

This report looks at the following areas:

- Trust within the healthcare system and how that has changed over the past 12 months
- What consumers consider to be reliable sources of health-related information and how social media impacts the way consumers digest health and wellness information
- Where consumers prefer to receive non-emergency care
- Consumer expectations for the ideal healthcare experience and how that has changed in light of the COVID-19 pandemic
- Consumer sentiment toward health and wellness monitoring including interest in technology to monitor health and the concerns that come with increased technological use

In an age where consumers have an overabundance of health information and data at their fingertips, healthcare professionals are challenged with redefining their place in that landscape. The good news is that most consumers find the healthcare system to be at least somewhat trustworthy. However, with only 23% of consumers viewing the healthcare system as very trustworthy, there is much opportunity to connect and engage with patients to continue to build trust. While the COVID-19 pandemic carved out new opportunities to connect healthcare providers with their patients, there are signs that consumers are increasingly fatigued with these outlets and are looking for expertise elsewhere, including social media platforms.

Consumers still rely on an in-person experience with their healthcare provider. They seek the honest expertise that the traditional in-office experience delivers. As they are becoming more in tune with their overall health and wellness, consumers seek a healthcare experience that is comprehensive and helps them decipher their health data in order to have more control over their healthcare process. Thankfully, the healthcare system is fairly inelastic, meaning that consumers will tend to seek necessary medical care even in the face of economic uncertainty. However, as consumers become more burdened with



"Most consumers regard the healthcare system as somewhat trustworthy, giving healthcare and insurance providers the opportunity to re-examine the way they connect with patients. Despite digital advances in healthcare, consumers still want a traditional healthcare experience so that they feel empowered and in control of their health and wellness."

# Dorothy Kotscha, Health Analyst

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inflationary measures and reduced spending power, some may seek more affordable solutions to traditional healthcare. With a mix of traditional healthcare experiences and health monitoring technology, healthcare providers can meet a wide range of consumer needs.

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