2024 WORKPLACE **BENEFITS** CONFERENCE

Era of Innovation

# **Workplace Benefits Innovation: Broker Trends and Insights for 2024 and Beyond**







## **Debbie Poole** AVP, Account Executive, Lockton





## Why offer voluntary benefits?

### *Employers*

- No-cost, value-added benefit
- Benchmarking: generational and industry
- Fill gaps in core coverage
- Customized consumerism increases employee appreciation

### Employees

- Options; power to choose
- Tax-free, first-dollar benefits that fit their lifestyle
- Group plan rates and underwriting conditions
- Simplified enrollment and payroll deduction
- Financial protection for life's unexpected medical expenses

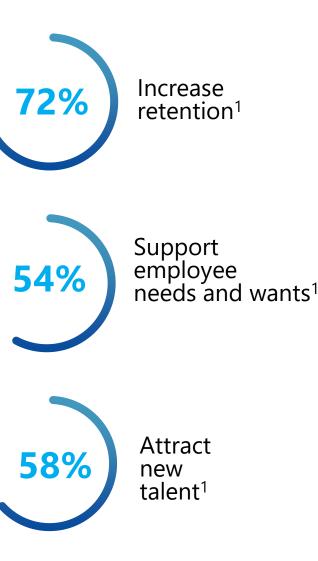
**50%** of employees would not be able to cover an **UNEXPECTED out-of-pocket MEDICAL COST** of \$500.<sup>2</sup>

**25.5 million ER visits** are caused by **ACCIDENTAL INJURIES** each year. <sup>3</sup> Accident Insurance provides cash benefits to help pay for medical expenses associated with an accidental injury.

~40% of workers will be DIAGNOSED WITH CANCER

in their lifetime.<sup>4</sup> Critical Illness provides a lump sum benefit to cover out-of-pocket costs when diagnosed with cancer or other covered conditions.

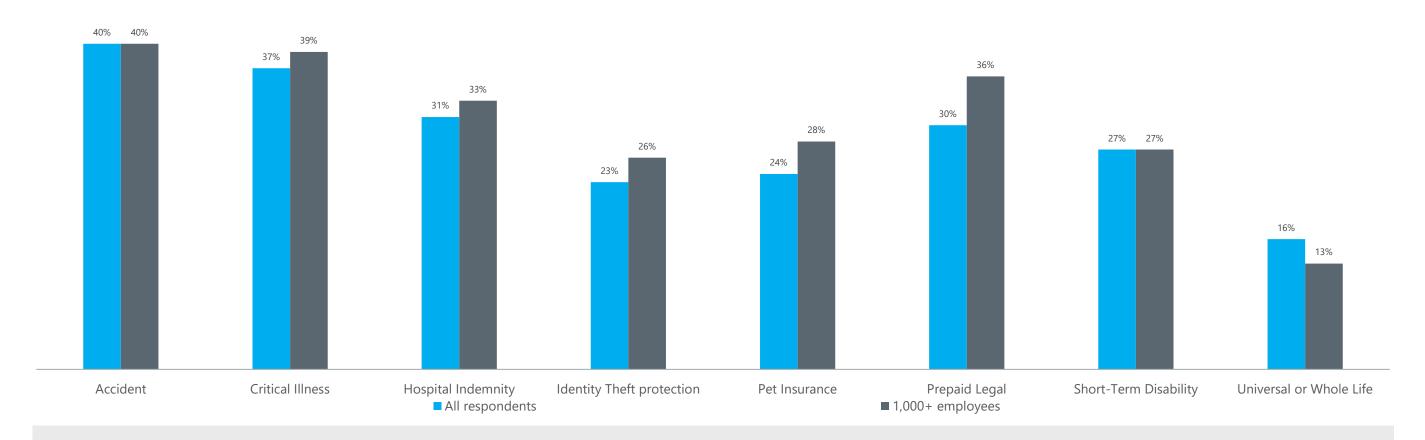








#### WHAT BENEFITS DO EMPLOYERS OFFER?<sup>1</sup>



#### **Voluntary benefits can modernize benefits and create employee choice**



State long-term care regulations



Medical claims integration





Supplemental health captives



Infolock<sup>®</sup> reporting



## What is a VB Captive Arrangement?

A captive arrangement allows the client to offer the same supplemental health benefits available under a traditional insured model, and with no rate impact to the employee. The

