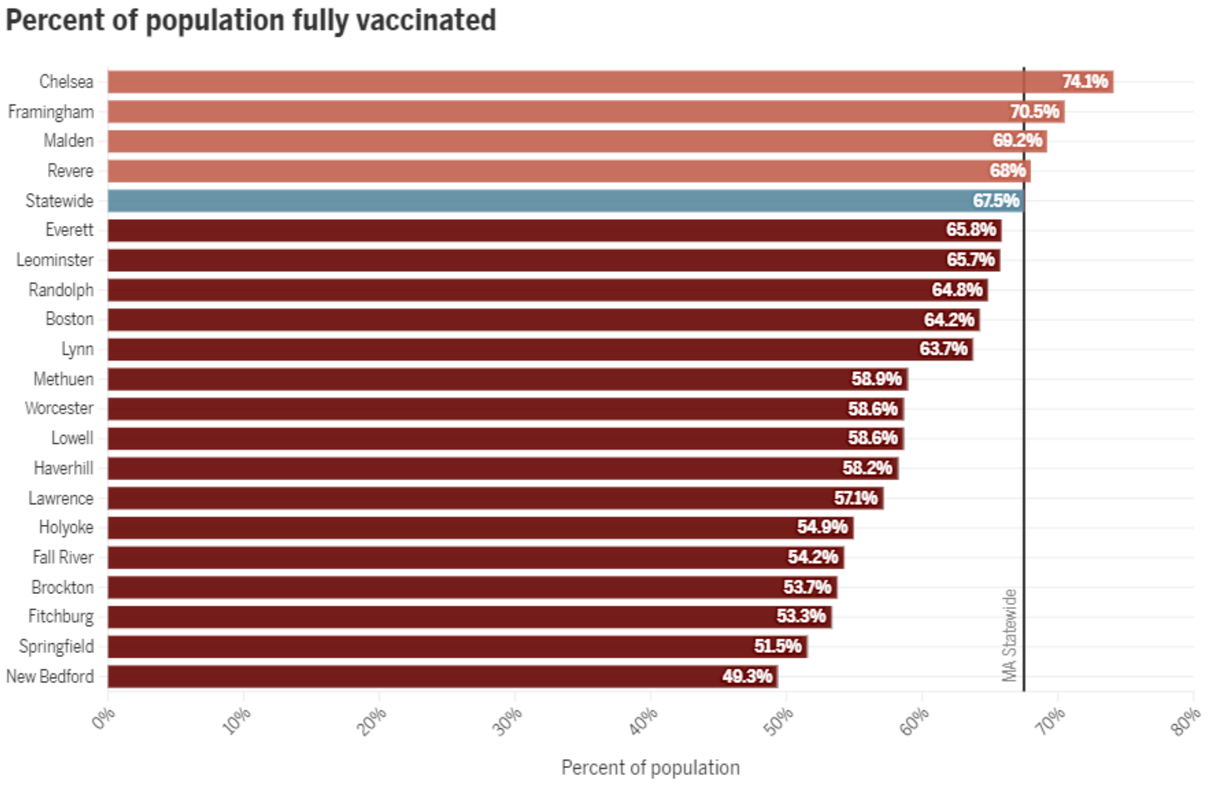
Health Equity Compact

Navigating Towards Our North Star with Health Equity Benchmarks

2025 Health Equity Trends Summit



Chelsea, a city hit hard by COVID, has become a vaccination standout

A city near Boston hit hard by the coronavirus becomes a vaccination standout

By Felice J. Freyer, Bianca Vázquez Toness and Diana Bravo Globe Staff and Globe Correspondent,
Updated October 24, 2021, 4:05 p.m.

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Images: Vaccination graph, Massachusetts Immunization System; Chelsea vaccination site, N. Klima, The Boston Globe.

