



Does Previous COVID-19 Diagnosis Have an Effect on Willingness to Vaccinate Children Ages 5-17?

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Background

- Since January 2020, there have been a total of 78.7 million COVID-19 cases.
- The exposure of vaccinating adolescents for COVID-19 was associated with a lower transmission rate of the virus.
- The COVID-19 vaccine was found to be safe and effective among adolescents.
- COVID-19 vaccines have proven to be 90% effective against COVID-19 related hospitalizations.
- An estimated 67% of the U.S. population needs to be vaccinated against COVID-19 in order to reach herd immunity.
 - 22% of the U.S. population is children ages 5-17, raising urgency to vaccinate the youth

Objectives

To determine if previous COVID-19 diagnosis has an effect on parental hesitation in vaccinating children against COVID-19 in the United States.

Methods

- The study team analyzed a pre-existing data set that was collected by the US Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey.
- Survey data analyzed was collected between January 2022 - February 2022.
- Participants were randomly recruited based on their address.
- The survey asks if adults with children ages 5-17 plan to vaccinate them against COVID-19.
- The pre-existing data set was analyzed at UCSD and by using SPSS.

Results

- Results indicated that those with a previous COVID-19 diagnosis are statistically more likely to vaccinate their children.
- Of those surveyed, that said “Yes” to having their children already vaccinated, 48.7% were non-Hispanic white and 34.7% had a bachelor’s degree or higher

Table 1: Percentage of Respondents with Vaccinated Children

Hispanic origin and Race	
Hispanic or Latino (may be of any race)	24.7%
White alone, not Hispanic	48.7%
Black alone, not Hispanic	13.8%
Asian alone, not Hispanic	8.8%
Two or more races + Other races, not Hispanic	4.0%
Education	
Less than high school	11.8%
High school or GED	25.8%
Some college/associate’s degree	27.7%
Bachelor’s degree or higher	34.7%

Table 1: Separated by Demographics (Race and Education level)

