

# **Health Care's Role in the 2016 Election and its Implications**

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# JERSEY BOYS



# Key Issues Covered

- Health Care and the Primaries
- Health Care in the 2016 General Election
- Policy Implications of the Election Outcome
- Important Political Forces for the Future of Health Policy

# **Health Care and the Primaries**

# How Has the ACA Impacted the Country?

**All**



**Democrats**



**Independents**



**Republicans**



■ Positive Impact   ■ Negative Impact   ■ Not Much Impact

# How Has the ACA Impacted You?

## All



## Democrats



## Independents

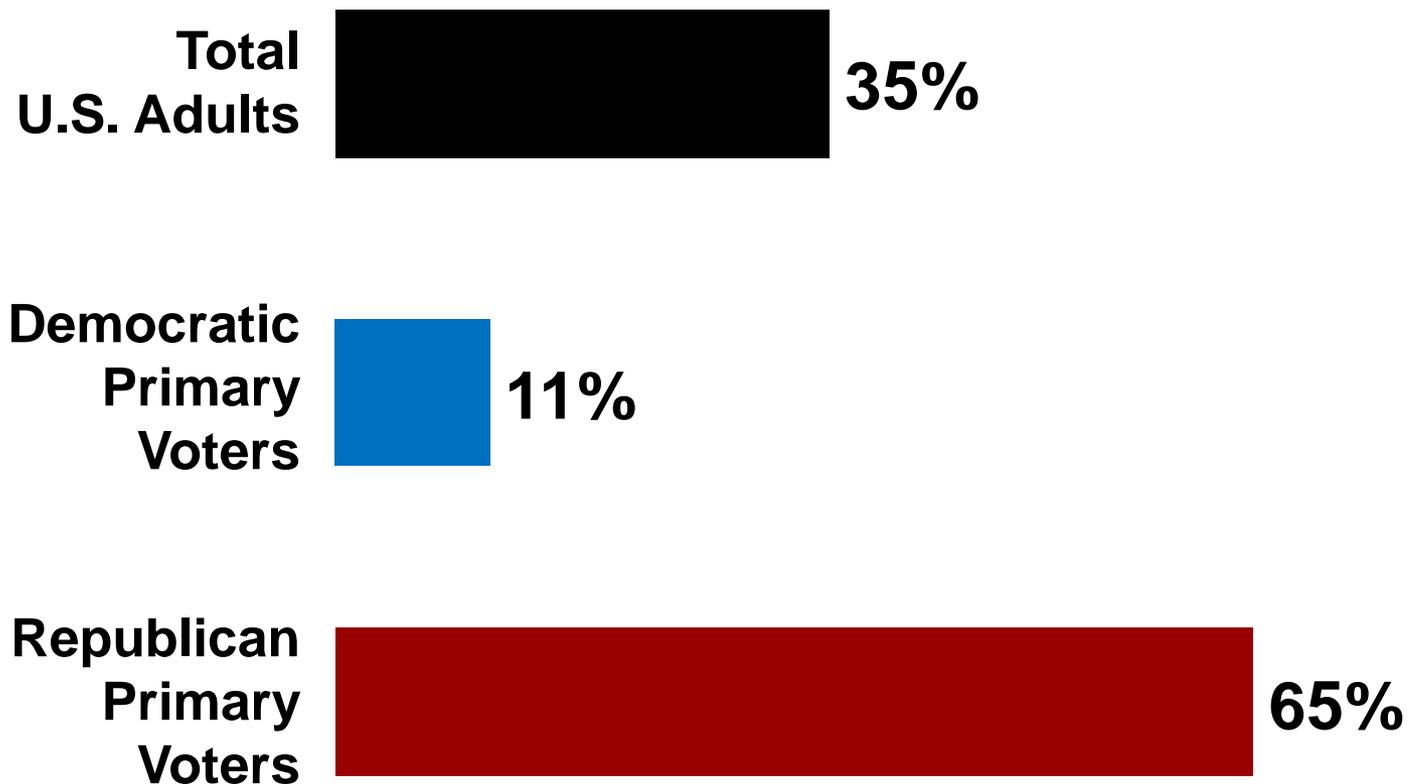


## Republicans



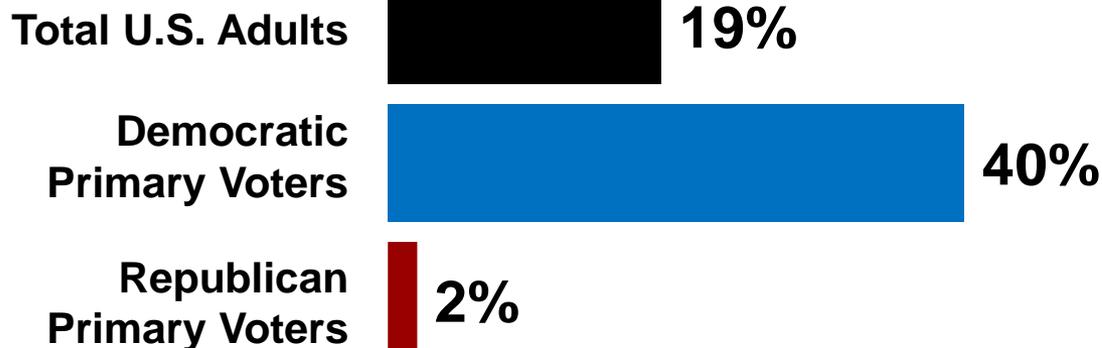
■ Directly Helped   ■ Directly Hurt   ■ No Direct Impact

