



2024 ASHA CONVENTION ELEVATE!

December 5-7 ▲ Seattle, WA



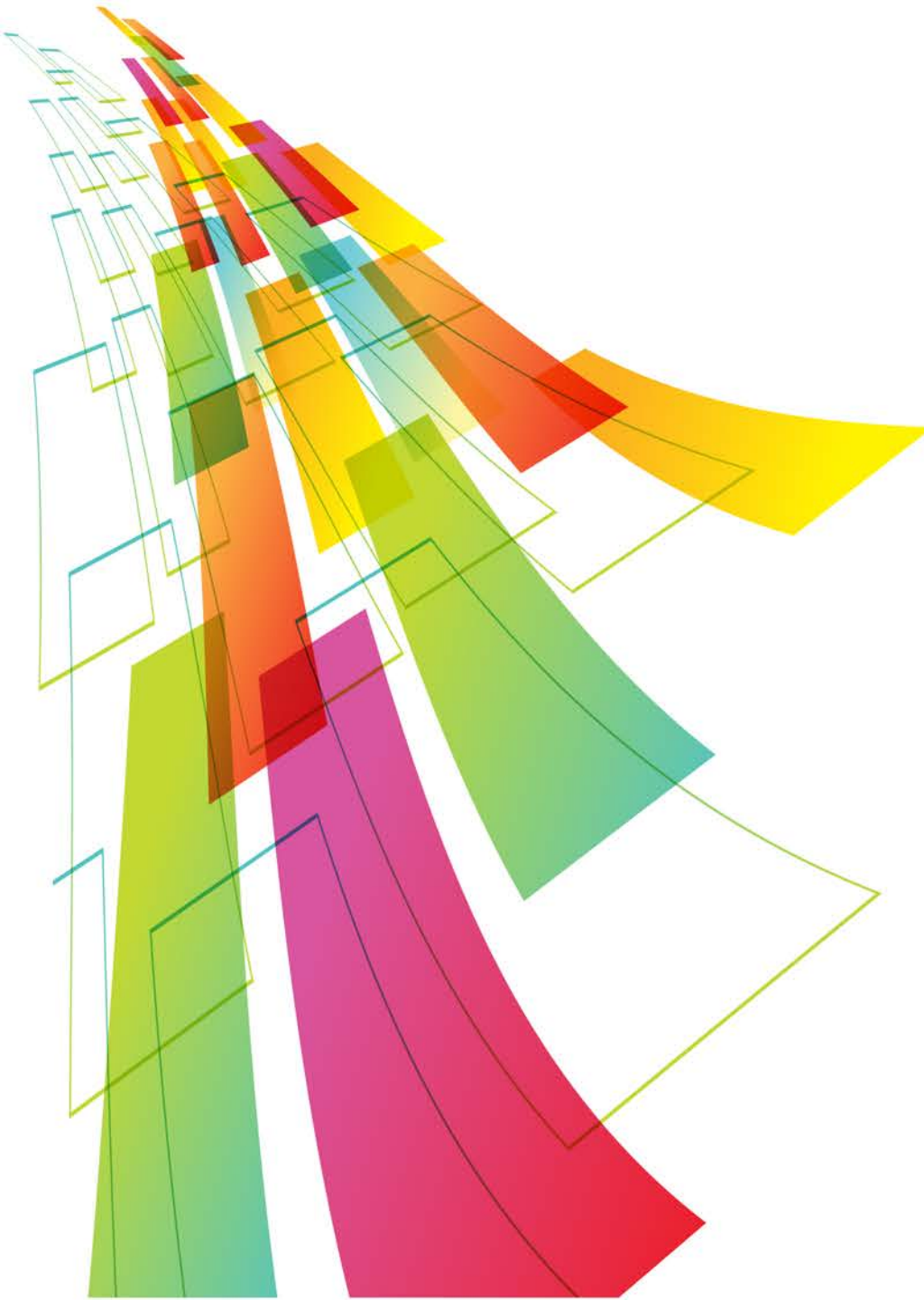
ELEVATE!
2024 ASHA CONVENTION
December 5-7 • Seattle, WA

Research-Academic Town Meeting

Academia at a Crossroads: Pathways to Renewal & Innovation

Presentation by:

ASHA Academic Affairs & Research Education



ASHA **Journals**

2024 ASHA Journals Awards

2024 ASHA CONVENTION

Alfred K. Kawana Award

for Lifetime Achievement in Publications



The Alfred K. Kawana Award for Lifetime Achievement in Publications is reserved for outstanding researchers/scholars who have a sustained history of exemplary publications in ASHA journals. This award is named in memory of the late Alfred K. Kawana (pictured), former director of ASHA publications.

Over a period of at least 10 years, recipients shall have authored ASHA journal articles that are meritorious in terms of educational, scientific, or clinical value, and thus contributed significantly to the discipline.

Karla K. McGregor, PhD, CCC-SLP, BCS-CL



- Boys Town National Research Hospital**
- ASHA Fellow
 - Honors of the Association
 - 3-time Editor's Award Winner

2024 ASHA Journals

Editor's Awards

For Articles Published in 2023

Editor-in-Chief: Erin Picou


Predicting Behavioral Threshold at 6 and 8 kHz for Children and Adults Based on the Auditory Brainstem Response

Heather L. Porter,
Christina Dubas,
Manuel Vicente, Emily Buss,
Danielle Bishop,
and Jan Kaminski



Enhancing Hearing Assessments: Expanding Auditory Brainstem Response (ABR) Testing Beyond 4 kHz

Current clinical practices for hearing assessment through ABR tests often neglect high-frequency sounds above 4 kHz, despite their importance for speech perception



Examining the relationship between ABR and behavioral thresholds at 6 and 8 kHz in individuals with hearing loss and normal hearing

Participants recruited using the Research Administration Database

Participants	Sensorineural hearing loss	Normal hearing sensitivity
Children (4.7-16.7 years old)	24	16
Adults (18.4-54.4 years old)	13	11

Key findings

- Accuracy: **5-6 dB** difference between ABR and behavioral thresholds
- Specificity: **100%** accurate in identifying normal hearing sensitivity
- Reliability: The ABR threshold is a good predictor of behavioral thresholds at **6 and 8 kHz**
- Consistency: Differences were always **≤20 dB**

How can we enhance ABR clinical protocols to **assess high-frequency audibility** for better identification and treatment of hearing loss in vulnerable groups?

The study supports efforts to improve outcomes for vulnerable populations by reducing barriers to clinical implementation of ABR testing above 4 kHz

Predicting Behavioral Threshold at 6 and 8 kHz for Children and Adults Based on the Auditory Brainstem Response
Porter et al. (2023) | American Journal of Audiology | DOI: 10.1044/2023_AJA-22-00180

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Editor-in-Chief:
Erinn Finke


A Longitudinal Investigation of Code- Related Emergent Literacy Skills in Children Who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing Across the Preschool Years

Krystal L. Werfel,
Gabriella Reynolds,
and Lisa Fitton







Difficulties with Code-Related Literacy Skills in Preschool Children Who Are Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH)

Despite advances in sound amplification technology and the science of reading, children who are DHH continue to face challenges in acquiring literacy skills




Language and emergent literacy assessment from age 4 to 6 years revealed significant difficulties among children who are DHH in:

-  **Phonological awareness**
Analyzing and manipulating the sound structure of words
-  **Phonological memory**
Storing and recalling speech sounds from short-term memory
-  **Conceptual print knowledge**
Understanding the concepts of print and written words

 No significant differences observed in phonological recoding

Targeted interventions that improve phonological awareness, phonological memory, and conceptual print knowledge in preschool may improve literacy skill acquisition in children who are DHH

