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## Contribution of the Neighborhood Environment and Obesity to Breast Cancer Survival: The California Breast Cancer Survivorship Consortium

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### Abstract

Little is known about neighborhood attributes that may influence opportunities for healthy eating and physical activity in relation to breast cancer mortality. We used data from the California Breast Cancer Survivorship Consortium and the California Neighborhoods Data System to examine the neighborhood environment, body mass index, and mortality after breast cancer. We studied 8,995 African American, Asian American, Latina, and non-Latina White women with breast cancer. Residential addresses were linked to the CNDS to characterize neighborhoods. We used multinomial logistic regression to evaluate the associations between neighborhood factors and obesity, and Cox proportional hazards regression to examine associations between neighborhood factors and mortality. For Latinas, obesity was associated with more neighborhood crowding (Quartile 4 (Q4) vs. Q1: Odds Ratio (OR)=3.24; 95% Confidence Interval (CI): 1.50-7.00); breast cancer-specific mortality was inversely associated with neighborhood businesses (Q4 vs. Q1: Hazard Ratio (HR)=0.46; 95% CI: 0.25-0.85) and positively associated with multi-family housing (Q3 vs. Q1: HR=1.98; 95% CI: 1.20-3.26). For non-Latina Whites, lower neighborhood socioeconomic status (SES) was associated with obesity (Quintile 1 (Q1) vs. Q5: OR=2.52; 95% CI: 1.31-4.84), breast cancer-specific (Q1 vs. Q5: HR=2.75; 95% CI: 1.47-5.12), and all-cause (Q1 vs. Q5: HR=1.75; 95% CI: 1.17-2.62) mortality. For Asian Americans, no associations were seen. For African Americans, lower neighborhood SES was

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associated with lower mortality in a nonlinear fashion. Attributes of the neighborhood environment were associated with obesity and mortality following breast cancer diagnosis, but these associations differed across racial/ethnic groups.

## Keywords

California Breast Cancer Survivorship Consortium; Neighborhood Environment; Body Mass Index; Survival; Mortality

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## Introduction

The obesity epidemic in the United States is a serious health priority for cancer care as an increasing number of cancer patients are obese at diagnosis, and numerous studies among Whites have demonstrated a higher mortality among obese, compared to normal weight, breast cancer patients (1, 2). In a meta-analysis of over 213,000 women with breast cancer, those who were obese (body mass index (BMI)  $>30$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>) or overweight (BMI 25- $<30$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>) were at increased risk of all-cause mortality, regardless of when BMI was ascertained (i.e. before or after diagnosis) (2). Within our racially/ethnically diverse California Breast Cancer Survivorship Consortium (CBCSC), we have demonstrated increased risks of all-cause and breast cancer-specific mortality among morbidly obese (BMI  $> 40$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>) non-Latina Whites and Latinas in comparison to normal weight women (1).

Interest in the relation between the neighborhood environment—social and man-made (“built”) physical attributes of an individual's surroundings (3, 4)—and levels of obesity is growing, as these attributes provide opportunities and/or barriers for healthy eating and physical activity, and may influence health outcomes. By using data on the neighborhood environment from the California Neighborhoods Data System (CNDS) (3) and building on our prior work in the CBCSC (1), we investigated the associations of the neighborhood environment with pre-diagnostic BMI in cross-sectional analyses and breast cancer-specific and all-cause mortality in prospective analyses among a racial/ethnically diverse cohort of breast cancer cases.

## Materials and Methods

### Study Participants

The CBCSC is comprised of six California-based epidemiologic studies of breast cancer etiology/prognosis (5). For this analysis, five studies contributed data, including three case-control studies: the Asian American Breast Cancer Study (AABCS) (6), Women's Contraceptive and Reproductive Experiences study (CARE) (7), and San Francisco Bay Area Breast Cancer Study (SFBCS) (8, 9); and two cohort studies: the California Teachers Study (CTS) (10) and Multiethnic Cohort (MEC) (11). Each study collected cases' data on reproductive, lifestyle, sociodemographic, and other breast cancer risk or prognostic factors, which were harmonized according to common definitions (5). Pre-diagnosis BMI was ascertained closest to the date of breast cancer diagnosis in order to best coincide with the

characterization of the neighborhood environment at the time of diagnosis. Clinicopathologic and treatment factors were obtained from the California Cancer Registry (5). Institutional Review Board approval was received from all participating institutions and from the California Protection for Human Subjects state institutional review board.

We excluded study participants with prior cancer diagnoses ( $n=779$ ), in situ histology ( $n=22$ ), follow-up time  $< 30$  days ( $n=19$ ), incomplete address ( $n=240$ ), and those who were underweight ( $BMI < 18.5 \text{ kg/m}^2$ ;  $n=183$ ) or were missing BMI ( $n=283$ ), leaving 8,995 breast cancer cases for analysis. Vital status and cause of death were ascertained from the California Cancer Registry as of December 31, 2010. Over a median follow-up time of 10.3 years, 1,284 women died of breast cancer among 2,426 total deaths.

