



Safe Routes to School
NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP

Where is the Safe Routes to
School program in Fairfax
County?



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Safe Routes to School is:

- 100% federally funded program
- No local match required
- Can be used as supplemental funds, but not as matching funds for other federal grants
- Infrastructure and non-infrastructure improvements
- Projects must be within 2 miles of a school



Eligible Projects

- Sidewalks
- Pedestrian bridges
- Multi-use trails
- Crosswalks, signals and signage
- Traffic calming measures
 - Pedestrian islands, bulb outs, speed bumps



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SRTS and the Board of Supervisors

- The Safe Routes to School program advances all the goals of the Board of Supervisors:
 - Health
 - Environment
 - Traffic Congestion
 - Safety



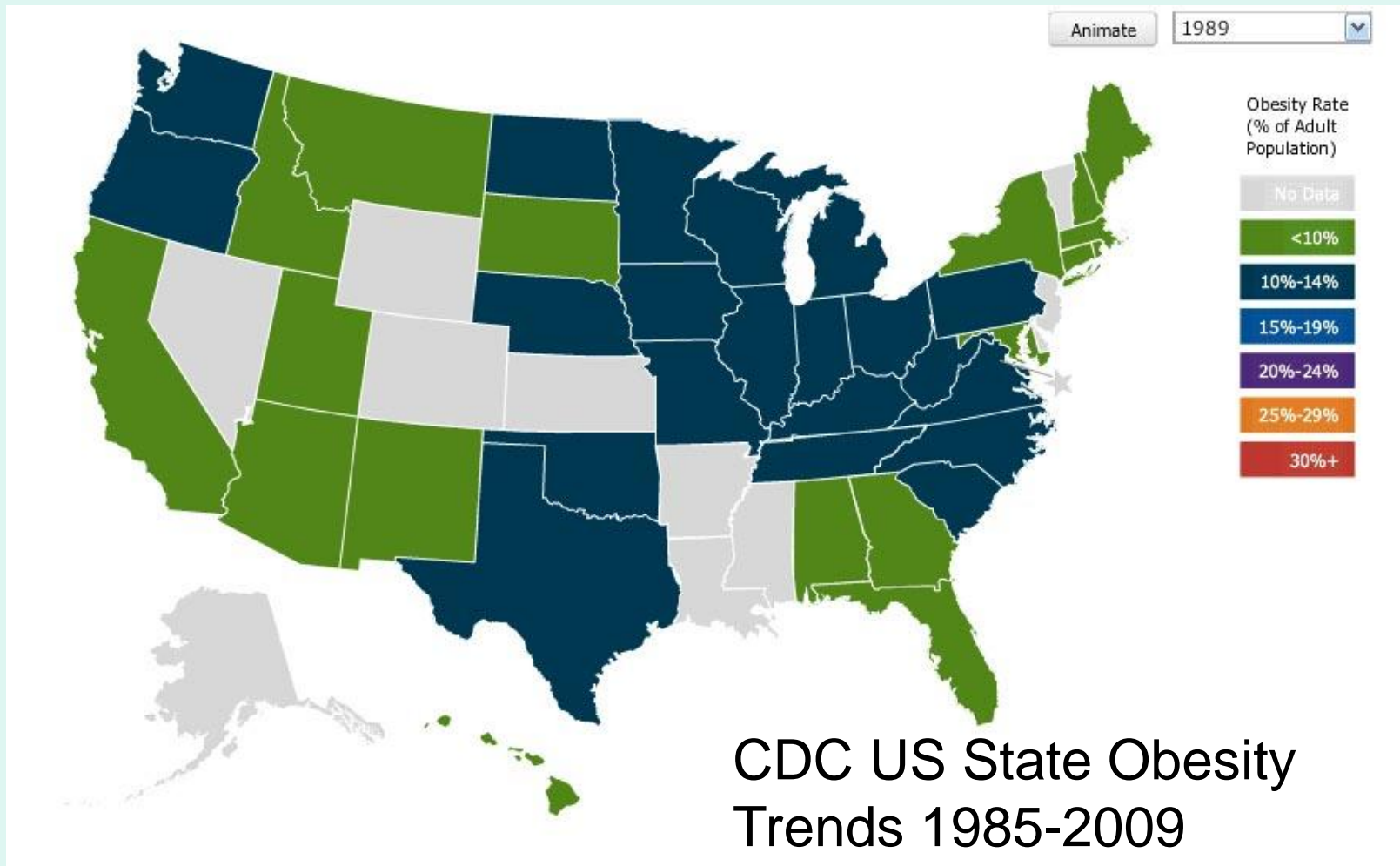
Health Impacts of SRTS

- Reversing the childhood obesity epidemic.
- Encouraging healthy active lifestyles from a young age.



