# Placing Social Determinants of Health in Context: Diabetes

# **Physical Environment**

## Commute <25 Min



- Longer commuting distance led to lower levels of physical activity, which can lead to increased risk of obesity, hypertension, and poor overall physical health. (Hoehner, 2012)
- Increased commute time is associated with fewer daily servings of fruit and vegetables and an increase in purchasing food prepared outside of the home. Sub-optimal diet had an impact on type 2 diabetes, obesity and heart disease. (Osstenbach, 2022)

## **Affordable** Housing/ **Year Structure** Built/ **Owner Occupied** Housing

- Housing insecurity had an influence on diabetes care and selfmanagement due to people prioritizing needs for food and shelter above health when time and resources are scarce. (Mosley-Johnson, 2022)
- Federally subsidized housing was associated with a reduced likelihood of uncontrolled diabetes, suggesting that affordable housing programs may be associated with improved diabetes outcomes. (Fenelon, 2022)



Unstable housing is common among those with diabetes and strongly associated with greater odds of hospital or emergency department use. (Berkowitz, 2018)

## **Economic & Work Environment**

## **Graduated High** School



- Lower education level increased the risk for type 2 diabetes consistently in high income countries. (Agardh, 2011)
- Type 2 diabetes was found to be significantly higher and concentrated in areas that had populations with lower high school graduation rates. (Hill-Briggs, 2021)

## **Employed**



- Job insecurity was found to be associated with a 19% increased risk of diabetes. (Ferrie, 2016)
- Long-term unemployment was found to increase the risk of prediabetes and type 2 diabetes in middle-aged men. (Rautio, 2017)

# Economic & Work Environment (continued)

Household Income	<ul> <li>There is increasing diabetes prevalence at lower levels of income compared to higher levels of income for both type 1 and type 2 diabetes. (Hill-Briggs, 2021)</li> </ul>
Above Poverty Level	<ul> <li>Living in poverty was associated with worse blood sugar control for individuals with diabetes. (Houle, 2016)</li> <li>The rate of type 2 diabetes was found to be significantly higher and concentrated in areas with lower incomes. (Hill-Briggs, 2021)</li> </ul>
Children Above Poverty Level	<ul> <li>A large proportion of young people with type 2 diabetes live in poverty or socially disadvantaged households. (McGavock, 2017)</li> <li>In a study of African Americans living in rural areas, family poverty during adolescence (ages 11-18) was associated with higher levels of insulin resistance in adulthood. (Barton, 2022)</li> <li>Low maternal income was associated with development of childhood type 2 diabetes. (Halipchuck, 2017)</li> </ul>

# Service Environment

Health Insurance	Stable insurance coverage was associated with improved diabetes outcomes for all racial and ethnic groups. (Brown, 2021)
Employer-Based Health Insurance	Patients with diabetes enrolled in private insurance plans had better outcomes compared to those on Medicare plans. (Lee 2021)
Internet Coverage	<ul> <li>Telemedicine can be effective for improving overall diabetes control (Eberle, 2021), but barriers to using telehealth technology include limited availability to broadband internet access, patient concerns about confidentiality, digital health literacy, and language for non-English speakers. (Agarwal, 2022)</li> <li>Pre-pregnancy care education provided through electronic health had a positive effect on women with diabetes. (Nwolise, 2016)</li> </ul>

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#### **Physical Environment**

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#### **Service Environment**

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