UnderStandingAmericaStudy

UAS 587: EXPERIENCES WITH MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLANS

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Contents

1 INTRODUCTION

This UAS panel survey, titled "UAS 587: Experiences with Medicare prescription drug plans" asks respondents about their experiences with Medicare prescription drug plans. This survey is no longer in the field.

1.1 Topics

This survey contains questions (among others) on the following topics: Health Insurance. A complete survey topic categorization for the UAS can be found here.

1.2 Experiments

This survey did not include any experiments. A complete survey experiment categorization for the UAS can be found here.

1.3 Citation

Each publication, press release or other document that cites results from this survey must include an acknowledgment of UAS as the data source and a disclaimer such as, 'The project described in this paper relies on data from survey(s) administered by the Understanding America Study, which is maintained by the Center for Economic and Social Research (CESR) at the University of Southern California. The content of this paper is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of USC or UAS.' For any questions or more information about the UAS, contact Tania Gutsche, Project and Panel Manager, Center for Economic and Social Research, University of Southern California, at tgutsche@usc.edu.

2 SURVEY RESPONSE AND DATA

2.1 Sample selection and response rate

The sample selection for this survey was:

All active respondents who indicated they have Medicare Part D (per N352 in UAS399 and UAS533).

As such, this survey was made available to 701 UAS participants. Of those 701 participants, 635 completed the survey and are counted as respondents. Of those who are not counted as respondents, 2 started the survey without completing and 64 did not start the survey. The overall response rate was 90.58%.
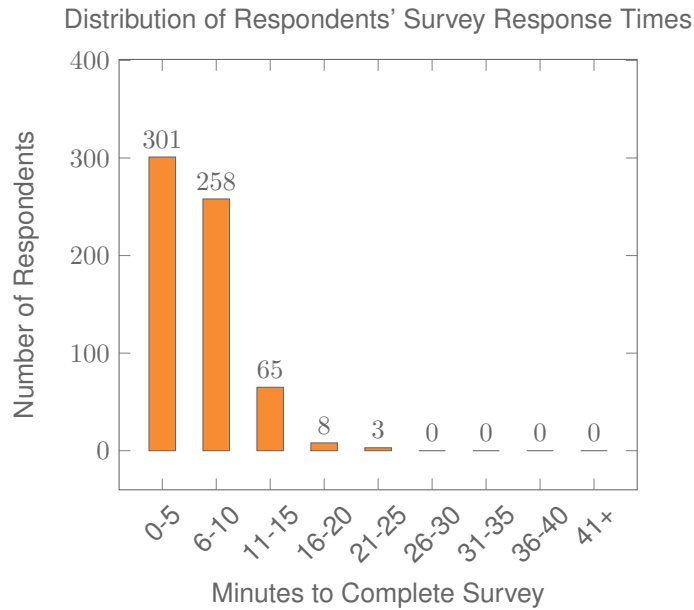
Note: We are unable to provide sample weights for a small number of UAS members (see the Sample and weighting section below for details). If they completed the survey, these members are included in the data set with a weight of zero, but accounted for in the computation of total sample size and survey response rate.%.

The detailed survey response rate is as follows:

UAS587 - Response Overview	
Size of selected sample	701
Completed the survey	635
Started but did not complete the survey	2
Did not start the survey	64
Response rate	90.58%

2.2 Timings

The survey took respondents an average of 6 minutes, and the full distribution of survey response times is available in the figure below. Times per question are available upon request.

Distribution of Respondents' Survey Response Times

2.3 Sample & Weighting

Sample weights for this survey are computed following the general UAS Weighting Procedure. Specifically, we use a two-step process where we first compute base weights, which correct for unequal probabilities of sampling UAS members, and then generate final, post-stratification weights, which align the sample to the reference population along certain socio-economic dimensions. These are gender (male/female), race and ethnicity (White/Black/Other/Hispanic/Native American), age (18-39/40-49/50/59/60+), education (High school or less/Some college/Bachelor or more), Census regions (Northeast/Midwest//West, excl. CA/CA, excl. LAC, LAC). Benchmark distributions for these variables are derived from the 6 most recent available Current Population Survey (CPS) Basic Monthly Survey with respect to the survey's completion date. The reference population considered for the weights is the U.S. population of adults age 18 and older.

This survey dataset may contain respondents with a weight of zero. These respondents belong to a small group of UAS members for whom sample weights cannot be computed due to non-probability recruitment for special projects. Hence, while they are accounted for in the total number of survey respondents, they do not contribute to any statistics using sample weights. More information is available from the UAS Weighting Procedure. Please contact UAS staff with any questions.

