The Prevalence of COVID-19 Amongst Hispanic/Latinx Individuals as Compared to the General Population in Massachusetts

Ashley Abichaker - University of Massachusetts Amherst
Nicole Rodriguez Ortiz - Montclair State University
Elisa Sambataro - CUNY Hunter College
Jenipher Silvia - University of Massachusetts Amherst
Azka Tanveer - College of the Holy Cross
Origin: Wuhan, China (December 19, 2019)

- **Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2** (SARS-COV-2) is a strain of corona viruses
- Infection of cells in upper respiratory tract (coughs, shortness of breath, sore throat,)
- Positive-sense single-stranded RNA virus
Transmission:

- Droplets or aerosols
- Airborne transmission
- Surface Tension
- Fecal-oral
COVID-19: Long Term Effects

Long Term Effects:
★ Damage to pulmonary system
★ Damage to renal system
★ Reduction in estrogen hormone
★ Damage to neurological function
Prevalence COVID-19 in Massachusetts by Race & Ethnicity

Latinos make up only 12.8% of the Massachusetts population, while they make up 28.3% of the cases of COVID-19.
COVID-19 Hospitalizations by Race and Ethnicity

Percentage of Hospitalizations (2020-2021)

- Asian: 13.7%
- Latino: 35.7%
- White, non-Latino: 20.3%
- Black, non-Latino: 30.3%

Policy Map. Umassmed (2020)
Health Disparity: What is it?

“Health disparities are systematic differences and/or gaps in the quality of health and healthcare across racial, ethnic, and socio-economic groups” (Wayne J).

Factors

- Poverty
- Unemployment
- Underfunded Education
- Inadequate Housing
- Poor Public Transportation
Health disparities greatly impact vulnerable and marginalized groups exposing them to multiple co-occurring forms of systematic oppression.

- African Americans
- Latinx/Hispanics
- American Indians and Alaskan Natives
- Asian Americans
- Sexual minorities
- Disabled people
“The social determinants of health (SDH) are the non-medical factors that influence health outcomes. They are the conditions in which people are born, grow, work, live, and age, and the wider set of forces and systems shaping the conditions of daily life” (WHO).
Quarantine during COVID-19 established the essential workers of the pandemic which are found to be directly linked to individuals in low-income and of poverty status.
Estimated Percent in Subsidized Housing (2021)

- Essex
- Suffolk
- Hampden

Population Race/Ethnicity

- Black
- White
- Asian or Pacific Islander
- Hispanics/Latinos

Subsidized Housing (%)
Access to Healthcare

Insurance Status

Difficulty Accessing Healthcare

Percent Insured Continuously (January 2020-December 2020)

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<th>Demographic</th>
<th>0.00%</th>
<th>25.00%</th>
<th>50.00%</th>
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<td>Latino/Hispanic</td>
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Percentage of People Who Had Difficulty Accessing Care

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<th>Demographic</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Black, Non-Hispanic</td>
<td>15.00%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latino/Hispanic</td>
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Massachusetts Health Insurance Survey: 2020
Outcomes

★ COVID-19 Command Center established
★ Community level:
  ○ Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts grant helped form care packages
  ○ Environmental Protection Agency helped provide cleaning supplies
  ○ Revitalize Community Development Corporation helped deliver food boxes
  ○ Caring Health Center established public vaccination sites, a mobile health unity, educational videos in seven languages
Conclusions

Increase health literacy and resources in highly-affected communities regarding COVID-19

Increasing the number of high-quality masks, vaccine centers, and free-testing COVID-19 sites in Massachusetts

Partnering of Public Health Departments and organizations working closely with minority communities in Massachusetts
References


THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS?