Life tables for tracts, communities, counties and states are generated from age specific mortality rates, which are the quotient of deaths during a calendar year to the and exposure, approximated by the population of the same age at the midpoint of the year (July 1). Age structured population data for tracts and communities are estimated using data from the American Community Survey, 5-year sample (table B01001; multiple years). County and state age population by age are estimated by the Demographic Research Unit, CA Department of Finance. Deaths data are based on 100% extracts from the vital statistics reporting system, CA Department of Public Health.

Life tables are estimated for tracts in counties where at least 95% of deaths could be accurately geocoded to the tract level. Mortality and exposure data were combined for small geographies: 4 years’ historical data were added to the population and mortality calculations for each annual tract and community life table, and 2 years’ historical data were added to each county life table. Then, life tables were calculated for geographies meeting a minimum of at least 10,000 person-years of exposure. Intra-age mortality (nax) was calculated for ages below 5 using factors provided by Preston et al. (2001) and by the midpoint of the age interval for other age groups. Standard errors were calculated for age specific probabilities of death (Chiang 1984) and simulated life tables were generated by bootstrapping life table deaths to produce confidence intervals for life expectancy (Andreev & Shkolnikov 2010).

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