

# Characteristics of Multiple-Race Mothers and their Infants

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# Background

- **1997 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) revised standards for the classification of Federal data on race and ethnicity (Revision to 1977 Statistical Policy Directive 15)**
- **The 2003 revision of the U.S. Standard Certificate of Live Birth includes the option to report one or more races for mother and father**

# Background (continued)

- **States that reported multiple-race in 2003:**  
**California, Hawaii, Ohio (for December only), Pennsylvania, Utah, and Washington**
  
- **States that reported multiple-race in 2004:**  
**California, Florida (March 1-December 31), Hawaii, Idaho, Kentucky, Michigan (for selected facilities only), Minnesota, New Hampshire (July 19-December 31), New York State (excluding New York City), Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, and Washington**

# Race question on 1989 U.S. Standard Certificate of Live Birth

**26. RACE**—American Indian, Black, White, etc.  
*(Specify below)*

- Same question for mother and father -

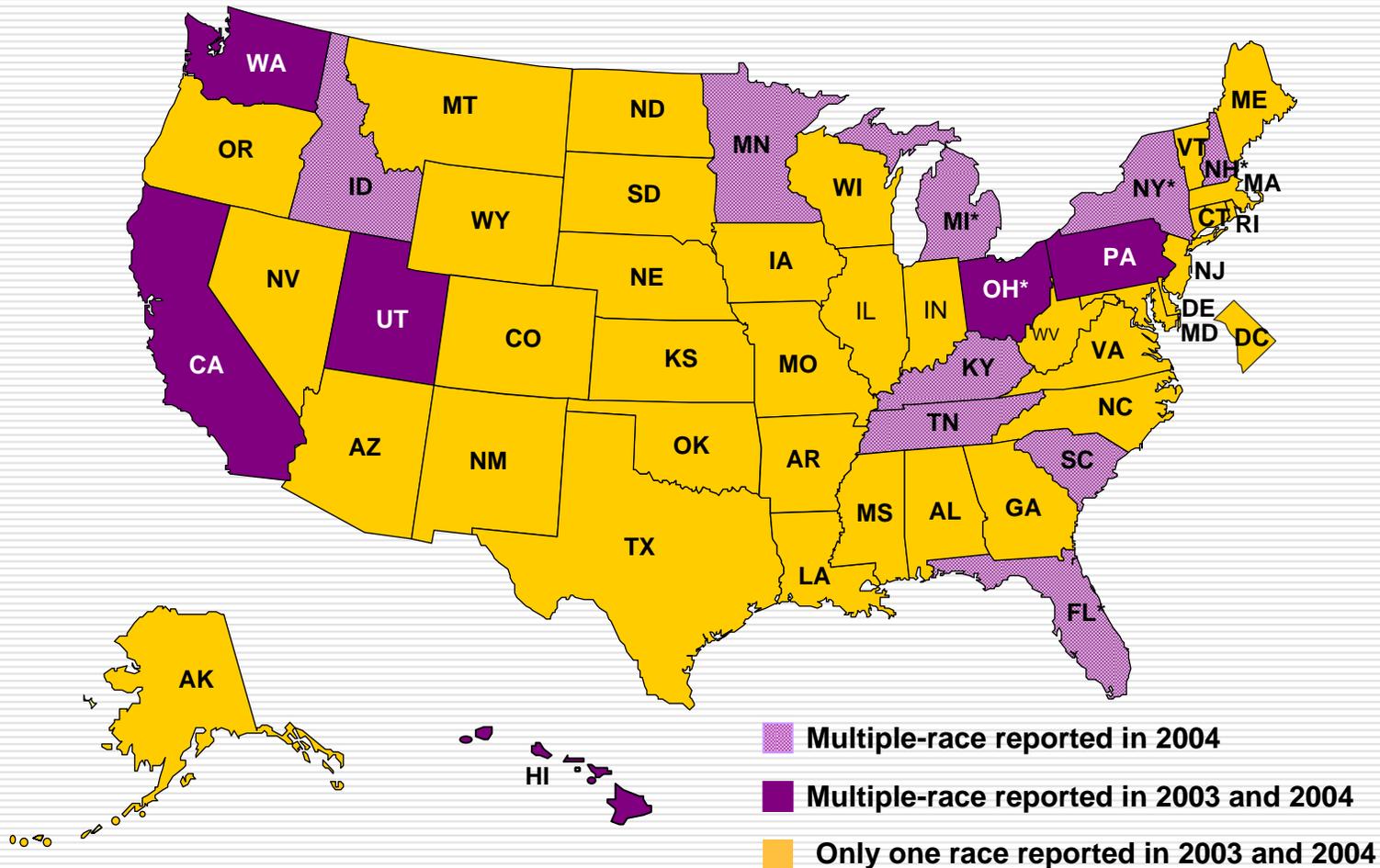
# Race question on 2003 U.S. Standard Certificate of Live Birth

22. MOTHER'S RACE (Check one or more races to indicate what the mother considers herself to be)

- • White
- • Black or African American
- • American Indian or Alaska Native  
(Name of the enrolled or principal tribe) \_\_\_\_\_
- • Asian Indian
- • Chinese
- • Filipino
- • Japanese
- • Korean
- • Vietnamese
- • Other Asian (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- • Native Hawaiian
- • Guamanian or Chamorro
- • Samoan
- • Other Pacific Islander (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- • Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

- Same question for father -

# Multiple-Race Reporting States in 2003 and 2004



\*For 2004, Florida started reporting one or more races on March 1 and New Hampshire started reporting one or more races on July 19. Michigan reported one or more races for selected facilities only in 2004. New York state but not New York city reported one or more races in 2004.

For 2003, Ohio started reporting one or more races in December.

# Objective

- **Compare the outcomes of births for single-race mothers and multiple-race mothers**
- **Identify issues associated with collecting and processing multiple-race data**

# Data Collection and Analysis

- Race data self-reported by mother
- Data for 2003 are based on births occurring in California, Hawaii, Pennsylvania, Utah and Washington to residents of those states
- For 2003, data for Ohio are excluded
- Data for 2004 are based on births occurring in California, Hawaii, Idaho, Kentucky, Minnesota, New York State, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Utah, and Washington to residents of those states
- For 2004, data for Florida, New Hampshire, and Michigan are excluded

# **Data Collection and Analysis (Continued)**

- **Race is recorded from checkbox items and literals**
- **“Other” and “Unknown” are ignored in multiple-race combinations in the analysis**
- **Only the largest groups are presented (N>1000)**

# Categories

- **White alone**
  - **White in combination**
  - **Black alone**
  - **Black in combination**
  - **American Indian and Alaskan Native (AIAN) alone**
  - **American Indian and Alaskan Native (AIAN) in combination**
  - **Asian alone**
  - **Asian in combination**
  - **Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (NHOPI) alone**
  - **Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (NHOPI) in combination**
- 
- **White and Black**
  - **White and American Indian and Alaskan Native (AIAN)**
  - **White and Asian**
  - **White and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (NHOPI)**
  - **Asian and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (NHOPI)**

## Distribution of births by race of mother: Total and each multiple-race reporting State, 2003

	Total	Multiple-race
Total	829,244	2.5%
California	540,189	1.7%
Hawaii	18,081	33.4%
Pennsylvania	142,419	1.8%
Utah	49,666	1.0%
Washington	78,889	2.7%

NOTE: Based on births to residents of California, Hawaii, Pennsylvania, Utah, and Washington occurring in these states.  
SOURCE: CDC/NCHS National Vital Statistics System. All data are available in the 2003 data file and in a forthcoming report.

