## **Ipsos Public Affairs**



Interview dates: July 9-13, 2009
Interviews: 1007 adults; 848 registered voters
480 Democrats/Lean Democrats; 359 Republicans/Lean Republicans
Margin of error: ± 3.09 for all adults; ± 3.37 for registered voters
± 4.47 for Democrats; ± 5.17 for Republicans

# Ipsos/McClatchy Poll PROJECT #81-4621-23

NOTE: all results shown are percentages unless otherwise labeled.

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted July 9-13, 2009. For the survey, a nationally representative, randomly selected sample of exactly 1007 adults aged 18 and older across the United States was interviewed by Ipsos. With a sample of this size, the results are considered accurate within 3.09 percentage points, 19 times out of 20, of what they would have been had the entire adult population in the U.S. been polled. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error, and measurement error. These data were weighted to ensure that the sample's composition reflects that of the actual U.S. population according to U.S. Census figures. Respondents had the option to be interviewed in English or Spanish.

#### **HEALTH CARE REFORM**

1. Should the primary goal of a national health care overhaul be more to extend health insurance to the millions of Americans who now lack it, or should the primary goal be to rein in the rising costs of health care? If you had to choose one goal over the other, which would you choose?

Extend health insurance to Americans who now lack it	46
Rein in the rising costs of health care	44
(There should not be a health care overhaul)	5
(Don't know/Not sure)	4

2a. Which of the following parties involved in health care reform do you trust the MOST to make sure that all Americans have access to quality healthcare?

President Barack Obama	26
Doctors and other health practitioners	20
Democrats in Congress	14
Republicans in Congress	10
Health insurance companies	9
Pharmaceutical companies	3
(None of them)	13
(Don't know/Not sure)	5

2b. Which of the remaining parties involved in health care reform do you trust the LEAST to make sure that all Americans have access to quality healthcare?

Republicans in Congress	20
Health insurance companies	19
Pharmaceutical companies	17
Democrats in Congress	16
President Barack Obama	14
Doctors and other health practitioners	6
(None of them)	5
(Don't know/Not sure)	4

One of the points being debated is whether or not the government should create a public health insurance plan as an alternative to private insurance plans.

3. Which of the following is closest to your opinion?

It is necessary to create a public health insurance plan to make	
sure that all Americans have access to quality healthcare	52
Access to quality healthcare for all Americans can be achieved	
without having to create a public health insurance plan	44
(There should not be a health care overhaul)	-
(Don't know/Not sure)	4

#### (ASKED OF 1/2 SAMPLE)

4. Compared with current private health insurance plans, do you think a public health insurance plan would provide...?

Higher quality care	21
Lower quality care	40
Would not make any difference	36
(Don't know/Not sure)	2

#### (ASKED OF OTHER 1/2 SAMPLE)

5. For you and your family, do you think a public health insurance plan would make the overall cost of health care...?

More affordable than it is today	38
Less affordable than it is today	27
Would not make any difference	31
(Don't know/Not sure)	4

### (SPLIT SAMPLE: ASKED ONLY 1/2 OF THE ITEMS FROM ANY ONE RESPONDENT)

6. Please tell me how much would you support or oppose the following measures in order to allow all Americans to have access to quality healthcare? Do you...?

(Noithor

	Strongly support	Somew hat support	Somew hat oppose	Strongly oppose	(Neither support nor oppose)	<u>(Not</u> sure)	<u>Total</u> support	<u>Total</u> oppose
Offering tax breaks or incentives to small businesses so they can provide health insurance to their employees and their families	71	20	2	6	1	0	91	8
Allowing the government to negotiate for discounts on drugs	49	22	9	16	2	2	71	25
Requiring that all employers offer health insurance to their employees and their families	49	21	10	18	1	1	70	28
Requiring that all Americans are enrolled in a health insurance plan – whether through their employer or through a public insurance plan	44	26	10	17	2	2	69	26
Limiting the amount of damage payments that patients can be awarded in malpractice law suits against healthcare providers	33	29	13	17	5	2	62	31
Increasing taxes on alcoholic beverages.	39	21	11	27	2	0	59	39
Levying taxes on soft drinks	22	21	16	35	5	2	42	51
Creating a national sales tax or value- added tax	10	22	18	43	3	4	32	61
Taxing individuals on their employer- provided health insurance contributions	12	20	13	51	3	1	32	64

7. Do you and all members of your household currently have health insurance
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Yes, all	77
No, only some	15
No, none	8
(Don't know/Not sure)	0

8. Do you personally or does anyone else in your household suffer from any chronic or serious medical condition?

Yes	37
No	63
(Don't know/Not sure)	1

#### (ASKED ONLY IF YES AT Q8)

9. Would you say that your current health insurance coverage is sufficient to receive the appropriate amount of care required for this/these conditions?

Yes	72
No	27
(Don't know/Not sure)	1

#### **PARTY AFFILIATION / IDEOLOGY**

1. Are you currently registered to vote at this address, or not?

Yes	84
No	16
(Not sure)	0

2a. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent or none of these?

(IF "DEMOCRAT" TO Q.2a, Q.2b ASKED. IF "REPUBLICAN" TO Q.2a, Q.2c ASKED. IF "INDEPENDENT" or "NONE OF THESE" TO Q.2a, Q.2d ASKED. RESULTS SHOWN IN SUMMARY BELOW.)

- 2b. Do you lean strongly or only moderately toward the Democratic Party?
- 2c. Do you lean strongly or only moderately toward the Republican Party?
- 2d. Do your beliefs tend to lean more toward the Democrats or the Republicans?

Strongly Democrat	21	
Moderately Democrat	14	
Lean Democrat	13	
Strongly Republican	11	
Moderately Republican	10	
Lean Republican	15	
Independent (No lean)	17	
Initial Democrats	35	-
Total Democrats	48	
Initial Popublicans	21	-
Initial Republicans		
Total Republicans	36	