# Support for Repealing the 2010 Health Care Law (ACA)

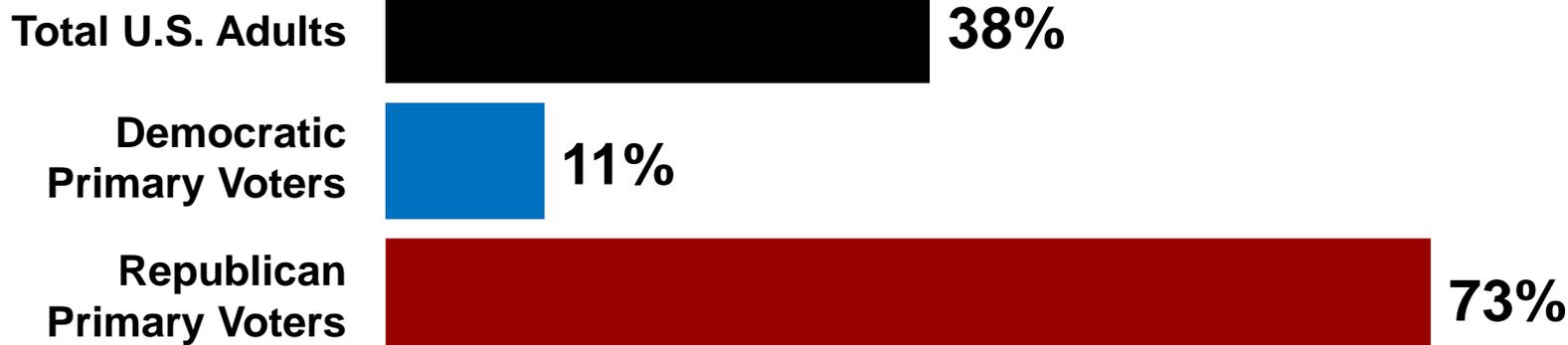


# Enthusiasm for the 2010 Health Care Law (ACA)

## *Strongly Approve*



## *Strongly Disapprove*



# **Health Care in the 2016 General Election**

# Top Eight Issues in Upcoming 2016 Election

*% saying “Extremely/very important”*

	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Democrats</u>
Terrorism and national security	92%	82%
Economy	92%	85%
Employment and jobs	80%	88%
<b>Healthcare and the ACA</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>83%</b>
Federal Budget Deficit	83%	62%
Foreign Affairs	77%	65%
Size/efficiency of federal gov't	77%	49%
Immigration	76%	62%

# Top Four Issues the Public Hopes the Next President Will Address

*[Open-ended]*

Republicans      Democrats

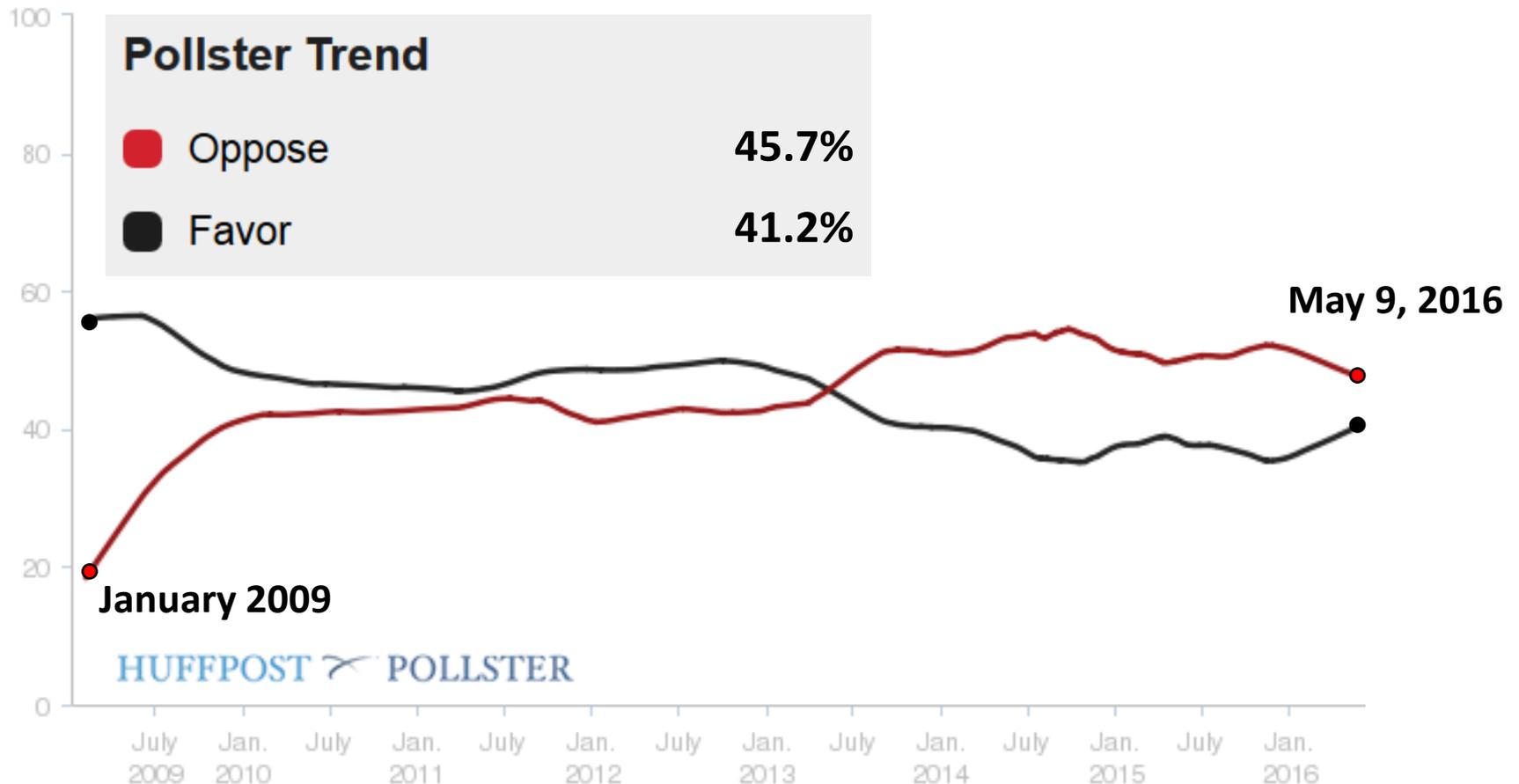
<b>Economy</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>13%</b>
<b>Immigration</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>11%</b>
<b>National Defense and Terrorism</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>Healthcare and the ACA</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>12%</b>

