UCSF

UC San Francisco Previously Published Works

Title

Racial Discrimination is Associated with Binge-Eating Disorder in Early Adolescents: A Cross-Sectional Analysis

Permalink

https://escholarship.org/uc/item/07v2w3zn

Authors

Raney, Julia H Al-Shoaibi, Abubakr A Shao, Iris Y et al.

Publication Date

2023-05-31

DOI

10.21203/rs.3.rs-2973069/v1

Copyright Information

This work is made available under the terms of a Creative Commons Attribution License, available at https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/

RESEARCH Open Access

Racial discrimination is associated with binge-eating disorder in early adolescents: a cross-sectional analysis

Julia H. Raney^{1*}, Abubakr A. Al-Shoaibi¹, Iris Y. Shao¹, Kyle T. Ganson², Alexander Testa³, Dylan B. Jackson⁴, Jinbo He⁵, David V. Glidden⁶ and Jason M. Nagata¹

Abstract

Background Racial and ethnic discrimination are known stressors and are associated with negative psychological and physical health outcomes. Previous studies have found relationships between racial/ethnic discrimination and binge-eating disorder (BED), though they have mainly focused on adult populations. The aim of this study was to determine associations between racial/ethnic discrimination and BED in a large, national cohort study of early adolescents. We further sought to explore associations between the racial/ethnic discrimination perpetrator (students, teachers, or other adults) and BED.

Methods We analyzed cross-sectional data from the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development Study (N = 11,075, 2018–2020). Logistic regression analyses examined associations between self-reported experiences of racial or ethnic discrimination and binge-eating behaviors and diagnosis, adjusting for potential confounders. Racial/ethnic discrimination measures were assessed based on the Perceived Discrimination Scale, which measures experiences of discrimination based on race/ethnicity and frequency of ethnic discrimination by teachers, adults outside of school, and students. Binge-eating behaviors and diagnosis were based on the Kiddie Schedule for Affective Disorders and Schizophrenia (KSAD-5).

Results In this racially diverse sample of adolescents (N=11,075, age range 9–12 years), 4.7% of adolescents reported racial or ethnic discrimination and 1.1% met the criteria for BED. In the adjusted models, racial/ethnic discrimination was associated with 3 times higher odds of having BED (OR 3.31, Cl 1.66–7.74). Further, experiences of ethnic discrimination by students and adults outside school were associated with significantly increased odds of BED diagnosis (OR 1.36, Cl 1.10–1.68 and OR 1.42 Cl 1.06–1.90, respectively)., Increased odds of binge eating behaviors were only significantly associated with ethnic discrimination perpetuated by students (OR 1.12, Cl 1.02–1.23).

Conclusions Children and adolescents who have experienced racial/ethnic discrimination, particularly when discrimination was perpetuated by other students, have higher odds of having binge-eating behaviors and diagnoses. Clinicians may consider screening for racial discrimination and providing anti-racist, trauma-informed care when evaluating and treating patients for BED.

Keywords Racial discrimination, Binge-eating disorder, Adolescent health

*Correspondence:
Julia H. Raney
julia.raney@ucsf.edu
Full list of author information is available at the end of the article



Plain English summary

Binge-eating disorder is associated with significant psychological and physical consequences including depression, anxiety, impaired relationships, and increased cardiometabolic risks. Recent research has demonstrated that many of binge-eating behaviors develop in early adolescence, a time of immense psychosocial development. Racial and ethnic discrimination are known stressors, and previous studies have found relationships between racial and ethnic discrimination and binge-eating disorder, though they have mainly focused on adult populations. This study helps fill that gap by using data from the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development Study Study, the largest prospective study of adolescent brain development in the US. In this large, racially diverse, national study of 11,075 adolescents aged primary 10–11 years old, we find that early adolescents who have experienced racial/ethnic discrimination, particularly when discrimination was perpetuated by other students, have higher odds of having binge-eating behaviors and diagnoses. These findings have important school and clinical implications. For example, schools may consider implementing curricula focused on anti-racist practices that foster environments where all youth to thrive. In addition, we recommend that clinicians screen for racial discrimination and provide culturally sensitive, equity-focused care when evaluating and treating patients with binge-eating disorder.

Background

Binge-eating disorder (BED), characterized by consuming a large amount of food while feeling a loss of control and negative emotions [1], is estimated to affect 4.5% of the population across the lifetime [2], with those from minoritized backgrounds experience even higher rates of BED and binge-eating behaviors [3, 4]. BED is associated with significant psychological and physical consequences including depression, anxiety, impaired relationships, and increased cardiometabolic risks [2, 5, 6]. Given BED's prevalence, consequences, and challenges with accessing treatment, identifying risk factors for the development of BED is critical to promote health and health equity.

Racial discrimination, or personally mediated racism, has been recognized as a core driver of health inequities in adolescents and children [7-9]. Personally mediated racism includes experiences of stereotypes and prejudices about a person's ability, intent, or motives on the basis of race [10]. Personally mediated racism can be expressed implicitly or explicitly and can be experienced directly or indirectly. Minoritized children and adolescents face personally mediated racism in their interactions with teachers and students at school, during extracurricular activities, and increasingly in online, digital environments [11, 12]. Experiencing racial harassment and taunts can over-activate the stress response, and have cascading effects including increased and prolonged levels of exposure to stress hormones and oxidative stress [13]. A growing body of literature has found associations between racial discrimination and BED. Several studies of Latino and African American adults have demonstrated significant associations between racial discrimination and binge eating [14–16]. For example, a study of a nationally representative sample of Latino individuals found a significant association with discrimination and binge eating, with the average age in the sample being 40 years old (range 18–97) [15]. In addition, Assari et al.'s paper demonstrated significant associations between perceived discrimination and BED in a nationally representative example of African American adults (average age 42) [16]. Studies have also found significant associations between binge eating behaviors in young adult Black women (ages 18–25) [17] and Latino young adults (ages 18–25) [18].

