

Table 7.1 Beneficiary's Satisfaction with Their Ability to Understand the Medicare Program, by Demographic, Socioeconomic, and Health Characteristics, 2005

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	36,678	12,952	11,031	12,696	30,735	3,816
	206	231	162	218	216.6	115.0
Medicare Status²						
Aged						
65 - 74 years	44.48	46.61	45.77	41.19	44.70	42.30
	0.37	0.76	0.81	0.77	0.40	1.44
75 - 84 years	30.67	32.98	29.94	28.95	31.36	24.92
	0.32	0.74	0.69	0.58	0.34	1.01
85 years and older	9.06	9.28	8.19	9.60	9.23	7.43
	0.19	0.38	0.34	0.36	0.22	0.63
Disabled						
Under 45 years	3.78	2.85	4.12	4.42	3.54	5.77
	0.09	0.19	0.22	0.24	0.10	0.43
45 - 64 years	12.00	8.28	11.98	15.82	11.17	19.58
	0.27	0.49	0.65	0.68	0.30	1.40
Gender						
Male	44.72	45.61	42.83	45.47	44.64	43.63
	0.31	0.72	0.78	0.75	0.40	1.64
Female	55.28	54.39	57.17	54.53	55.36	56.37
	0.31	0.72	0.78	0.75	0.40	1.64
Living Arrangement						
Lives alone	29.24	27.97	28.32	31.33	28.99	27.76
	0.47	0.78	0.87	0.81	0.51	1.40
With spouse	52.95	57.07	53.29	48.44	53.26	52.92
	0.50	0.78	0.98	0.93	0.56	1.68
With children	9.69	8.29	10.03	10.81	9.84	9.58
	0.24	0.47	0.47	0.49	0.26	0.84
With others	8.13	6.66	8.35	9.42	7.90	9.74
	0.25	0.43	0.46	0.49	0.27	0.92

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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	36,678	12,952	11,031	12,696	30,735	3,816
	206	231	162	218	216.6	115.0
Race/Ethnicity						
White non-Hispanic	78.42	83.93	78.40	72.82	78.76	74.60
	0.51	0.66	0.81	0.86	0.54	1.29
Black non-Hispanic	9.12	5.76	9.98	11.81	9.00	10.96
	0.22	0.41	0.48	0.59	0.28	0.89
Hispanic	7.76	6.19	7.34	9.73	7.66	8.84
	0.46	0.49	0.64	0.66	0.47	0.89
Other	4.69	4.11	4.28	5.64	4.58	5.60
	0.23	0.37	0.39	0.43	0.25	0.78
Income						
\$5,000 or less	3.72	3.25	3.69	4.24	3.65	4.23
	0.20	0.36	0.31	0.34	0.23	0.57
\$5,001 - \$10,000	14.89	11.75	13.93	18.93	14.55	17.43
	0.34	0.50	0.71	0.68	0.42	1.08
\$10,001 - \$15,000	16.43	13.53	16.22	19.56	16.28	18.53
	0.30	0.53	0.65	0.61	0.33	1.13
\$15,001 - \$20,000	10.91	9.79	11.58	11.48	10.84	11.98
	0.32	0.50	0.45	0.55	0.34	0.98
\$20,001 - \$25,000	10.70	10.66	11.35	10.17	10.79	10.19
	0.28	0.47	0.61	0.48	0.33	0.85
\$25,001 - \$30,000	9.40	10.15	9.89	8.22	9.53	8.90
	0.32	0.52	0.54	0.51	0.34	0.95
\$30,001 - \$35,000	6.55	7.41	5.98	6.18	6.75	5.05
	0.26	0.40	0.45	0.44	0.28	0.76
\$35,001 - \$40,000	6.73	7.58	7.16	5.50	6.74	5.35
	0.25	0.37	0.55	0.38	0.26	0.67
More than \$40,000	20.67	25.90	20.21	15.73	20.87	18.32
	0.45	0.82	0.76	0.77	0.49	1.40

Table 7.1 Beneficiary's Satisfaction with Their Ability to Understand the Medicare Program, by Demographic, Socioeconomic, and Health Characteristics, 2005

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	36,678	12,952	11,031	12,696	30,735	3,816
	206	231	162	218	216.6	115.0
Schooling						
0 - 8 years	11.98	8.23	10.40	17.20	11.83	12.63
	0.32	0.48	0.54	0.60	0.38	0.98
9 - 12 years (no diploma)	15.28	11.59	15.42	18.93	15.04	17.16
	0.32	0.64	0.54	0.65	0.38	1.24
High school graduate	30.46	29.49	32.57	29.61	30.91	25.65
	0.51	0.89	0.87	0.76	0.55	1.30
Voc/tech/bus/etc.	7.15	7.43	7.65	6.42	7.12	7.98
	0.26	0.41	0.51	0.46	0.26	0.98
Some college	15.01	17.07	14.60	13.26	14.92	14.87
	0.40	0.71	0.59	0.61	0.43	1.15
Any college degree	20.13	26.20	19.35	14.58	20.17	21.71
	0.54	0.84	0.84	0.73	0.54	1.52
Health Status						
Excellent	15.96	19.60	14.43	13.57	16.21	12.03
	0.38	0.70	0.60	0.54	0.42	1.05
Very Good	26.95	30.56	27.49	22.80	27.65	22.55
	0.43	0.77	0.81	0.67	0.48	1.28
Good	31.01	30.13	32.77	30.37	31.42	27.75
	0.45	0.67	0.89	0.74	0.47	1.34
Fair	17.97	14.34	17.19	22.37	17.20	24.12
	0.34	0.56	0.65	0.64	0.36	1.35
Poor	8.11	5.37	8.12	10.90	7.52	13.55
	0.31	0.36	0.59	0.59	0.33	1.10

