Health Care Experiences and Their Implications for Health Communications and Trust

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KFF Survey Methods

- Probability-based national samples of adults ages 18+
- Weighted to demographics of the U.S. adult population
- Committed to transparency (Charter member of AAPOR Transparency Initiative)
- Survey on Racism, Discrimination, and Health
 - Fielded by phone and web June 6-Aug 14, 2023 in English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese
 - Combination of Address-Based Sample (N= 5,073) and Random Digit Dial telephone sample of prepaid cell phone numbers (N=1,219)
 - Total sample = 6,292, including oversamples of Hispanic (1,991), Black (1,725), and Asian (693) adults

KFF COVID-19 Vaccine Monitor, Health Tracking Poll, Misinformation Tracking Poll

- Fielded by phone and web in English and Spanish
- Most are combinations of probability-based online panels and prepaid telephone samples
- Sample sizes vary, but minimum 1,200 total sample and minimum 100 for all subgroups shown



In the Background of People' Interactions With Health Care (and Health Information)

- Health care can be expensive and difficult to access
- Health insurance can be difficult to navigate
- Cost and insurance challenges are compounded for mental health care
- Trust in individual health care providers is relatively high
- But negative experiences in health care are common and associated with lower levels of trust
- Provider trust is especially important when trust in government information sources is low



Trust in Health Care Providers

- 72% of U.S. adults say they trust doctors and other health care providers "almost all of the time" or "most of the time" to do what is right for them and their community
 - This is higher than the shares who say the same about the police (67%) or the courts (51%)
- 28% say they trust health care providers "only some of the time" or "never"
 - This share is higher among:
 - Uninsured adults (44%)
 - Adults with fair/poor health status (38%)
 - Black adults (32%), particularly Black women (36%) and Black adults with darker skin color (36%)
 - LGBT adults (38%), particularly Hispanic LGBT adults (46%)



Hispanic, Black, Asian, AIAN Adults Report Less Frequent Positive Interactions With Providers Than White Adults

Percent who say their doctor or health care provider **just sometimes** or **rarely or never** did the following during visits in the past three years:

	Hispanic	Black	Asian	AIAN	White
Spent enough time with them during their visit	32%	29%	25%	33%	21%
Involved them in decision-making about their care	28%	23%	28%	22%	15%
Understood and respected their cultural values and beliefs	19%	21%	21%	24%	12%
Explained things in a way they could understand	16%	14%	18%	18%	8%



One-Third of All Adults Report at Least One of Several Negative Experiences With a Provider in Recent Visits

Percent who say a doctor or health care provider did any of the following in the last three years:	Hispanic	Black	Asian	AIAN	White
Assumed something about them without asking	15%	22%	16%	29%	19%
Suggested they were personally to blame for a health problem they were experiencing	16%	15%	9%	25%	17%
Ignored a direct request they made or a question they asked	16%	19%	12%	29%	15%
Refused to prescribe them pain medication they thought they needed	10%	15%	8%	19%	9%
Yes to any of the above	31%	37%	26%	44%	33%



NOTE: Among adults who have used health care in the past three years Black, Asian, and AIAN groups include multiracial and single-race adults of Hispanic and non-Hispanic ethnicity. Hispanic group includes those who identify as Hispanic regardless of race. White includes single-race non-Hispanic adults only. See topline for full question wording. SOURCE: KFF Survey on Racism, Discrimination and Health (June 6 – August 14, 2023)

Many Adults Report Encountering Unfair or Disrespectful Treatment in Health Care Settings

Percent who say that a doctor or other health care provider treated them unfairly or with disrespect in the past three years because of...

	Hispanic	Black	Asian	AIAN	White
their race or ethnic background	11%	18%	10%	12%	3%
some other factor, such as their gender, health insurance status, or ability to pay for care	14%	18%	11%	26%	13%
Were treated unfairly or with disrespect for any reason	17%	24%	15%	29%	14%



Large Shares of Hispanic, Black, Asian, AIAN Adults Report Practicing Vigilant Behaviors During Health Care Visits

Percent who say they do the following at least some of the time during visits with a doctor or health care provider:

Feel that they have to be very careful about their appearance to be treated fairly	Hispanic 47%	Black 55%	Asian 39%	AIAN 49%	White 29%
Try to prepare for possible insults from a doctor or health care provider or their staff	23%	29%	19%	26%	16%
Do either of the above at least some of the time	51%	60%	42%	52%	33%



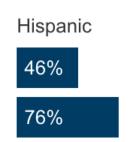
Trust in Health Care Providers Is Lower Among Those Who Experience Unfair and Disrespectful Treatment

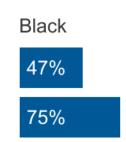
Percent who say they can trust doctors and other health care providers to do what is right for them and their community almost all of the time or most of the time:

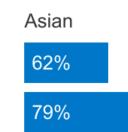
Treated unfairly or with disrespect by a doctor, health care provider, or staff

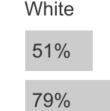
Not treated unfairly or with disrespect











NOTE: Among adults who have used health care in the past three years. Black and Asian groups include multiracial and single-race adults of Hispanic and non-Hispanic ethnicity. Hispanic group includes those who identify as Hispanic regardless of race. White includes single-race non-Hispanic adults only. Results not shown for groups with insufficient sample size. See topline for full question wording.

SOURCE: KFF Survey on Racism, Discrimination, and Health (June 6- August 14, 2023)



Personal Sources Trusted More Than Official Sources for COVID Vaccine Information

Percent who say they have a **great deal** or a **fair amount** of trust in the following to provide reliable information about the COVID-19 vaccines:

