



Director's Report

National Advisory Council on Minority Health and Health Disparities

February 4, 2022

Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, M.D.

Director, National Institute on
Minority Health and Health Disparities
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NIH National Institute
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NIH Leadership Update

Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D.

NIH Director stepping down after more than a decade

- Tenure as the longest serving NIH Director, spanning 12 years and three presidencies, ended on December 17, 2021
- Selected 21 of 27 current directors
- Will continue to lead his [research laboratory](#) at the National Human Genome Research Institute



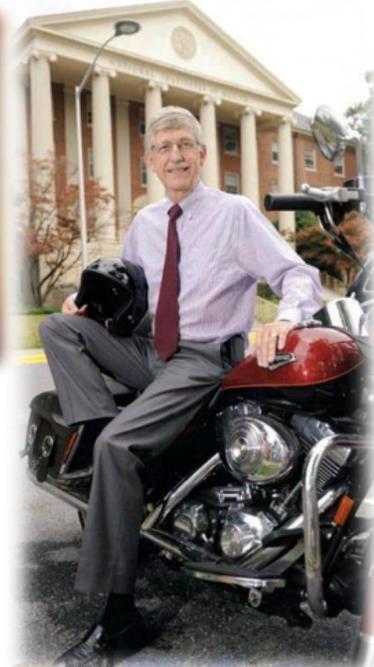
Virtual Farewell Tribute

Available through the NIH Videocast archives at

<https://videocast.nih.gov/watch=44306>



August 17, 2009 – December 17, 2021



NIH Leadership Update

**Lawrence A. Tabak, D.D.S., Ph.D.
Acting Director, NIH**



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NIH Leadership Update

Tara A. Schwetz, Ph.D.
Acting Principal Deputy Director



Courtney F. Aklin, Ph.D.
Acting Associate Deputy Director



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NIH Leadership Update

William T. Riley, Ph.D.

NIH Associate Director for
Behavioral and Social Sciences Research
Retirement



OBSSR Deputy Director Christine M. Hunter, Ph.D., ABPP, will serve as Acting NIH Associate Director for BSSR and Acting Director of OBSSR



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HHS Updates

Health Services and Resources Administration

Carole Johnson

- Appointed as the Health Services and Resources Administration (HRSA) Administrator in December 2021
- Most recently served as the Testing Coordinator for the White House COVID-19 Response Team
- Previously served as state Human Services Commissioner in New Jersey



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NIH Climate Change and Health Seminar Series

Why Climate Change is a Health Threat

February 9, 2022

12:00 – 1:00 p.m. ET

Hosted by NIMHD

- Free and open to public
- Registration required



Speakers

- Welcome by Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, M.D., NIMHD Director
- Robert D. Bullard, Ph.D., Texas Southern University

Register at

https://nih.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_QYxjfaBZR7qLMcEh0K-2tw



NIMHD Collaborations with the Office of Data Science Strategy

2021 Data Science Accomplishments

- Supported NIH Strategic Plan for Data Science implementation **in 4 of the 5 thematic areas**
 - Data Infrastructure
 - Data Ecosystem
 - Community Engagement
 - Workforce Development
- Participated in recent artificial intelligence initiatives
- Received **\$1,638,392** in supplemental funding from the Office of Data Science Strategy



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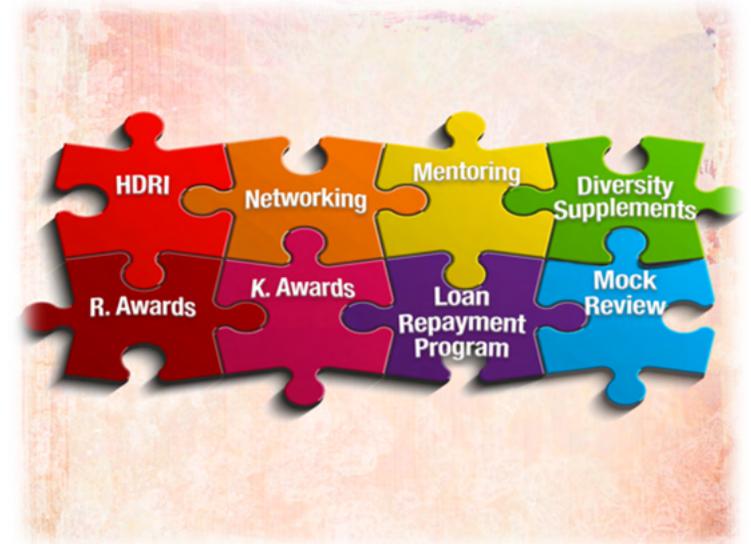


2022 Health Disparities Research Institute

Fostering the next generation of researchers in minority health and health disparities

August 15 – 19, 2022

- A week-long intensive and engaging training experience
- Aims to support the research career development of promising early-stage investigators interested in minority health/health disparities research
- *Applications period: February 7 – March 14, 2022*



<https://www.nimhd.nih.gov/programs/edu-training/hdri/>



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Faculty Institutional Recruitment for Sustainable Transformation (FIRST)

Aims to transform culture at NIH-funded extramural institutions

- Estimated budget is \$241 million over 9 years
- NIH FIRST Cohort awardees
 - Cornell University
 - Drexel University
 - Florida State University
 - Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
 - San Diego State University
 - University of Alabama at Birmingham/Tuskegee University (award is a partnership between the institutions)
- FIRST Coordination and Evaluation Center (CEC) award
 - Morehouse School of Medicine



<https://www.nimhd.nih.gov/programs/collab/first/index.html>



Common Fund Activities

- **6 funded grants:**
Transformative Research to Address Health Disparities and Advance Health Equity (U01 Clinical Trial Allowed)
RFA-RM-21-021
- **5 funded grants:** Transformative Research to Address Health Disparities and Advance Health Equity at Minority Serving Institutions (U01 Clinical Trial Allowed)
RFA-RM-21-022



