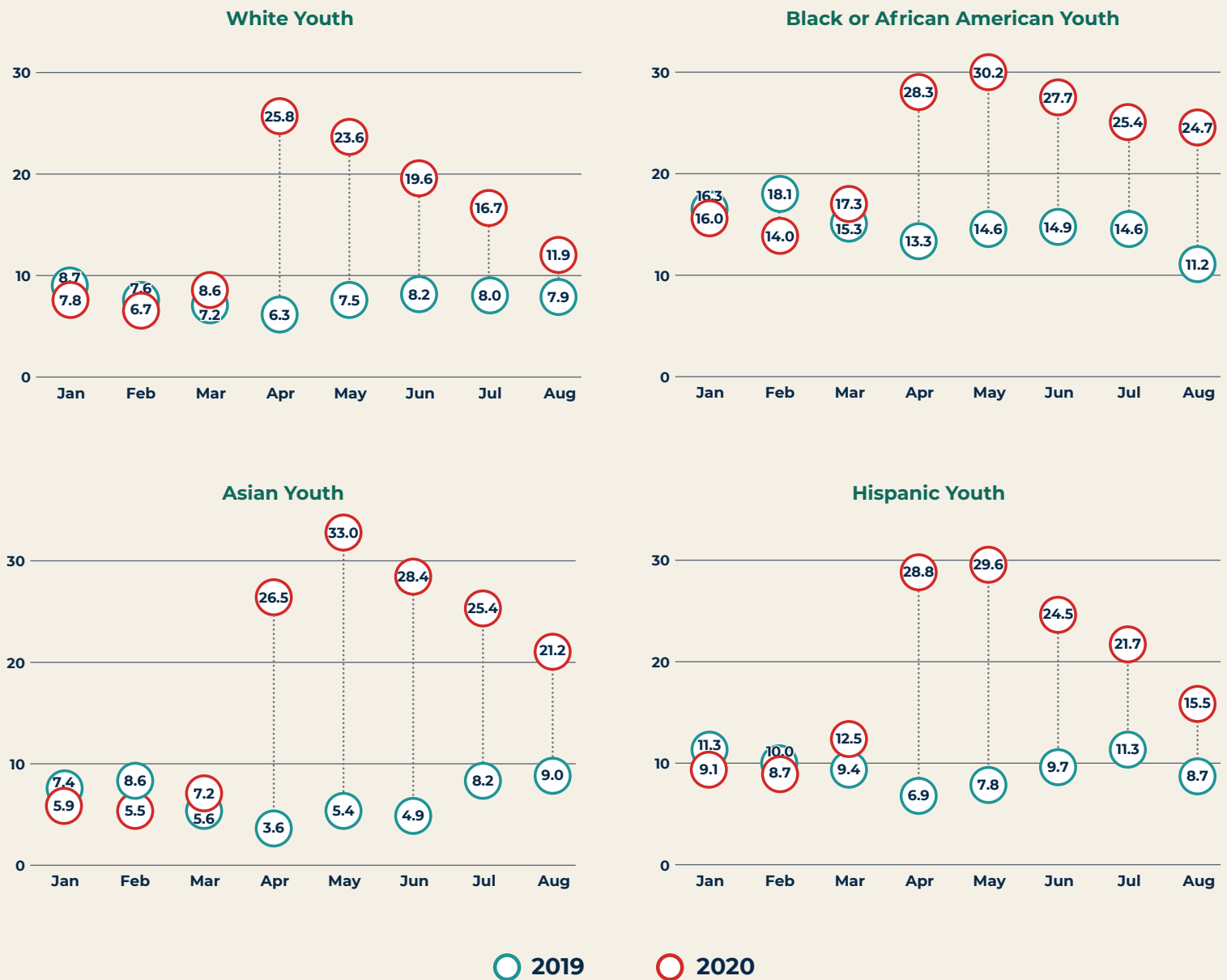


COVID-19 and Youth Unemployment by Race and Ethnicity

Historically, Black or African American and Hispanic youth have been more likely to be unemployed, compared to White and Asian youth. With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, youth unemployment (for ages 16–24) skyrocketed across all racial and ethnic groups in April 2020. In May 2020, youth unemployment rates were at a high, ranging from 24 to 33 percent. Approximately 33 percent Asian, 30 percent Black or African American, 30 percent Hispanic, and 24 percent White youth were unemployed.

In June 2020, as stay-at-home orders began to ease, youth unemployment started to decline, particularly for White and Hispanic youth. In August 2020, unemployment rates were 12 percent and 16 percent among White and Hispanic youth, respectively. However, unemployment rates remained high among Black or African American and Asian youth, at 25 percent and 21 percent, respectively.

Monthly unemployment rate (%) among youth ages 16–24, 2019–2020



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: Access more data to track youth unemployment during COVID-19 [here](#).

September 16, 2020