

# **Roadblocks to College:**

## **Racial Preferences in “Race Neutral” California**

**Jeannie Oakes**

**Graduate School of Education & Information Studies  
UCLA’s Institute for Democracy, Education, & Access (IDEA)  
UC All Campus Consortium on Research for Diversity (ACCORD)**

# Proposition 209

General Election--November 5, 1996

## PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE I

Section 31 is added to Article I of the California Constitution as follows:

*SEC. 31. (a) The state shall not discriminate against, or grant preferential treatment to, any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in the operation of public employment, public education, or public contracting.*

# Argument in Favor of Proposition 209



General Election--November 5, 1996

“The only honest and effective way to address inequality of opportunity is by making sure that *all* California children are provided with the tools to compete in our society. And then let them succeed on a fair, color-blind, race-blind, gender-blind basis.

“Let's not perpetuate the myth that "minorities" and women cannot compete without special preferences. Let's instead move forward by returning to the fundamentals of our democracy: individual achievement, equal opportunity and *zero tolerance for discrimination against--or for--any individual.*

# Argument in Favor of Proposition 209



General Election--November 5, 1996

“Vote for FAIRNESS . . . not favoritism!

“Reject preferences by voting YES on  
Proposition 209.”

**PETE WILSON**

*Governor, State of California*

**WARD CONNERLY**

*Chairman, California Civil Rights Initiative*

**PAMELA A. LEWIS**

*Co-Chair, California Civil Rights Initiative*

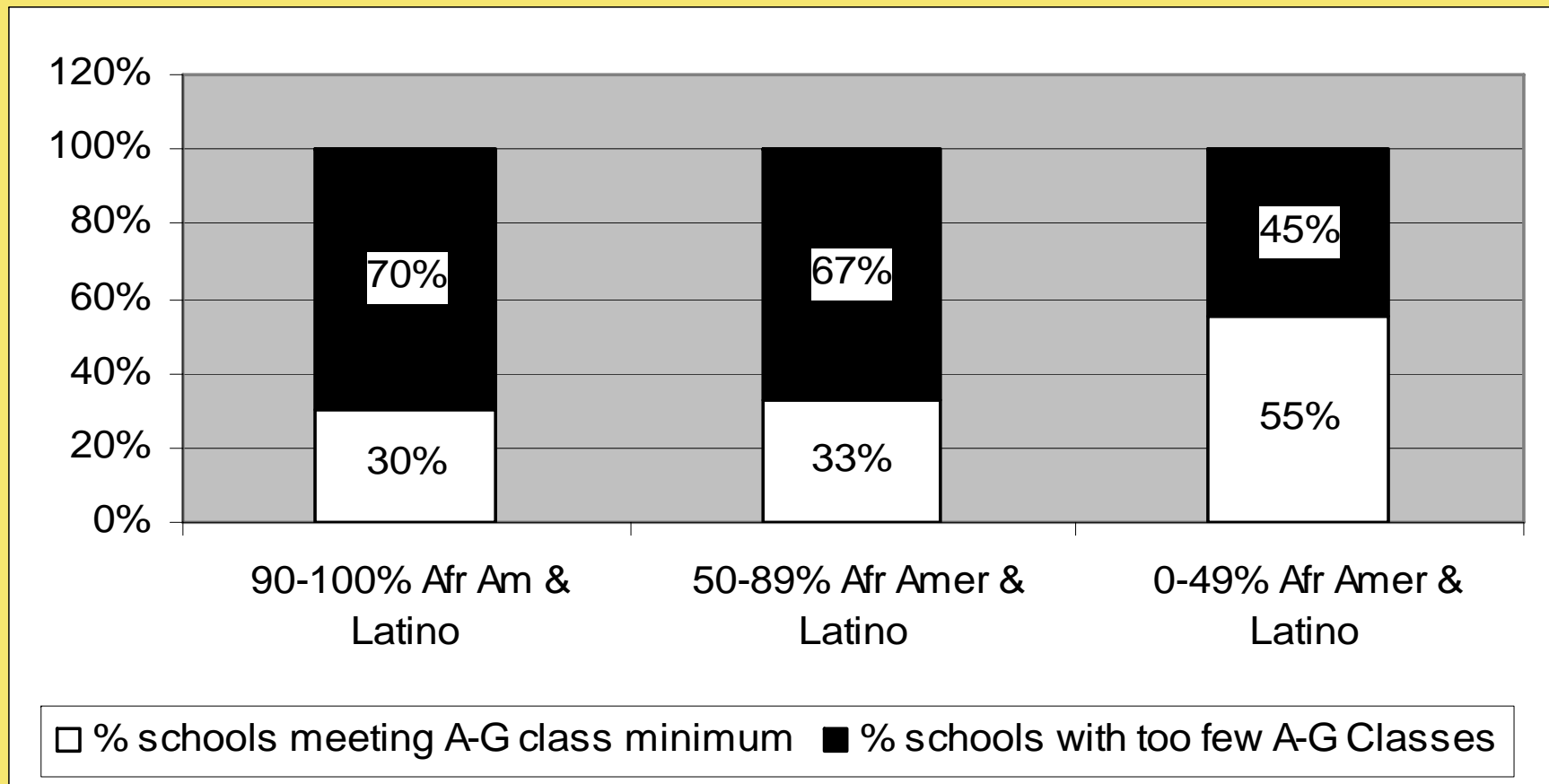
# 10 Years Later . . .

