

In this Issue:

Minority Health

Omar Khan, MD, MHS¹ and Timothy Gibbs, MPH²

1. Editor-in-Chief, Delaware Journal of Public Health
2. Publisher, Delaware Journal of Public Health

Across the country and here in Delaware, people in racial and ethnic minority groups experience higher rates of poor health and disease for a range of health conditions, including asthma, cancer, diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, obesity, and preterm birth. According to the Kaiser Family Foundation:

“Black, Hispanic, and AIAN people fare worse than White people across the majority of examined measures ... This pattern is consistent across measures related to health coverage, access, and use; health status, outcomes, and behaviors; and social determinants of health. Notably, these groups do not fare better than their White counterparts for any examined measures of social determinants of health. Black people do have better experiences than White people for some cancer screening and cancer incidence measures, although they have higher rates of cancer mortality. Hispanic people fare better than White people across some health outcome measures, including life expectancy, some chronic diseases, and most measures of cancer incidence and mortality.”¹

These health disparities are preventable, and can affect many other populations of people (i.e. those with disabilities, women, the LGBTQI+, people for whom English is not their primary language, and recent immigrants). By increasing awareness of these disparities and creating interventions to address them, we can improve **health equity**. The CDC defines health equity as “the state in which everyone has a fair and just opportunity to attain their highest level of health.”²

This issue includes articles on HIV Prevention in Minority Communities, Dismantling Systemic Racism and Racial Justice, COVID-19 Pandemic Experience, Firearm Violence, Racism in Delaware Healthcare, and many more. As always, we welcome your feedback, and ask you to take a look at page XX where we have listed the topic areas for 2023. Please consider a submission in any of these areas, or pass along to colleagues who might be interested. The Journal is Delaware’s publication, first and foremost – and we want to hear from you!

References

1. Hill, L., Artiga, S., & Haldar, S. (2022, Jan). Key facts on health and health care by race and ethnicity. Keiser Family Foundation. <https://www.kff.org/racial-equity-and-health-policy/report/key-facts-on-health-and-health-care-by-race-and-ethnicity/>
2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (n.d.). What is health equity? <https://www.cdc.gov/healthequity/whatis/index.html>

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