

Table 7.1 Beneficiary's Satisfaction with Their Ability to Understand the Medicare Program, by Demographic, Socioeconomic, and Health Characteristics, 2003

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	36055	14536	11313	10206	31962	2000
	158	214	201	181	215.2	100.5
Medicare Status²						
Aged						
65 - 74 years	45.80	45.83	45.90	45.65	45.43	48.21
	0.35	0.72	0.90	0.96	0.35	1.84
75 - 84 years	30.64	33.33	29.68	27.89	31.42	23.46
	0.31	0.53	0.65	0.79	0.33	1.55
85 years and older	8.82	9.05	8.59	8.77	8.89	6.08
	0.19	0.31	0.36	0.36	0.21	0.84
Disabled						
Under 45 years	3.79	2.92	3.79	5.03	3.59	6.43
	0.09	0.17	0.23	0.24	0.10	0.83
45 - 64 years	10.95	8.88	12.05	12.66	10.68	15.83
	0.25	0.47	0.58	0.69	0.26	1.81
Gender						
Male	44.48	44.52	44.30	44.62	44.09	48.01
	0.35	0.69	0.66	0.83	0.36	2.07
Female	55.52	55.48	55.70	55.38	55.91	51.99
	0.35	0.69	0.66	0.83	0.36	2.07
Living Arrangement						
Lives alone	30.12	30.07	29.56	30.80	29.97	27.48
	0.48	0.56	0.82	0.95	0.49	2.15
With spouse	52.42	54.71	53.49	47.97	52.77	52.68
	0.47	0.62	0.89	1.10	0.46	1.96
With children	9.88	8.36	9.54	12.42	9.83	11.19
	0.29	0.41	0.48	0.64	0.29	1.42
With others	7.58	6.85	7.41	8.81	7.42	8.65
	0.21	0.32	0.42	0.51	0.22	1.13

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		Most/All	Some	Little/None	Satisfied	Unsatisfied
All Beneficiaries	36055	14536	11313	10206	31962	2000
	158	214	201	181	215.2	100.5
Race/Ethnicity						
White non-Hispanic	78.02	84.98	76.31	69.98	78.70	71.55
	0.55	0.60	0.81	1.00	0.49	2.23
Black non-Hispanic	9.58	6.42	11.65	11.79	9.68	11.43
	0.22	0.39	0.57	0.57	0.24	1.58
Hispanic	7.94	5.24	7.46	12.31	7.53	9.28
	0.45	0.41	0.56	0.77	0.36	1.42
Other	4.47	3.36	4.58	5.92	4.09	7.73
	0.31	0.33	0.48	0.54	0.32	1.15
Income						
\$5,000 or less	3.82	2.89	4.15	4.77	3.82	4.34*
	0.21	0.25	0.48	0.37	0.21	1.07
\$5,001 - \$10,000	16.33	12.48	15.32	22.95	16.19	17.86
	0.35	0.48	0.62	0.73	0.36	1.56
\$10,001 - \$15,000	15.47	13.74	15.97	17.37	15.16	18.77
	0.34	0.43	0.68	0.73	0.36	1.67
\$15,001 - \$20,000	12.16	11.67	12.61	12.37	12.20	11.24
	0.33	0.49	0.56	0.64	0.34	1.33
\$20,001 - \$25,000	10.92	10.80	11.33	10.62	10.86	11.26
	0.31	0.45	0.53	0.57	0.33	1.25
\$25,001 - \$30,000	9.94	10.78	9.99	8.69	9.86	11.17
	0.29	0.48	0.51	0.64	0.32	1.53
\$30,001 - \$35,000	6.14	7.14	6.25	4.60	6.20	6.14*
	0.24	0.43	0.46	0.39	0.26	1.50
\$35,001 - \$40,000	6.11	7.17	6.19	4.51	6.31	5.08*
	0.22	0.38	0.41	0.32	0.25	0.90
More than \$40,000	19.11	23.33	18.20	14.12	19.42	14.13
	0.45	0.66	0.75	0.84	0.47	1.67

