Minority Health Disparities in Pennsylvania

Mortality (2012):

Black residents had significantly higher age-adjusted death rates than Whites for:

- Total Deaths
- Cardiovascular Disease
- Heart Disease
- Total Cancers
- Injury and Accidents
- Stroke
- Mental and Behavioral Disorders
- Infectious and Parasitic Diseases
- Diabetes
- Genitourinary System
- Nephritis, Nephrotic Syndrome and Nephrosis
- Homicide
- Firearm Related Injuries
- Renal Failure
- Homicide (Firearm Discharge)
- Septicemia
- Viral Disease
- Hypertension and Hypertensive Renal Disease
- HIV
- Viral Hepatitis
- Anemias
- Asthma
- Epilepsy
- Cancer of Lung and Bronchus
- Cancer of Prostate
- Cancer of Female Breast
- Cancer of Colon and Rectum
- Cancer of Pancreas
- Cancer of Corpus/Uterus, NOS
- Cancer of Liver and Intrahepatic Bile Duct
- Cancer of Stomach
- Cancer, Myeloma
- Cancer of Cervix Uteri

Hispanic residents had significantly higher age-adjusted death rates than Whites for:

- Homicide
- Homicide (Firearm Discharge)
- Viral Disease
- HIV
- Viral Hepatitis

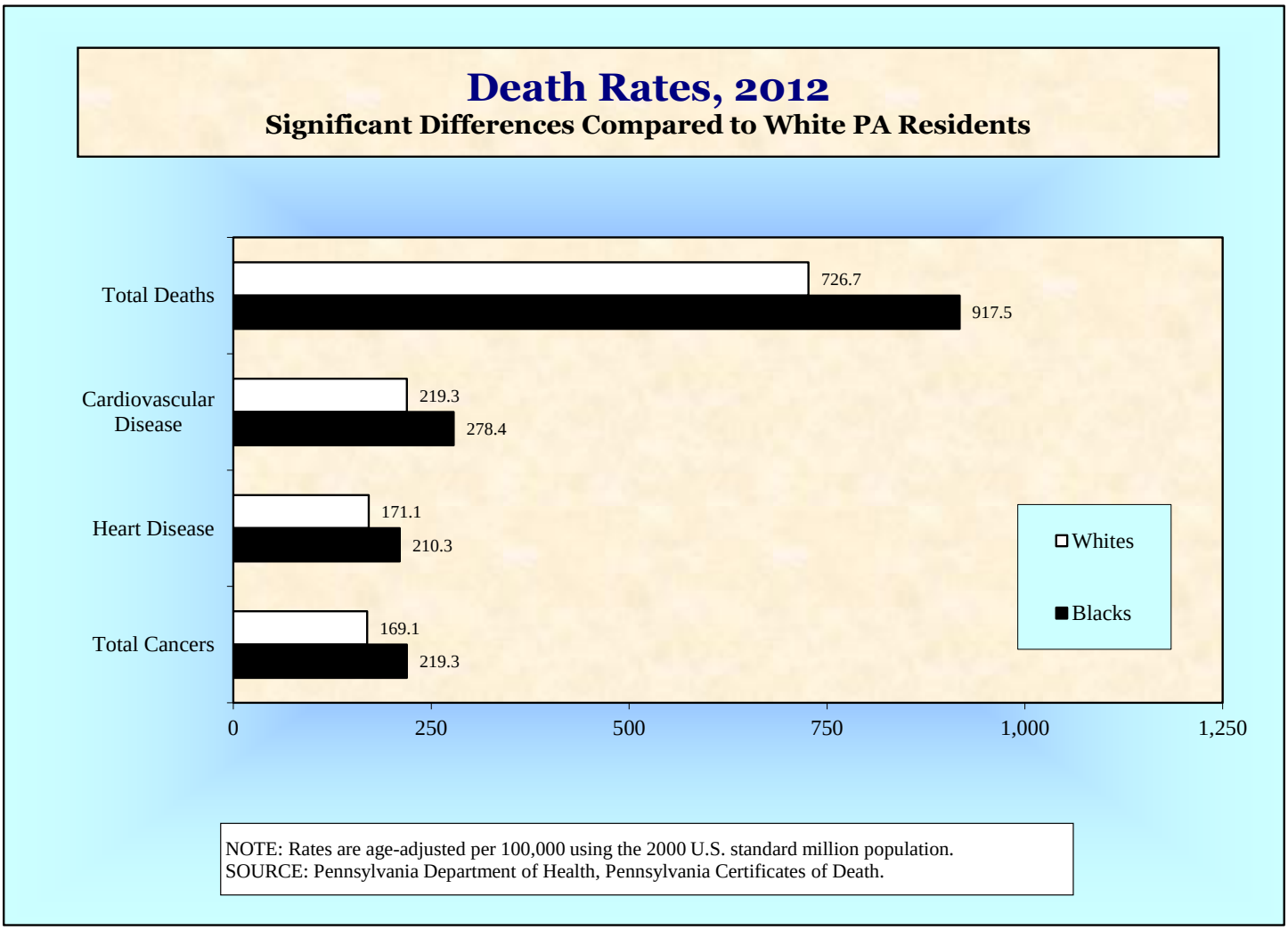
Asian/Pacific Islander residents had significantly higher age-adjusted death rates than Whites for:

- Cancer of Liver and Intrahepatic Bile Duct

Data Highlights

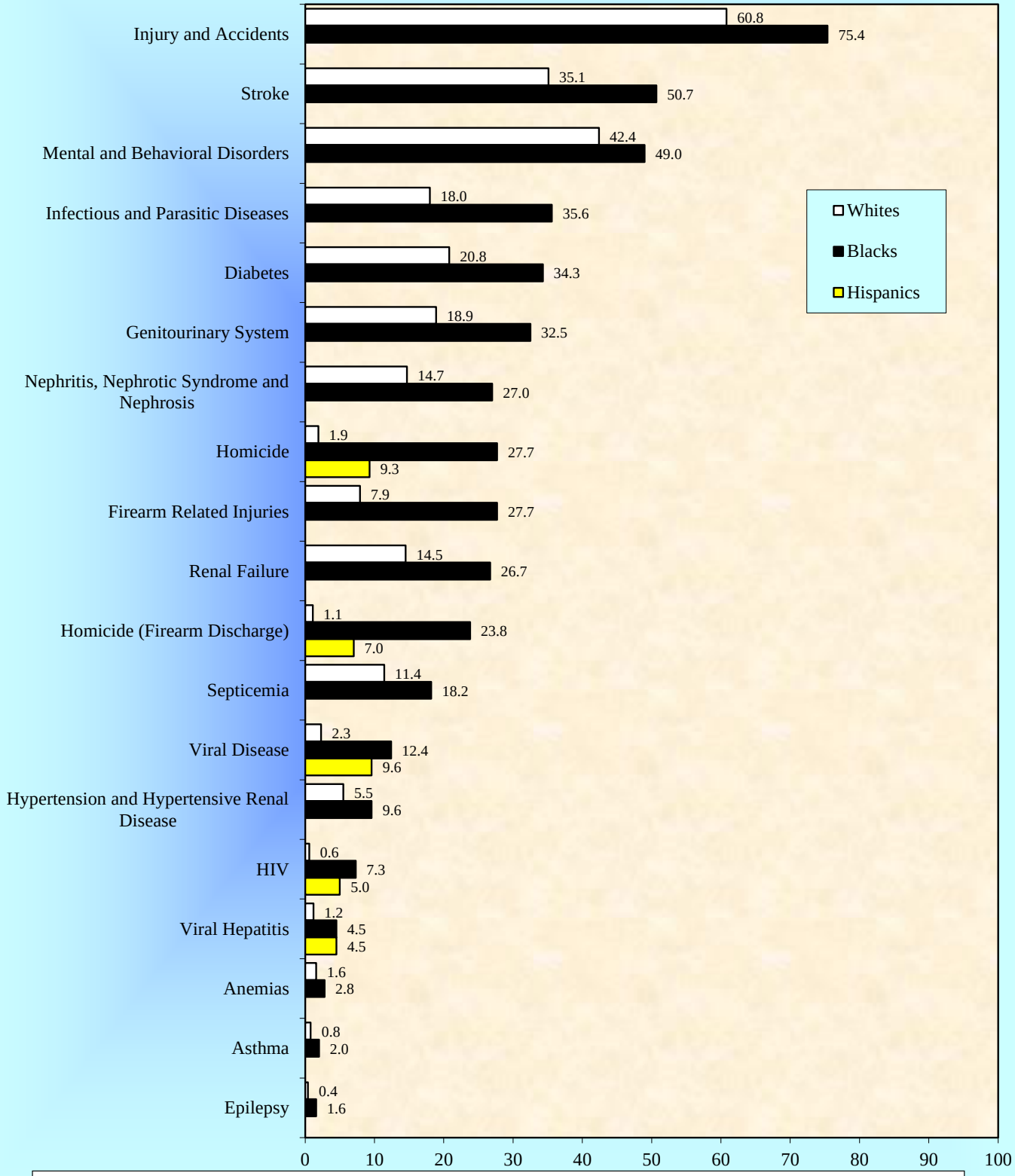
Black: In 2012, the age-adjusted rate per 100,000 for total deaths in Pennsylvania was 26 percent higher for Blacks (917.5) compared to Whites (726.7). The homicide rate for Black residents (27.7), compared to Whites (1.9), was over 14 times higher. In addition, the homicide with firearm discharge rate for Black residents (23.8) was almost 22 times higher than the rate for Whites (1.1). The death rate for HIV among Black residents (7.3) was over 12 times higher than the rate for Whites (0.6). The death rate for viral disease among Black residents (12.4) was over five times higher than the rate for Whites (2.3). The epilepsy death rate among Black residents (1.6) was four times higher than the rate for Whites (0.4). The death rates among Blacks for firearm related injuries (27.7) and viral hepatitis (4.5) were over three times higher than the rates for Whites (7.9 and 1.2, respectively). The death rates for asthma (2.0), prostate cancer (48.6), cervical cancer (4.5), cancer of the corpus/uterus (11.1), stomach cancer (6.0), and cancer of the liver and intrahepatic bile ducts (11.0) among Blacks were at least twice the rates among Whites.

