What we did

• Kulkami et al: “Falling behind: life expectancy in US counties...in an international context”

• Calculate life expectancy for each neighborhood (census tract) in King County
  – aggregated 2005 to 2009
  – deleted tracts with fewer than 20 deaths

• Averaged the 10 best countries

• Look at how neighborhoods compare to the best that could be achieved in life expectancy
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What is “life expectancy”?  

• Expected number of years remaining at a given age (birth=age 0)  
• As if current age-specific death rates would continue through a person’s life  
• All causes of death combined
Figure 1. Life expectancy at birth, by race and sex: United States, 1970–2007

Historic and projected life expectancy of the longest-lived countries, by year, 1950 to 2050

Life expectancy at birth (years)

Year

Source: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, University of Washington and Public Health - Seattle & King County, APDE

Average 81.8

US, 78.2

16 years

2009

Australia
Canada
Finland
France
Hong Kong
Iceland
Israel
Italy
Japan
Macao
Norway
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
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- US, 78.2
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Source: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, University of Washington and Public Health - Seattle & King County, APDE
Life expectancy, by county, compared to the world’s 10 best countries
Life expectancy, by county, compared to the world’s 10 best countries
Life Expectancy Compared to the Ten Longest-Lived Countries by Census Tract 2005-2009, King County WA

Legend
- CITY

Calendar Years Ahead
- Dark blue: 31 to 42
- Medium blue: 15 to 30
- Light blue: 1 to 14
- Very light blue: Zero to 9

Calendar Years Behind
- Light orange: 10 to 23
- Light red: 24 to 57
- Dark red: 24 to 57

Small population

Years behind or ahead are from 2007.
Data Sources:
- International life expectancies: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, University of Washington
- Local life expectancy: Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics Death Files
Analysis and preparation: Assessment, Policy Development & Evaluation, Public Health – Seattle & King County, 10/2011

Prepared by: Assessment, Policy Development & Evaluation

Public Health
Seattle & King County
Date: 10/11/2011
Life Expectancy Compared to the Ten Longest-Lived Countries by Census Tract 2005-2009, King County WA

Legend
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Calendar Years Ahead
- Blue: 31 to 42
- Light blue: 15 to 30
- Green: 1 to 14
- Gray: 1 to 9

Calendar Years Behind
- Red: 24 to 57
- Orange: 10 to 23
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  http://www.pophealthmetrics.com/content/9/1/16/abstract