

# Racial and Ethnic Differences in Health Care Access and Provider Preferences

2012 Data from the AAMC Center for Workforce Studies' Consumer Survey

July 2014



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# Diversity Data Snapshots

## July 2014 Edition

### Diversity Policy and Programs



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## Part 2 of 2: Racial and ethnic differences in provider preferences and experiences with non-physician clinicians

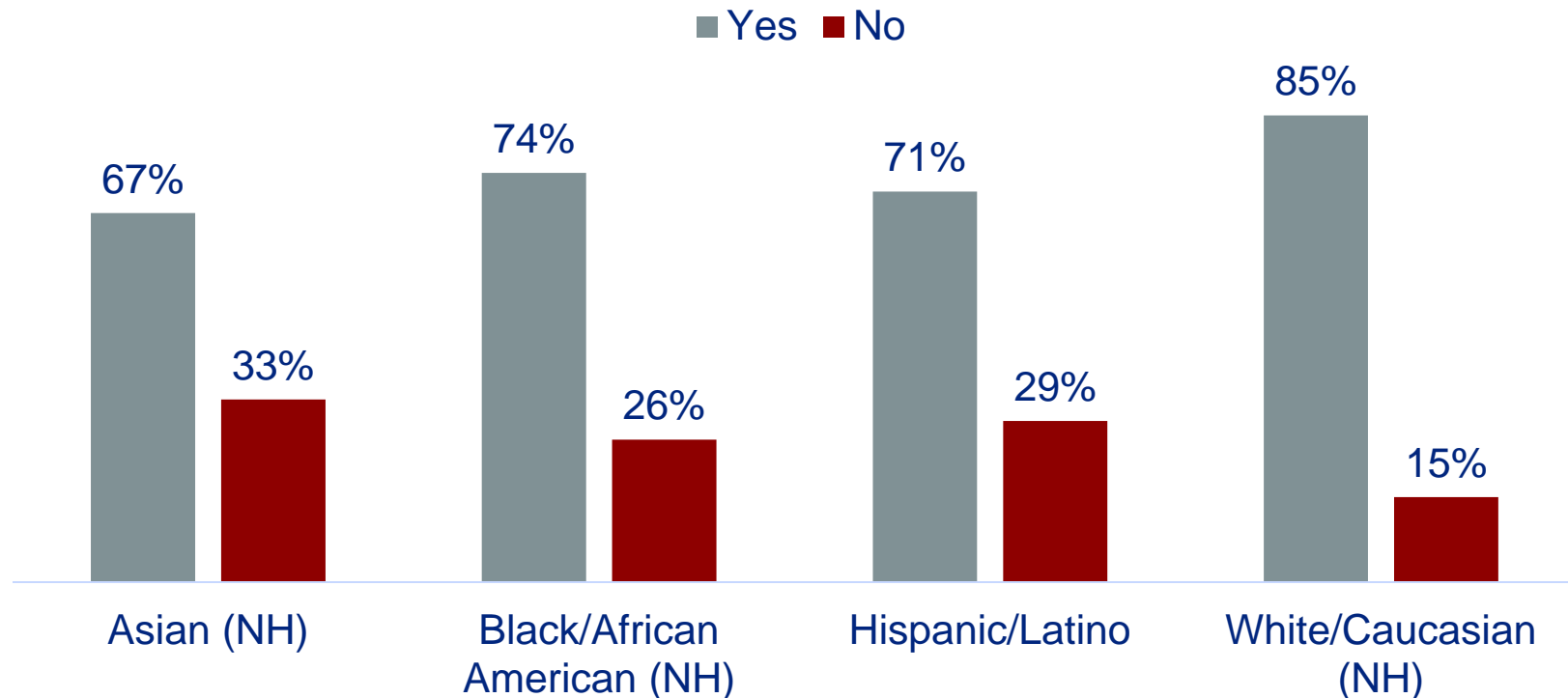
AAMC's Center for Workforce Studies conducted an analysis focusing on racial and ethnic differences in consumer experiences and preferences regarding health care with data from its Consumer Survey (a national sample survey conducted biannually). The second of a two-part series featuring this research, results reported here focus on racial and ethnic differences in patient experiences with non-physician clinicians and patient preferences among physicians, nurse practitioners (NPs), and physician assistants (PAs) among adults who needed care at least once in the 12 months prior to taking the survey (unweighted n=5,597).