Transformative
Research to
Address Health
Disparities
and Advance
Health Equity

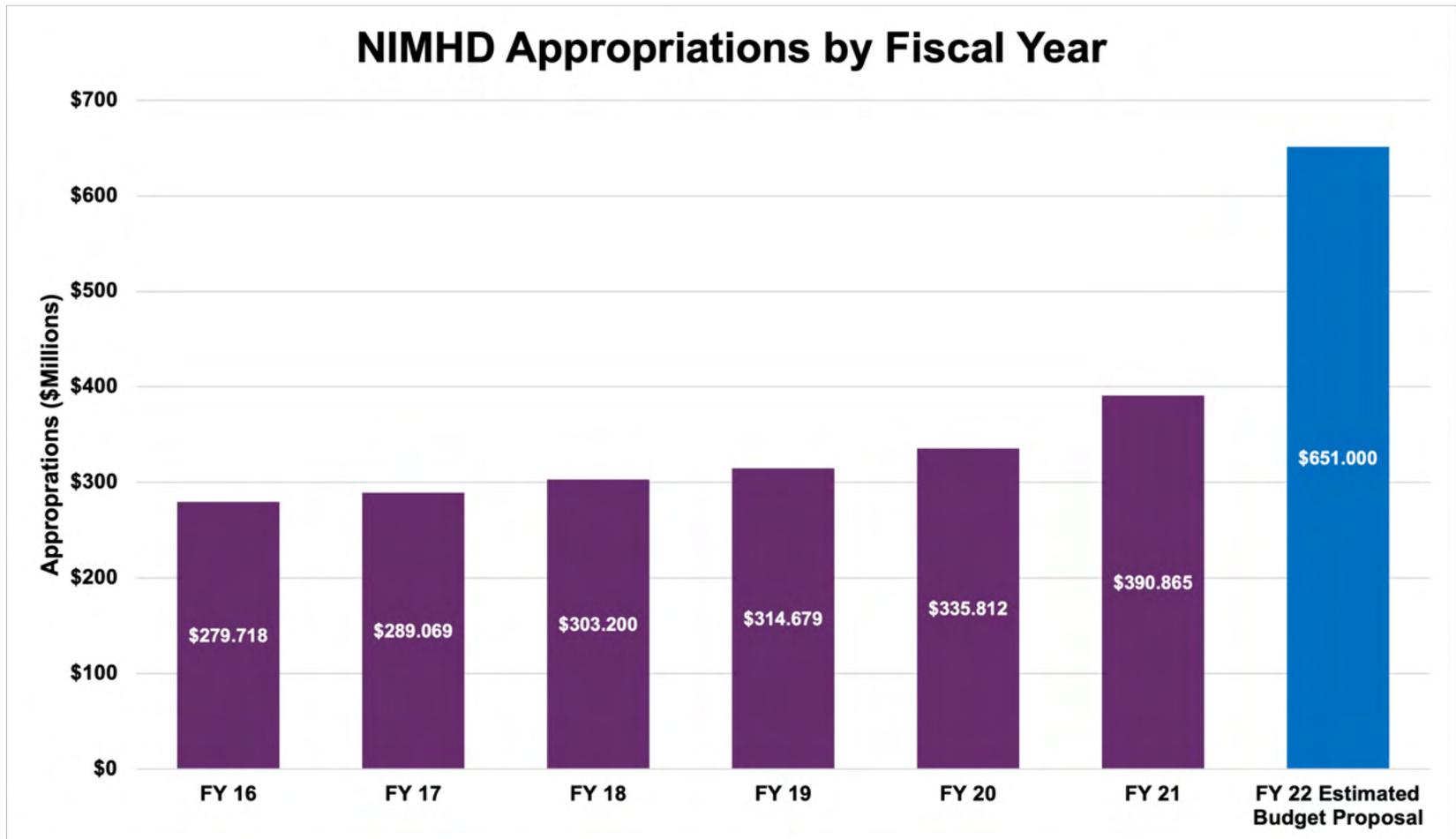


NIMHD Legislative Update

- October 22, 2021 - Anna M. Nápoles, Ph.D., Scientific Director, NIMHD participated in a NIMHD and NCI Program Staff Briefing for the Coronavirus Crisis Select Committee Staff on Disparities in Excess Deaths Study
- October 27, 2021 - Dr. Pérez-Stable participated with the NIH Director, NICHD Director, and NINR Director Briefing for the Congressional Nursing Caucus on the Impact of Nursing Research
- December 9, 2021- NIMHD Deputy Director Monica Webb Hooper, Ph.D. participated in a briefing for Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman's (D-NJ) staff on health disparities research and mental health
- December 15, 2021- NIMHD Deputy Director Dr. Webb Hooper participated in a joint briefing with the NIMH Deputy Director Shelli Avenevoli, Ph.D. for the Senate HELP Committee staff on mental health and related health disparities



FY 22 Appropriations Outlook



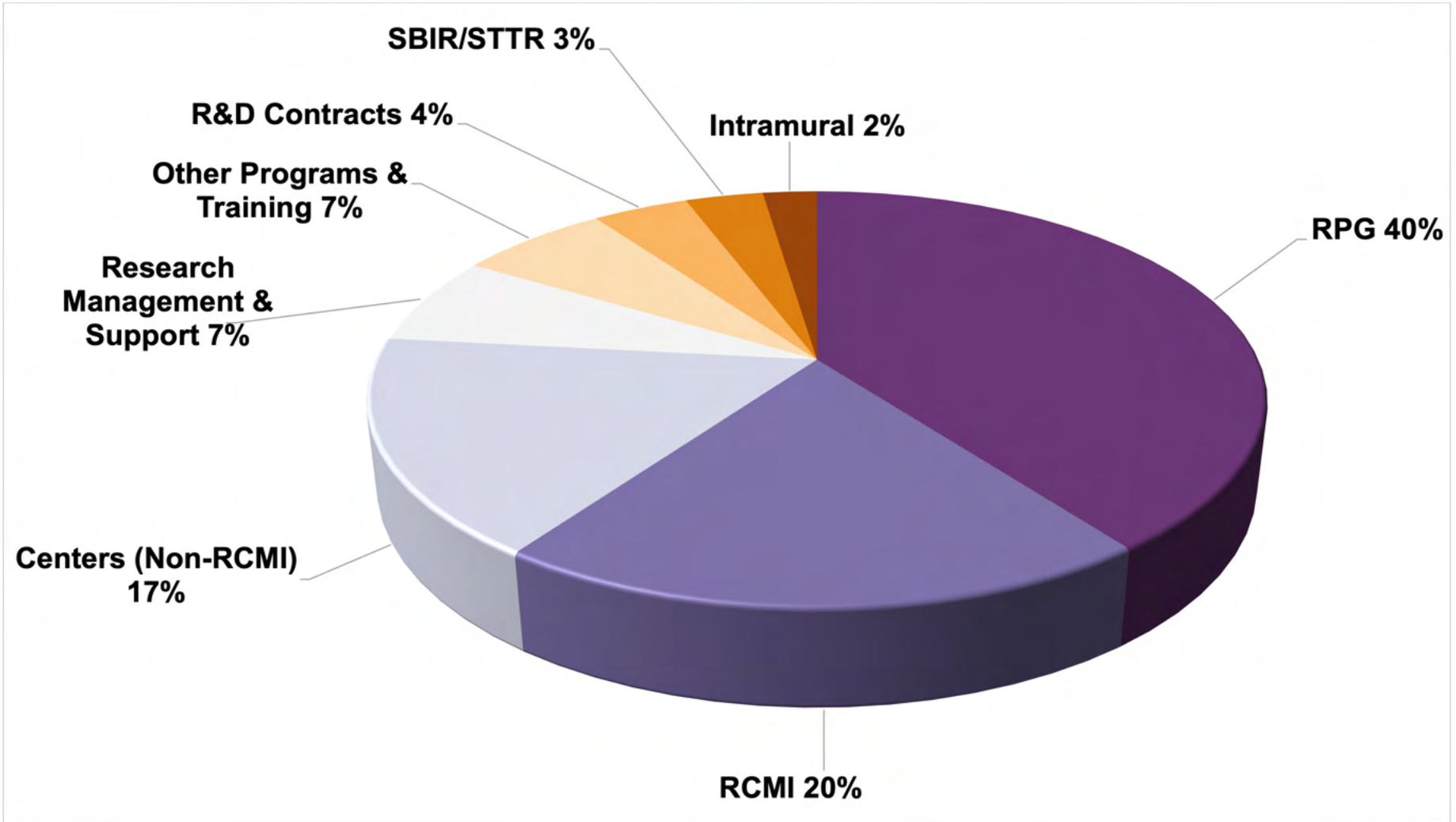
*Current FY2022 Continuing Resolution runs through February 18, 2022



