

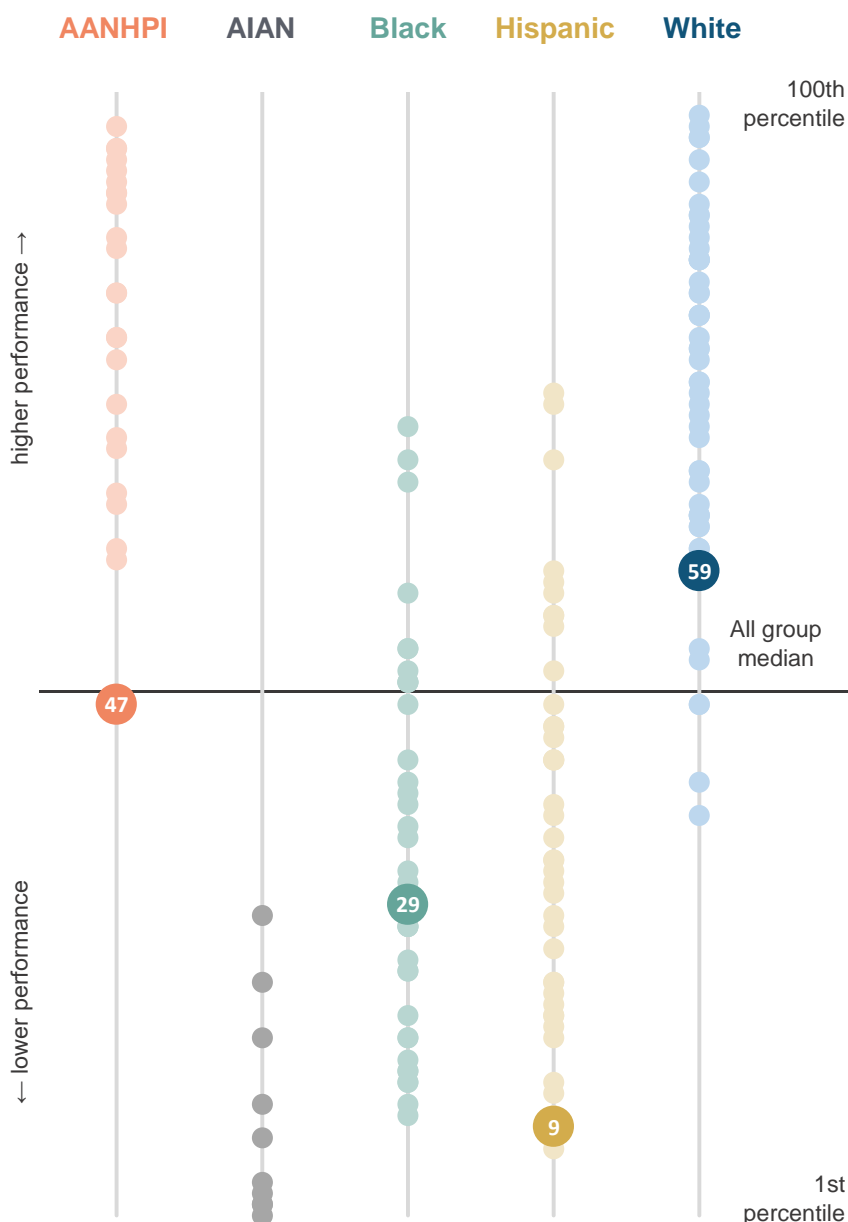
# How well does the health care system in Tennessee work for people of different racial and ethnic groups?

In Tennessee, **White people** experienced the **highest health system performance**, scoring in the 59th percentile among all population groups nationally.

