

Body Size Anti-Discrimination Law

Michigan is the only state in the country with a law banning body size discrimination by making height and weight protected classes in the state's civil rights law. Since the law has been implemented, how has Michigan dealt with discrimination complaints?

Michigan's population:

10 million

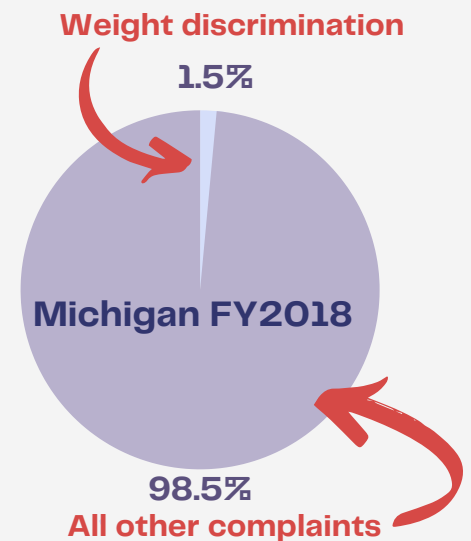
Massachusetts' population:

6.9 million

Will a body size discrimination law cause an unmanageable influx of discrimination complaints?

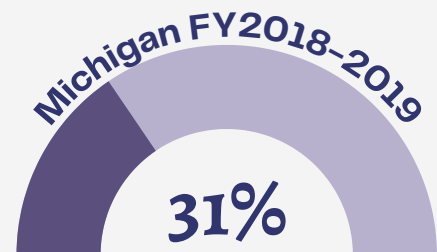
No. According to the Michigan Department of Civil Rights (MDCR, the Michigan equivalent of Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination or MCAD), MDCR receives fewer than 30 weight discrimination complaints each year out of around 1600 total complaints per year.

In FY 2018, MDCR received only 24 complaints alleging weight discrimination out of 1627 total complaints that year, making up only 1.5% of the total.



Do complaints of weight discrimination always co-occur with another protected identity?

No. MDCR public records show that of 29 Michigan weight discrimination complaints publicly available from 2018-2019, **31%** alleged only body size discrimination and no other protected classes.



Percent of 29 complaints that alleged discrimination based on only body size, no other protected class

MA Bill S.2669 would put in place vital protections for residents of the Commonwealth by making height and weight protected classes under existing civil rights laws. Michigan is a success story, let's make Massachusetts the second state to **ban body size discrimination.**