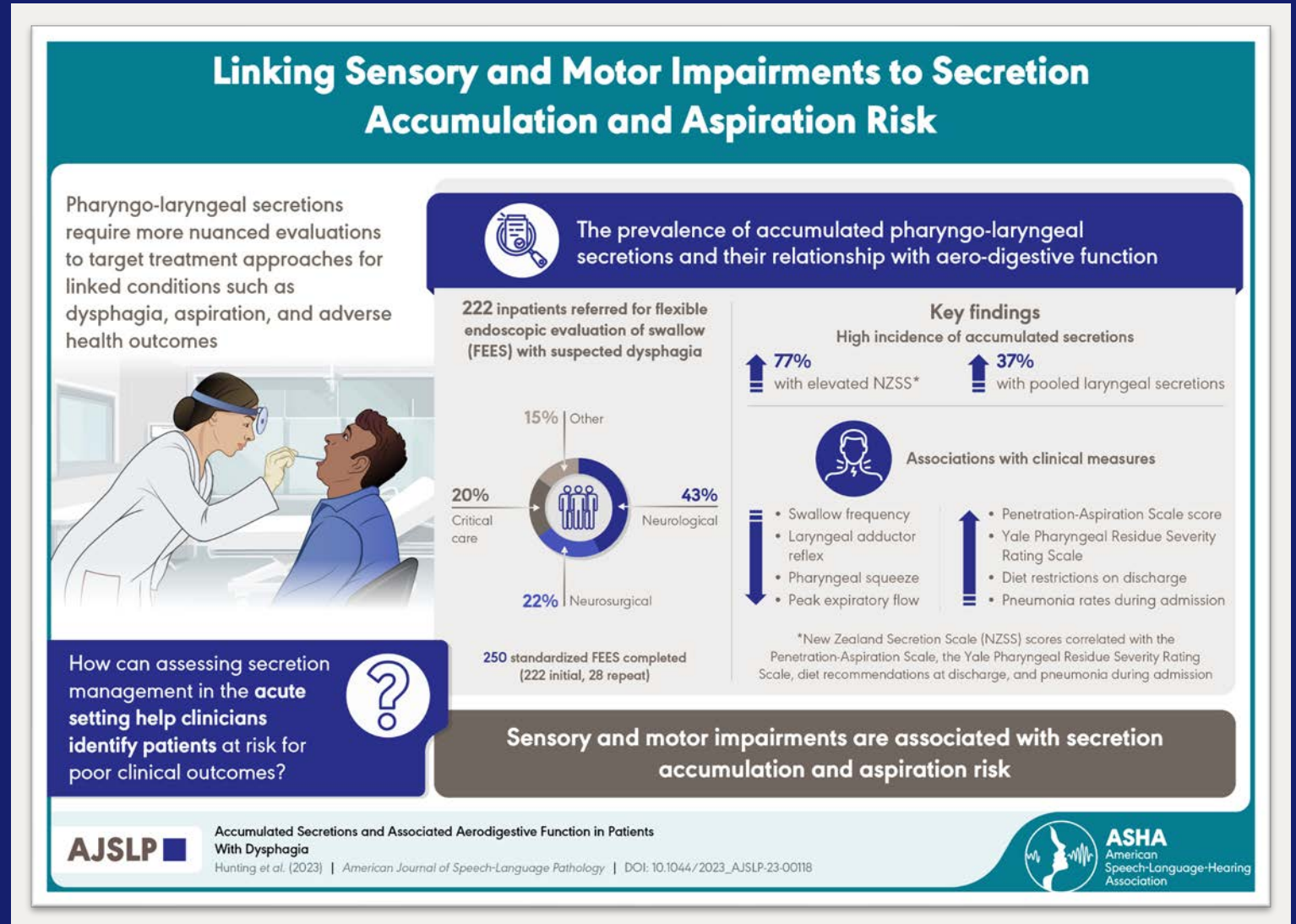
AJSLP | A Longitudinal Investigation of Code-Related Emergent Literacy Skills in Children Who Are Deaf and Hard of Hearing Across the Preschool Years
Werfel et al. (2023) | American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology | DOI: 10.1044/2022_AJSLP-22-00169



Editor-in-Chief:
Rita Patel

Accumulated Secretions and Associated Aerodigestive Function in Patients With Dysphagia

Alexandra Hunting,
Belinda Steffanoni,
Angela Jacques, and
Anna Miles



Editor-in-Chief: Cara Stepp

Gender-Affirming Voice Training for Trans Women: Effectiveness of Training on Patient-Reported Outcomes and Listener Perceptions of Voice

Jennifer Oates,
Maria Södersten,
Sterling Quinn,
Ulrika Nygren,
Georgia Dacakis,
Victoria Kelly,
Georgina Smith,
and Anders Sand



Empowering Trans Women: The Effectiveness of Gender-Affirming Voice Training

Evidence on current gender-affirming speech-language pathology services for trans women is insufficient

A prospective treatment study to evaluate the effectiveness of gender-affirming voice training for trans women

Participants
74 trans women (19-54 years old)

Participant voice satisfaction after training

91%	50%	27%
Training improved the voice	Voice is somewhat female or very female	The current voice matches the ideal voice
2/3rd of participants	1/3rd of participants	All participants
Increased vocal satisfaction to a relevant degree	Reduction in restricted social participation	Rated more female-sounding after training

Framework of the voice modification program

- Foundational training
- Voice change training
- Transfer of learned techniques to everyday communication

What are the factors to consider while developing gender-affirming speech-language pathology services for transgender populations?

Gender-affirming voice training significantly improves vocal satisfaction, social participation, and perceived femininity among trans women, highlighting the critical need for prioritizing such services in health care

JSLHR Gender-Affirming Voice Training for Trans Women: Effectiveness of Training on Patient-Reported Outcomes and Listener Perceptions of Voice
Oates et al. (2023) | Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research | DOI: 10.1044/2023_JSLHR-23-00258

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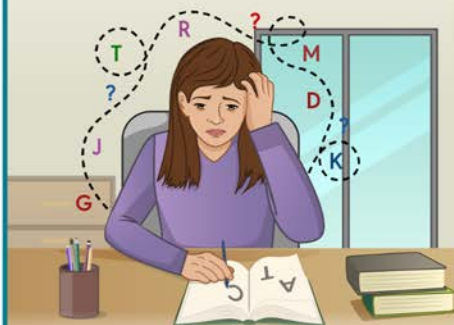
Editor-in-Chief:
Julie Washington

Developmental Language Disorder and Writing: A Scoping Review From Childhood to Adulthood

Alexander Tucci and
Elizabeth Choi

Impact of Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) on Writing Skills Across the Lifespan

Individuals with DLD struggle to process and produce components of language in the absence of any accompanying hearing, medical, or cognitive impairments



A scoping review of literature on writing skills in individuals with DLD across childhood, adolescence, and adulthood revealed:



Spelling was a relative weakness across the life span



Children and adolescents may struggle with several aspects of writing:

- Grammar
- Organization
- Cohesion
- Length



Research on the writing process and different genres of writing is insufficient to inform clinical practice

What do we currently know about how DLD affects writing skills across the life span?



More systematic research is needed to understand how DLD affects writing skills, particularly in adolescence, adulthood, and typed writing



Editor-in-Chief:
Rachael Frush Holt

Noise-Vocoded Sentence Recognition and the Use of Context in Older and Younger Adult Listeners

Aaron C. Moberly,
Varun V. Varadarajan,
and Terrin N. Tamati

Understanding Speech Recognition Strategies in Older Versus Younger Adults Under Adverse Conditions

When listening to speech under adverse conditions, people use top-down cognitive-linguistic resources to compensate and derive meaning from context



Assessing speech recognition in younger and older adults with age-normal hearing exposed to spectrally degraded sentences revealed:



Younger and older adults employ contextual resources to a similar degree to derive meaning



Nonverbal reasoning plays a role in the recognition of spectrally degraded sentences

People use different strategies for recognizing degraded speech based on:

Hearing ability



Neurocognitive functioning



Language proficiency

How do younger and older adults with normal hearing differ in their ability to process degraded speech?



Younger and older adults use cognitive-linguistic resources to a similar degree to recognize degraded speech, although they may use diverse strategies based on individual hearing, neurocognitive, and language profiles



Editor-in-Chief:
Kelly Farquharson


Native American Caregiver-Child Shared Book Reading Interactions: A Descriptive Study and Integrative Review

Mark Guiberson and
Kyliah Petrita Ferris



Culturally Responsive Early Language and Literacy Intervention Approaches for Native American Children

Language intervention strategies designed to enhance a child's linguistic competence and address learning needs must be culturally responsive to ensure effectiveness



What early language and literacy intervention strategies may be effective with Native American families?

Integrating Native American caregivers' preferences into early language and literature interventions enhances cultural responsiveness and may improve overall effectiveness

A descriptive study of Native American caregivers and their young children and an integrative literature review revealed:

The use of shared book strategies by caregivers was associated with:

- Caregivers' vocabulary usage
- Children's shared book behaviors (attention, interaction, and engagement)

20 strategies were identified, including:

- Teaching new words and print
- Questioning strategies
- Play-based strategies
- Use of descriptive language

LSHSS Native American Caregiver-Child Shared Book Reading Interactions: A Descriptive Study and Integrative Review
Guiberson and Ferris (2023) | Language, Speech, and Hearing Services in Schools | DOI: 10.1044/2022_LSHSS-22-00085

ASHA American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

PERSPECTIVES

OF THE ASHA SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Editor-in-Chief:
Monique Mills


What Predicts Individual Response to Language Treatment in Bilingual Children With Developmental Language Disorder?

Kerry Danahy Ebert
and Giang T. Pham



Predictors of Language Treatment Response in Bilingual Children with Developmental Language Disorder

Bilingual children with developmental language disorder (DLD) may show varied progress in each language following treatment, and it is crucial to understand predictors of treatment response




Improvements in raw test scores in Spanish and English following an intensive language treatment program for **32** bilingual school children with DLD

Hola	Spanish gains	Hello	English gains
More variability in treatment response		Less variability in treatment response	
Significant predictors after controlling for pretreatment scores <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Female sex• English grammaticality	Significant predictors after controlling for pretreatment scores <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fluid reasoning• Age• Processing speed	Only one significant predictor after controlling for pretreatment scores <ul style="list-style-type: none">• English grammaticality	
More variability due to a lack of environmental support		More robust due to strong environmental support	
Significant influence from individual factors		Minimal influence from individual factors	

What factors **predict the language treatment response** in **bilingual children with DLD** for both Spanish and English?

