

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF BLACK SUICIDE: MEN & PROVIDER ROLE STRAIN

Sean Joe, PhD, MSW
Benjamin E. Youngdahl Professor



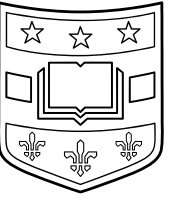
Race & Opportunity Lab

BROWN SCHOOL AT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

NASEM Community Interventions to Prevent Veteran
Suicide: The Role of Social Determinants
A VIRTUAL WORKSHOP
MARCH 28-29 2022

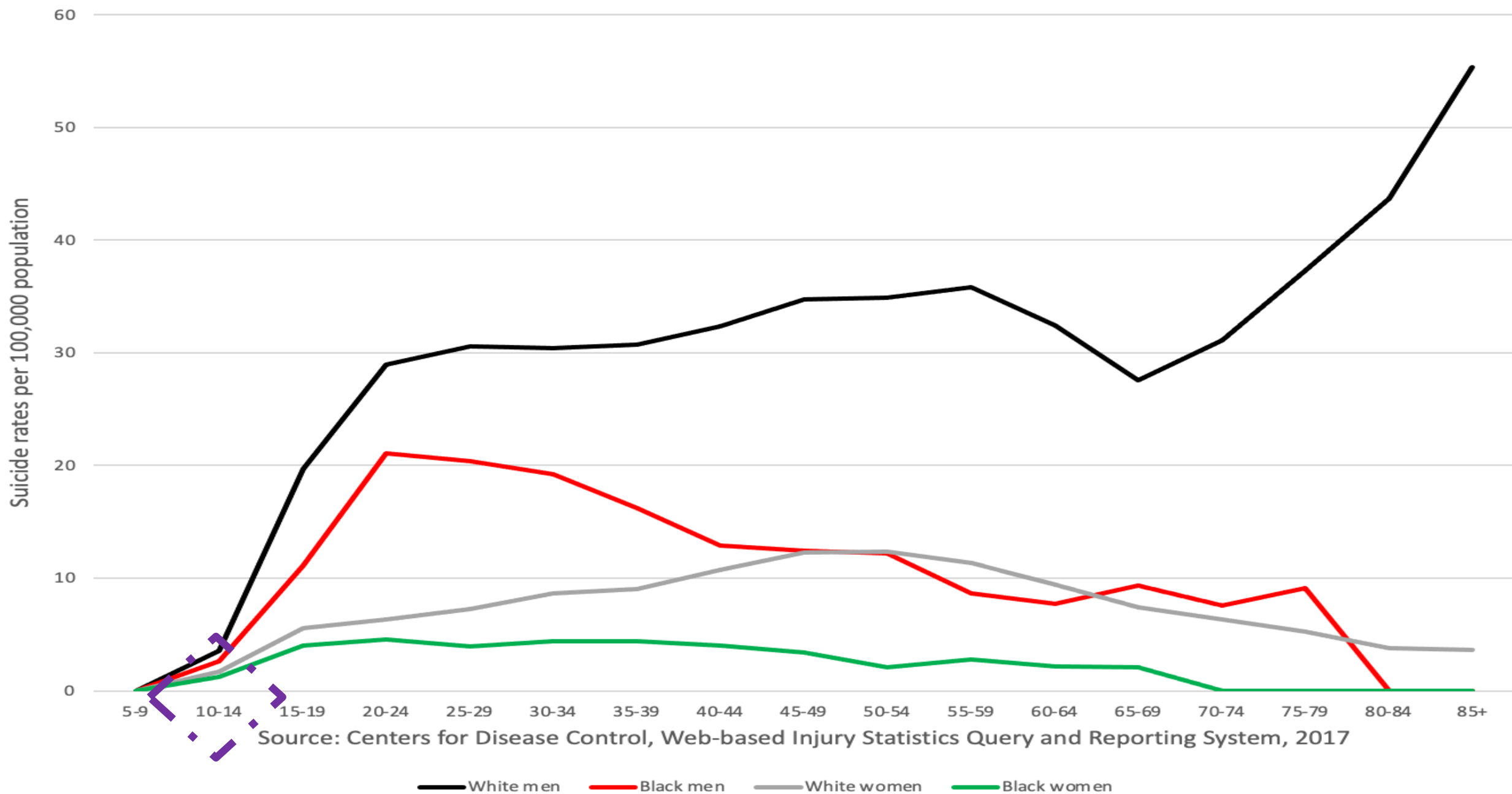
A dark, semi-transparent American flag serves as the background for the text. The stars are visible in the upper left, and the stripes flow across the rest of the image.

