

PRIMARY HEALTH SURVEY

Experience with health services



Zone 3
Fredericton and
River Valley Area



Province
New Brunswick

Family doctor

Has a family doctor % 2022	75.5	82.2
...And a nurse is regularly involved in their health care % 2020	32.3	24.9
...And can see other health professionals at family doctor's office % 2020	18.9	16.0
Most often goes to their family doctor when sick or in need of care % 2020	59.5	57.0

Availability

Office is easy to reach during regular practice hours, very or somewhat % 2020	69.1	72.7
There is an after-hours arrangement to see another primary care provider when office is closed % 2020	15.3	16.9
There are extended office hours (after 5 pm or on weekends) % 2020	20.8	16.9
Makes home visits % 2020	6.4	4.2

Visits in the last 12 months

Saw their family doctor % 2020	86.7	87.2
Average number of visits Number 2020	2.9	3.1

Wait time for an appointment

Same day or next day % 2022	11.2	10.8
Within 5 days % 2022	32.5	34.1

Experience and communication: Family doctor...

	Zone 3 Fredericton and River Valley Area	Province New Brunswick
...Gives them enough time to discuss, always % 2020	68.4	66.9
...Limits the number of problems that can be discussed in a visit % 2020	27.5	24.2
...Explains things in a way that they can understand, always % 2020	76.4	75.7
...Involves them in decisions about their health care, always % 2020	75.8	71.8
...Helps them coordinate the care from other providers, always % 2020	67.6	68.7
...Seemed informed about the care they needed after their hospital stay % 2020	93.8	88.2
Favourable rating of services received (8, 9 or 10 out of 10) % 2020	80.2	81.5

Nurse practitioner

Has a nurse practitioner % 2020	12.5	12.0
Has a nurse practitioner as their primary care provider % 2022	4.7	3.6
...And a nurse is regularly involved in their health care % 2020	22.7	19.7
...And can see other health professionals at nurse practitioner's office % 2020	44.6	40.1

Availability

Office is easy to reach during regular practice hours, very or somewhat % 2020	73.2	72.7
There is an after-hours arrangement to see another primary care provider when office is closed % 2020	9.1	12.5
There are extended office hours (after 5 pm or on weekends) % 2020	26.6	16.6
Makes home visits % 2020	S	4.3

Visits in the last 12 months

Saw their nurse practitioner % 2020	95.3	92.9
Average number of visits Number 2020	3.1	3.4

Wait time for an appointment

Same day or next day % 2020	20.4	18.7
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Within 5 days % | 2020

53.0 **51.7**

Experience and communication: Nurse practitioner...

...Gives them enough time to discuss, always % | 2020

75.1 **73.1**

...Limits the number of problems that can be discussed in a visit % | 2020

15.0 **13.9**

...Explains things in a way that they can understand, always % | 2020

80.7 **82.1**

...Involves them in decisions about their health care, always % | 2020

78.9 **79.7**

...Helps them coordinate the care from other providers, always % | 2020

83.2 **77.3**

...Seemed informed about the care they needed after their hospital stay % | 2020

S **88.7**

Favourable rating of services received (8, 9 or 10 out of 10) % | 2020

80.4 **79.8**

After-hours or walk-in clinic

Most often goes to an after-hours clinic or walk-in when sick or in need of care % | 2020

17.2 **20.5**

Visits in the last 12 months

Visited an after-hours or walk-in clinic % | 2020

27.7 **35.1**

Average number of visits Number | 2020

0.6 **0.8**

Experience of care

Favourable rating of services received (8, 9 or 10 out of 10) % | 2020

58.0 **63.6**

Community health centre

Visits in the last 12 months

Visited a community health centre % | 2020

13.2 **13.1**

Average number of visits Number | 2020

0.4 **0.4**

Experience of care

Favourable rating of services received (8, 9 or 10 out of 10) % | 2020

75.2 **75.2**

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Tele-Care 811

Calls in the last 12 months

Called Tele-Care 811 % 2020	18.9	14.5
Average number of calls Number 2020	0.3	0.3

