

● ● ● **2007 Collaborative Polls:**
Stark County



**Stark County
Health Department**

Provided by:

The Center for Marketing & Opinion Research, LLC

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The results of the 2007 Stark County Collaborative Poll of 1,068 respondents indicate that one in eight, 12.6%, of all respondents did not have health insurance coverage. Examples of groups that were less likely to have health insurance included residents of the three core cities in the county, people of color, relatively younger individuals, persons with relatively less formal education, part-time employees or the unemployed, and respondents from households with progressively less annual income.

Those persons who indicated that they, or someone in their household, had been denied health care during the past twelve months amounted to 4.4% of all respondents. Leading reasons for being denied health care included, in order of importance, having no health insurance coverage, the specific ailment was not covered by their insurance, the ailment was a pre-existing condition and hence not covered by insurance, and that the respondent could not afford the health care treatment.

When asked where they receive their health care most often, over three-quarters, or 77.7%, of respondents indicated a primary care doctor. Other sources of health care included, in order of importance, emergency rooms, urgent care centers, hospital clinics, VA hospitals or clinics, and free clinics. Roughly one percent of respondents stated they do not receive health care.

Respondents tended to rate the availability of health care when they need it favorably. Those persons who stated health care was *very available* amounted to the majority or 83.6% of all respondents. Another 14.3% of respondents indicated health care was *somewhat available*. Only 1.1% of respondents said health care was *never available*. Respondents also tended to rate the quality of health care in the county favorably.

When asked what was their main concern about health care in Stark County, the leading response was that it was too costly or not affordable, with the plurality or 42.2% of

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respondents indicating this was the case. The second leading concern was that there are a high number of people without health insurance coverage. Other leading concerns included, in order of importance, the availability or accessibility of health care, senior citizens without health insurance, the poor quality of health care, the price of prescriptions is too high, and existing health insurance coverage is too limited or not comprehensive enough.

Nearly one-fifth or 19.7% of all respondents reported that they, or someone in their household, currently had unmet dental needs. Respondents that did not have health insurance coverage were over twice as likely as those with health insurance to report that someone in their household had unmet dental care needs. Nevertheless, a large proportion of those with health insurance coverage said that someone in their household had unmet dental needs.

When asked how long it had been since they had visited a dentist or dental clinic, just over two-thirds or 67.7% of all respondents indicated they had been to a dentist or dental clinic within the past year. On the other hand, nearly one-third or 32.3% of respondents reported it had been over a year since they had been to a dentist. One-half of one percent of all respondents stated they had never been to a dentist or dental clinic. The leading reason given for not having visited a dentist within the past year was that the respondent said there was no need to visit the dentist.

The main reason for their most recent dental visit was to get their teeth cleaned. The plurality, or 44.9%, of respondents reported that they had their teeth cleaned within the past six months, while another 20.9% indicated it was more than six months but less than one year. On the other hand, over one-third or 34.2% of respondents reported it had been over a year since their last teeth cleaning. Nearly three percent of respondents stated they had never had their teeth cleaned.

Summary Results: Healthcare			
		Proportion of Respondents	Valid Responses
Main Concern about Healthcare (top 3)	Not affordable/Too expensive/High cost in general	42.2%	(n=908)
	High number of people without insurance	15.9%	
	Availability/Accessibility of health care	5.1%	
Where go to for health care	Primary Care Doctor	77.7%	(n=1,056)
	Emergency Room	8.3%	
	Urgent Care Center	4.6%	
	Hospital Clinic	2.6%	
	VA Hospital of Clinic	2.6%	
	Other	1.6%	
	Free Clinic	1.3%	
	Do not receive health care	0.8%	
Availability of Healthcare	Very Available	83.6%	(n=1,062)
	Somewhat Available	14.3%	
	Not at all Available	1.1%	
Been Denied Healthcare	Yes	4.4%	(n=1,064)
	No	95.6%	
Has Health Insurance	Yes	87.4%	(n=1,063)
	No	12.6%	

Summary Results: Dental Care			
		Proportion of Respondents	Valid Responses
How Long since Dentist Visit	Less than 6 months	47.5%	(n=1,064)
	6 months to one year	20.2%	
	1 to 2 years	12.5%	
	2 to 5 years	7.3%	
	5 or more years	12.0%	
	Never	0.5%	
How Long since Teeth Cleaning	Less than 6 months	44.9%	(n=1,040)
	6 months to one year	20.9%	
	1 to 2 years	12.1%	
	2 to 5 years	6.3%	
	5 or more years	13.0%	
	Never	2.9%	
Have Unmet Dental Needs	Yes	19.7%	(n=1,064)
	No	80.3%	

SURVEY QUESTIONS

The 2007 Stark County Collaborative Poll had questions from eight different organizations. The Stark County Health Department asked 10 questions regarding healthcare needs on the survey. The questions were as follows:

Question #1

“What would you say is your MAIN concern about health care in Stark County?”

Question #2

“When you are in need of health care, where do you receive it most often? Primary care doctor, Emergency room, Urgent care center, Hospital clinic, Public health department clinic, VA hospital or clinic, Free clinic, or Something else not already mentioned.”

Question #3

“How available is healthcare when you need it? Would you say it is always available, sometimes available, or never available?”

Question #4

“In the past 12 months, have you or any members of your household been denied health care for any reason?”

Question #5

If respondent was denied care: *“For what reason were you denied health care?”*

Question #6

How long has it been since you have visited a dentist or dental clinic for any reason?

Question #7

How long has it been since you had your teeth cleaned?

Question #8

If respondent has not been to the dentist in the past year: *“What is the main reason you have not been to a dentist in the last 12 months? Fear, Pain, Cost, Don't know a dentist, Can't get to the appointment, No appointments available, Lack of providers to accept my dental plan, No reason to go [no problems, Other priorities, or Have not thought of it?”*

Question #9

“What was the purpose of your last trip to the dentist?”

Question #10

“Right now, do you or anyone in your household have dental needs that have not been taken care of?”

Question #11

“Are you currently covered by any type of health insurance?”

SURVEY RESULTS

Main Concern about Health Care

All respondents were asked to indicate their main concern about health care in Stark County. This was an open-ended question where respondents could give one response in their own words.

Although given the opportunity to name a health care issue, a significant proportion, 15.0%, of respondents could not name an issue. Just under another three percent of respondents stated that they had no concerns regarding health care or that health care was good in Stark County.

