



HARVARD
SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC HEALTH

Toplines

The Kaiser Family Foundation/Harvard School of Public Health

The Medicare Drug Benefit: Beneficiary Perspectives Just Before Implementation

November 2005

Methodology

The Kaiser Family Foundation/Harvard School of Public Health *The Medicare Drug Benefit: Beneficiary Perspectives Just Before Implementation* was conducted and analyzed by researchers at the Kaiser Family Foundation and Harvard School of Public Health. Fieldwork by telephone by ICR/International Communications Research occurred between October 13 and October 31, 2005, among a nationally representative sample of 802 respondents 65 years of age and older. The Kaiser/Harvard survey research team included Mollyann Brodie, Ph.D., Tricia Neuman, Sc.D., Erin Weltzien, and Michelle Kitchman Strollo, M.H.S. from the Kaiser Family Foundation; and Professor Robert Blendon, Sc.D., and John Benson, M.A. of the Harvard School of Public Health.

The margin of sampling error for the survey is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points for the overall survey. For results based on subsets of respondents the margin of error is higher. Note that sampling error is only one of many potential sources of error in this or any other public opinion poll.

This survey is part of an ongoing effort to track seniors' views on the Medicare prescription drug benefit, which has included three earlier comprehensive surveys about Medicare and five tracking polls which included questions about the benefit. Trend data in this chartpack comes specifically from two tracking polls conducted August 4-8, 2005 and March 31-April 3, 2005.

“Vol.” indicates that a response was volunteered by respondent, not an explicitly offered choice. Percentages may not always add up to 100% due to rounding.

S1. Gender

<u>TOTAL</u>	
43	Male
57	Female
N=802	

MAIN QUESTIONNAIRE

1. What is your age?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
29	65-69
21	70-74
19	75-79
18	80-84
9	85+
N=802	

2. Are you currently married, living with a partner, widowed, divorced, separated, or have you never been married?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
44	Married
2	Living with a partner
39	Widowed
7	Divorced
1	Separated
4	Never been married
*	Don't know
2	Refused
N=802	

UNDERSTANDING & VIEWS OF BENEFIT

3. As you may know, beginning in 2006 there will be a new prescription drug benefit for people on Medicare. How well would you say you understand this new benefit? Would you say you understand it very well, somewhat well, not too well, or not well at all?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
14	Very well
21	Somewhat well
25	Not too well
36	Not well at all
3	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

4. Would you say that you know more, less or about the same about the Medicare drug benefit as you knew a year ago?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
29	More
14	Less
50	About the same
6	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

5. Do you feel you have enough information about the new Medicare prescription drug benefit to understand how it will impact you personally, or not?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
36	Yes, enough
58	No, not enough
6	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

6. Given what you know about it, in general, do you have a favorable or unfavorable impression of this new Medicare prescription drug benefit?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
31	Favorable
37	Unfavorable
31	Don't know
1	Refused

N=802

7. To the best of your knowledge, do seniors generally need to sign up to get their new Medicare prescription drug benefit, or will coverage automatically begin by January 1, 2006?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
64	Have to sign up
10	Coverage will begin automatically
25	Don't know
*	Refused
N=802	

THERE WAS NO QUESTION 8

9. Thinking ahead, do you think you will enroll in a Medicare drug plan for 2006, you will NOT enroll in a Medicare drug plan, or don't you know yet?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
20	Will enroll
37	Will NOT enroll
43	Don't know
*	Refused
N=802	

10. In selecting among different Medicare drug plans, which of the following is most important to you?

Asked of those planning to enroll

<u>TOTAL</u>	
16	How much the plan charges for monthly premiums
19	Which drugs the plan covers
35	How much the plan charges out-of-pocket for each prescription
20	(VOL) All are important
10	Don't know
1	Refused
N=156	

Q9/Q10 Combination Table

<u>TOTAL</u>	
20	Planning to enroll (net)
	Most important is...
3	How much the plan charges for monthly premiums
4	Which drugs the plan covers
7	How much the plan charges out of pocket for each prescription
4	All of these are most important
37	Not planning to enroll
44	Don't know
*	Refused
N=802	

11. For each of the following, please tell me whether it is a MAJOR reason you are not planning to enroll in a Medicare drug plan at this time, a MINOR reason, or not a reason. First/How about (INSERT).

