



Black/African American Health in the United States

Welcome to "Black/African American Health in the United States: A Pathfinder to Resources" from the Office of Minority Health (OMH) Knowledge Center. This pathfinder walks users through some key articles, reports, and other resources that touch upon diseases, social determinants of health, racial justice, and other important topics. Please see the additional pathfinders that directly relate to other racial minority groups.

These selections may be helpful to:

- Researchers
- Clinicians
- Public health practitioners
- Advocates
- Instructors
- Students
- Others working to improve the health of Black/African Americans

This pathfinder can be used to support research or instructional activities in classrooms, libraries, health fairs, and community health worker programs.

The OMH Knowledge Center is the largest dedicated repository of health disparities information in the nation, with a collection of more than 70,000 articles, reports, books, journals, organizations, and multimedia resources related to the health status of racial and ethnic minority populations. The collection also includes sources on consumer health material in more than 40 languages.

To locate additional materials, search the online library catalog at: <https://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/opac>.

Examples for keyword searching in the OMH Knowledge Center online library catalog:

- **Subject:** AFRICAN AMERICANS / AFRICANS / AFRO-CARIBBEANS
- **Format:** Select either ORGANIZATION / BOOK / DOCUMENT / ARTICLES / FACT SHEET

Journals

Cultural Diversity & Ethnic Minority Psychology
Ethnicity & Disease
Health Affairs
Health Equity
Journal of Black Psychology

Journal of Ethnic & Cultural Diversity in Social Work
Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice
Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health
Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities
Journal of Transcultural Nursing

A Sampling of Resources

The selection of resources below demonstrates the variety of articles, reports, and books that can be accessed through the OMH Knowledge Center.

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Overviews

An American Health Dilemma: Race, Medicine, and Health Care in the United States, 1900-2000. Byrd, W. M.; Clayton, L. A. London, U.K.: Routledge, v. 2, 2002. xxxiv, 854 p.

Examining Tuskegee: The Infamous Syphilis Study and Its Legacy. Reverby, S. M. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 2009. xiii, 384 p.

Handbook of African American Health. Gullotta, T. P.; Crowel, R. L.; Hampton, R. L., ed. New York, NY: Guilford Press, 2010. viii, 612 p.

Multicultural Medicine and Health Disparities. Satcher, D. (editor); Pamies, R.J. (joint editor) New York: McGraw-Hill, 2006; xxii, 577 p.

Health Disparities Experienced by Black or African Americans: United States. Hyattsville, MD: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics (CDC), 2005.
<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/wk/mm5401.pdf>

The Racial Divide in American Medicine: Black Physicians and the Struggle for Justice in Health Care. deShazo, R. D., ed. Jackson, MS: University Press of Mississippi, 2018. xxxii, 215 p.

Social Determinants of Health Among the Rural African American Population. Probst, J. C.; Ajmal, F. Columbia, SC: Rural and Minority Health Research Center, 2019. 11 p.
https://sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/public_health/research/research_centers/sc_rural_health_research_center/documents/socialdeterminantsofhealthamongtheruralafricanamericanpopulation.pdf

Access to Care

“Are You Accepting New Patients?”: A Pilot Field Experiment on Telephone-Based Gatekeeping and Black Patients’ Access to Pediatric Care. Leech, T. G. J.; Irby-Shasanmi, A.; Mitchell, A. L. *Health Services Research*, v. 54, #1 Supplement (February), p. 234–242, 2019.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30506767>

Assessing the Likelihood of Having a Regular Health Care Provider Among African American and African Immigrant Women. Ahad, F. B.; Zick, C. D.; Simonsen, S. E.; Mukundente, V.; Davis, F. A., et al. *Ethnicity & Disease*, v. 29, #2 (Spring), p. 253-260, 2019.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/31057310>

Health Care Disparities in Race-Ethnic Minority Communities and Populations: Does the Availability of Health Care Providers Play a Role? Chan, K. S.; Parikh, M. A.; Thorpe, R. J., Jr; Gaskin, D. J. *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*, v. 7, #3 (June), p. 539-549, 2020.

