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Race, Ethnicity & Medical Care

A Survey of Public Perceptions and Experiences

The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation

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The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, based in Menlo Park, California, is an independent national health care philanthropy and is not associated with Kaiser Permanente or Kaiser Industries.

THE KAISER FAMILY FOUNDATION SURVEY OF RACE, ETHNICITY AND MEDICAL CARE: PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS AND EXPERIENCES

National Topline

Methodology:

The Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Race, Ethnicity and Medical Care: Public Perceptions and Experiences is based on a national random sample of 3,884 telephone interviews with adults age 18 and over including 1,479 whites, 1,189 African Americans and 983 Latinos. Interviews were completed both in English and Spanish according to the preferences of the respondent. The survey was designed and analyzed by researchers at the Foundation, and conducted by Princeton Survey Research Associates between July 7 and September 19, 1999. The margin of error is +/-3% for results based on the full sample, +/-4% for the subsample of whites, +/-4% for African Americans and +/-6% for Latinos. (Margin of error is large for smaller subsamples of respondents). Note that in addition to sampling error there are other possible sources of measurement error.

Note: VOL means response was volunteered by respondent, not an explicitly offered choice. Some questions were asked of random split-halves of the respondents (referred to as Form 1 and Form 2). An * indicates values of less than one percent, and "n" refers to the actual number of people asked a given question. Percentages are based on weighted data; sample and subsample sizes reflect unweighted counts. Percentages may not total exactly 100% due to rounding.

Q1 I have some questions about issues facing our country today. For each issue I read please tell me if you think it is a major problem facing our country, a minor problem or not a problem at all.

	Major problem	Minor problem	Not a problem at all	(Don't know)	(Refused)
a unemployment					
TOTAL	35%	48	13	3	0
WHITE	28	55	14	3	0
AA	70	24	4	2	0
LATINO	53	35	10	2	0
b teen pregnancy					
TOTAL	68	25	3	4	* ¹
WHITE	65	27	3	4	0
AA	78	18	3	2	0
LATINO	78	15	4	3	*
c racism					
TOTAL	55	36	7	2	*
WHITE	52	39	7	2	0
AA	72	22	5	1	0
LATINO	58	32	7	2	*

Q1 continued

d decline in moral values

TOTAL	74	19	5	2	*
WHITE	75	18	5	2	*
AA	70	20	7	3	*
LATINO	67	21	7	5	0

E crime or violence

TOTAL	86	12	1	1	*
WHITE	84	14	1	1	*
AA	92	5	2	1	*
LATINO	90	7	2	*	0

F education

TOTAL	66	24	7	3	*
WHITE	66	25	7	2	*
AA	75	18	5	2	0
LATINO	61	22	14	2	0

Q2 Now thinking specifically about health care, how would you rate the overall quality of our health care system? If A means excellent, B means good, C average, D poor and F failing, what letter grade would you give our health care system?

<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>AA</u>	<u>LATINO</u>	
6	6	6	11	A, excellent
27	26	27	35	B, good
38	39	43	30	C, average
18	17	15	14	D, poor
9	10	7	8	F, failing
2	2	1	2	(Don't know)
*	*	*	*	(Refused)

Q3 How much of the time do you think you can trust (Insert) to do what is best for patients or customers? Almost all of the time, most of the time, only some of the time or almost none of the time?

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 1)

	<u>Almost all of the time</u>	<u>Most of the time</u>	<u>Some of the time</u>	<u>Almost none of the time</u>	<u>(Don't know)</u>	<u>(Refused)</u>	
A doctors and other health care providers							
TOTAL	15	47	35	3	*	*	n=1948
WHITE	16	51	31	2	*	*	752
AA	17	37	41	4	1	*	581
LATINO	16	34	47	2	1	*	513

Q3 continued

B hospitals

TOTAL	11	47	35	4	3	*
WHITE	10	49	34	4	3	*
AA	16	42	36	4	1	*
LATINO	16	33	42	7	1	0

C clinics or health centers

TOTAL	10	39	38	5	8	*
WHITE	9	40	37	4	10	*
AA	11	35	44	7	3	*
LATINO	15	30	45	8	3	0

D health insurance companies, including HMOs and other managed care plans

TOTAL	6	23	48	20	2	*
WHITE	6	23	50	20	2	0
AA	4	24	51	16	4	*
LATINO	11	27	41	16	5	0

E Medicaid, the government program that helps pay medical bills for people with low incomes

TOTAL	11	26	37	10	17	*
WHITE	9	25	37	9	20	0
AA	15	28	36	11	10	*
LATINO	24	25	31	13	6	0

F Medicare, the government program that helps pay medical bills for people over age 65 and the disabled

TOTAL	11	27	36	11	15	*
WHITE	10	27	35	10	17	0
AA	14	30	39	7	9	*
LATINO	18	28	38	9	6	0

Q4 How much of the time do you think you can trust (Insert) to do what is right for you or your community? Almost all of the time, most of the time, only some of the time or almost none of the time?