3 STANDARD VARIABLES

Each Understanding America Study data contains a series of standard variables, consisting of individual, household and sample identifiers, language indicator, time stamps and a rating by the respondent of how much he or she liked the survey:

○ **uasid**: the identifier of the respondent. This identifier is assigned to a respondent at recruitment and stays with the respondent throughout each and every survey he/she participates in. When analyzing data from multiple surveys, the 'uasid' can be used to merge data sets.

○ **uashhid**: the household identifier of the respondent. Every member is assigned a household identifier, stored in the variable 'uashhid'. For the primary respondent this identifier equals his or her 'uasid'. All other eligible members of the primary respondent's household (everyone who is 18 or older in the household) who become UAS respondents receive the 'uasid' of the primary respondent as their household identifier. The identifier 'uashhid' remains constant over time for all respondents. Thus it is always possible to find the original UAS household of an UAS panel member (even after they, for example, have moved out to form another household).

○ **survhhid**: uniquely identifies the household a UAS panel member belongs to in a given survey. For instance, if the primary respondent and his/her spouse are both UAS members at the time of a given survey, they both receive the same 'survhhid' identifier for that survey. If they subsequently split, they receive two different 'survhhid' in subsequent surveys. They, however, always share the same 'uashhid'. The identifier 'survhhid' is set to missing (.) if no other household members are UAS panel members at the time of the survey. Since individuals can answer the same survey at different points in time (which can be relatively far apart if the survey is kept in the field for a prolonged time), it may be possible that, within the same data set, household members have different 'survhhid' reflecting different household compositions at the time they answered the survey. For instance, suppose that the primary respondent and his/her spouse are both UAS members. If the primary respondent answers the survey when he/she is living with the spouse, but the spouse answers the survey when the couple has split, they receive different 'survhhid'. Hence, the variable 'survhhid' identifies household membership of UAS panel members, at the time the respondent answers the survey. Note: in the My Household survey 'survhhid' is set to unknown (.u) for respondents who last participated in the My Household survey prior to January 21, 2015.

○ **uasmembers**: is the number of other household members who are also UAS panel members at the time of the survey. Since individuals can answer the same survey at different points in time (which can be relatively far apart is the survey is kept in the field for a prolonged time), it may be possible that, within the same data set, the primary respondent of a household has a value of '0', whereas the second UAS household respondent has a value of '1'. Therefore 'uasmembers' should be interpreted as the

number of household and UAS panel members at the time the respondent answers the survey. Note: in the My Household survey 'uasmembers' is set to unknown (.u) for respondents who last participated in the My Household survey prior to January 21, 2015.

- ○ **sampleframe**: indicates the sampling frame from which the household of the respondent was recruited. All UAS recruitment is done through address based sampling (ABS) in which samples are acquired based on postal records. Currently, the variable 'sampleframe' takes on four values reflecting four distinct sample frames used by the UAS over the year (in future data sets the number of sample frames used for recruitment may increase if additional specific populations are targeted in future recruitment batches):

  1. U.S. National Territory: recruited through ABS within the entire U.S.
  2. Areas high concentration Nat Ame: recruited through ABS in areas with a high concentration of Native Americans in the zip-code. Within these batches, individuals who are not Native Americans are not invited to join the UAS.
  3. Los Angeles County: recruited through ABS within Los Angeles County.
  4. California: recruited through ABS within California.

  Note: prior to March 6, 2024 this variable was called sampletype and had the following value labels for the above list in UAS data sets:

  1. Nationally Representative Sample: recruited through ABS within the entire U.S.
  2. Native Americans: recruited through ABS in areas with a high concentration of Native Americans. Within these batches, individuals who are not Native Americans are not invited to join the UAS.
  3. LA County: recruited through ABS within Los Angeles County.
  4. California: recruited through ABS within California.

- ○ **batch**: indicates the batch from which the respondent was recruited. Currently, this variable takes the following values (in future data sets the number of batches may increase as new recruitment batches are added to the UAS):

  1. ASDE 2014/01
  2. ASDE 2014/01
  3. ASDE 2014/01
  4. Public records 2015/05
  5. MSG 2015/07
  6. MSG 2016/01
  7. MSG 2016/01
  8. MSG 2016/01
  9. MSG 2016/02

10. MSG 2016/03
11. MSG 2016/04
12. MSG 2016/05
13. MSG 2016/08
14. MSG 2017/03
15. MSG 2017/11
16. MSG 2018/02
17. MSG 2018/08
18. MSG 2019/04
19. MSG 2019/05
20. MSG 2019/11
21. MSG 2020/08
22. MSG 2020/10
23. MSG 2021/02
24. MSG 2021/08
25. MSG 2021/08
26. MSG 2022/02
27. MSG 2022/02
28. MSG 2022/08
29. MSG 2022/11
30. MSG 2022/11
31. MSG 2023/01
32. MSG 2023/06
33. MSG 2023/09
34. MSG 2023/10
35. MSG 2025/02

