

Survey Estimates of the Uninsured

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September 9, 2005



Role playing: CRS Analyst

1. Uninsured rate in Florida; Dade County, FL; and Broward County, FL?

CPS

NHIS

MEPS

2. Among people ever with cancer, number uninsured and reason uninsured?

CPS

NHIS

MEPS

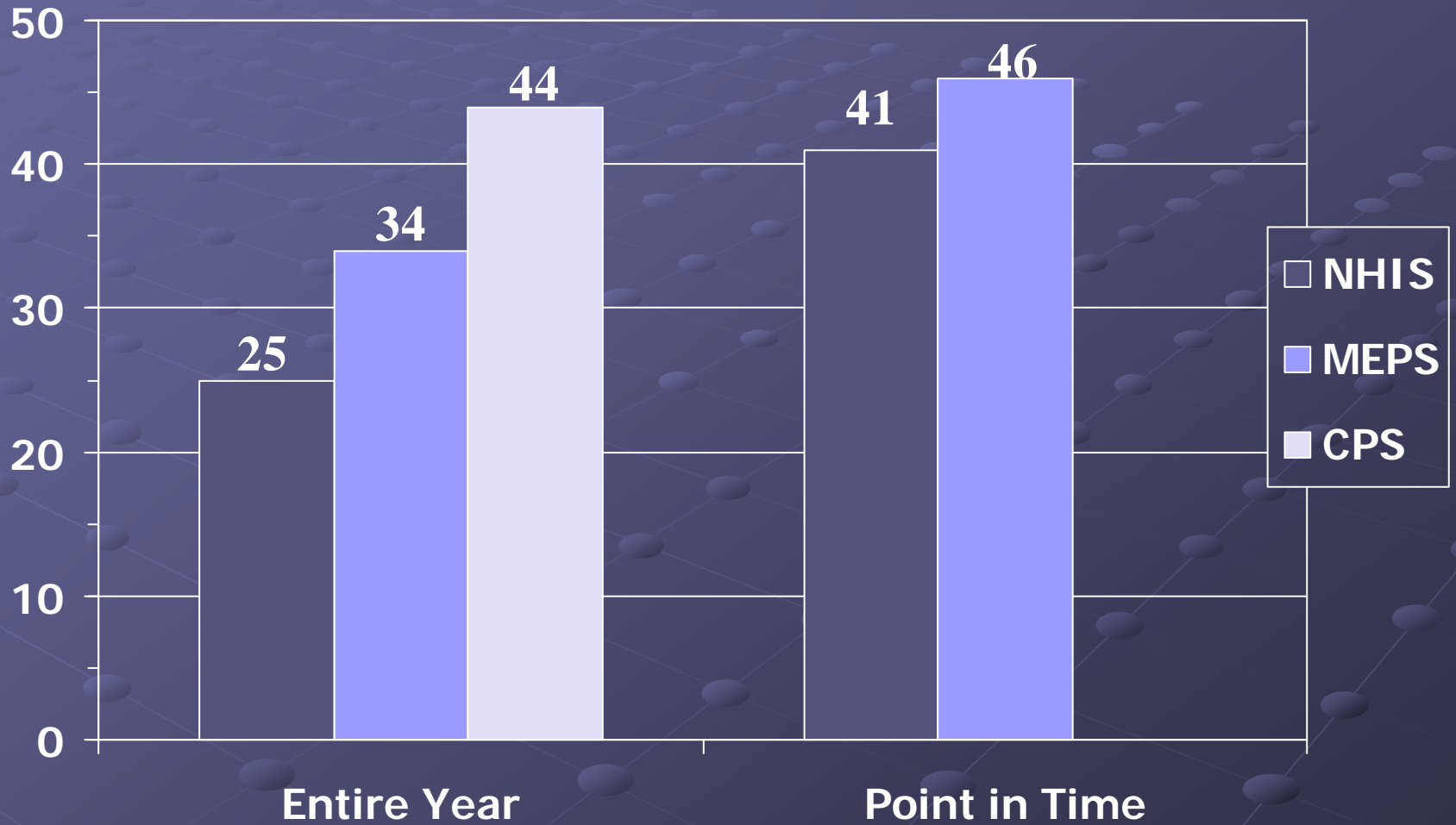
3. Per-capita Medicaid expenditures among young adults, and how they vary among dual eligibles?

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Missing the Big Picture?

