

# HUMAN CAPITAL STOCK: AN ESTIMATION OF A TIME SERIES FOR PORTUGAL

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## 1 — Introduction

The rapid growth of research both theoretical and empirical in the area of human capital has been remarkable. This «boomlet», however, had two distinct peaks: at the end of 50s, early 60s, with the theoretical works of Schultz (1961), Becker (1962), and Mincer (1962); then, in the middle of the eighties with the advent of the so-called new growth theories (endogenous growth theories) associated with Lucas (1988) and Romer (1986)'s contributions.

These latter theoretical works in particular have prompted a huge amount of empirical research, whose main general goal was to put forward some evidence for the widely accepted theoretical and common sense hypothesis that human capital investment is indeed an important engine of growth. However, paraphrasing De La Fuente *et al.* (1996), this is a field «*where theory seems to be well ahead of empirical measurement*» (*op. cit.*, 1). It is true that much of this empirical laggardliness can be explained by the limitations of available data, if they were available at all.

Recently, several attempts have been made to overcome those obstacles [Barro and LEE (BL), 1993; Psacharopoulos and Arriagada (PA), 1986; Kyriacou, 1991; Maddison, 1995; De La Fuente *et al.*, 1996]. These welcome contributions have made possible more accurate cross-country analysis within growth theory; however, its focus on international comparisons of estimated measures have not allowed detailed studies of single countries and, thus the direct testing of endogenous growth theory (Pack, 1994).

This paper tries to fill that gap. Based on the existing contributions, we estimate the stock of the human capital of the Portuguese economy. This estimate covers the period from 1960 to 1991 which, combined with other relevant variables, will allow long term analysis of Portuguese economic growth.

In the next section, we discuss and summarise the estimation procedures used by BL (1993), PA (1986) and Kyriacou (1991). Section 3 focuses on the application of a combined methodology to the Portuguese case, which gives rise to the estimate of Portuguese human capital, more precisely, the average years of education of the Portuguese population aged 25 and over. Here, we discuss

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underlying data and detail the procedure for filling in the missing observations; finally, we present several alternative estimates of human capital variables resulting from the methodology used, differentiated by basic assumptions related to schooling length. Section 4 provides a short comparison between our estimates and the available estimates given by some cross country data sets and attempts to explain potential discrepancies between them. Section 5 concludes by exposing the main limitations and potentialities of the estimates provided. The appendix includes all relevant estimations.

## 2 — Existing proxies for human capital: limitations and potentialities

The last eleven years have seen renewed interest on the part of economists in search of an analysis of the determinants of growth (Romer, 1986; Lucas, 1988; Rebelo, 1991; Lains, 1995). In particular, new growth or endogenous theory has sought to establish a significant role for human capital in determining the rate of economic growth. This has led in turn to a renewal of efforts by economists to measure the human capital resources <sup>(1)</sup>.

Development economists pioneered early efforts to construct education data sets which could be used to compare measures of education across countries. Lee and Psacharopoulos (1979) give an account of these attempts and conclude that, especially in the case of developed countries, the lack of robustness of the link between enrolment rates (proxy of human capital) and economic growth was likely to result from the failure to measure and compare the quality of education outputs <sup>(2)</sup>.

A large number of empirical studies concerned with the link between education and productivity have been widely using enrolment figures (namely, in international comparisons as in the UNESCO enrolment series). However, in the majority of cases this reflects more the easy availability and broad coverage of these data than their theoretical suitability for the purpose of the study. It is important to note that although we can consider enrolment rates an acceptable proxy for human capital investment (i. e., flow), they are not necessarily a good indicator of the existing stock of human capital. Thus, the main drawback of these rates is that they tend to reflect present flows of education, which constitute the accumulation of an element of human capital stock that will be available in the future; as the education process involves several years, lags between flows and stocks tend to be in general quite substantial. Furthermore, even given an appropriate time lag, human capital estimation requires an estimate of initial stock.

<sup>(1)</sup> The widespread concern about the measurement of human capital is apparent in a recent document produced by the OECD (1996-b) which stresses the importance of human capital accounting to firms, individuals and governments.

<sup>(2)</sup> Steedman (1996) provides an extensive discussion of how measurement of the quality of educational outputs might be improved.



By the same token, using literacy rates as proxy for human capital [e. g., Romer (1990), and Nunes (1993) in Portuguese case] is far from the ideal in the sense that these only measure the current component of human capital and thus do not reflect obtained qualifications above basic levels of education. The literacy rate is only a first step in human capital formation; other elements of it exist which are equally or more important to productivity (namely, analytical, logical and numerical reasoning, as well as several technically based areas of knowledge). Therefore, using literacy rates to measure human capital stock implicitly assumes that education beyond basic levels does not contribute greatly to productivity.

In an attempt to overcome these shortcomings, data sets relating to education in a large number of countries over a continuous time span were subsequently constructed by PA (1986)<sup>(3)</sup>. Seeking to improve on the use of enrolment rate as an indicator of human capital, this study tried to measure directly the educational stock embodied in the population or labour force taking as unit of measurement the years of education. Two limitations to this data set are commonly pointed: its short coverage (in most cases there is only one observation per country) and the failure to differentiate between the value of years of education at different levels of the education system (Steedman, 1996).

More recently, there have been several attempts<sup>(4)</sup> to construct more complete data sets on human capital stocks which provide broader temporal coverage.