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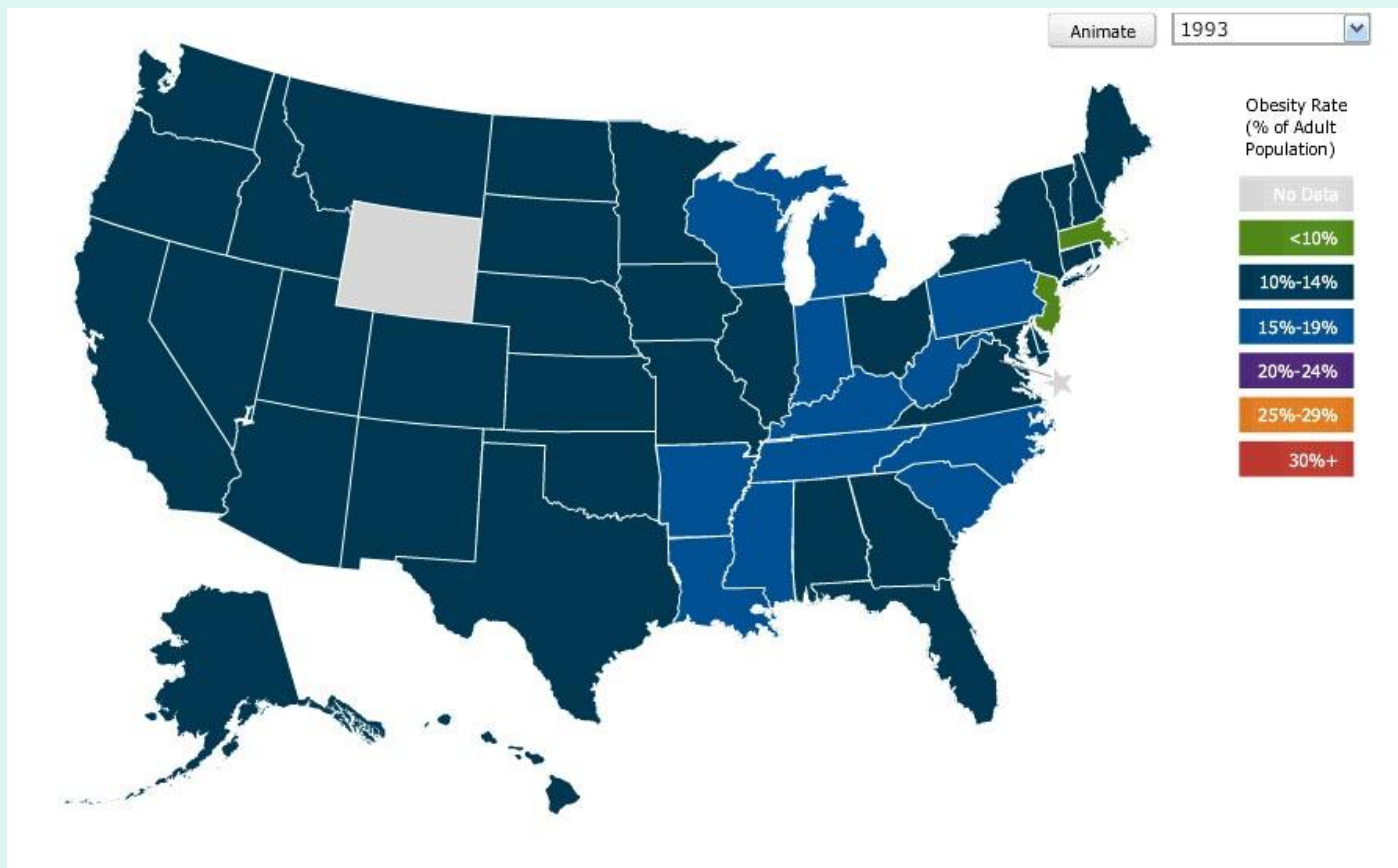
1989 Virginia at 10%-14%





