

In 2021, there were **73.6 million** children 0 to 17 years old living in the United States

Leading causes of death for children (1-17) are:

1
Accidents
(Unintentional injuries)
Car accidents, drownings, falls

2
Assault
Gun violence & other unlawful use of force

3
Intentional self-harm
Suicide

Firearms are the single biggest cause of death for children in the United States

1 in 25 American five-year-olds today will not make it to their 40th birthday. These young deaths are caused overwhelmingly by external causes such as:

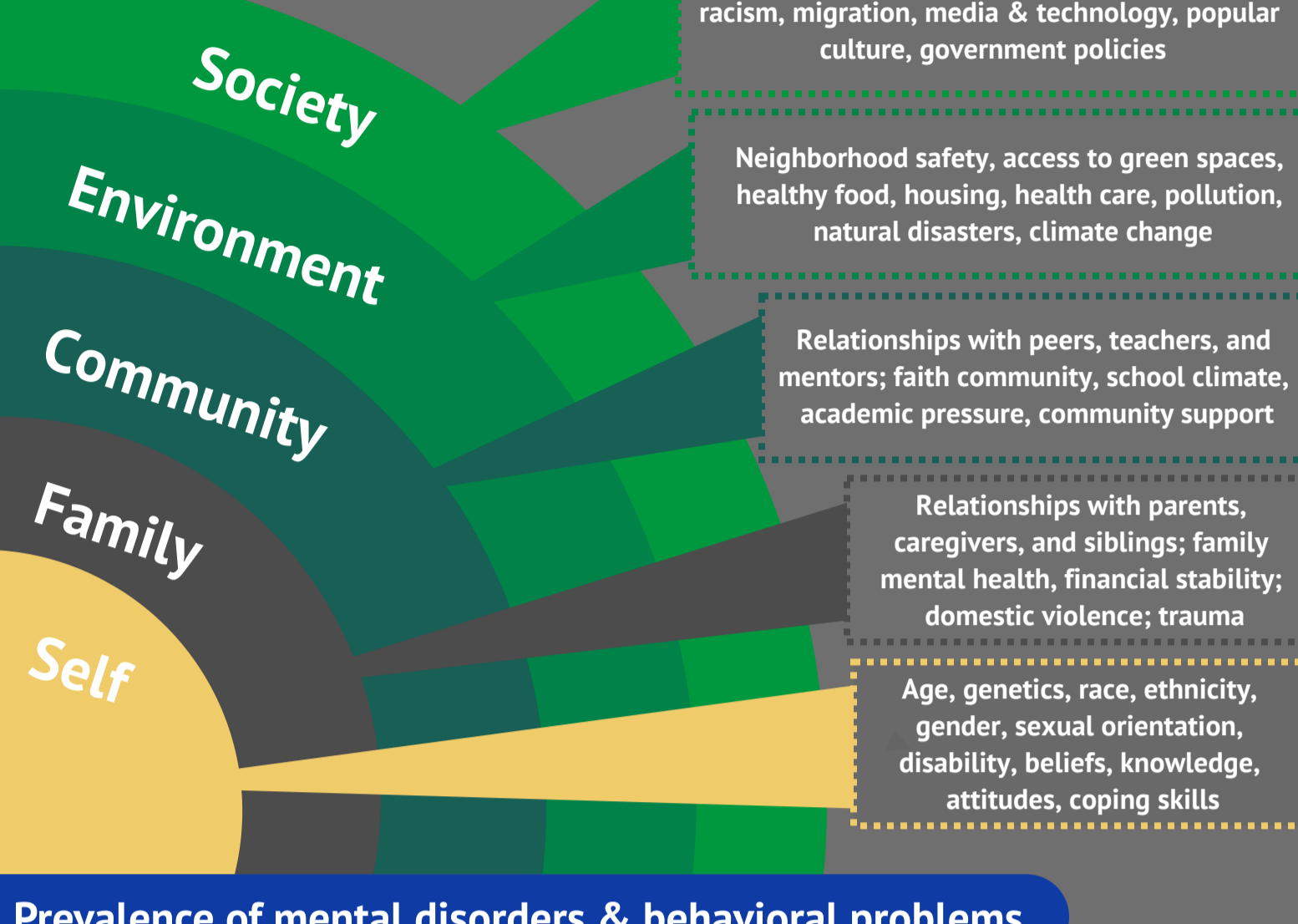
Overdose

Gun violence

Dangerous driving

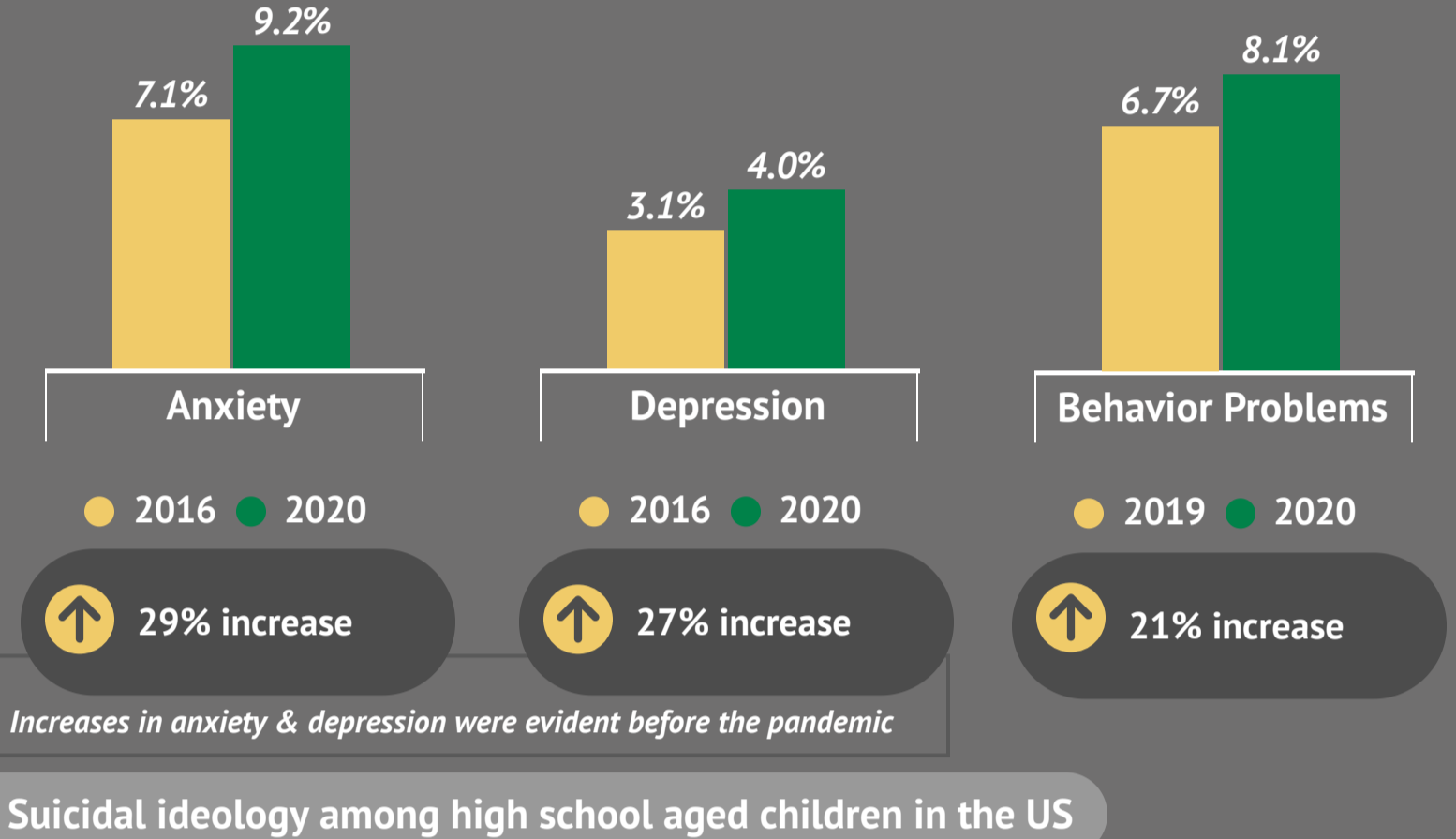
Many factors affect the mental & physical well-being of children

The health and well-being of a child is shaped by biological factors, including genes and brain chemistry, and environmental factors, including life experiences

