

“Men’s health disparities: A global perspective”

Opening ceremony
Fifth Biennial World Congress on
Men’s Health and Gender
Vienna, Austria
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Opportunities

- learn about local work
 - update on state of the field
 - benefit from collegiality
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Transformative Agenda

- Key Opportunity: Transformative Agenda
 - Men's health field directly impacting global social policy
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Three Central Points

Three Key Points

- Health disparities among men related to social vulnerability deserve attention.
 - Reducing inequities should be an indicator of our field's progress.
 - Men's health field can contribute to global structural reform.
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Point One

Why should health disparities and social inequities among men be global priorities?



Why should health disparities and social inequities among men be global priorities?

Answers:

Men's under-served health needs strain public and private resources.

- Significant mortality and morbidity is preventable.
 - Disparities among men track society's "fault lines."
 - Social phenomena within countries register global impacts.
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Globalize Men's Health

In a global world, the men's health field must be likewise global.



Point Two

Why should reducing disparities be a performance indicator for our field?



Usual Indicators

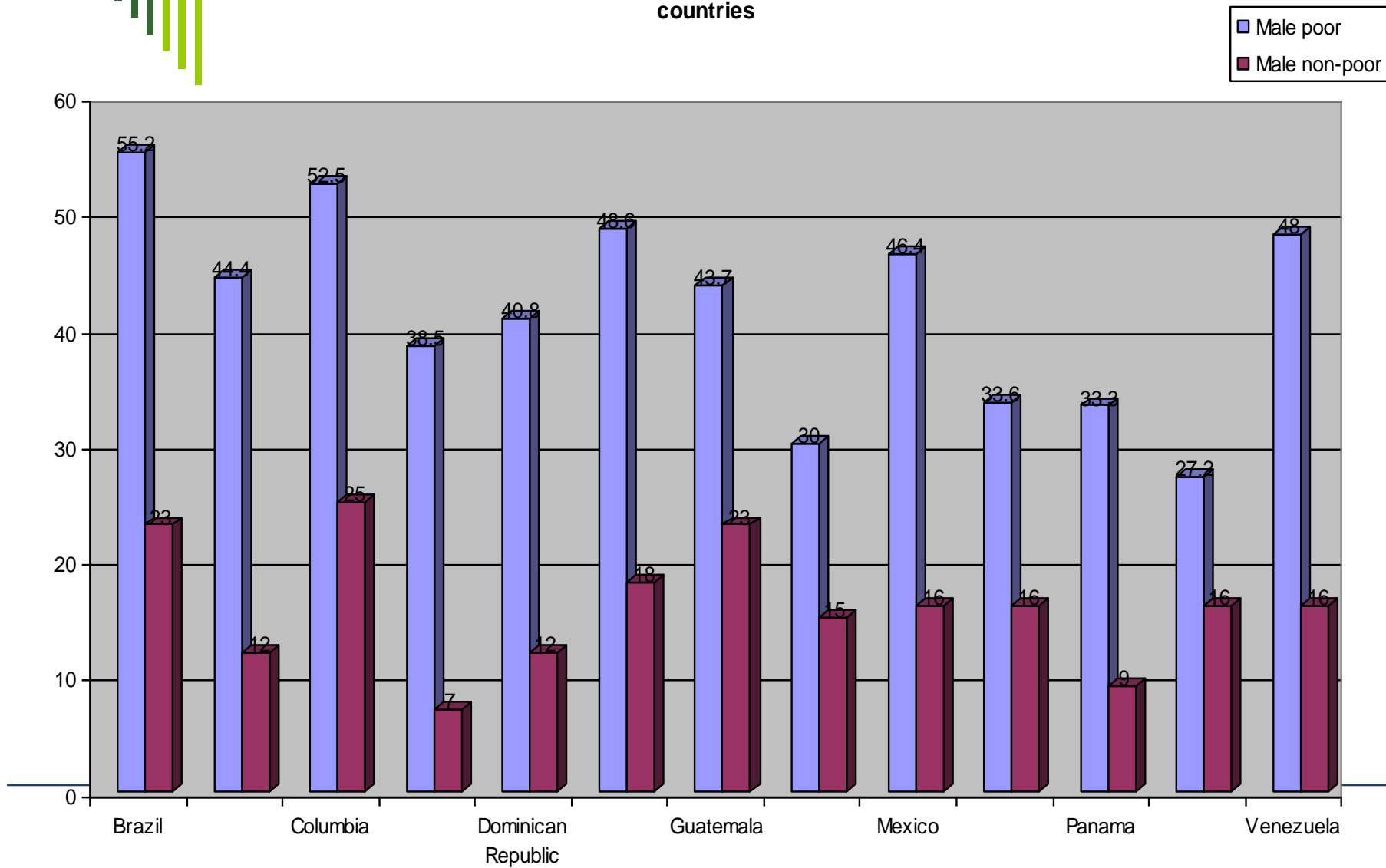
- Men's health field is usually evaluated by:
 - scientific advances
 - detection capabilities
 - treatment capabilities
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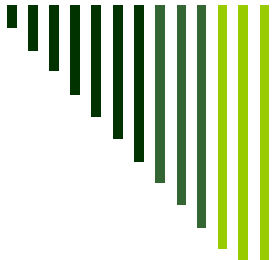