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31845286/>

"Pharmacy Deserts" Are Prevalent in Chicago's Predominantly Minority Communities, Raising Medication Access Concerns. Qato, D. M.; Daviglus, M. L.; Wilder, J.; Lee, T.; Qato, D.; et al. *Health Affairs*, v. 33, #11 (November), p. 1958-1965, 2014. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25367990>

Race/Ethnicity and Geographic Access to Urban Trauma Care. Tung, E. L.; Hampton, D. A.; Kolak, M.; Rogers, S. O.; Yang, J. P., et al. *JAMA: Journal of the American Medical Association*, v. 2, #3 (March): e190138, 2019. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30848804>

The Role of Community Health Centers in Reducing Racial Disparities in Spatial Access to Primary Care. Seymour, J. W.; Polsky, D. E.; Brown, E. J.; Barbu, C. M.; Grande, D. *Journal of Primary Care & Community Health*, v. 8, #3 (July), p. 147-152, 2017. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/28606029/>

Socioeconomic, Geospatial, and Geopolitical Disparities in Access to Health Care in the US 2011-2015. Towne, S. D., Jr. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, v. 14, #6 (May): E573, 2017. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28555045>

Chronic Conditions

Burden, Access, and Disparities in Kidney Disease. Crews, D. C.; Bello, A. K.; Saadi, G. World Kidney Day Steering Committee. *Kidney International Reports*, v. 4, #3 (March), p. 372-379, 2019.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30899864>

Cancer Facts & Figures for African Americans 2019-2021. American Cancer Society. Atlanta, GA: American Cancer Society, 2019. 43 p. <https://www.cancer.org/content/dam/cancer-org/research/cancer-facts-and-statistics/cancer-facts-and-figures-for-african-americans/cancer-facts-and-figures-for-african-americans-2019-2021.pdf>

Cancer Incidence Among African Americans, United States—2007–2016. Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 2020. 2 p. <https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/uscs/pdf/USCS->

[DataBrief-No15-February2020-h.pdf](#)

Diabetes Disparities in African Americans: A Cry for Help to Primary Care Providers. Goode, P. *Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice*, v. 10, #4, (Winter), p. 61-66, 2017.

<https://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/jhdrp/vol10/iss4/5/>

Explained and Unexplained Racial and Regional Inequality in Obesity Prevalence in the United States.

Koh, K.; Elder, T. E.; Grady, S. C.; Darden, J. T.; Vojnovic, I. *Ethnicity & Health*, v. 25, #5 (July), p. 665-678, 2020. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29471668/>

Racial Discrimination, Inflammation, and Chronic Illness Among African American Women at Midlife: Support for the Weathering Perspective. Simons, R. L.; Lei, M. K.; Klopach, E.; Zhang, Y.; Gibbons, F. X.; Beach, S. *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*, v. 8, #2 (April), p. 339-349, 2021.

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32488825/>

Children & Families

The African American Child: Development and Challenges. 2nd ed. Harris, Y. R.; Graham, J. A. New York, NY: Springer Publishing Company, 2014. xi, 290 p.

Black Fathers in Contemporary American Society: Strengths, Weaknesses, and Strategies for Change.

Clayton, O.; Mincy, R. B.; Blankenhorn, D., ed. New York, NY: Russell Sage Foundation, 2003. xv, 179 p.

Dealing With Discrimination: Parents' and Adolescents' Racial Discrimination Experiences and Parenting in African American Families. Varner, F.; Hou, Y.; Ross, L.; Hurd, N. M.; Mattis, J. *Cultural Diversity & Ethnic Minority Psychology*, v. 26, #2 (April), p. 215-220, 2020.

