APIAHF
ASIAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER AMERICAN HEALTH FORUM

Assuring the Health of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders

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APIAHF's Policy Priorities

- Expand access to health care;
- Improve quality of health care by promoting cultural and linguistic competency;
- Ensure a diverse and culturally competent health care workforce;
- Increase research on and improve data collection on our communities;
- Increase investment in community-based health promotion programs.

Do Asians Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islander experience health and health care disparities?

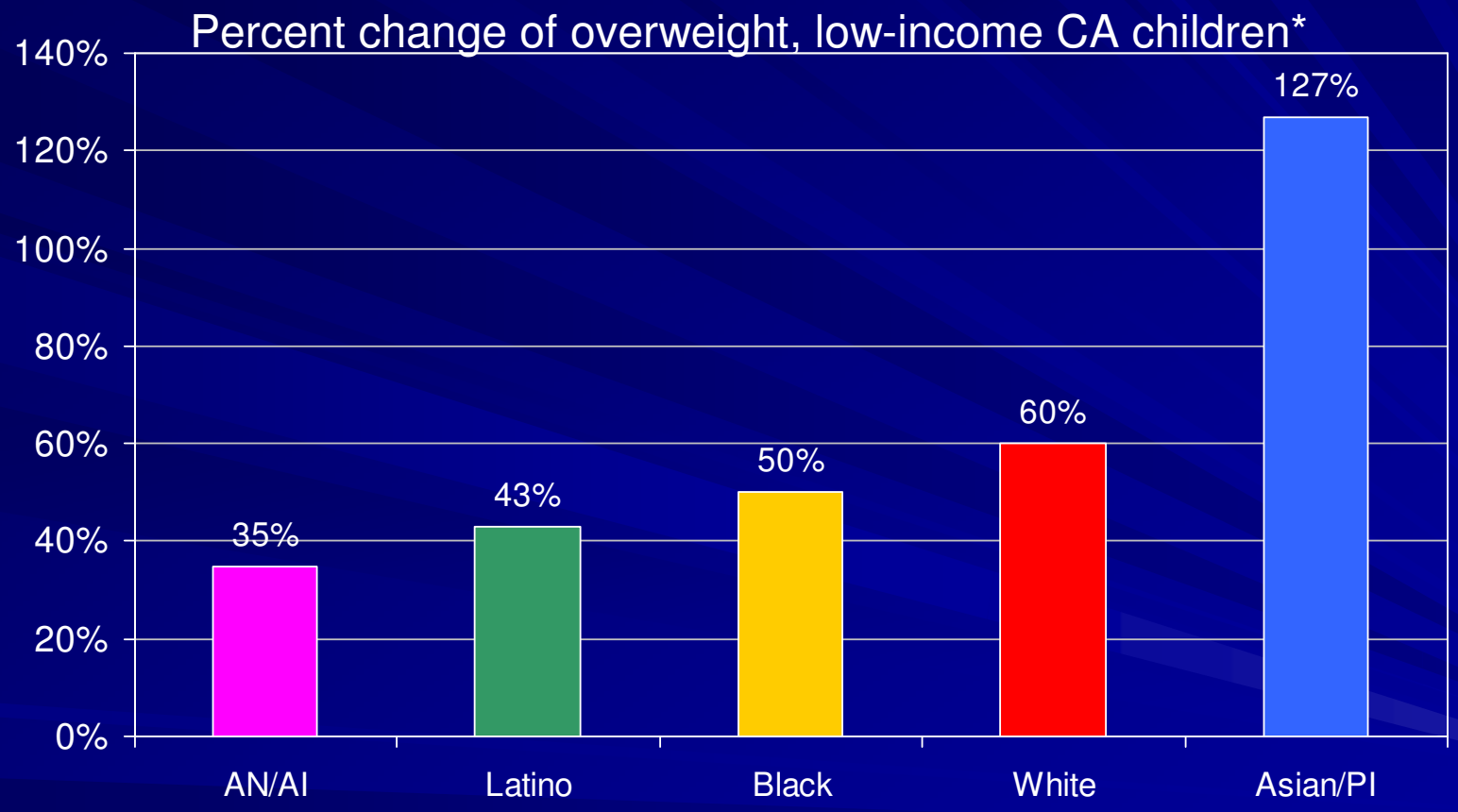
Cancer

- Cervical cancer incidence is 5 times higher among Vietnamese women than White women
- Cervical cancer incidence for Marshallese Islander women is 75 times greater than for US women
- Native Hawaiians have the third highest breast cancer mortality rate in the nation and the state of Hawaii

