

SAMHSA Office of Behavioral Health Equity (OBHE) In Brief

David Dickinson, SAMHSA Regional Administrator, Region 10
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

ENGAGE: Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling
Online Learning Experience
December 15, 2020



SAMHSA
Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Services Administration

POLL Question #1

- What State are you Zooming in from?

Answer:

- WA_____
- OR_____
- ID_____
- AK_____
- Other_____

Overview

- SAMHSA Mission, Priority Areas, and Structure
- OBHE Vision and Mission
- OBHE Framework: Key Strategy Areas
 1. Policy Initiatives
 - TA Briefs; Issue Briefs (links)
 2. Data
 - Unmet Need for Communities of Color
 - COVID and Disproportionate Impact
 3. Workforce Development & Training Opportunities
 - NNED Training
 4. Communications

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is the agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the nation

SAMHSA's mission is to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America's communities

SAMHSA Five Priority Areas FY19-FY23

1. Combating the Opioid Crisis through the Expansion of Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Support Services
2. Addressing Serious Mental Illness and Serious Emotional Disturbances
3. Advancing Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Support Services for Substance Use
4. Improving Data Collection, Analysis, Dissemination, and Program and Policy Evaluation
5. Strengthening Health Practitioner Training and Education

Poll Question # 2

- Did you know before today that SAMHSA had an Office focused specifically on behavioral health and equity?

Answer:

- YES _____
- NO _____

Organizational Chart: Where OBHE is Located

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Policy Lab

Thomas Clarke, PhD
Director

Office of the Assistant Secretary

Elinore McCance-Katz, MD, Ph.D.
Deepa Avula, Chief Of Staff

Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs

Anne Herron, Director
Regional Offices
International Activities

Office of Tribal Affairs & Policy Alec Thundercloud, Director

- Office of Behavioral Health Equity
Larke Huang PhD Director

Legislative Affairs
Lori Hayman JD

Chief Medical Officer
Neeraj Gandotra, MD

Health Financing
Christopher Carroll

Office of Communications
Charisssa Pallasade,
Director

Office of Financial Resources
Deepa Avula, Director

Office of Management and Technology
Paolo del Vecchio,
Director

Center for Substance Abuse Prevention
TBD

Center for Substance Abuse Treatment
Joseph Bullock, Ed.D.
Director

Center for Mental Health Services
Anita Everett, MD
Director

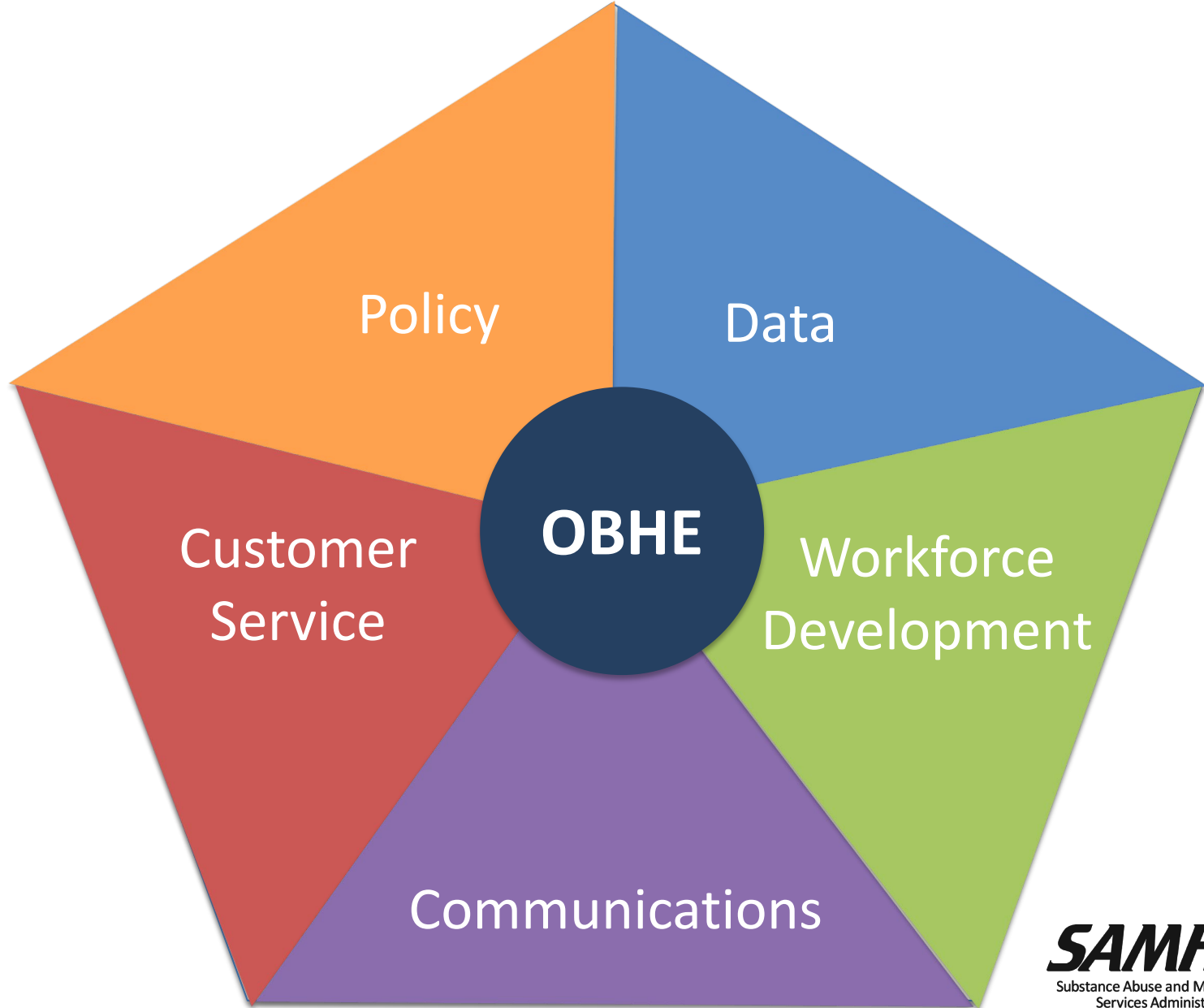
Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality
K.Radhakrishnan,
MD, PhD, Director

OBHE Vision and Mission

The ***vision*** of OBHE is for underserved racial and ethnic and LGBT communities across the country to achieve behavioral health equity

OBHE's ***mission*** is to reduce disparities in behavioral health by improving access to quality services and supports that enable these individuals and families to thrive, participate in and contribute to healthy communities.

