

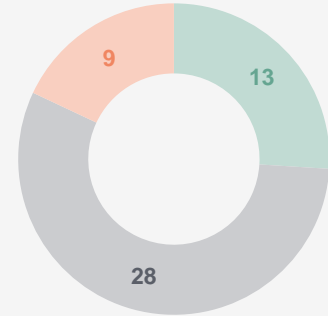
# Massachusetts

## Ranking Highlights<sup>a</sup>

	National Rank	Rank Among New England States*
<b>Overall</b>	<b>1</b> of 51	<b>1</b> of 6
Reproductive & Women’s Health	1	1
Access & Affordability	1	1
Prevention & Treatment	1	3
Avoidable Hospital Use & Cost	44	6
Healthy Lives	1	1
Income Disparity	7	2
Racial & Ethnic Health Equity	1	1

\* New England states include CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT

## How Health Care Performance Changed in Massachusetts<sup>b</sup>



- Indicators That Improved
- Indicators That Worsened
- Indicators with Little or No Change

## How Massachusetts Compares to All States



## The Best and Worst in Massachusetts

### Best Performance

- Diabetic adults without an annual hemoglobin A1c test
- Breast and cervical cancer deaths
- Adults with age-appropriate vaccines

### Improved the Most

- Children who did not receive needed mental health care
- Diabetic adults without an annual hemoglobin A1c test
- Potentially avoidable emergency department visits age 65 and older

### Worst Performance

- Primary care spending as share of total, age 65 and older
- Preventable hospitalizations age 65 and older
- Hospital 30-day readmission rate age 65 and older

### Worsened the Most

- Home health patients with improved mobility
- No postpartum visit
- Adults with age-appropriate vaccines

**Table 1. State Health System Performance Indicator Data by Dimension**

Dimension and indicator	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Best state rate	State rank	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Change over time <sup>b</sup>					
<b>Access &amp; Affordability</b>					<b>2023 Scorecard</b>					<b>Baseline</b>				
Adults ages 19–64 uninsured	2021	3%	12%	3%	1	2019	4%	13%	No Change					
Children ages 0–18 uninsured	2021	1%	5%	1%	1	2019	2%	6%	No Change					
Adults age 18 and older who went without care because of cost in past year	2021	7%	10%	5%	11	2019	9%	14%	No Change					
Adults age 18 and older without a usual source of care	2021	10%	17%	9%	3	—	—	—	—					
Individuals under age 65 with high out-of-pocket medical costs relative to their annual household income	2020–21	6%	7%	5%	10	2018–19	6%	10%	No Change					
Employee total potential out-of-pocket medical costs as a share of state median income	2021	9%	12%	7%	5	2019	8%	12%	No Change					
People with medical debt	2021	4%	13%	2%	4	—	—	—	—					
Adults age 18 and older without a dental visit in past year	2020	27%	35%	25%	4	2018	26%	34%	No Change					
<b>Prevention &amp; Treatment</b>					<b>2023 Scorecard</b>					<b>Baseline</b>				
Adults with all age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings	2020	75%	69%	76%	3	2018	76%	68%	No Change					
Adults with age-appropriate flu and pneumonia vaccines	2021	54%	42%	54%	1	2019	48%	41%	Improved					
Adults vaccinated against COVID-19 with a booster	2022	54%	42%	63%	6	—	—	—	—					
Diabetic adults without an annual hemoglobin A1c test	2021	4%	10%	4%	1	2019	10%	8%	Improved					
Children without all recommended vaccines	2021	15%	28%	12%	2	2019	20%	27%	Improved					
Children with a medical home	2020–21	51%	46%	55%	14	2018–19	53%	48%	No Change					
Children without a medical and dental preventive care visit	2020–21	27%	38%	26%	4	—	—	—	—					
Children who did not receive needed mental health care	2020–21	21%	20%	11%	34	2018–19	32%	18%	Improved					
Adults age 18 and older with any mental illness who did not receive treatment	2019–20	43%	55%	41%	3	—	—	—	—					
Youth ages 12–17 with a major depressive episode who did not receive mental health services	2019–20	64%	60%	33%	40	—	—	—	—					
Hospitals with better-than-average patient experience ratings	2021	34%	45%	83%	37	2019	37%	48%	No Change					
Hospital 30-day mortality	07/2018–12/2021	12%	12%	11%	2	07/2016–06/2019	12%	14%	Improved					

