

The Wealth and Health of the Delta

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May 27, 2005



In 1992

*A Social and Economic Portrait of
the Mississippi Delta*

Edited by:

Arthur G. Cosby

Mitchell W. Brackin

T. David Mason

Eunice R. McCulloch

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The Project had a Substantial Delta State University Presence

Mr. Hugh Smith

Dr. Kent Wyatt

Dr. Frank Allen Dennis

Dr. Reid Jones

Dr. John Thornell

Dr. Gene Hamon

Dr. Larry Hailey

Dr. W. Ross Story

Chapter 1

My Delta and Yours?

Willie Morris



“No matter what the future brings, it will always be a place where the land, the soil, with all that this implies in human intercourse, are prized over all else. The Mississippi Delta will be the last place on earth to be paved over.”

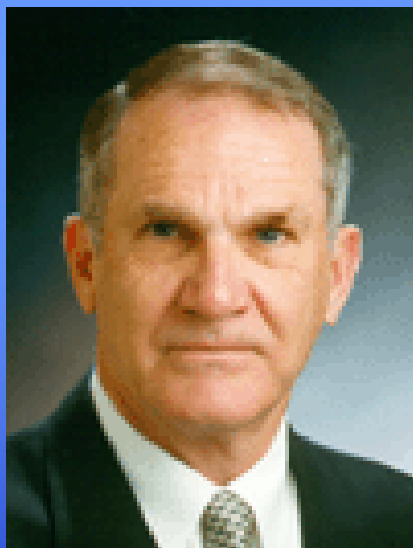
Willie Morris

A Social and Economic Portrait of the Mississippi Delta 1992

Chapter 19

Framing the Future: Views on the Future of the Mississippi Delta

Arthur G. Cosby



Major Themes

- Global trend toward free market, decentralization and democratic solutions
- Increasing international/global competition
- Market based approaches to social based problems – awareness of the limits of government
- Increased concern for environmental quality
- A national shift from a biracial to multi-ethnic society

A Sixth Theme to be Added Tonight:

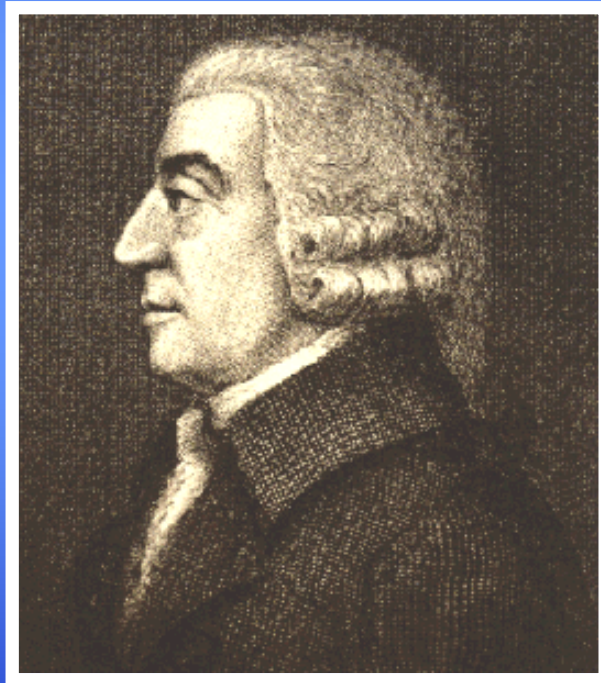
The Wealth and Health of the Delta



An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations

1776

Adam Smith



My Nominee for the Noble Prize in Economics (if I could)

David E. Bloom, Ph.D.

Clarence James Gamble Professor of Economics
and Demography

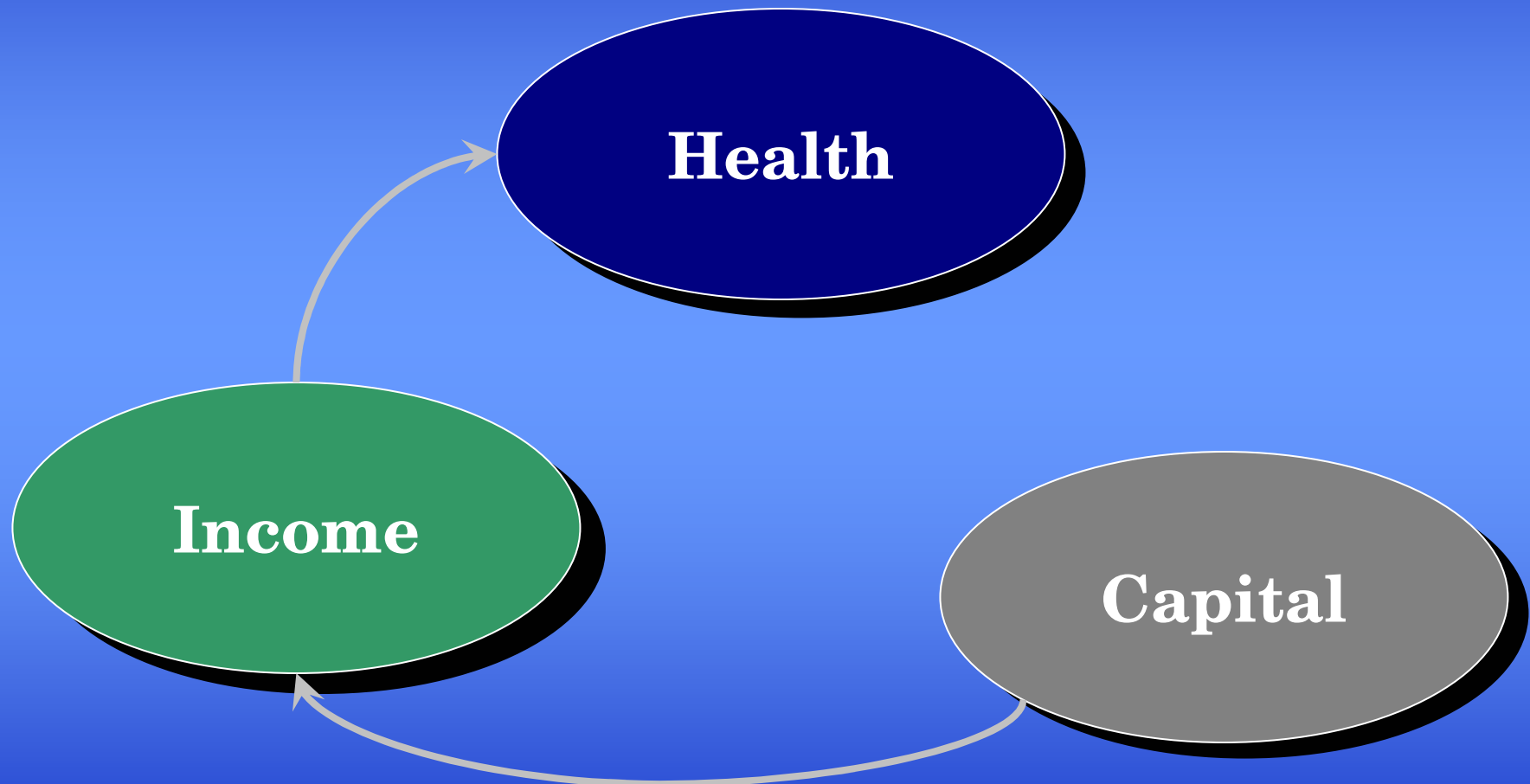
Department of Population and International Health
Harvard University

The Wealth and Health of Nations

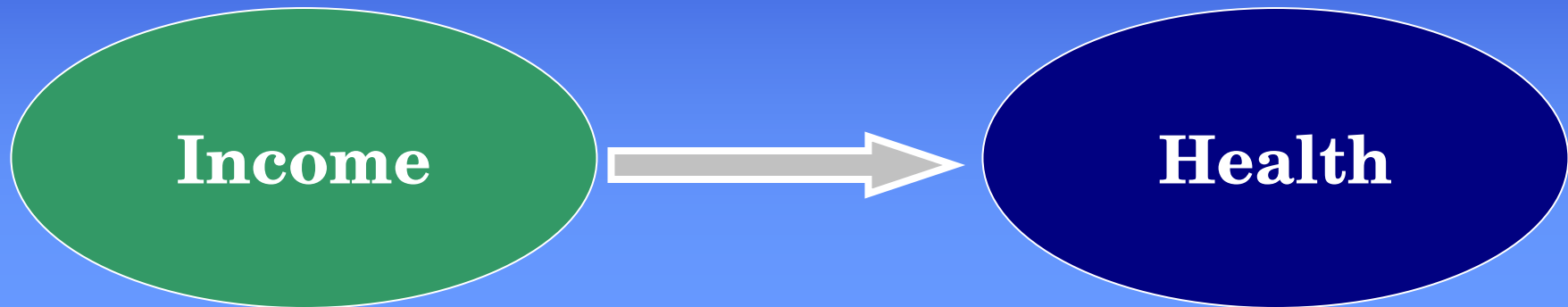
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Health and Income: Traditional View



From Wealth to Health: One Part of the Story

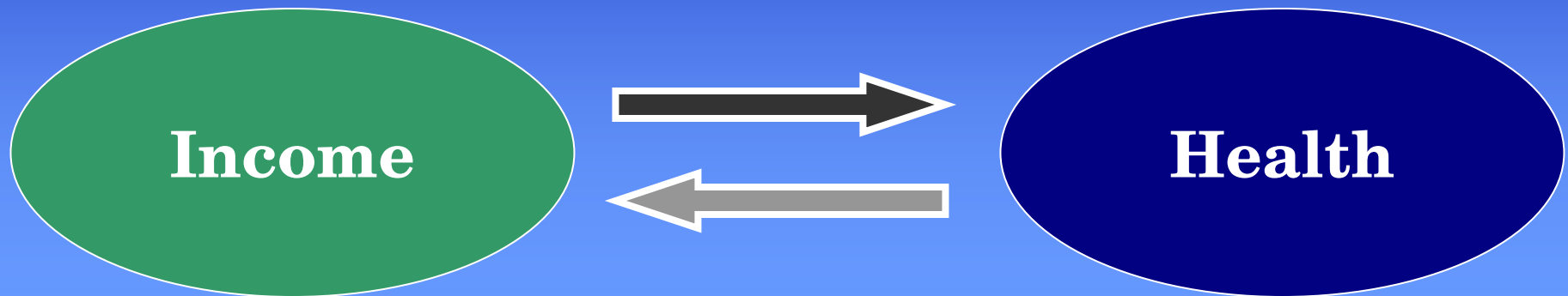


- Better nutrition
- Better access to clean water
- Better sanitation
- More access to better health care
- Better psycho-social resources

Factors Affecting the Growth of Per Capita Income Include:

- Education
- Natural resource endowments
- Policy and institutional environment
- Stock of physical capital and infrastructure
- Geography
- Initial level of income per capita
- To these factors we can add health

Health to Wealth – Lots of Oomph!



A 10-year gain in life expectancy translates into nearly 1 additional percentage point of annual income growth

Bloom's Research Leads to Two Additional Questions

Can the Wealth, Health of Nations be expanded to:

- 1) The Wealth of Regions (sub-national)
- 2) The Wealth of Communities

Healthy and Unhealthy Places

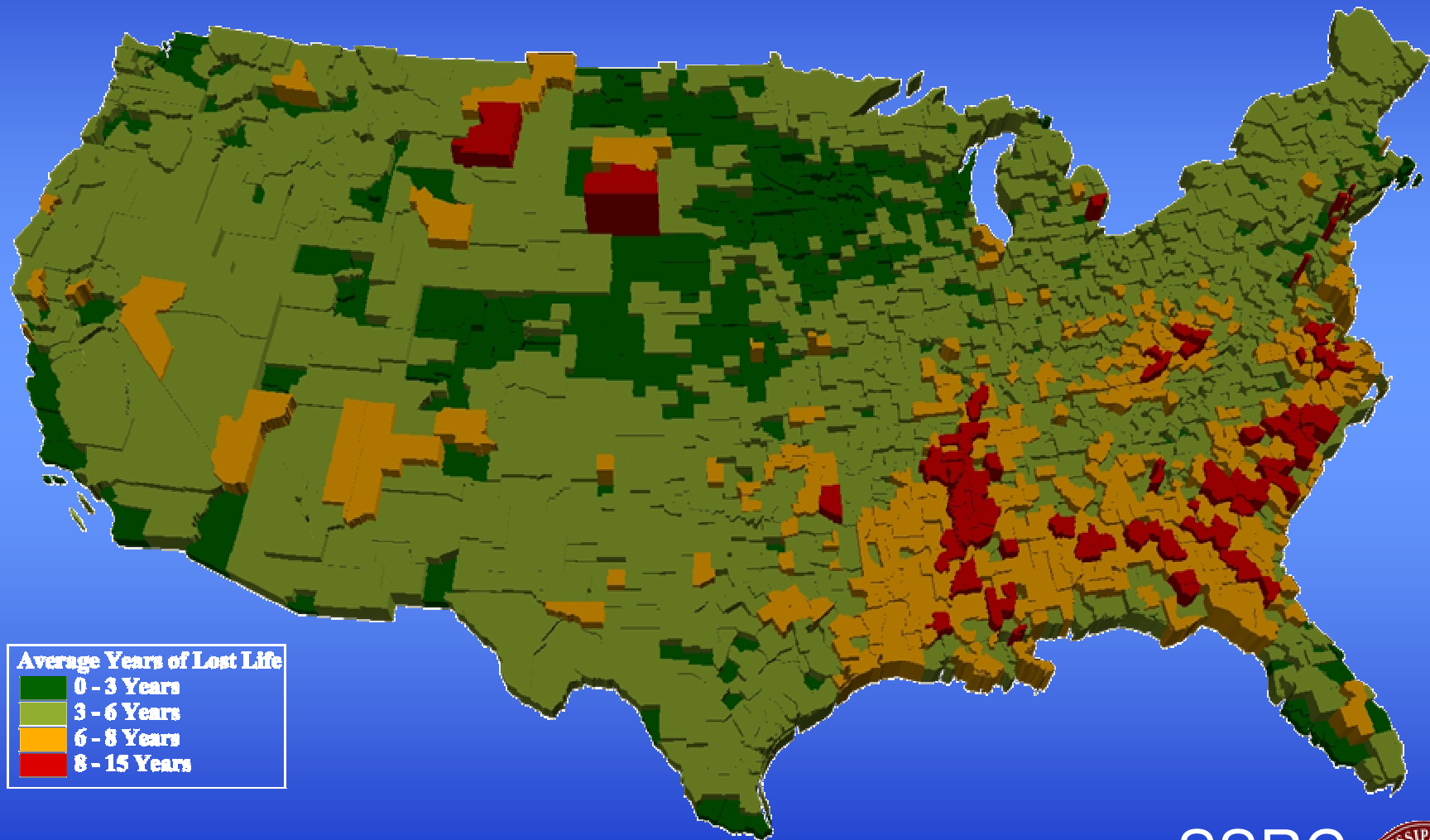
An Ongoing Program of Research at
the
Social Science Research Center