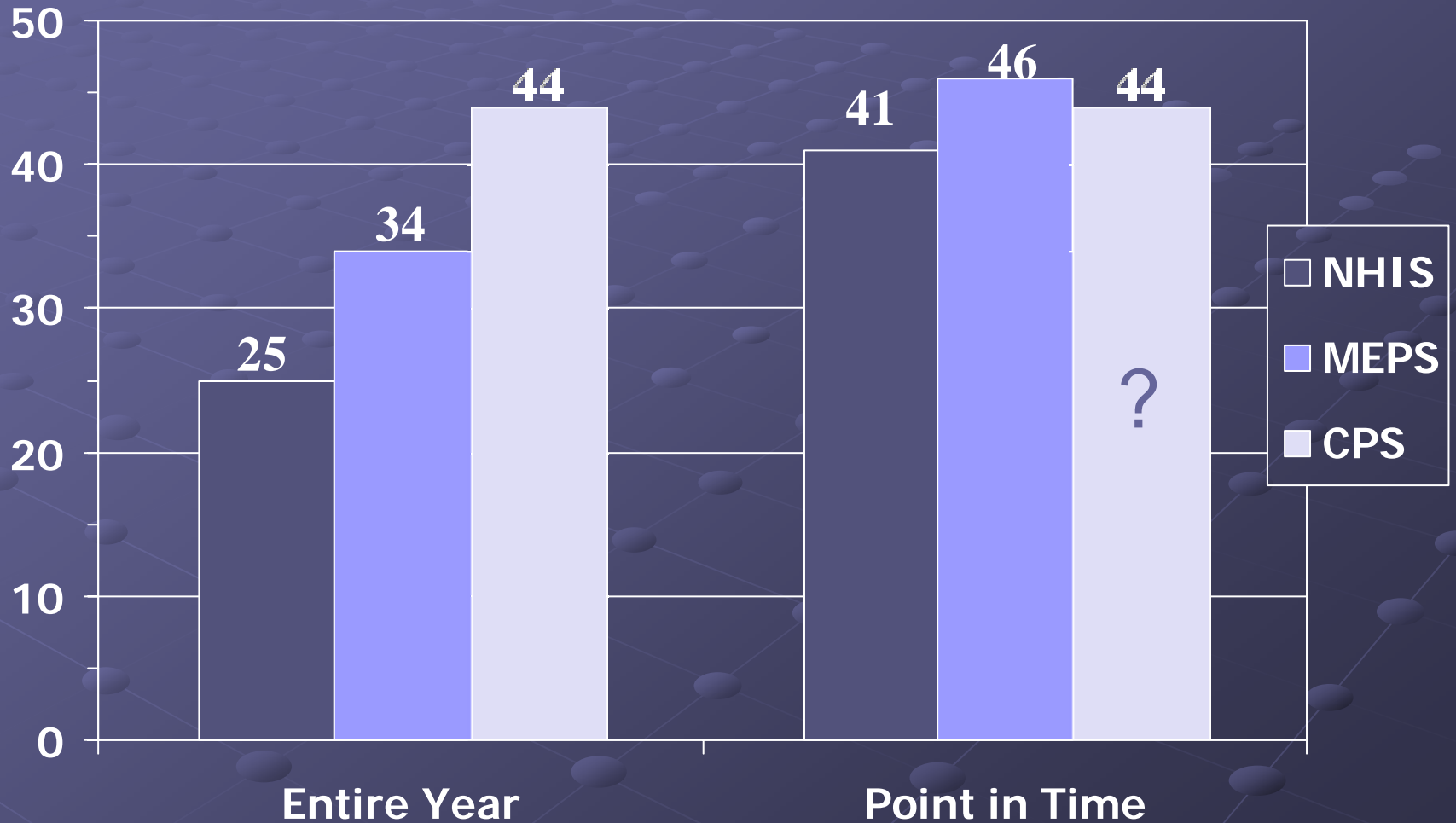


2002

CPS Disclaimer

“Research shows health insurance coverage is underreported in the CPS ASEC for a variety of reasons. ... Compared with other national surveys, the CPS ASEC estimate ... more closely approximates the number of people who were uninsured at a specific point during the year than the number of people uninsured for the entire year.”

Fixing the Big Picture?



2002

Fixing the Big Picture?

“I call it the body count. Instead of addressing the problem, we say we must count the uninsured. It is literally, in my view, like making sure we know how many deck chairs we have on the Titanic.”



Uwe Reinhardt
of Princeton
University

(LA Times, 4/26/05)



