

# **Impact of Title VII Funding on Community Health Center Staffing and the National Health Service Corps**

**AAMC Workforce Meeting  
May 4, 2007**

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# Objective

- **To examine the association between physicians' exposure to HRSA Title VII Section 747 Primary Care Training Grants during medical school and residency, and subsequent work in a community health center or the National Health Service Corps**

# **Federally Qualified Health Centers**

- **2004 -- 6,651 FTE physicians  
809 vacancies**

# **National Health Service Corps**

- **2006 – 1,200 physicians  
4,200 vacancies**

# Method/Data

- **HRSA's Bureau of Health Professions—Title VII physician training grants files**
  - **3 relevant grant categories:**
    - **Pre-doctoral Education**
    - **Academic Administrative Unit (AAU)**
    - **Residency Training**
- **AMA “megafile”**
  - **2004 AMA Masterfile allopathic and most osteopathic physicians (N = 936,178)**
  - **Medicare UPIN numbers and residency information**

# Identifying Physicians Working in CHCs

## CMS Outpatient File

- Medicare outpatient facility claims 2001-2003  
primary care services
- Claims linked to individual physician

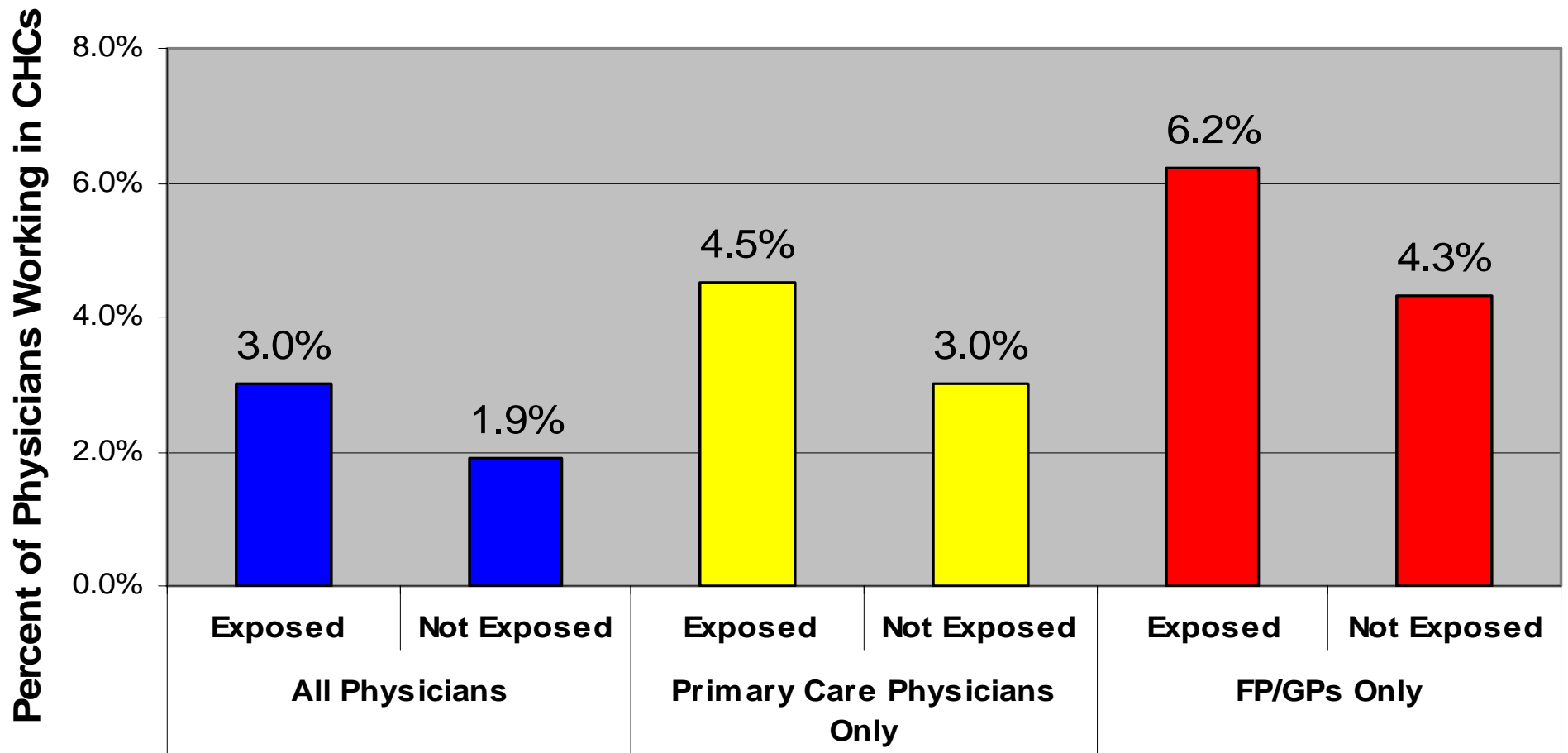
## Bureau of Health Professions

- Database of physicians who served in the NHSC  
from 1978 - 2004

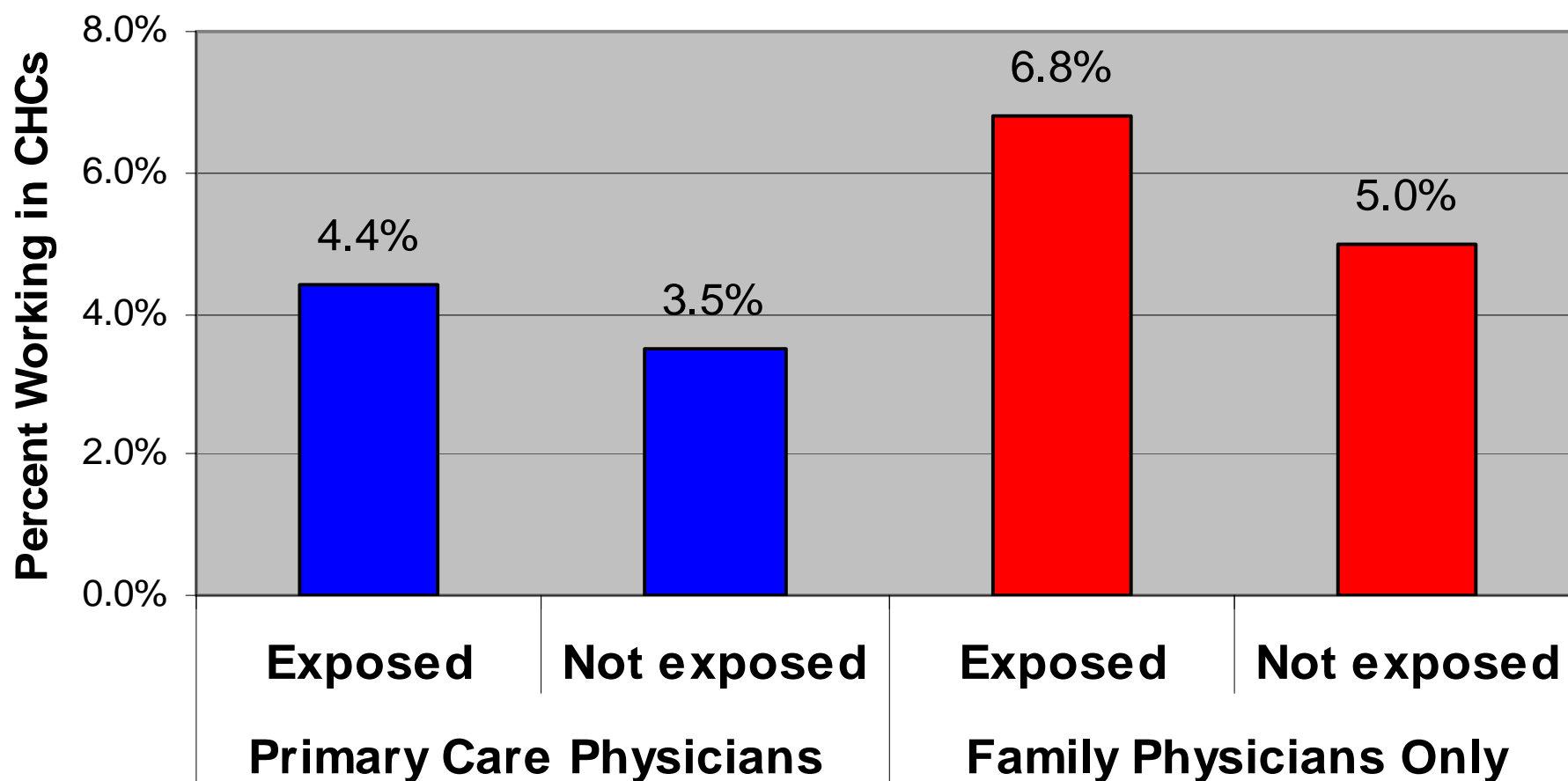
# Analysis

- Compared proportions of “exposed” physicians and “not-exposed” physicians
  - that worked in an CHC (2001-2003)
  - that worked in the NHSC (1978-2004)
- Looked separately at medical school and residency exposure
- Logistic regression to examine the independent contribution of Title VII exposure during medical school and residency on CHC and NHSC staffing