Hepatitis B

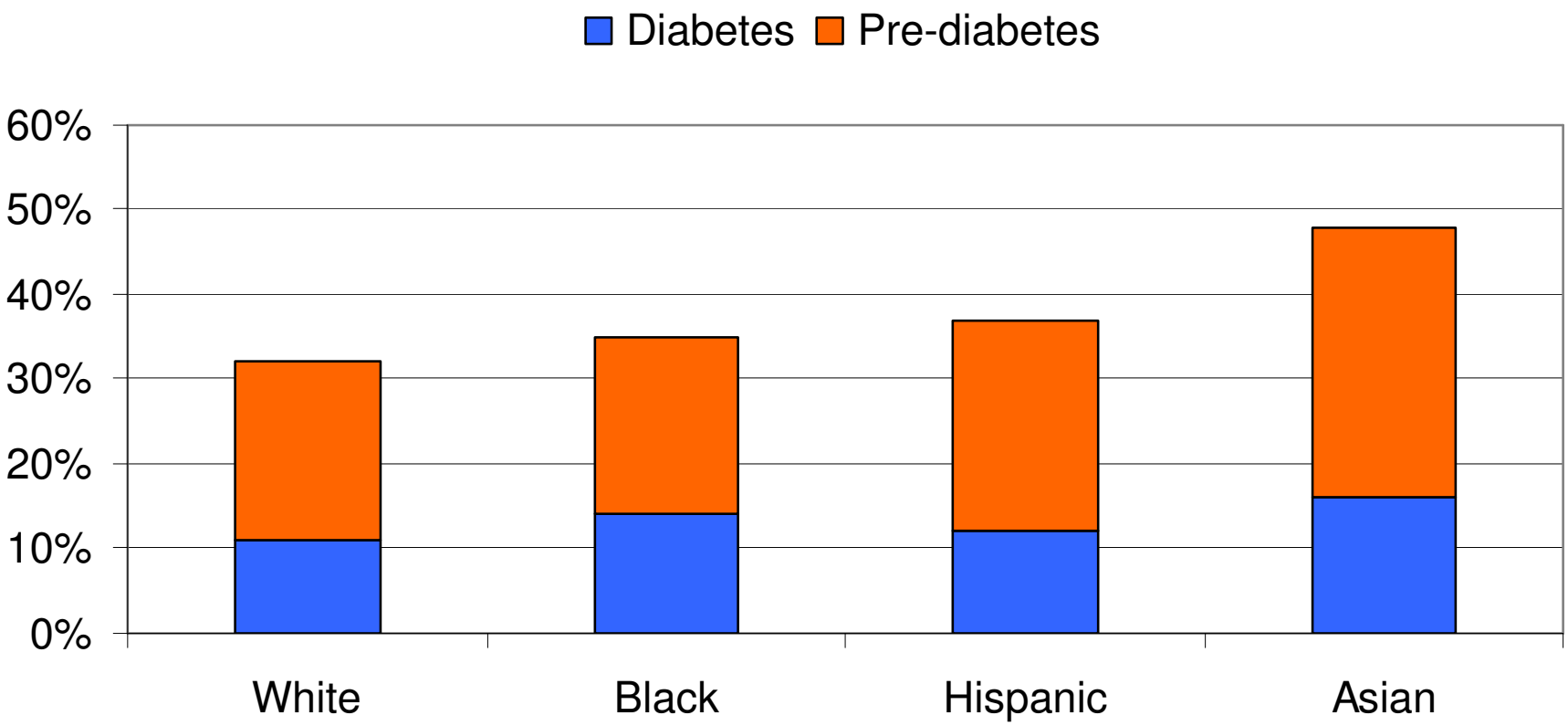
- An estimated 1.25 million Americans are chronically infected with HBV. Over half are AAs & PIs
- As many as 1 out of 10 API Americans are chronically infected with HBV, compared with 1 in 1000 of Caucasian Americans
- Up to 20,000 women in the US who give birth each year have chronic HBV infection; more than half of these women are AA or PI

From 1992 to 2001, Overweight Increased Most Sharply for California *API Low-Income* Children, Increasing from 5.9% to 13.4%

