

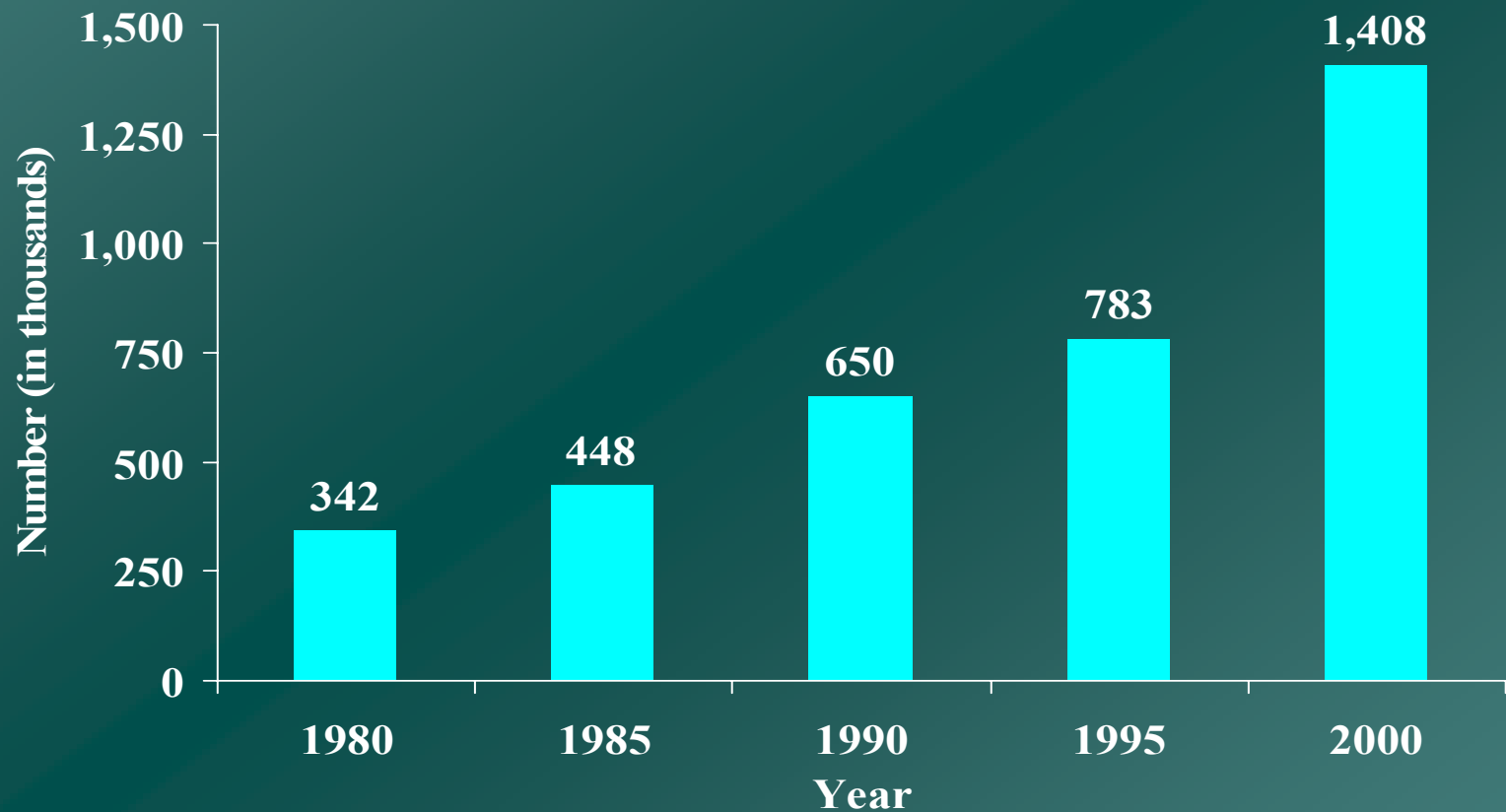
# Characteristics and Relative Risk of Occupational Fatalities of Hispanic Construction Workers

*NIEHS Technical Workshop  
Research Triangle Park, NC  
December 3-5, 2003  
The Center to Protect Workers' Rights  
James Platner and Sue Dong*

# Profile of Hispanic workers in construction

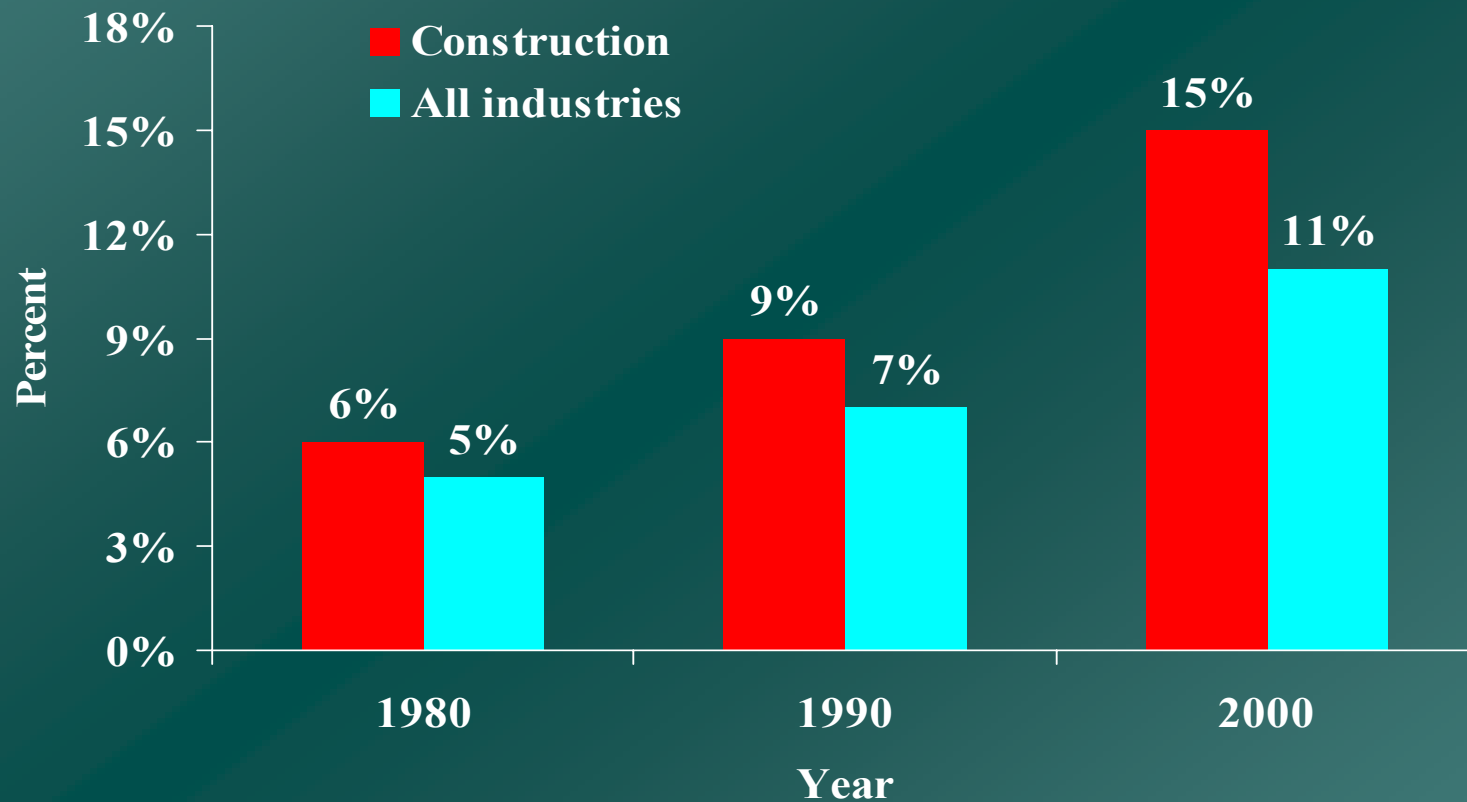
- 1.4 million Hispanic workers in construction in 2000, 15% of the total construction workforce; a 312% increase between 1980–2000
- >25% construction workers are Hispanic in the West
- 20% of total fatal occupational injuries occurred in construction
- Hispanic construction fatalities nationally more than doubled from 1992 to 2000 (108–278)

