



# Black Children's Health

When children are healthy, they are more likely to succeed in school and in life. The Children's Partnership acknowledges the role that systemic racism and discrimination play in creating and perpetuating health inequities. We work to address their underlying causes by improving the conditions in which children live, learn,

grow, and play so that young people from historically marginalized communities have the resources and opportunities to achieve their dreams and reach their full potential. This infographic provides an overview of key child health facts in California and nationally to inform the work we must do to raise healthy, thriving children.

## RACISM AND CHILDHOOD

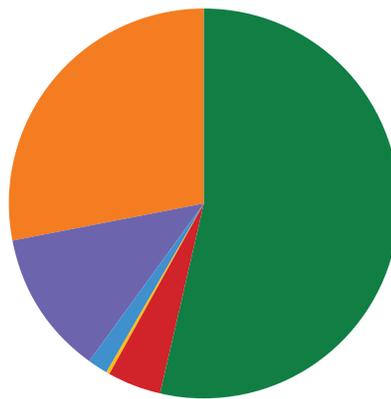


### Opportunities for Change

Racism has been scientifically proven as a core determinant of child health that has a profound impact on the wellbeing of Black children, their families, and their communities. Racism impacts every state of a child's development and continues to harm children by shaping the conditions in which they live, learn, and play; manifesting itself in the form of persistent inequitable outcomes. Achieving health equity requires that we collectively examine and dismantle the racism that exists within our institutions and systems and demand bold policy changes that put the wellbeing of our children first.

## POPULATION

There are at least **698,317** children and youth who identify as Black, including those who also identify with another race or ethnicity, making up about 8% of the state's 9 million children. Of these children,



- 435,318 identify as Black alone.
- 36,217 identify as Black & Latinx.
- 2,906 identify as Black & Native American.
- 12,957 identify as Black & Asian American.
- 96,432 identify as Black & White.
- 226,782 identify as Black & one or more races and ethnicities.



About **81,000** Black children have at least one parent who was **born outside of the United States**.

## HEALTH COVERAGE AND ACCESS



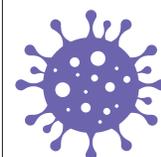
Nearly **98%** of Black children have health insurance, yet more than

**11,700** REMAIN UNINSURED.



Nearly **3 in 5** Black children and youth rely on **Medi-Cal**, compared to **1 in 2** of ALL children.

## COVID-19



COVID-19 is exacerbating already existing **disparities**

impacting Black children and their families. At least **10,824** Black children are currently diagnosed with COVID-19. They make up **3% of cases** and **7% of deaths** statewide

# COMMUNITY AND FAMILY WELLBEING



Black youth are **4x more likely** to be removed from their homes and placed into **foster care** compared to ALL youth.

Black children are almost **2x as likely** to experience or witness **neighborhood violence** compared to white children.

**Over 1 in 3** of Black children have experienced at least one **adverse childhood experience**.

School officials are **2.7x more likely** to refer incidents involving Black students to the **POLICE** than white students.



# ECONOMIC WELLBEING



**1 in 4** Black children experience **POVERTY**, compared to just over **1 in 6** of ALL children. **Over 1 in 2** Black children live in families that are burdened by **housing and utility costs**.

# MENTAL HEALTH



**61%** of Black teen girls say they need help for **emotional and mental health** compared to nearly **45%** of ALL teen girls and nearly **32%** of all teens. Yet, **88%** of Black teens did not receive **counseling** in the last year, including at least **42,000** Black teen girls and at least **103,000** Black teen boys.

# ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION



**8%** of children living in neighborhoods with the highest amounts of **environmental pollution** are Black, despite making up **5%** of the state's child population.

Black children are **2x as likely** to visit the emergency room due to **ASTHMA** compared to other children. Nationally, Black children are **8x more likely to die** from asthma-related causes than white children.

# MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH



Regardless of income, Black infants and Black mothers experience the **highest rates of mortality** compared to other races. Black women are **4x more likely** than white women to die from **complications of pregnancy and birth**, and Black infants are almost **3x more likely to die** than white infants.

# DIGITAL ACCESS



**About 1 in 10** Black children live in a household without a **BROADBAND** connected device compared to **1 in 14** of ALL children.

Black children in **Medi-Cal** have the lowest numbers of **TELEHEALTH** visits of all racial and ethnic groups.

# ORAL HEALTH



Black children enrolled in **Medi-Cal** have the lowest numbers of **dental visits** of all racial and ethnic groups.

**Nearly 1 in 5** Black children needed **DENTAL CARE** in the past year but did not receive it compared to **1 in 14** of ALL children.

# FOOD ACCESS



Black children are **6x more likely** to be experiencing **FOOD INSECURITY** compared to ALL children.



A PROJECT OF  
**The Children's Partnership**

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Data Note: The Children's Partnership and the California Black Women's Health Project collected Black children's data from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2019 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, the 2019 CA Health Interview Survey, and the 2018-2019 National Survey of Children's Health. All data is from California unless otherwise noted. Citations can be found at: [bit.ly/ACHildIsAChild](https://bit.ly/ACHildIsAChild)

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