

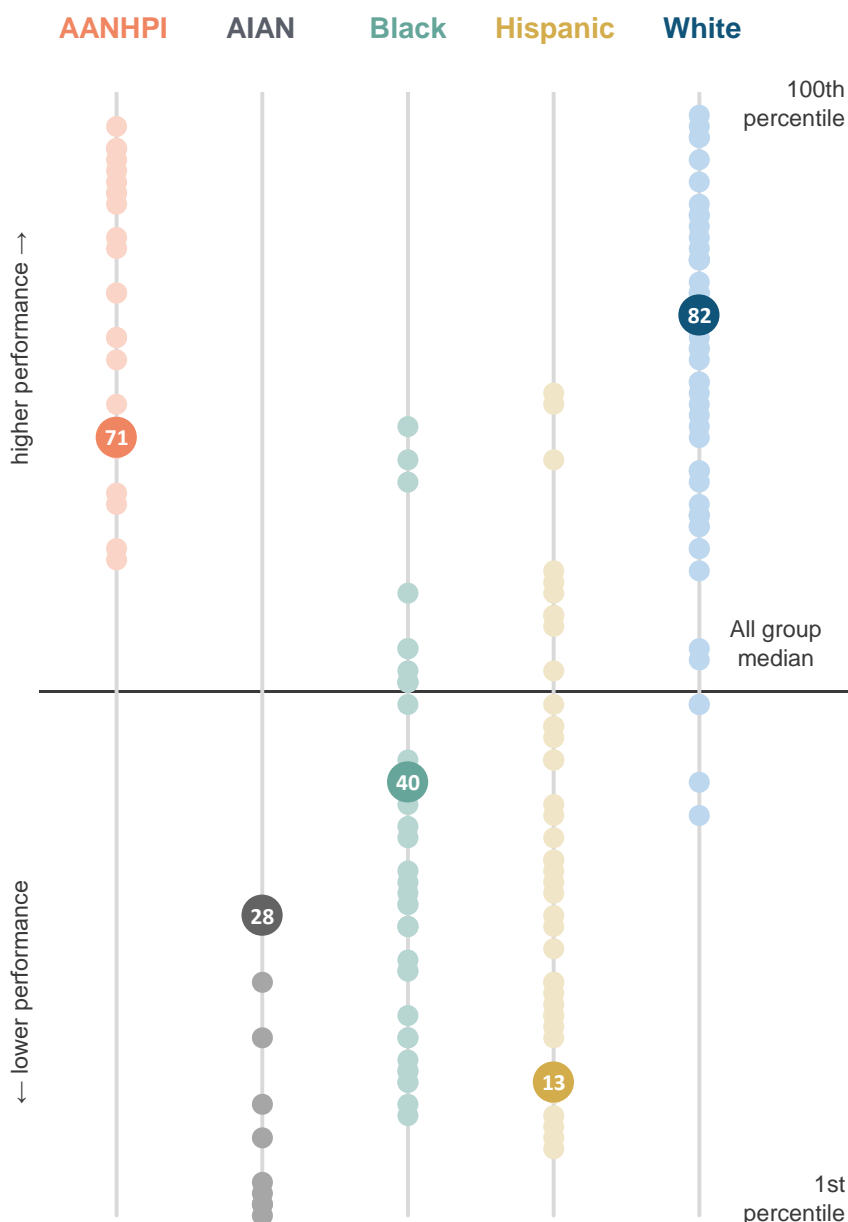
# How well does the health care system in North Carolina work for people of different racial and ethnic groups?

In North Carolina, **White people** experienced the **highest health system performance**, scoring in the 82nd percentile among all population groups nationally.

**Hispanic people** experienced the **lowest health system performance** in the state, scoring in the 13th percentile.

Compared to other states in the Southeast region, North Carolina has more severe racial and ethnic health disparities.

## Health System Performance by Race/Ethnicity



Each column is a racial/ethnic group, and each point represents a state. Performance represented as percentiles (1–100). North Carolina performance percentile highlighted. No highlighted dot indicates overall performance data not available for that group.

## Population by race/ethnicity (2022)

|          | North Carolina  | Southeast        | United States     |
|----------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Total    | 10,485,293      | 85,235,479       | 328,403,052       |
| AANHPI   | 342,758 (3%)    | 2,600,554 (3%)   | 19,862,655 (6%)   |
| AIAN     | 88,304 (<1%)    | 208,655 (<1%)    | 1,688,543 (<1%)   |
| Black    | 2,105,441 (20%) | 16,911,627 (20%) | 38,460,950 (12%)  |
| Hispanic | 1,092,130 (10%) | 10,891,118 (13%) | 62,818,758 (19%)  |
| White    | 6,378,844 (61%) | 50,687,529 (60%) | 189,511,136 (58%) |

Notes: AANHPI = Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander. AIAN = American Indian and Alaska Native. “—” means data not available. Southeast states include AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV. Source: David C. Radley et al., Advancing Racial Equity in U.S. Health Care: The Commonwealth Fund 2024 State Health Disparities Report (Commonwealth Fund, Apr. 2024).

# How well does the health system in North Carolina work for people from different racial and ethnic groups, and across different dimensions of care?

