



**HIV SYMPOSIUM 2020**

**HIV AND COVID-19  
THROUGH AN EQUITY LENS**

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# VUMC's Office of Health Equity

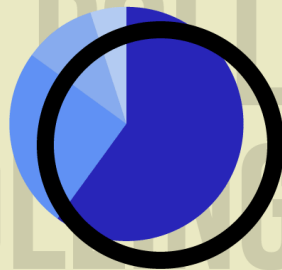
An institutional home for coordinating and catalyzing community health and health equity initiatives across VUMC

Education/Training



Research

Community and Population Health Improvement



Poll Question #1

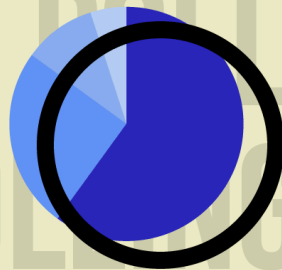
# What is health equity?

## Equality



## Equity





Poll Question #2 and #3

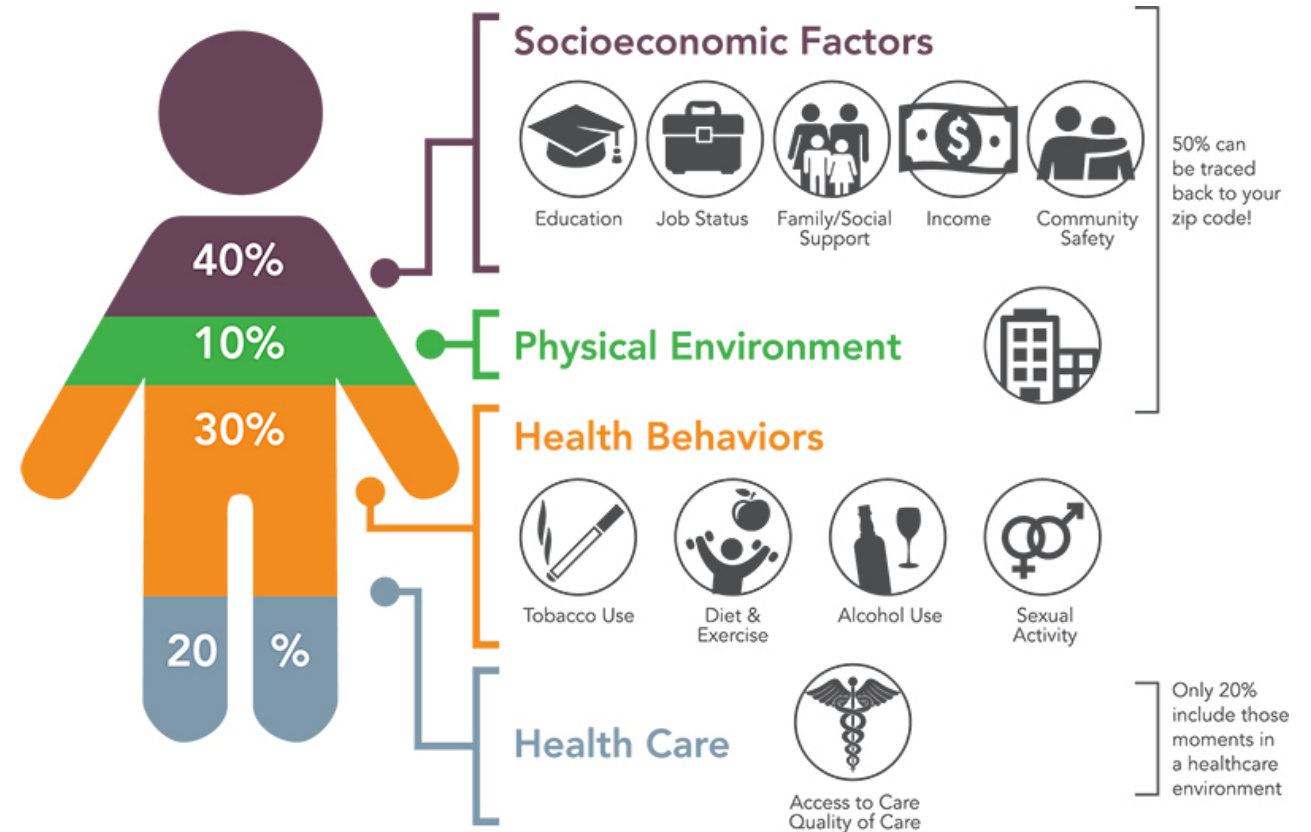
# What creates Health Inequities?

## Perception:

- Poor individual choices
- (Only) a lack of access to health care

## Reality:

Historical and current policies have affected (and continue to affect) specific communities' environments, access to opportunity and resources to thrive.





# Levels of Racism



**Internalized**  
lies within individuals. These are private beliefs about race that reside inside our minds.

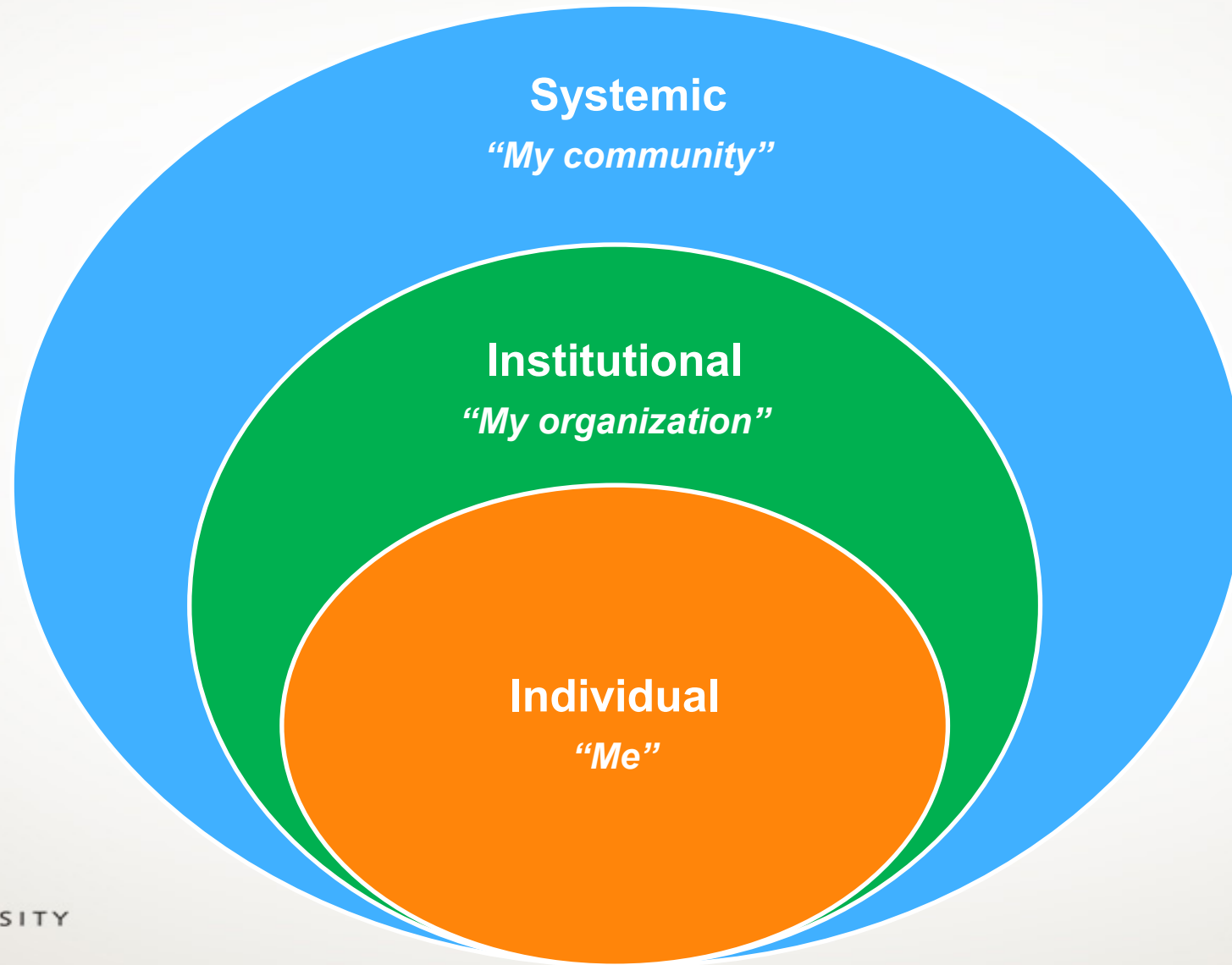
**Interpersonal**  
occurs between individuals. Once we bring our private beliefs about race into our interactions with others, we are now in the interpersonal realm.

