

Educational trajectories and inequalities in longevity: a comparison across 14 European countries

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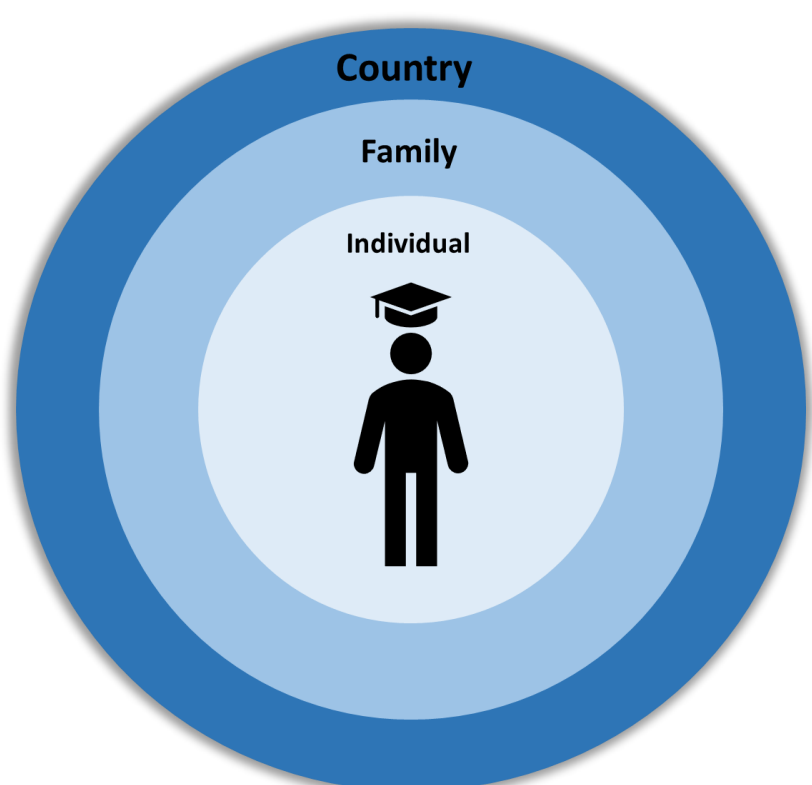
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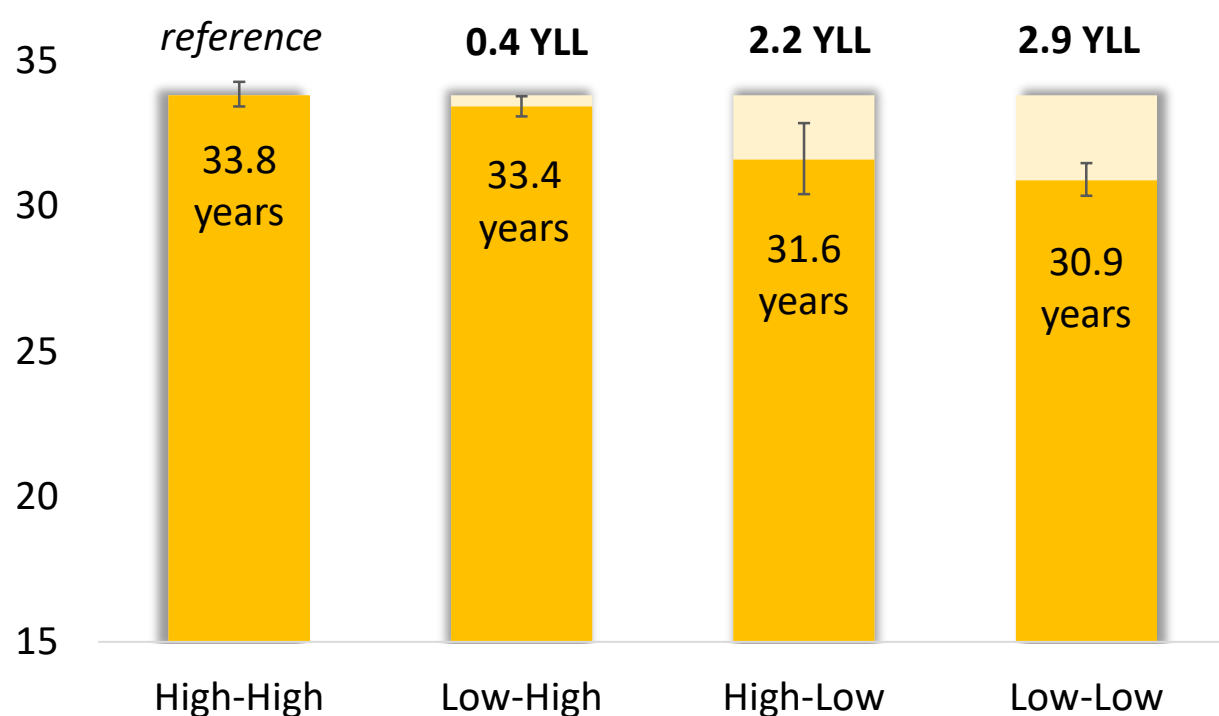
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3 METHODS

- **SHARE cohort:** 52,271 adults (mean age 67.2 years), 14 European countries
- Outcome: **all-cause mortality** (2013-2020)
- Parental – Individual **educational trajectories:** High-High (reference), Low-High, High-Low, Low-Low
- **Years of life lost (YLL):** differences in the area under standardized survival curves, between ages 50 – 90 years
- **Meta-regression:** association between country-level social net expenditure and YLL



1 BACKGROUND

- Higher education is associated with longer **life expectancy**
- **Parental education:** strong predictor of offspring education, proxy for socioeconomic status, socialization into “typical” health behaviors
- **Country:** moderator of individual-level health determinants

2 OBJECTIVES

1. What is the role of **parental-individual educational trajectories** in shaping inequalities in longevity?
2. Can **country-level social net expenditure** mitigate these inequalities?

4 RESULTS

- **High-High life expectancy:** 33.8 years (i.e. **83.8 years of age**)
- **Low-High:** 0.4 YLL (95% CIs: – 0.2 to 0.9); **High-Low:** 2.2 YLL (1.0 to 3.5); **Low-Low:** 2.9 YLL (2.2 to 3.6)
- **Higher social net expenditure** was associated with a longer life expectancy but not smaller YLL (i.e. inequalities)
- **1% increase in social net expenditure:** 0.2 years for High-Low (0 to 0.5), and Low-Low (0 to 0.5) gained

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5 KEY MESSAGE

Low individual education drives differences in life expectancies, regardless of parental education. A **higher social net expenditure** of the country of residence is associated with a longer life expectancy for all educational trajectories – it therefore **does not reduce inequalities** in longevity.

