

African American/Black Health in Alameda County

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Health Committee Special Series on Community Health

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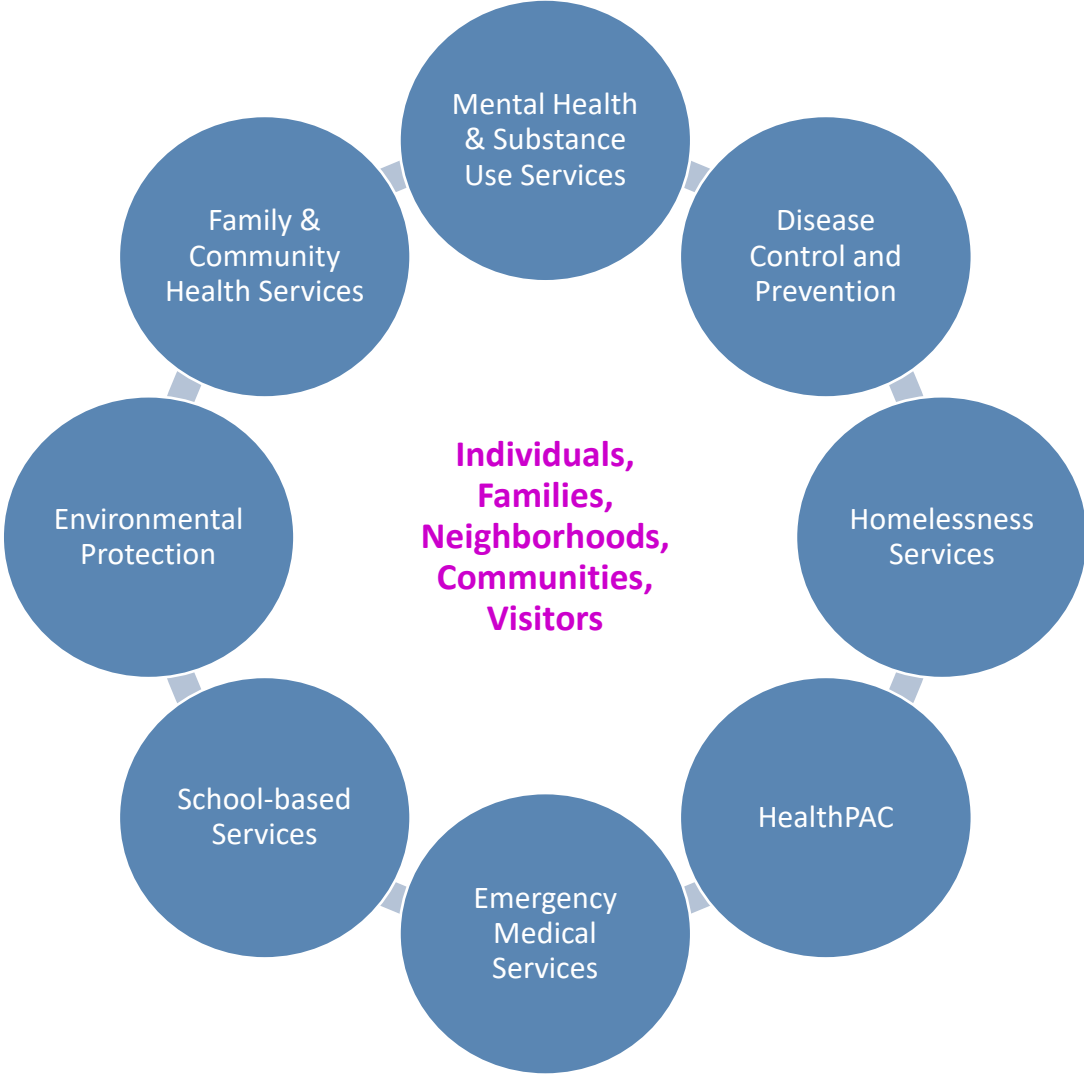
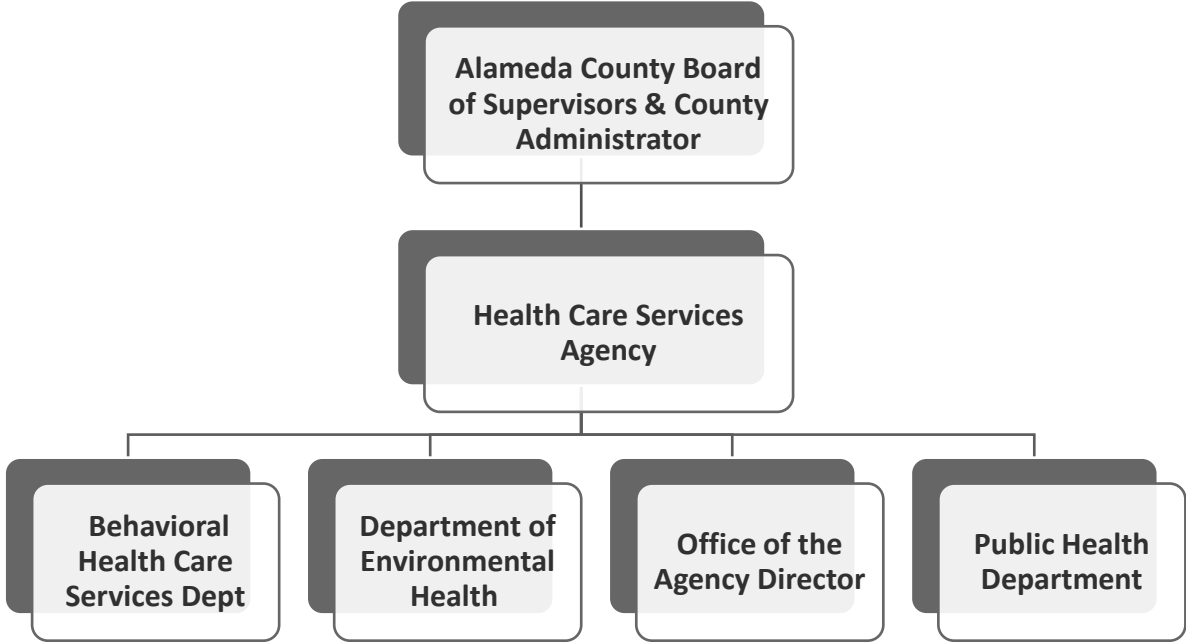


Framework for Health Committee Special Series

- Identify trends and shifts in demographics and health needs for Alameda County residents
- Focused discussion on needs by race/ethnicity, gender, disabilities, age
- Highlight innovation and partnerships with community-based organization



How HCSA Serves the Community



Agencywide Priorities that Guide HCSA's Work Toward Health Equity

Safety Net: Address system gaps and ease of access to health care through provider capacity building, improved care coordination, and integrated services

Community Readiness & Resilience: Continuous quality improvement and community engagement to shape and design programs and services that are equitable, inclusive, data-driven, and build resilience

Cross-System Collaboration: Develop structures for intra- and inter-agency collaboration and cross-system integration to support improved population health

Workforce: Develop a diverse and inclusive workforce through equitable recruitment and retention strategies and practices

Aligned Infrastructure & Strategies: Strengthen HCSA infrastructure through strategic coordination of cross-agency functions



Today's Focus: African American/Black Health

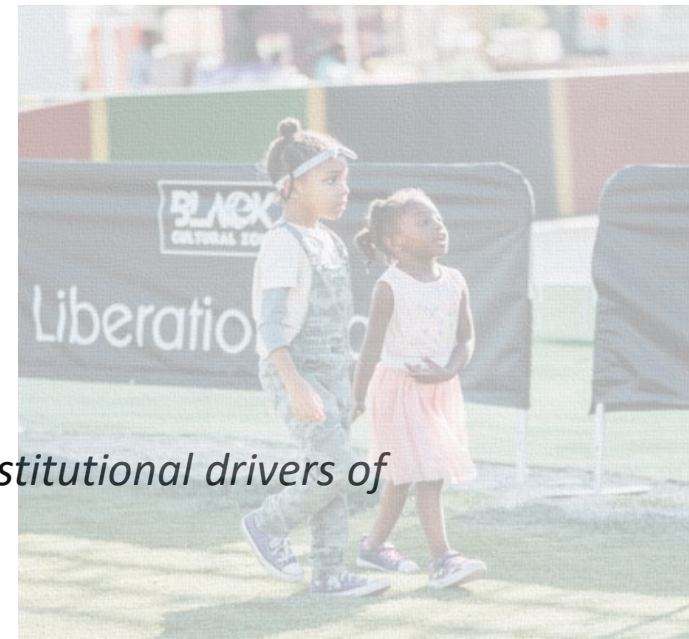
- **Data trends**

- Large disparities in life expectancy for AA/Black residents compared to other Alameda County residents
- AA/Black residents disproportionately affected by all leading causes of death in Alameda County
- Disproportionate impact of societal factors on the health of AA/Black residents, such as income, housing insecurity and homelessness, unintentional overdose, and homicide

- **Community strengths and what is working**

- Examples of HCSA's efforts to improve AA/Black health
- Spotlights on innovation and partnerships with community-based organizations

- *Key takeaway: improving AA/Black health warrants a focus on structural, policy and institutional drivers of health alongside deep partnerships with community*

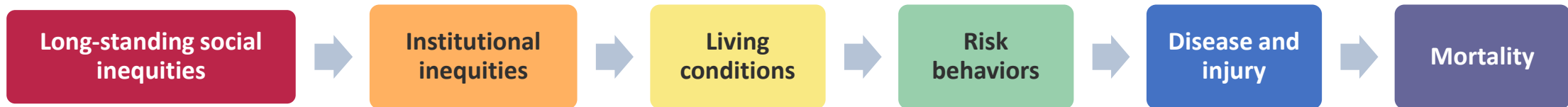


Data Trends



What Shapes Health?

