

Topline

***Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Pennsylvania
Residents***

March 2016

METHODOLOGY

The *Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Pennsylvania Residents* was designed and analyzed by public opinion researchers at the Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF). The survey was conducted March 7-15, 2016, among a representative random digit dial telephone sample of 804 adults ages 18 and older, living in Pennsylvania with an oversample of residents of Philadelphia and Allegheny counties (note: persons without a telephone could not be included in the random selection process). Computer-assisted telephone interviews conducted by landline (228) and cell phone (578, including 269 who had no landline telephone) were carried out in English and Spanish by SSRS. Both the random digit dial landline and cell phone samples were provided by Marketing Systems Group (MSG). For the landline sample, respondents were selected at random among all adults in the household, by selecting the adult in the household who had the most recent birthday. 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 population using data from the Census Bureau's 2014 American Community Survey (ACS) on sex, age, education, race, ethnicity, marital status, and region. The sample was also weighted to match current patterns of telephone use using data from the July- December 2014 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 4 percentage points. 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](#).

E. RECORD GENDER OF RESPONDENT

	03/15
Male	48
Female	52

Q2. What do you think is the most important problem facing the state of Pennsylvania today?

	03/15
Jobs/economy (NET)	19
Jobs/unemployment/wages	15
Economy (general)	3
Government dysfunction/politics (NET)	20
Budget impasse/can't pass a budget	13
Government dysfunction	5
Politics/Politicians/Political parties/Elections	2
Education/Schools	12
Crime/drugs/police/justice system (NET)	10
Drugs/Drug abuse/Alcohol Abuse	5
Crime/Violence/Guns	4
Police/criminal justice/judicial system	1
Government spending/deficit/taxes (NET)	8
Taxes	7
Government spending/Budget/Deficit	1
Pension crisis	*
Infrastructure	4
Welfare system/Welfare abuse	3
Environment/water quality/drought (NET)	2
Environment/Climate change	2
Water quality	*
Drought/lack of water	*
Poverty/Homelessness	2
Health care	2
Income inequality	1
Immigration/Illegal immigration	1
Racism/Race relations	1
Other social issues (abortion, marijuana legalization, gay marriage)	1
Social Security/seniors' issues	*
Traffic/Accidents	*
Nothing/no problem	2
Other	3
Don't know/no answer	9

Q3. Now I'd like to ask you about possible priorities for Pennsylvania's governor and legislature. First, (INSERT AND RANDOMIZE). Should that be a top priority, important but a lower priority, not too important or should it not be done? What about (INSERT NEXT ITEM)? Should that be a top priority, important but a lower priority, not too important or should it not be done? (rotate response options)

[INTERVIEWER: READ RESPONSE OPTIONS FIRST 2 TIMES; THEN, AS NECESSARY]

	Top Priority	Important but a lower priority	Not too important	Should not be done	Don't know/Refused
a. Reducing the number of people abusing prescription painkillers or heroin	54	34	9	3	1
b. Making health care more accessible and affordable	64	24	8	3	2
c. Reducing gun violence	48	29	11	8	4
d. Improving public education	66	26	4	3	1
e. Reforming the criminal justice system	37	44	11	4	4
f. Protecting the environment	45	43	9	2	1
g. Improving infrastructure, like buildings and roads	47	43	8	1	1
h. Attracting and retaining businesses and jobs	71	24	3	1	1
i. Breaking the budget deadlock and passing a state budget	64	25	5	2	5

Q3a. Of the things you said should be a top priority, which of these should be the HIGHEST priority for Pennsylvania's governor and legislature? (READ ITEMS RATED TOP PRIORITY IN Q3) (Asked of those who rated more than one item in Q3 as a top priority)

Q3/Q3a. Combo Table Based on total (includes those who said only one item in Q3 was a top priority)

	03/15
Breaking the budget deadlock and passing a state budget	24
Attracting and retaining businesses and jobs	17
Making health care more accessible and affordable	14
Improving public education	14
Reducing the number of people abusing prescription painkillers or heroin	8
Reducing gun violence	7
Improving infrastructure, like buildings and roads	4
Reforming the criminal justice system	2
Protecting the environment	2
All equal (Vol.)	4
None of these/something else (Vol.)	1
Don't know/Refused	2

(READ TO ALL) Next, I'm going to ask you some questions about prescription painkillers. When we ask about prescription painkillers in this poll, we mean strong ones, sometimes called opioids, such as Percocet, OxyContin or Vicodin.

Q4. Which level of government should be primarily responsible for creating and implementing policies to reduce the number of people abusing prescription painkillers? The federal government, state government or local government?

	03/15
Federal Government	36
State Government	34
Local Government	19
All equally (Vol.)	5
None (Vol.)	2
Don't know/Refused	4

Q5. How easy or difficult do you think it is for people in Pennsylvania to get access to prescription painkillers that were not prescribed to them? Very easy, somewhat easy, somewhat difficult, or very difficult?