**Table 1. State Health System Performance Indicator Data by Dimension (cont.)**

Dimension and indicator	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Best state rate	State rank	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Change over time <sup>b</sup>	
<b>Prevention &amp; Treatment (cont.)</b>						<b>2023 Scorecard</b>			<b>Baseline</b>	
Central line-associated bloodstream infection (CLABSI)	2021	0.737	0.921	0.571	7	2019	0.639	0.689	No Change	
Nursing home residents with an antipsychotic medication	2020	19%	14%	9%	45	2018	18%	15%	No Change	
Home health patients with improved mobility	2019	82%	80%	87%	17	2017	76%	75%	Improved	
<b>Avoidable Hospital Use &amp; Cost</b>						<b>2023 Scorecard</b>			<b>Baseline</b>	
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits										
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2021	127	134	122	6	2019	107	137	Worsened	
Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2021	151	141	115	37	2019	198	185	Improved	
Admissions for ambulatory care–sensitive conditions										
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2021	5	4	4	43	2019	6	7	Improved	
Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2021	36	29	16	47	2019	48	41	Improved	
30-day hospital readmissions										
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2021	3	3	2	7	2019	3	3	Improved	
Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2021	42	33	16	50	2019	48	40	Improved	
Skilled nursing patients with a successful discharge	2020	58%	57%	69%	24	2018	55%	54%	Improved	
Home health patients with a hospital admission	2019	17%	15%	11%	37	2017	17%	16%	No Change	
Adults with inappropriate lower back imaging	2021	75%	69%	60%	45	2019	71%	68%	Worsened	
Employer-sponsored insurance spending per enrollee	2021	\$6,319	\$6,060	\$4,255	33	2019	\$5,485	\$5,354	Worsened	
Medicare spending per beneficiary	2021	\$10,502	\$10,478	\$6,915	33	2019	\$10,220	\$10,180	No Change	
Primary care spending as a share of total health care spending										
Ages 18–64 (employer-insured enrollees)	2021	8.7%	6.9%	10.0%	10	2019	8.8%	7.2%	No Change	
Age 65 and older (Medicare beneficiaries)	2020	4.7%	5.5%	7.6%	46	2018	5.4%	5.7%	Worsened	
<b>Healthy Lives</b>						<b>2023 Scorecard</b>			<b>Baseline</b>	
Premature deaths from treatable causes per 100,000 population	2020–21	59	89	59	1	2018–19	60	84	No Change	
Premature deaths from preventable causes per 100,000 population	2020–21	163	232	152	2	2018–19	137	166	No Change	

**Table 1. State Health System Performance Indicator Data by Dimension (cont.)**

Dimension and indicator	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Best state rate	State rank	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Change over time <sup>b</sup>
<b>Healthy Lives (cont.)</b>	<b>2023 Scorecard</b>					<b>Baseline</b>			
Drug overdose deaths per 100,000 population	2021	37	32	11	32	2019	32	22	No Change
Suicide deaths per 100,000 population	2021	8	14	6	4	2019	9	14	No Change
Alcohol-related deaths per 100,000 population	2021	13	14	8	13	2019	9	10	No Change
Adults ages 18–64 who report fair or poor health	2021	10%	14%	10%	1	2019	12%	17%	Improved
Adults age 18 and older who smoke	2021	11%	14%	7%	6	2019	12%	15%	No Change
Adults who are obese	2021	28%	34%	25%	3	2019	25%	32%	Worsened
Children who are overweight or obese	2020–21	28%	34%	24%	8	2018–19	24%	31%	Worsened
Adults who have lost six or more teeth	2020	7%	9%	5%	13	2018	8%	9%	No Change
<b>Reproductive &amp; Women’s Health</b>	<b>2023 Scorecard</b>					<b>Baseline</b>			
Maternal deaths while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, per 100,000 live births	2019–21	15	26	10	4	—	—	—	—
Severe maternal morbidity rate per 10,000 in-hospital deliveries	2020	106	88	43	45	2018	104	77	No Change
Infant mortality, deaths per 1,000 live births	2020	3.9	5.4	3.5	2	2018	4.2	5.7	No Change
Share of births born preterm, prior to 37 weeks of pregnancy (gestation)	2021	9%	10%	8%	5	2019	9%	10%	No Change
Breast and cervical cancer deaths per 100,000 female population	2021	16	22	16	1	2019	17	22	No Change
All-cause mortality rate per 100,000 women ages 15–44	2021	82	124	79	2	2019	70	89	No Change
Share of in-hospital births in state with a self-pay insurance payment source	2021	0.36%	2.74%	0.30%	2	2019	.52%	3.41%	No Change
Women ages 18–44 without a usual source of care	2021	13%	21%	9%	5	—	—	—	—
Women ages 18–44 without a routine checkup in the past two years	2021	9%	13%	8%	4	2019	6%	13%	Worsened
Share of births not beginning prenatal care in first trimester	2021	15%	22%	11%	5	2019	16%	22%	No Change
Share of women with a recent live birth who did not report having a postpartum checkup visit	2020	10%	11%	8%	9	2018	7%	9%	Worsened
Women with up-to-date breast and cervical cancer screenings	2020	78%	74%	80%	5	2018	82%	76%	Worsened

