

Health Care Access and Utilization

This survey asks questions about your access and use of health care. This is to better understand how they may affect health. To ensure your privacy, your name will be separated from your answers before they are shared with researchers.

It will take about 10-15 minutes to answer these questions. Please answer each question as honestly as possible. There are no right or wrong answers to any of the questions. It is important that you answer as many questions as you can. We are looking for your own answers, not what you think your doctors, family, or friends want you to say.

Don't feel like you have to spend a long time on each question. The first answer that comes to you is usually the best one. If you aren't sure how to answer a question, choose the best answer from the options given.

DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, were you told by a health care provider or doctor's office that they did not accept your health care coverage?¹

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

In regard to your health insurance or health care coverage, how does it compare to a year ago? Is it better, worse, or about the same?¹

- Better
- Worse
- About the same
- Don't know

Is there a place that you USUALLY go to when you are sick or need advice about your health?¹

- Yes
- There is NO place
If selected, skip to "About how long has it been since you last saw or talked to a doctor or other health care provider about your own health?"
- There is MORE THAN ONE place
- Don't know

What kind of place do you go to most often?¹

- Doctor's office, clinic or health center
- Urgent care or minute clinic
- Hospital emergency room
- Some other place
- Don't go to one place most often
- Don't know

About how long has it been since you last saw or talked to a doctor or other health care provider about your own health?¹

- Never
- 6 months or less
- More than 6 mos, but not more than 1 yr ago
- More than 1 yr, but not more than 2 yrs ago
If selected, skip to "There are many reasons people delay getting medical care. Have you delayed getting care for any of the following reasons in the PAST 12 MONTHS?"
- More than 2 yrs, but not more than 5 yrs ago
If selected, skip to "There are many reasons people delay getting medical care. Have you delayed getting care for any of the following reasons in the PAST 12 MONTHS?"
- More than 5 years ago
If selected, skip to "There are many reasons people delay getting medical care. Have you delayed getting care for any of the following reasons in the PAST 12 MONTHS?"
- Don't know

*DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, have you seen or talked to any of the following doctors or health care providers about your own health? **Only ask double letter follow-up questions if the answer to the single letter question is 'YES'***¹*

A general doctor who treats a variety of illnesses (a physician in general practice, primary care, family medicine, or internal medicine)?

Help text: A provider who sees adult patients for wellness exams and the treatment of diseases

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

If "yes" is selected, display the following:

What is the total number of general doctor visits you made in the last 12 months?

- 1
- 2-3
- 4-5
- 6-7
- 8-9
- 10-12

- 13-15
- 16 or more
- Don't know

A nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or midwife?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

If "yes" is selected, display the following:

What is the total number of nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or midwife visits you made in the last 12 months?

- 1
- 2-3
- 4-5
- 6-7
- 8-9
- 10-12
- 13-15
- 16 or more
- Don't know

A doctor who specializes in women's health (an obstetrician/gynecologist)?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

If "yes" is selected, display the following:

What is the total number of visits to a doctor who specializes in women's health that you made in the last 12 months?

- 1
- 2-3
- 4-5
- 6-7
- 8-9
- 10-12
- 13-15
- 16 or more
- Don't know

A mental health professional such as a psychiatrist, psychologist, psychiatric nurse, or clinical social worker?

- Yes
- No

- Don't know

If "yes" is selected, display the following:

What is the total number of visits to a mental health professional that you made in the last 12 months?

- 1
- 2-3
- 4-5
- 6-7
- 8-9
- 10-12
- 13-15
- 16 or more
- Don't know

An optometrist, ophthalmologist, or eye doctor (someone who prescribes eyeglasses)?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

If "yes" is selected, display the following:

What is the total number of visits to an eye doctor that you made in the last 12 months?

- 1
- 2-3
- 4-5
- 6-7
- 8-9
- 10-12
- 13-15
- 16 or more
- Don't know

A podiatrist or foot doctor?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

If "yes" is selected, display the following:

What is the total number of visits to a foot doctor that you made in the last 12 months?

- 1
- 2-3
- 4-5
- 6-7
- 8-9
- 10-12
- 13-15

- 16 or more
- Don't know

A chiropractor?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

If "yes" is selected, display the following:

What is the total number of visits to a chiropractor that you made in the last 12 months?

