

Topline

Kaiser Health Tracking Poll: March 2013

March 2013

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, Sarah Cho, and Bianca DiJulio. The survey was conducted March 5-10, 2013, among a nationally representative random digit dial telephone sample of 1,204 adults ages 18 and older, living in the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii (note: persons without a telephone could not be included in the random selection process). Computer-assisted telephone interviews conducted by landline (602) and cell phone (602, including 315 who had no landline telephone) were carried out in English and Spanish by Princeton Data Source under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International (PSRAI). Both the landline and cell phone samples were provided by Survey Sampling International, LLC. For the landline sample, respondents were selected by asking for the youngest adult male or female currently at home based on a random rotation. If no one of that gender was available, interviewers asked to speak with the youngest adult of the opposite gender. For the cell phone sample, interviews were conducted with the person who answered the phone.

The combined landline and cell phone sample was weighted to balance the sample demographics to match estimates for the national population data from the Census Bureau's 2011 American Community Survey (ACS) on sex, age, education, race, Hispanic origin, nativity (for Hispanics only), and region along with data from the 2010 Census on population density. The sample was also weighted to match current patterns of telephone use using data from the January-June 2012 National Health Interview Survey. The weight takes into account the fact that respondents with both a landline and cell phone have a higher probability of selection in the combined sample and also adjusts for the household size for the landline sample. All statistical tests of significance account for the effect of weighting. Weighted and unweighted values for key demographic variables are shown in the table below.

Sample Demographics	Unweighted	Weighted
Gender		
Male	46.5%	48.4%
Female	53.5%	51.6%
Age		
18-24	8.4%	13.2%
25-34	12.0%	16.5%
35-44	13.9%	17.1%
45-54	19.9%	18.6%
55-64	20.8%	16.9%
65+	25.0%	17.9%
Education		
HS Graduate or Less	30.1%	41.0%
Some College/Assoc. Degree	26.6%	31.2%
College Grad.	43.4%	27.8%
Race/Ethnicity		
White/not Hispanic	72.6%	67.3%
Black/not Hispanic	11.5%	11.7%
Hisp - US born	5.1%	6.9%
Hisp - born outside	5.4%	7.2%
Other/not Hispanic	5.4%	6.8%
Party Identification		
Democrat	34.4%	33.2%
Independent	30.7%	31.0%
Republican	23.3%	22.3%
Other	7.6%	8.8%

The margin of sampling error including the design effect for the full sample is plus or minus 3 percentage points. For results based on subgroups, the margin of sampling error may be higher. Sample sizes and margin of sampling errors for other subgroups are available by request. Note that sampling error is only one of many potential sources of error in this or any other public opinion poll.

The response rate calculated based on the American Association of Public Opinion Research's Response Rate 3 formula was 11 percent for the landline sample and 13 percent for the cell phone sample.

1. 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? [GET ANSWER THEN ASK: Is that a very (favorable/unfavorable) or somewhat (favorable/unfavorable) opinion?] (ROTATE OPTIONS IN PARENTHESES)

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know/ Refused
03/13	17	20	13	27	23
02/13	18	18	13	29	23
11/12	19	24	12	27	19
10/12	20	18	14	29	19
09/12	25	20	12	28	14
08/12	21	17	13	30	19
07/12	20	18	13	31	17
06/12	25	16	11	30	18
05/12	17	20	12	32	19
04/12	20	22	9	34	15
03/12	18	23	11	29	19
02/12	17	25	16	27	15
01/12	18	19	14	30	19
12/11 ¹	19	22	15	28	17
11/11	17	20	15	29	19
10/11	12	22	20	31	15
09/11	18	23	14	29	16
08/11	16	23	17	27	17
07/11	20	22	12	31	15
06/11	15	27	16	30	12
05/11	19	23	15	29	14
04/11	20	21	14	27	18
03/11	21	21	15	31	13
02/11	16	27	19	29	8
01/11	19	22	16	34	9
12/10	22	20	14	27	18
11/10	19	23	12	28	18
10/10	18	24	15	29	15
09/10	19	30	15	25	11
08/10	19	24	13	32	12
07/10	21	29	10	25	14
06/10	20	28	16	25	10
05/10	14	27	12	32	14
04/10 ²	23	23	10	30	14

¹ May 2010 through December 2011 trend wording was “As you may know, a health reform bill was signed into law early last year...”

² April 2010 trend wording was “[President Obama did sign a health reform bill into law last month...] Given what you know about the new health reform law, do you have a generally (favorable) or generally (unfavorable) opinion of it? (Is that a very favorable/unfavorable or somewhat favorable/unfavorable opinion?)”