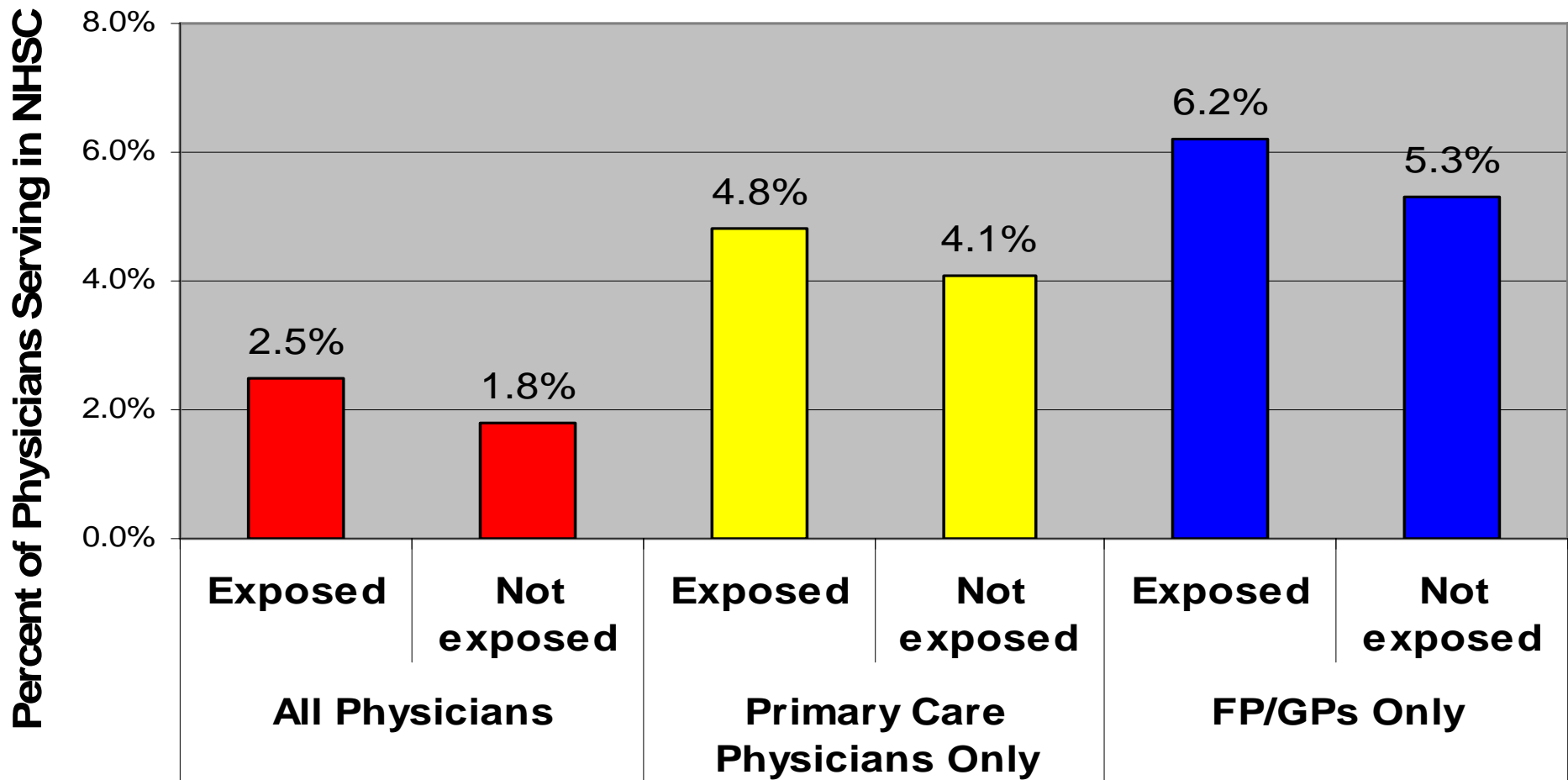
# Effects of Medical School Title VII Exposure on CHC Staffing, 2001-3



