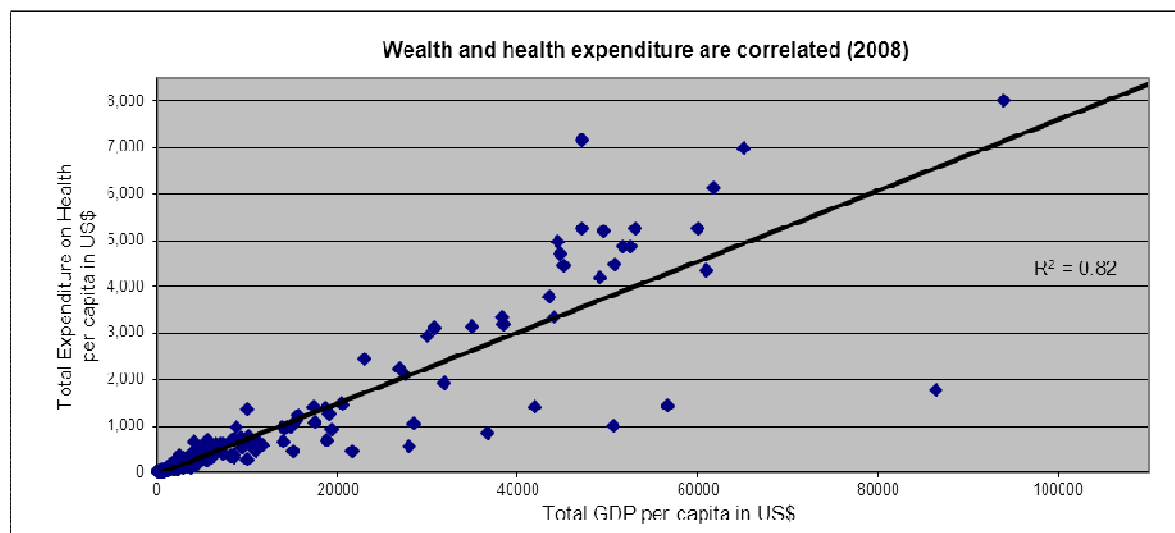
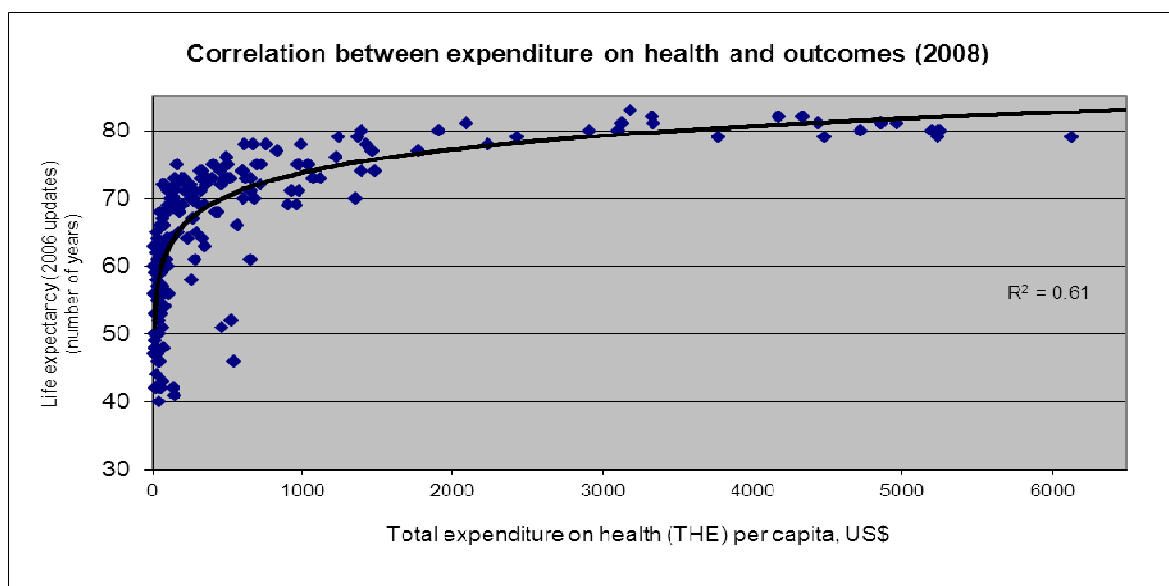


Wealth, health and health expenditure



The level of a nation's wealth, as measured by its gross domestic product, is linked very closely to what it spends on health. The larger the per capita income, the larger the expenditure is on health. Some countries, however, spend appreciably more than would be expected by their income levels, and some considerably less. There is no "recommended" level of spending on health. But the graph below shows that increasing health expenditures are associated with better health outcomes especially for low income countries.

Income level	Average* Gross Domestic Product (Per capita US\$)	Average* Total Health Expenditure (Per capita US\$)
High	41,476	4,589
Upper middle	8,960	575
Lower middle	2,295	99
Low	594	33
World	9,091	855



* Estimated as weighted average (weighted by population).