Nevertheless

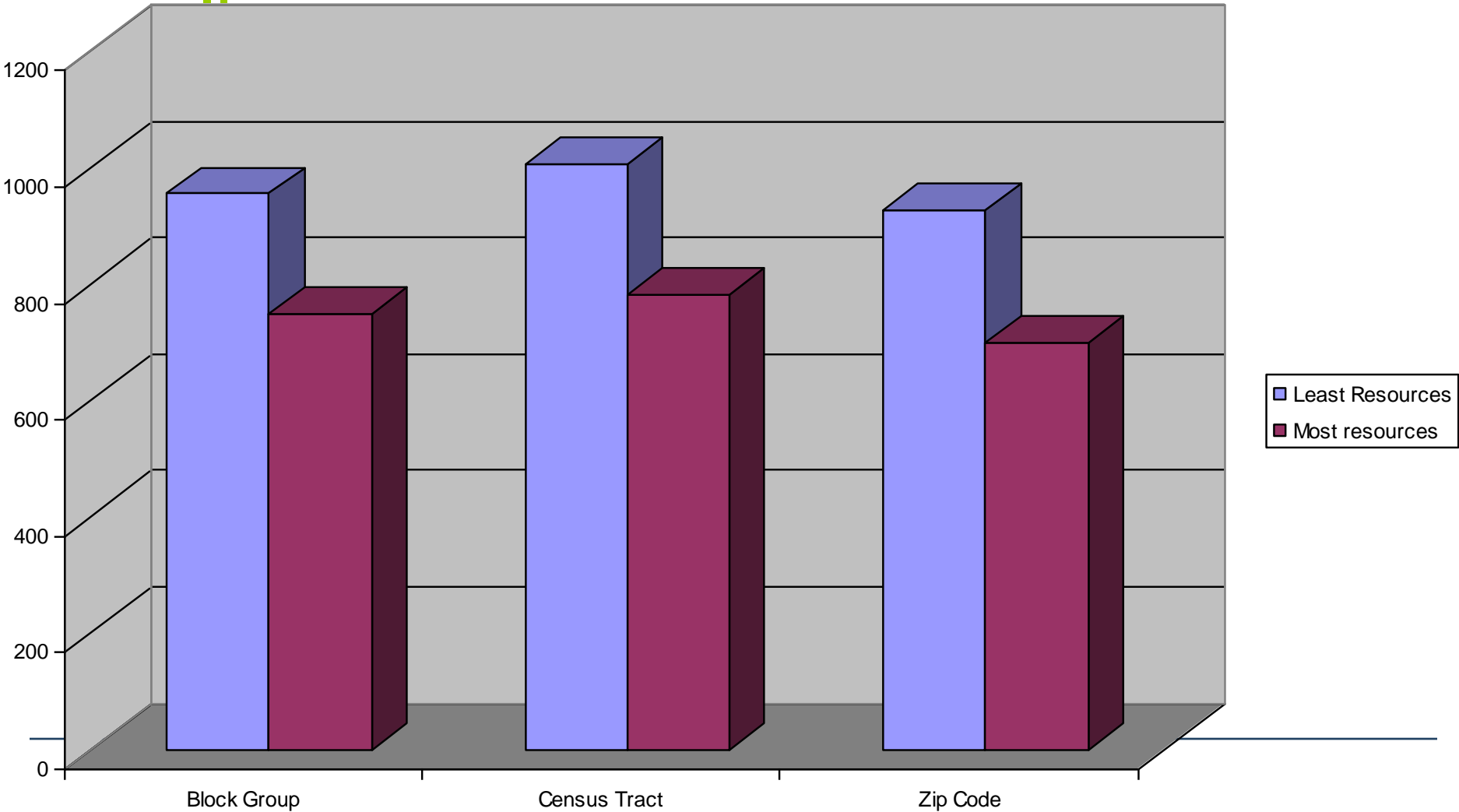
- Men's health field's
 - Greater potential to detect diseases and conditions...
 - Greater potential to treat diseases and conditions...
 - ...unrealized among socially vulnerable men.
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Probability of males dying (per100) between 15 to 59 years of age by income, 13 Latin American and Caribbean countries

