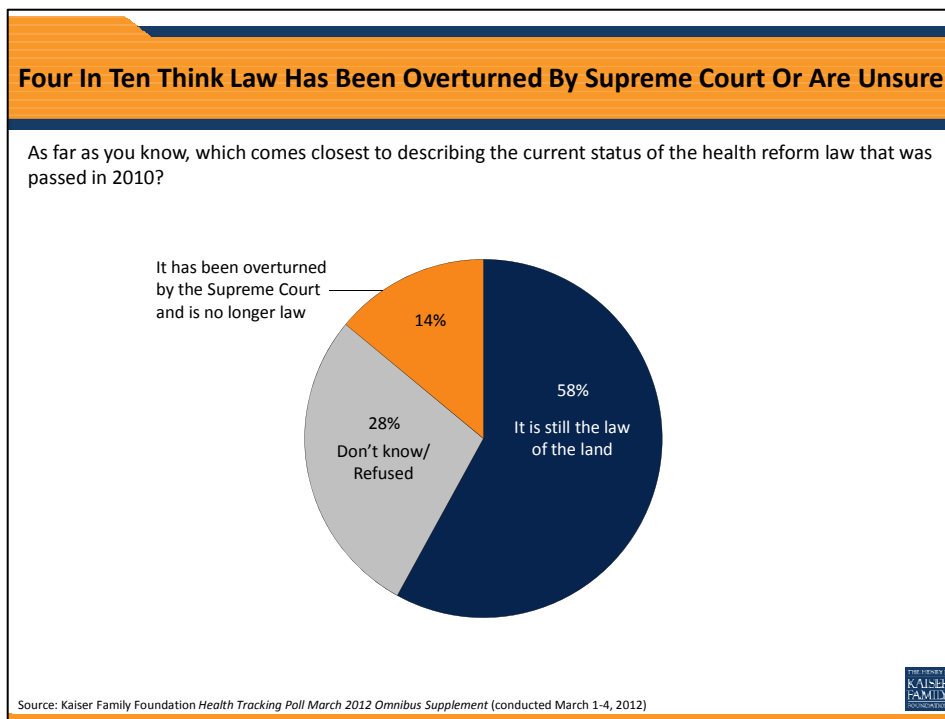


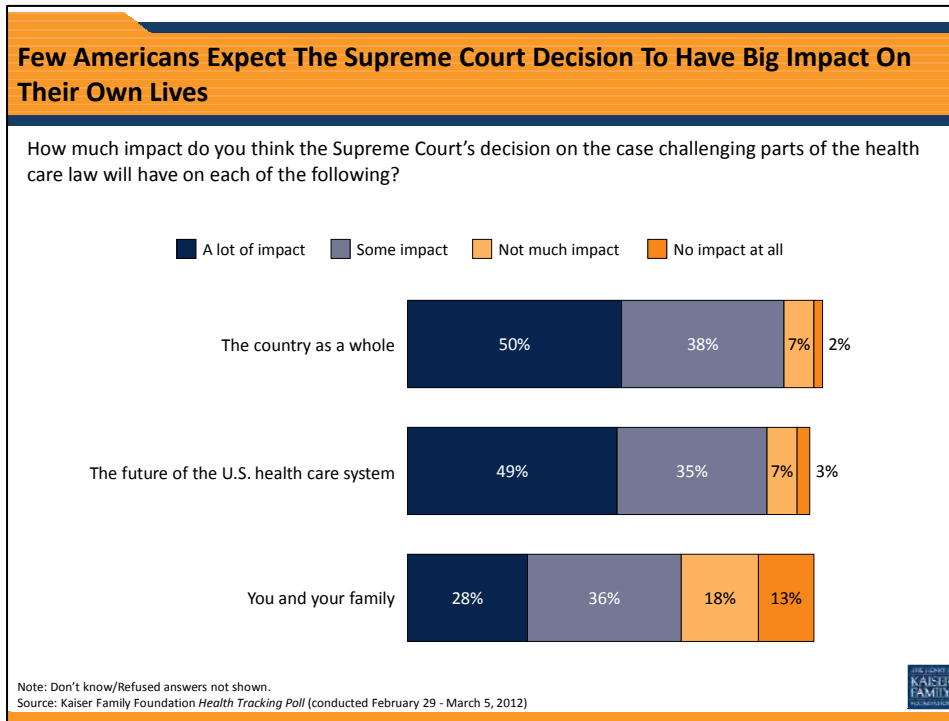
As the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) nears its second birthday, the latest Kaiser Health Tracking Poll finds that public opinion on the law remains evenly split with sharp divisions along partisan lines, much as it has been since the law was passed. With the Supreme Court preparing to hear challenges to the law later this month, about half the public thinks the Court should strike down the individual mandate, which has been and continues to be the law's least popular provision. The public is not yet paying close attention to the legal proceedings, and opinions on what the Court should do about the mandate mirror views on the law overall, with most of those who oppose the law wanting the Court to find the mandate unconstitutional, and half of those who favor the law preferring the opposite outcome. Still, most do not see the Court's ruling as the final word on the ACA; six in ten say that if the Court finds the mandate unconstitutional, some parts of the law will still be implemented. Underlying these beliefs is the fact that the public expresses a relatively low level of confidence in the Supreme Court, and believes that politics and ideology are as likely as legal analysis to play a major role in the Court's decision. At this point, the public says the Court's decision is unlikely to change their overall opinion on the ACA, with the vast majority of those with a favorable or unfavorable view of the law saying a ruling to uphold or strike down the mandate would not change how they feel about the law in general. Meanwhile, the views of seniors—who have traditionally tilted more negative on the law—have trended more positively in recent months, and in March, seniors are as likely to view the law favorably as unfavorably. Finally, two years after passage, the ACA is not yet “real” for most Americans—six in ten say they don't have enough information to understand how the law will impact them, and two thirds say the law has not yet affected their family in either a positive or negative way.

#### PUBLIC OPINION AND THE SUPREME COURT CASE: LACK OF ATTENTION AND SOME CONFUSION

The Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in the case challenging parts of the ACA later this month, and at this point, most Americans say they are not paying very close attention to the case. Just under four in ten say they are following news about the case “very closely” (9 percent) or “fairly closely” (28 percent), while most report following it “not too closely” (38 percent) or “not at all” (25 percent). It may not be surprising then, that while the majority (58 percent) are aware that the ACA is still the law of the land, more than four in ten either think it has *already* been overturned by the Supreme Court (14 percent) or are unsure (28 percent).



