



Employment Status Influence on Frequency of Routine Primary Care Check-ups

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Background

- Employment status is a major determinant of your health insurance options since your employer determines your coverage, benefits, and wellness programs.^{1,3}
- For those without employer-based healthcare insurance, their income determines their eligibility for public benefits.^{2,4}
- Within the U.S. healthcare system, having health insurance allows you access to frequently visit a primary care physician.
- Extensive research has been conducted on the association between employment-based insurance and health but, our group is interested in studying the influence your employment status has on how often you visit your doctor while considering other patient demographics.

Objectives

- To determine if there is an association between **employment status** and **frequency of routine primary care checkups**.

Methods

- We used data from the 2022 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) database.⁵
 - Telephone surveys were conducted by BRFSS in 2022 to collect data on the healthcare status of participants over age 18 (n=428600).⁵
- We conducted a Pearson Chi-Square test to analyze the association between employment and routine primary care checkups.

Results

Table 1. Patient Demographics (N = 426800)	N (%)
Sex	
- Male	37441 (8%)
- Female	41456 (9%)
Marital Status	
- Partnered	246092 (55%)
- Not Partnered	194238 (44%)
Income	
- Less than \$50,000	145140 (33%)
- \$50,001 - \$100,000	107584 (24%)
- \$100,001 - \$200,000	72883 (16%)
- More than \$200,000	23478 (5%)
General Health	
- Excellent	71878 (16%)
- Very good	148444 (33%)
- Good	143598 (32%)
- Fair	60273 (14%)
- Poor	19741 (4%)
Race/ Ethnicities	
- White	320421 (73%)
- Black	35446 (8%)
- American Indian Alaskan Native	6952 (2%)
- Asian	13347 (3%)
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	2414 (0.5%)
- Multiracial	9578 (2%)
- Hispanic	42917 (10%)
Couldn't Afford a Doctor	
- Yes	37227 (8%)
- No	406296 (91%)

