

Table 7.1 Beneficiary's Satisfaction with Their Ability to Understand the Medicare Program, by Demographic, Socioeconomic, and Health Characteristics, 2002

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	35,570	15,754	10,876	8,939	31,661	1,769
	167	211	144	185	210	84
Medicare Status²						
Aged						
65 - 74 years	46.15	47.89	46.58	42.55	46.06	44.66
	0.33	0.64	0.82	0.87	0.39	1.78
75 - 84 years	30.86	33.01	28.60	29.82	31.61	21.44
	0.28	0.56	0.60	0.72	0.31	1.55
85 years and older	8.73	8.84	8.16	9.23	8.95	4.66*
	0.18	0.28	0.35	0.42	0.19	0.65
Disabled						
Under 45 years	3.84	2.86	4.07	5.29	3.57	7.25
	0.10	0.16	0.24	0.29	0.12	0.79
45 - 64 years	10.42	7.39	12.59	13.11	9.81	22.00
	0.19	0.38	0.52	0.59	0.22	1.68
Gender						
Male	44.54	44.07	43.59	46.50	43.77	51.17
	0.32	0.61	0.81	0.88	0.36	2.46
Female	55.46	55.93	56.41	53.50	56.23	48.83
	0.32	0.61	0.81	0.88	0.36	2.46
Living Arrangement						
Lives alone	30.42	30.96	29.53	30.56	30.60	24.68
	0.48	0.59	0.79	0.83	0.51	2.36
With spouse	52.48	54.00	53.07	49.10	52.45	54.61
	0.42	0.64	0.69	0.88	0.44	2.85
With children	9.43	8.10	9.59	11.57	9.39	10.52
	0.26	0.32	0.44	0.62	0.28	1.36
With others	7.67	6.94	7.80	8.78	7.56	10.19
	0.23	0.34	0.43	0.49	0.25	1.13

Table 7.1 Beneficiary's Satisfaction with Their Ability to Understand the Medicare Program, by Demographic, Socioeconomic, and Health Characteristics, 2002

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	35,570	15,754	10,876	8,939	31,661	1,769
	167	211	144	185	210	84
Race/Ethnicity						
White non-Hispanic	78.70	84.36	77.72	69.91	79.35	71.70
	0.47	0.59	0.82	0.88	0.44	2.00
Black non-Hispanic	9.43	6.74	10.60	12.76	9.36	13.40
	0.23	0.30	0.57	0.51	0.26	1.62
Hispanic	7.72	5.72	7.90	11.03	7.47	8.91
	0.36	0.48	0.42	0.72	0.31	1.38
Other	4.15	3.18	3.79	6.29	3.81	5.98*
	0.27	0.29	0.48	0.46	0.28	0.82
Income						
\$5,000 or less	3.67	2.82	3.85	4.95	3.53	5.77*
	0.23	0.25	0.38	0.46	0.24	1.31
\$5,001 - \$10,000	16.16	11.48	16.97	23.43	15.93	19.07
	0.32	0.45	0.61	0.83	0.34	1.41
\$10,001 - \$15,000	15.83	14.22	15.53	19.01	15.77	16.71
	0.33	0.49	0.68	0.69	0.35	1.88
\$15,001 - \$20,000	12.35	12.00	13.08	12.09	12.32	13.03
	0.32	0.49	0.58	0.61	0.34	1.68
\$20,001 - \$25,000	11.34	12.34	10.89	10.13	11.43	8.10
	0.31	0.48	0.51	0.55	0.34	1.27
\$25,001 - \$30,000	9.50	10.47	9.63	7.63	9.43	12.02
	0.31	0.48	0.50	0.54	0.33	1.47
\$30,001 - \$35,000	6.27	6.65	6.54	5.25	6.29	6.91*
	0.22	0.38	0.42	0.36	0.21	1.33
\$35,001 - \$40,000	6.34	7.26	6.53	4.47	6.48	5.11*
	0.28	0.40	0.54	0.44	0.31	1.04
More than \$40,000	18.55	22.75	16.98	13.04	18.84	13.29
	0.48	0.71	0.74	0.70	0.49	1.95

