

GEORGE WARREN

BROWN

SCHOOL

of Social Work

ASD Outcomes in Adulthood

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<http://brownschool.wustl.edu/Faculty/FullTime/Pages/PaulTShattuck.aspx>

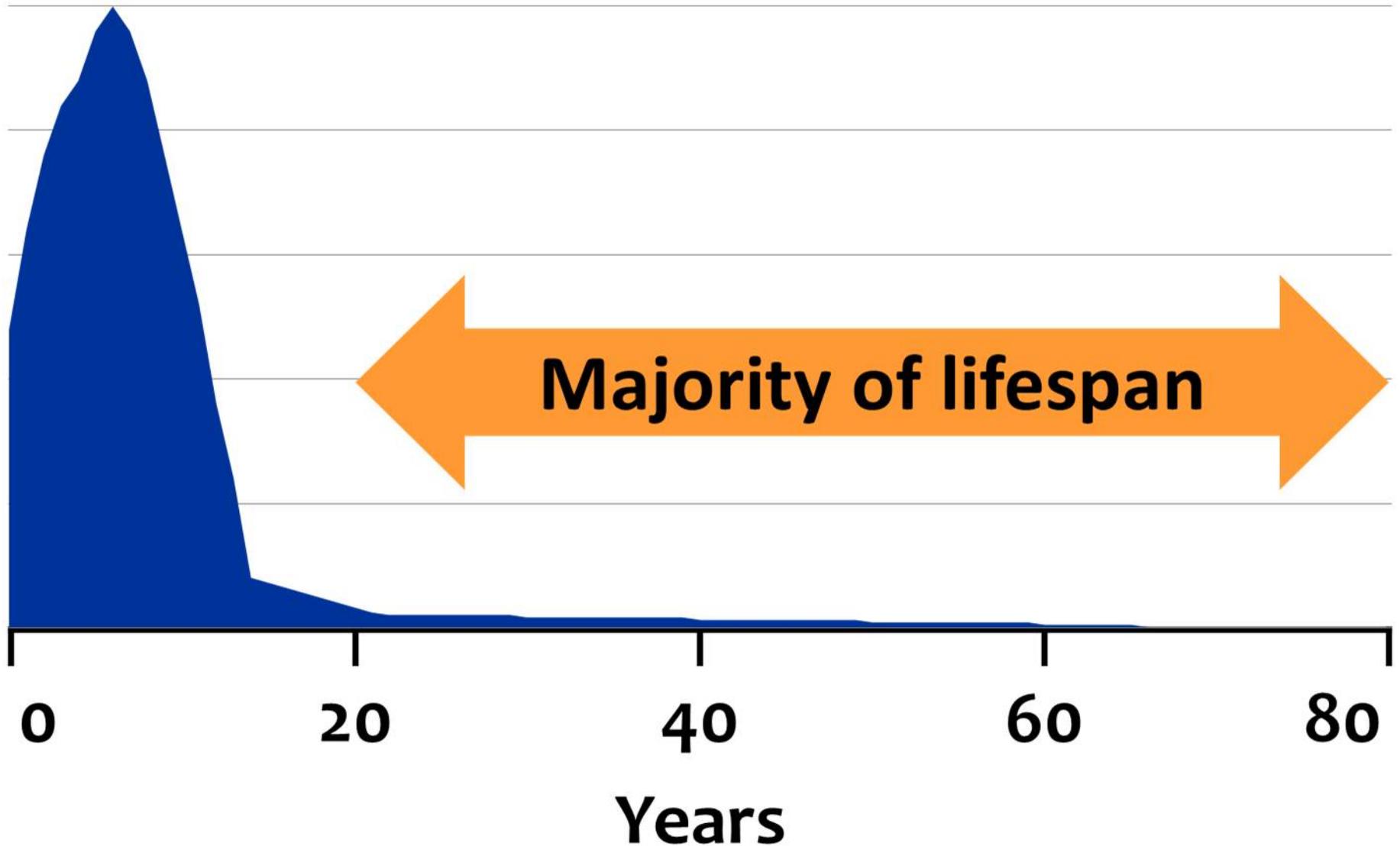


Washington University in St. Louis

Post-High School “Services Cliff”



Impression of evidence by age



Other Important Trends

- **↑ racial & ethnic diversity**
- **↑ poverty and inequality**
- **↑ strain on public programs**
 - **Shrinking budgets**
 - **Aging of the population**

Shattuck Research Mission

- **Build evidence base to help improve systems of care for youths and adults with an ASD**
 - **Service needs?**
 - **Patterns of service use?**
 - **Equity, efficiency, effectiveness?**
 - **Special concern with social disadvantage.**

