

Poverty and health: A health equity assessment in Deschutes County

Jenny Faith & Channa Lindsay
Deschutes County Public Health
October 9, 2017
Oregon Public Health Association 2017



Modernization & Accreditation

**The workgroup decided to start by focusing on data collection, reporting, and use in decision making.*

Modernization

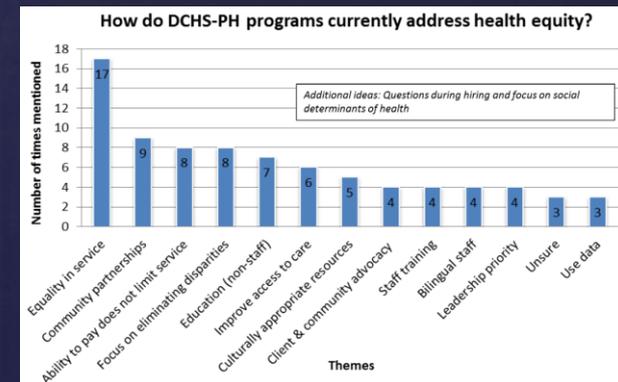
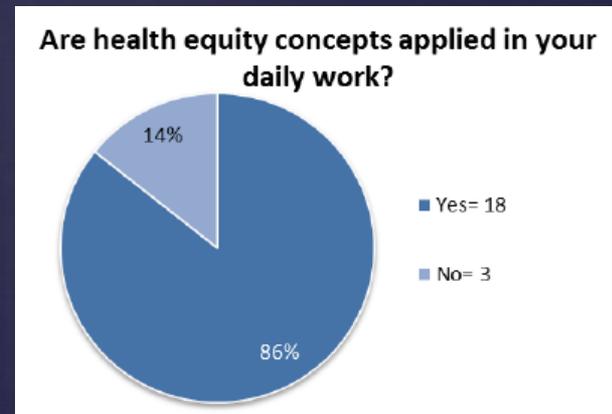
- Use data that reveal inequities in the distribution of disease. Focus on the social conditions that influence health
- Example:
 - Identify population subgroups or geographic areas characterized by...excess burden of adverse health or socioeconomic outcomes...excess burden of environmental health threats...Inadequate health resources

Accreditation

- Page 11: Health Equity = reaccreditation guiding principles
- Example:
 - Domain 3: Department analyzes health inequity, factors that cause or contribute to it, and health equity indicators across communities or neighborhoods.

Overview

- Survey to public health staff to understand the current understanding and use of equity
- Have agency-wide equity and inclusion workgroup with internal agency-wide focus

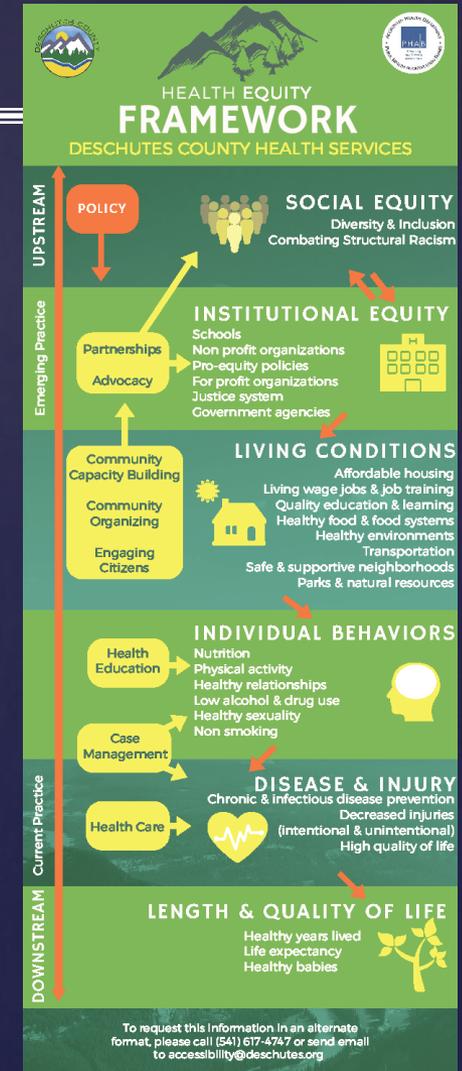


Equity Workgroup

- Benton County rocks!!
(consulting)

- HE definition/framework

- *Deschutes County Health Equity definition: Healthy equity is achieved when all people have full and equal access to opportunities that enable them to attain their full health potential. Health equity work addresses the inequities where people are born, grow, live, learn and age.*



Equity Workgroup

- New Employee Orientation
- Staff resources
- Internal policies through equity lens
- HE Assessment/community assessment

Health Equity Assessment

- Prioritized through workgroup discussions:
 - Focus on Deschutes County (intra-county data)
 - Focus on social determinants, beginning with poverty

Health Equity Assessment Methods

- Methods
 - Identify appropriate county-level data
 - American Community Survey
 - Oregon Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)
 - Deschutes County GIS data
 - Methodological challenges
 - Obtaining data for small geographical areas
 - Small sample sizes/conditions with low prevalence
 - Data may be 2-3 years old

