

**Summary Report of Findings
From the
African-American Health Assessment Survey**

**Produced For The
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
Diabetes Prevention, Tobacco Prevention and Control**

**Produced By
The SC Commission for Minority Affairs**

**Mr. Thomas Smith – Executive Director
Ms. Sheila Albergottie – Program Coordinator for African American Affairs
Mr. Benjamin Washington, Jr. – Program Manager for Policy and Research Services**

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Introduction

During the 2009-2010 Fiscal Year, the South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs (CMA) entered into a contractual agreement with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control to conduct Health Assessments for each of the populations the Commission serves. The 2011-2012 Fiscal Year marks the third year of this partnership. The Commission entered into a contract agreement to: 1) provide a Health Needs Assessment Tool specific to the minority populations; 2) serve on the Advisory Council, and 3) provide a report on the findings of the survey.

The CMA has developed a culturally and appropriate Health Needs Assessment tool that was utilized to reach out to the specific target populations. The Health Needs Assessment tool was approved by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control –Division of Diabetes and Tobacco Prevention. Each tool has been tailored to meet the needs of each target group: African American, Native American and Hispanic Latino.

This report includes the findings obtained from surveys disseminated to the African American population only. The process that was undertaken to complete this report will be outlined with the following information: Development of the Assessment Tool, Methodology and Procedures, Data Analysis, and Findings of the Health Assessment Needs Tool.

Development of the Health Needs Assessment Tool

The CMA had already developed a Health Needs Assessment Tool that had been utilized to survey the Hispanic-Latino and the Native American communities. This survey was designed to be both concise and comprehensive in nature, in order to ensure that a small, yet representative sample of persons would take the time to complete the survey.

The African-American population is the largest of the state's four traditional ethnic minority populations: African-American, Native American, Asian, and Hispanic-Latino populations. As in the previous two Health Needs Assessments, the development of the Health Assessment tool involved a slight modification of the Survey questions to pick information related to Diabetes and Tobacco use among African Americans.

Methodology and Procedures

Geographic Area

Once the survey was completed a determination was made on the various ways to collect information from the African American population, as well as to where the surveys would be administered in order to collect a representative sample reflective of the geographic distribution of the African American population.

Data was obtained from the 2010 U.S. Census and consideration was given to those counties with the highest concentration of African Americans¹. In addition, the Research Program Manager also examined statistical data on vitality and morbidity from the Department of Health and Environmental Control². Surveys could be administered in any of the counties within DHEC's designated health regions. This allowed the research team greater flexibility than if we had chosen specific counties to administer the survey tool. Completing the survey tool in some of the specific county areas would have been challenging as we may not have had a contact working within the African American community.

The Health Needs Assessment was administered through a combination of face-to-face interviews, participation in health fairs at faith-based conferences, as well as the electronic posting of the survey on one faith-based organization's website. In addition, some of the surveys were administered over the telephone. Ms. Sheila Albergottie, African-American Affairs Program Coordinator, assisted in the administration of the survey.

Methodology

The SC Commission for Minority Affairs utilized the online sample size calculator³ to determine the sample size that would be utilized for this target group. Demographic information on the total number of African Americans in South Carolina was obtained from 2010 Census update published by the U. S. Census Bureau. The formula utilized to calculate sample size is based on a minimal concentrated population size of 20,000. This sample size was selected based on the minimum population sample size for data collected by the Census Bureau for all populations.

¹ The American Community Survey provides updated annual statistics for all cities or counties with a total population above 25,000.

² S. C. Vitality and Morbidity Statistics: 2008.

³ RAOSOFT-www.raosoft.com/samplesize.html. The formula can be provided upon request.

The minimum sample size selected was 385 surveys. Our margin for error based on the sample size was 5%. Based on this information our confidence level was at 95%. The software package, Survey Monkey, was used to collect the Needs Survey response data electronically. In cases where persons lacked access to computers, paper surveys were provided to aid in the completion rate of the surveys administered. These additional surveys were entered into Survey Monkey by staff persons at the South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs. Response data was processed using Microsoft Excel. All spreadsheet calculations were verified in order to develop a complete analysis of the findings.

