OCTOBER 2019

RACIAL wealth DIVIDE IN Newark

PROSPERITY NOW

The Racial Wealth Divide in Newark, NJ

Dear Reader,

The U.S. economy is built on a structurally unequal foundation that imposes systemic barriers to economic opportunities for many communities of color. This inequality is prevalent in cities across the nation, though it is always shaped by unique local socio-economic conditions. The Racial Wealth Divide Initiative at Prosperity Now developed this profile to better understand how racial economic inequality affects the City of Newark, New Jersey and its surrounding region and to help strengthen resources for the people of Newark.

How Do I Use This Profile?

This profile touches on the history of racial discrimination and presents data on economic inequality in Newark. It should be used as a tool to build awareness about economic injustice and the long-term effects that limit economic opportunities for communities of color. The statistics included here may seem overwhelming, but we know that with more information about root causes and consequences of local racial economic inequality there is greater opportunity to identify practices and policies that can better address this national challenge.

How Does Newark, New Jersey Compare to the Rest of the Nation?

The issue of wealth inequality has a multitude of ramifications for communities and families, but Newark, NJ is a unique city as it relates to race and economics. With a population of 282,803, people of color are the majority. Black households account for about 48% of the population, followed by Latino households with 36% of the population, White households with 11% and Asian households representing 2%. In Newark, communities of all races generally struggle more than their peers nationwide. Despite significant economic challenges, however, Newark's White population often has better economic outcomes than its Black, Asian and Latino populations.

What stands out in Newark is the rapid shift in demographics and the long-lasting impact of the Newark Rebellion of 1967 on all racial and ethnic groups. Furthermore, there is a striking contrast of economic mobility between Newark neighborhoods and their affluent nearby suburbs. Looking toward the future, it will be important to ensure that initiatives aimed at reducing poverty and increasing economic mobility reach those who need it most.

What's Next?

As the city continues to grow at an impressive rate, the challenge for stakeholders will be to maintain a growing economy that does not increase racial economic inequality for marginalized communities.

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The Racial Wealth Divide in Newark

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Newark, NJ is in Essex County and is the most populous city in the state. After reaching its peak of 442,337 residents in 1930, the city began to see a decline in White residents in the 1940s that accelerated after the Newark Rebellion of 1967. The Newark Rebellion was sparked by police brutality against a Black cab driver and ended with 26 people reported killed, 750 injured, over 1,000 people jailed and $10 million in property damage.[1]

The aftermath fueled racial tensions, ruined neighborhoods and instilled a notion that Newark was dangerous. This led to the "White flight" we see today, resulting in a shift in the White population from 91% of residents in 1930 before the Rebellion to 44% by 1970. By 2017, Newark's White population only made up 10.7% of total residents, an overall decrease of 92.5% in the number of White residents in the city.

During this time, total population numbers declined yet the city experienced an increase in Black residents. Those already living in Newark were unable to take advantage of suburban housing opportunities due to discriminatory practices in real estate and banking industries.[2] Others moved into the city of Newark as a result of an increase in federal housing programs that resulted in a high proportion of public housing.

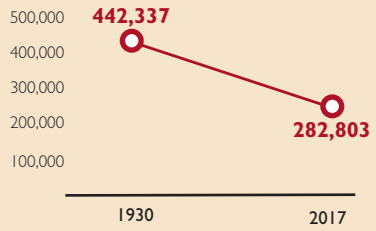
Between 1950 and 1990, the White population continued to decrease from 82.8% to 28.6% while the Black population increased from 17.1% to 58.5%. The city's current population is 282,803, with Black households comprising most of Newark's population despite a decline over the past few years to 48% of the total population.

Black and Latinos households in Newark lag across multiple measures of financial security. Both make less than the city median income of $34,826, earning $31,872 and $33,975, respectively, while Asians do slightly better at $37,229 and Whites make $49,146. Additionally, both Blacks and Latinos are on average two times as likely to live in poverty compared to White households and three times as likely to be liquid asset poor. This means they lack the savings necessary to live above the poverty level for just three months if they lose a job, face a medical crisis or suffer an income disruption or emergency.

[1] "A Walk Through Newark. History. The Riots: Thirteen/WNET." THIRTEEN, www.thirteen.org/newark/history3.html.
[2] Mara S. The Case of Newark, USA. Department of Political Science Rutgers University-Newark USA, www.ucl.ac.uk/dpu-projects/Global_Report/pdfs/Newark.pdf.

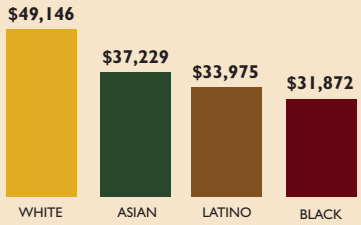
NEWARK HIGHLIGHTS

OVERALL POPULATION DECLINE



Total population decrease of 56.4%

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME



COST-BURDENED RENTERS

63.3%

of Newark renters of color are cost-burdened

INCOME POVERTY

OVER **1/4**

of Black and Latino families are living in income poverty

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NJISJ NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Prudential

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POPULATION SHIFTS, FOREIGN-BORN RESIDENTS, AND RESIDENTIAL SEGREGATION

Newark is one of the oldest cities in the country, settled by the Puritans in the 1600s. The Industrial Revolution and the arrival of European immigrants led to a major increase in population, from 17,000 people in 1840 to 246,070 by the start of the 1900s.[3] Between 1920 and 1930, the Black population increased by over 20,000 as a result of World War I industrialization.[4] By 1960, the Black population tripled, making up 34% of the city's population and increasing to 54% by 1970 with many migrating from the South seeking a better life both economically and politically.

Simultaneously, many of the city's White residents began to move to the suburbs, along with businesses to sustain them. The G.I. Bill of Rights and FHA loans made it easier for Whites to buy a house, and brand-new highways built by the federal government made suburbs a viable option for those who could afford it.[5] During this time, residents were segregated as a result of redlining and other racially discriminatory housing practices, with Black populations often living in poverty and substandard housing. Redevelopment began in the 1990s with a major focus on modern residential development.

