



Why Medicaid Matters for Women: Survey Results Emphasize the Importance of Coverage

Overview:

The Alliance for Women's Health and Prevention (AWHP) commissioned an Ipsos poll exploring women's perceptions of and challenges in accessing preventive healthcare services. A key component of AWHP's policy pillars is advancing access to care and treatment, particularly important for the [more than 24 million](#) American women covered under Medicaid.

The survey results underscore the importance of Medicaid for women's health, [reinforcing](#) that women with insurance coverage are more likely to obtain needed healthcare services such as annual physicals, routine bloodwork, cancer screenings and vaccines.

The topline results from the survey can be accessed [here](#).

Sample Sizes:

The nationwide survey was conducted online with 3,199 respondents aged 18 and older, including 580 women covered by Medicaid.

Key Takeaways: New Data Reinforces Importance of Medicaid for Women's Preventive Health

Medicaid provides an essential health benefit for women, enabling them to access preventive health care services. Women enrolled in Medicaid are:

- More than 2x as likely to have a primary care provider (86%) than uninsured women (39%).
- More than 2x as likely to have received an annual physical or gone for a well woman visit in the past 12 months (60%) than uninsured women (26%).
- Much more likely to get other preventive care services and screenings such as routine bloodwork, cancer screenings and osteoporosis screenings.

Key Data:

Women enrolled in Medicaid are more likely to have a primary care provider (PCP) or OBGYN than uninsured women.

	Medicaid	Uninsured
Q1 - % Yes	<i>n=580</i>	<i>n=266</i>
Do you have a...		

Primary care provider (e.g., physician, nurse practitioner, physician associate) that you routinely visit (at least once a year)?	86%	39%
Obstetrician or Gynecologist (OB/GYN) that you routinely visit (at least once a year)?	52%	21%

Women enrolled in Medicaid are more likely to have received an annual exam or accessed preventive care services in the past 12 months.

	Medicaid	Uninsured
Q3 - % In the past 12 months when was the last time you received these health services?	<i>n=580</i>	<i>n=266</i>
Annual physical or well woman exam	60%	26%

	Medicaid	Uninsured
Q4 - % In the past 12 months When was the last time you received these preventive care services?	<i>n=580</i>	<i>n=266</i>
Routine bloodwork to screen for diabetes, cholesterol, etc.	70%	25%
Vaccines	49%	18%
Breast cancer screenings (mammogram, ultrasound, MRI)	41%	11%
Cervical cancer screenings (pap test, HPV test)	34%	17%
Colorectal cancer screenings (colonoscopy, stool-based test, blood-based test, etc.)	22%	11%
STI (HIV, chlamydia, gonorrhea, etc.)	28%	12%
Mental health screenings	34%	14%
Blood pressure screenings	70%	30%
Osteoporosis screenings (bone density scans, etc.)	23%	7%

Women enrolled in Medicaid are more likely to have been screened for cervical, breast, lung and colorectal cancers than those who are uninsured.

	Medicaid	Uninsured
Q22 - % Ever (Within the past 12 months + more than 12 months ago) have you ever...	<i>n=318</i>	<i>n=126</i>
Been screened for cervical cancer	47%	29%
Q22 - % Ever (Within the past 12 months + more than 12 months ago)	<i>n=111</i>	<i>n=32</i>
Been screened for breast cancer	67%	21%
Q22 - % Ever	<i>n=262</i>	

(Within the past 12 months + more than 12 months ago)		<i>n=140</i>
Been screened for lung cancer	17%	6%
Q22 - % Ever (Within the past 12 months + more than 12 months ago)	<i>n=101</i>	<i>n=47</i>
Been screened for colorectal cancer	58%	10%

###

About AWHP

The Alliance for Women’s Health and Prevention is a non-partisan 501(c)(4) non-profit organization working to ensure that all women and girls have access to high-quality preventive care. Our mission is to advance policy that drives equitable access and prevents the burden and progression of disease to improve the lives and health of all women and girls.

For more information on AWHP, please visit WomensHealthandPrevention.org and follow us on [LinkedIn](#) and X [@AWHPorg](#).