OBHE Framework: 5 Strategy Areas



OBHE Scope of Work: Selected Examples

Policy

- Elevate CBOs, Disparity Impact Strategy, Opioid Issue Briefs, Topical TA Briefs

Data

- SPARS data, Mental Health Block Grant data, National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report Opioid Subgroup, Chartbooks, Barometers, Data Spotlights

Workforce Development

- NNED, NNEDLearn, Internships, APA Fellows, Convenings, Partners with TTCs

Communications

- OBHE Website, Blogs, Public Health InfoBriefs

Customer Service

Regional Administrators, TTCs, Healthy Mind Initiative, Federal Interagency Workgroups, State Cultural and Linguistic Competency Coordinators, etc.

POLICY

- Disparity Impact Strategy
- Opioid Issue Briefs
- TA Briefs Re COVID Pandemic
- Elevating CBO's



The Disparity Impact Strategy (DIS): Grantee Requirement to Submit Disparity Impact Statement

Using program performance data, disaggregated by race/ethnicity to determine differences in:

Access

Who is enrolled in the grant program? Who are the subpopulations being served in the program? Who are identified as disparate populations?

Use

Who's getting what dosages of intervention? How do services vary by subpopulations?

Outcomes

How do outcomes vary by subpopulations?

Using data-driven quality improvement strategies to reduce disparities.

Products from Grant Programs and OBHE

Building on Strengths: Tools for Improving Positive Outcomes

Ensuring the Well-being of Boys and Young Men of Color: Factors that Promote Success and Protect Against Substance Use and Misuse



Using Prevention Research to Guide Prevention Practice
SAMHSA's Center for the Application of Prevention Technologies
January, 2016



Advancing Best Practices in Behavioral Health for Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Boys and Men

SEPTEMBER 2016



 **SAMHSA**
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
www.samhsa.gov • 1-877-SAMHSA • (1-877-726-4727)

<http://www.samhsa.gov/capt/sites/default/files/resources/ensuring-wellbeing-boys-young-men-of-color-factors.pdf>

<https://store.samhsa.gov/system/files/sma16-4959.pdf>

OBHE Opioid Issue Briefs: Black/African Americans and Latino/Hispanic Populations (2020)

THE OPIOID CRISIS AND
THE BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN
POPULATION: AN URGENT ISSUE



<https://store.samhsa.gov/product/The-Opioid-Crisis-and-the-Black-African-American-Population-An-Urgent-Issue/PEP20-05-02-001>

THE OPIOID CRISIS AND THE
HISPANIC/LATINO POPULATION:
AN URGENT ISSUE



<https://store.samhsa.gov/product/The-Opioid-Crisis-and-the-Hispanic-Latino-Population-An-Urgent-Issue/PEP20-05-02-002> (English)
<https://store.samhsa.gov/product/PEP20-05-02-003> (Spanish)

Recent OBHE TA briefs

- *Strategies for Outreaching and Engaging Communities of Color: A Pathway to Reducing Disparities - Brief Guidance from SAMHSA's Office of Behavioral Health Equity for State Administrators and State Grantees (July, 2020)*
- *Racism, Discrimination, and Child Development (June, 2020)*
- *Trauma, Racism, Chronic Stress and the Health of Black Americans (June, 2020)*
- *Double Jeopardy: COVID-19 and Behavioral Health Disparities for Black and Latino Communities in the U.S. (May, 2020)*

Can be retrieved at:

<https://www.samhsa.gov/behavioral-health-equity/policy>

POLL Question #3

- Have you ever used behavioral health information and resources available on SAMHSA's website to support your work?

ANSWER:

YES _____

NO _____

Elevating CBOs Initiative: A Pathway to Reducing Disparities

- Goals:
 - increase the visibility of Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) serving underserved racial and ethnic communities and
 - support capacity building through funding opportunities, staff development, technology, and new partnerships

Elevating CBO's Strategies

- Creating “Win-Win” Partnerships between CBOs and States/Local Jurisdictions
- Creating a Searchable CBO Database/CBO Locator
- Creating Public Awareness of CBOs and Their Unique Role in Communities
- Building CBO Funding and Staff Capacity
- Enhancing CBO Technology for Telehealth
- Enhancing CBO Data and Analytic Capacity

