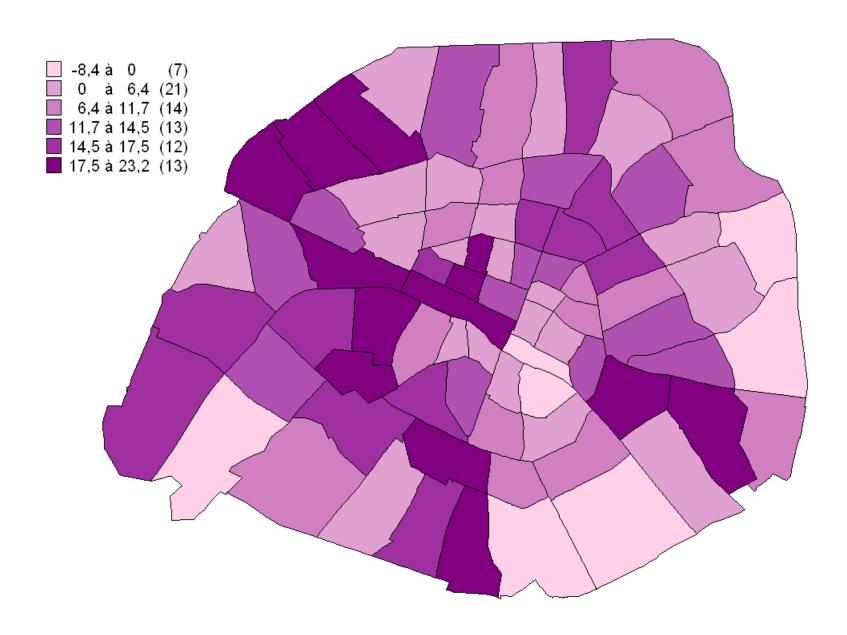
## Mortality risk and wealth in 1881



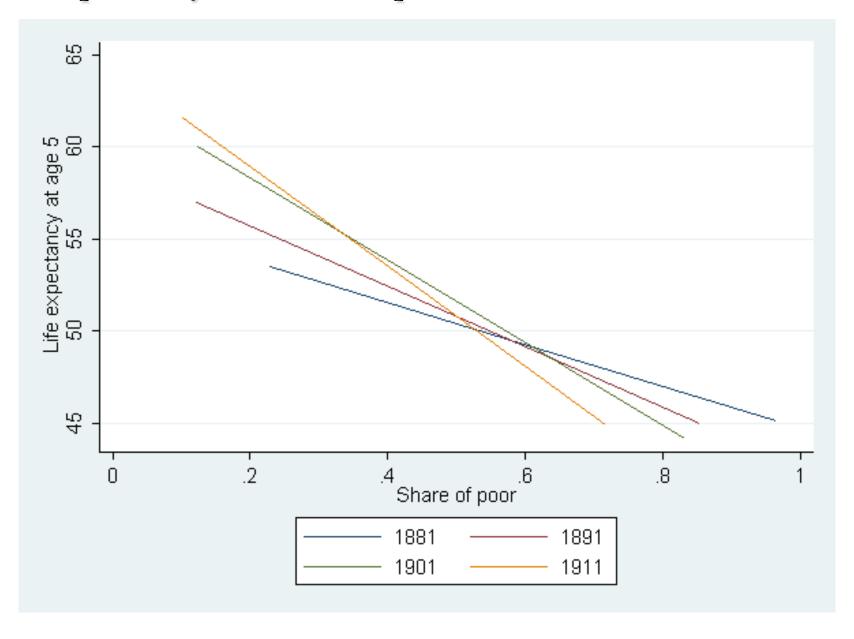
### Life expectancy within Paris, the top and bottom decile