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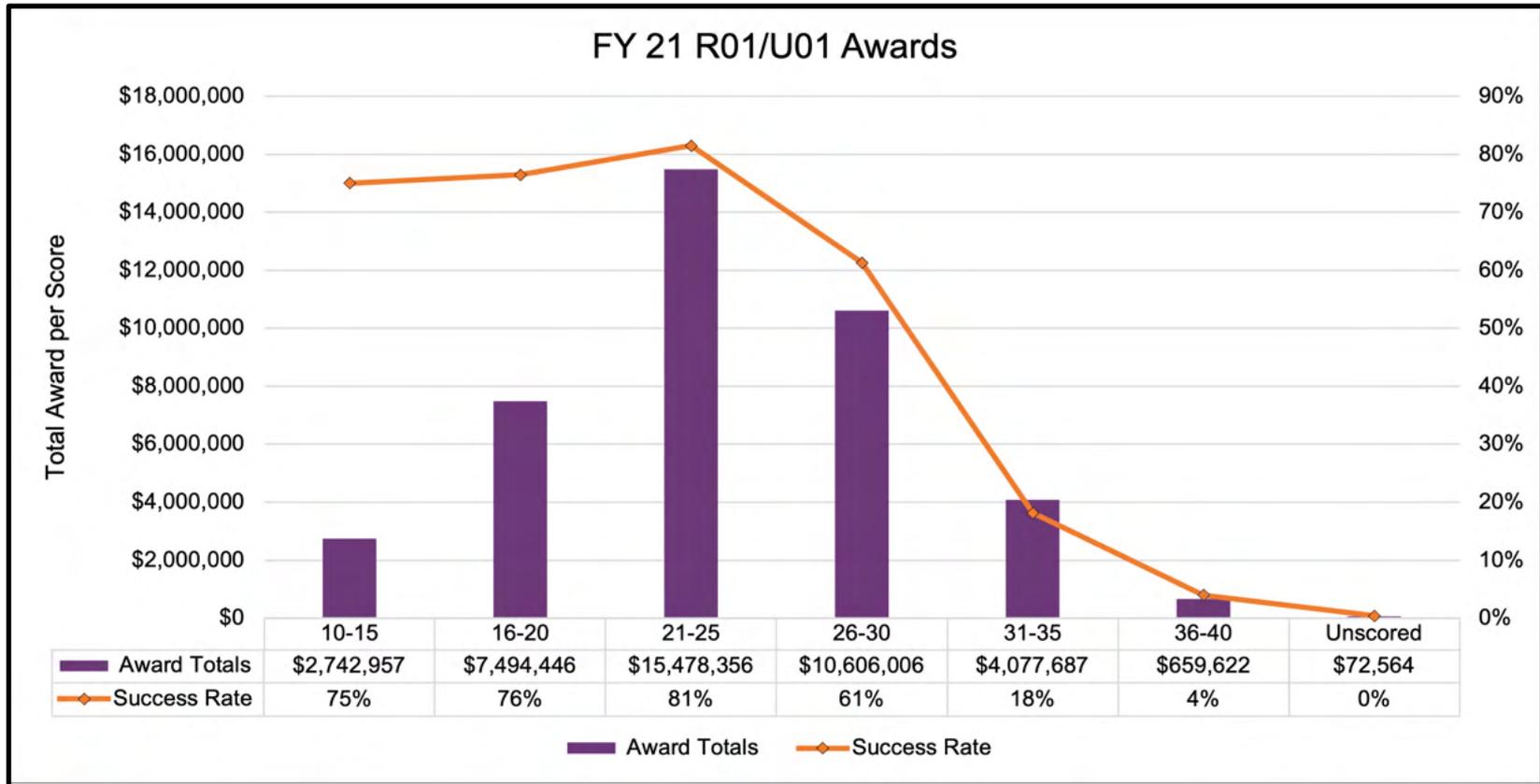