Based on those not planning to enroll or who do not know

- a. I don't know enough about it

<u>TOTAL</u>	
46	Major reason
20	Minor reason
30	Not a reason
4	Don't know
1	Refused

N=644

- b. I already have an insurance plan or program to help pay for my prescriptions

<u>TOTAL</u>	
60	Major reason
8	Minor reason
24	Not a reason
7	Don't know
1	Refused

N=644

- c. It's too complicated

<u>TOTAL</u>	
37	Major reason
20	Minor reason
33	Not a reason
10	Don't know
*	Refused

N=644

- d. I don't think it will save me money

<u>TOTAL</u>	
45	Major reason
13	Minor reason
29	Not a reason
13	Don't know
1	Refused

N=644

- e. I don't take enough prescriptions to need a Medicare drug plan

<u>TOTAL</u>	
28	Major reason
21	Minor reason
41	Not a reason
9	Don't know
*	Refused

N=644

Q9/Q11 Combination Tables

a. I don't know enough about it

<u>TOTAL</u>	
80	Not planning to enroll or DK
37	Major reason
16	Minor reason
24	Not a reason
20	Planning to enroll
--	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

b. I already have an insurance plan or program to help pay for my prescriptions

<u>TOTAL</u>	
80	Not planning to enroll or DK
48	Major reason
7	Minor reason
20	Not a reason
20	Planning to enroll
--	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

c. It's too complicated

<u>TOTAL</u>	
80	Not planning to enroll or DK
30	Major reason
16	Minor reason
27	Not a reason
20	Planning to enroll
--	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

d. I don't think it will save me money

<u>TOTAL</u>	
80	Not planning to enroll or DK
36	Major reason
10	Minor reason
23	Not a reason
20	Planning to enroll
--	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

Q9/Q11 Combination Tables continued...

e. I don't take enough prescriptions to need a Medicare drug plan

TOTAL	
80	Not planning to enroll or DK
23	Major reason
17	Minor reason
33	Not a reason
20	Planning to enroll
--	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

11b. To the best of your knowledge, do seniors in the traditional Medicare program have to sign up with a private plan to get the new Medicare drug benefit, or not?

TOTAL	
35	Yes, seniors have to sign up with a private plan
32	No, do not have to sign up
33	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

11a. To the best of your knowledge, do seniors have to enroll in a Medicare HMO or PPO to get the new Medicare drug benefit, or not?

TOTAL	
17	Yes, seniors have to enroll
40	No, do not have to enroll
42	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

12. I'm going to read you a list of places where people might turn to get help in deciding whether to enroll in a Medicare drug plan. For each, please tell me how likely you would be to turn to this source for help.

READ FOR FIRST ITEM, THEN AS NECESSARY: Would you be very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely, or not at all likely to use this source?

a. Your doctor

TOTAL	
32	Very likely
21	Somewhat likely
10	Not too likely
34	Not at all likely
3	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

Q12 continued...

b. Your pharmacist

<u>TOTAL</u>	
25	Very likely
22	Somewhat likely
10	Not too likely
39	Not at all likely
4	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

c. A local seniors' group or community organization

<u>TOTAL</u>	
16	Very likely
21	Somewhat likely
14	Not too likely
45	Not at all likely
4	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

d. A former employer or union

<u>TOTAL</u>	
9	Very likely
8	Somewhat likely
8	Not too likely
70	Not at all likely
5	Don't know
1	Refused

N=802

f. Medicare

<u>TOTAL</u>	
33	Very likely
25	Somewhat likely
9	Not too likely
27	Not at all likely
5	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

g. Social Security

<u>TOTAL</u>	
24	Very likely
22	Somewhat likely
10	Not too likely
36	Not at all likely
6	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

