



TO: NHCOA and NMQF
FR: Morning Consult
DT: April 2022
RE: Results for 2022 Poll Among National Voters



Morning Consult ran a poll among 2,005 registered voters (including 443 Black and Hispanic voters), on behalf of the National Hispanic Council on Aging and the Minority Quality Forum, focusing on how voters view health care issues, including the importance of health equity in reducing barriers to care, the effects that the pandemic has had on health care, and the importance of continued research and innovation in health care. Voters – including those with chronic conditions, seniors, and voters of color - agree that the pandemic has made them realize the need to address health equity and the desire for continued research and development of new innovative treatments. Voters of color are opposed to government drug price negotiation after learning tradeoffs like it could delay people's access to newer prescription medicines.

REDUCING THE OVERALL COST OF HEALTH CARE AND OUT-OF-POCKET COSTS IS TOP OF MIND FOR VOTERS OF COLOR THIS NOVEMBER

- One-in-five (19%) voters of color say that addressing racial disparities in health care and outcomes is their most important or second most important health care issue when casting their vote in the upcoming midterms (9% among all national voters).
- When presented with a list of health care issues, nearly three-in-ten (28%) voters of color say that *out-of-pocket costs not covered by your insurance, such as copays, deductibles and out-of-network charges* is their most important or second most important health care issue when casting their vote in the upcoming midterms.
 - When asked to pick between what congress should focus on - *reducing the overall cost of health care coverage such as premiums, deductibles, and co-pays or reducing the costs of prescription drugs* – seven-in-ten (69%) voters of color say reducing the overall cost of health care coverage, 18% say reducing the costs of prescription drugs (63% among all national voters say reducing the overall cost of health care coverage and 24% say reducing the costs of prescription drugs).

VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES ARE FEELING THE EFFECTS OF THE PANDEMIC ON HEALTH CARE ACCESS AND ITS IMPACT ON HEALTH DISPARITIES

- Three-in-five (63%) voters of color agree that the pandemic has made them more worried about their family's access to health care (53% of all national voters agree).
 - Other vulnerable communities like immigrants (64%) and those with a chronic condition (62%) also agree that the pandemic has made them worried about their family's access to health care.
- Three-in-four (72%) voters of color agree that the pandemic made them realize that we need to address issues of systematic racism and health disparities (56% among all national voters agree), and 78% voters of color agree that the pandemic made them realize the need to address health equity (67% among all national voters agree).
 - 67% of immigrants agree that the pandemic made them realize that we need to address issues of systematic racism and health disparities, and 75% agree that the pandemic made them realize the need to address health equity.
- Continuing to think about health equity, four-in-five (83%) voters of color say it is urgent that we address health equity, including half (51%) who say it is very urgent (74% of all national voters say it is urgent).

VOTERS ARE OPPOSED TO GOVERNMENT DRUG PRICE NEGOTIATION WHEN LEARNING THAT IT COULD INTERFERE WITH ACCESS AND INNOVATION

- Four-in-five (78%) voters of color agree that the pandemic has made them realize that we must protect continued research and development and that there will be a greater need for continued research and development of new innovative treatments and medicines (79% of all national voters agree).
- Other vulnerable communities - like voters of color, those with chronic conditions, and seniors – are opposed to government drug pricing after learning it could delay people’s access to newer prescription medicines (61% seniors opposed, 58% those with a chronic condition opposed, 51% of voters of color opposed). Other tradeoffs presented:
 - **It could limit people’s access to newer prescription medicines** – 59% of seniors, 56% of those with a chronic condition, and 44% of voters of color are opposed to government negotiation.
 - **It could lead to less research and development for new medicines and treatments** - 58% of seniors, 52% of those with a chronic condition, and 38% of voters of color are opposed to government negotiation.
 - **It could leave us less prepared for the next COVID variant or pandemic outbreak** - 55% of seniors. 51% of those with a chronic condition and 40% of voters of color are opposed to government negotiation.

Percentage of Voters Who Oppose Government Negotiation of Some Drug Prices		
Arguments*	Total Oppose	
	Has a Chronic Condition	Seniors
It could limit people’s access to newer prescription medicines	56%	59%
It could lead to less research and development for new medicines and treatments	52%	58%
It could delay people’s access to newer prescription medicines	58%	61%
It could leave us less prepared for the next COVID variant or pandemic outbreak	51%	55%

This poll was conducted between April 6-April 8, 2022 among a sample of 2005 Registered Voters. The interviews were conducted online and the data were weighted to approximate a target sample of Registered Voters based on gender by age, educational attainment, race, marital status, home ownership, race by educational attainment, 2016 presidential vote, and region. Results from the full survey have a margin of error of plus or minus 2 percentage points.

*Not every argument tested is shown