The Impacts of COVID-19 on the Black Community

Denise V. Rodgers, MD, FAAFP
Vice Chancellor for Interprofessional Programs
Professor, Family Medicine and Community Health
"When whites catch a cold, black folks get pneumonia."
Track Cases of COVID-19 County by County in New Jersey

COLLEEN O'DEA | MARCH 31, 2020 | CORONAVIRUS IN NJ, HEALTH CARE

[Updated: April 27, 2020] Follow the progression of the disease with these maps and graphics, which we are updating daily.
# NJ COVID-19 Cases and Deaths

The number of cases, deaths, new cases and new deaths each day. Hover over any point to see the statewide number for that date. Note new cases and deaths include actual data and a smoothed average trend line (darker color).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>New cases</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
<th>New deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

![Graph showing the increase in COVID-19 cases and deaths over time.](https://www.njspotlight.com/2020/03/tracking-cases-of-covid-19-county-by-county-in-new-jersey/?ct=t%28EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_02_28_2020_COPY_01%29&mc_cid=6e6edaf31&mceid=5c198e82f8)

*Note: The number of new cases/deaths may not match those provided daily by the NJ Department of Health because further investigation may lead to officials adding or removing cases.*

123,717
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<table>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Graph showing number of COVID-19 cases and deaths](https://www.njspotlight.com/2020/03/tracking-cases-of-covid-19-county-by-county-in-new-jersey/?ct=t%28EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_02_28_2020_COPY_01%29&mc_cid=6ebedadf31&mc_eid=5c198e82f8)

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NJ COVID-19 Cases and Deaths

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# NJ COVID-19 Cases and Deaths

The number of cases, deaths, new cases and new deaths each day. Hover over any point to see the statewide number for that date. Note new cases and deaths include actual data and a smoothed average trend line (darker color).

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<tr>
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<th>New cases</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Graph showing trend of cases and deaths](https://www.njspotlight.com/2020/03/tracking-cases-of-covid-19-county-by-county-in-new-jersey/?ct=t%28EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_02_28_2020_COPY_01%29&mc_cid=6e6edadf31&mc_eid=5c198e82f8)

Note: The number of new cases/deaths may not match those provided daily by the NJ Department of Health because further investigation may lead to officials adding or removing cases.
Deaths from COVID-19 since April 1, compared with the average number of New Jerseyans who died each day from all causes and from heart disease, the most common cause of death in 2018 (the most recent year available). There were 1,465 deaths from flu in 2018.

Source: NJ Department of Health
Age Group

Cases

Deaths

18 - 29 0.40%
30 - 49 4.60%
50 - 64 15.92%
65 - 79 32.73%
80+ 46.35%

Source: NJ Department of Health
City Data

Positive cases for New Jersey's largest municipalities, when available. Not all county or local health officials are reporting comprehensive data.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>1 Day % Change</th>
<th>Cases per 10K</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Newark</td>
<td>282,102</td>
<td>5,579</td>
<td>1-May</td>
<td></td>
<td>197.77</td>
<td>423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jersey City</td>
<td>265,560</td>
<td>5,329</td>
<td>29-Apr</td>
<td></td>
<td>200.67</td>
<td>285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paterson</td>
<td>145,626</td>
<td>5,424</td>
<td>2-May</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>372.46</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth</td>
<td>128,882</td>
<td>4,007</td>
<td>1-May</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>310.9</td>
<td>217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakewood</td>
<td>104,155</td>
<td>1,765</td>
<td>1-May</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>169.46</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodbridge</td>
<td>100,463</td>
<td>1,396</td>
<td>2-May</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>138.96</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Edison, the sixth most populous municipality in NJ, provides only daily case increases, not a cumulative total, on its website.

Source: County or municipal websites.

Demographics of COVID-19 Cases

Daily changes in these breakdowns are insignificant. The data below are the percentages as of April 30 at 10 p.m.

