

Morning Consult/PhRMA Tracking Poll – August 26-27, 2021

- Now, thinking about your vote, what would you say is the top set of issues on your mind when you cast your vote for federal offices such as U.S. Senate or Congress?
 - 32%, Economic issues – like taxes, wages, jobs, unemployment, and spending
 - 25%, Security issues – like terrorism, foreign policy, and border security
 - 14%, Health Care Issues – like the 2010 health care law, Medicaid, other challenges
 - 10%, Seniors Issues – like Medicare and Social Security
 - 4%, Women’s Issues – like birth control, abortion, and equal pay
 - 3%, Education Issues – like school standards, class sizes, school choice, and student loans
 - 6%, Energy Issues – like carbon emissions, cost of electricity/gasoline, or renewables
 - 6%, Other
- In your opinion, which of the following issues are most important for the U.S. Congress and the President to prioritize, if any at all? Please select up to three issues.
 - Affordable health care
 - 23%, Selected
 - 77%, Not selected
 - Prescription drug costs
 - 10%, Selected
 - 90%, Not selected
- When it comes to health care, from the following list of options, which is the more important priority for Congress to address right now? Please select one option.
 - 41%, End the COVID-19 pandemic and addressing COVID-19 variants, such as Delta
 - 26%, Lower the cost of insurance coverage, including premiums, copays and deductibles
 - 14%, Lower the price of prescription medicines
 - 14%, Expand access to health care coverage
 - 5%, None of the above
- And, if you had to choose, which of the following, of the options below, should be the top priority for government regulations to address?
 - 77%, Lower what you pay out-of-pocket for prescription medicines at the pharmacy
 - 23%, Lower what insurers, employers and the government pay for prescription medicines
- The following are potential outcomes of government regulations being considered by Congress to reduce the price of prescription medicines. How concerned are you, if at all, about each?
 - A significant reduction in revenues for pharmaceutical companies could mean less funding for research and developing treatments for conditions such as cancer and Alzheimer’s
 - 35%, Very concerning

- 36%, Somewhat concerning
 - 16%, Not too concerning
 - 6%, Not at all concerning
 - 7%, Don't know/no opinion
- Government could establish medicine prices based on a calculation of the value of a patient's life
 - 51%, Very concerning
 - 26%, Somewhat concerning
 - 8%, Not too concerning
 - 5%, Not at all concerning
 - 9%, Don't know/no opinion
- Government could give preference to some medicines over others and create a formulary or list of preferred medicines
 - 34%, Very concerning
 - 38%, Somewhat concerning
 - 15%, Not too concerning
 - 5%, Not at all concerning
 - 8%, Don't know/no opinion
- Savings could be used by the government to pay for social spending priorities not to health care or to balance the federal budget
 - 39%, Very concerning
 - 34%, Somewhat concerning
 - 13%, Not too concerning
 - 5%, Not at all concerning
 - 10%, Don't know/no opinion
- Medicare might not continue to cover some prescription medicines for seniors and people with disabilities
 - 56%, Very concerning
 - 28%, Somewhat concerning
 - 6%, Not too concerning
 - 4%, Not at all concerning
 - 5%, Don't know/no opinion
- It might be harder for doctors to prescribe some medicines for seniors and people with disabilities, even if they think it is the best course
 - 49%, Very concerning
 - 33%, Somewhat concerning
 - 8%, Not too concerning
 - 3%, Not at all concerning
 - 6%, Don't know/no opinion
- In your opinion, from the following options, what do you think is the most effective way to lower what you personally pay out-of-pocket for prescription medicines? Please select one option.
 - 16%, Limit or cap insurance copays for prescription medicines at a lower amount
 - 14%, Allow the government to negotiate drug prices with drug manufacturers