Q12 continued...

h. Friends or family members

TOTAL	
20	Very likely
22	Somewhat likely
15	Not too likely
39	Not at all likely
3	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

i. Medicaid (MEDI-CAL) [IF NECESSARY - the program that provides health insurance and long term care to certain low-income families and seniors]

TOTAL	
14	Very likely
11	Somewhat likely
10	Not too likely
57	Not at all likely
7	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

12a. How likely is it that your doctor would spend time helping you decide how to choose the best Medicare drug plan? Very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely, not at all likely?

TOTAL	
32	Very likely
21	Somewhat likely
20	Not too likely
21	Not at all likely
6	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

12b. How knowledgeable do you think your doctor would be about the different Medicare drug plans that will be available? Very knowledgeable, somewhat knowledgeable, not too knowledgeable or not at all knowledgeable

TOTAL	
32	Very knowledgeable
33	Somewhat knowledgeable
13	Not too knowledgeable
8	Not at all knowledgeable
14	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

12c. How likely is it that your pharmacist would spend time helping you decide how to choose the best Medicare drug plan? Very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely, not at all likely?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
30	Very likely
25	Somewhat likely
11	Not too likely
24	Not at all likely
9	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

12d. How knowledgeable do you think your pharmacist would be about the different Medicare drug plans that will be available? Very knowledgeable, somewhat knowledgeable, not too knowledgeable or not at all knowledgeable.

<u>TOTAL</u>	
39	Very knowledgeable
36	Somewhat knowledgeable
7	Not too knowledgeable
6	Not at all knowledgeable
12	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

13. How helpful do you think the new Medicare prescription drug benefit will be for the following people?
First/Next, how helpful do you think the benefit will be for (READ ITEM)? Will it be very helpful, somewhat helpful, not too helpful, or not at all helpful?

a. A typical person on Medicare

<u>TOTAL</u>	
26	Very helpful
41	Somewhat helpful
13	Not too helpful
5	Not at all helpful
15	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

b. Low-income people on Medicare

<u>TOTAL</u>	
49	Very helpful
28	Somewhat helpful
6	Not too helpful
6	Not at all helpful
10	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

Q13 continued...

c. People on Medicare with very high prescription drug costs

<u>TOTAL</u>	
44	Very helpful
32	Somewhat helpful
6	Not too helpful
6	Not at all helpful
12	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

d. People on Medicare who currently have no drug coverage

<u>TOTA76L</u>	
47	Very helpful
29	Somewhat helpful
7	Not too helpful
6	Not at all helpful
12	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

e. You personally

<u>TOTAL</u>	
19	Very helpful
20	Somewhat helpful
13	Not too helpful
36	Not at all helpful
13	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

13a. Do people on Medicare HAVE to sign up for the new prescription drug benefit, or is this something they don't HAVE to do if they don't want to?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
24	Do have to sign up
60	Don't have to if they don't want to
17	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

THERE WAS NO QUESTION 14 OR 15

16. To the best of your knowledge, if a senior does NOT sign up for a Medicare drug plan for 2006, but wants to enroll in a future year, which of the following is true?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
36	He or she WILL face a financial penalty for late enrollment
17	He or she MAY face a financial penalty for late enrollment
19	There are NO financial penalties for late enrollment
27	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

THERE WAS NO QUESTION 17

18. How confident are you in your ability to choose a plan that's right for you -- Very confident, somewhat confident, not too confident, not at all confident?

TOTAL	
37	Very confident
31	Somewhat confident
16	Not too confident
12	Not at all confident
5	Don't know
--	Refused
N=802	

20. Do you think people on Medicare will have too many, too few, or about the right amount of drug plans to choose from?

TOTAL	
22	Too many
20	Too few
29	Right amount
30	Don't know
--	Refused
N=802	

19. Just your best guess, how many drug plans do you think most people on Medicare will have to choose from?

TOTAL	
4	1
12	2
12	3
8	4
4	5
11	6-10
7	11-20
5	More than 20
37	Don't know
--	Refused
N=802	

21. The government has announced that most people on Medicare will have at least 40 different drug plans to choose from. Which comes closer to your view?

