

Topline

***Kaiser Health Tracking Poll – Late April 2017: The Future  
of the ACA and Health Care & the Budget***

April 2017

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## METHODOLOGY

This *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* was designed and analyzed by public opinion researchers at the Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF). The survey was conducted April 17-23, 2017, among a nationally representative random digit dial telephone sample of 1,171 adults ages 18 and older, living in the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii (note: persons without a telephone could not be included in the random selection process). Computer-assisted telephone interviews conducted by landline (421) and cell phone (750, including 448 who had no landline telephone) were carried out in English and Spanish by Princeton Data Source under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International (PSRAI). Both the random digit dial landline and cell phone samples were provided by Survey Sampling International, LLC. For the landline sample, respondents were selected by asking for the youngest adult male or female currently at home based on a random rotation. If no one of that gender was available, interviewers asked to speak with the youngest adult of the opposite gender. For the cell phone sample, interviews were conducted with the adult who answered the phone. KFF paid for all costs associated with the survey.

The combined landline and cell phone sample was weighted to balance the sample demographics to match estimates for the national population using data from the Census Bureau's 2015 American Community Survey (ACS) on sex, age, education, race, Hispanic origin, and region along with data from the 2010 Census on population density. The sample was also weighted to match current patterns of telephone use using data from the January-June 2016 National Health Interview Survey. The weight takes into account the fact that respondents with both a landline and cell phone have a higher probability of selection in the combined sample and also adjusts for the household size for the landline sample. All statistical tests of significance account for the effect of weighting.

The margin of sampling error including the design effect for the full sample is plus or minus 3 percentage points. Numbers of respondents and margins of sampling error for key subgroups are shown in the table below. For results based on other subgroups, the margin of sampling error may be higher. Sample sizes and margins of sampling error for other subgroups are available by request. Note that sampling error is only one of many potential sources of error in this or any other public opinion poll. Kaiser Family Foundation public opinion and survey research is a charter member of the [Transparency Initiative of the American Association for Public Opinion Research](#).

Group	N (unweighted)	M.O.S.E.
Total	1171	±3 percentage points
<b>Party Identification</b>		
Democrats	360	±6 percentage points
Republicans	296	±7 percentage points
Independents	396	±6 percentage points
<b>Trump Approval</b>		
Approve of President Trump	526	±5 percentage points
Disapprove of President Trump	595	±5 percentage points

All trends shown in this document come from Kaiser Health Tracking Polls except:

01/11: Kaiser Family Foundation/Harvard School of Public Health *The Public's Health Care Agenda for the 112th Congress* (January 4-14, 2011)

1. As you may know, a health reform bill was signed into law in 2010. Given what you know about the health reform law, do you have a generally (favorable) or generally (unfavorable) opinion of it? [GET ANSWER THEN ASK: Is that a very (favorable/unfavorable) or somewhat (favorable/unfavorable) opinion?] [INTERVIEWER NOTE: If respondent asks if the health reform law refers to the Affordable Care Act or Obamacare, please answer “yes”] [INTERVIEWER NOTE for April 2017: If respondent asks if the health reform law refers to the plan being discussed in Congress last week, please answer “no”] (ROTATE OPTIONS IN PARENTHESES)

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know/Refused
Late 04/17	24	24	15	26	12
Early 04/17	20	26	16	30	9
03/17	21	28	15	29	6
02/17	20	28	15	27	10
12/16	21	22	16	30	11
11/16	19	24	17	28	11
10/16	19	26	13	32	10
09/16	18	26	17	30	9
08/16	19	21	14	28	17
07/16	18	22	17	29	14
06/16	18	24	12	32	14
04/16	15	23	17	32	13
03/16	21	20	17	30	13
02/16	19	22	12	34	14
01/16	21	20	16	28	16
12/15	19	21	13	33	14
11/15	19	19	17	28	17
10/15	21	21	15	27	16
09/15	21	20	15	30	14
08/15	23	21	16	25	14
06/29/15	23	20	13	27	17
06/09/15	19	20	16	26	19
04/15	22	21	15	27	14
03/15	22	19	15	28	16
01/15	19	21	16	30	15
12/14	18	23	16	30	14
11/14	18	19	16	30	18
10/14	16	20	16	27	20
09/14	15	20	15	32	19
07/14	15	22	18	35	11
06/14	19	20	15	30	16
05/14	19	19	12	33	17
04/14	19	19	16	30	16
03/14	18	20	14	32	15
02/14	16	19	14	33	18
01/14	17	17	15	35	16
12/13	17	17	12	36	18
11/13	15	18	13	36	18
10/13	21	17	13	31	18
09/13	20	19	13	30	17
08/13	17	20	14	28	20
06/13	15	20	13	30	23
04/13	16	19	12	28	24
03/13	17	20	13	27	23
02/13	18	18	13	29	23
11/12	19	24	12	27	19
10/12	20	18	14	29	19
09/12	25	20	12	28	14

