Health Care Reform:
A Survey of AARP Illinois Members

Data collected by Alan Newman Research
Report Prepared by Brittne M. Nelson

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State Research brings the right knowledge at the right time to our state and national partners in support of their efforts to improve the lives of people age 50 and older. State Research consultants provide strategic insights and actionable research to attain measurable state and national outcomes.

The views expressed herein are for information, debate, and discussion, and do not necessarily represent official policies of AARP.

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Health Care in Illinois: In a State of Crisis

The United States health care system is in a state of crisis. While the U.S. spends twice as much per person on health care than any other developed country, it still underperforms on critical measures of success such as health care quality, access, efficiency, equity, and healthy lives.¹ (see page 26 for references) In 2008, $2.4 trillion was spent on health care in our current mixed public-private health care system, yet 47 million Americans are without health care coverage mainly due to cost.² ³ The economic crisis of 2009 coupled with spiraling health care costs has made health care reform an imperative issue. This is particularly true in Illinois where the rate of unemployment, currently at 7.9%, has increased every month since December 2007, and 1.7 million residents are without health care coverage.³ As unemployment rises, more residents will lose their employer-based health care coverage and be among the uninsured or turn to Medicaid, which is already the second largest expenditure for Illinois and the country.⁵ Indeed, a recent study found that every one percent increase in unemployment leads to 1.1 million Americans losing health care insurance, 1 million new enrollees in Medicaid and the State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), and a $1.4 billion increase in state spending on Medicaid.⁶

Given the current economic crisis of states losing revenue in the face of increasing expenses, the health care system will not be sustainable without change. Now is the time for Americans to choose between continuing to support the current broken health care system, or embracing change via a new system that may have unknown benefits and risks.

The debate over health care reform will be a top issue among legislators in 2009. As the Illinois Legislature grapples with how to achieve affordable and accessible health care coverage, AARP’s Illinois State Office commissioned a survey to understand members’ concerns about the future of health care, current experiences managing health care expenses, and their support for specific ways to improve and expand access to health care coverage. This mail survey of 753 AARP members finds that:

- **AARP Illinois members are open to change in the problematic health care system.** Most agree that health care in Illinois is in a state of crisis or has major problems, yet members are worried about being without health care, if a new health care system fails, or paying more in a new system than their current plan.

- **AARP Illinois members are concerned about the affordability of health care.** Four in five members are concerned about having to pay more for their health care coverage, and two-thirds are worried about not being able to afford the health care services they think they need.
Many members have had to make difficult choices to manage their health care costs. Due to changes in the economy, over half of all members have found it more difficult to pay for essential items such as food and medicine. One in eight has avoided seeking medical help when needed because of the cost, and one in five has not filled or delayed getting a prescription filled due to cost.

Illinois members believe that all State residents should have access to health care. Eighty-seven percent agree that all Illinois residents should have access to basic health care. About eight in ten believe it is extremely or very important for Illinois to make health care more affordable and to reduce the number of uninsured residents.

AARP Illinois members support health care reform proposals that promote accessibility and coverage for all residents. At least three in four members support proposals that would require employers to either provide health insurance to full-time workers or pay into a state fund that would provide coverage, and expand the state government health insurance program to provide coverage for more people.

Women and Hispanic AARP Illinois members have unique experiences managing prescription drug costs, but share similar perspectives about health care reform. Women and Hispanic members manage their prescription drug costs differently than other members but both groups robustly support proposals that expand health care coverage.

Illinois members say employers, insurance companies, individuals, workers, health care providers, and the government should contribute in order to provide health care coverage. About eight in ten say employers and insurance companies should contribute so that everyone can have access to quality, affordable health care coverage, and a similar proportion believes state and federal government as well as health care providers should contribute as well.

Most Illinois members say health care in Illinois is in a state of crisis or has major problems and many are worried about being able to afford their health care in the future. Members are open to change in the health care system. It is important that any reform proposal includes portability, choice, and more affordable and accessible health care coverage to all state residents. Members support reform proposals that provide security and peace of mind by allowing all residents to have coverage, yet members are worried about being without health care if a new health care system fails or paying more in a new system than their current plan. AARP Illinois members also believe in a system where the cost of providing health care to all state residents is shared among employers, insurers, individuals, workers, health care providers, and the government. As the State works to improve and expand health care to all residents, policymakers should look at the findings in this study as it is an indication of what types of health care reform Illinois residents would support.
When it comes to health care, Illinois residents are concerned primarily with health care costs and the overall coverage of health care.

When asked what worries members the most with regard to health care, having to pay more for their health care, having coverage they can afford, not being able to pay for a major illness, needed services or prescription drugs, and losing health care coverage top the list.

### Illinois Members’ Primary Health Care Concerns (N=753)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Extremely/Very concerned</th>
<th>Somewhat concerned</th>
<th>Not very/Not at all concerned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Having to pay more</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having coverage you can afford</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not being able to pay for major illness</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not being able to afford services you think you need</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Losing your health care coverage</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not being able to afford needed prescription drugs</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providers not accepting your insurance</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of health care coverage getting worse</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providers not conveniently located</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Declaring bankruptcy due to costs</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Percentages do not sum to 100 due to exclusion of Missing/No answer responses.
About nine in ten Illinois members agree that State residents should have access to affordable, quality health care.

