

# A National Mobilization Moment on Federal Drug Pricing 3:00pm – 4:00pm ET July 13, 2021



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

## Agenda

- I. Introductions & Housekeeping
- II. Meeting the Moment on Drug Pricing
- III. What Recent Polling Reveals on Drug Pricing
- IV. Overview of the Political Landscape on Capitol Hill
- V. Policy Proposals on the Table
- VI. Mobilization Moment
  - I. How State Partners are Activating
  - II. Advocacy Toolkit & Call to Action
- VII. Q&A



# Today's Speakers



**Lisa Hunter**, Senior Director of Strategic Partnerships, Families USA



**Sean Dickson**, Director, Health Policy, West Health Policy Center



**Sarah Kaminer Bourland**, Legislative Director, Patients For Affordable Drugs



**Eliot Fishman**, Senior Director of Health Policy, Families USA



Will Fischer, Legislative
Affairs Director, Lower Drug
Prices Now Coalition



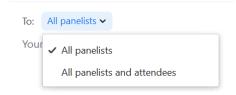
## Housekeeping

#### **Zoom Webinar Participant Controls**

<u>Chat Box:</u> Open *Chat* to send messages to the host, panelists, and attendees.



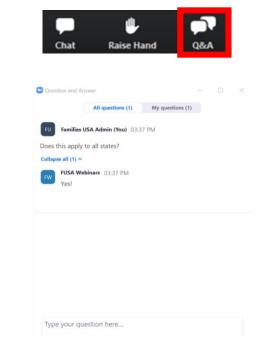
You can choose to chat only the panelists, or all panelists and attendees.



Raise Hand: Press Raise
Hand to indicate you have a
question and would like to
ask out loud.



Question & Answer Box: Open the Q&A window to ask questions to the hosts and panelists. We'll either reply back to you directly or answer your question live.





Meeting the Moment on Drug Pricing

## Federal Drug Pricing Legislation is Now at a Fever Pitch

Legislation

Americans are struggling to keep up with drug prices & costs continue to soar: Tips on saving money



The American Families Plan & A Call for Drug Pricing

Why drug price negotiation has staying power AXIOS



Rising drug prices continue to hit seniors



House of Representatives Reintroduces Focus on Drug Prices



The Case for Drug-Pricing Reform —
The Cost of Inaction

Wyden: New legislation must hold drug prices in check PortlandTribune

# Prescription Drug Price Increases Continue to Outpace Inflation

New AARP report shows even during pandemic consumers have had to pay more for medicines

#### HEALTH

With America's attention on COVID-19, drugmakers are quietly raising US prescription prices

Darrel Rowland The Columbus Dispatch

Published 6:01 a.m. ET Jan. 17, 2021 | Updated 1:40 p.m. ET Jan. 17, 2021

FDA's Approval of Biogen's New Alzheimer's Drug Has Huge Cost Implications for Medicare and Beneficiaries

How Patent Extensions Keep Some Drug Costs High



The Biden administration has a chance to help curb drug costs in naming a new patent office director, some experts say.



Price Increases Continue to Outpace Inflation for Many Medicare Part D Drugs

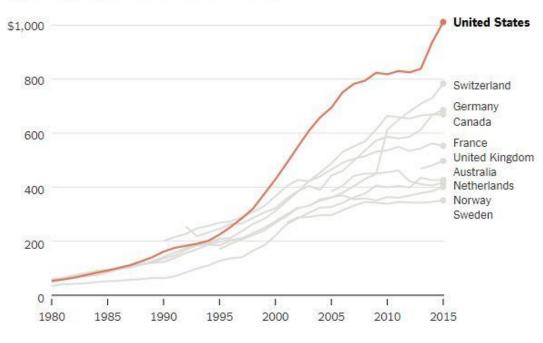
# Reports Reveal No End in Sight to High Drug Prices – Unless Congress Acts

## The New York Times

#### International Comparison of Drug Spending

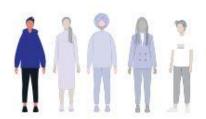
American pharmaceutical spending started taking off in the late 1990s compared with other advanced nations.

