

Table 7.1 Beneficiary's Satisfaction with Their Ability to Understand the Medicare Program, by Demographic, Socioeconomic, and Health Characteristics, 2004

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	36,381	14,941	11,490	9,950	32,274	2,098
	158	223	200	194	183	101
Medicare Status²						
Aged						
65 - 74 years	44.87	45.95	45.31	42.73	44.69	45.80
	0.33	0.76	0.76	0.89	0.37	2.00
75 - 84 years	30.67	32.66	29.98	28.47	31.44	22.24
	0.29	0.71	0.67	0.65	0.34	1.34
85 years and older	9.03	9.41	8.10	9.54	9.28	5.62
	0.19	0.30	0.29	0.45	0.21	0.66
Disabled						
Under 45 years	3.70	2.79	4.11	4.57	3.48	6.69
	0.08	0.15	0.18	0.25	0.10	0.69
45 - 64 years	11.74	9.19	12.49	14.69	11.11	19.65
	0.28	0.43	0.63	0.66	0.32	1.77
Gender						
Male	44.78	45.93	42.62	45.54	44.36	45.88
	0.34	0.64	0.71	0.95	0.40	1.90
Female	55.22	54.07	57.38	54.46	55.64	54.12
	0.34	0.64	0.71	0.95	0.40	1.90
Living Arrangement						
Lives alone	29.75	28.94	29.50	31.25	29.76	29.84
	0.52	0.65	0.94	0.91	0.57	1.71
With spouse	52.30	55.55	51.84	47.95	52.59	48.93
	0.53	0.70	0.97	0.97	0.59	2.05
With children	10.14	8.77	10.77	11.48	10.08	11.22
	0.31	0.42	0.61	0.59	0.31	1.52
With others	7.80	6.73	7.89	9.32	7.57	10.01
	0.27	0.35	0.45	0.60	0.27	1.49

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		Most/All	Some	Little/None	Satisfied	Unsatisfied
All Beneficiaries	36,381	14,941	11,490	9,950	32,274	2,098
	158	223	200	194	183	101
Race/Ethnicity						
White non-Hispanic	78.19	84.53	76.78	70.28	78.71	73.46
	0.61	0.85	0.92	0.98	0.62	1.69
Black non-Hispanic	9.55	6.13	12.14	11.68	9.37	12.10
	0.21	0.31	0.59	0.62	0.24	1.31
Hispanic	8.02	5.90	7.16	12.21	7.82	9.50
	0.49	0.65	0.52	0.75	0.47	1.12
Other	4.24	3.44	3.92	5.83	4.10	4.93*
	0.31	0.29	0.42	0.63	0.30	0.83
Income						
\$5,000 or less	4.12	3.65	3.93	5.05	4.10	4.62*
	0.24	0.39	0.33	0.43	0.25	0.91
\$5,001 - \$10,000	15.69	11.91	16.22	20.77	15.58	15.78
	0.39	0.62	0.64	0.81	0.41	1.33
\$10,001 - \$15,000	16.05	13.65	16.21	19.48	15.78	18.05
	0.36	0.47	0.57	0.69	0.39	1.48
\$15,001 - \$20,000	11.60	11.35	11.50	12.09	11.46	15.09
	0.35	0.48	0.62	0.58	0.38	1.45
\$20,001 - \$25,000	10.60	10.56	11.83	9.25	10.80	9.87
	0.30	0.55	0.51	0.57	0.33	1.10
\$25,001 - \$30,000	9.43	10.71	9.19	7.80	9.81	5.92*
	0.31	0.56	0.51	0.53	0.34	1.08
\$30,001 - \$35,000	6.33	6.77	6.28	5.72	6.42	6.07*
	0.28	0.42	0.46	0.49	0.31	1.13
\$35,001 - \$40,000	6.51	7.47	6.71	4.86	6.62	5.17*
	0.30	0.52	0.52	0.42	0.33	1.08
More than \$40,000	19.65	23.94	18.12	14.98	19.43	19.42
	0.42	0.73	0.70	0.65	0.44	1.77

Table 7.1 Beneficiary's Satisfaction with Their Ability to Understand the Medicare Program, by Demographic, Socioeconomic, and Health Characteristics, 2004

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	36,381	14,941	11,490	9,950	32,274	2,098
	158	223	200	194	183	101
Schooling						
0 - 8 years	12.85	8.58	11.97	20.32	12.57	14.75
	0.29	0.45	0.53	0.88	0.31	1.65
9 - 12 years (no diploma)	15.39	13.25	16.50	17.33	15.43	16.44
	0.31	0.50	0.62	0.73	0.36	1.36
High school graduate	30.38	29.93	32.54	28.56	31.02	23.30
	0.51	0.68	0.82	1.04	0.53	2.28
Voc/tech/bus/etc.	6.94	7.17	7.18	6.32	6.87	8.91
	0.30	0.41	0.49	0.53	0.31	1.18
Some college	14.87	16.91	13.84	12.99	14.84	14.30
	0.32	0.58	0.56	0.62	0.34	1.51
Any college degree	19.57	24.17	17.97	14.48	19.27	22.30
	0.47	0.77	0.75	0.72	0.49	2.34
Health Status						
Excellent	15.77	19.17	13.61	13.15	15.82	12.72
	0.42	0.57	0.67	0.59	0.41	1.51
Very Good	26.17	29.51	26.02	21.31	26.78	20.34
	0.44	0.64	0.84	0.78	0.44	1.79
Good	31.44	30.57	33.13	30.79	31.51	28.41
	0.40	0.70	0.81	0.84	0.47	1.97
Fair	18.10	14.71	18.25	23.03	17.89	20.36
	0.40	0.56	0.68	0.84	0.44	1.68
Poor	8.52	6.04	8.99	11.71	8.00	18.17
	0.30	0.39	0.47	0.62	0.32	1.62

Table 7.1 Beneficiary's Satisfaction with Their Ability to Understand the Medicare Program, by Demographic, Socioeconomic, and Health Characteristics, 2004

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	36,381	14,941	11,490	9,950	32,274	2,098
	<i>158</i>	<i>223</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>194</i>	<i>183</i>	<i>101</i>
Functional Limitation						
None	55.14	60.62	53.31	49.04	55.87	44.69
	<i>0.58</i>	<i>0.82</i>	<i>0.88</i>	<i>0.87</i>	<i>0.61</i>	<i>2.39</i>
IADL only	15.97	14.40	17.04	17.08	15.91	15.13
	<i>0.37</i>	<i>0.45</i>	<i>0.66</i>	<i>0.70</i>	<i>0.41</i>	<i>1.42</i>
One to two ADLs	20.49	18.69	20.75	22.89	20.10	26.49
	<i>0.43</i>	<i>0.60</i>	<i>0.74</i>	<i>0.79</i>	<i>0.47</i>	<i>2.07</i>
Three to six ADLs	8.41	6.30	8.90	10.99	8.12	13.70
	<i>0.38</i>	<i>0.39</i>	<i>0.57</i>	<i>0.60</i>	<i>0.39</i>	<i>1.41</i>
Metropolitan Area Resident						
Yes	76.02	75.20	75.78	77.54	75.15	79.55
	<i>0.23</i>	<i>0.74</i>	<i>0.90</i>	<i>0.86</i>	<i>0.27</i>	<i>1.80</i>
No	23.98	24.80	24.22	22.46	24.85	20.45
	<i>0.23</i>	<i>0.74</i>	<i>0.90</i>	<i>0.86</i>	<i>0.27</i>	<i>1.80</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 37 interview (fall 2003), and beneficiaries who resided in the community at the time of the round 34 interview (fall 2002) who died prior to the round 37 interview.

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

Table 7.2 Beneficiary's Satisfaction with Their Ability to Understand the Medicare Program, by Demographic, and Health Characteristics, 2004

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	36,381	8,496	254	673	2,289	1,591	2,246
	158	187	34	49	100	82	99
Medicare Status²							
Aged							
65 - 74 years	44.87	47.22	55.53*	43.95	49.30	44.30	43.99
	0.33	0.96	6.25	3.62	2.10	2.23	1.74
75 - 84 years	30.67	26.86	20.06*	31.54	26.14	21.49	27.09
	0.29	0.80	4.32	3.42	1.20	1.88	1.56
85 years and older	9.03	5.80	4.02*	5.23*	4.96	5.80*	6.09
	0.19	0.33	1.52	0.97	0.67	0.85	0.73
Disabled							
Under 45 years	3.70	4.22	5.98*	2.45*	3.36	6.06	4.52
	0.08	0.23	2.19	1.03	0.52	0.78	0.54
45 - 64 years	11.74	15.91	14.40*	16.83*	16.25	22.39	18.35
	0.28	0.87	5.13	3.11	1.78	1.92	1.78
Gender							
Male	44.78	43.19	40.50*	41.43	44.15	38.64	41.06
	0.34	0.96	6.37	3.37	1.82	2.38	2.09
Female	55.22	56.81	59.50*	58.57	55.85	61.36	58.94
	0.34	0.96	6.37	3.37	1.82	2.38	2.09
Living Arrangement							
Lives alone	29.75	25.71	21.79*	29.92	23.39	23.94	26.73
	0.52	0.91	5.13	3.59	1.85	1.62	1.66
With spouse	52.30	57.39	56.79*	53.75	59.40	56.26	55.69
	0.53	1.17	6.23	3.75	1.84	2.28	1.94
With children	10.14	9.85	12.98*	10.73*	9.42	11.39	11.02
	0.31	0.62	4.23	2.18	1.27	1.48	1.38
With others	7.80	7.06	8.45*	5.61*	7.80	8.40	6.56
	0.27	0.54	3.06	1.43	1.20	1.47	0.90

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				Newspapers\ Magazines\ Television	Medicare Publications/ Handbook	Medicare Office (including 800 Number)	Doctor's Office, HMO, Hospital
All Beneficiaries	36,381	8,496	254	673	2,289	1,591	2,246
	158	187	34	49	100	82	99
Race/Ethnicity							
White non-Hispanic	78.19	77.92	76.27	67.22	76.32	76.03	73.21
	0.61	1.07	5.61	2.90	1.52	2.15	1.61
Black non-Hispanic	9.55	9.49	11.31*	11.26*	9.64	10.71	11.43
	0.21	0.77	4.27	2.45	1.22	1.47	1.28
Hispanic	8.02	8.88	9.98*	18.95	9.64	8.47*	11.11
	0.49	0.66	3.83	1.74	1.05	1.52	1.35
Other	4.24	3.71	2.44*	2.56*	4.40*	4.79*	4.25*
	0.31	0.36	1.57	0.97	0.72	1.01	0.92
Income							
\$5,000 or less	4.12	3.69	3.02*	2.75*	3.78*	4.38*	4.63*
	0.24	0.37	1.76	0.95	0.63	1.06	0.93
\$5,001 - \$10,000	15.69	13.92	18.76*	17.54*	14.23	15.42	15.23
	0.39	0.72	5.17	2.66	1.48	1.69	1.30
\$10,001 - \$15,000	16.05	14.72	20.33*	13.58*	15.14	16.65	14.83
	0.36	0.62	5.58	2.45	1.52	1.97	1.41
\$15,001 - \$20,000	11.60	11.47	11.79*	14.46*	12.95	11.22	12.96
	0.35	0.62	4.07	2.68	1.30	1.48	1.19
\$20,001 - \$25,000	10.60	10.45	5.11*	9.40*	9.80	11.34	11.25
	0.30	0.76	1.59	1.76	1.22	1.66	1.36
\$25,001 - \$30,000	9.43	9.16	6.85*	5.68*	8.16	9.99	8.43
	0.31	0.58	3.10	1.81	0.84	1.43	1.03
\$30,001 - \$35,000	6.33	6.63	7.95*	6.83*	6.93*	7.27*	7.30
	0.28	0.49	3.48	1.79	1.06	1.16	1.06
\$35,001 - \$40,000	6.51	6.33	0.70*	6.19*	5.82*	6.34*	5.00*
	0.30	0.60	0.51	1.72	1.28	1.16	0.91
More than \$40,000	19.65	23.63	25.49*	23.56*	23.18	17.39	20.37
	0.42	0.83	6.30	3.10	1.72	1.83	1.57

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All Beneficiaries	36,381	8,496	254	673	2,289	1,591	2,246
	158	187	34	49	100	82	99
Schooling							
0 - 8 years	12.85	10.40	10.80*	15.10*	11.38	9.87	10.97
	0.29	0.68	3.58	1.86	1.45	1.41	1.09
9 - 12 years (no diploma)	15.39	12.53	19.04*	9.95*	13.50	14.16	12.22
	0.31	0.67	5.34	2.20	1.39	1.70	1.24
High school graduate	30.38	27.95	18.80*	26.26	28.29	28.16	27.40
	0.51	1.12	4.54	3.52	2.18	2.14	1.76
Voc/tech/bus/etc.	6.94	8.73	10.31*	6.56*	8.66	9.40	6.63
	0.30	0.63	4.40	1.80	1.14	1.34	0.99
Some college	14.87	15.79	18.64*	16.22*	14.33	16.23	16.96
	0.32	0.64	4.35	2.82	1.23	1.44	1.38
Any college degree	19.57	24.60	22.41*	25.91	23.84	22.19	25.83
	0.47	1.05	5.85	3.38	2.08	2.27	1.71
Health Status							
Excellent	15.77	13.68	10.48*	9.53*	10.12	11.02	13.04
	0.42	0.68	3.55	2.08	1.12	1.45	1.25
Very Good	26.17	25.72	27.07*	23.10	28.22	21.68	24.34
	0.44	0.89	6.10	2.48	1.71	2.30	1.52
Good	31.44	30.31	23.93*	32.60	32.51	30.54	28.71
	0.40	0.91	5.64	3.47	1.68	2.24	1.69
Fair	18.10	18.88	23.51*	23.87	18.52	19.86	23.34
	0.40	0.88	6.05	2.52	1.60	1.83	1.74
Poor	8.52	11.41	15.01*	10.90*	10.63	16.90	10.57
	0.30	0.84	4.34	2.70	1.58	1.97	1.47

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	<i>158</i>	<i>187</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>49</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>82</i>	<i>99</i>
Functional Limitation							
None	55.14	48.84	45.81*	43.84	48.32	41.03	46.13
	<i>0.58</i>	<i>1.07</i>	<i>6.05</i>	<i>3.95</i>	<i>2.02</i>	<i>2.36</i>	<i>2.22</i>
IADL only	15.97	16.03	17.67*	16.00*	18.18	19.14	18.14
	<i>0.37</i>	<i>0.75</i>	<i>4.93</i>	<i>2.31</i>	<i>1.89</i>	<i>1.90</i>	<i>1.78</i>
One to two ADLs	20.49	24.26	22.29*	28.28	23.72	26.35	22.68
	<i>0.43</i>	<i>0.99</i>	<i>4.85</i>	<i>3.87</i>	<i>2.10</i>	<i>2.24</i>	<i>1.62</i>
Three to six ADLs	8.41	10.87	14.23*	11.88*	9.78	13.48	13.05
	<i>0.38</i>	<i>0.79</i>	<i>4.16</i>	<i>1.71</i>	<i>1.03</i>	<i>1.54</i>	<i>1.44</i>
Metropolitan Area Resident							
Yes	76.02	77.08	75.15	79.66	74.45	80.45	79.83
	<i>0.23</i>	<i>0.88</i>	<i>6.31</i>	<i>3.01</i>	<i>1.54</i>	<i>2.03</i>	<i>1.67</i>
No	23.98	22.92	24.85*	20.34	25.55	19.55	20.17
	<i>0.23</i>	<i>0.88</i>	<i>6.31</i>	<i>3.01</i>	<i>1.54</i>	<i>2.03</i>	<i>1.67</i>

Source: Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey

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¹ The term *community residents* includes beneficiaries who resided in the community at the time of the round 37 interview (fall 2003), and beneficiaries who resided in the community at the time of the round 34 interview (fall 2002) who died prior to the round 37 interview.

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