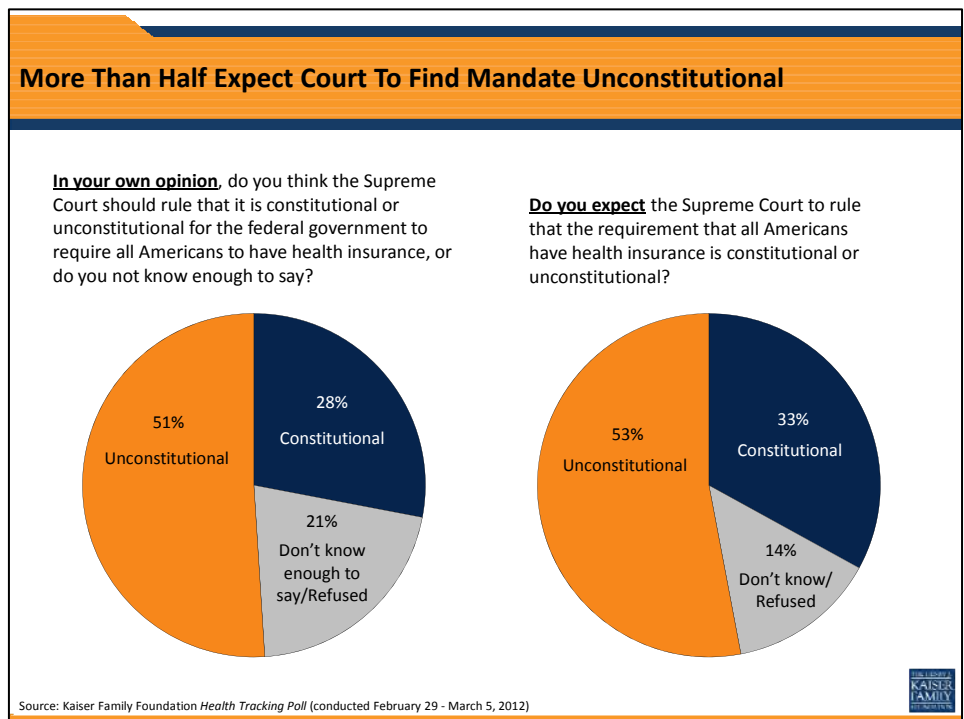
This confusion and relative lack of attention may be related to the fact that most do not expect the Supreme Court’s decision to have a big impact on their own lives; just under three in ten (28 percent) say the decision will have “a lot of impact” on them and their family, with about a third (36 percent) saying it will have “some” impact. The public is more likely to expect the Court’s decision to have a big impact on the country as a whole (50 percent) and on the future of the U.S. health care system (49 percent).



### EXPECTATIONS AND OPINION ON CONSTITUTIONALITY OF INDIVIDUAL MANDATE

One of the key questions facing the Supreme Court is the constitutionality of the ACA’s requirement that, as of 2014, all individuals have health insurance or else pay a fine (the individual mandate). This month’s tracking poll finds that the mandate continues to be the least popular element of the law, and that the intensity of opposition to the mandate has crept up slightly in recent months. Currently, two-thirds say they have an unfavorable view of the mandate, including 54 percent who feel “very unfavorable” (up from 43 percent last November).

In line with these views, about half the public (51 percent) thinks the Court should rule that the mandate is unconstitutional, while just under three in ten (28 percent) think it should be ruled constitutional, and another one in five don’t know enough to say. Similarly, about half *expect* the Court to strike down the mandate as unconstitutional (53 percent) while a third expect them to find it constitutional (33 percent).



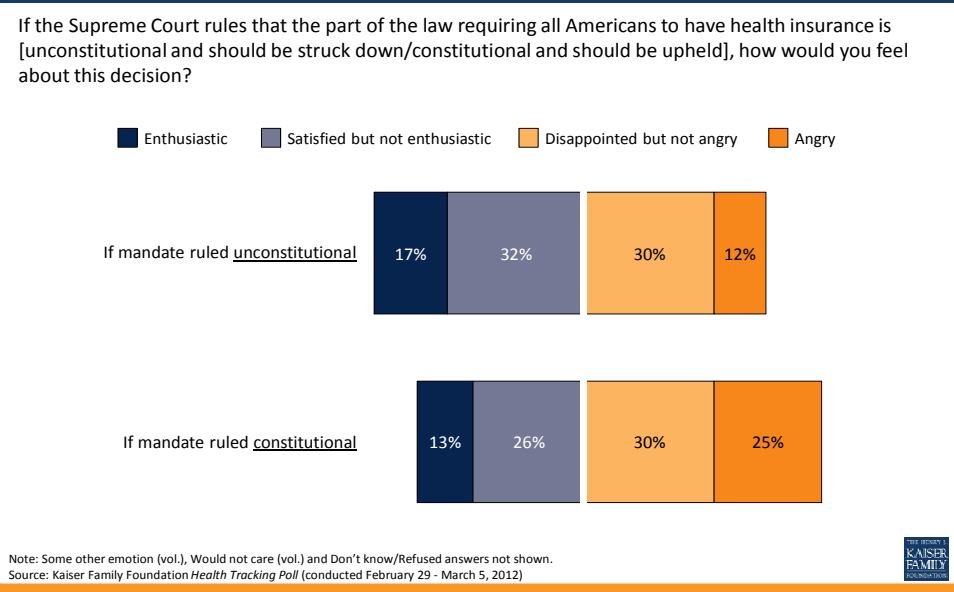
OPINIONS ON CONSTITUTIONALITY OF MANDATE LARGELY IN LINE WITH VIEWS OF ACA			
In your own opinion, do you think the Supreme Court should rule that it is constitutional or unconstitutional for the federal government to require all Americans to have health insurance, or do you not know enough to say?	Total	By Favorability of ACA	
		Favorable	Unfavorable
Constitutional	28%	50%	7%
Unconstitutional	51	26	83
Don't know enough to say	21	23	9

Opinions on what the Supreme Court should do about the individual mandate mirror the public's views on the law overall. The large majority (83 percent) of those with an unfavorable view of the law believe the Court should find the mandate unconstitutional, while those who view the law favorably are twice as likely to say the Court should rule the mandate constitutional (50 percent) as opposed to unconstitutional (26 percent).

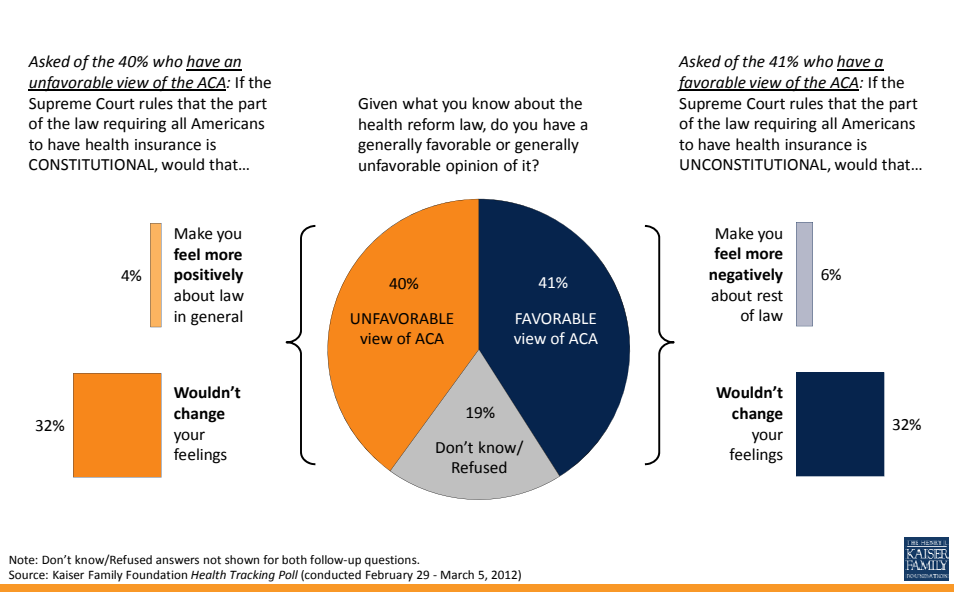
Echoing the intensity gap that Kaiser polls have consistently found on feelings about the law in general, twice as many say they will be angry if the court upholds the mandate (25 percent) than will be angry if the court strikes it down (12 percent).