Healthy and Unhealthy Places in America:

Average Years of Lost Life

(80 – Average Life Expectancy, 1990)



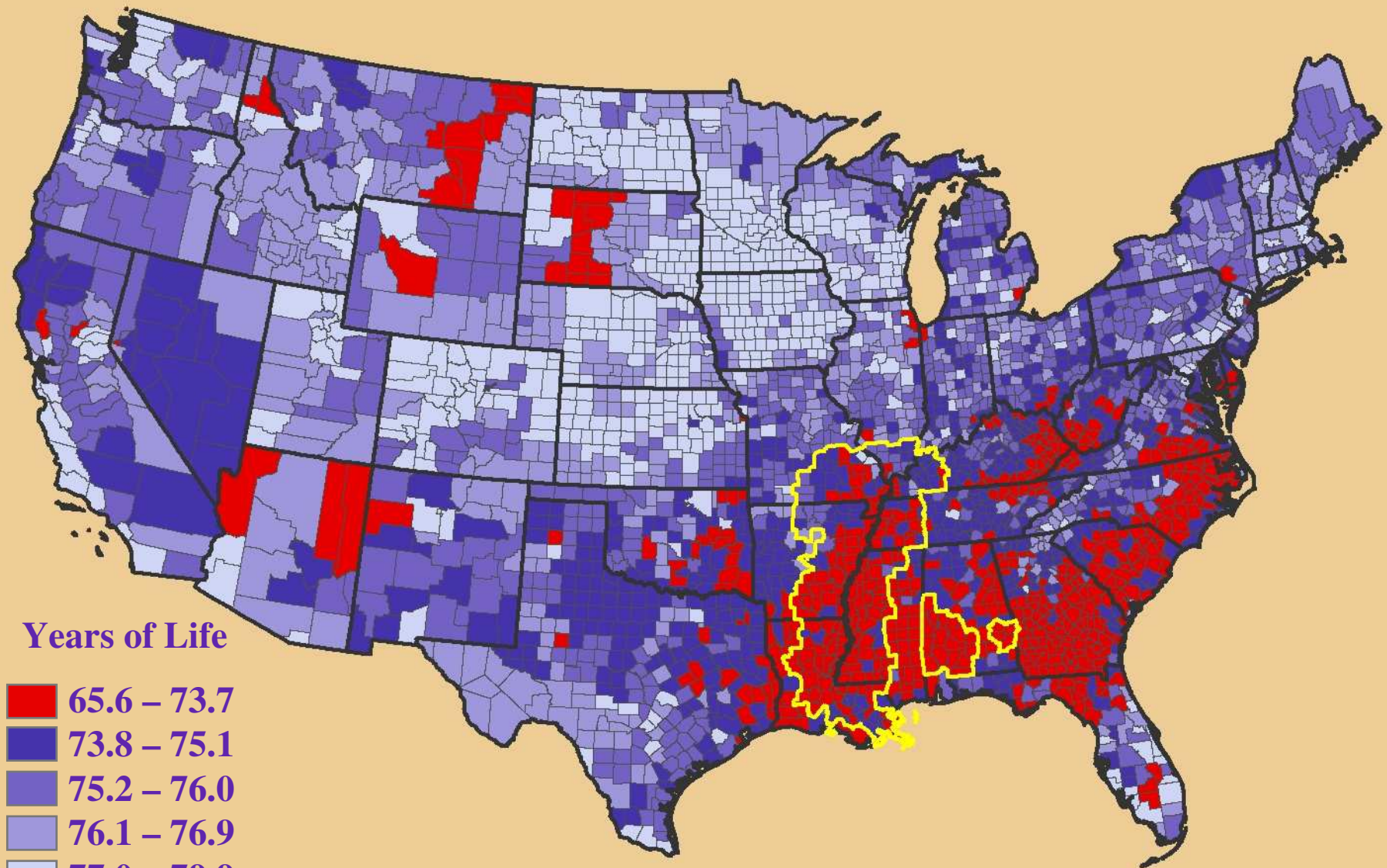
Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Resources, HRSA
Community Health Status Indicator Project

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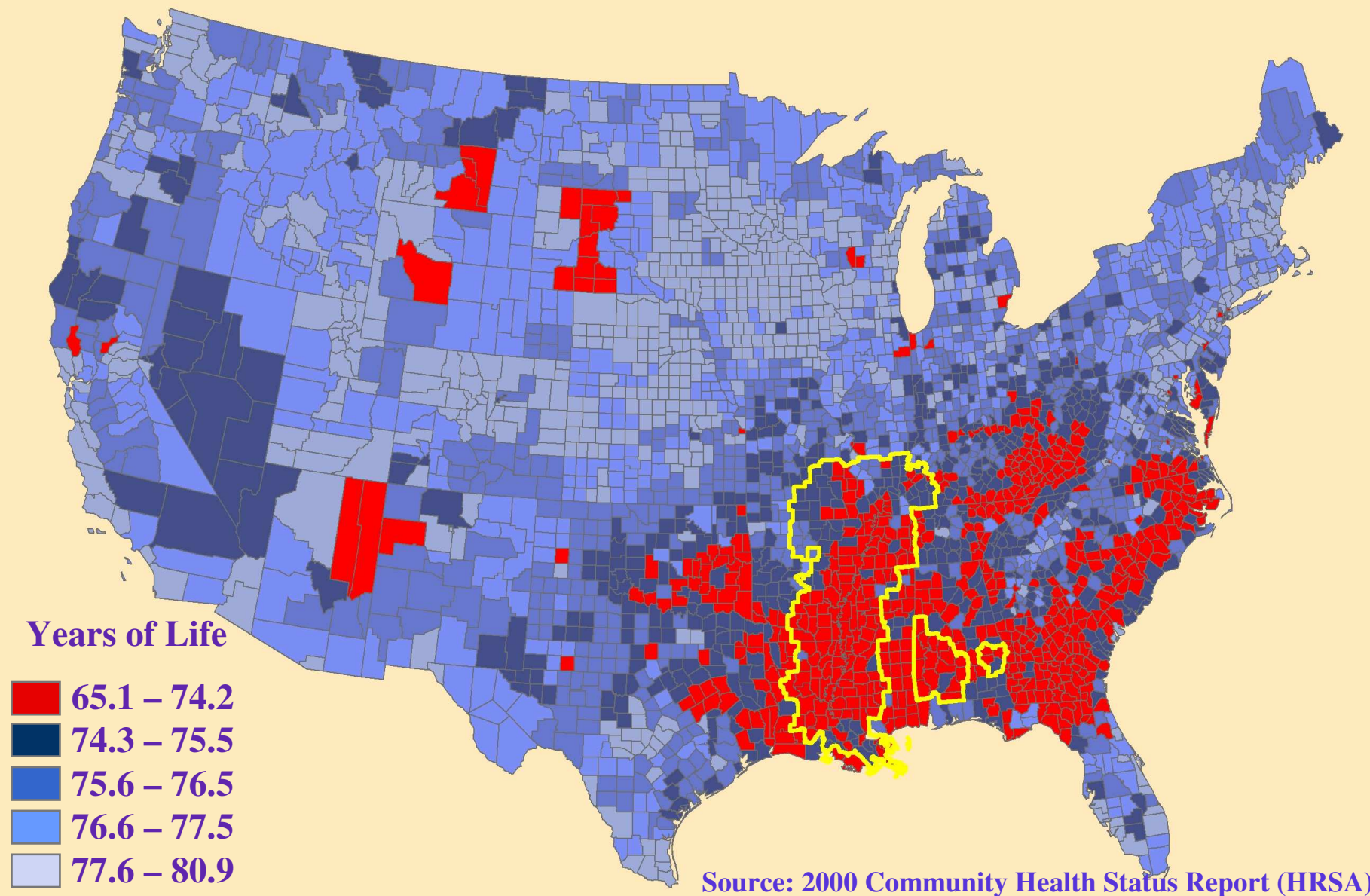
Persistence of Healthy and Unhealthy Places

1990 Average Life Expectancy



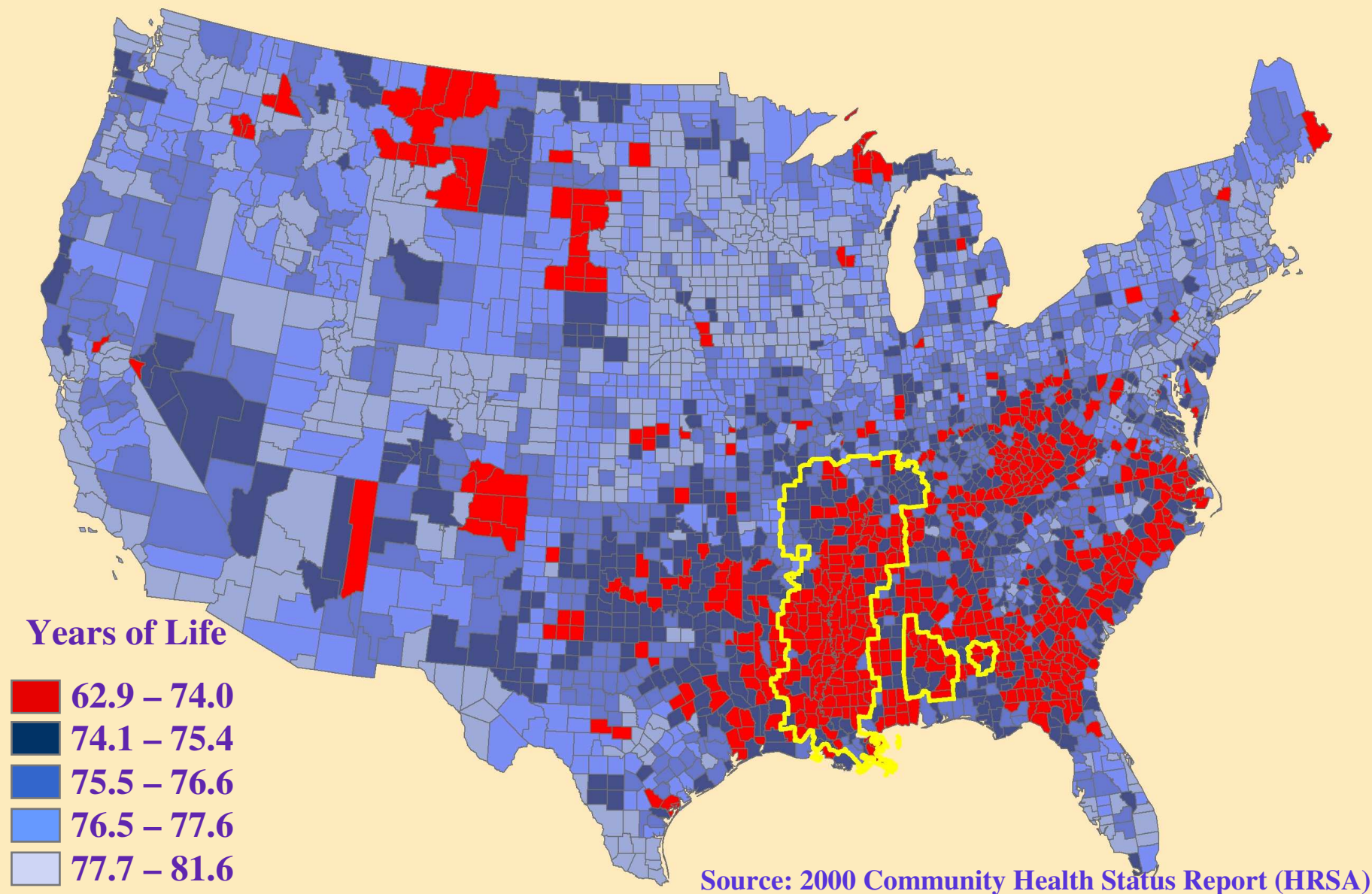
Source: 2000 Community Health Status Report (HRSA)