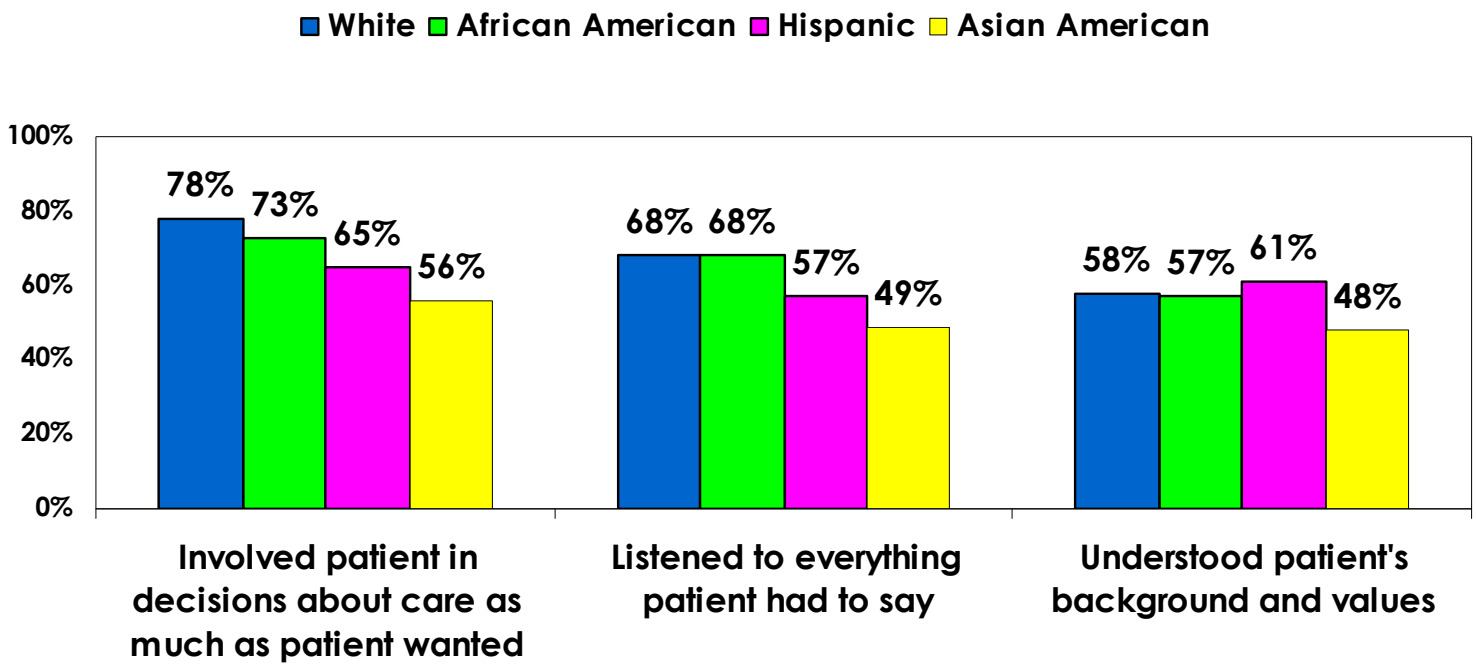


Overweight = BMI > 95th percentile. Overweight is comparable to obesity in adults.
* Children 5 - >20 years old
Source: California Dept. of Health Services, Children's Medical Services Branch, California Pediatric Nutrition Surveillance System

Diabetes and Pre-Diabetes Prevalence in NYC, by Race/Ethnicity, HANES, 2004

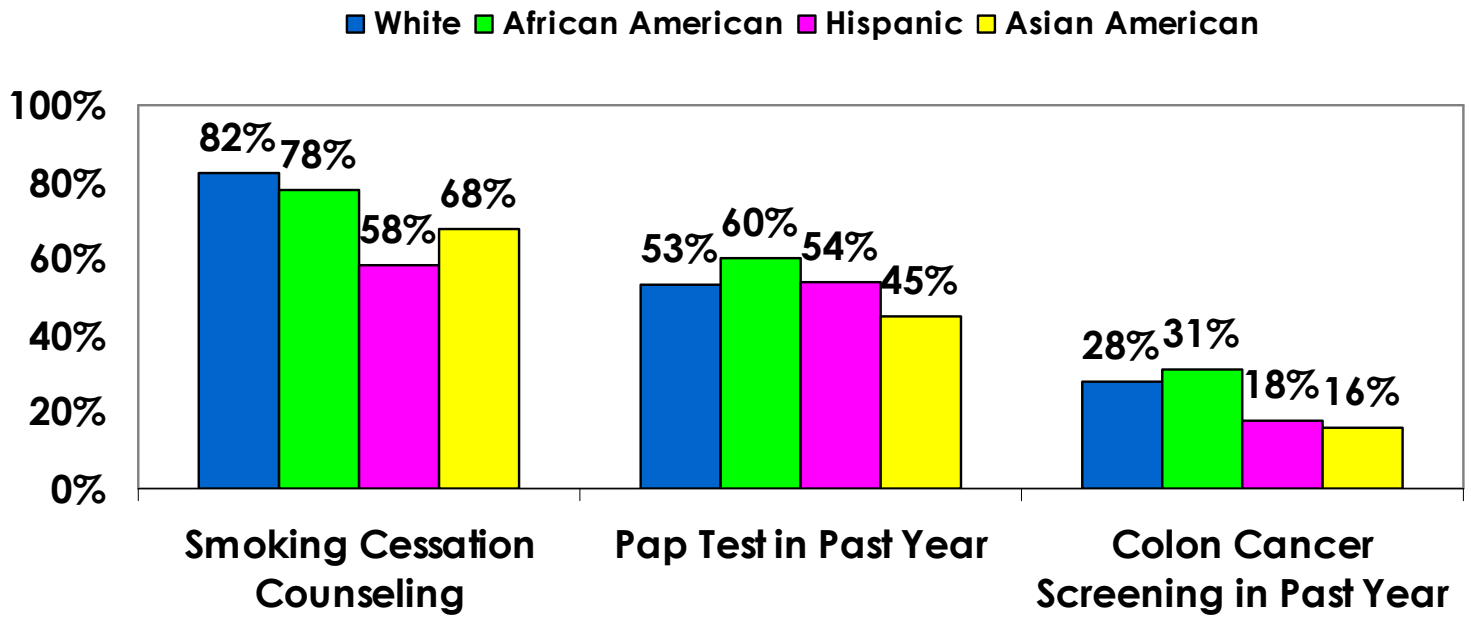


Asian Americans Face Greater Communication Difficulties During Doctor Visits



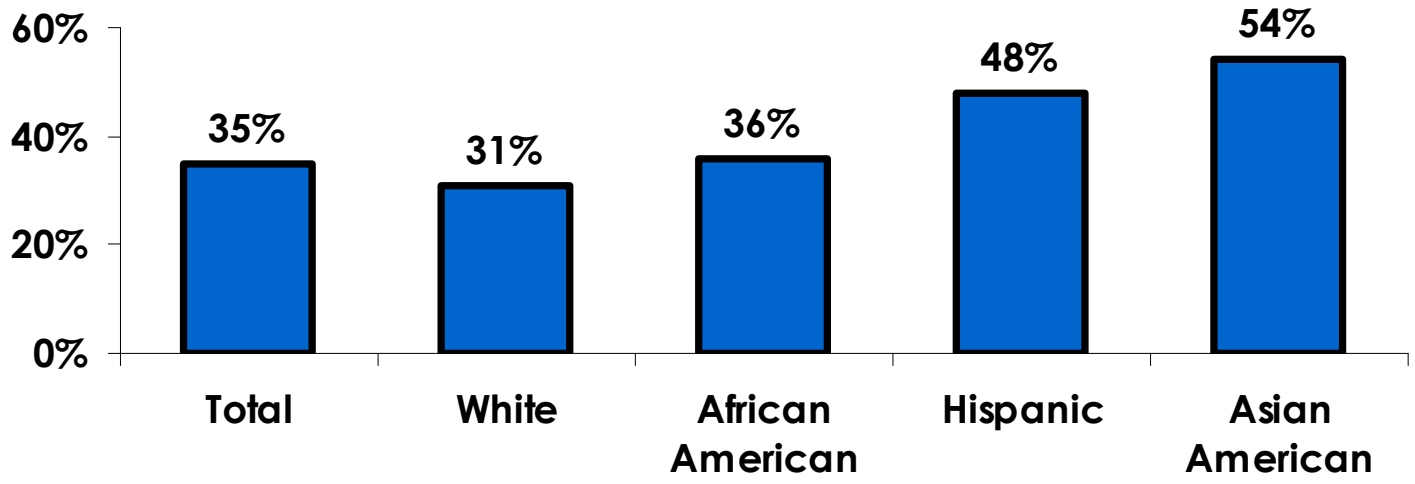
SOURCE: The Commonwealth Fund 2001 Health Care Quality Survey