**COURT'S DECISION UNLIKELY TO CHANGE OVERALL VIEWS OF THE ACA**  
 Regardless of how the Supreme Court rules, at this early stage it does not seem like their decision will do much to change people's views of the law in general. When those with a favorable view of the ACA are asked how they would feel if the Court rules the mandate unconstitutional, just 14 percent of them (6 percent of the public overall) say this decision would make them feel more negatively about the rest of the law, while the vast majority say it wouldn't change their feelings. Similarly, just 9 percent of the law's opponents (4 percent of the public overall) say they would feel more positively about the law in general if the court rules the mandate constitutional, while the large majority say their feelings wouldn't change.

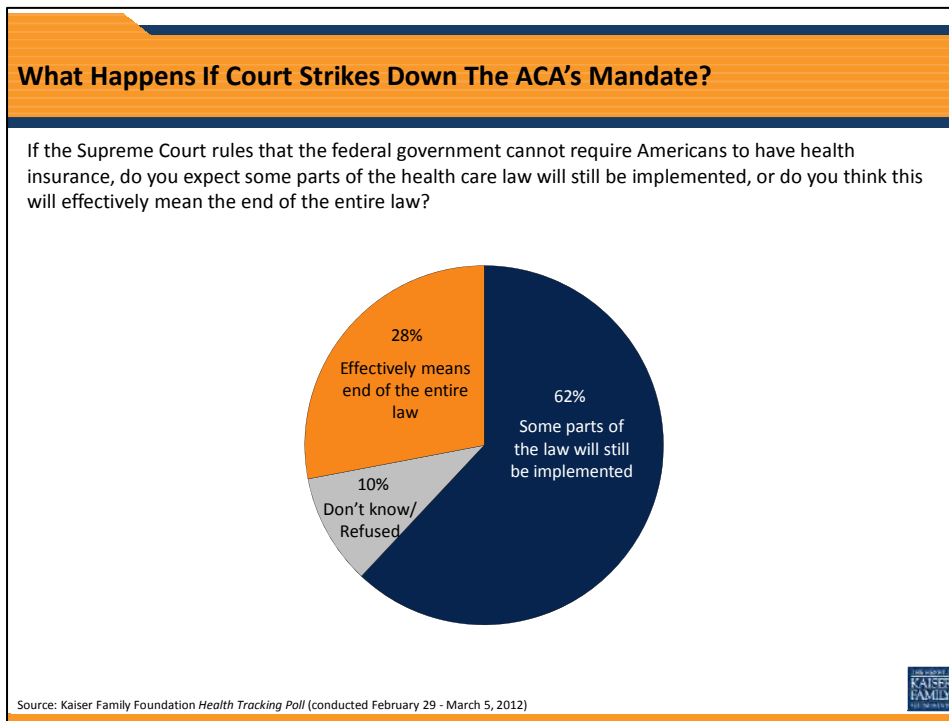
### More Say They Would Be Angry If Mandate Upheld Than If Struck Down



### Most Of Those With Favorable And Unfavorable Views Of ACA Say Court Ruling Would Not Change Their Views



Further, six in ten (62 percent) expect that if the Court strikes down the mandate, some parts of the law will continue to be implemented, while half as many (28 percent) think this will effectively mean the end of the entire law.



**REGARDLESS OF COURT OUTCOME, PUBLIC WANTS LAWMAKERS TO KEEP WORKING ON AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE**

Even if the Supreme Court does find portions of the health reform law unconstitutional, the majority of the public do not want lawmakers to give up work on health care. Six in ten say that in the wake of a ruling unfavorable to the ACA, lawmakers should focus on developing new proposals to improve Americans' access to affordable health care, while a third say policymakers should stop talking about health care and focus on other national problems. Even among Republicans and those with an unfavorable view of the ACA, roughly half want lawmakers to keep working on proposals to improve access to affordable care if the Supreme Court finds the current law unconstitutional.

PUBLIC'S VIEWS ON NEXT STEPS FOR LAWMAKERS IF COURT RULES ACA UNCONSTITUTIONAL						
<i>If the Supreme Court rules that the health care law is unconstitutional, do you think lawmakers should...</i>	Total	By Party ID			By Favorability of ACA	
		Dems	Inds	Reps	Favorable	Unfavorable
Focus on developing new proposals to improve Americans' access to affordable health care	60%	72%	57%	52%	71%	49%
Stop talking about health care and focus on other national problems	34	25	35	43	23	46

**BENEATH THE SURFACE: VIEWS OF THE COURT IN GENERAL**

Undergirding public opinion about the Supreme Court case challenging parts of the ACA is a relatively low level of public confidence in the Court in general, as well as a disconnect between the factors the public believes *will* guide the justices’ decision in the case challenging the ACA and those the public believes *should* guide their decision.

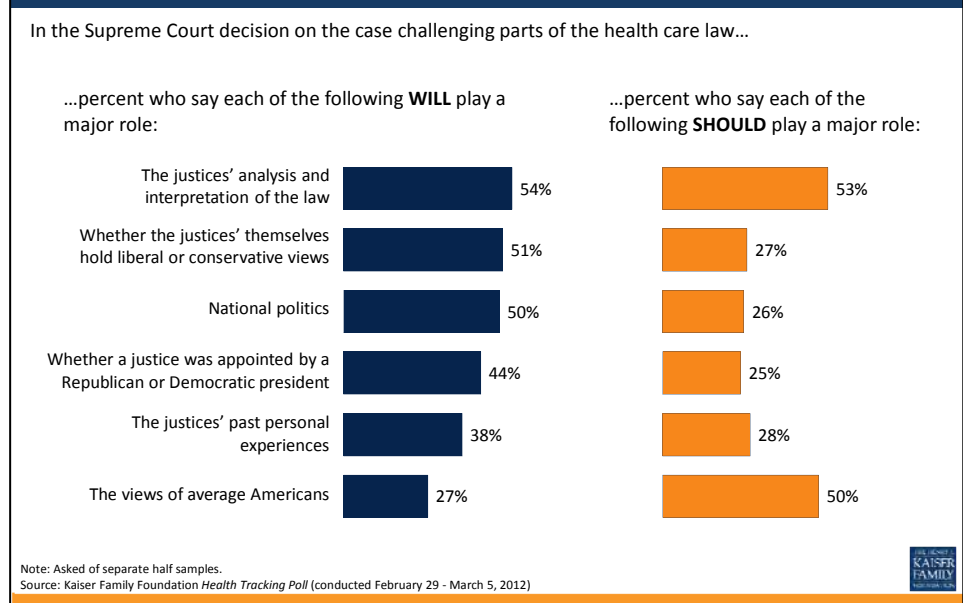
Just under a quarter of the public say they have “a great deal” (10 percent) or “quite a lot” (13 percent) of confidence in the Supreme Court, with the plurality (47 percent) saying they have “some” confidence. The total expressing at least some confidence is higher for the Supreme Court (70 percent) than it is for the presidency (58 percent) or Congress (41 percent). Nearly four in ten (38 percent) say the current Court’s ideological balance is “just about right,” while about a quarter each say it is too liberal (26 percent) or too conservative (26 percent). Not surprisingly, Democrats are more likely to believe the Court is too conservative, while

PARTISANS DISAGREE ON IDEOLOGICAL BALANCE OF SUPREME COURT				
In general, do you think the current Supreme Court is too liberal, too conservative, or just about right?	Total	By Party ID		
		Dems	Inds	Reps
Too liberal	26%	15%	22%	48%
Too conservative	26	42	24	7
Just about right	38	35	42	39
Don’t know/Refused	10	8	12	6

**Disconnect Between Public’s Desires And Expectations On What Will Factor Into Court’s Decision**

Republicans are more likely to find it too liberal.