NIMH R01 Aims & Stages

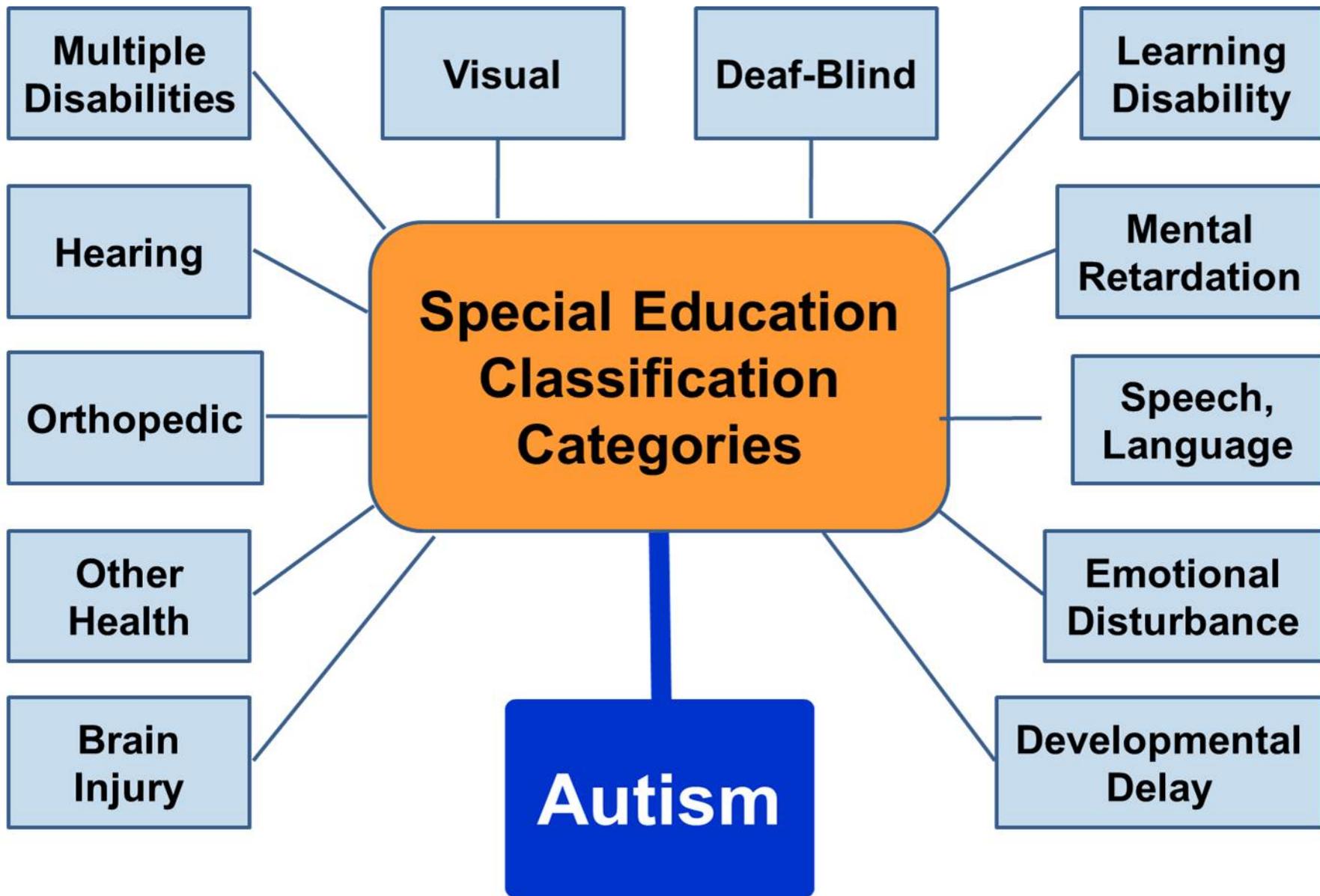
“Service Transitions Among Youth with Autism Spectrum Disorders”

Aims

- 1. Track service use patterns**
- 2. Examine young adult outcomes**
- 3. Examine disparities and inequities**

Data from U.S. Dept. of Education

- **National Longitudinal Transition Study 2 (NLTS2)**
- **9-year, 5-wave cohort study**
- **Nationally representative sample**
- **Very diverse**
- **Multiple sources of data**



Autism

**Special Ed.
Autism**

n ~ 920

Weighted N =

14,366

ages 13 – 16

in 2000

Post-High School Outcomes

- **Wave 4 interviews: 2007**
- **Response rate: 74% of wave 1**
- **~ 400 parent responses about service use**
- **~ 500 responses about postsecondary work and school outcomes**

Research Question 1

- **What services are U.S. youth using after high school?**
- **What are the correlates of service use?**

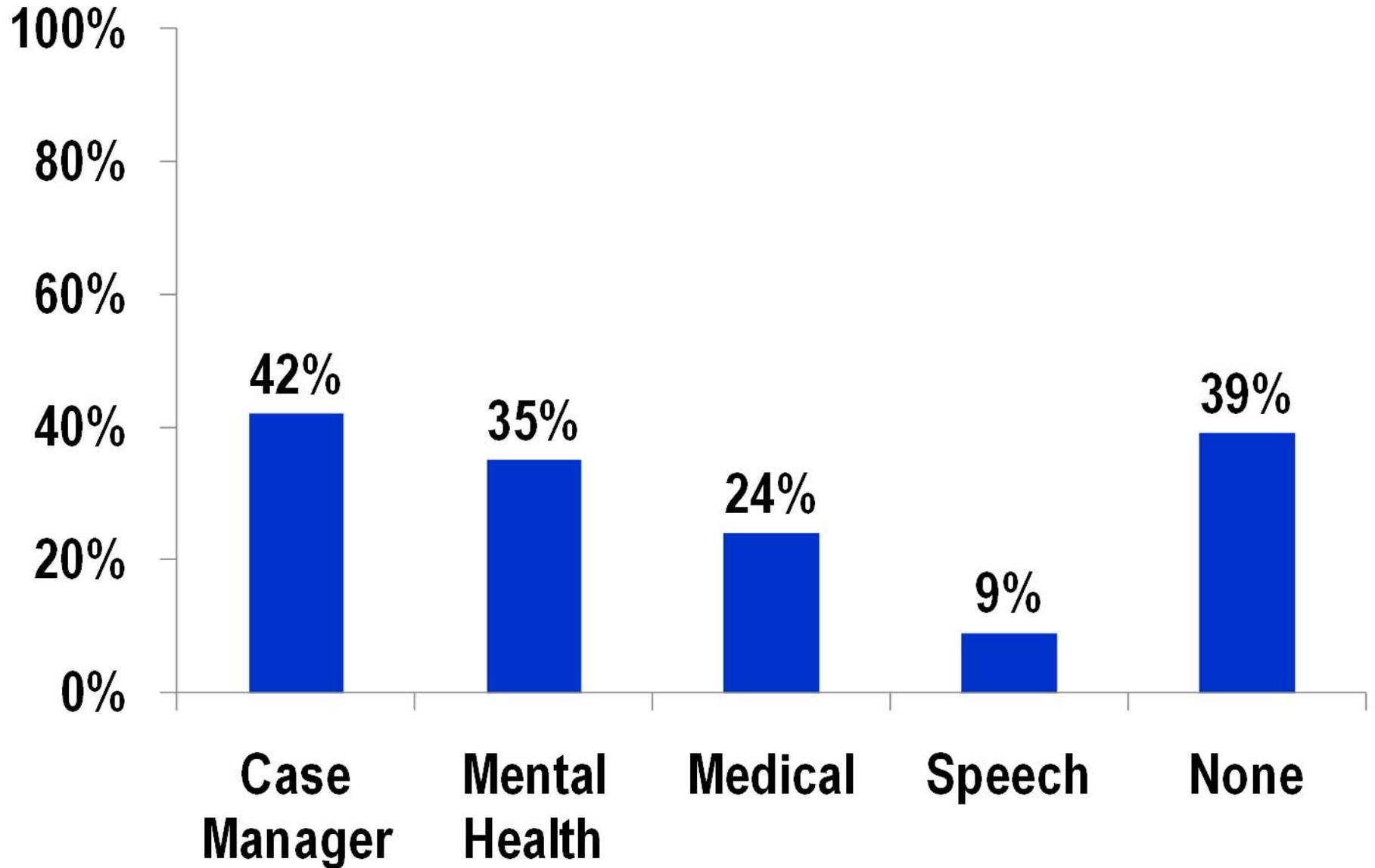
Shattuck, P.T., Wagner, M., Narendorf, S., Sterzing, P., & Hensley, M. (2011). Post high school service use among young adults with autism. *Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine*, 165, 141-146.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21300654>