Illinois residents are concerned about maintaining health care costs, but nearly all agree that all State residents should have access to affordable, quality health care. Only three percent disagree.

Similar proportions of respondents with varying political ideologies agree that all residents should have access to affordable, quality health care (Conservative: 80%, Moderate: 90%, Liberal: 93%). This is a good show of support across the ideological spectrum.

All Illinois Residents Should Have Access to Affordable, Quality Health Care (N=753)
About four in five Illinois members believe that it is important for the State to make health care more affordable for all residents and to reduce the number of uninsured residents.

Members are proponents of making health care affordable and accessible to everyone including uninsured residents. About four in five Illinoisans say that it is extremely or very important for the State to make health care more affordable to all residents and another one in ten believes this is somewhat important. Similar proportions believe reducing the number of uninsured residents is also important.

A recent study found that Americans age 50-64 are the fastest growing segment of the uninsured and typically have the highest out-of-pocket medical expenses of any age group. Given this context, it is not surprising that Boomer-age members are more likely than older members to think it is extremely or very important to make health care more affordable (50-59: 90%; 60-74: 81%; 75+: 79%) and to reduce the number of the uninsured (50-59: 85%; 60-74: 80%; 75+: 74%).

### Importance of the State Making Health Care More Affordable to all Residents (N=753)*

- **Extremely important**: 60%
- **Very important**: 22%
- **Somewhat important**: 10%
- **Not very important**: 2%
- **Not at all important**: 1%
- **Not sure/No answer**: 4%

### Importance of Reducing the Number of Uninsured Residents (N=753)*

- **Extremely important**: 52%
- **Very important**: 27%
- **Somewhat important**: 12%
- **Not very important**: 2%
- **Not at all important**: 1%
- **Not sure/No answer**: 6%

*Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.
Eight in ten Illinois members say employers and insurance companies should contribute to health care costs so everyone can have access to affordable, quality health care coverage. About three in four also believe that health care providers, state government, and the federal government should contribute to health care costs.

Illinois members strongly agree that residents should have access to affordable health care coverage. Most respondents say employers, insurance companies, the government, health care providers, workers, and individuals should all be contributors in order to provide everyone with affordable health care coverage.

### Entities to Contribute to Quality, Affordable Health Care Coverage (N=753)

- **Employers:** 80% Strongly/Somewhat agree, 9% Neither agree nor disagree, 3% Strongly/Somewhat disagree
- **Insurance companies:** 79% Strongly/Somewhat agree, 9% Neither agree nor disagree, 3% Strongly/Somewhat disagree
- **Health care providers:** 74% Strongly/Somewhat agree, 12% Neither agree nor disagree, 6% Strongly/Somewhat disagree
- **State government:** 73% Strongly/Somewhat agree, 10% Neither agree nor disagree, 8% Strongly/Somewhat disagree
- **Federal government:** 73% Strongly/Somewhat agree, 12% Neither agree nor disagree, 8% Strongly/Somewhat disagree
- **Workers:** 68% Strongly/Somewhat agree, 13% Neither agree nor disagree, 8% Strongly/Somewhat disagree
- **Individuals:** 63% Strongly/Somewhat agree, 17% Neither agree nor disagree, 9% Strongly/Somewhat disagree
Illinois members believe the health care system is in a state of crisis or has major problems.

When asked which statement best describes the state of health care in Illinois, three in four members say it is in a state of crisis (24%) or has major problems (55%). Thirteen percent say it has minor problems and only two percent say it does not have any problems.

Across all age groups, similar proportions of respondents say that the health care system is in a state of crisis or has major problems (50-59: 87%, 60-74: 79%, 75+: 70%).
The most important characteristics of a reformed health care system are fairness, choice, portability, and coverage.

According to members, fairness, choice, portability, and coverage for all Illinoisans are the most important characteristics of a reformed health care system. Specifically, about eight in ten members say that important characteristics of health care reform proposals are providing residents the same benefits as state legislators, and allowing residents to choose between a new plan and their current plan. Seven in ten members say that allowing residents to take their coverage with them and providing coverage for all Illinoisans are health care reform characteristics that are extremely or very important to them.

### Important Characteristics of Health Care Reform

(N=753)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Extremely important</th>
<th>Very important</th>
<th>Somewhat important</th>
<th>Not very/Not at all important</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provides the same benefits as state legislators</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allows you to choose between current plan or new plan</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allows you to take your coverage with you</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides coverage for all Illinoisans</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insures residents over age 65</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costs about the same as what you pay now</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandatory for all Illinois residents</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requires businesses with 10 or fewer employees to provide coverage</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Health Care Reform: A Survey of AARP Illinois Members
Illinois members support proposals that would expand health care coverage for State residents.

