

# **Snapshot of Health Coverage Provided by Virginia Small Businesses**

Virginia Chamber of Commerce  
Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association  
September 2001

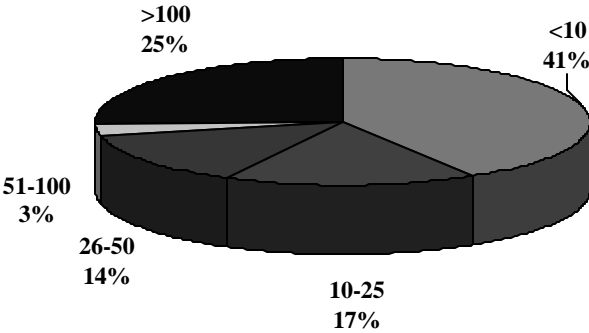
## **Methodology**

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- Survey was administered through the Virginia Chamber's website
  - primarily forced choice items
- Responses were received from 190 small businesses across the state
- Responses provide a snapshot; they are not necessarily generalizable to the entire population of small businesses in the state

## Responses by Size of Employer (in number of employees)

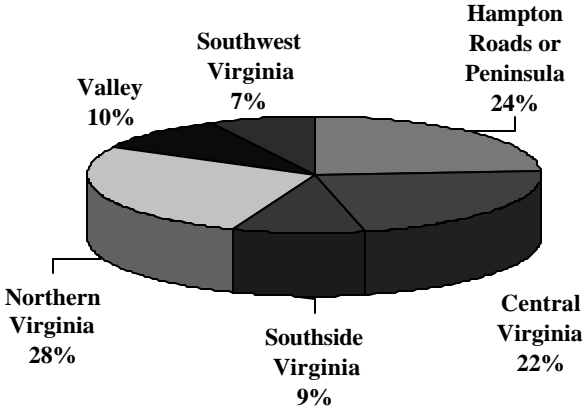
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## Responses by Region

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## Summary of Findings

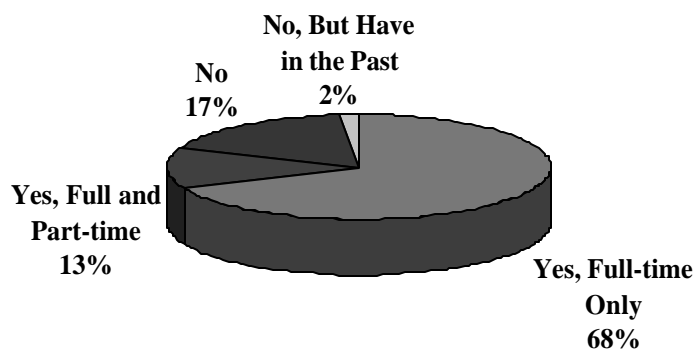
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- Most respondents (81%) currently provide health insurance to some or all of their employees
  - Cost is the major factor for employers' decision not to offer health insurance coverage.
- Rising costs may force many small businesses to either discontinue coverage altogether or shift cost to their employees (some of whom may be unable to afford health insurance).

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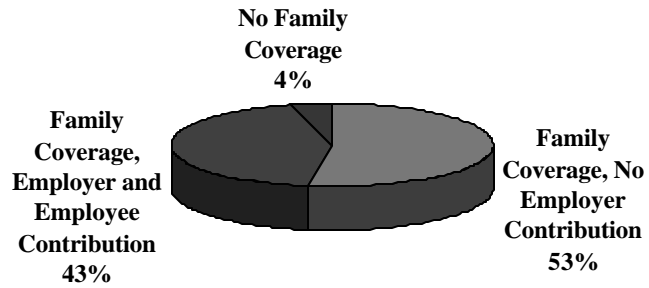
## Do Respondents Offer Employer-Sponsored Health Insurance?