CPS Estimates: 2000



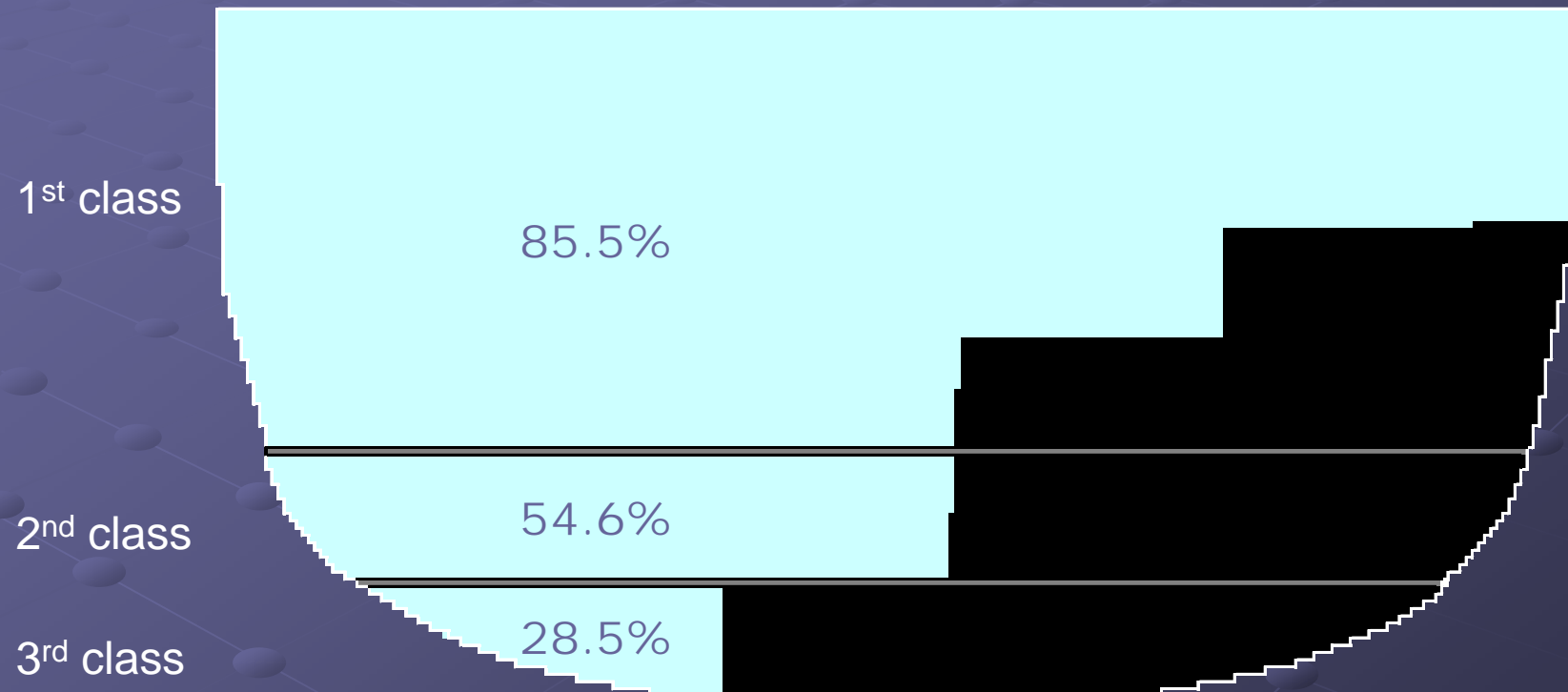
1st class = 200%+ of poverty

2nd class = 100%-199% of poverty

3rd class = Below poverty

CPS Estimates: 2000

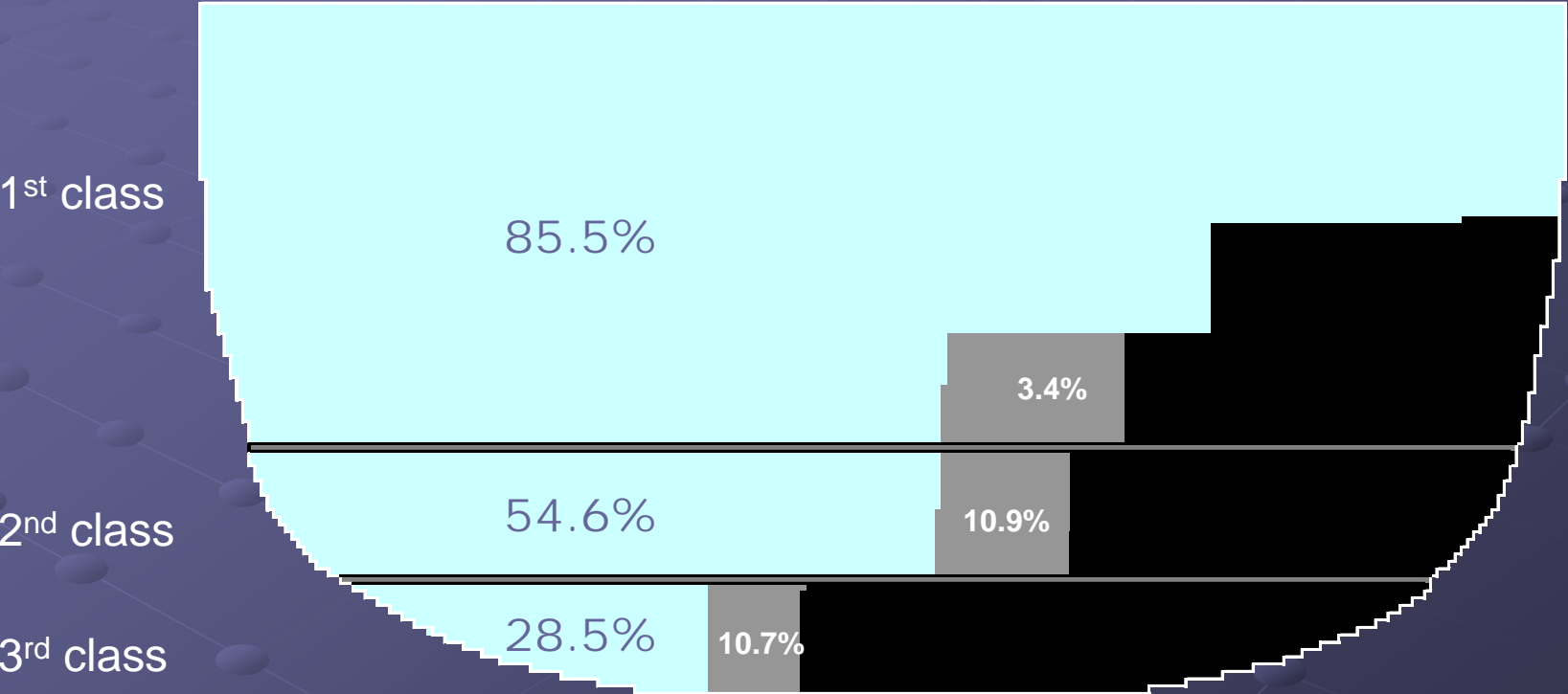
Primary Coverage: Employer* and Nongroup