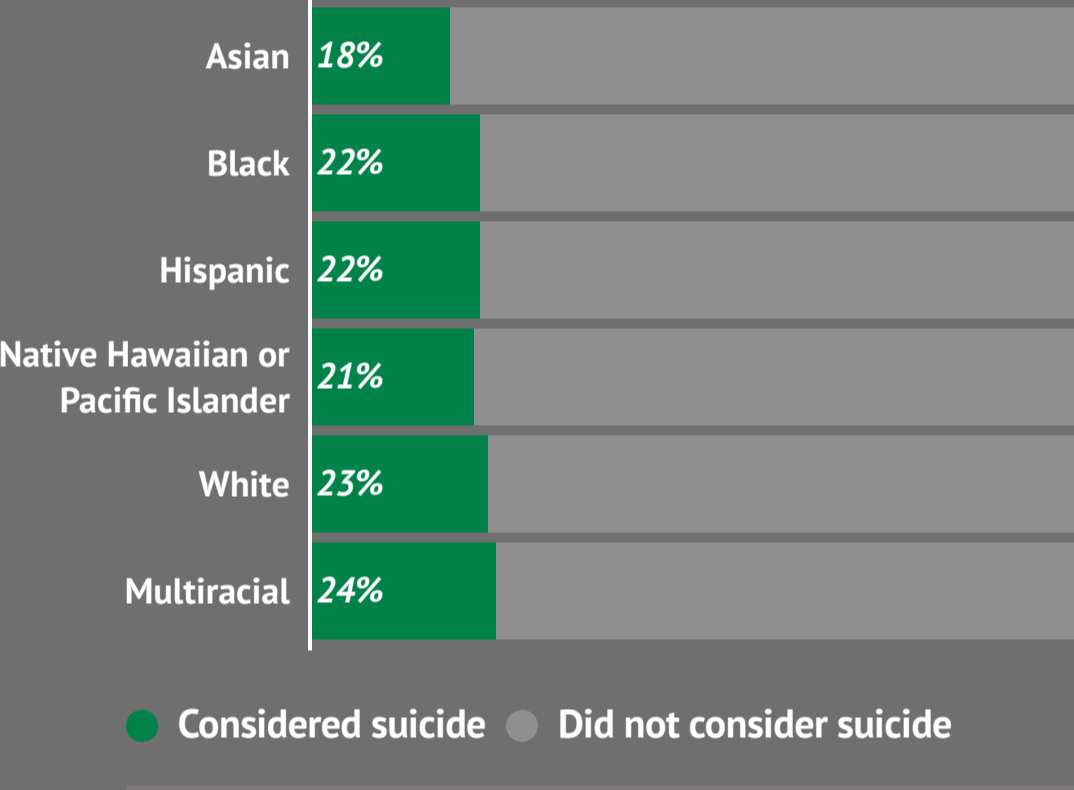


Prevalence of mental disorders & behavioral problems from 2016-2020

20 million Americans aged 3-17 are estimated to currently have a mental health disorder



