

# Saying the "A Word": Abortion Advocacy and Access in Louisiana

Jessie Nieblas, MPH  
New Orleans Abortion Fund  
[abortionfundnola@gmail.com](mailto:abortionfundnola@gmail.com)



## **Jessie Nieblas**

**The following personal financial relationships with commercial interests relevant to this presentation existed during the past 12 months:**

**No relationships to disclose.**

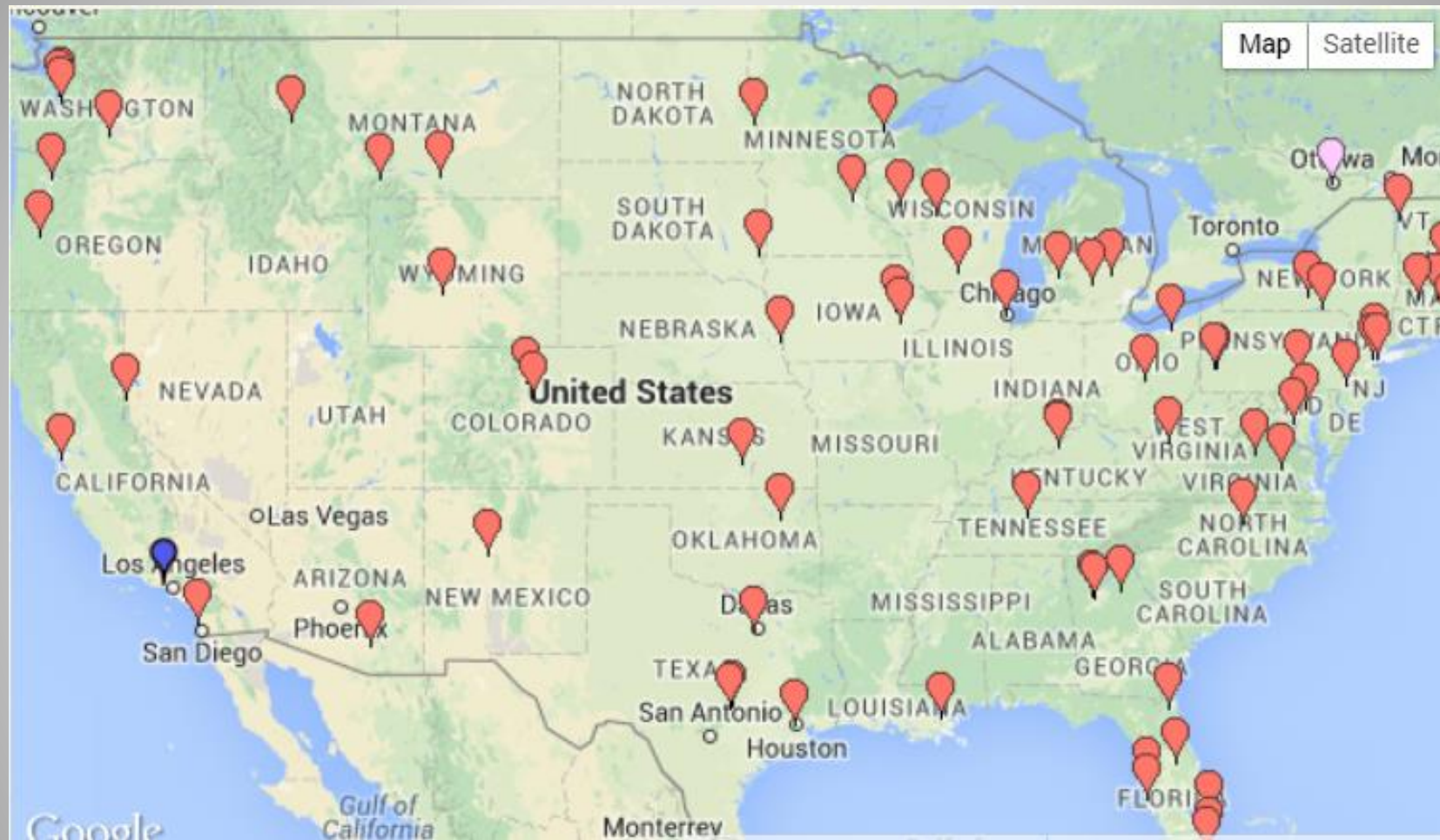
**Presenter Disclosures**

*In partnership with the National Network of Abortion Funds, the New Orleans Abortion Fund was established in 2012 as a community-based 501(c)(3) organization rooted in social justice, with the purpose of challenging socioeconomic inequalities by providing financial help to women who cannot afford the full cost of an abortion.*

*We affirm a woman's right to control her body and her destiny, and work to ensure that all people have access to quality medical care, regardless of their economic situation.*

*Working with local medical providers, we provide compassionate and empowering assistance to women seeking abortions who are unable to fully fund their abortion, and distribute pledges as available.*

