

WASHINGTON HEALTH CHOICES: TAKING THE PULSE OF THE COMMUNITY

APPENDIX H-RESPONSES BY GROUPS

A total of 221 people filled out the Washington Health Choices-Taking the Pulse of the Community survey. Out of these 221, 139 were from general meeting groups, 43 were from multicultural meeting groups and 39 took the survey online.

SURVEY GROUP SUBSETS

Group Definitions:

Meeting Group=General Meeting Groups

Group MCM=Multicultural Meeting Groups

Group O=Online Surveys

Question1: The health system of Washington State does a good job of meeting the health needs of its citizens.						
Categories	Meeting Group Response	MCM Group Response	Online Group Response	Meeting Group % of Total Response	MCM Group % of Total Responses	Online Group % of Total Responses
Strongly agree	0	5	0	0%	12%	0%
Agree	15	12	4	11%	28%	10%
Not sure	45	7	14	32%	16%	36%
Disagree	34	9	14	24%	21%	36%
Strongly disagree	7	2	7	5%	5%	18%
No answer	38	8	0	27%	19%	0%
Totals	139	43	39	100%	100%	100%

Question 2: I would consider our health care system to be a successful system if it accomplished the following: (Participants were allowed two non-ranked choices.)			
Categories	Meeting Group Combined Responses*	MCM Group Combined Responses*	Online Group Combined Responses*
Increased the average lifespan	5	0	0
Reduced the number of infant deaths	4	0	0
Increased healthy behavior in the population	27	7	8
Provided programs and services that helped prevent disease- e.g. vaccines, genetic counseling	31	11	9
Improved the quality of life	21	6	2
Reduced the cost of health care	32	11	11
Treated everyone with compassion	10	1	3
Provided access to a basic level of care for all	58	14	23
Made technological advances readily available to citizens	6	3	2

Question 2 (continued)			
Categories	Meeting Group Combined Responses*	MCM Group Combined Responses*	Online Group Combined Responses*
Make advancements in the treatment or elimination of major diseases	12	1	0
Other	5	1	4
Too many answers	56	28	16
No answer	11	3	0
Totals	278	86	78
*Total responses based on total number of combined responses (participants could choose multiple answers) versus single response per participant.			

Question 2: I would consider our health care system to be a successful system if it accomplished the following: (Participants were allowed two non-ranked choices.)			
Categories	Meeting Group % of Total Combined Responses*	MCM Group % of Total Combined Responses*	Online Group % of Total Combined Responses*
Increased the average lifespan	2%	0%	0%
Reduced the number of infant deaths	1%	0%	0%
Increased healthy behavior in the population	10%	8%	10%
Provided programs and services that helped prevent disease- e.g. vaccines, genetic counseling	11%	13%	12%
Improved the quality of life	8%	7%	3%
Reduced the cost of health care	12%	13%	14%
Treated everyone with compassion	4%	1%	4%
Provided access to a basic level of care for all	21%	16%	29%
Made technological advances readily available to citizens	2%	3%	3%
Make advancements in the treatment or elimination of major diseases	4%	1%	0%
Other	2%	1%	5%
Too many answers	20%	33%	21%
No answer	4%	3%	0%
Totals	100%	100%	100%
*Percent of total responses based on total number of combined responses (participants could choose multiple answers) versus single response per participant.			

Question 3: I believe it is part of my responsibility to reduce health care costs by practicing healthy behaviors-e.g. exercise, eat right.

Categories	Meeting Group Response	MCM Group Response	Online Group Response	Meeting Group % of Total Response	MCM Group % of Total Responses	Online Group % of Total Responses
Strongly agree	85	24	26	61%	56%	67%
Agree	47	15	11	34%	35%	28%
Not sure	3	2	2	2%	5%	5%
Disagree	4	0	0	3%	0%	0%
Strongly disagree	0	2	0	0%	5%	0%
No answer	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
Totals	139	43	39	100%	100%	100%

Question 4: I believe it is part of my responsibility to reduce health care costs by taking preventive health measures-e.g. vaccinations, mammograms.

Categories	Meeting Group Response	MCM Group Response	Online Group Response	Meeting Group % of Total Response	MCM Group % of Total Responses	Online Group % of Total Responses
Strongly agree	86	27	25	62%	63%	64%
Agree	45	14	12	32%	33%	31%
Not sure	3	2	1	2%	5%	3%
Disagree	4	0	1	3%	0%	3%
Strongly disagree	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
No answer	1	0	0	1%	0%	0%
Totals	139	43	39	100%	100%	100%

Question 5: I believe it is part of my responsibility to reduce health care costs using the hospital emergency room only for emergencies.

