March 17, 2021





## Voters to Congress and President Biden: It's Time to Go Big on Health Care Reform



Dedicated to creating a nation where the best health and health care are equally accessible and affordable to all

## **Key Findings**

# **1.** Voters across the American electorate are looking for meaningful action this year on healthcare.

When asked what they want Biden and Congress to focus on this year, healthcare is a top-of-mind priority for voters. Three in four voters (75%) say healthcare should be a high or one of the top priorities for President Biden and Congress this year, including 91% of Democrats, 75% of independents and 58% of Republicans.

# 2. There is greater concern that Congress won't go far enough (51%) in making changes to the healthcare system than that it will go too far (40%).

*Worry about lack of action is even stronger when it comes to addressing the cost of prescription drugs:* 67% are more concerned that Congress will not go far enough vs. 23% who are more concerned Congress will go too far, including majorities of Democrats, independents and Republicans.





# **3.** While voters want to see expanded coverage and an equity focus in healthcare reform, *addressing excessive costs* is their paramount concern.

The most important actions voters want to see on healthcare, and the proposed actions that **voters** rate most favorably, are lowering the price of prescription drugs (92% important, 83% favorable) and lowering the cost of healthcare (89% important, 80% favorable).

4. The most effective communications about healthcare reform should address voters' core concerns about *excessive prices* and *corporate abuses*, but also meet the current moment with a *call to unite* to make sure everyone can get quality, affordable healthcare.

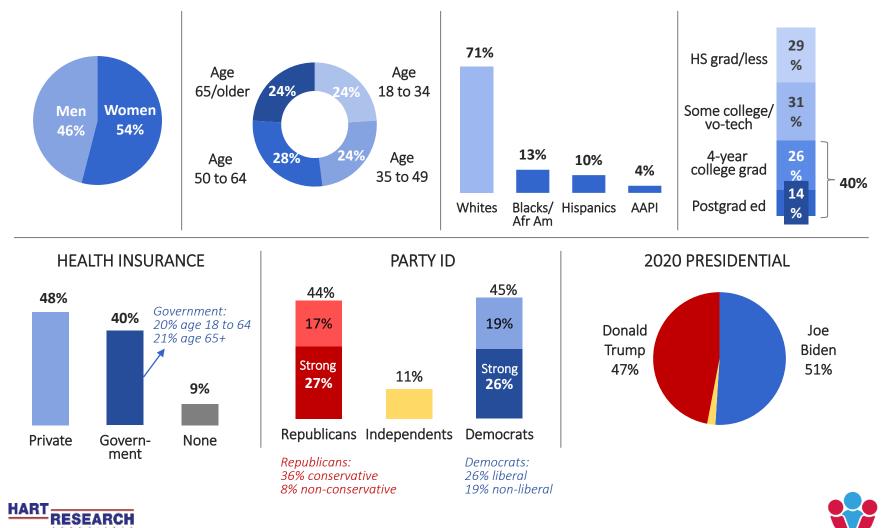
Voters are clear that the status quo in the American healthcare system is not working. Fully 82% believe that the healthcare system today works more for the benefit of the insurance and drug industries rather than for the benefit of the average person (18%), a sentiment that holds true across demographic groups and partisan lines.





### Methodology and Profile of the Electorate

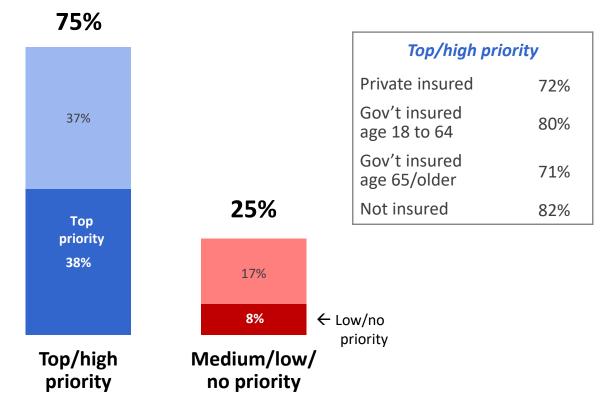
### Online survey among 1,607 voters nationwide, fielded January 27 to February 1, 2021



Voters' healthcare priorities for President Biden and Congress

# Voters want President Biden and Congress to act on healthcare this year

### Priority Healthcare Should Be for President and Congress this year







# There is broad support for reforming the healthcare system; support is particularly strong among voters of color

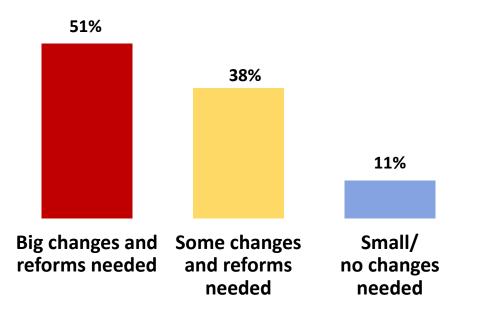
#### Attitudes toward Healthcare System, Key Subgroups

	Should be top/ high priority	Big reforms needed
Men	70%	45%
Women	78%	55%
Whites	69%	46%
Blacks	93%	68%
Hispanics	85%	58%
Democrats	91%	62%
Liberal Democrats	94%	<b>69%</b>
Non-liberal Democrats	88%	53%
Independents	75%	59%
Republicans	58%	37%
Conservative Republicans	55%	35%
Non-conservative Republicans	70%	47%
Swing voters	73%	49%