* Coverage through current or former employer, including military/veterans care

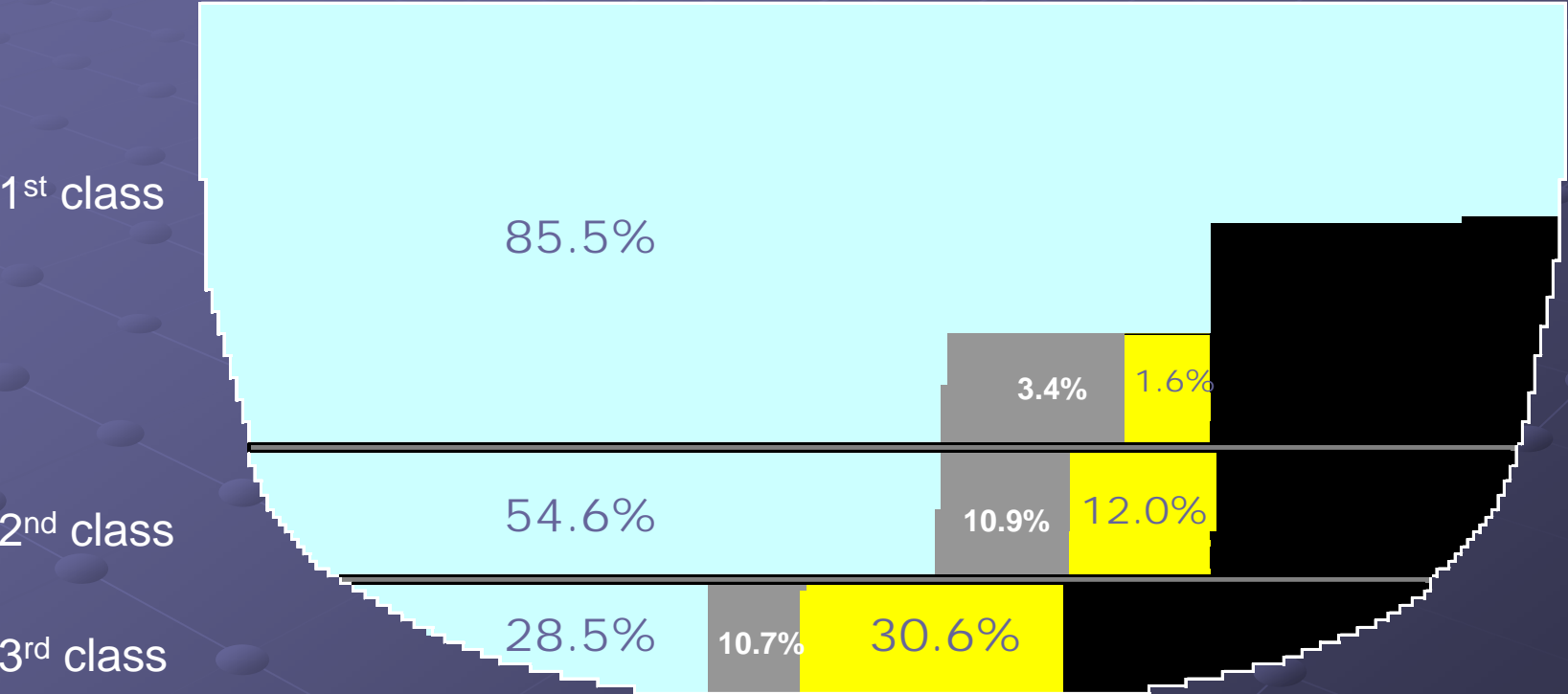
CPS Estimates: 2000

Primary Coverage: Medicare



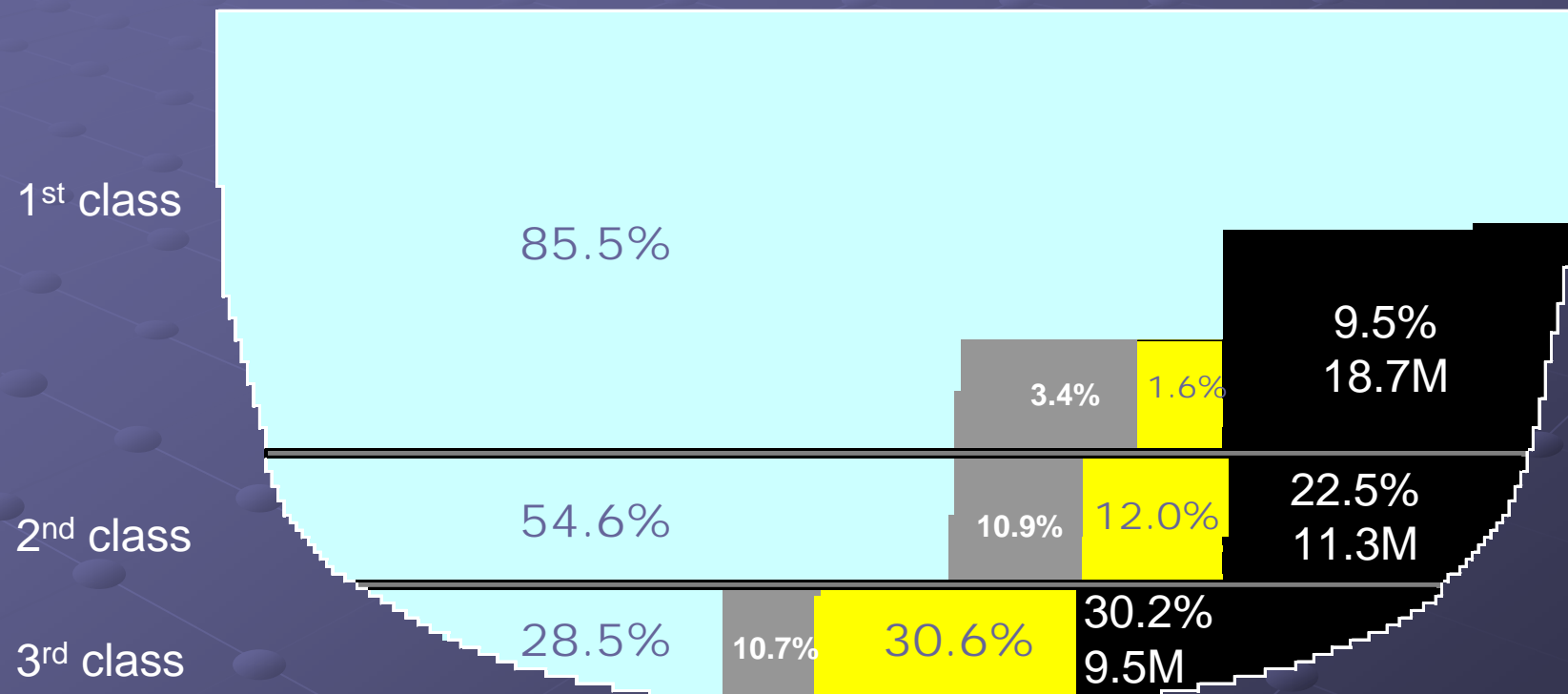