1874 bird's-eye view of Newark
Source: Wikipedia Commons

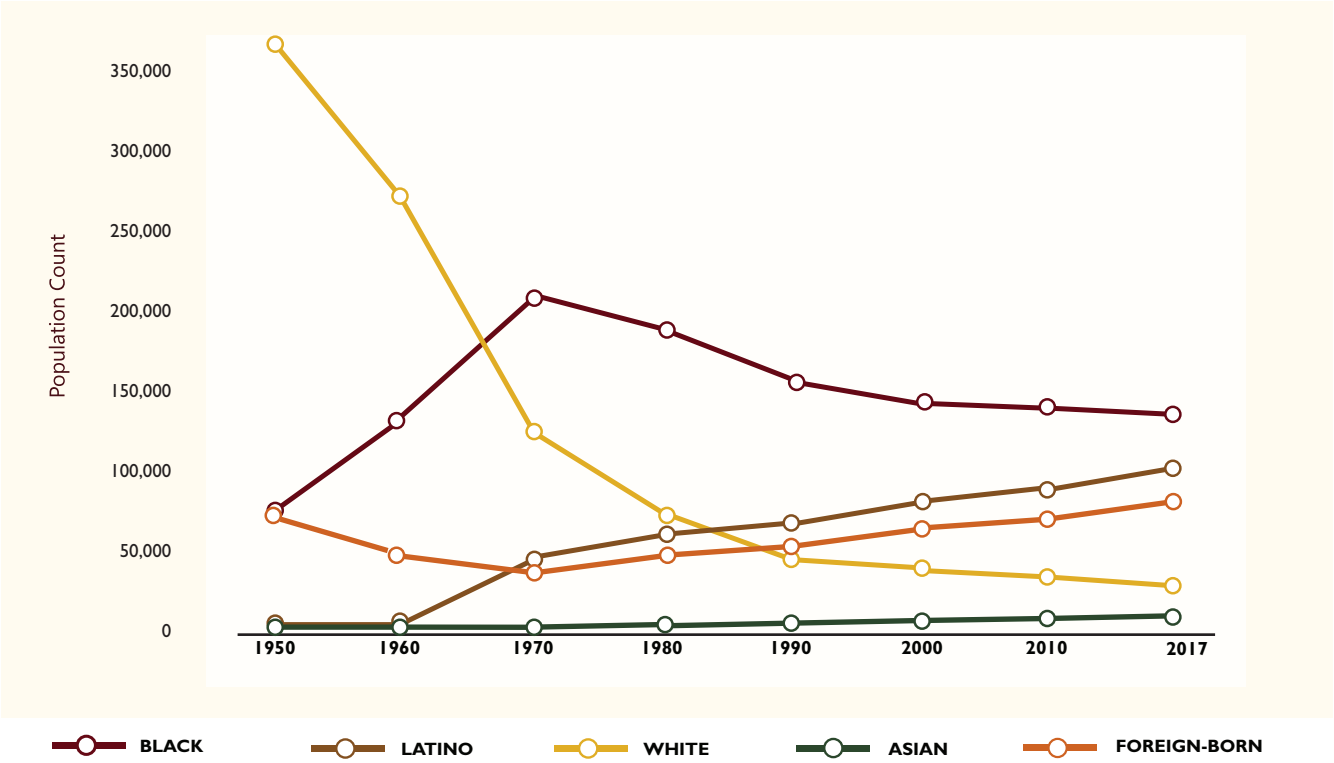
Record high rates of immigration to the US helped to stabilize Newark's population and the city still has a relatively large population of foreign-born residents. It ranks number one overall on the New American Economy's Cities Index that assesses immigrant integration policy and socioeconomic outcomes in the nation's largest 100 cities. Initially attracting immigrants because of its proximity to New York City, Newark has benefitted greatly from the economic and labor force participation of those settling from other countries. Specifically, foreign-born residents contribute to a stable workforce and higher entrepreneurial rates, help fill vacant homes and expand the tax base of the city. As a result, there is a smaller gap between U.S. and foreign-born residents on economic indicators such as poverty rates, educational attainment, and homeownership rates.[6]

While homeownership rates across all groups in Newark are significantly lower than the state and national averages, they are exceptionally low for people of color. Latino residents have a homeownership rate of 20%, while 22.1% of Black residents and 24.5% of Asian residents are homeowners. By contrast, 33.1% of White residents are homeowners in Newark.

Arguably, Newark is currently experiencing a renaissance due to recent local government and business economic development investment efforts. However, many longtime residents are concerned about being displaced as well as other negative effects of gentrification including becoming economically and socially marginalized. Despite these efforts, Newark continues to be segregated with its Black, Latino, and White populations residing in different neighborhoods throughout the city.

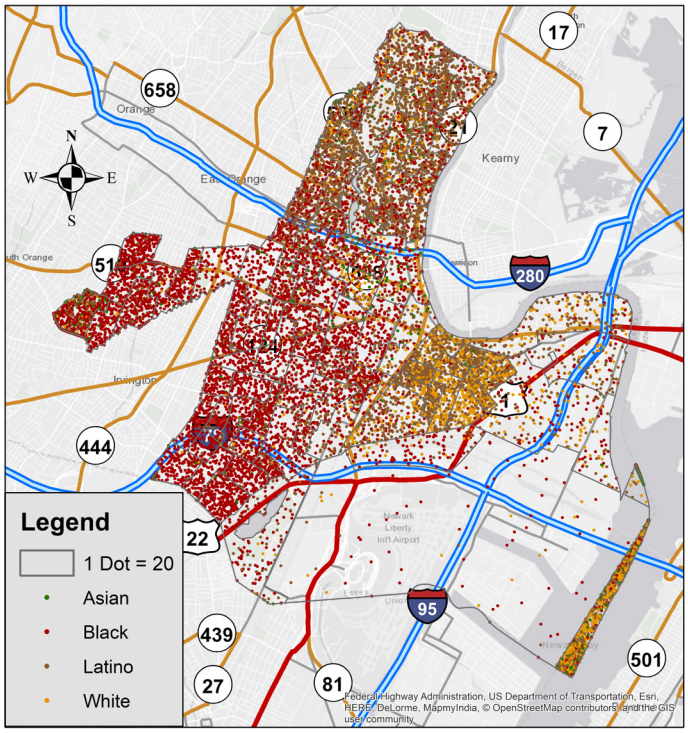
[3] U.S. Census Bureau. Table 31. New Jersey - Race and Hispanic Origin for Selected Large Cities and Other Places: Earliest Census to 1990. United States Census Bureau, Feb. 2005, www.census.gov/population/www/documentation/twps0076/NJtab.pdf.
[4] "A Walk Through Newark. History. The Riots: Thirteen". WNET. THIRTEEN, www.thirteen.org/newark/history3.html.
[5] "African American Migration, Pt. 2 - The North." Newark, riseupnewark.com/chapters/chapter-2/african-american-migration-pt-2/.
[6] www.newamericaneconomy.org/press-release/new-american-economy-releases-nae-cities-index-first-ever-analysis-measuring-effectively-cities-integrating-immigrants/

