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Disability as a Health Disparity Minority Group

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Overview

- Define Health Disparities
- Consider Ansari's (2003) Public Health Model of the Social Determinants of Health
- Apply to Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Data
- Discuss Disability and Racial/Ethnic Group Comparisons



Disclaimers

- Research funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, Grant # H133A100031, but contents do not reflect the formal position of NIDRR
- No reference to drugs or products are included in this presentation



WHAT ARE HEALTH DISPARITIES?



Health Disparities

- Health differences closely linked with social, economic, and/or environmental disadvantage
- Adversely affect groups of people who have systematically experienced greater obstacles to health based on:



Health Disparity Populations

- Racial or ethnic group; religion; socioeconomic status; gender; age; mental health; **cognitive, sensory, or physical disability**; sexual orientation or gender identity; geographic location; or other characteristics historically linked to discrimination or exclusion.

(Healthy People 2020)



Mere Difference or Disparity?

“Outcomes for which it can be determined quantitatively --- rather than merely anecdotally or associatively --- that the fact of pre-existing disability status serves as a dominating independent variable ...as opposed to merely one of many independent variables of varying epidemiologic force.”

(The CDC Traditionalist)



What Causes Health Disparities?

- Social, economic, and/or environmental disadvantage
 - Inadequate policies and standards
 - Inadequate funding

(Fox, 2012)



What Causes Health Disparities?

- Systematically experiencing greater obstacles to health
 - Problems with service delivery
 - Lack of accessibility

(Fox, 2012)



What Causes Health Disparities?

- Characteristics historically linked to discrimination or exclusion
 - Negative attitudes
 - Lack of consultation and involvement
 - Lack of data and evidence

(Fox, 2012)



MEASURING DISPARITY

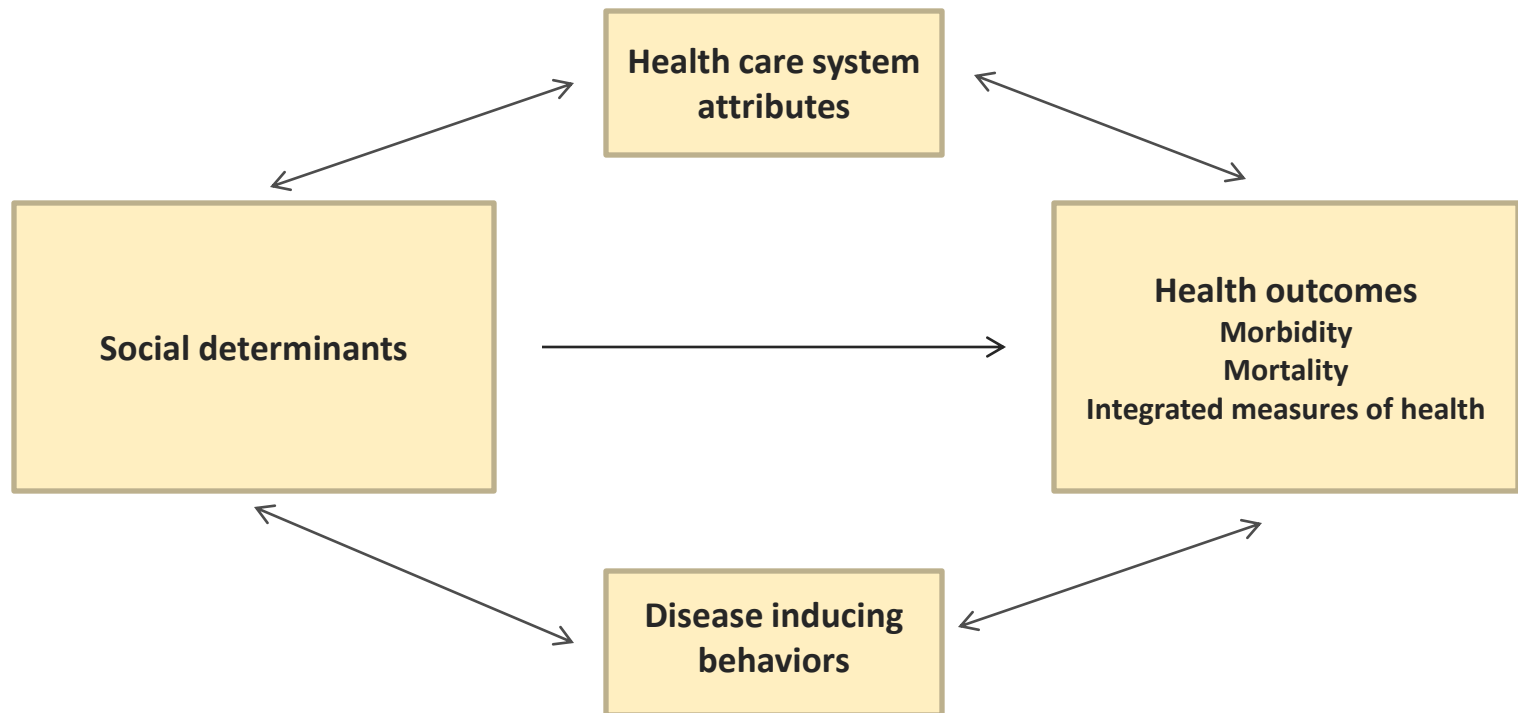


Health Indicators

- ...measure health status
- ...contribute to a person's current state of health, defined as a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not just the absence of sickness or frailty.
- ...may be biological, socioeconomic, psychosocial, behavioral, or social in nature.

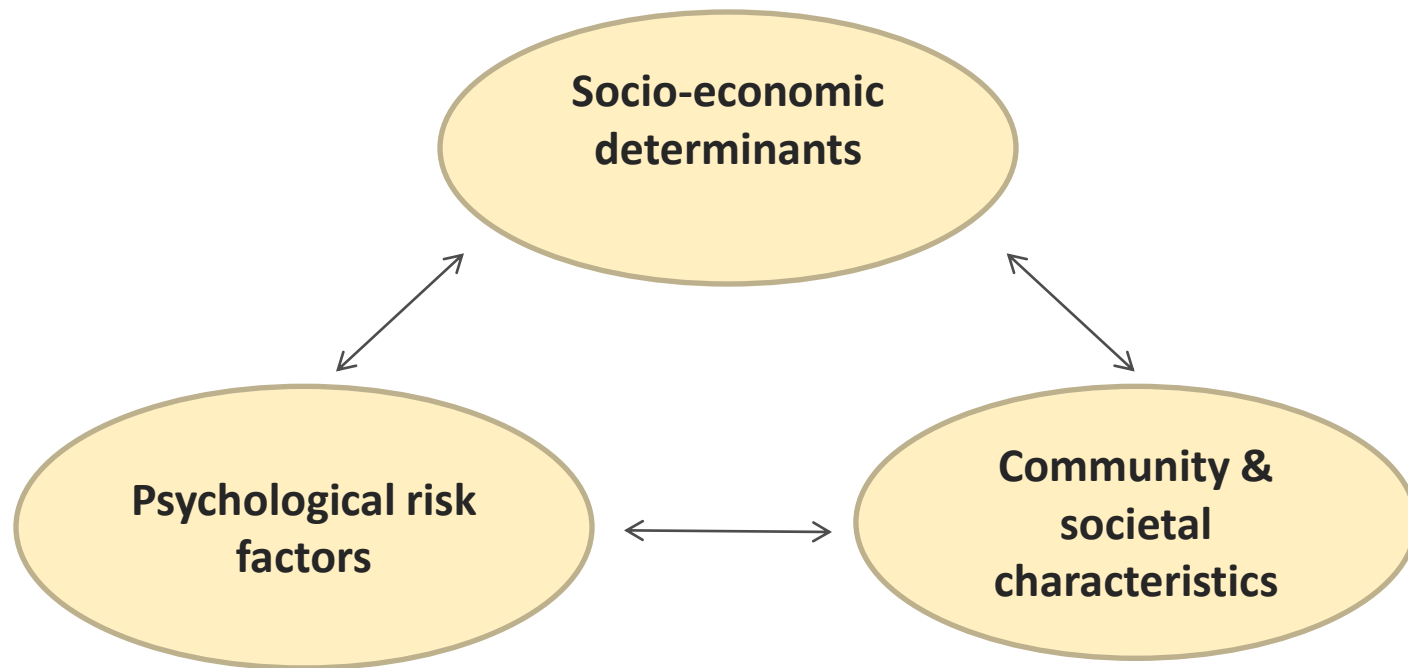


Public Health Model of Social Determinants of Health



(Ansari et al., 2003)

Interrelation of Social Determinants



(Ansari et al., 2003)

BRFSS DATA

Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

- State-based, random digit dialed telephone health survey conducted in all 50 states, DC, and U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and Palau
- Demographics and information on health, health behaviors, and prevention activities
- Weighted to be nationally representative



BRFSS

- Analysis based on 2011 data (N = 506,000 before weighting)
- Limited to ages 18 – 64 (N = 321,456)
- BRFSS Limitations