When it comes to which factors will play a role in the justices’ decision on the ACA, over half of Americans think that legal analysis *will* and *should* play a major role. Beyond this, however, there is a disconnect between what the public wants the justices to pay attention to, and what they believe will factor into the decision. For instance, the public is nearly twice as likely to say “the views of average Americans” *should* play a major role in the decision as they are to believe these views *will* play a major role. Conversely, Americans are about twice as likely to believe the justices’ own ideology, national politics, and whether a justice was appointed by a Democratic or Republican president *will* be major factors in the decision as they are to think these factors *should* play a major role.



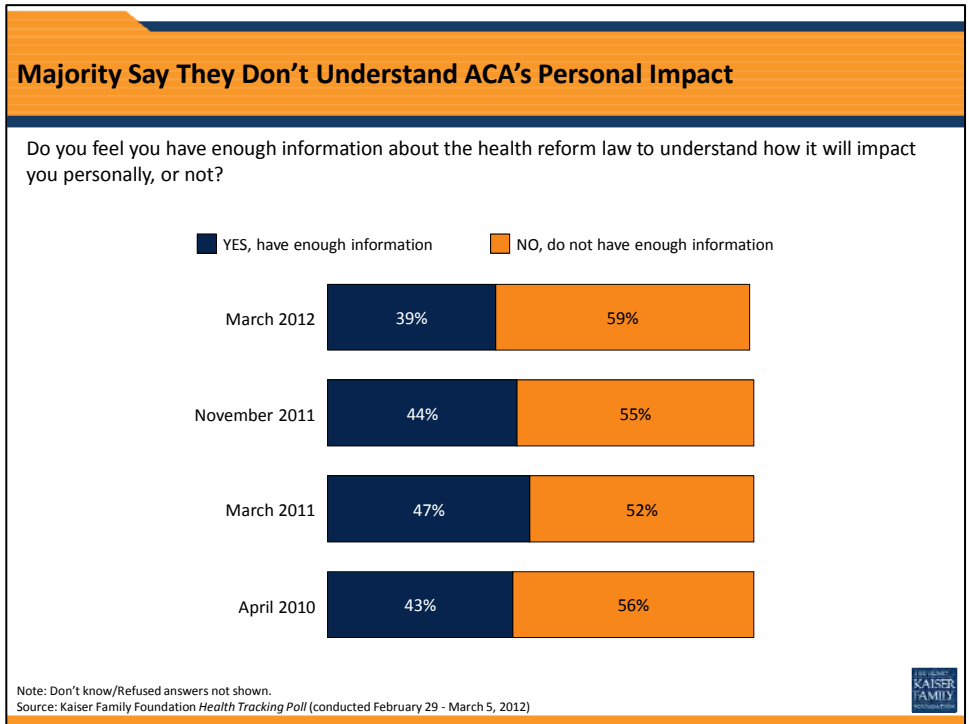
**THE ACA AT 2 YEARS: STABILITY, DIVISION, CONFUSION**

The hallmark of public opinion on the Affordable Care Act at age two is the remarkable extent to which it resembles public opinion immediately after the law’s passage. Through two eventful years—years marked by both the initial stages of on-the-ground implementation and debate over the law’s repeal in Congress and in the Republican presidential primary—opinion really hasn’t changed. The public remains firmly divided along partisan lines in their view of the ACA, with neither the law’s advocates nor its opponents able to swing a clear majority to their viewpoint. At the same time, as was true at passage, bipartisan majorities of Americans report looking favorably on many, but not all, of the law’s individual provisions. A final hallmark, and a starting place for discussion of public opinion on the ACA at its second anniversary, is the extent to which Americans remain confused about the law’s content and aims.

**MOST AMERICANS ADMITTEDLY CONFUSED ABOUT PERSONAL IMPACT**

For those tasked with setting up state health insurance exchanges or determining the contents of minimum benefit packages, for veteran reporters, for the candidates advocating the law’s overturn, and for policy experts, the ACA is very real, requiring significant changes in the way many Americans get their health insurance coverage under relatively tight deadlines. But for the average American, the ACA is *not* yet real. Despite passage, and because of the longer term implementation framework, for many it seems to remain a remote political debate, one of many taking place against the backdrop of a public clearly cynical about the capacities of its political leaders. And from that perspective, the widespread level of confusion Americans express over the law is less surprising.

According to the March Kaiser Health Tracking poll, six in ten Americans say they don’t currently have enough information about the health reform law to understand how it will impact them personally. Despite two years of efforts by the law’s supporters, this is almost identical to the proportion who said they didn’t know enough immediately after passage in April 2010. About half the country—including roughly equal proportions of Democrats, Republicans and independents—say they are confused about the law. And as mentioned above, while six in ten are aware that the ACA is still the law of the land, three in ten aren’t sure and 14 percent believe it has *already* been overturned by the Supreme Court.



In terms of what the public thinks the law has accomplished thus far, Americans seem somewhat more likely to attribute negative than positive consequences to the law. Currently, just over half of Americans—driven by a large majority of Republicans—say the ACA has increased the budget deficit, and nearly as many say it has “significantly increased” the price of health insurance. Just over four in ten believe the law has caused many employers to drop health insurance coverage for their workers. This may reflect the deeper divisions on the law, as in each case, Republicans and independents are much more likely than Democrats to believe the law has caused these negative consequences.

PUBLIC MORE LIKELY TO PERCEIVE NEGATIVE RATHER THAN POSITIVE IMPACTS OF ACA SO FAR						
Percent who say the health care law has done each of the following:	Total	By Party ID			By Favorability of ACA	
		Dems	Inds	Reps	Favorable	Unfavorable
Increased the federal budget deficit	54%	34%	56%	78%	37%	74%
Significantly increased the price of health insurance	49	33	51	65	30	67
Allowed many young adults under age 26 to obtain health insurance coverage	47	64	44	35	63	35
Caused many employers to drop health insurance coverage for their employees	44	30	43	56	29	60
Eliminated costs for preventive services such as blood pressure screenings for people with health insurance	27	32	24	22	34	19
Lowered prescription drug costs for seniors	26	43	23	14	42	9

On the flip side, only one in four Americans—and a similar share of seniors—are aware that the ACA has lowered prescription drug costs for seniors (through its gradual closing of the Medicare prescription drug ‘doughnut hole’), and that it has eliminated cost sharing for key preventive services. In each case, not even a majority of the law’s supporters are aware of the implementation of these provisions. Better known: the fact that the ACA has allowed many young adults under age 26 to stay on their parents’ health policies (47 percent of all Americans, and 55 percent of those under age 30, are aware of this policy).

