



# PUBLIC OPINION STRATEGIES

## HEALTH REFORM ARKANSAS STATEWIDE SURVEY *Interview Schedule*

Field Dates: June 15-20, 2017  
Public Opinion Strategies

N=400 Registered Voters  
MOE: ±4.9%

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*In this document...*

- An asterisk (\*) in a response category means that less than 0.5% of respondents chose that response category and a dash (-) represents no response.
  - "Skip base" is the percentage of voters that are asked a question because they meet a criteria based on a response to a previous question, meaning not all 400 voters received that question.
  - "Total base" is the percentage of the total sample, in this survey that is 400 voters.
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Changing topics and thinking about health care...

1. Generally speaking, is the current health care system meeting the needs of you and your family?

72% Yes  
25% No  
3% Don't Know/Refused (**DO NOT READ**)

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2. Now as you may know, Barack Obama's health care plan was passed by Congress and signed into law in 2010. From what you have heard about the health care law, do you think it is **(ROTATE)** - a good idea or a bad idea? If you do not have an opinion either way, please just say so.

**(If Good idea/Bad idea, ask:)** And, do you feel that way strongly, or not so strongly?

**38% TOTAL GOOD IDEA**  
**44% TOTAL BAD IDEA**

31% Strongly Good Idea  
7% Not-So-Strongly Good Idea  
7% Not-So-Strongly Bad Idea  
37% Strongly Bad Idea  
16% Do Not Have An Opinion  
2% Don't Know/Refused (**DO NOT READ**)

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3. Now as you may know, health care legislation was recently passed by the House of Representatives and supported by Donald Trump. From what you have heard about this health care legislation, do you think it is **(ROTATE)** - a good idea or a bad idea? If you do not have an opinion either way, please just say so.

**(If Good idea/Bad idea, ask:)** And, do you feel that way strongly, or not so strongly?

**26% TOTAL GOOD IDEA**

**40% TOTAL BAD IDEA**

18% Strongly Good Idea  
8% Not-So-Strongly Good Idea  
6% Not-So-Strongly Bad Idea  
34% Strongly Bad Idea  
30% Do Not Have An Opinion  
4% Don't Know/Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

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**(Q4 ASKED OF SAMPLE A ONLY IF Q3:1-4)(ASKED OF N=120 RESPONDENTS)**

4. Please tell me some of the reasons you think the House health care legislation is a **(INSERT Q3 RESPONSE: good/bad)** idea? What specifically have you seen, read, or heard that makes you feel this way?

**SEE VERBATIM RESPONSES**

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Moving on...

5. As you may be aware, in order for the health care legislation passed by the House to become law, the United States Senate must review and pass the legislation. Do you think the U.S. Senate should...**(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)**

10% Pass the House legislation as is  
21% Make minor changes to it and pass it  
26% Make major changes to it and pass it  
29% NOT pass any part of the House legislation which would mean keeping ObamaCare in place  
  
3% Other **(DO NOT READ)**  
11% Don't Know **(DO NOT READ)**  
\* Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

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Changing topics and thinking now about Medicaid...

6. Do you have very favorable, somewhat favorable, half-and-half, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion of Medicaid, which is the state program that provides health insurance coverage for low-income adults and children with oversight and funding from the federal government?

**55% TOTAL FAVORABLE**  
**14% TOTAL UNFAVORABLE**

34% Very Favorable  
21% Somewhat Favorable  
22% Half-and-Half  
8% Somewhat Unfavorable  
6% Very Unfavorable

6% Heard Of No Opinion (**DO NOT READ**)  
-- Never Heard Of (**DO NOT READ**)  
3% Don't Know/Refused (**DO NOT READ**)

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7. Do you believe funding for your state's Medicaid program should be (**ROTATE FIRST TWO PUNCHES**) ... increased, decreased ... or should the level of funding remain the same?

38% Increased  
12% Decreased  
43% Remain the same

7% DON'T KNOW (**DO NOT READ**)  
\* REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)

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8. Are you or is someone in your household covered by Medicaid, or do you know someone who is covered by Medicaid? (**SPECIFY**) (**ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES**)

**MULTIPLE RESPONSES WERE ACCEPTED SO TOTAL ADDS UP TO GREATER THAN 100%.**

11% Yes, Self  
15% Yes, Someone in Household  
51% Yes, Know Someone  
30% No

1% Don't Know (**DO NOT READ**)  
-- Refused (**DO NOT READ**)

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Thinking more about health care reform...