AARP Illinois members were asked about their level of support for specific ways to reform the health care system in Illinois. Respondents were asked about five different proposals. The five proposals were:

- Require all employers with 20 or more employees to provide health insurance for their full-time workers or be required to pay into a state fund that would provide insurance for their employees.
- Expand the eligibility of existing state government health insurance programs for low-income people to provide coverage for more people without health coverage.
- Require all Municipal, City, County, and State employees to be part of one insurance pool administered by the State of Illinois and gradually expand that pool to cover all uninsured residents.
- Require every Illinois resident to have health insurance, either from their employer or another source, and offer a program for individuals and employers to purchase health care with assistance from the state for low income individuals.
- Consolidate all the money and resources now being spent by employers, individuals, government, and insurance companies to operate the current health insurance system and replace it with a new system, administered entirely by state government and covering all Illinois residents. This would require all residents to give up their current health insurance plan and enroll in the new state government plan but would not affect those on Medicare.

While a majority of Illinois members polled support all five proposals, most (79%) support requiring midsize and larger (20+ employees) employers to provide health insurance for their full-time workers or pay into a state fund that would provide insurance for their employees. Three in four members support expanding the state health care program to provide more coverage to low-income residents. A similar proportion of respondents support requiring every Illinois resident to have health insurance either from an employer, another source, or individually purchased. Each of these top proposals provides a strategy that would expand health care coverage to Illinois residents.

Given that members are worried about being without any health care coverage if a new health care system fails, it is not surprising that the most opposition (47%) is to consolidating all the resources currently spent on health care and replacing it with a new system administered by the State.
Support for Health Care Coverage Proposals (N=753)

Require all employers with 20 or more employees to provide health insurance for their full-time workers or be required to pay into a state fund that would provide insurance for their employees.

- Strongly support: 59%
- Somewhat support: 21%
- Neither support nor oppose: 9%
- Somewhat/Strongly oppose: 8%

Expand the eligibility of existing state government health insurance programs for low-income people to provide coverage for more people without health coverage.

- Strongly support: 45%
- Somewhat support: 30%
- Neither support nor oppose: 11%
- Somewhat/Strongly oppose: 11%

Require every Illinois resident to have health insurance, either from their employer or another source, and offer a program for individuals and employers to purchase health care with assistance from the state for low income individuals.

- Strongly support: 42%
- Somewhat support: 32%
- Neither support nor oppose: 11%
- Somewhat/Strongly oppose: 12%

Require all Municipal, City, County, and State employees to be part of one insurance pool administered by the State of Illinois and gradually expand that pool to cover all uninsured residents.

- Strongly support: 34%
- Somewhat support: 27%
- Neither support nor oppose: 21%
- Somewhat/Strongly oppose: 15%

Consolidate all the money and resources now being spent by employers, individuals, government, and insurance companies and replace it with a new system, administered entirely by state government and covering all Illinois residents.

- Strongly support: 15%
- Somewhat support: 14%
- Neither support nor oppose: 20%
- Somewhat/Strongly oppose: 47%

*Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.
Members support funding changes in the health care system by increasing the cigarette tax and creating a new state lottery to fund health care reform.

Members understand that making changes to the health care system will require revenue. Two in three members support a fifty cent increase in the state cigarette tax, and over half support a new state lottery that would be used specifically to provide affordable, quality health care for all Illinois residents. Fewer members support a one-tenth increase in the payroll tax from 3% to 3.10%. It is not clear which type of payroll tax members were evaluating; payroll tax can include either taxes withheld from an employee’s paycheck or taxes paid by an employer. Two in five members do support a payroll tax increase to provide health care coverage.

Support for Various Revenue Options to Fund Health Care Reform
(N=753)

- **50 cent increase in the cigarette tax**: 68% support, 14% neither support nor oppose, 12% oppose.
- **New state lottery**: 54% support, 23% neither support nor oppose, 18% oppose.
- **One-tenth percent increase in payroll tax**: 41% support, 23% neither support nor oppose, 32% oppose.

Legend:
- **Strongly/Somewhat support**
- **Neither support nor oppose**
- **Strongly/Somewhat oppose**
Members want legislators to lead the fight for health care reform. Over half of all members say they would be more likely to vote for a candidate who supports a plan that would provide affordable, quality health care for all Illinois residents.

Across five health care issues, two in five (42%) members say ensuring affordable health care coverage should be the one issue the Governor and State Legislature should work on in 2009. Members understand that working to ensure affordable health care coverage for all residents and changing the current health care system takes strong leadership, and they want legislators to lead the fight for health care reform. Over half say they are more likely to vote for a candidate who supports affordable, quality health care for all Illinois residents.

**Likelihood to Vote for a Candidate Who Supports Affordable, Quality Health Care for All Illinois Residents**

(N=753)

- More likely: 54%
- Would not make a difference: 31%
- Less likely: 11%
- No answer: 5%
Out-of-pocket medical expenses have increased for most members. Over half say they have had difficulty paying for essentials such as food and medications due to the economy; one in eight has avoided seeing a doctor due to cost.

Members have good reason to be concerned about health care costs and they are ready for health care reform. Four in five say their out-of-pocket medical expenses have increased over the past five years. In addition to increasing medical expenses, changes in the economy have caused many members to try to balance rising expenses. Over half of respondents have had difficulty paying for essentials such as food, medication, or gas due to economic changes. It is not surprising that one in eight (13%) has avoided seeing a doctor in the past year due to cost.