### California Neighborhoods Data System

Residential addresses at the time of breast cancer diagnosis were geocoded to latitude and longitude coordinates and linked census and business data of the California Neighborhoods Data Systems (3). Addresses were assigned to 1990 Census block groups (diagnoses 1994-1995) and 2000 Census block groups (diagnoses 1996-2007) to ascertain neighborhood levels of SES (created by principal component analysis of census and American Community Survey data on education, housing, employment, occupation, income, and poverty (12, 13)); population density; urbanicity, commute patterns; household crowding (i.e. housing with  $>1$  occupant per room); proportion of multi-family housing units (i.e. housing structures with 2 or more units, apartment complexes); and were categorized into levels according to the state distribution (Supplemental Tables 1 and 2). Geocodes were also linked to business data to quantify neighborhood attributes of the retail/restaurant food environment; parks; recreational facilities; street connectivity(14) (i.e., gamma index, defined as the ratio of actual number of street segments to maximum possible number of intersections and expressed as the percentage of connectivity); and total businesses within a one mile pedestrian network distance of participant's residence, reflecting a reasonable distance to walk to a destination. Specifically, information on number of businesses was based on business listings derived from Walls & Associates' National Establishment Time-Series Database from 1990-2008 (15). Traffic density using previously described methods (16) was based on traffic counts from the California Department of Transportation (2004) (17) that were within a residential buffer area of a 500 meter radius based on the assumption that traffic close to a subject's residence influences walking/physical activity behaviors. These neighborhood business and traffic-related attributes were categorized according to the study participant distribution (Supplemental Tables 1 and 2). Study methods of these neighborhood data have been described previously (3, 18, 19). The Census block group (an area of approximately 1,500 residents) was considered our neighborhood unit.

### Statistical Analysis

For cross-sectional analysis of the relationship between neighborhood factors and pre-diagnostic BMI, multivariate multinomial regression was conducted to estimate odds ratios (OR) of being overweight ( $BMI=25-29.9$ ) or obese ( $BMI= 30$ ) versus normal weight ( $BMI=18.5-24.9$ ). All multinomial models were stratified on stage and study, and included all neighborhood variables and adjusted for variables listed in Table 1, which showed

significant associations with BMI in unadjusted models. For prospective mortality analyses, multivariable Cox proportional hazard regressions were conducted to estimate hazard ratios (HR) of breast cancer-specific and all-cause mortality. All Cox models included all neighborhood factors and were stratified on stage and study, and adjusted for variables listed in Tables 2 and 3, which showed significant univariate associations with BMI and/or breast cancer-specific and overall mortality, respectively. All models were adjusted for clustering within block groups by applying the sandwich estimator of the covariance structure, which has been shown to account for intracluster dependence and has yielded robust standard error estimates even under model misspecification (20). Multicollinearity in our models was assessed by examining variation inflation factors (VIF). All models met our criteria of non-multicollinearity with  $VIF < 10$ . All P values presented are two-sided. A P value threshold  $< 0.05$  was used to determine statistical significance and no correction was applied for multiple hypothesis testing. Analyses were conducted using SAS (version 9.3, Cary, NC).

## Results

Of the 8,995 breast cancer cases in the CBCSC, 47% were non-Latina White, 20% Latina, 19% African American, and 14% Asian American (Supplemental Table 3). The majority had Stage I (49%) or II (40%), 55% had estrogen receptor (ER+) or progesterone (PR+) positive tumors, 56% had breast conserving surgery, 40% received chemotherapy, and 51% received radiation treatment (Supplemental Table 4). Approximately 27% lived in low SES neighborhoods, 60% lived in suburban neighborhoods, and 21% lived in neighborhoods with  $>3$  parks (Supplemental Table 1).

Overall, living in low versus high SES neighborhoods was associated with higher odds of being overweight ( $p$  trend  $< 0.01$ ) or obese ( $p$  trend = 0.02) (Table 1). Significant SES-BMI associations were seen only among non-Latina Whites, although similar patterns were observed in African Americans. Among all breast cancer cases, living in high versus low household crowding (housing with  $>1$  occupant per room) was associated with an increased odds of obesity ( $p$  trend=0.02). Latinas demonstrated the strongest association between obesity and household crowding ( $p$  trend  $< 0.01$ ), with those living in neighborhoods in the highest versus lowest quartile of household crowding having a 3-fold higher odds of obesity (95% CI: 1.50-7.00). In addition, Latinas living in neighborhoods at the highest versus lowest quartile of street connectivity had an increased odds of obesity (OR=1.77; 95% CI: 1.06-2.95). For non-Latina Whites, living in neighborhoods with a higher proportion of multi-family housing units was associated with a lower odds of being overweight (Q4 vs. Q1 OR=0.72; 95% CI: 0.54-0.95;  $p$  trend  $< 0.01$ ). Living in streets with high connectivity versus low connectivity was associated with a significant increased odds of obesity ( $p$  trend=0.02) in African Americans but there were no other significant BMI-neighborhood associations. No BMI-neighborhood associations were observed among Asian Americans.

Among all breast cancer cases, pre-diagnostic BMI was not associated with breast cancer-specific mortality (Table 2) and was marginally associated with all-cause mortality ( $p$  trend=0.05) (Table 3). For Latinas, those who were morbidly obese (BMI  $> 40$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>) were at increased risks of breast-cancer specific (HR=2.13; 95% CI: 1.10-4.15) and all-cause (HR=2.15; 95% CI: 1.31-3.53) mortality versus normal weight women. Neighborhood-

mortality associations were most notable among Latinas. Latinas living in neighborhoods with a high versus low proportion of multi-family housing units were at increased risks of breast cancer-specific and all-cause mortality. Latinas living in neighborhoods with a high versus low number of businesses had a lower risk of breast cancer-specific mortality (HR=0.46; 95% CI: 0.25-0.85), while those living in neighborhoods with >1 park were at greater risk of breast cancer-specific mortality versus those living in neighborhoods with no parks (p trend=0.03).

Neighborhood SES was associated with mortality among non-Latina Whites and African Americans, but in opposite directions (Tables 2 and 3). Non-Latina Whites living in low versus high SES neighborhoods were at increased risk of breast cancer-specific (Q1 vs. Q5: HR=2.75; 95% CI: 1.47-5.12; p trend< 0.01) and all-cause (Q1 vs. Q5: HR=1.75; 95% CI: 1.17-2.62; p trend=0.01) mortality. Conversely, African Americans living in SES neighborhoods (Q1 to Q4) had decreased risks of breast cancer-specific and all-cause mortality versus those living in the highest SES (Q5) neighborhood, but these relationships were not linear. Because of the differing proportions of non-Latina Whites and African Americans in the higher SES groups (Q4 & Q5=70.2% and 24.5%, respectively), we examined SES and mortality associations using race/ethnicity specific cut-points and found similar mortality associations between the lowest vs. highest levels of SES in comparison to using the state-wide cut-points (data not shown). For Asian Americans, no neighborhood-mortality associations were observed.

