

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
1615

Equality of Opportunity & Health Disparities



U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Overview

- US Chamber of Commerce's Equality of Opportunity Initiative
- Defining the Issue: Health Inequities/Disparities vs. Social Determinants of Health
- Initial Pillars & Policy Opportunities
- Priorities for the Business Community

Equality of Opportunity Initiative

September Launch

- **Preliminary Pillars**
 - Education
 - Employment
 - Entrepreneurship
 - Criminal Justice
- **Additional Pillars**
 - Health
 - Wealth

Figure 1

Social Determinants of Health

Economic Stability	Neighborhood and Physical Environment	Education	Food	Community and Social Context	Health Care System
Employment	Housing	Literacy	Hunger	Social integration	Health coverage
Income	Transportation	Language	Access to healthy options	Support systems	Provider availability
Expenses	Safety	Early childhood education		Community engagement	Provider linguistic and cultural competency
Debt	Parks	Vocational training		Discrimination	Quality of care
Medical bills	Playgrounds	Higher education		Stress	
Support	Walkability				
	Zip code / geography				

Health Outcomes

Mortality, Morbidity, Life Expectancy, Health Care Expenditures, Health Status, Functional Limitations



Health Inequities

The Facts

- Black Americans have markedly worse health outcomes than white Americans.
- Black patients are 2 to 3 times as likely to die of preventable heart disease and stroke than white patients.
- They also have higher rates of cancer, asthma, influenza, pneumonia, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, and homicide.
- The reasons for these disparities are many, complex and intertwined.



Targeted Lens: Primary Care Providers

- More primary care providers per person =
 - Lower death rates for cancer, heart disease, and stroke;
 - People are less likely to require hospitalization;
 - Lower infant mortality;
 - Higher-birth weights;
 - Immunization rates at or above national standards, despite social disparities.
- Additionally, U.S. adults who have a primary care physician accumulate 33% lower health care-related costs.
- As of 2018, Black and Hispanic children were more likely than White children to not have a usual source of care.

Targeted Lens: Clinical Trial Participation

- Clinical Trial Participation
 - According to U.S. Census data, black or African Americans represent 13.4% of the U.S. population,
 - Yet FDA reports that those populations make up only 5% of clinical trial participants.
 - Less than two percent of federally-funded cancer clinical trials include enough minorities to meet goals established by the National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Thank You

Katie Mahoney
Vice President, Health Policy
U.S. Chamber of Commerce