

fast facts



Physician Survey Highlights Staffing Challenges

- Approximately **1 in 3** physicians experienced a reduction in staff in 2022 with the most shortages reported for registered nurses (**90%**), nursing assistants (**86%**), social workers (**85%**), physicians (**84%**), and licensed practice nurses (**83%**).
- Among those who reported staff shortages, physicians stated that the most impactful contributing factors were administrative burdens (**85%**), increased working hours without compensation (**79%**), and reduced salaries/benefits (**71%**).
- Almost **1/4** of physicians stated violence in the workplace as a contributing factor to staff shortages.
- **1/3** report their current practice is overextended and overworked, and nearly half of physicians report being at full capacity in their current practice.
- Approximately **1 in 5** physicians reported cutting back on their work hours.

Sticker Shock!

While the number of Americans with health insurance coverage has significantly increased since the Affordable Care Act began, cost is still an obstacle for many. The annual Policygenius Health Insurance Survey of insured Americans found that:

- **45%** have avoided medical care because they knew or feared it would not be covered by their insurance (up from 41% in 2022).
- Of those who reported an annual income of \$80,000 or more, **18%** would have to use mostly credit or borrow to pay their deductible, and **16%** wouldn't be able to pay the deductible at all.
- Among insured Americans who have seen a mental health provider, **42%** have had their health insurance declined.

Source: [policygenius.com](https://www.policygenius.com).

Source: The Physicians Foundation. [2022 Survey of America's Physicians](https://www.physiciansfoundation.org/2022-survey-of-americas-physicians).

What Frustrates Patients the Most About Medical Bills?

- Being able to understand what they're being billed for—**29%**
- Uncertainty if they can pay the bill—**27%**
- Not getting a bill until weeks after they received service—**24%**
- Uncertainty if the final bill will be consistent with the estimate of patient responsibility—**20%**

Source: PR Newswire. [Nearly 40% of Americans Confused by Medical Bills](https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/nearly-40-of-americans-confused-by-medical-bills)





The State of Overall Health in America

A 2022 survey of 100 top hospital and healthcare executives found:

- **67%** of survey respondents indicate they believe the health of Americans is worse now than it was before the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Staff recruitment and retention has become their top priority (**71%**), far ahead of growing revenue (**42%**), and reducing costs (**38%**).
- Nearly **80%** indicated that workforce resilience is the greatest challenge facing their organization over the next 2 years.
- Only **26%** say telehealth is among their organization's top 5 technology initiatives within the next 2 years.
- Only **4%** consider their organization to be proficient or an expert at implementing remote care.

Source: Sage Growth Partners. [2022 c-Suite Report: America's Healthcare Crisis—Health Systems Prepare to be Tested Like Never Before](#)

4 Strategies to Address Staffing Shortages

- Removing low-value work
- Eliminating insurance approvals
- Offering customized retention strategies
- Addressing burnout among physicians/staff.

Source: The Physicians Foundation. [2022 Survey of America's Physicians](#)



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BLOG

Elevating Diversity in the Health Care Workforce

Last fall, Modern Healthcare's Social Determinants of Health Symposium featured several standout initiatives and programs that are addressing disparities in health care, including 2 institutions that have effected change to support a more diverse health care workforce. Founded in 1946, [National Medical Fellowships](#) works to achieve equity of opportunity in medicine and equity of access to quality health care for all groups through scholarships and support for underserved minority students in medicine and other health care professions. [Meharry Medical College](#) in Nashville, Tennessee, is one of the oldest and largest historically Black academic health science institutions in the nation dedicated to training medical professionals to aid underserved communities. Read more about their efforts in the ACCCBuzz Blog post, "[Social Drivers of Health: The Role of Representation in the Healthcare Workforce.](#)"



RESOURCE

Consensus-Based Oncology Financial Advocacy Services Guidelines

The National Institutes of Health reports that cancer survivors are 2.7 times more likely to file for bankruptcy than individuals without a cancer history and financial distress affects 22% in a nationally representative sample to 64% in a sample of working-age survivors. ACCC's consensus-based oncology [Financial Advocacy Services Guidelines](#) are the only standardized framework exclusively for oncology financial navigators that can help programs prevent, detect, and mitigate financial hardship for their patients during cancer care.



WEBINAR

Biomarker Testing for Metastatic Colorectal Cancer

This [virtual learning opportunity](#) reviews the latest guideline recommendations regarding biomarker testing; describes when biomarker testing should be performed, including the roles of the multidisciplinary team members involved in the process; explains the need for biomarker testing to guide individualized therapy decisions; reviews targeted therapeutic options for patients; and shares a plan for testing-related discussions with patients to encourage participation in treatment planning.



PODCAST

CAR T-Cell Patient Identification Framework

As the use of chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy continues to expand as an effective treatment for hematologic malignancies, understanding how to identify eligible patients early and implementing of an effective framework for identification can improve care coordination and better prepare community cancer programs for widespread use of CAR T-cell therapy. In this [episode](#), CANCER BUZZ speaks with David L. Porter, MD, director of cell therapy and transplant at Penn Medicine, about the challenges community oncologists face and the key role they can play in identifying and recommending eligible patients for CAR T-cell therapy.