Chartpack





HARVARD UNIVERSITY JOHN F. KENNEDY SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT

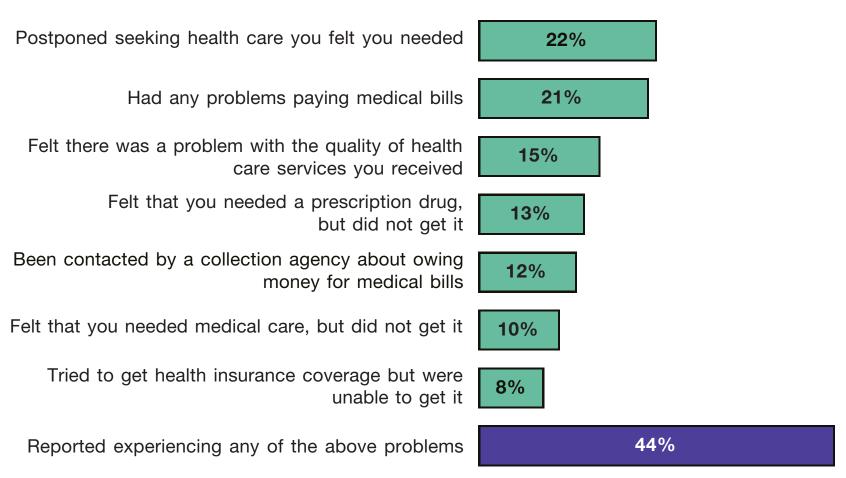
National Public Radio/Kaiser Family Foundation/Kennedy School of Government

## **National Survey on Health Care**

June 2002

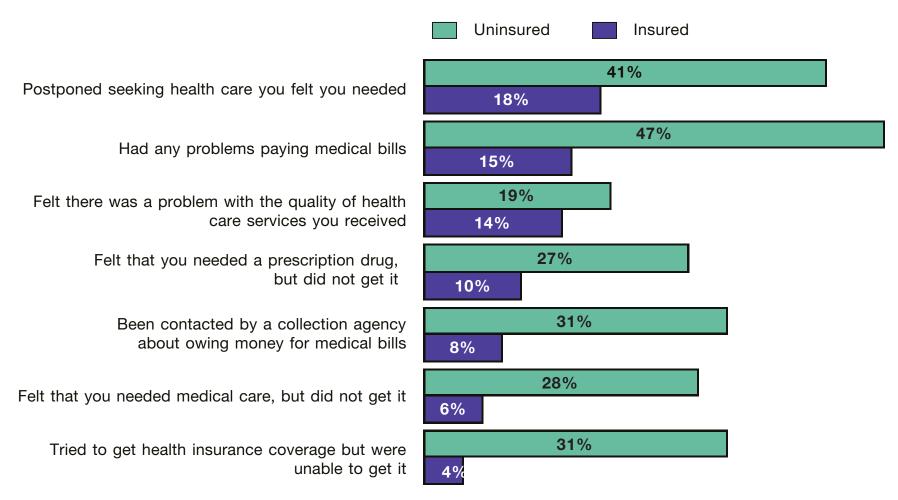
#### People's Experiences With the Health Care System

In the past twelve months, have you or another family member living in your household...



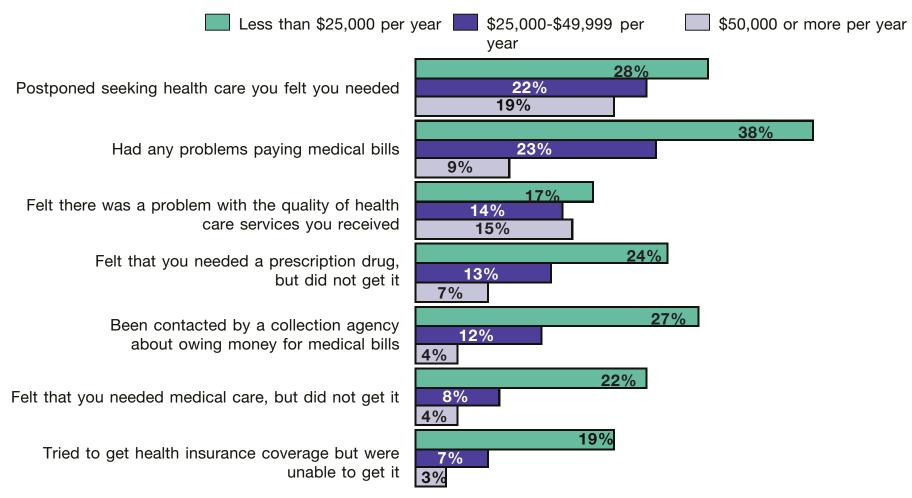
### People Without Health Insurance More Likely to Report Problems

In the past twelve months, have you or another family member living in your household...



