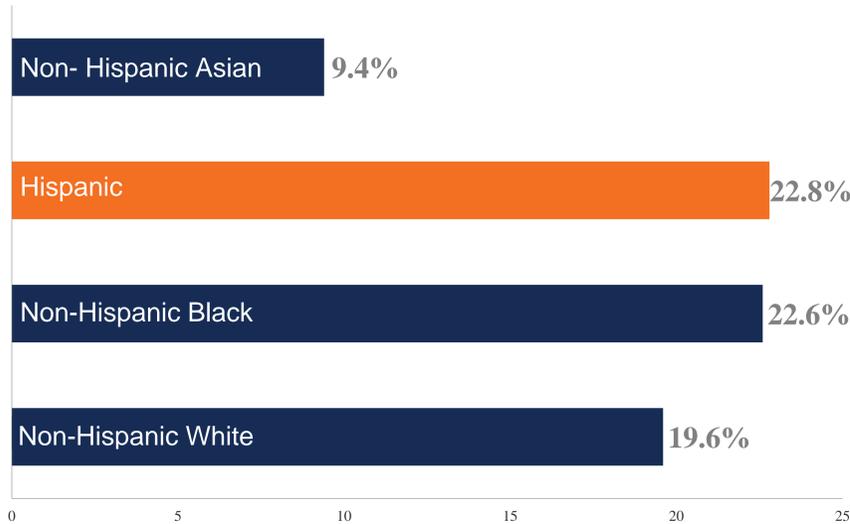


The Relationship between Subjective Social Status and Body Fat Percentage in Hispanic Adolescents

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Background

Prevalence of Obesity by Race/Ethnicity in Adolescents in the United States



Subjective social status (SSS) is an individual's sense of where they perceive themselves within the social ladder of society.

- SSS has been found to be a more significant predictor of health outcomes in non-Hispanic black and white adolescents than traditionally used measures of socioeconomic status (SES).
 - SSS captures:
 - Earlier life circumstances
 - Family history
 - *Perceived* future trajectories and opportunities
- Body Fat Percentage
 - Provides more accurate measure of adiposity compared to that of Body Mass Index (BMI)

Objective

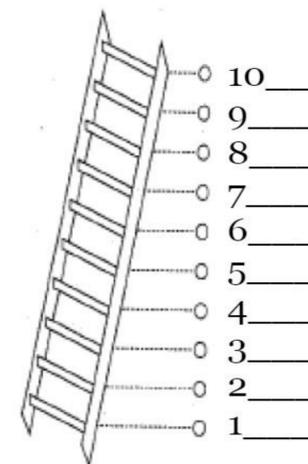
- To investigate the association between SES, SSS, and body fat percentage in Hispanic adolescents.

Methods

- N=150, Hispanic adolescents (ages 15-21); BMI of 18.5-40 kg/m²
- A telephone screening is utilized to determine eligibility for the study, to obtain measures of the parent's highest level of education (SES), and the participant's SSS.
 - SSS is assessed with the MacArthur Youth Scale of SSS.
- Eligible participants attend a study visit where body fat percentage is obtained with a BOD POD®.



MacArthur Ladder



MacArthur Ladder

- At the top of the ladder are the people who are the best off they have the most money, the most education, and the most respected jobs.
- At the bottom are the people who are the worst off they have the least money, the least education, and the least respected jobs or no job.
- Where would you place yourself on this ladder?

Hypotheses

1. Higher reported measures of SSS will be associated with lower body fat percentage in Hispanic adolescents.
2. The association between SES and body fat percentage will be weaker than that of SSS.

Significance

- Relationship between SSS and weight outcomes in Hispanic adolescents have yet to be determined.
- By identifying the possible association between adolescent SSS and body fat percentage, SSS may supplement conclusions based upon traditionally used measures of SES for weight outcomes within this population.
- SSS may have more clinical utility than SES
 - Components that potentially influence SSS can be targeted by health care providers.
 - SSS measurements may be more feasible and less invasive to obtain than SES

Next Steps

Continue study recruitment

Continue collecting SES, SSS, and body fat percentage data

Analyze data and results upon study completion

Acknowledgements

- Dr. Michelle Cardel and Lab Team
- Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program