# Number of Hispanic workers in construction, selected years 1980-2000



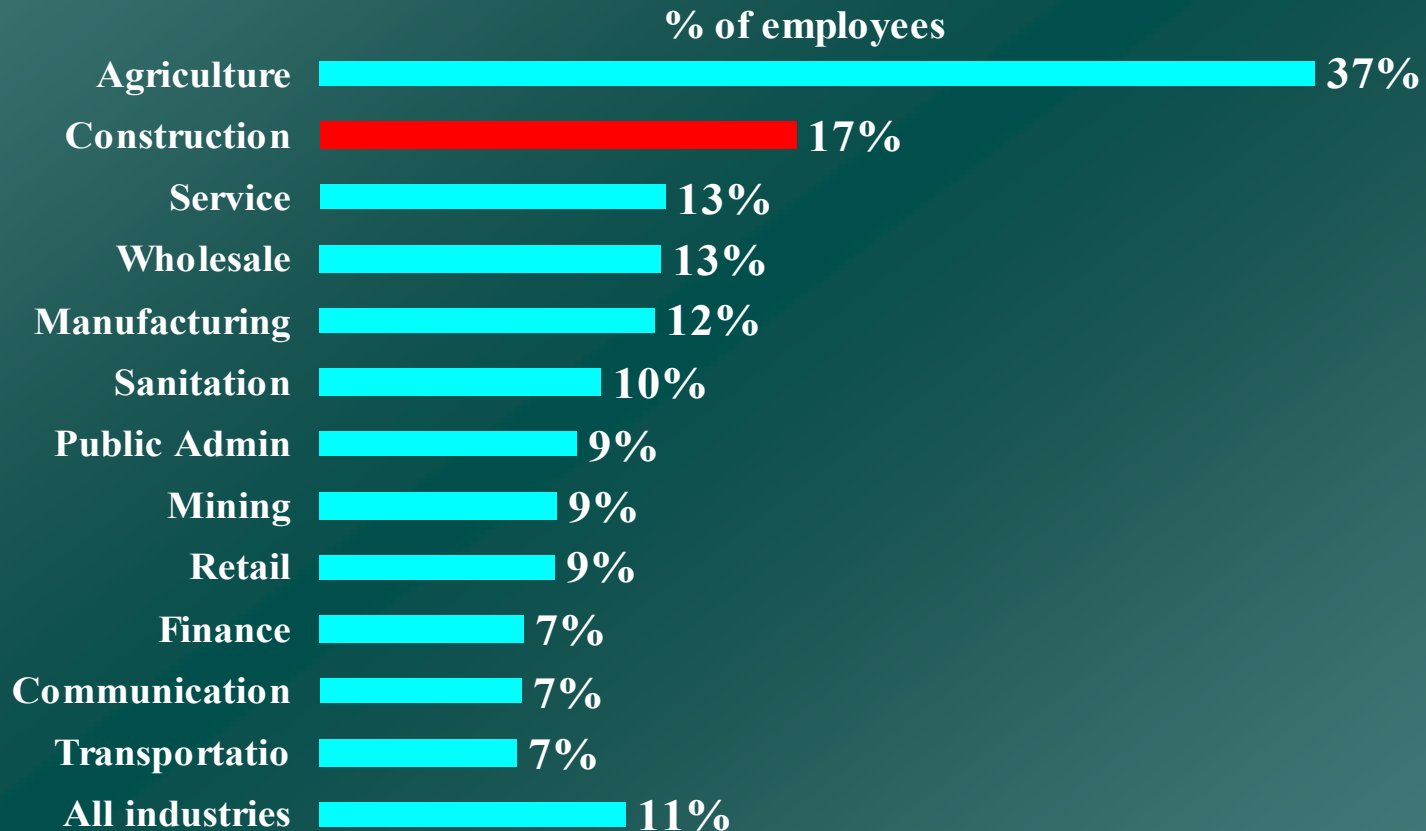
Source: Current Population Survey, 2000 and previous years.

# Hispanic workers as a percentage of construction & all industries, selected years, 1980-2000 (All types of employment)



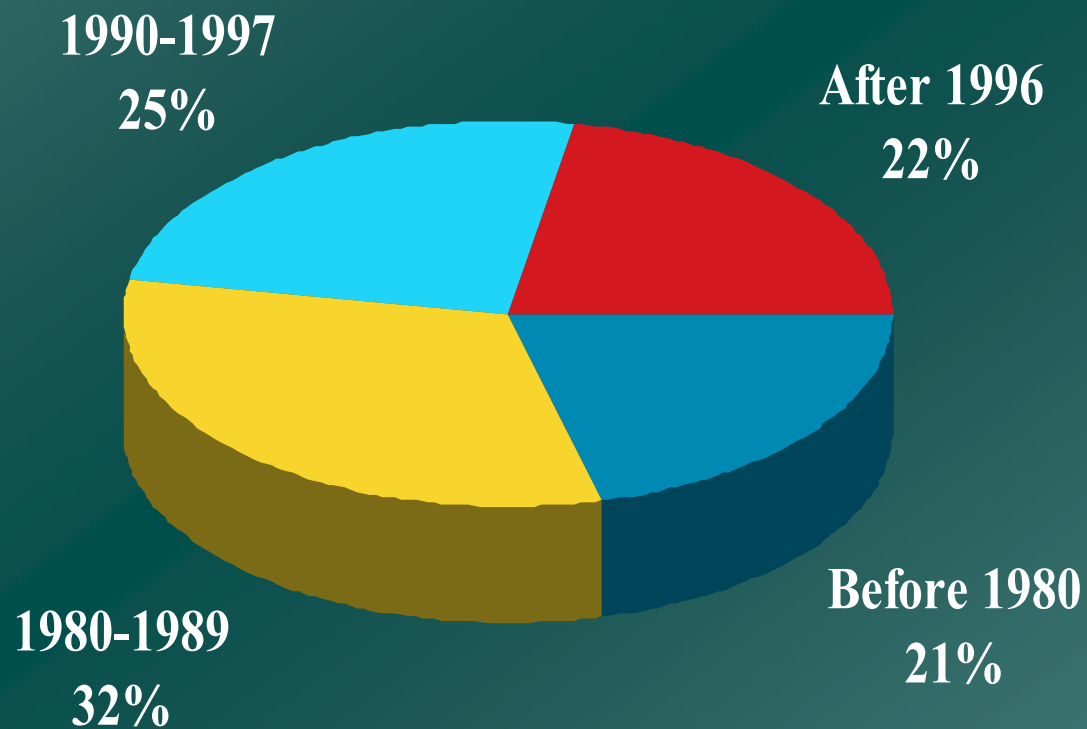
Source: Current Population Survey, 1980, 1990, and 2000.