Several organizations, state agencies and institutions were used to help facilitate the administration of the survey and the data collection process. These entities include:

- Claflin University
- Brookland Baptist Church (provided web link to the Health Assessment Survey)
- Education and Missionary Baptist Convention of South Carolina
- Seventh Episcopal District Convention of the AME Churches of South Carolina
- E-Mail Blasts to the General Public
- Missionary Baptist Churches

The following procedures were undertaken to complete the survey process:

- Review of the Health Needs Assessment with CMA staff and DHEC staff
- Revision of the Health Needs Assessment were made and final survey completed
- Population and geographic area data were reviewed by the CMA Research Program Manager to help to validate the sample size
- Selected Surveys data for some questions were entered into Microsoft Excel spreadsheets by the CMA Research Program Manager
- Analysis of data was conducted by the Research Program Manager at the CMA
- Final Report of findings was reviewed by the staff of the Commission for Minority Affairs

Unique Challenges

During the survey process there were some unique challenges to getting the surveys completed and having individuals participate in completing all of the questions. The staff of the Commission for Minority Affairs went to great lengths to ensure that the survey was disseminated statewide in as many communities as possible. In addition, efforts were made to make sure that survey respondents provided answers to all questions.

In some cases, certain questions were not answered, and in one case, a question was accidentally omitted from the initial questionnaire administration using Survey Monkey. This question was:

- **Does anyone in your household smoke?**

Most individuals agreed to answer questions for the survey. However, in some cases, some of the responses to the survey were not obtained as individuals chose not to answer all of the questions. The findings of the survey may also indicate that some respondents did not understand why we needed to know certain information such as number of people living in the home, birth date, and selected demographic information.

Data Analysis

In order to analyze the surveys collected, the “Analyze Response” feature of Survey Monkey was used. In addition, for a few selected questions, statistical data produced by the Survey Monkey package was exported out as spreadsheets in Microsoft Excel. Because of the way the survey instrument was constructed through questions and statements, the final data was divided into four parts:

1. **Personal Information** – data collected from respondents from this part of the Needs Assessment contains the following survey response information:
 - Personal and Household Information
 - Race and Ethnicity – including county and state of birth, and length of time living in the United States
 - Predominant Language Spoken in the Home
 - Marital Status
 - Date and Country of Birth
 - Length of Time Living in South Carolina
2. **Household Information** – data collected from respondents from this part of the Needs Assessment contains the following survey response information:
 - Type of Housing
 - Relationship of the Individuals Living in the Home
 - Demographic Characteristics of Persons Living in the Home

- Employment Status of Persons Living in the Home
 - Employment Status and Type of Work
 - Average Weekly Earnings
 - Public Assistance Status of Persons Living in the Home
 - Types of Income Assistance Received in the Home
 - Transportation Ownership, Access and Utilization
 - Communication Access (Home or Cell Phone)
 - Computer, Internet and Computer Access
3. **Health and Health Care Information Related to Routine Health Visits and Care** - data collected from respondents from this part of the Needs Assessment contains the following survey response information:
- Whether the respondent has a primary care doctor
 - Whether the respondent has visited the doctor within the past twelve months
 - Whether the child(ren) has had a doctor visit within the past twelve months
 - Whether the persons utilized a health service within the past twelve months
 - Whether or not a person has health insurance for himself or herself
 - Whether the child(ren) has access to health insurance
 - Where was the doctor visit conducted
 - Purpose of the doctor visit
 - Type of medical condition(s) that the respondent has
 - Place where the respondents seek medical care
 - Listing of medical conditions and medical history
 1. Selection of specific (health) conditions
 2. DHEC-CDC Health and Medical Conditions
 - a. Diabetes

- b. Pre-Diabetes
 - c. Tobacco Use: Cigarettes
 - d. Tobacco Use: Smokeless Tobacco-Dip
 - e. Tobacco Use: Smokeless Tobacco-Snuff
 - f. Smoking-Length of time smoking or using tobacco, whether individuals in the household smoke
 - g. Prevalence or diagnosis by a medical worker as having of diabetes
3. Whether the respondent or a household member has been told that they are diabetic or at risk for diabetes
4. **Health and Health Care Information Related to Women Only** - data collected from respondents from this part of the Needs Assessment contains the following survey response information:
- Whether the respondent and their dependents have medical insurance
 - Place where the respondent seeks medical care
 - Women's Health Status
 - 1. Selection of specific (health) conditions
 - 2. Whether the respondent has been pregnant in the past year
 - 3. Number of Children delivered in the past year
 - 4. Whether the mother was diagnosed with borderline or gestational diabetes during (any of) her pregnancies
 - 5. Prenatal health behaviors of the mother

The remainder of this document provides an analysis of report findings from the Health Assessment Survey of the African American population.