Several theoretical models have been proposed to explain this relationship between racial/ethnic discrimination and BED. The minority stress model theorizes that minorized groups experience unique psychosocial stressors that elevate risk for mental health problems including binge-eating [19, 20]. Another possible mechanism is the affect regulation model, where binge-eating episodes are triggered by negative affect (e.g., depression, anxiety) in an effort to decrease the negative affect [21, 22]. Given that racial discrimination is associated with depression and anxiety, people who experience discrimination may be at greater risk for BED through this pathway [23–25]. A third potential mechanism is that minoritized racial and ethnic groups having increased risks of experiencing racial/ethnic discrimination [26, 27] and food insecurity, which may result in an increased risk of BED among people who have experienced discrimination [28].

However, little is known about the association between racial discrimination and the development of BED in early adolescents. A better understanding of the development of BED in this age-group is especially critical for several reasons. First, recent research has demonstrated that binge eating behaviors develop in early adolescents, a time of immense psychosocial development [29]. A study of 10- to 11-year old children from the ABCD Study, a large, diverse, population-based sample, estimated the prevalence of BED to be 1.1% [30]. In addition, a population-based study of 14 year old early adolescents

found a 14% prevalence rate of subclinical binge-eating behaviors [31]. Second, early adolescents experience racism and discrimination at unacceptable rates; a recent study estimated that 4.8% of 10- to 11- year old children reported being treated unfairly because of their race, ethnicity or color, and 10% of Black children reported experiencing racism [32]. Given the prevalence of perceived discrimination experienced by youth in this age group, it is critical to characterize the public health effects and rapidly implement antiracism practices. Given the significant impact that peers, teachers, and non-caregiver adults have on early adolescent development [33–35], we further sought to characterize the impacts of expressed by these varying groups.

The purpose of the current study was to examine the associations between racial discrimination and BED among a large, diverse cohort of early-adolescents ages 9–12 years old (primarily ages 10–11). We hypothesized that perceived racial discrimination would be associated with binge eating behaviors and diagnoses.

Methods

Study population

This study uses survey data from the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development (ABCD) Study to determine the association between racial discrimination and BED among US early adolescents. The ABCD Study is a large, prospective cohort study of brain development, health, and health behaviors among US adolescents across 21 recruitment sites [36]. The 21 recruitment sites are listed in the appendix (Supplemental Appendix). The ABCD study was designed to reflect the sociodemographic diversity of the United States. Recruitment was primarily school-based, though also included mailing lists, referrals, and outreach to summer activities such as camps as the Boys and Girls Clubs, YMCA's, and summer meals programs. To prevent higher attrition rates from low-income families, during research visits, the study provides a free nutrition and exercise program, a meal, homework assistance, childcare for other family members who attended the participant to the visits, and transportation vouchers as needed [23]. We included data collected between 2018 and 2020, corresponding to Year one of the ABCD Study, the first year adolescentreported racial discrimination was assessed. Participants missing data for (1) sociodemographic characteristics or (2) all discrimination questions (n=710) were excluded, yielding the total sample of 11,075. All participants gave assent, and parents/caregivers provided signed informed consent. The ABCD Study protocol was approved by the Institutional Review Board of the University of California, San Diego and at each respective study site.

Exposure: racial discrimination

Racial discrimination was measured using the Perceived Discrimination Scale [23, 37], which was developed to measure adolescents' perception of being unaccepted in society or being unwanted based on their racial or ethnic background or skin color. Adolescents were asked, "In the past 12 months, have you felt discriminated against: because of your race, ethnicity, or color?" In addition, adolescents were asked how often they had been treated unfairly or negatively because of their ethnic background by each of the following groups: teachers, adults outside the school, and students (1=almost never; 2=rarely; 3=sometimes; 4=often; 5=very often).

Outcome: binge-eating disorder

BED diagnosis and behaviors were assessed that the oneyear follow-up through parent/caregiver responses to the Kiddie Schedule for Affective Disorders and Schizophrenia (KSADS-5), a computerized tool developed to categorize child and adolescent mental health based on the DSM-5 [1, 38]. Parents/caregivers completed all modules of the KSADS-5 to characteristics, frequency, and duration of their child's binge-eating behaviors as well as associated distress. The presence of binge-eating behaviors was assessed by asking the caregiver if their child experienced a loss of control of their eating and ate way more than he/she needed in the last two weeks. If the caregiver reported this had happened in the last two weeks, the adolescent was determined to have binge- eating behaviors. BED was determined using the KSADS-5 computerized scoring system, where responses to the survey questions were extrapolated into their respective diagnosis based on reported behaviors corresponding to the DSM-5. Although bulimia nervosa (BN) also consists of binge eating symptoms, the prevalence of BN in the sample was low (6 adolescents, 0.05% of the study population) and therefore this study focused on binge-eating behaviors and BED. Of note, all 6 adolescents diagnosed with BN were found to have binge-eating behaviors but zero of these adolescents were diagnosed with BED. These six participants were included in the binge-eating behaviors analysis because of (1) the low prevalence rate of BN in this sample and (2) the fact that binge eating behaviors are present in youth with BN and risk factors for the development of BN and binge-eating behaviors likely overlap. No youth in this sample were diagnosed with anorexia nervosa binge purge subtype (AN-BP).