# Most Urgent Health Problem Facing the Country

<b>Cost</b>	<b>22%</b>
<b>Access</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Obesity</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>Cancer</b>	<b>14%</b>
<b>Finding cures for diseases</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>Diabetes</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>Drug/Alcohol abuse</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>Government interference</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>Heart disease</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>Flu</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>Mental illness</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>AIDS</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>7%</b>
<b>No opinion</b>	<b>12%</b>

# Public Opinion on Obamacare

*Despite record low levels of uninsurance, the country remains divided on the Affordable Care Act*

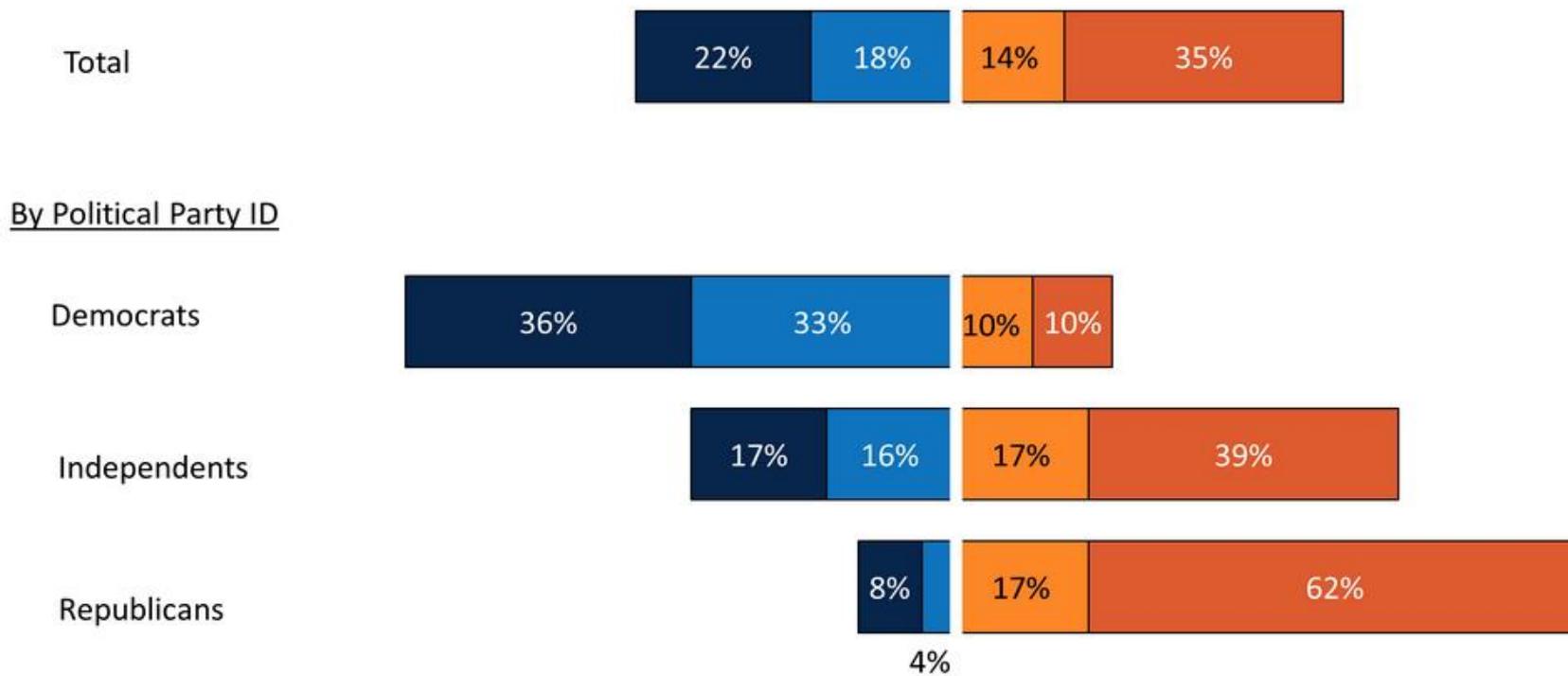


*Huffpost Pollster. Results averaged from multiple polling orgs between January 2009 to May 9, 2016.*

# Partisan Opinions of Next Steps for ACA

What would you like to see Congress do when it comes to the health care law?

