



HIDDEN HEALTH INEQUITIES ON CALIFORNIA'S CENTRAL COAST

Funded by :



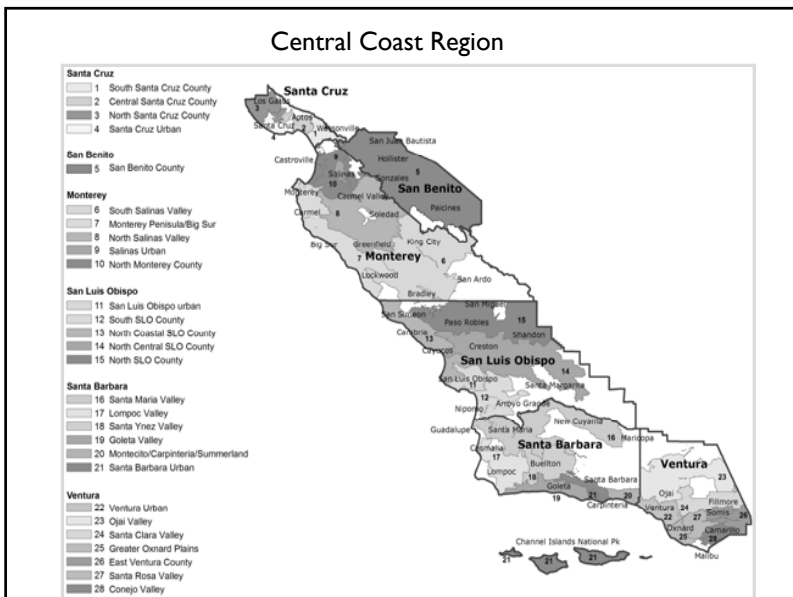
Joel Diringer, JD, MPH
 Amy Gilman, MPH
 Diringer and Associates



Introduction /Methodology

- Documents and analyzes health conditions using secondary data. Main sources include:
 - U.S. Census – American Community Survey and 2000 Census
 - California Health Interview Survey (CHIS)
 - Department of Health Services
 - Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD)

- Localizes the analysis and discussion as much as possible within the region, counties and their communities