Tailoring treatment plans based on individual predictors can potentially enhance language gains in bilingual children with DLD, especially in less supported languages like Spanish

PERSPECTIVES | What Predicts Individual Response to Language Treatment in Bilingual Children With Developmental Language Disorder?
Ebert and Pham (2023) | Perspectives of the ASHA Special Interest Groups | DOI: 10.1044/2022_PERSP-22-00170



PERSPECTIVES

OF THE ASHA SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Editor-in-Chief:
Kendrea Garand


Factors Associated With Resident Intake of Thickened Liquids in Long-Term Care

Sophia Werden Abrams,
Heather Keller,
Natalie Carrier,
Christina Lengyel,
Susan E. Slaughter, and
Ashwini Namasivayam-
MacDonald






Assessing Fluid Intake and Hydration Strategies in Long-Term Care Residents



Long-term care (LTC) residents, especially those who drink thickened liquids, are prone to dehydration due to low fluid intake



Do LTC residents who drink thickened liquids have a significantly lower fluid intake compared to those who drink thin liquids?


A retrospective data analysis study from the Making the Most of Mealtimes (M3) project

Participants	Key findings
 Who drank thickened liquids (n = 68)	 No significant difference in fluid intake between the groups Compared to participants who drank thin liquids, participants who drank thickened liquids demonstrated: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lowest fluid intake• More mealtime challenges and requirements for staff assistance• Higher levels of cognitive impairment
 Who drank thin liquids (n = 68)	

Participants who drank thickened liquids	Participants who drank thin liquids
 85% had moderate-to-very severe impairment	 63% had moderate-to-severe impairment

There is an urgent need for strategies to improve hydration and support overall health for all LTC residents

PERSPECTIVES Factors Associated With Resident Intake of Thickened Liquids in Long-Term Care
Werden Abrams et al. (2023) | Perspectives of the ASHA Special Interest Groups | DOI: 10.1044/2023_PERSP-22-00254



PERSPECTIVES

OF THE ASHA SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Editor-in-Chief:
Dawn Konrad-Martin


Disparities in Health Care Utilization Among Deaf and Hard of Hearing Adults

Valeria C. Gonzalez,
Zulma Y. Santiago,
Molly Jacobs, and
Charles Ellis



Access to Quality Health Care Among Deaf Or Hard of Hearing (DHH) Adults in the United States

Access to quality health care, which is defined as the ability to consult a qualified health care provider within a reasonable timeframe, significantly influences health outcomes



Analysis of data from the Centers for Disease Control Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System survey to uncover disparities in health care access

Health care utilization was compared between individuals self-identifying as DHH and those without hearing-related issues

Compared to individuals without hearing difficulties, those who identified as DHH were:

- Less likely to have a personal health care provider
- Less likely to have received a routine checkup within the last 2 years
- More likely to have forgone health care due to difficulty paying

These differences persisted across race, sex, and other demographic factors

Do individuals who are DHH face barriers to accessing quality health care in the United States?

Compared to individuals without hearing loss, those who are DHH have significantly reduced access to quality health care, underscoring the urgent need for health care providers in the US to adopt DHH-friendly practices

PERSPECTIVES Disparities in Health Care Utilization Among Deaf and Hard of Hearing Adults
Gonzalez et al. (2023) | Perspectives of the ASHA Special Interest Groups | DOI: 10.1044/2023_PERSP-22-00252

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PERSPECTIVES

OF THE ASHA SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Editor-in-Chief:
Celeste Domsch


Early Precursors of Reading Development in Simultaneous Bilinguals: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Insiya Bhalloo and
Monika Molnar



Assessing Literacy Precursors in Bilingual Children

Bilingual children are often assessed with tools designed for monolinguals in both research and clinical settings



Do literacy precursors developed for monolingual children reliably predict reading development in simultaneous bilingual children?

A systematic review and meta-analysis of literacy precursors and reading outcomes in bilingual children

Inclusion/exclusion criteria	Assessment age	Language combinations
41 Reports published between 1977 and 2022	5,942 Participants aged 7 years and 5 months (mean age; range: 3-11 years)	21 Language combinations


Significant within-language correlations and cross-language transfer effects for:

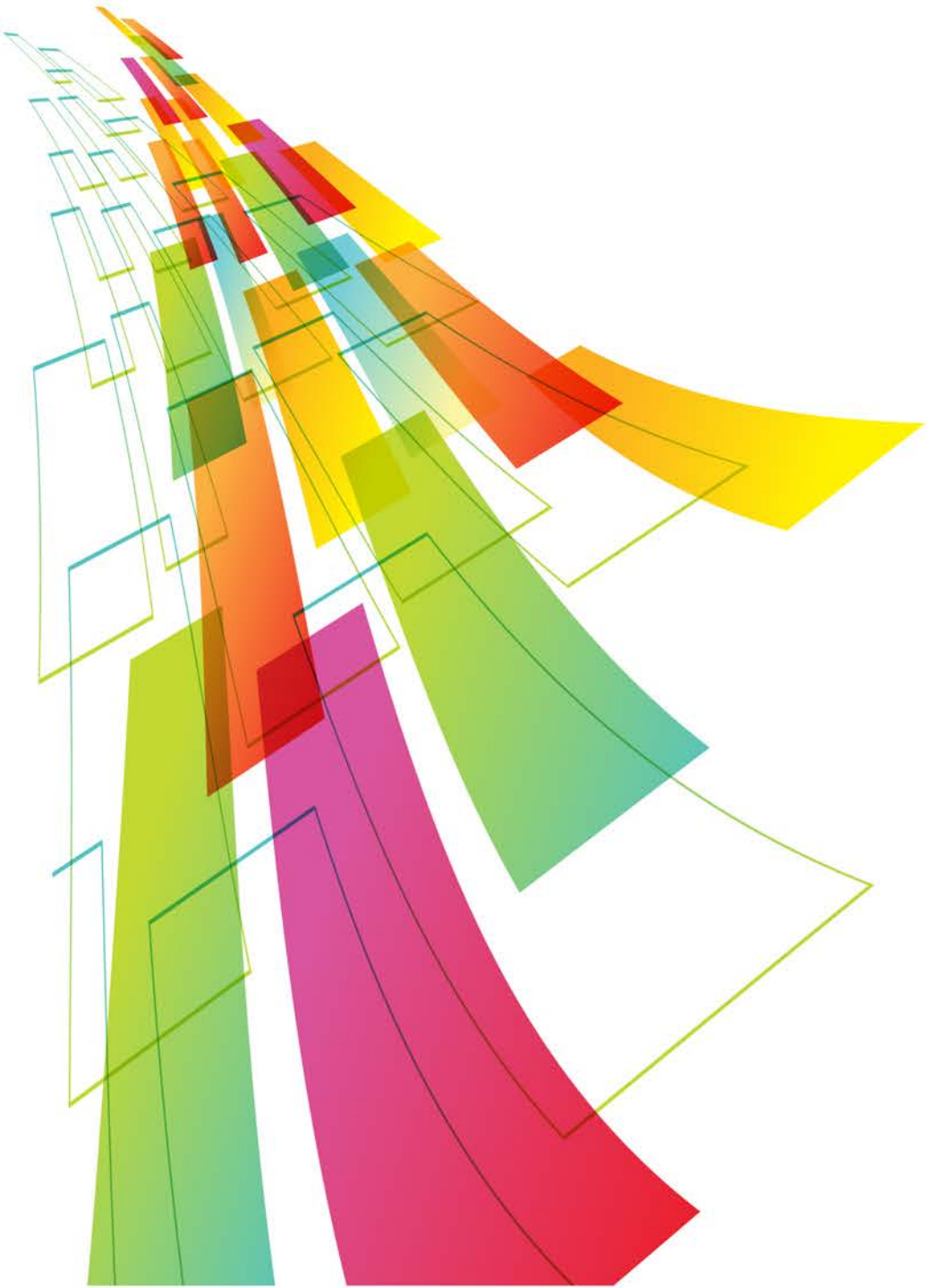
- Code-related precursors: phonological awareness
- Oral-language precursors: vocabulary and morphological awareness

Semantic awareness was not a reliable predictor in bilinguals

Phonological awareness and vocabulary measures, even if developed for monolingual children, are valid for bilingual assessments. These precursors may be used as assessment tools across both heritage and societal languages in research and clinical practice

PERSPECTIVES Early Precursors of Reading Development in Simultaneous Bilinguals: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis
Bhalloo and Molnar (2023) | Perspectives of the ASHA Special Interest Groups | DOI: 10.1044/2023_PERSP-23-00041





**Congratulations
to All the Winners!**

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Michael Yudell, PhD MPH



- Interim Dean of the College of Health Solutions at Arizona State University
- *Race Unmasked: Biology and Race in the 20th Century* (2014)
- *Genome: A User's Guide to the Genetic Past, Present, and Future* (2020)



Panel Discussion Question Cards

Please write your questions on the index cards provided. The question cards will be collected at the end of the keynote address. Panelists will address as many as possible.

Thank you!