Changes in Out-Of-Pocket Medical Expenses Over the Past Five Years (N=753)

- Increased: 79%
- Decreased: 3%
- Missing/No answer: 4%
- Stayed about the same: 15%

Recent Difficulty Paying for Essential Items Due to Economy (N=753)

- Yes: 57%
- No: 36%
- Missing/No answer: 7%
Respondents have made difficult choices to manage health care expenses. About one in five has not filled or delayed filling a prescription due to cost, taken less medicine than prescribed to make it last longer, or cut back on essentials in order to afford prescription drugs.

AARP Illinois members have been savvy about managing prescription drug costs. Three in four purchase generic drugs to cut costs, two in three ask their doctor or pharmacist for generic drugs when available, and two in five obtain samples from their physician in order to save money. Unfortunately, many members have had to make difficult decisions about their prescription drugs. One in five has not filled or delayed filling a prescription due to cost, and one in six has taken less medicine than prescribed to make it last longer, cut back on essentials in order to afford prescription drugs, or used a drug company discount drug program. See pages 15 through 20 to view how Women and Hispanic members are managing their prescription drug costs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Behaviors to Manage Prescription Drug Costs (N=753)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purchased a generic drug because it cost less 78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asked your doctor or pharmacist for generic prescription drugs instead of brand name drugs when generics are available 64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obtained samples from your physician in order to save money 41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shopped around for the best price 35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchased your prescription drugs by mail or Internet because they cost less 32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not filled or delayed getting a prescription filled because you did not have enough money to pay for it 21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Used a discount drug program offered by a drug company 18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taken less medicine than your doctor prescribed to make it last longer 18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cut back on items such as food, fuel, electricity or utilities to be able to afford a prescription drug 17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchased a drug discount card 7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Women Member Experiences

Out-of-pocket medical expenses have increased and recent changes in the economy have made it difficult for many women to pay for essentials like medicine or food.

Women AARP Members’ Behaviors to Manage Prescription Drug Costs (n=419)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Behavior</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purchased a generic drug because it costs less</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asked your doctor or pharmacist for generic prescription drugs instead of brand name drugs when generics are available</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obtained samples from your physician in order to save money</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shopped around for the best price</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchased your prescription drugs by mail or Internet because they cost less</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not filled or delayed getting a prescription filled because you did not have enough money to pay for it</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taken less medicine than your doctor prescribed to make it last longer</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cut back on items such as food, fuel, electricity or utilities to be able to afford a prescription drug</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Used a discount drug program offered by a drug company</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchased a drug discount card</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The top characteristics of health care reform for women AARP Illinois members are choice, fairness, and portability.

Important Characteristics of Reform (n=419)*

- Allows you to choose between current plan or new plan: 83%
- Provides the same benefits as state legislators: 81%
- Allows you to take your coverage with you: 76%
- Costs about the same as what you pay now: 76%
- Provides coverage for all Illinoisans: 73%
- Insures residents over age 65: 70%
- Mandatory for all Illinois residents: 65%
- Requires businesses with 10 or fewer employees to provide coverage: 53%

*Extremely or Very Important

Women Members’ Support for Various Revenue Options to Fund Health Care Reform (n=419)

- 50 cent increase in the cigarette tax: 72% Strongly/Somewhat support, 15% Neither support nor oppose, 11% Strongly/Somewhat oppose
- New state lottery: 53% Strongly/Somewhat support, 25% Neither support nor oppose, 19% Strongly/Somewhat oppose
- One-tenth percent increase in payroll tax: 36% Strongly/Somewhat support, 26% Neither support nor oppose, 36% Strongly/Somewhat oppose
Women AARP Illinois members support health care reform proposals that expand coverage. Fewer support a proposal that would consolidate all the money and resources into one system.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women’s Support for Health Care Reform Proposals</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Require all midsize+ employers to provide health insurance for their full-time workers or be required to pay into a state fund that would provide insurance for their employees.</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expand the eligibility of existing state government health insurance programs for low-income people to provide coverage for more people without health coverage.</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Require every Illinois resident to have health insurance, either from their employer or another source, and offer a program for individuals and employers to purchase health care with assistance from the state for low income individuals.</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Require all Municipal, City, County, and State employees to be part of one insurance pool administered by the State and gradually expand that pool to cover all uninsured residents.</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consolidate all the money and resources now being spent on the current health insurance system and replace it with a new system, administered entirely by the State and covering all residents.</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More than half of all female Illinois members would be more likely to vote for a candidate who supports health care reform.