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31021143/>

IndexUS: What Healthy Black Women Can Teach Us About Health. 3rd ed. Black Women's Health Imperative (BWHI). Washington, DC: Black Women's Health Imperative (BWHI), 2019. 64 p.

https://bwhi.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/BWHI_IndexUS_2019_Final-2.pdf

Keeping Black Children Pushed Into, Not Pushed Out of, Classrooms: Developing a Race-Conscious Parent Engagement Project. Yull, D.; Wilson, M. *Journal of Black Psychology*, v. 44, #2 (March), p. 162-188, 2018. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0095798417753519>

Racism and Preparation for Bias Within African American Families. Osborne, K. R.; Caughy, M. O.; Oshri, A.; Smith, E. P.; Owen, M. T. *Cultural Diversity & Ethnic Minority Psychology*, v. 27, #2 (April), p. 269-279, 2021. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32297761/>

HIV Infection & Hepatitis

HIV and African Americans. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 2019. 2 p.

<https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/group/raciaethnic/africanamericans/cdc-hiv-africanamericans.pdf>

Racial Disparities in Hepatitis C Treatment Eligibility. Sims, O. T.; Pollio, D. E.; Hong, B. A.; North, C. S. *Annals of Hepatology*, v. 16, #4 (July-August), p. 530-537, 2017.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28611273>

Sociodemographic and Access-Related Correlates of Health-Care Utilization among African American Injection Drug Users: The BESURE Study. Maragh-Bass, A. C.; Powell, C.; Park, J.; Flynn, C.; German, D. *Journal of Ethnicity in Substance Abuse*, v. 16, #3 (July-September), p. 344-362, 2017.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/27404977>

The State of AIDS in Black America: Black Lives Matter - What's PrEP Got to Do With It? Black AIDS Institute. Los Angeles, CA: The Black AIDS Institute, 2016. 87 p.

<https://www.issuelab.org/resources/27678/27678.pdf>

Maternal Health

Black Mamas Matter: Advancing the Human Right to Safe and Respectful Maternal Health Care. Revised May 08, 2018. Center for Reproductive Rights; Black Mamas Matter Alliance (BMMA). New York, NY: Center for Reproductive Rights, 2018. 86 p. Includes endnotes.

https://reproductiverights.org/sites/default/files/documents/USPA_BMMA_Toolkit_Booklet-Final-Update_Web-Pages.pdf

Historical Antecedents of Breastfeeding for African American Women: From the Pre-Colonial Period to the Mid-Twentieth Century. Louis-Jacques, A. F.; Marhefka, S. L.; Brumley, J.; Schafer, E. J.; Taylor, T. I., et al. *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*, v. 7, #5 (October), p. 1003-1012, 2020.

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32124420/>

The Historical, Psychosocial, and Cultural Context of Breastfeeding in the African American Community. Green, V. L.; Killings, N. L.; Clare, C. A. *Breastfeeding Medicine*, v. 16, #2 (February), p. 116-120, 2021.

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33449829/>

Mental Health

Boys Do(n't) Cry: Addressing the Unmet Mental Health Needs of African American Boys. Lindsey, M. A.; Brown, D. R.; Cunningham, M. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, v. 87, #4, p. 377-383, 2017.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28691838>

Handbook of African American Psychology. Utsey, S. O.; Neville, H. A.; Tynes, B. M., ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage, 2010.

Race, Emotional Reliance, and Mental Health. Erving, C. L.; Thomas, C. S. *Society and Mental Health*, v. 8, #1 (March), p. 69-83, 2018. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2156869317713552>

Social Isolation from Family and Friends and Mental Health Among African Americans and Black Caribbeans. Taylor, R. J.; Taylor, H. O.; Nguyen, A. W.; Chatters, L. M. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, v. 90, #4, p. 468-478, 2020. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32309977/>

The Stigma of Depression: Black American Experiences. Campbell, R. D.; Mowbray, O. *Journal of Ethnic & Cultural Diversity in Social Work*, v. 25, #4 (Fall), p. 253-269, 2016.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/15313204.2016.1187101>

Stress and Mental Health: Moderating Role of the Strong Black Woman Stereotype. Donovan, R. A.; West, L. M. *The Journal of Black Psychology*, v. 41, #4 (July-August), p. 384-396, 2015.