**Institutional**  
occurs within institutions. It involves discriminatory treatment, unfair policies and practices, and inequitable opportunities and impacts, based on race.

**Structural**  
is racial bias across institutions and society. It's the cumulative and compounded effects of an array of factors that systematically privilege white people and disadvantage people of color.



# Where can we create equity?



# Differences in health outcomes

## Health Disparities:

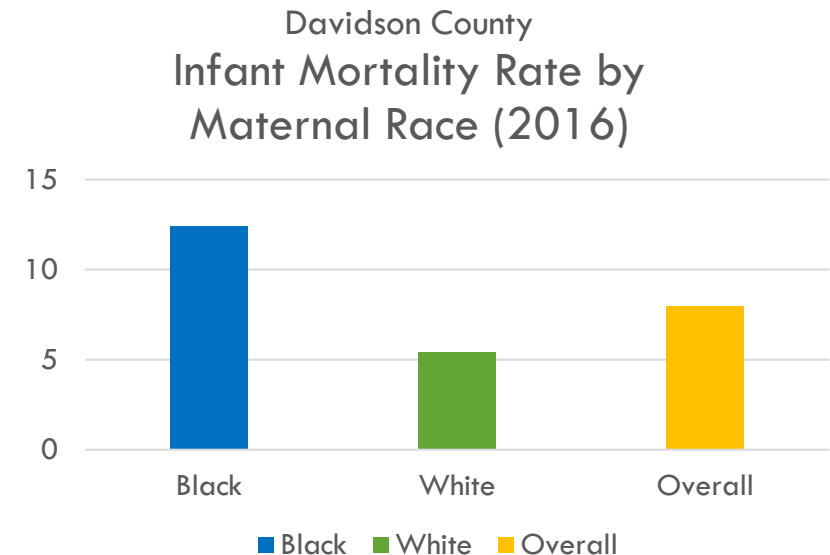
Any differences in health outcomes between groups of people.

Ex: Seniors have a higher risk of cancer as compared to younger populations.

## Health Inequities:

Any systemic, **avoidable**, unfair and unjust differences in health outcomes.

Ex:



# The Story of James and John

James

lives in '13900



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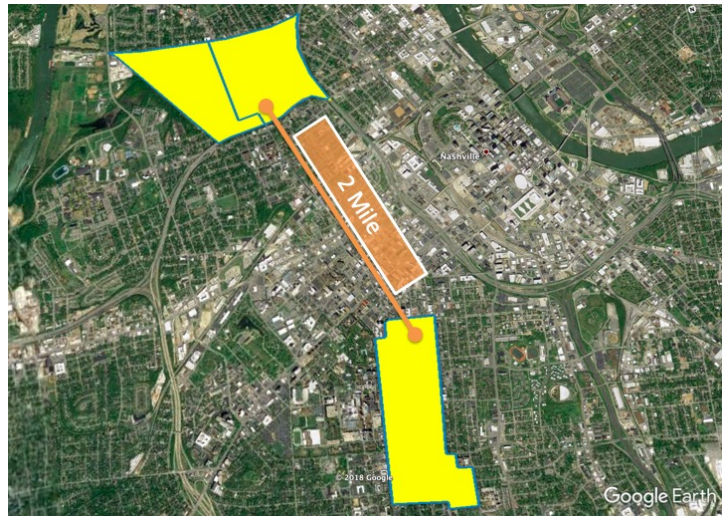
John

lives in '16400





**James**  
lives in '13900



**John**  
lives in '16400

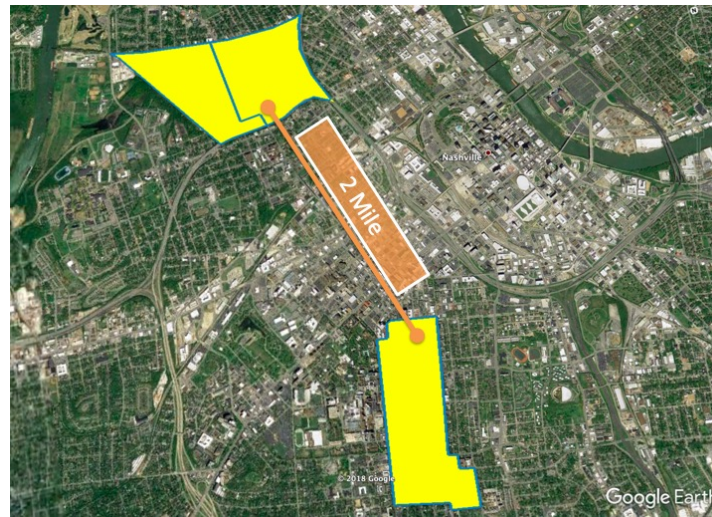


13900	Indicator	16400
15.2%	Unemployment	8.6%
42.6%	Poverty	20.1%
55.3%	Children in Poverty	11.1%
20.1%	Lack a High School Diploma	3.7%
73.7%	Single-Parent Household	0%
25.8%	No Health Insurance	7.6%

Source: US Census Bureau. (2018). American Community Survey 2017 5-year estimates.