Note: prior to March 6, 2024 this variable had the following value labels for the above list in UAS data sets:

1. ASDE 2014/01 Nat.Rep.
2. ASDE 2014/01 Native Am.
3. ASDE 2014/11 Native Am.
4. LA County 2015/05 List Sample
5. MSG 2015/07 Nat.Rep.
6. MSG 2016/01 Nat.Rep. Batch 2

7. MSG 2016/01 Nat.Rep. Batch 3
8. MSG 2016/01 Nat.Rep. Batch 4
9. MSG 2016/02 Nat.Rep. Batch 5
10. MSG 2016/03 Nat.Rep. Batch 6
11. MSG 2016/04 Nat.Rep. Batch 7
12. MSG 2016/05 Nat.Rep. Batch 8
13. MSG 2016/08 LA County Batch 2
14. MSG 2017/03 LA County Batch 3
15. MSG 2017/11 California Batch 1
16. MSG 2018/02 California Batch 2
17. MSG 2018/08 Nat.Rep. Batch 9
18. MSG 2019/04 LA County Batch 4
19. MSG 2019/05 LA County Batch 5
20. MSG 2019/11 Nat. Rep. Batch 10
21. MSG 2020/08 Nat. Rep. Batch 11
22. MSG 2020/10 Nat. Rep. Batch 12
23. MSG 2021/02 Nat. Rep. Batch 13
24. MSG 2021/08 Nat. Rep. Batch 15
25. MSG 2021/08 Nat. Rep. Batch 16
26. MSG 2022/02 Nat. Rep. Batch 17 (priority)
27. MSG 2022/02 Nat. Rep. Batch 17 (regular)
28. MSG 2022/08 Nat. Rep. Batch 18
29. MSG 2022/11 LA County Batch 6
30. MSG 2022/11 Nat. Rep. Batch 20
31. MSG 2023/01 Nat. Rep. Batch 21
32. MSG 2023/06 Nat. Rep. Batch 22
33. MSG 2023-09 Native Am. Batch 3
34. MSG 2023-10 Nat. Rep. Batch 23

○ **primary_respondent**: indicates if the respondent was the first person within the household (i.e. to become a member or whether s/he was added as a subsequent member. A household in this regard is broadly defined as anyone living together with the primary respondent. That is, a household comprises individuals who live together, e.g. as part of a family relationship (like a spouse/child/parent) or in context of some other relationship (like a roommate or tenant).

- **hardware**: indicates whether the respondent ever received hardware or not. Note: this variable should not be used to determine whether a respondent received hardware at a given point in time and/or whether s/he used the hardware to participate in a survey. Rather, it indicates whether hardware was ever provided:

  1. None
  2. Tablet (includes Internet)

- **language**: the language in which the survey was conducted. This variable takes a value of 1 for English and a value of 2 for Spanish.

- **start_date (start_year, start_month, start_day, start_hour, start_min, start_sec)**: indicates the time at which the respondent started the survey.

- **end_date (end_year, end_month, end_day, end_hour, end_min, end_sec)**: indicates the time at which the respondent completed the survey.

- **cs_001**: indicates how interesting the respondent found the survey.

4   BACKGROUND DEMOGRAPHICS

Every UAS survey data set includes demographic variables, which provide background information about the respondent and his/her household. Demographic information such as age, ethnicity, education, marital status, work status, state of residence, family structure is elicited every quarter through the "My Household" survey. The demographic variables provided with each survey are taken from the most recent 'MyHousehold' survey answered by the respondent. If at the time of a survey, the information in "My Household" is more than three months old, a respondent is required to check and update his or her information before being able to take the survey.

The following variables are available in each survey data set:

- **gender**: the gender of the respondent.

- **dateofbirth_year**: the year of birth of the respondent.

- **age**: the age of the respondent at the start of the survey.

- **agerange**: if the respondent's age cannot be calculate due to missing information, 'agerange' indicates the approximate age. Should a value for both the 'age' and 'agerange' be present, then 'age' takes precedence over 'agerange'.

- **citizenus**: indicates whether the respondent is a U.S. citizen.

- **bornus**: indicates whether the respondent was born in the U.S.

- **stateborn**: indicates the state in which the respondent was born. This is set to missing (.) if the respondent was not born in the U.S.

- **countryborn**: indicates the country in which the respondent was born. This is set to missing (.) if the respondent was born in the U.S.

- **countryborn_other**: indicates the country of birth if that country is not on the drop down list of countries shown to the respondent'.

- **statereside**: the state in which the respondent is living.

- **immigration_status**: indicates whether the respondent is an immigrant. It takes one of the following values: 0 Non-immigrant, 1 First generation immigrant (immigrant who migrated to the U.S), 2 Second generation immigrant (U.S.-born children of at least one foreign-born parent), 3 Third generation immigrant (U.S.-born children of at least one U.S.-born parent, where at least one grandparent is foreign-born), or 4 Unknown immigrant status.

