



NYC DOHMH
BUREAU OF EPIDEMIOLOGY SERVICES

Aldo Crossa and Liza King

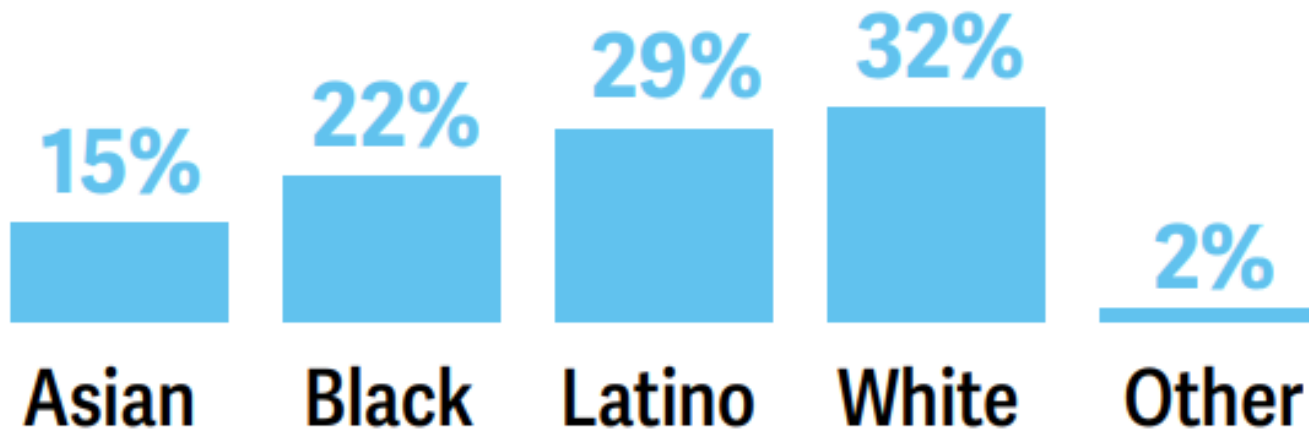
**Advancing community health equity: using
disaggregated American Community Survey
data to understand social determinants of
health among Asian/Pacific Islanders and
Indigenous Peoples of the Americas in New
York City**

NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
2023 ACS Data Users Conference
May 17, 2023, 3:40pm