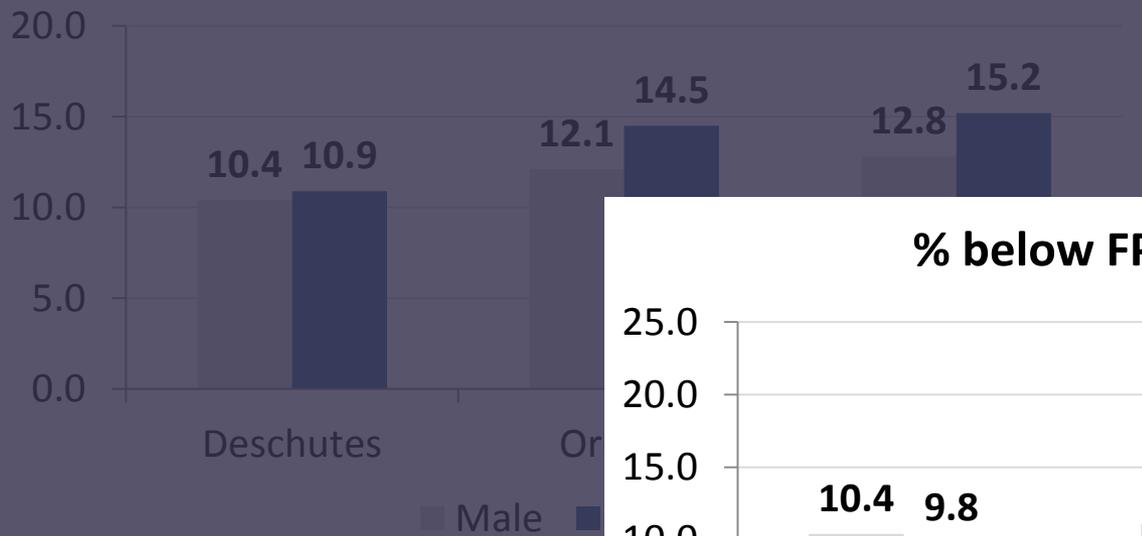
Health Equity Assessment Methods

- Descriptive statistics
- Crosstabs and chi-squared statistics for differences in proportions
- GIS mapping for poverty data at census block group-level