## Discussion

Our central aim of this large consortium study was to examine breast cancer mortality in relation to obesity and specific attributes of the neighborhood environment potentially related to obesity across diverse racial/ethnic groups. In cross-sectional analysis, we identified that greater household crowding and more street connectivity (among Latinas), and low neighborhood SES and less multi-family housing (among non-Latina Whites) were important risk factors for obesity. In addition, low neighborhood SES (among non-Latina Whites) and high multi-family housing neighborhoods (among Latinas) were associated with higher mortality in a prospective analysis; and lower neighborhood SES (among African Americans) and greater number of businesses (among Latinas) were associated with lower mortality. To our knowledge, this is one of the first studies to evaluate a comprehensive suite of neighborhood attributes and their associations with breast cancer mortality across multiple racial/ethnic groups.

In a previous pooled analysis (18) of 4,345 breast cancer cases from the San Francisco Bay Area that included SFBCS participants (21, 22), lower neighborhood SES was associated with higher overall mortality. Our findings confirm the inverse association between SES and mortality reported by Keegan et al. (18) and others (23-28) that have largely focused on Whites and examined SES alone and no other neighborhood attributes. Furthermore, we identified heterogenous effects by race/ethnicity for the associations of neighborhood SES with overall mortality (p interaction<0.01) as evidenced by the higher risk of mortality with increasing SES for non-Latina Whites and the lack of clear associations in other racial/ethnic groups. In addition, we did not observe an association between the number of neighborhood



using Census boundaries does allow us to efficiently examine a number of social and built environment factors across a large number of geographic units that would have been costly to obtain through other sources (e.g., self-report, neighborhood audits); moreover, it is plausible that the attributes of census boundaries may highly correlate with perceived neighborhoods (51). In addition, we were unable to account for neighborhood disorder, safety, and deterioration (52), factors that could influence the associations that we observed (e.g., higher odds of obesity among Latinas and African Americans residing in neighborhoods with more connected streets). We tested *a priori* selected neighborhood factors and because no validated cumulative index of street connectivity exists for California, we were unable to examine such an index, which that may better capture physical activity environments. Lastly, we did not adjust for multiple testing and recognize that some of our findings may be due to chance. Future research should incorporate these elements when evaluating factors underlying the neighborhood associations with obesity and mortality. Such insight is important for identifying interventions to improve survival outcomes for breast cancer patients across all racial/ethnic populations.

## Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

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	All n=8995						African Americans n=1719						Asian Americans n=1234					
	Overweight vs. Normal Weight		Obese vs. Normal Weight		Overweight vs. Normal Weight		Obese vs. Normal Weight		Overweight vs. Normal Weight		Obese vs. Normal Weight		Overweight vs. Normal Weight		Obese vs. Normal Weight			
	OR <sup>a</sup>	95% CI	OR <sup>a</sup>	95% CI	OR <sup>a</sup>	95% CI	OR <sup>a</sup>	95% CI	OR <sup>a</sup>	95% CI	OR <sup>a</sup>	95% CI	OR <sup>a</sup>	95% CI	OR <sup>a</sup>	95% CI		
	0.97	(0.80-1.16)	1.10	(0.89-1.38)	1.22	(0.72-2.05)	1.71	(0.97-3.01)	0.67	(0.37-1.22)	0.74	(0.30-1.82)						
Q4-high %																		
p trend		0.32		0.69		0.89		0.07		0.33		0.14						
Household crowding <sup>c,d</sup>																		
Q1-low	1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00			
Q2	1.10	(0.95-1.28)	1.20	(0.98-1.46)	0.72	(0.43-1.21)	0.65	(0.37-1.16)	1.49	(0.87-2.53)	2.98	(0.86-10.35)						
Q3	1.06	(0.88-1.29)	<b>1.35</b>	<b>(1.06-1.72)</b>	0.61	(0.35-1.07)	0.72	(0.39-1.32)	1.30	(0.70-2.38)	1.98	(0.51-7.66)						
Q4-high	1.24	(0.94-1.63)	<b>1.54</b>	<b>(1.10-2.16)</b>	0.57	(0.28-1.17)	0.63	(0.29-1.37)	2.17	(0.98-4.80)	3.67	(0.73-18.42)						
p trend		0.41		<b>0.02</b>		0.07		0.22		0.12		0.16						
% Multi-family housing units <sup>c,e</sup>																		
Q1-low %	1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00			
Q2	0.95	(0.82-1.10)	0.87	(0.72-1.05)	1.10	(0.69-1.73)	1.02	(0.63-1.66)	0.97	(0.62-1.51)	0.88	(0.41-1.90)						
Q3	<b>0.80</b>	<b>(0.68-0.95)</b>	0.89	(0.73-1.08)	0.89	(0.56-1.42)	1.02	(0.63-1.66)	0.66	(0.41-1.07)	1.14	(0.52-2.50)						
Q4-high %	0.89	(0.74-1.07)	0.92	(0.74-1.15)	1.29	(0.78-2.11)	1.35	(0.80-2.26)	0.91	(0.52-1.60)	0.83	(0.31-2.21)						
p trend		<b>0.04</b>		0.39		0.64		0.44		0.21		0.47						
Street connectivity: Gamma <sup>f,h</sup>																		
Q1-low connectivity	1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00			
Q2	1.00	(0.86-1.16)	1.04	(0.86-1.27)	0.87	(0.52-1.45)	0.87	(0.49-1.53)	1.03	(0.65-1.62)	1.14	(0.56-2.29)						
Q3	0.90	(0.77-1.07)	1.11	(0.90-1.37)	0.99	(0.59-1.67)	1.57	(0.88-2.80)	1.03	(0.64-1.65)	0.68	(0.31-1.51)						
Q4-high connectivity	0.98	(0.81-1.19)	1.19	(0.94-1.50)	1.04	(0.61-1.77)	1.59	(0.88-2.87)	1.36	(0.79-2.33)	0.99	(0.37-2.63)						
p trend		0.66		0.28		0.50		<b>0.02</b>		0.17		0.68						
Number of businesses <sup>h</sup>																		
Q1-low	1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00			
Q2	0.94	(0.79-1.12)	0.97	(0.78-1.22)	0.74	(0.43-1.29)	0.97	(0.50-1.89)	0.93	(0.53-1.65)	0.79	(0.30-2.10)						
Q3	1.01	(0.83-1.24)	1.07	(0.83-1.38)	0.87	(0.48-1.55)	1.08	(0.54-2.16)	0.95	(0.51-1.78)	0.99	(0.33-2.92)						
Q4-high	0.86	(0.68-1.08)	<b>0.74</b>	<b>(0.56-0.99)</b>	0.66	(0.35-1.27)	0.68	(0.32-1.45)	1.01	(0.50-2.04)	0.61	(0.17-2.19)						
p trend		0.55		0.07		0.37		0.13		0.91		0.31						

