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FRANKLIN & MARSHALL

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**Franklin & Marshall
College Poll**

**NATIONAL SURVEY
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

**Prepared By:
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Table of Contents

METHODOLOGY	3
KEY FINDINGS	5
<i>HEALTHCARE</i>	5
<i>PRESIDENTIAL PERFORMANCE</i>	8
TABLE A-1	9
TABLE A-2	10
TABLE A-3	11
TABLE A-4	12
TABLE A-5	13
MARGINAL FREQUENCY REPORT.....	14

Methodology

The survey findings presented in this release are based on the results of interviews conducted February 2 – 8, 2010. The interviews were conducted at the Center for Opinion Research at Franklin & Marshall College under the direction of the poll's Director Dr. G. Terry Madonna, Head Methodologist Berwood Yost, and Project Manager Jennifer Harding. The data included in this release represent the responses of 920 adults in the United States, and 767 of them are registered to vote. Telephone numbers for the survey were generated using random digit dialing, and respondents were randomly selected from within each household. Survey results were weighted (age, education, race, region, and gender) using an iterative weighting algorithm.

The sample error for this survey is +/- 3.2 percentage points. The sample error for registered adults is +/- 3.5 percentage points. In addition to sampling error, this poll is also subject to other sources of non-sampling error. Generally speaking, two sources of error concern researchers most. Non-response bias is created when selected participants either choose not to participate in the survey or are unavailable for interviewing. Response errors are the product of the question and answer process. Surveys that rely on self-reported behaviors and attitudes are susceptible to biases related to the way respondents process and respond to survey questions.

This is the second in a series of Franklin & Marshall College National Polls dealing with national healthcare matters. Contributors to the poll included Senior Associate Dean of the Faculty, Vice Provost for Planning and Institutional Research, and Professor of Economics Alan Caniglia, Professor of Economics Sean Flaherty,

and The Honorable and Mrs. John C. Kunkel Professor of Government Joseph
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Key Findings

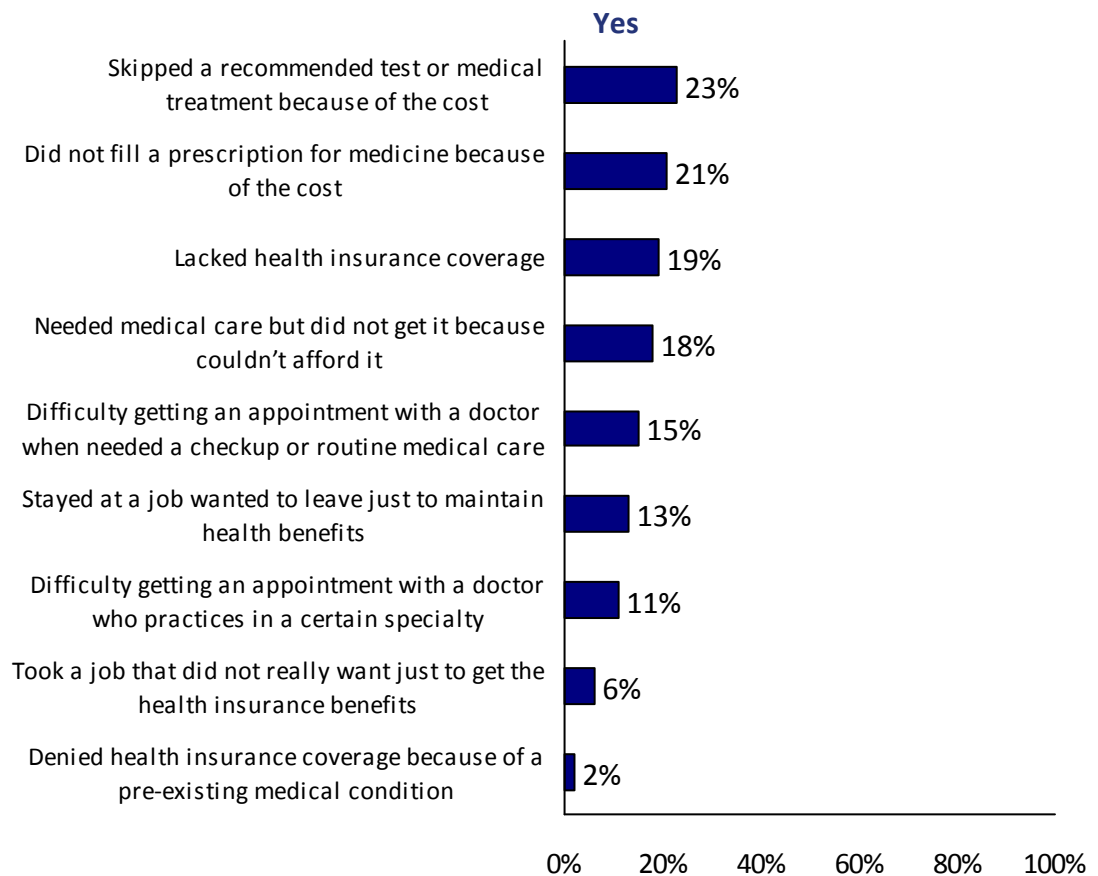
The most recent National Franklin & Marshall College Poll finds a majority of adults reporting the economy and personal finances (64%) as the most important problems their families currently face, with healthcare-related issues a distant second (11%). For both economic and healthcare issues, a majority of adults believe the problems faced by their families can be solved with the help of the government; 56% of those with financial concerns believe this, and 80% of those with healthcare concerns believe it. Only one in three (35%) citizens believes the United States is currently headed in the right direction.