Hispanic: The 2012 age-adjusted death rate per 100,000 for HIV (5.0) among Hispanic residents was eight times higher than the rate among Whites (0.6). The homicide rate for Hispanic residents (9.3), compared to Whites (1.9), was nearly five times higher. In addition, the homicide rate with firearm discharge for Hispanic residents (7.0) was more than six times higher than the rate for Whites (1.1). The death rate for viral disease among Hispanic residents (9.6) was over four times higher than the rate for Whites (2.3). The death rate for viral hepatitis (4.5) among Hispanic residents was more than three times the rate among Whites (1.2).



Death Rates, 2012

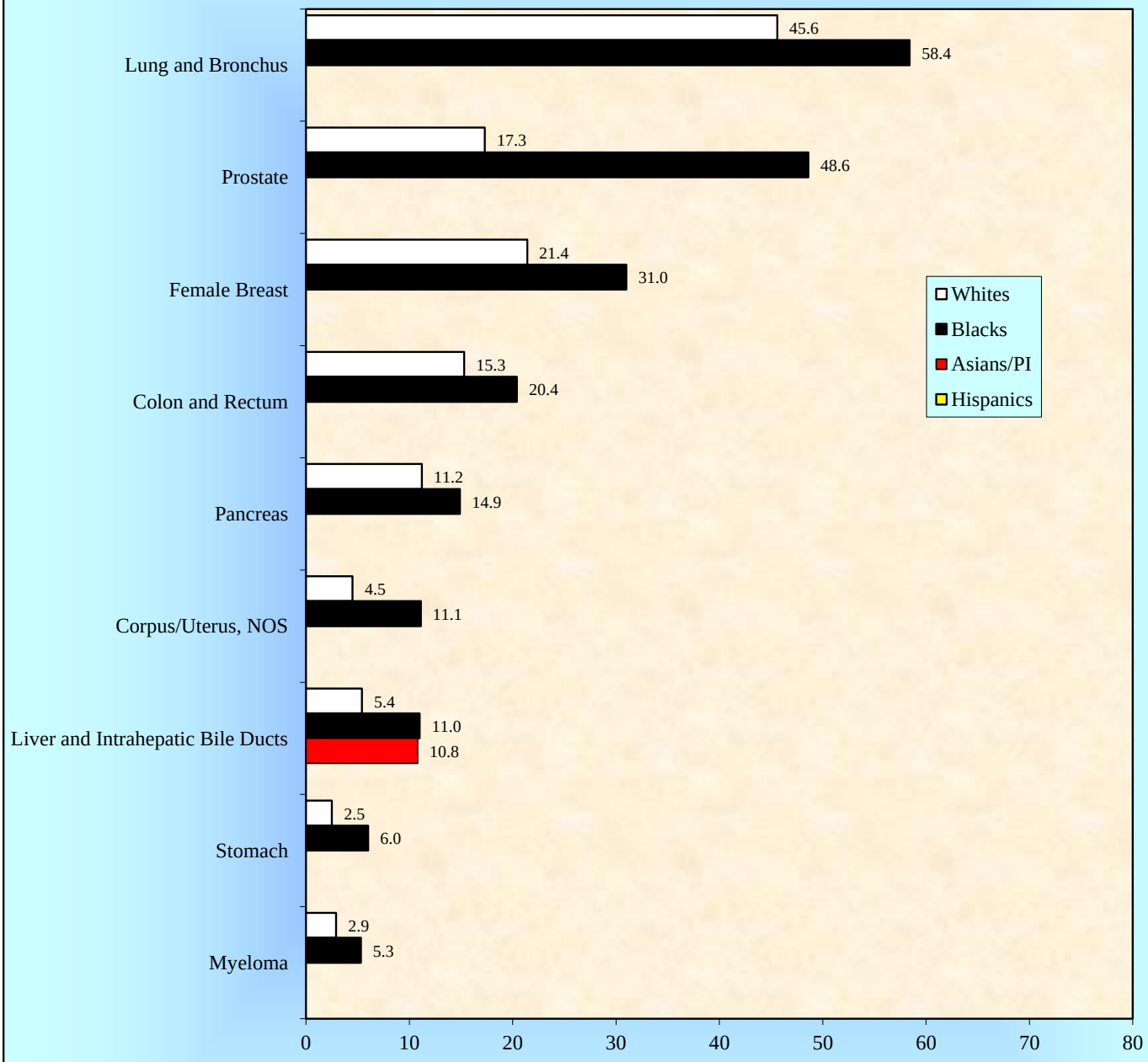
Significant Differences Compared to White PA Residents



NOTE: Rates are age-adjusted per 100,000 using the 2000 U.S. standard million population.
SOURCE: Pennsylvania Department of Health, Pennsylvania Certificates of Death.

Cancer Death Rates, 2012

Significant Differences Compared to White PA Residents



NOTE: Rates are age-adjusted per 100,000 using the 2000 U.S. standard million population.
SOURCE: Pennsylvania Department of Health, Pennsylvania Certificates of Death.