Health Needs of BIPOC Vermonters

Health drivers

- The BIPOC community includes many different groups. The data included here will be for all BIPOC groups unless specified otherwise.
- Even though BIPOC groups make up a small part of the population in Vermont, their numbers have doubled in the last 15 years.
- 24.2% of Vermonters who identify as Black live in poverty, compared to 10.3% of White Vermonters. Unemployment is twice as high for Black Vermonters.
 - BIPOC Vermonters are twice as likely to be unable to afford fresh food and three times more likely to go hungry than White residents.
 - The **rate of unhoused** is much higher among BIPOC Vermonters.

"I had to have a different doctor deliver my baby and I appreciate her for delivering my baby, but she's a very rough doctor, so it wasn't the loving experience that you would want for delivering a baby. And the way that they handled me in the hospital, like I had the nurses that were really nasty to me...or the fact that they only took pictures of the white babies that were born, but not my baby."





Renter White Asian Indigenous Black **Multiple races** Unhoused persons 88% 6% 1% 1% 4% statewide Total VT Population 89% 1.4% 1.8% 0.4% 5.8%

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7.8% of people in Vermont identify as part of the BIPOC community.



Health conditions

- The BIPOC community in Vermont is more likely to have a disability than White, Non-Hispanic Vermonters, 32% to 25%.
- 18% of the BIPOC community reported poor or fair health in 2022, compared to 12% of all Vermonters and 16% of all Americans.
- BIPOC Vermonters are almost twice as likely to delay health care access due to cost (11%) than White, Non-Hispanic residents (6%). Not surprisingly, annual doctor visit rates are also lower.

In 2021, 74% of hate crimes were committed against BIPOC Vermonters

The BIPOC community is less likely to have a personal healthcare provider than other Vermonters

- Institutionalized racism directly affects health.
 Black youth who experience racial discrimination are more likely to have elevated depressive symptoms in adolescence and early adulthood.
- While BIPOC students are more likely to feel sad or hopeless, hurt themselves on purpose, and attempt suicide in the past year, they report being less likely

to have an adult in their school they can talk to and **less likely to get the kind of help they need** when they feel sad, angry, hopeless or anxious.

BIPOC students are more likely than white, non-Hispanic students to ever see someone get physically attacked, beaten, stabbed, or shot in their neighborhood. (23% v 14%)

> Key themes:

-Major financial challenges -Culturally responsive service needs -Acute youth mental health needs -Overt and institutional racism





Data Sources used in this document

- CARES database, University of Missouri. Data compilation is from many resources, including and not limited to:
 - US Census Bureau
 - the American Community Survey (ACS) 2017-202
 - Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
 - United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
 - Department of Transportation
 - Federal Bureau of Investigations
- Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BFRSS 2021)
- WRJ Final Project: Storytelling for health equity BIPOC and LGBTQIA2S+
- US Census Bureau (2021 estimates)
- Youth Risk Behavior Survey
- Title V report
- Rejoice Project: <u>COVID Findings & Recommendations Slide Deck, December 2020</u>
- Housing data
- VT Cancer Data Pages, VT Dept of Health, Feb 2023, <u>https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/document/HSI Cancer Data Pages 2023.pdf</u>
- I DMH Vision 2030
- 2022 Vermont Point in Time Report of People Experiencing Homelessness
- The most recent point in time 2023 tally, completed in January
- Health Equity for Abenaki Indigenous People: Improving Access to Quality Mental Health and Substance Use Services by Maria Mercedes Avila, Christine Begay Vining, Joshua Allison-Burbank, and Christine Velez
- State Youth Advisory Group Health Equity Report
- Health Disparities Faced by LGBT Students of Color, April 2022 VT Dept of Health
- Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise: Health disparities were devastating BIPOC communities. Then came COVID-19.



