

# SINGLE-PAYER SUPPORT

Single-payer health system advocates, who argue that the federal government should be the sole third-party payer, frequently say a majority of Americans are on their side. Polls indicate that the level of public support depends on how the question is phrased. Many of those surveyed also said they're satisfied with their existing coverage.

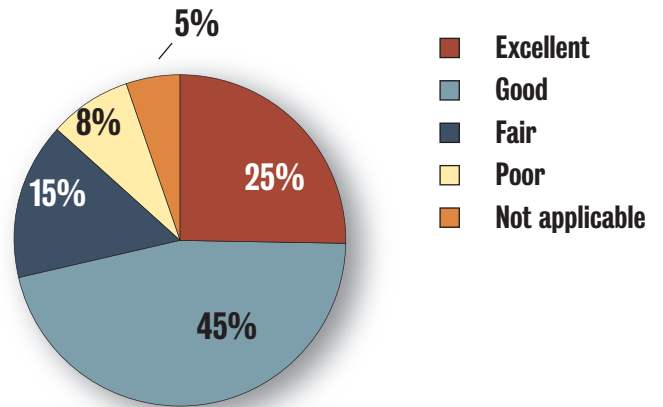
Which comes closest to your view?

**65%** The U.S. should adopt a universal health insurance program, in which everyone is covered under a program like Medicare that is run by the government and financed by taxpayers.

**34%** The U.S. should continue the current health insurance system, in which most people get coverage through their employers but some people have no insurance.

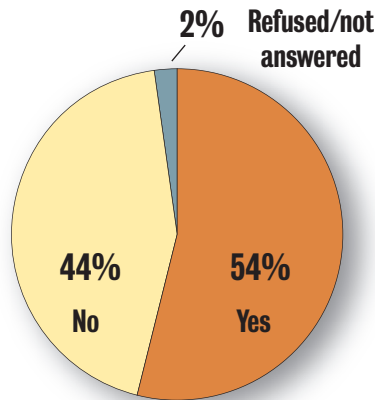
SOURCE: ASSOCIATED PRESS/YAHOO NEWS POLL, DEC. 14-20, 2007  
([HTTP://NEWS.YAHOO.COM/PAGE/ELECTION-2008-POLITICAL-PULSE-VOTER-WORRIES/](http://news.yahoo.com/page/election-2008-political-pulse-voter-worries/))

How would you rate your health care coverage?



SOURCE: GALLUP HEALTH CARE SURVEY, NOV. 11-14, 2007  
([HTTP://WWW.GALLUP.COM/POLL/102934/MAJORITY-AMERICANS-SATISFIED-THEIR-OWN-HEALTHCARE.ASPX](http://www.gallup.com/poll/102934/majority-americans-satisfied-their-own-healthcare.aspx))

Do you consider yourself a supporter of a single-payer health care system, that is, a national health plan financed by taxpayers in which all Americans would get insurance from a single government plan?



SOURCE: ASSOCIATED PRESS/YAHOO NEWS POLL, DEC. 14-20, 2007  
([HTTP://NEWS.YAHOO.COM/PAGE/ELECTION-2008-POLITICAL-PULSE-VOTER-WORRIES/](http://news.yahoo.com/page/election-2008-political-pulse-voter-worries/))

Do you favor or oppose having a national health plan in which all Americans would get their insurance from a single government plan?

**49%** Favor      **47%** Oppose

SOURCE: KAISER FAMILY FOUNDATION, KAISER HEALTH TRACKING POLL, APRIL 2-8, 2009  
([HTTP://WWW.KFF.ORG/KAISERPOLLS/UPLOAD/7892.PDF](http://www.kff.org/kaiserpolls/upload/7892.pdf))