

# Persons with Disabilities in Alameda County

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Alameda County Public Health Department  
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# Key Questions

1. What is the Public Health Definition of Disability?
2. What does the disability population look like in Alameda County?
3. What economic inequities exist for persons with disabilities in Alameda County?
4. What health inequities exist for persons with disabilities in Alameda County?



# Public Health Definition of Disability



# Disability Definition for PH Surveillance

- **Hearing:** Deafness or serious difficulty hearing (all ages)
- **Vision:** Blindness or serious difficulty seeing (all ages)
- **Cognitive:** Serious difficulty in concentrating, remembering, or making decisions because of physical, mental, or emotional condition (5 yrs or older)
- **Ambulatory:** Serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs (5 yrs or older)
- **Self Care:** Difficulty dressing or bathing (5 yrs or older)
- **Independent Living:** Difficulty doing errands alone because of physical, mental or emotional condition (15 yrs or older)



- *“Because surveys have counted disability in different ways, national prevalence estimates in public health surveys have ranged from 12% to 30%”\**
- Differences primarily due to severity of disability
  - Severely limited (ACS definition) -> lowest %
  - Moderate or Mild definitions -> higher %
- Sampling and survey data analysis methods also lead to differences



# Persons with Disabilities in Alameda County



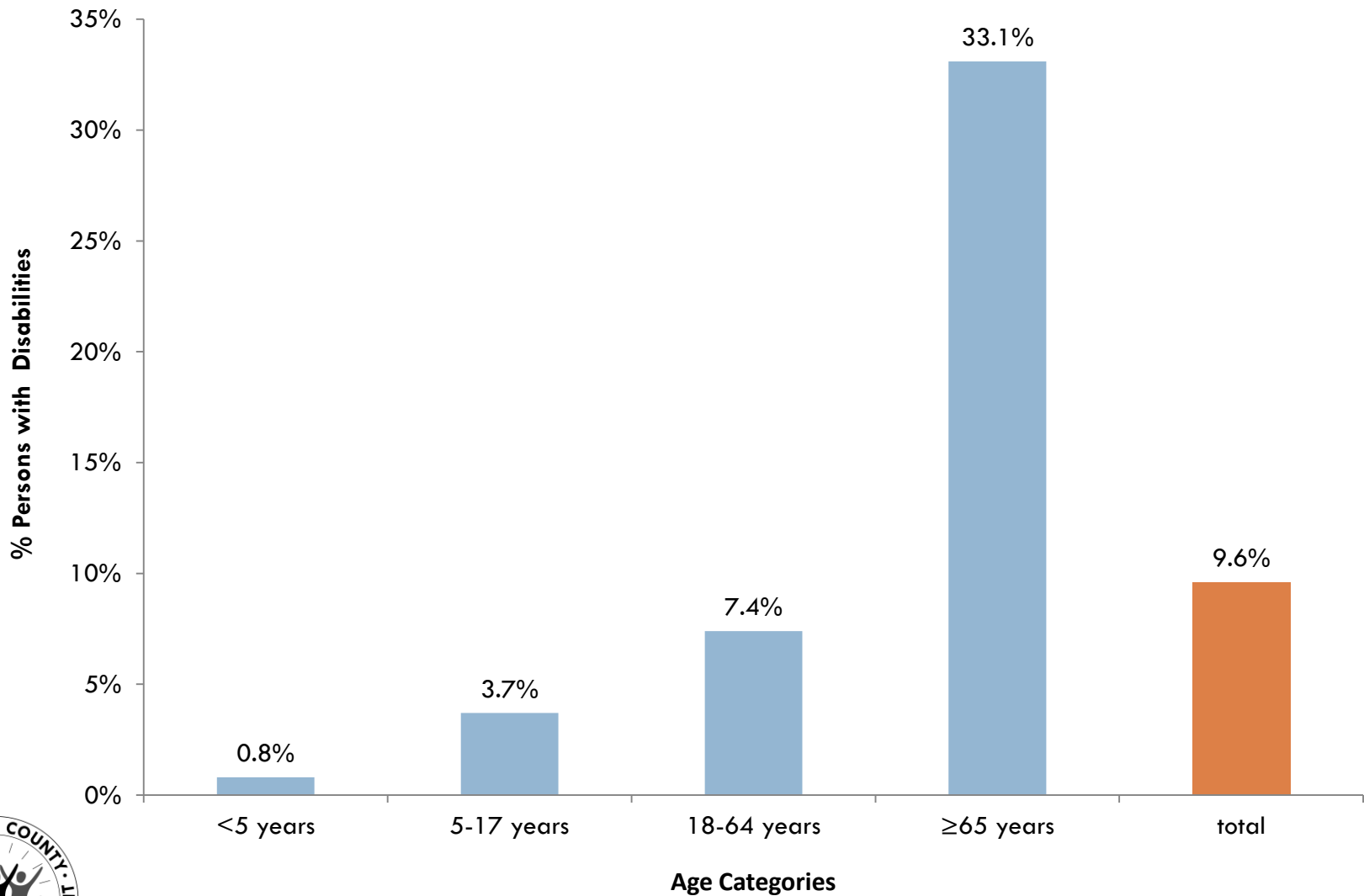
# Persons with Disabilities in Alameda County

- In 2014, between 10% and 30% of the Alameda County population identified as disabled. (Estimates range between 153,500 and 470,500 persons with disabilities).\*
- Majority of persons with disabilities are older ( $\geq 65$  years).
- Slightly more females have disabilities than males.
- Black/African Americans, American Indian/Alaskan Natives and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islanders have highest percentages of persons with disabilities.
- Cherryland, Oakland, and San Lorenzo have the highest percentages of persons with disabilities in Alameda County.



\*Disability includes at least 1 type of disability and could include more than 1 type.  
Sources: CAPE with data from American Community Survey 2014, 1 year file (low estimate).  
CAPE with data from California Health Interview Survey 2013-2014 pooled data.(high estimate).

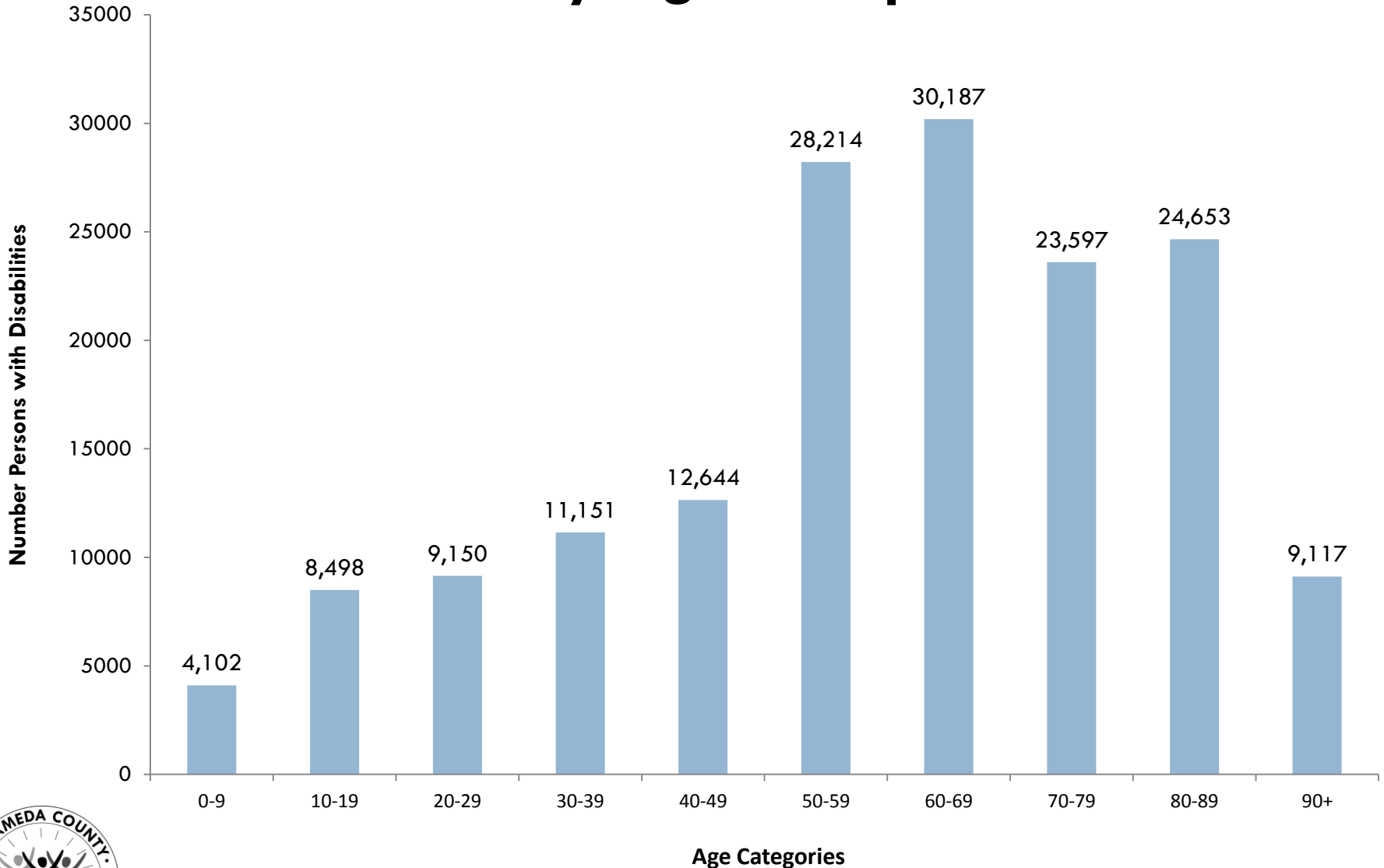
# Percentage With Any Disability by Age Group