1997 Average Life Expectancy



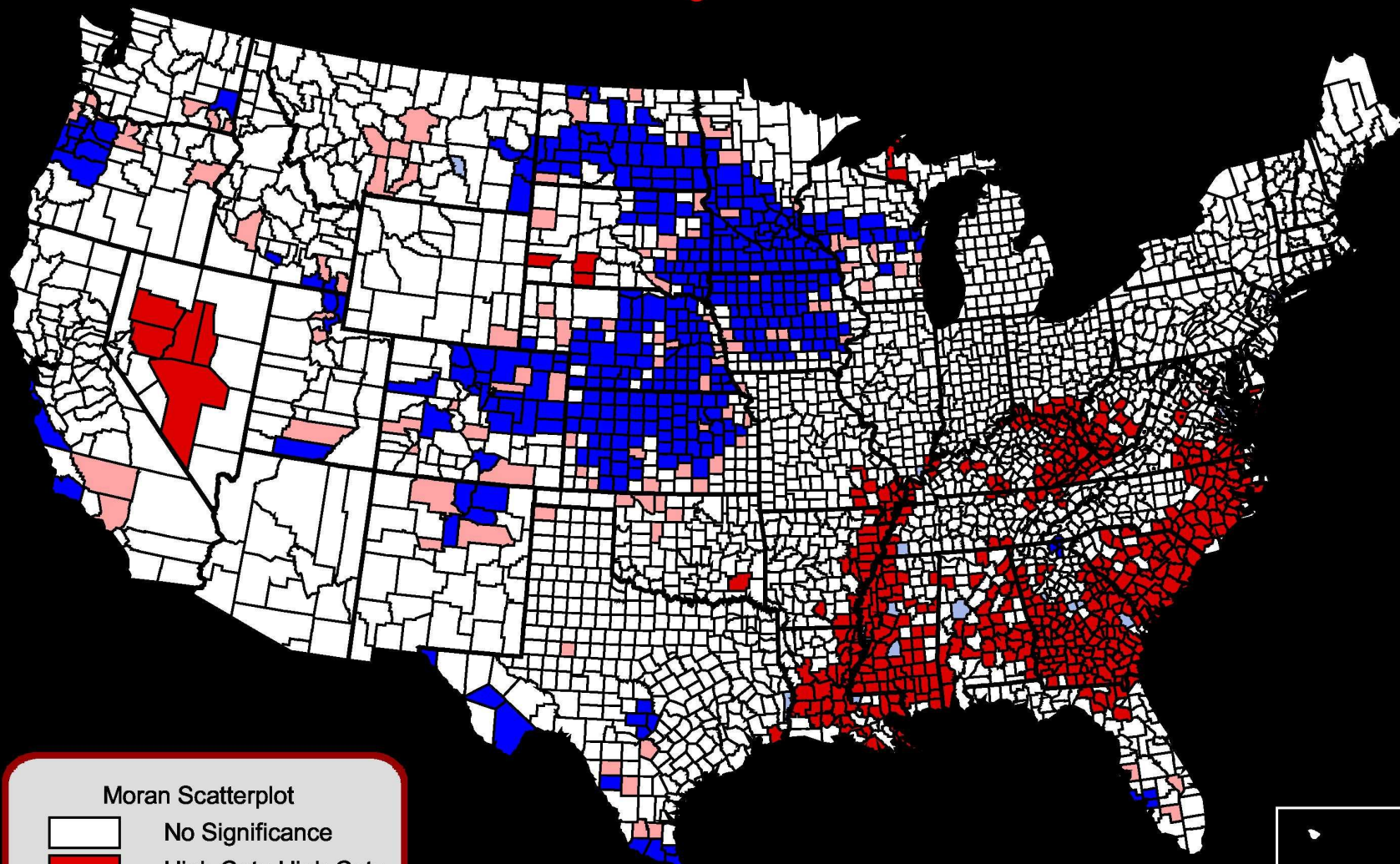
Source: 2000 Community Health Status Report (HRSA)

2000 Average Life Expectancy



Source: 2000 Community Health Status Report (HRSA)

Figure 8. Local Moran's I Scatterplot of Persistent Mortality in the US: 1968-97



Moran Scatterplot

	No Significance
	High Cnty-High Cnty
	Low Cnty-Low Cnty
	High Cnty-Low Cnty
	Low Cnty-High Cnty

Produced by: Troy Blanchard, Wes James
Social Science Research Center
Mississippi State University
Source: CDC Compressed Mortality File



Healthy & Unhealthy Places

Migration Effects

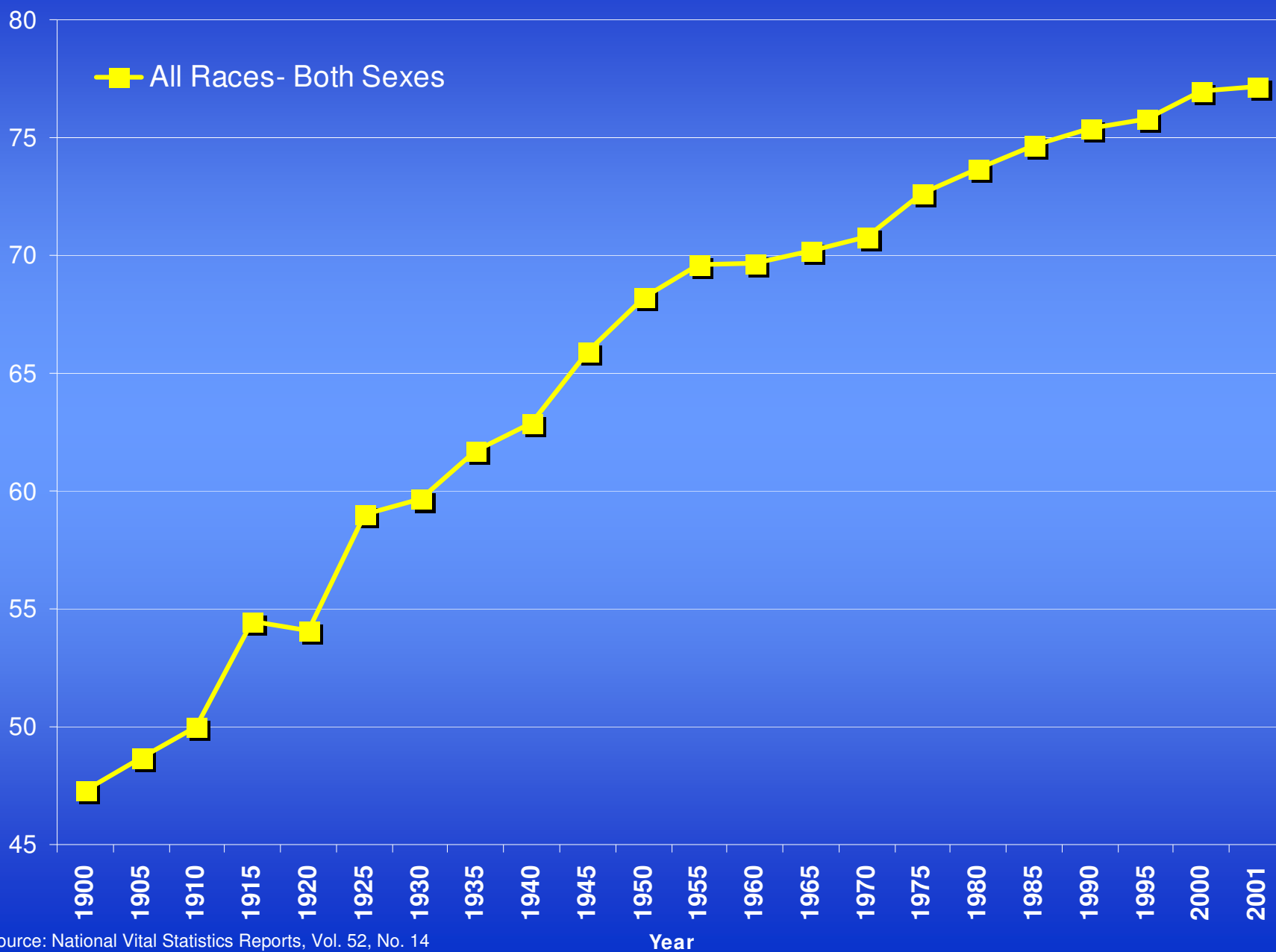
Research by Cossman et al.

- **Unhealthy places have low in-migration**
- **Unhealthy places have low out-migration**

Divergence

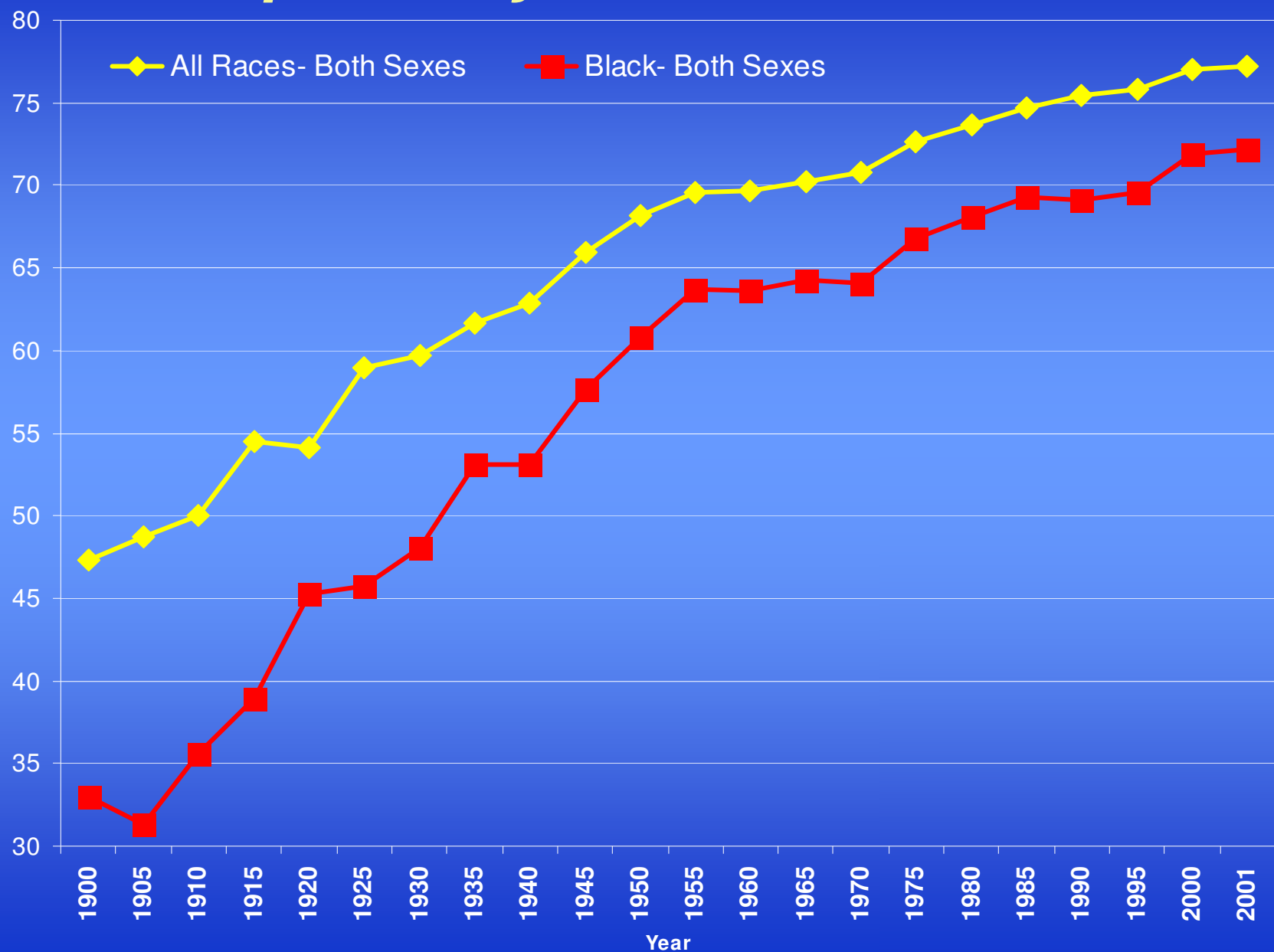
(National versus Unhealthy Places)

