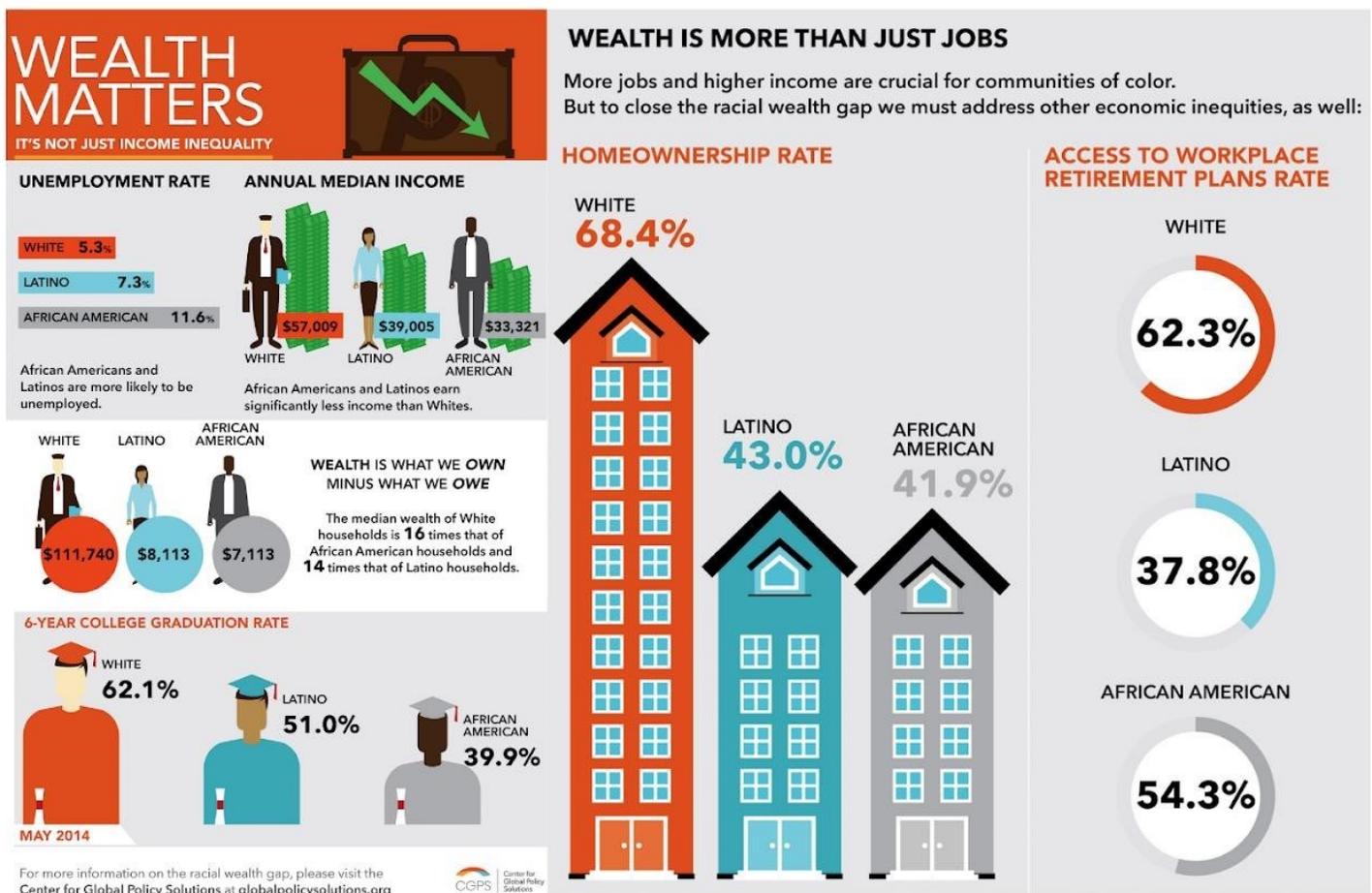


# 21 DAY EQUITY CHALLENGE

#UNITEDFOREQUITY – #CREQUITYCHALLENGE

## DAY 12: The Racial Wealth Gap

Income inequality exists in nearly every city and every state, and the Capital Region is no exception. [Median income in Albany County](#) for Black households is \$31.7K, compared to \$36.8K for Hispanic and \$66.4K for White households. As the [income gap](#) continues to grow in America, working households are struggling to meet their daily needs and find it difficult to build wealth through savings, investments, or home ownership.



**Did You Know?** Beside the large gap in income inequality, the gap in wealth (savings and assets) is even greater. According to a 2018 report by the Economic Policy Institute, New York ranked number 1 of all 50 states in income inequality, with the top 1% earning 44 times more than the bottom 99% ([New York State ALICE Report 2020](#)). The primary way that white families have grown their wealth is through homeownership -- an opportunity that has been denied to Black and Brown families.

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## Today's Challenge:

**Option 1:** Look at the [Debt in America](#) map and search for New York State to visualize differences in the weight of debt across geographies and between white and non-white residents.

**Option 2:** Hear from Ruth, an immigrant from Honduras, on how the 'toxic stress' of poverty and financial insecurity is impacting her and her children in this [10-minute PBS News Hour special](#).

**Option 3:** Listen to this [30-minute interview with Dr. Donna Beegle](#) on how she broke the cycle of generational poverty in her family and is now working to help others do the same through the consulting firm she founded.

**Option 4:** Journal on you and your family's experiences of work and money. What career do you have? What did your parents have? Do you or they work in a historically segregated industry? If so, how was that segregation maintained? How does that affect your families earning power?

**Share the Wealth Matters graphic** on your social media using the hashtags **#unitedforequity**, **#equitychampions**, and **#CREquitychallenge**. Encourage your friends and family to learn more about the racial wealth gap by tagging them, too.

## Questions to Consider for Self-Reflection:

- What did today's graphic on wealth bring up for you?
- How did your family perceive their success/lack of success?