James

lives in '13900



John

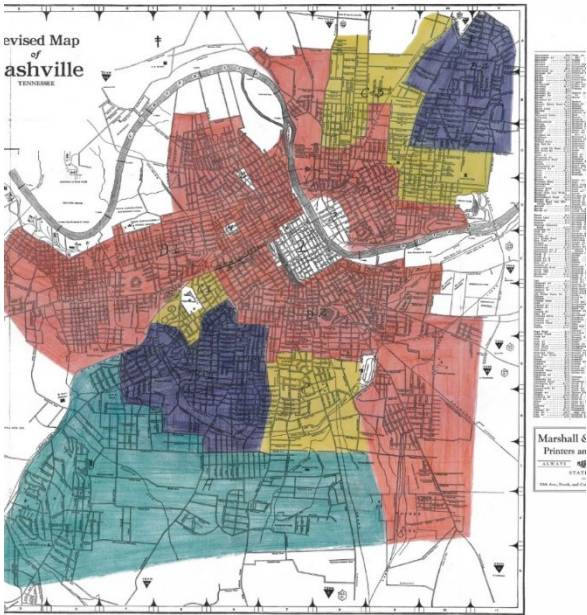
lives in '16400



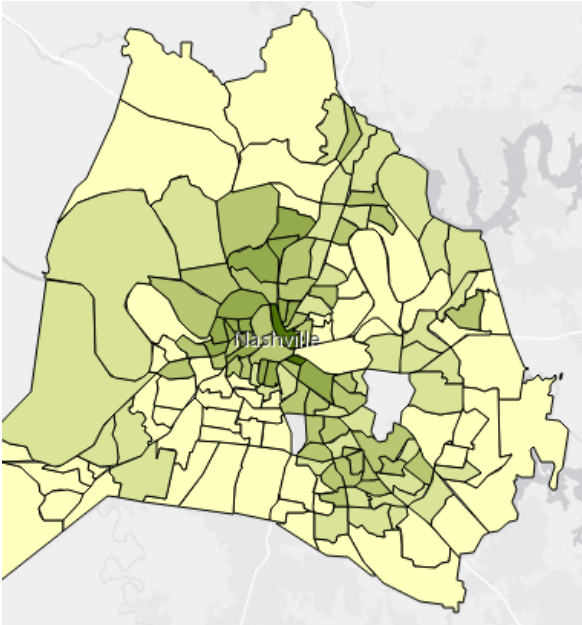
**An Adult in James' Neighborhood is**

- 3x as likely to report poor physical health
- 2x as likely to be obese
- 6x as likely to be diagnosed with diabetes
- 3x as likely to be diagnosed with heart disease
- 3x as likely to be diagnosed with high blood pressure

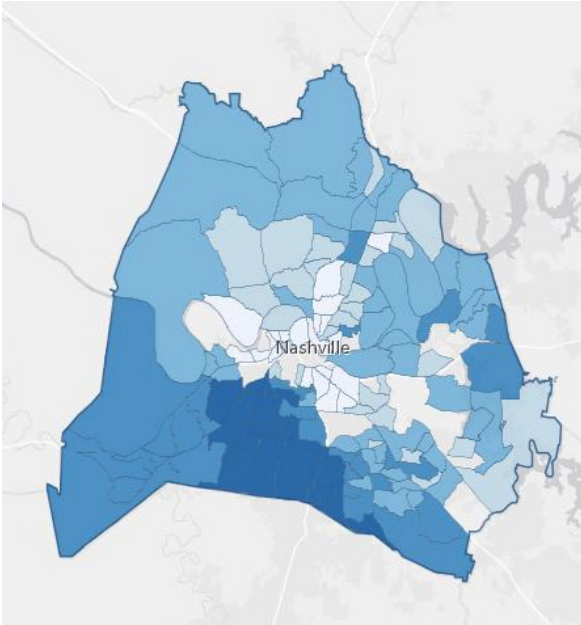
# Place Matters



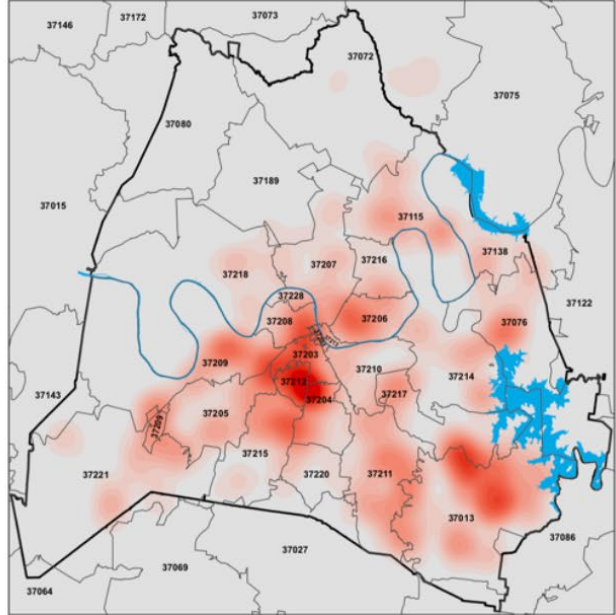
**Redlining**  
1940



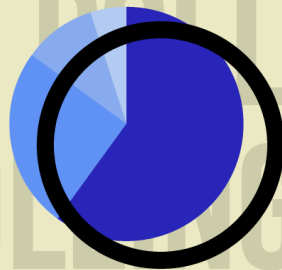
**People in Poverty**  
2018



**Life Expectancy**  
2019



**COVID-19 Active Cases**  
2020



Poll Question #4

# Health Inequities and Our Current Moment



Current and historical inequities are always exacerbated and worsened during times of crisis.

We see this happening now with COVID-19.



# COVID-19 and Health Inequities

COVID-19 Investigates

## Tennessee's Hispanic community absorbs a third of COVID cases

*Advocates criticize state and city leaders, while distrust of government complicates testing*

