

# THE COMMONWEALTH FUND

HARKNESS HOUSE  
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ENHANCING  
THE COMMON GOOD  
SINCE 1918

## Minority Americans Do Not Have Equal Health Opportunities. A Briefing Note from The Commonwealth Fund

March 1995

Karen Davis, President

Minority Americans are known to face serious health problems and overall have shorter life spans and higher rates of infant mortality compared with white Americans. The Commonwealth Fund, concerned with the failure in this country to narrow such health gaps, sponsored a comprehensive national health survey of more than 3,700 African American, Hispanic, Asian and white adults.

I am pleased to share with you the results of the survey, which is unique in the range of different minority Americans interviewed about so many key health issues. Released at a news conference and congressional briefing in Washington, D.C., on March 20, the findings clearly show that minority Americans do not enjoy equal health opportunities. They are twice as likely to lack health insurance as white adults, and nearly one third have little or no choice in where they get their medical care. Minority adults face widespread cultural and language barriers to care, and suffer greater health risks than white adults from stress, violence and other quality of life differences.

If minority Americans already face problems obtaining care, the question must be asked, how will they be affected by changes in health care financing and practice, the competitive pressures under managed care, and future curbs in Medicaid and public health programs?

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### Findings

- 31% of minority adults, ages 18-64, do not have health insurance, compared with 14% of white adults in the same age group.
  - Among insured adults, ages 18-64, lapses in health insurance coverage were more common for minority adults (20%) than for white adults (15%) during the past two years.
  - Just 56% of working minority adults, ages 18-64, receive insurance through an employer, compared with 66% of white adults in the same age group.
  - 29% of minority adults report having "very little" or "no" choice in where to get health care compared with 16% of white adults.
  - 40% of minority adults have major problems paying for medical care, compared with 26% of white adults.
  - 21% of all minority adults have problems with language differences in receiving care, with about one quarter of those who do not speak English as a first language needing an interpreter when seeking care.
  - Getting specialty care is a major problem for 18% of minority adults, compared with 8% of white adults.
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**NATIONAL COMPARATIVE SURVEY OF  
MINORITY HEALTH CARE**

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**The Commonwealth Fund**

**March 20, 1995**

**Based on a survey conducted for The Commonwealth Fund by Louis Harris and Associates, Inc., between May 13, 1994, and July 28, 1994. The survey sample of 3,789 adults, 18 years of age and older, included 1,114 white, 1,048 African American, 1,001 Hispanic, and 632 Asian American adults (including 205 Chinese, 201 Korean, and 201 Vietnamese Americans).**

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## *Fact Sheet*

- Established** 1918 by Anna M. Harkness  
Fourth oldest foundation in the United States
- Mission** To enhance the common good by looking for new opportunities to help Americans live healthy and productive lives, and to assist specific groups with serious and neglected problems.
- Endowment** \$375 million  
One of the 100 largest U.S. foundations
- Grants** \$13 million in grants, year ended June 30, 1994
- Current Programs**
- IMPROVING HEALTH CARE SERVICES**  
Commission on Women's Health  
Health Care Reform Program  
Picker/Commonwealth Patient-Centered Care Program
  - ADVANCING THE WELL-BEING OF ELDERLY PEOPLE**  
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Restraint-Free Nursing Homes Program  
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Fellowship Program in Academic Medicine for Minority Students
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  - HARKNESS FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAM**
- Location** Harkness House, One East Seventy-Fifth Street  
New York, NY 10021-2692 Tel.: (212) 535-0400; Fax: (212) 249-1276
- Chairman** Charles A. Sanders
- President** Karen Davis

# # #

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NEWS RELEASE

## **MINORITY AMERICANS ARE SHORTCHANGED ON HEALTH CARE**

### **A national survey compares health experiences of African American, Hispanic, Asian, and White Adults**

Washington, D.C., Monday, March 20, 1995--An unusually detailed national survey finds that minority Americans are twice as likely to lack health insurance as white Americans, and almost a third report little or no choice in where they receive medical care. Conducted for The Commonwealth Fund by Louis Harris and Associates, the survey interviewed a nationally representative sample of African American, Hispanic, Asian American, and white adults, age 18 and over.

"Minority Americans do not enjoy an equal health opportunity, as national health data reveal. The survey results show how the lack of health insurance, limited choice of providers, and the cost of getting care influence their experiences with the health care system," said Karen Davis, Commonwealth Fund president. "If minority Americans already face problems in obtaining care, the question must be asked, how will they be affected by changes in health care financing and practice that are occurring today and those that are proposed for the future."

"What is worrisome is that in today's climate, a range of programs enacted to improve minority health could be disbanded without adequate thought," said James Mongan, M.D., executive director of the Kansas City Truman Medical Center. "Cuts in Medicaid could add millions to the ranks of the uninsured, and the move to managed care could make it even more difficult for the uninsured to obtain care."

-more-

The survey found that health care experiences and problems vary across minority groups and subgroups. Minority Americans interviewed included African Americans and blacks of Caribbean descent, Hispanics of Mexican, Puerto Rican, and Cuban descent, and Asian Americans of Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese descent.

"The range of different minority populations interviewed about so many key health issues makes this survey unique—and I use that word literally," said Humphrey Taylor, chairman and CEO of Louis Harris and Associates, Inc.

### **Key Points**

**Access to care is a bigger problem for minority Americans.** Thirty-one percent of minority adults, ages 18-64, do not have insurance, compared with 14 percent of white adults in this age group. Lack of insurance is a particular problem for Korean (41%) and Hispanic adults (38%). Although comparable proportions of minority adults and white adults are employed (72% v. 76%), minority adults are much less likely than white adults to receive health insurance through their employer (56% v. 66%). Among insured adults, ages 18-64, disruptions in health insurance coverage were more common for minority adults (20%) than for white adults (15%) during the past two years. A lapse in coverage was especially common among black adults of Caribbean descent (24%).

"Health insurance is an indispensable key to health care in this country: it opens doors to access, quality, and at least some choice of care. Many Americans, especially members of minority groups, are still locked out of the care they need to live full, healthy lives," said Thomas Chapman, CEO of The George Washington University Hospital. "And being employed is no guarantee of health care coverage—even less so for minority Americans—as the findings of this survey bring out."

"As a general internist with mostly working and poor Hispanic patients, many of whom are elderly, I am simply frustrated by the way the lack of insurance keeps them from getting the

health care that they need," said Susana Morales, M.D., of New York's Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center. "My patients often can't afford to buy needed medicine; they have to delay tests. Small health problems in the young people become enormous problems for older adults. And the gap between what they need and what I am able to provide gets bigger."

### Choice

**Minority adults are nearly twice as likely to have "very little choice" or "no choice" in where they obtain their health care.** Minority adults (29%) are far more likely than white adults (16%) to say they have very little or no choice about where to get health care, usually because they lack insurance, are Medicaid recipients, or are unable to pay. Minority adults (66%) are less likely than white adults (80%) to have a regular doctor or other health professional, a situation that is particularly acute among Asian American (60%) and Hispanic adults (58%).

### Barriers

**Minority adults face many barriers to receiving care.** Forty percent of minority adults have a major problem with having to pay too much for medical care, compared with 26 percent of white adults. Puerto Rican Americans and Chinese Americans are particularly affected. Having to wait too long for care is a major problem for 27 percent of minority adults, compared with 16 percent of white adults. This is pronounced among those of Chinese descent (46%). More than twice as many minority adults (18%) as white adults (8%) have major problems getting specialty care. The problem is more acute for adults of Chinese (40%) and Hispanic (22%) descent. Language differences are a problem for 21 percent of minority Americans in receiving care. Among those who do not speak English as their first language, 26 percent of Hispanic adults and 22 percent of Asian American adults need an interpreter when seeking health care services.

"Talking with your health care provider and being understood is basic to getting good care," said Grace Wang, M.D., medical director of the Chinatown Health Clinic. "Many minority Americans do not speak English as a primary language, and they are often frightened and confused about their health problems. Cultural traditions and differences can add to the

difficulties in communication. Linguistic and culturally competent health care professionals can make a real difference in the effectiveness of the treatment that patients receive."

### **Satisfaction**

**Minority Americans are less likely to be very satisfied with the quality of their health care.** Only 46 percent of minority adults are very satisfied with the quality of their health care services, compared with 60 percent of white adults. Fifteen percent of adults in all minority groups believe their medical care would have been better if they were of a different race. African American and Puerto Rican adults were particularly likely to feel that way. In addition, minority respondents were less satisfied with the skill of the medical staff, helpfulness of the office staff, convenience of the doctor's office location and hours, and sensitivity of the doctor's office about costs of care.

### **Preventive Care**

**Preventive care is less often received by minority adults.** Twenty-nine percent of minority adults do not receive preventive care services such as blood pressure tests, pap smears, or cholesterol level readings, compared with 26 percent of white adults. Some minority subgroups, such as Vietnamese (47%), Mexican (39%), and Puerto Rican (38%), were much less likely to receive these services.

### **Quality of Life Problems**

**Stress, fear of violence, and health behaviors add to the health problems of minority adults.** Thirty-six percent of minority adults and 26 percent of white adults report having "high" levels of stress, according to a range of quality of life measures. Minority respondents describe more problems in life than white adults concerning money (25% v. 17%); their spouse or partner (11% v. 6%); and mistreatment of a family member due to race or cultural background (5% v. less than .5 percent). Fear of crime or violence strongly affects more minority adults (18%) than white adults (8%). Minority adults (12%) were more likely than white adults (9%) to be physically assaulted in the past five years.

Twenty-six percent of minority adults report that they never exercise vigorously, and 17 percent say they never maintain a healthy diet; in comparison, 20 percent of white adults never exercise vigorously, and 11 percent do not have a healthy diet. However, fewer minority adults (22%) than white adults (26%) smoke cigarettes.

Karen Davis, the Fund's president, noted that "the survey data are not only a rich source of information for policymakers and researchers but will inform the Fund's own program directions in minority health at a time of rapid change in the delivery and financing of health care."

#### **METHODOLOGY**

The survey consisted of 25-minute telephone interviews by Louis Harris and Associates, Inc., between May 13, 1994, and July 28, 1994. The survey sample of 3,789 adults, 18 years of age and older, included 1,114 whites, 1,048 African Americans, 1,001 Hispanics, and 632 Asian Americans (including 205 Chinese, 201 Korean, and 201 Vietnamese). Interviews were conducted in English, Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, Korean, and Vietnamese. The sample was designed to contact nationally representative samples of adults in telephone households in the 48 contiguous United States. The data were weighted to the Current Population Survey's latest parameters on the basis of gender, race, age, educational attainment, and health insurance status, and the margin of error for the overall survey was plus or minus two percent.

#### **THE COMMONWEALTH FUND**

The Commonwealth Fund, a national philanthropy located in New York City, was established in 1918 by Anna M. Harkness with the broad charge to enhance the common good. The fourth oldest private foundation in the country, the Fund seeks ways to help American live healthy and productive lives, giving special attention to groups with serious and neglected problems. Its major areas of interest include improving health care services, bettering the health of minority Americans, advancing the well-being of elderly people, and developing the capacities of children and young people.

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## Survey Highlights

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## MINORITY HEALTH CARE SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

### Access

1. **Lack of insurance and lower incomes for minority adults create significant financial barriers to care.**
  - Overall, 31 percent of minority Americans, ages 18-64, and 14 percent of white Americans lack health insurance, with 41 percent of Korean American, 38 percent of Hispanic American, 26 percent of African American, and 23 percent of Asian American adults uninsured.
  - Although minority adults and white adults, ages 18-64, have comparable rates of employment (72% v. 76%), minority adults are less likely than white adults to receive health insurance through their own employers (56% v. 66%).
  - Having to pay too much for medical care is reported as a major problem by more minority group members than white adults (40% v. 26%). Chinese American adults (55%) are even more likely to report health care costs as a major problem.

### Choice

2. **Minority adults have less access to regular sources of care, and less choice in where they receive care.**
  - Minority adults are less likely to have a regular provider (66%), compared with 80 percent of white adults. Hispanic and Asian groups report the lowest rates of having a regular doctor or provider (58% and 60% respectively).
  - Twenty-nine percent of minority adults, compared with 16 percent of white adults report having little or no choice in where they get their health care.
  - For those with a choice of doctor, minority adults were more likely to say that the doctor's nationality, race, or ethnicity influenced their choice (12%) than white adults were (5%).
  - Overall, 25 percent of black adults see black providers; 21 percent of Hispanic American

adults see Hispanic providers, and one half of Asian American adults see Asian providers.

- Inadequate or no insurance (46%) and financial reasons (22%) were most often cited by minority adults as reasons for limited choice.

**3. Minority groups have more difficulties obtaining appropriate and needed medical care.**

- In the past year, 15 percent of minority adults did not receive needed medical care, compared with 13 percent of white adults. Puerto Rican adults comprised the largest group (24%). The cost of care and lack of insurance coverage are the two major reasons cited.
- Paying too much for medical care is a major problem for 40 percent of minority adults, compared with 26 percent of white adults. Chinese American (53%) and Puerto Rican American (48%) adults are particularly affected.
- Waiting too long to seek care is a major problem for 27 percent of minority adults, compared with 16 percent of white adults. This is a special problem for those of Chinese descent (46%).
- Getting speciality care is a major problem for 18 percent of minority adults, compared with 8 percent of white adults. The problem is more acute for adults of Chinese (40%) and Puerto Rican (24%) descent.
- Only three-quarters of minority adults speak English as their primary language. Language differences present a problem for 21 percent of minority Americans in receiving health care. Of those who do not speak English as a first language, 26 percent of Hispanic adults and 22 percent of Asian American adults need an interpreter when seeking health care services.
- Getting a medical appointment was a major difficulty for 16 percent of minority adults, compared with 8 percent of white respondents. Adults of Chinese (34%), Cuban (30%) and Puerto Rican (25%) origins were especially likely to have such problems.
- One in twenty adults in minority groups (5%) was refused medical care, compared with 2 percent of white adults in the past year.

### Quality of Care

4. **Although minority and white adults have similar rates of utilizing care, some minority groups were more likely to receive care in a hospital emergency room, and less likely to receive important preventive services.**
  - On average, white and black adults visit a doctor or medical facility five times per year, whereas Hispanic adults average four visits per year, and Asian adults average three visits per year. Among those who had been to a doctor in the past year, Puerto Rican adults (37%) were more likely than white or other minority adults to have been to the emergency room.
  - Despite similar utilization rates and poorer overall health status, minority adults who visited a doctor in the last 12 months were less likely to have been hospitalized (13%), compared with white adults (17%).
  - Of Americans who have visited a doctor in the past year, minority adults (29%) were less likely to receive preventive care services, such as blood pressure tests, Pap smears or cholesterol readings, compared with white adults (26%), particularly Vietnamese (47%), Mexican (39%), and Puerto Rican (38%) adults.
5. **Minority groups report more negative experiences with the health care system.**
  - Fifteen percent of minority adults believe they would have received better care in the previous year if they were of a different race. African American (20%) and Puerto Rican (19%) adults were most likely to feel this way.
  - Almost one in ten Americans felt they were made to feel uncomfortable or treated badly when receiving health care in the prior year. For Cuban and Puerto Rican American adults, the rates were higher (19% and 14% respectively). Among minority adults who reported being treated badly, 31 percent felt such treatment was due to their race, and 48 percent felt it was due to their income levels. White Americans were most likely to attribute this to "some other reason" (30%), or to their income level (26%).
  - Adults in minority groups are also slightly less likely to feel very welcome at their

doctors' offices than white adults (69% v. 75%). This was particularly true of Puerto Rican American (41%) and Chinese American (37%) adults. Crowded offices, long waits, and unfriendly staff are some of the factors that contribute to this feeling.

### Satisfaction

#### **6. Minority groups are less satisfied with their health care services and insurance plans.**

- Less than half (46%) of minority groups report being very satisfied with their overall health services, compared with 60 percent of white adults. Chinese (24%) and Korean (17%) adults are least likely to call their services very satisfactory.
- Overall, minority adults assign fewer "excellent" ratings to their doctors than white adults on providing good health care overall (53% v. 58%), treating them with dignity and respect (64% v. 71%), ensuring that they understand what they have been told (58% v. 66%), listening to their health concerns and taking them seriously (56% v. 63%), and being accessible (43% v. 51%).
- Overall, among insured adults, minority adults are about equally satisfied with their health plan or health insurance as are white adults (85% v. 83%). However, almost one in five Chinese (19%) Korean (19%), and Puerto Rican (18%) adults are very or somewhat dissatisfied with their health plans.

#### **7. Doctors are less trusted by minority adults, who also are more likely to use alternative medicine.**

- Minority adults are less likely than white adults to follow their doctors' orders all or most of the time (84% v. 91%).
- Only 56 percent of white adults trust doctors very much to help with medical problems, compared with 52 percent of minority adults.
- Alternative types of medicine were used twice as often by minority than white Americans (25% v. 14%). About one third of adults of Chinese or Korean descent used herbal medicine in the preceding year, compared with 12 percent of white adults. And one in

five Koreans (22%) used acupuncture compared to one percent of all adults. However, white Americans were twice as likely to have gone to a chiropractor in the past year than minority adults (13% v. 7%).

### Quality of Life Problems

#### **8. Minority populations experience more stress than white adults do.**

- Minority adults report higher levels of stress than whites do. Based on indexes constructed by a variety of stress variables, 36 percent of minority adults and 26 percent of whites report "high" levels of stress.<sup>1</sup> Chinese American and Puerto Rican adults (40%) most often report high stress.
- Problems that were felt more strongly by minority adults than by white adults concerned problems with money (25% v. 17%); problems with spouse or partner (11% v. 6%); and their family being treated badly because of their race or cultural background (5% v. less than one-half of 1%).

#### **9. Violence has a bigger impact on life in minority communities.**

- Fear of crime or violence strongly affects minority adults (18%) more often than white adults (8%).
- Knowing someone who was a victim of violence is more common for most minority adults (18% of African Americans; 17% of Puerto Rican Americans, and 16% of Chinese Americans v. 6% each of whites and Koreans).
- Physical assaults in the past five years were reported by 12 percent of minority adults and 9 percent of white adults.