Covariates

We selected potential confounders for the association between racial discrimination and BED based on prior literature and theory [16, 39]. Age, sex (male, female), race/ethnicity (White, Latino/Hispanic, Black, Asian, Native American, Other), nativity (youth born in US or outside of the US), household income (\$24,999 or less, \$25,000 through \$49,999, \$50,000 through \$74,999, \$75,000 through \$99,999, \$100,000 through \$199,999, \$200,000 and greater), and highest parent education (high school or less vs. college or more) were selected from parent self-report data at baseline. ABCD Study site ([21] total sites)was also included to adjust for potential regional variation.

Statistical analyses

Differences in discrimination scales by group were estimated with an ANOVA. Unadjusted and adjusted logistic regressions were conducted using Stata 17.0 (StataCorp, College Station, TX) to estimate associations between past year experiences of racial/ethnic discrimination and BED diagnosis and behaviors. In addition, unadjusted and adjusted logistic regression analyses estimated the association between frequency of ethnic discrimination (teachers, adults outside school, students), and BED diagnosis and behaviors. To independently assess for the effect of race/ethnicity, we included three models. Model A includes no confounding, Model B includes all covariates except for race/ethnicity, and Model C includes all covariates. The ABCD study sociodemographic variables were standardized to match the distribution American Community Survey from the U.S. Census [40].

Results

The 11,075 adolescent respondents were racially and ethnically diverse (standardized percentages: 53.4% White, 19.6% Latino/Hispanic, 16.5% Black, 5.6% Asian, 3.2% Native American, 1.4% Other, Table 1). Binge-eating behaviors and diagnosis were present at 7.9% (791) and 1.1% (n=105), respectively. Approximately one in twenty youth reported experiencing racial or ethnic discrimination in the past year. In addition, there was a statistically significant difference in discrimination scorse across groups; adolescents reported that teachers, adults outside of school, and students perpetuated ethnic discrimination at 8.0%, 9.8%, and 25.1%, respectively (F statistic 630, p value < 0.001).

In both the adjusted and unadjusted models, racial/ethnic discrimination was associated with increased binge-eating behaviors and binge-eating disorder diagnosis (Table 2). In Panel C, adolescents who reported perceived discrimination had 3.31 higher odds of BED (95% CI 1.66–6.63). Increased frequency of ethnic discrimination by students was also significantly associated with a higher odds of BED diagnosis and behaviors. In addition, respondents who reported more frequent ethnic

Table 1 Sociodemographic characteristics of participants in the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development Study (ABCD) Study, 2018–2020, (n = 11,075)

2018–2020, (n = 11,075)	
	Mean (SD) or %
Demographic characteristics	
Age	11.0 (0.6)
Sex	
Female	48.8%
Male	51.2%
Race/ethnicity	
White	53.4%
Latino/Hispanic	19.6%
Black	16.5%
Asian	5.6%
Native American	3.2%
Other	1.4%
Nativity	
Youth born in U.S	96.3%
Youth born outside U.S	3.7%
Highest parental education	
High school education or less	15.6%
College education or more	84.4%
Household income	
\$24,999 or less	16.9%
\$25,000 to \$49,999	20.2%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	18.2%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	16.0%
\$100,000 to \$199,999	21.7%
\$200,000 and greater	7.0%
Type of discrimination reported	
Discrimination because of race, ethnicity, or colo	or 4.7%
Been treated unfairly or negatively because of your	ethnic background by
Teachers	- ,
Almost never	92.0%
Rarely	4.3%
Sometimes	2.1%
Often	0.9%
Very Often	0.7%
Adults outside school	
Almost never	90.2%
Rarely	6.5%
Sometimes	2.2%
Often	0.6%
Very Often	0.5%
Students	
Almost never	74.9%
Rarely	13.1%
Sometimes	7.8%
Often	2.2%
Very Often	2.0%
Binge eating	2.070
Binge-eating behaviors	7.9%
Binge-eating disorder diagnosis	1.1%
gr caming associate diagnosis	/0

Table 1 (continued)

ABCD Study sociodemographic variables were standardized to match the distribution American Community Survey from the U.S. Census

discrimination by adults outside of school had significantly higher odds of BED diagnosis.

Discussion

In this national, sociodemographically diverse sample of early adolescents in the U.S., we found that 1.1% of adolescents had a BED diagnosis, which is similar to prior studies with adolescent prevalence estimates of 1.3–1.6% [6, 41]. Further, this study identified experiencing racial/

ethnic discrimination was associated with greater odds of binge-eating behaviors and diagnosis, even when adjusting for confounding factors including race, sex, nativity, parental education, and socioeconomic status.