POPULATION CHANGES BROKEN DOWN BY RACE



Source: 1980 Census. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau, 1980; 1990 Census. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau, 1990; 2000 Census. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau, 2000; 2006-2010 American Community Survey. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau, 2011; 2013-2017 American Community Survey. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau, 2018.

RACIAL BREAKDOWN BY CENSUS TRACT



Newark's five electoral wards, many with distinct historical ethnic-group enclaves, depicts how segregation is not a new concept. The map to the left demonstrates the racial and ethnic concentration of residents in the city of Newark. With each dot representing 20 people, it is clear that racial and ethnic groups in the city tend to reside in more segregated clusters, with each community reflecting the shared culture of that group.

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A STRONG DEVELOPING ECONOMY WITH GROWING RACIAL ECONOMIC INEQUALITY

Newark is the largest city in the state of New Jersey with a population of 282,803. Home to Newark Liberty International Airport and Port Newark-Elizabeth Marine Terminal, the city is also one of the largest air, shipping and rail hubs in the nation.[7] Newark also serves as the headquarters for Prudential Financial, PSEG electric utility company, Audible and Panasonic in addition to campuses for seven colleges and universities.[8] Despite the widespread economic opportunity in Newark, its residents are facing a deep level of economic challenges, especially in communities of color.

As of 2012, 45.5% of businesses in Newark were women-owned and 70.7% were owned by people of color[9] However, despite owning businesses at a lower rate, White businesses in Newark are valued at $1,035,740 while Black owned businesses are valued at $34,299 and business owned by Latinos are valued at $197,706.

The majority of Blacks in Newark are not experiencing economic prosperity. Education is not proving to be the income or wealth gap equalizer. In fact, Black educational attainment rates are higher at both the high school and associate degree levels compared to Whites, yet the median income is $31,872, roughly 35% lower than Whites at $49,146. Further, the unemployment rate for Blacks is 2.5 times higher than that of Whites, at 15.8% compared to 6.2%.

Income poverty rates in Newark, a majority Black and Latino city, stand at 25.1%, 3 times higher than New Jersey overall. Blacks and Latinos are more likely to live in poverty with a rate of 28.4% and 25%, respectively, which is about 2 times more than their White counterparts at 13.5%. These poverty levels help to measure the size of the opportunity gap and highlight the differential access to resources that contribute to the achievement gap and racial wealth divide.

[7] In 2018, Newark Liberty International Airport ranked the 12th busiest in the country based on total passenger traffic. Port Newark-Elizabeth Marine Terminal is the primary shipping facility for goods leaving the New York metropolitan area and is the third largest port in the nation. With almost 18 million annual visitors, Newark Penn Station was ranked the seventh busiest railway station in North America based on annual passenger volume.

[8] Baglivo, Vince. "Real Estate Development Projects Are Transforming More than the Skyline of New Jersey's Largest City." Newark on the Rise, 6 Sept. 2018, njbmagazine.com/special-sections/newark-growth-revitalization/newark-on-the-rise

[9] www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/essexcountynewjersey,newarkcitynewjersey/SBO030212#SBO030212

RACIAL WEALTH DIVIDE IN NEWARK, NJ

Wealth inequality in Newark remains increasingly relevant as both the population and the median household income are growing. Black and Latino renters are more cost-burdened than their White counterparts. White homeowners, however, are more cost-burdened than their Black counterparts.

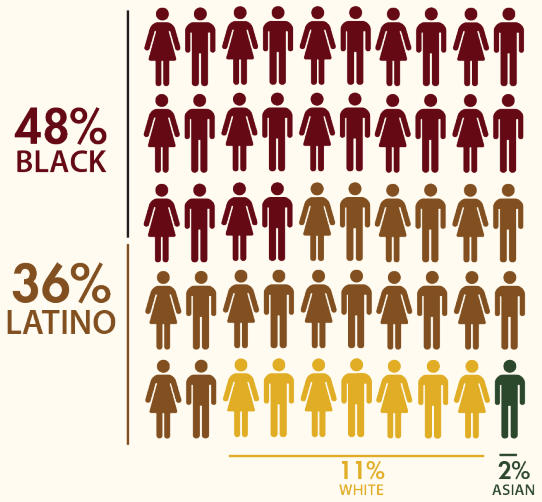
Despite this statistic, Black and Latino communities are doing worse in nearly every other key economic indicator area compared to Whites. High income and asset poverty rates leave many families without the means to save or build a basic safety net for financial emergencies, let alone build the wealth needed to lay the foundation for upward mobility.

HOUSEHOLDS OF COLOR IN NEWARK, NJ IN LIQUID ASSET POVERTY...