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 2)

	Almost all of the time	Most of the time	Some of the time	Almost none of the time	(Don't know)	(Refused)	
a the police							
TOTAL	19	47	28	4	1	*	n=1936
WHITE	20	53	24	3	1	1	727
AA	11	23	50	15	1	0	608
LATINO	20	36	36	7	1	0	470
b the fire department							
TOTAL	54	40	4	1	2	*	
WHITE	54	42	2	*	1	*	
AA	48	38	11	1	2	0	
LATINO	56	33	7	*	3	0	

Q4 continued

c local schools

TOTAL	14	45	32	6	3	*
WHITE	14	49	28	5	3	0
AA	11	30	50	7	2	*
LATINO	17	37	36	8	3	0

d doctors and other health care providers

TOTAL	14	53	28	4	1	*
WHITE	13	58	24	4	1	0
AA	15	36	43	5	1	*
LATINO	19	40	34	7	1	0

e local elected officials

TOTAL	6	25	51	15	2	1
WHITE	5	28	50	14	2	1
AA	5	17	59	18	1	0
LATINO	9	24	43	19	5	0

f the courts

TOTAL	10	32	43	10	5	*
WHITE	9	34	41	9	5	1
AA	7	18	51	21	3	0
LATINO	17	36	37	5	5	0

g Congress or politicians in Washington

TOTAL	3	10	54	28	3	*
WHITE	2	9	56	30	3	0
AA	2	14	52	29	2	0
LATINO	13	19	43	18	6	*

Q5 Thinking about people like yourself, is (Insert) a major problem, a minor problem or not a problem?

	Major problem	Minor problem	Not a problem	(Don't know)	(Refused)
a being able to afford the cost of health insurance and necessary medical care					
TOTAL	51	28	20	1	*
WHITE	49	28	21	1	0
AA	59	25	16	*	0
LATINO	55	27	17	1	0
b having enough doctors and other health providers near where you live					
TOTAL	14	28	58	*	0
WHITE	12	27	62	*	0
AA	24	30	45	1	0
LATINO	23	34	42	1	0

Q5 continued

c having difficulty getting care because of your race or ethnic background

TOTAL	8	17	72	2	*
WHITE	5	14	79	2	0
AA	20	32	47	1	*
LATINO	21	24	53	2	0

Q6 Generally speaking, how often do you think our health care system treats people unfairly based on (Insert)? Very often, somewhat often, not too often or never?

	Very often	Somewhat often	Not too often	Never	(Don't know)	(Refused)	
a what their race or ethnic background is							
TOTAL	13	34	34	9	9	*	
WHITE	12	34	34	9	11	*	
AA	21	35	30	8	5	*	
LATINO	19	32	35	8	5	0	
b whether or not they have health insurance							
TOTAL	39	31	20	4	6	*	
WHITE	38	31	21	3	7	*	
AA	44	28	19	5	4	*	
LATINO	41	28	20	8	3	0	
c whether they are male or female							
Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 1)							
TOTAL	6	21	35	31	7	*	n=1948
WHITE	5	21	34	33	7	*	752
AA	9	25	39	20	7	*	581
LATINO	11	21	36	29	4	0	513
d how well they speak English							
Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 1)							
TOTAL	18	40	20	10	12	*	n=1948
WHITE	15	42	20	10	13	*	752
AA	23	32	23	14	8	*	581
LATINO	39	33	20	6	2	0	513
e whether or not they are physically disabled							
Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 1)							
TOTAL	10	30	35	15	11	*	n=1948
WHITE	8	29	35	15	12	*	752
AA	17	33	32	13	6	0	581
LATINO	15	28	34	18	6	*	513
f how they are dressed or groomed							
Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 1)							
TOTAL	19	35	27	11	7	*	n=1948
WHITE	17	35	29	11	8	*	752
AA	27	32	26	9	6	*	581
LATINO	27	32	23	15	3	0	513

Q6 continued

g how well-educated they are

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 2)

TOTAL	15	33	35	12	4	*	n=1936
WHITE	12	33	39	12	4	1	727
AA	21	34	25	14	5	1	608
LATINO	25	27	30	13	5	0	470

h whether or not they are overweight

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 2)

TOTAL	9	30	37	12	12	*	n=1936
WHITE	7	29	40	11	13	0	727
AA	15	33	31	13	8	*	608
LATINO	17	33	26	14	10	0	470

i how much money they have

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 2)

TOTAL	35	36	22	4	4	*	n=1936
WHITE	31	39	23	3	4	*	727
AA	44	28	19	6	3	0	608
LATINO	42	22	23	9	4	0	470

j their sexual orientation—that is, if they are gay or lesbian

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 2)

TOTAL	10	26	30	12	21	1	n=1936
WHITE	7	27	32	11	21	1	727
AA	20	24	24	14	18	1	608
LATINO	19	22	27	15	17	0	470

Q7 How often do you think a person’s race or ethnic background affects whether they can get (Insert)? Very often, somewhat often, not too often or never?