The leading concern regarding health care in Stark County was that health care is not affordable. The plurality or 42.2% of answering respondent gave this answer. These persons amounted to over one-third or 35.9% of all respondents. The second leading concern regarding health care in the county was that there is a high number of people without health care insurance coverage. Those persons asserting that lack of health insurance coverage was the most important concern amounted to 15.9% of answering respondents and 13.5% of all respondents.

Other leading concerns regarding health care in Stark County included, in order of importance, the availability or accessibility of health care, elderly persons do not have health care insurance, the poor quality of health care, the cost of prescriptions is too high, insurance coverage is limited or not comprehensive, there are employed people without health care insurance, and there are children without health care insurance coverage. Lesser concerns regarding health care in the county included, in order of importance, there are not enough doctors, the quality of doctors is poor, and the cost of health care is too high.

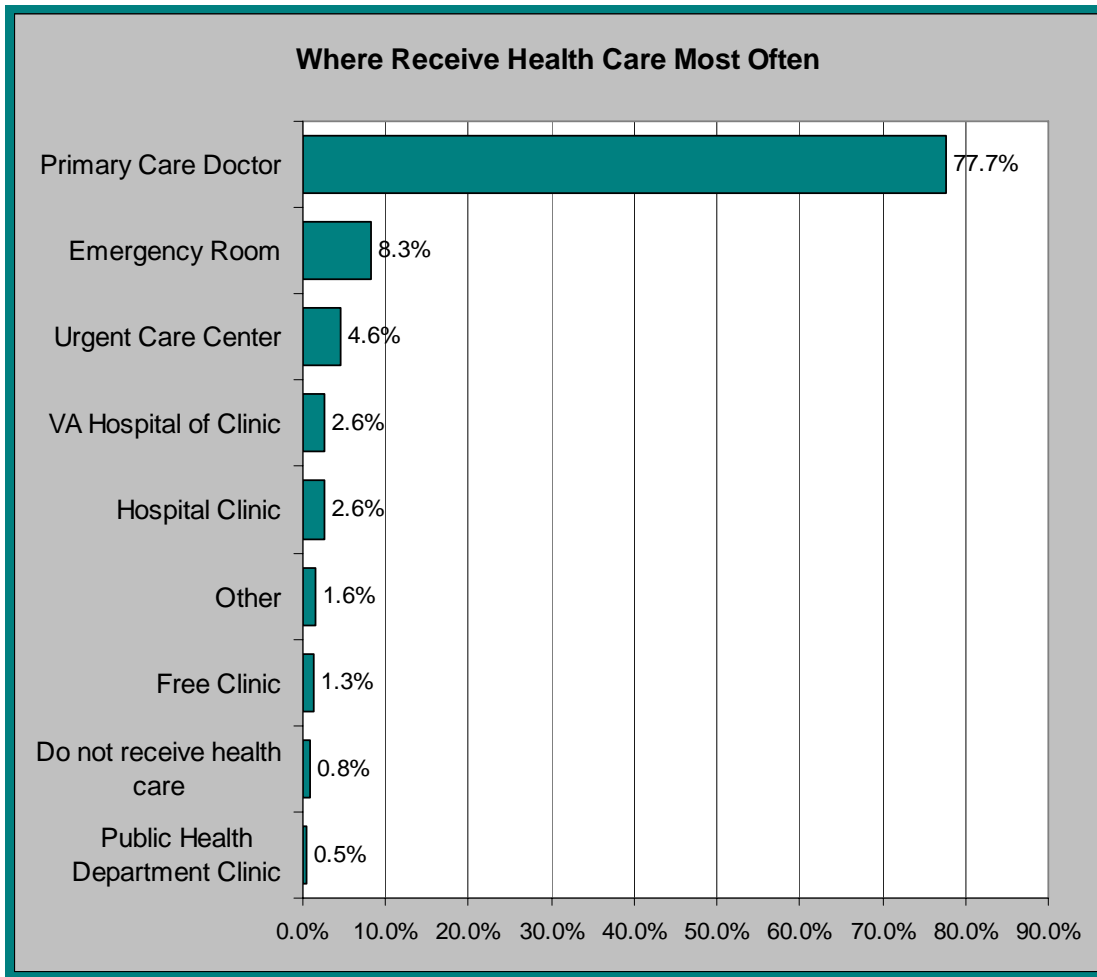
Main Concern about Health Care			
	(1)	(2)	(3)
	Number of Respondents	Proportion of Answering Respondents	Proportion Of All Respondents
Not affordable/Too expensive/High cost in general	383	42.2%	35.9%
High number of people without insurance	144	15.9%	13.5%
Availability/Accessibility of health care	46	5.1%	4.3%
Elderly/Senior citizens without insurance	34	3.7%	3.2%
The poor quality of health care	27	3.0%	2.5%
Price of medication/prescriptions too high	26	2.9%	2.4%
Coverage is limited/not comprehensive	26	2.9%	2.4%
Employed people without insurance	15	1.7%	1.4%
Children without insurance	14	1.5%	1.3%
Not enough doctors	11	1.2%	1.0%
Poor quality of doctors	10	1.1%	0.9%
Cost of Health Care is too high	9	1.0%	0.8%
It is a necessity	8	0.9%	0.7%
Unemployed without insurance	6	0.7%	0.6%
Obtaining appropriate medications	6	0.7%	0.6%
Mental health issues	6	0.7%	0.6%
People should be more informed about HC options	6	0.7%	0.6%
Cost of Health Insurance is too high	4	0.4%	0.4%
Availability of specialist	4	0.4%	0.4%
Qualifying requirements are too stringent	4	0.4%	0.4%
Need more hospitals/clinics/providers	3	0.3%	0.3%
Illegal drug use/Addiction	3	0.3%	0.3%
Coverage of preventative services	3	0.3%	0.3%
Abuse/Taking advantage of healthcare system/	3	0.3%	0.3%
Keep hospitals up to date/New technologies	3	0.3%	0.3%
Hospital needs to expedite patients faster	3	0.3%	0.3%
Too many people are underinsured	2	0.2%	0.2%
Having to stay within network	2	0.2%	0.2%

Main Concern about Health Care			
	(1)	(2)	(3)
	Number of Respondents	Proportion of Answering Respondents	Proportion Of All Respondents
Too many hospitals	2	0.2%	0.2%
Need better nursing homes/assisted living facilities	2	0.2%	0.2%
Insurance companies have too much control	2	0.2%	0.2%
Miscellaneous	17	7.2%	6.1%
Healthcare in Stark County is Good	14	1.5%	1.3%
No concerns about healthcare	13	1.4%	1.2%
<i>“What would you say is your MAIN concern about health care in Stark County?”</i>			

Where Receive Healthcare Most Often

All respondents were asked where they receive their health care most often when they are in need of health care. This was a closed-ended question with eight possible choices including a primary care doctor, emergency room, urgent care center, hospital clinic, public health department clinic, VA hospital or clinic, free clinic, or something else.

