

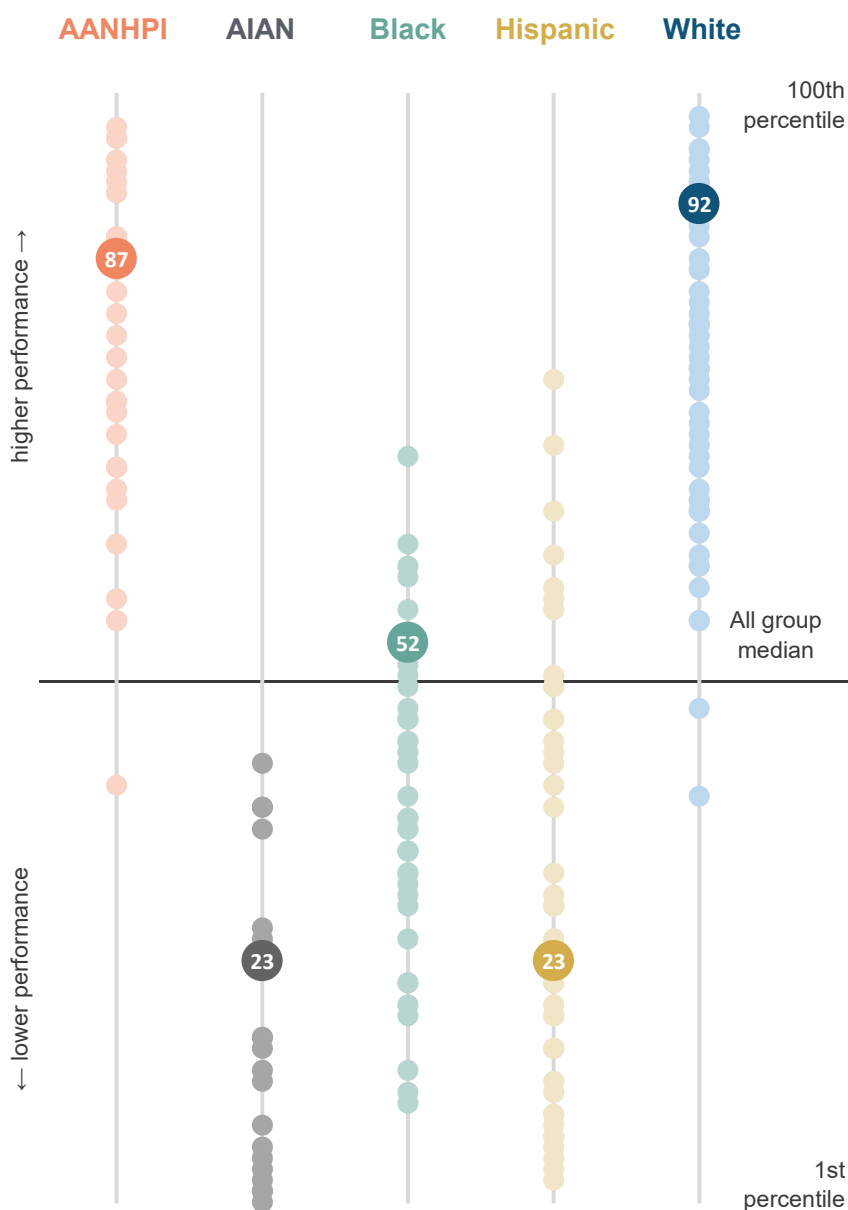
# How well does the health care system in **Colorado** work for people of different racial and ethnic groups?

In Colorado, **White people** experienced the **best health care outcomes, access, and quality**, scoring in the 92nd percentile among all population groups nationally.

**Hispanic people** experienced the **worst health care outcomes, access, and quality** in the state, scoring in the 23rd percentile.

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

## Population by race/ethnicity (2024)

	Colorado		Rocky Mountain		United States	
Total	5,861,671		13,010,806		335,268,606	
AANHPI	207,746	4%	374,718	3%	21,483,845	6%
AIAN	19,397	<1%	116,610	<1%	1,720,874	<1%
Black	223,955	4%	283,062	2%	38,820,084	12%
Hispanic	1,360,171	23%	2,347,964	18%	67,230,087	20%
White	3,739,405	64%	9,220,060	71%	188,863,832	56%

Notes: AANHPI = Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander. AIAN = American Indian and Alaska Native. “—” means data not available. Rocky Mountain states include CO, ID, MT, UT, WY.

Source: Jess Maksut et al., *The Commonwealth Fund 2026 State Health Disparities Report* (Commonwealth Fund, Apr. 2026).

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

## AANHPI

Colorado ranks 12th among the 33 states we were able to rank. This indicates that the state's health system performance for AANHPI people was better than the average compared to other states.

