



Disparities in the Burden of Breast Cancer Among Black Vs. White Women in Minnesota

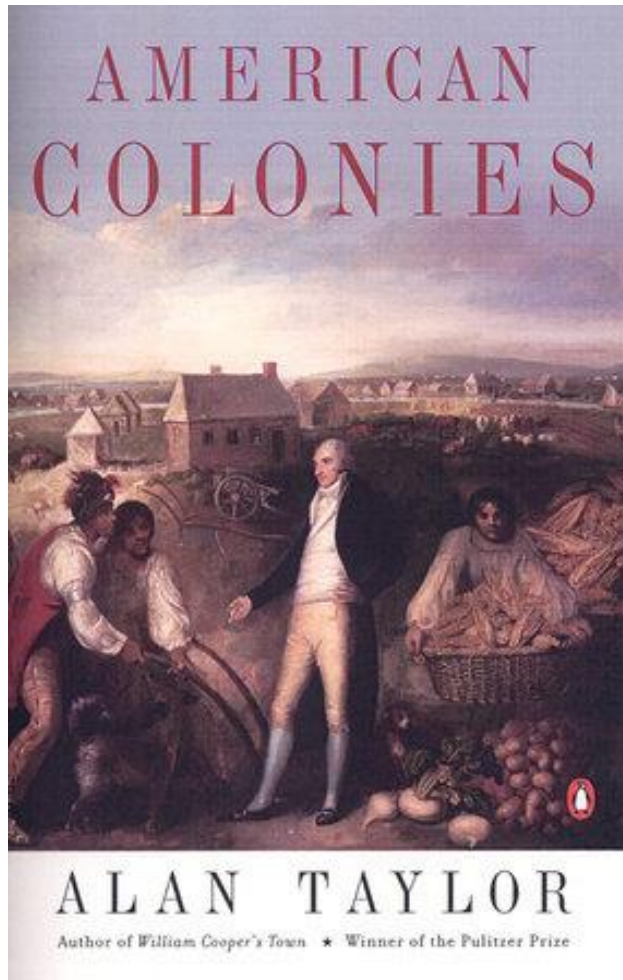
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PROTECTING, MAINTAINING AND IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF ALL MINNESOTANS

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- Please don't hesitate to contact me if you wish to see specific statistical results.

Land Acknowledgement



- We're living on American Indian land

National Data Provide the Context for This Presentation

- U.S. data show large disparities in breast cancer outcomes between Black and White-NH women, with Black women faring worse.
 - Breast cancer death rate for Black women in the U.S. is 35-40% higher than in White women.
- This talk will examine whether Black women in Minnesota experience similar disparities as reported nationally.

DeSantis CE et al. Breast cancer statistics, 2019. CA Cancer: J Clin 2019; 69(6): 438-451

Data sources

- Minnesota Cancer Surveillance System (MCRS), Minnesota's centralized, population-based cancer registry
- U.S. Census population denominators
- Vital Statistics (death records) from Minnesota Center for Health Statistics and National Center for Health Statistics (U.S.)

Outcome measures

- Population-based incidence and mortality rates
- 5-year survival percentages among women diagnosed with cancer

Breast Cancer Incidence and Mortality Rates

Rates are population-level statistics

- Rate == count / population size / time period
- Populations
 - ~215,000 Black females living in Minnesota
 - ~2,380,000 White Non-Hispanic females living in Minnesota
- Incidence rate == Number of new breast cancer diagnoses / 100,000 members of the population / year
- Rates are typically age-standardized

Presentation Order and Conventions

- Presentation order

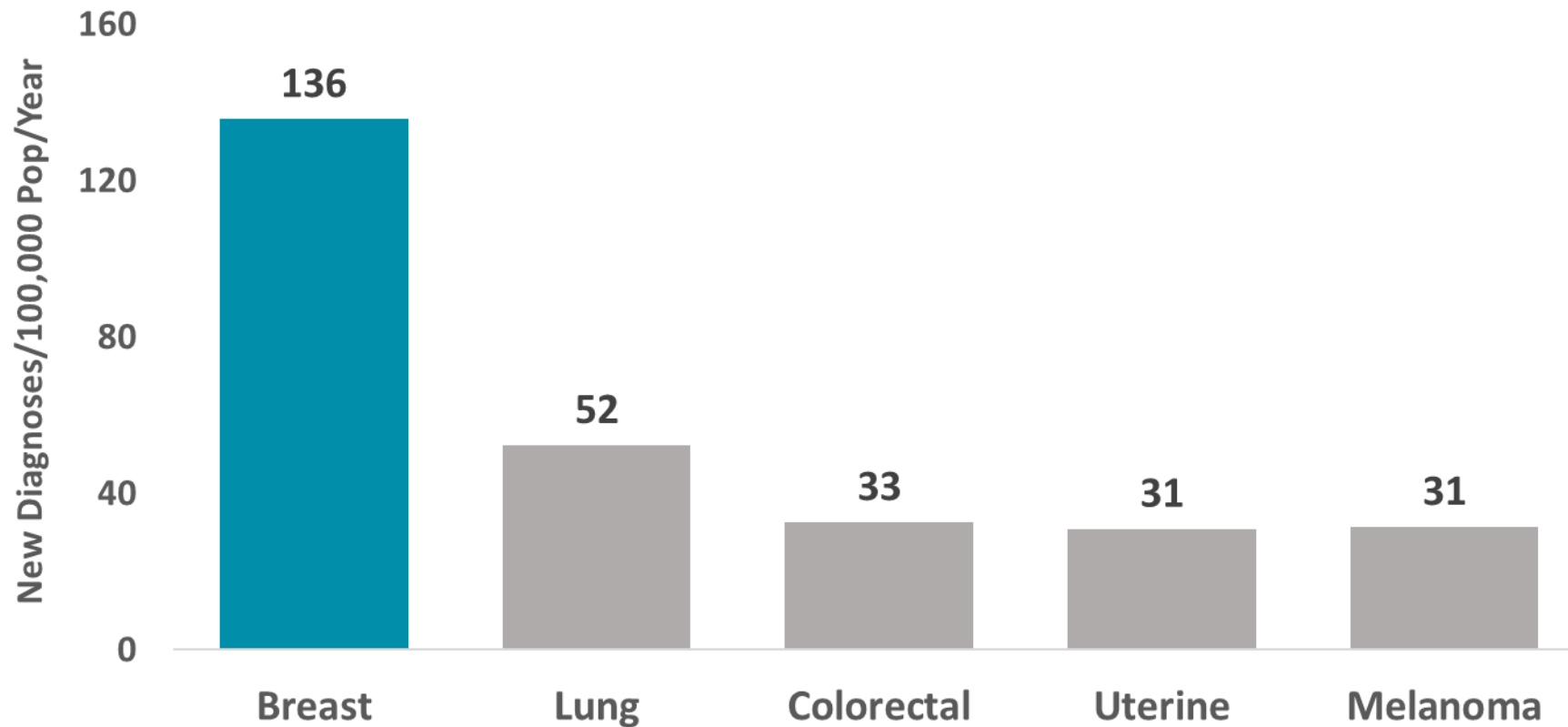
- Incidence rates
- Mortality rates
- Survival percentages

