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# Duke Professor: COVID-19 Means Long-Term Economic Pain For African Americans

DAVID BORAIS

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A Duke University professor warns that long-term economic impact of the coronavirus outbreak will disproportionately affect African



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*Professor Sandy Darity of Duke University.*

Americans. That's because of underlying social inequities.

Economist Sandy Darity said, for example, that unemployment in

the black community is consistently double the rate in the white community.

"If the overall unemployment rate is in the vicinity of 30%, then the projected unemployment rate black Americans could run as high as 50%, which is absolutely staggering, and is a number that we have never seen in this country," Darity told reporters in a conference call Tuesday.

Darity said that would be devastating well beyond the virus crisis and be a further drag on household wealth among black residents, perpetuating inequality.

He and two other Duke professors also said the \$2 trillion federal stimulus package won't be enough to prevent devastating economic upheaval. They are calling for more federal aid, providing a permanent universal basic income for families and

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