# **Mission Statement**



# NNAF Member Funds in US

24-hour waiting period

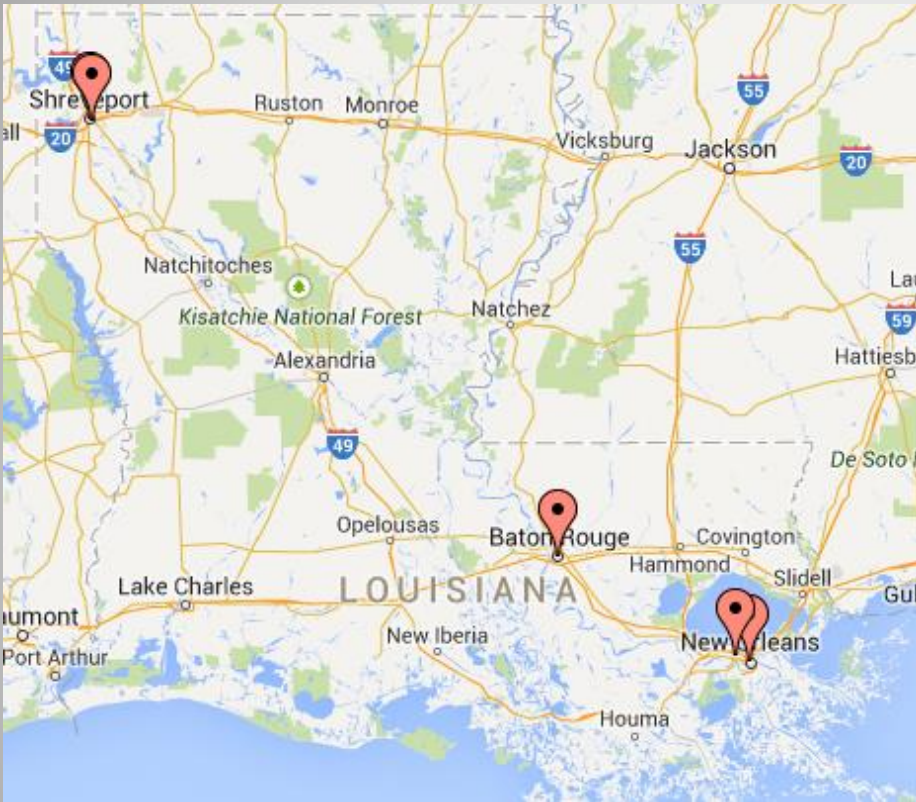
Mandatory counseling & ultrasound

20-week gestational limit

Parental consent or judicial bypass

No public funding