The leading source of health care for respondents was a primary care doctor. Over three-quarters or 77.7% of respondents indicated they receive their health care most often from a primary care doctor. On the other hand, nearly one-quarter or 22.3% of respondents relied on other sources for health care. For instance, 8.3% of respondents relied on emergency rooms as their primary source of health care, while another 4.6% of respondents relied on urgent care centers. Other sources of health care included, in order of importance, Veterans Administration (VA) hospitals or clinics, hospital clinics, free clinics, and public health departments. Roughly one percent of respondents stated they do not receive health care.



Whether or not a respondent relied on sources for health care other than a primary care doctor, such as emergency rooms or clinics, varied according to several demographics or other identifying characteristics of respondents. For instance, males were more likely than females to rely on other sources for their primary health care. In addition, people of color were more likely to rely on other sources for their health care compared to Caucasians. In terms of marital status, single, divorced and separated persons were more likely to rely on other sources for health care.

Income and education also played a role. Respondents from households with progressively less income were more likely to rely on other sources for health care. Likewise, respondents who indicated they did not have health insurance coverage were more likely to rely on other sources for health care compared to persons with health

insurance coverage. The less education a person had, the more likely they were to rely on other sources for health care.

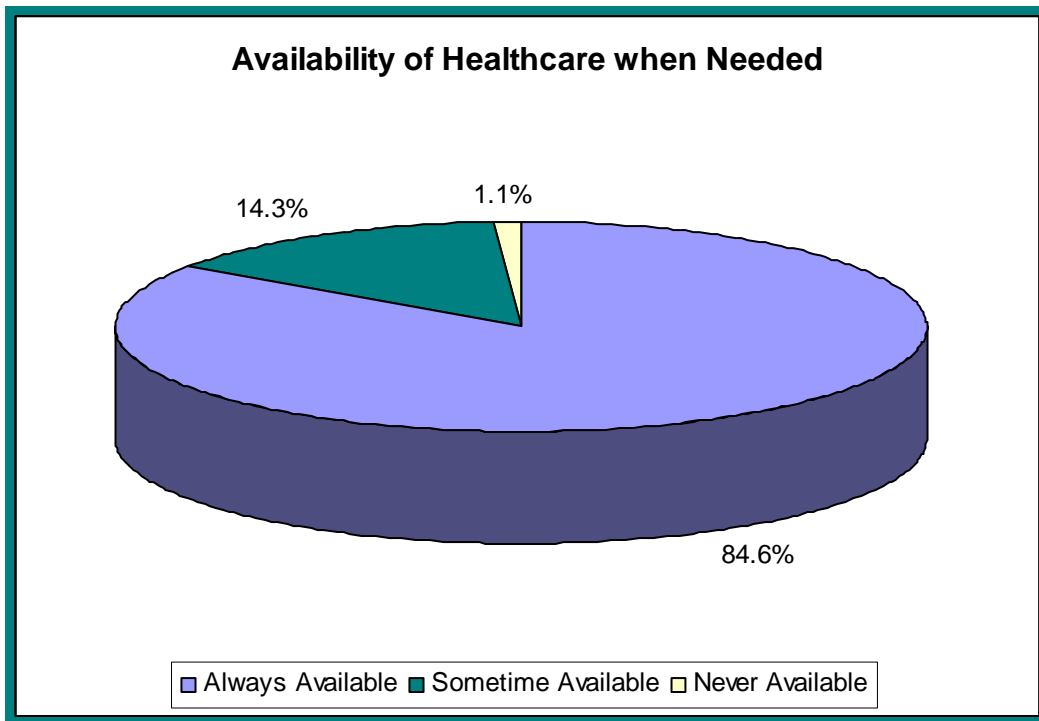
Location also influenced whether or not someone relied on other sources for health care. Residents of Canton and Massillon were more likely to rely on other sources of health care compared to residents of other communities. Age was also a factor. The younger a person was, the more likely they were to rely on other sources for their health care.

Where receive health care most often				
		Proportion of Respondents		Valid Responses
		Primary Care Doctor	Other	
All Respondents		78.3%	21.7%	(n=1,050)
Demographic	Subgroup			
Location	Alliance	80.2%	19.8%	(n=1,040)
	Canton	65.7%	34.3%	
	Massillon	70.8%	29.2%	
	Other	82.7%	17.3%	
Gender	Male	43.9%	58.3%	(n=1,050)
	Female	56.1%	41.7%	
Voter Registration	Registered	80.7%	19.3%	(n=1,043)
	Not Registered	60.5%	39.5%	
Race	Caucasian	79.6%	20.4%	(n=1,043)
	People of Color	63.9%	36.1%	
Marital Status	Married	83.0%	17.0%	(n=1,047)
	Not Married	71.3%	28.7%	
Employment Status	Employed Full-Time	78.4%	21.6%	(n=1,047)
	Employed Part-Time	75.6%	24.4%	
	Retired	85.2%	14.8%	
	Unemployed	58.8%	41.3%	
	All Other	72.4%	27.6%	
Annual Household Income	Under \$18,000	66.2%	33.8%	(n=946)
	\$18,000 to \$36,000	73.5%	26.5%	
	\$36,000 to \$54,000	79.9%	20.1%	

Where receive health care most often				
		Proportion of Respondents		
	Over \$54,000	85.8%	14.2%	
Age of Respondent	18 to 24	46.7%	53.3%	(n=1,041)
	25 to 34	60.7%	39.3%	
	35 to 44	75.6%	24.4%	
	45 to 54	78.8%	21.2%	
	55 to 64	83.3%	16.7%	
	65 and older	86.0%	14.0%	
Education Status	Less than a diploma	60.0%	40.0%	(n=1,046)
	High School Graduate	77.4%	22.6%	
	Some College	79.2%	20.8%	
	College Graduate	84.6%	15.4%	
Children In Home	Yes	72.7%	27.3%	(n=1,050)
	No	80.7%	19.3%	
Home Ownership	Rent/Other	64.7%	35.3%	(n=1,049)
	Own Home	82.7%	17.3%	
<p><i>“When you are in need of health care, where do you receive it most often? Primary care doctor, Emergency room, Urgent care center, Hospital clinic, Public health department clinic, VA hospital or clinic, Free clinic, or Something else not already mentioned.”</i></p>				

Availability of Healthcare when Needed

All respondents were asked how available health care is when they need it. In general, respondents were very pleased with the availability of health care. The majority or 84.6% of respondents stated health care was always available. Another 14.3% of respondents said health care was sometimes available. Only 1.1% of respondents stated health care was never available.

