

# RISE TO HEALTH COALITION

# Surveying Health Care Professionals on Health Equity



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To better understand health care professionals' views on health equity, the Rise to Health Coalition commissioned a survey of 1,400 professionals employed at health care-related companies. Specifically, we sought to understand:

- How significant or insignificant health care professionals think the issue of health equity is in our health care system today;
- What health care professionals think are the most effective ways to achieve health equity in our health care system;
- What health care professionals think is the greatest barrier to achieving health equity in our society;
- How confident health care professionals are in the ability of the current health care system to address health equity effectively;
- To what extent health care professionals think their company or organization has done a successful job of effectively addressing health equity;

- To what extent health care professionals think their company or organization is capable of effectively addressing health equity;
- Whether health care professionals think health equity has improved or declined in the United States over the past five years; and
- How long health care professionals think it will take to achieve noticeable improvements in health equity across the country.



### Summary of Results

The responses to this survey, presented in detail below, were illuminating. While more than 82 percent of respondents said that health equity is a very or somewhat significant issue in the US health care system today, less than half held an optimistic view of the ability of the current health system to address equity effectively. We see this as a prime opportunity for initiatives like the <u>Rise to Health Coalition</u> to change the status quo by bringing parties together to advance shared solutions and collective action to strengthen and transform health care. The survey responses also highlighted interesting differences in respondents' views of their own organizations' health equity progress and their opinions on progress in health care as a whole. Just under a quarter of respondents believe health equity has improved over the past five years, while more than four in ten think it has declined. In contrast, 63 percent of respondents say that their organization has done a successful job of effectively addressing health equity.

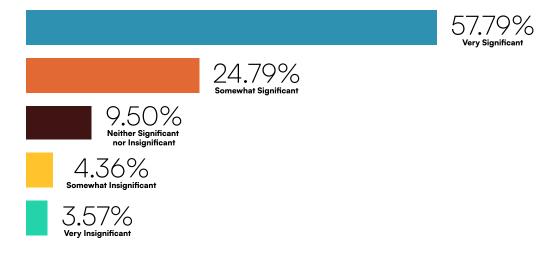
#### Methodology

OnePoll surveyed 1,400 health care professionals between August 4 and August 9, 2023. The survey included four demographic questions (age, gender, geography, race) and four job-related questions (employment status, industry, number of employees at company or organization, current role). It then asked eight questions related to health equity. All respondents were age 21+ and work at health carerelated companies. The majority of respondents (86 percent) were employed full-time with 12.43 percent employed part-time and the remaining 1.57 percent self-employed.



### **Results**

Health equity is the state in which everyone has a fair and just opportunity to attain their highest level of health. How significant or insignificant do you think the issue of health equity is in our health care system today?



What do you think are the most effective ways to achieve health equity in our health care system? (Select up to 3)

53.07% Address social determinants of health, such as poverty, education, housing, and nutrition		
24.79% Ensure universal access to comprehensive health care services		
54.29% Enhance health literacy by making health information more understandable and tailored to those with diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds		
30.07% Expand structural and cultural competency training for health care professionals and students		
23.27% Foster a system-wide culture of continuous improvement		
16.64% Increase diversity in the health care workforce		

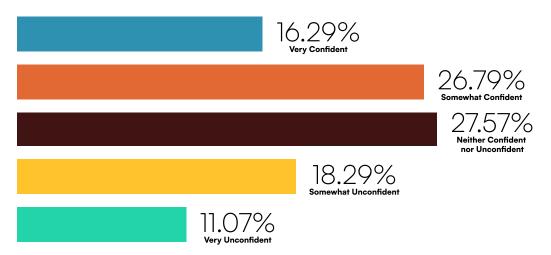


What, if anything, is the greatest barrier to achieving health equity in our society? Select the best match.

	51.50%	Affordability of care
10.79% Implicit bias in care, such as stereotyping patients		
9.71% Accessibility of care		
7.64% Lack of health insurance coverage		
60/ Underrepresentation among health care professionals		
3.57% Underrepresentation in medical research and clinical trials		
3.5% Explicit discrimination		
Lack of language and translation services		
1.07% Lack of reliable transportation		
3.86% Nothing in particular		
1.29% other		



How confident or unconfident are you in the ability of the current health care system to address health equity effectively?



To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement, "My company or organization is capable of effectively addressing health equity."

	28.71% Strongly Agree	
		39.71% Somewhat Agree
	22.14% Neither Agree nor Disagree	Ĵ
7% Somewhat Disagree		
2.43% Strongly Disagree		



Over the past 5 years, do you think health equity has overall improved or declined in the U.S.?

	16.29%	
		26.79% Declined
	27.57% Stayed the Same	
18.29% Not Sure		

How long do you think it will take to achieve noticeable improvements in health equity across the country?

3.14% Less than one year	
23 <b>.</b> 57% <sup>1-5 ye</sup>	pars
	31.93% <sup>5-10 years</sup>
14.29% <sup>10-15</sup> years	
5.79% <sup>15-20</sup> years	
5.86% More than 20 years	
15.43% I don't think health equity improvements will ever be made	



The Rise to Health Coalition is a national health equity initiative co-led by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI), the American Medical Association (AMA), and other industry collaborators, including PolicyLink, that are on a mission to improve patient health outcomes—making health care better for all.

The Coalition consists of members from across the health care system, including health care organizations and professionals, payers, pharmaceutical, research, and biotech organizations, and professional societies that are committed to taking specific actions on issues related to health care access, social and structural drivers of health, workforce diversity, and quality and safety of care. The **Rise to Health Coalition** receives funding support from **Genentech**, a member of the **Roche Group**; the **Commonwealth Fund**; the **Institute for Healthcare Improvement** (IHI), and the **American Medical Association** (AMA).

Join the Coalition and learn more at www.RiseToHealthEquity.org.