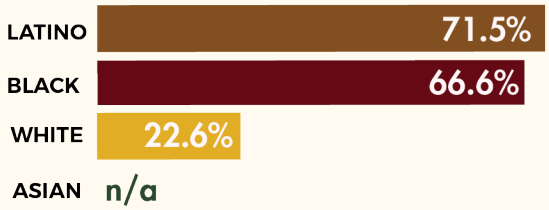
69%

*No data for Asian residents in liquid asset poverty, so this figure shows the % for Black and Latino households.

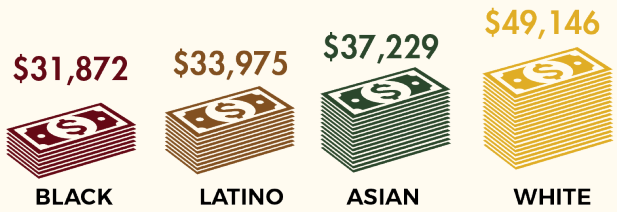
POPULATION



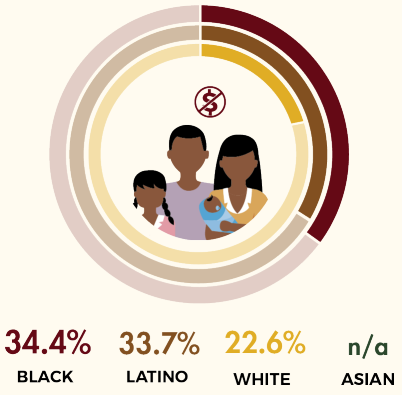
LIQUID ASSET POVERTY



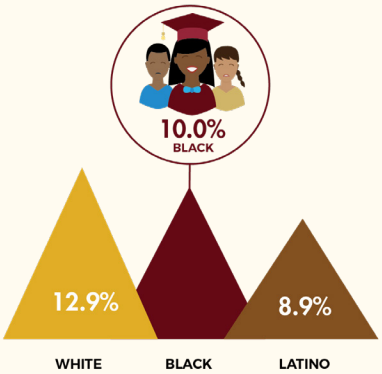
MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME



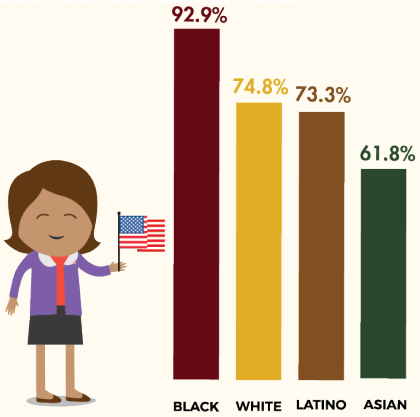
HOUSEHOLD WITH ZERO NET WORTH



BACHELOR'S DEGREE ATTAINMENT



US CITIZENSHIP RATE



Note: Estimates of liquid asset poverty and households with zero net worth not published by Prosperity Now Scorecard are derived from a statistical model to create geographic estimates at the local level and are not meant to directly reflect the SIPP data. Caution should be used in interpreting the local estimates as the statistical model is based on national surveys of fewer than 50,000 households.

Liquid Asset Poverty: A measure of the liquid savings households hold to cover basic expenses for three months if they experienced a sudden job loss, a medical emergency or another financial crisis leading to a loss of stable income.

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UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

BLACK	LATINO	WHITE	ASIAN
15.8%	7.9%	6.2%	n/a

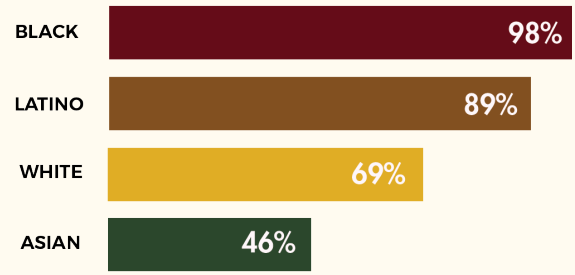
BUSINESS VALUE

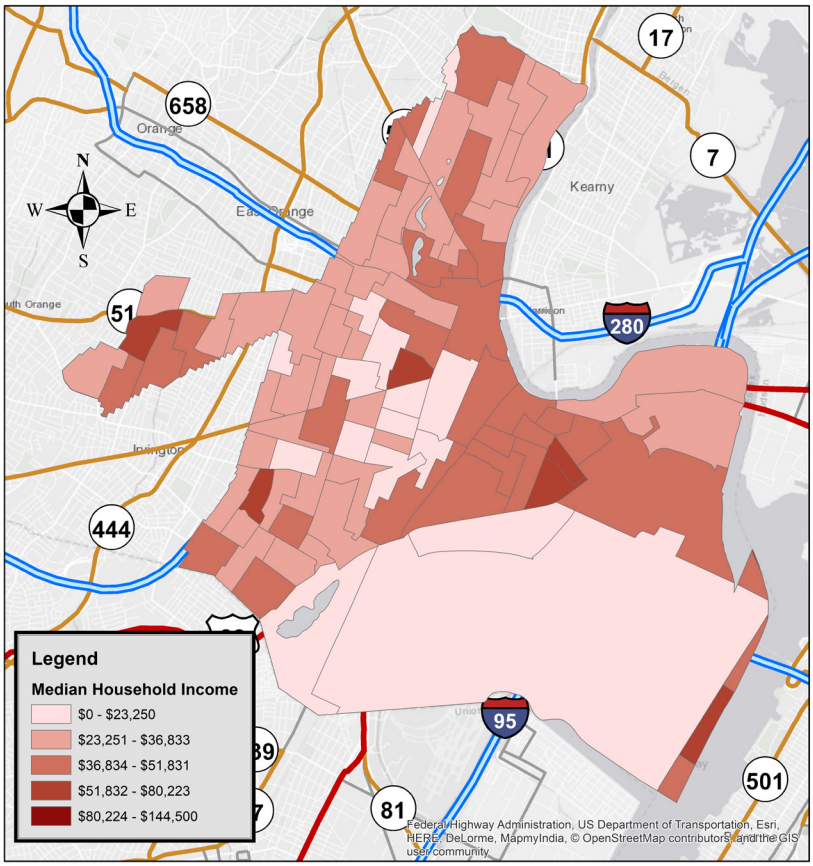
$1,035,740	$481,833	$197,706	$35,299
WHITE	ASIAN	LATINO	BLACK

LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION

66.4%	59.8%	58.4%	56.2%
LATINO	BLACK	ASIAN	WHITE

BUSINESS WITHOUT PAID EMPLOYEES





MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME IN NEWARK, NJ.