**In the United States
the most recent data
reveal there were
45,979 deaths
from suicide
In 2020**

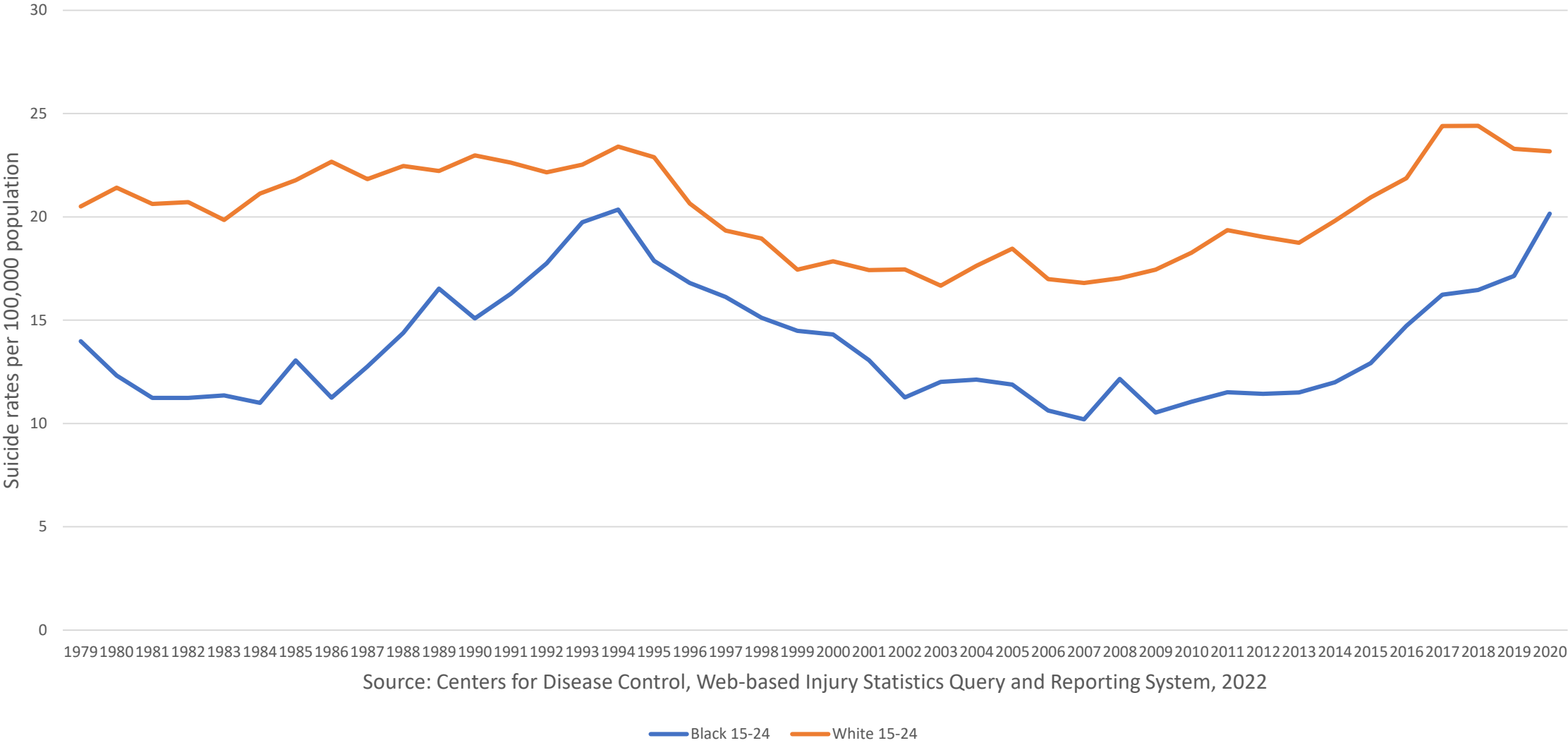


Are some ethnic group of higher risk?

Suicide Across the Life Span by Ethnicity and Sex, 2019



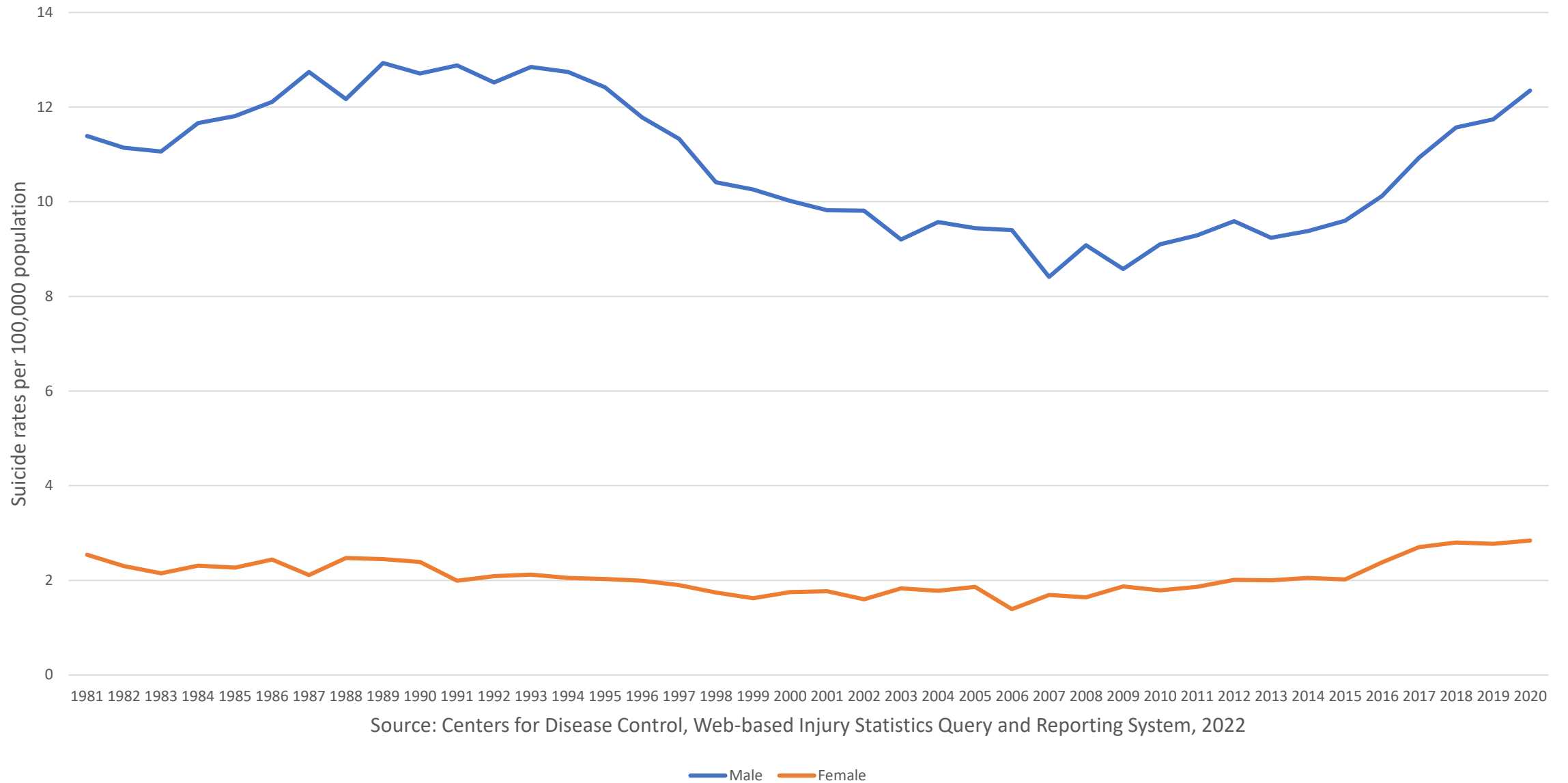
Suicide rates of Black & White males 15 to 24yrs