- Expand what the law does
- Move forward with implementing the law as it is
- Scale back what the law does
- Repeal the entire law

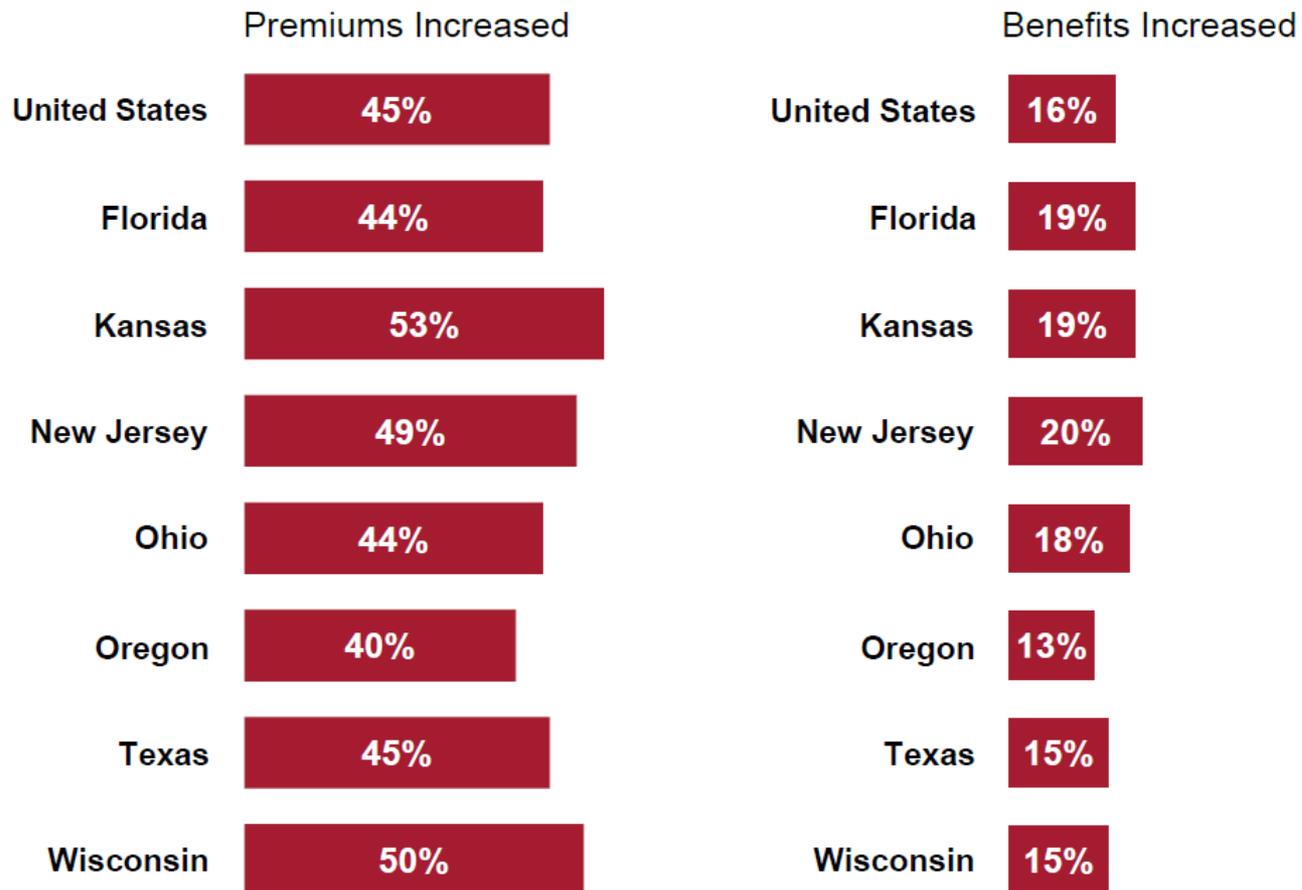


NOTE: None of these/something else (Vol.) and Don't know/Refused responses not shown.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Poll (conducted December 1-7, 2015)

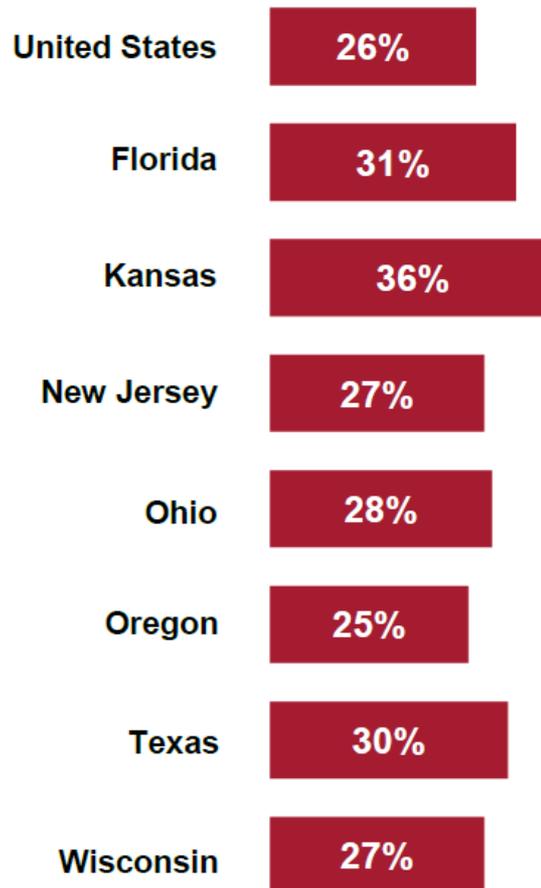
# Premiums Increasing Faster Than Benefits

FIGURE 13. Percent of adults in the United States, Florida, Kansas, New Jersey, Ohio, Oregon, Texas and Wisconsin who say their premiums and benefits have *increased* in the past two years (Q63a, 64).



