

Finishing the Job: Americans Want Action on the Cost of Health Care This Year, New Poll Shows

The realities of the COVID-19 pandemic have made health and health care reform front burner issues for all of us, no matter our political party, race, location, or background

No one in this country should have to worry that they can't afford the health care they need or have to choose between filling a prescription and paying rent or a mortgage. Families across America agree—and they want to see action.

That's according to new polling from Families USA and Hart Research Associates. The nationwide, online poll of more than 1,600 voters (fielded January 27 to February 1, 2021) underscores how COVID-19 has made health and health care reform a priority issue for people in America, regardless of political affiliation, race, location, or background. **A strong majority of voters—Republican, Democrat, or Independent—want to see real health care solutions this year, particularly around health care costs and prescription drug prices.**

As the Biden administration and Congress consider new policies to best serve their constituents, the poll indicates that voters in America are looking for:

Meaningful results on health care this year.

When asked what they want President Biden and Congress to focus on this year, voters indicated that health care is a top-of-mind priority, along with COVID-19 and the economy. *Three in four voters say health care should be a high priority for President Biden and Congress this year, including a strong majority of Democrats (91%), independents (75%), and Republicans (58%). These findings hold true across racial, geographic, and gender differences.*

Strong action to address excessive health care costs, particularly for prescription drugs and insurance premiums.

More than eight in ten voters believe that the health care system today works more for the benefit of the insurance and drug industries than the average person—and this sentiment holds true across demographic groups and partisan lines. *Roughly nine in ten voters say that it is important for Congress and the president to take action to lower prescription drug prices and health care costs this year.*

Real solutions that solve health care problems rather than just making tweaks around the edges.

Voters are concerned that Congress will not go far enough to make necessary changes to the health care system. In fact, this concern is much greater than any fear that Congress will go too far. *Voters are particularly worried about lack of action in addressing the cost of prescription drugs; 67% are concerned that Congress will not go far enough to bring down prices. Majorities of Democrats, independents, and Republicans hold this opinion.*

This year, we have a unique opportunity to finally give people peace of mind as we tackle the COVID-19 pandemic and address concerns that so many share. Now is the moment to deliver what people in America want most: lower health care prices and a healthy and secure future.