



Topline

Kaiser Health Tracking Poll: December 2014

December 2014

METHODOLOGY

This *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* was designed and analyzed by public opinion researchers at the Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF). The survey was conducted December 2-9, 2014, among a nationally representative random digit dial telephone sample of 1,505 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 (750) and cell phone (755, including 421 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 2012 American Community Survey (ACS) on sex, age, education, race, Hispanic origin, nativity (for Hispanics only), 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 July-December 2013 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 margin 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 margin of sampling errors 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	1,505	±3 percentage points
Party Identification		
Democrats	467	±5 percentage points
Republicans	378	±6 percentage points
Independents	464	±5 percentage points
Insurance Status		
Uninsured, ages 18-64	131	±9 percentage points
Insured, ages 18-64	963	±4 percentage points
Employer Mandate		
Favorable opinion	855	±4 percentage points
Unfavorable opinion	611	±5 percentage points
Half Samples		
Half Sample A	753	±4 percentage points
Half Sample B	752	±4 percentage points

Trend Information:

- 08/13 GH: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Global Health Survey* (August 6-20, 2013)
- 01/11: Kaiser Family Foundation/Harvard School of Public Health *The Public's Health Care Agenda for the 112th Congress* (January 4-14, 2011)
- 08/10 GH: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Global Health Survey* (August 3-16, 2010)
- 10/09: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Global Health Survey* (October 21-28, 2009)
- 03/09: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser HIV/AIDS survey* (January 26 – March 8, 2009)
- 05/04: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser HIV/AIDS survey* (March 15 – May 11, 2004)
- 06/02: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser HIV/AIDS survey* (June 13-23, 2002)

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”] (ROTATE OPTIONS IN PARENTHESES)

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know/Refused
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
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 ¹	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

¹ May 2010 through December 2011 trend wording was “As you may know, a health reform bill was signed into law early last year...”

Q.1 continued

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know/Refused
06/10	20	28	16	25	10
05/10	14	27	12	32	14
04/10 ²	23	23	10	30	14

2. What would you like to see Congress do when it comes to the health care law? (READ AND ROTATE 1-4; 4-1)

	12/14	11/14
Expand what the law does	24	22
Move forward with implementing the law as it is	21	20
Scale back what the law does	12	17
Repeal the entire law	31	29
None of these/ something else (VOL.)	4	5
Don't know/Refused	7	8

² 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?)”

3. Could you tell me, in your own words, what do you think is the main thing the health care law does? (OPEN-END, ACCEPT ONE RESPONSE)

	12/14
Expands Access (NET)	41
to health care	13
to health insurance	8
for people with lower-incomes/unable to afford it/the poor	7
expands access (general/other)	5
for the uninsured/those who didn't have it before	5
for people with pre-existing conditions	1
for young people/dependent coverage provision	1
for people unable to get coverage through work	*
Increases costs/Too expensive (NET)	8
Costs too much/ too expensive	3
Increased costs/ premiums	3
Increased costs for taxpayers	2
Increased costs for me personally	*
Requires people to buy insurance/Mandates coverages	7
Helps me/people (NET)	7
Helps people (general/other)	6
Helps me personally	1
Made insurance more affordable/lower health care costs (NET)	5
Made insurance more affordable/lower health care costs - general	3
Provides subsidies/ financial help	1
Hurt me/Hurts others/other groups (NET)	4
Hurts people (general/other)	2
Hurts employers/businesses	1
Hurts middle class	1
Hurt me personally	1
Hurts seniors	*
Redistributes money/Working so I can insure everyone/the poor/freeloaders	3
Changes health care system (NET)	2
Hurts system/Confusion	1
Improves system	1
Nationalizes health care	2
Gets government involved in health care/Government overreach	2
Limits options/providers	1
Helps insurance companies	1
Provides more options	*
Hurts Economy/Raises National Debt	*
Creates exchanges	*
Nothing/Not much help/Not as promised	3
Other	3
Don't know/Refused	11

4. Do you think (INSERT AND RANDOMIZE) (is/are) (better off) or (worse off) as a result of the health reform law, or has it not made much difference? How about (INSERT ITEM)? [READ IF NECESSARY: “(Is/Are) (INSERT ITEM) (better off) or (worse off) as a result of the health reform law, or has it not made much difference?”] (ROTATE OPTIONS IN PARENTHESES ACROSS INTERVIEWS, BUT NOT WITHIN SAME INTERVIEW)

		Better off	Worse off	Not much difference	Don't know/Refused
a. You and your family	12/14	17	25	56	3
	06/14	18	26	53	4
	01/14	12	24	62	2
b. The country as a whole	12/14	32	36	26	6
	06/14	33	40	21	6
	01/14	27	40	27	6
c. The uninsured	12/14	45	28	19	8
	06/14	43	29	17	11
	01/14	42	30	20	8
d. People who get health insurance through an employer	12/14	26	32	33	8
	06/14	26	31	35	8
e. People who buy health insurance on their own	12/14	32	37	21	10
	06/14	31	37	20	13
No item f					
<i>Item g based on half sample A (n=753)</i>					
g. Small employers	12/14	18	51	18	12
<i>Item h based on half sample B (n=752)</i>					
h. Large employers	12/14	22	32	31	15

5. In the past 6 months, have you been personally contacted by anyone about the health care law through a phone call, email, text message, or door to door visit, or not?