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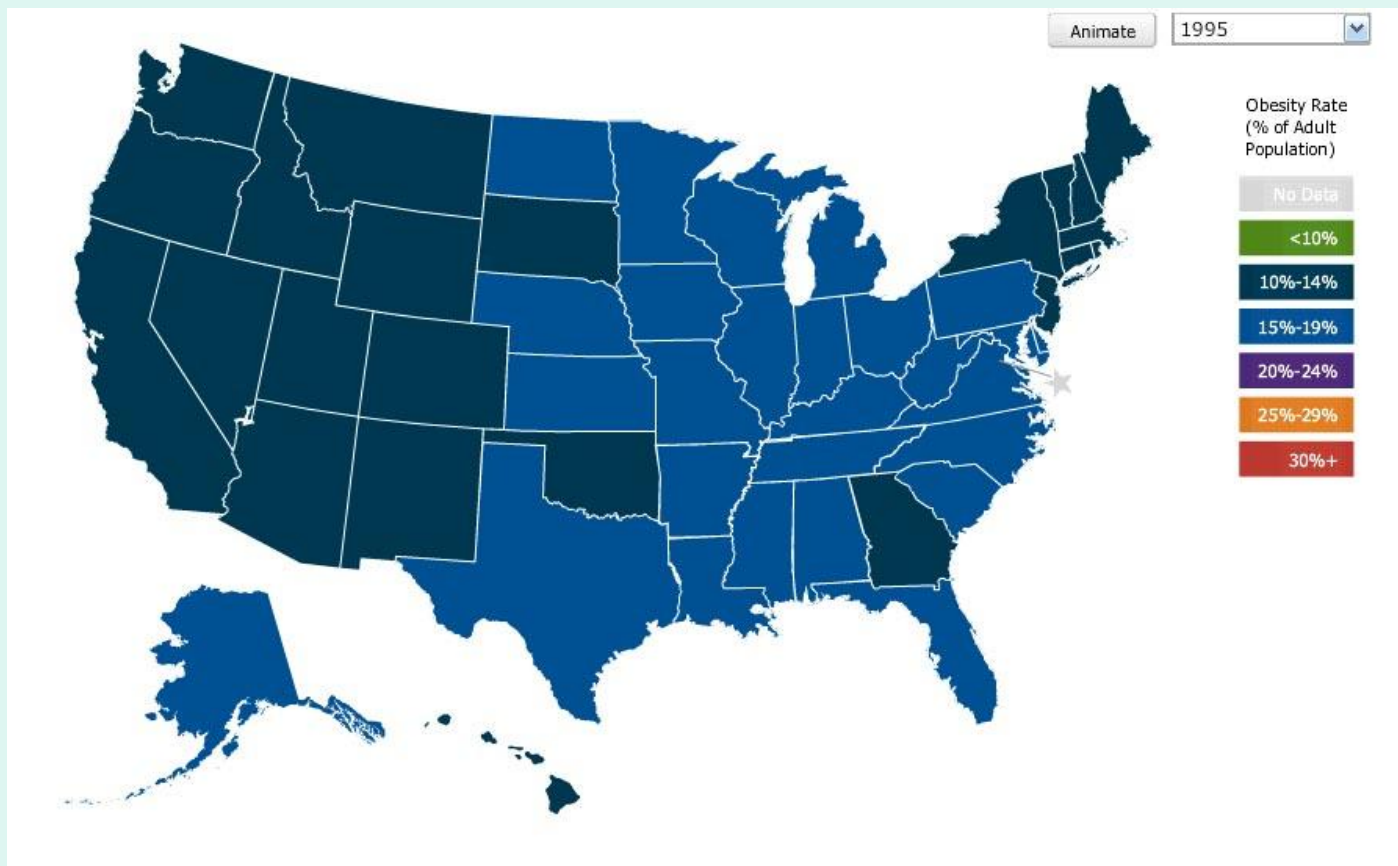
Virginia holding at 10%-14%