# Health Care Costs a Serious Problem

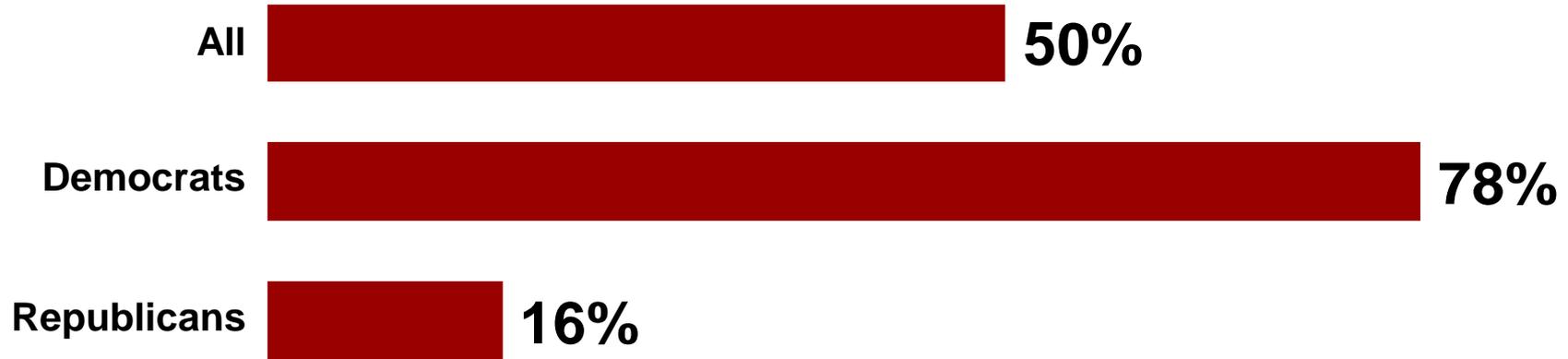
FIGURE 16. Percent of adults in the United States, Florida, Kansas, New Jersey, Ohio, Oregon, Texas and Wisconsin who say their health care costs over the past two years caused a very or somewhat serious problem for their personal or their family's overall financial situation (Q20).



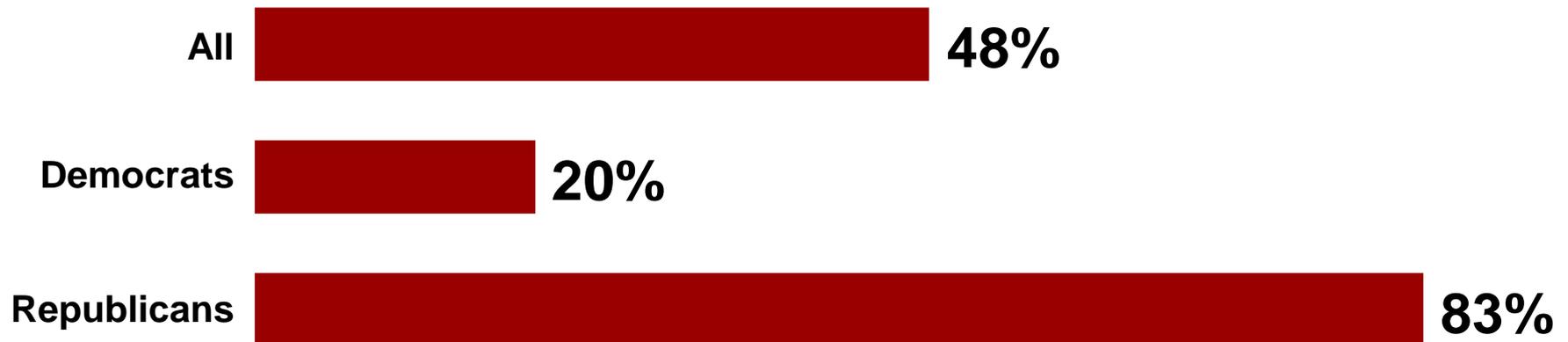
# **Policy Implications of the Election Outcome**

# Registered Voters' Views of Whether it is the Responsibility of the Federal Government to Make Sure All Americans Have Health Coverage