The relationship between discrimination and bingeeating is consistent with prior studies in minoritized adult populations that have demonstrated associations between experiencing racial/ethnic discrimination and binge-eating behaviors in Latino and Black the general adult population and young adults [14, 16]. Our findings contribute to the literature by demonstrating that perceived discrimination is significantly associated with higher odds of binge-eating behaviors and diagnosis in

Table 2 Associations between discrimination and binge-eating behaviors and diagnosis (N = 11,075)

	Binge-eating behaviors OR (95% CI)	Binge-eating disorder diagnosis OR (95% CI)
Panel A: bivariate model		
Discrimination because of race, ethnicity, or color	2.22***	4.31***
	(1.62–3.05)	(2.40-7.74)
Been treated unfairly or negatively because of your ethnic background by:		
Teachers	1.20**	1.44**
	(1.06–1.36)	(1.16-1.79)
Adults outside school	1.19*	1.55**
	(1.03–1.37)	(1.19-2.01)
Students	1.18***	1.54***
	(1.08–1.28)	(1.28-1.86)
Panel B: with confounding variables except race/ethnicity		
Discrimination because of race, ethnicity, or color	2.10***	3.27**
	(1.49–2.96)	(1.67-6.41)
Been treated unfairly or negatively because of your ethnic background by:		
Teachers	1.12	1.26
	(0.98–1.29)	(0.99-1.61)
Adults outside school	1.11	1.44*
	(0.95–1.30)	(1.08-1.93)
Students	1.12*	1.36**
	(1.02–1.23)	(1.10-1.68)
Panel C: with all confounding variables		
Discrimination because of race, ethnicity, or color	2.12***	3.29*
	(1.50–3.00)	(1.65-6.57)
Been treated unfairly or negatively because of your ethnic background by:		
Teachers	1.12	1.25
	(0.97–1.28)	(0.98-1.60)
Adults outside school	1.11	1.42*
	(0.95–1.30)	(1.06-1.90)
Students	1.12*	1.36**
	(1.02–1.23)	(1.10–1.68)

*Indicates p < 0.05, **indicates p < 0.01, ***indicates significant at < 0.001. ABCD Study sociodemographic variables were standardized to match the distribution American Community Survey from the U.S. Census. Panel B models include sex, household income, parent education, and site. Panel C models include race/ethnicity, sex, household income, parent education, and site

a national, diverse population of US early adolescents; importantly, early-adolescents represent an underresearched age group whose developmental period is vulnerable to developing health-related risk behaviors [29, 42]. As BED is associated with significant distress, morbidity, and mortality, it is critical to investigate risk factors in this age group to design primary and secondary prevention interventions [43, 44].

These findings are consistent with numerous theoretical perspectives including the minority stress model and the affect regulation model [19–22]. Similarly, the findings are also consistent with prior literature on the inequitable distribution if sociodemographic risk factors across race/ethnicity (ie food insecurity), which places individuals at higher risk for BED [26–28]. To further explore these theories, future studies should explore whether these factors (e.g., anxiety, stress, depression, food insecurity) mediate the associations between racial discrimination and BED.

Our study further adds to the literature by exploring how unique groups of perpetrators influence the association between discrimination and BED. In our study, adolescents reported students to be the most common perpetuators of ethnic discrimination with one if four adolescents reporting experiencing ethnic discrimination by students rarely or more frequently; in addition, reporting ethnic discrimination perpetuated by students was significantly associated with increased odds of binge-eating disorder behaviors and diagnosis. The significant impact of peer discrimination on adolescent's mental health has been supported in prior literature [34, 45]. From a developmental perspective, peer discrimination may be particularly impactful for early adolescents as they increasing spend time outside of the home and rely more on peers for psychosocial acceptance, selfconcept, socialization, and identity formation [46, 47]. Several studies have shown that peer victimization in early adolescence is predictive of subsequent development of depressive symptoms [48, 49]. Our study builds upon these studies by highlighting that discrimination is also associated with BED in a national, diverse sample of early adolescents. Of note, experiencing discrimination by other adults outside school was also associated with a significantly higher odds of BED diagnosis. This is consistent with literature that shows the important influence that nonparental adults, such as mentors and police, can have on adolescent mental health [50-52].

Importantly, in the adjusted models, discrimination perpetuated by teachers was not significantly associated with greater odds of binge-eating behaviors or diagnosis and discrimination by adults outside school was not associated with binge eating behaviors. However, this may be partially due to the fewer cases of discrimination

from teachers. Prior studies have found that teachers play a critical role in adolescent development and mental health [53, 54]. Further studies should continue to investigate the relationships between ethnic discrimination perpetuated by teachers and adults outside school and binge eating.

This study has several limitations. First, the Perceived Discrimination Scale asked about ethnic discrimination by other students, not peers, so this may have missed perpetuators who they interacted with outside of school. Additionally, this study used parent report of binge eating diagnosis and behaviors. While parents are important reporters for eating disorders in early adolescents as children have less insight into their eating behaviors [36, 55], parent and child reports of binge-eating behaviors have a tendency of low concordance with parents reporting higher rates of binge eating [36, 55, 56]. This may have caused overestimation of BED in this study, though more studies are needed to determine if parent or child report of symptoms is most accurate.