I am going to read you some of the proposed changes being considered by Congress to the current health care law, also known as ObamaCare. For each one, please tell me whether you support or oppose making this change to ObamaCare or if you do not have an opinion about it one way or another.

**(IF SUPPORT/OPPOSE, ASK:)** And do you strongly (support/oppose) this change to ObamaCare or just somewhat (support/oppose) this change to ObamaCare?

The (first/next) proposed change to ObamaCare would...**(RANDOMIZE)**

	<b>Strongly Support</b>	<b>Somewhat Support</b>	<b>Somewhat Oppose</b>	<b>Strongly Oppose</b>	<b>No Opinion</b>	<b>(DO NOT READ) Don't Know/ Refused</b>
9. Eliminate the individual mandate that requires individuals by law to have health insurance but allow health insurance companies to charge people thirty percent higher premiums for a year if they have not had continuous coverage.	19%	11%	13%	44%	10%	3%
	<b>30%</b>		<b>57%</b>			
10. Eliminate the money that the federal government pays to health insurance companies to provide lower deductibles and lower out-of-pocket health care costs for low-income people.	23%	18%	14%	28%	15%	2%
	<b>41%</b>		<b>42%</b>			
11. Eliminate the money that the federal government provides to low-income people which helps pay their monthly insurance premiums and instead offer annual tax credits ranging from two thousand to four thousand dollars a year to help people purchase health insurance.	20%	23%	12%	29%	14%	2%
	<b>43%</b>		<b>41%</b>			
12. Eliminate most of the new taxes that are part of ObamaCare such as removing the additional tax on people making more than two hundred thousand dollars a year and the additional taxes on health insurance companies and medical device manufacturers.	28%	14%	11%	29%	14%	4%
	<b>42%</b>		<b>40%</b>			

Continued...

	<b>Strongly Support</b>	<b>Somewhat Support</b>	<b>Somewhat Oppose</b>	<b>Strongly Oppose</b>	<b>No Opinion</b>	<b>(DO NOT READ) Don't Know/ Refused</b>
13. Provide federal funding for states to cover people with pre-existing conditions through separate high-risk insurance pools.	29%	25%	8%	19%	16%	3%
	<b>54%</b>		<b>27%</b>			
14. Keep in place the protections for people with pre-existing conditions as long as they continuously maintain their health insurance coverage. If they do not have coverage for more than sixty-three days, health insurance companies would be allowed to charge people with pre-existing conditions more for their insurance.	16%	24%	12%	40%	7%	1%
	<b>40%</b>		<b>52%</b>			
15. Eliminate the more than one billion dollars in extra federal funding Arkansas receives annually to cover more people on Medicaid, which could impact the more than nine hundred thousand low-income people, working adults, and children currently covered by Medicaid.	13%	17%	16%	38%	14%	2%
	<b>30%</b>		<b>54%</b>			
16. Allow health insurance to be bought across state lines so there is more competition between health insurance companies to provide more options at a cheaper cost.	62%	17%	3%	7%	8%	3%
	<b>79%</b>		<b>10%</b>			
17. Change Medicaid, the program that provides health insurance coverage for low-income adults and children, from an entitlement program to a federal grant program so federal spending would be cut, but states could decide how to best use federal dollars to cover their low-income population.	31%	19%	9%	21%	16%	4%
	<b>50%</b>		<b>30%</b>			
18. Cut the federal funding ObamaCare provides to states to expand their Medicaid programs so states can provide health insurance coverage to more low-income adults who were uninsured.	20%	22%	13%	26%	15%	4%
	<b>42%</b>		<b>39%</b>			

Continued...

	<b>Strongly Support</b>	<b>Somewhat Support</b>	<b>Somewhat Oppose</b>	<b>Strongly Oppose</b>	<b>No Opinion</b>	<b>(DO NOT READ) Don't Know/ Refused</b>
19. Provide low-income people who are dropped from the Medicaid program with money from the federal government to help pay their monthly premium so they can purchase a private health insurance plan.	21%	27%	11%	21%	18%	2%
	<b>48%</b>		<b>32%</b>			
20. Eliminate the ObamaCare requirement that all health plans sold must provide a standard set of government-established benefits, including mental health services, addiction treatment, maternity care, and that provides preventive health services with no out-of-pocket costs.	27%	18%	12%	29%	11%	3%
	<b>45%</b>		<b>41%</b>			
21. Provide low-income people with money from the federal government to purchase inexpensive health insurance plans that protect them if they have a very expensive illness or injury, but all preventive health services, routine doctor visits, tests, and minor operations would have to be paid out-of-pocket.	18%	22%	13%	30%	15%	2%
	<b>40%</b>		<b>43%</b>			

Now, I have just a few more questions for statistical purposes only...

