



Health Opportunity and Equity (HOPE) Initiative: *Measures to Advance Health and Opportunity in Massachusetts*

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Massachusetts Health Equity Taskforce

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About Texas Health Institute

We are an **independent,
non-profit, non-partisan**
public health institute
in Texas

OUR VISION

Healthy People,
Healthy Communities

OUR MISSION

To advance the health of all



Overview

- How do we define Health Equity?
- What is the HOPE Initiative?
- What does HOPE measure?
- What does HOPE tell us about Massachusetts?
- How can HOPE's findings be used to advance action?

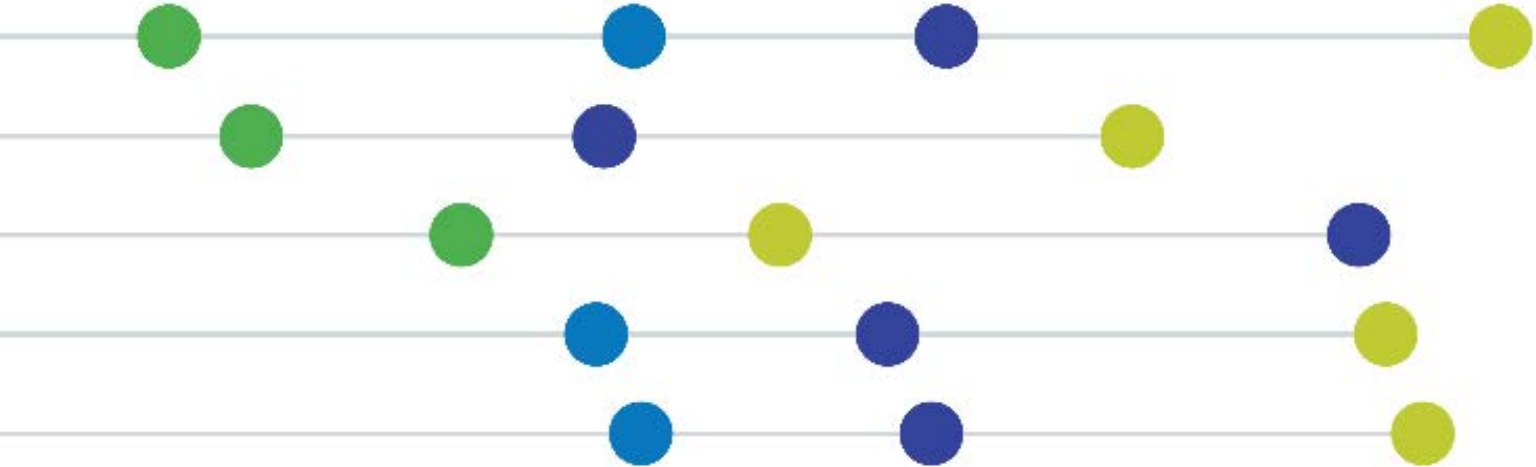
Defining Health Equity

Everyone has a fair and just opportunity to be as healthy as possible.

This requires removing obstacles to health such as poverty, discrimination, and their consequences, including powerlessness and lack of access to good jobs with fair pay, quality education and housing, safe environments, and health care.

Braveman et al., 2017

What is the HOPE Initiative?



About the HOPE Initiative

THE HEALTH OPPORTUNITY & EQUITY (HOPE) INITIATIVE

HOPE provides **a new opportunity approach and actionable data** to help our nation and states move beyond measuring disparities to spurring action toward health equity.



National Collaborative
for Health Equity



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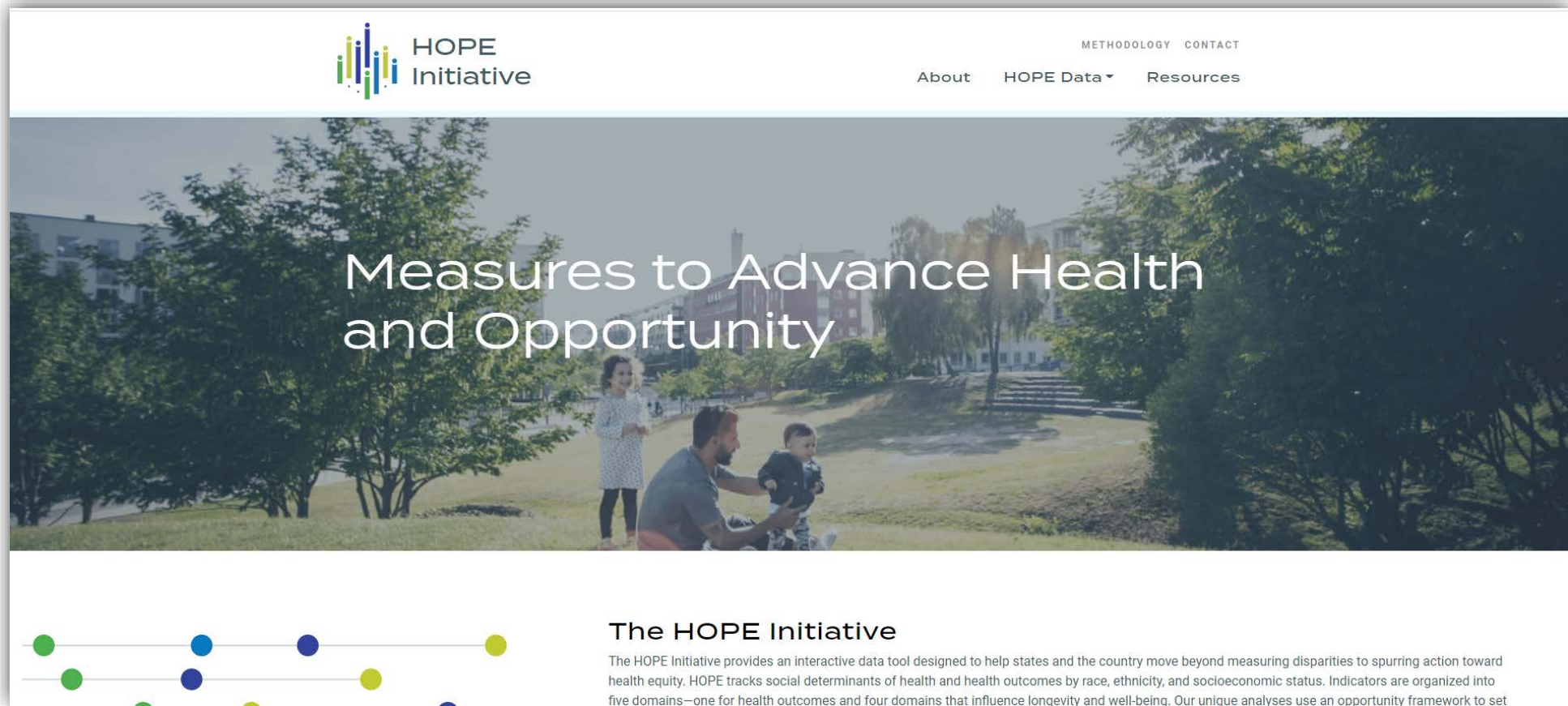


