



Exploring Climate Solutions Webinar Series

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Special series:

Equity and Environmental Justice in Climate Solutions



Social Determinants of Health Disparities and Energy Affordability

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Social Determinants of Health Disparities

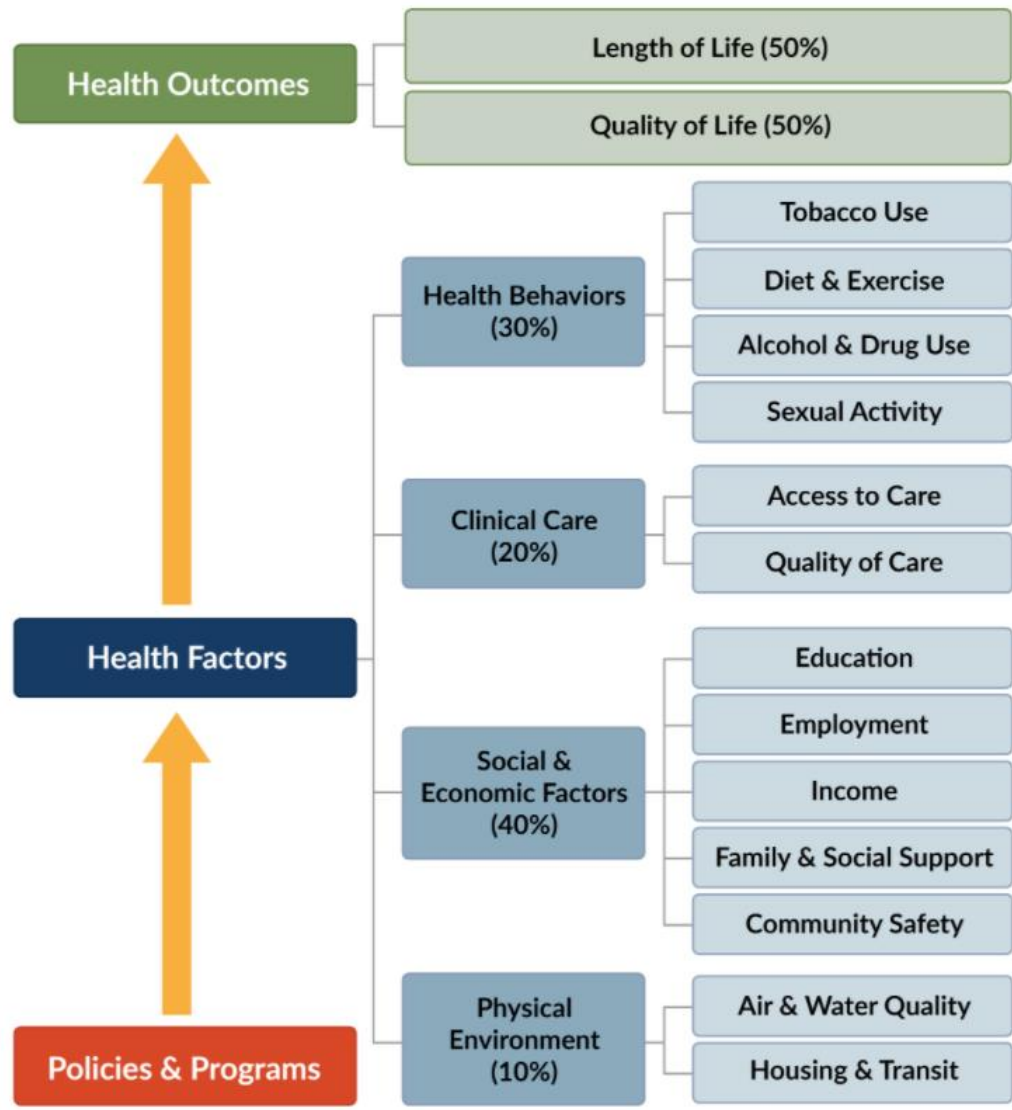
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Social Determinants of Health

- The conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks. (Healthy People 2030)
 - Economic Stability
 - Health Care Access and Quality
 - Social and Community Context
 - Education Access and Quality
 - Neighborhood and Built Environment



THE SSEUS(S)

T: Transportation (e.g. auto, bus, taxi)

H: Housing (e.g. homeowner, renter, housing stock, living arrangements)

E: Eating (e.g. typical nutrition/diet, adequacy of food supplies, food deserts, food stamps)

E: Education (e.g. educational attainment, literacy, numeracy, health literacy)

S: Safety (e.g. interpersonal, physical, community, environmental)

E: Economics (e.g. current and long-term financial assets, budget for food, clothing, medications)

U: Utilities (e.g. electricity, gas, water, cooling, phone, internet)

