

Digital data collection:

The *All of Us* Research Project perspective



National Institutes
of Health

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The *All of Us* Research Program: An Innovative Research Effort

Diversity at the scale of **1 million people** or more (250K+ joined, 80% underrepresented)

Focus on participants as **partners**

Longitudinal design; ability to recontact participants

Multiple data types: EHR, surveys, baseline physical measurements, biospecimens, genomics, and more

National, open resource for all: broadly accessible to all researchers with open source software & tools

Hypothesis-neutral

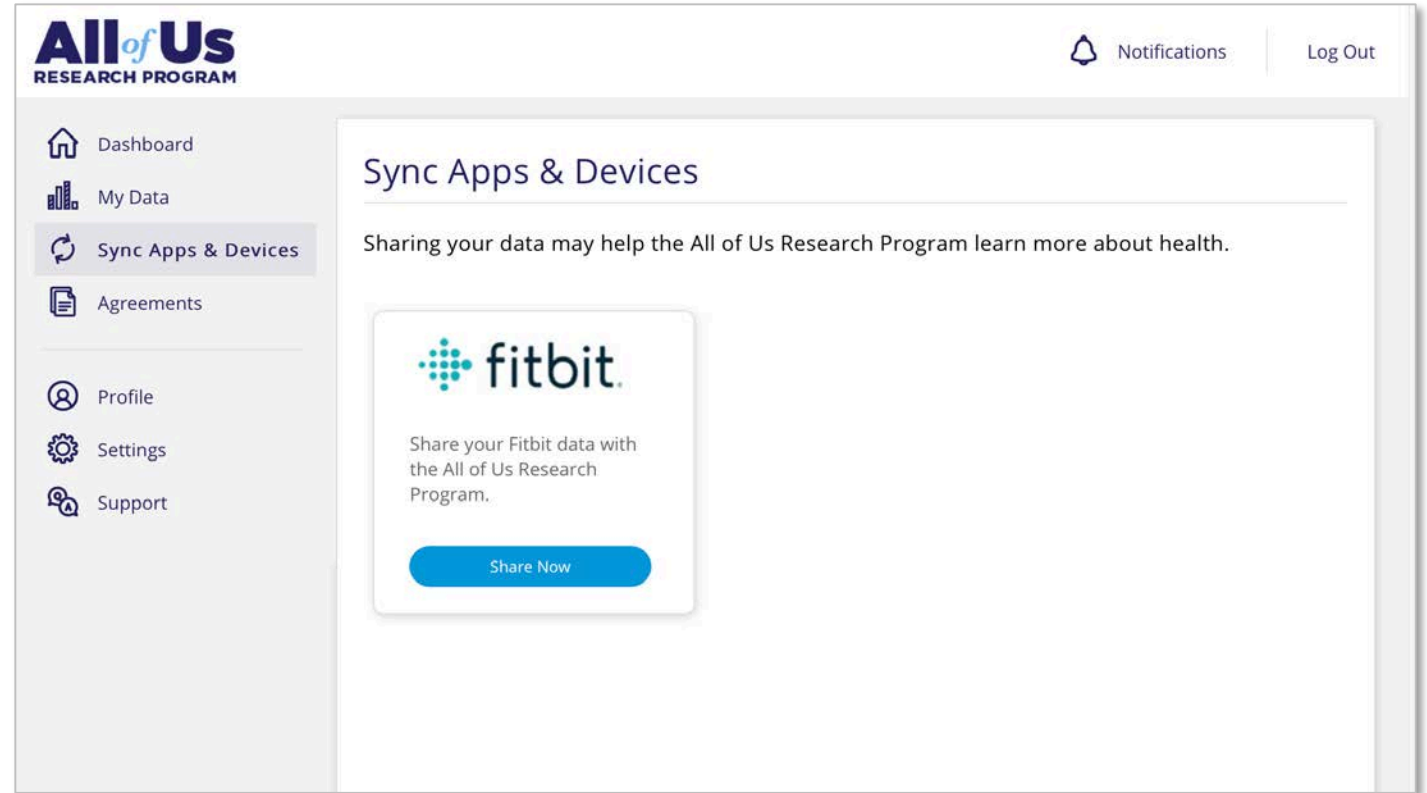


Definition

Digital Health Technology: devices that can be used to collect health measures outside of the clinic, both actively and passively, including phones, laptops, wearables, portable, and in-home devices.

Wearables and Digital Apps

- “Bring your own device” (BYOD) program:
 - Fitbit (now)
 - Apple HealthKit (in March)
- Pilots of specific smartphone-based apps
 - Mood app
 - Others in development

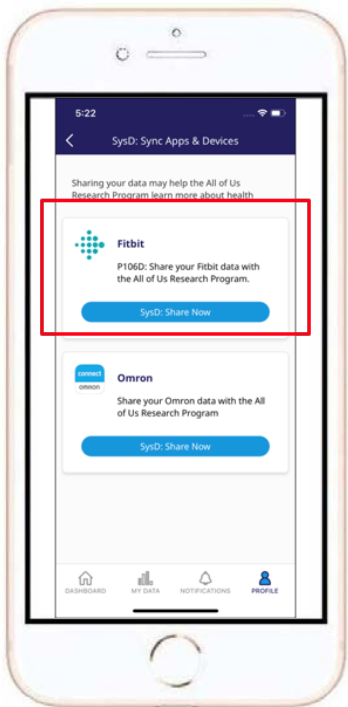


Value of DHT data

- ◉ **Pro:** information from outside the clinic
- ◉ **Pro:** longitudinal, intensive, and repeated
- ◉ **Pro:** sensor data not subject to self-reporting biases
- ◉ **Pro:** can be passive (low participant burden)
- ◉ **Pro:** builds on existing and growing infrastructure we don't pay for
- ◉ **Con:** narrow, and generally deductive: building on existing hypotheses (“steps matter”)
- ◉ **Con:** relying on external infrastructure (mobile phones) skews the data collected
- ◉ **Con:** security risk, some require engagement with external partners
- ◉ **Con:** some control goes to the technology provider

