







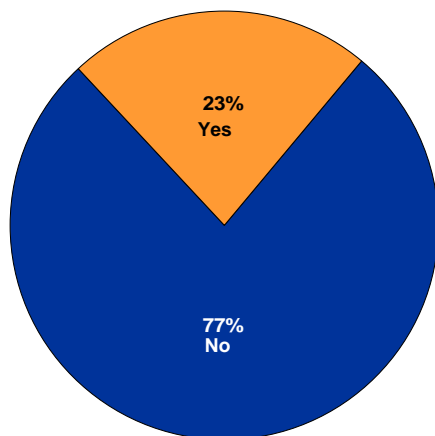


In the current economic climate, the desire to obtain or maintain health insurance benefits is cited by many Americans as impacting their life decisions. Nearly a quarter (23 percent) report that in the past year, they or someone in their household has either decided to stay in one job rather than take another job, or decided to take a different job rather than stay at a job mainly because of better health benefits. A small, but still important, share (7 percent) also reports that they or someone in their household decided to get married mainly so one spouse could have access to the other's health benefits.

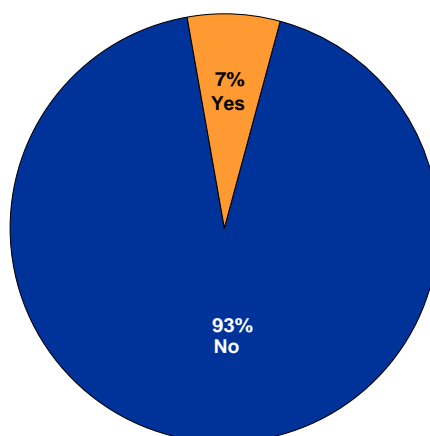
### Influence of Health Benefits on Life Decisions

Percent who say they or someone in their household have done each of the following in the past year...

Took a new job or stayed at a job (rather than take a new one) mainly because of better health benefits:



Decided to get married mainly so one spouse could have access to the other's health care benefits:



### Methodology

The *Kaiser Health Tracking Survey: Election 2008* was designed and analyzed by public opinion researchers at the Kaiser Family Foundation led by Mollyann Brodie, Ph.D., including Elizabeth Hamel and Carolina Gutiérrez. The survey was conducted from April 3 – 13, 2008, among a nationally representative random sample of 2,003 adults ages 18 and older. Telephone interviews were carried out in English and Spanish by Princeton Survey Research Associates.

The margin of sampling error for the total sample is plus or minus 3 percentage points; for results based on subgroups, the sampling error is higher. Note that sampling error is only one of many potential sources of error in this or any other public opinion poll. Due to rounding, percentages may not add to 100.

Full survey question wording and results are available at [www.kff.org](http://www.kff.org).

Additional copies of this publication (#7773) are available on the Kaiser Family Foundation's website at [www.kff.org](http://www.kff.org).