# **Research about Minorities in Sociology:** Surveys, Datasets, and Measurement





Roberta Spalter-Roth, Ph.D Director of Research American Sociological Association

**Enhancing Diversity in Science: Working Together to Develop Common Data, Measures, and Standards** 



### **Purpose of the American Sociological Association Research and Development Department**

ASA's R&D Department provides information to Association members, the media, and the broader scientific community about trends in sociology enrollments and other science degrees, departments, career trajectories, networks, salaries, and the role of sociology in the greater science project.

- Major R&D activities include designing studies and collecting, analyzing, and disseminating findings.
- Currently, the Department is staffed by a director, senior research associate, and two research associates.
- Department is unique in the breadth of its data collection, analysis, and dissemination activities.



### **Data Collection Activities**

### **RELEVANT SURVEYS**

- 2005 and 2012 Bachelor's and Beyond Longitudinal Survey
- > 2001, 2006, and 2012 Survey of Academic Departments
- Post-Ph.D Longitudinal Survey

### **RELEVANT SOURCES OF UNOBTRUSIVE DATA**

- Membership Data Files
- Minority Fellowship Data Files
- Google and Google Scholar
- ProQuest

Unobtrusive and Secondary Data increase coverage of minorities compared to lowresponse rate surveys.

#### **SECONDARY DATA SOURCES**

- National Center for Education Statistics' Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)
- National Science Foundation's National Center for Survey and Education Statistics
  - Survey of Earned Doctorates
  - Survey of Doctoral Recipients
  - Graduate Students in Science and Engineering

