

Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc.

Health Disparities in the US: A Snapshot of a Troubling Picture

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Spring 2008 CBC Health Braintrust

April 15, 2008



What Are Health Disparities?

NIH definition (1999):

Differences in the incidence, prevalence, mortality, and burden of diseases and other adverse health conditions that exist among specific population groups in the United States.

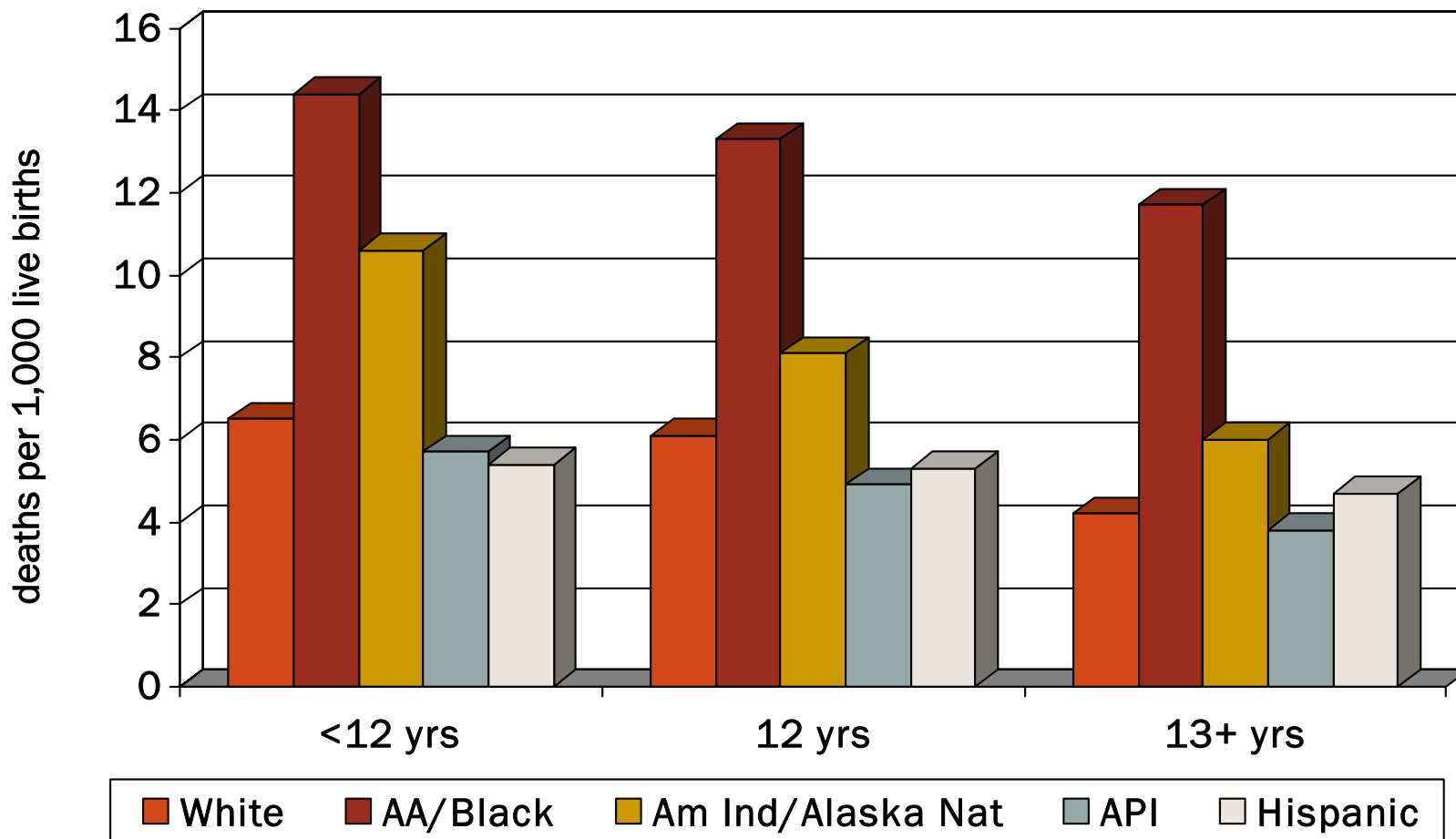
Spectrum of Health Disparities

- Health disparities exist at multiple levels, including:
 - Race/ethnicity
 - Gender
 - Socioeconomic status
 - Geography