Life Expectancy at Birth, United States



Source: National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 52, No. 14

Life Expectancy at Birth, United States

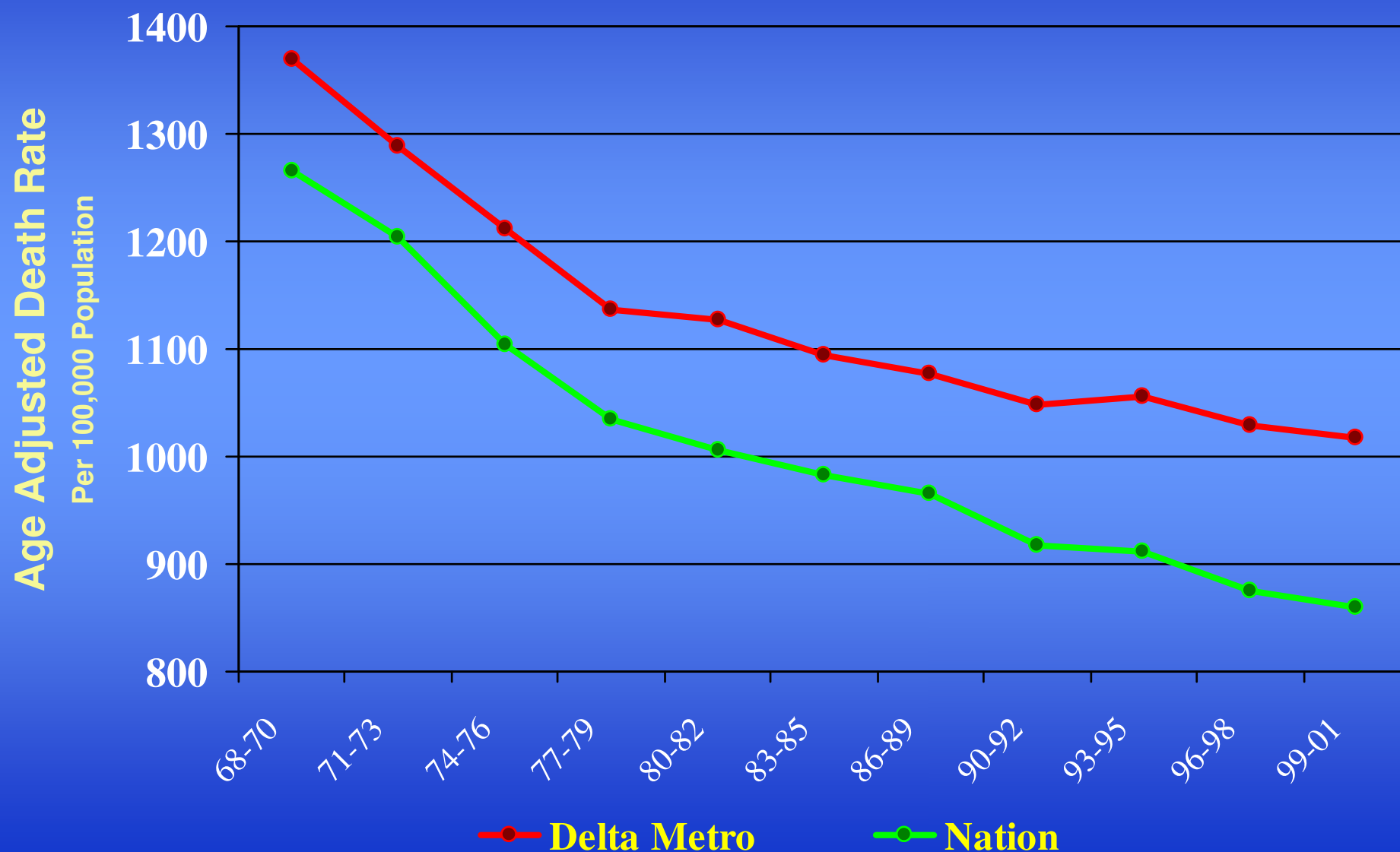


Source: National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 52, No. 14

Age Adjusted Mortality Rates

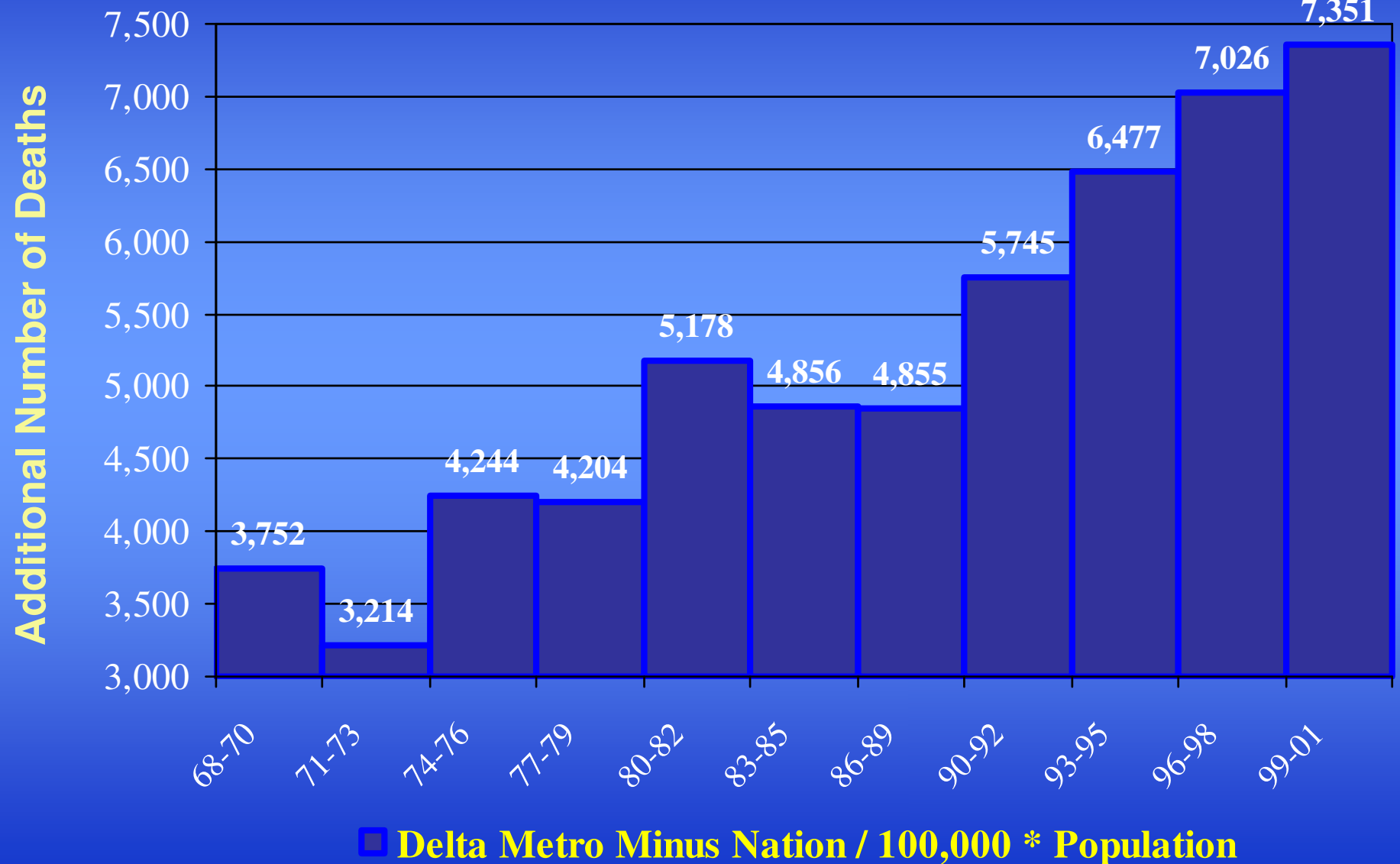
3-Year Averages

1968 – 2001



Additional Deaths in Delta Metro Area

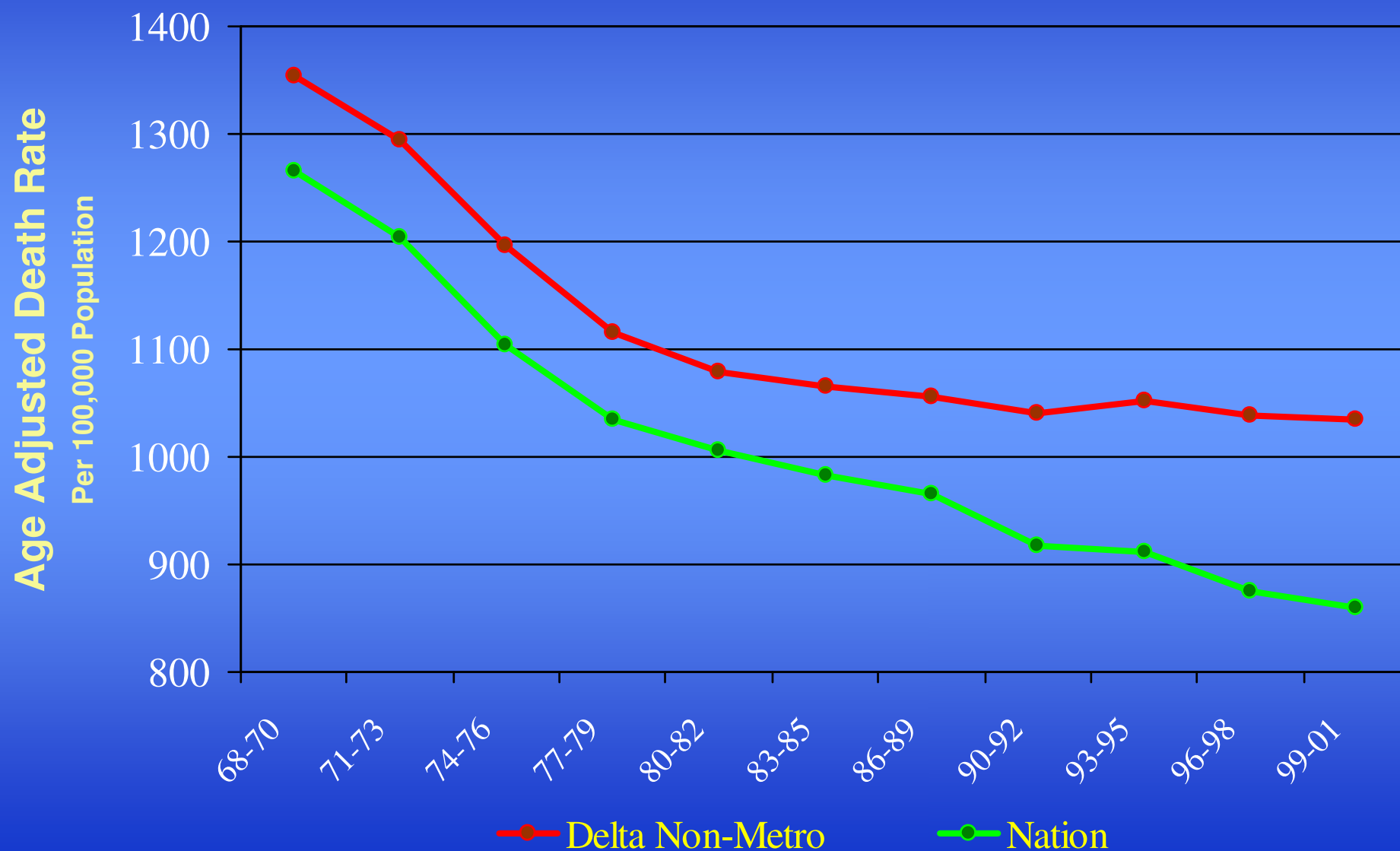
3-Year Averages
1968 – 2001



Age Adjusted Mortality Rates

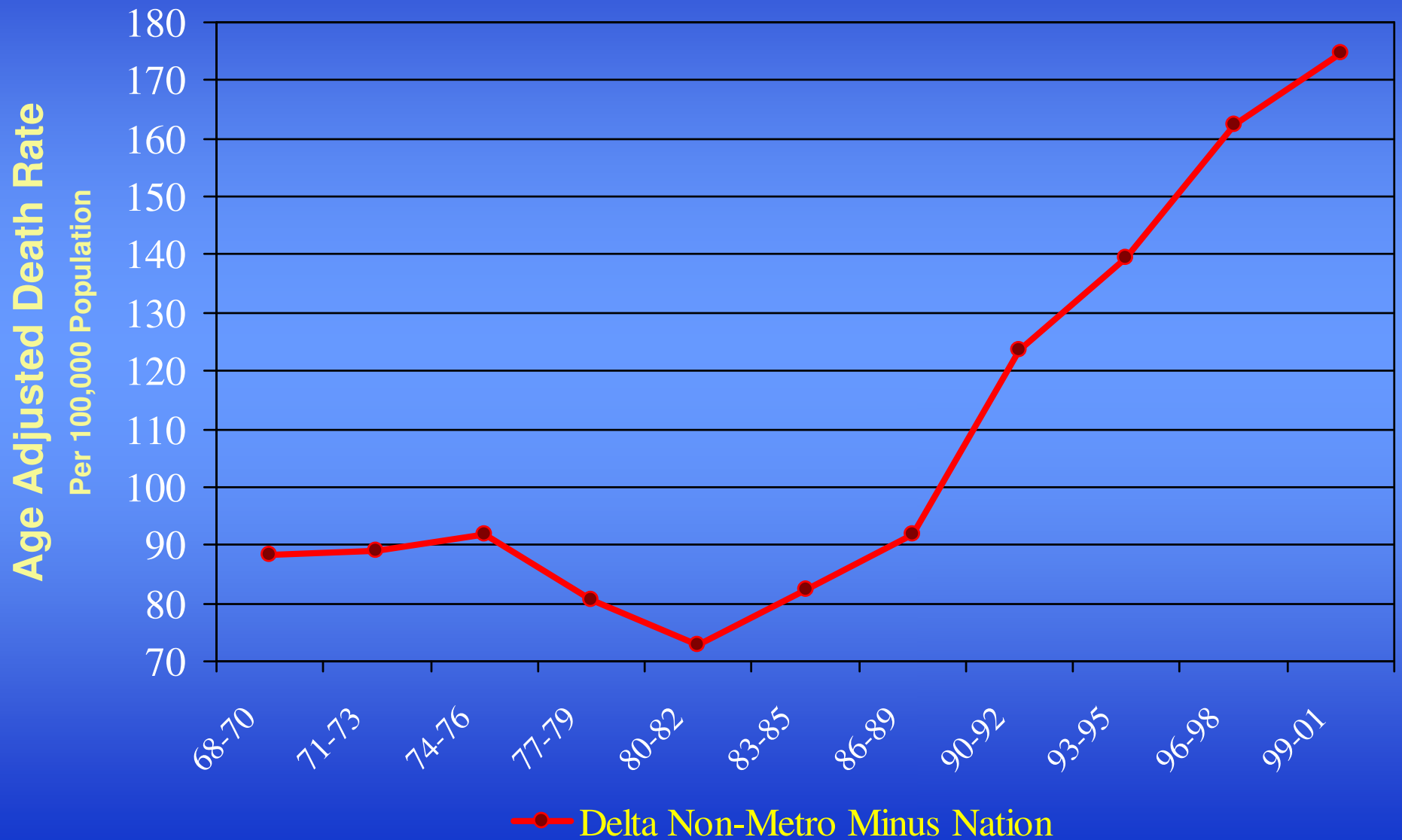
3-Year Averages

1968 – 2001



