Asthma Racial Inequities in California

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.

Compared to White Californians:

- **Black Californians** are more likely to suffer from severe asthma and die from asthma:
  - 5x higher emergency department visits
  - 4x higher hospital stays
  - 3x higher deaths from asthma

- **American Indian and Alaskan Native Californians** are more likely to have asthma and suffer from severe asthma:
  - 1.3x more likely to have asthma
  - 1.4x higher emergency department visits

- **Hispanic or Latino Californians** are less likely to have asthma than White Californians, but are more likely to suffer from severe asthma:
  - 1.3x higher emergency department visits
  - 1.2x higher hospital stays

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, California Office of State Health Planning and Development, California Department of Public Health Vital Records