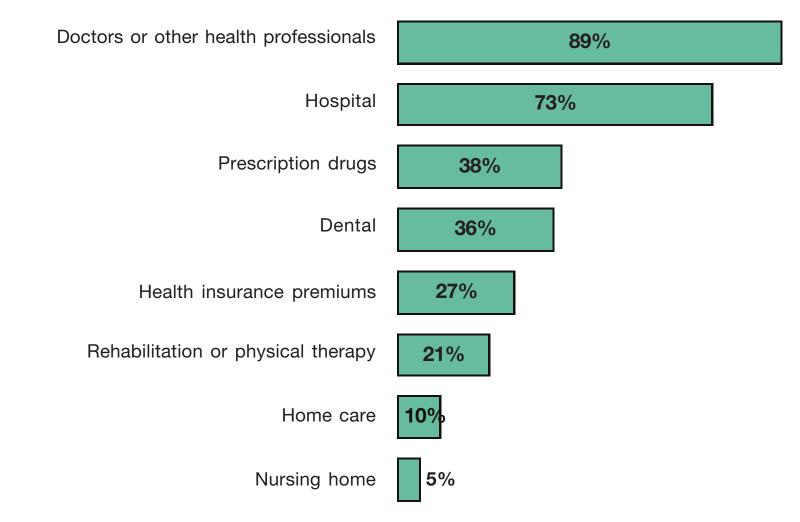
### Low- and Middle-Income Families More Likely to Report Problems

In the past twelve months, have you or another family member living in your household...

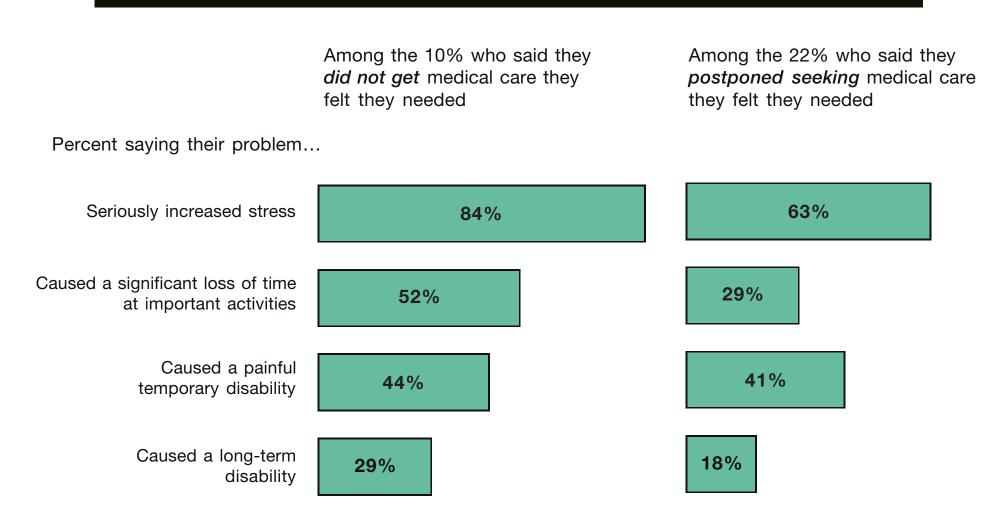


#### Hospital and Doctor Bills are Often the Problem

Among the 21% who had problems paying medical bills, reported they were bills for...



### Problems Sometimes Have Serious Consequences for Families



#### Worry About Health Care Cost and Access

How worried are you that ... over the next year?

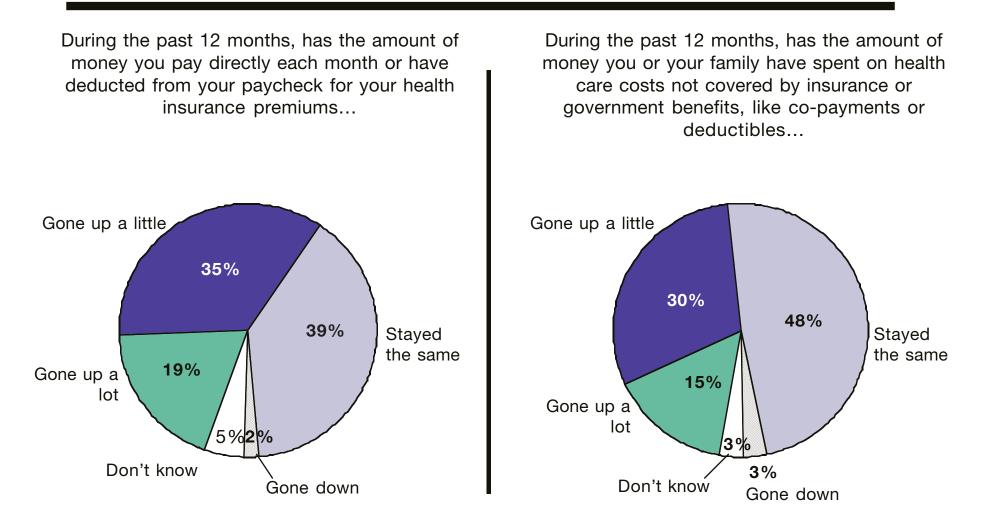
#### Among all people

	Very worried	Somewhat worried	Not too worried	Not at all worried
You won't be able to afford health care services you think you need	23%	23%	21%	33%
You won't be able to afford prescription drugs	23%	19%	21%	37%

#### Among those with health insurance

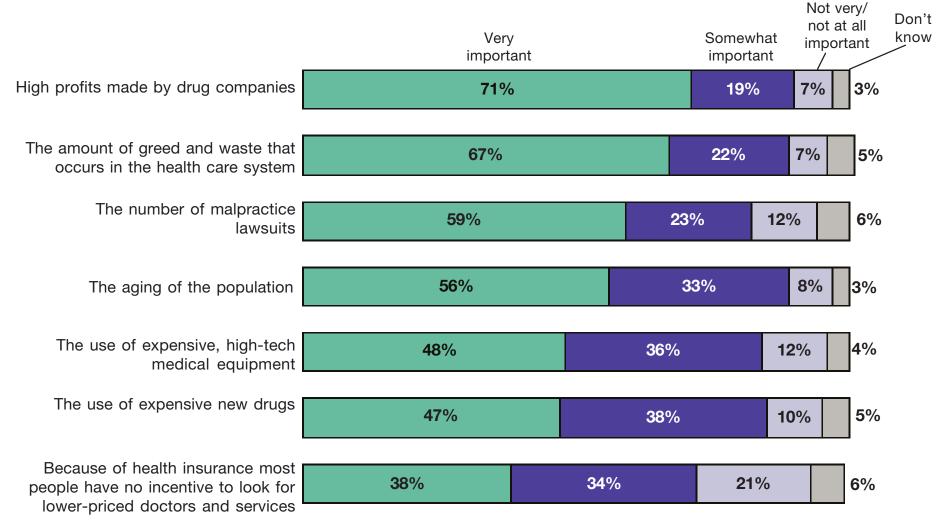
Health insurance will become so expensive you won't be able to afford it	28%		23%	17%	31%
Your benefits under your current health care plan will be cut back substantially	22%	2	8%	20%	29%
You will lose your health insurance benefits	18%	16%	21%		46%

# People with health insurance report moderate increases in their health care costs in the past year



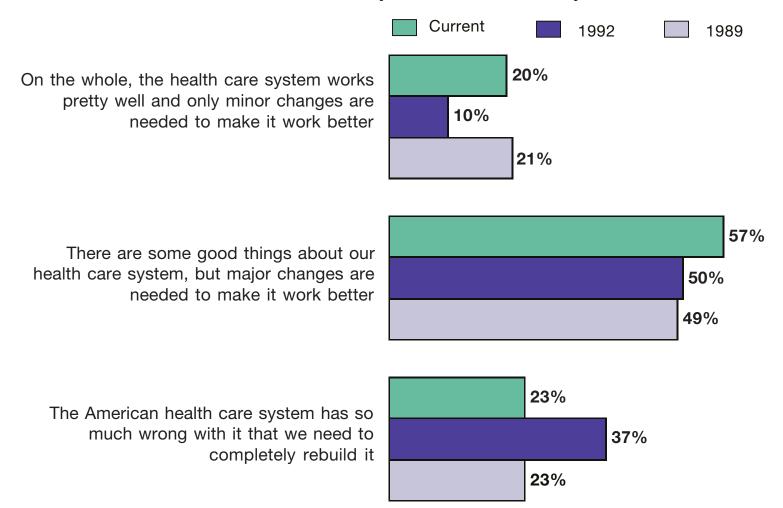
### Why People Think Health Care Costs Are Rising

"A number of factors have been suggested as possible reasons for rising health care costs. For each factor, please tell me whether you feel it is very important, somewhat important, not very important, or not important at all in causing higher health care costs."



#### Views About the Health Care System Overall

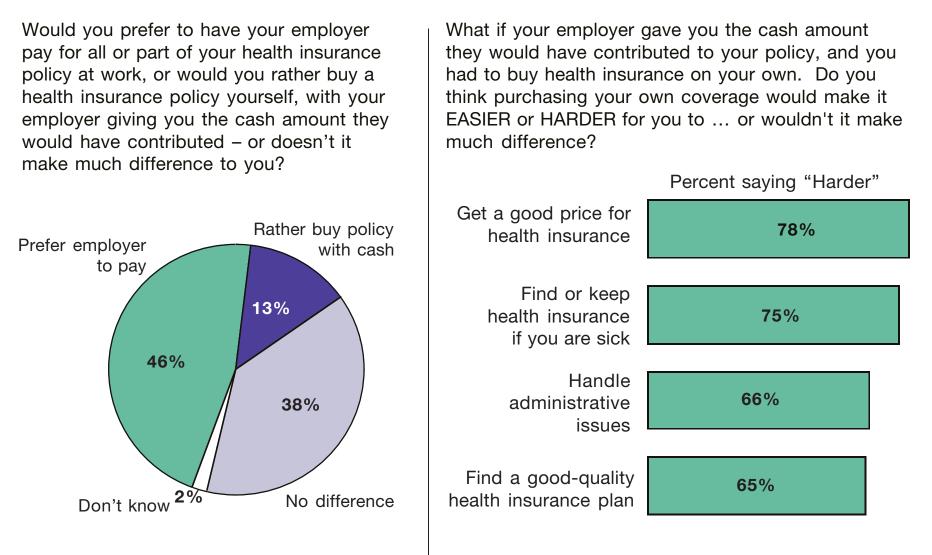
Which of the following statements comes closest to expressing your overall view of the health care system in this country?



Source: NPR/Kaiser Family Foundation/Kennedy School of Government *Health Care Survey*, May 2002 (conducted March 28-May 1, 2002); Cambridge Reports National Omnibus Survey, April 1992 and October 1989

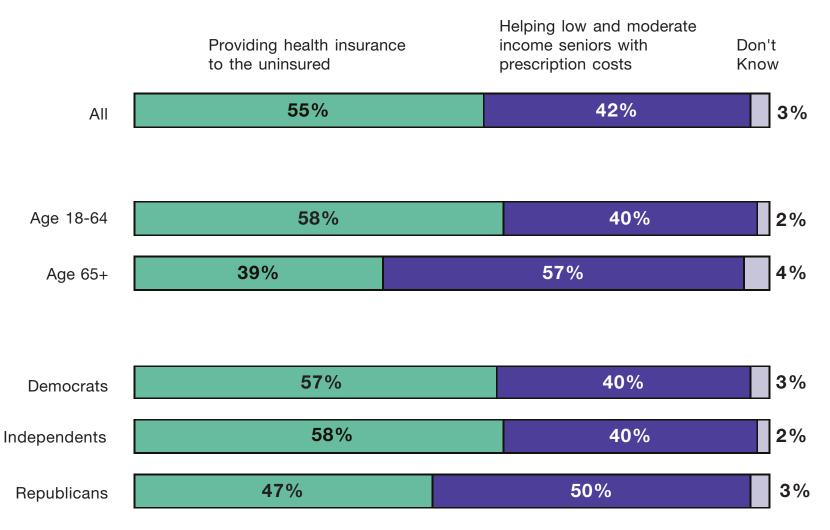
#### Views About Employer-Based Insurance

Among those with private insurance through an employer...