- Conventions

- Mostly bar charts, 1 line graph
- Results for Black women will be shown using blue, purple, green, and yellow color bars (group of interest)
- Results for White women will be shown using gray colors (comparison group)
- “White” == Non-Hispanic White woman
- “Black” includes U.S. and foreign-born women

Population Incidence Rates: Breast Cancer is the Most Commonly Diagnosed Cancer in Minnesota

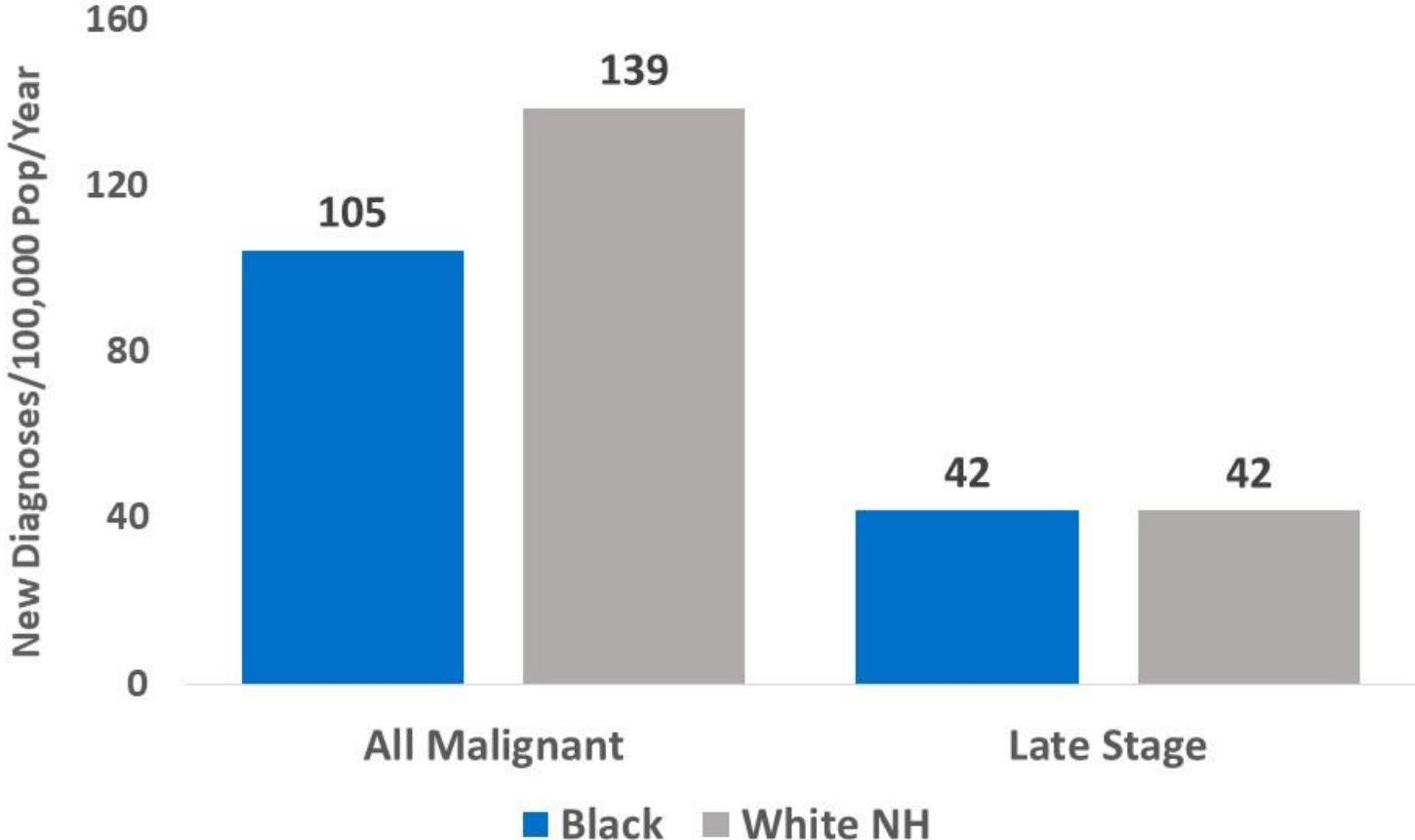
5 Most Common Cancers Diagnosed in Women, All Races, Minnesota



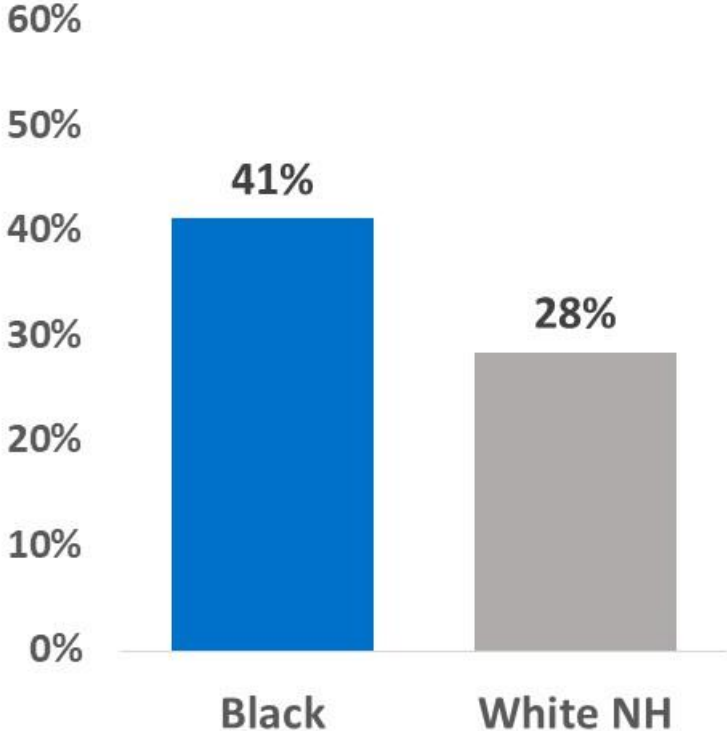
Breast cancer accounts for 31% of malignant cancers diagnosed in women in MN