\*Disabled includes at least 1 type of disability and could include more than 1 type.  
Source: CAPE with data from American Community Survey 2014, 1 year file.

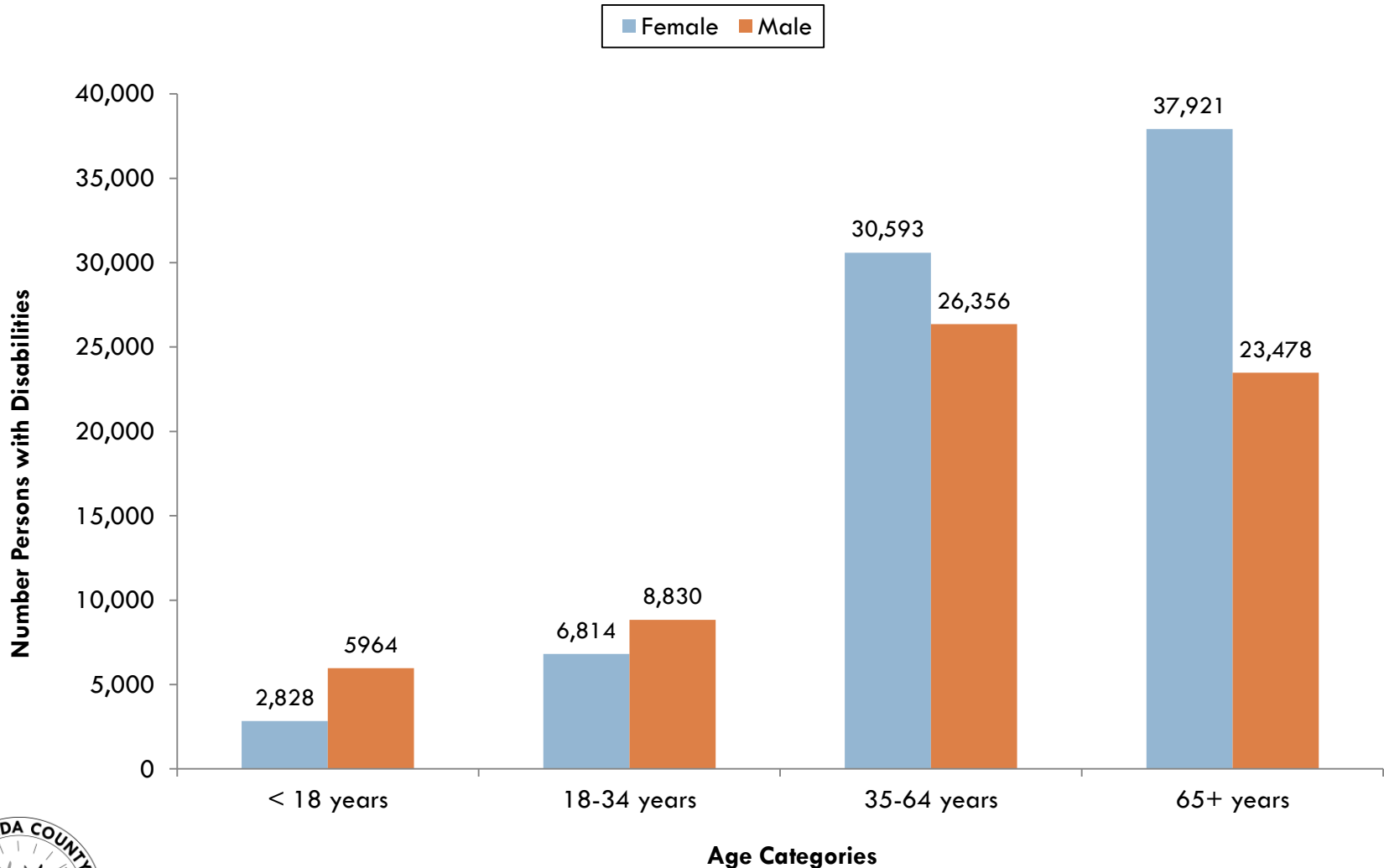


# Count of Persons With Any Disability by Age Group



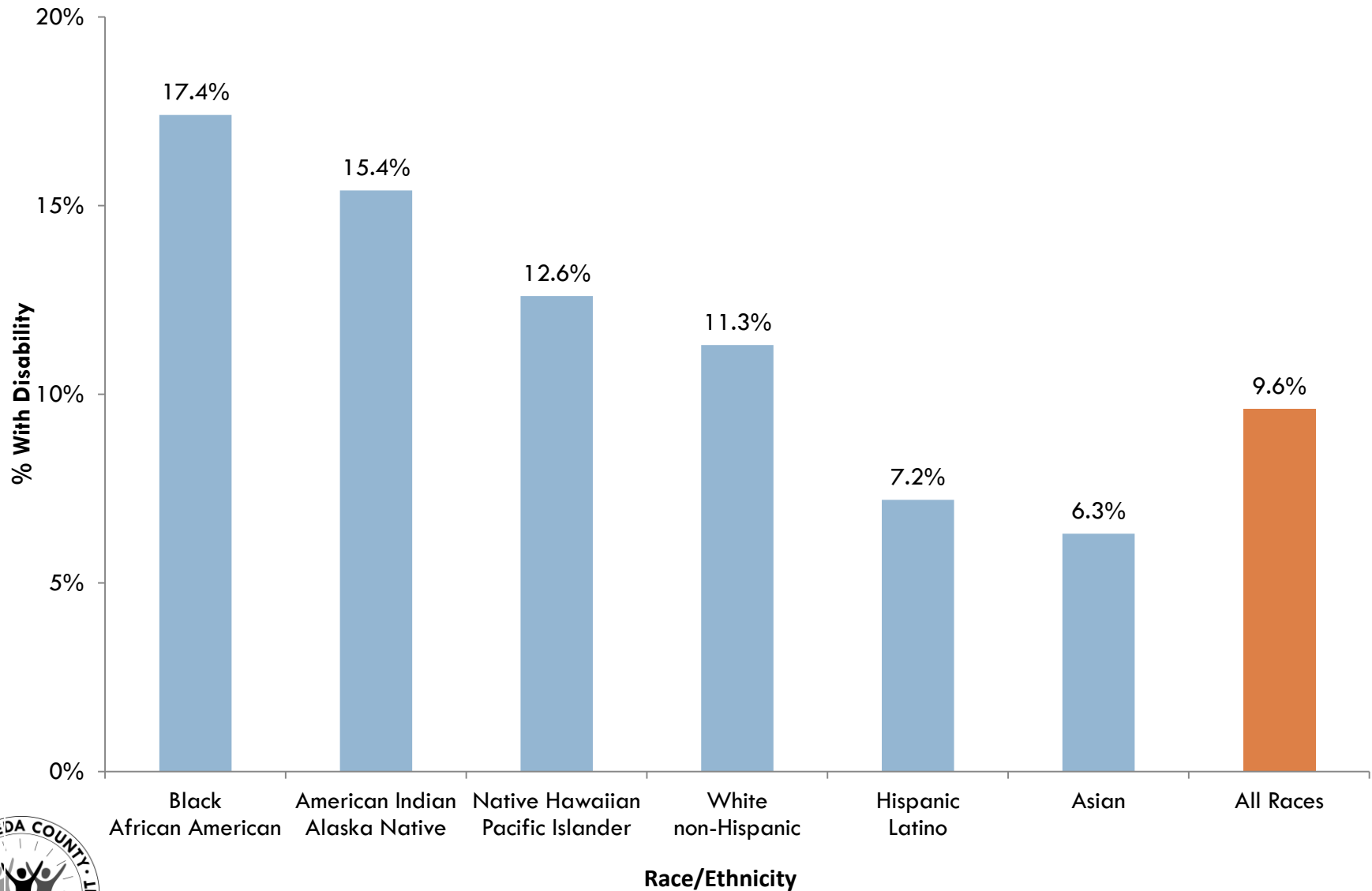
\*Disabled includes at least 1 type of disability and could include more than 1 type.  
Source: CAPE with data from IPUMS-USA 2014, 1 year file.