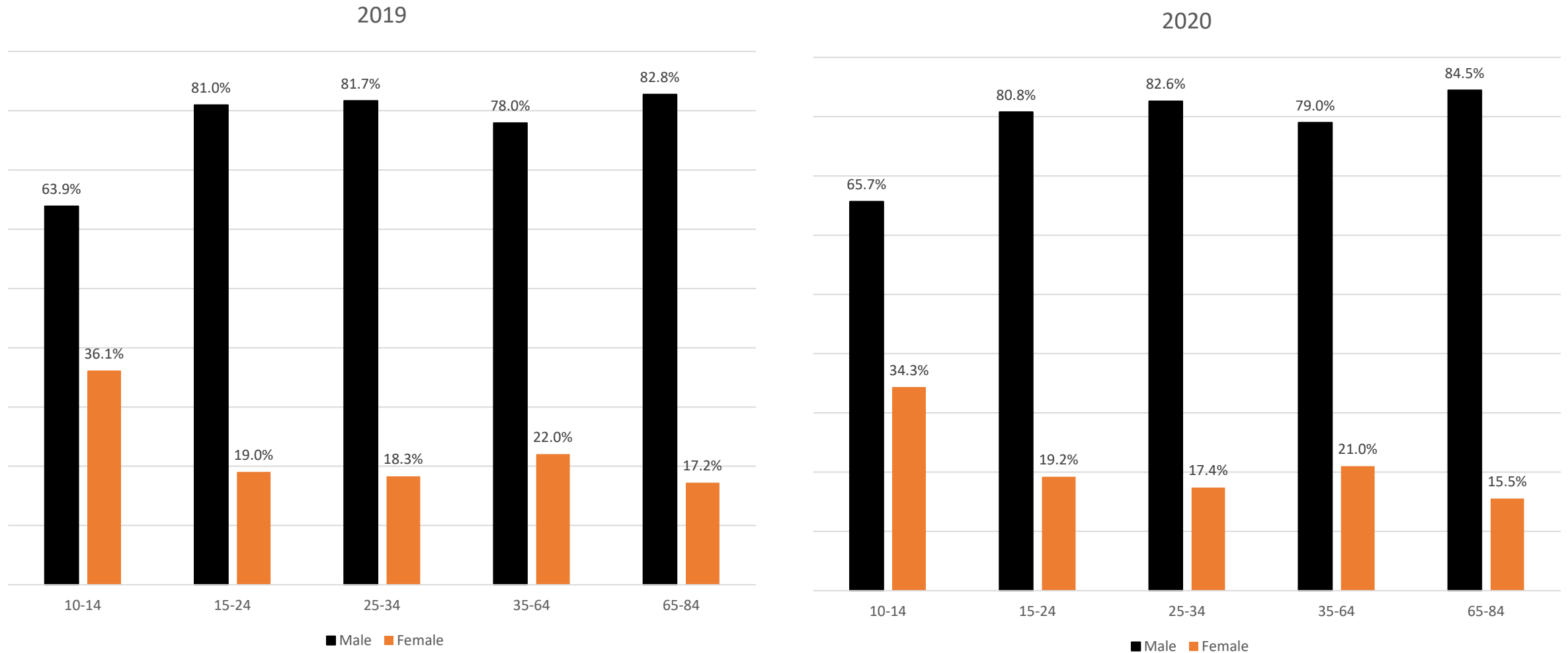
Source: Centers for Disease Control, Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System, 2022

Summary on Blacks Risk: Males, Younger, & Guns

Black Suicide rates by Gender from 1981 to 2020



Suicide rates among Blacks by Age group and Sex



Percentage of suicide rates per 100,000 population

Source: Centers for Disease Control, Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System, 2021

10 Leading Causes of Death, United States 2020, Black, Both Sexes

[Click on any colored box for detailed causes and ICD codes.](#)