MORTALITY

Infant Mortality, 2004

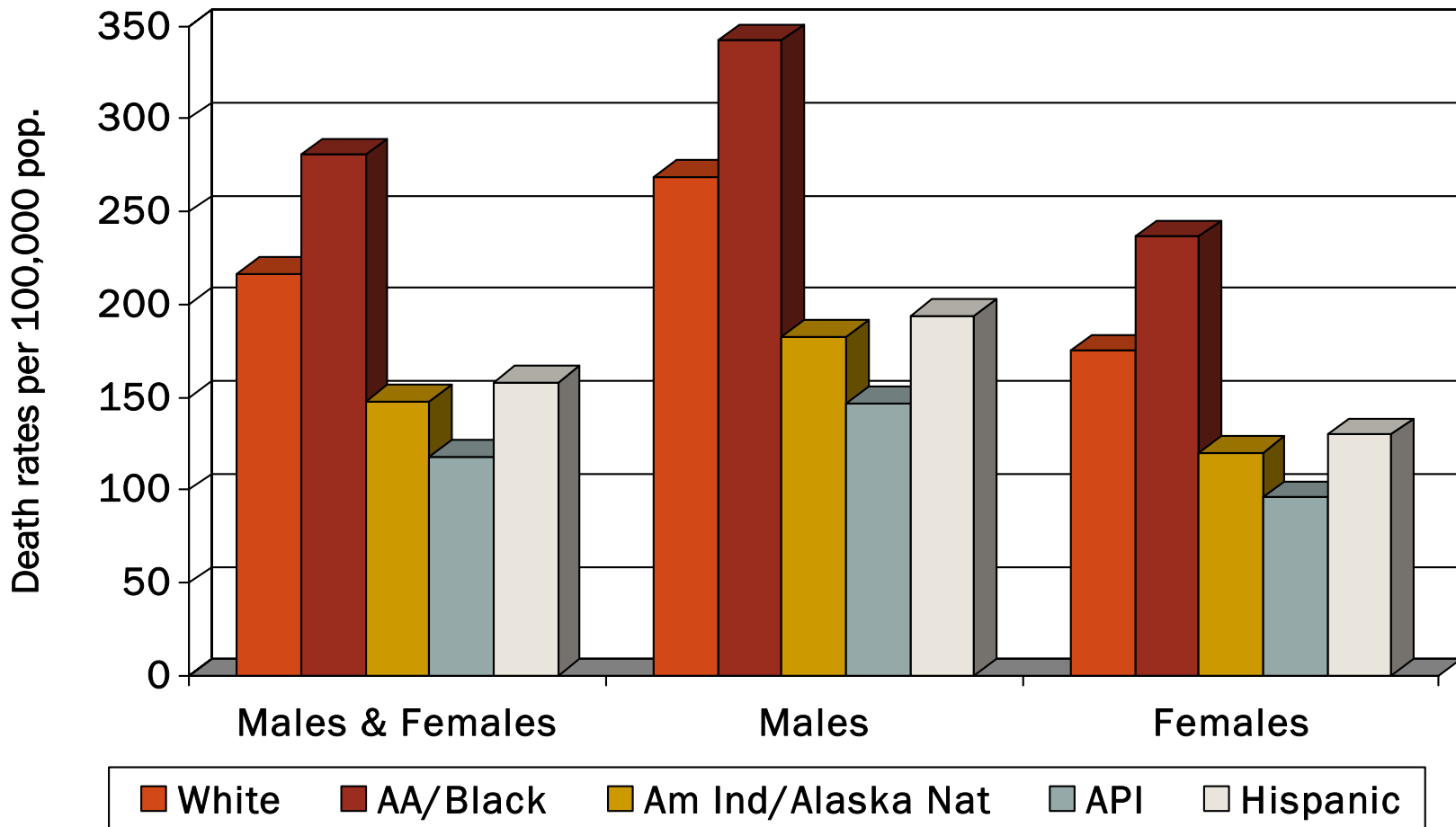
by Education Level



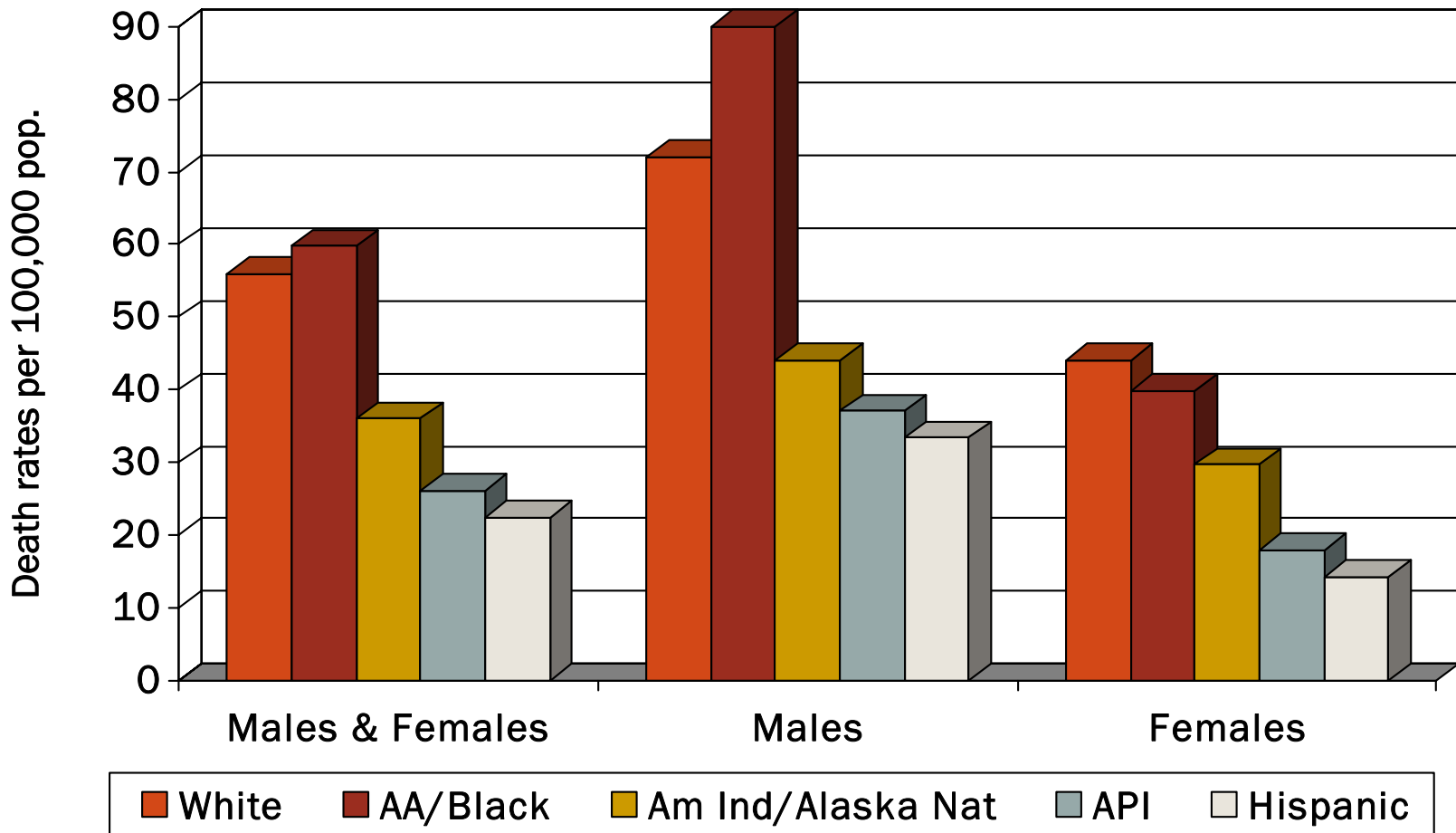
Life Expectancy at Birth, 65 Years and 75 Years

Age	All Whites	White Males	White Females	All Blacks	Black Males	Black Females
At Birth	78.3	75.7	80.8	73.1	69.5	76.3
At Age 65	83.7	82.2	85.0	82.1	80.2	83.6
At Age 75	86.9	85.7	87.8	86.4	84.9	87.2