Fitbit Flow

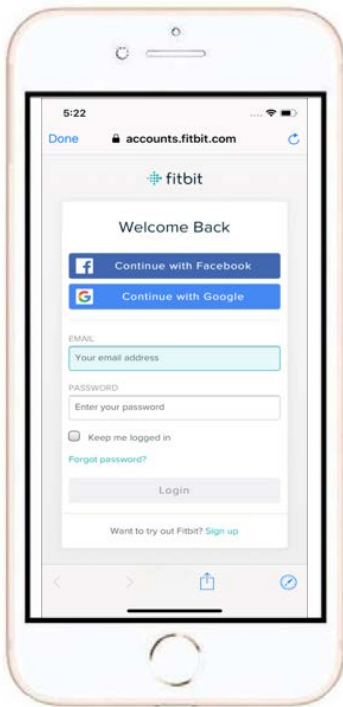
Fitbit Screens - *Not Modifiable by AoURP*



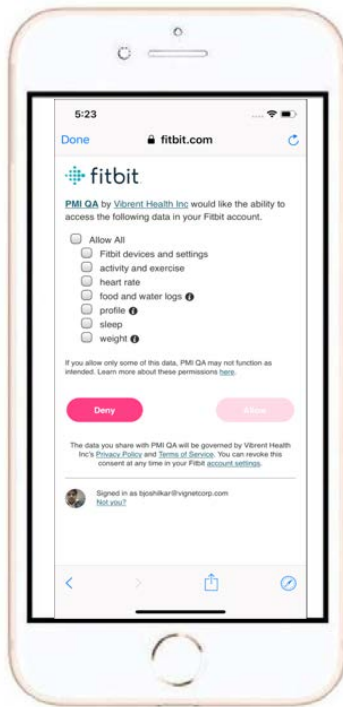
Participant requests to share their data



Participant reads informative screen on system screen they are about to see, which they consent to



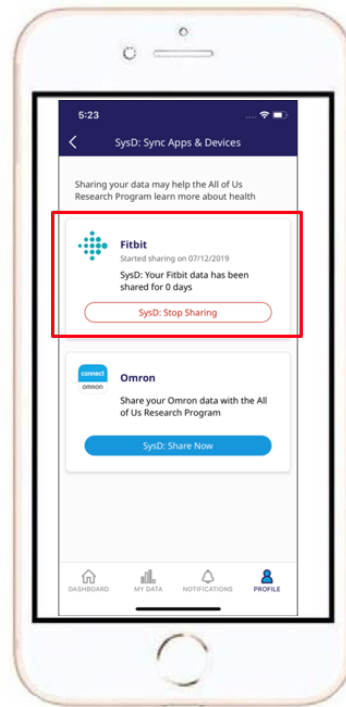
Browser screen redirects to Fitbit login page



Browser screen from Fitbit indicates App is requesting permission to access (read only)

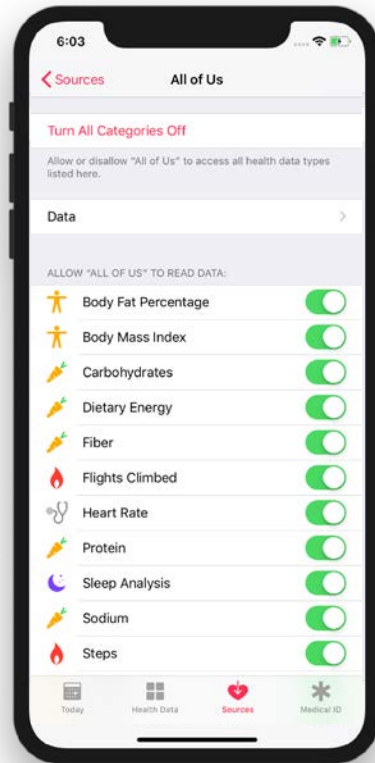


Browser screen showing success and close option

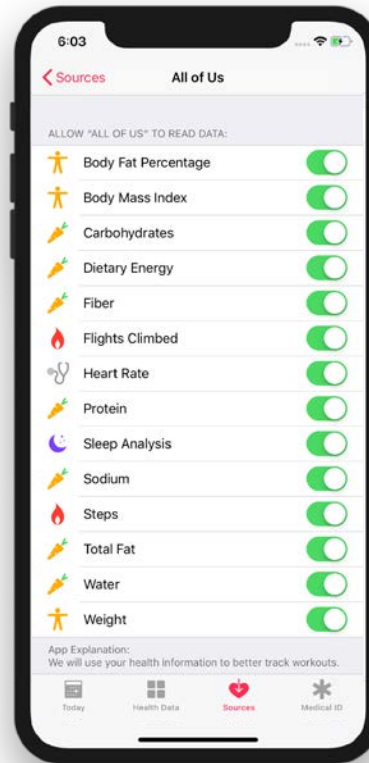


Information is being shared and participant can stop sharing at any time

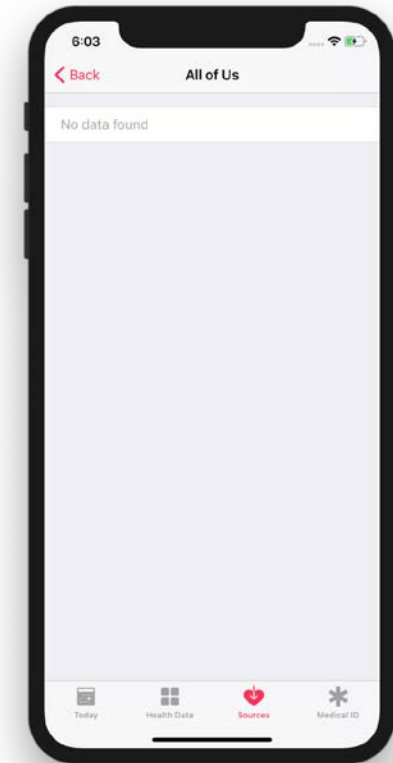
The participant controls what they'd like to share



iPhone XR — 12.2



iPhone XR — 12.2



iPhone XR — 12.2

Participant can modify what data can be read by All of Us Research Program in Apple Health/HealthKit

Apple Health showing that data is not being written to by AoURP

Prioritization Criteria

Why choose a particular assessment or device strategy?