Table 7.1 Beneficiary's Satisfaction with Their Ability to Understand the Medicare Program, by Demographic, Socioeconomic, and Health Characteristics, 2002

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	35,570	15,754	10,876	8,939	31,661	1,769
	167	211	144	185	210	84
Schooling						
0 - 8 years	13.93	9.24	13.30	22.99	13.77	13.41
	0.30	0.40	0.70	0.84	0.31	1.31
9 - 12 years (no diploma)	16.22	13.36	17.01	20.31	16.15	20.29
	0.39	0.53	0.65	0.75	0.42	1.74
High school graduate	30.54	31.12	31.66	28.13	30.79	25.01
	0.51	0.59	0.86	0.93	0.54	1.93
Voc/tech/bus/etc.	6.71	7.04	6.95	5.82	6.75	7.88*
	0.25	0.36	0.53	0.44	0.26	1.27
Some college	14.52	16.61	14.07	11.38	14.26	15.64
	0.35	0.58	0.56	0.60	0.39	2.05
Any college degree	18.08	22.63	17.01	11.37	18.28	17.77
	0.44	0.65	0.77	0.65	0.45	1.90
Health Status						
Excellent	15.44	18.50	13.67	12.20	15.62	9.85
	0.39	0.58	0.63	0.73	0.40	1.20
Very Good	26.53	29.92	25.89	21.34	26.98	17.86
	0.43	0.62	0.77	0.77	0.45	1.72
Good	30.72	30.07	31.16	31.33	31.06	29.46
	0.45	0.62	0.86	0.87	0.46	2.21
Fair	18.97	15.71	20.13	23.29	18.82	23.00
	0.37	0.42	0.75	0.84	0.33	2.07
Poor	8.35	5.80	9.15	11.84	7.52	19.83
	0.23	0.35	0.47	0.63	0.22	1.76

Table 7.1 Beneficiary's Satisfaction with Their Ability to Understand the Medicare Program, by Demographic, Socioeconomic, and Health Characteristics, 2002

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	35,570	15,754	10,876	8,939	31,661	1,769
	<i>167</i>	<i>211</i>	<i>144</i>	<i>185</i>	<i>210</i>	<i>84</i>
Functional Limitation						
None	53.89	59.18	51.15	47.88	54.49	43.39
	<i>0.48</i>	<i>0.72</i>	<i>0.85</i>	<i>0.98</i>	<i>0.50</i>	<i>1.98</i>
IADL only	15.75	15.09	16.19	16.37	15.93	16.85
	<i>0.37</i>	<i>0.63</i>	<i>0.60</i>	<i>0.67</i>	<i>0.39</i>	<i>1.89</i>
One to two ADLs	20.81	18.30	22.36	23.33	20.61	23.01
	<i>0.39</i>	<i>0.57</i>	<i>0.75</i>	<i>0.79</i>	<i>0.42</i>	<i>1.84</i>
Three to six ADLs	9.56	7.43	10.30	12.41	8.97	16.75
	<i>0.30</i>	<i>0.32</i>	<i>0.55</i>	<i>0.62</i>	<i>0.30</i>	<i>1.54</i>
Metropolitan Area Resident						
Yes	23.97	22.61	24.54	25.68	24.73	21.96
	<i>0.30</i>	<i>0.68</i>	<i>0.59</i>	<i>1.01</i>	<i>0.39</i>	<i>2.07</i>
No	76.03	77.39	75.46	74.32	75.27	78.04
	<i>0.30</i>	<i>0.68</i>	<i>0.59</i>	<i>1.01</i>	<i>0.39</i>	<i>2.07</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 Beneficiary's Satisfaction with Their Ability to Understand the Medicare Program, by Demographic, and Health Characteristics, 2002