TOTAL	
73	Having many plans to choose from makes it confusing and difficult to pick the best plan
22	Having many plans to choose from is helpful and provides an opportunity to find the best plan
4	Don't know
*	Refused
N=802	

INFORMATION ABOUT BENEFIT

22. Have you received any information about the new Medicare prescription drug benefit, or not?

TOTAL	
74	Yes, received information
23	No, did not receive information
3	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

23. Did this information come to you in the mail, did you pick it up somewhere or did someone give it to you?

Based on those who received information

TOTAL	
97	Mail
2	Pick it up somewhere
1	Someone gave it to you
*	Don't know
*	Refused

N=603

Q22/Q23 Combination Table

TOTAL	
74	Received information
72	In the mail
1	Picked it up somewhere
1	Someone gave it to you
23	Did not receive information
3	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

24. Now please tell me if the information you received came from each of the following sources or not?

Based on those who received information

- a. Social Security

TOTAL	
41	Yes
47	No
12	Don't know
--	Refused

N=603

Q24 continued...

b. Medicare or the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

TOTAL	
64	Yes
26	No
10	Don't know
--	Refused

N=603

c. A health insurance company that is offering a Medicare prescription drug plan

TOTAL	
39	Yes
53	No
9	Don't know
--	Refused

N=603

d. A pharmacy

TOTAL	
11	Yes
84	No
5	Don't know
--	Refused

N=603

e. A seniors' group or community organization

TOTAL	
19	Yes
75	No
6	Don't know
--	Refused

N=603

f. A former employer or union

TOTAL	
10	Yes
86	No
3	Don't know
--	Refused

N=603

Q24 Total Respondent Tables

a. Social Security

TOTAL	
74	Received information
31	From Social Security
35	Not from Social Security
23	Did not receive information
3	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

Q24 Total Respondent Tables continued...

b. Medicare or the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

TOTAL	
74	Received information
47	From Medicare/Centers for Medicare and Medicaid
19	Not from Medicare/Centers fro Medicare and Mediciad
23	Did not receive information
3	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

c. A health insurance company that is offering a Medicare prescription drug plan

TOTAL	
74	Received information
29	From a health insurance company
39	Not from a health insurance company
23	Did not receive information
3	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

d. A pharmacy

TOTAL	
74	Received information
8	From a pharmacy
62	Not from a pharmacy
23	Did not receive information
3	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

e. A seniors' group or community organization

TOTAL	
74	Received information
14	From a senior's group/community organization
55	Not from a senior's group/community organization
23	Did not receive information
3	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

f. A former employer or union

TOTAL	
74	Received information
8	From a former employer or union
64	Not from a former employer or union
23	Did not receive information
3	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

25. Would you say you read through the information you have received about the new drug benefit very closely, somewhat closely, not too closely, or not at all closely?

Based on those who received information

<u>TOTAL</u>	
20	Very closely
40	Somewhat closely
19	Not too closely
20	Not at all closely
1	Don't know
--	Refused
N=603	

Q22/Q25 Combination Table

<u>TOTAL</u>	
74	Received information
15	Very closely
30	Somewhat closely
14	Not too closely
15	Not at all closely
23	Did not receive information
3	Don't know
--	Refused
N=802	

26. Do you still have the information you received about the new drug benefit, or not?

Based on those who received information

<u>TOTAL</u>	
77	Yes
20	No
3	Don't know
*	Refused
N=603	

Q22/Q26 Combination table

<u>TOTAL</u>	
74	Received information
57	Still have information
15	Do not have information
23	Did not receive information
3	Don't know
--	Refused
N=802	

27. Have you talked to anyone about the new Medicare prescription drug benefit, or not?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
33	Yes
67	No
*	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

