

Grantmakers in Health Webinar: The Relationship between Food Access, Food Insecurity, and Obesity

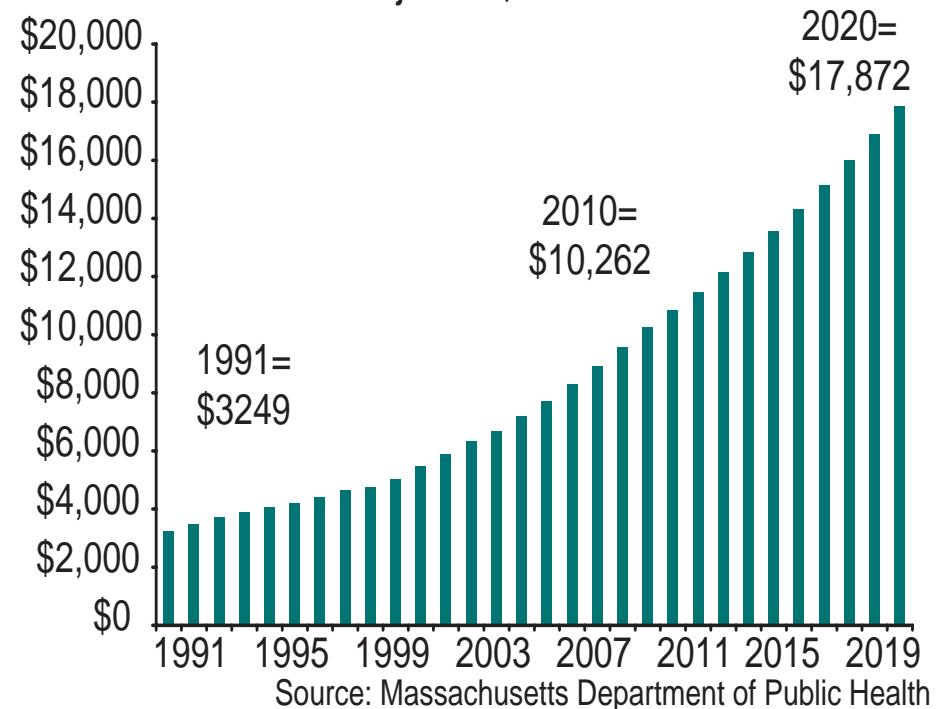
Allison F. Bauer, Senior Program Officer
The Boston Foundation
June 16, 2011

The Problem of Health Care Spending: The RAND Corporation projects that health care spending in MA will increase from \$65 billion/year in 2010 to \$123 billion/year in 2020