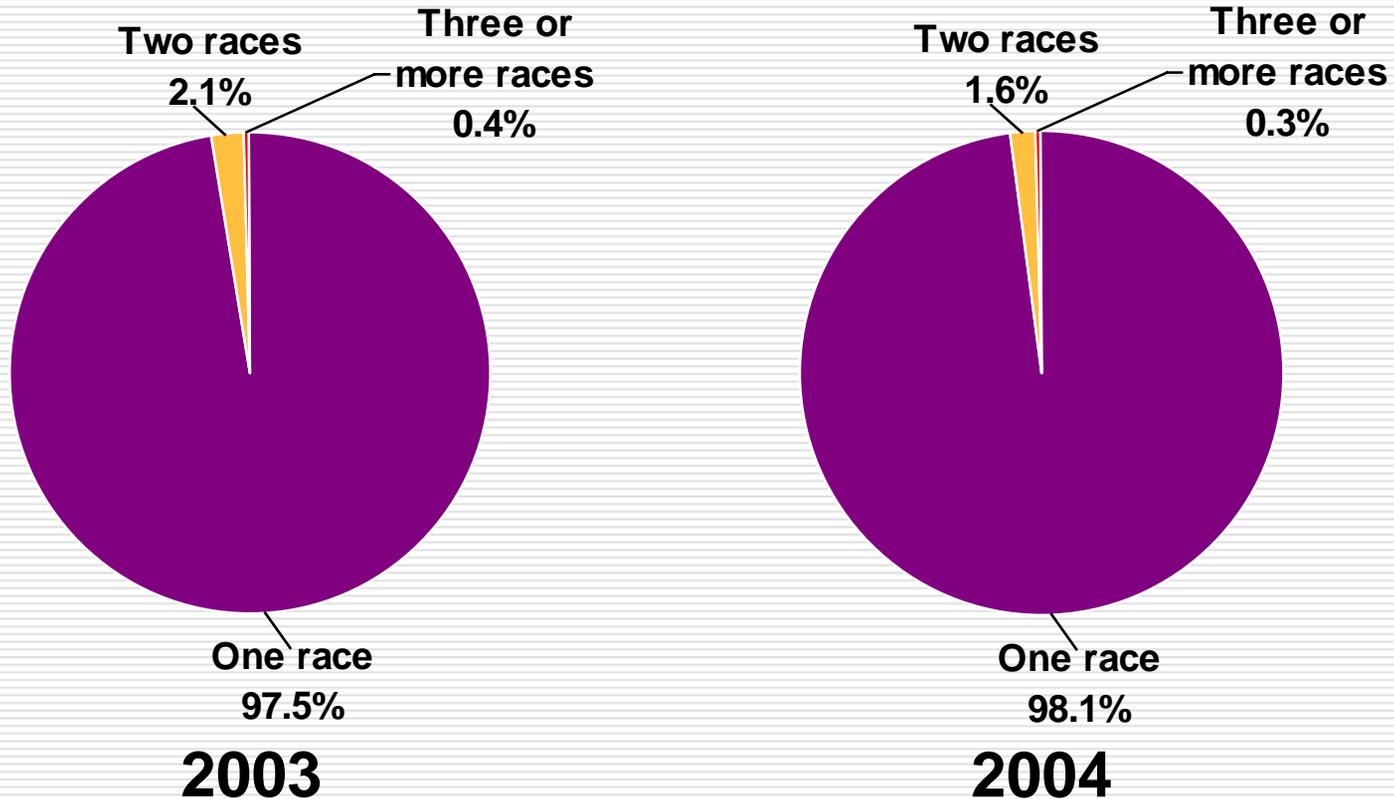
# Distribution of births by race of mother: Total and each multiple-race reporting State, 2004

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Multiple-race</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,382,084</b>	<b>1.9%</b>
California	544,043	1.7%
Hawaii	18,268	34.4%
Idaho	22,143	0.8%
Kentucky	54,701	0.6%
Minnesota	68,544	1.0%
New York State	121,978	1.1%
Ohio	146,782	1.1%
Pennsylvania	141,679	1.9%
South Carolina	53,745	0.9%
Tennessee	79,178	0.6%
Utah	50,485	0.9%
Washington	80,538	2.9%

**NOTE:** Based on births to residents of California, Hawaii, Idaho, Kentucky, Minnesota, New York State, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, and Washington occurring in these states.

**SOURCE:** CDC/NCHS National Vital Statistics System. Results shown are preliminary. All data will be available in the 2004 data file.

