

**TRACKING SURVEY OF SENIORS WHO ARE ENROLLED IN
THE MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT
SEPTEMBER 8-15, 2006**

Hello, this is _____ with Ayres, McHenry & Associates, a public opinion research company. We're talking with seniors throughout America today for just a few minutes about some health care issues. We are not trying to sell anything, your answers are completely confidential, and we would really appreciate your cooperation (DO NOT PAUSE).

SCREEN 1. Are you under the age of 65, or are you 65 or older?

UNDER AGE 65 GO TO SCREEN 2
 65 OR OLDER..... GO TO SCREEN 3
 REFUSED..... THANK AND CLOSE

SCREEN 2. Is there anyone else in your household age 65 or older?

YES May I speak with that person please? GO TO INTRO
 NO..... THANK AND CLOSE

SCREEN 3. Are you currently enrolled in the new prescription drug benefit in Medicare, known as Part D?

YES GO TO SCREEN 4
 NO..... THANK AND CLOSE
 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED..... THANK AND CLOSE

SCREEN 4. Did you sign up for the Medicare prescription drug benefit yourself, were you automatically signed up through Medicaid, or are you covered under your employer's plan?

PERSONALLY SIGNED UP.....75% GO TO SECTION A
 AUTOMATICALLY SIGNED UP/MEDICAID.....25% GO TO SECTION B
 COVERED BY EMPLOYER/ DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION..... THANK AND CLOSE

SECTION A: SELF ENROLLEES

A1. Do you regularly take prescription drugs for an ongoing condition or illness? (IF YES, ASK: How many prescription drugs do you take each month?)

	<i>SELF ENROLLEES</i>		
	<i>09/06</i>	<i>03/06</i>	<i>12/05</i>
YES/1 PRESCRIPTION.....	13%	10%	NA
YES/2 PRESCRIPTIONS.....	14%	14%	NA
YES/3 PRESCRIPTIONS.....	13%	15%	NA
YES/4 OR 5 PRESCRIPTIONS.....	23%	22%	NA
YES/MORE THAN 5 PRESCRIPTIONS	21%	25%	NA
YES/DON'T KNOW NUMBER.....	2%	4%	NA
NO.....	12%	10%	NA
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION.....	1%	0%	NA

A2. Does your new Medicare prescription drug benefit plan cover the drugs you need?

	<i>SELF ENROLLEES</i>		
	<i>09/06</i>	<i>03/06</i>	<i>12/05</i>
YES	81%	79%	82%
NO.....	17%	12%	7%
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION.....	2%	9%	11%

Note: Results are based on 261 respondents.

A3. Are you saving money each month compared to what you spent before you enrolled in the Medicare prescription drug benefit? (IF YES, ASK: About how much are you saving in out-of-pocket costs every month for prescription drugs compared to before you enrolled in the Medicare prescription drug benefit?)

	SELF ENROLLEES		
	09/06	03/06	12/05
YES/\$20 OR LESS.....	8%	7%	-
YES/\$21-\$50	12%	9%	-
YES/\$51-\$100.....	7%	9%	-
YES/\$101-\$200.....	8%	6%	-
YES/MORE THAN \$200.....	3%	4%	-
YES/DON'T KNOW AMOUNT.....	20%	24%	-
NO.....	29%	23%	-
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION.....	12%	18%	-
YES	58%	59%	51%
NO.....	29%	23%	28%
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION.....	12%	18%	21%

Note: 12/05 question asked, "Do you think your new Medicare prescription drug benefit plan will save you money over what you currently pay?"

A4. Given the benefits you are receiving, was the time and effort you put into evaluating the many drug plans worth it or not?

	SELF ENROLLEES		
	09/06	03/06	12/05
WORTH IT.....	69%	66%	57%
NOT WORTH IT.....	18%	13%	16%
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION.....	13%	20%	27%

Note: 12/05 question asked, "Given the benefits you will receive, was the time and effort you put into evaluating the many drug plans worth it or not?"

A5. Given your experience with the new benefit, would you recommend that other seniors sign up or not?

	SELF ENROLLEES		
	09/06	03/06	12/05
YES, WOULD RECOMMEND.....	70%	65%	56%
NO, WOULD NOT RECOMMEND.....	10%	8%	9%
IT DEPENDS (VOLUNTEERED).....	14%	18%	24%
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION.....	5%	9%	11%

Note: 12/05 question asked, "Given your experience signing up for the new benefit, would you recommend that other seniors sign up or not?"