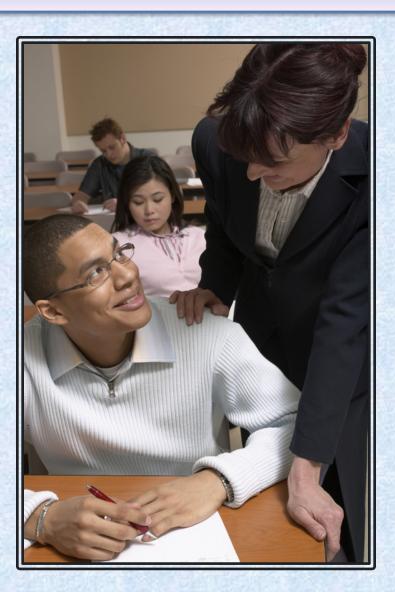


### **Study Results of Special Interest to Those Concerned with Measuring and Analyzing Diversity**



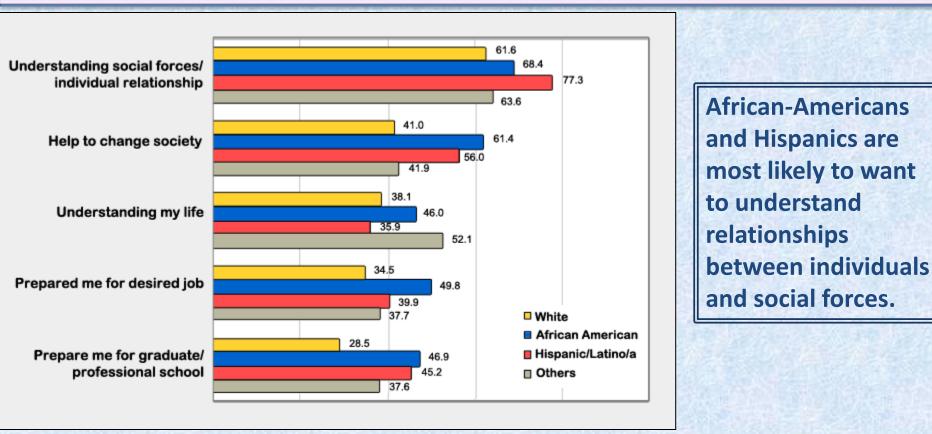


# **Sociology's Core**





### Significant Differences in the Reasons For Majoring in Sociology by Race and Ethnicity (2005)\*



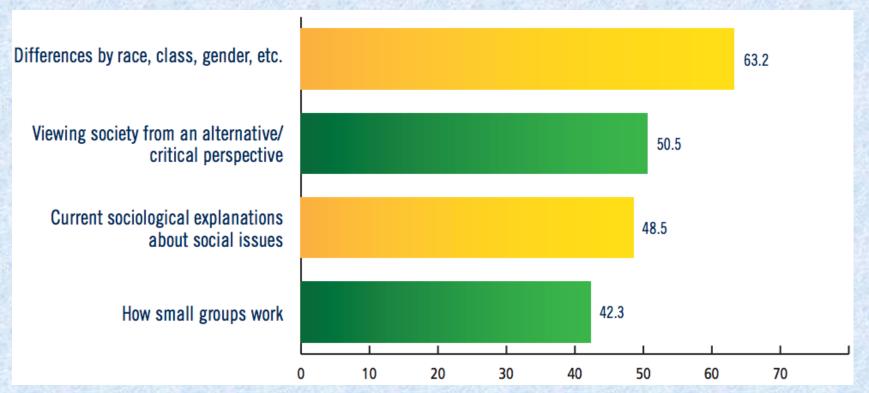
**Source:** ASA Research and Development Department. *The Future of Sociology:* 

Minorities, Programs, and Jobs.

\*Percent responding "Very Important;" weighted.



### Sociological Concepts Used on the Job\*

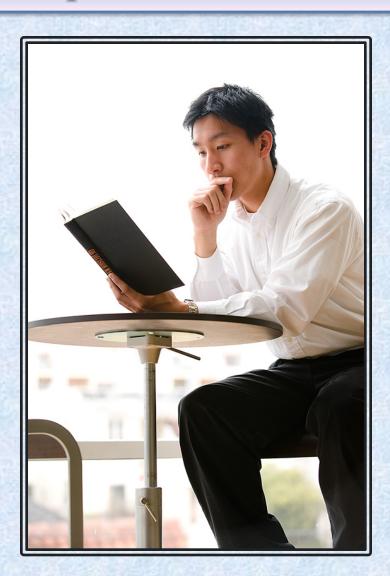


**Source:** ASA Research and Development Department. *Mixed Success: Four Years of Experiences of 2005 Sociology Graduates*. \*Percent responding "Very Useful."

Understanding differences by race, class, and gender is very useful on the job.



### **Participation in the Discipline**





### **Activity Participation by Race (in percents)**

#### **ON-THE-JOB TRAINING AND NETWORKING**

	White	Black	Hispanic	TOTAL
Leadership Program	36.5	41.9	26.3	35.5
Internship	34.3	32.9	32.1	32.9
Community activity	25.6	38.4	26.8	27.0
Service Learning Program	26.5	35.6	23.2	26.6
Job Fair	20.5	27.4	10.5	19.8
SCHOLARLY SOCIALIZATION				
	White	Black	Hispanic	TOTAL
Sociology Club	26.2	29.7	17.9	25.5
Honors Program	15.8	13.5	10.7	14.7
Professional Association	9.9	13.7	7.0	9.6
MENTORING ACTIVITIES				
	White	Black	Hispanic	TOTAL
Mentoring	21.7	27.0	5.4	20.1
Faculty Research	13.3	24.7	12.5	14.6

**Source:** ASA Research and Development Department. *Decreasing the Link from the Sociology Pipeline: Social and Cultural Capital to Enhance the Post-Baccalaureate Sociology Career.*  African-American sociology majors are most likely to participate in networking, training, sociological associations, and faculty research.