## FAMILIARITY WITH LAW'S PROVISIONS ERODES AS TIME PASSES

This month's poll also suggests that awareness of individual provisions of the law—many of which have not yet been implemented and so are not something Americans are experiencing in day-to-day life—is somewhat limited, and that over the past two years familiarity with the law's components has waned. Currently, the most widely recognized provision of the law is also the law's least popular provision: the individual mandate, which will require all Americans to have health coverage or pay a fine beginning in 2014. As of March, roughly two in three Americans are aware the ACA contains this mandate. More than half are also aware of the basic benefits package, the eventual availability of subsidy assistance for individuals, the expansion of the Medicaid program and the penalties for large employers who fail to offer coverage to their workers. Across nearly all the provisions asked about in the survey, the proportion of Americans who are familiar with them as part of the ACA has dropped since the months following passage in March 2010.

WHAT DO AMERICANS RECOGNIZE AS PARTS OF THE ACA?		
Percent who say yes, law does include provision:	March 2012	April 2010
Individual mandate/penalty	64%	71%
Basic benefits package, defined by government	57	64*
Subsidy assistance to individuals	56	75
Medicaid expansion	54	64
Employer mandate/penalty for large employers	53	n/a
Health plan decision appeals	51	n/a
Guaranteed issue	51	64
Tax credits to small businesses	49	66
Require easy-to-understand plan summaries	49	n/a
Increase Medicare payroll tax on upper income	43	58**
No cost sharing for preventive services	37	n/a
Medical loss ratio	35	37

\*data from June 2010; \*\*data from July 2010

Note: Question wording abbreviated. See survey topline for complete wording

There also remain several misunderstandings about the new law. For example, over half—including majorities of Republicans and independents—either believe the law allows a government panel to make decisions about end-of-life care for people on Medicare or are not sure whether it does (36 percent and 20 percent, respectively). Even more—seven in ten—are not aware that the ACA does *not* create “a new government run insurance plan to be offered along with private plans.” The prevalence of these misperceptions is essentially the same as it was at the end of 2010.

LACK OF AWARENESS ABOUT ELEMENTS THAT ARE <u>NOT</u> INCLUDED IN THE HEALTH REFORM LAW			
<i>I'm going to read you a list of specific elements or parts of the law. For each, please tell me whether you think it is included in the health reform law, or not.</i>	Yes	No	Don't know
Allow a government panel to make decisions about end-of-life care for people on Medicare			
Total	36%	45%	20%
Democrats	35	54	10
Independents	36	44	20
Republicans	41	39	21
Create a new government run insurance plan to be offered along with private plans			
Total	52%	30%	18%
Democrats	43	38	19
Independents	50	34	16
Republicans	68	20	13

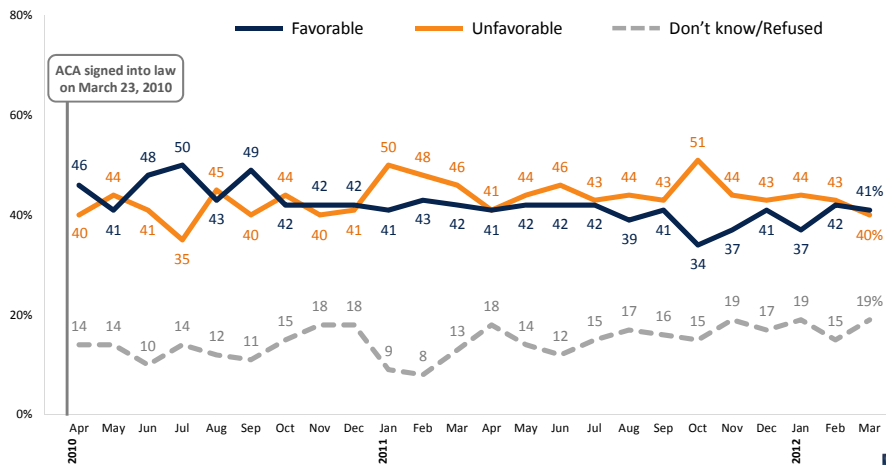


## THE ACA IN THE BIG PICTURE: A DIVIDED PUBLIC AND STRONG PARTISAN DISAGREEMENT

As the chart here shows, the Affordable Care Act has divided Americans since passage, with two lines tracking favorable and unfavorable views of the law running roughly parallel. When one sentiment has outstripped the other over the past year, it has been negative views outnumbering positive ones. This month, as was true in February, however, the divide is almost perfectly even: 41 percent hold favorable views of the law, 40 percent unfavorable and 19 percent don't have an opinion either way. As we have found in previous polls, among those with unfavorable views of the law a larger proportion say their opposition is based at least in part on their displeasure with the direction of the country in general (and the direction of Washington in particular) than say it is based on what they know about the law.

### Two Years Of Closely Divided Opinion On ACA

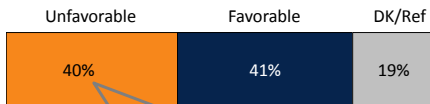
As you may know, a health reform bill was signed into law in 2010. Given what you know about the health reform law, do you have a generally favorable or generally unfavorable opinion of it?



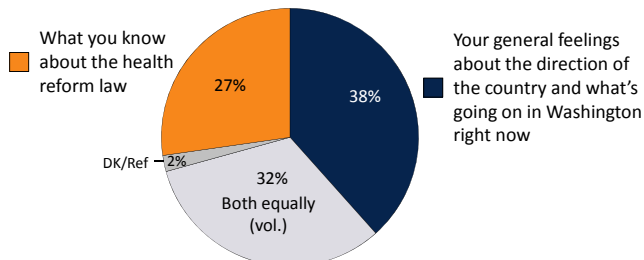
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Polls

### Unfavorable Views Of Law Proxy For Anti-Washington Sentiment

Given what you know about the health reform law, do you have a generally favorable or unfavorable opinion of it?



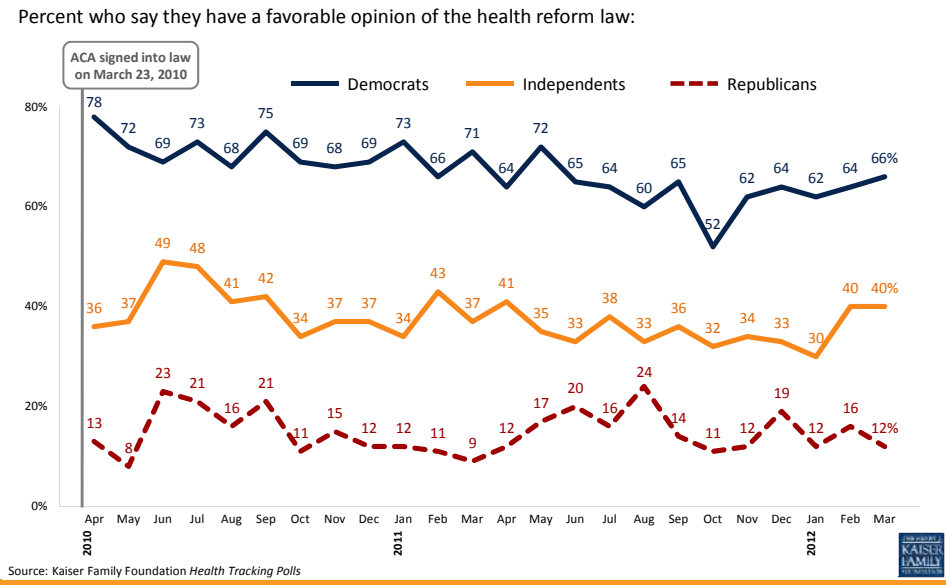
Among the 40% who have an unfavorable opinion of the law: Would you say your unfavorable view is more about...



Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Poll (conducted February 29 - March 5, 2012)



## A Lasting Partisan Gap On The ACA



Though it's often said that the ACA divides the country in half, that divide isn't random; instead, it is consistently along partisan lines, perhaps not surprising for a law passed by a Democratic president on a straight party line vote. As the chart to the left shows, Republicans did not support the law at passage and have not wavered in that opposition. A majority of Democrats, slightly smaller than at passage but still solid, continue to support the law, and in fact many (45 percent) want to see it expanded. Independents have been divided over the two year period, though unfavorable views have tended to eclipse favorable ones. This month, however, as was true in February, independents are about evenly divided on the law—40 percent favorable, 42 percent unfavorable.

Another consistent finding over the two year period: intensity of emotion has been

and continues to be on the side of the law's opponents. This month, for example, fully 60 percent of Republicans say they have a "VERY unfavorable" view of the law, compared to 34 percent of Democrats whose favorable views are equally intense. Still, one finding this month belies that trend: overall 31 percent of Americans say they are "angry" about the law, but nearly as many—25 percent—say they are "enthusiastic," a finding that has been fairly consistent over the past two years. This month, the proportion of Republicans and Democrats that profess these strong emotions are similar, though obviously in opposite directions: about half of Republicans say they are angry about the law, about half of Democrats are enthusiastic.

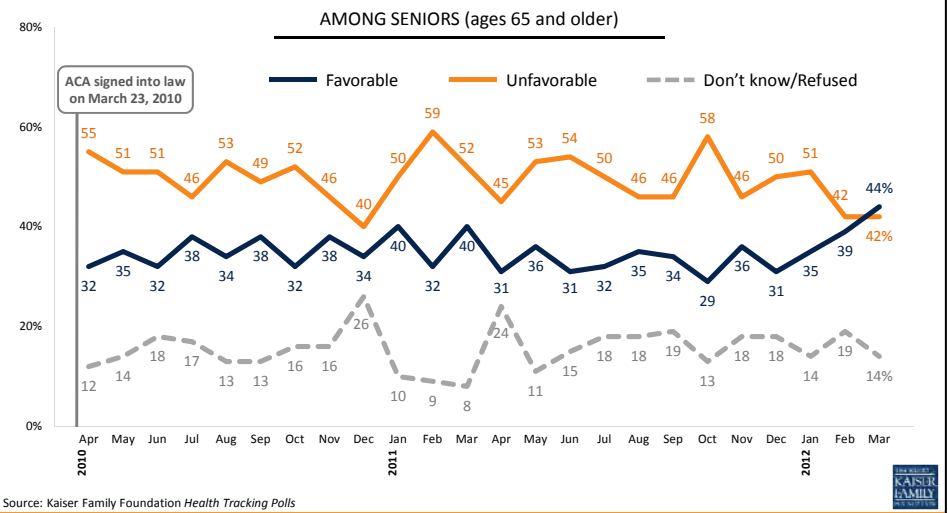
## SENIORS AND THE ACA

For most of the past two years, seniors have been more likely than younger adults to say they oppose the ACA. Over the past three months, however, there has been a slow uptick in seniors' support for the law, and in March, seniors are as likely to view the law favorably (44 percent) as unfavorably (42 percent). March also marks a high point in the proportion of seniors who expect to be better off under the ACA (29 percent), though the plurality of seniors (38 percent) expect to be worse off under the law and another three in ten say it won't make much difference for them.

Like the public overall, seniors' opinions on the law are deeply divided by party identification. While the overwhelming majority of seniors who identify as Republican continue to view the law unfavorably, the recent trend toward more positive views among seniors overall has been driven by senior Democrats and independents. Among these two groups, the proportion who view the law favorably has been growing, and the proportion with an unfavorable view has been shrinking since last December.

## Past Three Months Suggest Seniors May Be Shifting On ACA

As you may know, a health reform bill was signed into law in 2010. Given what you know about the health reform law, do you have a generally favorable or generally unfavorable opinion of it?



## MANY PROVISIONS STILL APPEALING, EXCEPT THE INDIVIDUAL MANDATE

One of the consistent contradictions in public opinion on the ACA is this: while the law as a whole has never gained majority support, its component parts—from the relatively narrow to the core and comprehensive—have been consistently popular over the past two

years, with the glaring exception of the individual mandate. And many provisions of the law are popular even among Republicans. At the top of the list are tax credits to small businesses that offer coverage, as well as the consumer-friendly requirement that plans include easy-to-understand summaries of their benefits and costs, both of which are popular with at least three in four Democrats, Republicans and independents. Other provisions with widespread majority support include subsidies for individuals to purchase insurance, the ability of consumers to appeal their health plan’s decisions, the expansion of Medicaid, the guaranteed issue provision, and the elimination of cost-sharing for preventive services, each supported by roughly seven in ten overall.

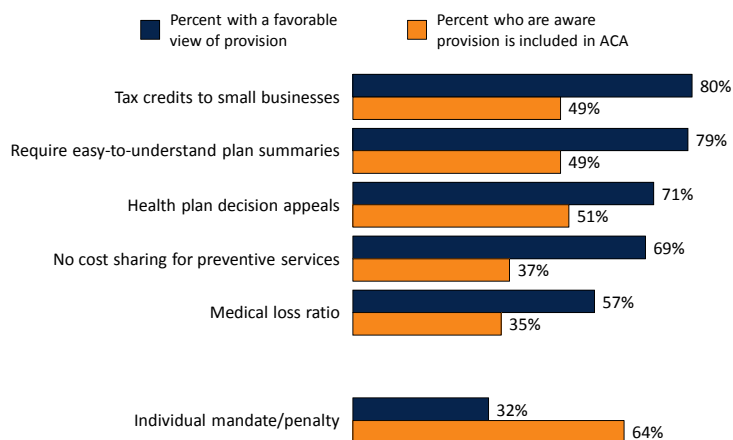
FAVORABILITY OF SPECIFIC ELEMENTS OF ACA				
Percent who say they feel favorably about each of these following elements of the health reform law:	Total	By Party ID		
		Dems	Inds	Reps
Tax credits to small businesses	80%	89%	78%	77%
Require easy-to-understand plan summaries	79	87	75	76
Subsidy assistance to individuals	71	87	70	51
Health plan decision appeals	71	84	73	57
Medicaid expansion	70	88	69	51
Guaranteed issue	69	76	70	62
No cost sharing for preventive services	69	87	66	53
Medical loss ratio	57	73	51	45
Employer mandate/penalty for large employers	54	74	51	31
Increase Medicare payroll tax on upper income	53	74	50	26
Basic benefits package, defined by government	51	80	49	20
Individual mandate/penalty	32	45	32	19

Note: Question wording abbreviated. See survey topline for complete wording.

Though there are some provisions where support is less than a clear majority and closer to 50 percent—such as the increase in the Medicare payroll tax for wealthier Americans, the employer mandate and the fact that government will define the new basic benefits package—clear majority opposition is limited to one provision: the individual mandate. Currently, only one in three Americans support the mandate, including just under half of Democrats. Meanwhile intense opposition to the mandate (the proportion who say they have a “very” unfavorable view of it), is up eleven percentage points from 43 percent last November to 54 percent now.

