

Table 7-1 Beneficiary's Satisfaction with Their Ability to Understand the Medicare Program, by Demographic, Socioeconomic, and Health Characteristics, 2001

Community Residents¹

Beneficiary Characteristic	Total	How Much Do You Know About the Medicare Program?			Are You Satisfied with the Availability of Information on the Medicare Program?	
		Most/All	Some	Little/None	Satisfied	Unsatisfied
All Beneficiaries	34,929	15,252	10,584	9,093	31,007	1,857
	166	182	186	189	229.9	98.2
Medicare Status²						
Aged						
65 - 74 years	46.41	47.37	47.33	43.74	46.31	46.22
	0.36	0.65	0.91	0.85	0.40	2.27
75 - 84 years	31.04	34.02	29.14	28.23	31.81	20.96
	0.33	0.55	0.68	0.69	0.35	1.53
85 years and older	8.74	8.31	8.10	10.23	8.81	6.13
	0.16	0.29	0.36	0.41	0.18	0.69
Disabled						
Under 45 years	3.71	2.78	3.91	5.03	3.46	6.36
	0.11	0.14	0.19	0.27	0.11	0.83
45 - 64 years	10.10	7.53	11.51	12.77	9.60	20.33
	0.28	0.42	0.70	0.60	0.30	2.00
Gender						
Male	43.70	44.67	41.56	44.56	43.22	46.43
	0.31	0.57	0.77	0.89	0.34	2.35
Female	56.30	55.33	58.44	55.44	56.78	53.57
	0.31	0.57	0.77	0.89	0.34	2.35
Living Arrangement						
Lives alone	30.44	30.32	29.59	31.62	30.40	24.80
	0.50	0.68	0.92	0.95	0.50	1.96
With spouse	52.51	55.84	52.13	47.35	52.78	54.20
	0.50	0.71	0.77	1.05	0.52	2.19
With children	9.53	7.54	10.47	11.77	9.51	11.22
	0.25	0.29	0.53	0.49	0.28	1.07
With others	7.52	6.29	7.81	9.26	7.31	9.78
	0.24	0.32	0.44	0.50	0.24	1.13

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		Most/All	Some	Little/None	Satisfied	Unsatisfied
All Beneficiaries	34,929	15,252	10,584	9,093	31,007	1,857
	166	182	186	189	229.9	98.2
Race/Ethnicity						
White non-Hispanic	79.15	85.66	76.96	70.77	79.63	72.80
	0.50	0.56	0.82	0.87	0.55	1.78
Black non-Hispanic	9.15	5.88	10.60	12.96	9.11	12.40
	0.22	0.36	0.51	0.52	0.25	1.24
Hispanic	7.69	5.13	8.59	10.94	7.38	10.02
	0.44	0.42	0.67	0.71	0.46	1.41
Other	4.01	3.34	3.85	5.33	3.88	4.79*
	0.26	0.27	0.44	0.51	0.26	0.86
Income						
\$5,000 or less	3.69	2.92	3.44	5.28	3.67	2.57*
	0.18	0.25	0.34	0.41	0.20	0.63
\$5,001 - \$10,000	17.19	12.44	17.84	24.41	16.93	21.85
	0.37	0.44	0.62	0.80	0.40	1.74
\$10,001 - \$15,000	17.10	14.57	18.03	20.27	16.82	19.05
	0.36	0.43	0.57	0.76	0.35	1.76
\$15,001 - \$20,000	12.22	12.47	11.82	12.28	12.34	12.72
	0.30	0.51	0.54	0.54	0.31	1.42
\$20,001 - \$25,000	10.92	11.45	11.64	9.21	11.06	8.37
	0.29	0.42	0.55	0.45	0.31	1.04
\$25,001 - \$30,000	9.20	9.77	9.89	7.42	9.29	7.39*
	0.22	0.40	0.53	0.57	0.22	1.24
\$30,001 - \$35,000	6.11	6.74	6.06	5.09	6.16	6.40*
	0.23	0.41	0.41	0.40	0.24	1.15
\$35,001 - \$40,000	5.75	6.30	6.08	4.43	5.76	6.22*
	0.22	0.32	0.45	0.44	0.23	1.31
More than \$40,000	17.82	23.33	15.21	11.61	17.99	15.42
	0.44	0.68	0.64	0.79	0.45	2.37

Table 7-1 Beneficiary's Satisfaction with Their Ability to Understand the Medicare Program, by Demographic, Socioeconomic, and Health Characteristics, 2001