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	35,570	7,978	297	300	1,968	1,302	2,389
	167	186	34	33	91	68	102
Medicare Status²							
Aged							
65 - 74 years	46.15	50.94	47.65*	51.08	50.89	51.14	50.77
	0.33	1.01	4.73	4.72	2.15	3.03	1.57
75 - 84 years	30.86	25.63	22.06*	26.79*	26.98	20.89	24.06
	0.28	0.68	3.57	4.05	1.48	1.86	1.30
85 years and older	8.73	5.75	6.37*	5.21*	5.58	4.17*	5.68
	0.18	0.37	2.22	1.79	0.68	0.74	0.64
Disabled							
Under 45 years	3.84	3.96	4.43*	2.84*	4.16	5.85	5.31
	0.10	0.32	1.69	0.98	0.72	0.88	0.60
45 - 64 years	10.42	13.73	19.66*	14.08*	12.41	17.98	14.20
	0.19	0.66	4.87	3.87	1.27	2.17	1.25
Gender							
Male	44.54	42.61	47.80	51.07	42.74	40.21	41.61
	0.32	1.00	5.30	4.95	1.75	2.58	1.55
Female	55.46	57.39	52.20	48.93	57.26	59.79	58.39
	0.32	1.00	5.30	4.95	1.75	2.58	1.55
Living Arrangement							
Lives alone	30.42	27.54	24.69*	36.23*	28.05	22.26	29.93
	0.48	0.98	4.49	4.69	1.85	2.13	1.98
With spouse	52.48	56.29	59.45	51.53	58.15	58.84	53.65
	0.42	1.03	5.16	3.95	1.98	2.15	2.06
With children	9.43	9.10	10.15*	8.82*	8.34	10.64	8.60
	0.26	0.56	3.13	2.17	0.97	1.43	0.93
With others	7.67	7.06	5.71*	3.42*	5.46	8.26*	7.83
	0.23	0.49	2.53	1.89	0.76	1.35	0.91

Table 7.2 Beneficiary's Satisfaction with Their Ability to Understand the Medicare Program, by Demographic, and Health Characteristics, 2002

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	35,570	7,978	297	300	1,968	1,302	2,389
	167	186	34	33	91	68	102
Race/Ethnicity							
White non-Hispanic	78.70	79.83	74.89	68.00	74.75	77.35	80.69
	0.47	1.02	4.46	5.46	1.98	2.05	1.41
Black non-Hispanic	9.43	7.38	10.04*	3.93*	7.48	12.51	8.14
	0.23	0.53	4.09	1.28	0.83	1.88	0.88
Hispanic	7.72	8.14	9.76*	24.76*	12.37	4.54*	6.73
	0.36	0.88	2.90	5.30	1.72	1.03	1.06
Other	4.15	4.65	5.31*	3.31*	5.40*	5.60*	4.44*
	0.27	0.52	2.19	1.39	1.21	1.18	0.80
Income							
\$5,000 or less	3.67	3.20	6.89*	6.05*	4.85*	3.18*	3.02*
	0.23	0.35	3.31	2.08	0.66	1.08	0.48
\$5,001 - \$10,000	16.16	12.60	9.27*	16.02*	12.96	13.05	14.84
	0.32	0.66	2.80	2.25	1.54	1.62	1.34
\$10,001 - \$15,000	15.83	14.07	15.31*	18.62*	14.02	16.12	15.16
	0.33	0.62	3.67	3.82	1.34	1.79	1.29
\$15,001 - \$20,000	12.35	11.97	12.07*	17.44*	14.12	10.02	11.06
	0.32	0.68	3.34	3.61	1.33	1.47	1.25
\$20,001 - \$25,000	11.34	11.86	12.25*	9.68*	10.45	13.35	12.35
	0.31	0.72	3.73	3.05	1.12	1.69	1.29
\$25,001 - \$30,000	9.50	10.34	12.16*	6.38*	9.24	5.95*	10.63
	0.31	0.68	3.82	2.55	1.16	1.08	1.14
\$30,001 - \$35,000	6.27	7.14	6.23*	5.97*	6.36*	7.73*	7.43
	0.22	0.52	2.34	2.06	0.94	1.25	1.11
\$35,001 - \$40,000	6.34	7.25	3.08*	10.00*	8.39	8.35*	6.86
	0.28	0.54	1.93	3.29	1.14	1.55	0.92
More than \$40,000	18.55	21.57	22.75*	9.84*	19.61	22.25	18.66
	0.48	0.99	3.49	2.63	1.64	2.21	1.58

