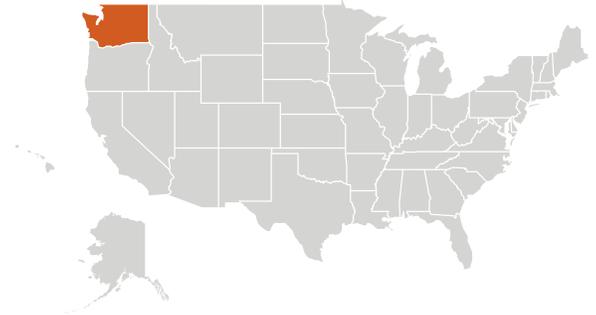




WASHINGTON

Washington State Department of Health



Washington Health Equity State Snapshot

Health equity is an economic issue as well as a social justice issue. Significant inequities and disparities exist between different racial ethnic groups, socioeconomic classes, and geographical location. Health inequities have their roots in the social determinants of health and are a reflection of the persistent inequities that exist in American society. Health inequities result in lower quality of healthcare, worse health outcomes for minority racial/ethnic populations and people with low socioeconomic status, increased direct and indirect healthcare costs, and decreased productivity. The Washington Health Equity Snapshot was developed using data from the ASTHO 2014 Minority Health Infrastructure Survey and provides an overview of the infrastructure and capacity available in state health agencies to address issues in minority health, health disparities and health equity (MH/HD/HE) in the state and across the nation.

Agency Mission

To protect and improve the health of people in Washington state.

Priority Populations

Washington's priority populations for targeting health equity initiatives are Black or African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, Asians, Hawaiian Natives/Pacific Islanders, American Indians/Alaskan Natives, rural or geographically isolated populations, gender specific groups, LGBT groups, refugee groups, and immigrant groups.

Partnerships

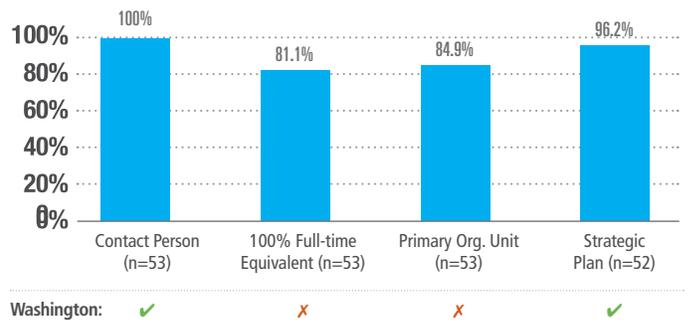
Washington collaborates with partners on health equity initiatives, such as hospitals, community health centers, insurers, land use/planning agencies, state advisory bodies, independent advisory bodies, housing agencies, transportation agencies, businesses, tribal government and community agencies, food agencies, law enforcement, the justice system, and labor agencies.

Washington provides financial resources to partners such as hospitals, community health centers, state advisory bodies, housing agencies, transportation agencies, and tribal government and community agencies.

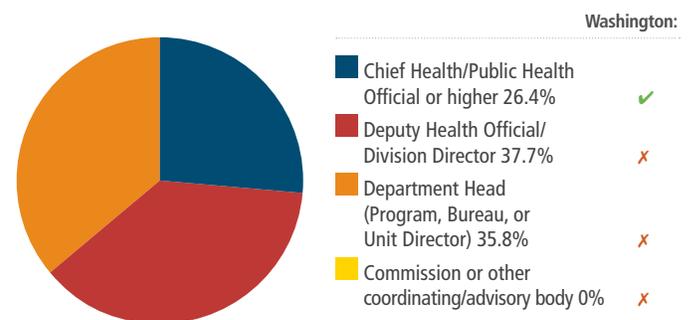
Washington takes the leadership role with partners such as hospitals, community health centers, state advisory bodies, and housing agencies.

Infrastructure for Health Equity

National Percentage of States with Organizational Resources for Addressing MH/HD/HE



National Percentage of States with Contact Person for MH/HD/HE Reporting to Leadership Positions or Bodies (n=53)



Continued »

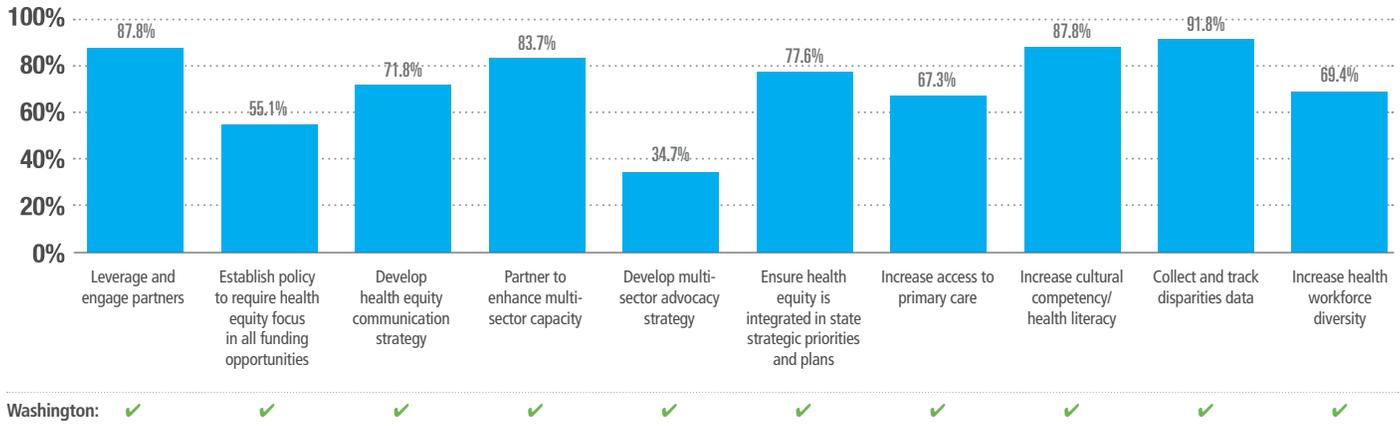
Staffing

Washington has staff who work on MH/HD/HE initiatives in the following areas: behavioral health/substance abuse services, chronic disease and/or health promotion, epidemiology, infectious or communicable disease, maternal and child health or children with special health care needs, tribal health, health systems transformation, its Community Health Worker program, its Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities, and rural health. Many staff focus on MH/HD/HE (it is expected as part of their job responsibilities) but for 25 percent of staff, is not identified in their job descriptions.

Strategic Planning for Health Equity

Washington has an organizational strategic plan that addresses health equity and/or a health equity-specific strategic plan.

National Percentage of States with Strategies for Addressing MH/HD/HE in Strategic Plans (n=49)



Funding for Health Equity

Funding received in FY 2013 from all sources of funding	Washington (in thousands \$)	National Funding in thousands (minimum – maximum; n=47)
Federal Funds	40,674	0 – 146,203
State General Funds	18,806	0 – 40,000
Other Sources	55,517	0 – 55,517

Funding received in FY 2013 by federal agency	Washington (in thousands \$)	National Funding in thousands (minimum – maximum; n=45)
HHS Office of Minority Health	121	198
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	20,121	20,121
Health Resources and Services Administration	11,316	16,097
Other HHS Agency	0	93,000
Other Federal Agency	9,115	46,279

Washington Office <http://healthequity.wa.gov/>



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