# Distribution of births by selected race of mother: Multiple-race reporting areas, 2003 and 2004

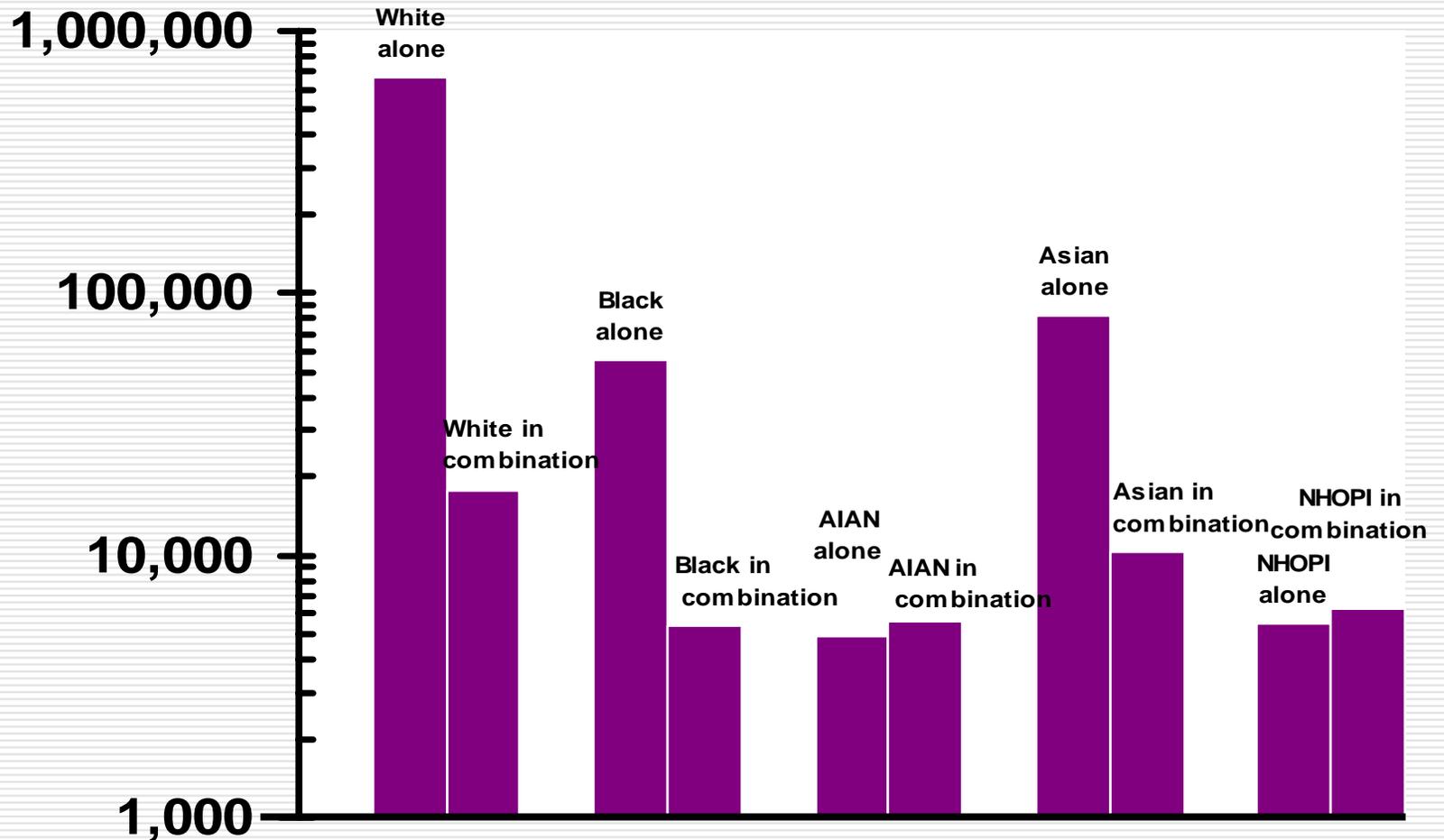


NOTES: For 2003, based on births to residents of California, Hawaii, Pennsylvania, Utah, and Washington occurring in these states.

For 2004, based on births to residents of California, Hawaii, Idaho, Kentucky, Minnesota, New York State, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, and Washington occurring in these states.

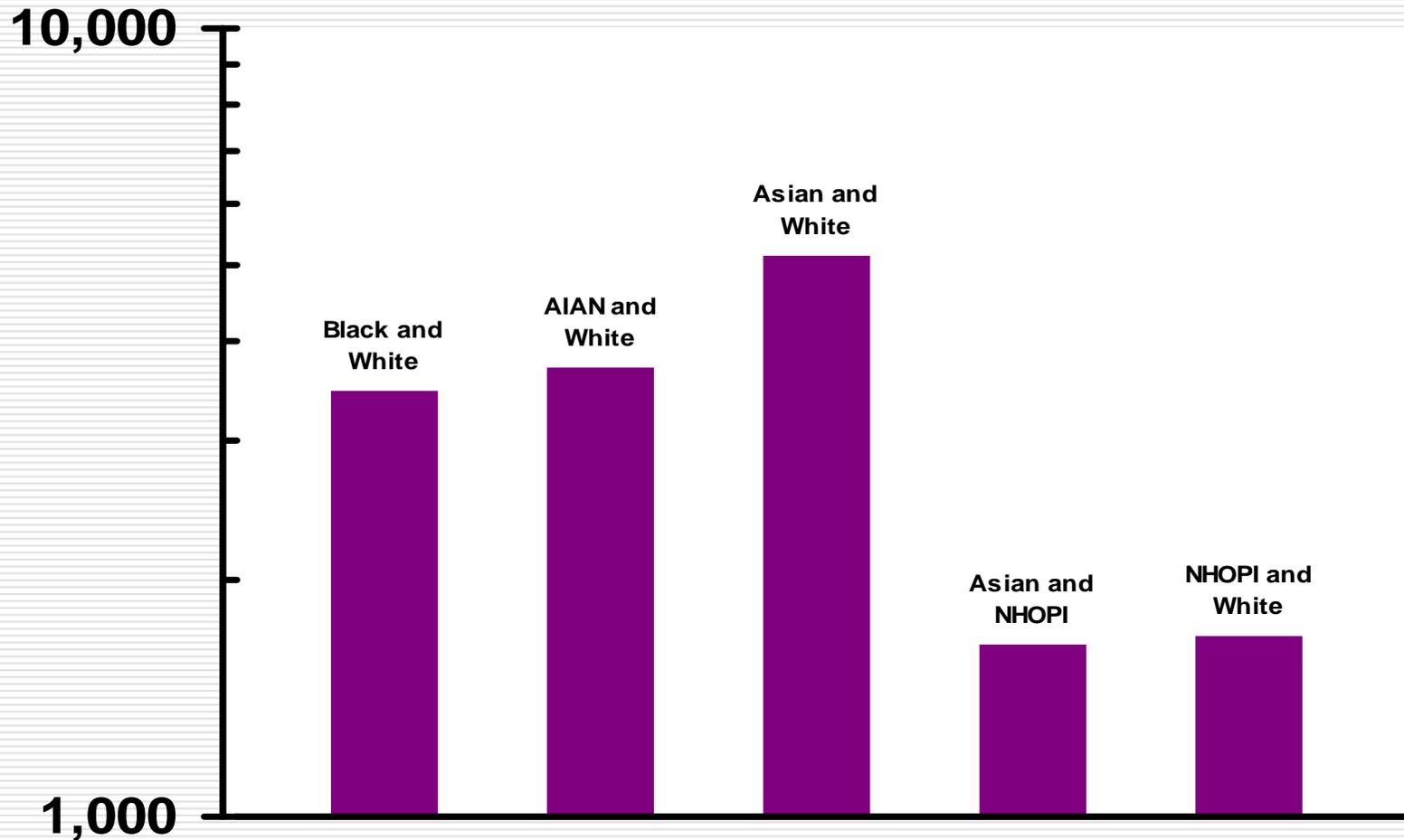
SOURCE: CDC/NCHS National Vital Statistics System. All data are available in the 2003 data file and in a forthcoming report.