Race (total, cases and deaths)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>35.5%</td>
<td>52.6%</td>
<td>54.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>17.3%</td>
<td>20.6%</td>
<td>18.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>18.6%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>12.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Hispanic is an ethnicity. Hispanics may be of any race and the racial breakdowns do not include those who are Hispanic.
Before data showed Chicago blacks dying at higher rates, communities of color knew recovery from COVID-19 would be slow

By NAUSHEEN HUSAIN and CECILIA REYES
CHICAGO TRIBUNE | APR 21, 2020 | 11:00 AM

‘Those numbers take your breath away’: Covid-19 is hitting Chicago’s black neighborhoods much harder than others, officials say

By Meagan Flynn
April 7, 2020 at 6:44 a.m. EDT

*Blacks make up 30% of the population, 50% of COVID 19 cases and 68% of deaths in Chicago
Covid-19 is ravaging black communities. A Milwaukee neighborhood is figuring out how to fight back.

By Robert Samuels

April 6, 2020 at 8:10 p.m. EDT

MILWAUKEE — In this segregated section of America, the novel coronavirus’s first casualty was Lawrence Riley, a 66-year-old Navy veteran and retired firefighter.

Riley had lived through two strokes, a heart attack and a broken back, according to his daughter. But he could not survive covid-19.

"I don’t even know how my dad could have caught this because we are homebodies," said Whitley Riley, 20, whose family lives in the city’s overwhelmingly black north side. "It’s so weird that people here keep getting infected. It makes you wonder."
More than 80 percent of hospitalized covid-19 patients in Georgia were African American, study finds

*(Blacks make up 31.6% of the population of Georgia)*

By Rachel Weiner
April 29, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. EDT

As Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp (R) moves to reopen more businesses, a new study underscores the disproportionate toll the virus has taken on the state’s African American population.

Surveying eight Georgia hospitals, researchers found that in a sample of 305 covid-19 patients, 247 were black — more than 80 percent and more than they expected.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/more-than-80-percent-of-hospitalized-covid-patients-in-georgia-were-african-american-study-finds/2020/04/29/a71496ea-8993-11ea-8ac1-bfb250876b7a_story.html
How covid-19 is a perfect storm for black Americans

New CDC data shows Covid-19 is affecting African Americans at exceptionally high rates

It underscores a broader trend showing that coronavirus isn’t an equalizer but a magnifier of inequality.

By Zeeshan Aleem | @ZeeshanAleem | Apr 18, 2020, 11:00am EDT

Even though African Americans make up 13 percent of the US population, they account for 30 percent of the country’s Covid-19 patients. | Scott Heins/Getty Images
Age-adjusted rates of lab confirmed COVID-19 non hospitalized cases, estimated non-fatal hospitalized cases, and patients known to have died 100,000 by race/ethnicity group as of April 16, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Non-hospitalized</th>
<th>Non-fatal hospitalized</th>
<th>Known to have died</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black/African American</td>
<td>335.5</td>
<td>271.6</td>
<td>92.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>190.4</td>
<td>114.6</td>
<td>74.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>95.1</td>
<td>82.2</td>
<td>45.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>34.5</td>
<td></td>
<td>34.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Covid-19 is disproportionately taking black lives

Hundreds of years of racism has delivered poor health and economic outcomes for black people, making them more vulnerable in the pandemic.

By Fabiola Cineas | Updated Apr 8, 2020, 10:57am EDT

COVID-19 exposes mistrust, health care inequality going back generations for African Americans

The horror of COVID-19 has taken a heavy toll on communities of color.

By Aseri Harper
April 28, 2020, 7:30 PM + 10 min read

Stop Blaming Black People for Dying of the Coronavirus

New data from 29 states confirm the extent of the racial disparities.

AFTER 14, 2020

Ibram X. Kendi
Director of the Antiracist Research and Policy Center at American University

It’s No Surprise That COVID-19 Is Exposing Health Disparities

The coronavirus’ impact on African Americans requires us to address an ongoing problem for U.S. communities.