2FAV. Could you tell me in your own words what is the main reason you have a favorable opinion of the health reform law? (OPEN-END)

Based on those who have a favorable opinion

	03/13	11/11	07/11	03/11	10/10
Expanding access (NET)	58	57	55	51	55
Expanding access to health care/won't crowd ERs	25	21	19	14	21
Expanding access to health insurance	23	27	24	28	23
Will help self or family	7	6	6	5	8
Adult children will be able to get health insurance	4	4	3	4	4
Will help low income families/the poor	2	5	4	3	4
Will make health care more affordable/control costs/lower costs	10	11	10	9	7
Insurance reform (NET)	6	6	5	7	6
Will help people with pre-existing conditions	4	4	3	5	4
Insurance reform generally	2	2	2	3	2
Country/people will be better off generally	5	5	8	6	8
Reform was needed	4	8	5	7	7
A step in the right direction	3	4	5	4	6
General support for the law	3	2	2	4	--
Approve of government role	2	2	1	3	2
Brings America in line with other advanced countries	2	1	3	--	--
In favor of the individual mandate	2	1	*	1	--
Will help seniors/seniors with meds/Medicare	1	2	2	4	3
People will have more choice of health insurance coverage	*	--	*	2	--
Other reason for a favorable view	6	5	3	7	8
Other comment – not related to health reform bill	1	*	3	1	1
Don't know/Refused	11	13	11	13	13
	(n=464)	(n=477)	(n=474)	(n=498)	(n=495)

Percentages will add to more than 100 due to multiple responses.

2UNFAV. Could you tell me in your own words what is the main reason you have an unfavorable opinion of the health reform law?
(OPEN-END)

Based on those who have an unfavorable opinion

	03/13	11/11	07/11	03/11	10/10
Financial and cost considerations (NET)	30	21	20	20	24
Will cost too much/Not paid for	14	10	16	15	11
Health insurance and health care will become more expensive	13	9	4	5	10
Taxes will go up	4	3	2	1	5
Against individual mandate (NET)	15	18	13	18	11
Don't want to be forced to buy insurance	12	15	9	12	7
Unconstitutional	4	3	5	6	4
Government-related issues	13	16	16	19	10
Individuals should pay for their own insurance/ Inequitable/Unfair	7	8	5	6	13
Harm to seniors/Medicare-related concerns	6	4	6	3	6
Only helps certain people/Not everyone will benefit	5	3	4	4	7
Limits choices and benefits/Will hurt people's existing health care arrangements	5	7	8	6	5
Hurts small businesses/jobs	5	2	2	2	3
General dislike of the law	5	4	3	4	-
Opposed to process	5	5	4	5	12
Don't understand law/Don't know enough about it/Confusing	5	2	4	3	5
Bad for doctors/health care professionals	3	1	1	2	2
Will not solve problem/Won't work	3	4	4	3	--
Don't want National Health Care/Doesn't work in other countries	1	1	1	--	--
Unfair to people who cannot afford/get health insurance	1	4	3	2	--
Doesn't go far enough to fix the problems	1	2	2	2	5
Illegal immigrants will/will not be covered	1	1	*	1	1
Concerned about impact on own situation/already have good insurance	1	2	3	2	5
Abortion	1	1	--	--	*
Death counseling provisions/Death panels	--	--	--	--	--
Employers will drop/have dropped health insurance	--	*	*	--	--
Other reason for an unfavorable view	5	10	7	8	10
Other comment – not related to health reform bill	--	2	3	2	*
Don't know/Refused	7	8	11	9	7
	(n=499)	(n=545)	(n=561)	(n=579)	(n=555)

Percentages will add to more than 100 due to multiple responses.

3. Do you think you and your family will be (better off) or (worse off) under the health reform law, or don't you think it will make much difference? (ROTATE OPTIONS IN PARENTHESES)

	Better off	Worse off	Not much difference	(VOL.) Depends	Don't know/ Refused
03/13	21	29	40	--	10
02/13	24	32	36	--	9
10/12	26	32	33	--	9
09/12	31	26	33	--	9
08/12	26	30	37	--	7
07/12	25	32	37	--	6
05/12	23	31	37	--	9
04/12	26	32	34	--	8
03/12	26	33	34	--	7
02/12	27	25	41	--	7
01/12	26	33	35	--	6
12/11	26	31	39	--	5
11/11	23	31	41	--	5
10/11	18	31	44	--	6
09/11	27	32	34	--	7
08/11	24	33	37	--	6
07/11	27	29	39	--	5
06/11	24	34	35	--	7
05/11	28	28	38	--	6
04/11	27	28	37	--	8
03/11	26	30	39	--	5
02/11	28	31	38	--	3
01/11	20	32	44	--	4
12/10	32	33	28	--	7
11/10	25	31	34	--	9
10/10	31	29	32	--	7
09/10	32	28	33	--	7
08/10	29	30	36	--	5
07/10	32	29	33	--	6
06/10	28	28	39	--	5
05/10	29	30	32	--	9
04/10	31	32	30	--	8
03/10 ³	35	32	28	2	3
02/10	34	32	26	3	5
01/10	32	33	29	3	4
12/09	35	27	32	3	3
11/09	42	24	27	3	4
10/09	41	27	28	2	3
09/09	42	23	28	4	3
08/09	36	31	27	2	4
07/09	39	21	32	4	3
06/09	39	16	36	3	5
04/09	43	14	36	4	4
02/09	38	11	43	4	3

³ February 2009 through March 2010 trend wording was "Do you think (INSERT) would be (better off) or (worse off) if the president and Congress passed health care reform, or don't you think it would make much difference?"