- Did we provide “***all California children***” with “the tools to compete in our society”?
- Did we return to the fundamentals of our democracy “. . . **equal opportunity** and zero tolerance for discrimination . . .”?
- Did we **eliminate “favoritism”**?
- Did we “**reject preferences**”?

# **Racial Preferences Between Schools**

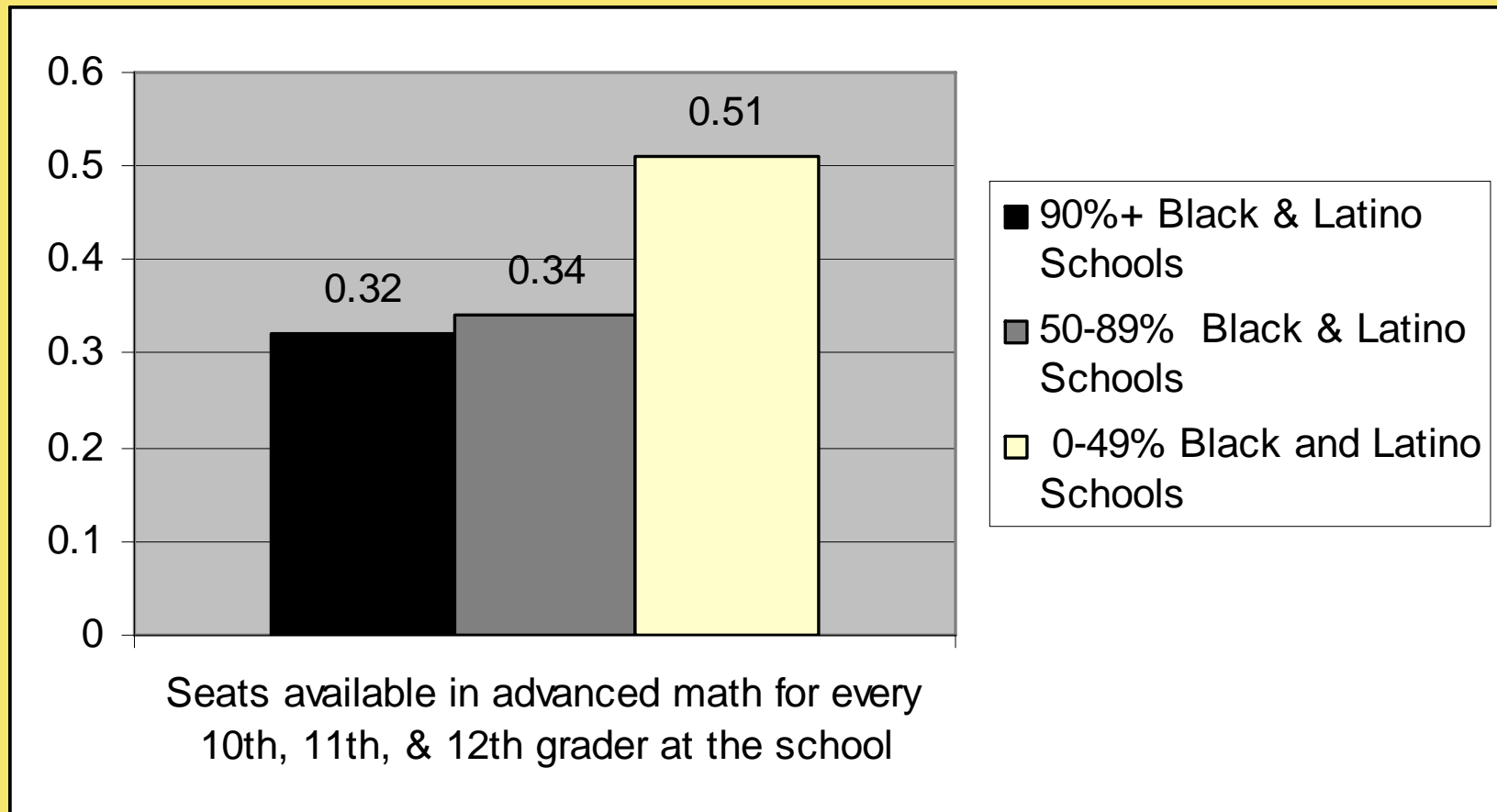
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# Disparities in Access to College Preparatory Classes 2004-2005