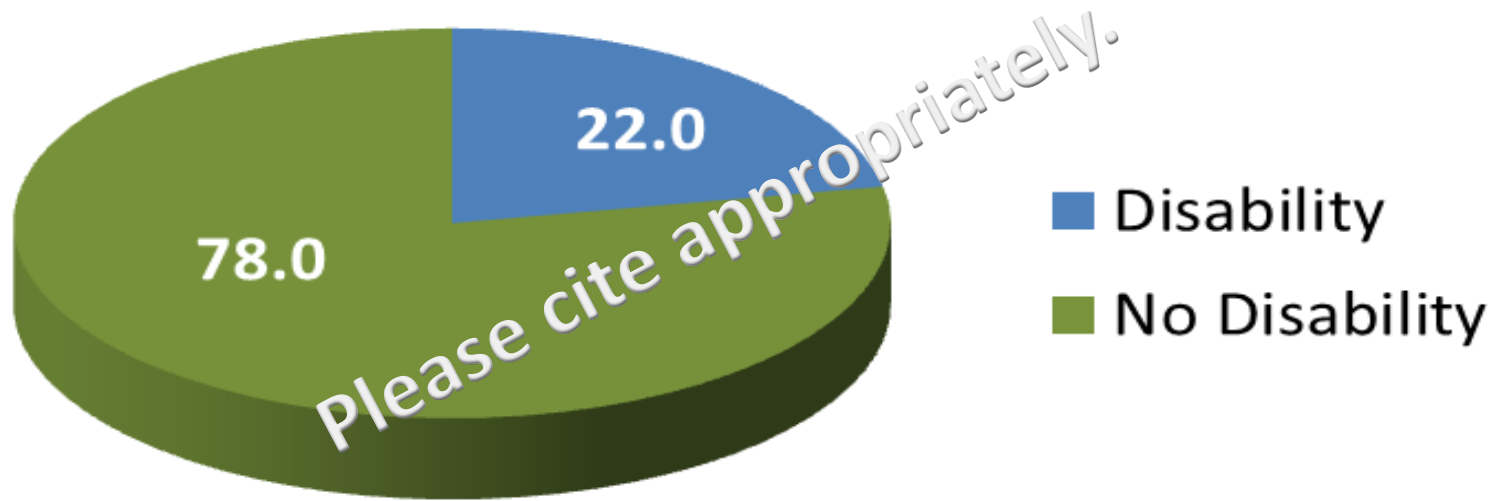


BRFSS Disability Definition

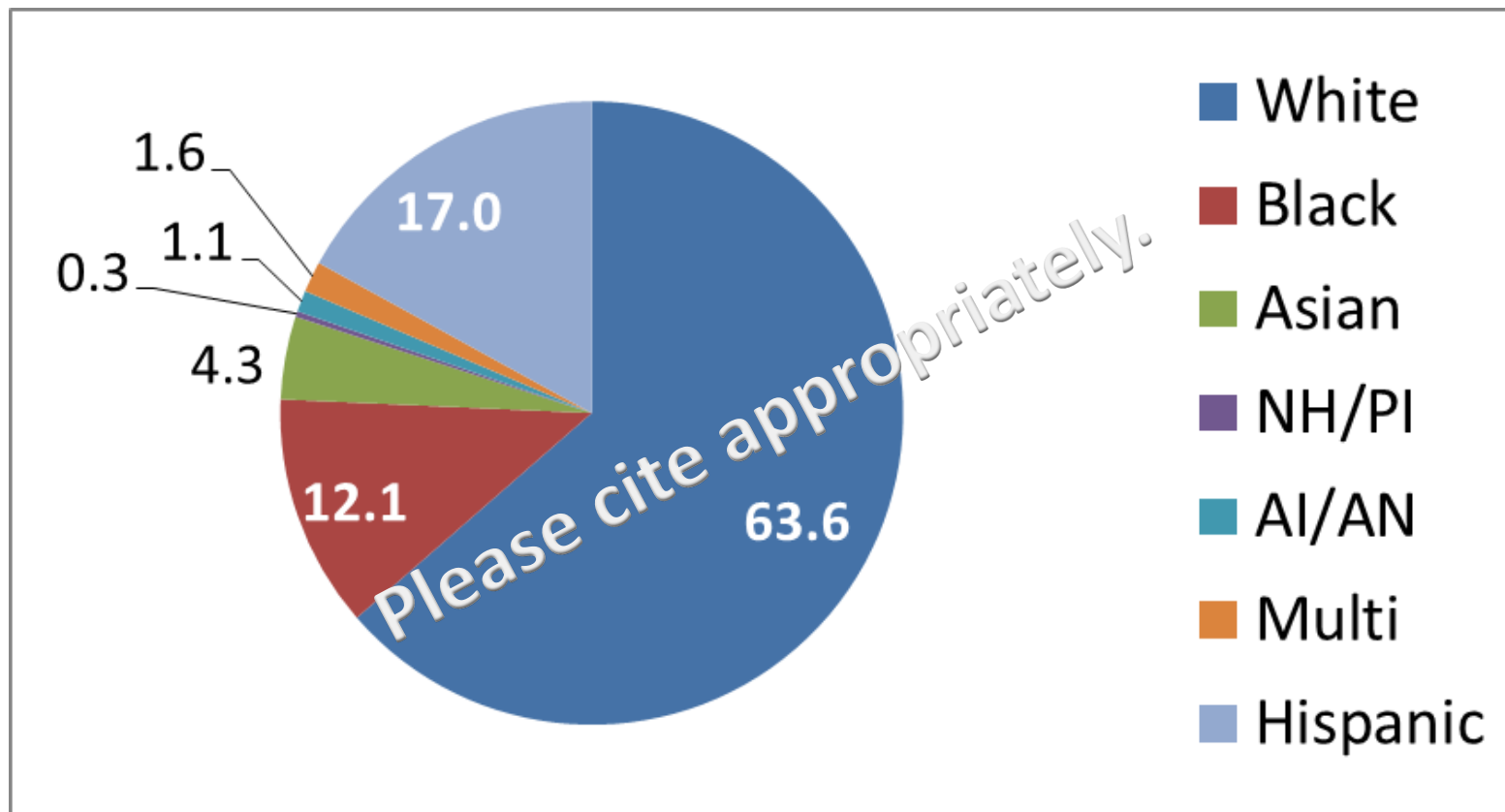
1. Are you limited in any way in any activities because of physical, mental, or emotional problems?
2. Do you now have any health problem that requires you to use special equipment, such as a cane, a wheelchair, a special bed, or a special telephone?



Prevalence of Disability



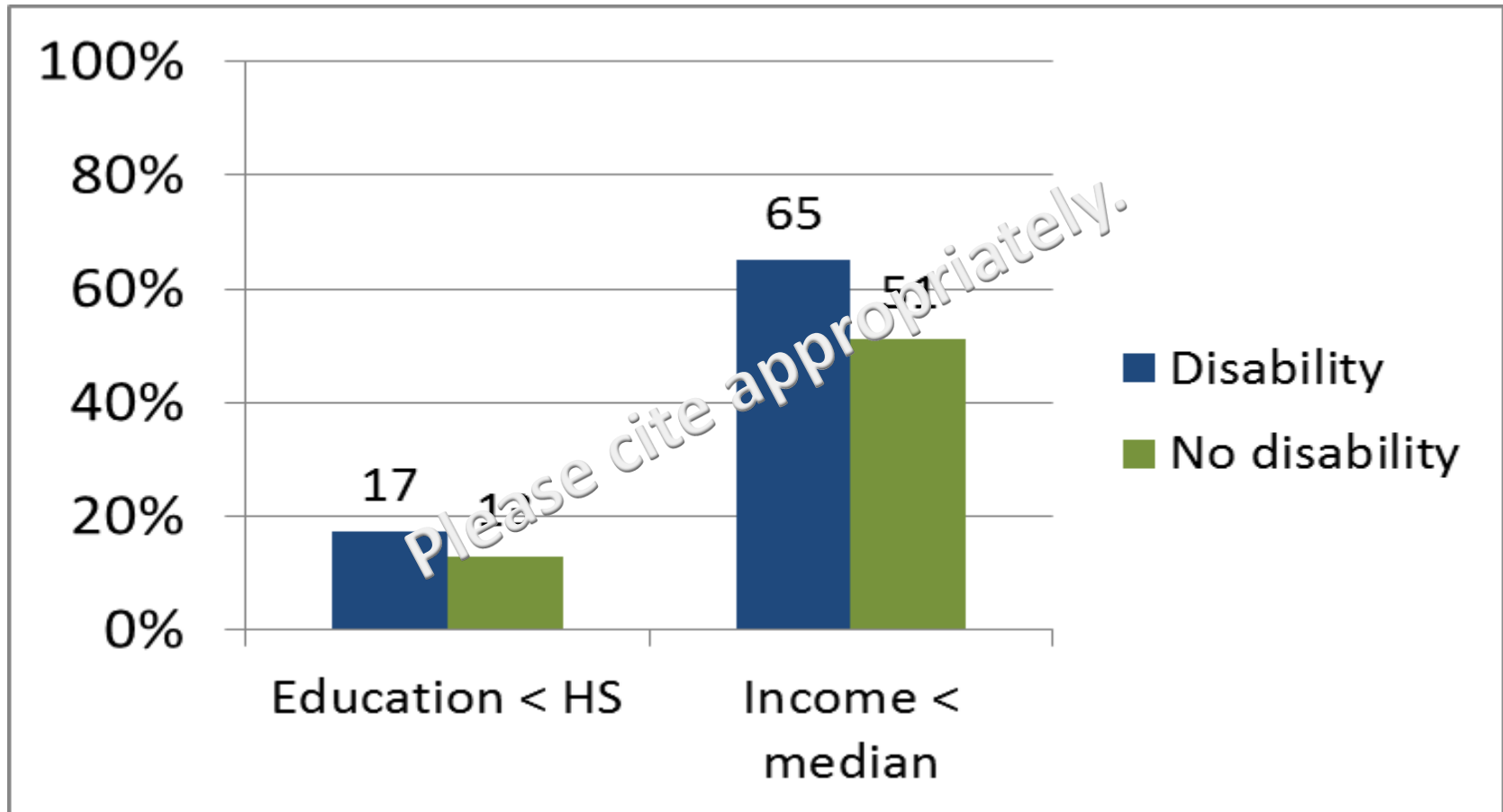
Prevalence of Race / Ethnicity



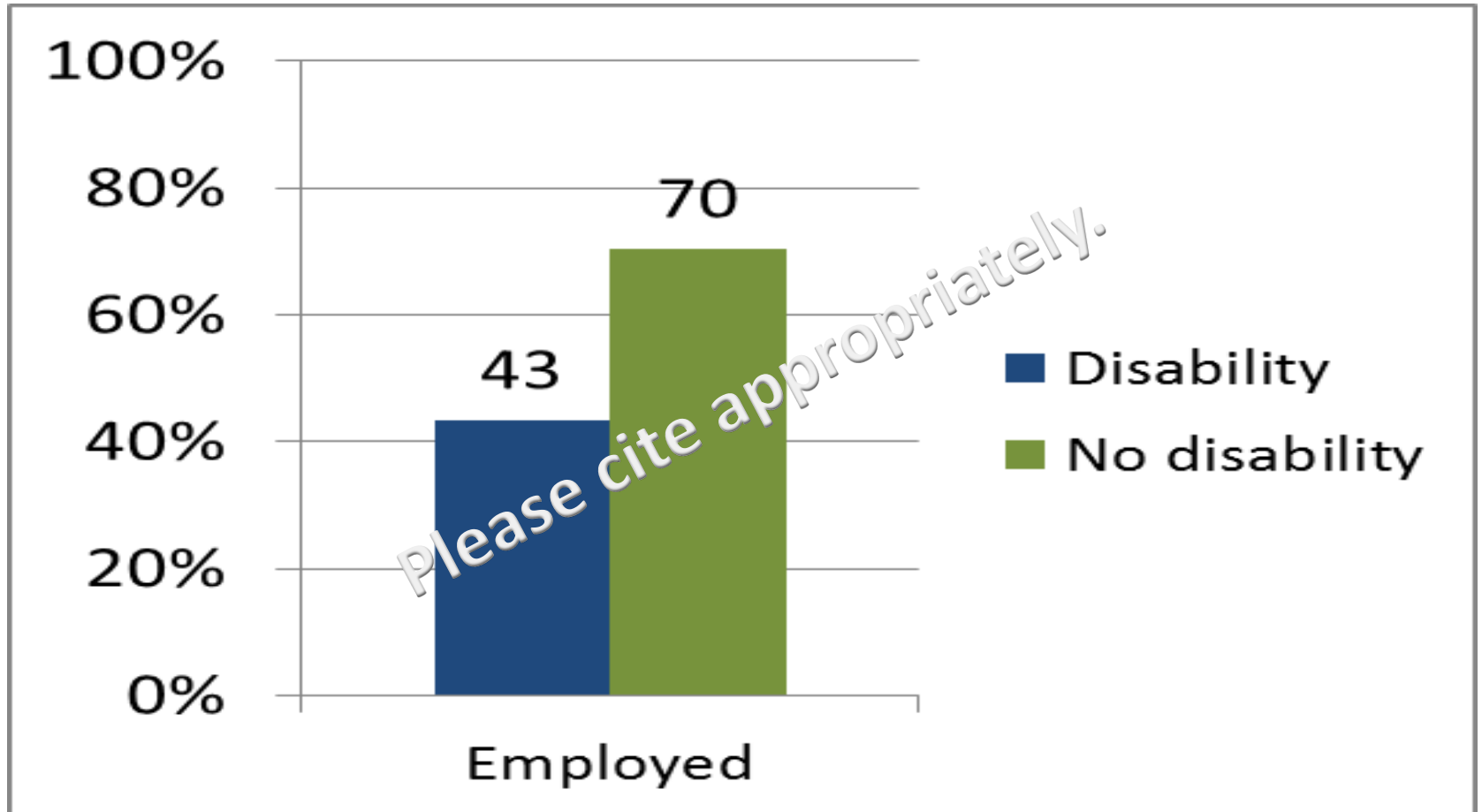
SOCIAL DETERMINANTS



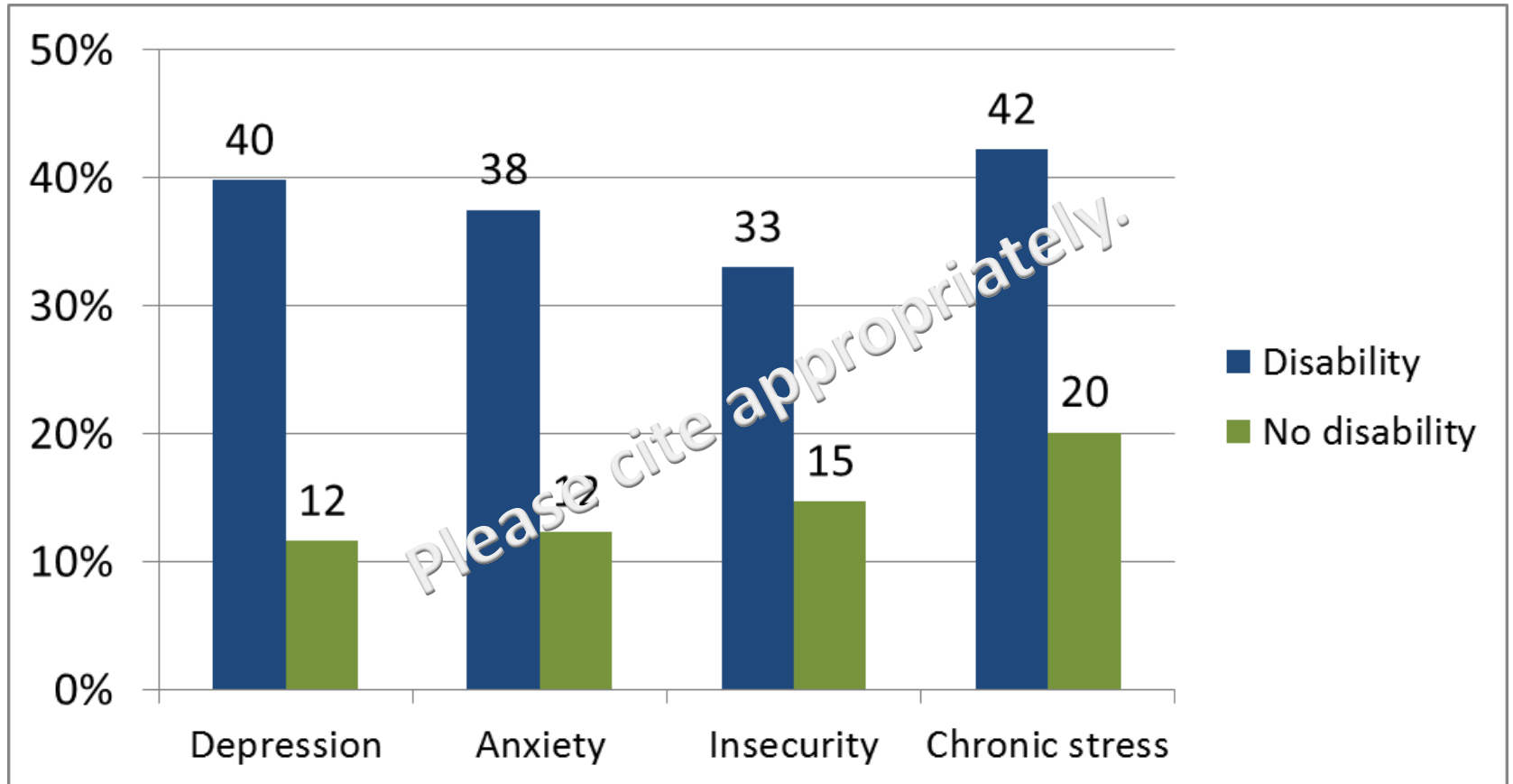
Socio-economic