Advantages to operating a captive for VB

#### WHO SHOULD CONSIDER?

- Employers with 2,000+ employees or \$200,000+ in annual VB premium
- Captive distributions should be used to support ERISA-related costs

#### **CLIENT ADVANTAGE**

- If the claims run less than expected based on the actuarial target, the distribution can be significant
- Projected distribution can vary from year to year subject to the group captive performance

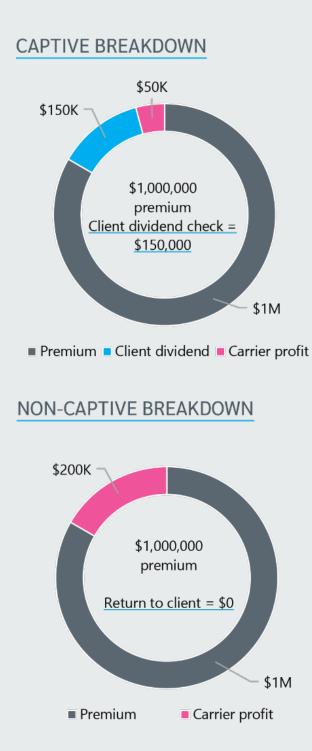


EMPLOYEE ADVANTAGE

• These distributions are used to benefit employees in ERISA plans

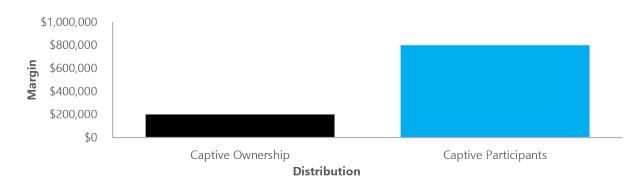


# Break.down premium in captive arrangement



Captive example

- voluntary benefits
- up being 40%
- •



- ٠ on performance

  - —

Captive distribution example

The captive has a \$5,000,000 block of business for

The target loss ratio is 60% — the actual loss ratio ends

This leaves a \$1,000,000 margin to be distributed to the captive ownership and the group captive participants

Margin distributed among the group captive participants and captive ownership based

Captive ownership retains 20% of excess margin; captive participants receive 80% of margin proportional to their volume of premium

Margins paid to employer captive participants in the form of a dividend may be used

for future ERISA plan expenses



### **Sean Newman** *Senior Vice President Operations and Client Engagement, Aon*



## Enhancing Your Voluntary Benefit Strategy

### Why?

- Protect employees from financial challenges ٠ that distract from work and home
- Offer more choice and flexible products that • protect employees' unique needs
- Reduce healthcare cost pressure for the business and employees
- Attract and retain top talent ٠

### **Employees' Expanding Expectations**

### 75% of employees want more

choice and control over how benefit dollars are spent

#### **Covering Life's Unexpected Risks**

#### Health & Care

- Accident
- Critical Illness
- Hospital Indemnity
- Caregiver Support
- Pet

#### **Financial Wellbeing**

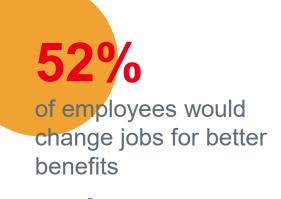
- Permanent Life with LTC
- Short-Term Disability
- Student Loan Assistance
- Purchasing Program
- Discount Programs

### **Personal Protection**

- Identity Theft
- Auto/Home
- Discount Programs



of employees delay or avoid care due to unexpected cost



Sources Metlife Employee Benefits Trends Survey Prudential Financial Employee Survey Aon Global Wellbeing Survey

- Legal Insurance



## Voluntary Benefits Are Key to Hiring, Retaining and Engaging Talent

### **HR's View on Voluntary Benefits**

83% Believe offering voluntary

benefits will help retain employees 72%

Believe offering voluntary benefits will **engage employees** 

## 63%

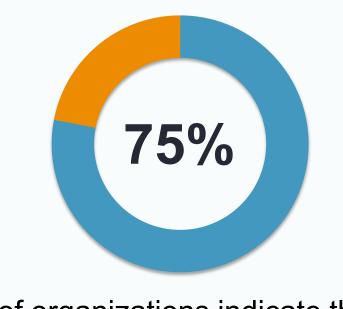
Believe offering voluntary benefits will attract new talent



## Voluntary Benefits

### Aligned with Client Goals

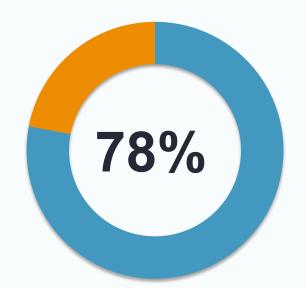
Healthcare Affordability



of organizations indicate that offering voluntary benefits is the best way to address affordability of healthcare

Source: Aon Health Survey 2023

**Benefit Choice and Flexibility** 



of organizations indicate that offering voluntary benefits expand benefit flexibility and choice

Source: Aon Health Survey 2022

Voluntary benefits offer employers a solution to the challenging task of creating an employee benefits package that meets the needs of the increasingly diverse workforce.

Proprietary & Confidential

Expanded Coverage

# #1

The number one reason employers offer voluntary benefits is to meet employees needs with expanded options for coverage

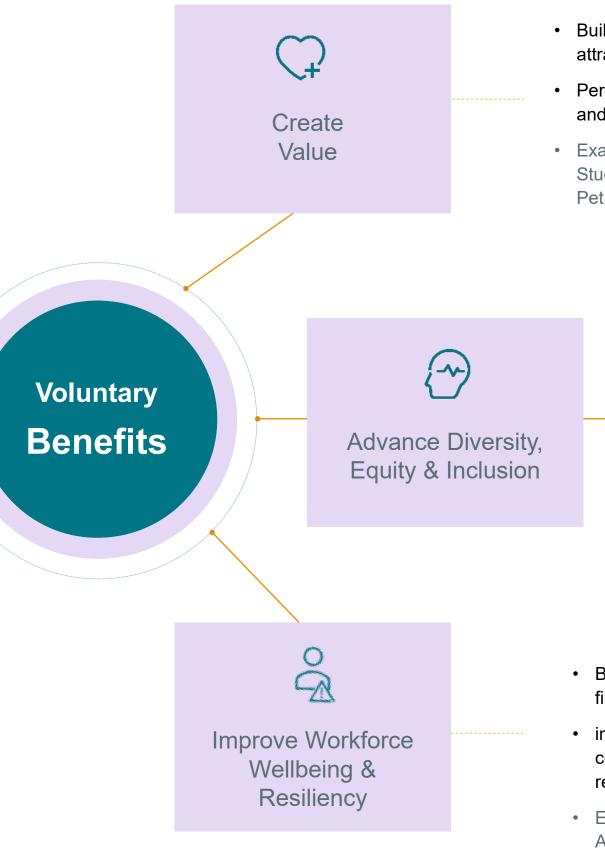


## Aligning Voluntary Benefits with Client Goals

## **Strategic Intent**

## Supplement benefits package to attract and retain key talent

- Deliver inclusive and equitable value to all members of your diverse workforce at every stage of their life
- An enhanced and aggregated user experience
- Operational efficiencies for your HR team



• Build a competitive benefits package to attract and retain key talent.

Personalized choice among sustainable
 and modern benefits

 Examples: Supplemental Health, Student Loan Assistance, Identity Theft, Pet, Auto/Home

- Deliver inclusive and equitable value to all members of your diverse workforce
- Benefits that provide support for every stage of life
- Examples: Critical Illness, Accident, Hospital Indemnity, Legal, Purchasing Power

Benefits that support physical, emotional, financial & mental wellbeing

intelligent technology that anticipates needs and connects employees to benefits and resources in real time

Examples: Permanent Life with LTC, Car Assistance, Legal, Discount Programs



## Voluntary Benefit Trends

### Carrier **Evolution**

- Plan design modernization
- Increased focus on value
- Claims data transparency
- Connectivity improves claims automation

## Carrier Consolidation

- Product bundling provides cost savings on employer funded lines of coverage
- Major medical carrier offsets & integration with voluntary benefits

### Value-Based Plans

- Prioritizing plan value based on utilization
- Increase benefit payouts
- New covered conditions



### Whole Case Underwriting

Multi Line Discounts

•

Medical, Life and Disability carriers are providing bundled pricing with Supplemental Health Plans



## Employees will have more benefits choices and added flexibility

# For each of the following please indicate their role in your approach to offering benefits flexibility and choice to your employees. Part of Plan

Offering/expanding voluntary benefits	49%	29%	78%
Offering a new type of benefit	35%	47%	82%
Increasing flexibility and choice to offer more opportunities for employees to customize benefits to fit their personal priorities	23%	45%	68%
Offering/expanding lifestyle account(s) that allow employees to apply account funds to a set of pre- determined choices	<mark>12%</mark> 41%	<b>%</b> 53%	

#### **Offering voluntary benefits**

is the most common way employers add flexibility and choice. Future flexibility will take several forms, from offering a new type of benefit to fill gaps to adding lifestyle or wellbeing accounts to enable more personal control over how benefits dollars are spent



## With Healthcare Cost Trend Accelerating, Employers Must Balance Trend Mitigation with Widening Affordability Gaps



#### What is your approach to addressing the affordability of healthcare for your employees?

Offer employee-paid voluntary supplemental health plans to support financial wellness	64%		
Providing low-cost primary care services (e.g., low copays, deductible waived, etc.)	46%		15%
Design Rx benefits to improve affordability of medications	38%		27%
Offer a low/no-cost health plan	35%	12%	
Access to full-year health spending account (HSA) amount from beginning of plan year	29%	9%	
Offer pay-based plan design variations (e.g., deductibles, out-of-pocket limits, HSA/HRA contributions, etc.)	24%	12%	
Offer pay-based employee contributions	23%	10%	
Expand benefits coverage for needs of those with disabilities (e.g., hearing aids, vision care, assistive devices, etc.)	18%	22%	
Bundle supplemental health plans with medical plan carrier to support administration and awareness	15%	12% <b>27%</b>	
Offer a low/no-cost health plan that incorporates significant cost-saving features (e.g., reference-based pricing, narrow network, etc.)	14%	22%	Part of 20
			Interested

11%

#### **Offering voluntary benefits**

is one of the top ways employers are addressing healthcare affordability for their employees.

2024 plan

ted in adding



## Employers Expanding Levers To Support Wellbeing

Top 3 employer focus areas in 2024 to support wellbeing through programs, at work and in benefits choice





Allowing employees to personalize work arrangements while encouraging in-office time:

Hybrid work

Designated team days

**On-site fitness centers** 



Creating new ways for employees to personalize benefits to meet their needs, prioritizing:

Meeting the needs of a diverse workforce

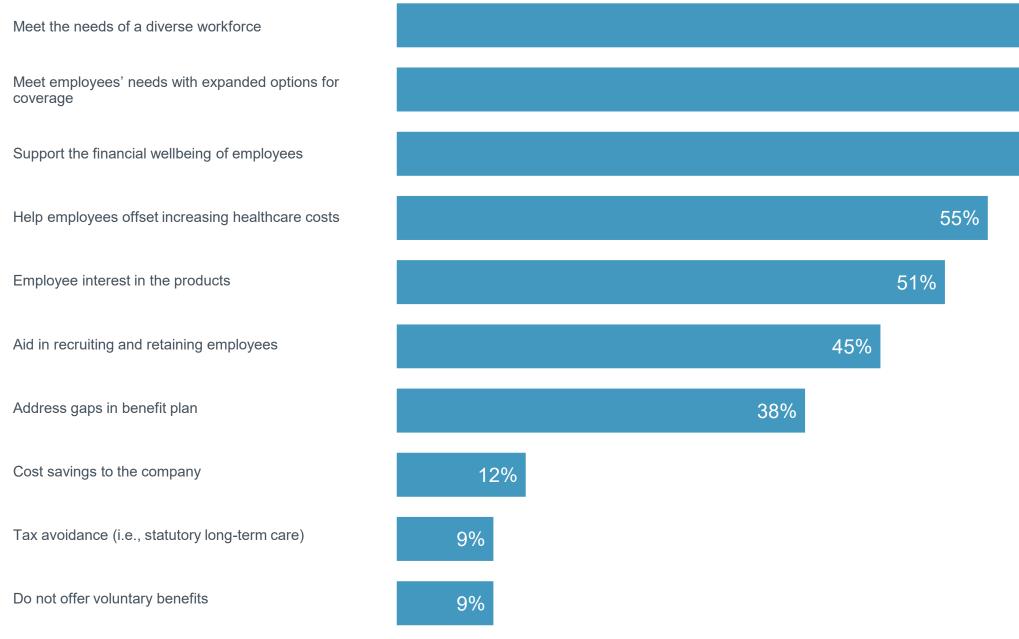
Expanding choice

Supporting financial wellbeing

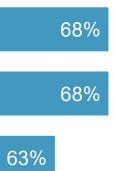


Why Employers are Offering Voluntary Benefits

If your current or future approach includes offering voluntary/supplemental benefits, what are your main reasons for offering these benefits?



Source: Aon Health Survey 2023



Providing access to supplemental coverages that support employees' unique needs and life stages, with a focus on financial wellbeing, remains a priority focus for voluntary offerings.



## Evolution of the Voluntary Benefits Market



### Affac.



1950

Beginning of Voluntary Market (Worksite Marketing)

#### Individual VB Products

- Payroll deduction; individually underwritten
- Guaranteed renewable, fully portable



TRANSAMERICA

Humana

### 1990

Entrance of initial **Group Carriers** 

#### Group Hybrid VB Products

UŇŮŇ

Retain features of Individual plans (Issue Age, Portability)



Life Financial

### 2008-2012

HARTFORD

All Group Carries in (Groupification of VB)

#### **True Group VB Products**

- Annual Guaranteed Issue
- Master policy held at employer level



Most employers are here



### 2015-2019

**Medical Carrier Entrants** 

#### **Medical Carriers**

- Value based plan designs
- ASO offsets

2024 **Fully Integrated Solution** 

#### Medical & VB

- Integrated claims process
- Custom plan designs
- Proactive wellness claims
- Holistic case level underwriting



**Better Benefits Better Integration Better Outcomes** 

#### Value to Employers

- Greater employee appreciation
- Savings opportunities
- Eliminate administrative burden

#### Value to Employees

- Seamless experience
- Enhanced plan designs and increased claim payments
- Improves financial wellbeing

## **Voluntary Benefits Participation Trends**

By Generation			
Generation Z	Millennials	Generation X	Baby Boome
<ul> <li>Accident</li> <li>Hospital Indemnity</li> <li>Permanent Life</li> <li>Identity Theft</li> <li>Pet</li> <li>Student Loan</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Accident</li> <li>Hospital Indemnity</li> <li>Permanent Life</li> <li>Legal</li> <li>Identity Theft</li> <li>Student Loan</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Accident</li> <li>Critical Illness</li> <li>Hospital Indemnity</li> <li>Permanent Life with</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Critical Illness</li> <li>Hospital Indemnity</li> <li>Permanent Life with Long-term care</li> <li>Legal</li> <li>Identity Theft</li> </ul>
Assistance	Assistance	Long-term care <li>Legal</li> <li>Identity Theft</li>	
<ul> <li>Discount/Purchasing</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Discount/Purchasing</li></ul>	,	
Program	Program	,	

#### ners

nity

with

#### Valuable Benefits

#### **Critical Illness**

interest to people ages 40+, Baby Boomers and Generation X. It is also of interest to employees that have a family history of critical illnesses.

#### Accident

interest a broader range of ages, younger, active employees and those with children.

#### **Hospital Indemnity**

interest to people starting families and those with concerns of being hospitalized for illnesses

#### **Permanent Life**

interests all age groups. Individuals that are looking for protection for long term care or to help ease the burden on family members in an untimely death.



## **Population Health Insights**

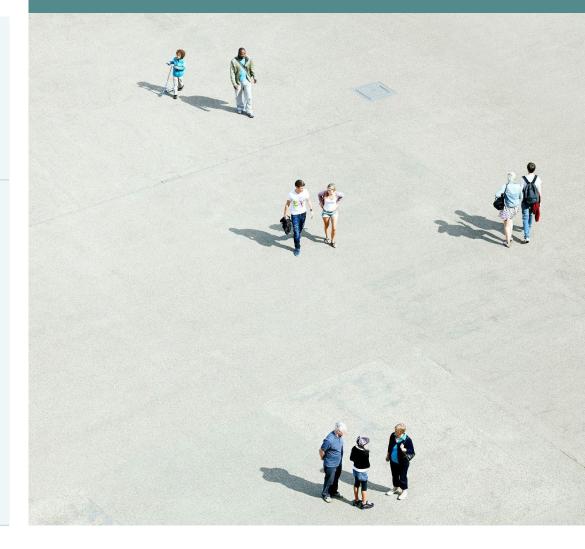
**Consumer Risk Analyzer** 

	ndustry			Client Exampl	е
		Incidence Rates	Average Claimant Costs	Expected Incidence	Expe Claimar
Ac	cident	29.9%	\$2,168	2,990	\$6.4
	critical Iness	8.0%	\$3,893	800	\$3.
	ospital lemnity	5.2%	\$4,390	520	\$2.2

Source: *IBM*<sup>®</sup> *RED BOOK*<sup>™</sup> *and MarketScan*<sup>®</sup> *Research Databases* 



#### Sample Size Covered Lives: 8.12m+ Average Age: 33.7 years Average Claimant Age: 35.2 years



ected ant Costs

.48M

.11M

.28M

## **Population Health Insights**

Accident			
	Incidence	Average Cost	
Average	29.9%	\$2,168	
Top Expenses			
Emergency Room	17.1%	\$2,790	
Urgent Care	17.5%	\$1,724	
Ambulance (Ground)	1.5%	\$4,671	
Fracture	0.36%	\$2,514	
Dislocation	0.10%	\$1,984	
Laceration	0.05%	\$7,617	
		-	

nital	amait
опаг	ennu
pru	emnity

	Incidence	Average Cost
Average	5.2%	\$4,390
Top Expenses		
1 Hospital Incidence	3.8%	\$4,017
2+ Hospital Incidence	0.6%	\$7,014
Newborn Incidence	2.3%	\$2,425