# Number of births by race of mother, alone or in combination: Multiple-race reporting areas, 2003



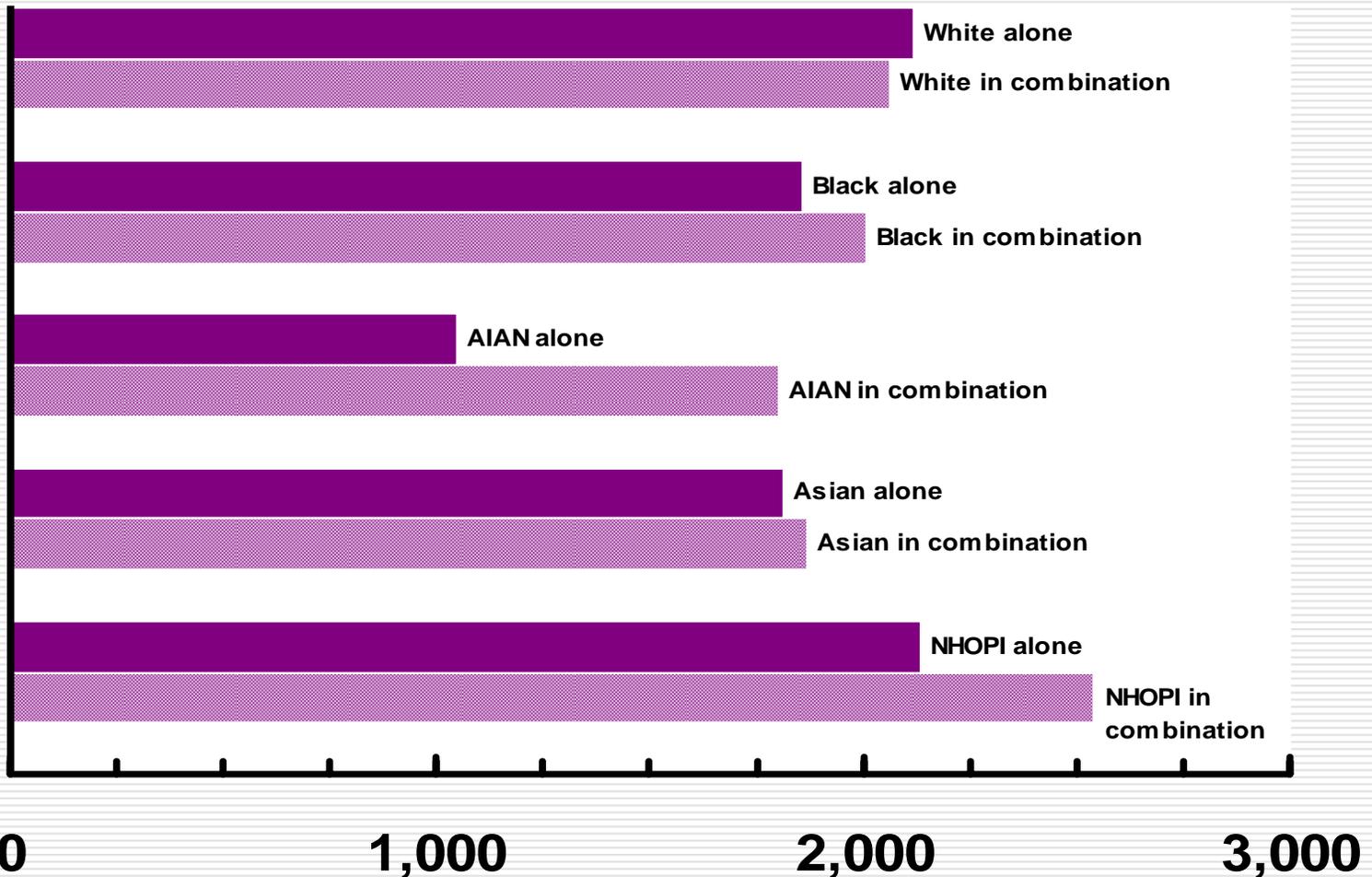
NOTE: Based on births to residents of California, Hawaii, Pennsylvania, Utah, and Washington occurring in these states.  
SOURCE: CDC/NCHS National Vital Statistics System. All data are available in the 2003 data file and in a forthcoming report.

# Number of births by selected biracial combinations of mother: Multiple-race reporting areas, 2003



NOTE: Based on births to residents of California, Hawaii, Pennsylvania, Utah, and Washington occurring in these states.  
SOURCE: CDC/NCHS National Vital Statistics System. All data are available in the 2003 data file and in a forthcoming report.

# Total fertility rate by race of mother, alone or in combination: Multiple-race reporting areas, 2003

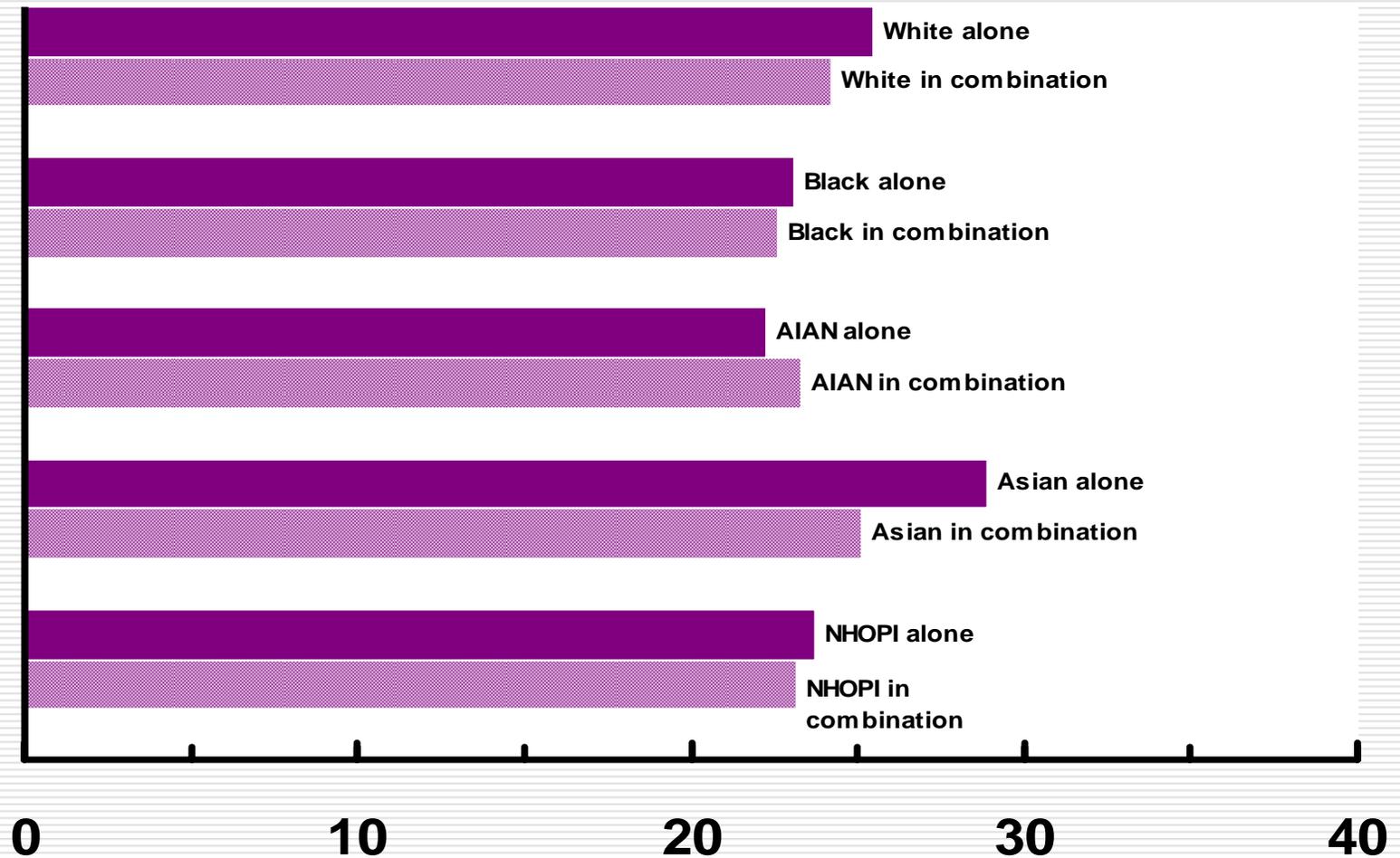


Total fertility rates are sums of birth rates for 5-year age groups multiplied by 5.

NOTE: Based on births to residents of California, Hawaii, Pennsylvania, Utah, and Washington occurring in these states.

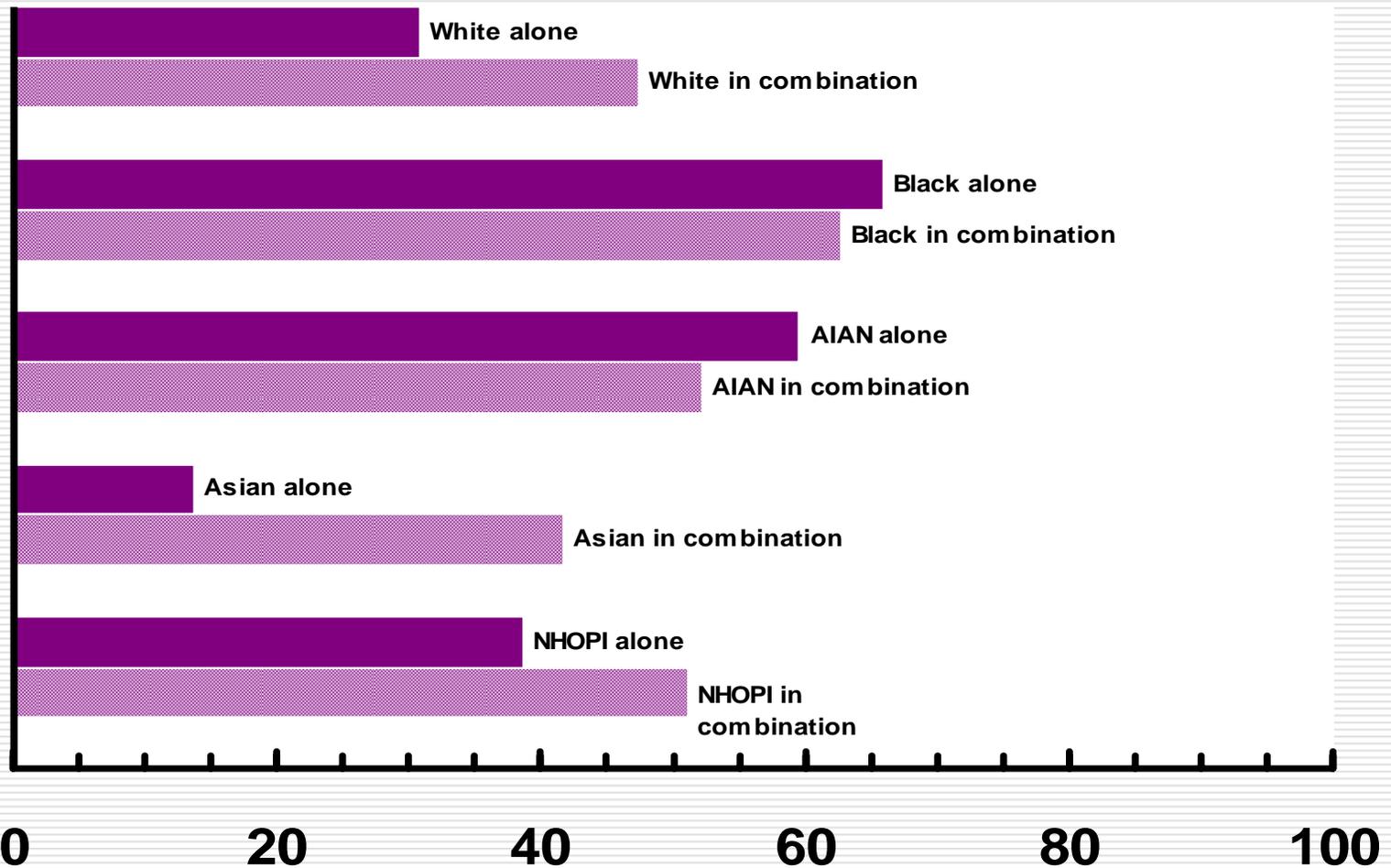
SOURCE: CDC/NCHS National Vital Statistics System. All data are available in the 2003 data file and in a forthcoming report.

# Mean age at first birth by race of mother, alone or in combination: Multiple-race reporting areas, 2003



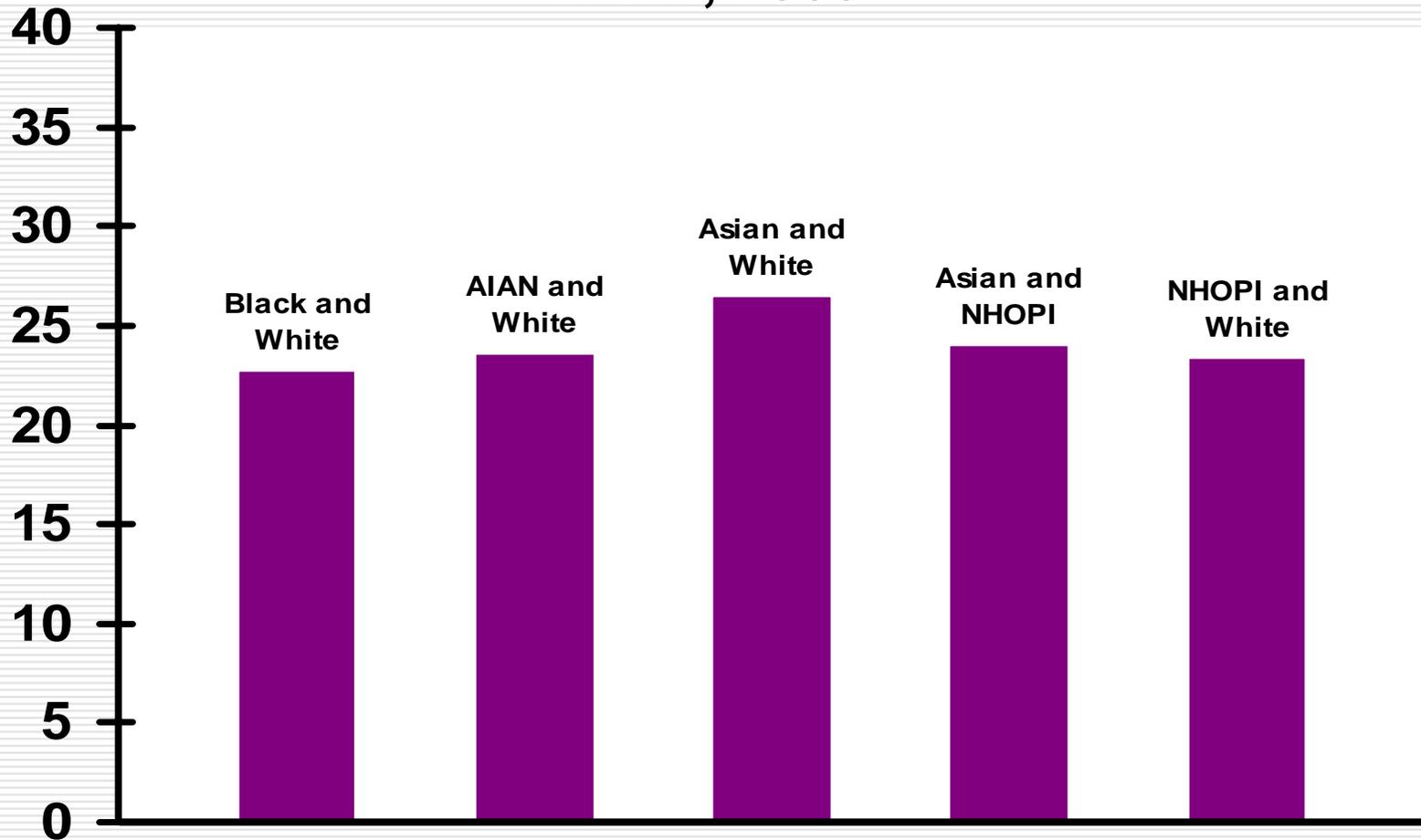
NOTE: Based on births to residents of California, Hawaii, Pennsylvania, Utah, and Washington occurring in these states.  
SOURCE: CDC/NCHS National Vital Statistics System. All data are available in the 2003 data file and in a forthcoming report.

# Percentage unmarried by race of mother, alone or in combination: Multiple-race reporting areas, 2003



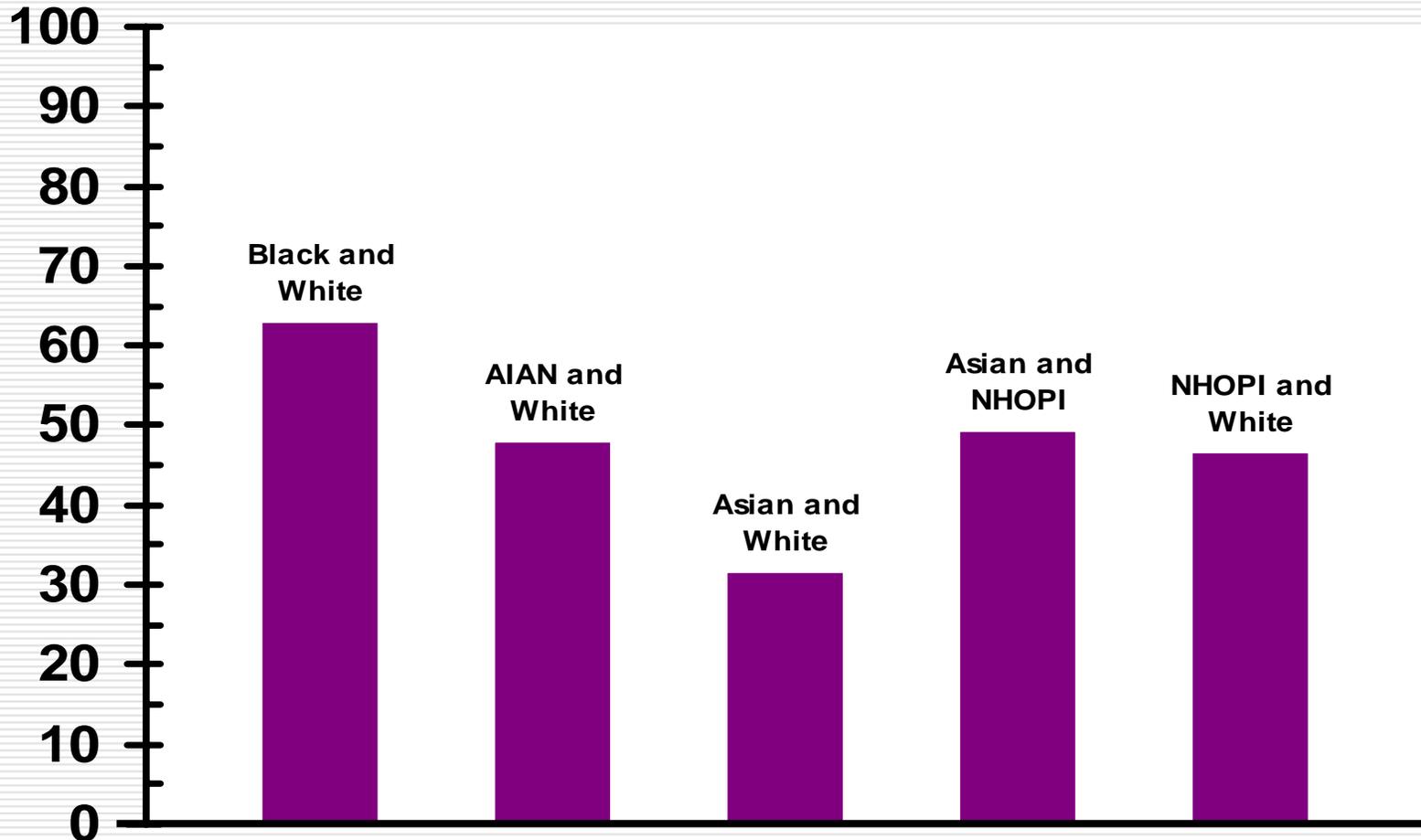
NOTE: Based on births to residents of California, Hawaii, Pennsylvania, Utah, and Washington occurring in these states.  
SOURCE: CDC/NCHS National Vital Statistics System. All data are available in the 2003 data file and in a forthcoming report.

# Mean age at first birth by selected biracial combinations of mother: Multiple-race reporting areas, 2003



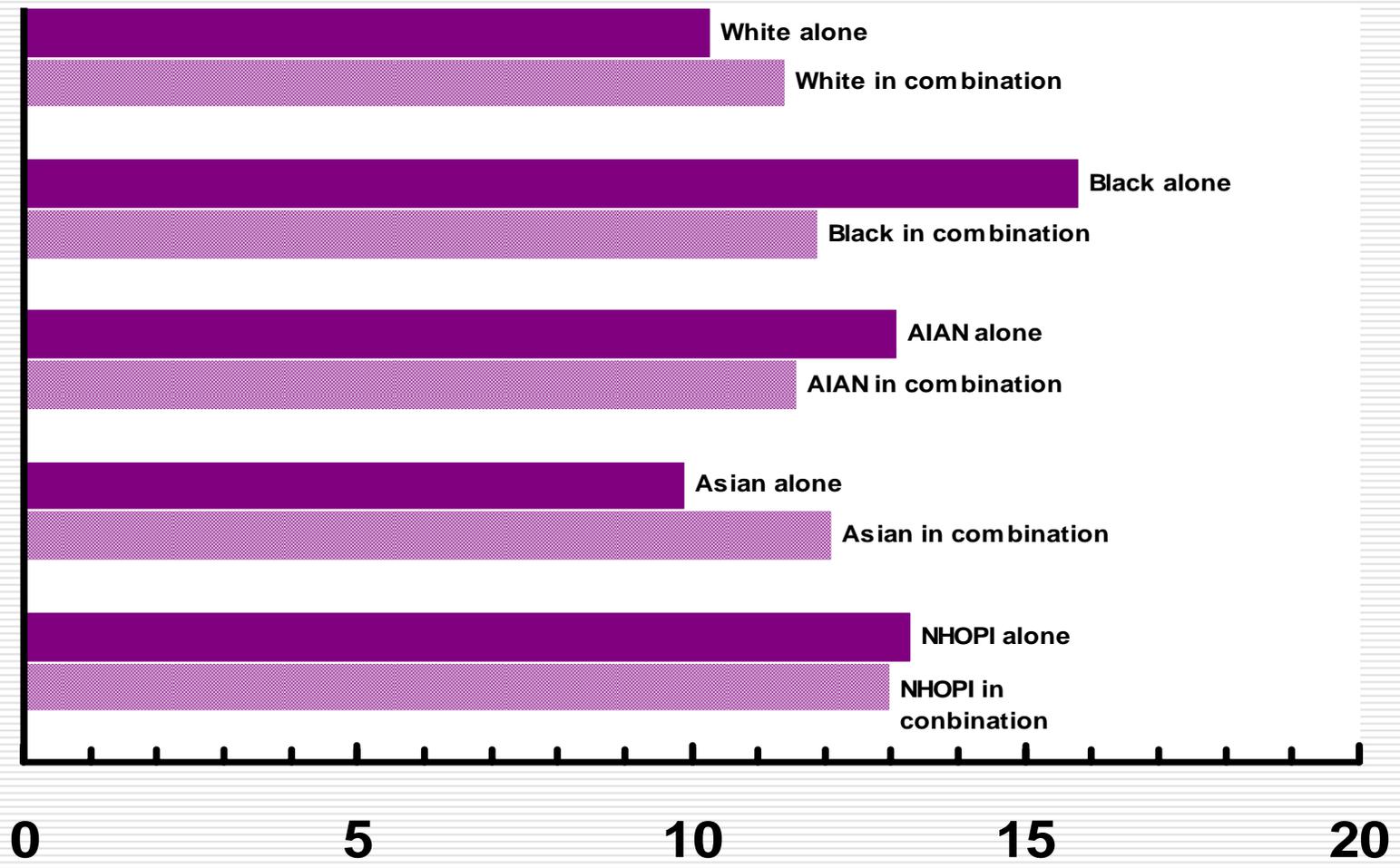
NOTE: Based on births to residents of California, Hawaii, Pennsylvania, Utah, and Washington occurring in these states.  
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NOTE: Based on births to residents of California, Hawaii, Pennsylvania, Utah, and Washington occurring in these states.  
SOURCE: CDC/NCHS National Vital Statistics System. All data are available in the 2003 data file and in a forthcoming report.

