

# The Role of Student Backgrounds in Understanding Racial Disparities in Computing



## BACKGROUND

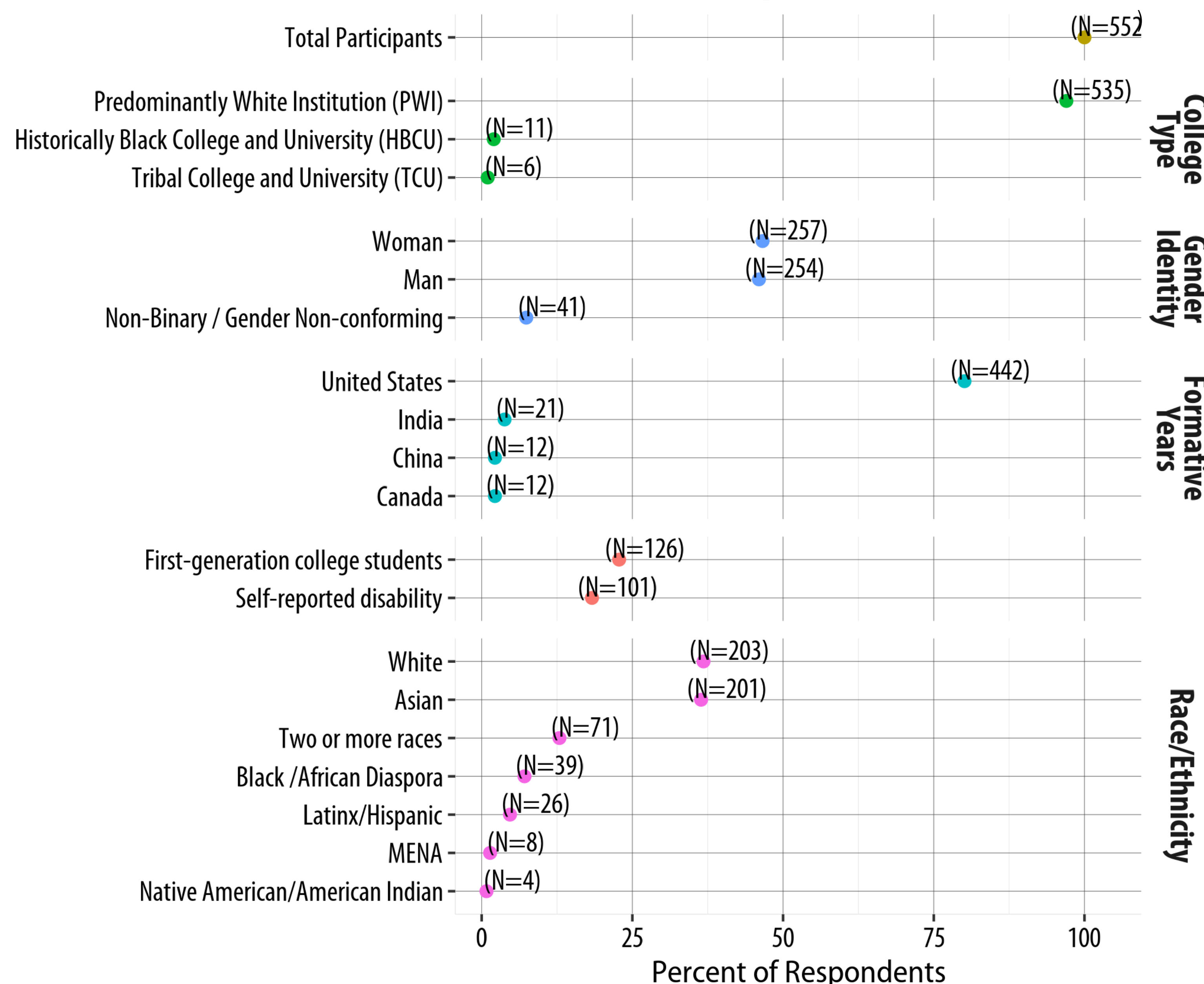
- Lack of diversity in computing, field dominated by White and Asian students [1]
- Racial microaggressions [2], differential racialized interactions [3], stereotype threat [4], and a lack of culturally responsive curricula/practices [5] massively affect the climate of computing spaces.
- **Goal: Understand how discussions on race among students influence their attitudes toward privilege and inclusivity in computing**

## METHODS

1. Before college, how often did you discuss race and/or racial discrimination with your immediate family, classmates, and teachers?
2. Please note how much advantage, in terms of internships and job opportunities, you think there is for being the following in computing: a woman, a non-binary person, a Black person, a Native or Indigenous person, a Latinx person, and a person with a disability.

