



INTRODUCTION AND DEFINITIONS

RACIAL EQUITY 101

WHAT IS CUE'S MISSION?

Chicago United for Equity is working to build a city that is just, equitable, and inclusive. That means we have a city that feels fair and works for all of us, no matter our skin color.

WHAT IS RACIAL EQUITY?

What could you guess about two groups of Chicagoans if you heard that:

On average, one group has more highly-rated schools in their neighborhood.

On average, one group spends less time traveling to get to work.

On average, one group lives longer than the other.

If you guessed that the group with fewer highly-rated schools nearby, a longer commute, and shorter lifespan is disproportionately Black and Latino, you would be right. This is true because our government has consistently given more power and access to neighborhoods with majority-white populations. Historically - and today - white communities are more likely to have better funded schools, better funded parks, and receive better healthcare and other supports than communities of color.

In a racially equitable city, we know that there would still be different outcomes across our diverse city. We're fighting for a future where race can't predict those life outcomes. We also know that by creating a just system, we will see better outcomes for all groups.

WHY DOES EQUITY REQUIRE GOVERNMENT REFORM?

From the start of our country, we've tried to be a nation where "all people are created equal." But throughout our history, our government has assigned different rights and privileges to people based on the color of their skin. Examples of this include slavery, pushing native people out of their lands, and limiting which racial groups could receive a home loan to purchase homes in particular Chicago neighborhoods. This history leaves a legacy of deep racial disparities in health, income, education, housing and more.

Today, our policies often seem like they're not about race, but about neighborhoods. But in a city as segregated as Chicago, the way we treat certain neighborhoods is a quiet way to treat certain racial groups better or worse. We can see this in neighborhoods where communities struggle to keep schools open, homes affordable, and streets safe.

What does racial inequity look like? Thanks to Chicago's research community, we can see it in numbers. Chicago's white, black, and Latinx populations are each about one-third of the city population. These reports did not have enough data on Asian and Indigenous populations in Chicago to provide a full picture of local trends in these populations.

HOUSING

The median value of white-owned homes is \$275,000, \$180,000 for Latinx-owned homes, and \$145,000 for Black-owned homes. Homes in majority-Black neighborhoods are valued at 28% less than similar homes in comparable neighborhoods with less than 1% Black residents.

The city owns 56 acres of land in majority-white neighborhoods of Chicago. No city-owned land in these areas has been used to build a single affordable housing unit. In the last 25 years, the city has built HALF of all subsidized housing in 5 out of 50 wards. At the same time, 27 wards did not built a single unit of subsidized housing.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In 2015, the median family income for white Chicagoans was \$81,702, \$47,308 for Latinx Chicagoans, and \$36,720 for Black Chicagoans. This means that family income has increased 39.1% for white Chicagoans, 12.8% for Latino Chicagoans, and decreased 1.1% for Black Chicagoans since 1960.

EDUCATION

Ten years after starting high school in Chicago Public Schools, this the percentage of students who completed a bachelor's degree: 27% of white men, 36% of white women, 11% of Latinos, 16% of Latinas, 6% of black men, and 13% of black women.

JUSTICE

Data on Chicago Police Department stops conducted from May to August of 2014 shows that 9% of these stops involved white people, 17% Latinx, and 72% involved Black people. Each group is approximately one-third of our city.

HEALTH

Health rates from 2014 show that infant mortality (per 1,000 live births) was 4.3% for white Chicagoans, 5.9% for Latino Chicagoans, and 11.6% for Black Chicagoans.