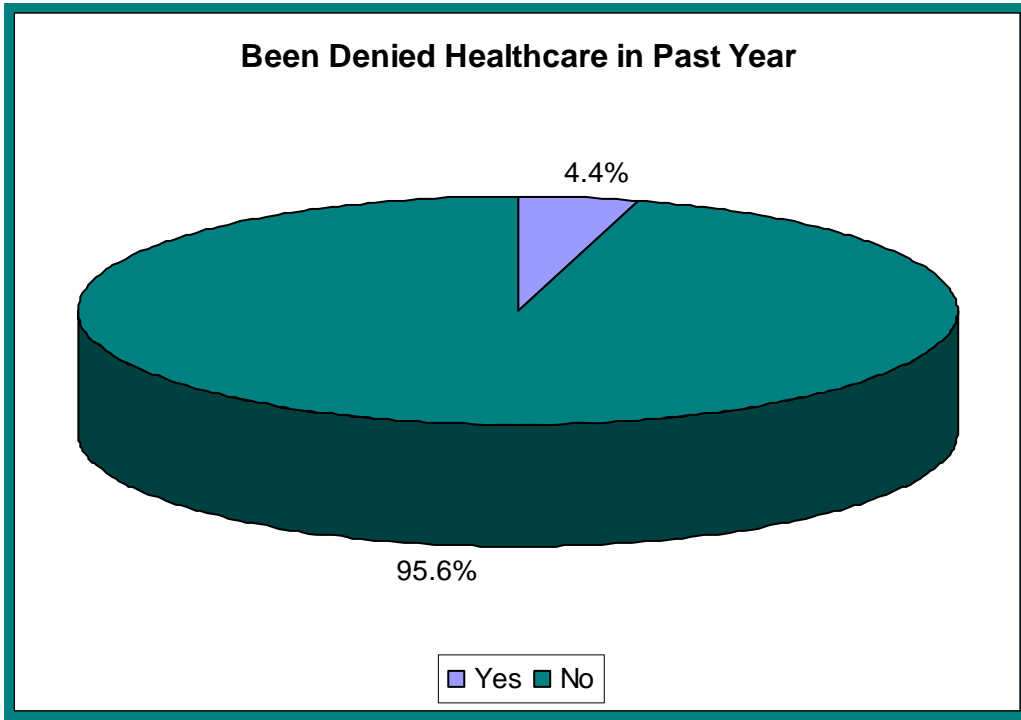


Groups that were more likely to feel health care was never available included the unemployed, persons not registered to vote, individuals with no health insurance coverage, and respondents from households with annual income less than \$18,000 annually. Groups that were more likely to feel health care was always available included persons with health insurance coverage, residents of suburban communities, and respondents from households with progressively more annual income.

Availability of Health Care When Needed				
		Proportion of Respondents		
		Very Available	Somewhat Available	Never Available
All Respondents		84.6%	14.3%	1.1%
Demographic	Subgroup			
Location	Alliance	75.9%	22.9%	1.2%
	Canton	74.9%	22.9%	2.2%
	Massillon	82.3%	16.8%	0.9%
	Other	88.6%	10.5%	0.9%
Voter Registration	Registered	85.7%	13.4%	0.9%
	Not Registered	76.8%	20.0%	3.2%
Have Health Insurance	Yes	87.0%	12.6%	0.3%
	No	66.9%	26.3%	6.8%
Marital Status	Married	88.4%	11.3%	0.3%
	Not Married	79.1%	18.6%	2.3%
Employment Status	Employed Full-Time	86.5%	12.8%	0.7%
	Employed Part-Time	86.0%	13.2%	0.7%
	Retired	86.5%	12.6%	0.9%
	Unemployed	66.7%	27.2%	6.2%
	All Other	81.8%	18.2%	0.0%
Annual Household Income	Under \$18,000	72.1%	23.1%	4.8%
	\$18,000 to \$36,000	81.6%	17.6%	0.7%
	\$36,000 to \$54,000	86.1%	13.4%	0.5%
	Over \$54,000	91.5%	8.2%	0.3%
Age of Respondent	18 to 24	80.0%	20.0%	0.0%
	25 to 34	74.8%	23.4%	1.9%
	35 to 44	78.4%	19.8%	1.9%
	45 to 54	88.4%	9.8%	1.8%
	55 to 64	89.3%	10.7%	0.0%
	65 and older	86.2%	12.9%	0.9%
Home Ownership	Rent/Other	78.0%	20.0%	2.0%
	Own Home	86.7%	12.4%	0.9%
<i>“How available is healthcare when you need it? Would you say it is always available, sometimes available, or never available?”</i>				

Been Denied Healthcare in Past 12 Months

All respondents were asked whether or not they, or any members of their household, had been denied health care during the past twelve months for any reason. Those respondents who indicated that someone in their household had been denied health care during the past year amounted to 4.4% of all respondents.



Persons without health insurance coverage were four times as likely as those with health insurance coverage to have been denied health care services during the past year. Whereas 12.8% of those without health insurance coverage reported someone in their household was denied health care, only 3.2% of those with health care insurance reported being denied health services. Other groups of respondents that were more likely to have been denied health care included those ages 25 to 44, respondents with children in the home, and those who rent their home.