Asian Americans were Less Likely to Receive Preventive Care and Physician Counseling



SOURCE: The Commonwealth Fund 2001 Health Care Quality Survey

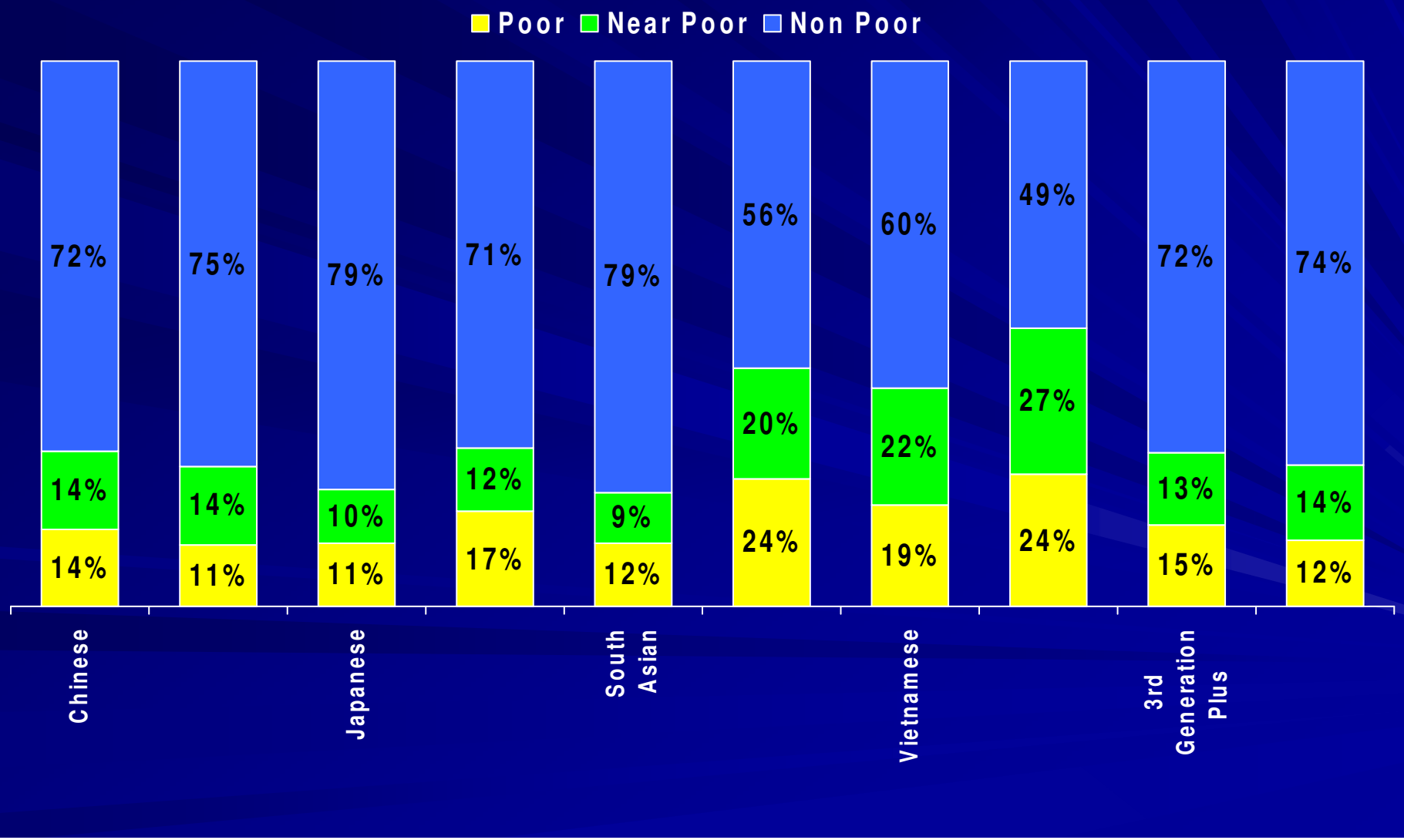
About Half or More of Hispanics and Asian Americans With Chronic Conditions Were Not Given Plans to Manage Their Condition at Home



