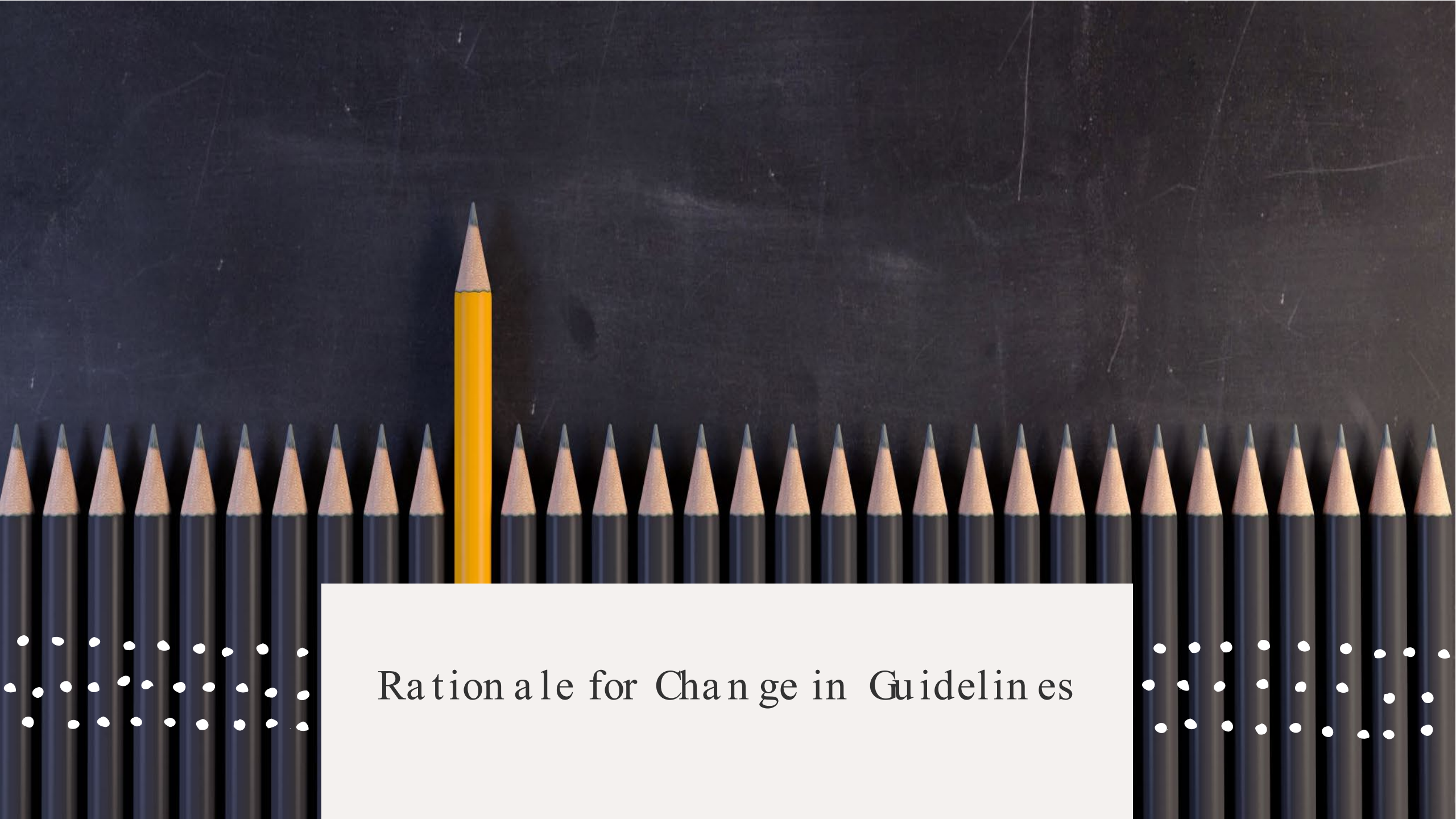


CDC Guidelines for K-12 in Person Learning

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Ration ale for Chan ge in Guidelin es

COVID-19 Among Children & Adolescents

- Compared with adults, children and adolescents who have COVID-19 are more commonly asymptomatic (never develop symptoms) or have mild, non-specific symptoms

Guideline Updates: Overview

Revised physical distancing recommendations to reflect at least 3 feet between students in classrooms and provide clearer guidance when a greater distance (such as 6 feet) is recommended.