HOPE Partners

- Funded by Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- Lead Investigators:
 - Gail Christopher, DN, National Collaborative for Health Equity (PI)
 - Dennis Andrulis, PhD, MPH, Texas Health Institute (Co-PI)
 - Derek Chapman, PhD, VCU Center on Society & Health (Co-PI)
- National Advisory Committee:
 - Led by David Williams, PhD, MPH, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

HOPE's New Interactive Data Platform Launched in November 2020

www.HopeInitiative.org

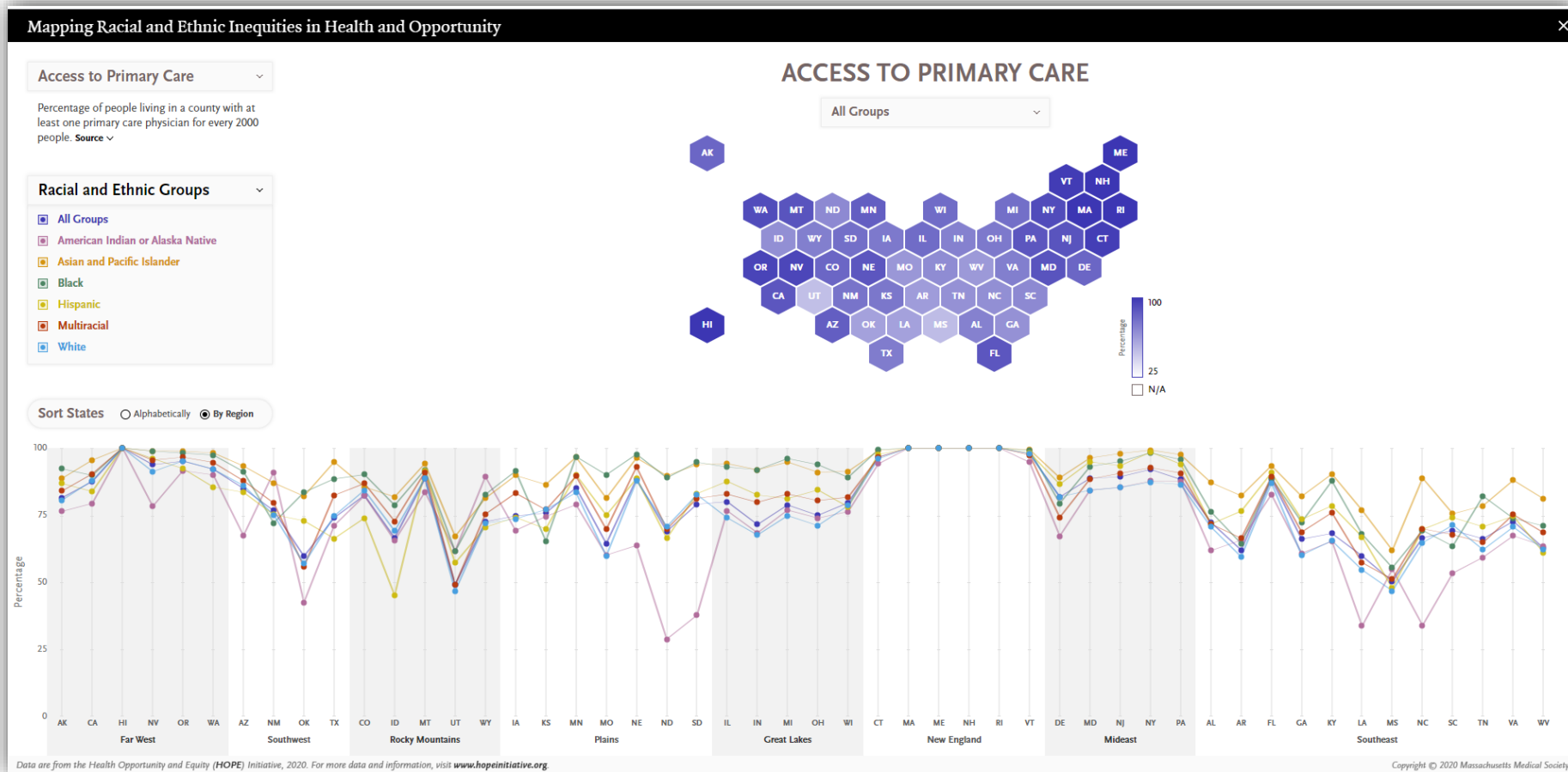


The screenshot shows the homepage of the HOPE Initiative website. At the top left is the HOPE Initiative logo, which consists of a stylized bar chart with five bars of varying heights in green, blue, and yellow, followed by the text "HOPE Initiative". To the right of the logo is a navigation menu with the following items: "METHODODOLOGY CONTACT" (all caps), "About", "HOPE Data" (with a dropdown arrow), and "Resources". Below the navigation is a large banner image of a park with trees and a building in the background. Overlaid on the banner is the text "Measures to Advance Health and Opportunity" in a large, white, sans-serif font. Below the banner is a white section with a decorative graphic on the left consisting of a horizontal line with several colored dots (green, blue, yellow) above and below it. To the right of the graphic is the heading "The HOPE Initiative" in bold, followed by a paragraph of text: "The HOPE Initiative provides an interactive data tool designed to help states and the country move beyond measuring disparities to spurring action toward health equity. HOPE tracks social determinants of health and health outcomes by race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status. Indicators are organized into five domains—one for health outcomes and four domains that influence longevity and well-being. Our unique analyses use an opportunity framework to set