By Garth Graham, M.D. and Oliver T. Brooks, M.D. | April 20, 2020, at 9:10 a.m.
What We Know About the Covid-19 Race Gap

The CDC is finally releasing more data that show just how unequal toll of the pandemic is. But we can’t stop there.

By Zoë Carpenter

As of April 28, black Americans are dying at 2.7 times the rate for whites, or 26 deaths per 100,000 people.

Risk factors for severe COVID-19 disease and death

- Advanced Age
- Cardiovascular Disease
- Diabetes
- Chronic Respiratory Disease
- Hypertension
- Cancer
- Obesity
- Cigarette Smoking
## African American Occupations

### All civilian employed population (16 years and over)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation Category</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>All USA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Management, business, science, and arts occupations:</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service occupations:</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales and office occupations:</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations:</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production, transportation, and material moving occupations:</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Men civilian employed population (16 years and over)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation Category</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>All USA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Management, business, science, and arts occupations:</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service occupations:</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales and office occupations:</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations:</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production, transportation, and material moving occupations:</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Woman civilian employed population (16 years and over)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation Category</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>All USA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Management, business, science, and arts occupations:</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service occupations:</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales and office occupations:</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations:</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production, transportation, and material moving occupations:</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

Table by: BlackDemographics.com
### Service Occupations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>2017 Count</th>
<th>2016 Count</th>
<th>Change (2017-2016)</th>
<th>Percent Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare support occupations</td>
<td>117,844</td>
<td>787,933</td>
<td>-670,089</td>
<td>-87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food preparation and serving related occupations</td>
<td>576,358</td>
<td>584,472</td>
<td>-8,114</td>
<td>-50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations</td>
<td>498,643</td>
<td>362,278</td>
<td>136,365</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal care and service occupations</td>
<td>220,946</td>
<td>671,068</td>
<td>-450,122</td>
<td>-75%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Protective service occupations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>2017 Count</th>
<th>2016 Count</th>
<th>Change (2017-2016)</th>
<th>Percent Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fire fighting and prevention, and other protective service workers incl. supers</td>
<td>273,465</td>
<td>136,756</td>
<td>136,709</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law enforcement workers including supervisors</td>
<td>158,528</td>
<td>84,489</td>
<td>74,039</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates
Table created by BlackDemographics.com
OVERALL AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY – NJ 2018
YEARS OF POTENTIAL LIFE LOST IN NEW JERSEY BY RACE/ETHNICITY – 2000 - 2018
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY FROM HEART DISEASE – NJ 2018
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY FROM CANCER – NJ 2018
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY FROM LUNG CANCER – NJ 2018
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY FROM PROSTATE CANCER – NJ 2018
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY FROM BREAST CANCER – NJ 2018
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY FROM COLON CANCER – NJ 2018
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY FROM PANCREATIC CANCER – NJ 2018
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY FROM STROKE – NJ 2018
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY FROM DIABETES – NJ 2018
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY FROM INFLUENZA/PNEUMONIA – NJ 2018
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY FROM KIDNEY DISEASE – NJ 2018
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY FROM HYPERTENSION/HYPERTENSIVE RENAL DZ – NJ 2018
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY FROM ASTHMA – NJ 2018
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY FROM MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS – NJ 2018
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY FROM CHRONIC LIVER DZ/CIRRHOSIS – NJ 2018
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY FROM ACCIDENTAL POISONING AND EXPOSURES TO NOXIOUS SUBSTANCES – NJ 2018
AGE ADJUSTED DEATH RATES DUE TO DRUGS IN NEW JERSEY BY RACE/ETHNICITY – 2000 - 2017
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY FROM HIV/AIDS – NJ 2018
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY FROM HOMICIDE – NJ 2018
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY FROM HOMICIDE FROM FIREARM – NJ 2018
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY FROM HOMICIDE – NJ 2000