Clarified that ventilation is a component of strategies to clean and maintain healthy facilities.

Removed recommendation for physical barriers.

Clarified the role of community transmission levels in decision-making.

Added guidance on interventions when clusters occur



Guideline Key Points

Evidence suggests that many K-12 schools that have strictly implemented prevention strategies have been able to safely open for in-person instruction and remain open



CDC's K-12 operational strategy presents a pathway for schools to provide in-person instruction safely through consistent use of prevention strategies, including universal and correct use of masks and physical distancing



Guidelines Key Points

All schools should implement and layer prevention strategies and should prioritize universal and correct use of masks and physical distancing

Testing to identify individuals with SARS-CoV-2 infection and vaccination for teachers and staff provide additional layers of COVID-19 protection in schools



Health Equity Considerations

People who identify as American Indian/Alaska Native, Black, and Hispanic are disproportionately affected by COVID-19; these disparities have also emerged among children

Absence of in person learning has disproportionate negative impact on children from disadvantaged backgrounds

These students might be less likely to have access to technology to facilitate virtual learning and more likely to rely on key school-supported resources such as school meal programs, special education and related services, counseling, and after-school programs

Health Equity Considerations

- Schools play a critical role in promoting equity in education and health for groups disproportionately affected by COVID-19
- Collaboration between schools and public health officials is necessary to assist to implement:
 - comprehensive prevention strategies
 - engage community partners
 - assist with referrals to medical care