FY 21 Funding Distribution

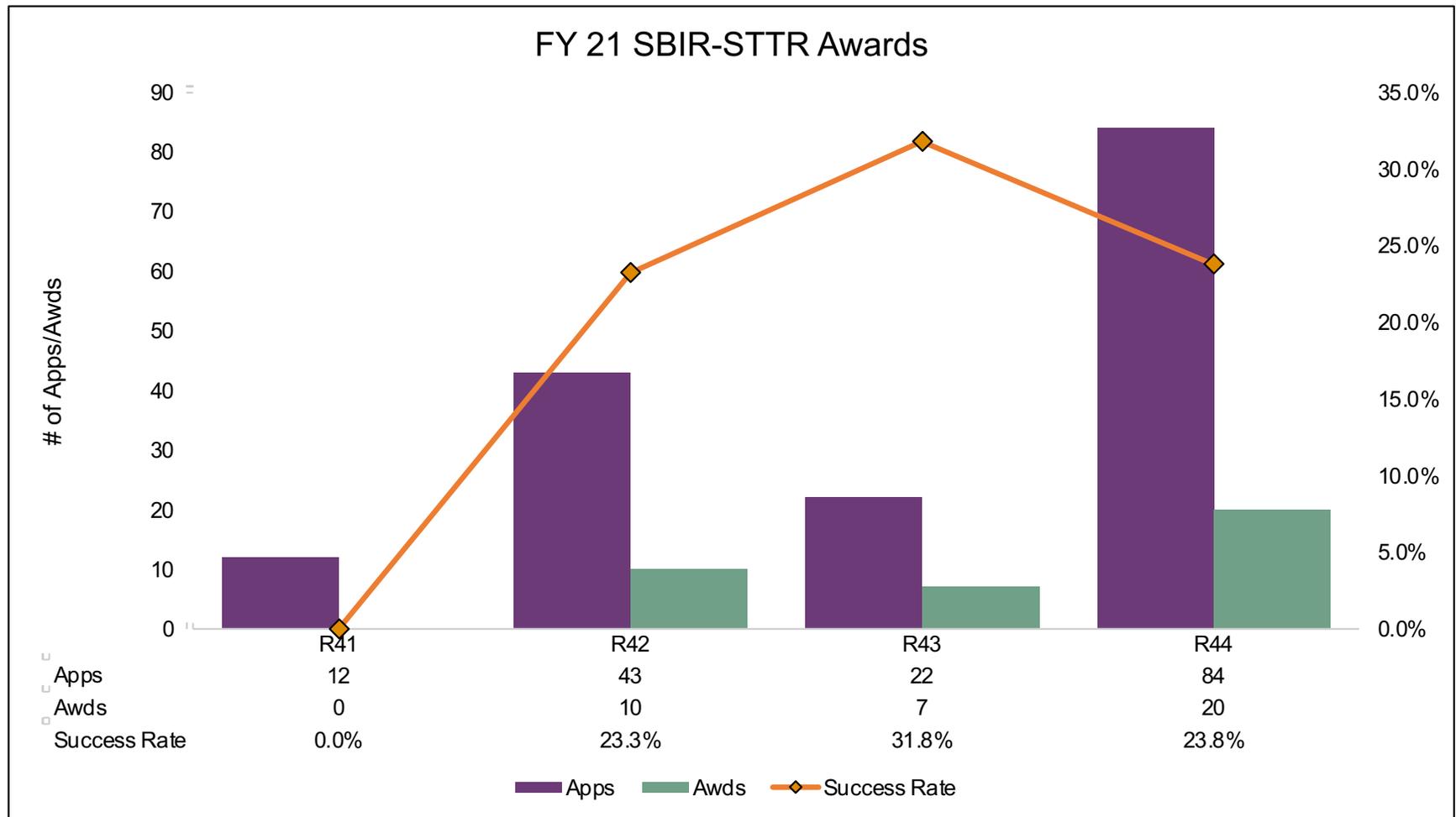


NIMHD FY 21 R01/U01 Awards

90% of RPGs; success rate = 12.9%



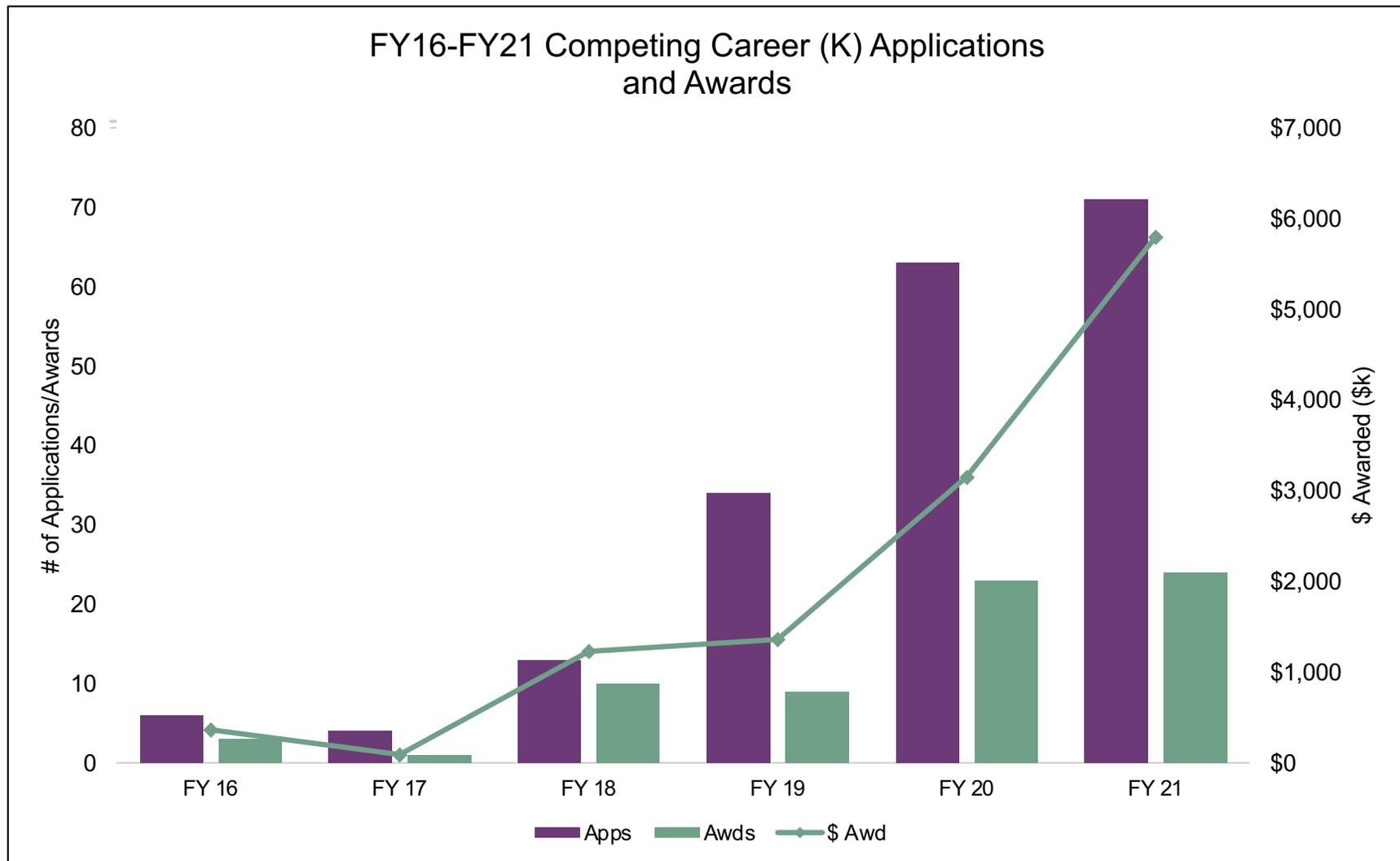
NIMHD FY 21 SBIR/STTR Awards



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Expansion of Support for Career Development (K) Awards



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Other FY 21 Funding Accomplishments

- 80+ Loan Repayment Awards; success about 30%
- \$46 M towards Multiple Chronic Diseases Associated with Health Disparities Centers
- 27% increase in Training Awards (Ks and Fs)
- Continued support to MACS/WIHS Cohort study
- CFARS Adelante program support
- Support for Community Interventions to Address the Consequences of the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Vaccine Hesitancy R01s



NIMHD Staff Update

Director, Integrative Biological and Behavioral Sciences

Rina Das, Ph.D.

- Selected on October 1 to lead the Division of Integrative Biological and Behavioral Sciences
- She has led a wide array of initiatives including social epigenomics, sleep health disparities, and immigrant health
- Before coming to NIMHD in 2014, Rina served as a program director at the Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities at the National Cancer Institute



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NIMHD Staff Updates: New Hires

Division of Community Health and Population Science

- Crystal Barksdale, Ph.D., MPH
- Jarrett Johnson, DrPH, M.S., CHES

Division of Clinical and Health Services Research

- Michelle Doose, Ph.D., MPH,
- Yewande A. Oladeinde, Ph.D.
- Carolina Solis Sanabria, M.D.
- Sundonia J. Wonnum, Ph.D., BCD, LCSW

Division of Integrative Biological and Behavioral Sciences

- Arielle Gillman, Ph.D., MPH
- Olga Herren, Ph.D.



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NIMHD Staff Updates: New Hires

Office of the Director

- Gniesha Y. Dinwiddie, Ph.D.

Office of Extramural Research Activities

- Jingsheng Tuo, Ph.D.

Office of Science Policy, Planning, Evaluation, and Reporting

- Assen Assenov, Ph.D.

Office of Communications and Public Liaison

- Thoko Kachipande, M.S.
- Melanie Santos, MPA

Office of Administrative Management

- Jeanne Jones, Management Analyst



NIMHD Staff Updates: Retirement

Thomas M. Vollberg, Sr., Ph.D.

Director, Office of Extramural Research Activities

- Retired in December 2021 after more than 17 years at NIH and 6 years at NIMHD
- Monica Webb Hooper, Ph.D., serving as Acting OERA Director
- Denise Russo, Ph.D., who is here on a temporary assignment, will serve as the National Advisory Council on Minority Health and Health Disparities Executive Secretary



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NIMHD Staff Updates: Departures

Natasha H. Williams, Ph.D., J.D., LL.M., MPH

Legislative Liaison, Office of Science, Policy,
Planning, Evaluations and Reporting

- Transferred to Eunice Kennedy Shriver
National Institute of Child Health and Human
Development



CDR Nadra Tyus, DrPH

Program Officer, Division of Integrative Biological
and Behavioral Sciences

- Transferred to Office of Strategic Coordination



Matthew Wise

Senior Information Technology Officer, Office of
Administrative Management

- Transferred to Center for Scientific Review



NIMHD Director

Virtual Presentations/Interviews

- U.S. Public Health Service Hispanic Heritage Month Webinar
- National Coalition of 100 Black Women Inc. Facebook Live
- [Bringing Diversity to COVID-19 Vaccine Trials - Bloomberg](#)
- Washington Post Live
- Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute 2021 Fall Health Summit

Blog Posts

- [NIMHD Lauds New Awards on Innovative Health Disparities and Health Equity Research](#)
- [Heartfelt Thanks to the NIMHD Scientific Community in the Time of COVID-19](#)

Visits

- HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra tours the NIH campus



CEAL Spanish Language Media

Reaching ~15M viewers

Telemundo:

- Telemundo's Morning Show: Hoy Día
 - Discussed the Omicron variant, the efficacy of the vaccines against the new variant, and how important it is for as many people to get vaccinated – and boosted – as possible
- La Voz de La Manana
- Telemundo RGV



Univision:

- Univision Morning Show: La Voz de la Mañana
 - Discussed Omicron, the symptoms that people can experience, and people's concerns/d fears
- Univision National Nightly News
- Despierta America
- Univision Houston
- Univision Prende TV



Multiple Chronic Disease (MCD) Centers

- Awarded funds to 11 research institutions to establish and support regional comprehensive research centers
- Received grants, totaling almost \$205 million
- Will address interventions in one or more of the following:
 - Cardiovascular, diabetes, obesity, chronic liver disease, CKD, cancer, and osteoarthritis
 - Prevention of chronic diseases by addressing risk factors and early stages of a condition
 - Increasing access to and quality of health care
 - Enhancement of treatment quality or adherence
 - Self-management of chronic diseases

NIMHD SUPPORTS CHRONIC DISEASE DISPARITIES RESEARCH

NIMHD awards research grants to Multiple Chronic Disease Centers focused on chronic diseases that disproportionately affect populations with health disparities.



