

Medical Office Survey on Patient Safety Culture: 2018 User Database Report.

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<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/medical-office-survey-patient-safety-culture-2018-user-database-report>

A vibrant [culture of safety](#) is critical to achieving [high reliability](#) in health care. Organizations with stronger safety culture boast lower [in-hospital mortality](#) and fewer [surgical site infections](#). The AHRQ [Medical Office Survey on Patient Safety Culture](#) was designed to evaluate safety culture in outpatient clinics. The 2018 comparative database report assessed 10 safety culture domains in nearly 2500 ambulatory care practices. Respondents reported high rates of [teamwork](#) and strong systems for patient follow-up. Many practices identified productivity pressures and work pace as safety hazards. Although the practices surveyed are not nationally representative, they do allow leaders and scientists to compare safety culture across practices and time. A past [WebM&M commentary](#) examined safety hazards associated with productivity pressures in health care.