Likelihood to Vote for a Candidate Who Supports Affordable, Quality Health Care for all Illinois Residents

(n=419)

- More likely: 54%
- Less likely: 10%
- Would not make a difference: 33%
- No answer: 4%
Hispanic Member Experiences

Out-of-pocket medical expenses have increased and recent changes in the economy have made it difficult for two in three Hispanic Illinois members to pay for essentials like medicine or food.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Changes in Out-of-Pocket Medical Expenses Over the Past Five Years (n=144)</th>
<th>Recent Difficulty Paying for Essential Items Due to Economy (n=144)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Decreased 3%</td>
<td>Yes 64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased 77%</td>
<td>No 27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stayed about the same 16%</td>
<td>Missing/No answer 8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing/No answer 4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Although many Hispanic members shop around for the best price for their prescriptions, many do not ask their physician for free samples.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hispanic AARP Members’ Behaviors to Manage Prescription Drug Costs (n=144)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purchased a generic drug because it costs less 73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asked your doctor or pharmacist for generic prescription drugs instead of brand name drugs when generics are available 57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shopped around for the best price 39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obtained samples from your physician in order to save money 38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchased your prescription drugs by mail or Internet because they cost less 26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not filled or delayed getting a prescription filled because you did not have enough money to pay for it 24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cut back on items such as food, fuel, electricity or utilities to be able to afford a prescription drug 21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taken less medicine than your doctor prescribed to make it last longer 19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Used a discount drug program offered by a drug company 19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchased a drug discount card 10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The top characteristics of reform for Hispanic members are equality, choice, and universal coverage.

**Important Characteristics of Reform (n=144)*

- Provides the same benefits as state legislators: 87%
- Allows you to choose between current plan or new plan: 83%
- Insures residents over age 65: 81%
- Provides coverage for all Illinoisans: 79%
- Allows you to take your coverage with you: 77%
- Costs about the same as what you pay now: 76%
- Mandatory for all Illinois residents: 70%
- Requires businesses with 10 or fewer employees to provide coverage: 66%

*Extremely or Very Important

**Hispanic Members’ Support for Various Revenue Options to Fund Health Care Reform (n=144)**

- 50 cent increase in the cigarette tax: 81% support, 10% neither, 7% oppose
- New state lottery: 62% support, 24% neither, 13% oppose
- One-tenth percent increase in payroll tax: 42% support, 28% neither, 29% oppose
Hispanic members robustly support health care reform proposals that expand coverage. Fewer support a proposal that would consolidate all the money and resources into one system.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hispanic Members’ Support Health Care Reform Proposals</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expand the eligibility of existing state government health insurance programs for low-income people to provide coverage for more people without health coverage.</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Require all midsize+ employers to provide health insurance for their full-time workers or be required to pay into a state fund that would provide insurance for their employees.</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Require every Illinois resident to have health insurance, either from their employer or another source, and offer a program for individuals and employers to purchase health care with assistance from the state for low income individuals.</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Require all Municipal, City, County, and State employees to be part of one insurance pool administered by the State and gradually expand that pool to cover all uninsured residents.</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consolidate all the money and resources now being spent on the current health insurance system and replace it with a new system, administered entirely by the State and covering all residents.</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

About two in three Hispanic Illinois members would be more likely to vote for a candidate who supports health care reform.

Likelihood to Vote for a Candidate Who Supports Affordable, Quality Health Care for all Illinois Residents

(n=144)

- More likely 62%
- Less likely 13%
- Would not make a difference 22%
- No answer 3%

Health Care Reform: A Survey of AARP Illinois Members
It is important to note that seven percent of all AARP Illinois members do not have any kind of health care coverage. Hispanic members were more likely to not have any health care coverage. Of those with coverage, similar proportions maintain such coverage through Medicare, employer-sponsored coverage, or an individually purchased health care policy.

![Types of Health Care Coverage](chart)

- Medicare: Total (N=661) - 51%, Women (n=372) - 53%, Hispanic (n=122) - 50%
- Current employer or spouse's employer: Total (N=661) - 39%, Women (n=372) - 39%, Hispanic (n=122) - 38%
- Previous employer or spouse's employer: Total (N=661) - 15%, Women (n=372) - 20%, Hispanic (n=122) - 20%
- Individual insurance policy: Total (N=661) - 19%, Women (n=372) - 19%, Hispanic (n=122) - 16%
- Medicaid: Total (N=661) - 8%, Women (n=372) - 7%, Hispanic (n=122) - 13%
- Veteran's Administration/military benefits: Total (N=661) - 7%, Women (n=372) - 1%, Hispanic (n=122) - 9%
- Other: Total (N=661) - 12%, Women (n=372) - 14%, Hispanic (n=122) - 10%
- No insurance coverage at all: Total (N=661) - 7%, Women (n=372) - 8%, Hispanic (n=122) - 12%
Seventy-five percent of Illinois members say they are in excellent, very good, or good health. Six in ten (59%) say they have a chronic medical condition such as diabetes, high blood pressure, or osteoporosis.

Hispanic and female members share the same rate of responses to questions about overall health. Female members are more likely than male members to say they have a chronic medical condition (Female: 67%, Male: 54%).

*Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

Four in five AARP Illinois members say they vote always or most of the time in state elections. Hispanic and female members share the same rates of voting frequency.
References


3 Keehan, S. et al. (February 2008). Health Spending Projections Through 2017. Health Affairs Web Exclusive W146. http://content.healthaffairs.org/cgi/content/abstract/hlthaff.27.2.w145v1


Demographics (N=753)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>50-59</th>
<th>60-74</th>
<th>75+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;$35K</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$35K-&lt;$75K</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75K+</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-12 grade, no diploma</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school graduate</td>
<td></td>
<td>26%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college</td>
<td></td>
<td>27%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College grad+</td>
<td></td>
<td>29%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marital Status</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not married</td>
<td></td>
<td>33%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td></td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td>8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic Origin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Views</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservative</td>
<td></td>
<td>28%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberal</td>
<td></td>
<td>14%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding effects, as well as the exclusion of Not sure and Missing/No answer responses.
Methodology

AARP conducted the 2008 Survey of AARP Illinois Members between October 31 and December 1, 2008. Mail surveys were sent to a randomly selected sample of 2,000 members. An additional 1,000 mail surveys were sent to a randomly selected sample of likely Hispanic AARP members in the following counties: Cook, DuPage, Lake, Will, Kane, Grundy, and McHenry.

Each sampled member was contacted about the survey in four ways: a pre-notification postcard, the survey itself, a reminder postcard, and a second survey. Of the 2,000 surveyed, 417 returned surveys by the end date. Of the 1,000 surveyed, 336 returned completed questionnaires by the survey end date, yielding a total of sample size of 753 and a response rate of 25 percent. The survey has a sampling error of plus or minus 3.1 percent.

Survey responses were weighted to reflect the distribution of AARP members. As of February 28, 2009, there are 1.7 million active AARP members residing in the state of Illinois. Throughout the report, statistics representing member responses are reported in percentages. Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding effects.
APPENDIX

ANNOTATED QUESTIONNAIRE
2008 AARP Illinois Member Survey

N=753, Response Rate 25%, Standard Error 3.1%

1. Which of these statements do you think best describes the state of health care in Illinois today?

- 24% It is in a state of crisis
- 55% It has major problems
- 13% It has minor problems
- 2% It does not have any problems
- 6% Missing / No Answer

2. Do you have any kind of health care coverage, including health insurance or government plans such as Medicare, Medicaid, or military benefits?

- 88% Yes
- 7% No ➔ [SKIP TO QUESTION 7]
- <0.5% Not sure
- 6% Missing / No Answer

3. Do you have any of the following kinds of health care coverage?  
N=661

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coverage Type</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Not Sure</th>
<th>Missing / No Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. A health care plan sponsored by a current employer</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. A health care plan sponsored by your spouse’s current employer</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. A health care plan sponsored by a previous employer (or spouse’s previous employer), such as a retirement benefit or COBRA</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>&lt;0.5%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Veterans Administration or military benefits</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>&lt;0.5%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. An individually purchased health care policy on your own</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Medicaid, or some other state insurance program that provides health insurance and long-term care to certain low-income individuals</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Any other insurance coverage</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Medicare, the program that provides health insurance primarily to people age 65 and older ➔ [IF NO SKIP TO QUESTION 6]</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>&lt;0.5%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. Do you also have a Medicare supplement plan, such as one that pays the co-payments and deductibles of Medicare?  N=335

66% Yes
24% No
7% Not sure
3% Missing / No Answer

5. Do you also have a Medicare Part D plan that covers prescription drugs?

52% Yes
43% No
3% Not sure
1% Missing / No Answer

6. How satisfied are you with your current health care coverage?  N=661

15% Completely satisfied
31% Very satisfied
36% Somewhat satisfied
10% Not very satisfied
4% Not at all satisfied
4% Missing / No Answer

7. Thinking about what you currently pay in out-of-pocket medical expenses, including insurance premiums, prescription drug costs, and co-pays, would you say this amount has increased, decreased, or stayed about the same over the past five years?  N=753

79% Increased over the past five years
3% Decreased over the past five years
15% Stayed about the same
4% Missing / No Answer
8. Looking ahead to the next five years, how concerned are you about each of the following?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Extremely Concerned</th>
<th>Very Concerned</th>
<th>Somewhat Concerned</th>
<th>Not Very Concerned</th>
<th>Not at all Concerned</th>
<th>Missing/No Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Having to pay more for your health care</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Not being able to afford the health care services you think you need</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Not being able to afford the prescription drugs you need</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Not having health care providers that are conveniently located</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Not having health care providers that accept your health insurance</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Having adequate health coverage at a cost you can afford</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. The quality of health care services you receive getting worse</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Not being able to pay for the costs associated with a major illness or injury</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Losing your health care insurance or health care coverage</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Declaring bankruptcy because of health care costs</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9. Was there a time in the past two years when you needed to see a doctor but could not because of cost?

- 13% Yes
- 81% No
- 6% Missing / No Answer
10. Many people face difficult decisions when buying prescription drugs. In the last 12 months have you done any of the following?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Yes (%)</th>
<th>No (%)</th>
<th>Not Sure (%)</th>
<th>Missing/No Answer (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Obtained samples from your physician in order to save money</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchased a generic drug because it cost less</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Used a discount drug program offered by a drug company</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchased a drug discount card</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shopped around for the best price</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not filled or delayed getting a prescription filled because you did not have enough money to pay for it</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taken less medicine than your doctor prescribed to make it last longer</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cut back on items such as food, fuel, electricity or utilities to be able to afford a prescription drug</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asked your doctor or pharmacist for generic prescription drugs instead of brand name drugs when generics are available</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchased your prescription drugs by mail or Internet because they cost less</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. Have you or your family found it more difficult to pay for essential items such as food, gas, and medicine due to recent changes in the economy?