Another concerns is that this manuscript's analyses of racial/ethnic discrimination adjusted for several sociodemographic correlates including race/ethnicity, which is a socially constructed categorization that serves as a proxy for exposure to systemic racism and racial discrimination [57, 58]. This may make the study vulnerable to underestimating the associations between racial/ethnic discrimination and BED. Even so, race/ethnicity was included as a control variable to reduce the likelihood of spurious results, and Panel B, which omitted statistical controls for race/ethnicity, yielded substantively similar results. In our findings, the associations between racial/ ethnic discrimination and BED were significant across all models. In addition, this study assesses reported experiences or racism over the past year but does not explore the cumulative impact of racism or the experience of youth with intersectional identities; we recommend that future studies employ an intersectional lens that explores the associations the impact of discrimination on BED among those with multiple marginalized identities (e.g. sexual minority Latinx adolescents), considering that these youth are at risk for unique types of discrimination [59]. Further, while the ABCD study includes adolescents from many diverse backgrounds, the study population's parents are more highly educated and has a greater percentage of white children (53% vs. 50%) and a lower percentage of Latinx children (20 vs. 26%) compared to the 2020 US Census Bureau [60]; accordingly, the study may underestimate the full impact of racial discrimination on US youth from lower education background and Latinx families. Lastly, this study is cross-sectional, and does not assess the longitudinal impact of perceived racism. We recommend that future studies explore this relationship.

Conclusions

This study demonstrates that experiencing racial or ethnic discrimination in early adolescence is associated with greater odds of BED diagnosis and symptoms, which has important school, public policy, and clinical implications. For example, schools may consider implementing curricula focused on anti-racist practices that foster environments where all youth to thrive [61]. In addition, minoritized populations, for instance, have historically received inadequate access to eating disorder care and inclusion in eating disorders research, which increases the risk of delayed and poorer outcomes [62] Policy changes that that target these systemic issues, such as increased education about BED among diverse populations and increased access to eating disorder trained mental health professionals [62], may profoundly impact the risk and treatment outcomes of BED.

The US Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recently reviewed eating disorder screening in asymptomatic adolescents and adults and determined there to be insufficient evidence to recommend routine screening in this population, especially among racial/ethnic minority populations [63]. However, clinicians may still consider screening for eating disorder behaviors in early adolescents with significant risk factors, such as racial discrimination, given the significant physician and mental health consequences of eating disorders [64]. If experiences of racism are identified, we recommend assessing families for social determinants of health often associated with racism (e.g., food insecurity, housing inequity) to connect families to resources [65, 66]. Broadly, clinicians may integrate positive youth development approaches including racial socialization, to identify strengths and youth and family protective factors that can help mitigate exposure to racist behaviors use [65, 67]. Second, clinicians may implement strategies such as the Raising Resisters approach, which recognizes the various forms of racism, differentiates racism from other unfair treatment, opposes the negative messages, and replaces those messages with something positive [68]. Further research is needed to identify eating disorder treatment strategies that effectively provide coping strategies to manage racial/ethnic discrimination [15].

Abbreviations

ACEs Adverse childhood experiences
ABCD study Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development
AN-BP Anorexia nervosa binge purge subtype
BED Binge-eating disorder

KSADS-5 Kiddie Schedule for Affective Disorders and

Schizophrenia
BN Bulimia nervosa
SD Standard deviation

Supplementary Information

The online version contains supplementary material available at https://doi.org/10.1186/s40337-023-00866-0.

Additional file 1. Supplemental Appendix.

Acknowledgements

The ABCD Study was supported by the Nacional Institutes of Health and additional federal partners under award numbers U01DA041022, U01DA041025, U01DA041028, U01DA041048, U01DA041089, U01DA041093, U01DA041106, U01DA041117, U01DA041120, U01DA041134, U01DA041148, U01DA041156, U01DA041174, U24DA041123, and U24DA041147. A full list of supporters is available at https://abcdstudy.org/federal-partners/. A listing of participating sites and a complete listing of the study investigators can be found at https://abcdstudy.org/principal-investigators.html. ABCD consortium investigators designed and implemented the study and/or provided data but did not necessarily participate in the analysis or writing of this report.

Author contributions

JHR was responsible for the co-development of the research study design and methods; JHR also drafted the initial manuscript. AA, IS, KTG, AT, DBJ, and JH co-developed the study design, methods, and formal analysis; they also provided oversight and participated in the revision of the manuscript. JMN provided supervision; he also co-developed the conceptualization of the study, methods, and supported the analysis and manuscript revision. All authors approved the final submitted version.

Funding

J.M.N. was funded by the National Institutes of Health (K08HL159350), the American Heart Association Career Development Award (CDA34760281), and the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (2022056). The funders had no role in the design and conduct of the study; collection, management, analysis, and interpretation of the data; preparation, review, or approval of the manuscript; and decision to submit the manuscript for publication.

Availability of data and materials

Data used in the preparation of this article were obtained from the ABCD Study (https://abcdstudy.org), held in the NIMH Data Archive (NDA). Investigators can apply for data access through the NDA (https://nda.nih.gov/).

Declarations

Ethics approval and consent to participate

Written informed consent and assent were obtained from the parent/guardian and adolescent, respectively, to participate in the ABCD Study. The University of California, San Diego provided centralized institutional review board (IRB) approval and each participating site received local IRB approval: Children's Hospital Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California. Florida International University, Miami, Florida. Laureate Institute for Brain Research, Tulsa, Oklahoma. Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, South Carolina. Oregon Health and Science University, Portland, Oregon. SRI International, Menlo Park, California. University of California San Diego, San Diego, California. University of California Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California. University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, Colorado. University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida. University of Maryland at Baltimore, Baltimore, Maryland. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan. University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota. University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. University of Rochester, Rochester, New York. University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah. University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont. University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia. Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri. Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut. All methods were carried out in accordance with relevant guidelines and regulations.