# Hispanic workers as a percentage of each industry, 2000 (Wage-and-salary workers)

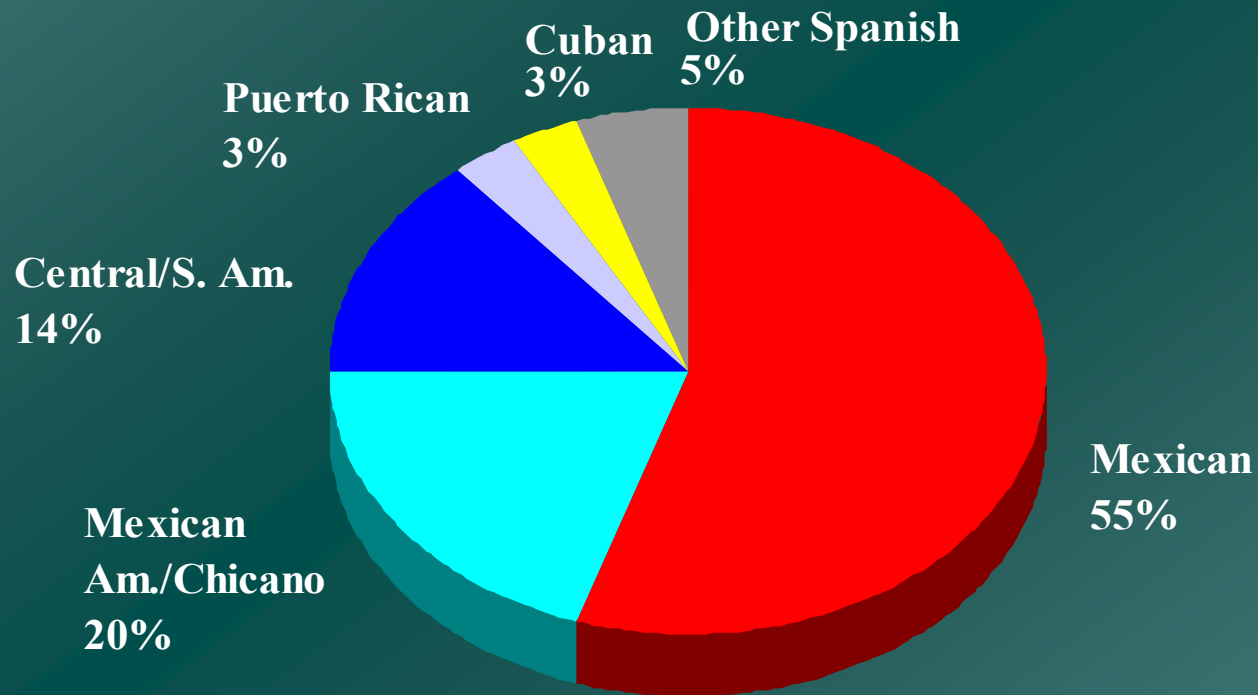


Source: Current Population Survey, 2000.

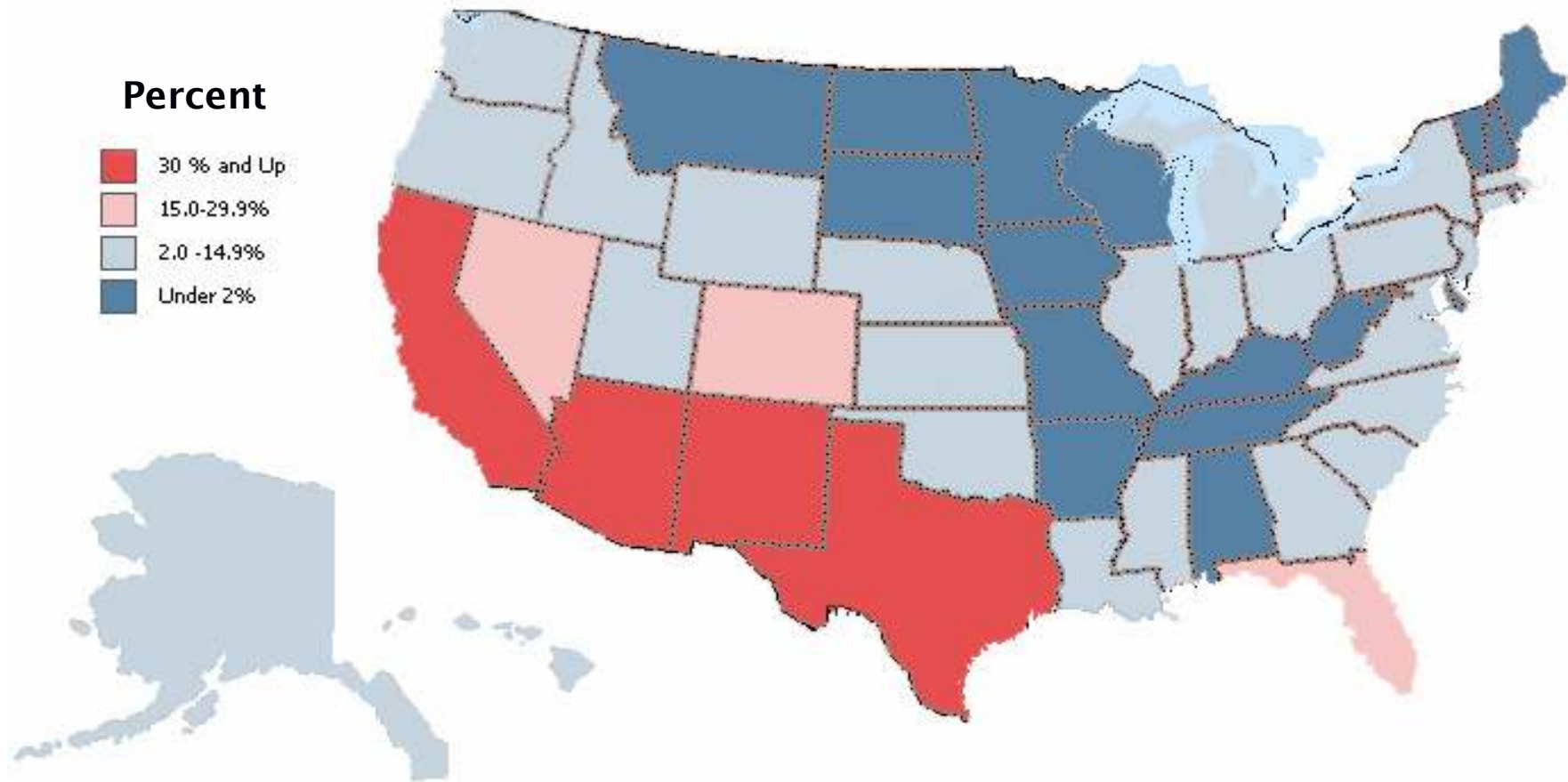
# Date of entry the U.S. for Hispanic construction workers (Non-citizen only)



# Hispanic construction workers, by country of origin, 2000

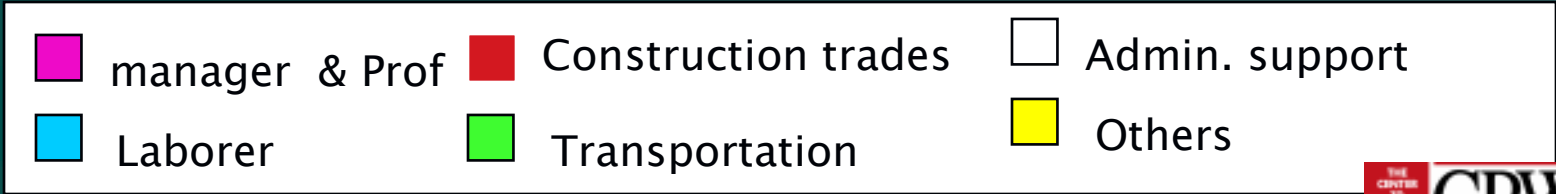
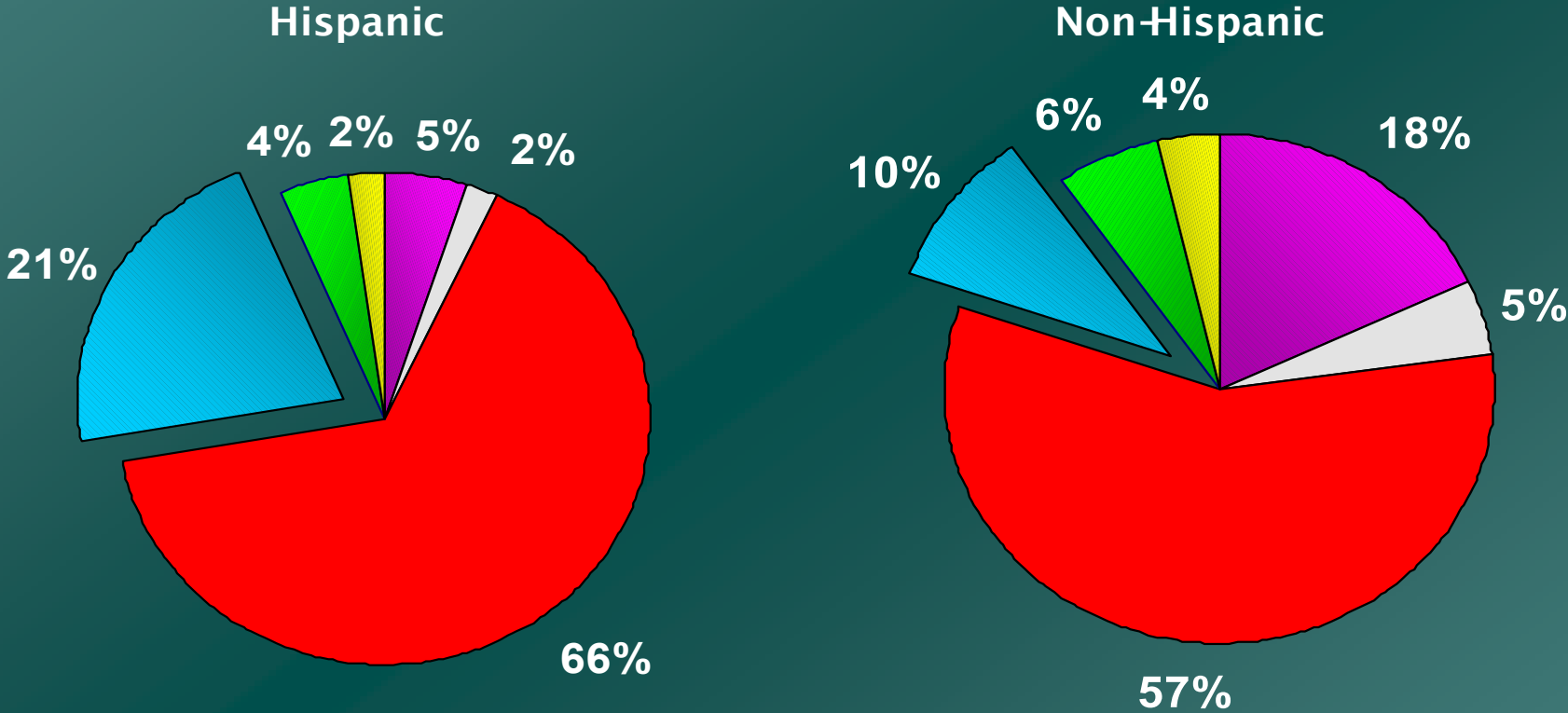