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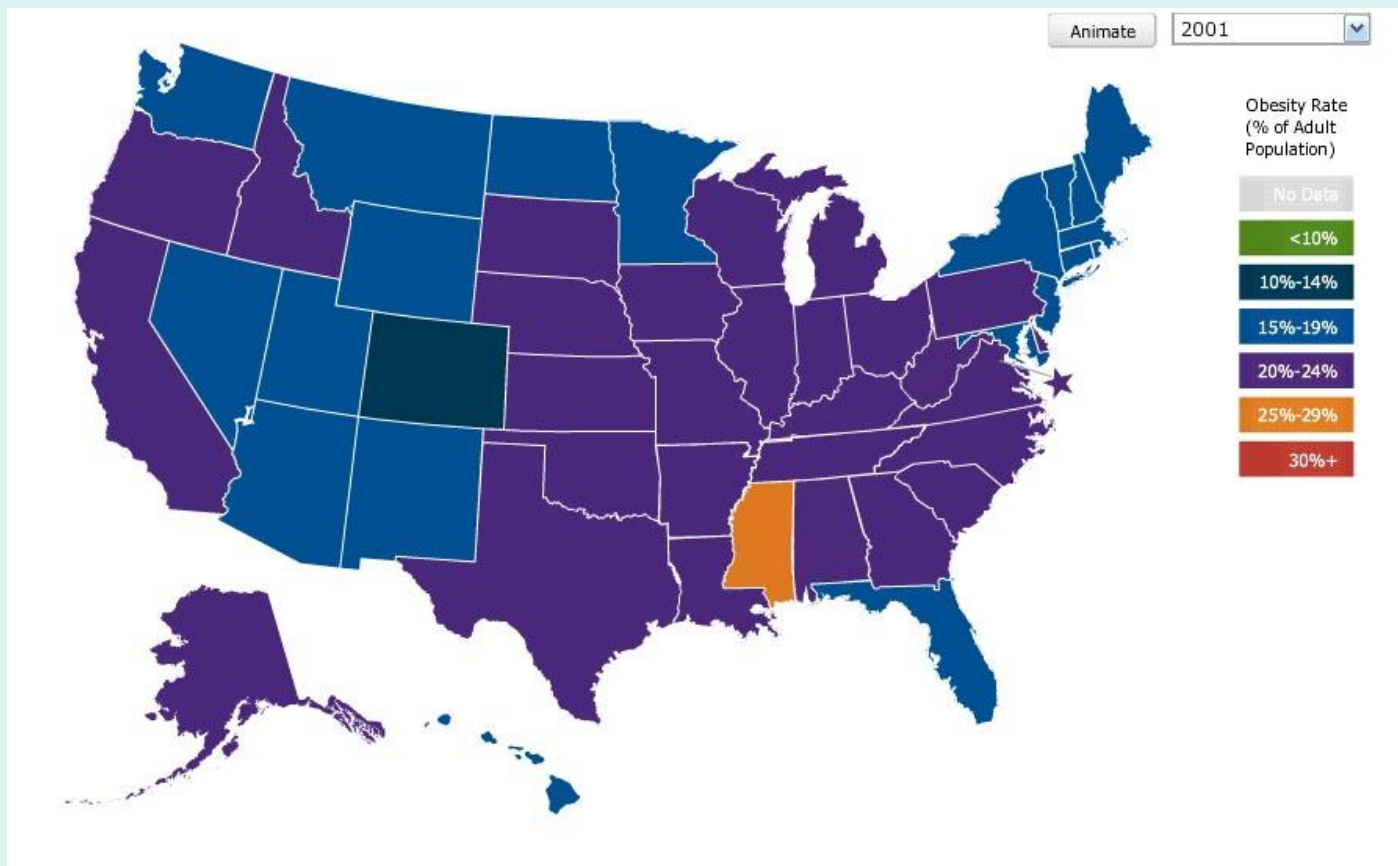
1994-Virginia hits 15%-19%