Q.1 continued

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know/Refused
08/12	21	17	13	30	19
07/12	20	18	13	31	17
06/12	25	16	11	30	18
05/12	17	20	12	32	19
04/12	20	22	9	34	15
03/12	18	23	11	29	19
02/12	17	25	16	27	15
01/12	18	19	14	30	19
12/11 <sup>1</sup>	19	22	15	28	17
11/11	17	20	15	29	19
10/11	12	22	20	31	15
09/11	18	23	14	29	16
08/11	16	23	17	27	17
07/11	20	22	12	31	15
06/11	15	27	16	30	12
05/11	19	23	15	29	14
04/11	20	21	14	27	18
03/11	21	21	15	31	13
02/11	16	27	19	29	8
01/11	19	22	16	34	9
12/10	22	20	14	27	18
11/10	19	23	12	28	18
10/10	18	24	15	29	15
09/10	19	30	15	25	11
08/10	19	24	13	32	12
07/10	21	29	10	25	14
06/10	20	28	16	25	10
05/10	14	27	12	32	14
04/10 <sup>2</sup>	23	23	10	30	14

<sup>1</sup> May 2010 through December 2011 trend wording was "As you may know, a health reform bill was signed into law early last year..."

<sup>2</sup> April 2010 trend wording was "[President Obama did sign a health reform bill into law last month...] Given what you know about the new health reform law, do you have a generally (favorable) or generally (unfavorable) opinion of it? (Is that a very favorable/unfavorable or somewhat favorable/unfavorable opinion?)"

2. I'm going to read you some different things President Trump and Congress might do when it comes to health care. First, (INSERT AND RANDOMIZE) should that be a top priority, or important but not a top priority, or not too important, or should it not be done? What about (INSERT NEXT ITEM)? READ IF NECESSARY: Should that be a top priority, or important but not a top priority, or not too important, or should it not be done?

		Top Priority	Important but not top priority	Not too important	Should not be done	Don't know	Refused
a. Dealing with the prescription painkiller addiction epidemic	Late 04/17	50	35	8	5	2	1
	12/16 <sup>3</sup>	45	38	9	5	2	1
b. Lowering the amount individuals pay for health care	Late 04/17	63	26	5	4	1	*
	12/16	67	26	3	2	1	1
c. Repealing the 2010 health care law	Late 04/17	32	18	10	33	5	2
	12/16	37	21	7	31	3	2
d. Lowering the cost of prescription drugs	Late 04/17	60	30	5	3	1	1
	12/16	61	28	6	3	1	1
e. Decreasing the role of the federal government in health care	Late 04/17	33	27	11	25	2	1
	12/16	35	30	9	20	4	2
f. Decreasing how much the federal government spends on health care over time	Late 04/17	30	32	11	24	2	1
	12/16	35	33	9	18	4	1

3. And if you had to pick one, which of these would you say should be the MOST important priority for President Trump and Congress when it comes to health care? (READ ITEMS CHOSEN IN Q2a-f IN SAME ORDER)

Q2/Q3 Summary based on total<sup>4</sup>

	Late 04/17
Lowering the amount individuals pay for health care	33
Lowering the cost of prescription drugs	19
Repealing the 2010 health care law	11
Dealing with the prescription painkiller addiction epidemic	10
Decreasing the role of the federal government in health care	9
Decreasing how much the federal government spends on health care over time	4
None/Something else (VOL.)	1
None are a top priority <sup>5</sup>	10
Don't know	1
Refused	1

<sup>3</sup> Intro for December 2016 trend was slightly different: "I'm going to read you some different things Donald Trump and the next Congress might do when it comes to health care".

