

How well does the health care system in **Alaska**

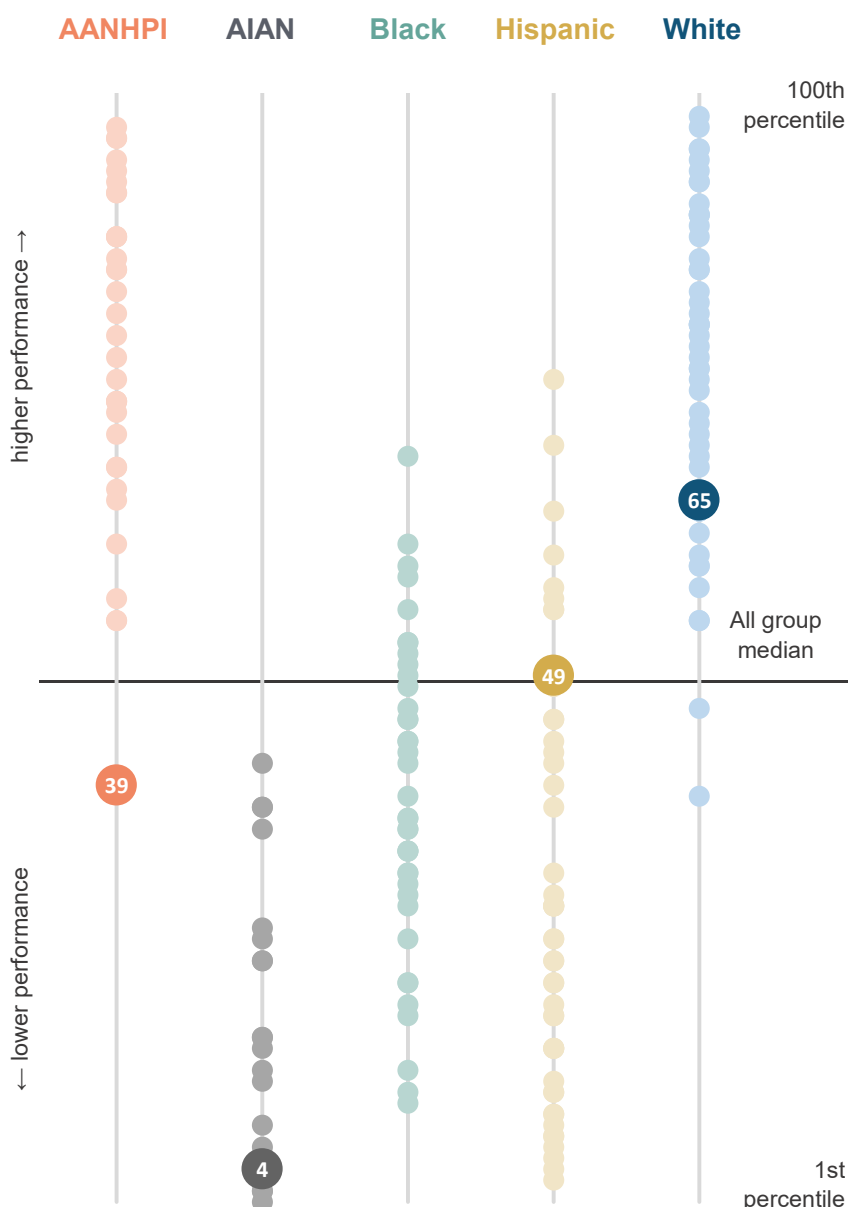
work for people of different racial and ethnic groups?

In Alaska, **White people** experienced the **best health care outcomes, access, and quality**, scoring in the 65th percentile among all population groups nationally.

AIAN people experienced the **worst health care outcomes, access, and quality** in the state, scoring in the 4th percentile.

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

Population by race/ethnicity (2024)

	Alaska		West		United States	
Total	707,557		56,390,390		335,268,606	
AANHPI	53,815	8%	8,485,098	15%	21,483,845	6%
AIAN	98,704	14%	302,236	<1%	1,720,874	<1%
Black	15,926	2%	2,636,472	5%	38,820,084	12%
Hispanic	52,710	7%	18,932,453	34%	67,230,087	20%
White	400,919	57%	22,534,209	40%	188,863,832	56%

Notes: AANHPI = Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander. AIAN = American Indian and Alaska Native. “—” means data not available. West states include AK, CA, HI, NV, OR, WA.