Report Findings

Report Findings on the Demographic Information

Chart 1 provides a summary of overall information from the African American Health Assessment Survey.

Chart 1: Summary Information from the African American Needs Assessment Survey

Information on the Health Assessment	Total	Percent
Survey Administered	435	100.0%
Completed Surveys	410	94.3%
Male ⁴	150	34.4%
Females ⁶	285	65.6%

The total and percentage statistics reveal that:

- The Health Assessment survey was administered within counties in which the African American population was highest
- Approximately six out of ten (65.6%) was completed by women
- One out of every three surveys (34.4%) were completed by men
- A close examination of the completed survey responses reveal that the survey was distributed statewide, that the highest number of returned surveys came from a total of twenty counties:
 - a. Aiken
 - b. Bamberg
 - c. Beaufort

⁴ Percentages are based on the number of completed surveys

- d. Berkeley
- e. Charleston
- f. Chesterfield
- g. Clarendon
- h. Dillon
- i. Florence
- j. Greenville
- k. Hampton
- l. Horry
- m. Kershaw
- n. Lexington
- o. Marion
- p. Orangeburg
- q. Richland
- r. Spartanburg
- s. Sumter
- t. York

Age, Race and Ethnicity

Data obtained from the completed Health Assessment Surveys for the African American Population reveal important information regarding the African American population. First, African Americans can represent any racial category. Of the entire sample of surveys completed, African Americans comprised 99.3%, or 432 out of 435 respondents.

Key findings of age, race and ethnicity from the African American Health Needs Assessment include:

- The average number of persons within each household was two persons with the highest number of persons within a household being four persons.

- The average length of time in the United States given by respondents was under 20 years. The average length of time in South Carolina was 18 years or less.
- The average age of respondents completing the survey was 21.3 years of age. Also:
 1. The youngest respondent completing the survey was 18 years of age.
 2. The oldest respondent completing the survey was 66 years of age.

All but seven of the surveys completed were from individuals of African American descent.

Chart 2: Race and Ethnicity Information

Completing the Health Assessment

Race and Ethnicity	Total Surveys Completed	Percent of Surveys Completed
Total Completed	435	100.0%
White	2	0.5%
African American	432	99.3%
Hispanic-Latino	1	0.2%
Asian	0	0.0%
Native American	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%

Language Spoken at Home and Marital Status

Survey respondents were asked to provide information regarding the predominant language spoken at home. Of the total number of African-American respondents who completed the Needs Assessment Survey, all 435 respondents identified English as the predominant language spoken at home.

Marital Status

An examination of the statistical data for marital status reveals that six out of ten respondents (60.0%) completing the Needs Assessment Survey were single. One out of three respondents was married. The remaining total and percentages of respondents by marital status for those completing the Needs Assessment were as follows:

Marital Status of Respondent	Total Responses	Percent of Responses
All Respondents	435	100.0%
Single	261	60.0%
Married	134	30.8%
Divorced	28	6.4%
Common Law	3	0.7%
Live In Partner	2	0.5%
Widowed	8	1.8%

The high percentage of single respondents completing the Health Needs Assessment is closely correlated to the younger ages of persons who completed the Survey.

Housing and Household Status

Respondents were asked to provide information on the Health Needs Assessment regarding Housing and household living arrangements. In addition, information on the total number of family members was provided, as well as the ages of those living in the home.

Housing arrangements consisted of houses, apartments, mobile homes, and other (non-specified) living arrangements. Respective totals and percentages given by respondents were as follows:

Type of Housing (Living Arrangements)	Total Responses	Percent of Responses
House	280	69.0%
Apartment	53	13.1%
Mobile Home	37	9.1%
Other	36	8.8%
Total Survey Population in Housing:		406 Persons
Average Age of Housing Respondent:		45.5 Years
Average Age of Persons Living in the Home:		29.4 Years

A total of 406 persons resided in some type of housing or living arrangement among the African American population surveyed. The average age of respondents completing this survey question was 45.5 years of age. The average age of persons living in the home was 29.4 years. This could reflect that persons of younger age who completed the survey included information on their parents or guardians, as well as other members living in the home.