28. Did you talk to each of the following about the information or not?

Based on those who have talked to someone

a. Your spouse (if married)

<u>TOTAL</u>	
83	Yes
17	No
--	Don't know
--	Refused

N=141

b. A son or daughter

<u>TOTAL</u>	
32	Yes
68	No
*	Don't know
--	Refused

N=288

c. Another family member or friend

<u>TOTAL</u>	
49	Yes
51	No
--	Don't know
--	Refused

N=288

d. Your pharmacist

<u>TOTAL</u>	
19	Yes
81	No
--	Don't know
--	Refused

N=288

e. Your doctor

<u>TOTAL</u>	
11	Yes
89	No
--	Don't know
--	Refused

N=288

Q28 continued...

f. Someone who counsels seniors about health insurance

<u>TOTAL</u>	
14	Yes
86	No
*	Don't know
--	Refused

N=288

Q28 Total Respondent Tables

a. Your spouse

<u>TOTAL</u>	
33	Talked to someone
13	Yes
3	No
17	(Not married)
67	Did not talk to someone
*	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

b. A son or daughter

<u>TOTAL</u>	
33	Talked to someone
10	Yes
22	No
67	Did not talk to someone
*	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

c. Another family member or friend

<u>TOTAL</u>	
33	Talked to someone
16	Yes
17	No
67	Did not talk to someone
*	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

d. Your pharmacist

<u>TOTAL</u>	
33	Talked to someone
6	Yes
27	No
67	Did not talk to someone
*	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

Q28 Total Respondent Tables continued...

e. Your doctor

TOTAL	
33	Talked to someone
4	Yes
29	No
67	Did not talk to someone
*	Don't know
--	Refused
N=802	

f. Someone who counsels seniors about health insurance

TOTAL	
33	Talked to someone
5	Yes
28	No
67	Did not talk to someone
*	Don't know
--	Refused
N=802	

29. Have you received any information or an application about whether you may qualify for additional financial help that is available for certain low-income people as part of the new prescription drug benefit, or not?

TOTAL	
24	Yes
73	No
3	Don't know
--	Refused
N=802	

30. Did the information come from (READ)?

Based on those who received information about qualifying

TOTAL	
66	Social Security or another government program
20	Somewhere else
15	Don't know
--	Refused
N=205	

Q29/Q30 Combination Table

TOTAL	
24	Received information about qualifying
16	From Social Security or another government program
5	From somewhere else
73	Did not receive information
3	Don't know
--	Refused
N=802	

31. Which of the following best describes what you did with this information?

Based on those who received information about qualifying

<u>TOTAL</u>	
18	Read the letter, completed the application, and mailed it in
4	Read the letter and partially filled out the application
25	Didn't read the letter but kept it to look at later
23	Threw the letter away
27	None of the above
2	Don't know
*	Refused

N=205

Q29/Q31 Combination table

<u>TOTAL</u>	
24	Received information about qualifying
4	Read the letter, completed the application, and mailed it in
1	Read the letter and partially filled out the application
6	Didn't read the letter but kept it to look at later
6	Threw the letter away
7	None of the above
73	Did not receive information
3	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

32. Do you think you might be eligible for additional financial help with prescription drug costs that is available from the government for certain low-income people on Medicare, or not?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
23	Yes
62	No
15	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

32a/32b Combination Table

- 32a. Do you think someone making \$5,000 or less a year would qualify for this additional financial help?
 32b. What about someone making (INSERT)...

<u>TOTAL</u>	
5	\$5,000 or less would NOT be eligible
10	Someone making \$10,000 a year would NOT be eligible
18	Someone making \$15,000 a year would NOT be eligible
14	Someone making \$20,000 a year would NOT be eligible
8	Someone making \$25,000 a year would NOT be eligible
5	Someone making \$30,000 a year would NOT be eligible
2	Someone making \$35,000 a year would NOT be eligible
6	Someone making \$40,000 a year or more would NOT be eligible
32	Don't know
--	Refused
N=802	

33. Have you seen or heard any television or radio ads about the new Medicare prescription drug benefit, or not?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
45	Yes
50	No
5	Don't know
--	Refused
N=802	

34. Would you say you have seen or heard a lot of ads, a fair number or only a few ads about the Medicare prescription drug benefit?