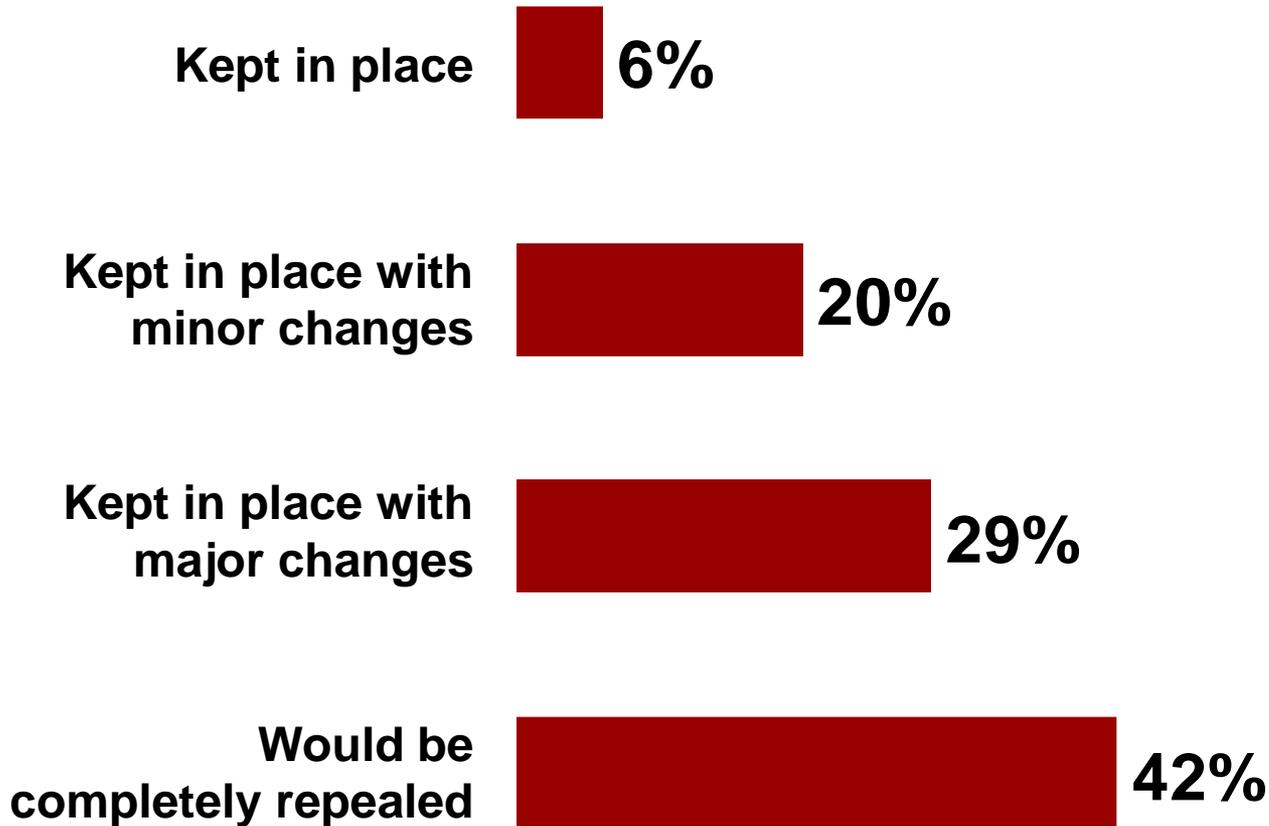
## *Yes it is*



## *No it is not*



# What Will Happen with the ACA if a Republican is Elected President in 2016



NOTE: Results based on survey of 1,033 U.S. adults conducted Feb. 11-15. Margin of error is  $\pm 3.4$  percentage points for the entire sample, higher for subgroups. Numbers are rounded.

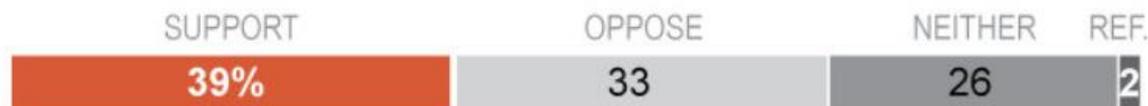
# Major Changes in ACA with Republican Win

- Major structural changes to ACA
- End of mandates
- Elimination or reduction of “Cadillac insurance tax”
- Establishing state pre-existing condition pools
- Less subsidies for uninsured and Medicaid
- More state discretion for spending
- Less insurance regulation

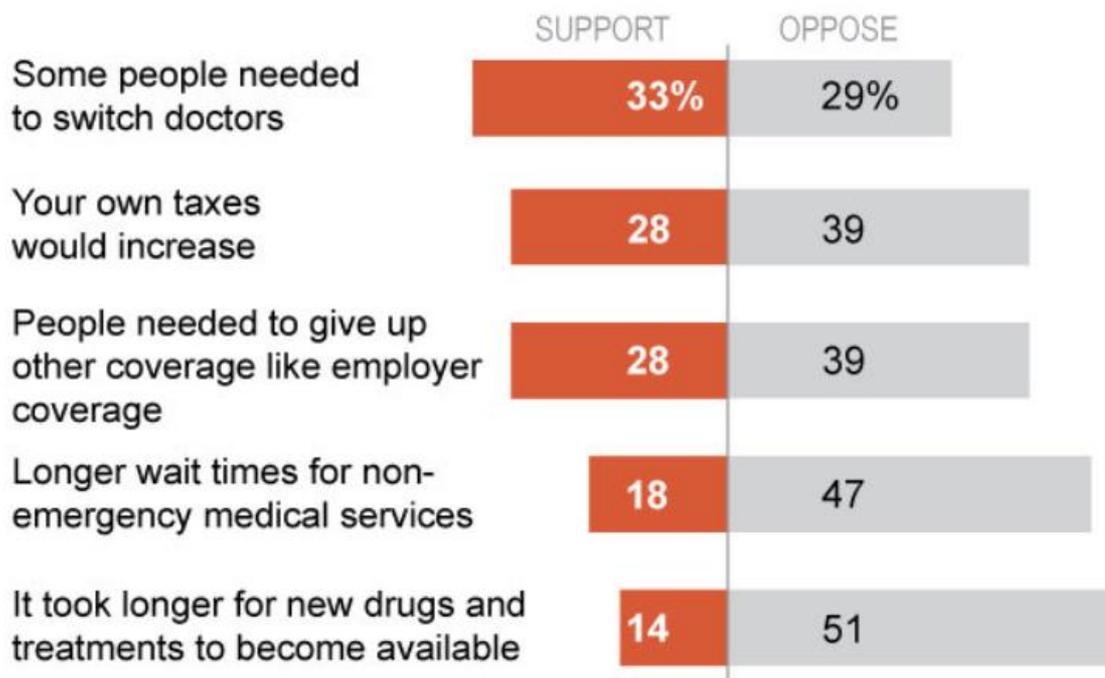
# Incremental Changes in ACA with Democrat Win