<sup>4</sup> Table includes those who rated only one as a top priority in Q2.

<sup>5</sup> Includes those who did not rate any as a top priority in Q2.

NO QUESTION 4

5. Which of the following comes closer to your view of what President Trump and Republicans in Congress should do? Should they (READ AND ROTATE; KEEP "OPTION A" AND "OPTION B" FROM ROTATING) or (READ OTHER OPTION)

	Late 04/17	Early 04/17 <sup>6</sup>
OPTION A: Keep working on a plan to repeal and replace the 2010 health care law	51	45
OPTION B: Stop working on health care and move on to other priorities	43	49
Something else (VOL.)	4	4
Don't know	1	2
Refused	*	1

6. Moving forward, do you think President Trump and his administration should (do what they can to make the current health care law work) or should they (do what they can to make the current health care law fail so they can replace it later)? (ROTATE VERBIAGE IN PARENTHESES)

	Late 04/17	Early 04/17
Do what they can to make the law work	74	75
Do what they can to make the law fail so they can replace it later	19	19
Don't know	4	4
Refused	2	3

7. As you may know, the 2010 health care law, also known as Obamacare, remains the law of the land. Which comes closer to your view? (READ AND ROTATE; KEEP "OPTION A" AND "OPTION B" FROM ROTATING) or (READ OTHER OPTION)

	Late 04/17	Early 04/17
OPTION A: President Obama and Democrats in Congress passed the law and they are responsible for any problems with it moving forward	28	31
OPTION B: President Trump and Republicans in Congress are now in control of the government and they are responsible for any problems with it moving forward	64	61
Both are equally responsible (VOL.)	4	3
Neither of these/someone else is responsible (VOL.)	2	2
Don't know	1	2
Refused	1	*

<sup>6</sup> Trend wording was "Which of the following comes closer to your view of what President Trump and Republicans in Congress should do next?"

8. How much control, if any, do you think (INSERT AND RANDOMIZE) (have/has) over whether the current health care law works or fails? Do you think they have a lot of control, some, only a little, or none at all? Next, how about (INSERT ITEM)? READ IF NECESSARY: Do you think they have a lot of control, some, only a little, or none at all over whether the current health care law works or fails?

<i>Item a asked of total sample</i>	A lot/ Some (NET)	A lot	Some	Little/ None (NET)	Only a little	None at all	Don't know	Refused	<i>N</i>
<i>Items c, e based on half sample A<sup>7</sup></i>									
<i>Items b, d based on half sample B<sup>8</sup></i>									
a. President Trump and his administration	75	43	32	22	14	8	2	1	1,171
b. Democrats in Congress	56	21	35	42	30	12	2	*	677
c. Republicans in Congress	80	47	33	18	10	7	1	1	644
d. Your own representative in Congress	51	16	35	46	33	12	3	1	677
e. Your state's governor	48	14	34	46	29	17	5	1	644

9. Do you think uncertainty around the future of the 2010 health care law is hurting (INSERT AND RANDOMIZE), or not? How about (INSERT NEXT ITEM)? READ IF NECESSARY: Is uncertainty around the future of the 2010 health care law hurting (ITEM), or not?

	Yes, hurting	No, not hurting	There isn't uncertainty (Vol.)	Don't know	Refused
a. Insurance companies	43	49	*	7	*
b. Individuals who buy their own health insurance	70	24	*	5	1
c. You and your family	47	51	*	2	*

READ TO ALL: On another topic...

10. As you know, the federal government has many competing spending priorities. Thinking about health priorities in the federal budget, do you want to see the president and Congress increase spending on (INSERT AND RANDOMIZE), decrease spending, or keep it about the same? How about on (INSERT NEXT ITEM)? READ IF NECESSARY: Do you want to see the president and Congress increase spending, decrease spending, or keep it about the same?