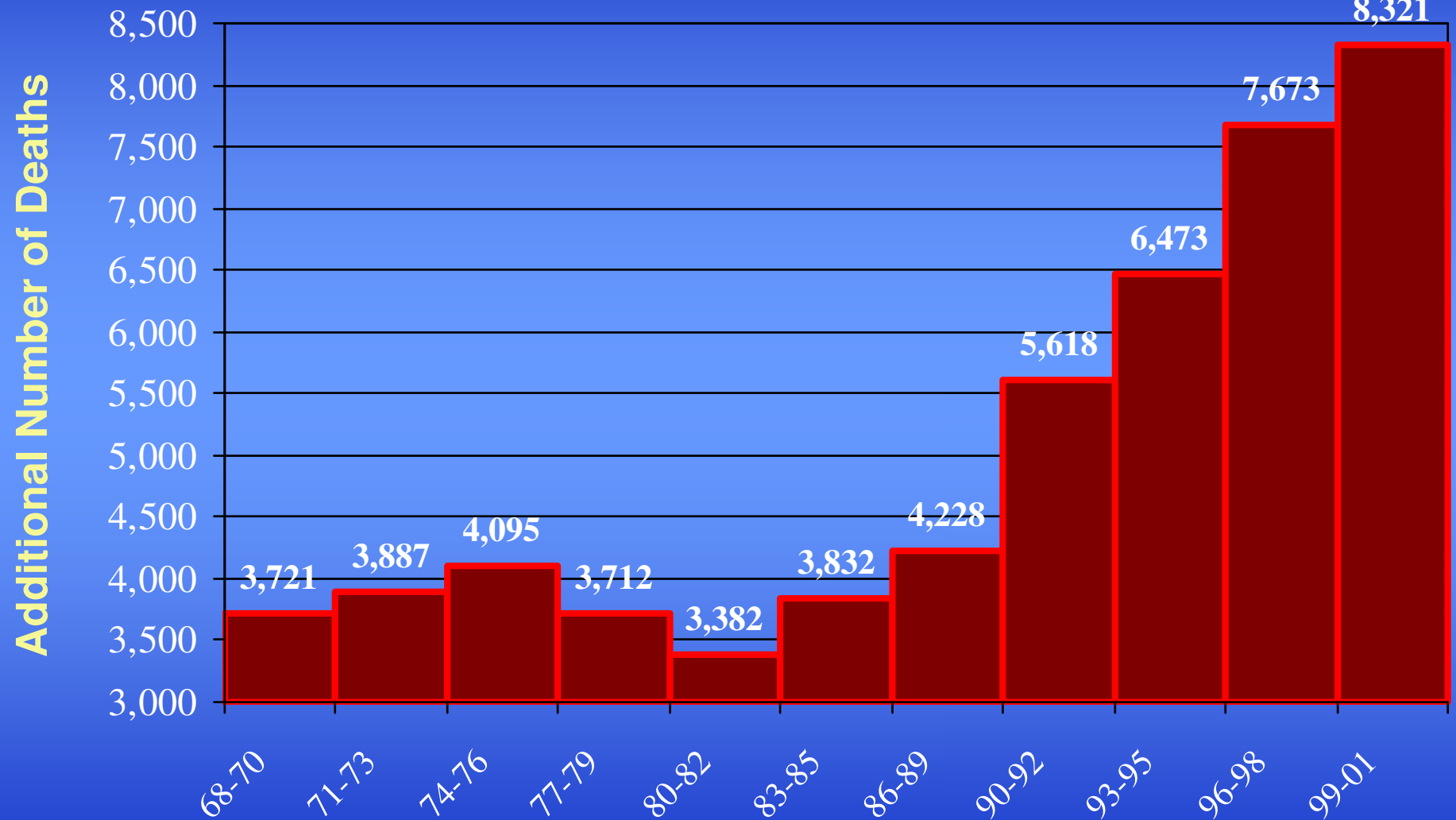
Difference in Age Adjusted Mortality Rates

3-Year Averages
1968 – 2001



Additional Deaths in Delta Non-Metro Area

3-Year Averages
1968 – 2001



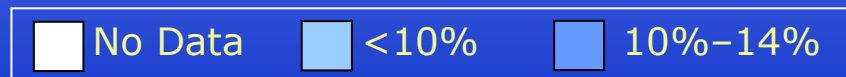
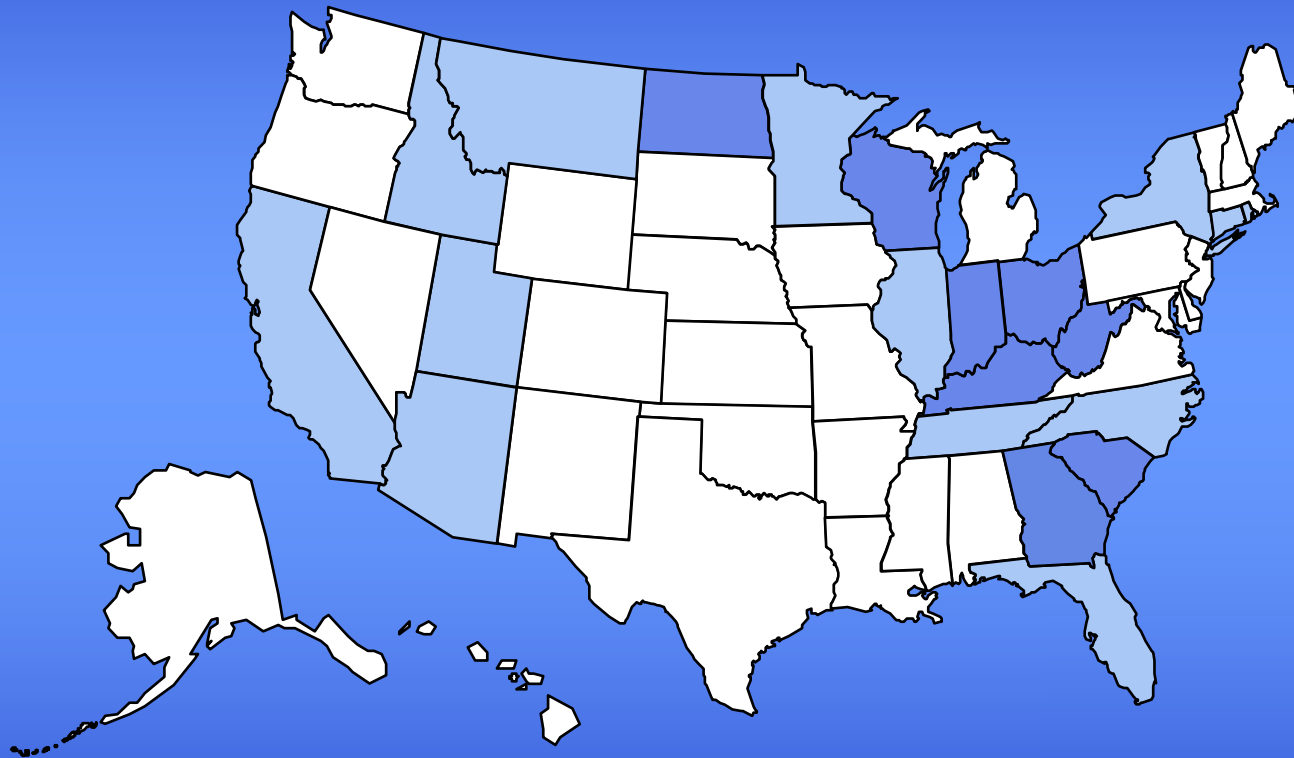
■ Delta Non-Metro Minus Nation / 100,000 * Population

More Questions than Answers

- Are we dealing with a temporary or sustained trend?
- What role does racial disparity play?
- What would an analysis of causes of death tell us about the trend?

BRFSS, 1985

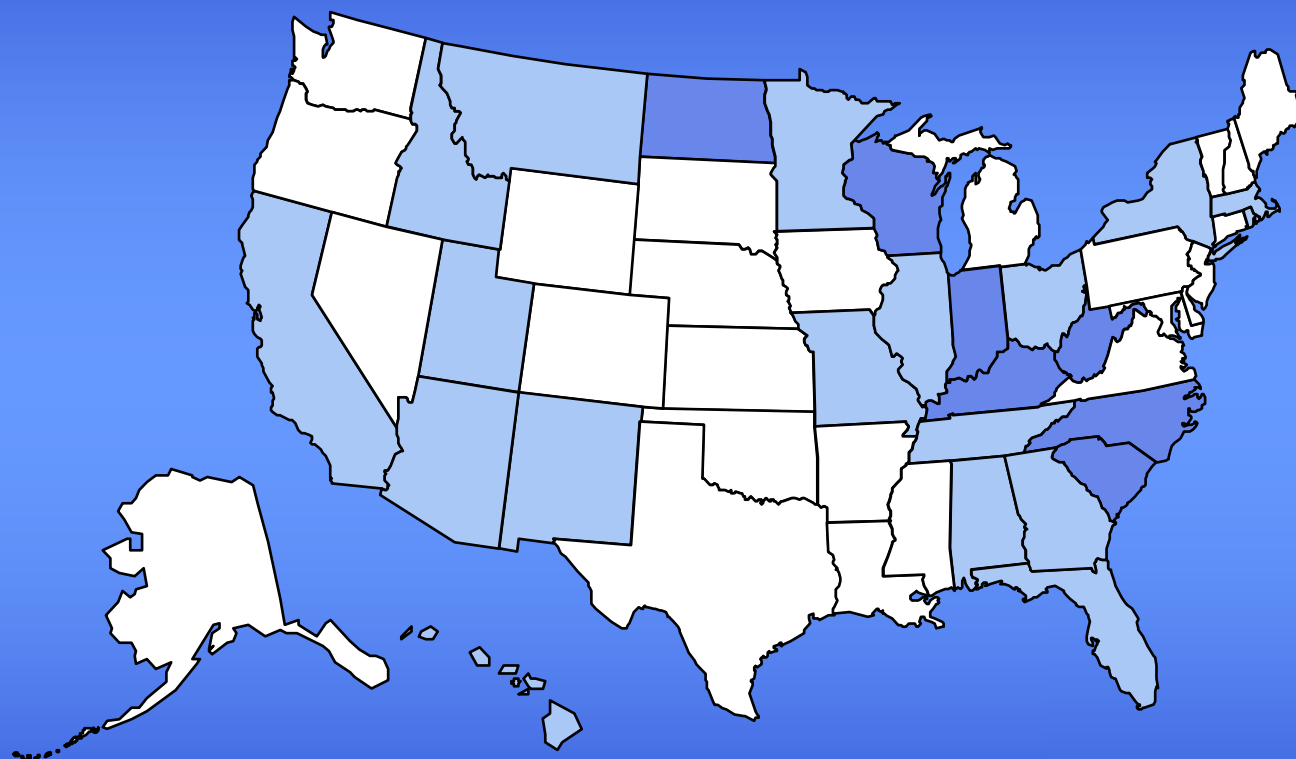
(*BMI ≥ 30 , or ~ 30 lbs overweight for 5' 4" woman)



