

# The Effect of Education on Life Expectancy

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## INTRO & BACKGROUND

- Education attainment has surpassed both race and gender as a profound predictor of length of life (Sasson, 2016).
- On average, Highly educated Americans live longer than their low educated counterparts (Sasson, 2016).
- Higher education is the foundation for stable or well paid jobs. Increased income can assist in paying for more nutritious food, better housing and quality medical care, overall promoting a healthy lifestyle and longer life (Luy et al., 2019).

## EFFECTS OF EDUCATION ON LIFE EXPECTANCY

- A Master's degree brings about a life expectancy of 14.7 years more than people who had not finished high school, and a life expectancy of 8.3 years more than people who had finished high school (Singh & Lee, 2021).
- Race and access to education are intertwined and their effects can be seen in the graph to the left. One's access to education can depend on their race and that opportunity may lead to a longer life for some than for others.

## RESULTS & CONCLUSION

- There is a clear gradient by level of education, those with high education, had the highest life expectancy (Luy et al, 2019)
- Educational disparities in life expectancy grew among all race and gender groups from 1990 to 2010 (Sasson, 2016)

Overall, there is a positive correlation between education level and life expectancy. Without accessibility to quality education, lifespan can be altered.

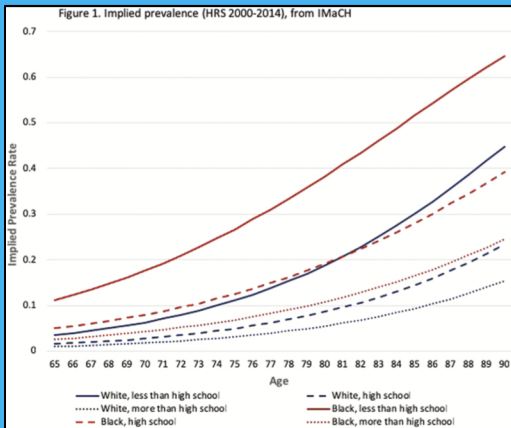
## SIGNIFICANCE

- Life-span can be improved due to education (Luy et al., 2019).
- Education policies can also be seen as indirect health policies (Luy et al., 2019).
- Researching lifespan trends can help develop varying paths of human mortality based on socioeconomic status and education (Sasson, 2016).
- Disparities in socioeconomic status in relation to life expectancy have been documented and widening across time (Singh & Lee, 2021).



## REFERENCES

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## PICO QUESTION

How does education access and quality, for higher and lower education, affect health determinants and life expectancy in the United States?