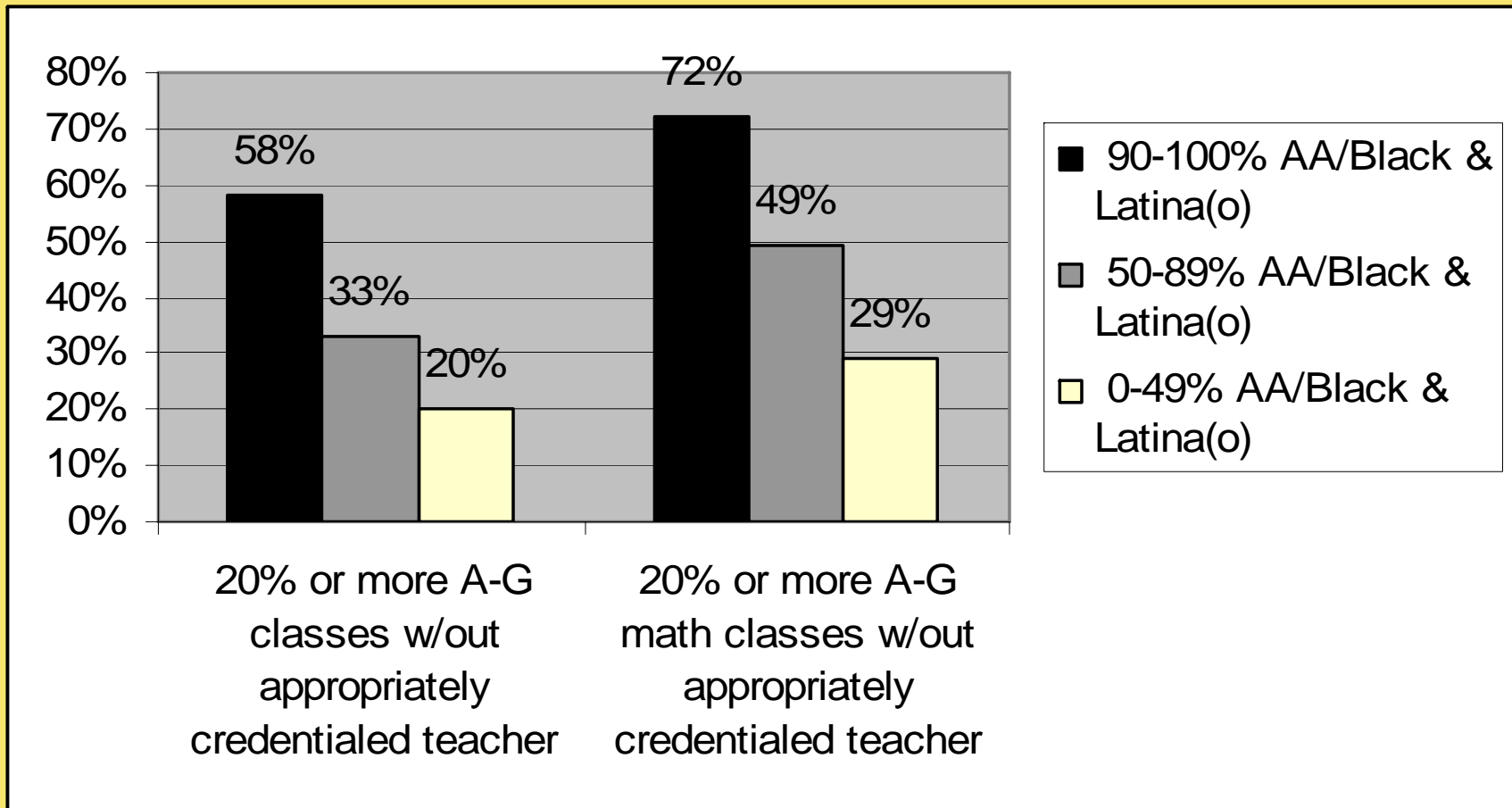
Source: California Basic Education System

