

## **Healthcare sticky issue among the wealthy-survey**

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Health care remains a persistent concern in wealthy households, a survey by Ipsos Mendelsohn showed on Tuesday.

The Mendelsohn Affluent Survey showed 39 percent of wealthy households were concerned about healthcare in January, down only modestly from a 40 percent in November. A year ago 33 percent cited the issue.

U.S. President Barack Obama is engaged in a divisive struggle to reform health care. The issue was cited among reasons for the shock defeat of Obama's Democratic Party candidate in Massachusetts's Senate race in January.

The survey, which queried 1,362 adults with a household income \$100,000 or more, says the economy remained the top concern among that demographic, but the percentage of those citing it fell to 43 percent in January from 60 percent a year ago.

Over the past year world stock markets have bounced sharply as the economy has improved. But with unemployment still high the job market was the third most cited concern, raised by 31 percent of respondents, virtually unchanged over the year.

In January 52 percent of respondents were positive about the economy compared to 49 percent in April when the question was first introduced.