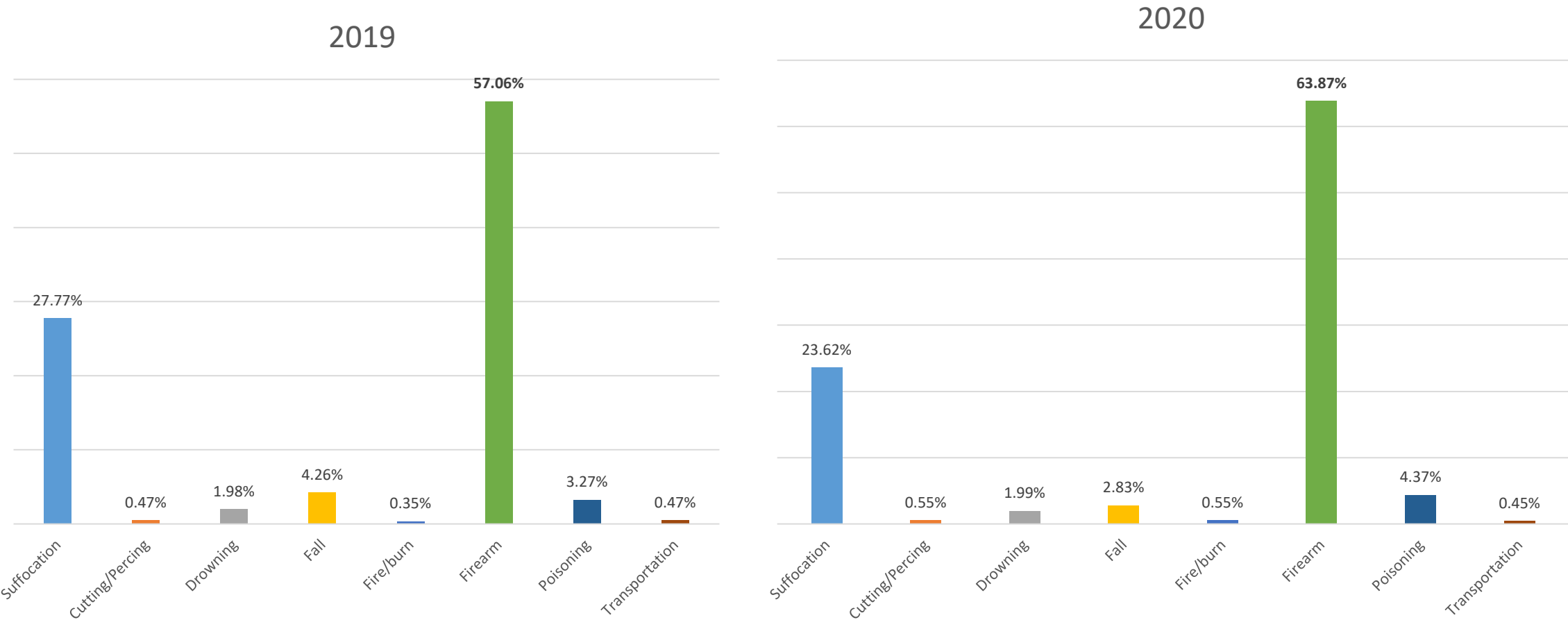
[Click on any age group for percentages.](#)

	Age Groups											
Rank	<1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	All Ages
1	Short Gestation 1,262	Unintentional Injury 282	Unintentional Injury 187	Unintentional Injury 176	Homicide 1,647	Homicide 2,629	Unintentional Injury 5,438	Unintentional Injury 4,986	Heart Disease 8,606	Heart Disease 19,050	Heart Disease 61,826	Heart Disease 94,777
2	Congenital Anomalies 827	Homicide 154	Homicide 83	Homicide 140	Unintentional Injury 827	Unintentional Injury 1,996	Homicide 4,593	Heart Disease 3,606	Malignant Neoplasms 5,602	Malignant Neoplasms 17,192	Malignant Neoplasms 46,065	Malignant Neoplasms 71,879
3	SIDS 573	Congenital Anomalies 97	Malignant Neoplasms 59	Suicide 99	Suicide 287	Suicide 593	Heart Disease 1,262	Homicide 2,318	Unintentional Injury 4,936	COVID-19 10,153	COVID-19 41,388	COVID-19 58,001
4	Unintentional Injury 450	Malignant Neoplasms 50	Chronic Low. Respiratory Disease 35	Malignant Neoplasms 76	Malignant Neoplasms 100	Heart Disease 164	Suicide 1,040	Malignant Neoplasms 1,941	COVID-19 4,140	Unintentional Injury 5,576	Cerebro-vascular 16,701	Unintentional Injury 29,875
5	Maternal Pregnancy Comp. 383	Heart Disease 47	Congenital Anomalies 32	Chronic Low. Respiratory Disease 59	Heart Disease 88	Malignant Neoplasms 119	Malignant Neoplasms 665	COVID-19 1,538	Diabetes Mellitus 1,984	Diabetes Mellitus 4,311	Diabetes Mellitus 12,026	Cerebro-vascular 22,646
6	Placenta Cord Membranes 224	Perinatal Period 23	Influenza & Pneumonia 19	Congenital Anomalies 32	Chronic Low. Respiratory Disease 43	COVID-19 108	COVID-19 610	Diabetes Mellitus 918	Cerebro-vascular 1,504	Cerebro-vascular 3,559	Alzheimer's Disease 10,851	Diabetes Mellitus 19,768
7	Bacterial Sepsis 208	Cerebro-vascular 18	Heart Disease 17	Heart Disease 31	Congenital Anomalies 37	Diabetes Mellitus 77	Diabetes Mellitus 400	Suicide 596	Homicide 1,125	Chronic Low. Respiratory Disease 2,365	Chronic Low. Respiratory Disease 8,954	Homicide 13,780
8	Respiratory Distress 133	Influenza & Pneumonia 18	Suicide 9	Diabetes Mellitus 20	COVID-19 30	Congenital Anomalies 57	HIV 291	Cerebro-vascular 590	Nephritis 832	Nephritis 1,947	Nephritis 7,414	Chronic Low. Respiratory Disease 12,508
9	Circulatory System Disease 119	Septicemia 14	COVID-19 8	Cerebro-vascular 11	Diabetes Mellitus 28	Complicated Pregnancy 51	Complicated Pregnancy 199	HIV 452	Liver Disease 801	Liver Disease 1,543	Hypertension 5,679	Alzheimer's Disease 11,023
10	Necrotizing Enterocolitis 108	Chronic Low. Respiratory Disease 6	Cerebro-vascular 8	Two Tied 9	Complicated Pregnancy 19	Chronic Low. Respiratory Disease 46	Cerebro-vascular 184	Liver Disease 378	Hypertension 656	Hypertension 1,489	Unintentional Injury 5,019	Nephritis 10,685

