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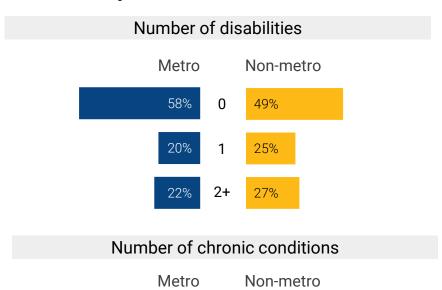
Health Status and Access to Care Among Medicare Beneficiaries Living in the Community by Metropolitan Residence Status

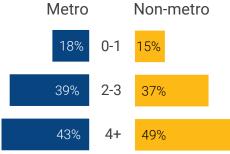


This infographic compares health status and access to care among Medicare beneficiaries who lived in metropolitan (metro) areas and non-metropolitan (non-metro) areas in 2021. Overall, beneficiaries who lived in non-metro areas appeared to have greater health care needs but less access to and utilization of care.



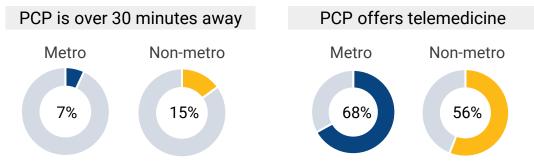
Beneficiaries living in non-metro areas more often had multiple disabilities and multiple chronic conditions.





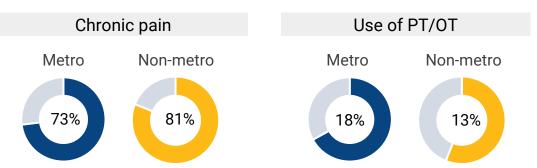


Beneficiaries living in non-metro areas had longer travel times to their primary care provider (PCP) and less access to telemedicine.





Beneficiaries living in non-metro areas had more chronic pain and lower use of physical or occupational therapy (PT/OT) to manage their pain.



The MCBS is a nationally representative survey of Medicare beneficiaries sponsored by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and directed by the CMS Office of Enterprise Data and Analytics (OEDA). The MCBS is authorized by section 1875 (42 USC 139511) of the Social Security Act and is conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The OMB Number for this survey is 0938-0568. This communication was printed, published, or produced and disseminated at U.S. taxpayer expense. Estimates are based on the 2021 Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey (MCBS) Socio-demographic and Health Characteristics of Medicare Beneficiaries Living in the Community by Metropolitan Residence Status Public Use File (PUF) and represent the population of beneficiaries who were ever enrolled in Medicare in 2021 and completed an interview in Fall 2021, Winter 2022, or Summer 2022. The dataset includes 14,227 beneficiaries (weighted N = 64,914,000). Please refer to the PUF and accompanying technical documentation for details on data and methods: https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Research/MCBS/Data-Tables.