Suicidal ideology among high school aged children in the US

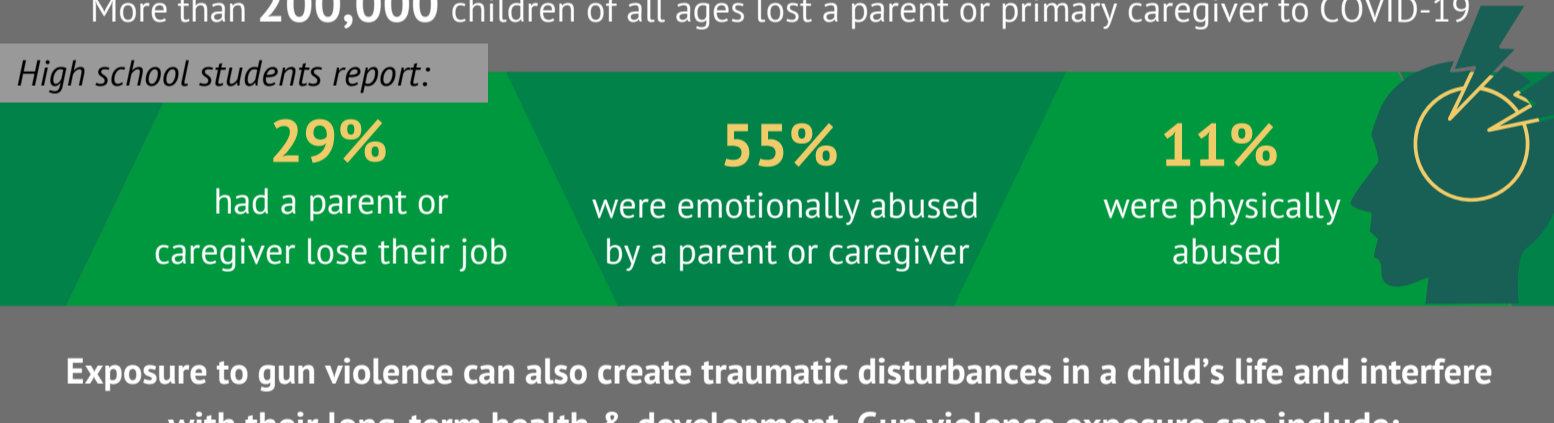


45% of LGBTQ+ students regardless of racial identity reported seriously considering suicide

30% of female students reported seriously considering suicide

42% of high schoolers had persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness in 2021

Trauma and hardship endured by children during COVID-19 pandemic



Exposure to gun violence can also create traumatic disturbances in a child's life and interfere with their long-term health & development. Gun violence exposure can include:

- Injury from a gun
- Witnessing gunfire
- Knowing someone who has been shot
- Being threatened by a gun
- Hearing gunshots
- Having friends or a sibling who carry a gun

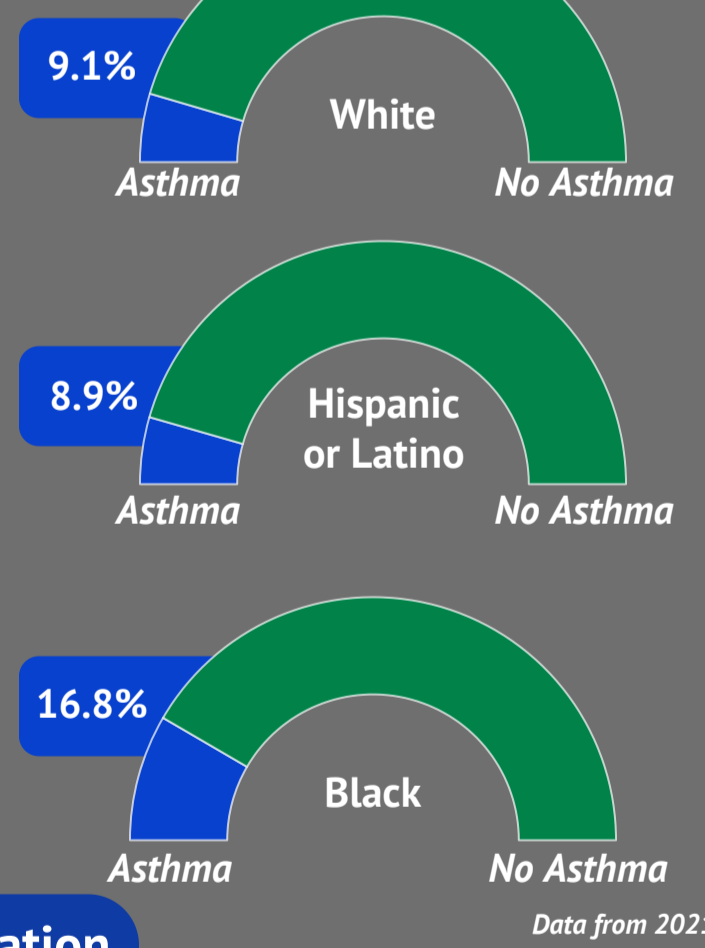
Prevalence of physical health issues and vaccine uptake