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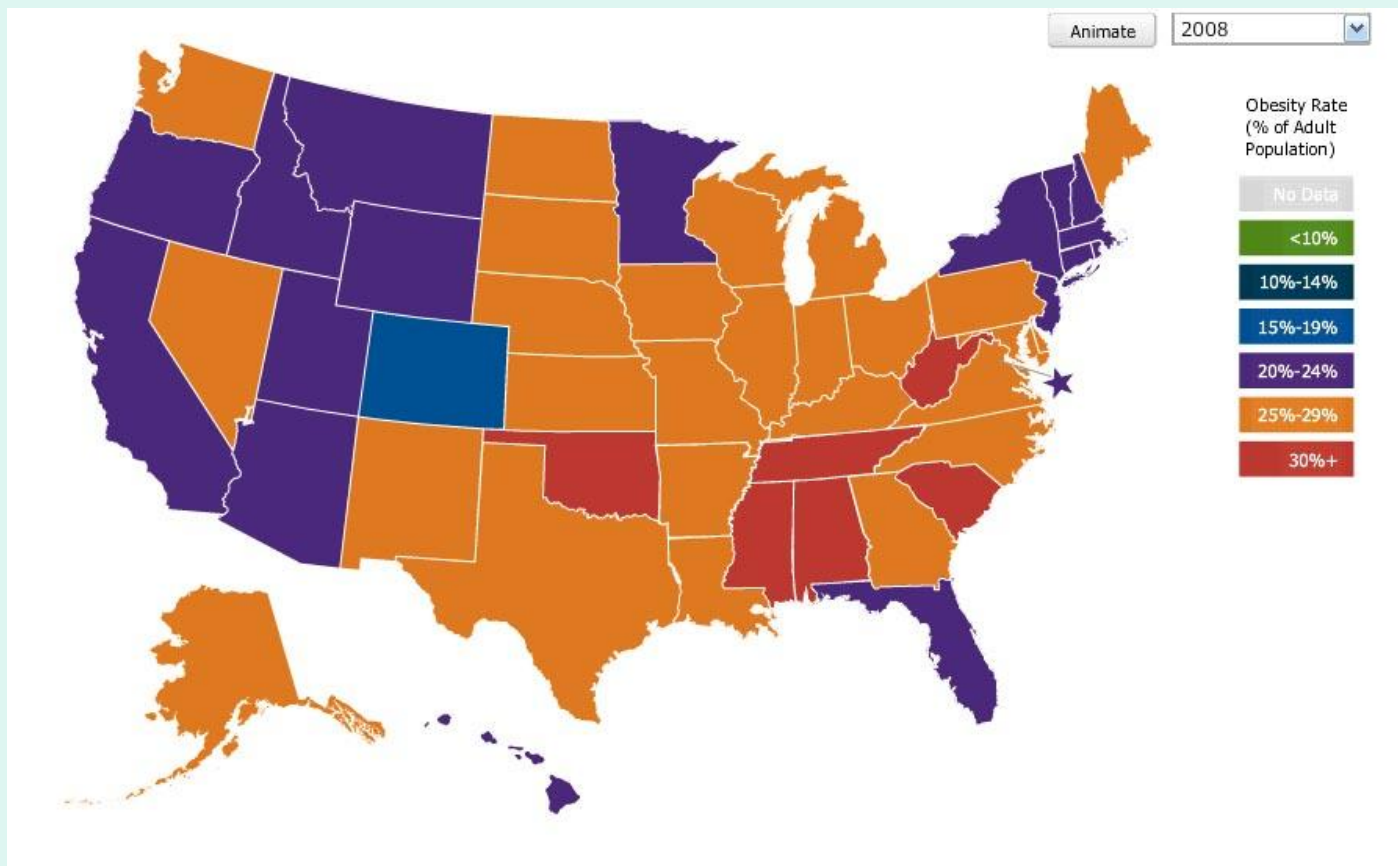
Six years later: 20%-24%