Obesity Trends* Among U.S. Adults

BRFSS, 1986

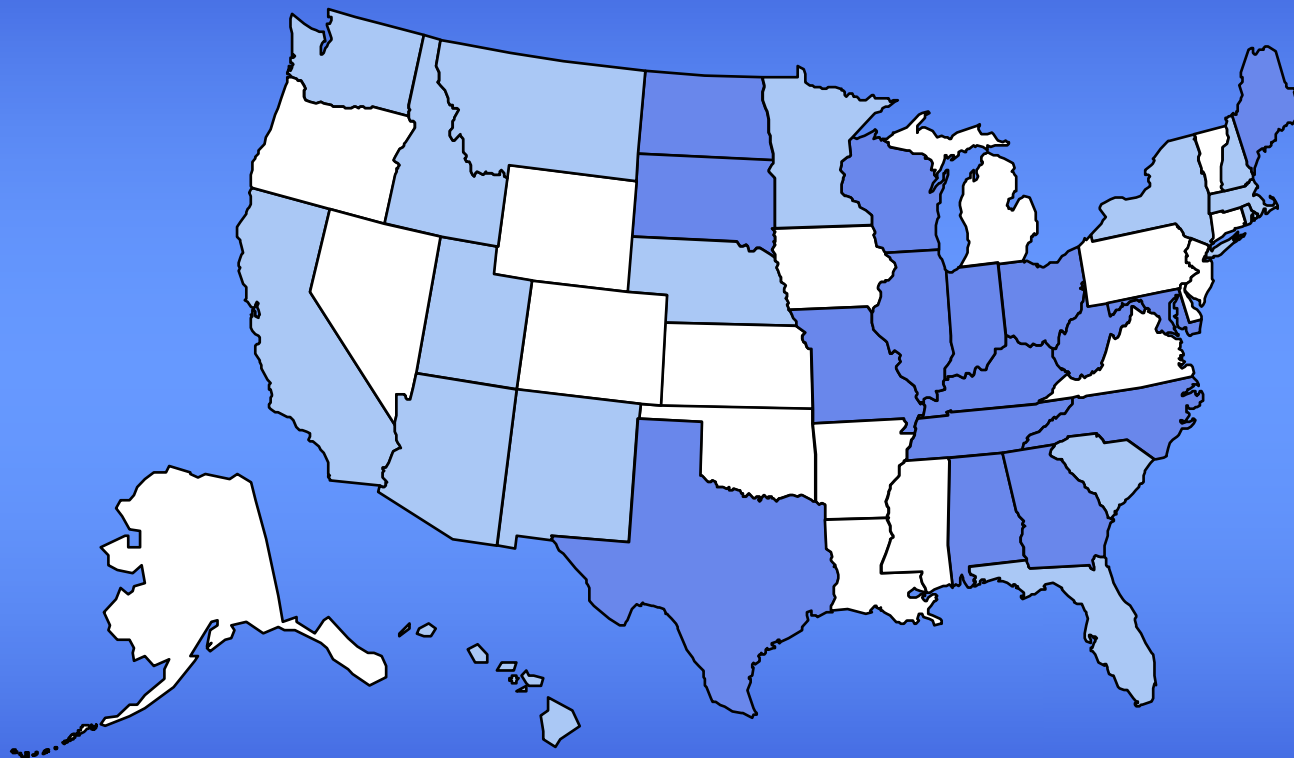
(*BMI ≥ 30 , or ~ 30 lbs overweight for 5' 4" woman)



■ No Data ■ <10% ■ 10%–14%

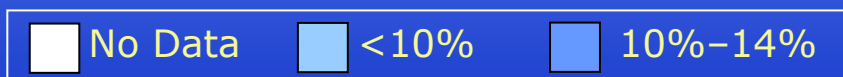
Obesity Trends* Among U.S. Adults BRFSS, 1987

(*BMI ≥ 30 , or ~ 30 lbs overweight for 5' 4" woman)



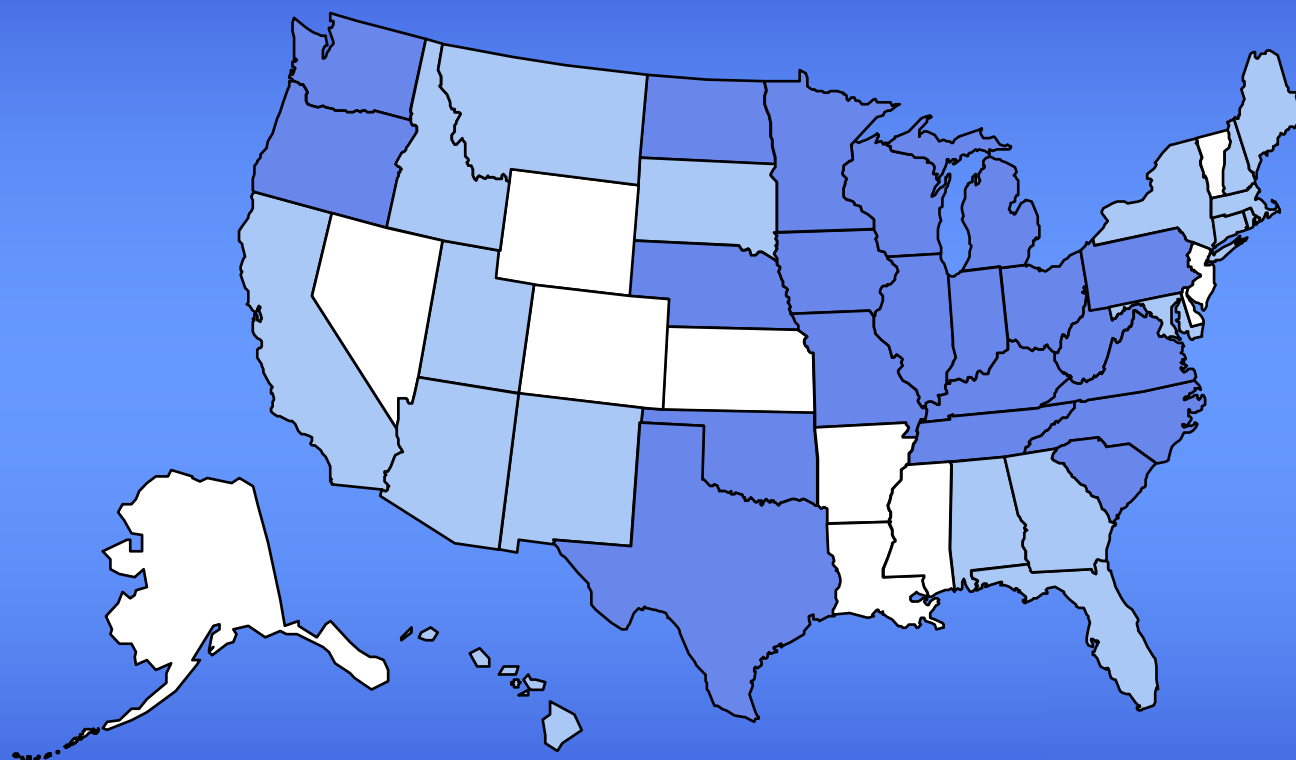
■ No Data ■ <10% ■ 10%-14%

(*BMI ≥ 30 , or ~ 30 lbs overweight for 5' 4" woman)



Obesity Trends* Among U.S. Adults BRFSS, 1989

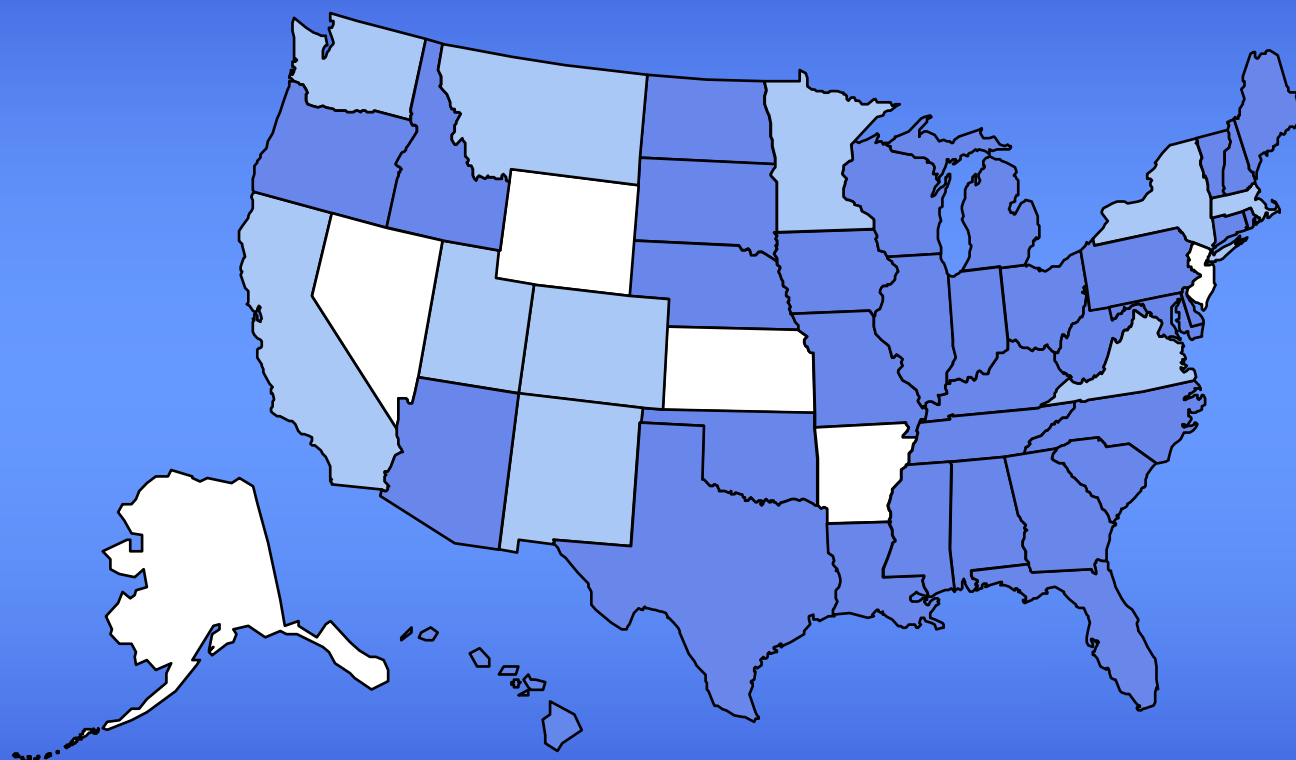
(*BMI ≥ 30 , or ~ 30 lbs overweight for 5' 4" woman)



■ No Data ■ <10% ■ 10%-14%

Obesity Trends* Among U.S. Adults BRFSS, 1990

(*BMI ≥ 30 , or ~ 30 lbs overweight for 5' 4" woman)



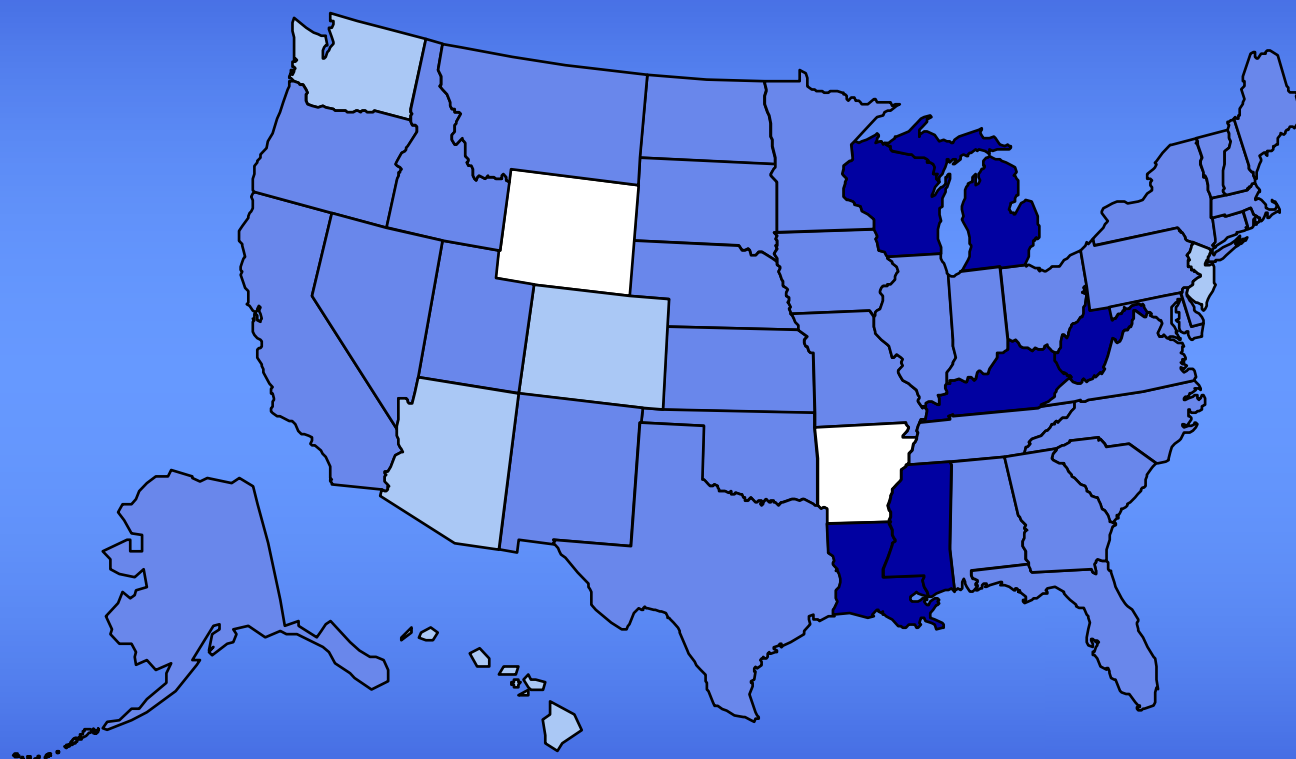
■ No Data ■ <10% ■ 10%–14%

(*BMI ≥ 30 , or ~ 30 lbs overweight for 5' 4" woman)



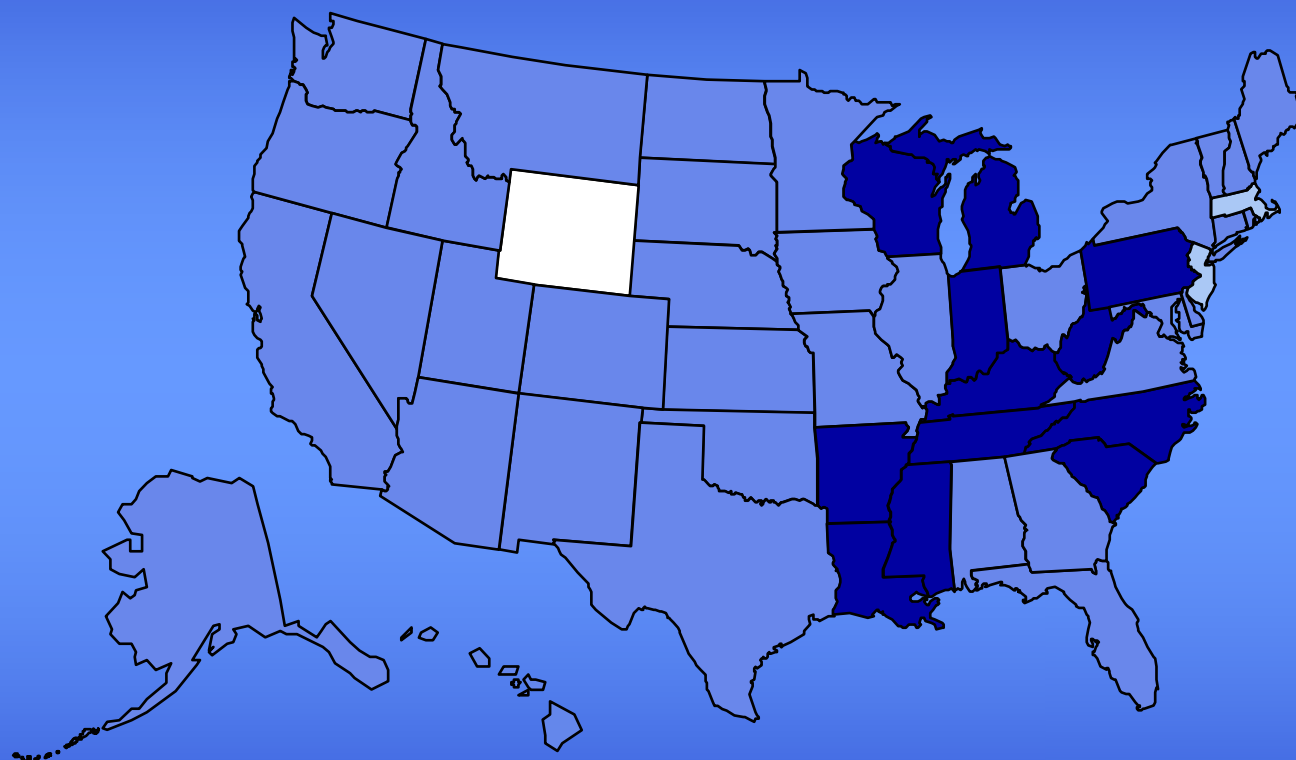
Obesity Trends* Among U.S. Adults BRFSS, 1992

(*BMI ≥ 30 , or ~ 30 lbs overweight for 5' 4" woman)



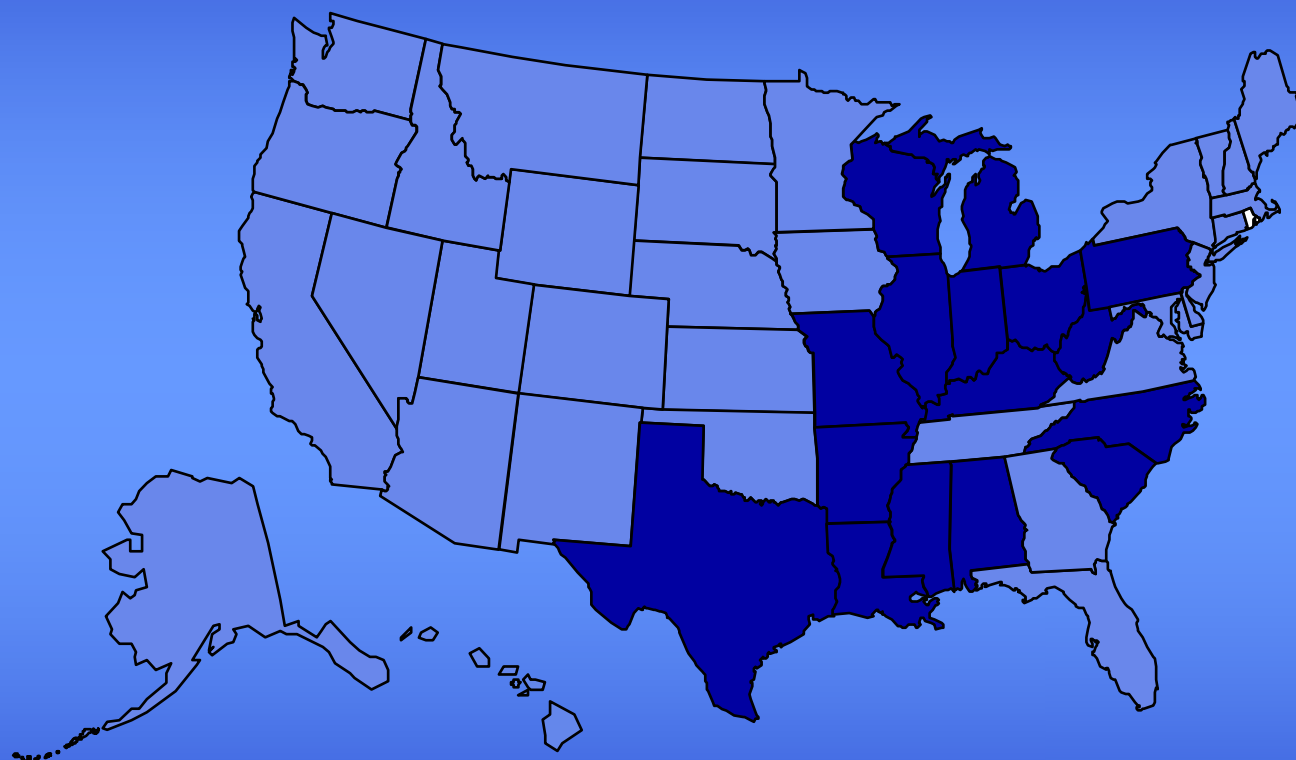
Obesity Trends* Among U.S. Adults BRFSS, 1993

(*BMI ≥ 30 , or ~ 30 lbs overweight for 5' 4" woman)



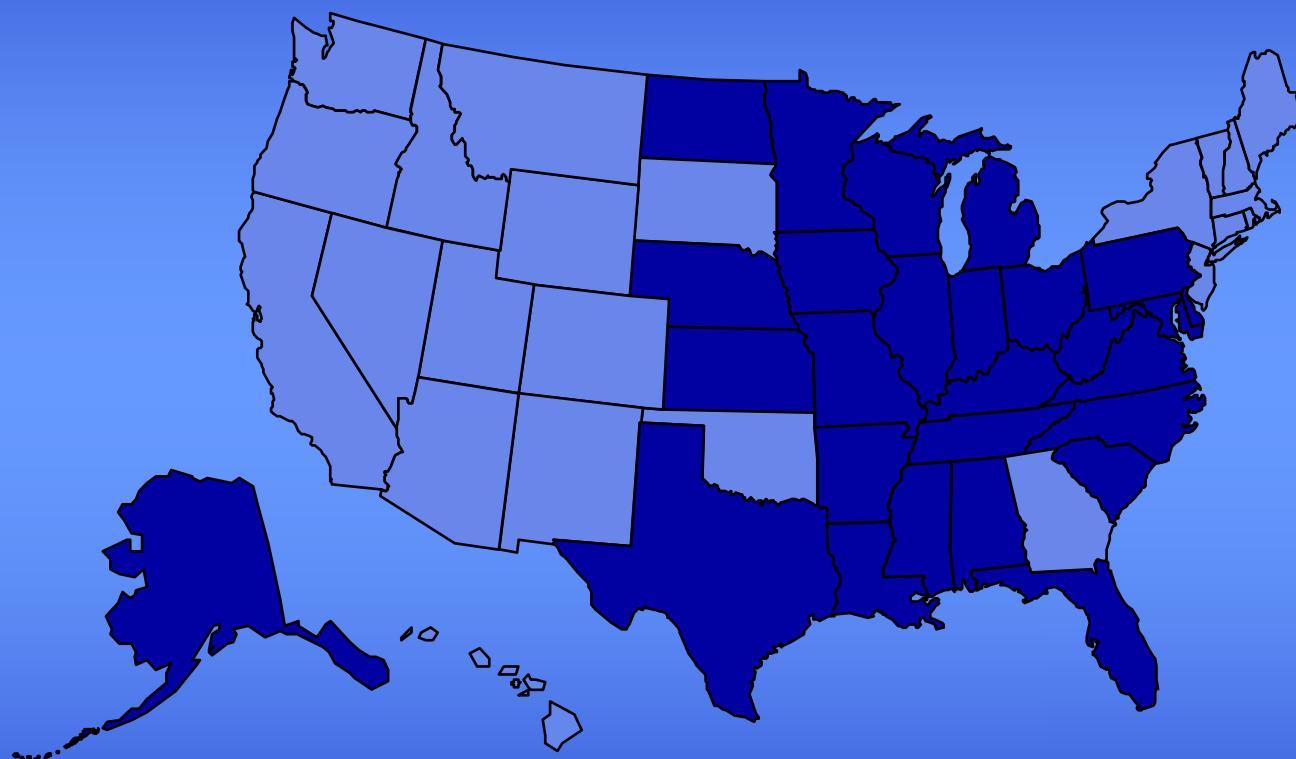
Obesity Trends* Among U.S. Adults BRFSS, 1994

(*BMI ≥ 30 , or ~ 30 lbs overweight for 5' 4" woman)



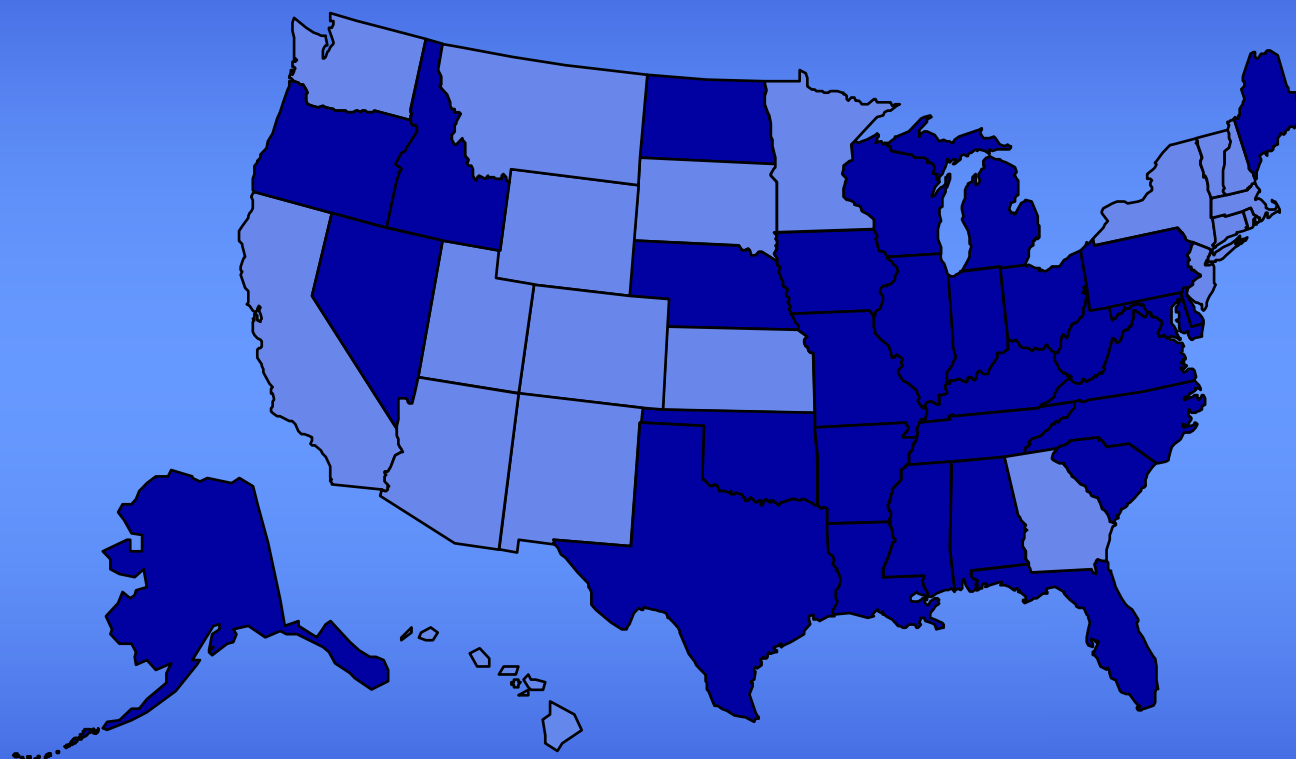
Obesity Trends* Among U.S. Adults BRFSS, 1995