4. Under the health reform law, do you think (INSERT AND RANDOMIZE) will get (better), (worse), or will it stay about the same? How about (NEXT ITEM)? READ AS NECESSARY: Do you think this will get (better), (worse), or will it stay about the same? (ROTATE OPTIONS IN PARENTHESES ACROSS INTERVIEWS, BUT NOT WITHIN SAME INTERVIEW)

Items a-c based on half sample A (n=611)

Items d-g based on half sample B (n=593)

		Better	Worse	Will stay about the same	Depends (VOL.)	Don't know/ Refused
a.	The quality of your own health care					
	03/13	15	34	48	--	3
	07/11	19	31	45	--	5
	03/11	20	32	45	--	3
	04/10	23	27	43	--	6
	03/10 ⁴	28	29	36	2	5
	09/09	31	21	42	2	4
	08/09	29	31	36	2	3
	07/09	30	25	40	3	3
	02/09	29	14	52	2	2
b.	The cost of health care for you and your family					
	03/13	15	49	33	--	3
	07/11	21	41	34	--	5
	03/11	23	42	31	--	4
	04/10	25	37	32	--	6
	03/10	31	32	29	2	6
	09/09	37	27	30	2	5
	08/09	34	30	30	2	4
	07/09	35	25	32	4	5
	02/09	39	16	39	2	5
c.	Your ability to get and keep health insurance					
	03/13	20	28	46	--	6
	07/11	29	31	37	--	3
	03/11	26	25	46	--	3
	04/10	34	19	40	--	7
	03/10	35	22	36	2	5
d.	The quality of health care in the nation					
	03/13	24	45	26	--	5
	07/11	26	41	28	--	5
e.	The cost of health care for the nation as a whole					
	03/13	21	55	18	--	5
	07/11	28	49	18	--	5
f.	Consumer protections for the average person with private health insurance					
	03/13	16	39	36	--	10
	07/11	20	37	37	--	5
g.	Access to health care for the uninsured					
	03/13	40	28	24	--	7
	07/11	49	24	23	--	4

⁴ February 2009 through March 2010 trend wording was "If the president and Congress do pass health care reform, do you think that would make (INSERT AND RANDOMIZE) better, worse or would it stay about the same?"

5. Do you feel you have enough information about the health reform law to understand how it will impact you personally, or not?

	03/13	04/12	03/12	11/11	03/11	04/10
Yes, have enough information	41	51	39	44	47	43
No, do not have enough information	57	47	59	55	52	56
Don't know/Refused	2	1	2	1	1	2

6. As far as you know, how much of the health reform law has been put into place thus far: (READ LIST. ROTATE 1-4, 4-1)

	03/13	03/12	02/11
None	13	18	17
Some provisions	67	64	62
Most provisions	7	4	7
All of its provisions	2	2	3
Don't know/Refused	11	12	11

7. So far, would you say you and your family have personally benefited from the health reform law, or not?

	03/13	08/12	03/12	11/11	07/11	05/11	03/11	02/11	12/10
Yes, have benefited	17	19	14	11	15	14	13	14	15
No, have not benefited	78	77	83	85	83	82	84	84	81
Don't know/Refused	4	4	3	4	2	4	3	3	4

7b. In what ways would you say you have benefited from the health reform law? (OPEN-END)

Based on those who say they have benefited from the health reform law

	03/13	08/12	03/12	11/11	07/11	05/11	03/11	02/11	12/10
Access to health care/expansion of health insurance/expansion of benefits (NET)	48	43	39	38	39	42	39	34	36
Access to health care/expansion of health insurance/expansion of benefits	41	35	39	38	39	42	39	34	36
Preventive services benefit/free check-ups/women's health/birth control	7	9	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Lower health care costs	17	11	15	12	16	16	24	20	19
Extension of dependent coverage	17	22	18	25	13	15	14	21	14
Health reform will help – general	5	3	6	3	5	5	3	5	7
My insurance is good/no changes	3	4	3	6	2	2	4	-	-
Insurance reforms (NET)	2	4	4	2	2	2	4	5	6
Other insurance reforms	1	3	4	2	2	2	4	5	6
Medical loss ratio/insurance must give me a rebate or credit	1	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Help dealing with pre-existing conditions	2	4	6	9	7	3	5	6	5
Help for seniors/Medicare/Closing the doughnut hole	1	2	5	6	4	4	6	7	-
Other	8	8	7	6	6	9	3	7	6
Don't know/Refused	6	10	19	8	13	16	11	15	17
	(n=195)	(n=227)	(n=171)	(n=141)	(n=157)	(n=151)	(n=144)	(n=155)	(n=157)

Percentages will add to more than 100 due to multiple responses.