CPS Estimates: 2000

Primary Coverage: Medicaid/SCHIP



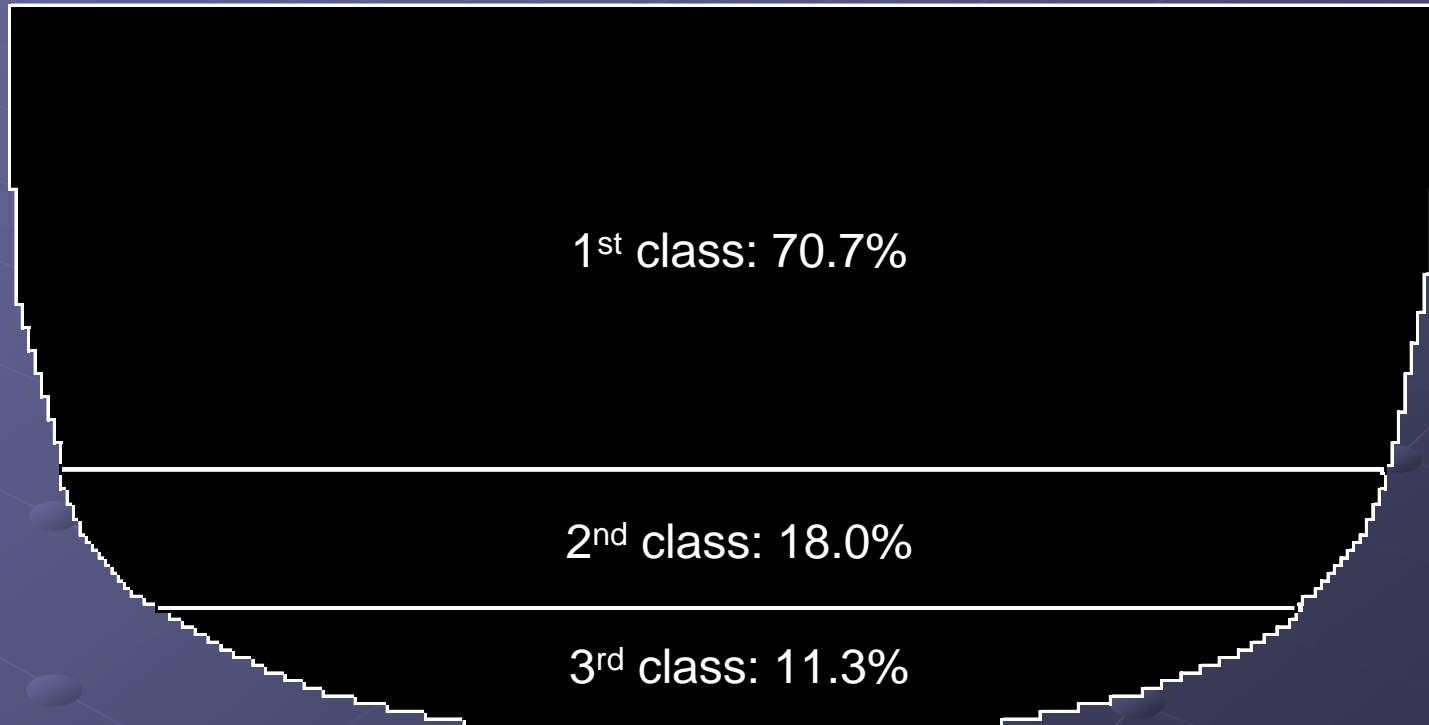
CPS Estimates: 2000

Uninsured



Nationwide: 14.2% uninsured
39.6 million

CPS Estimates: 2000



1st class = 200%+ of poverty