Using UNESCO enrolment rates and PA's attainment figures, Kyriacou (1991) estimates an equation linking the years of schooling of the labour force and lagged enrolment rates. Then, assuming that this relationship is stable in time and across the country, he extrapolates values to other years and other countries; in this way, Kyriacou provides estimates of the average years of education of the workforce for a sample of 111 countries covering the period 1965-1985 (at five year intervals). However, temporal instability of the estimated relationship presents serious problems as regards the accuracy of human capital estimates.

A more elaborated attempt to quantify at international level human capital stocks is that of BL (1993). Their data set on educational attainment has been constructed by combining the available data on attainment levels (gathered from each country's census) with the UNESCO enrolment figures to obtain a series of the average years of schooling and the educational composition of the adult population (25 years and over). In order to estimate attainment levels in years for which census data are not available, BL used a combination of extrapolation

<sup>(3)</sup> This study has drawn in earlier work by Kaneko (1986) and report data on the labour force (and in some cases, some groups of population) in 99 countries.

<sup>(4)</sup> There are several studies which address this issue — see De La Fuente *et al.* (1996) for a careful comparative analysis of the databases most often used in empirical work on growth and human capital — however, we will only focus Barro and Lee (1993)'s work since our measure of human capital for the Portuguese case draws heavily on their methodology.



between available census figures and a perpetual inventory method which can be used to estimate changes from neighbouring (either forwards or backwards) benchmark observations. In short, enrolment data are transformed into attainment figures through this perpetual inventory method (which also takes into account groups' survival rates through data on the age composition of the population). This data set covers the period 1960-1985 at five-year intervals for 129 countries.

Moreover, we can state that this work of BL (1993) represents an advance in refinement in educational measurement across a large number of countries in that they do not merely estimate stocks of total years of education of the population but distinguish between years spent at different levels of the education system and, in the case of a subset of countries, between incomplete and complete primary and secondary education.

Nevertheless, it is not free of certain limitations, either derived from inconsistencies in the underlying primary statistics or from deficiencies in the methodology used to construct them. One of the main shortcomings of BL (1993)'s procedure is that it assumes that the mortality rate is the same for all generations aged 25 and over. Hence, the survival rates of the older generations, which are generally less educated than younger ones, will be overstated, and the figures obtained by the forward flow procedure are likely to underestimate attainment levels (De La Fuente *et al.*, 1996).

BL (1993) make clear the limitations of their data arising from the fundamental problems of missing or unreliable observations. They also stress the unreliability of data collection methods in a number of countries and problems derived from reliance on country data gathered by non-standardised methods. However, BL implicitly assume that the quality of education at the same level across countries can be considered comparable. This can be misleading in the sense that increasingly, «education and training in industrialised countries is characterised by diversification of the school population at around age 15/16 into different tracks with different goals and outputs.» (Steedman, 1996, p. 2).

Regardless of these limitations, we regard BL (1993)'s methodology as the one that provides a more accurate attempt to measure human capital stock. For this reason the construction of Portuguese human capital stock draws mainly on BL's work (though, some adaptations have been made, given our purpose of obtaining a continuous time series rather than five-year intervals estimates). An exposition of the estimation procedure for Portuguese human capital stock is presented in the next section.

### 3 — Estimation of Portuguese human capital stock

In spite of important contributions of historian economists such as, Nunes, Valério and Mata (1989), Reis (1989) and Lains (1995), there are few empirical studies on Portuguese economic growth and human capital, and the existing



ones have been generally using data on literacy rates (e. g. Nunes, 1993) as a proxy to human capital variable. The main reason for this is the wider availability of this indicator, though we cannot reject its intended use given the fact that the Portuguese development level is still sufficiently low for illiteracy to remain a serious obstacle.

Therefore, measures of human capital based on education attainments are indeed a crucial need in the Portuguese context, not only to overcome the already mentioned deficiencies of more traditional measures but, most of all, to contribute to the enhancement of future empirical research in the area, as human capital has been recognised as an important engine of Portuguese development (Naves, 1996)

The construction of Portuguese human capital stock revealed a very difficult and complex task. Pursued according to BL (1993) and Kyriacou (1991)'s methodologies, and adding to conceptual problems inherent to the methodologies themselves, there were problems associated with the scarcity and quality of the existing statistical data <sup>(5)</sup>. In this context, this measurement effort should be considered as a very preliminary attempt subject to future improvements.

In a first step we compiled the data on the educational attainment levels of the adult Portuguese population; this information was drawn from census statistics gathered by the National Statistical Institute (INE, 1960, 1970, 1981 and 1991).

Using the BL's perpetual inventory method it was possible to extrapolate, from the existing census figures, the fraction of Portuguese population <sup>(6)</sup> that achieved each of the educational levels for intra-census adjacent years (see table A1 of the appendix).

Thus, the main procedure (perpetual inventory method) starts with the census figures as a benchmark and then uses the school enrolment ratios (PRI, SEC and HIG) to estimate changes from the benchmarks.

Applying the formulas derived by BL (1993) we are able to estimate the proportion of adult population (25 years and over) from whom  $j$  ( $j = 1$  for total primary,  $j = 2$  for total secondary and  $j = 3$  for higher) is the highest level attained.

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<sup>(5)</sup> Related with this aspect, Domingos (1996) makes a critical assessment of existing relevant sources, pointing out the differences and pitfalls in the evolution reflected by the qualifications patent in the census data and those computed using education statistics — we acknowledge the contribution of one of the referees in supplying this information.

<sup>(6)</sup> We have present that the consideration of the adult population rather than the active population constitutes a limitation of our human capital estimative, however, as Barro and Lee (1993) refer the former can be assumed as a reasonable approximation of the last — recent further investigations within human capital stocks estimation, at the international level, are trying to overcome this weakness, which would constitute an important issue to explore in future works.



