|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Key messages (all audiences) | * The Community Health Equity Survey (CHES) aims to help communities address barriers to health. * CHES centers community voices. This survey was developed in collaboration with residents and community partners across the state. * To improve the health of everyone in Massachusetts, we need to center the voices of people and communities who have been long denied an equal chance at health. Your answers can help your community. * Your story can shape our future health. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health will use survey results to improve our programs, make decisions about funding and resources, and support policies to improve health inequities. We will also share the results of the survey with partners across Massachusetts to support the important work they are doing to improve health in their communities. * Decisions at the state and local level impact the health of you, your family, and your community. Take the survey so that decisionmakers understand your values, needs, and hopes for the future. * Your participation in this survey is completely optional. If you choose to participate, your answers are anonymous and cannot be connected back to you. * Taking the survey is easy. Just [click here](http://www.mass.gov/healthsurvey) or visit our website [Mass.gov/Healthsurvey](http://www.mass.gov/chei) to get started. |
| Older Adults (60+) | * Older adults are a growing population, and staying healthy and active in our communities is more important than ever. Share your experience and insight to help all older adults in MA enjoy full and vibrant lives. |
| Immigrants | * The survey is anonymous and cannot be connected back to you in any way. * Sharing your perspective and experience will help to support those who come to Massachusetts from other countries, but you will not be asked to share your immigration status at any point in the survey. * The survey is available in Arabic, Cape Verdean Creole, simplified and traditional Chinese, English, Haitian Creole, Khmer, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Vietnamese. |
| Parents and caregivers of children and youth with special health needs | * Caregiving can be meaningful, and sometimes challenging. By sharing your story, you can help create solutions that benefit your entire family. * Being a caregiver as a young person develops can be full of surprises. When you share this experience, you’re helping other caregivers in your shoes. |
| Pregnant people and parents of young children | * Pregnancy and parenting are personal experiences that change us forever. With your survey response, you’re helping pregnant people, children, and families to be healthy and thrive. |
| People with disabilities | * The experiences of people with disabilities are unique and diverse. Your answers can help increase accessibility, representation, and participation in all aspects of life. |
| People identifying as LGBTQ+ | * Systems of oppression, including heteronormativity, heterosexism, and transphobia, have excluded adults and youth who identify as LGBTQ+, with devastating effects on our health and well-being. * Everyone in the LGBTQ+ community has a unique story to tell. Elevating the diverse experiences of your community will shape our future health. |
| People of color (American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian American and Pacific Islander, Black, Hispanic/Latino residents) | * Multiple forms of racism have impacted communities of color, creating barriers to health and well-being in the past and present. While communities of color have historically been left out of the conversation, the Community Health Equity Survey is an important opportunity for diverse groups to be represented and heard. * Indigenous communities have historically been made invisible in many ways, but culture, language, and values are a source of strength. Make sure that Indigenous voices in Massachusetts are heard. With your survey response, you are representing and advocating for our tribal communities. * The history and experience of Asian-American and Pacific Islanders varies from community to community in Massachusetts. When you answer the survey, you help share your community’s strengths, values, and hopes. * Hispanic and Latine/a/o communities have historically faced racism, xenophobia, and fear of deportation. Parents and caregivers especially feel this stress. You can share your experiences anonymously to help ensure that Latine/a/o families and communities stay healthy and stay together. * COVID-19 and the continued impacts of racism have taken a huge toll on Black Massachusetts residents. While Black communities have mobilized in mutual strength and support, it’s important to shine a light on the systems and structures that continue to impact our health. With your survey response, you’re ensuring that Black experiences now are shaping our health in the future. |
| People whose primary language is not English | * The survey is available in Arabic, Cape Verdean Creole, simplified and traditional Chinese, English, Haitian Creole, Khmer, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Vietnamese. * You can work with an interpreter. Someone else can interpret the questions into your preferred language and fill out the survey for you. |
| Rural residents | * Rural communities across Massachusetts are home to many diverse populations with their own cultures, values, and strengths. * Rural residents face unique challenges, but few data sources aim to highlight them. Your survey response can help ensure that your community has the resources it needs to thrive. |
| Veterans | * The service and experience of veterans is diverse and valued. You’ve earned the respect and support that you deserve. Your survey response will help support the veteran community, especially for vets who might face challenges in life and work. |
| Parents under 25 | * Being a young parent comes with its own challenges, joys, and needs. By sharing your story, you can help create solutions that benefit your entire family. * Transitioning to parenthood can be full of surprises. When you share your experience, you’re helping other families in your shoes. |
| Youth and young adults (ages 14-17 and 18-24) | * Young people are the future – and are still often left out of the conversation. You have dreams, worries, and ideas to offer. With your survey response, you’re shaping your own future health – and the future for all young people. |