



Families USA: Pennsylvania Prescription Drug Affordability Poll

This poll, conducted on behalf of Families USA, finds Pennsylvania voters want their government to act to reduce the cost of prescription drugs. To that end, a Prescription Drug Affordability Board, which would consist of a panel of experts who would review the cost of prescription drugs and set a cap on prices, is viewed as a very appealing solution to voters across the state and regardless of partisanship. Embold Research surveyed a representative sample of n=1596 registered voters in PA from June 15-21, 2023. The modeled margin of error is +/-2.6%. The full methodology statement and topline can be found [here](#).

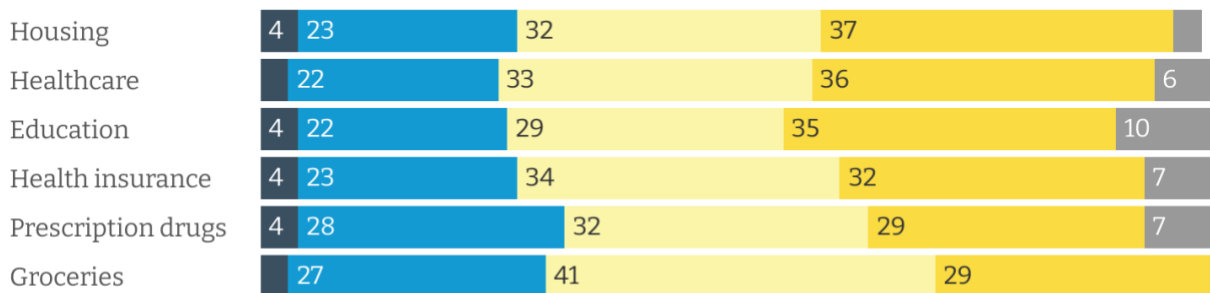
Eight in ten Pennsylvania voters are at least “slightly” worried about being able to afford prescription drugs (23% very worried, 34% somewhat, 24% slightly). This worry is most acute among those with a household income under \$50,000 (30% very worried) and among those aged 50-64 (30% very worried). At least 86% of voters are worried about the cost of prescription drugs in every region of the state, and this is a common experience for Democrats (82%), Republican (80%), and Independents (75%).

This concern is part of a broader affordability crisis, which includes at least 60% of voters reporting that housing (69%), education (64%) and the different facets of healthcare (healthcare in general (69%), insurance (66%) and prescription drugs (61%)) are unaffordable.

PA Affordability Crisis

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● Very affordable
 ● Somewhat affordable
 ● Somewhat unaffordable
 ● Very unaffordable
 ● Not sure



Q. How affordable are each of the following in Pennsylvania?

Source: Embold Research survey of n=1596 Registered Voters in Pennsylvania. The Modelled Margin of Error is +/- 2.6%.

Voters blame the pharmaceutical companies’ greed for high prescription drug prices. When asked what they think is driving the cost of prescription drugs, 81% of voters said drug company profits, while



small minorities blamed government regulation (30%), marketing and advertising (22%), research and development (15%) or hard costs like staff and materials (7%).

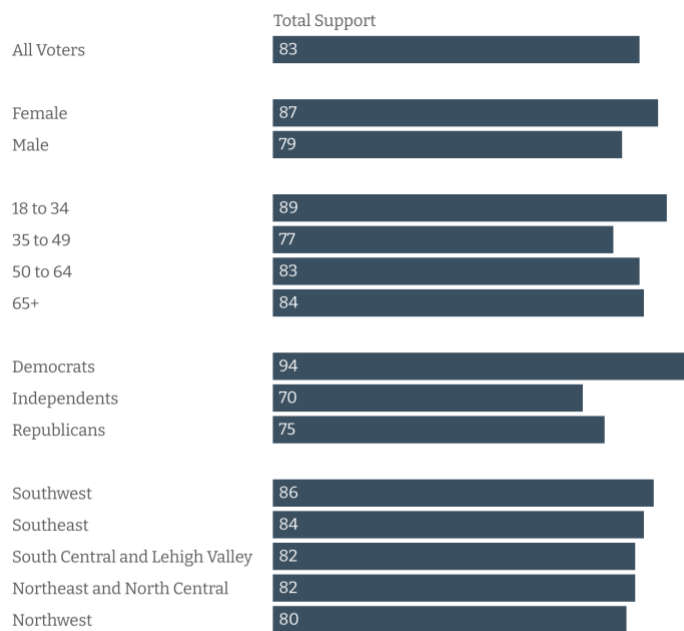
In the face of this affordability crisis and perceived predatory pricing, Pennsylvania voters are hungry for action. There is near universal (87%) support for the Pennsylvania government acting to make prescription drugs more affordable, including 96% of Democrats, 81% of Republicans, and 75% of self-identified Independents. Support for government action is high in every region of the state:

- 92% Northwest
- 88% Southwest
- 88% Northeast and North Central
- 86% Southeast
- 86% South Central and Lehigh Valley

The establishment of a Prescription Drug Affordability Board satisfies voters' demand for government action (see graphics on right). Eighty-three percent of registered voters support this idea. Support is high in every region in the state and transcends partisanship. The PDAB is supported by 75% of Republicans, 70% of Independents and nearly all Democrats (94%). More than 8 in 10 voters in every single region of the state support the policy. Lastly, it is supported most highly by those who are younger than 35 (89%), and by more than 8 in 10 voters older than 50.

Broad Support for a Prescription Drug Affordability Board

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Q: There is currently a proposal to create a Prescription Drug Affordability Board in Pennsylvania. The board would be independent from the government, and would consist of experts like doctors, scientists and advocates. They would review the cost of prescription drugs and set a cap on the amount Pennsylvanians would have to pay. Not only would the Board lower the cost of prescription drugs, it would also hold drug companies accountable by making them explain the cost of their drugs to the Board, leading to more scrutiny from lawmakers and the public. Does this sound like something you would support or oppose?

Source: Embold Research survey of n=1596 Registered Voters in Pennsylvania. The Modelled Margin of Error is +/- 2.6%.

Methodology



Embold Research surveyed 1596 registered voters in Pennsylvania from June 15-21, 2023. The survey was fielded using a combination of targeted advertisements on Facebook and Instagram and text messages sent, via the Switchboard platform, to cell phone numbers listed on the voter file for individuals who qualified for the survey's sample universe, based on their voter file data. Regardless of which of these sources a respondent came from, they were directed to a survey hosted on SurveyMonkey's website. Post-stratification was performed on age, gender, education, region, race/ethnicity and 2020 presidential vote. The modeled margin of error for this survey is +/- 2.6%.