### Most Popular Provisions Among Least Widely Recognized (And Vice Versa)

Percent who say they have a favorable opinion of each of the following and percent who say they are aware each is included in the health reform law:



Note: Items asked of separate half samples. Source: Percent favorable, Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Poll (conducted February 29 - March 5, 2012); Percent aware, Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Poll Omnibus Supplement (conducted March 1-4, 2012)

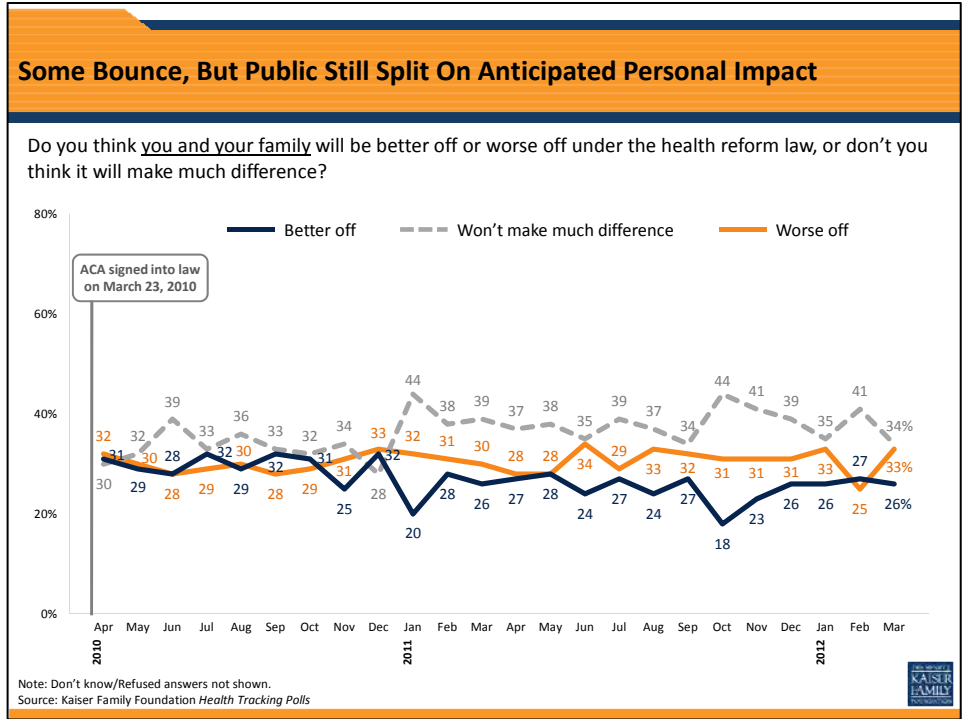


With the exception of the individual mandate, majorities of Democrats back each of the provisions surveyed, as do at least half of independents. Republicans give majority support to seven of the twelve items tested.

It’s worth noting that some of the most popular provisions of the law are among the least widely recognized, and vice versa. For example, two-thirds of Americans recognize that the individual mandate is part of the law, while only a third have a favorable view. Compare that to the requirement that plans include easy-to-read summaries or the small business tax credits: eight in ten have a favorable view of these provisions, but only about half the public recognizes them as part of the ACA. The chart to the left shows some of the areas where the gap between awareness and positive views is largest.

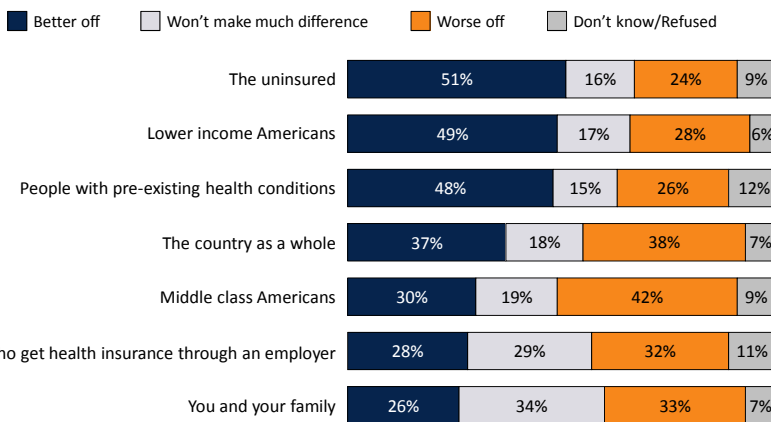
## WHO FEELS THEY HAVE BEEN IMPACTED, WHO THINKS THEY WILL BE

Over the course of the past two years, there has also been relatively little movement in the proportion of Americans who anticipate being impacted by the ACA, though as we saw earlier, most remain unsure about how the law will affect them. Supporters have not managed to convince a majority of Americans that the law will help them, and opponents have not managed to convince a majority they will be worse off. Over the past year, as the chart here shows, the public has been divided on this question, but in most months the proportion who expect to be worse off has been slightly larger than the proportion who expect to benefit, with the plurality saying they won't be affected. The dip we saw in February in the proportion of Americans who anticipated being worse off under the law turned out to be just that—a temporary dip—and this month we return to having 33 percent anticipating negative effects, 26 percent anticipating benefits, and 34 percent saying they don't expect the ACA to make much difference.



## Uninsured, Lower Income, Those With Pre-Existing Conditions Seen As Most Likely To Benefit

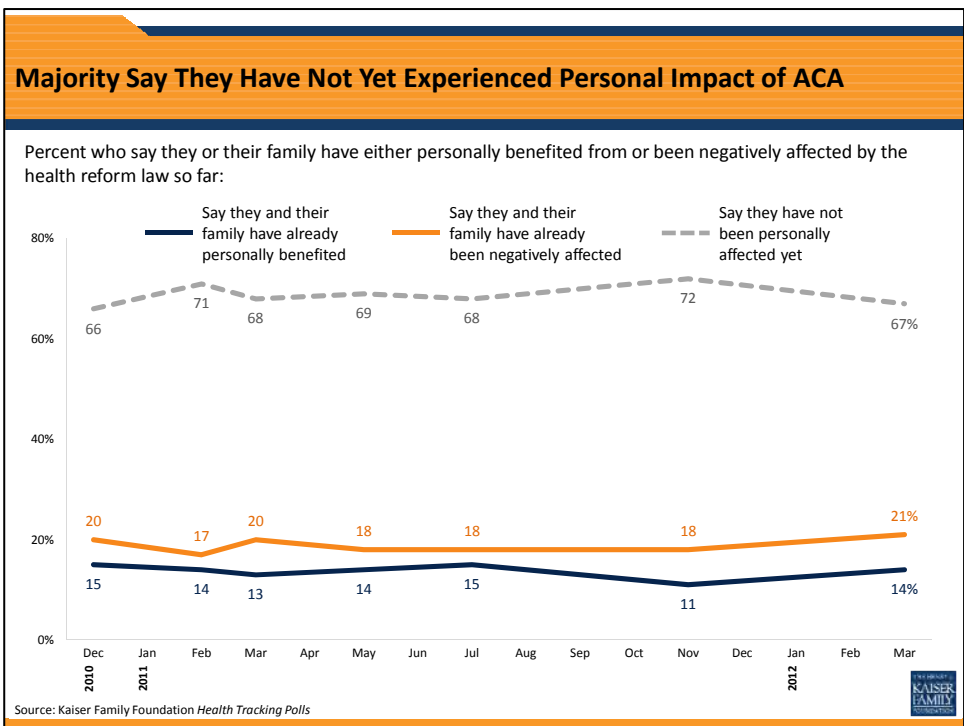
Do you think each of the following will be better off or worse off under the health reform law, or don't you think it will make much difference?