<i>Items a, c, e, g, i based on half sample A</i>	Increase spending	Decrease spending	Keep it about the same	Don't know	Refused	<i>N</i>
<i>Items b, d, f, h based on half sample B</i>						
a. Medicare, the government health insurance program for seniors and for younger adults with long-term disabilities	57	6	35	2	1	569
b. Medicaid, the government health insurance and long term care program for certain low-income adults and children	40	12	47	2	*	602
c. Medical research to find cures for major illnesses	58	8	33	1	*	569
d. Public health programs to prevent the spread of disease and improve health	49	8	41	2	*	602
e. Medical care for veterans	77	2	19	1	*	569
f. The State Children's Health Insurance Program, which provides health care coverage for uninsured children	52	7	38	3	*	602
g. Financial help to low- and moderate-income Americans who don't get health insurance through their jobs to help them purchase coverage	49	14	34	2	*	569
h. Reproductive health services, such as family planning and birth control for lower-income women	36	21	41	2	*	602
i. Efforts to improve health for people in developing countries	19	33	46	1	*	569

<sup>7</sup> Items were asked of total sample on the first night of interviewing and half sample A for the remainder of interviewing.

<sup>8</sup> Items were asked of total sample on the first night of interviewing and half sample B for the remainder of interviewing.

QUESTIONS 10 – 16 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

16. To the best of your knowledge, would you say the 2010 health care law provides financial help to low-income people who buy their own health insurance to lower their deductibles and copayments, or is this not something the law does?

	Late 04/17
Yes, the 2010 health care law does this	49
No, the 2010 health care law does not do this	39
Don't know	10
Refused	1

17. (READ IF Q16=2: You may not have heard, but) Under the health care law, financial help is available to low-income people who buy their own health insurance to lower their deductibles and co-payments. The federal government pays insurance companies to help cover these costs. President Trump has said the federal government may stop making these payments, which experts say would likely cause insurers to raise premiums or stop offering coverage. How much have you heard about this? A lot, some, only a little, or none at all?

	Late 04/17
A lot/Some (NET)	44
A lot	19
Some	26
Only a little/None (NET)	55
Only a little	28
None at all	27
Don't know	*
Refused	*

18. President Trump has said that the federal government may stop making these payments, which experts say could lead to the collapse of the individual insurance market. Trump has suggested that the threat of collapse will encourage Democrats to start negotiating with him on an Obamacare replacement plan. Which of the following two statements comes closer to your own view of this strategy?

	Late 04/17
President Trump should use whatever negotiating tactics necessary to win support for a replacement plan OR	36
President Trump should not use negotiating tactics that could disrupt insurance markets and cause people to lose health coverage	60
Don't know	3
Refused	1



READ TO ALL: On another topic...

19. As you may know, the Medicaid program pays Planned Parenthood clinics for reproductive health and preventive care services provided to people on Medicaid, including birth control, STD testing and treatment, and cancer screenings. Federal Medicaid funds cannot be used to pay for abortions. Some lawmakers have proposed stopping all federal payments to Planned Parenthood, even for non-abortion services. Do you think that Medicaid should continue to pay Planned Parenthood for non-abortion services or should ALL federal payments to Planned Parenthood be stopped?

	Late	
	04/17	03/17
Continue paying Planned Parenthood for non-abortion services provided to people on Medicaid	73	75
Stop all federal payments to Planned Parenthood	24	22
Pay Planned Parenthood for abortion services too (VOL.)	*	*
Don't know	3	2
Refused	*	1

20. Do you think stopping federal payments to Planned Parenthood is so important that it would be worth shutting down the federal government in order to achieve it, or not?

*Based on those who think federal payments to Planned Parenthood should be stopped (n=282)*

	Late
	04/17
Yes	42
No	54
Don't know	5
Refused	*

Summary of Q19 and Q20 based on total

	Late	
	04/17	
Continue paying Planned Parenthood for non-abortion services provided to people on Medicaid	73	
Stop all federal payments to Planned Parenthood	24	
Important enough that federal government should be shut down to achieve it		10
Not important enough that federal government should be shut down to achieve it		13
Don't know/Refused		1
Pay Planned Parenthood for abortion services too (VOL.)	*	
Don't know	3	
Refused	*	

QUESTIONS 21 – 23 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

READ TO ALL: Now I have a few questions we will use to describe the people who took part in our survey...