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<sup>1</sup>The stress index is a weighted average of responses to the question asked about how much respondents were affected by each of eleven possible sources of stress in the last year—each response of "affected strongly" were given a value of two; "affected somewhat" was assigned a value of one; all other responses were scored as zero. To fall into the "high stress" category, a respondent had to receive more than six points. Stress variables included illness or death in the family, money or work problems, fear of crime or violence in the community, loss of job or spouse's job, problems with children, knowing someone who was a victim of violence, trouble balancing work and family demands, problems with aging parents, problem with spouse, and family mistreatment because of race or cultural background.

- Of those who are currently married or living as a couple with someone, domestic abuse was reported in the last 12 months as partner "threw something" (white adults 4% v. minority adults 6%); and "partner pushed, slapped, or hit" (white adults 3% v. minority adults 5%).
- Sexual assaults were reported by similar percentages of white (6%) and minority (5%) adults and were less common among Asian American adults (1%).
- Medical attention was sought by one fifth of all adults who suffered domestic or other assaults (22%). More minority adults than white adults felt they were treated with respect (88% v. 65%), and that the doctor made them feel comfortable (79% v. 64%).

### Health Habits

#### **10. Minority adults exercise and maintain a healthy diet less often than white adults.**

- Minority adults (26%) are more likely than white adults (20%) to report that they never exercise vigorously, or maintain a healthy diet (17% v. 11%).
- However, cigarette-smoking is reported by more white adults (26%) than minority adults (22%). Of minority adults, men are more likely to smoke than women.
 

-white adults:	M (29%); F (24%)
-African American adults::	M (26%); F (16%)
-Hispanic adults	M (27%); F (15%)
-Asian American adults	M (26%); F (7%)

### Health Profile

- Minority adults are much less likely than white adults to describe their health as excellent (30% v. 41%) and more likely to describe it as fair or poor (24% v. 18%).

### Demographics

- #### **11. Minority Americans are somewhat younger than the white population and tend to live in larger households with children. Minority group members are less likely than white adults to have finished high school, and more likely to have lower incomes.**
- Almost a third (31%) of minority adults compared with 21 percent of white adults are

between the ages of 18 and 29.

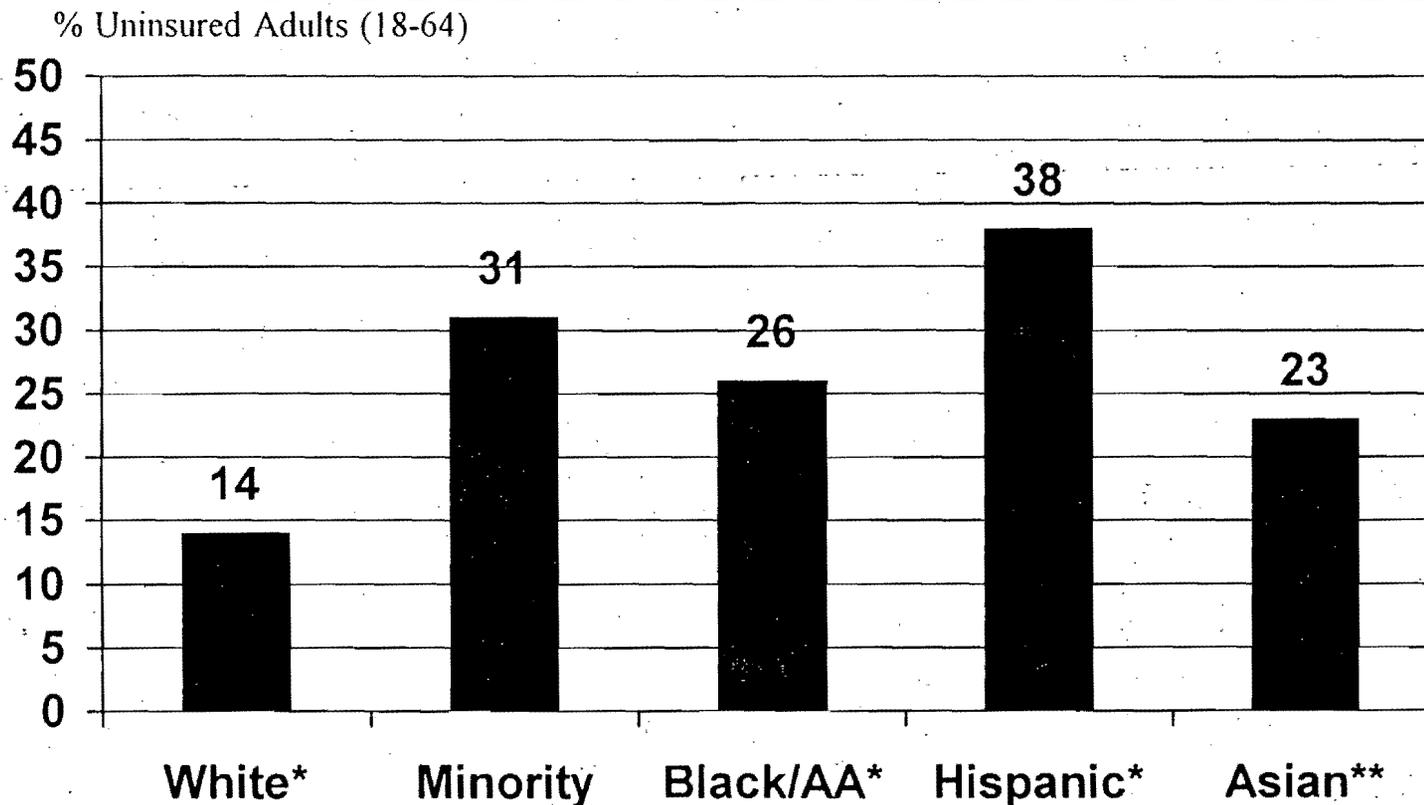
- 61 percent of adults in minority groups, compared with 46 percent of white adults live in households with three or more people.
- More than half of adults in minority groups (53%), compared with 37 percent of white adults have children under the age of 18 in the household.
- Minority group members (24%) are twice as likely as white adults (12%) to have not finished high school.
- Three in ten minority adults (29%), compared with one in five white adults (21%) live in households with incomes of \$15,000 or less. Twenty-one percent of white adults and 15 percent of minority adults have household incomes of at least \$50,000.
- Twelve percent of minority adults are Medicaid beneficiaries, compared with 8 percent of white adults.
- Public assistance of some kind is received by 12 percent of adults in all minority groups, compared with 6 percent of white adults.
- Slightly fewer adults, ages 18-64, in minority groups are employed full-time (51%), compared with white adults (54%), or part-time for an employer (11% v. 9%). Minority Americans are slightly less likely than white adults to be self-employed (10% v. 13%), and they are less likely to be retired (3% v. 5%)
- Nine percent of Hispanic Americans, 8 percent of African Americans, and 5 percent of Asian Americans are unemployed, compared with 4 percent of white adults.

## Key Tables

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# Uninsured Americans

## Minority Adults Are More Likely to be Uninsured



Source: The Commonwealth Fund Minority Health Survey, Louis Harris and Associates, Inc., 1994.

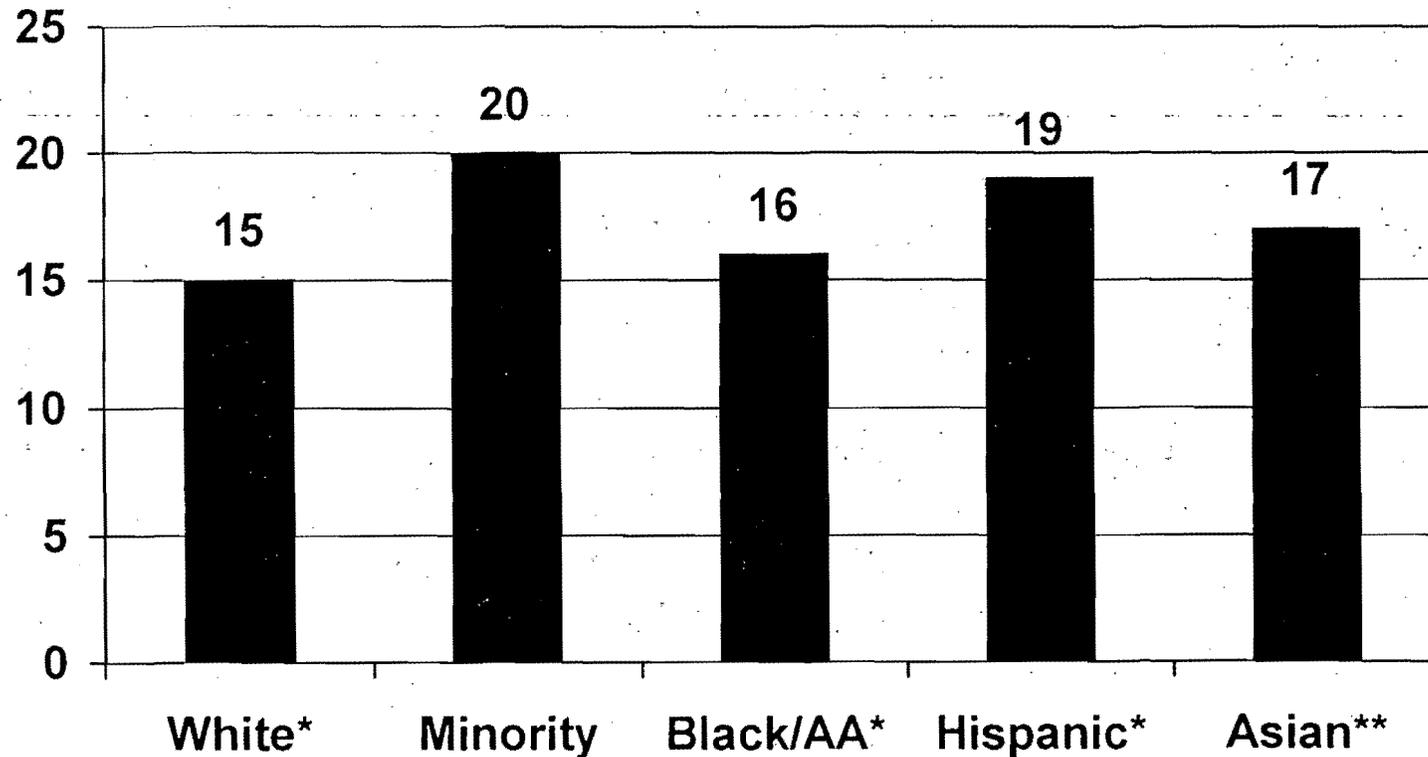
\*Note: "White" represents non-Hispanic White adults in the United States; "Black/AA" represents Black, African-American and Caribbean adults; and "Hispanic" represents Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, and other Latino adults. "Minority" represents all respondents who are not white, weighted to their true proportion of the population.

\*\*Note: The "Asian" category only represents Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean adults in the United States, and therefore is not representative of all Asian Americans.

# Minority Adults Are More Likely to Experience a Lapse in Insurance Coverage

Base: Insured Adults, Ages 18-64

% of Insured Adults, Ages 18-64, Who Have Experienced a Lapse of Insurance, Within Two Years

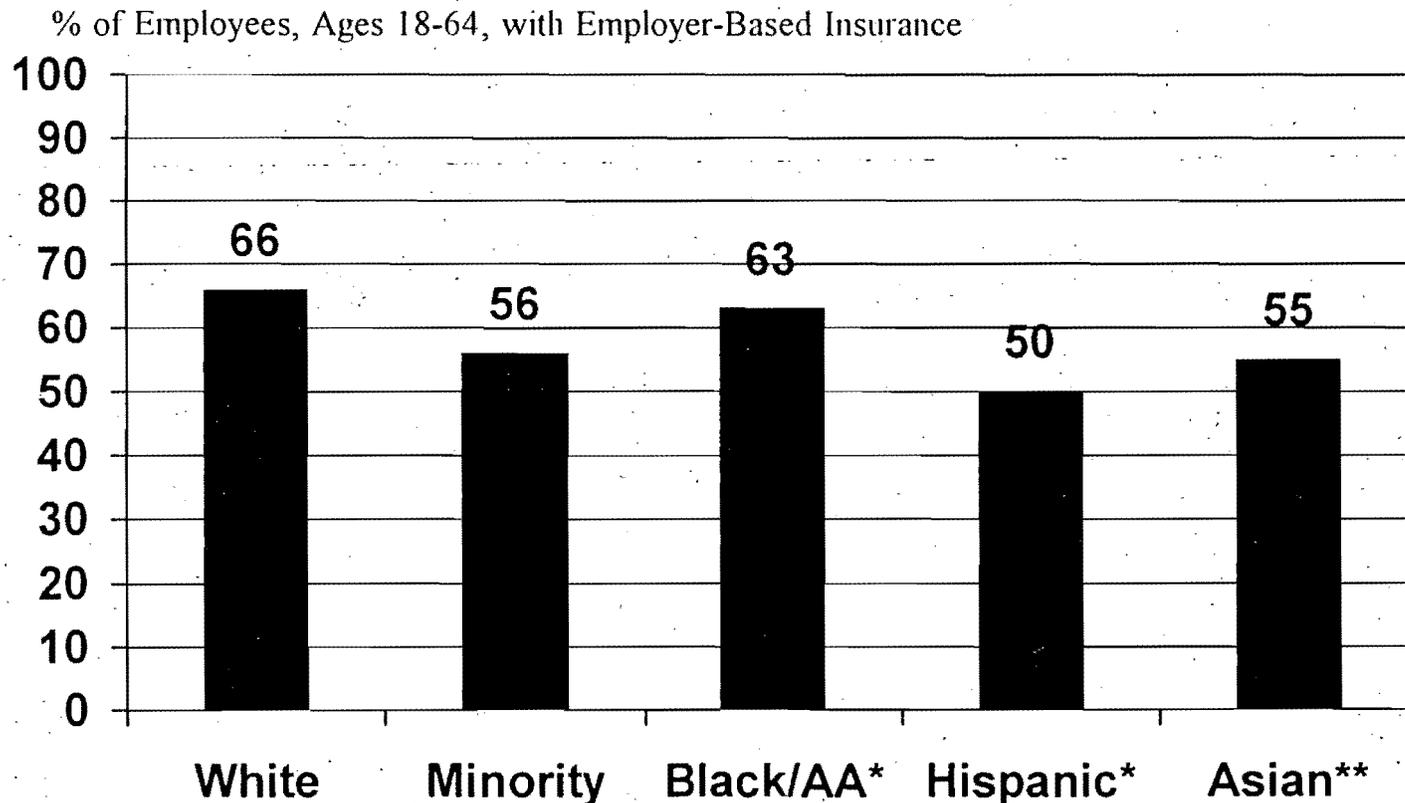


Source: The Commonwealth Fund Minority Health Survey, Louis Harris and Associates, Inc., 1994.

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# Minority Employees Are Less Likely to Have Employer-Based Insurance



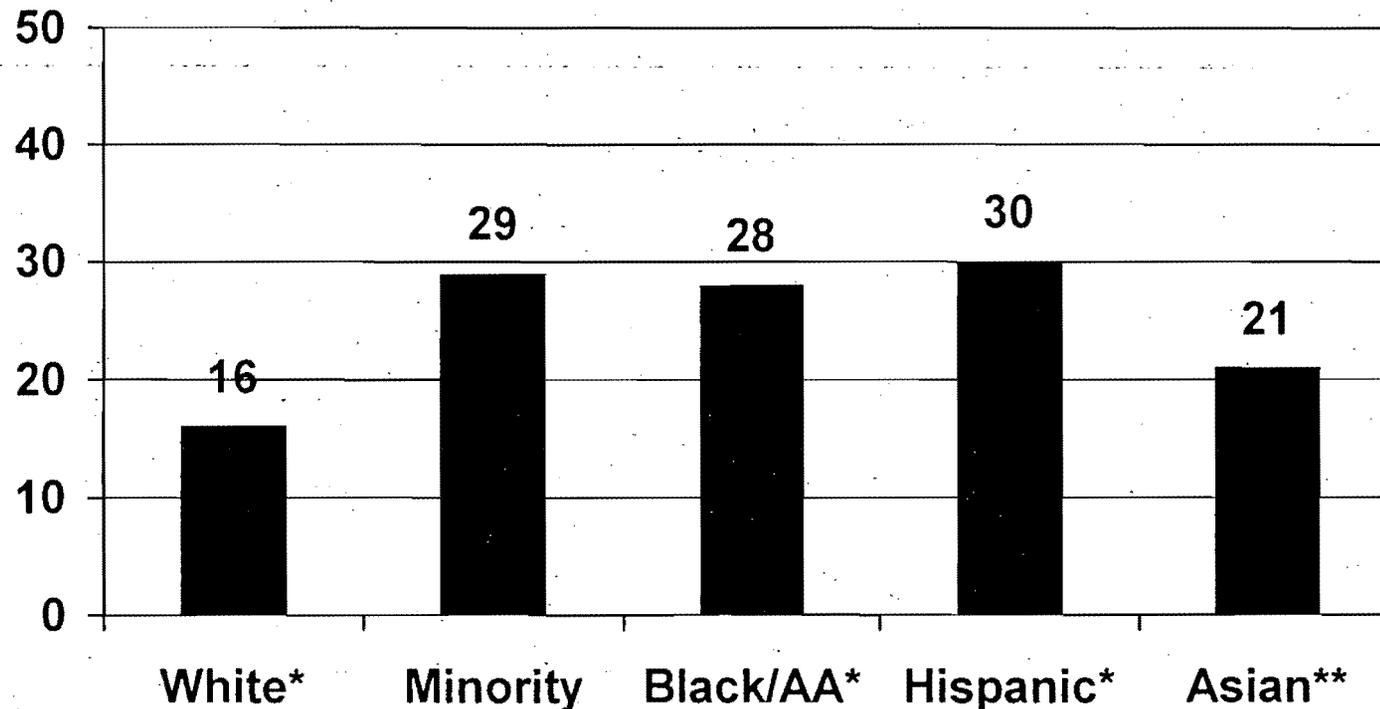
Source: The Commonwealth Fund Minority Health Survey, Louis Harris and Associates, Inc., 1994.