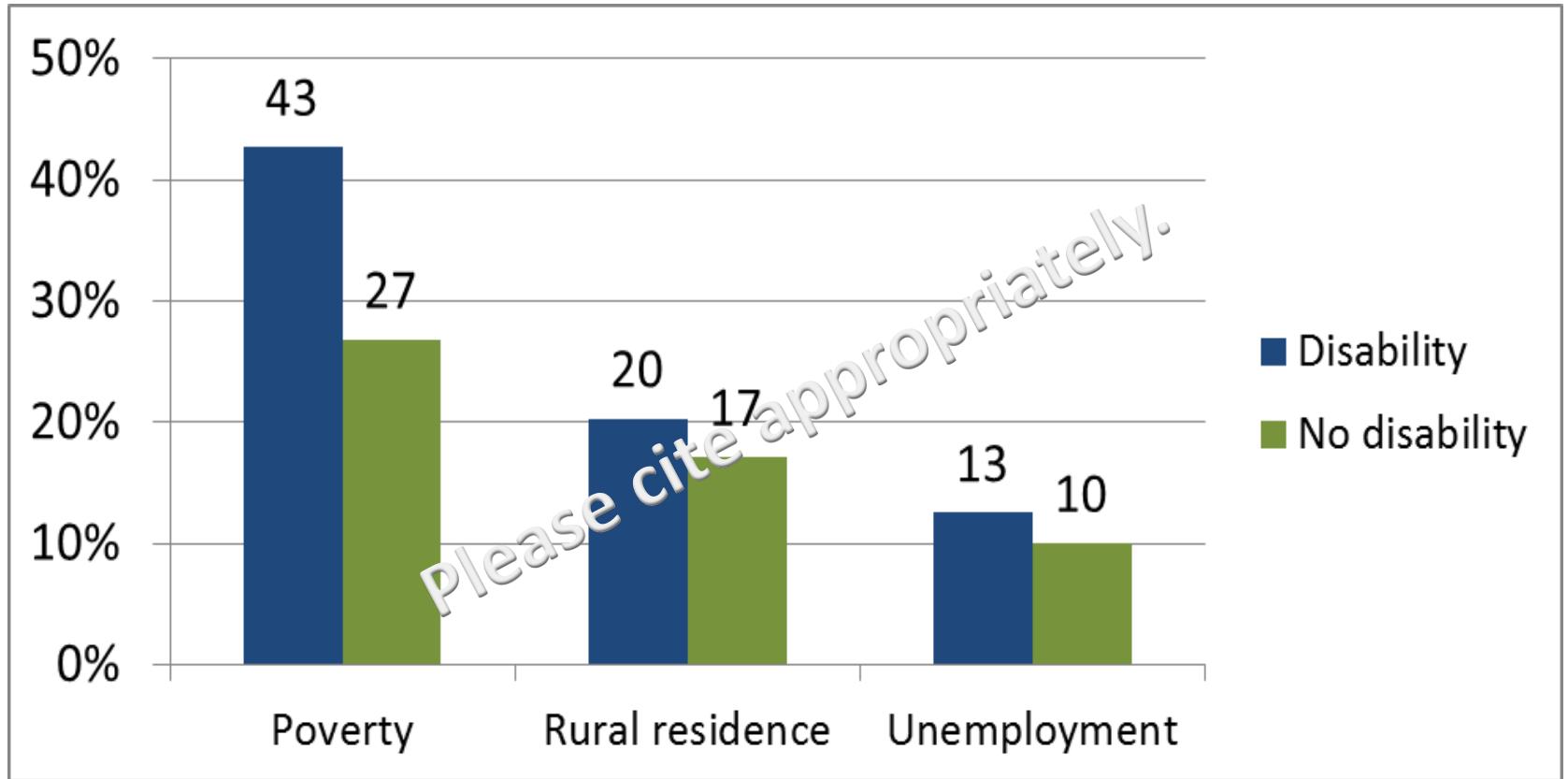
Socio-economic



Psychosocial



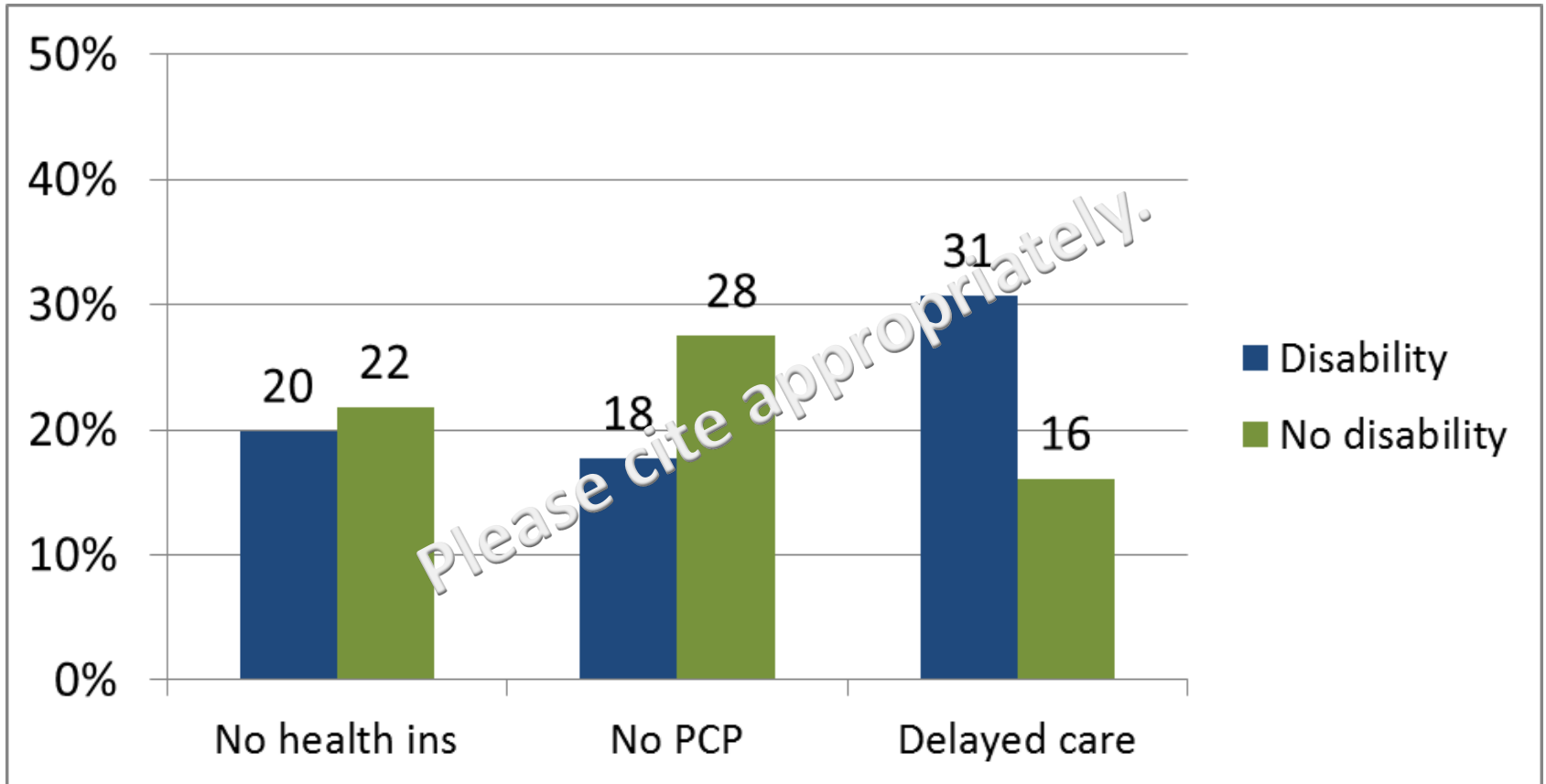
Community & Societal



HEALTH CARE SYSTEM ATTRIBUTES



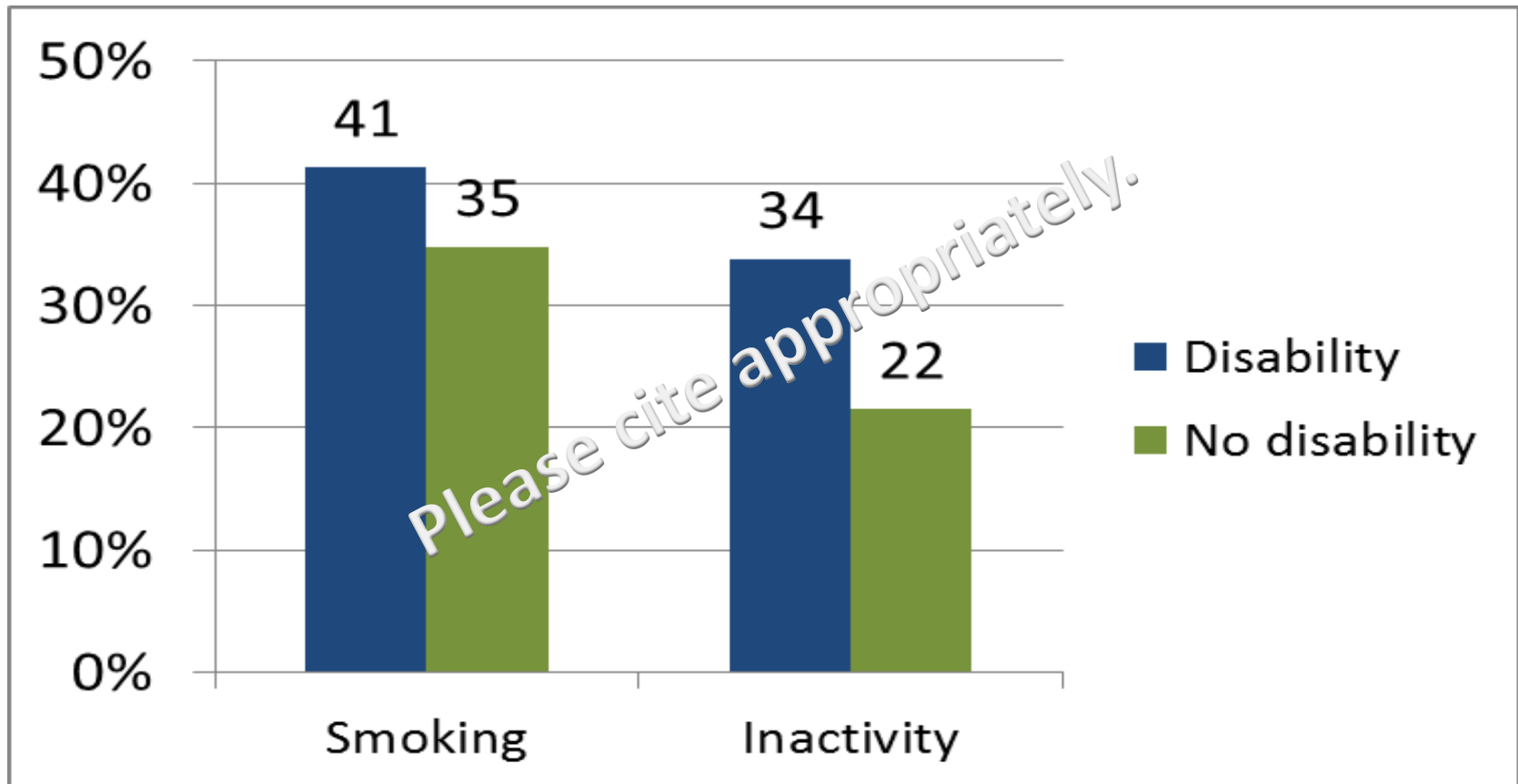
Access to Health Care



