

Characteristics of the Medicare population, 2003

Characteristic	Percent of the Medicare population	Characteristic	Percent of the Medicare population
Total (41,808,391*)	100%		
Sex		Education	
Male	44	No high school diploma	30%
Female	56	High school diploma only	30
		Some college or more	39
Race/ethnicity		Income status	
White, non-Hispanic	78	Below poverty	19
African American, non-Hispanic	10	100–125% of poverty	11
Hispanic	8	125–200% of poverty	21
Other	4	200–400% of poverty	29
Age		Over 400% of poverty	20
< 65	17	Supplemental insurance status	
65–74	35	Medicare only	10
75–84	32	Managed care	13
85+	16	Employer	33
Health status		Medigap	21
Excellent or very good	37	Medigap/employer	4
Good or fair	53	Medicaid	16
Poor	10	Other	2
Residence			
Urban	73		
Rural	27		
Living arrangement			
Institution	8		
Alone	29		
Spouse	44		
Other	19		

Note: Urban indicates beneficiaries living in metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs). Rural indicates beneficiaries living outside MSAs. In 2003, poverty was defined as \$8,825 for people living alone and as \$11,133 for married couples. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

*Based on a representative sample of the Medicare population.

Source: MedPAC analysis of the Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey, Cost and Use file, 2003.

A Data Book: Healthcare Spending and the Medicare Program." *Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, June 2006.*