# Disparities in Higher Level A-G Math Classes 2004-2005



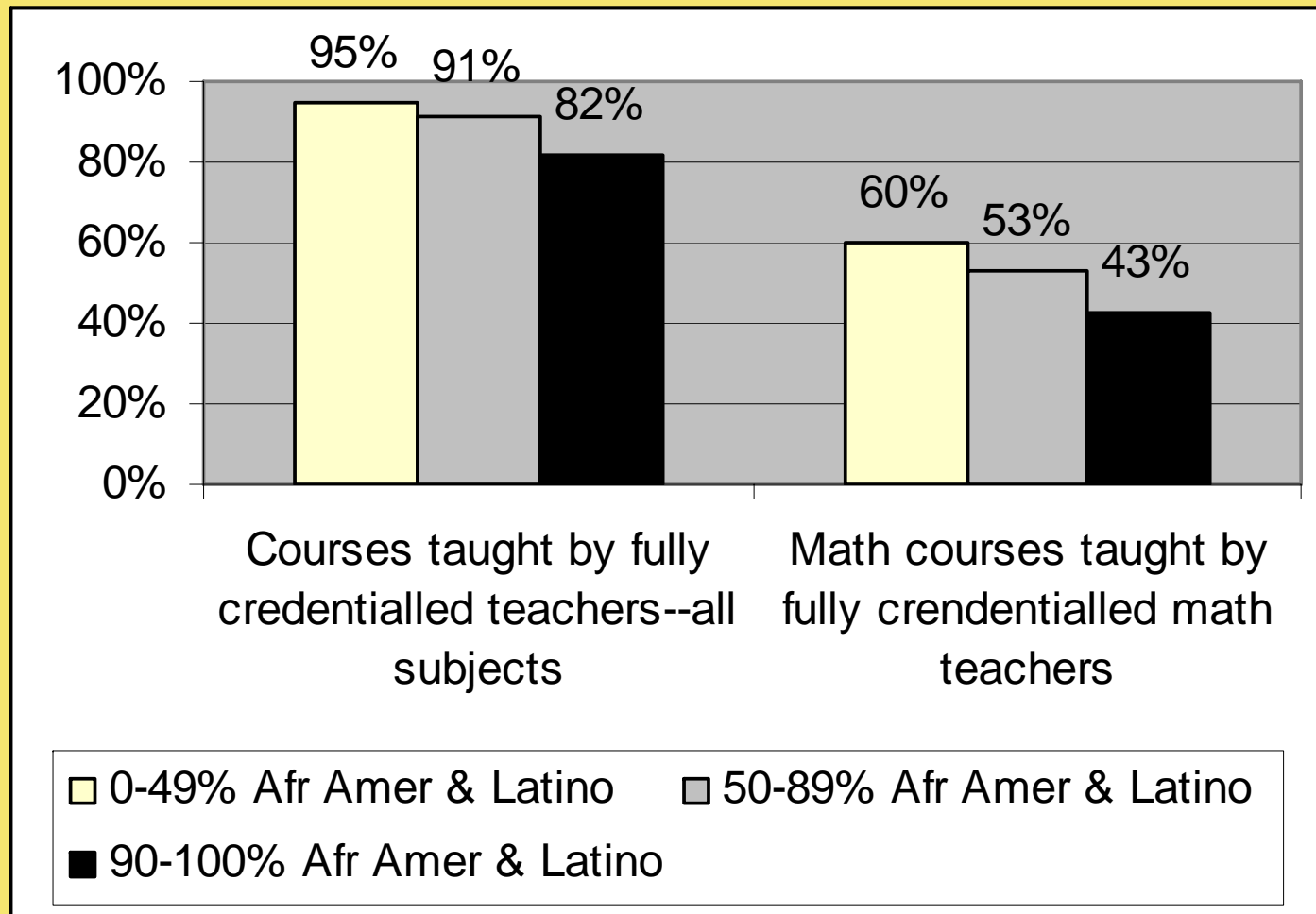
Source: California Basic Education System