## AANHPI

North Carolina ranks 18th of 31 states where calculation was possible, indicating health system performance for AANHPI people in the state was worse than average compared to other states. Specifically:

- Health outcomes ranking: **5** (of 33) is among the best
- Health care access ranking: **20** (of 34) is worse than average
- Health care quality ranking: **38** (of 41) is among the worst

## AIAN

North Carolina ranks 1st of 10 states where calculation was possible, indicating health system performance for AIAN people in the state was among the best compared to other states. Specifically:

- Health outcomes ranking: **6** (of 10) is among the worst
- Health care access ranking: **2** (of 11) is among the best
- Health care quality ranking: **1** (of 11) is among the best

## Black

North Carolina ranks 13th of 39 states where calculation was possible, indicating health system performance for Black people in the state was better than average compared to other states. Specifically:

- Health outcomes ranking: **24** (of 40) is worse than average
- Health care access ranking: **22** (of 40) is worse than average
- Health care quality ranking: **1** (of 41) is among the best

## Hispanic

North Carolina ranks 37th of 47 states where calculation was possible, indicating health system performance for Hispanic people in the state was worse than average compared to other states. Specifically:

- Health outcomes ranking: **2** (of 49) is among the best
- Health care access ranking: **45** (of 48) is among the worst
- Health care quality ranking: **31** (of 48) is worse than average

## White

North Carolina ranks 21st of 51 states where calculation was possible, indicating health system performance for white people in the state was better than average compared to other states. Specifically:

- Health outcomes ranking: **30** (of 51) is worse than average
- Health care access ranking: **33** (of 51) is worse than average
- Health care quality ranking: **6** (of 51) is better than average

## North Carolina Performance Data

|  | AIAN    |         | AANHPI  |         | Black   |         | Hispanic |         | White   |         |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|---------|---------|---------|
|  | NC rate | US rate | NC rate | US rate | NC rate | US rate | NC rate  | US rate | NC rate | US rate |
| <b>Health Outcomes</b>   |         |         |         |         |         |         |          |         |         |         |
| Deaths before age 75 from health care–treatable causes per 100,000 population                | 114     | 125     | 44      | 50      | 157     | 164     | 55       | 73      | 85      | 83      |
| Deaths before age 75 from preventable causes per 100,000 population                          | 400     | 479     | 99      | 104     | 309     | 347     | 172      | 225     | 240     | 225     |
| Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)   | 7       | 8       | 6       | 4       | 12      | 11      | 5        | 5       | 5       | 4       |
| Breast cancer deaths (per 100,000 female population)   | —       | 14      | 7       | 12      | 26      | 27      | 8        | 13      | 19      | 20      |
| Colorectal cancer deaths (per 100,000 population)  | 10      | 13      | 6       | 9       | 16      | 17      | 8        | 11      | 13      | 13      |
| Hospital 30-day readmission rate age 65 and older (per 1,000 beneficiaries)                  | —       | —       | —       | —       | 39      | 44      | —        | —       | 22      | 26      |
| Adults who smoke (%)   | 33      | 25      | —       | 7       | 17      | 15      | 8        | 11      | 15      | 14      |
| Adults who are obese (%)   | 37      | 41      | 14      | 14      | 51      | 44      | 33       | 37      | 33      | 34      |
| Adults who have lost six or more teeth (%)   | 25      | 17      | —       | 3       | 14      | 11      | 5        | 6       | 10      | 9       |
| <b>Health Care Access</b>  |         |         |         |         |         |         |          |         |         |         |
| Uninsured adults (%)   | 20      | 22      | 10      | 7       | 14      | 12      | 39       | 23      | 10      | 8       |
| Uninsured children (%)   | 7       | 12      | 3       | 4       | 4       | 4       | 12       | 8       | 3       | 4       |
| Adults who went without care because of cost (%)   | 9       | 14      | —       | 8       | 13      | 13      | 20       | 19      | 10      | 8       |
| High out-of-pocket medical spending (%)  | 15      | 14      | 10      | 9       | 13      | 12      | 17       | 13      | 10      | 9       |
| Adults with a usual source of care (%)   | 91      | 79      | 73      | 82      | 85      | 85      | 53       | 67      | 87      | 87      |
| <b>Health Care Quality</b>   |         |         |         |         |         |         |          |         |         |         |
| Preventable hospitalizations age 65 and older (per 1,000 beneficiaries)                      | —       | —       | —       | —       | 45      | 45      | —        | —       | 27      | 28      |
| Potentially avoidable emergency department visits age 65 and older (per 1,000 beneficiaries) | —       | —       | —       | —       | 218     | 206     | —        | —       | 130     | 140     |
| Adult women who received a mammogram (%)   | 75      | 65      | 59      | 74      | 87      | 84      | 67       | 77      | 79      | 77      |
| Adult women with a cervical cancer screening test (%)  | 92      | 82      | 95      | 87      | 91      | 90      | 87       | 87      | 87      | 84      |
| Adults with a colon cancer screening test (%)  | 67      | 53      | 41      | 50      | 69      | 65      | 38       | 50      | 70      | 68      |
| Adults with a recent flu shot (%)  | 40      | 39      | 39      | 50      | 42      | 38      | 35       | 34      | 50      | 50      |
| Older adults who received the pneumonia vaccine (%)  | 61      | 63      | —       | 62      | 70      | 62      | 74       | 55      | 77      | 73      |
| Children with a medical and dental preventive care visit (%)                                 | —       | —       | —       | —       | 72      | 61      | 63       | 59      | 74      | 69      |
| Children with all recommended vaccines (%)   | —       | —       | —       | —       | 80      | 65      | 72       | 71      | 81      | 74      |
| Adults with a dental visit (%)   | 43      | 45      | 36      | 34      | 37      | 41      | 50       | 44      | 32      | 32      |
| Primary care spending as share of total, age 65 and older (%)                                | —       | —       | —       | —       | 6       | 5       | —        | —       | 7       | 5       |

Source: David C. Radley et al., *Advancing Racial Equity in U.S. Health Care: The Commonwealth Fund 2024 State Health Disparities Report* (Commonwealth Fund, Apr. 2024).