

Health Equity COVID19 Update

"Public health is complicated and social reengineering is complex, but change of this magnitude does not happen without a new resolve. The US has needed a trigger to fully address health care disparities; COVID-19 may be that bellwether event."

- [Dr. Clyde W. Yancy for JAMA](#)

Homeless stranded after being forced off subways



Hundreds of homeless evacuated from the subway are being sent to overwhelmed shelters. Above, those who accepted transport to shelter ended up sleeping in the lobby without social distancing precautions. Many homeless are wary of entering shelters at all given risk of infection.

[More on subway closures >](#)

Read this striking personal account of the dehumanizing treatment of homeless in NYC.

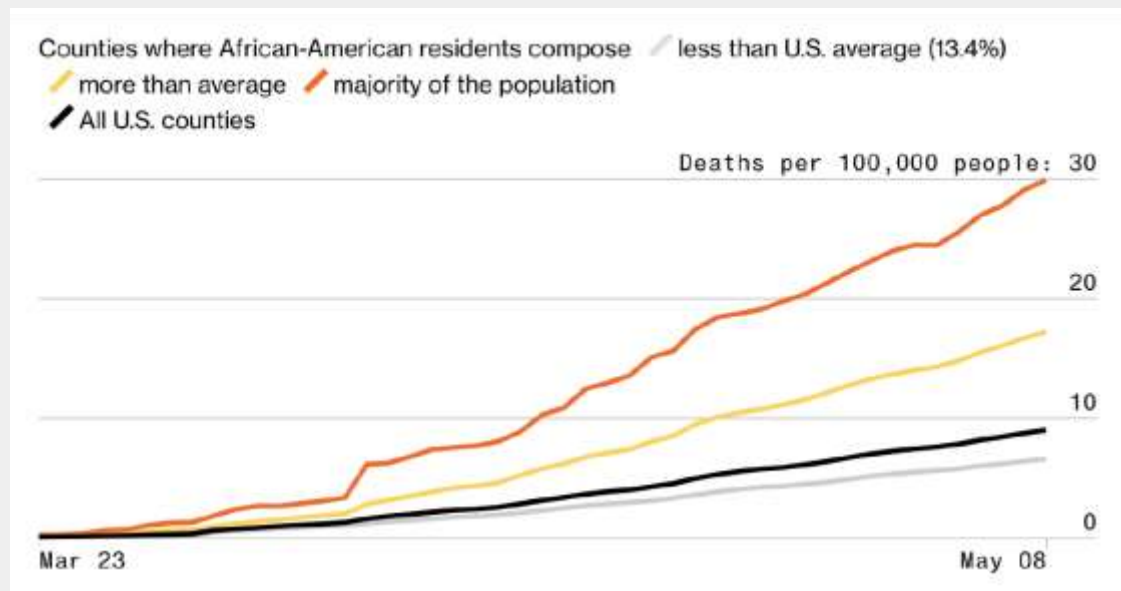
[Why I slept on the subways >](#)

Quick Action:

New City Council bill would expand access to private hotel rooms for homeless persons living on the street or in congregate shelters. The bill would also require congregate shelters to separate beds by at least 6 feet.

[Support bill expanding hotel room access >](#)

Concern for racial bias affecting COVID-19 patients



"Decades of research shows that black patients receive inferior medical care to white patients ... Now comes Covid-19, and the fear among many families, social scientists and public health experts that racial bias might be contributing to the disproportionately high rate at which the novel coronavirus is killing African-Americans."

[More on racial bias in care >](#)

[How the pandemic magnifies health inequities >](#)

[93% of COVID-19-related arrests are for people of color >](#)

Virtual Event: Racial Equity in Pandemic



Live conversation

IBRAM X. KENDI

RACIAL EQUITY DURING & AFTER THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC
MAY 21, 2020 | 2:30 - 3:30 PM EST

#RacialEquityAndCOVID

NATIONAL LOW INCOME HOUSING COALITION

The graphic features a portrait of Ibram X. Kendi, a Black man with glasses and a beard, wearing a blue blazer over a pink shirt. To his right is a small image of his book cover, "How to Be an Antiracist". The background is a blurred outdoor scene.

[Register here >](#)

Safety net hospitals may not survive pandemic



"Between the outbreak pushing already thin budgets to the brink and Gov. Andrew Cuomo's impending Medicaid cuts, the heads of so-called safety-net hospitals say even with federal support, they may not last long after the pandemic subsides, and that will mean a dearth of medical care for the city's most vulnerable population."

[Read more >](#)

Register for absentee voting

Due to pandemic, all registered voters may apply for an Absentee Ballot to vote in the upcoming June 23, 2020 elections (deadline is June 16).

[Register now >](#)



Virtual learning

[Right to Health Web-In Series >](#)

"An online gathering that plays a critical role in health activism during COVID-19 social distancing. Web-Ins are equal parts political education, discussion, and community organizing. These gatherings will bring together hundreds, and perhaps eventually thousands, of health activists into a dialogue with experts and people on the front lines of health, race, and class struggles."

[Structural Competency Webinars >](#)

"Structural competency explores a new clinical politics for understanding the relationships among race, class, and symptom expression."



LMH Health Equity Taskforce

We are an interdisciplinary group of professionals from NYP Lower Manhattan Hospital formed in response to our experience of health disparities in our patient population. We aim to recognize, understand and reduce these disparities through education, local partnerships and advocacy.

Please email [Karina Galvin](#) to join our email list or with submissions for our next newsletter.