- **maritalstatus**: the marital status of the respondent.

- **livewithpartner**: indicates whether the respondent lives with a partner.

- **education**: the highest level of education attained by the respondent.

- **hisplatino**: indicates whether the respondent identifies him or herself as being Hispanic or Latino. This variable is asked separately from race.

- **hisplatinogroup**: indicates which Hispanic or Latino group a respondent identifies him or herself with. This is set to missing (.) if the respondent does not identify him or herself as being Hispanic or Latino.

- **white**: indicates whether the respondent identifies him or herself as white (Caucasian).

- **black**: indicates whether the respondent identifies him or herself as black (African-American).

- **nativeamer**: indicates whether the respondent identifies him or herself as Native American (American Indian or Alaska Native).

- **asian**: indicates whether the respondent identifies him or herself as Asian (Asian-American).

- **pacific**: indicates whether the respondent identifies him or herself as Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.

- **race**: indicates the race of the respondent as singular (e.g., '1 White' or '2 Black') or as mixed (in case the respondent identifies with two or more races). The value '6 Mixed' that the respondent answered 'Yes' to at least two of the single race categories. This variable is generated based on the values of the different race variables (white, black, nativeamer, asian, pacific). This composite measure is not conditional on hisplatino, so an individual may identify as Hispanic or Latino, and also as a member of one or more racial groups.

- **working**: indicates whether the respondent is working for pay.

- **sick_leave**: indicates whether the respondent is not working because sick or on leave.

- **unemp_layoff**: indicates whether the respondent is unemployed or on lay off.

- **unemp_look**: indicates whether the respondent is unemployed and looking for a job.

- **retired**: indicates whether the respondent is retired.

- **disabled**: indicates whether the respondent has a disability.

- **lf_other**: specifies other labor force status.

- **laborstatus**: indicates the labor force status of the respondent as singular (e.g., '1 Working for pay' or '2 On sick or other leave') or as mixed (in case the respondent selects two or more labor statuses). The value '8 Mixed' indicates that the respondent answered 'Yes' to at least two of the single labor force status variables. This variable is generated based on the values of the different labor status variables (working, sick_leave, unempl_layoff, unempl_look, retired, disabled, lf_other).

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○ **employmenttype**: indicates the employment type of the respondent (employed by the government, by a private company, a nonprofit organization, or self-employed). This is set to missing (.) if the respondent is not currently working or currently on sick or other leave.

○ **workfullpart**: indicates whether the respondent works full or part-time. This is set to missing (.) if the respondent is not currently working or currently on sick or other leave.

○ **hourswork**: indicates the number of hours the respondent works per week. This is set to missing (.) if the respondent is not currently working or currently on sick or other leave.

○ **hhincome**: is the total combined income of all members of the respondent's household (living in their household) during the past 12 months.

○ **anyhhmember**: indicates whether there were any members in the respondent's household at the time he/she answered the survey as reported by the respondent.

○ **hhmembernumber**: indicates the number of household members in the respondent's household at the time of the survey as reported by the respondent. It may be that 'anyhhmember' is 'Yes', but 'hhmembernumber' is missing if the respondent did not provide the number of household members at the time of the survey.

○ **hhmemberin_#**: indicates whether a household member is currently in the household as reported by the respondent. Household members are never removed from the stored household roster and their information is always included in survey data sets. The order of the roster is the same order in which household members were specified by the respondent in the 'MyHousehold' survey. The order is identified by the suffix _# (e.g., _1 indicates the first household member, _2 the second household member, etc.).

As an example, if the first household member is in the household at the time of the survey, 'hhmemberin_1' is set to '1 HH Member 1 is in the HH'; if he/she has moved out, 'hhmemberin_1' is set to '0 HH member 1 is no longer in the HH'. Since information of other household members (stored in the variables listed below) is always included in survey data sets, information about 'hhmemberin_1' is available whether this person is still in the household or has moved out.

○ **hhmembergen_#**: indicates the gender of another household member as reported by the respondent.

○ **hhmemberage_#**: indicates the age of another household member. The age is derived from the month and year of birth of the household member as reported by the respondent.

○ **hhmemberrel_#**: indicates the relationship of the respondent to the other household member as reported by the respondent.

- **hhmemberuasid_#**: is the 'uasid' of the other household member if this person is also a UAS panel member. It is set to missing (.) if this person is not a UAS panel member at the time of the survey. Since this identifier is directly reported by the respondent (chosen from a preloaded list), it may differ from the actual (correct) 'uasid' of the UAS member it refers to because of reporting error. Also, this variable should not be used to identify UAS members in a given household at the time of the survey. This is because the variables 'hhmemberuasid_#' are taken from the most recent 'My Household' and changes in household composition involving UAS members may have occurred between the time of the respondent answered 'My Household' and the time the respondent answers the survey. To follow UAS members of a given household, it is advised to use the identifiers 'uashhid' and 'survhhid'.

