In 1960 most of the world’s wealth was recorded as being produced in North America and Western Europe. Wealth distribution maintained a similar pattern to that in 1900, except that the proportion of world wealth found in Asian territories generally decreased, whilst it tended to increase in South American territories.

The highest levels of Gross Domestic Product per person in 1960 were in the small Middle Eastern territories of Qatar, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates. The territories with the lowest Gross Domestic Product per person were mainly in Northern Africa and Southeastern Africa.

Territory size shows the proportion of worldwide Gross Domestic Product measured in US$ equalised for purchasing power parity that was produced there in 1960.

“...The first Asian economic miracle was Japan’s after World War II, rooted in the changes of the Meiji restoration ... The Asian Tigers ... began to emerge from 1960 onward ...”

Luis Alberto Moreno, 2006