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NATIONAL
MINORITY HEALTH
MONTH (APRIL)

UPCOMING EDI EVENTS LINKS

[Developing and
Producing Videos to
Expand Public Health
Messaging](#)

May 1, 12-1:30 PM
Online

[Reducing
Intergenerational
Poverty](#)

May 6, 1-2:30 PM
Online

[Poverty Simulation](#)

May 10, 9 AM-12:30 PM
Tri-C

[Opioid Industry
Documents Archive: A
National Symposium](#)

May 13-16
Online

Community Discussions Aim to Understand and Address Vaccine Hesitancy and Public Health Mistrust

The EDI Office at CCBH is hosting a series of community discussions to engage Cuyahoga County residents in dialogues about the factors driving vaccine hesitancy and public health mistrust in our community. These discussions are aimed at gathering data to inform educational efforts to help community residents make more informed decisions about their health, including whether to get immunized against vaccine-preventable illnesses and deaths. Three community discussions have taken place in Lakewood, South Euclid, and Middleburg Heights. The final discussion in this series will occur on Saturday, May 4, from 1-3 PM at the Fleet Branch of the Cleveland Public Library.

Routine Child Vaccination Rates Lower Than Pre-Pandemic Levels

After holding steady for a decade, vaccine coverage decreased during the pandemic and has yet to rebound.

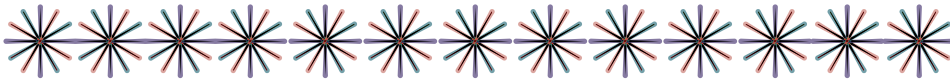
By Shannon Kolman and Claudia Meyer | February 29, 2024

Source: National Conference of State Legislatures

The EDI Office has taken on the task of addressing vaccine hesitancy and public health mistrust due to recent declines in vaccination rates, increases in public health mistrust driving these declines, and the persistent racial and economic disparities in vaccination rates. The EDI Office is coordinating its vaccine and mistrust efforts with those of the Epidemiology, Surveillance, and Informatics and Population Health Services, which are working to increase rates of adult and childhood immunizations, respectively.

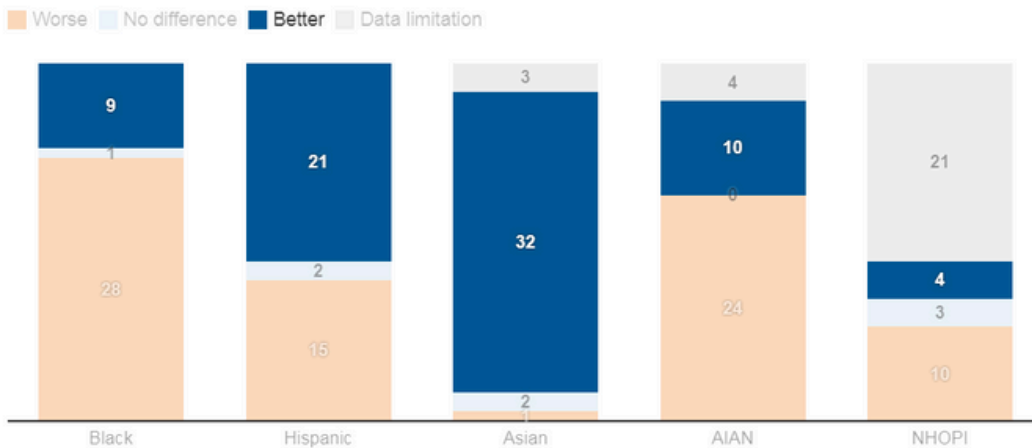
APRIL IS NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH

In 2002, the United States Congress designated April as National Minority Health Month. National Minority Health Month grew from National Negro Health Week established in 1915. At the time, Booker T. Washington, founder of the Tuskegee Institute, presented data highlighting the poor health status of Black Americans and the economic costs of these health disparities. In response, the US Public Health Service created National Negro Health Week to educate members of the community, increase access to healthcare, and increase the number of Black public health professionals.



Health Status, Outcomes and Behaviors among People of Color Compared to White People

NUMBER OF MEASURES FOR WHICH GROUP FARED BETTER, THE SAME, OR WORSE COMPARED TO WHITE PEOPLE:



Source: Kaiser Family Foundation

Note: The health measures accounted for in the chart above include life expectancy; self-reported health status; health care coverage, access, and use; immunization rates; and birth risks and outcomes. AIAN = American Indian or Alaska Native. NHOPI = Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. Minoritized = Social groups that are marginalized or persecuted because of systemic oppression.

The racial disparities in health identified by Washington persist over 100 years later, not only for Black people, but also for other groups with minoritized* social identities. The primary goals of the National Minority Health Month established in 2002 are to: (1) Build awareness about the disproportionate burden of premature death and illness on people in minoritized racial and ethnic groups and (2) Encourage action through health education, early detection, and control of disease complications.

Most of the disparities in health observed among Americans with minoritized social identities can be attributed to the social determinants (drivers) of health--the non-medical factors in which people are born, grow, work, live, and age, and the wider set of forces and systems shaping the conditions of daily life and influencing health outcomes. National Minority Health Month is a reminder that much work still needs to be done in public health and other industries to ensure that all Americans have a fair and just opportunity to achieve their most optimal state of health and wellbeing.

EDI RESOURCES LINKS

[An Optimist's Guide to the Planet Episode 4: Nourish](#)

[Cuyahoga County Prosecutes Most People Using HIV Laws](#)

[Data Modernization Initiative: Stories from the Field](#)

[Eight Pathways that are Ending Poverty in Canada](#)

[Food Insecurity among Ohio children varies greatly by race](#)

[On Medicaid while Black](#)

[Revisions to Standards for Maintaining, Collecting, and Presenting Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity](#)

[Wealth Affects Health](#)

GET INVOLVED

Join the EDI Steering Committee!!

For more information, email abrown@ccbh.net or stop into the EDI Director's Office.