Slide 9

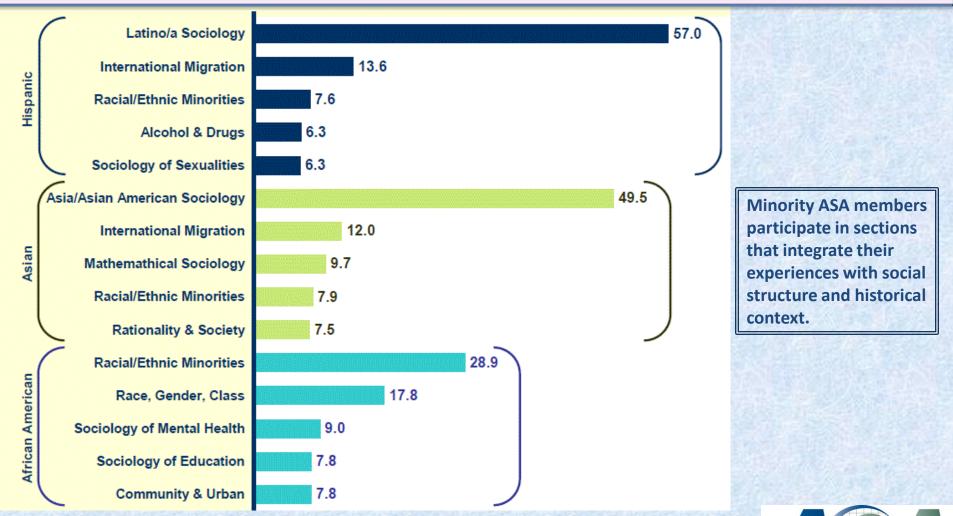
### Total ASA Membership by Race/Ethnicity in 2001 and 2010 (in percents)

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Racial and Ethnic Categories	2001	2010	
African American	4.9	6.0	
Asian or Pacific Islander	5.1	5.4	There have been
Hispanic	3.4	4.3	slight gains in minority
White	68.3	64.0	membership in ASA.
Did Not Report Race/Ethnicity	15.1	17.2	
Total	100.0%	100.0%	
(N)	12,365	13,708	

**Source:** ASA *Membership Database*, 2001 and 2010. **Note:** Due to small cell sizes, data for Native Americans are not included. Members who selected "Other" in response to race/ethnicity are also omitted.



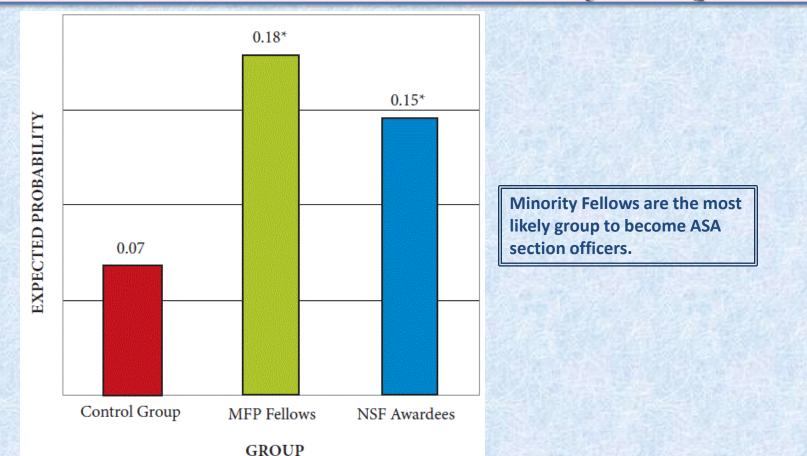
### **Top-five ASA Section Membership by Selected Race/Ethnicity** Groups: 2005 (Percent of Section Membership)



AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

**Source:** ASA *Membership Database*, 2005; from ASA Research and Development Department. *Race and Ethnicity in the Sociology Pipeline*.

### Expected Probabilities of Holding an ASA Section's Officer Position for 1997-2009 Sociology PhD Graduates in Academic Positions, by Group



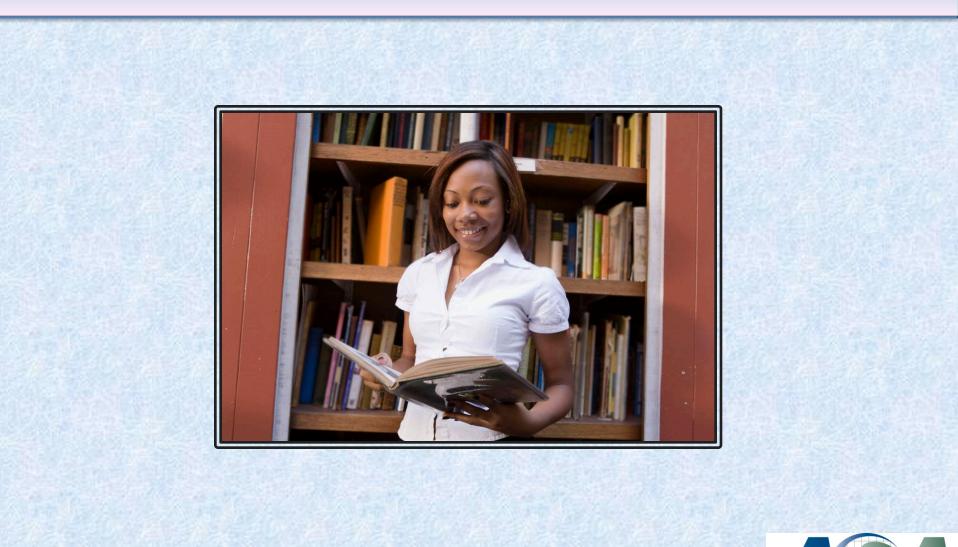
### **Source:** ASA Research and Development Department. *The Impact of Cross-Race Mentoring for "Ideal" and "Alternative" PhD Careers in Sociology.*

