

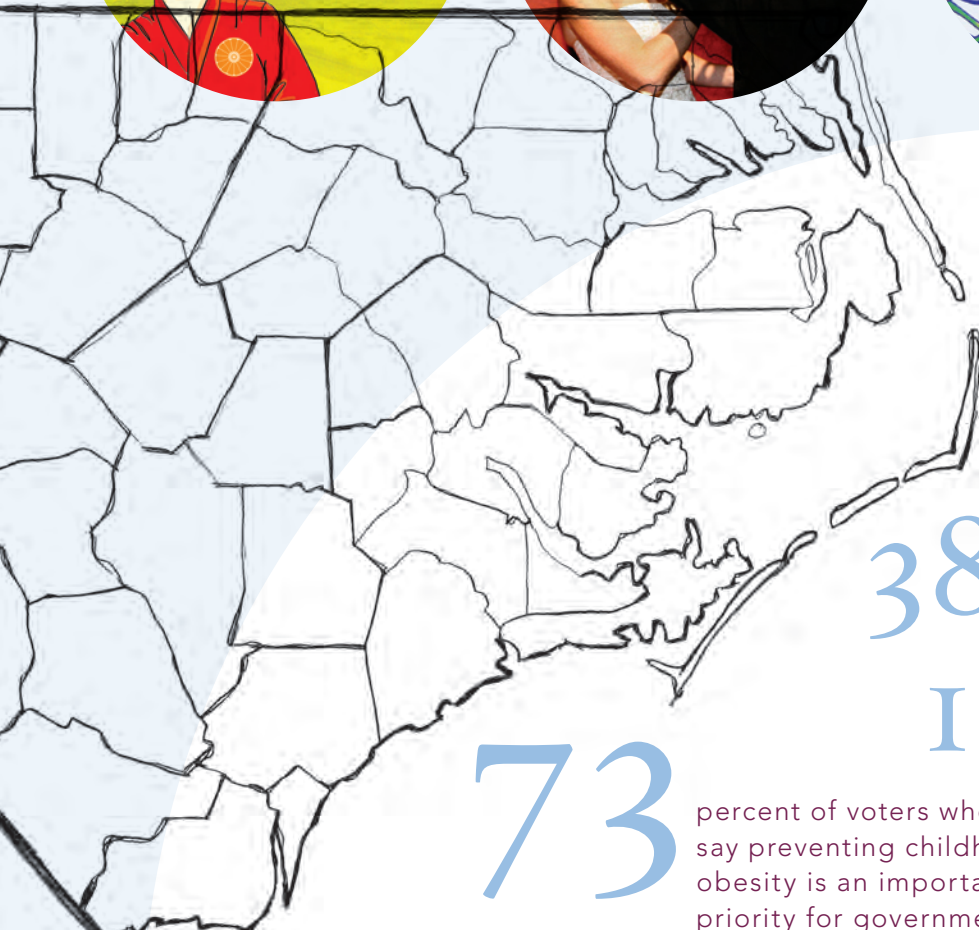
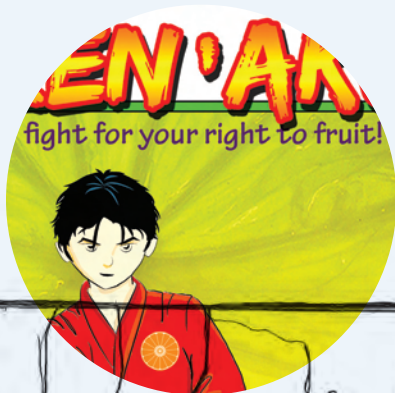


The World is Fat[★]

Research synopses reported by Kathleen Kearns

Across North Carolina and around the world, researchers from UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health are investigating why obesity rates have ballooned, how this phenomenon affects health and what to do about it.

*Our article uses the title of a popular treatise by Dr. Barry Popkin, *The World is Fat: The Fads, Trends, Policies and Products That Are Fattening the Human Race* (New York, Penguin Books, 2008). For more information, see <http://tinyurl.com/theworldisfat>.



29.4

percentage of North Carolina adults who are obese

0 states with adult obesity rate above 20 percent in 1991

38 states in the U.S. with adult obesity rates above 25 percent in 2010

12 million obese children in the U.S.

20 states with nutritional standards for school meals (N.C. is among them.)

73 percent of voters who say preventing childhood obesity is an important priority for government

8 states with obesity rates above 20 percent among 10- to 17-year-olds (N.C. is not among them.)

10 of 11 states with highest rates of diabetes and hypertension are in the South

56 percent of voters who think preventing childhood obesity will save taxpayers money in the long run

41.1 percentage of African-Americans in North Carolina who are obese

The School conducts research, provides public service and participates in engaged scholarship in all 100 North Carolina counties.