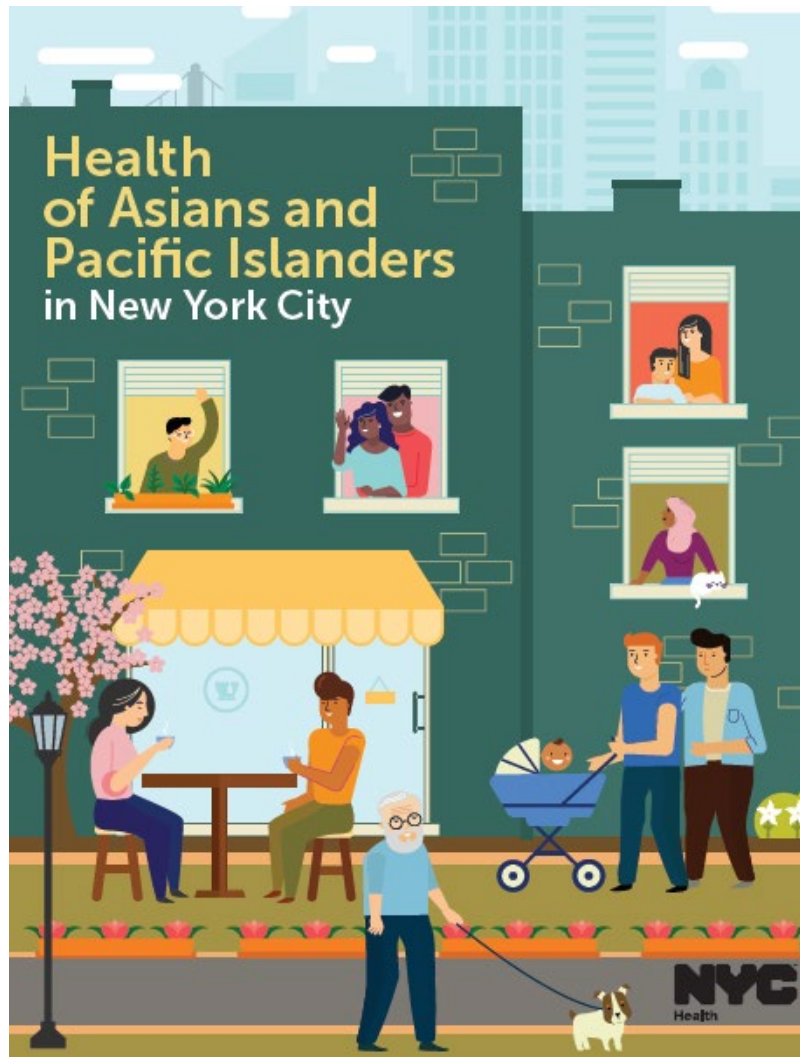


Race and ethnicity are commonly presented in five groups

New York City



Both released in December 2021



<https://www.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/episrv/asian-pacific-islander-health-2021.pdf>

NYC
HEALTH

Epi Research Report

December 2021

Health of Indigenous Peoples of the Americas Living in New York City

Indigenous peoples of the Americas Epi Research Report Workgroup

Introduction

New York City (NYC) is home to the largest urban population of people identifying as Natives, First Nations, and Indigenous peoples of the Americas in the United States (hereafter referred to as Indigenous peoples of the Americas, see p. 5 for a note on terminology). As of 2010, about 112,000 Indigenous peoples of the Americas live in NYC - 1.4% of the population.¹ Natives, First Nations, and Indigenous peoples in NYC represent hundreds of distinct sovereign nations, communities, knowledge and political systems, cultures, and languages, contributing to the unique diversity of NYC. For example, contributors to this Epi Research Report come from the Cheyenne River Sioux, Diné, Garinagu, Kichwa/Quechua, Kumeyaay, Nuü Savi (Nation of the Rain), Haudenosaunee, Nahua, Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo, Shuar, Me'phaa, and White Mountain Apache Nations. Our resistant and resilient communities share similar experiences and histories of colonization, rooted in white supremacy, that continue to this day. At their worst, colonizers perpetrated genocide, including cultural genocide through inhumane policies of assimilation such as forbiddance of cultural practices and Indigenous languages, forced education in non-Indigenous ways of knowing, and forced migration due to land theft and oppression from governments and discriminatory societies.² Despite historic and ongoing injustices, Indigenous peoples have been at the forefront of worldwide efforts to confront and reverse the environmental catastrophe caused by climate change, which are and will be to the benefit of all humankind.^{3,4} Today, Indigenous peoples of the Americas living in NYC make many contributions to the cultural and economic life of the City, yet many also continue to experience challenges with accessing resources that promote health. This includes being unable to obtain well-maintained and affordable housing, secure jobs with benefits, culturally appropriate health and mental health care, and traditional foods.^{5,6}

Key points

- Data show health disparities between Indigenous peoples and other racial/ethnic groups in New York City, including a lower prevalence of access to health care and a higher prevalence of some chronic conditions. These inequities are rooted in systemic racism.
- Existing health, economic and other forms of inequities have converged during the COVID-19 pandemic to increase risk of exposure, infection, and death among Indigenous peoples.
- The methods for data collection, including terminology used to identify Indigenous peoples, limit utility of data collected and likely underrepresent the population. Methods can be improved.
- A collaboration with Indigenous peoples living in NYC guided the development of this report.

¹ Norris T, Vines PL, Hoefel EM. 2010 Census Brief C2010BR-10: The American Indian and Alaska Native Population: 2010. U.S. Census Bureau, 2012. Accessed Sept. 4, 2019. Available from: [census.gov/popest/data/totals/2010/c2010br-10.html](https://www.census.gov/popest/data/totals/2010/c2010br-10.html). See p. 5 for note on the term "Indigenous peoples of the Americas."

² UN General Assembly. United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Accessed September 8, 2021. Available from: [UNDRIP_E_web.pdf](https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/).

³ Etchart, L. The role of indigenous peoples in combating climate change. *Palgrave Commun* 3, 17085 (2017). <https://doi.org/10.1057/palcomms.2017.85>

⁴ Schramm PI, Al Janabi AL, Campbell LW, Donatuto JL, Gaughen SC. How Indigenous Communities are Adapting to Climate Change: Insights from the Climate-Ready Tribes Initiative. *Health Affairs* 39(12); 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1377/hlthaff.2020.00997>

⁵ Urban Indian Health Institute, Seattle Indian Health Board (2018). Community Health Profile: Individual Site Report: New York Urban Indian Health Program Service Area.