8. So far, would you say you and your family have been negatively affected by the health reform law, or not?

	03/13	08/12	03/12	11/11	07/11	05/11	03/11	02/11	12/10
Yes, negatively affected	22	19	21	18	18	18	20	17	20
No, not negatively affected	74	77	76	78	78	78	77	82	76
Don't know/Refused	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	2	4

8b. In what ways would you say you have been negatively affected by the health reform law? (OPEN-END)

Based on those who say they have been negatively affected by health reform law

	03/13	08/12	03/12	11/11	07/11	05/11	03/11	02/11	12/10
Cost (NET)	54	53	53	60	52	55	58	48	45
The cost of my own health care has increased/ can't afford cost of insurance/higher costs	47	40	46	50	39	40	46	32	29
Cost concerns – taxes	6	6	5	3	1	9	1	7	7
Cost concerns – general	3	12	4	8	12	7	12	10	11
Cut to benefits/less options/choices (general)	18	18	17	15	18	19	14	16	15
Bad for providers/Providers have quit/Lost my doctor	5	5	6	4	2	4	3	1	1
Don't have/Unable to get/Dropped by insurance	5	4	6	10	11	7	5	11	8
Bad for businesses/jobs	5	8	5	5	3	2	5	2	7
Declining quality of care	4	4	3	2	5	4	3	2	3
Opposed to individual mandate	4	4	3	3	2	2	2	3	--
Employers will drop/change health insurance	3	1	--	1	1	--	--	--	--
Harm to Medicare/seniors/Doctors won't accept Medicare patients	3	3	1	3	4	6	5	7	3
Don't want to pay for freeloaders/non-citizens	2	2	4	-	1	2	3	3	--
Haven't seen any changes yet	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	--	--
Too much government intrusion/Government getting too big	2	2	6	--	--	--	--	--	--
Angry at process/Congress/President	1	2	1	3	2	5	1	5	--
Taking away my religious freedom/Against my morals	1	--	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other	10	14	14	11	13	11	13	14	14
Don't know/Refused	4	9	12	6	10	7	4	10	18
	(n=269)	(n=229)	(n=250)	(n=226)	(n=236)	(n=219)	(n=240)	(n=205)	(n=255)

Percentages will add to more than 100 due to multiple responses.

9. 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. First, to the best of your knowledge, would you say the health reform law does or does not (INSERT AND RANDOMIZE)? Would you say the health reform law does or does not (INSERT NEXT ITEM)?

Items a-g based on half sample A (n=611)

Items h-o based on half sample B (n=593)

		Yes, law does this	No, law does not do this	Don't know/ Refused
a. Require nearly all Americans to have health insurance by 2014 or else pay a fine				
	03/13	74	17	9
	04/12	74	18	8
	03/12 omnibus	64	23	14
	11/11	62	27	11
	08/11	65	25	10
	12/10	64	24	11
	06/10 ⁵	67	26	7
	04/10	71	21	8
b. Establish a government panel to make decisions about end-of-life care for people on Medicare				
	03/13	40	39	21
	09/12	39	39	22
	03/12 omnibus ⁶	36	45	20
	06/11	31	48	20
	07/10	41	43	16
	09/10 Seniors ⁷	30	48	22
c. Give states the option of expanding their existing Medicaid program to cover more low-income, uninsured adults				
	03/13	59	25	17
	04/12 ⁸	60	26	14
	03/12 omnibus	54	30	16
	11/11	53	28	19
	08/11	49	32	19
	12/10	62	20	18
	06/10	66	22	12
	04/10	64	16	20
d. Prohibit insurance companies from denying coverage because of a person's medical history				
	03/13	53	36	11
	04/12	57	28	15
	03/12 omnibus	51	33	15
	11/11 ⁹	58	31	11
	09/11	61	30	9
	12/10	67	25	9
	06/10	70	25	5
	04/10	64	27	10
e. Allow undocumented immigrants to receive financial help from the government to buy health insurance				
	03/13	47	33	21
	02/13	42	35	23
	12/10	41	42	16

Q.9 continued on next page

⁵ April 2010 through June 2010 trend wording was "Require nearly all Americans to have health insurance or else pay a fine".

⁶ September 2010 through March 2012 trend wording was "Allow a government panel to make decisions about end-of-life care for people on Medicare".

⁷ September 2010 trend question was only asked of those ages 65 or older.

⁸ March 2012 through April 2012 trend wording was "Expand the existing Medicaid program to cover more low-income, uninsured adults". April 2010 through November 2011 wording was "Expand the existing Medicaid program to cover low-income, uninsured adults regardless of whether they have children".

⁹ April 2010 through November 2011 trend wording was "Prohibit insurance companies from denying coverage because of a person's medical history or health condition".