# Notes about the data

- Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, American Indian/Alaska Native, Multiple Races & others excluded due to small numbers
- NH = non-Hispanic/Latino
- Sum of percents may not be 100 due to rounding and/or exclusion of “Don’t know” category from the chart
- Sample excludes respondents who did not need medical care in the last 12 months
- Respondents who did not know what a PA or NP was prior to taking the survey were excluded from subsequent questions about PAs and NPs
- Weights were applied to better represent the U.S. adult population

# White respondents were more likely to know about PAs and NPs than non-white respondents

Did you know what either a physician assistant (PA) or nurse practitioner (NP) was prior to this survey?

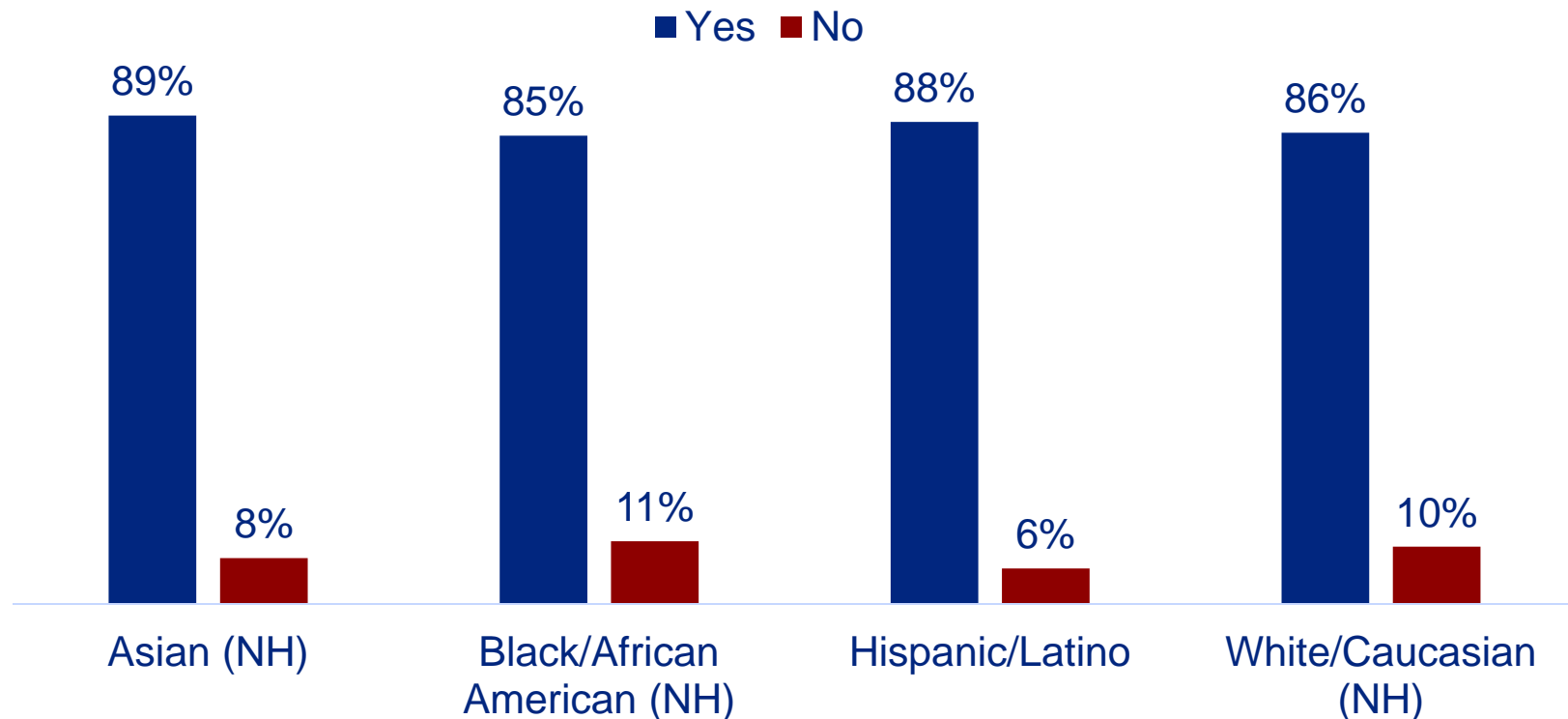


Source: AAMC, 2012 Consumer Survey



# Most respondents had been treated by a PA or NP at least once

Have you ever been treated by a physician assistant (PA) or nurse practitioner (NP)?