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

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

AANHPI

Alaska ranks 33rd among the 33 states we were able to rank. This indicates that the state's health system performance for AANHPI people was among the worst compared to other states.

- Health outcomes ranking: **36** (of 36) is among the worst
- Health care access ranking: **34** (of 36) is among the worst
- Health care quality ranking: **39** (of 45) is worse than the average

AIAN

Alaska ranks 17th among the 21 states we were able to rank. This indicates that the state's health system performance for AIAN people was among the worst compared to other states.

- Health outcomes ranking: **22** (of 23) is among the worst
- Health care access ranking: **11** (of 21) is worse than the average
- Health care quality ranking: **9** (of 25) is better than the average

Black

An overall ranking for Black people in Alaska is not available because of insufficient data.

- Health outcomes ranking: **4** (of 41) is among the best
- Health care access ranking: insufficient data
- Health care quality ranking: **36** (of 45) is worse than the average

Hispanic

Alaska ranks 10th among the 49 states we were able to rank. This indicates that health system performance for Hispanic people was better than the average compared to other states.

- Health outcomes ranking: **37** (of 50) is worse than the average
- Health care access ranking: **9** (of 50) is better than the average
- Health care quality ranking: **18** (of 50) is better than the average

White

Alaska ranks 39th among the 51 states we were able to rank. This indicates that the health system performance for white people was worse than the average compared to other states.

- Health outcomes ranking: **18** (of 51) is better than the average
- Health care access ranking: **48** (of 51) is among the worst
- Health care quality ranking: **48** (of 51) is among the worst

Notes: Lower values indicate higher rank and better performance among each racial/ethnic group in Alaska 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).

Alaska Performance Data

	AANHPI		AIAN		Black		Hispanic		White	
	AK rate	US rate	AK rate	US rate	AK rate	US rate	AK rate	US rate	AK rate	US rate
Health Outcomes										
Deaths before age 75 from health care–treatable causes per 100,000 population	78	48	146	123	116	152	61	69	70	81
Deaths before age 75 from preventable causes per 100,000 population	112	77	585	380	241	273	146	145	194	197
Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	6.6	3.7	13.1	9.1	—	10.9	6.9	5.0	4.7	4.5
Breast cancer deaths (per 100,000 female population)	17	12	18	13	—	26	—	13	17	19
Colorectal cancer deaths (per 100,000 population)	—	9	33	14	—	16	—	11	14	13
Hospital 30-day readmission rate age 65 and older (per 1,000 beneficiaries)	—	—	—	—	—	44	—	—	16	29
Adults age 18 and older who smoke (%)	12	6	30	22	12	12	9	10	12	12
Adults ages 18–64 who are obese (%)	29	15	41	41	41	43	40	36	35	34
Adults ages 18–64 who have lost six or more teeth (%)	—	3	17	16	7	10	5	6	7	9
Health Care Access										
Adults ages 19–64 uninsured (%)	14	7	24	21	—	12	17	23	11	8
Children ages 0–18 uninsured (%)	—	4	14	14	—	6	—	10	10	5
Adults age 18 and older who went without care because of cost (%)	17	8	11	17	12	13	12	21	11	9
Individuals under age 65 with high out-of-pocket medical costs (%)	—	8	10	13	—	11	13	12	8	8
Adults age 18 and older with a usual source of care (%)	74	83	77	80	80	86	76	67	80	88
Health Care Quality										
Preventable hospitalizations age 65 and older (per 1,000 beneficiaries)	—	—	—	—	45	44	—	—	23	30
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits age 65 and older (per 1,000 beneficiaries)	—	—	—	—	221	226	—	—	150	157
Adult women ages 50–74 who received a mammogram in the past two years (%)	75	76	76	65	83	84	68	76	70	78
Adults ages 45–75 with a recent colon cancer screening test (%)	51	53	62	56	58	66	60	51	61	69
Adults with a recent flu shot (%)	39	49	34	33	32	36	31	33	39	45
Adults age 65 and older who have ever gotten a pneumonia vaccine (%)	55	65	61	64	59	64	69	58	66	73
Children with age-appropriate medical and dental preventive care visits (%)	—	—	—	—	—	66	67	63	73	73
Children ages 19–35 months with all recommended vaccines (%)	—	—	—	—	—	67	61	67	61	72
Adults age 18 and older without a dental visit in the past year (%)	41	32	46	43	42	39	35	44	33	31
Primary care spending as share of total age 65 and older (%)	—	—	—	—	4.7	7.5	—	—	5.5	6.1

Notes: “—” means data not available.

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