



# Research Week 2020

## Challenges to Health Care Access Despite Health Insurance: Lessons from a Community Health Fair

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Health Fair, Health Insurance, Health Care Access, Underserved, Social Determinants of Health

### Abstract

The annual Health Care Equity Fair (HCEF) is a community health fair hosted in Portland, Oregon that provides free health services to underserved communities. During the 2018 fair, 77 attendees completed a Health Risk Assessment Questionnaire (HRAQ), of which 81.9% reported having high school education or higher, 80.5% having health insurance, 16.9% having current employment, and 37.7% having stable housing. Our data suggests that even those with housing, health insurance, employment, and education still require additional health services, with 31.2% of attendees citing medical costs as the most common barrier to achieving adequate healthcare. This suggests that health insurance coverage does not always lead to sufficient health access, with underinsurance being a significant problem.