# Number Persons with Any Disability by Gender and Age Group



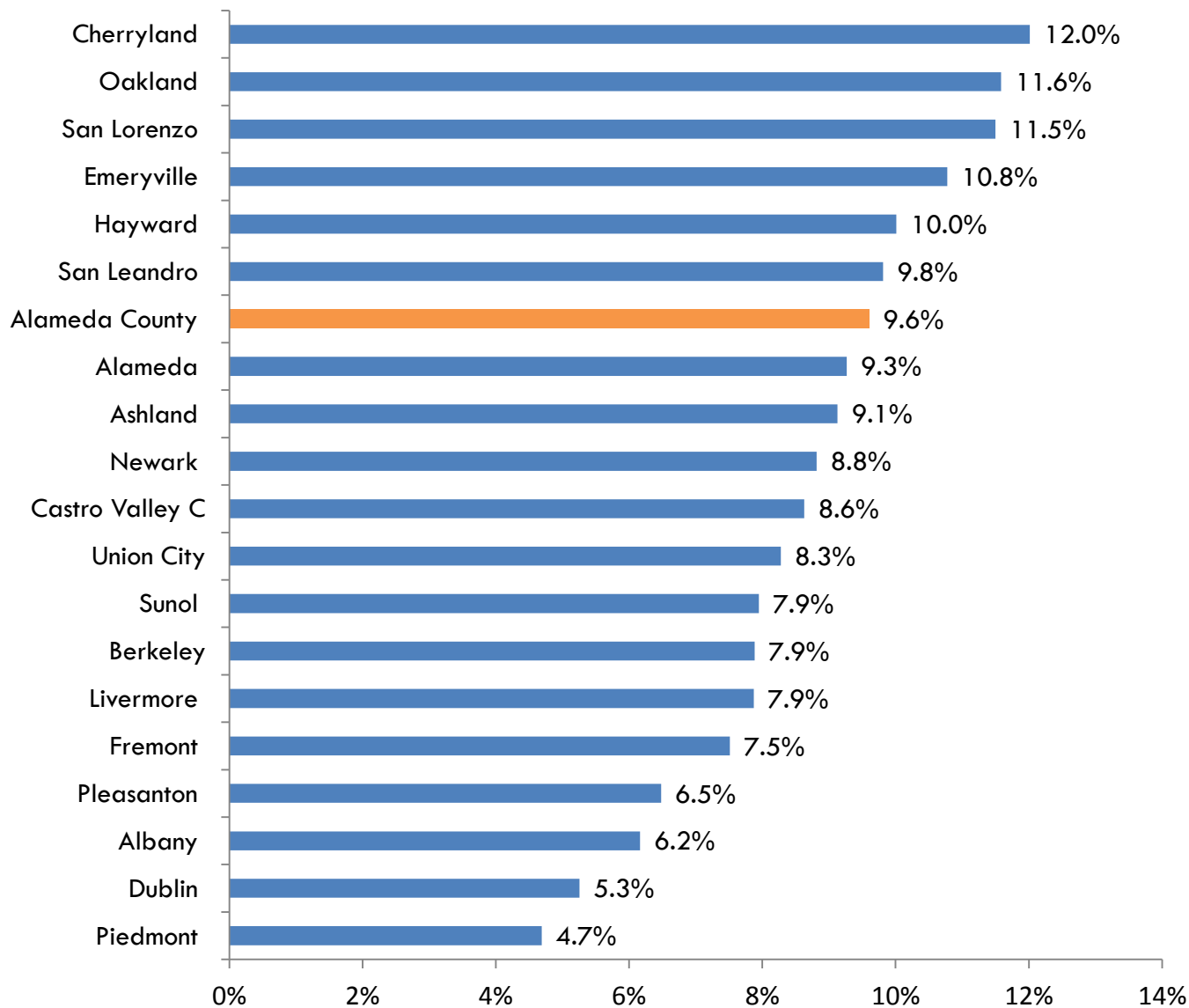
\*Disabled includes at least 1 type of disability and could include more than 1 type.  
Source: CAPE with data from American Community Survey 2014, 1 year file.

# Percentage With Any Disability by Race/Ethnicity



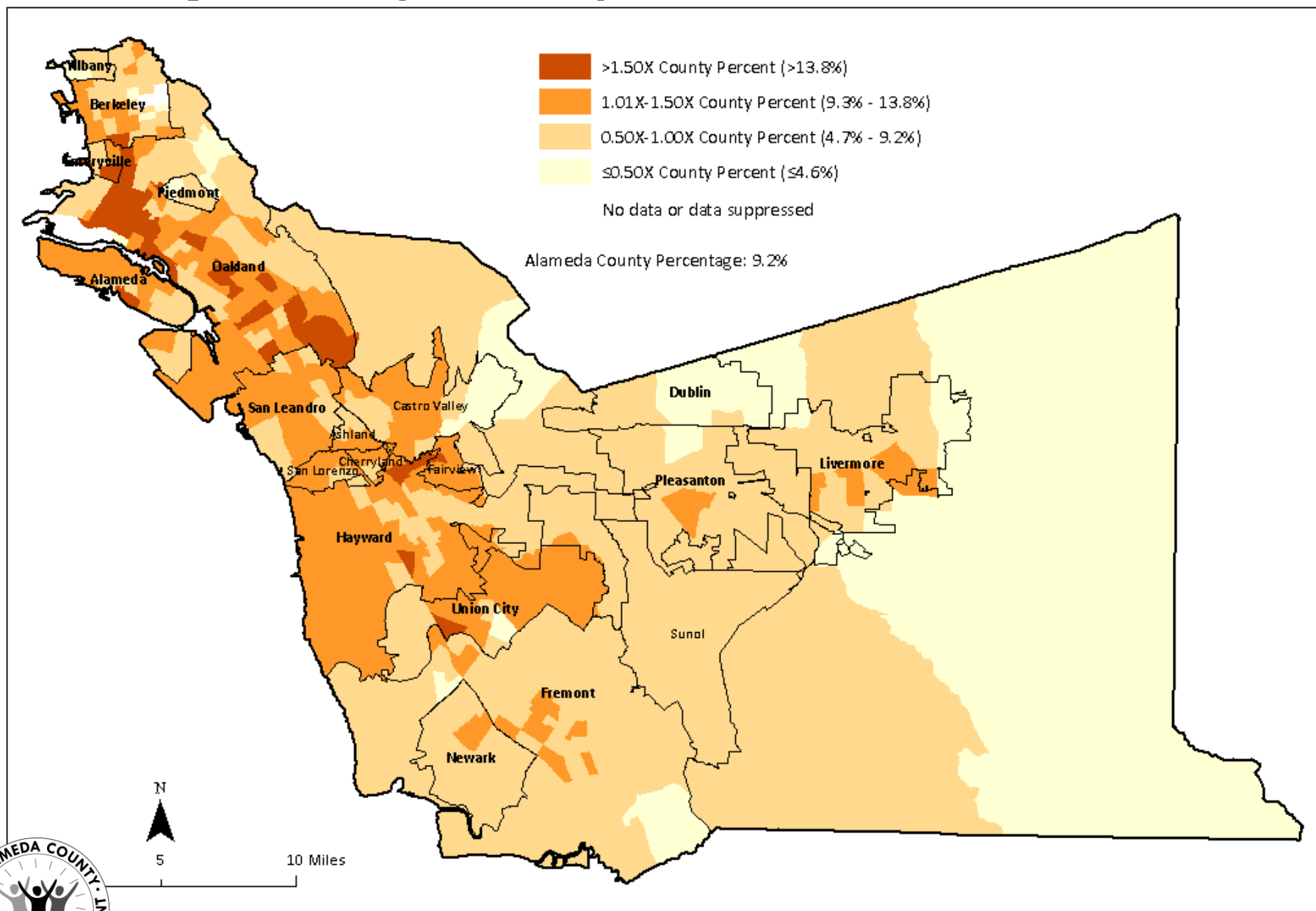
\*Disabled includes at least 1 type of disability and could include more than 1 type.  
Source: CAPE with data from American Community Survey 2014, 1 year file.

