

Surprise Billing

National Survey administered by YouGov
 N = 1,000 voters
 October 16-22, 2019
 Margin of sampling error: 3.3 percentage points

I. Screening

Total Dem. Ind. Rep.
 (n=349) (n=328) (n=302)

1. Are you registered to vote in STATE?

Yes, registered	100	100	100	100
No, I am not registered	-	-	-	-
Not sure/not eligible	-	-	-	-

II. Experience with/Feelings about Surprise Bills

This survey is about surprise medical bills. Surprise medical bills are the unexpected — and often expensive — bills patients can receive after unintentionally getting care from a doctor or hospital not in their insurance network. Surprise medical bills often come when a patient gets medical care in an emergency room and then is sent a larger bill than expected because he or she was treated by a hospital or doctor not in their network.

2. How worried are you that you or a family member will receive a surprise medical bill that will be hard for you to pay?

Very worried	27	32	32	17
Somewhat worried	33	36	33	29
Not too worried	26	22	21	37
Not at all worried	13	10	13	17
DK/REF	-	-	-	-

3. Have you or a family member ever received a surprise out-of-network medical bill after getting care in an emergency room, hospital, or clinic?

Yes	44	48	47	38
No	45	41	41	54
Unsure	11	11	12	8
REF	-	-	-	-

IF YES

Total Dem. Ind. Rep.
(n=451) (n=170) (n=157) (n=115)

4. What was the amount of the surprise medical bill you received? (If you received more than one, describe the largest surprise medical bill.)

Under \$500	23.....	20.....	21.....	32
\$501-\$1,000.....	28.....	31.....	23.....	30
\$1,001-\$2,000.....	19.....	17.....	25.....	16
More than \$2,000.....	29.....	32.....	31.....	21
DK/REF	-.....	-.....	-.....	-

5. How difficult was it for you or your family member to pay that bill?

Very difficult	34.....	42.....	31.....	24
Somewhat difficult	35.....	29.....	39.....	38
Not too difficult	15.....	12.....	13.....	20
Not at all difficult	6.....	3.....	6.....	10
Was not able to pay the bill	11.....	13.....	11.....	8
DK/REF	-.....	-.....	-.....	-

RESUME ALL

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6. Generally speaking, do you think the fees that hospitals and doctors charge patients for their services are...

Too high	86.....	90.....	88.....	83
About right	12.....	10.....	11.....	16
Too low	1.....	1.....	0.....	1
DK/REF	-.....	-.....	-.....	-

7. Do you think the fees that hospitals and doctors charge patients for their services are based on their real costs OR do you think they are inflated above their actual costs?

Based on their real costs	16.....	15.....	12.....	22
Inflated above actual costs	84.....	85.....	88.....	78
DK/REF	-.....	-.....	-.....	-

If you or a family member had an urgent medical need and had to go to the nearest emergency room for care, how likely is it that... ROTATE

		Very likely	Smwt. likely	Smwt. unlikely	Very unlikely
8. You would know if the <u>hospital</u> is in your insurance network or not?	Total	41	28	16	15
	Dem.	36	30	16	17
	Ind.	39	26	15	29
	Rep.	48	27	17	8
9. You would know if the <u>doctors</u> there are in your insurance network or not?	Total	29	27	23	20
	Dem.	26	27	24	23
	Ind.	26	25	26	24
	Rep.	37	29	20	13

III. Legislation

A number of states have already passed legislation to protect patients in some types of health plans from surprise medical bills and many more are considering passing these kinds of bills. Congress is also currently weighing bipartisan bills to protect patients in all types of health plans from these surprise bills. ROTATE

		Strongly support	Smwt. support	Smwt. oppose	Strongly oppose
10. Do you support or oppose <u>Congress</u> passing federal legislation to protect patients from surprise medical bills?	Total	64	24	7	4
	Dem.	85	12	2	1
	Ind.	67	23	5	5
	Rep.	39	39	14	7
11. Do you support or oppose your <u>state legislature</u> passing legislation to protect patients from surprise medical bills?	Total	65	26	7	3
	Dem.	81	14	4	1
	Ind.	67	23	7	4
	Rep.	45	42	10	3