- 1
- 2-3
- 4-5
- 6-7
- 8-9
- 10-12
- 13-15
- 16 or more
- Don't know

A physical therapist, speech therapist, respiratory therapist, audiologist, or occupational therapist?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

If yes is selected, display the following:

What is the total number of visits to a physical therapist, speech therapist, respiratory therapist, audiologist, or occupational therapist that you made in the last 12 months?

- 1
- 2-3
- 4-5
- 6-7
- 8-9
- 10-12
- 13-15
- 16 or more
- Don't know

A dentist or orthodontist?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

If yes is selected, display the following:

What is the total number of visits to a dentist or orthodontist that you made in the last 12 months?

- 1
- 2-3
- 4-5
- 6-7
- 8-9
- 10-12
- 13-15
- 16 or more
- Don't know

A medical doctor who specializes in a particular medical disease or problem (other than obstetrician/gynecologist, psychiatrist, or ophthalmologist)?

Help text: A provider who treats patients for diseases related to a particular system of the body, such as a cardiologist or urologist

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

If "yes" is selected, display the following:

What is the total number of visits to a medical doctor who specializes in a particular medical disease or problem that you made in the last 12 months?

- 1
- 2-3
- 4-5
- 6-7
- 8-9
- 10-12
- 13-15
- 16 or more
- Don't know

Traditional healers such as, Shaman, acupuncturist, or non-western medicine?

Help text: A person who provides care that addresses the full range of physical, emotional, mental, social, spiritual and environmental influences that affect a person's health, such as yoga, acupuncture, mind-body counseling and massage.

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

If yes is selected, display the following:

What is the total number of visits to traditional healers that you made in the last 12 months?

- 1
- 2-3
- 4-5
- 6-7
- 8-9
- 10-12
- 13-15
- 16 or more
- Don't know

How often were you treated with respect by your doctors or health care providers? Would you say...

- Always
- Most of the time
- Some of the time
- None of the time
- Don't know

How often did your doctors or health care providers ask for your opinions or beliefs about your medical care or treatment? For example, what kind of tests, procedures, or medications you prefer. Would you say...

- Always
- Most of the time
- Some of the time
- None of the time
- Don't know

How often did your doctors or health care providers tell or give you information about your health and health care that was easy to understand? Would you say...

- Always
- Most of the time
- Some of the time
- None of the time
- Don't know

There are many reasons people delay getting medical care. Have you delayed getting care for any of the following reasons in the PAST 12 MONTHS?¹

Didn't have transportation.

- Yes

- No
- Don't know

You live in a rural area where distance to the health care provider is too far.

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

You were nervous about seeing a health care provider.

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Couldn't get time off work.

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Couldn't get child care.

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

You provide care to an adult and could not leave him/her.

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Couldn't afford the copay.

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Your deductible was too high/or could not afford the deductible.

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

You had to pay out of pocket for some or all of the procedure.

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Other [Free Text Box]

DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, was there any time when you needed any of the following, but didn't get it because you couldn't afford it?¹

Prescription medicines

- Yes

- No
- Don't know

Mental health care or counseling

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Emergency care

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Dental care (including check ups)

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Eyeglasses

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

To see a regular doctor or general health provider (in primary care, general practice, internal medicine, family medicine)

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

To see a specialist

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Follow-up care

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

If you get sick or have an accident, how worried are you that you will be able to pay your medical bills? Are you very worried, somewhat worried, or not at all worried?

- Very worried
- Somewhat worried
- Not at all worried
- Don't know

DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, were any of the following true for you?¹

You skipped medication doses to save money

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

You took less medicine to save money

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

You delayed filling a prescription to save money

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

You asked your doctor for a lower cost medication to save money

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

You bought prescription drugs from another country to save money

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

You used alternative therapies to save money

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

The following questions are about your experiences with doctors and other health care providers in the past year. Some people think it is helpful if their providers are from the same background that they are – like in terms of race or religion or native language –because they think their doctors will better understand what they're experiencing or going through.

How important is it to you that your doctors or health care providers understand or are similar to you in any of these ways? Would you say...¹

- Very important
- Somewhat important
- Slightly important
- Not important at all
- Don't know

How often were you able to see doctors or health care providers who were similar to you in any of these ways? Would you say...¹

- Always
- Most of the time
- Some of the time
- None of the time
- Don't know

How often have you either delayed or not gone to see doctors or health care providers because they were different from you in any of these ways?¹

- Always
- Most of the time
- Some of the time
- None of the time
- Don't know

Thank you for completing the Health Care Access and Utilization survey. The information you have shared may contribute to helping researchers improve the health of generations to come.

Sources

1. National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)