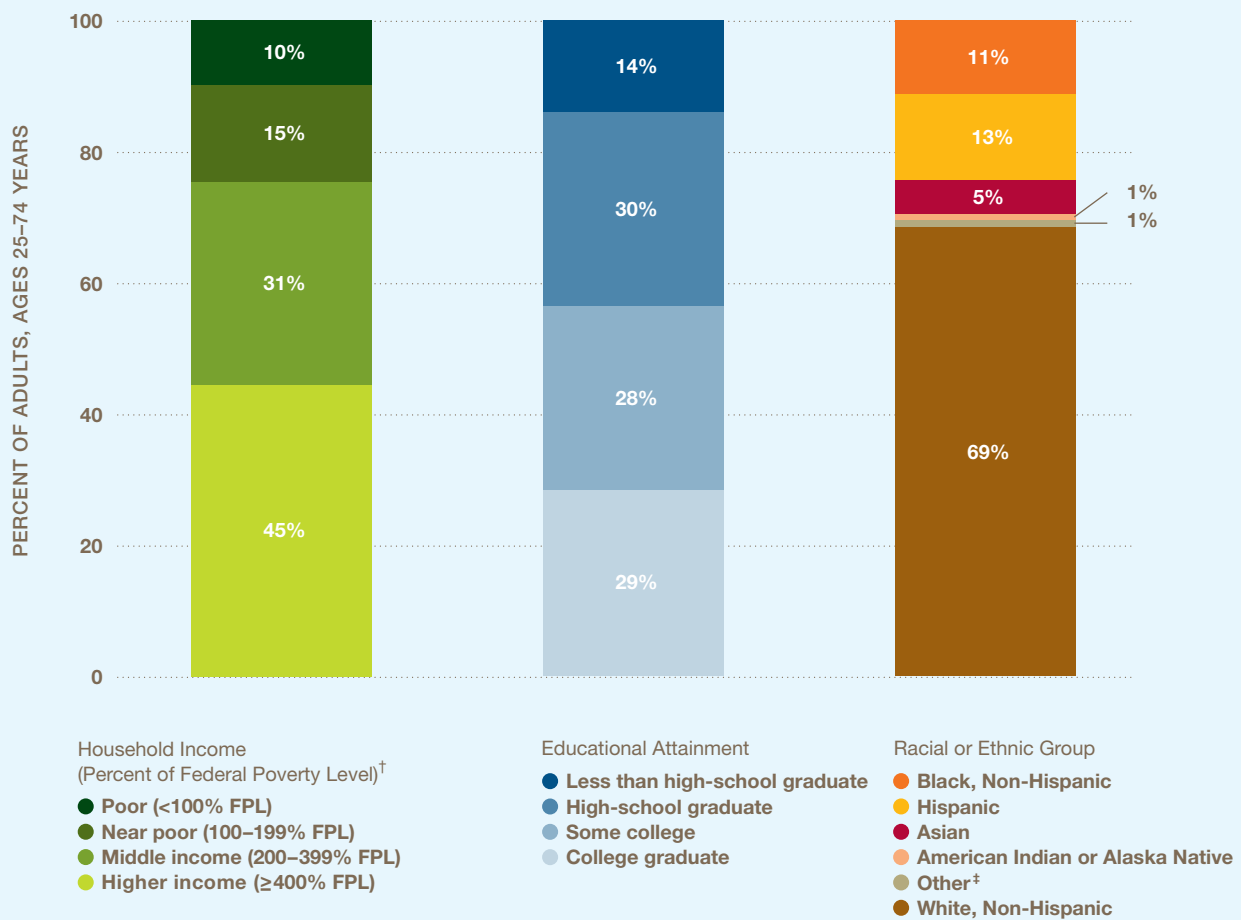


UNITED STATES: Social Factors Affecting Adult Health

Health among adults is powerfully linked with social factors such as household income, educational attainment and racial or ethnic group. This national snapshot of adults ages 25 to 74 shows that:

- One quarter of adults nationwide live in poor or near-poor households, nearly one third live in middle-income households and nearly half live in higher-income households.
- Forty-four percent of adults have no schooling beyond high school, 28 percent have attended but not completed college and 29 percent are college graduates.
- Approximately two thirds of adults nationwide are non-Hispanic white, 13 percent are Hispanic, 11 percent are non-Hispanic black, 5 percent are Asian, 1 percent are American Indian or Alaska Native and 1 percent are in another or more than one racial or ethnic group.



Prepared for the RWJF Commission to Build a Healthier America by the Center on Social Disparities in Health at the University of California, San Francisco.

Source: 2007 American Community Survey.

[†] Guidelines set by the U.S. government for the amount of income providing a bare minimum of food, clothing, transportation, shelter and other necessities. In 2007, the FPL for the 48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia was \$17,170 for a family of three and \$20,650 for a family of four.

[‡] "Other" includes adults in any other racial or ethnic group or in more than one group.