Median household income in Newark is significantly lower than the county, state, and national averages. This map to the left displays median household income by census tract. The visual highlights that a large portion of the city has a median household income of $0-$23,250, which is well below the 2019 federal poverty guideline for a family of 4. There are very few areas in the city where median household income is above $80,000.

NEWARK VS. ESSEX COUNTY

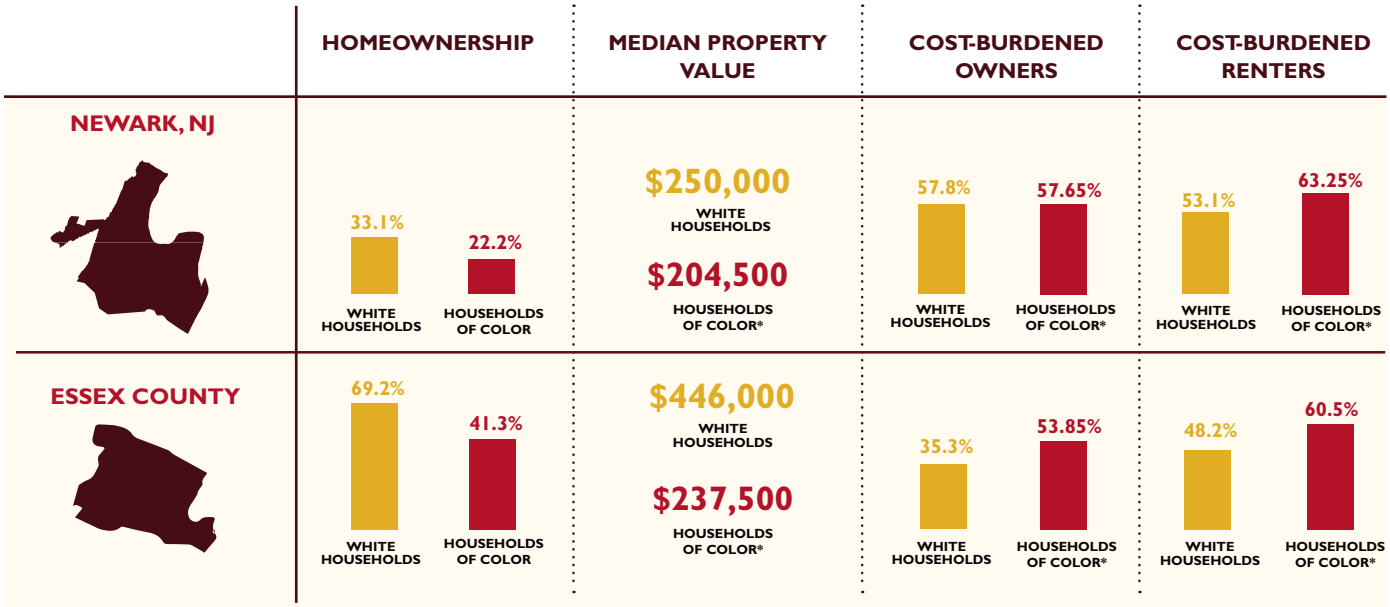
HOUSING, HOMEOWNERSHIP AND ASSET BUILDING

HOMEOWNERSHIP RATES: Homeownership has traditionally been a vital wealth building mechanism. However, there are stark disparities in Newark between racial groups and overall, homeownership rates are lower for every demographic in Newark than that of Essex county and the state of New Jersey.

MEDIAN PROPERTY VALUES: Compared to the national average of $193,500, Newark's median property value of $222,800 is relatively good. However, compared to Essex County's median property value of $362,300, we see a vast difference in the value of homes in Newark. We also see that White homeowners in Essex County are doing much better than their counterparts in Newark across all household financial measures.

COST-BURDENED OWNERS: Newark currently has a lower than average homeownership rate and 57.6% of homeowners in the city are cost-burdened, meaning that they are spending more than 30% of their household income on their monthly mortgage and other selected owner costs. This rate is fairly consistent among White, Black and Latino homeowners. However, it is higher for every demographic in comparison to Essex County and New Jersey where rates are 43.2% and 38%, respectively.

COST-BURDENED RENTERS: Seventy-eight percent of Newark residents are renters, which is the second highest rate in the country.[10] This reality is supported by the low homeownership rates we see overall. Newark renters and homeowners are more cost-burdened than renters and homeowners elsewhere in the county and state. Since 2000, median rents in the city have risen by 20% while median household incomes have decreased by 10%.[11] Given this reality, it's not surprising that in 2016 the city's eviction filing rate was 22.2%, compared to a 6.12% filing rate nationally.[12] This decline in income should be concerning because people of color are the city's largest racial and ethnic group and their continued economic downturn will exacerbate challenges to Newark's overall economy.



*Data for Asian Households not available for Newark, NJ. Households of Color average only includes Black and Latino Households.

[10] Troutt, David. Making Newark Work for Newarkers: Housing and Equitable Growth in the Next Brick City. The Rutgers Center on Law, Inequality & Metropolitan Equity, 2017, law.rutgers.edu/sites/law/files/CLiME%20Report%202018.pdf.
[11] Ibid.
[12] Eviction Lab. "Eviction Map & Data." Eviction Lab, evictionlab.org/map/#/2016?geography=cities&bounds=-74.332,40.668,-74.032,40.794.