Breast Cancer Incidence is Higher in White Women but Incidence of *Late-Stage* Breast Cancer is Similar

Breast Cancer Incidence Rates by Race, Minnesota



Percent of Breast Cancers Diagnosed at Late Stage

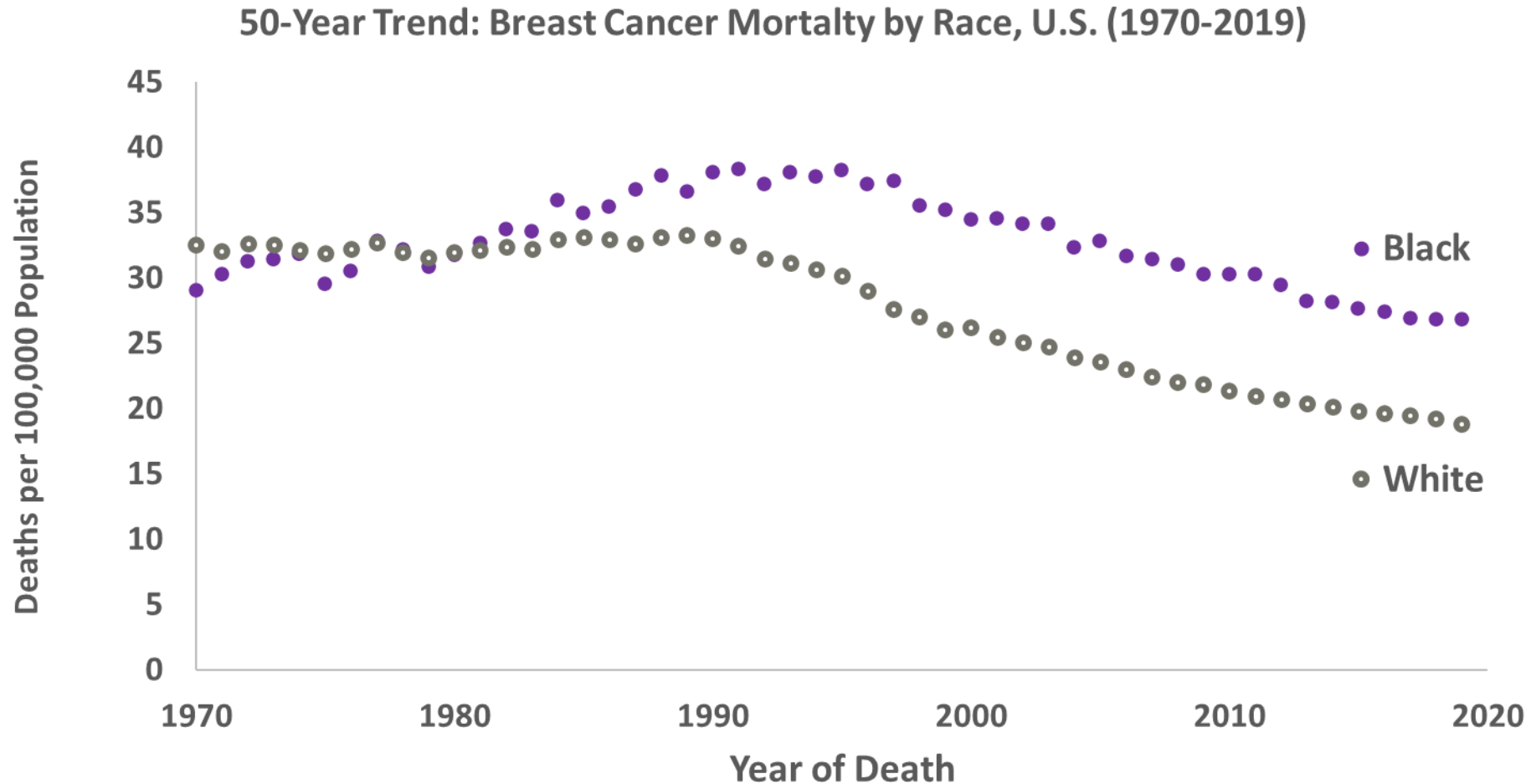


Population Mortality Rates

- Mortality rates are considered the ultimate measure of cancer burden.
 - Mortality rates reflect of all the factors that influence cancer occurrence and lethality in a population.
- Cancer mortality trends (change in rates over time) are our most reliable measure of progress against cancer.
 - Not subject to the biases that affect survival measures.

