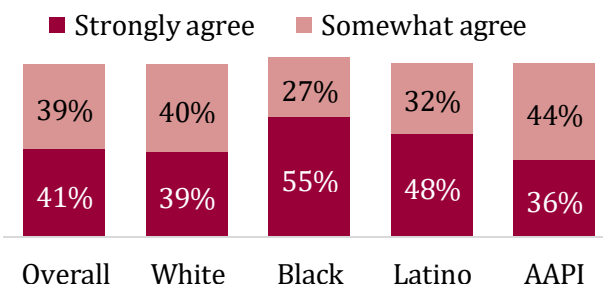


Massachusetts residents support action by state government, the healthcare system, and employers to advance health equity.

- Among Massachusetts residents, 96% agree that everyone deserves the opportunity to live a long, healthy life, regardless of income, education or race – **the key principle of health equity.**
- Most (80%) also agree that **some groups face more obstacles to getting healthcare** (see chart).

“There are groups of people who face more obstacles to getting healthcare.”

% who agree in each racial/ethnic group



Most people believe the healthcare system (**72%**), state government (**71%**), and employers (**53%**) each have a major role to play in advancing health equity. This is especially true for residents of color.

Residents support specific, actionable health equity policy priorities.

- Most people support a range of policy solutions (see chart), such as medication affordability, local investments, and culturally responsive healthcare.
- The top barriers to health equity from open-ended responses were healthcare/insurance accessibility & cost (23%) and socioeconomic factors (also 23%).
- Black and Latino voters call a wider range of potential policy priorities “very important” and are more likely to face negative health inputs such as air and water quality, safety, and employment.

Policy Priorities	% very / somewhat important
Making medications for conditions like asthma, heart disease, and diabetes more affordable	94%
Investing in local efforts to build healthier, stronger communities	90%
Ensuring healthcare services are respectful and responsive to patients’ cultural backgrounds	89%
Maintaining access to telehealth services	85%
Promoting programs that recruit, train, and support a diverse healthcare workforce	85%
Ensuring all our community members, regardless of immigration status, have access to MassHealth or Medicaid, if otherwise eligible	80%
Staffing health-related state agencies with diverse leaders	79%

These findings are drawn from a statewide survey of 1,546 residents of Massachusetts including oversamples of Black, Latino, and AAPI residents. The poll was conducted by The MassINC Polling Group May 15-24, 2023 and sponsored by the Health Equity Compact with special support from the François-Xavier Bagnoud (FXB) Center for Health and Human Rights at Harvard University. Full results and detailed methods statements are posted at MassINCPolling.com and healthequitycompact.org.