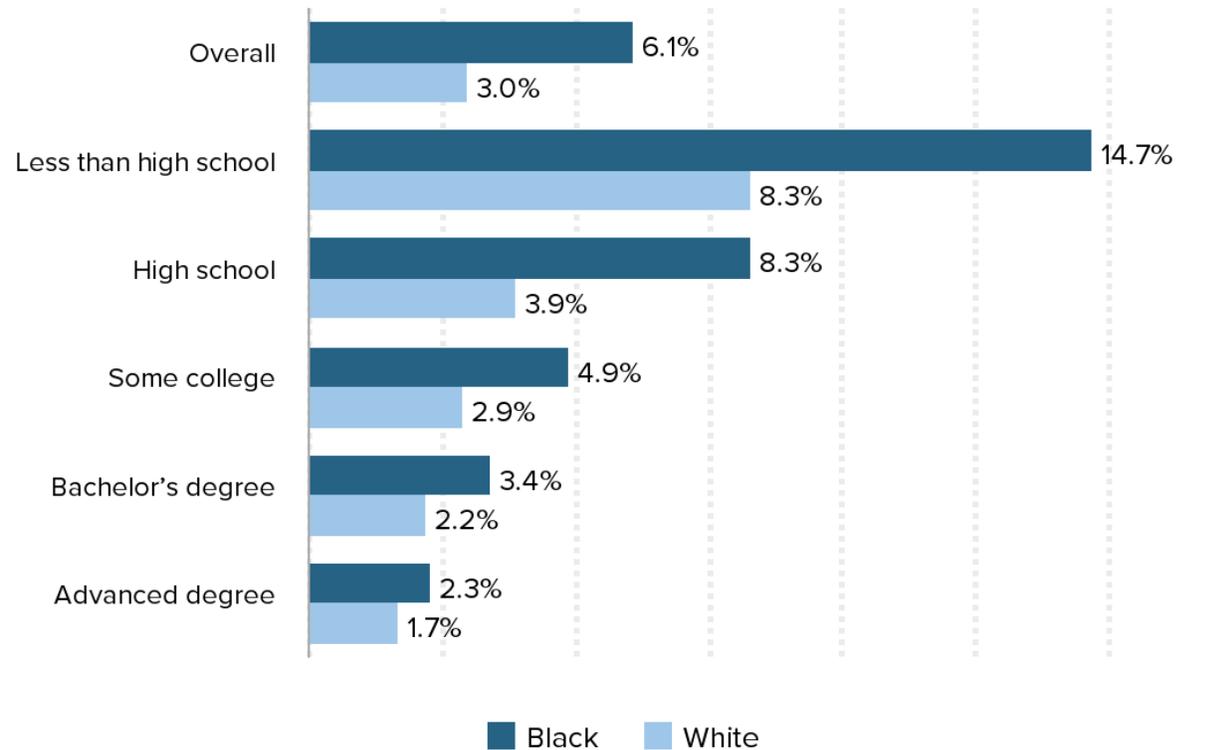


Black workers are far more likely to be unemployed than white workers at every level of education