# Percentage of preterm births by race of mother, alone or in combination: Multiple-race reporting areas, 2003

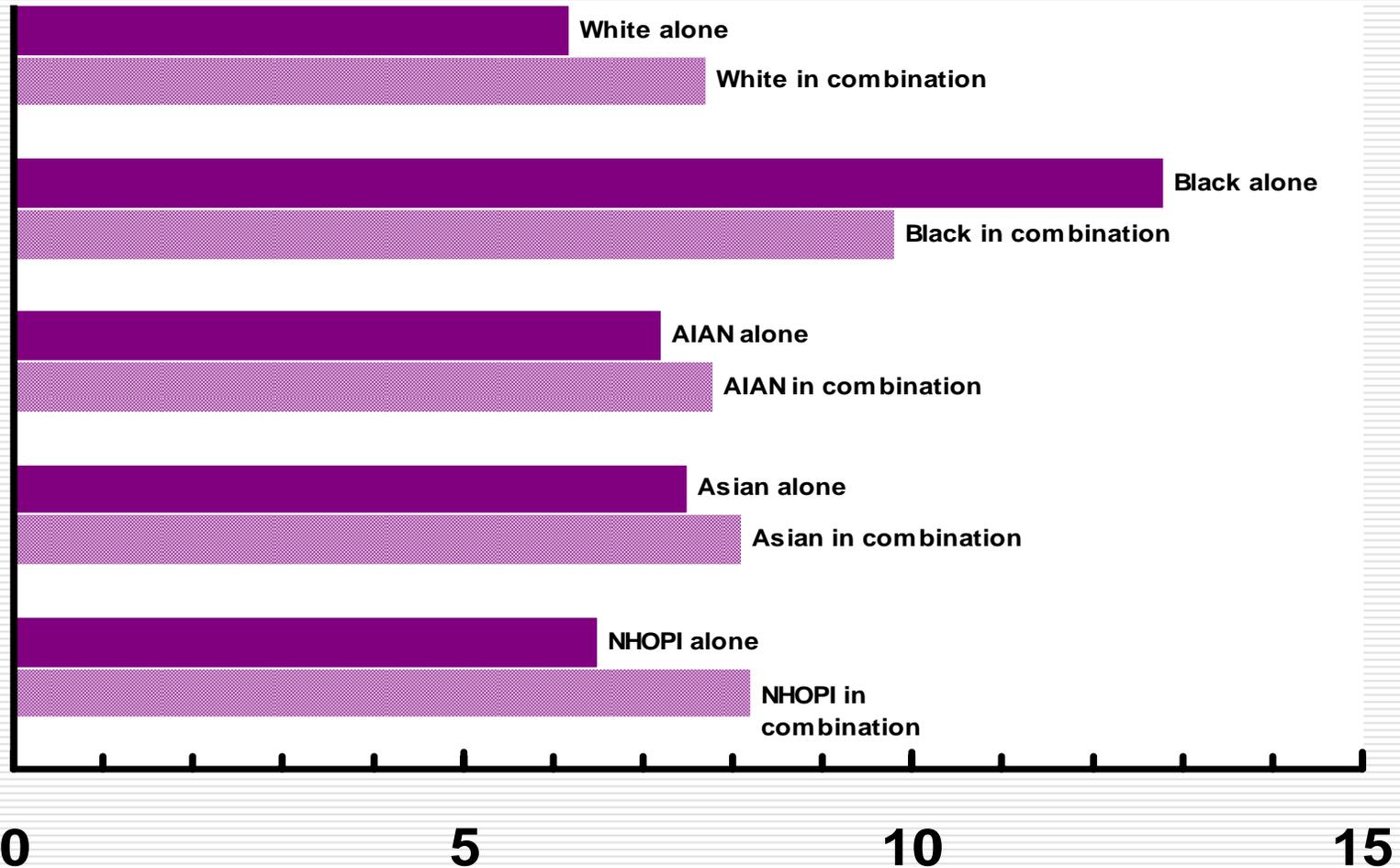


Preterm is births of less than 37 completed weeks of gestation.

NOTE: Based on births to residents of California, Hawaii, Pennsylvania, Utah, and Washington occurring in these states.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS National Vital Statistics System. All data are available in the 2003 data file and in a forthcoming report.

# Percentage low birthweight by race of mother, alone or in combination: Multiple-race reporting areas, 2003

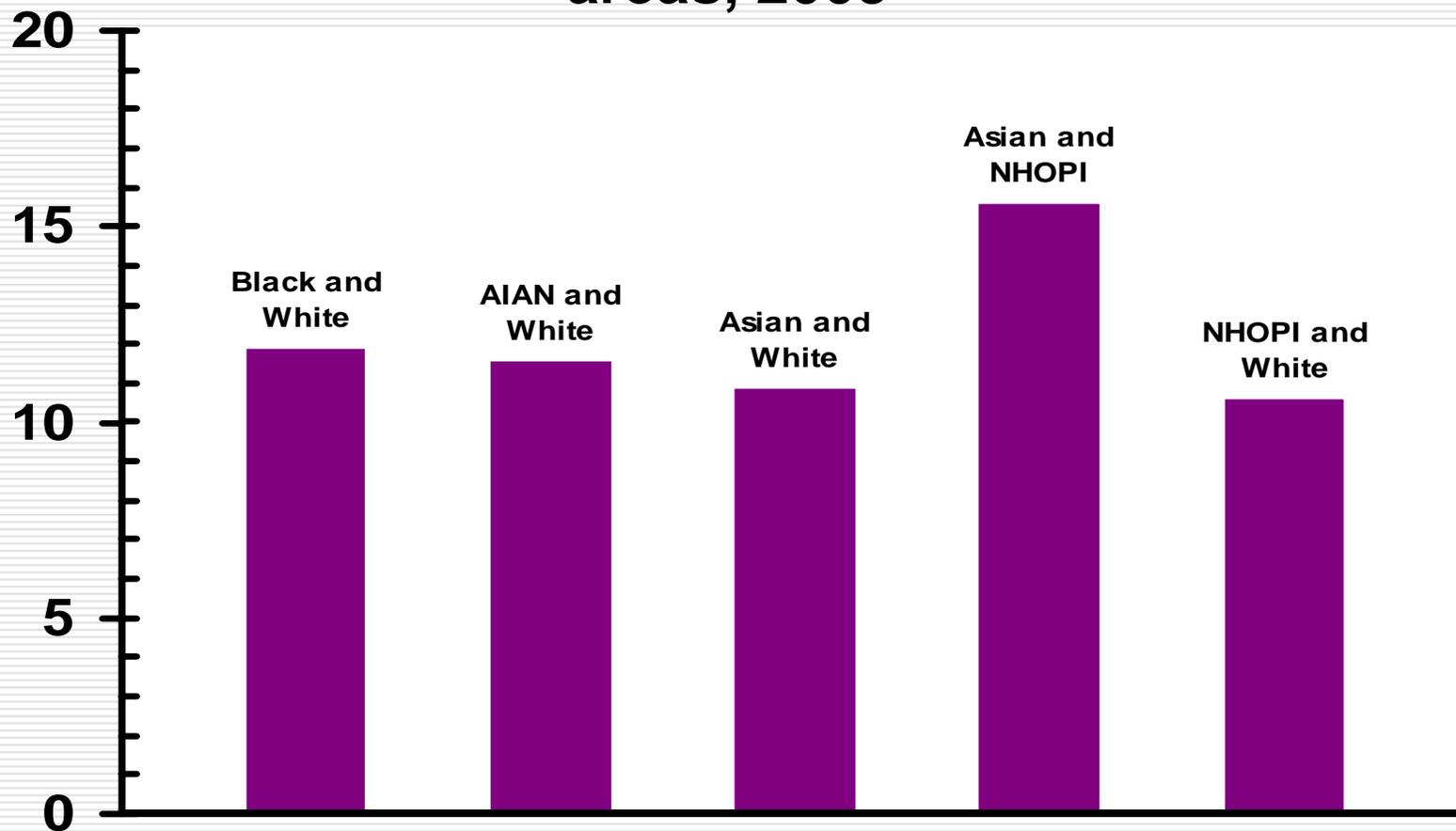


Low birthweight is less than 2,500 grams (5 lb 8 oz).

NOTE: Based on births to residents of California, Hawaii, Pennsylvania, Utah, and Washington occurring in these states.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS National Vital Statistics System. All data are available in the 2003 data file and in a forthcoming report.

# Percentage of preterm births by selected biracial combinations of mother: Multiple-race reporting areas, 2003

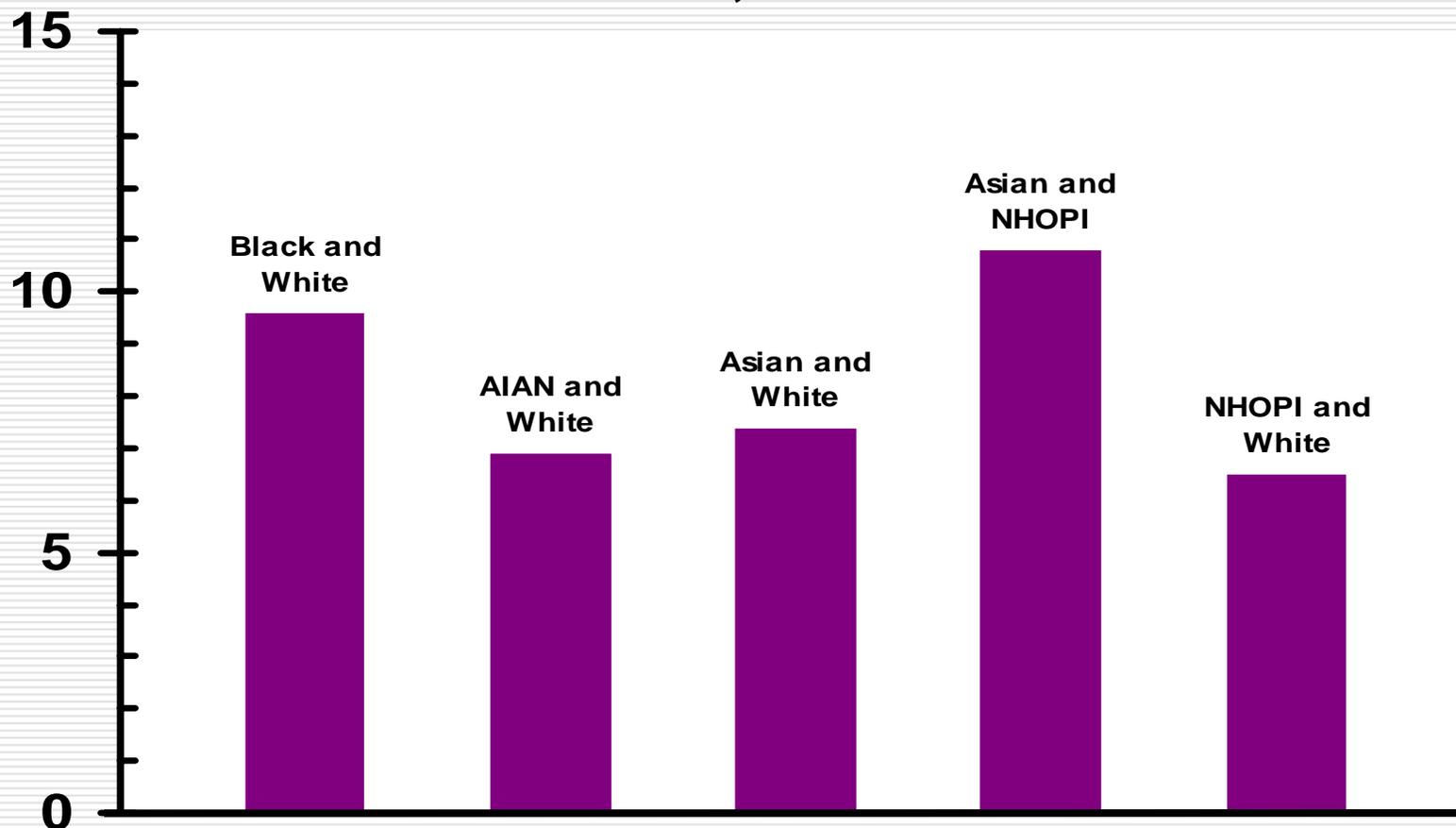


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SOURCE: CDC/NCHS National Vital Statistics System. All data are available in the 2003 data file and in a forthcoming report.

# Issues

- **Number of multiple-race categories to report: A total of 31 combinations is possible based on the 5 minimum race categories. Should all categories be reported?**
- **State differences in the number of races reported: California reports only up to 3 races whereas Hawaii reports more than 8 races, the limit set in the NCHS edits.**

# Issues (Continued)

- **Many multiple-race combinations report very few births.**
- **“Other” in multiple-race combinations: Should this be treated as a valid response in combination with other races or ignored?**

# Summary/Conclusion

- Differences in birth characteristics between single-race and multiple-race mothers illustrate the importance of reporting and analyzing data by race in multiple combinations
- Forthcoming NCHS report:

**Characteristics of Births to Single-Race  
and Multiple-Race Women, 2003**

**(Summer 2006)**