

Maryland Cancer Screening & Risk Behaviors, 2012: At a Glance

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Cigarette Restitution Fund Program
Center for Cancer Prevention and Control
Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

is an annual state-based system of health surveys funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). It is a population-based, random-digit-dial telephone survey which uses disproportionate stratified sampling. The BRFSS is administered to adults, age 18 years and older, and focuses on behavioral risk factors, preventive health measures including cancer screening, and health care access. In Maryland, the survey is overseen by the Vital Statistics Administration at the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

The survey sample consisted of responses from 12,812 people surveyed in Maryland in 2012. The sample is weighted by the CDC to be representative of the Maryland population. Women made up 61.8% of the sample and are weighted to 52.4%, while men made up 38.2% of the sample and are weighted to 47.6%. Of the 12,786 adults who reported their health insurance status, 11,876 indicated that they were insured, which represents 87% of the Maryland population after weighting.

This report presents graphical data on 30 cancer screening and cancer risk behavior measures for Maryland adults in 2012. The data are further presented by gender and health insurance status. All weighted percentages are estimates of the population percentage and are based on the number of respondents answering the question. Excluded in this analysis are responses of missing, 'Don't know/not sure' and 'Refused'. "Error" bars are shown representing the 95% confidence intervals around the weighted percentages, indicating there is a 95% chance that the true value falls within that confidence interval. For more information on methodology, please refer to the Maryland Cancer Screening and Risk Behaviors Report, 2012.

Highlights

- Of Maryland adults age 50 years and older, 69% were up-to-date with screening for colorectal cancer (CRC) by either fecal occult blood test, sigmoidoscopy, or colonoscopy. Ninety-three percent (93%) of Maryland women age 40 years and older have had a mammogram and 95% of women between the ages of 18 and 65 years have had a Pap test. Although 62% of Maryland men age 40 years and older have discussed the advantages of PSA testing with a health care provider, only 30% have discussed the disadvantages (Figure 1).
- Only 40% of uninsured Maryland adults age 50 and older were up-to-date with colorectal cancer screening, compared to 71% of those who were insured. This trend was also true for having had a mammogram in the past two years (50% vs. 81%) and having had a Pap test in the past three years (75% vs. 90%) (Figure 2).
- Although 83% of Maryland adults reported having a health care provider and 76% had a checkup with the past year, 12% could not see a doctor in the past year due to cost. Over 60% of Maryland adults are either overweight or obese (37% and 28%, respectively); 16% are current smokers (Figure 3).
- When examined by gender, men were less likely than women to have a health care provider (78% vs. 88%), have had a checkup in the past year (72% vs. 80%), and have visited a dentist in the past year (69% vs. 76%). Men also were more likely to be high risk drinkers (23% vs. 13%) and be overweight (43% vs. 31%) (Figure 4).

For more information, please refer to the full Maryland Cancer Screening and Risk Behaviors report, available at http://phpa.dhmh.maryland.gov/cancer/SitePages/surv_data-reports.aspx. We would like to acknowledge Helio Lopez, MS, and Eileen Steinberger, MD, MS, for their help with this report. This report was prepared by Kelly Richardson, MPH, CPH, and Alyse Weinstein-Cooper, MS., February XX, 2014