	Very often	Somewhat often	Not too often	Never	(Don't know)	(Refused)
a routine medical care when they need it						
TOTAL	12	37	35	11	6	0
WHITE	8	38	36	11	6	0
AA	26	36	28	7	3	0
LATINO	23	31	31	10	4	0
b specialized treatments or surgery when they need it						
TOTAL	15	35	32	11	8	*
WHITE	12	36	33	11	8	0
AA	26	36	25	9	4	*
LATINO	23	28	31	14	4	0

Q7 continued

c health insurance to pay for medical care

TOTAL	18	32	32	11	6	*
WHITE	15	32	34	11	7	*
AA	26	34	27	9	3	*
LATINO	24	32	30	10	3	*

Q8 As I mention some different areas of our society, please tell me if you think racism—that is, people being treated worse than others because of their race or ethnicity—is a major problem, a minor problem or not a problem at all in this area of society. Is racism a major problem, a minor problem or not a problem at all in (Insert)?

	Major problem	Minor problem	Not a problem	(Don't know)	(Refused)
a education					
TOTAL	31	45	22	2	*
WHITE	27	47	24	2	*
AA	50	36	13	2	*
LATINO	40	38	21	1	0
b the workplace					
TOTAL	27	50	19	4	*
WHITE	21	54	21	4	*
AA	59	30	8	3	0
LATINO	41	42	16	1	0
c health care					
TOTAL	19	51	23	6	*
WHITE	16	52	25	6	*
AA	35	45	15	5	*
LATINO	30	45	22	2	*
d housing					
TOTAL	35	44	16	5	*
WHITE	30	48	17	5	*
AA	59	28	11	2	*
LATINO	41	38	17	3	0

Q9 Thinking again about health care, how often do you think racism occurs when a patient and doctor are of different racial or ethnic backgrounds? Very often, somewhat often, not too often or never?

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
7	5	15	14	Very often
30	28	40	33	Somewhat often
46	48	34	42	Not too often
11	11	7	11	Never
7	7	4	1	(Don't know)
*	*	0	0	(Refused)

Q10 And what about if the patient and doctor are of the same racial or ethnic background? Does racism occur very often, somewhat often, not too often or never?

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
2	2	3	4	Very often
14	12	23	15	Somewhat often
50	52	46	46	Not too often
28	28	23	33	Never
6	7	4	2	(Don't know)
*	*	*	*	(Refused)

Q11 For the next few questions I would like you to think about African Americans in our country today. Do you think the average African American is better off, worse off or just as well off as the average white person in terms of (Insert)?

	Better off	Worse off	Just as well off	(Don't know)	(Refused)	
a getting needed health care						
TOTAL	8	38	48	7	*	
WHITE	8	36	50	7	*	
AA	7	53	36	4	0	
LATINO	10	37	46	7	*	
b infant mortality—that is, a baby's chance of surviving after birth						
TOTAL	7	44	39	9	*	
WHITE	6	45	39	9	*	
AA	8	42	42	8	*	
LATINO	11	35	41	13	*	
c life expectancy—that is, how long someone can expect to live						
TOTAL	7	42	42	9	*	
WHITE	5	43	43	9	*	
AA	10	46	36	7	*	
LATINO	12	32	48	9	*	
d housing						
Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 1)						
TOTAL	7	50	38	5	1	n=1948
WHITE	6	49	39	6	*	752
AA	5	64	29	3	0	581
LATINO	13	43	41	3	0	513
e education						
Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 1)						
TOTAL	8	37	49	5	1	n=1948
WHITE	8	36	50	5	*	752
AA	9	57	32	2	*	581
LATINO	14	33	49	4	0	513

Q11 continued

f employment

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 2)

TOTAL	8	47	42	3	*	n=1936
WHITE	9	43	45	3	*	727
AA	5	68	23	4	0	608
LATINO	10	44	40	5	0	470

g income

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 2)

TOTAL	6	53	34	6	*	n=1936
WHITE	6	53	35	6	*	727
AA	4	65	27	4	0	608
LATINO	10	45	35	10	0	470

Q12 When going to a doctor or health clinic for health care services, do you think most African Americans receive the same quality of health care as whites, higher quality of care or lower quality of health care as most whites?

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 1)

<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>AA</u>	<u>LATINO</u>	
60	67	27	47	Same quality
1	1	3	6	Higher quality
29	23	64	43	Lower quality
9	10	6	4	(Don't know)
1	*	*	0	(Refused)
1948	752	581	513	

Q13 How big a problem do you think (Insert) is for the average African American? Is this a major problem, a minor problem or not a problem at all for the average African American?

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 1)

	<u>Major problem</u>	<u>Minor problem</u>	<u>Not a problem at all</u>	<u>(Don't know)</u>	<u>(Refused)</u>	
a being able to afford the cost of health insurance and necessary medical care						
TOTAL	50	34	11	5	1	n=1948
WHITE	47	36	11	5	*	752
AA	71	23	5	1	0	581
LATINO	42	34	20	4	0	513
b having enough doctors and other health providers near where they live						
TOTAL	28	38	26	8	1	
WHITE	26	38	28	8	*	
AA	45	35	17	3	0	
LATINO	24	47	25	5	0	

Q13 continued

c having difficulty getting care because of their race or ethnic background

TOTAL	21	45	28	5	1
WHITE	18	47	30	5	*
AA	40	42	15	3	0
LATINO	26	45	25	3	0

Q15 Do you think the average African American is better off, worse off or just as well off as the average white person in terms of (Insert)?

