



# APLA 1999 Client Survey Findings

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Thanks to Lee Klosinski Ph.D. & Gregory Freeman

# Overview

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- How well do survey respondents represent the study population, APLA clients, and living AIDS cases in LA County?
- Who are the survey respondents?
- Which APLA services are most utilized?
- How do clients rate APLA services?
- What are the highlights for planning?



# 1999 Client Survey

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- Mailed to 4,666 clients
- Study population represents 60% of all APLA clients
- 1,610 surveys returned (N =1,610)
- Respondents represent 21% of all APLA clients
- 34.5% response rate
- Highest response rate



# Major New Areas of Investigation, 1999

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- Medical Status (T-Cell & Viral Load)
- New Quality of Life Measure
- Recreational Drug Use
- Alcohol Use
- Cigarette Use
- Sexual and Injection Risk Behaviors



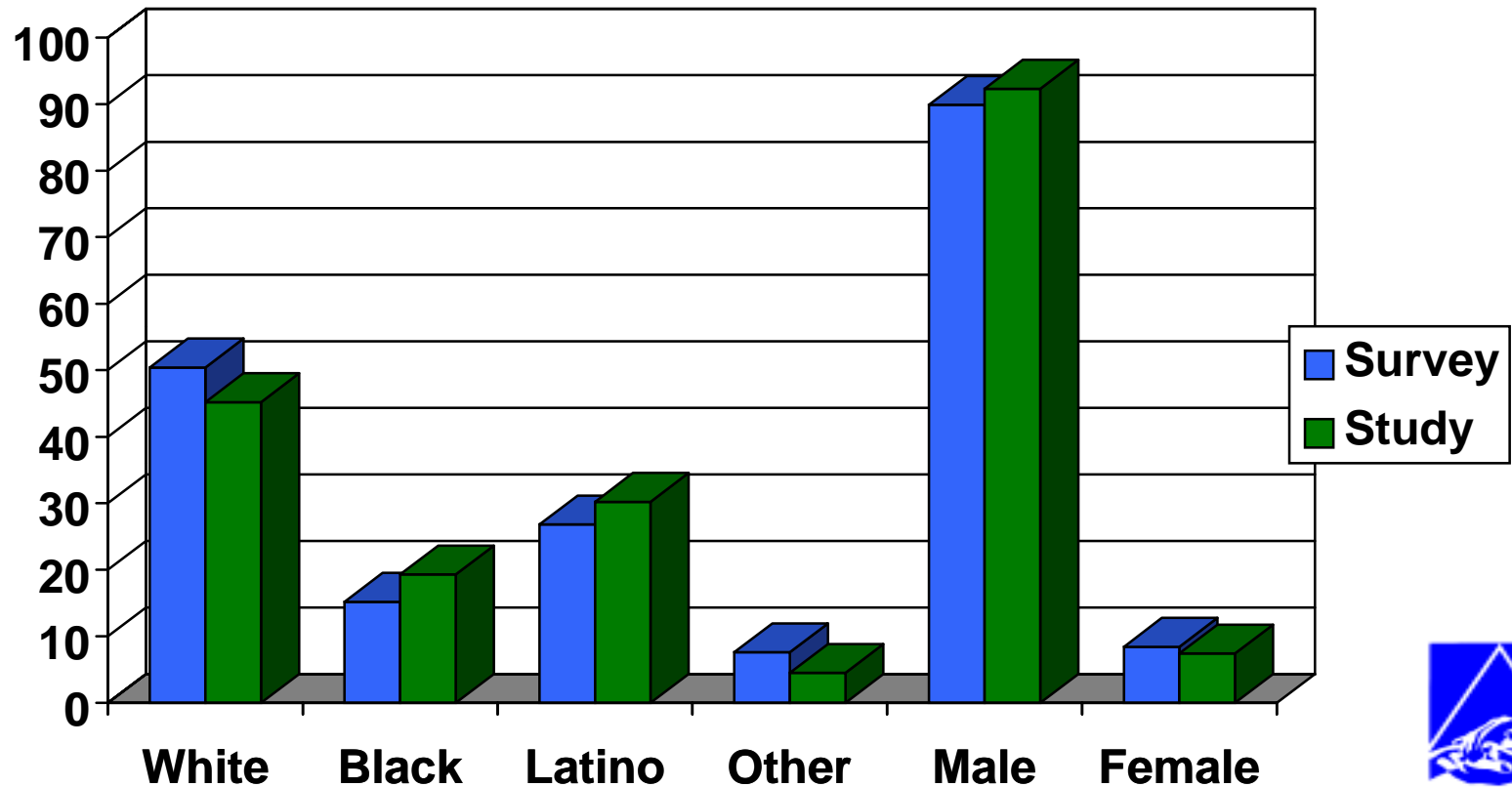
# Survey Limitations

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- Based on self-reported data
- Over-representation of Caucasians
- Males NOT over-represented this time
- Homeless clients not under-represented
- The findings may not be generalizable to the total APLA population



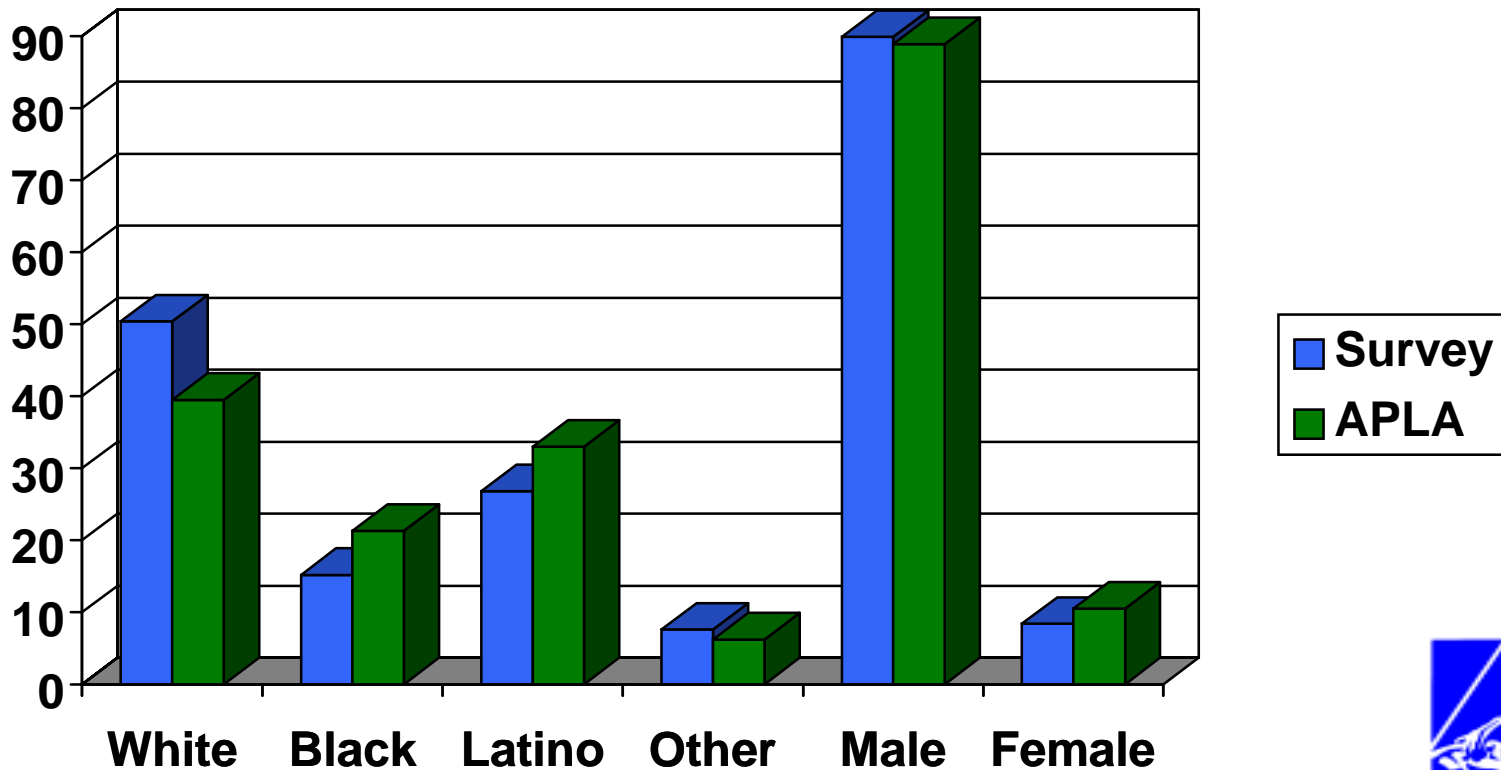
# Survey Respondents/Study Pop: Race/Ethnicity & Sex