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NEWARK: A CITY OF OPPORTUNITIES

While Newark has become a global hub of economic activity, local residents struggle to find their place in an ever-evolving city. As new corporate headquarters and residential properties revitalize the downtown economy, local residents hold just 18% of jobs in the city.[13] The city recently created an Equitable Growth Advisory commission to ensure that all residents can benefit from the city's growing economy.[14] This commission is tasked with overseeing anti-displacement and equitable growth strategies such as inclusionary zoning, rent control, affordable housing, rent-to-own programs and procurement for minority- and women-owned businesses.

One of our partners on this profile, the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice (NJISJ), is proposing a state-wide Individual Development Account (IDA) program to expand financial security and help residents achieve significant financial goals such as purchasing a home or paying for higher education. To learn more about the history of IDAs and best practices for using them as tool to invest in deprived communities, click here for the full report.

Another initiative, Newark 2020, was developed with the goal of decreasing the unemployment gap between the City of Newark and New Jersey overall by connecting 2,020 unemployed residents in Newark to jobs by 2020.[15] NJISJ is the policy lead for the Newark 2020 initiative. Based on the Institute's work, ten apprenticeship bills are pending in the NJ Legislature to expand economic opportunities for people of color, women, youth, and people with disabilities.[16] And while New Jersey's minimum wage is currently $10 per hour, the state has enacted legislation to increase this to $15 by 2024 to further support low-income employees. New Jersey has also adopted policies that provide down payment assistance and direct lending to first-time homebuyers in addition to discrimination protection for Section 8 voucher-holders.

Becoming a city of greater opportunities is possible for Newark. Prosperity Now envisions an economy for our country that eliminates all traces of the racial and ethnic discrimination that pervades jobs, housing, education, healthcare, credit, government services and other aspects of the economy at the national, regional and local levels.

[13] Baer, Demelza, and Ryan Haygood. Bridging the Two Americas: Employment & Economic Opportunity in Newark & Beyond. New Jersey Institute for Social Justice, Bridging the Two Americas: Employment & Economic Opportunity in Newark & Beyond, d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/njisj/pages/545/attachments/original/1494520022/Bridging_the_Two_Americas_rev._5-11a_Without_Crop_Marks.pdf?1494520022

[14] City of Newark. "NEWARK ANNOUNCES CREATION OF COMMISSION TO PREVENT GENTRIFICATION AND ASSURE EQUITABLE GROWTH." City of Newark: Directory, 6 Dec. 2018, www.newarknj.gov/news/newark-announces-creation-of-commission-to-prevent-gentrification-and-assure-equitable-growth

[15] Mayor Baraka Launching 'Newark 2020' Jobs Program, https://observer.com/2017/04/baraka-launching-newark-2020-jobs-program/

[16] Baer, Demelza. Becoming the United States of Opportunity: The Economic Equity and Growth Case for Apprenticeships. New Jersey Institute for Social Justice, 2018, Becoming the United States of Opportunity: The Economic Equity and Growth Case for Apprenticeships, d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/njisj/pages/211/attachments/original/1543957612/Apprenticeship_Report_2018_rev._3.pdf?1543957612.

POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

Data Measures	Newark, NJ	Essex County, NJ	New York–Newark–Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA MSA *	New Jersey	United States
Total Population	282,803	800,401	20,192,042	8,960,161	321,004,407
White	30,186	249,087	9,488,838	5,023,606	197,277,789
Black	136,669	310,404	3,171,107	1,136,347	39,445,495
Asian	4,837	40,966	2,178,643	838,872	16,989,540
Hispanic or Latino	102,895	179,661	4,863,602	1,764,520	56,510,571
Total Households	95,316	280,327	7,168,027	3,199,111	118,825,921
White	11,184	97,778	3,809,358	1,987,620	81,321,245
Black	49,461	113,688	1,200,411	420,796	14,501,052
Asian	1,557	12,323	684,651	261,018	5,405,319
Hispanic or Latino	31,832	53,333	1,436,911	504,177	15,138,148
U.S. Citizenship Rate	82.7%	87.9%	87.1%	90.0%	93.0%
White	74.8%	94.5%	95.8%	97.3%	98.5%
Black	92.9%	90.9%	89.5%	93.2%	95.9%
Asian	61.8%	76.7%	69.7%	69.9%	72.3%
Hispanic or Latino	73.3%	76.5%	76.1%	76.1%	77.7%
Speak English Less Than "Very Well"	23.2%	14.7%	16.9%	12.2%	8.5%
White	32.5%	6.8%	6.1%	3.4%	1.5%
Black	4.0%	5.9%	6.9%	5.1%	3.0%
Asian	36.8%	26.2%	39.2%	28.2%	33.8%
Hispanic or Latino	46.3%	39.8%	37.3%	36.4%	31.0%

HOUSEHOLD FINANCES

Data Measures	Newark, NJ	Essex County, NJ	New York–Newark–Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA MSA *	New Jersey	United States
Median Household Income	$34,826	$57,365	$72,205	$76,475	$57,652
White	$49,146	$98,762	$91,806	$87,328	$63,256
Black	$31,872	$40,394	$48,376	$48,978	$38,183
Asian	$37,229	$112,613	$84,332	$111,651	$80,398
Hispanic or Latino	$33,975	$42,620	$47,369	$51,675	$46,627
Income Poverty Rate	25.1%	13.6%	10.6%	7.9%	10.5%
White	13.5%	3.7%	4.7%	4.0%	6.7%
Black or Black	28.4%	20.9%	16.7%	16.0%	21.3%
Asian	17.4%	3.7%	10.5%	5.1%	8.5%
Hispanic or Latino	25.0%	20.5%	20.1%	17.5%	19.7%
Asset Poverty Rate	52.0%	35.3%	27.7%	23.3%	25.3%
White	35.6%	16.2%	16.6%	11.4%	19.5%
Black	54.3%	48.0%	43.1%	-	43.6%
Asian	-	13.1%	20.3%	-	18.4%
Hispanic or Latino	55.7%	48.7%	47.3%	52.2%	38.5%
Liquid Asset Poverty Rate	65.9%	45.7%	36.9%	32.2%	40.0%
White	22.6%	21.9%	22.3%	18.6%	31.7%
Black	66.6%	60.4%	55.7%	-	62.7%
Asian	-	20.7%	30.8%	-	27.9%
Hispanic or Latino	71.5%	63.7%	62.1%	68.3%	62.5%
Households with Zero Net Worth	32.9%	22.9%	18.2%	15.6%	16.5%
White	22.6%	11.3%	12.2%	-	13.4%
Black	34.4%	31.5%	28.6%	-	29.3%
Asian	-	8.3%	11.7%	-	9.9%
Hispanic or Latino	33.7%	29.7%	28.4%	35.6%	21.9%