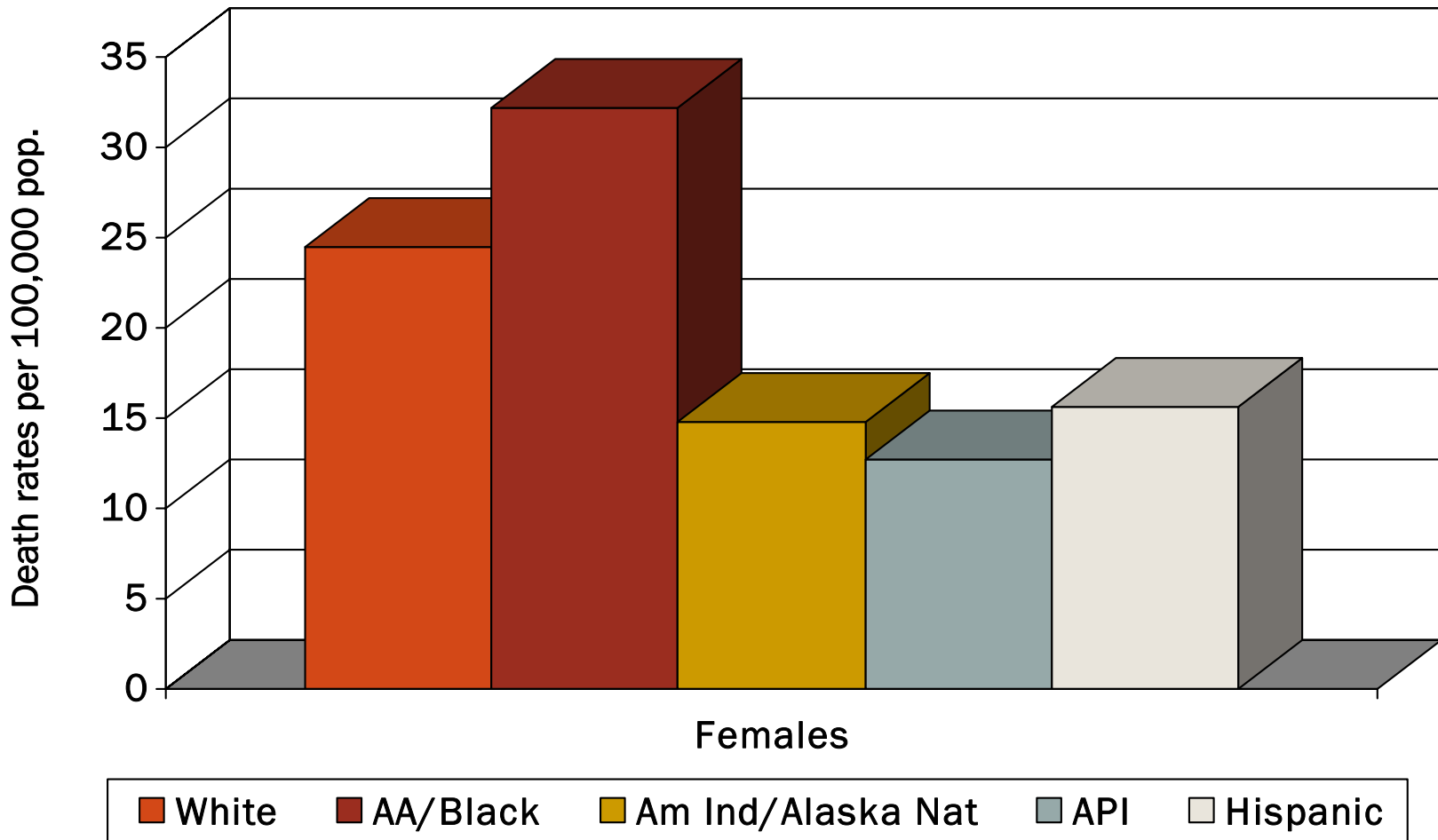
Age-Adjusted Death Rates for Heart Disease, 2004 – by Race/Ethnicity



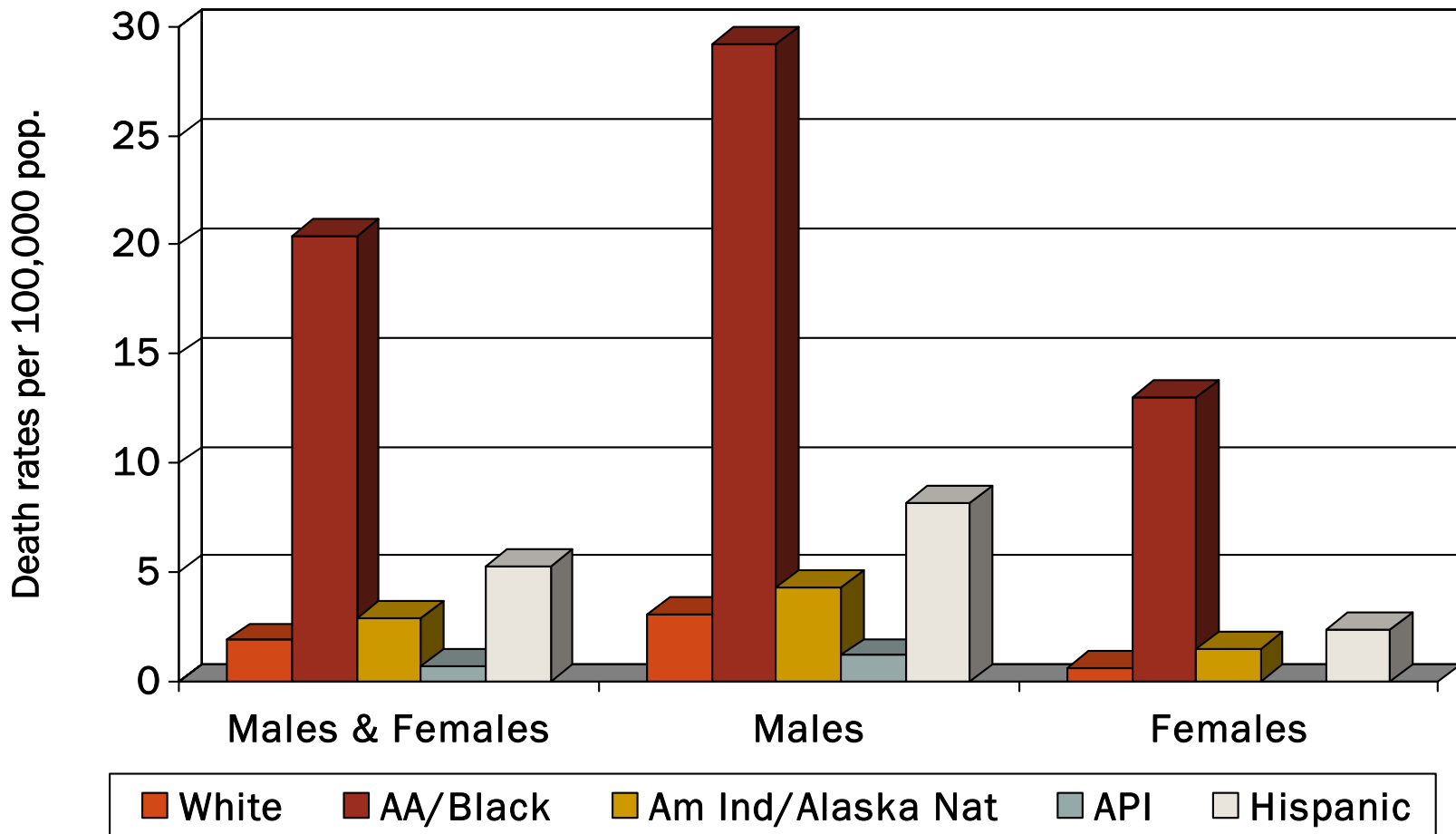
Age-Adjusted Death Rates for Trachea, Bronchus & Lung Cancers, 2004 - by Race/Ethnicity