Michael Yudell, PhD MPH



- Interim Dean of the College of Health Solutions at Arizona State University
- *Race Unmasked: Biology and Race in the 20th Century* (2014)
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Academia at a Crossroads:

Pathways to Renewal and Innovation

Presentation by:

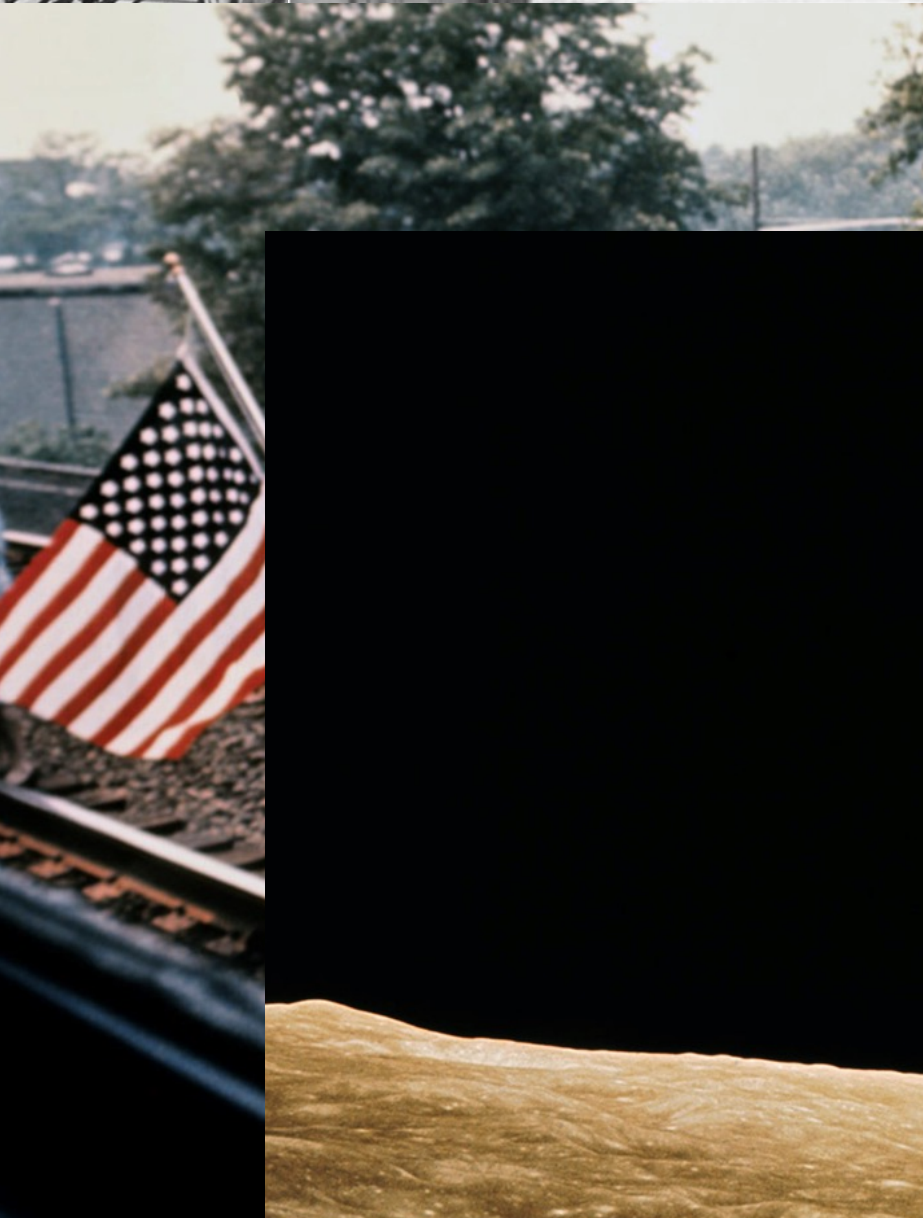
Michael Yudell, PhD, MPH
Interim Dean and Professor
College of Health Solutions
Arizona State University

Part I: History

1968

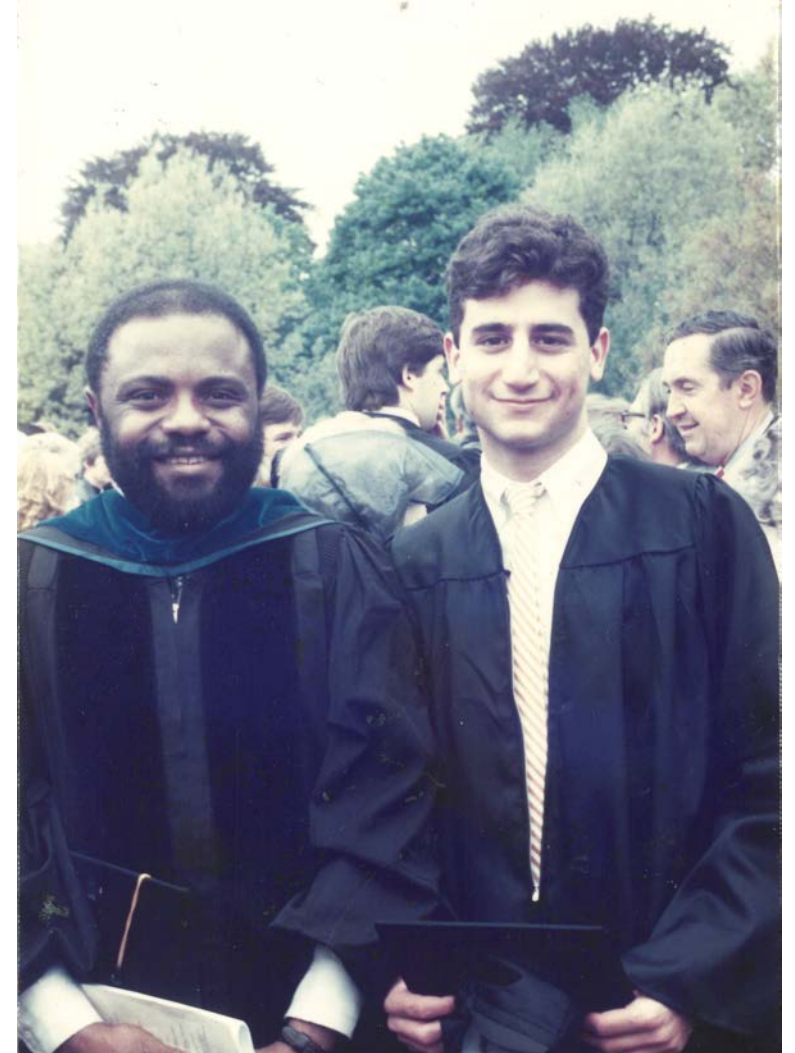


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Tuition increase at my Alma Mater from 1990 to 2024

- In 1990, my tuition for my bachelor's degree at Tufts University was \$13,975.
- Today, in 2024, tuition at Tufts is a whopping \$69,146!!!
- That's a **396.74%** increase over 34 years.
- With inflation accounted for, it is a **\$102.51%** increase.





September 11, 2001

Financial Crisis 2008



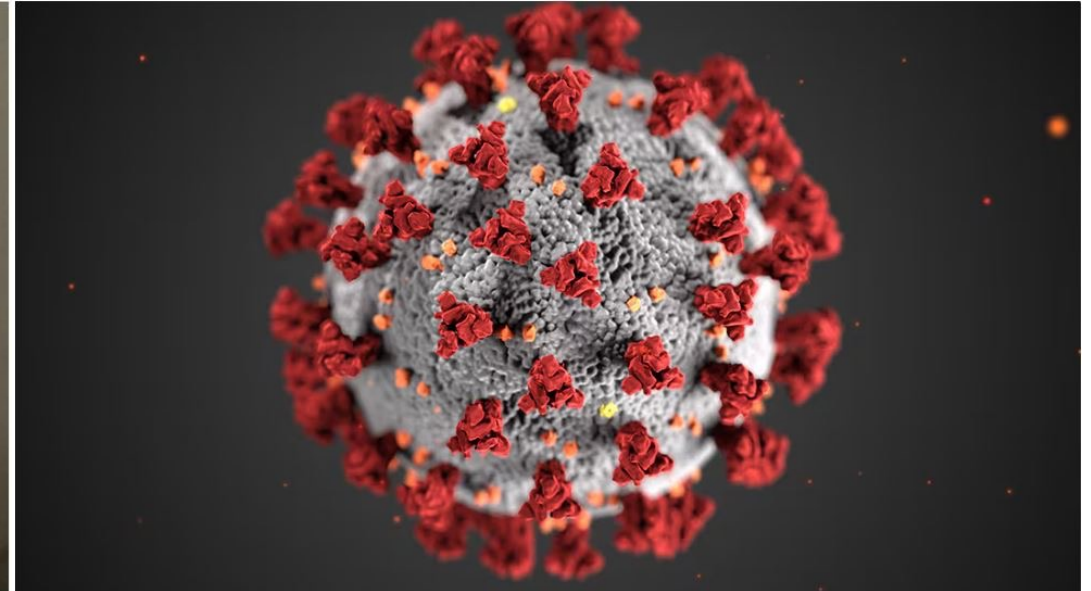
COVID-19: Global vaccine plan aims to end 'two-track pandemic'



© UNICEF/Rabik Upadhyay | Senior citizens receive their second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine in Kathmandu in Nepal.



COVID-19 Pandemic



Higher Education

I Tested the Latest FAFSA. It Works Fine. Don't Celebrate Yet.

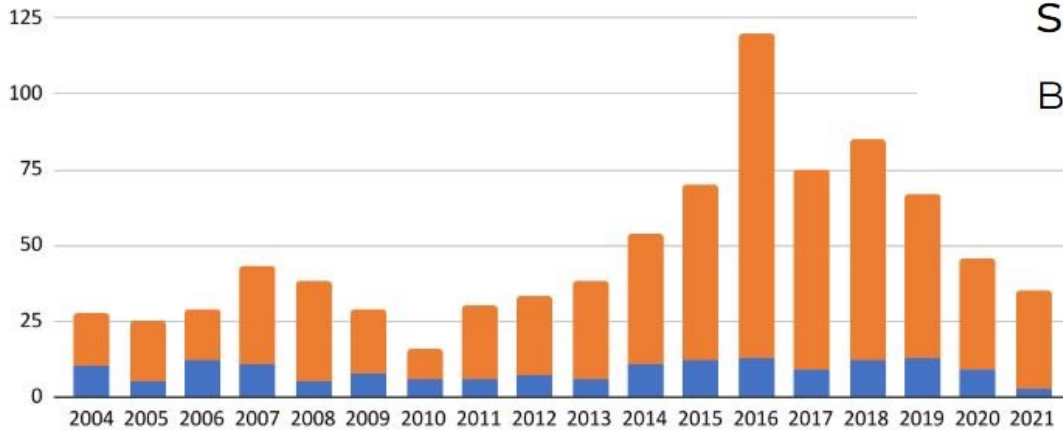
The rollout of the new student aid form last year was a debacle. This year's beta testing has gone better. Next up: millions of users and a new administration.



College closures

861 colleges and universities have ceased operations since 2004

Private for-profit Private nonprofit



Data source: SHEEO analysis of PEPS database at U.S. Department of Education



[Back to Listing](#)

Arizona Board of Regents seek \$732 million in state funding for public universities

Budget request aims to reverse state cuts, boost economic growth



Trump names Linda McMahon for education secretary

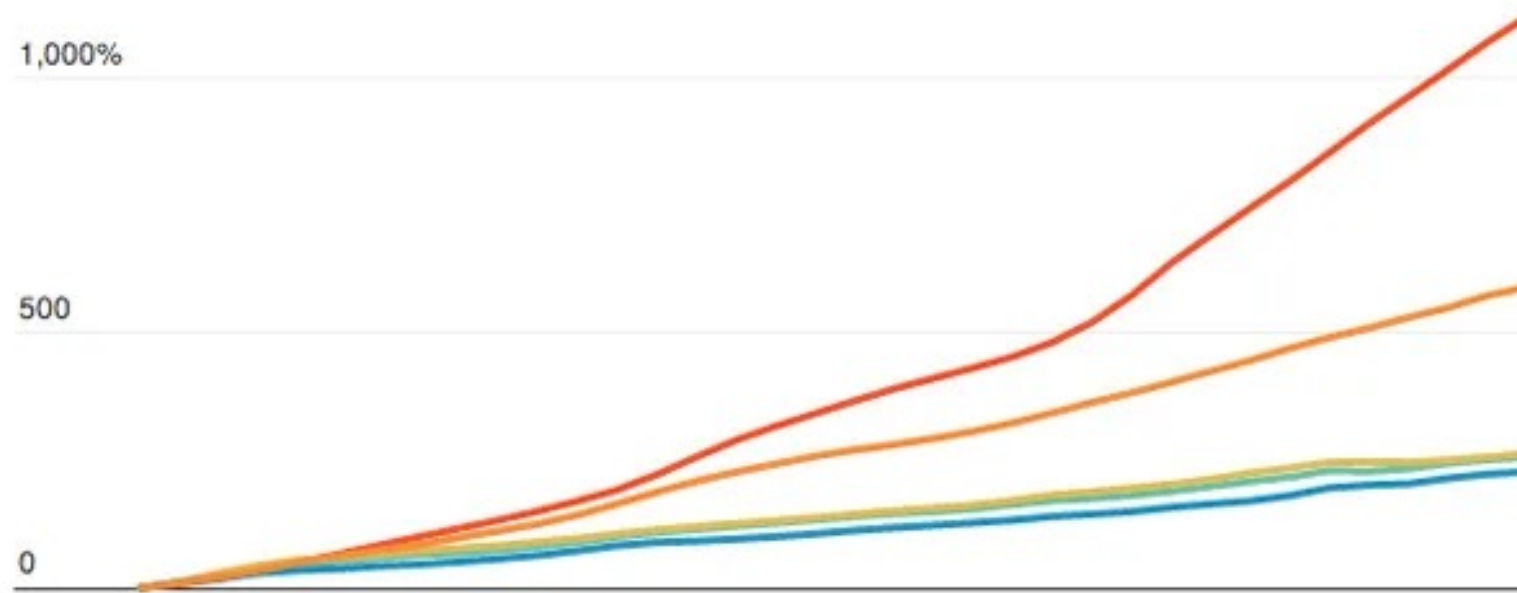
The president-elect's pick for head of the U.S. Department of Education has garnered mixed reactions from higher ed leaders and policymakers.

College Costs Have Skyrocketed

Skyrocketing Cost of Attending College

College tuition and fees have increased by over 1,100% since 1978.

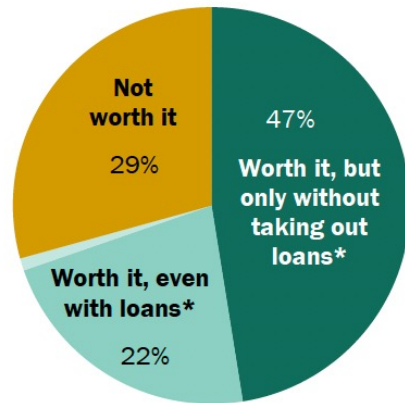
■ College Tuition & Fees ■ Medical Care ■ Housing ■ All Items ■ Food & Beverages



Is the cost of college worth it?

Only 22% of U.S. adults say the cost of college is worth it even if someone has to take out loans

% saying the cost of getting a four-year college degree today is ...

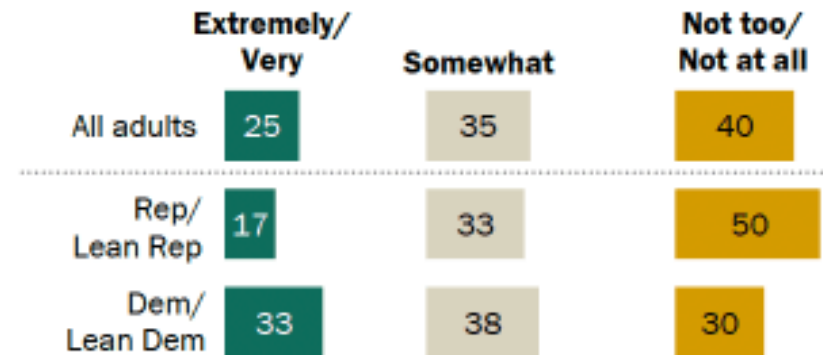


* Refer to topline for full question wording.
Note: Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer is shown but not labeled.
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 27-Dec. 3, 2023
"Is College Worth It?"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

4 in 10 Americans say a college degree is not too or not at all important in order to get a well-paying job

% saying it's ___ important for someone to have a four-year college degree in order to get a well-paying job in today's economy



Note: Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer is not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 27-Dec. 3, 2023
"Is College Worth It?"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER



PERSONAL FINANCE Published June 8, 2021 9:19am EDT

College tuition is up 33% since 2000: How to cope with rising costs

Illustration by The Atlantic

IDEAS

HOW THE IVY LEAGUE BROKE AMERICA

The meritocracy isn't working. We need something new.

By David Brooks

NOVEMBER 14, 2024

SHARE AS GIFT SAVE

Those with no opinion are not shown.

Get the data • Download image

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GALLUP

Part II: Academic Solutions

Criticisms of Academia

Opinion

OP-ED CONTRIBUTOR

Narrowing the New Class Divide

By Charles A. Murray

March 7, 2012

Finally, we should prick the B.A. bubble. The bachelor's degree has become a driver of class divisions at the same moment in history when it has become educationally meaningless. We don't need legislation to fix this problem, just an energetic public interest law firm that challenges the constitutionality of the degree as a job requirement.

Before long, spending four years in a lecture hall with a hangover will be revealed as an antiquated debt-fueled luxury good.

—Peter Thiel

Few communities are more petty and vicious than university faculties. Teaching we are told, is undervalued in favor of research, while research is less and less in touch with the demands of the real world, or with the comprehension of the common 'reader.' **—Bill Readings**

Foundations for the The New American University

The admissions policies of our leading institutions exclude the majority of academically qualified applicants, even as the demographic trends shaping our nation militate against the success of students from socioeconomically disadvantaged and historically underrepresented backgrounds. As de facto national policy, excluding the majority of academically qualified students from the excellence of a research-grade education is counterproductive and ethically unacceptable. If our society is to continue to prosper, our leading colleges and universities must be augmented by a league of institutions that draw from the broader talent pool of socioeconomical and intellectual diversity and integrate the production and distribution of knowledge at socially meaningful scale... Through universal learning frameworks, they must also provide opportunity for lifelong learning to more than half the population of the nation.

–Michael Crow and William Dabars

Challenges in Speech and Hearing Science

- Biggest challenge relevant to this group is funding for both research and clinical practice
- We've all survived cycles of budget reductions and flat budgets, which creates existential crises and worry that we can't advance our disciplines without funded research
- Decreased federal funding will have the real impact of decreasing new hires and funded grad students, thereby impacting our work



Disruptions

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[NEWS](#) | [BRAIN & BEHAVIOR](#)

Artificial intelligence turns brain activity into speech

Fed data from invasive brain recordings, algorithms reconstruct heard and spoken sounds

2 JAN 2019 • BY [KELLY SERVICK](#)

 2024 ASHA CONVENTION

New Models for Health Education and Research

- Consider context and overall social, cultural, and economic impact
- Stop measuring the failures of our field
- Focus on multidisciplinary solutions
- Translate basic science into practical solutions to improve health
- Develop novel strategies to bring together students, faculty, researchers, clinical professionals and community partners to solve pressing health problems in the communities we serve
- Develop new funding partnerships beyond NIH and friends



Solutions

- During COVID, we experienced a rapid rethinking of how to deliver speech, hearing and other health services
- It was a time of recognition that we have a lot of creative problem solvers and that the clinical education and practice in speech-language pathology and audiology is much nimbler and more resilient than we realized
- Now that we have this new knowledge, experience and resilience, we can harness it to take us further, like Project ECHO, being more community embedded, using technology to reach communities didn't previously serve
- We lean in no matter how distasteful the political disruption may be

College of Health Solutions



Part III: Health Solutions

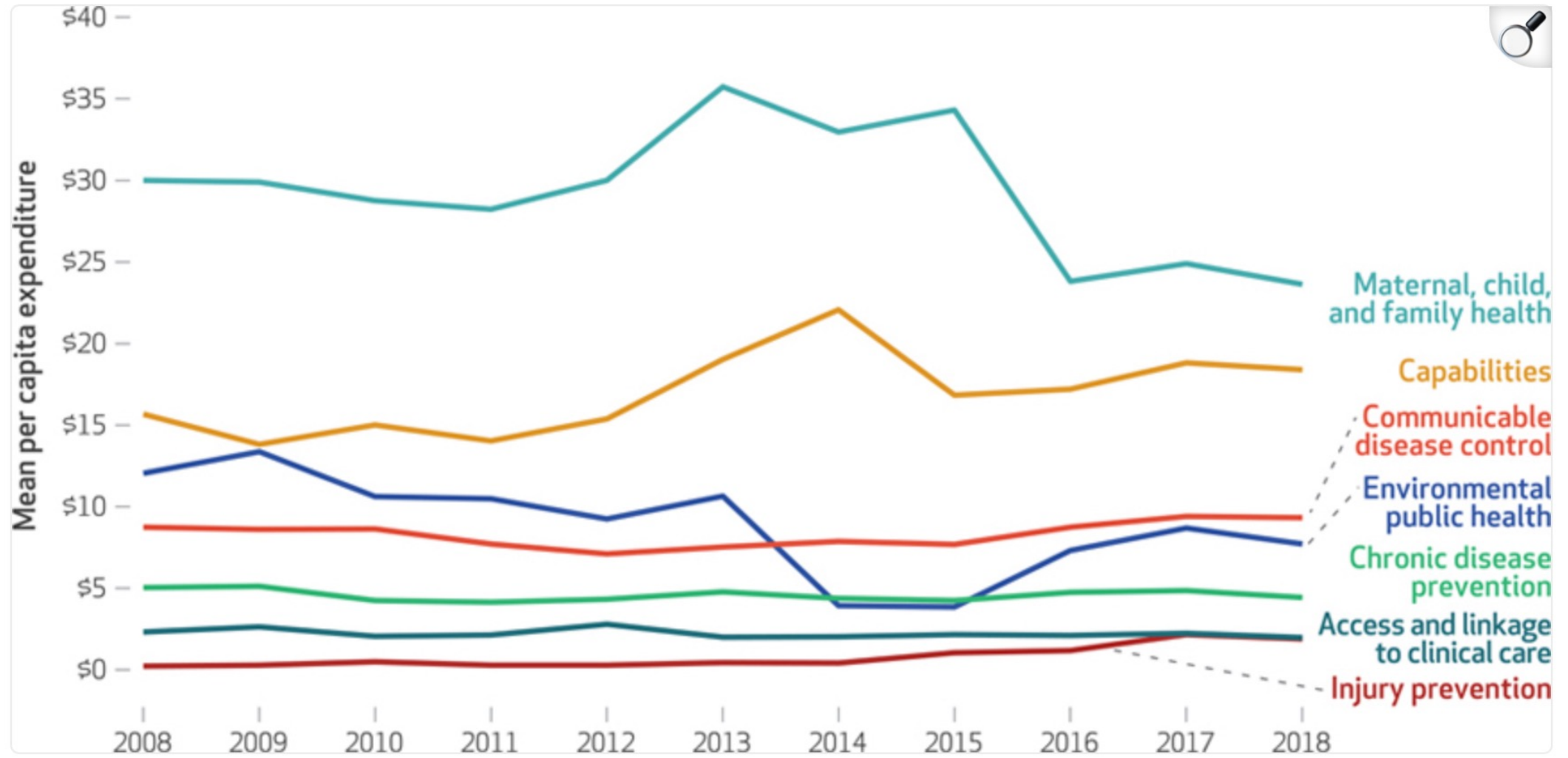
The health emergencies of the past year—from flooding to wildfires, vaping-associated lung injuries to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19)—are a stark reminder of the critical importance of a standing-ready public health infrastructure and workforce. Such a public health system requires adequate and sustained funding.

Public Health Spending Drops

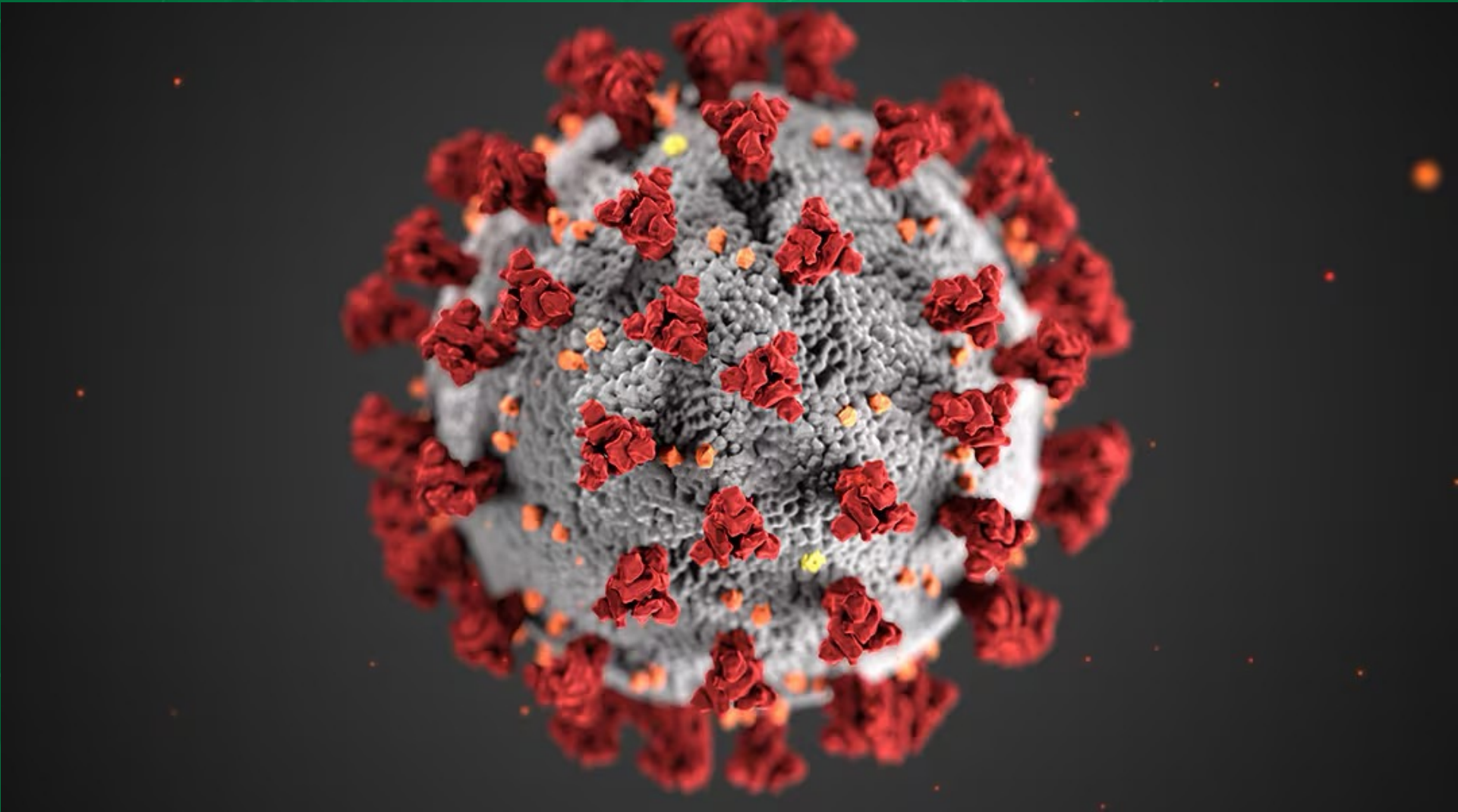
Trust for America's Health (TFAH) has found a chronic pattern of underfunding of these vital programs in its annual analysis of the nation's investment in public health. This year's report comes to the same conclusion: the nation's public health system is seriously underfunded, and this lack of investment puts Americans' lives at risk. Furthermore, the impact of this underinvestment gets worse each year as the range and severity of health security threats continue to grow.

estimated \$3.6 trillion annually on health, less than 3 percent public health and prevention. Furthermore, public health health spending has been decreasing since 2000 and falling in Great Recession. Health departments across the country are with 20th century resources. The COVID-19 crisis worst of terms.