2nd class = 100%-199% of poverty

3rd class = Below poverty

CPS Estimates: 2004



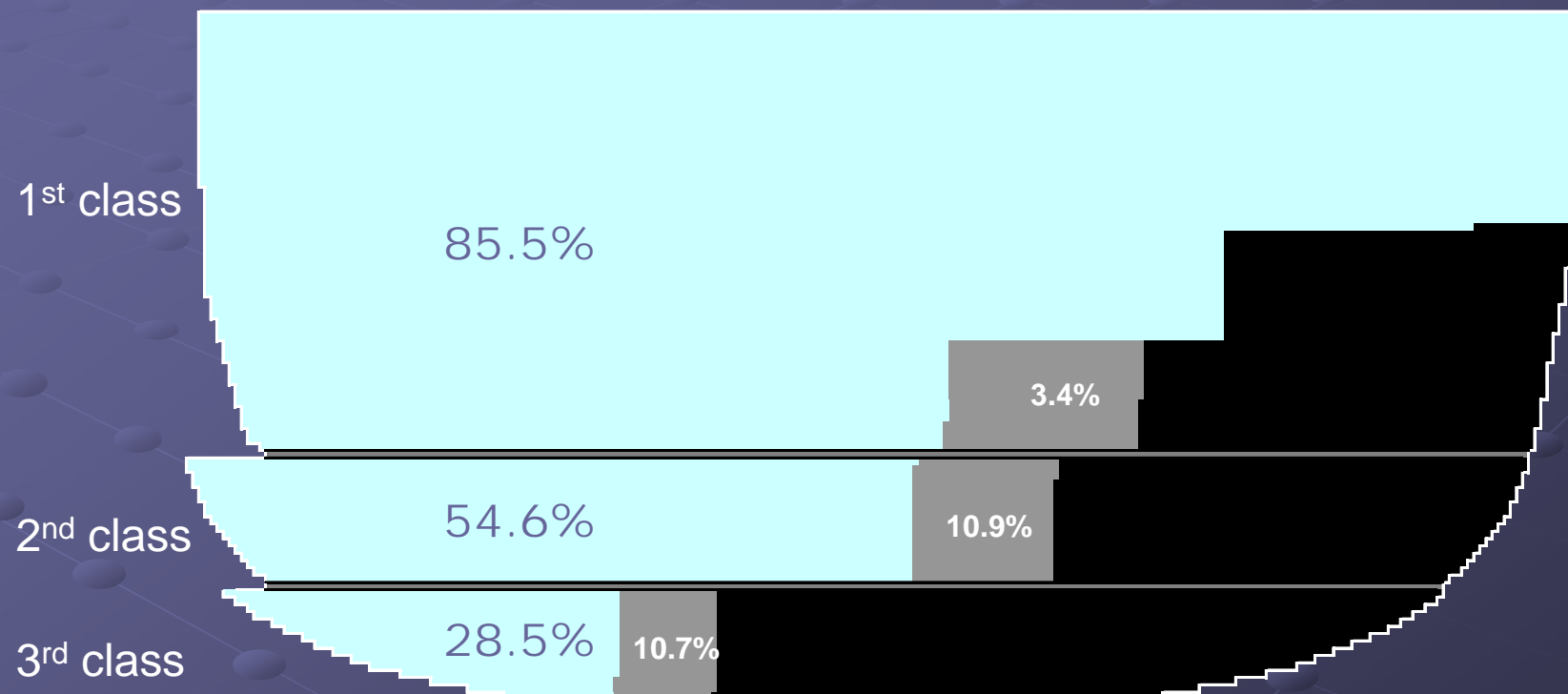
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CPS Estimates: 2004