Healthcare

Americans are generally satisfied with how well the current healthcare system meets their needs. More than one in three (37%) says the system meets their needs very well, and another two in five (41%) say it meets their needs pretty well, leaving about one in five (21%) Americans who feel the system is not serving their personal needs. Those over 55 years of age, those earning more than \$75,000 per year, non-Hispanic whites, and registered Republicans are most likely among the demographic groups to believe the system meets their needs (see Table A-1). Three in four (75%) Americans who have health insurance currently rate their coverage as very good or good.

The cost of healthcare and availability of health insurance coverage were significant problems for many adults during the past year. Nearly one in four adults report skipping a recommended test or medical treatment because of the cost, and one in five did not fill a prescription medicine because of the cost (see Figure 1). About one in five respondents say they were without health insurance coverage at some point during the previous 12 months. The proportion of Americans who experienced these healthcare events during the past 12 months is consistent with the findings from our September 2009 national poll.

Figure 1. Selected Healthcare Experiences during Past 12 Months



Three in four (75%) Americans believe the country's healthcare system is in need of reform (down slightly from 79% in September 2009), and half (47%) of these respondents believe the system is in need of major reform. This equates to about one in three (35%) Americans who feel the nation's healthcare system needs major reform—about the same proportion as in September (37%).

A majority (59%) of citizens believe the health reform bills being considered by Congress will make major changes to the country's healthcare system. Respondents are evenly divided about whether they are satisfied (45%) or dissatisfied (45%) that healthcare reform has not yet passed. Those earning more than \$75,000 per year, whites, and Republicans are most likely to be satisfied that healthcare reform has not passed (see Table A-2), and more registered Independents are dissatisfied (52%) than satisfied (39%). More respondents believe they will be worse off (36%) than better off (22%) if the healthcare reform proposals being discussed in Congress are passed.

Presidential Performance

More registered Americans believe the president has better ideas for reforming healthcare (37%) than do the Republicans in Congress (33%), but a third (30%) do not know who has the better ideas. In September, even more registered respondents believed the president had better ideas for reforming healthcare (47%) and fewer felt the Republicans did (21%).

More than half (57%) of registered Americans approve of the way President Obama is handling the situation in Afghanistan, and half (52%) also approve of the way he is handling national security issues. Fewer (45%) registered respondents approve of the way the president is dealing with the country's economic problems. Not surprisingly, Democrats tend to have higher approval ratings of Obama (see Tables A-3, A-4, and A-5). More registered Independents approve (55%) of the way Obama is handling the situation in Afghanistan than disapprove (37%) and approve (54%) of his performance regarding national security than disapprove (36%). However, more registered Independents disapprove (50%) than approve (43%) of the president's handling of the economy.

Table A-1

How well does the current healthcare system meet the needs of you and your family?

	Very Well	Pretty Well	Not Too Well	Not at All	Don't Know
Gender					
Male	40%	41%	10%	8%	1%
Female	35%	40%	14%	11%	1%
Census Region*					
Northeast	40%	38%	11%	10%	0%
Midwest	39%	45%	12%	4%	1%
South	38%	41%	10%	9%	2%
West	33%	37%	14%	16%	1%
Age*					
18-34 Years	29%	45%	14%	11%	1%
35-54 Years	38%	39%	10%	12%	0%
55 Years and Older	44%	38%	11%	5%	2%
Education*					
High School or Less	37%	42%	10%	9%	1%
Some College	35%	34%	17%	13%	1%
College Degree	40%	45%	7%	6%	1%
Income*					
Under \$35,000	31%	34%	16%	17%	2%
\$35-\$75,000	33%	47%	10%	9%	1%
Over \$75,000	48%	38%	10%	4%	1%
Race/Ethnicity*					
Non-Hispanic White	41%	38%	10%	10%	1%
Non-Hispanic Other	32%	43%	10%	15%	0%
Hispanic	31%	43%	17%	8%	2%
Non-Hispanic Black	27%	50%	15%	7%	1%
Party Registration*					
Republican	50%	39%	4%	6%	2%
Independent/Other	34%	38%	17%	10%	2%
Democrat	32%	40%	15%	13%	0%

* Significant differences (p<.05)

Table A-2

Are you satisfied or dissatisfied that healthcare reform has not yet passed?

	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Don't Know
Gender					
Male	36%	10%	20%	24%	10%
Female	31%	12%	23%	24%	10%
Census Region					
South	37%	9%	19%	24%	11%
Northeast	34%	10%	20%	28%	8%
West	32%	12%	24%	23%	9%
Midwest	31%	14%	25%	22%	9%
Age*					
18-34 Years	29%	14%	30%	17%	9%
35-54 Years	39%	8%	19%	28%	7%
55 Years and Older	33%	11%	16%	26%	14%
Education					
High School or Less	33%	13%	21%	23%	11%
Some College	32%	10%	25%	25%	9%
College Degree	38%	9%	19%	27%	7%
Income*					
Under \$35,000	21%	10%	26%	29%	13%
\$35-\$75,000	38%	17%	12%	25%	8%
Over \$75,000	43%	6%	27%	19%	5%
Race/Ethnicity*					
Non-Hispanic White	42%	12%	17%	20%	10%
Non-Hispanic Other	36%	3%	24%	28%	9%
Hispanic	19%	12%	42%	18%	9%
Non-Hispanic Black	4%	5%	23%	56%	11%
Party Registration*					
Republican	65%	12%	12%	5%	5%
Independent/Other	29%	10%	26%	26%	9%
Democrat	16%	7%	27%	42%	9%

* Significant differences (p<.05)

Table A-3

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the situation in Afghanistan?

	Strongly Approve	Somewhat Approve	Somewhat Disapprove	Strongly Disapprove	Don't Know
Gender					
Male	24%	36%	13%	19%	8%
Female	20%	33%	15%	20%	12%
Census Region*					
South	28%	30%	10%	22%	10%
West	20%	36%	12%	24%	8%
Northeast	17%	40%	15%	18%	10%
Midwest	17%	38%	20%	14%	10%
Age					
18-34 Years	25%	36%	16%	17%	6%
35-54 Years	18%	38%	12%	22%	10%
55 Years and Older	24%	31%	14%	19%	13%
Education					
High School or Less	22%	35%	11%	20%	12%
Some College	22%	36%	13%	20%	9%
College Degree	22%	34%	19%	18%	7%
Income*					
Under \$35,000	30%	31%	11%	19%	10%
\$35-\$75,000	16%	36%	13%	23%	12%
Over \$75,000	22%	39%	17%	17%	4%
Race/Ethnicity*					
Non-Hispanic Black	49%	31%	0%	7%	13%
Non-Hispanic White	19%	35%	13%	23%	11%
Hispanic	18%	40%	28%	8%	5%
Non-Hispanic Other	14%	33%	14%	32%	6%
Party Registration*					
Democrat	28%	37%	13%	10%	11%
Independent/Other	20%	35%	14%	23%	8%
Republican	16%	36%	14%	26%	9%

* Significant differences (p<.05)

Table A-4

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling national security, including the war on terror?

	Strongly Approve	Somewhat Approve	Somewhat Disapprove	Strongly Disapprove	Don't Know
Gender					
Male	24%	28%	16%	29%	4%
Female	23%	28%	14%	27%	9%
Census Region					
South	27%	25%	11%	31%	6%
Northeast	24%	24%	15%	28%	8%
Midwest	21%	31%	18%	23%	7%
West	20%	33%	15%	27%	5%
Age*					
18-34 Years	21%	37%	20%	16%	6%
35-54 Years	23%	26%	12%	34%	4%
55 Years and Older	27%	22%	13%	30%	9%
Education					
High School or Less	21%	24%	15%	32%	7%
Some College	24%	33%	12%	25%	6%
College Degree	27%	28%	16%	25%	5%
Income*					
Under \$35,000	33%	25%	12%	24%	6%
\$35-\$75,000	17%	28%	15%	33%	7%
Over \$75,000	21%	33%	18%	24%	3%
Race/Ethnicity*					
Non-Hispanic Black	53%	24%	7%	6%	10%
Non-Hispanic Other	27%	29%	12%	27%	5%
Hispanic	24%	35%	21%	16%	4%
Non-Hispanic White	18%	27%	15%	33%	6%
Party Registration*					
Democrat	39%	32%	13%	10%	6%
Independent/Other	23%	31%	14%	22%	10%
Republican	9%	22%	17%	49%	3%

* Significant differences (p<.05)

Table A-5

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the country's economic problems?

	Strongly Approve	Somewhat Approve	Somewhat Disapprove	Strongly Disapprove	Don't Know
Gender					
Male	14%	31%	15%	36%	4%
Female	20%	25%	12%	39%	5%
Census Region*					
South	19%	22%	16%	42%	2%
Northeast	17%	31%	12%	32%	8%
West	17%	31%	14%	36%	2%
Midwest	15%	32%	10%	37%	6%
Age					
18-34 Years	16%	34%	15%	31%	4%
35-54 Years	14%	26%	14%	42%	4%
55 Years and Older	21%	25%	11%	38%	5%
Education*					
High School or Less	18%	23%	15%	39%	4%
Some College	15%	37%	10%	34%	3%
College Degree	18%	24%	14%	39%	5%
Income*					
Under \$35,000	28%	26%	10%	33%	3%
\$35-\$75,000	11%	26%	19%	39%	4%
Over \$75,000	13%	30%	13%	39%	5%
Race/Ethnicity*					
Non-Hispanic Black	55%	27%	0%	9%	9%
Hispanic	17%	50%	9%	23%	0%
Non-Hispanic White	12%	23%	16%	45%	4%
Non-Hispanic Other	8%	41%	17%	31%	3%
Party Registration*					
Democrat	33%	37%	10%	17%	4%
Independent/Other	13%	30%	14%	36%	7%
Republican	5%	18%	18%	58%	1%

* Significant differences ($p < .05$)

Marginal Frequency Report

UStrk. All in all, do you think things in the United States are generally headed in the RIGHT DIRECTION, or do you feel that things are off on the WRONG TRACK?

Jun 08*	Sep 08*	Oct 08*	Sep 09	Feb 10	
17%	21%	14%	36%	35%	Right direction
78%	73%	82%	55%	59%	Wrong track
5%	6%	4%	9%	6%	Don't know

MIP_YF. What do you think is the MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM facing YOU and YOUR FAMILY TODAY?

Jun 08*	Sep 08*	Oct 08*	Sep 09	Feb 10	
45%	57%	65%	50%	64%	Economy, personal finances, cost of living
8%	8%	9%	19%	11%	Healthcare, insurance
3%	1%	1%	5%	3%	Government, politicians
3%	4%	5%	3%	3%	Taxes
0%	1%	1%	3%	2%	Personal illness, health problems
0%	1%	1%	1%	2%	Education, schools
0%	1%	2%	2%	1%	Retirement, social security
0%	0%	0%	2%	1%	Personal issues
3%	2%	2%	1%	1%	Iraq War
0%	2%	2%	1%	1%	Terrorism, national security, foreign policy
3%	2%	2%	1%	1%	Values, morality, religion
22%	11%	4%	0%	1%	Gasoline/oil prices, energy
0%	1%	1%	2%	0%	Housing, real estate
0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	Crime, drugs, violence
0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	Civil liberties, individual rights
0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	Environment, climate change
2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	Immigration, illegal immigrants
0%	2%	1%	2%	3%	Nothing
7%	2%	2%	2%	3%	Other
4%	4%	3%	6%	5%	Don't know

Gov. Do you think that the problems facing you and your family can be solved with the help of the government, or are these problems beyond what you think the government can do?

Jun 08*	Sep 08*	Oct 08*	Sep 09	Feb 10	
66%	67%	68%	54%	57%	With help of government
27%	24%	24%	38%	35%	Beyond what government can do
7%	9%	8%	8%	8%	Don't know

*Question asked of registered adults only.

Now I have some questions related to healthcare.

Q1. Is there a place that you usually go to when you are sick or need advice about your health?

Sep 09	Feb 10	
92%	93%	Yes
8%	7%	No

Q1yK. What kind of place do you go to most often?

n = 851

Sep 09	Feb 10	
72%	78%	Doctor's office
18%	16%	Clinic
6%	3%	Emergency room
4%	3%	Other

Q1yS. Is that the same place you usually go when you need routine or preventive care, such as a physical examination or a check up?

n = 848

Sep 09	Feb 10	
91%	93%	Yes
7%	6%	No
2%	1%	Don't get routine/preventative care

Q1Dr1. Have you talked to your family doctor about healthcare reform at any time during the past few months, or not?

n = 665

18% Yes
82% No

Q1Dr2. Does your doctor favor or oppose healthcare reform?

n = 122

35% Favor
42% Oppose
23% Don't know

Q3. How well does the current healthcare system meet the needs of you and your family?

Sep 09	Feb 10	
35%	37%	Very well
43%	41%	Pretty well
12%	12%	Not too well
9%	9%	Not well at all
1%	1%	Don't know

Q3not. Why is the current healthcare system NOT meeting your needs?

n = 194

Sep 09	Feb 10	
56%	49%	Cost
22%	18%	Certain things not covered
15%	12%	Not insured
3%	8%	Unemployed, changed job, retired
0%	6%	Too impersonal, don't care
9%	3%	Turned down for insurance, has pre-existing condition
18%	2%	Doctors or facilities not meeting needs
0%	2%	For profit, business interests
3%	1%	Difficult to understand, complex
6%	19%	Other
1%	2%	Don't know

*Responses total over 100% because multiple responses were accepted.

HC. Do you have any kind of HEALTHCARE coverage, such as coverage provided by your employer, private health insurance, or government plans such as Medicare, Medicaid, or CHIP, the Children's Health Insurance Program?

Sep 09	Feb 10	
88%	91%	Yes
12%	9%	No

HCins. Which is it?

n = 836

Sep 09	Feb 10	
50%	51%	Coverage provided by employer
16%	17%	Medicare
14%	11%	Insurance you purchased yourself
6%	7%	Medicare and private
6%	5%	Medicaid
2%	3%	Employer and Medicare
1%	2%	Employer and private
1%	1%	CHIP
3%	4%	Other
0%	1%	Don't know

HCrate. Would you say your health insurance coverage is...?

n = 836

Sep 09	Feb 10	
37%	41%	Very good
38%	34%	Good
18%	18%	Fair
4%	4%	Poor
2%	2%	Very poor
1%	1%	Don't know

HCde1. Has your current insurance provider ever denied a request from your doctor for you to undergo a specific test, procedure, or treatment?

n = 836

Sep 09	Feb 10	
13%	12%	Yes
86%	87%	No
1%	1%	Don't know

HCde2. Has your current insurance provider ever denied your request to visit a specialist?

n = 836

Sep 09	Feb 10	
6%	7%	Yes
93%	91%	No
1%	2%	Don't know

HCno. Which of the following is the main reason you are currently without health insurance coverage?

n = 82

Sep 09	Feb 10	
73%	69%	You cannot afford to pay for insurance
7%	7%	You tried to get insurance but were turned down
9%	6%	You do not think you need any health insurance
11%	18%	Other

HCever. Have you ever had health insurance, or not?

n = 84

Sep 09	Feb 10	
84%	85%	Yes
16%	15%	No

HCno2. What is the main reason you no longer have health insurance?

n = 72

Sep 09	Feb 10	
40%	59%	Unemployed, changed job
49%	16%	Cost
1%	1%	Divorce
2%	0%	Turned down for insurance, has pre-existing condition
7%	24%	Other

HCde3. Have you ever been denied insurance coverage because of a pre-existing medical condition?

Sep 09	Feb 10	
9%	9%	Yes
91%	91%	No

Q4. During the past 12 months...

Sep 09	Yes	No	Don't Know
Did you skip a recommended test or medical treatment because of the cost?	23%	77%	0%
Did you not fill a prescription for medicine because of the cost?	23%	77%	0%
Was there any time when you lacked health insurance coverage?	19%	81%	0%
Was there any time when you needed medical care but did not get it because you couldn't afford it?	18%	81%	1%
Was there any time when you had difficulty getting an appointment with a doctor who practices in a certain specialty, such as a cardiologist, orthopedist, or surgeon?	13%	87%	0%
Was there any time when you had difficulty getting an appointment with a doctor when you needed a checkup or routine medical care?	12%	88%	0%
Did you stay at a job you wanted to leave just to maintain your health benefits?	9%	91%	0%
Did you take a job that you did not really want just to get the health insurance benefits?	3%	97%	0%
Were you denied health insurance coverage because of a pre-existing medical condition?	2%	98%	0%

Feb 10	Yes	No	Don't Know
Did you skip a recommended test or medical treatment because of the cost?	23%	77%	1%
Did you not fill a prescription for medicine because of the cost?	21%	79%	0%
Was there any time when you lacked health insurance coverage?	19%	81%	0%
Was there any time when you needed medical care but did not get it because you couldn't afford it?	18%	82%	0%
Was there any time when you had difficulty getting an appointment with a doctor when you needed a checkup or routine medical care?	15%	85%	0%
Did you stay at a job you wanted to leave just to maintain your health benefits?	13%	86%	1%
Was there any time when you had difficulty getting an appointment with a doctor who practices in a certain specialty, such as a cardiologist, orthopedist, or surgeon?	11%	89%	1%
Did you take a job that you did not really want just to get the health insurance benefits?	6%	94%	0%
Were you denied health insurance coverage because of a pre-existing medical condition?	2%	98%	0%

Q5. During the past 12 months, did you have any non-emergency surgery performed?

Sep 09	Feb 10	
12%	12%	Yes
88%	88%	No

Q5y. How long did it take to have the surgery performed after your doctor told you it was necessary?

n = 110

Sep 09	Feb 10	
26%	40%	Less than 1 week
50%	25%	1-2 weeks
13%	14%	3-4 weeks
11%	21%	More than 4 weeks

Q8. How closely have you been following the debate on healthcare reform?

Sep 09	Feb 10	
34%	28%	Very closely
41%	44%	Somewhat closely
21%	20%	Not too closely
4%	7%	Not at all
0%	1%	Don't know

Q10. Do you think the country's healthcare system is in need of reform, or not?

Sep 09	Feb 10	
79%	75%	Yes
15%	20%	No
6%	5%	Don't know

N10chg. Have you changed your mind about the need for healthcare reform during the past six months?

11% Yes
 87% No
 2% Don't know

N10why. Why have you changed your mind?

n = 97

- 17% Got more information, learned more about it
- 14% Everyone should have health coverage, too many people without
- 13% Personal health/insurance changed
- 11% Cost of insurance is rising, insurance is unaffordable
- 7% Need new plan, more research, redo it
- 7% Anti-Obama legislation
- 7% Cost won't go down for people
- 7% Major reform is needed
- 6% Government incapable, too much involvement
- 5% Doesn't like proposals, in general
- 4% In favor of single payer system, public option, national health insurance
- 4% Shouldn't be listening to insurance companies, businesses, special interests
- 2% Shouldn't force people to buy insurance
- 1% Party politics, disagreements
- 1% Need to listen to the people, have open debate
- 1% Tort reform
- 1% Lack of choice, people should have choice in coverage
- 1% Major reform is not needed
- 1% Cover pre-existing conditions
- 1% Pro-Obama legislation
- 1% Focus on elderly, low income, kids, disabled
- 1% Shouldn't cover abortions
- 14% Other

*Responses total over 100% because multiple responses were accepted.

Q11. How strongly do you feel that the country's healthcare system [FILL is/is not] in need of reform?

In Need of Reform n = 683		Not in Need of Reform n = 183		
Sep 09	Jan 10	Sep 09	Jan 10	
65%	57%	49%	51%	Very strongly
28%	35%	37%	30%	Somewhat strongly
6%	6%	3%	14%	Not very strongly
1%	1%	6%	3%	Not strongly at all
0%	1%	5%	2%	Don't know

Q12. Do you think the country's healthcare system works pretty well and needs only minor changes to work better, or do you think the country's healthcare system has so many problems that it should be completely rebuilt?

n = 683

Sep 09	Feb 10	
43%	45%	Works pretty well and needs only minor changes
47%	47%	Has so many problems that it should be completely rebuilt
10%	8%	Don't know

N12a. In your mind, would the bills being considered by the House and Senate make minor changes to the country's healthcare system or major changes to the country's healthcare system?

27% Minor changes
59% Major changes
14% Don't know

NoP1. Are you satisfied or dissatisfied that healthcare reform has not yet passed?

34% Very satisfied
11% Somewhat satisfied
21% Somewhat dissatisfied
24% Very dissatisfied
10% Don't know

NoP2. Who do you think deserves MOST of the [FILL blame/credit] for keeping healthcare reform from passing?

n = 829

25% Republicans
12% Government, politicians
10% American people, public, voters
9% Congress
5% Democrats
3% Insurance/pharmaceutical companies
3% Senate
3% Both parties
2% President Obama
2% Massachusetts, Senator Scott Brown
1% Conservatives
1% Business, special interests, lobbyists
1% Tea parties
1% Media
1% No one, everyone
4% Other
17% Don't know

NoP3. What do you think Congress and the President should do about healthcare reform during the coming year?

27%	Work together, pass legislation
15%	Need new plan, more research, redo it
8%	Listen to the people, have open debate
6%	Universal health coverage
5%	Focus on elderly, low income, kids, disabled
4%	Make insurance more affordable
4%	Reduce government control/involvement
3%	Make minor changes, focus on important pieces
3%	Force healthcare/insurance providers to lower costs, regulate costs
2%	Tort reform
2%	Stop listening to insurance companies, businesses, special interests
2%	Model other countries' systems
2%	Publicize/explain proposals more
1%	Single payer system, public option, national health insurance
1%	Listen to medical professionals, doctors
1%	Increase insurance provider competition
1%	Pro-Obama legislation
1%	Cover pre-existing conditions
1%	Major reform
1%	Regulate use/overuse of health system
11%	Nothing
8%	Other
15%	Don't know

*Responses total over 100% because multiple responses were accepted.

V1_Q1. What effect do you think the healthcare reform proposals being discussed in Congress would have on you personally? Would you and your family be better off, worse off, or about the same if healthcare reform [FILL passes/fails to pass]?

If Passes n = 498	If Fails to Pass n = 422	
22%	11%	Better off
36%	15%	Worse off
35%	70%	About the same
7%	4%	Don't know

V1_Q2. Do you think the quality of healthcare you receive will be better, worse, or stay about the same if healthcare reform [FILL passes/fails to pass]?

If Passes n = 498	If Fails to Pass n = 422	
19%	6%	Better
36%	17%	Worse
39%	71%	Stay about the same
6%	6%	Don't know

V1_Q3. Do you think your taxes will increase, decrease, or stay about the same if healthcare reform [FILL passes/fails to pass]?

If Passes n = 498	If Fails to Pass n = 422	
76%	43%	Increase
3%	3%	Decrease
17%	44%	Stay about the same
4%	10%	Don't know

V1_Q4. Do you think the costs of your healthcare will increase at a faster pace, a slower pace, or at the same pace if healthcare reform [FILL passes/fails to pass]?

If Passes n = 498	If Fails to Pass n = 422	
50%	30%	Increase at a faster pace
14%	11%	Increase at a slower pace
26%	52%	Increase at the same pace
10%	7%	Don't know

Q15. Would you favor or oppose...

Sep 09	Strongly Favor	Somewhat Favor	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	Don't Know
Requiring insurance companies to sell health coverage to people, even if they have pre-existing medical conditions	66%	18%	6%	6%	4%
Requiring all businesses to provide health insurance to their employees or pay money into a government fund that pays to cover those without insurance	45%	17%	11%	20%	7%
Requiring that all Americans have health insurance, with the government providing financial help for those who can't afford it	40%	23%	13%	19%	5%
Requiring everyone to join a health insurance plan	34%	18%	13%	29%	6%
Expanding Medicare to cover ALL Americans	34%	15%	13%	30%	8%
Creating a government health insurance plan similar to Medicare that provides an alternative to private health insurance plans	33%	29%	7%	21%	10%
Expanding Medicare to cover everyone who does not have health insurance	31%	19%	13%	28%	9%

Feb 10	Strongly Favor	Somewhat Favor	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	Don't Know
Requiring insurance companies to sell health coverage to people, even if they have pre-existing medical conditions	62%	20%	5%	6%	7%
Expanding Medicaid to provide insurance coverage to more low income citizens	42%	26%	13%	12%	7%
Requiring all businesses to provide health insurance to their employees or pay money into a government fund that pays to cover those without insurance	41%	21%	11%	20%	7%
Expanding Medicare to cover MORE Americans	39%	23%	13%	16%	9%
Requiring that all Americans have health insurance, with the government providing financial help for those who can't afford it	38%	24%	12%	19%	7%
Expanding Medicare to cover everyone who does not have health insurance	32%	18%	16%	27%	7%
Creating a government health insurance plan similar to Medicare that provides an alternative to private health insurance plans	29%	26%	11%	23%	11%

Q16. Would you favor or oppose each of the following to help pay for healthcare reform and provide coverage for more of the uninsured?

	Strongly Favor	Somewhat Favor	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	Don't Know
Increasing taxes for families that earn more than one million dollars per year	54%	15%	9%	19%	3%
Increasing payroll taxes for families that earn more than \$250,000 per year	37%	24%	13%	23%	3%
Increasing taxes on health insurance plans that cost more than \$23,000 per family	11%	14%	23%	38%	14%

Now I have a few questions about some people and issues in politics.

[Reg AND RegParty were not asked of North Dakota residents.]

REG. Some people are registered to vote, and many others are not. Are you CURRENTLY REGISTERED to vote at your present address?

Jun 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	Sep 09	Feb 10	
84%	83%	85%	86%	84%	Yes
15%	17%	15%	14%	16%	No

RegPARTY. Are you currently registered as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or as something else?

n = 767

Jun 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	Sep 09	Feb 10	
30%	35%	33%	28%	36%	Republican
44%	41%	43%	45%	34%	Democrat
22%	21%	22%	24%	27%	Independent/Other
4%	3%	3%	3%	3%	Don't know

Gen. When it comes to presidential elections, do you always vote, do you usually vote, do you only sometimes vote, or do you rarely vote?

n = 769

Jun 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	Sep 09	Feb 10	
64%	66%	69%	78%	77%	Always
14%	13%	11%	12%	13%	Usually
8%	6%	5%	5%	6%	Only sometimes
13%	14%	13%	5%	3%	Rarely
1%	2%	2%	0%	1%	Don't know

Vot08. Did you vote in the last presidential election in 2008, or not?

n = 769

Sep 09	Feb 10	
92%	90%	Yes
8%	10%	No

Vot08pref. Did you vote for Barack Obama, John McCain, or some other candidate in 2008?

n = 686

48% McCain
46% Obama
5% Other
1% Don't know

Vote_Nov. Many people will vote in the mid-term election in November, however, many other people will not. What would you say are the chances you will vote in the November election? Are you certain to vote, will you probably vote, are the chances fifty-fifty you will vote, OR don't you think that you will vote in the November election?

n = 769

68% Certain to vote
18% Will probably vote
12% Chances 50-50 will vote
1% Don't think will vote
1% Don't know

PoL_Int. Some people don't pay much attention to political campaigns. How about you? Would you say that you are...in the 2010 elections?

n = 769

51% Very much interested
42% Somewhat interested
6% Not very interested
1% Don't know

Q17. Who do you think has better ideas about reforming the country's healthcare system?

n = 769

Sep 09	Feb 10	
47%	37%	Barack Obama
21%	33%	Republicans in Congress
32%	30%	Don't know

N17a. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the country's economic problems?

n = 769

17% Strongly approve
28% Somewhat approve
13% Somewhat disapprove
38% Strongly disapprove
4% Don't know

N17b. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling national security, including the war on terror?

n = 769

- 24% Strongly approve
- 28% Somewhat approve
- 14% Somewhat disapprove
- 28% Strongly disapprove
- 6% Don't know

Q18. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the situation in Afghanistan?

n = 769

Sep 09	Feb 10	
21%	22%	Strongly approve
30%	35%	Somewhat approve
10%	14%	Somewhat disapprove
19%	20%	Strongly disapprove
20%	10%	Don't know

Q20. If the 2010 elections for the United States House of Representatives were being held today, would you vote for the Republican Party's candidate or the Democratic Party's candidate for the House in your district?

n = 769

Sep 09	Feb 10	
30%	39%	Republican Party's candidate
43%	35%	Democratic Party's candidate
4%	4%	Other candidate
1%	1%	Would not vote
22%	22%	Don't know

DEMO. I now have a final few questions for statistical purposes only.

AGE. What was your age on your last birthday?

- 10% 18-24
- 20% 25-34
- 16% 35-44
- 22% 45-54
- 11% 55-64
- 21% 65 and older

EDUC. What was the last grade level of schooling you have completed?

- 8% Non high school graduate
- 37% High school graduate or GED
- 18% Some college
- 12% Two-year or tech degree
- 14% Four year college degree
- 11% Post graduate degree

MAR. What is your CURRENT marital status, are you single, married, separated, divorced, or a widower?

- 27% Single, Never Married
- 52% Married
- 21% Separated/divorced/widower

PRTY1. Regardless of how you are registered, in politics, as of today, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, or an Independent?

- 16% Strong Republican
- 9% Republican
- 16% Lean Republican
- 14% Pure Independent
- 14% Lean Democrat
- 11% Democrat
- 17% Strong Democrat
- 1% Other
- 2% Don't know

Intlmg. Generally speaking do you think [FILL politicians/elected officials] tend to...

Politicians n = 448	Elected Officials n = 472	
Be honest or dishonest		
25%	31%	Honest
65%	60%	Dishonest
10%	9%	Don't know
Be more interested in solving public problems or more interested in winning elections		
9%	11%	In solving problems
86%	84%	In winning elections
5%	5%	Don't know
Be more concerned about what is best for the public or more concerned with what is best for their political party		
8%	10%	Best for the public
87%	85%	Best for their party
5%	5%	Don't know
Do what they think is popular or do what they think is right		
77%	75%	Popular
16%	15%	Right
7%	10%	Don't know
Be ethical or unethical		
27%	34%	Ethical
62%	56%	Unethical
11%	10%	Don't know
Have moderate views or extreme views		
41%	45%	Moderate views
48%	47%	Extreme views
11%	8%	Don't know

LABR. Are you or is any member of your household a member of a LABOR UNION?

17% Yes

83% No

VET. Are you a military veteran?

17% Yes

83% No

Hisp. Are you Hispanic or Latino, or not?

13% Yes

87% No

RACE. Which of the following categories best describes your racial background?

74% White

12% Black or African American

2% American Indian/Alaska Native

1% Asian

1% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander

10% Other

REL. Do you consider yourself to be Protestant, Catholic, some other religion, or not affiliated with any religion?

33%	Protestant
24%	Catholic
27%	Some other religion
16%	Not affiliated with any religion

BAC. Do you consider yourself to be a born-again Christian or fundamentalist, or not?

40%	Yes
57%	No
3%	Don't know

NumA. Including yourself, how many adults 18 years of age or OLDER CURRENTLY live in this household?

25%	One
55%	Two
14%	Three
6%	Four or more

WORK. Are you currently working FULL-time, PART-time, going to school, keeping house, or something else?

43%	Full-time
19%	Retired
11%	Part-time
8%	Keeping house
6%	Going to school
6%	Unemployed
6%	Disabled
1%	Don't know

INC1. And, just for statistical purposes, we need to know if your total family income is above or below \$50,000 per year?

19%	Under \$25,000
13%	\$25-\$35,000
12%	\$35-50,000
24%	\$50-75,000
12%	\$75-100,000
16%	Over \$100,000
4%	Don't know

DONE. Sex of respondent:

51%	Female
49%	Male

Region. Region of the country

37%	South
22%	Midwest
22%	West
19%	Northeast