	12/14	11/14	10/14	03/14	02/14	09/13	08/13
Yes, been contacted about the health care law	12	15	14	12	13	9	10
No, have not been contacted about the health care law	87	85	86	88	87	91	90
Don't know/Refused	*	*	1	1	*	*	*

6. I'm going to read you a list of specific elements or parts of the law. For each, please tell me whether you think it is something the law does, or not. First, to the best of your knowledge, would you say the health reform law does or does not (INSERT AND RANDOMIZE)? Would you say the health reform law does or does not (INSERT NEXT ITEM)?³

		Yes, law does this	No, law does not do this	Don't know/ Refused
a. Require nearly all Americans to have health insurance or else pay a fine				
	12/14	77	17	6
	03/14	78	15	7
	01/14	81	15	4
	03/13 ⁴	74	17	9
	04/12	74	18	8
	03/12 omnibus	64	23	14
	11/11	62	27	11
	08/11	65	25	10
	12/10	64	24	11
	06/10	67	26	7
	04/10	71	21	8
b. Give states the option of expanding their existing Medicaid program to cover more low-income, uninsured adults				
	12/14	62	27	11
	03/14	60	25	15
	01/14	58	27	15
	03/13	59	25	17
	04/12 ⁵	60	26	14
	03/12 omnibus	54	30	16
	11/11	53	28	19
	08/11	49	32	19
	12/10	62	20	18
	06/10	66	22	12
	04/10	64	16	20
c. Provide financial help to low and moderate income Americans who don't get insurance through their jobs to help them purchase coverage				
	12/14	67	26	8
	03/14	63	28	9
	01/14	63	29	9
	03/13	62	29	9
	08/12	57	29	13
	03/12 omnibus	56	28	17
	11/11	64	30	6
	08/11	58	32	10
	12/10	72	18	10
	06/10	72	21	7
	04/10	75	17	8

³ March 2013 and previous trend question wording was "I'm going to read you a list of specific elements or parts of the law. For each, please tell me whether you think it is included in the health reform law, or not..."

⁴ December 2010 to March 2013 trend wording for this item was "Require nearly all Americans to have health insurance by 2014 or else pay a fine".

⁵ March 2012 to April 2012 trend wording for this item was "Expand the existing Medicaid program to cover more low-income, uninsured adults". April 2010 through November 2011 wording was "Expand the existing Medicaid program to cover low-income, uninsured adults regardless of whether they have children".

Q.6 continued

		Yes, law does this	No, law does not do this	Don't know/ Refused
d. Require employers with 100 or more employees to pay a fine if they don't offer health insurance starting in January 2015				
	12/14	69	16	15
	03/13 ^b	71	17	11
	03/12 omnibus	53	24	23
	11/11 ⁷	65	21	13
e. Create health insurance exchanges or marketplaces where small businesses and people who don't get coverage through their employers can shop for insurance and compare prices and benefits				
	12/14	67	25	8
	03/13	58	29	13
	08/12	56	28	16
	06/10	62	29	9
	04/10	62	21	17
f. Allow undocumented immigrants to receive financial help from the government to buy health insurance				
	12/14	43	38	19
	03/14	46	32	22
	03/13	47	33	21
	02/13	42	35	23
	12/10	41	42	16
g. Establish a government panel to make decisions about end-of-life care for people on Medicare				
	12/14	41	41	19
	03/14	34	44	23
	03/13	40	39	21
	09/12	39	39	22
	11/11 ⁸	35	53	12
	06/11	31	48	20
	12/10	40	45	15
	07/10	41	43	16

⁶ March 2012 and 2013 trend wording was "Require employers with 50 or more employees to pay a fine if they don't offer health insurance"

⁷ November 2011 trend wording was "Require employers with 50 or more employees to pay a fine if they don't offer health insurance to their workers".

⁸ September 2010 through November 2011 trend wording was "Allow a government panel to make decisions about end-of-life care for people on Medicare".