Consent for publication

Not applicable.

Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

Author details

¹Department of Pediatrics, Division of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine, University of California, San Francisco, CA, USA. ²Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada. ³Department of Management, Policy and Community Health, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Houston, TX, USA. ⁴Department of Population, Family and Reproductive Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD, USA. ⁵School of Humanities and Social Science, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Guangdong 518172, China. ⁶Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, University of California, San Francisco, CA, IISA

Received: 23 May 2023 Accepted: 9 August 2023 Published online: 17 August 2023

References

- American Psychiatric Association D, American Psychiatric Association. Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders: DSM-5, vol. 5. Washington: American Psychiatric Association; 2013.
- Hudson JI, Hiripi E, Pope HG, Kessler RC. The prevalence and correlates of eating disorders in the national comorbidity survey replication. Biol Psychiatry. 2007;61(3):348–58.
- Marques L, Alegria M, Becker AE, Chen CN, Fang A, Chosak A, et al. Comparative prevalence, correlates of impairment, and service utilization for eating disorders across U.S. ethnic groups: implications for reducing ethnic disparities in health care access for eating disorders. Int J Eat Disord. 2011;44(5):412–20.
- Alegria M, Woo M, Cao Z, Torres M, Meng XL, Striegel-Moore R. Prevalence and Correlates of Eating Disorders in Latinos in the U.S. Int J Eat Disord. 2007;40(Suppl):S15-21.
- Rosenbaum DL, White KS. The relation of anxiety, depression, and stress to binge eating behavior. J Health Psychol. 2015;20(6):887–98.
- Swanson SA, Crow SJ, Le Grange D, Swendsen J, Merikangas KR. Prevalence and correlates of eating disorders in adolescents: results from the national comorbidity survey replication adolescent supplement. Arch Gen Psychiatry. 2011;68(7):714–23.
- Gee GC, Walsemann KM, Brondolo E. A life course perspective on how racism may be related to health inequities. Am J Public Health. 2012;102(5):967–74.
- Pachter LM, Coll CG. Racism and child health: a review of the literature and future directions. J Dev Behav Pediatr. 2009;30(3):255.
- Trent M, Dooley DG, Dougé J, Section on Adolescent Health, Council on Community Pediatrics, Committee on Adolescence, et al. The impact of racism on child and adolescent health. Pediatrics. 2019;144(2):e20191765.
- Jones CP. Invited commentary: "race", racism, and the practice of epidemiology. Am J Epidemiol. 2001;154(4):299–304.
- Stevens R, Gilliard-Matthews S, Dunaev J, Woods M, Brawner BM. The digital hood: social media use among youth in disadvantaged neighborhoods. New Media Soc. 2017;19(6):950–67.
- Njoroge WFM, Forkpa M, Bath E. Impact of racial discrimination on the mental health of minoritized youth. Curr Psychiatry Rep. 2021;23(12):81.
- Cohen S, Janicki-Deverts D, Doyle WJ, Miller GE, Frank E, Rabin BS, et al. Chronic stress, glucocorticoid receptor resistance, inflammation, and disease risk. Proc Natl Acad Sci. 2012;109(16):5995–9.
- Beccia AL, Jesdale WM, Lapane KL. Associations between perceived everyday discrimination, discrimination attributions, and binge eating among Latinas: results from the National Latino and Asian American Study. Ann Epidemiol. 2020;45:32–9.
- Johnson SN, Forbush KT, Swanson TJ. The impact of discrimination on binge eating in a nationally representative sample of Latine individuals. Int J Eat Disord. 2022;55(8):1120–9.
- Assari S. Perceived discrimination and binge eating disorder; gender difference in African Americans. J Clin Med. 2018;7(5):89.
- Brown KL, Graham AK, Perera RA, LaRose JG. Eating to cope: advancing our understanding of the effects of exposure to racial discrimination on maladaptive eating behaviors. Int J Eat Disord. 2022;55(12):1744–52.
- 18. Hagiwara N, Green TL, Moreno O, Smith D, Corona R. Ethnic discrimination and weight outcomes among Latinx emerging adults: Examinations