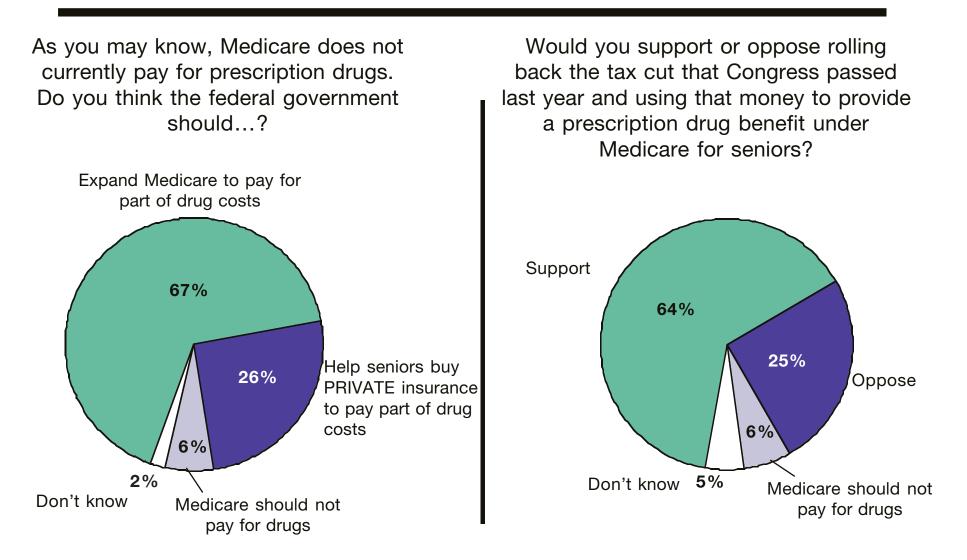


### Mixed Views on Government Health Care Spending Priorities

If the government were able to spend more on health care, which do you think should be a higher priority...

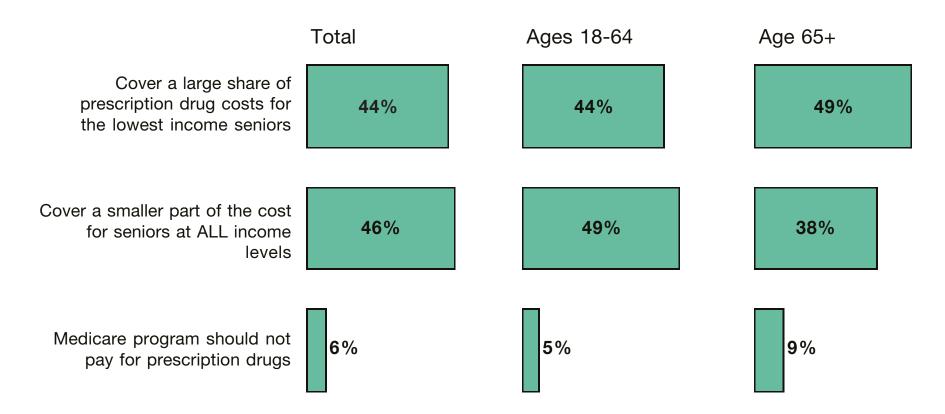


### Support for Helping Seniors with Prescription Drug Costs



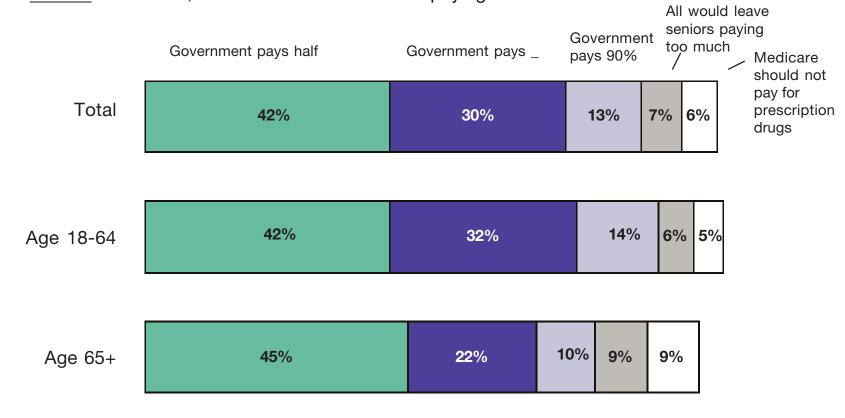
### Disagreement Over Which Seniors to Help First

Keeping in mind that there is a limited amount of money in the federal budget that could be used to help seniors pay for prescription drugs, should the government pass a law to cover a large share of prescription drug costs for the lowest- income seniors or should it pass a law that would pay a smaller part of the cost for seniors at ALL income levels?



