

The Coronavirus Racial Bias Scale (CRBS)
Fordham University Pathways to Health Study

Study PIs

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The Pathways to Health Study was conducted in April 2020 to understand the biosocial, psychological, and social impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on young adults (age 18 – 25; N = 600) from diverse racial/ethnic groups, socioeconomic and employment status and geographic regions of the U.S. The anonymous survey conducted through Qualtrics examined participants' self-reported sleep patterns, somatic symptoms, feelings of anxiety and depression, substance use, social isolation, racial/ethnic discrimination, Coronavirus stigmatization and Coronavirus racial bias. The study was conducted by [Celia B. Fisher](#) and [Tiffany Yip](#) and funded by the [Fordham University Center for Ethics Education](#), Director, Celia B. Fisher.

The Coronavirus Racial Bias Scale (CRBS)

The Coronavirus Racial Bias Scale (CRBS) is a brief self-report questionnaire developed by Fordham University's Center for Ethics Education and Applied Developmental Psychology Program as part of the Pathways to Health Study. The CRBS assesses beliefs about how the Coronavirus has negatively affected people of their race/ethnicity. Questions include beliefs regarding Coronavirus-related increase in negative racial/ethnic public attitudes, racial/ethnic biases resulting in loss of employment and access to health services and increases in racially charged social media and cyberbullying.

Psychometric Properties

Each item on the CRBS is rated on a 4-point scale, from 1 (strongly disagree) to 4 (strongly agree). The CRBS score is the mean of the 9 items. The CRBS was developed on a large sample of young adults (n = 581; 18 – 25 year) living in the United States. Primary self-reported racial identity included AIAN (N = 98), East and Southeast Asian (N = 100); Black, African American, Caribbean (N = 143); Hispanic (N = 99) and White (N = 141). The CRBS has high inter-item reliability across race/ethnicity (overall alpha = .89; range .86 -.93) and construct validity: (1) AIAN, Asian, Black and Hispanic score significantly higher on the CRBS than White young adults); and (2) CRBS scores are significantly correlated with racial vigilance, racial discrimination, anxiety, and depression).

THE CORONAVIRUS RACIAL BIAS SCALE

Hello and thank you for your interest in our research study. Right now all of us are experiencing new life challenges as we individually and together face the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. We would like to learn more about your experiences to better understand how people across the country are meeting these challenges so that we can better inform current and future policies to prevent and to help address these health, mental health and social challenges.

Please answer the following questions on your beliefs about how the Coronavirus is affecting people of your race/ethnicity.

	Strongly disagree (1)	Somewhat disagree (2)	Somewhat agree (3)	Strongly agree (4)
I believe the country has become more dangerous for people in my racial/ethnic group because of fear of the Coronavirus. (1)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
People of my race/ethnicity are more likely to lose their job because of the Coronavirus. (2)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I worry about people thinking I have the Coronavirus simply because of my race/ethnicity. (3)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Most social and mass media reports about the Coronavirus create bias against people of my racial/ethnic group. (4)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
People of my race/ethnicity are more likely to get the Coronavirus (5)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

People of my race/ethnicity will not receive Coronavirus healthcare as good as the care received by other groups (6)

Due to the Coronavirus I have been cyberbullied because of my race/ethnicity (7)

Since the Coronavirus I have seen a lot more cyberbullying of people of my race/ethnicity (8)

Negative social media posts against people of my race/ethnicity have increased because of the Coronavirus (9)