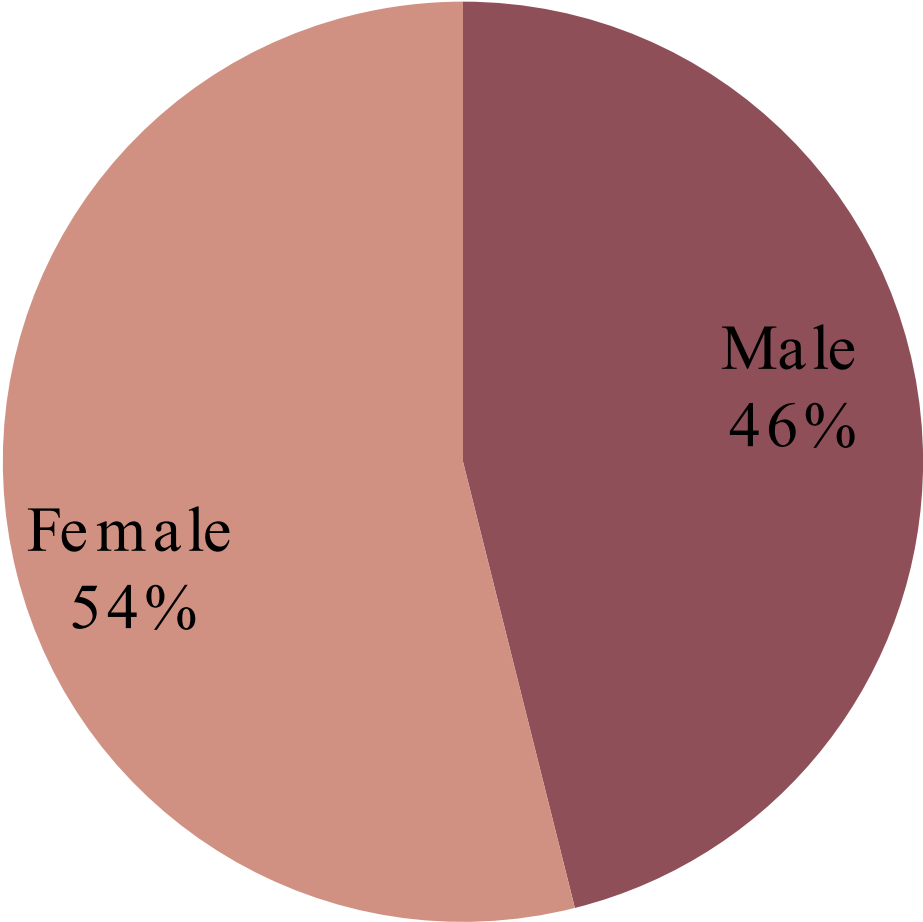


POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

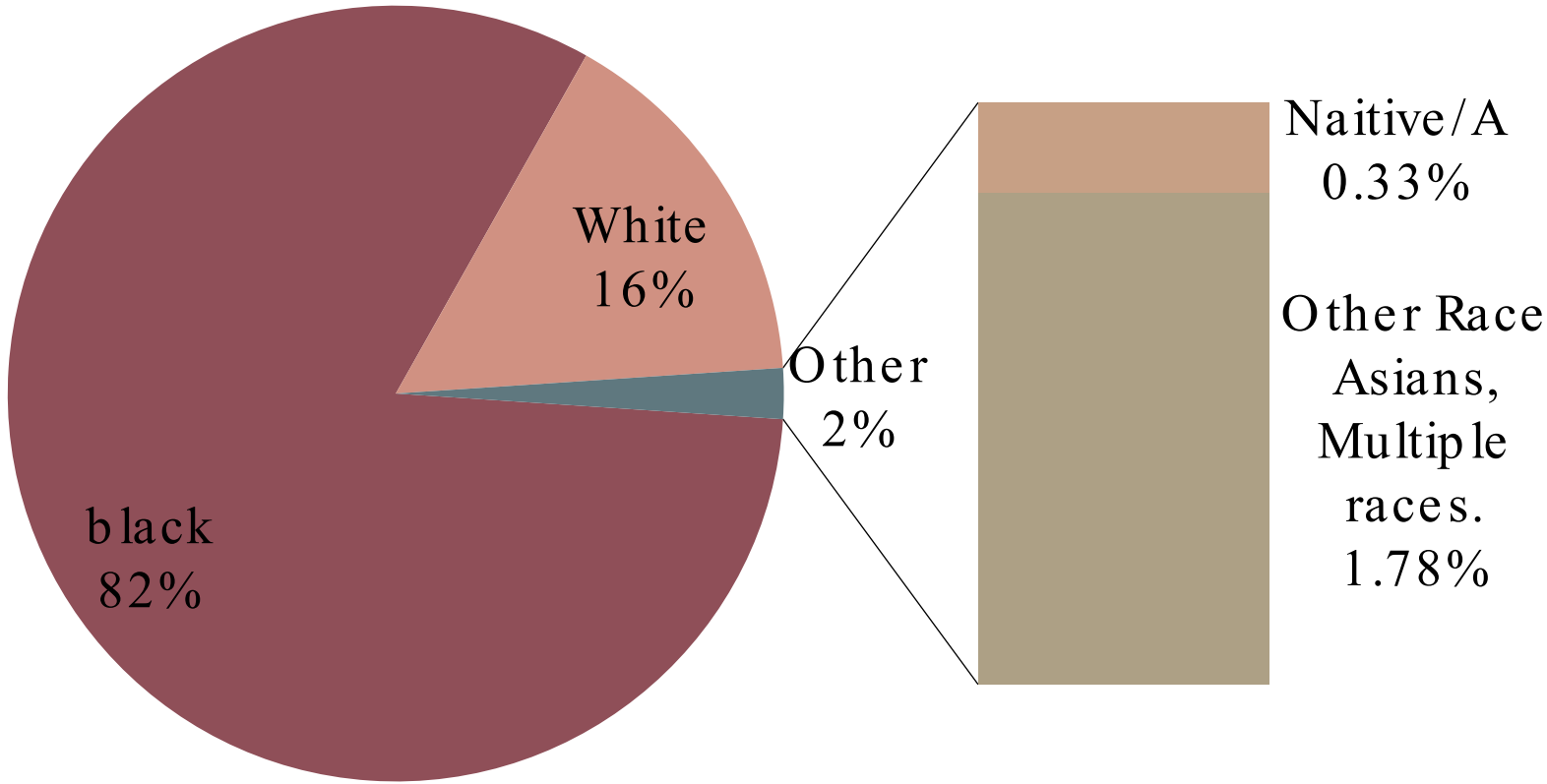
82.11% Black or African American, 15.78% White, 0.22% Asian, 0.33% Alaska/Native American, 0.89% some other race, and 0.67% multiple races

46.09% of the total populations are men, 53.91% are women, 7.99% under the age of 18, 18.94% from 18-24, 20.16% from 25-44, 26.16% from 45-64, and 16.75% 65 years of age or older