### Amount of Changes/Reform Needed in Healthcare System

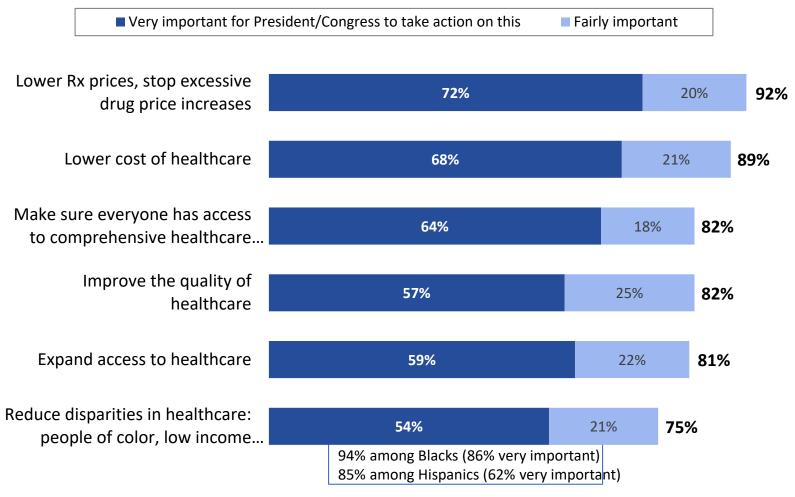


Big changes/reforms needed		
Private insured	49%	
Gov't insured age 18 to 64	53%	
Gov't insured age 65/older	43%	
Not insured	74%	





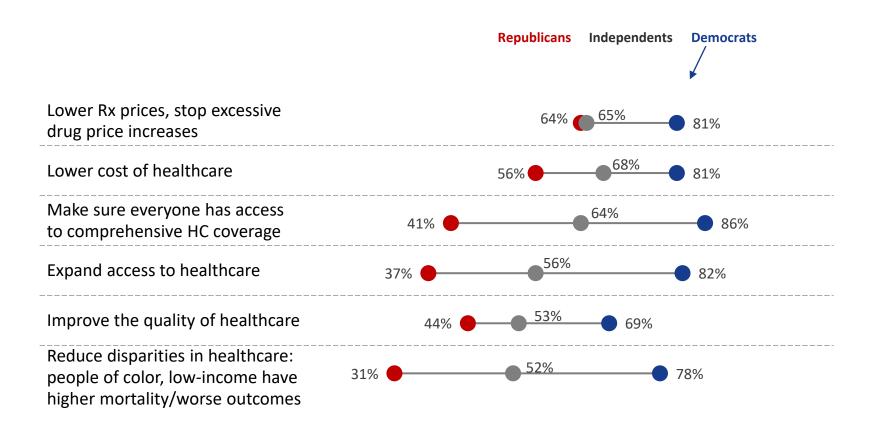
Voters want a number of priorities to be on the healthcare agenda, with addressing costs the most urgent concern





### There is bipartisan consensus on the urgency of addressing costs; Democrats and independents want a more far-reaching agenda.

### Very important priority for President and Congress







There is greater concern that Congress won't go far enough *(rather than too far)* in making changes to the healthcare system

### Bigger Worry about Congressional Action on the Healthcare System

Won't go far enough making needed changes to lower healthcare costs/ensure all Americans have health insurance

Will go too far making changes that increase government spending/give government too much control over the way our healthcare system works

51%

40%

	Won't go far enough	Will go too far
Liberal Democrats	81%	12%
Non-liberal Democrats	63%	25%
Independents	51%	34%
Non-conservative Republicans	47%	40%
Conservative Republicans	23%	70%



Across party lines, voters are more concerned that Congress won't go far enough *(rather than too far)* to regulate drug prices

### **Bigger Worry about Congressional Action on Prescription Drugs**

Won't go far enough to lower Rx drug costs, allow drug companies to continue charging excessive amounts, making medicines too expensive for many

Will go too far regulating Rx drug costs, reduce companies' ability to invest in research and development of new life-saving medicines

#### 23%

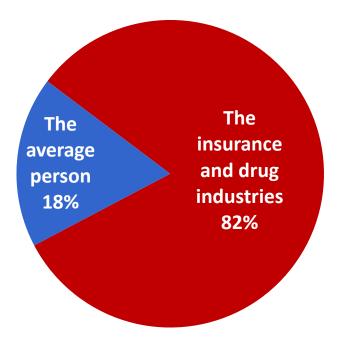
	Won't go far enough	Will go too far
Liberal Democrats	81%	11%
Non-liberal Democrats	67%	20%
Independents	67%	22%
Non-conservative Republicans	73%	16%
Conservative Republicans	55%	36%



67%

Overwhelming majorities believe that the system works more for the insurance and drug industries than for the average person

### The healthcare system today works more for the benefit of:



Healthcare system works more for insurance and drug industries		
Whites	82%	
Blacks	83%	
Hispanics	81%	
Democrats	87%	
Independents	83%	
Republicans	77%	
Swing voters	84%	
Private insured	83%	
Government insured	80%	
Not insured	86%	
Income under \$40K	84%	
Income \$40K to \$75K	85%	
Income over \$75K	77%	