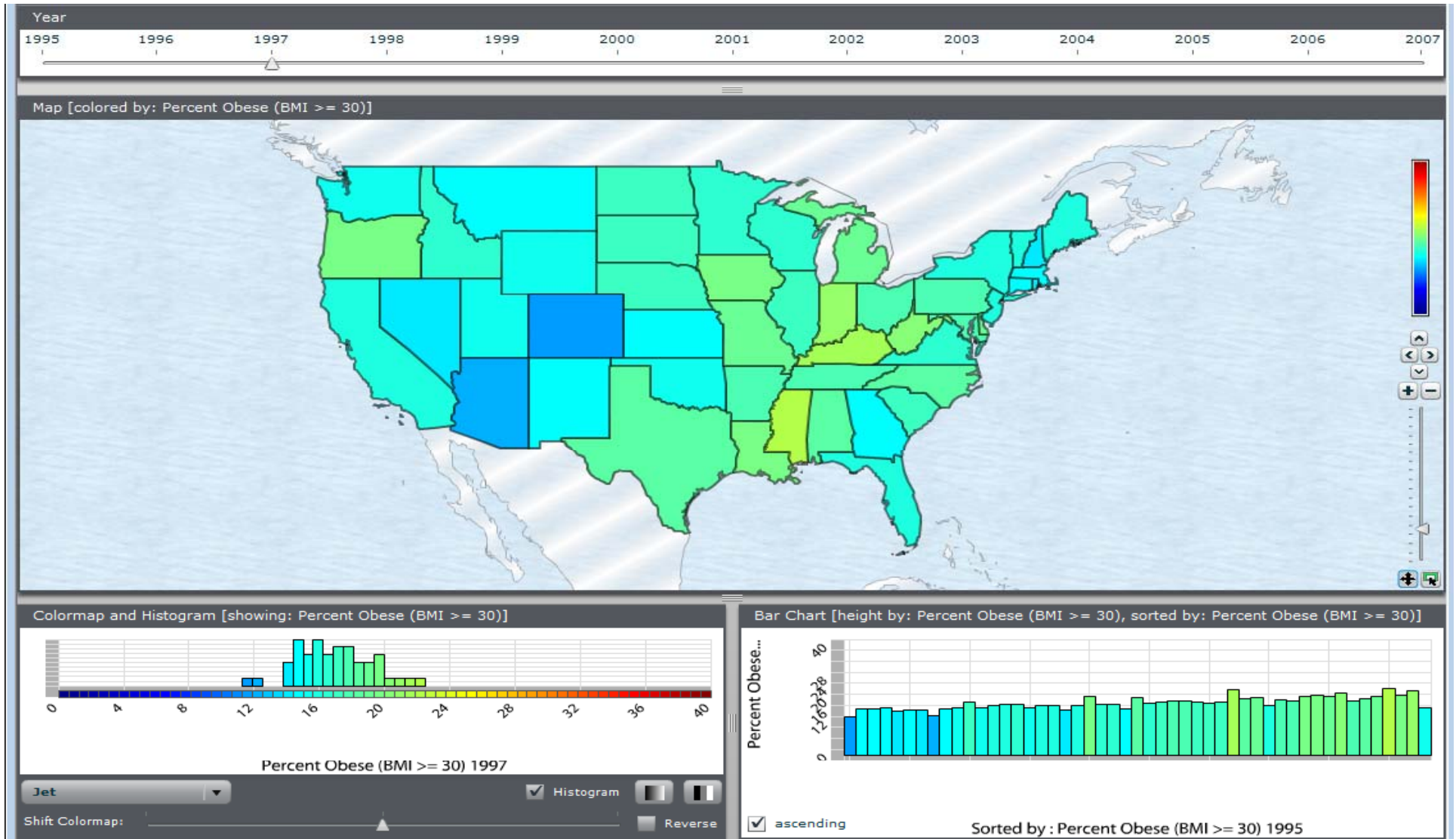
“In the absence of policy change, health care spending [in MA] is projected to nearly double...

RAND Corporation, “Controlling Health Care Spending in Massachusetts,” for the Massachusetts Division of Health Care Finance and Policy, 2009