* The New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA Metropolitan Statistical Area is defined as the 23 county region of: Bronx County, Kings County, Nassau County, New York County, Putnam County, Queens County, Richmond County, Rockland County, Suffolk County, and Westchester County, New York; Bergen County, Essex County, Hudson County, Hunterdon County, Middlesex County, Monmouth County, Morris County, Ocean County, Passaic County, Somerset County, Sussex County, and Union County, New Jersey; and Pike County, Pennsylvania.

"-" indicates that no data is available

PROSPERITY NOW

EMPLOYMENT AND BUSINESS OWNERSHIP

Data Measures	Newark, NJ	Essex County, NJ	New York–Newark–Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA MSA *	New Jersey	United States
Labor Force Participation Rate	61.9%	65.9%	64.6%	65.5%	63.0%
White	56.2%	64.1%	64.2%	64.2%	62.1%
Black	59.8%	65.0%	63.1%	64.5%	62.0%
Asian	58.4%	68.3%	64.5%	66.8%	64.5%
Hispanic or Latino	66.4%	69.2%	66.4%	69.9%	66.9%
Unemployment Rate	11.7%	7.7%	5.4%	5.3%	5.3%
White	6.2%	4.1%	4.1%	4.5%	4.2%
Black	15.8%	12.1%	8.9%	9.6%	9.5%
Asian	-	3.8%	4.1%	4.0%	4.2%
Hispanic or Latino	7.9%	6.6%	6.3%	5.3%	6.0%
Businesses Without Paid Employees	80.1%	78.4%	78.7%	76.7%	80.4%
White	69.2%	73.9%	76.5%	76.5%	79.4%
Black	97.6%	96.5%	96.0%	94.8%	95.8%
Asian	46.2%	60.6%	75.1%	68.4%	74.9%
Hispanic or Latino	89.3%	88.8%	91.6%	89.4%	91.3%
Business Value	$2,727,255	$1,486,794	$1,223,731	$1,556,719	$1,213,944
White	$1,035,740	$692,532	$586,125	$620,936	$508,406
Black	$34,299	$37,901	$49,570	$65,587	$58,119
Asian	$481,833	$413,829	$334,838	$537,276	$364,717
Hispanic or Latino	$197,706	$173,309	$89,490	$130,576	$143,271

HOUSING AND HOMEOWNERSHIP

Data Measures	Newark, NJ	Essex County, NJ	New York–Newark–Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA MSA *	New Jersey	United States
Homeownership Rate	22.8%	44.5%	51.9%	64.1%	63.8%
White	33.1%	69.2%	67.1%	76.9%	71.6%
Black	22.1%	28.2%	32.4%	38.9%	41.9%
Asian	24.5%	66.8%	51.8%	62.0%	58.7%
Hispanic or Latino	20.0%	28.8%	27.1%	35.9%	46.4%
Median Property Value	$222,800	$362,300	$400,000	$300,000	$190,000
White	$250,000	$446,000	$400,000	$305,000	$190,000
Black	$190,000	$200,000	$350,000	$220,000	$130,000
Asian	-	$430,000	$500,000	$400,000	$380,000
Hispanic or Latino	$219,000	$275,000	$350,000	$275,000	$170,000
High-Cost Mortgage Loans	16.6%	5.4%	3.2%	4.0%	4.9%
White	7.2%	1.8%	2.2%	3.1%	4.3%
Black	20.8%	16.0%	9.0%	11.5%	10.1%
Asian	13.0%	1.6%	2.5%	1.4%	2.2%
Hispanic or Latino	19.3%	13.5%	9.1%	11.5%	10.7%
Cost-Burdened Renters	60.4%	55.8%	53.8%	52.8%	50.6%
White	53.1%	48.2%	47.7%	48.7%	46.7%
Black	62.6%	58.3%	57.5%	58.5%	57.8%
Asian	-	46.7%	49.6%	36.2%	45.6%
Hispanic or Latino	63.9%	62.6%	60.3%	59.4%	56.7%
Cost-Burdened Owners	57.6%	43.2%	41.5%	38.0%	29.5%
White	57.8%	35.3%	32.8%	35.4%	26.8%
Black	55.5%	53.5%	47.5%	47.5%	38.8%
Asian	-	32.4%	43.3%	36.1%	36.0%
Hispanic or Latino	59.8%	54.2%	49.2%	50.6%	39.5%

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Data Measures	Newark, NJ	Essex County, NJ	New York–Newark–Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA MSA *	New Jersey	United States
High School Degree or Higher	73.1%	85.2%	86.5%	89.9%	88.0%
White	61.8%	91.7%	94.3%	94.5%	92.9%
Black	82.5%	85.7%	84.9%	87.2%	85.9%
Asian	-	93.7%	82.8%	92.2%	86.9%
Hispanic or Latino	62.0%	71.5%	71.5%	75.3%	68.7%

