

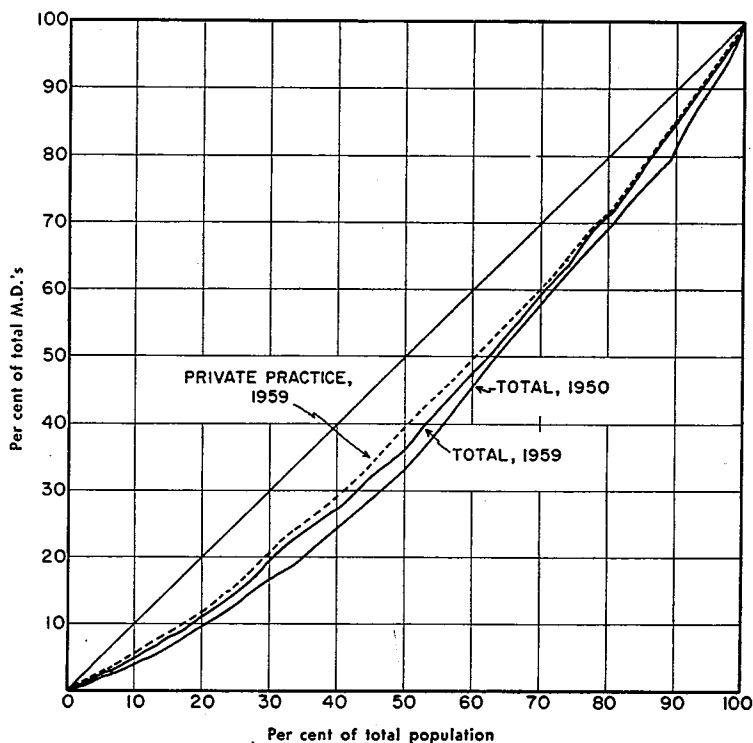
2014 COMPETITIVE PROBLEMS IN THE DRUG INDUSTRY

important. Physicians are most highly concentrated in high-income and in urban areas. After experimenting with several approaches, it developed that the most informative way to put the question of change in distribution is to inquire whether the degree of concentration of physicians in these areas has increased or decreased. The answer depends on how concentration is measured. It is interesting, and somewhat unexpected, that relative concentration in higher income areas decreased between 1950 and 1959, while at the same time the physician-population ratios in more highly urbanized areas increased. To clarify the meaning of these findings a more detailed examination is necessary.

To measure the change in relative concentration with respect to regional income, the writers constructed two Lorenz curves relating physicians to population, one for 1950 and one for 1959, as shown in Chart I. On the horizontal axis

CHART I

LORENZ CURVES FOR DISTRIBUTION OF PHYSICIANS BY RANK ORDER
OF COUNTY GROUP PER CAPITA DISPOSABLE INCOME*



* Total physicians, 1950 and 1959; physicians in active private practice, 1959.