

**BARRIERS TO HIGH
EDUCATION COMPLETION
FOR AFRO-PERUVIAN GIRLS**





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- Factors limiting Afro-Peruvian girls' opportunities to complete higher education

Historic & Characteristics of the Afro-Peruvian Population

- Historic context

The first Africans arrived with the conquerors around 1521 (16th century) mostly as slaves. There were two types of Black slaves who were forced to travel to Peru. Those born in Africa were commonly referred to as *negros bozales* ("untamed blacks"), used in a derogatory sense. These slaves could have been directly shipped from west or southwest Africa or transported from the Spanish Indies or other Spanish colonies. Some were "mulatos", descents of white-Spanish men and Black African women. "Non-whites" performed skilled and unskilled functions that supported Hispanic Colonization.

Afro Peruvians were cooks, laundresses, maids, handymen, and gardeners in urban areas. They sometimes worked in the navy, hospitals, churches, and charitable institutions.

Historic & Characteristics of the Afro-Peruvian Population

- Characteristics

The Afro-Peruvians population accounts for 2 percent to 5 percent of the total Peruvian population. (ASA 2019) which is approximately 2.5 million inhabitants living in Black communities. They are dispersed in different areas of the country such as the Highlands, coastal regions, the jungle, nonetheless for the most of the part in the north coast (Lambayeque and Yapatera in Piura), in south coast (Lima, Callao, Chincha, Pisco, Nazca).

According to the authors of "Access to Higher Education of Afro-Peruvians", the last census conducted that allowed the examination of Afro-Peruvians was in 1940.

- They are among the poorest and the least educated in the country
- They face racial & social discrimination
- Their condition is inexistent as a community
- They are easily undertaken under the umbrella of intercultural identities: they are not seen as a distinctive

Factors limiting the Afro-Peruvian girls

This research was conducted in the community of Yapatera by the United Nations, Grupo de Analisis para el Desarrollo (Grade)

Family conditions	Household Income	Violence / Insecurity
Parent's education level	Families headed by women	In the Children's development
Parent who had no education: Girls have 70% lower chance to transition to post education	Women who are head of the family earn very little. 16% lower than families headed by men	Violence has negatively impacted the children's cognitive and socio-emotional skills.
Parents who had completed only primary education: Girls have 49% lower chance to move up to the next level	In Peru, 52% of Afro-Peru families are headed by females compared to 29% nationally	There is a high level of violence against women and the use of corporal punishment against children as a disciplinary measure. In 2011, a survey has revealed that 28% of Afro-Peruvian kids have suffered corporal punishment.