Community Residents¹

Beneficiary Characteristic	Total	How Much Do You Know About the Medicare Program?			Are You Satisfied with the Availability of Information on the Medicare Program?	
		Most/All	Some	Little/None	Satisfied	Unsatisfied
All Beneficiaries	34,929	15,252	10,584	9,093	31,007	1,857
	166	182	186	189	229.9	98.2
Schooling						
0 - 8 years	15.15	10.27	14.07	24.62	14.75	16.17
	0.30	0.45	0.57	0.68	0.36	1.26
9 - 12 years (no diploma)	16.48	13.80	16.74	20.66	16.31	18.10
	0.41	0.52	0.73	0.74	0.41	1.84
High school graduate	29.28	29.00	30.86	27.90	29.79	25.86
	0.55	0.69	0.94	0.88	0.57	2.21
Voc/tech/bus/etc.	6.53	7.30	6.32	5.48	6.56	6.37
	0.22	0.40	0.43	0.38	0.24	1.00
Some college	14.79	17.07	15.21	10.46	14.72	16.64
	0.37	0.56	0.58	0.57	0.36	1.65
Any college degree	17.77	22.56	16.80	10.88	17.87	16.86
	0.40	0.64	0.69	0.51	0.44	1.70
Health Status						
Excellent	14.57	18.04	12.17	11.56	14.76	9.79
	0.33	0.55	0.62	0.60	0.36	1.50
Very Good	25.95	28.41	26.67	20.98	26.45	18.41
	0.37	0.66	0.77	0.75	0.41	1.64
Good	31.44	31.40	31.66	31.26	31.78	26.96
	0.44	0.66	0.84	0.82	0.44	2.12
Fair	19.14	15.81	20.57	23.07	18.79	25.07
	0.38	0.56	0.71	0.82	0.39	1.95
Poor	8.89	6.34	8.93	13.14	8.21	19.77
	0.26	0.37	0.57	0.56	0.30	1.91

Table 7-1 Beneficiary's Satisfaction with Their Ability to Understand the Medicare Program, by Demographic, Socioeconomic, and Health Characteristics, 2001

Community Residents¹

Beneficiary Characteristic	Total	How Much Do You Know About the Medicare Program?			Are You Satisfied with the Availability of Information on the Medicare Program?	
		Most/All	Some	Little/None	Satisfied	Unsatisfied
All Beneficiaries	34,929	15,252	10,584	9,093	31,007	1,857
	<i>166</i>	<i>182</i>	<i>186</i>	<i>189</i>	<i>229.9</i>	<i>98.2</i>
Functional Limitation						
None	54.84	60.30	52.78	48.07	55.75	42.53
	<i>0.49</i>	<i>0.69</i>	<i>0.94</i>	<i>0.99</i>	<i>0.54</i>	<i>2.23</i>
IADL only	15.66	14.27	16.98	16.45	15.63	14.04
	<i>0.33</i>	<i>0.47</i>	<i>0.67</i>	<i>0.69</i>	<i>0.35</i>	<i>1.34</i>
One to two ADLs	19.69	17.86	20.09	22.29	19.29	26.22
	<i>0.42</i>	<i>0.53</i>	<i>0.76</i>	<i>0.85</i>	<i>0.42</i>	<i>1.90</i>
Three to six ADLs	9.82	7.58	10.15	13.19	9.33	17.20
	<i>0.29</i>	<i>0.40</i>	<i>0.53</i>	<i>0.56</i>	<i>0.32</i>	<i>1.62</i>
Metropolitan Area Resident						
Yes	24.01	22.96	23.88	25.95	24.53	21.41
	<i>0.26</i>	<i>0.64</i>	<i>0.62</i>	<i>1.12</i>	<i>0.34</i>	<i>2.60</i>
No	75.99	77.04	76.12	74.05	75.47	78.59
	<i>0.26</i>	<i>0.64</i>	<i>0.62</i>	<i>1.12</i>	<i>0.34</i>	<i>2.60</i>

Source: Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey

Note: Standard errors are shaded and in italics. See Appendix A for additional information on standard errors. See Appendix B for definitions of terms and variables.

1 The term *community residents* includes beneficiaries who resided in the community at the time of the round 25 interview (fall 1999), and beneficiaries who resided in the community at the time of the round 22 interview (fall 1998) who died prior to the round 25 interview.