	All n=8995				African Americans n=1719				Asian Americans n=1234			
	Overweight vs. Normal Weight		Obese vs. Normal Weight		Overweight vs. Normal Weight		Obese vs. Normal Weight		Overweight vs. Normal Weight		Obese vs. Normal Weight	
	OR <sup>d</sup>	95% CI	OR <sup>d</sup>	95% CI	OR <sup>d</sup>	95% CI	OR <sup>d</sup>	95% CI	OR <sup>d</sup>	95% CI	OR <sup>d</sup>	95% CI
Restaurant environment index <sup>g,h</sup>	1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00	
	1.11	(0.94-1.32)	1.05	(0.85-1.29)	1.13	(0.67-1.89)	0.96	(0.55-1.67)	0.85	(0.52-1.42)	0.95	(0.36-2.51)
<median	1.07	(0.92-1.25)	1.07	(0.88-1.30)	1.27	(0.79-2.06)	0.97	(0.58-1.63)	0.90	(0.55-1.46)	1.38	(0.58-3.28)
>median	0.97	(0.78-1.21)	0.99	(0.74-1.32)	1.45	(0.60-3.49)	1.26	(0.51-3.14)	0.77	(0.34-1.72)	0.63	(0.13-3.02)
No Business												
p trend		0.42		0.15		0.28		0.92		0.55		0.10
Number of parks <sup>h</sup>	1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00	
0	<b>0.86</b>	<b>(0.75-0.99)</b>	0.97	(0.82-1.15)	1.00	(0.69-1.47)	0.89	(0.60-1.33)	0.84	(0.57-1.24)	1.67	(0.76-3.67)
1	0.98	(0.84-1.14)	0.99	(0.82-1.19)	1.19	(0.79-1.80)	0.85	(0.55-1.32)	0.91	(0.59-1.40)	2.17	(0.91-5.19)
2	0.97	(0.83-1.15)	1.08	(0.89-1.31)	1.18	(0.77-1.81)	1.10	(0.70-1.73)	0.70	(0.42-1.17)	1.44	(0.55-3.80)
3												
p trend		0.76		0.32		0.31		0.65		0.21		0.27
Socioeconomic status <sup>b,c</sup>	1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00	
Q5-high	1.44	(0.97-2.14)	1.02	(0.65-1.62)	<b>1.44</b>	<b>(1.18-1.77)</b>	<b>1.43</b>	<b>(1.09-1.88)</b>				
Q4	1.17	(0.73-1.86)	0.74	(0.44-1.25)	<b>1.77</b>	<b>(1.36-2.31)</b>	<b>1.73</b>	<b>(1.23-2.44)</b>				
Q3	1.16	(0.66-2.04)	0.97	(0.54-1.76)	<b>1.49</b>	<b>(1.05-2.13)</b>	<b>1.69</b>	<b>(1.08-2.65)</b>				
Q2	1.21	(0.60-2.45)	0.78	(0.37-1.65)	<b>2.50</b>	<b>(1.49-4.18)</b>	<b>2.52</b>	<b>(1.31-4.84)</b>				
Q1-low												
p trend		0.96		0.69		<0.01		<0.01		<0.01		
Population density <sup>c</sup>	1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00	
Q1-low	1.17	(0.70-1.98)	0.87	(0.50-1.51)	1.01	(0.82-1.26)	1.19	(0.88-1.62)				
Q2	1.28	(0.75-2.17)	0.89	(0.51-1.56)	0.90	(0.69-1.17)	1.25	(0.88-1.79)				
Q3	1.25	(0.67-2.35)	0.92	(0.47-1.79)	1.06	(0.69-1.62)	1.59	(0.94-2.67)				
Q4-high												
p trend		0.55		0.97		0.87		0.06		0.06		
Urbanicity <sup>c</sup>	1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00	
metropolitan suburban	0.92	(0.57-1.47)	1.01	(0.62-1.65)	0.86	(0.56-1.32)	0.79	(0.48-1.30)				
metropolitan urban	1.03	(0.64-1.66)	1.25	(0.74-2.10)	1.00	(0.82-1.22)	0.99	(0.76-1.28)				
city												

