

# How well does the health care system in **Colorado**

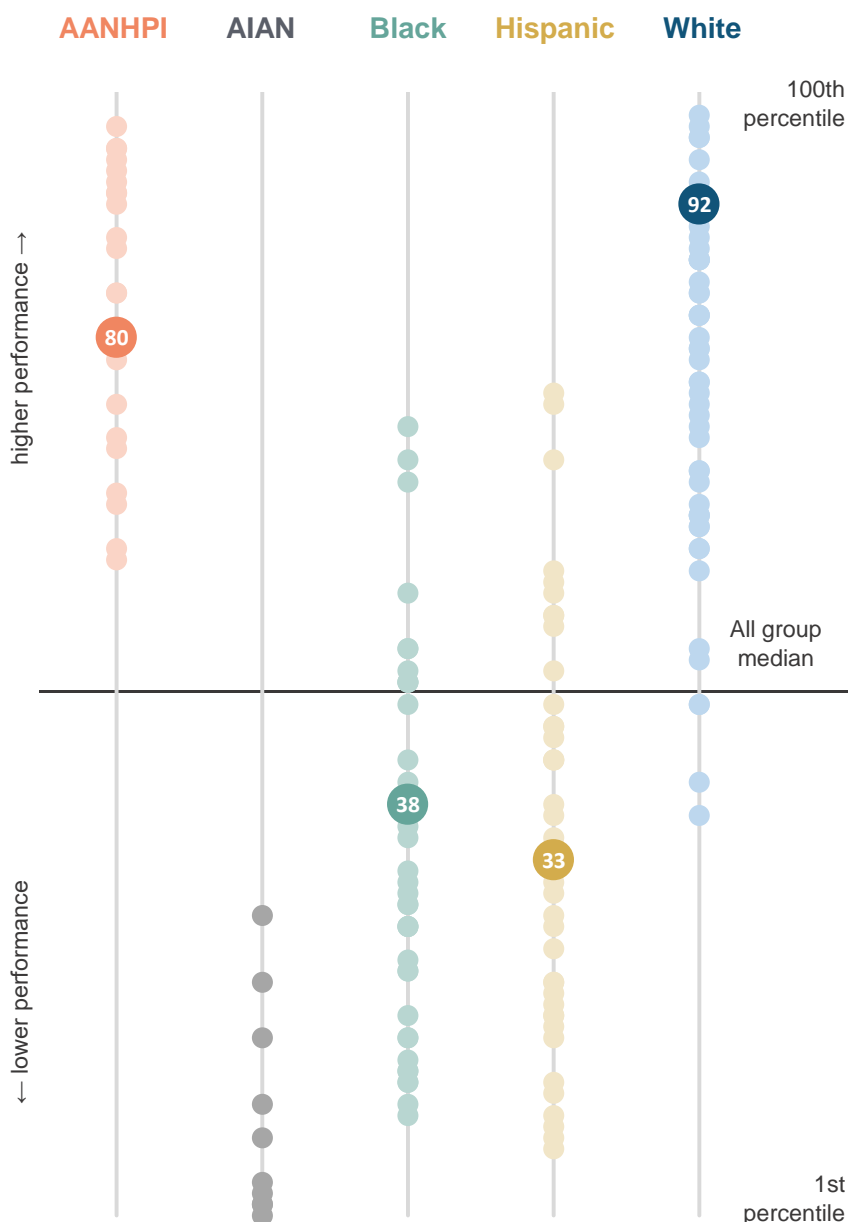
work for people of different racial and ethnic groups?

In Colorado, **White people** experienced the **highest health system performance**, scoring in the 92nd percentile among all population groups nationally.

**Hispanic people** experienced the **lowest health system performance** in the state, scoring in the 33rd 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 (2022)

	Colorado	Rocky Mountain	United States
Total	5,743,691	12,687,430	328,403,052
AANHPI	185,890 (3%)	350,276 (3%)	19,862,655 (6%)
AIAN	22,493 (<1%)	126,971 (1%)	1,688,543 (<1%)
Black	208,689 (4%)	258,779 (2%)	38,460,950 (12%)
Hispanic	1,293,569 (23%)	2,169,783 (17%)	62,818,758 (19%)
White	3,734,009 (65%)	9,181,432 (72%)	189,511,136 (58%)

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: 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 Colorado work for people from different racial and ethnic groups, and across different dimensions of care?

### AANHPI

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

- Health outcomes ranking: **17** (of 33) is worse than average
- Health care access ranking: **12** (of 34) is better than average
- Health care quality ranking: **21** (of 41) is worse than average

### AIAN

An overall ranking for AIAN people in Colorado 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

Colorado ranks 15th 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: **11** (of 40) is better than average
- Health care access ranking: **18** (of 40) is better than average
- Health care quality ranking: **30** (of 41) is worse than average

### Hispanic

Colorado ranks 21st 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: **39** (of 49) is worse than average
- Health care access ranking: **19** (of 48) is better than average
- Health care quality ranking: **28** (of 48) is worse than average

### White

Colorado ranks 7th 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: **4** (of 51) is among the best
- Health care access ranking: **23** (of 51) is better than average
- Health care quality ranking: **7** (of 51) is better than average

## Colorado Performance Data

	AIAN		AANHPI		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	98	125	49	50	141	164	79	73	61	83
Deaths before age 75 from preventable causes per 100,000 population	469	479	116	104	330	347	276	225	186	225
Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	—	8	5	4	11	11	6	5	4	4
Breast cancer deaths (per 100,000 female population)	—	14	10	12	25	27	16	13	20	20
Colorectal cancer deaths (per 100,000 population)	—	13	10	9	17	17	15	11	12	13
Hospital 30-day readmission rate age 65 and older (per 1,000 beneficiaries)	—	—	—	—	47	44	—	—	17	26
Adults who smoke (%)	22	25	6	7	15	15	14	11	10	14
Adults who are obese (%)	31	41	12	14	28	44	32	37	25	34
Adults who have lost six or more teeth (%)	17	17	—	3	7	11	6	6	6	9
<b>Health Care Access</b>										
Uninsured adults (%)	16	22	9	7	10	12	18	23	6	8
Uninsured children (%)	—	12	5	4	6	4	8	8	3	4
Adults who went without care because of cost (%)	14	14	6	8	11	13	17	19	8	8
High out-of-pocket medical spending (%)	—	14	—	9	—	12	12	13	8	9
Adults with a usual source of care (%)	72	79	81	82	84	85	68	67	86	87
<b>Health Care Quality</b>										
Preventable hospitalizations age 65 and older (per 1,000 beneficiaries)	—	—	—	—	—	45	—	—	16	28
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits age 65 and older (per 1,000 beneficiaries)	—	—	—	—	199	206	—	—	133	140
Adult women who received a mammogram (%)	—	65	71	74	76	84	71	77	73	77
Adult women with a cervical cancer screening test (%)	78	82	78	87	79	90	85	87	82	84
Adults with a colon cancer screening test (%)	57	53	53	50	61	65	55	50	68	68
Adults with a recent flu shot (%)	32	39	53	50	41	38	40	34	54	50
Older adults who received the pneumonia vaccine (%)	57	63	71	62	66	62	63	55	79	73
Children with a medical and dental preventive care visit (%)	—	—	—	—	62	61	68	59	76	69
Children with all recommended vaccines (%)	—	—	—	—	—	65	58	71	81	74
Adults with a dental visit (%)	41	45	34	34	42	41	44	44	29	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).