	-----EASY-----			-----DIFFICULT-----			
	NET	Very easy	Somewhat easy	NET	Somewhat difficult	Very difficult	Don't know/Refused
03/15	77	45	32	13	9	4	9

Q6. How easy or difficult do you think it is for people in Pennsylvania who need prescription painkillers for medical purposes to get access to them? Very easy, somewhat easy, somewhat difficult, or very difficult?

	-----EASY-----			-----DIFFICULT-----			
	NET	Very easy	Somewhat easy	NET	Somewhat difficult	Very difficult	Don't know/Refused
03/15	55	22	33	40	27	12	5

(READ TO ALL) On another topic...

Q7. In general, how easy or difficult is it for you and your family to afford [INSERT ITEM]. Would you say...(READ LIST) How about to afford (INSERT NEXT ITEM)? (rotate responses 1-4,4-1) (rotate items in parentheses) (rotate items a-e)

[READ IF NECESSARY: In general, how easy or difficult is it for you and your family to afford this? Would you say... (READ LIST)]

	-----EASY-----			-----DIFFICULT-----				
	NET	Very easy	Somewhat easy	NET	Somewhat difficult	Very difficult	Not applicable (Vol.)	Don't know/Refused
a. Food	68	33	35	32	23	8	--	1
b. Health care	47	22	24	52	30	22	*	1
c. Gasoline or other transportation costs	66	27	40	32	25	7	1	1
d. Your rent or mortgage	45	17	28	43	30	13	10	1
e. Your monthly utilities, like electricity, heat, and phone bills	53	19	34	45	33	12	1	1

Q8. In the past 12 months, did you or anyone in your household have problems paying or have an inability to pay any medical bills, such as bills for doctors, dentists, medication, or home care?

(IF NEEDED: This includes bills you have had problems paying over the past 12 months, even if the initial bill was incurred more than 12 months ago.)

	03/15
Yes	33
No	66
Don't know/Refused	*

Q9. Overall, how much of an impact have these medical bills had on you and your family? (READ LIST)

Based on total who in the past 12 months had problems paying medical bills (n=240)

	03/15
Major Impact	56
Minor Impact	38
No real impact	6
Don't know/Refused	1

Q8/Q9 Combo Table Based on total

	03/15
Yes, in the past 12 months had problems paying medical bills	33
Major impact on you/family	18
Minor impact on you/family	13
No real impact on you/family	2
Don't know/Refused	*
No, in the past 12 months had no problems paying medical bills	66
Don't know/Refused	*

Q10. In the past 12 months, have you or another family member living in your household [INSERT ITEM] because of the COST, or not? (rotate items a-g)

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: PLEASE READ "BECAUSE OF THE COST, OR NOT" AFTER EACH ITEM.]

	Yes	No	Don't know/Refused
a. Skipped a recommended medical test or treatment	27	73	*
b. Not filled a prescription for a medicine	25	74	1
c. Cut pills in half or skipped doses of medicine	19	81	1
d. Had problems getting mental health care	10	88	2
e. Put off or postponed getting health care you needed	34	65	1
f. Skipped dental care or checkups	35	64	*
g. Relied on home remedies or over the counter drugs instead of going to see a doctor	32	68	1

Q10. Yes to Any Summary Table Based on total

	03/15
Yes to Any	57

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

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

D6. Could you please tell me if you are between the ages of (READ LIST)...

	03/15
18-29	19
30-49	32
50-64	28
65+	20
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?)

	03/15
Covered by health insurance	91
Not covered by health insurance	9
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 the federal marketplace healthcare.gov, are you covered by Medicare, Medicaid or Medical Assistance, or do you get your health insurance from somewhere else?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: IF R SAYS THEY GOT INSURANCE THROUGH HEALTHCARE.GOV, OBAMACARE, OR A STATE HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACE/EXCHANGE, CODE AS 3].

Based on total who are insured (n=741)

	03/15
Plan through your employer	39
Plan through your spouse's employer	12
Plan you purchased yourself	10
Medicare	18
Medicaid/Medical Assistance	11
Veterans health insurance/Tricare	1
Somewhere else (Vol.)	2
Plan through your parents/mother/father (Vol.)	4
Don't know/Refused	2

D4/D4a Combo Table Based on total

	03/15
Covered by health insurance	91
Plan through your employer	36
Plan through your spouse's employer	11
Plan you purchased yourself	9
Medicare	17
Medicaid/Medical Assistance	10
Veterans health insurance/Tricare	1
Somewhere else	2
Plan through you parents/mother/father (Vol.)	4
Don't know/Refused	2
Not covered by health insurance	9
Don't know/Refused	*

Q11. Thinking about your own health care costs, which of the following do you find to be the greatest financial burden? Is it paying for...? (READ LIST) (ENTER ONE ONLY) (rotate responses 1-4, responses 5 and 6 should always be last)

Based on total who are insured (n=741)

	03/15
Your health insurance premiums	18
The deductible you pay before insurance kicks in	21
Your doctor visits	5
Your prescription drugs	8
Some other health care cost	4
Or is paying for health and health insurance not a financial burden for you?	36
All equally (Vol.)	5
Don't know/Refused	2

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

	03/15
Excellent	15
Very good	31
Good	28
Only fair	18
Poor	6
Don't know/Refused	1

D2a. Does any disability, handicap, or chronic disease keep you from participating fully in work, school, housework, or other activities?