# Construction Workers as Hispanic by State 1998-2000





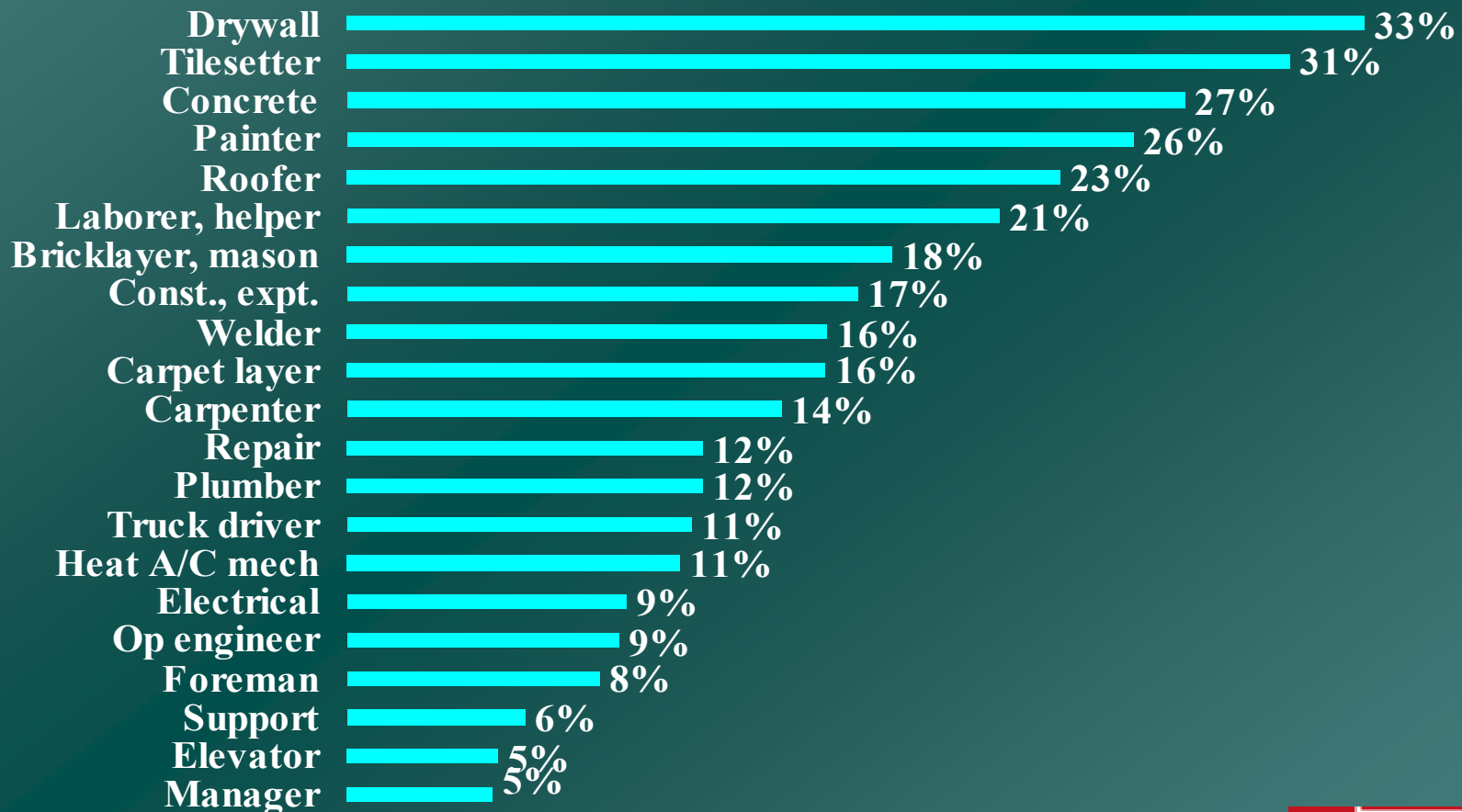
# Distribution among occupations in construction, 2000



Source: Current Population Survey, 2000.

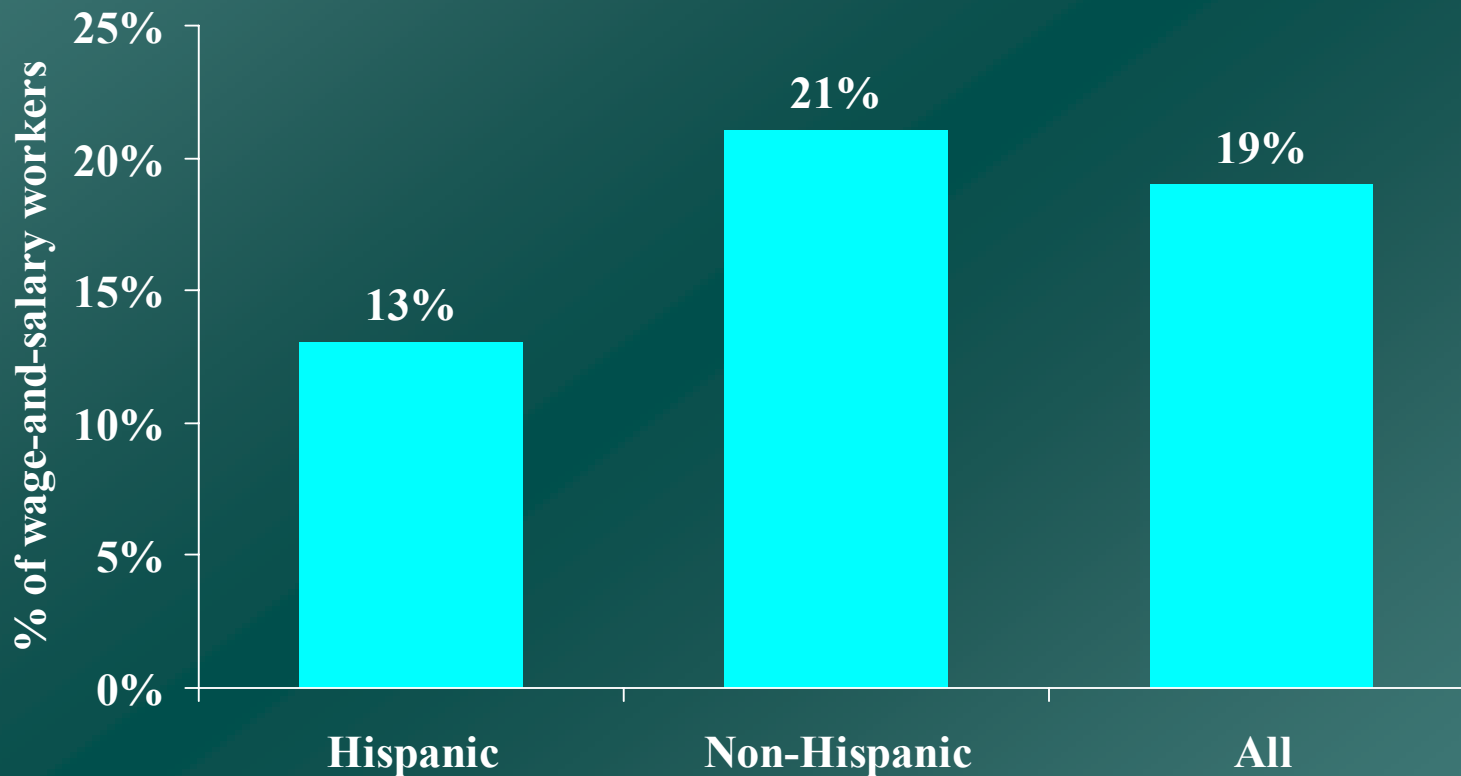
# Hispanic workers as a percentage of each construction occupation, 1998-2000