So, we have census-based values of  $h_{j,t}$  for 1960, 1970, 1981 and 1991, and we seek to estimate the missing values.

$$h_{1,t} = \left(1 - \frac{L25_t}{L_t}\right) \cdot h_{1,t-5} + \frac{L25_t}{L_t} \cdot (PRI_{t-15} - SEC_{t-10}) \quad (1)$$

$$h_{2,t} = \left(1 - \frac{L25_t}{L_t}\right) \cdot h_{2,t-5} + \frac{L25_t}{L_t} \cdot (SEC_{t-10} - HIG_{t-5}) \quad (2)$$

$$h_{3,t} = \left(1 - \frac{L25_t}{L_t}\right) \cdot h_{3,t-5} + \frac{L25_t}{L_t} \cdot (HIG_{t-5}) \quad (3)$$

where:

$L_t$ : population aged 25 and over at time  $t$ ;

$L25_t$ : population aged [25, 29] at time  $t$ . This represents the people who entered into the overall population aged 25 and above, during the last five years <sup>(7)</sup>;

$h_{j,t} = \frac{H_{j,t}}{L_t}$ : the proportion of the adult population for whom  $j$  is the highest level of educational attainment [ $j$ : total primary (1), total secondary (2) and higher (3)];

$PRI_{t-\tau}$ : the gross enrolment ratio for primary school observed at time  $t-\tau$ ;

$SEC_{t-\tau}$ : the gross enrolment ratio for secondary school observed at time  $t-\tau$ ;

$HIG_{t-\tau}$ : the gross enrolment ratio for higher school observed at time  $t-\tau$ .

For the period in question, 1960-1991, census data corresponded to 12.5% of the values for each education level. The perpetual inventory method allows us to fill in a further 25% of the values for primary education, 22% in case of secondary education and 12.5% for higher education.

To obtain the remaining missing values we use, similarly to Kyriacou (1991), a regression combining those two kind of information previously referred to (census and perpetual inventory-estimated attainment levels). Differently from Kyriacou, we introduce an additional explanatory variable to take into account population structure (and in this way to be closer to the perpetual inventory method).

$$h_{1,t} = 0.131 + 0.346 \cdot (PRI_{t-15} - SEC_{t-10}) + e_{1,t} \quad (4)$$

$$(2.62) \quad \bar{R}^2 \cong 89,1\%$$

<sup>(7)</sup> BL (1993) neglect here any mortality for persons aged 20-24 five years previously, and assume that the survival probability for persons who were 25 and over is independent of the level of educational attainment.



$$\ln h_{2,t} = -3.58 - 1.214 \ln \left( \frac{L25_t}{L_t} \right) + 0.736 \ln (SEC_{t-10} - HIG_{t-5}) + e_{2,t} \quad (5)$$

(-2.71) (13.04)  $\bar{R}^2 = 97.1\%$

$$\ln h_{3,t} = 3.285 + 1.428 \ln \left( \frac{L25_t}{L_t} \right) + 1.358 \ln (HIG_{t-5}) + e_{3,t} \quad (6)$$

(1.97) (12.46)  $\bar{R}^2 = 95.7\%$

Given the problems of autocorrelation in the two first regressions, we corrected it using the likelihood estimation. As we can observe, all regressions present a good fit. The output of these estimations is presented in the appendix, table A2.

The next step was to estimate, although roughly, the fraction of adult population at more detailed education levels: incomplete and complete primary, secondary and higher education level. The starting point was once more census data concerning the individuals that achieved one of the three levels of education by degree of completeness. The resulting conclusion ratios are reported in table A3 (appendix). Subsequently, and in the same way as PA (1986) and BL (1993), the estimates of human capital stock were constructed from the formula:

$$H = D_p \left( \frac{1}{2} \cdot h_{ip} + h_{cp} \right) + (D_p + D_{s1}) h_{is} + (D_p + D_{s1} + D_{s2}) \cdot h_{ce} +$$

$$+ \left( D_p + D_{s1} + D_{s2} + \frac{1}{2} D_{hig} \right) h_{ihig} + (D_p + D_{s1} + D_{s2} + D_{hig}) h_{chig} \quad (7)$$

where:

$H$ : average years of schooling. Each percentage,  $h_j$ , refers to the fraction of the population for which the  $j^{th}$  level of schooling is the highest attained [ $j = ip$  for incomplete primary,  $cp$  for complete primary,  $is$  for the first cycle of secondary,  $cs$  for the second cycle of secondary,  $ihig$  for incomplete higher, and  $chig$  for complete higher];

$D_i$ : the duration in years of the  $i^{th}$  level of schooling [ $i = p$  for primary,  $s1$  for the first cycle of secondary,  $s2$  for the second cycle of secondary, and  $hig$  for higher].

For  $D_i$  we consider the official length for each level of education as it is reported by INE (1979/80): four years for primary, 6 years first cycle of lower secondary, 9 years for second cycle of lower secondary, 12 years for upper secondary and 18 years for higher school.