State governmental spending trends in public health activities, 2008–18.



Alfonso et al, 2021



Credit: CDC Museum

Spatial distribution of COVID-19 incidence rates per 100,000 people (maps on the top), and spatial distribution of COVID-19 related mortality rates per 100,000 people (maps on the bottom) during the three time periods of the study.

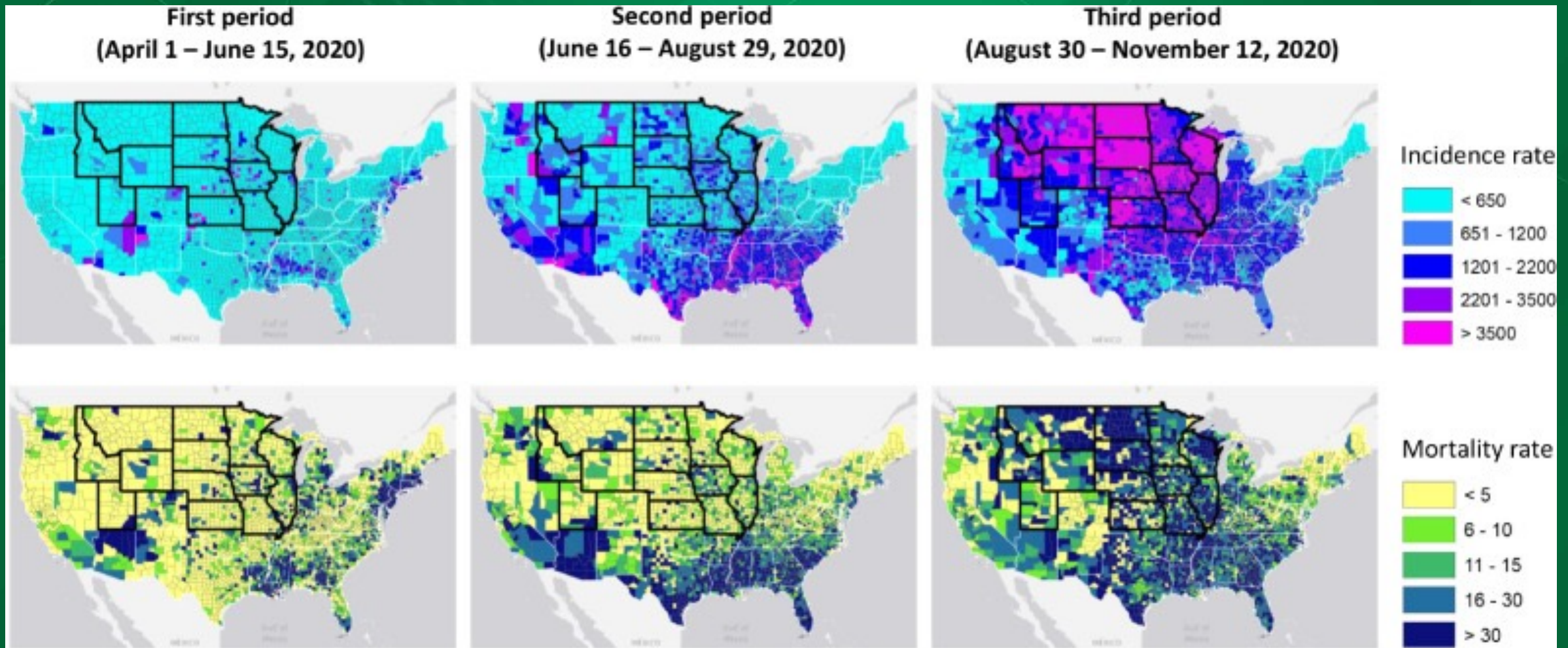
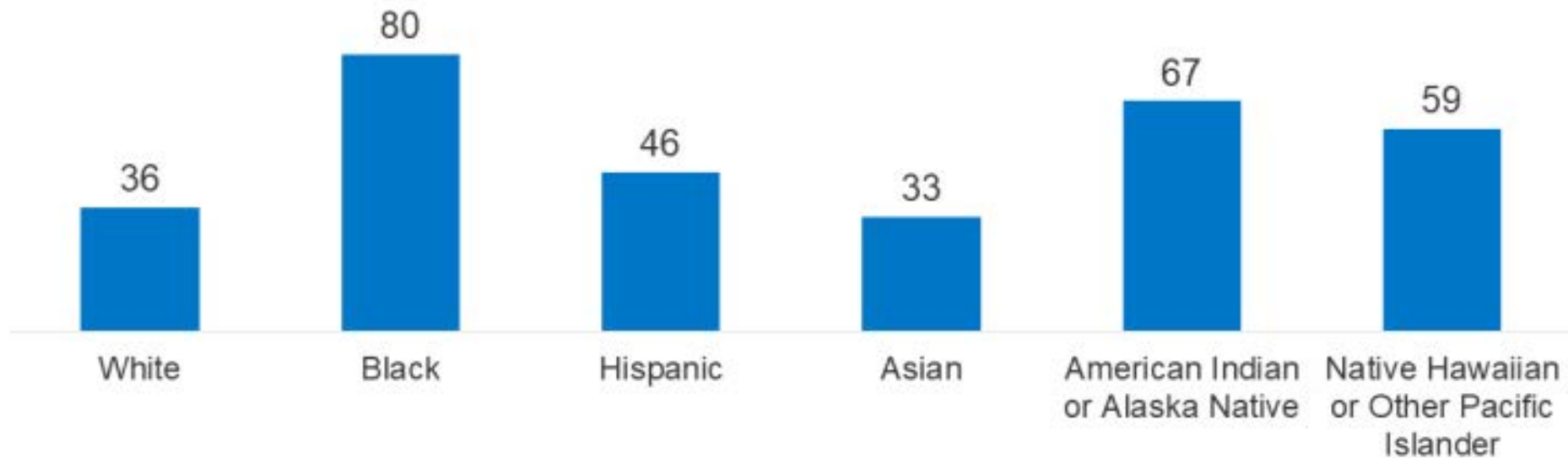


Figure 1

COVID-19 Mortality Rates by Race/Ethnicity, as of August 4, 2020

Per 100,000 people:



NOTE: Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race, but are categorized as Hispanic; other groups are non-Hispanic.

SOURCE: APM Research Lab, *The Color of Coronavirus: COVID-19 Deaths by Race and Ethnicity in the U.S.*, accessed August 11, 2020, <https://www.apmresearchlab.org/covid/deaths-by-race>

The background is a solid green color with various faint, light-colored geometric patterns. These include circles, squares, and lines, some of which are slightly blurred or semi-transparent, creating a layered, architectural feel. The patterns are scattered across the frame, with some appearing as concentric circles and others as parallel lines or simple shapes.

Building Trust

Public Health in Crisis Today

- Despite advances in understanding social determinants and health equity, key health indicators continue to stagnate or worsen.
- Public health excels at measuring the failures of our field.
- Public health has become adept at identifying problems but less effective at creating solutions, especially in terms of advocacy and policy change.
- The public increasingly views public health as disconnected from the real needs of communities.
- Key problems include declining trust in health institutions, underfunding, and a technocratic approach that lacks a focus on societal transformation.

Leading With Our Values

- The US public has low levels of trust in public health agencies and state and local health departments. While the US economy overall has bounced back many communities are still struggling, as they were before the pandemic.
- Driven by partisanship, a general distrust in the US's health institutions, a generational failure to redress health disparities, and a “what have you done for me lately” frustration, health experts and actors poll badly in terms of the trust of the US people.
- Public health must rebuild trust, refocus efforts, and push for transformative change through ethical leadership.
- The field needs a revitalization, with ethics playing a central role in guiding both actions and policies.
- 2019 revised Public Health Code of Ethics provides a moral foundation for the field, similar to what Mann called for 20+ years before.