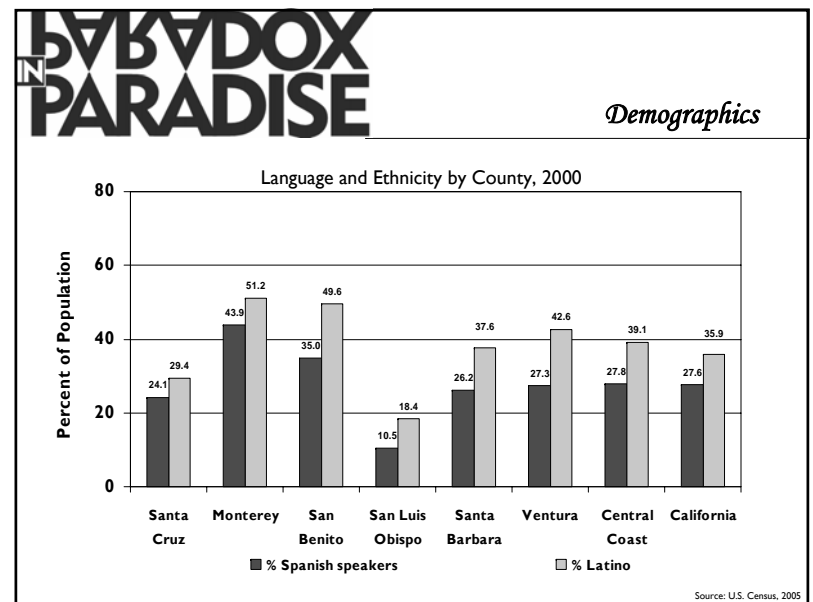
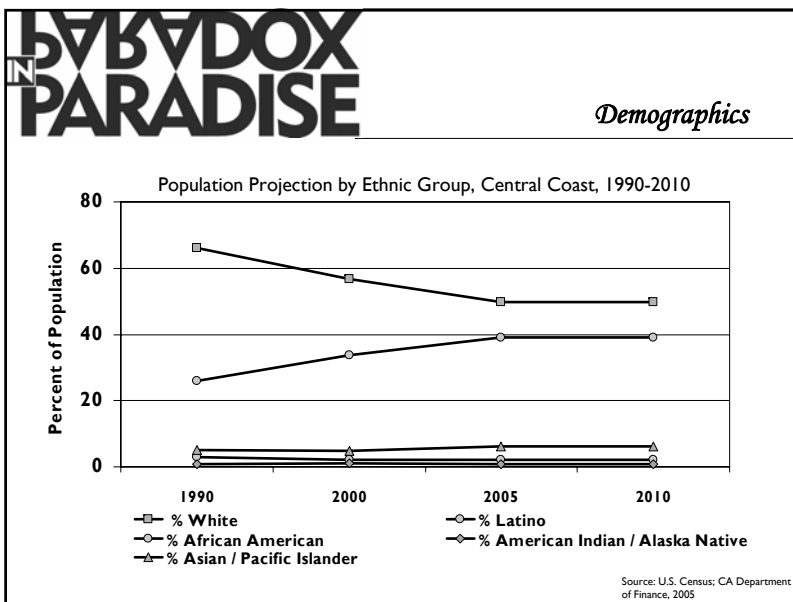
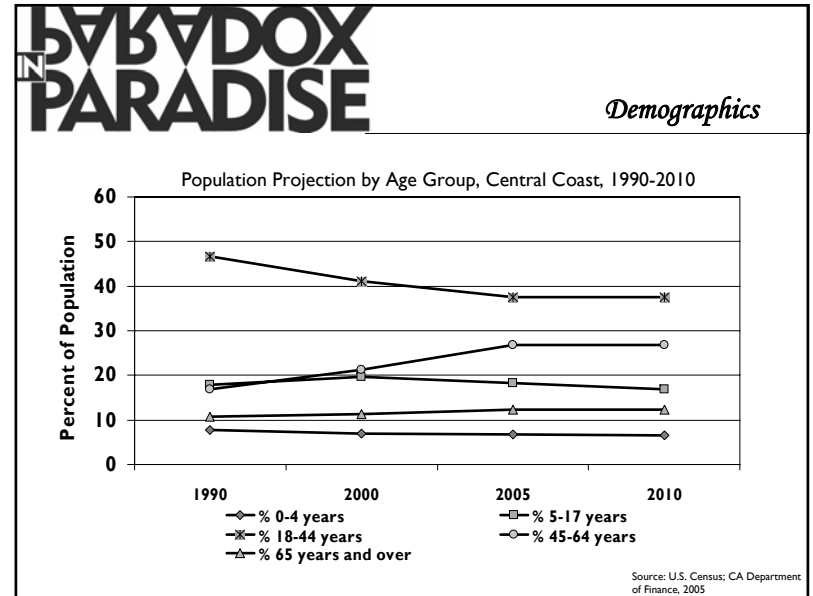
Key Themes

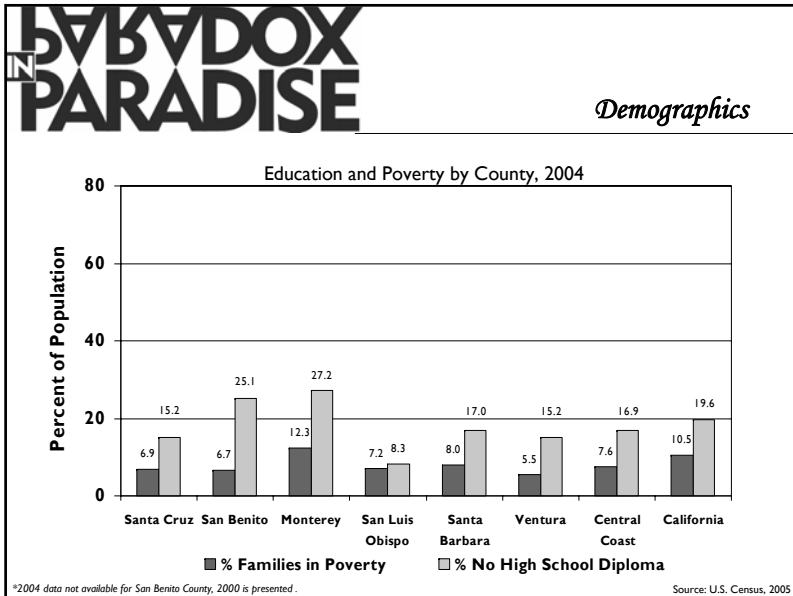
- Changing demographics
- Hidden populations
- Community disparities
- Health disparities among populations
- Access to care and coverage
- Chronic disease prevention – diet and exercise
- Oral health