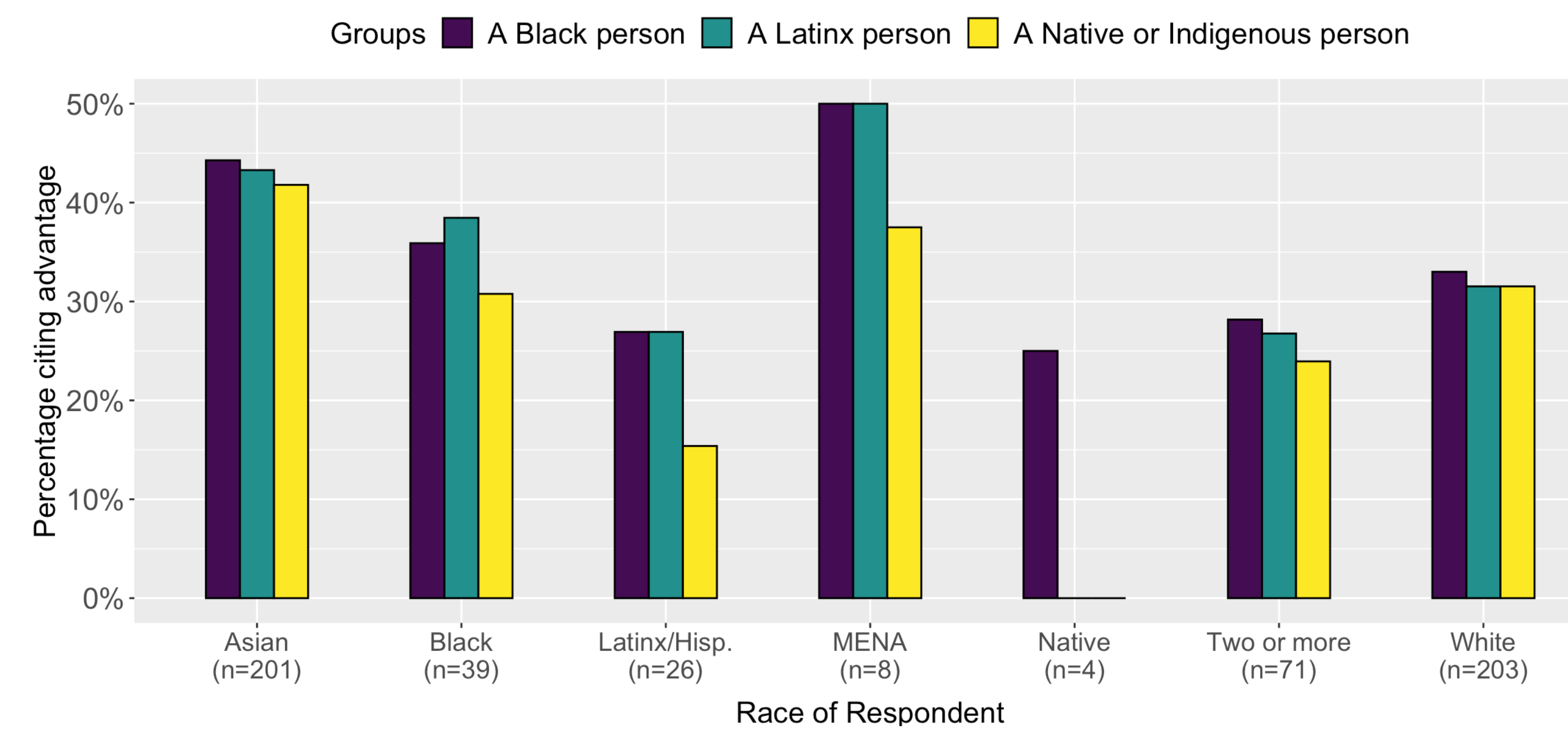
## DATA

### Participant Demographics

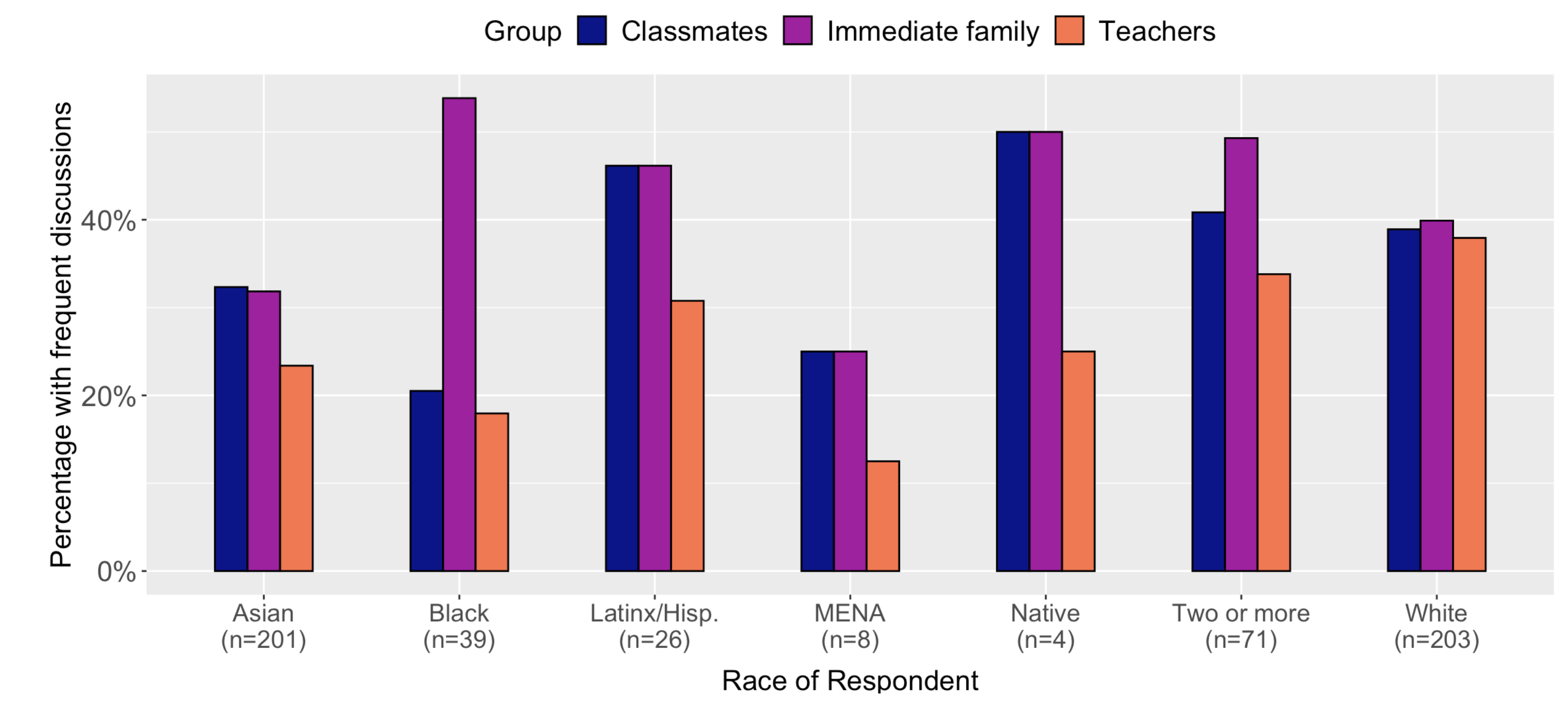


## RESULTS

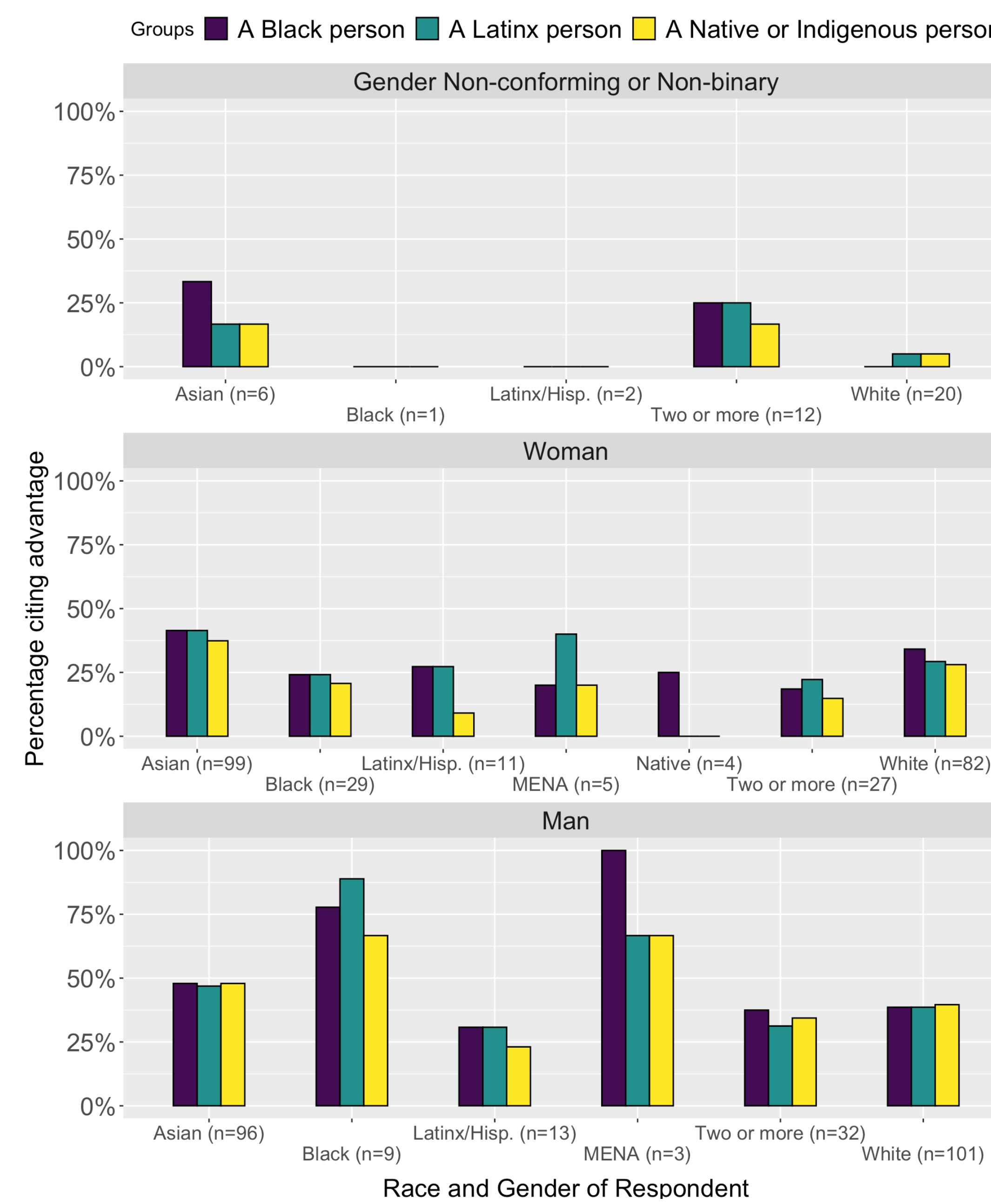
### Perceptions of Advantage by Race



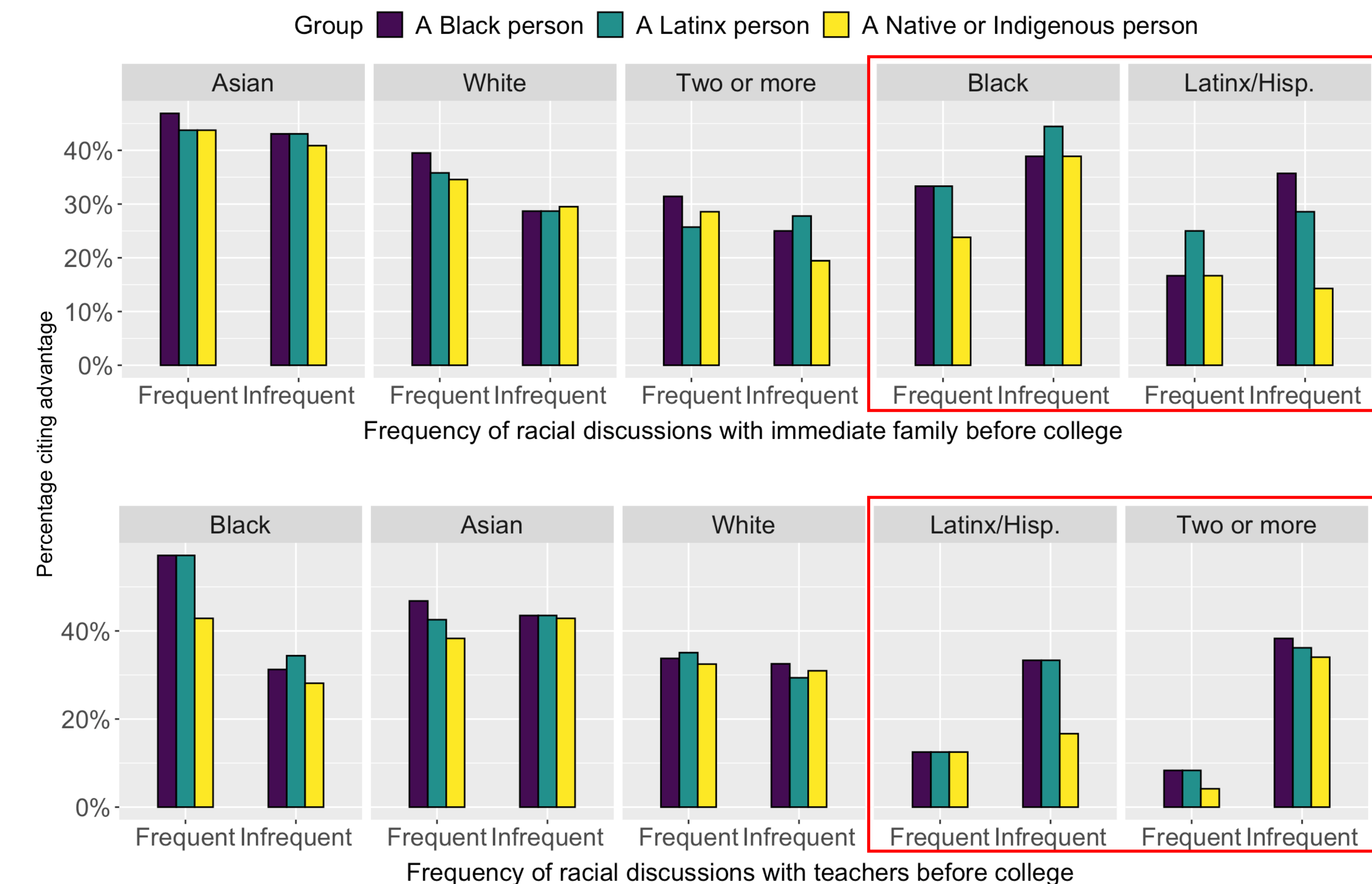
### Discussions of Race Pre-College by Race



### Perceptions of Advantage by Race and Gender



### Perceptions of Advantage by Discussions of Race and Race of Respondent



## CONCLUSIONS

- Discussions with family and teachers are related to perceptions of marginalized racial advantages in computing and this relationship is different across racial groups.
- Black and Latinx respondents who frequently discussed race with their families perceived less advantage for marginalized racial groups.
- White respondents who frequently discussed race with their families perceived more advantage for marginalized racial groups.
- Across all racial groups, men, when compared to women and non-binary/gender non-conforming people, were more likely to report advantages for Black, Latinx, and Native/Indigenous people.
- Findings can inform guidelines and professional development for faculty and administrators on facilitating constructive race dialogues among student populations.

## REFERENCES

