

2023 | SUMMARY OF CHANGES: COST SUPPLEMENT FILE MICRODATA PUBLIC USE FILE



WHAT'S NEW: 2023 COST SUPPLEMENT FILE MICRODATA PUBLIC USE FILE¹

Version Control Log

Date	Version	Revisions
1/28/2026	1.0	Initial version published.

1. General File Information²

This document provides a summary of key updates and highlights for the 2023 MCBS Cost Supplement File Microdata Public Use File (PUF).

The MCBS Cost Supplement File Microdata PUF is not intended to replace the more detailed MCBS Cost Supplement File Limited Data Set (LDS); rather, it offers a free, publicly available alternative that provides the highest degree of protection for Medicare beneficiaries' protected health information (PHI). The Cost Supplement File Microdata PUF contains a subset of the data released on the Cost Supplement File LDS.³ Unlike the Cost Supplement File LDS, the Cost Supplement File Microdata PUF only supports cross-sectional analysis of the ever enrolled population of Medicare beneficiaries living in the community the entire year. It excludes beneficiaries who had a Facility interview during the year or who incurred any facility (FA), hospice (HS), or institutional (IU) events or costs during the year. The Cost Supplement File Microdata PUF also cannot be combined with the Survey File Microdata PUF or other MCBS LDS files. Data on Medicare beneficiaries' access to care, health status and functioning, knowledge of, attitudes toward, and satisfaction with their health care, demographics, and all types of health insurance coverage are available in the 2023 Survey File Microdata PUF.

For detailed information about MCBS questionnaires, interviewing procedures, sampling, and analytic guidance related to the MCBS Microdata PUFs, researchers should refer to the new *Microdata PUF Data User's Guide*: <https://data.cms.gov/medicare-current-beneficiary-survey-mcbs/>. Comprehensive information about 2023 changes to MCBS sampling, questionnaires, data collection, and data processing is available in the *2023 MCBS Data Year Release Notes*: <https://www.cms.gov/data-research/research/medicare-current-beneficiary-survey/data-documentation-codebooks>.

The 2023 MCBS Cost Supplement File Microdata PUF is released as one segment and includes data for 6,920 sampled beneficiaries. The segment includes survey weights that allow for analysis that is nationally representative of the population of beneficiaries ever enrolled in Medicare at any point in 2023.

2. Key Content Updates in 2023

No notable content updates were made for the 2023 MCBS Cost Supplement File Microdata PUF.

¹ This communication was printed, published, or produced and disseminated at U.S. taxpayer expense.

² The MCBS is authorized by section 1875 (42 USC 1395ll) of the Social Security Act and is conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The OMB Number for this survey is 0938-0568.

³ The MCBS Cost Supplement File PUF also includes select demographic and health factor variables from the MCBS Survey File LDS.

3. Population Represented by the 2023 Cost Supplement File Microdata PUF

3.1 Composition of MCBS Panels

The MCBS Cost Supplement File Microdata PUF represents four separate MCBS panels identified by the year in which the panel was selected and first interviewed (i.e., for the 2023 MCBS Cost Supplement File Microdata PUF, the 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023 Panels). Exhibit 3.1 shows the distribution of each of the four panels included in the 2023 MCBS Cost Supplement File Microdata PUF. For more information on the sample design, please see the *2023 Data Year Release Notes* at: <https://www.cms.gov/data-research/research/medicare-current-beneficiary-survey/data-documentation-codebooks>.

Exhibit 3.1: 2023 MCBS Composition of Panels in the MCBS Cost Supplement File Microdata PUF

Data Year (Fall)	Number of Beneficiaries Selected
2020	1,731
2021	1,993
2022	2,952
2023	244

3.2 Medicare Population Covered

Exhibits 3.2.1 and 3.2.2 present estimates of the size of the ever enrolled Medicare population living in the community by race/ethnicity⁴ and age (as of December 31, 2023), by sex in the 2023 MCBS Cost Supplement File Microdata PUF. Exhibit 3.2.3 presents the aggregated estimates of the size of the ever enrolled Medicare population living in the community overall and by sex and race/ethnicity in the 2023 MCBS Cost Supplement File Microdata PUF.

