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# SCIENCES · ENGINEERING · MEDICINE

SOCIETAL EXPERTS ACTION NETWORK (SEAN)

# COVID-19 and the Digital Divide: Implications for Policy and Equity
## WELCOME!

Please submit comments and questions at any time using the Q&A feature.

These will provide valuable input even if we do not have time to answer them all today.

# Societal Experts Action Network (SEAN)

- Created in response to COVID-19

- Connects decision-makers with expertise from the social and behavioral sciences

- Focused on actionable information for urgent policy questions

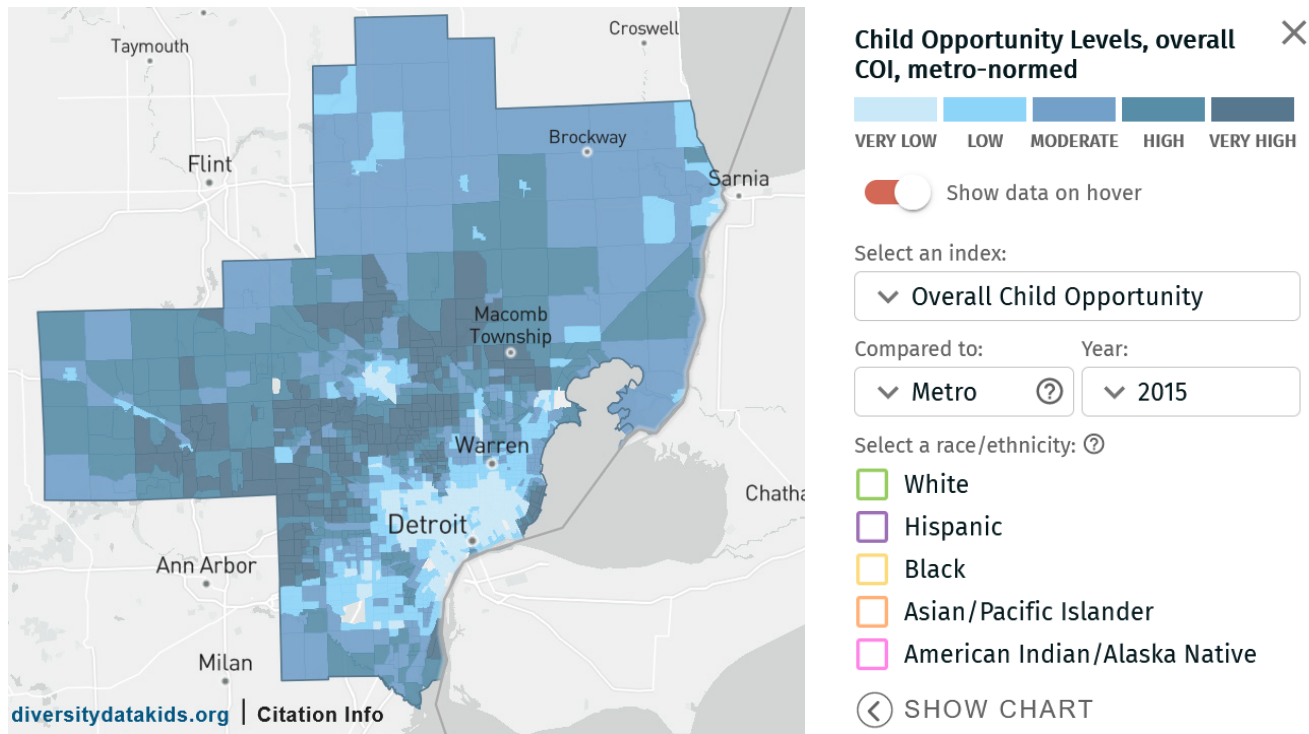Sponsored by the National Science Foundation

# Purpose of Today's Webinar

Today's event will look at the consequences of COVID-19 on the digital divide and broadband access:

- Provide a brief overview of the state of broadband access nationwide, looking at infrastructure, connectivity, and affordability