	03/15
Yes	24
No	76
Don't know/Refused	*

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

	03/15
Married	51
Living with a partner	7
Widowed	6
Divorced	10
Separated	3
Never been married	22
Don't know/Refused	1

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

	03/15
Employed	56
Employed full-time	47
Employed part-time	9
Not employed	43
Unemployed and currently seeking employment	6
Unemployed and not seeking employment	2
A student	6
Retired	17
On disability and can't work	8
A homemaker or stay at home parent	4
Don't know/Refused	1

D8. In politics today, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, an Independent, or what? (rotate response options)

	03/15
Republican	30
Democrat	36
Independent	21
Something Else (Vol.)	8
Don't know/Refused	7

D8a. Do you LEAN more towards the Republican Party or the Democratic Party or the Republican Party? (rotate items in same order as D8)

Based on total who are independent, something else, don't know or refused to identify with a party (n=259)

	03/15
Republican	29
Democrat	26
Independent/Don't lean to either party	29
Other party (Vol.)	*
Don't know/Refused	15

D8/D8a Combo Table Based on Total

	03/15
Republican	30
Democrat	36
Independent/Other/Don't know/Refused	35
Lean Republican	10
Lean Democrat	9
Independent/don't lean to either party	10
Other Party (Vol.)	*
Don't know/Refused	5

D8/D8a Combo Table II Based on total

	03/15
Republican/Republican leaners	40
Democrat/Democratic leaners	45
Independent/Don't lean	10
Other party (Vol.)	*
Don't know/Refused	5

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

	03/15
Liberal	23
Moderate	35
Conservative	35
Don't know/Refused	8

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

	03/15
Yes	77
No	22
Don't know/Refused	1

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

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: Enter code 3-HS graduate if R completed vocational, business, technical, or training courses after high school that did NOT count toward an associate degree from a college, community college or university (e.g., training for a certificate or an apprenticeship)]

Education Summary Table Based on total

	03/15
High School or Less	46
High school graduate	35
High school incomplete	8
Less than high school graduate	2
Some college	26
Some college (no degree)	16
Two year associate degree	10
College + or more	28
Graduate college (4 year/Bachelor's degree)	15
Some post graduate or professional school	3
Graduate school or more	10
Don't know/Refused	*

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

	03/15
Yes	5
No	94
Don't know/Refused	1

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? CODE AS WHITE (1) OR BLACK (2). IF RESPONDENTS REFUSED TO PICK WHITE OR BLACK HISPANIC, RECORD HISPANIC AS "OTHER," CODE 4)

	03/15
White	82
Black or African American	10
Asian	2
Other or mixed race	3
Don't know/Refused	3

D12/D13 Race Summary Table Based on total

	03/15
White non-Hispanic	79
Black non-Hispanic	9
Hispanic	5
Asian	2
Other or mixed race	2
Refused	3

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

Sample size insufficient to report.

D14. Last year – that is, in 2015 – what was your total family income from all sources, before taxes? Just stop me when I get to the right category. (READ LIST)

	03/15
Under \$40,000	40
Less than \$20,000	19
\$20,000 to less than \$30,000	12
\$30,000 to less than \$40,000	10
\$40,000-\$90,000	28
\$40,000 to less than \$50,000	6
\$50,000 to less than \$75,000	14
\$75,000 to less than \$90,000	8
\$90,000+	18
\$90,000 to less than \$100,000	4
\$100,000 or more	14
Don't know/Refused	13

HH1/DHH1. How many adults 18 or older live in your household? Please include yourself and all the adults who live with you.

	03/15
1	19
2	50
3	19
4	9
5 or more	2
Refused	*

L-1 Now thinking about your telephone use. . . Does anyone in your household including yourself, have a working cell phone?

Based on total Landline respondents (n=228)

	Yes, respondent or someone else has cell phone in household	No	Refused
03/15	76	24	*

C1 Now thinking about your telephone use, is there at least one telephone INSIDE your home that is currently working and is not a cell phone?

Based on total Cell phone respondents (n=576)

	Yes, has a home telephone	No, no home telephone	Refused
03/15	50	49	1

Z-12. How many telephone numbers, if any, does your household have that I could have reached you on? Not extensions, but different telephone numbers, excluding wireless or cellular phones?

(Interviewer: Do not to count phone lines such as those dedicated to a fax or modem.)

Based on total who have a Landline (n=535)

	One	Two	Three	Four or more	Refused
03/15	83	9	3	1	4

C1a How many different cell phone numbers do you personally answer calls on?

Based on total who have a cell phone (n=766)

	One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	Seven or more	Don't know	Refused
03/15	89	9	1	*	*	*	*	*	1



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