Age-adjusted Rates (Deaths Per 100,000 Standard Population) by Year and Race/Ethnicity combined

- White, non-Hispanic: 1.2
- Black, non-Hispanic: 16.1
- Hispanic of any race: 4.7
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY FROM SUICIDE – NJ 2018

Age-adjusted Rates (Deaths Per 100,000 Standard Population) by Year and Race/ethnicity combined:

- White, non-Hispanic: 10.7
- Black, non-Hispanic: 4.2
- Hispanic (of any race): 5.9
- Asian, non-Hispanic: 5.2
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY FROM SUICIDE – NJ 2000
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY FROM CONDITIONS ORIGINATING IN THE PERINATAL PERIOD – NJ 2018

Age-adjusted Rates (Deaths Per 100,000 Standard Population) by Year and Race/ethnicity combined:

- Year 2018:
  - White, non-Hispanic: 1.9
  - Black, non-Hispanic: 6.6
  - Hispanic of any race: 2.8
  - Asian, non-Hispanic: 2.8

Age-adjusted Rates (Deaths Per 100,000 Standard Population):

- 0.0
- 1.0
- 2.0
- 3.0
- 4.0
- 5.0
- 6.0
- 7.0
- 8.0
- 9.0

[Graph showing age-adjusted rates for different races and ethnicities.]
AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATES by RACE/ETHNICITY FROM CONDITIONS ORIGINATING IN THE PERINATAL PERIOD – NJ 2000

Age-adjusted Rates (Deaths Per 100,000 Standard Population) by Year and Race/ethnicity combined

- White, non-Hispanic: 3.0
- Black, non-Hispanic: 13.1
- Hispanic (of any race): 4.9
- Asian, Non-Hispanic: (not shown)
INFANT MORTALITY IN NEW JERSEY BY RACE/ETHNICITY – 2015 - 2017
AVERAGE LIFE EXPECTANCY IN NEW JERSEY BY RACE/ETHNICITY – 2014 - 2018

- White, non-Hispanic: 80.1 years
- Black, non-Hispanic: 76.5 years
- Hispanic of any race: 85.9 years
- Asian, non-Hispanic: 92.1 years
AVERAGE FEMALE LIFE EXPECTANCY IN NEW JERSEY BY RACE/ETHNICITY – 2014 - 2018

- White, non-Hispanic: 82.5
- Black, non-Hispanic: 79.5
- Hispanic of any race: 88.4
- Asian, non-Hispanic: 93.7
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Life Expectancy (Years)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White, non-Hispanic</td>
<td>77.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black, non-Hispanic</td>
<td>73.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic, of any race</td>
<td>83.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian, non-Hispanic</td>
<td>90.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
REACHING FOR Health Equity

Reducing health disparities brings us closer to reaching health equity. The programs below are examples of how addressing disparities can advance health equity.

**Programs**

- **Nurse training**
- **Screening efforts**
- **Case management and harm reduction**
- **Addressing health disparities**
- **Health equity audits**
- **Health equity improvement efforts**
- **Health equity education**
- **Health equity research**
- **Health equity policy and advocacy**
- **Health equity engagement**
- **Health equity partnerships**
- **Health equity planning**
- **Health equity funding**
- **Health equity implementation**

**Populations**

- Black and Hispanic children
- Native American minority groups
- People living with disabilities
- Women who are sex with men
- American Indian and Alaska Native populations
- Low-income populations and Alaska Natives
- High-risk communities
- Hispanics and Latinx immigrant men

**Health Equity** is when everyone has the opportunity to be as healthy as possible.

**Health Disparities** are differences in health outcomes and their causes among groups of people.

**Example:** African American children are more likely to die from asthma compared to non-Hispanic White children.

Learn more about these programs at: http://www.cdc.gov/minorityhealth/strategies2016/

CDC (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services)
Figure 2

Distribution of U.S. Population by Race/Ethnicity, 2016 and 2050

NOTE: All racial groups are non-Hispanic. Other includes Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, American Indian and Alaska Natives, and individuals with two or more races. Data do not include residents of Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, or the Northern Mariana Islands.