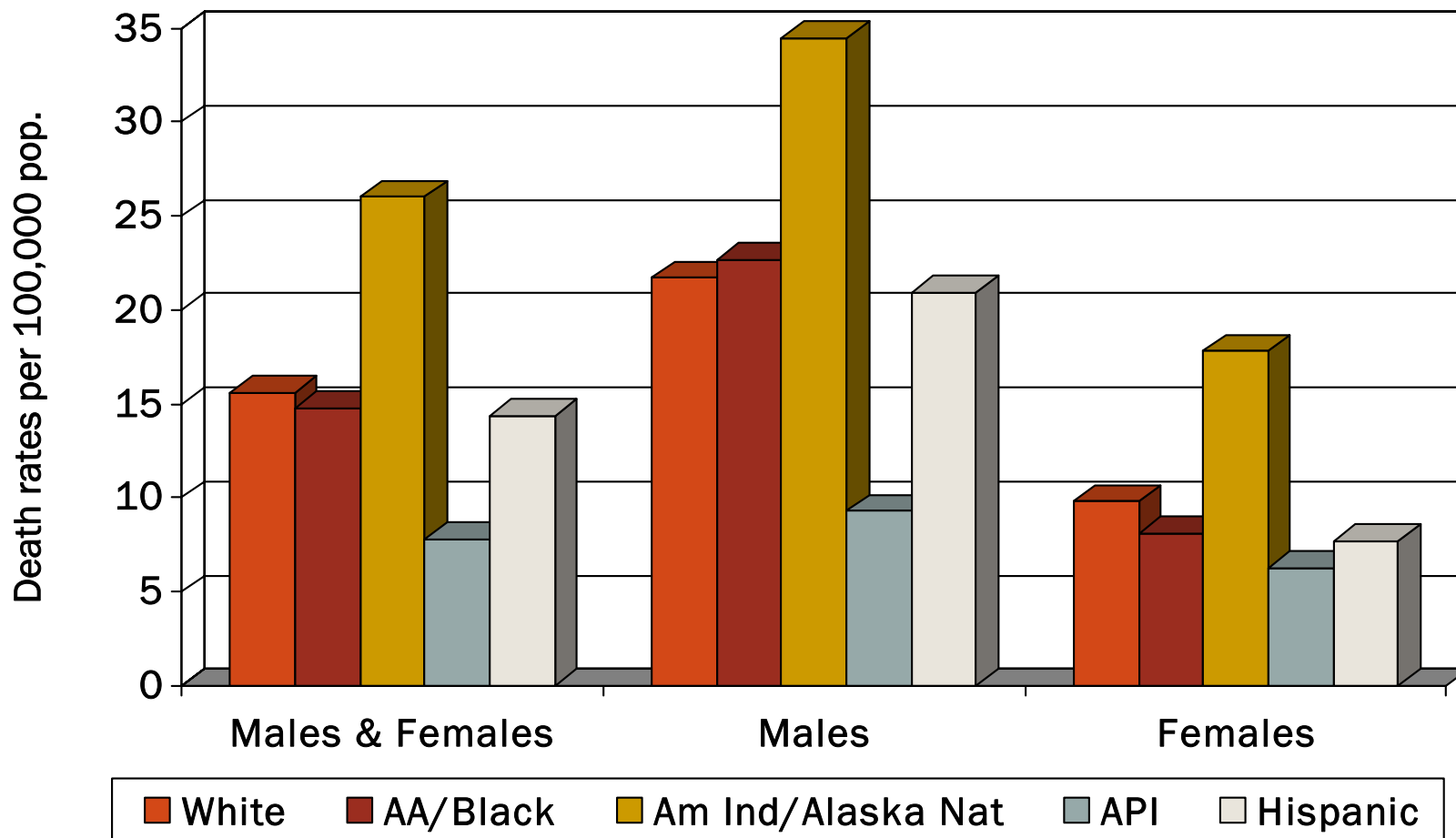
Age-Adjusted Death Rates for Breast Cancer, 2004 by Race/Ethnicity