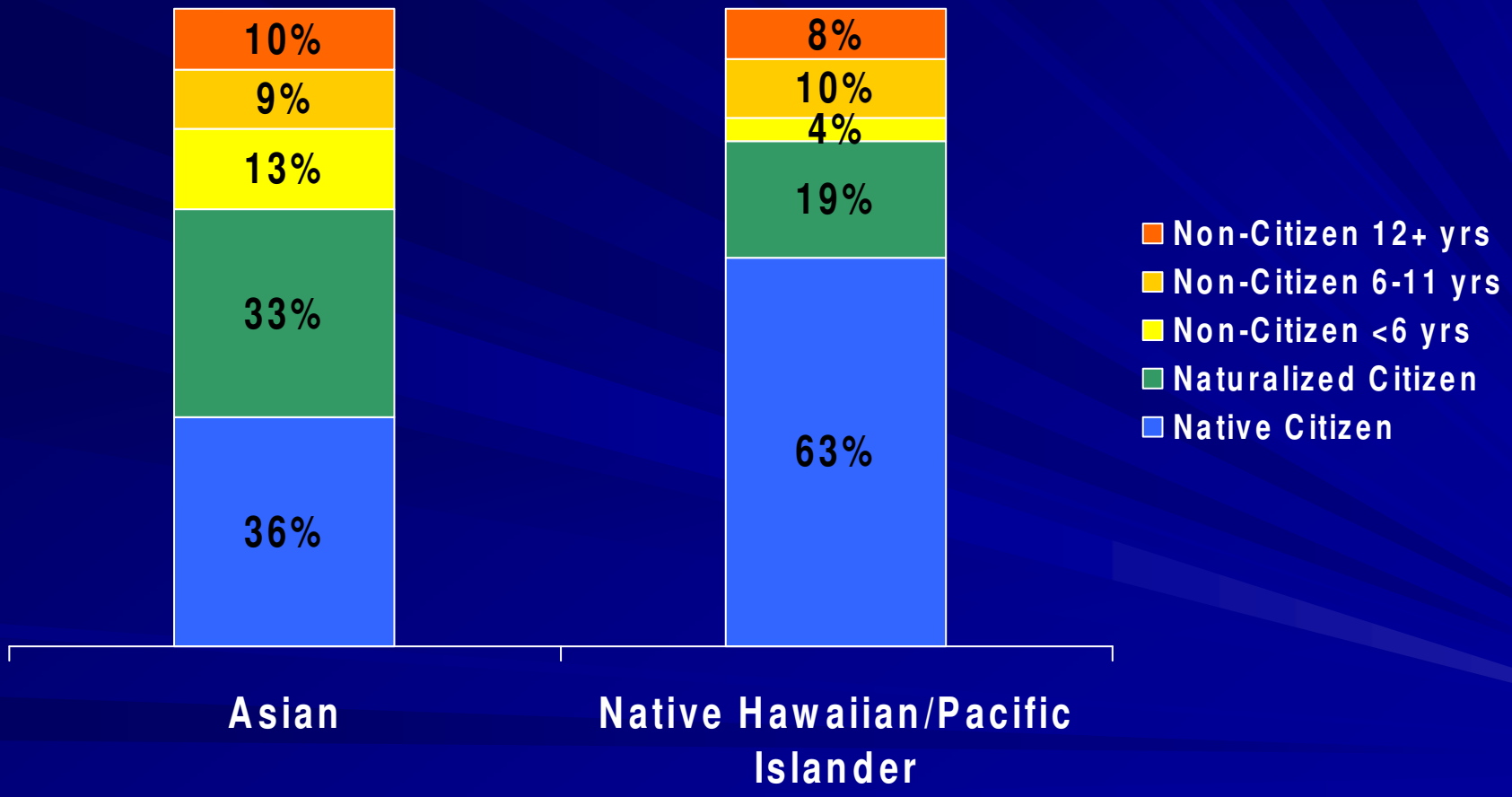
SOURCE: The Commonwealth Fund 2006 Health Care Quality Survey

