



AN EXPLORATORY RESEARCH TO REDUCE BARRIERS  
OF THE UNINSURED AND UNDERSERVED  
POPULATIONS FOR QUALITY HEALTH CARE IN  
MISSISSIPPI

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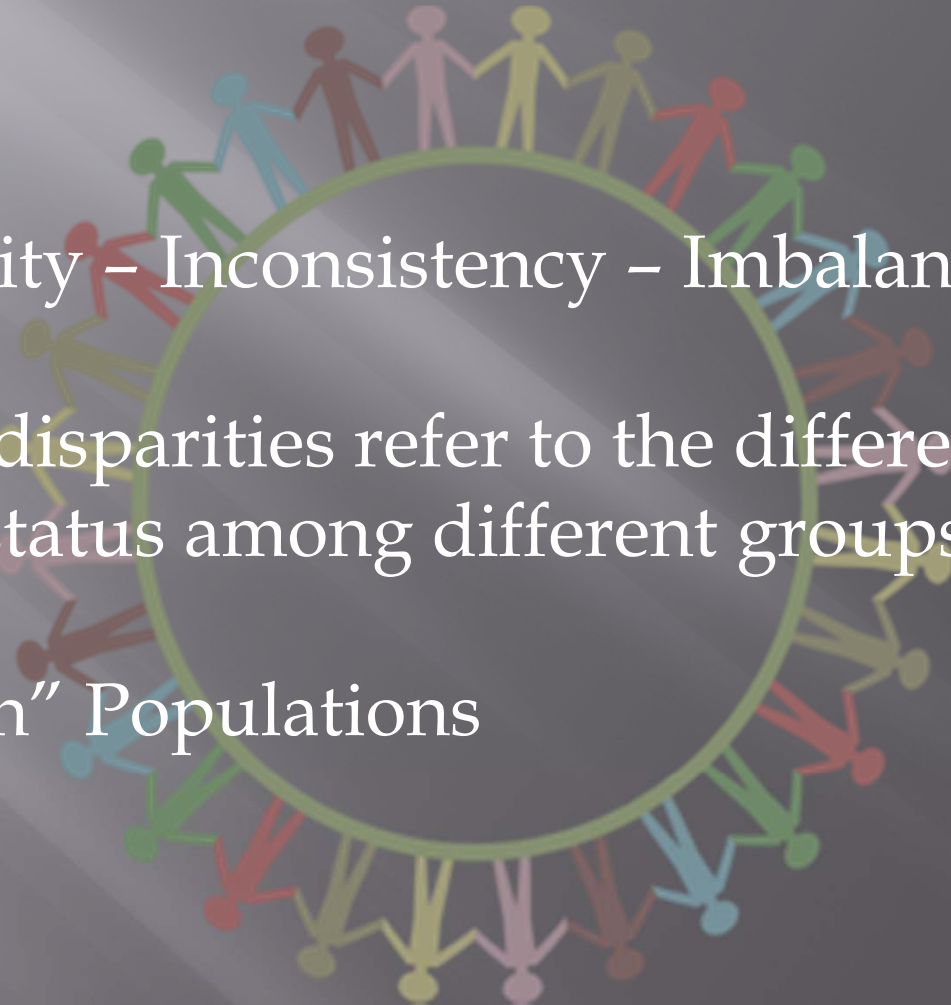
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# What is Health Disparity?

Inequality – Inconsistency – Imbalance

Health disparities refer to the differences in the health status among different groups of people.