- **lastmyhh_date**: the date on which the demographics variables were collected through the 'My Household' survey.

In addition, data sets created after May 8, 2025 include an urbanicity variable. It is based on panel members' current census tract of residence and the 2010 Rural-Urban Commuting Area (RUCA) codes released by the US Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service. To preserve confidentiality, the UAS collapses the 10 primary RUCA codes to 4 levels: Metropolitan, Micropolitan, Small/Rural, and Unknown. The Metropolitan level corresponds to primary RUCA codes 1-3, the Micropolitian level corresponds to RUCA codes 4-6, and the Small/Rural UAS classification corresponds to RUCA codes 7-10.

For detailed information and definitions of the 10 primary RUCA codes, please visit the USDA ERS Rural-Urban Commuting Area Codes site. Surveys conducted completely prior to May 8, 2025 will have an urbanicity data set available on request.

5   MISSING DATA CONVENTIONS

Data files provide so-called clean data, that is, answers given to questions that are not applicable anymore at survey completion (for example because a respondent went back in the survey and skipped over a previously answered question) are treated as if the questions were never asked. In the data files all questions that were asked, but not answered by the respondent are marked with (.e). All questions never seen by the respondent (or any dirty data) are marked with (.a). The latter may mean that a respondent did not view the question because s/he skipped over it; or alternatively that s/he never reached that question due to a break off. If a respondent did not complete a survey, the variables representing survey end date and time are marked with (.c). Household member variables are marked with (.m) if the respondent has less household members (e.g. if the number of household members is 2, any variables for household member 3 and up are marked with (.m).

UAS provides data in STATA and CSV format. Stata data sets come with include variable labels that are not available in the CSV files. Value labels are provided for single-response answer option. In STATA these labels will include the labels 'Not asked' and 'Not answered' for (.a) and (.e), and will show in tabulations such as 'tab q1, missing'. For multiple-response questions a binary variable is created for each answer option indicating whether the option was selected or not. A summary variable is also provided in string format reflecting which options were selected and in which order. For example, if a question asked about favorite animals with options cat, dog, and horse, then if a respondent selected horse and then cat, the binary variables for horse and cat will be set to yes, while the overall variable would have a string value of '3-1'. If no answer was given, all binary variables and the summary variable will be marked with '.e'.

Questions that are asked multiple times are often implemented as so-called array questions. Supposing the name of such question was Q1 and it was asked in 6 different instances, your data set would contain the variables Q1_1_ to Q1_6_. To illustrate, if a survey asked the names of all children, then child_1_ would contain the name of the first child the respondent named and so on.

More information about the UAS data in general can be found on the UAS Data Pages web site.

6 ROUTING SYNTAX

The survey with routing presented in the next section includes all of the questions that make up this survey, the question answers when choices were provided, and the question routing. The routing includes descriptions of when questions are grouped, conditional logic that determines when questions are presented to the respondent, randomization of questions and answers, and fills of answers from one question to another.

If you are unfamiliar with conditional logic statements, they are typically formatted so that *if* the respondent fulfills some condition (e.g. they have a cellphone or a checking account), *then* they are presented with some other question or the value of some variable is changed. If the respondent does not fulfill the condition (e.g. they are not a cellphone adopter or they do not have a checking account), something *else* happens such as skipping the next question or changing the variable to some other value. Some of the logic involved in the randomization of questions or answers being presented to the respondent is quite complex, and in these instances there is documentation to clarify the process being represented by the routing.

Because logic syntax standards vary, here is a brief introduction to our syntax standards. The syntax used in the conditional statements is as follows: '=' is equal to, '$<$' is less than, '$>$' is greater than, and '!=' is used for does not equal. When a variable is set to some number N, the statement looks like 'variable := N'.

The formatting of the questions and routing are designed to make it easier to interpret what is occurring at any given point in the survey. Question ID is the bold text at the top of a question block, followed by the question text and the answer selections. When a question or variable has associated data, the name links to the appropriate data page, so you can easily get directly to the data. Text color is used to indicate the routing: red is conditional logic, gold is question grouping, green is looping, and orange is used to document randomization and other complex conditional logic processes. The routing is written for a computer to parse rather than a human to read, so when the routing diverges significantly from what is displayed to the respondent, a screenshot of what the respondent saw is included.

The name of the randomization variables are defined in proximity to where they are put into play, and like the question ID the names of the randomization variables can be used to link directly to the associated data page.

