

RACIAL DISCRIMINATION



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What Is The Difference Between Race And Ethnicity?

Race is seen as biological, referring to the physical characteristics of a person, while ethnicity is viewed as a social construct that describes a person's cultural identity. According to the functionalist perspective, race and ethnicity are two of the various parts of a cohesive society.

RACE	VS	ETHNICITY
<p>When you're describing where someone comes from, two words come to mind: race and ethnicity. They both are used to provide some background on the person in question. However, they mean two very different things and shouldn't be confused.</p>		
USAGE		USAGE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Divide that based on some specific physical traits that all the members of the group must have• People of the same race have various		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mean different nationality and different cultural traditions• People who belong to the same ethnic

What is Racial Discrimination?

- Racial discrimination refers to unequal treatment of individuals or groups on the basis of their race or ethnicity
- The side effects of racial discrimination include police brutality, mass incarceration, voter disenfranchisement, low paying jobs without benefits, poor access to healthcare, under-funded/resourced schools, etc..

Stereotypes- oversimplified generalizations about groups of people

Prejudice- refers to the beliefs, thoughts, feelings, and attitudes someone holds about a group

Racial And Ethnic Disparity In The Prison System

- African Americans are incarcerated in state prisons across the country more than 5 times the rate of white people
- This is a major issue within our society, because incarceration creates a host of collateral consequences; such as disenfranchisement, stigma, housing instability, restricted employment prospects, and family disruption.

Rates of incarceration for white People, African Americans, and Hispanics

Key Findings

- African Americans are incarcerated in state prisons at a rate that is 5.1 times the imprisonment of whites. In five states (Iowa, Minnesota, New Jersey, Vermont, and Wisconsin), the disparity is more than 10 to 1.
- In twelve states, more than half of the prison population is black: Alabama, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, New Jersey, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. Maryland, whose prison population is 72% African American, tops the nation.
- In eleven states, at least 1 in 20 adult black males is in prison.
- In Oklahoma, the state with the highest overall black incarceration rate, 1 in 15 black males ages 18 and older is in prison.
- States exhibit substantial variation in the range of racial disparity, from a black/white ratio of 12.2:1 in New Jersey to 2.4:1 in Hawaii.
- Latinos are imprisoned at a rate that is 1.4 times the rate of whites. Hispanic/white ethnic disparities are particularly high in states such as Massachusetts (4.3:1), Connecticut (3.9:1), Pennsylvania (3.3:1), and New York (3.1:1).

Figure 1. Average rate of incarceration by race and ethnicity, per 100,000 population

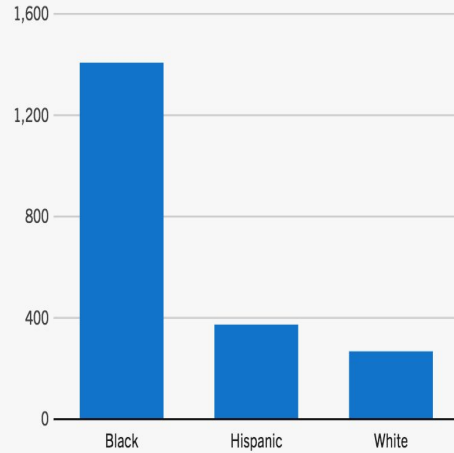
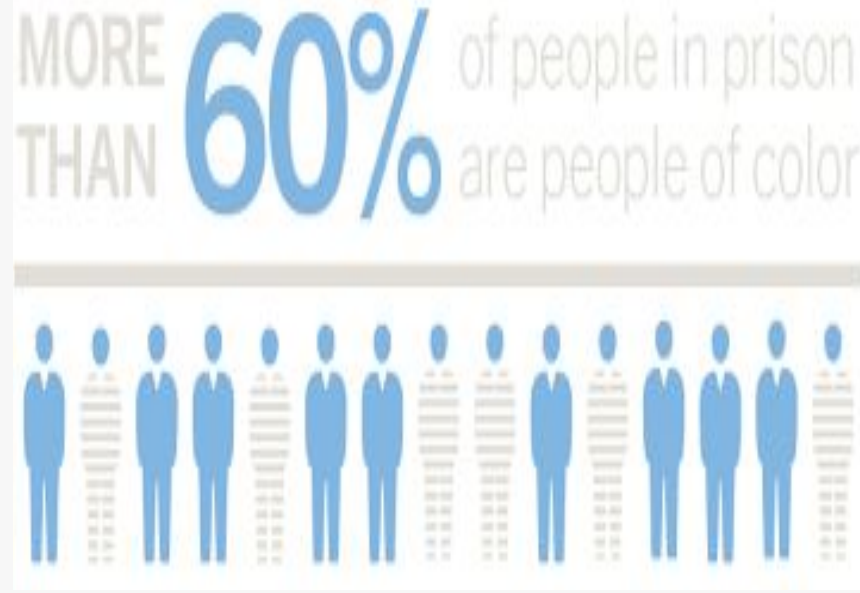


Figure 1 provides a national view of the concentration of prisoners by race and ethnicity as a proportion of their representation in the state's overall general population, or the rate per 100,000 residents. Looking at the average state rates of incarceration, we see that overall blacks are incarcerated at a rate of 1,408 per 100,000 while whites are incarcerated at a rate of 275 per 100,000. This means that blacks are incarcerated at a rate that is 5.1 times that of whites. This national look also shows that Hispanics are held in state prisons at an average rate of 378 per 100,000, producing a disparity ratio of 1.4:1 compared to whites.