Table 7.1 Beneficiary's Satisfaction with Their Ability to Understand the Medicare Program, by Demographic, Socioeconomic, and Health Characteristics, 2003

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	36055	14536	11313	10206	31962	2000
	158	214	201	181	215.2	100.5
Schooling						
0 - 8 years	13.64	9.40	12.44	21.00	13.27	16.90
	0.32	0.44	0.52	0.73	0.36	1.63
9 - 12 years (no diploma)	15.51	12.71	15.25	19.80	15.53	14.77
	0.37	0.59	0.57	0.71	0.40	1.35
High school graduate	30.38	30.36	32.09	28.52	30.65	24.82
	0.54	0.75	0.87	0.99	0.55	1.80
Voc/tech/bus/etc.	6.98	7.14	7.24	6.48	7.07	5.75*
	0.30	0.42	0.51	0.48	0.33	0.88
Some college	14.85	17.41	14.61	11.48	14.86	15.69
	0.34	0.57	0.58	0.55	0.36	1.55
Any college degree	18.63	22.97	18.38	12.73	18.61	22.08
	0.50	0.83	0.66	0.79	0.53	1.75
Health Status						
Excellent	15.12	18.25	13.05	12.95	15.13	11.08
	0.44	0.72	0.65	0.64	0.44	1.55
Very Good	26.58	29.70	26.59	22.14	26.87	23.74
	0.43	0.64	0.86	0.73	0.47	1.98
Good	30.68	29.61	32.39	30.32	31.01	26.29
	0.49	0.73	0.84	0.93	0.51	1.84
Fair	19.09	16.37	19.24	22.79	18.80	24.08
	0.35	0.55	0.71	0.89	0.38	2.33
Poor	8.53	6.07	8.73	11.80	8.19	14.81
	0.26	0.35	0.45	0.58	0.29	1.42

Table 7.1 Beneficiary's Satisfaction with Their Ability to Understand the Medicare Program, by Demographic, Socioeconomic, and Health Characteristics, 2003

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	36055	14536	11313	10206	31962	2000
	<i>158</i>	<i>214</i>	<i>201</i>	<i>181</i>	<i>215.2</i>	<i>100.5</i>
Functional Limitation						
None	54.99	59.07	55.10	49.05	55.61	45.64
	<i>0.52</i>	<i>0.80</i>	<i>0.94</i>	<i>0.89</i>	<i>0.54</i>	<i>2.01</i>
IADL only	15.03	14.97	14.17	16.06	14.96	16.96
	<i>0.34</i>	<i>0.54</i>	<i>0.67</i>	<i>0.69</i>	<i>0.35</i>	<i>1.54</i>
One to two ADLs	19.97	18.58	20.43	21.43	19.81	24.08
	<i>0.38</i>	<i>0.56</i>	<i>0.73</i>	<i>0.65</i>	<i>0.42</i>	<i>1.59</i>
Three to six ADLs	10.01	7.38	10.29	13.46	9.62	13.32
	<i>0.30</i>	<i>0.36</i>	<i>0.54</i>	<i>0.61</i>	<i>0.32</i>	<i>1.36</i>
Metropolitan Area Resident						
Yes	75.91	77.42	74.97	74.78	75.32	79.21
	<i>0.24</i>	<i>0.68</i>	<i>0.84</i>	<i>0.86</i>	<i>0.31</i>	<i>1.67</i>
No	24.09	22.58	25.03	25.22	24.68	20.79
	<i>0.24</i>	<i>0.68</i>	<i>0.84</i>	<i>0.86</i>	<i>0.31</i>	<i>1.67</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, 2003

