

# How well does the health care system in Iowa

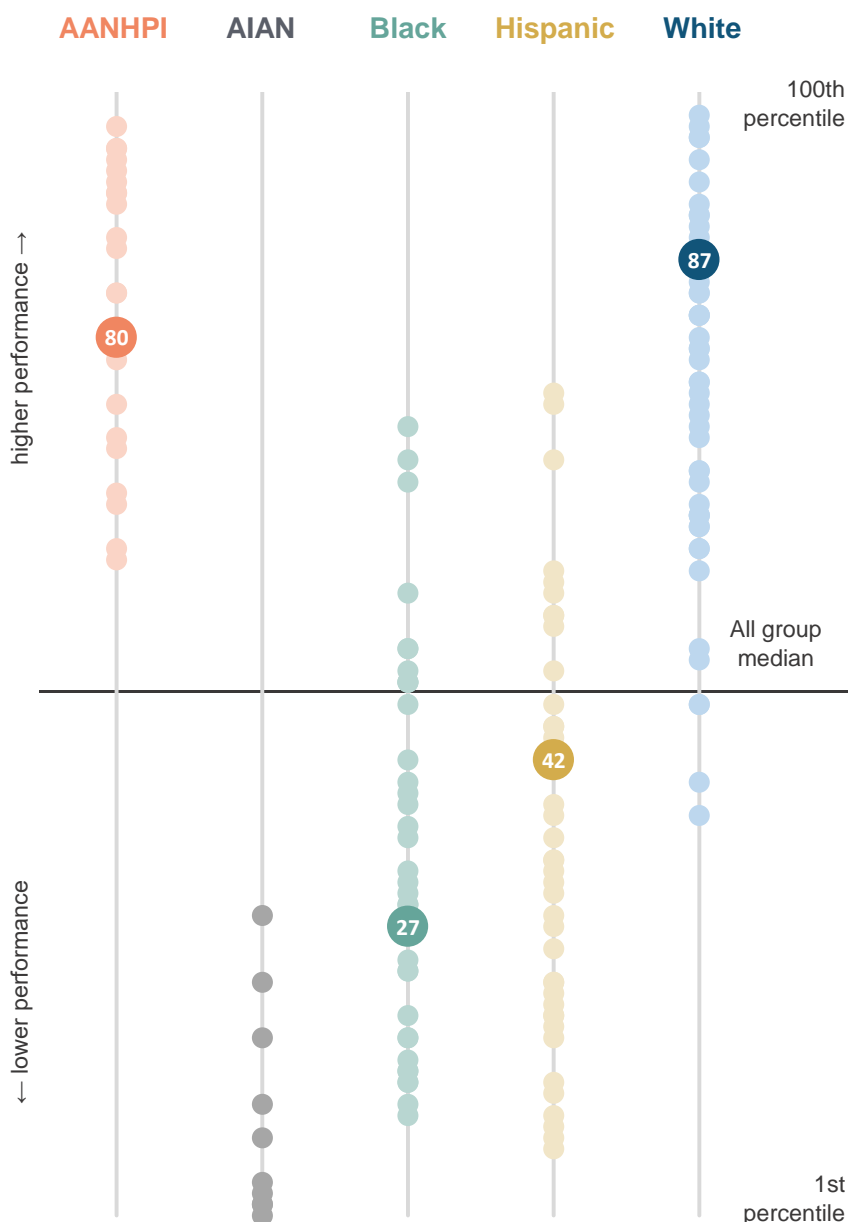
work for people of different racial and ethnic groups?

In Iowa, **White people** experienced the **highest health system performance**, scoring in the 87th percentile among all population groups nationally.

**Black people** experienced the **lowest health system performance** in the state, scoring in the 27th percentile.

Compared to other states in the Plains region, Iowa has less severe racial and ethnic health disparities.

## Health System Performance by Race/Ethnicity



## Population by race/ethnicity (2022)

	Iowa	Plains	United States
Total	3,154,199	21,358,018	328,403,052
AANHPI	84,597 (3%)	678,323 (3%)	19,862,655 (6%)
AIAN	4,469 (<1%)	170,947 (<1%)	1,688,543 (<1%)
Black	114,167 (4%)	1,372,841 (6%)	38,460,950 (12%)
Hispanic	216,582 (7%)	1,523,355 (7%)	62,818,758 (19%)
White	2,612,131 (83%)	16,508,579 (77%)	189,511,136 (58%)

Notes: AANHPI = Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander. AIAN = American Indian and Alaska Native. “—” means data not available. Plains states include IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD. 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 Iowa work for people from different racial and ethnic groups, and across different dimensions of care?