% of occupation that is Hispanic

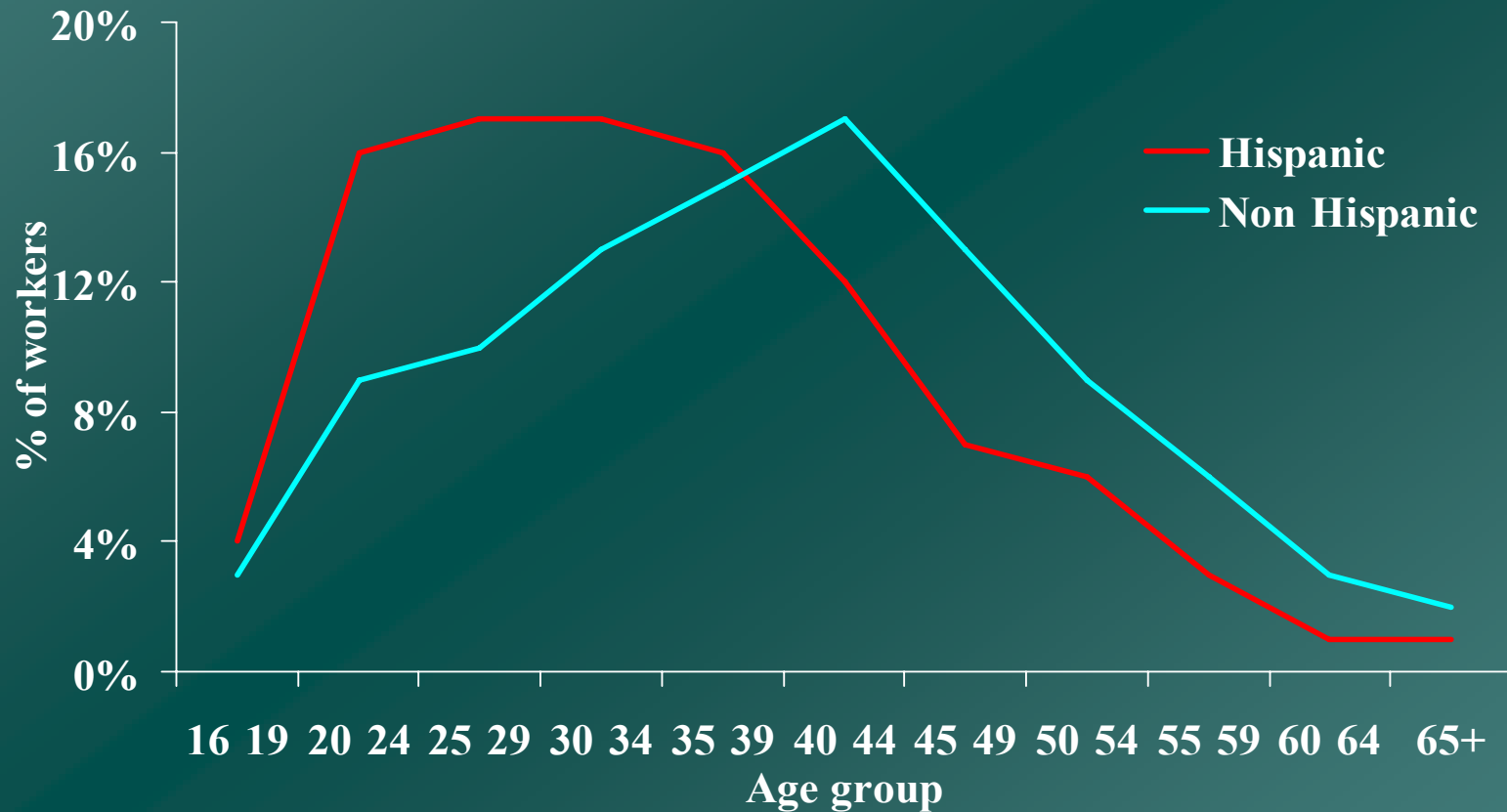


Source: Current Population Survey, 1980, 1990, and 2000.

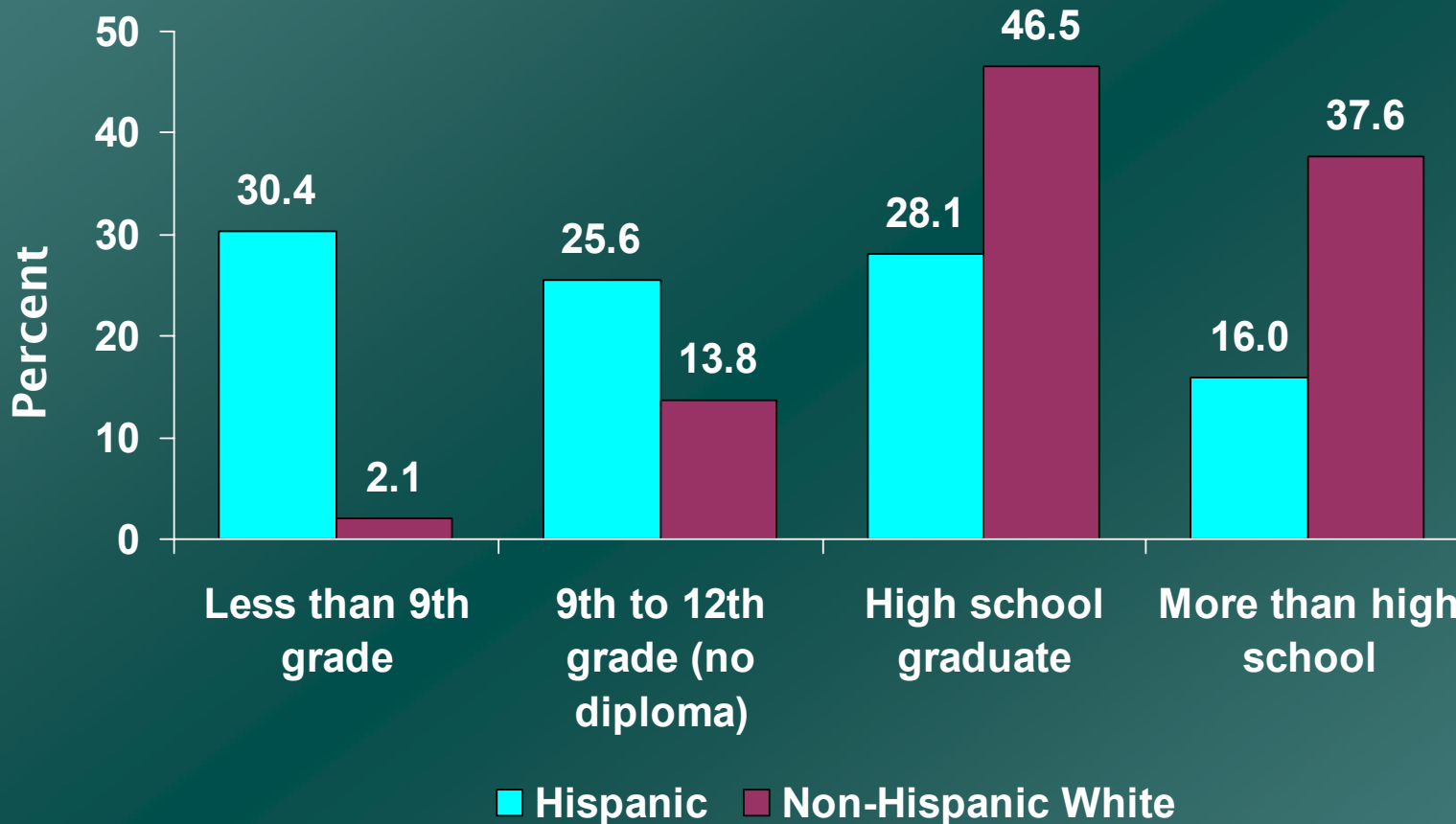
# Union membership among Hispanic and non-Hispanic construction workers, 2000