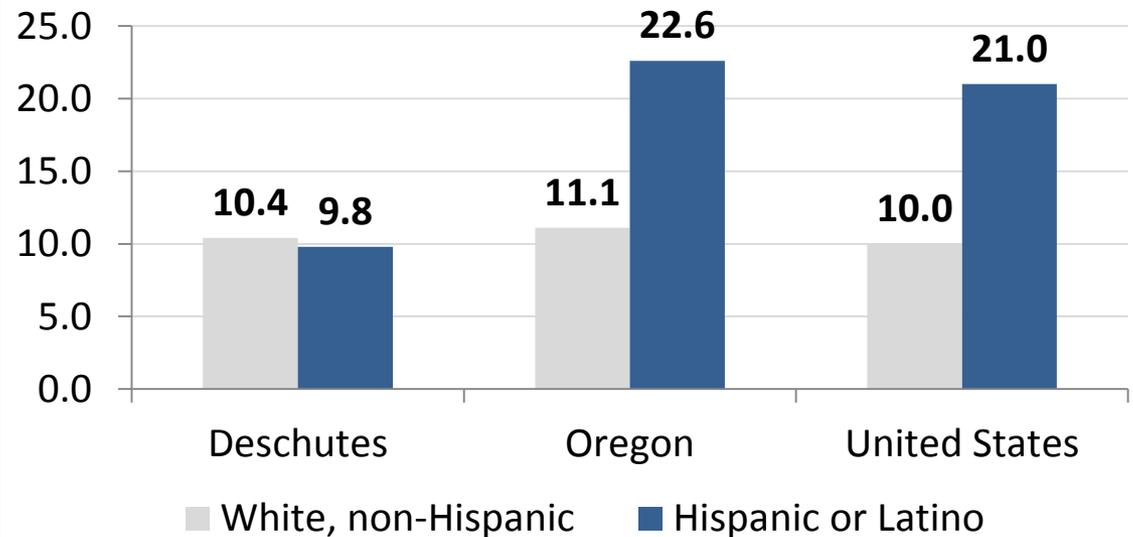
Highlighted Results: Demographics

Data from 2016
American Community
Survey

% below FPL, by sex

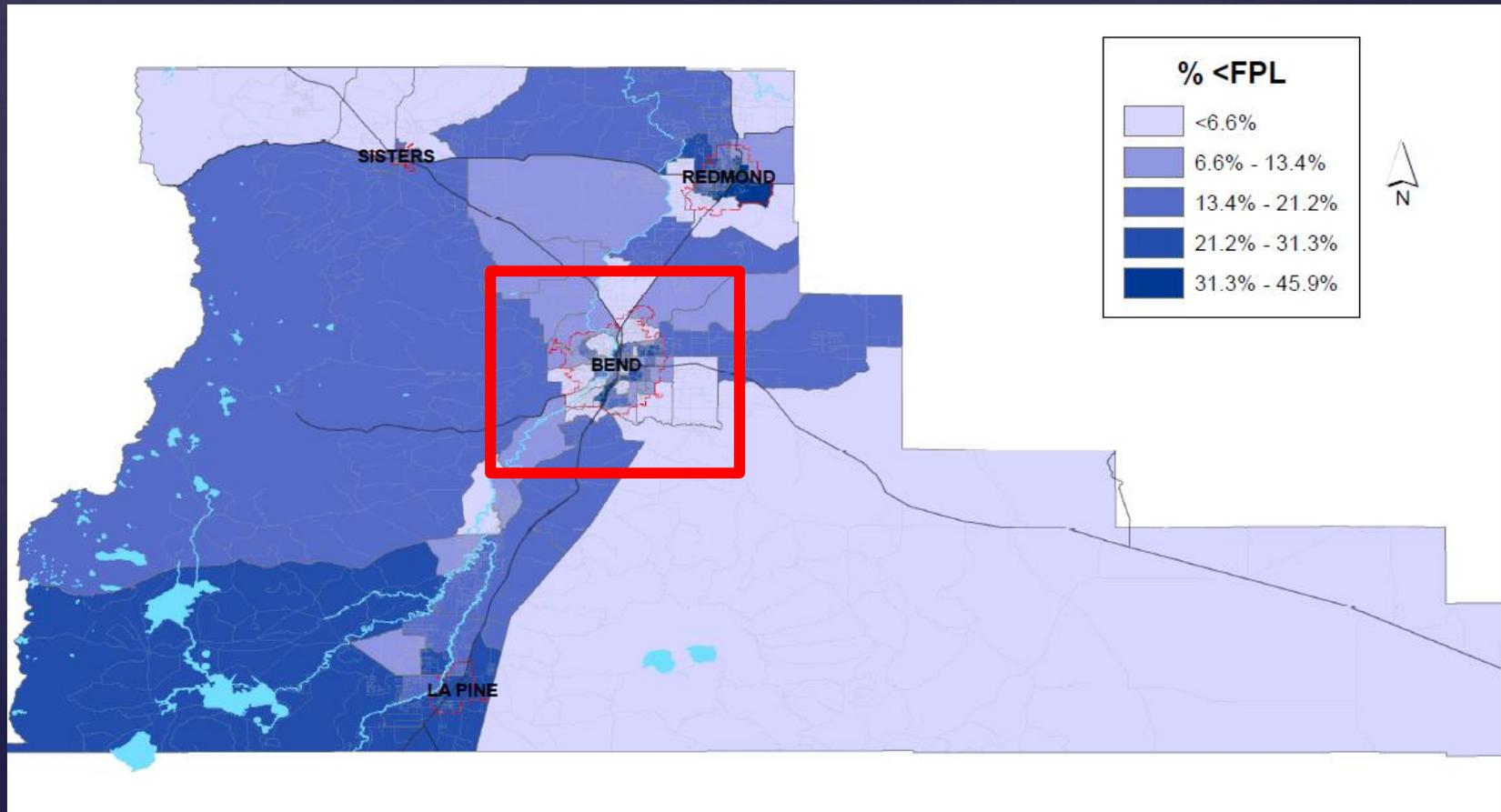


% below FPL, by ethnicity



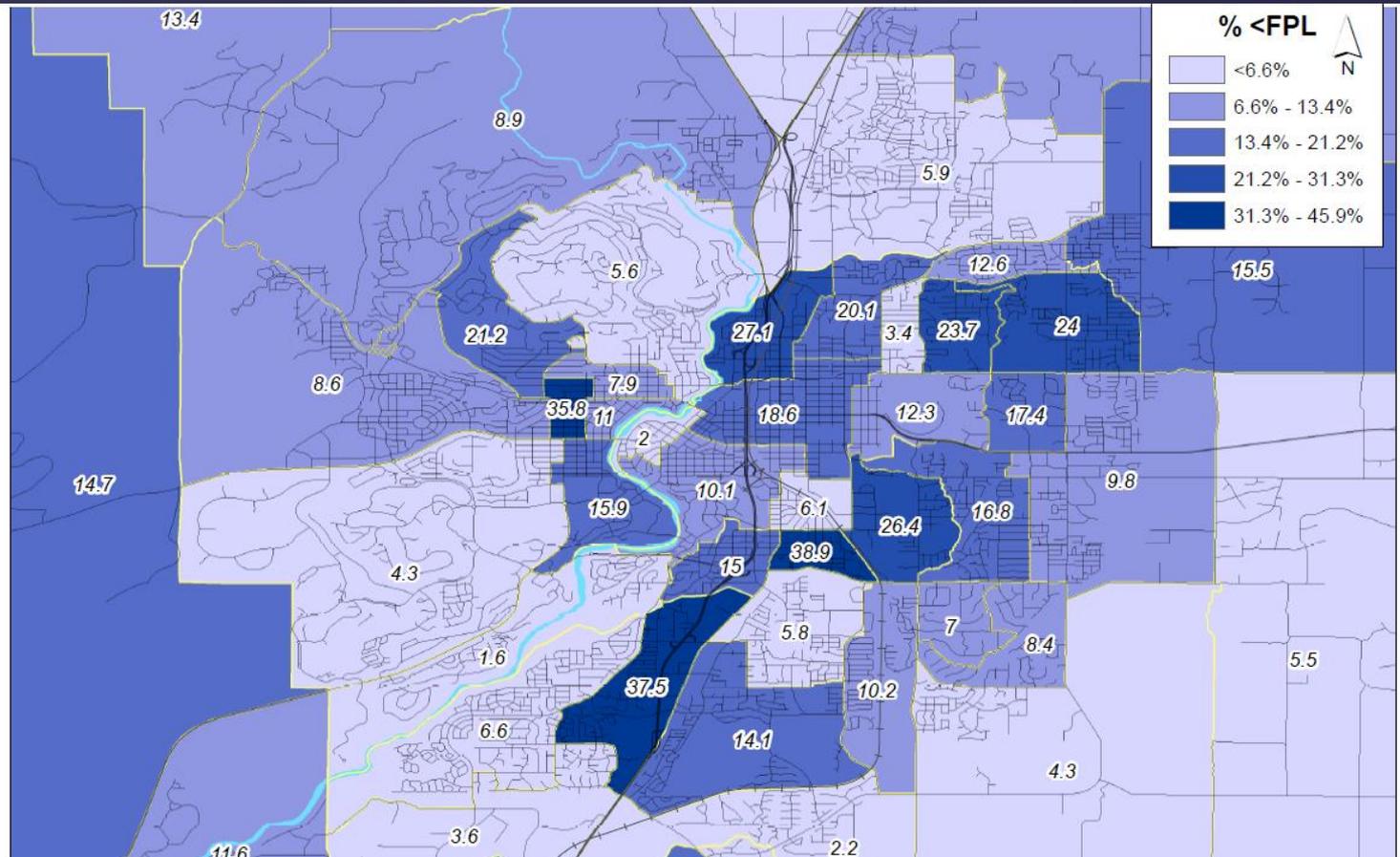
Highlighted Results: Geography

Deschutes County



