

In under 25s, racial, ethnic disparities in COVID-19 incidence varied

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Among persons younger than 25 years old, racial and ethnic differences

in COVID-19 incidence varied through 2020, according to research published in the March 10 early-release issue of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*.

Miriam E. Van Dyke, Ph.D., from the CDC in Atlanta, and colleagues examined racial and [ethnic disparities](#) in infection over time and by sex and age using data from 689,672 U.S. COVID-19 cases among persons aged younger than 25 years in 16 U.S. jurisdictions across three periods from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2020.

The researchers found that COVID-19 incidence was substantially higher among most racial and ethnic-minority groups compared with non-Hispanic Whites during January to April 2020 (rate ratio range, 1.09 to 4.62). During May to August, the rate ratio increased among non-Hispanic Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NH/PI) persons (from 2.49 to 4.57), but decreased among other racial and ethnic-minority groups (rate ratio range, 0.52 to 2.82). During September to December, the investigators observed decreases in [disparity](#) (rate ratio range, 0.37 to 1.69), which were mainly due to a greater increase in incidence among White persons rather than a decrease in incidence among racial and ethnic-minority groups. During the entire period, the largest persistent disparities were seen for NH/PI, non-Hispanic American Indian or Alaska Native, and Hispanic or Latino persons.

"During Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2020, substantial racial and ethnic disparities in COVID-19 incidence, observed early in the pandemic among persons aged

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