- Health outcomes ranking: **10** (of 36) is better than the average
- Health care access ranking: **30** (of 36) is worse than the average
- Health care quality ranking: **4** (of 45) is among the best

## AIAN

Colorado ranks 7th among the 21 states we were able to rank. This indicates that the state's health system performance for AIAN people was better than the average compared to other states.

- Health outcomes ranking: **12** (of 23) is worse than the average
- Health care access ranking: **7** (of 21) is better than the average
- Health care quality ranking: **9** (of 25) is better than the average

## Black

Colorado ranks 6th among the 39 states we were able to rank. This indicates that the state's health system performance for Black people was better than the average compared to other states.

- Health outcomes ranking: **2** (of 41) is among the best
- Health care access ranking: **31** (of 41) is worse than the average
- Health care quality ranking: **11** (of 45) is better than the average

## Hispanic

Colorado ranks 28th among the 49 states we were able to rank. This indicates that health system performance for Hispanic people was worse than the average compared to other states.

- Health outcomes ranking: **40** (of 50) is worse than the average
- Health care access ranking: **24** (of 50) is better than the average
- Health care quality ranking: **24** (of 50) is better than the average

## White

Colorado ranks 9th among the 51 states we were able to rank. This indicates that the health system performance for white people was better than the average compared to other states.

- Health outcomes ranking: **3** (of 51) is among the best
- Health care access ranking: **25** (of 51) is better than the average
- Health care quality ranking: **6** (of 51) is better than the average

Notes: Lower values indicate higher rank and better performance among each racial/ethnic group in Colorado compared to other states. Performance data not available for all groups in every state.

Source: Jess Maksut et al., *The Commonwealth Fund 2026 State Health Disparities Report* (Commonwealth Fund, Apr. 2026).

## Colorado Performance Data

	AANHPI		AIAN		Black		Hispanic		White	
	CO rate	US rate	CO rate	US rate	CO rate	US rate	CO rate	US rate	CO rate	US rate
<b>Health Outcomes</b>										
Deaths before age 75 from health care–treatable causes per 100,000 population	49	48	103	123	117	152	76	69	61	81
Deaths before age 75 from preventable causes per 100,000 population	87	77	398	380	278	273	219	145	168	197
Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	3.9	3.7	—	9.1	9.7	10.9	4.9	5.0	3.6	4.5
Breast cancer deaths (per 100,000 female population)	11	12	18	13	21	26	16	13	19	19
Colorectal cancer deaths (per 100,000 population)	8	9	—	14	15	16	12	11	11	13
Hospital 30-day readmission rate age 65 and older (per 1,000 beneficiaries)	—	—	—	—	27	44	—	—	19	29
Adults age 18 and older who smoke (%)	4	6	19	22	11	12	12	10	9	12
Adults ages 18–64 who are obese (%)	13	15	32	41	28	43	32	36	24	34
Adults ages 18–64 who have lost six or more teeth (%)	—	3	21	16	7	10	7	6	6	9
<b>Health Care Access</b>										
Adults ages 19–64 uninsured (%)	8	7	10	21	13	12	21	23	7	8
Children ages 0–18 uninsured (%)	—	4	—	14	7	6	10	10	4	5
Adults age 18 and older who went without care because of cost (%)	10	8	19	17	13	13	24	21	10	9
Individuals under age 65 with high out-of-pocket medical costs (%)	19	8	—	13	13	11	14	12	7	8
Adults age 18 and older with a usual source of care (%)	81	83	84	80	81	86	66	67	86	88
<b>Health Care Quality</b>										
Preventable hospitalizations age 65 and older (per 1,000 beneficiaries)	—	—	—	—	36	44	—	—	18	30
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits age 65 and older (per 1,000 beneficiaries)	—	—	—	—	262	226	—	—	150	157
Adult women ages 50–74 who received a mammogram in the past two years (%)	88	76	57	65	78	84	73	76	76	78
Adults ages 45–75 with a recent colon cancer screening test (%)	55	53	59	56	64	66	53	51	69	69
Adults with a recent flu shot (%)	49	49	36	33	43	36	37	33	50	45
Adults age 65 and older who have ever gotten a pneumonia vaccine (%)	84	65	68	64	73	64	70	58	77	73
Children with age-appropriate medical and dental preventive care visits (%)	—	—	—	—	80	66	69	63	80	73
Children ages 19–35 months with all recommended vaccines (%)	—	—	—	—	—	67	53	67	74	72
Adults age 18 and older without a dental visit in the past year (%)	32	32	36	43	39	39	45	44	28	31
Primary care spending as share of total age 65 and older (%)	—	—	—	—	4.4	7.5	—	—	6.2	6.1

Notes: “—” means data not available.

Source: Jess Maksut et al., *The Commonwealth Fund 2026 State Health Disparities Report* (Commonwealth Fund, Apr. 2026).