

Surveys of Trust in the U.S. Health Care System

Physician Survey

*Interview Dates:
January 22, 2021 - February 5, 2021*

This survey was conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago. Data were collected using NORC's survey partner to a non-probability based panel of 600 physicians.

NOTE: *All results show percentages among respondents, unless otherwise labeled. Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.*

These questions were a part of a longer survey which can be found on the [ABIM Foundation website](#) and [NORC website](#).

SCREENER

S1. Do you currently see patients?

Physician Survey (N=600)	
Yes	100
No	0

S2. Please select your primary medical specialty:

Physician Survey (N=600)	
Internal Medicine and Pediatric	
Pediatrics	36
Primary Care (Family Medicine and Internal Medicine)	22
Emergency Medicine	5
Other Specialties	
Anesthesiology	3
Cardiology	1
Dermatology	4
Gastroenterology	4
Neurology	4
Oncology	1
Psychiatry	2
Radiology	3
Surgery	4
Obstetrics and Gynecology	3
Urology	3
Other (please specify):	6

S3. On which of the following do you spend the most of your time? [Select one]

Physician Survey (N=600)	
Clinical Practice	98
Research	1
Administration	1
Teaching	0
Other	1

S4. What is your primary place of work?

Physician Survey (N=600)	
Hospital	28
Office or other setting	72

S5. Are you employed by a hospital or hospital owned physician practice?

Physician Survey (N=600)	
Yes	42
No	58

S6. How many doctors are a part of your physician practice?

Physician Survey (N=600)	
1-10 physicians	52
11-50 physicians	20
50+ physicians	28
Not Applicable	1

S7. State where you practice:

Northeast	
CONNECTICUT	3
MAINE	*
MASSACHUSETTS	2
NEW HAMPSHIRE	1
NEW JERSEY	5
NEW YORK	9
PENNSYLVANIA	5
RHODE ISLAND	1
VERMONT	*
Midwest	
ILLINOIS	7
INDIANA	2
IOWA	1
KANSAS	1
MICHIGAN	2
MINNESOTA	2
MISSOURI	2
NEBRASKA	*
NORTH DAKOTA	*
OHIO	4
SOUTH DAKOTA	*
WISCONSIN	3
South	
ALABAMA	1
ARKANSAS	*
DELAWARE	*
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	*
FLORIDA	10
GEORGIA	3
KENTUCKY	1
LOUISIANA	1
MARYLAND	2
MISSISSIPPI	*

NORTH CAROLINA	3
OKLAHOMA	1
SOUTH CAROLINA	1
TENNESSEE	2
TEXAS	5
VIRGINIA	4
WEST VIRGINIA	*
West	
ALASKA	*
ARIZONA	2
CALIFORNIA	8
COLORADO	2
HAWAII	1
IDAHO	*
MONTANA	*
NEVADA	*
NEW MEXICO	1
OREGON	1
UTAH	1
WASHINGTON	1
WYOMING	*

* Denotes a value of zero or a small base

General Trust in the Health Care System

This survey will ask about your perceptions of and experiences with the health care system, clinical workforce, and patients. Next, the survey will ask about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the health care system and your primary place of work. Then the survey will ask about your experiences within the health care system and views on health equity.

For the purposes of this survey, please consider the health care system as encompassing the people, facilities, and companies that participate in delivering health care to patients. This includes doctors, nurses, other clinicians, hospitals, other health care facilities, and health insurance companies.

Q1. In general, how much do you trust...

Physician Survey (N=600)	Completely Trust	Somewhat trust	Neither trust nor distrust	Slightly distrust	Completely distrust
The health care system as a whole	6	57	17	16	4
Hospitals and health systems	8	53	16	19	5
Health care leaders and executives	8	46	17	22	8
Pharmaceutical companies	2	45	23	25	5
Health insurance companies	1	19	23	36	22
Government health agencies, like the CDC or FDA	23	55	8	10	4

Impact of Discrimination and Health Equity

Q2. To what extent does the health care system as a whole discriminate against people?

Physician Survey (N=600)	
A great deal	5
Considerably	15
Moderately	29
Slightly	30
Not at all	21

Q3. Have you ever experienced discrimination by a patient?

Physician Survey (N=600)	
Yes	51
No	49

[IF YES to Q3] Q3a. What reasons have you been discriminated against?

Physician Survey (N=600)	Of the 51% physicians (N=600) who have experienced discrimination...
Race/ethnicity	63
Gender	46
Religion	18
Sexual orientation	3
Age	28
Language	10
Weight	5
Location of your medical training	8
Other, please specify	3

Note: Physicians were able to choose multiple response options.

Q4. How would grade your primary place of work's efforts to address health equity?

Physician Survey (N=600)	
A (Highest)	38
B	43
C	15
D	3
F (Lowest)	1

Q5. To what extent do health care systems and facilities have a responsibility to improve health equity?

Physician Survey (N=600)	
A great deal	37
Considerably	34
Moderately	18
Slightly	7
Not at all	4

Q6. Rate the priority of the following strategies that your primary place of work could employ to address health equity.

Physician Survey (N=600)	Essential	High priority	Medium priority	Low priority	Not a priority
Create a comprehensive, institutional plan to improve health equity	32	29	22	9	9
Increase diversity of healthcare workforce	22	27	25	13	13
Educate physicians about treatment gaps	27	35	24	8	7
All staff advocate for minority staff and patients	26	29	24	11	10
Require bias reduction training	21	27	24	13	15
Confront institutional racism within the organization	34	27	18	8	14
Provide translation and/or navigator assistance to non-English speaking patients	40	28	20	7	5
Ensure elderly, women, and racial/ethnic minorities are represented in clinical trials	28	33	23	8	9
Ensure elderly, women, and racial/ethnic minorities are	24	31	27	8	10

represented in patient advisory panels					
Adopt a compensation system that rewards high-quality equitable health care	23	28	23	13	13
Collect and share performance data by race, ethnicity, language, socioeconomic status, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, and other demographic factor	19	27	31	12	10
Partner with communities to improve social determinants of health	28	36	22	9	7
Partner with communities to improve social determinants of health	30	28	13	3	26

Q7. In the next 5 years, to what extent do you think your health system will improve...?

Physician Survey (N=600)	To a great extent	To a moderate extent	To a slight extent	Not at all
Diversity in physician workforce	15	41	31	13
Diversity in leadership	12	36	34	17
Health equity for patient outcomes	14	48	28	10

Demographics

Q8. Age:

Physician Survey (N=600)	
20-39	11
40-49	28
50-59	32
60-69	26
70+	4

Q9. With which racial/ethnic group(s) do you identify? Please mark all that apply.

Physician Survey (N=600)	
White/Caucasian	66
Black / African-American	2
Asian or Asian American	21
Hispanic/Latinx	3
Middle Eastern	2
Other (Please specify)	1
Prefer not to answer	8

Q10. Gender:

Physician Survey (N=600)	
Male	61
Female	35
Non-Binary	0
Prefer not to answer	4

Q11. Which of the following describe(s) your main medical practice in more detail? Select all that apply.

Physician Survey (N=600)	
Private practice	51
Group model HMO	3
Academic faculty practice	15
Residency teaching clinic	3
Hospital- or health system-owned office-based practice	23
Hospital inpatient practice	10
Veterans Administration (VA), military or other government practice	1
Nursing home or long-term care facility	*
Home Care	*
Hospice care	*
Community health center or public clinic	4
Other (Please specify)	3