Figure 1.
Maryland Cancer Screening
2012

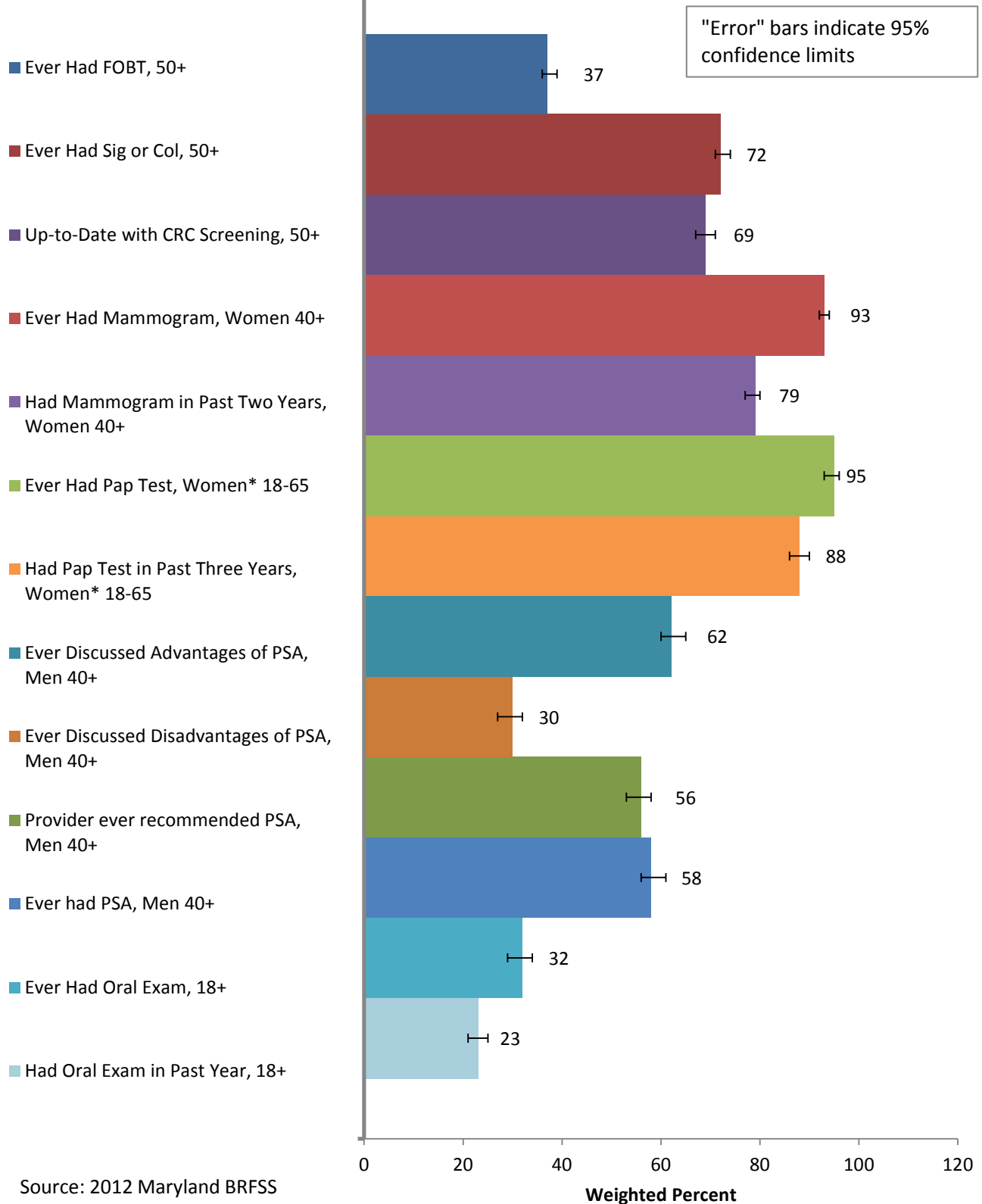


Figure 2.
Maryland Cancer Screening by Insurance Status
2012

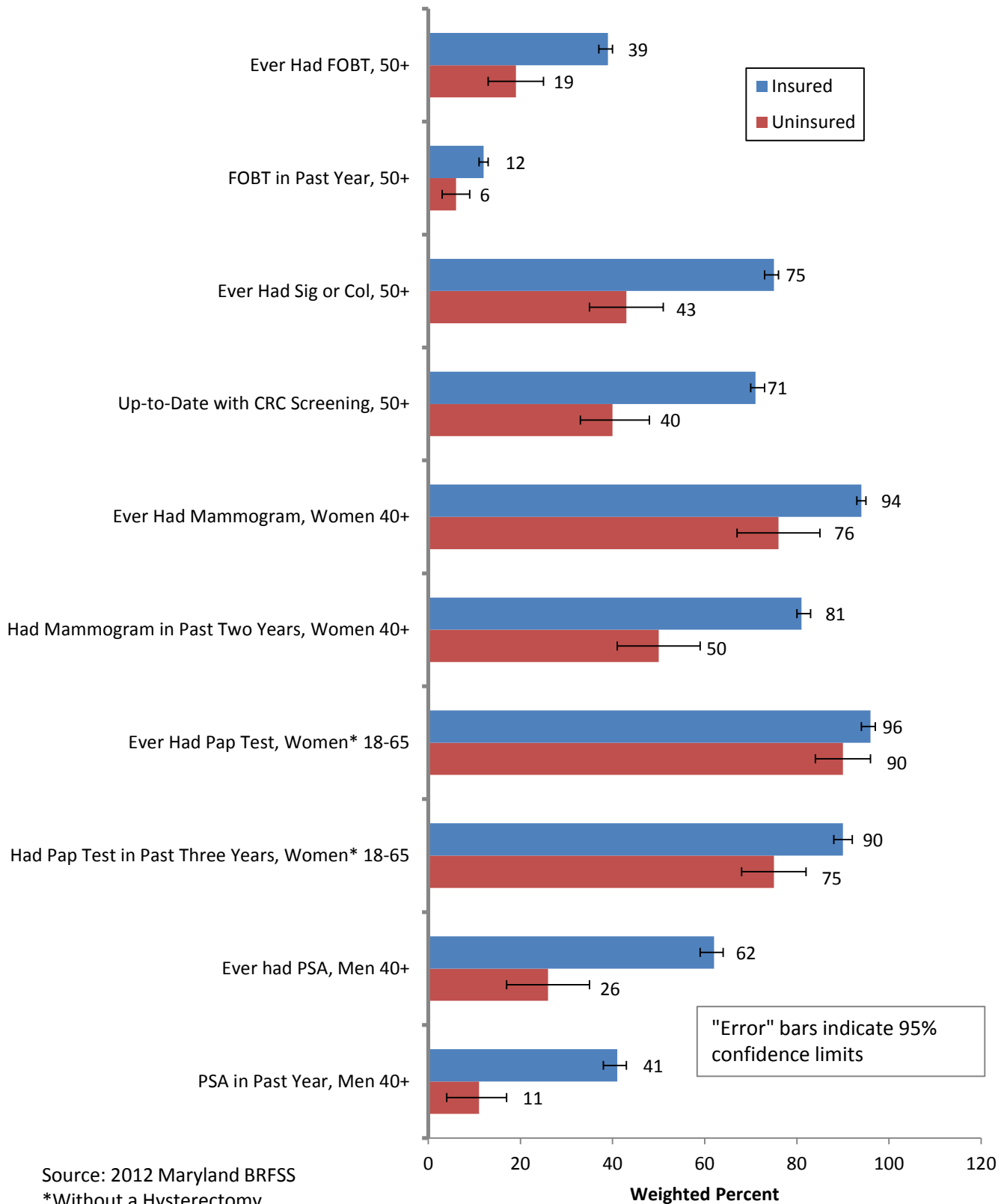