	Better off	Worse off	Just as well off	(Don't know)	(Refused)
a how healthy they are					
TOTAL	5	28	60	7	*
WHITE	3	27	63	6	*
AA	8	41	45	5	*
LATINO	10	23	59	8	*
b getting routine medical care when they need it					
TOTAL	5	31	58	6	*
WHITE	5	27	62	5	*
AA	4	51	41	4	*
LATINO	8	32	56	5	0
c getting specialized treatments or surgery when they need it					
TOTAL	4	34	54	8	*
WHITE	3	31	57	8	*
AA	4	56	34	6	*
LATINO	7	30	56	6	0
d having health insurance					
TOTAL	3	44	46	6	*
WHITE	3	43	48	6	*
AA	4	59	33	4	*
LATINO	8	36	50	6	0

Q16 Now thinking about Latinos in our country today, do you think the average Latino is better off, worse off or just as well off as the average white person in terms of (Insert)?

	Better off	Worse off	Just as well off	(Don't know)	(Refused)
a getting needed health care					
TOTAL	5	38	46	10	*
WHITE	5	35	49	11	*
AA	7	51	30	12	*
LATINO	9	47	43	2	0

Q16 continued

b infant mortality—that is, a baby’s chance of surviving after birth

TOTAL	4	37	44	6	9
WHITE	3	35	45	7	10
AA	7	46	34	5	7
LATINO	6	38	51	2	3

c life expectancy—that is, how many years, on average, they live

TOTAL	4	35	45	15	*
WHITE	3	34	46	17	*
AA	7	42	37	14	*
LATINO	7	36	53	4	*

d housing

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 1)

TOTAL	5	44	40	10	1	n=1948
WHITE	5	43	41	11	*	752
AA	7	57	28	9	0	581
LATINO	5	51	43	1	0	513

e education

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 1)

TOTAL	3	41	47	8	1	n=1948
WHITE	3	38	50	9	*	752
AA	4	53	33	10	0	581
LATINO	4	47	46	3	0	513

f employment

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 2)

TOTAL	5	49	38	8	*	n=1936
WHITE	6	45	41	8	*	727
AA	6	59	24	10	0	608
LATINO	6	57	35	2	0	470

g income

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 2)

TOTAL	3	58	29	10	*	n=1936
WHITE	3	56	31	11	*	727
AA	5	63	21	12	0	608
LATINO	6	64	28	3	0	470

Q17 When going to a doctor or health clinic for health care services, do you think most Latinos receive the same quality of health care as whites, higher quality of care or lower quality of health care as most whites?

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 2)

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
52	59	29	38	Same quality
3	3	3	5	Higher quality
35	27	61	56	Lower quality
10	10	8	2	(Don't know)
*	*	0	0	(Refused)
1936	727	608	470	

Q18 How big a problem do you think (Insert) is for the average Latino? Is this a major problem, a minor problem or not a problem at all for the average Latino?

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 2)

	Major problem	Minor problem	Not a problem at all	(Don't know)	(Refused)	
a	being able to afford the cost of health insurance and necessary medical care					
TOTAL	51	26	13	10	*	n=1936
WHITE	47	28	14	11	*	727
AA	61	23	8	8	0	608
LATINO	63	24	9	4	0	470
b	having enough doctors and other health providers near where they live					
TOTAL	26	35	27	12	*	
WHITE	21	37	29	13	*	
AA	49	28	15	8	1	
LATINO	33	31	32	4	0	
c	having difficulty getting care because of their race or ethnic background					
TOTAL	21	40	27	11	*	
WHITE	17	42	30	11	*	
AA	46	30	16	9	0	
LATINO	28	44	24	4	0	

Q20 Do you think the average Latino is better off, worse off or just as well off as the average white person in terms of (Insert)?

	Better off	Worse off	Just as well off	(Don't know)	(Refused)
a	how healthy they are				
TOTAL	4	27	57	11	*
WHITE	4	24	60	12	*
AA	7	42	41	10	0
LATINO	6	34	56	3	*

Q20 continued

b getting routine medical care when they need it

TOTAL	4	37	50	9	*
WHITE	3	33	54	9	*
AA	6	52	33	9	0
LATINO	5	47	46	2	0

c getting specialized treatments or surgery when they need it

TOTAL	4	40	47	9	*
WHITE	3	38	49	10	*
AA	4	52	34	10	0
LATINO	6	42	50	3	0

d having health insurance

TOTAL	4	50	37	9	*
WHITE	4	48	39	9	*
AA	4	60	27	10	0
LATINO	6	54	37	3	*

Q21 Now I am going to read you some statements. Please tell me whether you think each statement is true or false.

	True	False	(Don't know)	(Refused)
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a African Americans with heart disease are just as likely as whites who have heart disease to get specialized medical procedures and surgery.

TOTAL	57	37	6	*
WHITE	61	33	6	*
AA	41	56	4	0
LATINO	53	43	4	0

b Whites with HIV or AIDS are more likely than African Americans with HIV or AIDS to get the newest medicines and treatments.

TOTAL	46	44	10	*
WHITE	43	47	10	*
AA	64	29	7	0
LATINO	52	41	7	0

Q22 Earlier you expressed the view that the health care system treats people unfairly based on their race or ethnicity. I am going to read you a series of possible reasons why this is so. For each please tell me whether you think it is a major reason, a minor reason, or not a reason for why the system treats people unfairly based on their race or ethnicity.

