

TO: Community Catalyst Action Fund

FROM: HIT Strategies

DATE: May 8, 2025

SUBJECT: Community Catalyst Action Fund Healthcare Survey 2025 – Public Perceptions on Healthcare Costs, Government Role, and Policy Priorities

## Key Findings

1. [Healthcare affordability is a significant and growing concern for voters across political affiliations, ranking as a top priority alongside the economy and cost of living.](#) While cost of living and the economy are currently top-of-mind (60% and 56% respectively), 42% of respondents identified healthcare as a primary concern, an increase from the previous year. When considering which issues Congress should prioritize, lowering healthcare costs was among the top responses (28%) and had the least partisan division when thinking about easing personal living expenses. Over half of those surveyed (54%) report struggling to afford health insurance and other healthcare-related expenses, a problem particularly pronounced in states without Medicaid expansion (59% report struggling).
2. [Voters overwhelmingly believe the current administration should be prioritizing making healthcare affordable and 52% of voters feel the administration is not currently prioritizing lowering healthcare costs. They broadly support policies that expand access—especially to dental care—and favor measures like guaranteed coverage, standardized pricing, and regulation of corporate ownership of hospitals.](#) Ninety percent of respondents said the Trump administration should be making healthcare more affordable and 51% said they believe lowering healthcare costs is not currently a priority for the administration. Of the 51% who believe the Trump administration is not currently prioritizing lowering healthcare costs, that includes 53% of independents and 38% of Republicans. The overwhelming bipartisan support for the administration to make healthcare affordable highlights its undivided importance amongst voters. Additionally, the bipartisan support of policies that guarantee basic healthcare coverage and regulation of ownership of hospitals highlights the desire for stronger government intervention in healthcare accessibility.
3. [Voters across the political spectrum want to see major changes in the healthcare system, emphasizing the desire among voters for bipartisan action.](#) Voters want to see substantial change in the healthcare system (74% say it needs major change or be completely rebuilt). This includes 78% of self-ID Democrats, 80% of Independents, and 68% of Republicans. This finding highlights the need for policymakers to offer bipartisan solutions that push major changes in the healthcare system, an issue of concern across all political ideologies.

4. Voters overwhelmingly support a greater role for the government in regulating and managing healthcare, particularly in reducing costs and ensuring universal access. Most (78%) voters advocate for a greater government role in lowering costs, a view popular across party lines (Democrats 89%, Independents 73%, Republicans 68%). A similarly large majority (73%) prefers treating healthcare as a public good, emphasizing care for all over profit, rather than a business that is maintained through supply and demand (19%). A majority of respondents expressed distrust in health insurance companies (63% distrust) and hospitals (54% distrust) to keep prices fair on their own. There is strong support for government action to address medical debt, such as setting limits on hospital charges, expanding financial assistance, and removing medical debt from credit reports.

## Methodology

These findings are based on a proprietary survey conducted by HIT Strategies on behalf of Community Catalyst Action Fund. This survey consisted of 1000 registered voters nationally and was conducted via web panel from April 1<sup>st</sup> to April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The overall margin of error is +/- 2.8%

Healthcare affordability is a significant and growing concern for voters across political affiliations, ranking as a top priority alongside the economy and cost of living.

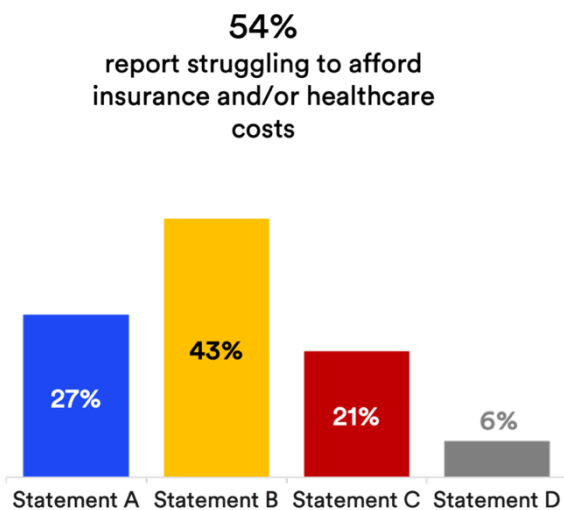
*Q17. Which of the following statements best describes your experience when it comes to affordability of insurance and health care?*

