

INTRODUCTION:

The “Economic Gains from Healthier Choices for Missouri Counties” excel tool was developed by G. Dean Crader of the Economic & Policy Analysis Research Center (EPARC) for the Healthy Lifestyles Initiative (HLI) – University of Missouri Extension. The tool is based upon an economic model by Kevin M. Murphy and Robert H. Topel within their paper, “The Value of Health and Longevity” (NBER Working Paper 11405, 2005).

The original model by Murphy and Topel measured the economic growth in the United States attributable to major medical advancements during the last century. As well, they projected economic gains for future medical advancements. These economic gains were calculated from agents’ willingness to pay for medical advancements that increased longevity as well as quality of life. Within their model, these economic gains were then aggregated across the entire population of the United States because it was assumed that medical advancements are available to everyone in society.

The calculated economic gains within this excel tool use only the portion of Murphy and Topel’s model that pertain to increased longevity. Appropriately, the aggregation of these gains is limited to those residents within Missouri counties that choose to improve their health and longevity by their own means and not through medical advancement. We assume the value of choosing a healthier lifestyle using preventative health care is equivalent to their willingness to pay for similar longevity-increasing medical advancements.

INSTRUCTIONS:

ENABLE MACROS: A security warning will prompt you that “Macros have been disabled.” Click the Options... button next to the prompt. In the Microsoft Office Security Options window select “Enable this content,” and click the OK button. An auto-save warning may pop-up during usage. Simply click OK.

READ-ONLY: This macro-enabled excel spreadsheet is read-only in order to protect the user from adverse complications that may arise while using the tool. If you should run into difficult problems using the tool, the best option is to close the excel spreadsheet and then reopen. It will return to its original state. When closing the tool it will ask if you would like to save changes; always select NO.

All original data is contained within the Data tab for your convenience. The Data worksheet is protected and cannot be altered, but it may be copied into another document for your convenience.

The TOOL tab contains the pivot table and its filter options; COUNTY, OBJECTIVE, PERCENT, and TREATMENT YEAR. Simply click on the small filter icons next to these options to change the data within the chart as well as the adjoining graph. Minor edits to the graph are allowed.

Please feel free to contact Dean Crader if you have concerns regarding the performance of this tool.
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DATA DOCUMENTATION:

The following data were used to create the “Economic Gains from Healthier Choices for Missouri Counties” excel tool created by G. Dean Crader of the Economic & Policy Analysis Research Center (EPARC) for the Healthy Lifestyles Initiative (HLI) – University of Missouri Extension.

Income Data:

1. Personal Income (1970-2010): Local Area Personal Income and Employment (1970-2012), Table CA1-3 Personal Income Summary, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce. <http://www.bea.gov/regional/index.htm>
2. After Tax Income (2010): Consumer Expenditure Survey, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. <http://www.bls.gov/data/#spending>
3. Total Average Annual Expenditures (2010): Consumer Expenditure Survey, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. <http://www.bls.gov/data/#spending>

Population Data:

4. Missouri Counties Population (2010): 2010 Census, U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce. <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/data/>

Health and Mortality Data:

5. Death MICA (2009): State of Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. <http://health.mo.gov/data/mica/mica/death.php>
6. Community Data Profiles: State of Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. County Level Study 2007 – Tobacco Use and County Level Study 2007 – Health and Preventive Practices. <http://health.mo.gov/data/CommunityDataProfiles/index.html>
7. Steffen LM, Jacobs DR Jr, Stevens J, Shahar E, Carithers T, Folsom AR. Associations of whole-grain, refine-grain, and fruit and vegetable consumption with risks of all-cause mortality and incident coronary artery disease and ischemic stroke: the Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities (ARIC) Study. *Am J Clin Nutr* 2003; 78:383-90.
8. Ogden CL, Carroll MD, Curtin LR, McDowell MA, Tabak CJ, Flegal KM. Prevalence of Overweight and Obesity in the United States, 1999-2004. *JAMA*, April 5, 2006; 295: 1549-1555.
9. Anderson LB, Schnohr P, Schroll M, Hen HO. All-Cause Mortality Associated With Physical Activity During Leisure Time, Work, Sports, and Cycling to Work. *Arch Intern Med*. 2000; 160: 1621-1628.
10. Hu G, Tuomilehto J, Silventoinen K, Barengo NC, Peltonen M, Jousilahti P. The Effects of Physical Activity and Body Mass Index on Cardiovascular, Cancer and All-Cause Mortality Among 47,212 Middle-aged Finnish Men and Women. *International Journal of Obesity* (2005) 29: 894-902.
11. Taylor DHJr, Hasselblad V, Henley J, Thun MJ, Sloan, FA. Benefits of Smoking Cessation for Longevity. *American Journal of Public Health*, June 2002; 92(6): 990-996.