# Percentage with Any Disability by City/Place



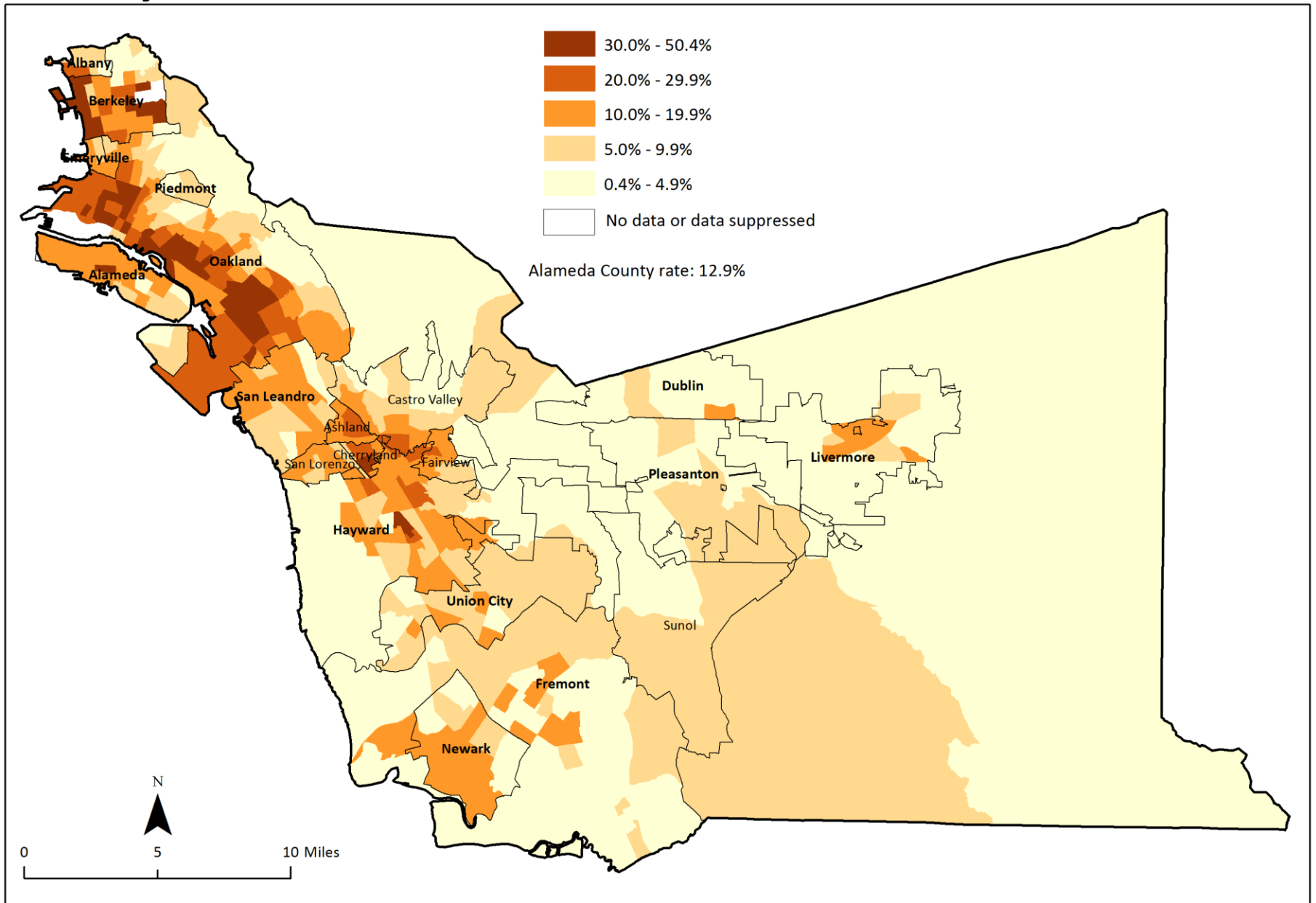
Source: CAPE with data from American Community Survey 2009-2014, 5year file.

# Percentage with any Disability



Source: CAPE, with data from American Community Survey, 2009-2014.

# Poverty



Source: CAPE, with data from American Community Survey 2014 5-year files.

# **Economic Inequities among Persons with Disabilities**

# Economic Disparities by Disability Status

**In Alameda County 1 in 5 people  
With Disabilities live in poverty**



**1 in 10 People Without Disabilities  
live in poverty**



**In Alameda County 1 in 2 people  
With Disabilities cannot make ends  
meet (200% FPL)**



**1 in 4 people Without Disabilities  
cannot make ends meet (200% FPL)**





# Economic Disparities by Disability Status

**1 in 4 people With Disabilities did not graduate high school**



**1 in 10 people Without Disabilities did not graduate high school**



**3 in 5 adults With Disabilities (18-64) are not in the labor force**



**1 in 5 adults Without Disabilities (18-64) are not in the labor force**



# Economic Disparities by Disability Status

	Persons with Disabilities	Persons without Disabilities
Median Earnings	\$25,237	\$40,616
Living Alone	23%	7%
>50% Housing Cost Burden	24%	14%
Transit Dependent	21%	5%
Uninsured	5%	9%