Highlighted Results: Geography

Bend,
Oregon



Map Source: Deschutes County Health Services, February 2017

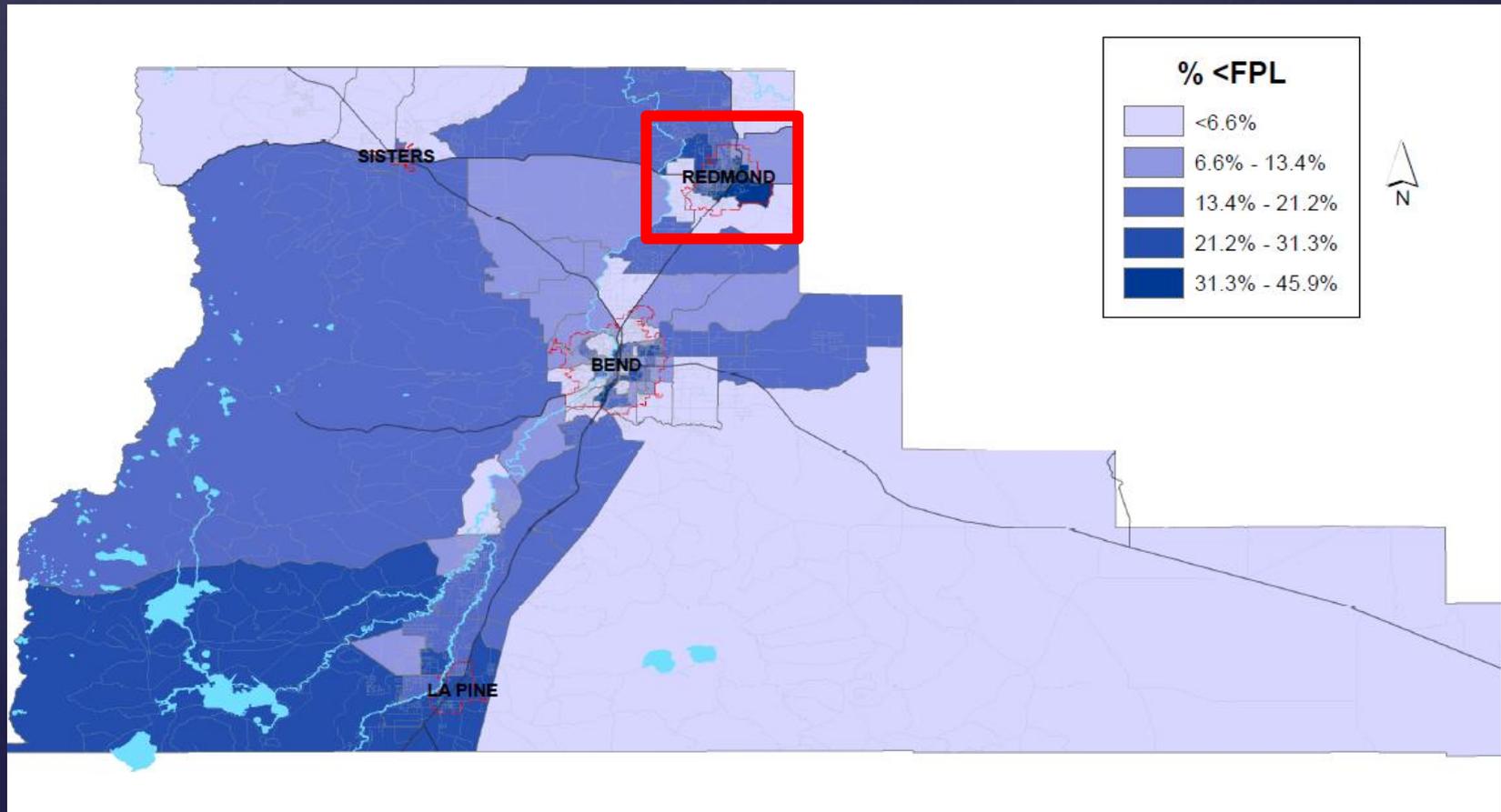
Shapefile Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Poverty Data Source: American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2011-2015.