Q.9 continued

		Yes, law does this	No, law does not do this	Don't know/ Refused
f. Require insurance companies that spend too little money on health care services and too much on administrative costs and profits to give their customers a rebate				
	03/13	40	37	23
	08/12	42	34	24
	03/12 omnibus	35	34	30
	11/11	38	42	20
	04/10 ¹⁰	37	32	31
g. Increase the Medicare payroll tax on earnings for upper income Americans				
	03/13	54	27	19
	09/12	47	33	20
	03/12 omnibus	43	31	25
	06/11	43	37	19
	07/10	58	25	17
	09/10 Seniors	46	25	29
h. Require employers with 50 or more employees to pay a fine if they don't offer health insurance				
	03/13	71	17	11
	03/12 omnibus	53	24	23
	11/11 ¹¹	65	21	13
i. Cut benefits for people in the traditional Medicare program				
	03/13	44	43	14
	09/12	35	44	21
j. Provide financial help to low and moderate income Americans who don't get insurance through their jobs to help them purchase coverage				
	03/13	62	29	9
	08/12	57	29	13
	03/12 omnibus	56	28	17
	11/11	64	30	6
	08/11	58	32	10
	12/10	72	18	10
	06/10	72	21	7
	04/10	75	17	8
k. Provide tax credits to small businesses that offer coverage to their employees				
	03/13	52	26	22
	03/12 omnibus	49	27	24
	11/11	63	22	15
	12/10	65	22	13
	06/10	67	24	9
	04/10	66	17	17
l. Create a new government run insurance plan to be offered along with private plans				
	03/13	57	28	15
	03/12 omnibus	52	30	18
	11/11	56	31	13
	12/10	59	27	14

Q.9 continued on next page

¹⁰ April 2010 trend wording for this item was "Require insurance companies that are spending too little of their customer's money on health care services and too much on administrative costs and profits to give those customers a rebate".

¹¹ November 2011 trend wording was "Require employers with 50 or more employees to pay a fine if they don't offer health insurance to their workers".

Q.9 continued

		Yes, law does this	No, law does not do this	Don't know/ Refused
m. Allow children to stay on their parents' insurance plans until age 26	03/13	69	20	11
	04/12	67	18	14
	06/10	69	24	7
	04/10	70	21	9
n. Gradually close the Medicare prescription drug "doughnut hole" or "coverage gap" so people on Medicare will no longer be required to pay the full cost of their medications when they reach the gap	03/13	46	31	22
	09/12	48	30	22
	06/11	45	32	23
	07/10	49	30	21
	09/10 Seniors	43	27	30
o. Create health insurance exchanges or marketplaces where small businesses and people who don't get coverage through their employers can shop for insurance and compare prices and benefits	03/13	58	29	13
	08/12	56	28	16
	06/10	62	29	9
	04/10	62	21	17

10. As you may know, the health care law does require nearly all Americans to have health insurance by 2014 or else pay a fine. When that requirement goes into effect in 2014, do you think you will have to change your current health insurance arrangements, or not?

	03/13	04/12 ¹²
Yes, will have to change health insurance arrangements	28	28
No, will not have to change	66	63
Don't know/Refused	6	9

11. Do you think that change will leave you (better off) or (worse off)? (ROTATE OPTIONS IN PARENTHESES)

Based on those who think they will have to change health insurance arrangements

	03/13	04/12
Better off	26	20
Worse off	67	73
Won't make much difference either way (VOL.)	3	2
Don't know/Refused	4	5
	(n=291)	(n=316)

Summary Q10 and Q11 based on total

	03/13	04/12
Yes, will have to change health insurance arrangements	28	28
Better off	7	6
Worse off	19	20
Won't make much difference either way (VOL.)	1	1
Don't know/Refused	1	1
No, will not have to change	66	63
Don't know/Refused	6	9

¹² Trend wording was "When the requirement that nearly all Americans have health insurance goes into effect in 2014, do you think you will have to change your current health insurance arrangements, or not?"

12. In what ways will you have to change your health insurance coverage arrangements? (OPEN END)

Based on those who think they will have to change health insurance arrangements

	03/13	04/12
Will have to buy/get new coverage (NET)	46	45
Will have to buy/get health insurance	44	43
Will have to get additional coverage	2	1
Will have to pay more for current insurance (NET)	16	12
Premiums will go up/will have to pay more	15	10
Cost-sharing/co-pays/deductibles will go up	1	2
Will have to change insurance companies/plans/Fewer/more options	6	5
Quality of coverage (NET)	5	5
Quality of coverage/benefits will go down	2	1
Won't be able to see particular doctor/will have to find new doctor	1	2
Coverage will get better (general)	1	1
Coverage is going to change (unspecified)	1	2
Will have to pay a fine	4	9
Employers will drop/change/offer employees' insurance	3	1
Will lose coverage you have now/insurance company will drop you	3	2
Will enroll in Medicaid	3	10
Less money/out of pocket expense	2	--
Other	7	7
Don't know/Refused	16	15
	(n=291)	(n=316)

Percentages will add to more than 100 due to multiple responses.