[Terms for Causes of Death](#)

[Printer-Friendly Version](#)

Suicide rates by method among Black Males 15 to 24years



Percentage of suicide rates per 100,000 population

Source: Centers for Disease Control, Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System, 2021

10 Leading Causes of Death, United States 2020, Black, Males

[Click on any colored box for detailed causes and ICD codes.](#)

[Click on any age group for percentages.](#)

	Age Groups											
Rank	<1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	All Ages
1	Short Gestation 695	Unintentional Injury 182	Unintentional Injury 119	Unintentional Injury 126	Homicide 1,479	Homicide 2,332	Homicide 4,105	Unintentional Injury 3,668	Heart Disease 5,601	Heart Disease 12,298	Heart Disease 29,851	Heart Disease 51,092
2	Congenital Anomalies 427	Homicide 83	Homicide 38	Homicide 109	Unintentional Injury 583	Unintentional Injury 1,431	Unintentional Injury 3,873	Heart Disease 2,302	Unintentional Injury 3,624	Malignant Neoplasms 8,860	Malignant Neoplasms 23,558	Malignant Neoplasms 36,163
3	SIDS 301	Congenital Anomalies 53	Malignant Neoplasms 35	Suicide 65	Suicide 209	Suicide 502	Suicide 859	Homicide 2,004	COVID-19 2,500	COVID-19 5,945	COVID-19 21,057	COVID-19 30,864
4	Unintentional Injury 254	Malignant Neoplasms 29	Chronic Low. Respiratory Disease 21	Malignant Neoplasms 39	Heart Disease 62	Heart Disease 97	Heart Disease 793	COVID-19 899	Malignant Neoplasms 2,464	Unintentional Injury 4,135	Cerebro-vascular 6,985	Unintentional Injury 21,155
5	Maternal Pregnancy Comp. 215	Heart Disease 22	Congenital Anomalies 18	Chronic Low. Respiratory Disease 37	Malignant Neoplasms 57	Malignant Neoplasms 61	COVID-19 367	Malignant Neoplasms 774	Diabetes Mellitus 1,177	Diabetes Mellitus 2,531	Diabetes Mellitus 5,655	Homicide 11,935
6	Placenta Cord Membranes 132	Perinatal Period 18	Heart Disease 10	Congenital Anomalies 17	Chronic Low. Respiratory Disease 22	COVID-19 59	Malignant Neoplasms 281	Diabetes Mellitus 578	Homicide 946	Cerebro-vascular 2,090	Chronic Low. Respiratory Disease 4,485	Cerebro-vascular 10,391
7	Bacterial Sepsis 116	Influenza & Pneumonia 11	Influenza & Pneumonia 10	Heart Disease 17	Congenital Anomalies 21	Diabetes Mellitus 42	Diabetes Mellitus 226	Suicide 474	Cerebro-vascular 842	Chronic Low. Respiratory Disease 1,173	Nephritis 3,386	Diabetes Mellitus 10,237
8	Respiratory Distress 68	Cerebro-vascular 10	Perinatal Period 6	Diabetes Mellitus 9	COVID-19 18	Chronic Low. Respiratory Disease 34	HIV 218	Cerebro-vascular 318	Nephritis 499	Nephritis 1,084	Unintentional Injury 3,159	Chronic Low. Respiratory Disease 6,286
9	Homicide 67	Chronic Low. Respiratory Disease 5	Anemias 4	Cerebro-vascular 7	Diabetes Mellitus 17	Congenital Anomalies 31	Chronic Low. Respiratory Disease 107	HIV 275	Liver Disease 457	Liver Disease 975	Alzheimer's Disease 3,053	Nephritis 5,230
10	Necrotizing Enterocolitis 62	Four Tied 3	Suicide 4	COVID-19 6	Cerebro-vascular 9	HIV 29	Cerebro-vascular 101	Liver Disease 198	Hypertension 417	Hypertension 900	Hypertension 2,432	Hypertension 3,950

[Terms for Causes of Death](#)

