

THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, NY 10007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 14th, 2021

CONTACT: ymi@cityhallnyc.gov

**THE CENTER FOR INNOVATION THROUGH DATA INTELLIGENCE AND THE
YOUNG MEN'S INITIATIVE PUBLISH THE 2021 DISPARITY REPORT**

Data shows significant improvements in youth outcomes across the board, while racial disparities persist in certain sectors

NEW YORK—The Center for Innovation Through Data Intelligence and the Young Men's Initiative today published the [2021 Disparity Report](#), analyzing city-wide trends in racial disparities for youth and young adults across New York City. Analyzing data across 28 indicators, the report finds that while disparities persist in four sectors (education, economic security, health and justice), outcomes have improved significantly across the board.

Highlights from the report include:

Education

- Black and Hispanic students in grades 3-8 more than doubled their English proficiency rates since 2013.
- Graduation rates improved for all students with Black and Hispanic students demonstrating improvements of 25% and 26% respectively since 2013.

Justice

- Rates of misdemeanor arrests for all young people ages 11-17 declined by ~90% since 2013.
- Juvenile detention admissions for young people ages 11-17 declined by 55% and 76% for males and females respectively.

Economic Security

- The rate of unemployment for out-of-school youth decreased across all racial/ethnic and gender categories from 2013 to 2019—declining by 15% for males and 12% for females.
- The rate of child poverty declined for all groups, including by 30% for Hispanic children who have the highest rates of child poverty.

Health

- Black males, who have the highest rates of youth mortality, saw the largest declines—decreasing by 1/5 since 2013.
- Teen pregnancies for all groups declined by 46% since 2013.

Additionally, virtually every indicator across each racial/ethnic and gender category shows improved outcome rates in the latest data when compared to outcome rates in 2013.

- More students meet English and math standards and graduate, with fewer suspensions.
- Fewer children are in poverty, and more youth are engaged or employed.
- There are fewer teen births and fewer children in indicated investigations of child abuse or neglect.
- Arrests, detentions and convictions are all decreasing, with outcomes as much as 90% less than 2013.

While outcomes improved across the board, disparities persisted for the majority of indicators and increased for some indicators. Of the 24 relevant indicators, for Black male youth, disparities decreased slightly for 6 indicators. For Hispanic male youth, the story is similar: only 11 of the 24 relevant indicators saw a decreased disparity, and most of those decreases also were small. Within the criminal justice indicators, disparities increased for 6 out of the 8 indicators for Black male youth and stayed the same for one other one.

“The de Blasio Administration’s commitment to eliminating racial disparities is an ambitious goal, but make no mistake it is achievable and solvable with the participation of government, providers and the young people themselves,” **said Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services Melanie Hartzog.**

“The 2021 Disparity Report represents a significant step forward in government transparency and showcases where our Administration has improved outcomes for young people, and where disparities still remain ever present. This report is a tool to help the City and its citizens think through how we can continue to create the best possible version of our beloved City,” **said J. Phillip Thompson, Deputy Mayor for Strategic Policy Initiatives.**

“While no set of numbers can capture the complexity of the lives led by New Yorkers, these indicators are an important tool for government agencies, community partners, and the public to measure progress on our collective efforts to address racial disparities,” **said Maryanne Schretzman, the Executive Director of the City’s Center for Innovation through Data Intelligence.**

“The 2021 Disparity Report shows that the work of the Young Men’s Initiative remains as important as ever. While we have greatly improved outcomes in education as well as significantly reduced the number of young people who experience the criminal justice system, racial disparities still remain ever present. This report is a tool that furthers the City’s goals of transparency and showcases where we must continue to work to create the fairest and best version of New York City,” **said Jordan Stockdale, Executive Director of the Young Men’s Initiative.**

“I’m encouraged by the important gains New York City schools have made for our students of color, but know there is always more work to be done in the fight for equity and excellence for all. We look forward to continuing to collaborate with our agency partners to lift up our school communities, create new opportunities for students, and pave the way for a brighter future for every child,” **said Schools Chancellor Meisha Porter.**

"Health inequities have persisted for far too long among youth in New York City, and the Health Department is committed to reversing the trend," said **Health Commissioner Dr. Dave A. Chokshi**. "We will continue to work with our community partners and sister agencies to reduce health disparities that are unfair, unjust, and avoidable."