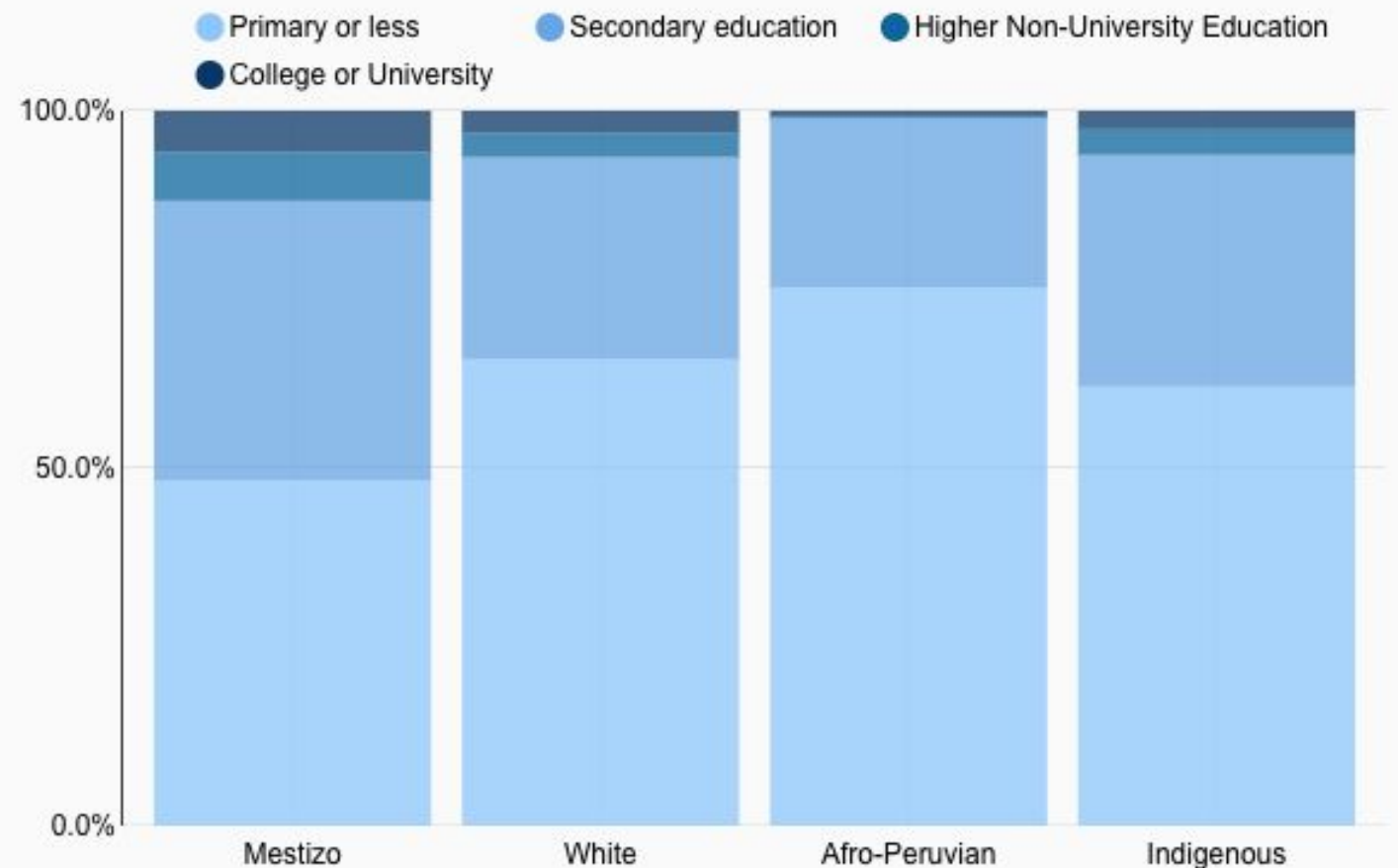
Maximum level of Education reached by Afro-Peruvian girls

As per the graphic, we can observe that more than 75% of Afro-Peruvian girls have not been able to attend high non-university Education

Girls struggle to complete more than a basic education.

Figure 1. Maximum level of education reached by females

Aged 15 and older, in rural areas



Colorism: skin color

Percentage of Household heads with higher education by color skin

Source: Specialized Study of Afro-Peruvian Population 2014, prepared by the authors.