<http://doi.org/10.1177/0095798414543014>

Sickle Cell Disease

Addressing Sickle Cell Disease: A Strategic Plan and Blueprint for Action. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. Washington, DC: National Academies Press, 2020. xxv, 496 p.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK566467/>; <https://doi.org/10.17226/25632>

Exploring Transition to Self-Management Within the Culture of Sickle Cell Disease. Labore, N.; Mawn, B.; Dixon, J.; Andemariam, B. *Journal of Transcultural Nursing*, v. 28, #1 (January-February), p. 70-78, 2017.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26446139>

Knowledge, Beliefs, Attitudes, and Behaviors Regarding Sickle Cell Disease: Implications for Prevention. Smith, M.; Brownell, G. *Social Work in Public Health*, v. 33, #5, p. 299-316, 2018.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29768104>

Reducing Health Care Disparities in Sickle Cell Disease: A Review. Lee, L.; Smith-Whitley, K.; Banks, S.; Puckrein, G. *Public Health Reports*, v. 134, #6 (November-December), p. 599-607, 2019.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/31600481>

Sickle Cell Patients Suffer Discrimination, Poor Care - And Shorter Lives. Gold, J. *Kaiser Health News*, (November), 5 p., 2017. <https://khn.org/news/sickle-cell-patients-suffer-discrimination-poor-care-and-shorter-lives/>

Toolkit for Living Well with Sickle Cell Disease. National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, Division of Blood Disorders. Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 2014. 40 p. https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/sicklecell/documents/LivingWell-With-Sickle-Cell-Disease_Self-CareToolkit.pdf; <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/sicklecell/materials/factsheets.html>

Substance & Alcohol Use

2019 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: African Americans. Rockville, MD: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, 2020. 55 p.

<https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/reports/rpt31099/2019NSDUH-AA/AfricanAmerican%202019%20NSDUH.pdf>

African American Emerging Adults' Experiences with Racial Discrimination and Drinking Habits: The Moderating Roles of Perceived Stress. Metzger, I. W.; Salami, T.; Carter, S.; Halliday-Boykins, C.; Anderson, R. E., et al. *Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology*, v. 24, #4 (October), p. 489-497, 2018.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29975077>

Alcohol Consumption Among Rural African American and White Adolescents: The Role of Religion, Parents, and Peers. Dickens, D. D.; Jackman, D. M.; Stanley, L. R.; Swaim, R. C.; Chavez, E. L. *Journal of Ethnicity in Substance Abuse*, v. 17, #3 (July-September), p. 273-290, 2018.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/27247084>

Drugs, Alcohol, and HIV/AIDS: A Consumer Guide for African Americans. Rockville, MD: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), 2015. 4 p.

<https://store.samhsa.gov/system/files/sma15-4248.pdf>

The Opioid Crisis and the Black/African American Population: An Urgent Issue. Chau, V. Rockville, MD: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), 2020. 24 p.

https://store.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/SAMHSA_Digital_Download/PEP20-05-02-001_508%20Final.pdf

Statistical Reports

Age-Adjusted Death Rates, by Race/Ethnicity - National Vital Statistics System, United States, 2014-2015:

[QuickStats]. Xu, J. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)*, v. 66, #13 (April), p. 375, 2017. <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/66/wr/mm6613a6.htm>

Cancer Facts and Figures for African Americans 2016-2018. American Cancer Society. Atlanta, GA:

American Cancer Society, 2016. 40 p. <https://www.cancer.org/content/dam/cancer-org/research/cancer-facts-and-statistics/cancer-facts-and-figures-for-african-americans/cancer-facts-and-figures-for-african-americans-2016-2018.pdf>

A Demographic Profile of Black Caribbean Immigrants in the United States. Thomas, K. J. A. Washington,

DC: Migration Policy Institute, 2012. iv, 26 p. <http://www.migrationpolicy.org/research/CBI-demographic-profile-black-caribbean-immigrants>

A Statistical Profile of Older African Americans. Administration on Aging. Washington, DC: Administration on Aging, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2015. 2 p.