Note: Various items asked of half sample.  
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Poll (conducted February 29 - March 5, 2012)

Who *do* Americans think will benefit from the law once fully implemented? As has been true throughout, the largest proportion of Americans say the uninsured (51 percent), lower income Americans (49 percent), and those with pre-existing health conditions (48 percent) will benefit, much more than say the same about the average middle-class American or the person currently getting health coverage through their employer (roughly three in ten each). The uninsured and those with lower incomes do not currently see things that way, however. Among those currently without insurance, only roughly one in three anticipate they will benefit from the law. Among those in households making less than \$20,000 per year, about three in ten report they will be better off with the ACA.

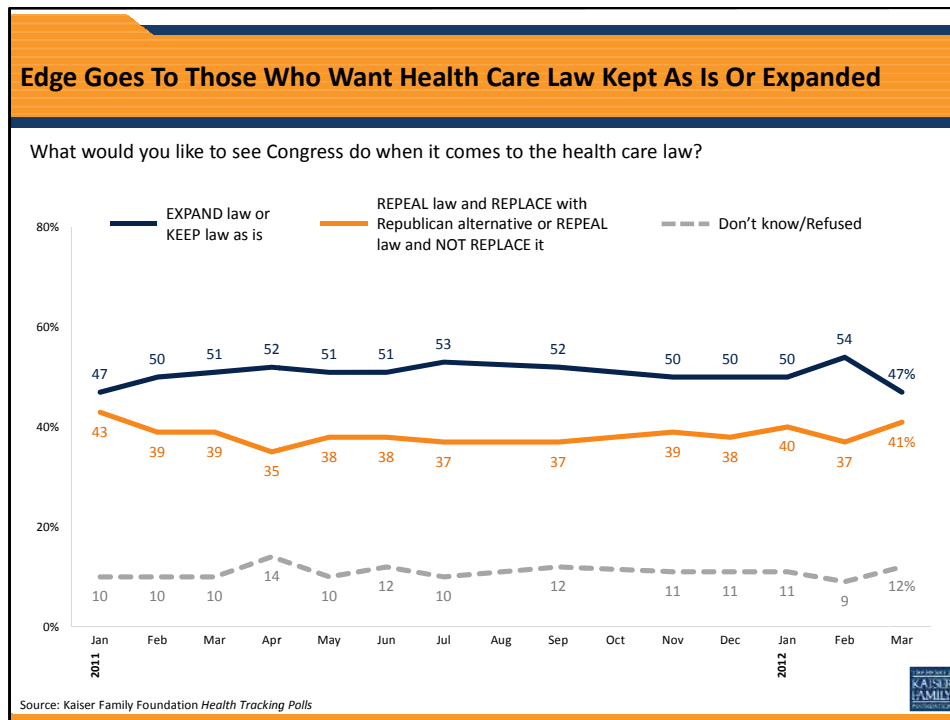
In terms of concrete personal impacts so far, overall two in three Americans say that they do not feel they have been affected either positively or negatively. In terms of the third who feel they have been impacted, a fairly consistent 14 percent say they have been concretely aided by the law thus far, specifically through better access to health care (39 percent of those who feel they've benefited), extension of dependent coverage (18 percent), and lower health costs (15 percent). At the same time, one in five Americans (21 percent) say they have already been hurt by the law. This group is most likely to point to one reason—increased costs (53 percent of those who feel they've been negatively affected). It's important to note that surveys can only measure the proportion of people who *believe* they have been impacted by the law, since people's views of the source of their benefit or harm may or may not be accurate. For example, the higher insurance prices some have suffered, and have attributed to the passage of the ACA, may or may not be an actual result of the law.



IN THEIR OWN WORDS... POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE PERSONAL IMPACTS (selected quotes from open-ended responses)	
Among the 14% who say they have personally benefited from the health reform law: In what ways would you say you have benefited from the health reform law?	Among the 21% who say they have been negatively affected by the health reform law: In what ways would you say you have been negatively affected by the health reform law?
<i>"Greater access to insurance."</i>	<i>"Decreased options for increased price."</i>
<i>"I'm low income and disabled and it helps me get my children health care."</i>	<i>"I just got a premium renewal notice for my health insurance and the premiums went up about 60%."</i>
<i>"I was able to go back on my father's insurance until age 26. I was previously uninsured."</i>	<i>"Right after they passed that law the rates went up and the coverage went down."</i>
<i>"First, we saved over a \$100 on co-pays for our physical exam last year. Second, this will stop insurance companies from over charging."</i>	<i>"We will probably have to pay higher taxes. It is not free health care and has to come from taxpayers."</i>
<i>"They made certain preventive checkups 100% covered, co-pay covered, and basically free."</i>	<i>"Some of the doctor services have been cut and I am paying more. It is much harder to find a good doctor because they are leaving their practices."</i>

## NEXT STEPS FOR THE LAW

Even as the next major turning point for the ACA seems likely to rest on the outcome of the Supreme Court case, Members of Congress and Republican presidential candidates continue to discuss the possibility of repealing the law. Overall, the public is fairly split on this question, with major divisions by party identification as one would expect. This month, 28 percent want to expand the law (down from 35 percent last month) and 19 percent want to keep it as it is. At the same time, 23 percent want to repeal it, and 18 percent want to repeal the current version and replace it with a Republican alternative.



### METHODOLOGY

This *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* was designed and analyzed by public opinion researchers at the Kaiser Family Foundation led by Mollyann Brodie, Ph.D., including Liz Hamel, Claudia Deane, Bianca DiJulio, Sarah Cho, and Theresa Boston. The survey was conducted February 29 – March 5, 2012, among a nationally representative random digit dial telephone sample of 1,208 adults ages 18 and older, living in the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii. Interviews conducted by landline (704) and cell phone (504, including 279 who had no landline telephone) were carried out in English and Spanish by Braun Research, Inc. under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International (PSRAI). The combined landline and cell phone sample was weighted to balance the sample demographics to match Census estimates for the national population on sex, age, education, race, Hispanic origin, nativity (for Hispanics only), region, and telephone usage. Two questions about knowledge of the law's provisions and whether it has already been overturned by the Supreme Court were fielded on a separate survey conducted March 1–4, 2012 among a nationally representative random sample of 1,009 adults ages 18 and older, living in the continental United States. For the *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll Omnibus Supplement*, telephone interviews conducted by landline (603) and cell phone (406, including 201 who had no landline telephone) were carried out in English by Princeton Data Source under the direction of PSRAI. The omnibus sample was weighted to match national estimates by sex, age, education, race, Hispanic origin, household size, region, and telephone usage.

All statistical tests of significance account for the effect of weighting. The margin of sampling error including the design effect is plus or minus 3 percentage points for the main survey and 4 percentage points for the omnibus supplement. For results based on subgroups, the margin of sampling error may be higher. Note that sampling error is only one of many potential sources of error in this or any other public opinion poll.

The full question wording and methodology of the polls can be viewed online at: <http://www.kff.org/kaiserpolls/8285.cfm>.

This publication (#8285-F) is available on the Kaiser Family Foundation's website at [www.kff.org](http://www.kff.org).