Age-Adjusted Death Rates for HIV/AIDS, 2004 by Race/Ethnicity

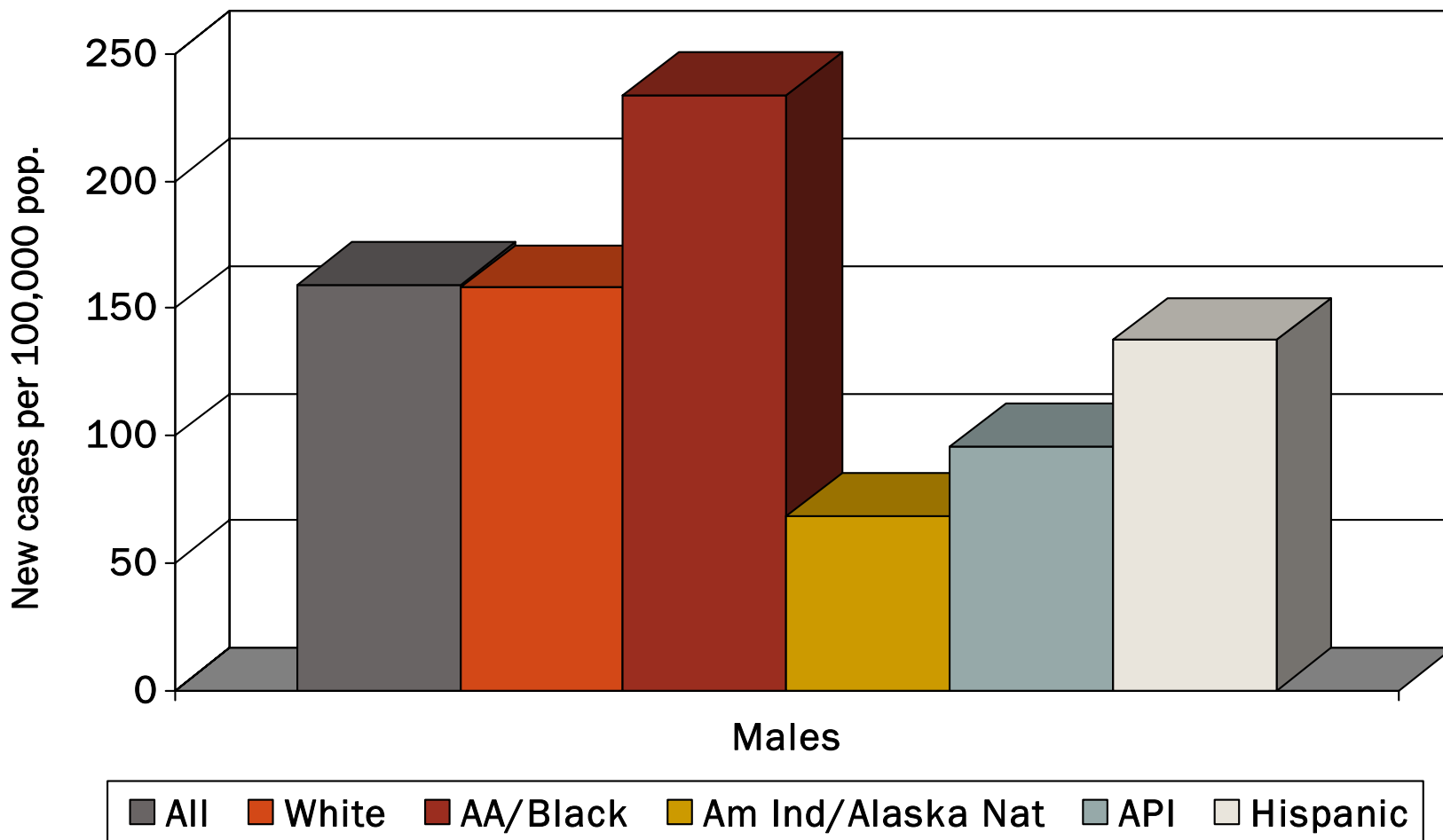


Age-Adjusted Death Rates for Motor-Vehicle Injuries, 2004 – by Race/Ethnicity

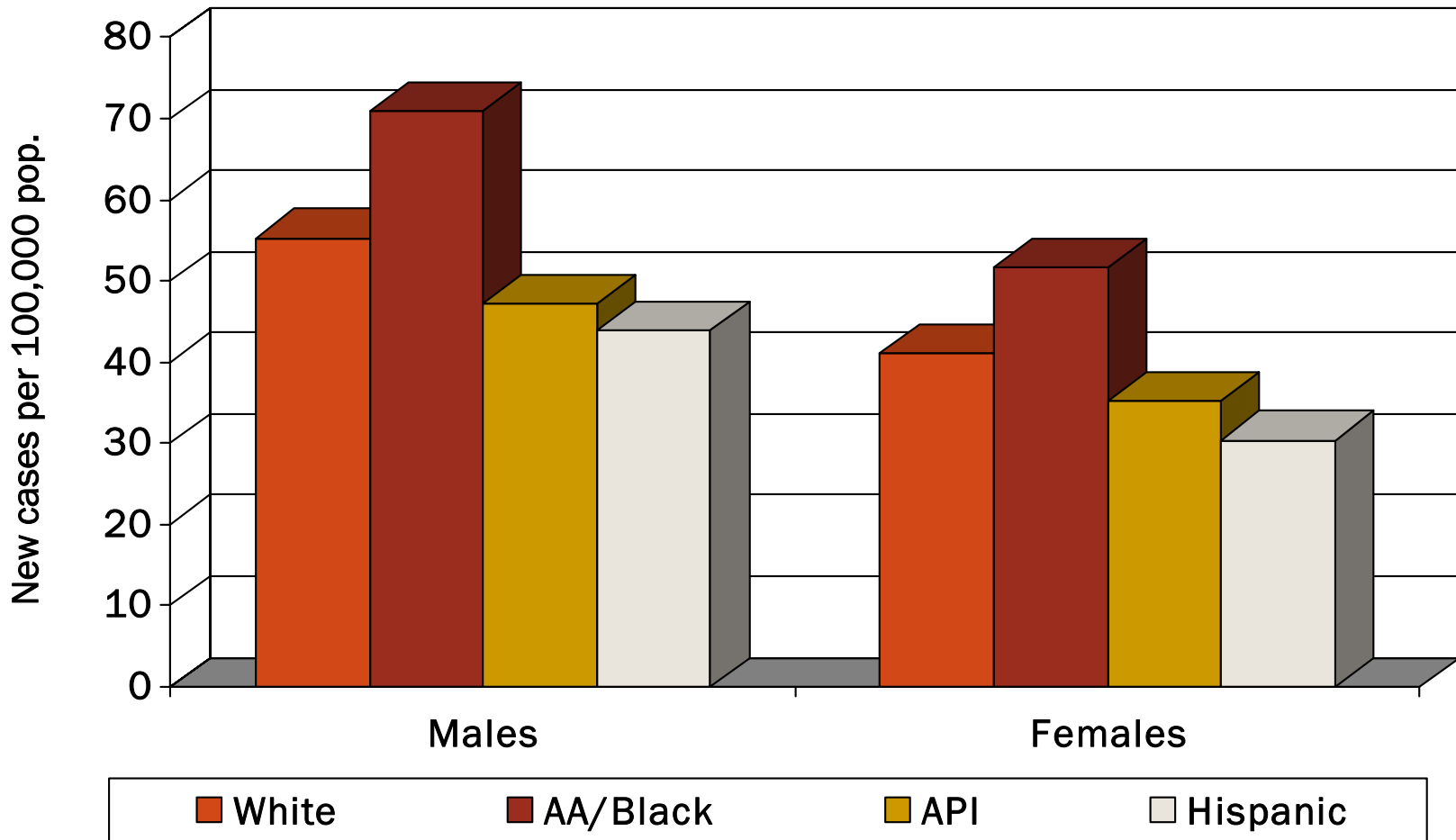


MORBIDITY

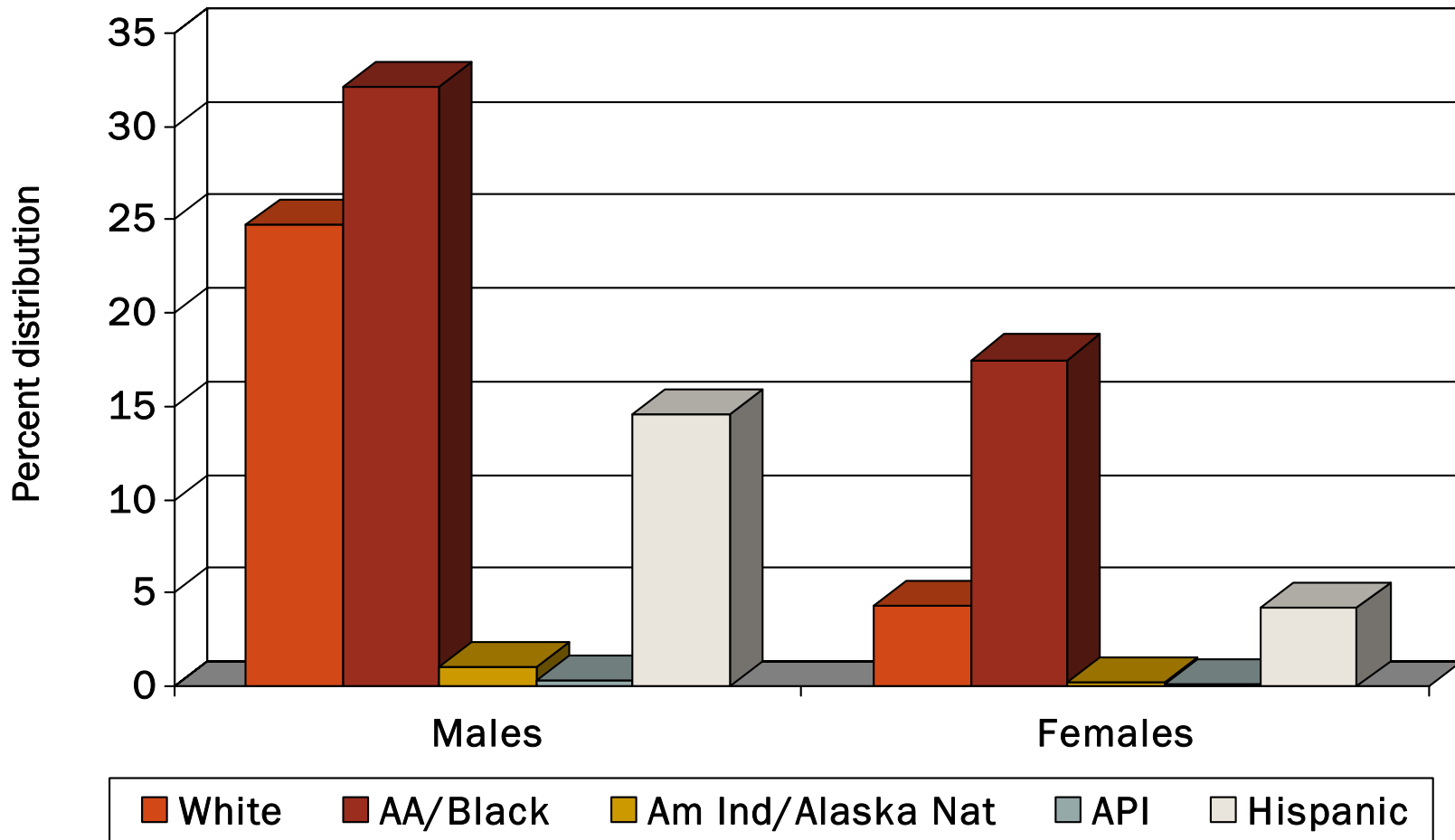
Incidence Rates of Prostate Cancer, 2004 by Race/Ethnicity



Incidence Rates for Colorectal Cancer, 2004 by Race/Ethnicity



Distribution of AIDS Cases, 2005 by Race/Ethnicity



Oral Health

- African Americans, Hispanics, & American Indians/Alaska Natives generally have poorest oral health
- Hispanic/Latino children have 2.5 times more tooth decay & African American children 1.5 times more decay than white children
- Destructive gum disease: 59% of American Indians/Alaska Natives, 33% of African Americans & 25% of Mexican Americans, vs. 20% of whites
- Oral cancer twice as prevalent among African Americans than whites; AA men having highest rates
- 34% of older black Americans have lost their teeth, compared with 23% of whites & 20% of Hispanics

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Thank you

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