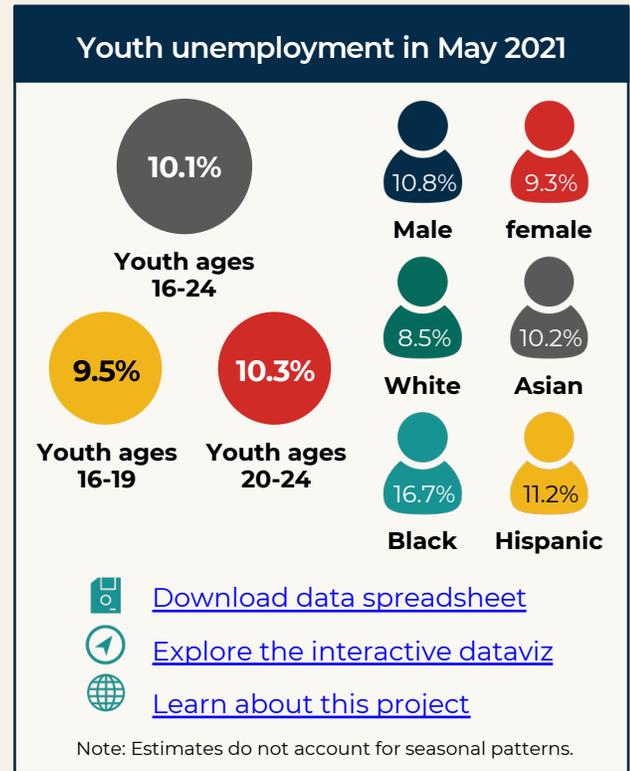


COVID-19 and Youth Unemployment by Gender and Age

- Over the last 12 months, unemployment rates have steadily declined from historic highs reached after the start of the pandemic. However, recovery toward pre-pandemic levels of unemployment has been less steady for youth than adults.
- Unemployment rates among adults ages 25 to 54 have declined continuously between June 2020 and May 2021, from 9.4 percent to 5.5 percent among males and from 10.1 percent to 4.9 percent among females.
- Although unemployment among youth ages 16 to 24 declined remarkably during the same period, the road to recovery has been unsteady.
- In the winter, youth—especially female youth ages 16 to 19—experienced an uptick in unemployment rates after which unemployment rates continued to trend downward into the spring.
- In addition, unemployment rates slightly increased in spring 2021 for male youth ages 20 to 24 and female youth ages 16 to 19.
- Overall, between June 2020 and May 2021, unemployment rates among youth ages 16 to 24 fell from 19.9 percent to 10.7 percent among males and fell from 21.0 percent to 9.1 percent among females.



Monthly youth unemployment rates by gender and age (%)



Source: Mathematica compilation based on the Bureau of Labor Statistics' monthly Labor Force Statistics from the Current Population Survey (<https://www.bls.gov/cps/data.htm>).
 Note: Estimates account for seasonal patterns.