⁶ Kaufman D and Perlín R. Surveying Indigenous Latin American Languages in NYC: A report to the NYC Department of Health. Endangered Language Alliance. 2019. Unpublished report.

<https://www.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/episrv/indigenous-peoples-health-2021.pdf>



Bureau of Epidemiology Services

Community engagement was essential to the development of both reports

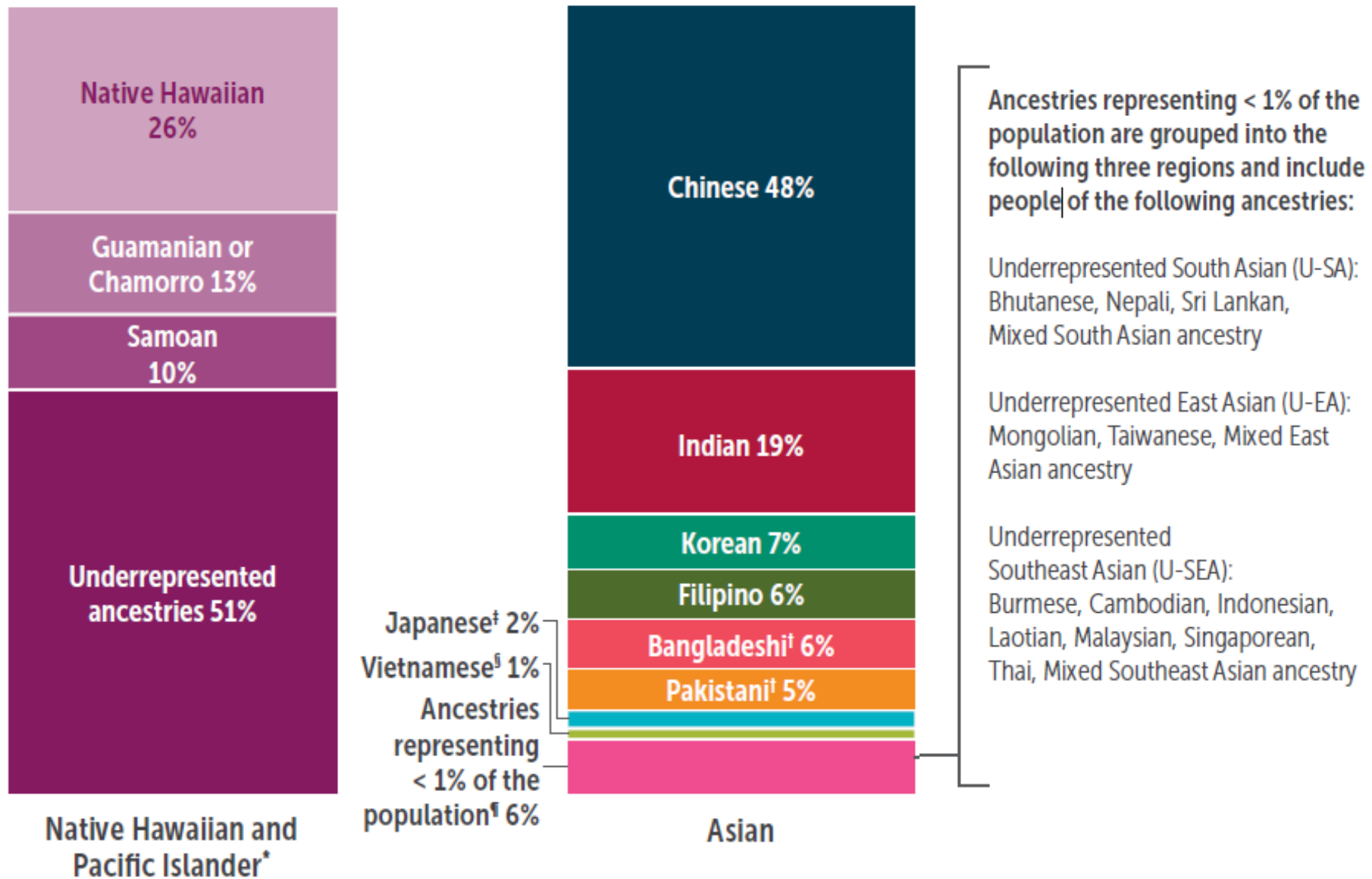


For the Asian/Pacific Islander (API) report, 20+ external partners including academics, advocates, providers, other city agencies, small and large organizations serving API communities provided this feedback:

- **Include Asians alone and in combination (mixed-race and mixed-ethnicity) where possible**
- **Aim to disaggregate as many API ancestry groups as possible for each data source**
- **Underrepresented ancestries that could not be disaggregated due to sample size could be grouped by region, where possible**



Asian and Pacific Islander ancestries in NYC



Source: American Community Survey, 2013-2017

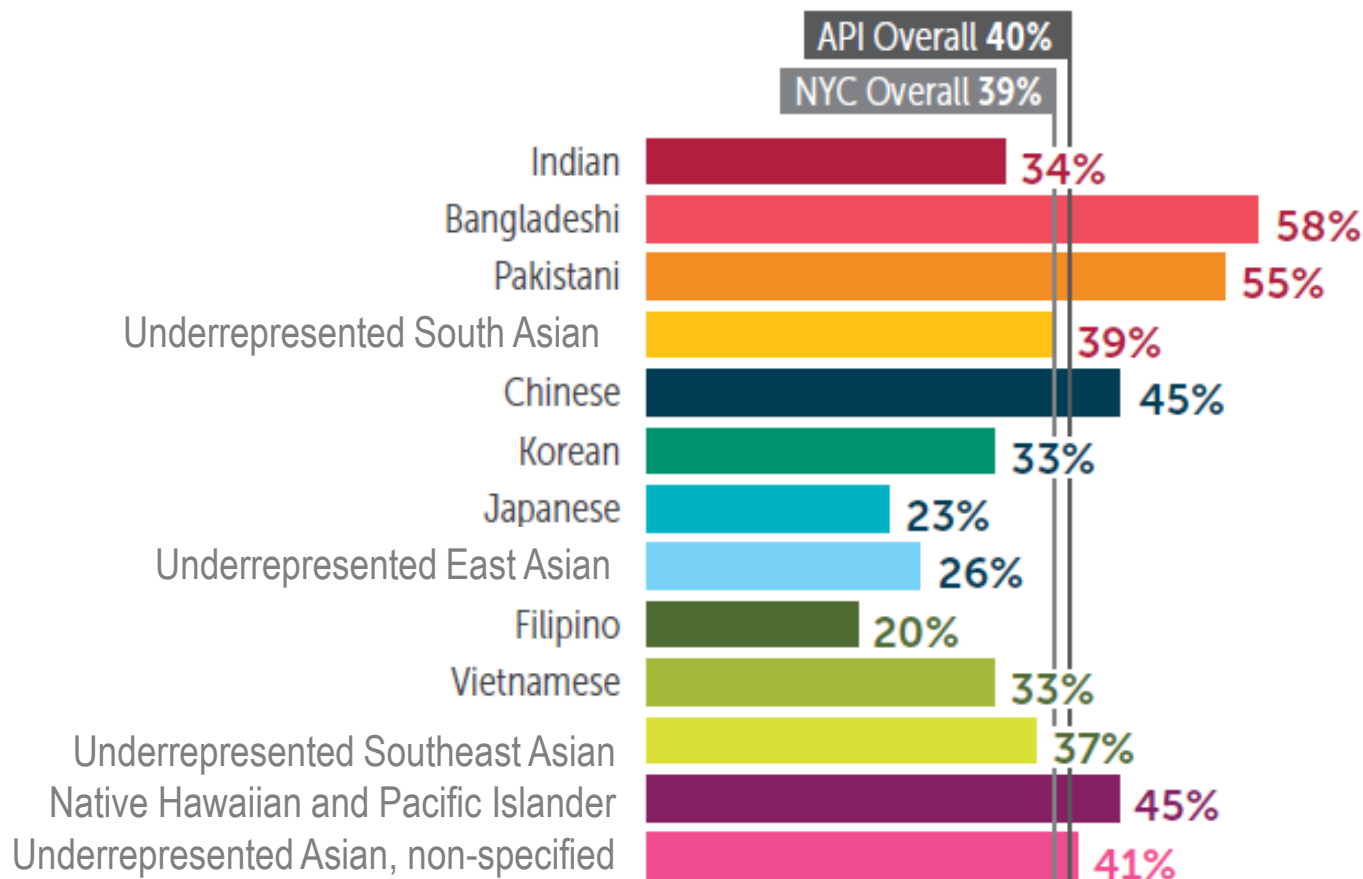
Social determinants of health that were analyzed