The “Un” Populations

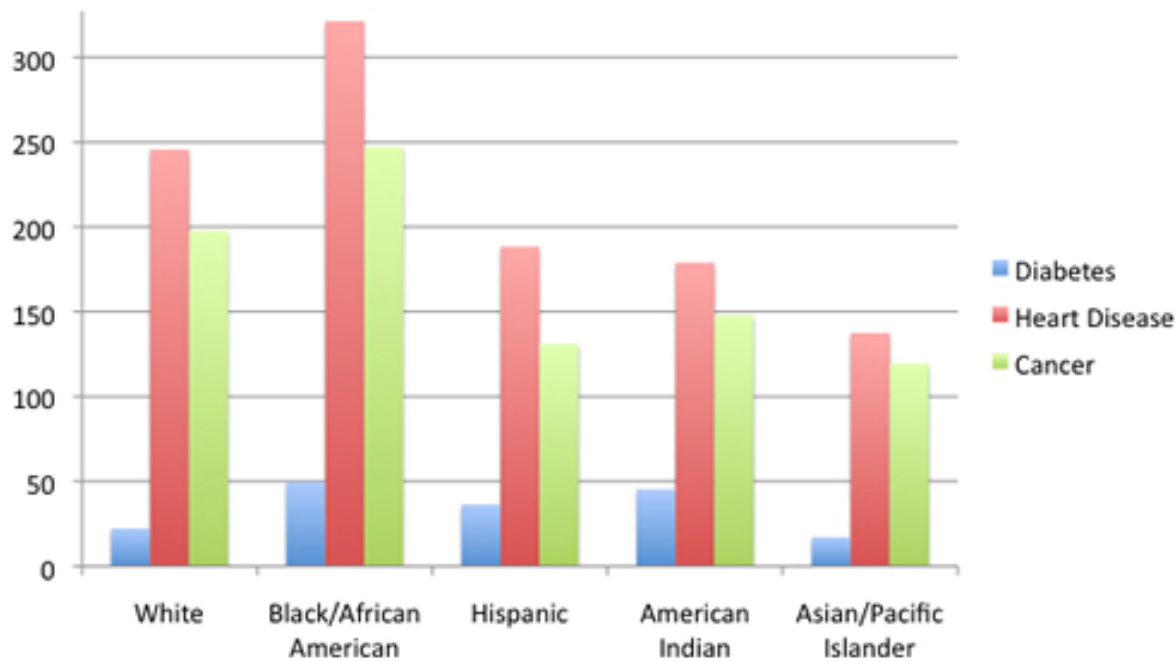


**These groups can differ from race, ethnicity, income, geography, disability or gender.**

**If a health outcome is seen as a greater or lesser extent between populations, there is a disparity.**

**The focal area to discuss disparities for this research is in Hinds County and Desoto County, Mississippi.**

Chronic Disease Death Rates by Race and Ethnicity

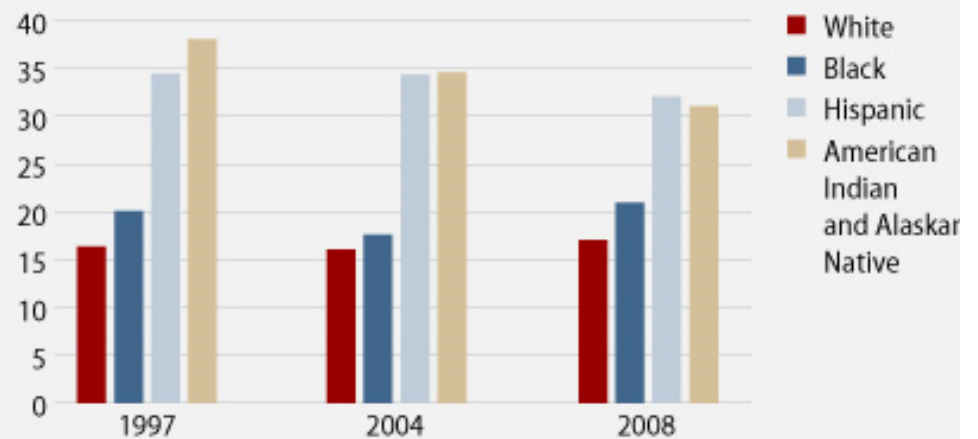


*Examples of health disparities*

(source: [http://www.patientnavigatortraining.org/chronic\\_disease/module1/2\\_healthdisparityexamples.htm](http://www.patientnavigatortraining.org/chronic_disease/module1/2_healthdisparityexamples.htm))

FIGURE 1

Percentage of population under 65 without insurance by race and ethnicity





# Access Barriers of Health Care

The three major barriers:

- ▣ lack of coverage,
- ▣ minimum access to health services, and
- ▣ unaffordable costs.

