

# PRIMARY HEALTH SURVEY

## Health service delivery



### Having a primary care provider

Has a primary care provider %   2020	91.9	92.8	89.9
Has a family doctor %   2020	84.6	87.4	86.0
Has a nurse practitioner %   2020	24.3	17.7	12.0
Has nurse practitioner as their primary care provider %   2020	17.9	11.3	4.4

### Reasons for not having a primary care provider

None available in the area to take new patients %   2020	38.0	33.1	30.6
Primary care provider left, retired or passed away %   2020	63.2	63.0	36.6
Hasn't tried to contact one %   2020	S	S	12.1
Is in good health, does not need one %   2020	S	S	10.0

### Regular place of care

Family doctor %   2020	50.3	51.8	57.0
After-hours or walk-in clinic %   2020	25.0	24.6	20.5
Hospital emergency department %   2020	15.0	16.6	10.4

### Barriers

**Community**  
Dalhousie,  
Balmoral, Restigouche Area  
Belledune Area

**Zone 5**

**Province**  
New Brunswick

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

Unable to leave the house %   2020	11.3	12.0	11.2
Trouble navigating the health system %   2020	6.2	7.3	7.6
Services not available in area %   2020	20.4	22.9	14.0
Transportation problems %   2020	4.3	5.7	5.5
Had to travel over 100 kms/60 miles %   2020	24.0	30.9	17.6
Trouble getting medical or rehabilitation equipment or supplies %   2020	7.1	6.8	4.2
Trouble physically accessing a health care setting %   2020	4.0	4.0	6.5
Had language barrier communicating with a health professional %   2020	7.9	11.0	3.8

### **\$ Cost barriers**

General financial barriers %   2020	26.2	29.1	26.5
Skipped a medical test, treatment or other because of the cost %   2020	3.3	3.5	3.2
Did not fill a prescription or skipped a dose because of the cost %   2020	5.8	6.0	5.8
Skipped dental care because of costs %   2020	13.5	16.4	20.6
Cost for ambulance services was too high %   2020	32.4	38.4	22.7

## **Wait times**

### **Family doctor**

Can get an appointment on the same day or next day %   2020	10.9	12.5	22.1
Can get an appointment within 5 days %   2020	48.3	45.5	50.8

### **Nurse practitioner**

Can get an appointment on the same day or next day %   2020	12.1	14.3	18.7
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	<b>Community Dalhousie, Balmoral, Restigouche Area Belledune Area</b>	<b>Zone 5</b>	<b>Province New Brunswick</b>
Can get an appointment within 5 days %   2020	<b>28.5</b>	<b>40.2</b>	<b>51.7</b>
<b>Other</b>			
Hospital emergency department: Waited less than 4 hours %   2020	<b>73.1</b>	<b>64.2</b>	<b>65.5</b>
Specialist: Waited less than 1 month for a first visit %   2020	<b>32.7</b>	<b>35.1</b>	<b>40.7</b>
Diagnostic test: Waited less than 1 month (non-emergency situation) %   2020	<b>47.5</b>	<b>59.0</b>	<b>52.3</b>

## Visits per type of provider in the last 12 months

<b>Family doctor</b>			
Visit in the last 12 months %   2020	<b>89.4</b>	<b>90.0</b>	<b>87.2</b>
Average number of visits Number   2020	<b>2.8</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.1</b>
<b>Nurse practitioner</b>			
Visit in the last 12 months %   2020	<b>92.5</b>	<b>94.1</b>	<b>92.9</b>
Average number of visits Number   2020	<b>2.4</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.4</b>
<b>After-hours or walk-in clinic</b>			
Visit in the last 12 months %   2020	<b>44.3</b>	<b>44.1</b>	<b>35.1</b>
Average number of visits Number   2020	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.8</b>
<b>Tele-Care 811</b>			
Called in the last 12 months %   2020	<b>12.0</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>14.5</b>
Average number of calls Number   2020	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.3</b>
<b>Community health centre</b>			
Visit in the last 12 months %   2020	<b>52.5</b>	<b>37.3</b>	<b>13.1</b>
Average number of visits Number   2020	<b>0.8</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.4</b>

<b>Community</b> Dalhousie, Balmoral, Restigouche Area Belledune Area	<b>Zone 5</b>	<b>Province</b> New Brunswick
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### Hospital emergency department

Visit in the last 12 months %   2020	46.6	44.6	38.1
Average number of visits Number   2020	0.7	0.9	0.8
Visited the hospital emergency department because their primary care provider was not available %   2020	39.5	46.8	39.7

### Ambulance services

Used in the last 12 months %   2020	11.0	9.0	6.8
Average number of calls Number   2020	0.1	0.1	0.1

## Communication and language of service

Prefers services in English %   2020	41.5	38.1	70.3
...Always received services in English %   2020	85.2	84.8	95.7
Prefers services in French %   2020	50.7	52.9	24.2
...Always received services in French %   2020	69.8	66.0	69.9
Always received services in official language of their choice %   2020	76.7	73.8	88.7
Verbal information about condition/prescription is easy to understand, always or usually %   2020	91.3	89.2	91.7
Had a language barrier communicating with a health professional in the last 12 months %   2020	7.9	11.0	3.8

## Safety (excluding hospital stays) in the last 12 months

Believe they were harmed because of a medical error or mistake %   2020	3.6	3.2	2.5
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## Favourable rating of services received (8, 9 or 10 out of 10)

Overall %   2020	65.7	66.2	66.2
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	<b>Community Dalhousie, Balmoral, Restigouche Area Belledune Area</b>	<b>Zone 5</b>	<b>Province New Brunswick</b>
From family doctor %   2020	<b>81.4</b>	<b>81.3</b>	<b>81.5</b>
From nurse practitioner (who is primary care provider) %   2020	<b>84.4</b>	<b>94.6</b>	<b>79.8</b>
From an after-hours or a walk-in clinic %   2020	<b>65.2</b>	<b>68.8</b>	<b>63.6</b>
From Tele-Care 811 %   2020	<b>73.0</b>	<b>72.8</b>	<b>71.2</b>
From a community health centre %   2020	<b>73.2</b>	<b>71.0</b>	<b>75.2</b>
From the hospital emergency department %   2020	<b>54.7</b>	<b>49.0</b>	<b>52.4</b>
From ambulance services %   2020	<b>85.1</b>	<b>81.2</b>	<b>90.4</b>

## 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 suppressed due to confidentiality requirements and/or small sample size



Above-average performance



Below-average performance