	All n=8995						African Americans n=1719						Asian Americans n=1234					
	Overweight vs. Normal Weight		Obese vs. Normal Weight		Overweight vs. Normal Weight		Obese vs. Normal Weight		Overweight vs. Normal Weight		Obese vs. Normal Weight		Overweight vs. Normal Weight		Obese vs. Normal Weight			
	OR <sup>d</sup>	95% CI	OR <sup>d</sup>	95% CI	OR <sup>d</sup>	95% CI	OR <sup>d</sup>	95% CI	OR <sup>d</sup>	95% CI	OR <sup>d</sup>	95% CI	OR <sup>d</sup>	95% CI	OR <sup>d</sup>	95% CI		
	--	(0.18-2.57)	1.69	(0.56-5.13)	1.16	(0.37-3.67)	1.27	(0.82-1.98)	1.11	(0.59-2.07)								
town																		
rural	0.68	(0.18-2.57)	1.69	(0.56-5.13)	1.16	(0.37-3.67)	1.27	(0.82-1.98)	1.11	(0.59-2.07)								
% Foreign Born <sup>c</sup>	1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00									
Q1-low %	1.11	(0.67-1.86)	<b>1.88</b>	<b>(1.06-3.34)</b>	<b>1.24</b>	<b>(1.03-1.50)</b>	<b>1.24</b>	<b>(1.03-1.50)</b>	0.95	(0.74-1.23)								
Q2	0.85	(0.49-1.47)	1.46	(0.78-2.75)	1.46	(0.78-2.75)	1.14	(0.90-1.44)	0.97	(0.70-1.35)								
Q3	0.89	(0.48-1.66)	1.10	(0.55-2.19)	1.10	(0.55-2.19)	1.18	(0.82-1.69)	1.00	(0.63-1.57)								
Q4-high %																		
p trend	0.76		0.30		0.30		0.26		0.90									
% Commuting by public transportation/walk/bike <sup>c</sup>	1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00									
Q1-low %	1.19	(0.75-1.89)	0.83	(0.52-1.34)	0.83	(0.52-1.34)	1.04	(0.86-1.25)	1.22	(0.95-1.56)								
Q2	0.88	(0.55-1.41)	0.74	(0.46-1.20)	0.74	(0.46-1.20)	0.91	(0.74-1.13)	0.98	(0.74-1.28)								
Q3	1.11	(0.66-1.86)	0.77	(0.45-1.32)	0.77	(0.45-1.32)	0.89	(0.68-1.17)	1.12	(0.80-1.58)								
Q4-high %																		
p trend	0.82		0.42		0.42		0.37		0.99									
Household crowding <sup>c,d</sup>	1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00									
Q1-low	<b>1.81</b>	<b>(1.12-2.92)</b>	<b>1.97</b>	<b>(1.13-3.42)</b>	<b>1.97</b>	<b>(1.13-3.42)</b>	1.02	(0.84-1.23)	1.14	(0.88-1.48)								
Q2	1.66	(0.96-2.87)	<b>1.93</b>	<b>(1.02-3.65)</b>	<b>1.93</b>	<b>(1.02-3.65)</b>	1.04	(0.79-1.37)	<b>1.45</b>	<b>(1.02-2.05)</b>								
Q3	<b>2.16</b>	<b>(1.08-4.31)</b>	<b>3.24</b>	<b>(1.50-7.00)</b>	<b>3.24</b>	<b>(1.50-7.00)</b>	1.07	(0.68-1.67)	1.09	(0.61-1.95)								
Q4-high																		
p trend	0.06		<0.01		<0.01		0.70		0.39									
% Multi-family housing units <sup>c,e</sup>	1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00									
Q1-low %	1.16	(0.80-1.69)	1.01	(0.67-1.52)	1.01	(0.67-1.52)	0.88	(0.72-1.08)	0.86	(0.66-1.12)								
Q2	1.14	(0.75-1.71)	1.32	(0.86-2.04)	1.32	(0.86-2.04)	<b>0.79</b>	<b>(0.63-0.99)</b>	<b>0.68</b>	<b>(0.50-0.91)</b>								
Q3	1.14	(0.72-1.79)	1.16	(0.71-1.89)	1.16	(0.71-1.89)	<b>0.72</b>	<b>(0.54-0.95)</b>	0.77	(0.54-1.10)								
Q4-high %																		
p trend	0.38		0.21		0.21		<0.01		<b>0.03</b>									
Street connectivity: Gamma/h	1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00									
Q1-low connectivity	1.07	(0.73-1.58)	1.30	(0.84-2.00)	1.30	(0.84-2.00)	0.99	(0.81-1.20)	0.97	(0.74-1.27)								
Q2																		

	All n=8995				African Americans n=1719				Asian Americans n=1234			
	Overweight vs. Normal Weight		Obese vs. Normal Weight		Overweight vs. Normal Weight		Obese vs. Normal Weight		Overweight vs. Normal Weight		Obese vs. Normal Weight	
	OR <sup>a</sup>	95% CI	OR <sup>a</sup>	95% CI	OR <sup>a</sup>	95% CI	OR <sup>a</sup>	95% CI	OR <sup>a</sup>	95% CI	OR <sup>a</sup>	95% CI
Q3	1.05	(0.70-1.59)	1.33	(0.84-2.11)	0.82	(0.65-1.03)	1.06	(0.79-1.44)				
Q4-high connectivity	1.17	(0.72-1.89)	<b>1.77</b>	<b>(1.06-2.95)</b>	0.78	(0.59-1.04)	0.86	(0.60-1.25)				
p trend	0.38		<b>0.03</b>		<b>0.03</b>		0.17					
Number of businesses <sup>h</sup>	1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00					
Q1-low	0.95	(0.61-1.49)	1.08	(0.66-1.76)	1.01	(0.80-1.28)	0.90	(0.66-1.24)				
Q2	0.88	(0.54-1.45)	0.97	(0.56-1.69)	1.12	(0.84-1.49)	1.10	(0.76-1.58)				
Q3	0.69	(0.38-1.25)	0.79	(0.42-1.49)	0.94	(0.67-1.32)	<b>0.61</b>	<b>(0.39-0.96)</b>				
Q4-high	0.51		0.31		0.90		0.44					
p trend	0.57		0.20		0.81		0.59					
only non-fast food restaurants	1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00					
Restaurant environment index <sup>g/h</sup>	<b>1.71</b>	<b>(1.12-2.60)</b>	1.21	(0.77-1.89)	1.07	(0.84-1.37)	1.17	(0.85-1.60)				
<median	1.28	(0.85-1.91)	1.24	(0.81-1.91)	1.02	(0.82-1.26)	1.01	(0.76-1.33)				
>median	1.43	(0.71-2.89)	1.02	(0.48-2.18)	0.88	(0.68-1.14)	1.06	(0.73-1.54)				
No Business	0.82		0.60		0.26		0.78					
p trend	0.82		0.60		0.26		0.78					
Number of parks <sup>h</sup>	1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00					
0	0.98	(0.67-1.42)	1.05	(0.70-1.56)	<b>0.81</b>	<b>(0.66-0.99)</b>	0.98	(0.75-1.27)				
1	1.16	(0.77-1.73)	1.01	(0.65-1.55)	0.89	(0.71-1.12)	1.06	(0.80-1.42)				
2	0.84	(0.55-1.27)	1.07	(0.69-1.65)	1.12	(0.88-1.41)	1.00	(0.73-1.37)				
3	0.82		0.60		0.26		0.78					
p trend	0.82		0.60		0.26		0.78					

<sup>a</sup> Stratified by stage (AJCC) and study (AABCS, CARE, CTS, MEC, SFBCS). Adjusted for age, log (age), year of diagnosis, block group clustering, education, number of births, smoking status, alcohol consumption, hypertension, diabetes. Analysis for all groups combined also adjusted for race/ethnicity

<sup>b</sup> Based on SES composite index of seven indicator variables for Census block groups (Liu education index, proportion blue collar job, proportion older than age 16 in the workforce without a job, median household income, percent below 200% of federal poverty line, median rent, median house value)

<sup>c</sup> U.S. census data; categories based on CA state-wide distribution

<sup>d</sup> Percent occupied housing with 1 occupant per room

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Percent of housing structures with  $\geq 2$  units  
 $f_j$  Ratio of actual number of street segments to maximum possible number of intersections  
 $g_j$  Ratio of the number of fast food restaurants to non-fast food restaurants  
 $h_j$  Business or traffic data; categories based on study participant distribution



**Table 2**  
**Association between pre-diagnosis BMI, the neighborhood environment, and breast cancer-specific mortality, California Breast Cancer Survivorship Consortium**

	All n=8995		African Americans n=1719		Asian Americans n=1234		Latinas n=1754		Non-Latina Whites n=4234	
	Deaths (n)	HR <sup>a</sup> 95% CI	HR <sup>a</sup> 95% CI	HR <sup>a</sup> 95% CI	HR <sup>a</sup> 95% CI	HR <sup>a</sup> 95% CI	HR <sup>a</sup> 95% CI	HR <sup>a</sup> 95% CI		
BMI (m/kg <sup>2</sup> )										
Normal weight	548	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Overweight	393	1.04 (0.90-1.19)	0.79 (0.60-1.05)	1.44 (0.93-2.22)	0.99 (0.68-1.44)	1.09 (0.86-1.37)				
Obese	213	1.08 (0.90-1.29)	0.83 (0.60-1.14)	1.96 (0.96-3.98)	1.06 (0.69-1.64)	1.21 (0.87-1.69)				
Severely obese	75	1.06 (0.81-1.37)	0.87 (0.56-1.37)	--	0.88 (0.45-1.71)	1.37 (0.86-2.19)				
Morbidly obese	55	1.22 (0.89-1.68)	1.00 (0.61-1.64)	--	<b>2.13 (1.10-4.15)</b>	0.94 (0.46-1.92)				
p trend		0.21	0.66	0.15	0.23	0.24				
Socioeconomic status <sup>b,c</sup>										
Q5-high	308	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Q4	267	0.95 (0.79-1.14)	<b>0.59 (0.37-0.93)</b>	0.66 (0.36-1.22)	0.79 (0.48-1.30)	1.19 (0.91-1.56)				
Q3	247	1.00 (0.81-1.24)	0.69 (0.43-1.11)	0.85 (0.38-1.86)	1.11 (0.64-1.93)	1.19 (0.85-1.68)				
Q2	251	1.14 (0.89-1.46)	0.73 (0.45-1.20)	0.93 (0.38-2.27)	0.76 (0.40-1.42)	<b>1.73 (1.12-2.67)</b>				
Q1-low	210	1.19 (0.87-1.62)	0.65 (0.37-1.13)	1.20 (0.41-3.53)	1.16 (0.54-2.52)	<b>2.75 (1.47-5.12)</b>				
p trend		0.10	0.91	0.90	0.96	< <b>0.01</b>				
Household crowding <sup>c,d</sup>										
Q1-low	272	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Q2	269	0.89 (0.74-1.07)	0.59 (0.38-0.92)	0.72 (0.36-1.43)	0.86 (0.45-1.65)	0.96 (0.75-1.24)				
Q3	345	0.99 (0.81-1.22)	0.87 (0.57-1.32)	1.10 (0.54-2.26)	1.17 (0.62-2.21)	0.76 (0.55-1.05)				
Q4-high	397	0.90 (0.70-1.17)	0.82 (0.50-1.34)	0.62 (0.25-1.54)	0.93 (0.45-1.92)	0.73 (0.45-1.18)				
p trend		0.67	0.90	0.82	0.96	0.10				
% Multi-family housing units <sup>c,e</sup>										
Q1-low %	274	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Q2	310	1.19 (1.00-1.42)	1.10 (0.73-1.64)	1.08 (0.61-1.90)	<b>1.91 (1.17-3.10)</b>	1.00 (0.77-1.30)				
Q3	343	1.13 (0.94-1.37)	1.27 (0.85-1.89)	0.69 (0.36-1.33)	<b>1.98 (1.20-3.26)</b>	0.79 (0.58-1.07)				
Q4-high %	356	1.08 (0.89-1.32)	1.07 (0.71-1.63)	1.34 (0.69-2.58)	1.67 (0.96-2.88)	0.90 (0.64-1.26)				
p trend		0.87	0.98	0.88	0.14	0.16				
Street connectivity: Gamma <sup>f,g</sup>										
Q1-low %	276	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