Summary Q10 and Q12 based on total

	03/13	04/12
Yes, will have to change health insurance arrangements	28	28
Will have to buy/get new coverage (NET)	13	12
Will have to buy/get health insurance	12	12
Will have to get additional coverage	1	*
Will have to pay more for current insurance (NET)	5	3
Premiums will go up/will have to pay more	4	3
Cost-sharing/co-pays/deductibles will go up	*	1
Will have to change insurance companies/plans/Fewer/more options	2	1
Quality of coverage (NET)	1	1
Quality of coverage/benefits will go down	1	*
Won't be able to see particular doctor/will have to find new doctor	*	1
Coverage will get better (general)	*	*
Coverage is going to change (unspecified)	*	*
Will have to pay a fine	1	3
Employers will drop/change/offer employees' insurance	1	*
Will lose coverage you have now/insurance company will drop you	1	1
Will enroll in Medicaid	1	3
Less money/out of pocket expense	*	--
Other	2	2
Don't know/Refused	4	4
No, will not have to change	66	63
Don't know/Refused	6	9

Percentages will add to more than 100 due to multiple responses.

13. Next, I'm going to read you several elements of the health reform law. As I read each one, please tell me whether you feel very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable about it. First, (INSERT AND RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS). (READ FOR FIRST ITEM, THEN AS NECESSARY: Would you say you feel very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable or very unfavorable about that?) Next, (INSERT NEXT ITEM).

Items a-f based on half sample A (n=611)

Items g-k based on half sample B (n=593)

		Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know/Refused
a.	The law provides tax credits to small businesses that offer health insurance to their employees					
	03/13	53	35	5	5	2
	03/12	44	36	8	8	4
	11/11	45	35	9	7	4
b.	The law will require employers with 50 or more employees to pay a fine if they don't offer health insurance					
	03/13	34	23	14	26	3
	03/12	29	25	15	29	2
	11/11	35	28	13	22	2
c.	The law will provide financial help to low and moderate income Americans who don't get insurance through their jobs to help them purchase coverage					
	03/13	42	34	13	9	2
	08/12	46	27	8	14	5
	07/12	41	29	13	14	3
	03/12	43	28	10	15	4
	11/11	44	31	11	12	2
d.	The law gradually closes the Medicare prescription drug "doughnut hole" or coverage gap so seniors will no longer be required to pay the full cost of their medications when they reach the gap					
	03/13	52	29	7	7	4
	11/11	46	28	10	10	6
e.	The law allows children to stay on their parents' insurance plans until age 26					
	03/13	54	22	9	13	1
	04/12	46	25	12	14	2
	06/10	47	24	11	16	2
	04/10	47	27	12	12	1
f.	The law will create health insurance exchanges or marketplaces where small businesses and people who don't get coverage through their employers can shop for insurance and compare prices and benefits					
	03/13	44	36	9	8	3
	08/12	41	31	9	13	5
	07/12	39	32	12	13	4
	12/11	42	37	10	9	2
	06/10	54	33	4	7	2

Q.13 continued on next page

Q.13 continued

		Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know/Refused
g.	The law will require nearly all Americans to have health insurance by 2014 or else pay a fine					
	03/13	20	20	20	40	1
	07/12 ¹³	16	16	15	51	2
	04/12	15	16	17	51	1
	03/12	15	17	12	54	2
	11/11	16	19	20	43	2
h.	The law will give states the option of expanding their existing Medicaid program to cover more low-income, uninsured adults					
	03/13	36	35	13	14	3
	07/12 ¹⁴	41	26	14	16	4
	04/12	36	30	15	17	3
	03/12	36	34	12	15	3
	11/11	34	35	13	13	6
i.	The law will prohibit insurance companies from denying coverage because of a person's medical history					
	03/13	46	20	14	18	3
	04/12	42	18	13	23	3
	03/12	45	24	11	17	3
	11/11	47	20	12	19	3
j.	The law increases the Medicare payroll tax on earnings for upper income Americans					
	03/13	30	30	17	20	3
	03/12	26	27	17	24	6
	11/11	30	29	17	20	4
k.	The law requires insurance companies that spend too little money on health care services and too much on administrative costs and profits to give their customers a rebate					
	03/13	37	28	15	14	6
	08/12	37	25	14	18	6
	03/12	32	25	16	19	7
	11/11	34	26	15	19	6

¹³ July 2012 trend wording was "The law will require nearly all Americans who don't have health insurance as of 2014 to get it or else pay a fine".

¹⁴ March 2012 through July 2012 trend wording was "The law will expand the existing Medicaid program to cover more low-income, uninsured adults". November 2011 trend wording was "The law will expand the existing Medicaid program to cover low-income, uninsured adults regardless of whether they have children."

14. How much, if anything, have you heard about your state’s decision on whether to create a state-run health insurance exchange or marketplace where people who don't get coverage through their jobs can shop for insurance? Have you heard a lot, some, only a little, or nothing at all?