Employment Status, Weekly Earnings and Benefits

Survey respondents were asked to provide information regarding their current employment status, weekly earnings, and whether or not they received any type of governmental and related benefits. This information is summarized as follows:

- 210 of 404 respondents (52.0%) stated that they were currently employed at the time the Assessment Survey was administered
- 178 of 404 respondents (44.1%) stated that they were currently unemployed
- 16 of 404 respondents (4.0%) stated that they were involved in some other type of employment arrangement. An examination of the Survey Monkey responses also reveal the following information:
 1. Eleven (11) out of 16 respondents (68.8%) indicated that they were retired. They did not state whether or not they were employed in any other type of work.

2. Three (3) out of 16 respondents (18.8%) indicated that they were in school
 3. Two (2) of the 16 respondents (12.5%) indicated that they were participating in some type of training. However neither respondent indicated the specific type of training that they were receiving.
- In regards to employment status, a total of 196 respondents provided answers to this question. Of the 196 respondents, 71 persons (36.2%) indicated that they were employed part time, while 125 respondents (65.8%) were employed full-time. A total of 236 respondents skipped this question. These may have been college students, or those who may not have wanted to provide an answer to this question.
 - In regards to the types of jobs individual respondents were employed in, a wide range of job titles and employment occupations were given. These include:
 1. Nursing and Nurse Practitioner
 2. Health Care and Medical Professions
 3. Retail Trade Jobs (Cashier, Sales Associate)
 4. Customer Service Representative
 5. Truck Driver
 6. Government
 7. Financial Advisor
 8. Teacher
 9. Educational Support Occupations (Librarians, Other Occupations)
 10. Human Services
 11. Social Work
 - Average weekly earnings among those respondents who were employed at the time the Needs Assessment Survey were administered were \$301.60 per week, or approximately \$15,683 annually.
 - In regards to governmental benefits received:
 1. 21.5% of respondents (85 of 397) stated that they received governmental assistance compared to 78.5% (312 of 397 respondents) who received no governmental assistance

2. Governmental Benefits received include:

SNAP (Food Stamps)	– 35 respondents (39.3%)
WIC	– 16 respondents (18.0%)
Medicaid	– 30 respondents (33.7%)
SSI-Disability	– 15 respondents (16.9%)
Other Governmental Benefits	– 6 respondents (7.2%).

Of the six respondents indicating that they received some other type of governmental assistance, the type of assistance included:

- a. Family Independence – 1 respondent (1.2%)
- b. Unemployment Benefits – 2 respondents (2.4%)
- c. Medicare – 1 respondent (1.2%)
- d. Unspecified – 2 respondents (2.4%).

Transportation – Communication

The final section regarding the collection of demographic information for the Health Assessment Survey involved collecting information from respondents regarding both access to transportation and forms of communication for the African American population. Totals and percentages are provided below for those respondents completing the Health Assessment Survey.

For respondents indicating transportation access:

- Own a personal vehicle: 253 out of 411 respondents (61.6%)
- 38.4% or 158 respondents did not own a personal vehicle
- Someone else in the Household Owns a Personal Vehicle: 354 of 390 respondents (90.8%)
- Thirty-six (36) or 9.2% of respondents indicated that no one in the household owned a vehicle
- Twenty-four respondents skipped this question

The Primary Mode of Transportation indicated by respondents completing the Needs Survey was:

- Car – 395 out of 408 respondents (96.8%)
- Public Transportation – 6 of 408 respondents (1.5%)
- Taxi – 2 out of 408 respondents (0.5%)
- Bicycle – 4 out of 408 respondents (1.0%)
- Walking – 16 out of 408 respondents (3.9%)

For respondents providing answers to the statements regarding communications:

- 402 of 405 respondents (99.3%) stated that they had a working home phone or cell phone.
- 383 of 411 respondents (93.2%) indicated that they had a working home computer.
- 367 of 405 respondents (90.6%) indicated that they had internet access
- 38 of 405 respondents (9.4%) or one-of-every eleven respondents stated that they did have access to a computer with internet service.

[The Assessment Report Findings Regarding Healthcare](#)

The last section of the Assessment Survey requested information from the respondents regarding their access to health and healthcare. The remainder of this document provides a summary of assessment findings.