- **Science:** helps advance the scientific agenda of the program
- **Recruitment:** lets us tap into the existing audience (e.g. Apple)
- **Engagement:** helps keep participants interested and feeling valued
- **Partnership:** helps keep program partners interested and feeling valued
- **Cost:** monetary, program attention, participant burden (time and know-how)
- **Logistics:** accuracy, availability by location, and more

*details at the end of this

Criteria: Science (for example)

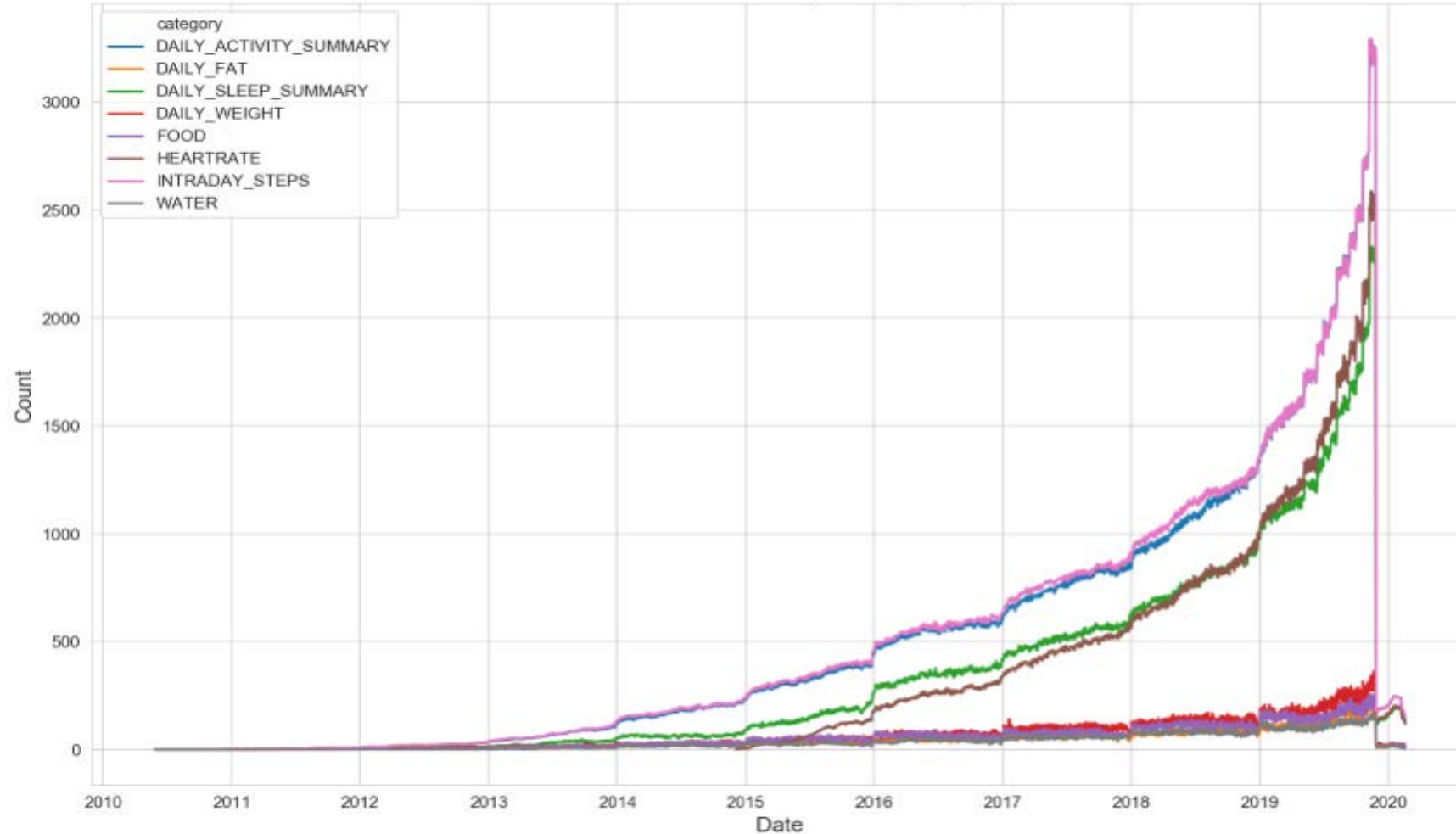
What are the considerations for scientific value of a datatype?

- **Novel:** is this a new type of data? (hopefully with some prior evidence)
- **Context:** does little of this data exists from outside the clinic? (e.g. blood pressure)
- **Audience:** is there little of this data for UBR populations?
- **Volume:** has this data been captured at high frequency or longitudinally?
- **Association:** has this data been captured in conjunction with genetics et al?
- **External Validation:**

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

- ◉ **Pro:** immediate engagement
 - ◉ **Pro:** lower cost
 - ◉ **Pro:** people show up with existing data
 - ◉ **Con:** self-selection skews data
 - ◉ **Con:** differing devices skews data
 - ◉ **Con:** limited audience
 - ◉ **Con:** full curation cost for limited data
- ~12% people have wearables
 - 30% in some segments
 - 77% have smartphones
 - Smartphones primary device for many SES families

AoU Fitbit data over time by data element



Amount of data for each Fitbit data element over time – for the first set of data received from DRC in Feb 2020 (~30% of total Fitbit data the program has access to) – represents data from 4656 participants – most of the data is from steps and HR.