**Statement A:** I can afford my/my family's insurance plan but struggle with other healthcare costs.

**Statement B:** I can afford both my/my family's insurance plan and other healthcare costs

**Statement C:** I struggle to afford both my/my family's insurance plan and other healthcare costs

**Statement D:** I don't have health insurance because it is too expensive

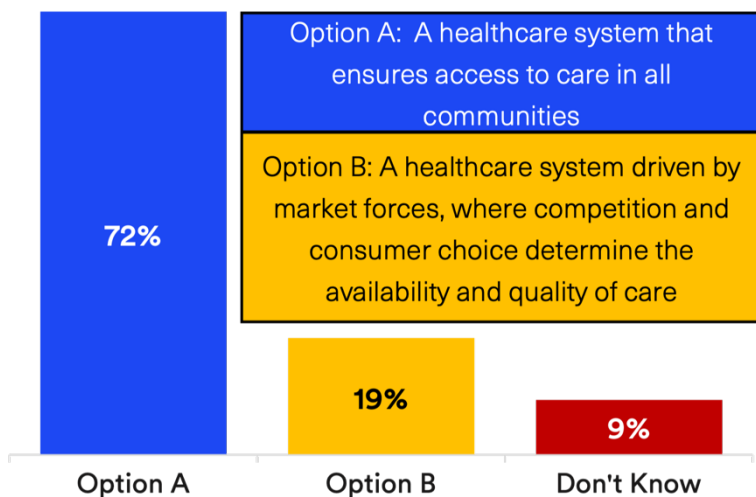


	Expansion States	Non-Medicaid Expansion States
<b>Statement A:</b> Insurance Affordable, Struggle with Other Healthcare Costs	26%	28%
<b>Statement B:</b> Comfortable with insurance costs	45%	38%
<b>Statement C:</b> Struggle with both Insurance and Healthcare Costs	20%	22%
<b>Statement D:</b> Health insurance is too expensive	5%	9%

Voters overwhelmingly support a greater role for the government in regulating and managing healthcare, particularly in reducing costs and ensuring universal access.

Q18. Thinking about these approaches, which do you think is better for managing healthcare costs?

### Access to Care vs. Market Decision



	Dem.	Ind.	Rep.
Option A	82%	72%	62%
Option B	13%	16%	27%
Don't Know	5%	11%	11%

There is a significant lack of trust in private healthcare entities like insurance companies and hospitals to keep prices fair without external oversight, reinforcing the preference for government intervention and consumer protections.

Q23. Do you think healthcare should be treated as a service that operates in the private market, or should it be managed by the government to ensure access for all?

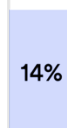
Healthcare should be part of the private market, where competition and profit incentives drive quality and innovation, even if it means some people cannot afford care.



Healthcare should be primarily managed by the government to ensure that decisions are based on patient needs, not profits, and that everyone has access to care.



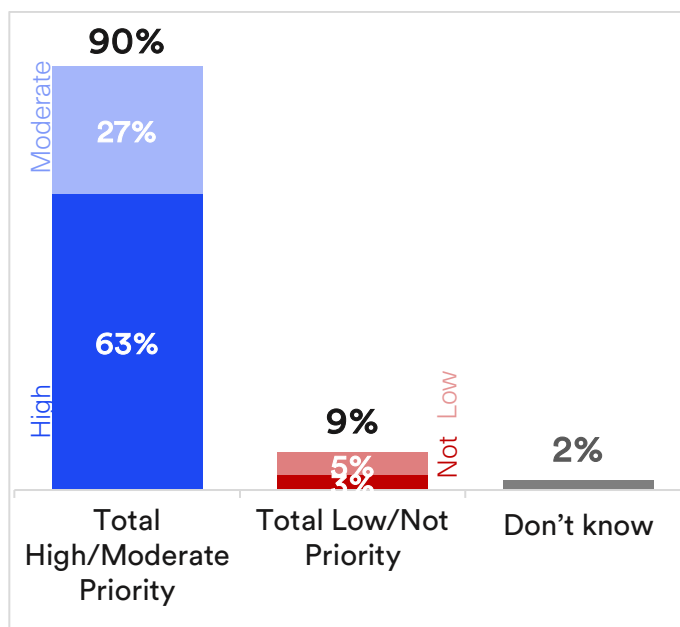
Don't Know



	Dem.	Ind.	Rep.
Healthcare should be part of the private market, where competition and profit incentives drive quality and innovation, even if it means some people cannot afford care.	14%	21%	34%
Healthcare should be primarily managed by the government to ensure that decisions are based on patient needs, not profits, and that everyone has access to care.	77%	60%	50%
Don't Know	9%	20%	16%

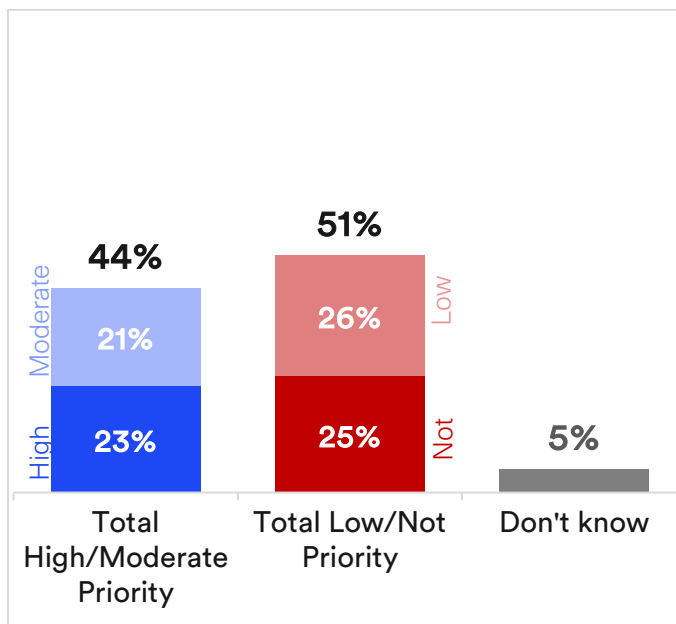
Voters believe the current administration should be prioritizing making healthcare affordable, even though many feel it isn't a current focus. They broadly support policies that expand access—especially to dental care—and favor measures like guaranteed coverage, standardized pricing, and regulation of corporate ownership of hospitals.