[Information Regarding Routine Health Visits to the Doctor](#)

The first set of health questions sought information regarding the following:

- Whether the respondent sees a doctor on a routine basis
- Whether a health service was utilized within the past twelve (12) months
- Whether a child was taken to the doctor in the past twelve (12) months
- Place of the last doctor visit

Of those individuals completing the questions:

- 84.1% indicated that they have seen a doctor when someone living in the home is sick (338 out of 402 persons responding)
- 15.9% or one out of every six indicated that they did not have a doctor to see or visit on a routine basis when they or someone in the home was sick
- 90.3% have seen a doctor within the past 12 months (361 out of 400 respondents)
- 27.4% had taken their child to the doctor within the past 12 months on a routine visit (85 out of 310 respondents)
- 32.3% or 100 respondents surveyed did not have children, so this question was not applicable
- 40.3% or 125 respondents surveyed stated that they have not taken their children to the doctor for a routine doctor visit within the last twelve months.

The next question asked respondents to identify the place of the doctor visit. A total of 357 respondents skipped this question. Of those respondents who did answer this question:

- 6.43% (5 out of 78) took their children to see the doctor in the emergency room
- 91.3% (71 out of 78) went to a doctor's office
- 7.7% (6 out of 78) went to an urgent care or other place to see the doctor
- 2.6% (2 out of 78) saw the doctor at a Free (or Reduced Price) Clinic.

Most of the visits to the doctor were for routine well or sick visits, or treatable illnesses based on routine or seasonal events (colds, sinus, immunizations for the flu, and sick or well baby visits).

Medical Insurance - Sources of Medical Care

The next section of the Health Assessment Survey collected information on which respondents indicated that they have medical insurance for themselves or their dependents. The findings are as follows:

- 331 of 383 respondents (86.4%) indicated that they currently have health insurance. However, given the distribution of low average age statistics cited in the beginning of this report, the majority of these respondents may be insured by their parents or legal guardians, or through some other type of dependent health care arrangement(s).

- Of those with insurance for their dependents, 149 of 234 respondents (63.7%) indicated that they did have dependent care insurance. In most cases, this insurance was on the child or children within the family.

Respondents were also asked where they would go to receive medical care for themselves or their dependents. Overall, respondents had a difficult time providing one answer. This was due to the fact that each medical situation was unique for individual respondents and members of their families. However, respondents did carefully consider where they could obtain medical care for themselves and family members. A total of 384 persons provided response information for this portion of the Assessment Survey, while 51 respondents skipped this question.

The findings reveal that:

- 10.7% or 41 respondents sought medical care in the Emergency Room
- 82.3% or 316 respondents utilized the Doctor's office or a personal physician for medical care
- 4.2% or 16 respondents utilized a Free or (Reduced Price) Clinic for medical care
- 4.7% or 18 respondents utilized an Urgent Care facility
- 1.3% or 5 respondents utilized the local Pharmacy for medical care
- 1.0% or 4 respondents utilized some other type of routine medical care
- 2.3% or 9 respondents indicated that they did not know where they could or did go to receive routine medical care. This could mean that either they did not have access to routine medical care, or that they may be unsure of what insurance or related health care requirements would qualify them to receive the medical care that they desire.

Medical Conditions

The last major section of the African American Health Assessment Survey sought information on various medical conditions experienced by the respondents. A total of 207 respondents provided answers to the questions in this section, while 228 persons skipped this question. Listed below are totals and percentages for specific medical conditions. These medical conditions include the following health conditions:

1. High Blood Pressure – 103 respondents (49.8%)
2. Obesity or Being Overweight - 64 respondents (30.9%)

3. Other Medical Conditions - 64 respondents (30.9%)
4. High Cholesterol – 52 respondents (25.1%)
5. Diabetes – 51 respondents (24.6%)
6. Abnormal Vision – 26 respondents (12.6%)
7. Depression – 22 respondents (10.6%)
8. Digestive Problems – 20 respondents (9.7%)
9. Heart Disease – 17 respondents (8.2%)
10. Cancer – 16 respondents (7.7%)
11. Tuberculosis – 6 respondents (2.9%).

DHEC Specific Response Information from the African American Population

A key component of the Assessment Survey of the African American population was to collect information pertaining to diabetes, smoking and tobacco use by type among the African American population. Key findings are summarized within this section of the Report.

Smoking and Tobacco Use

The Health Assessment Survey provided four specific questions related to smoking and tobacco use. The primary question that respondents were asked was:

- **Does anyone in your household smoke?**

As mentioned in the Unique Challenges section of the proposal, not all of the respondents provided responses to this question. This was due to the accidental omission of the question during the initial electronic distribution of the survey using the Survey Monkey package. To address this omission, the survey was placed out on one of the faith based organization's website in order to increase the sample of the African-American population completing this question. This was done through three approaches: (1) obtaining approval from a representative of a faith based organization to provide a link to the survey on their website, (2) the redistribution of hard copies of the survey through faith based organizations event(s), and (3) e-mail blasts to the general public.