Core strategy

1. **Drive** DHT strategy from overall Science strategy **and** from engagement needs
2. Develop a long-term, cross-component **pipeline**
3. **Balance** opportunity-taking and thesis-driven selection
4. Use **off-the-shelf** consumer technology (no study watch)
5. Start with **BYOD** for earlier movement and lower learning cost

For more information...



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databrowser.researchallofus.org

Appendix

Criteria: recruitment

Can we tap into an existing audience?

- **Size:** how big is the audience we may be able to convert?

The Stanford Apple Watch Heart study has over 400,000 participants in less than 6 months.

- **Composition:** will this audience dilute our UBR population?

The Stanford Apple Watch Heart study has an audience that matches the Apple audience: high literacy and high income. But we can use selection criteria to prioritize the core participants.

- **Partner willingness:** here be lawyers

Criteria: Engagement (value to participants)

- **Learning about one's self:** Both clinically and from an identity perspective
- **Altruism:** contributing to the greater good
- **Belonging:** Feeling of being part of an effort larger than themselves by seeing others doing the same thing
- **Discipline:** Doing what one says one will do, especially if it's difficult and seen as virtuous (see jogging)
- **Learning about science:** Health, medicine, and research
- **Attention and Stuff:** You gave me your time and a thing
- **Fun:** Like "brain games"

Criteria: Partnership

How do we find mutual value with program partners?

- **Seize windows of opportunity:** arbitrage, like getting free prior-generation wearables, or co-launching efforts (Apple Research Kit)
- **Value their contribution:** value the time they've given us, and their expertise (reaching and appealing to particular audiences)

Criteria: Cost

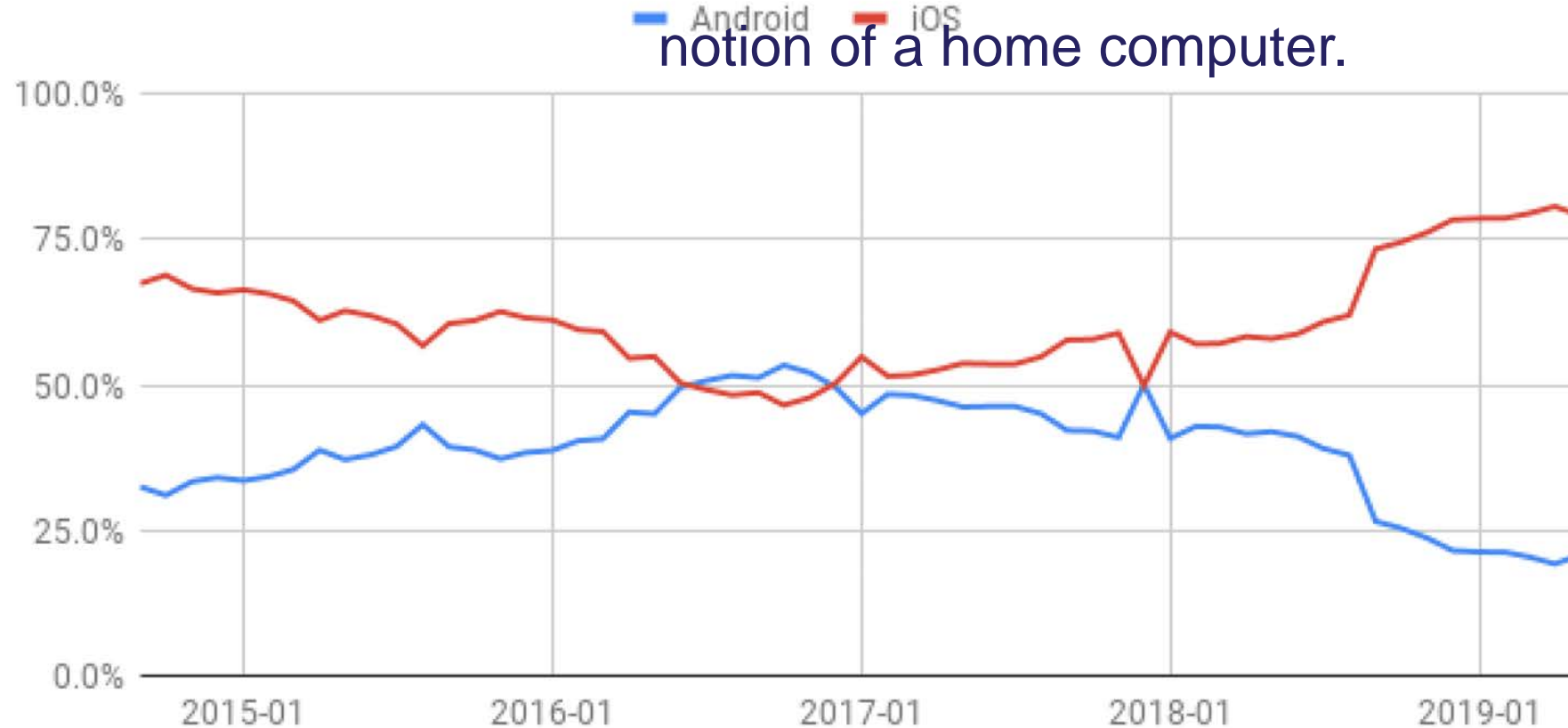
- **Monetary:** What's the cost to the program per participant
- **Program attention:** How much work to get it launched (privacy, security, IRB approval, FDA waiver, Protocol modification, etc)
- **Participant time:** How much time to provide the data?
- **Participant cognitive load:** How hard is it to do?
- **Bad press risk:** Are there health, security, or privacy risks?