**Table 2. State Income Disparity Data**

Disparity Indicator	Data year	Low-income rate <sup>c</sup>	Disparity <sup>d</sup>	State rank	Data year	Low-income rate <sup>c</sup>	Disparity <sup>d</sup>	Change over time <sup>e</sup>
	2023 Scorecard				Baseline			
Adults ages 19–64 uninsured	2021	7%	-5	1	2019	9%	-6	Improved
Children ages 0–18 uninsured	2021	—	—	—	2019	2%	-1	—
Adults age 18 and older who went without care because of cost in past year	2020–21	14%	-10	4	2018–19	17%	-13	Improved
Adults age 18 and older without a usual source of care	2020–21	18%	-10	19	—	—	—	—
Individuals under age 65 with high out-of-pocket medical costs relative to their annual household income	2020–21	18%	-17	19	2018–19	23%	-22	Improved
Adults age 18 and older without a dental visit in past year	2018/20	40%	-21	2	2016/18	39%	-20	No Change
Adults with all age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings	2018/20	67%	-12	39	2016/18	70%	-9	Worsened
Adults with age-appropriate flu and pneumonia vaccines	2020–21	46%	-14	14	2018–19	34%	-13	Worsened
Children ages 19–35 months who did not receive all recommended vaccines	2021	22%	-13	28	2019	23%	-11	No Change
Children ages 0–17 with all components of a medical home	2020–21	33%	-28	35	2018–19	36%	-28	No Change
Children without age-appropriate medical and dental preventive care visits in the past year	2020–21	41%	-22	27	—	—	—	—
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2020	247	-110	11	2019	353	-173	Improved
Hospital admissions for ambulatory care–sensitive conditions, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2020	—	—	—	2019	79	-38	—
30-day hospital readmissions, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2020	84	-47	30	2019	107	-67	Improved
Primary care spending as share of total health care spending among Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older	2020	4.2%	-0.6	23	2018	5.2%	-0.2	No Change
Adults ages 18–64 who report fair or poor health	2020–21	23%	-18	30	2018–19	23%	-17	No Change
Adults age 18 and older who smoke	2020–21	21%	-14	14	2018–19	22%	-13	No Change
Adults ages 18–64 who are obese (BMI >= 30)	2020–21	30%	-6	18	2018–19	29%	-5	Worsened
Adults ages 18–64 who have lost six or more teeth because of tooth decay, infection, or gum disease	2018/20	14%	-10	19	2016/18	12%	-9	Worsened

**Table 3. State Racial and Ethnic Health Equity Performance Summary Data<sup>f</sup>**

Health System Performance Score & State Rank  
Among Population Group

	Percentile Score (1–100)	State Rank Among Population Group
American Indian and Alaska Native people	—	—
Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander people	99	1 of 30 states
Black people	69	1 of 39 states
Hispanic people	78	2 of 48 states
White people <sup>g</sup>	98	—

Performance Score based on methodology used in: *Achieving Racial and Ethnic Equity in U.S. Health Care: A Scorecard of State Performance*, Commonwealth Fund, Nov. 2021, available at: <https://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/scorecard/2021/nov/achieving-racial-ethnic-equity-us-health-care-state-performance>

