Good access to care, or health services, means the timely use of personal health services to achieve the best health outcomes. Access to care can impact overall physical, social, and mental health status (Healthy People 2020).

A CLOSER LOOK AT ACCESS TO CARE IN OUR COMMUNITY

**income**

Respondents with incomes at or below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level reported less frequently that they had a regular health care provider, compared to higher income respondents.

**age**

Younger respondents are less likely to have a regular health care provider.

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**WHAT PERCENT OF ADULTS LACK A REGULAR PLACE OF CARE**

11% of Health District Adults

17% of Colorado Adults

17% of American Adults

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**cost of care as a barrier**

Respondents with lower incomes were more likely to report putting off routine health care services because they are too expensive. Below, the figure shows the percent of people who had put off services because of cost within the past 2 years, by type of health service and by income.
ABILITY TO ACCESS CARE

Overall rating of access to care varies among groups. Fewer people rated their access to care as very good or excellent if they reported having no regular health care provider, had a lower income, or lacked health insurance. Uninsured respondents, in particular, rated their access to care worse than the other groups.

SELF-REPORTED ACCESS TO CARE, BY SUBGROUP

- **FAIR OR POOR**: 27% (UNINSURED), 21% (LOWER INCOME), 52% (ALL RESPONDENTS)
- **GOOD**: 44% (UNINSURED), 30% (LOWER INCOME), 26% (ALL RESPONDENTS)
- **VERY GOOD OR EXCELLENT**: 50% (UNINSURED), 21% (LOWER INCOME), 29% (ALL RESPONDENTS)

REGULAR SOURCE OF HEALTHCARE

When residents of the Health District are sick or in need of advice about their health, most (68%) go to a doctor’s office, medical practice or clinic. However, 9% use either urgent care or the emergency room as their regular source of care.

“WHICH IS THE ONE PLACE YOU USUALLY GO WHEN SICK OR IN NEED OF ADVICE ABOUT YOUR HEALTH?”

- **DOCTOR’S OFFICE**: 68%
- **NONE**: 4%
- **URGENT CARE**: 8%
- **OTHER**: 1%
- **COMMUNITY HEALTH CLINIC**: 11%
- **EMERGENCY ROOM**: 13%

Click here for more information on uninsured respondents

Click here for more information on

ROUTINE CHECK-UPS

Routine check-ups and screenings are key to early detection, treatments, and better health outcomes. Two in three (67%) of all respondents reported they had received a routine physical within the past year; however only 30% of uninsured respondents had gone for an annual check-up within the past year.

THOSE SEEN FOR A ROUTINE CHECK-UP IN PAST YEAR

- **OVERALL**: 67%
- **LOWER INCOME**: 57%
- **UNINSURED**: 30%

1 in 10 (10%) of all adults visited the emergency room for care once in the past year.

Fewer respondents reported having gone to the ER two or more times within the past year, at just 5% of all respondents. However, adults with incomes at or below 185% of the FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL (FPL) were more than 2 times more likely (13%) to have had multiple visits to a hospital emergency room in the past year.

2013 Community Health Survey: access to care

healthdistrict.org/community-health-survey