Criteria: Logistics (practical stuff)

- **Accuracy:** is the data gathered accurate enough to be scientifically useful?
- **Availability:** where can this be done?
- **BYOD vs distributed:** Are we providing the means to give the data, or relying on people to already have it? (Keep in mind things like “donate my search history”)
- **Passive vs Active:** what is required of a participant to do this?
- **Supported vs Unsupported:** does this require the involvement of staff? For example, retina scans.
- **Selected vs Volunteered:** and how do we select them
- **Formats and Standards**

iOS in the US is becoming more dominant than Android due to its stability, security and ease of use in its technical design. This also supports the cost model of devices available through cellular service as well as re-sell through ebay among others for broad adoption across incomes and in some communities even replaces the notion of a home computer.

Android and iOS (USA)

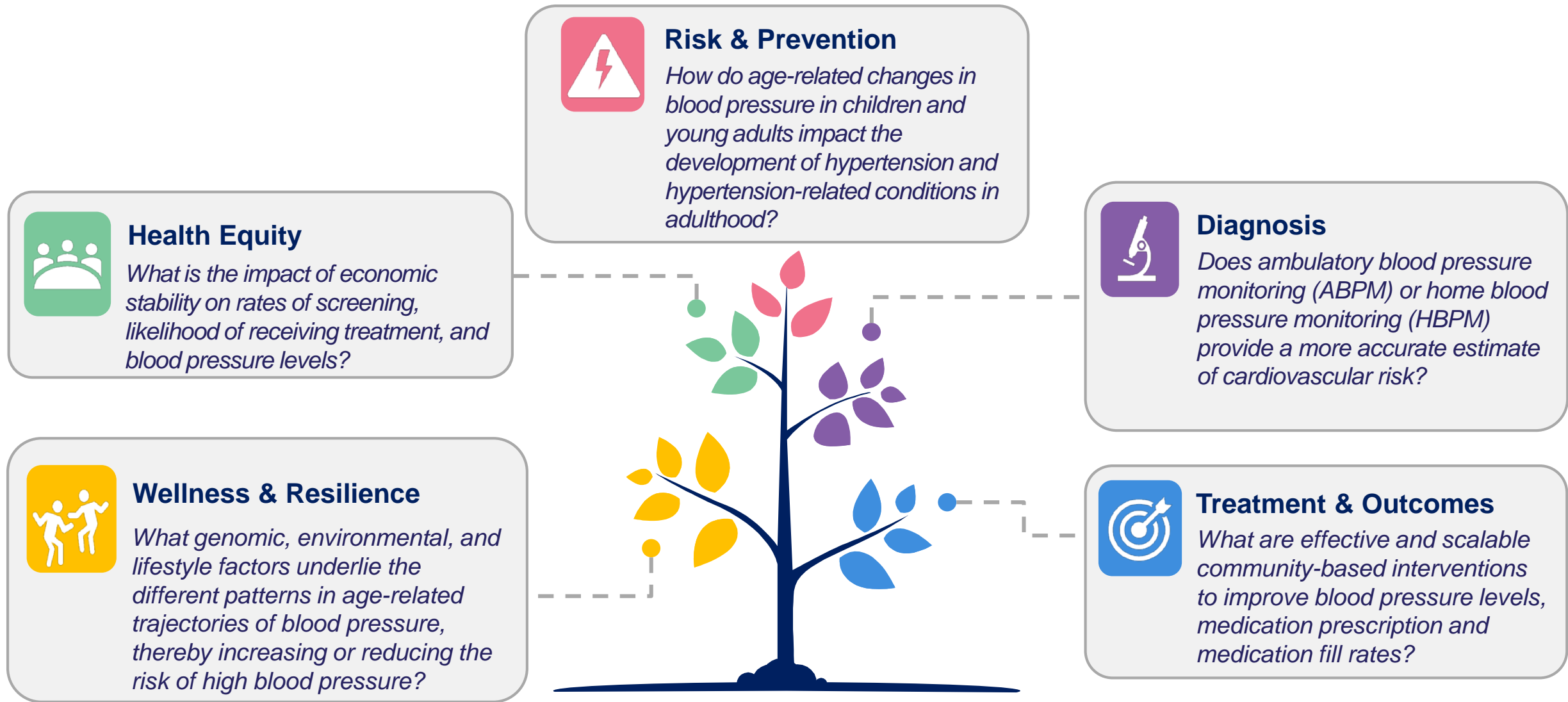


***All of Us* Scientific Framework**

Enable research that will:

- Increase wellness and resilience, and promote healthy living
- Reduce health disparities and improve health equity in populations that are historically underrepresented in biomedical research (UBR)
- Develop improved risk assessment and prevention strategies to preempt disease
- Provide earlier and more accurate diagnosis to decrease illness burden
- Improve health outcomes and reduce disease impact through improved treatment and development of precision interventions