By Anita Wadhvani | Dulce Torres Guzman - June 15, 2020



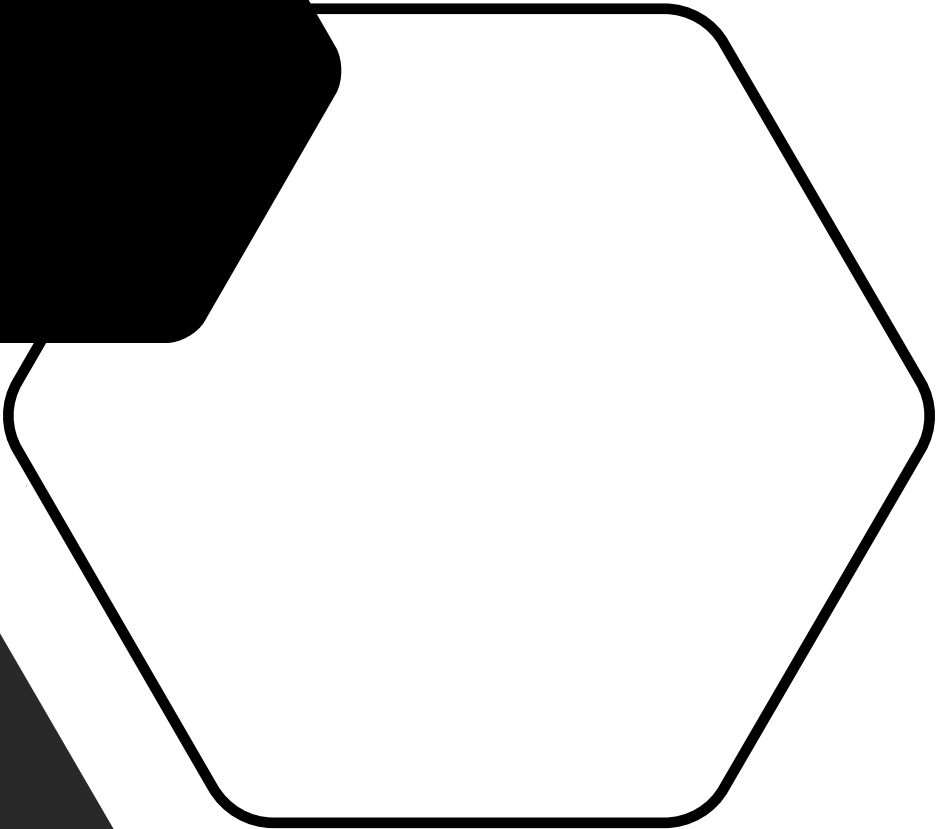
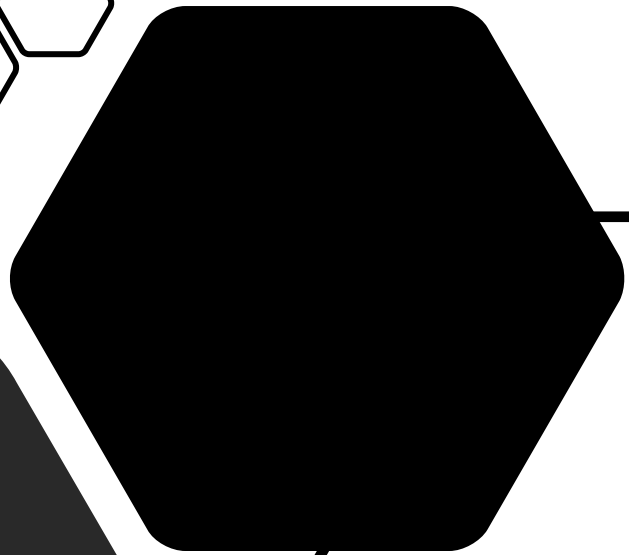
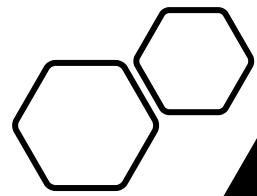
Coronavirus spike on Navajo Nation raises alarms



Early Data Shows African Americans Have Contracted and Died of Coronavirus at an Alarming Rate —...  
propublica.org



For Homeless People, Covid-19 Is Horror on Top of Horror



What the Data  
Show about  
Inequities in  
HIV and COVID-19

# COVID-19 Rate Ratios by Race and Ethnicity

Rate ratios compared to White, Non-Hispanic Persons	American Indian or Alaska Native, Non-Hispanic persons	Asian, Non-Hispanic persons	Black or African American, Non-Hispanic persons	Hispanic or Latino persons
Cases <sup>1</sup>	2.8x higher	1.1x higher	2.6x higher	2.8x higher
Hospitalization <sup>2</sup>	5.3x higher	1.3x higher	4.7x higher	4.6x higher
Death <sup>3</sup>	1.4x higher	No Increase	2.1x higher	1.1x higher

<sup>1</sup> Data source: COVID-19 case-level data reported by state and territorial jurisdictions. Case-level data include about 80% of total reported cases. Numbers are unadjusted rate ratios.

<sup>2</sup> Data source: COVID-NET (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covid-data/covidview/index.html>, accessed 08/06/20). Numbers are ratios of age-adjusted rates.

<sup>3</sup> Data source: NCHS Provisional Death Counts (<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/COVID19/index.htm>, accessed 08/06/20). Numbers are unadjusted rate ratios.

# COVID-19 in the Latino Community



TENNESSEE



DAVIDSON COUNTY



Percent Latino  
COVID-19 Cases

➤ 11%<sup>1</sup>

➤ 17.9%<sup>2</sup>



Percent of total  
population made  
up by Latinos<sup>3</sup>

➤ 5.7%

➤ 10.4%

Sources

1. Tennessee Department of Health (2020). Tennessee COVID-19 Epidemiology and Surveillance Data as of November 3, 2020. <https://www.tn.gov/health/cedep/ncov/data.html>
2. Metro Public Health Department (2020). Davidson County COVID-19 Data Dashboard as of November 3, 2020. <https://nashville.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=30dd8aa876164e05ad6c0a1726fc77a4>
3. U.S. Census Bureau. (2020). Quickfacts, Davidson County and Tennessee. <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/TN,davidsoncountytennessee,US/PST045219>

# COVID-19 in the Black or African-American Community



TENNESSEE



DAVIDSON COUNTY



Percent Black/African American COVID-19 Cases

➤ 16%

➤ 19.6%<sup>2</sup>



Percent of total population made up by Black/African Americans<sup>3</sup>

➤ 17.1%

➤ 27.4%

Sources

1. Tennessee Department of Health (2020). Tennessee COVID-19 Epidemiology and Surveillance Data as of November 3, 2020. <https://www.tn.gov/health/cedep/ncov/data.html>
2. Metro Public Health Department (2020). Davidson County COVID-19 Data Dashboard as of November 3, 2020. <https://nashville.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=30dd8aa876164e05ad6c0a1726fc77a4>
3. U.S. Census Bureau. (2020). Quickfacts, Davidson County and Tennessee. [https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/TN.davidsoncountytennessee\\_US/PST045219](https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/TN.davidsoncountytennessee_US/PST045219)

# HIV in the Latino Community



TENNESSEE



DAVIDSON COUNTY



Percent Latino of  
new HIV Cases  
Cases<sup>1</sup>

➤ 6.9%

➤ 11.8%



Percent of total  
population made  
up by Latinos<sup>2</sup>

➤ 5.7%

➤ 10.4%

Sources

1. Tennessee Department of Health (2020). Tennessee HIV Epidemiological Profile 2018 as of January 2020 <https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/health/program-areas/hiv/Tennessee-HIV-Epidemiological-Profile-2018.pdf>
2. U.S. Census Bureau. (2020). Quickfacts, Davidson County and Tennessee. <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/TN,davidsoncountytennessee,US/PST045219>

