tries raised the means.\textsuperscript{11} Furthermore, some program effects that had seemed modest and had not been expected to improve further after 1982 actually improved substantially, from an average score of 29% of the maximum to a score of 54%.

In recent years, program effort strength has continued to increase beyond the levels observed in earlier analyses,\textsuperscript{12} especially in countries where modernization has lagged. As a result, many analysts have shifted their attention away from the examination and monitoring of program effort strength and toward examining the ways in which programs make their contributions and how those can be enhanced. Also notable are the numerous documents that were published as part of the six-year EVALUATION Project. This body of work examined much of the research literature concerning program evaluation and made innovative use of the program effort index and scores; it included a major review of findings on how selected family planning programs have worked,\textsuperscript{13} an inquiry into methods used by programs to increase contraceptive use\textsuperscript{14} and a review of what programs do to reduce fertility rates.\textsuperscript{15}

In another study, researchers used international data to create two scales, based partly upon the program effort scores, to estimate for most developing countries the sustainability of national family planning programs and of the fertility transition.\textsuperscript{16} A wall chart containing tabular data for monitoring national family planning programs was also published in collaboration with the Population Reference Bureau; it displayed selected effort scores, along with numbers of facilities and personnel, ratios of staff to population, service types and per capita funding levels.\textsuperscript{17}

In this article, we present the most recent data on family planning program effort, collected during 1999 from 374 informants in 89 countries. We examine regional patterns in program effort, contrast the stronger programs with the weaker ones and present time trends in various measures of program effort. Finally, we briefly analyze how levels of socioeconomic development and program effort are interrelated.