- More funds for subsidies for all
- Subsidies to reduce high-deductible plans
- Efforts to expand coverage to some uncovered groups
- More funds for prevention
- Some intervention in pharma pricing policies
- Reduction or elimination of “Cadillac insurance tax”
- Debates but no action on ‘Medicare for all’ / Single-Payer

# Public Support for Replacing the Current Private Health Insurance System with a Single-Payer, Medicare-Like Plan



But among supporters, fewer were inclined to support a plan if it meant:



NOTE: Results based on survey of 1,033 U.S. adults conducted Feb. 11-15. Margin of error is  $\pm 3.4$  percentage points for the entire sample, higher for subgroups. Numbers are rounded.

# Seriousness of Income Inequality in 13 Countries

**Table 3** Perceived Seriousness of Income Inequality as a National Problem in 13 Industrialized Countries and by Party Identification in the United States (in percent)

% Saying “A very big problem”

Greece	84
Spain	74
Italy	73
France	60
Israel	57
South Korea	55
Russia	50
UK	47
<b>US</b>	<b>46</b>
<b><i>Democrats</i></b>	<b><i>(59)</i></b>
<b><i>Republicans</i></b>	<b><i>(19)</i></b>
Poland	44
China	42
Germany	39
Japan	28

Source: Pew Research Center 2014d, 2014e.

Question: “Do you think the gap between the rich and the poor is a very big problem, a moderately big problem, a small problem, or not a problem at all in our country?”



# **Important Political Forces for the Future of Health Policy**

# Major Reasons for Rising Health Care Costs

*% saying each is a “major reason” for rising health care costs*

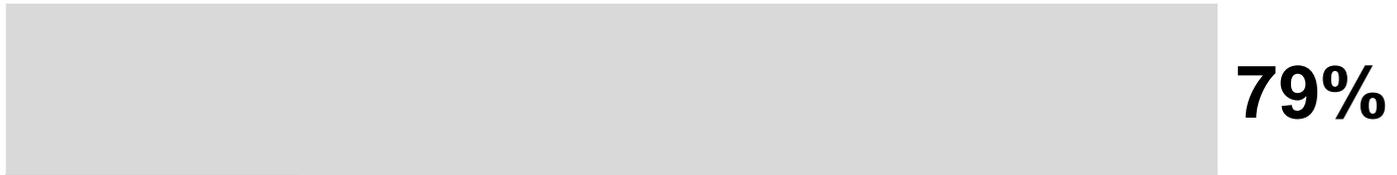
	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>Drug companies charging too much money</b>	<b>67%</b>
<b>Hospitals charging too much money</b>	<b>64%</b>
<b>Insurance companies charging too much money</b>	<b>57%</b>
<b>People not taking good care of their health, so many need more medical treatment</b>	<b>51%</b>
<b>The population as a whole is getting older and older people require more medical services</b>	<b>43%</b>
<b>People having to pay for free care for people who don't have health insurance</b>	<b>41%</b>
<b>Doctors charging too much money</b>	<b>40%</b>

# Views of Pharmaceutical Industry Over Time

*% saying drug companies do a 'good job' or 'bad job' serving their consumers*

**1997 <sup>1</sup>**

**Good Job**



**79%**

**Bad Job**

**19%**

**2015 <sup>2</sup>**

**Good Job**



**49%**

**Bad Job**

**41%**

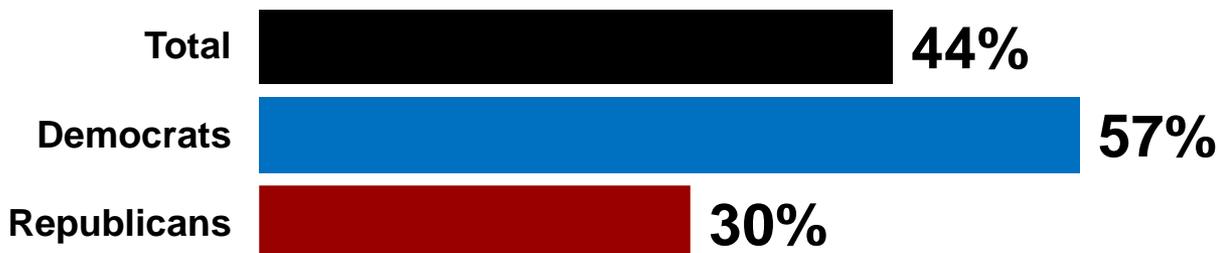
<sup>1</sup> Harris Poll, February 1997.

<sup>2</sup> Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health/STAT News Poll, November 4-8, 2015.

