Health Expectancy

Faye S. Albert, John M. Bragg and James C. Brooks, Jr.

Presented at the Living to 100 and Beyond Symposium

Orlando, Fla.

January 7-9, 2008

Copyright 2008 by the Society of Actuaries.
All rights reserved by the Society of Actuaries. Permission is granted to make brief excerpts for a published review. Permission is also granted to make limited numbers of copies of items in this monograph for personal, internal, classroom or other instructional use, on condition that the foregoing copyright notice is used so as to give reasonable notice of the Society's copyright. This consent for free limited copying without prior consent of the Society does not extend to making copies for general distribution, for advertising or promotional purposes, for inclusion in new collective works or for resale.

Abstract

This paper presents a different approach to measuring Health Expectancy, especially as it relates to the elderly population. This new actuarial approach is described and numerous examples are given. Three health status levels are envisioned: (1) healthy, (2) needs assisted living and (3) needs skilled care. Comparisons are given with external sources. As a separate but adjunct matter, actual mortality results are given at ages 90 and over. Beneficial aspects of health expectancy are discussed, including survival to and beyond age 100.