# HIV in the Black or African-American Community



TENNESSEE



DAVIDSON COUNTY



Percent Black/African American of new HIV Cases<sup>1</sup>

➤ 59%

➤ 55.1%



Percent of total population made up by Black/African Americans<sup>2</sup>

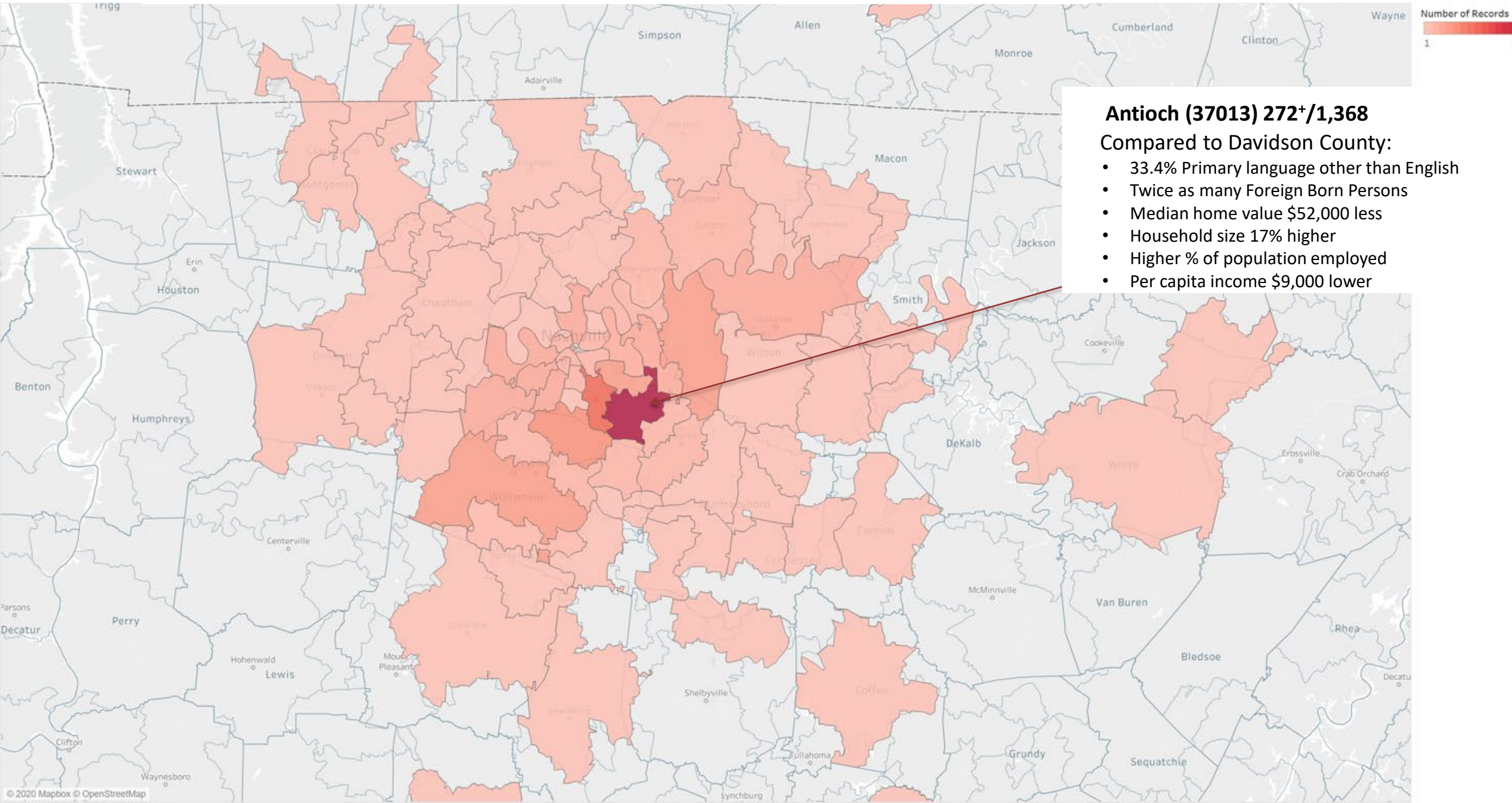
➤ 17.1%

➤ 27.4%

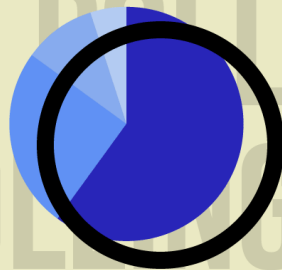
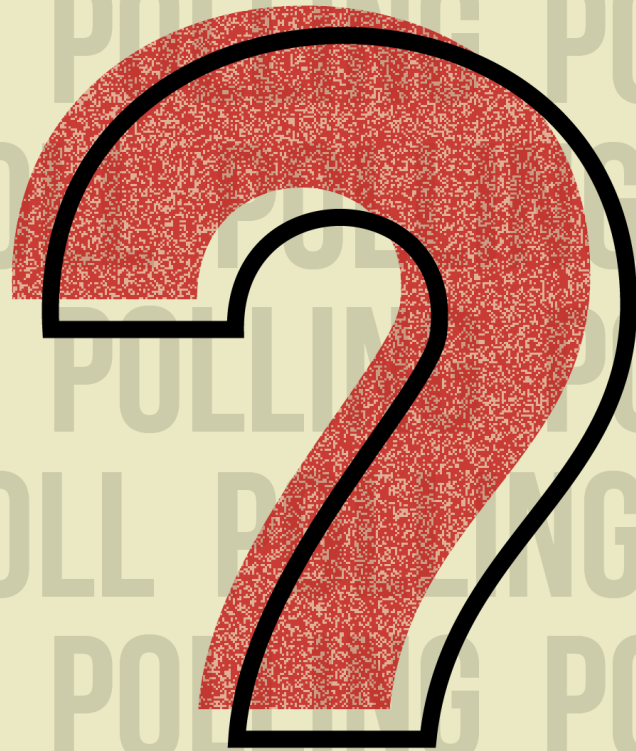
Sources

1. Tennessee Department of Health (2020). Tennessee HIV Epidemiological Profile 2018 as of January 2020 <https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/health/program-areas/hiv/Tennessee-HIV-Epidemiological-Profile-2018.pdf>
2. U.S. Census Bureau. (2020). Quickfacts, Davidson County and Tennessee. <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/TN,davidsoncountytennessee,US/PST045219>