\*Note: "White" represents non-Hispanic White adults in the United States; "Black/AA" represents Black, African-American and Caribbean adults; and "Hispanic" represents Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, and other Latino adults. "Minority" represents all respondents who are not white, weighted to their true proportion of the population.

\*\*Note: The "Asian" category only represents Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean adults in the United States, and therefore is not representative of all Asian Americans.

# Minority Adults Report Less Choice in Where They Receive Medical Care

% Reporting "Very Little" or "No Choice"

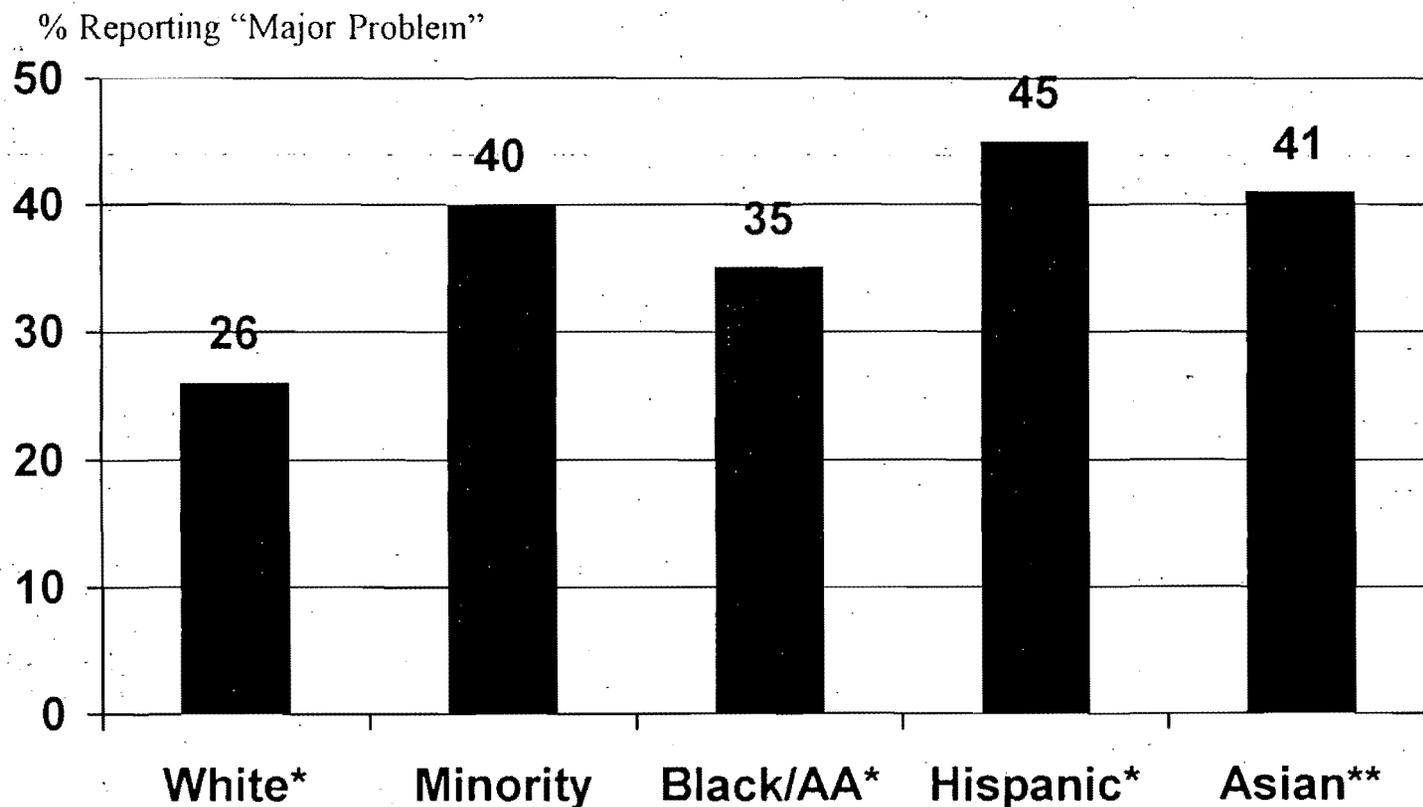


Source: The Commonwealth Fund Minority Health Survey, Louis Harris and Associates, Inc., 1994.

\*Note: "White" represents non-Hispanic White adults in the United States; "Black/AA" represents Black, African-American and Caribbean adults; and "Hispanic" represents Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, and other Latino adults. "Minority" represents all respondents who are not white, weighted to their true proportion of the population.

\*\*Note: The "Asian" category only represents Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean adults in the United States, and therefore is not representative of all Asian Americans.

# Having to Pay Too Much for Medical Care is a Major Problem for Many Minority Adults

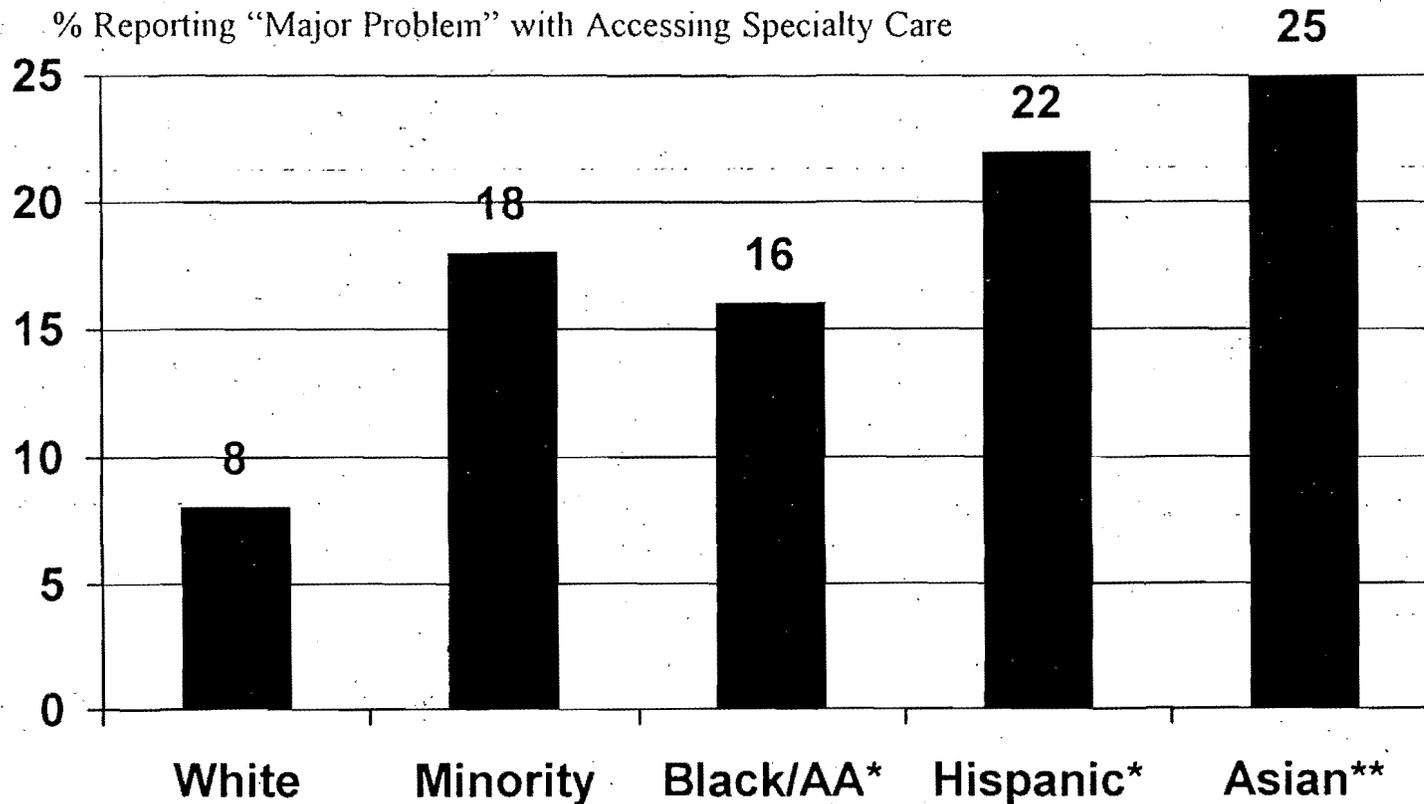


Source: The Commonwealth Fund Minority Health Survey, Louis Harris and Associates, Inc., 1994.

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\*\*Note: The "Asian" category only represents Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean adults in the United States, and therefore is not representative of all Asian Americans.

# Accessing Specialty Care is a Major Problem for Many Minority Adults



Source: The Commonwealth Fund Minority Health Survey, Louis Harris and Associates, Inc., 1994.

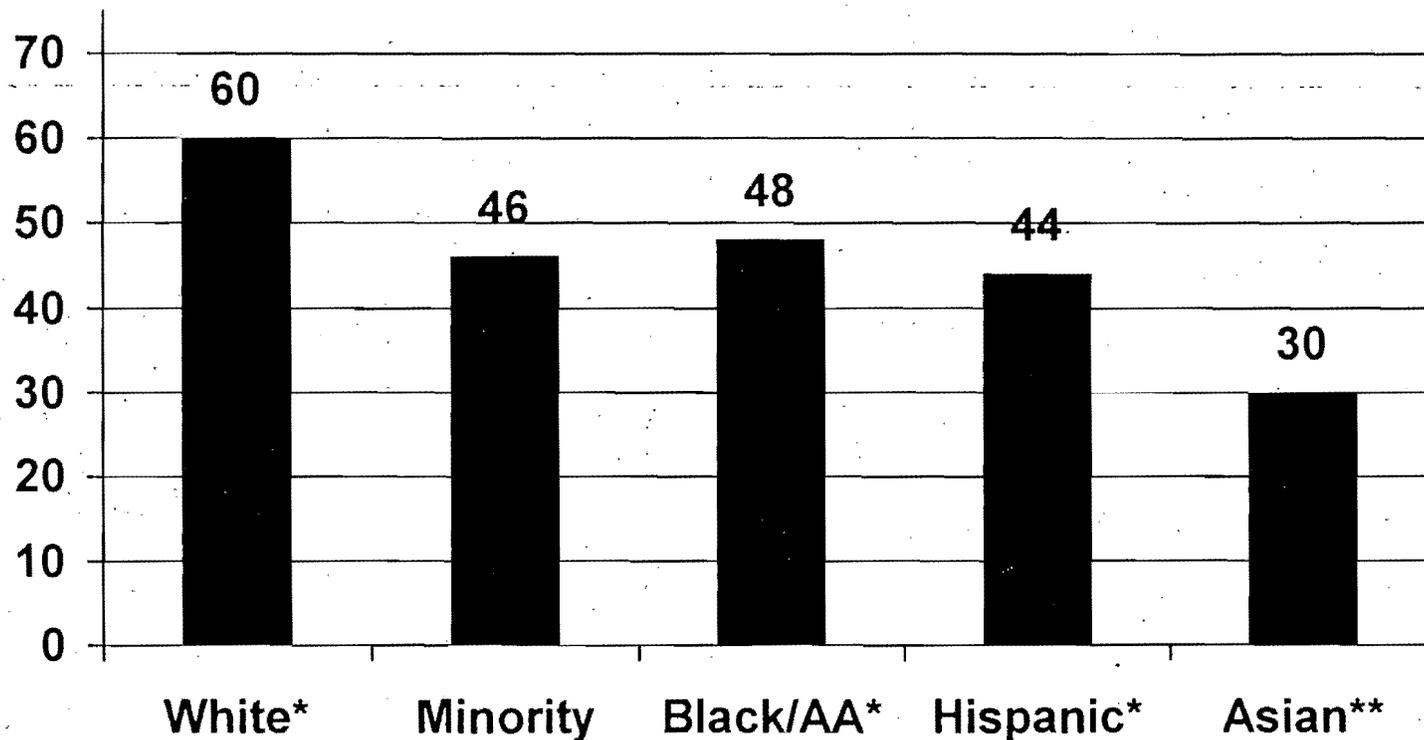
\*Note: "White" represents non-Hispanic White adults in the United States; "Black/AA" represents Black, African-American and Caribbean adults; and "Hispanic" represents Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, and other Latino adults. "Minority" represents all respondents who are not white, weighted to their true proportion of the population.

\*\*Note: The "Asian" category only represents Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean adults in the United States, and therefore is not representative of all Asian Americans.

# Satisfied With Health Care

## Minority Adults are Less Likely to be Satisfied with The Quality of Their Health Care Services

% "Very Satisfied" With the Quality of Their Care

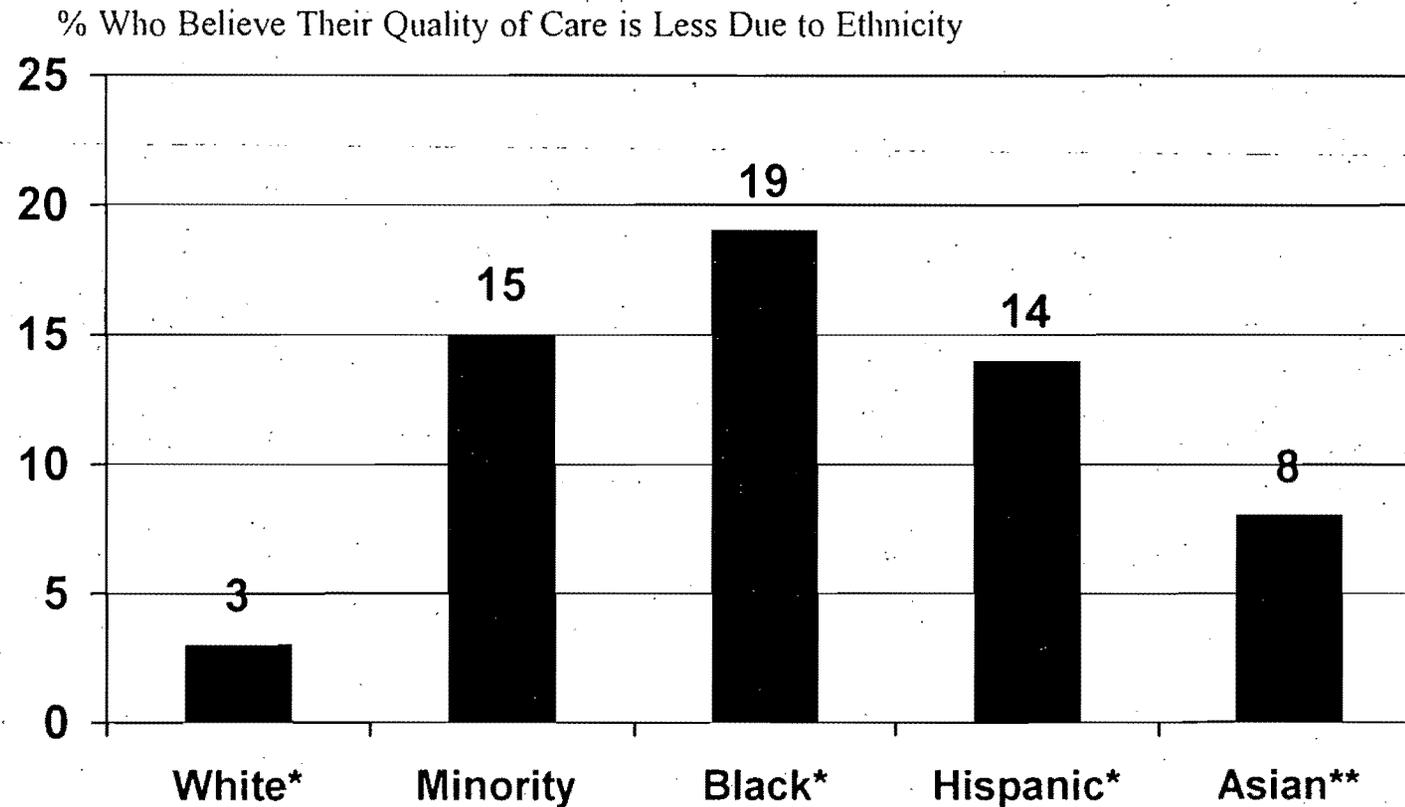


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\*\*Note: The "Asian" category only represents Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean adults in the United States, and therefore is not representative of all Asian Americans.