Caucasians over-represented in survey:  $P < .05$



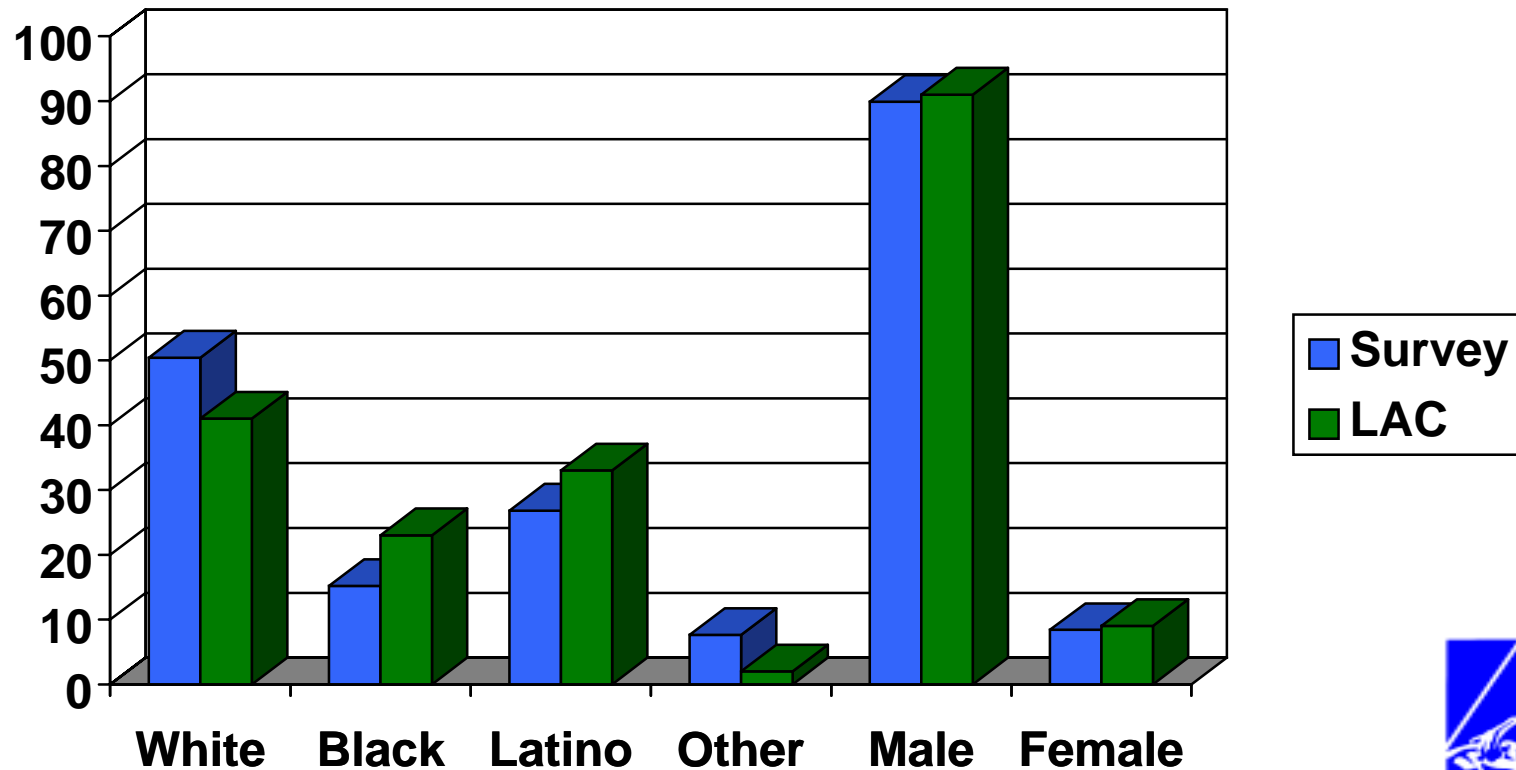
# Survey Respondents/APLA Pop: Race/Ethnicity & Sex



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# Survey Respondents/LAC PLWA: Race/Ethnicity & Sex



Caucasians over-represented in survey:  $P < .05$



# Age of Clients: 1997-1999

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>1997</i>	<i>1999</i>
<b>&lt;19</b>	1%	0.2%
<b>19-29</b>	6.4%	5%
<b>30-39</b>	39.3%	37.3%
<b>40-49</b>	37.4%	38.1%
<b>50-59</b>	12.8%	14%
<b>60+</b>	3%	5.4%
<b>Average</b>	41	42

Differences not statistically significant



# Clients with Children

## 1997 and 1999: $P < .05$

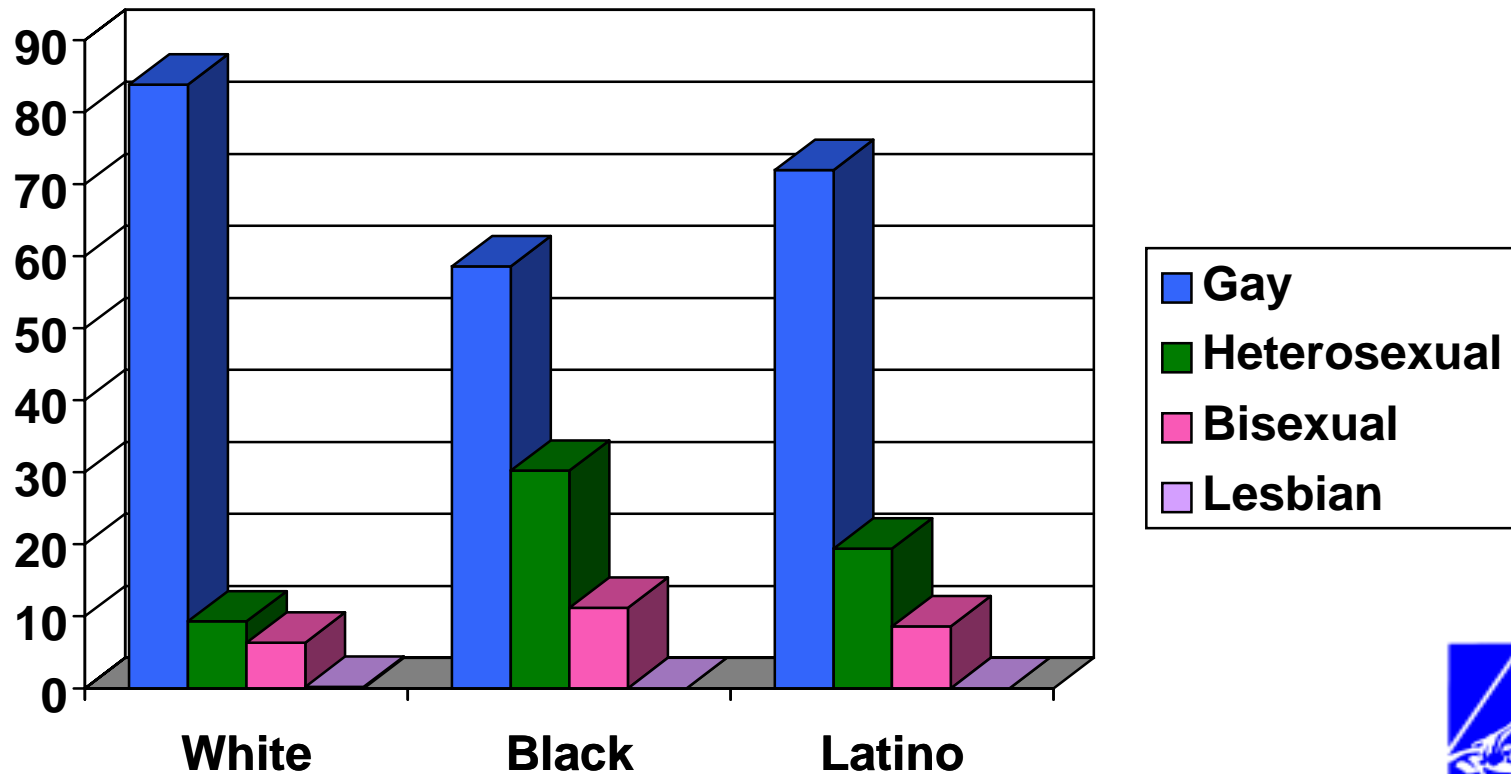
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	1997	1999
Proportion with children	7.3%	10.2%
Need APLA child care	20%	27%