# Access Barriers of Health Care

- ❑ The primary access barrier of health care is the lack of insurance coverage, but there are other barriers, such as little access to services and unaffordable costs, that hinder Mississippians from preventative treatment.
- ❑ Unemployment for some equals no insurance due to the state opting out of the Medicaid expansion. Since Mississippi's numbers are low, unemployment is not a serious factor. It is the low to moderate income citizens receive that disqualifies Medicaid eligibility and unaffordable for insurance coverage.
- ❑ By the time open enrollment begun for ACA, many Mississippians either did not understand how to apply for it, what policy was best to choose, or could not afford the premiums offered to them.

# Objectives of this research



- ❑ Assess issues surrounding access and barriers of health care in North and Central Mississippi
- ❑ Study the barriers, such as economic status, geographic location, and lack of coverage
- ❑ Evaluate the access barriers of health services in North and Central Mississippi
- ❑ Measure the quality of health care available
- ❑ Improve Mississippi's health care system performance and accessibilities
- ❑ Identify health programs & policies enforced
- ❑ Determine the effectiveness of those programs and policies

# Methods

- ❑ A cross-sectional study by means of population survey was conducted in North and Central Mississippi. The study areas were Desoto County and Hinds County. These areas were selected, because they both are densely populated urban locations with individuals low to medium socioeconomic status with varying in geographical access to preventative health care.
- ❑ The study population was made up of at least one person who had visited the local health clinic (Desoto County Community Health Center and Jackson-Hinds Comprehensive Health Center) during the two month prior to survey and resided in the study area.
- ❑ The sample size was calculated for each study area based on population size with a degree of confidence 95%, .5 standard deviation and confidence interval of +/- 5%. Data was collected by employees of both organizations through face to face interviews.



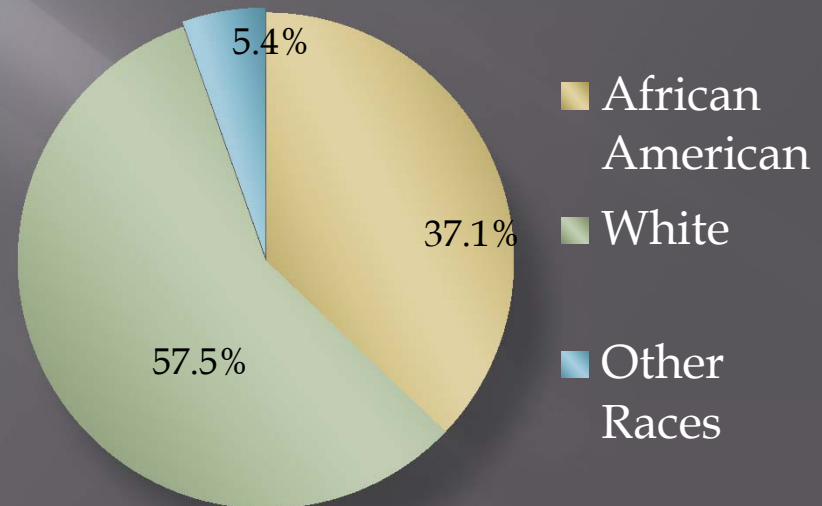
# Mississippi Demographics

TOTAL POPULATION:  
2,991,207

22% PERCENT LIVES IN  
POVERTY

- ❑ Median Income – \$38,191
- ❑ Unemployment – 6.6%
- ❑ Bachelor's Degree or higher - 20.1%
- ❑ Literacy rate – 30%
- ❑ Premature death – 10,031
- ❑ Life expectancy – 75 yrs

## Racial Makeup



<http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/28000.html>



# Mississippi Insurance Statistics



- ❑ Total Mississippi HMO enrollment - **44,199**
- ❑ Average annual employee premium in MS employer-sponsored plan (after employer contribution): **\$749**
- ❑ Average MS hospital cost per inpatient day (before insurance) - **\$1,179**
- ❑ Health Care Expenditure per capita - **\$6,571 \***

