

Life Expectancy at Birth

Figure 2a: Life Expectancy at Birth, by Income¹, Males, Toronto, 2001, 2003 & 2004 Combined²

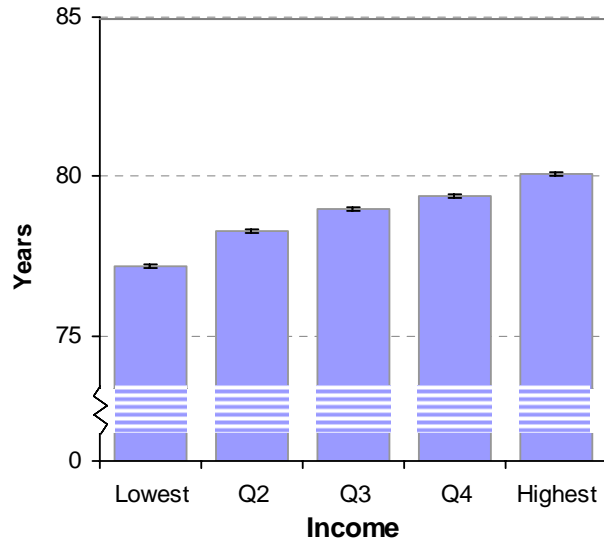
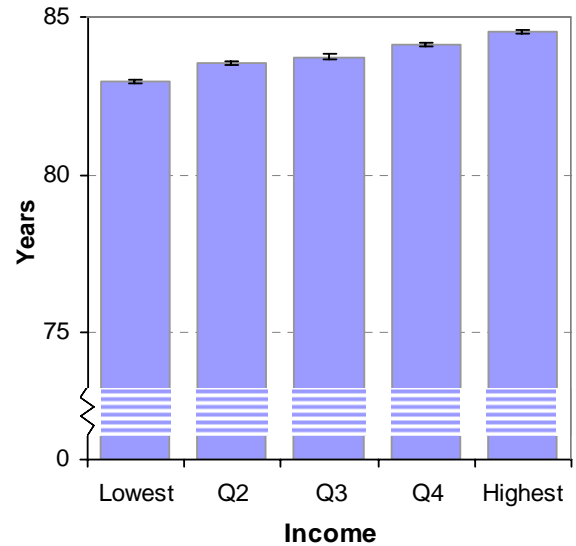


Figure 2b: Life Expectancy at Birth, by Income¹, Females, Toronto, 2001, 2003 & 2004 Combined²



¹ Income is the population quintile by proportion of the population below the LICO in census tracts.

² Mortality data are used from 2001, 2003 and 2004 as these years contain the most current and complete data for postal code. Three years of data are required for this type of analysis.

Error bars (I) denote 95% confidence intervals.

Source: Ontario Mortality Data 2003-2004, Provincial Health Planning Database (PHPDB) Ver. 18.01, Ontario MOHLTC. Ontario Mortality Data 2001, Statistics Canada, June 2008.

Life expectancy at birth represents the average number of years a group born at a specific time will live and is based on the current death rates across age groups. The life expectancy at birth for Toronto males was 78.1 years and for females was 83.0 years.

There was a significant gradient in life expectancy for both males and females across income quintiles in Toronto. The male gradient was steeper than the female gradient. Both follow the same step pattern. Males in the lowest income quintile (Q1) had the lowest life expectancy (77.2 years), and those in the highest income quintile (Q5) had the highest (80.1 years). Females in Q1 also experience the lowest life expectancy (82.9 years), while those in Q5 have the highest (84.5 years).

The absolute difference in life expectancy was 2.9 years for males in the lowest income quintile compared to the highest income quintile. The difference for females was 1.6 years. In relative terms, the male life expectancy in the lowest income quintile was 3.6% lower than the highest quintile, and for females it was 1.9% lower than the highest income quintile.

Life expectancy was also analyzed by income decile (tenth of the population). Males living in the lowest income decile had a life expectancy of 76.3 years and those in the highest income decile had a life expectancy of 80.8 years. Females living in the lowest income decile had a life expectancy of 82.7 years and those in the highest income decile had a life expectancy of 84.7 years. The difference in life expectancy between the lowest and highest income deciles was 4.5 years for males and 2.0 years for females.

Life expectancy in Toronto was higher than for individuals in the rest of Ontario with the exception of males in the lowest income decile.