7. As far as you know, do people who get health insurance through the marketplaces created by the health care law (have a choice between private health plans) or do they (enroll in a single government health plan)? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)

	12/14	07/14 ⁹
Have a choice between private health plans	62	37
Enroll in a single government plan	24	26
Don't know/Refused	14	38

8. As you may know, last year there were problems with the federal government web site where people can shop and sign up for health insurance. Compared to last year, do you think there have been (more) problems this year, (fewer) problems, or about the same amount of problems with the website? (ROTATE CHOICES IN PARENTHESES)

	12/14
More problems	9
Fewer problems	48
About the same amount of problems	31
Don't know/Refused	12

9. The official estimate for the number of people who enrolled in health insurance during the health care law's first open enrollment period was recently updated. Do you know if the revised number of enrollees is (larger) or (smaller) than what was previously reported? (ROTATE CHOICES IN PARENTHESES)

	12/14
Larger	43
Smaller	28
Don't know/Refused	29

10. As you may know, the health care law requires nearly all Americans to have health insurance, or else pay a fine. Do you happen to know the deadline for individuals to sign-up for health insurance? (OPEN-ENDED, DO NOT READ CATEGORIES. ACCEPT ONLY ONE RESPONSE)

	12/14
End of the year, 2014	17
February 15 th 2015, middle of February, or "February"	4
Some other time in 2015	19
2016 or later	1
Deadline already passed	5
There is no deadline	1
Don't know/Refused	54

- 10a. Do you happen to know what the fine will be for people who do not get health insurance in 2015? (OPEN-END)

	12/14
\$95 or 1% of household income, whichever is greater	*
\$95-\$100	5
1% of household income	1
\$325 or 2% of household income, whichever is greater	*
\$325 (Anything \$300-\$350)	2
2% of household income	1
Some other dollar amount	14
Some other percent of income amount	1
Other	4
Don't know/Refused	72

⁹ July 2014 trend wording was "As far as you know, did people who got new health insurance under the health care law (have a choice between private health plans) or did they (enroll in a single government health plan)?"

11. Next, I'm going to read you several elements of the health reform law. As I read each one, please tell me whether you feel very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable about it. First, (INSERT AND RANDOMIZE). (READ FOR FIRST ITEM, THEN AS NECESSARY: Would you say you feel very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable or very unfavorable about that?)

		Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know/Refused
a. The law requires nearly all Americans to have health insurance or else pay a fine						
	12/14	15	20	19	45	2
	03/14	16	19	17	47	2
	03/13 ¹⁰	20	20	20	40	1
	04/12	15	16	17	51	1
	03/12	15	17	12	54	2
	11/11	16	19	20	43	2
b. The law gives states the option of expanding their existing Medicaid program to cover more low-income, uninsured adults						
	12/14	42	33	13	10	2
	03/14	40	34	13	10	3
	03/13	36	35	13	14	3
	07/12 ¹¹	41	26	14	16	4
	04/12	36	30	15	17	3
	03/12	36	34	12	15	3
	11/11	34	35	13	13	6
c. The law provides financial help to low and moderate income Americans who don't get insurance through their jobs to help them purchase coverage						
	12/14	41	35	12	11	2
	03/14	43	34	11	9	3
	03/13	42	34	13	9	2
	08/12	46	27	8	14	5
	07/12	41	29	13	14	3
	03/12	43	28	10	15	4
	11/11	44	31	11	12	2
d. The law requires employers with 100 or more employees to pay a fine if they don't offer health insurance starting in January 2015						
	12/14	35	25	16	22	2
	03/13 ¹²	34	23	14	26	3
	03/12	29	25	15	29	2
	11/11	35	28	13	22	2
e. The law creates health insurance exchanges or marketplaces where small businesses and people who don't get coverage through their employers can shop for insurance and compare prices and benefits						
	12/14	38	40	10	9	3
	03/13	44	36	9	8	3
	08/12	41	31	9	13	5
	07/12	39	32	12	13	4
	12/11	42	37	10	9	2
	06/10 ¹³	54	33	4	7	2

¹⁰ November 2011 to March 2013 wording for this item was "The law will require nearly all Americans to have health insurance by 2014 or else pay a fine".

¹¹ March to July 2012 trend wording for this item was "The law will expand the existing Medicaid program to cover more low-income, uninsured adults". November 2011 wording was "The law will expand the existing Medicaid program to cover low-income, uninsured adults regardless of whether they have children."

¹² Trend wording for this item was "The law will require employers with 50 or more employees to pay a fine if they don't offer health insurance."

