

# How well does the health care system in Texas

work for people of different racial and ethnic groups?

In Texas, **AANHPI people** experienced the **highest health system performance**, scoring in the 74th percentile among all population groups nationally.

**Hispanic people** experienced the **lowest health system performance** in the state, scoring in the 6th percentile.

Compared to other states in the Southwest region, Texas 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). Texas performance percentile highlighted. No highlighted dot indicates overall performance data not available for that group.

## Population by race/ethnicity (2022)

	Texas	Southwest	United States
Total	29,550,476	42,812,278	328,403,052
AANHPI	1,621,557 (5%)	2,020,931 (5%)	19,862,655 (6%)
AIAN	41,737 (<1%)	718,783 (2%)	1,688,543 (<1%)
Black	3,406,638 (12%)	4,004,401 (9%)	38,460,950 (12%)
Hispanic	11,925,480 (40%)	15,806,043 (37%)	62,818,758 (19%)
White	11,490,610 (39%)	18,441,323 (43%)	189,511,136 (58%)

Notes: AANHPI = Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander. AIAN = American Indian and Alaska Native. “—” means data not available. Southwest states include AZ, NM, OK, TX. 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 Texas work for people from different racial and ethnic groups, and across different dimensions of care?

## AANHPI

Texas ranks 17th 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: **14** (of 33) is better than average
- Health care access ranking: **16** (of 34) is better than average
- Health care quality ranking: **32** (of 41) is worse than average

## AIAN

An overall ranking for AIAN people in Texas is not available because of insufficient data.

- Health outcomes ranking: insufficient data
- Health care access ranking: **7** (of 11) is among the worst
- Health care quality ranking: **5** (of 11) is among the best

## Black

Texas ranks 32nd of 39 states where calculation was possible, indicating health system performance for Black people in the state was worse than average compared to other states. Specifically:

- Health outcomes ranking: **20** (of 40) is better than average
- Health care access ranking: **37** (of 40) is among the worst
- Health care quality ranking: **22** (of 41) is worse than average

## Hispanic

Texas ranks 44th of 47 states where calculation was possible, indicating health system performance for Hispanic people in the state was among the worst compared to other states. Specifically:

- Health outcomes ranking: **39** (of 49) is worse than average
- Health care access ranking: **44** (of 48) is among the worst
- Health care quality ranking: **39** (of 48) is worse than average

## White

Texas ranks 38th of 51 states where calculation was possible, indicating health system performance for white people in the state was worse than average compared to other states. Specifically:

- Health outcomes ranking: **32** (of 51) is worse than average
- Health care access ranking: **49** (of 51) is among the worst
- Health care quality ranking: **35** (of 51) is worse than average

## Texas Performance Data

	AIAN		AANHPI		Black		Hispanic		White	
	TX rate	US rate	TX rate	US rate	TX rate	US rate	TX rate	US rate	TX rate	US rate
<b>Health Outcomes</b>										
Deaths before age 75 from health care–treatable causes per 100,000 population	38	125	47	50	165	164	92	73	95	83
Deaths before age 75 from preventable causes per 100,000 population	137	479	96	104	318	347	267	225	246	225
Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	—	8	4	4	10	11	5	5	4	4
Breast cancer deaths (per 100,000 female population)	—	14	11	12	28	27	15	13	21	20
Colorectal cancer deaths (per 100,000 population)	—	13	9	9	19	17	12	11	15	13
Hospital 30-day readmission rate age 65 and older (per 1,000 beneficiaries)	—	—	—	—	45	44	—	—	26	26
Adults who smoke (%)	—	25	6	7	14	15	12	11	13	14
Adults who are obese (%)	—	41	14	14	46	44	42	37	33	34
Adults who have lost six or more teeth (%)	—	17	—	3	11	11	6	6	8	9
<b>Health Care Access</b>										
Uninsured adults (%)	18	22	11	7	19	12	35	23	13	8
Uninsured children (%)	8	12	7	4	8	4	15	8	7	4
Adults who went without care because of cost (%)	—	14	11	8	17	13	23	19	10	8
High out-of-pocket medical spending (%)	—	14	5	9	14	12	15	13	9	9
Adults with a usual source of care (%)	66	79	75	82	82	85	61	67	83	87
<b>Health Care Quality</b>										
Preventable hospitalizations age 65 and older (per 1,000 beneficiaries)	—	—	—	—	51	45	—	—	29	28
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits age 65 and older (per 1,000 beneficiaries)	—	—	—	—	206	206	—	—	146	140
Adult women who received a mammogram (%)	79	65	66	74	86	84	73	77	76	77
Adult women with a cervical cancer screening test (%)	82	82	90	87	91	90	85	87	83	84
Adults with a colon cancer screening test (%)	70	53	44	50	62	65	46	50	66	68
Adults with a recent flu shot (%)	28	39	49	50	38	38	29	34	47	50
Older adults who received the pneumonia vaccine (%)	55	63	56	62	61	62	57	55	76	73
Children with a medical and dental preventive care visit (%)	—	—	—	—	64	61	61	59	68	69
Children with all recommended vaccines (%)	—	—	—	—	64	65	76	71	72	74
Adults with a dental visit (%)	40	45	36	34	41	41	49	44	37	32
Primary care spending as share of total, age 65 and older (%)	—	—	—	—	5	5	—	—	6	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).