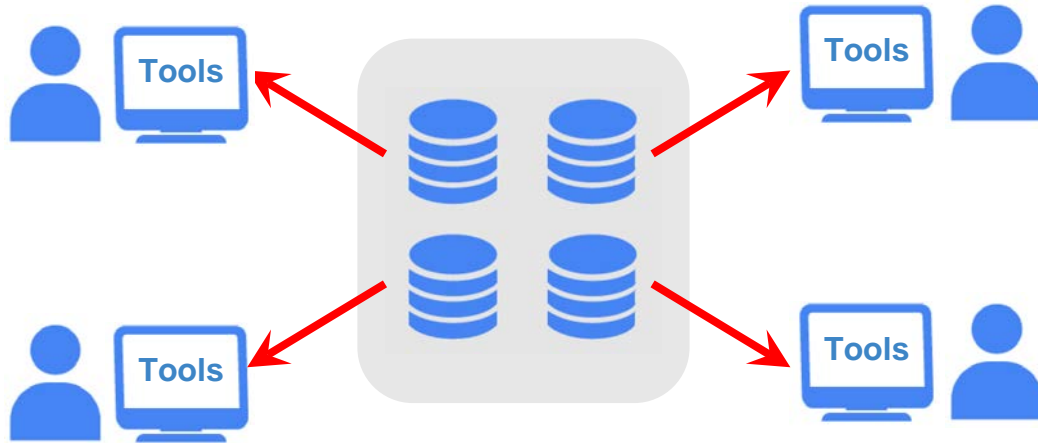
Example Use Case: Blood Pressure



BLOOD PRESSURE

Traditional approach

Bring data to researchers

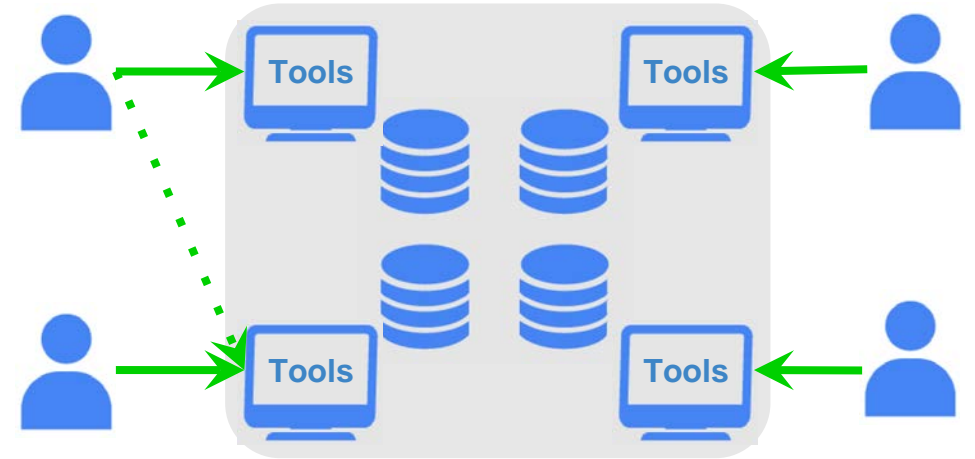


Discourages shared research

- “Weakest link” security
- Huge infrastructure needed
- Pay for multiple copies
- Bespoke & unsupported tools

Cloud-centric approach

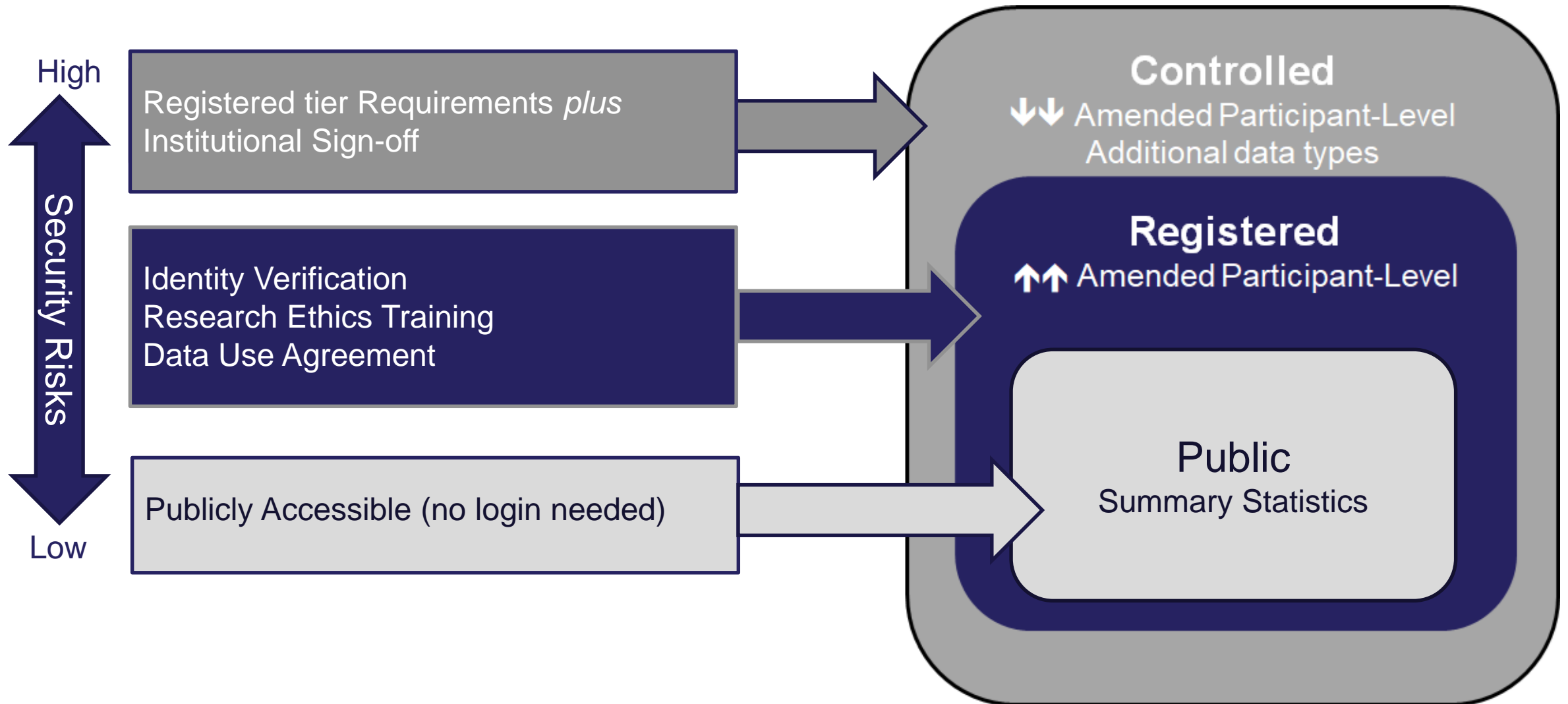
Bring researchers to data



Facilitates collaboration

- Centralized security controls
- Accessible to all researchers
- Decreased cost of storage
- Shared tool ecosystem

