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The early twenty-first century is home to many scary statistical figures, both economic and otherwise. Infant mortality rate, however, is not among them. Surveys between 1990 and 2000 show a decrease in deaths per year under the age of five from 12.7 million children to 9.7 million. Among many UN goals of the 1990’s was to reduce infant mortality by so much as 2/3 by 2015, a statistic that may well be achievable, now that 2013 rates of 6.3m are just over a ½ decrease. The most 1990 survey used 173 countries with populations above 200,000, of which 141 developing countries were still classified as developing.

I chose this article because I find statistics fascinating. The further we look into something, the more numbers we will eventually find. Infant mortality rate is often used as a measure of a countries effectiveness in provide health-care, sanitation, and other social services in general. As global infant mortality rates falls, new hope is born in the geopolitical structure we have today.

Now we can begin to analyze the models of highly improving countries individually and find ways to apply these political and social models to struggling countries. Many countries have dramatic and fluctuating levels of mortality, and as models prove effective, these countries can benefit from successfully tested models of these successors.