# Age distribution in construction, Hispanic and Non-Hispanic workers, 2000 (All types of employment)



# Educational attainment, Hispanic and non-Hispanic, 2000

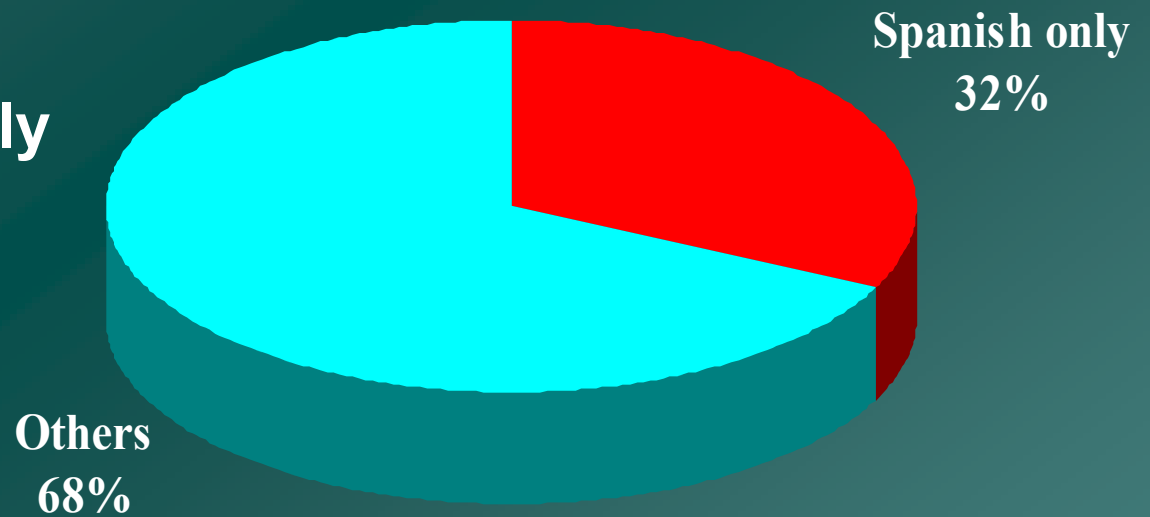


Source: Current Population Survey, 2000

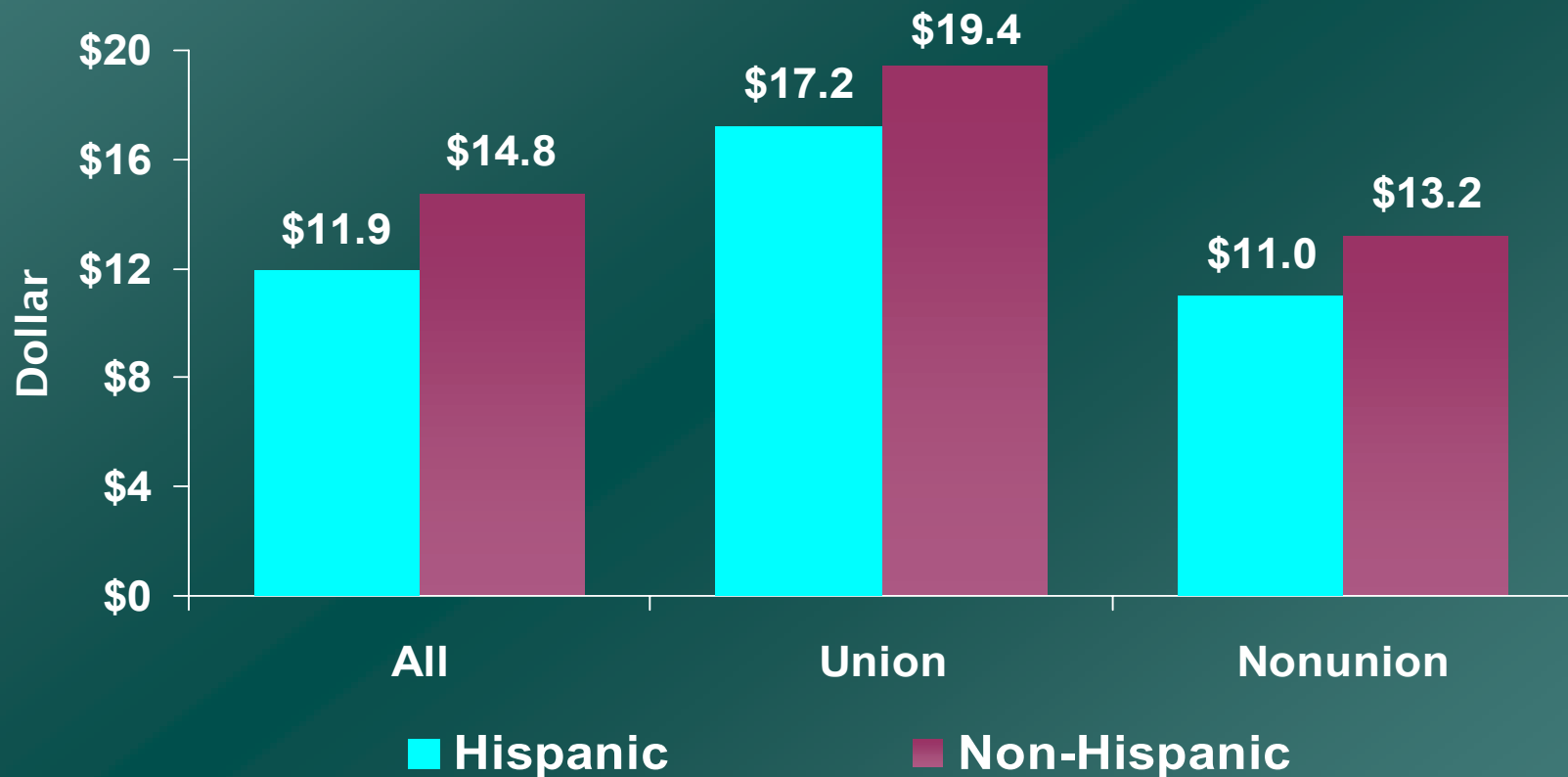
# Percentage of Hispanic construction workers who speak Spanish