   - 57% Yes
   - 36% No
   - 7% Missing / No Answer

12. How important do you think it is for Illinois to make health care affordable for all residents?

   - 60% Extremely important
   - 22% Very important
   - 10% Somewhat important
   - 2% Not very important
   - 1% Not at all important
   - 4% Missing / No Answer
13. How important do you think it is for Illinois to reduce the number of residents without health care coverage?

52% Extremely important
27% Very important
12% Somewhat important
2% Not very important
1% Not at all important
6% Missing / No Answer

14. How strongly do you agree or disagree that all Illinois residents should have access to affordable, quality health care?

73% Strongly agree
14% Somewhat agree
5% Neither agree nor disagree
2% Somewhat disagree
1% Strongly disagree
5% Missing / No Answer

15. How strongly do you agree or disagree that the following entities should contribute so that everyone can have access to quality, affordable health care coverage?


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Somewhat Agree</th>
<th>Neither Agree nor Disagree</th>
<th>Somewhat Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
<th>Missing / No Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Employers</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Workers</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Federal Government</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. State Government</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Insurance companies</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Individuals</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Health care providers such as hospitals</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
16. Below is a list of characteristics of proposals for health care reform in Illinois. How important is each characteristic to you?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>Extremely Important</th>
<th>Very Important</th>
<th>Somewhat Important</th>
<th>Not Very Important</th>
<th>Not at all Important</th>
<th>Missing / No Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Provided the same benefits as those given to state legislators</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Insured residents over age 65, even if they were eligible for Medicare</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Was mandatory for all Illinois residents</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Provided coverage for all Illinois residents</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Cost you about the same amount that you pay in health care costs now</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Allowed individuals to choose to keep their current plan or switch to the new</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>state plan</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Allowed you to take your insurance coverage with you when you changed jobs</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or spent part of the year in another state</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Required small business, those with 10 employees or fewer, to provide health</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>insurance coverage for their employees</td>
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17. Below are five proposals for providing health care coverage for all Illinois residents. Please read each proposal and answer how strongly you support or oppose each proposal.

a. **PROPOSAL ONE** - How strongly do you support or oppose requiring all employers with 20 or more employees to provide health insurance for their full-time workers or be required to pay into a state fund that would provide insurance for their employees?
   - 59% Strongly support
   - 21% Somewhat support
   - 9% Neither support nor oppose
   - 4% Somewhat oppose
   - 4% Strongly oppose
   - 4% Missing / No Answer

b. **PROPOSAL TWO** - How strongly do you support or oppose expanding the eligibility of existing state government health insurance programs for low-income people to provide coverage for more people without health coverage?
   - 45% Strongly support
   - 30% Somewhat support
   - 11% Neither support nor oppose
   - 6% Somewhat oppose
   - 5% Strongly oppose
   - 3% Missing / No Answer

c. **PROPOSAL THREE** - How strongly do you support or oppose requiring all Municipal, City, County, and State employees to be part of one insurance pool administered by the State of Illinois and gradually expand that pool to cover all uninsured residents?
   - 34% Strongly support
   - 27% Somewhat support
   - 21% Neither support nor oppose
   - 6% Somewhat oppose
   - 9% Strongly oppose
   - 3% Missing / No Answer

d. **PROPOSAL FOUR** - How strongly do you support or oppose requiring every Illinois resident to have health insurance, either from their employer or another source, and offer a program for individuals and employers to purchase health care with assistance from the state for low income individuals?
   - 42% Strongly support
   - 32% Somewhat support
   - 11% Neither support nor oppose
   - 6% Somewhat oppose
   - 7% Strongly oppose
   - 3% Missing / No Answer
e. **PROPOSAL FIVE** - How strongly do you support or oppose consolidating all the money and resources now being spent by employers, individuals, government, and insurance companies to operate the current health insurance system and replace it with a new system, administered entirely by state government and covering all Illinois residents? This would require all residents to give up their current health insurance plan and enroll in the new state government plan but would not affect those on Medicare.

15% Strongly support  
14% Somewhat support  
20% Neither support nor oppose  
17% Somewhat oppose  
31% Strongly oppose  
4% Missing / No Answer

18. Thinking about the health care reform proposals described above, how worried are you about each of the following?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extremely Worried</th>
<th>Very Worried</th>
<th>Somewhat Worried</th>
<th>Not Very Worried</th>
<th>Not at all Worried</th>
<th>Missing/No Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. These plans will drive businesses out of the state ......................... 23% 23% 32% 11% 3% 9%

b. Too many people will move to Illinois for health care .................. 22% 19% 29% 18% 3% 9%

c. The new system will be too difficult to administer ..................... 29% 22% 30% 8% 2% 9%

d. It will end up costing more than my current plan .......................... 37% 26% 20% 6% 2% 8%

e. If this system fails, I will be without health care ....................... 39% 22% 15% 10% 4% 9%

f. I will be paying for people who aren’t working but are getting the benefit of health care .................. 33% 20% 23% 11% 5% 8%
19. If revenues would be used to specifically ensure that all state residents have access to quality, affordable health care coverage would you support or oppose a .50 cent increase in the cigarette tax from .98 cents per pack to $1.48 cents per pack?