The reasons behind the disparities …

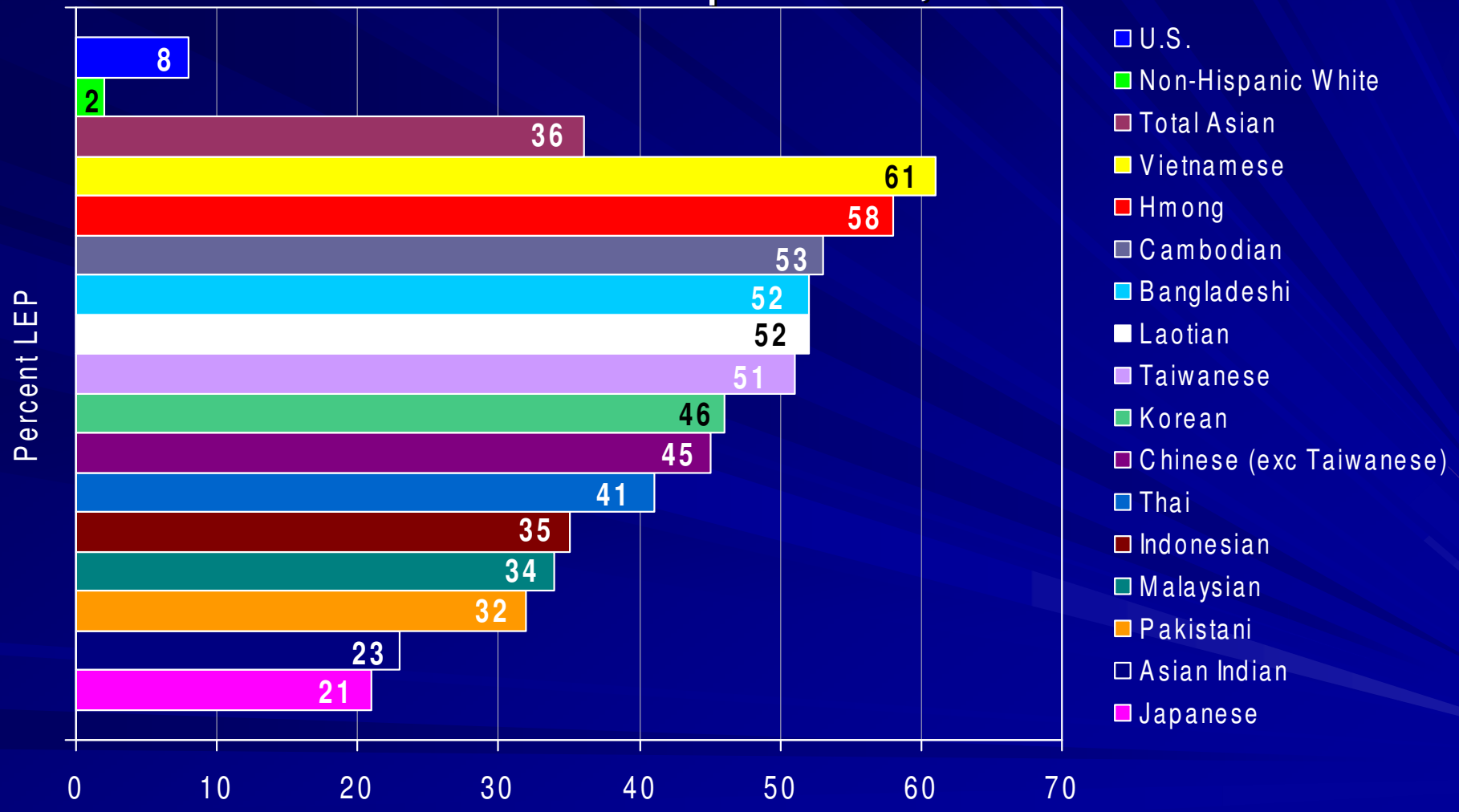
Poverty Status of Nonelderly, 2004-2006



Citizenship Status, 2004-2006

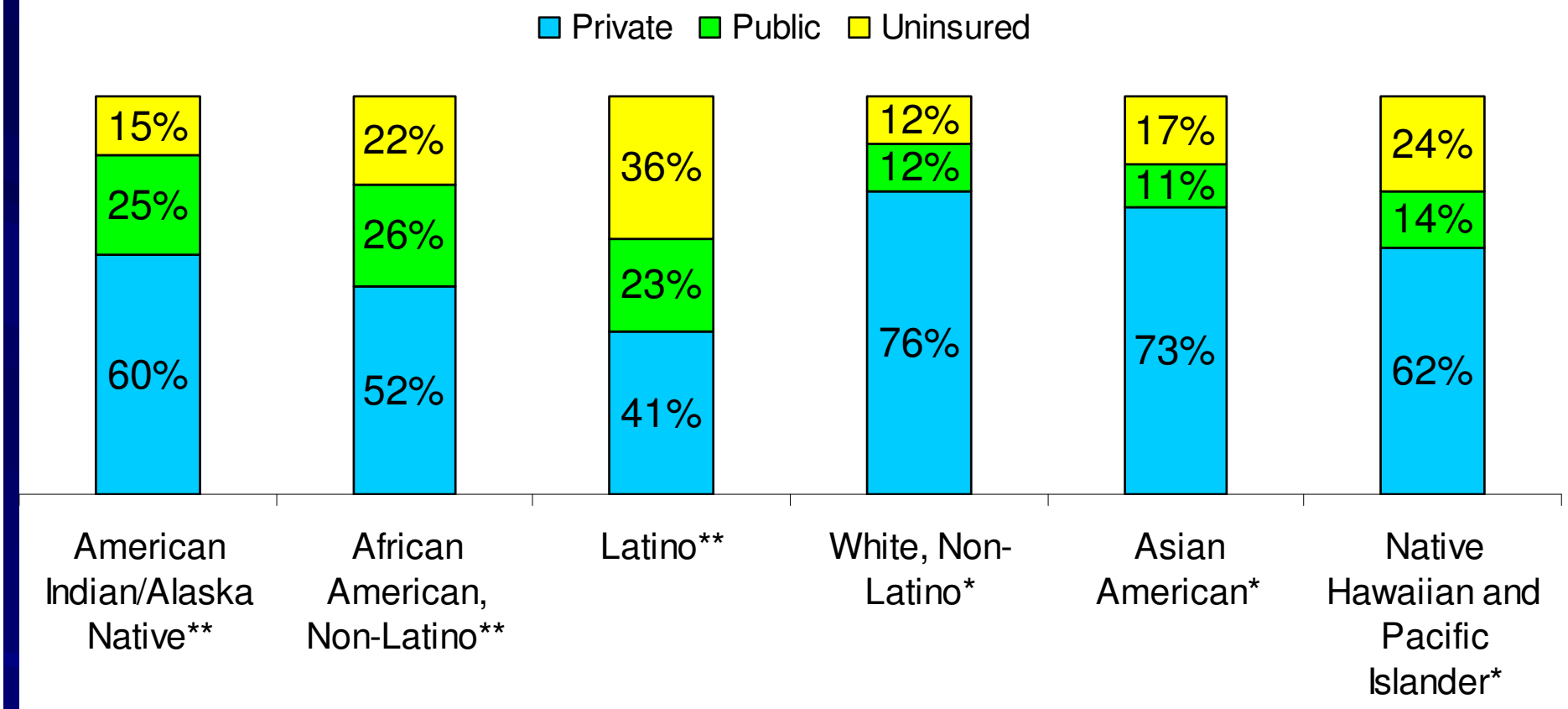


Limited English Proficient Asian Americans
Percent of Population, 2000