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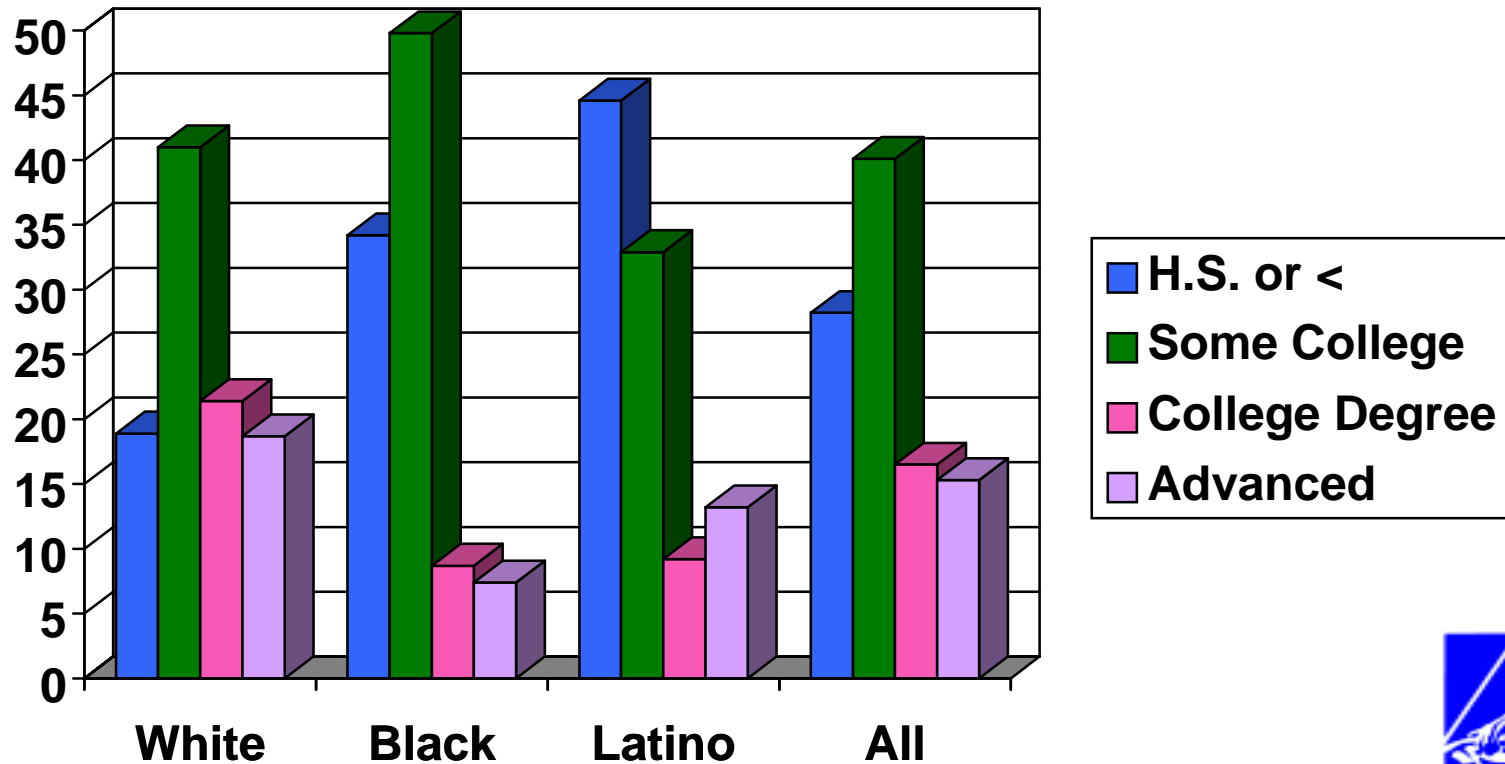
# Sexual Orientation by Race/Ethnicity