All of Us Data Tiers

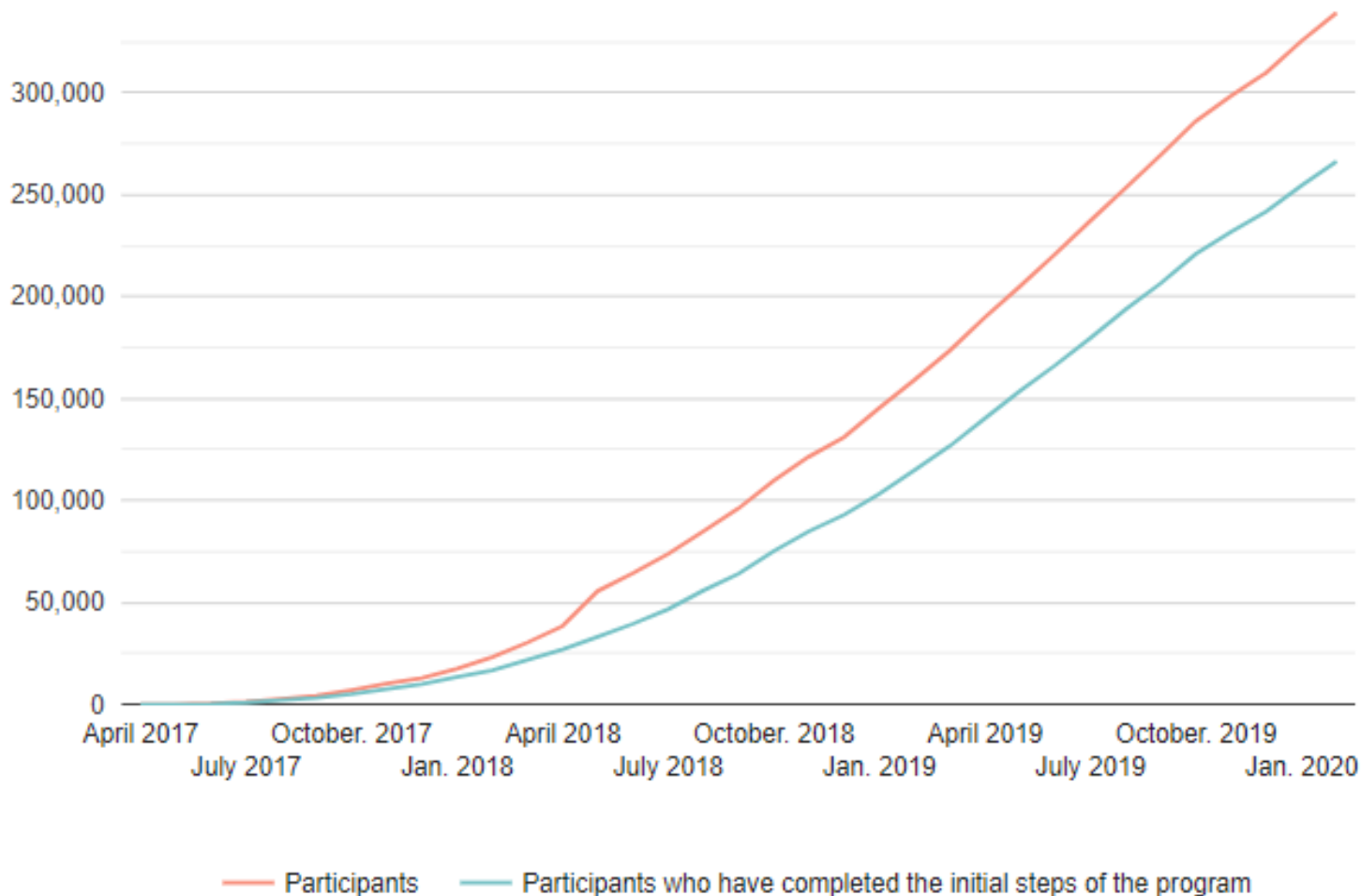


Current Progress

340,000+
Participants

266,000+
Participants who have
completed initial steps
of the program

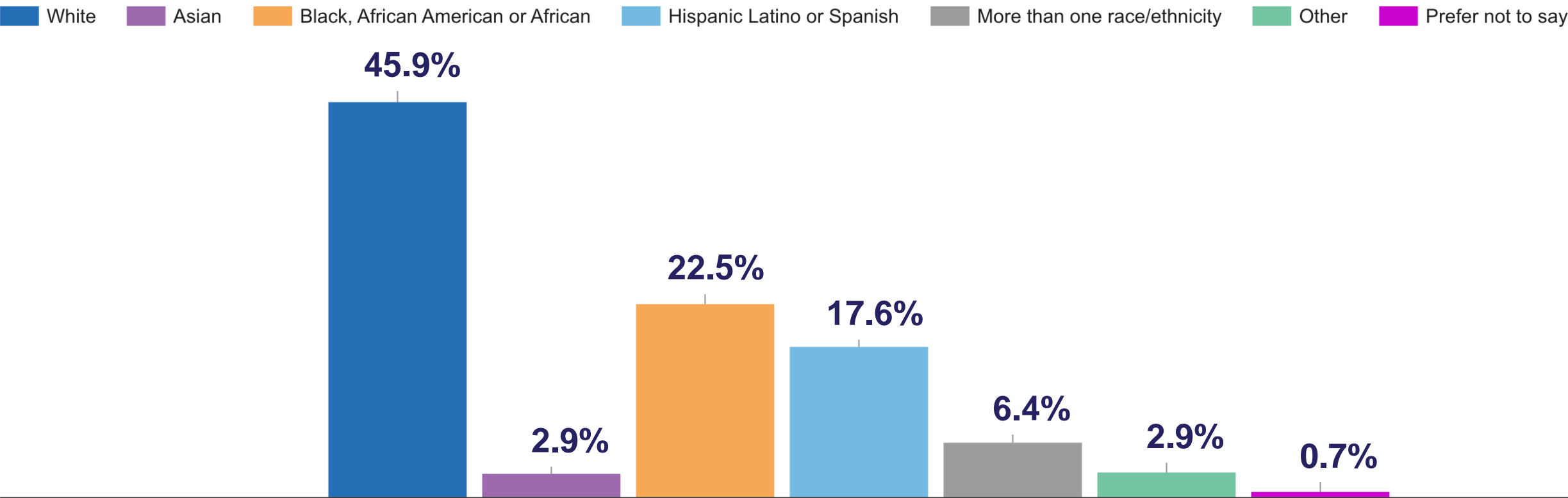
The following numbers are approximated to protect participants' privacy. Numbers are updated as of March 2, 2020.



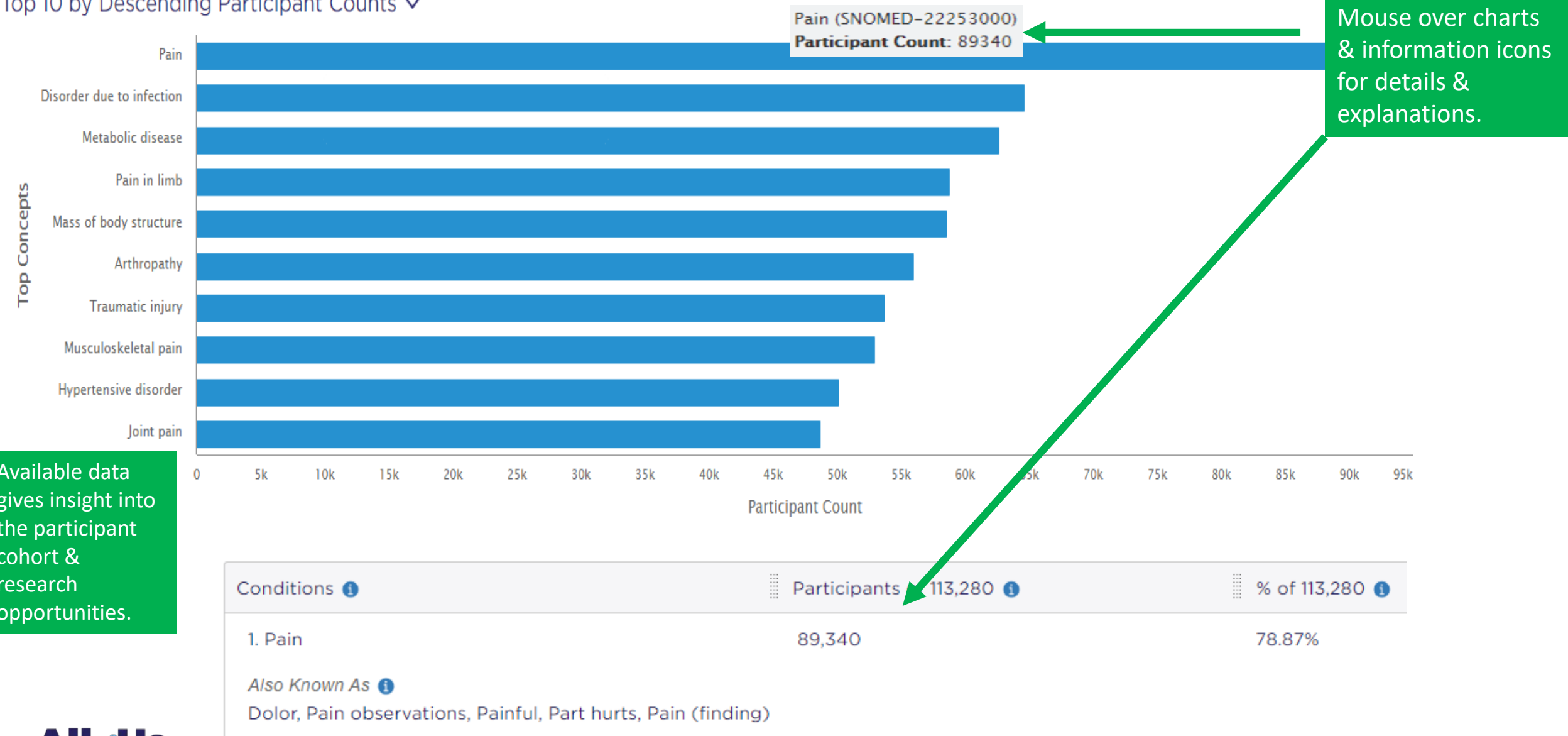
Selected Data Snapshots

(Updated 3/3/20)

Race & Ethnicity



Top 10 by Descending Participant Counts ▾



Shaping the future of *All of Us*

- What research is best suited to this large cohort?
 - Long term outcomes (rare will still be hard)
 - Gene-Environment interaction
 - Longitudinal research
 - Diverse populations
 - Comparative effectiveness research
- What data are crucial for your field of research?
 - *Must-have* data points: lab results, diagnostic codes, questionnaires
 - Population characteristics
 - Sample types and storage
 - Frequency of data