

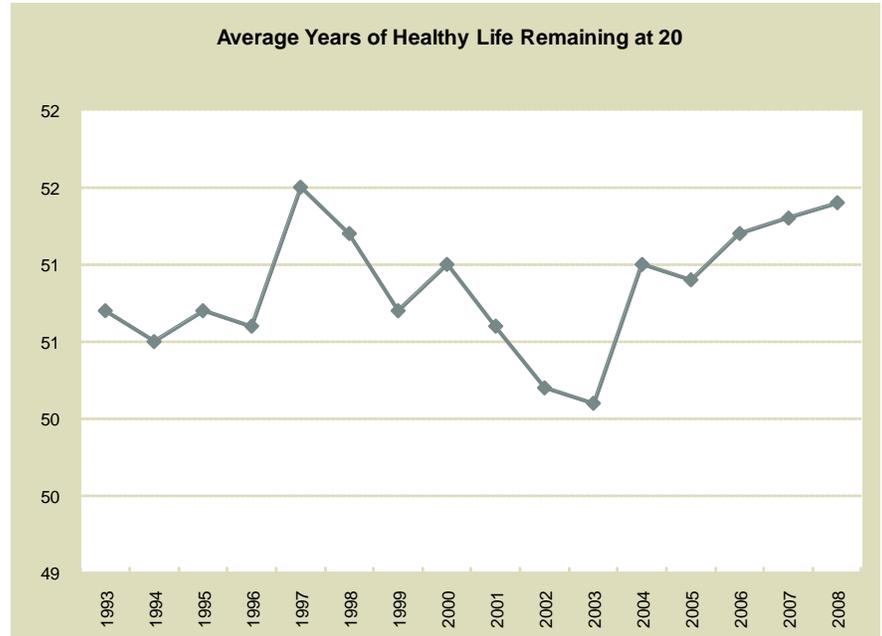
# Improve the Health of Washingtonians

## Indicator 2: Improve Life Expectancy

### Measure a: Average Years of Healthy Life Remaining at 20

#### Description:

This indicator is calculated by adjusting life expectancy derived from death certificate data with health status measured by the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) question "Would you say your health in general is excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?" The method used is described in Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics (CDC-NCHS) Statistical Notes, Number 21, August 2001. The method is slightly modified, because the measure of health status is available only for people age 18 and older. Thus, we calculate years of healthy life (referred to as "healthy life expectancy" in the CDC-NCHS report) as the number of additional years a 20-year-old is expected to live in good, very good or excellent health plus 20 years.



Average Years of Healthy Life Remaining at 20	
1993	50.7
1994	50.5
1995	50.7
1996	50.6
1997	51.5
1998	51.2
1999	50.7
2000	51.0
2001	50.6
2002	50.2
2003	50.1
2004	51.0
2005	50.9
2006	51.2
2007	51.3
2008	51.4

#### Sources:

[Department of Health](#)  
[U.S. Center for Disease Control](#)