From the 2019 Code

This code is not a disciplinary or regulatory document; its importance derives from values and standards widely shared in the public health profession and from the force of reasoned argument. It is meant to address the field of public health, and it is not intended to be used to discipline and sanction professional misconduct. It offers a discussion of ethics that is sensitive to the varied nature of public health work and the contexts in which it takes place. It provides an ethical framework to guide both individuals and organizations engaged in the pursuit of the health of the public. Regulation, supervision, and formal enforcement play their part in ensuring that professional conduct meets high ethical standards, but these matters should be addressed by duly authorized agencies and organizations.

2019 Public Health Code of Ethics



Operationalize The Code: Reach Out and Listen to US Communities

- Recommendation:
 - To start to redress these challenges, the CDC director, the president of the National Academy of Medicine, leaders of state and local public health authorities, and the deans of schools of public health around the country should host listening tours in communities across the US, especially in two types of communities:
 - where hyper-partisanship and other factors have fostered resistance to public health interventions and poor health outcomes; and
 - where legacies of medical distrust, medical racism, barriers to access our health care system, and the impact of health disparities loom large and impact trust in public health.
 - We acknowledge that efforts such as this have been done in the past, including by the CDC and the Surgeon General of the United States. However, a more robust and intentional effort is needed, especially amidst the increased polarization that is fuelling mistrust in public health.

Building Confidence

Embrace New Public Health Technologies (with caution)

- Emerging technologies like machine learning, wearable health devices, and advanced data analytics offer exciting possibilities for public health.
- Public health will have to work to protect its structural and health determinants-driven mission in the coming years as potentially revolutionary new technologies seek to improve the public's health in new ways.
- Public health technologies must be designed with equity in mind to avoid exacerbating existing health disparities. Furthermore, algorithmic biases may in turn foster and amplify many of the disparities by becoming “systems of discrimination.”

Public Health Is A Political Endeavor. Treat it That Way

- Public health policy cannot be separated from politics. Politicization of public health is inevitable and must be addressed.
- Somehow, public health authorities are not prepared for the political nature of pandemics, which any student of the histories of medicine and public health could tell you was the least surprising aspect of the COVID-19 pandemic and the public's response to it.
- Public health professionals should advocate for evidence-based policies, engage with political processes, and build stronger ties with political scientists, sociologists, and historians.
- **Recommendation:** Include more interdisciplinary training in public health education to equip future leaders with the skills needed to navigate political challenges.



Reinvigorate, Expand, and Diversify the Public Health Workforce

- The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted gaps in the public health workforce.
- Focus on expanding the workforce to include more community health workers, peer educators, and other roles that directly engage with communities.
- A focus on expanding the public health workforce should also introduce more economically and racially diverse students into the public health workforce and address a longstanding gap in this area.
- **Recommendation:** To build a stronger, more nimble public health workforce across the country, the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) or other accrediting bodies should commit to expanding their imprimatur beyond bachelor's and doctoral programs at colleges and universities and invest in supporting community and junior colleges in establishing accredited programs for public health and related associate's degrees.

Refocusing Our Field

Rethink Public Health Training

- Public health schools/training programs have become too siloed, focusing on specific disciplines (e.g., epidemiology, social health, policy). This approach provides few opportunities for nurturing and creating transformational thinkers who can navigate the complex political, economic, and ideological terrain that public health is faced with.
- Collaboration with disciplines like sociology, ethics, and history can provide fresh perspectives on persistent challenges.
- Encourage interdisciplinary, solutions-driven research and training to prepare future public health leaders to tackle complex societal problems AND NIH and other funders of research should prioritize and expand funding opportunities that privilege inter- and trans-disciplinary approaches to solving stubborn public health issues.

Rethink Research Priorities



Solution

We must ensure that research is driven by the needs of communities and the ethical imperative to address health inequities, not just funder priorities.



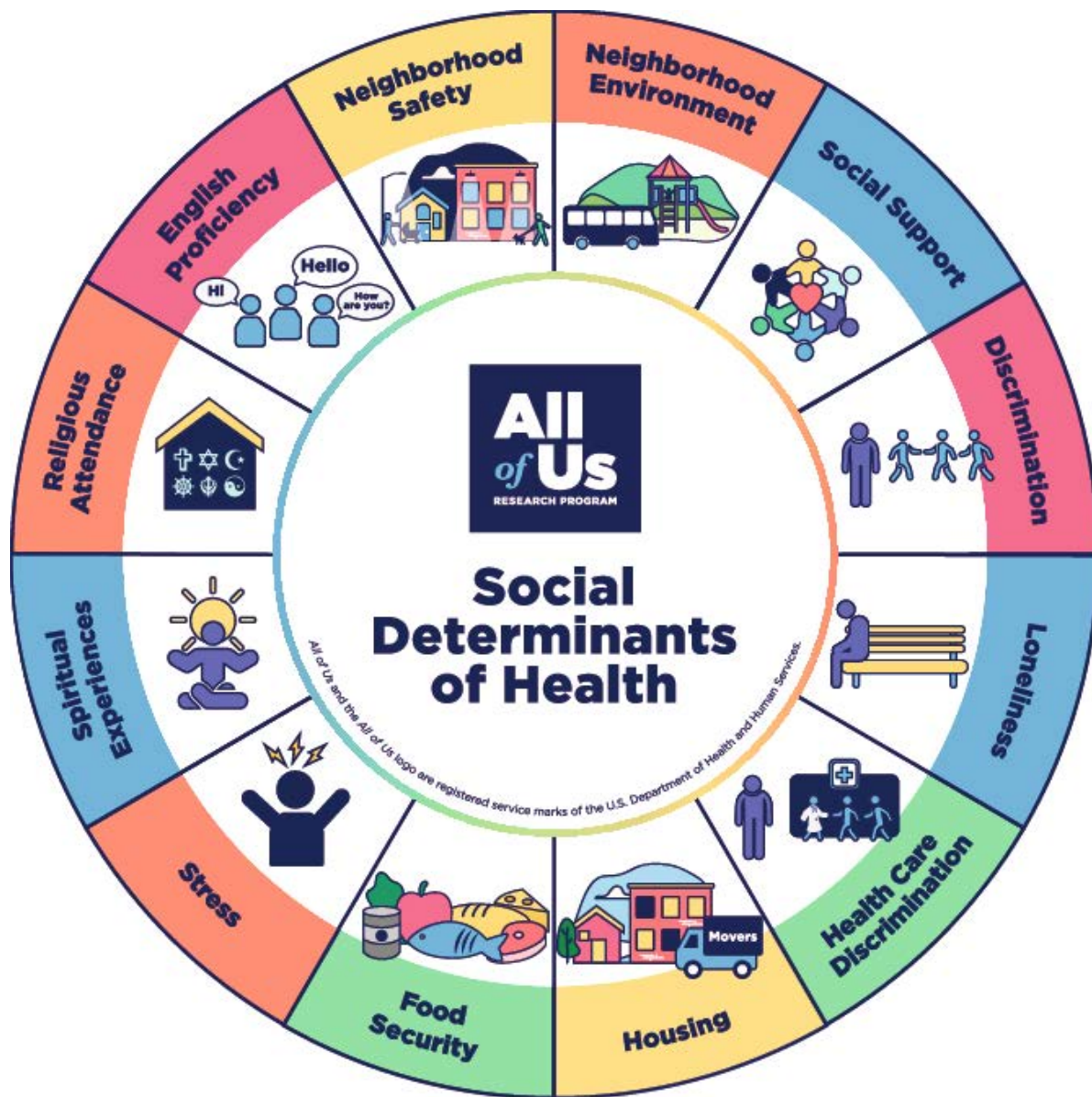
Action

Support research into community-based health solutions and partnerships with the legal system.



The background is a solid green color with various faint, light-colored geometric patterns. These include overlapping circles, concentric circles, and lines forming squares and rectangles. Some of these shapes have a subtle gradient or are composed of multiple parallel lines, creating a textured, technical feel.

***How Can Allied Health
Fields Help?***



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Public Health/Clinical Partnerships

- Continue to improve public health education for allied health students
- Rethink the divide between public health and clinical practice
- Leverage AI tools to integrate social and biological determinant data
- Create guidelines for the use of social determinants of health in all health fields
- Build on successes, including leveraging health determinants to improve care (examples include collaborative work in harm reduction, housing and the ER, county/city/community health clinics)
- **Operationalize:** As of Jan. 1, 2024, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) began requiring healthcare organizations to screen for five social risk drivers, a task that was voluntary in 2023. The required five SDOH domains are: food insecurity, interpersonal safety, housing insecurity, transportation insecurity, and utilities. (Journal of AHIMA, February 2024)



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Panel Discussion Question Cards

Please write your questions on the index cards provided. The question cards will be collected at the end of the keynote address. Panelists will address as many as possible.

Thank you!



Panel Discussion



Adrian KC Lee PhD, ScD
University of Washington



Patricia Prelock PhD, CCC-SLP, BCS-CL, FNAP-SLP
University of Vermont



Rahul Shrivastav PhD, CCC-SLP
Indiana University

Panel Discussion



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**Thank You for
Attending!**

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