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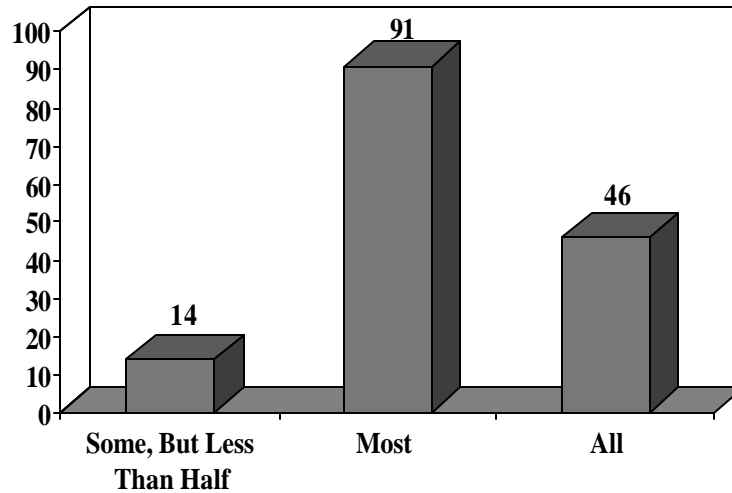
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## Respondents Offering Family Health Insurance Coverage (in addition to employee coverage)



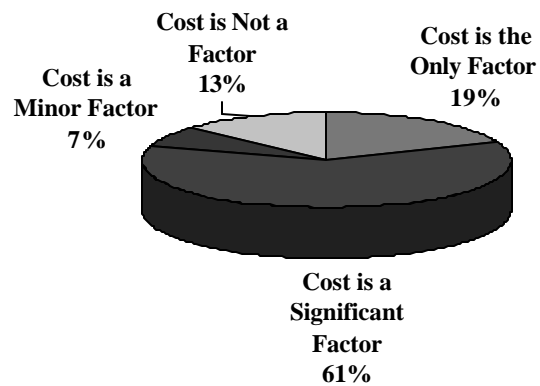
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## Employee Participation in Respondents' Health Plans



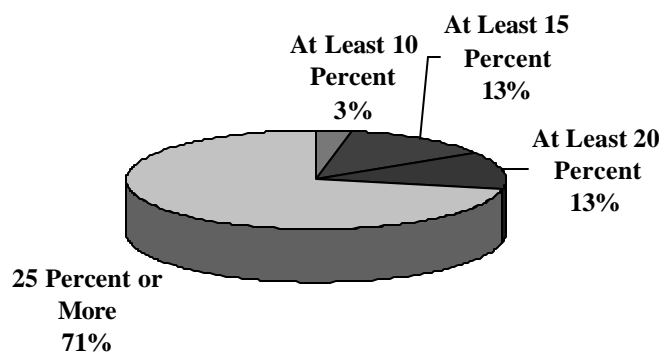
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## Cost is a Significant Factor for Those Respondents Who Do Not Offer Health Insurance



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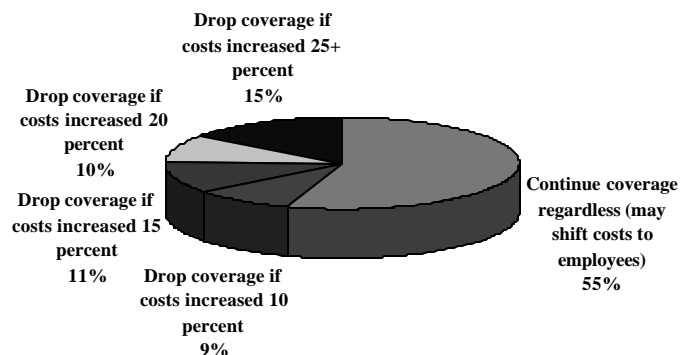
## Premium Decrease Required to Offer Coverage for Those Not Offering Coverage Now



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## Premium Increases that Would Cause Respondents Now Offering Coverage to Drop It

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## Employers' Options for Coping With Rising Costs

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- Absorb the costs
- Shift Costs to Employees (premiums, copays, deductibles)
- Reduce Benefits (e.g. family coverage)
- Shop Other Carriers
- Drop Coverage Altogether
- Reduce Other Insurance Coverage (e.g. dental, life, disability)

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