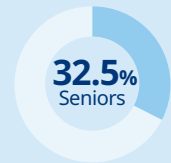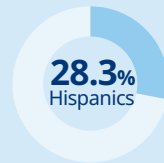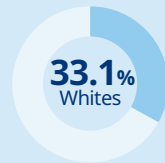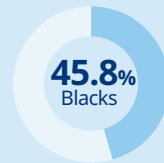# The State of Obesity in
South Carolina

1,470,970 Adults living with obesity[1,2,a]

36.1% Percentage of adults with obesity[2]

Prevalence of obesity varies depending on the population[3]:

45.8% Blacks

33.1% Whites

28.3% Hispanics

32.5% Seniors (aged ≥65 years)

[a]Obesity is defined as BMI ≥30 kg/m^2. Class 2 or 3 obesity is defined as BMI ≥35 kg/m^2.[4] BMI=body mass index.

These counties have the highest percentage of people with obesity in South Carolina[5]:

46% Marlboro

46% Allendale

46% Marion

Obesity is a major risk factor for cardiometabolic disease.[6]
In South Carolina, the prevalence of cardiometabolic comorbidities of obesity include:

37.8% Hypertension[7]

37.7% High cholesterol[8]

13.7% Diabetes[9,b]

[b]Estimates do not differentiate between type 1 and type 2 diabetes (T2D). T2D accounts for 90-95% of all diabetes cases and the data presented here are more likely to be characteristic of T2D.

National Obesity Statistics
The direct and indirect costs of obesity for employers

Employees with obesity can incur up to a **2.5x increase in costs** vs employees of normal weight[10,c]

Absence due to illness or injury is **increased 128%** for employees with obesity, or **3 additional days** per year[11]

$14,341 to $28,321 Cost per employee with obesity per year[10,d]

$271 to $542 Annual productivity loss per employee with obesity[11]

[c]Includes medical, pharmacy, sick days, disability, presenteeism, and workers' compensation costs. Cost increase depends on class (severity) of obesity.

[d]Range is based on class (severity) of obesity.

Anti-obesity Medications (AOMs) and Coverage for South Carolina Residents[12]

AOMs are FDA-approved medications for the management of obesity.

Nationwide Coverage[a]

AOMs are covered by over 90% of National Pharmacy Benefit Managers.

[a]Coverage data as of January 2023.

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