# COVID-19 Positive by Zip (through 5.11.2020)

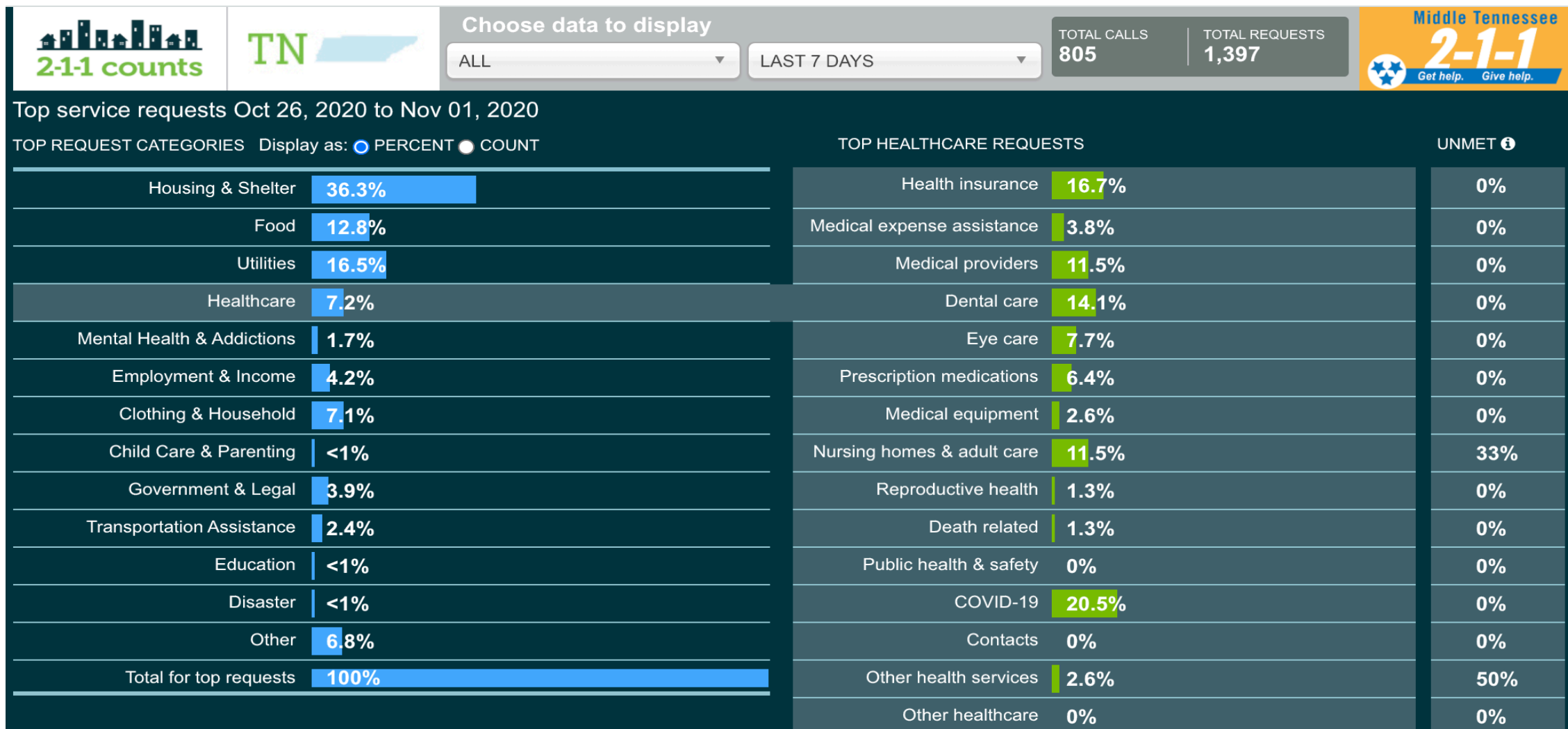






Poll Question #5

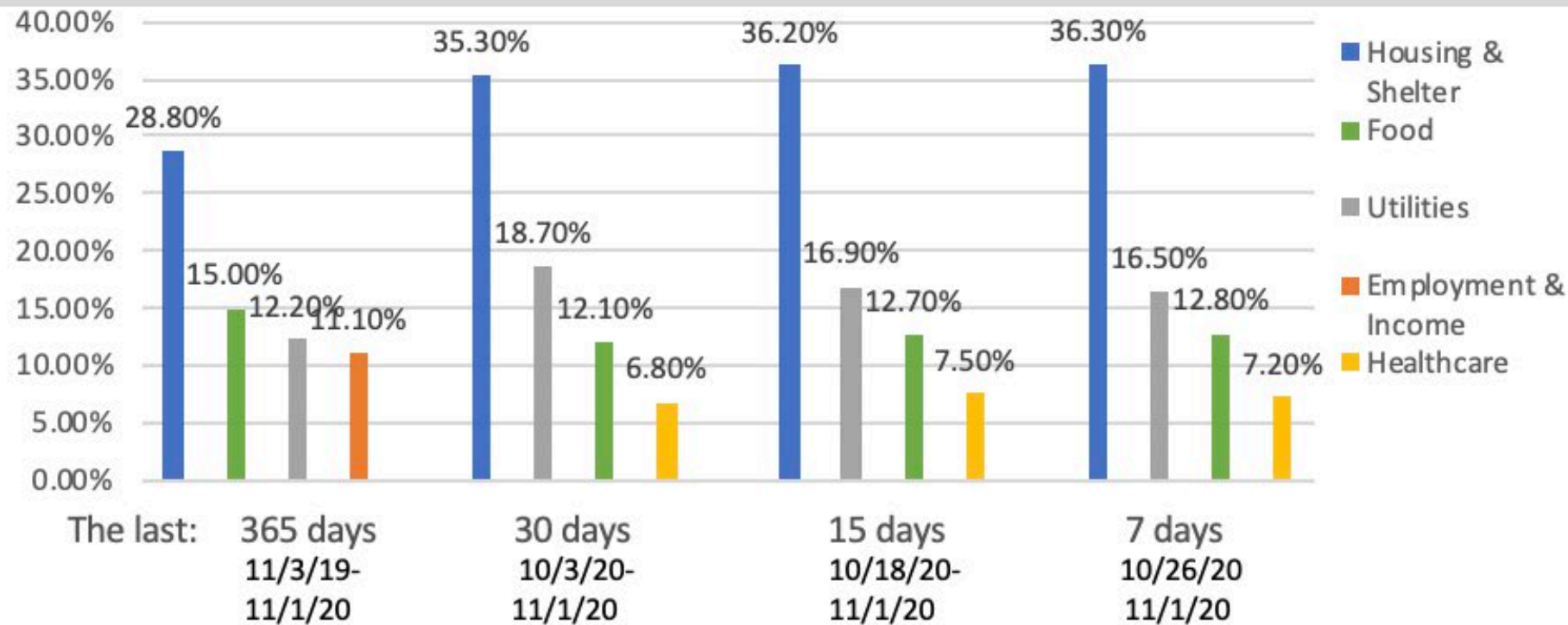
# Middle TN's Needs Amid COVID-19



# Emerging Needs in Middle TN

Middle TN 211 Counts is a real-time tracker of the community-specific needs for which Tennesseans are seeking resources. The data below cover the time period starting November 3, 2019 through November 1, 2020 in Middle TN. A total of 39,583 requests were received during this time period.