- of an individual-level mediator and cultural moderators. Cultur Divers Ethnic Minor Psychol. 2021;27:189–200.
- Meyer IH. Prejudice, social stress, and mental health in lesbian, gay, and bisexual populations: conceptual issues and research evidence. Psychol Bull. 2003;129(5):674–97.
- Convertino AD, Helm JL, Pennesi JL, Gonzales M, Blashill AJ. Integrating minority stress theory and the tripartite influence model: a model of eating disordered behavior in sexual minority young adults. Appetite. 2021;1(163):105204.
- 21. Gross JJ. Handbook of emotion regulation. 2nd ed. New York: Guilford Press; 2014.
- Pearson CM, Wonderlich SA, Smith GT. A risk and maintenance model for bulimia nervosa: from impulsive action to compulsive behavior. Psychol Rev. 2015;122(3):516–35.
- 23. Cano MÁ, Schwartz SJ, Castillo LG, Romero AJ, Huang S, Lorenzo-Blanco EI, et al. Depressive symptoms and externalizing behaviors among hispanic immigrant adolescents: examining longitudinal effects of cultural stress. J Adolesc. 2015;42:31–9.
- Cheng HL. Disordered eating among Asian/Asian American women: racial and cultural factors as correlates. Couns Psychol. 2014;42(6):821–51.
- Paradies Y, Ben J, Denson N, Elias A, Priest N, Pieterse A, et al. Racism as a determinant of health: a systematic review and meta-analysis. PLoS ONE. 2015;10(9):e0138511.
- Odoms-Young AM. Examining the impact of structural racism on food insecurity: implications for addressing racial/ethnic disparities. Fam Commun Health. 2018;41(Suppl 2 FOOD INSECURITY AND OBESITY):S3-6.
- Myers AM, Painter MA. Food insecurity in the United States of America: an examination of race/ethnicity and nativity. Food Secur. 2017;9(6):1419–32.
- Nagata JM, Chu J, Cervantez L, Ganson KT, Testa A, Jackson DB, et al. Food insecurity and binge-eating disorder in early adolescence. Int J Eat Disord. 2023;56(6):1233–9.
- Dahl RE, Allen NB, Wilbrecht L, Suleiman AB. Importance of investing in adolescence from a developmental science perspective. Nature. 2018:554(7693):441–50.
- 30. Chu J, Raney JH, Ganson KT, et al. Adverse childhood experiences and binge-eating disorder in early adolescents. J Eat Disord. 2022;10:168. https://doi.org/10.1186/s40337-022-00682-y.
- Derks IPM, Harris HA, Staats S, Gaillard R, Dieleman GC, Llewellyn CH, et al. Subclinical binge eating symptoms in early adolescence and its preceding and concurrent factors: a population-based study. J Eat Disord. 2022;10(1):180.
- 32. Nagata JM, Ganson KT, Sajjad OM, Benabou SE, Bibbins-Domingo K. Prevalence of perceived racism and discrimination among US children aged 10 and 11 years. JAMA Pediatr. 2021;175(8):861–3.
- Bennett M, Roche KM, Huebner DM, Lambert SF. School discrimination and changes in latinx adolescents' internalizing and externalizing symptoms. J Youth Adolesc. 2020;49(10):2020–33.
- Bennett M, Roche KM, Huebner DM, Lambert SF. Peer Discrimination, deviant peer affiliation, and Latino/a adolescent internalizing and externalizing symptoms: a prospective study. J Clin Child Adolesc Psychol. 2022;1–17.
- McFarland L, Murray E, Phillipson S. Student–teacher relationships and student self-concept: relations with teacher and student gender. Aust J Educ. 2016;60(1):5–25.
- Barch DM, Albaugh MD, Avenevoli S, Chang L, Clark DB, Glantz MD, et al. Demographic, physical and mental health assessments in the adolescent brain and cognitive development study: rationale and description. Dev Cogn Neurosci. 2017;3(32):55–66.
- Phinney JS, Madden T, Santos LJ. Psychological variables as predictors of perceived ethnic discrimination among minority and immigrant adolescents. J Appl Soc Psychol. 1998;28:937–53.
- Townsend L, Kobak K, Kearney C, Milham M, Andreotti C, Escalera J, et al. Development of three web-based computerized versions of the kiddie schedule for affective disorders and schizophrenia child psychiatric diagnostic interview: preliminary validity data. J Am Acad Child Adolesc Psychiatry. 2020;59(2):309–25.
- Berry OO, Londoño Tobón A, Njoroge WFM. Social determinants of health: the impact of racism on early childhood mental health. Curr Psychiatry Rep. 2021;23(5):23.