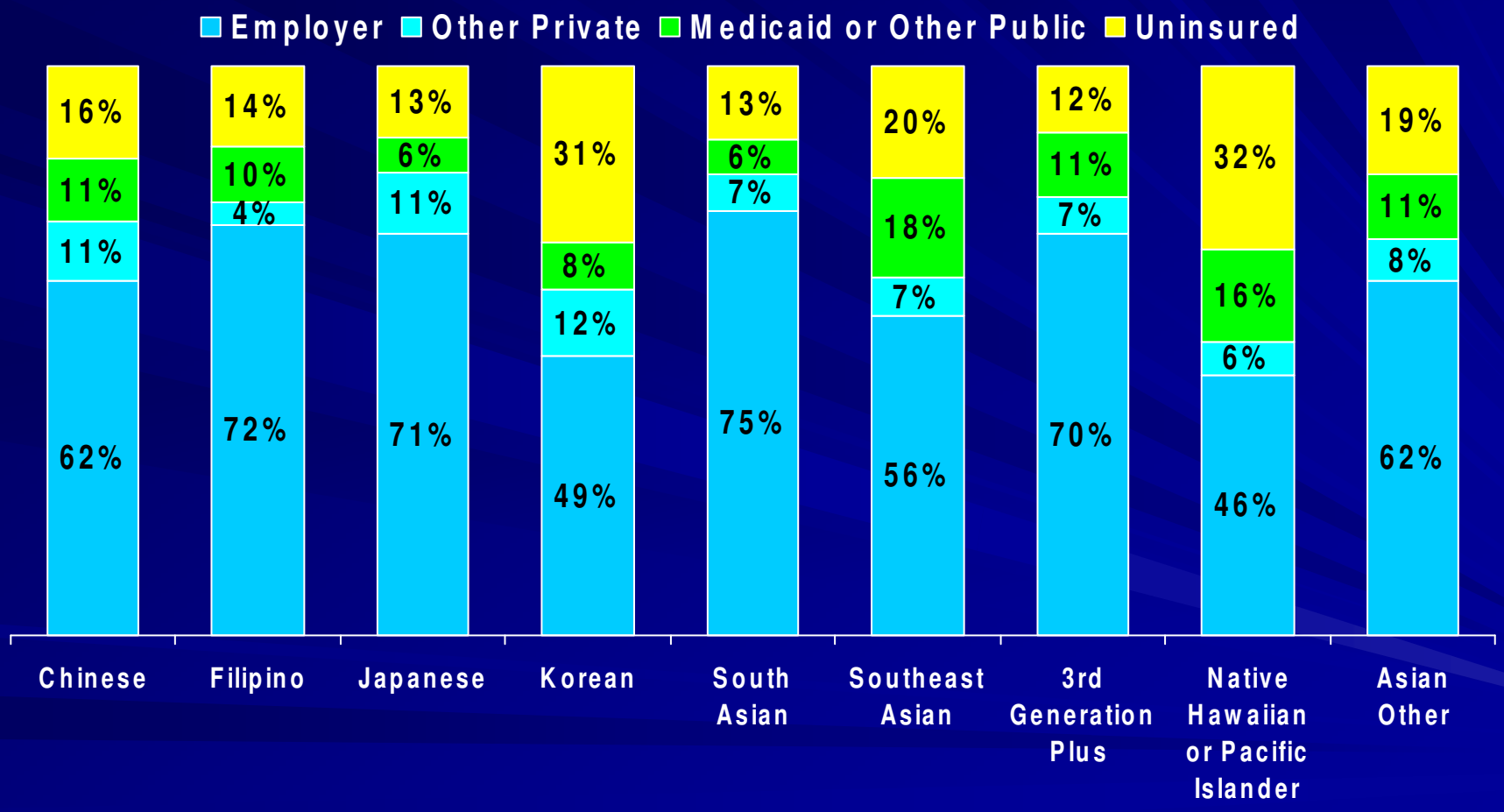
Adapted from APIAHF: Diverse Communities, Diverse Experiences: The Status of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the U.S. (A Review of Six Economic Indicators and Their Impact on Health), 2005