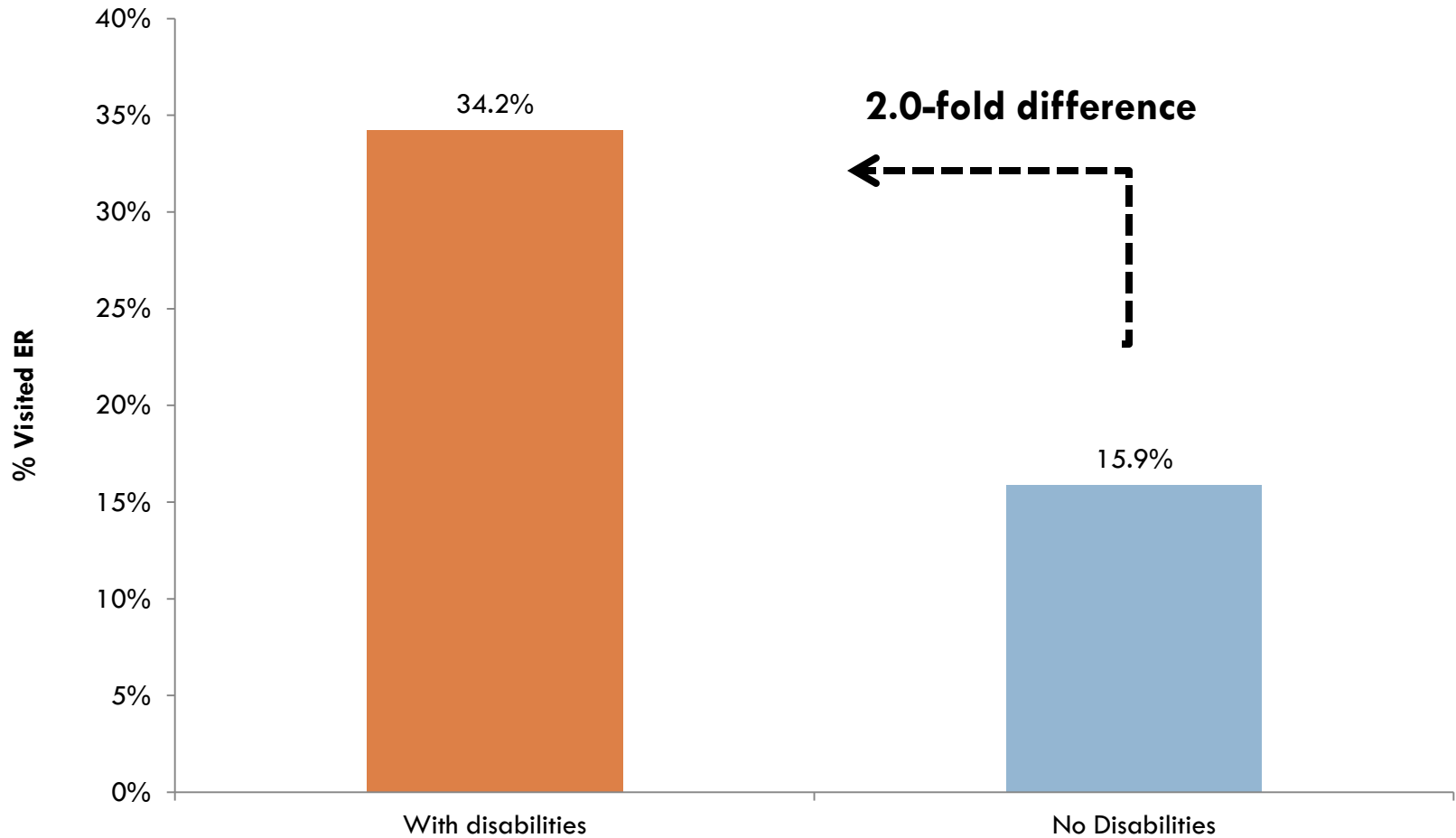


# Health Inequities by Disability Status\*

- Health Care Utilization
- Health Behaviors
- Chronic Health Conditions

\*Data Source: California Health Interview Survey (CHIS), 2013-2014 data. CHIS data reflects a 30% prevalence of persons with any disability in Alameda County.

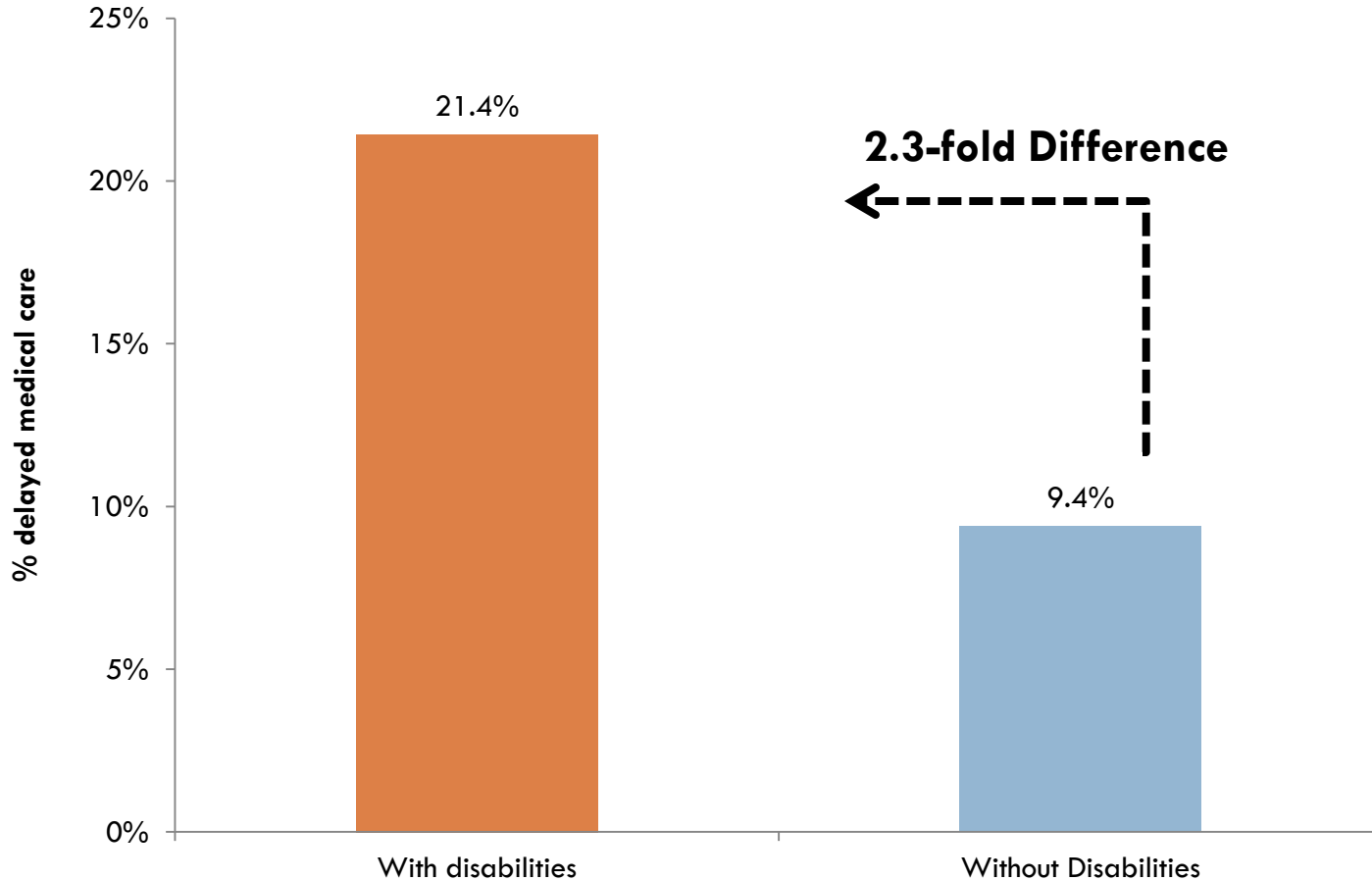
# Percentage of Persons who visited the ER within past year by Disability Status\*



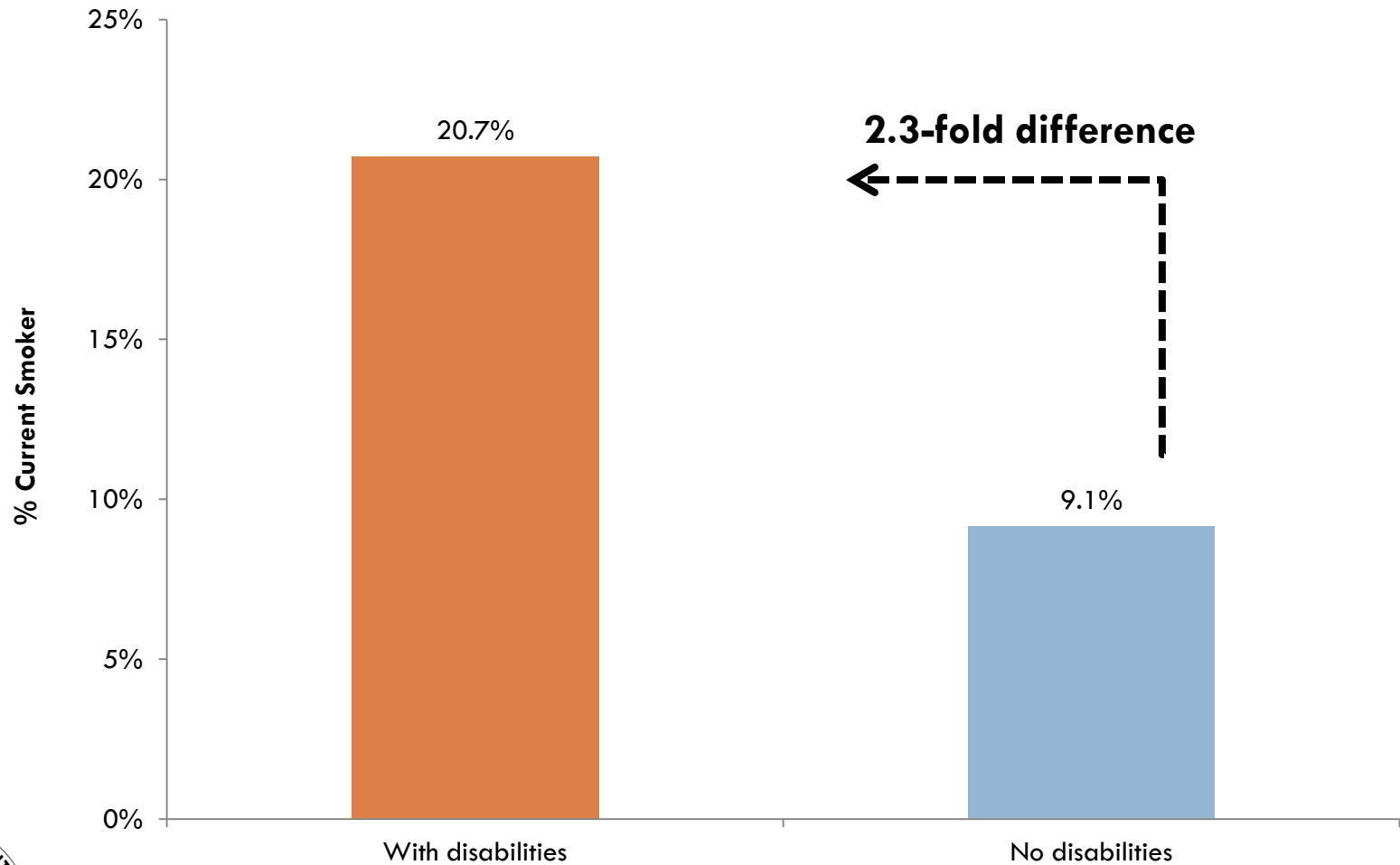
\*Statistically significant difference.

