



# Midwestern regional trends

## 2016 Aflac WorkForces Report results for the Midwest U.S.

### Employer results at a glance:

Surveyed 343 business decision-makers.



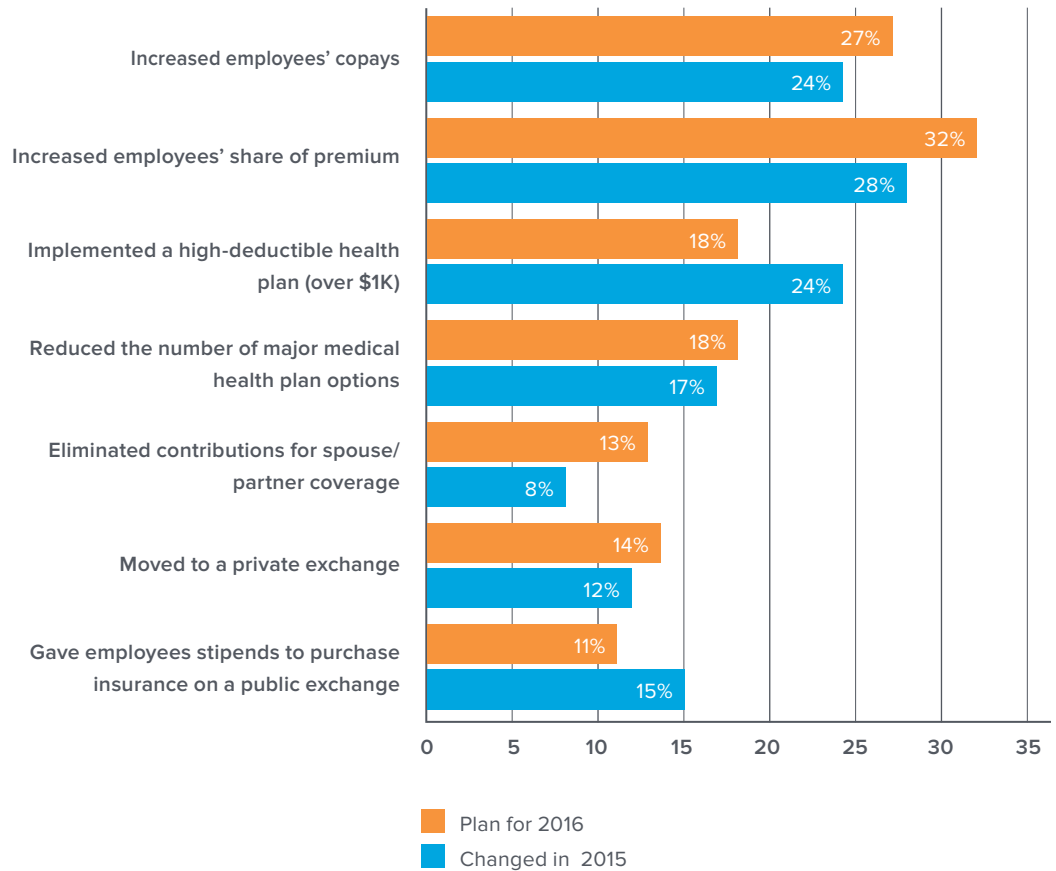
**27 percent** of those who offer major medical health insurance to employees offer a high-deductible health plan with an individual deductible over \$1K.

**52 percent** have a wellness program.

**28 percent** offer voluntary insurance.

### Changes to employee benefits packages

The percentage of companies making changes to their benefits programs.



## Employer concerns

<b>34%</b>	say staying competitive in today's marketplace is their company's most important business objective.
<b>31%</b>	say lack of qualified talent results in the most productivity lost within their organization.
<b>21%</b>	say taking care of my employees by offering the widest range of benefits options is the most important objective of their benefits programs.
<b>40%</b>	are interested in outsourcing employee benefits communications services to a third party.