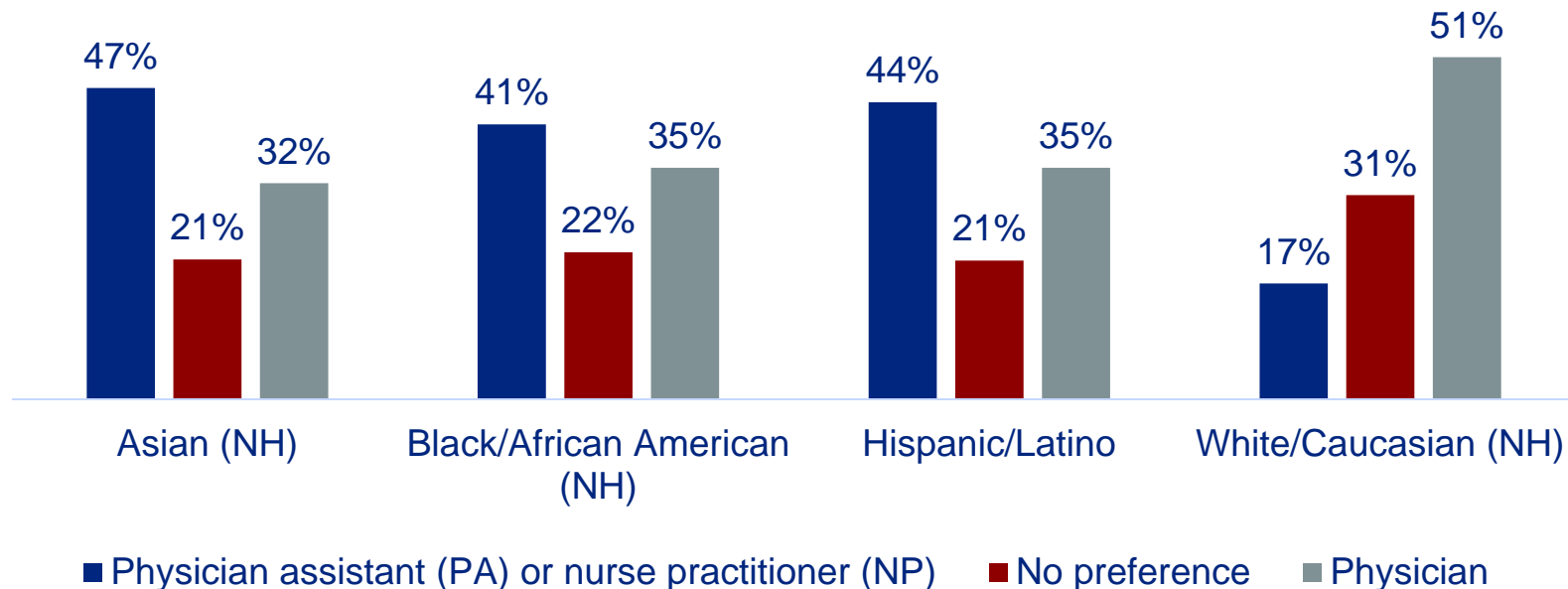


Source: AAMC, 2012 Consumer Survey



# Compared to white respondents, non-white respondents are more likely to prefer PAs and NPs over physicians

Imagine the following scenario: You need to find a new primary care provider. The practice you found has physicians, physician assistants (PAs), and nurse practitioners (NPs) that are all accepting new patients. Which type of provider would you prefer to see?



Source: AAMC, 2012 Consumer Survey



# Limitations

Though not accounted for in this analysis, many factors affect racial and ethnic differences in patient experiences and preferences, such as gender, income, age, insurance status, and educational attainment.



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