



Voter Vitals: A Health Care Tracking Poll

Key findings from the quarterly tracking survey of national and battleground state voters



Methodology



Quarterly Tracking Survey:

- N=1,000 voters nationwide plus n=500-voter oversamples in FL, MI, PA, WI, IA, and OH
- Balanced to U.S. demographics by gender, age, race, income, political ideology, and health coverage
- Fielded online July 19-25, 2019
- National MOE: +/- 3%; State OS MOE: +/- 4%

Key Findings

1 The top issues for 2020: **health care (46%), economy (40%), and immigration (40%).**

2 Lowering **COSTS** is the top health care priority, and voters believe lowering costs for everyone (60%) is **MORE** important than providing universal coverage (40%).

3 A super-majority of voters (67%) are **SATISFIED** with their current coverage, and 63% believe **PRIVATE** insurance should continue to have a **ROLE** in our health care system.

4 More trust the **FREE MARKET** (58%) than government (42%) as the foundation for health care reform.

5 More support **FIXING what we have today** (57%) than Medicare buy-in (48%), the public option (44%), Medicare for All (40%), and ACA repeal (33%).

Key Findings

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Voters' top concerns with new government insurance systems: **higher taxes and private premiums and not addressing rising health care costs.**

7

Most voters would rather **BUILD ON** what is working today (68%) than replace it with something new (32%).

8

67% believe we must **FIX** Medicare **BEFORE** expanding it, and 80% of voters ages 50-64 would rather **KEEP** their coverage than buy into Medicare.

9

Most voters 18-64 with private coverage would rather **KEEP** their coverage (70%) than buy coverage through the public option.

10

Most voters (64%) are **UNWILLING** to pay **ANY** more in taxes for universal coverage.

Top 2020 issues: Health care, Economy & Immigration

Which of the following issues is MOST important to you when considering who to vote for in the 2020 presidential primary or caucus? (Combined – Top 3)

	U.S.	BGRND	DEM	SWING	GOP
Health care	46%	51%	56%	43%	35%
The economy	40%	40%	30%	36%	55%
Immigration	40%	38%	25%	37%	60%
National security	28%	30%	16%	25%	46%
Taxes	24%	23%	20%	29%	24%
The environment	21%	22%	32%	20%	8%
Education	20%	18%	26%	24%	9%
Gun policy	20%	15%	25%	18%	15%
Income and wealth inequality	17%	20%	24%	18%	7%
Social justice	13%	12%	21%	11%	6%
Infrastructure	9%	10%	7%	11%	10%
Judges and the judiciary	9%	10%	8%	6%	11%
Trade and tariff policies	8%	6%	5%	12%	9%
Energy	6%	5%	6%	9%	4%

U.S.: n=1,000 voters nationwide

BGRND: n=2,000 voters (500 each in key 2020 battleground states of FL, MI, PA, and WI)

DEM: n=399 Democratic voters nationwide

SWING: n=280 Swing voters nationwide

GOP: n=321 Republican voters nationwide

The top health care priority: **lowering COSTS**

Which of the following is the most important priority to improve the U.S. health care system? (Combined)

	U.S.	BGRND	DEM	SWING	GOP
Bring down health care costs	71%	74%	73%	70%	68%
Make health care simpler	30%	29%	24%	41%	28%
Expand coverage to the uninsured	29%	30%	41%	26%	15%
Give consumers more choice and control	28%	29%	19%	26%	42%
Improve the quality of care	28%	26%	30%	24%	28%
Drive medical innovations and breakthroughs	15%	12%	12%	13%	19%

Most voters are more concerned about lowering **COSTS** for everyone than providing universal coverage

Which of the following health care priorities is MORE important to you? That we...

	U.S.	BGRND	DEM	SWING	GOP
Lower health care costs for everyone	60%	64%	48%	59%	76%
Ensure that everyone has health coverage	40%	36%	52%	41%	24%

A majority of insured voters are **SATISFIED** with their health coverage

How satisfied are you with YOUR current health insurance plan, the coverage you have today?

	U.S.	BGRND	DEM	SWING	GOP
SATISFIED (NET)	67%	67%	67%	62%	73%
Neither	15%	14%	14%	20%	12%
DISSATISFIED (NET)	18%	19%	20%	18%	14%

Most believe **PRIVATE** coverage should continue to have a role in our health care system

Many leading Democratic candidates for president have said we need to eliminate the private insurance system entirely – like the coverage that most Americans get through their job. Do you believe private insurance should exist and have a role in our health care system?

	U.S.	BGRND	DEM	SWING	GOP
Yes	63%	65%	50%	64%	78%
No	20%	17%	26%	19%	13%
Don't know	17%	18%	24%	17%	9%

More trust the **FREE MARKET** than government

Who do you trust MORE to effectively manage health care for Americans?

	U.S.	BGRND	DEM	SWING	GOP
Free market	58%	60%	48%	52%	76%
Federal government	42%	40%	52%	48%	24%

The proposal that earns the **MOST** support with all voters: **Fix what we have today**

Now, we're going to present you with a series of health care policy proposals. For each, please indicate your level of support or opposition to them. (NET SUPPORT)

	U.S.	BGRND	DEM	SWING	GOP
<u>Fix what we have today.</u> We should build on and improve our current health insurance system – not start over.	57%	62%	62%	49%	58%
<u>Medicare buy-in.</u> We should allow Americans age 50+ to purchase coverage through Medicare.	48%	52%	54%	47%	41%
<u>Public option.</u> We should create a new government-run insurance plan available for every American to purchase.	44%	42%	56%	41%	30%
<u>Medicare for America.</u> We should enroll the uninsured and newborns in a new government-run insurance plan and allow any insured American to buy into it .	40%	42%	57%	34%	24%
<u>Medicare for All.</u> We should replace private insurance plans with a single government-run insurance system that covers all Americans and is funded by federal taxes.	40%	38%	57%	39%	21%
<u>Repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA).</u> We should repeal the ACA and go back to the health care system we had prior to it that does not protect pre-existing conditions.	33%	32%	18%	30%	53%

Voters' top concerns with new government insurance systems: higher taxes/private premiums & doesn't address rising costs

Which of the following potential consequences of government-run proposals to reform our health care system are MOST concerning to you?

	U.S.	DEM	SWING	GOP
Americans will pay higher taxes to fund them and private plan premiums will increase.	40%	35%	42%	45%
They do nothing to lower rising health care costs.	39%	44%	38%	32%
Medicare is already at risk of failing, so we should fix it before we can expand it.	32%	33%	35%	28%
Wait times to see a doctor will increase and access to quality care will decrease.	28%	27%	31%	27%
They put us on a slippery slope towards a one-size-fits-all Medicare for All system.	23%	21%	18%	31%
They will result in cuts to doctors and hospitals and require doctor's office and hospital closures.	20%	21%	20%	19%
They would ultimately eliminate private health insurance coverage.	19%	19%	17%	19%

FINANCIAL consequences are a greater concern than health-related ones

Which of the following potential consequences of adopting a government-run health care system is MORE concerning to you?

	U.S.
Higher taxes on all Americans and higher private plan premiums	57%
Less access to doctors and longer wait times for care	43%

BUILDING ON what's working today earns more support than replacing it with something new

Of the following proposals to reform our health care system, which do you support MOST?

	U.S.	DEM	SWING	GOP
Building on and improving the health care system we have today	49%	43%	45%	61%
Replacing our current health care system with a Medicare for All, government-run system	22%	29%	23%	13%
Allowing Americans age 50+ to buy into Medicare	16%	14%	16%	19%
Creating a government-run public option insurance plan	18%	14%	16%	7%

Which of the following approaches to health care reform would you support MORE?

	U.S.	DEM	SWING	GOP
Build on and improve our current health care system	68%	69%	71%	63%
Replace our current health care system with something new	32%	31%	29%	37%

FIXING Medicare/aid must come **BEFORE** expanding it

Which of the following is a MORE important priority?

	U.S.	BGRND	DEM	SWING	GOP
Fixing/improving Medicare and Medicaid before expanding those programs	67%	71%	55%	67%	80%
Expanding access to Medicare and Medicaid now for people no matter their age, income, or where they live	33%	30%	45%	33%	20%

Over three-fourths of voters ages 50-64 would rather **KEEP** their coverage than buy into **Medicare**

Assuming that what you currently pay would be the exact same, would you rather keep your current health insurance coverage or get coverage through Medicare? (age 50-64)

	U.S.	DEM	SWING	GOP
Keep my current coverage	80%	67%	81%	88%
Purchase Medicare coverage	20%	33%	19%	12%

The vast majority of voters ages 18-64 would rather **KEEP their coverage** than buy coverage through a **public option**

Assuming that what you currently pay would be the exact same, would you rather keep your current health insurance coverage or get coverage through a government-run public option? (age 18-64)

	U.S.	DEM	SWING	GOP
Keep my current coverage	70%	65%	65%	80%
Purchase public option coverage	30%	35%	35%	20%

Most voters would be **UNWILLING** to pay **ANY** more for universal coverage

Are you or are you not willing to pay more in taxes to ensure universal health care coverage for every American?

	U.S.	DEM	SWING	GOP
I would not be willing to pay more in taxes than I currently do	64%	51%	66%	79%
I would be willing to pay more in taxes than I currently do	36%	49%	34%	21%



Thank You