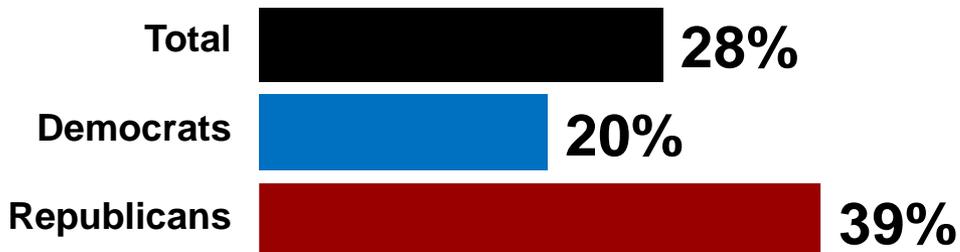
# Support for Government Action on High Drug Costs

*Which one of the following should the government do to address high drug prices in the future?*

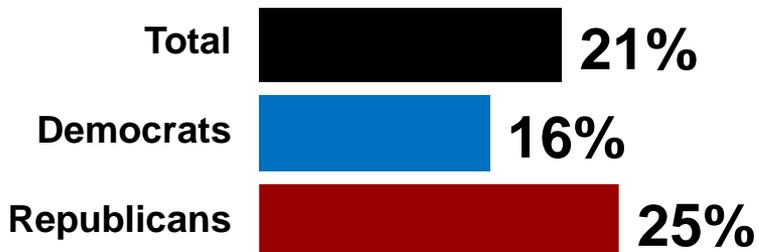
*Negotiate lower prices*



*Allow Americans to purchase lower cost drugs from other countries*

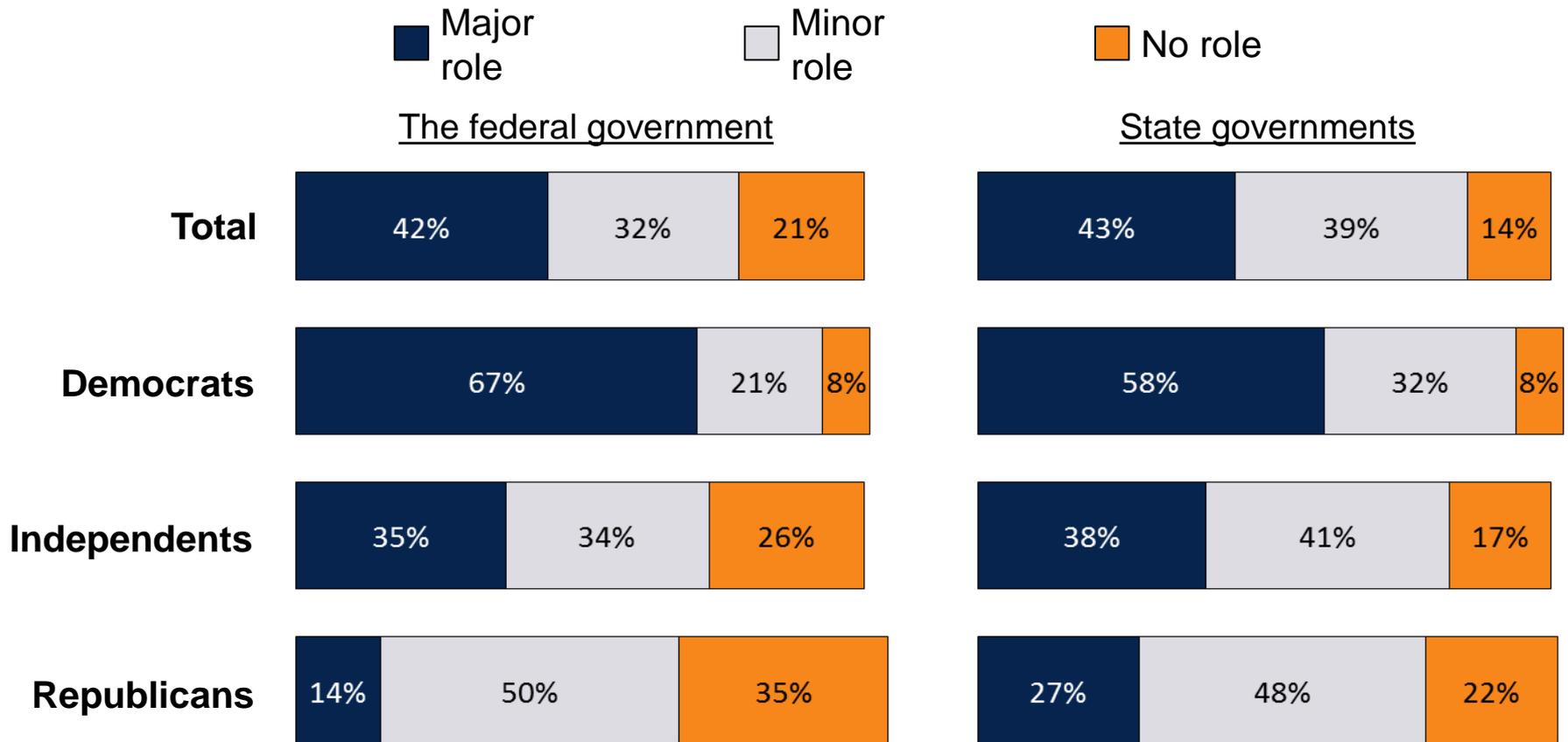


*Reduce regulations on drug development*



# Public's View on Role of Government in Health Care

*When it comes to making the health care system in America work well, do you think each of the following should play a major role, a minor role or no role?*



Note: Don't know/Refused answers not shown.

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard School of Public Health, *The Public's Health Care Agenda for the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress* (conducted January 3-9, 2013)

# Options For Making Medicare Financially Solvent in the Long-Term

- Taxes raised?
- Providers paid less?
- Beneficiaries / less benefits?
- Health care delivery system changes – efficiency / value?

# Questions?

