**Race and Ethnicity of Washington State Health Professionals Compared with State Population**

- **Asian/Pacific Islander**
  - WA Population: 5.6%
  - Physicians: 7.5%
  - Dentists: 8.5%
  - Dental Hygienists: 3.4%
  - Physician Assistants: 5.9%
  - Nurse Practitioners: 2.9%

- **Black/African American**
  - WA Population: 3.2%
  - Physicians: 1.0%
  - Dentists: 0.9%
  - Dental Hygienists: 0.5%
  - Physician Assistants: 2.4%
  - Nurse Practitioners: 1.1%

- **American Indian/Alaska Native**
  - WA Population: 1.6%
  - Physicians: 0.5%
  - Dentists: 0.7%
  - Dental Hygienists: 1.1%
  - Physician Assistants: 1.2%
  - Nurse Practitioners: 0.0%

- **Hispanic**
  - WA Population: 6.0%
  - Physicians: 2.0%
  - Dentists: 1.7%
  - Dental Hygienists: 1.7%
  - Physician Assistants: 4.6%
  - Nurse Practitioners: 1.6%

- **White**
  - WA Population: 83.5%
  - Physicians: 81.5%
  - Dentists: 80.6%
  - Dental Hygienists: 88.9%
  - Physician Assistants: 83.0%
  - Nurse Practitioners: 89.0%

Race/ethnicity data are from a 1999 Washington State professional licensing survey. 1998 state population data are from the Washington State Office of Financial Management. Missing data on race/ethnicity were 8.4% for physicians, 9.0% for dentists, 10.2% for dental hygienists, 15% for physician assistants, and 34.3% for nurse practitioners. Total percentages for each profession may not equal 100% because respondents had the option of choosing “other.”

*More information may be obtained from Sue Skillman, Deputy Director, WWAMI Center for Health Workforce Studies.*