2 Medicare beneficiaries with end-stage renal disease (ESRD) are included within the subgroups of "Aged" and "Disabled."

Table 7-2 Where Medicare Beneficiaries Find Information About the Medicare Program, by Demographic, Socioeconomic, and Health Characteristics, 2001

Community Residents¹

Beneficiary Characteristic	Total	Tried to Get Info. about Medicare	Information Not Found	Where Beneficiaries Found Information			
				Newspapers\ Magazines\ Television	Medicare Publications/ Handbook	Medicare Office (including 800 Number)	Doctor's Office, HMO, Hospital
All Beneficiaries	34,929	8,376	327	479	1,735	1,547	2,474
	166	225	38	48	92	86	92
Medicare Status²							
Aged							
65 - 74 years	46.41	51.73	35.55*	59.89	54.41	47.14	51.28
	0.36	1.01	5.76	3.96	2.10	2.37	1.80
75 - 84 years	31.04	26.68	25.75*	25.23	24.45	25.88	25.02
	0.33	0.82	3.50	3.38	1.77	2.26	1.35
85 years and older	8.74	5.92	8.43*	4.57*	5.03	4.72*	5.97
	0.16	0.38	2.32	1.36	0.72	0.85	0.70
Disabled							
Under 45 years	3.71	3.60	4.58*	2.24*	3.77	4.88	4.47
	0.11	0.29	1.66	1.10	0.67	0.68	0.58
45 - 64 years	10.10	12.07	25.69*	8.07*	12.33	17.42	13.29
	0.28	0.68	6.47	1.56	1.42	2.13	1.66
Gender							
Male	43.70	43.61	53.78	35.60	40.63	42.63	42.77
	0.31	0.98	4.27	3.91	2.06	2.18	1.69
Female	56.30	56.39	46.22	64.40	59.37	57.37	57.23
	0.31	0.98	4.27	3.91	2.06	2.18	1.69
Living Arrangement							
Lives alone	30.44	26.70	28.50*	27.48	27.19	23.29	28.20
	0.50	0.88	4.43	2.94	1.86	1.99	1.73
With spouse	52.51	58.67	50.11	52.26	57.14	61.20	55.98
	0.50	0.87	4.90	4.05	2.12	2.19	1.69
With children	9.53	8.48	11.82*	14.99*	9.13	8.38*	8.36
	0.25	0.49	2.85	2.66	1.18	1.39	1.11
With others	7.52	6.15	9.57*	5.26*	6.54	7.12	7.46
	0.24	0.46	2.67	1.52	1.06	1.20	0.99

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Community Residents¹

Beneficiary Characteristic	Total	Tried to Get Info. about Medicare	Information Not Found	Where Beneficiaries Found Information			
				Newspapers\ Magazines\ Television	Medicare Publications/ Handbook	Medicare Office (including 800 Number)	Doctor's Office, HMO, Hospital
All Beneficiaries	34,929	8,376	327	479	1,735	1,547	2,474
	166	225	38	48	92	86	92
Race/Ethnicity							
White non-Hispanic	79.15	82.40	78.57	77.07	76.34	83.40	83.13
	0.50	0.73	4.54	3.04	1.70	1.76	1.25
Black non-Hispanic	9.15	7.63	13.66*	7.67*	9.07	7.81	7.33
	0.22	0.48	4.02	2.41	1.03	1.09	0.90
Hispanic	7.69	5.58	4.17*	12.69*	8.23	5.71*	5.36
	0.44	0.47	1.56	1.89	1.20	1.18	0.66
Other	4.01	4.39	3.60*	2.57*	6.37*	3.08*	4.18*
	0.26	0.46	1.93	1.01	1.20	0.84	0.75
Income							
\$5,000 or less	3.69	2.83	3.09*	2.22*	2.95*	3.15*	2.00*
	0.18	0.34	1.65	1.45	0.81	0.85	0.41
\$5,001 - \$10,000	17.19	12.52	12.97*	21.06*	14.84	12.39	13.31
	0.37	0.59	3.39	3.13	1.58	1.44	0.91
\$10,001 - \$15,000	17.10	14.94	23.87*	15.62*	17.07	12.07	17.76
	0.36	0.67	3.93	2.41	1.60	1.52	1.48
\$15,001 - \$20,000	12.22	12.76	12.30*	11.45*	10.48	15.67	12.43
	0.30	0.66	3.36	2.82	1.43	2.00	1.34
\$20,001 - \$25,000	10.92	11.04	6.86*	10.22*	11.73	10.58	10.71
	0.29	0.61	2.11	2.46	1.31	1.43	1.08
\$25,001 - \$30,000	9.20	10.35	6.25*	8.94*	10.70	10.29	9.88
	0.22	0.61	2.81	2.43	1.26	1.40	1.07
\$30,001 - \$35,000	6.11	7.52	5.26*	8.20*	7.95	7.82*	8.01
	0.23	0.53	2.67	2.44	1.28	1.28	1.14
\$35,001 - \$40,000	5.75	6.65	4.18*	3.71*	4.75*	6.33*	5.75*
	0.22	0.46	2.20	1.42	0.66	1.39	0.91
More than \$40,000	17.82	21.40	25.21*	18.58*	19.53	21.70	20.15
	0.44	0.97	5.12	3.68	1.57	2.19	1.47