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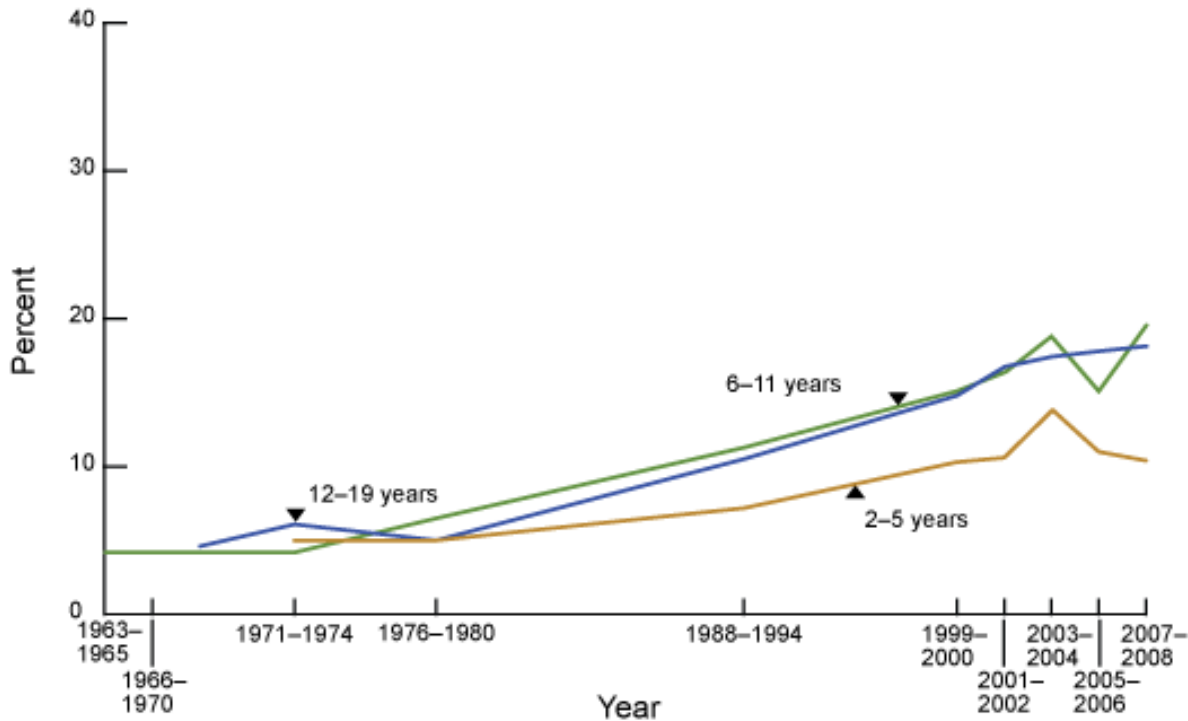
2008-Virginia 25%-29%





Childhood obesity trends

**Figure 1. Trends in obesity among children and adolescents:
United States, 1963–2008**



NOTE: Obesity is defined as body mass index (BMI) greater than or equal to sex- and age-specific 95th percentile from the 2000 CDC Growth Charts.

