Patient experience with Medicare Part D premiums

Poll conducted by Morning Consult on behalf of the PAN Foundation

March 2024
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Methodology: This poll was conducted between March 16-17, 2024 among a sample of 2,201 adults. The interviews were conducted online and the data were weighted to approximate a target sample of adults based on age, gender, race, educational attainment, region, gender by age, and race by educational attainment. Results from the full survey have a margin of error of plus or minus 2 percentage points.
Experience with Medicare Part D premiums
Nearly one-third (28%) of Medicare beneficiaries enrolled in Part D plans say the cost of the monthly premium for their prescription drug plan is higher in 2024 than it was in 2023.

Compared to 2023, is the cost of your monthly premium for your prescription drug plan higher, lower, or about the same in 2024?

Among adults enrolled in Medicare Part D plans (n=409, MOE: 5%)

- **28%** Significantly higher
- **6%** Somewhat higher
- **51%** About the same
- **15%** Somewhat lower
- **9%** Significantly lower
- **6%** Not applicable: I did not have a Medicare Part D prescription drug premium in 2023
Among Medicare beneficiaries whose Part D prescription drug plan premiums increased over the past year, 11% say their premiums increased by 16-20% while a similar share (10%) say their premiums increased by more than 20%.

By approximately how much did the premium for your prescription drug plan increase from 2023?

Among adults enrolled in Medicare Part D plans whose premiums increased in the past year (n=114, MOE: 9%)
Two-in-five (40%) Medicare beneficiaries enrolled in Part D plans say they have financial difficulty affording the monthly premium for their prescription drug plan.

Generally speaking, how much financial difficulty do you have, if any, affording the monthly premium for your prescription drug plan?

Among adults enrolled in Medicare Part D plans (n=409, MOE: 5%)
One-fourth (26%) of Medicare beneficiaries enrolled in Part D plans say they have experienced at least one of the following difficulties as a result of paying their monthly premium—most commonly cutting back on food expenses (14%) or other expenses (19%).

Have you ever experienced any of the following as a result of having to pay the monthly premium for your prescription drug plan? Select all that apply.

Among adults enrolled in Medicare Part D plans (n=409, MOE: 5%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Difficulty</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cutting back on other expenses</td>
<td>19%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cutting back on my food expenses</td>
<td>14%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Being unable to afford prescription medications because I prioritized paying my premium instead</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Delaying or missing my utility bill payments</td>
<td>4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Delaying or missing my rent or mortgage payment(s)</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None of these</td>
<td></td>
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Appendix
Sample distribution—adults enrolled in Medicare Part D plans

**Gender**
- Male: 47%
- Female: 53%

**Age**
- 18-34: 48%
- 35-44: 35%
- 45-64: 17%
- 65+: 84%

**Race/Ethnicity**
- White (Non-Hispanic): 83%
- Hispanic: 6%
- Black (Non-Hispanic): 6%
- Other (Non-Hispanic): 4%

**Region**
- Northeast: 17%
- Midwest: 25%
- South: 35%
- West: 23%

**Education**
- < College: 20%
- Bachelors degree: 55%
- Post-grad: 25%

**Income**
- Under 50k: 27%
- 50k-100k: 25%
- 100k+: 48%

**Community**
- Urban: 29%
- Suburban: 71%
- Rural: 48%

**Plan Type**
- Traditional standalone: 29%
- Medicare Advantage plan: 71%

n=409; MOE: 5%