Chapter 5

ABRIDGED LIFE TABLES BY STATE, 1992-98

One of the important objectives of the present study is to provide state level abridged life tables based on two rounds of NFHS conducted during the last decade. In this regard, we have already examined ASDRs, derived from the two rounds of NFHS and noted that standard errors of the combined estimate of ASDRs (based on two rounds of NFHS), have reduced substantially than that of individual rounds of NFHS-1 and NFHS-2, and provide more or less a smooth trend by age and sex for all the major states of India (Chapter 3). Incidentally, it may be noted that smaller states like Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Sikkim in the northeast region except Assam, are combined for the present analysis and referred as “Other northeast states”, while Assam in the northeast region is treated as a major state. As mentioned earlier, the combined ASDRs were used as input to construct the abridged life tables for all the selected major states of India by the method described earlier in Chapter 2. The average expectation of life at selected ages by state and region is presented in Table 5.1, while the detailed life table for each state in a region, along with the standard error of the corresponding estimates, is presented in Appendix Tables 5.1 to 5.5.

Life Expectancy by Region

As noted earlier in Chapter 4, there is a distinct regional pattern in terms of life expectancy in accordance with the level of development in the region, with northern region taking the lead, followed by the western and southern regions, while other regions viz. east, northeast and central have relatively much lower average expectation of life at birth and at age one as well as at other higher ages. Such a distinct
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region/State</th>
<th>Life expectancy at different ages</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>North</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Punjab</td>
<td>69.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central</td>
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<td>58.2</td>
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<td>West</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>63.3</td>
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* Includes Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim
Table 5.1 Continued…….

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<th>Region/State</th>
<th>Life expectancy at different ages</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>North</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>East</strong></td>
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</tr>
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<td><strong>Northeast</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assam</td>
<td>59.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Northeastern</td>
<td>58.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>states*</td>
<td>61.8</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>West</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Goa</td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>South</strong></td>
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<td>62.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karnataka</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kerala</td>
<td>69.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
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68 Chapter 5
Table 5.1 Continued

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<tr>
<th>Region/State</th>
<th>Life expectancy at different ages</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>North</td>
<td>68.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haryana</td>
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<td>Bihar</td>
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<td>Other Northeastern states*</td>
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<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>66.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Goa</td>
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pattern across regions/states persists even after consideration of standard errors of the estimates for the respective regions and states.

**Life Expectancy by State**

As can be seen from Table 5.1, each of the major states in a region basically follows their respective regional pattern in terms of average expectation of life at different ages, with the exception of the state of West Bengal in the east, Goa in the west and Kerala in the southern region, where the average expectation of life at birth is particularly much higher than that observed at the respective region. Similarly, Assam in the northeastern and Andhra Pradesh in the southern region have a relatively much lower life expectancy at different ages than that observed at their respective region. When the average expectation of life at different ages by sex is examined across the states, irrespective of their region, as evident from Table 5.1, life expectancy at birth is highest in the state of Kerala (73 years), followed by that in the states of Punjab (69 years) and Goa (68 years), while it is least in the state of Orissa (57 years). Although the average expectation of life at age 1 increases, after crossing the year of infancy, the pattern basically remains the same for all the states. For example, Kerala, Punjab and Goa still lead in the reduction in mortality and have the highest level of life expectancy at age one (69-73 years) while Orissa, Assam and Bihar have the least life expectancy at age one (62-63 years), in the country. In fact, the level of infant mortality is still very high in the states of Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Assam as the life expectancy at age 1 increased by more than 5 years (after crossing infancy), while such an increase is about 3 years or less for other states. In Kerala and Goa, such an increase is much less than 1 year, infant mortality rate being very low in these two states. The average expectation of life after age 1, although as expected decreases at age 5 and at higher ages for all the states, the differentials by state persist particularly until age 50 years.
A similar pattern in the life expectancy at different ages is noted by sex (Male/Female) for all regions/states. However, the average expectation of life at different ages for females is relatively much higher than that for males, particularly at birth for all the states (Table 5.1). Here again, the sex differentials in the average expectation of life at different ages are particularly noted in the developed regions/states wherein $e^o_s$ is relatively higher (north, south and west) compared to those states/regions which are relatively less developed and have lower level of $e^o_s$ (east, northeast and central Region). For example, the $e^o_s$ for females (75 years) is about 5 years higher than that for males (70 years) in case of Kerala in the southern region, and the corresponding difference is as high as 7 years in case of Goa (65 years for males and 72 years for females) in the western region, while the male-female differentials in $e^o_s$ are very small or vanish in many of the states in east, northeast and central regions. The extent of differentials in the average expectation of life at different ages by state, considering the standard error of the estimates, shown in Appendix Tables 5.1 to 5.5, seem to suggest that there is a large variation in the level of infant and child mortality as well as in the overall mortality level, which could largely attributed to the large differential in the socio-economic condition across the states/regions. The impact of socio-economic condition on the level of life expectancy among people is also examined in this study.