Based on those who think health care system treats people unfairly based on race or ethnicity

	Major reason	Minor reason	Not a reason	(Don't know)	(Refused)	
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a Most doctors are white, and many do not understand the health care needs and how to treat the illnesses of African Americans, Latinos and other minority groups.

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 1)

TOTAL	23	38	35	2	1	n=1626
WHITE	20	40	38	2	1	594
AA	37	30	31	1	0	503
LATINO	40	30	29	2	*	445

b Most doctors assume that African Americans, Latinos and other minority groups do not have enough insurance or money to pay for the care they get.

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 1)

TOTAL	56	26	12	4	1	n=1626
WHITE	52	29	14	4	1	594
AA	79	15	5	1	0	503
LATINO	66	18	14	2	*	445

c Most doctors do not think African Americans, Latinos and other minority groups do enough to take care of their own health.

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 1)

TOTAL	28	38	28	4	1	n=1626
WHITE	24	40	31	4	1	594
AA	53	28	18	1	*	503
LATINO	42	27	28	3	*	445

d Many African Americans, Latinos and other minority groups live in areas where there are fewer doctors or other health providers.

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 2)

TOTAL	40	38	18	4	*	n=1621
WHITE	37	40	18	5	*	569
AA	45	35	17	3	0	537
LATINO	48	26	21	5	0	411

e African Americans, Latinos and members of other minority groups prefer different health care treatments than whites.

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 2)

TOTAL	14	36	43	8	*	n=1621
WHITE	10	34	48	8	*	569
AA	25	31	39	4	*	537
LATINO	25	41	29	5	0	411

Q22 continued

- f Medical researchers do not pay enough attention to how health conditions affect racial or ethnic minority groups.

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 2)

TOTAL	31	36	29	4	*	n=1621
WHITE	25	38	33	4	*	569
AA	52	28	16	3	0	537
LATINO	41	40	17	2	0	411

- Q23** These next questions are about your personal experiences with our health care system. Do you have a regular doctor or other health professional who you see for general health care, that is, when you are sick, need a check-up or want advice about your health?

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
81	82	85	69	Yes
18	17	15	31	No
*	*	*	*	(Don't know)
*	*	0	*	(Refused)

- Q24** I would like you to give this doctor or health professional an overall letter grade. A means excellent, B means good, C average, D poor and F failing.

Based on those who have regular doctor or health care provider

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
47	47	48	43	A, excellent
37	38	34	42	B, good
12	12	16	12	C, average
2	2	1	1	D, poor
*	*	*	1	F, failing
2	2	1	*	(Don't know)
0	0	0	0	(Refused)
3084	1226	1005	667	

- Q25** Is this person a man or a woman?

Based on those who have regular doctor or health care provider

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
79	80	76	78	Man
20	19	24	22	Woman
1	1	1	*	(Don't know)
*	0	*	0	(Refused)
3084	1226	1005	667	

Q26 Is this person white, African American, Latino, Asian or some other background?

Based on those who have regular doctor or health care provider

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
71	77	53	45	White
6	4	21	3	African American
5	4	2	26	Latino
11	9	14	17	Asian
3	3	3	3	Other
4	3	6	5	(Don't know)
*	*	*	*	(Refused)
3084	1226	1005	667	

Q27A Thinking about your last visit for a health care appointment, what overall letter grade would you give the doctor or health professional? A means excellent, B means good, C average, D poor and F failing.

Based on those who do not have regular doctor or health care provider

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
26	28	24	18	A, excellent
33	31	33	41	B, good
24	23	28	29	C, average
9	10	11	7	D, poor
3	4	3	3	F, failing
3	3	2	2	(Don't know)
1	*	0	1	(Refused)
800	253	184	316	

Q27B Was the doctor or other health provider a man or a woman?

Based on those who do not have regular doctor or health care provider

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
71	72	66	71	Man
26	26	33	26	Woman
1	1	2	2	(Don't know)
2	1	0	*	(Refused)
800	253	184	316	

Q28 Was this person white, African American, Latino, Asian or some other background?

Based on those who do not have regular doctor or health care provider

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
71	78	64	57	White
5	3	21	3	African American
5	3	2	16	Latino
12	11	9	15	Asian
1	*	1	2	Other
4	3	2	7	(Don't know)
3	1	1	*	(Refused)
800	253	184	316	

Q29 Thinking about your most recent visit with a doctor or other health provider, we would like to know a little about how you felt during this visit.

	Yes	No	(Don't know)	(Refused)
a Did you feel the doctor or provider knew enough or asked enough questions about your health history, such as what medications you take, whether you have ever been hospitalized and your family health history?				
TOTAL	86	13	1	*
WHITE	87	13	1	0
AA	89	11	*	*
LATINO	79	20	1	*
b Did the doctor or provider explain things in a way you could understand?				
TOTAL	91	8	1	*
WHITE	92	7	1	0
AA	91	9	*	0
LATINO	88	11	1	*
c Were there any tests or treatments you felt you needed but did not get?				
TOTAL	12	86	1	*
WHITE	11	88	1	0
AA	16	83	1	0
LATINO	19	79	1	*
d Did you feel the doctor or provider and other staff members paid attention to you and your concerns?				
TOTAL	87	11	1	*
WHITE	89	11	*	*
AA	87	13	1	*
LATINO	79	18	3	*

Q30 Many Americans do not have health insurance. Are you now covered by any form of health insurance or health plan, including any private insurance plan or a government program such as Medicare or (Insert state assistance program), or don't you have health insurance at this time?