Overall Findings

The Bureau of Justice Statistics reports that 35% of state prisoners are white, 38% are black, and 21% are Hispanic.⁷⁾ In twelve states more than half of the prison population is African American. Though the reliability of data on ethnicity is not as strong as it is for race estimates, the Hispanic population in state prisons is as high as 61% in New Mexico and 42% in both Arizona and California. In an additional seven states, at least one in five inmates is Hispanic.⁸⁾ While viewing percentages reveals a degree of disproportion for people of color when compared to the overall general population (where 62% are white, 13% are black, and 17% are Hispanic),⁹⁾ viewing the composition of prison populations from this perspective only tells some of the story. In this report we present the rates of racial and ethnic disparity, which allow a portrayal of the overrepresentation of people of color in the prison system accounting for population in the general community.¹⁰⁾ This shows odds of imprisonment for individuals in various racial and ethnic categories.

Racial And Ethnic Disparity In The Workplace

- White Americans still disproportionately outnumber their African American and Latino counterparts when it comes to obtaining good jobs, regardless of education obtained.
- According to a study made by Georgetown University, “between 1991 and 2016, black and Latino Americans increased their likelihood of obtaining and maintaining a good job, but their white peers still disproportionately hold better jobs compared to their overall employment.”
- According to The National Center for Education Statistics, they found that in 2017, 41% of white young adults were enrolled in college, compared to 36% of black and Hispanic young adults. Additionally, for Americans over 25, 33% of whites have a bachelor's degree, compared to 19% of black people and 16% of Hispanics.

Racial And Ethnic Disparity in HealthCare

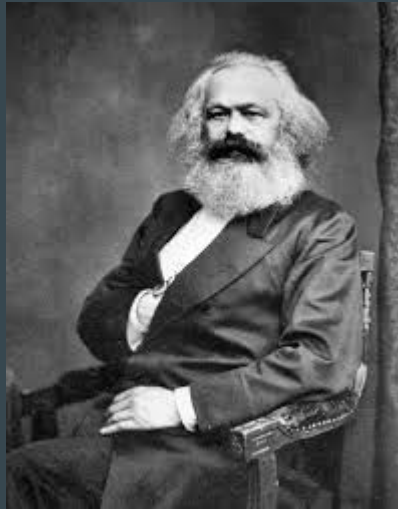
- Racial and ethnic minorities have worse overall health than that of White Americans. Health disparities may stem from economic determinants, education, geography and neighborhood, environment, lower quality care, inadequate access to care, inability to navigate the system, provider ignorance or bias, and stress (Bahls, 2011).
- Socioeconomic status and race/ethnicity have been associated with avoidable procedures, avoidable hospitalizations, and untreated disease (Fiscella, Franks, Gold, & Clancy, 2008).
- At each level of income or education, African-Americans have worse outcomes than Whites. This could be due to adverse health effects of more concentrated disadvantage or a range of experiences related to racial bias (Braveman, Cubbin, Egerter, Williams, & Pamuk, 2010).
- Low birth weight, which is related to a number of negative child health outcomes, has been associated with lower Socioeconomic status and ethnic/minority status (Fiscella et al., 2008).
- There are substantial racial differences in insurance coverage. In the pre-retirement years, Hispanics and American Indians are much less likely than Whites, African-Americans, and Asians to have any health insurance (Williams, Mohammed, Leavell, & Collins, 2010).

Racial And Ethnic Disparity In Education

- African-Americans and Latinos are more likely to attend high-poverty schools than Asian-Americans and Caucasians (National Center for Education Statistics, 2007).
- From 2000 to 2013 the dropout rate between racial groups narrowed significantly. However, high school dropout rates among Latinos remain the highest, followed by African-Americans and then Whites (National Center for Education Statistics, 2015).
- In addition to socioeconomic realities that may deprive students of valuable resources, high-achieving African American students may be exposed to less rigorous curriculums, attend schools with fewer resources, and have teachers who expect less of them academically than they expect of similarly situated Caucasian students (Azzam, 2008).
- 12.4 percent of African-American college graduates between the ages of 22 and 27 were unemployed in 2013, which is more than double the rate of unemployment among all college graduates in the same age range (5.6 percent; J. Jones & Schmitt, 2014).

Social Perspectives: Conflict Theory

Karl Marx was a German sociologist, economist, and philosopher famous for his theories about capitalism and communism. He claimed society was in a state of perpetual conflict, where individuals divided by social class competed for social, material, and political resources. Upper class capitalists would exploit and suppress lower class workers, and whichever economic class an individual fell in, impacted their role in society. He argued that social institutions such as government, religion, and education helped maintain the unequal social structure.



Social Perspectives: Conflict Theory

“Conflict theories are often applied to inequalities of gender, social class, education, race, and ethnicity. A conflict theory perspective of U.S. history would examine the numerous past and current struggles between the white ruling class and racial and ethnic minorities, noting specific conflicts that have arisen when the dominant group perceived a threat from the minority group.”- stated from lumenlearning.com

Racial discrimination represents Conflict Theory, because racial inequality has made the United States a competitive background constantly fighting for resources and new opportunities

Citations

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