Note: Based on logistic regression with standard errors. Control variables were set to sample means in these calculations and controls for missing race/ethnicity were set to zero; \*Statistically significant difference from the control group (0.05 level, 1-tailed test).



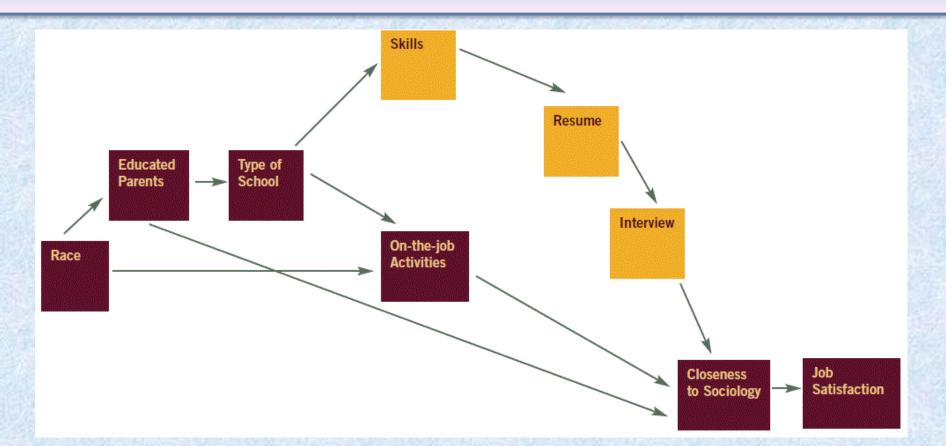
Slide 12

# **Careers in Sociology**





### **Pathways to Job Satisfaction**

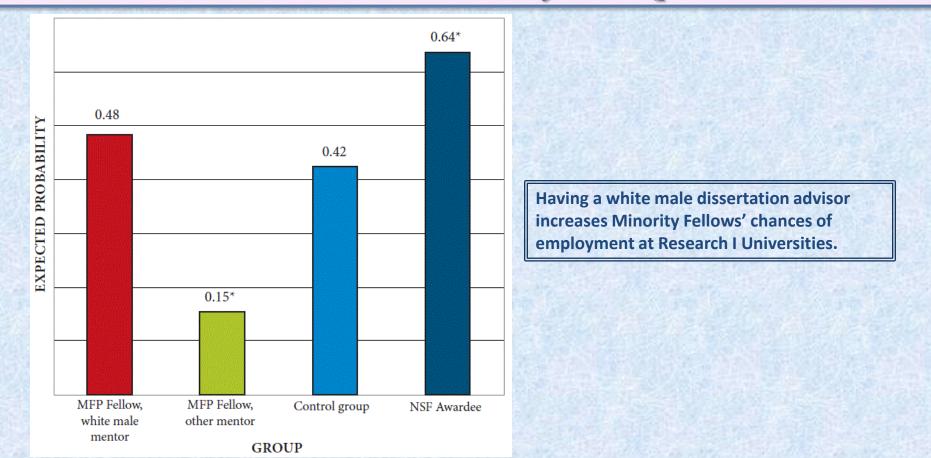


**Source:** ASA Research and Development Department. *Decreasing the Leak from the Sociology Pipeline: Social and Cultural Capital to Enhance the Post-Baccalaureate Sociology Career.* 

On-the-job activities, such as internships, help minority sociology majors to obtain positions that are close to sociology and lead to job satisfaction.