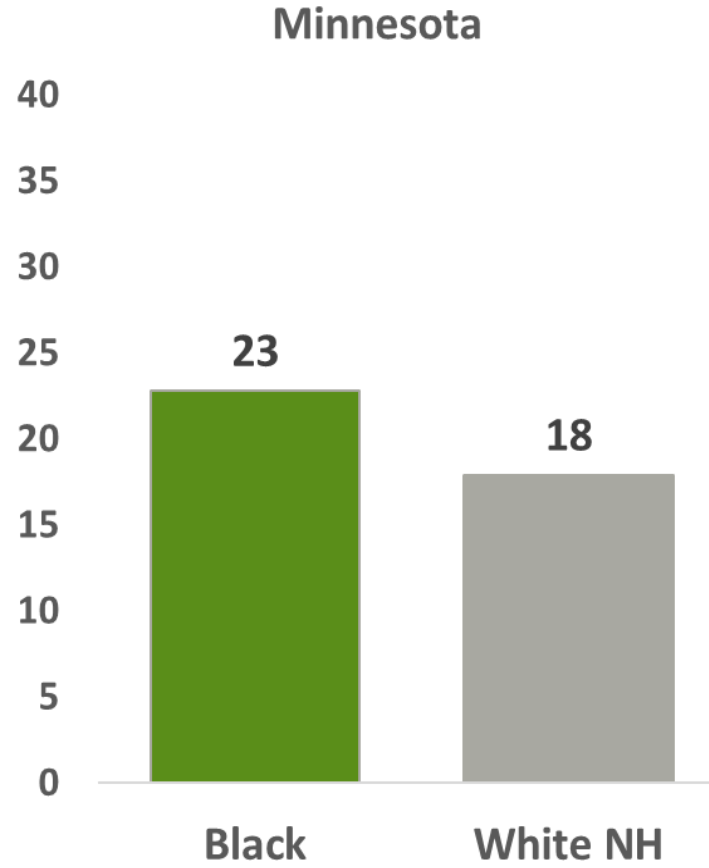
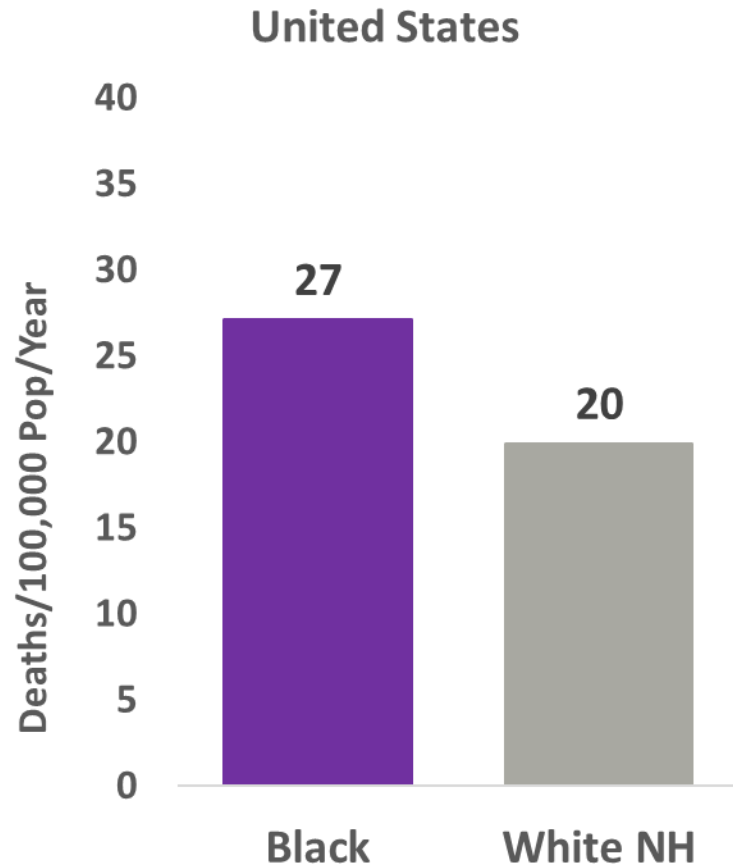
REF: Mariotto AB. Cancer survival: an overview of measures, uses, and interpretation. JNCI Monographs, No. 49, 2014

U.S. Long-Term Trend: Breast Cancer Mortality Rates Have Steadily Declined Since their Peak in 1990, But with a Large Black-White Gap



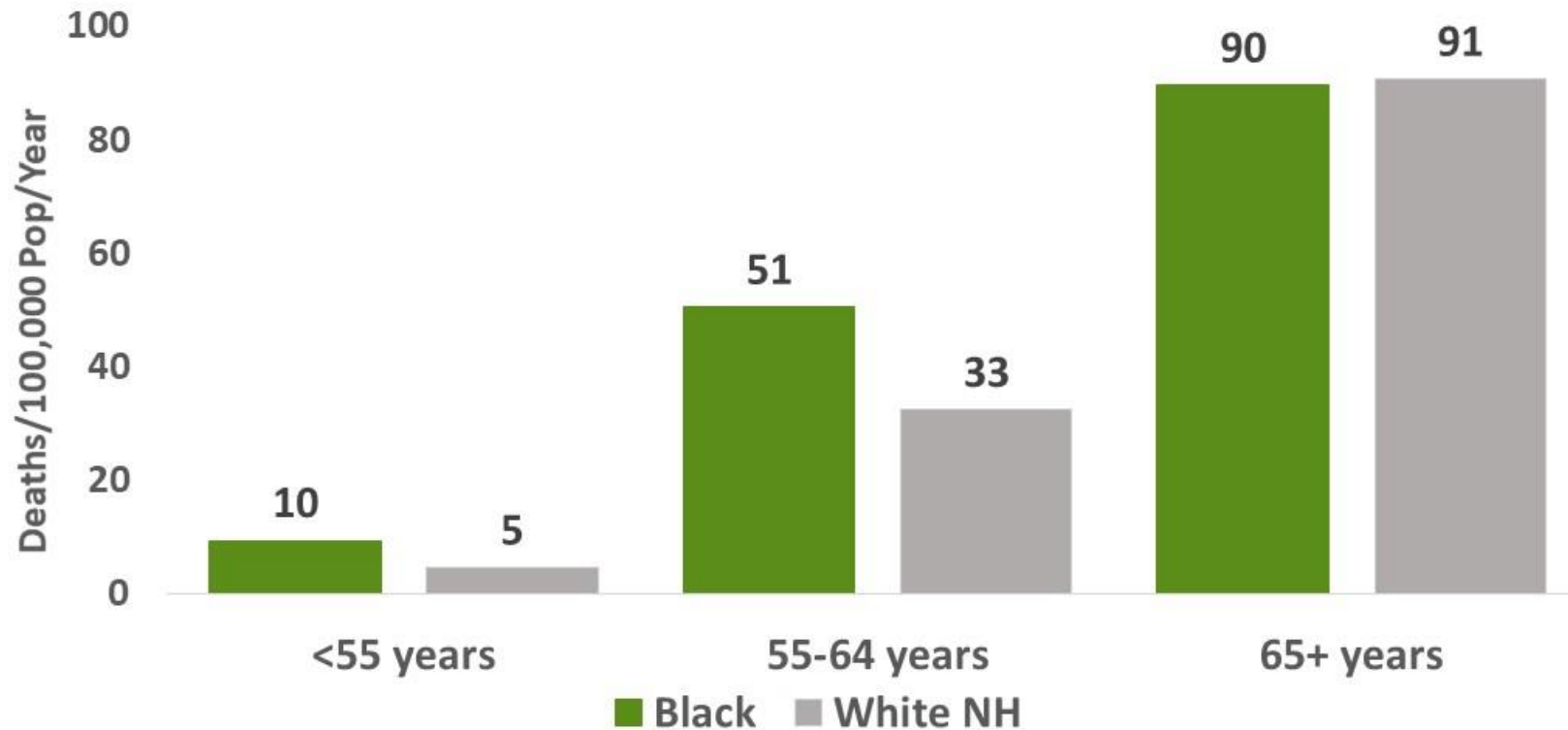
- In the 1970s breast cancer mortality in Blacks was as low or lower as it was in Whites
- Mortality rates have been declining in both Blacks and Whites since around 1995, but with a persistent gap.

