Multidisciplinary Approaches to Gestational Diabetes

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AI Health Disparities

Life Expectancy in Years (2000):

	Men	Women	Total
U.S.	**73.2**	**79.6**	**76.5**
AI/AN	**66.1**	**74.4**	**70.6**
Disparity:	***7.1***	***5.2***	***5.9***

Ave age of death in AZ: All (**72.2**); **AI** (**54.7**)

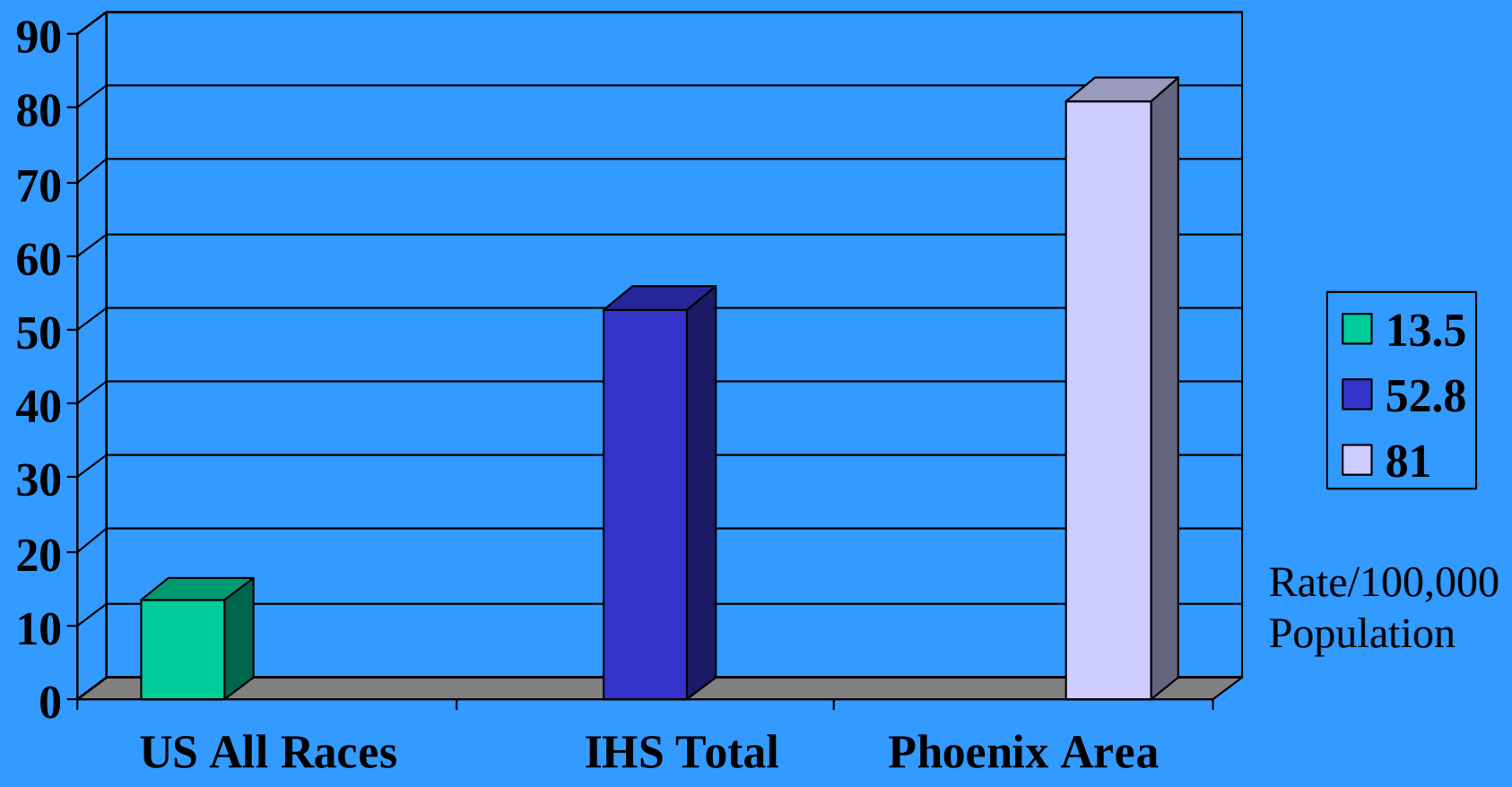
ADHS 2003

AI Health Disparities

Death rates from *preventable diseases* among AIs are significantly higher than among non-Indians:

- **Diabetes 291% greater**
- **Alcoholism 638% greater**
- **Accidents 215% greater**
- **Suicide 91% greater**

