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Medicare Health Outcomes Survey

2023-2025 Cohort 26 Analytic Public Use File Data Users Guide

Prepared by Health Services Advisory Group

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Preface

Medicare Outcomes Survey Public Use File

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is committed to monitoring the quality of care provided by Medicare Advantage Organizations (MAOs). The Medicare Health Outcomes Survey (HOS) is the first patient-reported health outcomes measure for the Medicare population in managed care settings. The HOS design is based on a randomly selected sample of individuals from each participating MAO and measures physical and mental health over a two-year period. General information about the HOS Program is available on the CMS HOS website. A full description of the program is available on the HOS website at www.HOSonline.org.

This 2023-2025 Cohort 26 Analytic **Public Use File (PUF) Data Users Guide (DUG)** is designed to assist users with the 2023-2025 Cohort 26 Analytic public use data. The DUG includes an overview of the file organization, an explanation of derived fields, and a table defining the attributes of all fields in the file. HOS PUFs contain most of the survey items collected on the baseline and follow up HOS instruments (excluding beneficiary identifying information) as well as selected additional administrative variables. HOS PUFs are constructed to prevent the identification of any single beneficiary or MAO and only respondents to the survey are included in the files. Additionally, selected beneficiary-level demographic fields are collapsed into fewer categories. Refer to the Limitations and Categorization of the Data page for further details. The HOS PUF is available at no cost and can be downloaded from the Data page of the HOS website.

Other Research Data Files Available

In addition to the PUFs, the Medicare HOS data are also available by request as a limited data set (LDS) and a research identifiable file (RIF). Both the LDS and RIF include the entire national sample for a given cohort (including both respondents and non-respondents) and contain all the HOS survey items.

Limited Data Set

The HOS 2023-2025 Cohort 26 Merged Baseline and Follow Up LDS contains all records in the comprehensive RIF as well as most of the same fields. It contains protected beneficiary level health information such as date of birth, sex, race/ethnicity, and county of residence; however, specific direct person identifiers are removed, as outlined in the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA). Removed fields include the Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI); CMS beneficiary link key; beneficiary name, phone number, and mailing address; and the name of the person who completed the survey. Additionally, the MAO contract number is blinded in the LDS and certain fields describing MAOs have been modified (e.g., categorical enrollment) or excluded (e.g., plan name) to prevent identification of specific MAO contracts. Despite these limitations, the LDS is adequate to address most research aims and is the file most often requested by researchers. Since the information is still potentially identifiable, it is subject to the provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974, although LDS requests do not require approval from the CMS Privacy Board. To qualify for an LDS, data requestors must

show that their proposed use of the data meets the disclosure provisions for research purposes as defined in the HIPAA and Privacy Acts. The research purpose must relate to projects that could ultimately improve the care provided to Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries and policies that govern their care.

Research Identifiable File

The comprehensive HOS 2023-2025 Cohort 26 Merged Baseline and Follow Up RIF data file contains all sample and survey fields, including direct person identifiers, and plan-level identifiers that are excluded in the LDS. The scope and subject matter of studies requiring a RIF must assist CMS in monitoring, managing, and improving the Medicare and Medicaid program and the services provided to beneficiaries. Requests for RIF data files must be reviewed by the CMS Privacy Board to ensure that beneficiaries' privacy is protected and the need for identifiable data is justified. CMS must balance the potential risk to beneficiary confidentiality with the probable benefits gained from the completed research. Requestors must also demonstrate the expertise and experience to conduct and complete the proposed study using RIF data files.

Obtaining Research Files

A signed Data Use Agreement (DUA) with CMS is required to obtain either LDS or RIF data files. The Research Data Assistance Center (ResDAC) is a CMS contractor that assists academic, government, and non-profit researchers interested in using Medicare and/or Medicaid data. When requesting HOS RIFs, ResDAC is available to assist in the completion and/or review of data requisition forms prior to their submission to CMS. The ResDAC HOS page provides information and assistance with obtaining Medicare HOS RIFs. ResDAC may also be contacted by calling (844) 685-3100 or by emailing datarequests@cms.hhs.gov. All requests for HOS LDS files must be submitted through the CMS Limited Data Set File Process. Instructions are available on the CMS LDS HOS page. The Medicare HOS Information and Technical Support at hos@hsag.com is available to answer questions about HOS research files.

Statutory Authority

Section 722 of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA) mandates collecting, analyzing, and reporting health outcomes information. This legislation also specifies that data collected on quality, outcomes, and beneficiary satisfaction to facilitate consumer choice and program administration must use the same types of data collected before November 1, 2003. Collected since 1998, the Medicare HOS is the first patient-reported outcomes measure in Medicare managed care and therefore remains a critical part of assessing MAO quality. In addition, CMS includes HOS results as a component of the Medicare Plan Finder (www.medicare.gov/plan-compare), a web-based tool that helps inform beneficiaries about Medicare enrollment choices. CMS incorporates new survey components in the HOS, as appropriate, to provide outcome measures that MAOs can use in quality improvement initiatives.

Technical Assistance

The Medicare HOS Information and Technical Support at hos@hsag.com or (888) 880-0077 is available to assist with questions regarding the data file. For more detailed discussions on the sampling, survey administration, data collection, and instruments, refer to the *Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®)*[1] *Measurement Year (MY) 2022* and *HEDIS MY 2024 Volume 6: Specifications for the Medicare Health Outcomes Survey* manuals. The most recent HEDIS Volume 6 manuals are available at no cost from the NCQA Store.[2,3] Copies of older HEDIS publications may be obtained by calling NCQA Customer Support at (888) 275-7585. Additionally, a glossary consisting of definitions relevant to the HOS may be accessed from the Glossary link at the bottom of each HOS webpage.

[1] HEDIS® is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).
[2] National Committee for Quality Assurance. *HEDIS® MY 2022, Volume 6: Specifications for the Medicare Health Outcomes Survey*. Washington DC: NCQA Publication, 2023.
[3] National Committee for Quality Assurance. *HEDIS® MY 2024, Volume 6: Specifications for the Medicare Health Outcomes Survey*. Washington DC: NCQA Publication, 2025.

Program Background

This section provides a general description of the HOS background and methodology, including the sampling methodology, survey administration, and the survey instrument. In addition, information is provided about case-mix adjustment, additional survey questions, and field changes. For a more detailed discussion of these items, please refer to the *HEDIS MY 2022* and *HEDIS MY 2024, Volume 6, Specifications for the Medicare Health Outcomes Survey* manuals.[2,3]

Introduction to the Medicare Health Outcomes Survey

In 1998, outcomes measures were developed with the desire to capture performance across multiple aspects of care, in addition to the traditional HEDIS process measures that assess interventions. CMS, NCQA, Health Assessment Lab (HAL), and performance measurement experts developed an instrument that would assess the physical functioning and mental well-being of Medicare beneficiaries over time. The HOS 1.0 included a 36-item health survey to measure physical and mental health outcomes. Additional items included in the HOS 1.0 instrument permitted case-mix adjustment, to enhance meaningful and valid plan-to-plan comparisons of health outcomes. In 2003, Healthy Days Measures questions were added from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). Similarly, between 2003 and 2006, questions were added for four NCQA HEDIS measures (see the NCQA HEDIS Measures section). Also in 2006, the HOS Version 2.0 was implemented using the Veterans RAND 12-Item Health Survey (VR-12)[4] with additional case-mix and health questions.

Medicare Health Outcomes Survey 2.5 and 3.0

In 2013, CMS implemented the Medicare HOS 2.5. Like the HOS 2.0, the HOS 2.5 used the VR-12 as the core physical and mental health outcomes measures and the four HEDIS Effectiveness of Care measures. The HOS 2.5 added questions on race, ethnicity, primary language, sex, and disability from Section 4302 of the Affordable Care Act.

In 2015, CMS implemented the Medicare HOS 3.0. The HOS 3.0 was used for the 2023 Cohort 26 Baseline and 2025 Cohort 26 Follow Up survey administrations. HOS 3.0 continues to use the VR-12 as the core physical and mental health outcomes measure and the HEDIS Effectiveness of Care measures. Changes from the previous version (HOS 2.5) included question wording and a formatting change to a two-column layout for each page. Specific changes in the HOS are detailed in the Survey Instrument section of this DUG. The HOS survey instruments can be downloaded from NCQA's website.

Partners and Technical Advisors

CMS currently contracts with NCQA and Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG) to implement and operationalize all aspects of the HOS.

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[4] Iqbal SU, Rogers W, Selim A, et al. *The Veterans RAND 12 Item Health Survey (VR-12): What it is and How it is used.* 2007.

2023-2025 Medicare Advantage Organization Participation

MAOs with a minimum enrollment of 500 beneficiaries, and with Medicare contracts in effect on or before January 1, 2022, were required by CMS to administer the Baseline HOS survey in 2023:

- All MAOs, including all coordinated care plans, local and regional preferred provider organizations (PPO), Private Fee for Service (PFFS) contracts, and Medical Savings Account (MSA) contracts
- Section 1876 cost contracts even if closed for enrollment
- Employer/union only contracts
- Medicare-Medicaid Plans (MMP)

For MAOs that offered an Institutional Special Needs Plan (I-SNP) and had MA contracts in effect on or before January 1, 2022, the HOS reporting requirements were as follows. Contracts with only one plan benefit package (PBP), or with multiple PBPs that were all I-SNPs, were excluded from the 2023 Baseline HOS. Contracts with at least one non-I-SNP PBP were required to administer 2023 Baseline HOS if 500 or more non-I-SNP members remained in the contract after I-SNP members were removed.

