2008 NAR Health Insurance Coverage Survey

In March 2008, a randomly selected group of REALTORS® from across the country was given an opportunity to respond to a brief survey about health insurance coverage. Results of the survey are summarized below.

VIEWS ABOUT THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

- Approximately half (51%) of REALTORS® responding to the survey believe that the current health care system is not meeting their needs or the needs of their family.
- More than 8 in 10 REALTORS® (82%) believe that the health care system is not meeting the needs of most Americans.
- 91% of REALTORS® believe that the U.S. health care systems should be reformed.

INSURANCE COST AND COVERAGE

- One in four REALTORS® reported that they had no health insurance coverage.
- Among REALTORS® with insurance coverage, 43% purchased an individual market private plan while 27% were covered under a spouse's or partner's insurance plan.
- Among REALTORS® without coverage, 73% reported premium cost as the reason for the lack of coverage ; only 15% cited a pre-existing condition as the reason for the costly premium.
- 4% of REALTORS® report being denied Insurance coverage due to pre-existing conditions.
- 63% of REALTORS® with coverage paid the entire premium with an additional 28% sharing the cost of the premium with an employer or other coverage source.
- Coverage most often included hospitalization (96%) and major medical (96%) followed by prescription drug coverage (81%).
- 66% of REALTORS® reported that the firm with which they were affiliated did not offer any type of health insurance coverage.

ABOUT THE SURVEY

A 30 question survey was randomly sent to a selected sample of 42,309 REALTORS® March 20-28 2008. A total of 5,131 responses were received resulting in a response rate of 12.1%. The typical respondent was 51 years old, female (62%) and worked full-time (87%). Nearly two-thirds (63%) were sales agents. Half were affiliated with a firm that had one office. Unless otherwise indicated, dollar-valued responses are for calendar-year 2007.