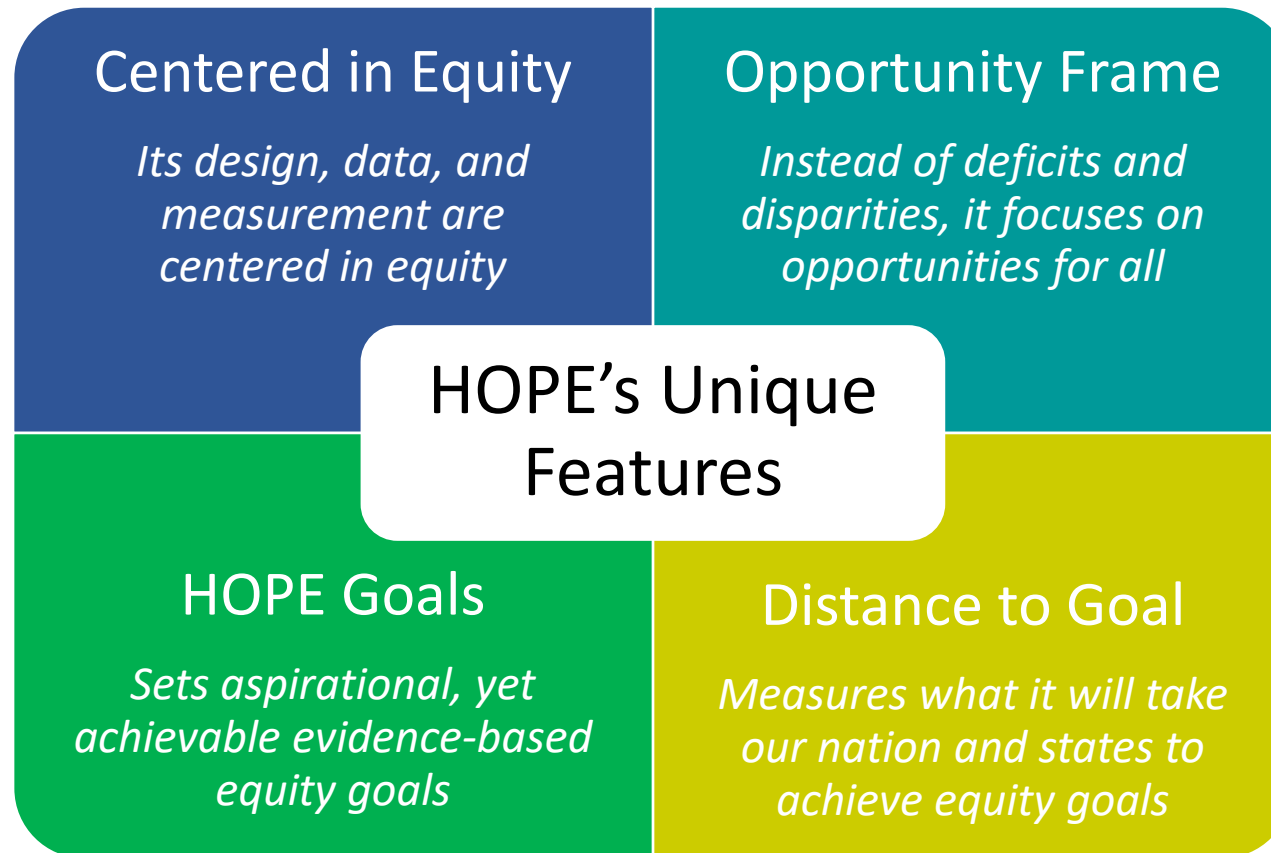
HOPE's Data Featured in an Interactive Perspective in the

New England Journal of Medicine

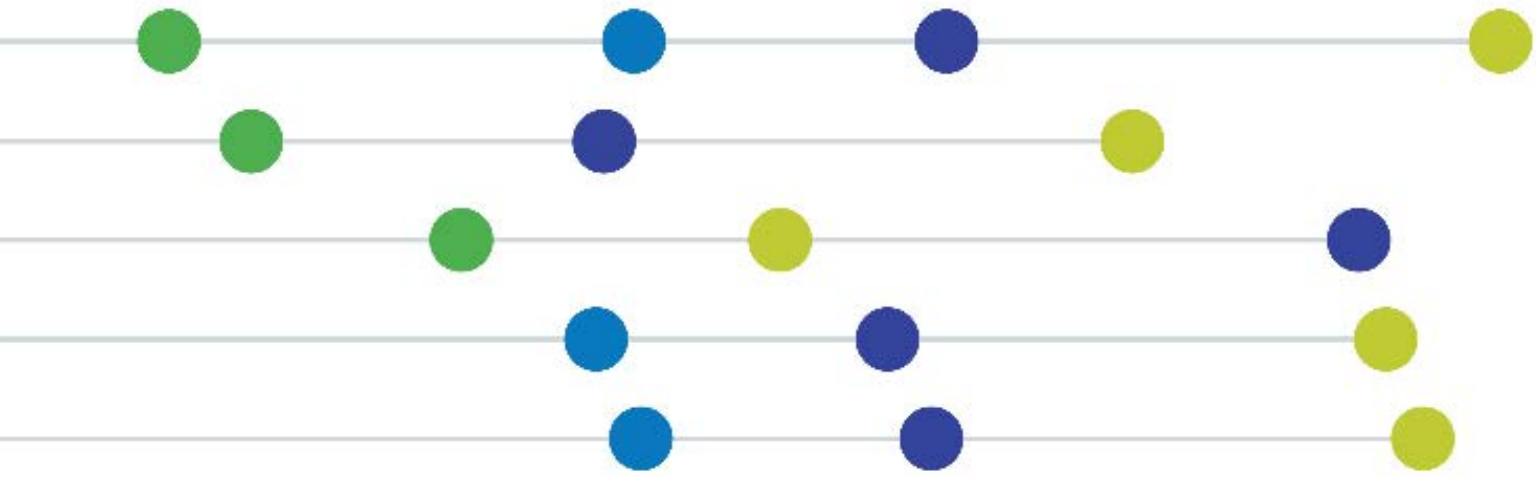
<https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMp2029139>



HOPE's Unique Value & Contribution



What Does HOPE Measure?



What Does HOPE Measure?

27 conditions that are modifiable by policy and action

Health Outcomes	Socioeconomic Factors	Community & Safety Factors	Physical Environment	Access to Health Care
Adult health status	Livable income	Low poverty concentration	Home ownership	Access to primary care
Mental health status	Affordable housing	Low murder rate	Housing quality	Access to psychiatric care
Child health status	Post-secondary education	Low sexual assault rate	Low liquor store density	Health insurance
Premature mortality	Connected youth	Low physical assault rate	Food security	Affordable health care
Infant mortality	Preschool enrollment	Low robbery rate		Usual source of care
Low birth weight	Employment			Colorectal cancer screening

What Does HOPE Tell Us?