- 54% Strongly support
- 14% Somewhat support
- 14% Neither support nor oppose
- 3% Somewhat oppose
- 9% Strongly oppose
- 5% Missing / No Answer

20. If revenues would be used to specifically ensure that all state residents have access to quality, affordable health care coverage would you support or oppose a new Illinois state lottery?

- 30% Strongly support
- 23% Somewhat support
- 23% Neither support nor oppose
- 4% Somewhat oppose
- 14% Strongly oppose
- 5% Missing / No Answer

21. If revenues would be used to specifically ensure that all state residents have access to quality, affordable health care coverage would you support or oppose an increase in the Illinois state payroll tax from 3% to 3.10%?

- 16% Strongly support
- 24% Somewhat support
- 23% Neither support nor oppose
- 12% Somewhat oppose
- 20% Strongly oppose
- 5% Missing / No Answer

22. If a candidate for state office supported a plan that would provide affordable, quality health care for all Illinois residents, would that make you more likely to vote for that candidate, less likely to vote that candidate, or would it not make a difference?

- 54% More likely
- 11% Less likely
- 31% Would not make a difference
- 5% Missing / No Answer
23. Of the following five health care issues, which ONE issue do you think the Governor and State Legislature should work on in 2009? Please choose only ONE issue.

13% Expanding coverage for the uninsured
14% Improving health care quality and reducing medical errors
10% Improving access to health care services and providers
15% Limiting the costs of prescription drugs
42% Ensuring affordable health care coverage
6% Missing / No Answer

The following questions are for classification purposes only and will be kept entirely confidential.

D1. What is your gender?

39% Male
56% Female
5% Missing / No Answer

D2. In general, how would you describe your health status today?

10% Excellent
29% Very good
36% Good
15% Fair
5% Poor
6% Missing / No Answer

D3. Do you currently have any chronic medical conditions, such as diabetes, high blood pressure, or osteoporosis?

59% Yes
36% No
5% Missing / No Answer

D4. What is your age as of your last birthday? [IN YEARS] __________

28% 50 – 59
41% 60 – 74
24% 75+
8% Missing / No Answer
D5. What is your current marital status? Are you....

- 63% Married
- 2% Not married, living with your partner or significant other
- 1% Separated
- 8% Divorced
- 18% Widowed
- 4% Currently single and never Married
- 4% Missing / No Answer

D6. What is the highest level of education that you completed?

- 10% 0 to 12th grade, but with no diploma
- 26% High school graduate or equivalent
- 19% Post high school education, but with no degree
- 9% 2 year degree
- 10% 4 year degree
- 5% Post graduate study, but with no degree
- 14% Graduate or professional degree
- 7% Missing / No Answer

D7. Thinking about your federal and state elections for Illinois Governor and Legislators in the last ten years, which of the following best describes your voting behavior?

- 67% Always vote
- 19% Vote most of the time
- 3% Vote about half of the time
- 3% Seldom vote
- 3% Never vote
- 5% Missing / No Answer

D8. Which of the following best describes your current employment status?

- 4% Self-employed full-time
- 3% Self-employed part-time
- 22% Employed full-time
- 9% Employed part-time
- 49% Retired and not working at all
- 3% Unemployed and looking for work
- 5% Not in the labor force for other reasons
- 5% Missing / No Answer
D9. Are you of Hispanic, Spanish, or Latino origin or descent?

19% Yes
74% No
1% Not sure
6% Missing / No Answer

D10. What is your race?

76% White or Caucasian
6% Black or African American
<0.5% Native American or Alaskan Native
3% Asian
1% Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
3% Or are you some other race? [Please Specify: __________]
10% Missing / No Answer

D11. Do you consider yourself to be a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent, or something else?

45% Democrat
23% Republican
21% Independent
5% Other
6% Missing / No Answer

D12. How would you characterize your political views?

28% Conservative
44% Moderate
14% Liberal
9% None of the above
6% Missing / No Answer

D13. What is your 5-digit zip code? ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

D14. In general, how often do you go online to access the Internet or World Wide Web or to send and receive email?

23% Several times a day
17% About once a day
8% 3-5 days a week
7% 1-2 days a week
3% Once every few weeks
3% Once a month or less
36% You never go online to use the Internet or World Wide Web
4% Missing / No Answer
D15. What was your annual household income before taxes in 2007?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Income Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16%</td>
<td>Less than $20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>$20,000 to less than $35,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15%</td>
<td>$35,000 to less than $50,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>14%</td>
<td>$50,000 to less than $75,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>9%</td>
<td>$75,000 to less than $100,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>9%</td>
<td>$100,000 to less than $150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5%</td>
<td>$150,000 or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12%</td>
<td>Missing / No Answer</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Thank you for your time!
Please return this important survey in the postage-paid envelope by December 1, 2008 to:
AARP, State Member Research, 601 E Street NW, Washington, DC  20049
AARP
Knowledge Management
For more information, please contact Joanne Binette at:
202.434.6303 or e-mail jbinette@aarp.org