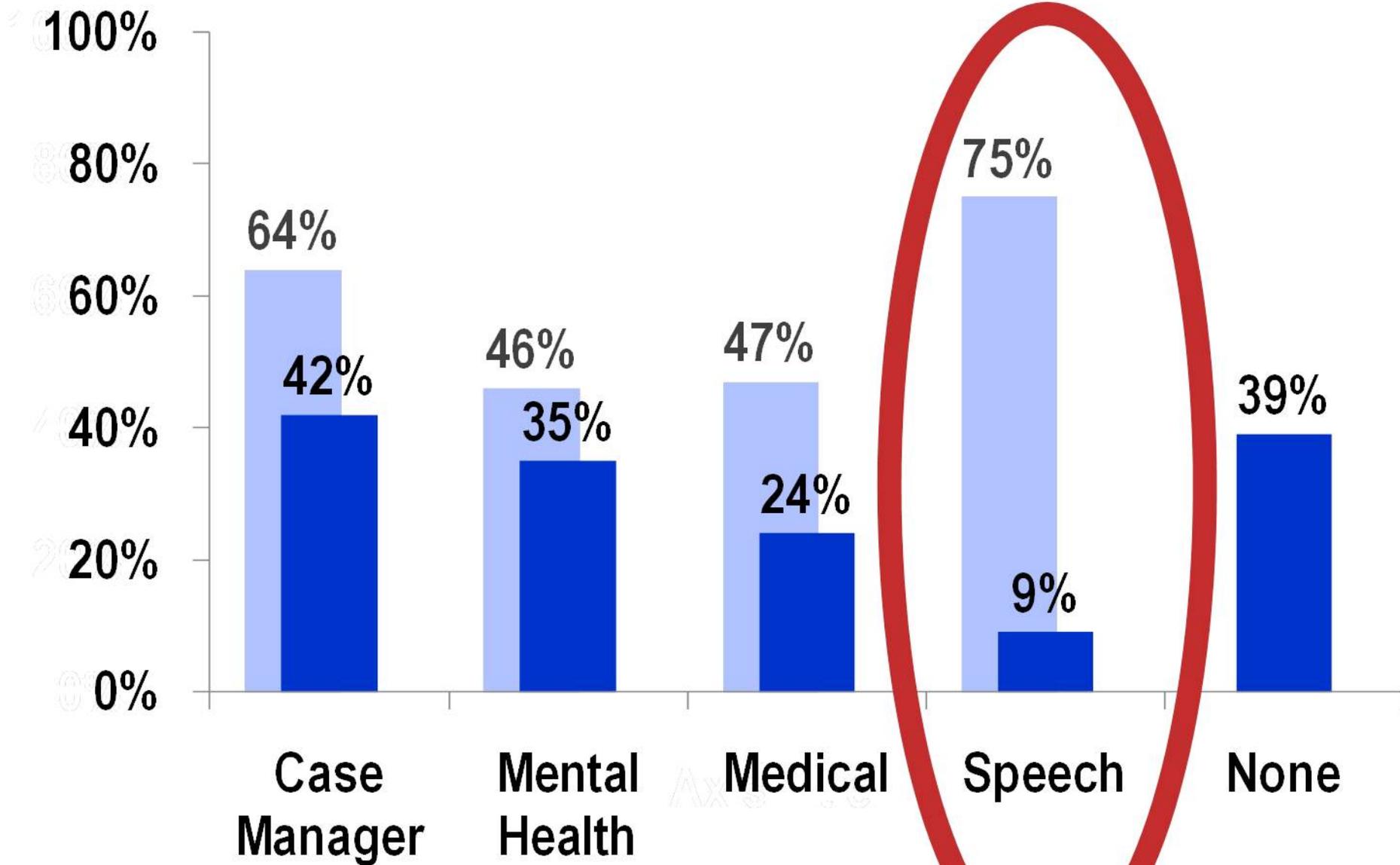
Question 1: ASD Description

- **N ~ 400**
- **86% male**
- **Ages 19-23, mean = 21.5**
- **Non-white: 25%**
- **Lives w/ parent: 79%**
- **Out of HS > 2 years: 70%**
- **Nonverbal: 21%**
- **9% uninsured**