A6. Did you experience any problems signing up for the Medicare prescription drug benefit? (IF YES, ASK: Have those problems been resolved)?

	SELF ENROLLEES		
	09/06	03/06	12/05
YES/RESOLVED.....	9%	11%	NA
YES/NOT RESOLVED.....	3%	5%	NA
NO PROBLEMS.....	88%	84%	NA
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION.....	1%	1%	NA

A7. Did you use the Internet to help you decide on the right prescription drug benefit plan, either personally or with the assistance of someone else?

	<i>SELF ENROLLEES</i>		
	<i>09/06</i>	<i>03/06</i>	<i>12/05</i>
YES, PERSONALLY.....	15%	16%	15%
YES, WITH SOMEONE ELSE'S HELP.....	16%	16%	13%
NO.....	67%	66%	71%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....	2%	1%	2%

A8. Did you attend any organized seminars to help you decide on the right prescription drug benefit plan?

	<i>SELF ENROLLEES</i>		
	<i>09/06</i>	<i>03/06</i>	<i>12/05</i>
YES.....	18%	18%	25%
NO.....	81%	80%	74%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....	1%	2%	1%

A9. Have you had any problems using the new prescription drug benefit? (IF YES, ASK: Have those problems been resolved)?

	<i>SELF ENROLLEES</i>		
	<i>09/06</i>	<i>03/06</i>	<i>12/05</i>
YES/RESOLVED.....	4%	2%	NA
YES/NOT RESOLVED.....	5%	5%	NA
NO PROBLEMS.....	88%	85%	NA
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION.....	2%	8%	NA

A10. Some seniors with Medicare Part D coverage will reach a point when they have to pay for all prescription drug costs before their coverage resumes, which is sometimes referred to as the “donut hole” or “coverage gap.” As far as you know, have you reached that point yet, or not?

IF NOT, ASK: Do you expect to reach that point before the end of the year?

	<i>SELF ENROLLEES</i>		
	<i>09/06</i>	<i>03/06</i>	<i>12/05</i>
YES, REACHED IT.....	8%	NA	NA
NO, HAVEN'T REACHED IT/EXPECT TO.....	20%	NA	NA
NO, HAVEN'T REACHED IT/DON'T EXPECT TO.....	64%	NA	NA
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION.....	8%	NA	NA

SECTION B: AUTOMATIC ENROLLEES

B1. Would you please stop me when I read the correct category for your total household income?

	<i>AUTO ENROLLEES</i>		
	<i>09/06</i>	<i>03/06</i>	<i>12/05</i>
\$15,000 OR LESS.....	48%	46%	-
\$15,000 TO \$30,000.....	17%	13%	-
\$30,000 TO \$50,000.....	THANK AND CLOSE		
\$50,000 TO \$75,000.....	THANK AND CLOSE		
\$75,000 OR MORE.....	THANK AND CLOSE		
REFUSED.....	35%	40%	-

B2. Do you regularly take prescription drugs for an ongoing condition or illness? (IF YES, ASK: How many prescription drugs do you take each month?)

	AUTO ENROLLEES		
	09/06	03/06	12/05
YES/1 PRESCRIPTION.....	9%	7%	NA
YES/2 PRESCRIPTIONS.....	6%	11%	NA
YES/3 PRESCRIPTIONS.....	13%	9%	NA
YES/4 OR 5 PRESCRIPTIONS.....	18%	17%	NA
YES/MORE THAN 5 PRESCRIPTIONS.....	30%	35%	NA
YES/DON'T KNOW NUMBER.....	3%	4%	NA
NO.....	16%	13%	NA
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION.....	5%	3%	NA

B3. Does your new Medicare prescription drug benefit plan cover the drugs you need?

	AUTO ENROLLEES		
	09/06	03/06	12/05
YES.....	77%	80%	NA
NO.....	19%	15%	NA
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION.....	4%	4%	NA

Note: Results are based on 79 respondents.

B4. Have you had any problems using the new prescription drug benefit? (IF YES, ASK: Have those problems been resolved)?

	AUTO ENROLLEES		
	09/06	03/06	12/05
YES/RESOLVED.....	3%	4%	NA
YES/NOT RESOLVED.....	3%	4%	NA
NO PROBLEMS.....	91%	90%	NA
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION.....	3%	2%	NA

SECTION C: ALL ENROLLEES

C1. Overall, do you think passing the Medicare prescription drug plan was a good idea or a bad idea?