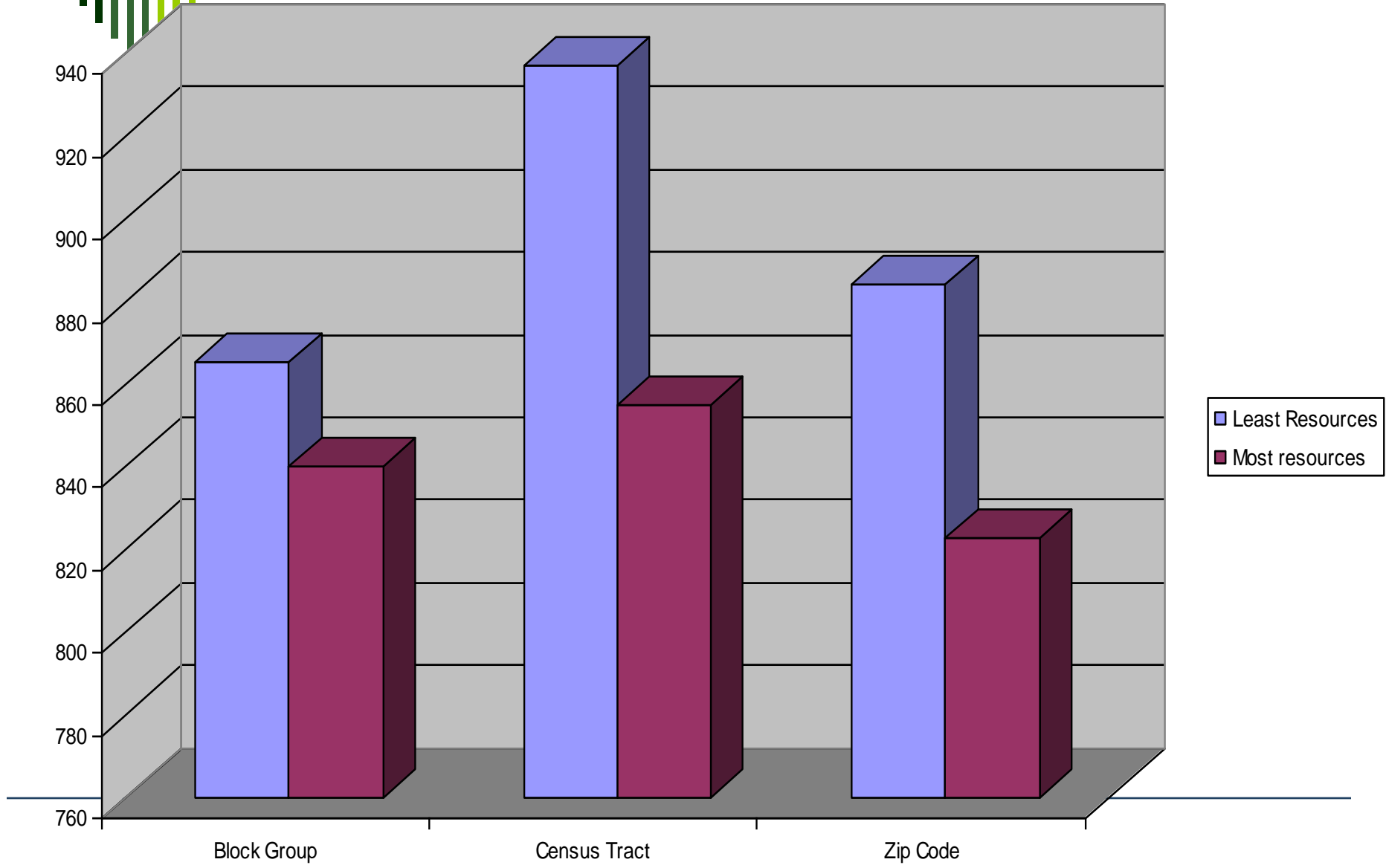




Median Household Income rates of all-cause