Table 7.2 Beneficiary's Satisfaction with Their Ability to Understand the Medicare Program, by Demographic, and Health Characteristics, 2002

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	35,570	7,978	297	300	1,968	1,302	2,389
	167	186	34	33	91	68	102
Schooling							
0 - 8 years	13.93	9.45	8.80*	14.73*	10.20	7.26*	9.55
	0.30	0.57	3.08	2.35	0.86	1.28	1.02
9 - 12 years (no diploma)	16.22	13.99	25.61*	8.25*	12.38	14.36	14.75
	0.39	0.73	4.61	2.66	1.36	1.55	1.34
High school graduate	30.54	29.57	20.66*	28.93*	29.71	30.85	28.48
	0.51	0.88	4.18	4.34	1.85	2.33	1.69
Voc/tech/bus/etc.	6.71	7.49	9.05*	6.16*	7.66	7.58*	8.44
	0.25	0.59	3.66	2.82	1.17	1.28	1.11
Some college	14.52	17.63	16.64*	17.48*	18.04	20.20	16.89
	0.35	0.79	5.07	3.99	1.35	2.30	1.45
Any college degree	18.08	21.87	19.23*	24.45*	22.00	19.74	21.89
	0.44	0.93	4.15	4.08	1.70	1.91	1.58
Health Status							
Excellent	15.44	13.52	11.34*	9.34*	12.01	10.78*	14.83
	0.39	0.82	3.53	3.11	1.42	1.92	1.42
Very Good	26.53	25.46	17.16*	22.83*	25.39	24.61	25.25
	0.43	0.91	3.81	4.34	1.86	2.37	1.64
Good	30.72	30.58	31.65*	34.79*	31.00	28.90	28.89
	0.45	0.96	4.79	4.53	1.92	2.34	1.75
Fair	18.97	19.70	22.17*	24.14*	20.54	21.37	20.26
	0.37	0.79	4.79	3.91	1.66	2.12	1.33
Poor	8.35	10.74	17.68*	8.89*	11.05	14.35	10.77
	0.23	0.60	3.73	2.10	1.34	1.82	1.18

Table 7.2 Beneficiary's Satisfaction with Their Ability to Understand the Medicare Program, by Demographic, and Health Characteristics, 2002

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	35,570	7,978	297	300	1,968	1,302	2,389
	<i>167</i>	<i>186</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>91</i>	<i>68</i>	<i>102</i>
Functional Limitation							
None	53.89	49.34	38.79*	43.02	47.77	41.12	50.34
	<i>0.48</i>	<i>1.01</i>	<i>4.38</i>	<i>6.69</i>	<i>2.16</i>	<i>2.35</i>	<i>1.65</i>
IADL only	15.75	16.48	18.13*	17.27*	17.91	16.73	17.43
	<i>0.37</i>	<i>0.80</i>	<i>3.67</i>	<i>3.56</i>	<i>1.63</i>	<i>1.63</i>	<i>1.37</i>
One to two ADLs	20.81	21.95	21.51*	23.10*	20.80	26.64	20.85
	<i>0.39</i>	<i>0.77</i>	<i>4.23</i>	<i>3.44</i>	<i>1.63</i>	<i>2.46</i>	<i>1.39</i>
Three to six ADLs	9.56	12.23	21.57*	16.60*	13.52	15.52	11.37
	<i>0.30</i>	<i>0.73</i>	<i>4.58</i>	<i>3.11</i>	<i>1.43</i>	<i>2.06</i>	<i>1.14</i>
Metropolitan Area Resident							
Yes	23.97	22.49	27.69*	24.65*	24.17	18.48	25.46
	<i>0.30</i>	<i>0.83</i>	<i>5.41</i>	<i>4.25</i>	<i>2.22</i>	<i>1.61</i>	<i>1.68</i>
No	76.03	77.51	72.31	75.35	75.83	81.52	74.54
	<i>0.30</i>	<i>0.83</i>	<i>5.41</i>	<i>4.25</i>	<i>2.22</i>	<i>1.61</i>	<i>1.68</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."