Breast Cancer Death Rates by Race, U.S. and Minnesota



- U.S.-- Breast cancer mortality is 36% higher in Black women
- Minnesota-- Breast cancer mortality is 27% higher in Black women

The Mortality Disparity is Concentrated in Younger Black Women



- Black women are twice as likely as White women to die of breast cancer before age 55 years.
- ... And 56% more likely as White women to die of breast cancer at 55-64 years

Proposed Explanations for the Mortality Gap (1 of 2)

- Later stage at diagnosis (late stage == regional or distant stage)
- Unfavorable tumor characteristics
- Higher prevalence of obesity, comorbidities
- Less access to high quality prevention, early detection, and treatment services
- Lower likelihood of receiving guideline-concordant care
- Higher likelihood of delay in treatment initiation

REF: DeSantis CE et al. Breast cancer statistics, 2019. CA Cancer: J Clin 2019; 69(6): 438-451.

REF: Islami F, et al. American Cancer Society's report on the status of cancer disparities in the United States, 2021. CA Cancer: J Clin 2022; 72: 112-143

Social Determinants as Explanations for the Mortality Gap

(2 of 2)

- Social determinants influence breast cancer incidence, stage at diagnosis and survival.
 - Unemployment, poverty, income inequality
 - Residential segregation by race
 - Racial discrimination

REF: Coughlin SS. Social determinants of breast cancer risk, stage, and survival. Breast Cancer Res Treat 2019; 177 (3): 537-548

Also see Racism & health. Health Affairs 2022; 41(2)

5-Year Relative Survival

5-Year Crude Probability of Death

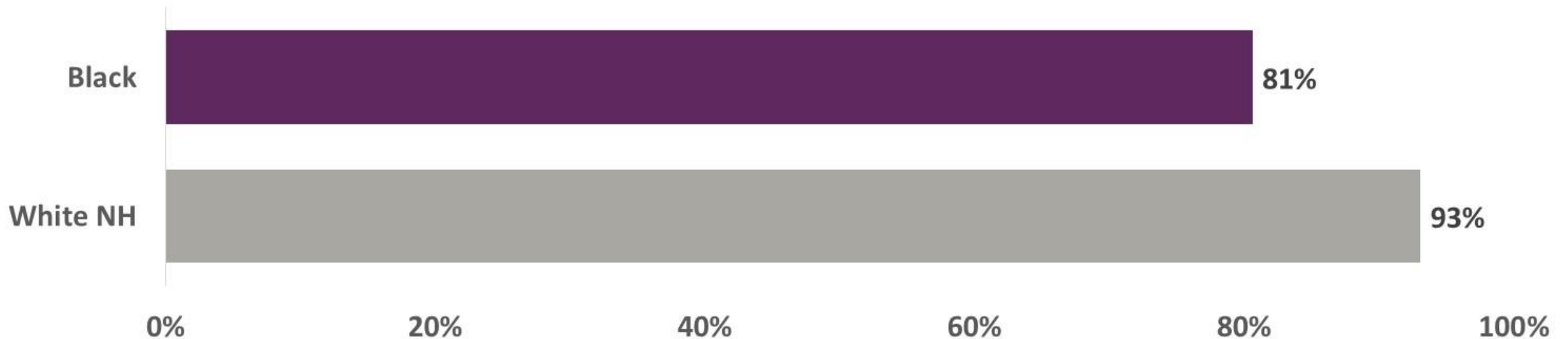
- Breast cancer 5-year relative survival--
 - Probability that women newly diagnosed with breast cancer will survive *their cancer* for 5 years or longer.
 - Alternatively, ... The chance that a woman diagnosed with breast cancer will live 5 years, *compared with what the chance would be if not for the cancer diagnosis*.
- 5-year crude probability of breast cancer death--
 - Probability that a woman newly diagnosed with breast cancer *will die of the disease* within 5 years.

Breast Cancer Survival is Higher When...

- Stage at diagnosis is earlier
- Treatment and follow-up care is high quality, timely and guideline concordant
- Biology is favorable (hormone receptor status, grade)