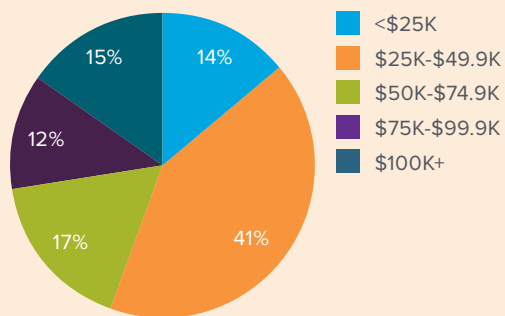
## Legislative issues

<b>57%</b>	understand health care reform legislation extremely or very well.
<b>51%</b>	are only somewhat or not very well-prepared to comply with IRS health insurance reporting rules in 2016. <sup>1</sup>
<b>22%</b>	of employers offering major medical/health insurance say they are very concerned about the excise tax on high-value medical plans, often referred to as the Cadillac Tax; 6 percent are not familiar with this tax.

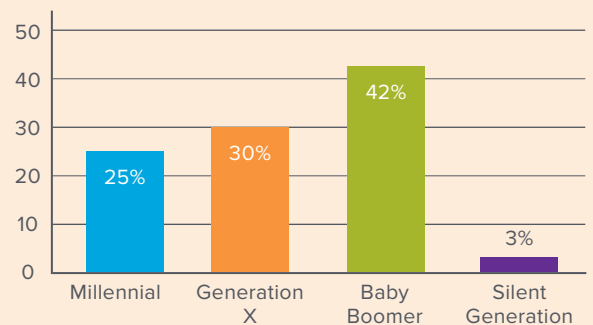
## Employee results at a glance:

Surveyed 1,117 employees at businesses.

### Annual Household Income



### Generations



<b>31%</b>	have children under 18 covered on their health plans.
<b>19%</b>	have adult children ages 18-26 covered on their major medical health plan.

## Happiness

<b>52%</b>	are extremely or very satisfied with their benefits packages.
<b>61%</b>	are extremely or very satisfied with their jobs.
<b>41%</b>	are at least somewhat likely to look for a job in the next 12 months.

## Value of benefits

<b>70%</b>	say a benefits package offering is extremely or very important to their job satisfaction, and 59 percent say it's extremely or very important to their employer loyalty.
<b>55%</b>	of employees are at least somewhat likely to accept a job with slightly lower pay but better benefits.
<b>40%</b>	say improving their benefits package is one thing their employer could do to keep them in their jobs.
<b>10%</b>	have left or turned down a job due to the benefits it offered in the last 12 months.

## Growing importance of voluntary insurance

<b>45%</b>	agree that they regularly underestimate the total cost of an injury or illness, including medical, household and out-of-pocket costs.
<b>51%</b>	say that if their employer did not provide adequate health insurance coverage, they would purchase additional, affordable insurance products to ensure their coverage is adequate.
<b>72%</b>	would be at least somewhat likely to purchase voluntary insurance if their employers offered the benefits. <sup>2</sup>

## Financial well-being

<b>66%</b>	would be able to pay less than \$1,000 for out-of-pocket expenses if an unexpected serious illness or accident occurred today.
<b>33%</b>	would use a credit card to cover unexpected out-of-pocket expenses, and 19 percent would borrow/withdraw money from their 401(k) or other retirement account.
<b>16%</b>	say high medical costs have negatively affected their credit scores.
<b>21%</b>	have been contacted by a collection agency related to outstanding medical bills.

## Wellness

71%	participate in their employers' wellness programs. <sup>3</sup>
50%	would participate in an exercise program through their workplace to help lower their health insurance cost.

<sup>1</sup> Of employers with 50 or more employees.

<sup>2</sup> Of respondents not offered voluntary benefits by their employers.

<sup>3</sup> Of respondents offered wellness programs by their employers.

*The 2016 Aflac WorkForces Report is the sixth annual Aflac employee benefits study examining benefit trends and attitudes. The study captured responses from 1,500 benefits decision-makers and 5,000 employees across the United States in various industries. The 2016 Aflac WorkForces Report survey was conducted by Lightspeed/GMI on behalf of Aflac. For a full methodology, visit [AflacWorkForcesReport.com](http://AflacWorkForcesReport.com).*

*This article is for informational purposes only and is not intended to be a solicitation.*