HOPE provides **a roadmap and actionable data** to help national and state leaders chart a path for achieving equity in opportunity and health

- **27 Indicators**
- **By Population Group**
 - Race and Ethnicity
 - Income
 - Education
- **By Geography**
 - National
 - State



1. Identify Equity Gaps

- HOPE helps our nation and states identify:
 - How different racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic populations are faring on opportunity and health
 - How wide equity gaps are for different population groups
 - Which groups are most affected



2. Set Equity Goals

- HOPE helps our nation and states set equity goals that are:
 - Aspirational, yet achievable
 - Average of best rates achieved across top 5 states
 - Based on education and income, not on race
 - Can be applied at any geographic level
 - Benchmarks to measure progress toward equity



3. Measure Distance to Goals

- HOPE helps our nation and states measure the “Distance to Goal” or the progress that must be made to achieve HOPE’s equity goals
 - Overall
 - By Race and Ethnicity
 - By Socioeconomic Status

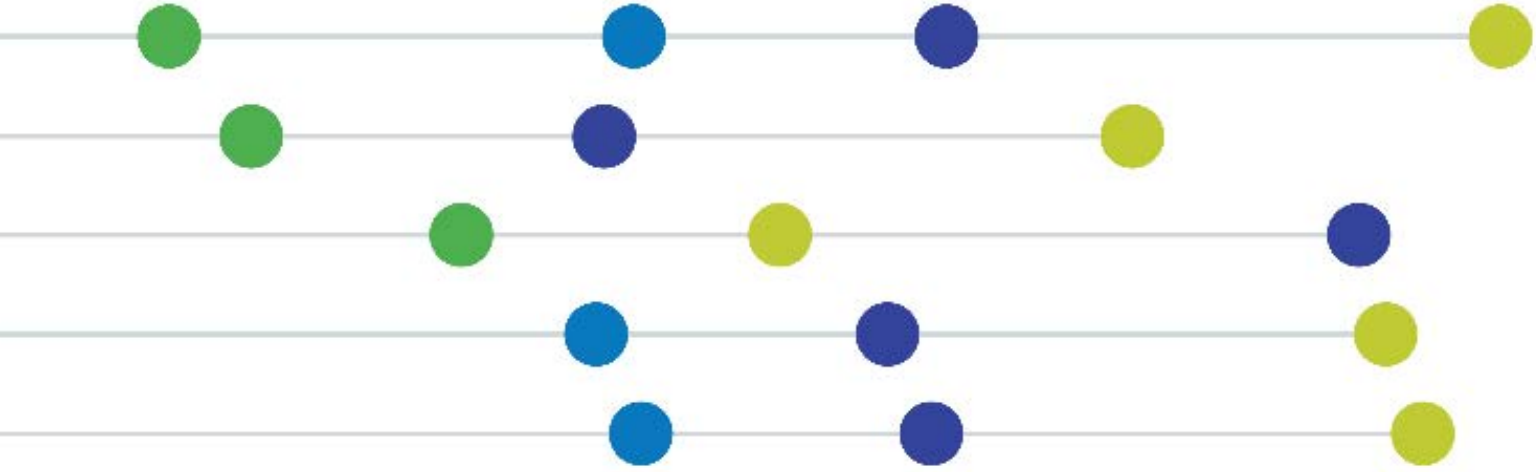


4. Drive Equity Action

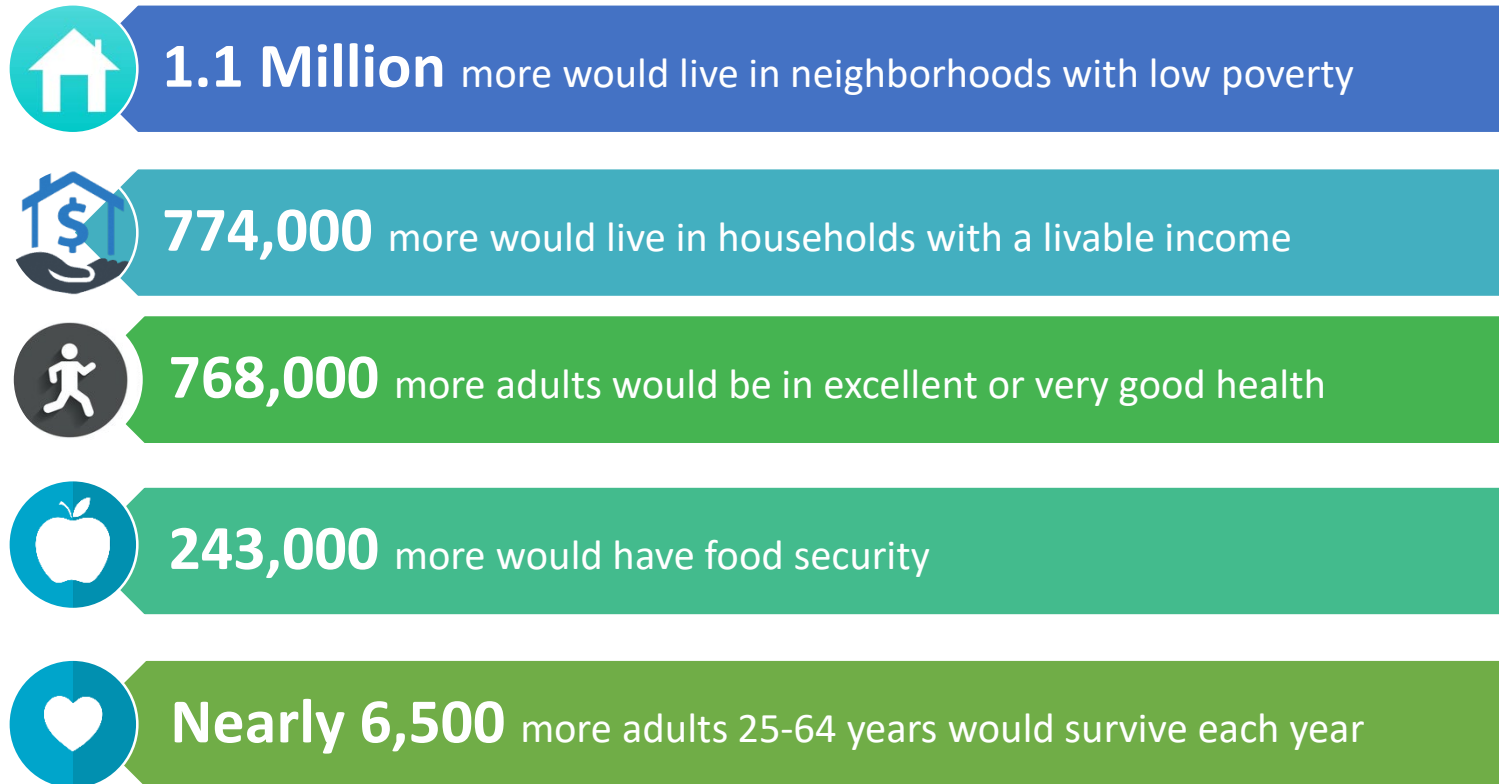
- HOPE helps drive equity action by:
 - Illuminating where “bright spots” exist across states that are effectively closing equity gaps
 - Encouraging “learning” to identify what policies, programs and conditions have enabled these states to close equity gaps
 - Inspiring “evidenced-informed” actions