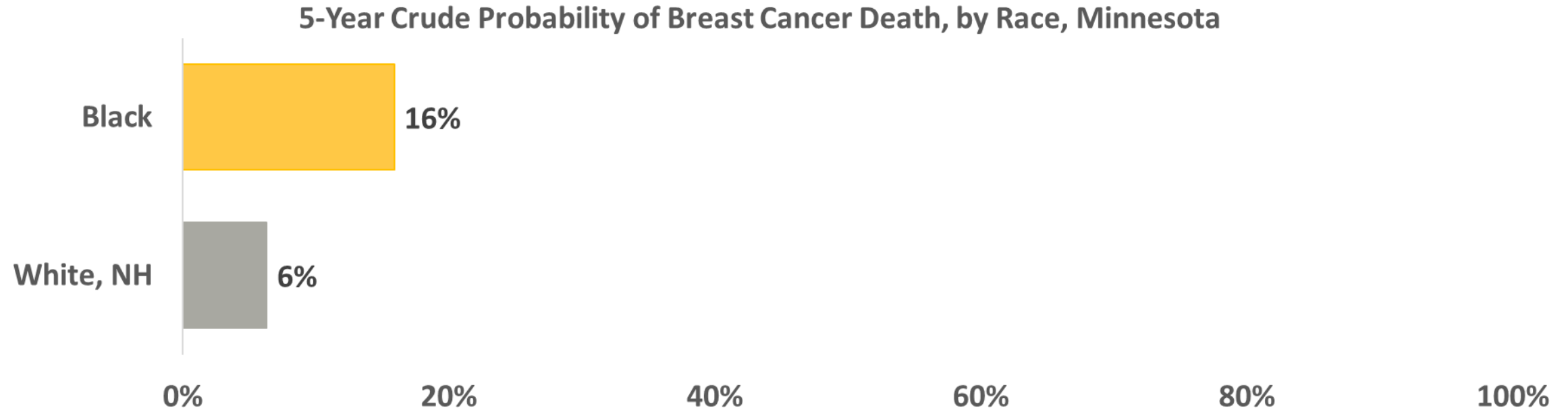
Among Women Diagnosed with Breast Cancer, 5-year Relative Survival is Lower in Black Women

Breast Cancer 5-Year Relative Survival by Race, Minnesota



- Black women are 12% less likely than White women to survive their breast cancer 5 years after diagnosis.

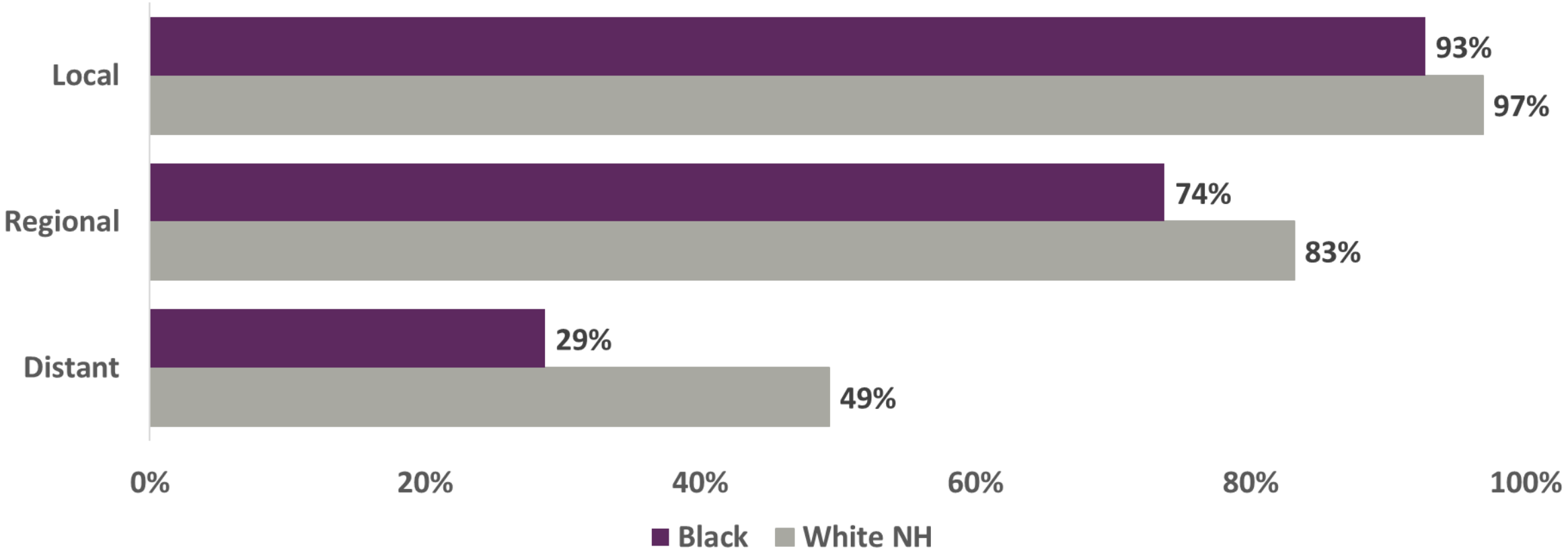
Among Women Diagnosed with Breast Cancer, 5-Year Probability of Breast Cancer Death is Higher in Black women



- Black women are 2.5 times more likely than White women to die of their breast cancer within 5 years of diagnosis

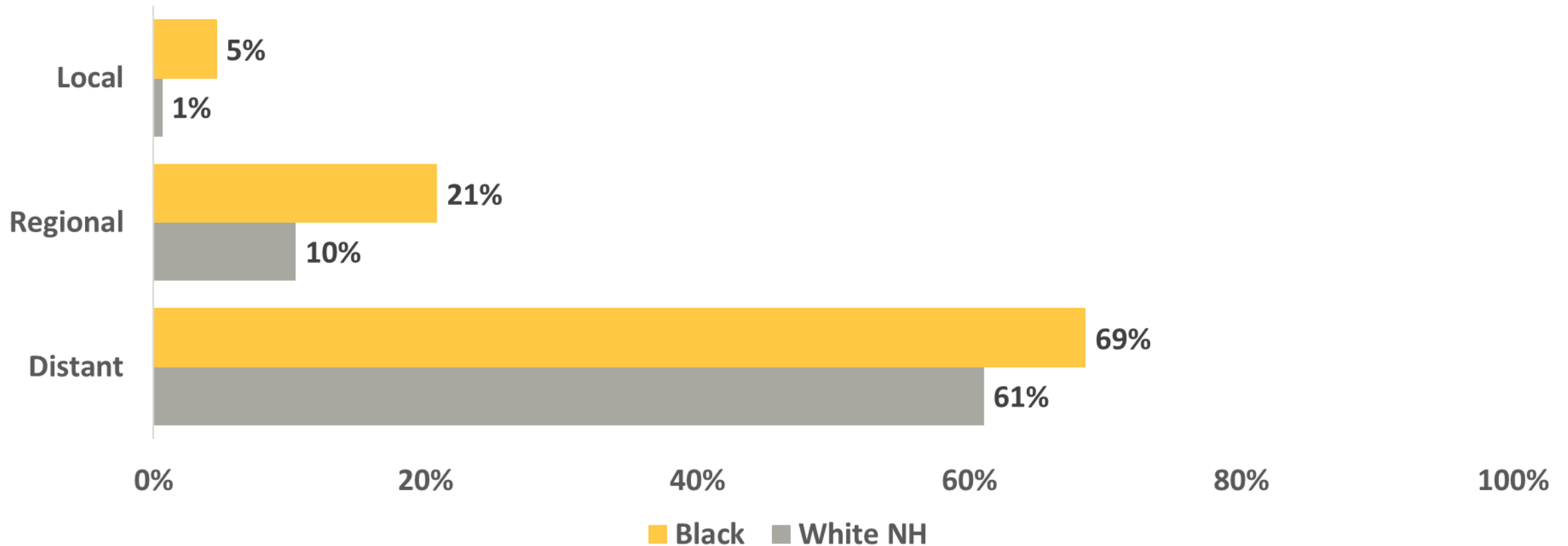
Breast Cancer 5-Year Relative Survival is Lower in Black Women, Regardless of Stage at Diagnosis

