S1 Appendix: Life Tables Calculated from our Estimated Mortality Rates

To confirm that the estimated mortality rates from the survival models are reasonable, we calculate life expectancies for men and women at each educational level, while setting race/ethnicity to the percentage distribution observed in the NHIS-LMF data [1, 2]. SI Table 1 presents estimated life expectancies for the 1925, 1935, and 1945 cohorts, by educational attainment, calculated from the hazard models shown in Table 2. Among males with less than a high school degree, life expectancy changes little across birth cohorts. Among females with less than a high school degree, life expectancy declines across cohorts. Among males with a high school degree or more education, life expectancy increases across cohorts. Among females, life expectancy does not change across cohorts for those who have high school degrees, but increases across cohorts for those with some college or more education. Notably, our estimated life expectancies, for each cohort and by educational attainment, are similar to those estimated from other data and with different methods [3, 4].

References

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2.   Preston SH, Heuveline P, Guillot M. Demography: measuring and modeling population processes. Malden, MA: Blackwell; 2001.

3.   Rostron BL, Boies JL, Arias E. Education reporting and classification on death certificates in the United States: US Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics; 2010.

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SI Table 1: Life Expectancy Estimates at Selected Ages, by Sex and Educational Attainment, Based on Educational Disparities in Mortality in the 1925, 1935, and 1945 Birth Cohorts, Non-Institutionalized U.S. Born Adults Aged 25 and Older

Birth Cohort:	No High School Degree			High School Degree or GED			Some College			Baccalaureate Degree			Any Post-Baccalaureate Education		
	1925	1935	1945	1925	1935	1945	1925	1935	1945	1925	1935	1945	1925	1935	1945
Age:								Males							
25	47.1	47.0	46.9	49.6	50.8	52.0	50.4	51.8	53.2	53.1	55.8	58.5	54.4	57.8	61.2
45	29.5	29.4	29.3	31.7	32.7	33.8	32.3	33.6	34.9	34.8	37.2	39.7	35.9	39.0	42.3
65	14.6	14.5	14.4	16.2	17.0	17.8	16.7	17.7	18.7	18.6	20.5	22.6	19.5	22.0	24.8
85	5.4	5.3	5.3	6.2	6.6	7.1	6.5	7.0	7.6	7.5	8.7	10.1	8.1	9.7	11.7
Age:								Females							
25	54.7	53.0	51.3	57.7	57.6	57.6	58.6	58.9	59.3	60.5	61.9	63.3	61.0	62.8	64.7
45	35.9	34.4	32.9	38.7	38.6	38.6	39.6	39.9	40.1	41.3	42.6	44.0	41.8	43.5	45.3
65	19.0	17.8	16.6	21.3	21.2	21.2	22.0	22.3	22.5	23.5	24.6	25.8	23.9	25.4	27.0
85	7.1	6.5	5.8	8.5	8.5	8.5	9.0	9.2	9.3	10.0	10.8	11.6	10.3	11.4	12.6

Source: National Health Interview Survey-Linked Mortality File, 1986-2006
Note: Adjusted for race/ethnicity