<https://www.acl.gov/sites/default/files/Aging%20and%20Disability%20in%20America/Statistical-Profile-Older-African-Ameri.pdf>

The Internet Archive

Explore the Office of Minority Health Resource Center on the Internet Archive website at

<https://archive.org/details/minorityhealth>

This online library collection features free, full-text access to a variety of unique and historic reports. For information on Hispanic Americans, consider the following items:

- **AIDS and African-Americans: It's Time for Action!** NY: Health Watch Information and Promotion Service, Inc., [1995]. <https://archive.org/details/aidsafricanameri00unse>
- **Diabetes in African Americans.** Bethesda, MD: NDIC, 1997, 8 p., 1997. <https://archive.org/details/diabetesinafrica00nati>
- **Meeting the Mental Health Needs of African Americans.** Alexandria, VA: National Technical Assistance Center for State Mental Health Planning (NTAC) | National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD), 1999. vi, 46 p. https://archive.org/details/meetingmentalhea00unse_0
- **Report of the Secretary's Task Force on Black and Minority Health.** (The Heckler Report) 8 v. -- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. -- Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1985. xii, 239 p. <http://www.archive.org/details/reportofsecretar00usde>
- **Training African-American Parents for Success: It Takes a Village to Raise a Child.** Hill, M. Cleveland, OH: East End Neighborhood House, 1992. <https://archive.org/details/trainingafricana00unse>

Additional Resources for Black/African Americans

Black/African American Statistical Profile (Office of Minority Health)

<https://www.minorityhealth.hhs.gov/omh/browse.aspx?lvl=3&lvlid=61>

Centers for Disease Control – Health of Black or African American non-Hispanic Population

<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/black-health.htm>

National Institutes of Health National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute: Sickle Cell Disease

<https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health-topics/sickle-cell-disease>

U.S. Census Bureau – Facts for Features: National African-American (Black) History Month

<https://www.census.gov/newsroom/facts-for-features/2021/black-history-month.html>

The Sickle Cell Disease National Resource Directory

<https://stacks.cdc.gov/view/cdc/11903>

National Organizations for Black/African Americans

African American Policy Forum, Inc. (AAPF)

<http://www.aapf.org>

Association of Black Cardiologists, Inc. (ABC)

<http://www.abcardio.org>

Black AIDS Institute

<http://www.blackaids.org>

Black Girls RUN!

<https://blackgirlsrun.com/>

Congressional Black Caucus

<https://cbc.house.gov/>

Foundation for Sickle Cell Disease Research

<http://fscdr.org>

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)

<http://www.naacp.org>

National Association of Black Social Workers, Inc. (NABSW)

<http://nabsw.org>

National Black Deaf Advocates (NBDA)

<http://www.nbda.org>

National Black Nurses Association, Inc. (NBNA)

<http://www.nbna.org>

National Council of Negro Women, Inc. (NCNW)

<http://www.ncnw.org>

Satcher Health Leadership Institute (SHLI)

<http://satcherinstitute.org/>

Tuskegee University National Center for Bioethics in Research and Healthcare

<https://www.tuskegee.edu/about-us/centers-of-excellence/bioethics-center>

Women of Color Network (WOCN)

<http://www.wocninc.org>

The OMH Knowledge Center contains a collection of 70,000 documents, reports, books, journals, media, and journal articles related to the health status of racial and ethnic minority populations. The library collection also includes sources of consumer health material in more than 40 languages. The OMH Knowledge Center staff can respond to requests from the public by providing selective bibliographies of articles and books in its collection.

For more information contact: The OMH Knowledge Center
Office of Minority Health Resource Center (OMHRC) Tel: 1-800-444-6472

Email: KnowledgeCenter@minorityhealth.hhs.gov
<https://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/knowledgecenter>