

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this paper is to analyse the per capita public health expenditure of BRICS countries in relation to exogenous explanatory variables, through a panel study. The analysis is done using a panel of the 5 countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) observed over the period 1995-2010. In order to estimate the relationship between income and public health expenditure we use real per capita gross domestic product (GDP) to represent income and real per capita public health expenditure on health of the BRICS countries. We also analyse if factors like infant mortality rate, population growth and ageing (population with age > 65) impact public expenditure on health.

The results of the panel study show that there is a positive correlation between public health expenditure and GDP and it also shows that there is a significant correlation between ageing and public health expenditure.