### What Constitutes a Good Prescription Drug Benefit for Seniors?

"The average senior citizen takes prescription drugs that cost about \$2,000 per year. The president and Congress are considering giving seniors some help with these bills. I am going to read you a list of options for each. Please tell me if you would consider it a <u>good prescription drug</u> benefit for seniors, or if it would leave seniors paying too much of the bill."



\* Don't know not shown

#### Chart 15 Reasonable Cost for a Medicare Drug Benefit

Suppose Congress and the president decided on a prescription drug plan for seniors in which the government pays half of the cost of each prescription. What is the most seniors could reasonably be asked to pay per month in premiums for this new Medicare benefit? This is IN ADDITION to their current Medicare premiums and half the cost of each prescription.

	Total	18-64	65+
Medicare should not pay for drugs	6%	5%	9%
\$50-\$100 (NET)	34%	35%	28%
\$100	7	7	5
\$75	6	6	3
\$50	21	22	20
\$0-\$30 (NET)	53%	54%	55%
\$30	11	12	10
\$20	13	13	15
\$10	17	18	14
None	12	12	16
Don't Know/Refused	7%	6%	8%

Source: ICR/International Communications Research EXCEL National Telephone Omnibus Study, conducted April 5-14, 2002

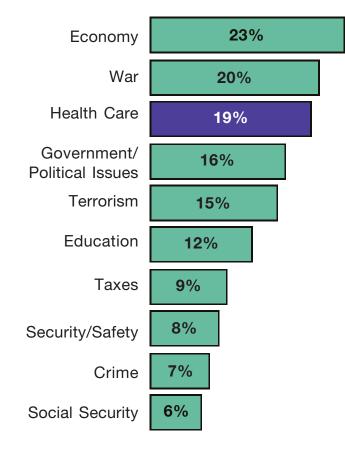
#### Willingness to Pay for a Medicare Drug Benefit

If you are now 65 years of age or older, or when you reach 65, which of the following amounts is the MOST you would be willing to pay per month in premiums for a drug plan that pays half the cost of each prescription? This would be IN ADDITION to your Medicare premiums and half the cost of each prescription.

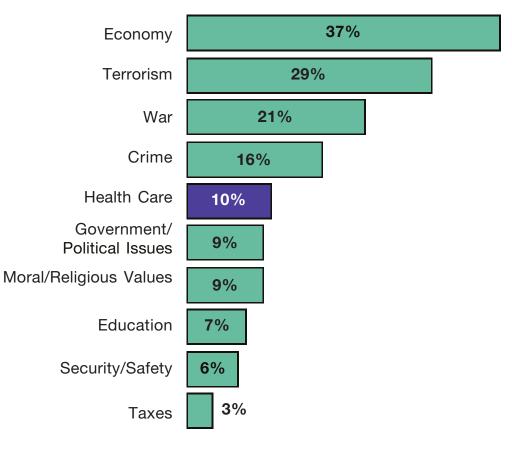
	Total	18-64	65+
\$50-\$100 (NET)	42%	44%	26%
\$100	12	12	10
\$75	7	7	6
\$50	23	25	10
\$0-\$30 (NET)	52%	50%	69%
\$30	11	12	10
\$20	11	11	14
\$10	14	14	15
None	16	13	30
Don't Know/Refused	6%	6%	6%

### Most Important Problem/Issue

What do you think are the two most important issues for the government to address?