KFF
# Population Estimates by Race/Ethnicity, New Jersey, 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Numerator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>54.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>12.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>20.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Islander</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AI/AN</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Single Race</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or More Races</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The Numerator values are the estimated population counts for each race/ethnicity category.
# Social Determinants of Health

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Economic Stability</th>
<th>Neighborhood and Physical Environment</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Food</th>
<th>Community and Social Context</th>
<th>Health Care System</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employment</td>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>Literacy</td>
<td>Hunger</td>
<td>Social Integration</td>
<td>Health Coverage</td>
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<td>Income</td>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>Language</td>
<td>Access to Healthy Options</td>
<td>Support Systems</td>
<td>Provider Availability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>Early Childhood Education</td>
<td></td>
<td>Community Engagement</td>
<td>Provide Linguistic and Cultural Competency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt</td>
<td>Parks</td>
<td>Vocational Training</td>
<td></td>
<td>Discrimination</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Bills</td>
<td>Playgrounds</td>
<td>Higher Education</td>
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<td>Stress</td>
<td>Quality of Care</td>
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<td>Support</td>
<td>Walkability</td>
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<td>Zip Code/Geography</td>
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</table>

**Health Outcomes**
- Mortality, Morbidity, Life Expectancy, Health Care Expenditures, Health Status, Functional Limitations
INSURANCE COVERAGE IN NEW JERSEY BY RACE/ETHNICITY – 2010 - 2017

Data are based on a “yes” response to the American Community Survey (ACS) health insurance question: “Is this person CURRENTLY covered by [specifically stated] health insurance or health coverage plans?”
Figure 3

Gaps Between Average Annual Income of Richest and Poorest Households in the United States, 2018

- Poorest 20% of Households: $14,000
- Middle 20% of Households: $64,000
- Richest 20% of Households: $234,000

NOTE: Totals rounded to the nearest 100.

## Below Poverty Level by Race/Ethnicity, New Jersey, 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Lower Limit</th>
<th>Upper Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>15.1%</td>
<td>17.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>16.1%</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHILDREN UNDER 5 IN POVERTY IN NEW JERSEY BY RACE/ETHNICITY – 2014 - 2018

- Asian: 26.8%
- Black: 28.8%
- Hispanic: 26.8%
- White: 28.8%
A Gloomy Prediction on How Much Poverty Could Rise

Researchers suggest the poverty rate may reach the highest levels in half a century, hitting African-Americans and children hardest.
FORECASTING ESTIMATES of POVERTY during the COVID-19 CRISIS

Poverty Rates in the United States Could Reach Highest Levels in Over 50 Years

Zachary Parolin & Christopher Wimer
Center on Poverty and Social Policy at Columbia University

Key Findings

- If unemployment rates rise to 30 percent, we project that the annual poverty rate in the United States will increase from 12.4 percent to 18.9 percent, the highest recorded poverty rate since at least 1969.

- Even if employment rates recover after the summer, we project that the annual poverty rate will reach levels comparable to the Great Recession.

- We project that pre-tax/transfer poverty rates will reach a record high if the annual unemployment rate surpasses 10 percent.

- Working-age adults and children will face particularly large increases in poverty.

- Absent a quick recovery in employment rates, substantial income transfers are likely needed to prevent a record-high poverty rate in the United States.
Figure 5. Projected changes in SPM poverty rates by demographic group

Note: Baseline represents estimated poverty rates as of February 2020. See Appendix for details on projections. Unemployment simulations represent annual poverty rates.
High unemployment is projected to increase the poverty rate and widen racial disparities.

Poverty rate under different unemployment scenarios (second quarter, April-June)

Note: Historical poverty data is based on Supplemental Poverty Measure and has been adjusted for 2019 changes in methodology by the Census Bureau. - Source: Zachary Parolin and Christopher Wimer, Columbia University School of Social Work - The New York Times