- Discuss the impact on the K-12 education sector

- Gather a range of insights on actions being taken during the pandemic recovery
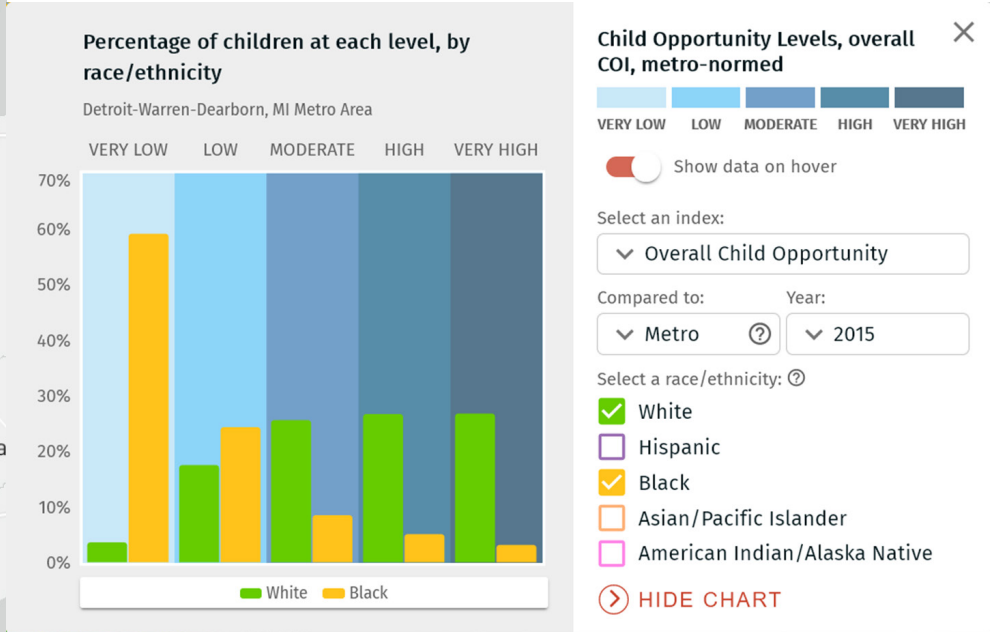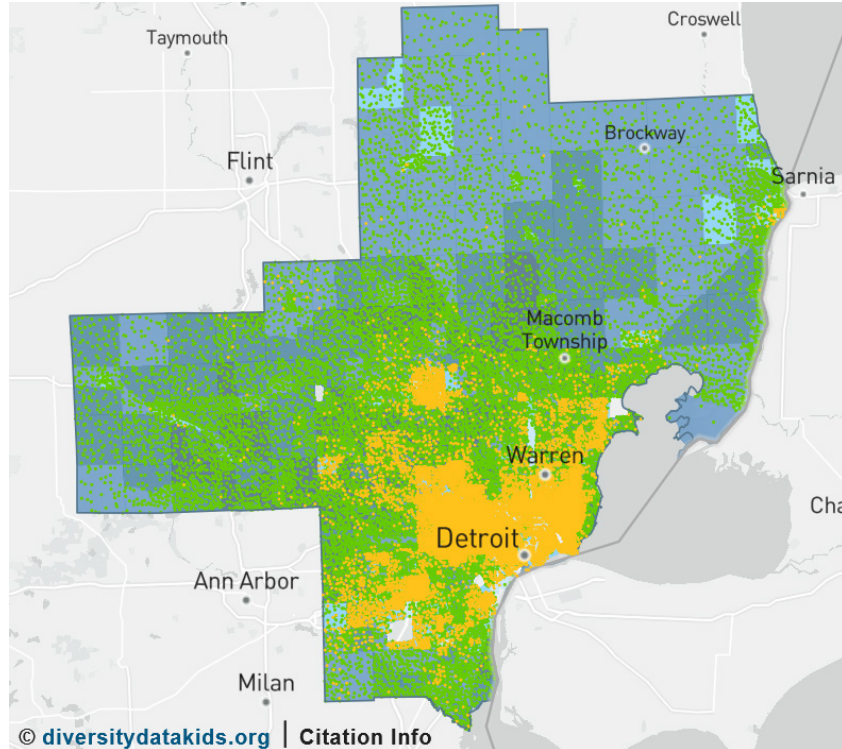
# Child Neighborhood Opportunity in the Detroit Metropolitan Area
## Source: diversitydatakids.org, Child Opportunity Index Maps



**Child Opportunity Levels, overall COI, metro-normed**

VERY LOW  LOW  MODERATE  HIGH  VERY HIGH

Show data on hover

Select an index:
∨ Overall Child Opportunity

Compared to:  Year:
∨ Metro  ⊘  ∨ 2015

Select a race/ethnicity: ⊘
☐ White
☐ Hispanic
☐ Black
☐ Asian/Pacific Islander
☐ American Indian/Alaska Native