<https://www.ehealthinsurance.com/mississippi-health-insurance>

# Background of the two counties

## DESOTO COUNTY

- ▣ Total population: 168,240
- ▣ Rank 1
- ▣ Median income: 58,505
- ▣ Area: 497 mi<sup>2</sup>
- ▣ 2 nonprofit clinics

## HINDS COUNTY

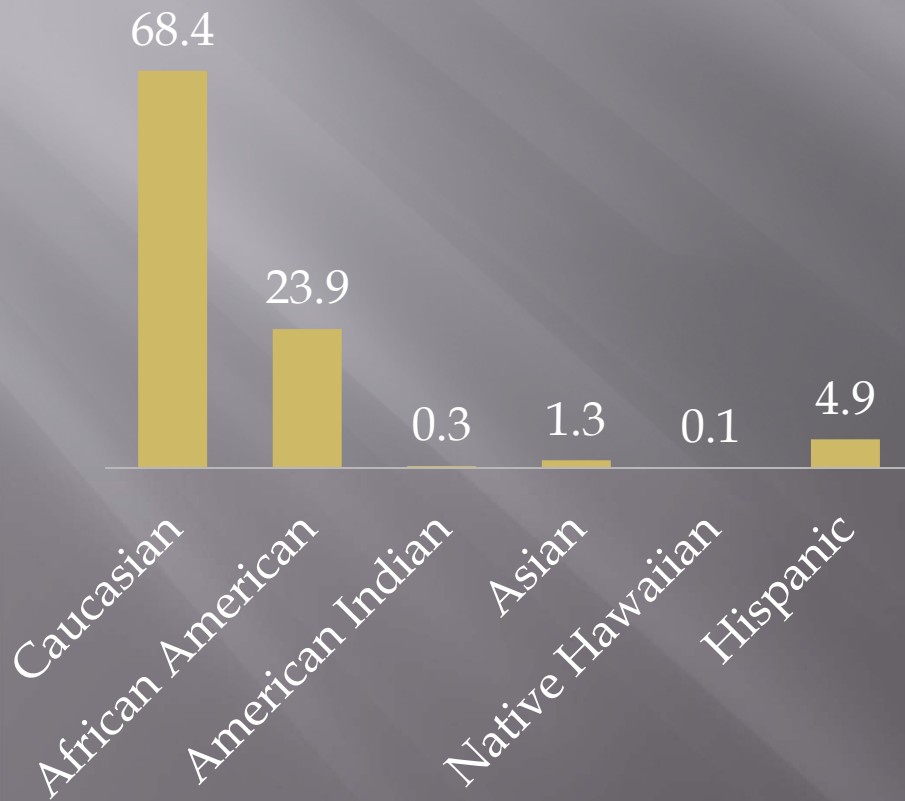
- ▣ Total population: 244,899
- ▣ Rank: 34
- ▣ Median income: 37,626
- ▣ Area: 877 mi<sup>2</sup>
- ▣ 15 nonprofit/free clinics

<http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/mississippi/2015/compare/snapshot?counties=033%2B04>