Table 7.1 Beneficiary's Satisfaction with Their Ability to Understand the Medicare Program, by Demographic, Socioeconomic, and Health Characteristics, 2005

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	36,678	12,952	11,031	12,696	30,735	3,816
	<i>206</i>	<i>231</i>	<i>162</i>	<i>218</i>	<i>216.6</i>	<i>115.0</i>
Functional Limitation						
None	55.57	61.96	54.42	50.03	56.79	45.27
	<i>0.50</i>	<i>0.79</i>	<i>0.87</i>	<i>0.78</i>	<i>0.57</i>	<i>1.40</i>
IADL only	14.91	13.16	15.73	16.00	14.95	15.47
	<i>0.37</i>	<i>0.54</i>	<i>0.62</i>	<i>0.59</i>	<i>0.41</i>	<i>0.92</i>
One to two ADLs	21.02	18.49	21.22	23.41	20.25	26.44
	<i>0.42</i>	<i>0.65</i>	<i>0.66</i>	<i>0.74</i>	<i>0.48</i>	<i>1.39</i>
Three to six ADLs	8.50	6.39	8.63	10.55	8.01	12.82
	<i>0.30</i>	<i>0.35</i>	<i>0.46</i>	<i>0.57</i>	<i>0.29</i>	<i>1.04</i>
Metropolitan Area Resident						
Yes	75.72	75.50	74.04	77.40	74.82	77.48
	<i>0.29</i>	<i>0.84</i>	<i>0.61</i>	<i>0.78</i>	<i>0.42</i>	<i>1.38</i>
No	24.28	24.50	25.96	22.60	25.18	22.52
	<i>0.29</i>	<i>0.84</i>	<i>0.61</i>	<i>0.78</i>	<i>0.42</i>	<i>1.38</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, 2005

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	36,678	8,711	242	424	1,866	1,527	2,384
	206	198	27	50	87	65	94
Medicare Status²							
Aged							
65 - 74 years	44.48	49.12	41.03*	58.12	49.84	44.72	48.68
	0.37	1.02	4.68	4.84	1.89	2.25	2.39
75 - 84 years	30.67	26.15	23.34*	26.80*	27.18	20.52	25.15
	0.32	0.76	4.23	3.53	1.54	1.69	1.67
85 years and older	9.06	6.75	8.15*	5.80*	5.45	6.51	6.59
	0.19	0.32	2.53	1.83	0.76	0.87	0.68
Disabled							
Under 45 years	3.78	4.16	6.33*	2.78*	3.97	6.64	4.78
	0.09	0.27	2.41	1.28	0.62	0.90	0.60
45 - 64 years	12.00	13.81	21.15*	6.49*	13.56	21.62	14.80
	0.27	0.75	4.16	3.26	1.75	2.49	1.68
Gender							
Male	44.72	43.89	51.21*	48.02	43.40	40.65	41.87
	0.31	0.97	4.90	4.36	2.09	2.39	2.24
Female	55.28	56.11	48.79*	51.98	56.60	59.35	58.13
	0.31	0.97	4.90	4.36	2.09	2.39	2.24
Living Arrangement							
Lives alone	29.24	25.72	25.99*	24.55*	23.02	23.23	24.28
	0.47	0.99	4.88	4.18	1.84	2.28	1.74
With spouse	52.95	58.04	53.11*	61.16	61.38	55.16	55.68
	0.50	1.08	5.77	4.72	2.61	2.32	2.18
With children	9.69	9.53	14.09*	6.33*	9.39	12.98	12.61
	0.24	0.58	3.50	1.89	1.39	1.81	1.48
With others	8.13	6.71	6.81*	7.95*	6.21	8.63	7.43
	0.25	0.50	2.90	2.08	1.07	1.69	1.05