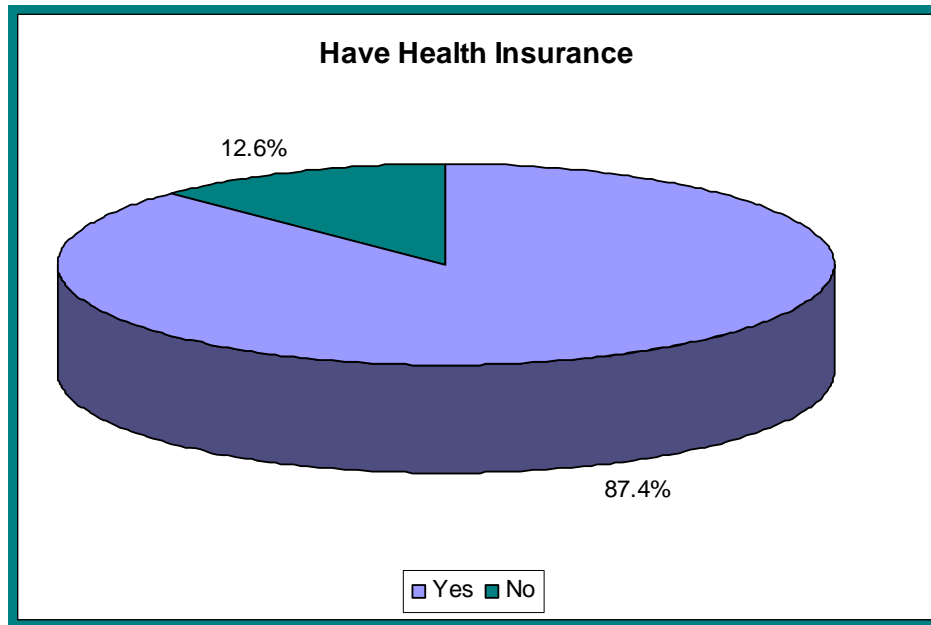
Been Denied Health Care in Past Year				
		Proportion of Respondents		Valid Responses
		Yes	No	
All Respondents		4.4%	95.6%	(n=1,064)
Demographic	Subgroup			
Have Health Insurance	Yes	3.2%	96.8%	(n=1,061)
	No	12.8%	87.2%	
Age of Respondent	18 to 24	2.2%	97.8%	(n=1,055)
	25 to 34	10.3%	89.7%	
	35 to 44	6.1%	93.9%	
	45 to 54	4.9%	95.1%	
	55 to 64	3.1%	96.9%	
	65 and older	2.2%	97.8%	
Education Status	Less than a diploma	1.1%	98.9%	(n=1,060)
	High School Graduate	5.0%	95.0%	
	Some College	6.5%	93.5%	
	College Graduate	1.9%	98.1%	
Children In Home	Yes	6.2%	93.8%	(n=1,064)
	No	3.6%	96.4%	
Home Ownership	Rent/Other	8.2%	91.8%	(n=1,063)
	Own Home	3.2%	96.8%	
<i>“In the past 12 months, have you or any members of your household been denied health care for any reason?”</i>				

Those respondents who indicated that someone in their household had been denied health care were subsequently asked why they were denied health care. The leading response was that they had no insurance, with 18.7% of respondents that had been denied health care indicating this as the case, this amounted to just 0.7% of all respondents. Other leading responses included, in order of importance, that the particular ailment was not covered by their insurance, the ailment was a pre-existing condition and thus not covered by their insurance, and they could not afford the health care services.

Reason For Being Denied Healthcare			
	(1)	(2)	(3)
	Number of Respondents	Proportion of Denied Respondents	Proportion of all Respondents
No insurance	8	18.2%	0.7%
Particular ailment/illness was not covered	5	11.4%	0.5%
Prior illness/Pre-existing condition	4	9.1%	0.4%
Can t afford to do	4	9.1%	0.4%
Coverage expired	2	4.5%	0.2%
Doctor was not taking new patients	2	4.5%	0.2%
Hospital would not accept my provider/new provider	2	4.5%	0.2%
Available appointment was too long away	2	4.5%	0.2%
Employer does not offer coverage/quit carrying coverage	2	4.5%	0.2%
Didn't qualify for coverage	2	4.5%	0.2%
Past due hospital bills	1	2.3%	0.1%
Miscellaneous	10	22.7%	0.9%
Valid Responses	44	(n=44)	(n=1,068)
Question: <i>“For what reason were you denied health care?”</i>			

Health Insurance Coverage

All respondents were asked whether or not they were currently covered by any type of health insurance. The majority, 87.4%, of respondents stated they currently have health insurance coverage (see Table), leaving close to 13% of respondents indicating they did not currently have health insurance coverage.



Whether or not a given respondent has health insurance coverage varies according to several demographics and other identifying characteristics of respondents. For instance, people of color were less likely than Caucasians to have health insurance coverage. Over one-quarter, 19.6%, of people of color did not have health insurance coverage, compared to 12.0% of Caucasians having no health insurance coverage. Relatively older persons, especially those ages 65 and older, were more likely to have health insurance coverage, while relatively younger persons, especially those ages 18 to 24, were less likely to have health insurance.

Employment status and level of educational attainment were also key factors influencing whether or not a given individual currently had health insurance coverage. In general, the more education a person had, the more likely they had health insurance

coverage. Conversely, the less education a person had, the more likely they were to not have health insurance. In terms of employment status, those employed on a full-time basis or retirees were more likely to have health insurance, while part-time employees and the unemployed were less likely to have health insurance. Nearly one-third, 32.1%, of the unemployed did not have health insurance coverage. Household income played a role in health insurance coverage as well. In general, respondents from households with progressively more income were more likely to have health insurance, while those from households with progressively less income were less likely to have health insurance.

Marital status also had an impact on whether or not a person had health insurance coverage. Married persons were more likely than unmarried persons to have health insurance. Moreover, respondents from households with children residing in the home were less likely to have health insurance coverage, while respondents from homes without children were more likely to have health insurance. Other groups that were less likely to have health insurance coverage included residents of Canton and Massillon, persons who rent their home, and those not registered to vote. Females were just as likely as males to have health insurance coverage.