"ACS remains committed to addressing the disparities that exist in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems and, as this report outlines, we are taking more aggressive and comprehensive action than ever before. Through a variety of programs, policies and initiatives, ACS is always working to ensure that families have the services and supports they need to keep children safe and families supported, and to reduce the need for foster care. We will continue to ensure our equity strategies are innovative and evidence-based, and the data included in this report helps us in that effort," said **ACS Commissioner David A. Hansell**.

"This report reinforces the critical community-centered work being done by the Office of Neighborhood Safety and other teams within Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice," said **Marcos Soler, director of MOCJ**. "There is much more that we need to reduce disparities in the justice system. We look forward to the continued efforts with our partners inside and outside government."

"As we continue to emerge from a crisis that laid bare long-standing inequities across communities, ensuring that young New Yorkers can access quality opportunities to succeed continues to be a top priority," said **Department of Social Services Commissioner Steven Banks**. "This report's findings will help inform our ongoing efforts to uplift communities in need as we continue to use every tool at our disposal to level the playing field for New Yorkers in need, including the young New Yorkers who we serve."

"Through the use of data and innovative programs and practices, the NYC Department of Probation is committed to ensuring people have access to the opportunities and services they need in order not just to avoid jail or prison, but to thrive. We are proud to partner with the Young Men's Initiative (YMI) to support our Neighborhood Opportunity Network (NeON) in neighborhoods that have been disproportionately impacted by the justice system for decades" said **Department of Probation Commissioner Ana M. Bermúdez**. "The NeONs serve as an engine of equity for those communities' residents, the vast majority of whom are people of color, and who now have the same favorable outcomes on probation than residents of neighborhoods that do not face these systemic challenges. There's still more work to be done, and much opportunity to further leverage NeON, as we work toward a more equitable and safer city."

"Disaggregating data to uncover disparities is critical to achieve greater equity -- it allows us to see where needs exist and to hold ourselves accountable for closing gaps and making progress for everyone," said **Matthew Klein, Executive Director for the Mayor's Office for Economic Opportunity**. "We applaud CIDI and YMI for producing this important report and are proud to work with in partnership with them and other City colleagues to move us closer to realizing the promise of equal opportunity for all New Yorkers."

About the Report

The 2021 Disparity Report by the Center for Innovation through Data Intelligence (CIDI) in partnership with New York City's Young Men's Initiative (YMI), integrates data from multiple life stages and experiences into one tool for government agencies, community partners and the public to address racial disparities. By showing the impact of recent efforts to address racial inequities, the Disparity Report Update provides a data-informed foundation for further planning and action. All 28 indicators are analyzed by four racial/ethnic groups: Asian, Black, Hispanic and White, and by two genders, male and female.

The report uses selected indicators in the domains of education, economic security, health and wellbeing and youth justice as markers for future success in life, such as graduating from high school in four years, teen pregnancy, and juvenile arrest. The rates of meeting outcomes for each racial/ethnic group are compared against the rates of all other peers.

The 2021 Disparity Report presents visualizations of data to help make disparities easy to see and understand. The goal is to use multi sector indicators to inform planning and actions aimed at undoing racism, building a culture of accountability and transparency, and fostering equitable change. As a follow up to the first Disparity Report released in 2016, the Update graphs indicator outcomes from 2013-2020. New to the updated report are Policy Change Highlights, examples of programs and policies that have succeeded in making NYC a better place for young people.

More about CIDI

The Center for Innovation through Data Intelligence (CIDI) is a research and policy center located in the Office of the Mayor of the City of New York under the auspice of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services. CIDI conducts citywide interagency research to identify areas of service need in the City. CIDI fosters collaboration with all City Health and Human Service agencies as well as other City agencies to promote citywide policy change with the aims of improving the quality and the effectiveness of NYC government. The vision of CIDI is to make data come alive to inspire change.

More about YMI

The Young Men's Initiative is the most comprehensive program in the country designed to reduce racial disparities and improve outcomes for young people of color. The Office invests in and co-manages initiatives across education, justice reform, workforce development and health.