

**Can we play too?
The role of
perceived
welcomeness in
sport participation**

Thomas J. Aicher, Ph.D.
University of Colorado –
Colorado Springs



Introduction



**Obesity epidemic
worldwide
(WHO, 2018)**



**Need to develop active
communities (CDC, 2016)**



**Decrease in sport
participation
as we age
(Aicher & Newland, 2018)**

Racial disparities in participation and health



Purpose

**Racial differences in perceived
welcomeness and self-efficacy to
participate in sports**



Welcome is a feeling of where one belongs.

(Philipp, 1999)



Discrimination

Institutionalization

Socialization

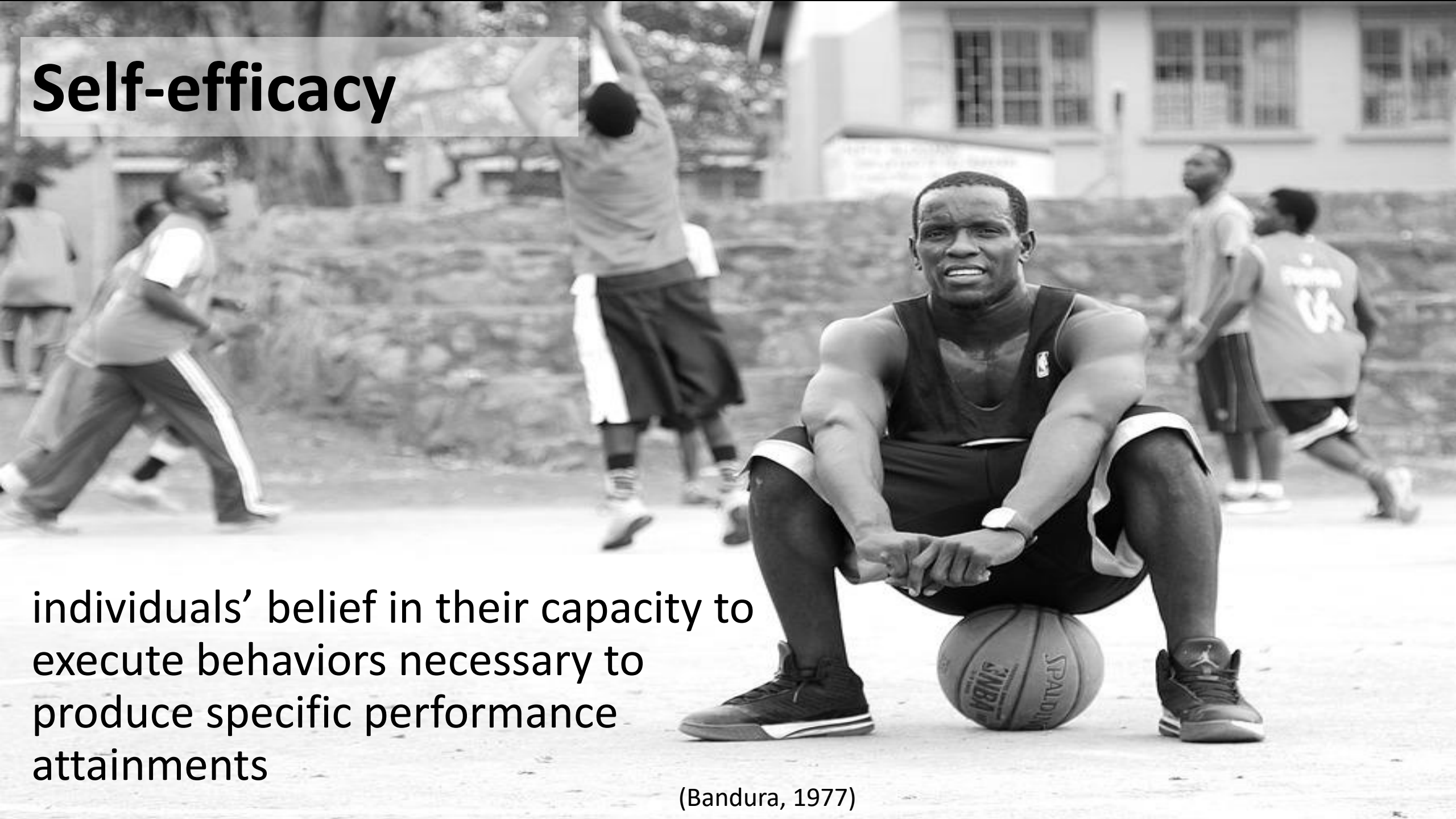
Study	African Americans	Whites	Hispanics
Philipp (1998)	Basketball, Going to the Mall, Singing in Choir, and Dancing	Soccer, Horseback Riding, Water Skiing, Camping, Fishing, and Golf	N/A
Philipp (1999) Welcomeness	None	Soccer, Boating, Fishing, Jogging, Tennis, Bowling, Martial Arts, etc.	N/A
Philipp (1999) Importance	Basketball, Martial Arts, Karate (ns)	Soccer, Tennis, Going to the beach, museum, festival, or symphony	N/A