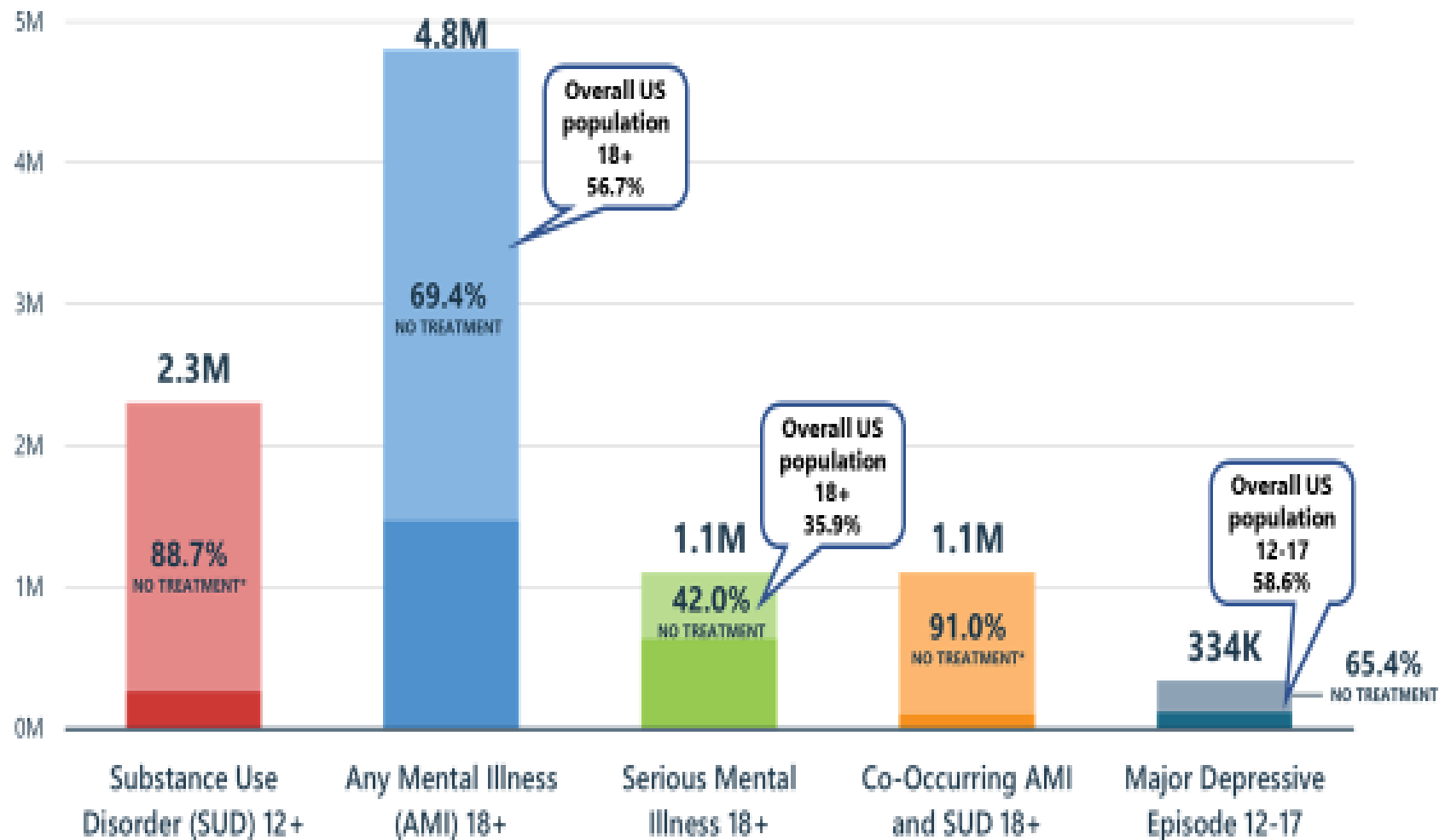
DATA



- Unmet Need Data by Race/Ethnicity from NSDUH
- COVID Tracking: Disproportionate Impact
- Data Chartbooks & Spotlights

Despite Consequences and Disease Burden, Treatment Gaps among African Americans Remain Vast

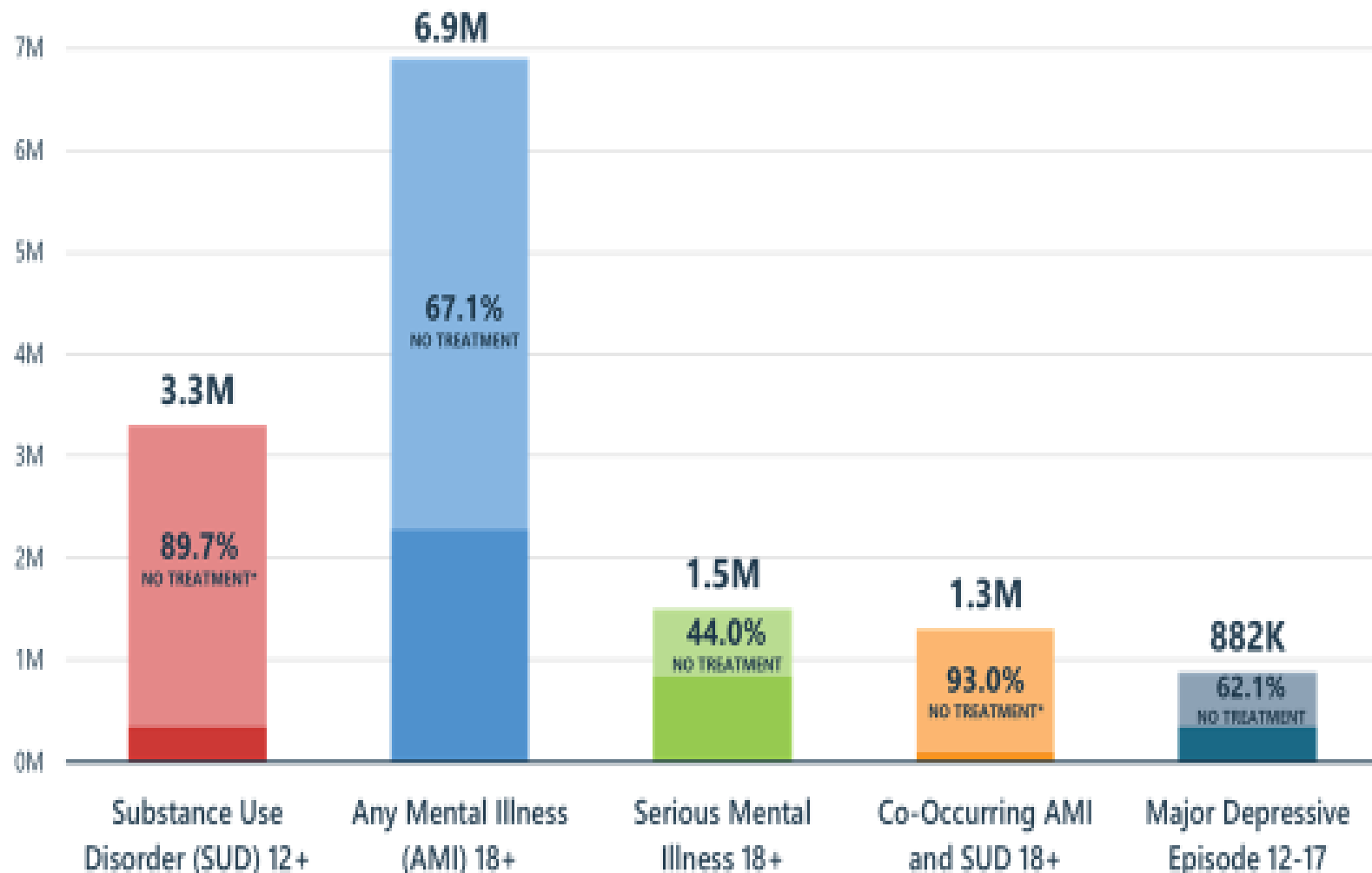
PAST YEAR, 2018 NSDUH, African American 12+



