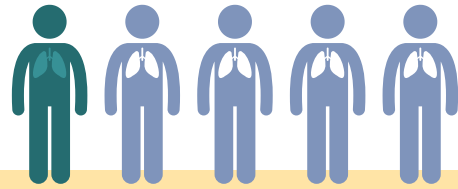


# Asthma Inequities in Black Californians

## What are health inequities?

Health inequities are differences in health conditions and death rates across groups of people that are widespread, avoidable, unfair, and unjust.

## 1 in 5 Black Californians have asthma



**Black Californians are more likely to suffer from severe asthma and die from asthma compared to White Californians:**



**5 times more**  
emergency room  
visits



**5 times more**  
hospital stays



**2 times more**  
deaths from  
asthma

### Severe asthma:

- Requires high-dose medication.
- Causes higher rates of emergency room visits, hospital stay, and death.
- Remains uncontrolled despite medication.
- Impacts daily activities, work or school, and quality of life.

## What causes health inequities in asthma?



Racism, classism, and discrimination in policies that disadvantage certain groups of people



Pollution in the environment that makes asthma symptoms worse

### And poor access to:



healthy and  
affordable  
housing



quality  
food  
choices



healthy schools  
and quality  
education



quality  
health  
care



**Data Sources:** California Health Interview Survey (2021); California Department of Health Care Access and Information (2021); California Department of Public Health Vital Records (2021)