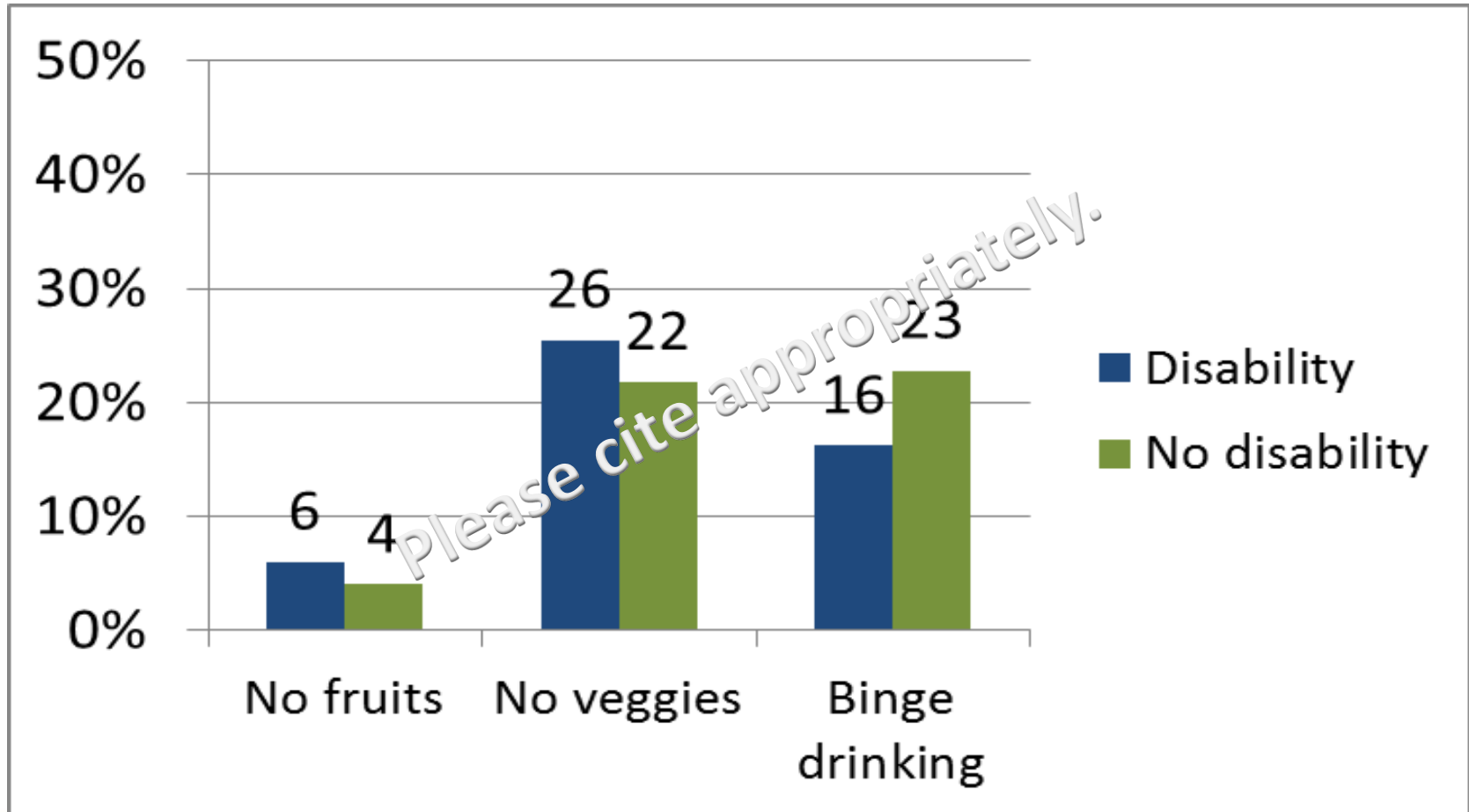
DISEASE INDUCING BEHAVIORS



Smoking & Inactivity



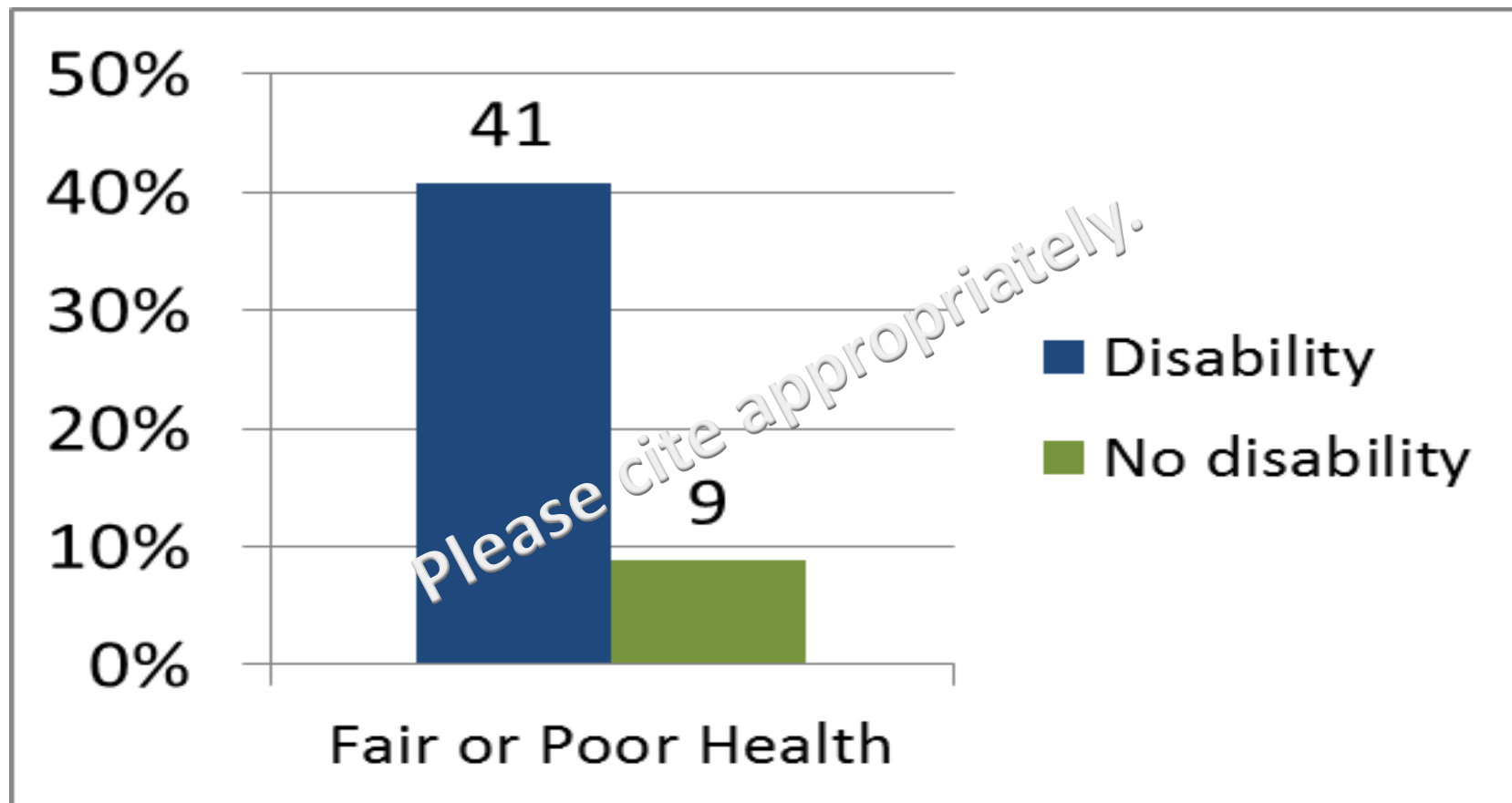
Diet & Alcohol



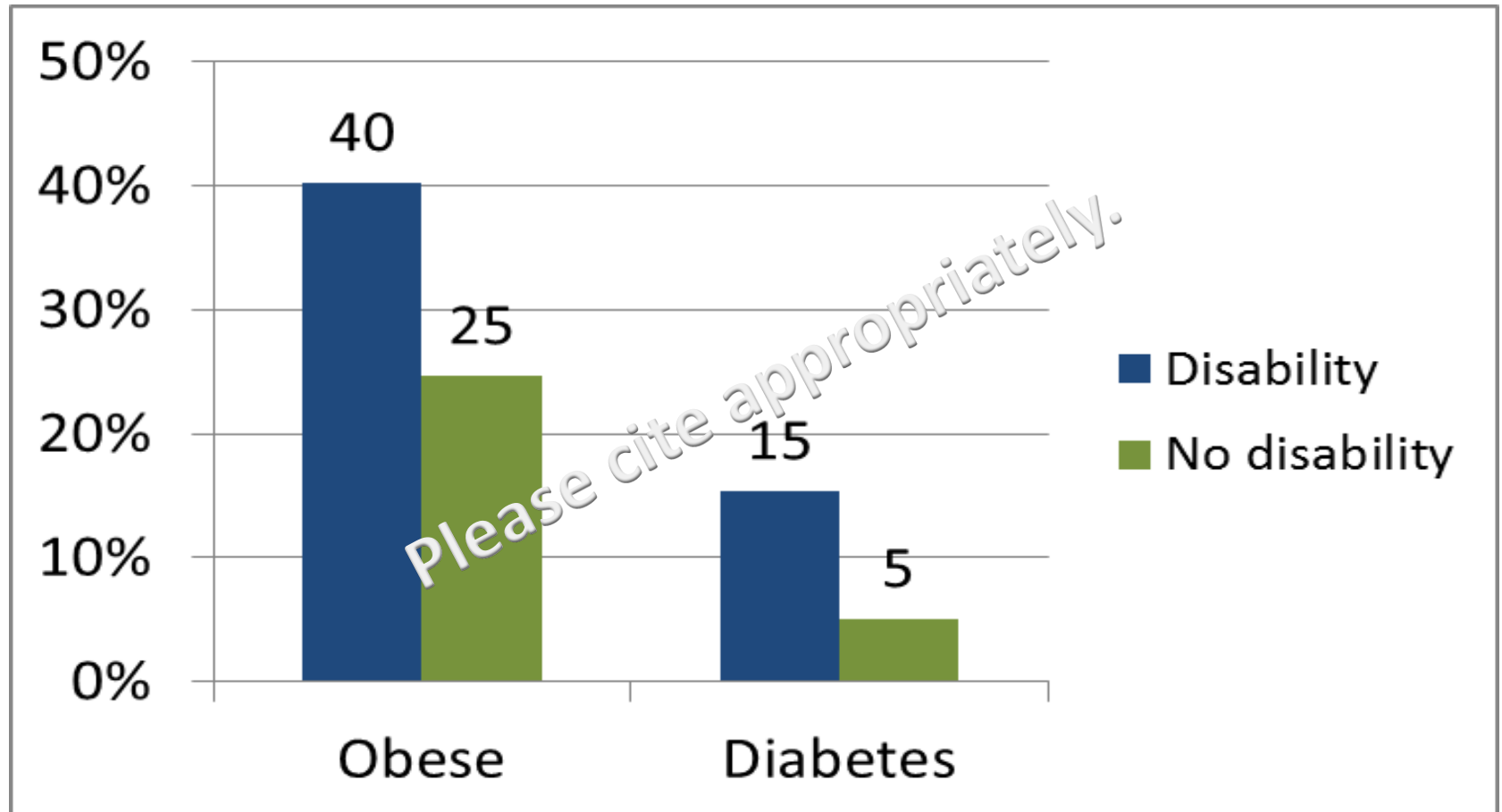
HEALTH OUTCOMES



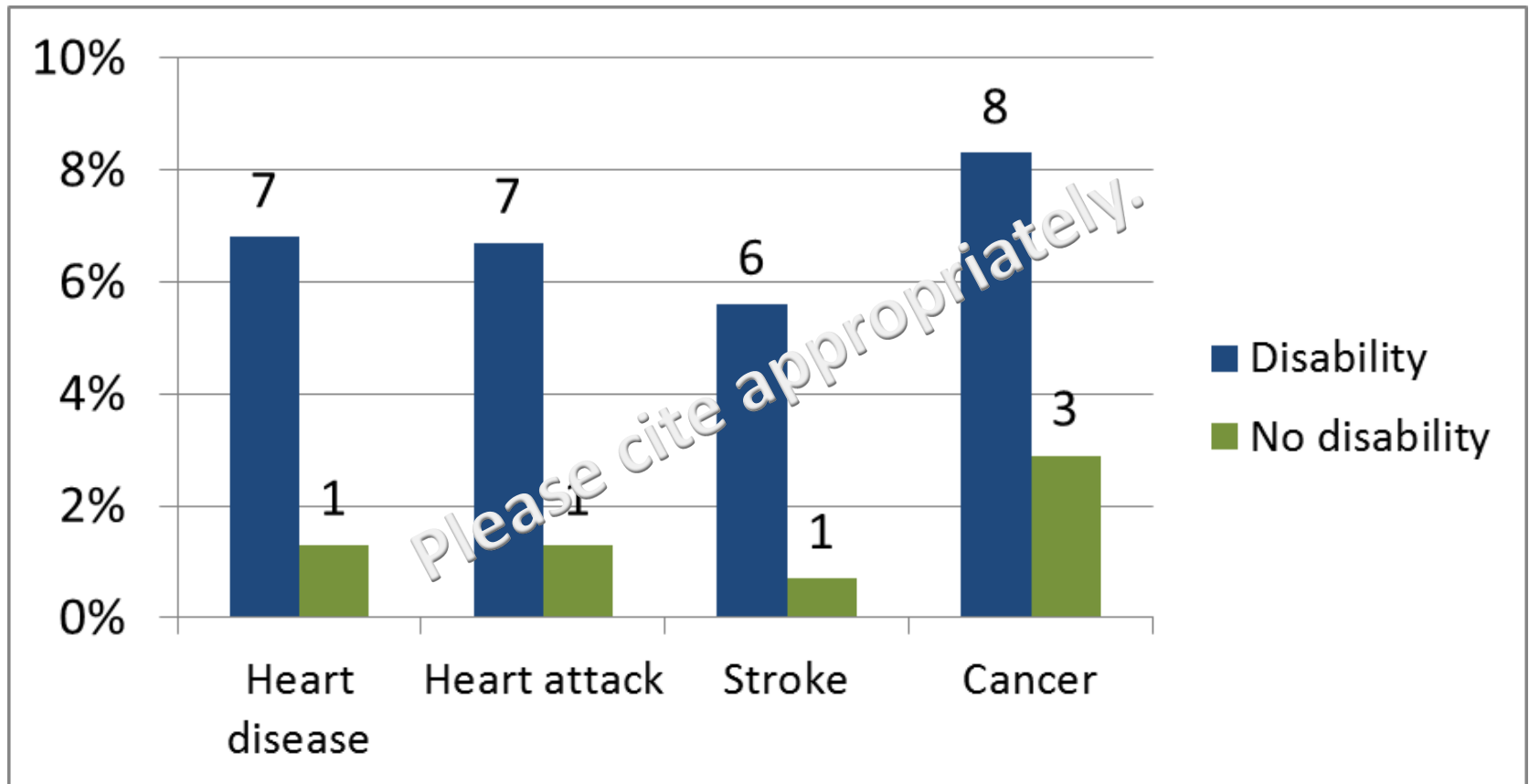