Figure 1. Employment Status

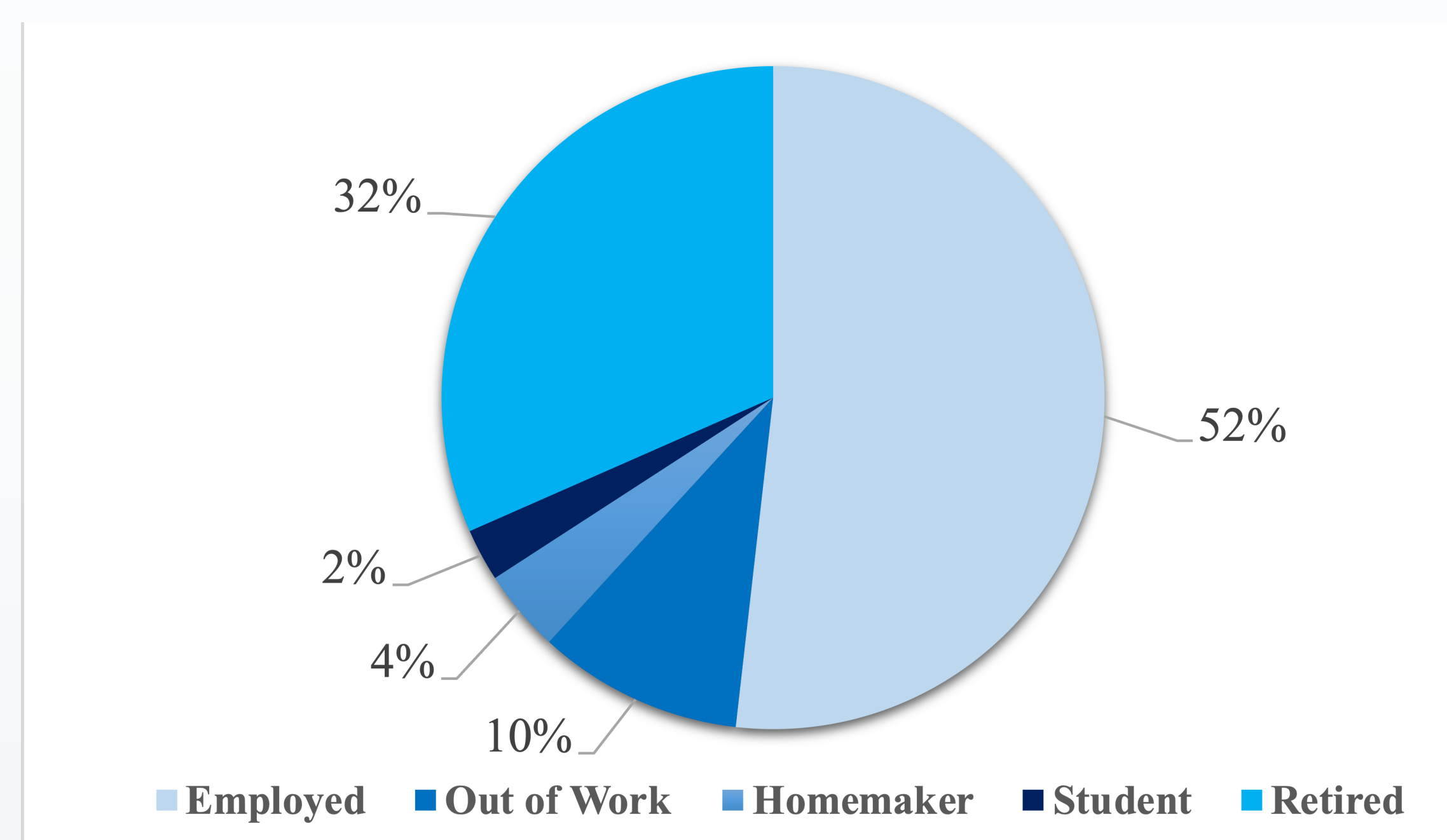


Figure 2. Primary Care Check-Ups

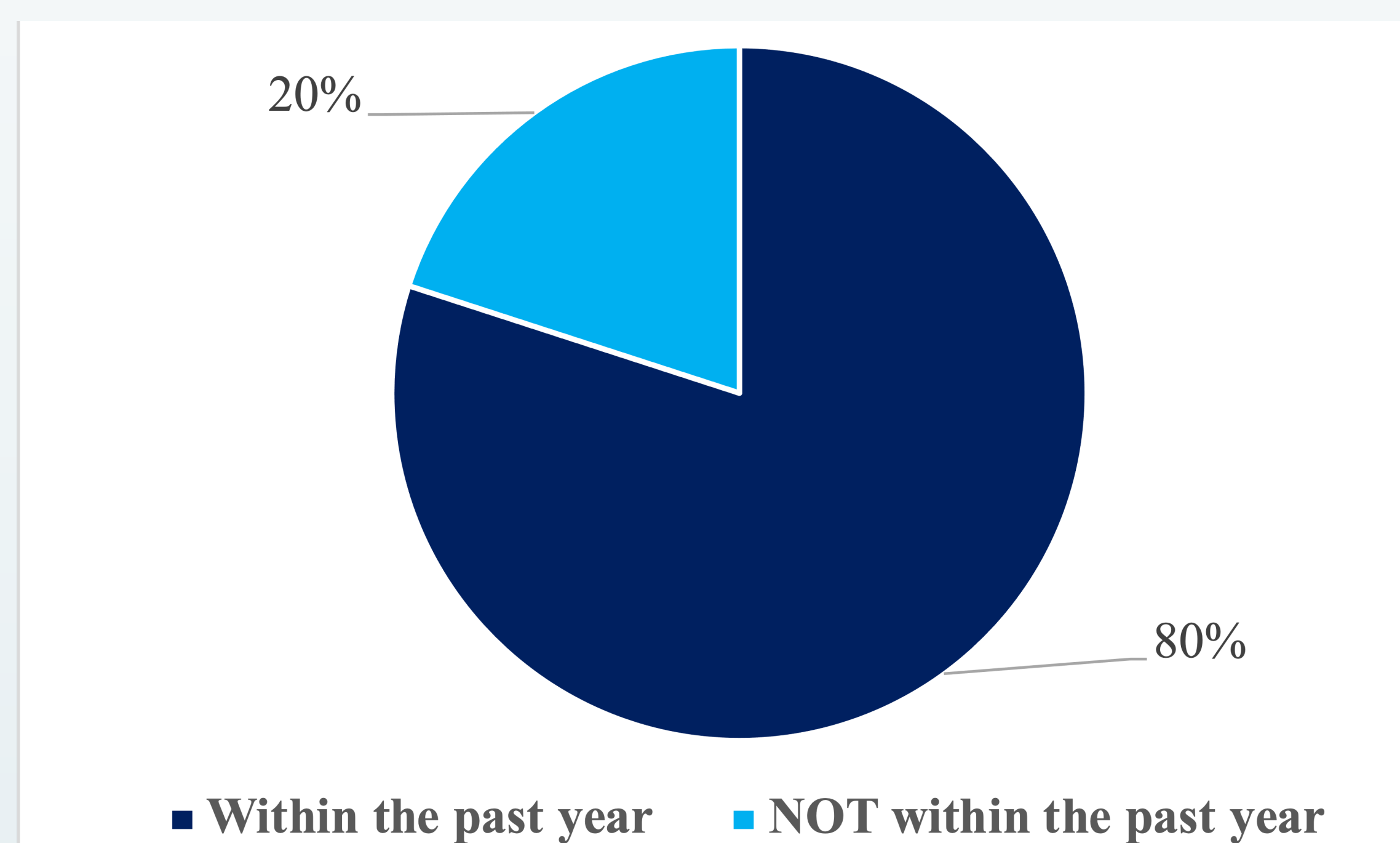
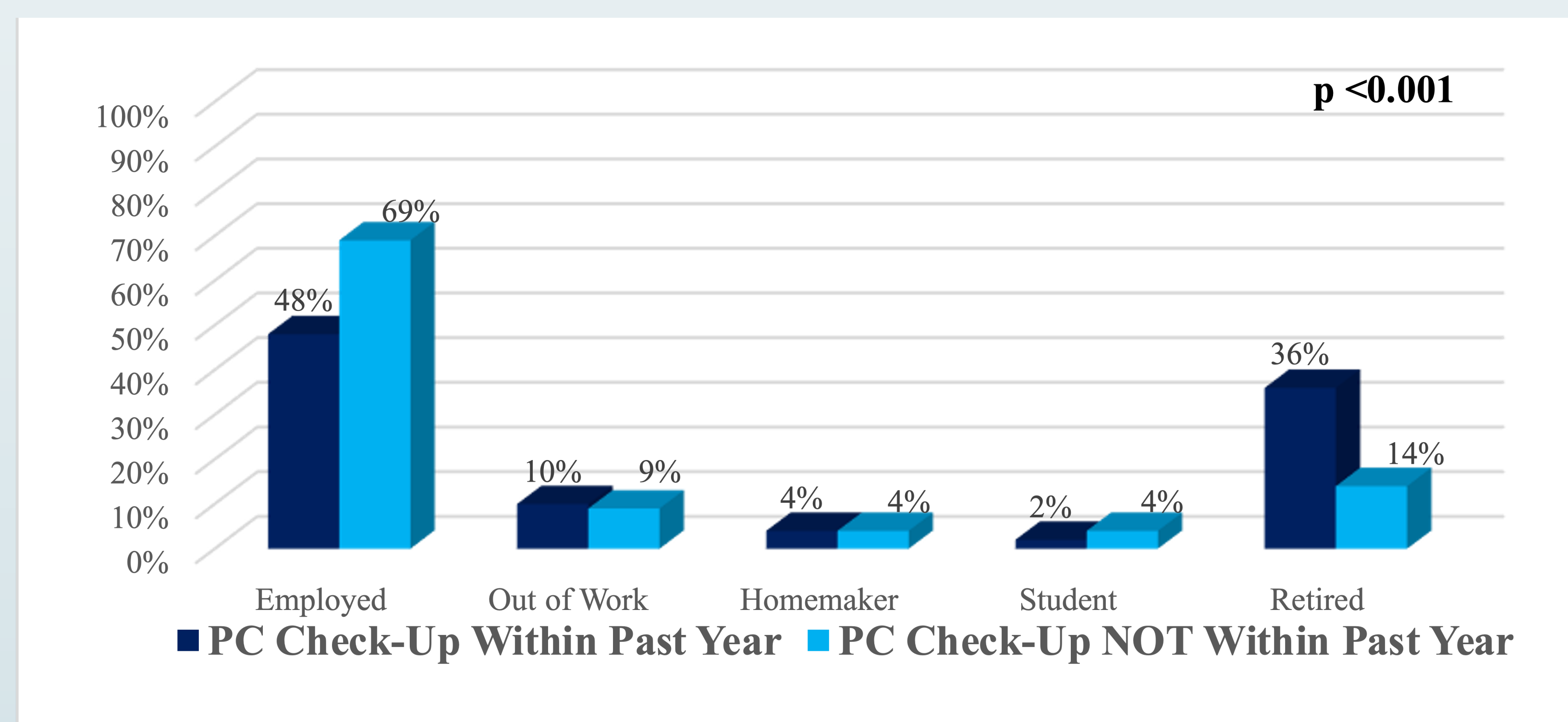


Figure 3. Association Between Employment Status and Frequency of Routine Check-Ups



Conclusions

- Our findings revealed a positive association between employment status and routine primary care checkups.
- Students were least likely to have a routine checkup within the past year compared to other employment groups.
- Further research is needed to examine the possible factors preventing students and other groups from accessing primary care services.

Policy Implications

- These findings indicate support for the development of community health promotion workshops that encourage access to health insurance and may improve the frequency of routine healthcare visits among all populations, regardless of employment status.

Acknowledgements

- We would like to thank Dr. Sally Romero, TA Lara Berghammer, and TA Anoushka Chandan Vinekar for all their help and support throughout this project.

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