# Demographics

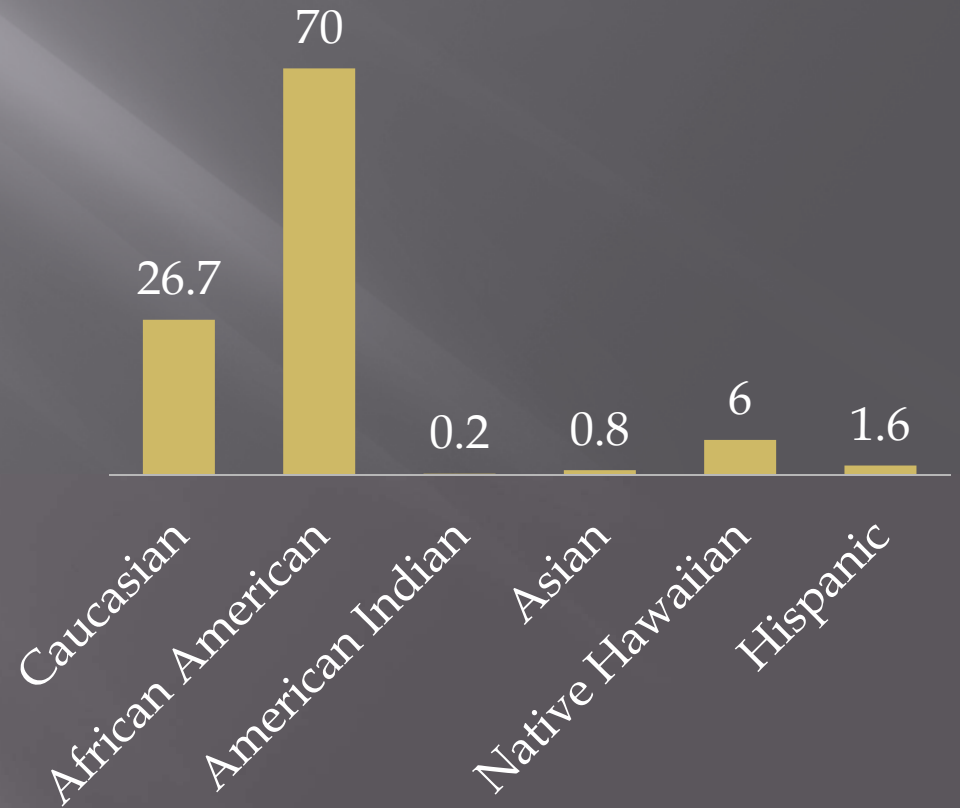
## DESOTO COUNTY

■ Population



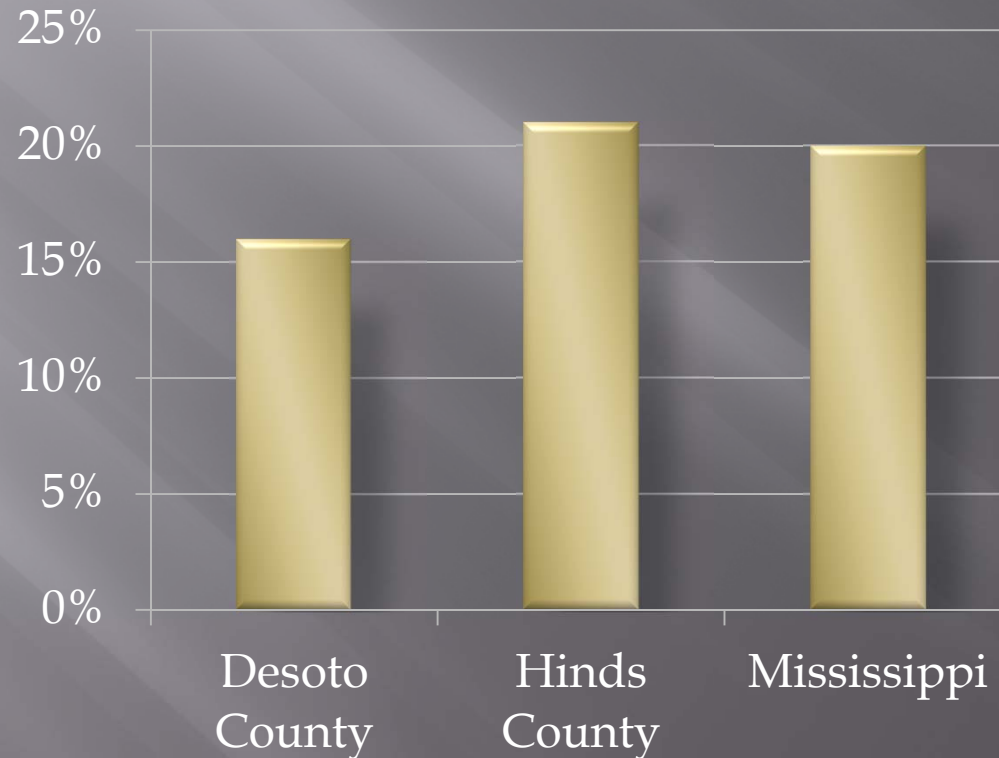
## HINDS COUNTY

■ Population



# Uninsured Population

## DESOTO COUNTY & HINDS COUNTY





# Breakdown of Healthcare Spending

(between two counties)