Diabetes Death Rates



Diabetes Life Line

Gestational Diabetes

Obesity IGT

Birth | Diabetes | Complications | Death

Prevention

Primary | Secondary | Tertiary

Resources

$ | $$ | $$$

Model

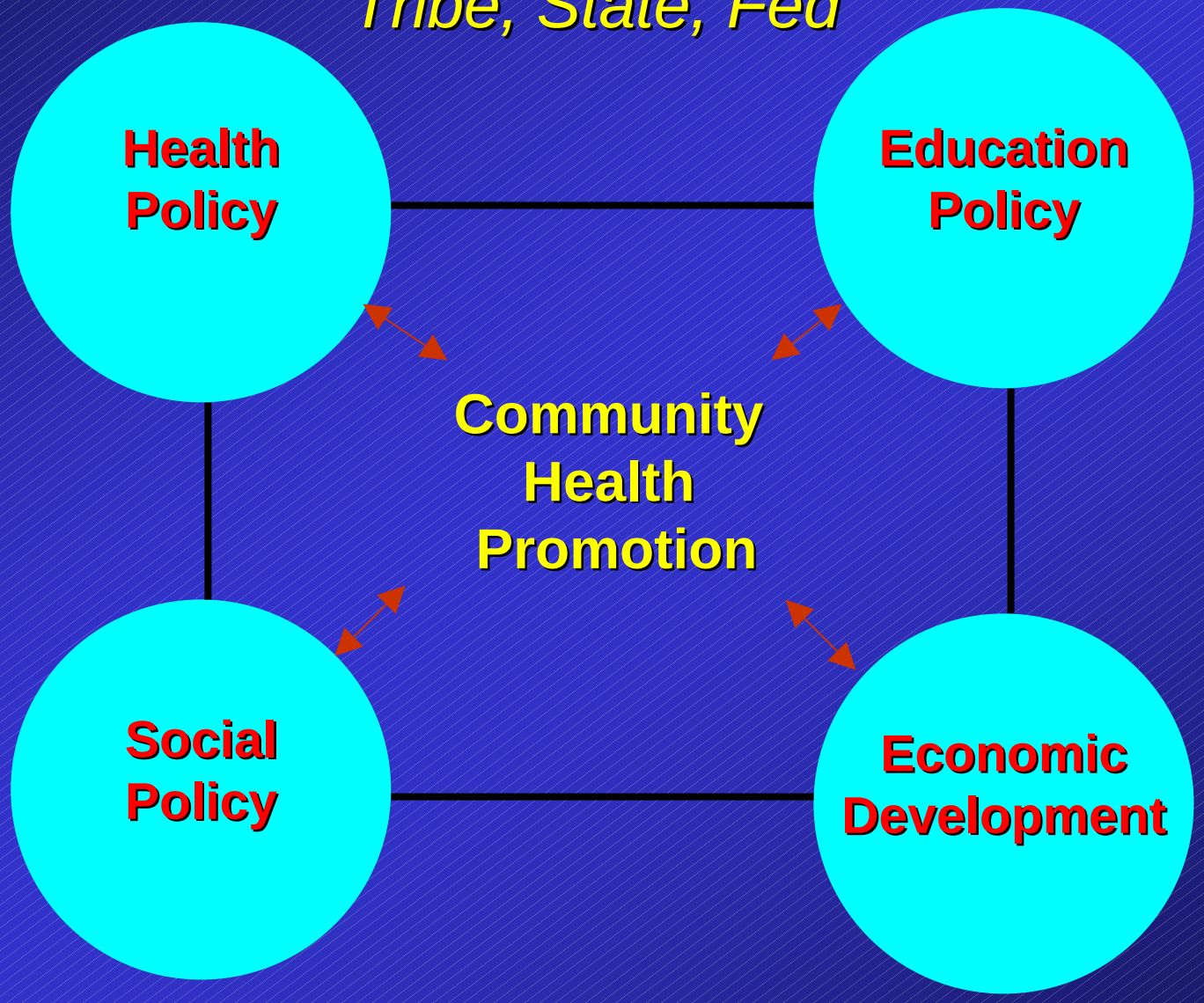
Public Health | Medical

Need: Agency Coordination

Need: Care Coordination

Policy Coordination Strategies

Tribe, State, Fed



Diabetes Prevention Strategies

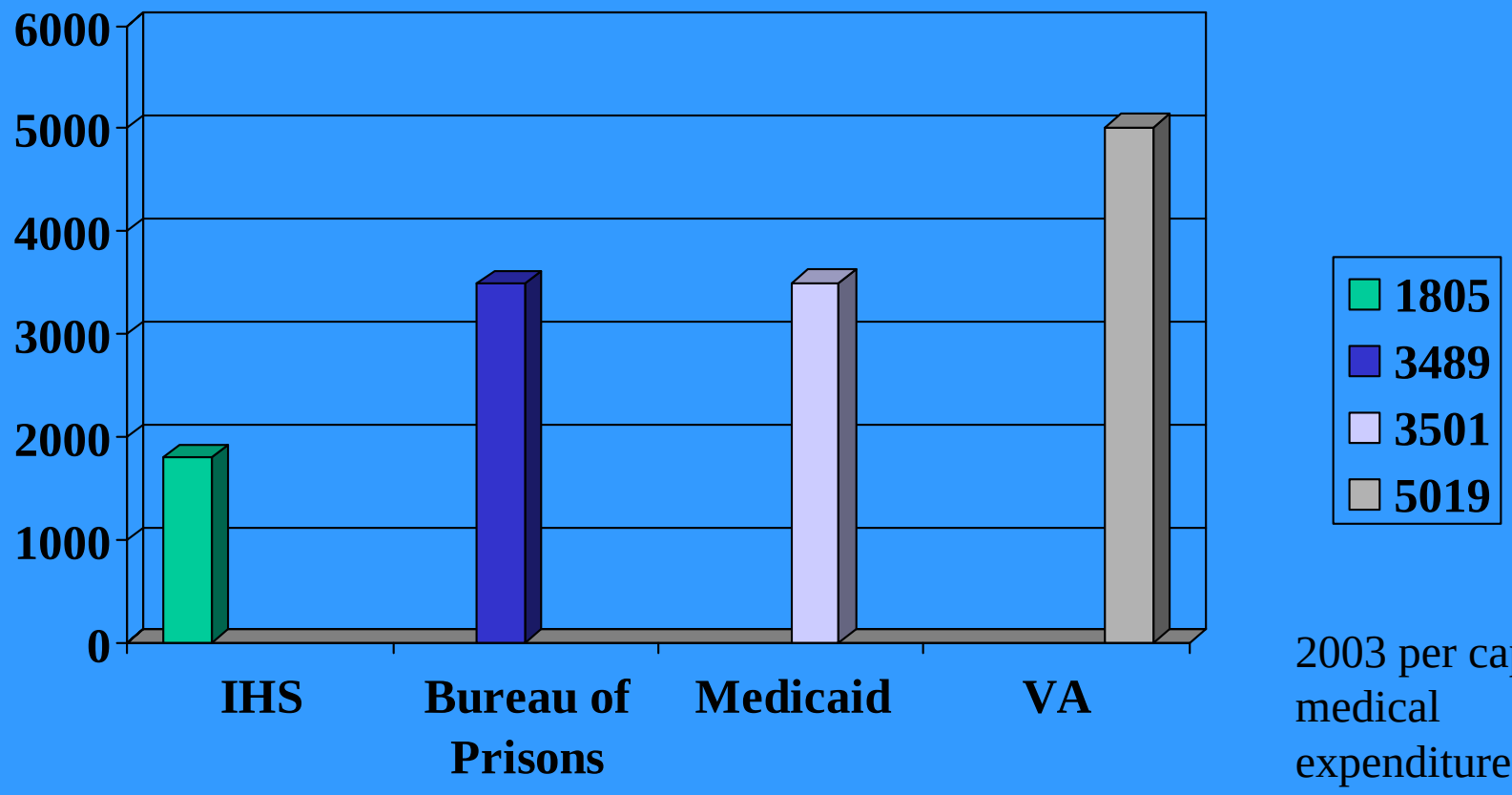
- *Schools*
  - Daily Physical Education
  - Healthy Food
  - Reduce Access to Junk Food
- *Community*
  - Facilitate Physical Activity & Access to Healthy Food
  - Health Promotion starts in the home

AI Resource Disparities

Per capita medical expenditures in 2003 federal budget:

- **Indian Health Service $1,805**
- **Medicaid recipients $3,501**
- **VA beneficiaries $5,019**
- **Bureau of Prisons $3,489**