Based on those who have seen/heard ads

<u>TOTAL</u>	
12	A lot of ads
20	A fair number
67	Only a few
1	Don't know
--	Refused
N=345	

Q33/Q34 Combination table

<u>TOTAL</u>	
45	Have seen/heard ads
5	A lot of ads
9	A fair number
31	Only a few
50	Have not seen/heard ads
5	Don't know
--	Refused
N=802	

35. In general, were most of the ads you saw mainly about (READ)?

Based on those who have seen/heard ads

<u>TOTAL</u>	
37	Trying to get you to sign-up for a specific drug plan
51	Trying to educate you about the new Medicare drug benefit in general
11	Don't know
1	Refused

N=345

Q33/Q35 Combination Table

<u>TOTAL</u>	
45	Have seen/heard ads
17	Trying to get you to sign-up for a specific drug plan
23	Trying to educate you about the new Medicare drug benefit in general
50	Have not seen/heard ads
5	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

36. Did you happen to see a special section in Parade magazine about the new Medicare prescription drug benefit, or not?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
16	Yes
82	No
3	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

THERE WAS NO QUESTION 37

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

38. Do you currently take any prescription medicine on a daily basis, or not?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
81	Yes
13	No
--	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

39. How many different prescription drugs do you take?

Based on those who take prescription drugs on a regular basis

<u>TOTAL</u>	
11	1
18	2
15	3
15	4
9	5
9	6
16	7-10
5	More than 10
1	Don't know
1	Refused

N=688

Q38/Q39 Combination Table

<u>TOTAL</u>	
87	Take prescription drugs on a regular basis
9	1
16	2
13	3
13	4
8	5
8	6
14	7-10
4	More than 10
13	Do not take prescription drugs
--	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

40. In the past year, have you ever NOT filled a prescription because of the cost, or not?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
14	Yes
86	No
*	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

41. In the past year, have you ever cut pills in half, or skipped doses in order to make a medicine last longer, or not?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
15	Yes
85	No
--	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

42. How much of a problem is it for you and your family to pay prescription drug costs? Is it very difficult, somewhat difficult, not too difficult, or not at all difficult?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
15	Very difficult
29	Somewhat difficult
21	Not too difficult
34	Not at all difficult
1	Don't know
*	Refused
N=802	

43. Do you currently get any of your prescriptions either online or by mail order, or not?

Based on those who take prescription drugs on a regular basis

<u>TOTAL</u>	
33	Yes
66	No
*	Don't know
--	Refused
N=688	

Q38/Q43 Combination Table

<u>TOTAL</u>	
87	Take prescription drugs on a regular basis
29	Get Rx online or in the mail
58	Do not get Rx online or in the mail
13	Do not take prescription drugs
--	Don't know
--	Refused
N=802	

44. During the past five years, have you ever bought prescription drugs from Canada or some other country in order to get a lower price, or not?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
7	Yes
93	No
*	Don't know
--	Refused
N=802	

45. Do you currently have any insurance plan or program that helps you pay for prescription medications or not?

TOTAL	
66	Yes
33	No
1	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

46. Please tell me which of the following plans or programs help pay for your prescriptions.

Based on those with insurance

a. A former employer or union

TOTAL	
45	Yes
53	No
1	Don't know
*	Refused

N=542

b. Medicaid (Medi-CAL)

TOTAL	
11	Yes
88	No
1	Don't know
*	Refused

N=542

c. A state pharmacy assistance program

TOTAL	
7	Yes
91	No
2	Don't know
*	Refused

N=542

d. A Medicare supplement or Medigap policy that you bought yourself, from an insurance company, such as Blue Cross Blue Shield, or AARP