¹³ June 2010 wording for this item was "Creating health insurance exchanges or marketplaces where small businesses and people who don't get coverage through their employers can shop for insurance and compare prices and benefits"

12. Earlier you said that you have an unfavorable opinion of the requirement that nearly all Americans have health insurance or else pay a fine. What if you heard that (INSERT AND ROTATE)? Would you (still have an unfavorable view of requiring nearly all Americans to have health insurance), or would you (now have a favorable view of that requirement)? (ROTATE CHOICES IN PARENTHESES)

Items a, b, and e based on half sample A who have an unfavorable view of individual mandate (n=483)

Items c and d based on half sample B who have an unfavorable view of individual mandate (n=443)

		Still unfavorable	Now favorable	Don't know/Refused
a. Most Americans still get coverage through their employers or a public insurance program and so automatically satisfy the requirement without having to buy any new insurance				
	12/14	50	45	5
	07/12 ¹⁴	55	38	7
	12/11 ¹⁵	51	42	6
b. The fine is about \$300 in 2015 or about 2 percent of household income, whichever is greater				
	12/14	83	13	4
c. People would not be held to this requirement if the cost of coverage would consume too large a share of their income				
	12/14	57	37	6
	07/12 ¹⁶	68	28	4
d. Without such a requirement, people may wait until they are seriously ill to buy health insurance, which will drive up health insurance costs for everyone				
	12/14	63	30	7
	12/11	71	19	10
e. Without such a requirement, insurance companies would still be allowed to deny coverage to people who are sick				
	12/14	64	27	9
	12/11	68	25	8

Summary of Q11a and Q12a based on half sample A

	12/14	07/12
Favorable towards requiring Americans to have health insurance or else pay a fine	62	58
Originally	33	34
Once heard argument (Most Americans still get coverage through their employers or a public insurance program and so automatically satisfy the requirement without having to buy any new insurance)	29	24
Still unfavorable towards requiring nearly all Americans to have health insurance	33	35
Don't know/Refused	5	6
	(n=753)	(n=1,227)

Summary of Q11a and Q12b based on half sample A

	12/14
Favorable towards requiring Americans to have health insurance or else pay a fine	41
Originally	33
Once heard argument (The fine is about \$300 in 2015 or about 2 percent of household income, whichever is greater)	8
Still unfavorable towards requiring nearly all Americans to have health insurance	54
Don't know/Refused	5
	(n=753)

¹⁴ July 2012 wording for this item was "Most Americans still get coverage through their employers or a public insurance program and so automatically satisfy the requirement without having to buy any new insurance"

¹⁵ December 2011 wording for this item was "Under the reform law, most Americans would still get coverage through their employers and so would automatically satisfy the requirement without having to buy any new insurance"

¹⁶ July 2012 wording for this item was "People would not be held to this requirement if the cost of new coverage would consume too large a share of their income"

Summary of Q11a and Q12c based on half sample B

	12/14	07/12
Favorable towards requiring Americans to have health insurance or else pay a fine	59	52
Originally	36	34
Once heard argument (People would not be held to this requirement if the cost of coverage would consume too large a share of their income)	23	18
Still unfavorable towards requiring nearly all Americans to have health insurance	35	43
Don't know/Refused	5 (n=752)	5 (n=1,227)

Summary of Q11a and Q12d based on half sample B

	12/14	12/11
Favorable towards requiring Americans to have health insurance or else pay a fine	54	47
Originally	36	35
Once heard argument (Without such a requirement, people may wait until they are seriously ill to buy health insurance, which will drive up health insurance costs for everyone)	19	12
Still unfavorable towards requiring nearly all Americans to have health insurance	40	45
Don't know/Refused	6 (n=752)	8 (n=381)

Summary of Q11a and Q12e based on half sample A

	12/14	12/11
Favorable towards requiring Americans to have health insurance or else pay a fine	51	49
Originally	33	33
Once heard argument (Without such a requirement, insurance companies would still be allowed to deny coverage to people who are sick)	18	16
Still unfavorable towards requiring nearly all Americans to have health insurance	41	44
Don't know/Refused	8 (n=753)	7 (n=400)

13. Earlier you said that you have a favorable opinion of the requirement that nearly all Americans have health insurance or else pay a fine. What if you heard that (INSERT AND ROTATE)? Would you (still have a favorable view of that requirement), or would you (now have an unfavorable view)? (ROTATE CHOICES IN PARENTHESES)

Based on those who have a favorable view of individual mandate (n=550)

		Still favorable	Now unfavorable	Don't know/Refused
a. Requiring all Americans to have health insurance could mean that some people would be required to buy health insurance that they find too expensive or did not want	12/14	52	44	4
	12/11	49	46	5
b. The fine is about \$300 in 2015 or about 2 percent of household income, whichever is greater	12/14	63	32	5

Summary of Q11a and Q13a based on total

	12/14	12/11
Still favorable towards requiring nearly all Americans to have health insurance	18	17
Unfavorable towards requiring nearly all Americans to have health insurance	79	80
Originally	64	65
Once heard argument (Requiring all Americans to have health insurance could mean that some people would be required to buy health insurance that they find too expensive or did not want)	15	15
Don't know/Refused	3	3