**(ASK Q22 IF Q8:2-6 - NOT ON MEDICAID)(ASKED OF N= 355 RESPONDENTS)**

22. Do you have a health insurance plan, that is, are you covered by a PRIVATE health insurance plan, a health insurance plan through ObamaCare, or by a GOVERNMENT program such as Medicare, Tricare or the Veterans Health Administration? **(SPECIFY) (IF GIVE MULTIPLE PUNCHES, ASK FOR PRIMARY HEALTH PLAN)**

<b><u>SKIP</u></b>	<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	
63%	55%	Yes, Private Health Insurance Plan
7%	6%	Yes, Obamacare
15%	13%	Yes, Medicare
2%	2%	Yes, Tricare
3%	2%	Yes, Veterans Health Administration (VA)
7%	6%	No, Do Not Have Health Insurance Coverage
3%	2%	DON'T KNOW <b>(DO NOT READ)</b>
*	*	REFUSED <b>(DO NOT READ)</b>

**(Q23-24 ASKED IF Q22:1-5 OR Q8:1)(ASKED OF N=363 RESPONDENTS)**

23. Thinking about your own health insurance coverage today, how much do you pay out of your own pocket or paycheck each month for your health insurance premium?

<u>SKIP</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	
21%	19%	\$50 OR LESS
14%	13%	\$51-\$150
13%	12%	\$151-\$299
34%	30%	\$300+
18%	16%	Don't Know/Refused
<b>\$297</b>	<b>\$297</b>	<b>MEAN</b>
<b>\$200</b>	<b>\$200</b>	<b>MEDIAN</b>

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24. Thinking about your own health insurance coverage today, how much is your annual deductible, that is the amount you have to pay out of your own pocket for covered health care services before your health insurance plan starts to pay?

<u>SKIP</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	
21%	19%	\$100 OR LESS
24%	22%	\$101-\$1000
21%	19%	\$1001-\$3500
9%	8%	\$3501+
25%	22%	Don't Know/Refused
<b>\$1,487</b>	<b>\$1,487</b>	<b>MEAN</b>
<b>\$600</b>	<b>\$600</b>	<b>MEDIAN</b>

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Thinking some more about you...

D1. To ensure we have a representative sample of voters in Arkansas, please tell me in what year you were born.

9%	18-24
16%	25-34
20%	35-44
11%	45-54
18%	55-64
21%	65+
5%	Refused ( <b>DO NOT READ</b> )

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D2. Gender **(By Observation)**

48% Male  
52% Female

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D3. And, other than being an American, what is your main ethnic or racial heritage? **(READ CHOICES)**

15% African American or Black  
77% White  
3% Hispanic American or Latino  
1% Asian American  
4% Something Else/Mix **(DO NOT READ)**  
\* Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

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D4. How would you describe your economic circumstances **(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM/BOTTOM TO TOP)**

15% Poor  
32% Working class  
37% Middle class  
11% Upper middle class  
...or...  
3% Well-to-do  
  
2% NOT SURE/REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

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D5. And, in politics today, do you consider yourself to be... **(ROTATE)**

a Republican,  
a Democrat,  
an Independent, or something else?

**(IF REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT, ASK)** Would you call yourself a STRONG  
**(Republican/Democrat)** or a NOT-SO-STRONG **(Republican/Democrat)**?

**(IF SOMETHING ELSE, ASK)** Do you think of yourself as closer to the... **(ROTATE)**

the Republican party  
...or...  
the Democratic party

**41% TOTAL REPUBLICAN**

**31% TOTAL DEMOCRAT**

21% Strong Republican  
9% Not-So-Strong Republican  
11% Lean Republican  
21% Something Else/Independent  
5% Lean Democrat  
7% Not-So-Strong Democrat  
19% Strong Democrat

3% Other Party **(DO NOT READ)(SPECIFY: \_\_\_\_\_)**

2% Don't Know **(DO NOT READ)**

2% Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

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