

# Community Health Equity Survey 2023

## Consent Page

The purpose of the Community Health Equity Survey is to help communities improve conditions that impact health. To improve the health of everyone in Massachusetts, we need to listen to the people who have long been denied an equal chance at health.

This survey was developed in collaboration with residents and community organizations across the state. By taking the survey, your insights and experiences are part of the decision-making process. The Department of Public Health will use the information collected in this survey to make sure programs to improve health are meeting the needs of all people in Massachusetts. Later this year, you can visit our website at <https://www.mass.gov/chei> to explore results and learn more about your community's experiences.

Communities can use the survey results to make changes that give everyone a chance for better health, such as asking for and spending money to address community needs, improving communication with residents, and creating policies that support people who experience unfair barriers to health. Your story can shape our future.

**Who can take this survey?** You can take this survey if you:

- Are 14 years of age or older
- AND
- Live in Massachusetts for some or all of the year.

**About the survey:**

**Your answers are anonymous and cannot be connected back to you.** This survey usually takes about 20 minutes to complete.

This survey will ask questions about:

- Your access to basic needs like health care and transportation
- Your physical and mental health and wellbeing
- Your experiences with COVID-19, including ongoing symptoms
- Your experiences with housing, education, and work
- Basic information about you, such as your age, gender, race, and where you live (**we do not ask for information that can be used to identify you**)

**At the end of the survey is a link to resources** to help connect you with things like food and economic assistance, mental health and substance use services, and parenting resources.

Your participation in this survey is **completely optional**. You may skip any questions that you do not want to answer. You may stop this survey at any time and for any reason.

**There are minimal risks related to taking this survey.** Some questions may ask about topics that could bring up painful memories, anxiety or stress. You may pause or stop taking the survey if you feel any

**discomfort.** There are no direct benefits to you by taking the survey, but the information you share will help the Department of Public Health (MA-DPH) understand the greatest needs of Massachusetts residents so it can provide support where it is needed most and work with communities to achieve better health.

### **Have questions?**

If you have any questions about this survey, please email the Community Health Equity Initiative at [chei@mass.gov](mailto:chei@mass.gov).

This research has been approved by the MA-DPH Institutional Review Board (MA-DPH IRB) to make sure it meets the regulatory and ethical standards required to protect participants. If you wish to speak with someone from the MA-DPH IRB, you may contact them at [DPH.IRB@mass.gov](mailto:DPH.IRB@mass.gov) or by phone (617) 624-5647.

Thank you for your time and interest in the survey and for sharing your experiences with us!