# Disparities in A-G Classes Taught by Subject Matter Certified Teachers 2004-2005



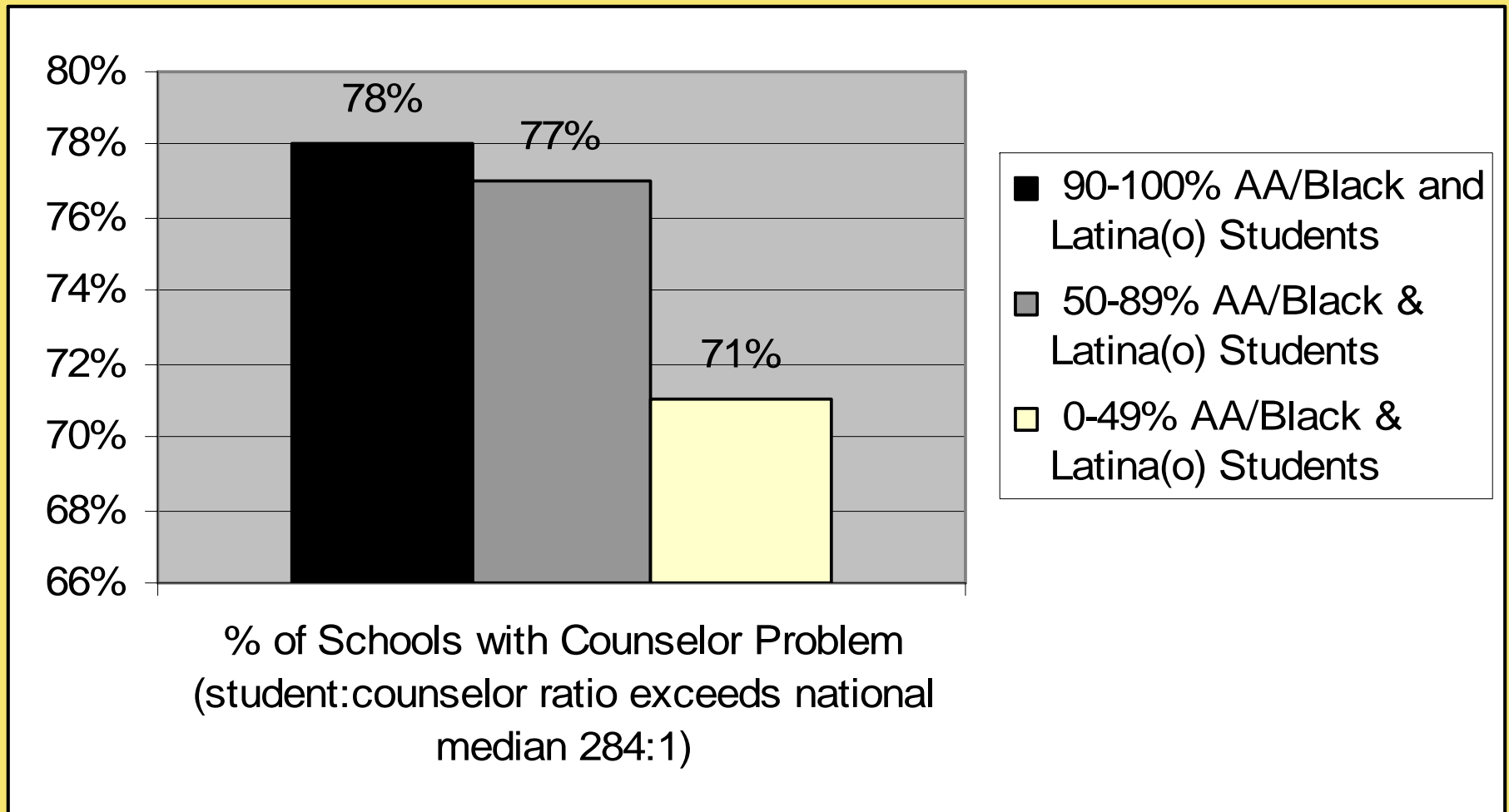
Source: California Basic Education System