Annual retail prescription drug spending per person



Adjusted for the relative purchasing power of different currencies. The Netherlands and U.K. figures include prescribed medicines, over-the-counter medications and other medical nondurable goods.

Source: The Commonwealth Fund



In almost every state, at least one in five people skips or alters a doctor's orders for financial reasons.

- The majority of consumers say that it is important for Congress and the President to take action to lower prescription drug prices and health care costs this year
- 67% are concerned that Congress will not go far enough to bring down prices



What Recent Polling Reveals on Drug Pricing

# Americans cannot afford their healthcare or prescription drugs

45 million

Of U.S. Adults did not seek treatment due to the cost of care in the last 12 months.

61 million (Nearly 1 out of 4)

Of U.S. Adults are "very worried" about a health event that will wipe out retirement savings.

23 million (9%)

Of U.S. Adults were unable to pay for a prescription drug in the last year because they didn't have money to pay for it.

25 million (10%)

Of U.S. Adults skipped a pill in the last 12 months to save medication in order to save money.



# It is no surprise that Americans want the government involved with lowering cost...



The West Health/Gallup Surveys Revealed



82%

Of U.S. Adults think that the government is not doing enough to ensure that prescription drugs are affordable.



77%

Of U.S. Adults agree that we should allow the government to set limits on drug price increases.



81%

Of U.S. Adults believe that government needs to play a major role in negotiating prescription drug prices for Medicare in order to control cost.



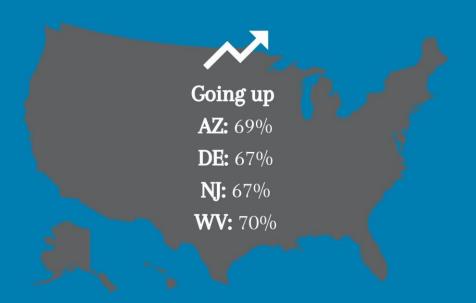
71%

Of U.S. Adults believe that government needs to play a major to moderate role in ensuring all Americans have access to healthcare coverage.



# In key states, voters are struggling with cost and want change

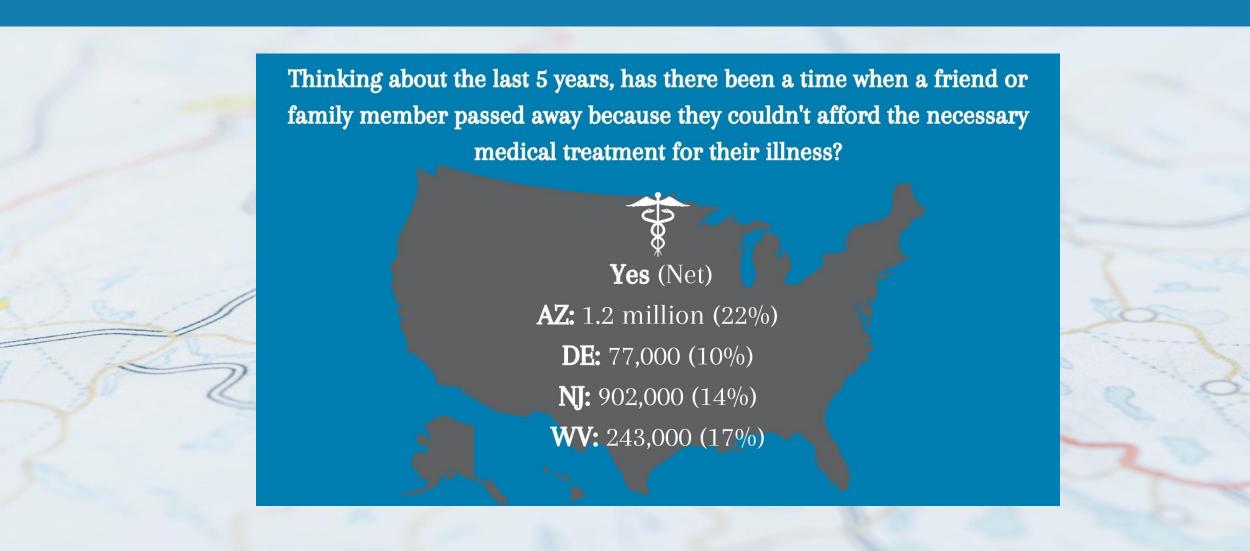
#### Thinking generally, do you think prescription drug prices are?



