

# What is the Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey?

The Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey (MCBS) provides researchers and policymakers with nationally representative data on Medicare beneficiaries' health status, insurance coverage, health care utilization and costs, access to care, and more.

## Topic Areas

### Features of the MCBS

4 years of data from the same beneficiaries

Beneficiaries <65 & ≥65 years old

Data on Fee-for-Service & Medicare Advantage

Data on health care costs paid by Medicare & other sources

Beneficiaries' residential status, including community, facility, & transitions between settings



#### Health Status

- General health
- Chronic conditions
- Behavioral & mental health
- Chronic pain



#### Prescription Drugs

- Medication nonadherence
- Covered & non-covered prescription drugs
- Knowledge of prescription drug benefit



#### Functional Status

- Physical & cognitive functioning
- Activities of daily living
- Frailty & falls



#### Access to Care

- Telemedicine
- Care experience & satisfaction
- Transportation & barriers to care
- Forgone & delayed care



#### Health Management & Prevention

- Preventive care
- Vitamin & supplement use
- Physical activity



#### Health Risk Factors

- Disease-specific risks
- Tobacco & alcohol use
- Body mass index



#### Costs & Utilization

- Coverage by Medicare & other sources
- Out-of-pocket costs
- Fee-for-Service claims
- Non-covered services



#### Beneficiary Characteristics

- Veteran status
- Metropolitan residence status
- Supplemental health insurance
- Knowledge of Medicare



#### Financial Well-being

- Income & assets
- Food insecurity
- Medical & credit card debt