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Data Measures	Newark, NJ	Essex County, NJ	New York–Newark–Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA MSA *	New Jersey	United States
Associate's or Other Two-Year Degree	5.1%	5.6%	7.2%	6.5%	8.3%
White	4.5%	4.2%	7.6%	6.8%	8.8%
Black	6.0%	7.0%	7.8%	7.2%	8.2%
Asian	-	5.0%	5.7%	4.7%	6.7%
Hispanic or Latino	4.6%	5.7%	6.3%	5.7%	6.2%
Bachelor's Degree	11.4%	21.1%	22.9%	24.2%	19.7%
White	12.2%	30.2%	25.1%	26.0%	21.3%
Black	10.0%	13.1%	14.3%	15.0%	12.8%
Asian	-	32.1%	30.2%	37.5%	30.1%
Hispanic or Latino	8.9%	12.9%	12.0%	12.7%	10.3%
Graduate or Professional Degree	4.1%	14.4%	16.7%	15.6%	12.3%
White	7.3%	23.2%	19.1%	16.0%	13.2%
Black	4.4%	6.5%	8.1%	8.2%	7.6%
Asian	-	35.6%	22.7%	31.2%	22.7%
Hispanic or Latino	2.0%	4.7%	6.0%	5.2%	4.8%

DATA MEASURES AND SOURCES

Data Measure		Measure Description	Source
Population Demographics	Total Households	Total number of households	U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey
	Total Population	Total population	U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey
	Population with Disability	Percentage of population living with a disability	U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey
	U.S. Citizenship Rate	Percentage of population that are U.S. citizens	U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey
	Speak English Less Than "Very Well"	Percentage of population that speaks English less than "very well"	U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey
Household Finances	Median Household Income	Median household income in the past 12 months	U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey
	Income Poverty Rate	Percentage of all families with income in the past 12 months below the federal poverty threshold	U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey
	Asset Poverty Rate	Percentage of households without sufficient net worth to subsist at the poverty level for three months in the absence of income	Estimates calculated by Marin Economic Consulting, based on U.S. Census Bureau's 2014 Survey of Income and Program Participation, Wave 2 (2014) and 2013-2017 American Community Survey
	Liquid Asset Poverty Rate	Percentage of households without sufficient liquid assets to subsist at the poverty level for three months in the absence of income	Estimates calculated by Marin Economic Consulting, based on U.S. Census Bureau's 2014 Survey of Income and Program Participation, Wave 2 (2014) and 2013-2017 American Community Survey
	Households with Zero Net Worth	Percentage of households with zero or negative net worth	Estimates calculated by Marin Economic Consulting, based on U.S. Census Bureau's 2014 Survey of Income and Program Participation, Wave 2 (2014) and 2013-2017 American Community Survey
Employment & Business Ownership	Labor Force Participation Rate	Percentage of civilian labor force who are employed or unemployed but actively searching for employment	U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey
	Unemployment Rate	Percentage of civilian labor force who are unemployed but actively searching for employment	U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey
	Businesses Without Paid Employees	Percentage of total businesses that do not employ paid workers	U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 Survey of Business Owners
	Business Value	Average sales or receipts earned per firm	U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 Survey of Business Owners
Housing & Homeownership	Homeownership Rate	Percentage of occupied housing units that are owner occupied	U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey
	Median Property Value	Median value, in 2014 dollars, of owner-occupied housing units.	U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey
	Cost-Burdened Renters	Percentage of renter-occupied units spending 30% or more of household income on	U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey
	Cost-Burdened Owners	Percentage of mortgaged owners spending 30% or more of household income on selected monthly owner costs	U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey
	High-Cost Mortgage	Percentage of all home loans made to borrowers that were high cost.	Home Mortgage Disclosure Act, 2016
Educational Attainment	High School Degree	Percentage of population 25 and older who have at least a high school degree, GED or alternative degree	U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey
	Associate's or Other Two-Year Degree	Percentage of population 25 and older who have an associate's degree or other	U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey
	Bachelor's Degree	Percentage of population 25 and older who have a bachelor's (4 year college) degree only	U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey
	Graduate or Professional Degree	Percentage of population 25 and older who have a graduate or professional degree	U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey

PROSPERITY NOW

RACIAL WEALTH DIVIDE PARTNERS IN NEWARK

New Jersey Institute for Social Justice (NJISJ) The mission of the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice is to empower urban residents to realize and achieve their full potential. The Institute's dynamic and independent advocacy is aimed at toppling load-bearing walls of structural inequality to create just, vibrant, and healthy urban communities. The Institute employs a broad range of advocacy tools to advance its ambitious urban agenda, including research, analysis and writing, public education, grassroots organizing, communications, the development of pilot programs, legislative strategies, and litigation. Using a holistic approach to address the unique and critical issues facing New Jersey's urban communities, the Institute advocates for systemic reform that is at once transformative, achievable in the state, and replicable in communities across the nation.

Prudential Foundation was founded on the belief that financial security should be within reach for everyone. A strong sense of social responsibility has remained embedded in the company, guiding their efforts to help people now and in future generations achieve peace of mind and a more secure future.

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ABOUT PROSPERITY NOW

Prosperity Now believes that everyone deserves a chance to prosper. Our mission is to ensure that everyone in our country has a clear path to financial stability, wealth, and prosperity, particularly people of color and low-wealth families.

To advance our mission, we create and support programs and policies that foster an economy that offers an opportunity to those who have not had it before. Additionally, by focusing on assets and savings, we make sure people have the tools they need to build wealth and a better future. Finally, through research, solutions, and policies, we fight for economic mobility for everyone in the United States.

For the past 40 years, Prosperity Now has been at the forefront of launching new initiatives aimed at improving economic mobility for low-income households. From researching and supporting children's savings accounts—which make it easier for low-income children to build savings to get to and through college—to building the capacity of hundreds of organizations to provide financial stability services to their communities. Prosperity Now has an extensive history of researching, designing, and testing solutions aimed at increasing financial security and economic mobility for everyone in the United States, and looks forward to continuing to bring all of our approaches to bear on the growing racial economic and wealth disparities plaguing our country.

Racial Wealth Divide Initiative (RWDI) at Prosperity Now works to strengthen the ability of all Prosperity Now's programs to proactively address racial wealth inequality and deepen analysis of asset poverty challenges impacting communities of color. RWDI launches and implements projects that highlight best practices for eradicating racial wealth inequality, including collaborating with local and regional organizations. RWDI supports the efforts of Prosperity Now and its partners to drive policy solutions that reduce racial economic inequality at the national, state and local levels.

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