LABADOX PARADISE

Demographics

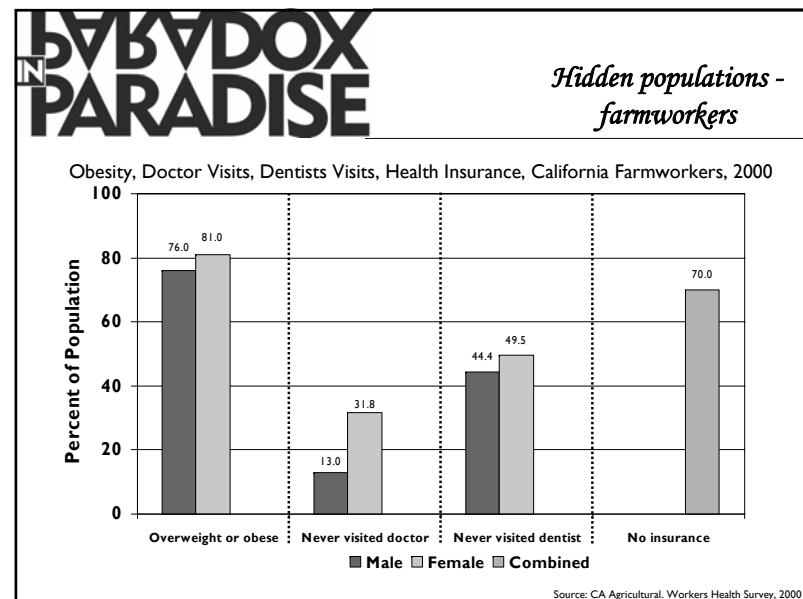




BADDOX PARADISE

Hidden populations

- # BADDOX PARADISE
- ## Hidden populations - farmworkers
- Agriculture is \$8 billion industry on the Coast
 - Estimated 100,000 to 150,000 migrant and seasonal farmworkers on Coast, or between 20 and 30% of state total.
 - Indigenous farmworkers (e.g. Mixtec) make up between 16% and 20% of farmworkers – face additional language and cultural barriers
 - Nine out of 10 (88%) farmworkers cannot minimally communicate in English
 - Mean farmworker wage is \$9.47/hour, less than half of State's average mean wage of \$20.64/hour. Yet, 43% earn below \$10,000/year



PARADISE

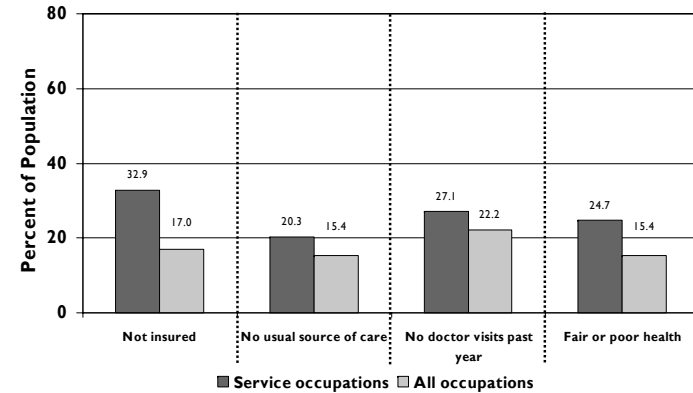
Hidden populations – Service Workers

- One in five jobs (20.8%) on Central Coast are in agriculture and leisure/hospitality – compared to 11.9% statewide
- Mean wages for service occupations (maintenance, child care, home health aides, food preparers) were nearly half the state average mean hourly wage
- Higher percentage of Latinos (48.6%; All occ.=31%) and women (46.2%; All occ.=43.2%) in service occupations
- Disparities in health coverage, access and status

PARADISE

Hidden populations – Service Workers

Health Insurance, Usual Source of Care, Doctor Visits, Perceived Health Status, Central Coast, 2003