**Table 4. State Racial and Ethnic Health Equity Performance Measure Data<sup>f</sup>**

	Data year	U.S. total	AIAN people	AANHPI people	Black people	Hispanic people	White people
<b>Health Outcomes</b>							
Deaths before age 75 from health care treatable causes per 100,000 population	2020–21	89	—	34	100	61	58
Deaths before age 75 from preventable causes per 100,000 population	2020–21	232	183	76	222	183	165
Colorectal cancer deaths per 100,000 population	2020–21	13	—	9	13	6	11
Adults age 18 and older who smoke	2020–21	14%	39%	5%	12%	10%	11%
Adults ages 18–64 who are obese (BMI >= 30)	2020–21	34%	—	10%	37%	34%	26%
Adults ages 18–64 who have lost six or more teeth because of tooth decay, infection, or gum disease	2018/20	9%	—	—	11%	9%	7%
30-day hospital readmissions, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2020	33	—	—	46	—	43
<b>Health Care Access</b>							
Adults ages 19–64 uninsured	2021	12%	—	4%	6%	7%	2%
Children ages 0–18 uninsured	2021	5%	—	—	—	2%	1%
Adults age 18 and older who went without care because of cost in past year	2020–21	10%	—	4%	8%	18%	6%
Adults age 18 and older without a usual source of care	2020–21	17%	6%	18%	12%	24%	8%
Individuals under age 65 with high out-of-pocket medical costs relative to their annual household income	2020–21	7%	—	5%	8%	7%	6%
<b>Health Care Quality and Service Use</b>							
Adult women ages 50–74 who did not receive a mammogram in the past two years	2018/20	22%	11%	23%	15%	8%	13%
Adult women ages 25–64 who did not receive a cervical cancer screening test in the past three years	2018/20	24%	11%	27%	13%	19%	18%
Adults ages 50–74 without a recent colon cancer screening test	2018/20	28%	54%	37%	26%	30%	21%

**Table 4. State Racial and Ethnic Health Equity Performance Measure Data (cont.)<sup>f</sup>**

	Data year	U.S. total	AIAN people	AANHPI people	Black people	Hispanic people	White people
<b>Health Care Quality and Service Use (cont.)</b>							
Adults age 18 and older who did not receive a flu shot in the last year	2020–21	55%	58%	44%	55%	52%	40%
Adults age 65 and older who have never gotten a pneumonia vaccine	2020–21	30%	23%	26%	40%	49%	25%
Hospital admissions for ambulatory care–sensitive conditions, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2020	29	—	—	—	—	35
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2020	137	—	—	176	—	151
Adults age 18 and older without a dental visit in past year	2018/20	35%	30%	28%	36%	34%	24%
Children ages 19–35 months who did not receive all recommended vaccines	2021	28%	—	—	—	17%	15%
Children without age-appropriate medical and dental preventive care visits in the past year	2020–21	38%	—	—	36%	37%	23%
Primary care spending as a share of total health care spending age 65 and older (Medicare beneficiaries)	2020	6%	—	—	4%	—	5%

**Table 5. Select Reproductive Care and Women’s Health Measures by Race and Ethnicity**

	Data year	U.S. total	AIAN people	AANHPI people	Black people	Hispanic people	White people
Severe maternal morbidity rate per 10,000 in-hospital deliveries	2020	88	—	—	197	119	81
Infant mortality, deaths per 1,000 live births	2019-20	5.4	—	3	7.2	4.7	2.7
Share of births born preterm, prior to 37 weeks of pregnancy (gestation)	2020-21	10%	13%	8%	11%	10%	8%
Breast and cervical cancer deaths per 100,000 female population	2020-21	22	—	9	21	10	17
All-cause mortality rate per 100,000 women ages 15–44	2020-21	124	—	22	105	74	91
Share of births not beginning prenatal care in first trimester	2020-21	22%	24%	13%	26%	21%	11%

- Notes
- (a) The 2023 Scorecard rankings generally reflect 2021 data. The 2023 Scorecard added or revised several performance measures, including the addition of 12 measures specifically related to reproductive care and women’s health and the removal of most measures around state COVID-19 response, since the June 2022 Scorecard report; rankings are not comparable between reports.
  - (b) Trend data available for 50 of 58 total Scorecard indicators. Improved/worsened denotes a change of at least one-half (0.5) standard deviation larger than the indicator’s distribution among all states over the two time points. No change denotes no change in rate or a change of less than one-half standard deviation.
  - (c) Rates are for state’s low-income population, generally those whose household income is less than 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL).
  - (d) Income disparity is the difference between the state’s low-income and higher-income (generally 400%+ FPL) populations.
  - (e) Improvement indicates that the low-income rate improved and the disparity between low- and higher-income populations narrowed; worsening indicates that the low-income rate worsened and the disparity between low- and higher-income populations widened.
  - (f) Performance data not available for all groups in every state.
  - (g) State not ranked on health system performance for white people in this report; included for comparative purposes.
- “—” means data not available.

Most data reported here can also be found in the Commonwealth Fund’s online Health System Data Center at <https://www.commonwealthfund.org/datacenter>