

USUAL SOURCE OF CARE

In 2009–2011, 86.8 percent of women and 77.7 percent of men reported having a usual source of care, defined as a place where one usually goes when sick, such as a physician's office or health center but not an emergency department. Having a usual source of care has been shown to improve care quality and the receipt of preventive services.⁶

Health insurance coverage greatly increases the likelihood of having a usual source of care. Over 90 percent of women with private or public insurance coverage had a usual source of care, compared to only 56.2 percent of uninsured

women. Having both a usual source of care and health insurance coverage has been found to significantly reduce problems obtaining needed medical care and delaying or forgoing needed care.⁷

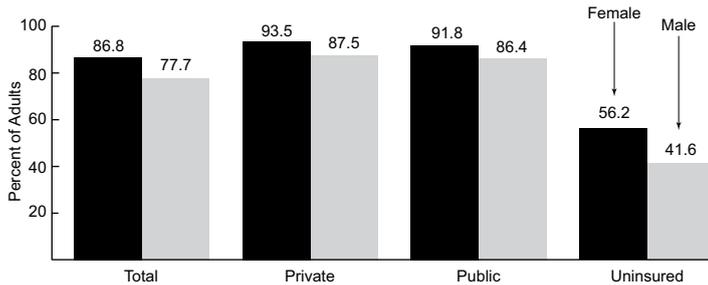
Access to a usual source of care varies by race and ethnicity. For example, non-Hispanic White women were most likely to report a usual source of care (89.3 percent), while Hispanic women were least likely to do so (78.6 percent). Hispanic women are also least likely to have health insurance (see *Health Insurance*). Among women with private or public insurance, the proportion reporting a usual source of care was

about 90 percent or higher for all racial and ethnic groups (data not shown).

Having a usual source of care also varies by age and is more common among older adults, who are most likely to have health insurance (see *Health Insurance*). For example, nearly all women aged 65 years and older (96.9 percent) had a usual source of care, compared to 78.6 percent of women aged 18–34 years. However, the likelihood of having a usual source of care increased with age even among those with private insurance: from 88.4 percent of women aged 18–34 years to 97.8 percent of those aged 65 years and older (data not shown).

Usual Source of Care* Among Adults Aged 18 and Older, by Health Insurance Coverage** and Sex, 2009–2011

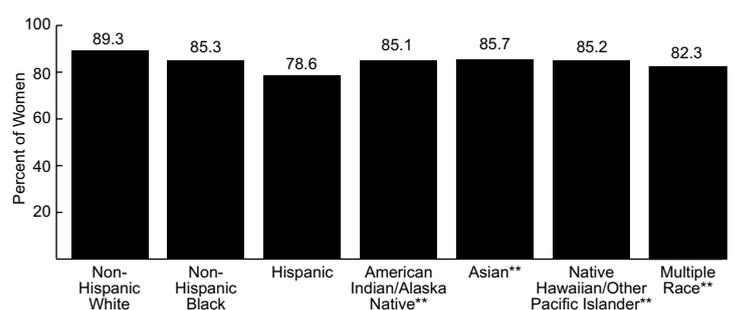
Source II.1: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Health Interview Survey



*Defined as having a place where one usually receives care when sick, excluding emergency departments; all estimates are age-adjusted. **Private coverage includes persons with any private insurance, either alone or in combination with public coverage; public includes those covered only by government programs such as Medicaid, Medicare, military plans, and state-sponsored health plans.

Usual Source of Care* Among Women Aged 18 and Older, by Race/Ethnicity, 2009–2011

Source III.2: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Health Interview Survey



*Defined as having a place where one usually receives care when sick, excluding emergency departments; all estimates are age-adjusted. **May include Hispanics.