TOTAL	
31	Yes
67	No
2	Don't know
*	Refused

N=542

Q46 continued...

e. The Veterans' Administration

TOTAL	
11	Yes
88	No
1	Don't know
*	Refused

N=542

f. A Medicare HMO or PPO

TOTAL	
18	Yes
76	No
6	Don't know
*	Refused

N=542

g. A prescription drug discount card

TOTAL	
23	Yes
75	No
2	Don't know
--	Refused

N=542

Q46 Total Respondent tables

a. A former employer or union

TOTAL	
66	Have insurance
30	From a former employer or union
35	Not from a former employer or union
33	Do not have insurance
1	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

b. Medicaid (Medi-CAL)

TOTAL	
66	Have insurance
8	From Medicaid
58	Not from Medicaid
33	Do not have insurance
1	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

Q46 Total Respondent tables continued...

c. A state pharmacy assistance program

<u>TOTAL</u>	
66	Have insurance
4	From a state pharmacy assistance program
60	Not from a state pharmacy assistance program
33	Do not have insurance
1	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

d. A Medicare supplement or Medigap policy that you bought yourself, from an insurance company, such as Blue Cross Blue Shield, or AARP

<u>TOTAL</u>	
66	Have insurance
20	From a Medicare supplement or Medigap policy
44	Not from a Medicare supplement or Medigap policy
33	Do not have insurance
1	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

e. The Veterans' Administration

<u>TOTAL</u>	
66	Have insurance
7	From the Veteran's Administration
58	Not from the Veteran's Administration
33	Do not have insurance
1	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

f. A Medicare HMO or PPO

<u>TOTAL</u>	
66	Have insurance
12	From a Medicare HMO/PPO
50	Not from a Medicare HMO/PPO
33	Do not have insurance
1	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

g. A prescription drug discount card

<u>TOTAL</u>	
66	Have insurance
15	From a prescription drug card
50	Not from a prescription drug card
33	Do not have insurance
1	Don't know
--	Refused

N=802

47. Have you heard of a toll-free phone number set up by the government, 1-800-MEDICARE, that you can call to get information about Medicare?

TOTAL	
50	Yes
47	No
3	Don't know
--	Refused
N=802	

48. Have you ever called 1-800-MEDICARE, or not?

Based on those who have heard of 1-800-MEDICARE

TOTAL	
15	Yes
84	No
1	Don't know
--	Refused
N=405	

Q47/Q48 Combination Table

TOTAL	
50	Heard of 1-800-MEDICARE
8	Have called
42	Have not called
47	Have not heard of 1-800-MEDICARE
3	Don't know
--	Refused
N=802	

READ: Now, onto another topic...

49. Have you EVER gone online to use (INSERT) for any reason?

- a. The Internet or World Wide Web

TOTAL	
23	Yes
76	No
--	Don't know
*	Refused
N=802	

- b. E-mail

TOTAL	
25	Yes
74	No
*	Don't know
*	Refused
N=802	

Q49 Summary Table

<u>TOTAL</u>	
27	Ever go online to use the internet OR email
23	Internet
25	E-mail
73	Never go online to use internet OR email/DK/REF
N=802	

50. Have you heard of the website Medicare.gov?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
35	Yes
64	No
1	Don't know
*	Refused
N=802	

51. Have you ever looked for information on the website Medicare.gov, or not?

Based on those who have gone online and heard of Medicare.gov

<u>TOTAL</u>	
42	Yes
58	No
--	Don't know
-	Refused
N=-126	

Q49/Q50/Q51 Combination Table

<u>TOTAL</u>	
23	Have gone online to use the internet
6	Have looked for information
8	Have not looked for information
9	Have not heard of Medicare.gov
76	Have not gone online to use the internet
--	Don't know
1	Refused
N=802	

52. As far as you know, has a friend or family member ever called 1-800-MEDICARE or visited an Internet web site on your behalf for information about Medicare, or not?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
3	Yes
94	No
4	Don't know
--	Refused
N=802	

- 52a. Thinking about your health insurance coverage in general, do you think you will enroll in a Medicare HMO or PPO for 2006, you will NOT enroll in a Medicare HMO or PPO, or don't you know yet?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
13	Will enroll
32	Will not enroll
50	Don't know yet
4	(VOL) Already enrolled
*	Refused

N=802

DEMOGRAPHICS

READ: Finally, I have just a few questions we will use to describe the people who took part in our survey...