	03/13
A lot	7
Some	15
Only a little	29
Nothing at all	48
Don’t know/Refused	*

15. As you may know, the health care law expands Medicaid to provide health insurance to more low-income uninsured adults. The federal government will initially pay the entire cost of this expansion, and after several years, states will pay 10 percent and the federal government will pay 90 percent. The Supreme Court ruled that states may choose whether or not to participate in this expansion. What do you think your state should do? Do you think your state should (keep Medicaid as it is today) OR (expand Medicaid to cover more low-income uninsured people)? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)

	03/13	01/13	07/12 ¹⁵
Keep Medicaid as it is today	41	42	43
Expand Medicaid	52	52	49
Other/Neither (VOL.)	2	2	2
Don’t know/Refused	5	4	6

16. As far as you know, has your state’s governor announced that your state (will expand Medicaid), announced your state (will NOT expand Medicaid), not announced their decision, or have you not heard enough about this to say? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)

	03/13
Governor announced state will expand Medicaid	7
Governor announced state will not expand Medicaid	7
Governor has not announced their decision	6
Not heard enough to say	78
Don’t know/Refused	2

¹⁵ July 2012 trend wording was “As you may know, the health care law expands Medicaid to provide health insurance to more low-income uninsured adults, including adults with no children whose incomes are below about \$16,000 a year. The federal government will initially pay the entire cost of this expansion, and after several years, states will pay 10 percent and the federal government will pay 90 percent. The Supreme Court ruled that states may choose whether or not to participate in this expansion. What do you think your state should do? (Keep Medicaid as it is today, with no new funding from the federal government and no change in who will be covered by the program) or (expand Medicaid to cover more low-income uninsured people, with the federal government initially paying the entire cost of the expansion and your state eventually paying 10 percent)? (READ AND ROTATE OPTIONS IN PARENTHESES)”

17. Would you say the amount you and your family are paying for health care and health insurance has been going (up) over the past few years, going (down), or staying about the same? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES) [IF RESPONDENT SAYS THEY DON'T HAVE HEALTH INSURANCE, PROBE ONCE WITH: What about your health care costs in general? IF STILL UNABLE TO ANSWER RECORD AS DON'T KNOW]

	03/13
Up	62
Down	2
Staying about the same	32
Don't know/Refused	4

18. Over the past few years, would you say your health care costs have been going up (faster) than usual, going up (slower) than usual, or going up about the same amount? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)

Based on health care costs are going up (n=777)

	03/13
Faster	55
Slower	4
About the same amount	39
Don't know/Refused	2

Summary of Q17 and Q18 based on total

	03/13
Costs going up	62
Faster	34
Slower	2
About the same amount	24
Costs going down	2
Costs staying about the same	32
Don't know/Refused	4

19. Over the past few years, would you say the cost of health care for the nation as a whole has been going up (faster) than usual, going up (slower) than usual, or going up about the same amount? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES IN SAME ORDER AS Q18)

	03/13
Faster	58
Slower	4
About the same amount	31
Not going up/staying steady/going down (VOL.)	*
Don't know/Refused	7

DEMOGRAPHICS

Finally, I have just a few questions we will use to describe the people who took part in our survey...

D1. Record respondent's sex

Male	48
Female	52

D3. What best describes your employment situation today? (READ IN ORDER)

Employed full-time	48
Employed part-time	9
Unemployed and currently seeking employment	5
Unemployed and not seeking employment	1
A student	7
Retired	17
On disability and can't work	6
Or, a homemaker or stay at home parent?	7
Don't know/Refused	*

D4. Are you, yourself, now covered by any form of health insurance or health plan or do you not have health insurance at this time? (READ IF NECESSARY: A health plan would include any private insurance plan through your employer or a plan that you purchased yourself, as well as a government program like Medicare or [Medicaid/Medi-CAL])?

Covered by health insurance	82
Not covered by health insurance	17
Don't know/Refused	*

D4a. Which of the following is your MAIN source of health insurance coverage? Is it a plan through your or your spouse's employer, a plan you purchased yourself, are you covered by Medicare or (Medicaid/Medi-CAL), some other government program, or do you get your health insurance from somewhere else?

Based on those who are insured (n=1,041)

Plan through your/your spouse's employer	54
Plan you purchased yourself	8
Medicare	16
Medicaid/Medi-CAL	7
Some other government program	5
Somewhere else (SPECIFY)	2
Plan through your parents/mother/father (VOL.)	6
Don't know/Refused	1

Summary D4 and D4a based on total

Covered by health insurance	82
Employer or spouse's employer	45
Self-purchased plan	7
Medicare	14
Medicaid/Medi-CAL	6
Other government program	4
Somewhere else	2
Plan through parents/mother/father (VOL.)	5
Don't know/Refused	1
Not covered by health insurance	17
Don't know/Refused	*

D4b. In general, the term “pre-existing condition” is used by insurance companies to describe an illness or medical condition that a person had before they began looking for insurance. For example, if you were looking to buy health insurance but had a history of asthma, diabetes or high blood pressure, those would be considered pre-existing conditions, along with illnesses such as cancer. Given that definition, would you say that you or someone else in your household would be considered to have a “pre-existing condition” of some sort, or not??

Yes, someone in household has pre-existing condition	57
No, no one in household has pre-existing condition	41
Don't know/Refused	1

D5. What is your age? (RECORD EXACT AGE AS TWO-DIGIT CODE.)

