

Please refer to this errata sheet for a corrected version of Table 4-3.

**TABLE
4-3**

Medicare beneficiaries have better or similar access to physicians compared with privately insured individuals, but minorities in both groups report problems more frequently, 2014

Survey question	Medicare (age 65 or older)			Private insurance (age 50-64)		
	All	White	Minority	All	White	Minority
Unwanted delay in getting an appointment: Among those who needed an appointment in the past 12 months, "How often did you have to wait longer than you wanted to get a doctor's appointment?"						
For routine care						
Never	72% ^a	73% ^a	72% ^a	69% ^a	70% ^a	66% ^a
Sometimes	20 ^a	20 ^a	19 ^a	23 ^a	23 ^a	24 ^a
Usually	3	3	3	4	4	4
Always	3	2	3	3	2 ^b	5 ^b
For illness or injury						
Never	83 ^a	84 ^{ab}	80 ^a	79 ^a	80 ^{ab}	73 ^{ab}
Sometimes	12 ^a	12 ^a	14 ^a	16 ^a	16 ^{ab}	19 ^{ab}
Usually	2	2	2	2	2	3
Always	1 ^a	1	2 ^a	2 ^a	2 ^b	4 ^{ab}
Not accessing a doctor for medical problems: "During the past 12 months, did you have any health problem or condition about which you think you should have seen a doctor or other medical person, but did not?"						
Percent answering "Yes"	10	10	9	11	11	11
Looking for a new doctor: "In the past 12 months, have you tried to get a new...?" (Percent answering "Yes")						
Primary care physician	8	8	8	8	7	9
Specialist	17	18 ^b	14 ^b	17	18 ^b	14 ^b
Getting a new physician: Among those who tried to get an appointment with a new primary care physician or a specialist in the past 12 months, "How much of a problem was it finding a primary care doctor / specialist who would treat you? Was it..."						
Primary care physician						
No problem	67	67	69	63	60	72
Percent of total insurance group, by race	5.5	5.6	5.3	4.9	4.4	6.2
Small problem	16	16	16	16	17	14
Percent of total insurance group, by race	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.2
Big problem	15	15	13	19	22	13
Percent of total insurance group, by race	1.2	1.2	1.0	1.5	1.6	1.1
Specialist						
No problem	85	85	83	85	86	84
Percent of total insurance group, by race	14.4	15.2 ^b	11.9 ^b	14.5	15.3 ^b	11.8 ^b
Small problem	7	7	5	9	8	10
Percent of total insurance group, by race	1.2	1.3	0.8	1.4	1.5	1.3
Big problem	7	7	8	6	6	7
Percent of total insurance group, by race	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.1	0.9

Note: Respondents who did not report race or ethnicity were not included in "White" or "Minority" results but were included in "All" results. Numbers may not sum to 100 percent because missing responses ("Don't know" or "Refused") are not included. Sample sizes for each group (Medicare and privately insured) were 4,000 in 2014. Sample sizes for individual questions varied.

^a Statistically significant difference between the Medicare and privately insured populations in the given year (at a 95 percent confidence level).

^b Statistically significant difference by race within the same insurance category in the given year (at a 95 percent confidence level).

Source: MedPAC-sponsored telephone surveys conducted in 2014.