



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:
Maggie McPhee
Director of Information Services
The Employers' Association
616-698-1167

2010 TEA Health Care Cost Survey Released

June 16, 2010, Grand Rapids, Michigan. The Employers' Association has released its 2010 Health Care Cost Survey. Conducted annually in conjunction with the Alliance Group – Business Group on Health, the survey details employer costs, employee costs and emerging health insurance plan designs.

The survey includes 148 West Michigan companies, with 59% of those companies having less than 100 employees, and 22% with employee counts between 101 – 250.

One hundred twenty four (124) health care plans were reported by 75 of the participating companies. This year single person plan participants reported an average premium increase jump of 16% to roughly \$371 per month, average premium for two-person plans is \$763 and for family plans the average premium is \$983.

Regarding plan design, there was a significant increase in PPO type plans (51 plans reported this year, 28 plans reported last year) and a slight decrease in HMO plans (53 plans reported this year, 63 last year.)

There was little change in terms of the percent of plans requiring premium cost sharing (roughly 92%) and no change from last year in the average amount of the premium employees are contributing; still an average of 23% of the premium.

There were significant changes in the number of companies altering their plan design this year over last.

Plan Feature	% of Respondents 2009	% of Respondents 2010
Offer Healthcare Screening	35%	40%
Increased Premium Contribution	44%	54%
Increased Co-pay	29%	43%
Increased Deductible	40%	53%
Increased Out-of Pocket Max	26%	37%

This year's results indicate that companies are making changes to their plans that will require employees to become better consumers of healthcare. We will continue to keep an eye on how deeply the new health care legislation will impact this trend.

This and other surveys (such as TEA's newly released Policy & Benefits Survey) are available to employers seeking benchmark information and to members at a discounted rate. Contact MAGGIE MCPHEE or MARLA HOLZAPFEL at The Employers' Association (616.698.1167) or visit our website (www.teagr.org) to learn more or order your survey report.