# Many Minority Adults Believe They Would Receive Better Care if They Were of a Different Race or Ethnicity



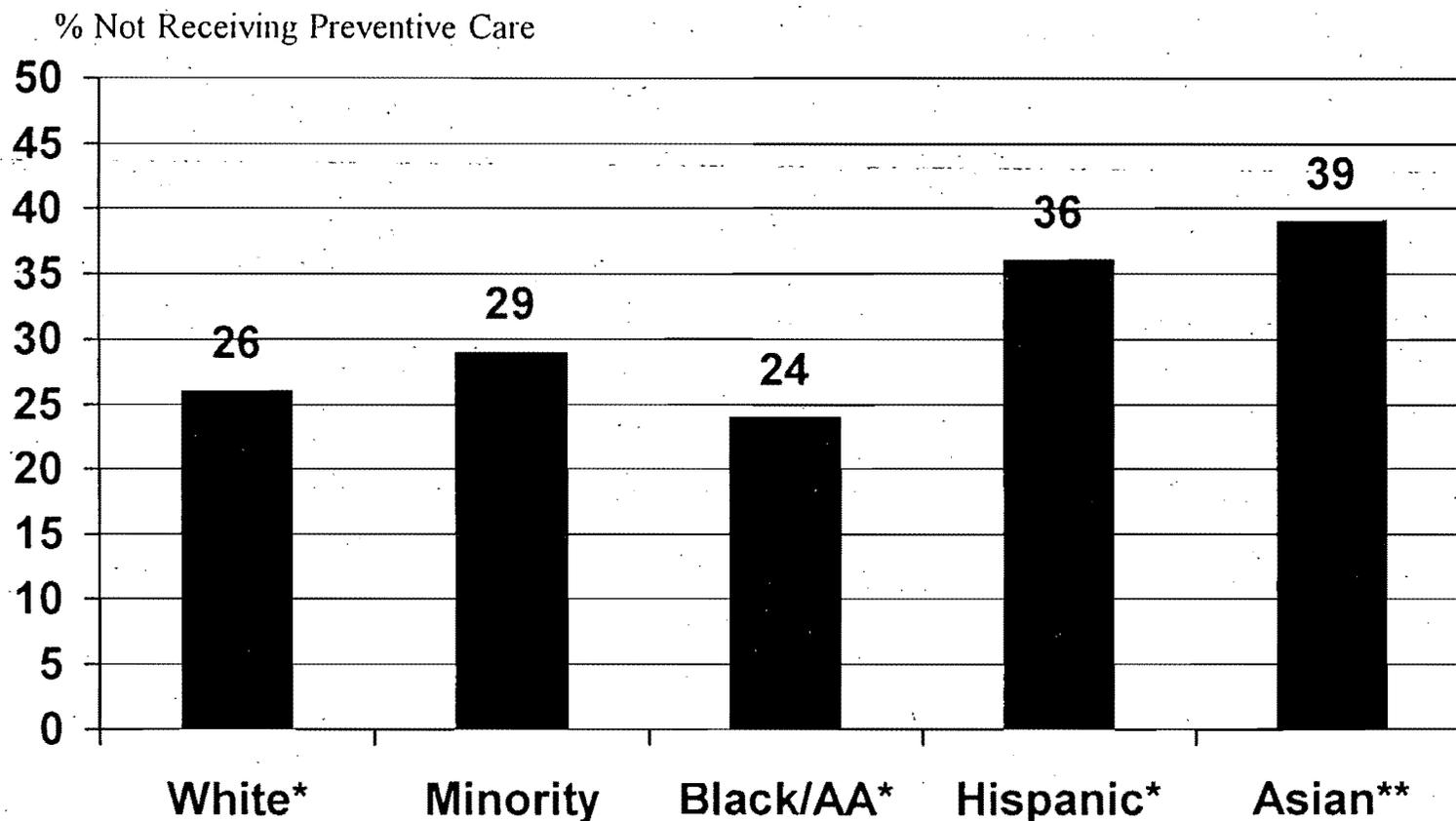
Source: The Commonwealth Fund Minority Health Survey, Louis Harris and Associates, Inc., 1994.

\*Note: "White" represents non-Hispanic White adults in the United States; "Black/AA" represents Black, African-American and Caribbean adults; and "Hispanic" represents Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, and other Latino adults. "Minority" represents all respondents who are not white, weighted to their true proportion of the population.

\*\*Note: The "Asian" category only represents Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean adults in the United States, and therefore is not representative of all Asian Americans.

# Many Minority Adults Do Not Receive Important Preventive Services

Base: Persons Visiting a Doctor in Last 12 Months

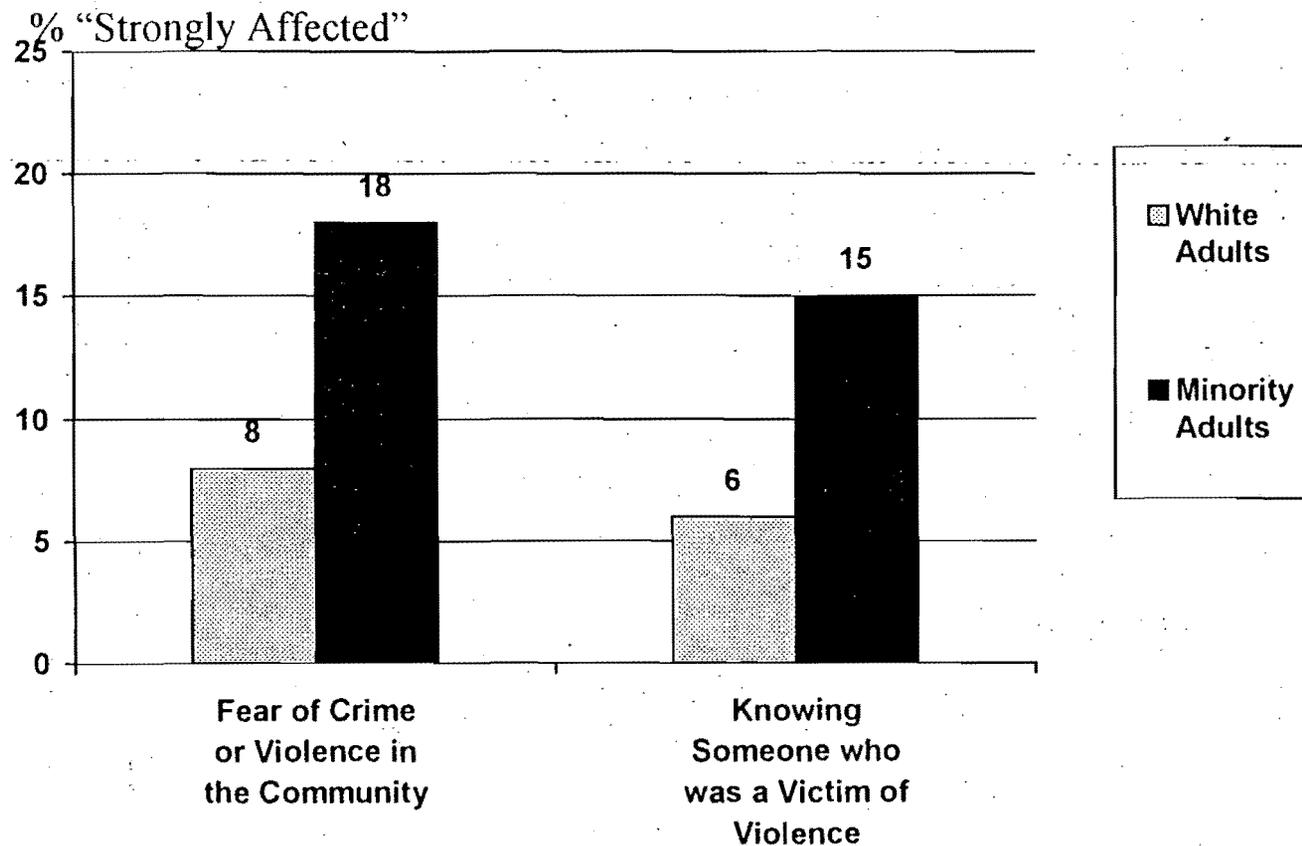


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# Violence Has a Bigger Impact on Life in Minority Communities

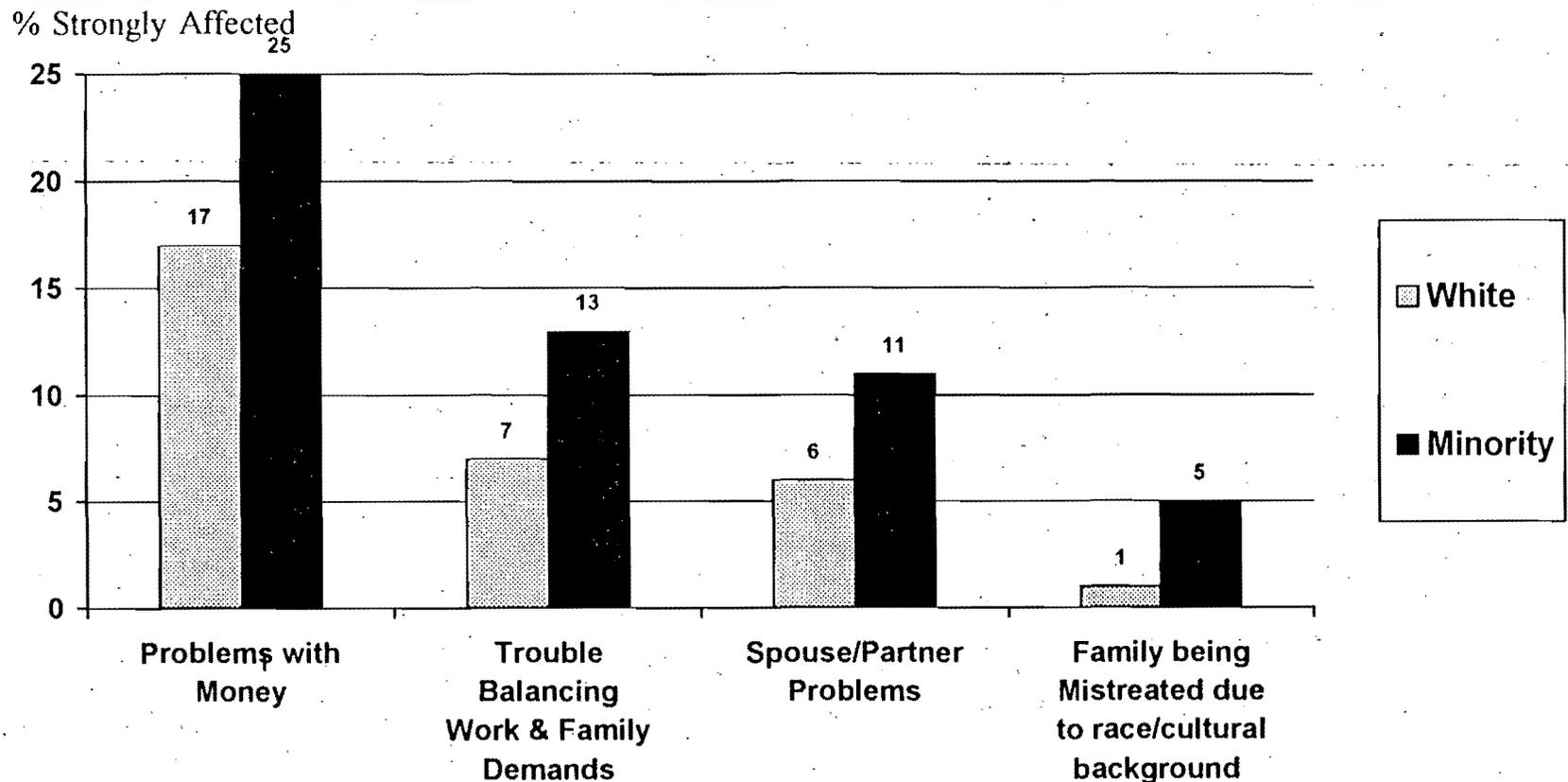


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\*\*Note: The "Asian" category only represents Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean adults in the United States, and therefore is not representative of all Asian Americans.

# Problems Which Strongly Affect Americans



Source: The Commonwealth Fund Minority Health Survey, Louis Harris and Associates, Inc., 1994.

\*Note: "White" represents non-Hispanic White adults in the United States; "Black/AA" represents Black, African-American and Caribbean adults; and "Hispanic" represents Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, and other Latino adults. "Minority" represents all respondents who are not white, weighted to their true proportion of the population.

\*\*Note: The "Asian" category only represents Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean adults in the United States, and therefore is not representative of all Asian Americans.

## Survey Questionnaire

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LOUIS HARRIS AND ASSOCIATES, INC.  
630 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York 10111

/ FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:  
/  
/  
/  
/  
/

Questionnaire No.: \_\_\_\_\_

(1-5)

Study No. 932028 (MINORITY HEALTH)  
(8-13)

May 24, 1994  
(FINAL)

Sample Point No. / / / / / / / / / /  
5\*24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31

Time Started: \_\_\_\_\_ A.M./P.M.

Interviewer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Area Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

-----  
Hello, I'm \_\_\_\_\_ from Louis Harris and Associates, the national survey research firm in New York. We are conducting a survey about important health issues and we want to speak with the youngest (male/female/person) 18 years of age or older in this household who is at home now. (IF NECESSARY: We would like to ask you about your experiences when seeking health care.)

CONTINUE.. (14(\_\_\_\_)-1

-----  
Sex (FROM OBSERVATION):

Male.....(15( 48)-1  
Female..... 52-2

**SECTIONS:**

- A. USUAL SOURCE OF CARE
- B. COMMUNICATION/RELATIONSHIP WITH DOCTOR
- C. UTILIZATION OF CARE
- D. ACCESS TO CARE
- E. CULTURAL/ENVIRONMENTAL LIMITATIONS TO ACCESS TO CARE
- G. DISCRIMINATION IN THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM
- H. HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE
- I. HEALTH STATUS AND DISABILITY AND IMPORTANCE OF HEALTH PRACTICES
- J. MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
- K. VIOLENCE
- F. FACTUALS

**A. USUAL SOURCE OF CARE**

A1. Where do you usually go when you are sick or need health care -- to a doctor's office, a hospital emergency room, a hospital outpatient department, a community health center, a public clinic, or some other place? SINGLE RECORD

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
71	Doctor's office..... (16( <u>59</u> -1
3	HMO or physician group practice..... <u>3</u> -2
8	Hospital emergency room..... <u>13</u> -3
4	Hospital outpatient department..... <u>7</u> -4
2	Community health center..... <u>3</u> -5
5	Public Clinic..... <u>9</u> -6
3	Not sure..... <u>2</u> -7
	Other (SPECIFY):
3	..... <u>3</u> -8 (17-19)
1	Military Hospital 1

A2a. How much choice do you have in where you go for medical care? Would you say that you have a great deal, some, very little, or no choice?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
59	A great deal..... (20( <u>46</u> -1 ) (SKIP TP Q.A3)
23	Some..... <u>23</u> -2
10	Very little..... <u>21</u> -3 (ASK Q.A2b)
6	No choice..... <u>8</u> -4
3	Not sure..... <u>2</u> -5 ) (SKIP TP Q.A3)

ASK Q.A2b IF "Some," Very little" OR "None" TO Q.A2a -- ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q.A3

A2b. Why is your choice about where to go for medical care limited? DO NOT READ LIST --

MULTIPLE RECORD

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
15	Financial reasons (Can't pay/income level/welfare status)... (21( <u>22</u> -1
47	Insurance reasons (Uninsured/Medicaid recipient)..... <u>46</u> -2
-	Language differences..... <u>1</u> -3
17	Few or no physicians in area..... <u>13</u> -4
*	Racial/ethnic discrimination..... <u>*</u> -5
8	Transportation reasons..... <u>5</u> -6
8	Not sure..... <u>11</u> -7
	Other reasons (SPECIFY):
5	..... <u>5</u> -8 (22-24)

ASK EVERYONE

A3. Do you have a regular doctor or other health professional, such as a nurse or a midwife, you usually go to when you are sick or need health care, or not?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
80	Yes, have a regular doctor (health professional)... (25( <u>66</u> -1 ) (SKIP TO Q.A5)
20	No, don't have regular doctor (health professional).... <u>34</u> -2
*	Not sure..... <u>*</u> -3 (ASK Q.A4)

A4. Why don't you have a regular doctor (health professional)? SINGLE RECORD

	<u>White</u>		<u>Minority</u>	
10		Recent move.....	(26( <u>4</u> -1	
44		No need.....	<u>35</u> -2	
3		Do not like to have one doctor.....	<u>3</u> -3	
7		No insurance.....	<u>13</u> -4	(SKIP TO Q.B6)
6		Can't afford.....	<u>15</u> -5	
8		No choice (doctors rotate).....	<u>15</u> -6	
11		Not sure.....	<u>9</u> -7	
12		Other (SPECIFY):	<u>6</u> -8	(27-29)

A5. Did you choose your regular doctor (health professional), or not?

	<u>White</u>		<u>Minority</u>	
92		Yes.....	(30( <u>83</u> -1 )	(ASK Q.A5a)
7		No.....	<u>16</u> -2	
1		Not sure.....	<u>*</u> -3	(SKIP TO Q.A6)

A5a. Many things may influence your choice of a doctor (health professional). Did (READ EACH ITEM) influence you to first see your regular doctor (health professional), or not?

Not

Applicable Not  
(Vol.) Sure

ROTATE -- START AT "X"

		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Not</u>	<u>Sure</u>
( ) a.	A recommendation by a family member or friend.....	(31( <u>52</u> -1	<u>47</u> -2	<u>*</u> -3	<u>*</u> -4
<u>White</u>		51	47	1	1
( ) b.	A recommendation by a nurse or another physician.....	(32( <u>26</u> -1	<u>73</u> -2	<u>*</u> -3	<u>1</u> -4
<u>White</u>		21	77	*	1
( ) c.	A suggestion by a physician-locator service or advertisement.....	(33( <u>13</u> -1	<u>86</u> -2	<u>*</u> -3	<u>1</u> -4
<u>White</u>		6	93	*	*
( ) d.	Your health plan's inclusion of your doctor on its approved list.....	(34( <u>39</u> -1	<u>58</u> -2	<u>2</u> -3	<u>1</u> -4
<u>White</u>		30	64	5	1
( ) e.	A referral by an emergency room.....	(35( <u>13</u> -1	<u>85</u> -2	<u>2</u> -3	<u>1</u> -4
<u>White</u>		5	94	1	*
( ) f.	Your doctor's good reputation in the community.....	(36( <u>58</u> -1	<u>40</u> -2	<u>1</u> -3	<u>1</u> -4
<u>White</u>		61	37	1	1
( ) g.	Your doctor's medical credentials, that is, your doctor's training, experience, and board certification.....	(37( <u>58</u> -1	<u>40</u> -2	<u>*</u> -3	<u>1</u> -4
<u>White</u>		45	52	1	1
( ) h.	The hospital affiliation of your doctor.....	(38( <u>37</u> -1	<u>62</u> -2	<u>1</u> -3	<u>1</u> -4
<u>White</u>		29	69	1	1
( ) i.	Your doctor's gender.....	(39( <u>23</u> -1	<u>74</u> -2	<u>1</u> -3	<u>2</u> -4
<u>White</u>		14	84	1	2
( ) j.	Your doctor's nationality/race/ethnicity....	(40( <u>12</u> -1	<u>87</u> -2	<u>*</u> -3	<u>1</u> -4
<u>White</u>		5	94	1	*
( ) k.	Your doctor's ability to speak your language.....	(41( <u>35</u> -1	<u>64</u> -2	<u>*</u> -3	<u>*</u> -4
<u>White</u>		37	60	2	1
( ) l.	The convenient location of your doctor's office or clinic.....	(42( <u>60</u> -1	<u>40</u> -2	<u>*</u> -3	<u>*</u> -4
<u>White</u>		63	35	1	*
( ) m.	The ability to get an appointment to see your doctor in a reasonable amount of time.....	(43( <u>65</u> -1	<u>34</u> -2	<u>1</u> -3	<u>1</u> -4
<u>White</u>		64	34	2	*

A6. Is this doctor (health professional) male or female?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
85	Male.....(44( <u>83</u> -1
14	Female..... <u>16</u> -2
1	Not sure..... <u>1</u> -3

A7. What is the race or ethnicity of your doctor (health professional)? (READ LIST IF NECESSARY)

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
86	White.....(45( <u>56</u> -1
1	Black or African-American..... <u>12</u> -2
2	Hispanic..... <u>8</u> -3
7	Asian..... <u>13</u> -4
*	Pacific Islander..... <u>1</u> -5
*	Native American..... <u>2</u> -6
3	Not sure..... <u>6</u> -7
	Other (SPECIFY):
*	..... <u>1</u> -8 (46-48)

**B. COMMUNICATION/RELATIONSHIP WITH DOCTOR**

B1. How would you rate your regular doctor [health professional] on the job he or she is doing in (READ EACH ITEM)? Would you say he or she is doing an excellent, good, fair or poor job on this?

		Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Not Sure
<u>ASK FIRST</u>						
	1. Providing you with good health care overall.....	(49( <u>53</u> -1	<u>38</u> -2	<u>8</u> -3	<u>1</u> -4	<u>1</u> -5
<u>White</u>		58	35	5	1	1
<u>ROTATE -- START AT "X"</u>						
( )	2. Treating you with dignity and respect.....	(50( <u>64</u> -1	<u>32</u> -2	<u>4</u> -3	<u>*</u> -4	<u>*</u> -5
<u>White</u>		70	26	2	1	1
( )	3. Making sure you understand what you've been told about your medical problems or medication .....	(51( <u>58</u> -1	<u>33</u> -2	<u>7</u> -3	<u>1</u> -4	<u>1</u> -5
<u>White</u>		66	27	5	1	1
( )	4. Listening to your health concerns and taking them seriously.....	(52( <u>56</u> -1	<u>35</u> -2	<u>7</u> -3	<u>1</u> -4	<u>1</u> -5
<u>White</u>		63	30	5	1	1
( )	5. Being accessible either by phone or in person .....	(53( <u>43</u> -1	<u>42</u> -2	<u>11</u> -3	<u>3</u> -4	<u>1</u> -5
<u>White</u>		51	34	10	4	1

B2. Have you had problems or needs which you would have liked to discuss with your doctor (health professional) but didn't because you were uncomfortable about it, or not?

	White	Minority
7	Yes.....	(54( <u>9</u> -1 ) (ASK Q.B3)92
92	No.....	<u>90</u> -2
1	Not sure.....	<u>1</u> -3 (SKIP TO Q.B4)

B3. What problem(s) were you uncomfortable discussing? DO NOT READ LIST -- MULTIPLE RECORD

	White	Minority
1	AIDS.....	(55( <u>1</u> -1
-	Alcohol abuse.....	<u>-</u> -2
-	Drug abuse.....	<u>-</u> -3
5	Emotional or psychological problems.....	<u>3</u> -4
-	Emotional/physical/sexual abuse from partner/spouse.....	<u>1</u> -5
13	Menstrual problems.....	<u>10</u> -6
-	Problems with parenting/child abuse.....	<u>-</u> -7
-	Rape.....	<u>-</u> -8
6	Sexual problems.....	<u>9</u> -9
3	Urinary incontinence.....	(56( <u>3</u> -0
20	Too private to discuss.....	<u>20</u> -1
26	Not sure.....	<u>24</u> -2
	Something else (SPECIFY):	
28		<u>31</u> -3 (57-59)

B4. Overall, how satisfied are you with your regular doctor (health professional)? Would you say you are very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
79	Very satisfied.....(60( <u>73</u> -1
17	Somewhat satisfied..... <u>24</u> -2 (SKIP TO Q.B5)
2	Somewhat dissatisfied.. <u>2</u> -3
1	Very dissatisfied..... <u>1</u> -4 (ASK Q.B4a)
1	Not sure..... <u>1</u> -5 ) (SKIP TO Q.B5)

B4a. Why are you dissatisfied with your regular doctor? DO NOT READ LIST -- MULTIPLE RECORD

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
-	Poor location.....(61( <u>-</u> -1
2	Costs too much..... <u>3</u> -2
5	Couldn't diagnose problem..... <u>9</u> -3
8	Didn't explain enough to me..... <u>18</u> -4
-	Didn't like him/her..... <u>10</u> -5
14	Didn't listen to me..... <u>16</u> -6
25	Didn't spend enough time with me..... <u>21</u> -7
10	Didn't trust his/her judgment..... <u>8</u> -8
-	Didn't trust his/her skills/experience..... <u>18</u> -9
-	Gender/wanted a (woman/man).....(62( <u>-</u> -0
-	Had to travel too far..... <u>-</u> -1
23	Lack of communication..... <u>11</u> -2
16	Poor quality..... <u>9</u> -3
-	Race/ethnicity of physician..... <u>1</u> -4
13	Too hard to get an appointment..... <u>6</u> -5
16	Waited too long..... <u>2</u> -6
5	Not sure..... <u>-</u> -
	Some other reason (SPECIFY):
15	..... <u>11</u> -8 (63-65)

B5. All things considered, would you recommend your doctor to a friend -- very strongly, somewhat strongly, or not at all?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
67	Very strongly.....(66( <u>65</u> -1
27	Somewhat strongly..... <u>28</u> -2
4	Not at all..... <u>5</u> -3
2	Not sure..... <u>2</u> -4

ASK EVERYONE

B6. Have you ever changed doctors (health professionals) because you were dissatisfied with that doctor (health professional), or not?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
37	Yes.....(67( <u>29</u> -1 ) (ASK Q.B6a)
62	No..... <u>70</u> -2
*	Not sure..... <u>1</u> -3 (SKIP TO Q.C1)

B6a. The last time you changed doctors (health professionals) because you were dissatisfied, what was the reason? DO NOT READ LIST -- MULTIPLE RECORD

White

Minority

1	Better location.....	(68(	2	-1
4	Costs too much.....		3	-2
10	Couldn't diagnose problem.....		14	-3
2	Didn't explain enough to me.....		12	-4
11	Didn't like him/her.....		11	-5
10	Didn't listen to me.....		10	-6
6	Didn't spend enough time with me.....		5	-7
10	Didn't trust his/her judgment.....		9	-8
8	Didn't trust his/her skills/experience.....		8	-9
1	Gender/wanted a (woman/man).....	(69(	*	-0
2	Had to travel too far.....		2	-1
14	Lack of communication.....		9	-2
9	Poor quality.....		7	-3
-	Race/ethnicity of physician.....		1	-4
6	Too hard to get an appointment.....		6	-5
1	Waited too long.....		2	-6
3	Not sure.....		8	-7
	Some other reason (SPECIFY):			

13			7	-8
2	Treated like a number		1	

(70-72)

C. UTILIZATION OF CARE

C1. Altogether, how many times have you visited a doctor (health professional) or medical facility in the last 12 months?

	White	Minority	MEAN		Minority	White
1	= 17%	17%	<u>    </u> / <u>5</u> / <u>    </u>			
2	= 17%	18%	(73-74)			
3-4	= 20%	21%				
5-9	= 15%	15%	None.....(	( 15 -00		13
10 or More	= 16%	12%	Not sure.....	<u>1</u> -y		1

SKIP TO O.C6 IF NONE TO O.C1

C2. In the last 12 months, have you (READ EACH ITEM), or not?

ROTATE -- START AT "X"	Yes	No	Not Sure
( ) 1. Received care in the emergency room, without being hospitalized .....	(75( <u>23</u> -1	<u>77</u> -2	<u>*</u> -3
White	23	77	-
( ) 2. Been admitted to the hospital.....	(76( <u>13</u> -1	<u>87</u> -2	<u>1</u> -3
White	17	83	*

ASK O.C2a IF "YES" TO O.C2-2 (ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL) -- ALL OTHERS SKIP TO O.C3

C2a. What is the name of the hospital where you were admitted? (INTERVIEWER: IF MORE IF MORE THAN ONE IN PAST 12 MONTHS, ASK ABOUT MOST RECENT HOSPITALIZATION).

Not sure... (      -1) (77-80)

C2b. Is this hospital a public hospital, that is, a state, county, city, government or veterans administration hospital, or not?

White	Minority
66	Yes, public hospital.....2*(08( <u>67</u> -1
29	No, not public hospital..... <u>23</u> -2
5	Not sure..... <u>10</u> -3

C2c. Would you recommend this hospital to your friends and family, or not?

White	Minority
91	Yes, would recommend.....(09( <u>87</u> -1
7	No, would not recommend..... <u>12</u> -2
2	Not sure..... <u>1</u> -3

C3. Have you (READ EACH ITEM) in the past 12 months, or not?

ROTATE -- START AT "X"	Yes	No	Not Sure
( ) 1. Received preventive care (such as blood pressure tests, Pap smears, or cholesterol level readings) .....	(10( <u>71</u> -1	<u>29</u> -2	<u>*</u> -3
White	74	25	1
( ) 2. Gotten a second medical opinion.....	(11( <u>17</u> -1	<u>83</u> -2	<u>*</u> -3
White	19	80	1
( ) 3. Received mental health or counseling services.....	(12( <u>6</u> -1	<u>93</u> -2	<u>*</u> -3
White	7	93	*
ASK LAST -- OF WOMEN ONLY:			
4. Received prenatal care .....	(13( <u>11</u> -1	<u>87</u> -2	<u>1</u> -3
White	7	92	1

C4. How many different doctors (health professionals) altogether have you seen in the last 12 months?

White	Minority
36	One.....(14( <u>39</u> -1
28	Two..... <u>30</u> -2
18	Three..... <u>16</u> -3
7	Four..... <u>6</u> -4 (ASK Q.C5)
4	Five..... <u>3</u> -5
3	Six..... <u>1</u> -6
2	Seven or more... <u>3</u> -7
1	None..... <u>2</u> -8 (SKIP TO Q.C6)
*	Not sure..... <u>1</u> -9 (ASK Q.C5)

C5. What kind(s) of doctors (health professionals) were these? (READ LIST IF NECESSARY - MULTIPLE RECORD)

White	Minority	White	Minority
8	Dentist.....(15( <u>11</u> -1	6	Orthopedist 5
7	Eye doctor..... <u>8</u> -2	3	Dermatologist 3
69	Family doctor..... <u>64</u> -3	3	Neurologist 2
16	Internal medicine specialist..... <u>14</u> -4	2	Surgeon 2
1	Pediatrician..... <u>2</u> -5		
6	Cardiologist..... <u>3</u> -6		
3	Allergist..... <u>2</u> -7		
20	Obstetrician/gynecologist..... <u>19</u> -8		
3	Psychiatrist..... <u>2</u> -9		
2	Not sure.....(16( <u>3</u> -0		
7	Other (SPECIFY): .....	5	-1 (17-19)

ASK EVERYONE

C6. During your care in the past year, did the doctor (health professional) talk to you about (READ EACH ITEM), or not?

ROTATE -- START AT "X"	Yes	No	Not Applicable (Vol.)	Not Sure
( ) 1. Smoking, or the use of alcohol or other drugs.....	(20( <u>34</u> -1	<u>61</u> -2	<u>5</u> -3	<u>*</u> -4
White	35	60	5	*
( ) 2. Being the right weight, healthy eating or exercise.....	(21( <u>55</u> -1	<u>41</u> -2	<u>3</u> -3	<u>*</u> -4
White	54	42	4	*
( ) 3. Birth control or the use of condoms.....	(22( <u>25</u> -1	<u>69</u> -2	<u>6</u> -3	<u>*</u> -4
White	16	77	7	*

C7. Thinking about the last time you visited a doctor (health professional), about how much time did the doctor (health professional) spend with you during that visit? (READ LIST IF NECESSARY)

White	Minority
4	Less than 5 minutes.....(23( <u>3</u> -1
40	5 - 15 minutes..... <u>32</u> -2
39	16 - 30 minutes..... <u>42</u> -3
12	31 minutes to 1 hour..... <u>16</u> -4
2	More than 1 hour..... <u>5</u> -5
2	Not sure..... <u>2</u> -6

C8. Generally, would you say you follow your physician's advice and treatment plans -- all of the time, most of the time, sometimes, rarely or never?

	White	Minority
38	All of the time....	(24) <u>35</u> -1
53	Most of the time.....	<u>49</u> -2
6	Sometimes.....	<u>11</u> -3
*	Rarely.....	<u>1</u> -4
1	Never.....	<u>1</u> -5
1	Not sure.....	<u>2</u> -6

C9. In the last 12 months, have you (READ EACH ITEM), or not?

	ROTATE -- START AT "X"	Yes	No	Not Sure
( ) 1.	Used herbal medicine .....	(25) <u>22</u> -1	<u>77</u> -2	<u>1</u> -3
<u>White</u>		12	87	1
( ) 2.	Used acupuncture .....	(26) <u>3</u> -1	<u>94</u> -2	<u>3</u> -3
<u>White</u>		1	99	*
( ) 3.	Gone to a chiropractor .....	(27) <u>7</u> -1	<u>92</u> -2	<u>*</u> -3
<u>White</u>		13	87	*
( ) 4.	Gone to a traditional healer .....	(28) <u>4</u> -1	<u>94</u> -2	<u>2</u> -3
<u>White</u>		2	97	1
( ) 5.	Used home remedies .....	(29) <u>33</u> -1	<u>66</u> -2	<u>1</u> -3
<u>White</u>		31	68	*

C10. Overall, how satisfied are you with (READ EACH ITEM) -- very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied or very dissatisfied?

	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Not Sure	
1.	The quality of your health care services.....	(30) <u>46</u> -1	<u>41</u> -2	<u>6</u> -3	<u>5</u> -4	<u>2</u> -5
<u>White</u>	60	31	5	2	1	
	ROTATE -- START AT "X"					
( ) 2.	The helpfulness of the office staff.....	(31) <u>55</u> -1	<u>34</u> -2	<u>6</u> -3	<u>3</u> -4	<u>2</u> -5
<u>White</u>	66	27	3	2	1	
( ) 3.	The convenience of your doctor's office hours/location.....	(32) <u>57</u> -1	<u>31</u> -2	<u>6</u> -3	<u>4</u> -4	<u>2</u> -5
<u>White</u>	64	27	5	2	2	
( ) 4.	The skill of the medical staff.....	(33) <u>56</u> -36	<u>36</u> -2	<u>4</u> -3	<u>2</u> -4	<u>3</u> -5
<u>White</u>	71	24	2	1	2	
( ) 5.	The sensitivity of the doctor's office about the cost of care .....	(34) <u>37</u> -1	<u>38</u> -2	<u>12</u> -3	<u>9</u> -4	<u>5</u> -5
<u>White</u>	45	32	10	8	5	

ASK EVERYONE

C11. Overall, how welcome do your doctor and the office staff make you feel? Would you say -- very welcome, somewhat welcome or not welcome at all?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
75	Very welcome.....(35( <u>69</u> -1 ) (SKIP TO Q.D1)
21	Somewhat welcome..... <u>27</u> -2
2	Not welcome at all..... <u>3</u> -3 (ASK Q.C11a)
2	Not sure..... <u>2</u> -4 ) (SKIP TO Q.D1)

C11a. Why do you not feel welcome? DO NOT READ LIST -- MULTIPLE RECORD

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
4	Income level/welfare status.....(36( <u>3</u> -1
2	No insurance..... <u>3</u> -2
-	Don't accept Medicaid..... - -3
1	Racial/ethnic differences..... <u>2</u> -4
*	Health condition..... <u>1</u> -5
-	Language differences..... <u>1</u> -6
2	Cultural differences..... <u>3</u> -7
4	Respondent doesn't keep appointments/late for appointments... <u>4</u> -8
19	Not sure..... <u>25</u> -9
	Other (SPECIFY):
20	.....(37( <u>14</u> -0 (38-40)
20	Office too crowded/too long a wait 21
17	Unfriendly staff 14
15	Treated like a number 13

D. ACCESS TO CARE

ASK EVERYONE

D1. In the past 12 months, was there a time when you needed medical care but did not get it, or not?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
13	Yes, needed and did not get... (41( <u>15</u> -1 ) (ASK Q.D2)
86	No such occasion..... <u>84</u> -2
*	Not sure..... <u>*</u> -3 (SKIP TO Q.D3)

D2. What was the main reason that you did not get the medical help needed in this situation? DO NOT READ -- SINGLE RECORD

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
15	Could not get an appointment..... (42( <u>16</u> -1
1	Don't know good doctor/clinic to go to..... <u>3</u> -2
37	It cost too much..... <u>30</u> -3
6	Could not get off work..... <u>5</u> -4
-	Have no one to take care of children..... - -5
2	Wait too long in doctor's office/clinic..... <u>3</u> -6
-	Couldn't find a doctor who speaks my language..... <u>*</u> -7
9	Not covered by insurance..... <u>15</u> -8
2	Too nervous or afraid..... <u>4</u> -9
5	No transportation/too far..... (43( <u>4</u> -0
-	Language problem..... <u>*</u> -1
1	Paperwork/bureaucracy..... <u>1</u> -2
4	Doctor's hours/time not convenient..... <u>5</u> -3
-	Child care..... <u>1</u> -4
4	Not sure..... <u>4</u> -5
	Other (SPECIFY):
13	..... <u>8</u> -6 (44-46)

ASK EVERYONE

D3. In the past twelve months, have you ever put off or postponed seeking health care which you felt you needed, or not?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
33	Yes, put off or postponed getting health care.. (47( <u>31</u> -1 ) (ASK Q.D4)
67	No, did not put off or postpone..... <u>69</u> -2
*	Not sure..... <u>*</u> -3 (SKIP TO Q.D5)

D4. What was the main reason that you put off or postponed seeking the medical help needed in this situation? DO NOT READ -- SINGLE RECORD

<u>White</u>		<u>Minority</u>	
4	Could not get an appointment.....	(48(	<u>5</u> -1
1	Don't know good doctor/clinic to go to.....		<u>1</u> -2
32	It cost too much.....		<u>32</u> -3
10	Could not get off work.....		<u>11</u> -4
1	Have no one to take care of children.....		<u>2</u> -5
1	Wait too long in doctor's office/clinic.....		<u>2</u> -6
*	Couldn't find a doctor who speaks my language...		<u>-</u> -7
7	Not covered by insurance.....		<u>10</u> -8
6	Too nervous or afraid.....		<u>5</u> -9
3	No transportation/too far.....	(49(	<u>4</u> -0
-	Language problem.....		<u>*</u> -1
1	Paperwork/bureaucracy.....		<u>1</u> -2
3	Doctor's hours/time not convenient.....		<u>5</u> -3
*	Child care.....		<u>*</u> -4
5	Not sure.....		<u>2</u> -5
	Other (SPECIFY):		
13			<u>8</u> -6 (50-52)
5	Lazy/didn't feel like it		<u>4</u>
5	Too busy/no time		<u>4</u>
3	Wasn't that serious		<u>4</u>
1	Don't like doctors		<u>1</u>

ASK EVERYONE

D5. In the last 12 months, was there a time when you were refused health care, or not?