Breast Cancer 5-Year Relative Survival by Race and Stage at Diagnosis, Minnesota



5-Year Crude Probability of Breast Cancer Death Is Higher in Black Women, Regardless of Stage at Diagnosis

5-Year Probability of Breast Cancer Death by Race and Stage at Diagnosis, Minnesota



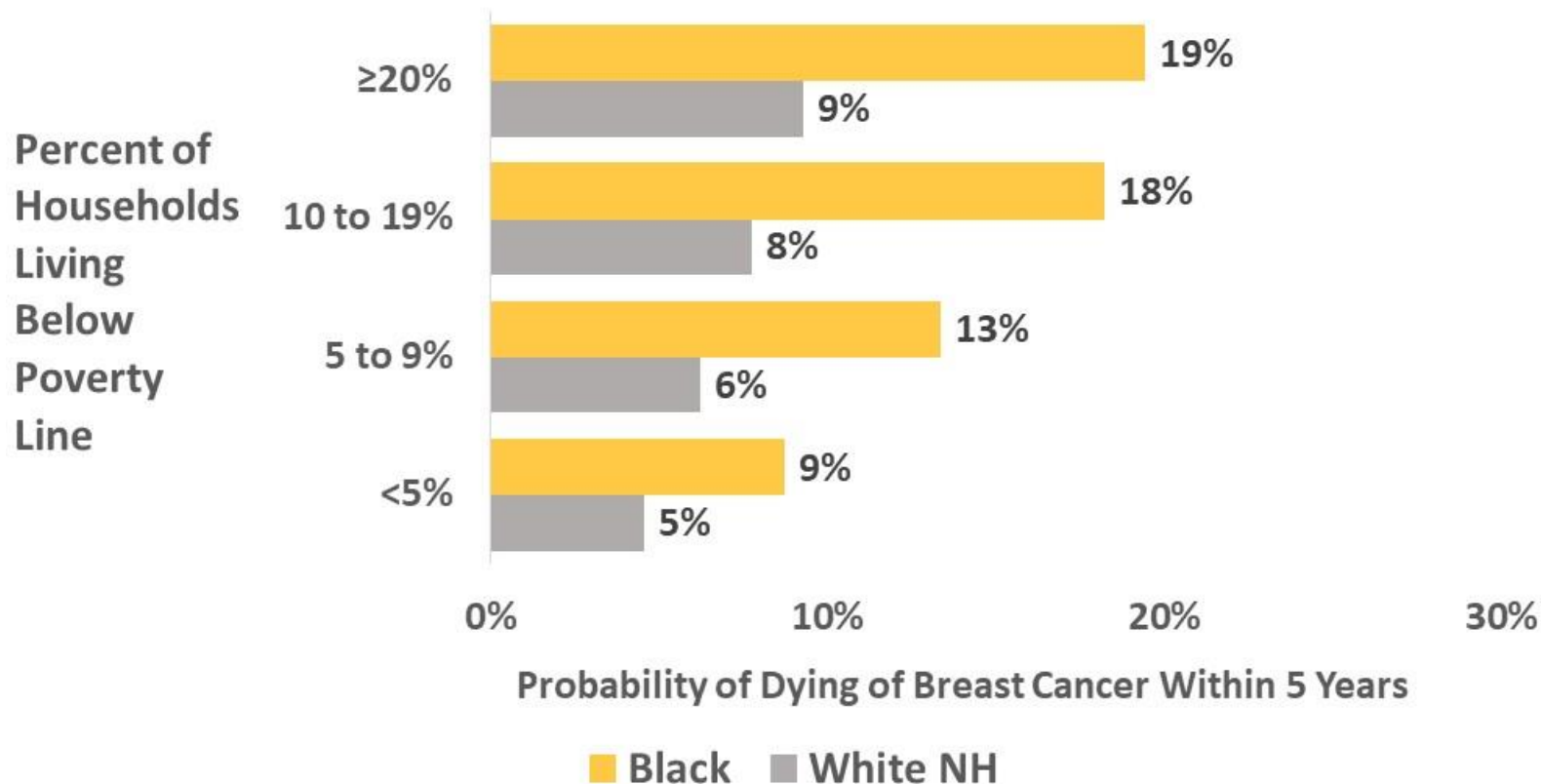
Area Poverty==Percentage of Households in Census Tract with Incomes Below the Poverty Rate

Percent of MN Households in Census Tract with Incomes Below Poverty Rate	Descriptor	White, NH	Black
≥20%	High poverty area	6%	29%
10 to 19%		25%	27%
5 to 9%		37%	23%
<5%	Low poverty area	33%	21%

- The cancer registry has a data item measuring area poverty
- It is based on census tract-level income
- The data item is available only for persons diagnosed with cancer

Poverty effect: 5-Year Probability of Breast Cancer Death is Higher in Higher Poverty Areas, Regardless of Race