Categories	Meeting Group Response	MCM Group Response	Online Group Response	Meeting Group % of Total Response	MCM Group % of Total Responses	Online Group % of Total Responses
Strongly agree	85	24	29	61%	56%	74%
Agree	48	11	9	35%	26%	23%
Not sure	2	3	0	1%	7%	0%
Disagree	3	2	1	2%	5%	3%
Strongly disagree	0	3	0	0%	7%	0%
No answer	1	0	0	1%	0%	0%
Totals	139	43	39	100%	100%	100%

Question 6: I believe it is part of my responsibility to reduce health care costs by asking my health care provider if less costly treatment or medication is available for medical problems I might have						
Categories	Meeting Group Response	MCM Group Response	Online Group Response	Meeting Group % of Total Response	MCM Group % of Total Responses	Online Group % of Total Responses
Strongly agree	48	7	16	35%	16%	41%
Agree	66	18	14	47%	42%	36%
Not sure	12	9	5	9%	21%	13%
Disagree	8	7	3	6%	16%	8%
Strongly disagree	2	2	1	1%	5%	3%
No answer	3	0	0	2%	0%	0%
Totals	139	43	39	100%	100%	100%

Question 7: I believe it is part of my responsibility to reduce health care costs by foregoing expensive technology if the chance of my recovery is less than 15%.						
Categories	Meeting Group Response	MCM Group Response	Online Group Response	Meeting Group % of Total Response	MCM Group % of Total Responses	Online Group % of Total Responses
Strongly agree	21	5	7	15%	12%	18%
Agree	46	8	8	33%	19%	21%
Not sure	43	11	12	31%	26%	31%
Disagree	19	11	8	14%	26%	21%
Strongly disagree	8	7	4	6%	16%	10%
No answer	2	1	0	1%	2%	0%
Totals	139	43	39	100%	100%	100%

Question 8: I believe it is important that individuals have health insurance coverage.						
Categories	Meeting Group Response	MCM Group Response	Online Group Response	Meeting Group % of Total Response	MCM Group % of Total Responses	Online Group % of Total Responses
Strongly agree	87	32	30	63%	74%	77%
Agree	41	9	8	29%	21%	21%
Not sure	9	1	1	6%	2%	3%
Disagree	0	1	0	0%	2%	0%
Strongly disagree	1	0	0	1%	0%	0%
No answer	1	0	0	1%	0%	0%
Totals	139	43	39	100%	100%	100%

Question 9: If I had to pay for a comprehensive (physician care, hospital services and prescription drug coverage) health insurance policy for myself, I would be willing to pay:						
Categories	Meeting Group Response	MCM Group Response	Online Group Response	Meeting Group % of Total Response	MCM Group % of Total Responses	Online Group % of Total Responses
0-\$50/month	15	20	0	11%	47%	0%
\$51-\$150/month	38	10	12	27%	23%	31%
\$151-\$250/month	45	8	18	32%	19%	46%
\$251-\$350/month	20	4	7	14%	9%	18%
\$350+month	9	1	1	6%	2%	3%
No answer	12	0	1	9%	0%	3%
Totals	139	43	39	100%	100%	100%

Question 10: If I had no health insurance and was given \$250 per month as a health benefit. I would:						
Categories	Meeting Group Response	MCM Group Response	Online Group Response	Meeting Group % of Total Response	MCM Group % of Total Responses	Online Group % of Total Responses
Use the \$250 to buy a health insurance plan with comprehensive coverage.	93	28	32	67%	65%	82%
Use \$200 to buy a health insurance plan that has broad coverage, but has a high deductible and co-pay (Use the remaining \$50 for something else.	19	7	2	14%	16%	5%
Use \$125 to buy a plan that provides only catastrophic coverage (coverage for major expensive health problems only) (Use remaining \$125 for something else.)	13	5	2	9%	12%	5%
Buy no health insurance. Keep the money for something else.	0	1	0	0%	2%	0%
Other, please specify	3	1	3	2%	2%	8%
No answer	11	1	0	8%	2%	0%
Totals	139	43	39	100%	100%	100%

Question 11: I would be willing to pay more for health care insurance if it: (Participants could check all answers that applied)			
Categories	Meeting Group Combined Responses*	MCM Group Combined Responses*	Online Group Combined Responses*
Let me choose any health care provider I want	84	31	29
Included coverage for mental health and substance abuse treatment	49	15	19
Covered new technology and experimental treatments	42	11	19
Paid for check-ups and preventive health care-mammograms, shots, other health screens.	98	27	34
Covered the majority of prescription drugs	88	25	33
Covered dental care	73	24	29
Allowed me to go directly to a specialist without a referral	58	20	24
Other, please specify	8	3	7
None of the above	7	0	1
No answer	8	0	0
Totals	515	156	195
*Total responses based on total number of combined responses (participants could choose multiple answers) versus single response per participant.			