mortality



Gini Coefficient rates of all cause mortality

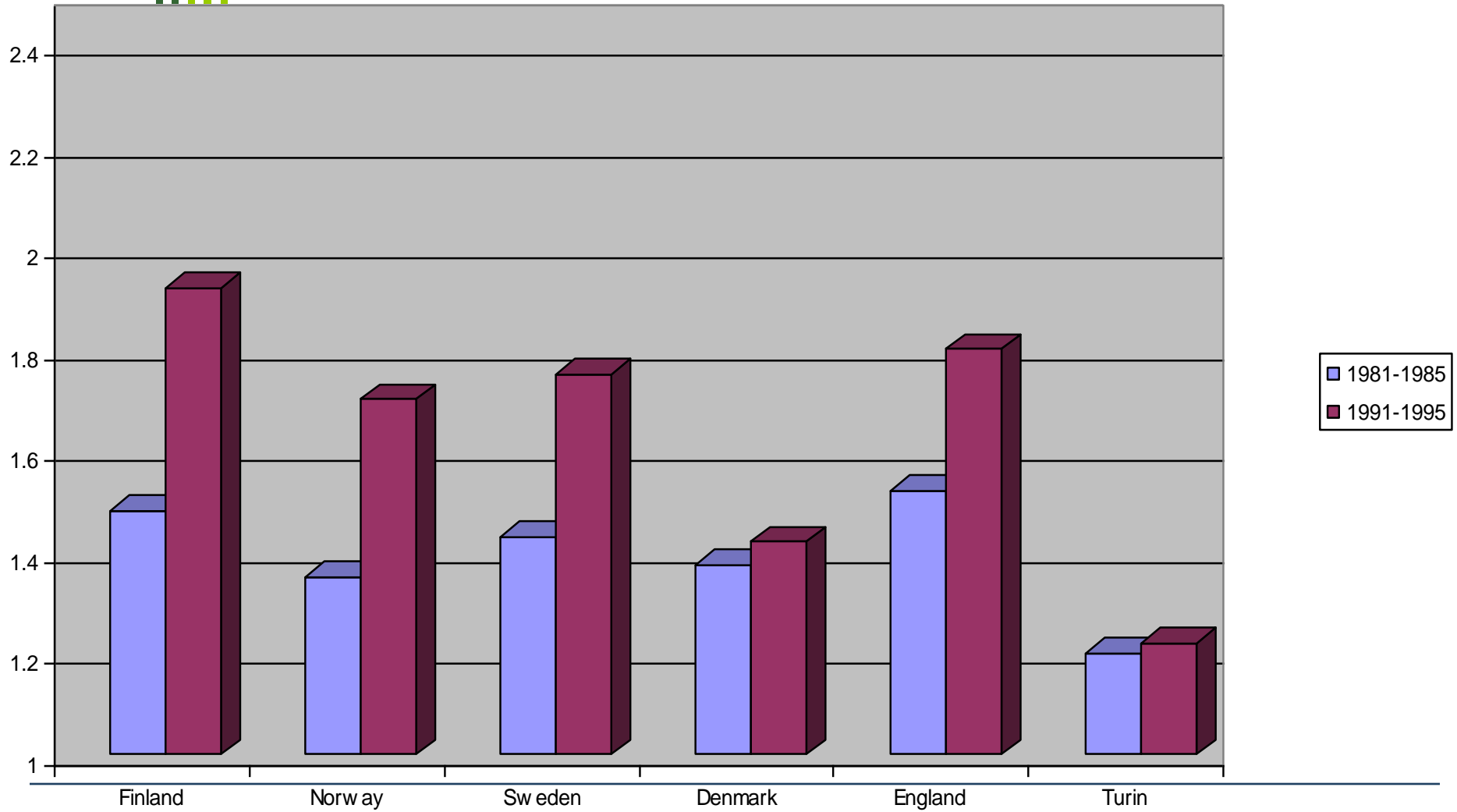




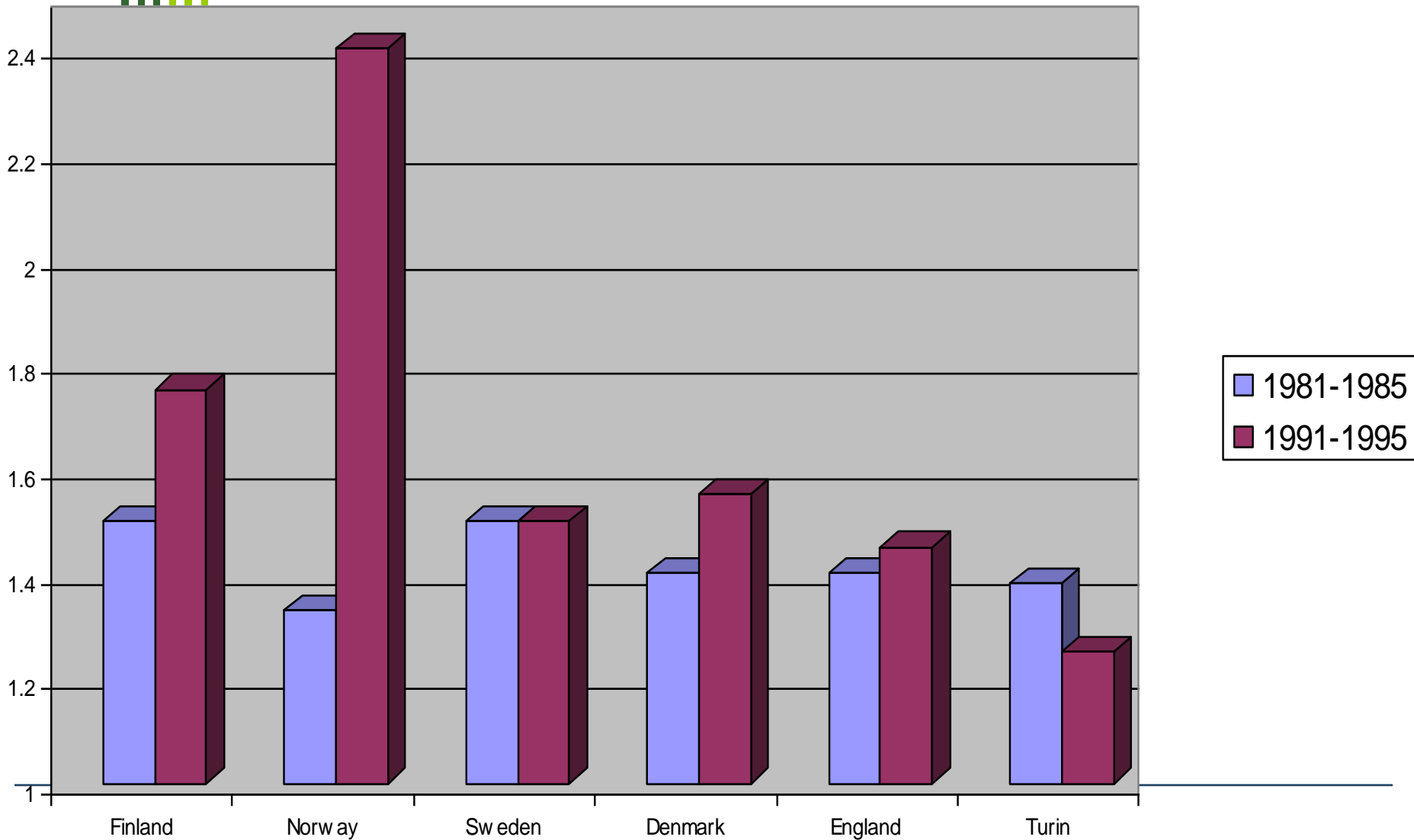
How Many Lives?