5 clinics statewide



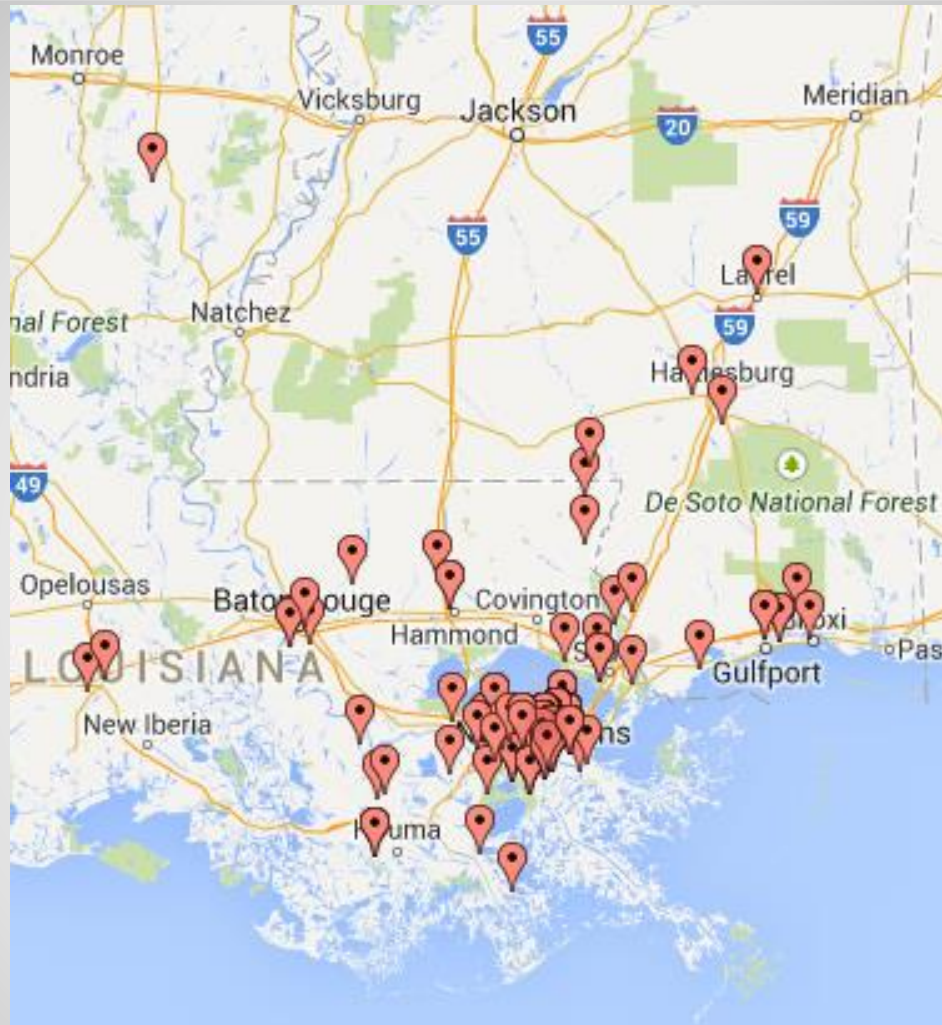
**Getting an Abortion in LA**



**STIGMA!**

- 195 clients
- Average pledge: \$65.20
- Pledge range: \$20-200

**April 2013-July 2014**



**Who Do We Serve?**

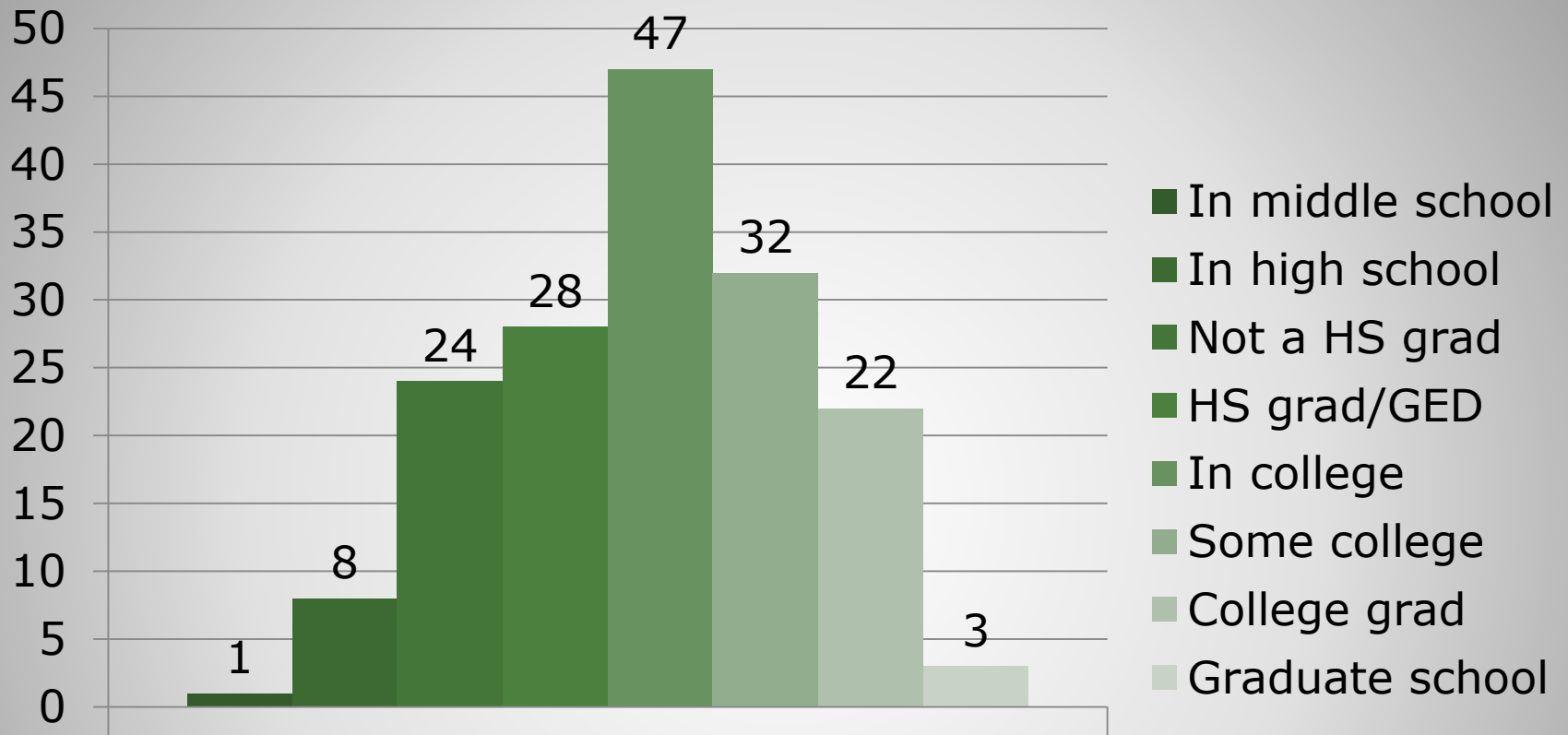


- Age
  - Range: 15-43
  - Mean: 26.2
- Children
  - 68.6% mothers
  - Of those with children, mean number is 2.05

**Who Do We Serve?**

- 54.19% are employed
- 44.3% are students
- 73.11% are in school and/or employed

