

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Economics and Statistics Administration  
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU  
ACTING AS COLLECTING AGENT FOR  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY

Medical Expenditure Panel Survey  
Insurance Component

**HEALTH INSURANCE COST STUDY  
PLAN INFORMATION QUESTIONNAIRE**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

**The MEPS-11(S), Plan Information Questionnaire, is to be completed for ALL health insurance plans offered in 2015 AT THIS GOVERNMENT UNIT. Please use photocopies of this MEPS-11(S) form if sufficient copies were not included in this reporting package.**

**Section B – GENERAL PLAN INFORMATION**

*Begin with the plan having the largest enrollment and proceed through to the plan with the smallest enrollment of ACTIVE employees.*

*Please photocopy this MEPS-11(S) questionnaire if additional forms are needed.*

**1. For 2015, what was the name of the health insurance plan with the largest (or next largest) enrollment of ACTIVE employees?**

012 Name of plan

- Examples:
- Blue Cross Blue Shield, High Option
  - Option A
  - Aetna HMO

**2. Which type of health care provider arrangement was available through this plan?**

- 103
- 1  Exclusive providers  
(Examples: Most HMO, IPA, and EPO-type plans)
  - 2  Any providers  
(Examples: Most fee-for-service plans)
  - 3  Mixture of preferred and any providers  
(Examples: Most PPO and POS-type plans)

**Exclusive providers** - Enrollees must go to providers associated with the plan for all non-emergency care in order for the costs to be covered.

**Any providers** - Enrollees may go to providers of their choice with no cost incentives to use a particular group of providers.

**Mixture of preferred and any providers** - Enrollees may go to any provider, but there is a cost incentive to use a particular group of providers.

**3. Did this plan REQUIRE that the enrollee see a gatekeeper or primary-care physician in order to be referred to a specialist?**

- 104
- 1  Yes
  - 2  No
  - 3  Don't know

*For plans with multiple options, answer for the "in-network" option.*

**Continue with Page 2, Question 4**

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**ACTIVE ENROLLMENT - Continued**

**8b. How many of these ACTIVE employees were ENROLLED in SINGLE coverage during a typical pay period in 2015?**

129

**Active employees enrolled in single coverage**

EMPLOYEE-PLUS-ONE coverage is health insurance coverage for an employee-plus-spouse or an employee-plus-child AT A LOWER PREMIUM than family coverage.

**c. If your government unit offered EMPLOYEE-PLUS-ONE coverage, how many ACTIVE employees were ENROLLED during a typical pay period in 2015?**

571

**Active employees enrolled in employee-plus-one coverage**

*Include enrollment for both employee-plus-spouse and employee-plus-child coverage.*

**d. How many of these ACTIVE employees were ENROLLED in FAMILY (not single or employee-plus-one) coverage during a typical pay period in 2015?**

705

**Active employees enrolled in family coverage**

**PHSA (COBRA ENROLLMENT)**

**9. How many FORMER employees were ENROLLED in this plan, excluding retirees, through PHSA (COBRA) or state continuation-of-benefits laws during a typical pay period in 2015?**

126

**Former employees enrolled in plan, excluding retirees**

**PLAN PREMIUMS**

*Report for TYPICAL situations and enrollees.*

*If this was a self-insured plan, report the premium equivalent.*

*If premium varied, report for a TYPICAL employee.*

*Report government unit/employee contributions and total premium for the same period in 2015.*

*If there is an HSA or HRA associated with this plan, include any employer contributions to an HSA or HRA account in the employer contribution to the premium.*

**SINGLE COVERAGE**

552

1  Yes - Continue with Question 10b

2  No - **SKIP to Page 4, Question 11a**

**10a. Was SINGLE coverage offered under this plan?**

**b. For this plan, how much did the GOVERNMENT UNIT contribute toward the plan premium of one typical employee with SINGLE coverage?**

131

**Employer contribution for single premium**

**c. How much did this typical EMPLOYEE with SINGLE coverage contribute toward his/her own premium?**

132

**Employee contribution for single premium**

**d. What was the TOTAL premium for this typical employee with SINGLE coverage?**

130

**Total single premium**

**e. The amounts reported in Questions 10b-d are based on which one of the following time periods?**

*Mark (X) only one.*

133

1  Weekly 5  Quarterly

2  Every 2 weeks 4  Yearly

3  Monthly

**Continue with Page 4, Question 11a**

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**PLAN PREMIUMS - Continued**