Summary of Q11a and Q13b based on total

	12/14
Still favorable towards requiring nearly all Americans to have health insurance	22
Unfavorable towards requiring nearly all Americans to have health insurance	75
Originally	64
Once heard argument (The fine is about \$300 in 2015 or about 2 percent of household income, whichever is greater)	11
Don't know/Refused	4

14. Earlier you said that you have an unfavorable opinion of the requirement that employers with 100 or more workers pay a fine if they don't offer health insurance. What if you heard that most employers with 100 or more workers already offer health insurance and won't have to pay the fine? Would you (still have an unfavorable view of that requirement), or would you (now have a favorable view)? (ROTATE CHOICES IN PARENTHESES)

Based on those who have an unfavorable view of employer mandate (n=611)

	12/14
Still unfavorable	54
Now favorable	41
Don't know/Refused	5

Summary of Q11d and Q14 based on total

	12/14
Favorable towards employer requirement	76
Originally	60
Once heard argument (that most employers with 100 or more workers already offer health insurance and won't have to pay the fine)	16
Still unfavorable towards employer requirement	21
Don't know/Refused	4

15. Earlier you said that you have a favorable opinion of the requirement that employers with 100 or more workers pay a fine if they don't offer health insurance. What if you heard that some employers are moving some workers from full time to part time to avoid paying the fine? Would you (still have a favorable view of that requirement), or would you (now have an unfavorable view)? (ROTATE CHOICES IN PARENTHESES)

Based on those who have a favorable view of employer mandate (n=855)

	12/14
Still favorable	46
Now unfavorable	51
Don't know/Refused	3

Summary of Q11d and Q15 based on total

	12/14
Still favorable towards employer requirement	27
Unfavorable towards employer requirement	68
Originally	38
Once heard argument (that some employers are moving some workers from full time to part time to avoid paying the fine)	30
Don't know/Refused	4

READ TO ALL: On another topic...

16. Over the past year, what news story would you say you followed most closely? Just the first thing that comes to mind. (OPEN-END. ACCEPT ONE RESPONSE)

	12/14	
Ferguson/Michael Brown/Police brutality (NET)	23	
Ferguson/Michael Brown		15
Police brutality		4
Resulting riots and demonstrations		2
Crime/shooting - general		1
Eric Garner		*
Trayvon Martin		*
Foreign Policy/Relations/ War (NET)	13	
ISIS		6
Afghanistan/Iraq/Iran/Syria		2
Middle East/Israel		2
Terrorism/War - general		2
Foreign Policy/Relations/Affairs		1
Putin/Russia/Crimea/Ukraine		1
Health care (NET)	9	
Obamacare/ACA/health care law/reform		5
Health care – general		2
Health insurance		1
Jonathan Gruber		*
Immigration (NET)	6	
Immigration		5
Obama’s announcement/plan regarding immigration		2
Congress/Politics/President Obama (NET)	4	
Obama/Executive orders		1
Politics		1
Government – general		1
Congress		1
Ebola (NET)	4	
Ebola		4
Ebola in America		*
Elections/Campaigns/Voting (NET)	3	
Mid-term elections		3
Other election/campaign/voting		*
Economy/Jobs (NET)	3	
Economy		1
Jobs/Wages/Benefits		1
Prices/Gas prices		1
Weather/Environment (NET)	3	
Weather		2
Environment		1
Scandals (NET)	2	
Benghazi		1
IRS		1
Scandal/Corruption - general		*
Sports/Sports figures	1	
Racism	1	
Local news/Named station/channel/show	1	
Celebrities	1	
National debt/budget	*	
Don’t follow the news	*	
None/Nothing lately	1	
All the news/Everything	*	
Other	6	
Don’t know/Refused	19	

NO QUESTION 17

18. Next, please tell me how closely you have followed these stories that have been in the news recently. (First/Next,) (INSERT--READ AND RANDOMIZE). READ FOR FIRST ITEM THEN AS NECESSARY: Did you follow this story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely?

