## JHS Park Data Summary

Parks data was collected by Kelly Evenson’s group at the University of North Carolina (UNC) (2001 park data) as part of the Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities (ARIC) study and obtained from City of Jackson, Mississippi and Mississippi State and National parks (2013 park data). Please note that if the 2001 parks data is used, you must acknowledge the grant “American Heart Association grant #0130229N” in the paper.

Measures that are available for parks for the 2001 parks data are the total number of parks within a buffer, total number of unique amenity types within a buffer (ie: how many different types of activities are available), the percent of buffer devoted to parks, and simple and kernel densities of recreational facilities. Each of these measures is available for the buffer sizes of ¼, ½, 1, 3, and 5 miles. In addition, the straight-line (Euclidean) distance to the nearest park is available.

Measures that are available for parks for the 2013 parks data are the total number of parks within a buffer and the percent of buffer devoted to parks. Each of these measures is available for the buffer sizes of ¼, ½, 1, 3, and 5 miles. In addition, the straight-line (Euclidean) distance to the nearest park is available.

The percent of a buffer that falls within the parks study area (City of Jackson, MS) was created. For those that have 0% within the study area, parks data will be missing. For any participants that have more than 0%, there will be data available. For those that are completely within the study area, this will be indicated with ‘1.’ You may wish to subset analyses to only those that fall mostly (90% or more) within the study area. Sensitivity analyses with those 100% within the study area should be performed.

JHS Exam 1 was taken from 09/26/2000 to 03/31/2004 and JHS Exam 2 was taken from 10/10/2005 to 12/24/2008. The addresses of the JHS participants were obtained for these two exams. We assigned park measures calculated both from 2001 park data and 2013 park data to each participant based on their address of each JHS clinic exam. Therefore, for most park measures (except density measures), each participant would have 2 variables (one based on 2001 park data and the other based on 2013 park data) at each exam. Since the park data at 2001 and 2013 were collected from different sources and not comparable across time, data users need to decide which version/year of park measures are most appropriate for their analysis. It is not recommended to use these measures as time-varying for longitudinal analyses.

For more information on the parks data, see the documentation file “*JHS Parks Measures Documentation.docx*.”