Source: CAPE with data from California Health Interview Survey 2013-2014 pooled data.

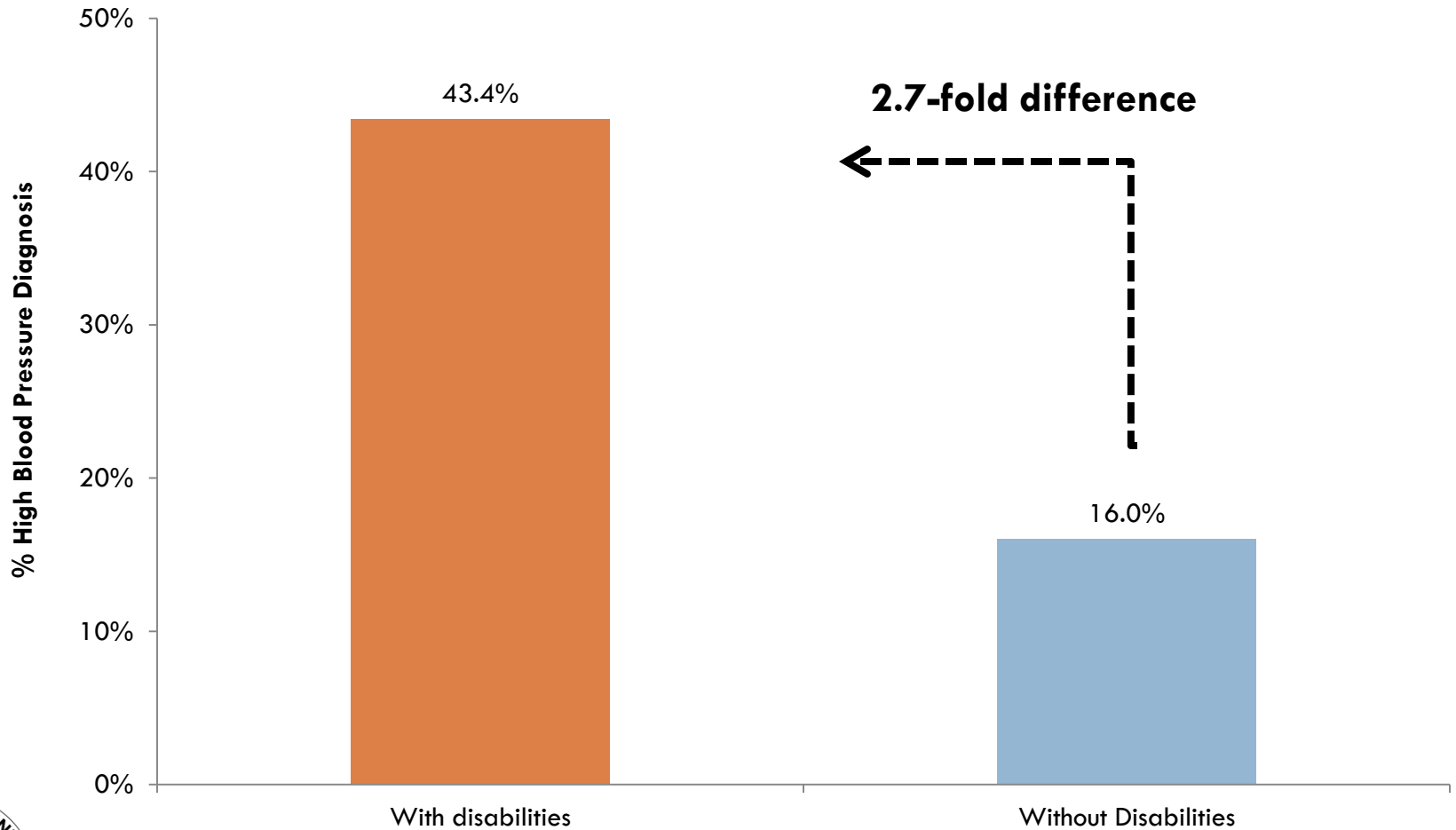
# Percentage of Persons who delayed medical care within past year by Disability status



# Percentage of Current Smokers by Disability Status



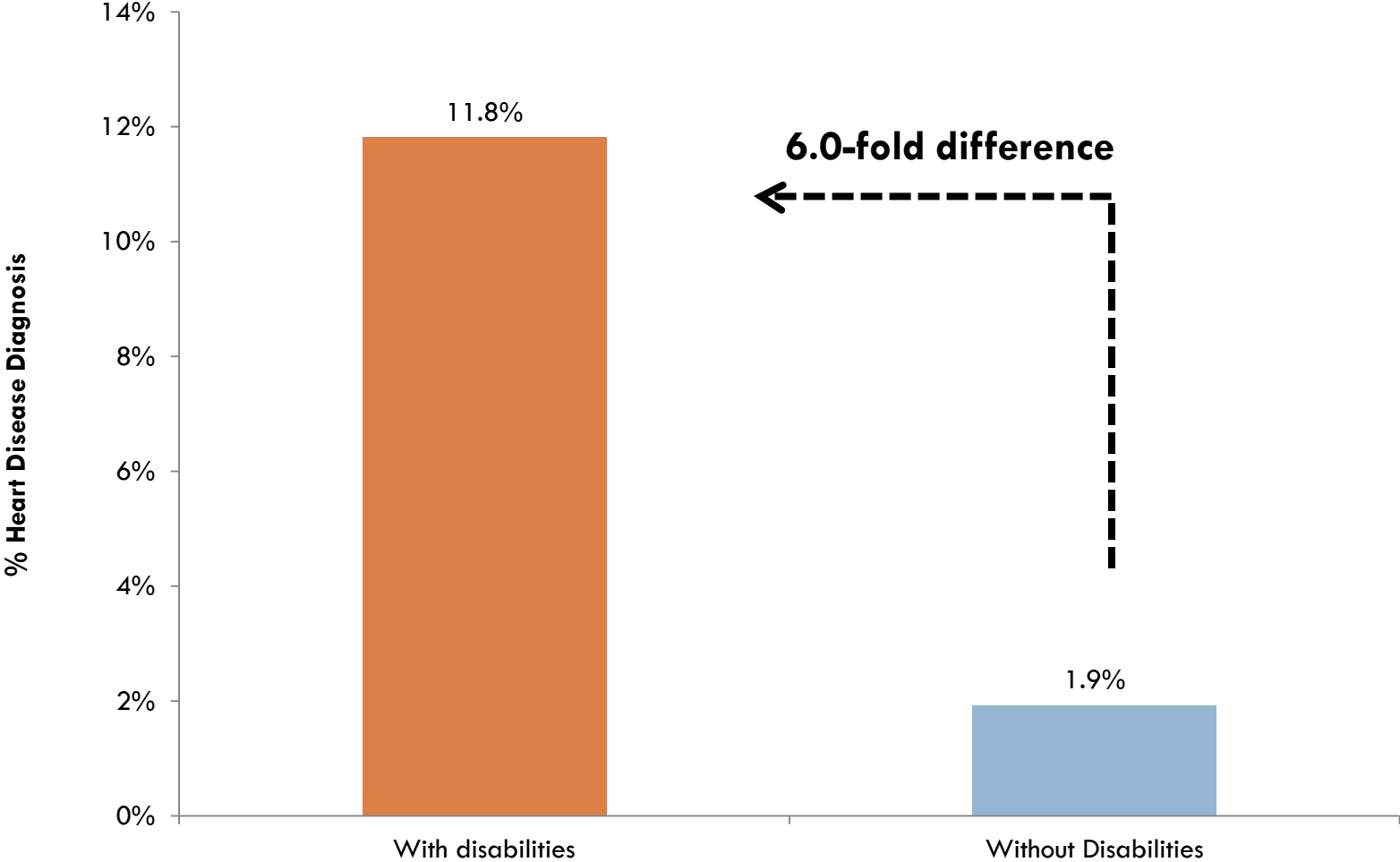
# High Blood Pressure Diagnosis by Disability Status\*



\*Statistically significant difference.