		Very closely	Fairly closely	Not too closely	Not at all closely	Don't know/ Refused
a.	The Ebola outbreak in West Africa					
	12/14	31	44	17	8	1
	11/14	39	39	14	9	*
	10/14	24	39	22	14	1
	09/14	30	32	22	15	1
b.	News about the Ebola virus in the United States					
	12/14	36	40	16	8	1
	11/14	45	34	14	6	1
	10/14 ¹⁷	32	37	21	9	1
c.	The health care law's second open enrollment period					
	12/14	7	21	33	37	1
	11/14 ¹⁸	10	15	28	45	2
d.	Conflicts involving ISIS and other Islamic militant groups in Iraq and Syria					
	12/14	32	38	15	14	1
	11/14	34	37	17	12	1
	10/14 ¹⁹	32	36	18	14	1
e.	A change in the official estimate for the number of people that enrolled in health insurance during the health care law's first open enrollment period					
	12/14	10	24	31	35	*
f.	Comments made by MIT health economist, Jonathan Gruber, about the health care law					
	12/14	10	12	23	54	1
g.	A lawsuit filed by House Republicans against President Barack Obama over the implementation of the health care law					
	12/14	16	29	28	27	*
h.	President Obama's executive order on immigration					
	12/14	30	33	21	15	1
i.	Protests following a grand jury decision not to charge the white police officer who fatally shot an unarmed African-American teenager in Ferguson, Missouri					
	12/14	43	37	13	7	1
j.	Allegations of sexual assault against comedian and actor, Bill Cosby					
	12/14	11	23	30	34	1

¹⁷ October trend for this item was "The diagnosis of the first Ebola case in the United States"

¹⁸ November trend for this item was "Preparations for the health care law's second open enrollment period"

¹⁹ October trend for this item was "Airstrikes by the U.S. and others against Islamic militants in Iraq and Syria".

19. As you may know, House Republicans are suing the Obama Administration over how it has implemented the health care law. Do you think they are doing so (more because they are trying to gain political advantage) or (more because they believe the president overstepped his legal authority)? (ROTATE)

	12/14
Because they are trying to gain political advantage	50
Because they believe the president overstepped his legal authority	38
Both (Vol.)	4
Don't know/Refused	7

20. As you may know, some states operate their own health insurance marketplaces where people can shop for insurance and other states use the marketplace operated by the federal government. To the best of your knowledge, how many states are currently using the marketplace operated by the federal government? Almost all, more than half, less than half, or just a few?

	12/14
Almost all	9
More than half	28
Less than half	29
Just a few	17
Don't know/Refused	18

21. As you may have heard, the Supreme Court recently announced it will hear a case about whether low-and moderate-income people in states with federally-run marketplaces will remain eligible for financial help from the government to buy health insurance in states with state-run marketplaces. How much, if anything, have you heard about this case? A lot, some, only a little or nothing at all?

	12/14
A lot	4
Some	11
Only a little	29
Nothing at all	55
Don't know/Refused	*

- 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)...?

	12/14
18-29	23
30-49	31
50-64	27
65 and older	18
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])?

	12/14
Covered by health insurance	87
Not covered by health insurance	13
Don't know/Refused	1

- 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=1,363)

	12/14
Plan through your employer	37
Plan through your spouse's employer	13
Plan you purchased yourself	9
Medicare	20
Medicaid/[STATE-SPECIFIC MEDICAID NAME]	10
Somewhere else	4
Plan through your parents/mother/father (VOL.)	7
Don't know/Refused	1

22. 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)

23. Do you know if the plan you purchased through a broker was a plan from the state or federal health insurance marketplace known as healthcare.gov (or [INSERT STATE-SPECIFIC MARKETPLACE NAME]), or was it a plan purchased directly from an insurance company and not through an exchange or marketplace?

Based on purchased through an agent or broker (sample size insufficient to report)

Summary D4, D4a, Q22, and Q23 based on those ages 18-64 (n=1,099)

	12/14
Covered by health insurance	84
Employer	37
Spouse's employer	13
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
Plan purchased from a state or federal marketplace	1
Plan purchased directly from an insurance company	1
Don't know/Refused	*
Somewhere else (VOL.)	*
Don't know/Refused	*
Medicare	5
Medicaid/State-specific Medicaid name	9
Somewhere else	4
Plan through parents/mother/father (VOL.)	7
Don't know/Refused	1
Not covered by health insurance	15
Don't know/Refused	1

24. Do you plan to get health insurance in the next few months, or do you think you will remain uninsured? (INTERVIEWER NOTE: IF DON'T KNOW, PROBE ONCE: We realize there is still some uncertainty, but if you had to guess, do you think you will get health insurance in the next few months, or do you think you will remain uninsured?)