Unemployment rates by race and education, 2019

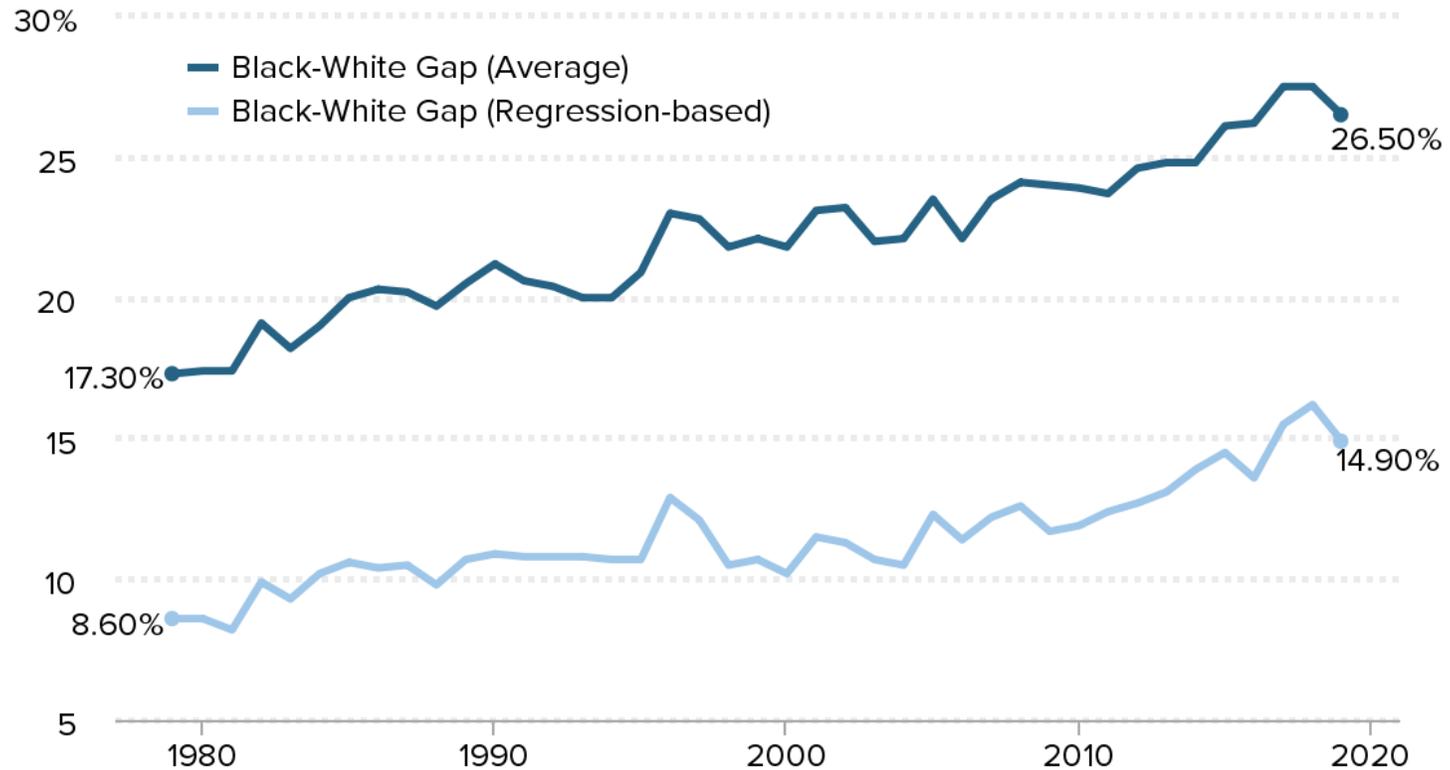


Notes: White refers to non-Hispanic whites, black refers to blacks alone. Educational categories are mutually exclusive and represent the highest education level attained for all individuals ages 16 and older.

Source: Economic Policy Institute, *State of Working America Data Library*, [[Unemployment by race and education](#)], 2019.

Black-white wage gaps are wider now than 40 years ago and largely unexplained by factors associated with individual productivity

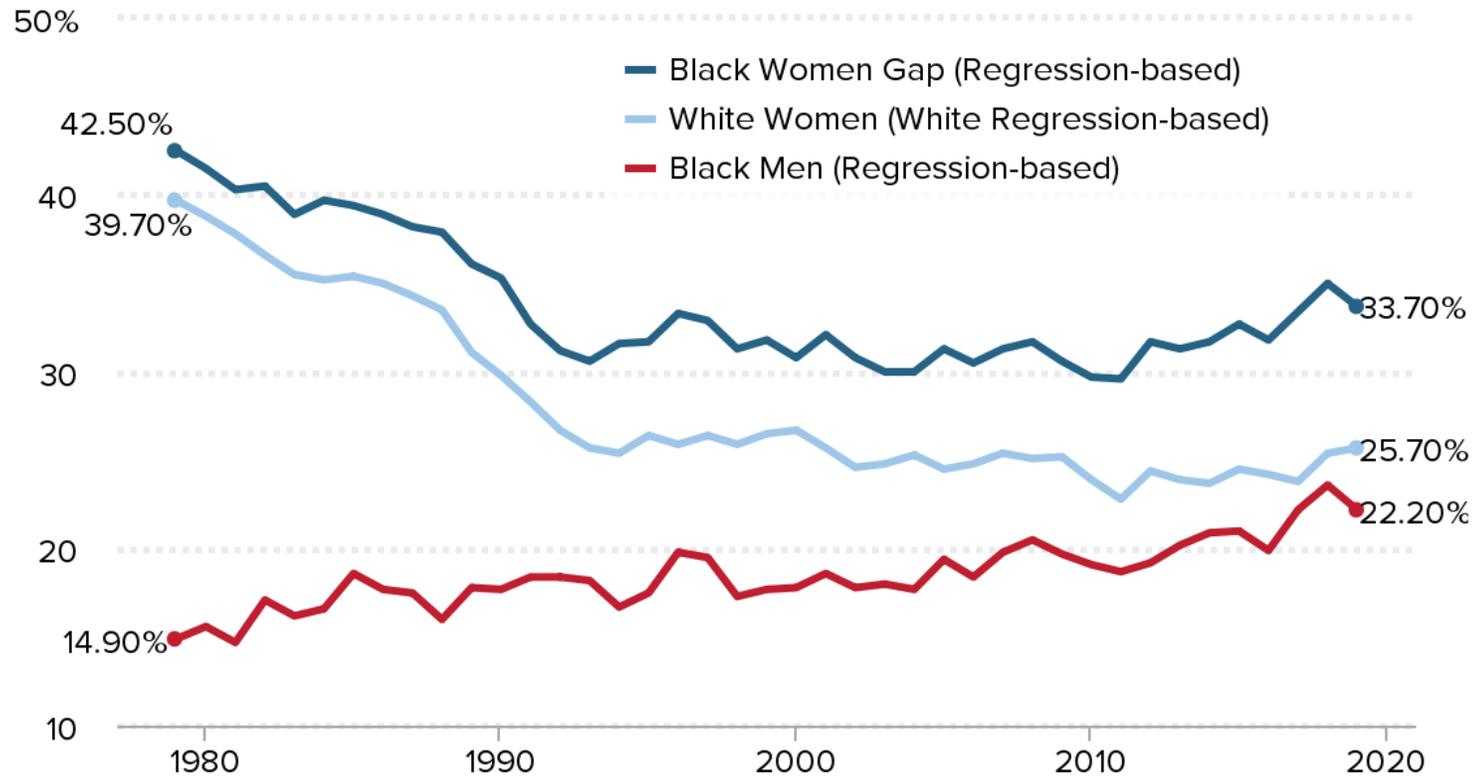
Average and regression-adjusted black-white wage gaps, 1979-2019



