D-ATLAS development

The National Minority Quality Forum is solely responsible for all information presented in connection with the D-ATLAS and for compliance with applicable laws—including, without limitation, all laws governing the privacy of individuals—in the conduct of this funded initiative.

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The Diabetes Atlas

Profiling Diabetes Across the Nation





Welcome to the D-ATLAS!

What is the D-ATLAS?

The D-ATLAS is a unique online tool that enables health advocates and policy makers to map health disparities in diagnosed type 2 diabetes and obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 30 or greater). The D-ATLAS provides the prevalence of and cost associated with diabetes and the prevalence of obesity by race/ethnicity, age, or gender in the United States, by individual state or by legislative district. The ability to create customized maps that localize diabetes disparities is a compelling reference source. These maps may be generated and disseminated to support educational, advocacy, and public affairs initiatives.

Why the D-ATLAS: health disparities—diabetes and obesity

Disparities exist in the diagnosis and treatment of diabetes in African Americans, Native Americans, and Hispanics. The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have estimated¹ total (diagnosed and undiagnosed) diabetes prevalence among adults in the United States as follows:

- 10.7% (23.5 million) of all adults in 2007
- 9.8% (14.9 million) of non-Hispanic whites in 2007
- 14.7% (3.7 million) of non-Hispanic blacks in 2007
- 13.7% of Hispanics in 2005

Obesity rates also vary by race/ethnicity, gender, and age. For example, for women age 20 years and over between 2003 and 2006, age-adjusted obesity prevalence varied as follows:²

- 54.3% of non-Hispanic black women
- 41.8% of women of Mexican origin
- 31.6% of non-Hispanic white women
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Diabetes Fact Sheet: General Information and National Estimates on Diabetes in the United States, 2007 (Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, US Department of Health and Human Services, 2008).
- 2. National Center for Health Statistics, *Health, United States, 2008, with Chartbook* (Hyattsville, MD; 2009).

What data are used in the D-ATLAS?

The D-ATLAS uses data from the following sources:

- Prevalence of diabetes: CDC's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)
- Direct costs of diabetes: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's Medical Expenditure Panel Survey
- Indirect costs of diabetes: adapted from the American Diabetes Association³
- Prevalence of obesity: CDC's National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys and BRFSS
- Age, gender, race/ethnicity, total population: estimated for each zip code from the US Census (2000)

The National Minority Quality Forum uses Bayesian analysis of the above data to construct the D-ATLAS maps (see D-ATLAS information at http://www.nmqf.org for more information on the methodology used to estimate prevalence and costs). The D-ATLAS is updated periodically as new data become available.

What do the D-ATLAS maps show?

The D-ATLAS provides on-demand capacity for exploring the prevalence of and cost associated with diagnosed type 2 diabetes and the prevalence of obesity nationwide, by state, and by legislative district. Maps may be produced by race/ethnicity (white non-Hispanic, black non-Hispanic, Hispanic, and other), age (18–49, 50–65, and 65+), or gender.

How do I access the D-ATLAS?

D-ATLAS registration and access are available via the National Minority Quality Forum Web site:

http://www.nmqf.org

Authorized D-ATLAS users include advocacy groups and other nonprofit organizations and local, state, and national government employees and officials.

For additional details, please contact the National Minority Quality Forum's Atlas Desk:

atlasdesk@nmqf.org

^{3. &}quot;Economic Costs of Diabetes in the U.S. in 2007," *Diabetes Care* 31:596–615, 2008.