

**NATIONAL SURVEY OF SENIORS
REGARDING MEDICARE ADVANTAGE**

FEBRUARY 26 - MARCH 2, 2007

Hello, may I please speak with Mr./Mrs. _____? Mr./Mrs. _____ this is _____ with Western Wats, a public opinion research company. We're talking with seniors today for just a few minutes about the Medicare program and some related 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).

A. Because we are talking about the Medicare Program, we need to talk with people who are age 65 or older. May I ask if you are at least 65 years old?

YES, AT LEAST 65 100%

1. Seniors in the Medicare Program can belong to either traditional Medicare, or to a Medicare Advantage plan administered by a private health insurance plan. Have you stayed in traditional Medicare, or have you joined a Medicare Advantage plan?

MEDICARE ADVANTAGE 100%

2. Why did you join a Medicare Advantage plan rather than stay in traditional Medicare? (DO NOT READ)

	2007	2003
BETTER BENEFITS OVERALL	33%	41%
BETTER PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT	10%	13%
LESS EXPENSIVE.....	16%	22%
GOOD SELECTION OF DOCTORS/HOSPITALS	7%	13%
OTHER (SPECIFY) _____	34%	23%
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION	13%	15%

Note: Totals exceed 100 percent because multiple responses were accepted.

3. How long have you been in a Medicare Advantage plan: less than one year, one to three years, or more than three years?

	2007	2003
LESS THAN ONE YEAR	9%	8%
ONE TO THREE YEARS.....	26%	20%
MORE THAN THREE YEARS	64%	72%
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION	2%	1%

Note: Percentages may not equal 100 percent due to rounding. 2007 and 2003 results are based on 400 respondents each, MoE = ±4.90 percent.

How satisfied are you with each of the following aspects of your Medicare coverage: very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied? (ROTATE Q. 4-10, ASK Q. 11 LAST)

		<i>VERY SATISFIED</i>	<i>SOMEWHAT SATISFIED</i>	<i>SOMEWHAT DISSATISFIED</i>	<i>VERY DISSATISFIED</i>	<i>DONT KNOW</i>
4. The benefits you receive	2007	58%	31%	2%	3%	7%
	2003	48%	31%	5%	7%	9%
5. The quality of care you receive	2007	68%	25%	3%	1%	4%
	2003	66%	23%	4%	2%	6%
6. The number of doctors from which you can choose	2007	72%	20%	2%	2%	5%
	2003	63%	21%	5%	4%	8%
7. Your out-of-pocket costs	2007	50%	30%	10%	6%	4%
	2003	45%	29%	11%	9%	7%
8. The coverage you receive for prescription drugs	2007	51%	25%	9%	8%	8%
	2003	35%	22%	11%	20%	12%
9. The coverage you receive for preventive care	2007	59%	28%	2%	2%	10%
	2003	50%	28%	4%	4%	14%
10. Help managing chronic illnesses, such as diabetes, asthma, or heart disease	2007	43%	19%	2%	1%	36%
11. Your Medicare coverage overall	2007	53%	37%	5%	2%	4%
	2003	49%	35%	4%	5%	7%

Note: Percentages may not equal 100 percent due to rounding. 2007 and 2003 results are based on 400 respondents each, MoE = ±4.90 percent.

Now I would like to read you a list of benefits that some Medicare Advantage plans include. For each one, would you please tell me if your plan includes that benefit, and, if so, whether you are satisfied or dissatisfied with that benefit (ROTATE):

		<i>INCLUDED/ SATISFIED</i>	<i>INCLUDED/ DISSATISFIED</i>	<i>INCLUDED/ NEITHER (VOI)</i>	<i>NOT INCLUDED</i>	<i>DONT KNOW</i>
12. Prescription drug benefits	2007	75% 84%	13% 14%	2% 2%	5% (among those with coverage)	6%
13. Programs to help you manage, diabetes asthma, heart disease, or other chronic illnesses	2007	60% 90%	3% 4%	4% 6%	8% (among those with coverage)	25%
14. Preventive care, including routine visits and testing	2007	87% 97%	2% 3%	0% 0%	3% (among those with coverage)	8%
15. Dental benefits	2007	27% 70%	8% 21%	4% 9%	48% (among those with coverage)	13%
16. Fitness programs that encourage you to exercise	2007	54% 91%	2% 3%	4% 6%	23% (among those with coverage)	18%
17. Vision benefits	2007	70% 90%	6% 7%	2% 3%	15% (among those with coverage)	8%
18. Hearing benefits	2007	46% 83%	4% 7%	6% 10%	17% (among those with coverage)	29%
19. Mental health benefits	2007	44% 80%	2% 3%	10% 17%	7% (among those with coverage)	38%

20. If Congress makes cuts to the Medicare Advantage program and you had to use traditional Medicare coverage, (ROTATE: would you pay higher out-of-pocket costs so you could continue to receive the same health care treatments you receive now, or would you not pay higher out-of-pocket costs and skip some of the health care treatments you receive now)?

	2007
PAY HIGHER COSTS/CONTINUE TREATMENTS	42%
NOT PAY HIGHER COSTS/SKIP TREATMENTS	35%
DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION	23%

21. How much money do you spend each month just for the premium on your Medicare Advantage plan, not including any co-payments?

	2007
NO COST	30%
\$1 TO \$10	4%
\$11 TO \$20	3%
\$21 TO \$30	4%
MORE THAN \$30	45%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	15%

Note: Percentages may not equal 100 percent due to rounding. 2007 and 2003 results are based on 400 respondents each, MoE = ±4.90 percent.

Now I have a few questions just for statistical purposes.

22. Do you normally consider yourself to be a (ROTATE: Republican, Independent, or Democrat)?

	<i>2007</i>	<i>2003</i>
REPUBLICAN.....	27%	32%
INDEPENDENT.....	20%	20%
DEMOCRAT.....	38%	33%
NO OPINION.....	16%	15%

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

	<i>2007</i>	<i>2003</i>
LESS THAN HIGH SCHOOL.....	8%	9%
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE.....	29%	32%
SOME COLLEGE.....	30%	23%
COLLEGE GRADUATE.....	18%	24%
POST-COLLEGE.....	14%	11%
REFUSED.....	3%	2%

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

	<i>2007</i>	<i>2003</i>
65 TO 69.....	24%	27%
70 TO 74.....	31%	29%
75 TO 79.....	21%	21%
80 OR OLDER.....	23%	21%
REFUSED.....	3%	3%

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

	<i>2007</i>
\$20,000 OR LESS.....	20%
\$20,000 TO \$30,000.....	18%
\$30,000 TO \$40,000.....	12%
\$40,000 TO \$50,000.....	8%
\$50,000 OR MORE.....	15%
REFUSED.....	28%

Note: Percentages may not equal 100 percent due to rounding. 2007 and 2003 results are based on 400 respondents each, MoE = ±4.90 percent.

26. 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?

	2007
YES/HISPANIC	5%
NO/WHITE	80%
NO/BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN	6%
NO/ASIAN	2%
OTHER	2%
REFUSED	5%

27. Gender (from observation)

	2007	2003
MALE	35%	42%
FEMALE	65%	58%

28. Finally, in which state do you live?

WRITE IN STATE FIPS CODE: _____

That's all the questions I have. Thank you very much for sharing your opinions with us.

Note: Percentages may not equal 100 percent due to rounding. 2007 and 2003 results are based on 400 respondents each, MoE = ±4.90 percent.