### AANHPI

Iowa ranks 14th of 31 states where calculation was possible, indicating health system performance for ANANHPI people in the state was better than average compared to other states. Specifically:

- Health outcomes ranking: **22** (of 33) is worse than average
- Health care access ranking: **13** (of 34) is better than average
- Health care quality ranking: **16** (of 41) is better than average

### AIAN

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

- Health outcomes ranking: insufficient data
- Health care access ranking: insufficient data
- Health care quality ranking: insufficient data

### Black

Iowa ranks 23rd 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: **29** (of 40) is worse than average
- Health care access ranking: **21** (of 40) is worse than average
- Health care quality ranking: **25** (of 41) is worse than average

### Hispanic

Iowa ranks 16th of 47 states where calculation was possible, indicating health system performance for Hispanic people in the state was better than average compared to other states. Specifically:

- Health outcomes ranking: **20** (of 49) is better than average
- Health care access ranking: **13** (of 48) is better than average
- Health care quality ranking: **31** (of 48) is worse than average

### White

Iowa ranks 14th 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: **24** (of 51) is better than average
- Health care access ranking: **10** (of 51) is better than average
- Health care quality ranking: **11** (of 51) is better than average

## Iowa Performance Data

	AIAN		AANHPI		Black		Hispanic		White	
	IA rate	US rate	IA rate	US rate	IA rate	US rate	IA rate	US rate	IA rate	US rate
<b>Health Outcomes</b>										
Deaths before age 75 from health care–treatable causes per 100,000 population	113	125	55	50	179	164	57	73	81	83
Deaths before age 75 from preventable causes per 100,000 population	423	479	130	104	383	347	165	225	201	225
Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	—	8	6	4	12	11	3	5	4	4
Breast cancer deaths (per 100,000 female population)	—	14	—	12	—	27	—	13	18	20
Colorectal cancer deaths (per 100,000 population)	—	13	—	9	27	17	—	11	13	13
Hospital 30-day readmission rate age 65 and older (per 1,000 beneficiaries)	—	—	—	—	37	44	—	—	19	26
Adults who smoke (%)	26	25	—	7	18	15	11	11	15	14
Adults who are obese (%)	48	41	15	14	38	44	37	37	38	34
Adults who have lost six or more teeth (%)	—	17	—	3	9	11	7	6	9	9
<b>Health Care Access</b>										
Uninsured adults (%)	—	22	4	7	9	12	15	23	5	8
Uninsured children (%)	—	12	—	4	—	4	4	8	3	4
Adults who went without care because of cost (%)	—	14	7	8	13	13	18	19	5	8
High out-of-pocket medical spending (%)	—	14	—	9	8	12	8	13	6	9
Adults with a usual source of care (%)	81	79	75	82	75	85	58	67	87	87
<b>Health Care Quality</b>										
Preventable hospitalizations age 65 and older (per 1,000 beneficiaries)	—	—	—	—	—	45	—	—	28	28
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits age 65 and older (per 1,000 beneficiaries)	—	—	—	—	232	206	—	—	149	140
Adult women who received a mammogram (%)	60	65	73	74	87	84	76	77	81	77
Adult women with a cervical cancer screening test (%)	85	82	83	87	90	90	83	87	83	84
Adults with a colon cancer screening test (%)	65	53	56	50	57	65	42	50	69	68
Adults with a recent flu shot (%)	49	39	51	50	35	38	36	34	52	50
Older adults who received the pneumonia vaccine (%)	73	63	64	62	52	62	37	55	76	73
Children with a medical and dental preventive care visit (%)	—	—	—	—	53	61	70	59	72	69
Children with all recommended vaccines (%)	—	—	—	—	—	65	88	71	89	74
Adults with a dental visit (%)	47	45	29	34	39	41	48	44	30	32
Primary care spending as share of total, age 65 and older (%)	—	—	—	—	6	5	—	—	4	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).