* No Treatment for SUD is defined as not receiving treatment at any location, such as a hospital (inpatient), rehabilitation facility (inpatient or outpatient), mental health center, emergency room, private doctor's office, self-help group, or prison/jail.

Despite Consequences and Disease Burden, Treatment Gaps among Hispanics Remain Vast

PAST YEAR, 2018 NSDUH, Hispanic 12+

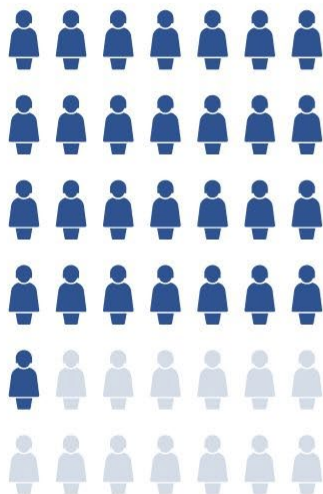


* No Treatment for SUD is defined as not receiving treatment at any location, such as a hospital (inpatient), rehabilitation facility (inpatient or outpatient), mental health center, emergency room, private doctor's office, self-help group, or prison/jail.

Unmet Need Among Black and Latinx Populations (R.Shim 2020)

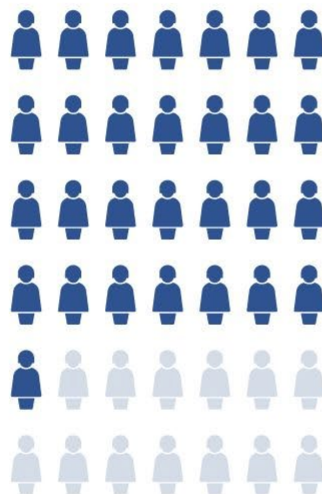
In 2018:

69%



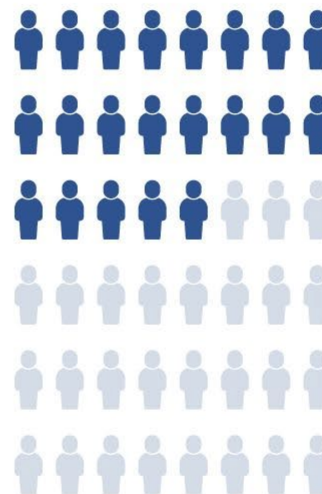
of Black adults with
any mental illness
received no
treatment

67%



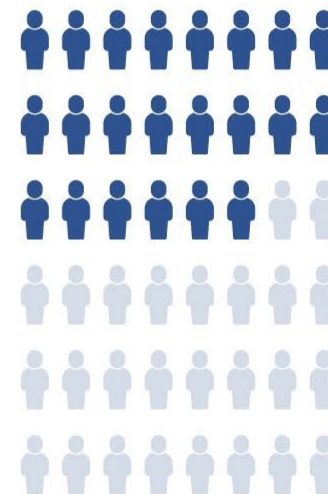
of Latinx adults with
any mental illness
received no
treatment

42%



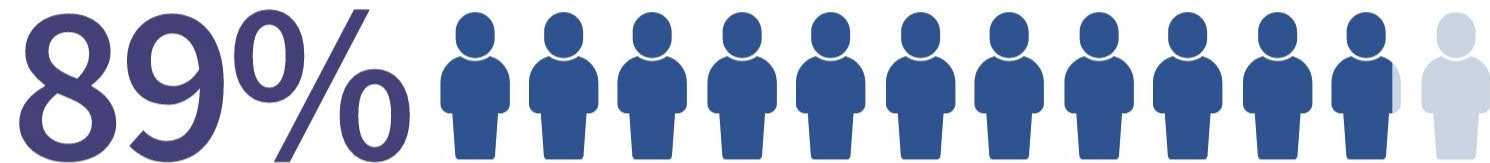
of Black adults with
**serious mental
illness** received no
treatment