NIMHD Science Advances

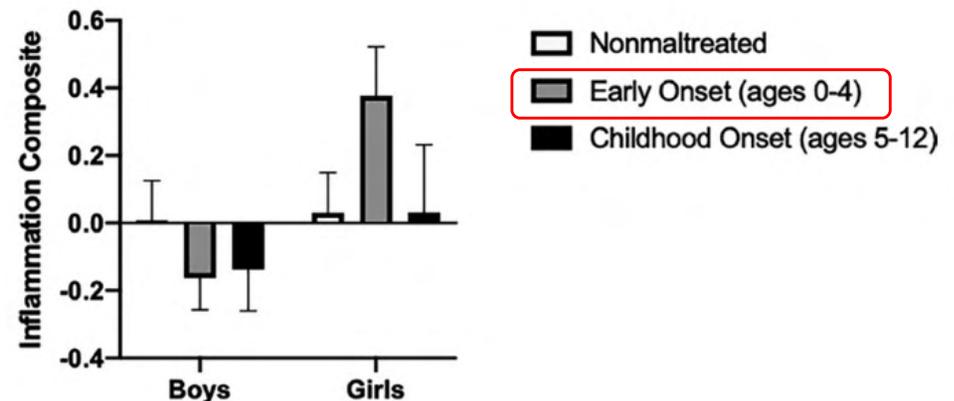
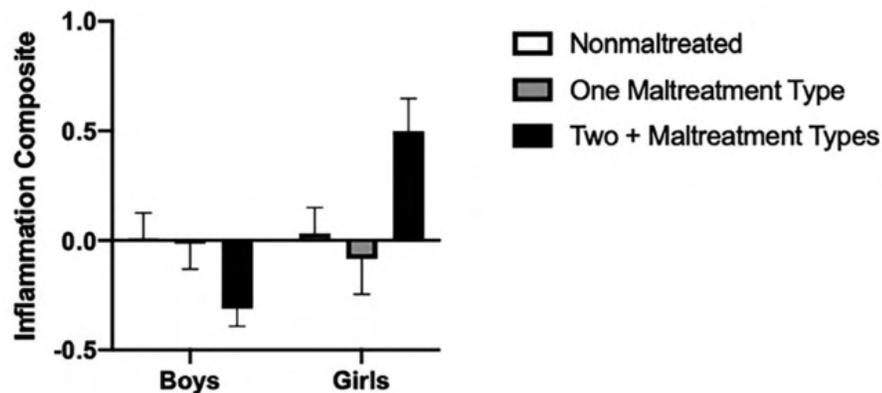


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Childhood Maltreatment Exposure and Low-Grade Inflammation: Evidence of Sex Differences

- There are links between maltreatment during childhood and low-grade inflammation in adulthood
 - Study examined 155 children from low-income families; half exposed to maltreatment
 - Inflammation composite from blood CRP and cytokine levels
- Girls who were maltreated had higher levels of inflammation than girls who were not maltreated and boys who were maltreated
- Girls who were exposed to 2+ forms of maltreatment had higher inflammation than girls who were not maltreated, those exposed to 1 form of maltreatment, and boys exposed to multiple forms of maltreatment



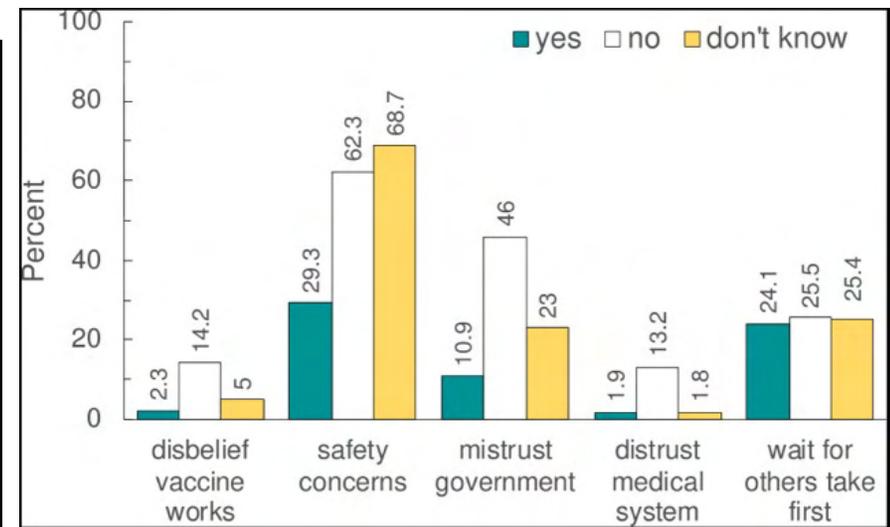
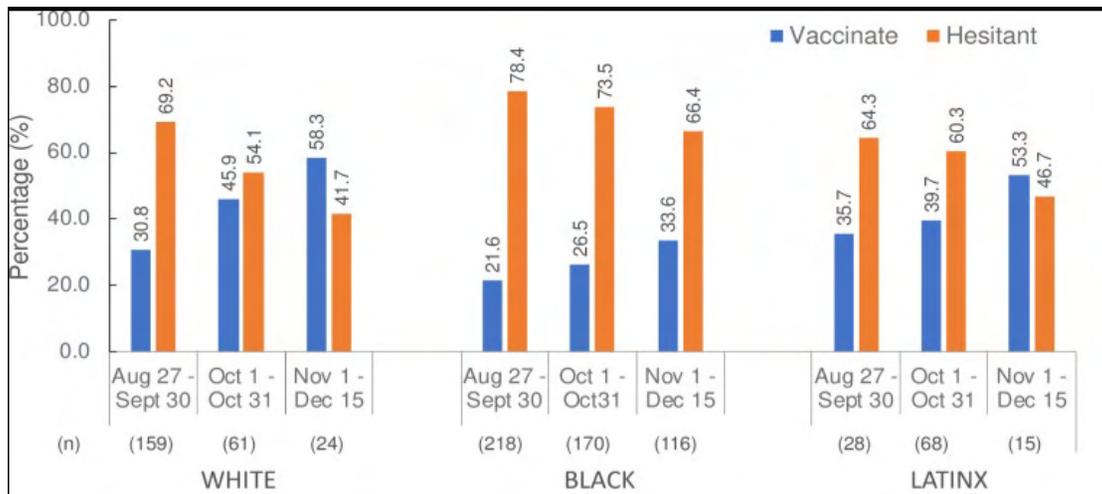
Grant No. DP2 MD 013947

Ehrlich, K. et al., [Dev Psychobiol.](#) 2021.



COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy in Underserved Communities of North Carolina

- Survey of 948 participants (59% Black/African American; 27% White; 14% Hispanic) at over 30 COVID-19 testing events in testing deserts in North Carolina between August and December 2020
- Between September and December 2020, the largest decline in vaccine hesitancy occurred among Whites (27.5 percentage points), followed by Latinos (17.6) and only 12.0 points among Blacks
- Factors associated with hesitancy included being female (OR = 1.90 95%CI [1.36, 2.64]), being Black/African American (OR = 1.68 [1.16, 2.45]), calendar month (OR = 0.76 [0.63, 0.92]), safety concerns (OR = 4.28 [3.06, 5.97]), and government distrust (OR = 3.57 [2.26, 5.63])



Grant No. U54 MD 012392 and R01 MD 012767

Doherty, I., et al., [Plos One](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0241111). 2021.



Prenatal Ambient Air Pollution and Maternal Depression in MADRES Cohort

- Relationship between daily prenatal exposure to ambient pollutants across pregnancy (nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), ozone (O₃), and particulate matter (PM₁₀, PM_{2.5})) and depression (1 y postpartum) among low-income Latina women (N=180) in Los Angeles
- Depression increased (OR = 2.63, 95% CI: 1.41-4.89) with 2nd trimester NO₂ exposure and pregnancy average NO₂ (OR = 2.04, 95% CI: 1.13-3.69)
- Higher second trimester PM_{2.5} exposure also was associated with increased depression (OR = 1.56, 95% CI: 1.01–2.42)
- First study investigating the effects of multiple prenatal ambient pollutants on maternal depression using daily estimates of ambient air pollutant exposures while accounting for residential mobility



Dietary Quality, Food Security and Glycemic Control Among Adults with Diabetes

- Study examined the relationship between dietary quality, food insecurity, and glycemic control among adults with Type 2 diabetes
- Data collected from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (2011-2016) for 1682 adults (≥ 20 y old)
- Poor glycemic control among adults with diabetes was associated with poor quality of diet and food insecurity, being Black, Latino, and lacking a regular source of care

Adjusted predicted probability for patterns of food security and diet quality.