MAOs that administered the Baseline HOS in 2023 were required by CMS to administer the Follow Up HOS in 2025. In the event of a consolidation, merger, or novation, the surviving contract had to report Follow Up HOS for all members of all contracts involved. All eligible members of these contracts were resurveyed, and the results were reported under the surviving contract. Refer to the MAO Performance Measurement Contract List available from the Survey Results page of the HOS website.

MAOs sponsoring Fully Integrated Dual Eligible (FIDE) Special Needs Plans (SNPs) within Medicare contracts in effect on or before January 1, 2024, and with a minimum enrollment of 50 beneficiaries could elect to report the 2025 HOS or HOS-Modified (HOS-M) at the PBP level for a frailty assessment under the Affordable Care Act. The assessment determined eligibility for a frailty adjustment payment, for FIDE SNPs with a similar average level of frailty to Program of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE). The FIDE SNP sponsors were permitted to choose whether their assessments would be calculated based on activities of daily living (ADL) items reported in the HOS or on a separate sample of beneficiaries who completed the HOS-M. Voluntary reporting for frailty assessment at the FIDE SNP level is in addition to HOS requirements for quality reporting at the contract level.

Sampling Methodology

2023 Cohort 26 Baseline Sampling

CMS identified beneficiaries who were eligible for sampling as follows:

- MAOs with fewer than 500 beneficiaries enrolled were not required to report HOS.
- For MAOs with 500 to 1,200 beneficiaries, all eligible beneficiaries were included in the sample.
- For MAOs with more than 1,200 beneficiaries, a simple random sample of 1,200 beneficiaries was selected.
- Beneficiaries were defined as eligible if they were 18 years or older on the date the sample was drawn. The six months enrollment requirement was waived beginning in 2009 and beneficiaries with End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) were no longer excluded from the sampling beginning in 2010. Since 2019, MAOs could request a survey sample larger than 1,200. Oversampling was expressed as a whole percentage of the standard sample size. Since 2020, I-SNPs were excluded at the PBP level from the HOS Baseline.

2025 Cohort 26 Follow Up Sampling

CMS identified beneficiaries from the 2023 Cohort 26 Baseline sample who were eligible for remeasurement as follows:

- Beneficiaries were eligible for remeasurement if they had sufficient data to derive physical health or mental health summary scores at baseline, were not deceased, and were enrolled in the same MAO at the time of the follow up sampling.
- Beneficiaries were excluded if they did not have summary scores at baseline, had disenrolled from their MAO at the time of the follow up sampling, or died after the baseline survey. Although deceased beneficiaries were excluded from the follow up sample, CMS includes deceased baseline respondents in the MAO files and when calculating the two-year death rate for the HOS performance measurement results. Beneficiaries who were not enrolled in their original contract when the follow-up sample was drawn are not included in the MAO files; however, they are used in the calculation of the performance measurement results.

Survey Administration

- MAOs contracted with a CMS-approved survey vendor to administer the surveys following the protocols specified in the HEDIS Volume 6 manuals. The manuals detailed the methods for mail, telephone, and mixed methods of data collection.
- The mail component of the surveys used pre-notification letters, a standardized questionnaire, survey letters, and reminder/thank you postcards. Sampled beneficiaries completed the HOS in English, Spanish, Chinese, or Russian language versions of the mail survey.
- Survey vendors attempted telephone follow up (with at least five attempts) in English, Spanish, or Chinese in those instances when beneficiaries fail to respond after the

second mail survey or return an incomplete mail survey. A standardized version of an Electronic Telephone Interviewing System script is used to collect telephone interview data for the survey. Telephone follow up is not available for the Russian language survey.

- Survey vendors performed initial data cleaning and follow up with survey respondents, as necessary.

Survey Instrument

The HOS 3.0 was administered for the 2023 and 2025 Cohort 26 surveys. This version of the HOS includes: changes to questions about urine leakage, sleep duration and quality, and primary language spoken in the home. Formatting in the HOS 3.0 was changed to the two-column layout currently used for each page. The HOS survey instruments can be downloaded from NCQA's website.

VR-12

The key component of the HOS for assessment of physical and mental health functioning is the VR-12 Health Survey.[5] The VR-12 consists of 14 items, 12 of which are used in the calculation of the eight health domains and the two summary measures: the physical component summary (PCS) and mental component summary (MCS) scores. The VR-12 measures the same eight health domains as the previously used 36-item health survey in HOS version 1.0. Each domain aggregates one or two items and all eight domains are used to calculate the two summary measures. Two of the 14 items, which ask about change in physical health and emotional health compared to one year ago, are not used in the calculation of the PCS and MCS scores.

PCS and MCS Scores

The baseline and follow up PCS and MCS scores were calculated from the VR-12, using the Modified Regression Estimate (MRE) for scoring and for imputation of missing data.[4] These unadjusted scores are used to create the final adjusted change scores that are discussed in the Case-Mix Adjustment section. The MRE is a general method for obtaining scale scores in the context of missing data, where a different set of regression weights is applied depending on the pattern of missing item responses.

The MRE uses complete cases to estimate a regression equation where only those items that are present are used.[6] PCS and MCS scores are standardized using normative values from a 1990 U.S. general population so that scores have a direct interpretation in relation to the

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[5] Information about the VR-36, VR-12, and VR-6D instruments is available on the Boston University School of Public Health website. For information about the instruments and to request permission to use the documentation and scoring algorithms, go to: https://www.bu.edu/sph/research/centers-and-groups/vr-36-vr-12-and-vr-6d/. Accessed on: June 22, 2026.

[6] Spiro A, Rogers WH, Qian S, Kazis LE. *Imputing physical and mental summary scores* (*PCS and MCS*) *for the Veterans SF-12 Health Survey in the context of missing data.* Technical Report prepared by: The Health Outcomes Technologies Program, Health Services Department, Boston University School of Public Health, Boston, MA and The Institute for Health Outcomes and Policy, Center for Health Quality, Outcomes and Economic Research, Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Bedford, MA. 2004.

distribution of scores in the U.S. population, which have a mean of 50 and a standard deviation of 10. PCS and MCS results are then adjusted for the impact of telephone administration since studies have shown that health status scores tend to be more favorable with interviewer administered surveys. For telephone surveys, 1.9 points are subtracted from the PCS score and 4.5 points are subtracted from the MCS score.

On a scale of 0-100, a higher PCS or MCS score reflects better health status. For the physical health summary measure, very high scores indicate no physical limitations, disabilities, or decline in well-being; high energy level; and a rating of health as excellent. For the mental health summary measure, very high scores indicate frequent positive affect, absence of psychological distress, and no limitations in usual social and role activities due to emotional problems.

Case-Mix Adjustment

Researchers may use case-mix adjustment to adjust the survey response data for beneficiary characteristics that are known to be related to systematic biases in the way people respond to survey questions. The HOS instrument includes several items that are available for case-mix adjustment. These items include: sociodemographic characteristics (e.g., age, sex, race, education, and marital status); chronic medical conditions; and HOS study design variables (e.g., the CMS region).

The 2023-2025 Cohort 26 Analytic PUF data do not include any case-mix adjusted scores. However, there are examples of case-mix adjustments with VR-12 scores from the HOS data in the *Sample Baseline* and the *Sample Performance Measurement Reports*, which are available from the Resources page on the HOS website.

Additional Questions

The HOS instruments also included questions on demographics, chronic medical conditions, ADLs, depression, physical health symptoms, height and weight, as well as other questions.

Demographics

Demographics included questions on beneficiary age, sex, race/ethnicity, education, and marital status.

Chronic Medical Conditions

Twelve chronic medical conditions are included in the questionnaire. These conditions are: hypertension or high blood pressure; angina pectoris or coronary artery disease; congestive heart failure; myocardial infarction or heart attack; other heart conditions, such as heart valve defects or arrhythmias; stroke; emphysema, asthma, or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD); inflammatory bowel disease, including Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis; osteoporosis; diabetes, hyperglycemia, or glycosuria; depression; and any cancer (other than skin cancer).

Activities of Daily Living

Six ADLs are included in the baseline and follow up HOS surveys to determine self-reported difficulty with performance of daily tasks. ADLs include bathing, dressing, eating, getting in or out of chairs, walking, and using the toilet. Three Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADLs) were included to assess independent living skills that are more complex than ADLs. Three IADL questions that asked about preparing meals, managing money, and taking medications were removed from the HOS in 2025.

Depression Screening

The HOS 3.0 includes two questions that screen for depression. Each question is assigned points depending on the response given, from 0 (Not at all) to 3 (Nearly every day). The depression screen is considered positive when a respondent scores three points or greater on the combined total points from the two depression questions, when both questions are answered. Due to the change in questions, estimates of the proportion with positive depression screens using the HOS 3.0 or the HOS 2.5 are not comparable to estimates produced using prior versions of the HOS.