44%

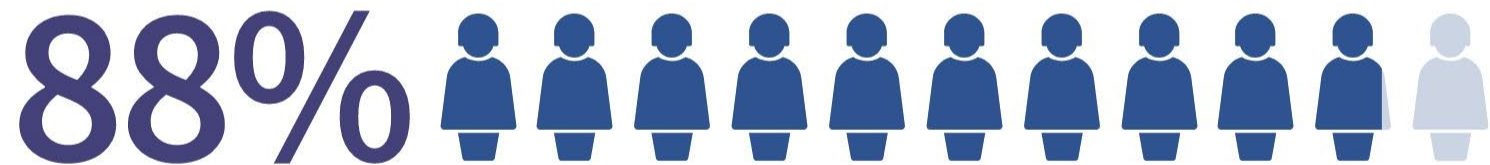


of Latinx adults with
**serious mental
illness** received no
treatment

Unmet Need for SU TX: NSDUH, 2019 (Shim, 2020)



of Latinx adults with substance use disorders reported receiving no treatment



of Black adults with substance use disorders reported receiving no treatment

Substance Abuse and Mental health services administration: Key Substance Use and Mental Health indicators in the United States: Results from the 2018 National Survey on Drug Use and Health. Rockville, SAMHSA, 2019

Disproportionate Impact of COVID in Communities of Color (BIPOC)

COVID-19 CASES, HOSPITALIZATION, AND DEATH BY RACE/ETHNICITY

FACTORS THAT INCREASE COMMUNITY SPREAD AND INDIVIDUAL RISK



CROWDED SITUATIONS



CLOSE / PHYSICAL CONTACT



ENCLOSED SPACE



DURATION OF EXPOSURE

Rate ratios compared to White, Non-Hispanic Persons

American Indian or Alaska Native, Non-Hispanic persons

Asian, Non-Hispanic persons

Black or African American, Non-Hispanic persons

Hispanic or Latino persons

CASES¹

2.8x higher

1.1x higher

2.6x higher

2.8x higher

HOSPITALIZATION²

5.3x higher

1.3x higher

4.7x higher

4.6x higher

DEATH³

1.4x higher

No Increase

2.1x higher

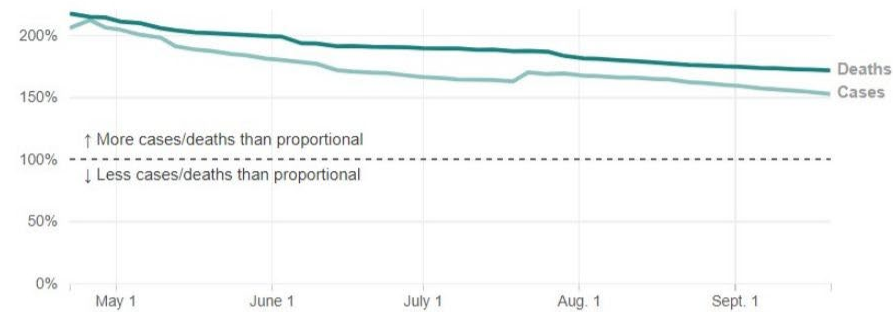
1.1x higher

Race and ethnicity are risk markers for other underlying conditions that impact health — including socioeconomic status, access to health care, and increased exposure to the virus due to occupation (e.g., frontline, essential, and critical infrastructure workers).

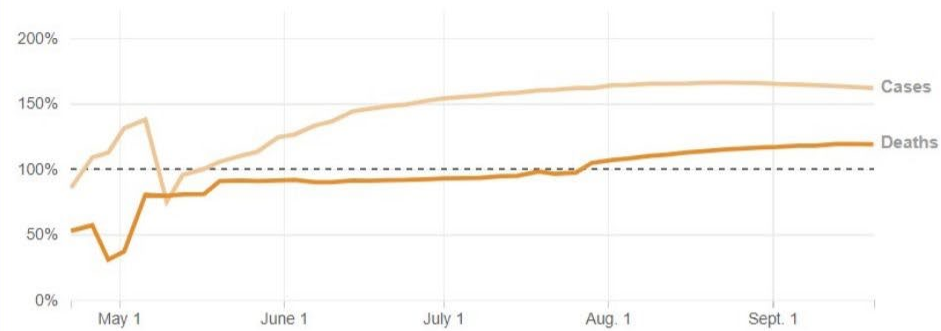
Disproportionate Impact of COVID in Communities of Color (BIPOC – Ruth Shim, U.C. Davis, 2020)

Black death and case rates remain **disproportionately high**, since April.

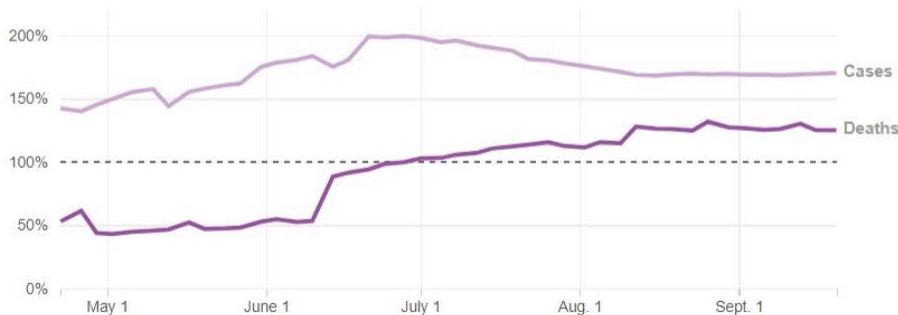
Percentage difference in share of deaths/cases, compared with race or ethnicity's share of U.S. population. A value above the dotted line indicates that a community's share of cases or deaths is greater than its share of the population.



