

### Table Supporting the Discussion of Dowd/Aiello

The table presents information underlying the discussion in the comment on:

Dowd JB, Aiello AE. Did national folic acid fortification reduce socioeconomic and racial disparities in folate status in the US? *Int J Epidemiol* 2008;37:1050-1066.

The tables below include information on income and racial differences in folate levels before and after the implementation of a folate fortification program. The analyses are limited to comparisons of the highest and lowest income quartile and comparisons of blacks and whites. Table A is based on the unadjusted figures in Table 1 of Dowd and Aiello. Table B is based on the adjusted rates that can be derived, algebraically, from the relative and absolute differences show in Table 2 of Dowd and Aiello.

The fields in the two tables are explained below:

CatType	Type of comparison (I = income; R = Race)
Period	Period examined (1 = pre-program; 2 = post-program)
AGLFR	Advantaged group's rate of low folate (highest quartile for income analysis); whites for racial analysis
DGLFR	Disadvantaged group's rate of low folate (lowest quartile for income analysis); blacks for racial analysis
AGAFR	Advantaged group's rate of adequate folate (highest quartile for income analysis); whites for racial analysis
DGAFR	Disadvantaged group's rate of adequate folate (lowest quartile for income analysis); blacks for racial analysis
RRAdv	Ratio of disadvantaged group's rate of low folate to advantaged group's rate of low folate
RRFav	Ratio of advantaged group's rate of adequate folate to disadvantaged group's rate of adequate folate
AD	Absolute difference between rates
EES	Estimated difference between means of hypothesized normal distributions (in terms of percentage of a standard deviation)

**Table A: Measures of Differences in Low Folate Rates and Adequate Folate Rates for Lowest and Highest Income Quartiles and Blacks and Whites**

CatType	Period	AGLFR	DGLFR	AGAFR	DGAFR	RRAdv	RRFav	AD	EES
I	1	37.40%	52.80%	62.60%	47.20%	1.41	1.33	0.154	0.42
I	2	4.20%	11.00%	95.80%	89.00%	2.62	1.08	0.068	0.52
R	1	32.70%	64.70%	67.30%	35.30%	1.98	1.91	0.32	0.84
R	2	3.80%	17.10%	96.20%	82.90%	4.50	1.16	0.133	0.83

**Table B: Measures of Differences in Adjusted Low Folate Rates and Adequate Folate Rates for Lowest and Highest Income Quartiles and Blacks and Whites**

CatType	Period	AGLFR	DGLFR	AGAFR	DGAFR	RRAdv	RRFav	AD	EES
I	1	45.93%	58.33%	54.07%	41.67%	1.27	1.30	124	0.33
I	2	3.80%	7.90%	96.20%	92.10%	2.08	1.04	41	0.37
R	1	36.41%	59.71%	63.59%	40.29%	1.64	1.58	233	0.61
R	2	4.40%	16.50%	95.60%	83.50%	3.75	1.14	121	0.74