

Survey results:

Healthcare Is a Human Right - Maryland survey, 2013-2014

Methods

Healthcare Is a Human Right - Maryland members conducted a survey of 882 people in 10 Maryland counties from October 2012 through December 2013. The surveys were administered in a wide range of venues including health fairs, senior expos, county fairs, educational events, outside public libraries, on boardwalks, and through neighborhood canvassing. The survey asked people about their access to healthcare, their experiences with the healthcare system, and their opinions on the state of healthcare in Maryland. The survey sample was not scientific, but the results are similar to national surveys, cited throughout the report, on the rates of uninsurance and limited access to care.

The results of the survey were combined with testimonies from Maryland residents on their experience with the healthcare system as well as data from academic literature and advocacy reports, and published in a report: "Voices of Maryland's Healthcare Crisis and the Rising Human Rights Movement." The report is available at <http://HealthcareIsAHumanRightMaryland.org>.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Age

Under 18:	1.8%
18-25:	15.6%
26-50:	35.6%
51-64:	30.2%
65 and older:	6.9%

Gender

Female:	66.1%
Male:	37.7%
Transgender:	0.2%

Race & Ethnicity

Asian:	3.6%
Black:	22.2%
Latino:	3.0%
Native:	0.2%
White:	67.8%
Mixed:	1.4%
Other:	1.9%

Survey responses

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Pct.</u>
1 Do you currently have health insurance?		
Yes	752	85.6%
No	126	14.4%
1a If yes, what type?		
Thru employer alone	291	42.7%
Spouse's or parent's policy alone	180	26.4%
Medicaid alone	29	4.3%
Medicare alone	91	13.3%
Other alone	67	9.8%
More than one	24	3.5%
1b What's the longest period you have gone without health insurance?		
0 years	297	53.5%
1 year	58	10.5%
2 years	46	8.3%
3 years	35	6.3%
4 years	19	3.4%
5 years	18	3.2%
6-10 years	46	8.3%
11-15 years	6	1.1%
16-20 years	20	3.6%
> 20 years	10	1.8%

2 Have you ever had problems getting the health care you need?		
Yes	291	34.6%
No	551	65.4%
3 Have you ever had to forgo needed health care because of costs?		
Yes	382	45.0%
No	466	55.0%
3a If YES, what type of care?		
Check up	122	19.0%
Surgery	45	7.0%
Prescription drugs	125	19.5%
Mental health care	60	9.4%
Dental care	173	27.0%
Vision	104	16.2%
Other	12	1.9%
3b What costs have been difficult for you?		
Premiums	58	19.0%
Deductibles	48	15.7%
Co-pays	55	18.0%
Co-insurance	17	5.6%
Out of pocket	115	37.6%
Other	13	4.2%
4 Have you, or someone in your family, ever experienced any of the following?		
4a Stayed in a job only to keep your health insurance?		
Yes	317	37.3%
No	533	62.7%
4b Been discriminated against when trying to get healthcare because of your race, immigration status, gender, sexual orientation, age, or disability?		
Yes	123	14.6%
No	719	85.4%
4c Developed more serious health problems or delayed treatment because of concerns around cost?		
Yes	258	30.8%
No	579	69.2%

4d	Have had problems paying medical bills?		
	Yes	382	45.0%
	No	467	55.0%
5	Do you think we should make sure that everyone in Maryland can get the health care they need?		
	Yes	847	98.4%
	No	14	1.6%
6	Do you believe health care is a human right?		
	Yes	789	94.7%
	No	38	4.6%
	Not sure	6	0.7%
6a	Do you believe your government has an obligation to protect the human right to health care?		
	Yes	730	85.8%
	No	38	4.5%
	Not sure	83	9.8%
6b	Would you say that the human right to health care is protected here in Maryland?		
	Yes	150	18.0%
	No	371	44.4%
	Not sure	314	37.6%
7	Do you feel that you have a say in decisions about our health care system?		
	Yes	276	34.5%
	No	524	65.5%
8	What do you think of the idea of a universal health care system which would be publicly funded from our taxes rather than paying premiums and deductibles to insurers and medical care providers?		
	Like it	623	75.0%
	Don't like it	47	5.7%
	Not sure	161	19.4%