

Older Australians' experiences of cost preventing healthcare access

Savings & investments

National Seniors Australia asked 5,419 older people about 10 types of healthcare and whether cost had stopped them from accessing the care they needed in recent times.

Within the group we then compared respondents by their level of savings and investments.

The comparisons show that the proportion of people going without healthcare because of cost almost always decreased as the level of savings and investments increased.

The savings/investments groupings, each indicated by a diamond-shaped marker on the charts on this page, were (from left to right) <\$100k, \$100k-\$200k, \$200k-\$500k, \$500k-\$750k, and >\$750k.

The data are drawn from the National Seniors Social Survey conducted in February 2023. It was open to anyone aged 50 or over residing in Australia. For each healthcare type, we asked respondents if they had gone without it because of cost on one or more occasions in recent years. We also asked them to indicate their level of savings and investments including superannuation. Healthcare items respondents did not need (marked 'not applicable' by them) were excluded from calculations. Access full data tables [here](#) and the original healthcare costs report [here](#).

Cost prevented access to ...



prescription medication

SAVINGS <\$100K

9%

SAVINGS >\$750K

2%



GP appointment

12%

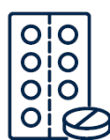
4%



medical treatment

19%

4%



non-prescription medication

23%

4%



specialist appointment

28%

5%



allied health appointment

31%

7%



other healthcare

35%

7%



dental checkup

38%

7%



dental treatment

43%

9%



mental health appointment

39%

11%