Figure 1: Percentages of Respondents with Previous COVID-19 Diagnosis

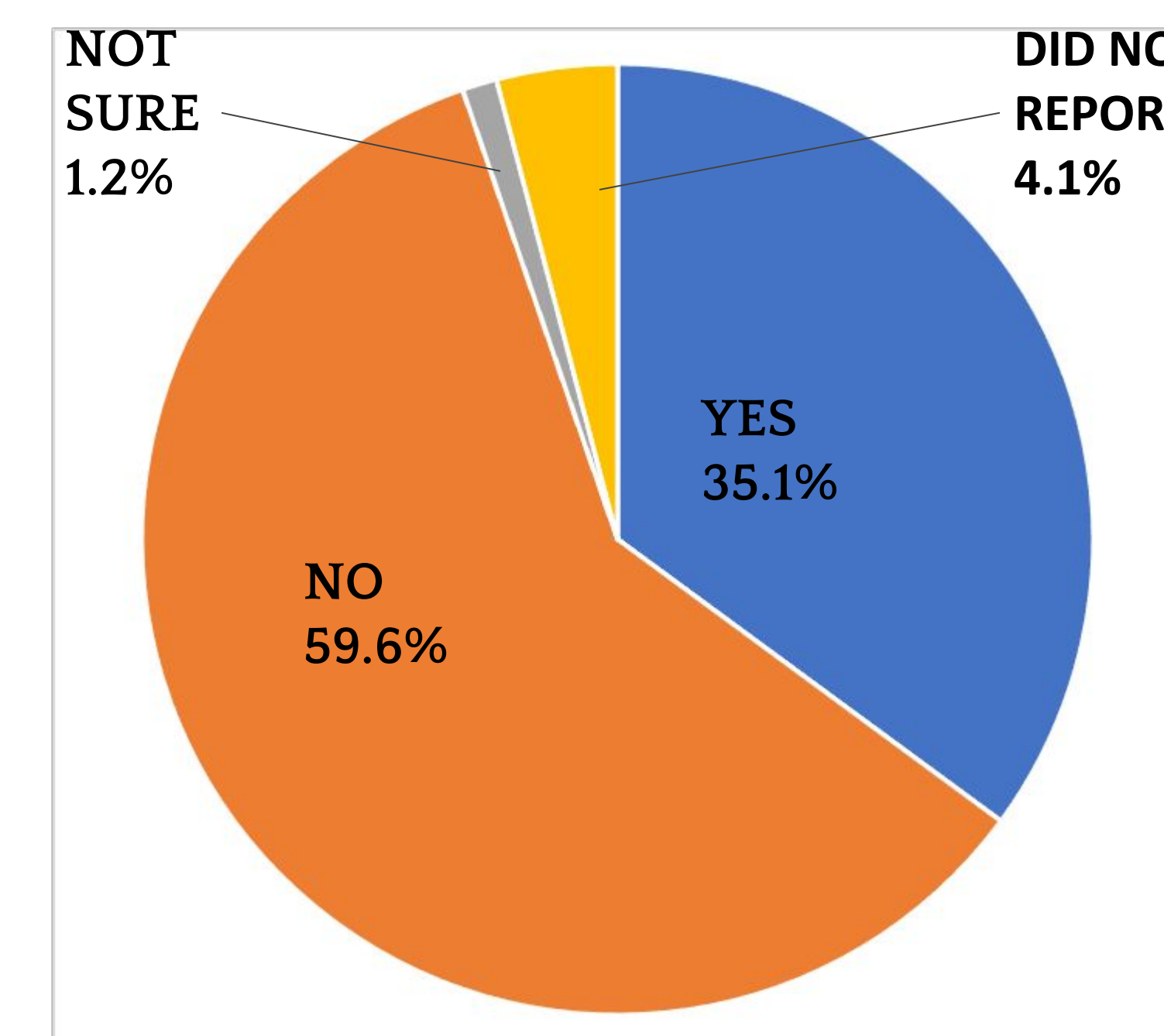
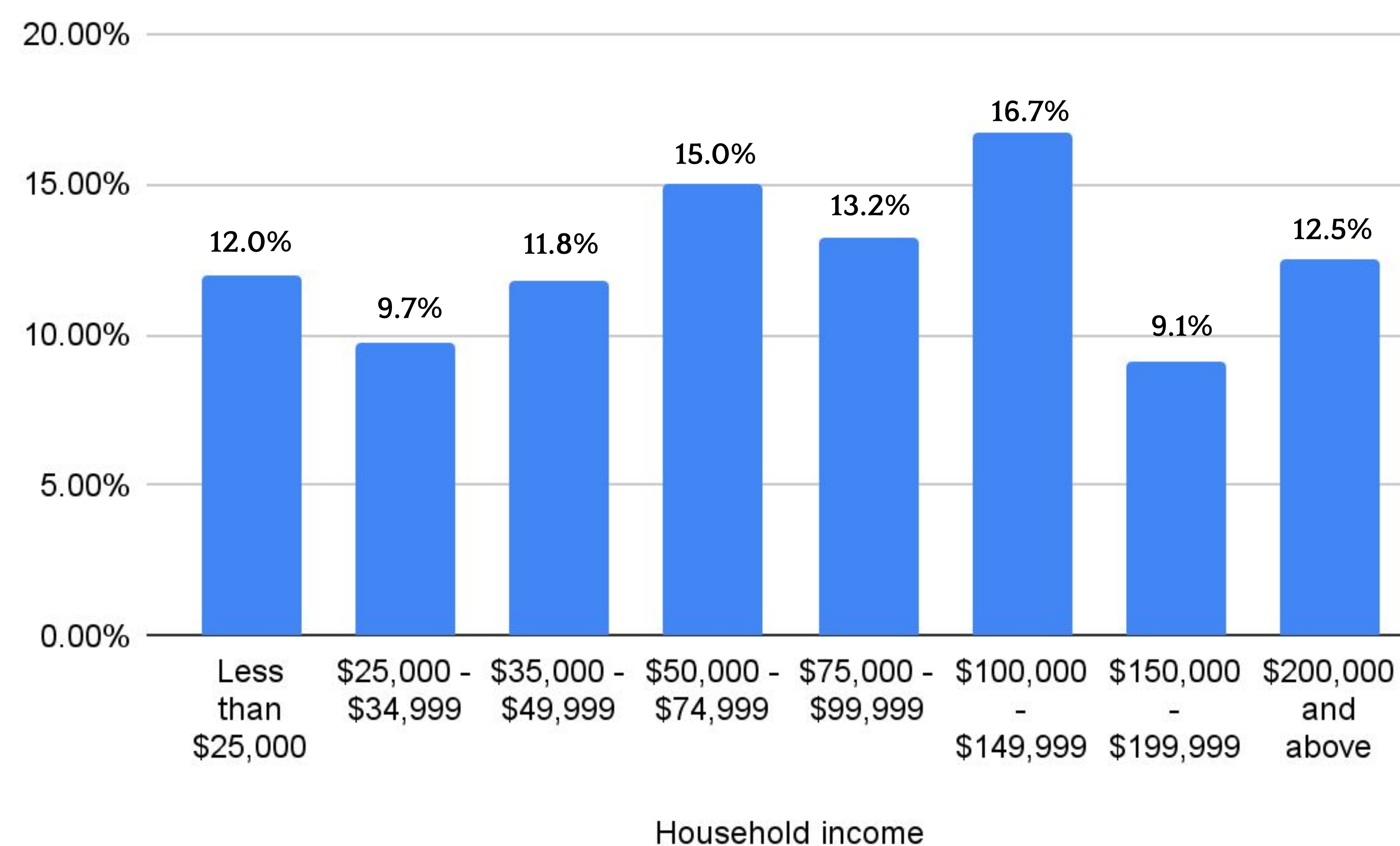


Figure 2: Percentage of Respondents with Vaccinated Children by Household Income



Conclusion

- Adults with previous COVID-19 diagnosis are more likely to vaccinate their children against COVID-19.
- Those with a high school degree or less and minorities are less likely to vaccinate their children.

Policy Implications

- Public Health efforts to increase education on the efficacy and safety of vaccines for children ages 5-17 should continue, even in communities that have low prevalence of COVID-19 diagnosis.
- Education efforts should be prioritized in lower-income and minority communities.

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