Based on those ages 18-64 who are uninsured

	12/14	11/14	10/14	02/14 ²⁰	01/14	11/13 ²¹	08/13
Will get health insurance	57	49	59	49	50	58	58
Will remain uninsured	35	41	38	44	40	34	32
Don't know/Refused	8	10	3	7	10	8	10
	(n=131)	(n=154)	(n=145)	(n=137)	(n=173)	(n=151)	(n=178)

Summary of D4 and Q24 based on those ages 18-64

	12/14	11/14	10/14	02/14	01/14	11/13	08/13
Covered by health insurance	84	81	83	83	81	79	80
Not covered by health insurance	15	18	17	16	19	21	20
Will get health insurance	9	9	10	8	9	12	11
Will remain uninsured	5	7	6	7	7	7	6
Don't know/Refused	1	2	1	1	2	2	2
Don't know/Refused	1	1	1	1	*	*	*
	(n=1,099)	(n=1,027)	(n=1,061)	(n=1,054)	(n=1,122)	(n=843)	(n=1,101)

25. Do you think you will have to pay a fine for not having health insurance this year, or not?

Based on those ages 18-64 who are uninsured

	12/14	04/14
Yes, will have to pay a fine	37	45
No, will not have to pay a fine	44	43
Don't know/Refused	19	12
	(n=131)	(n=154)

Summary of D4 and Q25 based on those ages 18-64 (n=1,099)

	12/14
Covered by health insurance	84
Not covered by health insurance	15
Yes, will have to pay a fine	6
No, will not have to pay a fine	7
Don't know/Refused	3
Don't know/Refused	1

⁹ Trend wording was "As you may know, the health care law requires nearly all Americans to have health insurance by the end of March or else pay a fine. Do you think you will obtain health insurance, or do you think you will remain uninsured?"

¹⁰ Trend wording was "As you may know, the health care law requires nearly all Americans to have health insurance by 2014 or else pay a fine. Do you think you will obtain health insurance in 2014, or do you think you will remain uninsured?"

READ TO ALL: On another topic, thinking about U.S. government spending...

26. Just your best guess, what percentage of the federal budget is spent on foreign aid? (OPEN-END, RECORD PERCENTAGE BETWEEN 0 AND 100)

	12/14	08/13 GH	02/12 GH
0-1%	5	4	5
2-5%	12	12	11
6-10%	13	13	13
11-20%	14	15	17
21-30%	12	14	12
31-40%	7	7	10
41-50%	5	8	7
Over 50%	10	12	11
Don't know/Refused	22	17	13

27. Do you think the U.S. is now spending [ROTATE: (too much,)/(too little,)] or about the right amount on foreign aid?

	12/14	08/13 GH	02/12 GH	08/10 GH	10/09	03/09	05/04	06/02
Too much	56	61	54	61	47	52	62	56
Too little	11	13	17	10	15	19	10	8
About the right amount	24	18	24	22	27	17	18	22
Don't know/Refused	9	7	6	7	10	11	11	14

28. What if you heard that about one percent of the federal budget is spent on foreign aid? Would you still think that the U.S. is spending (INSERT ANSWER FROM Q.27: too much/too little/about the right amount) on foreign aid, or would you now say that the U.S. spends (INSERT OTHER ANSWERS NOT GIVEN IN Q.27 IN SAME ORDER AS Q.27: too much (OR) /too little (OR)/ about the right amount)?

Based on gave answer to Q27 (U.S. now spending too much/too little/right amount)

	12/14	08/13 GH	02/12 GH
Too much	31	32	26
Too little	28	30	38
About the right amount	37	33	32
Don't know/Refused	4	4	4
	(n=1,378)	(n=1,416)	(n=1,127)

29. Do you think the U.S. is now spending {ROTATE: (too much), (too little)}, or about the right amount on efforts to improve health for people in developing countries?

	12/14	08/13 GH	02/12 GH	08/10 GH	10/09	3/09
Too much	26	30	21	28	25	23
Too little	27	31	32	23	34	26
About the right amount	36	30	34	42	32	39
Don't know/Refused	11	9	12	7	9	12

30. I'm going to read you some different areas in which the U.S. might contribute to efforts to improve health in developing countries, and for each, I'd like you to tell me if this should be one of the top priorities, important but not a top priority, or not that important. What about (INSERT ITEMS - RANDOMIZE)? READ FOR FIRST ITEM, THEN AS NECESSARY: Should this be one of the TOP priorities for U.S. efforts to improve health in developing countries, important but not a top priority, or not that important?