Healthy Days Measures

Three Healthy Days questions from the CDC's BRFSS were added to the HOS in 2003 and removed from the HOS in 2025. They ask the number of days in the past 30 days that physical health was not good, mental health was not good, and activities were limited due to poor physical or mental health.

NCQA HEDIS Measures

The following measures are a part of the Effectiveness of Care domain of HEDIS and were included in the HOS instruments:

- In 2003, four questions were added to support the *Management of Urinary Incontinence in Older Adults* (*MUI*) measure.
- In 2005, two questions were added to support the *Physical Activity in Older Adults* (*PAO*) measure.
- In 2006, four questions were added to support the *Fall Risk Management* (*FRM*) measure and one question was added to support the *Osteoporosis Testing in Older Women* (*OTO*) measure. As of 2021, the *OTO* measure was retired by the measure

steward, NCQA. *OTO* data are no longer available, and all the references to the measure have been removed.

New and Revised Fields

There were no **new** or **revised** fields in the **Baseline Survey** in the 2023-2025 Cohort 26 Analytic PUF compared with the 2022-2024 Cohort 25 Analytic PUF.

There were no **new** or **revised** fields in the **Follow Up Survey** in the 2023-2025 Cohort 26 Analytic PUF compared with the 2022-2024 Cohort 25 Analytic PUF.

Selected field attributes (i.e., field name, type, length, or label) may have been modified for some fields included in the 2023-2025 Cohort 26 Analytic PUF when compared to the same fields in previous HOS PUFs. Refer to the Field Index with Field Descriptions section, for detailed information regarding all field attributes contained in this Analytic PUF.

Excluded Fields

There were no fields **excluded** from the **Baseline Survey** and eight fields **excluded** from the **Follow Up Survey** for the 2023-2025 Cohort 26 Analytic PUF compared to the 2022-2024 Cohort 25 Analytic PUF.

- DIFMEALS - Difficulty Preparing Meals (Q11a).
- DIFMONEY - Difficulty Managing Money (Q11b).
- DIFMEDS - Difficulty Taking Medication as Prescribed (Q11c).
- HDPHY - Number of Days Physical Health Not Good (Q12).
- HDMEN - Number of Days Mental Health Not Good (Q13).
- HDACT - Number of Days Poor Health Interfered with Activities (Q14).
- PAINRATE - Average pain rating in past 7 days (0=No pain, 10=Worst pain) (Q35).
- SRVSEX - Survey Sex (Q52).

Data Field Utilization Notes

The HOS questionnaire contains multiple skip patterns. Exercise caution when interpreting responses from questions that involve skip patterns, as not every beneficiary was asked the question. Refer to the Field Index with Field Descriptions section for additional information.

- When the sampled beneficiary was unable to complete the survey, the HOS protocol allows for the utilization of a proxy respondent. Surveys completed either by the respondents themselves or by proxy respondents are included in this data file and are indicated in Fields #75 and #140.
- For this Analytic PUF, beneficiaries were considered deceased if they died within two years of completing the baseline survey and did not complete a follow up survey. The analytic sample distribution indicator (Field #148) can be used to identify the status of each beneficiary in this file.
- Some question numbers from the follow up survey may differ from the baseline survey, as well as from previous analytic data files. Exercise caution when examining the data across multiple cohorts.

- Beginning with the 2012-2014 Cohort 15 Analytic PUF, the survey responses for the beneficiary's weight and height were obtained from open-ended questions at both baseline and follow up, instead of from categorical responses, as was the case in earlier versions of the survey.

Characteristics of the Public Use File

This section provides an overview of the Medicare HOS 2023-2025 Cohort 26 Analytic PUF (C26A_PUF.CSV), including the general characteristics of the data and descriptions of the fields contained within it. This file contains beneficiary records from the merged 2023 Cohort 26 Baseline and 2025 Cohort 26 Follow Up data. For a more detailed discussion of these items, refer to the HEDIS MY 2022 and HEDIS MY 2024, Volume 6 manuals.[2,3]

Derivation of the File

The 2023 Cohort 26 Baseline Medicare HOS included a random sample of 1,077,956 beneficiaries, including both the aged and disabled, from 633 MAOs. Of the 1,077,956 individuals sampled, 32.0% (344,753) completed at least one question item of the survey. During the two years between the 2023 Cohort 26 Baseline survey and the 2025 Cohort 26 Follow Up survey, several MAOs discontinued offering managed care to Medicare beneficiaries or consolidated with other health plans. The 2023-2025 Cohort 26 Analytic PUF sample is comprised of respondents with a valid survey disposition code at baseline (refer to Field #76 for a description of the valid baseline survey disposition codes) who remained enrolled in their same MAO at the time of the follow up sampling. This resulted in 524 reporting units (MAOs) and 319,114 respondents in the 2023-2025 Cohort 26 Analytic PUF sample.[7]

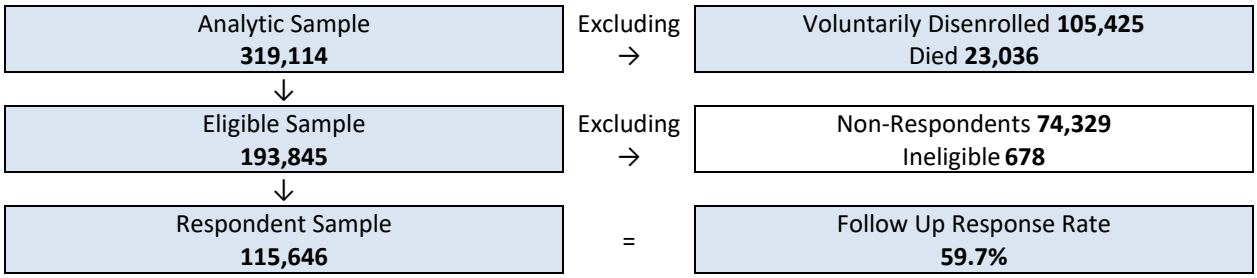
Of the 319,114 beneficiaries in the 2023-2025 Cohort 26 Analytic PUF sample, 23,036 died after baseline and before the two-year follow up survey administration. Another 105,425 beneficiaries voluntarily disenrolled from their MAOs between baseline and the start of the two-year follow up survey administration. This resulted in 193,845 beneficiaries remaining eligible at the time of follow up.

Of the 193,845 individuals sampled at the time of follow up, 59.7% (115,646) completed the follow up survey. For the purposes of this data file, a completed survey at follow up was defined as a survey with at least one question item completed. Of the 78,199 beneficiaries who did not complete a follow up survey, 3,192 were determined to have died after the follow up sample was selected but before the end of the survey administration. Additionally, 678 beneficiaries were determined to be ineligible for the follow up survey sample.[8] The remaining 74,329 beneficiaries who did not complete the follow up survey were classified as non-respondents. Figure 1 below depicts the distribution and response rate for the 2023-2025 Cohort 26 Analytic PUF sample.

[7] The inclusion criteria for the PUF differ from those used for quality reporting. Therefore, the 2023-2025 Cohort 26 PUF analytic sample differs from the 2023-2025 Cohort 26 Performance Measurement analytic sample, which is used to derive plan-level HOS Performance Measurement results.

[8] Ineligible beneficiaries at follow up met one of the following criteria: bad address and phone number; bad address and mail only protocol (*Russian only*); or language barrier.

Figure 1: Distribution and Response Rate for 2023-2025 Cohort 26 Analytic PUF Sample



Field Overview

The C26A_PUF data file is a Comma Separated Values (CSV) file (80.2 megabytes in size). There are 148 fields and 319,114 beneficiary records in the file. Each row in this PUF data file represents an individual's merged baseline and follow up HOS survey responses, also referred to as a beneficiary record.

This PUF has been modified from the original merged 2023 Cohort 26 Baseline and 2025 Cohort 26 Follow Up data file to preserve confidentiality at the beneficiary and plan levels. Many demographic and plan-level fields have been omitted from this file or have been collapsed into fewer categories (see Limitations and Categorization of the Data section). Sensitive beneficiary identifying fields (such as MBI, beneficiary name, etc.) have been removed and replaced with a unique nine digit randomly assigned code for each beneficiary's record.

The 148 fields in the C26A_PUF.CSV data file are organized into five different groups in the descriptions which follow:

- Identification and baseline demographics
- Baseline survey questions
- Baseline survey administration
- Follow up survey questions
- Follow up survey administration

Field Description

The following content provides details for interpreting the specific fields contained within the data file.