## Top Requests by Time Period in the Last Year



Over the last 30 days, requests for **top needs have remained steady**

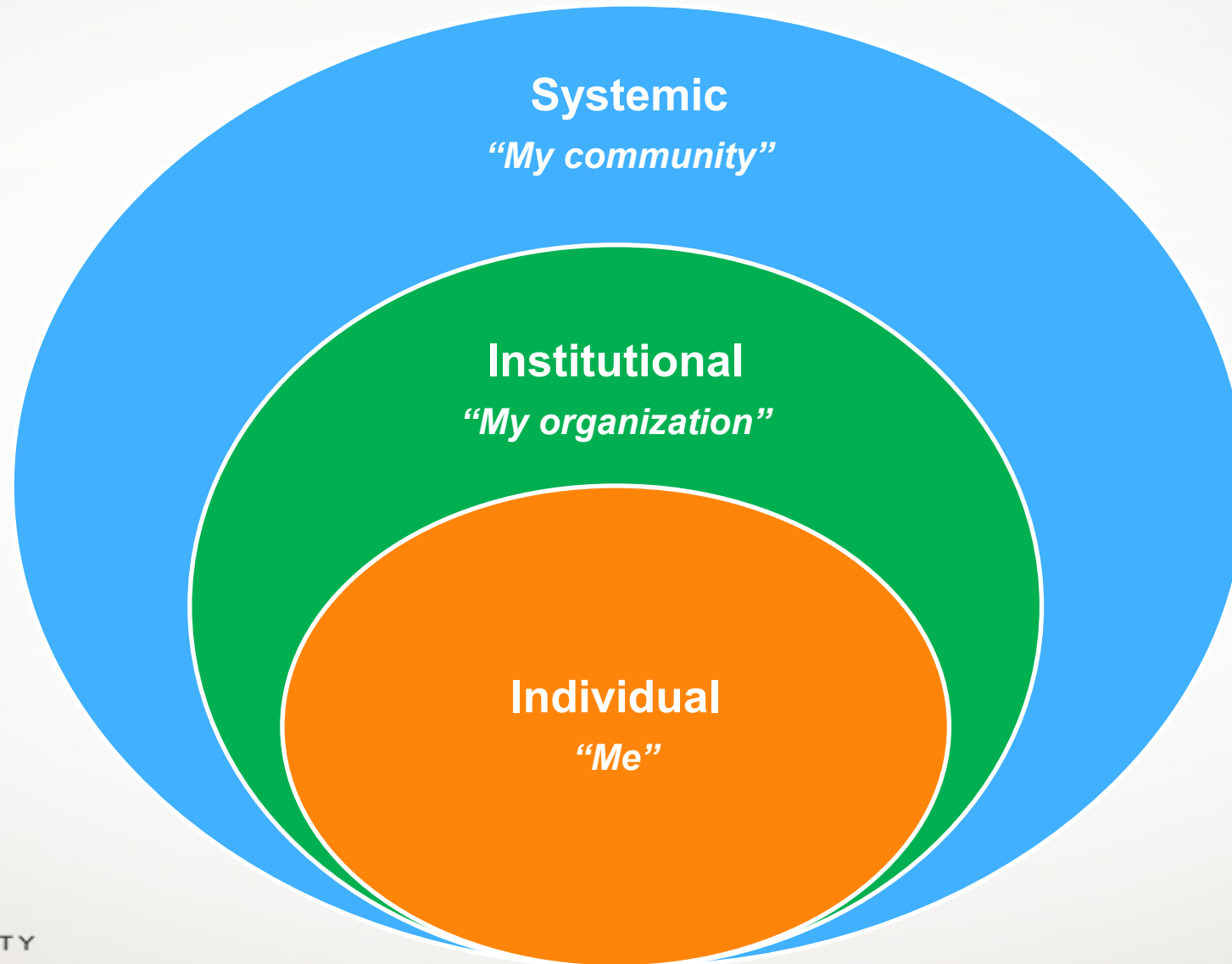


# Solutions

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# Where Can We Create Equity



# COVID-19 Health Equity Workstream – Leader: Wilkins

## Effective Risk Communication

Effectively communicate risks and prevention strategies to:

- Patients/families from different backgrounds with varying experiences with health and differing levels of trust/distrust
- VUMC employees, including roles outside of patient care such as dietary, maintenance, and environmental services

## Equitable Testing and Surveillance

- Provide/facilitate timely testing to all with symptoms including those with increased risk due to age, chronic conditions, and social disadvantages
- Report aggregate test results by key demographics including age, gender, and race/ethnicity, and preferred language

## Equitable Healthcare (ED and Hospital)

- Provide high quality care that does not vary due to race/ ethnicity, gender, SES
- Effectively communicate post-discharge plans and facilitate transitions of care
- Report aggregate outcomes by demographics including age, gender, race/ethnicity, language

## Broad Implementation of Telehealth

- Effectively use telehealth to care for patients from different backgrounds with varying experiences with health and differing levels of trust/distrust
- Increase adoption of telehealth among those who are socially disadvantaged including racial/ ethnic minorities and people living in rural communities

Groups at increased risk for health inequities include: racial/ethnic minorities, sexual and gender minorities, underserved rural communities, and other socially or economically disadvantaged groups such as those w limited income, limited English Proficiency, and people experiencing homelessness.

# REAL Data

## Preguntamos porque nos importa.

Al preguntar sobre su raza, descendencia étnica e idioma, nosotros estamos mejor capacitados para proveer cuidado médico a todos los pacientes por igual.

¿Cuál es su raza?  
¿Cuál es su descendencia étnica?  
¿Cuál es su idioma preferido?



Respetando cada diferencia, tratando cada uno por igual.

Aligning Forces for Quality | Improving Health & Health Care in Communities Across America

GET REAL  
Race, Ethnicity, and Language

Hospital Logo

## We Ask Because We Care.

By asking about your race, ethnicity and language, we are better able to deliver health care equally to all patients.

What is your race?

What is your ethnicity?

What is your preferred language?



Respecting every difference, treating each equally.

Aligning Forces for Quality | Improving Health & Health Care in Communities Across America