**Hispanic people** experienced the **lowest health system performance** in the state, scoring in the 9th percentile.

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

## Health System Performance by Race/Ethnicity



## Population by race/ethnicity (2022)

	Tennessee	Southeast	United States
Total	6,953,029	85,235,479	328,403,052
AANHPI	136,462 (2%)	2,600,554 (3%)	19,862,655 (6%)
AIAN	6,392 (<1%)	208,655 (<1%)	1,688,543 (<1%)
Black	1,056,226 (15%)	16,911,627 (20%)	38,460,950 (12%)
Hispanic	437,644 (6%)	10,891,118 (13%)	62,818,758 (19%)
White	5,007,522 (72%)	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 Tennessee work for people from different racial and ethnic groups, and across different dimensions of care?

## AANHPI

Tennessee ranks 28th of 31 states where calculation was possible, indicating health system performance for AANHPI people in the state was among the worst compared to other states. Specifically:

- Health outcomes ranking: **27** (of 33) is worse than average
- Health care access ranking: **30** (of 34) is among the worst
- Health care quality ranking: **38** (of 41) is among the worst

## AIAN

An overall ranking for AIAN people in Tennessee 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

Tennessee ranks 21st 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: **24** (of 40) is worse than average
- Health care quality ranking: **17** (of 41) is better than average

## Hispanic

Tennessee ranks 40th 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: **29** (of 49) is worse than average
- Health care access ranking: **38** (of 48) is worse than average
- Health care quality ranking: **45** (of 48) is among the worst

## White

Tennessee ranks 45th 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: **46** (of 51) is among the worst
- Health care access ranking: **42** (of 51) is worse than average
- Health care quality ranking: **32** (of 51) is worse than average

## Tennessee Performance Data

	AIAN		AANHPI		Black		Hispanic		White	
	TN rate	US rate	TN rate	US rate	TN rate	US rate	TN rate	US rate	TN rate	US rate
<b>Health Outcomes</b>										
Deaths before age 75 from health care–treatable causes per 100,000 population	—	125	53	50	186	164	59	73	111	83
Deaths before age 75 from preventable causes per 100,000 population	166	479	118	104	425	347	229	225	322	225
Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	0	8	4	4	10	11	6	5	5	4
Breast cancer deaths (per 100,000 female population)	—	14	—	12	28	27	12	13	21	20
Colorectal cancer deaths (per 100,000 population)	—	13	11	9	18	17	7	11	15	13
Hospital 30-day readmission rate age 65 and older (per 1,000 beneficiaries)	—	—	—	—	32	44	—	—	26	26
Adults who smoke (%)	37	25	—	7	18	15	16	11	19	14
Adults who are obese (%)	34	41	—	14	49	44	36	37	38	34
Adults who have lost six or more teeth (%)	25	17	—	3	13	11	—	6	13	9
<b>Health Care Access</b>										
Uninsured adults (%)	—	22	12	7	14	12	43	23	11	8
Uninsured children (%)	—	12	6	4	3	4	13	8	4	4
Adults who went without care because of cost (%)	34	14	—	8	13	13	19	19	11	8
High out-of-pocket medical spending (%)	—	14	—	9	13	12	13	13	9	9
Adults with a usual source of care (%)	67	79	63	82	82	85	63	67	84	87
<b>Health Care Quality</b>										
Preventable hospitalizations age 65 and older (per 1,000 beneficiaries)	—	—	—	—	37	45	—	—	28	28
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits age 65 and older (per 1,000 beneficiaries)	—	—	—	—	139	206	—	—	128	140
Adult women who received a mammogram (%)	—	65	—	74	81	84	64	77	77	77
Adult women with a cervical cancer screening test (%)	—	82	71	87	92	90	80	87	81	84
Adults with a colon cancer screening test (%)	27	53	55	50	65	65	32	50	65	68
Adults with a recent flu shot (%)	25	39	42	50	37	38	30	34	45	50
Older adults who received the pneumonia vaccine (%)	40	63	80	62	54	62	77	55	73	73
Children with a medical and dental preventive care visit (%)	—	—	—	—	59	61	67	59	67	69
Children with all recommended vaccines (%)	—	—	—	—	59	65	62	71	74	74
Adults with a dental visit (%)	54	45	43	34	40	41	48	44	40	32
Primary care spending as share of total, age 65 and older (%)	—	—	—	—	5	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).