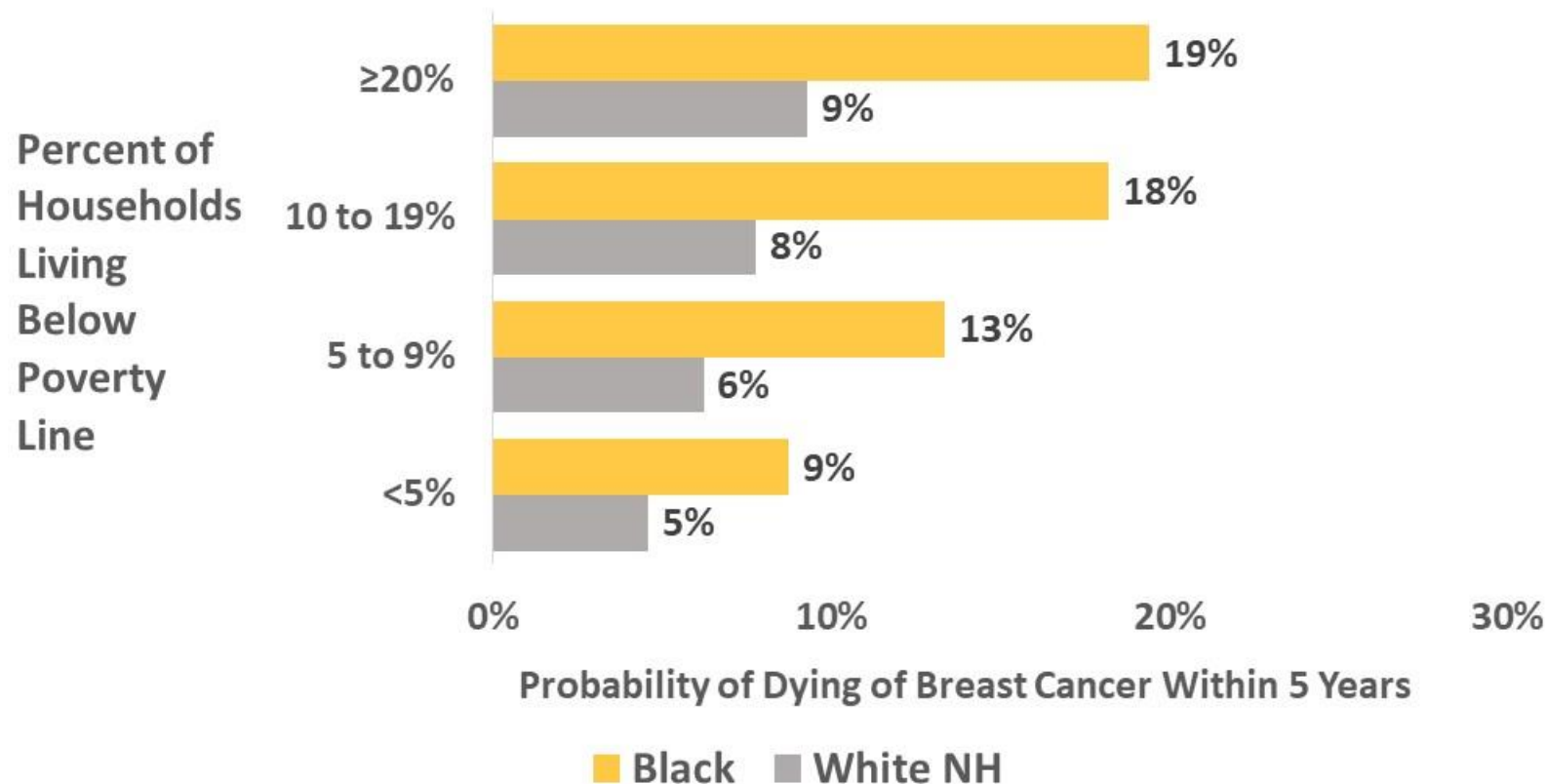
5-Year Probability of Breast Cancer Death by Race and Area Poverty, Minnesota



- Compare between the high and low poverty areas. (Consider only yellow bars or only gray bars for the moment.)
- Women living in the high poverty area and diagnosed with breast cancer have ~2x the probability of dying of their cancer within 5-years as women living in the low poverty area, regardless of race.

Race Effect: 5-Year Probability of Breast Cancer Death is Higher in Black Women, Regardless of Area Poverty

5-Year Probability of Breast Cancer Death by Race and Area Poverty, Minnesota



- Compare within each category of area poverty. (Compare yellow and gray bars at each level of area poverty).
- At each level of area poverty, Black women diagnosed with breast cancer have ~2x the probability of dying of the disease within 5 years as do White women.

Black women have--

- Late-stage breast cancer incidence rates similar to White women—
 - with a higher percentage of diagnoses at late stage.
- Higher breast cancer mortality —
 - with the disparity concentrated in younger women.
- Black women diagnosed with breast cancer have lower 5-year relative survival—
 - and higher 5-year probability of breast cancer death.

Summary: Breast Cancer Disparities in Minnesota (p. 2 of 2)

- Black women diagnosed with breast cancer have lower 5-year relative survival at each stage—
 - And a higher probability of dying of their breast cancer death at each stage.
- Among women diagnosed with breast cancer, those living in higher poverty areas are more likely to die of their cancer within 5 years than are women living in lower poverty areas.
- Regardless of area poverty level-- If diagnosed with breast cancer, Black women are twice as likely as White women to die of the disease within 5 years.

Sage Programs is dedicated to addressing health equity and social determinants of health disparities by:

- Providing improved access to and quality of health services particularly for uninsured, low-income communities
- Assisting patients to navigate systems and reduce structural barriers through appointment scheduling, transportation assistance, and translation and interpreter services
- Partnering with community organizations, over 400 medical provider sites, and many in other sectors to promote equity-oriented health care and improve systems that lead to healthier environments
- Engaging and empowering communities of interest and conducting community needs assessment and health planning
- Conducting awareness, education, outreach, and recruitment activities aimed at isolated, underserved and hard-to-reach populations
- Ensuring program materials are developed in multiple languages, contain images that reflect diversity and inclusion, and depict specific cultures of the intended audiences

End of Presentation --Thank You

References

DeSantis CE et al. Breast cancer statistics, 2019. CA Cancer: J Clin 2019; 69(6): 438-451

Islami F, et al. American Cancer Society's report on the status of cancer disparities in the United States, 2021. CA Cancer: J Clin 2022; 72: 112-143

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Mariotto AB. Cancer survival: an overview of measures, uses, and interpretation. JNCI Monographs, No. 49, 2014

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