State of the State of Diabetes and Obesity in Alabama

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Obesity
Overweight and Obesity

- Alabama has the **eighth** highest prevalence of obesity in the country

BRFSS, 2013
Obesity Percentages in Alabama and the U.S., 2002-2013 (BMI ≥ 30.0)

Source: 2002-2013 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

* The BRFSS 2011-2013 prevalence data are not directly comparable to previous years of BRFSS data because of changes in weighting methodology and the addition of the cell phone sampling frame.
Obesity Among U.S. Adults, 2013
Obesity in Youth

• 15.8% of youth are overweight (9th-12th graders)
• 17.1% of youth are obese (#3 in the nation)
• Same as 2011 data
• CDC, YRBS 2013
Obesity in Children

• A study completed by the Division of Oral Health at ADPH in 2013 found that almost 22% of 3rd graders in Alabama are obese (n = 3952).

• Another 16.6% are overweight.

• Combined, 38.6% of 3rd graders are either overweight or obese.
Obesity in Children

- The same study found that 39% of kindergarteners in Alabama are either overweight or obese (n=4362).
Complications of Obesity

- Coronary heart disease
- Type 2 diabetes
- Cancers (endometrial, breast, and colon)
- High blood pressure
- High cholesterol
- Stroke
- Liver and gallbladder disease
- Sleep apnea and respiratory problems
- Osteoarthritis
- Gynecological problems
Costs of Obesity in Alabama

• The medical costs for Alabamians who are obese are $1.7 billion higher than those of normal weight.
Strategies for the Prevention and Control of Obesity

• Promote the availability of affordable healthy food and beverages. Example - increasing the number of supermarkets and/or farmers markets in areas where they are unavailable or limited.

• Support healthy food and beverage choices. Example - discourage the consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages.
Strategies for the Prevention and Control of Obesity

- Encourage breastfeeding. Example – policies that support breastfeeding at work.

- Encourage physical activity or limit sedentary activity among children and youth. Example – reduce screen time in public service venues such as licensed child care facilities.
Strategies for the Prevention and Control of Obesity

• Create safe communities that support physical activity. Example – improve access to outdoor recreation facilities such as a playground or walking trail.

• Encourage communities to organize for change. Example – local governments participate in community coalitions or partnerships to address obesity

Source: Recommended Community Strategies and Measurements to Prevent Obesity in the United States, CDC, 2009
Strategies for the Prevention and Control of Obesity

• CDC funding in Alabama is working to:
  – Promote the adoption of nutrition standards in vending machines in worksites.
  – Promote the adoption of physical education/physical activity in schools, worksites, and early care education centers.
  – Create healthy school environments with mini-grants to school systems.
Diabetes
Diabetes in Alabama

• In 2013, Alabama had the highest prevalence of diabetes in the nation.

BRFSS, 2013
Diabetes in Alabama

• Approximately 510,000 Alabama adults have diabetes (13.8% diabetes prevalence).

• Approximately 255,000 Alabama adults have pre-diabetes (8.5% prevalence rate).

BRFSS, 2013
Percentage of Adult-Diagnosed Diabetes in Alabama and the U. S., 2000-2013

* The BRFSS 2011-2013 prevalence data are not directly comparable to previous years of BRFSS data because of changes in weighting methodology and the addition of the cell phone sampling frame.
Diabetes Complications

- Kidney failure
- Amputations
- Blindness
- Major risk factor for heart disease and stroke
- Nerve damage
Annual Cost of Diabetes in Alabama

- Total diabetes cost was $4.31 billion
  - Medical costs: $3.01 billion
  - Indirect expenses (lost productivity and premature mortality): $1.3 billion
- People with diabetes spent $13,700 on medical costs.

ADA, 2012
Strategies for Diabetes Prevention and Control

- Combined diet and physical activity program
- Case management
- Disease management
- Self-Management education

Source: The Guide to Community Preventive Services, July 2014
Diabetes Prevention

- National Diabetes Prevention Program.
- Evidence-based lifestyle change program for preventing Type 2 diabetes.
- Can help people cut their risk of developing Type 2 diabetes in half.
- Participants work with a lifestyle coach in a group setting for 16 sessions and 6 post-core sessions.
Diabetes Self-Management Education (DSME)

• Empowers people with diabetes by providing knowledge and skills to effectively manage diabetes.

• Teaches training on healthy eating, being active, monitoring, medication, coping, and program solving.

• Covered by Medicare Part B for 10 hours of initial DSME training, plus 2 hours refresher.
Resources for Communities and Schools to Address Obesity and Diabetes

• CDC’s Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity
  – www.cdc.gov/nutrition
  – www.cdc.gov/diabetes

• Let’s Move
  – www.letsmove.gov
Resources for Communities and Schools to Address Obesity and Diabetes

- USDA’s Food and Nutrition Information Center
- Accredited DSME Programs
  - http://www.diabeteseducator.org/ProfessionalResources/accred/Programs.html#Alabama
- Alliance for a Healthier Generation
  - www.healthiergeneration.org
Resources for Communities and Schools to Address Obesity and Diabetes

- We Can! Ways to Enhance Children’s Activity and Nutrition
  - wecan.nhlbi.nih.gov/

- The Community Guide
  - www.communityguide.org