The estimates for Portuguese human capital stock are reported in the appendix, table A4. We constructed four measures of the average years of Portuguese adult population; for the first one ( $H$ ) we consider only the three main levels of education without distinguishing between complete and incomplete levels; the remaining three estimates differ from each other relative to the length of the first cycle of secondary school ( $H'$  referring to the individuals who do not

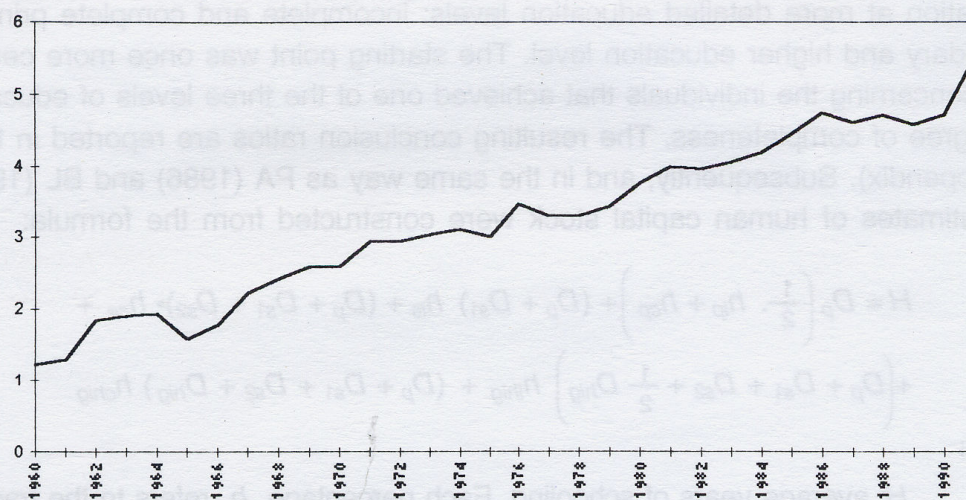


complete any of the three education levels but at least achieved half of the years officially required;  $H''$  the same as  $H'$  but referring to the individuals who do not go further than the first cycle of lower secondary school as incomplete secondary;  $H'''$  the same as  $H''$  but now the relevant length is the second cycle of lower secondary school, which it happens to be the compulsory education level in the Portuguese system).

To give an idea of the evolution of the proxy of the Portuguese human capital stock we depict below the plot for  $H'''$ .

FIGURE 1

Average years of education of Portuguese adult population  
(individuals aged 25 and over), 1960-1991



Source: See table A4 of the appendix.

Although is beyond the scope of this paper to analyse and interpret human capital stock evolution, we think that might be interesting to make a few comments on some aspects.

It is apparent that, in spite of the very low levels of human capital, during these last three decades the adult Portuguese population has been gradually raising its average level of education attainment, departing from a meanest value of 1.2 years of education in 1960 to 5.5 years in 1991. This represents a fairly reasonable average annual growth rate of roughly 5%. This might reflect an effort undertaken since the 1960s by the Portuguese authorities in the development of the education system. In spite of some improvements during the 60's, the broadening of the access to university occurred mainly in the 70's<sup>(8)</sup>.

<sup>(8)</sup> Particularly in 1973 with the reform of higher education (Veiga Simão reform) and with the democratic revolution of 1974 – for more details see Carreira (1996).



It is also worth stressing that the growth of human capital stock is particularly sharp after the second part of the eighties which is consistent with big increases in enrolment rates in higher education and the approach of secondary enrolment rates to 100% in this period. In spite of the Portuguese education performance remain far below the average of Western European countries, even those with similar levels of development (OECD, 1996-a), education constitutes a priority of current development efforts. Our measurements can be further corroborated by studies of the Portuguese economy based on Mincerian earning functions. For 1985, Kiker and Santos (1991) find that the average rates of return to schooling in Portugal range from 9.4-10.4% as against 7.5-8.4% in 1977 (Psacharopoulos, 1981). This general rise in the rates of returns from 1977 to 1985 combined with the evolution of our indicator seem to indicate the important role of human capital in Portuguese development.

#### 4 — Comparison with some international available estimates

In order to assess the main differences between our results and similar figures obtained in other commonly used cross-country data sets we compile the available estimates of human capital stock with reference to Portugal.

Year	Source (data sets)	Average years of education	
		Others	Our estimate <sup>(3)</sup>
1965	Benhabib and Spiegel (1994) .....	3.9	1.6
1973	Maddison (1995) .....	4.6	3.0
1981	Psacharopoulos and Arriagada (1986) .....	4.5	4.0
	Barro and Lee (1993) <sup>(1)</sup> .....	3.8	
1985	Nehru, Swanson and Dubey (1995) <sup>(1)</sup> .....	5.3	4.4
	Benhabib and Spiegel (1994) .....	6.5	
1989	OECD (1992) <sup>(1)</sup> .....	5.5	4.6
1991	OECD (1993) <sup>(2)</sup> .....	6.7	5.5

**Notes.** — Population groups vary as follows: BS (1994): active labour force [the methodology used by these authors is in line with that of Kyriacou (1991)]; BL (1993): population aged 25 and over; Maddison (1995): population aged 15-64 (primary education was given a weight of 1, secondary 1.4, and higher 2, in line on the relative earnings associated with different levels of education). NSD (1995): population aged 15-64; OECD (1992, 1993): population aged 25-64 (assumes that average schooling of those educated to primary level is 6 years, lower secondary level 8 years, upper secondary level 11 years, non-university tertiary 14 years, university level 17 years); PA (1986): active labour force;

#### Source:

- 1) De la Fuente *et al.* (1996);
- 2) Englander and Gurney (1994);
- 3) Teixeira (1996).



As we can see, in terms of levels, our estimates of average attainment are, in general, lower than ones presented by the international data sets, although its trajectory tends to be in the same direction. These discrepancies may be due mainly either to different groups of reference or to the different weight attributed to each schooling level. While we focus on the population aged 25 and over, BS (1994) and PA (1986) attempt to estimate the educational attainment of the active population (15 to 64 years), including in this way a broader and younger age group. If we take the reasonable assumption that younger generations tend to be more educated, we would expect that estimates to be lower [the same argument applies for the comparison with NSD (1995) and Maddison (1995)]. Another important aspect which can explain the larger differences between our measures and BS, Maddison and OECD's measures, relates to the weight attributed to each educational level and, particularly, whether or not there is a discrimination between complete and incomplete attainments. This last aspect contributes significantly to an overestimation of human capital estimates in the three former studies since they assume that everybody who started a certain level has completed it.

In spite of these differences between our estimates and those gathered from the international data sets, we think that they can be somehow mitigated in the sense that, overall, they give us a consistent and reasonable picture of educational attainment levels and their evolution for the Portuguese population.

## 5 — Concluding comments

Because of data constraints the literature has often attempted to proxy the variables relevant to economic growth by those which are directly observable. This has been particularly common in empirical studies about human capital-economic growth relationship. Human capital has been proxied in several studies by enrolment ratios or literacy rates. At best, however, enrolment ratios represent investment levels in human capital. Literacy is a stock variable, but it involves important empirical problems; for instance, it does not account for the contribution of higher levels of education which tend to be crucial to productivity increases and, therefore, to aggregate economic growth.

The inadequacy of these indicators has motivated some researchers to construct more appropriate measurement of the stock of human capital. In section two we refer to the most widely diffused and accepted contributions. However, as we pointed out, all of them seek to construct international educational attainment databases. Alternatively, this paper describes the construction of educational attainment series to one single country (Portugal) for a continuous period of time, 1960 to 1991. The underlying information comes from census and enrolment figures provided by the Portuguese National Statistic Institute, INE.



We follow closely Barro and Lee (1993) methodology, and similarly focus on educational attainment for the population aged 25 and over, rather than for a younger age group or for a subgroup of the population such as the active labour population. Given the specificity of our procedure we resorted to Kyriacou (1991)'s approach in order to complement Barro and Lee's perpetual inventory method.

As the main shortcomings of our human capital estimates (which derived, at least in part, from the underlying construction methodologies used), we may note:

The absence of any adjustment or correction for the quality of education, drop-outs or repeaters;

The assumption of equal survival probability for the population aged 25 and over; hence the survival rates of older generations, which are generally less educated than younger ones, will be overstated, and so the figures obtained are likely to underestimate human capital estimates;

The omission of the younger segments of the population (15-24 years of age) which tend to be much more educated than older generations (this will introduce a bias towards the underestimation of attainment levels);

The assumption that the relationship between census figures (educational stocks) and lagged enrolment data (educational flows) is stable over time (although, we tried to mitigate this assumption by taking into account potential changes in population structure).

Notwithstanding these shortcomings and the necessity for future improvements, we reckon that the educational attainment estimates thus obtained will be a useful variable for studies related to Portuguese long term growth.



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Notes:

PRK(15): enrolment ratio in primary 15 years ago;  
 SEC(10): enrolment ratio in secondary 10 years ago;  
 HIG(5): enrolment ratio in higher 5 years ago.

L25(1/1): proportion of population aged 25 and over  
 in proportion of adult population (aged 25 and over) which achieved the education level 1  
 the estimate of it by perpetual inventory method:  

$$y_1 = [1 - L25(1/1)] \cdot y_0 + L25(1/1) \cdot PRK(15) \cdot SEC(10)$$

$$y_2 = [1 - L25(1/1)] \cdot y_1 + L25(1/1) \cdot SEC(10) \cdot HIG(5)$$

$$y_3 = [1 - L25(1/1)] \cdot y_2 + L25(1/1) \cdot HIG(5)$$

Source: Teixeira (1996)



TABLE  
 Estimation by the perpetual-inventory method (see Barro and Lee, 1993) of the proportion (h)

Years	Enrolment ratios				Census data			$\hat{h}_1$
	PRI(t-15)	SEC(t-10)	HIG(t-5)	L25(t)/L(t)	h1	h2	h3	
1960	0.8516033	0.0707575	0.0230074	0.1389459	0.2279	0.0334	0.0098	0.2278574
1961	0.8715486	0.0712269	0.0241159	0.1381232	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
1962	0.8723536	0.0737679	0.0249042	0.136542	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
1963	0.9079863	0.0763223	0.0258751	0.1349958	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
1964	0.9112008	0.0829542	0.0278492	0.1334702	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
1965	0.9642625	0.0888103	0.0314619	0.1319276	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	0.313293
1966	1.0031353	0.0989288	0.0346769	0.1303207	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
1967	1.0452245	0.1098625	0.0367725	0.1286629	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
1968	1.1895118	0.1136207	0.0386141	0.1271463	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
1969	1.239589	0.1367946	0.0413734	0.1256138	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
1970	1.2602084	0.1528338	0.0433768	0.1080737	0.4604	0.0796	0.0179	0.3991124
1971	1.2781954	0.1696122	0.0464294	0.1080737	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
1972	1.2909855	0.1840805	0.0481095	0.1122277	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
1973	1.2974577	0.2021511	0.0515237	0.1122277	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
1974	1.2966125	0.2165691	0.0557213	0.1147224	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
1975	1.2792842	0.2293763	0.0627078	0.1182593	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	0.476075
1976	1.2992812	0.2401909	0.0671094	0.1283525	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
1977	1.2860533	0.248195	0.0707414	0.1315468	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
1978	1.2747043	0.2568799	0.0712311	0.1332308	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
1979	1.2585843	0.2770618	0.0767778	0.1339176	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
1980	1.2604401	0.3177841	0.0714309	0.1357144	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	0.5393967
1981	1.2457289	0.3465752	0.0851219	0.1193687	0.5458	0.1257	0.0454	#N/A
1982	1.2348077	0.3758306	0.096743	0.1210028	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
1983	1.2418921	0.4235836	0.0922415	0.1229332	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
1984	1.3081577	0.4727486	0.0860212	0.1241949	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
1985	1.4594193	0.4654073	0.0827515	0.1259717	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	0.5966654
1986	1.4936348	0.5124614	0.0916578	0.1282279	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
1987	1.5184154	0.5310145	0.0909318	0.1290744	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
1988	1.5114137	0.5620237	0.0938825	0.1290744	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
1989	1.4919409	0.5139391	0.0941821	0.1310513	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
1990	1.4000501	0.5600759	0.1056411	0.1310359	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	0.6285476
1991	1.2977087	0.5991748	0.0957787	0.1310276	0.543	0.2203	0.0681	#N/A
1992	1.3040818	0.6202932	0.0981879	0.1153968	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A