Source: 2003 CHIS

PARADISE

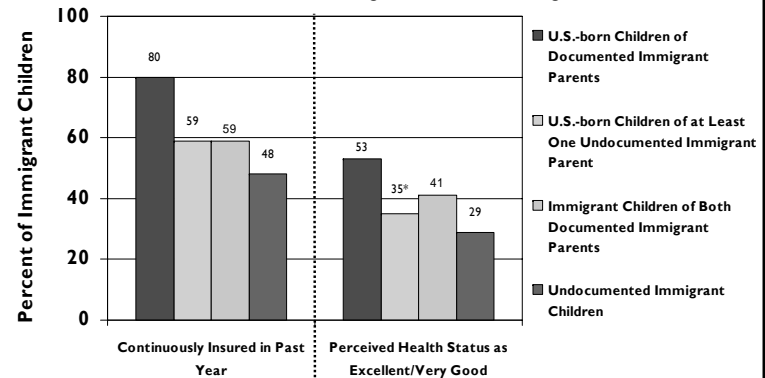
Hidden populations – Children in immigrant families

- Nearly half (45%) of Central Coast children have at least one immigrant parent. Of these, 73% are US-born children of documented parents. 10% are US-born, but have at least one undocumented parent
- Children in immigrant families are more likely to be poor, have less health coverage, and have lower reported health status
- Local programs in Santa Cruz, San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Counties have extended coverage to all children, regardless of immigration status

PARADISE

Hidden populations – Children in immigrant families

Insurance and Perceived Health Status among Central Coast "Immigrant" Children, 2001



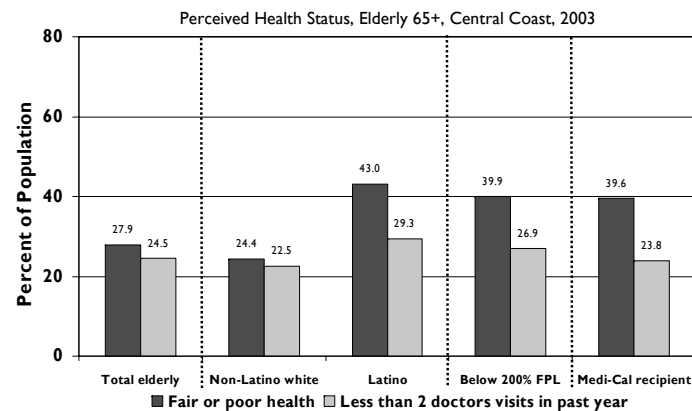
*Data is unstable due to small sample size and should be interpreted with caution.

Source: Pourat, 2003

Hidden populations – Low-income seniors

- Seniors comprise 11.4% of the Central Coast population – approximately 250,000
- One out of four (23.3%) of elderly age 65 and over fall below 200% of the federal poverty level (\$26,400 for family of 2 in 2006)
- Native American (12.6%), African American (12.5%), Latino (11.4%) and Asian American (8.2%) elderly were more likely to be poor than elderly whites (5.2%)