452,840

Hispanic workers speak Spanish only

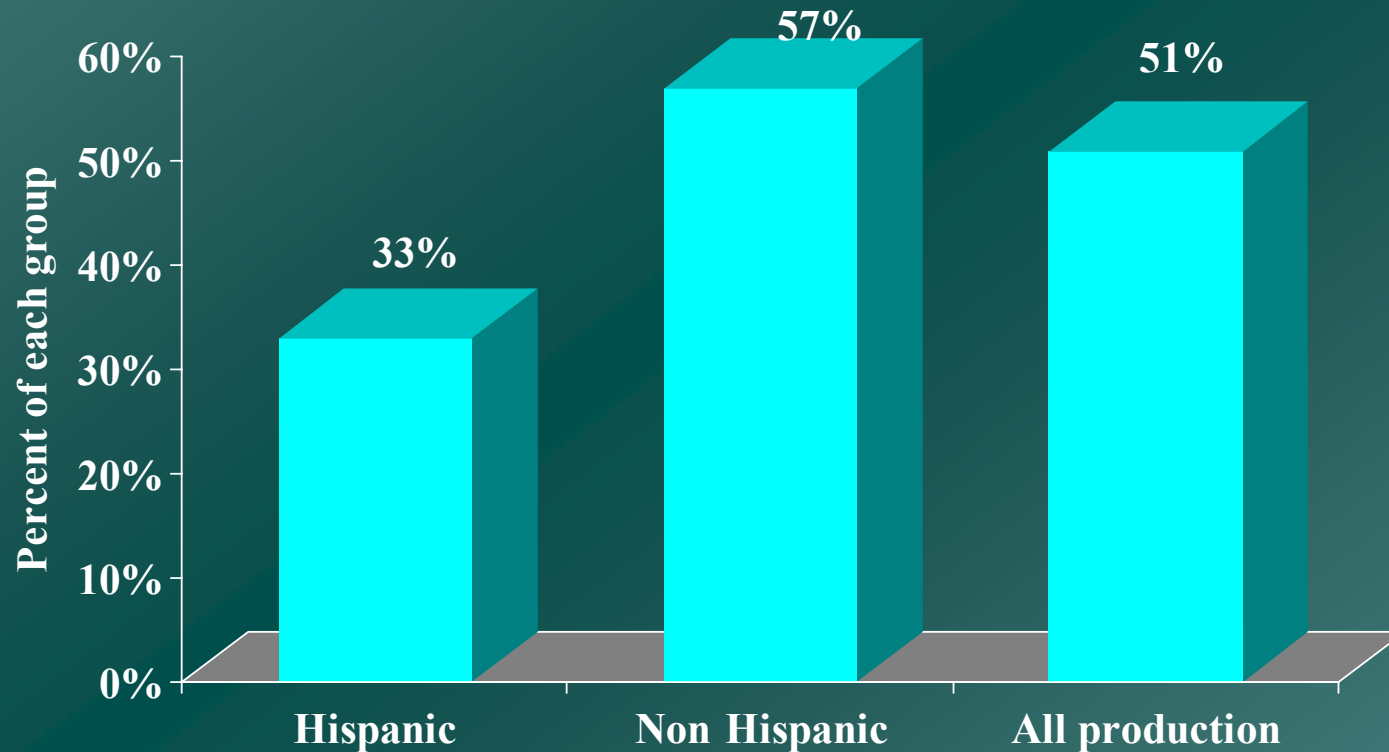


# Hourly wage in construction by union status, 2000



Source: Current Population Survey, 2000.

# Percentage of construction workers with health insurance provided by employer / union, 2000





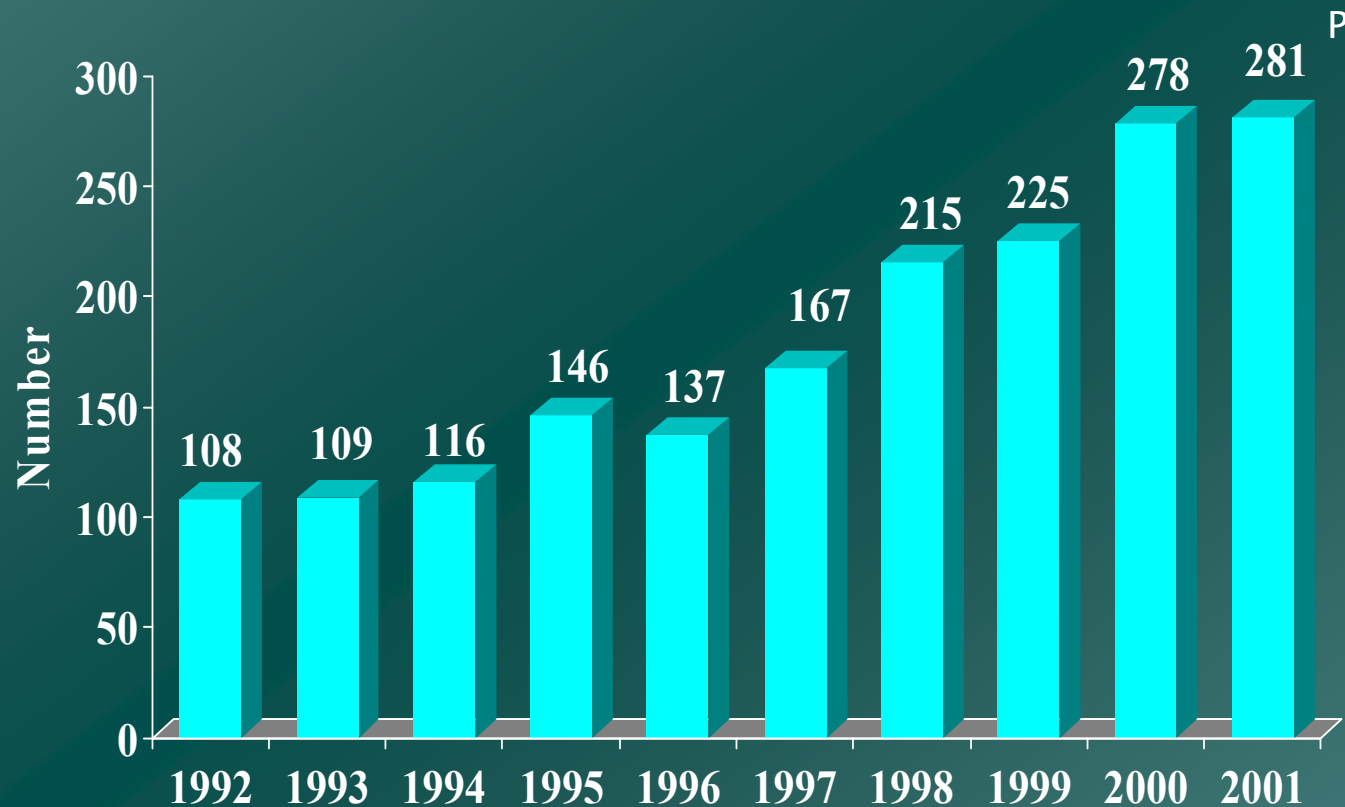
# Fatal occupational injuries by industry, 2000



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, <http://data.bls.gov/servlet/>

P: preliminary

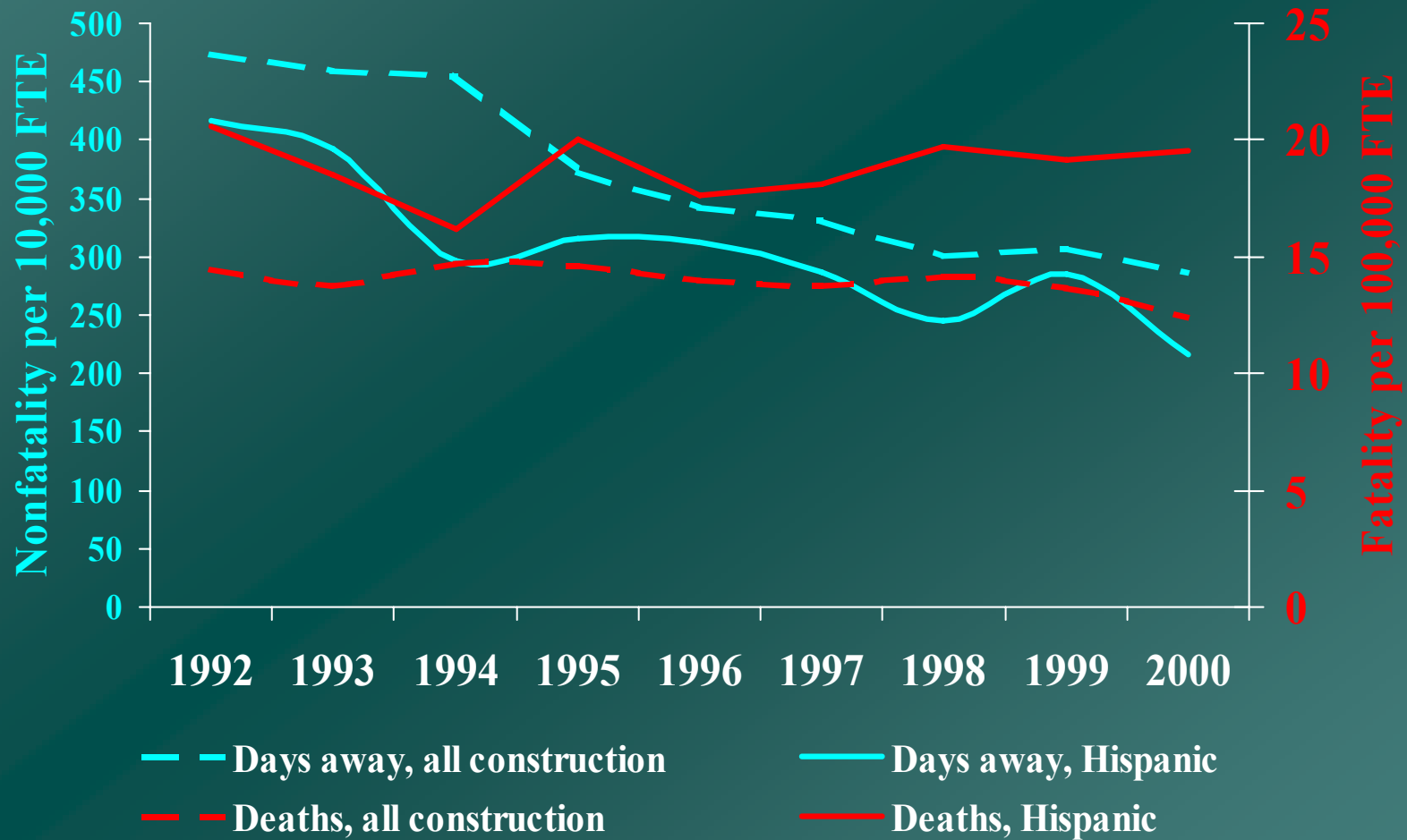
# Fatal occupational injuries of Hispanic construction workers, 1992-2001