	Deaths (n)	All n=8995		African Americans n=1719		Asian Americans n=1234		Latinas n=1754		Non-Latina Whites n=4234	
		HR <sup>a</sup>	95% CI	HR <sup>a</sup>	95% CI	HR <sup>a</sup>	95% CI	HR <sup>a</sup>	95% CI	HR <sup>a</sup>	95% CI
Q2	284	0.87	(0.73-1.05)	0.89	(0.56-1.41)	1.36	(0.76-2.45)	0.82	(0.50-1.35)	0.77	(0.59-0.99)
Q3	339	0.91	(0.75-1.10)	0.86	(0.54-1.35)	1.75	(0.92-3.35)	1.01	(0.61-1.65)	0.76	(0.56-1.03)
Q4-high %	385	0.95	(0.77-1.17)	0.87	(0.55-1.39)	1.30	(0.65-2.61)	1.53	(0.88-2.66)	0.76	(0.54-1.08)
p trend			0.77		0.74		0.48		0.05		0.12
Number of businesses <sup>g</sup>	277	1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00	
Q2	323	1.01	(0.84-1.21)	0.95	(0.61-1.49)	1.27	(0.68-2.38)	0.68	(0.42-1.12)	1.04	(0.80-1.36)
Q3	369	1.07	(0.88-1.30)	1.28	(0.81-2.01)	0.91	(0.47-1.76)	0.55	(0.32-0.96)	1.19	(0.87-1.63)
Q4-high	314	0.97	(0.77-1.22)	1.18	(0.72-1.95)	0.54	(0.25-1.16)	0.46	(0.25-0.85)	1.09	(0.73-1.61)
p trend			0.82		0.27		0.10		0.04		0.39
Number of parks <sup>g</sup>	337	1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00	
1	398	1.01	(0.86-1.18)	1.10	(0.81-1.50)	0.79	(0.49-1.28)	1.66	(1.01-2.73)	1.01	(0.78-1.30)
2	284	1.07	(0.90-1.28)	1.15	(0.82-1.60)	0.96	(0.56-1.64)	1.75	(1.05-2.90)	0.99	(0.73-1.36)
3	264	0.97	(0.80-1.16)	0.98	(0.69-1.40)	0.70	(0.36-1.37)	2.02	(1.19-3.43)	0.92	(0.67-1.26)
p trend			0.90		0.87		0.44		0.03		0.60

<sup>a</sup> Stratified by age (AJCC) and study (AABCS, CARE, CTS, MEC, SFBACS). Adjusted for age, log (age), year of diagnosis, histology, grade, ER/PR status, nodal involvement, tumor size, second primary tumor, multiple primary tumor, days from diagnosis of index tumor to secondary primary diagnosis, days from diagnosis of index tumor to multiple primary tumor, surgery type, chemotherapy, radiation, clustering by block group, education, parity, smoking, alcohol consumption, hypertension, diabetes. Analysis for all groups combined also adjusted for race/ethnicity

<sup>b</sup> Based on SES composite index of seven indicator variables for Census block groups (Lin education index, proportion blue collar job, proportion older than age 16 in the workforce without a job, median household income, percent below 200% of federal poverty line, median rent, median house value).

<sup>c</sup> U.S. census data; categories based on CA state-wide distribution

<sup>d</sup> Percent occupied housing with 1 occupant per room

<sup>e</sup> Percent of housing structures with 2 units

<sup>f</sup> Ratio of actual number of street segments to maximum possible number of intersections

<sup>g</sup> Business or traffic data; categories based on study participant distribution

**Table 3**  
**Association between pre-diagnosis BMI, the neighborhood environment, and all cause mortality, California Breast Cancer Survivorship Consortium**