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

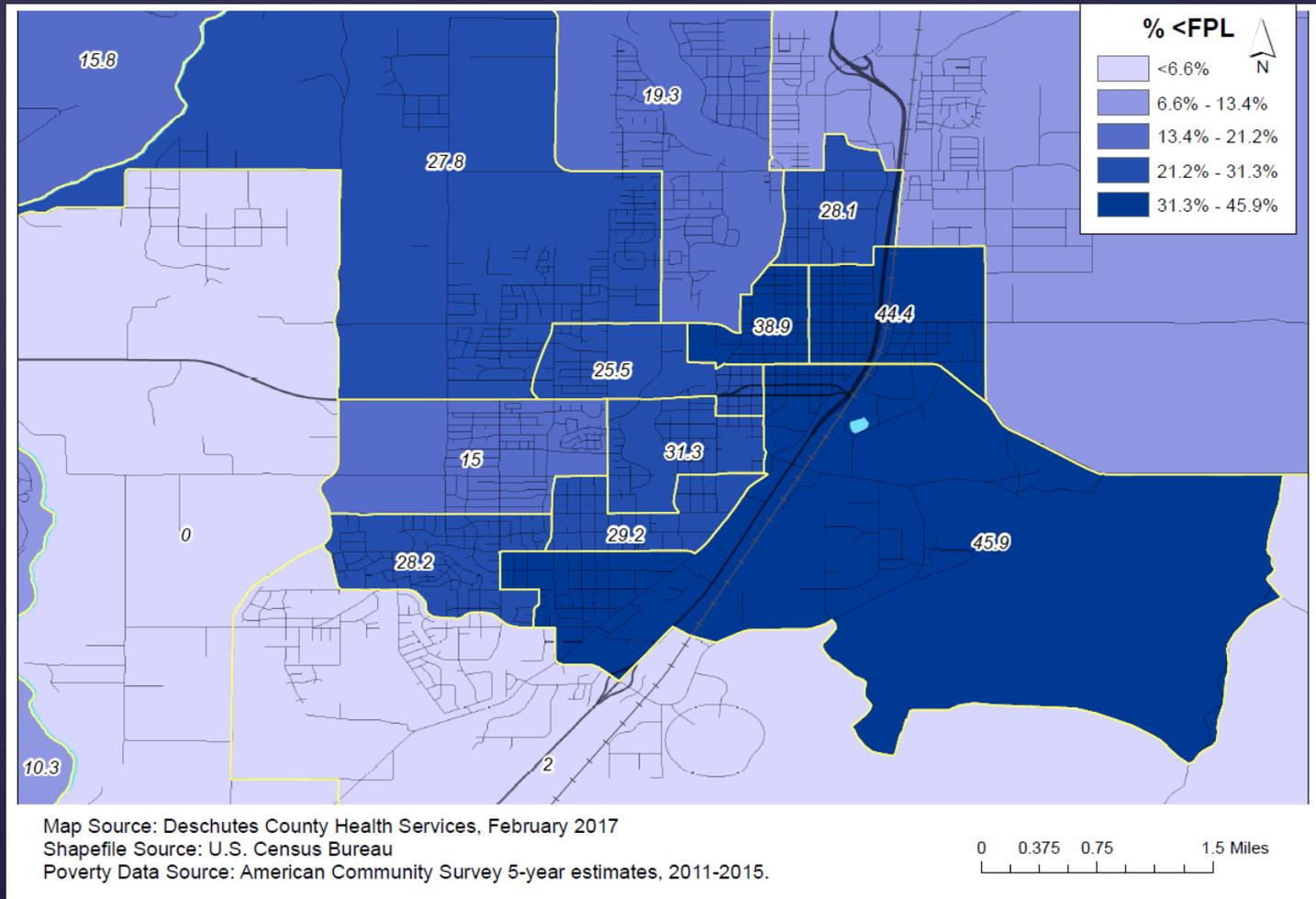
Highlighted Results: Geography

Deschutes County



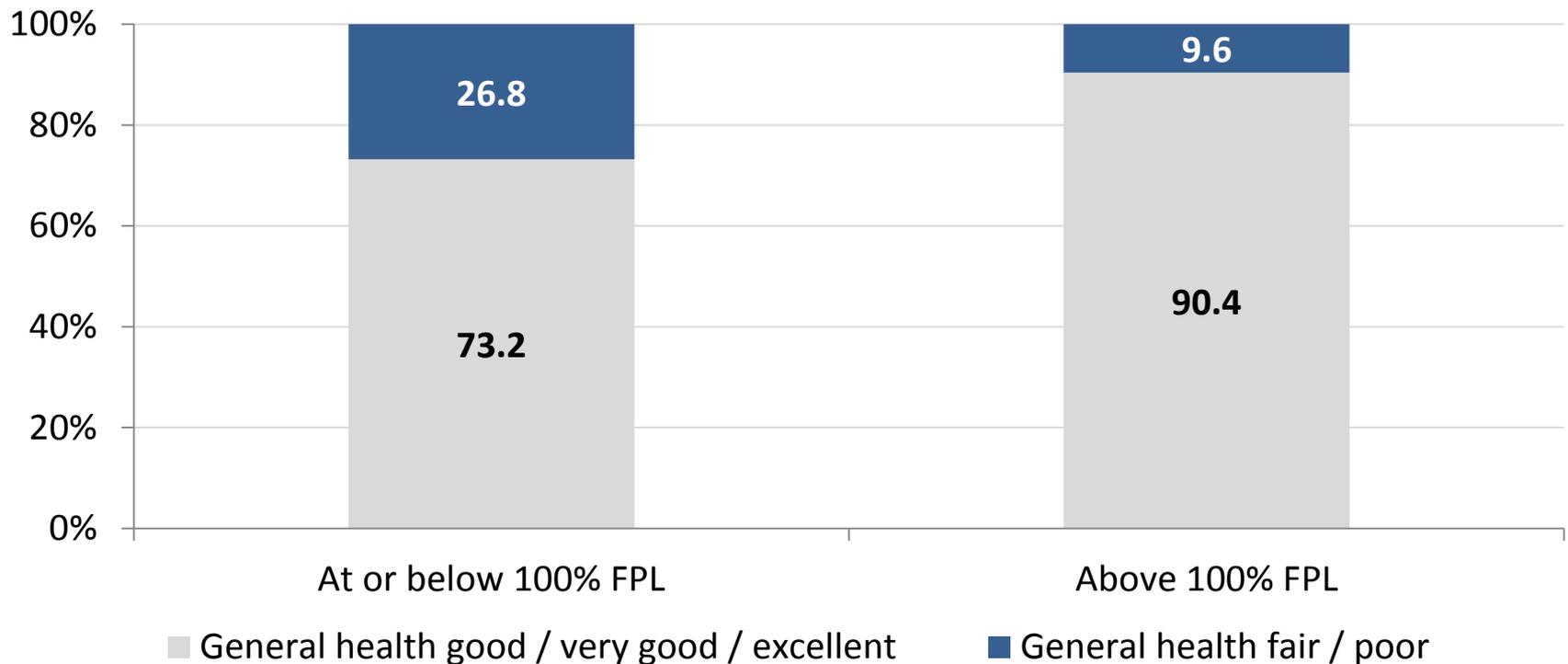
Highlighted Results: Geography

Redmond,
Oregon