GET REAL  
Race, Ethnicity, and Language

Hospital Logo

VANDERBILT HEALTH

My Health at Vanderbilt

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY  
MEDICAL CENTER



# Audience Solutions and Breakouts

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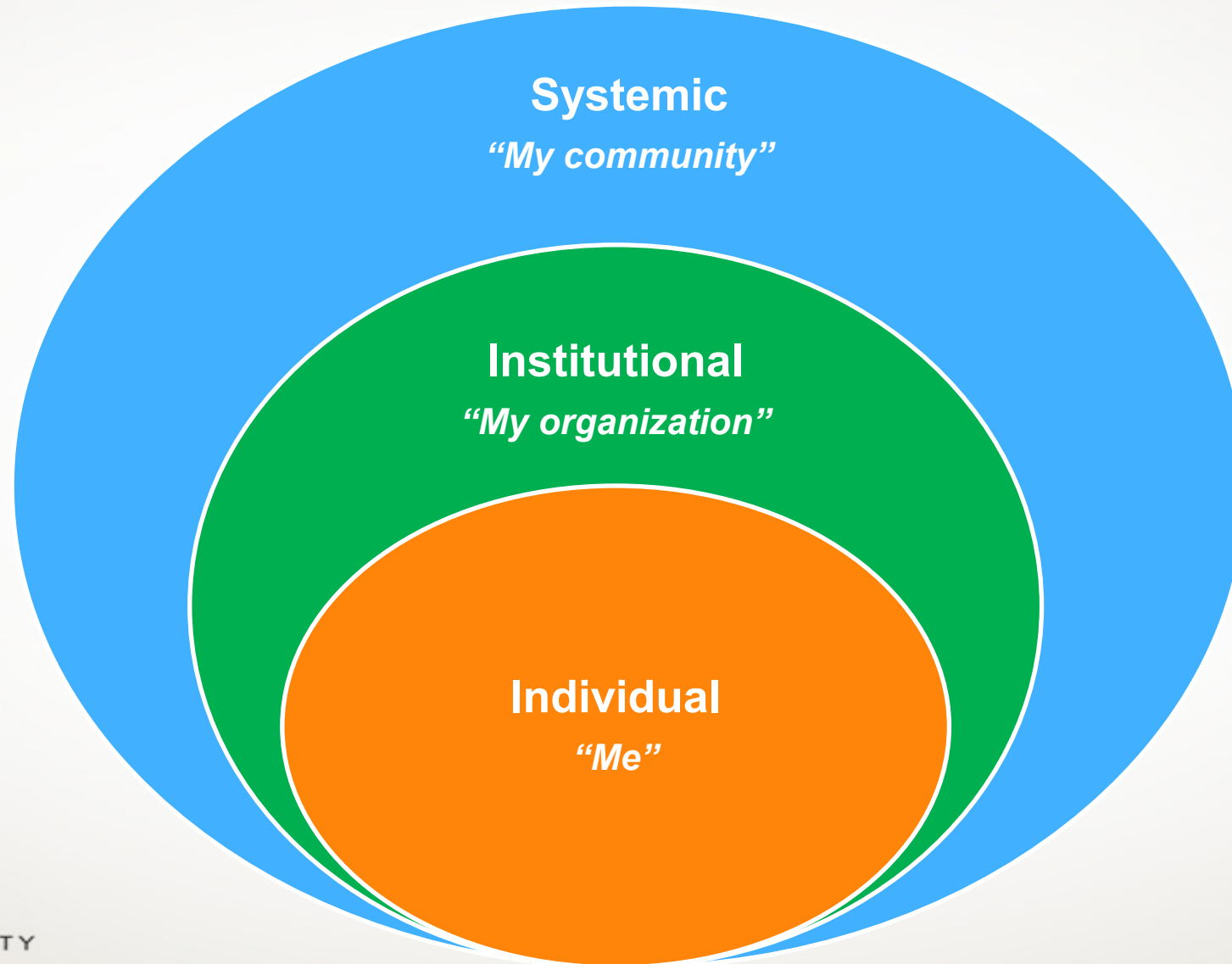
- **How do health inequities impact the populations that you work with/serve?**
  - How have these been exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic?
  
- **What are some solutions at the institutional or systems level to address issues discussed above?**
  
- **What lessons from the HIV epidemic can help inform the COVID pandemic, or vice versa?**
  - Stigma has impacted persons with HIV and COVID. What revelations about stigma and HIV can inform stigmas about COVID?
  - Information and education is vital to combating both HIV and COVID-19. What lessons about communications strategies can be gleaned from the response to HIV for COVID-19? How can these lessons, when applied, help address inequities?





Discussion

# Where can we create equity?





CONTACT US

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## **Briana Gochett, MA**

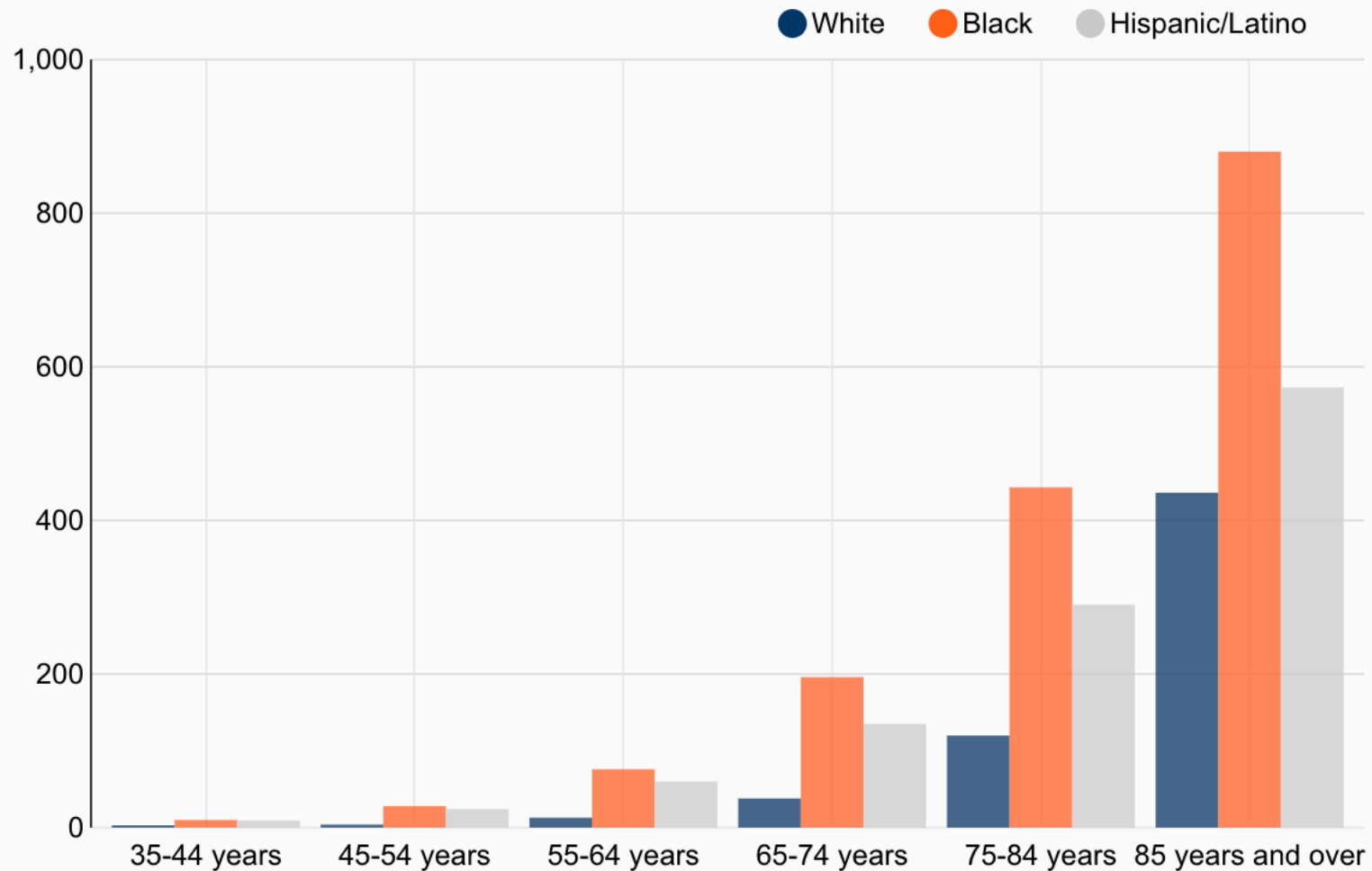
Community Health Coordinator

Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Email: [briana.n.gochett.1@vumc.org](mailto:briana.n.gochett.1@vumc.org)

# Figure 1. COVID-19 death rates by age and race

Rates per 100,000



KEEP  
???

Source: CDC data from 2/1/20-6/6/20 and 2018

Census Population Estimates for USA