	HbA1c: 7 - <8		HbA1c: 8- <9		HbA1c: ≥ 9	
	AOR	p-value	AOR	p-value	AOR	p-value
Food security x healthy eating index interaction						
Food secure X Good diet	Reference		Reference		Reference	
Food insecure X Good diet	2.03 [0.27–15.5]	0.493	8.51 [1.39–52.0]	0.020	1.73 [0.18–16.5]	0.632
Food secure X Diet needs improvement	1.51 [0.41–5.58]	0.534	3.80 [0.92–15.8]	0.066	3.09 [0.98–9.73]	0.054
Food insecure X Diet needs improvement	1.48 [0.38–5.67]	0.570	3.74 [0.87–16.2]	0.077	2.50 [0.66–9.49]	0.177
Food secure X Poor diet	1.64 [0.44–6.15]	0.462	5.18 [1.40–19.2]	0.014	4.32 [1.39–13.4]	0.012
Food insecure X Poor diet	1.84 [0.52–6.46]	0.344	6.12 [1.51–24.8]	0.011	6.73 [2.04–22.2]	0.002

Grant No: U54 MD 007598

Shaheen, M., et al., [Clin Nutr ESPEN](#). 2021.



New Protocol for Development of EHR/CDS to Provide Social Risk Informed Care

- First study to develop and test EHR based clinical decision support (CDS) tools for contextualized social risk informed care for patients
- Test the hypothesis that providing CDS alerts to care team of patients' known social risks and relevant care plan adaptations will result in improved health outcomes
- Intervention clinics will be followed for 18 months to assess CDS tool adoption, actions taken by care team, and the impact on clinical quality measures: BP and HbA1c
- Findings may inform strategies that can ensure social risk screening initiatives translate to improvements in care and health outcomes

Grant Number: R01 MD 014886

Gold, R., et al., [JMIR Protoc.](#) 2021.



Association of the ACA Medicaid Expansion with Trauma Outcomes and Access to Rehabilitation among Young Adults

- Impact of the ACA Medicaid expansion on trauma care
 - Statewide hospital discharge data from 5 states that did and 5 states that did not implement Medicaid expansion from before (2011–2013) to after (2014–2017)
- Medicaid expansion was associated with:
- A decrease in uninsured patients (–16.5 %)
 - This decrease was larger among Black patients but smaller among Latino than White patients.
 - Larger among patients from lower-income ZIP codes
 - An increase in discharge to inpatient rehabilitation (0.6 percentage points), especially among patients from the lowest-compared with highest-income ZIP codes
 - A decrease in in-hospital mortality among Black patients (–0.4 percentage points)

Conclusion: For young adults experiencing trauma, ACA expansion significantly increased hospital length of stay and access to facility-based rehabilitation care; but not home healthcare

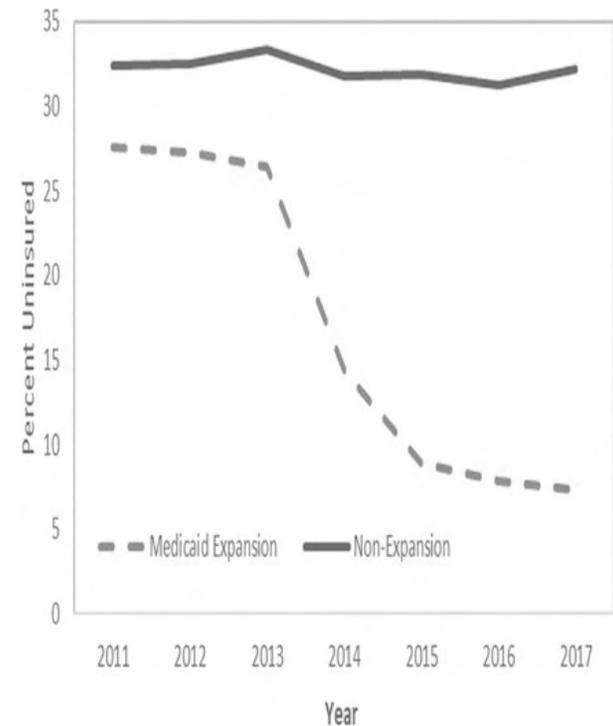
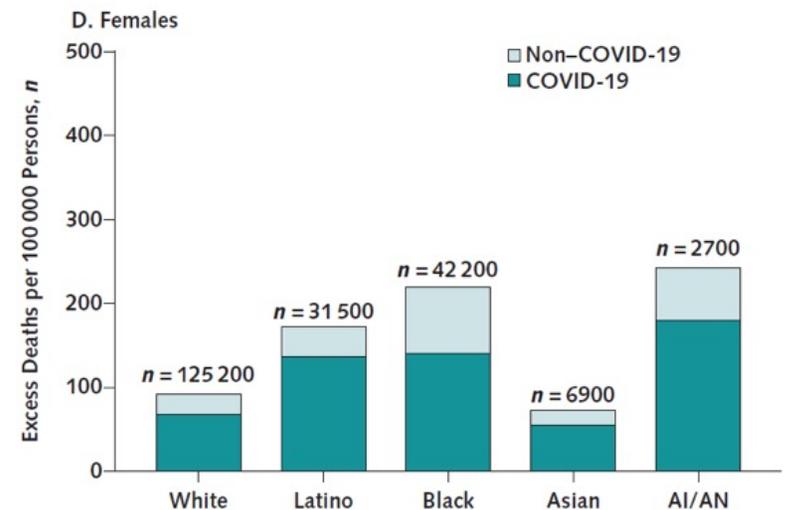
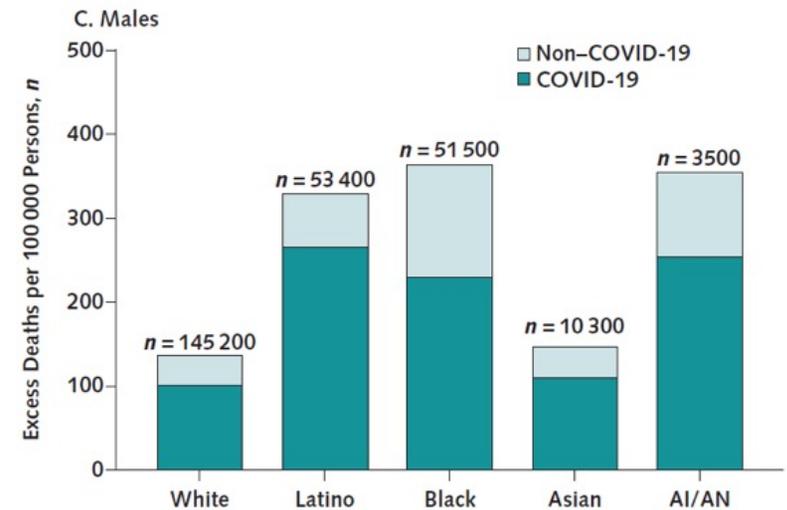


Figure 1. Proportion of young adult trauma patients uninsured over time, by state Medicaid expansion status.



Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Excess Deaths During COVID-19, March to December 2020

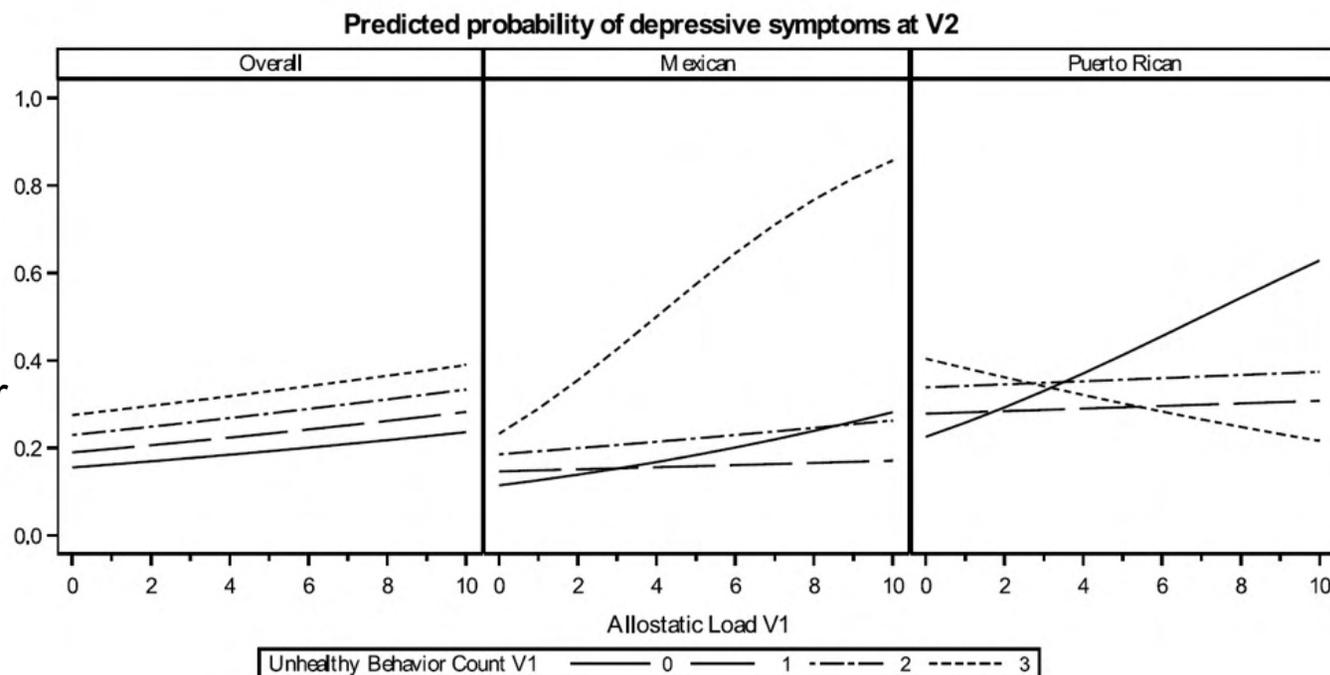
- Provisional death certificate data from CDC and population estimates from Census to compare excess deaths by race/ethnicity, sex, age group, between March-December 2020
- ~2.9 million people died in the U.S. between March 1, 2020, and December 31, 2020
- ~477,200 excess deaths compared to 2019 with 74% attributed to COVID-19
- Excess deaths/100,000 persons among Black/African American, American Indian/Alaskan Native, and Latino men and women were 2-3x higher than White and Asian men and women
- Excess deaths due to non-COVID-19 causes were 3-4x higher among Black/African American and AI/AN men and women and 2x higher in Latino men and women compared with White persons



Stress, Unhealthy Behaviors, and Depression in the Hispanic Community Health Study/Study of Latinos

11,613 participants of HCHS/SOL were assessed at two visits (2008-2011 and 2014-2017) for allostatic load (12 biomarkers for physiological stress), depressive symptoms (CES-D 10), and unhealthy behaviors (i.e., cigarette smoking, excessive/binge drinking, poor diet at Timepoint 1)

- Higher allostatic load was associated with higher odds of elevated depressive symptoms after at least 6 years (aOR = 1.06, 95% CI = 1.01-1.10)
- Those with high allostatic load and unhealthy behavior count of 1, compared to those with count of 0, had lower odds of depressive symptoms ($a\beta = -0.065$, 95% CI - 0.12 - -0.007)

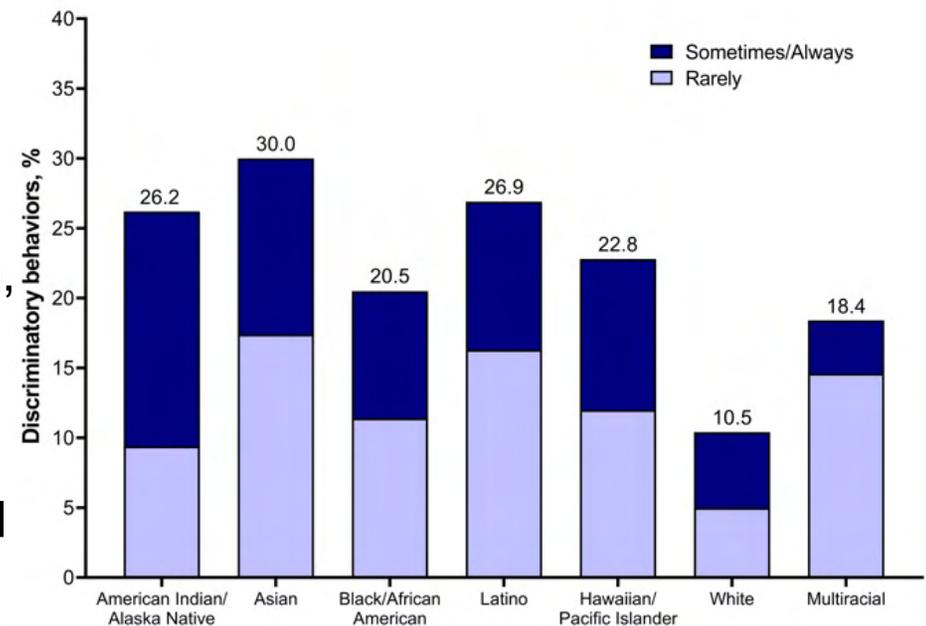


Identified modifiable behaviors that influence how physiological stress affects depression among Hispanics/Latinos, but limited potential to assessing these relationships in specific heritages



COVID-Related Discrimination in Racial/Ethnic Minority Communities and Marginalized Communities in U.S.

- Nationally representative online survey of 5,500 U.S. adults, conducted between 12/2020-2/2021
- 1000 each: Asian, Black/AA, Latino (500 Spanish-speaking), and White adults; 500 each: American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN), Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, multiracial adults
- All adults belonging to racial/ethnic minority populations were more likely to experience discrimination compared to White adults, and Asian and AI/AN adults most likely (aOR=2.59 and 2.67)
- Limited English proficiency, lower education, lower income, and living in big city or Southeast Central division also associated with increased discrimination

