

D-ATLAS development

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Reference: 1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National diabetes fact sheet: general information and national estimates on diabetes in the United States, 2005, rev. ed. Atlanta, GA: US Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; 2005.



The Diabetes Atlas

Profiling Diabetes Prevalence Across the Nation

For more information on the D-ATLAS, please contact:
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Diabetes Atlas



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Welcome to the Diabetes Atlas!



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What is the D-ATLAS?

The D-ATLAS is a unique online tool that arms health advocates and policy makers with the capability to articulate the scope of health disparities in diabetes. The D-ATLAS provides the prevalence of type 2 diabetes by race/ethnicity, age, and gender in the United States, by individual state, and in congressional and legislative districts. The ability to create customized maps identifying diabetes disparities at a local level is a compelling reference source. These maps can be downloaded and disseminated to support educational, advocacy, and public affairs initiatives.

Why the D-ATLAS: Diabetes and Health Disparities

Health disparities exist in the diagnosis and treatment of diabetes in African Americans, Native Americans, and Hispanics. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 20.8 million adults and children in the US – 7.0% of the population – have diabetes¹:

- 13.1 million, or 8.7% of all non-Hispanic whites aged 20 years or older have diabetes.
- 3.2 million, or 13.3% of all non-Hispanic blacks aged 20 years or older have diabetes.
- If the prevalence of diabetes among Mexican Americans was applied to the total Hispanic/Latino population, about 2.5 million, or 9.5% of Hispanic/Latino Americans aged 20 years or older would have diabetes.
- 118,000, or 15.1% of American Indians and Alaska Natives aged 20 years or older have diabetes.

What data are used in the D-ATLAS?

The D-ATLAS uses data from:

- 1) The 2005 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) to produce the maps depicting type 2 diabetes. The National Minority Health Month Foundation utilizes these data to perform small area analysis – an innovative method for identifying diabetes disparities – in the construct of the D-ATLAS maps.
- 2) The US Census (2000) to estimate the age, gender, and race/ethnicity – total population of each zip code in the United States.

The D-ATLAS will be updated periodically as new data become available.

What will the D-ATLAS maps show?

The D-ATLAS provides on demand capacity for exploring the prevalence of type 2 diabetes nationwide, by state, by congressional district, and by state legislative district. Maps can be produced by race/ethnicity (White – non-Hispanic, Black – non-Hispanic, Hispanic, and Other), age (18-49, 50-65, 65+), and gender. Levels of prevalence are color coded to indicate the national average and above and below the national average. Critical zones that are extremely high in prevalence and the areas that approximate the Healthy People 2010 Objectives (very low prevalence) are also presented.

How do I access the D-ATLAS?

The D-ATLAS maps are available through a password-protected link from the National Minority Health Month Foundation web site (www.nmhmf.org). Authorized users of the D-ATLAS will include advocacy groups and similar non-profit organizations, government employees, members of the local and judicial, executive, and legislative branches, and their aides (“Policymakers”). Please contact the National Minority Health Month Foundation for further information.