RSEX. Are you male or female?

Male	49
Female	51
Other (VOL.)	--
Refused <sup>9</sup>	--

D5. What is your age? (RECORD EXACT AGE AS TWO-DIGIT CODE.)

D6. (ASK IF DON'T KNOW OR REFUSED AGE) Could you please tell me if you are between the ages of... (READ LIST)

18-29	20
30-49	32
50-64	28
65 and older	19
Don't know/Refused	*

D4. Are you, yourself, now covered by any form of health insurance or health plan or do you not have health insurance at this time? (READ IF NECESSARY: A health plan would include any private insurance plan through your employer or a plan that you purchased yourself, as well as a government program like Medicare or [Medicaid/Medi-CAL])?

Covered by health insurance	86
Not covered by health insurance	14
Don't know/Refused	*

D4a. Which of the following is your MAIN source of health insurance coverage? Is it a plan through your employer, a plan through your spouse's employer, a plan you purchased yourself either from an insurance company or a state or federal marketplace, are you covered by Medicare or (Medicaid/[INSERT STATE-SPECIFIC MEDICAID NAME]), or do you get your health insurance from somewhere else?

*Based on those who are insured (n=1,054)*

Plan through your employer	40
Plan through your spouse's employer	11
Plan you purchased yourself	10
Medicare	19
Medicaid/[STATE-SPECIFIC MEDICAID NAME]	9
Somewhere else	3
Plan through your parents/mother/father (VOL.)	7
Don't know/Refused	2

Summary D4 and D4a based on ages 18-64 (n=845)

Covered by health insurance	83
Employer	41
Spouse's employer	11
Self-purchased plan	8
Medicare	4
Medicaid/State-specific Medicaid name	9
Somewhere else	3
Plan through parents/mother/father (VOL.)	7
Don't know/Refused	1
Not covered by health insurance	17
Don't know/Refused	*

<sup>9</sup> Refusals were coded by observation.

24. Did you purchase your plan directly from an insurance company, from the marketplace known as healthcare.gov (or [INSERT STATE-SPECIFIC MARKETPLACE NAME]), or through an insurance agent or broker?

*Based on those ages 18-64 who purchased own insurance plan (sample size insufficient to report)*

Summary D4, D4a, Q24 based on those ages 18-64 (n=845)

	Late 04/17
Covered by health insurance	83
Employer	41
Spouse's employer	11
Self-purchased plan	8
Directly from an insurance company	1
From healthcare.gov or [STATE MARKETPLACE NAME]	3
Through an insurance agent or broker	2
Somewhere else (VOL.)	1
Don't know/Refused	1
Medicare	4
Medicaid/State-specific Medicaid name	9
Somewhere else	3
Plan through parents/mother/father (VOL.)	7
Don't know/Refused	1
Not covered by health insurance	17
Don't know/Refused	*

25. Regardless of how you purchased your plan, do you know if it is a marketplace or [healthcare.gov/INSERT STATE SPECIFIC MARKETPLACE NAME] plan, is it NOT a marketplace or [healthcare.gov/INSERT STATE SPECIFIC MARKETPLACE NAME] plan, or are you not sure? (ENTER ONE ONLY)

*Based on those who purchased own insurance plan except those who bought plan through marketplace (sample size insufficient to report)*

Summary D4, D4a, Q24 and Q25 based on those ages 18-64 (n=845)

	Late 04/17
Covered by health insurance	83
Employer	41
Spouse's employer	11
Self-purchased plan	8
Directly from insurance company/agent or broker/Other	6
Marketplace plan	1
Non-marketplace plan	1
Not sure/Refused	3
From healthcare.gov or [STATE MARKETPLACE NAME]	3
Medicare	4
Medicaid/State-specific Medicaid name	9
Somewhere else	3
Plan through parents/mother/father (VOL.)	7
Don't know/Refused	1
Not covered by health insurance	17
Don't know/Refused	*

D2. In general, would you say your health is excellent, very good, good, only fair, or poor?