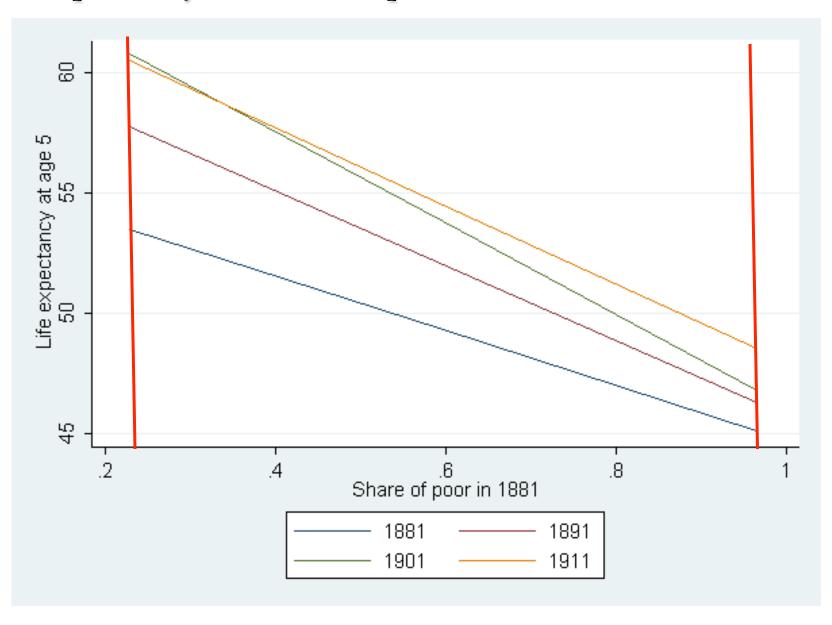
### Life expectancy gains between 1881 and 1911 (%)



# Life expectancy and share of poor households



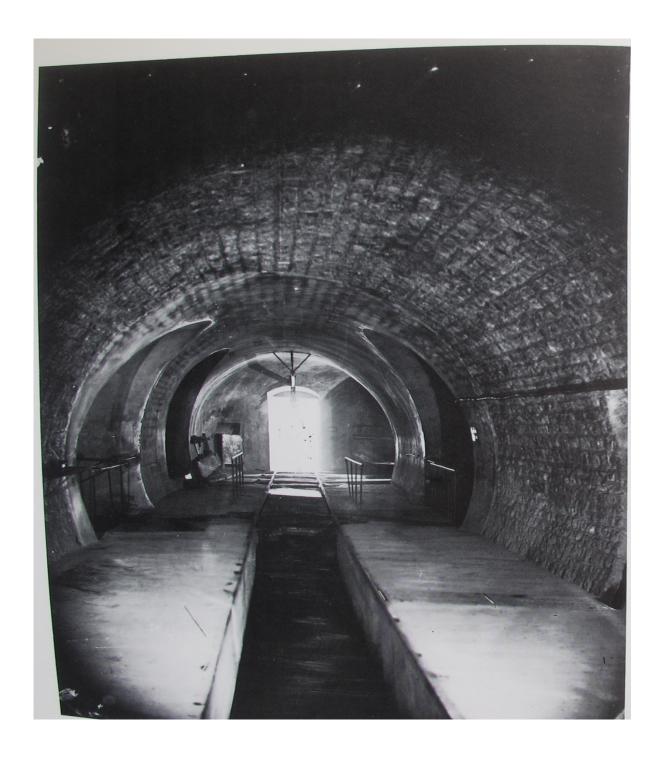
### Life expectancy and share of poor households in 1881



