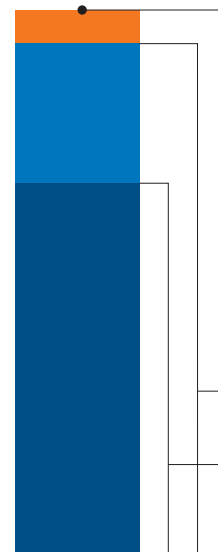


Ensuring Equitable, High-Quality Health Care Protects People, Elevates Communities

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought into stark relief longstanding health disparities that cannot be ignored. Health inequity stems from historic and systemic inequalities, and it is a public health crisis in California.

- In 2020, nearly **20% of Latinx Californians** did not have a usual source of care.
- About **one in six Black and multiracial adults** reports trouble accessing a health care specialist.
- Californians who are **Native American and Alaska Native**, and those who are **Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander**, are less likely to report having a checkup within the past year than other racial/ethnic groups – and less likely to receive care in their first trimester of pregnancy.
- Latinx Californians represented **41% of COVID-19 cases** in May 2021 but had received only **26%** of vaccines administered.
- **Black Californians** have the **shortest life expectancy at birth** and the **highest rate of death** from many types of cancer compared to all other races/ethnicities.



By 2040, California's population is projected to increase by

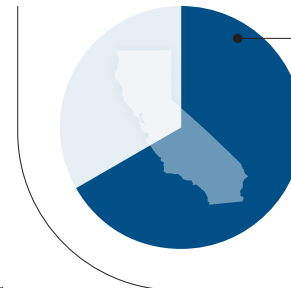
3.5 million.

People of color are expected to increase by

3.3 million.

2.4 million

of those people are expected to be Latinx.



Two-thirds of low-income Californians who rely on Medi-Cal are from communities of color (Latinx people represented 69% of Californians living below the federal poverty level in 2020). Because Medi-Cal underfunding results in a **26% payment shortfall** for hospitals and other providers, they have fewer resources to offer the communities they serve. Correcting this structural imbalance will create more avenues for Medi-Cal beneficiaries to access vital care.



CA hospitals are on the front lines of mitigating health inequities by meeting their communities' unique needs with initiatives such as:

- The California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative
- Data collection and analysis on race, ethnicity, language preference, and other sociodemographic data
- Cherished Futures for Black Moms and Babies
- Cultural competency training
- Increasing diversity in leadership and governance
- Improving and strengthening community partnerships