- Health outcomes have many roots:
 - Individual behaviors and risk factors
 - Physical, social, and economic environments
 - Hateful rhetoric, stigma, discrimination, violence
- Inequitable policies drive large disparities in generational wealth and poverty, negatively affecting wellbeing
- Improving health outcomes requires addressing *all* factors affecting people's daily life and opportunities for wellbeing

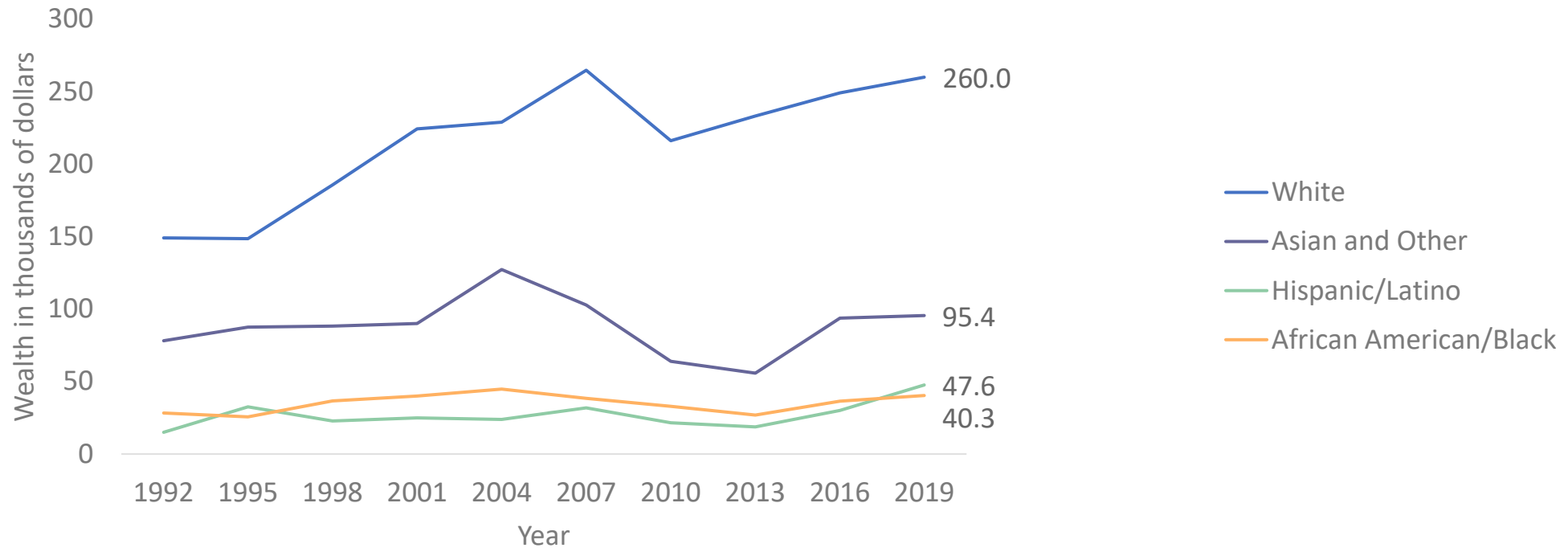


Source: Adapted from the BARHII Framework. Available at: <https://barhii.org/framework/>



Nationwide Wealth Inequities by Race and Ethnicity

Temporal trends in family wealth in the United States by race and ethnicity, 1992 to 2019

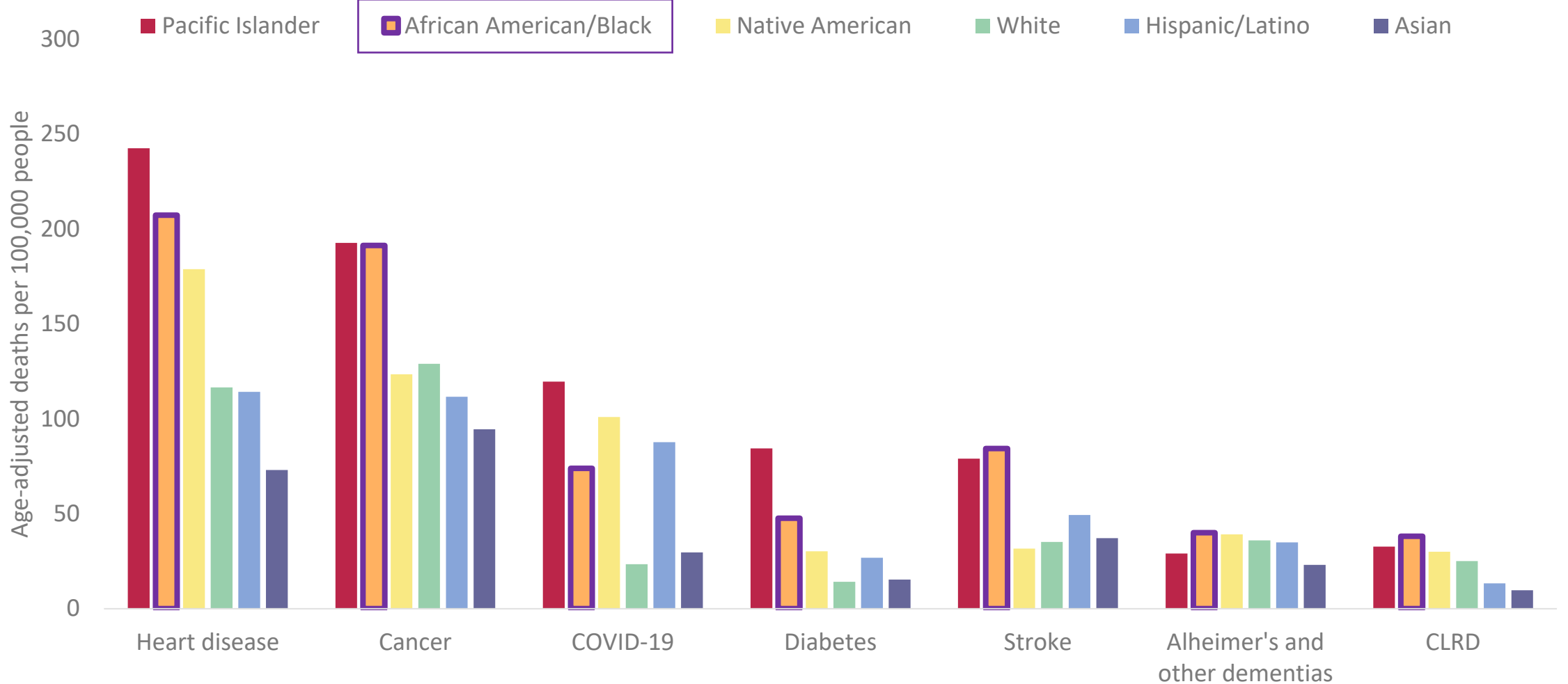


Source: Congressional Budget Office (2022). Trends in the Distribution of Family Wealth, 1989 to 2019, <https://www.cbo.gov/publication/58533>

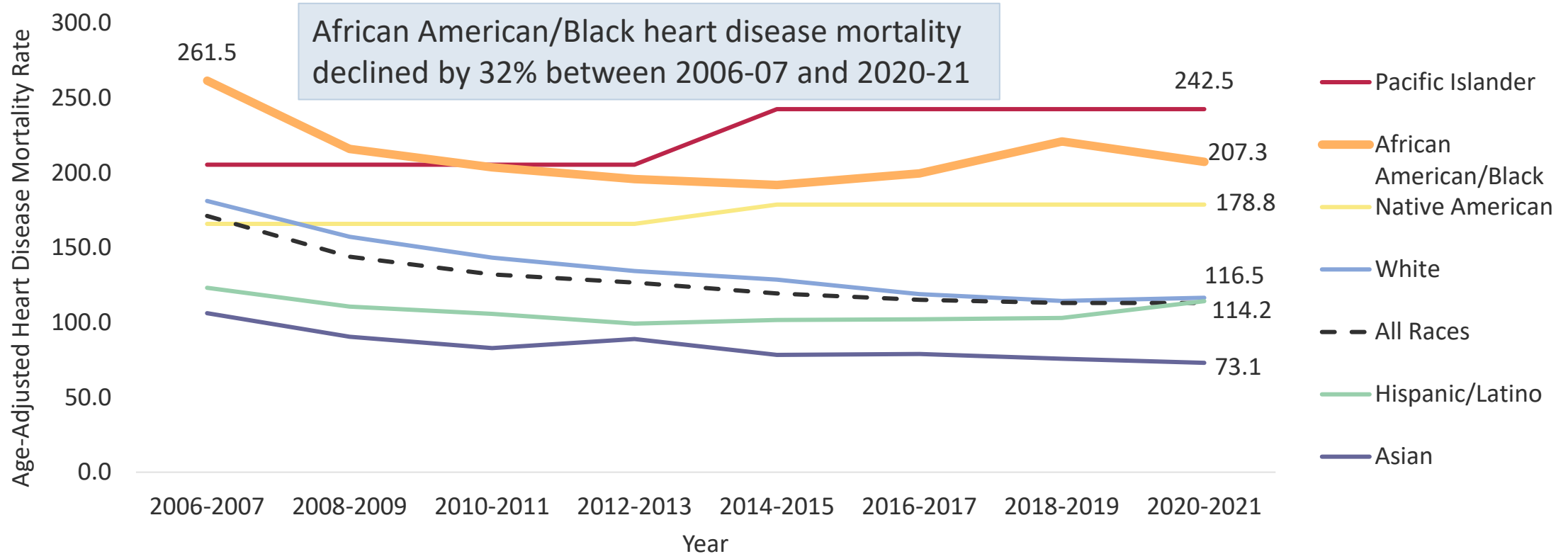
Note: The analysis did not provide specific estimates of wealth for Asian, Native American, Pacific Islander, or other races and ethnicities.

AA/Black Residents Have Higher Mortality Rates Across the Leading Causes of Death in Alameda County

Mortality rate for leading causes of death in Alameda County, by race and ethnicity

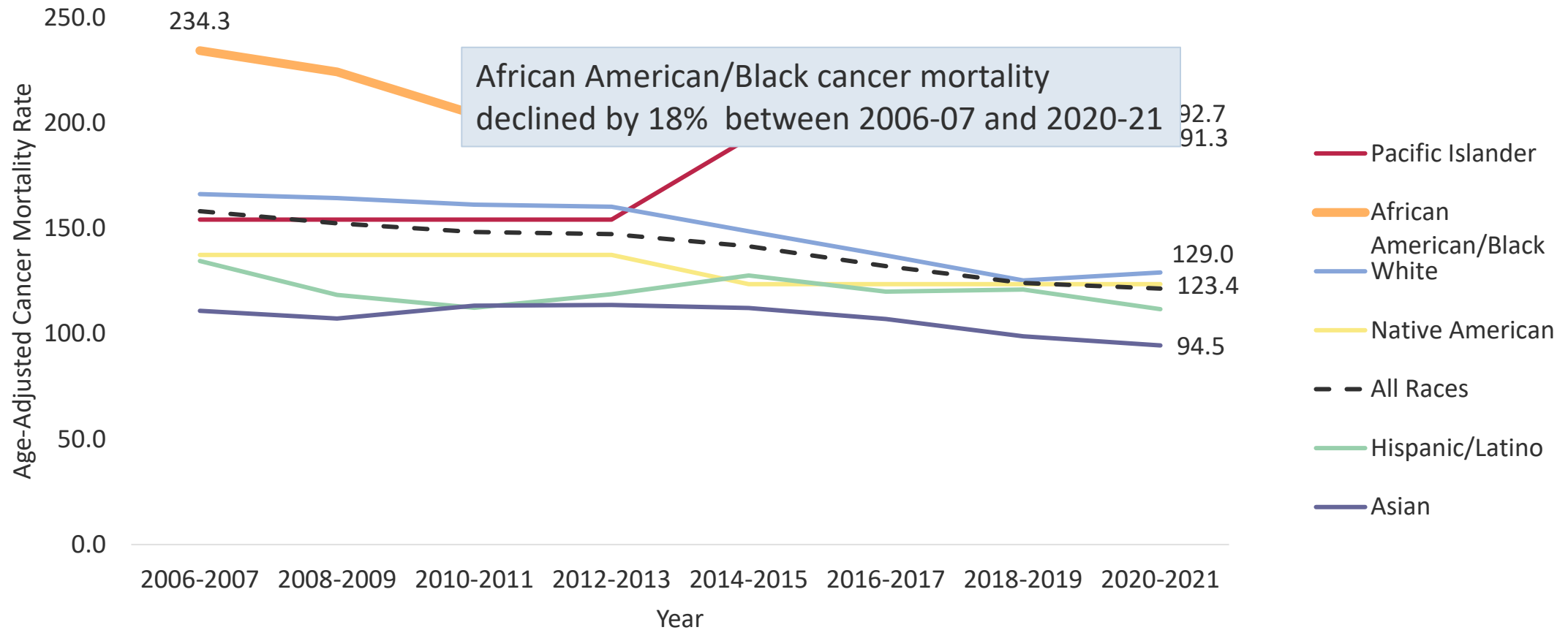


Declines in Heart Disease Mortality Among AA/Black Residents



Note: Estimates for Native American and Pacific Islander populations are 8-year averages to provide stable estimates for smaller population sizes

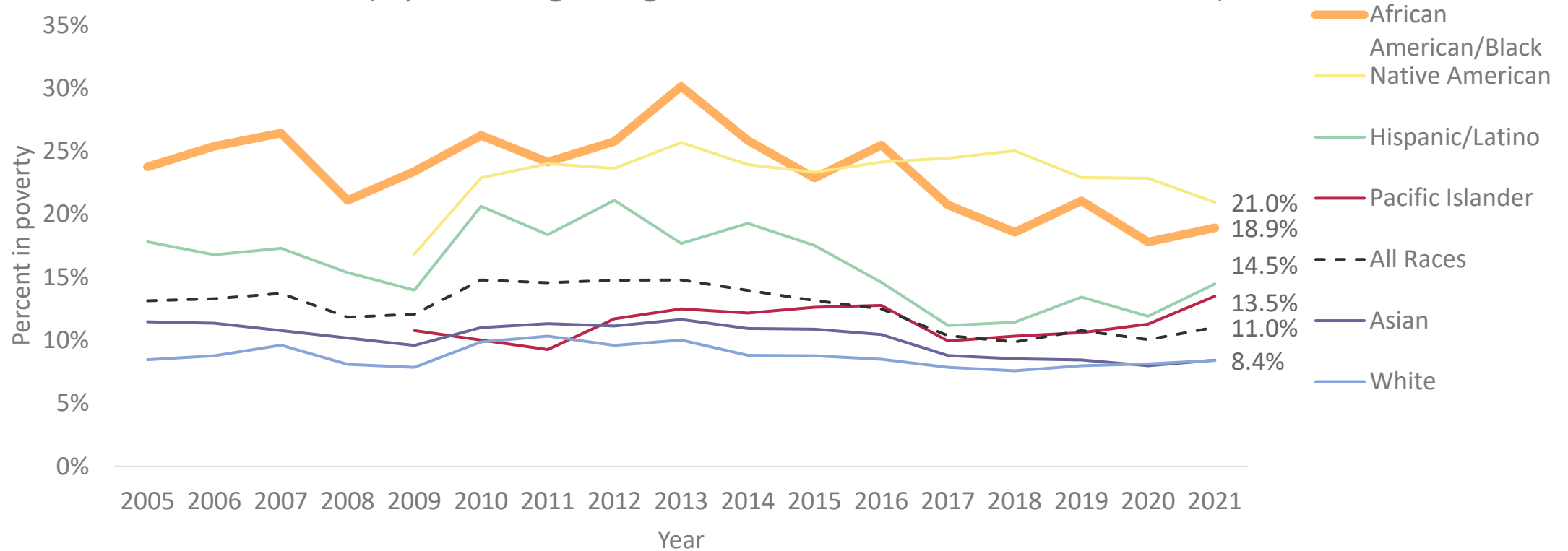
Declines in Cancer Mortality Among AA/Black Residents