Identification and Baseline Demographics

Unique Identifier, Field: 1

This is a unique nine-character alphanumeric identifier that is randomly assigned for each beneficiary record. Positions 1 through 3 identify the analytic cohort of the public use file. Positions 4 through 9 contain a randomly assigned sequence number. For the baseline PUFs, beneficiaries who were measured in multiple baseline cohorts retained the initially assigned blinded identifier in all subsequent surveys. However, due to confidentiality issues, the

identifier assigned to a beneficiary in an analytic PUF does **not** correspond to any identifiers that may be assigned to the same beneficiary in either a baseline PUF or other analytic PUF. The data file is sorted by the unique identifier.
Example: A26000001
Source*:* Field created during production of the C26A_PUF.CSV data file

Age Group, Field: 2

Age group of the beneficiary at the time of the baseline survey
Source*:* CMS databases

Race, Field: 3

Self-reported race of the beneficiary
Source: Q54 from the baseline survey

Sex, Field: 4

Self-reported sex of the beneficiary
Source: Q52 from the baseline survey

Marital Status, Field: 5

Self-reported marital status of the beneficiary
Source: Q56 from the baseline survey

Education Level, Field: 6

Self-reported educational attainment of the beneficiary
Source: Q57 from the baseline survey

Body Mass Index Category, Field 7

Calculated from the beneficiary's self-reported weight in pounds and height in feet and inches
Source: Q50 and Q51 from the baseline survey

Baseline Survey Questions

VR-12 Questions, Fields: 8 through 21

These fields represent the VR-12-item health survey questions, which can be found in Appendix 1 in the HEDIS MY 2022, Volume 6 manual. The VR-12 questions are included in Q1 through Q9 in the HOS questionnaire. Refer to the Program Background section in this DUG for a more detailed description of the VR-12.

Additional Questions, Fields: 22 through 75

These fields comprise the balance of the survey questions found in the HEDIS MY 2022, Volume 6 manual, including most of the remaining questions Q10 through Q61 in the HOS questionnaire. The Program Background section provides more details about these questions. Selected demographic questions contained in the survey are not available in this PUF due to confidentiality issues. Refer to the Limitations and Categorization of the Data section for more details.

Baseline Survey Administration

Baseline Survey Disposition, Field: 76

Identifies completion status and mode by which the survey was completed
Source: CMS approved HOS Survey Vendor

Baseline Survey Round, Field: 77

Mail or telephone stage in which the survey was completed or when survey completion was last attempted by the vendor
Source: CMS approved HOS Survey Vendor

Percent of Baseline Survey Completed, Field: 78

Percentage of the baseline survey completed by the respondent
Source: Field created during the processing of the Baseline data file

Baseline Survey Language, Field: 79

Language in which the baseline survey was completed
Source: CMS approved HOS Survey Vendor

Follow Up Survey Questions

VR-12 Questions, Fields: 80 through 93

These fields represent the VR-12 questions, which can be found in Appendix 1 in the HEDIS MY 2024, Volume 6 manual. The VR-12 questions include Q1 through Q9 in the HOS questionnaire. Refer to the Program Background section in this DUG for a more detailed description of the VR-12.

Additional Questions, Fields: 94 through 140

These fields comprise the balance of the survey questions found in the HEDIS MY 2024, Volume 6 manual, including most of the remaining questions Q10 through Q55 in the HOS questionnaire. The Program Background section provides more details about these

questions. Selected demographic questions contained in the survey are not available in this PUF due to confidentiality issues. Refer to the Limitations of the Data section for more details.

Follow Up Survey Administration

Follow Up Survey Disposition, Field: 141

Identifies completion status and mode by which the survey was completed
Source: CMS approved HOS Survey Vendor

Follow Up Survey Round, Field: 142

Mail or telephone stage in which the survey was completed or when survey completion was last attempted by the survey vendor Source: CMS approved HOS Survey Vendor

Percent of Follow Up Survey Completed, Field: 143

Percentage of the follow up survey completed by the respondent
Source: Field created during the processing of the Follow Up data file

Follow Up Survey Language, Field: 144

Language in which the follow up survey was completed
Source: CMS approved HOS Survey Vendor

Cohort Identifier, Field: 145

Cohort in which the HOS surveys contained in this data file were submitted
NOTE: Value for each record is A26
Source: Field created during production of the C26A_PUF.CSV data file

Analytic CMS Region, Field: 146

CMS Regional Office to which the plan belongs
Source: August 2025 HPMS Plan Contract List

Follow Up Sample Indicator, Field: 147

This field indicates if the beneficiary was included in the follow up sample
Source: Field created during the production of the C26A_PUF.CSV data file

Analytic Sample Indicator, Field: 148

This field indicates the status of the beneficiary in the analytic file. Categories include the following: respondent to the follow up survey, non-respondent to the follow up survey, ineligible as determined at the time of follow up, disenrolled, and dead.
Source*:* Field created during the production of the C26A_PUF.CSV data file

Further details of the contents of the data file are available in the Field Index with Field Descriptions section of this DUG.

Limitations and Categorization of the Data

Selected questions that appear in the 2023 and 2025 HOS Questionnaires are not available in this PUF data file and certain demographic fields were collapsed into fewer categories to maintain beneficiary confidentiality. Omitted demographic fields include homeownership, Hispanic ethnicity, beneficiary's height and weight, the specific language spoken at home (if not English, Spanish, Chinese, or Russian) and the name of the person who completed the survey. Many plan-related fields were also omitted to ensure plan confidentiality. The collapsed categories are outlined in the table below.

Field	In C26A_PUF.CSV	In HOS Questionnaire
Race	1 = White 2 = Black or African American 3 = Other	The survey race question allowed one or more response choices from the following categories: 1 = White 2 = Black or African American 3 = American Indian or Alaska Native 4 = Asian Indian 5 = Chinese 6 = Filipino 7 = Japanese 8 = Korean 9 = Vietnamese 10 = Other Asian 11 = Native Hawaiian 12 = Guamanian or Chamorro 13 = Samoan 14 = Other Pacific Islander
Marital Status	1 = Married 2 = Non-Married	1 = Married 2 = Divorced 3 = Separated 4 = Widowed 5 = Never married
Education Level	1 = Less than a high school education or GED 2 = High school education or GED 3 = Greater than a high school education or GED	1 = 8th grade or less 2 = Some high school, but did not graduate 3 = High school graduate or GED 4 = Some college or 2 year degree 5 = 4 year college graduate 6 = More than a 4 year college degree
Body Mass Index (BMI) Category	1 = Not obese (BMI < 30) 2 = Obese (BMI ≥ 30)	1 = Underweight (BMI < 18.5) 2 = Normal (BMI 18.5 – < 25) 3 = Overweight (BMI 25 – < 30) 4 = Obese (BMI ≥ 30)

Field Index with Field Descriptions

The structure and fields of this PUF data file are listed in the following tables. They include the order, position, valid values, and any additional information for each field in the data file. Fields are presented in the same order as they exist in the data file. Fields contain numeric values except for field numbers 1, 76, 77, 141, 142, and 145. The data file is sorted by the unique identifier.

The C26A_PUF.CSV data file:

- Is a CSV file of 80.2 megabytes
- Consists of merged Cohort 26 Baseline HOS surveys completed in 2023 and Cohort 26 Follow Up HOS surveys completed in 2025
- Contains a total of 148 fields and 319,114 beneficiary records

Identification and Cohort 26 Baseline Demographics

Field #	Field Description	Field Position	Valid Values and Notes
1	Unique Identifier	1-9	A unique nine digit randomly assigned code for each beneficiary **NOTE**: This field contains a character string. Example: A26000001
2	Cohort 26 Baseline*:* Age Group	10	Age was calculated from the birth date, obtained from the CMS Medicare Enrollment Database, and the survey date. 1 = Less than 65 2 = 65 to 74 3 = 75 and older
3	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Race (Q54)	11	Note: The original codes (a-n) have been collapsed into the three groups shown below. How would you describe your race? 1 = White 2 = Black or African American 3 = Other
4	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Sex (Q52)	12	Are you male or female? 1 = Male 2 = Female
5	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Marital Status (Q56)	13	Note: The original codes (1-5) have been collapsed into the two groups shown below. What is your current marital status? 1 = Married 2 = Non-Married
6	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Education Level (Q57)	14	Note: The original codes (1-6) have been collapsed into the three groups shown below. 1 = Less than a high school education or GED 2 = High school education or GED 3 = Greater than a high school education or GED

Field #	Field Description	Field Position	Valid Values and Notes
7	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Body Mass Index (BMI) Category	15	BMI Category was calculated from the BMI derived from self-reported weight in pounds (Q50) and height in feet and inches (Q51). BMI = (weight / height^2) * 703 BMI Category 1 = Not obese (BMI < 30) 2 = Obese (BMI ≥ 30)

Cohort 26 Baseline Survey Questions

Field #	Field Description	Field Position	Valid Values and Notes
8	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: General Health Question (Q1)	16	In general, would you say your health is: 1 = Excellent 2 = Very good 3 = Good 4 = Fair 5 = Poor
9	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Moderate Activities Question (Q2a)	17	The following items are about activities you might do during a typical day. Does **your health <u>now</u> limit you** in these activities? If so, how much? **Moderate activities**, such as moving a table, pushing a vacuum cleaner, bowling, or playing golf 1 = Yes, limited a lot 2 = Yes, limited a little 3 = No, not limited at all
10	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Climbing Several Flights of Stairs Question (Q2b)	18	The following items are about activities you might do during a typical day. Does **your health <u>now</u> limit you** in these activities? If so, how much? Climbing **several** flights of stairs 1 = Yes, limited a lot 2 = Yes, limited a little 3 = No, not limited at all
11	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Physical Health Limiting Amount Accomplished Question (Q3a)	19	During the **<u>past 4 weeks</u>**, have you had any of the following problems with your work or other regular daily activities **as a result of your physical health?** **Accomplished less** than you would like **as a result of your physical health?** 1 = No, none of the time 2 = Yes, a little of the time 3 = Yes, some of the time 4 = Yes, most of the time 5 = Yes, all of the time
12	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Physical Health Limiting the Kind of Activities Question (Q3b)	20	During the **<u>past 4 weeks</u>**, have you had any of the following problems with your work or other regular daily activities **as a result of your physical health?** Were limited in the **kind** of work or other activities **as a result of your physical health?** 1 = No, none of the time 2 = Yes, a little of the time 3 = Yes, some of the time 4 = Yes, most of the time 5 = Yes, all of the time