(*BMI ≥ 30 , or ~ 30 lbs overweight for 5' 4" woman)



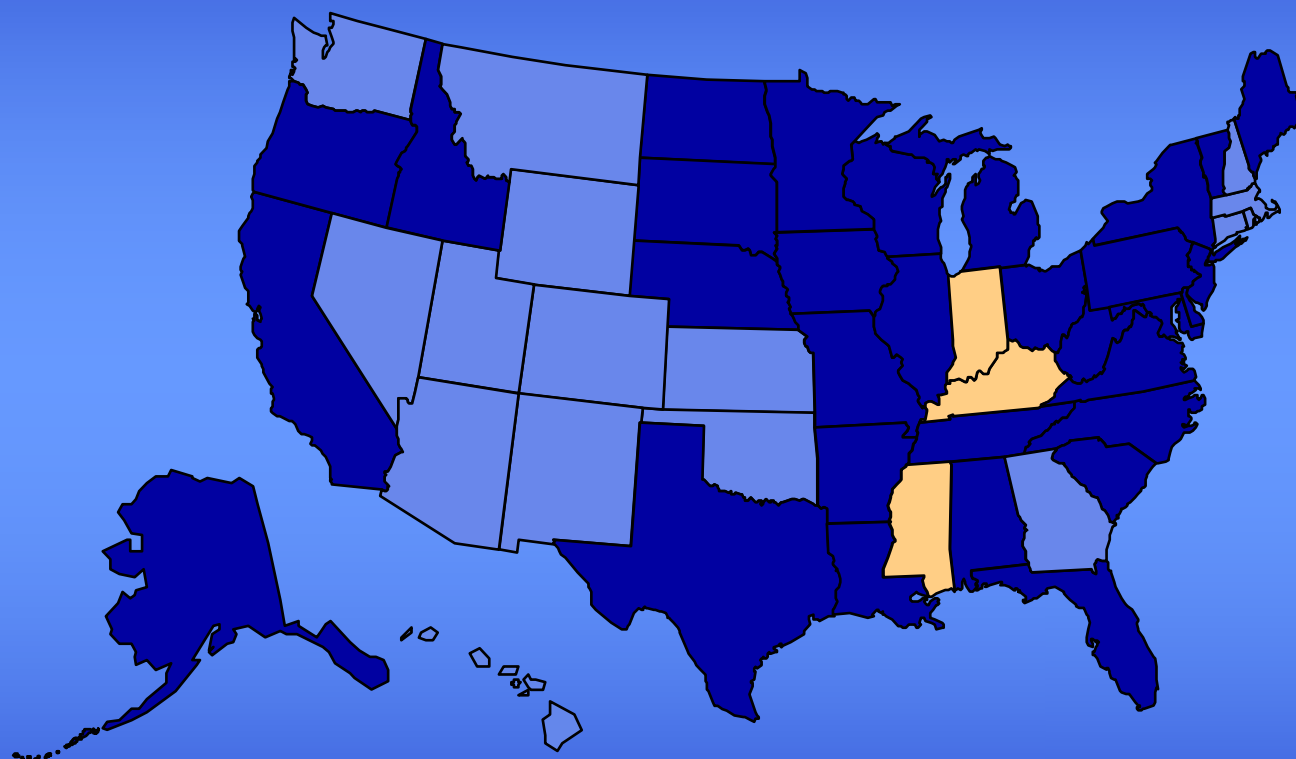
Obesity Trends* Among U.S. Adults BRFSS, 1996

(*BMI ≥ 30 , or ~ 30 lbs overweight for 5' 4" woman)



Obesity Trends* Among U.S. Adults BRFSS, 1997

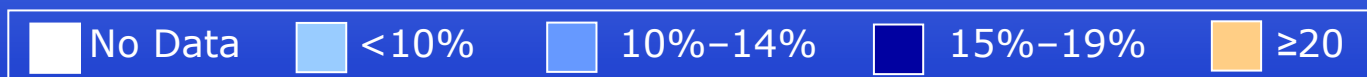
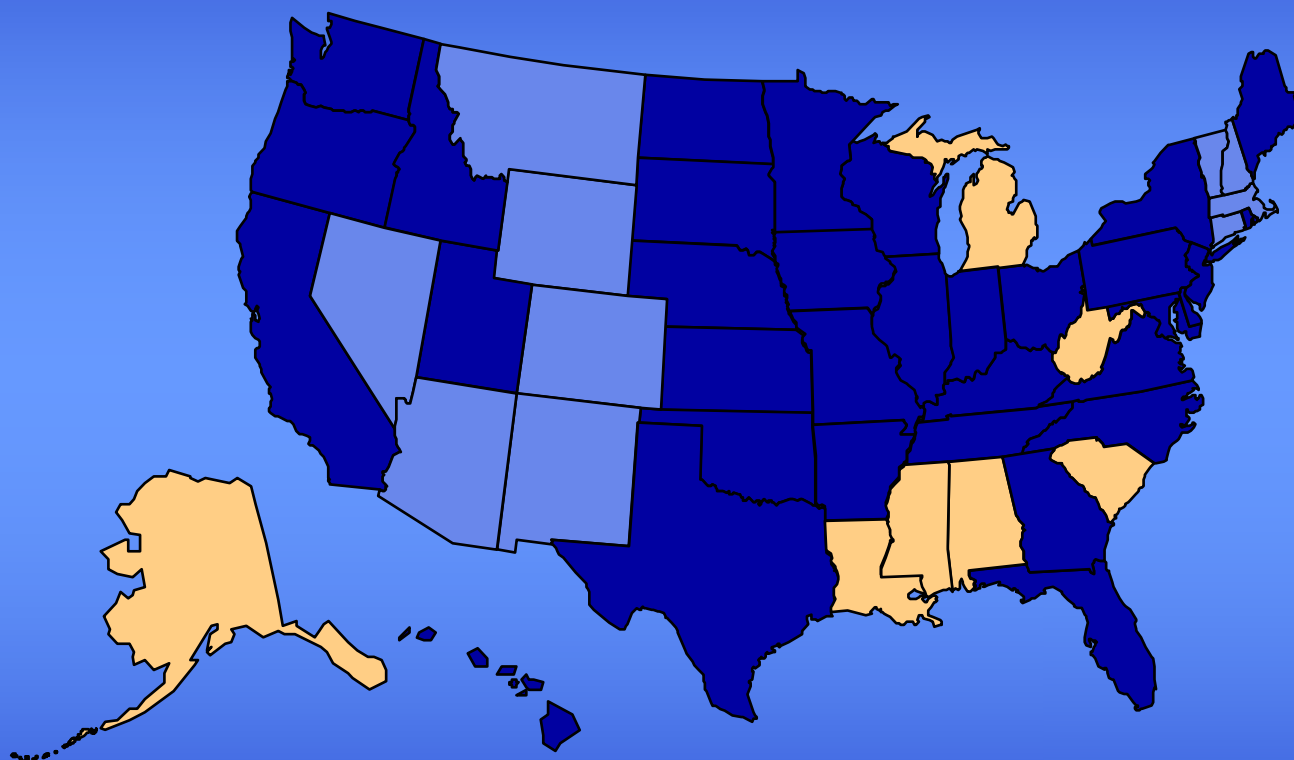
(*BMI ≥ 30 , or ~ 30 lbs overweight for 5' 4" woman)



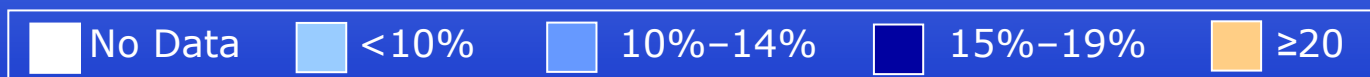
■ No Data ■ <10% ■ 10%–14% ■ 15%–19% ■ ≥ 20

Obesity Trends* Among U.S. Adults BRFSS, 1998

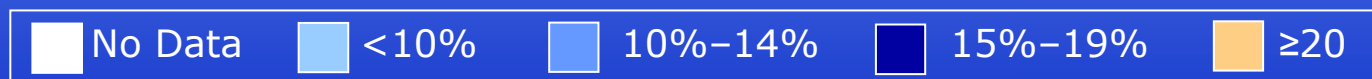
(*BMI ≥ 30 , or ~ 30 lbs overweight for 5' 4" woman)



(*BMI ≥ 30 , or ~ 30 lbs overweight for 5' 4" woman)

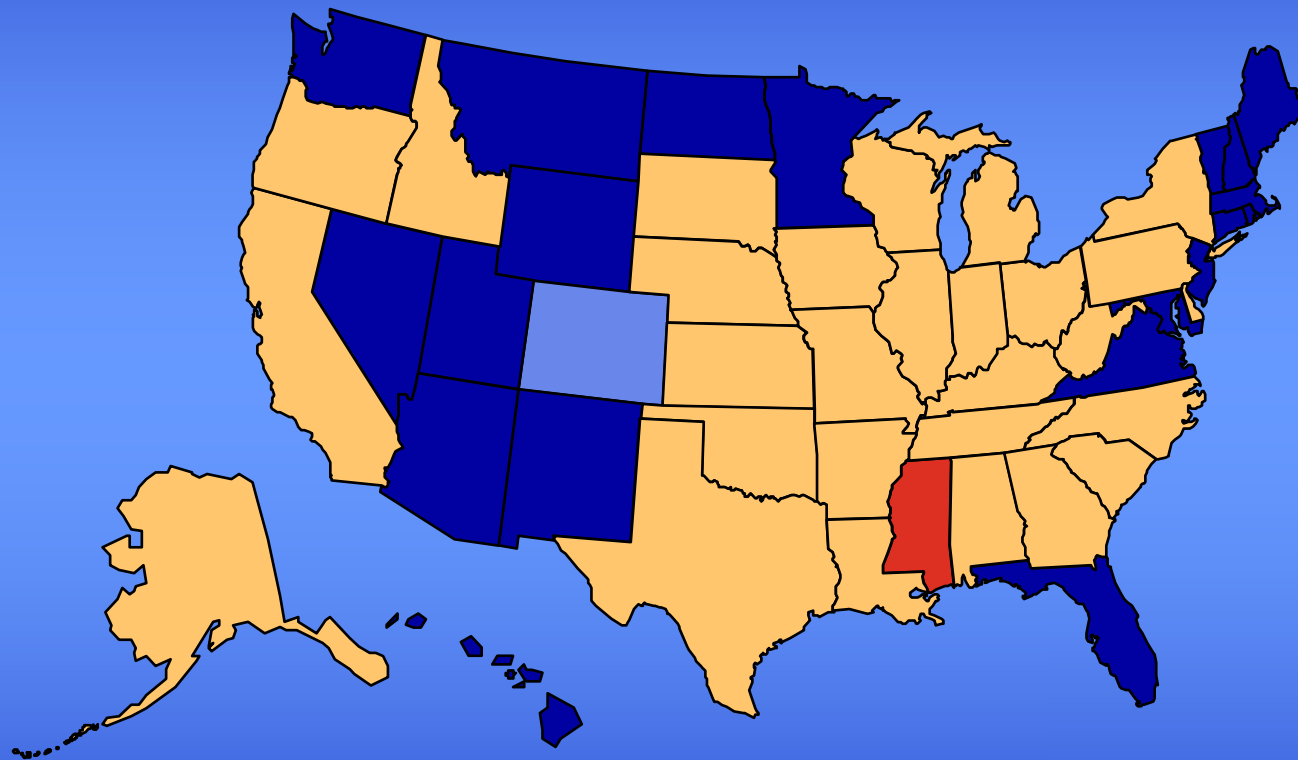


(*BMI ≥ 30 , or ~ 30 lbs overweight for 5' 4" woman)



Obesity Trends* Among U.S. Adults BRFSS, 2001

(*BMI ≥ 30 , or ~ 30 lbs overweight for 5' 4" woman)



(*BMI ≥ 30 , or ~ 30 lbs overweight for 5' 4" woman)



“Obesity has roughly the same association with chronic health conditions as does 20 years of aging.”

Julie L. Gerberding, M.D., M.P.H.
Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



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Mississippi State University



“The speed with which obesity has increased can be explained by changes in *society* that have increased calorie intake and reduced energy expenditure.”

Julie L. Gerberding, M.D., M.P.H.
Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



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More Questions...

- Is the trend a consequence of the obesity epidemic?
- Is the trend the leading edge of a more widespread problem for the United States?
- What are the implications for the health and wealth of the Delta Region?

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Thank You