<u>White</u>		<u>Minority</u>	
2	Yes, was refused care.....	(53(	<u>5</u> -1 ) (ASK Q.D6)
98	No, no such occasion.....		<u>95</u> -2
*	Not sure.....		<u>*</u> -3 (SKIP TO Q.D7)

D6. What was the main reason that you were refused the medical help needed in this situation? DO NOT READ -- SINGLE RECORD

<u>White</u>		<u>Minority</u>	
8	Emergency room/hospital/clinic too busy...	(54(	<u>5</u> -1
8	It cost too much.....		<u>12</u> -2
51	Not covered by insurance.....		<u>42</u> -3
-	Language problem.....		<u>-</u> -4
-	Discrimination.....		<u>-</u> -5
13	Not sure.....		<u>18</u> -6
	Other (SPECIFY):		
22			<u>23</u> -7 (55-57)

ASK EVERYONE

D7. In seeking medical care, how much of a problem are the following barriers or obstacles for you? Would you say that (READ EACH ITEM) is/are a major problem, a minor problem, or not a problem at all in seeking medical care?

ROTATE -- START AT "X"	Major Problem	Minor Problem	Not Problem At All	Not Applicable (Vol.)	Not Sure
( ) 1. Not having access to specialty care that you need.....	(58( <u>18</u> -1	<u>18</u> -2	<u>62</u> -3	<u>2</u> -4	<u>1</u> -5
<u>White</u>	8	16	73	2	*
( ) 2. Not being able to get an appointment .....	(59( <u>16</u> -1	<u>20</u> -2	<u>63</u> -3	<u>*</u> -4	<u>*</u> -5
<u>White</u>	8	21	69	1	1
( ) 3. Having to pay too much.....	(60( <u>40</u> -1	<u>19</u> -2	<u>40</u> -3	<u>1</u> -4	<u>*</u> -5
<u>White</u>	26	27	44	2	1
( ) 4. Language differences.....	(61( <u>9</u> -1	<u>12</u> -2	<u>79</u> -3	<u>*</u> -4	<u>*</u> -5
<u>White</u>	4	11	84	1	*
( ) 5. Being nervous or afraid .....	(62( <u>10</u> -1	<u>20</u> -2	<u>70</u> -3	<u>*</u> -4	<u>*</u> -5
<u>White</u>	6	18	76	*	-
( ) 6. Having to wait too long .....	(63( <u>27</u> -1	<u>27</u> -2	<u>45</u> -3	<u>*</u> -4	<u>1</u> -5
<u>White</u>	16	30	54	1	*
( ) 7. Transportation.....	(64( <u>8</u> -1	<u>14</u> -2	<u>77</u> -3	<u>*</u> -4	<u>*</u> -5
<u>White</u>	4	9	86	*	*
( ) 8. The amount of paperwork you must complete .....	(65( <u>12</u> -1	<u>22</u> -2	<u>65</u> -3	<u>2</u> -4	<u>*</u> -5
<u>White</u>	8	23	67	2	1

D8. In general, would you say you trust doctors (health professionals) to be able to help you with your medical problems, very much, somewhat, not very much, or not at all?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
56	Very much.....(66( <u>52</u> -1
38	Somewhat..... <u>41</u> -2
4	Not very much..... <u>4</u> -3
1	Not at all..... <u>2</u> -4
1	Not sure..... <u>1</u> -5

**E. CULTURAL/ENVIRONMENTAL LIMITATIONS TO ACCESS TO CARE**

E1a. Is English your primary language, or not?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
98	Yes.....(67( <u>76</u> -1) ) (SKIP TO Q.G1a)
1	No..... <u>24</u> -2 ) (ASK Q.E1b)
*	Not sure..... <u>*</u> -3 ) (SKIP TO Q.E2)

E1b. What is your primary language? (DO NOT READ LIST)

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
8	Spanish.....(68( <u>57</u> -1
6	Portuguese..... <u>*</u> -2
-	Chinese..... <u>17</u> -3
-	Korean..... <u>7</u> -4
-	Vietnamese..... <u>11</u> -5
-	Creole..... <u>*</u> -6
6	French..... <u>2</u> -7
6	Not sure..... <u>2</u> -8
	Other (SPECIFY):
74	..... <u>4</u> -9 (69-71)

**ASK EVERYONE**

E2. Do you need an interpreter when seeking health care services, or not?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
-	Yes, need interpreter.....(72( <u>23</u> -1) ) (ASK Q.E3)
95	No, do not need interpreter..... <u>76</u> -2
-	No, respondent does not need interpreter, but doctor's English is poor (vol.)..... <u>1</u> -3 (SKIP TO Q.G1a)
5	Not sure..... <u>*</u> -4

E3. Who serves as your interpreter? (DO NOT READ LIST -- MULTIPLE RECORD)

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
-	Doctor.....(73( <u>2</u> -1
-	Nurse practitioner..... <u>13</u> -2
-	Family practitioner..... <u>6</u> -3
-	Friend or relative..... <u>55</u> -4
-	Interpreter on staff..... <u>9</u> -5
-	Staff is bilingual..... <u>15</u> -6
-	No one..... <u>1</u> -7
-	Not sure..... <u>2</u> -8
	Other (SPECIFY):
-	..... <u>5</u> -9 (74-76)

**G. DISCRIMINATION IN THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM**

G1a. Thinking of your experiences with receiving health care in the past 12 months, have you felt uncomfortable or been treated badly, or not?

<u>White</u>		<u>Minority</u>
8	Yes.....	(77( <u>9</u> -1 ) (ASK Q.G1b)
91	No.....	<u>89</u> -2
1	Not sure.....	<u>1</u> -3 (SKIP TO Q.G2)

G1b. Do you think you felt uncomfortable or were treated badly (READ EACH ITEM), or not?

ROTATE -- START AT "X"

		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>
( )	1. Because of your race or ethnicity.....	(78( <u>31</u> -1	<u>67</u> -2	<u>2</u> -3
<u>White</u>		<u>4</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>1</u>
( )	2. Because of your sex.....	(79( <u>13</u> -1	<u>85</u> -2	<u>2</u> -3
<u>White</u>		<u>14</u>	<u>85</u>	<u>1</u>
( )	3. Because of your age.....	(80( <u>16</u> -1	<u>84</u> -2	<u>*</u> -3
<u>White</u>		<u>15</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>3</u>
( )	4. Because of your health or disability .....	3*(08( <u>22</u> -1	<u>78</u> -2	<u>1</u> -3
<u>White</u>		<u>18</u>	<u>79</u>	<u>3</u>
( )	5. Because of your income level .....	(09( <u>48</u> -1	<u>51</u> -2	<u>1</u> -3
<u>White</u>		<u>26</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>-</u>

ASK LAST

6. For any other reason (SPECIFY):

	_____ (11-14).....	(10( <u>35</u> -1	<u>62</u> -2	<u>3</u> -3
<u>White</u>		<u>30</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>11</u>

ASK EVERYONE

G2. Do you think there was ever a time when you would have gotten better medical care if you had belonged to a different race or ethnic group, or not?

<u>White</u>		<u>Minority</u>
3	Yes, would have gotten better care.....	(15( <u>15</u> -1 ) (ASK Q.G2a)
95	No, never happened.....	<u>83</u> -2
2	Not sure.....	<u>2</u> -3 (SKIP TO Q.H1)

G2a. How long is it since this last happened to you?

<u>White</u>		<u>Minority</u>		<u>MEAN</u>
38	6 Mos. or Less	= 27%	/ / / Months	<u>OR</u> / <u>3.2</u> / Years
11	More than 6 Mos. to a Yr.	= 17%	(17-18)	(19-20)
20	13 Mos. to 2 Yrs.	= 18%		
14	3 to 6 Yrs.	= 16%	Months.....	(16( <u>   </u> -1
-	More than 6 Yrs.	= 17%	Year.....	<u>   </u> -2
1.4	Mean	4.1	Not sure.....	<u>10</u> -3

**H. HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

H1. Now a question about different kinds of health plans or health insurance, including those provided by the government. As I read each of the following health plans, please tell me whether or not you yourself are covered by it? (READ LIST)

<u>ROTATE -- START AT "X"</u>		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>
( )	1. Health insurance through your work or union.....	(21( <u>43</u> -1	<u>57</u> -2	<u>*</u> -3
<u>White</u>		49	50	1
( )	2. Health insurance through someone else's work or union.	(22( <u>18</u> -1	<u>82</u> -2	<u>*</u> -3
<u>White</u>		23	76	1
( )	3. Health insurance bought directly by yourself or your family.....	(23( <u>26</u> -1	<u>73</u> -2	<u>1</u> -3
<u>White</u>		32	68	1
( )	4. Medicare, a government plan that pays health care bills for people aged 65 and over and for some disabled people.....	(24( <u>12</u> -1	<u>88</u> -2	<u>*</u> -3
<u>White</u>		21	79	1
( )	5. Medicaid, or Public Aid.....	(25( <u>12</u> -1	<u>87</u> -2	<u>1</u> -3
<u>White</u>		8	91	1
<u>READ LAST</u>				
( )	6. Health insurance through some other group.....	(26( <u>9</u> -1	<u>91</u> -2	<u>*</u> -3
<u>White</u>		8	91	1

ASK Q.H2 IF "YES" TO ANY ITEM IN Q.H1; ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q.H5

H2. Do you know if you belong to an HMO, or not? (IF NECESSARY: "Health Maintenance Organization" which is paid a monthly fee by an employer, a government program, or individuals who are members)?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
23	Yes, belong to an HMO.....(27( <u>26</u> -1
71	No, do not belong to an HMO..... <u>65</u> -2
6	Not sure..... <u>8</u> -3

H3. Overall, how satisfied are you with your health plan or health insurance? Would you say you are very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
48	Very satisfied.....(28( <u>45</u> -1
35	Somewhat satisfied..... <u>40</u> -2
9	Somewhat dissatisfied.. <u>8</u> -3
5	Very dissatisfied..... <u>5</u> -4
2	Not sure..... <u>2</u> -5

H4. Was there any time in the past two years when you were completely without any health plan or medical insurance coverage, or not?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
12	Yes, was such a time....(29( <u>19</u> -1
87	No, no such time..... <u>81</u> -2
*	Not sure..... <u>*</u> -3

(SKIP TO Q.H6)

H5. Why don't you have health insurance now? DO NOT READ LIST -- SINGLE RECORD (PROBE FOR REASON)

<u>White</u>		<u>Minority</u>
10	Lost job/between jobs/unemployed.....	(30) <u>14</u> -1
-	Insurance doesn't cover dependents.....	<u>1</u> -2
5	Job doesn't offer coverage.....	<u>12</u> -3
3	Can't obtain/was refused insurance because of poor health, illness, or age.....	<u>2</u> -4
61	Too expensive, can't afford.....	<u>48</u> -5
-	Don't believe in insurance.....	<u>1</u> -6
8	In good health/don't need it.....	<u>4</u> -7
-	Changed insurance company.....	<u>*</u> -8
-	Don't know how to get insurance.....	<u>1</u> -9
-	Lost eligibility for Medicaid or other public program..	(31) <u>2</u> -0
2	Never thought about it.....	<u>3</u> -1
2	Not sure.....	<u>3</u> -2
9	Other reason (SPECIFY):	
		<u>10</u> -3 (32-34)

ASK O.H6 IF "COVERED" BY ANY ITEM IN O.H1 -- OTHERS SKIP TO O.H7

H6. How much do you pay each month, or have deducted, for your health insurance premiums?

<u>White</u>		<u>Minority</u>	
23	Nothing	= 23%	\$ / / 8 / 0 /
20	\$1-49	= 23%	4*(47-49)
14	\$50-99	= 15%	
15	\$100-199	= 12%	Not sure.....( ( <u>17</u> -1
8	\$200 or More	= 6%	
83	Mean	69	

ASK EVERYONE

H7. In the last year, about how much have you and your family had to pay out-of-pocket for medical bills which were not covered by insurance?

<u>White</u>		<u>Minority</u>	<u>MEAN</u>
20	Nothing	= 24%	\$ / / / 1 / / 6 / 2 / 3 /
26	\$1-200	= 21%	4*(50-55)
18	\$201-500	= 18%	
12	\$501-1,000	= 13%	Not sure.....( ( <u>9</u> -1
7	\$1,001-2,000	= 7%	
8	\$2,000 or More	= 7%	
1886	Mean	857	
9	Don't know	11	

I. HEALTH STATUS AND DISABILITY AND IMPORTANCE OF HEALTH PRACTICES

I1. In general, how would you describe your own health -- excellent, good, fair, or poor?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
41	Excellent... (36 ( <u>30</u> -1
41	Good..... <u>45</u> -2
14	Fair..... <u>19</u> -3
4	Poor..... <u>4</u> -4
*	Not sure..... <u>*</u> -5

I2. Does a health problem, disability, or handicap currently keep you from participating fully in work, school, housework, or other activities?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
16	Yes..... (37 ( <u>15</u> -1
83	No..... <u>85</u> -2
*	Not sure..... <u>*</u> -3

These next questions are about different kinds of personal habits.

I3. How often do you exercise hard -- that is, so you breathe heavily and your heart and pulse rate are increased for a period lasting at least twenty minutes? (INTERVIEWER READ IF NECESSARY: Would that be never, less than 1 day a month, 1 to 3 days a month, 1 day a week, 2 days a week, 3 days a week, 4 to 5 days a week, or 6 or 7 days a week?)

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
20	Never..... (38 ( <u>26</u> -1
6	Less than 1 day a month.... <u>5</u> -2
7	1 to 3 days a month..... <u>8</u> -3
12	1 day a week..... <u>11</u> -4
11	2 days a week..... <u>11</u> -5
16	3 days a week..... <u>14</u> -6
11	4 to 5 days a week..... <u>9</u> -7
15	6 to 7 days a week..... <u>15</u> -8
2	Not sure..... <u>1</u> -9

I4. How often do you maintain a healthy diet, that is, a diet that is low in fat and high in fruits and vegetables? (INTERVIEWER READ IF NECESSARY: Would that be never, less than 1 day a month, 1 to 3 days a month, 1 day a week, 2 days a week, 3 days a week, 4 to 5 days a week, or 6 or 7 days a week?)

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
11	Never..... (39 ( <u>17</u> -1
2	Less than 1 day a month.... <u>3</u> -2
4	1 to 3 days a month..... <u>5</u> -3
4	1 day a week..... <u>5</u> -4
7	2 days a week..... <u>7</u> -5
10	3 days a week..... <u>12</u> -6
20	4 to 5 days a week..... <u>15</u> -7
41	6 to 7 days a week..... <u>34</u> -8
1	Not sure..... <u>2</u> -9

I5. Do you smoke cigarettes now, or not?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
26	Yes..... (40 ( <u>22</u> -1 ) (ASK Q.I6)
74	No..... <u>78</u> -2
-	Not sure..... <u>*</u> -3 (SKIP TO Q.J1)

I6. On a typical day, how many cigarettes do you smoke?

\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/ Packs OR \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/ Cigarettes  
(42-43) (44-45)

Packs.....(41(\_\_\_\_-1  
Cigarettes.....\_\_\_\_-2  
Not sure.....\_\_\_\_-3

White

2  
70  
19  
1.0

One  
2 - 20  
21 - 80  
Mean in packs

Minority

2  
83  
9  
0.7

J. MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

ASK EVERYONE

J1. All things considered, how satisfied are you with your life these days -- very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

<u>White</u>		<u>Minority</u>
56	Very satisfied.....	(46) <u>50</u> -1
35	Somewhat satisfied.....	<u>38</u> -2
6	Somewhat dissatisfied..	<u>7</u> -3
3	Very dissatisfied.....	<u>3</u> -4
1	Not sure.....	<u>1</u> -5

ASK EVERYONE

J2. The next questions are about how you feel, and how things have been with you mostly within the past thirty days. During the past thirty days, how much of the time (REACH EACH ITEM)? Would you say none of the time, a little of the time, some of the time, a good bit of the time, most of the time, or all of the time?