Highlighted Results: Health Behaviors and Outcomes

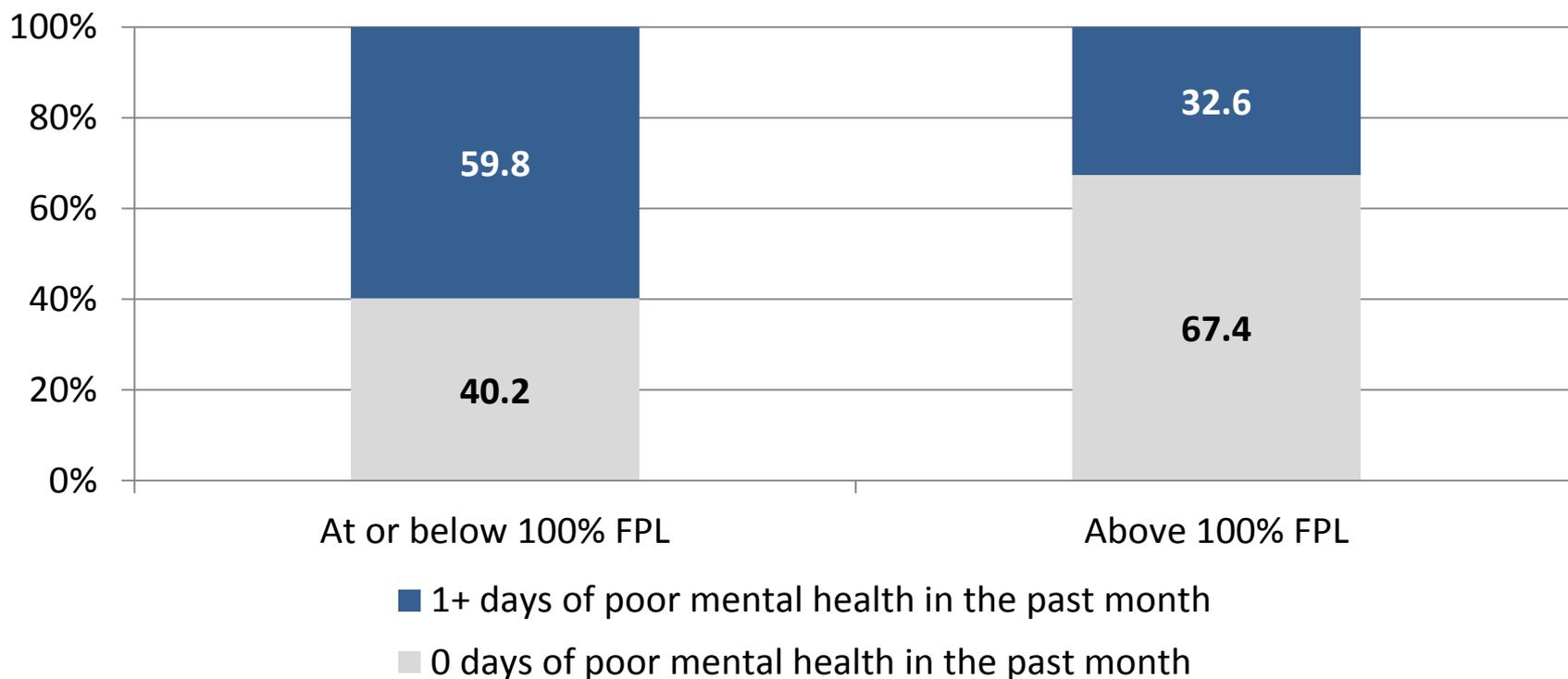
Overall/general health status, by poverty status



Data are from the 2012-2015 Combined Oregon BRFSS
Difference between groups is statistically significant

Highlighted Results: Health Behaviors and Outcomes

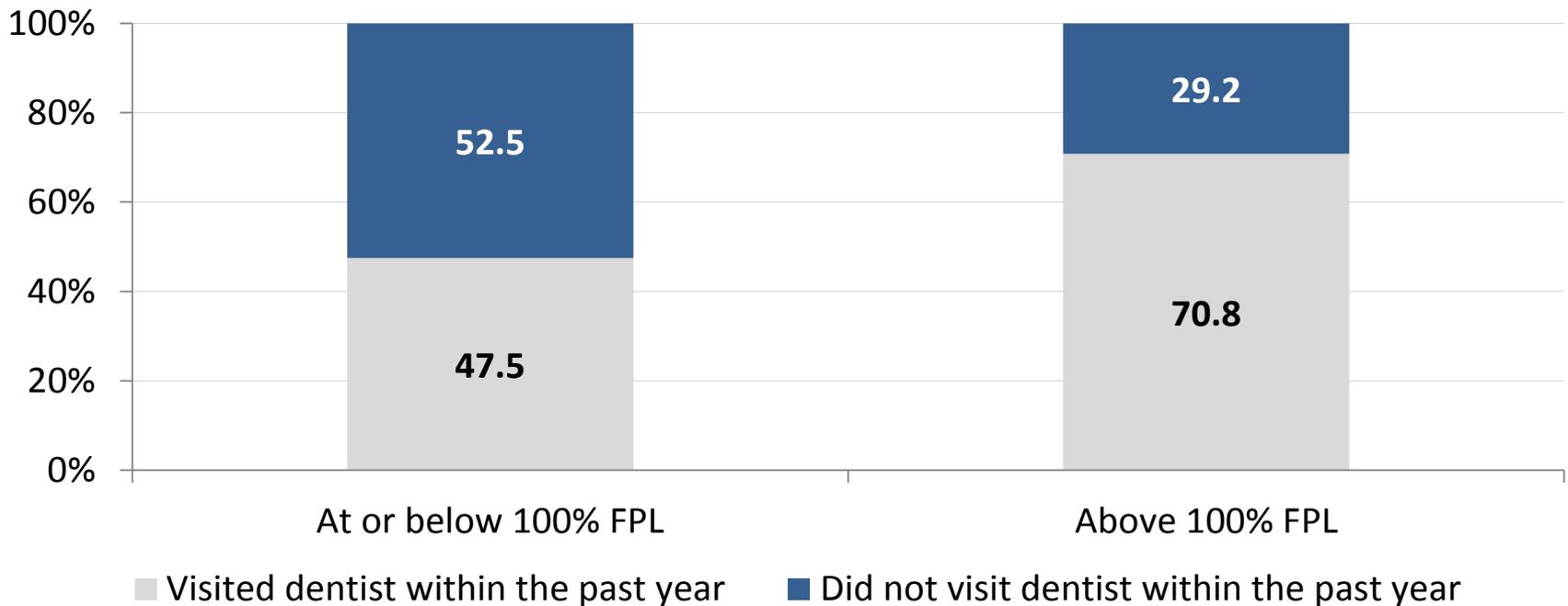
Poor Mental Health Days in the past month, by poverty status



Data are from the 2012-2015 Combined Oregon BRFSS
Difference between groups is statistically significant

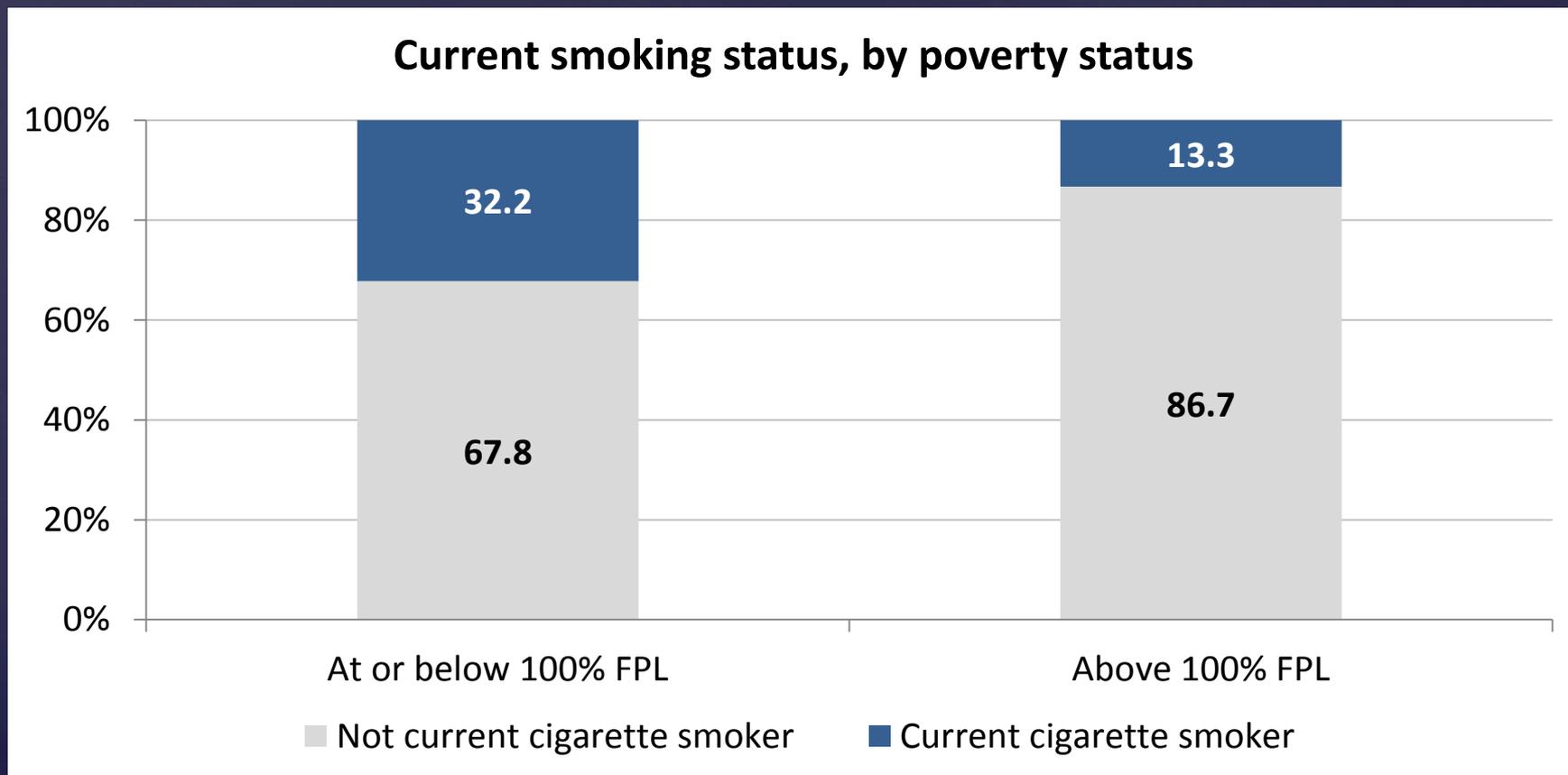
Highlighted Results: Health Behaviors and Outcomes

