

# Did you know?



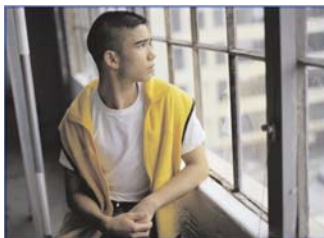
- In general, men are less likely to avail themselves of health services than women, and men are less likely than women to be insured.
- Men of color and poor men are disproportionately represented among the uninsured and are less likely to utilize primary and preventive health services.
- Men of lower socio-economic status are less likely than men with high socio-economic status to have a usual source of care.

- Men of color and men with lower incomes are more likely to die of cardiovascular disease, cancer, and diabetes.
- A disproportionate number of black men experience premature death from lung, prostate, and oral cancer.
- The death rate due to prostate cancer is two to five times higher for black men than for men in any other racial and ethnic groups.



- Men of color, with the exception of non-Hispanic black men, are more likely to have higher rates of stomach cancer.
- Men of color and poor men are disproportionately affected by preventable causes of death such as tobacco use, obesity and inadequate physical activity, and HIV- infection.
- For black males, HIV-infection death rates are three to thirty times that of other racial and ethnic groups.
- Men of color are less likely than non-Hispanic whites to visit a dentist and to report mental health treatment or counseling.

- Graduates of medical schools in underserved communities tend to stay for residency and to practice in those communities.
- In 2000, while whites represented 51 percent of the physician workforce, Asian and Pacific Islanders represented 8.9 percent, African Americans represented 2.6 percent, Hispanics 3.5 percent, and American Natives/Alaska Natives represented 0.001 percent.
- African Americans, Hispanics, and American Natives represent more than 25 percent of the U. S. population but less than 9 percent of nurses, 6 percent of physicians, and 5 percent of dentists.



- In 2003-2004, African Americans represented 5.41 percent of students enrolled in U.S. dental schools; Hispanic/Latinos, 5.88 percent; and Native Americans/ Alaska Natives, 0.43 percent.
- Physicians from rural areas are more likely to practice in rural settings.
- Underrepresented minorities are more likely to practice in minority communities.
- Rural areas have about half as many physicians as urban areas serving the same size population base.

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**References:** Ro, M., Casares, C., Treadwell, H. & Thomas, S. (2004, September). A Man's Dilemma: Healthcare of Men Across America, A Disparities Report; Amednews.com; Missing Persons: Minorities in the Health Professions. A Report of the Sullivan Commission on Diversity in the Healthcare Workforce