

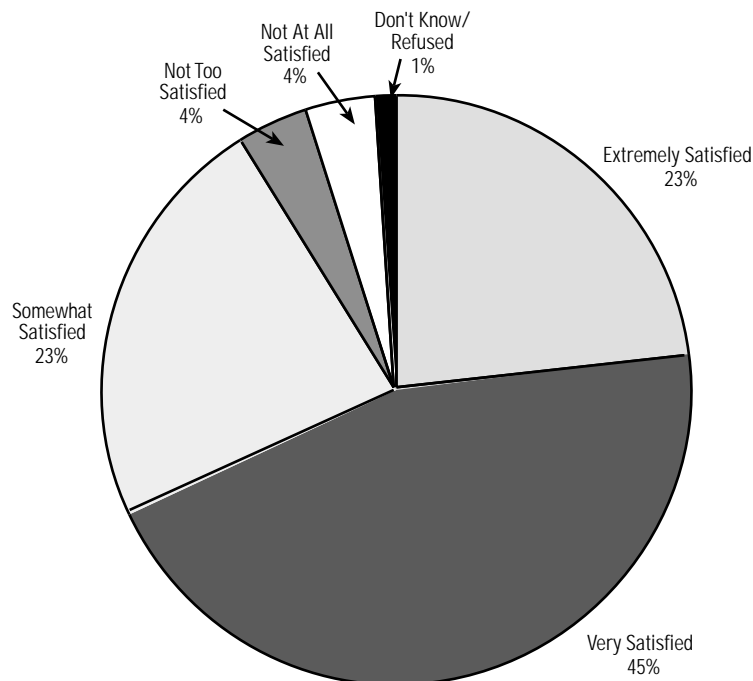
LONG-TERM CARE

Increased life expectancy and the aging of the baby boom generation are leading to a rise in the number of Americans who will need long-term care. At the same time, geographic dispersion of families, increased labor force participation of women, and higher divorce rates will continue to erode family-based caregiving networks. These factors are expected to increase demand for formal (i.e., paid out-of-pocket) long-term care services, raising questions about access to and affordability of long-term care services.

Satisfaction With Long-Term Care Services Received Is Very High

Most Americans who have received or whose family member received home health care services over the past two years are satisfied with the care received.

Chart 1
Satisfaction With Home Health Care Received



Confidence in Various Aspects of Health Care Varies by Use of Long-Term Care Services

Persons who have received or whose family member received home health care services over the past two years are as confident as persons not receiving home health care services that they will be able to get needed treatments and be able to afford health care without financial hardship over the next 10 years.

While persons receiving home health care services are more likely than those not receiving them to be extremely or very confident that they will have a choice about who provides their medical care over the next 10 years, they are more likely to be not confident that they will be able to afford prescription drugs.

Table 1
Confidence in Various Aspects of Health Care Over the Next 10 Years, by Use of Home Health Care

	Extremely or Very Confident	Somewhat Confident	Not Too or Not At All Confident
You Will Be Able to Get the Treatments You Need			
Received Home Health Care	34%	37%	28%
Did Not Receive Home Health Care	34	41	23
You Will Be Able to Afford Health Care Without Financial Hardship			
Received Home Health Care	24	34	41
Did Not Receive Home Health Care	23	33	41
You Will Have Enough Choice About Who Provides Your Medical Care			
Received Home Health Care	33*	33*	33
Did Not Receive Home Health Care	27	42	30
You Will Be Able to Afford Prescription Drugs Without Financial Hardship			
Received Home Health Care	25	25*	48*
Did Not Receive Home Health Care	27	33	39

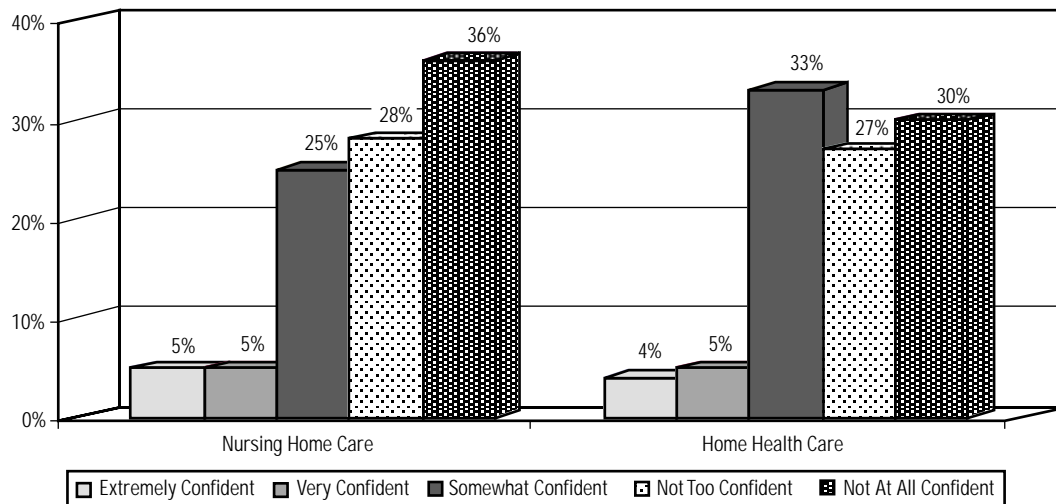
Source: 2000 Health Confidence Survey.

* Confidence level is significantly different between those receiving home health care and those not receiving it at the 5 percent level.

Americans are not confident that they are prepared to afford long-term care.

- Nearly 30 percent of Americans are not too confident and 36 percent are not at all confident that they will be able to afford nursing home care if it is needed.
- Twenty-seven percent of Americans are not too confident and 30 percent are not at all confident that they will be able to afford home health care if it is needed.
- Ten percent of Americans are extremely or very confident that they will be able to afford either nursing home care or home health care if it is needed.

Chart 2
Confidence Level in Ability to Afford Nursing Home Care or Home Health Care



Source: 2000 Health Confidence Survey.