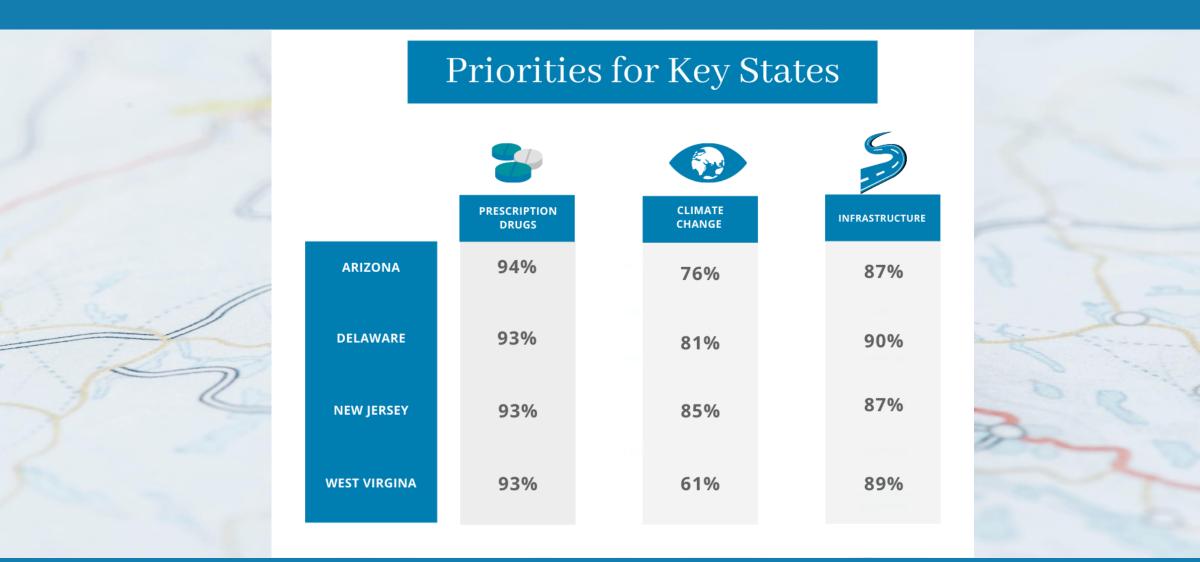
Thinking again about the last 12 months, has there been a time when you or someone in your household could not pay for medicine or drugs prescribed to you by your doctor?