<u>DO NOT ROTATE</u>	None Of The Time	A Little Of The Time	Some Of The Time	A Good Bit Of The Time	Most Of The Time	All Of The Time	Not Sure
a. Have you been a very nervous person .....	(47) ( <u>42</u> -1	<u>26</u> -2	<u>19</u> -3	<u>4</u> -4	<u>5</u> -5	<u>3</u> -6	<u>1</u> -7
<u>White</u>	35	35	17	6	4	2	*
b. Have you felt calm and peaceful .....	(48) ( <u>4</u> -1	<u>12</u> -2	<u>22</u> -3	<u>12</u> -4	<u>36</u> -5	<u>14</u> -6	<u>1</u> -7
<u>White</u>	3	11	18	16	39	12	1
c. Have you felt down-hearted and blue .....	(49) ( <u>38</u> -1	<u>31</u> -2	<u>21</u> -3	<u>5</u> -4	<u>3</u> -5	<u>2</u> -6	<u>1</u> -7
<u>White</u>	37	39	17	4	2	1	*
d. Were you a happy person.	(50) ( <u>2</u> -1	<u>9</u> -2	<u>17</u> -3	<u>12</u> -4	<u>43</u> -5	<u>17</u> -6	<u>*</u> -7
<u>White</u>	1	6	14	16	47	16	1
e. Have you felt so down in the dumps that nothing could cheer you up .....	(51) ( <u>64</u> -1	<u>20</u> -2	<u>10</u> -3	<u>2</u> -4	<u>2</u> -5	<u>2</u> -6	<u>1</u> -7
<u>White</u>	74	13	6	3	2	*	1

J3. In the last 12 months, have you ever thought about ending your life, or not?

<u>White</u>		<u>Minority</u>
4	Yes.....	(52) ( <u>6</u> -1 ) (ASK Q.J3a)
96	No.....	<u>94</u> -2
*	Not sure.....	<u>*</u> -3 (SKIP TO Q.J4)

J3a. I have a number for you to call if you would like to talk to someone further about this. Would you like me to give it to you?

<u>White</u>		<u>Minority</u>
23	Yes.....	(53) ( <u>30</u> -1 ) (REFER TO HOTLINE SHEET)
77	No.....	<u>69</u> -2
-	Not sure.....	<u>1</u> -3

J4. Now, I'd like to read you a list of things that may have affected you in the last year. For each, please tell me if it has affected you strongly, affected you somewhat, or not affected you at all? (READ EACH ITEM)

ROTATE -- START AT "X"		Yes, Affected You Strongly	Yes, Affected You Somewhat	No, Didn't Affect You At All	Not Applicable (Vol.)	Not Sure
( )	1. An illness or death of a close family member	(54) <u>21</u> -1	<u>19</u> -2	<u>56</u> -3	<u>3</u> -4	<u>*</u> -5
<u>White</u>		19	22	56	2	*
( )	2. Problems with money	(55) <u>25</u> -1	<u>42</u> -2	<u>33</u> -3	<u>*</u> -4	<u>*</u> -5
<u>White</u>		17	38	45	-	*
( )	3. Problems with aging parents	(56) <u>9</u> -1	<u>19</u> -2	<u>66</u> -3	<u>6</u> -4	<u>*</u> -5
<u>White</u>		8	23	62	7	*
( )	4. Problems with your children	(57) <u>10</u> -1	<u>25</u> -2	<u>55</u> -3	<u>10</u> -4	<u>*</u> -5
<u>White</u>		8	28	55	9	*
( )	5. Hassles at work	(58) <u>12</u> -1	<u>28</u> -2	<u>51</u> -3	<u>9</u> -4	<u>*</u> -5
<u>White</u>		11	33	43	13	*
( )	6. Trouble balancing work and family demands	(59) <u>13</u> -1	<u>28</u> -2	<u>55</u> -3	<u>5</u> -4	<u>*</u> -5
<u>White</u>		7	29	56	8	*
( )	7. Loss of your job or your spouse's job	(60) <u>10</u> -1	<u>11</u> -2	<u>71</u> -3	<u>7</u> -4	<u>*</u> -5
<u>White</u>		8	7	75	10	-
( )	8. Problems with your spouse or partner	(61) <u>11</u> -1	<u>19</u> -2	<u>63</u> -3	<u>7</u> -4	<u>*</u> -5
<u>White</u>		6	18	66	9	*
( )	9. You or your family being treated badly because of your race or cultural background	(62) <u>5</u> -1	<u>15</u> -2	<u>79</u> -3	<u>1</u> -4	<u>*</u> -5
<u>White</u>		*	3	95	1	-
( )	10. Fear of crime or violence in your community	(63) <u>18</u> -1	<u>34</u> -2	<u>48</u> -3	<u>*</u> -4	<u>*</u> -5
<u>White</u>		8	32	59	*	*
<u>ASK LAST:</u>						
( )	11. Knowing someone who was a victim of violence	(64) <u>15</u> -1	<u>21</u> -2	<u>61</u> -3	<u>3</u> -4	<u>*</u> -5
<u>White</u>		6	15	76	3	*

K. VIOLENCE

ASK EVERYONE

K1. When you were growing up, do you feel you were ever (READ EACH ITEM), or not?

<u>DO NOT ROTATE</u>		Yes	No	Not Sure
	1. Verbally or emotionally abused .....	(65( <u>21</u> -1	<u>76</u> -2	<u>3</u> -3
<u>White</u>		22	76	2
	2. Physically abused.....	(66( <u>11</u> -1	<u>89</u> -2	<u>1</u> -3
<u>White</u>		11	88	1
	3. Sexually abused.....	(67( <u>5</u> -1	<u>94</u> -2	<u>1</u> -3
<u>White</u>		6	93	1

ASK O.K2 IF SEXUALLY ABUSED IN O.K1. IF "No" OR "Not Sure" SKIP TO INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE O.K3

K2. Was/were the person(s) who sexually abused you (READ EACH ITEM)?

<u>ROTATE -- START AT "X"</u>		Yes	No	Not Sure
( )	1. A stranger.....	(68( <u>10</u> -1	<u>86</u> -2	<u>3</u> -3
<u>White</u>		14	86	-
( )	2. A relative.....	(69( <u>64</u> -1	<u>32</u> -2	<u>4</u> -3
<u>White</u>		63	37	-
( )	3. Someone else in the community, such as a teacher, doctor or neighbor.....	(70( <u>34</u> -1	<u>65</u> -2	<u>*</u> -3
		35	62	3

ASK O.K3 IF "YES" TO ANY ITEM IN O.K1 -- ALL OTHERS SKIP TO O.K5

K3. Did you discuss this abuse with a doctor or someone supportive, or not?

	<u>Minority</u>
<u>White</u>	
39	Yes.....(71( <u>32</u> -1 ) (ASK Q.K4)
60	No..... <u>67</u> -2
2	Not sure..... <u>1</u> -3 (SKIP TO Q.K4a)

K4. Did the person you talked to refer you to a support service, such as a victim services agency, or not?

	<u>Minority</u>
<u>White</u>	
29	Yes.....(72( <u>24</u> -1
68	No..... <u>75</u> -2
-	The person was a member of such an agency (vol.)... <u>*</u> -3
3	Not sure..... <u>1</u> -4

K4a. I have a number for you to call if you would like to talk to someone further about this. Would you like me to give it to you?

	<u>Minority</u>
<u>White</u>	
11	Yes.....(73( <u>25</u> -1 ) (REFER TO HOTLINE SHEET)
84	No..... <u>75</u> -2
5	Not sure..... <u>1</u> -3

ASK EVERYONE

K5. Are you single, married, living as a couple with someone, widowed, separated, or divorced?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
20	Single.....(74( <u>28</u> -1
53	Married..... <u>44</u> -2
6	Living as a couple... <u>7</u> -3
11	Widowed..... <u>6</u> -4
3	Separated..... <u>5</u> -5
8	Divorced..... <u>9</u> -6
*	Not Sure..... <u>*</u> -7

ASK O.K6 IF MARRIED OR LIVING AS A COUPLE WITH SOMEONE IN O.K5; ALL OTHERS SKIP TO O.K8a

K6. No matter how well a couple gets along, there are times when they disagree, get annoyed with the other person or just have spats or fights because they're in a bad mood or tired or for some other reason. I would like you to tell me whether, in the past 12 months, your spouse/partner ever (READ EACH ITEM), or not?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>
1. Threw something at you .....	(75( <u>6</u> -1	<u>94</u> -2	<u>1</u> -3
<u>White</u>	4	96	*
2. Pushed, slapped or hit you with a fist or some other object.	(76( <u>5</u> -1	<u>94</u> -2	<u>1</u> -3
<u>White</u>	3	96	1

ASK ITEM 3 IF "Yes" TO ITEM 1 OR 2 -- ALL OTHERS SKIP TO O.K8a

3. Beat you up or threatened you with a weapon.....	(77( <u>14</u> -1	<u>85</u> -2	<u>1</u> -3
<u>White</u>	2	98	-

ASK O.K7 IF "Yes" TO ANY ITEM IN O.K6; OTHERS SKIP TO O.K8a

K7. Did you discuss this/these event/s with a doctor (health professional), or not?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
5	Yes.....(78( <u>9</u> -1
95	No..... <u>89</u> -2
-	Not sure..... <u>2</u> -3

ASK EVERYONE

K8a. In the past five years, have you been mugged, robbed, or physically assaulted, or not?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
9	Yes.....(79( <u>12</u> -1
91	No..... <u>88</u> -2
-	Not sure..... <u>*</u> -3

K8b. Have you ever been sexually assaulted or raped, or not?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
6	Yes.....(80( <u>5</u> -1
93	No..... <u>95</u> -2
*	Not sure..... <u>*</u> -3

ASK Q.K9 IF "Yes" TO Q.K6-3 OR Q.K8a OR Q.K8b -- ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q.F1  
K9. Did you seek medical attention for any injuries, or not?

<u>White</u>		<u>Minority</u>
22	Yes.....	4*(08( <u>22</u> -1 ) (ASK Q.K10)
73	No.....	<u>70</u> -2
4	Not applicable/not injured (vol.).....	<u>6</u> -3 (SKIP TO Q.F1)
2	Not sure.....	<u>1</u> -4

K10. Did the doctor or emergency room staff (READ EACH ITEM), or not?

<u>ROTATE -- START AT "X"</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>
( ) 1. Treat you with respect.....	(09( <u>88</u> -1	<u>12</u> -2	<u>-</u> -3
<u>White</u>	65	30	5
( ) 2. Help you feel comfortable to discuss what happened...	(10( <u>79</u> -1	<u>18</u> -2	<u>3</u> -3
<u>White</u>	64	27	9
( ) 3. Ask you about the cause of your injury.....	(11( <u>83</u> -1	<u>17</u> -2	<u>1</u> -3
<u>White</u>	83	8	10
( ) 4. Refer you to a support service (such as a victim services agency, a rape crisis center, or a safe house).....	(12( <u>44</u> -1	<u>56</u> -2	<u>-</u> -3
<u>White</u>	43	51	6

ASK Q.K10a IF "NO" TO ANY ITEM IN Q.K10 -- ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q.F1

K10a. I have a number for you to call if you would like to talk to someone further about this. Would you like me to give it to you?

<u>White</u>		<u>Minority</u>
26	Yes.....	(13( <u>22</u> -1 ) (REFER TO HOTLINE SHEET)
71	No.....	<u>76</u> -2
3	Not sure.....	<u>2</u> -3

F. **FACTUALS**

Now, I have just a few factual questions for the purpose of classification.

F1. How old are you?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>	
20	18-29 = 32%	/ / /
33	30-44 = 35%	(14-15)
28	45-64 = 24%	
19	65+ = 8%	Not sure.....(14(____*-y
*	Don't Know 1	

F2. Including yourself, how many people live in your household?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>	<u>MEAN</u>
23	1 = 17%	/ / 3 / People
32	2 = 22%	(16-17)
19	3 = 20%	
16	4 = 21%	Not sure.....(16(____*-y
11	5 or More = 20%	
3	Mean 3	

SKIP TO Q.F3 IF "ONE" PERSON IN HOUSEHOLD -- ALL OTHERS ASK Q.F2a

F2a. How many children under the age of 18 currently live in your household?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>	<u>MEAN</u>
52	None = 37%	/ / 1 / Children
19	1 = 22%	(18-19)
19	2 = 24%	
9	3 or More = 16%	Not sure.....( (____-00
1	Mean 1	Not sure.....*-y

F3. Are you currently self-employed, working full-time for an employer, working part-time for an employer, are you retired, unemployed, a student, a homemaker, or not working and not looking for work?

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
11	Self-employed.....(20( 9 -1
45	Full-time for an employer..... 47 -2
8	Part-time for an employer..... 11 -3
19	Retired..... 9 -4
4	Unemployed..... 7 -5
3	Student..... 6 -6
6	Homemaker..... 6 -7
2	Not working and not looking for work.. 3 -8
2	Other (vol.)..... 1 -9
*	Not sure.....(21( * -0

F4. What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received? (PROBE: IF RESPONDENT SAYS JUST "HIGH SCHOOL": What was the highest grade you completed? IF 12TH GRADE, CODE "GRADUATE". IF 11TH GRADE OR LESS, CODE "LESS THAN".)

<u>White</u>	<u>Minority</u>
12	Less than high school (grades 1-11, grade 12 but no diploma).....(22( 24 -1
41	High school graduate or equivalent (e.g. GED)..... 34 -2
25	Some college but no degree (incl. 2 yr. occupational or vocational programs)..... 25 -3
14	College graduate (e.g. BA, AB, BS)..... 11 -4
7	Postgraduate (e.g. MA, MS, MEng, Med, MSW, MBA, MD, DDS, DVM, LLB, JD, PhD, EdD)..... 5 -5
*	Not sure/refused..... 1 -6

F5. Are you of Hispanic origin or descent, or not?

	<u>White</u>		<u>Minority</u>	
-		Yes, of Hispanic origin.....	(23( <u>33</u> -1 )	(ASK Q.F6)
99		No, not of Hispanic origin.....	<u>66</u> -2	
1		Not sure.....	<u>1</u> -3	(SKIP TO Q.F7)

F6. Do you consider yourself Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Dominican, Costa Rican, or from some other Spanish speaking country?

Mexican.....	(24( <u>55</u> -1	
Puerto Rican.....	<u>15</u> -2	
Cuban.....	<u>4</u> -3	
Dominican.....	<u>1</u> -4	
Costa Rican.....	<u>1</u> -5	
Not sure.....	<u>4</u> -6	
Other (SPECIFY):		
	<u>9</u> -7	(25-27)

F7. Do you consider yourself white, black or African-American, Asian or Pacific Islander, Native American or some other race?

	<u>White</u>		<u>Minority</u>	
100	White.....	(28( <u>18</u> -1 )		(SKIP TO Q.F8a)
-	Black.....	<u>30</u> -2		
-	African-American.....	<u>17</u> -3		(ASK Q.F7b)
-	Asian or Pacific Islander.....	<u>10</u> -4 )		(ASK Q.F7a)
-	Native American or Alaskan native.....	<u>10</u> -5		
-	Not sure.....	<u>5</u> -6		
-	Some other race (SPECIFY):			(SKIP TO Q.F8a)
		<u>8</u> -7		(29-31)
	Hispanic/Latino	<u>1</u>		

F7a. Are you of Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, or other Asian heritage?

Chinese.....	(32( <u>51</u> -1	
Vietnamese.....	<u>26</u> -2	
Korean.....	<u>19</u> -3	
Not sure.....	<u>1</u> -4	
Other (SPECIFY):		
	<u>4</u> -5	(33-35)

(SKIP TO Q.F8a)

F7b. Are you of Caribbean heritage, or not?

Yes, Caribbean.....	(36( <u>11</u> -1	
No, not Caribbean.....	<u>86</u> -2	
Not sure.....	<u>3</u> -3	

ASK EVERYONE

F8a. Were you born in the United States (or Puerto Rico), or not?

<u>White</u>		<u>Minority</u>	
96	Yes, born in the United States....	(37)	( <u>72</u> -1)
*	Yes, born in Puerto Rico.....	<u>3</u> -2	(ASK Q.F8b)
4	No, not born in the United States.....	<u>25</u> -3	) (ASK Q.F8c)
-	Not sure.....	*-4	) (SKIP TO Q.F9)

F8b. Were your parents born in the United States (or Puerto Rico), or not?

<u>White</u>		<u>Minority</u>	
91	Yes, born in the U.S.....	(38)	( <u>82</u> -1)
1	Yes, born in Puerto Rico.....	<u>5</u> -2	
4	One parent born in US or Puerto Rico, one not....	<u>6</u> -3	
4	No, neither born in US or Puerto Rico.....	<u>8</u> -4	
*	Not sure.....	*-5	

(SKIP TO Q.F9)

F8c. How many years have you been in the United States?

<u>White</u>		<u>Minority</u>	<u>MEAN</u>
12	5 or Less = 16%		/ <u>20</u> / Years
-	6-10 = 21%		(39-40)
10	11-15 = 22%		
4	16-20 = 14%		Less than one year.... ( <u>    </u> -00
71	More than 20 = 26%		Not sure..... <u>1</u> -y
29	Mean = 16		

ASK EVERYONE

F9. Which of the following income categories best describes your total 1993 household income? Was it (READ LIST)?

<u>White</u>		<u>Minority</u>	
9	\$7,500 or less.....	(41)	( <u>14</u> -1)
12	\$7,501 to \$15,000.....	<u>15</u> -2	INTERVIEWER: TOTAL HOUSEHOLD
17	\$15,001 to \$25,000.....	<u>20</u> -3	INCOME BEFORE TAXES FROM ALL
16	\$25,001 to \$35,000.....	<u>13</u> -4	SOURCES -- IF UNSURE OF 1993
18	\$35,001 to \$50,000.....	<u>13</u> -5	INCOME, PROBE FOR ESTIMATE
11	\$50,001 to \$75,000.....	<u>9</u> -6	
5	\$75,001 to \$100,000.....	<u>4</u> -7	
5	\$100,001 or over.....	<u>2</u> -8	
7	Not sure.....	<u>9</u> -9	

F10. Do you own your own (home/apartment/farm), do you pay rent, or what?

<u>White</u>		<u>Minority</u>	
68	Owns or is buying.....	(42)	( <u>47</u> -1)
27	Pays rent.....	<u>48</u> -2	
5	Neither owns nor rents.....	<u>4</u> -3	
*	Not sure.....	<u>1</u> -4	

ASK O.F11 IF INCOME IS \$25,000 OR LESS (O.F9=1, 2, OR 3) -- ALL OTHERS SKIP TO END F11. Do you receive (READ EACH ITEM), or not?