Source: CAPE with data from California Health Interview Survey 2013-2014 pooled data.

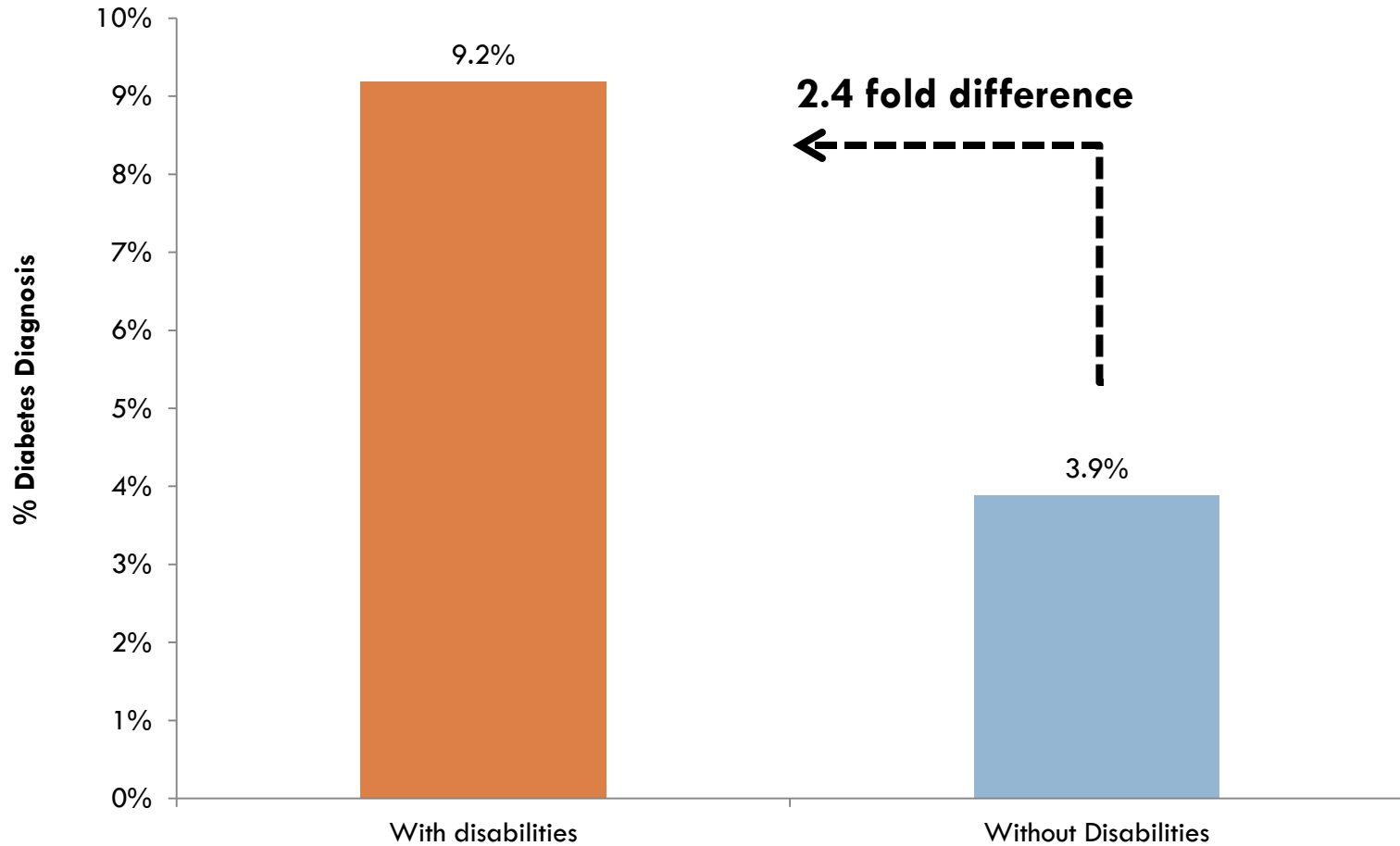
# Heart Disease Prevalence by Disability Status\*



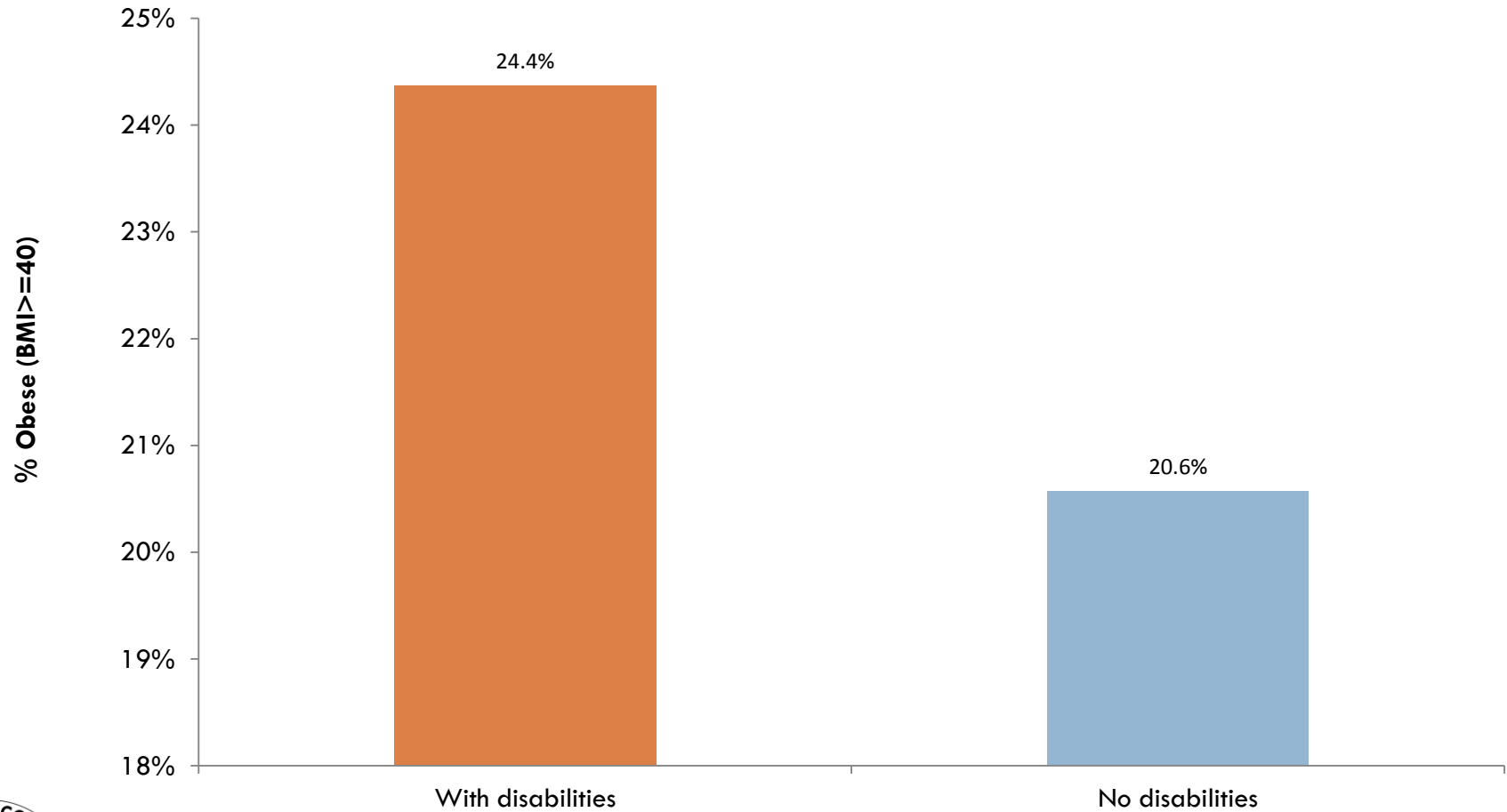
\*Statistically significant difference.  
Source: CAPE with data from California Health Interview Survey 2013-2014 pooled data.