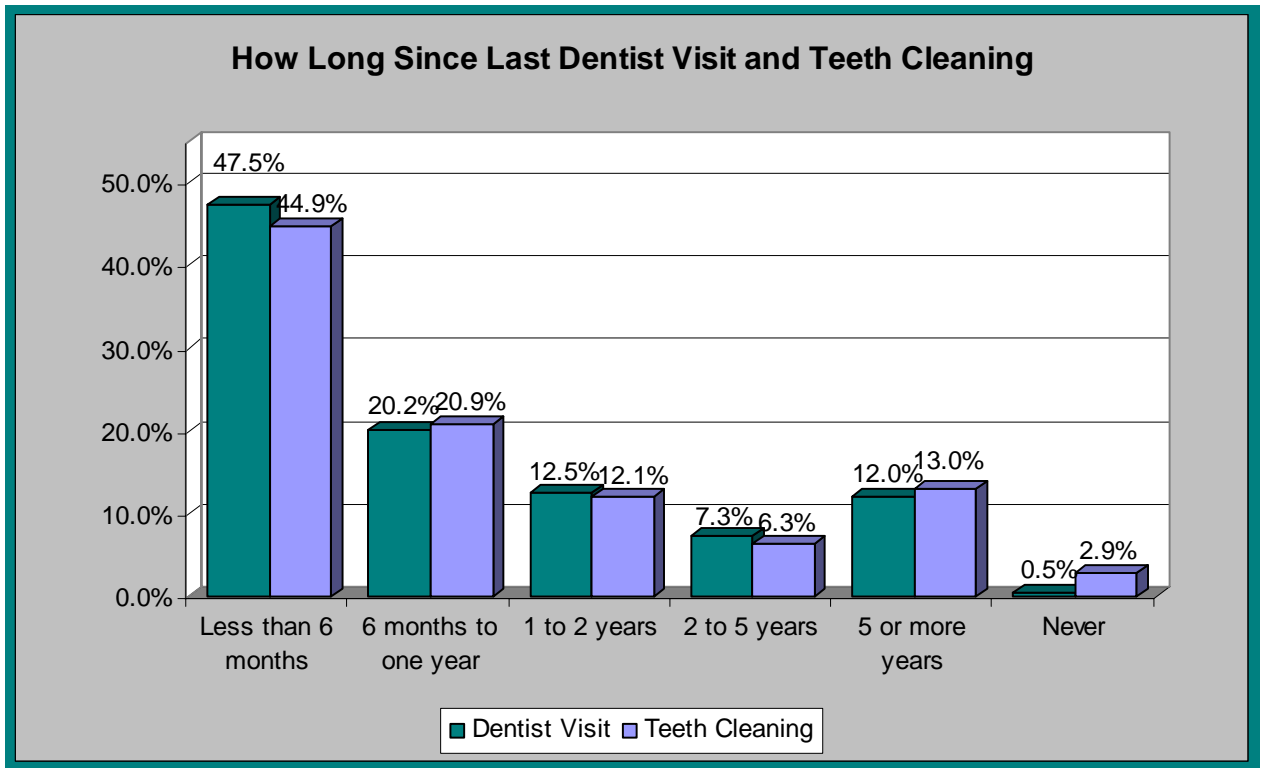
Health Insurance Coverage by Selected Demographics				
		Proportion of Respondents		Valid Responses
		With Coverage	With No Coverage	
All Respondents		87.4%	12.6%	(n=1,063)
Demographic	Subgroup			
Location	Alliance	85.5%	14.5%	(n=1,052)
	Canton	82.6%	17.4%	
	Massillon	77.9%	22.1%	
	Other	90.6%	9.4%	
Voter Registration	Registered	89.1%	10.9%	(n=1,056)
	Not Registered	74.2%	25.8%	
Race	Caucasian	88.0%	12.0%	(n=1,055)
	People of Color	80.4%	19.6%	
Marital Status	Married	92.1%	7.9%	(n=1,060)
	Not Married	80.5%	19.5%	
Employment Status	Employed Full-Time	87.4%	12.6%	(n=1,059)
	Employed Part-Time	78.7%	21.3%	
	Retired	95.2%	4.8%	
	Unemployed	67.9%	32.1%	
	All Other	88.3%	11.7%	
Annual Household Income	Under \$18,000	77.9%	22.1%	(n=958)
	\$18,000 to \$36,000	81.6%	18.4%	
	\$36,000 to \$54,000	92.6%	7.4%	
	Over \$54,000	93.5%	6.5%	
Age of Respondent	18 to 24	65.9%	34.1%	(n=1,054)
	25 to 34	78.5%	21.5%	
	35 to 44	80.9%	19.1%	
	45 to 54	84.9%	15.1%	
	55 to 64	90.3%	9.7%	
	65 and older	96.3%	3.8%	
Education Status	Less than a diploma	89.0%	11.0%	(n=1,059)
	High School Graduate	82.4%	17.6%	

Health Insurance Coverage by Selected Demographics				
		Proportion of Respondents		
		Some College	87.0%	13.0%
		College Graduate	94.7%	5.3%
Children In Home	Yes	82.8%	17.2%	(n=1,063)
	No	89.4%	10.6%	
Home Ownership	Rent/Other	76.2%	23.8%	(n=1,062)
	Own Home	90.9%	9.1%	
Question: Are you currently covered by any type of health insurance?				

Dental Care

All respondents were also asked a variety of questions regarding dental care. Respondents were first asked how long it had been since they had visited a dentist or dental clinic for any reason. Nearly half or 47.5% of respondents said they had been to the dentist within the past six months. Another one-fifth or 20.2% of respondents said they had been to the dentist between six months and one year. Those persons who had not been to the dentist within the past year amounted to 32.3% of respondents. Those individuals who had been to the dentist between one and five years amounted to 19.8% of respondents. Twelve percent of respondents indicated it had been five or more years since they had been to the dentist, while a small portion of respondents, one-half of one percent, said they had never been to the dentist.

Respondents were also asked how long it had been since they had their teeth cleaned. The results tended to mirror those for dentist visits in general. Nearly half or 44.9% of respondents said they had their teeth cleaned within the past six months. Over another one-fifth or 20.9% of respondents said they had their teeth cleaned between six months and one year. Those persons who had not had their teeth cleaned within the past year amounted to 34.2% of respondents. Individuals who had their teeth cleaned between one and five years amounted to 18.4% of respondents. Thirteen percent of respondents indicated it had been five or more years since they had their teeth cleaned, while roughly three percent said they had never had their teeth cleaned.



Whether or not someone had been to the dentist within the past year varied according several demographics or other identifying characteristics of respondents. For instance, household income was a major determinant of dental visits. In general, the more household income a respondent had, the more likely they were to have visited the dentist during the past year. Whereas 81.7% of respondents with an annual income of \$54,000 or more had been to a dentist in the past year, only 39.9% of respondents with an annual income of less than \$18,000 had been to a dentist in the same time period. Likewise, having health care insurance was a major factor influencing trips to the dentist. In addition, the more education the respondent had, the more likely they were to have visited the dentist during the past year.

Married respondents were more likely to have been to the dentist in the past year than those who were not married. In terms of employment status, respondents that were employed full-time were most likely to have seen a dentist in the past while those who were unemployed were least likely. In general, the higher educational attainment of the respondent, the more likely they were to have been to a dentist in the past year. For

example, collage graduates were nearly twice as likely than those without a high school diploma to have been to a dentist.