# In key states, voters are struggling with cost and want change



# Prescription drug pricing reform is the top issue voters want the Senate to address

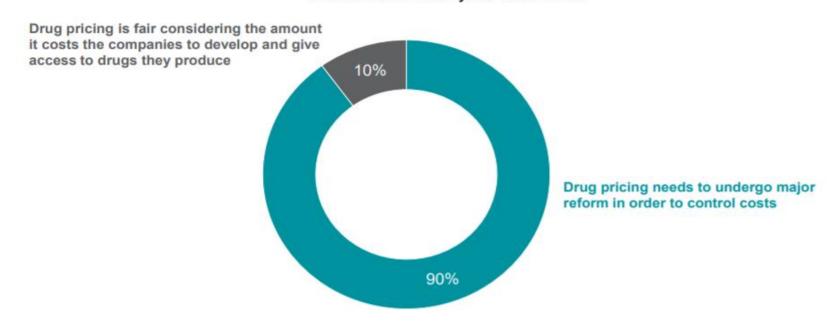




# Americans don't buy the pharmaceutical industry's arguments

### Large Majority of Americans Believe Drug Pricing Needs Major Reform

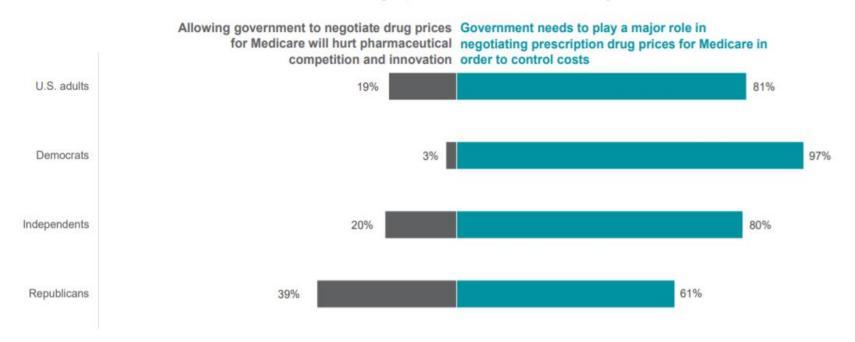
Which of the following statements about prescription drug pricing comes closest to your own view?



# Americans don't buy the pharmaceutical industry's arguments

Few Americans Believe Negotiating Drug Prices Will Hurt Pharmaceutical Innovation and Competition; Most Want Government to Play Major Role in Controlling Costs

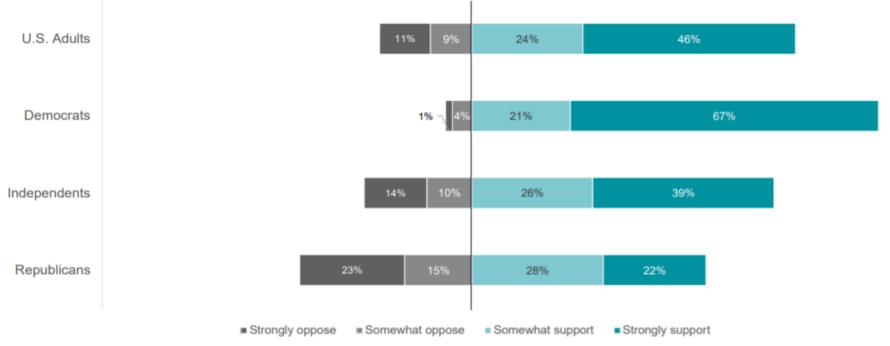
Which of the following options comes closest to your own view?



# Across party, Americans support comprehensive Medicare negotiation

#### Most Americans Support Medicare Negotiating Drug Prices for All Americans





Overview of the Political Landscape on Capitol Hill

# **Political landscape: the President**



As a candidate and president, Biden has expressed support for policies to lower drug prices.

"Let's do what we talked about for all the years I was down here in this body, in Congress. Let's give Medicare the power to save hundreds of billions of dollars by negotiating lower drug prescription prices."

— Joint Session Speech April 29, 2021



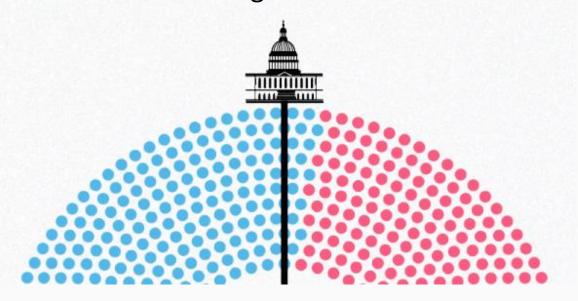
# Political landscape: the House

#### **Favorable:**

- Top priority for Speaker Pelosi and Committee leadership
- Strong drug pricing legislation already made it through the House once in 2019