Caucasians more likely to report being gay:  $P < .05$



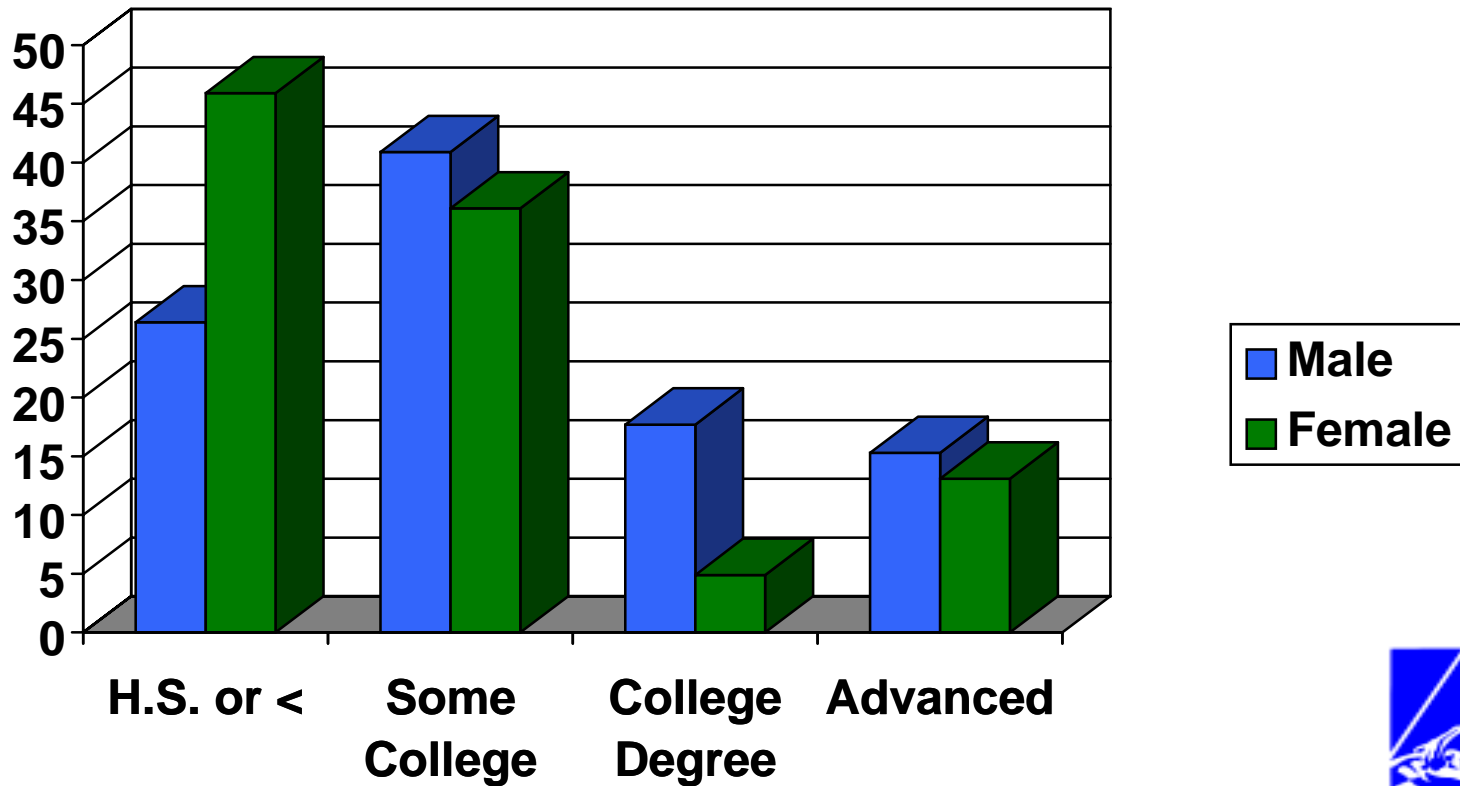
# Educational Level by Race/Ethnicity



Caucasians reported more higher education  $P < .05$



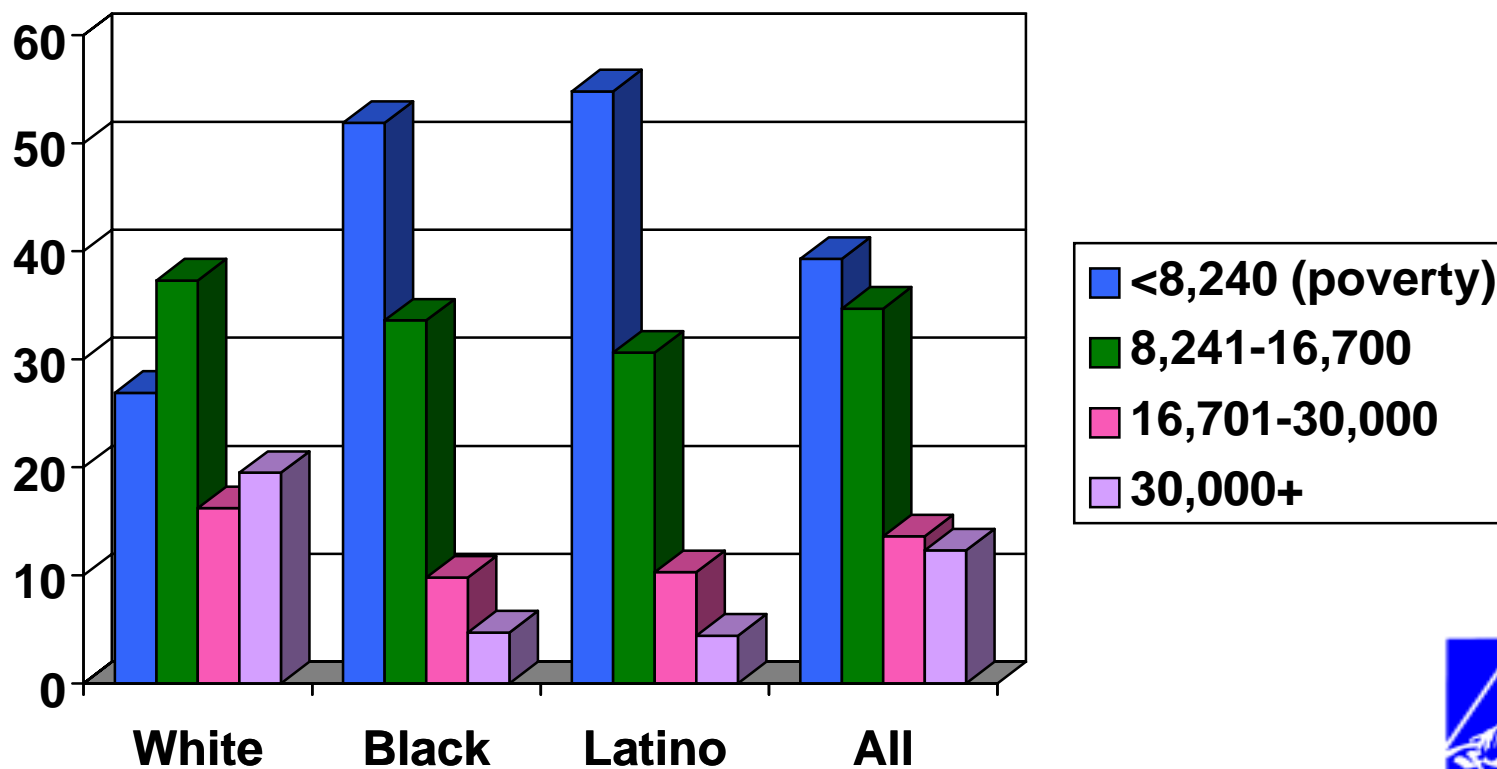
# Educational Level by Sex



Men reported more higher education  $P < .05$



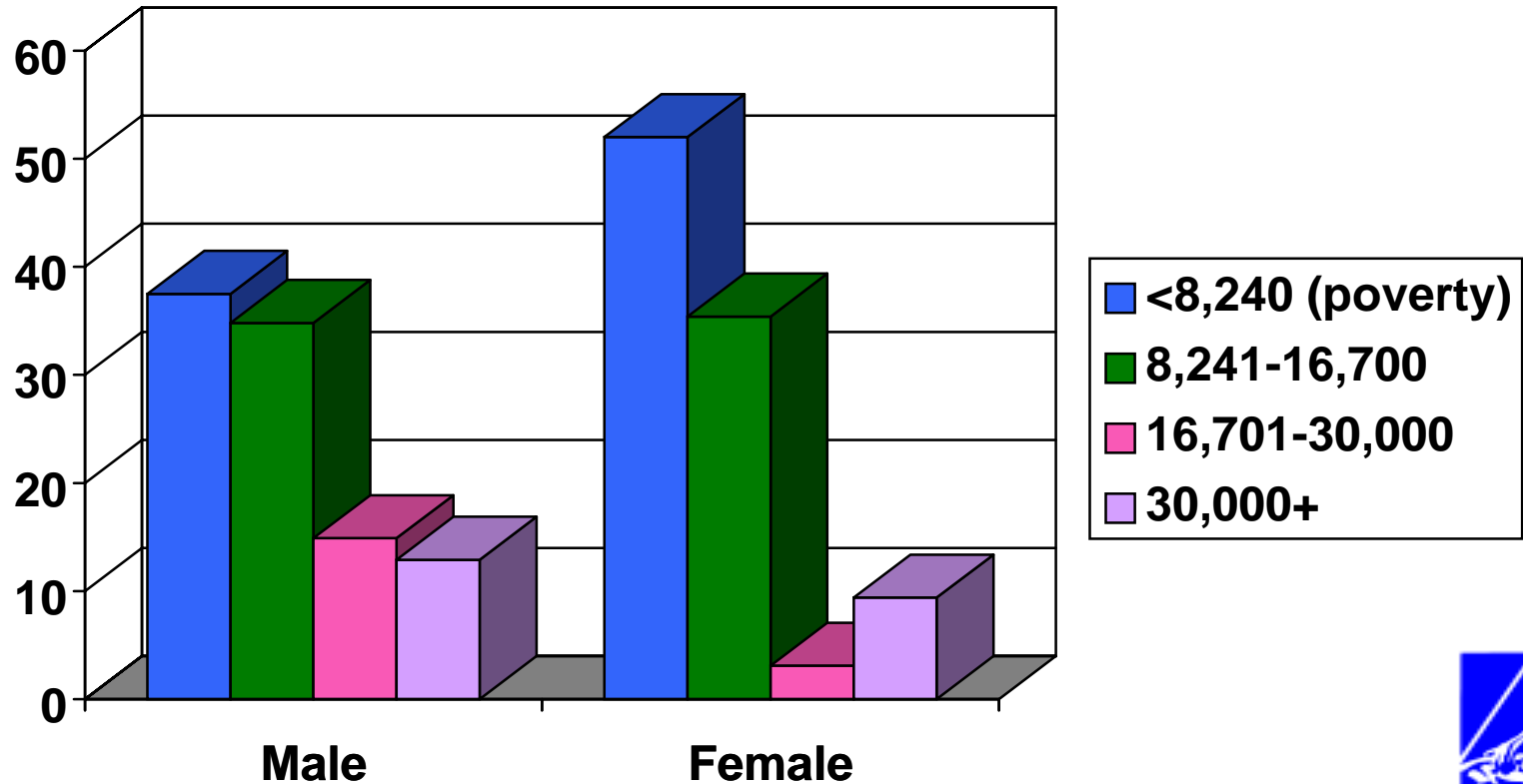
# Income Level by Race/Ethnicity:



Caucasians reported higher incomes:  $P < .05$



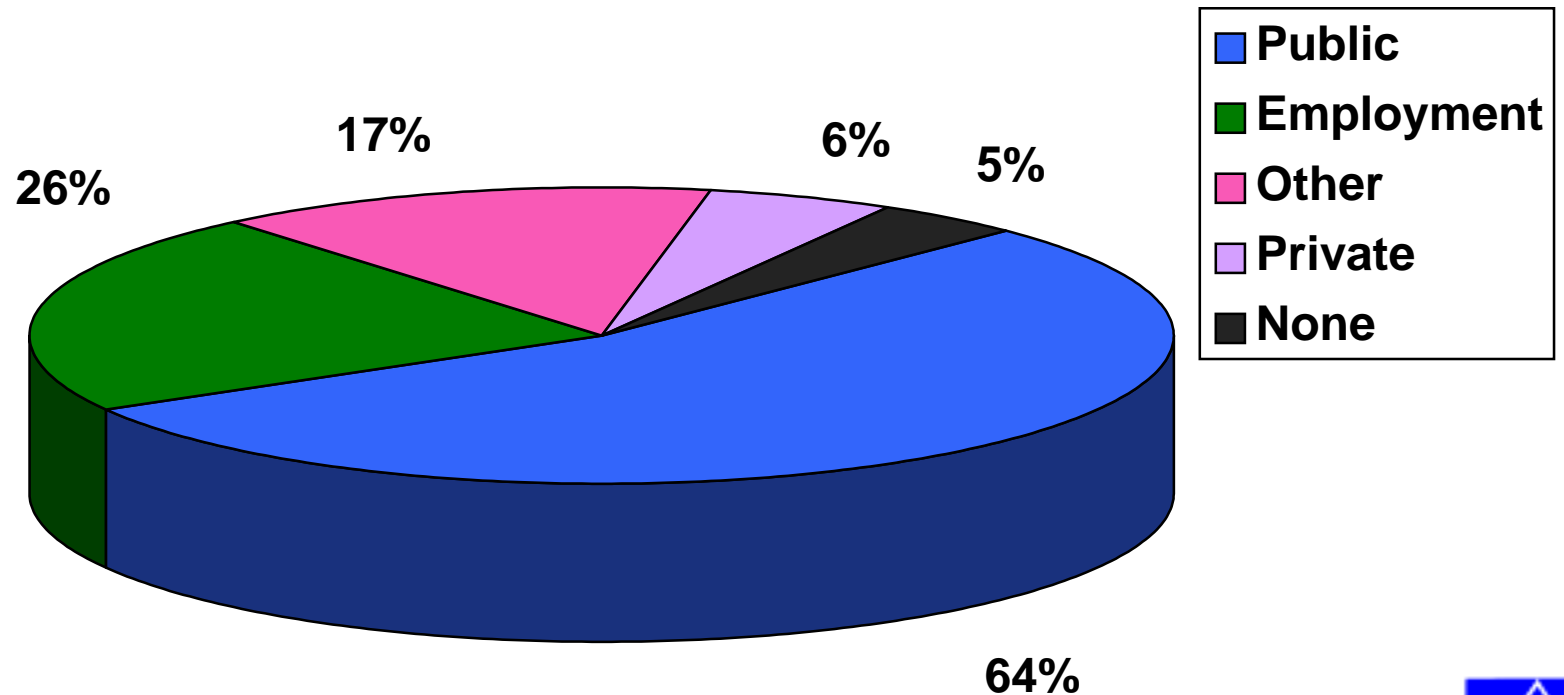
# Income Level by Sex



Men reported higher income  $P < .05$



# Sources of Income, 1999



More clients reported public assistance as a source of income compared to 1997:  $P < .05$



# Employment Status: Unemployed &/or Disabled

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- Unemployed &/or Disabled and unable to work: 56%
- Unemployed: 25%
- Disabled and unable to work: 35%
- Disabled and able to work: 14%



# Employment Status: Employed or Other

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- Any employment: 31%
- Full-time: 16%
- Part-time: 11%
- Self-employment 7%
- Retired: 3%
- Other: 2%



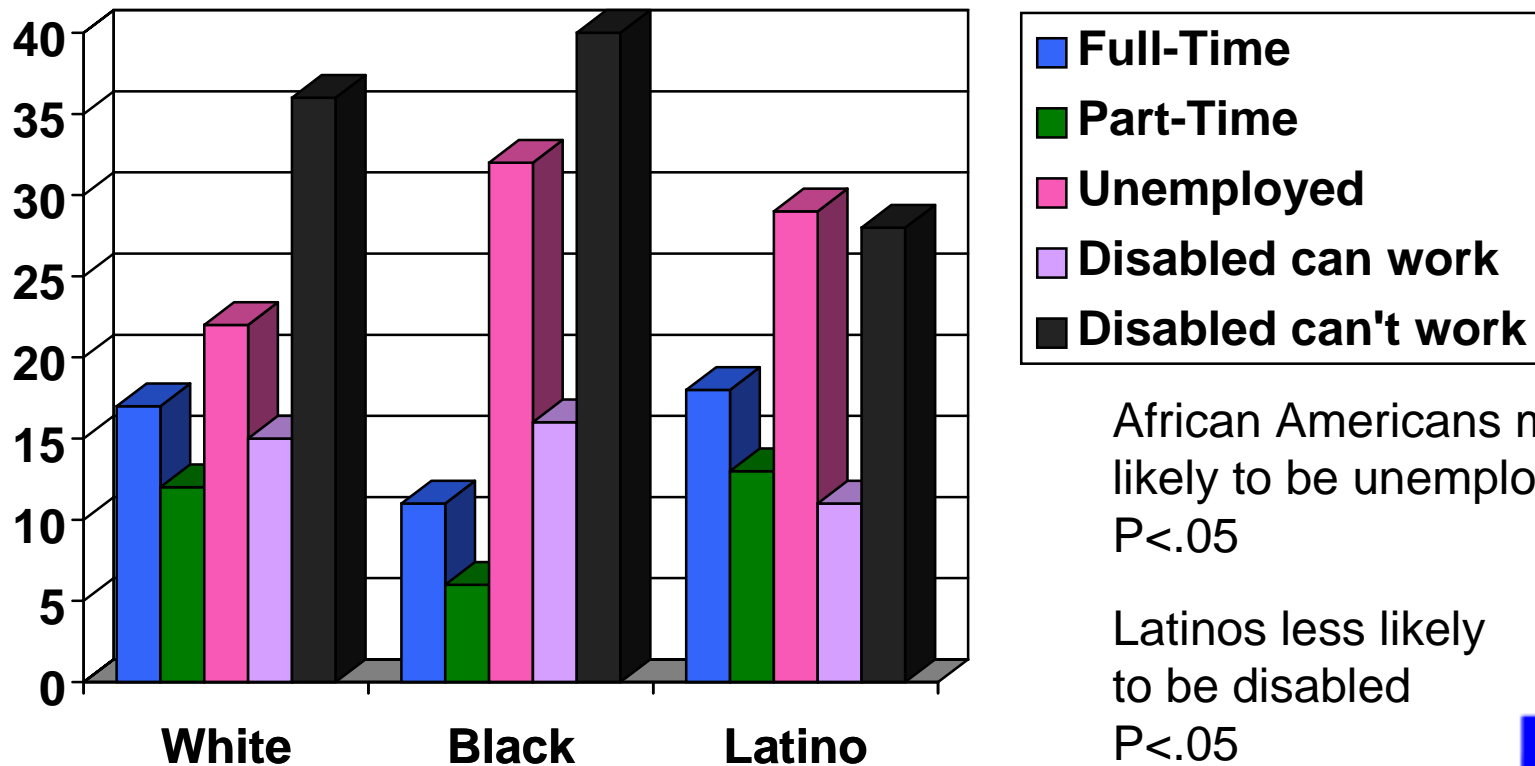
# Predictors of Employment as Source of Income ( $P < .05$ )