Figure 3.
Maryland Cancer Risk Behaviors & Health Care Access in Adults
2012

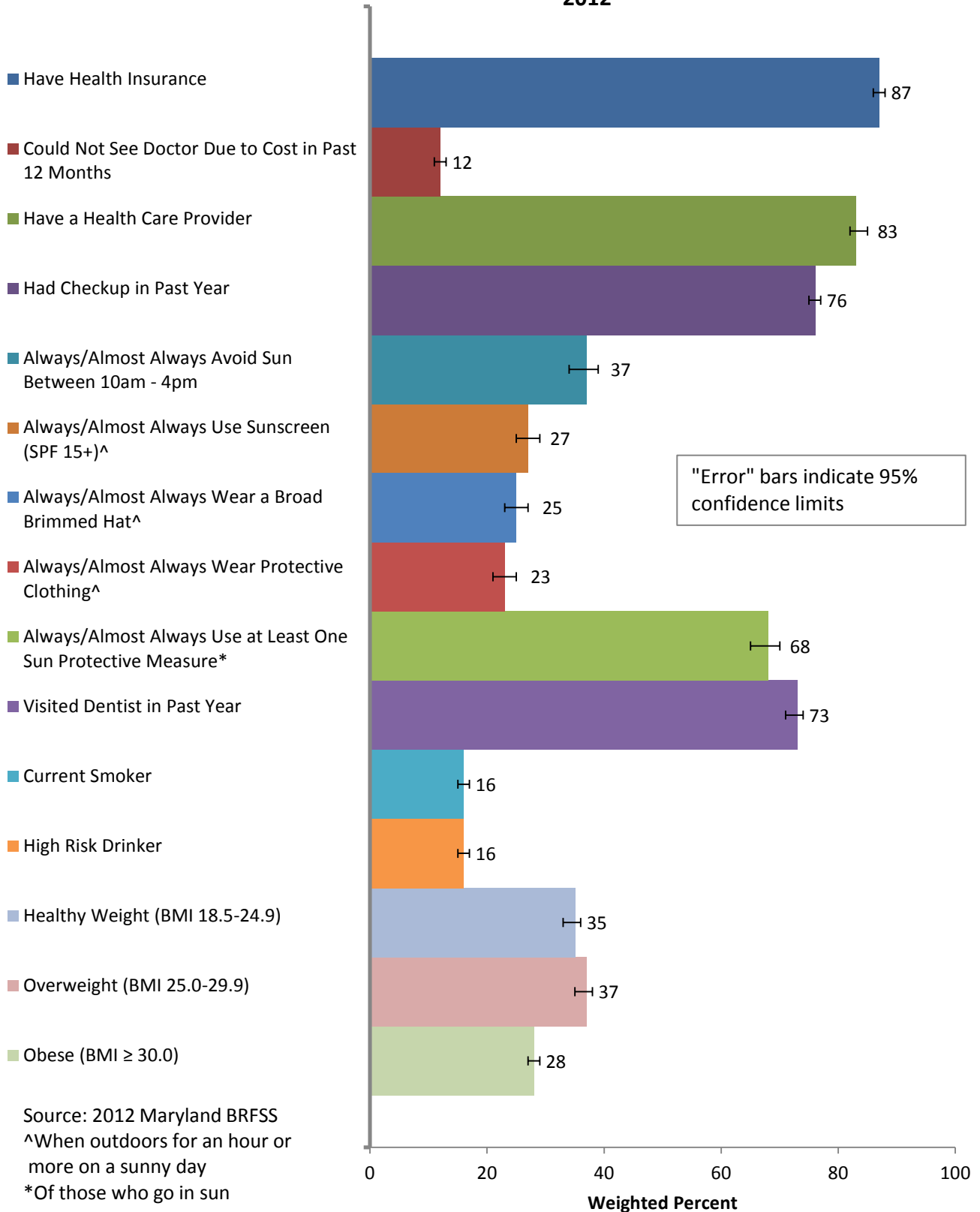
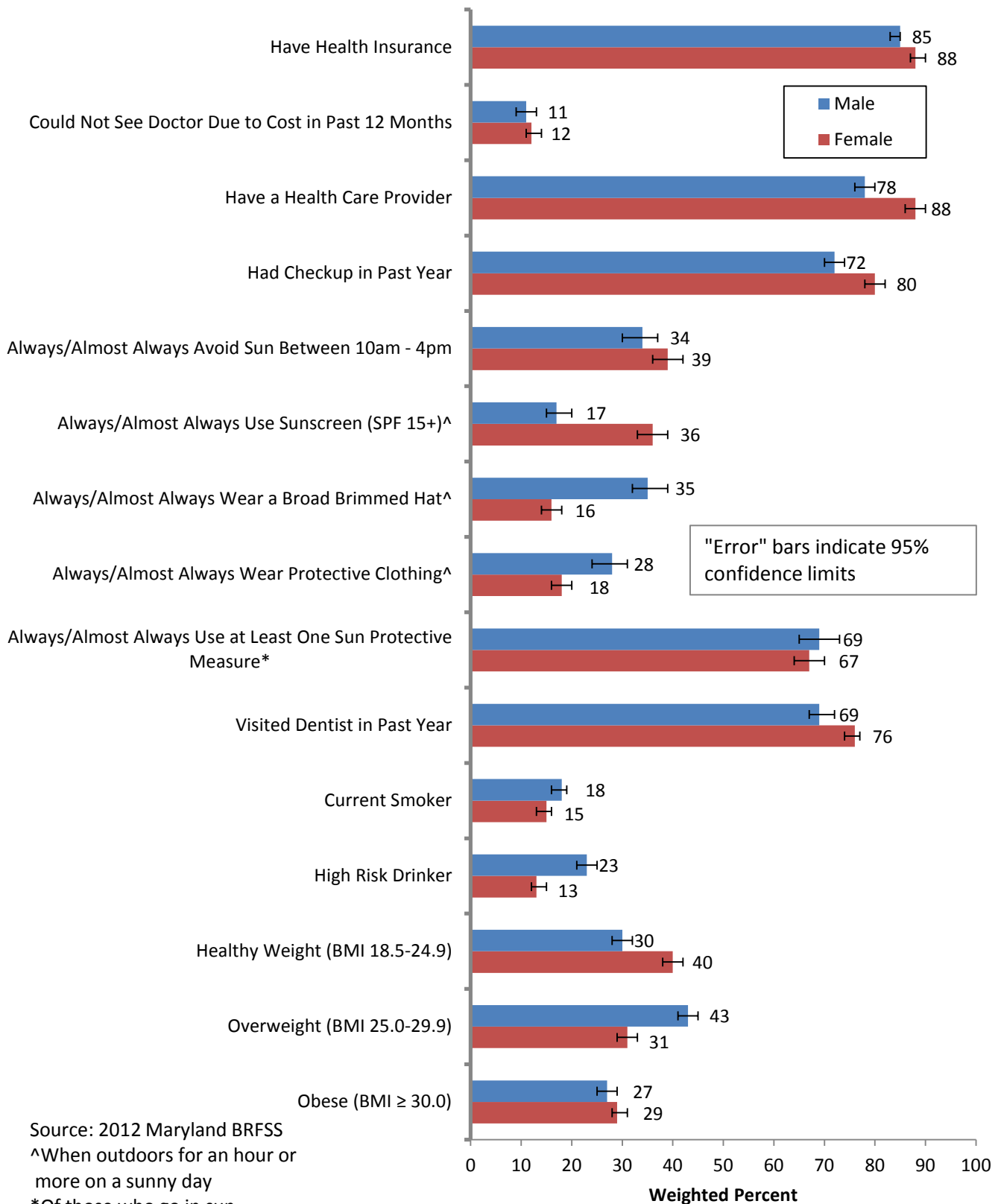


Figure 4.
Maryland Cancer Risk Behaviors & Health Care Access in Adults by Gender
2012



Source: 2012 Maryland BRFSS
 ^When outdoors for an hour or more on a sunny day
 *Of those who go in sun