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, <http://data.bls.gov/servlet>

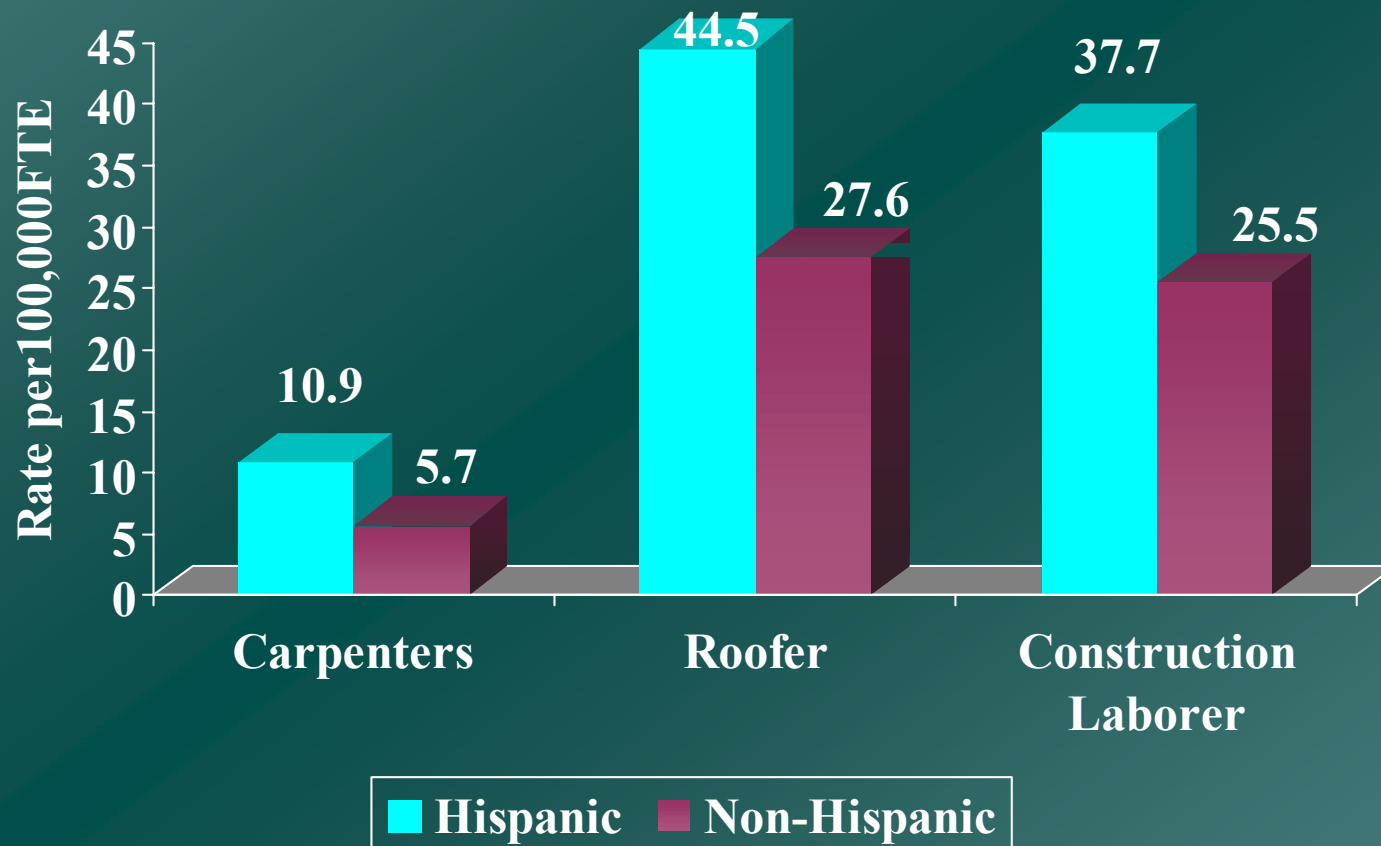
P: preliminary

# Rates of fatal and non-fatal work-related injuries in construction, Hispanics vs. all workers, 1992-2000



Sources: CFOI and CPS, 1992 2000.

# Fatal injury rates by selected occupation in construction, 2000



# Relative Risk of Hispanic Fatal Injury 1996-2000 (95% C.I.)

<b>Helpers, Constr Trade</b>	<b>2.31 (1.41-3.80)</b>
<b>Roofers</b>	<b>1.77 (1.38-2.28)</b>
<b>Drywall Installers</b>	<b>1.75 (0.95-3.25)</b>
<b>Carpenters</b>	<b>1.39 (1.08-1.79)</b>
<b>Construction Laborers</b>	<b>1.31 (1.17-1.46)</b>

# Hispanic Fatal Injuries 1996-2000 in Construction

Year	Hispanic Fatalities	RR (95% CI)
1996	137	1.48(1.24-1.77)
1997	167	1.44(1.22-1.70)
1998	215	1.82(1.57-2.12)
1999	225	1.62(1.40-1.88)
2000	278	1.84(1.60-2.10)

## Percent of Fatalities from Falls, 1996-2000

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Avg.
<b>Fall, Lower Level</b>						
<b>Hispanic</b>	35.0%	34.1%	38.6%	35.6%	38.9%	36.8%
<b>Non-His</b>	28.4	33.6	28.9	30.0	28.8	29.8
<b>Fall, Other</b>						
<b>Hispanic</b>	0.7%	1.2%	0.5%	0%	0.7%	0.7%
<b>Non-His</b>	0.7	0.4	0.9	0.7	0.4	0.6

## Event & Nature of Fatal Injuries

- **Hispanic Construction Workers die more in falls to lower level (36.8% vs. 29.8%)**
- **Hispanic Construction Workers die more frequently of head injuries (30% vs 25%)**
- **Hispanic Construction Workers may be somewhat less likely to die in Vehicles**



## Construction Fatal Injuries by Establishment Size, 1992-2001

	1-10 employees	11-20	21-50	51-99	100+
Hispanic	45.0%	13.0%	17.3%	9.4%	15.3%
Non- Hispanic	51.5%	11.8%	14.9%	8.0%	13.6%

# Conclusions

- **Hispanic Construction Workers are in higher risk occupations**
- **Even considering their occupations, Hispanic Construction Workers are at significantly higher risk of fatal injury**
- **Higher rates of Falls to a lower level and associated head injuries are primary**
- **45% of Hispanic Construction Fatalities are in Employers  $\leq 10$  employees**

# Consider Language & Culture in:

- **Management and union services**
- **Worker involvement & communication**
- **Worker training**
- **Information (labels, documents, etc.)**
- **Knowledge and skill evaluation**
- **Research and IH/Safety services**

**For more information, please read:**

***The Construction Chart Book  
The U.S. Construction Industry  
and Its Workers***

**September 2002  
(Third Edition)**

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