### Mortality and health inequalities in the long run

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# Sewers in Paris

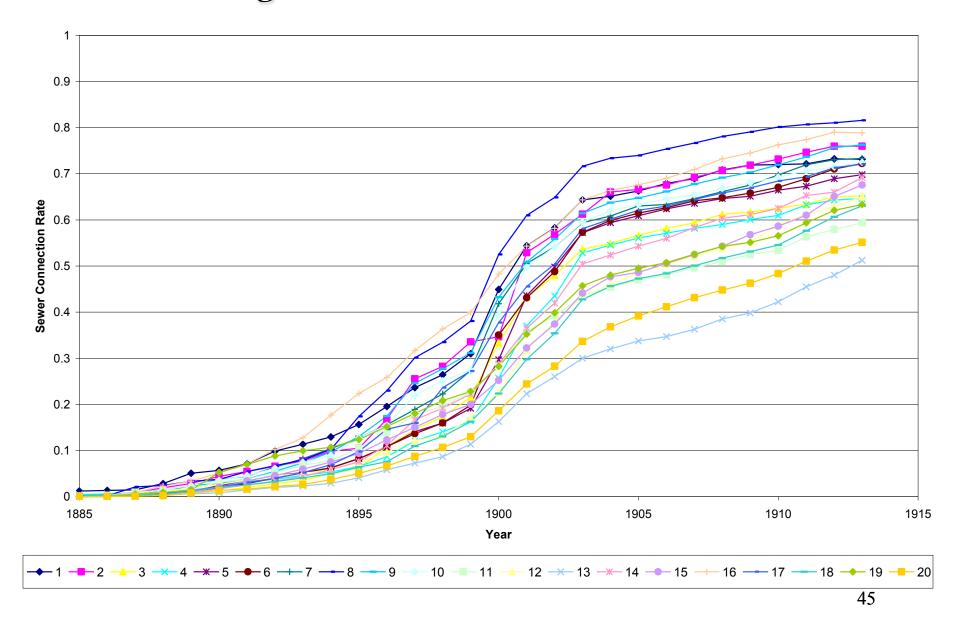


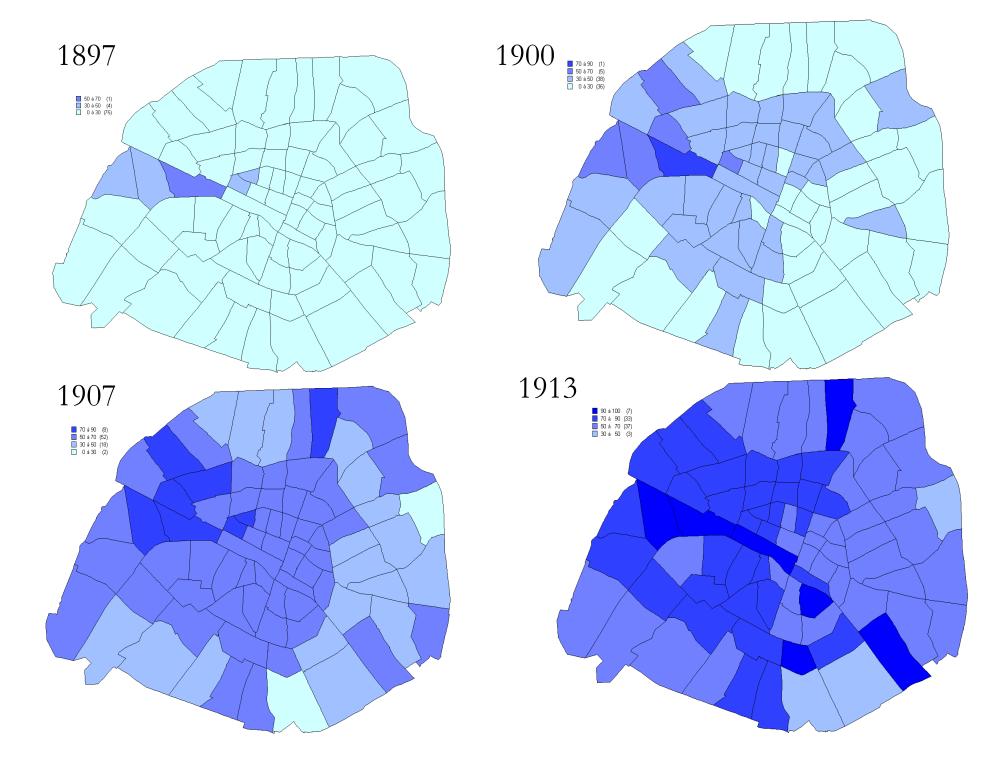
### Sanitation

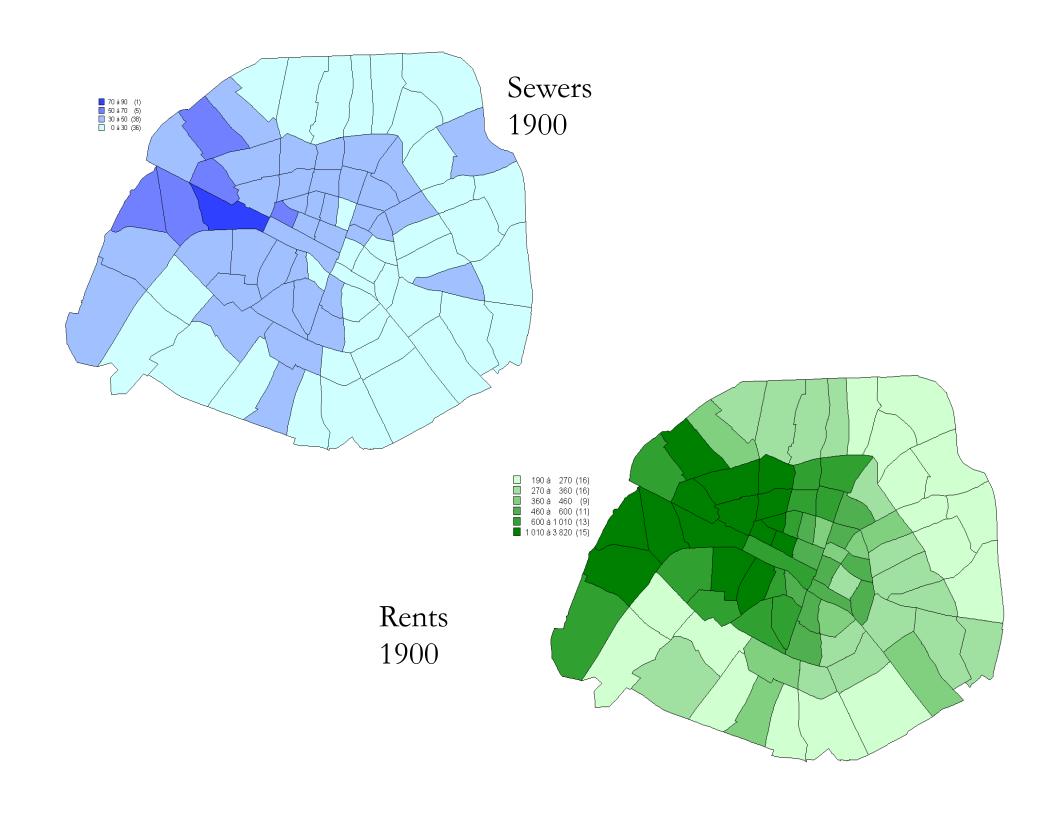
- The other side of public health policies
  - Need to get clean water inside homes but also waste water out.
  - \* A huge issue in hygiene debates.
- A public policy?
  - ❖ 1867 : "tinettes filtrantes" are allowed to be connected to sewer.
  - \* 1884: direct connection (tout a l'égout) to sewer is allowed.
  - \* 1894: direct connection to sewer is **made mandatory** in the street with sewer access.
- But ultimately in the hand of building owners.

