

1998 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey
Insurance Component

HEALTH INSURANCE COST STUDY

Government Questionnaire

*(Please correct any errors in name, address, and ZIP
Code. Enter number and street if not shown.)*

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
ACTING AS COLLECTING AGENT FOR
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
AGENCY FOR HEALTH CARE POLICY AND RESEARCH

RETURN TO

**Bureau of the Census
Governments Division
Washington Plaza II, Room 413
Washington, DC 20233-6800**

PLEASE RETURN ENTIRE PACKAGE WITHIN

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1.** Please report for the government unit identified on the cover sheet, unless otherwise specified.
- 2.** Please report data for **1998**, unless otherwise specified.
- 3.** Estimates are acceptable.
- 4.** Refer to the Definition Sheet included with this package for explanation of unfamiliar terms.
- 5.** In addition to the completed questionnaire, please include a copy of each of your health insurance plan brochures describing the benefits offered, or a copy of your benefits sheet summarizing the benefits offered by each of your plans.
- 6.** If you have any questions or need assistance in completing the questionnaire, please call 1-888-206-5068.

Collection of this information is authorized under Title IX, Section 902(a) of the Public Health Service Act. Sections 903(c) and 308(d) of that Act specify that all information will be held in strict confidence by the staff of the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research and their authorized contractors.

Paperwork Reduction Act and Burden Statements

We expect that it will take 20 minutes, on average, to complete the basic questionnaire. If you offer more than one plan, we expect it will take an additional 10 minutes per plan, on average. In addition, we estimate that it will take 15 minutes to review the instructions and locate the requested information. You may send any comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of the collection of information, including suggestions for reducing burden, to the following address: Director, Center for Cost and Financing Studies, Paperwork Reduction Project 0935-0105, Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, Executive Office Center, Suite 500, 2101 East Jefferson Street, Rockville, MD 20852-4908.

Section A – NUMBER OF PLANS

Please respond for the government unit identified on the cover sheet unless otherwise specified.
Respond for **active** employees only.

1a. Did your government unit make available or contribute to the cost of any health insurance plans for its employees in 1998?

For this survey, a health insurance plan is hospital and/or physician coverage made available to employees.

- 001 1 Yes – Continue with Question 1b
2 No – SKIP to Page 4, Section B

b. How many different health insurance choices did your government unit make available or contribute to for its employees during the 1998 plan year?

Do not count single service plans (optional plans) such as dental or vision.

Plans offered by the same insurance company which offer:

- Single and family plans providing the same level of benefits count as one plan.
- High and standard options count as two plans.
- An HMO and a conventional plan count as two plans.

003 Continue with Page 4, Section B

Section B – EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

Estimates are acceptable for all employment, eligibility, and enrollment figures.

1a. How many employees were on this government unit's payroll for a typical pay period in 1998?

Include part-time, temporary and seasonal employees.

Exclude leased or contract workers.

200

All employees

If your government unit did not offer health insurance in 1998, SKIP to Question 2a.

b. How many of these employees were eligible for at least one health plan through your government unit?

201

Eligible employees

c. How many of these employees were enrolled in any health plan through your government unit?

202

Enrolled employees

2a. For the same typical pay period in 1998, how many of the employees reported in B1a worked part-time?

203

Part-time employees

If your government unit did not offer health insurance in 1998, SKIP to Question 3a.

b. How many of these part-time employees were eligible for at least one health plan through your government unit?

204

Eligible part-time employees

c. How many of these part-time employees were enrolled in any health plan through your government unit?

205

Enrolled part-time employees

3a. For the same typical pay period in 1998, how many of the employees reported in B1a were temporary or seasonal employees?

206

Temporary or seasonal employees

If your government unit did not offer health insurance in 1998, SKIP to Question 4a on Page 5.

b. How many of these temporary or seasonal employees were eligible for at least one health plan through your government unit?

207

Eligible temporary or seasonal employees

c. How many of these temporary or seasonal employees were enrolled in any health plan through your government unit?

208

Enrolled temporary or seasonal employees

Section B – EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS – Continued

Provide information for a typical pay period in 1998.

Estimates are acceptable.

The following workforce characteristics are used to group similar government units together for analytical purposes.

4a. What percentage of the employees at this government unit were women?

016

 %

Women employees

b. What percentage of the employees at this government unit were 50 years old or older?

017

 %

Employees 50 years old or older

c. What percentage of the employees at this government unit were union members?

018

 %

Union members

d. For the employees at this government unit in 1998, approximately what percentage earned –

022

 %

Earned less than \$6.50 per hour

Less than \$6.50 per hour?
Approximately \$13,000 a year or less

023

 %

Earned between \$6.50 and \$15.00 per hour

Between \$6.50 and \$15.00 per hour?
Approximately \$13,000 to \$30,000 a year

024

 %

Earned more than \$15.00 per hour

More than \$15.00 per hour?
Approximately \$30,000 a year or more

5. How many hours per week must an employee work to be considered full-time at this government unit?

041

Hours

Continue with Page 6, Section C

