



WNY WOMEN'S FOUNDATION FACT SHEET



BLACK AND HISPANIC WOMEN

Compiled in June 2019

Black and Hispanic Women's Unemployment Rates

- The unemployment rate among Black women and girls aged 16-19 was 22.8% in 2016, 9.6% higher than their White female counterparts.¹
- 2017 unemployment rates for Blacks and Latinos was 8 percent and 6 percent respectively, compared to 4 percent for White.³
- For most ages and years, Hispanic women had the 2nd highest unemployment rate after Black women¹
- Black and Hispanic workers had the highest unemployment rates in 2016.
- Across ages 16-39, Black women's unemployment rates were higher in 2016 than White women's unemployment rates at their peak in 2010¹
- Workers aged 25–34 and 35–39 had much lower unemployment rates in 2016. Unemployment rates for Black and Hispanic women in these age groups still exceeded five% in 2016—Black women's unemployment rates for these age groups are 8.8 and 7.2%, respectively, while Hispanic women's unemployment rates are 6.1 and 5.1%. White women's unemployment rates are below 5% in 2016.¹
- Blacks are 21 percent less likely to receive a call back for an interview than Whites, even with the same credentials.³
- Since 2000, the number of jobs near the typical neighborhood worker has declined by 17 percent for Latinos, 14 percent for Blacks, and 6 percent for Whites.³

Black and Hispanic Women's Wealth Gap

- More African American and Latina women work in the service and production industries than White women, who tend to work in management.²
- 9.6% of White women live in poverty while 20.9% of Latina women and 23.1% of Black women do.²
- Black and Latina women earned 83% and 75%, respectively, of White women's weekly earnings.²
- 44% of White women, 23.2% of Black women and 19% of Latinas had a bachelor's degree or higher in 2013.²
- White households have 13 times the wealth of Black households and 10 times that of Latino households.³
- Latino and Black families lost 66 percent and 53 percent of their wealth, respectively, during the recent recessions; Whites lost 16 percent.³

Black and Hispanic Women's Educational Achievement

- The 87 percent high-school graduation rate for Whites in 2014 was 14 percent higher than the rate for Blacks.³
- Whites today are more than twice as likely as Latinos to have a college degree.³
- By both race and gender, a higher percentage of Black women (9.7 percent) are enrolled in college than any other group, topping Asian women (8.7 percent), white women (7.1 percent) and white men (6.1 percent).⁴
- Black Americans with an undergraduate degree are less wealthy than Whites.⁵
- Black households headed by a college graduate are less wealthy than less-educated White ones.⁵



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- Black women with an undergraduate degree are less likely to marry a man with an undergraduate degree than their white classmates.⁵
- In 2014, the percentage of adults age 25 and older who had not completed high school was higher for Hispanic adults (35 percent) than for adults in any other racial/ethnic group.⁶
- In 2014, among those with a bachelor's or higher degree, median annual earnings of Asian full-time workers aged 25–34 (\$61,200) were higher than the median annual earnings of their White (\$52,800), Black (\$46,800), and Hispanic peers (\$47,400).⁶

¹Black and Hispanic Women Lag in Recovering from the Recession

² Racial Wealth Divide Snapshot: Women and the Racial Wealth Divide

³ The Competitive Advantage of Racial Equity

⁴ Black Women now the Most Educated Group in US

⁵ Black Women Are Earning More College Degrees

⁶ Status and Trends in the Education of Racial and Ethnic Groups 2017