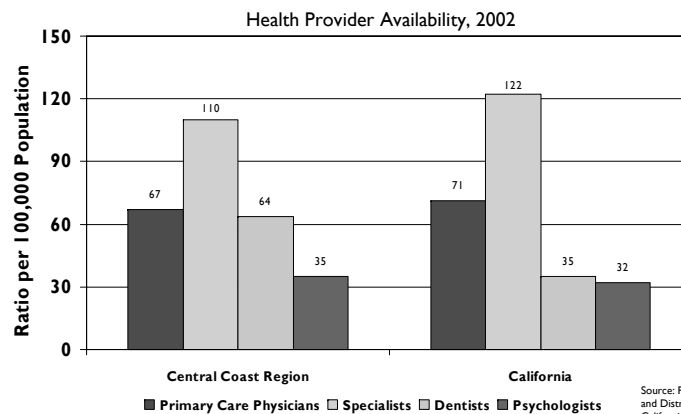
Hidden populations – Low-income seniors



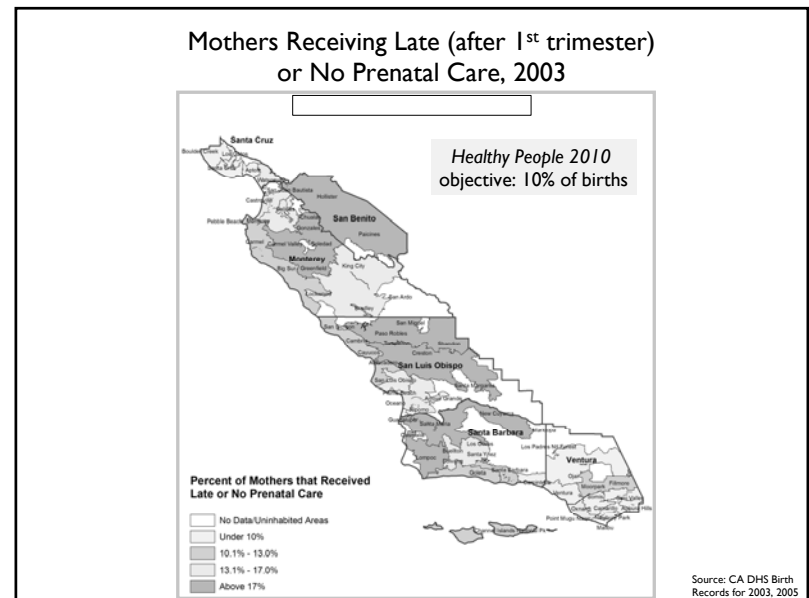
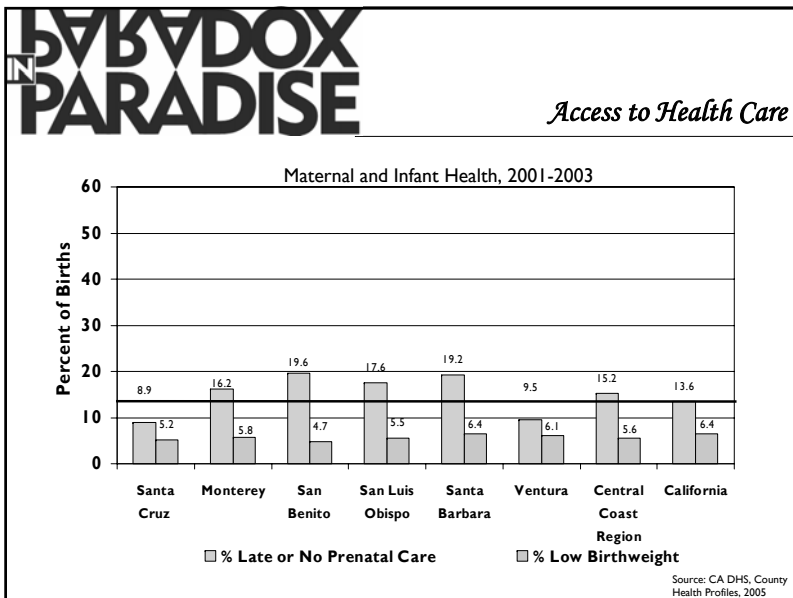
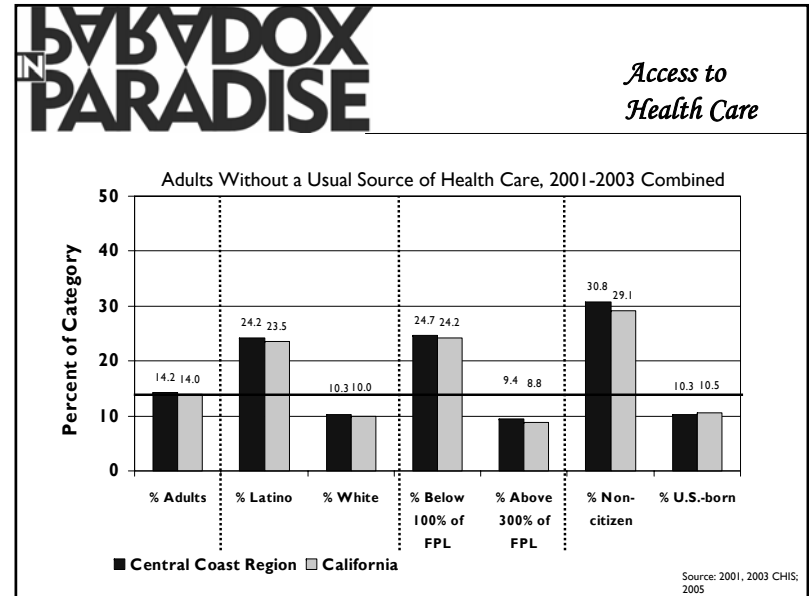
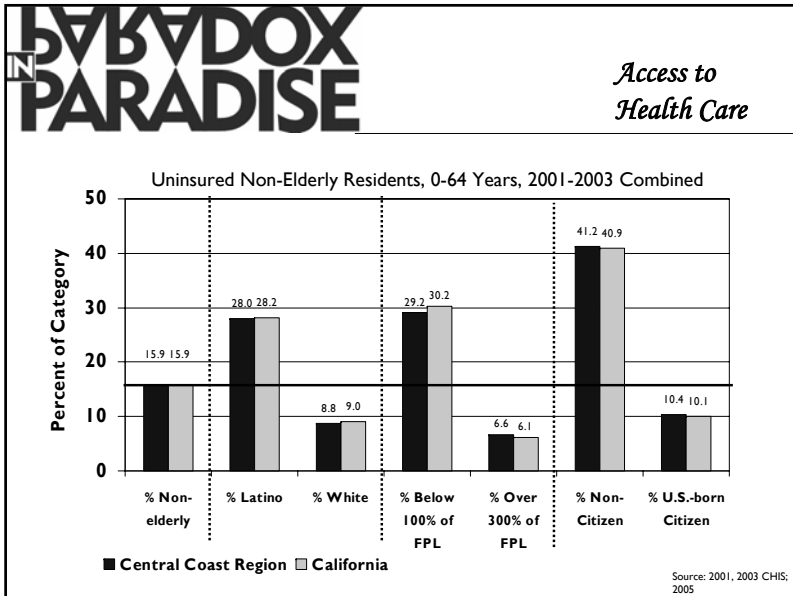
Source: Wallace, 2003