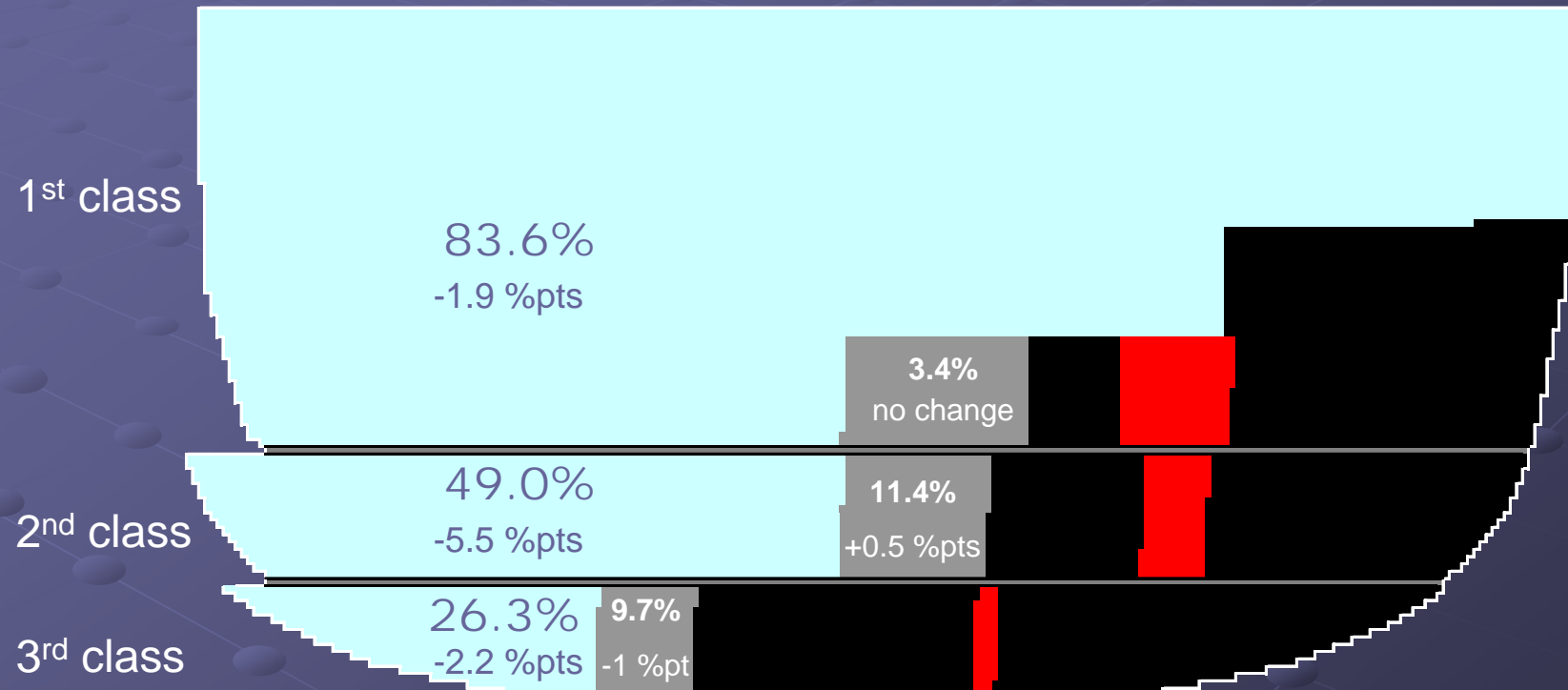
at 2000 Primary Coverage Rates for Employer* & Nongroup and Medicare



* Coverage through current or former employer, including military/veterans care

CPS Estimates: 2004

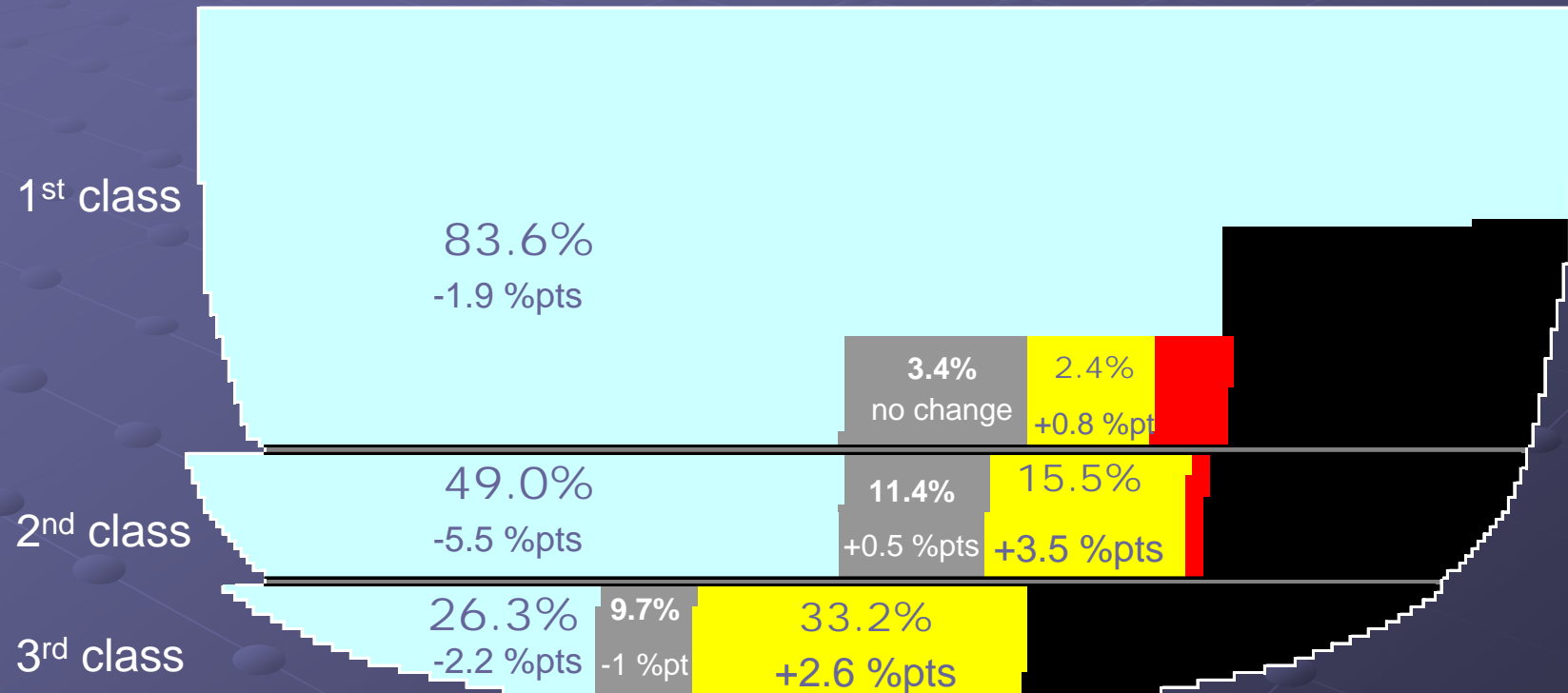
Primary Coverage: Employer* & Nongroup
and Medicare (Compared to 2000)