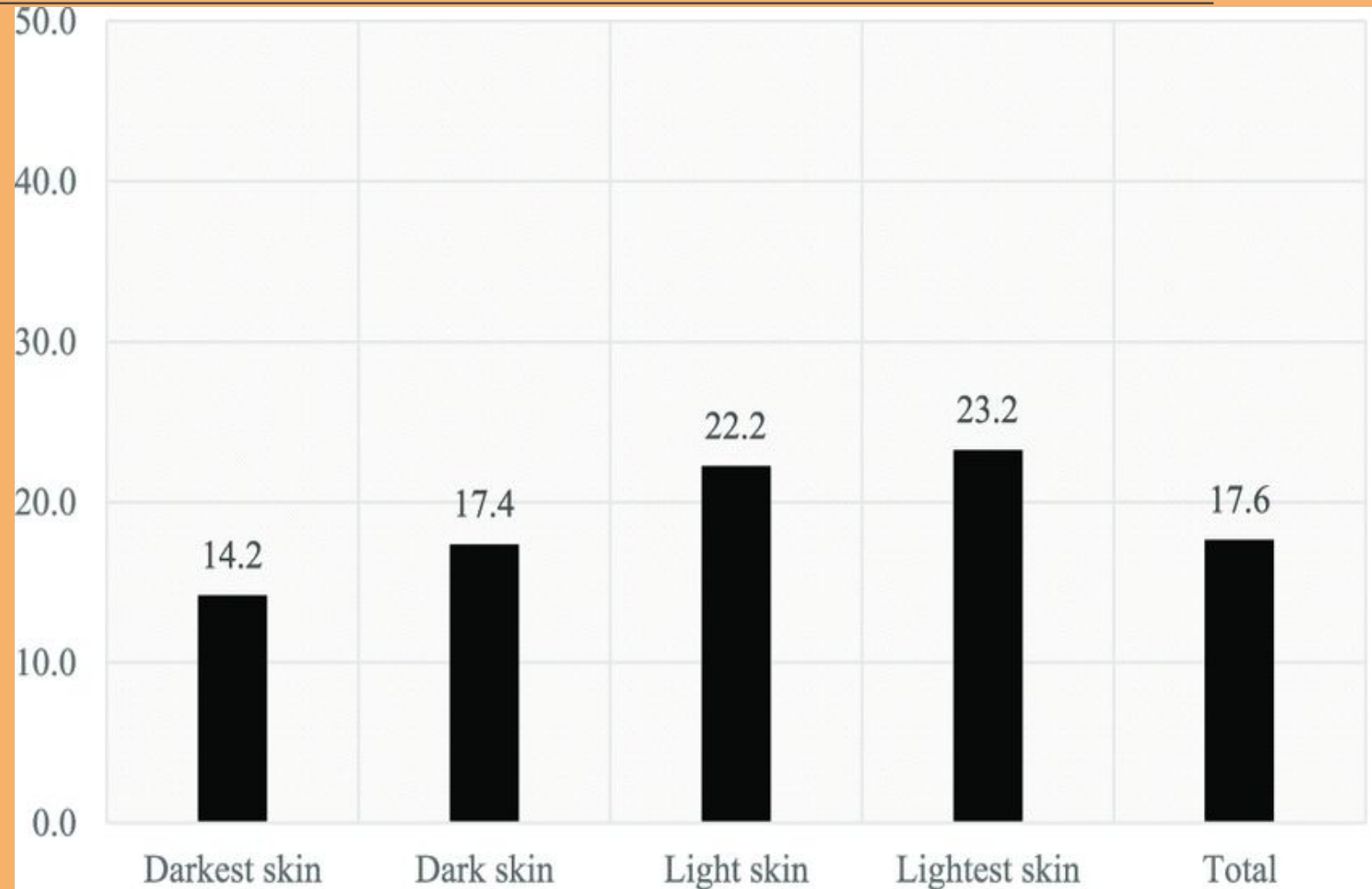


Figure 2

Mother's education level

Percentage of household heads with higher education by mother's education level.

