2019 KFF Employer Health Benefits Survey

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Filling the need for trusted information on national health issues.

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Average Annual Premiums for Single and Family Coverage, 1999-2019





 * Estimate is statistically different from estimate for the previous year shown (p < .05).

SOURCE: KFF Employer Health Benefits Survey, 2018-2019; Kaiser/HRET Survey of Employer-Sponsored Health Benefits, 1999-2017

Figure 2 Average Annual Increases in Premiums for Family Coverage Compared to Other Indicators, 2000-2019



* Estimate is statistically different from estimate for the previous year shown (p < .05).

SOURCE: KFF Employer Health Benefits Survey, 2018-2019; Kaiser/HRET Survey of Employer-Sponsored Health Benefits, 1999-2017. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index, U.S. City Average of Annual Inflation (April to April), 1999-2019; Bureau of Labor Statistics, Seasonally Adjusted Data from the Current Employment Statistics Survey, 1999-2019 (April to April).



Cumulative Increases in Family Coverage Premiums, General Annual Deductibles, Inflation, and Workers' Earnings, 2009-2019



NOTE: Average general annual deductibles are for single coverage and are among all covered workers. Workers in plans without a general annual deductible for in-network services are assigned a value of zero.

SOURCE: KFF Employer Health Benefits Survey, 2018-2019; Kaiser/HRET Survey of Employer-Sponsored Health Benefits, 2009-2017. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index, U.S. City Average of Annual Inflation (April to April), 2009-2019; Bureau of Labor Statistics, Seasonally Adjusted Data from the Current Employment Statistics Survey, 2009-2019 (April to April).



Figure 4 Average Annual Worker and Employer Contributions to Premiums and Total Premiums for Family Coverage, 1999-2019





* Estimate is statistically different from estimate for the previous year shown (p < .05).

SOURCE: KFF Employer Health Benefits Survey, 2018-2019; Kaiser/HRET Survey of Employer-Sponsored Health Benefits, 1999-2017

Distribution of Percentage of Premium Paid by Covered Workers for Single and Family

Coverage, by Firm Size, 2019



* Distributions are statistically different between All Small Firms and All Large Firms within coverage type (p < 0.05).

NOTE: Small Firms have 3-199 workers and Large Firms have 200 or more workers.



Average Annual Worker and Employer Contributions to Premiums and Total Premiums for Single and Family Coverage, By Firm Wage Level, 2019



* Estimate is statistically different between firm wage level categories (p < .05).

NOTE: Firms with many lower-wage workers are those where at least 35% earn less than the 25th percentile of national earnings (\$25,000 in 2019).



Figure 7 Eligibility, Take-Up, and Coverage Rates in Firms Offering Health Benefits, by Wage Level, 2019



* Estimate is statistically different between firm wage level categories (p < .05).

NOTE: Firms with many lower-wage workers are those where at least 35% earn less than the 25th percentile of national earnings (\$25,000 in 2019).



Figure 8 Average General Annual Deductibles for Single Coverage, 2006-2019



 * Estimate is statistically different from estimate for the previous year shown (p < .05).

NOTE: Average general annual deductibles are among all covered workers. Workers in plans without a general annual deductible for in-network services are assigned a value of zero.

SOURCE: KFF Employer Health Benefits Survey, 2018-2019; Kaiser/HRET Survey of Employer-Sponsored Health Benefits, 2006-2017



Percentage of Covered Workers Enrolled in a Plan with a High General Annual Deductible for Single Coverage, by Firm Size, 2019



* Estimate is statistically different between All Small Firms and All Large Firms estimate (p < .05).

NOTE: Small Firms have 3-199 workers and Large Firms have 200 or more workers. These estimates include workers enrolled in HDHP/SOs and other plan types. Average general annual health plan deductibles for PPOs, POS plans, and HDHP/SOs are for in-network services.

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Distribution of Health Plan Enrollment for Covered Workers, by Plan Type, 1988-2019

Conventional

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HDHP/SO

POS

1988 -							73%				16%			11%	
1993 -		46%					21%				26%			7%	
1996 -		27%				31%			28%			14%			
1999 -		10%			28%			39%				24%			
2000 -					9%				42%			21%			
2001 -		7% 24%			46%						23%				
2002 -		4% 27%			52%						18%				
2003 -		5% 24%			54%						17%				
2004 -		5% 25%			55%						15%				
2005 -		3% 21%			61%									15%	
2006 -		3%				60%							13%	4%	
2007 -		3% 21%			57%							13% 5%			
2008 -		20%			58%								12% 8%		
2009 -		20%			60%							10% 8%			
2010 -		19%			58%							8% 13%			
2011 -		17%			55%						10%	, D	17%		
2012 -		16%			56%						9%		19%		
2013 -		14%			57%						9%	20%			
2014 -		13%			58%						8%	20%			
2015 -		14%			52%						6 24%				
2016 -		15%			48%						29%				
2017 -		14%			48%						28%				
2018 -		16%								6%	29%				
2019 -			19%	6			44%			7%	% 30)%	
	0	%	10%	20%	3	0%	40%	50%	60%	70%	8	0%	90%	100%	

NOTE: Information was not obtained for POS plans in 1988 or for HDHP/SO plans until 2006. A portion of the change in 2005 is likely attributable to incorporating more recent Census Bureau estimates of the number of state and local government workers and removing federal workers from the weights. See the Survey Design and Methods section from the 2005 Kaiser/HRET Survey of Employer-Sponsored Health Benefits. SOURCE: KFF Employer Health Benefits Survey, 2018-2019; Kaiser/HRET Survey of Employer-Sponsored Health Benefits, 1999-2017; KPMG Survey of Employer-Sponsored Health Benefits, 1993 and 1996; The Health Insurance Association of America (HIAA), 1988.



Figure 11 Percentage of Firms Offering Health Benefits, by Firm Size, 1999-2019



* Estimate is statistically different from estimate for the previous year shown (p < .05).

NOTE: As noted in the Survey Design and Methods section, estimates are based on the sample of both firms that completed the entire survey and those that answered just one question about whether they offer health benefits.

SOURCE: KFF Employer Health Benefits Survey, 2018-2019; Kaiser/HRET Survey of Employer-Sponsored Health Benefits, 1999-2017



Figure 12 Percentage of Workers Covered by Their Firm's Health Benefits, 1999-2019





Tests found no statistical difference from estimate for the previous year shown (p < .05).

SOURCE: KFF Employer Health Benefits Survey, 2018-2019; Kaiser/HRET Survey of Employer-Sponsored Health Benefits, 1999-2017

Among Large Firms that Offer Spousal Coverage, Spouses' Eligibility if They Have an Offer from Another Source, by Firm Size, 2019



* Estimate is statistically different from estimate for all other firms not in the indicated size category (p < .05).

NOTE: Large Firms have 200 or more workers. other restrictions may include requirements on the work status of the spouse, or the type of coverage they have access to



Among Firms Offering Health Benefits, Percentage of Firms That Offer Voluntary Insurance Benefits in Addition to Benefits Offered Through the Health Plan, by Firm Size, 2019



* Estimate is statistically different from estimate for all other firms not in the indicated size category (p < .05).

NOTE: Small Firms have 3-199 workers and Large Firms have 200 or more workers. Critical illness insurance provides a cash benefit when an enrollee is diagnosed with a specified condition, such as cancer. Hospital indemnity plans provide a cash benefit when an enrollee is admitted to the hospital or has a certain type of outpatient surgery. Long term care insurance covers assistance with daily living not generally covered by health insurance such as care from a home health worker or nursing home. The survey asks firms that offer health benefits if they offer or contribute to voluntary benefits that are separate from any their health plans might include.



Among Firms with 1,000 or More Workers That Offer Coverage for Prescription Drugs, Percentage of Firms With Prescription Drug Coverage Who Have Reduced or No Cost Sharing for Maintenance Drugs for Chronic Conditions, by Firm Size, 2019



Tests found no statistical difference from estimate for all other firms not in the indicated size category (p < .05).

NOTE: Small Firms have 3-199 workers and Large Firms have 200 or more workers. An example of a maintenance drug for a chronic condition is instruction for diabetes.

Among Large Firms Offering Health Benefits, Percentage of Firms Offering Various Wellness and Health Promotion Activities and Incentives, by Firm Size, 2019



* Estimates are statistically different between firm size estimates within category (p < .05).

NOTE: 'Specific Wellness Programs' include 'Programs to Help Workers Stop Smoking', 'Programs to Help Workers Lose Weight', or 'Other Lifestyle or Behavioral Coaching'. Large Firms have 200 or more workers.





Among Large Firms Offering Health Benefits, Percentage of Firms Taking Various Actions in Response to the Opioid Crisis, by Firm Size, 2019



* Estimate is statistically different from estimate for all other firms not in the indicated size category (p < .05).

NOTE: Many employers selecting, 'other', indicated that they limited the number of pills that can be given per prescription An EAP is a program which offers short-term counseling for things such as substance abuse or relationship issues. Step therapies require enrollees to try alternatives before opioids are covered. Large Firms have 200 or more workers.



Figure 18 Among Firms Offering Health Benefits, Percentage of Firms Whose Plan Has Various Features, by Firm Size, 2019



* Estimate is statistically different from estimate for all other firms not in the indicated size category (p < .05).

NOTE: For Retail Clinics, Telemedicine, and High Performance/Tiered Provider Network, firms were asked if their plan with the largest enrollment had these features.



Among Firms Offering Health Benefits, How Broad the Firm Considers Their Largest Plan's

Provider Network, by Firm Size, 2019



* Estimates are statistically different from estimate for all other firms not in the indicated category within each firm size (p < .05).

NOTE: A broad network includes most doctors and hospitals in the area, a narrow network is one which is limited to a small number of providers. Small Firms have 3-199 workers and Large Firms have 200 or more workers.

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Among Firms Offering Health Benefits with 50 or More Workers, Percentage of Firms that Believe the Repeal of the Individual Mandate has Reduced the Share of Employees and Dependents Who Took up Offer of Coverage, by Firm Size, 2019



Tests found no statistical difference from estimate for all other firms not in the indicated size category (p < .05).

NOTE: Among Large Firms (200 or more employees) that believe the repeal of the Individual Mandate impacted the uptake of coverage among their employees, 76% believe that the reduction in insurance uptake was greater among lower-paid employees.18% indicated that they did not know. 3% of firms offering health benefits with 50 or more employees indicated that they did not know, w SOURCE: KFF Employer Health Benefits Survey, 2019



Among Firms with 50 or More Workers Offering Health Benefits, Importance of High-Cost

Plan Tax in Making Health Policy Decisions for 2019, by Firm Size, 2019





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