Access to care

Access to Health Care

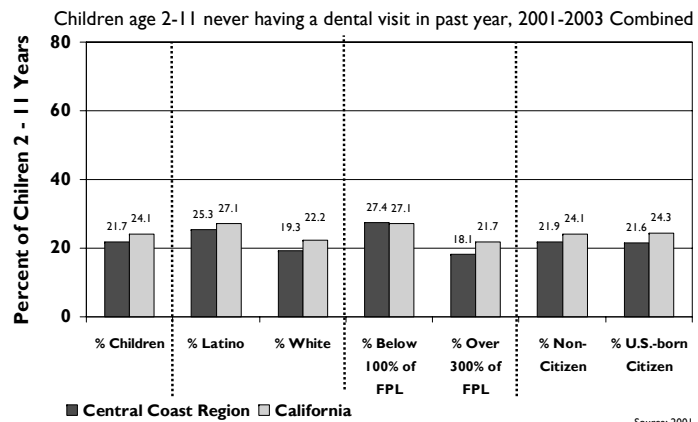


Source: Physician Supply and Distribution in California, 2002; Pourat, 2005; McRee, 2003



Oral health

- 15.2% of children did not have dental insurance, nearly twice the percentage without medical coverage
- Nearly a quarter of children, 2-11 years, have never visited the dentist
- Seven out of ten (71%) of California third graders has history of decay, and three out of ten (29%) California third graders has untreated decay
- Latino kindergarteners were 2.4 times more likely to have untreated decay than white kindergarteners;



Source: 2001, 2003 CHIS, 2005

Recommendations

PARADISE

Recommendations

- Be cognizant of and address the changing demographics of communities and the region
- Work with “hidden populations” – service industry workers, farmworkers and immigrants – to address the barriers to care
- Identify needs on a community level and work with individual communities to address them
- Initiate community efforts to combat the epidemic of obesity and overweight children and adults
- Incorporate oral health as a component of physical health
- Engage in continuous surveillance of community health through data gathering and dissemination

More information:



www.diringassociates.com

Diring and Associates
PO Box 14822
San Luis Obispo, CA 93406
805-481-3033