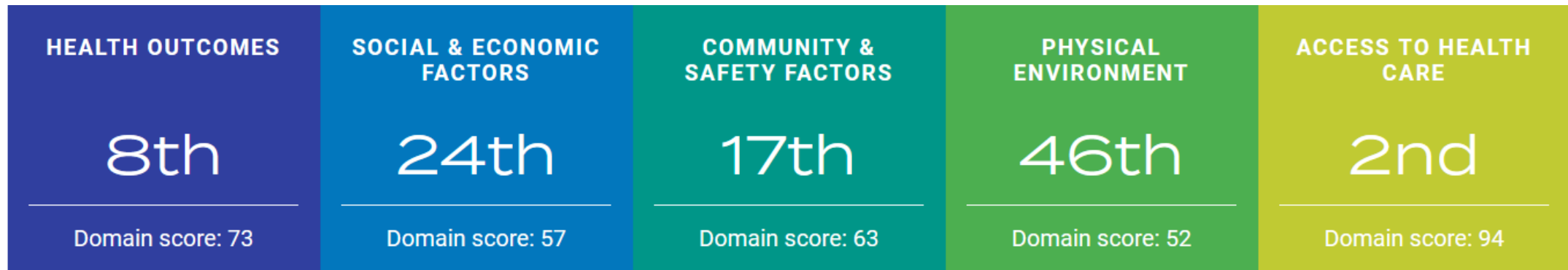
What Does HOPE Tell Us About Massachusetts?



Takeaway 1: If all residents of Massachusetts had the same opportunities as those with the best outcomes in the nation (in other words, the state was achieving HOPE's equity goals):



Takeaway 2: Overall, Massachusetts performs among the top states on access to health care and health outcomes, however has considerable room for improvement on social, economic and environmental measures.



A state's domain ranking is based on **combined performance** on:

- **Distance to Goal** :: How far they have to go to achieve HOPE goals
- **Racial Inequity** :: How much variation there is across racial and ethnic groups

Takeaway 3: While overall Massachusetts seems to perform better than other states, opportunity and health vary profoundly by race and ethnicity.

Native American and Hispanic adults are not only farthest from the HOPE Goal for health status compared to all other groups in Massachusetts, but they are farther than Native American and Hispanic adults in many other states.

ADULT HEALTH STATUS

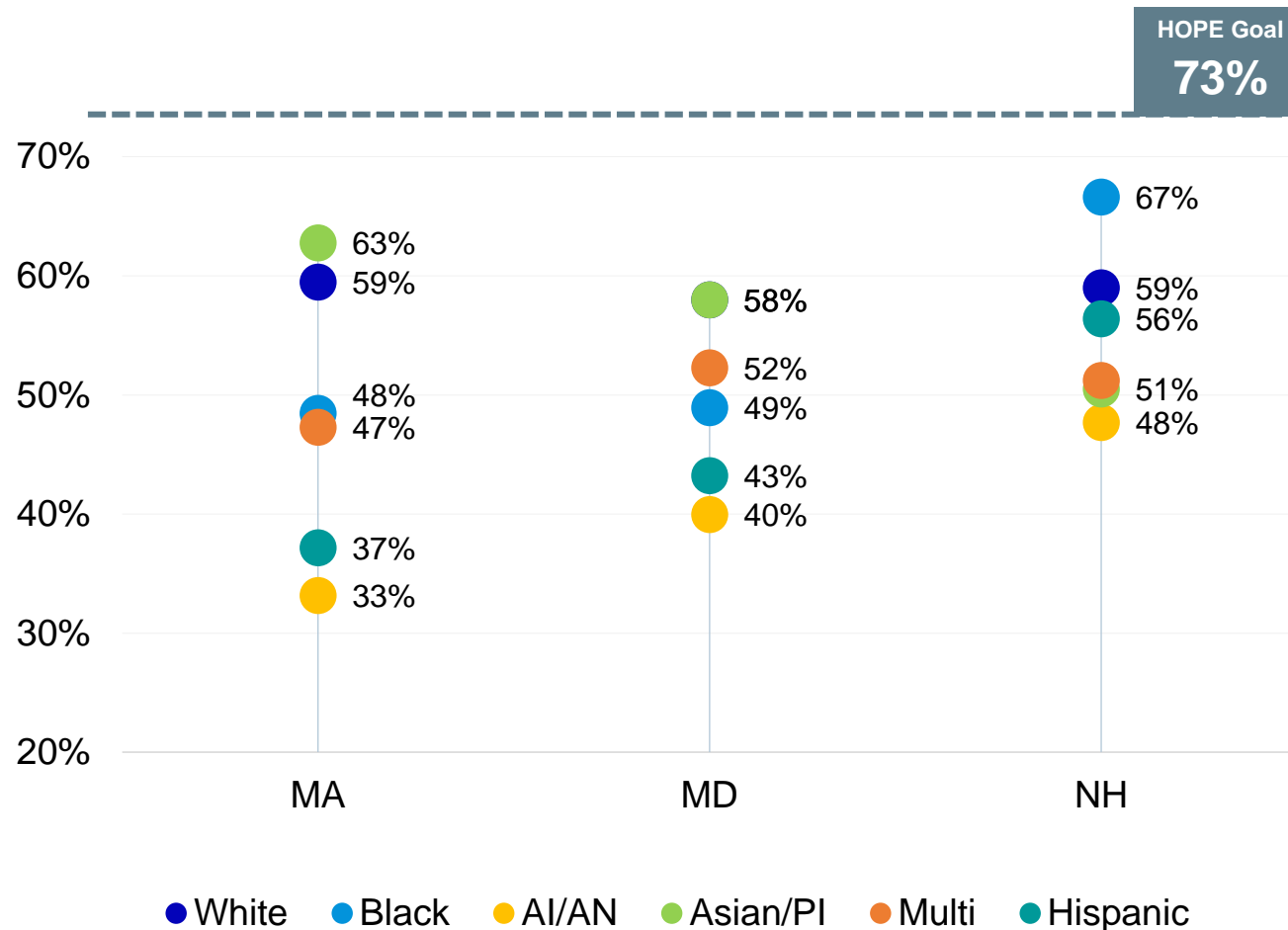
Portion of adults who say they are in excellent or very good health