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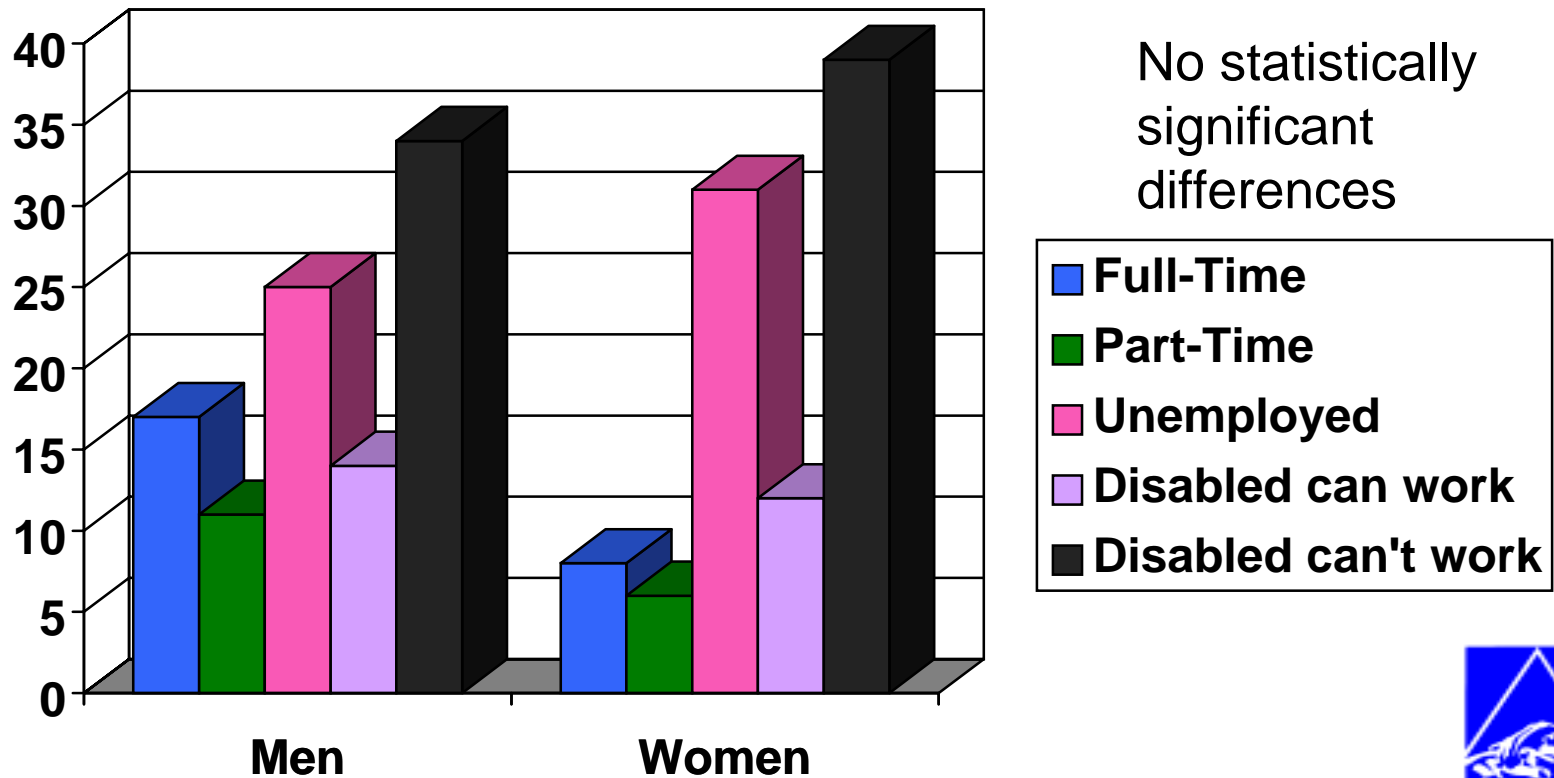
- Men
- Self identified gay men
- Caucasians
- Younger
- Excellent general health
- Better health compared to last year
- Undetectable HIV status



# Employment Status by Race/Ethnicity



# Employment Status by Sex



# Return to Work, 1999

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## All Clients

- 63% stopped work because of HIV
- 33% returned to work after stopping because of HIV

## Unemployed Clients

- 42% of unemployed clients looking for work
- 80% of those looking for work reported needing help

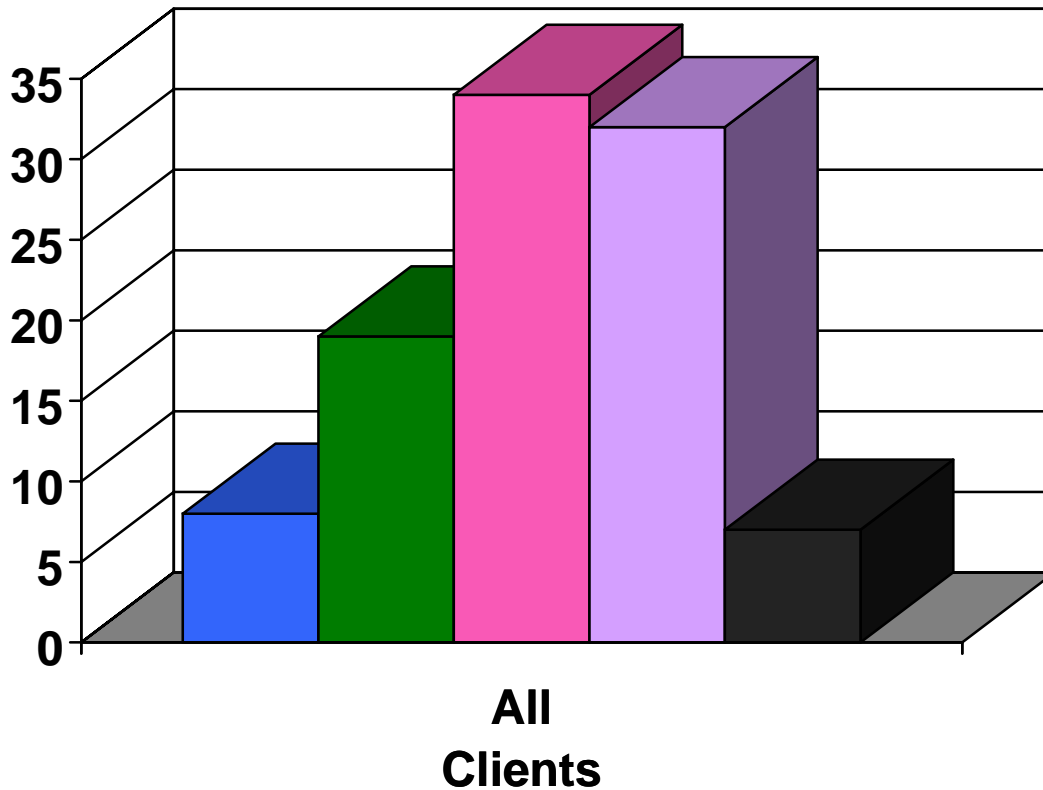


# Predictors of Needing Help to Look for Work: $P < .05$

- Predictors
- 19-39 years of age
- Spanish speaking
- African American
- Poorer general health
- No Differences by
- Sex
- Sexual Orientation
- Undetectable Viral status