Post-HS Service Receipt



In- vs. Post-HS Service Receipt



Adjusted Odds Ratios, SES Correlates

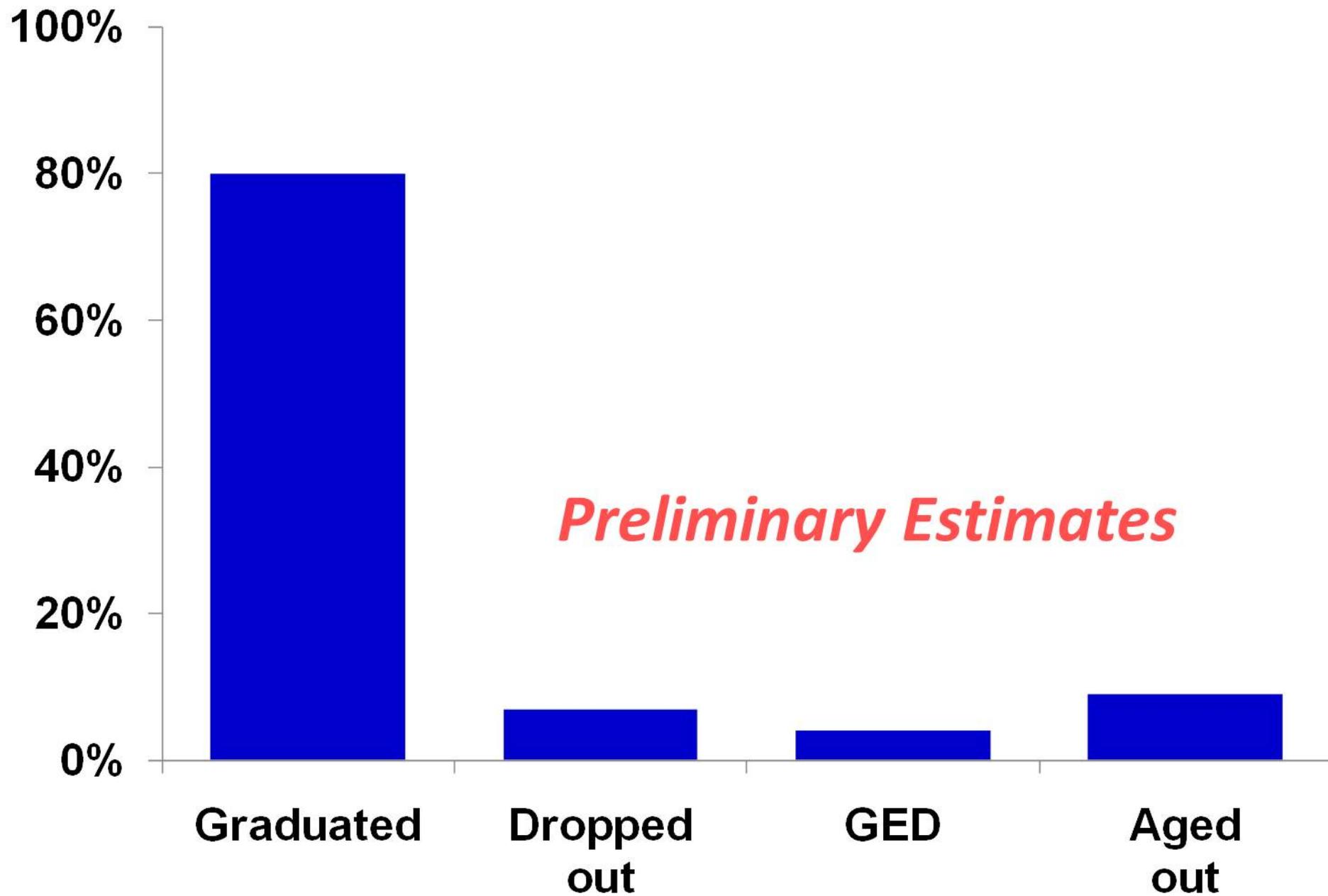
- **No services:**
 - 3.3: African American v. White
 - 6.0: income < \$25k v. > \$75k
- **No case management:**
 - 5.9: income < \$25k v. > \$75k

Research Question 2

- **What does life look like in the first few years after high school with respect to school and work?**
- **N ~ 500**

These are preliminary estimates that may change in final published reports

Secondary School Leaving Status



No Engagement in the Past Two Years (or Since High School)

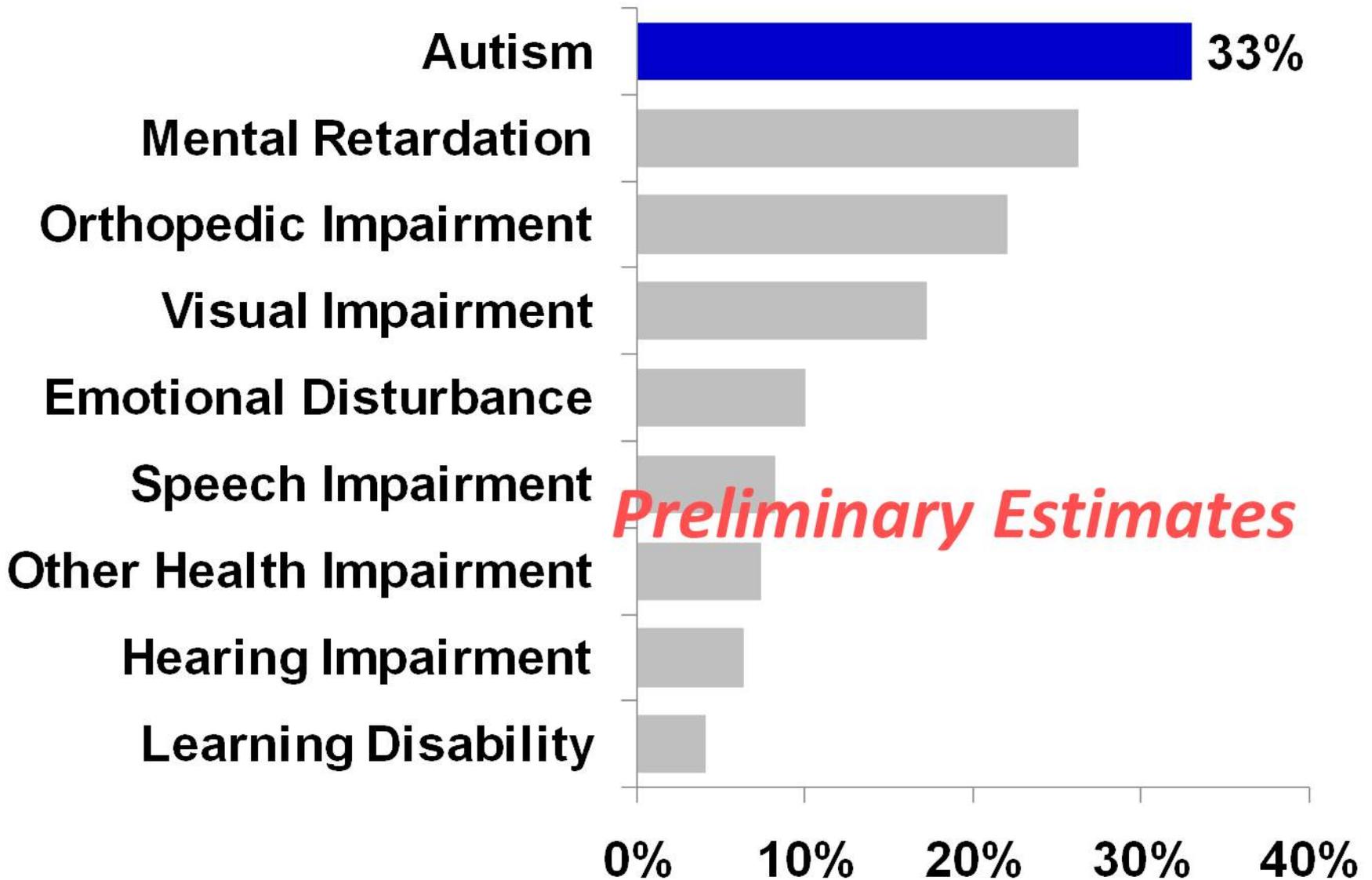
- Employment of any kind
- Career counseling
- Education
- Voc Training

A yellow starburst graphic with a blue outline, containing the text '33%' and 'Preliminary Estimate'.