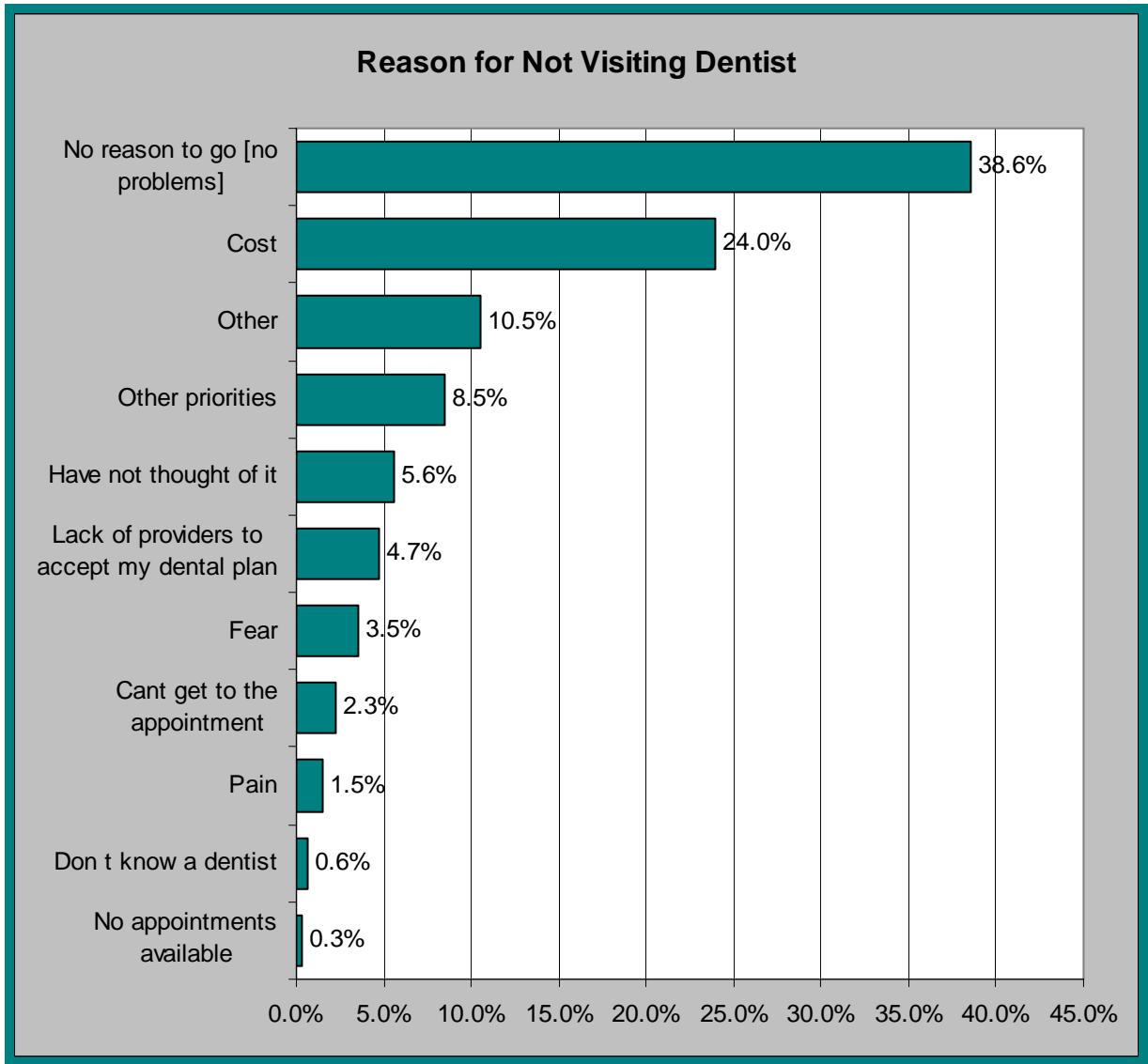
Seen Dentist in the Past Year				
		Proportion of Respondents		Valid Responses
		Yes	No	
All Respondents		67.7%	32.3%	(n=1,064)
Demographic	Subgroup			
Location	Alliance	59.8%	40.2%	(n=1,053)
	Canton	61.5%	38.5%	
	Massillon	60.2%	39.8%	
	Other	72.0%	28.0%	
Voter Registration	Registered	70.4%	29.6%	(n=1,057)
	Not Registered	47.2%	52.8%	
Have Health Insurance	Yes	70.3%	29.7%	(n=1,061)
	No	49.3%	50.7%	
Marital Status	Married	74.0%	26.0%	(n=1,061)
	Not Married	58.2%	41.8%	
Employment Status	Employed Full-Time	72.4%	27.6%	(n=1,060)
	Employed Part-Time	68.6%	31.4%	
	Retired	63.8%	36.2%	
	Unemployed	58.0%	42.0%	
	All Other	64.9%	35.1%	
Annual Household Income	Under \$18,000	39.9%	60.1%	(n=957)
	\$18,000 to \$36,000	59.6%	40.4%	
	\$36,000 to \$54,000	71.1%	28.9%	
	Over \$54,000	81.7%	18.3%	
Age of Respondent	18 to 24	62.2%	37.8%	(n=1,055)
	25 to 34	59.8%	40.2%	
	35 to 44	70.6%	29.4%	
	45 to 54	69.8%	30.2%	
	55 to 64	80.6%	19.4%	
	65 and older	60.2%	39.8%	
Education	Less than a diploma	41.1%	58.9%	(n=1,060)

Seen Dentist in the Past Year				
Status		Proportion of Respondents		
		High School Graduate	62.2%	
	Some College	70.6%	29.4%	
	College Graduate	81.4%	18.6%	
Home Ownership	Rent/Other	50.8%	49.2%	(n=1,063)
	Own Home	72.9%	27.1%	

Those respondents who had not visited the dentist within the past year were asked what was the main reason for not visiting the dentist. This was a closed-ended question with the following possible responses: fear, pain, cost, don't know a dentist, can't get to the appointment, no appointments available, lack of providers to accept my dental plan, no reason to go, other priorities, and they have not thought of it.

The leading reason for not having been to a dentist within the past year was that there was simply no need to go. Over one-third or 38.6% of respondents who had not been to a dentist during the past year indicated this was the case. Nearly one-quarter or 24.0% of respondents that had not been to the dentist during the past year said it was because of cost, that is, they could not afford a trip to the dentist.