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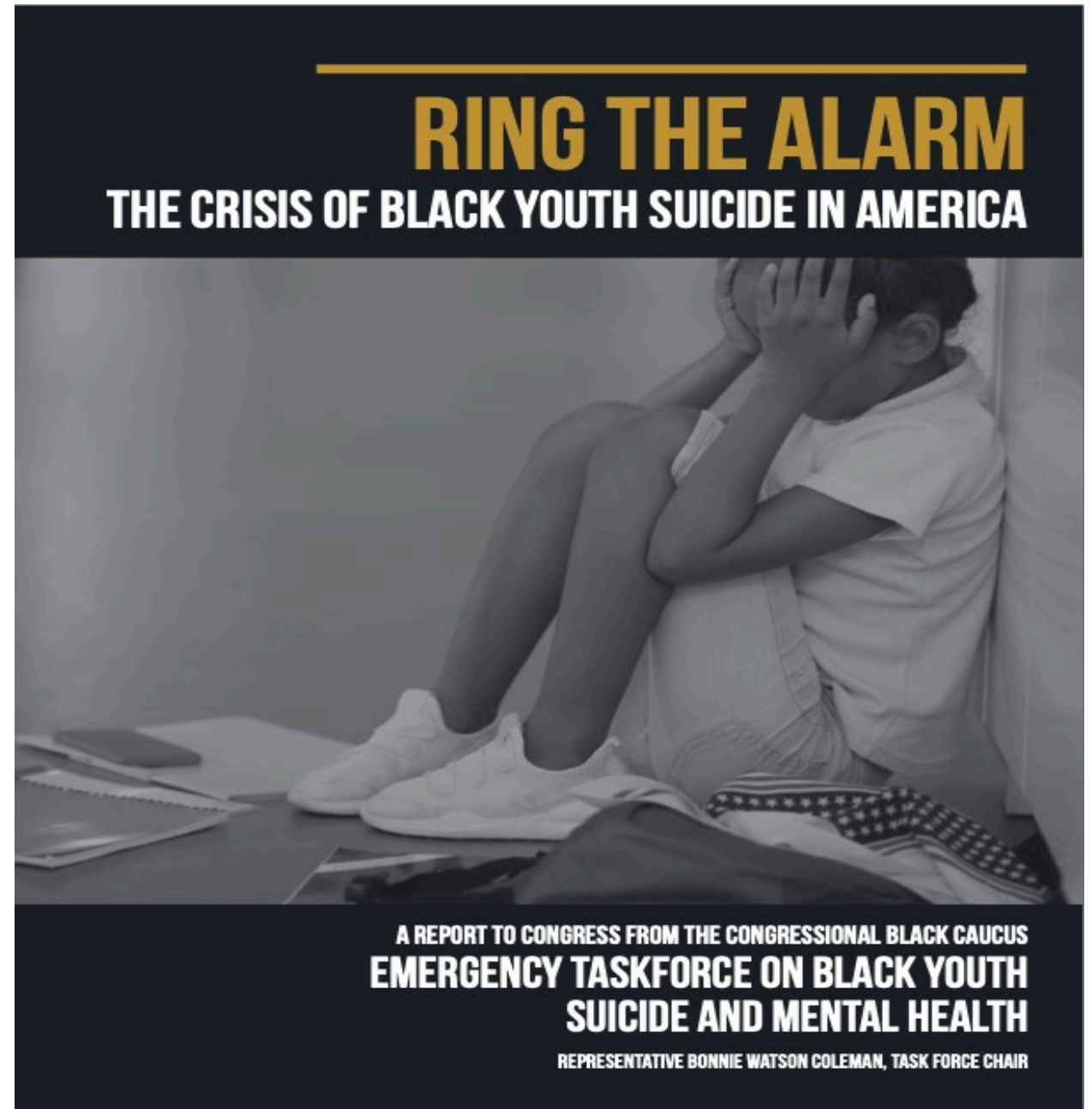
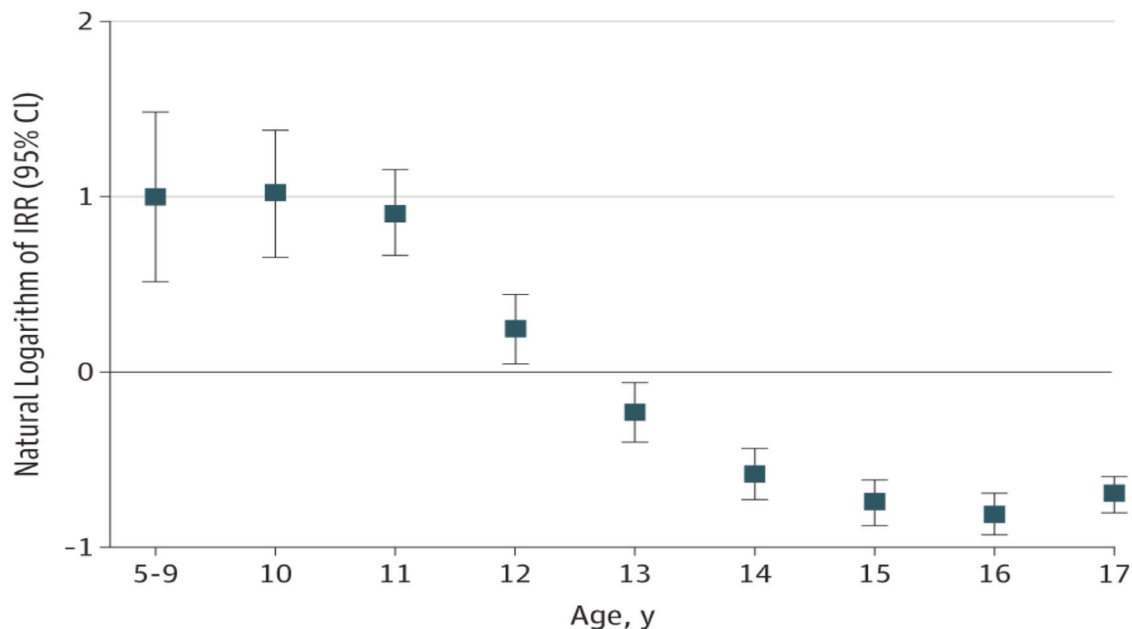
LOSING FUTURE GENERATIONS



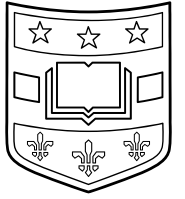
- Among Black Americans born after 1976 (under age 45), Suicide is among the top 10 Leading Cause of Death
- Among Black Americans born after 1986 (under age 35), Suicide is a top 5 Leading Cause of Death. This is true for both sexes. Men and Women.