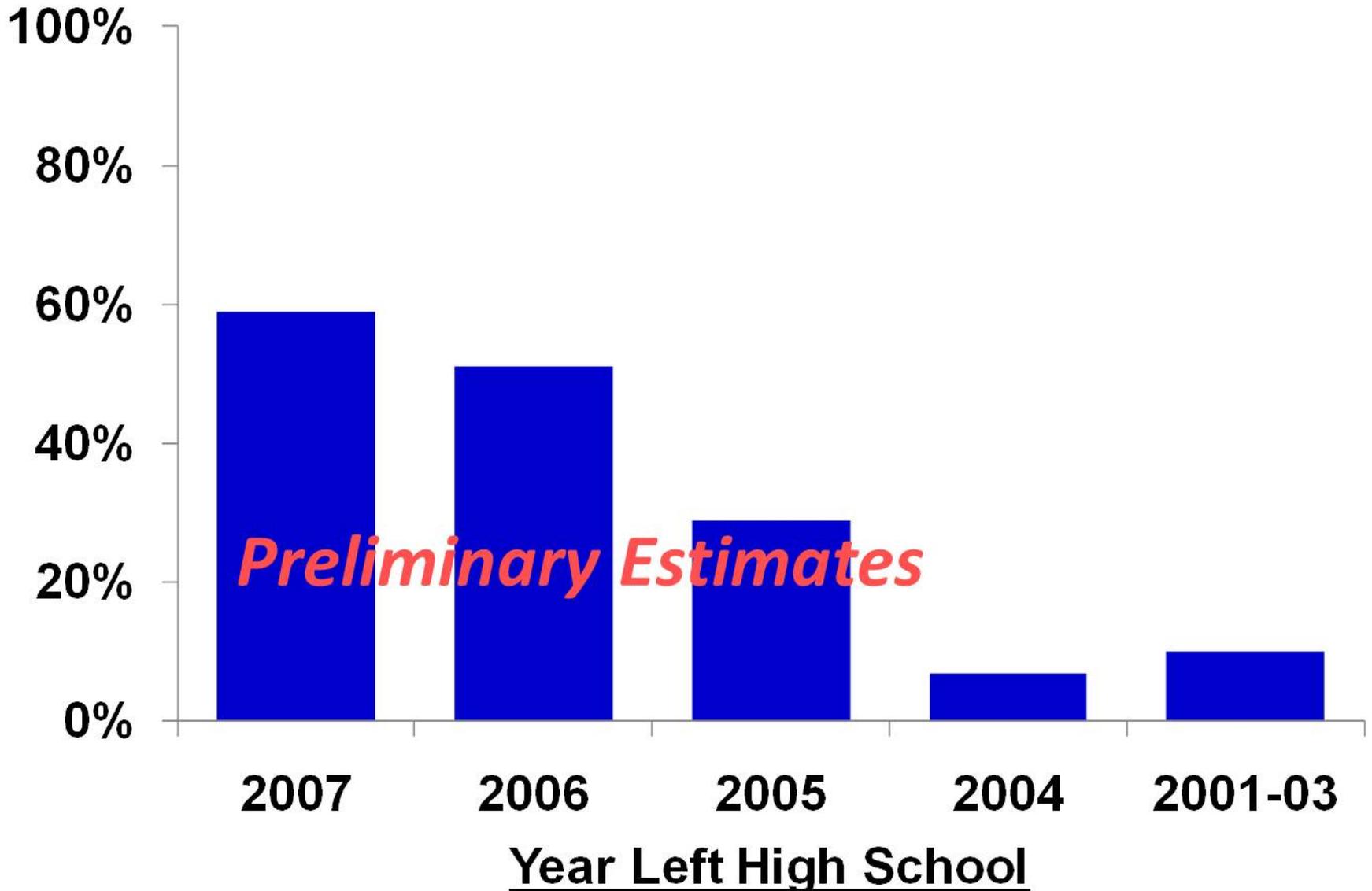
33%

Preliminary Estimate

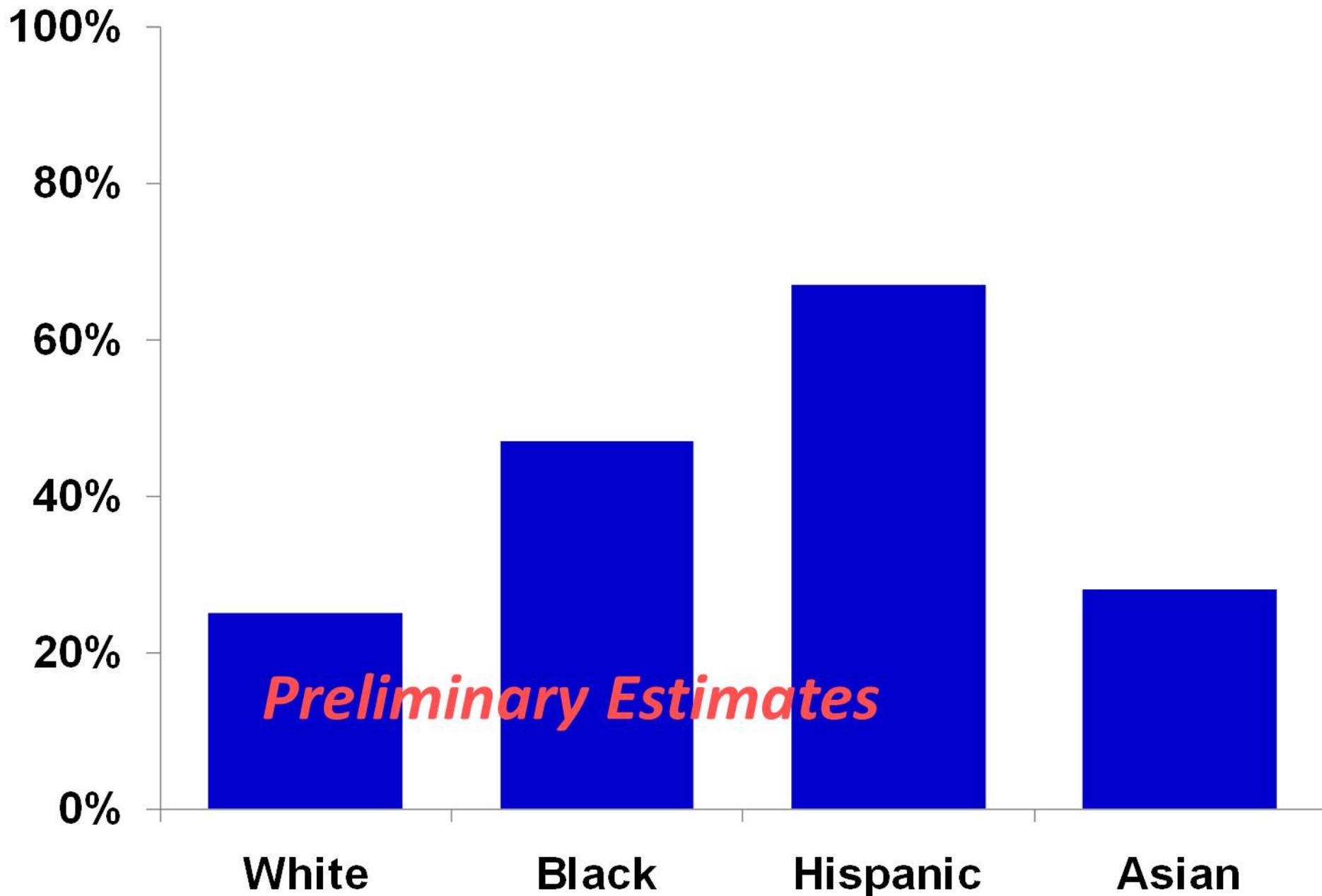
No Engagement in Work or School



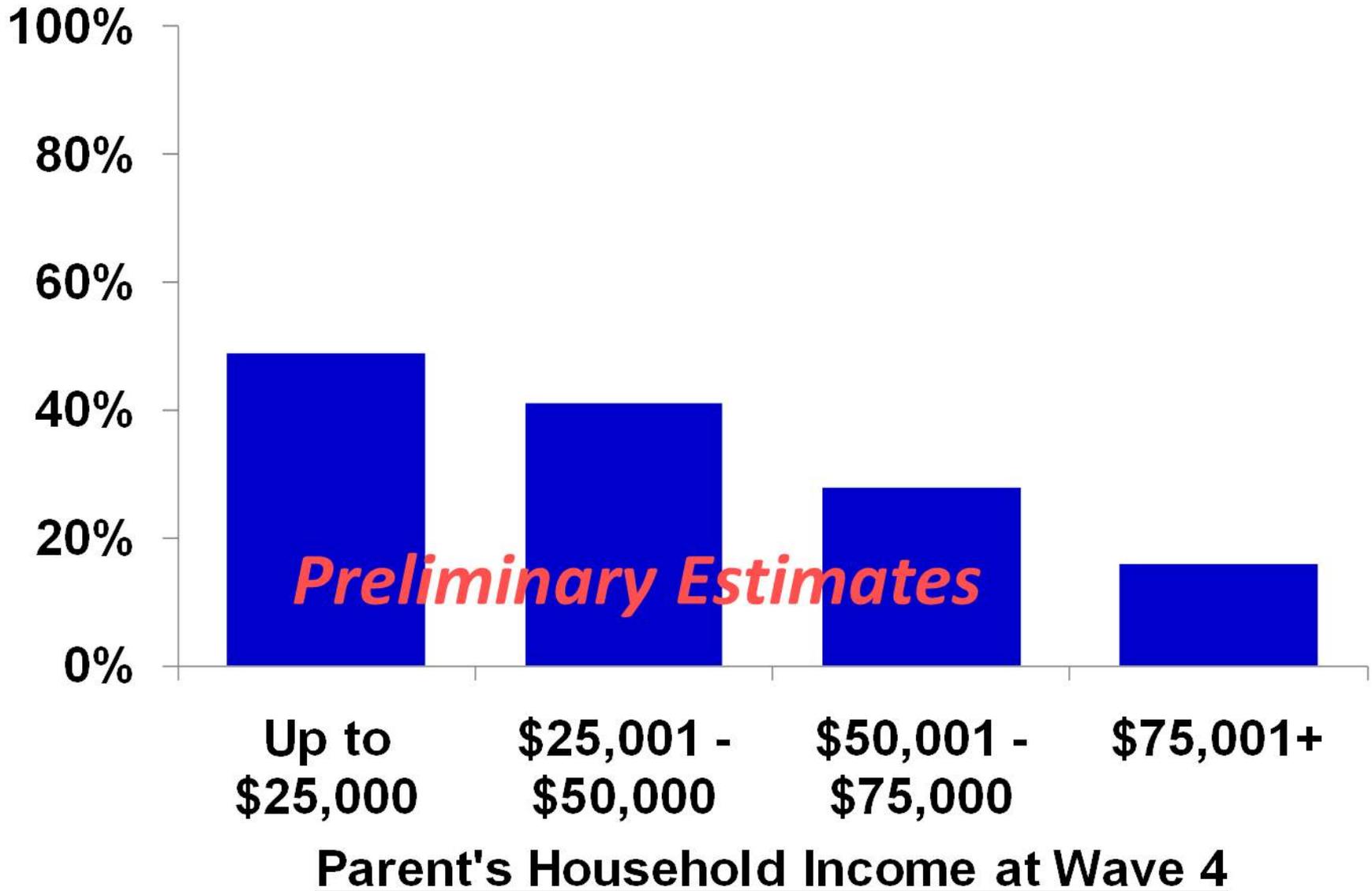
No Engagement Post-HS, ASD



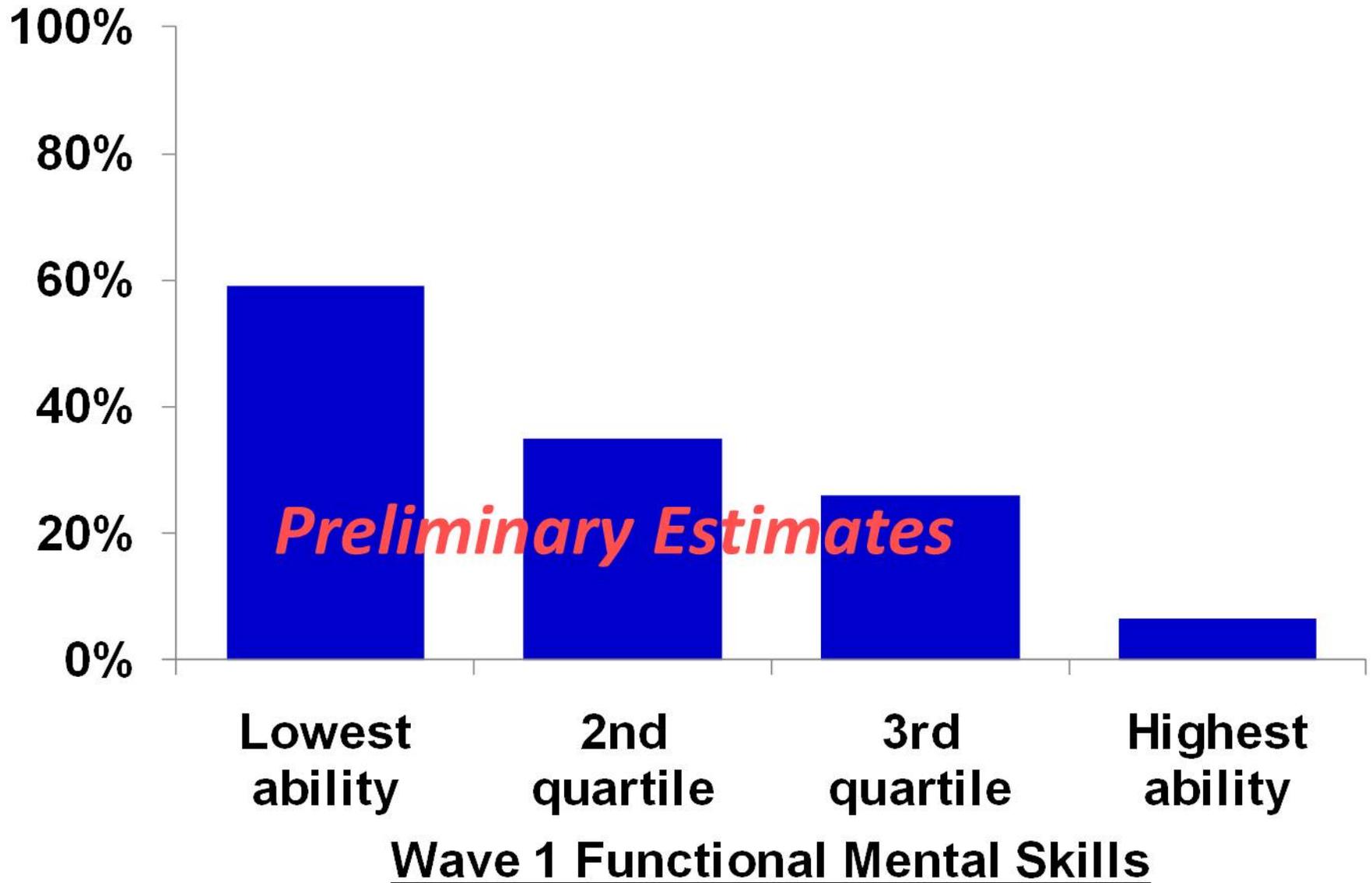
No Engagement Post-HS, ASD



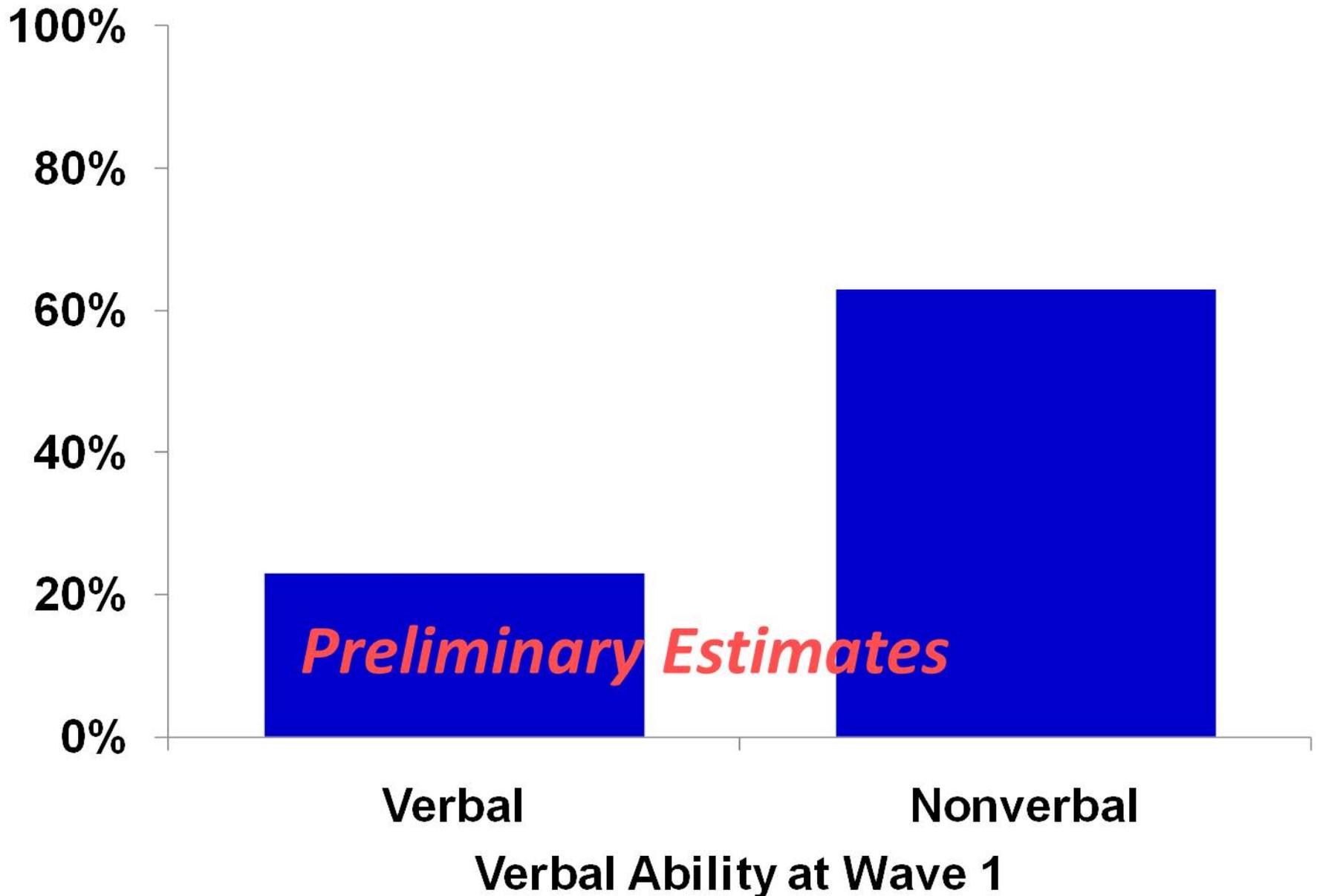