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
84	88	82	69	Yes
15	12	18	29	No
*	*	*	1	(Don't know)
*	0	0	*	(Refused)

Q31 Which of the following is your main source of health insurance coverage? (Read responses 1-5:)

Based on those who have health insurance

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
65	68	59	61	Private insurance through an employer
10	11	8	4	Private insurance from some other source
17	16	17	15	Medicare, the government program that helps pay medical bills for people over age 65 and the disabled
4	2	8	11	(Insert state assistance program), the government program that helps pay medical bills for people with low incomes
3	2	6	6	Some other public medical assistance program
1	*	1	3	(Don't know)
*	*	*	*	(Refused)
3099	1276	988	650	

Q32 Based on all your experiences with your current main health insurance plan, what overall letter grade would give it? A means excellent, B means good, C average, D poor and F failing.

Based on those who have health insurance

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
28	29	29	29	A, excellent
42	42	38	43	B, good
21	21	25	21	C, average
4	5	4	4	D, poor
2	2	2	1	F, failing
2	2	2	2	(Don't know)
0	0	0	0	(Refused)
3099	1276	988	650	

Q33 How often do you usually have health care exams or check-ups? Would you say more than once a year, about once a year, less than once a year, or is there no particular schedule for these health care exams or appointments?

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
31	28	46	33	More than once a year
33	35	30	30	Once a year
8	9	3	4	Less than once a year
27	28	21	33	No particular schedule
*	*	0	*	(Don't know)
*	0	0	*	(Refused)

Q34 At what type of facility do you usually receive your medical care? Is it a doctor's office, a clinic or health center, an HMO, a hospital emergency room, a hospital outpatient department or some other place?

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
64	68	55	46	Doctor's office
20	17	25	39	Clinic or health center
6	6	5	4	HMO
3	2	4	4	Hospital emergency room
4	3	9	4	Hospital outpatient department
2	2	1	2	Other
*	*	*	1	(Don't know)
*	0	*	*	(Refused)

Q36 Thinking about all of the experiences you have had with health care visits in the last few years, have you ever felt that the doctor or health provider you saw or any other staff members judged you unfairly or treated you with disrespect because of (Insert)?

	Yes	No	(Don't know)	(Refused)
a your ability to pay for the care				
TOTAL	11	87	1	*
WHITE	9	91	1	*
AA	16	83	1	0
LATINO	20	77	3	*
b something in your medical history				
TOTAL	6	93	*	1
WHITE	6	94	*	*
AA	4	94	1	0
LATINO	8	92	*	*
c the treatment you needed that day				
TOTAL	12	86	1	*
WHITE	11	88	1	*
AA	15	84	1	*
LATINO	14	85	1	*

Q 36 continued

d how well you speak English

TOTAL	3	96	*	*
WHITE	1	99	*	*
AA	5	95	1	0
LATINO	14	85	1	*

e your race or ethnic background

TOTAL	4	95	*	*
WHITE	1	99	*	*
AA	12	86	2	0
LATINO	15	83	1	*

f the type of health insurance you have or because you do you not have health insurance

TOTAL	12	86	1	*
WHITE	10	89	1	*
AA	14	85	1	*
LATINO	21	78	1	*

Q37 Do you think your experiences in society, in general, would be better, worse or no different if you were (Insert)?

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 1)

	Better	Worse	No different	(Don't know)	(Refused)	
a a (woman man)						
TOTAL	21	13	59	7	1	n=1948
WHITE	22	13	59	6	*	752
AA	19	12	59	10	*	581
LATINO	21	10	63	6	0	513
b of another race or ethnic background						
TOTAL	12	30	50	8	1	
WHITE	5	37	50	8	*	
AA	47	3	44	6	0	
LATINO	27	9	58	6	0	

Q38 Do you think your experiences with our health care system would be better, worse or no different if you were (Insert)?

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 2)

	Better	Worse	No different	(Don't know)	(Refused)	
a a (woman man)						
TOTAL	11	5	77	7	*	n=1936
WHITE	9	5	79	7	0	727
AA	14	5	73	8	0	608
LATINO	18	6	72	4	0	470

Q38 continued

b of another race or ethnic background

TOTAL	9	23	61	7	*
WHITE	3	28	62	8	*
AA	32	2	59	7	*
LATINO	22	9	62	7	0

Q39 Over the past few years, (Insert) been treated unfairly specifically because of race or ethnic background when seeking medical care?

	Yes	No	(Don't know)	(Refused)
a have you				
TOTAL	4	95	*	*
WHITE	1	98	*	*
AA	14	85	1	0
LATINO	13	85	1	*
b has a family member				
TOTAL	7	92	1	*
WHITE	4	96	*	*
AA	18	78	4	0
LATINO	21	77	2	0
c has a friend or someone else you know				
TOTAL	16	81	3	*
WHITE	13	85	2	*
AA	27	65	8	0
LATINO	25	73	2	0

Q40 Thinking about the future, how concerned are you that you or a family member will someday be treated unfairly specifically because of your race or ethnic background when seeking medical care? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned or not at all concerned?