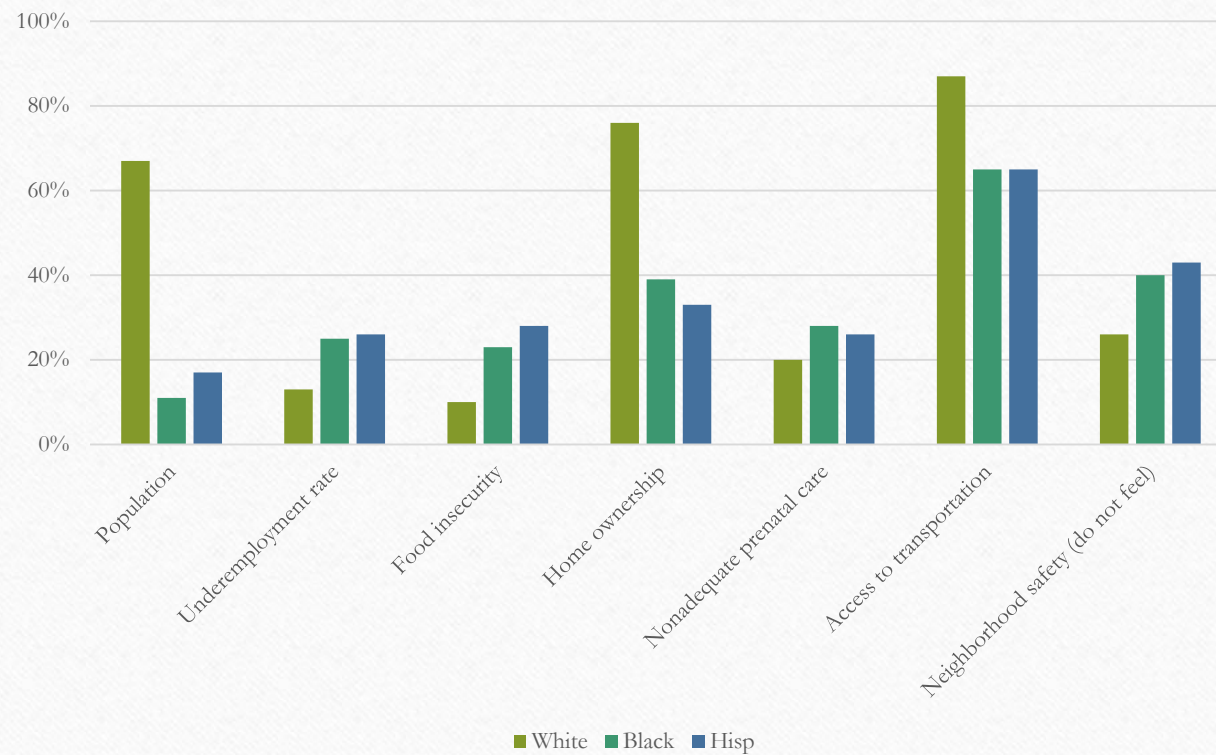
S: Social Supports (e.g. family, friends, work, religious, recreation, community)

S: Social Stressors (racism, sexism, homophobia, ageism)

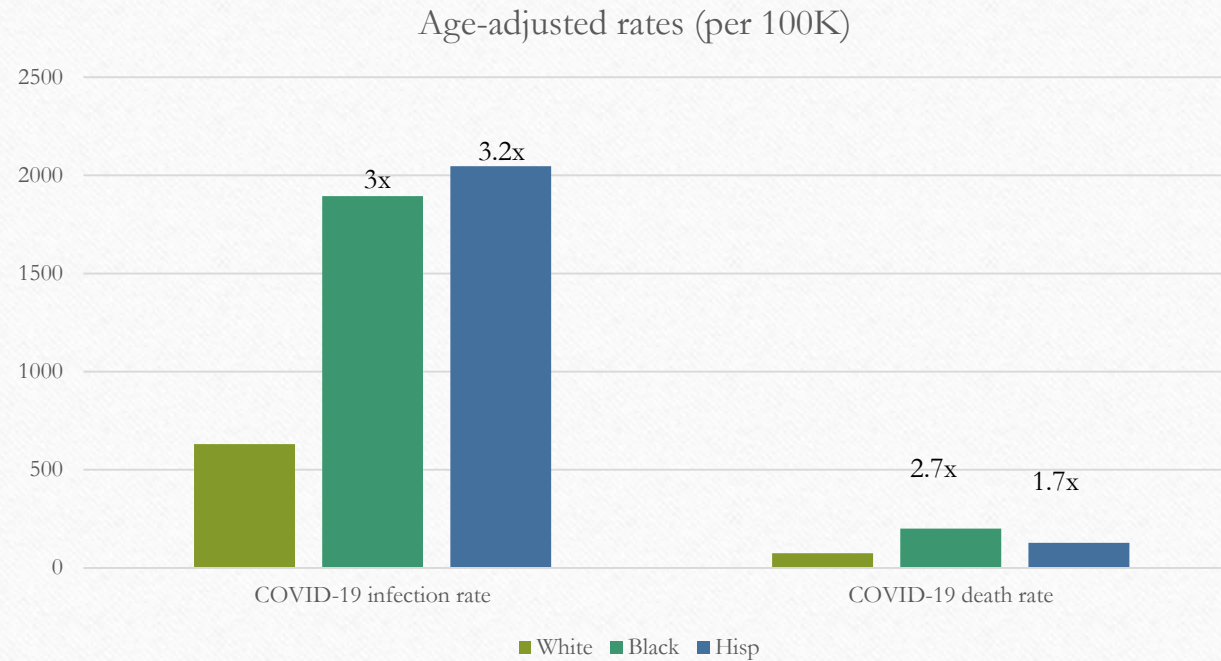
Racist policies impact health

- Drug laws
 - 1875: San Francisco opium ban directed at the Chinese
 - Early 1900s: cocaine was criminalized to jail Blacks in the South
 - Today: nearly 80% of people in federal prison and almost 60% of people in state prison for drug offenses are Black or Latino.
- Housing laws
 - Redlining: the refusal to insure mortgages in and near Black communities (Federal Housing Administration)
 - Blockbusting: “introducing African American homeowners into previously all white neighborhoods in order to spark rapid white flight and housing price decline.”
 - Today: affordable housing projects are slowed or rejected in more affluent communities, leaving many racial and ethnic minority families with little alternatives but to move among communities with conditions that perpetuate ill health.

SDOH disparities



Disparate impact of COVID-19



Advocating for policies that promote equity

- Developing and implementing policies that have created new standards to p
- Improved access to parks;
- Increased access to nutritious food options;
- Safe and affordable housing for low-income residents; and
- Street designs that promote safe walking, cycling, and transit access.

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