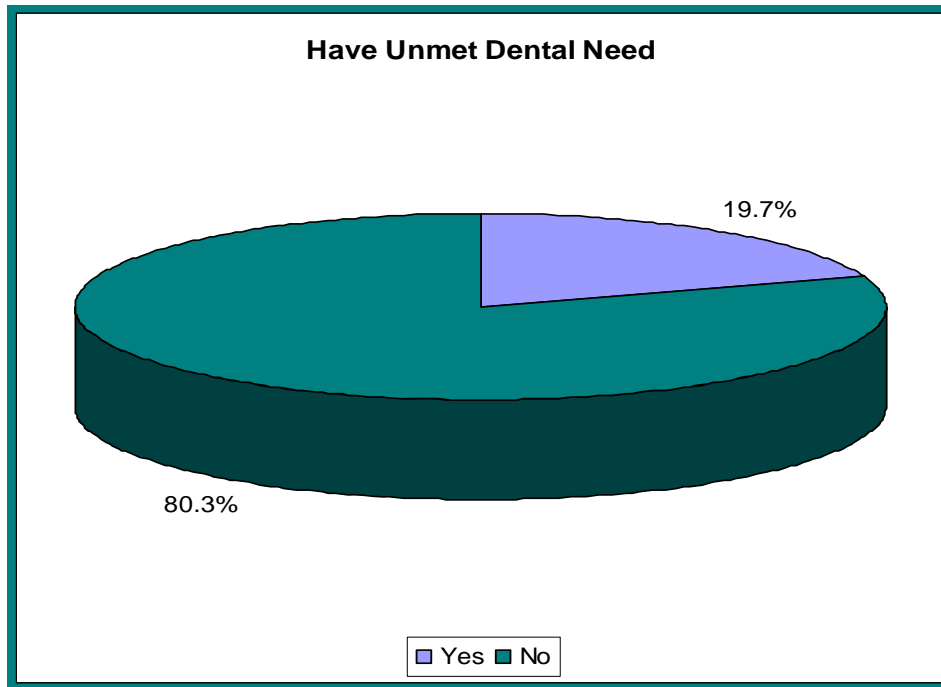
Almost one-tenth, 8.5%, of respondents said they had other priorities. Another 5.6% of respondents stated they have not thought about going to the dentist. Slightly less, 4.7%, of respondents stated there was a lack of providers that accepted their dental plan. Some respondents indicated they had not been to the dentist because of fear. Those who had not been to the dentist because of fear amounted to 3.5% of respondents who had not been to the dentist during the past year. The proportion of respondents who said they could not get to an appointment amounted to 2.3% of those that had not been to a dentist during the past year, while 1.5% did not go because of the threat of pain. Less than one percent of respondents said they do not know a dentist or that there were no appointments available.



Those respondents who had been to the dentist recently were asked what was the purpose of their last dental visit. The leading reason for the most recent dental visit was teeth cleaning, with nearly half or 48.0% of dental visitors indicating this was the case. The next leading reason for visiting the dentist was simply for a check-up or routine exam, with over one-fifth or 21.2% dental visitors indicating this was the case. The remainder of dental visitors went to the dentist for a variety of procedures including, in order of importance, tooth extractions or dental surgery, dentures or a partial repair of dentures, cavity fillings, crowns or caps, broken or chipped teeth, tooth aches in general, root canals, having wisdom teeth pulled, and bridge work.

Purpose of Most Recent Dentist Visit			
	(1)	(2)	(3)
	Number of Respondents	Proportion of Visitors	Proportion of All Respondents
Teeth Cleaning	410	48.0%	38.4%
Check up/Exam	181	21.2%	16.9%
Extraction/Dental Surgery	133	15.6%	12.5%
Denture or Partial repaired/adjusted/aligned	99	11.6%	9.3%
Filling/Cavity	79	9.3%	7.4%
Crown/Cap	29	3.4%	2.7%
Broken/Chipped tooth	25	2.9%	2.3%
Toothache	22	2.6%	2.1%
Root Canal	18	2.1%	1.7%
Wisdom teeth pulled	17	2.0%	1.6%
Bridge work	10	1.2%	0.9%
Tooth/Teeth fixed (not specific)	8	0.9%	0.7%
Plate fitted/adjusted/repared	6	0.7%	0.6%
Fitted for retainer/fix gap/check braces	6	0.7%	0.6%
Abscess Tooth	5	0.6%	0.5%
Implants	2	0.2%	0.2%
Miscellaneous	4	0.5%	0.4%
Valid Responses	854	(n=854)	(n=1,068)
Question: <i>“For what reason were you denied health care?”</i>			

Lastly, all respondents were asked whether or not anyone in their household had current dental needs that were going unmet. Most respondents indicated that there were no unmet dental needs in their household. However, nearly one-fifth or 19.7% of respondents indicated that someone in their household did have unmet dental needs.



Income and health insurance coverage influenced whether or not a respondent indicated there were unmet dental needs in their household. Respondents from households with relatively less annual income were more likely to indicate there were unmet dental needs in the household, as were respondents that did not have health insurance coverage. Other groups that were more likely to indicate there were unmet dental needs in their household included the unemployed, respondents from households with children residing in the home, respondents without a college degree, and relatively younger persons, namely those 54 years of age and younger.

Have Unmet Dental Need				
		Proportion of Respondents		Valid Responses
		Yes	No	
All Respondents		19.7%	80.3%	(n=1,064)
Demographic	Subgroup			
Have Children	Yes	24.2%	75.8%	(n=1,064)
	No	17.8%	82.2%	
Have Health Insurance	Yes	16.9%	83.1%	(n=1,061)
	No	38.8%	61.2%	
Employment Status	Employed Full-Time	20.9%	79.1%	(n=1,060)
	Employed Part-Time	29.4%	70.6%	
	Retired	10.1%	89.9%	
	Unemployed	33.3%	66.7%	
	All Other	23.4%	76.6%	
Annual Household Income	Under \$18,000	29.5%	70.5%	(n=957)
	\$18,000 to \$36,000	22.6%	77.4%	
	\$36,000 to \$54,000	25.5%	74.5%	
	Over \$54,000	13.0%	87.0%	
Age of Respondent	18 to 24	24.4%	75.6%	(n=1,055)
	25 to 34	27.1%	72.9%	
	35 to 44	28.2%	71.8%	
	45 to 54	23.7%	76.3%	
	55 to 64	15.8%	84.2%	
	65 and older	11.9%	88.1%	
Education Status	Less than a diploma	22.0%	78.0%	(n=1,060)
	High School Graduate	18.1%	81.9%	
	Some College	26.5%	73.5%	
	College Graduate	13.7%	86.3%	
Home Ownership	Rent/Other	25.8%	74.2%	(n=1,063)
	Own Home	17.8%	82.2%	
<i>“Right now, do you or anyone in your household have dental needs that have not been taken care of?”</i>				