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	36055	7674	266	484	2012	1278	2194
	158	208	32	55	114	78	110
Medicare Status²							
Aged							
65 - 74 years	45.80	48.98	39.50*	57.51	51.01	50.36	46.76
	0.35	1.06	4.66	3.67	1.85	2.61	2.02
75 - 84 years	30.64	27.74	29.42*	31.62	26.69	22.79	27.72
	0.31	0.84	4.92	3.90	1.49	1.95	1.41
85 years and older	8.82	5.71	4.26*	5.19*	4.91	3.61*	6.62
	0.19	0.33	2.00	1.23	0.68	0.71	0.79
Disabled							
Under 45 years	3.79	4.09	6.17*	0.90*	2.99	6.18	4.94
	0.09	0.30	2.13	0.48	0.52	0.91	0.63
45 - 64 years	10.95	13.48	20.66*	4.78*	14.41	17.06	13.98
	0.25	0.78	4.78	1.93	1.55	2.03	1.63
Gender							
Male	44.48	43.14	41.68*	43.90	45.38	43.34	42.61
	0.35	0.87	5.51	4.54	2.18	2.59	1.68
Female	55.52	56.86	58.32	56.10	54.62	56.66	57.39
	0.35	0.87	5.51	4.54	2.18	2.59	1.68
Living Arrangement							
Lives alone	30.12	25.93	27.04*	23.68*	26.39	23.92	28.80
	0.48	1.07	5.21	4.00	2.33	2.04	1.63
With spouse	52.42	58.39	56.44	65.44	60.02	58.28	55.87
	0.47	1.13	6.39	4.45	2.39	2.94	1.82
With children	9.88	9.85	11.53*	4.91*	7.67	12.22	9.08
	0.29	0.73	3.16	1.27	0.85	2.02	1.15
With others	7.58	5.83	4.99*	5.98*	5.92	5.59*	6.25
	0.21	0.46	1.85	1.48	0.84	1.00	0.91

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				Newspapers\ Magazines\ Television	Medicare Publications/ Handbook	Medicare Office (including 800 Number)	Doctor's Office, HMO, Hospital
All Beneficiaries	36055	7674	266	484	2012	1278	2194
	158	208	32	55	114	78	110
Race/Ethnicity							
White non-Hispanic	78.02	78.73	83.99	74.45	77.97	76.59	77.11
	0.55	1.14	3.40	6.18	2.28	2.60	1.98
Black non-Hispanic	9.58	9.55	6.38*	7.20*	8.35	13.44	8.82
	0.22	0.67	2.27	3.13	1.16	1.93	1.16
Hispanic	7.94	7.89	6.50*	16.01*	9.39	6.32*	10.25
	0.45	0.80	2.22	6.49	2.22	1.74	1.55
Other	4.47	3.83	3.13*	2.35*	4.29*	3.64*	3.83*
	0.31	0.46	1.61	1.01	1.09	0.88	0.59
Income							
\$5,000 or less	3.82	3.35	1.01*	3.32*	3.36*	3.21*	3.88*
	0.21	0.33	0.76	1.88	0.67	0.92	0.65
\$5,001 - \$10,000	16.33	11.90	16.31*	8.37*	11.45	8.90	17.41
	0.35	0.70	3.87	2.68	1.33	1.30	1.67
\$10,001 - \$15,000	15.47	14.55	15.98*	19.15*	16.55	13.45	13.85
	0.34	0.73	3.78	2.64	1.62	1.57	1.35
\$15,001 - \$20,000	12.16	12.11	9.52*	8.92*	12.31	11.99	13.47
	0.33	0.65	3.04	1.75	1.33	1.66	1.14
\$20,001 - \$25,000	10.92	11.67	2.36*	10.18*	10.53	10.88	10.97
	0.31	0.69	1.32	2.39	1.25	1.73	1.51
\$25,001 - \$30,000	9.94	11.49	14.24*	12.77*	11.13	14.54	9.63
	0.29	0.70	2.93	3.02	1.51	2.12	1.23
\$30,001 - \$35,000	6.14	6.74	11.25*	9.71*	5.92*	5.74*	6.37*
	0.24	0.62	3.41	3.24	1.35	1.25	1.05
\$35,001 - \$40,000	6.11	6.15	13.64*	3.56*	5.34*	7.95*	5.41*
	0.22	0.54	5.12	1.31	0.91	1.74	0.90
More than \$40,000	19.11	22.05	15.71*	24.01*	23.41	23.35	19.01
	0.45	0.84	3.81	3.52	1.86	2.55	1.66