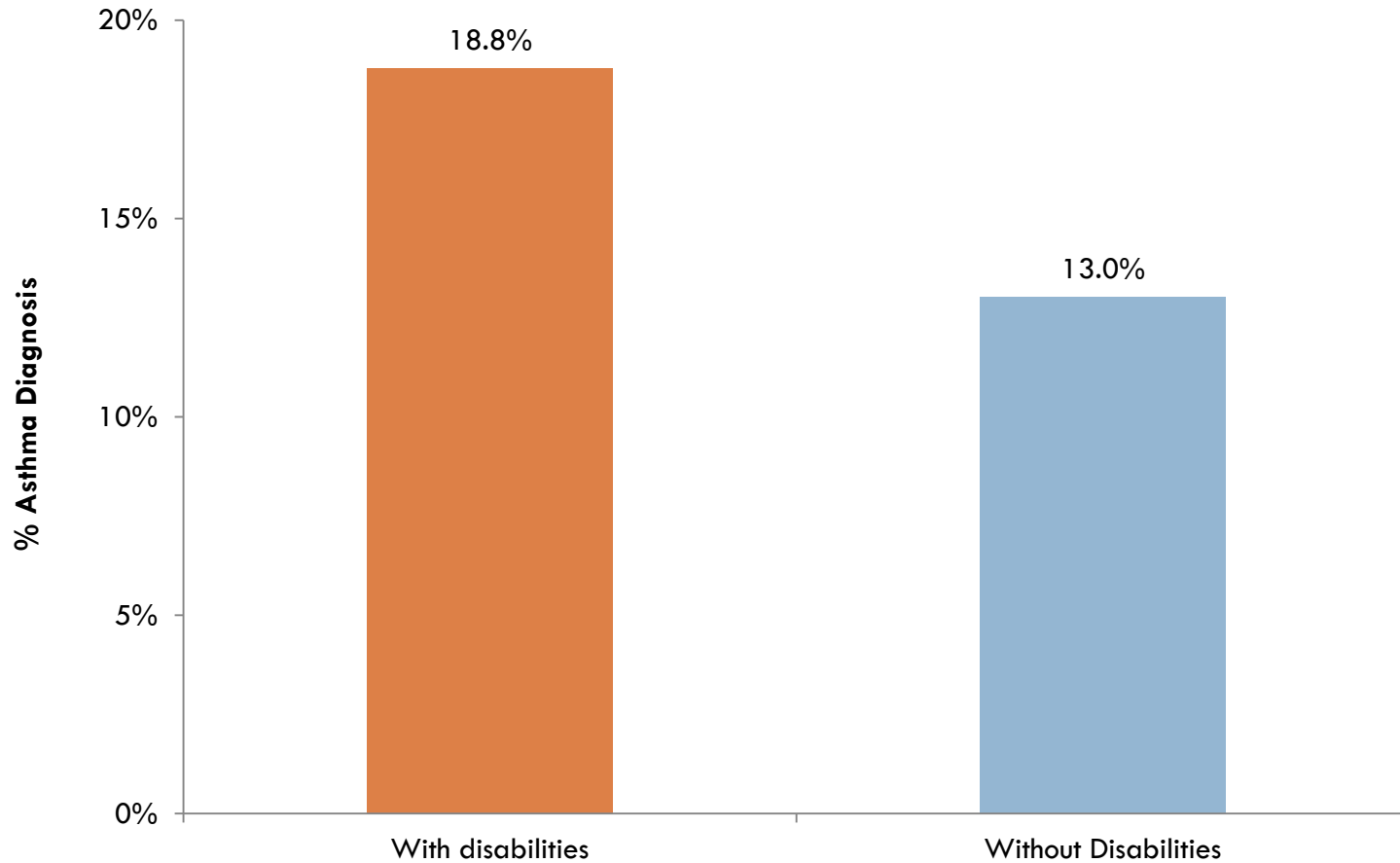
# Diabetes Prevalence by Disability Status



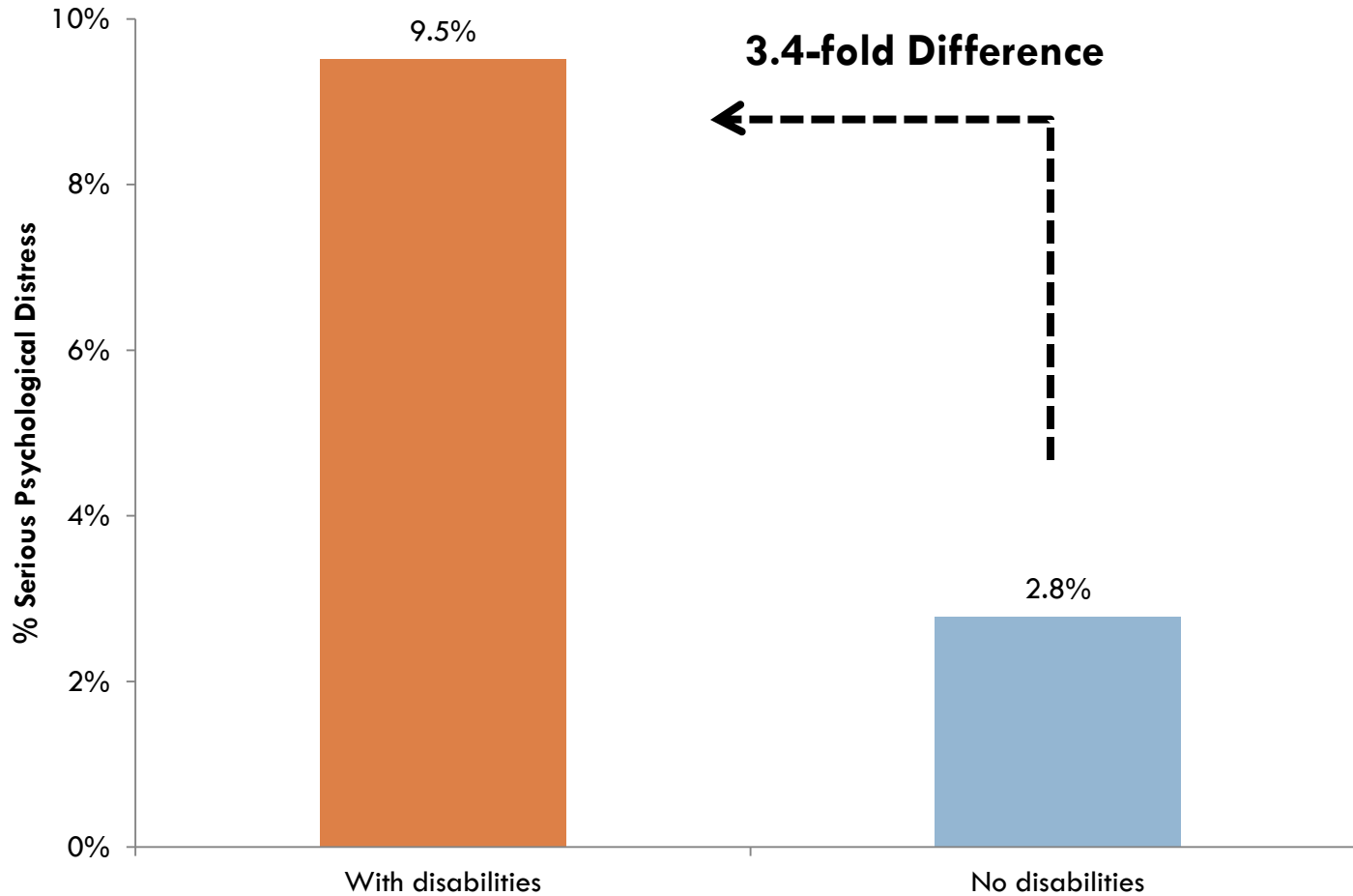
# Obesity Prevalence by Disability Status



# Asthma Prevalence by Disability Status



# Serious Psychological Distress by Disability Status\*



\*Statistically significant difference.

Source: CAPE with data from California Health Interview Survey 2013-2014 pooled data.

# 5 Areas to Improve Health for People with Disabilities

- Improved access to health care and human services
- Increased data for decision-making
- Strengthened health and human services workforce capacity
- Explicit inclusion in public health programs
- Increased preparation for emergencies