<p>CURRENT RATE</p> <p>56%</p> <p>of Massachusetts adults with very good or excellent health</p>	<p>HOPE GOAL</p> <p>73%</p> <p>of adults with very good or excellent health</p>
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DISTANCE TO GOAL

767,936

more Massachusetts residents would need to be in very good or excellent health to achieve the HOPE Goal

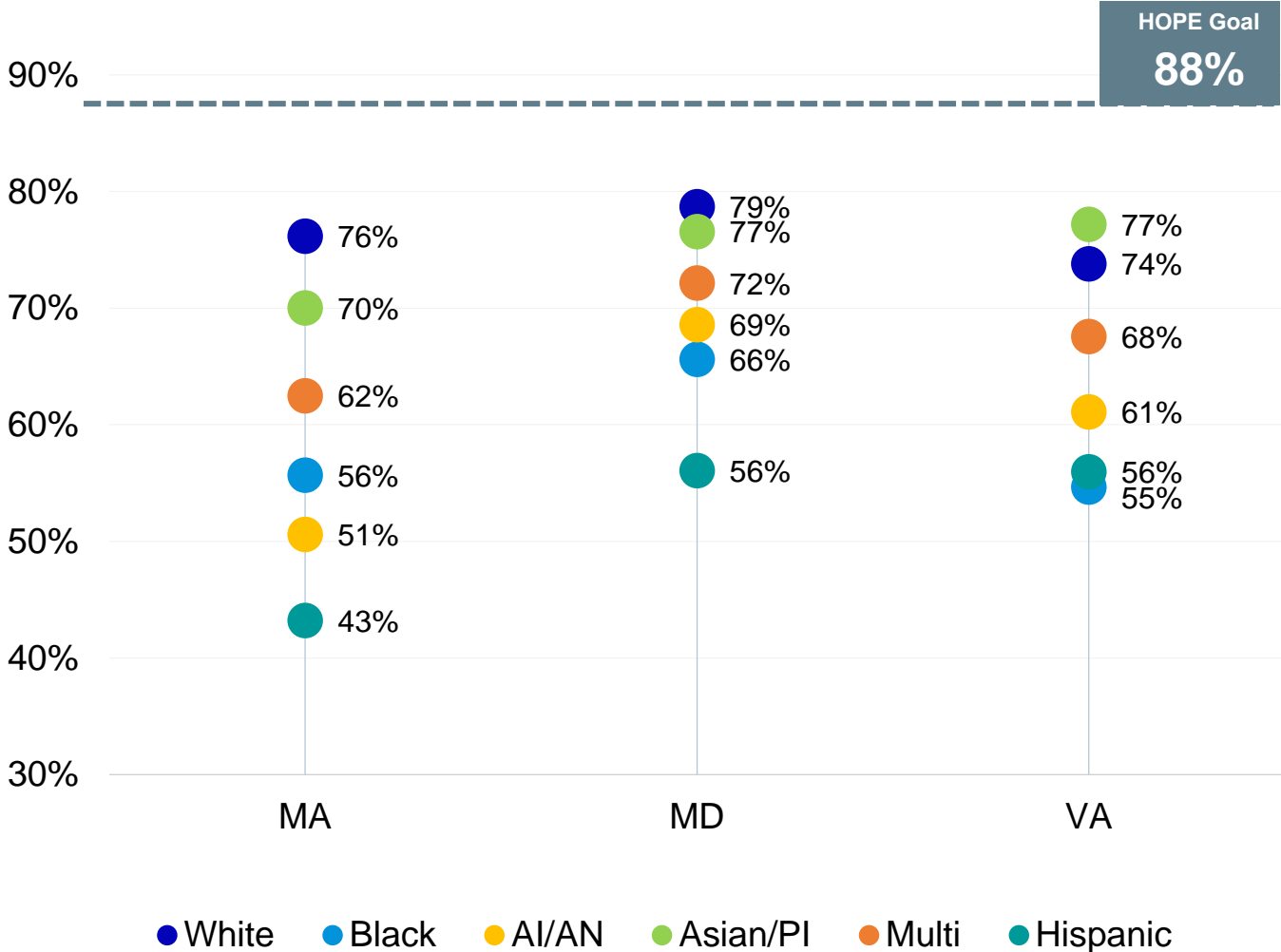


Hispanic, Native American, and Black adults in Massachusetts face the greatest barriers to achieving a livable income. In many cases, they face greater challenges than their counterparts in other states.

LIVABLE INCOME
Portion of adults living in households with income greater than 250% FPL

CURRENT RATE	HOPE GOAL
71%	88%
of Massachusetts adults live in households with livable income	of adults living in households with livable income