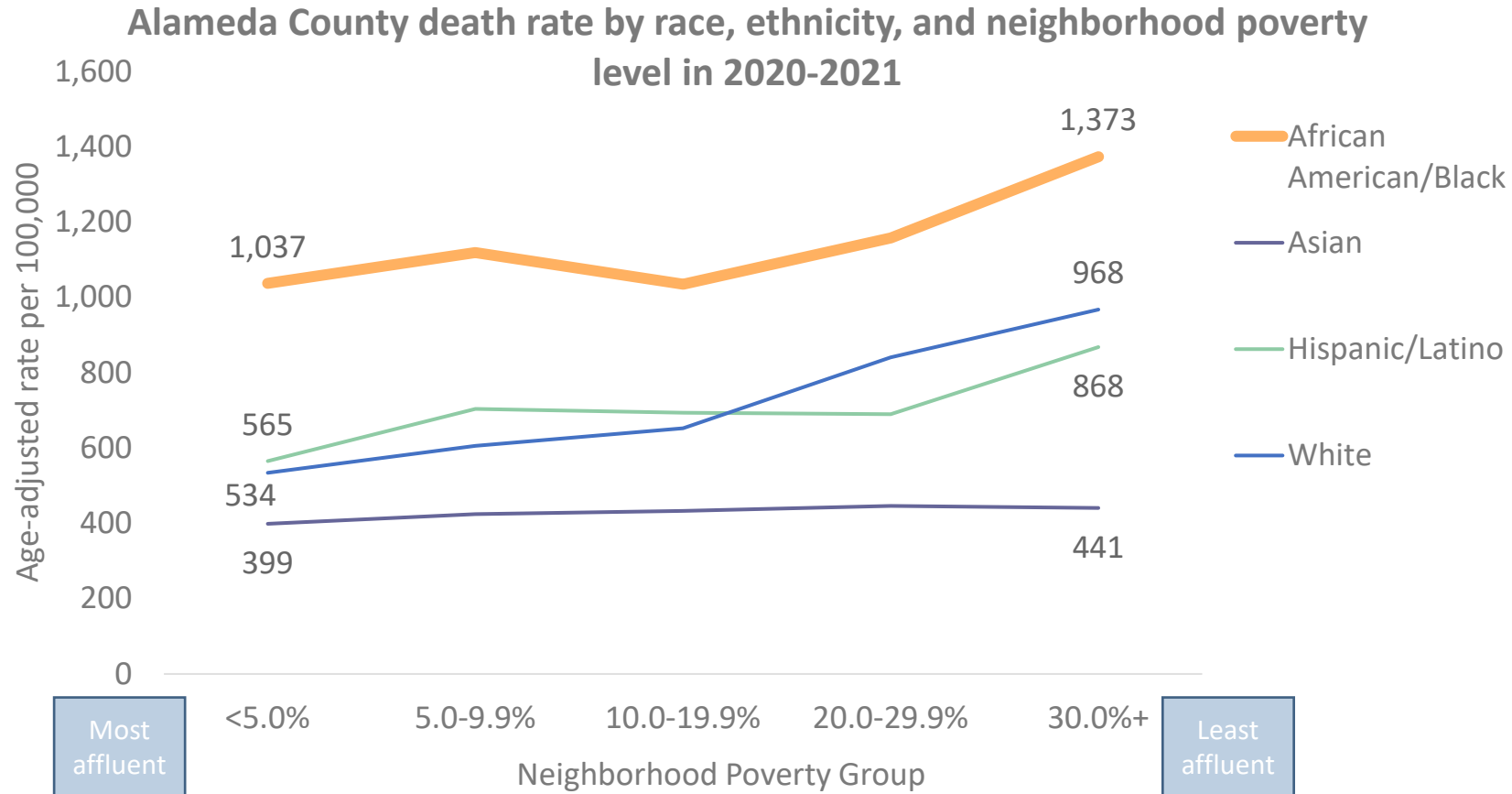
Note: Estimates for Native American and Pacific Islander populations are 8-year averages to provide stable estimates for smaller population sizes

AA/Black Residents in Alameda County are More Likely to Live in Poverty Relative to the Full Population

Temporal trends in the percent of Alameda County residents in poverty, by race and ethnicity
(5-year moving averages for Native American and Pacific Islander)



AA/Black Residents Experience Higher Death Rates Regardless of Income in Alameda County



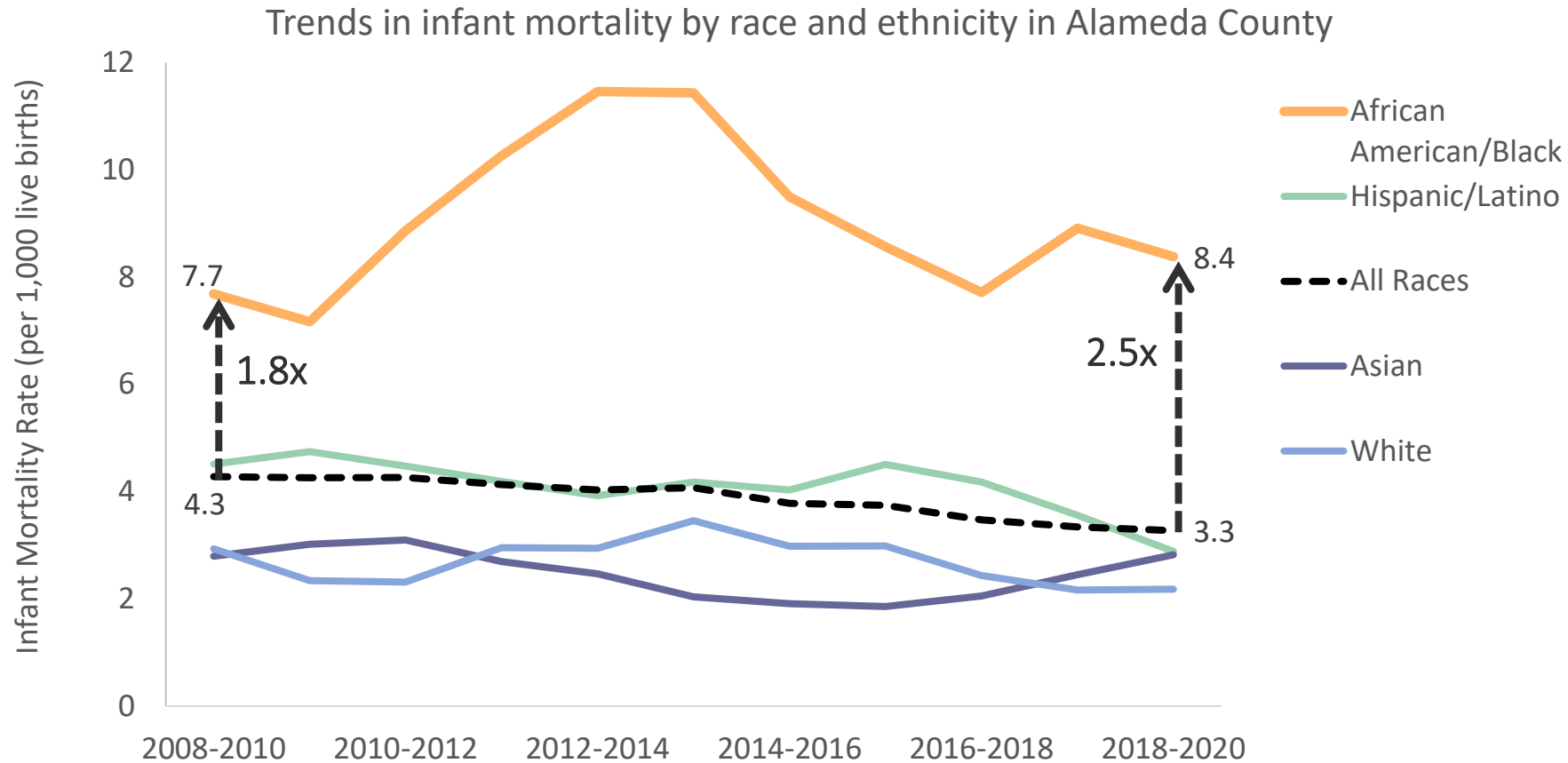
AA/Black residents in neighborhoods with high poverty rates experience higher death rates than other populations

AA/Black residents in the lowest poverty neighborhoods still experience the worst mortality rates compared to their neighbors

Notes: Neighborhood poverty indicates the percentage of individuals living in poverty by census tract. Native American and Pacific Islander populations are not depicted due to small population size.



AA/Black Infant Mortality Rates Remain Elevated Even as Overall Infant Mortality Declines in Alameda County

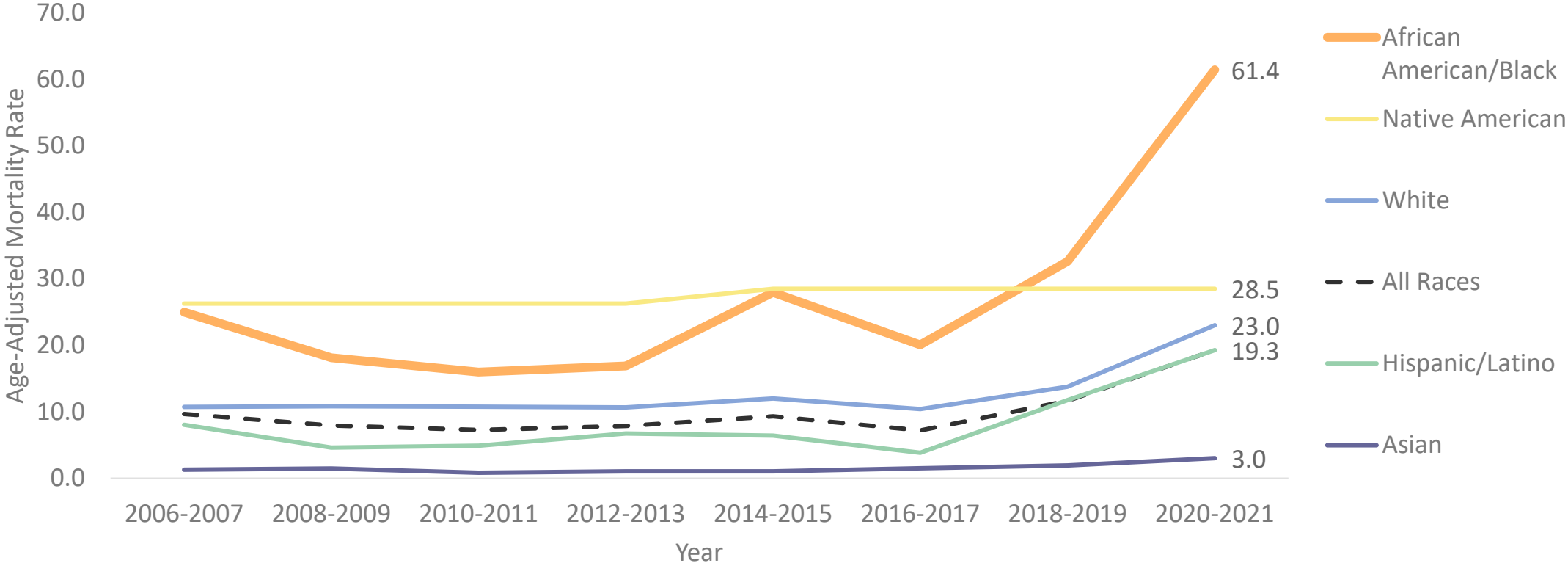


Alameda County Perinatal and Infant Health Indicators. (2023). <https://acphd-web-media.s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/media/data-reports/mpca/docs/acphd-mpcah-indicators-slides-feb-2023.pdf>