Overall, a maximum of 214 respondents provided an answer to the questions related to smoking and tobacco use. In regards to the question **“Does anyone in your household smoke?”**

- 52 of 214 respondents (24.3%) indicated that they smoked. It is important to remember that the median age of respondents completing the survey was 18 years of age. This means that at least 50.0% of all respondents completing the Needs Assessment Survey were 18 years of age. This means that young adults may account for one out of four respondents who smoked.
- 221 respondents skipped this question. This could mean that either the question did not apply to the respondents, or the respondents refused to answer the question.
- For those respondents who used tobacco, the specific tobacco use indicated by the respondents includes:
 - Cigarettes – 22 respondents (10.6%)
 - Smokeless Tobacco-Snuff: 7 of 214 respondents (3.4%)
 - Smokeless Tobacco-Dip: 7 of 214 respondents (3.4%).

Of the total respondents who indicated that they did smoke, the Needs Assessment Survey asked a follow up question:

Have you ever tried to quit [smoking]?

A total of 43 respondents provided answers to this question. Of this total:

- 18 respondents (41.9%) who smoked indicated that they tried to quit smoking
- 25 respondents (58.1%) who smoked indicated that they have not tried to quit smoking.

Diabetes and Diabetes Risk

In addition to the risk of smoking, respondents were also asked to indicate whether or not they or someone in the household have been diagnosed as diabetic by a medical worker or physician, or were officially determined at risk for diabetes based on a diagnosis from a medical worker or physician. Of the entire sample of 435 persons surveyed, twenty-two persons did not answer the statements regarding diabetes diagnosis. Respondents were asked two specific questions:

Have you ever been told by a medical worker that you have diabetes?

Has anyone in your household ever been told that they are at risk for diabetes?

The specific findings provided by the respondents for the two questions are provided below. The information provided by the respondents indicates that:

- 10.9%, or 45 (of 413) of respondents were told that they have diabetes
- 32.8% (or 122 out of 372) of respondents were told that someone in their household were at risk for becoming diabetic.

Survey Responses for Women Only

The last section of the African American Health Assessment Survey requested response information from African American women only regarding prenatal health and risks for diabetes. A total of 139 respondents completed this section. Findings from this section reveal:

- Only 13 women respondents surveyed (9.4%) indicated that they had been pregnant in the past year (out of a total of 139 respondents)
- A total of six children were born to the five women who stated that they experienced a pregnancy within the past year. One respondent stated that she had twins. One respondent experienced a miscarriage of a child within the past year. Three of the answers provided by respondents were difficult to determine if the women actually had a baby.
- In regards to gestational or borderline gestational diabetes, nine women (6.5% of respondents) reported that they were told that they had gestational diabetes

This section of the Assessment Survey may require additional follow-up by the Department of Health and Environmental Control due to the uncertainty of the level of understanding by those women who responded to the survey.

- In regards to prenatal health at some time during pregnancy:
 1. 134 of 139 respondents (96.4%) indicated that they did not smoked while pregnant
 2. 134 of 135 respondents (99.3%) indicated that they did not drink while pregnant
 3. 134 of 135 respondents (99.3%) indicated that they did not take any illegal drugs while they were pregnant.

Summary

This report has provided a summary and analysis of data collected from a random sampling of the African American population. The African American population remains the largest minority population in South Carolina and is prevalent in all forty six counties. Care was taken by the staff of the Commission to account for this in the administration and collection of survey data. A review of the responses indicates that the sample consisted of persons in younger age categories. Specifically, approximately half of the respondents completing various parts of the Needs Assessment Survey were 18 years of age. The Survey indicated that statistics reveal that this young adult population experienced some health issues. These issues for the most part, involved exposure to and participation in smoking, as well as having other health problems. In addition, percentages indicate that a significant number of African Americans in South Carolina continue to suffer disproportionately with other health issues. These include, but are not limited to Diabetes, Obesity, High Cholesterol and High Blood pressure. This Report is the third and final Report to be produced as a part of the partnership between the South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control's Diabetes and Tobacco Prevention Unit. Where possible, the staff of CMA will continue to work in partnership with the DHEC staff to provide additional assistance and outreach to other communities across the State.