**EMPLOYEE-PLUS-ONE COVERAGE**

*If employee-plus-one premiums were different for employee-plus-child and employee-plus-spouse coverages, report for employee-plus-one child. If premiums varied for other reasons, report for a TYPICAL employee.*

**11a. Was EMPLOYEE-PLUS-ONE coverage offered under this plan?**

- 570 1  Yes - Continue with Question 11b  
 2  No - **SKIP to Question 12a**

**b. For this plan, how much did the GOVERNMENT UNIT contribute toward the plan premium of one typical employee with EMPLOYEE-PLUS-ONE coverage?**

636 \$  ,  .00 **Government unit contribution for employee-plus-one premium**

**c. How much did this typical EMPLOYEE with EMPLOYEE-PLUS-ONE coverage contribute toward his/her own premium?**

637 \$  ,  .00 **Employee contribution for employee-plus-one premium**

**d. What was the TOTAL premium for this typical employee with EMPLOYEE-PLUS-ONE coverage?**

635 \$  ,  .00 **Total employee-plus-one premium**

**e. The amounts reported in Questions 11b-d are based on which one of the following time periods?**

*Mark (X) only one.*

- 638 1  Weekly 5  Quarterly  
 2  Every 2 weeks 4  Yearly  
 3  Monthly

**FAMILY COVERAGE**

*If premium varied by family size, report for a family of four.*

**12a. Was FAMILY coverage offered under this plan?**

- 137 1  Yes - Continue with Question 12b  
 2  No - **SKIP to Question 13a**

**b. For this plan, how much did the GOVERNMENT UNIT contribute toward the plan premium of one typical employee with FAMILY coverage?**

135 \$  ,  .00 **Government unit contribution for family premium**

**c. How much did this typical EMPLOYEE with FAMILY coverage contribute toward his/her own premium?**

136 \$  ,  .00 **Employee contribution for family premium**

**d. What was the TOTAL premium for this typical employee with FAMILY coverage?**

134 \$  ,  .00 **Total family premium**

**e. The amounts reported in Questions 12b-d are based on which one of the following time periods?**

*Mark (X) only one.*

- 553 1  Weekly 5  Quarterly  
 2  Every 2 weeks 4  Yearly  
 3  Monthly

**GENERAL PREMIUM INFORMATION**

**13a. Did the TOTAL premium reported earlier for SINGLE coverage vary by the age of the employee enrolled in the plan?**

*Refer to Question 10d on Page 3.*

- 749 1  Yes  
 2  No  
 3  Don't know

**Continue with Page 5, Question 12b**

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**GENERAL PREMIUM INFORMATION - Continued**

**13b. Did the TOTAL premium reported earlier for FAMILY coverage vary depending on the number of family members covered by the plan?**

*Refer to Question 12d on Page 4.*

- 752
- 1  Yes
  - 2  No
  - 3  Don't know
  - 4  Family coverage not offered

**c. Did the amount individual EMPLOYEES contributed toward their SINGLE coverage vary by any of these characteristics?**

*Do not include incentive programs that do not impact contributions.*

- |   | Yes<br>(1)               | No<br>(2)                | Don't<br>know<br>(3)     |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 734 Participation in a fitness/weight loss program. . . . . | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 735 Participation in a smoking cessation program. . . . .   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 761 Wellness/Health monitoring. . . . .                     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**d. Did older EMPLOYEES contribute more toward their SINGLE coverage premium?**

- 750
- 1  Yes
  - 2  No
  - 3  Don't know

**IF NO OR DON'T KNOW, SKIP to Question 14a**

**e. Why did older EMPLOYEES contribute more toward their SINGLE coverage premium?**

*Check only one box.*

- 751
- 1  Your government unit pays a fixed **PERCENT** of the premium for all employees, and older workers have higher premiums
  - 2  Your government unit pays a fixed **DOLLAR** amount toward the premium for all employees, and older workers have higher premiums
  - 3  Other
  - 4  Don't know

**INDIVIDUAL DEDUCTIBLES**

**14a. Did this plan have a deductible?**

**Deductible** - Predetermined amount which must be paid by an individual before the plan will reimburse for covered services.