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
14	8	38	31	Very concerned
17	14	27	27	Somewhat concerned
26	28	17	21	Not too concerned
41	48	16	21	Not at all concerned
1	1	1	1	(Don't know)
*	*	*	0	(Refused)

Q40B If you had to choose, would you prefer to be treated by a doctor or nurse of your own race or ethnic group, or not?

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
16	14	20	28	Prefer own race
11	10	12	17	Not prefer own race
73	76	66	54	(Doesn't matter)
1	1	1	1	(Don't know)
*	*	0	0	(Refused)

Q41 Do you believe our government should spend more money on programs to make sure African Americans, Latinos and other minority groups have the same opportunities as whites in terms of (Insert)?

	Yes	No	(Don't know)	(Refused)
a education				
TOTAL	70	23	5	1
WHITE	65	28	6	1
AA	92	5	3	*
LATINO	86	13	1	*
b employment and income				
TOTAL	63	30	5	1
WHITE	57	36	6	1
AA	89	7	4	*
LATINO	81	16	3	*
c health care				
TOTAL	70	23	6	1
WHITE	65	27	7	1
AA	89	6	4	*
LATINO	86	12	1	*

Q42A Would you still support government spending in this if it meant you had to pay more in taxes?

	Yes	No	(Don't know)	(Refused)	
a education					
Based on those who support increased government spending to ensure equal opportunity in area					
TOTAL	83	14	2	*	n=3128
WHITE	83	14	2	0	961
AA	88	10	3	0	1106
LATINO	78	19	3	0	880

Q42A continued

b employment and income

Based on those who support increased government spending to ensure equal opportunity in area

TOTAL	81	16	3	*	n=2941
WHITE	80	16	4	0	850
AA	86	11	3	*	1077
LATINO	77	19	4	*	846

c health care

Based on those who support increased government spending to ensure equal opportunity in area

TOTAL	82	16	3	*	n=3108
WHITE	82	15	3	*	965
AA	87	10	3	0	1090
LATINO	76	21	2	0	867

Q42B Would you still oppose government spending even if it meant that African Americans, Latinos and other minorities continued to receive unequal opportunities in this area?

Yes	No	(Don't know)	(Refused)
-----	----	-----------------	-----------

a education

Based on those who oppose increased government spending to ensure equal opportunity in area

TOTAL	38	54	6	2	n=597
WHITE	38	55	6	1	421
AA	50	50	0	0	53
LATINO	36	63	1	0	86

b employment and income

Based on those who oppose increased government spending to ensure equal opportunity in area

TOTAL	43	48	8	1	n=767
WHITE	43	47	9	1	526
AA	45	53	2	0	78
LATINO	43	51	6	0	117

c health care

Based on those who oppose increased government spending to ensure equal opportunity in area

TOTAL	46	43	7	4	n=614
WHITE	48	41	6	5	419
AA	34	63	3	0	61
LATINO	34	63	4	0	100

Q43 In your opinion, who should be primarily responsible for ensuring that patients get the same quality of health care to meet their needs regardless of their race and ethnic background? The government, the medical community, both or neither?

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 1)

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
13	11	23	20	Government
20	23	7	14	Medical community
55	53	64	59	Both
10	11	5	5	Neither
2	2	1	1	(Don't know)
1	*	*	*	(Refused)
1948	752	581	513	

Q44 In your opinion, who should be primarily responsible for setting and enforcing standards for how all patients should be treated by doctors and other health providers regardless of their race or ethnic background? The government, the medical community, both or neither?

Based on random 1/2 of sample (form 2)

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
8	7	11	13	Government
27	31	14	14	Medical community
52	49	62	63	Both
10	10	9	8	Neither
2	2	3	1	(Don't know)
1	*	0	*	(Refused)
1936	727	608	470	

Q45 Have you ever heard of the Tuskegee Experiment involving African American men?

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
38	38	59	18	Yes
60	61	41	81	No
1	1	1	1	(Don't know)
*	*	0	0	(Refused)

Q46 As far as you know, when people talk about the Tuskegee Experiment, are they referring to ... (Read responses 1-3)

Based on those who heard of Tuskegee Experiment

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
71	72	72	58	A much-criticized government study of syphilis treatment involving African American men
13	12	16	15	The African American airmen who fought in World War II
6	6	4	21	A study of heart disease among African American men
9	10	8	7	(Don't know)
*	*	*	0	(Refused)
1632	617	752	176	

D1 Respondent's sex:

<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>AA</u>	<u>LATINO</u>	
47	47	45	50	Male
53	53	55	50	Female

D2 I have one last set of questions to help us better understand the people who took part in our survey. In general, how would you describe your own health? Is it excellent, good, only fair or poor?

<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>AA</u>	<u>LATINO</u>	
30	32	25	24	Excellent
46	46	47	44	Good
19	19	20	24	Fair
5	4	7	8	Poor
*	*	*	0	(Don't know)
*	0	*	0	(Refused)

D3 In politics today do you consider yourself a Republican, a Democrat or an Independent?