How many/whose lives do we improve?

Persistent socioeconomic inequalities in ischemic heart disease for 6 European countries



Persistent socioeconomic inequalities in stroke mortality for 6 European countries





Men's Health Field Goal

Men's Health (Global) Field Goal:

health equity



Steps

Men's Health

(Global) Field Goal:

- effect multi-state cooperation
 - quantify existing disparities
 - establish performance indicators
 - attention to social determinants of men's health
 - closing gaps, diminishing disparities
-



Point Three

Can the men's health field contribute to global structural reform?



Areas for Contribution

Areas to make a contribution

- policies for aid to developing nations
 - policies for assisting marginalized sub-populations
 - immigration policies
 - health education standards
 - etc.
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Call to Action

Men's health field

- clinicians
- researchers
- policy analysts
- advocates

should

- measure
 - track
 - intervene
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Social Justice Implications

Inequities:

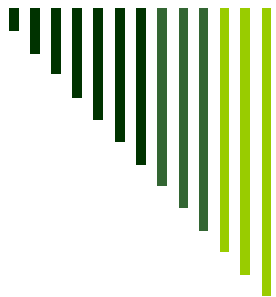
- racial/ethnic marginalization
 - low educational attainment
 - low literacy
 - poor housing, living environments
 - contact with state coercive apparatus
 - exposure to war, violence
-



Implications

Result in disproportionate:

- hindered employment opportunities
 - economic insecurity
 - desperate survival tactics
 - catastrophic illnesses
 - disabling, traumatic injuries
-



Intervention

Men's health field can intervene by focusing on needs and experiences of marginalized men.



**PLEASE SAVE
THE DATE**

Community Voices: Healthcare for the Underserved at the Morehouse School of Medicine will host an unprecedented assembly of the nation's academic, political, and advocacy leaders on healthcare, healthcare disparities, civil rights, and successful prisoner re-entry at a conference in Atlanta on April 9-11, 2008, the organization announced today.



CNN anchor and special correspondent Soledad O'Brien will be honored with the first annual *Soledad O'Brien Freedom's Voice Award*.

Online Registration Coming Soon

www.communityvoices.org



For More Information:

Community Voices

HEALTHCARE FOR THE UNDERSERVED

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