- **Education**
- **Employment**
- **Limited English proficiency**
- **Multi-generational households**
- **Rent burden**
- **Residential neighborhood**
- **Poverty**



APIs have the highest income inequality of all racial and ethnic groups

Income below 200% of the federal poverty level



Source: American Community Survey, 2013-2017

Indigenous Peoples of the Americas living in New York City

Health of Indigenous Peoples of the Americas Living in New York City

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Indigenous Peoples of the Americas Epi Research Report workgroup



- Workgroup met five times between December 2018 and July 2019, as well as corresponded by e-mail.
- Initial discussion focused on the limitations of racialized data and the terminology used to classify Indigenous peoples of the Americas



Survey questions identifying Indigenous peoples of the Americas

- In the ACS 2013-2017 asks respondents if they identify as “American Indian/Alaska Native”
 - The Spanish translation “Indio Americano” is not widely used in Latin America
- In consultation with the individuals meant to be represented by our report, we use the term “Indigenous Peoples of the Americas”
 - The term “people original of the Americas” was not used in the questionnaires until the 2020 Census



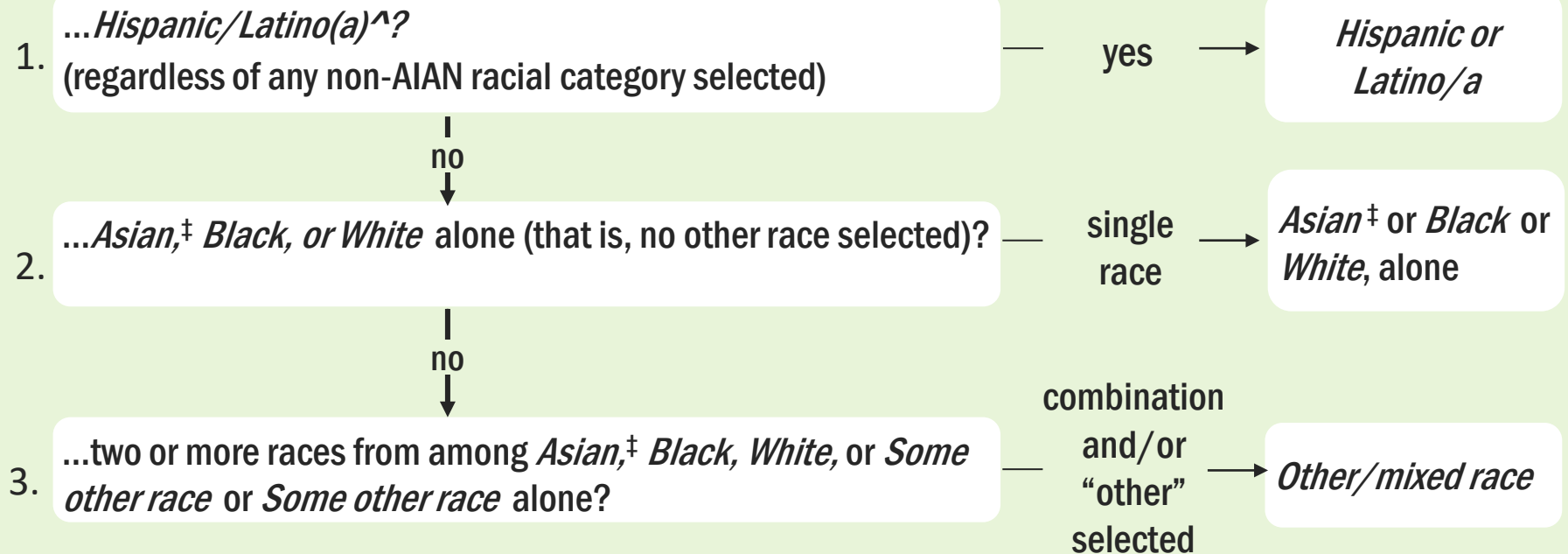
Racial/ethnic groups for analysis of quantitative data about Indigenous peoples of the Americas living in New York City