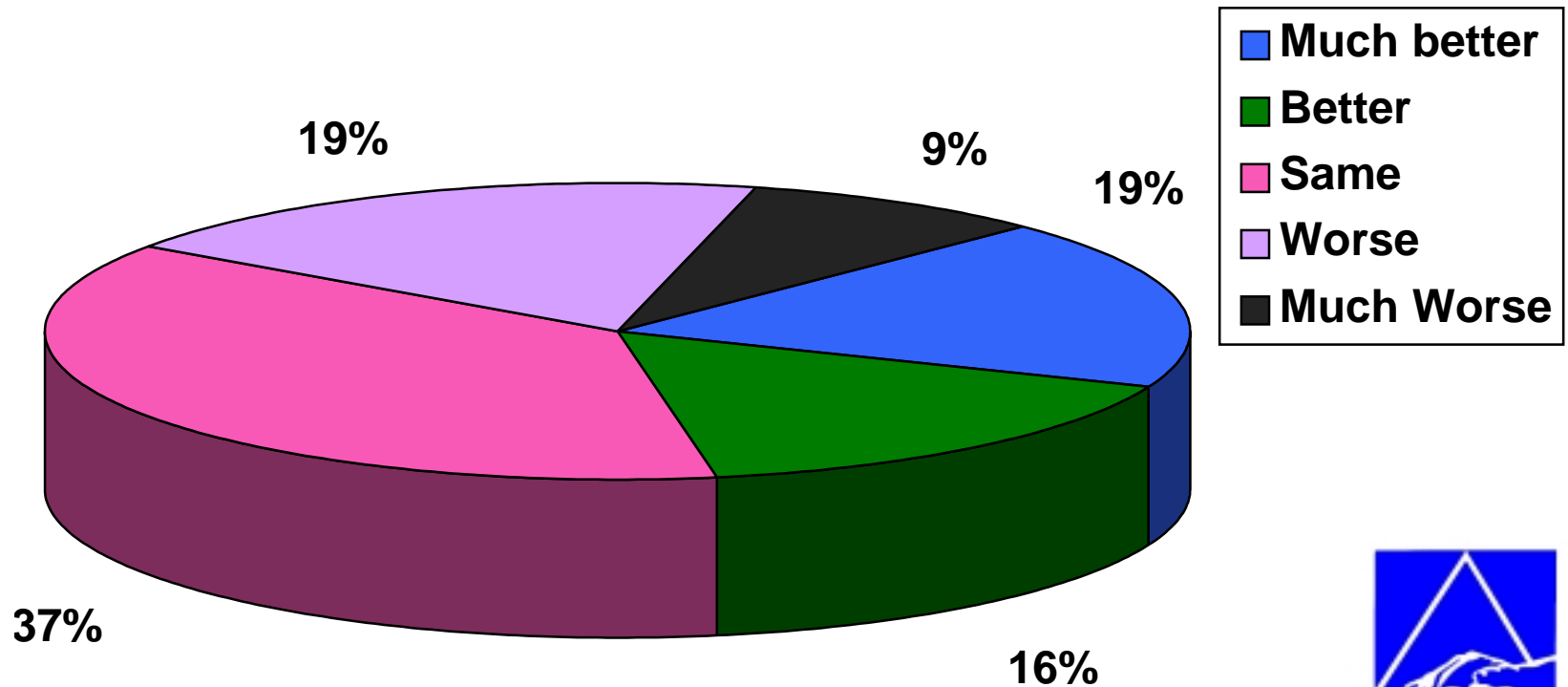
# Overall General Health



No differences by sex or race/ethnicity



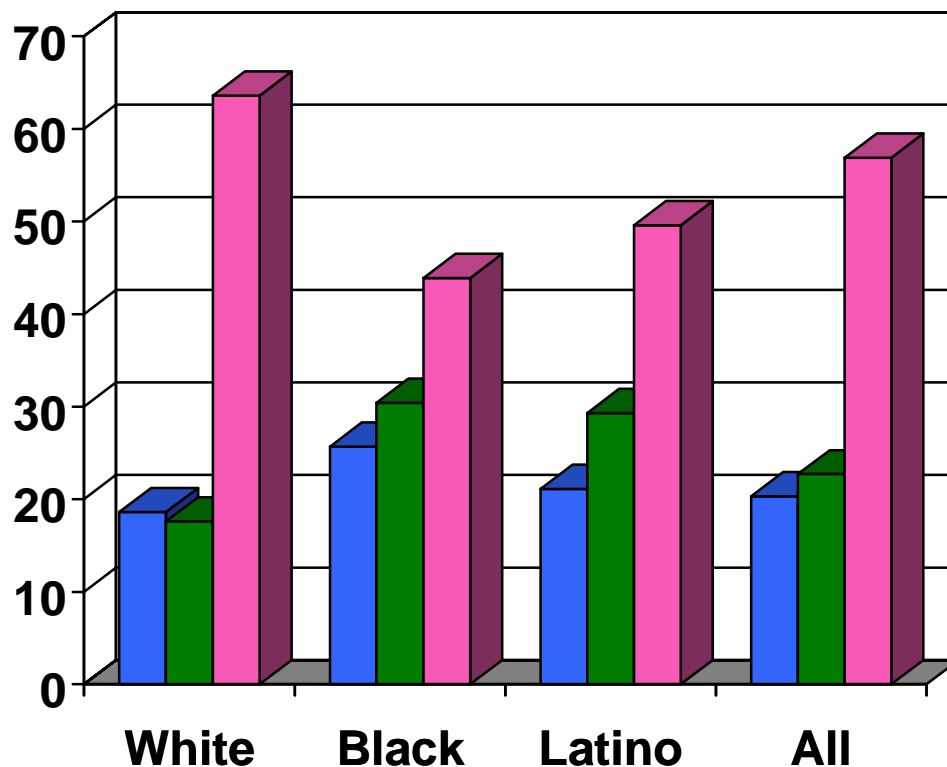
# Health Compared to 1 Year Ago



No differences by sex or race/ethnicity



# HIV Status by Race/Ethnicity



Caucasians more likely  
to have AIDS  
 $P < .05$

■ HIV+, No Symptoms  
■ HIV+ Symptoms  
■ AIDS

Average T-Cell  
Count=372



# Viral Load

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- 49% undetectable (<400 copies/ml)
- Median: 500
- \*Mean viral load: 34,623
- Mode: 500
- 76% tested in the last 3 months
- 95% tested in the last 6 months
- \* Mean viral load adjusted.