<u>ROTATE -- START AT "X"</u>		Yes	No	Not Sure
( )	1. Food stamps .....	(43( <u>17</u> -1	<u>82</u> -2	<u>*</u> -3
<u>White</u>		11	89	-
( )	2. AFDC -- Aid for Families with Dependent Children.....	(44( <u>6</u> -1	<u>94</u> -2	<u>*</u> -3
<u>White</u>		4	96	*
( )	3. SSI -- Supplemental Security Income .....	(45( <u>7</u> -1	<u>93</u> -2	<u>*</u> -3
<u>White</u>		8	92	*
( )	4. Public assistance or welfare payments from the state or local welfare office .....	(46( <u>10</u> -1	<u>90</u> -2	<u>*</u> -3
<u>White</u>		6	94	1

That completes the interview. Thank you very much for your cooperation!

TIME ENDED: \_\_\_\_\_ AM/PM

**The Commonwealth Fund  
Bettering the Health of Minorities Program**

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**List of Grants**

**THE COMMONWEALTH FUND**  
**Bettering the Health of Minorities Program**

**List of Grants**

**I. Improving the Health of Minorities**

**1. *Survey of Minority Health***

Period of Grant: (December 1, 1993 - May 31, 1994)

Grantee: Humphrey Taylor  
Louis Harris and Associates, Inc.  
111 Fifth Avenue, 8th Floor  
New York, NY 10003  
(212) 539-9600

Description: The Fund has contracted with Louis Harris and Associates to conduct a survey of minority health. The purpose of the survey is to gain a better understanding of minority patients' experiences with the health care system and their perceptions of health care. The survey consists of 25-minute telephone interviews from a nationally representative sample of 3,600 adults: 1,000 African Americans; 1,000 Hispanics; 1,000 whites; and 600 Asians, 200 from each of three ethnic groups (Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese). Results from the survey, to be available in early 1995, will be used to inform patients, providers, and policymakers about barriers to care for minority populations and their experiences with the health care system.

**2. *Health and Health Care of Minority Communities: Policy Issues and Challenges***

Period of Grant: (January 1, 1993 - April 30, 1995)

Grantee: Eddie N. Williams  
Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies  
1090 Vermont Avenue, NW  
Suite 1100  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
(202) 789-3500

Description: The Fund is currently supporting the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies to analyze barriers to care for minorities. Under subcontract to the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health, 12 research teams are analyzing data from the 1987 National Medical Expenditure Survey (NMES). The researchers are exploring the role of insurance coverage, language differences, cultural attitudes, and other factors in minority health utilization patterns. Preliminary results were released in May at a national conference in Washington, D.C. Results from the study, to be released in the Spring of 1995, will be used to inform policymakers at the federal and state levels about barriers to care for minorities.

3. *Study of Reasons for Underuse of Cardiac Procedures: Women, Minorities, and the Poor*

Period of Grant: (May 1, 1993 - October 31, 1995)

Grantee: Lucian Leape, M.D., Ph.D., and Robert H. Brook, M.D., Sc.D.

Rand Corporation

1700 Main Street

P.O. Box 2138

Santa Monica, CA 90407-4878

(310) 393-0411

Description: Supported by a Fund grant, researchers at the Rand Corporation are measuring the extent to which women, minorities and poor patients fail to receive necessary cardiac procedures in two cities, New York and Los Angeles. The study is exploring the role of factors that might influence utilization, including patient refusal, poverty or lack of insurance, communication barriers between doctor and patient, and hospital and patient characteristics. Information from the study will be used to guide health planning at local, state and national levels. The methodology will also be explored for applicability to other medical and surgical procedures.

4. *Violence in the Lives of African-American Women*

Period of Grant: (July 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995)

Grantee: Gail Garfield

Institute on Violence/New York Urban League

105 E. 22 Street

New York, NY 10010

(212) 799-9423

Description: This grant supports an analysis of violence in the lives of African-American women by researchers at the Institute of Violence. The purpose of the research is to study how violence affects black women and adolescent girls at risk of victimization. Through a literature review, focus groups, data analysis, and a community resource assessment, the project will explore: cultural attitudes toward violence; significant trends and distinguishing characteristics noted by service providers; the impact of violence on women and their families; and the availability and appropriateness of community resources. Results from the study, due in September 1995; will be used to inform providers and researchers about this important area of minority health.

5. *Developing a Health Services Strategic Plan*

Period of Grant: (August 1, 1994 - January 1, 1995)

Grantee: John E. Maupin, Jr., D.D.S., and Walter L. Strong, Ph.D.

Meharry Medical College

1005 D.B. Todd Blvd.

Nashville, TN 37208

(615) 327-6722

Description: With support from the Fund, Meharry is developing a strategic plan to capitalize on current opportunities to improve health services for its patients, most of them

poor, while strengthening its tradition of educating minority physicians. The cornerstone of the plan would be the establishment of an integrated health network with community health centers and one or more tertiary hospitals in the Nashville area. A market analysis will be conducted, and Meharry's facilities, technology, and faculty practice plans will be assessed. Lessons learned from the grant will benefit Meharry and other academic medical centers in positions comparable to Meharry's.

*6. Evaluating the Effectiveness of Primary Care in Underserved Communities, Planning Phase*

Period of Grant: (July 15, 1994 - July 14, 1995)

Grantee: Robert J. Massad, M.D., and Michael Mulvihill, Dr.P.H.

Montefiore Medical Center

111 E. 210th Street

Bronx, NY 10467

(718) 920-5521

Description: This grant supports the planning of a research program to determine whether primary care practice has a measurable impact on the health status of the population in West Farms, a geographically isolated, predominantly poor and minority residential community in the central Bronx, New York. Over the course of five years, Montefiore plans to implement a Community Oriented Primary Care Program (COPC) that combines the provision of clinical primary care services with needs assessments, interventions, and other public health initiatives in the community. The effectiveness of this program will be monitored and evaluated throughout its duration based on planning activities supported by this grant, including a community-wide household survey on health status and utilization; collection of secondary data from hospitals and public agencies; identification of similar communities without a COPC program for comparative purposes; and development of a cost-analysis method.

**Selected Press Clippings**

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## Poll: Minority Insurance Lag

By Dena Bunis

STAFF WRITER

Nonwhite Americans are twice as likely to be uninsured as white Americans and probably will have fewer choices over where they get health care, according to the findings of a national poll.

And the situation is likely to get worse, health experts say, as federal, state and local officials prepare to slice programs for the poor — many of whom are minorities.

The poll, released yesterday, revealed that nationwide, 31 percent of minority adults do not have insurance compared with 14 percent of whites. The two most underserved groups are Koreans and Hispanics, where 41 percent and 38 percent, respectively, report being uninsured. Those figures are consistent with New York State health department data.

"It's sobering, but it's not a surprise," Dr. Bruce Siegel, president of the city Health and Hospitals Corp., said yesterday. "I'm most disturbed by the fact that people of color continue to be last in line for health insurance. We know that minorities are often behind in other health indicators. Now we know they don't have enough health insurance."

Beyond the problems minorities face in lacking insurance, the poll found that 29 percent of nonwhites say they have little or no choice in where to get health care, compared with 16 percent of whites.

The typical uninsured American has a job, but doesn't make much money. Davis said one explanation for the large numbers of uninsured minorities is that they tend to be employed in the retail or service sectors or they work for small businesses that do not provide health insurance for their workers. That is especially true, experts say, with Korean and Latino immigrants.

"I have one patient working a 72-hour week as a short-order cook in a restaurant," said Dr. Susan Morales, who practices at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center. "He has no health insurance." The patient, who has suffered two heart attacks, had a bypass operation that left him permanently disabled and which could have been avoided if he'd had the money to have his blood pressure and cholesterol levels checked regularly.

The survey commissioned by the Commonwealth Fund had a margin of error of plus or minus 2 percentage points.

# Study: Minorities have less access to health care

'They do not enjoy an equal ... opportunity,' despite holding jobs.

By Carol Stevens

Detroit News Washington Bureau *AL*

WASHINGTON — America's minorities are twice as likely as whites to lack health insurance and face a limited choice of doctors and hospitals, according to a Louis Harris survey released Monday.

"The differences are striking. Minority Americans do not enjoy an equal health opportunity," said Karen Davis, president of the non-profit Commonwealth Fund, which commissioned the first national comparison of health care available to whites, African Americans, Hispanics and Asian Americans.

The study found that 5 percent of adult minorities who seek medical care are turned away and 15 percent of minorities believe they would get better health care if they were white.

"Minorities have a harder time finding doctors because there are fewer primary care doctors who live and practice in their communities," Detroit surgeon George C. Hill said.

Although comparable proportions of white and minority adults hold jobs, the study found minorities are much less likely to receive health insurance from their employer.

The study also turned up large differences between minority groups in obtaining health insurance and medical care. Hispanics are least likely to have health insurance. Asian Americans have the hardest time finding medical specialists and African Americans are most likely to believe their race is responsible for the low-quality care they receive.

"This study confirms what many of us know from our experience: we have a health care system in the U.S. that favors those with adequate financial resources," said Dr. William Anderson, a Detroit osteopath who heads the American Osteopathic Association.

But the study showed that income alone doesn't explain why minority groups get fewer medical services.

"More minorities were low-income, but we found that doesn't account for the big differences in medical care the study documented," Davis said.

The study found that the differences in health insurance and medical care puts minority patients at risk. Minorities were less likely than whites to receive regular blood pressure tests, pap smears, and cholesterol readings.

"We know the problem with high infant mortality among minorities is directly related to their problems getting early prenatal care," said Dr. Richard Smith, an obstetrician at Henry Ford Hospital.

## Health care problems

Here's a look at how well the health care system meets the needs of minority groups:

■ Adults who are uninsured:

White: 14 percent

African American: 26 percent

Hispanic: 38 percent

Asian: 23 percent

■ Adults who report problems paying for medical care:

White: 26 percent

African American: 35 percent

Hispanic: 45 percent

Asian: 21 percent

■ Adults reporting problems finding specialty care:

White: 8 percent

African American: 18 percent

Hispanic: 22 percent

Asian: 25 percent

■ Adults who are satisfied with their health care:

White: 60 percent

African American: 48 percent

Hispanic: 44 percent

Asian: 50 percent

Source: Louis Harris survey for The Commonwealth Fund

# Minorities lag in health coverage 24

Reuters

**W**ASHINGTON — Racial and ethnic minorities are much less likely than white Americans to have health insurance, a survey released Monday said.

Minorities also reported fewer choices about medical care and are less likely to get such preventive care as blood pressure tests and Pap smears when they go to a doctor, according to the survey sponsored by the Commonwealth Fund, a New York-based philanthropy.

The poll, by Louis Harris and Associates Inc., found 91 percent of minorities ages 18-64 lacked insurance, compared with 14 percent of whites. The gap applies to all minority groups; 38 percent of Hispanic Americans, 28 percent of African Americans and 23 percent of Asian Americans were uninsured.

Though 72 percent of minorities and 75 percent of whites are employed, minorities are less likely to have health insurance through their jobs. Minorities tend to have service, retail and small business jobs, which offer fewer benefits.

Dr. Susana Morales of Columbia-Presbyterian Hospital in New York City said her poor Hispanic patients often had to choose which medicines to take because they could not afford all those required.

The phone poll of 3,789 adults was conducted May 13-July 28.

Addr: 4;NY W

By Joanne Kenen

WASHINGTON (Reuter) - Racial and ethnic minorities are much less likely to have health insurance than white Americans, even if they are employed, according to a survey released Monday.

Minorities also reported fewer choices about where they get their medical care and are less likely to get such preventive care as blood pressure tests or pap smears even when they do go to a doctor, according to the survey conducted by the Commonwealth Fund.

"Minority Americans do not enjoy an equal health opportunity," said economist Karen Davis, president of the New York-based philanthropy.

The survey, carried out by Louis Harris and Associates, Inc., found that 31 percent of minorities aged 18 to 64 lacked insurance, compared to 14 percent for whites.

The gap applies to all minority groups -- 38 percent of Hispanic Americans, 26 percent of African Americans, and 23 percent of Asian Americans were uninsured.

Although a similar share of minorities and whites are employed -- 72 percent versus 76 percent -- the minorities are less likely to get health insurance through their jobs. Fifty six percent of the minorities got insurance in the workplace, compared to 66 percent of whites.

Minorities tend to work at service, retail, and small business jobs, which have fewer benefits.

Davis and other experts predicted at a Washington news conference that national trends toward more uninsured people, plus likely cuts in Medicaid, Medicare and public health programs aimed at underserved areas, would deepen the inequities.

Thomas Chapman, chief executive officer of the George Washington University Hospital, said the budget cuts could mean "an explosion of bad (health) outcomes" among minorities.

Dr. Susana Morales, who sees many poor Hispanic patients in her practice at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center in New York, said cutting federal health spending "will devastate my community -- people will die."

"The gap between what they (patients) need and what I am able to provide gets bigger," said Morales, who recounted how she paid for one suicidal patient's antidepressants.

"I can do it for one person, but I can't do it for 500," she said.

Minority adults were much less likely than white adults to have a regular doctor, and to have fewer choices about where they obtained their health care.

The study also found that minorities were less likely to get preventive care and screening, even when they do go to a doctor.

Quality of life factors affecting health -- stress, fear of violence, diet and exercise patterns -- were also worse for minorities. But more whites smoked cigarettes -- 26 percent, compared to 22 percent for minorities.

The survey of 3,789 adults was conducted between May 13 and July 28, 1994. It involved 25-minute telephone calls conducted in English, Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, Korean, and Vietnamese.

**BURRELLE'S**75 EAST NORTHFIELD ROAD / LIVINGSTON / NEW JERSEY 07039  
(201) 992-6500 / (800) 631-1150**TV  
CLIPS**

DATE	March 20, 1995	ACCOUNT NUMBER	63/7449 NX
TIME	5:30-6:00 PM	NIELSEN AUDIENCE	268,535
NETWORK	Cable News Network Headline News Service		
PROGRAM	CNN Headline News		

**CHUCK ROBERTS**, anchor:

A new study finds minority Americans are much less likely to have health insurance than whites. The Commonwealth Fund survey says members of racial and ethnic minorities also have fewer choices about where they get care and are less likely to get preventative care. Minorities are also less likely than whites to get health benefits through their jobs. Sponsors of the survey say all minorities face health-care inequalities.

Ms. KAREN DAVIS (The Commonwealth Fund): Minority adults are twice as likely to be uninsured as are white Americans. In fact, half of minority adults are either uninsured now or have been uninsured at some point in the last two years. Lack of insurance is particularly high for Korean-American and Hispanic-American adults.

**ROBERTS**: The survey predicted likely cuts in public health programs will make health inequities even greater.

## ABC RADIO NEWS

A national health survey shows minorities have more severe health problems than white Americans, indicating minorities could face a barrier to adequate health care. The survey compared health experiences among 1,000 African Americans, 1,000 Hispanic Americans, 600 Asian Americans and more than 1,000 white Americans on choice, access, prevention, cost and satisfaction. Karen Davis, President of the survey's sponsor, The Commonwealth Fund, explained one of the findings in the survey: (the survey was conducted May to July of 1994 by Louis Harris and Associates, Inc. and sponsored by The Commonwealth Fund - - a New York based, self-endowed national philanthropy which independently researches health and social policy issues)

NOTE: Minority Americans have a more difficult time obtaining needed care as well as preventive care. They have little or no choices in where they obtain their care. They're less satisfied with the care they do receive. And they are exposed to more health risk.

# RADIO TV REPORTS

## NATIONAL MARKET COVERAGE

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### TRANSCRIPT

FOR COMMONWEALTH FUND STATION WWJ  
PROGRAM News Radio 950, 5:30 pm CITY Detroit  
DATE March 20, 1995 AUDIENCE  
SUBJECT MEDICAID CUTBACKS

KEN HERRARA (ANCHOR): Advocates for better minority health care say cutbacks in Medicaid would hurt more than the poor. WWJ's Lisa Bass joins us live now from our Washington bureau with that story.

LISA BASS (REPORTER): A new poll by the Commonwealth Fund confirms findings of earlier studies, that minorities have less access to health care and fewer health care options. One of those options, Medicaid, is being targeted for major cuts and revisions. Commonwealth Fund President Karen Davis says that will create fiscal woes for many hospitals that serve minority Medicaid patients.

KAREN DAVIS (COMMONWEALTH FUND PRESIDENT): Instead of Medicaid expanding to cover more poor children, more poor adults, and offsetting some of the decline in employer based coverage, once we start cutting back on Medicaid we won't have that offset and in fact will be adding to the problem.

BASS: The Commonwealth Fund survey of minorities also finds that minorities are twice as likely as white Americans to feel they have no choice in where they get their health care, usually because they lack insurance or are unable to pay for it. In Washington, Lisa Bass, WWJ News Radio 950.

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# RADIO TV REPORTS

New York: 212-850-1400  
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## TRANSCRIPT

FOR COMMONWEALTH FUND STATION WBBM-AM  
 PROGRAM WBBM RADIO NEWS CITY CHICAGO  
 DATE 03/20/95 12:45PM AUDIENCE  
 SUBJECT KAREN DAVIS OF COMMONWEALTH FUND

DON PEARLMAN, ANCHOR: A new public opinion poll on minorities indicates that cutbacks in Medicaid will make community based hospitals feel the financial pain. WBBM Washington bureau correspondent, Lisa Bass has that story.

LISA BASS, REPORTER: The poll conducted for the Commonwealth Fund, a New York-based foundation, finds minorities already have less access to health care than other Americans. The reasons vary but many of the working poor minorities may be kicked off the rolls in the wake of budget cutbacks. If that happens, Commonwealth Fund president, Karen Davis says she worries managed healthcare programs would step into the void, creating fiscal headaches for community and suburban hospitals.

KAREN DAVIS, PRESIDENT COMMONWEALTH FUND: The revenue that those institutions now derive from Medicare and Medicaid will be cut back, as their patients go into managed care plans but they'll be left with the people without insurance; the people who can't pay; the patient who can't even afford medication.

BASS: And Davis says the cutbacks in health financing will bring an even bleaker for the health of the nation's minorities. In Washington, Lisa Bass, WBBM Newsradio 78.

[End]