	SEPTEMBER 2006	
	SELF	AUTO
GOOD IDEA.....	67%	55%
BAD IDEA.....	17%	19%
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION.....	17%	26%

Now I have a few questions just for statistical purposes.

C2. In politics today, do you normally think of yourself as (ROTATE: a Republican, an Independent, or a Democrat)?

	SELF ENROLLEES		
	09/06	03/06	12/05
REPUBLICAN.....	27%	35%	29%
INDEPENDENT.....	24%	20%	21%
DEMOCRAT.....	34%	31%	37%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....	15%	13%	13%

	AUTO ENROLLEES		
	09/06	03/06	12/05
REPUBLICAN.....	18%	15%	-
INDEPENDENT.....	20%	16%	-
DEMOCRAT.....	45%	53%	-
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....	17%	16%	-

C3. What was the last year of school you completed?

	SELF ENROLLEES		
	09/06	03/06	12/05
LESS THAN HIGH SCHOOL.....	15%	13%	12%
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE.....	34%	37%	37%
SOME COLLEGE.....	18%	20%	18%
COLLEGE GRADUATE.....	22%	19%	22%
POST-COLLEGE.....	8%	7%	6%
REFUSED.....	4%	4%	5%

	AUTO ENROLLEES		
	09/06	03/06	12/05
LESS THAN HIGH SCHOOL.....	25%	24%	-
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE.....	43%	35%	-
SOME COLLEGE.....	14%	17%	-
COLLEGE GRADUATE.....	14%	10%	-
POST-COLLEGE.....	1%	5%	-
REFUSED.....	3%	9%	-

C4. Would you please stop me when I read the correct category for your age?

	SELF ENROLLEES		
	09/06	03/06	12/05
65 TO 69.....	29%	23%	24%
70 TO 74.....	23%	24%	26%
75 TO 79.....	20%	21%	22%
80 TO 84.....	16%	17%	15%
85 TO 89.....	7%	10%	7%
90 OR OLDER.....	1%	4%	2%
REFUSED.....	4%	2%	4%

	AUTO ENROLLEES		
	09/06	03/06	12/05
65 TO 69.....	18%	16%	-
70 TO 74.....	25%	20%	-
75 TO 79.....	17%	22%	-
80 TO 84.....	26%	22%	-
85 TO 89.....	7%	11%	-
90 OR OLDER.....	4%	2%	-
REFUSED.....	3%	6%	-

ASK C5 ONLY OF RESPONDENTS WHO PERSONALLY SIGNED UP FOR PART D (PUNCH 1 IN SCREEN 4)

C5. Would you please stop me when I read the correct category for your total household income?

	<i>SELF ENROLLEES</i>		
	<i>09/06</i>	<i>03/06</i>	<i>12/05</i>
\$15,000 OR LESS	20%	25%	20%
\$15,000 TO \$30,000	19%	20%	19%
\$30,000 TO \$50,000	21%	11%	16%
\$50,000 TO \$75,000	6%	8%	7%
\$75,000 OR MORE	7%	6%	6%
REFUSED.....	26%	30%	33%

C6. Are you from a Hispanic or Spanish-speaking background?

IF "NO," ASK: What would you say is your main race: white, African-American, Asian, or something else?

	<i>SELF ENROLLEES</i>		
	<i>09/06</i>	<i>03/06</i>	<i>12/05</i>
YES/HISPANIC	2%	2%	2%
NO/WHITE.....	87%	88%	86%
NO/BLACK/AFRICAN-AMERICAN	6%	5%	7%
NO/ASIAN.....	0%	1%	1%
OTHER.....	3%	0%	0%
REFUSED.....	2%	4%	4%

	<i>AUTO ENROLLEES</i>		
	<i>09/06</i>	<i>03/06</i>	<i>12/05</i>
YES/HISPANIC.....	0%	6%	-
NO/WHITE.....	83%	57%	-
NO/BLACK/AFRICAN-AMERICAN	10%	30%	-
NO/ASIAN.....	0%	1%	-
OTHER.....	3%	0%	-
REFUSED.....	4%	7%	-

C7. Gender (from observation)

	<i>SELF ENROLLEES</i>		
	<i>09/06</i>	<i>03/06</i>	<i>12/05</i>
MALE	40%	44%	42%
FEMALE	60%	56%	58%

	<i>AUTO ENROLLEES</i>		
	<i>09/06</i>	<i>03/06</i>	<i>12/05</i>
MALE	33%	40%	-
FEMALE	67%	60%	-

Those are all the questions I have. Thank you very much for sharing your opinions with us.

C8. WRITE IN STATE FIPS CODE: _____