**Notes:**

$PRI(t-15)$ : enrolment ratio in primary 15 years ago;

$SEC(t-10)$ : enrolment ratio in secondary 10 years ago;

$HIG(t-5)$ : enrolment ratio in higher 5 years ago;

$L25(t)/L(t)$ : proportion of population aged [25,29] in population group aged 25 and over;

$h_i$ : proportion of adult population (aged 25 and over) which achieved the education level  $i$ ;

$\hat{h}_i$ : estimate of  $h_i$  by perpetual inventory method;

$\hat{h}_1 = [1 - L25(t)/L(t)] * h_1(t-5) + L25(t)/L(t) * [PRI(t-15) - SEC(t-10)]$ ;

$\hat{h}_2 = [1 - L25(t)/L(t)] * h_2(t-5) + L25(t)/L(t) * [SEC(t-10) - HIG(t-5)]$ ;

$\hat{h}_3 = [1 - L25(t)/L(t)] * h_3(t-5) + L25(t)/L(t) * HIG(t-5)$ .

Source: Teixeira (1996)



A1

of adult population that achieved the education level  $i$  ( $i = 1$ : primary; 2: secondary e 3: high)

Perpetual inventory method estimation

From 1960		From 1970			From 1981			From 1991		
$\wedge h2$	$\wedge h3$	$\wedge h1$	$\wedge h2$	$\wedge h3$	$\wedge h1$	$\wedge h2$	$\wedge h3$	$\wedge h1$	$\wedge h2$	$\wedge h3$
0.0333	0.0097546	0.3070668	0.0788072	0.0121921	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	0.2453616	0.0991116	0.0348224	0.0868	0.1263	0.05899
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
0.0365	0.0126184	0.3820525	0.0759762	0.0147343	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	0.3312227	0.0945687	0.0348035	0.1934	0.1182	0.05582
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
0.0444	0.0159425	0.4604407	0.0795946	0.0178298	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	0.415235	0.0976611	0.0360599	0.2923	0.1187	0.05480
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
0.0588	0.021473	0.5301507	0.0898919	0.0231371	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	0.4978754	0.1073415	0.0400452	0.3907	0.1257	0.05638
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
0.0843	0.028253	0.5861336	0.1111259	0.0296912	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	0.5457755	0.1257376	0.0454259	0.4514	0.1418	0.05981
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
0.1219	0.0351182	0.6375147	0.145331	0.0363753	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	0.6016056	0.1635733	0.0513542	0.5193	0.1777	0.06389
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
0.1654	0.0443593	0.6640442	0.1858347	0.0454516	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	0.6143059	0.2080995	0.057175	0.543	0.2203	0.06807
#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A



TABLE  
OLS/MAXL estimation

	Constant	$\beta_1$	$\beta_2$
$h1=\alpha+\beta_1PS+ut$ .....	0.1308807	0.3456789	—
$lnh2=\alpha+\beta_1lnSH+\beta_2lnLL+ut$ .....	-3.5756518	0.7355785	-1.2138744
$lnh3=\alpha+\beta_1lnH+\beta_2lnLL+ut$ .....	3.2845259	1.3583933	1.4282055

Year	Independent				
	PS	SH	H	LL	lnPS
1960 .....	0.7808458	0.0477501	0.0230074	0.1389459	-0.2473776
1961 .....	0.8003216	0.047111	0.0241159	0.1381232	-0.2227416
1962 .....	0.7985856	0.0488638	0.0249042	0.136542	-0.2249131
1963 .....	0.831664	0.0504473	0.0258751	0.1349958	-0.1843268
1964 .....	0.8282466	0.055105	0.0278492	0.1334702	-0.1884444
1965 .....	0.8754522	0.0573484	0.0314619	0.1319276	-0.1330147
1966 .....	0.9042065	0.0642518	0.0346769	0.1303207	-0.1006975
1967 .....	0.9353619	0.0730901	0.0367725	0.1286629	-0.0668217
1968 .....	1.075891	0.0750066	0.0386141	0.1271463	0.0731492
1969 .....	1.1027944	0.0954212	0.0413734	0.1256138	0.0978473
1970 .....	1.1073747	0.109457	0.0433768	0.1080737	0.101992
1971 .....	1.1085832	0.1231828	0.0464294	0.1080737	0.1030828
1972 .....	1.1069051	0.135971	0.0481095	0.1122277	0.1015679
1973 .....	1.0953065	0.1506274	0.0515237	0.1122277	0.0910343
1974 .....	1.0800433	0.1608479	0.0557213	0.1147224	0.0770012
1975 .....	1.0499079	0.1666685	0.0627078	0.1182593	0.0487024
1976 .....	1.0590903	0.1730815	0.0671094	0.1283525	0.0574104
1977 .....	1.0378584	0.1774535	0.0707414	0.1315468	0.0371593
1978 .....	1.0178244	0.1856488	0.0712311	0.1332308	0.0176674
1979 .....	0.9815224	0.200284	0.0767778	0.1339176	-0.0186504
1980 .....	0.942656	0.2463532	0.0714309	0.1357144	-0.0590539
1981 .....	0.8991537	0.2614533	0.0851219	0.1193687	-0.1063013
1982 .....	0.8589771	0.2790876	0.096743	0.1210028	-0.152013
1983 .....	0.8183085	0.3313421	0.0922415	0.1229332	-0.2005159
1984 .....	0.8354091	0.3867274	0.0860212	0.1241949	-0.1798337
1985 .....	0.994012	0.3826559	0.0827515	0.1259717	-0.006006
1986 .....	0.9811733	0.4208036	0.0916578	0.1282279	-0.0190061
1987 .....	0.9874009	0.4400827	0.0909318	0.1290744	-0.0126791
1988 .....	0.94939	0.4681412	0.0938825	0.1290744	-0.0519356
1989 .....	0.9780017	0.4197571	0.0941821	0.1310513	-0.0222438
1990 .....	0.8399742	0.4544348	0.1056411	0.1310359	-0.1743842
1991 .....	0.6985339	0.5033961	0.0957787	0.1310276	-0.3587716