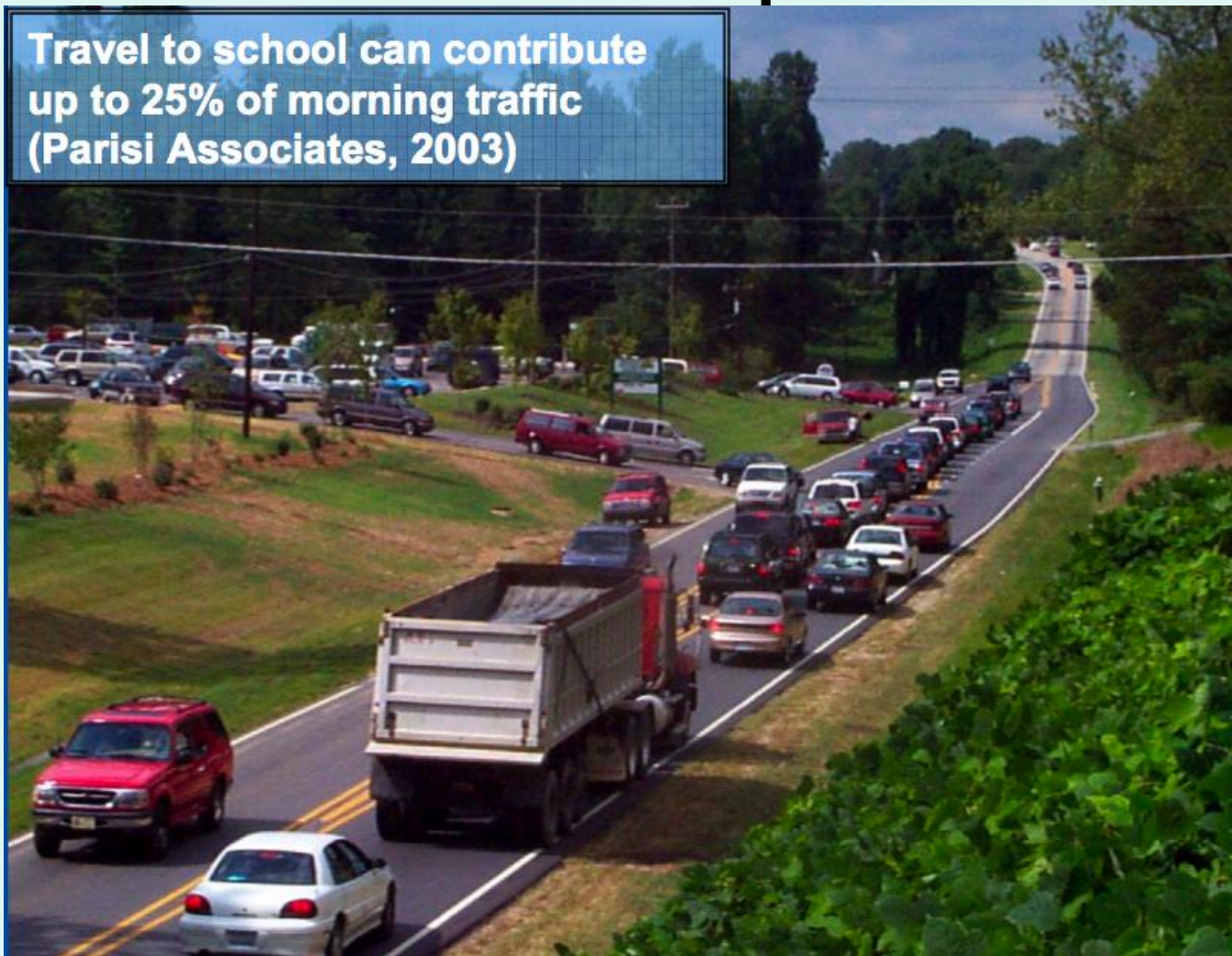
SOURCES: CDC/NCHS, National Health Examination Surveys II (ages 6–11), III (ages 12–17), and National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys (NHANES) I–III, and NHANES 1999–2000, 2001–2002, 2003–2004, 2005–2006, and 2007–2008.



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Traffic Impacts

**Travel to school can contribute
up to 25% of morning traffic
(Parisi Associates, 2003)**





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Current Conditions





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Marshall Road Elementary





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Marshall Road Elementary





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Marshall Road Elementary





Marshall Road Elementary

- Totals:
 - 85 students walk (14.1%)
 - 175 students dropped off in K&R or other non-sanctioned spot (29.1%)
 - 342 students bused (56%)



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Available Funding

- From 2005-2009 over \$13 million was awarded to Virginia localities
- Harrisonburg has received over \$1.4 million
- Charlottesville has received over \$900K
- Alexandria has received nearly \$700K



Sample Infrastructure Projects in Virginia

- Sidewalks
- Multi-use trails
- Intersection improvements and signage
- Pedestrian refuge islands
- Bike lanes and bike parking
- Multi-use trail connectors.



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And then there's Fairfax...

- ***Fairfax County has received a grand total of \$10,000.00*** (For non-infrastructure only)
- Despite being the most populous county with the largest school system in the commonwealth, Fairfax County has not applied for the funds.



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How do we get from here:





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To Here:





What we have:

- Involved, enthusiastic, energetic advocates, parents and teachers.
- Schools with thousands of children ready for an active alternative to being driven to and from school.



What We'll Gain:

- Improved health outcomes for students
- Higher test scores
- Decreased traffic congestion in school zones
- Lower transportation-related air pollutants including carbon monoxide and nitrogen dioxide.
- Decreased transportation costs-eliminate hazard busing routes.
- Safer communities for all pedestrians



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Kilmer/Wolf Trap Bridge





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Kilmer/Wolf Trap Bridge





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Bikes at Kilmer Middle School





What we need:

- Board of Supervisors support and statement directing Fairfax County planners to proceed with system-wide application for SRTS