#### **Unfavorable:**

- Narrow (four seat) margin
- A vocal few raising concerns about H.R. 3



#### What's under consideration?

H.R. 3, led by leadership, contains
 Medicare negotiation, price hike
 penalties and more, and has already
 had two hearings this congress



# **Political landscape: the Senate**

#### **Favorable:**

- Top priority for Majority Leader Schumer and Chairman Wyden
- 50-50 Senate with VP tiebreaker

#### **Unfavorable:**

- 50-50 Senate zero margin of error
- Members with concerns about legislation include moderates and folks with pharma industry presence in their state

#### What's under consideration?

 No legislation yet, the Senate Finance Committee is currently drafting policy



Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (NY)



Senate Finance Committee Chairman Ron Wyden (OR)

# Political landscape: both chambers

#### **Challenges for both chambers**

- Time limitation
- Competing priorities
- Industry

Pharma

# Facing fresh pricing threats in D.C., pharma spent a record \$92M peddling influence during the first quarter

by Kevin Dunleavy | May 5, 2021 10:38am

# Political landscape: threading the needle with thin margins

#### **Budget reconciliation**

- Permits the Senate to pass certain legislation with 50 instead of 60 votes
- Two-step process
  - Step #1 pass budget resolution with "instructions" for reconciliation
  - Step #2 budget reconciliation

#### **Timeline**

 This month: Step #1 will likely be passed soon, prior to August recess

[August recess]

 Step #2 will likely begin after August recess and stretch into the fall



Policy Proposals on the Table

## Key Elements At Issue

Three areas for price negotiation/regulation:

- The initial "launch" prices of new drugs
- Excessive prices on existing drugs
- Price increases for existing drugs

For each of these three areas: which drugs are negotiated?

- Specific criteria for which drugs are targeted for negotiation are critical.
- 2019 House bill would NOT have included Aduhelm, Daraprim, or Epi-pens

Penalty for Rx manufacturers if they refuse to sell a drug at lower price

- Manufacturers may try to undermine the system
- House bill passed in 2019: Tax penalty on gross sales of drug
- Broader penalty on manufacturer? End exclusivity rights and issue competitive license?

Impact on private payers

• Availability of negotiated prices to private payers is critical for employers and labor

Incentivizing innovation not patent abuses

- Some elements passed out of committee in the Senate in last congress; key elements passed House in 2019
- Pricing reform is part of this agenda: make true innovation pay, not gaming.



## Initial Indications of Where Debate is Going

- Momentum: Went from out of President's agenda in April to close to Democratic consensus now.
- Wyden principles document: <a href="https://www.finance.senate.gov/chairmans-news/wyden-releases-principles-for-lowering-drug-prices-for-americans">https://www.finance.senate.gov/chairmans-news/wyden-releases-principles-for-lowering-drug-prices-for-americans</a>
  - Strong but high-level
  - Does not commit to specific answers on five areas in previous slide but commits to substantial reform in each of those five areas.
- CBO scoring an important pro-consumer variable
  - CBO is sensitive to the specific pricing mechanisms and leverage over manufacturers

Mobilization Moment

#### **Our Mobilization Moment**

# Immediate Call to Action

Urge Congress and Biden
 Admin to Commit to
 Addressing High Cost Drugs

# Messaging Guidance

Families USA polling

# Upcoming Events

- Thursday30 on July 15<sup>th</sup> from 12 12:30pm
   ET on Twitter
- Rx Allies call on July 15<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 5pm ET

Q&A

#### **Contact Information**

Lisa Hunter, <u>LHunter@FamiliesUSA.org</u>
Sean Dickson, <u>sdickson@westhealth.org</u>
Sarah Kaminer Bourland, <u>sarah@p4adnow.org</u>
Eliot Fishman, <u>EFishman@FamiliesUSA.org</u>
Will Fischer, <u>will@healthcareforamericanow.org</u>



FamiliesUSA.org