Source: Economic Policy Institute (EPI). 2020. Current Population Survey Extracts, Version 1.0.4, <https://microdata.epi.org>.

The intersection of race and gender imposes dual wage penalties on Black women

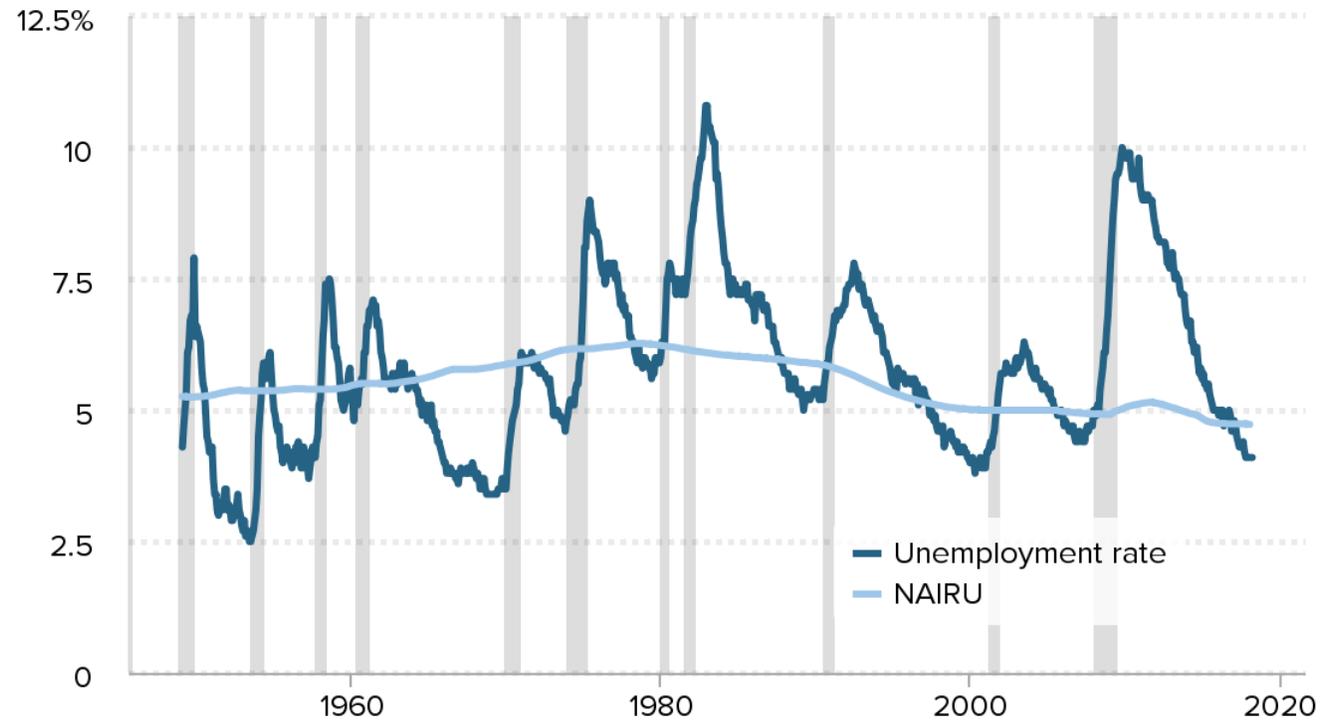
Regression-adjusted hourly wage gaps relative to white men, by race and gender, 1979-2019



Source: Economic Policy Institute (EPI). 2020. Current Population Survey Extracts, Version 1.0.4, <https://microdata.epi.org>.

There has been insufficient vigilance in fighting unemployment since the late 1970s

Estimate of the natural rate of unemployment and actual unemployment, 1949–2018



Note: NAIUR refers to the nonaccelerating inflation rate of unemployment (another term for the natural rate of unemployment).

Source: Data on the natural rate of unemployment from the Congressional Budget Office (2018); data on actual unemployment rate from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (2018). Shaded areas represent recessions.