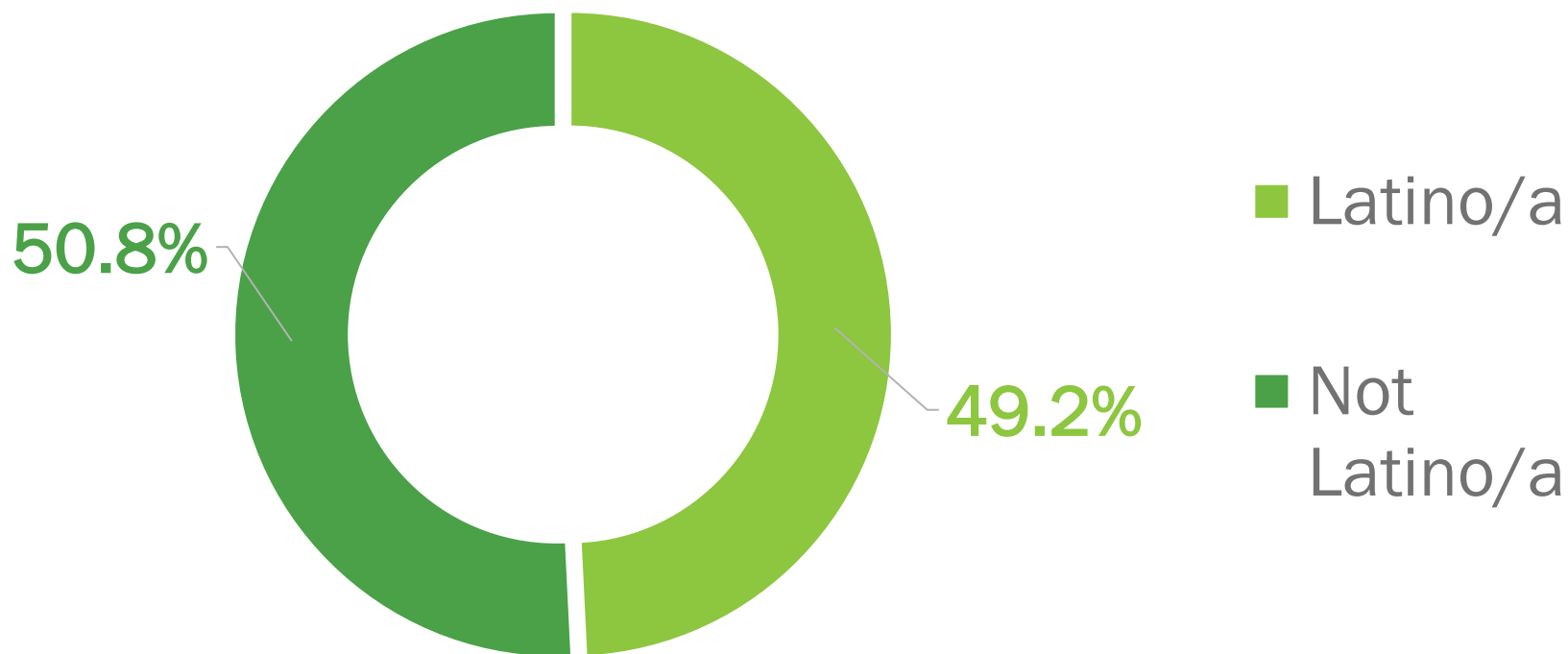
Recoding Race/Ethnicity

Is survey respondent (ACS, CHS) or birthing parent's (birth data) race or ethnicity indicated as...