# Disparities in Middle School Classes Taught by Subject Matter Certified Teachers 2004-2005



Source: California Basic Education System

# Disparities in Access to Counselors 2004-2005

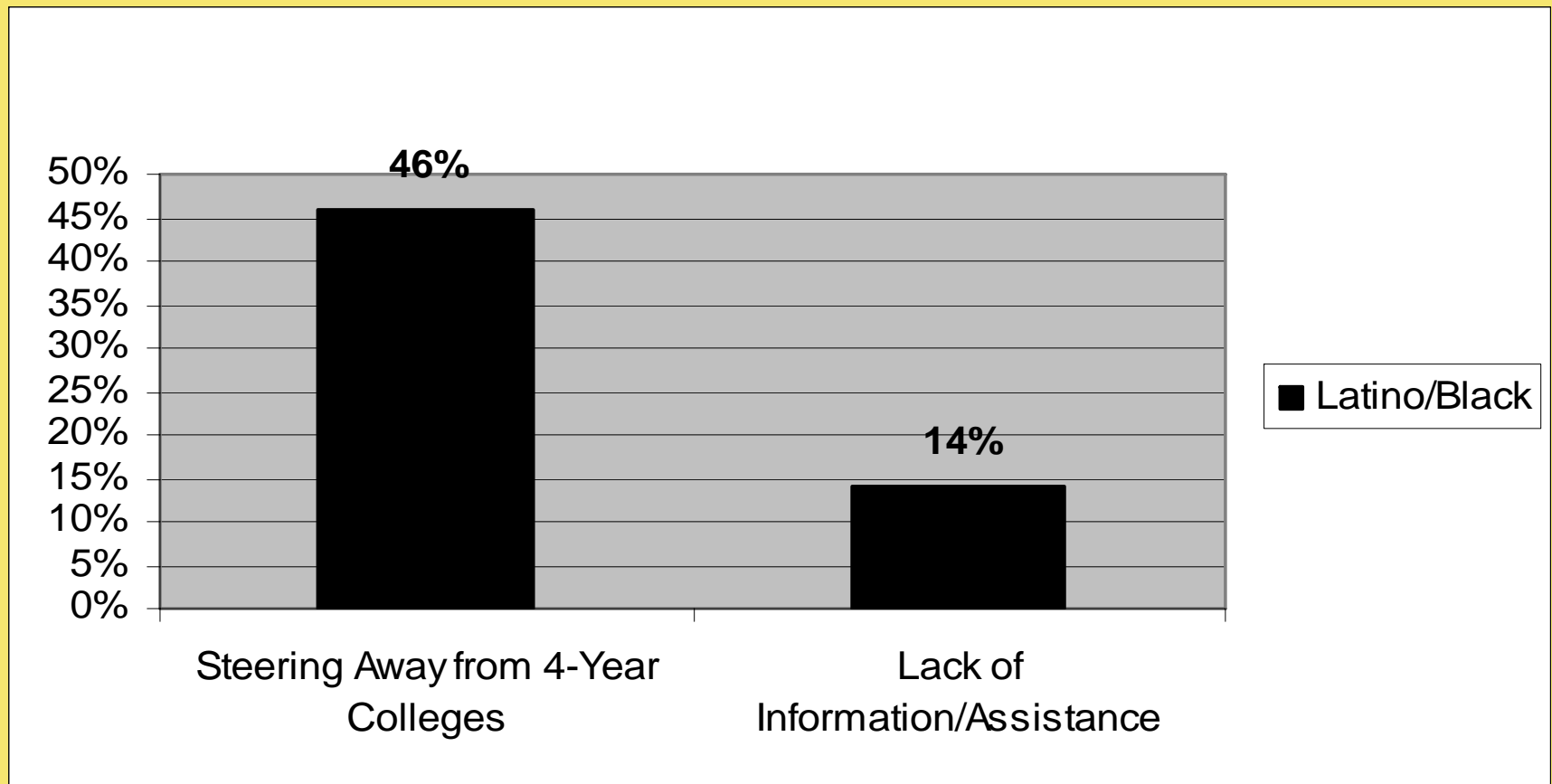


Source: California Basic Education System

# **Racial Preferences Within Schools**

# Disparities in Being Informed or Encouraged to go to a 4-Year College 2003

Odds of Latinos and Blacks Reporting Lack of Information and Encouragement Compared to Whites & Asians