- 11%, Allow the government to set the price of medicines in Medicare, then make that price available to employers and commercial health plans
- 9%, Limit or cap insurance deductibles at a lower amount
- 18%, Allow patients and pharmacies to import medicines from other countries including Canada
- 21%, Ensure there is more negotiation between health insurance plans and drug companies and more competition in the market
- 11%, Don't know/none of the above
- Thinking about the future of the U.S. health care system, which type of approach do you prefer, even if neither is exactly right?
 - 55%, Government working with the pharmaceutical industry to end the COVID-19 pandemic and lower the cost of medicines for patients.
 - 33%, Government taking a hardline against the pharmaceutical industry with legislation to negotiate drug prices and tax companies significantly for non-compliance.
 - 12%, Neither
- Below are some potential outcomes of converting the Medicare prescription drug benefit to a system that is more like the Veterans Health Administration (VA). Do each of the following potential outcomes make you more likely or less likely to favor converting the Medicare prescription drug benefit to a system that is more like the VA, or does it not make a difference in your opinion either way?
 - It could mean that some medicines currently available under Medicare are no longer covered.
 - 7% of voters (1% of Age 65+), Much more likely to favor
 - 11% of voters (5% among Age 65+), Somewhat more likely to favor
 - 19% of voters (11% among Age 65+), No difference either way
 - 30% of voters (36% among Age 65+), Somewhat less likely to favor
 - 32% of voters (47% among Age 65+), Much less likely to favor

Public Opinion Strategies/PhRMA Tracking Poll – August 24-29, 2021

- From the following list, which health care issue is most important to you?
 - 33%, The cost of health insurance premiums
 - 39%, Out of pocket costs not covered by your health insurance, such as copays and deductibles
 - 24%, Protections for pre-existing conditions
 - 24%, The cost of prescription medicines
 - 20%, The cost of hospital services
 - 14%, Unexpected hospital bills
 - 13%, Addressing racial disparities in health care and outcomes
 - 11%, Lack of access to the newest and most effective prescription medicines and treatments
 - 10%, Limited options for health care coverage
 - 4%, Something else
 - 5%, Don't know/refused

- And which of the following do you believe is a larger problem in this country...
 - 64%, Health coverage getting more expensive and covering less
 - 25%, Prescription drugs getting more expensive and hard to afford
 - 8%, Both
 - 2%, Neither
 - 1%, Don't know/refused
- Thinking about your health plan, which would you prefer?
 - 53%, You pay a higher monthly premium for comprehensive coverage but have lower co-pays and deductibles when you pay for care and treatments you need
 - 35%, You pay a lower monthly premium for basic coverage but have higher co-pays and deductibles when you pay for care and treatments you need
 - 8%, Don't know
 - 4%, Refused
- Thinking again about biopharmaceutical companies...I am going to read you some statements you could hear about biopharmaceutical companies. For each one, please tell me whether you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the statement. The (first/next) one is...
 - It is important for the country to have a strong biopharmaceutical industry.
 - 57%, Strongly agree
 - 31%, Somewhat agree
 - 4%, Somewhat disagree
 - 6%, Strongly disagree
 - 2%, Don't know
 - The pharmaceutical industry and US government working together was key to being able to produce and distribute COVID-19 vaccines in record time.
 - 51%, Strongly agree
 - 27%, Somewhat agree
 - 7%, Somewhat disagree
 - 13%, Strongly disagree
 - 1%, Don't know
 - 1%, Refused
 - America's commitment to protecting innovation in the biopharmaceutical industry is key to being prepared for future pandemics.
 - 41%, Strongly agree
 - 36%, Somewhat agree
 - 12%, Somewhat disagree
 - 9%, Strongly disagree
 - 2%, Don't know
- Moving on and thinking now about prescription drug costs... I am going to read you four different proposals being considered by Congress to address prescription drug costs. For each one, please tell me whether you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose it or if you have no opinion about it one way or the other. The (first/next) one is a proposal that lowers prescription drug prices by...

- Requiring health insurers to pass the discounts they receive on medicines from drug companies back to patients. Make what drug companies, insurers, and hospitals charge patients more transparent. Support smaller manufacturers for continued development of medications for high-risk treatment areas like mental illness, cancer, and rare diseases.
 - 60%, Strongly favor
 - 29%, Somewhat favor
 - 3%, Somewhat oppose
 - 1%, Strongly oppose
 - 7%, No opinion