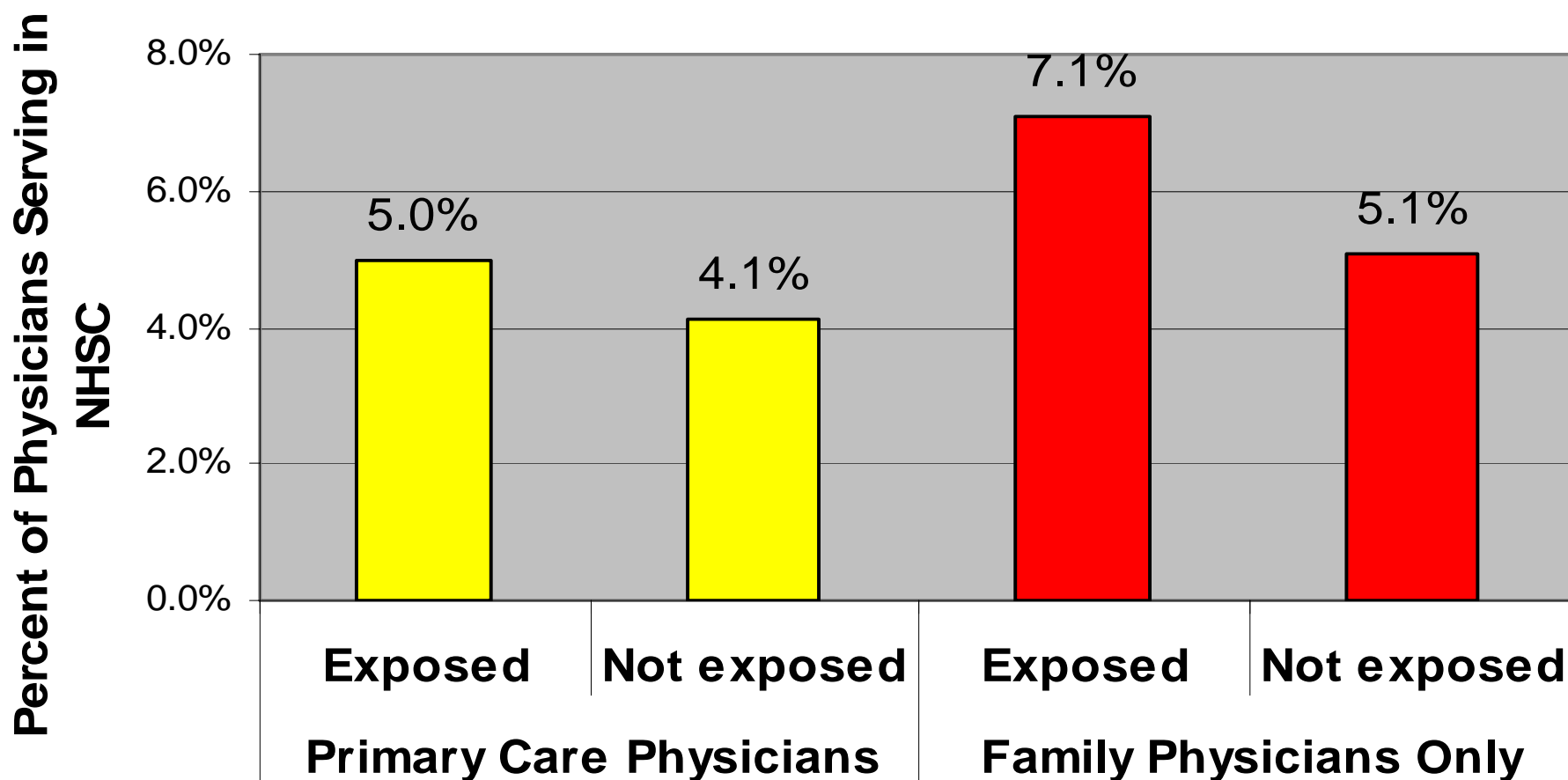
# Effect of Title VII During Residency on CHC Staffing, 2001-2003



# Effect of Title VII During Medical School on NHSC Participation



# Effect of Title VII Exposure During Residency on NHSC Participation



# Limitations

- Cross-sectional study shows association
- Medicare claims data to identify CHC physicians
- Osteopathic physicians – 40% no GME data
- Other loan repayment, scholarships

# Conservative Estimates

- CHC work cross-sectional
- FQHCs only
- “Exposed to Title VII funds” definition
- Pediatricians not well-represented – Medicare

# Conclusions

- **Physician exposure to Title 7 Section 747 grants during medical school and primary care residency is associated with subsequent work in CHCs and NHSC.**
- **Recent reductions in Title VII Section 747 program funding may exacerbate the difficulties CHCs and underserved areas are facing in trying to recruit physicians.**
- **2,210 fewer physicians – more than double the current vacancy rate for all physicians at CHCs.**