AA/Black Residents Experience Highest Unintentional Overdose Mortality in Alameda County

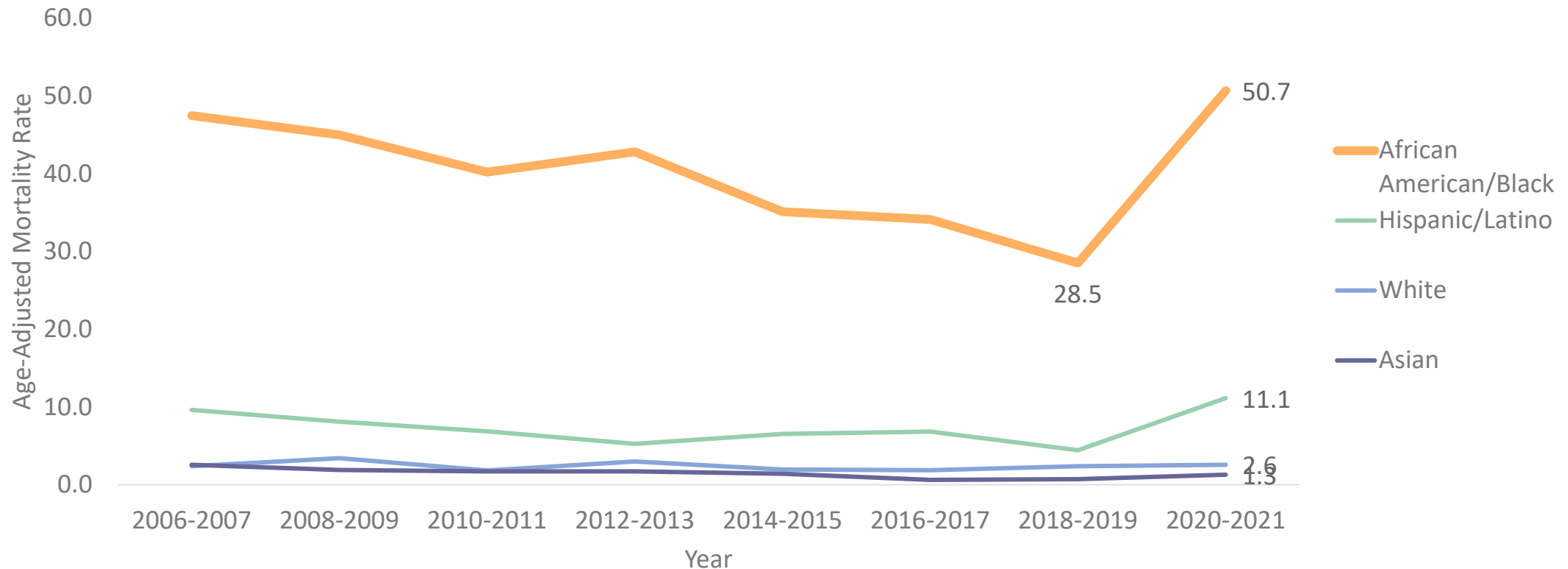
Temporal trends in unintentional overdose mortality rates by race and ethnicity in Alameda County



Note: Estimates for Native American residents are eight-year averages to provide stable estimates for a smaller population size. The number of unintentional overdose deaths for Pacific Islander residents was too few to include.

AA/Black Experience Highest Homicide Mortality in Alameda County

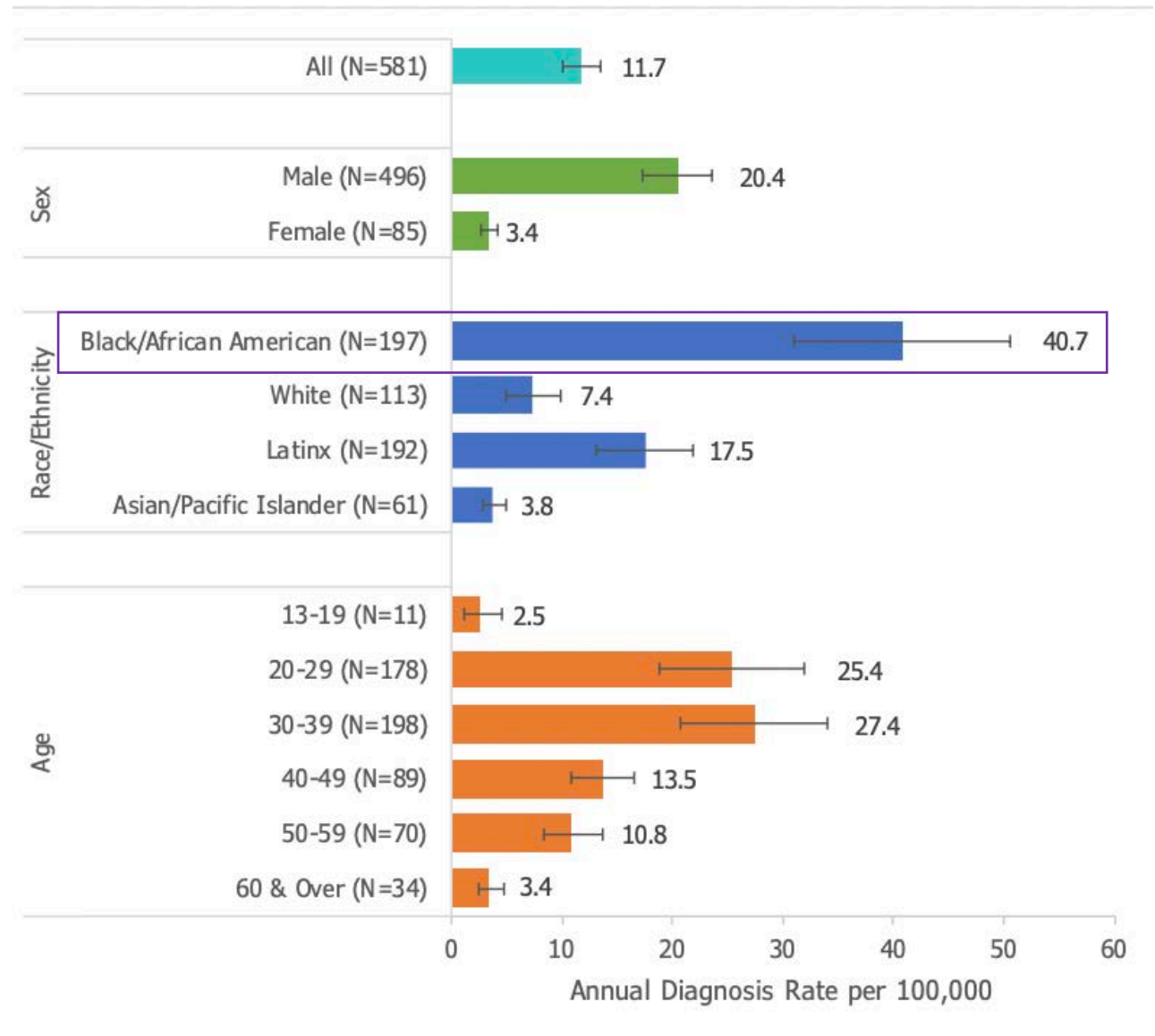
Temporal trends in homicide mortality rates by race and ethnicity in Alameda County



Note: The number of homicide deaths for Pacific Islander and Native American residents were too few to include.