In 2019, The Congressional Black Caucus ([CBC](#)) [Emergency Taskforce](#) on Black Youth Suicide and Mental Health has released [*Ring the Alarm: the Crisis of Black Youth Suicide in America*](#).

Age-Related Racial Disparity in Suicide Rates Among US Youths From 2001 Through 2015

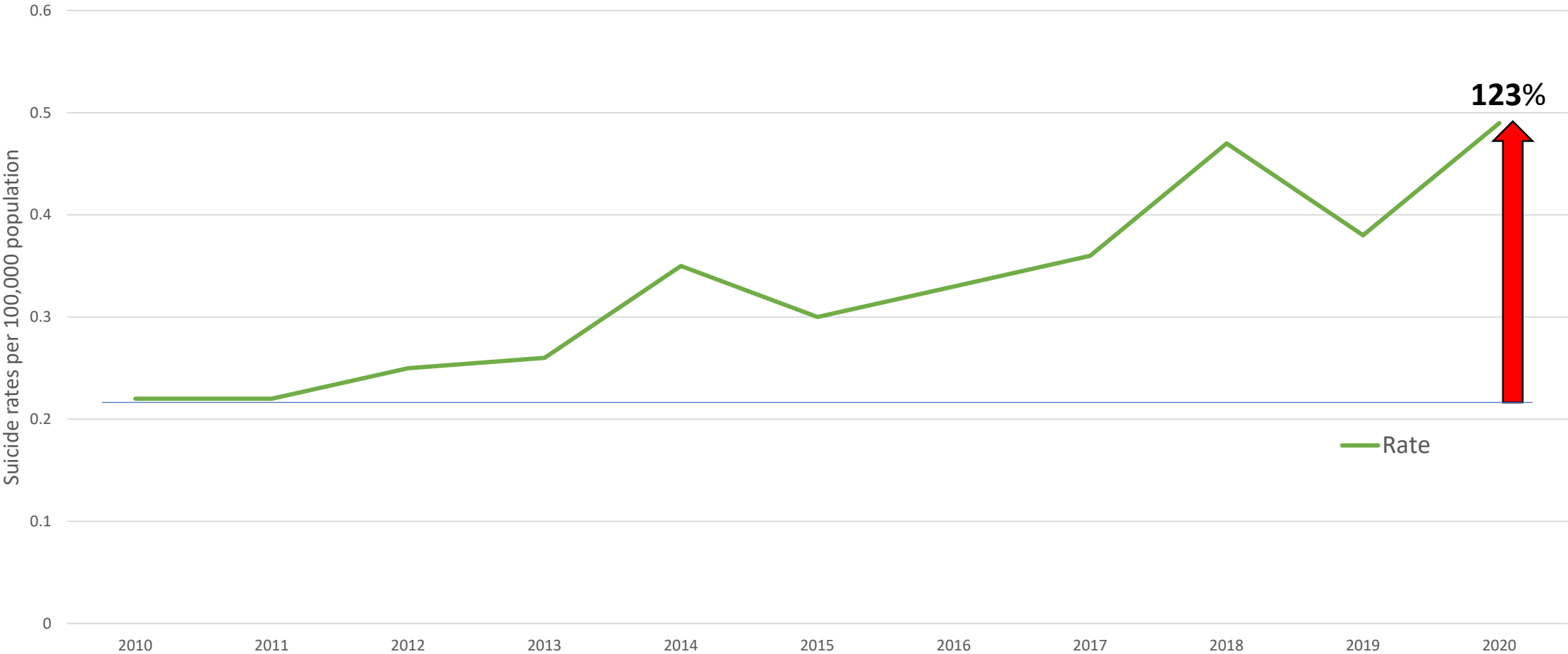


Suicide Trends Among Elementary School–Aged Children in the United States From 1993 to 2012 (Bridges et. al, 2015)



- The suicide rate for children under age 12 reveals a markedly higher and statistically significant **86% increase in suicide among Black children** in contrast to white children (**32% decrease**) and Hispanic children (3% increase).

Suicide Rates for Blacks 12 years and under from 2010 to 2020



Source: Centers for Disease Control, Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System, 2022



**What is it about being a Black male
that increases their risk for suicide?**



Social Lives of Black Males

- For Black men, social status has largely been attributed to the adequacy of male role performance (Hunter & Davis, 1994; Wade & Rochlen, 2013).
- Moreover, role strain refers to, “the objective difficulty, and cognitive appraisals of such difficulty, that people in highly valued life roles (student, worker, family, elder, etc.) experience” (Bowman, 2006, p. 120).
- For Black men, an inability to fulfill the roles of patriarch and economic provider has been characterized as a reflection of their inability to meet the social and cultural standards of what it means to be a man (Bowman, 1990; Cazenave, 1979; Diemer, 2002; Hunter & Davis, 2004; Summers, 2004).



Social Lives of Black Males

- Research examining the role of masculinity in suicidal and other health risk behavior is scant?
- American notions of masculinity must be considered:
 - Tied to our basic notions of the “American Dream”
- Black males notions of masculinity are complicated by discrimination
 - (perceived or real, institutional or personal)



Few See Discrimination as Main Reason Many Blacks Can't Get Ahead

	All adults	Whites	Blacks	Hispanics
% saying main reason many blacks can't get ahead is...	%	%	%	%
Racial discrimination	19	15	30	24
Blacks responsible for their own condition	66	71	53	59
Neither/Both (VOL)	9	8	14	8
DK/Refused	<u>6</u> 100	<u>6</u> 100	<u>3</u> 100	<u>9</u> 100
Number of respondents	3086	1536	1007	388

Note: Whites include only non-Hispanic whites. Blacks include only non-Hispanic blacks. Hispanics are of any race.