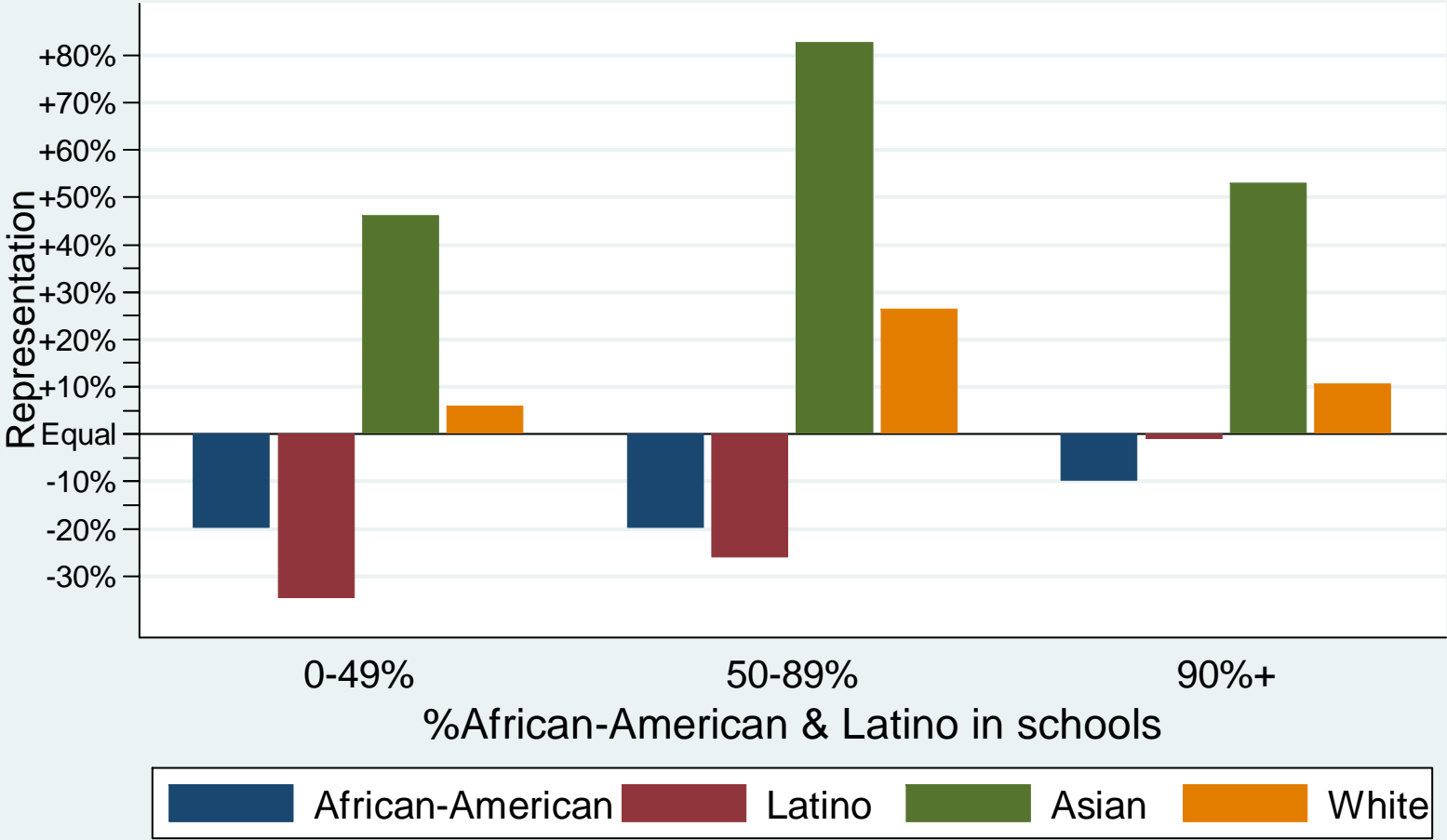


Source: UC ACCORD Survey of California High School Graduates

# Disparities in Representation in Higher Level A-G Math Classes

2004-2005

by race and school composition

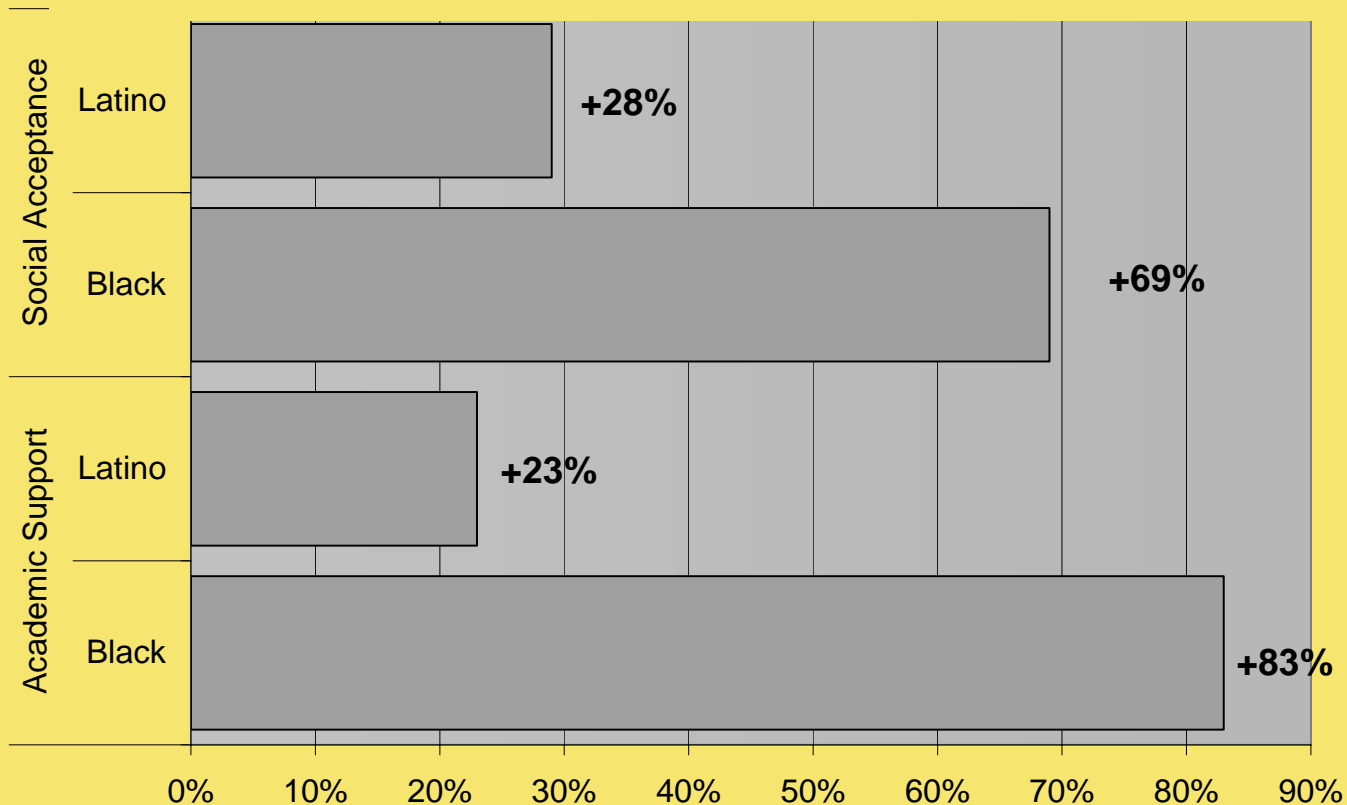


Source: CDE 2005-06  
Note: Adjustments made for small sample sizes

# Disparities in Social & Academic Support in Advanced Courses

## 2003

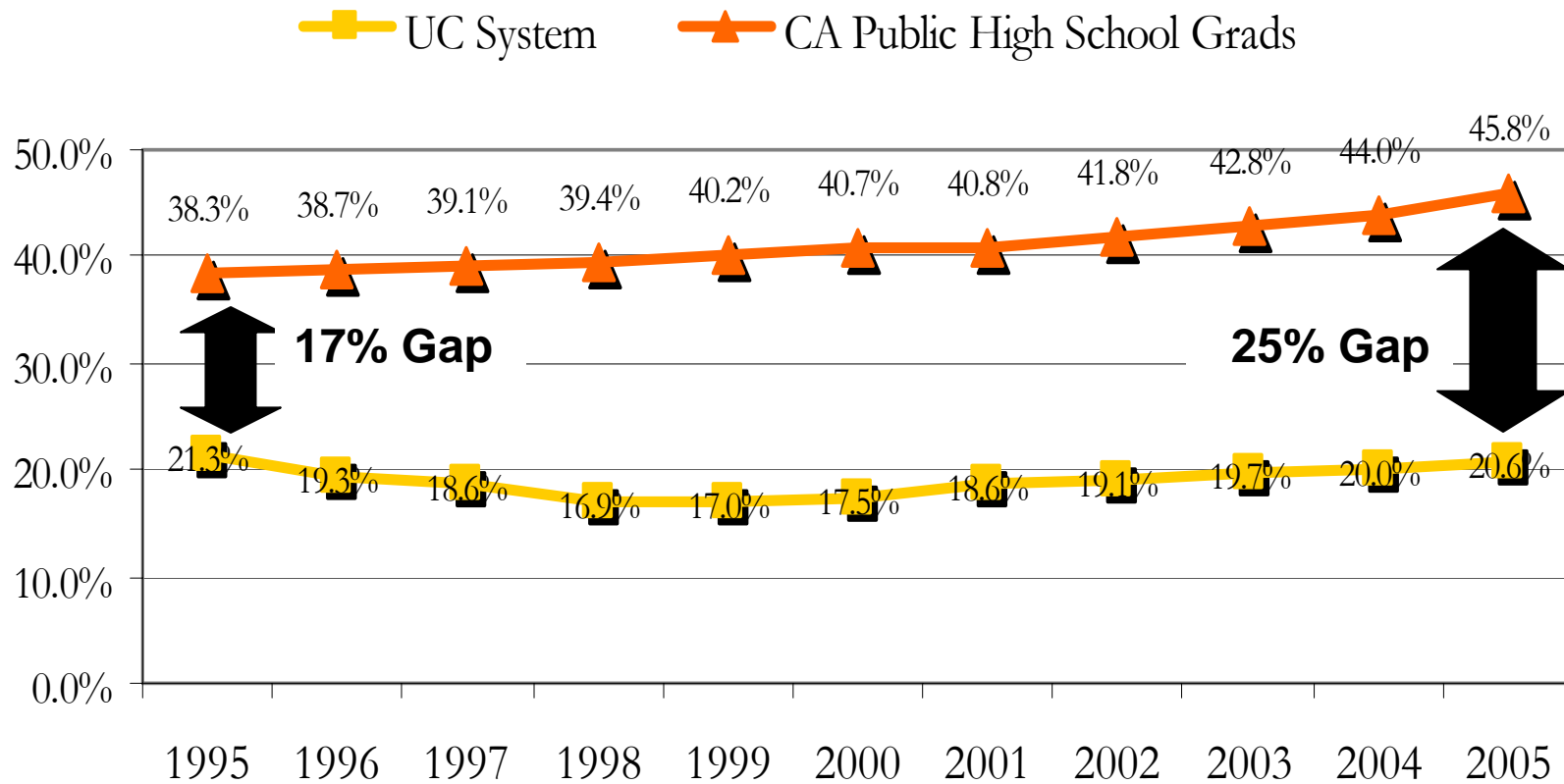
Odds of African Americans Latinos and Reporting Low Levels of Support in Comparison to Whites



Source: UC ACCORD Survey of California High School Graduates

# The Impact of K-12 Racial Preferences after 209

Underrepresented Minorities as a Percentage of CA  
Public High School Graduates and UC System Freshmen  
Admits from CA, 1995-2005



Source: Wm. Kidder, 2006

# What Now?

- Eliminate racial preferences in K-12 curriculum, teaching, & guidance.
- Rework eligibility and admissions criteria to eliminate the effect of racial preferences K-12 education (including reconsidering 209).
- Change the Master Plan to enable far more high school graduates to enroll in four-year public universities.