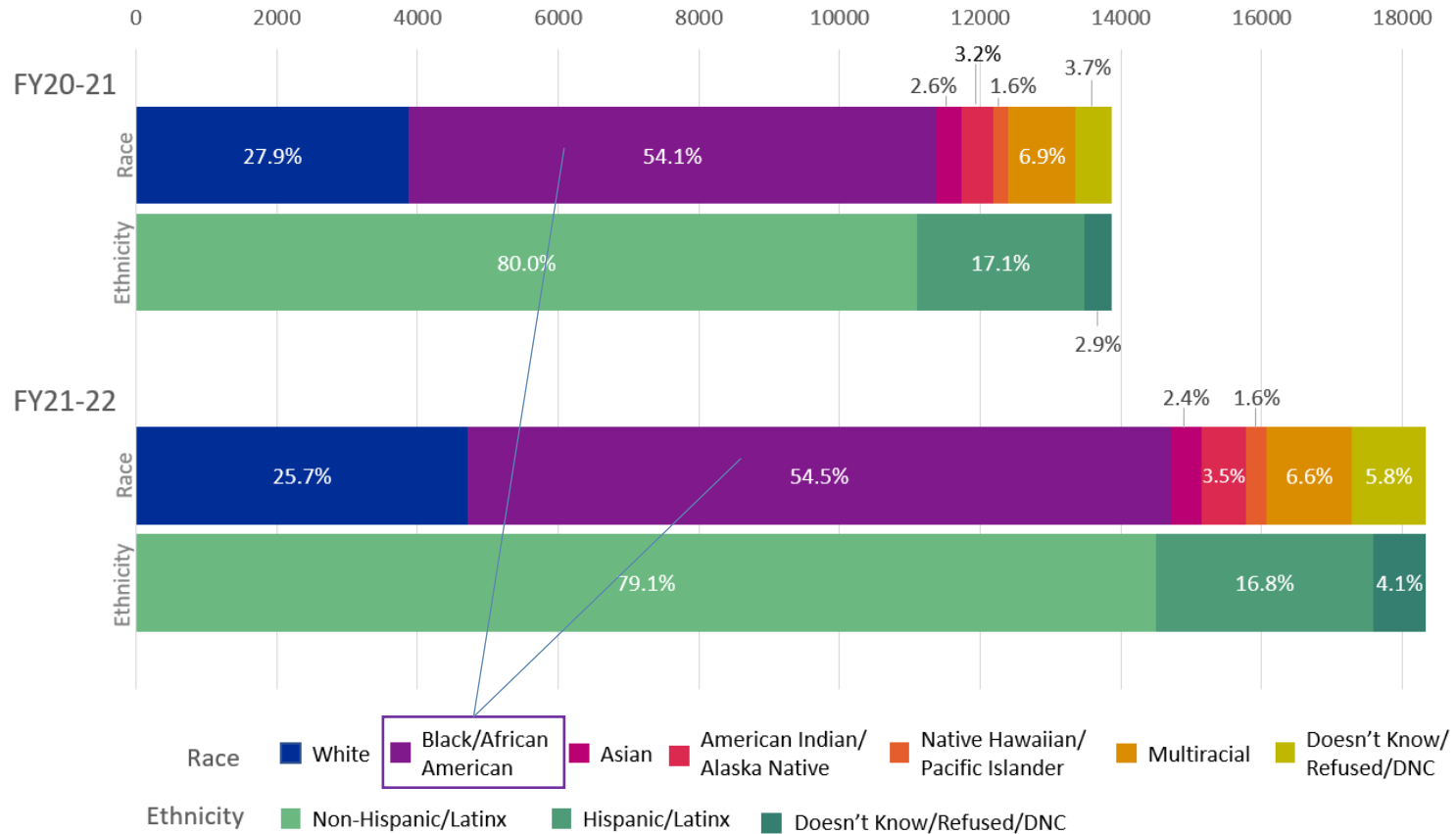
New HIV Diagnoses are 3x Higher for AA/Black Residents in Alameda County compared to Total Population

Source: HIV in Alameda County. <https://acphd-web-media.s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/media/data-reports/communicable-disease/docs/hiv-ac-2019-21.pdf>



Homelessness Continues to Disproportionately Impact AA/Black Residents in Alameda County

Currently Homeless Program Participants by Race and Ethnicity, Alameda County FY20-21 and FY21-22 (HMIS)



AA/Black Residents Disproportionately Experience First-time and Repeat Homelessness in Alameda County

Race and Ethnicity of People Returning to Homelessness

	Black, African American, or African	White	Asian or Asian American	American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	Multi-Racial	Latinx
FY21-22	65%	22%	1%	4%	2%	6%	15%

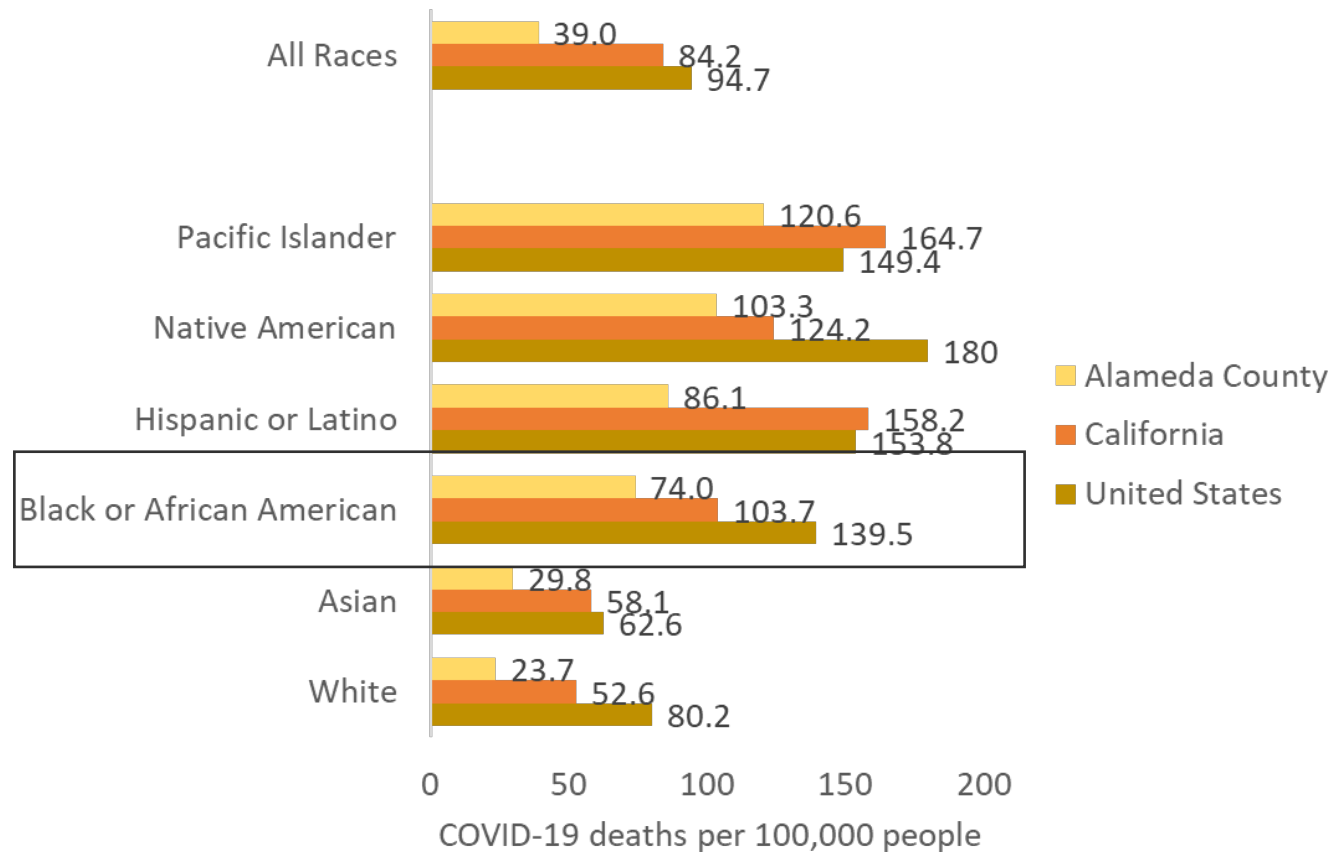
Race and Ethnicity of People Experiencing Homelessness for the First Time (HMIS and PIT Count), Compared to Alameda County General Population

	Black, African American, or African	White	Asian or Asian American	American Indian or Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	Multi-Racial	Hispanic/Latinx
FTH in HMIS FY21-22^a	55% (1,984)	28% (1,026)	3% (98)	4% (147)	2% (71)	7% (240)	18% (668)
FTH in 2022 PIT^b	41% (177)	28% (123)	7% (29)	4% (16)	2% (8)	4% (18)	25% (110)
Alameda County General Population^c	10%	34%	32%	1%	1%	22%	23%



AA/Black Residents in Alameda County Had Lower COVID-19 Mortality Rates Compared to California and the US

2020-2021 COVID-19 deaths by race and ethnicity in Alameda County, California, and the United States



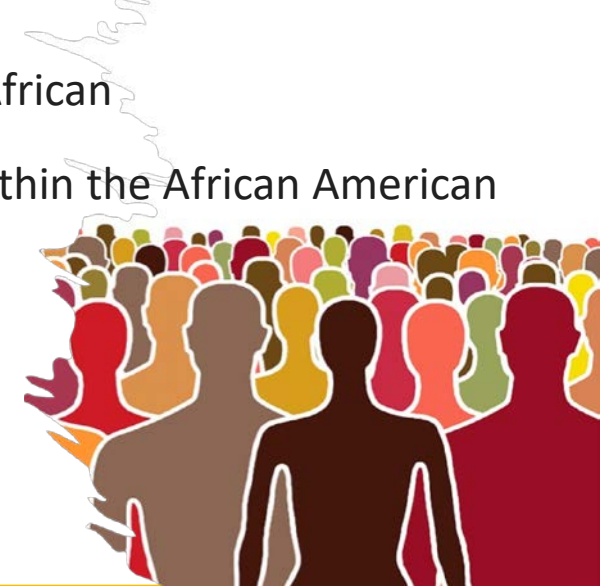
The COVID-19 mortality rate in 2020-2021 for African American/Black residents was 53% the COVID-19 mortality rate for African American/Black people in the United States

Community Strengths & What Works



Community Strengths & Culturally Affirming Programs

- **Beats Rhymes and Life**
 - Transition Aged Youth
- **HOPE & FAITH African American Mental Wellness and Spirituality Campaigns**
 - Mental Health Stigma & Discrimination Reduction Campaign in collaboration with Peers Envisioning and Engaging in Recovery Services
- **AA/Black-Centered Trainings**
 - Youth Who Become Violent: Deconstructing the "Why"
 - The Crooked Room: Racism, Adversity, and African American Health
 - Lessons Learned from a Culturally Specific Dually-Diagnosed Program Design for African Americans.
 - Creating Safer Spaces for Black LGBTQ Youth
 - Addressing the DATA: Diagnostic, Assessment, and Treatment Approaches in Caring for African Americans experiencing Emotional Race-Based Injustices
 - "Emotional Reparations" - Not your Average Initiatives for Holistic Healing and Health within the African American Community."
 - Mental Health for Black Women
- **The Hybrid African-Centered Education and Training Program, Tele-Therapist in Residency Response (T-TnRR)**
 - African-centered clinical virtual and in-person training and re-education for System providers, peers, case managers, counselors, and graduate level professionals.

