

NIMHD Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Framework
Health Disparity Populations: Race/Ethnicity, Low SES, Rural, Sexual/Gender Minority
Other Fundamental Characteristics: Sex/Gender, Disability, Geographic Region

Domains of Influence	Levels	of	Influence	
	Individual	Interpersonal	Community	Societal
Biological	Biological Vulnerability and Mechanisms	Caregiver-Child Interaction Family Microbiome	Community Illness Exposure Herd Immunity	Sanitation Immunization Pathogen Exposure
Behavioral	Health Behaviors Coping Strategies	Family Functioning School/Work Functioning	Community Functioning	Policies and Laws
Physical/Built Environment	Personal Environment	Household Environment School/Work Environment	Community Environment Community Resources	Societal Structure
Sociocultural Environment	Sociodemographics Limited English Cultural Identity Response to Discrimination	Social Networks Family/Peer Norms Interpersonal Discrimination	Community Norms Local Structural Discrimination	Societal Norms Societal Structural Discrimination
Healthcare System	Insurance Coverage Health Literacy Treatment Preferences	Patient-Clinician Relationship Medical Decision-Making	Availability of Health Services Safety Net Services	Quality of Care HealthCare Policies
Health Outcomes	Individual Health	Family/Organizational Health	Community Health	Population Health



The NIMHD Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Framework reflects an evolving conceptualization of factors relevant to the understanding and promotion of minority health and to the understanding and reduction of health disparities. The framework serves as a vehicle for encouraging NIMHD- and NIH-supported research that addresses the complex and multi-faceted nature of minority health and health disparities, including research that spans different domains of influence (Biological, Behavioral, Physical/Built Environment, Sociocultural Environment, Healthcare System) as well as different levels of influence (Individual, Interpersonal, Community, Societal) within those domains. The framework also provides a classification structure that facilitates analysis of the NIMHD and NIH minority health and health disparities research portfolios to assess progress, gaps, and opportunities. Examples of factors are provided within each cell of the framework (e.g., Family Microbiome within the Interpersonal-Biological cell). These factors are not intended to be exhaustive. Health disparity populations, as well as other features of this framework, may be adjusted over time.