

Table 7.1 Beneficiary's Satisfaction with Their Ability to Understand the Medicare Program, by Demographic, Socioeconomic, and Health Characteristics, 2009

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	37,303	13,557	12,673	11,073	31,546	2,978
	3,418	1,152	1,215	1,114	2,810	360
Medicare Status²						
Aged						
65 - 74 years	44.15	44.73	44.27	43.31	43.76	45.88
	2.66	2.65	2.83	2.78	2.64	3.37
75 - 84 years	29.13	31.56	28.32	27.08	29.86	25.59
	2.31	2.23	2.37	2.51	2.31	2.88
85 years and older	11.04	11.84	10.96	10.16	11.45	6.88
	1.04	1.11	1.09	1.08	1.06	1.02
Disabled						
Under 45 years	3.67	2.91	3.38	4.93	3.43	5.59
	0.29	0.29	0.31	0.44	0.28	0.75
45 - 64 years	12.01	8.97	13.07	14.51	11.50	16.06
	0.50	0.67	0.64	0.85	0.56	1.46
Gender						
Male	45.02	45.44	43.98	45.69	44.80	45.65
	0.50	0.75	0.83	0.98	0.51	1.89
Female	54.98	54.56	56.02	54.31	55.20	54.35
	0.50	0.75	0.83	0.98	0.51	1.89
Living Arrangement						
Lives alone	30.58	30.36	29.32	32.30	30.26	30.52
	0.76	1.07	0.96	0.92	0.82	1.72
With spouse	51.30	54.10	52.18	46.86	51.60	50.60
	0.79	1.08	1.10	1.12	0.85	2.03
With children	10.08	8.80	9.97	11.77	10.18	10.30
	0.37	0.48	0.58	0.67	0.40	1.15
With others	8.04	6.74	8.54	9.06	7.96	8.58
	0.32	0.41	0.49	0.60	0.34	1.02

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All Beneficiaries	37,303	13,557	12,673	11,073	31,546	2,978
	3,418	1,152	1,215	1,114	2,810	360
Race/Ethnicity						
White non-Hispanic	77.53	82.60	76.18	72.87	78.09	74.49
	0.59	0.71	0.84	0.96	0.65	1.78
Black non-Hispanic	9.40	7.61	10.84	9.94	9.46	10.66
	0.29	0.49	0.44	0.57	0.33	1.04
Hispanic	8.53	6.13	8.11	11.97	8.05	9.19
	0.34	0.48	0.45	0.67	0.38	1.30
Other	4.54	3.66	4.87	5.22	4.40	5.66*
	0.38	0.42	0.63	0.53	0.38	1.05
Income						
\$5,000 or less	3.51	2.44	3.60	4.71	3.29	4.94*
	0.22	0.26	0.37	0.40	0.24	0.91
\$5,001 - \$10,000	11.52	8.77	11.47	14.95	11.33	14.16
	0.36	0.50	0.56	0.68	0.37	1.19
\$10,001 - \$15,000	14.20	11.81	13.64	17.75	14.08	15.33
	0.43	0.61	0.56	0.73	0.40	1.43
\$15,001 - \$20,000	10.89	9.72	10.88	12.34	10.59	11.59
	0.35	0.48	0.58	0.66	0.38	1.38
\$20,001 - \$25,000	10.04	9.01	11.41	9.74	10.05	11.50
	0.33	0.44	0.59	0.57	0.35	1.08
\$25,001 - \$30,000	9.37	10.14	9.04	8.80	9.39	8.18
	0.32	0.57	0.53	0.62	0.35	1.05
\$30,001 - \$35,000	9.14	9.60	9.20	8.52	9.25	8.73
	0.32	0.50	0.64	0.60	0.35	1.29
\$35,001 - \$40,000	8.58	10.05	8.53	6.84	8.82	7.00
	0.40	0.52	0.62	0.51	0.41	0.87
More than \$40,000	22.75	28.46	22.22	16.37	23.21	18.58
	0.58	0.97	0.84	0.92	0.60	1.59

Table 7.1 Beneficiary's Satisfaction with Their Ability to Understand the Medicare Program, by Demographic, Socioeconomic, and Health Characteristics, 2009