Source: Teixeira (1996).



A2

output of  $hs_i$ 

variables

lnSH	lnH	lnLL	$\Delta h1$	$\Delta \ln h2$	$\Delta h2$	$\Delta \ln h3$	$\Delta h3$
-3.0417739	-3.7719392	-1.9736706	0.4008026	-3.417327	0.0328	-4.6580585	0.0094849
-3.0552482	-3.7248833	-1.9796089	0.407535	-3.42003	0.0327115	-4.6026191	0.0100255
-3.0187189	-3.6927204	-1.9911233	0.4069349	-3.3791828	0.0340753	-4.5753741	0.0103024
-2.9868264	-3.654476	-2.0025116	0.4183694	-3.3418995	0.0353697	-4.539688	0.0106767
-2.8985146	-3.5809505	-2.0138772	0.4171881	-3.2631428	0.0382679	-4.4560439	0.0116082
-2.85861	-3.458979	-2.0255023	0.4335061	-3.2196784	0.0399679	-4.3069617	0.0134744
-2.7449452	-3.3616803	-2.0377567	0.4434459	-3.1211937	0.0441045	-4.1922936	0.0151116
-2.6160628	-3.3030056	-2.0505593	0.4542156	-3.0108499	0.0492498	-4.1308749	0.0160688
-2.5901791	-3.2541372	-2.0624169	0.5027936	-2.9774167	0.0509242	-4.0814276	0.0168833
-2.3494545	-3.1851161	-2.074543	0.5120935	-2.7856253	0.0616905	-4.0049883	0.0182245
-2.2122235	-3.137831	-2.2249416	0.5136768	-2.5021162	0.0819115	-4.1555566	0.0156771
-2.0940862	-3.0698215	-2.2249416	0.5140946	-2.4152169	0.089348	-4.0631729	0.0171944
-1.9953138	-3.034276	-2.1872254	0.5135145	-2.3883447	0.0917815	-3.9610218	0.0190436
-1.8929459	-2.9657131	-2.1872254	0.5095051	-2.3130451	0.0989595	-3.8678864	0.0209025
-1.8272962	-2.8873936	-2.1652396	0.5042289	-2.2914426	0.1011205	-3.7300974	0.0239905
-1.7917486	-2.769269	-2.1348758	0.4938117	-2.3021524	0.1000433	-3.526272	0.0294144
-1.7539929	-2.7014309	-2.0529752	0.4969859	-2.3737972	0.0931264	-3.3171503	0.036256
-1.7290466	-2.6487237	-2.0283927	0.4896465	-2.3852872	0.0920625	-3.2104445	0.0403387
-1.6838985	-2.6418261	-2.0156724	0.4827212	-2.3675182	0.093713	-3.1829074	0.0414649
-1.6080188	-2.5668395	-2.0105308	0.4701723	-2.317944	0.0984758	-3.0737028	0.0462496
-1.4009889	-2.6390251	-1.9972025	0.456737	-2.1818361	0.1128342	-3.1527239	0.0427356
-1.3414995	-2.4636708	-2.1255379	0.4416992	-1.9822938	0.1377529	-3.0978131	0.0451478
-1.2762295	-2.3356976	-2.1119412	0.427811	-1.9507873	0.1421621	-2.9045563	0.0547731
-1.1046039	-2.3833452	-2.0961138	0.4137527	-1.8437557	0.1582221	-2.9466756	0.052514
-0.9500353	-2.4531613	-2.0859035	0.4196641	-1.7424525	0.1750905	-3.0269308	0.0484642
-0.9606192	-2.4919135	-2.0716978	0.4744897	-1.7674817	0.1707625	-3.059283	0.0469213
-0.8655891	-2.3896929	-2.0539459	0.4700517	-1.7191282	0.1792223	-2.8950738	0.0552949
-0.8207925	-2.397646	-2.0473661	0.4722044	-1.6941638	0.1837528	-2.8964801	0.0552172
-0.7589853	-2.3657112	-2.0473661	0.4590648	-1.6486997	0.1922998	-2.8531	0.0576653
-0.8680792	-2.3625253	-2.0321667	0.4689553	-1.747397	0.1742269	-2.8270644	0.0591863
-0.7887009	-2.2477074	-2.0322836	0.4212421	-1.6888661	0.1847289	-2.6712635	0.0691648
-0.6863779	-2.3457154	-2.0323474	0.3723492	-1.6135222	0.1991848	-2.804488	0.0605378



