# Obesity's Impact on West Virginia's Economy and Workforce in 2023



#### **REDUCED ECONOMIC ACTIVITY BY \$2.8B**

74% of adults have obesity or overweight



\$1B in higher healthcare, absenteeism, and disability costs to employers



\$354M detrimental state budget impact



### **COST OF OBESITY ON WEST VIRGINIANS**



Reduced Labor Force Participation

23,500 fewer adults with obesity working



Reduced Earnings for Employed Women

Women with obesity earn 9% less than women with healthy weight



Obesity-Attributed Early Mortality

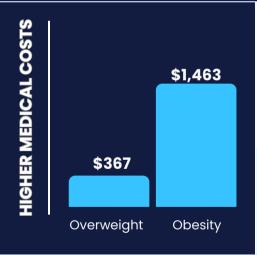
4,700 premature deaths occur annually



Higher Medical Costs

\$196M spending by households

#### COST OF OBESITY ON EMPLOYERS



**\$295M** in higher healthcare costs to employers



**\$752M** in health-related lost workdays and disability



2.9% reduction in West Virginia's Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

5%-25% weight loss among adults age <65 over 10 years has potential to save \$1B-\$5.6B in medical costs

## **COST OF OBESITY ON STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

\$208M reduced tax revenues from lost economic activity Medicaid

Healthcare Coverage

Public Assistance Program

TOTAL

\$71M higher Medicaid spending

\$68M for employee healthcare coverage

\$7M in public assistance program costs

\$146M increased spending

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