

COVID-19 IMPACT ON BLACKS/AFRICAN AMERICANS

This Fact Sheet reports on what we *know* the data landscape of COVID-19 to be across these communities in Colorado, and *does not* intend to represent all people within this subpopulation. We encourage you to seek out additional information about how to support and click the links associated with each fact to see where the source of the data. Data last updated October 6th, 2020.



COVID-19 Statistics in Colorado



Blacks/African Americans comprise nearly

5%

of COVID-19 Cases*



while only representing **4.6%** of the state's population

Blacks/African Americans are nearly

3.5X

more likely to die of COVID-19



and have the highest mortality rate from COVID-19 at **89 per 100,000 people**

*Colorado has only reported race/ethnicity data for 72% of cases & 97% of deaths

<https://bit.ly/2Zds5b0>

<https://bit.ly/3dBgCif>

<https://bit.ly/336N3N1>

<https://bit.ly/382Z400>

<https://covidtracking.com/race/dashboard>

Factors Influencing Access to Care & COVID-19



COST

8.4%

of Black/African American Coloradans reported cost as a barrier to seeing a doctor.

<https://bit.ly/3eOAGZf>



TRANSPORTATION

1 IN 10

Black/African American Coloradans reported not getting care because of a transportation challenge.

<https://bit.ly/3eOAGZf>



INSURANCE

25%

of Black/African American Coloradans are uninsured.

33%

are covered by Medicaid.

<https://bit.ly/31jXQ5v>



MEDICAL DISTRUST

16.2 out of 20*

is the average physician distrust score for Blacks/African Americans across the US. (Sample size = 1,375) *A higher score represents more mistrust

<https://bit.ly/3eGZ7Tu>

Driving Forces of Inequity



WEALTH GAP

The median household income for Blacks/African Americans in Colorado is \$44,400 -- nearly \$24,000 less than the state median.

COVID-19 Impact:

- Lower earning positions are often considered essential workers, increasing exposure for getting COVID-19.
- Less likely to have savings to rely on during the economic shutdown.

<https://bit.ly/3dAWvK8>



CHRONIC ILLNESS

35.2% of Blacks/African Americans in Colorado have high blood pressure and **10.4%** have diabetes.

COVID-19 Impact:

- Pre-existing conditions increase the risk for adverse outcomes if infected
- Extra medical costs may deter patients from seeking medical attention

<https://bit.ly/33icD9S>

<https://bit.ly/384ryNi>



CRIMINALIZATION

3,261 Blacks/African Americans are incarcerated in Colorado compared to **509** Whites.

The rate of COVID-19 in Colorado prisons is **538 times higher** than Colorado overall.

COVID Impact

- Incarceration increases the risk of contracting the virus
- Access to treatment while incarcerated may be of a lesser quality

<https://bit.ly/2Zgd60t>

<https://bit.ly/3h8opbA>

<https://bit.ly/384Bmo5>

*COVID-19 Impact Statements are paraphrased from <https://www.derrickyoungjr.com/covid19>



EDUCATION GAP

Districts that serve the most students of color receive **\$549 less per student** than other school districts.

COVID-19 Impact

- Students are less likely to have access to the technology needed for online learning
- Wider achievement gap

This Is Not The Full Story

Health disparities result from a wide range of systemic socio-economic factors. Policies and systems related to health care, education, child care, reproductive rights, jobs, economic security, housing and food security, transportation and criminal justice have long-term impacts on vulnerable populations. This infographic demonstrates how COVID-19 has exacerbated and shone light on how these systems not only create disparities, but how existing disparities have real-world impacts on the outcomes that racial and ethnic minorities are experiencing with COVID-19.



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