	All n=8995		African Americans n=1719		Asian Americans n=1234		Latinas n=1754		Non-Latina Whites n=4234	
	Deaths (n)	HR <sup>a</sup> 95% CI	HR <sup>a</sup> 95% CI	HR <sup>a</sup> 95% CI	HR <sup>a</sup> 95% CI	HR <sup>a</sup> 95% CI	HR <sup>a</sup> 95% CI	HR <sup>a</sup> 95% CI	HR <sup>a</sup> 95% CI	
BMI (m/kg <sup>2</sup> )										
Normal weight	1008	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Overweight	753	1.01 (0.91-1.12)	0.87 (0.7-1.07)	1.23 (0.88-1.71)	1.00 (0.75-1.33)	1.01 (0.87-1.17)				
Obese	419	1.07 (0.94-1.22)	0.81 (0.64-1.04)	1.45 (0.84-2.48)	1.20 (0.88-1.65)	1.18 (0.96-1.46)				
Severely obese	150	1.12 (0.93-1.35)	0.86 (0.62-1.2)	--	1.33 (0.86-2.06)	<b>1.41 (1.02-1.94)</b>				
Morbidly obese	96	1.24 (0.98-1.57)	1.04 (0.72-1.5)	--	<b>2.15 (1.31-3.53)</b>	1.06 (0.64-1.76)				
p trend		<b>0.05</b>	0.42	0.42	<0.01	<b>0.05</b>				
Socioeconomic status <sup>b,c</sup>										
Q5-high	584	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Q4	501	0.95 (0.83-1.08)	<b>0.54 (0.38-0.77)</b>	0.87 (0.53-1.43)	0.90 (0.62-1.31)	1.05 (0.88-1.26)				
Q3	490	1.08 (0.93-1.26)	0.72 (0.50-1.03)	1.16 (0.63-2.14)	1.30 (0.86-1.96)	1.13 (0.91-1.40)				
Q2	472	1.12 (0.94-1.34)	<b>0.66 (0.45-0.95)</b>	0.87 (0.42-1.78)	0.92 (0.57-1.48)	<b>1.42 (1.07-1.87)</b>				
Q1-low	376	1.11 (0.89-1.38)	<b>0.58 (0.38-0.89)</b>	1.11 (0.48-2.58)	1.07 (0.61-1.90)	<b>1.75 (1.17-2.62)</b>				
p trend		0.16	0.27	0.78	0.71	<b>0.01</b>				
Household crowding <sup>c,d</sup>										
Q1-low	516	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Q2	535	1.03 (0.90-1.17)	0.82 (0.58-1.15)	1.20 (0.68-2.09)	0.98 (0.61-1.57)	1.07 (0.91-1.27)				
Q3	646	1.11 (0.96-1.29)	1.09 (0.78-1.51)	1.45 (0.80-2.63)	0.98 (0.61-1.58)	1.03 (0.84-1.27)				
Q4-high	726	1.04 (0.87-1.25)	1.03 (0.71-1.49)	1.12 (0.55-2.30)	0.96 (0.57-1.62)	0.89 (0.66-1.21)				
p trend		0.41	0.52	0.39	0.78	0.86				
% Multi-family housing units <sup>c,e</sup>										
Q1-low %	490	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Q2	573	1.12 (0.98-1.27)	1.00 (0.74-1.35)	1.16 (0.74-1.81)	<b>1.62 (1.15-2.28)</b>	1.04 (0.87-1.25)				
Q3	650	1.09 (0.95-1.25)	1.22 (0.91-1.65)	0.87 (0.53-1.42)	<b>1.47 (1.03-2.09)</b>	0.90 (0.74-1.11)				
Q4-high %	710	1.12 (0.97-1.3)	1.15 (0.85-1.56)	1.12 (0.66-1.91)	1.39 (0.94-2.04)	1.02 (0.82-1.27)				
p trend		0.25	0.28	0.92	0.28	0.62				
Street connectivity: Gamma <sup>f,g</sup>										
Q1-low %	505	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

	Deaths (n)	All n=8995		African Americans n=1719		Asian Americans n=1234		Latinas n=1754		Non-Latina Whites n=4234	
		HR <sup>a</sup>	95% CI	HR <sup>a</sup>	95% CI	HR <sup>a</sup>	95% CI	HR <sup>a</sup>	95% CI	HR <sup>a</sup>	95% CI
Q2	587	0.98	(0.87-1.12)	1.06	(0.75-1.52)	1.32	(0.84-2.09)	1.08	(0.76-1.56)	0.92	(0.78-1.09)
Q3	610	0.93	(0.81-1.06)	1.05	(0.74-1.49)	1.45	(0.88-2.39)	0.95	(0.66-1.37)	<b>0.80</b>	<b>(0.65-0.97)</b>
Q4-high %	723	1.03	(0.89-1.19)	1.08	(0.76-1.53)	1.18	(0.68-2.03)	1.42	(0.95-2.14)	0.91	(0.73-1.14)
p trend			0.86		0.70		0.41		0.13		0.21
Number of businesses <sup>g</sup>	519	1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00	
Q2	614	1.01	(0.89-1.15)	0.91	(0.65-1.28)	1.09	(0.66-1.79)	0.84	(0.59-1.21)	1.06	(0.88-1.26)
Q3	679	1.02	(0.89-1.18)	1.00	(0.71-1.41)	0.98	(0.58-1.66)	0.83	(0.56-1.24)	1.12	(0.91-1.37)
Q4-high	611	0.93	(0.79-1.09)	1.00	(0.69-1.46)	0.61	(0.34-1.1)	0.70	(0.44-1.09)	0.99	(0.77-1.27)
p trend			0.38		0.67		0.05		0.20		0.73
Number of parks <sup>g</sup>	617	1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00	
1	734	1.00	(0.9-1.13)	1.07	(0.84-1.35)	0.74	(0.51-1.08)	1.27	(0.90-1.80)	1.02	(0.86-1.21)
2	537	1.05	(0.92-1.19)	1.11	(0.86-1.44)	0.87	(0.58-1.32)	1.30	(0.91-1.85)	1.05	(0.86-1.28)
3	535	1.03	(0.90-1.17)	1.19	(0.91-1.55)	0.76	(0.46-1.25)	1.26	(0.86-1.85)	0.99	(0.81-1.22)
p trend			0.55		0.27		0.31		0.33		0.95

<sup>a</sup> Stratified by age (AJCC) and study (AABCS, CARE, CTS, MEC, SFBACS). Adjusted for age, log (age), year of diagnosis, histology, grade, ER/PR status, nodal involvement, tumor size, second primary tumor, multiple primary tumor, days from diagnosis of index tumor to secondary primary diagnosis, days from diagnosis of index tumor to multiple primary tumor, surgery type, chemotherapy, radiation, clustering by block group, education, parity, smoking, alcohol consumption, hypertension, diabetes. Analysis for all groups combined also adjusted for race/ethnicity

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