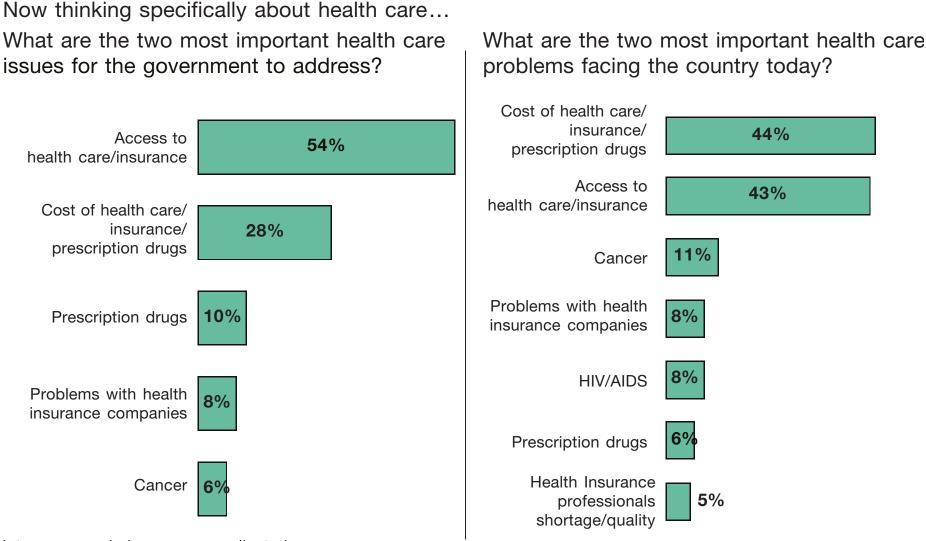


What do you think are the two most important problems facing the country today?



Note: open-ended responses collected

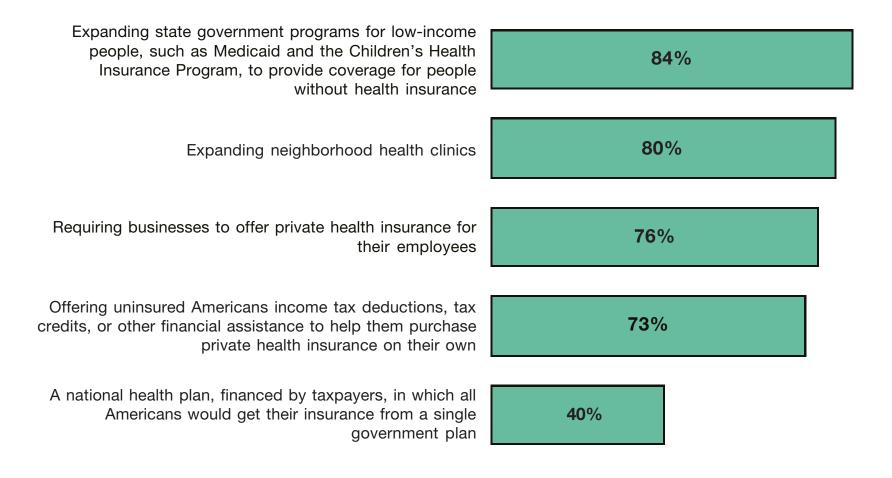
### Most Important Health Care Problem/Issue



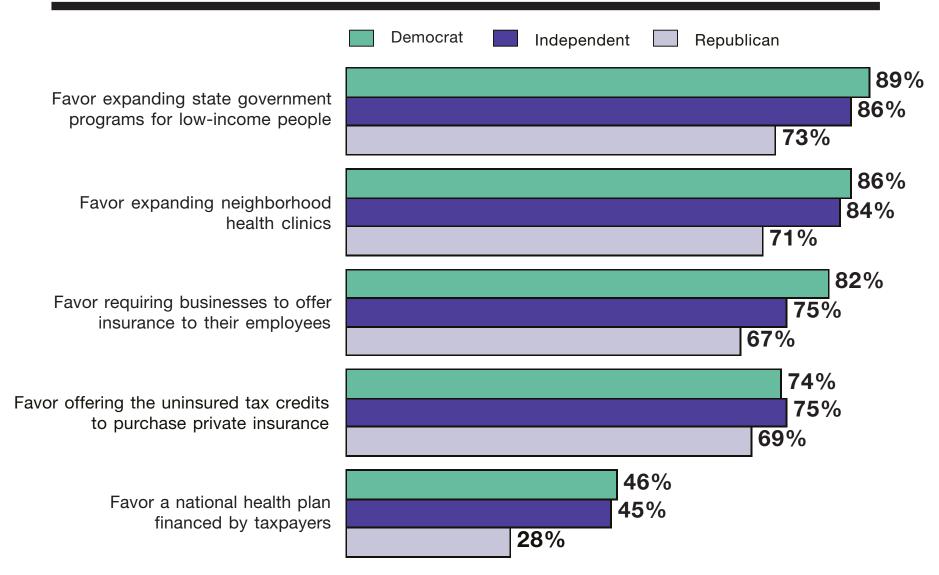
Note: open-ended responses collected

### Options for Expanding Access to Health Care

Percent who favor different ways to guarantee health care for more Americans...



### Independents Closer to Democrats than Republicans on Many Health Care Issues – Expanding Access



### Independents Closer to Democrats than Republicans on Many Health Care Issues – Prescription Drugs

