

# WHAT IS

# HEALTH EQUITY

Health Equity means efforts to ensure that all people have full and equal access to opportunities that enable them to lead healthy lives. To achieve health equity, we must treat everyone equally and eliminate avoidable health inequities and health disparities.

## HEALTH INEQUITIES ARE...

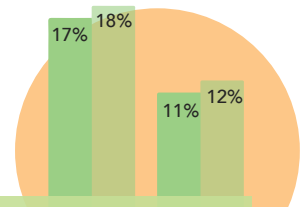
differences in health that are avoidable, unfair, and unjust.  
Health inequities are affected by...

### SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Social inequities occur when a person or group is treated unfairly because of race, gender, class, sexual orientation, or immigration status.



Even when access to care is equal, racial and ethnic minority patients often receive lower-quality care than Whites.



Minority Men (17%) and Women (18%) experience fair or poor health at higher rates than all men (11%) and women (12%).

### ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Institutions such as governments, churches, or schools use their authority to create unfair disadvantage. Unequal opportunities can lead to poor educational outcomes or fewer job opportunities.

9%

54%

Only 9% of students from the lowest income group finish college as compared to 54% from the highest income group.

### ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

Where you live can determine how healthy you are. Why? Lower income neighborhoods tend to be in poor social, economic, and physical conditions.



Lower income neighborhoods tend to have fewer safe places to exercise, limited access to healthy foods, poor schools, and limited job opportunities.



In Marin, CA there is a 15-year life expectancy difference in just eight miles, reflecting the impact low-income neighborhoods have on health.

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