* Coverage through current or former employer, including military/veterans care

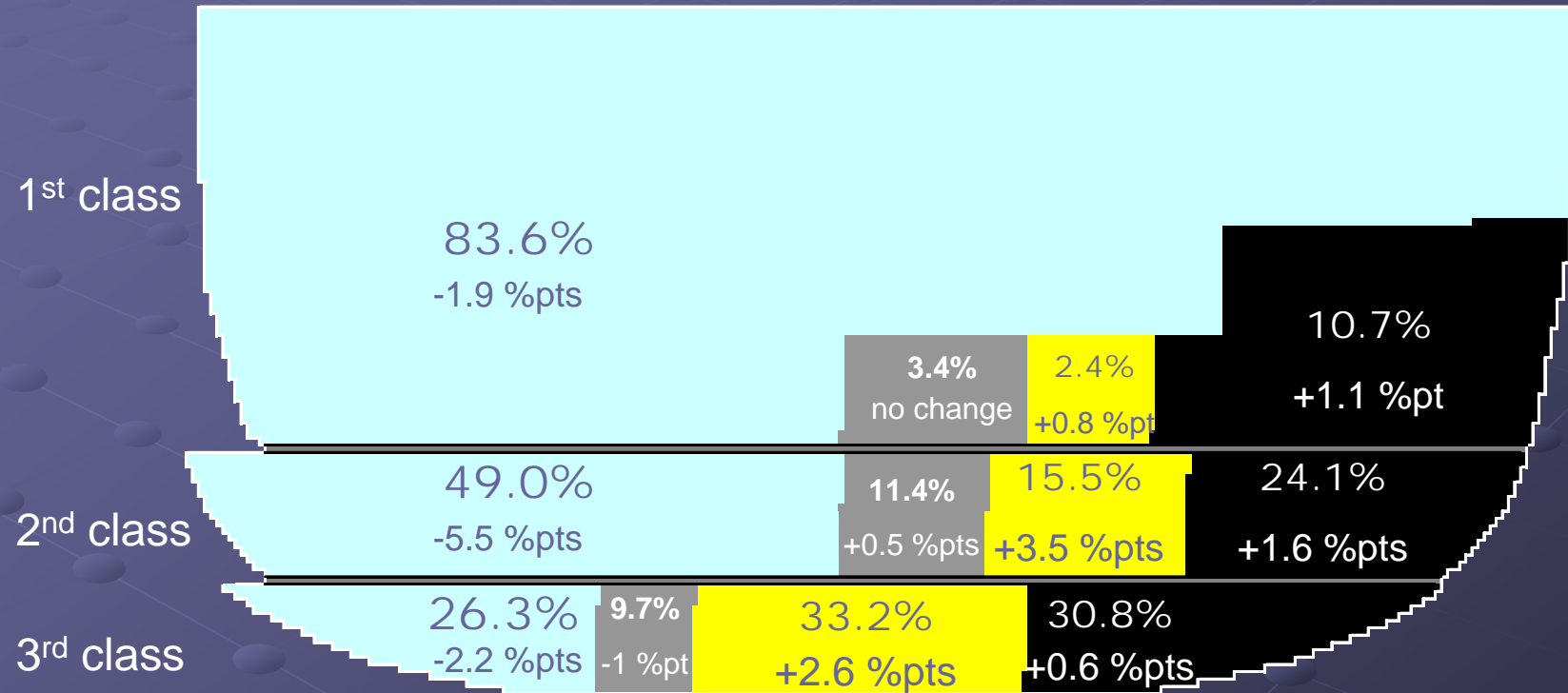
CPS Estimates: 2004

Primary Coverage: Medicaid/SCHIP
(Compared to 2000)



CPS Estimates: 2004

Uninsured
(Compared to 2000)



**Nationwide: 15.7% uninsured
(+1.5 %pts)
45.6 million (+6.0 million)**

What to do for USS Coverage?



- Redo the whole thing (single-payer)
- Patch some holes (incrementalism)
- Autopilot

Conclusion: The Big Picture

CPS to continue as main source of data

Comparing past few years' data:

- Decreasing rates of employer coverage
- Increasing rates of Medicaid/SCHIP coverage
- Number of uninsured is growing, but would have been higher without Medicaid/SCHIP

CPS

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MEPS