A “Real” Man Must!

- Provide
- Protect
- Procreate



Data

- Data are from the National Survey of American Life (NSAL), a national household probability sample of 5181 black respondents aged 18 years and older.
- Conducted between February 2001 and June 2003.



Provider Role Strain Indicators

- ***Provide*** (e.g., employed, low material hardship, own a home, have enough to eat)
- ***Procreate*** (e.g., marital status, is a parent)
- ***Protect*** (not examined in current study)



Variables

- **Food insufficiency** (i.e., frequency of not having enough food to eat).
- **Material hardship in last 12 months** (i.e., not meeting basic needs, not paying full rent or mortgage, being evicted for non-payment, not paying utilities, having utilities disconnected, having telephone disconnected, not affording leisure activities)



Prevalence Results: Ethnicity by Gender

	Attempts	Planned Attempts
Black Americans	4.1%	
African American Male	2.7%	57.9 %
African American Female	5.0%	62.3 %
Caribbean Black Males	7.5%	93.3 %
Caribbean Black Female	2.7%	40.2%

Joe, S, Baser, R., Breeden, G., Neighbors, H., & Jackson, J (2006). Prevalence of and Risk factors for Lifetime Suicide Attempts Among Blacks in the United States. JAMA, 296 (17), 2112-2123. PMCID: PMC2718696



Provider Role Strain Indicators Predictors of Black Male Suicide Ideation

	Odds Ratio (95% CI)
Material Hardship**	
Low	0.49 (.32 -0.76)
High	1.00
Food Insufficiency*	
Enough to Eat	1.00
Not Enough	2.06 (1.30-6.70)
Often not Enough	1.96 (0.72-5.33)
Work Status*	
Employed	1.00
Unemployed	1.77 (0.86-3.62)
Not in Labor Force	2.02 (1.23 - 3.33)



Provider Role Strain Indicators Predictors of Suicide Attempts among Black Male

	Odds Ratio (95% CI)
Material Hardship .07	
Low	0.54 (.28 - 1.04)
High	1.00
Food Insufficiency	
Enough to Eat	1.00
Not Enough	1.61 (0.41-6.24)
Often not Enough	1.62 (0.49-5.43)
Work Status***	
Employed	1.00
Unemployed	4.01 (1.55-10.38)
Not in Labor Force	4.11 (1.95 - 8.68)



ANOVA: Suicidal Behavior by American Dream Index

	M (SD)	F, DF
Suicide Ideation		
Yes	3.15 (0.93)	37.10, 57***
No	3.65 (0.93)	
Suicide Attempts		
Yes	3.14 (0.99)	8.75, 57**
No	3.62 (0.94)	



NSAL Social Determinants Results

- African Americans and Caribbean Blacks did not differ in: age, psychiatric disorder, subjective life satisfaction, level of material hardships, and food insufficiency.
- Caribbean Blacks tend to have more than a high school education (23% vs 14%), be married (50% vs 42%), higher on ADAI (M=3.8 vs. 3.6), but less home ownership (50.5% vs. 44.9%).



Implications for Veterans



Suicide Prevention Priorities for Black Americans Veterans

- There is a need for research to identify whether and to what extent specific veteran subpopulations are at heightened risk for suicide and whether unique supports are needed to address their risk.
- 1 out % veteran suicide are accounted for by minoritized groups,
- Among the Veteran population overall, from 2005–2018, the distribution of Veterans by group changed, with proportional increases among Veterans identified **as Black or African American (from 10.2% in 2005 to 12.3% in 2018)**, American Indian and Alaskan Natives (from 0.7% in 2005 to 0.8% in 2018), and Asian, Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (VA Annual Report on Suicide, 2020)
- The past 12 years, suicide rates have been consistently higher among veterans than nonveterans. Furthermore, since 2005, the suicide rate has risen faster among veterans than it has for nonveteran adults



Suicide Prevention Priorities for Black Americans Veterans

Gun Access Matter:

- In 2018, 68.2 percent of veterans who died by suicide used a firearm, compared with 48.2 percent of nonveterans. The CDC's community prevention framework has seven components, ranging from providing economic support to promoting connectedness and creating a protective environment (Stone et al., 2017).

Transitional Social Determinants Matters

- Going from great belongingness and financial stability to a period of transition marked by disconnectedness, uncertainty, & purposelessness
- Provider Role Strain
- Match/Career Opportunity or Transition

Framework for Successful Multisectoral (Social Determinants) Community Suicide Prevention

1. Unified Vision of the Scope of the Problem, Population, & Geographic Boundaries
 2. Cultivated Will and Commitment from Key Stakeholders (Leadership support)
 3. Estimate, Cultivate and Support Providers Engagement
 4. Data Driven Decision making regarding enrollment, referrals, and outcomes
 5. Purposefulness and Work post discharge, CDC Household Financial Stability
 6. Transdisciplinary Research Skills
 7. Innovation: Sponsors & Certification Efficacy and Effectiveness
 8. Design the Management systems of the multisectoral Implementation to operate at Scale (Dashboard of Common Operations management)
 9. Invest in the Staff, data infrastructure, and fidelity capacity
 10. Invest in greater Interoperable Data Infrastructure
-



"The most authentic thing about us is our capacity to create, to overcome, to endure, to transform, to love and to be greater than our suffering."

Ben Okri (Nigerian Author)

QUESTIONS



Citation: Joe, S. (2022, March 2). What to do about Black children considering suicide? [Conference session]. Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association Annual Conference, Copenhagen, Denmark.

<https://oaspavideos.org/conference/videos-2019>