Oral Health: % who visited a dentist over the past year, by poverty status



Data are from the 2012-2015 Combined Oregon BRFSS
Difference between groups is statistically significant

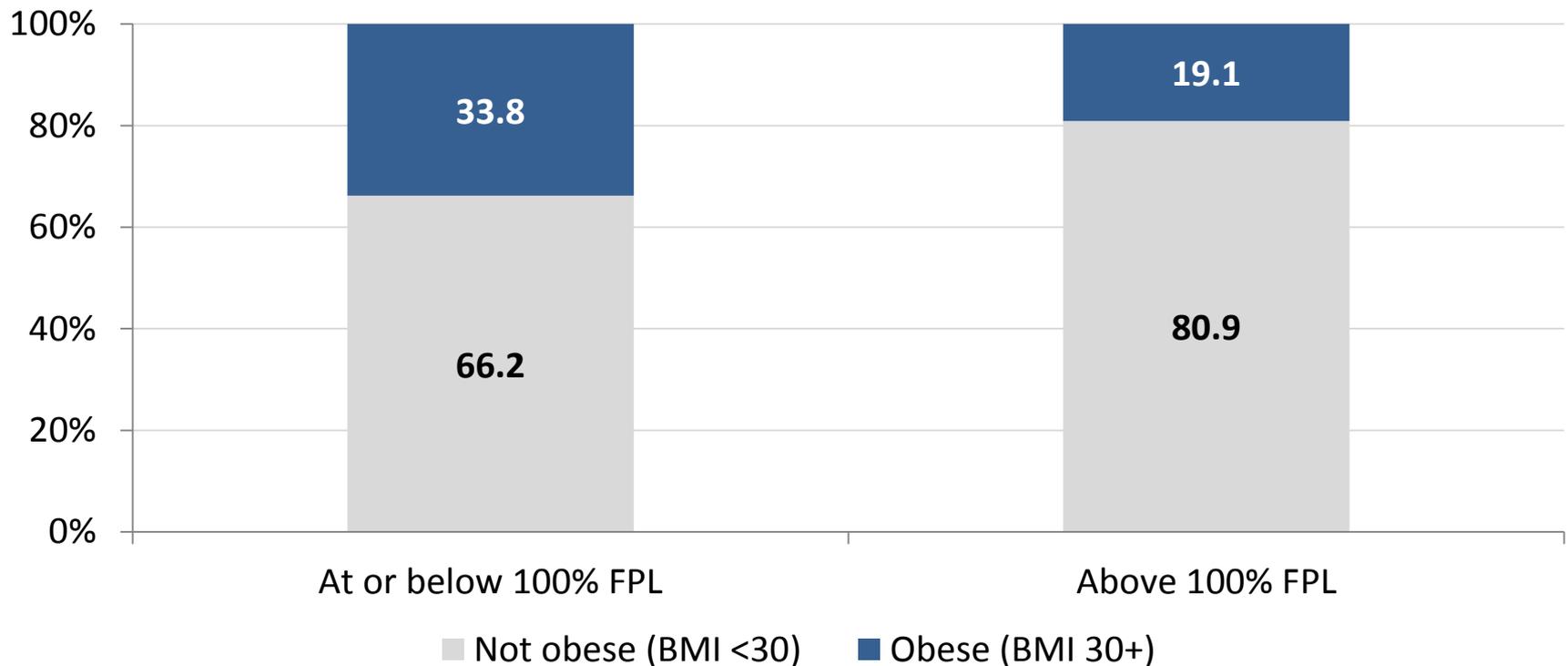
Highlighted Results: Health Behaviors and Outcomes



Data are from the 2012-2015 Combined Oregon BRFSS
Difference between groups is statistically significant

Highlighted Results: Health Behaviors and Outcomes

Obesity, by poverty status



Data are from the 2012-2015 Combined Oregon BRFSS
Difference between groups is statistically significant

Next Steps

- Dissemination report and webpage
- Guide agency planning
- Continue to assess other social determinants

Thank you!