Population by Gender In Macon County, Alabama



Total Population by Race in Percentage in Macon County, Alabama



**POVERTY
POPULATION LIVING
WITH INCOME 200%
AT OR BELOW FPL IN
MACON COUNTY
COMPARED TO
ALABAMA AND THE
UNITED STATES**

Report Area	Total Population	Population with Income 200% at or Below FPL	Percentage Population with Income at or below 200% FPL
Macon County	17,395	9,360	53.81%
AL	4,720,529	1,851,965	39.23%
United States	310,629,645	104,390,198	33.61%

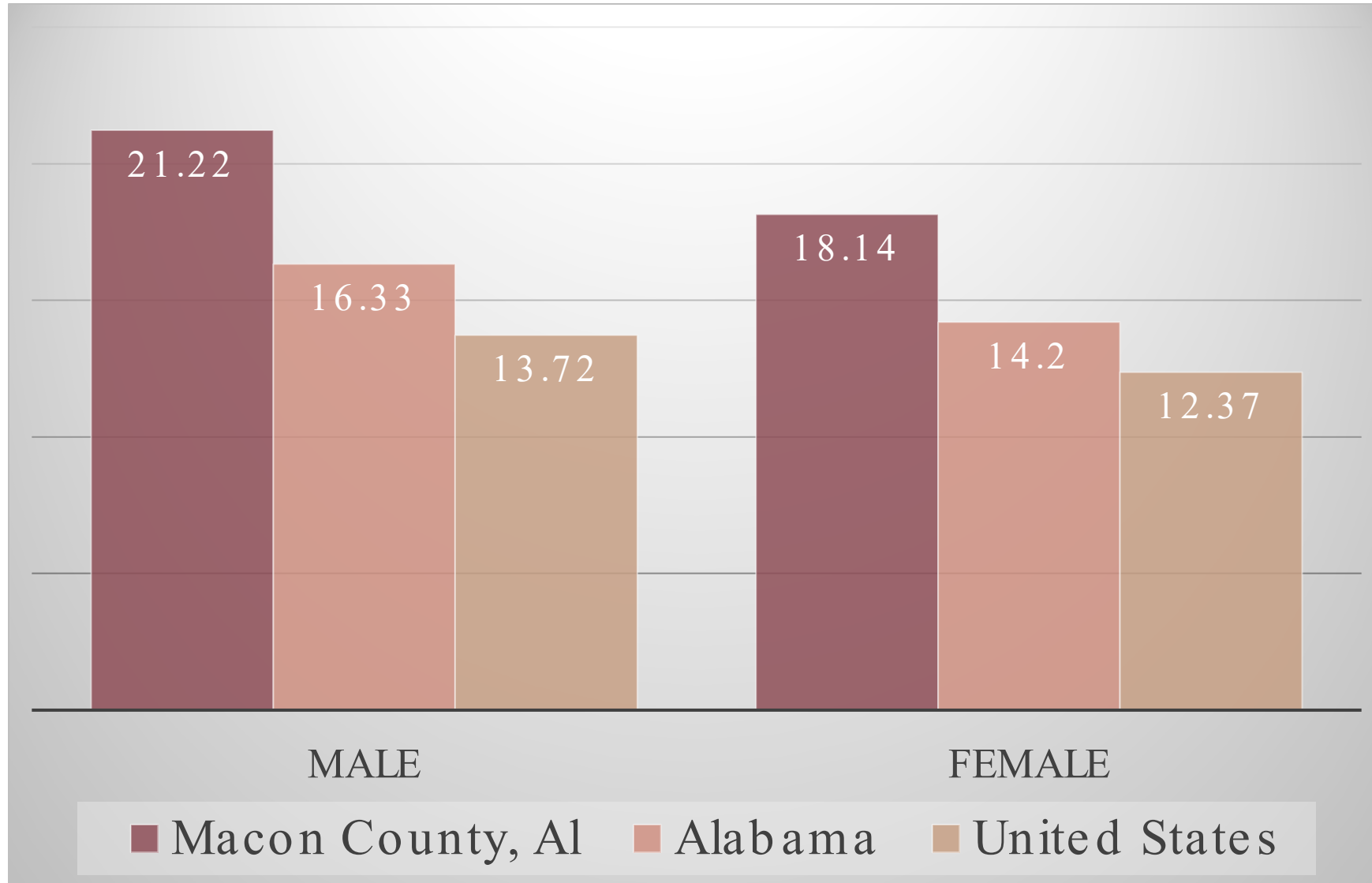
Report Area	Total Population Age 20+	Adults with BMI > 30.0 (Obese)	Percentage of Adults with BMI > 30.0 (Obese)
Macon County	14,893	6,657	44.8%
AL	3,593,587	1,223,286	34%
United States	234,188,203	64,884,915	27.5%