Source: Specialized study by Afro-Peruvian Population

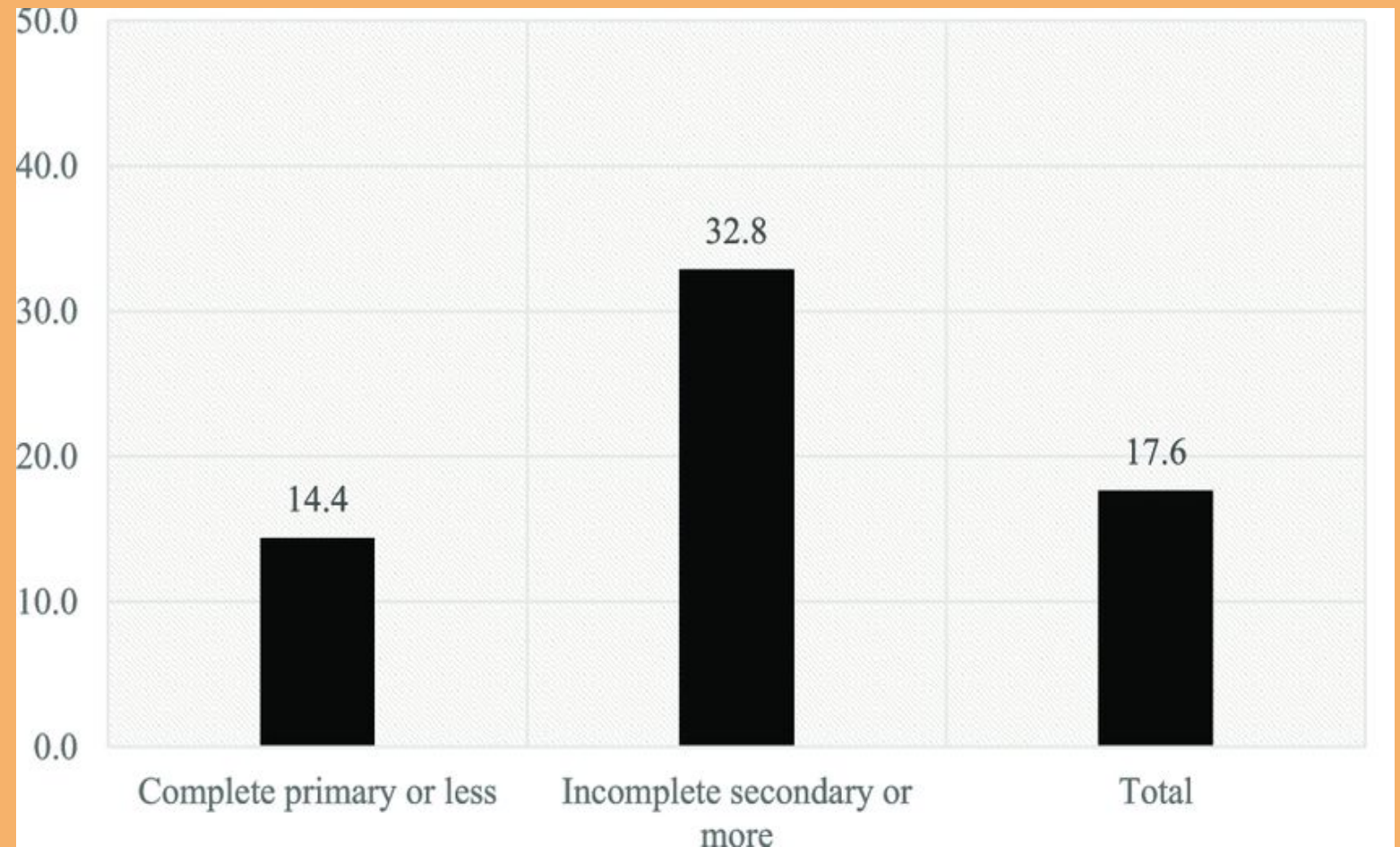


Figure 3

Higher education by father's occupation

Percentage of
Household heads
with higher education
by father's occupation

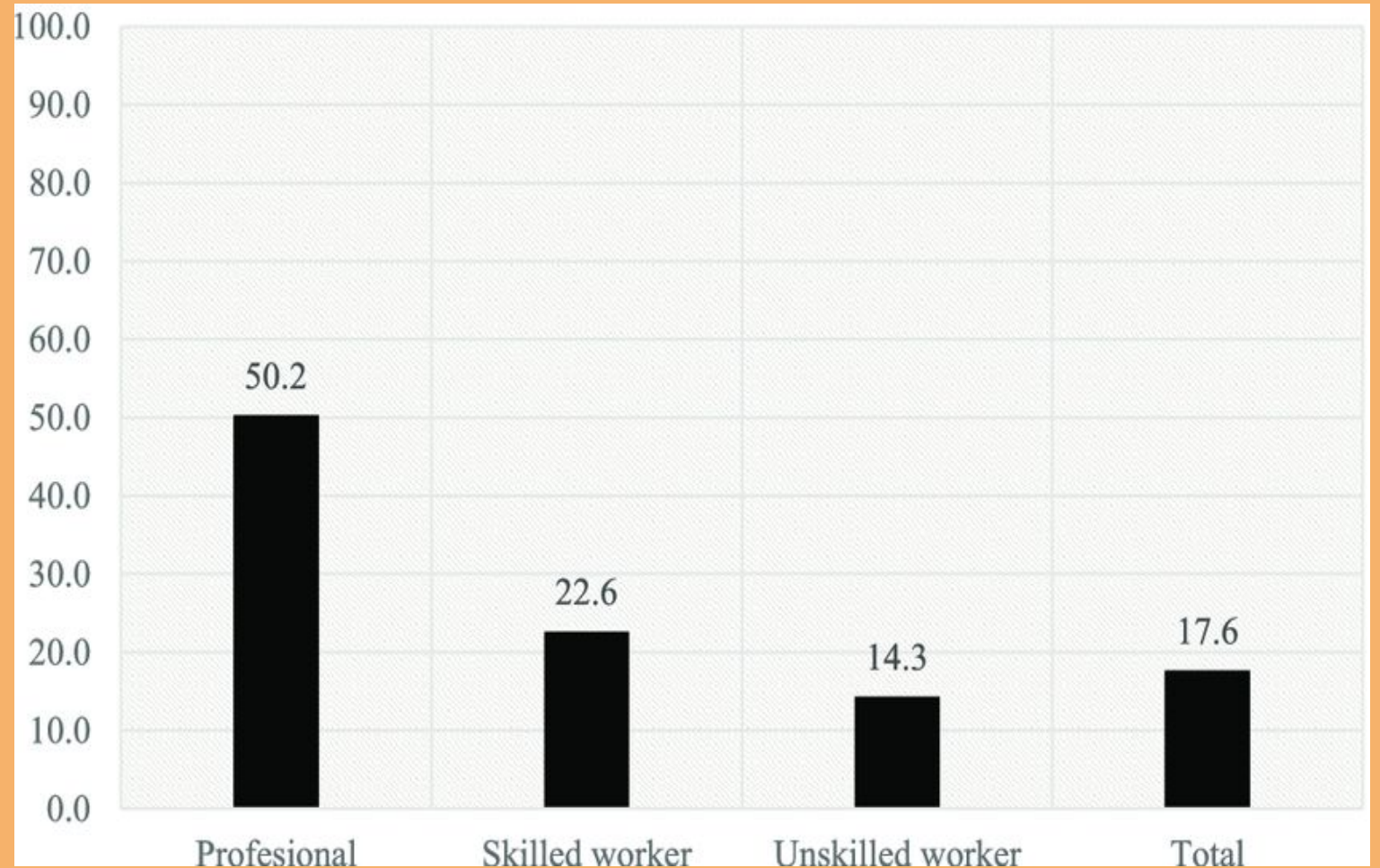


Figure 4

Other factors: Replication of Ethnic Stereotypes & Teen Pregnancy

- According to the Brookings Institution, Eliana V Marquez enumerated two reasons why there is a poor attendance of Afro-Peruvians in school. The replication of Ethnic Stereotyping and teen pregnancy.
- Institutional discrimination - The government has been focused on the indigenous population and has neglected other minority groups
- Pre teens early pregnancy - Afro Peruvians girls have unwanted pregnancy. The teen pregnancy has not dropped in the last 20 years. This is due to the lack of sexual education and sexual abuse.
- They lack interest of school due to the poor quality of public education.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ImDltAjBA3g>

Educational gaps for Afro-Peruvians girls.

Afro-Peruvian girls struggle to complete more than a basic education and, consequently, do not have the same opportunities to escape poverty. Echidna Global Scholar Eliana Villar-Márquez explores the factors limiting Afro-Peruvian girls' opportunities to complete education and identifies steps to create more transparency on ethnicity and evidence-based public policy education programs for Afro-Peruvian girls.

Interview with the International Collaborators - a Quick summary

- **Fifonsi's Q: what is behind the statistics re: Afro Peruvian education?**
- **A:** organization in Ashanti does research on this; school as a place of violence due to physical features: mainly hair and skin--because they feel devalued, many Afro Peruvians do not continue pursuing education. Basic education becomes a traumatic process. Even the teachers are not equipped to advocate for students, or are biased themselves.
- Chincha: there were no Afro Peruvian teachers in the entire area, though it is historically a Afro Peruvian city--it is a problem across the country, even in the capital, Lima
- **Jorge's A:** the issue of racism in schools is heightened in the rural areas
- **Angie:** we don't want to give you the impression that Afro Peruvians are the most vulnerable or oppressed; Indigenous populations also face discrimination. However, the difference is the recognition-- on the legal and political level, and as a society, Indigenous people in Peru are recognized in a way Afro Peruvians are not. It is not an oppression olympics; the issue is with different ways these vulnerabilities are recognized and discussed in Peruvian society

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