7   SURVEY WITH ROUTING

reward := '1'

/* A pilot group of respondents received a slightly different version of the survey (denoted with a value of 1 for variable surveyversion). Specifically, the eligibility criteria for doing the survey were different and the 'donut hole' question did not feature an extensive explanation as to its meaning. */

surveyversion := '2'

mainintro (Section Background)
This survey asks about your experiences with stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plans. Please answer to the best of your ability. If you aren't sure about something, just your best guess will do.

el001 (have stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan before October 2023 in section Background)
A stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan is Medicare insurance for prescription drugs, which is separate from Medicare insurance for physician and hospital care.

Did you have a stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan **before October 2023**?

IF el001 != 1 THEN
  IF el001 = 99 THEN
    el001a (have stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan before October 2023 in section Background)
    A stand-alone Medicare part D prescription drug plan is a separate prescription drug coverage insurance plan that you purchase through a company such as Aetna, Cigna, Humana, Blue Cross, and others. The plan is separate from Medicare coverage you may have for seeing your doctor, or hospital care, which are Medicare Part A and B. Medicare Part D is also different from Medicare Advantage plans, in which private companies provide all of your health care, for example through an HMO or PPO plan.

    Did you have a stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan **before October 2023**?

    IF el001a != 1 THEN

earlyexit (Section Background)

Thank you for your interest. At this moment we don't have any further questions for you. Click "Next" to return to your panel member pages.

Exit the survey

END OF IF

ELSE

earlyexit (Section Background)

Thank you for your interest. At this moment we don't have any further questions for you. Click "Next" to return to your panel member pages.

Exit the survey

END OF IF

END OF IF

el001b (will stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan in 2024 in section Background)

Will you have a stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan **in 2024**?

IF el001b != 1 THEN

earlyexit (Section Background)

Thank you for your interest. At this moment we don't have any further questions for you. Click "Next" to return to your panel member pages.

Exit the survey

END OF IF

el001c (2024 prescription drugs covered by Medicare Advantage plan, Medicare Part C plan, or MA plan in section Background)

For 2023 or 2024 will your prescription drugs be covered by a Medicare Advantage plan (also known as an MA Plan) or a Medicare Part C plan?

IF el001c = 1 THEN

earlyexit2 (Section Background)

Thank you for your interest. At this moment we don't have any further questions for you. Click "Next" to return to your panel member pages.

Exit the survey

END OF IF

reward := '5'

ba001 (year first get stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan in section Background)

In which year did you get your **first** stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan? Please give your best guess and enter 4 numbers to indicate the year (for example, 2022 or 2006)
RANGE 2006..2024

ba002 (ever switched stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan in section Background)
Have you ever switched your stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan?

ba003 (switch to different stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan October 15 and December 7 of 2023 in section Background)
Between October 15 and December 7 of 2023, did you **switch** to a different stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan?

ba004 (best describes stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan in section Background)
Which of the following best describes the stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan you have had **throughout 2023**? Please select one answer and give your best guess.
1 My 2023 plan was my first
2 My 2023 plan was my second
3 My 2023 plan was my third
4 My 2023 plan was at least my fourth plan

IF ba004 > 1 THEN
  ba005 (year chose stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan had throughout 2023 in section Background)
  In which year did you choose the stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan you had **throughout 2023**? Please give your best guess and enter 4 numbers to indicate the year (for example, 2022 or 2006)
  RANGE 1910..2024
END OF IF

IF ba002 = 1 OR ba003 = 1 THEN
  ba006 (best describes most recent switch to different stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan in section Background)
  Which of the following best describes **your most recent switch to a different stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan**?
  1 I made the switch to a different plan
  2 My insurance company switched out my plan
END OF IF

IF ba004 > 2 THEN
  ba007 (best describes all switch to different stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan in section Background)

Which of the following best describes **all of your switches** to different stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plans?
1 I made at least one switch myself
2 My insurance company switched out my plan each time

END OF IF

End of section **Background**

Start of section **Predictors**

GROUP OF QUESTIONS PRESENTED ON THE SAME SCREEN

pr001_intro (Section Predictors)
The next question asks about your stand-alone Medicare Part D plan **for 2024**. Please answer each question with your best guess.

SUBGROUP OF QUESTIONS

pr001a (I compared different plans for 2024 in section Predictors)
I compared different plans for 2024

pr001b (I knew how to switch to a different plan for 2024 in section Predictors)
I knew how to switch to a different plan for 2024

pr001c (My 2023 plan will be discontinued in 2024 in section Predictors)
My 2023 plan will be discontinued in 2024

pr001d (My 2023 plan will be changed in 2024 in section Predictors)
My 2023 plan will be changed in 2024

pr001e (I was pretty satisfied with the plan I had throughout 2023 in section Predictors)
I was pretty satisfied with the plan I had throughout 2023

pr001f (All plans seemed pretty much the same to me in section Predictors)
All plans seemed pretty much the same to me

END OF SUBGROUP

END OF GROUP

GROUP OF QUESTIONS PRESENTED ON THE SAME SCREEN

pr002_intro (Section Predictors)
The next question asks about what happened **throughout 2023**.