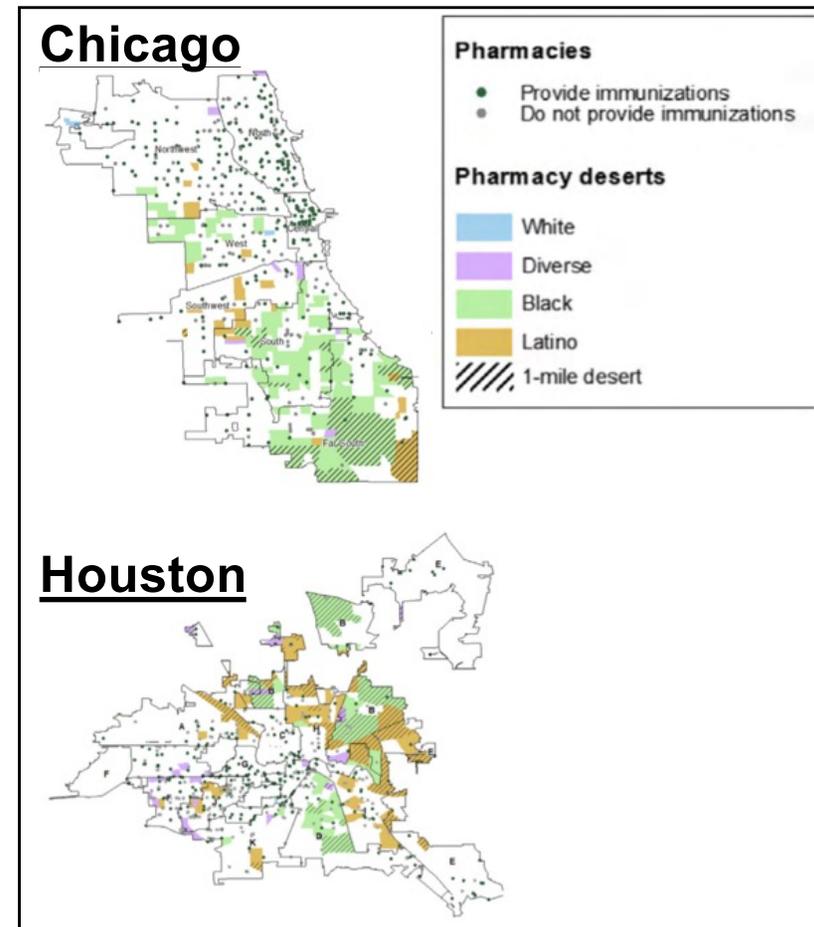


Study highlights high prevalence of COVID-related discrimination, and that COVID-19 may have exacerbated pre-existing resentment against marginalized communities



Access to Pharmacies and Pharmacy Services in NYC, LA, Chicago, and Houston, 2015-2020

- To evaluate trends and disparities in access to pharmacies by neighborhood composition
- Data from the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (2015-2020) and American Community Survey (2015-2019)
- Pharmacy deserts were persistently more common in Black/African American and Latino neighborhoods in all 4 cities
- As of 2020, pharmacies in Black/African American and Latino neighborhoods were also more likely to close and less likely to offer immunization, 24-hour, and drive-through services than pharmacies in other neighborhoods



Study shows persistent and worsening racial and ethnic disparities in access to this life-saving neighborhood resource, essential for COVID-19 response



NIMHD DIR

Health Disparities Interest Group Seminars

September 14, 2021

Nicholas Jones

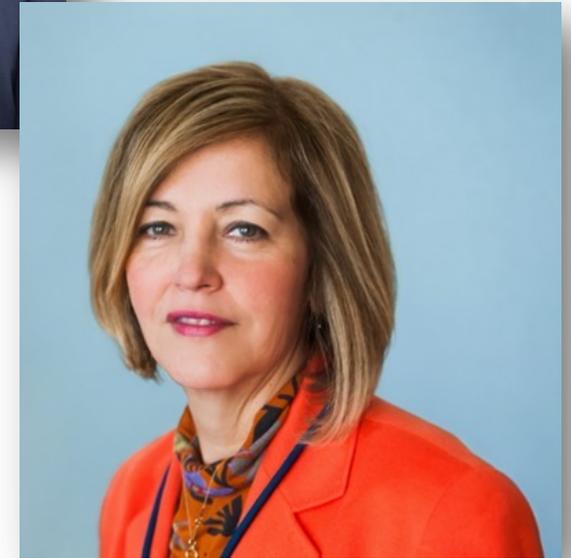
“Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the United States: Highlights from the 2020 Census”



October 12, 2021

Margarita Alegria, Ph.D.,

“The Role for Feasible and Sustainable Intervention in Reducing Health Disparities”



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Recognition

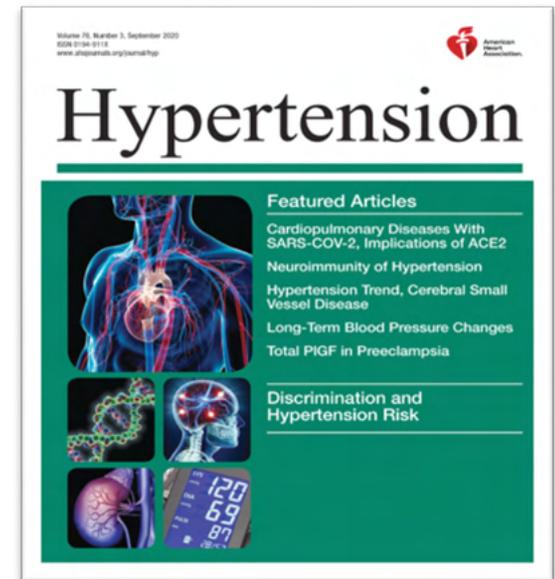
Journal of Hypertension Award



Dr. Allana T. Forde
Stadtman Tenure-Track Investigator
NIH Distinguished Scholar in the DIR, NIMHD

Allana T. Forde, Ph.D., M.P.H.

- "Discrimination and Hypertension Risk Among African Americans in the Jackson Heart Study" was selected as the top paper for 2020 in the category of population science



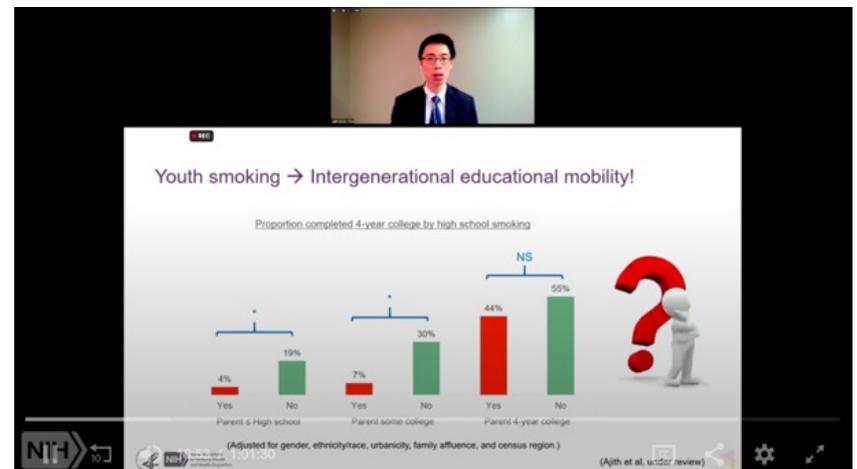
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NIH Director's Seminar Series

Dr. Kelvin Choi spoke on “*The perfect storm: Intersections of social determinants of health, commercial determinants of health and commercial tobacco use disparities*” and discussed:

- The interrelationships between social determinants of health and commercial tobacco use
- The role of commercial determinants of health on commercial tobacco use disparities
- Interventions to reduce commercial tobacco use and related health disparities



NIMHD Director's Seminar Series



February 16, 2022

**Joan Y. Reede, M.D.,
M.S., M.P.H., M.B.A.**
Harvard University
Medical School



September 29, 2022

Hortensia Amaro, Ph.D.
Florida International
University



May 4, 2022

Mark Hayward, Ph.D.
University of Texas,
Austin



November 3, 2022

Judith A. James, M.D., Ph.D.
Oklahoma Medical Research
Foundation



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UNITE Initiative: Power of an Inclusive Workplace Recognition Project

- Focuses on diversifying art within NIH buildings and digital spaces
- Highlight the diversity of NIH staff and reflect the diversity of our nation in order to promote a sense of inclusivity and belonging
- Features DIR Earl Stadtman Tenure-Track Investigator and NIH Distinguished Scholar **Sherine El-Toukhy, Ph.D., M.A.**



NIMHD Vacancy Announcements

**JOIN OUR
AMAZING
TEAM!**

NIMHD seeks outstanding candidates to support our vision of an America in which all populations have an equal opportunity to live long, healthy and productive lives.

Learn more at <https://nimhd.nih.gov/about/employment.html>



<https://nimhd.nih.gov/about/employment.html>



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Discussion