Experience of care

Favourable rating of services received (8, 9 or 10 out of 10) % 2020	69.9	71.2
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Hospital emergency department / Ambulance services

Hospital emergency department

Most often goes to the ER when sick or in need of care % 2020	9.9	10.4
Visited the hospital emergency department in the last 12 months % 2020	33.8	38.1
Average number of visits to the hospital emergency department in the last 12 months Number 2020	0.7	0.8
Waited less than 4 hours at the hospital emergency department % 2020	69.9	65.5
Favourable rating of services received (8, 9 or 10 out of 10) % 2020	50.7	52.4

Ambulance services

Used ambulance services in the last 12 months % 2020	6.4	6.8
Average number of calls for ambulance services in the last 12 months Number 2020	0.1	0.1
Favourable rating of services received (8, 9 or 10 out of 10) % 2020	87.1	90.4
Cost for ambulance services was too high % 2020	17.2	22.7

Pharmacists and medications

Citizens who take prescription medications

	Zone 3 Fredericton and River Valley Area	Province New Brunswick
Takes 6 or more different prescription medications on a regular basis % 2020	10.8	11.4
A pharmacist helps them the most in understanding how to take their medications % 2020	67.5	70.1
... Among those with a chronic health condition % 2020	67.9	70.6

Costs

Did not fill a prescription for medicine, or skipped doses, because of the cost % 2020	5.0	5.8
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Hospitals

Admissions in the last 12 months

Was admitted to a hospital or health facility % 2020	7.8	10.5
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Mental health

Need for care in the last 12 months

Needed to talk to a health professional about their mental health % 2022	28.8	24.3
...But did not see someone % 2022	31.1	34.6

Reasons for not seeing a mental health professional

Services not available in area % 2022	45.8	33.5
Wait time for services was too long % 2022	65.2	63.9
Was too busy % 2022	17.3	34.1
Services not available at a convenient time % 2022	35.9	44.3
Could not afford the cost or insurance did not cover enough % 2022	18.1	33.2
Did not know how or where to get help % 2022	41.7	45.6
Was concerned about what others would think % 2020	22.5	15.3
Other reasons % 2020	19.5	28.6

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Visits in the last 12 months

Saw or talked to a health professional about their mental health % 2022	22.1	18.0
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Experience of care

Favourable rating of services received (8, 9 or 10 out of 10) % 2020	69.0	70.0
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Specialists and diagnostic tests in the last 12 months

Specialists

Has seen a specialist in the last 12 months % 2020	35.5	40.6
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...For the first time % 2020	16.1	17.9
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Waited less than 1 month for a first visit % 2020	39.2	40.7
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Favourable rating of services received (8, 9 or 10 out of 10) % 2020	80.6	83.7
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Diagnostic tests in a non-emergency situation

Has required a diagnostic test % 2020	18.0	21.4
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Waited less than 1 month for a diagnostic test % 2020	53.6	52.3
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Dental care

Saw a dental professional in the last 12 months % 2020	72.0	69.7
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Barriers

No dental insurance % 2020	23.5	29.9
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Skipped dental care/checkups because of the cost in the last 12 months % 2020	17.5	20.6
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Home care services

Received home care services, with the cost being covered by the government % 2020	3.8	4.4
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Received home care services, with the cost not covered by the government % 2020	4.4	3.9
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Needed home care services in the last 12 months, but did not receive any % 2020	2.8	3.0
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About this Table

Content and description

Data about the experience citizens reported throughout their journey while interacting with the New Brunswick health system.

Indicators are organized by the different types of services and capture citizens' reported experience regarding availability, visits, wait times, communication and overall care.

These services include: Family doctors, nurse practitioners, after-hours or walk-in clinic, community health centres, Tele-Care 811, hospital emergency room and ambulance services, pharmacists and medication, hospitals, mental health, specialists and diagnostic tests, dentists and home care services.

Why it is important

By better understanding the experience of citizens using each type of health service, we can better assess the quality of programs and services.

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