Desoto county	Average Health Care Cost: \$10,435 (almost equal the state's average)	Population who could not see doctor due to cost: 14%
Hinds County	Average Health Care Cost: \$9,654 (less than the state's average)	Population who could not see doctor due to cost: 20%



# Health Disparities

(between the two counties)

## DESOTO COUNTY

- ▣ Diabetes: 12%
- ▣ HIV prevalence: 171
- ▣ Premature age-adjusted mortality: 386.0
- ▣ Infant mortality: 7.2
- ▣ Child mortality: 51.0
- ▣ Food insecurity: 15%
- ▣ Limited access to healthy foods: 8%

## HINDS COUNTY

- ▣ Diabetes: 13%
- ▣ HIV prevalence: 1,091
- ▣ Premature age-adjusted mortality: 464.4
- ▣ Infant mortality: 11.8
- ▣ Child mortality: 93.2
- ▣ Food insecurity: 25%
- ▣ Limited access to healthy foods: 11%

# How can we improve health care in Mississippi?

- ▣ The purpose of health care organization is to meet the needs of individuals and promote the health of the community. Many organizations around the state are dedicated to increasing health resources, awareness, and policy.
- ▣ Value = 
$$\frac{\text{health outcomes}}{\text{cost of delivering outcomes}}$$

<https://hbr.org/2011/09/how-to-solve-the-cost-crisis-in-health-care/>

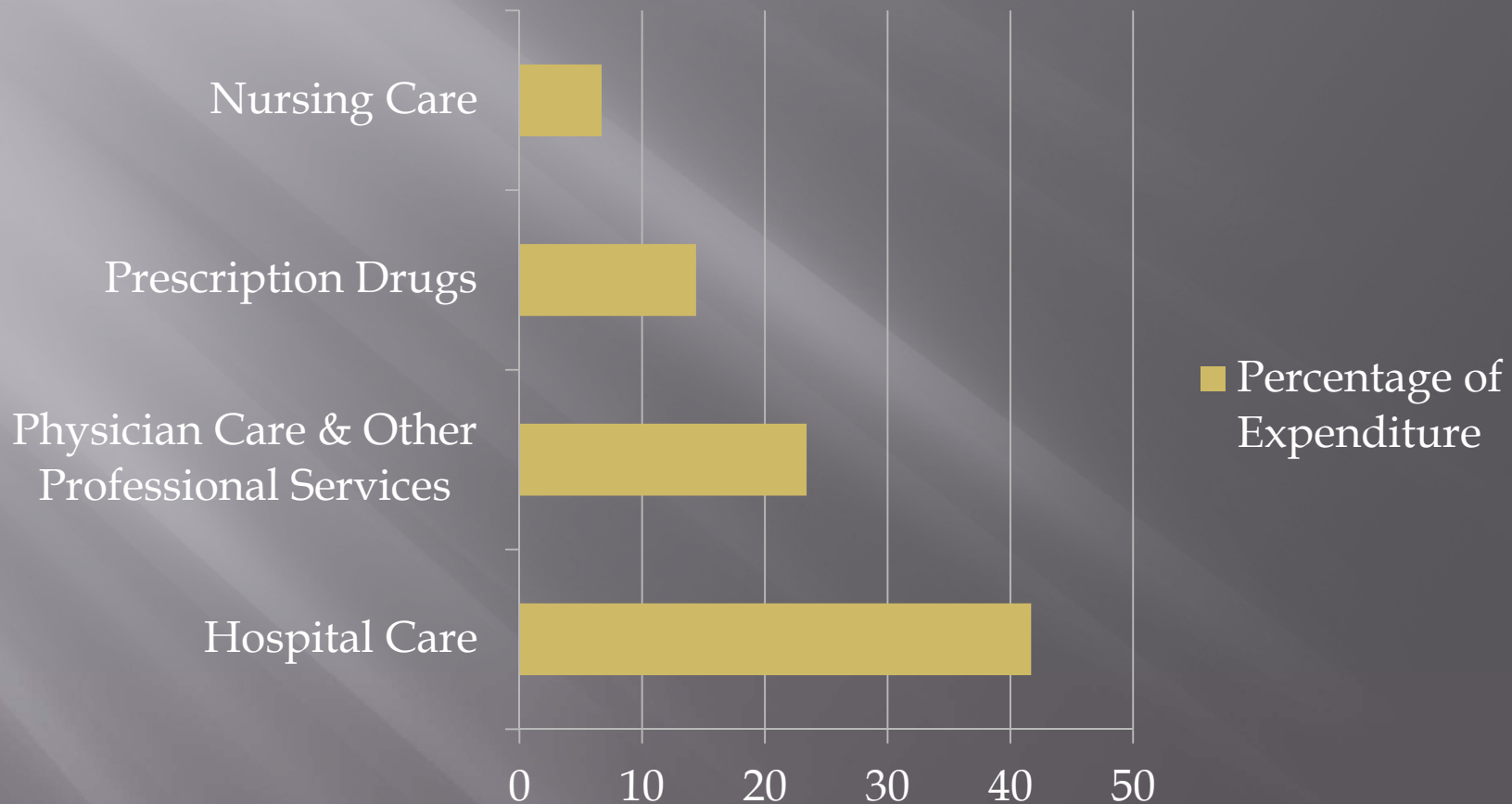
# How can we provide treatment to the uninsured and underserved population?