Per Capita Health Spending,
Real and Projected, MA 1991 - 2020

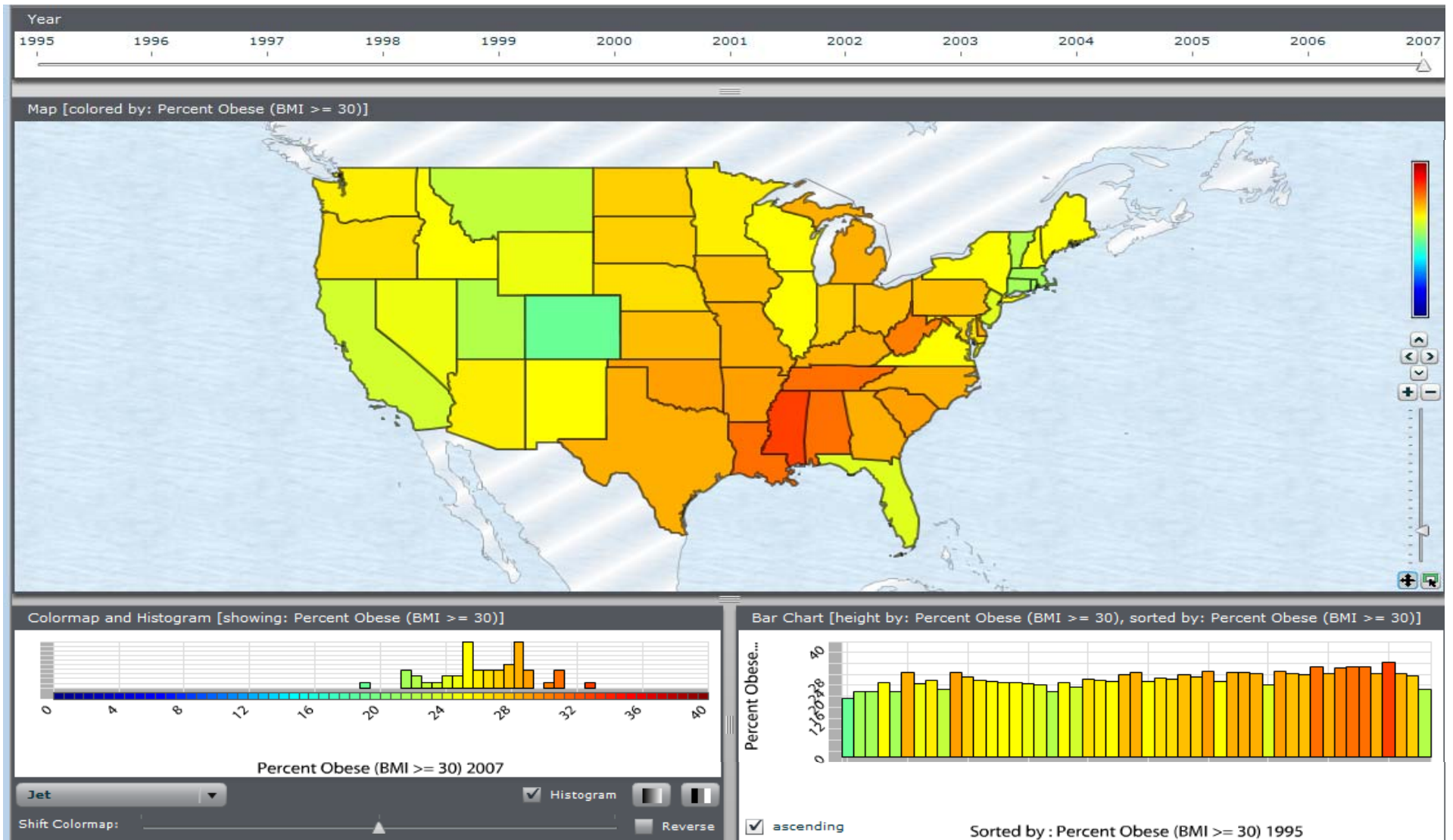


Obesity Rates by States, 1997



Healthy People in a Healthy Economy

Obesity Rates by States, 2007



Healthy People in a Healthy Economy

MA is among best in adult obesity; lags in childhood rate

1	Mississippi	44.4%
2	Arkansas	37.5%
3	Georgia	37.3%
4	Kentucky	37.1%
5	Tennessee	36.5%
10	Illinois	34.9%
15	Ohio	33.3%
20	Texas	32.2%
25	Virginia	31.0%
30	Massachusetts	30.0%
35	New Hampshire	29.4%
40	Wisconsin	27.9%
41	Idaho	27.5%
42	Colorado	27.2%
43	Vermont	26.7%
44	Iowa	26.5%
45	North Dakota	25.7%
47	Connecticut	25.7%
49	Oregon	24.3%
50	Utah	23.1%
51	Minnesota	23.1%