TABLE A3  
Conclusion ratios by educational level

Year	RCp	RCs	RChig
1960 .....	0.625	0.395	0.600
1961 .....	0.625	0.395	0.600
1962 .....	0.625	0.395	0.600
1963 .....	0.625	0.395	0.600
1964 .....	0.625	0.395	0.600
1965 .....	0.625	0.395	0.600
1966 .....	0.625	0.395	0.600
1967 .....	0.625	0.395	0.600
1968 .....	0.625	0.395	0.600
1969 .....	0.625	0.395	0.600
1970 .....	0.625	0.395	0.600
1971 .....	0.630	0.411	0.621
1972 .....	0.635	0.428	0.642
1973 .....	0.640	0.445	0.664
1974 .....	0.645	0.464	0.687
1975 .....	0.650	0.483	0.710
1976 .....	0.655	0.502	0.734
1977 .....	0.660	0.523	0.759
1978 .....	0.665	0.544	0.786
1979 .....	0.670	0.567	0.812
1980 .....	0.676	0.590	0.840
1981 .....	0.681	0.614	0.869
1982 .....	0.685	0.618	0.872
1983 .....	0.689	0.621	0.875
1984 .....	0.693	0.625	0.878
1985 .....	0.697	0.629	0.881
1986 .....	0.701	0.633	0.884
1987 .....	0.705	0.637	0.887
1988 .....	0.709	0.640	0.890
1989 .....	0.714	0.644	0.893
1990 .....	0.718	0.648	0.896
1991 .....	0.722	0.652	0.899
1992 .....	0.722	0.652	0.899

**Notes:**

- 1) RCp: Primary conclusion ratios;
- 2) RCs: Secondary conclusion ratios;
- 3) RChig: Higher education conclusion ratios;
- 4) Conclusion ratios calculation, for each level of education was based on the census figures of 1970, 1981 and 1991. We assumed that these ratios increased uniformly over time, i. e., for each year we apply average annual change rates calculated in table A9. The absence of data for 1960-1969, obliged us to assume that in this period conclusion ratios remained constant to 1970's levels.

**Source:** Teixeira (1996).



**Table A4**  
**Portuguese human capital stock - average years of education**  
**of Portuguese adult population (aged 25 and over)**

Year	H	H'	H''	H'''
1960 .....	1.488	1.224	1.184	1.244
1961 .....	1.554	1.279	1.240	1.299
1962 .....	2.222	1.822	1.781	1.843
1963 .....	2.290	1.878	1.835	1.899
1964 .....	2.337	1.917	1.871	1.941
1965 .....	1.919	1.580	1.536	1.602
1966 .....	2.126	1.753	1.700	1.780
1967 .....	2.697	2.218	2.158	2.248
1968 .....	2.926	2.406	2.344	2.436
1969 .....	3.117	2.561	2.487	2.599
1970 .....	3.118	2.558	2.462	2.607
1971 .....	3.538	2.908	2.793	2.965
1972 .....	3.498	2.893	2.788	2.945
1973 .....	3.602	2.994	2.884	3.049
1974 .....	3.662	3.065	2.956	3.119
1975 .....	3.521	2.961	2.857	3.013
1976 .....	4.000	3.411	3.304	3.465
1977 .....	3.789	3.252	3.164	3.296
1978 .....	3.802	3.281	3.196	3.324
1979 .....	3.895	3.388	3.303	3.431
1980 .....	4.260	3.708	3.617	3.753
1981 .....	4.510	3.949	3.852	3.998
1982 .....	4.403	3.895	3.786	3.949
1983 .....	4.499	3.982	3.862	4.042
1984 .....	4.652	4.114	3.983	4.180
1985 .....	4.975	4.381	4.273	4.435
1986 .....	5.294	4.676	4.556	4.736
1987 .....	5.088	4.524	4.390	4.590
1988 .....	5.182	4.619	4.481	4.689
1989 .....	5.032	4.496	4.372	4.558
1990 .....	5.160	4.639	4.508	4.704
1991 .....	6.041	5.412	5.258	5.488

**Notes:**

H: without differentiation between complete and incomplete education:

$$H = 4 \cdot h_1 + (4+8) \cdot h_2 + (4+8+6) \cdot h_3$$

H': considering that individuals who do not complete secondary level achieved half of the schooling years required for this level:

$$H' = 4 \cdot (h_{pi}/2 + h_{pc}) + (4+8/2) \cdot h_{si} + (4+8) \cdot h_{sc} + (4+8+6/2) \cdot h_{higi} + (4+8+6) \cdot h_{higc}$$

H'': considering as incomplete secondary level those individuals that only achieve the first cycle (six years of school):

$$H'' = 4 \cdot (h_{pi}/2 + h_{pc}) + (4+2) \cdot h_{si} + (4+8) \cdot h_{sc} + (4+8+6/2) \cdot h_{higi} + (4+8+6) \cdot h_{higc}$$

H''': considering as incomplete secondary level those individuals that achieve the second cycle (nine years of school):

$$H''' = 4 \cdot (h_{pi}/2 + h_{pc}) + (4+5) \cdot h_{si} + (4+8) \cdot h_{sc} + (4+8+6/2) \cdot h_{higi} + (4+8+6) \cdot h_{higc}$$

Source: Teixeira (1996).



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