Many HMOs do not have a deductible.

- 151
- 1  Yes - *Continue with Question 14b*
  - 2  No - **SKIP to Page 6, Question 17**

**b. What was the annual deductible an individual paid?**

*Report "in-network" deductibles (if applicable).*

*If separate deductibles apply, enter physician care and hospital care amounts in appropriate boxes.*

*If deductible is per overnight hospital stay, it is not an annual deductible and should be reported under Question 18b on Page 6.*

**DO NOT report COPAYMENTS or individual or family maximums here.**

146  ,  .00 Individual annual deductible

**OR**

Separate deductibles for:

147  ,  .00 Physician care

148  ,  .00 Hospital care

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## FAMILY DEDUCTIBLES

**15a. Did this plan require that a specific number of family members meet their individual deductibles before the family deductible was met?**

224

- 1  Yes - Continue with Question 15b
- 2  No - **SKIP to Question 15c**
- 3  Family coverage not offered - **SKIP to Question 16**

**b. How many family members were required to meet their individual deductibles before the family deductible was met?**

150

Number of family members

*Report for a family of four.*

**c. What was the total annual deductible a family paid?**

149

\$  ,  .00 Total annual family deductible

*Report for a family of four.*

## HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT (HSA)

**16. If the deductibles you reported in Questions 13 and 14 were \$1,300 or higher for single coverage and \$2,600 or higher for family coverage, did your government unit contribute to a Health Savings Account (HSA) for the plan enrollees in 2015?**

714

- 1  Yes, contributed to an HSA
- 2  No, did not contribute to an HSA
- 4  Don't know

## HEALTH REIMBURSEMENT ARRANGEMENT (HRA)

**17. An employer can offer a Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) by setting up an account to reimburse employees for medical expenses not covered by health insurance. Did your organization offer an HRA associated with this plan in 2015?**

710

- 1  Yes
- 2  No
- 3  Don't know

*HRAs are NOT Flexible Spending Accounts (FSAs) or Health Savings Accounts (HSAs). See definition sheet MEPS-20(D) for more information.*

## PAYMENTS

**18a. Was hospital care covered under this plan?**

155

- 1  Yes - Continue with Question 18b
- 2  No - **SKIP to Page 7, Question 19a**

**b. How much and/or what percentage of the total bill did an enrollee pay out-of-pocket for an inpatient hospital admission after any annual deductible was met?**

152

\$  ,  .00 Copayment paid by enrollee for hospital admission

**Out-of-pocket expense** - Those costs paid directly by the enrollee.

Some plans may have both a dollar copayment and a percentage coinsurance.

*Report for precertified hospital admissions (if applicable).*

*Report for an admission at an "in-network"/participating hospital (if applicable).*

*Do not include any physician charges incurred during the hospital admission.*

154

- 1  Per day
- 2  Per stay

**AND/OR**

153

% Coinsurance paid by enrollee

**Continue with Page 7, Question 19a**



**PAYMENTS - Continued**

*Include all copayments, coinsurance and deductibles.*

**21a. What was the MAXIMUM ANNUAL out-of-pocket expense for an individual?**

**Out-of-pocket expense** - Those costs paid directly by the enrollee.

This is often referred to as a catastrophic limit.

161 \$  ,  .00

**OR**

163  No **individual** maximum

**b. What was the MAXIMUM ANNUAL out-of-pocket expense for a family of four?**

162 \$  ,  .00

**OR**

222  No **family** maximum

**PLAN CHARACTERISTICS**

**22. Which of the services listed were covered by this plan?**

	Yes (1)	No (2)	Don't know (3)
173 Chiropractic care . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
736 Routine vision care for children. . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
587 Routine vision care for adults. . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
737 Routine dental care for children. . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
176 Routine dental care for adults. . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
738 Mental health care. . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
182 Substance abuse treatment . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**23. Was this a grandfathered health plan as defined by the Affordable Care Act?**

*See the definition sheet MEPS-20(D) included with this package for an explanation.*

739 1  Yes  
2  No  
3  Don't know

**\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE \*\*\***

**If your government unit offered MORE THAN ONE health insurance plan, please fill out a MEPS-11(S) for each plan that was offered. Then continue with the form MEPS-11(R), at the back of this package.**

**If this is your last health insurance plan, please continue with the form MEPS-11(R), Section C.**

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