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				Newspapers\ Magazines\ Television	Medicare Publications/ Handbook	Medicare Office (including 800 Number)	Doctor's Office, HMO, Hospital
All Beneficiaries	36,678	8,711	242	424	1,866	1,527	2,384
	206	198	27	50	87	65	94
Race/Ethnicity							
White non-Hispanic	78.42	78.04	81.04	71.88	78.77	71.86	73.69
	0.51	1.00	4.38	4.85	1.78	2.42	1.86
Black non-Hispanic	9.12	8.74	11.18*	9.52*	9.12	12.74	9.17
	0.22	0.72	3.56	3.55	1.39	1.71	1.30
Hispanic	7.76	9.16	6.04*	13.92*	7.93	9.12	12.57
	0.46	0.72	2.80	3.82	0.98	1.45	1.26
Other	4.69	4.06	1.74*	4.68*	4.18*	6.28*	4.57*
	0.23	0.47	1.25	2.98	0.90	1.57	0.64
Income							
\$5,000 or less	3.72	3.04	5.95*	7.92*	3.27*	3.60*	3.82*
	0.20	0.39	1.97	2.80	0.79	0.86	0.70
\$5,001 - \$10,000	14.89	12.19	16.08*	11.18*	11.77	15.03	15.06
	0.34	0.57	3.42	3.55	1.41	1.67	1.34
\$10,001 - \$15,000	16.43	16.27	19.82*	12.61*	15.36	20.55	16.79
	0.30	0.78	4.72	2.69	1.69	2.26	1.75
\$15,001 - \$20,000	10.91	10.84	5.08*	13.39*	10.08	9.86	11.13
	0.32	0.63	2.48	3.65	1.24	1.55	1.07
\$20,001 - \$25,000	10.70	11.08	13.00*	8.04*	11.98	8.24*	9.48
	0.28	0.61	3.95	2.50	1.51	1.41	1.14
\$25,001 - \$30,000	9.40	9.36	10.00*	7.42*	9.81	10.72	7.59
	0.32	0.71	3.61	2.09	1.25	1.76	1.18
\$30,001 - \$35,000	6.55	7.07	5.93*	8.96*	7.66*	7.89*	7.51
	0.26	0.57	3.19	3.12	1.17	1.32	1.21
\$35,001 - \$40,000	6.73	7.67	3.60*	12.43*	8.52	7.02*	7.24
	0.25	0.62	2.61	4.04	1.34	1.44	1.13
More than \$40,000	20.67	22.48	20.54*	18.06*	21.56	17.10	21.37
	0.45	0.94	5.06	3.46	1.91	1.92	1.90

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All Beneficiaries	36,678	8,711	242	424	1,866	1,527	2,384
	206	198	27	50	87	65	94
Schooling							
0 - 8 years	11.98	9.62	9.32*	9.39*	7.37	8.78	12.05
	0.32	0.50	3.46	4.35	0.97	1.44	1.13
9 - 12 years (no diploma)	15.28	11.82	12.38*	10.04*	12.02	13.49	10.66
	0.32	0.60	3.80	2.20	1.49	1.68	1.00
High school graduate	30.46	28.73	26.80*	29.80*	27.61	26.19	25.89
	0.51	0.94	5.37	4.73	1.80	1.81	1.81
Voc/tech/bus/etc.	7.15	8.18	10.29*	13.92*	8.91	8.49*	7.64
	0.26	0.60	4.14	3.78	0.96	1.73	1.13
Some college	15.01	16.64	18.35*	12.73*	18.79	19.15	19.75
	0.40	0.75	3.99	3.06	1.55	2.23	1.85
Any college degree	20.13	25.01	22.85*	24.12*	25.30	23.91	24.01
	0.54	1.19	6.20	5.16	1.85	2.31	2.23
Health Status							
Excellent	15.96	14.89	6.40*	16.77*	15.52	14.27	14.08
	0.38	0.75	2.83	4.30	1.79	1.86	1.57
Very Good	26.95	25.88	18.15*	31.48*	26.42	19.72	23.59
	0.43	0.89	3.51	4.63	1.80	1.96	1.71
Good	31.01	32.20	36.46*	28.07*	33.17	28.42	32.81
	0.45	0.84	5.69	4.08	1.84	2.45	1.73
Fair	17.97	17.98	22.82*	21.60*	16.96	23.81	22.55
	0.34	0.89	5.56	5.40	1.95	2.28	1.73
Poor	8.11	9.04	16.17*	2.07*	7.94	13.77	6.97
	0.31	0.58	3.91	1.20	1.02	1.92	0.85

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	206	198	27	50	87	65	94
Functional Limitation							
None	55.57	52.90	41.19*	61.12	55.72	43.43	50.62
	0.50	0.96	6.49	6.69	2.34	2.54	2.07
IADL only	14.91	14.60	16.44*	13.43*	13.35	15.90	14.79
	0.37	0.63	4.92	2.85	1.39	1.99	1.21
One to two ADLs	21.02	22.26	38.21*	18.23*	22.76	26.62	23.12
	0.42	0.75	5.94	3.96	1.71	2.22	1.62
Three to six ADLs	8.50	10.24	4.16*	7.22*	8.18	14.05	11.47
	0.30	0.69	1.45	3.81	1.20	1.74	1.33
Metropolitan Area Resident							
Yes	75.72	78.52	81.61	90.59	78.60	78.25	83.50
	0.29	0.82	4.47	3.60	1.50	2.22	1.58
No	24.28	21.48	18.39*	9.41*	21.40	21.75	16.50
	0.29	0.82	4.47	3.60	1.50	2.22	1.58

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."