Field #	Field Description	Field Position	Valid Values and Notes
13	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Emotional Problems Limiting Amount Accomplished Question (Q4a)	21	During the **past 4 weeks**, have you had any of the following problems with your work or other regular daily activities **as a result of any emotional problems** (such as feeling depressed or anxious)? **Accomplished less** than you would like **as a result of any emotional problems?** 1 = No, none of the time 2 = Yes, a little of the time 3 = Yes, some of the time 4 = Yes, most of the time 5 = Yes, all of the time
14	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Emotional Problems Limiting Carefulness Question (Q4b)	22	During the **past 4 weeks**, have you had any of the following problems with your work or other regular daily activities **as a result of any emotional problems** (such as feeling depressed or anxious)? Didn't do work or other activities as **carefully** as usual **as a result of any emotional problems?** 1 = No, none of the time 2 = Yes, a little of the time 3 = Yes, some of the time 4 = Yes, most of the time 5 = Yes, all of the time
15	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Pain Interfering with Work Question (Q5)	23	During the **past 4 weeks**, how much did **pain** interfere with your normal work (including both work outside the home and housework)? 1 = Not at all 2 = A little bit 3 = Moderately 4 = Quite a bit 5 = Extremely
16	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Calm and Peaceful Question (Q6a)	24	How much of the time during the **past 4 weeks:** Have you felt calm and peaceful? 1 = All of the time 2 = Most of the time 3 = A good bit of the time 4 = Some of the time 5 = A little of the time 6 = None of the time
17	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Lots of Energy Question (Q6b)	25	How much of the time during the **past 4 weeks:** Did you have a lot of energy? 1 = All of the time 2 = Most of the time 3 = A good bit of the time 4 = Some of the time 5 = A little of the time 6 = None of the time

Field #	Field Description	Field Position	Valid Values and Notes
18	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Downhearted and Blue Question (Q6c)	26	How much of the time during the **past 4 weeks:** Have you felt downhearted and blue? 1 = All of the time 2 = Most of the time 3 = A good bit of the time 4 = Some of the time 5 = A little of the time 6 = None of the time
19	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Amount of Time Health Interfering with Social Activities Question (Q7)	27	During the **past 4 weeks**, how much of the time has your **physical health or emotional problems** interfered with your social activities (like visiting with friends, relatives, etc.)? 1 = All of the time 2 = Most of the time 3 = Some of the time 4 = A little of the time 5 = None of the time
20	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Physical Health Compared to One Year Ago Question (Q8)	28	Compared to one year ago, how would you rate your physical health in general now? 1 = Much better 2 = Slightly better 3 = About the same 4 = Slightly worse 5 = Much worse
21	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Emotional Problems Compared to One Year Ago Question (Q9)	29	**Compared to one year ago**, how would you rate your **emotional problems** (such as feeling anxious, depressed, or irritable) in general **now**? 1 = Much better 2 = Slightly better 3 = About the same 4 = Slightly worse 5 = Much worse
22	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Bathing Question (Q10a)	30	Because of a health or physical problem, do you have any difficulty doing the following activities **without special equipment or help from another person**? Bathing 1 = No, I do not have difficulty 2 = Yes, I have difficulty 3 = I am unable to do this activity
23	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Dressing Question (Q10b)	31	Because of a health or physical problem, do you have any difficulty doing the following activities **without special equipment or help from another person**? Dressing 1 = No, I do not have difficulty 2 = Yes, I have difficulty 3 = I am unable to do this activity

Field #	Field Description	Field Position	Valid Values and Notes
24	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Eating Question (Q10c)	32	Because of a health or physical problem, do you have any difficulty doing the following activities **without special equipment or help from another person**? Eating 1 = No, I do not have difficulty 2 = Yes, I have difficulty 3 = I am unable to do this activity
25	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Getting In or Out of Chairs Question (Q10d)	33	Because of a health or physical problem, do you have any difficulty doing the following activities **without special equipment or help from another person**? Getting in or out of chairs 1 = No, I do not have difficulty 2 = Yes, I have difficulty 3 = I am unable to do this activity
26	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Walking Question (Q10e)	34	Because of a health or physical problem, do you have any difficulty doing the following activities **without special equipment or help from another person**? Walking 1 = No, I do not have difficulty 2 = Yes, I have difficulty 3 = I am unable to do this activity
27	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Using the Toilet Question (Q10f)	35	Because of a health or physical problem, do you have any difficulty doing the following activities **without special equipment or help from another person**? Using the toilet 1 = No, I do not have difficulty 2 = Yes, I have difficulty 3 = I am unable to do this activity
28	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Difficulty Preparing Meals Question (Q11a)	36	Because of a health or physical problem, do you have any difficulty doing the following activities**?** Preparing meals 1 = No, I do not have difficulty 2 = Yes, I have difficulty 3 = I don't do this activity
29	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Difficulty Managing Money Question (Q11b)	37	Because of a health or physical problem, do you have any difficulty doing the following activities**?** Managing money 1 = No, I do not have difficulty 2 = Yes, I have difficulty 3 = I don't do this activity
30	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Difficulty Taking Medication as Prescribed Question (Q11c)	38	Because of a health or physical problem, do you have any difficulty doing the following activities**?** Taking medication as prescribed 1 = No, I do not have difficulty 2 = Yes, I have difficulty 3 = I don't do this activity

Field #	Field Description	Field Position	Valid Values and Notes
31	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Number of Days Physical Health Not Good Question (Q12)	39-40	Now, thinking about your physical health, which includes physical illness and injury, for how many days during the **past 30 days** was your **physical health not** good? (Please enter a number between "0" and "30" days. If no days, please enter "0" days. Your best estimate would be fine.) Note: A value of 88 indicates ≥ 100 days.
32	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Number of Days Mental Health Not Good Question (Q13)	41-42	Now, thinking about your mental health, which includes stress, depression, and problems with emotions, for how many days during the **past 30 days** was your **mental health not** good? (Please enter a number between "0" and "30" days. If no days, please enter "0" days. Your best estimate would be fine.) Note: A value of 88 indicates ≥ 100 days.
33	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Number of Days Health Interfered with Daily Activities Question (Q14)	43-44	During the **past 30 days**, for about how many days did **poor physical or mental health** keep you from doing your usual activities, such as self-care, work, or recreation? (Please enter a number between "0" and "30" days. If no days, please enter "0" days. Your best estimate would be fine.) Note: A value of 88 indicates ≥ 100 days.
34	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Blind or Serious Difficulty Seeing Question (Q15)	45	Are you blind or do you have serious difficulty seeing, even when wearing glasses? 1 = Yes 2 = No
35	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Deaf or Serious Difficulty Hearing Question (Q16)	46	Are you deaf or do you have serious difficulty hearing, even with a hearing aid? 1 = Yes 2 = No
36	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Difficulty Concentrating, Remembering, or Making Decisions Question (Q17)	47	**Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition**, do you have **serious** difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions? 1 = Yes 2 = No
37	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Difficulty Doing Errands Question (Q18)	48	**Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition**, do you have difficulty doing errands alone such as visiting a doctor's office or shopping? 1 = Yes 2 = No

Field #	Field Description	Field Position	Valid Values and Notes
38	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Memory Problems Interfered with Activities in Past Month Question (Q19)	49	In the **past month**, how often did memory problems interfere with your daily activities? 1 = Every day (7 days a week) 2 = Most days (5-6 days a week) 3 = Some days (2-4 days a week) 4 = Rarely (once a week or less) 5 = Never
39	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Hypertension Question (Q20)	50	**Has a doctor ever told you that you had:** Hypertension or high blood pressure 1 = Yes 2 = No
40	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Angina or Coronary Artery Disease Question (Q21)	51	**Has a doctor ever told you that you had:** Angina pectoris or coronary artery disease 1 = Yes 2 = No
41	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Congestive Heart Failure Question (Q22)	52	**Has a doctor ever told you that you had:** Congestive heart failure 1 = Yes 2 = No
42	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Myocardial Infarction Question (Q23)	53	**Has a doctor ever told you that you had:** A myocardial infarction or heart attack 1 = Yes 2 = No
43	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Other Heart Conditions Question (Q24)	54	**Has a doctor ever told you that you had:** Other heart conditions, such as problems with heart valves or the rhythm of your heartbeat 1 = Yes 2 = No
44	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Stroke Question (Q25)	55	**Has a doctor ever told you that you had:** A stroke 1 = Yes 2 = No
45	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: COPD Question (Q26)	56	**Has a doctor ever told you that you had:** Emphysema, or asthma, or COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) 1 = Yes 2 = No
46	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Inflammatory Bowel Disease Question (Q27)	57	**Has a doctor ever told you that you had:** Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, or inflammatory bowel disease 1 = Yes 2 = No
47	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Osteoporosis Question (Q28)	58	**Has a doctor ever told you that you had:** Osteoporosis, sometimes called thin or brittle bones 1 = Yes 2 = No