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All Beneficiaries	37,303	13,557	12,673	11,073	31,546	2,978
	3,418	1,152	1,215	1,114	2,810	360
Schooling						
0 - 8 years	9.49	5.84	8.10	15.57	9.17	10.69
	0.39	0.36	0.48	0.82	0.42	1.25
9 - 12 years (no diploma)	13.93	11.01	14.19	17.21	14.11	12.60
	0.36	0.46	0.59	0.67	0.38	1.28
High school graduate	30.13	27.92	30.86	32.00	30.10	29.60
	0.46	0.69	0.83	0.83	0.52	1.70
Voc/tech/bus/etc.	7.13	7.76	6.91	6.62	7.15	7.47
	0.26	0.46	0.44	0.44	0.29	0.89
Some college	16.37	17.14	17.49	14.14	16.26	15.82
	0.37	0.62	0.67	0.64	0.44	1.60
Any college degree	22.95	30.34	22.44	14.46	23.21	23.81
	0.61	0.83	0.95	0.74	0.61	1.92
Health Status						
Excellent	16.14	20.49	13.58	13.73	16.21	11.48
	0.48	0.77	0.75	0.74	0.47	1.25
Very Good	28.15	31.68	28.00	24.01	28.55	24.78
	0.42	0.67	0.84	0.80	0.46	1.85
Good	31.19	28.85	32.84	32.18	31.59	28.39
	0.55	0.79	0.84	0.93	0.59	1.73
Fair	17.42	14.39	18.13	20.32	17.02	22.99
	0.38	0.63	0.64	0.76	0.42	1.83
Poor	7.10	4.60	7.45	9.76	6.63	12.36
	0.32	0.36	0.53	0.55	0.37	1.59

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		Most/All	Some	Little/None	Satisfied	Unsatisfied
All Beneficiaries	37,303	13,557	12,673	11,073	31,546	2,978
	<i>3,418</i>	<i>1,152</i>	<i>1,215</i>	<i>1,114</i>	<i>2,810</i>	<i>360</i>
Functional Limitation						
None	55.07	61.04	53.53	49.54	55.60	47.70
	<i>0.78</i>	<i>1.07</i>	<i>1.02</i>	<i>1.16</i>	<i>0.81</i>	<i>2.21</i>
IADL only	14.91	13.90	15.19	15.82	15.01	15.66
	<i>0.39</i>	<i>0.59</i>	<i>0.72</i>	<i>0.70</i>	<i>0.42</i>	<i>1.10</i>
One to two ADLs	20.49	18.14	21.17	22.58	20.49	22.11
	<i>0.53</i>	<i>0.76</i>	<i>0.76</i>	<i>0.91</i>	<i>0.56</i>	<i>1.69</i>
Three to six ADLs	9.53	6.92	10.11	12.06	8.91	14.52
	<i>0.40</i>	<i>0.47</i>	<i>0.62</i>	<i>0.70</i>	<i>0.40</i>	<i>1.37</i>
Metropolitan Area Resident						
Yes	75.97	76.78	75.99	74.97	75.61	77.46
	<i>0.35</i>	<i>0.81</i>	<i>0.94</i>	<i>0.80</i>	<i>0.48</i>	<i>1.94</i>
No	24.03	23.22	24.01	25.03	24.39	22.54
	<i>0.35</i>	<i>0.81</i>	<i>0.94</i>	<i>0.80</i>	<i>0.48</i>	<i>1.94</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, 2009

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	37,303						
	3,418						
Medicare Status²							
Aged							
65 - 74 years	44.15						
	2.66						
75 - 84 years	29.13						
	2.31						
85 years and older	11.04						
	1.04						
Disabled							
Under 45 years	3.67						
	0.29						
45 - 64 years	12.01						
	0.50						
Gender							
Male	45.02						
	0.50						
Female	54.98						
	0.50						
Living Arrangement							
Lives alone	30.58						
	0.76						
With spouse	51.30						
	0.79						
With children	10.08						
	0.37						
With others	8.04						
	0.32						

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All Beneficiaries	37,303						
	3,418						
Race/Ethnicity							
White non-Hispanic	77.53						
	0.59						
Black non-Hispanic	9.40						
	0.29						
Hispanic	8.53						
	0.34						
Other	4.54						
	0.38						
Income							
\$5,000 or less	3.51						
	0.22						
\$5,001 - \$10,000	11.52						
	0.36						
\$10,001 - \$15,000	14.20						
	0.43						
\$15,001 - \$20,000	10.89						
	0.35						
\$20,001 - \$25,000	10.04						
	0.33						
\$25,001 - \$30,000	9.37						
	0.32						
\$30,001 - \$35,000	9.14						
	0.32						
\$35,001 - \$40,000	8.58						
	0.40						
More than \$40,000	22.75						
	0.58						

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0 - 8 years	9.49						
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9 - 12 years (no diploma)	13.93						
	0.36						
High school graduate	30.13						
	0.46						
Voc/tech/bus/etc.	7.13						
	0.26						
Some college	16.37						
	0.37						
Any college degree	22.95						
	0.61						
Health Status							
Excellent	16.14						
	0.48						
Very Good	28.15						
	0.42						
Good	31.19						
	0.55						
Fair	17.42						
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One to two ADLs	20.49						
	<i>0.53</i>						
Three to six ADLs	9.53						
	<i>0.40</i>						
Metropolitan Area Resident							
Yes	75.97						
	<i>0.35</i>						
No	24.03						
	<i>0.35</i>						

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