# Predictors of Undetectable Viral Load Status: $P < .05$

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- Being on combination therapy
- English speaking
- Excellent general health



# Hospitalization Rates

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- 27.5% of the respondents reported having been hospitalized over night for an AIDS-related illness in the past year at least once
- Rate comparable to hospitalization rates in recent studies of people living with HIV/AIDS



# HIV Medication Status

## 1999 & 1997

1999: 14% No Meds

Of those on meds:

- 77% on triple therapy
- 20% double therapy
- 3% mono therapy

1997: 10% No Meds

Of those on meds:

- 82% on triple therapy
- 16% double therapy
- 2% mono therapy



# Non-adherence to Combination Therapy

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	1997	1999
Missed or forgot in past 7 days	40.5%	42.9%
Did not take as Dr. prescribed	36.6%	47.7%*
Either of above	47%	55.4%*

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\*Significant differences at the  $P < .05$  level between 1997 and 1999



# Predictors of Adherence: $P < .05$

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- Excellent general health
- No sexual risk behaviors
- No crack use
- No heavy drinking (5 or more drinks on at least 5 occasions in the past 6 months)



# Top 3 Reasons Cited for Missing HIV Medications

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- I forgot (33%)
- I slept through the dose time (19%)
- I felt depressed (19%)



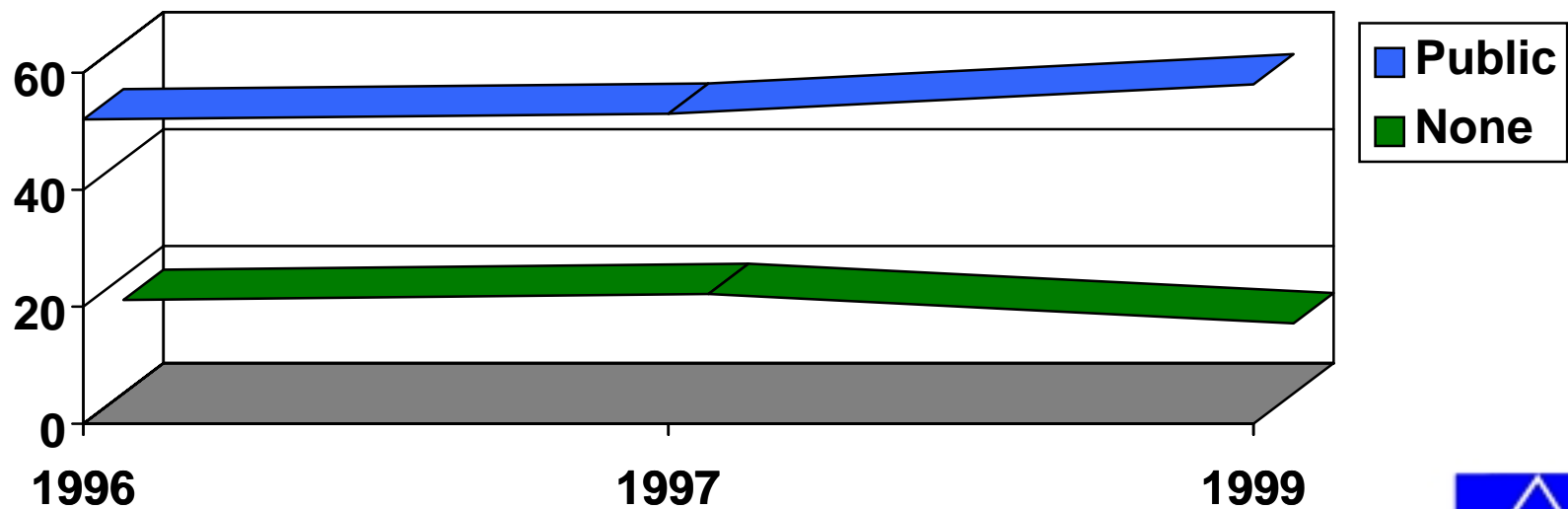
# Health Insurance Status

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- 58% reported having public health insurance (Medi-Cal, Medicare, Medi-Medi, or VA)
- 32% reported having private health insurance (private or HMO)
- 12% reported having no health insurance



# Health Insurance Types: Changing Trends: 1996-99



**1999 clients more likely to report public types:  $P < .05$**



# Homeless Status

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- 3.3% of clients reported being homeless in the past 6 months (3.4% of APLA clients report being homeless)
- 10.3% reported being at risk of becoming homeless within 3 months
- African Americans were more likely to report being homeless (6.9%)  $P < .05$



# Sexual Risk Behaviors by Sexual Orientation

● All Clients	31%
● Gay Men	34%
● Lesbian Women	N=3
● Bisexual Men	30%
● Bisexual Women	N=7
● Heterosexual Women	15%
● Heterosexual Men	12%



# Sexual Risk Behaviors: Significant Differences: $P < .05$

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- Gay and Bisexual men more likely than women and heterosexuals to report sexual risk behaviors
- Caucasian gay men more likely than other gay men to report sexual risk behaviors
- Clients who report non-adherence more likely to report sexual risk behaviors



# Predictors of Sexual Risk Among Sexually Active Gay Men: $P < .05$

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- Age (19-39)
- Inhalant use
- Reporting multiple sexual partners
- Feeling the effects of drinking alcohol or using drugs before having sex



# Significant Differences in Recreational Drug Use: $P < .05$

- 52% reported recreational drug use in the past 6 months
- 7-10% of US. population report recreational drug use (SAMHSA)
- Gay male, less educated, Caucasian, younger (20-29), non-adherent, and sexual risk taking clients reported high prevalence of drug use



# Any Alcohol Use in the Past 6 Months

- 69% of clients reported any alcohol use
- 52% of the general population report any alcohol use
- 85% of gay men in the general population report any alcohol use
- Survey respondents reported higher rates of alcohol use compared to the general population, but lower rates compared to gay men:  $P < .05$



# Tobacco Use

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- 40% of clients reported smoking cigarettes in the past 6 months
- Compared to 28% of the general population
- 20% of LA County population smoke cigarettes



# Other Risk Behaviors

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- 3.3% of clients reported injecting drugs
- 42% of those did not always clean works (N =10)
- 57% of clients reporting high risk sexual activities in the past 6 months did not always disclose their HIV status
- 46% reported feeling the effects of drugs or alcohol during sex



# 10 Most Used Services, 1999

<b>1. Pub</b>	<b>66.8%</b>	<b>6. NOLP</b>	<b>33.0%</b>
<b>2. Dental</b>	<b>55.5%</b>	<b>7. HALSA</b>	<b>32.9%</b>
<b>3. Client Line</b>	<b>49.5%</b>	<b>8. Benefits</b>	<b>29.3%</b>
<b>4. Res</b>	<b>37.0%</b>	<b>9. HIV Center</b>	<b>23%</b>
<b>5. CaseM</b>	<b>36.9%</b>	<b>10. Tran</b>	<b>22.9%</b>



# 5 Most Used Services: 1996-99


<i>1999</i>	<i>1997</i>	<i>1996</i>
<b>Pub</b>	Dental	Dental
<b>Dental</b>	Pub	Clientln
<b>Clientln</b>	Clientln	Pub
<b>Res</b>	NOLP	NOLP
<b>Caseman</b>	Living Skills	Legal



# Client Satisfaction: 1997-99

	1997	1999
APLA Overall Satisfaction	2.0	2.3
Mean Scores for Services	2.0	2.0

**Scale: 1-5**  
1=Excellent  
2=Above Average  
3=Average  
4=Below Average  
5=Poor



1999 clients reported lower overall satisfaction:  $P < .05$

# Client Satisfaction: New Services

- Work Services = 2.2
- Child Care = 1.9
- Women's Services = 1.9
- Residential Services = 1.9

## Scale: 1-5

1=Excellent

2=Above

Average

3=Average

4=Below Average

5=Poor



# Services with Significantly Higher Client Satisfaction Compared to 1997: $P < .05$

- Nutrition (2.2 to 1.7)
- Transportation (2.3 to 1.9)

Scale: 1-5  
1=Excellent  
2=Above  
Average  
3=Average



# Highlights from the 1999 Client Survey

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- Greater prevalence of poverty as seen by significant increases in reliance on public benefits
- One-third of clients have returned to work after leaving work because of HIV
- High prevalence of drug, alcohol, tobacco use
- High prevalence of sexual risk behaviors



# Highlights from the 1999 Client Survey (2)

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- Clients are less likely to be taking HIV medications exactly as their Doctor prescribes compared to 1997
- The majority of clients reported feeling better or the same as they did 1 year ago
- APLA services continue to be rated as above average



# Action Steps

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- APLA is currently planning to expand our focus on HIV medication adherence, recreational drug and alcohol use, and mental health issues
- APLA is also pursuing the development of a prevention for positives program to address sexual risk behaviors among clients
- APLA's return to work program has moved to the first floor to provide more access to clients