Q11. How high or low of a priority should making health care affordable be to the Trump administration?

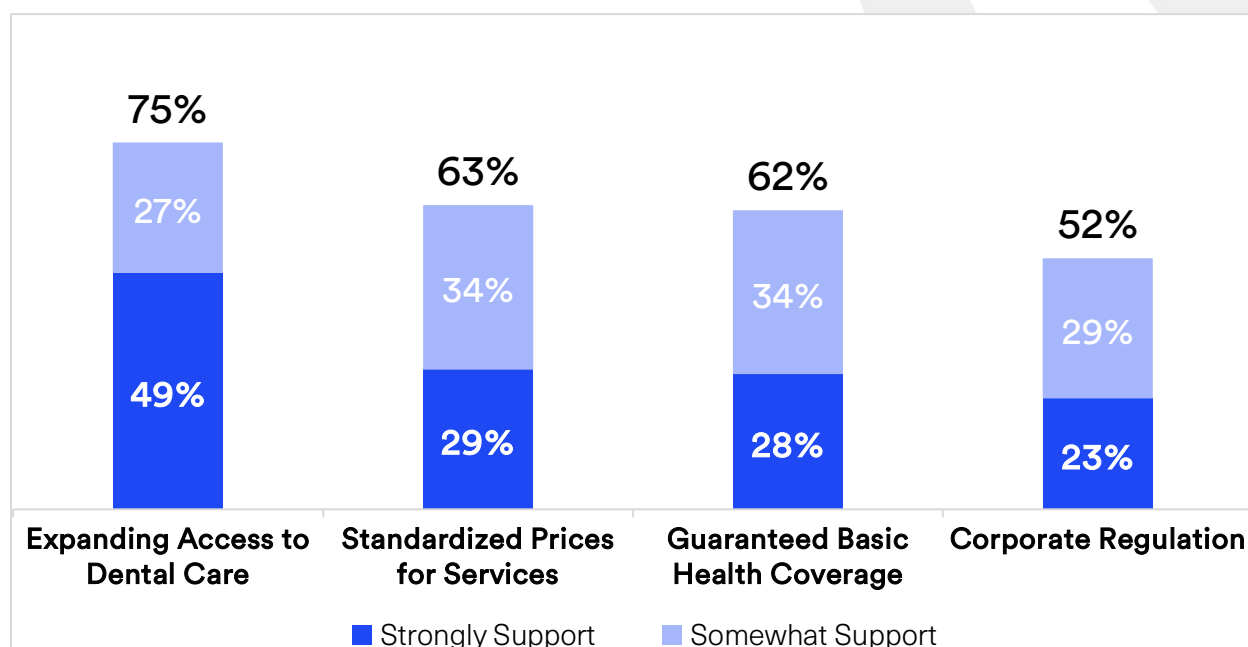


Despite believing that making healthcare more affordable should be an existing priority for the Trump administration, most respondents do not believe it is currently being prioritized.

Q12. How high or low of a priority do you think making health care affordable is currently to the Trump administration?



Overall, voters support policies that guarantee healthcare coverage, create standardized prices for healthcare, regulate corporate ownership of hospitals, with expansion of access to dental care receiving the most support.



\*See table below for full question text

**Expanding Access to Dental Care:** Currently, dental care is treated separately from overall healthcare, requiring separate insurance plans with limited coverage. Many people struggle to afford basic dental care, leading to untreated issues that can cause serious health problems. To what extent do you support or oppose a policy that expands access to affordable dental care by ensuring it is covered as part of overall healthcare?

**Standardized Prices for Services:** Currently, the cost of health care services is determined through agreements with hospitals, providers, and insurance companies. Prices for health care services can vary widely between hospitals in the same town and patients only find out the price of care when they receive it. How much do you support or oppose the government playing a role in setting standardized prices for health care services?

**Guaranteed Basic Health Coverage:** Some proposals would create a government-run health plan available to everyone, covering basic medical services at little to no cost. Participation would be voluntary- people could choose to keep their private insurance or enroll in the public plan. To what extent do you support or oppose this type of policy?

**Corporate Regulation:** For-profit corporations are increasingly acquiring hospitals, doctor's offices, and dental clinics and consolidating them, which can impact healthcare costs, access, and service availability. These changes may lead to cost increases, facility closures, or fewer patient services. To what extent do you support or oppose government policies regulating corporate ownership of hospitals, doctor's offices, and dental clinics in your community?