<i>Items a-f based on half sample A (n=753)</i>		Top priority	Important, but not top	Not that important	Not at all imp. (vol.)	Don't Know/ Refused
a.	Preventing and treating HIV/AIDS	12/14	39	47	12	1
		08/13 GH	49	38	11	1
		02/12 GH	43	44	11	1
b.	Building and improving hospitals and other health care facilities	12/14	36	48	13	2
		08/13 GH	40	46	13	*
		02/12 GH	39	46	13	1
c.	Efforts to reduce the number of women who die during childbirth	12/14	34	51	13	1
		08/13 GH	35	48	15	*
		02/12 GH	37	46	15	1
d.	Preventing and treating tuberculosis	12/14	32	52	14	*
		08/13 GH	38	48	12	*
		02/12 GH	32	51	14	2
e.	Children's health, including vaccinations	12/14	53	38	7	1
		08/13 GH	60	34	6	1
		02/12 GH	58	33	7	1
f.	Combating global pandemic diseases like swine flu	12/14	36	49	13	1
		08/13 GH	43	42	12	1
		02/12 GH	38	46	15	1
<i>Items g-m based on half sample B (n=752)</i>						
g.	Fighting the Ebola outbreak in West Africa	12/14	44	43	11	1
h.	Improving access to clean water	12/14	57	32	9	*
		08/13 GH	64	29	6	1
		02/12 GH	67	28	5	*
i.	Preventing and treating heart disease and other chronic diseases	12/14	26	47	23	1
		08/13 GH	29	49	21	1
		02/12 GH	26	52	19	2
j.	Preventing and treating malaria	12/14	27	55	16	1
		08/13 GH	39	48	11	1
		02/12 GH	34	51	13	1
k.	Reducing hunger and malnutrition	12/14	52	36	9	*
		08/13	57	34	8	1
		02/12 GH	58	33	8	*
l.	Improving access to family planning and reproductive health services	12/14	25	45	26	1
		08/13 GH	31	43	24	1
		02/12 GH	33	45	20	1
m.	Eradicating polio	12/14	26	47	22	*
		08/13 GH	37	45	15	1
		02/12 GH	28	50	19	3

31. Do you think spending money on improving health in developing countries (INSERT ITEMS – RANDOMIZE), or does it not have much impact?

		Yes, helps	Does not have much impact	Don't Know/ Refused
a. Helps improve the U.S. image around the world	12/14	57	41	2
	08/13 GH	54	45	2
	02/12 GH	58	39	2
b. Helps protect the health of Americans by preventing the spread of diseases like SARS, bird flu, swine flu, and Ebola	12/14	69	29	2
	08/13 GH ²²	68	31	1
	02/12 GH	70	28	2
c. Helps the U.S. economy by improving the circumstances of people who can buy more U.S. goods	12/14	36	59	4
	08/13 GH	37	59	3
	02/12 GH	42	53	4
d. Helps U.S. national security by lessening the threat of terrorism originating in developing countries	12/14	37	58	5
	08/13 GH	38	59	3
	02/12 GH	45	52	4

32. From what you have heard or read, do you think the Ebola outbreak in West Africa is mostly under control, or is it not under control?

	12/14	10/14
Mostly under control	41	10
Not under control	51	86
Don't know/ Refused	8	4

²² Trend wording was "Helps protect the health of Americans by preventing the spread of diseases like SARS, bird flu, and swine flu".

READ: Finally, I have just a few questions we will use to describe the people who took part in our survey...

D1. Record respondent's sex

Male	49
Female	51

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

Married	50
Living with a partner	6
Widowed	6
Divorced	9
Separated	3
Never been married	26
Don't know/Refused	1

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

Employed full-time	44
Employed part-time	11
Unemployed and currently seeking employment	6
Unemployed and not seeking employment	2
A student	6
Retired	17
On disability and can't work	7
Or, a homemaker or stay at home parent?	6
Don't know/Refused	*

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

Republican	23
Democrat	31
Independent	32
Or what/Other/None/No preference/Other party	10
Don't know/Refused	5

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	37
Democrat/Lean Democratic	45
Other/Don't lean/Don't know	18

Five-Point Party ID

Democrat	31
Independent Lean Democratic	14
Independent/Don't lean	17
Independent Lean Republican	14
Republican	23
Undesignated	1

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

Liberal	23
Moderate	35
Conservative	37
Don't know/Refused	4

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)	4
High school incomplete (Grades 9-11 or Grade 12 with NO diploma)	5
High school graduate (Grade 12 with diploma or GED certificate)	33
Some college, no degree (includes some community college)	20
Two year associate degree from a college/university	11
Four year college or university degree/Bachelor's degree	15
Some postgraduate or professional schooling, no postgraduate degree	1
Postgraduate or professional degree, including master's, doctorate, medical or law degree	11
Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	*

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	12
Hispanic	15
Asian, non-Hispanic	4
Other/Mixed race, non-Hispanic	3
Undesignated	2

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

Based on Hispanics (n=169)

U.S.	48
Puerto Rico	3
Another country	49
Don't know/Refused	--

D14. Last year—that is, in 2013—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	19
\$20,000 to less than \$30,000	14
\$30,000 to less than \$40,000	11
\$40,000 to less than \$50,000	9
\$50,000 to less than \$75,000	13
\$75,000 to less than \$90,000	7
\$90,000 to less than \$100,000	3
\$100,000 or more	17
Don't know/Refused	7

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

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