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				Newspapers\ Magazines\ Television	Medicare Publications/ Handbook	Medicare Office (including 800 Number)	Doctor's Office, HMO, Hospital
All Beneficiaries	36055	7674	266	484	2012	1278	2194
	158	208	32	55	114	78	110
Schooling							
0 - 8 years	13.64	9.24	7.00*	5.54*	7.57	7.70*	9.46
	0.32	0.48	2.50	1.53	0.81	1.25	0.85
9 - 12 years (no diploma)	15.51	12.76	10.53*	7.48*	13.78	10.92	12.29
	0.37	0.70	3.32	1.59	1.52	1.63	1.24
High school graduate	30.38	28.65	23.51*	22.14*	25.12	31.64	28.16
	0.54	1.05	4.92	3.57	1.88	2.95	2.03
Voc/tech/bus/etc.	6.98	6.90	8.40*	6.91*	6.82	7.53*	6.97
	0.30	0.58	3.04	2.16	1.14	1.13	1.18
Some college	14.85	18.19	18.74*	19.98*	20.58	19.79	19.10
	0.34	0.87	4.29	2.94	1.93	2.30	1.68
Any college degree	18.63	24.26	31.83*	37.94	26.13	22.43	24.02
	0.50	0.97	6.43	4.50	2.29	2.44	1.66
Health Status							
Excellent	15.12	14.42	13.39*	15.90*	13.16	13.30	13.32
	0.44	0.91	3.57	2.84	1.46	1.95	1.67
Very Good	26.58	26.37	21.86*	32.17	31.25	23.24	26.32
	0.43	0.97	6.43	4.28	1.77	2.78	1.56
Good	30.68	29.57	26.22*	31.02	26.75	28.74	29.42
	0.49	1.01	5.55	3.57	1.44	2.58	1.90
Fair	19.09	19.53	21.64*	15.69*	18.77	20.89	19.90
	0.35	0.85	4.57	2.37	1.50	2.28	1.43
Poor	8.53	10.11	16.89*	5.22*	10.08	13.83	11.05
	0.26	0.70	3.70	1.93	1.26	1.90	1.51

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All Beneficiaries	36055	7674	266	484	2012	1278	2194
	<i>158</i>	<i>208</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>55</i>	<i>114</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>110</i>
Functional Limitation							
None	54.99	51.01	41.16*	63.46	48.65	46.95	47.29
	<i>0.52</i>	<i>1.02</i>	<i>4.31</i>	<i>3.27</i>	<i>2.13</i>	<i>2.65</i>	<i>1.87</i>
IADL only	15.03	14.81	14.02*	9.75*	17.13	16.80	14.51
	<i>0.34</i>	<i>0.82</i>	<i>5.28</i>	<i>1.93</i>	<i>1.51</i>	<i>2.56</i>	<i>1.22</i>
One to two ADLs	19.97	21.24	26.35*	17.61*	21.00	19.88	24.05
	<i>0.38</i>	<i>0.87</i>	<i>5.79</i>	<i>2.78</i>	<i>1.58</i>	<i>2.09</i>	<i>1.95</i>
Three to six ADLs	10.01	12.94	18.47*	9.18*	13.22	16.37	14.15
	<i>0.30</i>	<i>0.70</i>	<i>3.71</i>	<i>1.90</i>	<i>1.18</i>	<i>2.19</i>	<i>1.44</i>
Metropolitan Area Resident							
Yes	75.91	76.97	71.76	77.08	74.12	81.72	79.97
	<i>0.24</i>	<i>1.14</i>	<i>5.50</i>	<i>4.23</i>	<i>2.75</i>	<i>2.28</i>	<i>1.90</i>
No	24.09	23.03	28.24*	22.92*	25.88	18.28	20.03
	<i>0.24</i>	<i>1.14</i>	<i>5.50</i>	<i>4.23</i>	<i>2.75</i>	<i>2.28</i>	<i>1.90</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."