Field #	Field Description	Field Position	Valid Values and Notes
48	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Diabetes Question (Q29)	59	**Has a doctor ever told you that you had:** Diabetes, high blood sugar, or sugar in the urine 1 = Yes 2 = No
49	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Depression Question (Q30)	60	**Has a doctor ever told you that you had:** Depression 1 = Yes 2 = No
50	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Any Cancer Question (Q31)	61	**Has a doctor ever told you that you had:** Any cancer (other than skin cancer) 1 = Yes 2 = No
51	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Colorectal Cancer Treatment Question (Q32a)	62	If you answered "yes" to question 31 above (that you have had cancer), Are you **currently** under treatment for: Colon or rectal cancer 1 = Yes 2 = No
52	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Lung Cancer Treatment Question (Q32b)	63	If you answered "yes" to question 31 above (that you have had cancer), Are you **currently** under treatment for: Lung cancer 1 = Yes 2 = No
53	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Breast Cancer Treatment Question (Q32c)	64	If you answered "yes" to question 31 above (that you have had cancer), Are you **currently** under treatment for: Breast cancer 1 = Yes 2 = No
54	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Prostate Cancer Treatment Question (Q32d)	65	If you answered "yes" to question 31 above (that you have had cancer), Are you **currently** under treatment for: Prostate cancer 1 = Yes 2 = No
55	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Other Cancer Treatment Question (Q32e)	66	If you answered "yes" to question 31 above (that you have had cancer), Are you **currently** under treatment for: Other cancer (other than skin cancer) 1 = Yes 2 = No
56	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Pain Interfered with Activities Question (Q33)	67	In the **past 7 days**, how much did pain interfere with your day to day activities? 1 = Not at all 2 = A little bit 3 = Somewhat 4 = Quite a bit 5 = Very much

Field #	Field Description	Field Position	Valid Values and Notes
57	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Pain Interfered with Socializing Question (Q34)	68	In the **past 7 days**, how much did pain keep you from socializing with others? 1 = Never 2 = Rarely 3 = Sometimes 4 = Often 5 = Always
58	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Average Pain Rating Question (Q35)	69-70	In the **past 7 days**, how would you rate your pain **on average**? 0 = 0 (No pain) 1 = 1 2 = 2 3 = 3 4 = 4 5 = 5 6 = 6 7 = 7 8 = 8 9 = 9 10 = 10 (Worst imaginable pain)
59	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Little Interest or Pleasure in Doing Things Question (Q36a)	71	Over the **past 2 weeks**, how often have you been bothered by any of the following problems? Little interest or pleasure in doing things 1 = Not at all 2 = Several days 3 = More than half the days 4 = Nearly every day
60	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Feeling Down, Depressed, or Hopeless Question (Q36b)	72	Over the **past 2 weeks**, how often have you been bothered by any of the following problems? Feeling down, depressed, or hopeless 1 = Not at all 2 = Several days 3 = More than half the days 4 = Nearly every day
61	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Comparative Health Question (Q37)	73	In general, compared to other people your age, would you say that your health is: 1 = Excellent 2 = Very good 3 = Good 4 = Fair 5 = Poor
62	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Urine Leakage Question (Q38)	74	Many people experience leakage of urine, also called urinary incontinence. In the **past six months**, have you experienced leaking of urine? 1 = Yes ***(Go to Q39)*** 2 = No ***(Go to Q42)***

Field #	Field Description	Field Position	Valid Values and Notes
63	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Leaking of Urine Interfering With Daily Activities Question (Q39)	75	During the **past six months**, how much did leaking of urine make you change your daily activities or interfere with your sleep? 1 = A lot 2 = Somewhat 3 = Not at all
64	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Talked with Doctor about Urine Leakage Question (Q40)	76	Have you **ever** talked with a doctor, nurse, or other health care provider about leaking of urine? 1 = Yes 2 = No
65	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Talked About Treatment for Urine Leakage Question (Q41)	77	There are many ways to control or manage the leaking of urine, including bladder training exercises, medication, and surgery. Have you ever talked with a doctor, nurse, or other health care provider about any of these approaches? 1 = Yes 2 = No
66	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Talked with Doctor about Physical Activities Question (Q42)	78	In the **past 12 months,** did you talk with a doctor or other health provider about your level of exercise or physical activity? For example, a doctor or other health provider may ask if you exercise regularly or take part in physical exercise. 1 = Yes ***(Go to Q43)*** 2 = No ***(Go to Q43)*** 3 = I had no visits in the past 12 months ***(Go to Q44)***
67	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Advised to Increase or Maintain Activities Question (Q43)	79	In the **past 12 months,** did a doctor or other health provider advise you to start, increase or maintain your level of exercise or physical activity? For example, in order to improve your health, your doctor or other health provider may advise you to start taking the stairs, increase walking from 10 to 20 minutes every day or to maintain your current exercise program. 1 = Yes 2 = No
68	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Talked to Doctor about Falling or Balance Problem Question (Q44)	80	A fall is when your body goes to the ground without being pushed. In the **past 12 months**, did you talk with your doctor or other health provider about falling or problems with balance or walking? 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = I had no visits in the past 12 months
69	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Fell in Past 12 Months Question (Q45)	81	Did you fall in the **past 12 months**? 1 = Yes 2 = No

Field #	Field Description	Field Position	Valid Values and Notes
70	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Problem with Walking or Balance in Past 12 Months Question (Q46)	82	In the **past 12 months**, have you had a problem with balance or walking? 1 = Yes 2 = No
71	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Talked to Doctor about How to Prevent Falls Question (Q47)	83	Has your doctor or other health provider done anything to help prevent falls or treat problems with balance or walking? Some things they might do include: Suggest that you use a cane or walker. Suggest that you do an exercise or physical therapy program. Suggest a vision or hearing test. 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = I had no visits in the past 12 months
72	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Hours of Sleep Question (Q48)	84	During the **past month**, on average, how many hours of actual sleep did you get at night? (This may be different from the number of hours you spent in bed.) 1 = Less than 5 hours 2 = 5-6 hours 3 = 7-8 hours 4 = 9 or more hours
73	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Sleep Quality Question (Q49)	85	During the **past month**, how would you rate your overall sleep quality? 1 = Very Good 2 = Fairly Good 3 = Fairly Bad 4 = Very Bad
74	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Language Spoken at Home Question (Q55)	86	What language do you **mainly** speak at home? 1 = English 2 = Spanish 3 = Chinese 4 = Russian 7 = Some other language (please specify) Note: The language under option 7 is not specified in the PUF
75	Cohort 26 Baseline Survey: Who Completed this Survey Question (Q61)	87	Who completed this survey form? 1 = Person to whom survey was addressed ***STOP HERE*** 2 = Family member or relative of person to whom the survey was addressed ***(Go to Q62)*** 3 = Friend of person to whom the survey was addressed ***(Go to Q62)*** 4 = Professional caregiver of person to whom the survey was addressed ***(Go to Q62)***

Cohort 26 Baseline Survey Administration

Field #	Field Description	Field Position	Valid Values and Notes
76	Cohort 26 Baseline: Baseline Survey Disposition	88-90	**NOTE:** This field contains a character string. For survey disposition codes, M=Mail and T=Telephone Cohort 26 Baseline Survey disposition code: M10/T10 = completed survey (79.5-100% complete and all 6 ADLs answered in Q10a-f) M11/T11 = non-response: partial complete (50-79.5% complete, or 79.5-100% complete and <6 ADLs answered) M31/T31 = non-response: break-off (0-49% complete)
77	Cohort 26 Baseline: Baseline Survey Round	91-92	**NOTE:** This field contains a character string. Survey round code for completed, partially completed, and non-completed surveys by mail or telephone: M1 = 1st mailing M2 = 2nd mailing T1 = 1st telephone T2 = 2nd telephone T3 = 3rd telephone T4 = 4th telephone T5 = 5th telephone T6 = 6th telephone T7 = 7th telephone T8 = 8th telephone T9 = 9th telephone MT = Partially completed by mail and converted to complete by telephone NC = Not completed
78	Cohort 26 Baseline: Percent of Baseline Survey Completed	93-97	Range: 0 to 100% (value is rounded to the tenths decimal place)
79	Cohort 26 Baseline: Baseline Survey Language	98	1 = English 2 = Spanish 3 = Not Applicable 4 = Chinese 5 = Russian

Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey Questions

Field #	Field Description	Field Position	Valid Values and Notes
80	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: General Health Question (Q1)	99	In general, would you say your health is*:* 1 = Excellent 2 = Very good 3 = Good 4 = Fair 5 = Poor
81	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Moderate Activities Question (Q2a)	100	The following items are about activities you might do during a typical day. Does **your health <u>now</u> limit you** in these activities? If so, how much? **Moderate activities**, such as moving a table, pushing a vacuum cleaner, bowling, or playing golf 1 = Yes, limited a lot 2 = Yes, limited a little 3 = No, not limited at all
82	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Climbing Several Flights of Stairs Question (Q2b)	101	The following items are about activities you might do during a typical day. Does **your health <u>now</u> limit you** in these activities? If so, how much? Climbing **several** flights of stairs 1 = Yes, limited a lot 2 = Yes, limited a little 3 = No, not limited at all
83	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Physical Health Limiting Amount Accomplished Question (Q3a)	102	During the **<u>past 4 weeks</u>**, have you had any of the following problems with your work or other regular daily activities **as a result of your physical health?** **Accomplished less** than you would like **as a result of your physical health?** 1 = No, none of the time 2 = Yes, a little of the time 3 = Yes, some of the time 4 = Yes, most of the time 5 = Yes, all of the time
84	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Physical Health Limiting the Kind of Activities Question (Q3b)	103	During the **<u>past 4 weeks</u>**, have you had any of the following problems with your work or other regular daily activities **as a result of your physical health?** Were limited in the **kind** of work or other activities **as a result of your physical health?** 1 = No, none of the time 2 = Yes, a little of the time 3 = Yes, some of the time 4 = Yes, most of the time 5 = Yes, all of the time

Field #	Field Description	Field Position	Valid Values and Notes
85	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Emotional Problems Limiting Amount Accomplished Question (Q4a)	104	During the **past 4 weeks**, have you had any of the following problems with your work or other regular daily activities **as a result of any emotional problems** (such as feeling depressed or anxious)? **Accomplished less** than you would like **as a result of any emotional problems** 1 = No, none of the time 2 = Yes, a little of the time 3 = Yes, some of the time 4 = Yes, most of the time 5 = Yes, all of the time
86	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Emotional Problems Limiting Carefulness Question (Q4b)	105	During the **past 4 weeks**, have you had any of the following problems with your work or other regular daily activities **as a result of any emotional problems** (such as feeling depressed or anxious)? Didn't do work or other activities as **carefully** as usual **as a result of any emotional problems** 1 = No, none of the time 2 = Yes, a little of the time 3 = Yes, some of the time 4 = Yes, most of the time 5 = Yes, all of the time
87	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Pain Interfering with Work Question (Q5)	106	During the **past 4 weeks**, how much did **pain** interfere with your normal work (including both work outside the home and housework)? 1 = Not at all 2 = A little bit 3 = Moderately 4 = Quite a bit 5 = Extremely
88	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Calm and Peaceful Question (Q6a)	107	These questions are about how you feel and how things have been with you during the **past 4 weeks**. For each question, please give the one answer that comes closest to the way you have been feeling. How much of the time during the **past 4 weeks:** Have you felt calm and peaceful? 1 = All of the time 2 = Most of the time 3 = A good bit of the time 4 = Some of the time 5 = A little of the time 6 = None of the time

Field #	Field Description	Field Position	Valid Values and Notes
89	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Lots of Energy Question (Q6b)	108	These questions are about how you feel and how things have been with you during the **past 4 weeks**. For each question, please give the one answer that comes closest to the way you have been feeling. How much of the time during the **past 4 weeks:** Did you have a lot of energy? 1 = All of the time 2 = Most of the time 3 = A good bit of the time 4 = Some of the time 5 = A little of the time 6 = None of the time
90	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Downhearted and Blue Question (Q6c)	109	These questions are about how you feel and how things have been with you during the **past 4 weeks**. For each question, please give the one answer that comes closest to the way you have been feeling. How much of the time during the **past 4 weeks:** Have you felt downhearted and blue? 1 = All of the time 2 = Most of the time 3 = A good bit of the time 4 = Some of the time 5 = A little of the time 6 = None of the time
91	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Amount of Time Health Interfering with Social Activities Question (Q7)	110	During the **past 4 weeks**, how much of the time has your **physical health or emotional problems** interfered with your social activities (like visiting with friends, relatives, etc.)? 1 = All of the time 2 = Most of the time 3 = Some of the time 4 = A little of the time 5 = None of the time
92	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Physical Health Compared to One Year Ago Question (Q8)	111	**Compared to <u>one year ago</u>**, how would you rate your **physical health** in general **now?** 1 = Much better 2 = Slightly better 3 = About the same 4 = Slightly worse 5 = Much worse
93	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Emotional Problems Compared to One Year Ago Question (Q9)	112	**Compared to one year ago**, how would you rate your **emotional problems** (such as feeling anxious, depressed, or irritable) in general **now**? 1 = Much better 2 = Slightly better 3 = About the same 4 = Slightly worse 5 = Much worse

Field #	Field Description	Field Position	Valid Values and Notes
94	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Bathing Question (Q10a)	113	Because of a health or physical problem, do you have any difficulty doing the following activities **without special equipment or help from another person**? Bathing 1 = No, I do not have difficulty 2 = Yes, I have difficulty 3 = I am unable to do this activity
95	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Dressing Question (Q10b)	114	Because of a health or physical problem, do you have any difficulty doing the following activities **without special equipment or help from another person**? Dressing 1 = No, I do not have difficulty 2 = Yes, I have difficulty 3 = I am unable to do this activity
96	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Eating Question (Q10c)	115	Because of a health or physical problem, do you have any difficulty doing the following activities **without special equipment or help from another person**? Eating 1 = No, I do not have difficulty 2 = Yes, I have difficulty 3 = I am unable to do this activity
97	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Getting In or Out of Chairs Question (Q10d)	116	Because of a health or physical problem, do you have any difficulty doing the following activities **without special equipment or help from another person**? Getting in or out of chairs 1 = No, I do not have difficulty 2 = Yes, I have difficulty 3 = I am unable to do this activity
98	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Walking Question (Q10e)	117	Because of a health or physical problem, do you have any difficulty doing the following activities **without special equipment or help from another person**? Walking 1 = No, I do not have difficulty 2 = Yes, I have difficulty 3 = I am unable to do this activity
99	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Using the Toilet Question (Q10f)	118	Because of a health or physical problem, do you have any difficulty doing the following activities **without special equipment or help from another person**? Using the toilet 1 = No, I do not have difficulty 2 = Yes, I have difficulty 3 = I am unable to do this activity

Field #	Field Description	Field Position	Valid Values and Notes
100	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Blind or Serious Difficulty Seeing Question (Q11)	119	Are you blind or do you have serious difficulty seeing, even when wearing glasses? 1 = Yes 2 = No
101	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Deaf or Serious Difficulty Hearing Question (Q12)	120	Are you deaf or do you have serious difficulty hearing, even with a hearing aid? 1 = Yes 2 = No
102	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Difficulty Concentrating, Remembering, or Making Decisions Question (Q13)	121	**Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition**, do you have **serious** difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions? 1 = Yes 2 = No
103	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Difficulty Doing Errands Question (Q14)	122	**Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition**, do you have difficulty doing errands alone such as visiting a doctor's office or shopping? 1 = Yes 2 = No
104	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Memory Problems Interfered with Activities in Past Month Question (Q15)	123	In the **past month**, how often did memory problems interfere with your daily activities? 1 = Every day (7 days a week) 2 = Most days (5-6 days a week) 3 = Some days (2-4 days a week) 4 = Rarely (once a week or less) 5 = Never
105	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Hypertension Question (Q16)	124	**Has a doctor ever told you that you had:** Hypertension or high blood pressure 1 = Yes 2 = No
106	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Angina or Coronary Artery Disease Question (Q17)	125	**Has a doctor ever told you that you had:** Angina pectoris or coronary artery disease 1 = Yes 2 = No
107	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Congestive Heart Failure Question (Q18)	126	**Has a doctor ever told you that you had:** Congestive heart failure 1 = Yes 2 = No
108	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Myocardial Infarction Question (Q19)	127	**Has a doctor ever told you that you had:** A myocardial infarction or heart attack 1 = Yes 2 = No
109	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Other Heart Conditions Question (Q20)	128	**Has a doctor ever told you that you had:** Other heart conditions, such as problems with heart valves or the rhythm of your heartbeat 1 = Yes 2 = No