### **Expected Probabilities of Holding a Faculty Position at a Research I Institution in 2010 for 1997-2009 Sociology PhD Graduates, by Group**



**Source:** ASA Research and Development Department. *The Impact of Cross-Race Mentoring for "Ideal" and "Alternative" PhD Careers in Sociology.* 

Note: Based on logistic regression with standard errors. Control variables were set to sample means in these calculations and controls for missing race/ethnicity were set to zero; \*Statistically significant difference from the control group (0.05 level, 2-tailed test).



Slide 15

# Career Outcomes of 1992-2006 MFP Fellows Employed in Academia, by Gender

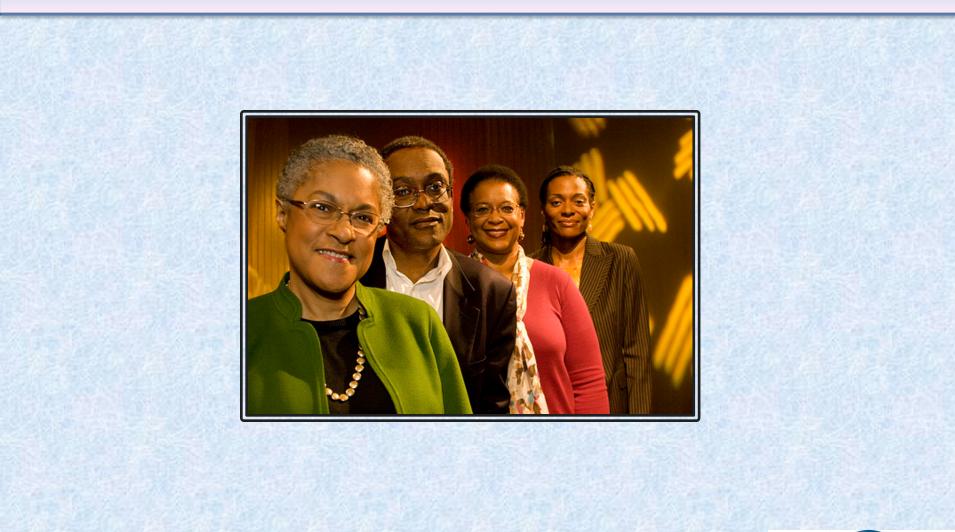
	MFP Fellows						
	Men	Women					
Scholarly Productivity and Employment for 1997-2009 PhD Graduates:							
Employed at a Research I University	31.8%	16.7%					
At least One Publication with Mentor prior to Graduation	27.3%	9.5%					
Mean Total Number of Publications since PhD Graduation <sup>a</sup>	5.5 (1.5)	2.7 (0.5)					
At least One Article Published in Top Sociology Journals	4.6%	4.8%					
Received NSF and/or NIH Grants	22.7%	11.9%					
ASA Section Officer Service	18.2%	11.9%					
Total Number of 1997-2009 PhD Graduates	22	35					
Rank of 1997-2002 PhD Graduates:							
Full Professor	0.0%	9.5%					
Associate Professor	72.7%	66.7%					
Assistant Professor	27.3%	23.8%					

Men in the Minority Fellowship Program appear to have more successful careers than women in the Program.