Self-reported Health



Obesity & Diabetes



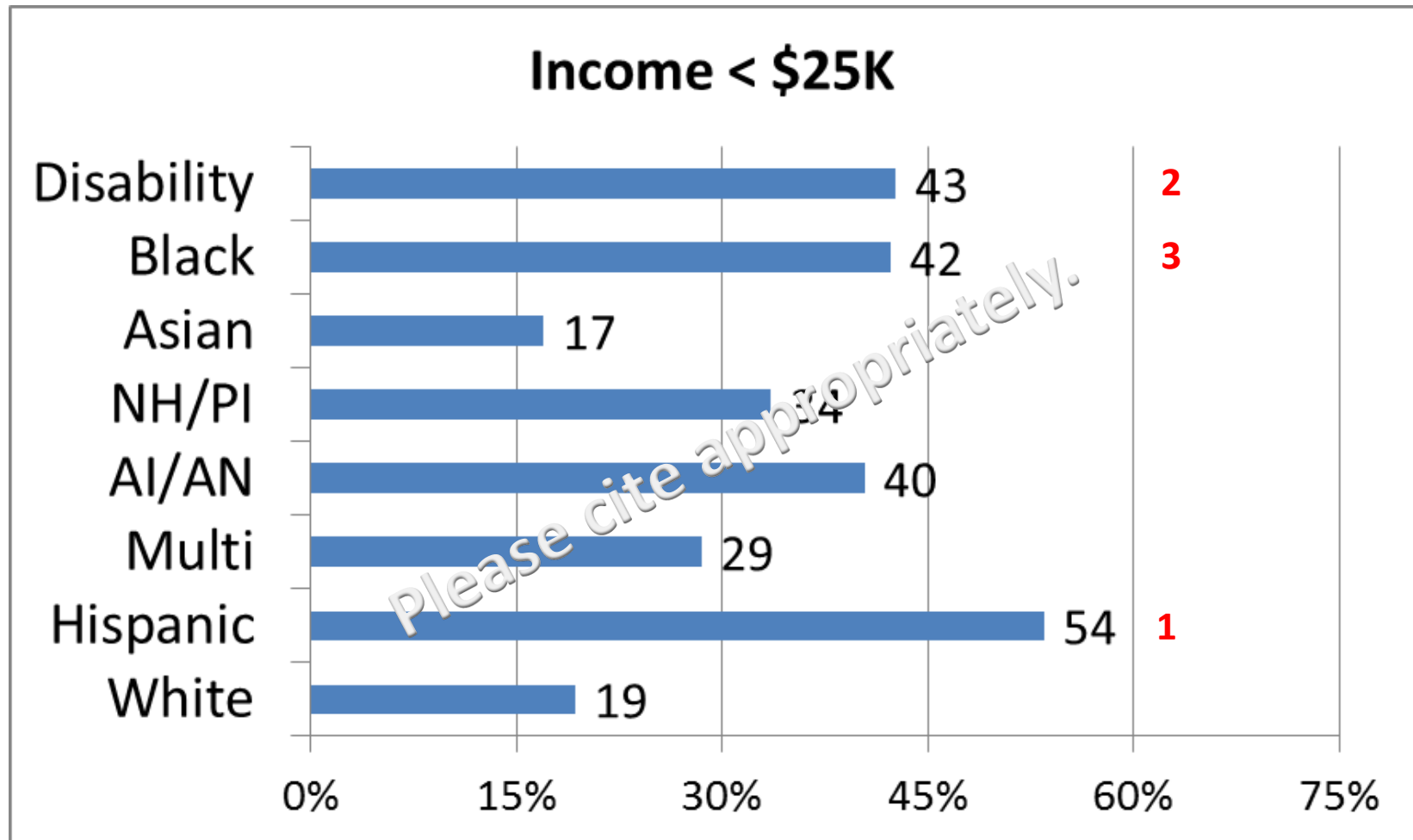
Cardiovascular Disease & Cancer



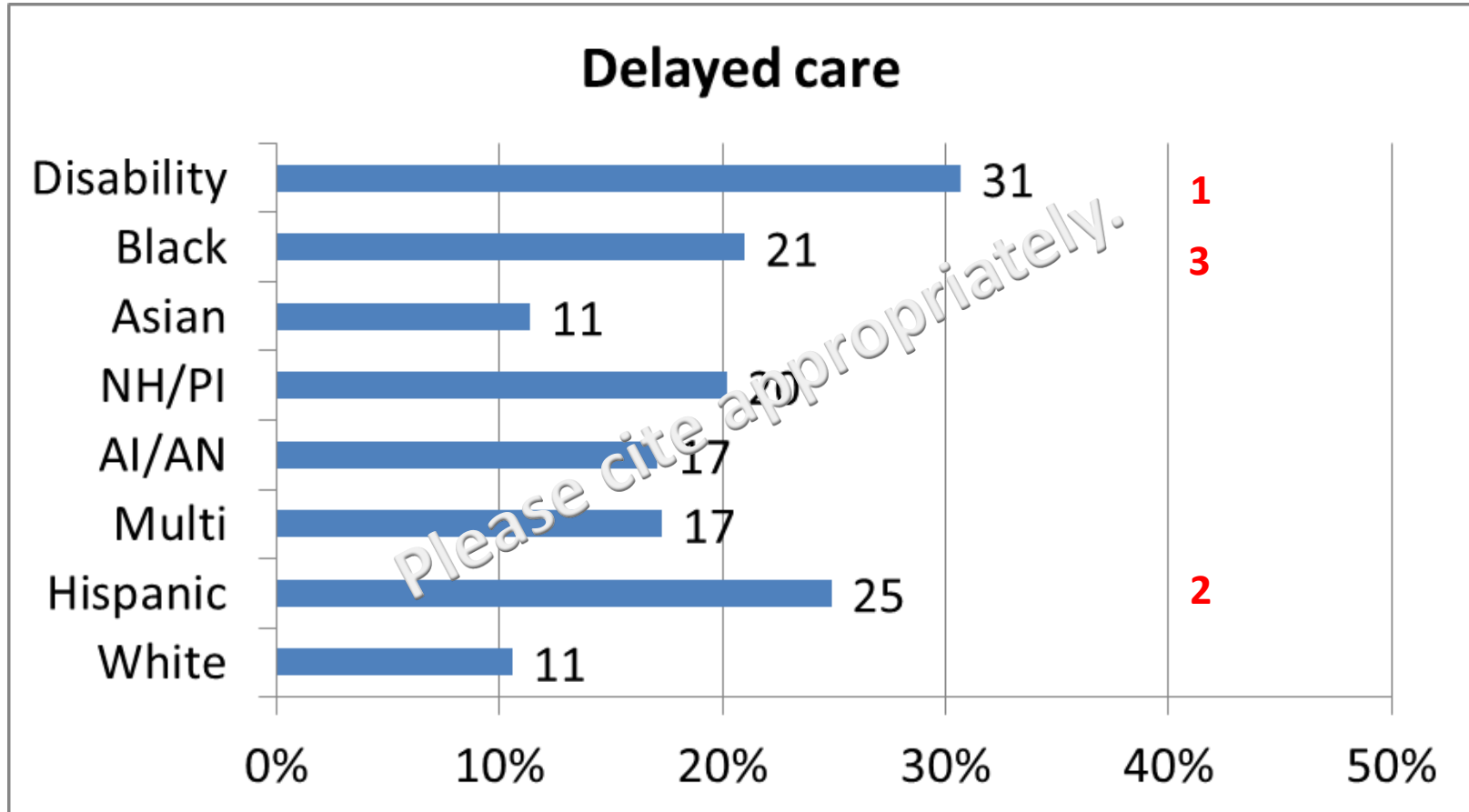
DISABILITY & RACE / ETHNICITY: COMPARING THE GROUPS