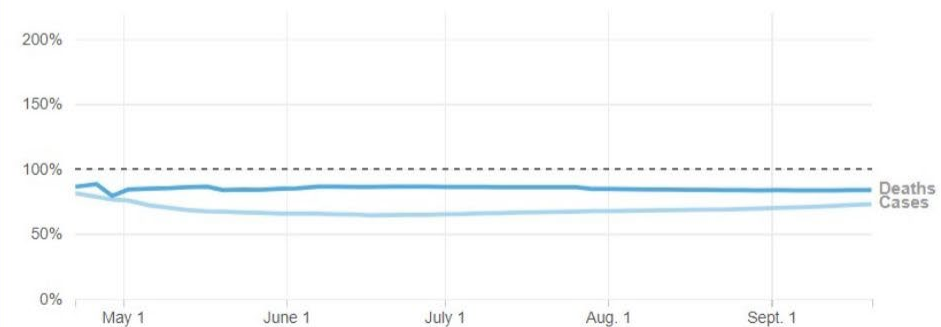
Hispanic shares of cases and deaths have **quickly exceeded their population share**.



Native American cases remain **disproportionately high**, as death rates **grow**.



White rates have stayed **disproportionately low**.

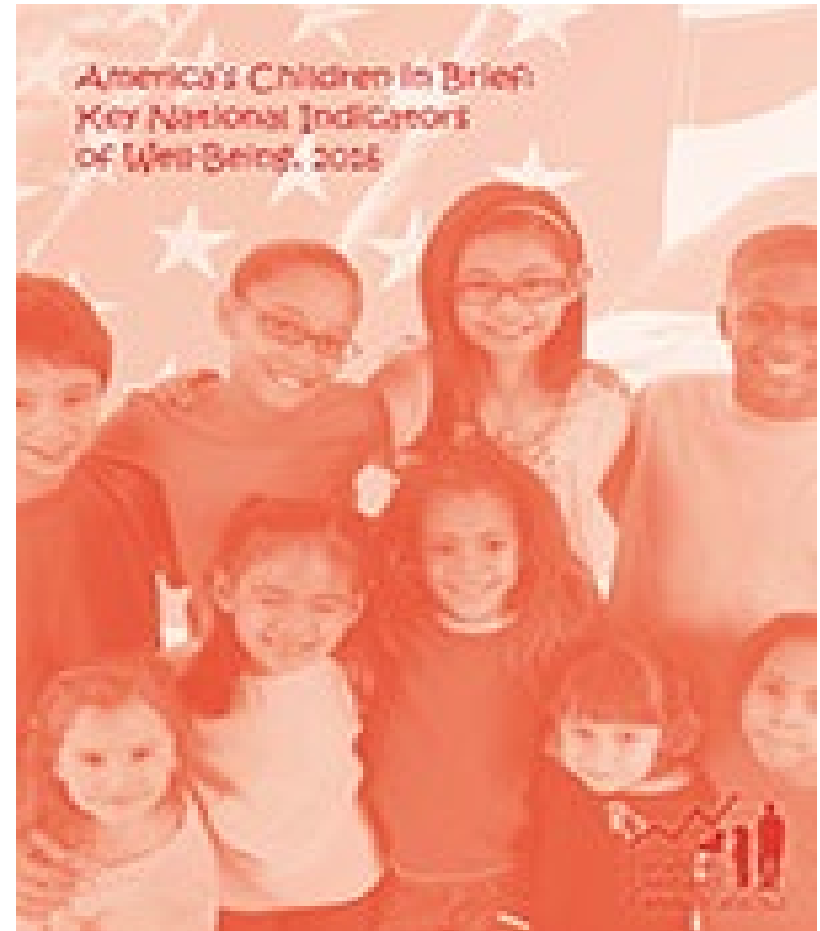


COVID Tracking Project; 2018 American Community Survey five-year estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau

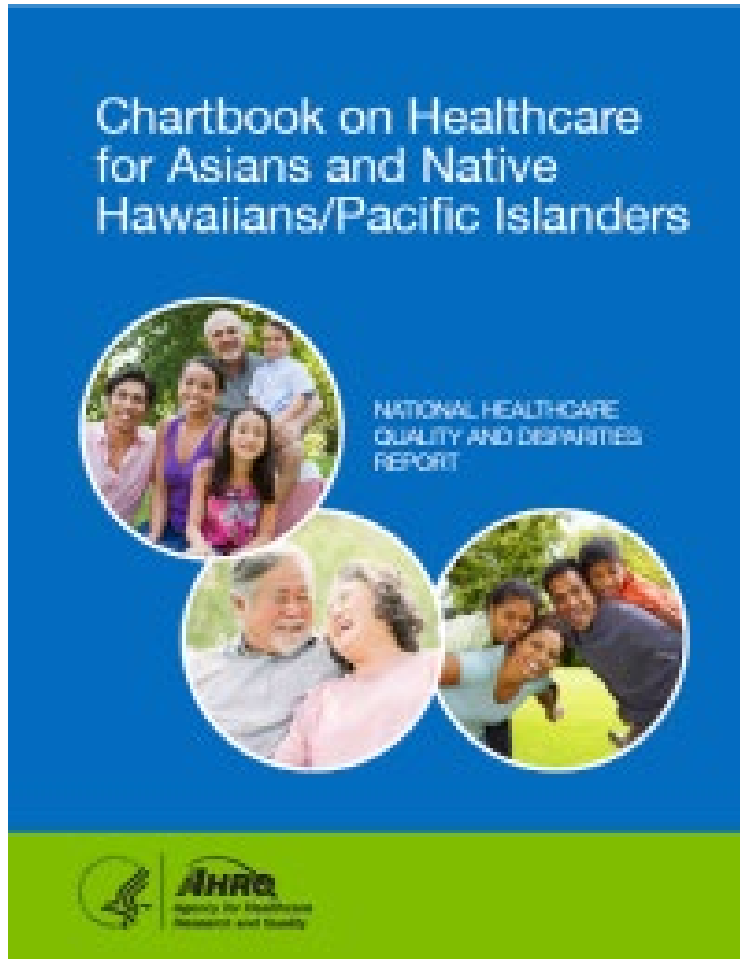
SAMHSA & Federal Data Reports



SAMHSA/CBHSQ, OBHE 2015



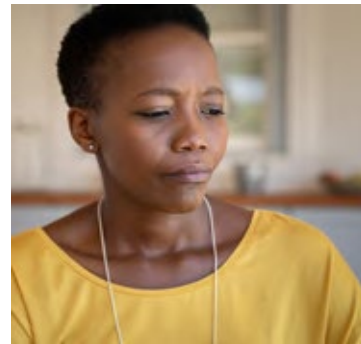
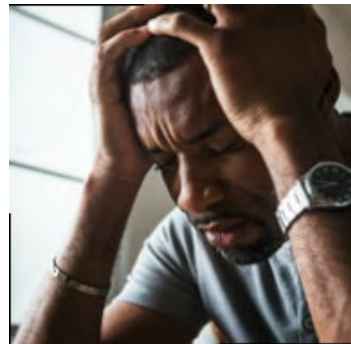
CDC's National Center for Health Statistics
(includes SAMHSA Survey Data, 2016)



Chartbook on Healthcare for Asians and Native Hawaiians/Pacific Islanders (2020)

AHRQ-OBHE Data Spotlight (2020)

Blacks Experiencing Fast-Rising Rates of Overdose Deaths Involving Synthetic Opioids Other Than Methadone



<https://www.samhsa.gov/behavioral-health-equity/obhe-data>

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

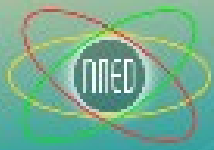


-National Network to Eliminate Disparities in Behavioral Health (NNED)

-NNEDLearn2021 Training Meeting – Applications
Due Jan 8, 2021

<https://nned.net/opportunities/nnedlearn/>

-OBHE Convenings/Virtual Roundtables

[News & Events](#)[Opportunities](#)[Connect](#)[Resources](#)[Join the NNED](#)

Welcome to the New NNED Website

12/11/2023

The website for the National Network to Eliminate Disparities in Behavioral Health (NNED) has a new look! Designed to promote interaction among NNED members and optimize timely content and resources, the website features new engaging features while also maintaining highly utilized features/sections. We ask for your patience and grace as we work out issues that may arise, and encourage your feedback on the new site.

[more](#)

The National Network to Eliminate Disparities in Behavioral Health (NNED) is a network of community-based organizations focused on the mental health and substance use issues of diverse racial and ethnic communities. The NNED supports information sharing, training, and technical assistance towards the goal of promoting behavioral health equity.



Training Opportunity Announcement

The [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#) invites community-based organizations in the [National Network to Eliminate Disparities in Behavioral Health](#) (NNED) to participate in the eleventh annual training, [NNEDLearn 2021](#).

The goal of NNEDLearn is to develop skills in evidence-supported and culturally appropriate mental illness and substance use prevention and treatment practices and to support practice implementation.

This training model includes two introductory webinars, a three-day virtual intensive training, and four follow-up virtual coaching sessions. NNEDLearn participants will engage in the virtual intensive training sessions on **March 23-25, 2021 through Zoom**.

Applications to participate in the virtual NNEDLearn 2021 are now available on the NNED website.

<https://nned.net/opportunities/nnedlearn/>

The deadline to apply is Friday, January 8, 2021 at 5:00 pm ET.

Opportunities Through NNED: www.nned.net



NNED on the Web. Interactive website with relevant hot topics, news items, calendar events, searchable funding opportunities. Active social media presence on Facebook, Twitter, and Linked In.

PARTNER  CENTRAL

Search and find Community-Based Organizations serving diverse racial and ethnic communities

nned note

E-newsletter with relevant news, partnership opportunities, and announcements of timely federal and foundation funding.

nnEDshare

On-line collaborative space to share resources and intervention efforts.

nnED *Learn*

Professional development opportunity to receive training in evidence-supported and culturally appropriate clinical and consumer practices.

OBHE 2020 Convenings

- SAMHSA OBHE and Office for Disparities Research and Workforce at the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) *Responding to the Alarm: Addressing Black Youth Suicide* (April, 2020)

NNED 2020 Virtual Roundtables

1. Communities Respond to COVID-19 with Innovative High-impact Strategies (April, 2020)
2. Communities Respond to COVID-19: Implications for Asian/Pacific Islanders (May, 2020)
3. Taking on the “Perfect Storm”: Faith-based Organizations and Partnerships Address COVID-19 & Critical Behavioral Health Needs in Communities of Color (July, 2020)

NNED Virtual Roundtable Summaries (2020)



Communities Respond to COVID-19 with Innovative High-impact Strategies



NNED Virtual Roundtable
April 23, 2020

The National Network to Eliminate Disparities in Behavioral Health (NNED) and the SAMHSA Office of Behavioral Health Equity hosted a virtual roundtable highlighting strategies implemented by community-based organizations to address community needs during the COVID-19 crisis. Communities of color have experienced challenges including: limited access to internet or technology, cultural and linguistic gaps in information, and businesses suffering from closures. National conversations underscore the growing need for mental health and emotional supports for individuals, families and providers across all populations.


Dr. Camara Jones, past president of the American Public Health Association, opened the discussion explaining the role of disparities in COVID-19 cases. Panelists then shared the needs in their communities—from a Bhutanese refugee community in Ohio to a school district in Texas to an ethnically diverse, low-income school district in New York—and provided specific actions to take in order to address these needs and easy to implement approaches that support behavioral health needs. The key takeaways and participant surveys are available [here](#).