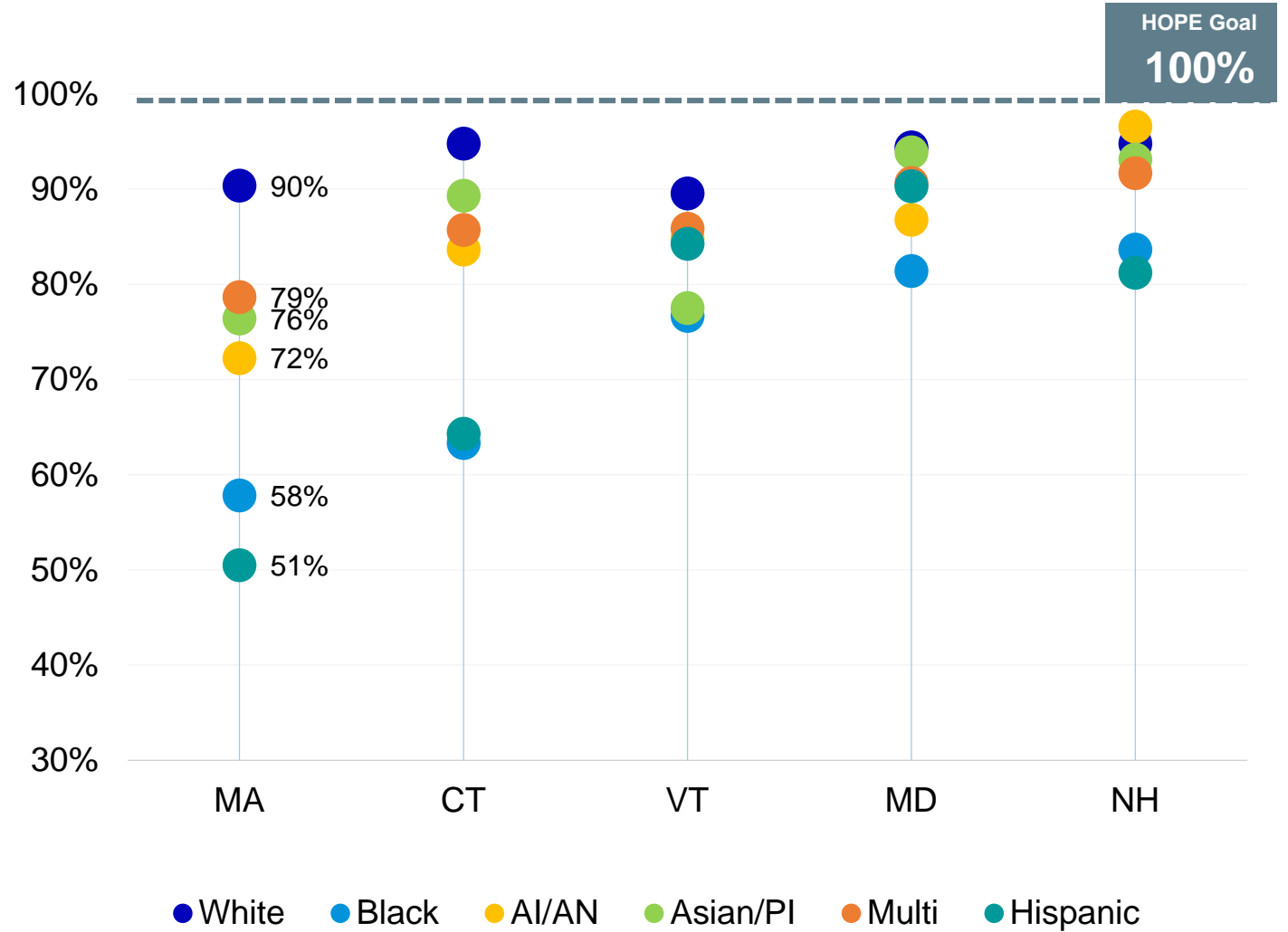
DISTANCE TO GOAL
774,439
 more Massachusetts adults living in households with livable income



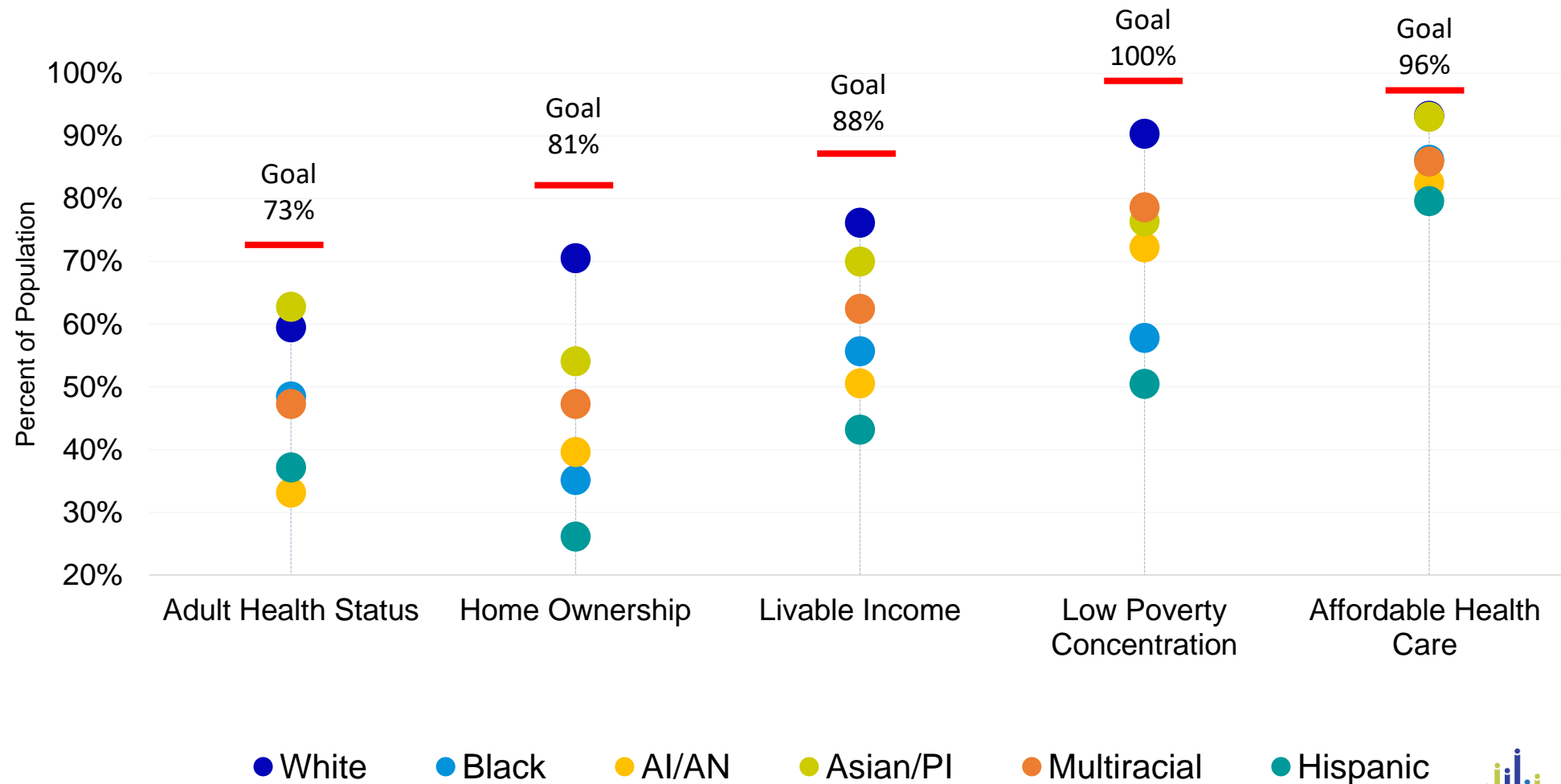
Black and Hispanic populations in Massachusetts are the least likely to live in areas of low poverty concentration. Whereas 90% of White people live in areas of low poverty, only 58% of the Black and 51% of Hispanic people do so.