	Dependent Variable Life Expectancy-Age 1						
Sewer Connection Rate	3.93 (0.114)	1.33 (0.225)			3.02 (0.087)	1.01 (0.23)	
Rents			4.45 (0.102)	1.69 (0.281)	3.74 (0.85)	1.31 (0.29)	
Constant	50.15 (0.149)	51.96 (0.473)	50.09 (0.104)	52.43 (0.468)	50.1 (0.84)	52.11 (0.47)	
FE-Neighborhood		YES		YES		YES	
FE-Year		YES		YES		YES	
N	2320	2320	2320	2320	2320	2320	
Adj-R <sup>2</sup>	0.34	0.90	0.44	0.89	0.63	0.89	

### Share of buildings connected to sewers



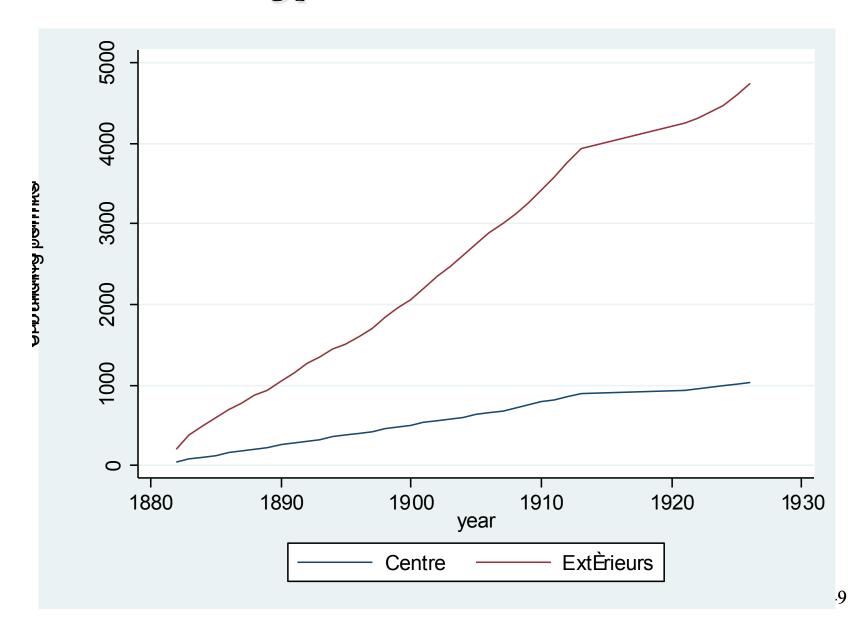




# **Endogeneity issues**

- Wealth, mortality and sewer system
  - \* Wealth influence both mortality and connections to sewer.
  - \* We want to get a "pure" sewer effect.
- Solutions? Need to find something that determine connection to sewers independently of wealth.
  - Using construction rates.
  - \* Distinguishing center (1-11) and periphery of Paris (12-20).

# Number of building permits



## The validity of the instrument

- Reverse causality
  - → High mortality areas get attention ("îlots insalubres").
  - → But they represent a very limited part of the population.
- Income effects
  - → Rich areas get more new buildings (if buildings depend on rents).
- Higher quality of the new buildings
  - → We can test looking at new building before sewer connection.

	Dependent Variable Life Expectancy-Age 1 Periphery only						
Sewer Connection Rate	3.14 (0.13)	2.1 (0.33)	1.86 (0.36)	2.96 (1.44)			
Rents	3.83 (0.16)	1.94 (0.39)	3.96 (0.21)	1.77 (0.72)			
Constant	49.23 (0.13)	47.7 (0.61)	50.27 (0.26)	46.86 (0.94)			
Instrumented			YES	YES			
FE-Neighborhood		YES		YES			
FE-Year		YES		YES			
N	740	740	740	740			
Adj-R <sup>2</sup>	0.59	0.88	0.54	0.88			

# Results summary

- > Effects of wealth and sanitation
  - Wealthiest neighbourhoods get sanitation first
  - Initial increase in health inequality linked to sanitation.
  - As connections to sewers spread the gap falls.
- > Overall effect of sanitation smaller than wealth.
  - Consistent with the reduction of the gap.
  - May explain the convergence between arrondissement.