Question 11: I would be willing to pay more for health care insurance if it: (Participants could check all answers that applied)			
Categories	Meeting Group % of Total Combined Responses*	MCM Group % of Total Combined Responses*	Online Group % of Total Combined Responses*
Let me choose any health care provider I want	16%	20%	15%
Included coverage for mental health and substance abuse treatment	10%	10%	10%
Covered new technology and experimental treatments	8%	7%	10%
Paid for check-ups and preventive health care-mammograms, shots, other health screens.	19%	17%	17%
Covered the majority of prescription drugs	17%	16%	17%
Covered dental care	14%	15%	15%
Allowed me to go directly to a specialist without a referral	11%	13%	12%
Other, please specify	2%	2%	4%
None of the above	1%	0%	1%
No answer	2%	0%	0%
Totals	100%	100%	100%
*Percent of total responses based on total number of combined responses (participants could choose multiple answers) versus single response per participant.			

Question 12: If you have health insurance coverage now, how certain are you that your coverage will be available and affordable to you in the next three years?						
Categories	Meeting Group Response	MCM Group Response	Online Group Response	Meeting Group % of Total Response	MCM Group % of Total Responses	Online Group % of Total Responses
Very certain	44	9	8	32%	21%	21%
Somewhat certain	52	13	18	37%	30%	46%
Not certain	36	18	12	26%	42%	31%
Don't have coverage now	1	3	1	1%	7%	3%
No answer	6	0	0	4%	0%	0%
Totals	139	43	39	100%	100%	100%

Question 13: If the government were to devote more resources to improve access to health insurance, which segment(s) of the uninsured population should be targeted for help? (Two choices unranked allowed)			
Categories	Meeting Group Combined Responses*	MCM Group Combined Responses*	Online Group Combined Responses*
Individuals who have lost coverage due to job loss.	37	10	4
Low-income children.	46	11	17
Parents of children covered by public programs.	6	2	2
Low-income adults without children.	2	1	0
Chronically ill or disabled adults who are unable to work.	30	8	10
Minority or ethnic groups that are disproportionately uninsured.	4	2	1
Individuals living in economically depressed areas of the state.	3	1	0
Individuals working in low-wage industries.	7	2	3
Early retirees without access to Medicare.	8	3	3
All segments should be treated equally.	42	12	19
Void-too many answers	48	24	16
No answer	45	10	3
Totals	278	86	78
*Total responses based on total number of combined responses (participants could choose multiple answers) versus single response per participant.			

Question 13: If the government were to devote more resources to improve access to health insurance, which segment(s) of the uninsured population should be targeted for help? (Two choices unranked allowed)			
Categories	Meeting Group % of Total Combined Responses*	MCM Group % of Total Combined Responses*	Online Group % of Total Combined Responses*
Individuals who have lost coverage due to job loss.	13%	12%	5%
Low-income children.	17%	13%	22%
Parents of children covered by public programs.	2%	2%	3%
Low-income adults without children.	1%	1%	0%
Chronically ill or disabled adults who are unable to work.	11%	9%	13%
Minority or ethnic groups that are disproportionately uninsured.	1%	2%	1%
Individuals living in economically depressed areas of the state.	1%	1%	0%
Individuals working in low-wage industries.	3%	2%	4%
Early retirees without access to Medicare.	3%	3%	4%
All segments should be treated equally.	15%	14%	24%
Void-too many answers	17%	28%	21%
No answer	16%	12%	4%
Totals	100%	100%	100%
*Percent of total responses based on total number of combined responses (participants could choose multiple answers) versus single response per participant.			

Question 14: I am willing to pay more either in taxes or in health insurance premiums, so that those who are low-income and have no health insurance can get health care.						
Categories	Meeting Group Response	MCM Group Response	Online Group Response	Meeting Group % of Total Response	MCM Group % of Total Responses	Online Group % of Total Responses
Strongly agree	19	10	11	14%	23%	28%
Agree	55	19	18	40%	44%	46%
Not sure	40	7	7	29%	16%	18%
Disagree	17	3	3	12%	7%	8%
Strongly disagree	0	3	0	0%	7%	0%
No answer	8	1	0	6%	2%	0%
Totals	139	43	39	100%	100%	100%

Question 15: I am willing to pay the following amount more per month in higher premiums or taxes to cover the uninsured in Washington State.

Categories	Meeting Group Response	MCM Group Response	Online Group Response	Meeting Group % of Total Response	MCM Group % of Total Responses	Online Group % of Total Responses
None	10	6	2	7%	14%	5%
Less than \$5/month	9	8	1	6%	19%	3%
\$5-\$10/month	50	17	17	36%	40%	44%
More than \$10/month	40	6	14	29%	14%	36%
Not sure	16	5	5	12%	12%	13%
No answer	14	1	0	10%	2%	0%
Totals	139	43	39	100%	100%	100%