Here are some parts of the bipartisan bills that Congress is considering. Do you support or oppose each of these ideas? RANDOMIZE

		Strongly support	Smwt. support	Smwt. oppose	Strongly oppose
12. Patients would be “held harmless” for the surprise bills and would not have to pay the higher costs.	Total	60	26	10	4
	Dem.	76	20	2	1
	Ind.	60	26	10	4
	Rep.	43	32	20	5
13. Legislation would ban surprise bills.	Total	61	27	8	4
	Dem.	76	19	3	2
	Ind.	63	25	8	4
	Rep.	42	39	13	6
14. Ambulances, both on the ground and in the air (emergency air lifts), would also be banned from surprise billing.	Total	64	25	8	3
	Dem.	77	18	3	1
	Ind.	64	24	9	4
	Rep.	50	34	11	5
15. Doctors and hospitals that do surprise billing would be paid less by insurance companies than they are now.	Total	48	34	14	4
	Dem.	61	28	10	2
	Ind.	49	35	13	4
	Rep.	32	41	20	7

IV. Opposition Campaign

Corporations that have bought up doctor groups and ER medical practices around the country are sponsoring an advertising campaign to stop state and national proposals that ban surprise medical bills.

The next questions are about the TV commercials and ads on Facebook and Google that are part of this campaign. Some of the TV commercials, like the two below, warn about hospital emergency rooms closing and doctors not being paid fairly because of “government rate setting.” The Facebook and Google ads describe the bipartisan legislation that Congress is considering as the “first step toward socialists’ Medicare-for-all dream.”



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16. Have you seen TV commercials or ads on Facebook or Google like these?

Yes	16.....	16.....	14.....	18
No.....	73.....	72.....	75.....	74
Unsure.....	11.....	12.....	12.....	8
DK/REF	-.....	-.....	-.....	-

Recently, reporters found out that the corporations behind these ads have spent more than \$28 million dollars on this campaign and are mainly targeting elected officials who are up for re-election. Now that you know this...

17. Give one word to describe your reaction to corporations paying for these ads to stop legislation to ban surprise medical bills: _____



Total	Dem.	Ind.	Rep.
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18. Do you think multi-billion-dollar corporations should be involved in the issue of passing legislation on surprise medical bills?

Yes	14.....	11.....	9.....	22
No.....	67.....	75.....	70.....	58
Unsure.....	18.....	13.....	20.....	20
DK/REF	-.....	-.....	-.....	-

19. How concerned are you that this TV and social media campaign could mean that Congress fails to pass a bipartisan bill on surprise medical bills before the end of the year?

Very concerned.....	34.....	43.....	39.....	21
Somewhat concerned.....	39.....	44.....	35.....	38
Not too concerned.....	20.....	9.....	20.....	31
Not at all concerned.....	6.....	3.....	6.....	10
DK/REF	-.....	-.....	-.....	-

V. Value Statements

20. Here are some statements about surprise medical bills. Please indicate if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with each statement. RANDOMIZE

		Strongly agree	Smwt. agree	Smwt. dis.	Strongly dis.
a. It's hard for patients to know when a doctor or hospital is in their network or not, even when they try to do everything right.	Total	36	44	14	6
	Dem.	45	44	9	2
	Ind.	38	44	11	7
	Rep.	23	44	24	8
b. Patients don't have enough power on their own to do anything about surprise medical bills. They need the help of Congress and state legislatures to pass bipartisan legislation that will protect them.	Total	52	31	11	5
	Dem.	69	25	4	2
	Ind.	56	28	10	6
	Rep.	29	42	20	9
c. Doctors and hospitals charge fees that are too high. If Congress passes a bill that means insurance companies pay them a "fair" rate, this will not put them out of business. They will still make enough money.	Total	48	34	13	5
	Dem.	64	27	6	2
	Ind.	51	33	13	4
	Rep.	26	42	23	9
d. Advertising campaigns funded by dark money from corporations that buy up doctor practices should not influence what Congress does on the issue of surprise medical bills.	Total	61	26	10	4
	Dem.	73	21	4	2
	Ind.	62	26	8	4
	Rep.	45	32	17	6

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21. How important is it to you that your elected officials support legislation to protect patients from surprise medical bills?

Very important.....	56	73	56	37
Somewhat important	30	24	32	37
Not too important	10	3	8	20
Not important at all	3	0	4	6
DK/REF				

22. Congress is actually considering two pieces of legislation to ban surprise medical bills. Please indicate if you are more likely to support Bill A or Bill B.
 ROTATE

Bill A. This bill would ban surprise bills so no patient would ever receive one. But the doctor or hospital that sent the bill in the first place may be allowed to still charge your insurance company a high cost (well above market rate) for the service. To offset those high charges, the insurance company might raise monthly insurance premiums that you and other insured people would have to pay.

Bill B. This bill would ban surprise bills so no patient would ever receive one. The doctor or hospital that sent the bill would be limited in what they could charge the insurance company. Their charge would be based on the market rate for that service in the area. In this bill, it is unlikely that insurance companies would increase premiums and there is the potential that insurance companies pass on savings in the form of lower insurance premiums.

Support Bill A.....	8	8	9	8
Support Bill B.....	73	81	73	65
Support Neither.....	18	11	18	27
DK/REF	-	-	-	-

Demographics

Total Dem. Ind. Rep.
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Gender

Male	47.....	40.....	56.....	45
Female	53.....	60.....	44.....	55

Age

18 to 34.....	26.....	36.....	17.....	21
35 to 44.....	14.....	17.....	13.....	12
45 to 54.....	15.....	15.....	14.....	16
55 to 64.....	22.....	18.....	25.....	24
65 +.....	23.....	16.....	32.....	27

Race / ethnicity

White.....	72.....	57.....	74.....	90
Black.....	12.....	23.....	10.....	2
Hispanic.....	10.....	15.....	9.....	3
Asian.....	4.....	3.....	3.....	4
Native American.....	0.....	0.....	0.....	0
Mixed.....	1.....	1.....	3.....	0
Other.....	1.....	0.....	1.....	0

Education

High school graduate or less.....	31.....	30.....	28.....	35
Some college / 2-year.....	32.....	31.....	36.....	29
4-year.....	24.....	27.....	23.....	21
Post-grad.....	13.....	11.....	13.....	15

Marital status

Married.....	52.....	39.....	54.....	65
Separated.....	2.....	2.....	3.....	1
Divorced.....	11.....	13.....	9.....	11
Widowed.....	5.....	5.....	3.....	8
Never married.....	26.....	37.....	26.....	13
Domestic / civil partnership.....	4.....	5.....	3.....	3

Region

Northeast.....	16.....	16.....	14.....	16
Midwest.....	23.....	20.....	23.....	26
South.....	38.....	41.....	38.....	34
West.....	24.....	24.....	24.....	24

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Area				
City	29	39	23	25
Suburb	39	37	41	38
Town	13	10	17	14
Rural area	18	14	18	23
Other	1	1	1	0
Employment status				
Full-time	39	40	36	42
Part-time	13	13	13	13
Temporarily laid off	1	1	1	0
Unemployed	5	4	9	3
Retired	23	17	24	30
Permanently disabled	7	10	5	6
Homemaker	6	6	5	5
Student	4	6	5	0
Other	2	1	3	1
Family income				
Less than \$30,000	21	27	20	16
\$30,000 - \$59,999	23	25	19	26
\$60,000 - \$99,999	19	20	17	20
\$100,000 or more	25	21	24	27
Prefer not to say	13	8	20	12
Party ID				
Democrat	36	100	-	-
Republican	31	-	-	100
Independent	28	-	100	-
Other	2	-	-	-
Not sure	3	-	-	-