**Who Do We Serve?**

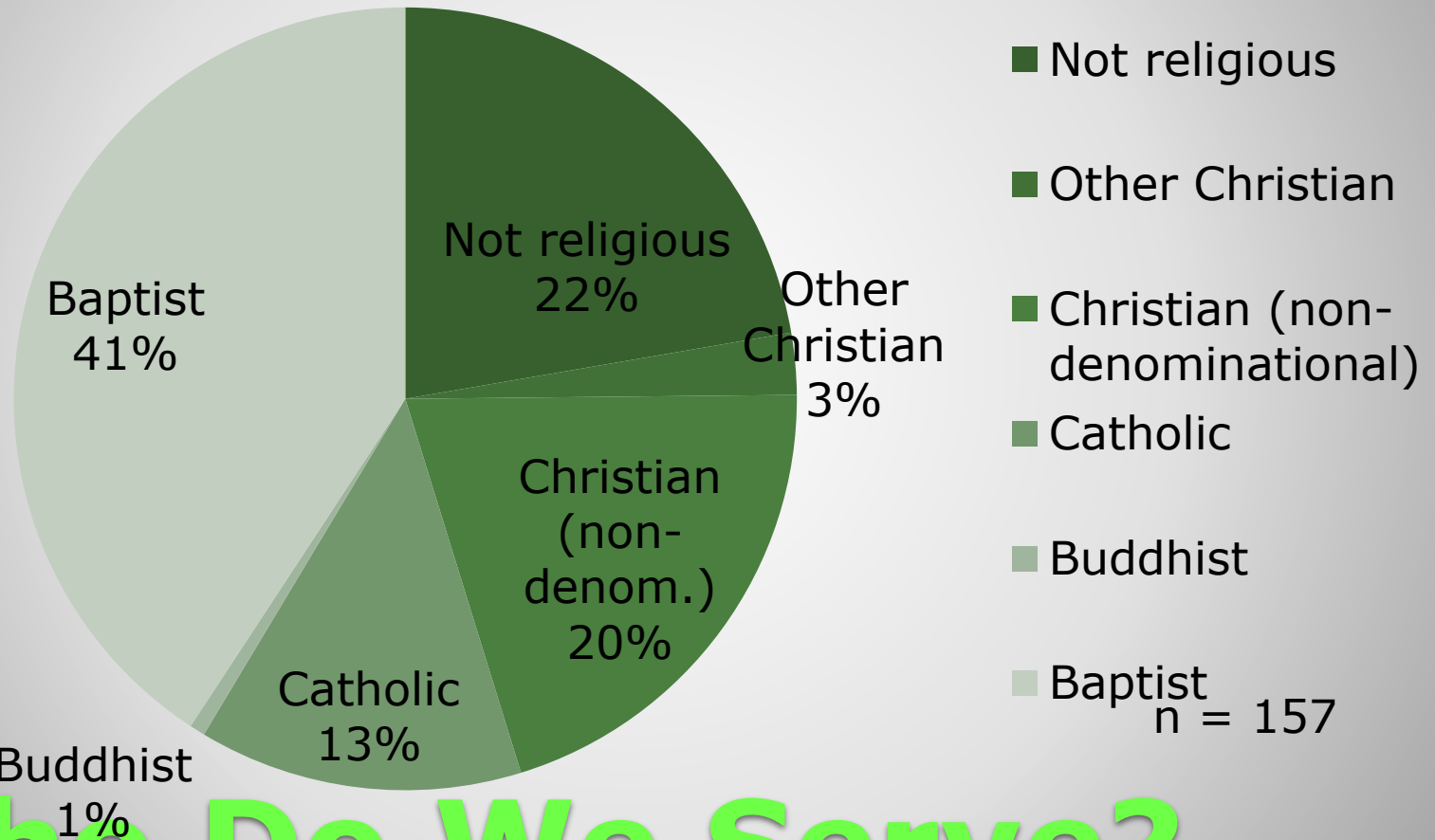


## Educational Level

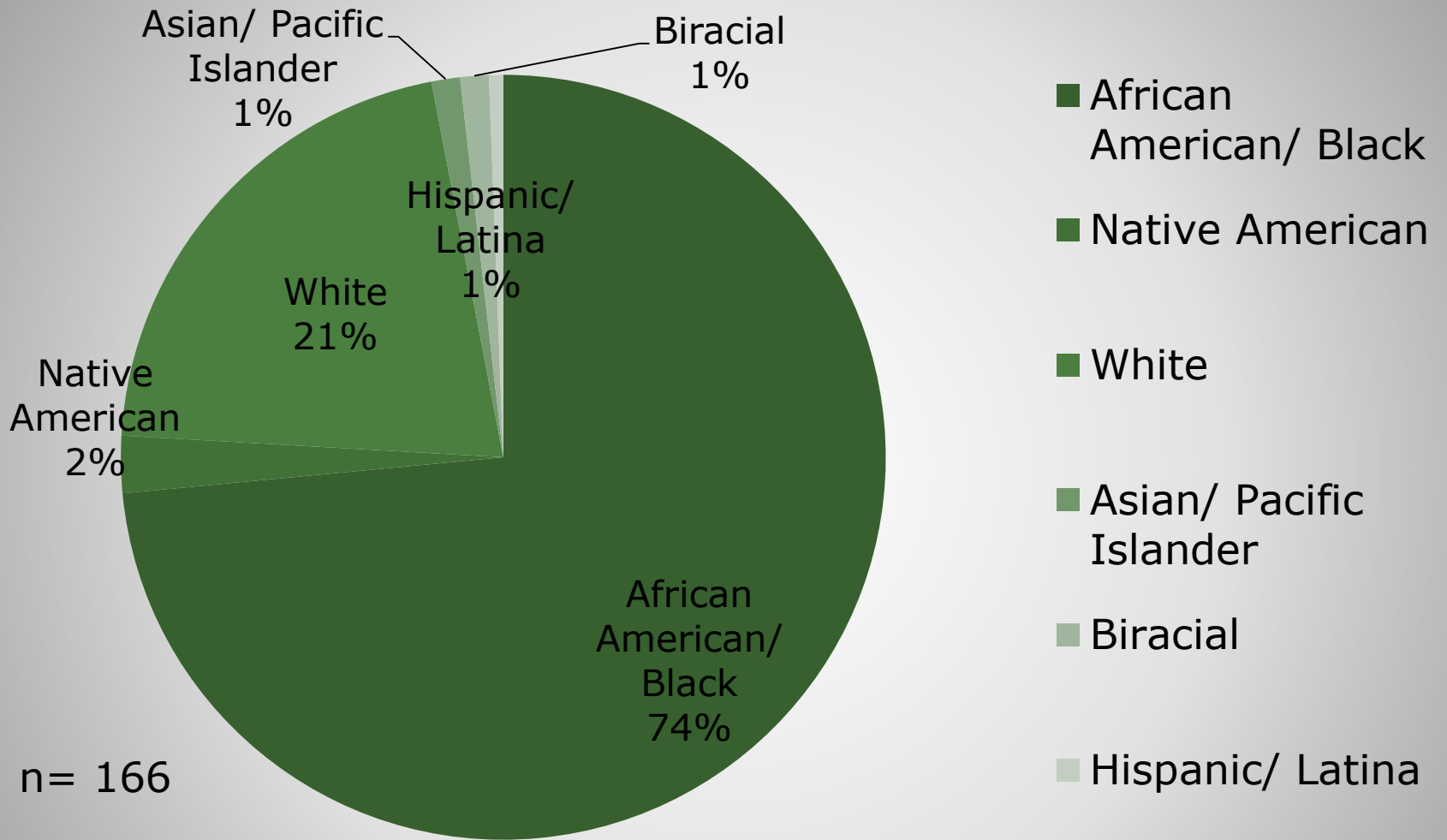
n = 165

# Who Do We Serve?

# Religion



**Who Do We Serve?**



**Who Do We Serve?**



- Laying the Foundations
- Regulations and Legislation
- Next Steps

**Education and Advocacy**

- Coalitions
- Connection to other issues
- Client engagement

**Laying the Foundation**

- Department of Health and Hospitals “emergency regulations”
  - November 2013-February 2014

**Regulations**

**VICTORY!**

- HB 305
- HB 1262
- HB 1274
- HB 388

**2014 Legislative Session**



**Next Steps ...**

**Questions?**