Excellent/Very good/Good (NET)	81
Excellent	24
Very good	29
Good	28
Only fair/Poor (NET)	18
Only fair	14
Poor	4
Don't know/Refused	*

26. Have you ever visited a Planned Parenthood clinic for health care services, or not?

	Total	Women
Yes	24	37
No	75	62
Don't know	1	1
Refused	*	--

D2b. Are you currently married, living with a partner, widowed, divorced, separated, or have you never been married?

Married	47
Living with a partner	9
Widowed	7
Divorced	12
Separated	3
Never been married	23
Don't know/Refused	*

D3. What best describes your employment situation today? (READ IN ORDER)

Employed full-time	49
Employed part-time	11
Unemployed and currently seeking employment	3
Unemployed and not seeking employment	3
A student	4
Retired	18
On disability and can't work	6
Or, a homemaker or stay at home parent?	7
Don't know/Refused	*

D8. In politics today, do you consider yourself a [ROTATE: Republican, Democrat/Democrat, Republican], an Independent, or what?

Republican	25
Democrat	29
Independent	33
Or what/Other/None/No preference/Other party	9
Don't know	--
Refused	3

D8a. Do you LEAN more towards the [ROTATE: Republican Party or the Democratic Party/Democratic Party or the Republican Party]?  
(ROTATE OPTIONS IN SAME ORDER AS D8)

Summary D8 and D8a based on total

Republican/Lean Republican	40
Democrat/Lean Democratic	46
Other/Don't lean/Don't know	14
<u>Five-Point Party ID</u>	
Democrat	29
Independent Lean Democratic	16
Independent/Don't lean	13
Independent Lean Republican	15
Republican	25
Undesignated	1

D8b. Would you say your views in most political matters are liberal, moderate or conservative?

Liberal	27
Moderate	34
Conservative	34
Don't know/Refused	4

D9. Are you registered to vote at your present address, or not?

Yes	79
No	21
Don't know/Refused	*

TrumpApprove. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as President?  
(GET ANSWER, THEN ASK:) Do you strongly or somewhat approve/disapprove?

Approve (NET)	45
Strongly approve	25
Somewhat approve	20
Disapprove (NET)	50
Somewhat disapprove	11
Strongly disapprove	39
Don't know	3
Refused	2

D11. What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received? (DO NOT READ)

Less than high school (Grades 1-8 or no formal schooling)	3
High school incomplete (Grades 9-11 or Grade 12 with NO diploma)	7
High school graduate (Grade 12 with diploma or GED certificate)	29
Some college, no degree (includes some community college)	18
Two year associate degree from a college/university	13
Four year college or university degree/Bachelor's degree	16
Some postgraduate or professional schooling, no postgraduate degree	1
Postgraduate or professional degree, including master's, doctorate, medical or law degree	13
Don't know/Refused	*

D12. Are you, yourself, of Hispanic or Latino background, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or some other Spanish background?

D13. What is your race? Are you white, black, Asian or some other race? (IF RESPONDENT SAYS HISPANIC ASK: Do you consider yourself a white Hispanic or a black Hispanic?)

White, non-Hispanic	64
Total non-White	34
Black or African-American, non-Hispanic	11
Hispanic	15
Asian, non-Hispanic	4
Other/Mixed race, non-Hispanic	4
Undesignated	2

D12a. Were you born in the United States, on the island of Puerto Rico, or in another country?

*Based on Hispanics (n=126)*

U.S.	42
Puerto Rico	7
Another country	50
Don't know/Refused	1

D14. Last year—that is, in 2016—what was your total family income from all sources, before taxes? Just stop me when I get to the right category. (READ)

Less than \$20,000	18
\$20,000 to less than \$30,000	13
\$30,000 to less than \$40,000	9
\$40,000 to less than \$50,000	7
\$50,000 to less than \$75,000	14
\$75,000 to less than \$90,000	9
\$90,000 to less than \$100,000	4
\$100,000 or more	17
Don't know/Refused	8

END OF INTERVIEW: That's all the questions I have. Thanks for your time.



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