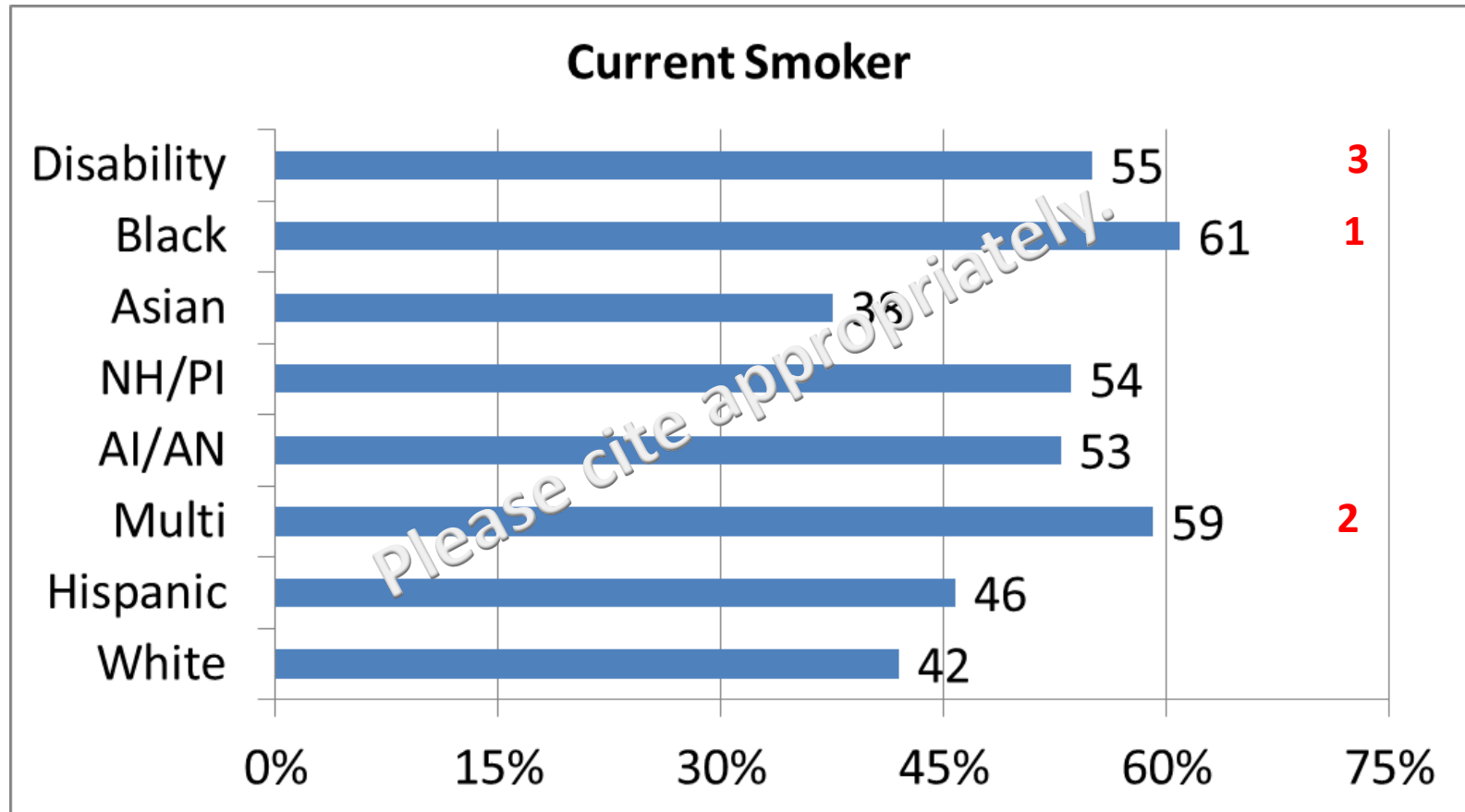
Social Determinant



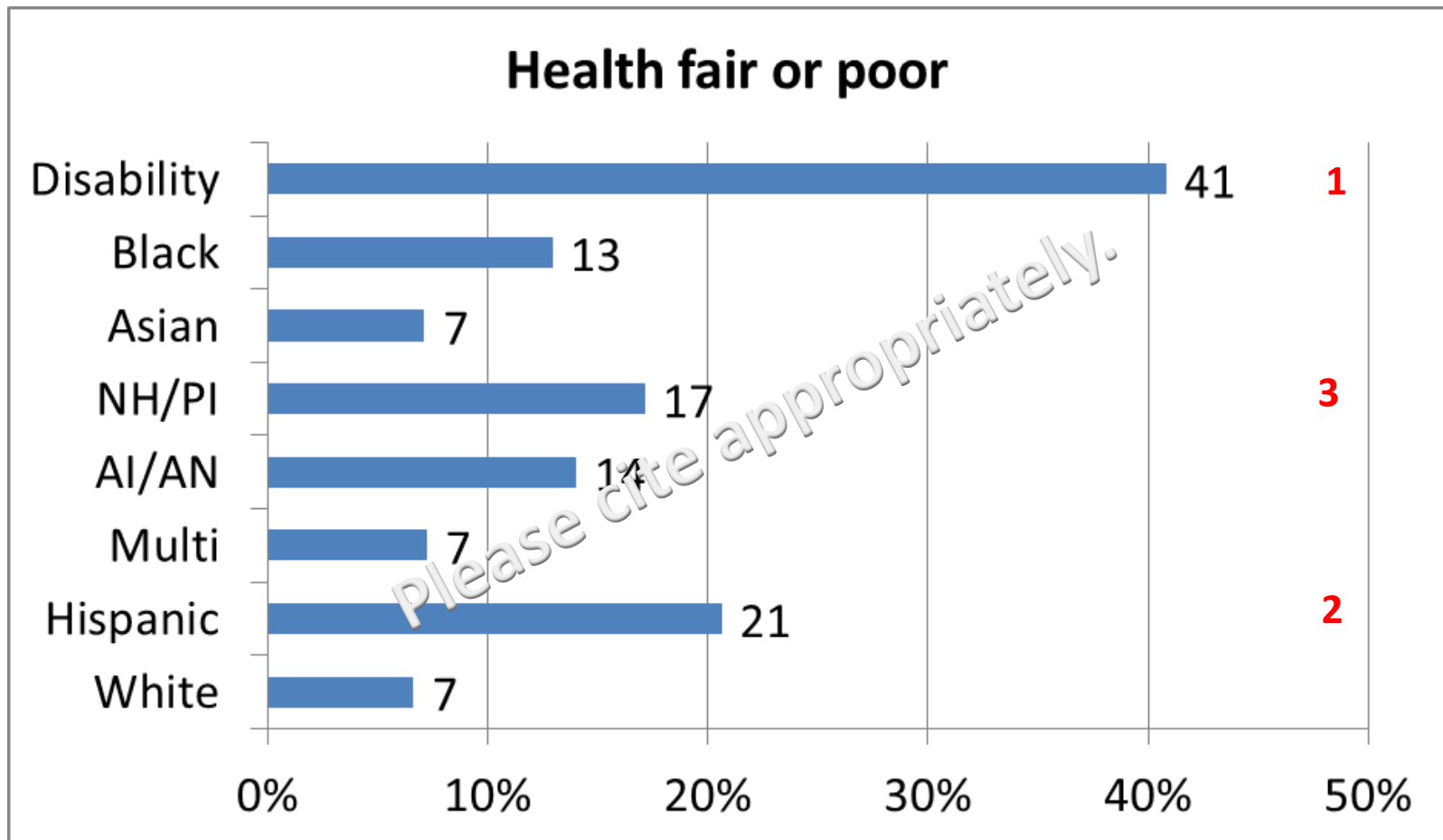
System Attribute



Disease Inducing Behavior



Health Outcome



INTERSECTION OF DISABILITY & RACE / ETHNICITY

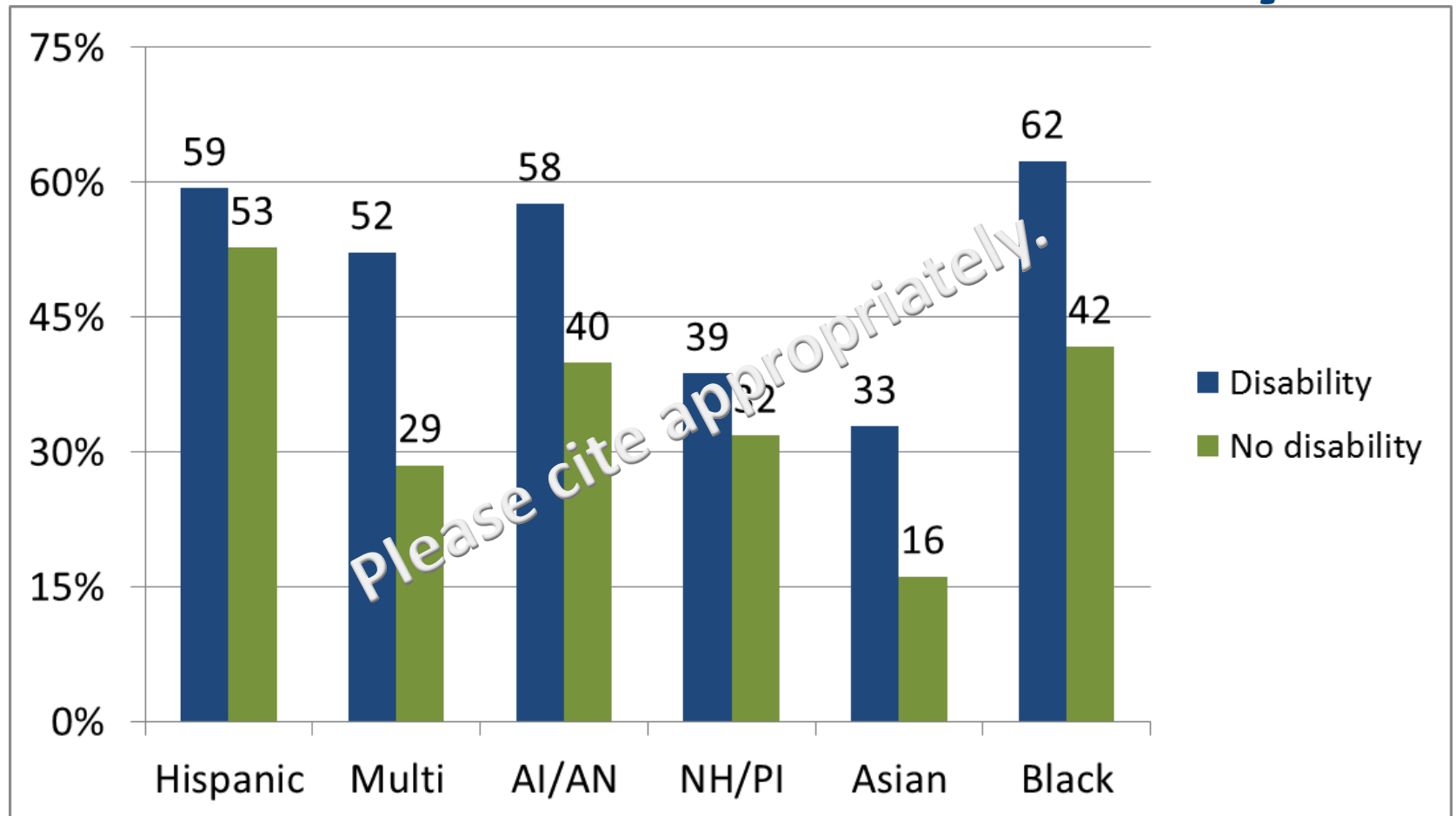


Prevalence of Disability in Racial / Ethnic Groups

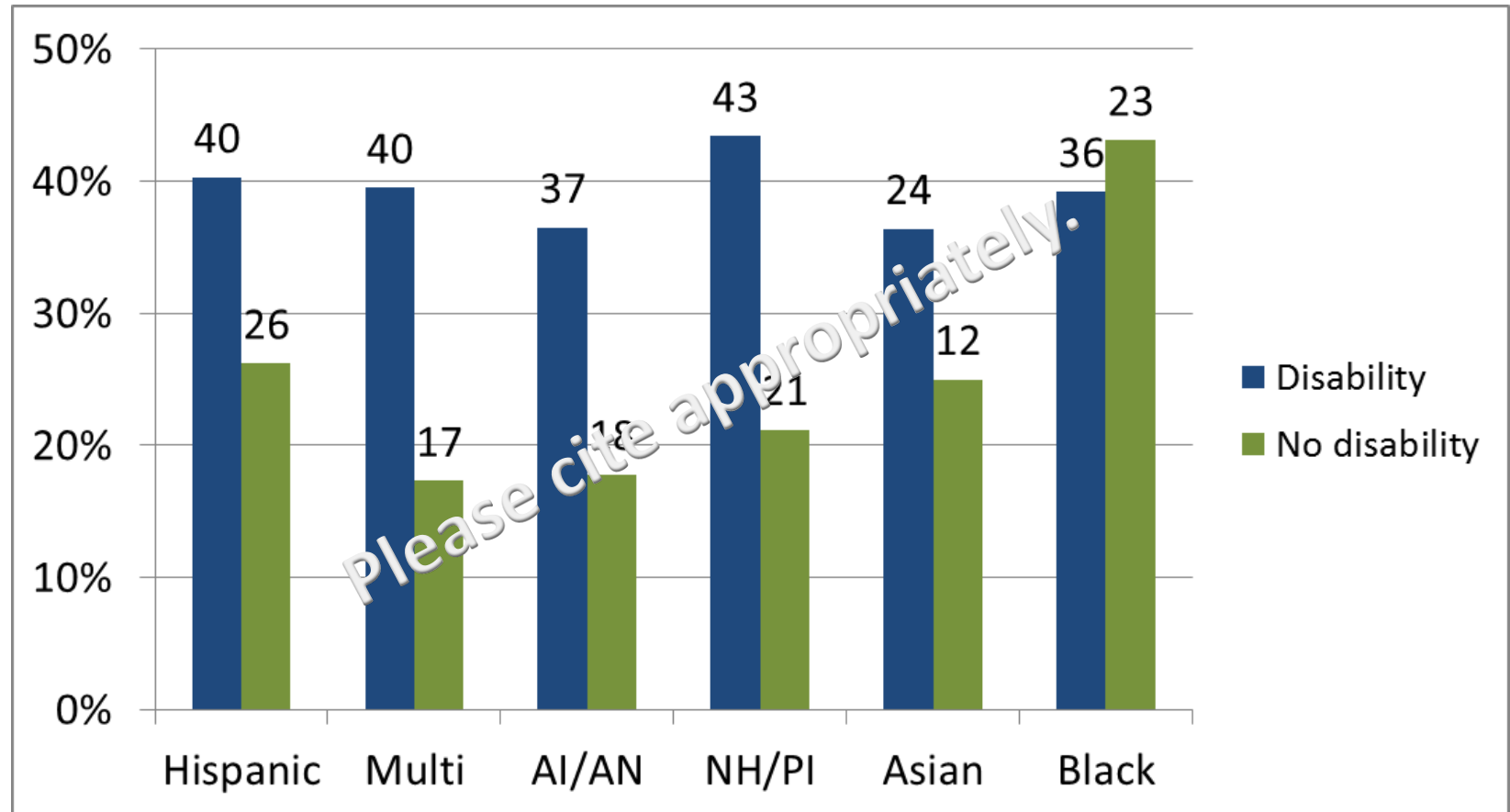
Race / Ethnicity	Disability Prevalence
Black	22.0
Asian	10.2
AI/AN	23.4
NH/PI	32.7
Other	31.7
Hispanic	15.9



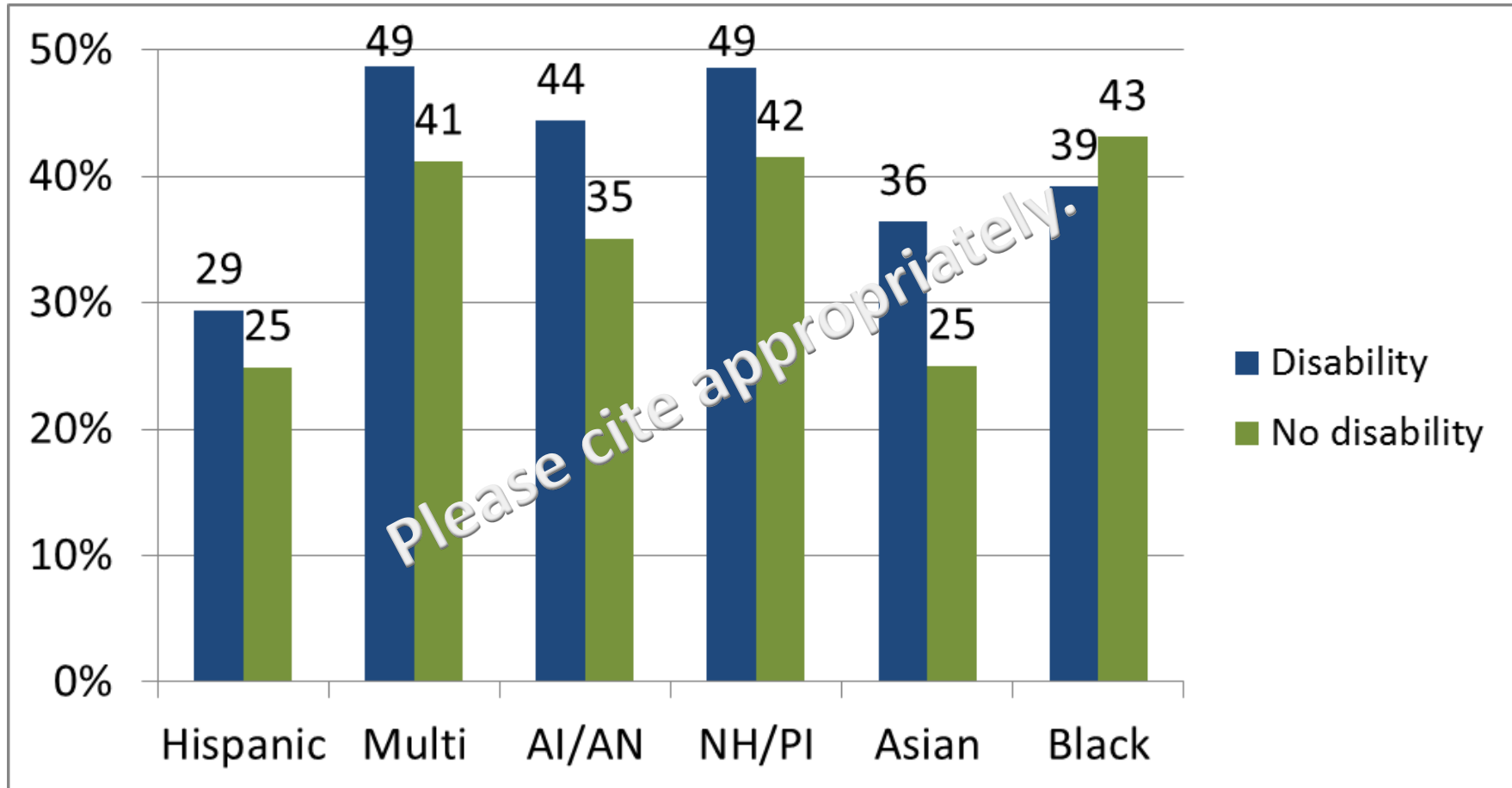
Social Determinant - Poverty



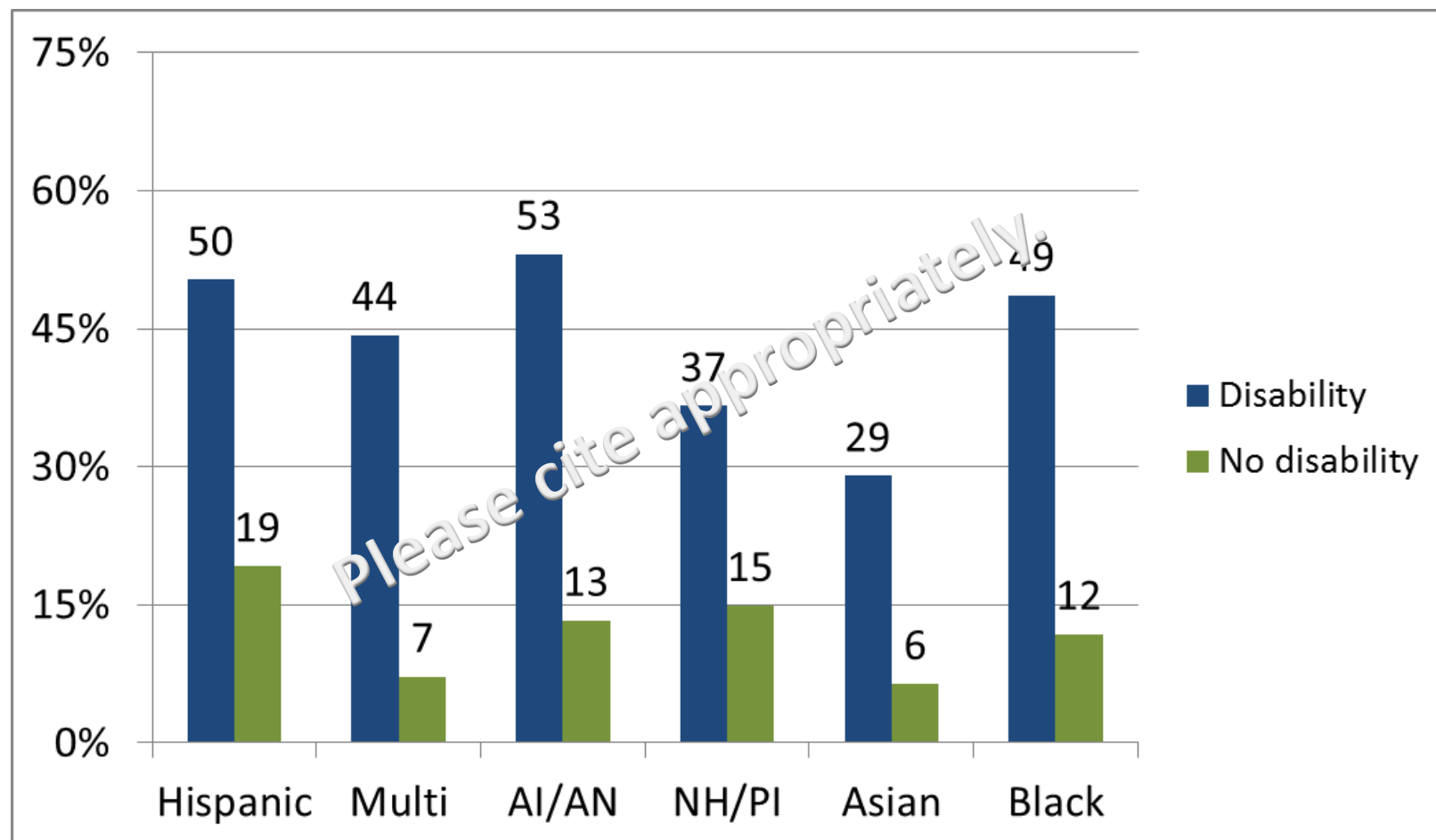
System Attribute - Delayed Care



Disease Inducing Behavior - Smoking



Health Outcome – SRH Fair/Poor



SUMMARY & CONCLUSION



Summary

- Individuals with disabilities experience significant health disparities compared to the non-disabled population
- Individuals with disabilities experience high rates of disparities compared to non-disabled Racial / Ethnic minority groups
- Minorities with disabilities experience high rates of health disparities



Conclusion

- Infusion of disability population into mainstream public health limited
- Important to establish onset and disentangle disability from disease and other health outcomes
- Disparity research is under-funded
- and limited



Questions Later?

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