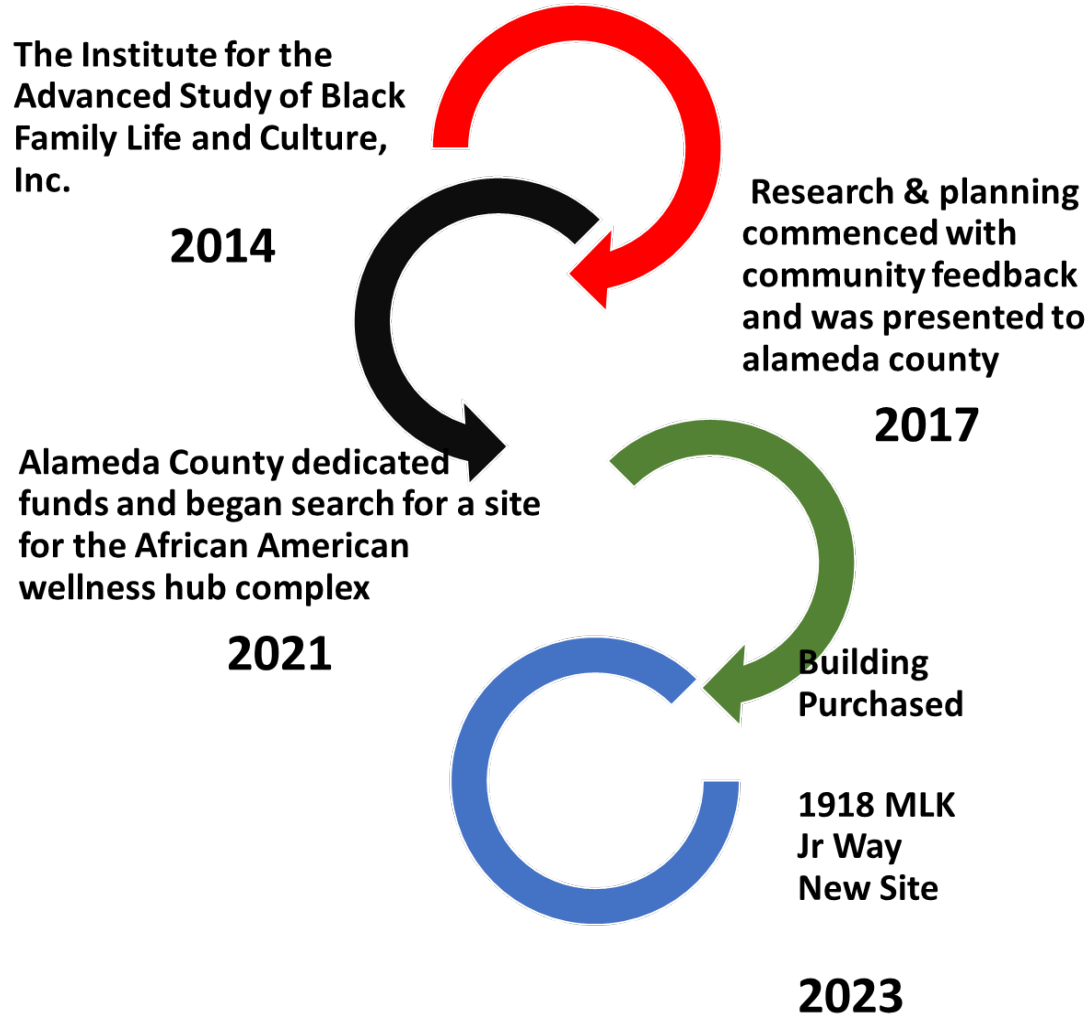


Community Strengths & Culturally Affirming Programs

- **Restorative Justice for Oakland Youth (RJOY)**
 - Emotional Support Groups & Healing Circles
- **Black Men Speak**
 - Speakers Bureau to combat mental health stigma and discrimination
- **Youth and young adult resource centers**
- **Fathers Corps**
- **African American Wellness Hub**



Community Strengths & Culturally Affirming Programs: African American Wellness Hub



Community Strengths & Culturally Affirming Programs: African American Wellness Hub



COVID-19 Success: Community Navigators Network

- **ACPHD's Health Equity team partners with 40+ organizations** across the county that directly touch residents from communities experiencing highest health inequities.
- Community Navigators are **outreach workers, health educators, community organizers, health promoters/promotoras, and front-line service providers.**
- **Purpose-driven, values-aligned partnerships** dedicated to concrete solutions that improve communities' access to services and information.



Strategies to Increase COVID-19 Vaccine Uptake Among AA/Black Residents in Alameda County

- **Capacity Building with Community-Based Health Care Providers** in African American neighborhoods
- **Priority Zip Codes based on data** to center Public Health services and outreach in African American communities
- Engaging communities with tailored **Health Promotion in partnership with community resilience coalitions** working at zip code level to increase vaccine confidence
- **Partnering with Peer Health Educators and Outreach Workers** who are part of the community they serve (Community Navigators) to advise the planning of Public Health services

Rates of fully vaccinated African Americans (5+)

Per Year:

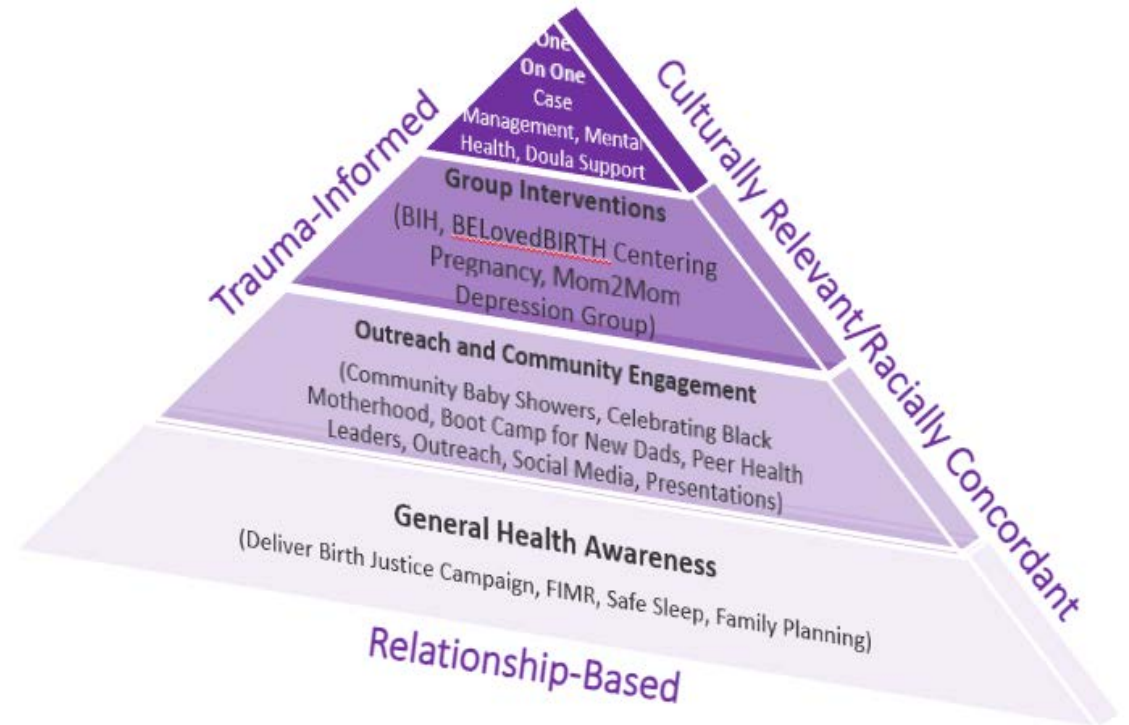
2021 65%

2022 70%

2023 74%



Centering Birth Equity



Prioritizing AA/Black health in Prevention, Health Promotion, & Chronic Disease Management



Healthy Living: Nutrition and Physical Activity Promotion

“SNAP-Ed Soulful Cooking,” multicultural cookbooks



Youth Resiliency & Educational Attainment

“Learn, Earn, Have Fun” Care Coaching/AOD Prevention Program supports high school completion, breaks cycles of violence, and increases self-efficacy



