

**THE COMMONWEALTH FUND  
HARVARD T.H. CHAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

---

**The Impact of Covid-19 and Concerns About Racism on  
Americans' Values Today,  
By Party Identification  
January 2021**

This survey was conducted for The Commonwealth Fund and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, via telephone (landline and cell phone) by SSRS, an independent research company. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish, **November 5 – December 5, 2020**, among a nationally representative probability-based sample of 2,150 adults age 18 or older. The margin of error for the total respondents is +/-3.2 percentage points at the 95% confidence level.

Q3. Currently there is a lot of discussion about what type of health insurance system the U.S. should have in the future. There are four proposals that are currently being discussed. Please tell me for each of the following whether you would support or oppose it.

SHOW FOR FIRST ITEM: First, how about: (INSERT ITEM). Would you support or oppose this? SHOW FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS: Next, how about: (INSERT ITEM). Would you support or oppose this? (IF SUPPORT/OPOSE: Would you strongly (support/oppose) or somewhat (support/oppose)?) (SCRAMBLE ITEMS A-D)

- a. Changing our health care system so that all Americans would get health insurance from Medicare, which is now mainly for people age 65 or over and is paid for by taxpayers. This plan is often called Medicare for All.

	STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT SUPPORT			SOMEWHAT/STRONGLY OPPOSE			Don't know/Refused
	NET	Strongly support	Somewhat support	NET	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	40	20	<b>37</b>	9	28	3
<b>Democrats</b>	<b>85</b>	59	26	<b>13</b>	7	6	2
<b>Republicans</b>	<b>28</b>	18	10	<b>69</b>	10	59	3

- b. Keeping the existing Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, and passing additional legislation to improve how it works.

	STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT SUPPORT			SOMEWHAT/STRONGLY OPPOSE			Don't know/Refused
	NET	Strongly support	Somewhat support	NET	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	42	25	<b>30</b>	10	20	3
<b>Democrats</b>	<b>93</b>	70	23	<b>6</b>	3	3	1
<b>Republicans</b>	<b>30</b>	10	20	<b>65</b>	20	45	5

- c. Replacing the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, with a new law that would give taxpayer funding to **STATES** to design their own health insurance systems with fewer federal rules.

	STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT SUPPORT			SOMEWHAT/STRONGLY OPPOSE			Don't know/Refused
	NET	Strongly support	Somewhat support	NET	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	24	26	<b>44</b>	19	25	6
<b>Democrats</b>	<b>36</b>	16	20	<b>60</b>	26	34	4
<b>Republicans</b>	<b>64</b>	33	31	<b>32</b>	14	18	4

- d. Allowing people under the age of 65 the option to buy their health coverage through the Medicare program just like one might buy private insurance.

	STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT SUPPORT			SOMEWHAT/STRONGLY OPPOSE			Don't know/Refused
	NET	Strongly support	Somewhat support	NET	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	
<b>Total</b>	<b>73</b>	36	37	<b>22</b>	9	13	5
<b>Democrats</b>	<b>82</b>	44	38	<b>15</b>	8	7	3
<b>Republicans</b>	<b>62</b>	29	33	<b>32</b>	14	18	6

Q4. In the future, how involved do you think the federal government should be in health care? Should it be (more involved), (less involved), or about as involved as it is now? (ROTATE RESPONSES 1&2)

	More involved	Less involved	Involved as it is now	Don't know/ Refused
<b>Total</b>	46	30	21	3
<b>Democrats</b>	68	9	20	3
<b>Republicans</b>	17	58	23	2

Q5. Do you think it is the responsibility of the government to make sure all Americans have health insurance coverage, or is that not the responsibility of the government?

	Responsibility of government	Not responsibility of government	Don't know/ Refused
<b>Total</b>	58	38	4
<b>Democrats</b>	87	11	2
<b>Republicans</b>	23	74	3

Q6. Which of the following approaches for providing health insurance in the United States would you prefer--a health insurance system (run mostly by the government), or a system (based mostly on private health insurance)? (ROTATE ANSWERS OPTIONS 1 &2)

	Health insurance system run mostly by the government	Health insurance system based mostly on private health insurance	Don't know/ Refused
<b>Total</b>	46	47	7
<b>Democrats</b>	75	20	5
<b>Republicans</b>	16	79	5

(Asked of half-sample A; n=1,073)

Q12. Do you think the federal government should spend more, spend less, or spend about the same as it does now on preventing the spread of infectious diseases?

	Spend more	Spend less	Spend about the same as it does now	Don't know/ Refused
<b>Total</b>	67	8	22	3
<b>Democrats</b>	90	1	7	2
<b>Republicans</b>	44	9	40	7