~1 in 5 children in America are obese

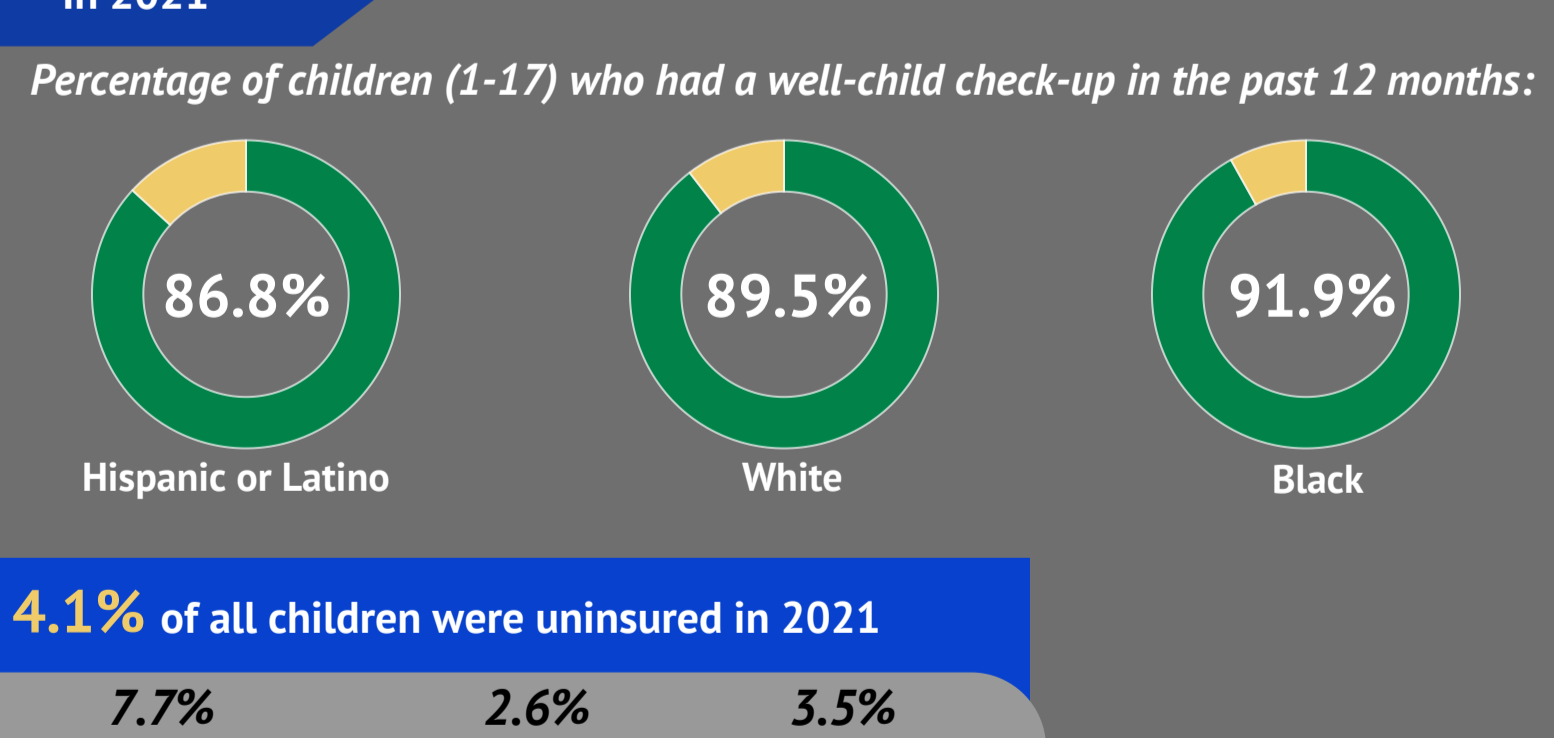
93% of children were immunized for all required vaccines during the 2021-22 school year

**95% is needed for herd immunity*

Diagnosed with asthma aged 1-17



Children's health care access & utilization



4.1% of all children were uninsured in 2021

- Hispanic or Latino: **7.7%**
- White: **2.6%**
- Black: **3.5%**

Promoting positive health and well-being for our children

Mental health and well-being

- Build capacity to better equip schools with psychologists to support student well-being onsite.
- Bring mentors from the community into schools, and making schools safer & more supportive for all types of students.
- Utilize telehealth during school hours for students who need extra support with one-on-one counseling.
- Expand the mental health workforce and early mental health screening through schools and pediatricians.

Where to find a mental health professional for kids:

- Schools
- Community health centers
- Hospitals working in partnership with pediatricians and psychiatrists
- Research centers
- Private practice

Physical health and vaccination uptake

- Participate in 60 minutes of physical activity every day.
- Help schools implement a nutrition environment that supports students in making healthy choices.
- Improve messaging from trusted messengers to increase vaccinations.
- Implement school-located vaccination programs and include incentives to increase vaccination.

Nutrition education is a vital part of a comprehensive health education program and empowers children with knowledge and skills to make healthy food choices.

Access to health care

- Expand access to health coverage for children and eliminate barriers to accessing coverage and care