Racial disparities in COVID-19 response

Northeast Compact States: CT, DE, MA, NJ, NY, RI, and PA
April 28, 2020
Likelihood that a Black resident will die from COVID-19 compared to a White resident

Data as of April 28, 2020

Black residents of New York are 4 times more likely to die of COVID-19
Likelihood that a Black or Latino resident will test positive for COVID-19 compared to a White resident
Data as of April 28, 2020
**Big gaps in reporting by race**

- No state reports on testing rates by race
- New York does not report cases by race daily
- Only 52% of cases report race in remaining states
- Only 83% of deaths report race
- Pennsylvania does not report on Latino cases or deaths
Percent of State Population Tested
As of April 28, 2020

- Connecticut: 2.6%
- Delaware: 2.2%
- Massachusetts: 3.7%
- New Jersey: 2.3%
- New York: 4.3%
- Pennsylvania: 1.3%
- Rhode Island: 5.4%
Deaths per 100,000
As of April 28, 2020

- Connecticut: 58.2
- Delaware: 14.2
- Massachusetts: 46.0
- New Jersey: 71.5
- New York: 88.9
- Pennsylvania: 13.4
- Rhode Island: 22.6
Some immediate steps Governors could take now to reduce racial disparities

1. Uniform and complete reporting on race
2. Reduce state prison population to safe levels + public health department inspections of all facilities weekly
3. Neighborhood-based and door-to-door testing
4. Large-scale contact tracing prioritizing most at-risk communities – NE Public Health Corps
5. Use emergency Medicaid funds to cover testing and treatment for all residents at-no cost
6. Cash assistance to people excluded from unemployment benefits and stimulus checks
7. Moratorium on evictions + rental assistance fund
8. Universal option to vote by mail or in-person