Exhibit 3.2.1: Estimated Number of Male Community Medicare Beneficiaries by Race/Ethnicity and Age in the 2023 MCBS Cost Supplement File Microdata PUF*

Race/Ethnicity	Age (in years) as of 12/31/2023	Weighted Count
White non-Hispanic	Under 65	2,218,862
	65-74	11,391,920
	75+	8,148,113
Black non-Hispanic	Under 65	750,225
	65-74	1,006,434
	75+	585,570

⁴ Hispanic origin and race are two separate and distinct categories. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race or combination of races. Hispanic origin includes persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central and South American, or Spanish origin. For the MCBS, responses to beneficiary race and ethnicity questions are reported by the respondent. More than one race may be reported. For conciseness, the text, tables, and figures in this document use shorter versions of the terms for race and Hispanic or Latino origin specified in the Office of Management and Budget 1997 Standards for Data on Race and Ethnicity. Beneficiaries reported as White and not of Hispanic origin were coded as White non-Hispanic; beneficiaries reported as Black/African American and not of Hispanic origin were coded as Black non-Hispanic; beneficiaries reported as Hispanic, Latino/Latina, or of Spanish origin, regardless of their race, were coded as Hispanic. The "Other" race category includes other single races not of Hispanic origin (including American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander), Two or More Races, or Unknown Races.

Race/Ethnicity	Age (in years) as of 12/31/2023	Weighted Count
Hispanic	Under 65	374,584
	65-74	1,210,959
	75+	565,581
Other†	Under 65	260,412
	65-74	808,587
	75+	533,478

SOURCE: 2023 MCBS Cost Supplement File Microdata PUF, weighted counts.

*Weighted counts may not sum to the total of beneficiaries living in the community in the U.S. due to missingness.

†The 'Other' race category includes other single races not of Hispanic origin, Two or More Races, or Unknown Races.

Exhibit 3.2.2: Estimated Number of Female Community Medicare Beneficiaries by Race/Ethnicity and Age in the 2023 MCBS Cost Supplement File Microdata PUF*

Race/Ethnicity	Age (in years) as of 12/31/2023	Weighted Count
White non-Hispanic	Under 65	1,880,573
	65-74	12,947,430
	75+	9,894,795
Black non-Hispanic	Under 65	688,918
	65-74	2,013,815
	75+	1,257,188
Hispanic	Under 65	375,305
	65-74	1,487,737
	75+	1,077,662
Other†	Under 65	230,774
	65-74	938,198
	75+	722,455

SOURCE: 2023 MCBS Cost Supplement File Microdata PUF, weighted counts.

*Weighted counts may not sum to the total of beneficiaries living in the community in the U.S. due to missingness.

†The 'Other' race category includes other single races not of Hispanic origin, Two or More Races, or Unknown Races.

Exhibit 3.2.3: Estimated Number of Community Medicare Beneficiaries by Race/Ethnicity and Age in the 2023 MCBS Cost Supplement File Microdata PUF*

Group	Subgroup	Weighted Count
Overall Total		61,369,577
Sex	Male Total	27,854,726
	Female Total	33,514,851
Race/Ethnicity	White non-Hispanic Total	46,481,694
	Black non-Hispanic Total	6,302,150
	Hispanic Total	5,091,829
	Other Total†	3,493,903

SOURCE: 2023 MCBS Cost Supplement File Microdata PUF, weighted counts.

*Weighted counts may not sum to the total of beneficiaries living in the community in the U.S. due to missingness.

†The 'Other' race category includes other single races not of Hispanic origin, two or more races, and unknown races.

3.3 Beneficiary Counts by Age and Ethnicity

Exhibit 3.3 displays the number of beneficiaries included in the 2023 MCBS Cost Supplement File Microdata PUF by age and ethnicity.

Exhibit 3.3: 2023 Panel of Selected Beneficiaries by U.S. Hispanic and U.S. Non-Hispanic Ethnicity Classification and Age*

Age (in years) as of 12/31/2023	TOTAL Sample Size	TOTAL Weighted	Hispanic Sample Size	Hispanic Weighted	Non-Hispanic Sample Size	Non-Hispanic Weighted
Under 65 years	1,058	6,779,654	121	749,890	937	6,029,764
65-74 years	2,463	31,805,081	266	2,698,696	2,197	29,106,385
75+ years	3,399	22,784,842	366	1,643,244	3,033	21,141,598
Total	6,920	61,369,577	753	5,091,829	6,167	56,277,748

SOURCE: 2023 MCBS Cost Supplement File Microdata PUF.

*Weighted counts may not sum to the total of beneficiaries living in the community in the U.S. due to missingness.