AI Healthcare Resource Disparities

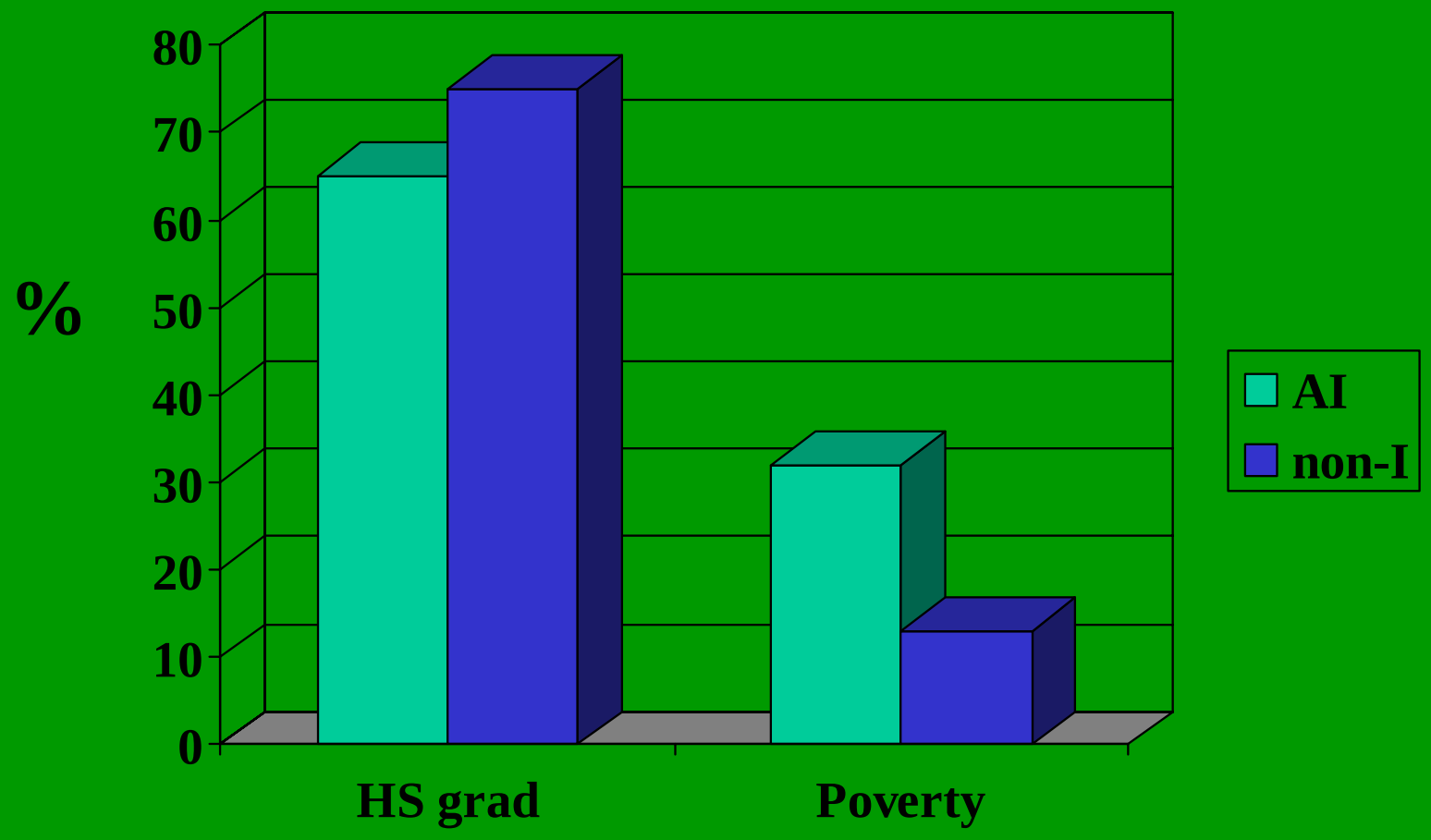


2003 per capita medical expenditures

American Indian Socioeconomic Status

- A link between poverty, low educational attainment and poorer health outcomes is well established
- Heart disease, diabetes, obesity and poor blood sugar control are more prevalent among individuals with low income and educational attainment
- AI population with lowest per capita income and lowest educational attainment in US

American Indian Socio-economics



Resource Disparities and Funding of Indian Health

Federal Funding

Department of the Interior

- Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has primary responsibility for providing recognized tribes with federal services (including schools)
- Budget decreased from 1975-2000 by $6 million yearly when adjusted for inflation
- $7.4 billion in unmet needs

Resource Disparities and Funding of Indian Health

Federal Funding

U. S. Department of Agriculture

- AI's are > twice as likely as the general US population to face hunger and food insecurity
- USDA economic development programs are underfunded
- Commodity Food Program (FDPIR) lost 2.8% of funding from 1999-2003 when inflation adjusted

Community Policy Coordination Challenges

- Competing Agendas
- Funding
- Agency Coordination
  - Multiple Levels of Government
  - Multiple Disciplines
  - Public Health & Medicine
  - Multiple School Systems
- Personal Choices

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