Deliver Cultural & Linguistic Health Information on Appropriate Platforms | **The Need for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services**


Cultural and linguistic gaps became evident during COVID-19 as ethnic

Even translated print material is very difficult to understand. So we are

Health inequities as communities



Communities Respond to COVID-19: Implications for Asian Pacific Islanders



NNED Virtual Roundtable
May 21, 2020

In recognition of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, the National Network to Eliminate Disparities in Behavioral Health (NNED) and the SAMHSA Office of Behavioral Health Equity hosted a virtual roundtable highlighting the impacts of COVID-19 on Asian Pacific Islander (API) communities and some culturally-specific strategies to address these impacts. APIs have experienced a surge in discrimination and stigma due to the anti-Asian narratives related to COVID-19. These narratives have increased the vulnerability for fear, anxiety and emotional distress within API communities.

NNED organizations and API community leaders have responded to the rising needs for mental health support. Below are the mental health impacts and culturally-specific strategies to support APIs discussed during the virtual roundtable.

Mental Health Impacts | **Strategies to Support APIs**

<https://share.nned.net/2020/03/communities-respond-to-covid-19-with-innovative-high-impact-strategies/>



Taking on the "Perfect Storm": Faith-based Organizations and Partnerships Address COVID-19 and Critical Behavioral Health Needs in Communities of Color



NNED Virtual Roundtable
July 16, 2020

This virtual roundtable, hosted by the NNED National Facilitation Center and SAMHSA's Office of Behavioral Health Equity, in partnership with SAMHSA's Mental Health Technology Transfer Center Network Coordinating Office, discussed how faith-based organizations and leaders are supporting the mental health concerns of racial/ethnic minorities.

Dr. Farha Abbasi 

Pastor Clarence Yarholar 

Rev. Pausa Kaio Thompson 

"When trauma happens to one community, it pervades the whole society. Faith leaders become first responders to the community."
COVID hit during Ramadan. Muslims

"Civil unrest becomes spiritual unrest. Spirituality is the hope in worst situations."
- Provide prayer rooms, meditation rooms, and spirituality rooms in health care

"As a diaspora community, churches are the core, trusted messengers where we get our information."
Pacific Islanders in the U.S. have been most impacted by COVID-19 among all



News & Announcements

The NNED keeps you in the know on what's happening in behavioral health equity in the U.S. and around the world. Our collection of articles from multiple sources cover important headlines, recent findings, proposal calls, and more.

Search in News

Go

COVID-19 Pandemic Resources

09/01/20

During this coronavirus pandemic, the NNED wants to ensure that its members are informed about federal financial support programs for individuals and small businesses that may be economically impacted, upcoming events in regards to COVID-19, and the la ...

Back to School Resources

09/01/20

It is that time of year again when children go back to school. However this year it is a little different. NNED would like to share these articles, resources, funding opportunities, and upcoming events; hoping to make going back to school easier for yo ...

Breaking Barriers to Quality Mental Health Care for LGBTQ Youth

08/28/20

Not all youth currently have access to high-quality and culturally appropriate mental health care. Unfortunately, youth who experience the greatest mental health disparities, including youth living in poverty (Hodgkinson et al., 2017), youth of color (...



Behavioral Health Equity

Behavioral Health Equity

Behavioral Health Equity is the right to access quality health care for all populations regardless of the individual's race, ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, or geographical location. This includes access to prevention, treatment, and recovery services for mental and substance use disorders.

Advancing [health equity](#) involves ensuring that everyone has a fair and just opportunity to be as healthy as possible. This also applies to behavioral health. In conjunction with quality services, this involves addressing social determinants, such as employment and housing stability, insurance status, proximity to services, culturally responsive care – all of which have an impact on behavioral health outcomes.

Featured Resources

[National Network to Eliminate Disparities in Behavioral Health](#)

[NNEDshare](#)

[SAMHSA National Survey on Drug Use and Health \(NSDUH\)](#)

[AHRQ National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Reports](#)

[OMH National Standards on Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in Health and Health Care \(National CLAS Standards\)](#)

[Healthy People](#)

Get Help

[National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#)

1-800-273-TALK (8255)

Free and confidential support for people in distress. 24/7

<https://www.samhsa.gov/behavioral-health-equity>

[Home](#) / [Office of Behavioral Health Equity](#) / Confronted with Multiple Crises, Latinos Draw Upon Culture and Community (Enfrentando múltiples crisis, los latinos recurren a la cultura y a la comunidad)

Confronted with Multiple Crises, Latinos Draw Upon Culture and Community (Enfrentando múltiples crisis, los latinos recurren a la cultura y a la comunidad)

📅 October 14, 2020 / 👤 SAMHSA / ☰ [Office of Behavioral Health Equity](#)

By: Roxana Hernandez, MPH; Shayla Anderson, MPH, CHES; Victoria Chau, Ph.D., MPH; Larke Huang, Ph.D., SAMHSA Office of Behavioral Health Equity

National Hispanic Heritage Month invites us to celebrate the Latinx community. The Year 2020 has been a challenging year and a difficult one to celebrate. The COVID-19 pandemic, opioid and suicide epidemics, an economic slowdown with widespread unemployment, and racial unrest simultaneously impact the nation yet affect the Latinx community especially hard. Collectively, these crises exacerbate the behavioral health concerns for this community. A recent [CDC study](#) found that Hispanics have a higher prevalence of symptoms of anxiety or depressive disorders, COVID-19-related trauma and stress-related disorders, suicidal ideation and increased substance use compared to all other non-Hispanic groups. The study also found [18.6%](#) of Hispanic respondents reported seriously considering suicide in the past month, and [52%](#) reported at least one adverse mental or behavioral health symptom, exceeding all other population groups. Among COVID-related deaths among persons younger than 21 years old, [45%](#) were Hispanic.

Categories

-- Select Category --



Archives

-- Select Month --



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Thank you for your commitment to health!

SAMHSA's mission is to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America's communities.

David Dickinson, MA, Regional Administrator

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