- Heeringa SG, Berglund PA. A guide for population-based analysis of the adolescent brain cognitive development (ABCD) study baseline data [Internet]. 2020 Feb [cited 2022 Jan 6]. https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.02. 10.942011v1
- Kjeldbjerg ML, Clausen L. Prevalence of binge-eating disorder among children and adolescents: a systematic review and meta-analysis. Eur Child Adolesc Psychiatry [Internet]. 2021. https://doi.org/10.1007/ s00787-021-01850-2.
- Skinner AC, Perrin EM, Moss LA, Skelton JA. Cardiometabolic risks and severity of obesity in children and young adults. N Engl J Med. 2015;373(14):1307–17.
- 43. van Hoeken D, Hoek HW. Review of the burden of eating disorders: mortality, disability, costs, quality of life, and family burden. Curr Opin Psychiatry. 2020;33(6):521–7.
- 44. O'Brien D, Fisher J. 5 ways bosses can reduce the stigma of mental health at work 6.
- 45. Dulin-Keita A, Hannon lii L, Fernandez JR, Cockerham WC. The defining moment: children's conceptualization of race and experiences with racial discrimination. Ethn Racial Stud. 2011;34(4):662–82.
- 46. Hughes DL, Watford JA, Del Toro J. Chapter one—a transactional/ecological perspective on ethnic-racial identity, socialization, and discrimination. In: Horn SS, Ruck MD, Liben LS, editors. Advances in child development and behavior [Internet]. JAI; 2016 [cited 2023 Mar 29]. p. 1–41. (Equity and Justice in Developmental Science: Implications for Young People, Families, and Communities; vol. 51). https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0065240716300209
- DiClemente RJ, Santelli JS, Crosby R. Adolescent health: understanding and preventing risk behaviors. New York: Wiley; 2009.
- Delgado MY, Nair RL, Updegraff KA, Umaña-Taylor AJ. Discrimination, parent–adolescent conflict, and peer intimacy: examining risk and resilience in Mexican-origin youths' adjustment trajectories. Child Dev. 2019:90(3):894–910.
- Stein GL, Castro-Schilo L, Cavanaugh AM, Mejia Y, Christophe NK, Robins R. When discrimination hurts: the longitudinal impact of increases in peer discrimination on anxiety and depressive symptoms in Mexican-origin youth. J Youth Adolesc. 2019;48(5):864–75.
- Hurd NM, Stoddard SA, Bauermeister JA, Zimmerman MA. Natural mentors, mental health, and substance use: exploring pathways via coping and purpose. Am J Orthopsychiatry. 2014;84(2):190–200.
- Jindal M, Mistry KB, Trent M, McRae A, Thornton RLJ. Police exposures and the health and well-being of black youth in the US: a systematic review. JAMA Pediatr. 2022;176(1):78–88.
- Szapocznik J, Coatsworth JD. An ecodevelopmental framework for organizing the influences on drug abuse: a developmental model of risk and protection. In: Drug abuse: origins & interventions. Washington, DC, US: American Psychological Association; 1999. p. 331–66.
- Maene C, D'hondt F, Van Lissa CJ, Thijs J, Stevens PAJ. Perceived teacher discrimination and depressive feelings in adolescents: the role of national, regional, and heritage identities in flemish schools. J Youth Adolesc. 2022;51(12):2281–93.
- Butler-Barnes ST, Leath S, Inniss-Thompson MN, Allen PC, D'Almeida MEDA, Boyd DT. Racial and gender discrimination by teachers: Risks for Black girls' depressive symptomatology and suicidal ideation. Cultur Divers Ethnic Minor Psychol. 2022;28(4):469–82.
- Braet C, Soetens B, Moens E, Mels S, Goossens L, Van Vlierberghe L. Are two informants better than one? Parent–child agreement on the eating styles of children who are overweight. Eur Eat Disord Rev. 2007;15(6):410–7.
- Tanofsky-Kraff M, Yanovski SZ, Yanovski JA. Comparison of child interview and parent reports of children's eating disordered behaviors. Eat Behav. 2005;6(1):95–9.
- Lett E, Asabor E, Beltrán S, Cannon AM, Arah OA. Conceptualizing, contextualizing, and operationalizing race in quantitative health sciences research. Ann Fam Med. 2022;20(2):157–63.
- White K, Lawrence JA, Tchangalova N, Huang SJ, Cummings JL. Sociallyassigned race and health: a scoping review with global implications for population health equity. Int J Equity Health. 2020;19(1):25.
- Burke NL, Schaefer LM, Hazzard VM, Rodgers RF. Where identities converge: the importance of intersectionality in eating disorders research. Int J Eat Disord. 2020;53(10):1605–9.

- Childstats.gov America's children: key national indicators of well-being, 2021—demographic background [Internet]. [cited 2023 Jul 17]. https://www.childstats.gov/americaschildren21/demo.asp
- Priest N, Alam O, Truong M, Sharples R, Nelson J, Dunn K, et al. Promoting proactive bystander responses to racism and racial discrimination in primary schools: a mixed methods evaluation of the 'Speak Out Against Racism' program pilot. BMC Public Health. 2021;21(21):1434.
- Moreno R, Buckelew SM, Accurso EC, Raymond-Flesch M. Disparities in access to eating disorders treatment for publicly-insured youth and youth of color: a retrospective cohort study. J Eat Disord. 2023;24(11):10.
- Feltner C, Peat C, Reddy S, Riley S, Berkman N, Middleton JC, Balio C, Coker-Schwimmer M, Jonas DE, et al. Screening for eating disorders in adolescents and adults: evidence report and systematic review for the US preventive services task force. JAMA. 2022;327(11):1068–82. https://doi. org/10.1001/jama.2022.1807.
- Nagata JM, Golden NH. New US preventive services task force recommendations on screening for eating disorders. JAMA Intern Med. 2022;182(5):471–3. https://doi.org/10.1001/jamainternmed.2022.0121.
- Garner A, Yogman M, Committee on psychosocial aspects of child and family health S on D and BP. Preventing childhood toxic stress: partnering with families and communities to promote relational health. Pediatrics [Internet]. 2021;148(2)
- Council on Community Pediatrics, Gitterman BA, Flanagan PJ, Cotton WH, Dilley KJ, Duffee JH, et al. Poverty and child health in the United States. Pediatrics. 2016 Apr 1;137(4):e20160339.
- 67. Ginsburg KR, Brett Z, McClain R. Reaching teens: strength-based, traumasensitive, resilience-building communication strategies root—AAP [Internet]. 2nd Edition. American Academy of Pediatrics; 2020 [cited 2023 Jul 17].
- Ward JV. The skin were in: teaching our teens to be emotionally strong, socially smart, and spiritually connected. New York: Free Press. 2002.

Publisher's Note

Springer Nature remains neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.

Ready to submit your research? Choose BMC and benefit from:

- fast, convenient online submission
- thorough peer review by experienced researchers in your field
- rapid publication on acceptance
- support for research data, including large and complex data types
- gold Open Access which fosters wider collaboration and increased citations
- maximum visibility for your research: over 100M website views per year

At BMC, research is always in progress.

Learn more biomedcentral.com/submissions