Study	African Americans	Whites	Hispanics
Cordell, Betz, & Green (2002)	Outdoor Team Sports	Motor Boating	Hiking
Philipp & Brezina (2003)	Did not feel more welcome in any of the nontraditional sports	Mountain Biking, Scuba, Kayaking, Rock Climbing, Surfing, Wake Boarding	N/A
Shinew, Floyd, & Parry (2004)	Baseball/Softball, Shopping, Church Activities	Swimming, Camping, Running, Walking, Hiking	N/A

Self-efficacy

individuals' belief in their capacity to execute behaviors necessary to produce specific performance attainments

(Bandura, 1977)



- Two points of data collection (five years apart)
- four universities across the U.S. used each time
- Measures – 14 sports included in the data collection
 - Perceived welcomeness
 - Self-efficacy
 - Demographics



Sample (N = 569)



Southeast = 102
Midwest = 147
Northeast = 139
Southwest = 182



Male = 363
Female = 205

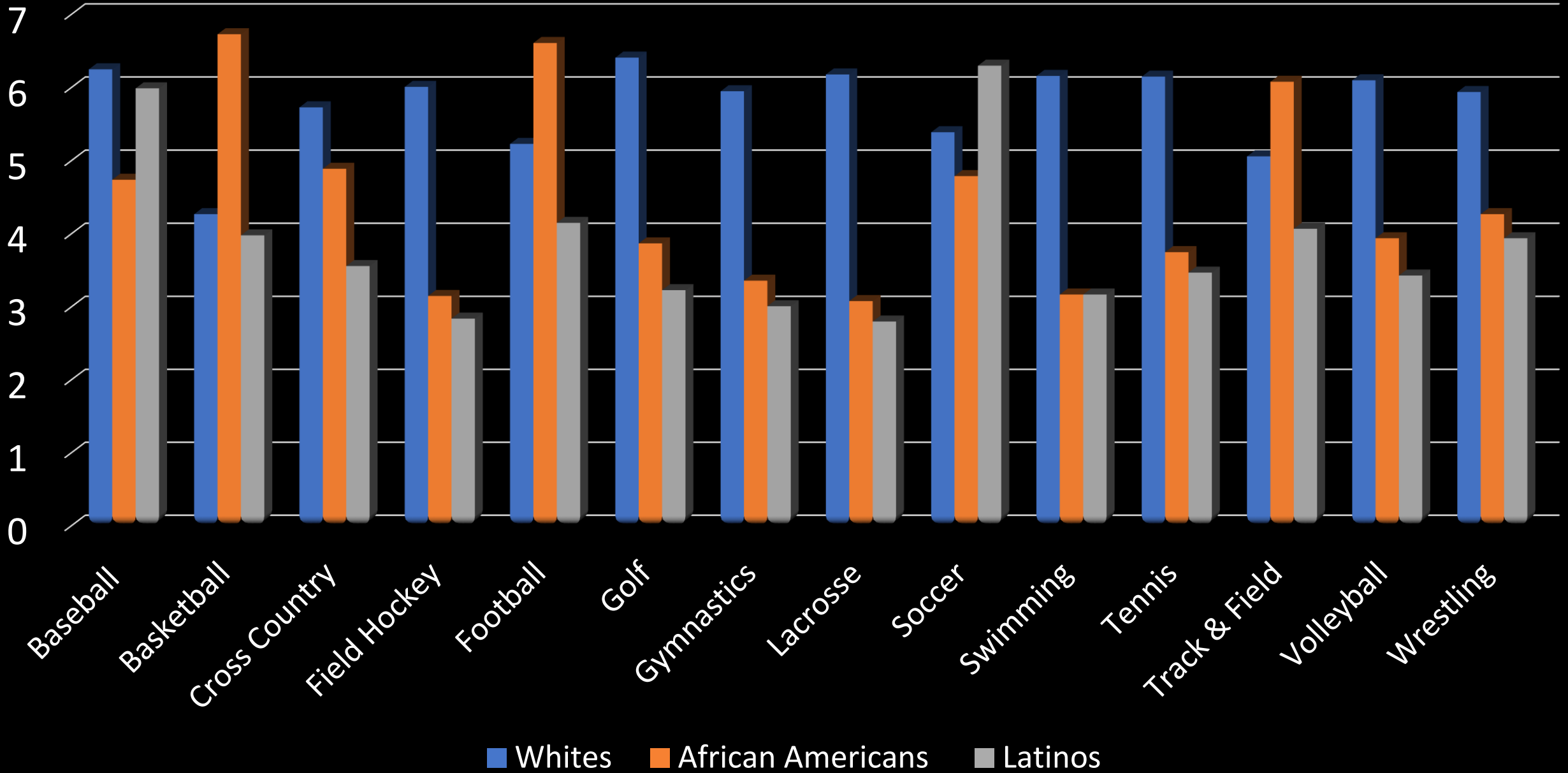


Played Sport = 531
Did no play = 38

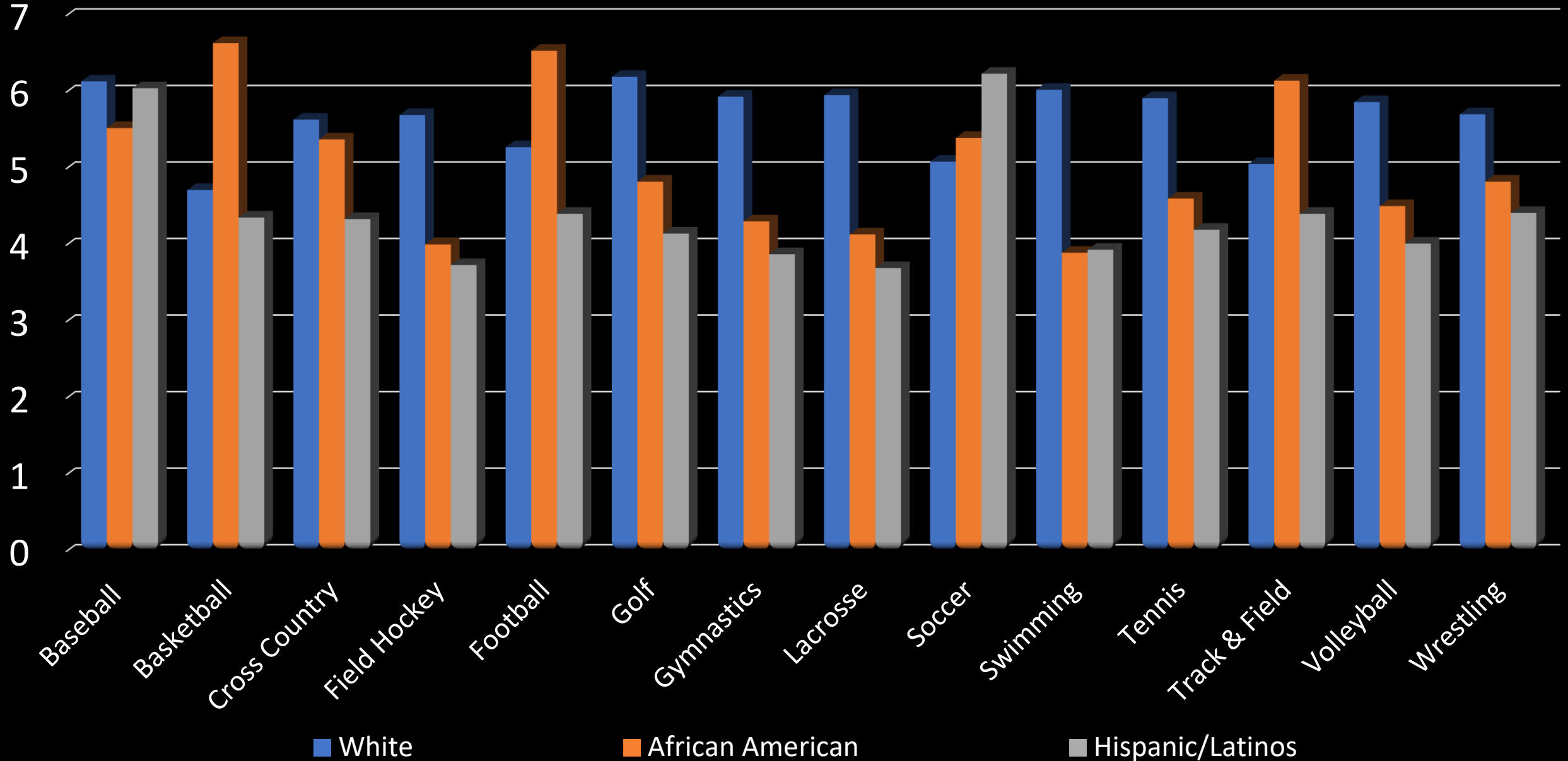


White = 426
Hispanic/Latino = 60
Asian = 36
African American = 31

Perceived Welcomeness in Sport



Self-efficacy of Sport





**Perceptions of welcomeness and self-efficacy are present.
Sport selection and development are important for CSOs.
Developing positive and welcoming experiences are key.**

**Can we play too?
The role of
perceived
welcomeness in
sport participation**

Thomas J. Aicher, Ph.D.
University of Colorado –
Colorado Springs