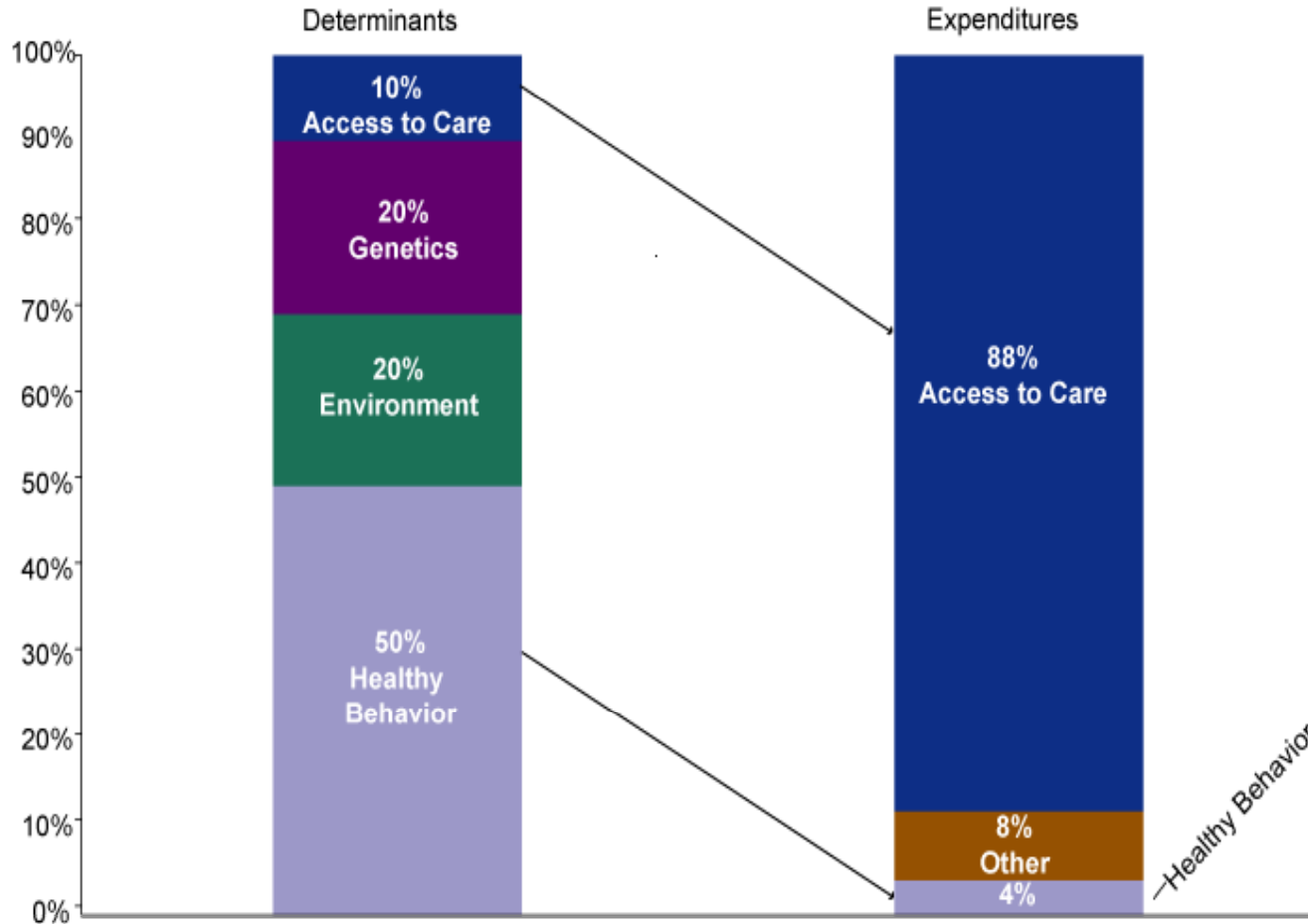
STARK REALITY:

**MA ranks 30th, at
1 in 3 children
overweight or obese**



Spending Mismatch: Health Care vs. the Determinants of Health

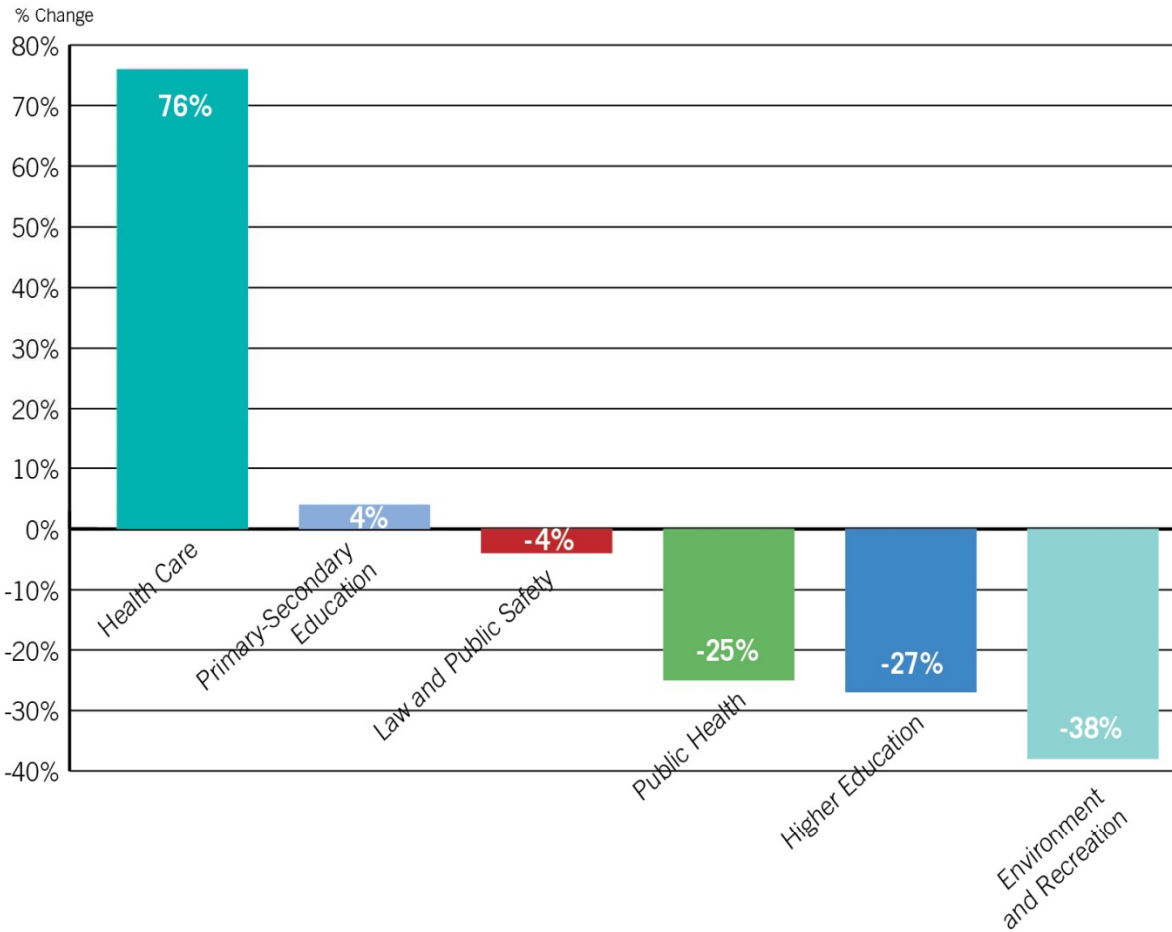
Mismatch: Health Determinants vs. Health Expenditures



* Source: NEHI estimates from McGinnis et al (2002) and U.S. National Health Expenditures 2005.