- ▣ In MS, 32 % health care expenditures are spent on treating patients but not preventing it.

([http://www.usgovernmentspending.com/piechart\\_2015\\_MS\\_statelocal](http://www.usgovernmentspending.com/piechart_2015_MS_statelocal))

- ▣ Only 23.4% is devoted to physician care and other professional services.

# Health Care Expenditure Distribution \*



\*Only the top four services are included in the graph.

<http://www.statista.com/statistics/206803/distribution-of-health-care-expenditures-in-mississippi-by-service/>



# Desoto Community Health Center

- ❑ Operated by Northeast Mississippi Health Care, Inc.
- ❑ The mission “is to provide quality, preventive, and primary health care to persons within the service area regardless of race, sex, religion or ability to pay.”

## Services provided:

- ❑ Complete Family Practice
- ❑ In- House X-Ray
- ❑ Minor Emergency Treatment
- ❑ Discounted Medications
- ❑ Preventive Care
- ❑ Internal Medicine Specialty Care
- ❑ Prenatal Care
- ❑ Immunizations
- ❑ WIC Certifications
- ❑ Employee Physicals
- ❑ Drug Screenings, DOT Physicals
- ❑ Gynecology and Obstetric Care





# Jackson-Hinds Comprehensive Health Center

- ❑ Nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, partnered with The University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC)
- ❑ Largest provider of primary health care in Central Mississippi for the uninsured and underserved population
- ❑ Eleven clinics in Hinds County, including school-based clinics. (*Clinics in Warren and Copiah excluded for research purposes*)
- ❑ Primary goal is to eliminate disparities in access to health care for the poor and uninsured.

## Services provided:

- ❑ Adult Medicine
- ❑ Behavioral Health
- ❑ Dentistry
- ❑ X-ray
- ❑ Optometry
- ❑ Pediatrics
- ❑ Social Services
- ❑ WID
- ❑ Women's Health



# Recommendations

- ▣ Medicaid expansion for Mississippians
- ▣ Community-outreach programs that assist Mississippians on health promotion, prevention, HealthCare.gov, etc
- ▣ Universal coverage for Americans
- ▣ Require hospital to address the unmet needs of the community they serve