SUBGROUP OF QUESTIONS

pr002a (I talked to friends or family about their stand-alone Medicare Part D plans in section Predictors)
I talked to friends or family about their stand-alone Medicare Part D plans

pr002b (My pharmacy suggested one or more plans to me in section Predictors)
My pharmacy suggested one or more plans to me

pr002c (I reviewed plans with an advisor or insurance broker in section Predictors)
I reviewed plans with an advisor or insurance broker

pr002d (The AARP suggested one or more plans to me in section Predictors)
The AARP suggested one or more plans to me

pr002e (An employer suggested one or more plans to me in section Predictors)
An employer suggested one or more plans to me

pr002f (I received mailings about one or more plans from insurance companies in section Predictors)
I received mailings about one or more plans from insurance companies

pr002g (I reviewed plans in the Medicare booklet in section Predictors)
I reviewed plans in the Medicare booklet

pr002h (I reviewed plans on the Medicare plan comparison website in section Predictors)
I reviewed plans on the Medicare plan comparison website

pr002i (My family situation changed in 2023 in section Predictors)
My family situation changed in 2023

pr002j (I started using different medications in 2023 in section Predictors)
I started using different medications in 2023

pr002k (I started living in another state in 2023 in section Predictors)
I started living in another state in 2023

pr002l (I hit the donut hole or coverage gap in 2023 in section Predictors)
I hit the (donut hole/The Medicare Part D donut hole or coverage gap is the phase of

Part D coverage after your initial coverage period. You enter the donut hole when your total drug costs- -including what you and your plan have paid for your drugs- -reaches a certain limit. While in the coverage gap, you are responsible for a percentage of the cost of your drugs.) or coverage gap in 2023

END OF SUBGROUP

END OF GROUP

IF ba001 < 2022 THEN
pr003 (how often would say have been comparing plans up to 2023 in section Predictors)
Think back to **the entire time** you have had a stand-alone Medicare Plan D prescription drug plan, including 2023 and the years before. How often would you say you have compared plans?
1 Every year
2 More than once, but not every year
3 Once
4 Never
END OF IF

pr004 (how good would say was choice stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan in section Predictors)
Think back to how you chose the stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan you have had **throughout 2023**. How good would you say was the choice you made at that time? Please select one answer.
1 Very good
2 Pretty good
3 Not that good
4 Not good at all

pr005 (how long make choice stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan in section Predictors)
Think back to when you chose the stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan you have had **throughout 2023**. How long did it take to make the choice you made at that time?
1 Less than an hour
2 More than an hour but less than a day
3 More than a day but less than a week
4 More than a week

GROUP OF QUESTIONS PRESENTED ON THE SAME SCREEN

pr006_intro (Section Predictors)
What were your reasons for choosing the stand-alone Medicare prescription drug plan

22

you have had **throughout 2023**? Please answer each question below.

pr006a (I liked the company that offered the plan in section Predictors)
I liked the company that offered the plan

pr006b (Someone I knew already had the plan in section Predictors)
Someone I knew already had the plan

pr006c (The plan was recommended to me in section Predictors)
The plan was recommended to me

pr006d (The plan could be used in another state in section Predictors)
The plan could be used in another state

pr006e (The total costs were low in section Predictors)
The total costs were low

pr006f (The deductible was low in section Predictors)
The deductible was low

pr006g (The co-pays were low in section Predictors)
The co-pays were low

pr006h (The premium was low in section Predictors)
The premium was low

pr006i (The plan included my pharmacy in section Predictors)
The plan included my pharmacy

pr006j (The plan had good coverage for the drugs I was taking in section Pre-
dictors)
The plan had good coverage for the drugs I was taking

pr006k (The donut hole coverage was good in section Predictors)
The (donut hole/The Medicare Part D donut hole or coverage gap is the phase of Part
D coverage after your initial coverage period. You enter the donut hole when your total
drug costs- -including what you and your plan have paid for your drugs- -reaches a
certain limit. While in the coverage gap, you are responsible for a percentage of the
cost of your drugs.) coverage was good

pr006l (don't exactly remember y reasons for choosing plan throughout 2023 in
section Predictors)

I don't exactly remember my reasons for choosing the plan I had throughout 2023

pr006m (other reason choosing stand-alone Medicare prescription drug plan in section Predictors)
Other, please specify:

pr006m_other (specify other reason choosing stand-alone Medicare prescription drug plan in section Predictors)
STRING

pr007 (how many plans looked at when choosing stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan in section Predictors)
Approximately how many plans did you look at, when choosing the stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan you have had **throughout 2023**? Please give your best guess and select one answer.
0 0
1 1
2 2
3 3
4 4-6
5 7-9
6 10-12
7 More than 12

IF pr007 > 3 THEN
  GROUP OF QUESTIONS PRESENTED ON THE SAME SCREEN

  pr008_intro (Section Predictors)
  There are a lot of stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plans. How did you narrow down which ones you looked at, when choosing the plan you have had **throughout 2023**?