Healthy People in a Healthy Economy

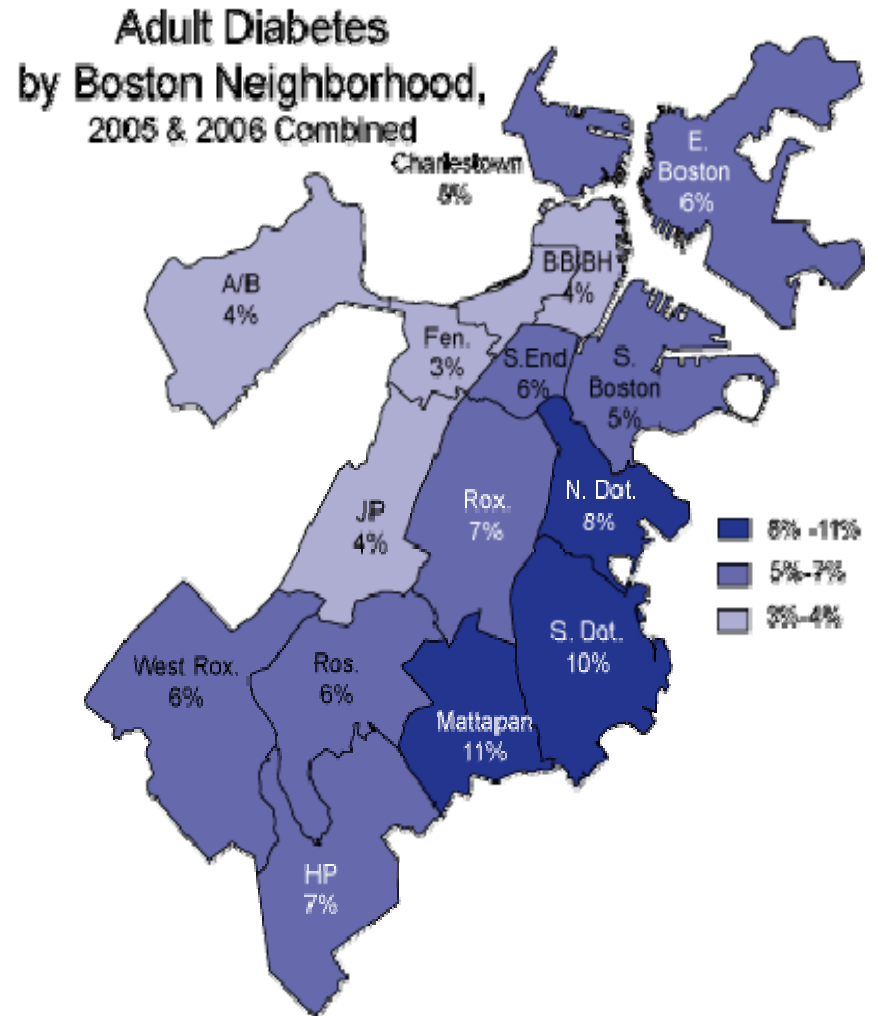
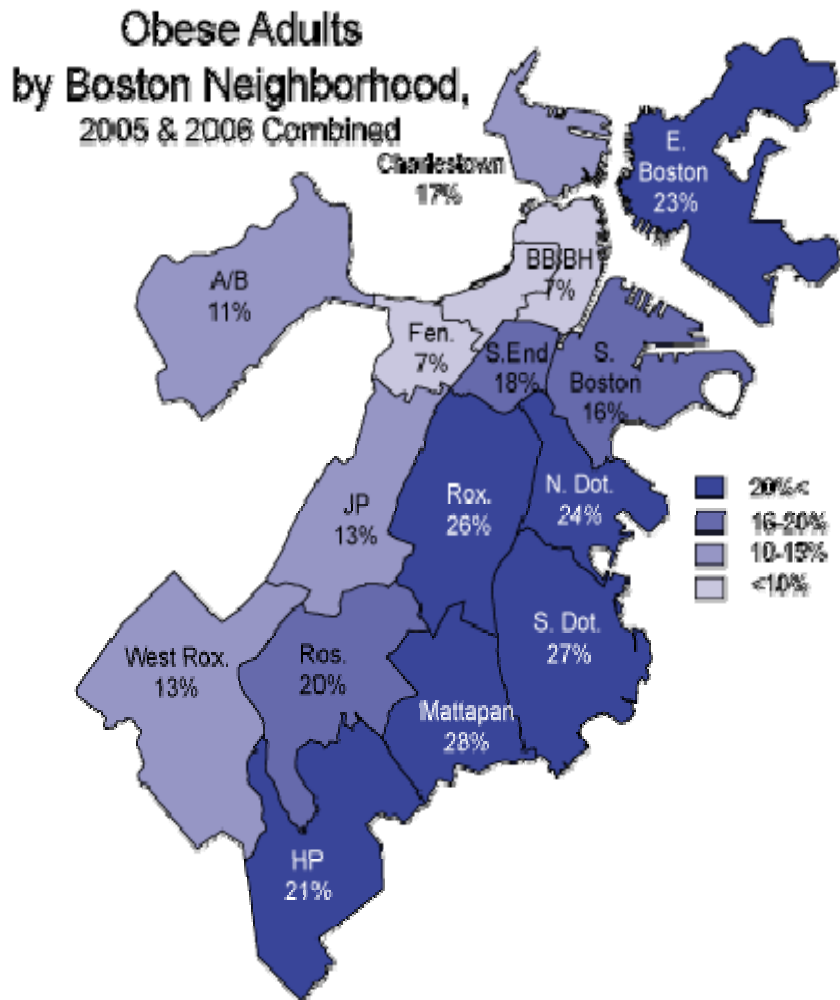
State Budget FY'01 – '10: In MA – and the US – health care costs are crowding out investment in the basic determinants of health:



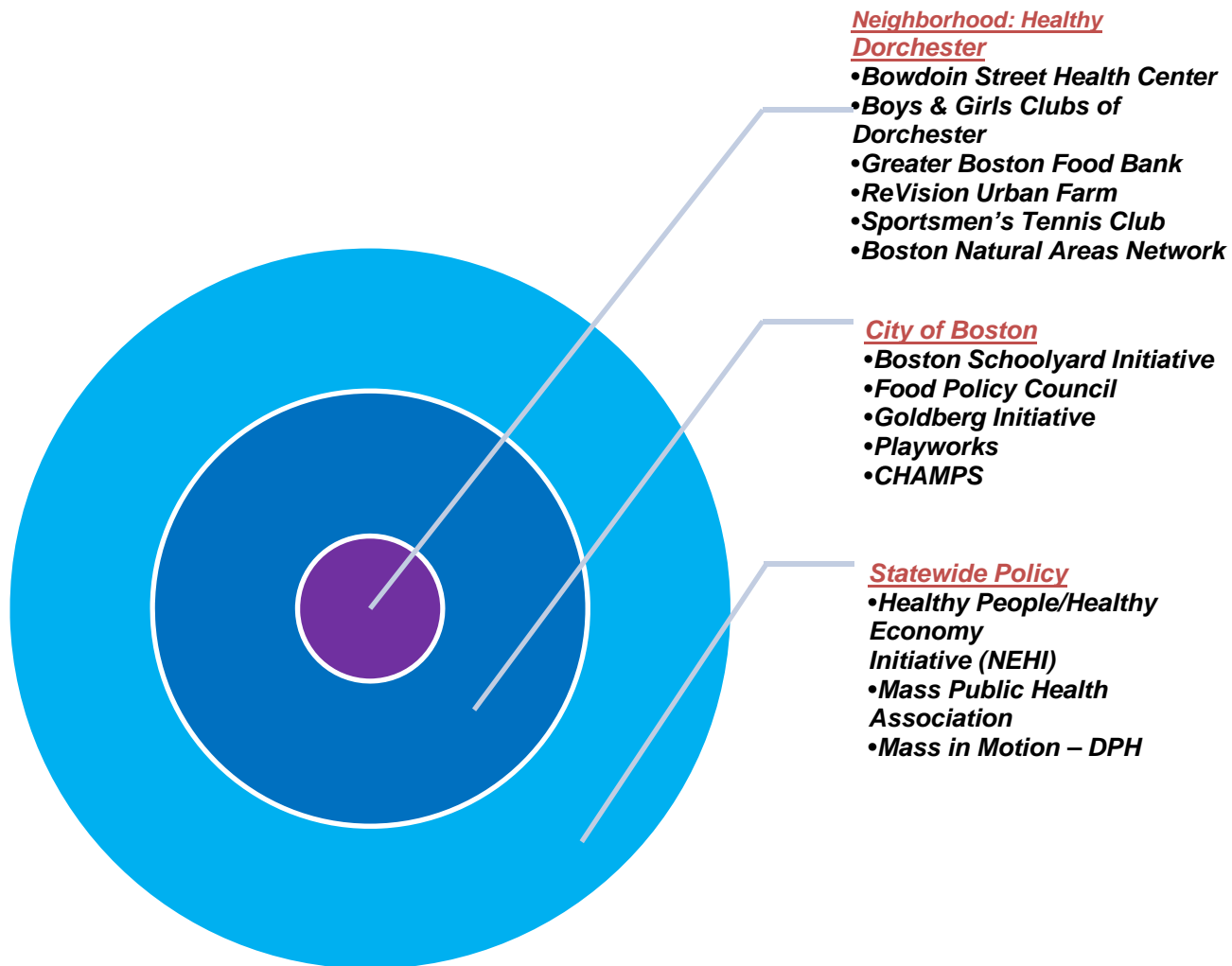
Mass. State Budget

Healthy People in a Healthy Economy

Geographically Targeted Grants to Address Food Access: **Dorchester Neighborhood of Boston**



TBF Health Portfolio: From Statewide Policy Change to Targeted Local Impact



Healthy People in a Healthy Economy

TBF Special Initiative: Food & Fuel (Winter Grantmaking)

Winter 2011/2012 = \$382,808 distributed to 20 organizations serving greater Boston in the areas food insecurity, fuel assistance, and shelter/housing focused on alleviating immediate need and addressing longer term systemic change including increased SNAP utilization

Food	Fuel	Housing
Emergency food assistance	Emergency fuel assistance	Emergency & temporary shelter
Case management	Frontline staff training	Permanent shelter
Food stamp outreach	Home weatherization	Case management
	Advocacy & literature	

Multi-Funder Coordinated Effort: Winter Grantmaking

	Winter 2008/2009	Winter 2009/2010	Winter 2010/2011
# of Funders	4	7	11
Total \$ Coordinated	\$1.1M	\$1.6M	\$2.4M
Geographic Focus	Greater Boston Cape Cod	Greater Boston Cape Cod	Statewide

- Various types of philanthropy (public charity, family, corporate giving, individual)
- Focus on emergency assistance and long-term intervention related to winter needs
- Statewide impact (as of Winter 2010/2011)
- Shared information on community needs and where funds distributed by each funder
- Targeted distribution to meet need and maximize impact of funds, limit duplication of fund distribution
- Media to bring attention to community needs, drive funding to 'vetted' organizations, spotlight funders collaborating

Conclusion

- Obesity is a major problem in the US – more than 1 in 6 children in the US are obese
- Low income and food insecure people are especially vulnerable due to poverty and limited access to healthy foods
- Households with limited food budgets try to stretch by purchasing cheap energy dense foods
- Policy interventions that make healthier choices easier will likely achieve the greatest benefits