Health Insurance Status by Race/Ethnicity: Total Nonelderly Population, 2006

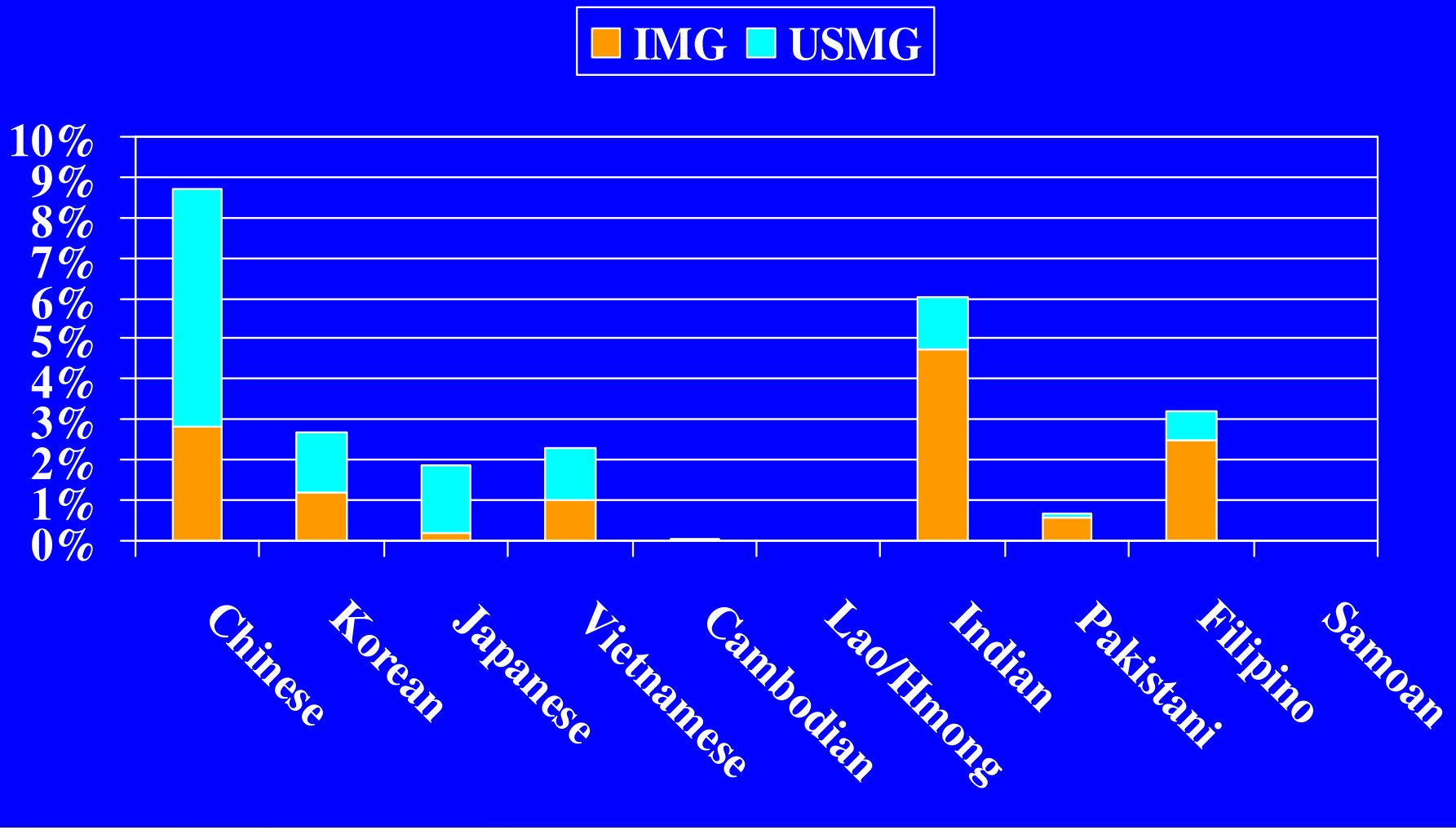


Source: KFF and Urban Institute estimates
Data: Current Population Surveys (*2004, 2005, 2006, three-year pocket data; **March 2007

Health Coverage among the Nonelderly, 2004-2006



Selected Asian Ethnicities, as % Overall CA Physicians: US Medical Grads & International Medical Grads



A Blueprint for the Health of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians & Pacific Islander

Five Domains

- Guaranteed Affordable Health Care
- Guaranteed Access to High Quality Care
- Health Equity
- Healthy Communities
- Leadership, civic engagement, and political will

Guaranteed Affordable Health Care

- Guaranteeing Health Coverage for Immigrants
- Repeal Proof of Citizenship Requirements
- Coverage for Childless, Undocumented, and Other Uninsured Adults

Guaranteed Access to High Quality Health Care

- Assuring Culturally Competent and Linguistically Appropriate Care
- Assuring a Diverse Health and Health Care Workforce
- Expanding AA and NHPI Focused Community Health Centers
- Developing and Supporting Elements of the Health Care Safety Net
- Development of a Culturally and Linguistically Competent Emergency Preparedness Response System
- Developing Quality Standards that Account for Race and Ethnicity

Health Equity

- Collect and Disaggregate Data on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders
- Expand and Fund Community-Based Prevention Programs and Supportive Services
- Support Community-Based Participatory Research
- Reauthorize the Native Hawaiian Health Care Improvement Act

Healthy Communities

- Strengthen community capacity and community infrastructure to address local health needs
- Create a social and economic environment that promotes health
- Uphold civil rights and address structural racism, such as within immigration reform

Leadership, civic engagement and political will

- Reinstate the White House Initiative for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders
- Increase voter turnout
- Engage in health reform dialogues at all levels
- Support the development of future leaders

A New Day ????

Texas House Elections Committee on Tuesday, April 7th

- "Can't you see that this is something that would make it a lot easier for you and the people who are poll workers if you could adopt a name just for identification purposes that's easier for Americans to deal with?"
  - Congresswoman Betty Brown admonishing Ramey Ko, a representative of the Organization of Chinese Americans

Who's Who in the Administration

- Christina M. Tchen, Director of Public Liaison, Office of Public Liaison
- Nancy-Ann DeParle, Director of the White House Office of Health Reform
- Kathleen Sebelius, nominee for Secretary of Health and Humans Services
- Howard Koh, nominee for Assistant Secretary for Health
- Christopher Lu, White House Cabinet Secretary
- Gary Locke, Secretary of Commerce