Field #	Field Description	Field Position	Valid Values and Notes
110	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Stroke Question (Q21)	129	**Has a doctor <u>ever</u> told you that you had*:*** A stroke 1 = Yes 2 = No
111	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: COPD Question (Q22)	130	**Has a doctor <u>ever</u> told you that you had:** Emphysema, or asthma, or COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) 1 = Yes 2 = No
112	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Inflammatory Bowel Disease Question (Q23)	131	**Has a doctor <u>ever</u> told you that you had:** Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, or inflammatory bowel disease 1 = Yes 2 = No
113	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Osteoporosis Question (Q24)	132	**Has a doctor <u>ever</u> told you that you had:** Osteoporosis, sometimes called thin or brittle bones 1 = Yes 2 = No
114	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Diabetes Question (Q25)	133	**Has a doctor <u>ever</u> told you that you had:** Diabetes, high blood sugar, or sugar in the urine 1 = Yes 2 = No
115	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Depression Question (Q26)	134	**Has a doctor <u>ever</u> told you that you had:** Depression 1 = Yes 2 = No
116	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Any Cancer Question (Q27)	135	**Has a doctor <u>ever</u> told you that you had:** Any cancer (other than skin cancer) 1 = Yes ***(Go to Q28a)*** 2 = No ***(Go to Q29)***
117	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Colorectal Cancer Treatment Question (Q28a)	136	If you answered "yes" to question 27 above (that you have had cancer), Are you **<u>currently</u>** under treatment for: Colon or rectal cancer 1 = Yes 2 = No
118	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Lung Cancer Treatment Question (Q28b)	137	Are you **<u>currently</u>** under treatment for*:* Lung cancer 1 = Yes 2 = No
119	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Breast Cancer Treatment Question (Q28c)	138	Are you **<u>currently</u>** under treatment for*:* Breast cancer 1 = Yes 2 = No
120	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Prostate Cancer Treatment Question (Q28d)	139	Are you **<u>currently</u>** under treatment for*:* Prostate cancer 1 = Yes 2 = No

Field #	Field Description	Field Position	Valid Values and Notes
121	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Other Cancer Treatment Question (Q28e)	140	Are you **currently** under treatment for*:* Other cancer (other than skin cancer) 1 = Yes 2 = No
122	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Pain Interfered with Activities Question (Q29)	141	In the **past 7 days**, how much did pain interfere with your day to day activities? 1 = Not at all 2 = A little bit 3 = Somewhat 4 = Quite a bit 5 = Very much
123	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Pain Interfered with Socializing Question (Q30)	142	In the **past 7 days**, how often did pain keep you from socializing with others? 1 = Never 2 = Rarely 3 = Sometimes 4 = Often 5 = Always
124	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Little Interest or Pleasure in Doing Things Question (Q31a)	143	Over the **past 2 weeks**, how often have you been bothered by any of the following problems? Little interest or pleasure in doing things 1 = Not at all 2 = Several days 3 = More than half the days 4 = Nearly every day
125	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Feeling Down, Depressed, or Hopeless Question (Q31b)	144	Over the **past 2 weeks**, how often have you been bothered by any of the following problems? Feeling down, depressed, or hopeless 1 = Not at all 2 = Several days 3 = More than half the days 4 = Nearly every day
126	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Comparative Health Question (Q32)	145	In general, compared to other people your age, would you say that your health is*:* 1 = Excellent 2 = Very good 3 = Good 4 = Fair 5 = Poor
127	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Urine Leakage Question (Q33)	146	Many people experience leakage of urine, also called urinary incontinence. In the **past six months**, have you experienced leaking of urine? 1 = Yes ***(Go to Q34)*** 2 = No ***(Go to Q37)***
128	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Leaking of Urine Interfering With Daily Activities Question (Q34)	147	During the **past six months**, how much did leaking of urine make you change your daily activities or interfere with your sleep? 1 = A lot 2 = Somewhat 3 = Not at all

Field #	Field Description	Field Position	Valid Values and Notes
129	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey Talked with Doctor about Urine Leakage Question (Q35)	148	Have you **ever** talked with a doctor, nurse, or other health care provider about leaking of urine? 1 = Yes 2 = No
130	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Talked About Treatment for Urine Leakage Question (Q36)	149	There are many ways to control or manage the leaking or urine, including bladder training exercises, medication, and surgery. Have you **ever** talked with a doctor, nurse, or other health care provider about any of these approaches? 1 = Yes 2 = No
131	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Talked with Doctor about Physical Activities Question (Q37)	150	In the **past 12 months,** did you talk with a doctor or other health provider about your level of exercise or physical activity? For example, a doctor or other health provider may ask if you exercise regularly or take part in physical exercise. 1 = Yes ***(Go to Q38)*** 2 = No ***(Go to Q38)*** 3 = I had no visits in the last 12 months ***(Go to Q39)***
132	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Advised to Increase or Maintain Activities Question (Q38)	151	In the **past 12 months,** did a doctor or other health provider advise you to start, increase or maintain your level of exercise or physical activity? For example, in order to improve your health, your doctor or other health provider may advise you to start taking the stairs, increase walking from 10 to 20 minutes every day or to maintain your current exercise program. 1 = Yes 2 = No
133	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Talked to Doctor about Falling or Balance Problem Question (Q39)	152	A fall is when your body goes to the ground without being pushed. In the **past 12 months**, did you talk with your doctor or other health provider about falling or problems with balance or walking? 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = I had no visits in the past 12 months
134	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Fell in Past 12 Months Question (Q40)	153	Did you fall in the **past 12 months**? 1 = Yes 2 = No
135	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Problem with Walking or Balance in Past 12 Months Question (Q41)	154	In the **past 12 months**, have you had a problem with balance or walking? 1 = Yes 2 = No

Field #	Field Description	Field Position	Valid Values and Notes
136	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Talked to Doctor about How to Prevent Falls Question (Q42)	155	Has your doctor or other health provider done anything to help prevent falls or treat problems with balance or walking? Some things they might do include: Suggest that you use a cane or walker. Suggest that you do an exercise or physical therapy program. Suggest a vision or hearing test. 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = I had no visits in the past 12 months
137	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Hours of Sleep Question (Q43)	156	During the **past month**, on average, how many hours of actual sleep did you get at night? (This may be different from the number of hours you spent in bed.) 1 = Less than 5 hours 2 = 5-6 hours 3 = 7-8 hours 4 = 9 or more hours
138	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Sleep Quality Question (Q44)	157	During the **past month**, how would you rate your overall sleep quality? 1 = Very Good 2 = Fairly Good 3 = Fairly Bad 4 = Very Bad
139	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Language Spoken at Home Question (Q49a)	158	What language do you **mainly** speak at home? 1 = English 2 = Spanish 3 = Chinese 4 = Russian 7 = Some other language (please specify) Note: The language under option 7 is not specified in the PUF
140	Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey: Who Completed this Survey Form Question (Q55)	159	Who completed this survey form? 1 = Person to whom survey was addressed ***STOP HERE*** 2 = Family member or relative of person to whom the survey was addressed ***(Go to Q56)*** 3 = Friend of person to whom the survey was addressed ***(Go to Q56)*** 4 = Professional caregiver of person to whom the survey was addressed ***(Go to Q56)***

Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey Administration

Field #	Field Description	Field Position	Valid Values and Notes
141	Cohort 26 Follow Up: Follow Up Survey Disposition	160-162	**NOTE**: This field contains a character string. For survey disposition codes, M=Mail and T=Telephone Cohort 26 Follow Up Survey disposition code: M10/T10 = completed survey (79.5-100% complete and all 6 ADLs answered in Q10a-f) M11/T11 = non-response: partial complete (50-79.5% complete, or 79.5-100% complete and <6 ADLs answered) M31/T31 = non-response: break-off (0-49% complete)
142	Cohort 26 Follow Up: Follow Up Survey Round	163-164	**NOTE:** This field contains a character string. Survey round code for completed, partially completed, and non-completed surveys by mail or telephone: M1 = 1st mailing M2 = 2nd mailing T1 = 1st telephone T2 = 2nd telephone T3 = 3rd telephone T4 = 4th telephone T5 = 5th telephone T6 = 6th telephone T7 = 7th telephone T8 = 8th telephone T9 = 9th telephone MT = Partially completed by mail and converted to complete by telephone NC = Not completed
143	Cohort 26 Follow Up: Percent of Follow Up Survey Completed	165-169	Range: 0 to 100% (value is rounded to the tenths decimal place)
144	Cohort 26 Follow Up: Follow Up Survey Language	170	1 = English 2 = Spanish 3 = Not Applicable 4 = Chinese 5 = Russian
145	Cohort 26 Analytic: Cohort Identifier	171-173	Cohort in which the HOS surveys contained in this data file were submitted **NOTE:** This field contains a character string. Value for each record = A26

Field #	Field Description	Field Position	Valid Values and Notes
146	Cohort 26 Analytic: Analytic CMS Region	174-175	Derived from the August 2025 HPMS Plan Contract List for the Analytic PUF. 1 = Region 1 - Boston (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, and VT) 2 = Region 2 - New York (NJ, NY, PR, and the VI) 3 = Region 3 - Philadelphia (DC, DE, MD, PA, VA, and WV) 4 = Region 4 - Atlanta (AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, and TN) 5 = Region 5 - Chicago (IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, and WI) 6 = Region 6 - Dallas (AR, LA, NM, OK, and TX) 7 = Region 7 - Kansas City (IA, KS, MO, and NE) 8 = Region 8 - Denver (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, and WY) 9 = Region 9 - San Francisco (AZ, CA, HI, NV, and the Pacific Territories) 10 = Region 10 - Seattle (AK, ID, OR, and WA)
147	Cohort 26 Follow Up: Follow Up Sample Indicator	176	Indicates if the record was included in the Follow Up sample: 1 = Eligible for Follow Up 2 = Not Eligible for Follow Up
148	Cohort 26 Analytic: Analytic Sample Indicator	177	Indicates status of the record in the analytic file: 1 = Respondent 2 = Non-respondent 3 = Ineligible 4 = Disenrolled 5 = Dead