OBESITY PREVALENCE IN MACON COUNTY ALABAMA

Report Area	Total Males Obese	Percentage Males Obese	Total Female Obese	Percentage Female Obese
Macon County	2,569	38.3%	4,088	50.2%
Alabama	572,218	33.28%	651,068	34.69%
United States	32,051,606	27.92%	32,833,321	27.06%

ADULT OBESITY (BMI > 30.0) BY GENDER

Population with No High School Diploma by Gender



Key Strategies for Implementations

- Five key prevention strategies are essential to safe delivery of in-person instruction and help to prevent COVID-19 transmission in schools:
 - Universal and correct use of masks
 - Physical distancing
 - Handwashing and respiratory etiquette
 - Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities
 - Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine



Physical Distancing

- In elementary schools, students should be at least 3 feet apart
- In middle schools and high schools, students should be at least 3 feet apart in areas of low, moderate, or substantial community transmission. In areas of high community transmission, middle and high school students should be 6 feet apart if cohorting is not possible

Cohorting

Cohorting- classes stay together for all subjects

Maintain 6 feet of distance between cohorts where possible

Face desks in the same direction, where possible

Eliminate or decrease nonessential in-person interactions among teachers and staff during meetings, lunches, and other situations that could lead to adult-to-adult transmission.

Limit non-essential visitors, volunteers, and activities

Physical Distancing

Stagger school arrival and drop-off times or locations by cohort

Alternate schedules with fixed cohorts of students and staff to decrease class size and promote physical distancing

Testing & Contact Tracing Essential

Schools should collaborate with the health department, to the extent allowable by privacy laws and other applicable laws, to confidentially provide information about people diagnosed with or exposed to COVID-19

Students, teachers, and staff with positive test results should isolate, and close contacts should quarantine

School officials should notify families of close contacts as soon as possible after they are notified that someone in the school has tested positive (within the same school day)

Phased Prevention

- K–12 schools should be the last settings to close after all other prevention measures in the community have been employed, and the first to reopen when they can do so safely
- In-person instruction should be prioritized over extracurricular activities, including sports and school events, to minimize risk of transmission in schools and protect in-person learning



Phased Prevention

Families of students who are at increased risk of severe illness (including those with special healthcare needs) or who live with people at high risk should be given the option of virtual instruction, regardless of the mode of learning offered

Schools are encouraged to use cohorting



Health equity considerations in phased prevention

Schools that serve student populations that are at greater risk for learning loss during virtual instruction (for example, due to their more limited access to technology) should be prioritized for providing in-person instruction and be provided the needed resources to implement prevention.

Schools should consider prioritizing in-person instruction for students with disabilities who require special education and related services directly provided in school environments, as well as other students who may benefit from receiving essential instruction in a school setting.

Schools should develop plans to continue meal service provision, such as free breakfast and lunch to families for every learning mode, including in-person, hybrid, and virtual.



Prevention Strategies by Level of Community Transmission

Low Transmission ¹ Blue	Moderate Transmission Yellow	Substantial Transmission Orange	High Transmission Red
Elementary Schools Physical distancing: at least 3 feet between students in classrooms		Elementary Schools Physical distancing: at least 3 feet of distance between students in classrooms Cohorting ² recommended when possible	
Middle and High Schools Physical distancing: at least 3 feet between students in classrooms		Middle and High Schools: Physical distancing: at least 3 feet of distance between students in classrooms Cohorting recommended when possible	Middle and High Schools: Schools that can use cohorting: at least 3 feet of distance Schools that cannot use cohorting: at least 6 feet distance between students in classrooms
Sports and extracurricular activities Sports and extracurricular activities occur with at least 6 feet of physical distance to the greatest extent possible ⁶	Sports and extracurricular activities Sports and extracurricular activities occur with at least 6 feet of physical distance required ⁶	Sports and extracurricular activities Sports and extracurricular activities occur only if they can be held outdoors, with more than 6 feet of physical distancing ⁶	