Women, Infant, Children (WIC) Supplemental Nutrition Program

African American Breastfeeding Cultural Outreach Taskforce

Chronic Disease Case Management & Care Coordination



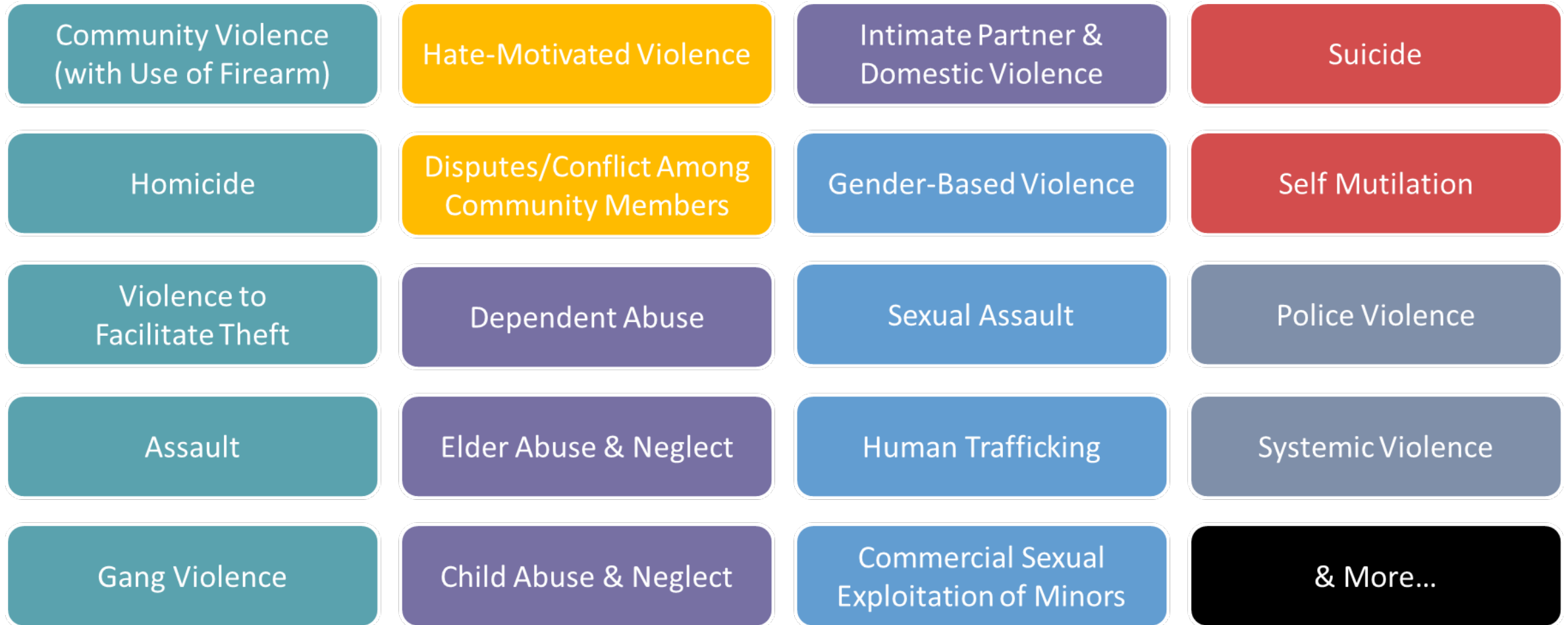
The Diabetes Program provides diabetes education, culturally specific nutrition and physical activity promotion for Black populations, with 94% showing a reduction in A1C levels.

Community Health Fairs and Events

Black Joy Festival, PRIDE, Juneteenth Celebrations

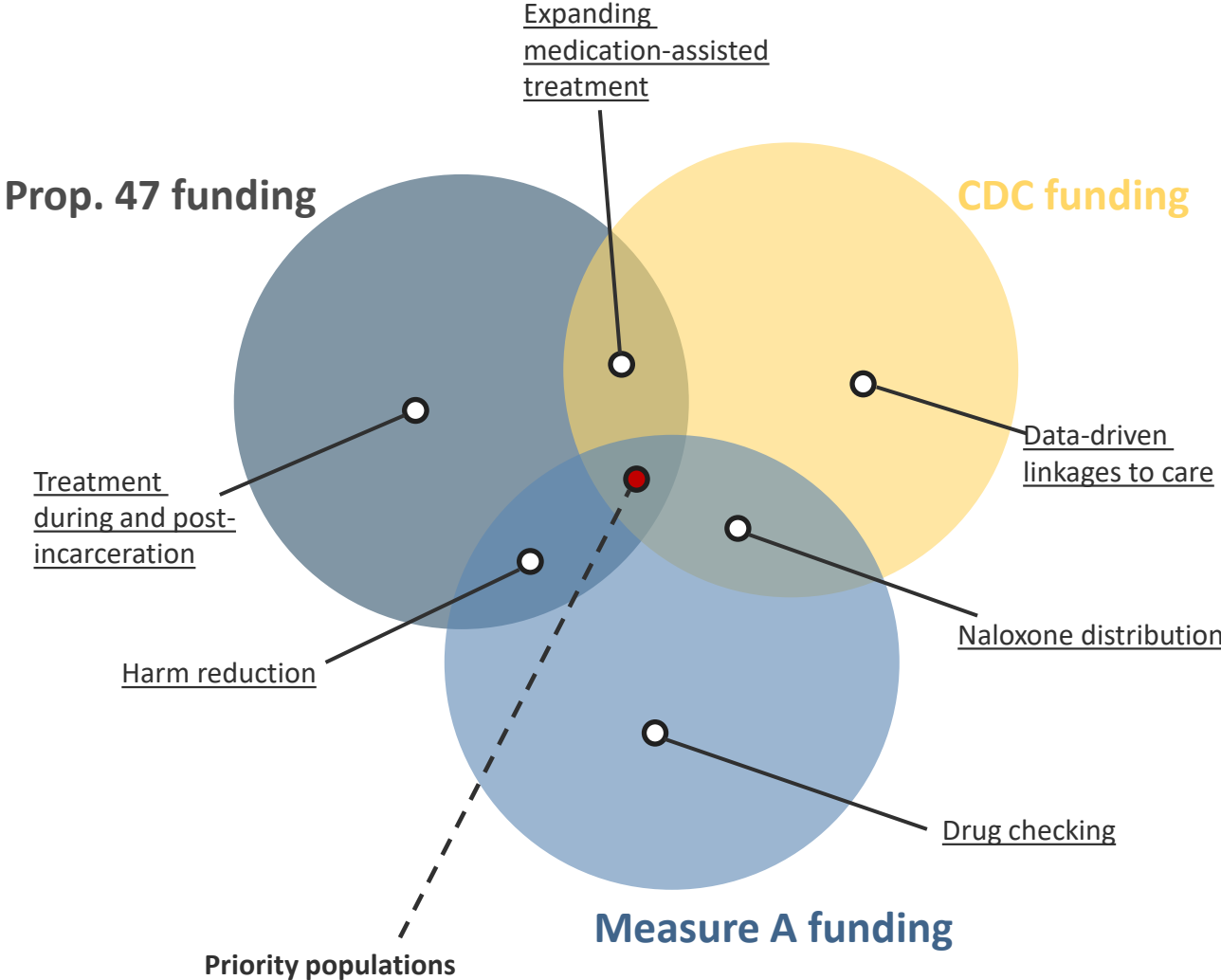


Office of Violence Prevention



Intersectional Overdose Prevention

- Priority populations:
 - African American/Black men
 - People experiencing homelessness
 - Recently incarcerated
 - Recently experienced overdose
- Community partnerships to expand low-barrier access to MAT (medication-assisted treatment), harm reduction, and prevention



Centering Racial Equity in Homelessness Response

- The Continuum of Care (CoC) has adopted three strategies for centering racial equity:
 - Representation metrics for all boards, committees, and workgroups to ensure they reflect the racial demographics of the people we serve
 - Creation of a Racial Equity Committee
 - Requiring each CoC committee to set annual equity goals and workplans to advance those goals
- OHCC has updated the AC Homelessness Response System's Written Standards to include guidance on Promoting Racial Equity and Addressing Systemic Racism and Bias
- CoC's Race Equity Committee reviews OHCC initiatives, including recent funding opportunities through CalAIM
- All HUD System Performance Measures are analyzed by race/ethnicity annually to track progress
- OHCC tracks Coordinated Entry referrals data by race/ethnicity to ensure over-represented populations are getting equal if not increased access to housing opportunities



Summary and Recommendations

- **Policies are critical interventions for decreasing premature death and health inequities**
 - Improve housing quality, access, and affordability
 - Increase education and job opportunities
 - Focus on wealth-building such as Living Wage, Earned Income Tax Credits, and home ownership
 - Reduce pollution and exposure to environmental hazards
 - Address discrimination across all sectors
- **Equity principles to guide policies and actions in Alameda County**
 - Acknowledge and address specific historical and present-day harms to AA/Black communities
 - Collect and use disaggregated data to identify gaps and prioritize where and to whom to direct services and resources
 - Partner with communities most affected by inequities to center their experience and ideas in the formation of solutions
 - Work across multiple government and society sectors to develop shared analysis of root causes of problems to co-develop and align resources and cross-cutting solutions



Thank you & Questions