  SUBGROUP OF QUESTIONS

  pr008a (I actually looked at all of them, so I didn't narrow it down in section Predictors)
  I actually looked at all of them, so I didn't narrow it down

  pr008b (I focused on plans that were offered by companies I liked in section Predictors)
  I focused on plans that were offered by companies I liked

pr008c (I focused on plans that someone I knew already had in section Predictors)
I focused on plans that someone I knew already had

pr008d (I focused on plans that were recommended to me in section Predictors)
I focused on plans that were recommended to me

pr008e (I focused on plans that could be used in another state in section Predictors)
I focused on plans that could be used in another state

pr008f (I focused on plans for which the total costs were low in section Predictors)
I focused on plans for which the total costs were low

pr008g (I focused on plans for which the deductible was low in section Predictors)
I focused on plans for which the deductible was low

pr008h (I focused on plans for which the co-pays were low in section Predictors)
I focused on plans for which the co-pays were low

pr008i (I focused on plans for which the premium was low in section Predictors)
I focused on plans for which the premium was low

pr008j (I focused on plans that included my pharmacy in section Predictors)
I focused on plans that included my pharmacy

pr008k (I focused on plans that had good coverage for the drugs I was taking in section Predictors)
I focused on plans that had good coverage for the drugs I was taking

pr008l (I focused on plans for which the donut hole coverage was good in section Predictors)
I focused on plans for which the (donut hole/The Medicare Part D donut hole or coverage gap is the phase of Part D coverage after your initial coverage period. You enter the donut hole when your total drug costs- -including what you and your plan have paid for your drugs- -reaches a certain limit. While in the coverage gap, you are responsible for a percentage of the cost of your drugs.) coverage was good

pr008m (I don't exactly remember how I narrowed it down in section Predictors)

I don't exactly remember how I narrowed it down

pr008n (other reason narrow down plans in section Predictors)
Other, please specify:

pr008n_other (specify other reason narrow down plans in section Predictors)
STRING

End of section **Predictors**

Start of section **Future**

fu001 (how good stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan 2024 in section Future)
In your view, how good is the stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan **you will have in 2024**?
1 Very good
2 Pretty good
3 Not that good
4 Not good at all

fu002_intro (Section Future)
Do you know the following features of the stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan **you will have in 2024**?

fu002a (know company 2024 plan in section Future)
The company

fu002b (know premium 2024 plan in section Future)
Your premium

fu002c (know deductible 2024 plan in section Future)
Your deductible

fu002d (know co-pays 2024 plan in section Future)

Your co-pays

fu002e (know Whether covers donut hole 2024 plan in section Future)
Whether it covers the donut hole

END OF SUBGROUP

END OF GROUP

IF fu002a = 1 OR fu002b = 1 OR fu002c = 1 THEN
GROUP OF QUESTIONS PRESENTED ON THE SAME SCREEN

fu003_intro (Section Future)
Please answer the following questions about the stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan **you will have in 2024**.

IF fu002a = 1 THEN

fu003a (company 2024 plan in section Future)
What company provides it?
STRING

END OF IF

IF fu002b = 1 THEN

fu003b (premium 2024 plan in section Future)
What is your premium?
NUMBER (NO DECIMALS ALLOWED)

END OF IF

IF fu002c = 1 THEN

fu003c (deductible 2024 plan in section Future)
What is your deductible?
NUMBER (NO DECIMALS ALLOWED)

END OF IF

END OF GROUP
END OF IF

fu004 (how easy choose new stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan today in section Future)

Imagine your current stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan would be discontinued today. How easy would it be for you to **choose a new** stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan today?
1 Very easy
2 Pretty easy
3 Not that easy
4 Not easy at all

End of section **Future**

Start of section **Closing**

CS_001 (HOW PLEASANT INTERVIEW in section Closing)
Could you tell us how interesting or uninteresting you found the questions in this survey?
1 Very interesting
2 Interesting
3 Neither interesting nor uninteresting
4 Uninteresting
5 Very uninteresting

CS_003 (comments in section Closing)
Do you have any other comments on the survey? Please type these in the box below. (If you have no comments, please click next to complete this survey.)
STRING

End of section **Closing**

/* Please note that although question CS_003 is listed in the routing, the answers are not included in the microdata in the event identifiable information is captured. Cleaned responses are available by request. */