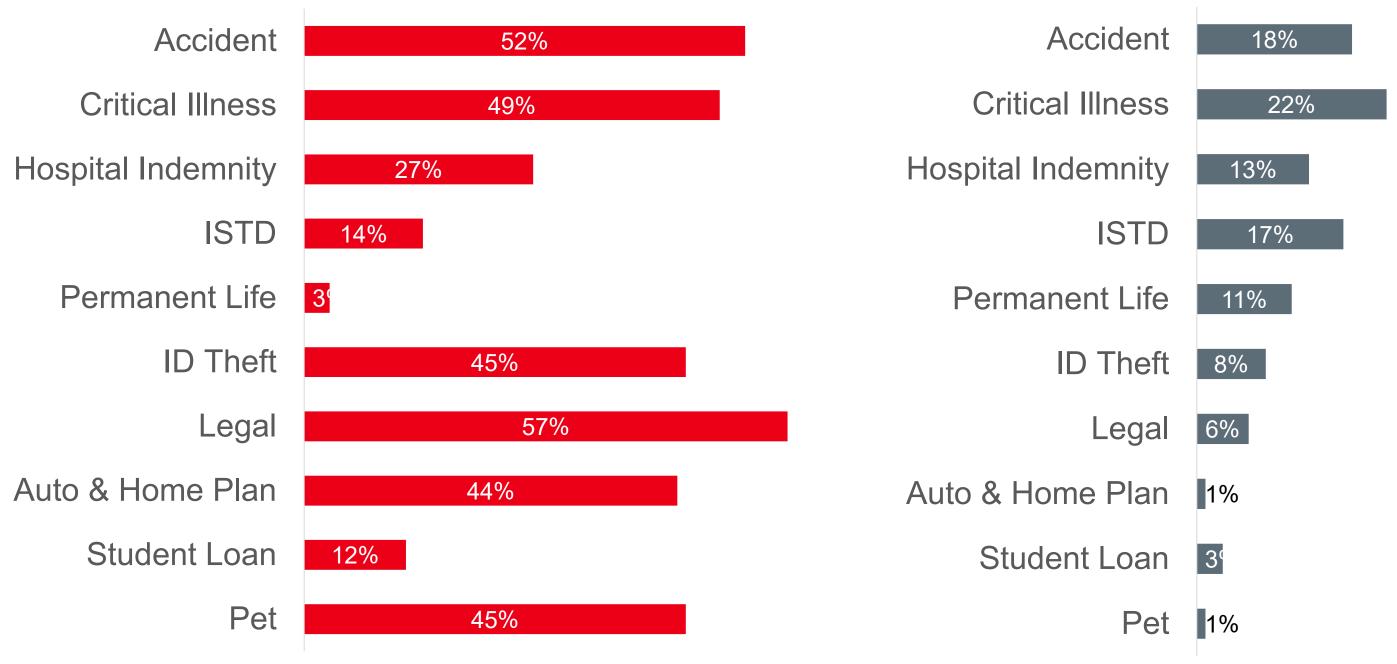


Critical liness			
Incidence	Average Cost		
8.0%	\$3,893		
5.23%	\$3,495		
0.93%	\$4,643		
0.80%	\$3,416		
0.69%	\$5,120		
0.64%	\$6,252		
0.26%	\$5,653		
0.23%	\$8,330		
0.22%	\$5,534		
0.17%	\$2,476		
0.17%	\$8,083		
0.04%	\$3,947		
0.03%	\$6,531		
0.02%	\$7,872		
0.01%	\$4,813		
0.01%	\$9,884		
0.01%	\$5,590		
	8.0%         5.23%         0.93%         0.80%         0.69%         0.64%         0.26%         0.23%         0.22%         0.17%         0.17%         0.04%         0.03%         0.02%         0.01%         0.01%		

AON Source: *IBM<sup>®</sup> RED BOOK™ and MarketScan<sup>®</sup> Research Databases* 

## Voluntary Benefit Benchmarking Large Clients

What employers are offering



Aon Benefit SpecSelect

AON

#### What employees are enrolling in

Aon Enrollment Results