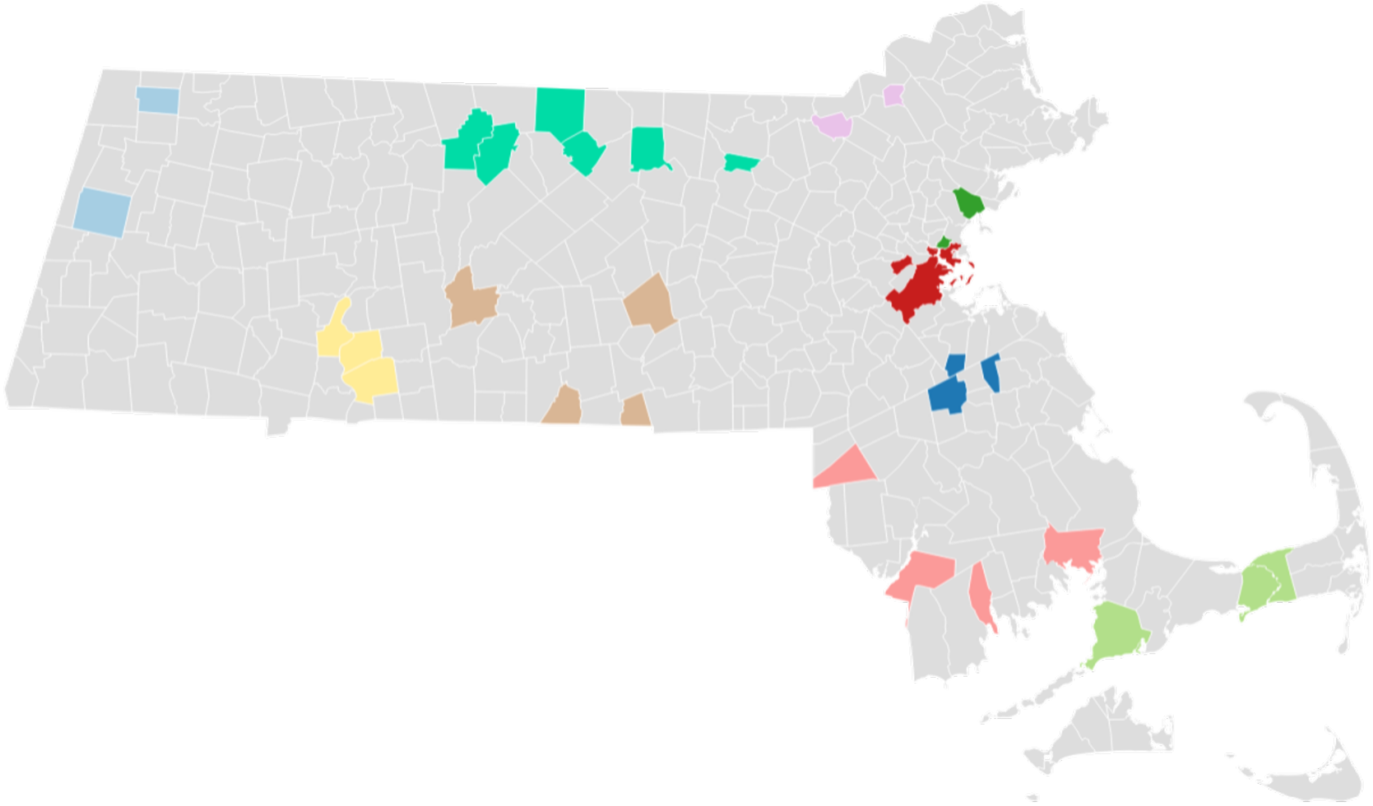
146,877

Premature deaths in Massachusetts, 2018-2023

*Unpublished analysis by **MA DPH***

With thanks to TALV Corp and the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation

Advancing Health Equity in Massachusetts (AHEM)



EOHHS initiative focusing on 30 communities

From 2018-2023, premature mortality rates were

1.5x

higher in AHEM communities than in other areas

Unpublished analysis by MA DPH

Image: Advancing Health Equity in Massachusetts map, Mass.gov.

Two bold, measurable goals

To benefit all and close racial/ethnic and geographic gaps

Save lives by reducing premature deaths

Advance shared prosperity by reducing the economic burden of health inequities

Focusing on four primary drivers of disparities in premature death and economic burden:

- **Cardiometabolic health**
- **Maternal and perinatal health**
- **Mental health and substance use disorder**
- **Cancer**

Elements of a Statewide Health Equity Benchmarks Framework

High-Level Goals

- Overarching goal(s)
- Sub-goals

Measurement Framework

- Process measures
- Organizational responsibilities & targets

Implementation Structure

- Tracking & accountability mechanisms
- Coordination & improvement support
- Evaluation
- Financing

Thank you.