53. Now thinking about your own health status. In general, would you say your health is excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
10	Excellent
24	Very good
28	Good
26	Fair
11	Poor
*	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

54. Has a doctor or health professional ever told you that you had (INSERT)?

a. Heart disease

<u>TOTAL</u>	
30	Yes
69	No
1	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

b. Hypertension

<u>TOTAL</u>	
47	Yes
52	No
1	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

Q54 continued...

c. Diabetes

TOTAL	
23	Yes
77	No
--	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

d. Asthma or other lung disease

TOTAL	
15	Yes
85	No
--	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

e. A physical disability

TOTAL	
21	Yes
78	No
1	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

f. Cancer

TOTAL	
18	Yes
82	No
--	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

g. Any other chronic health condition

TOTAL	
22	Yes
77	No
*	Don't know
1	Refused

N=802

55. Do you (or your spouse) currently belong to A-A-R-P, the retired persons' organization?

TOTAL	
54	Yes
45	No
1	Don't know
*	Refused

N=802

56. In general, how much information have you gotten about the Medicare prescription drug benefit from newspapers and TV - a lot, some, not too much, none at all.

<u>TOTAL</u>	
12	A lot
33	Some
33	Not too much
19	None at all
2	Don't know
*	Refused
N=802	

57. In politics today, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or Independent?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
26	Republican
36	Democrat
23	Independent
3	(VOL) Something else
4	Don't know
8	Refused
N=802	

58. What is the LAST grade or class that you COMPLETED in school?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
62	HS or less
10	LT HS (subnet)
16	None, or grade 1-8
36	High school incomplete (9-11)
19	Some college
3	Business/Tech
16	Some college
19	College+
12	College grad
6	Post grad
*	Don't know
1	Refused
N=802	

59. Last year -- that is, in 2004 -- what was your (and your spouse's) income from all sources, before taxes? Just stop me when I get to the right category.

<u>TOTAL</u>	
33	Less than \$20,000
12	Less than \$10,000
11	\$10,000 to under \$15,000
10	\$15,000 to under \$20,000
27	\$20,000 to Less than \$50,000
13	\$20,000 to under \$30,000
14	\$30,000 to under \$50,000
15	\$50,000 or more
7	\$50,000 to under \$75,000
6	\$75,000 to under \$100,000
2	\$100,000 to under \$200,000
1	\$200,000 or more
7	Don't know
18	Refused

N=802

60. What percent of your income comes from Social Security payments? Does Social Security make up MOST of your income, about HALF, or does it make up LESS THAN HALF of your income?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
34	Most
22	About half
35	Less than half
4	Don't know
6	Refused

N=802

61. Are you, yourself, of Hispanic or Latino background, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or some other Spanish background?

<u>TOTAL</u>	
6	Yes
93	No
--	Don't know
1	Refused

N=802

62. What is your race? Are you white, black, Asian or some other race?

TOTAL	
86	White
8	Black
3	Asian
1	Some other race
*	Don't know
1	Refused

N=802

Race Combination Table

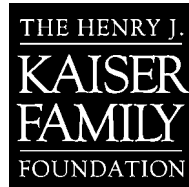
TOTAL	
80	White Non Hispanic
8	Black Non Hispanic
6	Hispanic (NET)
6	White
--	Black
--	Unspecified
3	Asian
1	Some other race
1	Don't know/Refused

N=802

Region

TOTAL	
20	Northeast
23	North Central
36	South
21	West

N=802



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