<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>AA</u>	<u>LATINO</u>	
22	27	6	12	Republican
30	25	62	34	Democrat
37	38	23	42	Independent
5	5	2	3	(Other)
3	3	3	7	(Don't know)
3	3	3	1	(Refused)

D5 Would you describe your political views as very conservative, conservative, moderate, liberal or very liberal?

<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>AA</u>	<u>LATINO</u>	
3	3	5	3	Very conservative
34	37	27	31	Conservative
36	36	35	30	Moderate
15	14	19	22	Liberal
5	5	9	5	Very liberal
4	4	5	7	(Don't know)
2	1	1	1	(Refused)

D6 How many children under 18 currently live in your household?

<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>AA</u>	<u>LATINO</u>	
58	62	49	43	None
16	14	21	21	1
16	15	17	18	2
7	6	8	10	3
2	2	3	5	4
1	*	1	2	5
*	*	1	*	More than 5
*	*	*	*	(Refused)

D7 And counting yourself, how many adults 18 and older currently live in your household?

<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>AA</u>	<u>LATINO</u>	
0	0	0	0	None
26	26	34	19	1
54	56	46	48	2
13	12	14	21	3
4	4	4	9	4
1	1	1	2	5
*	*	1	1	More than 5
1	1	*	*	(Refused)

D8 Are you currently married, living as married, widowed, divorced, separated, or have you never been married?

<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>AA</u>	<u>LATINO</u>	
51	55	31	48	Married
4	3	6	5	Living as married
8	9	10	4	Widowed
12	12	14	9	Divorced
3	3	6	5	Separated
21	18	32	29	Never married
1	1	1	*	(Refused)

D9 Do you own or rent your own home?

<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>AA</u>	<u>LATINO</u>	
62	68	46	43	Own
33	29	48	52	Rent
4	3	6	5	(Other)
*	*	*	0	(Don't know)
1	1	1	*	(Refused)

D10 What is your age?

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
23	21	26	34	18-29
38	37	41	42	30-49
21	23	18	16	50-64
16	17	14	9	65 and older
2	1	2	1	(Refused)

D11 What is the last grade or class you completed in school? (Do not read responses)

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
5	3	5	20	Grade 8 or lower
11	9	17	21	High school incomplete
34	34	37	29	High school diploma or equivalent
3	3	2	1	Business, technical or vocational school after high school
15	16	15	13	Some college, no degree
8	8	9	5	Two-year or associate's college degree
14	16	9	7	Four-year college degree
9	10	5	4	Graduate or professional school after college
1	*	*	*	(Refused)

D12 Are you yourself of Latino or Hispanic origin or descent such as Mexican, Puerto Rican or some other Latin American background?

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
9	0	0	100	Yes
89	100	100	0	No
*	*	*	0	(Don't know)
1	*	*	0	(Refused)

D13 What is your race? (If Latino:) Are you white Latino, black Latino or some other race? (Else:) Are you white, African American or black, Asian or some other race?

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
79	100	0	57	White/White Latino
12	0	100	10	African American/Black/Black Latino
1	0	0	0	Asian
5	0	0	26	Other
1	0	0	5	(Don't know)
2	0	0	1	(Refused)

D14A Last year, that is in 1998, what was your total household income from all sources before taxes? Was it over or under \$25,000?

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
31	27	41	49	Under \$25,000
60	66	48	42	Over \$25,000
4	3	8	9	(Don't know)
5	4	4	1	(Refused)

D14B Now just stop me when I get to the right category. Was your income ... (Read responses 1-4:)

Based on those with income less than \$25,000

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
17	17	17	20	Less than \$10,000
29	30	30	32	\$10,000 to under \$15,000
25	22	29	28	\$15,000 to under \$20,000
24	27	18	16	\$20,000 to under \$25,000
3	3	4	3	(Don't know)
2	1	3	1	(Refused)
1417	391	458	508	

D14C Now just stop me when I get to the right category. Was your income ... (Read responses 1-6:)

Based on those with income more than \$25,000

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
13	11	22	25	\$25,000 to under \$30,000
12	12	13	22	\$30,000 to under \$35,000
12	11	19	13	\$35,000 to under \$40,000
16	16	15	15	\$40,000 to under \$50,000
19	21	17	10	\$50,000 to under \$75,000
21	24	9	11	\$75,000 or more
2	3	1	1	(Don't know)
4	5	3	3	(Refused)
2095	961	615	390	

D15 Were you born in the US or in another country?

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
91	97	95	51	US
9	3	5	48	Other country
*	0	0	*	(Don't know)
1	*	*	*	(Refused)

D16 How long have you lived in the US?

Based on those who were not born in US

TOTAL	WHITE	AA	LATINO	
8	3	9	8	Less than 5 years
12	9	24	12	5-9
80	88	67	79	10 or more
*	0	0	*	(Don't know)
*	*	0	*	(Refused)
739	70	71	508	

D17 Have you lived somewhere in the last 12 months without a telephone?

<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>AA</u>	<u>LATINO</u>	
4	3	5	9	Yes
96	97	95	91	No
*	0	*	*	(Don't know)
*	*	*	*	(Refused)



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