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All Beneficiaries	34,929	8,376	327	479	1,735	1,547	2,474
	166	225	38	48	92	86	92
Schooling							
0 - 8 years	15.15	10.49	10.89*	11.55*	10.23	10.79	11.03
	0.30	0.57	2.46	2.21	1.04	1.44	1.00
9 - 12 years (no diploma)	16.48	14.19	9.98*	13.36*	10.72	15.54	16.31
	0.41	0.67	1.93	2.88	1.24	1.47	1.33
High school graduate	29.28	26.86	30.23*	27.55*	29.86	26.02	24.01
	0.55	0.92	5.27	4.46	1.84	1.99	1.36
Voc/tech/bus/etc.	6.53	8.09	9.43*	4.01*	7.41*	9.85	7.78
	0.22	0.56	3.94	1.28	1.12	1.26	0.90
Some college	14.79	17.85	15.56*	20.64*	20.15	17.68	19.82
	0.37	0.75	4.36	3.55	1.73	1.88	1.31
Any college degree	17.77	22.52	23.91*	22.90*	21.63	20.11	21.05
	0.40	0.90	4.51	3.65	1.70	2.00	1.55
Health Status							
Excellent	14.57	14.71	7.93*	14.29*	12.90	11.99	13.26
	0.33	0.79	2.16	2.76	1.40	1.51	1.26
Very Good	25.95	26.28	15.97*	21.72*	27.62	23.83	24.98
	0.37	0.99	4.01	3.27	1.60	1.81	1.76
Good	31.44	30.22	41.64*	40.63	30.57	28.32	31.02
	0.44	0.91	5.87	4.04	2.11	2.27	1.70
Fair	19.14	19.05	20.88*	17.68*	19.09	20.49	19.56
	0.38	0.75	3.92	4.16	1.80	1.77	1.36
Poor	8.89	9.74	13.57*	5.68*	9.82	15.37	11.18
	0.26	0.55	3.83	1.79	1.33	1.66	1.15

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All Beneficiaries	34,929	8,376	327	479	1,735	1,547	2,474
	<i>166</i>	<i>225</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>92</i>	<i>86</i>	<i>92</i>
Functional Limitation							
None	54.84	53.52	43.94*	48.14	51.76	45.02	51.37
	<i>0.49</i>	<i>0.98</i>	<i>5.47</i>	<i>4.24</i>	<i>2.18</i>	<i>2.32</i>	<i>1.62</i>
IADL only	15.66	13.87	14.08*	19.49*	16.08	16.22	12.41
	<i>0.33</i>	<i>0.64</i>	<i>3.42</i>	<i>3.76</i>	<i>1.79</i>	<i>1.66</i>	<i>1.09</i>
One to two ADLs	19.69	21.17	28.25*	21.10*	20.92	25.47	23.51
	<i>0.42</i>	<i>0.76</i>	<i>4.44</i>	<i>3.70</i>	<i>1.69</i>	<i>2.16</i>	<i>1.59</i>
Three to six ADLs	9.82	11.44	13.73*	11.28*	11.24	13.29	12.72
	<i>0.29</i>	<i>0.58</i>	<i>3.55</i>	<i>2.35</i>	<i>1.12</i>	<i>1.42</i>	<i>1.11</i>
Metropolitan Area Resident							
Yes	24.01	21.61	21.35*	19.95*	23.38	20.53	21.43
	<i>0.26</i>	<i>0.92</i>	<i>3.18</i>	<i>3.96</i>	<i>2.01</i>	<i>2.03</i>	<i>1.35</i>
No	75.99	78.39	78.65	80.05	76.62	79.47	78.57
	<i>0.26</i>	<i>0.92</i>	<i>3.18</i>	<i>3.96</i>	<i>2.01</i>	<i>2.03</i>	<i>1.35</i>

Source: Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey

Note: Standard errors are shaded and in italics. See Appendix A for additional information on standard errors. See Appendix B for definitions of terms and variables.

¹ The term *community residents* includes beneficiaries who resided in the community at the time of the round 25 interview (fall 1999), and beneficiaries who resided in the community at the time of the round 22 interview (fall 1998) who died prior to the round 25 interview.

² Medicare beneficiaries with end-stage renal disease (ESRD) are included within the subgroups of "Aged" and "Disabled."