**Source:** ASA Research and Development Department. **Note:** Standard errors are in parentheses.

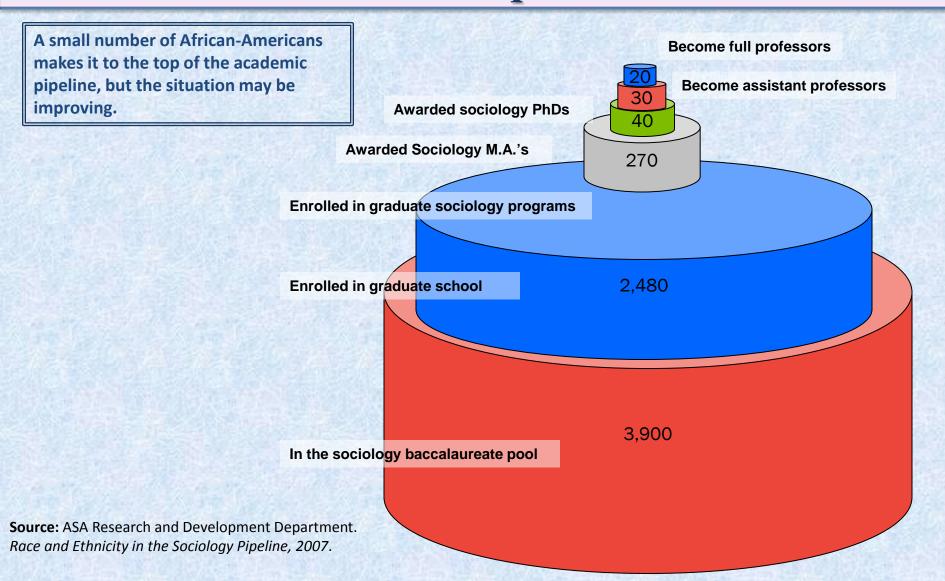


### **Status in the Profession**



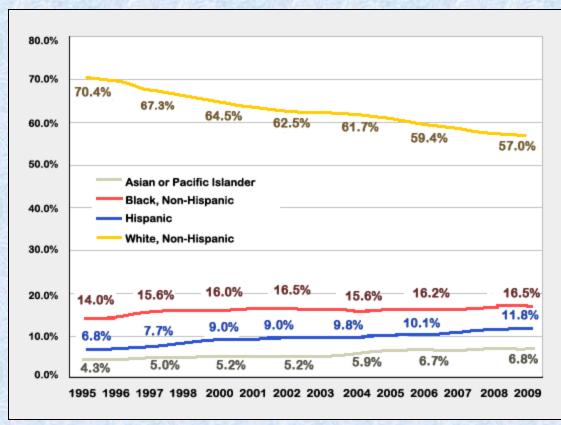


# **The Survival of African-Americans in the "Career Pipeline"**



Slide 18

### Sociology Degrees Awarded by Race/Ethnicity, 1995-2009: Percentage of Bachelor's Degrees Awarded

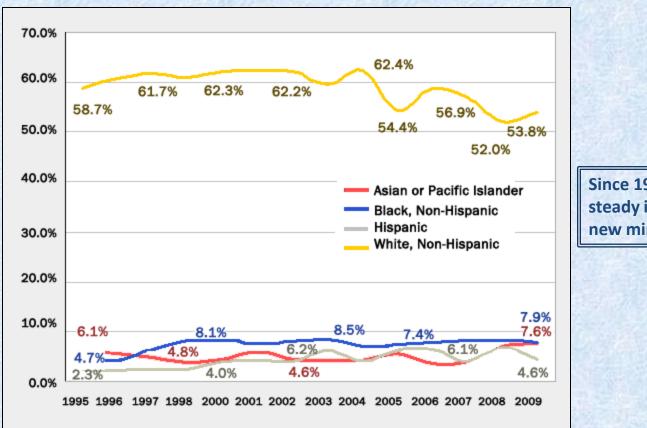


**Source:** U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) Completions, 1966-2009 (Washington, DC: NCES, 2010). Retrieved from https://webcaspar.nsf.gov (November 4, 2010).

Since 1995, there has been a small but steady increase in the number of new minority baccalaureates.



### Sociology Degrees Awarded by Race/Ethnicity, 1995-2009: Percentage of Doctoral Degrees Awarded



**Source:** U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) Completions, 1966-2009 (Washington, DC: NCES, 2010). Retrieved from https://webcaspar.nsf.gov (November 4, 2010).

Since 1995, there has been a small but steady increase in the percentage of new minority Ph.Ds.



### **Forthcoming Diversity Research**



- 1. The next round of the Bachelor's and Beyond Survey.
- 2. The 2012 Department Survey.
- 3. Latest Job Market Survey.
- 4. Evaluation of New Strategies for Increasing Minority Use of TRAILS, ASA's On-line Library of Teaching and Learning Materials.
- 5. New Round of Comparative Research on Women of Color in the Minority Fellowship Program.



# Thank you!



For further discussion or help, contact Roberta Spalter-Roth, Ph.D, at 202-383-9005 ext. 317 or by email at <u>spalter-roth@asanet.org</u>.

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