D6. (ASK IF DON'T KNOW OR REFUSED AGE) Could you please tell me if you are between the ages of (READ LIST)...

18-29	22
30-49	34
50-64	27
65 and older	18
Don't know/Refused	*

D8. In politics today, do you consider yourself a [ROTATE: Republican, Democrat/Democrat, Republican], an Independent, or what?

Republican	22
Democrat	33
Independent	31
Or what/Other/None/No preference/Other party	9
Don't know/Refused	5

D8a. Do you LEAN more towards the [ROTATE: Republican Party or the Democratic Party/Democratic Party or the Republican Party]? (ROTATE OPTIONS IN SAME ORDER AS D8)

Summary D8 and D8a based on total

Republican/Lean Republican	35
Democrat/Lean Democratic	48
Other/Don't lean/Don't know	18

Five-Point Party ID

Democrat	33
Independent Lean Democratic	14
Independent/Don't lean	17
Independent Lean Republican	12
Republican	22
Undesignated	1

D11. What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received? (DO NOT READ)

Less than high school (Grades 1-8 or no formal schooling)	4
High school incomplete (Grades 9-11 or Grade 12 with NO diploma)	5
High school graduate (Grade 12 with diploma or GED certificate)	32
Some college, no degree (includes some community college)	21
Two year associate degree from a college/university	10
Four year college or university degree/Bachelor's degree	16
Some postgraduate or professional schooling, no postgraduate degree	1
Postgraduate or professional degree, including master's, doctorate, medical or law degree	11
Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	*

D12. Are you, yourself, of Hispanic or Latino background, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or some other Spanish background?

D13. What is your race? Are you white, black, Asian or some other race? (IF RESPONDENT SAYS HISPANIC ASK: Do you consider yourself a white Hispanic or a black Hispanic?)

White, non-Hispanic	65
Total non-White	33
Black or African-American, non-Hispanic	12
Hispanic	14
Asian, non-Hispanic	3
Other/Mixed race, non-Hispanic	4
Undesignated	2

D12a. Were you born in the United States, on the island of Puerto Rico, or in another country?

Based on Hispanics (n=126)

U.S.	41
Puerto Rico	5
Another country	51
Don't know/Refused	3

D14. Last year—that is, in 2012—what was your total family income from all sources, before taxes? Just stop me when I get to the right category. (READ)

Less than \$20,000	20
\$20,000 to less than \$30,000	10
\$30,000 to less than \$40,000	12
\$40,000 to less than \$50,000	8
\$50,000 to less than \$75,000	14
\$75,000 to less than \$90,000	7
\$90,000 to less than \$100,000	4
\$100,000 or more	14
Don't know/Refused	9

END OF INTERVIEW: That's all the questions I have. Thanks for your time.

Trend Information:

02/13: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (February 14-19, 2013)
01/13: Kaiser Family Foundation/Harvard School of Public Health *The Public's Health Care Agenda for the 113th Congress* (January 3-9, 2013)
11/12: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (November 7-10, 2012)
10/12: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (October 18-23, 2012)
09/12: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (September 13-19, 2012)
08/12: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (August 7-12, 2012)
07/12: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll: Early Reaction to Supreme Court Decision on the ACA* (July 17-23, 2012)
06/12: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (June 28-30, 2012)
05/12: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (May 8-14, 2012)
04/12: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (April 4-10, 2012)
03/12: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (February 29 – March 5, 2012)
03/12 omnibus: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll Omnibus Supplement* (March 1-4, 2012)
02/12: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (February 13-19, 2012)
01/12: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (January 12-17, 2012)
12/11: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (December 8-13, 2011)
11/11: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (November 10-15, 2011)
10/11: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (October 13-18, 2011)
09/11: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (September 7-12, 2011)
08/11: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (August 10-15, 2011)
07/11: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (July 13-18, 2011)
06/11: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (June 9-14, 2011)
05/11: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (May 12-17, 2011)
04/11: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (April 7-12, 2011)
03/11: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (March 8-13, 2011)
02/11: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (February 8-13, 2011)
01/11: Kaiser Family Foundation/Harvard School of Public Health *The Public's Health Care Agenda for the 112th Congress* (January 4-14, 2011)
12/10: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (December 1-6, 2010)
11/10: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (November 3-6, 2010)
10/10: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (October 5-10, 2010)
09/10: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (September 14-19, 2010)
08/10: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (August 16-22, 2010)
07/10: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (July 8-13, 2010)
06/10: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (June 17-22, 2010)
05/10: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (May 11-16, 2010)
04/10: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (April 9-14, 2010)
03/10: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (March 10-15, 2010)
02/10: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (February 11-15, 2010)
01/10: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (January 7-12, 2010)
12/09: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (December 7-13, 2009)
11/09: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (November 5-12, 2009)
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09/09: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (September 11-18, 2009)
08/09: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (August 4-11, 2009)
07/09: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (July 7-14, 2009)
06/09: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (June 1-8, 2009)
04/09: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (April 2-8, 2009)
02/09: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (February 3-12, 2009)



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