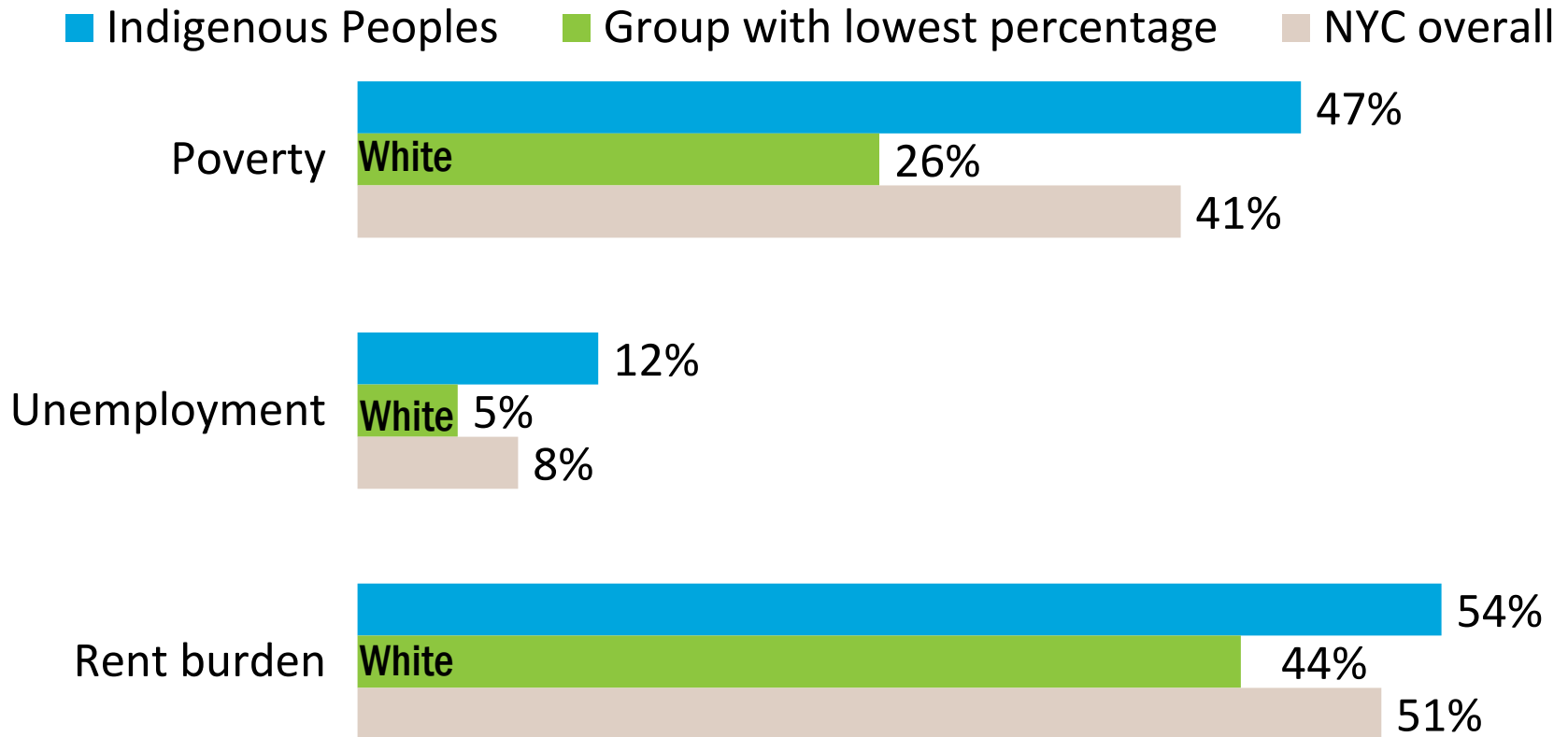
Race/ethnicity



49% of those who identified as American Indian/Alaska Native also identify as Latino/a



Economic conditions among Indigenous peoples of the Americas living in New York City, 2013-2017



Poverty defined as household income less than 200% of the federal poverty level. Unemployment is among those in the workforce 16 years and older. Rent burden defined as rent more than 30% of household income. *Source: Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, U.S. Census American Community Survey 2013-2017*



Conclusions

- Community engagement was essential to the development of both reports
 - Resist the temptation to recode and analyze population data in isolation
- Reconsider conventions for reporting race/ethnicity
 - ACS provides an opportunity to disaggregate data in a way that is informative





Thank you!

**And thank you to Kinjia
Hinterland and Wen Qin
Deng for their help with our
presentation**

Check out our full reports!

<https://www.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/episrv/indigenous-peoples-health-2021.pdf>

<https://www.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/episrv/asian-pacific-islander-health-2021.pdf>

