

PRIMARY HEALTH SURVEY

Health service delivery



Province
New Brunswick

Having a primary care provider

Has a primary care provider % 2020	89.9
Has a family doctor % 2020	86.0
Has a nurse practitioner % 2020	12.0
Has nurse practitioner as their primary care provider % 2020	4.4

Reasons for not having a primary care provider

None available in the area to take new patients % 2020	30.6
Primary care provider left, retired or passed away % 2020	36.6
Hasn't tried to contact one % 2020	12.1
Is in good health, does not need one % 2020	10.0

Regular place of care

Family doctor % 2020	57.0
After-hours or walk-in clinic % 2020	20.5
Hospital emergency department % 2020	10.4

Barriers

Types of difficulties experienced in getting the health care they needed in the last 12 months

	Province New Brunswick
Unable to leave the house % 2020	11.2
Trouble navigating the health system % 2020	7.6
Services not available in area % 2020	14.0
Transportation problems % 2020	5.5
Had to travel over 100 kms/60 miles % 2020	17.6
Trouble getting medical or rehabilitation equipment or supplies % 2020	4.2
Trouble physically accessing a health care setting % 2020	6.5
Had language barrier communicating with a health professional % 2020	3.8
\$ Cost barriers	
General financial barriers % 2020	26.5
Skipped a medical test, treatment or other because of the cost % 2020	3.2
Did not fill a prescription or skipped a dose because of the cost % 2020	5.8
Skipped dental care because of costs % 2020	20.6
Cost for ambulance services was too high % 2020	22.7

Wait times

Family doctor

Can get an appointment on the same day or next day % 2020	22.1
Can get an appointment within 5 days % 2020	50.8

Nurse practitioner

Can get an appointment on the same day or next day % 2020	18.7
Can get an appointment within 5 days % 2020	51.7

Other

Hospital emergency department: Waited less than 4 hours % 2020	65.5
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 Specialist: Waited less than 1 month for a first visit % | 2020 **40.7**

 Diagnostic test: Waited less than 1 month (non-emergency situation) % | 2020 **52.3**

Visits per type of provider in the last 12 months

Family doctor

 Visit in the last 12 months % | 2020 **87.2**

 Average number of visits Number | 2020 **3.1**

Nurse practitioner

 Visit in the last 12 months % | 2020 **92.9**

 Average number of visits Number | 2020 **3.4**

After-hours or walk-in clinic

 Visit in the last 12 months % | 2020 **35.1**

 Average number of visits Number | 2020 **0.8**

Tele-Care 811

 Called in the last 12 months % | 2020 **14.5**

 Average number of calls Number | 2020 **0.3**

Community health centre

 Visit in the last 12 months % | 2020 **13.1**

 Average number of visits Number | 2020 **0.4**

Hospital emergency department

 Visit in the last 12 months % | 2020 **38.1**

 Average number of visits Number | 2020 **0.8**

 Visited the hospital emergency department because their primary care provider was not available % | 2020 **39.7**

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Ambulance services

Used in the last 12 months % 2020	6.8
Average number of calls Number 2020	0.1

Communication and language of service

Prefers services in English % 2020	70.3
...Always received services in English % 2020	95.7
Prefers services in French % 2020	24.2
...Always received services in French % 2020	69.9
Always received services in official language of their choice % 2020	88.7
Verbal information about condition/prescription is easy to understand, always or usually % 2020	91.7
Had a language barrier communicating with a health professional in the last 12 months % 2020	3.8

Safety (excluding hospital stays) in the last 12 months

Believe they were harmed because of a medical error or mistake % 2020	2.5
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Favourable rating of services received (8, 9 or 10 out of 10)

Overall % 2020	66.2
From family doctor % 2020	81.5
From nurse practitioner (who is primary care provider) % 2020	79.8
From an after-hours or a walk-in clinic % 2020	63.6
From Tele-Care 811 % 2020	71.2
From a community health centre % 2020	75.2
From the hospital emergency department % 2020	52.4
From ambulance services % 2020	90.4

About this Table

Content and description

Data about the delivery of health services in New Brunswick and the interactions citizens have with these services.

Health services reported include: family doctors, nurse practitioners, after-hours or walk-in clinics, community health centres, Tele-Care 811, hospital emergency departments, ambulance services and pharmacists.

Topics include: having or not having a primary care provider, where citizens go most often when they are sick, barriers in getting health care, wait times, visits to providers or health centres, nature of communication with primary care providers and language of service, safety and rating of the experience with the services received.

Why it is important

By better understanding the quality of the delivery of health services throughout the province, we can better understand the care models in place, and the dynamics that can influence access and the variability of the quality of health services around the province.

Availability of the data

The information for this data table is available at different geographical levels as well as by demographic groups. More information is available on our [Primary Health Survey](#) page.

Note about 2020 data

The 2020 edition of the Primary Health Survey (PHS) was conducted during the COVID-19 pandemic. While the pandemic did not influence the survey's response rate, the NBHC had to assess the impact of surveying during the pandemic. Accordingly, advanced statistical analyses were performed to allow for comparison between the results obtained in 2020 and those obtained in previous PHS cycles. Some indicators had to be suppressed in the 2020 edition as part of this process. Despite these analyses, users are advised to use the 2020 data with caution, especially when creating estimates for small sub-populations or when comparing it to other PHS editions.

Caption

n/a = Not applicable / not available

S = Data was suppressed due to low respondent counts