◁ SHOW CHART

diversitydatakids.org | Citation Info

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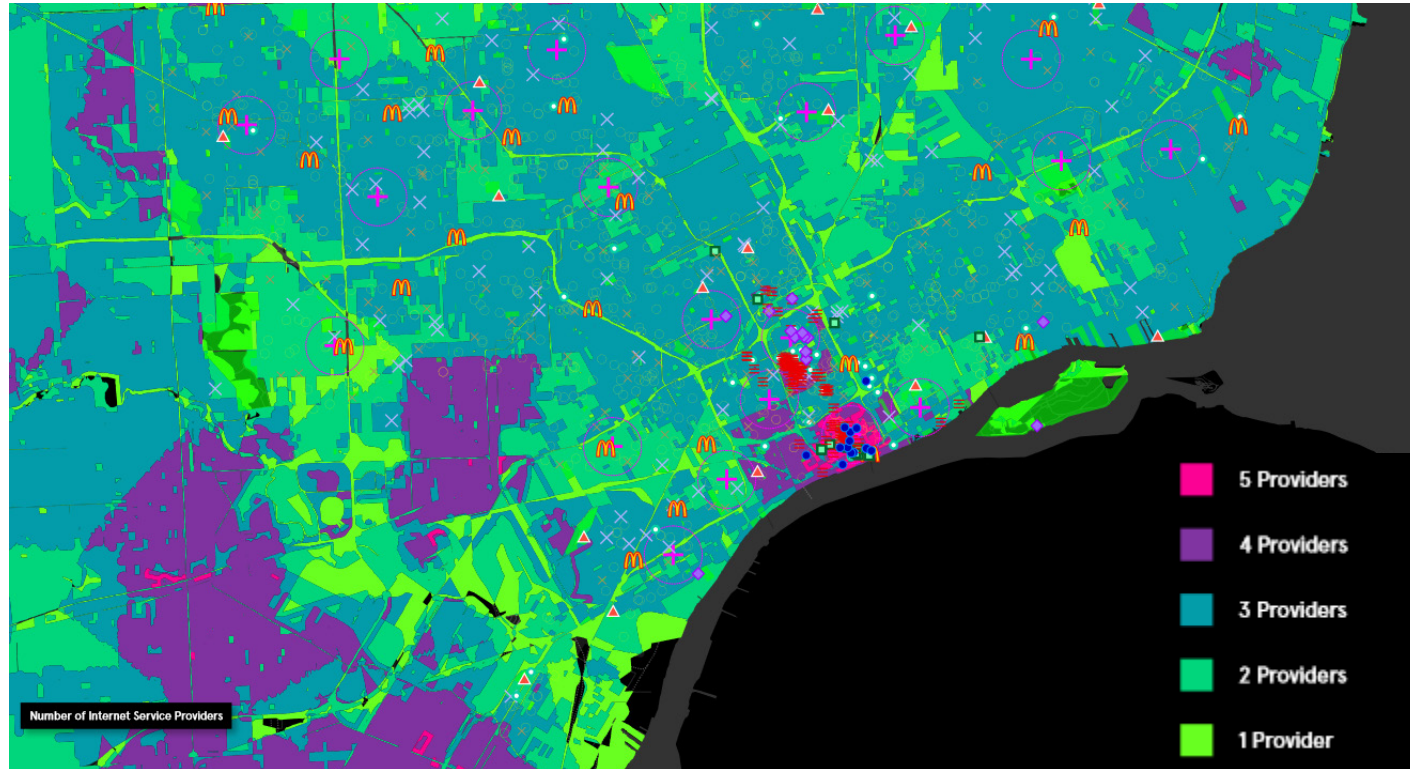**SCIENCES · ENGINEERING · MEDICINE**

# Black Children are concentrated in lower opportunity neighborhoods-Detroit Metropolitan Area
## Source: diversitydatakids.org, Child Opportunity Index Maps



© diversitydatakids.org | Citation Info

Percentage of children at each level, by race/ethnicity

Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI Metro Area

VERY LOW · LOW · MODERATE · HIGH · VERY HIGH

Legend: White, Black

Child Opportunity Levels, overall COI, metro-normed

VERY LOW · LOW · MODERATE · HIGH · VERY HIGH

Show data on hover

Select an index:
Overall Child Opportunity

Compared to: Metro     Year: 2015

Select a race/ethnicity:
- ☑ White
- ☐ Hispanic
- ☑ Black
- ☐ Asian/Pacific Islander
- ☐ American Indian/Alaska Native

HIDE CHART

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# Digital divide across Detroit neighborhoods: Number of Internet Providers

Source: University of Michigan, Urban Collaboratory



Number of Internet Service Providers

- 5 Providers
- 4 Providers
- 3 Providers
- 2 Providers
- 1 Provider

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# Session Overview

Part I: Stage Setting – COVID-19 and Broadband Access

Part II: Decision Making at State and Local Levels

Integrated Discussion: Opportunities to Ensure Equitable Broadband Access for All

*Please submit comments and questions at any time using the Q&A feature. These will provide valuable input even if we do not have time to answer them all today.*

# COVID-19 and the Digital Divide: Implications for Policy and Equity

# Thank you for joining us!

Please use the links in the agenda and the chat for more information on this and other SEAN projects.