### Mortality and health inequalities in the long run

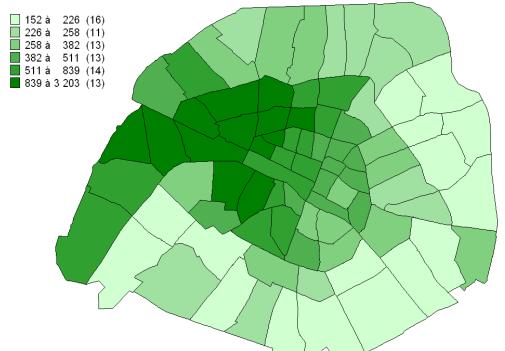
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### Conclusion: inequality in Paris

- How specific is the situation of Paris?
  - ▲ The largest and wealthiest city of France.
  - ▲ Various and numerous evidence on mortality patterns.
- Strong mortality inequalities within the city
  - ▲ They are clearly linked to wealth.
  - ▲ They increase as life expectancy rose.
- The unequal distribution of public goods
  - ▲ Distribution of sewers reinforce wealth inequalities.
  - ▲ The suppression of urban penalty is made at the expense of the poorer.

# Conclusion: History matters because things change...

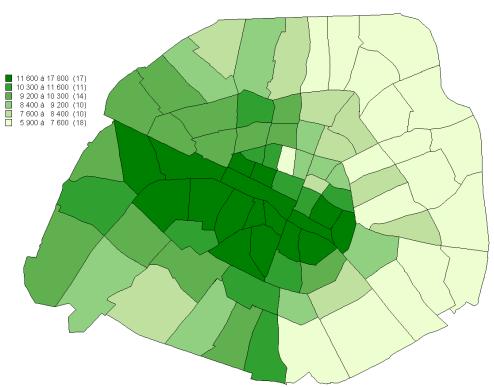




Average rents by quartiers in Paris, 1878

# ... And because they don't

Average rents by quartiers in Paris, 2011



# General conclusion (1) Why do we care?

- Recent rise in income inequality
  - ▲ Few studies of the consequences on health inequalities.
  - ▲ May slow down (or even reverse?) the gain in life expectancy.
- Access to public goods is still limited in many parts of the world
  - Access to water or sanitation is an issue in many developing countries.
  - ▲ History may help to assess the costs and benefits.

### General conclusion (2) Mortality decrease in the long run

- □ The mortality transition was heterogeneous
  - ▲ Between countryside and cities.
  - ▲ Between rich and poor.
  - ▲ Between men and women? Between occupations? Etc.
- Its results are also heterogeneous
  - ▲ Different paths to the modern mortality regime.
  - ▲ Divergence between countries on the end point.
  - ▲ Divergence even among the frontrunner countries.
- The decrease of mortality is not a linear process
  - ▲ Improvements may stop or even reverse.
  - ▲ Not everyone benefit of that decrease the same way.

### What next?

### Early life hypothesis

- ▲ Strong inertia (at the individual level).
- ▲ Many outcome later in life may depend on early life living conditions.

### Foetal hypothesis

- ▲ Even before birth, health conditions matters.
- ▲ Still controversial and hard to demonstrate (precisely).
- ▲ Interactions with inequalities is not clear.

### Shocks and trajectories

- ▲ Shocks have long-term consequences even at the individual level
- ▲ Need to assess the whole trajectories.

Next conference:

Tomorrow at 6:00 pm

# La demografía histórica: Sus retos, fuentes y métodos actuales

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# **GRACIAS!!!**

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# References and sources (1) stylized facts

### Life expectancy in France

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# References and sources (2) Paris

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- Kesztenbaum, Lionel, and Jean-Laurent Rosenthal. "Income versus sanitation. Mortality Decline in Paris, 1880-1914.", Working paper.
- The pictures of sewers by Félix Nadar comes from *Le Paris souterrain de Félix Nadar: 1861, des os et des eaux*, Caisse nationale des monuments historiques et des sites, 1982. I am grateful to François Lagarde for drawing my attention to it.