Low Poverty Concentration
Portion of people in neighborhoods with fewer than 20% of residents living in poverty

<p>CURRENT RATE</p> <p>83%</p> <p>of people in Massachusetts live in neighborhoods with low poverty concentration</p>	<p>HOPE GOAL</p> <p>100%</p> <p>of people live in neighborhoods with low poverty concentration</p>
<p>DISTANCE TO GOAL</p> <p>1.1 million</p> <p>more people in Massachusetts would need to live in neighborhoods with low poverty concentration</p>	



Takeaway 4: Racial and ethnic groups facing the greatest systemic barriers to basic life opportunities also face the poorest health outcomes in the state.



● White ● Black ● AI/AN ● Asian/PI ● Multiracial ● Hispanic

Takeaway 5: Systemic investments to achieve HOPE's equity goals in opportunity and health can help lift the boat for all Massachusetts residents, and especially for people of color who have long endured the effects of systemic racism.



NEIGHBORHOOD POVERTY CONCENTRATION HOPE Goal: 100%

Achieving the HOPE Goal means

1.1 Million

more Massachusetts residents would live in neighborhoods with low poverty, including:

483,000 White
338,000 Hispanic
185,000 Black
92,000 Asian & Pacific Islander
22,000 Multiracial
3,000 Native American



LIVABLE INCOME HOPE Goal: 88%

Achieving the HOPE Goal means

774,000

more Massachusetts residents would live in households earning a livable income, including:

425,000 White
187,000 Hispanic
95,000 Black
52,000 Asian & Pacific Islander
12,000 Multiracial
3,000 Native American



ADULT HIGH HEALTH STATUS HOPE Goal: 73%

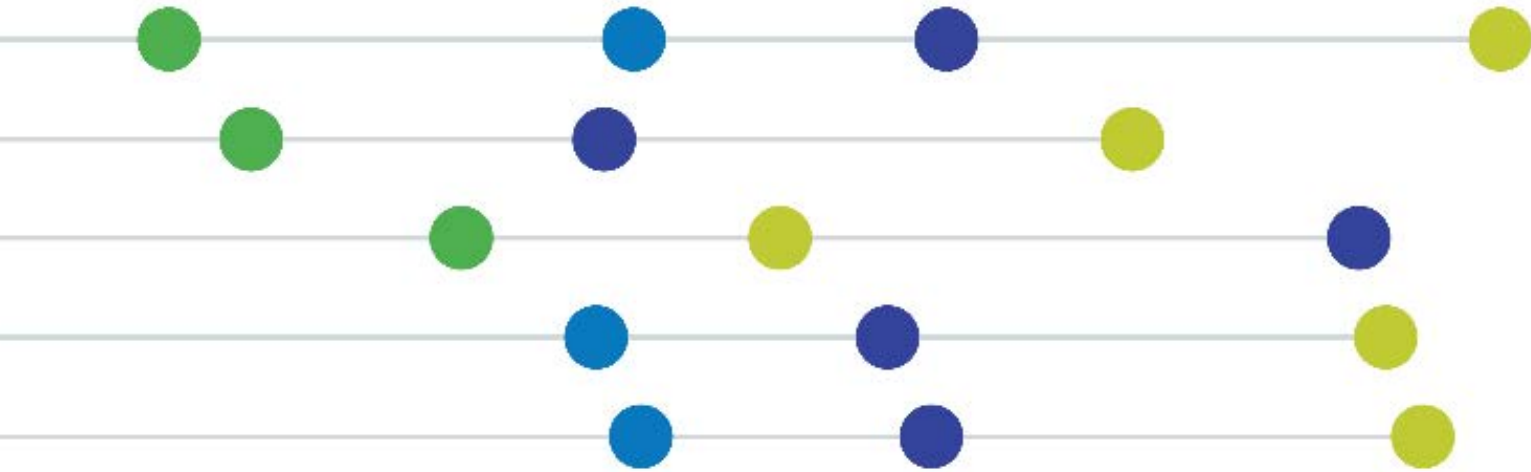
Achieving the HOPE Goal means

768,000

more Massachusetts residents would be in excellent or very good health, including:

498,000 White
151,000 Hispanic
73,000 Black
30,000 Asian & Pacific Islander
12,000 Multiracial
3,300 Native American

How Can HOPE's Data Inform State Action for Health Equity?



HOPE provides a new way to frame & communicate equity priorities for bipartisan advocacy and policy change

- Shifts the narrative from deficits and disparities
- Focuses on building opportunities for all to thrive
- Shows what's possible for achieving equity in society



HOPE provides a framework to help set states on a data-informed path to equity and hold themselves accountable

- Identify racial and health equity gaps
- Set evidence-informed equity goals (i.e., HOPE Goals)
- Measure distance to go for achieving equity
- Chart a path for equity action building on “bright spots”



HOPE helps identify common and distinct challenges faced by racial and ethnic groups to inform policy solutions

Equity Gaps	Examples from HOPE's Data for Massachusetts	Levels of Action
<p>NARROW GAPS: all people faring generally well</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health Insurance Coverage, Access to Primary Care and Access to Psychiatric Care – all residents generally fare well 	<p>Continued monitoring of equity impact</p>
<p>NARROW GAPS: all people faring poorly</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Living in Areas with low crime rates (such as low physical assault and robbery rates) – all residents lag on these indicators 	<p>Need for broad, systemic policies and programs that benefit all people</p>
<p>WIDE GAPS: some people faring well, and some faring poorly</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hispanic residents face the greatest challenges with owning homes, livable income, post-secondary education, and health care access Black populations face high rates of premature mortality and low birth weight in infants Native American populations are least likely to be in good or excellent health, and face barriers to affordable and quality housing 	<p>Broad, systemic policies + Tailored, population-specific programs according to needs</p>

HOPE can help states contextualize their COVID-19 data & develop long-term recovery and rebuilding priorities from an equity lens



Source: <https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hblog20200624.928351/full/>

*HOPE data point to an inextricable link between COVID-19 and the broader opportunity to thrive —suggesting that immediate and long-term community response and recovery will require more than a robust medical system. It will require **engaging and investing in disenfranchised communities, enacting policies that reverse historical injustices, and building systems that provide everyone a fair and just opportunity to thrive in the places where they live, learn, work, and play.***

- Siddiqui NJ, Andrulis DP, et al., *Health Affairs Blog*, June 24, 2020

HOPE Team

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We believe everyone
should have an equitable
opportunity to achieve
optimal health.