No Engagement Post-HS, ASD



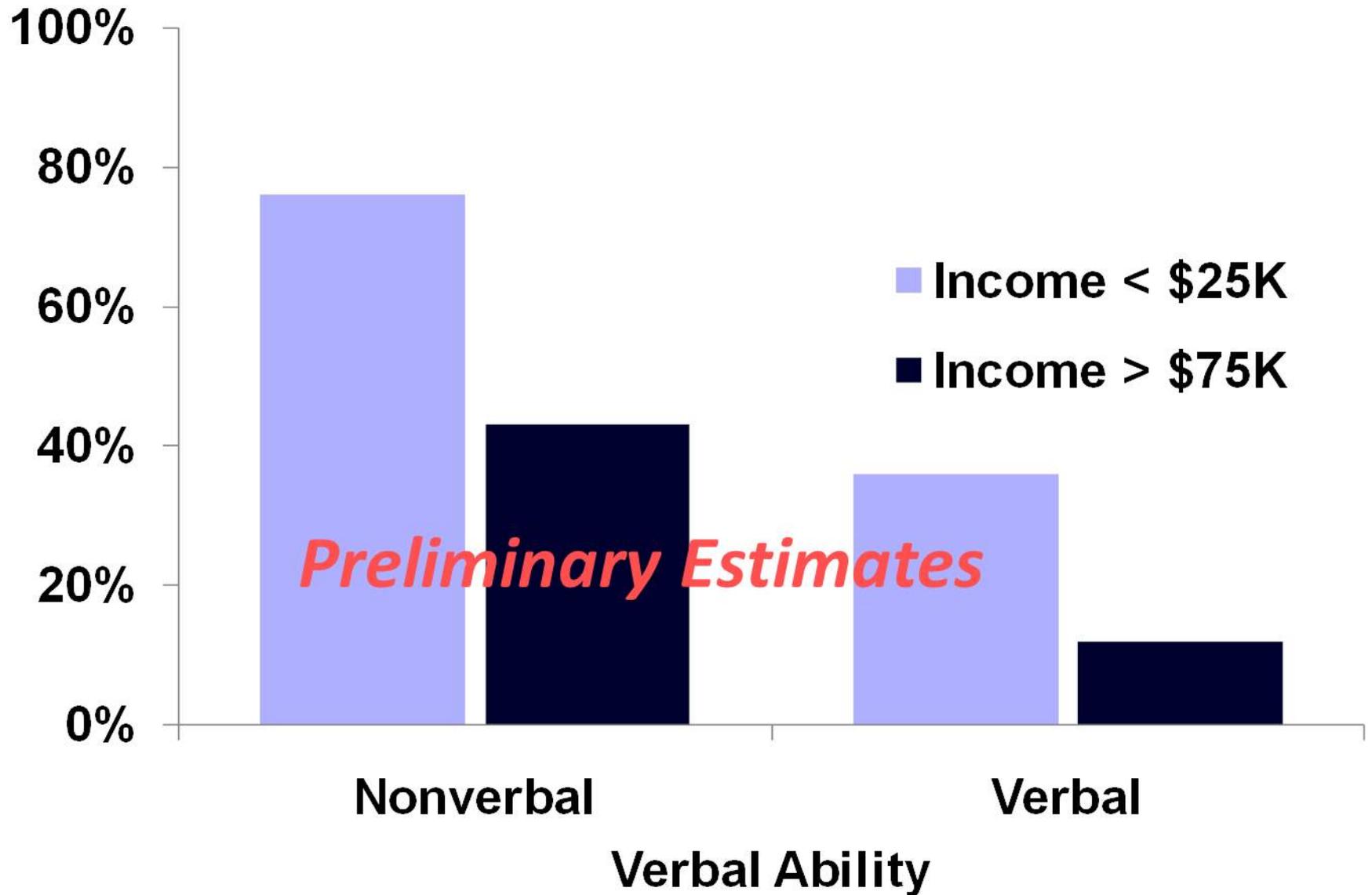
No Engagement Post-HS, ASD



No Engagement Post-HS, ASD



No Engagement Post-HS, ASD



Limitations

- **Measurement**
 - No ASD-specific measures
 - No normed measures
- **Design**
 - Parent report & recall
 - Loss to follow up & bias
- **Sample frame: special education**

Strengths

- **Size and socioeconomic diversity of sample**
- **Longitudinal design**
- **Generalizability of findings**
- **Relevance for policy**

R01, next steps...

- **Analysis of wave 5 outcomes, ages 21 – 25**
 - Describe needs of the population
 - Describe patterns of service use
- **Propensity score matching to test effect of high school services on post-high school outcomes**

Conclusions

- **Social context matters**
- **Individual-level interventions are not enough**
- **We need new kinds of research that examine both individual and social factors**

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