There is evidence that fertility, not mortality, is the "equilibrating factor."

Decline in "noncrisis" mortality is important- Fogel.
- Food
- Height/weight
- Chronic conditions
- Early life

Basal metabolic rate - amt of calories necessary to maintain body temperature. 1300-2000 Kcal
- France: 2290 kcal/consuming unit
- England: 2700 kcal/consuming unit
- US: 3700 kcal/consuming unit

France: bottom 40th percentile has enough energy to beg.
- disease increases bodily demand for calories

Critical growth periods

Socioeconomic differences in height

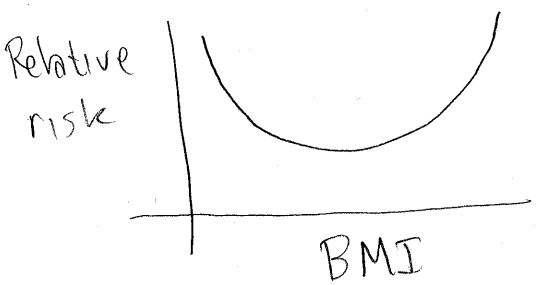
Height

- net nutrition: intake - demands

Does height matter for mortality?

- Tall have lower risk of death

$$BMI = \frac{\text{weight in kg}}{(\text{height in m})^2}$$



Changes in height/weight can explain a large percentage of the change in mortality.

Place of early life residence mattered for mortality rates

- 19th century - large cities were far more deady.

Season of birth matters: vitamin levels lowest in the Spring.

- 4th quarter has lower mortality rates.

Baby boomers will be particularly long-lived and healthy.

Living standards during industrial revolution:

HDI - Human development index: f(Income, Educ, Life exp., mortality, polit. freedom

Life expect: 55 in a given country

Min life exp: 45

Max life exp: 80

$$HDI = \frac{55-45}{80-45} = \frac{2}{7}$$

Problems: min life exp ↑ ⇒ HDI ↓ for most countries

Borda index: combines many rankings.